

The Charlotte JEWISH news

Vol. 42, No. 9

Cheshvan - Kislev 5781

November 2020

Gastro Jews: A Jewish Journey Through Food

What comes to mind when you think of Jewish food? You probably think gefilte fish, stuffed cabbage, and matzah ball soup. You might reminisce about Bubbe's kugel or Aunt Ruth's ruggelah. You probably don't think of Chanie Apfelbaum's gluten-free Green Eggs and Latkes with kale and a fried egg. Or Michael Twitty's Matzah Meal Fried Chicken. Or Mandy Silverman's Tequila Gedola challah with tequila honey and margarita mix!

But all that's about to change. Gastro Jews: A Journey Through Food virtual culinary series offers a diverse, eclectic perspective on Jewish cooking, culture, and history. The series, presented by the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte's Education and Engagement Department, brings together award-winning authors and chefs from around the world to share their unique spin on tradition, infusing each recipe with their own unique family, cultural, and geographic history.

Breaking bread and connecting through food has always been a way for communities to gather to support each other. Food, like language, exists as a vehicle for expressing culture.

It has the power of being both a biological necessity as well as a deeply symbolic cultural artifact. Food plays a crucial role in Jewish life, with recipes telling the stories of how Jewish people live and love, how they celebrate and mourn. These recipes carry with them the marrow of who we are as individuals, as families, and as a people.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, people have been spending most of their time at home and many are using it as an opportunity to take up a new hobby or learn a new skill. Early on, the items that became the hardest to find (after toilet paper and hand sanitizer) were flour and yeast, suggesting that cooking and baking are not only a source of comfort, but also a passion for some to discover or rediscover. In the months that followed, virtual programming blossomed to bring educational and entertaining programming directly into people's homes.

Gastro Jews series will capture this passion by bringing world-famous chefs right into your kitchen in a way that wouldn't have been possible before. Each month will feature a different chef sharing their recipes and stories. Participants will



GASTRO Jews

A JEWISH JOURNEY THROUGH FOOD

Join NextGen as we kick off our FREE monthly virtual series celebrating the history, diversity, and excitement of Jewish food.

For more information visit <https://www.nextgencharlotte.org>

Jewish Federation OF GREATER CHARLOTTE | NEXTGEN Charlotte

have the opportunity to discover the rich scope and diversity of Jewish cuisine and, in so doing, learn more about Jewish history and traditions. Online platforms created for this initiative will also allow participants to share recipes and stories and to build connections through their com-

mon interest in Jewish cooking and food. You can register for one or all of the sessions at www.jewishcharlotte.org

The series is designed for all cooking levels and interests. Whether you're an experienced cook or a novice who's just getting started in the kitchen, you

are welcome. Just please make sure to wash your hands before you sit down for a meal. Looking forward to breaking bread with you.

See schedule on page 2.

Celebrating Civic Engagement: Judy Seldin-Cohen Honored for Her Work



By Rabbi Judy Schindler

Judy Seldin-Cohen is the latest to join a long line of Charlotte Jews recognized by the non-Jewish community for their active civic engagement. On October 29, Seldin-Cohen received the 2020 Lifetime Advocate Award from the YWCA Cen-

tral Carolinas for advancing social justice in the Charlotte community and exemplifying the Y's mission of eliminating racism, empowering women, and promoting peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all people.

Kirsten Sikkelee, CEO of YWCA Central Carolinas, says, "The YWCA's mission is advanced by people of all faith traditions, and Judy Seldin-Cohen is a shining beacon of hope, demonstrating faith in action of the Jewish tradition."

For nearly 150 years, Jews have made it their priority to lead and to lift up the city of Charlotte. In 1879, Samuel Wittkowsky was the first Jewish president of Charlotte's Chamber of Commerce. In the 1940s, I.D. Blumenthal brought Brotherhood Week, a program of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, to Charlotte and along with his brother, Herman, purchased and dedicated the mountaintop retreat of Wilda-

(Continued on page 2)

PRRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT # 1208
CHARLOTTE, NC

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

From the Editor



Shira Firestone, Editor CJN

Growing up, our choices for breakfast were Captain Crunch or Pop-Tarts. What a choice! I went for the Captain Crunch. For lunch, a butter and sugar sandwich (on Wonder Bread) was lovingly placed in my lunchbox next to the “Have a nice day, dear” note, just as lovingly placed. After-school snack? You guessed it — Captain Crunch or Pop Tarts. I opted for the Pop Tarts for variety. And we were one of the first on the block to make powdered mashed potatoes part of our nightly dinner routine.

To be fair, my parents did the best they could with the knowledge they had in the 70s. Research identifying sugar as a primary culprit in heart disease, the main health concern at the time, was still being buried by the industry (yes, that really happened), and the finger was being

pointed squarely at fat and cholesterol. This was before nutrition science told us definitively that fat was good, and eggs were bad — or is it fat is bad, and eggs are good? I can’t keep up.

In 2013, I experienced a small health scare, having been diagnosed as prediabetic. I had seen a loved one administer insulin shots in her stomach every day and was determined not to share that fate. Unbelievably, my doctor told me it did not matter what I ate. I left his office, began an exercise routine, and completely changed my diet. I returned three months later, restored to perfect health. I fired my doctor.

This inspired me to learn more about nutrition — the science, politics, and ethics of what we eat. I earned a Certificate in Integrative (Holistic) Nutrition. After my year spent studying every theory, diet, and philosophy out there — paleo, raw, keto, intermittent fasting, juice cleansing, the list goes on — the director pared everything down to this: eat whole foods and not too much. Couldn’t he have led with that and saved us some time and money?

I learned that knowing what to eat is not that difficult. We’re the only species needing myriad books to know how to eat. According to Nielsen BookScan, about 5 million diet books are

sold in the U.S. alone every year. More importantly, perhaps, I was reminded of the inextricable link between food and not only my physical health but also my emotional and spiritual well-being. Food is more than fuel. Food is memories. Food is social. Food is expressive. If we wake up with food in our refrigerators, food is security (and an estimated 15 million households in the U.S. do not).*

It is rare when an issue of CJN lends itself so nicely to a theme. But this month, the theme of food kept coming up. We start on the front page with an exciting look at the Gastro Jews series. On page 25, you’ll find an article on Jewish Food 101 and a recipe for Shwarma Chicken Kabobs. Even Cantor Thomas of Temple Beth El mused about food, and Hebrew High is offering a class called Heirloom Recipes. Our online bonus edition (www.charlottejewishnews.org) contains more recipes and links to cooking videos.

We hope you enjoy. Now if you’ll excuse me, my Pop-Tart is ready.

Shira

*In Mecklenburg County, about 12 percent — or about 126,200 people — were considered food insecure before the pandemic, according to Feeding America’s “Map the Meal Gap.” Job loss and other economic crises associated with the coronavirus could push the rate of food insecurity in Mecklenburg County to 17% by the end of the year. Jewish Family Services provides food, personal care items and other necessities to individuals and families that qualify. Donations are greatly appreciated. Drop off dates for November: Wednesdays, November 11 and 25. See www.jfs.org for more information on specific needs and drop off instructions.

Gastro Jews Schedule

November 8: Chanie Apfelbaum

With her website “Busy in Brooklyn” and book, “Millennial Kosher,” Chanie’s creative twists on old-time cuisine prove that kosher fare is anything but old-fashioned.

December 6: Michael Solomonov — Hanukkah Cooking Demo

Israeli chef and restaurateur, known for his Philadelphia restaurant, Zahavm, Michael Solomonov is the winner of the James Beard Foundation awards for Best Chef.

January 24: Boris Fishman

Boris Fishman is the author of “Savage Feast.” Come aboard for a culinary trip through Boris’ family history as an immigrant from Belarus

February 7: Mandy Silverman

Mandylicious - Challah baking extraordinaire, Mandy has created over 300 unique challah and babka recipes and has developed a worldwide following, including over 25,000 Instagram followers.

March 21: Michael Solomonov — Passover Cooking Demo

Israeli chef and restaurateur, known for his Philadelphia restaurant, Zahavm, Michael Solomonov is the winner of the James Beard Foundation awards for Best Chef.

April 18: Julia Turshen

Author of “Now and Again,” Julia Turshen is an American cookbook author, food writer, cook, and food equity advocate. “Epicurious” has called Julia one of the 100 Greatest Home Cooks of All Time, and The New York Times has described her “at the forefront of the new generation of authentic, approachable authors.”

May 23: Jamie Geller

Jamie Geller is the author of “The Joy of Kosher” cooking series and “Jewish by Jamie,” an Israeli-American food writer, celebrity chef, television producer, and businesswoman. She is an author of several cookbooks and the founder of the Kosher Media Network. Geller hosts online cooking shows called the “Joy of Kosher” cooking series.

Shabbat Candle Lighting Times November

Friday, November 6, 5:05 p.m.

Friday, November 13, 5:00 p.m.

Friday, November 20, 4:56 p.m.

Friday, November 27, 4:54 p.m.



Judy Seldin-Cohen

(Continued from page 1)

creases to the “better of human relations.” The list of valued and celebrated Jews known for uplifting Charlotte is long — Harry Golden, Mark Bernstein, Sandra and Leon Levine, just to name a few.

Civic Engagement is a long-time Jewish value; 2,600 years ago, the author of the Book of Jeremiah foresaw the time when the Jewish community would be dispersed. He urged his co-religionists to work for peace and prosperity in the cities to where they would be exiled because with their city’s peace, they too would find peace. Jews have always recognized their interconnectedness with the greater community.

Civic engagement is a present-day value. A recent study “Connecting the Dots: American Jews and Civic Engagement” published in February 2020 (immediately prior to America’s COVID crisis and months prior to the racial justice protests), affirmed what Charlotte Jews have historically known to be true. American Jews are highly engaged in their communities, even when it is not a presidential election year. A vast majority of American Jews see Jewish values as grounding

their engagement in democracy and their communities, though most also see their civic engagement as grounded in universal values as well.

Judy Seldin-Cohen’s civic engagement was inspired by her Judaism and by her work with Temple Beth El. After bringing turkey casseroles to Temple Beth El’s Room in the Inn and Beth El’s program for sheltering the homeless on Christmas, and after scrubbing a bathtub at the vacant uptown Charlotte Hall House Hotel so it could temporarily be used to house the overflow of homeless families, she recognized the need to go upstream. She desired not only to alleviate the hardships of homelessness but also to eradicate its root causes by working for systemic change.

For more than twelve years she has done just that. Judy has dug deep to expand housing for Charlotte’s homeless and low-income population. She helped produce award-winning documentaries on social justice issues. She co-authored a book guiding synagogues on the path to civic engagement that received a National Jewish Book Award. Most impressively, she led to envisioning and estab-

lishing the \$26 million dollar A Way Home Endowment that helps Charlotte-Mecklenburg’s homeless and at-risk families move toward housing and financial independence by providing housing subsidies and supportive services (an effort she currently chairs).

Seldin-Cohen recognized that while one voice can make a difference, organizing and training others to use their voices in advocacy can go much further. As a volunteer organizer with the Stan Greenspon Center, she built power by partnering with other organizations engaged in similar advocacy and meeting nearly 20 times with members of the Charlotte City Council. This work led the way to winning a \$50 million housing bond referendum and a greater share of new housing units funded for the lowest income housing rentals. Due to her leadership, thousands of low-income Charlotteans now have a place to call home.

Rabbi Judith Schindler is a Sklut Professor of Jewish Studies & Director of the Stan Greenspon Center for Peace and Social Justice at Queens University of Charlotte

The Charlotte Jewish News

5007 Providence Road, Suite 112
Charlotte, NC 28226

Phone
Office 704-944-6765
email: charlottejewishnews@shalomcharlotte.org
Shira Firestone - Editor

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

Published monthly except July

POWERED BY
Jewish Federation
OF GREATER CHARLOTTE



Charlotte Jewish Film Festival Takes a Look at Race

The Charlotte Jewish Film Festival (CJFF), a program of the Levine JCC Cultural Arts Department, is excited to partner with The Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte for this special film "They Ain't Ready for Me," and the wonderful opportunity to host a live Q&A with the film's Producer/Director Brad Rothschild and star Tamar Manasseh. As part of both organizations' commitment to racial justice, we are pleased to offer our community meaningful opportunities to engage and educate on issues of race and racism, through a Jewish perspective.

We are working to adapt to this new COVID-19 reality by offering this flexible, virtual viewing format, in which you can enjoy not only the film on your own time, from the comforts of your home, but also discuss the film with filmmakers

and stars who we would never get to meet, a silver lining of this unprecedented time!

In "They Ain't Ready for Me," Tamar Manasseh, founder of MASK (Mothers Against Senseless Killings), believes she can do anything! A mother and rabbinical student who dreams of becoming a rabbi someday, she is not only emerging as an important voice within Chicago's Black community but also is on her way to becoming a national symbol of what can be achieved as a grassroots activist.

Timely and inspirational, "They Ain't Ready for Me" also demonstrates the challenges Tamar faces in both her Black and Jewish worlds. While she is grateful for the support she receives from the Jewish community, she still cannot help but cringe when she is asked to validate her claim to Judaism just because of the color of her skin.

This will be the first of many virtual film offerings, as the CJFF screening committee is hard at work selecting films for our 2021 festival, which will begin on Saturday, February 1, 2021. We hope this new format will allow us to reach even more audience members who may not have been able to attend our festival in the past but will be able to attend virtually this year.

For more information and to register for this event, visit www.jewishcharlotte.org.



This very special film event is a partnership between

The Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte & The Charlotte Jewish Film Festival.

As part of both organizations' commitment to racial justice, we are pleased to offer our community meaningful opportunities to engage and educate on issues of race and racism.

FREE VIRTUAL SCREENING

Watch from the comfort of your home

Any time between Thursday, November 12 @ 5pm through Sunday, November 15 @ 5pm

Join us for a ZOOM Q & A

Sunday, November 15 @ 5pm with Filmmaker Brad Rothschild & star Tamar Manasseh



ABOUT THE FILM A feature-length documentary about Tamar Manasseh, the African American rabbinical student who is leading the fight against senseless killings on the south side of Chicago.

Tamar and the organization she founded, MASK, Mothers and Men Against Senseless Killings, are proving that the situation is not hopeless, and that forgotten members of the neighborhood can believe that there are people who care whether they live or die.

English - 90 min - 2020 - Adult Language and Content

ABOUT THE FILMMAKER

Brad Rothschild is an award winning producer and writer with both a creative and a business background. From 1995-1997, he served as the Speechwriter and Director of Communications for the Mission of Israel to the United Nations.



This event is **FREE** but registration is required to receive viewing links. Register at <https://jewishfederationcharlotte.regfox.com/they-aint-ready-for-me-screening-and-virtual-talk>



THANK YOU

Donations received from 9-16-2020 through 10-14-2020

Men's Donor List

Yitzhak Rabin Society
\$1,800 - \$3,599
Berlin, Sandy

Menachem Begin Society
\$1,000 - \$1,799
Wapner, Keith

Shomrim (Guardians)
\$100 - \$364
Anonymous
Foster, Colby
Rousso, David
Stern, Gary

Visit jewishcharlotte.org to learn more about the work we do.

Women's Donor List

Pearl Society
\$180 - \$1,799
Rein, Barbara

Chaverim (Friends)
\$1 - \$99
Alexander, Joan

Family Donor List

Yitzhak Rabin Society
\$1,800 - \$3,599
Cohen, Joel and Paulette

Shomrim (Guardians)
\$100 - \$364
Callif, Marvin and Sera



Since 1974, we have assisted community families and businesses with:

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

As part of the Windermere Insurance Group, Greenspon & Associates can now also help with:

- **Home & Auto**
- **Commercial Business Insurance**
- **Risk Management Services**



Keith Greenspon
Advisor

704.247.3033

kgreenspon@windinsgroup.com

The KEYS to a successful real estate transaction...

Experience and Commitment!

Buying...Selling...Relocating...

Ann and Andrew

are your KEYS to the local Jewish Community.



Serving the Charlotte community for over 30 years.



Ann Langman
704-502-4328
ann.langman@allentate.com

Andrew Rosen
704-604-4756
andrew.rosen@allentate.com

**CURBSIDE PICK-UP AVAILABLE
AT THE LEVINE-SKLUT JUDAIC LIBRARY!**

Hours:

Tuesdays
10AM-12 PM

Thursdays
1-3 PM

Sundays
10-12 AM

- **Request Up to Four Items For Pick Up**
 - Go to jewishcharlotte.org/cje and click on "CATALOG" to browse for books and find out what's available.
 - Request books by:
 - Logging into your library account and reserving online OR
 - Emailing library@jewishcharlotte.org with the titles and authors of the books you wish to borrow OR
 - Calling 704-944-6783 (leave a message if you get our voice mail)
 - Books must be requested at least 24 hours in advance.
- **When Your Books Are Ready, You Will Receive A Call Or Email To Select A Pick Up Date.**
- **Arrive At The Library During The Scheduled Pick Up Time On Your Selected Date, Pull Into The Circular Drive At The Blumenthal Portico, And Call 704-944-6783.**
- **A Library Staff Member Will Deliver Your Bagged Books To The Back Seat Or The Trunk Of Your Car.**
- **Books Will Be Due In Three Weeks And May Be Returned To the Library Drop Box In the Circular Drive.**



Jewish Federation
OF GREATER CHARLOTTE



Don't have a library card? Visit www.jewishcharlotte.org/cje and click "Library Card" to apply. Library materials are quarantined for 72 hours before they return to circulation

**Lisa Levinson
Legacy Profile**



By Lisa Strause Levinson

I am a Charlotte native. I remember when the Charlotte Jewish community was so small that my life revolved around Temple Israel and The Amity Country Club. My first memories of our

Jewish traditions were lunches in Gastonia. We went to my grandparents' home after Sunday school and spent the day with lots of cousins, aunts, and uncles.

Growing up in Charlotte was very much a family affair. I am related to many people in our community because my grandfather, Sidney Cohen, was one of 11 children. My parents, however, also had a group of friends whom I called "Aunt and Uncle." To this day, there are older members of our community whom I still call "Uncle" even though they ask me to stop! These people influenced my life as much as my family. The children of these aunts and uncles became my best friends. This was especially true of those who lived in my neighborhood, Colombine, which was on the outskirts of Foxcroft. (Until the late 70s, Jews were not allowed to live in Foxcroft or Myers Park.) Sometimes, it felt like a Jewish shtetl, because we had more than 14 Jewish families within that small neighborhood. We even have had our own neighborhood Havdalah services!

I left Charlotte to attend Jacksonville University but returned in 1989 after teaching in Atlanta and Savannah. I followed the lead of my parents and became involved in our Jewish community. My passion for volunteering began at the Levine Jewish Community Center. After our second child was born, I was chair of the Camp Shalom committee when it became Camp Mindy in 2000! My children shared my family's values of Jewish leadership, connection, and involvement enjoying the JCC Maccabi Games, BBYO, and countless years at Camp Barney Medintz as campers and staff.

It was my parents who taught me about tzedakah. My dad would not just tell us, but also show us, "You have to give back to the Jewish community. No one else will take care of us. We must make sure we take care of ourselves." My mother also drilled into us, by her actions, that all Jews are not wealthy, problem-free, and secure. Many families in the Jewish community decide between food and medicine each day.

I have created a Jewish legacy because my family has been able to enjoy a rich Jewish life. I want to ensure that future generations are afforded the same experience.

Thank You LEGACY DONORS



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

Anonymous* (2)
Sanford and Lois Benjamin
Bobbi and Don Bernstein
Nancy and Sam Bernstein
Mark (OBM) and Louise (OBM) Bernstein
Susan P. Bessey
Barry Bobrow and Karen Knoble
Diana Warth Bregman
Steven and Olivia Cohen
Paul and Lynn Edelstein
Adam Foodman
Ken and Tammy Golder
Allen (OBM) and Ethel (OBM) Gordon
Jeff and Bari Gorelick
Bill and Patty (OBM) Gorelick
Joel Horwich
Nancy and Robert Kipnis

Lorrie and Barry Klemons and Family
Alison and Mark Lerner
Harry and Gloria Lerner
Leon and Sandra Levine
Holly and Hal Levinson
Annie and Harrison Lord
Rose (OBM) and Abe (OBM) Luski
Polly and Steve Menaker
Eliot and Shirley Rosen
Marty and Elaine Schefflin
Melvin Segal
Lori and Eric Sklut
Ken & Marcia Stern
Marilyn and Harry Swimmer
Mort Wise

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



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

704.973.4544 • charlottejewishfoundation.org



Inspiration.
Innovation.
Imagination.



Jewish Federation
OF GREATER CHARLOTTE

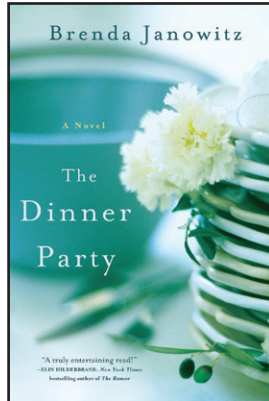


Inspiration.
Innovation.
Imagination.

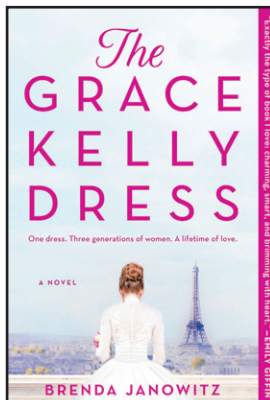
~ Sue's Bookshelf ~ By Sue Littauer



During our most recent CJE monthly book club discussion, we were talking about selections for upcoming books. The consensus was that many of our members don't want to read anything "depressing" during the pandemic — our lives are depressing enough. After hearing the same thoughts from some of my friends, I started thinking about what books I could recommend that fall within parameters of our book club — written by a Jewish author or have a Jewish theme, content, or subject matter, and are not too heavy or dark. Sounds easy enough? Right? Wrong. When you are least expecting it, something about World War II and the Holocaust crops up. Then there's antisemitism that hits too close to home in today's world. And dark dysfunctional family stories are way too stressful.

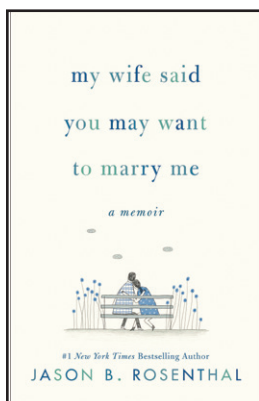


boyfriends. One daughter is dating a "Rothschild"; the other daughter has a non-Jewish boyfriend with a seemingly undesirable mother. Sylvia's preparations for the "perfect" dinner party/seder are *seriously over the top!* But when we get to the actual evening, everyone is trying to conceal their imperfections, and outright chaos breaks loose when their hidden secrets are exposed for all to see.



When I saw that author Brenda Janowitz had a new novel out, I was eager to read it. The Grace Kelly Dress is charming, entertaining, and fast paced. Two years after Grace Kelly's royal wedding, her iconic dress is still all the rage in Paris, and one replica and the secrets it carries will inspire three generations of women to forge their own paths in life and in love. (Amazon)

First, we meet Rose in Paris in 1958. She's a seamstress at a fashion house. Sixty years later we meet her granddaughter tech CEO Rachel, who goes by the childhood name Rocky. Rocky wants nothing to do with the family heirloom wedding dress, but doesn't want to break her mother Joan's heart. The lives of these three women come together as the history of the dress and the secrets of the three women are revealed. Fans of Kristen Hannah's, "The Nightingale" will enjoy the book. Both of Janowitz's books can be found in the Levine-Sklut Judaic Library.



In an attempt to find a suitable book, this past week I read "My Wife Says You May Want to Marry Me," by Jason B. Rosenthal. From the title, it sounded like it might be light. However, it was a beautifully written memoir of love, loss, and new beginnings. Do I write more? Nope. Poignant and inspiring, but can't say it wasn't heartbreaking.

Which brings me to my recommendations — two novels by author Brenda Janowitz. A couple of years ago, I read her very funny novel about a modern Jewish family entitled, "The Dinner Party: A Novel." The matriarch, Sylvia, is hosting Passover seder and has invited the families of her daughters'

Book Club News:

Our Center for Jewish Education Monthly Book Club will meet again on Wednesday, November 11, when we will discuss "This Is How It Always Is," by Laurie Frankel, and on December 9 to talk about "The Bookshop of Yesterdays," by Amy Meyerson. Both meetings will be on Zoom at 10:30 a.m. Everyone is welcome.

For more information, please contact sueb.littauer@jewishcharlotte.org.



BUSINESS BROKERS
MERGERS & ACQUISITIONS

Selling a Business?

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



Adam Petricoff
VR Charlotte

9301 Monroe Road, Suite L
Charlotte, NC 28270
704-360-8898 office
704-905-8658 cell
apetricoff@vrcharlotte.com

www.vrbcharlotte.com



Committed to quality, selection, and value. Come as a customer, leave as a friend.

Malak Jewelers

- since 1980 -

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



Two Treasured Community Members to Be Honored at Temple Israel's Winter Concert

Few individuals have given as much of their time and talents in service of the Charlotte Jewish Community as have Irving Bienstock and Audrey Madans. Longtime residents of Charlotte, both have a long history of volunteerism and leadership not only to their synagogue, Temple Israel, but to the community at large. And neither are strangers to recognition, Audrey having been recognized with Temple Israel's Commitment to Volun-

teer Service Award and Irving receiving the Mensch Award, both in 2017. Irving also received the Volunteer of the Year Award in 2007 from the Levine Jewish Community Center. On December 6, they will be honored again with Temple Israel's Shofar Award, an award that has only been previously awarded five times, at the Temple's second Annual Winter Concert, "The Best is Yet to Come: An Evening of Light and Celebration." The Shofar Award was created by the Temple's Board of Trustees to recognize outstanding individuals in the congregation who have demonstrated, on a continuing basis, their long-term commitment to the synagogue.

But the recognition isn't why they do it ...

Says Irving of his years of involvement to the community, "I always considered it an honor to be able to do what I was doing. I never expected that I would receive an honor like

this. Actually, I never thought about it ... never occurred to me that I would be honored for something I liked to do."

Irving moved to Charlotte from Brooklyn, New York along with his late wife, Lillian. Irving has been involved with Temple Israel for more than 40 years. He has served as co-president for the Temple Israel Social Club, as a member of the Religion Committee, and has rarely missed a meeting in his role on the Executive Board and Board of Trustees and as a gabbai for 22 years. Irving frequently leads Minyan service on Sunday mornings and in the evenings when the cantor or rabbi is not available.

Irving's community involvement, however, extends far beyond his synagogue affiliation. For six years Irving served on the board of Jewish Family Services and sat on the Advisory Board to its president for four years. Irving served on a committee that resulted in Generations at Shalom Park. Only time will tell which of Irving's accomplishments have had the most impact. But at 94 years

old, Irving is well known for sharing his personal experience during the Holocaust with more than 3,200 Charlotte school children.

When asked what would Lillian have thought of Irving receiving the Shofar Award, Irving emotionally responded, "I cried afterward, about the fact Lillian wasn't with me."

Audrey, too, has a long and rich history of service in the

Charlotte Jewish community. Moving to Charlotte with her late husband, Jerome, she has given a lifetime of hours to her volunteer efforts both with Temple Israel and in the Charlotte community. They moved to Charlotte in 1959 and Audrey immediately became involved, teaching Sunday school in the 1960s. She has served multiple terms as president of Women of

(Continued on page 13)



Irving Bienstock



Audrey Madans

MeckMIN 45th Annual Community-wide Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

Tuesday, November 24

Prelude at 6:45pm

Service begins at 7:00pm



Access at either: [Facebook.com/MeckMin](https://www.facebook.com/MeckMin) or www.templebethel.org/calendar

Winter Concert

THE BEST IS YET TO COME: AN EVENING OF LIGHT & CELEBRATION

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2020
AT 5 P.M.

Please join Cantor Shira Lissek, along with some remarkable musicians, for a Winter Concert Fundraiser benefiting Temple Israel.

The evening will include performances of favorite classics and uplifting Jewish music.

On this evening, we will honor
AUDREY MADANS and IRVING BIENSTOCK



with the Shofar Award, in recognition of their decades of service and dedication to Temple Israel.

For additional information, tickets, or to pay tribute to our honorees, please visit templeisraelnc.org.



temple israel

~ SYNAGOGUES AND CONGREGATIONS ~

Temple Kol Ami Congregant Attends Cantorial School

By Shari Baum

For Shayna Burack, the path to cantorial school has been a long and winding road that started in Fort Mill, South Carolina and made its way to Charlotte, Hungary, Israel, Atlanta and back to Fort Mill. Along the way, diverse Jewish experiences and wonderful mentors influenced her ultimate decision to pursue a career as a cantor.

Born and bred in the Bible Belt, Shayna's parents, Drs. David and Rebecca Burack, wanted her and her sister, Elana, to know what it meant to be Jewish. They enrolled their children at Charlotte Jewish Preschool and Charlotte Jewish Day School (CJDS) where Shayna formed a strong Jewish identity and pride in her Judaism early on. She expresses amazement that much of what she learned at CJDS is still with her today.

Raised in a conservative house-

hold, Shayna became a Bat Mitzvah at Temple Israel. While in high school, she participated in a pluralistic Jewish leadership program in Szarvas, Hungary. There she met Russian, Hungarian, Lithuanian, Estonian, Indian, Israeli, and other American Jews. Not only did she make life-long friends at this incredible two-week program, but she also had her first pluralistic Jewish experience that showed her the beauty in all kinds of Jewish practice.

Before college, Shayna spent four months studying at a modern Orthodox seminary in Jerusalem and spent Shabbats "couch-surfing all over the country." She marvels at the hospitality of the locals who were willing to open their homes to strangers for Shabbat.

While attending college at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, Shayna was an active

member of Hillel and participated in an inter-religious council. Through open discussions about faith, she learned from students who identified as Christian, Muslim, Hindu, Mormon, and atheist, as well as other Jewish students who identified differently than she did. As a cantor, she hopes to create inter-religious spaces for dialogue that are reminiscent of this very influential experience at Emory.

After graduation, Shayna's path brought her back home to Fort Mill where she worked in the financial sector and became involved with her family's new synagogue, Temple Kol Ami, taking on the role of B'nei Mitzvah coordinator and tutor. This work uncovered a passion for educating young, curious minds as well as sharing the beautiful traditions the Jewish people have passed from generation to generation. It was during this

time, Shayna and her family suffered the loss of loved ones, and she witnessed the power of clergy to bring peace and hope. She also realized how music brought healing and connection to her and those around her. She finally revisited what had been a middle-school dream and applied to cantorial school. In August, her dream became a reality as she started at the Debbie Friedman School of Sacred Music at Hebrew Union College.

Normally Shayna would be in New York, but due to the pandemic, she will spend the first year doing virtual learning. As with many things during this most unusual time, this has been a COVID silver lining for Temple Kol Ami. Temple Kol Ami was blessed to have Shayna serve as our cantor during the High Holidays, and her beautiful voice was uplifting and inspiring to all.



Shayna credits many amazing mentors who have modeled what she calls "impeccable examples of Jewish leadership." She is grateful to Rabbi Murray Ezring, Cantor Elias Roochvarg, Rabbi Ana Bonnheim, (Continued on page 14)



Waltonwood wishes you an abundance of joy and good health this holiday season.

Now welcoming new residents!

Visit a Waltonwood senior living community near you and learn more.



Assisted Living & Memory Care
5215 Randolph Road
Charlotte, NC 28211
704-495-6031



Independent Living, Assisted Living & Memory Care
11945 Providence Road
Charlotte, NC 28277
704-246-3055

Joyous Sukkot Comes to Life with Live Interaction at Chabad's SukkahLand

How do you bring real joy to Charlotte youngsters in the age of COVID? Chabad of Charlotte has come up with an innovative solution. Create a self-contained, drive-through festival called SukkahLand.

On Tuesday October 6, the 4th day of the Sukkot holiday, scores of young people made their way to the Epstein Family Chabad Center campus on Sardis Road to find an outdoor sukkah-themed carnival filled with multiple colorful booths. The attractive event featured a

life-sized board game loaded with holiday challenges, a Lulav & Etrog Bungee Run, edible Sukkah Crafts, Lulav Ring toss, Snacks in the Sukkah, and lots of fun.

All participants had the opportunity to enter into a sukkah and do the Lulav and Etrog Shake and enjoy some tasty Sukkot snacks. Revelers were also able to order a Kosher Hot-dog Dinner-to-Go, provided by Kosher Charlotte.

The idea was to bring the holiday spirit to Charlotte Jew-

ish families in a tangible and exciting manner while following the social distancing and mask wearing protocol.

In addition, Chabad built four sukkah mobiles (Sukkot on wheels) and traversed the city, visiting Jewish families and elderly shut-ins, providing them with the opportunity to observe holiday rituals in comfort.

A unique Simchat Torah at home kit was put together by Chabad staff to bring the joy of

this happy dancing holiday to all families celebrating at home. The kit contained an inflatable Torah, a Simchat Torah flag, the story of Simchat Torah, a Torah-edible craft, a special holiday game, and a delicious sweet snack in the design of a Torah. A locally produced video, proclaiming that even at home you are not alone, was circulated prior to the holiday with a dancing Torah mascot and a rabbi dancing with the Torah. The

message of the video is that all those celebrating at home are united with each of the millions of Jewish celebrants who are all celebrating at home.



SouthPark at Phillips Place

Where Families Come Together

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



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

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

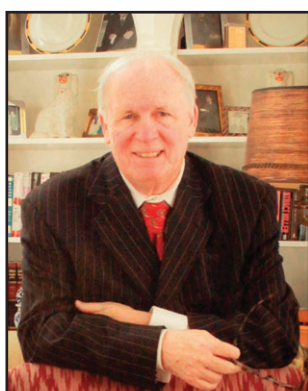


Brokerage Residential & Commercial

Richard Roskind
Realtor®/Broker

LICENSED IN NC & SC

704.905.6175
rcrokind@aol.com



Lease Evaluations, Inc.



Premier Concierge Property Management

Hunter Roskind
Realtor®/Broker

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

980.288.5616
hroskind@gmail.com



www.roskindhomes.com

templeisraelinc.org

Our House. Your Home.



temple israel

TORAH TOTS

BIM BAM SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE

Friday, November 13, 5:30 p.m.

Join Rabbi Kornsgold, Rabbi Wolk and Mr. Caleb for a great time celebrating Shabbat together! This will be a brief, but fun-filled service for your lil' ones, including all their favorite songs and dances for Shabbat!



LILAH TOV: HAVDALLAH, SONGS & STORY TIME

Sunday, November 22, 6:30 p.m.

Get into your pajamas and join Rabbi Kornsgold and some other special guests for our monthly Havdallah, Songs & Story Time! Details at templeisraelinc.org/upcoming-programs.

YOUTH

DRIVE-IN MOVIES (3RD-12TH GRADERS AND FAMILIES)

Monday, November 23, 5:15 p.m.

Join all your Mahar, Kadima, and USY Youth Group friends for a drive-in movie! Be on the lookout for a poll determining what movie will be screened! Limited space available. Cost per family: \$5 TI members; \$10 non-members. Location: TBD RSVP by Wednesday, November 18 (9 p.m.). Additional details forthcoming.

TORAH ON TAP

NAILED IT: FALL BRUNCH EDITION

Sunday, November 22, 11 a.m.

Think you have what it takes to nail a fun Fall recipe?? Join us on Zoom as we compete to see who can make the best version of a Fall treat! Instructions and ingredient list will be provided ahead of time. <https://zoom.us/j/92483649780>

To get on the Torah on Tap mailing list, email Alan Johnathan at ajohnathan@templeisraelinc.org.

SOCIAL ACTION

MEN'S SHELTER OF CHARLOTTE (STATESVILLE AVE.)

Sunday, November 22, beginning at noon
(Sunday before Thanksgiving)

Join us as we cook a healthy, delicious, dinner, and then serve it to 120+ men in need at the Statesville Ave Men's Shelter and residents of Tent City. We are also collecting donations of clothing, toiletries, etc. For details, visit templeisraelinc.org. To volunteer, please contact Jonathan Berger (jbergertisa@gmail.com or 704-995-1732).

LIFELONG LEARNING

JEWS & BREWS

Mondays, 10 a.m.

Join Rabbi Michael Wolk for a cup of coffee, and study the weekly Torah portion through the lens of traditional and modern commentaries. For details on joining this class, visit templeisraelinc.org/lifelong-learning

MONTHLY LUNCH N' LEARN WITH RABBI MICHAEL WOLK THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12 – The History of the Prayer for Our Country 12 Noon - 1 p.m.

In honor of Election Day, we will discuss "The History of the Prayer for Our Country." To register for Lunch & Learn, visit the "Upcoming Programs" page on templeisraelinc.org or call 704-362-2796.

*Due to a very generous grant received from the Carolina Foundation for Jewish Seniors (CFJS), Temple Israel is pleased to offer a free lunch to the first 25 registrants** of each class. Lunches can be picked up at the Temple, the morning of each class.

**Recipient must be a full member of Temple Israel, age 65+

SPECIAL EVENT

COMMUNITY-WIDE INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 7 p.m.

Gather together online for the MeckMIN 45th Annual Community-Wide Interfaith Thanksgiving Service. Through music, prayers, sacred readings and messages from community leaders, the service offers the chance to come together in a spirit of understanding and gratitude. The annual service is sponsored by MeckMIN, Mecklenburg's Metropolitan Interfaith Network.



Save the Date

JOIN US FOR TEMPLE ISRAEL'S
2ND ANNUAL WINTER CONCERT,

THE BEST IS YET TO COME:

**AN EVENING OF
LIGHT & CELEBRATION**

WITH CANTOR SHIRA LISSEK

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2020

AT 5 P.M.

On this evening, we will honor
AUDREY MADANS and IRVING BIENSTOCK



with the Shofar Award, in recognition of their
decades of service and dedication to Temple Israel.

For additional information, tickets, or to pay tribute
to our honorees, please visit templeisraelinc.org.



The Rose Room

LET US HELP YOU
FIND THAT PERFECT
GIFT FOR SIMCHAS,
HOLIDAYS & MORE.

WE ALSO DO
WEDDING, SHOWER
& B'NAI MITZVAH
REGISTRIES!

THE ROSE ROOM GIFT SHOP IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS!

We have beautiful B'nai Mitzvah gifts in stock. You can now shop online or make an appointment to shop in person. Can't find what you are looking for? We can help you source that special piece of Judaica.

For details, please visit templeisraelinc.org/gift-shop



*SPECIAL: 20% Discount for all full price items. Checkout code: HHD2020

*Purchase pick-ups take place every Tuesday between 9:30 AM-12:30 PM.

*Alternative pick-up arrangements can be made.

JText for Teens 7-12th Grade

With teens being on their phones approximately 540 minutes a day, Jtext is a great way to meet them where they are. Teens can put their time on phones to good use by learning important Jewish facts with Jtext.

Every Monday and Thursday at 7 p.m., a Jewish trivia question is texted out. The seventh person to respond with the correct answer wins \$20. Signing up is simple: Text the word "CteenCLT" to 704-285-0737. The goal is to be the "7th person at 7 p.m." to answer the trivia question correctly.

Jtext has featured a range of questions from "Which country had the earliest settlement of Jews?" to "Who were the first set of twins in the Torah?" to "Which location celebrates the longest Shabbat?" Following the question, the text includes four multiple choice answers to choose from. Once they

submit an answer, the teens immediately receive a response telling them if they are correct or not.

Teens compete with their friends and other teens in the Jtext program to be the seventh person to respond correctly. The competition is richer due to the \$20 prize, but the mission of Jtext is twofold. It's a great way to make some Amazon cash while learning about our important Jewish history.

Questions? Leah@JewishBallantyne.com



BJC sukkah mobile traveled all over to spread the joy of Sukkot.

Ballantyne JEWISH CENTER
Your Neighborhood Connection

Strive for 100

By Cantor Mary Rebecca Thomas, Temple Beth El

Quite a few years ago, I remember a fruit and vegetable marketing campaign that had the local grocery stores covered in signs that said, "Strive for Five." Hanging from the ceiling — Strive for Five. On the refrigerator where they keep the lettuce — Strive for Five. Over by the bulk bins — Strive for Five. As you moved through the aisles, filling your cart, sign after sign would remind you to try to eat five servings of produce each day.

As a young adult, I decided to strive for five. I quickly realized that I was not eating nearly enough fruits and vegetables most days and that if I wanted to get to five servings, not only would I need to add more fruits and vegetables to my life, I was also going to have to remove other less nutritious things to make room for all of that produce. All of those fruits and vegetables were crowding out other less optimal foods.

The Strive for Five experiment of my mid-twenties taught me that when we fill our baskets up with those things that help us, there is suddenly less room for that which does harm. Sometimes we can crowd out habits we wish to change simply by adding healthier, better choices.

The Talmud teaches us that "A person is obligated to recite 100 blessings a day" (Menachot 43b).

100 blessings. Now, this teaching does not say that a person is obligated to think 100 kind thoughts or say 100 prayers, but specifically to recite 100 blessings. 100 blessings, spoken aloud, uttered and brought into existence through our speech.

Some days, I do not talk much. On the spectrum of people who speak many words and those who speak very few, I am probably somewhere in the middle. So my daily expenditure of words is what it is, much like the room for calories ingested into a body in a day are quite finite. As we have the ability to choose if we eat enough fruits and vegetables, so too do we choose whether or not we breathe into existence enough words of blessing, encouragement, and affirmation.

Let us speak our blessings into being, filling our world with words of praise, and the hearts and minds of those we love with the very best we have to give. May these words, the expression of our hearts and minds, reach the Divine. Blessed are You, Adonai our God, who hearkens to our prayer.

We have the ability to choose the right balance of words of blessing, just as we choose the balance of what is in our shopping cart. The more we choose that which nourishes ourselves and others, the less room there is for that which causes harm.

What would happen if we flooded our speech with words of blessing? What if we walked outside, looked up, and proclaimed with awe, "Blessed are You, Creator of all, who has formed this Carolina blue sky?" Or breathed through a stressful moment and said the words, "Blessed are You, Source of Peace, who has given me the ability to bring a sense of calm to my family?" What if we sat at our socially distant

dinner and said, "Dear friend, how blessed am I to know you and to have your trust?" What if we said aloud, before we put the keys in the ignition or logged into the first Zoom call, "Blessed are You, God, who has breathed life into my body and entrusted me with the ability to bring goodness into this world, a partner with You in the daily renewal of creation?"

I believe that we would find that our lives change in the similar ways to when we eat enough fruits and vegetables. We thrive when we are filled with healthy fuel, and we thrive when we tend to the care of our souls. Speak words of blessing, words of care, and watch the light within you burn ever more brightly. That bright light, in turn, will inspire and nurture those we encounter.

As we prepare for Thanksgiving later this month, may we open our eyes to the blessings that surround us. Let us speak our blessings into being, filling our world with words of praise and the hearts and minds of those we love with the very best we have to give. May these words, the expression of our hearts and minds, reach the Divine. Blessed are You, Adonai our God, who hearkens to our prayer.

Please join us online for the MeckMIN 45th Annual Community-wide Interfaith Thanksgiving Service on Tuesday, November 24. The service is at 7 p.m. and is preceded by a 6:45 p.m. prelude. Hosted by Temple Beth El.



MEG D. GOLDSTEIN
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW

ESTATE PLANNING,
ESTATE AND TRUST ADMINISTRATION,
PRE-MARITAL AGREEMENTS,
CHARITABLE PLANNING AND ENTITIES,
GENERAL CORPORATE AND TAX LAW,
BUSINESS SUCCESSION PLANNING

5401 LANCELOT DRIVE
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA 28270

704.756.3626

MGOLDSTEIN@MGOLDLAW.COM
WWW.MGOLDLAW.COM

**Dream Home Today.
Your Home Tomorrow.**



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

♦ Free Market Analysis ♦ Free MEGA Open House
♦ Fire Me Guarantee

ANDY GRIESINGER 443-299-8946
www.SalesMensch.com andy@andyre.com

KW SOUTHPARK
KELLER WILLIAMS



Content in the Tent

WORK WITH THE LEADERS IN CHARLOTTE REAL ESTATE

SARAH ROSE

STEVE LEPOW



SarahRose@remax.net

SteveLepow@remax.net

704 619-0422

704 975-8500

RE/MAX

Executive

*Rabbi Chanoch Oppenheim
Director, Charlotte Torah
Center*

Every synagogue in Charlotte had the same challenge this year; the Charlotte Torah Center (CTC) was no exception. We chose to have in-person High Holiday services, but how could we create a safe environment that could accommodate the crowd but at the same time have a setting that would make people feel comfortable? The solution was a tent and it was wonderful. People who had not been able to attend services since the outbreak the pandemic began calling to hear about the logistics and social distancing. It was wonderful to hear from people who said they would not be able to return until the end of the pandemic. The weather not only cooperated, but was also dreamlike — almost as if the heavens were cooperating with the program. During Neila, the



powerful concluding service of Yom Kippur, it was a unique experience to be outdoors as the sun was setting. Due to the success of Rosh Ha Shanah and Yom Kippur, people asked if we could keep the tent up for Sukkot, and a few individuals happily stepped forward to cover any additional expenses. Once again, the sunshine, fresh air, and cool breeze made for a special experience as we shook our lulavim and etrogim. It occurred to me that perhaps a tent for Sukkot was particularly appropriate in light of the Haftorah we read on Sukkot.

It is fascinating how many groups and religions have some kind of tradition of an apocalyptic battle at the end of history, perhaps borrowed from the writings of the Jewish prophets. On the other hand, perhaps, being acutely aware of evil in the world and its overwhelming hold on mankind, they sense that nothing short of a major showdown between the forces of good and evil will end evil's dominance over history once and for all. In our own times in which there is turmoil on the geo-political realm, it's hard to see a bright future if things continue to unfold they have been.

The technical, Biblical term for this war is "The War of Gog and Magog." The Haftorah read on the first day of Sukkot is from the prophet Zechariah and speaks about a time in the future when on Sukkot all external danger to the Jewish people and the State of Israel will be no more than a bad memory. The final war at that time will be the War of Gog and Magog, which will be on or near the holiday of Sukkot. After Magog's defeat, the Jewish people will happily celebrate an eternal national peace.

Who Gog and Magog will be, whatever war they will wage at whatever time in history, and for however long it will last, it's main purpose will be to test the spiritual and emotional fortitude of the Jews of that time because Gog and Magog might represent something more than merely a

physical battle, it represents a Weltanschauung, a worldview.

Rabbi S.R. Hirsch (Frankfurt, Germany; 1808-1888) notes that "Gog" is related to the Hebrew word for roof. A roof, with its ability to shut out the elements, rain and sun, symbolizes humankind's imagined independence from G-d. The symbol of the roof stands in diametric opposition to the weak Sukkah booth. A sukkah, covered only by some meager branches, symbolizes our dependence on the Almighty. Thus, Gog's struggle is the battle of the "roof" against the sukkah," in which those who believe only in human ability to manipulate nature try to eradicate the Jews, whose very existence loudly nullifies this worldview.

The pandemic has had an effect on the economy and health of virtually every part of the globe, and we are still helpless in being able to defeat it. The world's most talented and competent epidemiologists and doctors can't provide the "roof" to protect us from this pandemic "rain."

Being in the tent for the duration of the High Holidays, and especially during Sukkot, brought home this message more than ever. It was wonderful to sit outdoors and at the same time, it was an opportunity to remember from where our protection comes. Jews have been exposed to the elements for centuries and have survived against all odds. We even managed against all odds to return to our national homeland and build and incredible state, one which the BBC referred to as the "Miracle of the Mediterranean."

This year, High Holidays at the CTC were not only an encounter with nature and ourselves; we also thought about which "roof" we place our ultimate trust in.



Grades 8-12 • Undergraduate Colleges • Graduate Schools

TAKE THE STRESS OUT OF COLLEGE ADMISSIONS

- One-on-One Consulting
- College Selection
- Essays
- Interviews
- Academic Guidance
- Applications
- Extracurricular Opportunities
- Scholarships



Nancy Zolotorofe

980-265-2368

Offices in South Charlotte, Florida, New York and Connecticut

nancy@internationalcollegecounselors.com

www.internationalcollegecounselors.com



The Ruach™

The modern worship experience...
built on Jewish tradition.

facebook **Subscribe**

The Ruach is a 501(c) non-profit organization whose mission is to spread the joy of Judaism through new Jewish musical experiences which create and maintain personal connection, as well as, inspire and engage people to embrace the religion and all that it has to offer. The mission of The Ruach is supported through voluntary contributions together with a grant from The Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte.

www.theruachband.org



Ruach in Action

By Rabbi Rachel Smookler

Sometimes we are prepared to be inspired by events and or people we come into contact with. I wasn't prepared for the impact one 80-year-old woman would have on my life.

In my last few years serving as rabbi to Temple Beth David, a Conservative congregation in Rochester, New York, I had been shopping around for a tzedakah project that my congregants could easily get involved with and one that could strengthen our mission of social justice and tzedakah that we so believed in. Through complete serendipity, a friend of mine told me about her aunt, Sister Grace Miller, of the order Sisters of Mercy who had established a homeless shelter in the City of Rochester, New York.

I was immediately very intrigued and called to make an appointment to meet with her.

What I wasn't prepared for was the sheer force of energy and strength of Sister Grace, a tiny woman who works around the clock, barely leaving the shelter, House of Mercy, which she founded in 1985. After she took me on a quick tour of the shelter, where I met many of her clients and staff, we went back to her office to talk about ways in which my synagogue community could be involved. I was enraptured listening to her tell the story of how she founded House of Mercy; her passion to help the poor was piercing. Her phone was ringing off the hook as she took calls that helped connect those seeking shelter in House of Mercy with social services and medical aid.

Wow! The day I met with Sister Grace was supposed to be a just a typical day on my calendar in my rabbinate. I will never forget that day. In discussing realistic ways in which my congregation could participate in helping House of Mercy on an ongoing basis, we came up with the idea of donating 100 lunch bags per month. My congregation needed a project that would be feasible for all ages and one that would present the least amount of obstacles for engagement.

Of course, as time went on, this project was merely a springboard for the various ways in which we were able to contribute to House of Mercy.

Now I seek to bring the community lunch bag packing project to every city I move to. I have participated in feeding the hungry from my days as a rabbinical student in NYC to our years in Tokyo and Rochester and now, God willing, in Charlotte. Every community is different. Planning a tzedakah project for a brick-and-mortar congregation has its own challenges. Because The Ruach Community has gone virtual since the pandemic, we will be calling on our community members to participate through social media and emails. In organizing this lunch bag packing project, we will be putting out information on which items we will need, how to pack the bags, and where and when to drop off. This will all be communicated in the next few weeks as we transform part our community mission into The Ruach in Action.

This new year, 5781, may we cultivate new ways to be both inspired and inspirational. So many of us are involved in independent tzedakah activities. However, when a community comes together in action, to repair even a small corner of our world, our communal heartbeat will vibrate high enough to reach the Divine Realm. Shana Tovah.

For more inspiration about Sister Grace Miller please read <https://catholiccourier.com/sister-grace/>

The Ruach
New Jewish Experience.

L'dor V'dor

By Craig Goldstein

L'dor V'dor, generation to generation, has always been a very important aspect of being Jewish. While there are differences between the various sects of Judaism, the thing that binds us together is the idea of L'dor V'dor. For many of us, especially Southern Jews, this idea connects us to the past, the present, and the future. Growing up in Charlotte and being a third-generation member of Temple Israel has meant that I have had the opportunity to witness and benefit from what the generations before me have accomplished to make our Kehillah strong.

Growing up, I could never understand why many of our elders and particularly members my family sacrificed their time to make our community stronger. I remember countless times accompanying my grandfather (former cemetery director) and my father (former president) to the cemetery. Each of them exhibited such a sense of pride in helping to maintain the oldest Jewish institution in the city. Eventually each of them would "retire" from working at the cemetery to allow new leaders to blossom. Years later, going to the cemetery with them, I could feel their pride when looking at all that had been accomplished.

Like many people, as I matured my priorities began to shift. Things I never thought

would be important to me suddenly seemed urgent. How could I have an effect on our community, and what could I do to make it stronger? I was fortunate at the time to be asked to join the Bernstein Leadership Group and shortly thereafter was asked to join the Hebrew Cemetery Board. For me, it was the natural continuation of the L'dor V'dor mindset. I knew that if I could give half of the time and dedication my mishpacha had given to the cemetery, I could help ensure that this institution would continue to survive and thrive.

While not everyone has such a connection to local Jewish organizations, I implore everyone reading this article to begin thinking about what will be your legacy to our community and your family. Find your passion and create your own L'dor V'dor.

To learn more about the Hebrew Cemetery, pre-planning choices, membership as well as legacy and donation opportunities, please contact Director, Sandra Goldman at 704-576-1859 or by email at director@hebrewcemetery.org.

Hebrew Cemetery
of Greater Charlotte
Honor • Celebrate • Embrace

Winter Concert

(Continued from page 6)

Temple Israel (formerly known as Sisterhood), and has served on the temple's Board of Trustees. For years the congregation has been blessed with her voice as a member of the temple choir. Currently, she leads the support of families in times of bereavement by making sure they receive a shiva tray after the funeral.

In the greater community, Audrey has served on the board of the Blumenthal Jewish Home for the Aged (The Home), which is now called the Carolina Foundation of Jewish Seniors (CFJS), where she currently serves as a local advisor. Audrey established The Jerome Madans Award through CFJS, which honors her late husband, a longstanding board member. She has served as local president of both Hadassah and B'nai Brith, and has served on the Charlotte Community Affairs Advisory Committee and the Mecklenburg Nursing

Home Advisory Board.

"I'm beyond shocked," Audrey says of receiving the award. "I think it's a great award and I'm not sure I'm the one who should be getting it, but I'm thrilled to death and totally surprised, and excited beyond belief!"

Honoring the life, accomplishments, and service of these distinguished individuals goes beyond temple affiliation. All are invited to attend (virtually) the concert and enjoy a musical evening of "Light & Celebration" on Sunday, December 6, 2020, at 5 p.m. The event will offer performances of American Songbook classics and uplifting Jewish music, featuring Cantor Shira Lissek along with other remarkable musicians. The event is co-chaired by Amy Udoff, a lifelong member of Temple Israel, and her father, Norman Shapiro. For additional information, tickets, or to pay tribute to our honorees, please visit templeisraelnc.org.

Beautiful Crowns with CEREC®

One-visit dentistry



- ONE VISIT
- NO IMPRESSIONS
- NO TEMPORARIES
- METAL-FREE
- HIGHLY ESTETIC

Leaders in Cerec Technology & Digital Dentistry since 2004

Smile CHARLOTTE

Temple Solel Gives a Gift

By Shelley Pawlyk

It doesn't seem to matter what the occasion is or type of visit, the majority of my friends rarely come empty-handed and

usually have a gift of some kind. It is not uncommon for my friends and I to start the sentence at the same time, "You don't have to bring me a gift —

you and your friendship are the gift!" We don't want others to feel obligated. But sometimes a tangible gift is an opportunity for expression and to leave

a tiny part of ourselves in someone's life. To someone, a bundle of dandelion greens and ginger dressing might be just the right gift and can be more meaningful than a diamond. It strikes me that the monetary value has very little to do with the most impressive gifts.

There is text in Proverbs 25:11 that states, "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in settings of silver." What a powerful statement. It isn't just the "what" — it is the "when," too. It's the encouraging word spoken to someone when they've just lost their pet, even if the speaker of those words didn't know. It is special when we hear that small voice inside prompting us to call someone, but becomes a powerful act when we pick up the phone to let them know.

In Hebrew the word gift is *matana*, and in Yiddish the word is *talant*, which sounds so much like "talent" that we are reminded that meaningful giving may take practice, similar to developing a talent for playing piano by practice and repetition. The first time the word *matana* is mentioned in the Torah is Numbers 18:6, when it speaks of the Levites being given as a gift for the Lord to do the service of the Tent of Meeting. The tabernacle of Moses is an important part of our history because it housed the Shekinah Presence of Adonai where designated priests would enter on behalf of the Israelites. Because some believe that Adonai is now in our hearts instead of the Ark of the Covenant, one could reason that we are the ark carrying Adonai as a gift to each other. Just as joy is magnified and multiplied when shared, could we not believe that Adonai

within us is even more important to share as a gift?

During the recent High Holy days, wonderful gift bags for break-the-fast filled with challah, wine, apples, honey, and cookies were assembled and delivered, along with a Yizkor booklet, on the morning of September 27, just before Erev Yom Kippur. During this time there is no such thing as a small gift. We have the gift of life, friendship, acceptance, respect, and kindness. Our hope is that when we give those gifts freely to others, they will be multiplied.

Temple Solel holds regular Shabbat services at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Fridays of each month via Zoom. We also have an abbreviated service on the first and third Fridays. We hope to resume services when appropriate at Belair UMC Family Life Center, 8095 Shelley Mullis Rd., Fort Mill, SC 29707. For more information, see templesolelSC.org, write us at info@templesolelSC.org, or call 803-610-1707.





FALL
FLASH SALE!

\$11
BOTOX
per unit

\$10
XEOMIN
per unit

\$50
OFF 1ST FILLER SYRINGE
\$100 OFF Each Additional Syringe
of Belotero or the full lines of
Juvéderm, Restylane, or Radiesse

\$320
DYSPORT
per unit

\$950
JEUVEAU
per unit

THURSDAY, NOV. 5 & FRIDAY, NOV. 6 **704.542.2220**

Call today to schedule your appointment.

To take advantage of the special pricing, patients must pay in full on Thursday, Nov. 5 or Friday, Nov. 6. Procedures may be scheduled on either of those days or at a later date. Patients may not buy additional product for future office visits.

**PIEDMONT PLASTIC SURGERY
& DERMATOLOGY**
www.ppsd.com
5815 Blakeney Park Dr., Suite 100, Charlotte, NC

STUNNING NEW HOMES
at Windsor Run

Introducing White Oak Terrace, new residences coming soon to Windsor Run, the premier senior living community in Mecklenburg County. This brand new building features a variety of new floor plans with open layouts and elegant finishes.



Don't wait to learn more!
Call **1-800-583-9680** for your FREE brochure.

**Windsor Run**
Add more Living to your Life®

Matthews
WindsorRunCommunity.com

**1256686**

Shayna Burak *(continued from page 8)*

Rabbi Bruce Aft, and her voice coach Jacqueline Culpepper for their guidance and support over the years. Additionally, Shayna thanks her Temple Kol Ami family for lifting her up as she pursues her dream and being there for her family in difficult times as well as good times. "I'm continually inspired and in awe of the passion and devotion to Judaism exhibited by Temple Kol Ami leaders and members," she states.

Finally, Shayna thanks her parents (and sister Elana) for starting her on this journey 26

years ago by instilling in her their love for Judaism. They have been with her every step of the way and exemplify "I'dor v'dor" — from generation to generation — a pillar of Judaism that Shayna will now carry on.



~ SCHOOLS ~

Choosing the Right Program for Kindergarten

By Mariashi Groner,
CJDS, Director

There's a lot of talk about the expectations placed upon children entering kindergarten. There are concerns that programs are too academic versus programs that are touted as being developmental. The two entry points to elementary school are through Transitional Kindergarten and Kindergarten. Charlotte Jewish Day School (CJDS) will offer both opportunities for the fall 2021-2022 school year.

The teaching in kindergarten should be guided and driven by what is developmentally appropriate for a specific age, understanding that the guidelines are not exact. Some children walk at 10 months, and some don't walk until 17 months. It is not developmental versus academic, but rather it is about listening to the child and taking their individual developmental age into consideration.

Kindergarten expectation goals and standards have changed. Children today are exposed to

experiences and learning opportunities at home and in preschool and are coming to us ready and eager to learn. They are little sponges ready to soak up the next stage of learning, and it would be a crime to withhold those experiences and opportunities because it was decided it would be developmentally inappropriate for a five-year-old. Likewise, if a child is not ready to grasp counting backwards or telling time, assessing them with unrealistic expectations would be inappropriate too.

A child's chronological age is the age assigned upon birth, while their developmental age is the age of a child when they are compared to typical behaviors and characteristics associated with that child's chronological age. Researchers have observed that chronological age is associated with a set of behaviors and skills. For example, a five-year-old might ask lots of how, what, where, and when questions. The child wants to please people and do things the right

way; they show interest in new words and they frequently reverse letters and numbers when they write. These patterns lead us to understand a child's developmental age. A child may be five years old, but the child may be four years five months developmentally, because they are demonstrating more behaviors that are characteristic of a four-year-old. Just the opposite can happen too.

No two children are alike. Even those of the same age in the same family experience growth and development at an individualized pace. Young children don't all reach their developmental stages evenly and at the same time. All five-year-olds are not all emotionally, socially, and physically able to do the same things.

The developmental point of view requires that we view children as individuals and as whole beings. The physical, social, emotional, and intellectual aspects of development depend on and support each other and

should advance in concert. The "readiness" for any task is based on the biological makeup of and the environmental influences on the child. Since we cannot produce, speed up, or ignore readiness, we must understand developmental ages and stages, which indicate where a child is on the developmental spectrum now, not where we think they should be. We can still have expectations for behavior or performance based on a sound understanding of what is appropriate.

It is important to understand that faster is not necessarily "better" and slower is not "bad." The simple fact is that children develop at different rates. Few children exhibit behavior that is entirely characteristic of any one developmental age. Some behaviors may be ahead of and some behind those known to be typical of an age. Each child is unique, bringing his or her own individual and special differences to the growth process.

To accommodate children who

are not quite ready for the rigors of kindergarten, CJDS will roll out a Transitional Kindergarten (TK) program in the fall of 2021. An extra year. A gift for a child who needs to have a chance to allow their developmental growth to kick in so that they can take advantage of all the offerings that take place in the kindergarten classroom.

At CJDS, we ask some basic questions about a child's maturity, developmental readiness, and ability to learn to help us, and you decide if a TK year is the best choice.

Has the child been exposed, to, taught, and offered opportunities to learn the letters or numbers, and still not able to demonstrate the knowledge?

Does the child show an interest in learning so that his/her attention span allows him/her to sit for a given amount of time to benefit from instruction and guidance?

Does the child have strong self-management skills? Will

(Continued on page 16)



Check Us Out!

FROM 6 FEET AWAY - WE ARE OPEN & ENROLLING FOR NEXT YEAR!

**NOW SCHEDULING
PRIVATE, SOCIALLY
DISTANCED TOURS**

CJDS Charlotte Jewish Day School
704.366.4558 | CJDSchool.org

A Glimpse at the First Few Weeks at JPOS

We have been having such a great time at school! With creative ways to social distance and use materials differently to help stop the spread of germs, the students and staff have settled into the new routines beautifully. Check out some of the fun things we've been busy with!



Mila Torah – each child has an assigned Torah to hug during Judaica!



Individual sensory play – Each child has an individual sensory bin. Emile is feeling fall objects.



Shabbat treat – Outdoor Shabbat party! Rabbi Groner shared a treat with each of us.



Outdoor Judaica – we've been using outdoor space for Judaica classes as well!



Ben trike – We've been spending lots of time outside; Ben is filling his tri-cycle with gas.



CJDS (Continued from page 15)

he or she struggle when the routines require putting the lunch-box in a basket and the folder in another basket?

Does the child work independently? Some tasks in kindergarten require a child be able to listen to directions and able to follow through on a task without constant support.

Does the child make his or her own choices without teacher or parent interference? Has the child taken that step from "I need mommy or teacher to guide me through everything," or does he or she now have a little more confidence to say, "I think I know the right thing to do this time?"

Does the child show willingness to try something new and is not apprehensive about new situations after a short adjustment period?

Does the child wait his or her turn in a group situation in play, during snacks, when sharing materials?

Does the child negotiate most of his or her own social problems fairly successfully?

Does the child express him or herself well enough to communicate what he or she does and

does not understand? Imagine when an assignment is given, and he/she doesn't understand what to do, but just sits and does nothing.

Does the child have strong confidence and a healthy self-esteem? If a child is not developmentally ready, and the program offers challenges, the worry will be that the lack of success that child will experience, will negatively influence their self-esteem and confidence.

If your answers are not in the affirmative for several of these questions, TK may be a wonderful opportunity to give your child a little more time. Charlotte Jewish Day School provides TK-Grade 5 education. Call the admissions office at 704-366-4558 to schedule a private, socially distanced tour! www.cjdschool.org



Leave your legacy at JPS!



Leave your legacy at JPS with a personalized tile which will be mounted outside the JPS building to make a magnificent mural. Excitement is building and orders are coming in fast; be a part of this amazing project and visit your tile for years to come!

We are offering a variety of options to create a tile that is truly meaningful to you.

Visit jpskids.org/mural for details.



email pto@jpskids.org or visit jpskids.org/mural



A project of Chabad of Charlotte



Virtual Curriculum Night at Charlotte Jewish Preschool

By Becca Green, Director of Education

On October 1, the Charlotte Jewish Preschool (CJP) hosted our first-ever virtual curriculum night. We welcomed parents into our school from the comfort of their own homes so they could learn about our early childhood curriculum and how it plays out in the classroom.

Our curriculum is grounded in our mission to provide young children with a secure and loving atmosphere in which to grow, develop a positive self-image, and learn the joy of Jewish life. We believe students learn best when presented with a program that is multidisciplinary, student-centered, and presented through a Jewish lens. Children begin to learn and understand the world around them best through play and experiential learning. Our philosophy is inspired by various educational influences including, but not limited to, the Reggio Emilia approach.

We believe children are capable, competent, curious, have unique needs, and are worth the whole world. This idea is present in all that we do as educators and is evident in the way we present materials and maintain our spaces. When given time, space, and appropriate materials, children are able to gener-

ate answers and develop their own ideas and constructs. Our job is to support these qualities and challenge children in appropriate ways so they develop to their fullest potential.

Our learning environments are of utmost importance. Our teachers are proud of the learning spaces they have created that have evolved into places of warmth and research. These environments reflect our values and beliefs about how children learn. We use open-ended materials that can be manipulated and used for limitless learning experiences. Open-ended materials do not limit the children or tell them what to learn or do. When given independence and the opportunity to create, our students thrive and gain confidence.

The environment also directly supports our Jewish values-based curriculum. Our values embody who we are and how we operate at CJP from our youngest classroom to the board room. Our five core values, *limud*, *kavod*, *b'tzelem Elohim*, *kehillah*, and *tikkun olam*, serve as the foundation for everything we do today to serve our children and families and direct us as we strive to be better for tomorrow. These values are woven through all aspects of our curriculum and daily life at CJP.

Many more Jewish values inspire our school than just those five. When students make "get well soon" cards for sick friends, they're practicing the Judaic value of *bikkur cholim*, taking care of sick people. When they share stories about their pets at home, they're sharing about *tzar ba'alei chayim*, taking care of all of God's creatures. When teachers create a unit on friendship, they're teaching *chaverut*, the Jewish concept that goes deeper than simply having friends, but highlights the importance of how we treat our friends, how we honor and respect them, love and appreciate them, and truly value the special relationship.

There are times when Judaism is conspicuous, such as during daily blessings. In morning meetings teachers lead the students in *Modeh Ani*, the blessing where we thank God for waking us up in the morning, and *Shema*, where we acknowledge that there is only one God. On Mondays classes begin with *Havdalah* so we can set our intention for a productive week. On Fridays our classes celebrate Shabbat together, sipping grape juice and eating challah. Our students also say blessings, or *brachot*, every time our students eat something because it teaches our students about gratitude.



Students exploring open-ended materials in the sukkah

Furthermore, our Judaic curriculum is holiday-driven. We start our year with Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year and the birthday of the world, and we celebrate all major Jewish holidays through the end of our school year.

In addition, we use the North Carolina Foundations for Early Learning and Development to guide teachers in implementing curriculum. Foundations is a document that describes children's development and learning from birth to age five and establishes goals for children's development and learning, and informs teachers on age-appropriate expectations. Foundations is broken down into five learning domains with the purpose of educating the whole child. The whole-child approach to teaching supports and nur-

tures all areas of children's development and learning: social-emotional and cognitive skills, literacy, math, and science understanding. The learning domains and subdomains in Foundations serve as a guide for our teachers to create rich and varied learning experiences for all kinds of learners.

We were so pleased with our teachers and credit the great success of our virtual curriculum night to their hard work.



Students Return to Innovative Options

This past month, over 70 Jewish teens finally logged onto Zoom after an almost six-month break. We are excited to have many teens engaging and learning in innovative and relevant classes. The first hour of Hebrew High is called *Limud*. Students were able to select one class from the following options:

MitzVote — Get Your Voices Heard!

It is a heated political season — left, right, liberal, conservative, Yesh Atid-Telem, Likud, Democrat, Republican. Yes, we are in the middle of an election here in America. But the political scene in Israel is just as heated. This class will look at the importance of not only voting in elections, but also making your voice heard and being involved! We will look at what it means to be left or right, and how we all fit together. So, whether you are putting your support behind a Biden-Harris ticket, Trump-Pence ticket, or are focused on Netanyahu and the Israeli political system, please sign up!

This class will offer an open space to study how political parties in our country and Israel view their role in shaping their respective countries. All views are welcome! As Jews we have a responsibility to be involved!

Stories of Courage

It is easy to believe that we are alone in living through tumultuous times, dealing with isolation and uncertainty, but many have traveled this road before us. In this class we will explore, through a Jewish lens, real-life stories from all over the world of young people, just like you. People who stood at the crossroads of history and chose to make a stand for themselves and others. With courage and resilience, they endured what they had to, challenged what they could, and defined what it means to be a hero. Come learn, debate, engage in hands-on projects such as an interview with your future grandchild, and be inspired by these real-life stories.

What is Systemic Racism, and What Does it Have to do with Me?

The reality and effects of racism in the United States are rooted in the very foundations of our country. Systemic racism has a long and complicated history. Its legacy continues to influence literally every part of our lives, and yet we do not learn about it in school or discuss it openly with others. This course is a way to do both of those things and begin the process of change. During these

classes, students will engage with the messy evolution of racism from slavery to mass incarceration. They will explore the deep connection between the Jewish community and Civil Rights Movement. They will critically examine Charlotte's history of racial inequity and why it hurts all of us. Most importantly, students will learn how they can become active agents for change in their circles of influence as we move to build a more equitable society.

Students will be able to learn from local and national experts in this field. We are honored to have Donna Tarney — education director at the Stan Greenspon Center for Peace and Social Justice, Dr. Willie Keaton — pastor of Mt. Olive Presbyterian Church and a social justice organizer, Rabbi Judy Schindler — Sklut Professor of Jewish Studies and director of the Stan Greenspon Center for Peace and Social Justice, Eboné Lockett — founder, executive director at Harvesting Humanity LLC and Billy Planer — founder and director of Etgar 36 teach our teens during this semester.

Streaming Judaism

You can find Jewish values and Jewish connections in some of the strangest places. In this class, we will explore how Juda-

ism looks in TV series episodes, from comedy to drama, and some a mixture of both. Do you sometimes feel marginalized in your school or neighborhood? Some of these Jewish TV characters do, too. Do you wish you could explain more about your heritage? The episodes you watch will show you how others have done it, too. Do you sometimes wonder how to interpret our Jewish obligations in this modern world? Take a journey with us to see how script writers, producers, and actors help us grapple with these everyday questions and concerns.

Heirloom Recipes

Come and learn how make traditional Jewish recipes that have been passed on L'Dor V' Dor throughout the centuries from

our Jewish ancestors. We will learn the basics of kashrut, while learning how to make traditional Ashkenazi Jewish foods such as noodle kugel, mandelbrot, tugelach, and apple cake. We will explore the history behind each food we make. This class is sure to a tummy pleaser!

If you have any questions or would like to enroll in Hebrew High, please contact Megan Harkavy at mharkavy@hebrewhigh.org.



Quality Chinese Cuisine

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

704-541-1688

10719 Kettering Dr. • Charlotte, NC 28226

www.mywanfu.com

Bal Tashchit and Beyond: The Human Element

By Lisa Shpritz

"For thousands of years, many people believed that nature was made up of four elemental forces:

earth, air, water, and fire. But I've come to realize there's a fifth element — people. We are a force of nature, too. People are

changing the other elements. At the same time, the elements are changing us." (James Balog, "The Human Element")

We invite you to join Shalom Green and the Levine Jewish Community Center on Tuesday, November 10 from 7-8 p.m. for a virtual screening of selections from "The Human Element" by James Balog. We will watch clips from the film and will host a discussion between environmental experts and community members. We will talk about how humans are affecting the four elemental forces of earth, air, water, and fire, why it is important for all of us to improve our climate science literacy, and how we can engage friends and family in conversations about climate change. Please register for the event by calling the LJCC Customer Service Desk at 704-366-5007.

Film Overview

Humans' contributions to climate change can no longer be ignored or denied. The evidence is incontrovertible. For instance, multiple studies indicate that at least 97% of actively working climate scientists agree that climate change is happening and that it is at least partially caused by human activities. Visual evidence supports these scientific findings. James Balog's poignant environmental photographs and human portraits draw viewers in, facilitating immediate connections to our changing climate and how the consequences affect human lives. One goal of this film is to improve the viewers' climate science literacy, defined as gaining the knowledge and competencies to understand how human actions influence the climate, how the climate influences individuals and society, and how humans can take action to reduce further climate change.

Effects of Climate Change

Increasing global air temperatures are melting glaciers and ice sheets. When ice melts, the water eventually runs off into the oceans, causing sea levels to rise. The oceans also absorb much of the heat from a warming atmosphere. This heating causes the water volume to expand and is currently contributing another 40% to sea-level rise. The average sea level around the world is rising three millimeters per year. With the rate at which the ice is melting and the atmosphere is warming, sea levels will rise 30 millimeters in a decade and 240 millimeters — 3/4 of a foot — in an average person's lifetime.

But steadily increasing air temperatures from the greenhouse effect and newly observed ice sheet breakdown in Antarctica mean that the rate of future sea-level rise will be even greater than the rate we see today.

The Anthropocene

"The Human Element" offers something unique in learning about climate science. It balances the study of the human causes of environmental change, especially climate change, with personal stories of people directly affected by those changes, along with scientists studying the problems. Through compelling scientific and visual evidence, viewers will learn how the Anthropocene, the current epoch of systemic human change in the environment, is affecting four foundational elements: earth, air, water, and fire.

The need for us to understand the Anthropocene is more urgent than ever. As of 2018, our global population is 7.6 billion people. By 2100, it will likely reach 11 billion. Our earth's ballooning population exacerbates existing environmental problems, like the industrialization of agriculture, the burning of fossil fuels, continuing deforestation, and much more. As a result, humans are witnessing sustained warming temperatures, rising sea levels, compromised air quality, and more frequent occurrences of megastorms and megafires. These events touch large swaths of the world's population, and the U.S., the focus of "The Human Element," is not immune.

"Climate protection is people protection," says James Balog, the environmental photographer who is our guide throughout the film. Watching and sharing "The Human Element" is one achievable step toward fostering greater climate awareness and protection. This film is an accessible, highly engaging, and visually compelling resource that will help viewers expand their understanding of the Anthropocene.

Jewish tradition teaches the importance of caring for the environment, for we must act as partners in preserving creation. If you are interested in supporting Shalom Green, please contact us at info@shalomgreen-CLT.org. Like us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter and Instagram @ShalomGreen_CLT and visit our website at www.shalomgreen-CLT.org.



TYNECASTLE

— SOUTHPARK —

"Distinctive English Modern Living"

- Lock & Leave Luxury Townhomes
- Walkable to Charlotte JCC
- Spacious Floorplans
- Phase 1 nearing completion, 7 Reserved & 7 Remaining
- Signature Greg Perry Inspired Architectural Design

TynecastleSouthPark.com | Dee Reid 704-281-3913

IVESTER JACKSON
DISTINCTIVE PROPERTIES

CHRISTIE'S
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

MADISON-SIMMONS
HOMES & COMMUNITIES

Insurance for Home, Auto, Business and Life.



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

"My father, Harry, founded Swimmer Insurance Agency over 60 years ago offering security to the community and helping families through times of trouble. Today, we continue that tradition of service with everything we do. We will be there for every milestone, every hardship and every transition your family or business experiences."

— DAVID SWIMMER



725 Providence Rd
Charlotte, NC 28207

704.333.6694

www.swimmerinsurance.com



SHALOM GREEN
Jewish Values, Sustainable Living
Shalom Park Environmental Initiative

~ YOUTH VISIONS ~

“Innovate or Die”: BBYO Chooses Innovation

By Elaine Denenberg

In his recent biography, “The Ride of a Lifetime,” Robert Iger, CEO of Disney World described many factors that contributed to his successful career. One bit of advice that stood out was “innovate or die.” In these uncharted times, BBYO teens have done just that. Prior to the pandemic, many teens had participated in Zoom calls for leadership meetings but had not planned programs on the platform. The past few months have demonstrated how innovative our members can be. BBYO teens have created programs, held Shabbat and Havdalah services, and even hosted a convention online. They have figured out how to make these events more engaging by adding music and breaking into smaller groups. While most of us would jump at the chance to go back to our pre-pandemic world, it is



Chai Chaverim BBG holding an in-person, social distanced, with masks Yoga program.

important to acknowledge our resilience and innovation when challenged. It is unfortunate that these teens will still be in school next year when Iger retires and Disney is ready to name its next CEO. Iger often promoted people based on ability over experience. BBYO experiences provide teens with the abilities to take on the future.

BBYO has also been able to begin in-person programming. These programs have been fun

and engaging, even in small groups with masks and social distancing. Online they have cooked together and enjoyed trivia. In person they have practiced socially distanced yoga, played whiffle ball, had a spikeball tourney, met up for scoop night, and had an Ohagreen program. The Charlotte BBYO parents have been incredibly supportive. They communicated that their teens needed in-person programming and were quick to

volunteer the use of their backyards and outdoor spaces. We are working to move to small indoor programs over the next few months. As always, this will be in accordance with NC and Foundation of Shalom Park guidelines.

BBYO is committed to having a safe, in-person summer in 2021. Camp dates are set, and our staff is already working hard to provide a safe and fun camp experience for all our members. Thanks to a very generous donor, 800 travel vouchers for \$3,000 toward BBYO teen travel to Israel were made available to BBYO. They were going fast, but a few may be available. In addition to travel to Israel, BBYO is planning a full slate of domestic programs. CLTC, Chapter Leadership Training Camp, our premier leadership program for teens in 9th and 10th grade, will have five sessions next summer. ILTC, International Leadership Training Camp, which allows teens to further develop leadership abilities by learning to work as a team, building communication strategies and building relation-

ships, all while enjoying classic camp activities, will be held in June for 10th and 11th graders. We will also offer International Kallah where teens can find their “Jewish self” through interactive sessions and conversations about a spectrum of Jewish topics in July. BBYO is excited to offer a new experience, Camp BBYO, for our younger members. This program is designed for members currently in 8th-10th grade who are looking for a super-fun week of camp activities with their friends. Camp BBYO will offer sports, Maccabiah (color war), swimming, music, art, and more. For more information, check out all of the summer offerings at bbyo.org/summer. Early bird pricing runs through November 17, 2020. Regular pricing begins November 18, and scholarships are available. For more information about local programming or summer programs, you can reach out to charlotte@bbyo.org.



Fun Zone Under Construction

Friendship Circle's New Inclusive Fun Zone is Under Construction! Welcome to the Ultimate Dream: The Selkin Family Friendship Circle Center

Friendship Circle's new center will be a space — the first of its kind in the area — offering recreational, therapeutic, and fun-based social and educational opportunities for children, teens, and young adults with special needs to enjoy alongside their typically developing friends. Our center will include an Art & Creativity Zone, Music & Movement Studio, Multi-Sensory Dream Room, Teen Leadership Hub, Friendship Loft, and an Indoor Sensory Park.

Construction is set to be completed by April of 2021 with a grand opening in spring/summertime!

To learn more, see our list of partners, and to get involved, please visit www.FriendshipCircleNC.org/NewCenter

CTeen Delivers 40 Honey Cakes to Carriage Club

We can only imagine how difficult it is for our senior citizens celebrating the High Holidays alone.

To brighten their holiday, our CTeen leaders initiated pre-Rosh Hashana Honey Cake Bake to bring to Jewish senior citizens at the Carriage Club!

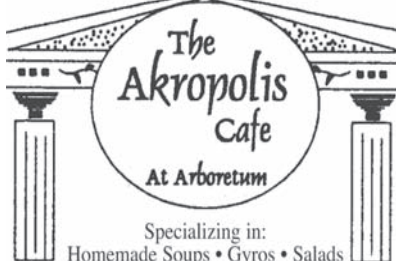
Special thanks to Talya Portnoy, Hannah Ross, and Daria Lapidut

The Friendship Circle is a Beneficiary Agency of the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte.



A view of the new Selkin Family Friendship Circle Center





The Akropolis Cafe
At Arboretum

Specializing in:
Homemade Soups • Gyros • Salads

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

\$2 OFF

Any Purchase of \$10 or more with this ad

Only 1 coupon per transaction.
Expires 11/30/2020

Take Out or Delivery with Doordash

704-541-5099

Call Julie
Find Your Place

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

THE REALTOR WITH EXPERIENCE & KNOWLEDGE TRUSTED BY



- BUYERS
- SELLERS
- RELOCATION

HomesWithCachet.com



Julie Taché

704.236.7536

Julie@JulieTache.com

DOWNLOAD OUR APP AT THE APP STORE



Moishe House Hosts Virtual Global Training Conference

By Maeve Ginsberg, Moishe House Communications Manager

On Sunday, September 13, Moishe House hosted its largest-ever global gathering, a virtual community builder training conference, referred to affectionately as “Couch Con 2020.” Over 400 Jewish young adults from 28 countries around the world came together over Zoom for learning, bonding, and celebrating.

“Who would have thought that we would do something of this nature virtually?” said Da-

vid Cygielman, Moishe House’s Founder and CEO. “It has been a year of expanding our definition of community, and Couch Con once again redefined how Moishe House can build and foster connections. Though we couldn’t be together in person, now more than ever, uniting all community builders in one conference was all the more meaningful (and a big first). These moments of unity will carry us into the new year feeling reinvigorated and excited about what’s to come.”

Couch Con was a feat of cre-

ative scheduling and a whole lot of Zoom. It was amazing to unite everyone for an hour amidst their learning sessions for the All-Conference Event, which included David Cygielman’s annual organizational update, “State of the Moishe House,” the presentation of the Michael H.K. Cohen Award, and a few shofar blasts from Rabbi Brandon Bernstein, Moishe House’s director of Jewish Learning, to welcome the High Holidays.

The conference provided participants with the opportunity to learn from each other through over 50 peer- and staff-led learning sessions, including topics like: “Why Ask ‘Why?’: Making Judaism Relatable” and “What Did Your Country Teach You About Racism?,” “Turning Passion Into Action: Activating Your Community to Show Up for Tikkun Olam Programs” with Repair the World, and “Physically Distant, Globally Connected” with JDC Entwine, and many more.

During the conference, Moishe House announced the recipients of the third annual Michael H.K. Cohen Award and Travel Fellowship. Each year this award is presented to two Moishe House community builders who exhibit a passion for adventure and travel with warmth, kindness, curiosity, intelligence, and a love of Juda-



Ellie Rudee (right), pictured with Michael H.K. Cohen Z”L.

ism — the special qualities that Cohen, the award’s namesake, brought to this world during his abbreviated life. Cohen was an active community member of Moishe Houses around the world. While living in Beijing, he was a frequent attendee of programs at Moishe House Beijing and member of the Kehilat Beijing Congregation. He forged close connections with Chinese and expat community members before returning to Boston and joining the Moishe House community in Cambridge. He died unexpectedly at age 28 in 2018.

The award and fellowship carries a travel stipend and allows the honorees to honor Cohen’s memory by exploring the world and engaging in new adventures. This year’s award recipients were Bari

Beilinson, a current resident of Moishe House Atlanta, Virginia Highland, and Ellie Rudee, a Moishe House Without Walls (MHWOW) host in Jerusalem, Israel. “I pray Michael’s memory continues to inspire others to give more of their time and devotion where it counts — by staying connected to others through the beauty of our Jewish culture ... and to giving of themselves,” said Beilinson.

“We can all honor Michael by striving to do what [he] did so effortlessly — genuinely bring comfort to others ... with light-heartedness and joy,” added Rudee. “If we build gatherings in that way, I promise that people will come, and more importantly, they will come back.”

A highlight video of the conference can be viewed at <https://youtu.be/9nxZm4K6hmM>.

Together we can make it happen!

Alan Sussman
Broker / REALTOR®
704-634-6673
alan@willowoakrealtors.com

LEVINE HEARING

*Hear better
Feel better*

Madison Levine
Board Certified
Hearing Instrument Specialist

Across from the Arboretum
3121 Springbank Ln. Ste G
Charlotte, NC 28226
704-540-3081



Bari Beilinson (far right) with fellow Atlanta Moishe House residents



~ JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES ~

Jewish Family Services — Answering the Call

By Louis Sinkoe, President,
JFS Board of Directors

The Jewish New Year provided us with ample opportunity to pause and reflect upon our actions this past year. It was different this year in many ways, but still gave us that moment to look at our growth, mistakes, actions, goals, and dreams. Did we achieve what we wanted? Treat people as we had hoped? Perhaps one of the best parts of this contemplative time of year, along with the upcoming holidays dedicated to gratitude and miracles, is that we can choose to take what we learned through our introspection, adopt new resolutions and commitments, and round out the year in a state of deep-rooted appreciation. We can choose to look at what we do have instead of what we don't.

As the president of the Board of Directors for Jewish Family Services (JFS), I wanted to share some of my observations, reflections, and things I am grateful for. I am proud to be a part of this sometimes-hidden gem of an organization. At JFS, it has been business as usual in that the hard work and tireless efforts never let up. JFS's impact is felt far and wide, beyond Charlotte's borders, touching many lives. So first I would like to thank each and every one of the staff for adapting, shifting, and bending in whatever direction is necessary to make sure our community gets what it needs. I am so thankful we live where we do, in Charlotte, with a community like you. Thank you for always rising to the occasion, no matter what is asked,

to support JFS so it can continue to strengthen and empower individuals and families in our community.

Upon further reflection, I get to see that it is during times like these, when our community is struggling the most, that the value of JFS can be seen most clearly. It's on the ground helping people through this crisis, helping those struggling financially or with food insecurity, and helping those struggling with mental health challenges. Families who never expected to need help are now struggling, or will be, in the coming days, weeks, and months. It is comforting beyond measure to know that JFS is there to help.

JFS recently kicked off its Family to Family Annual Campaign. This year's theme, "Answering the Call," appropriately highlights JFS's responsiveness during the pandemic and also seeks your support so it can continue to meet the growing needs of the community. Strategically speaking, JFS has set some big goals around what it anticipates will be increased demands. And while the way they deliver services looks different these days, and probably will look different for some time to come, they are committed to the same level of sensitivity and care to those in our community who are seeking its assistance.

New programs like providing iPADS to senior living communities help our seniors and Holocaust survivors remain connected to their loved ones, their doctors, and to programming they can no longer attend in person. The new Senior Connec-

tions newsletter, which has been so well received, helps those seniors unable to use technology to feel less isolated. Online workshops provide seniors and other members of the community with a space to share, engage their minds, and connect, during a time when they are feeling lonelier than ever.

Emotional support offered through one-on-one telehealth sessions, online support groups, and stress management programs, helps members of our community as they continuously adapt to what is referred to as the "new normal."

And for those financially affected by the pandemic, JFS continues to implement the true meaning of tzedakah, by assisting those in need. Through their case management services and the food pantry JFS is able to provide the stability and support folks need to get back on their feet.

Together, as a community, we have always looked after our fellow neighbor and helped those who are struggling who, in many instances, cannot completely provide for themselves. JFS has been doing this work since 1980, and regardless of what is happening in the world today, it has no plans of slowing down anytime soon.

If you or anyone you know is in need of services, please reach out; JFS can help. jfscharlotte.org. 704-364-6594 or email info@jfscharlotte.org.

Proudly serving this organization, doing my part to engage, connect, and heal, I want to thank you for continuing to support JFS, which is Answering the Call.

Wishing you much health, peace and joy in the coming months and year ahead.

Sincerely,
Louis Sinkoe, President
JFS Board of Directors

JFS Monthly Volunteers and Donors in October 2020

Volunteers: Rick Abrams, Marcia Arnholt, Mike Arnholt, Maria Bernanke, Ana Bonenheim, Bill Brightman, James Bryan, Dan Coblenz, Jonathan Collman, Andrea Cronson, Sheryl Effren, Steve Englehardt, Terri Fishman, Maggie Fogel, Rob Friedman, Meredith Gartner, Marty Goldfarb, Neil Golub, Jennifer Golynsky, Gail Halverson, Bob Jacobson, Stephanie and Elliot Krietman, Marcia Lampert, Alison Lerner, Eric Lerner, Linda Leviel, Kevin Levine, Adam Levy, Kim Levy, Matt Luftglass, Bobbie Mabe, Frada Mozenter, Hannah, Barbara Rein, Harry Rubenstein, Lynne Sheffer, Fred and Lisa Shporer, Janice Shubin, Louis Sinkoe, Mason Sklut, Lorin Stiefel, Ken Stern, Steve Teich, Jan Weiner

Circle of Generous Hearts: Phyllis Berlin, Cathy Bogus, Sharon Cavanaugh, Gladys Cherny, Sari Hochberg, Johnson and Wales, Judy Kaufman, Penny Krieger, Andy McCleary, Harriet Meetz, Helene Rivlin, Ivy Saul, Roz Snyder, Marcia Stern, Joyce Stoll, Elyssa Vining

Thank you to the many people who made the "Taste of the Holiday" deliveries to seniors such a success: Suzy Catenazzo, Karen Knoble, and Janice Shubin for baking rugelach, Sheryl Gerard for making honey cake, Jewish Federation and CJE for donating apples, Ron Nadel and Golden Grains Bakery for donating challahs, Lynne Sheffer for assembling bags, Women Of Wisdom for donating homemade challah and apples, Charlotte Jewish Day School for creating holiday cards.

Thank you for delivering Rosh Hashanah Taste of the Holiday bags: Mike Arnholt, Dan Coblenz, Joelle Cohn, Terri Fishman, Marty Goldfarb, Jodie Joseph, Alison Lerner, Kim Levy, Fred and Lisa Shporer, Janice Shubin, Ken Stern, Lorin Stiefel, Alan Sussman, Michelle Rivkovich, Jessica Waldman.

Food Pantry Donations: To the generous members of our community for continuously donating much-needed items for the JFS food pantry during our Wednesday drop off.

Donations to JFS in October 2020

In honor of Larry Schwartz
Get well soon!

Bernard Sandler

In honor of Ashley and Michael Goldberg
Happy Anniversary

Alan and Ruth Goldberg

In appreciation of Sheryl Gerrard
Salya Salamon

In Memory of Billy Schwartz
Paul Herd

In Memory of Harriet Epstein
Alan and Meryl Gottheim

In Memory of Ida Monches
Jack and Vera Mendel
Melissa Van Glish

Edwin and Jill Newman

Stuart and Carolyn Hennes

Richard and Linda Bressler

In Memory of Richard Herd
Albert and Phyllis Garten



Jewish Family
SERVICES

Josh Rubin's Plumbing, LLC



LICENSED - BONDED - INSURED
COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL

Layouts for slabs - Rough-in and Finish
Water Heater Repairs and Replacement
Kitchen/Bath Remodeling
Toilets, Tubs, Faucets, Sink, and Disposal
Repairs/Replacement

~ 10 YEARS EXPERIENCE ~

NC State Lic. #29197

SC State Lic. #M110508

704-517-4918

CHARLOTTE
LATIN
SCHOOL

Inquire today at
CharlotteLatin.org/admissions

704.846.7207

COVID: Holidays and Your Emotional Health



By Howard Olshanky
Executive Director, JFS

There has been an ongoing assumption that COVID has had a significant impact on our emotional health. It was natural to assume that anxiety and depression would increase and that being kept cooped up in the house would increase conflict and exacerbate symptoms for people with a history of having a mental health issue.

Recently a study conducted by the Centers for Disease Control has verified our worst fears. The study conducted in the last week of June found that 40% of the respondents indicated they had experienced a mental or behavioral condition related to the pandemic, and almost 11% had considered suicide at some point during the 30 days prior to the survey. Most significantly,

the study found that the population most affected emotionally by the pandemic was our youth, ages 18 to 24, with close to half reporting symptoms of either depression or anxiety and more than 25% reporting they had considered suicide. More than 13% of the study participants reported increased use of drugs and alcohol.

Anna Mueller, a professor of sociology at Indiana University Bloomington, who conducts research on suicide, said CDC's report shows that the "breakdown in our society, the breakdown of the safety net, the breakdown of economic security is taking a massive toll. These breakdowns really show how crucial economic stability and economic security are to an individual's well-being."

In addition, Mueller said uncertainty may be contributing to the emotional struggles experienced by the 18- to 24 year-olds. "They're watching their world crumble, and probably struggling to imagine a future," she explained. "I mean, we all are. What is the world going to look like? What is college going

to look [like]? What is employment going to look like if they were hoping to enter the labor force?"

Nadine Kaslow, a professor of psychiatry at the Emory University School of Medicine, said, "We need to check in with people, to see how they're doing, to let people know that we care. People did a lot of that at the beginning." She continued, "As we get into this phase that people sort of call the disillusionment phase, I personally think we're seeing a lot less of that. We have to be in this for the long haul. We have to take care of each other for the long haul."

Now, four months later, while some of our world has opened up, we are facing another emotional hurdle. As we embark on the end-of-year holidays, the pandemic will continue to exacerbate our mental health challenges. After living through Zoom seders and High Holiday services, and workarounds for Halloween trick-or-treating, we are now faced with making more adjustments to Thanksgiving, Hanukkah, Christmas,

and the New Year, provoking even more anxiety. Do we take the risk of traveling or struggle through another holiday without family?

Limited options for shopping in the upcoming season create additional challenges. In lieu of shopping in stores, many will turn to online shopping. And while online shopping is nothing new, there may be a tendency to overdo it, especially to compensate for not being able to physically celebrate together. For those living on a budget or with limited financial resources, there is the risk of overextending and going further into debt.

So how can you manage the pandemic, the holidays, and your mental health? Here are a few tips:

Hold a Zoom holiday dinner. I know you are Zoomed out! But being together, even electronically, will help you feel more connected than not being together at all. Keeping your traditions is important, so cook your traditional holiday meals.

Host a socially distanced party if you have the space. Limit the number of guests, make sure

you inform your guest of the parameters of your get-together. Limit the amount of alcohol, but don't hold back on the entertainment!

Make and stick to a budget for gifts. If you are home and have time on your hands, make gifts for those who are close. When ordering online, consider personalized gifts.

Participate in online holiday events.

Decorate your home. Create a festive environment at home.

Exercise. Physical activity has a real impact on your emotional health.

Seek out a mindfulness or meditation class. Learning how to stay present and breathe can help if you find yourself especially stressed.

Lastly, if you can't seem to shake the anxiety or depression, call Jewish Family Services for professional support.



Jewish Family
SERVICES

New Book Helps us Age with Passion and Joy



Dr. Chuck Edwards of Charlotte, who has cared for so many in our community, has written a tender book whose title captures its theme: "Much Abides: A Survival Guide for Aging Lives."

You might know Dr. Edwards, first as a cardiovascular surgeon and then as founder of Memory & Movement Charlotte. The nonprofit medical practice treats Parkinson's, Alzheimer's and other movement and memory disorders. His book encourages seniors to fill the last chapter of their story with pas-

sion and purpose. It promotes exercise, social interaction, and proper medicine. It considers the 10 common mistakes of aging. Number one is underestimating how much time we have left. It shares how to cope with anxiety, and the importance of taking care of hearing loss and sleep apnea. Most of all, it invites seniors to pursue joy now that they have time to do so. Did you play the piano as a child? Play again. Haunted by an old family wound? Reconcile with that loved one. Worried about mastering technology? Don't!

Let the grandkids do it. "Much Abides" is inspirational, for as Dr. Edwards quotes the poet Alfred Lord Tennyson, "It is not too late to seek a newer world."

"Much Abides: A Survival Guide for Aging Lives" is \$25. Sales support Memory & Movement Charlotte. You can purchase a copy by contacting the Center at 704-577-3186, email@mmclt.org or www.mmclt.org. It is also for sale at Park Road Books and Traditions, both at Park Road Shopping Center, and through Amazon.

Much Abides
A Survival Guide
for Aging Lives



Dr. Charles H. Edwards II

CELEBRATING

10 YEARS

OF EXCELLENT SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY

TipTop® Garage Doors
www.tiptopgaragedoors.com

★★★★★★★★★★★★

GARAGE DOOR Installation

OPENER Garage Door Openers

REPAIR SERVICE 24/7 No Extra Charge

FREE QUOTE No Obligation

CALL US: 1844-784-7867

W.O.W. Check it Out

The year 5781 is off to a sweet start! We had a great virtual challah bake and successful round challah sale. As part of our ongoing community partnerships and outreach, we joined Hadasah for its virtual honey cupcake event. The fall holiday celebrations continued as we Zoomed into Ilana Levin's sukkah for a Sip and Sukkah night.

Upcoming events:
October 20, noon — Movie Event and Discussion
November 9, 7 p.m. — Fall Table Decorating
December 1, noon — Book Club: "Have a Little Faith" by Mitch Albom

December 15, 7 p.m. Chanukah Virtual Social
For event details please visit <https://charlotte-womenofwisdom.com/>



W.O.W.
Women of Wisdom
Charlotte

Hadassah Events: There's Still Plenty to Do

Are you bored? Tired of watching TV or Netflix? Grab your calendar because Hadassah has the solution! We have programs to keep you busy for the rest of the year.

Virtual Tea Parlor

You are cordially invited to an afternoon of delicious tea and delectable desserts at Hadassah's virtual Tea Parlor on Sunday, November 1 at 2 p.m. Hear about Jewish tea history, Israeli tea, and Hadassah's Chai Society program. Pick up your tea party favor bags with recipes, tea cookies, tea candy, a tea caddy, and more. Win prizes for best teacup! Reserve your place at the table for only \$10 at www.hadassahcltvents.org.

Election Day

November 3 is Election Day. Make sure you VOTE!

Hadassah Board Meetings

Hadassah CLT holds its board meetings on the third Monday of each month. The next meeting is on November 16 at 7 p.m. Members are welcome to join the Zoom call. Please contact Laurie Sheinhaus at laushein@gmail.com if you would like to be part of our virtual meetings so she can send you the Zoom meeting information.

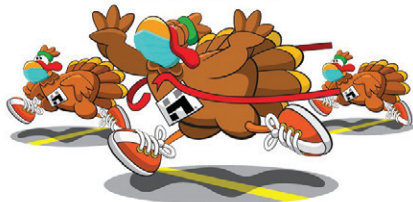
Lunch and Learns

Hadassah CLT continues its long tradition of offering members educational opportunities with the next Lunch and Learn on Friday, November 20 at 11:45 a.m. We discuss short stories with Jewish content. This month, we will discuss the short story, *Getting Out in One Piece* in the book "Many Seconds Into the Future" by John J. Clayton. Lunch and Learn is held on the third Friday of each month (except for holidays). Our 2020-2021 Lunch and Learn meetings will be held on December 18, January 15, February 19, March 19, April TBA, May 21, and June 25. Feel free to join the Zoom discussion even if you haven't read the story. For additional information, please email Amalia Warshenbrot at Amalia@ATT.net or Linda Levy at levyollie@aol.com.

Turkey Trot

It's almost Thanksgiving! Time to join our Hadassah region's Turkey Trot, a virtual 5K race to support women's heart health. Between November 26 and 29, walk, run, trot, or wobble, safely and distanced, solo or with a team, any time, any place, inside or outside. Join the challenge to raise the most money and engage the most walkers in the Hadassah Su-

HADASSAH SUPER SOUTH TURKEY TROT A Virtual 5K



ANY TIME! ANY PLACE!
• NOVEMBER 26-29, 2020 •

per South region. Let everyone know that you walk with Hadassah in support of women's heart health. Register today at hadassah.org/supersouth and create your own personalized Turkey Trot page. Invite fam-

ily and friends to support your team. Contact Laurie Sheinhaus at laushein@gmail.com with questions.

Hanukkah

Celebrate Hanukkah with your family and Hadassah CLT on Zoom! Join us on Tuesday, December 8 at 7 p.m. for Dreidels, Drinks & Donuts. Nancy Good, lead singer of The Ruach, will lead us in a fun evening of candle lighting and songs. Decorate your dreidel, enjoy some Hanukkah trivia, and enjoy your Hadassah Hanukkah goodie bag. There will be "porch pickup" of goodie bags, which will include a dreidel to decorate, Hanukkah gelt, Hanukkah mini donuts from the

I Love Donut food truck and more. Visit www.hadassahcltvents.org to register and view purchase options.

Do you know a Hadassah member who might need a little pick-me-up? Are you or a member you know having surgery, having a baby, or experiencing a loss? Hadassah CLT's Sunshine Committee is here for you. Please email Elissa at svining@aol.com.

Nancy Kerstein has kindly volunteered for many years to send out beautiful cards for births, sympathy, and other life events. If you would like to send your family or loved one a personalized card, please email Nancy at randee3763@gmail.com

Have you changed your name, address, email, or phone number? We are updating our records and want you to stay up-to-date with all the chapter news. Please send any changes to Karen Hauser, Membership VP, at klh2603@gmail.com.

HADASSAH



UNWRAP THE POSSIBILITIES



THE GIFT OF PEACE OF MIND

Peace of mind is built into living at The Barclay. Here you will enjoy luxurious amenities, delectable dining options, a variety of wellness and life-enrichment programs and a multitude of services that allow you to focus on living your best life.

Additionally, our continuing care retirement community assures that your current, as well as any future needs, can be met to exceed your expectations.

To learn more about SouthPark's only rental retirement community, call today to schedule a visit.



THE BARCLAY
AT SOUTHPARK

6010 FAIRVIEW ROAD

CHARLOTTE, NC 28210

980.224.8540

BARCLAYATSOUTHPARK.COM



A continuing care retirement community from The Liberty Senior Living Family.



© 2020 Barclay at SouthPark

Perspectives on Holocaust Education: Two Studies Reveal Successes and Concerns

By Talli Dippold
Associate Director, Stan Greenspon Center for Peace and Social Justice at Queens University of Charlotte

In the past month, two renowned Holocaust organizations, Echoes & Reflections and the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany (Claims Conference), published outcomes of national surveys on Holocaust education. Their divergent findings created clamor on social media and controversy among leaders of Holocaust organizations. Is Holocaust education a lost cause or a critical component to an academic curriculum? What can be done to increase knowledge of the Holocaust? And more important, what are the most essential elements of an effective lesson?

Over the past decade, alarming headlines surrounding lack of knowledge about the Holocaust have regularly resurfaced. In considering these two most recent studies, we can learn critical lessons for training educators, especially in this era when the number of living survivors available to share their testimony is rapidly dwindling.

Here's a breakdown of the findings that can guide Holocaust educational organizations.

Echoes & Reflections, an organization that supports educators in teaching about the Holocaust, sought through its U.S. College Survey to explore the relationship between exposure to Holocaust education in high school and subsequent student attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors. The national survey of 1,500 post-secondary U.S. college students ages 18-24 measured attributes related to: Holocaust knowledge and understanding, critical thinking skills, empathy, respect, and tolerance for different viewpoints, and willingness and motivation to be an upstander. The report findings state, "The results are encouraging. They indicate that positive outcomes of Holocaust education not only reflect gains in historical knowledge but also manifest in cultivating more empathetic, tolerant, and engaged students more generally."

Alarming, the Claims Conference's Holocaust Knowledge and Awareness Study, which surveyed 1,350 American adults, found a significant lack of Ho-

locaust knowledge in the United States. It revealed that of the 40,000 camps and ghettos that existed during the Holocaust, 49% of millennials cannot name a single one. The study also found that nearly one-third of all Americans and more than four in ten millennials believe that substantially fewer than six million Jews were killed (two million or fewer) during the Holocaust. But it also found that there is a strong belief in the importance of Holocaust education in school for all students so that history does not repeat itself. About the study, Executive Vice President Greg Schneider says, "This study underscores the importance of Holocaust education in our schools. There remain troubling gaps in Holocaust awareness while survivors are still with us; imagine when there are no longer survivors here to tell their stories. We must be committed to ensuring the horrors of the Holocaust and the memory of those who suffered so greatly are remembered, told, and taught by future generations."

Both studies conclude that Holocaust education is critical — even more so as the survivor

population decreases. The Echoes survey highlights the success of using survivor testimony. However, the Echoes survey targeted individuals who received Holocaust education during their recent high school experience, while the Claims survey assessed individuals whose Holocaust education may have been decades earlier. The Echoes survey assesses the impact of Holocaust education on students beyond the basic facts, evaluating the effect of this education on their daily lives. The Claims survey assessed the retention of factual information, not the impact of that knowledge.

As Holocaust educators, our goal must extend beyond the memorization of numbers, names, years, and countries. While recalling facts has value, the greater goal of Holocaust education must be to cultivate empathy, a

willingness to be an "upstander," motivate action against hate and prejudice, and foster respect for differences.

This is good news for the multitude of strong organizations that support Holocaust education ranging from educational institutions to museums (including our own Stan Greenspon Center for Peace and Social Justice) and for the 15 U.S. states mandating Holocaust Education.

These outcomes bring me back to my first day of my graduate program in Holocaust Studies. The professor focused the first full hour of our valuable time together discussing the why of Holocaust education. "If you don't understand the why," she stated, "nothing else makes sense."

QUEENS
UNIVERSITY of CHARLOTTE

Stan Greenspon Center
for Peace and Social Justice

Vote Nov. 3 to Keep Justice Davis

Early Voting Ends Saturday, October 31



Keep Justice Mark DAVIS
On the NC Supreme Court

Fairness. Experience. Integrity.



The Charlotte Jewish News - May 2019 - Page 25

First Jewish Justice Installed in NC Supreme Court

Justice Mark Davis has been formally invested as associate justice of the Supreme Court of North Carolina during a swearing-in ceremony in the Supreme Court courtroom on Wednesday, April 3.

Dignitaries attending the ceremony included Governor Roy Cooper, Attorney General Josh Stein, former chief and associate justices, and representatives from all three branches of state government.

Justice Davis grew up in Jacksonville, NC, with his two siblings. "It was such a small Jewish community that we had a circuit-riding rabbi who visited only occasionally," he reminisced. "After that our family moved to Fayetteville where we did have a full time rabbi."

Justice Davis was appointed to the North Carolina Court of Appeals in 2012 and was elected to the full eight-year term in 2014. He served as a Special Deputy Attorney General in the North Carolina Department of Justice for five years. He spent thirteen years as an attorney with Womble Carlyle Sandridge and Rice, where he was a member of the firm in the Litigation Section. He also served as General Counsel in the Office of the Governor for approximately two years.

Justice Davis received his law degree from the University of North Carolina School of Law and his undergraduate degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In 2018, he received a Master of Laws (LL.M.) degree in Judicial Studies from the Duke University School of Law.

His Jewish education guided him on the strict requirements of impartiality. "I learned broad principles of judging from the Talmud and the Torah. My faith has a nice dovetailing effect."

One of his siblings is Bob Davis, who is a member of Temple Beth El in Charlotte. "This is such a proud time for our family. Seeing my brother sworn in as the first Jewish justice on the NC Supreme Court couldn't make me happier. We all feel very fortunate to have seen this momentous event," he concluded. ✡

PAID FOR BY JUSTICE MARK DAVIS COMMITTEE

P. O. Box 807, Raleigh, NC 27602

mark@justicemarkdavis.com

JusticeMarkDavis.com

Jewish Food 101

(My Jewish Learning via JTA) Jewish food is difficult to define. Over time, Jews have eaten many different types of foods, often no different from those of their gentile neighbors. Nonetheless, the foods Jews have eaten bear the stamp of the unique socio-economic and migratory patterns of the Jewish community, while also reflecting the Jewish dietary laws (kashrut) and other religious requirements; for instance, the prohibition against creating fire on Shabbat inspired slow-cooked Sabbath stews in both Sephardic and Ashkenazic cuisine.

Jews and Food in the Ancient World

Seven types of produce are mentioned in Deuteronomy 8:8 — wheat, barley, grapes, figs, pomegranate, olives and dates. Legumes, wild plants, and meat — mostly mutton — were also eaten in biblical times. The dietary laws found in the Torah, and analyzed in detail in

the Talmud, governed all eating in ancient years. The Torah and Talmud also enumerate other food-related laws, such as those related to the shmita or sabbatical year, during which all land must lie fallow.

Sephardic Cuisine

Sephardic cuisine refers to the foods eaten by the Jews of the Mediterranean, North Africa, the Middle East, the Red Sea region, and India. Most of these lands were once part of the Islamic world, and they reflect the varied yet related food customs of this culture. In the early Middle Ages, the Jews in Islamic lands flourished culturally and economically. Their foods reflect this socioeconomic position in quality, quantity, and presentation. After the Jews were expelled from Spain in 1492, most Sephardic Jews made their way to North Africa and the Ottoman lands, where they continued to influence and be influenced by local cuisine.

Ashkenazic Cuisine

In contrast to Sephardic Jewry, most Ashkenazi Jews — those from Europe and Russia — were very poor, and their food reflects this. Ashkenazic food also reflects the migration of a community first based in Germany that ultimately spread eastward to Russia and Poland. What Americans usually refer to as “Jewish food” — bagels, knishes, borscht — are the foods of Ashkenazic Jewry, and indeed, in many cases were foods eaten by the non-Jews of Eastern Europe as well.

The “Jewish style” food of America is an enriched version of Ashkenazic cuisine. However, Jews existed in the U.S. long before the major wave of Eastern European immigration in the beginning of the 20th century. Though early Jewish life was located primarily in the major cities on the East Coast, Jews traveled and lived throughout the United States, and their foods were influenced by local custom and availability. Matzah

balls with hot pepper in Louisiana and gefilte fish made from salmon in the Far West are examples of America’s influence on Jewish cuisine. The recent interest in health food has also affected Jewish eating. Derma (stomach casings) and schmaltz (chicken fat), once staples of Jewish cooking, are rarely used today.

Israeli Cuisine

Most of Israel’s culinary experts believe that Israel has yet to develop its own national cuisine. The foods most com-

monly referred to as Israeli — foods like hummus, falafel, and Israeli salad — are actually common to much of the Mediterranean and Arabic world. Nonetheless, because of its international citizenry, certain government-sponsored kashrut laws, and the recent surge in American fast food — which produced a kosher McDonald’s — eating in Israel is a unique experience.

For more on Jewish food and recipes, please visit MyJewishLearning.com/The-Nosher/

Schwarma Chicken Kabobs

(The Nosher via JTA)

This recipe is perfectly spiced, quick to make and oh-so-juicy. If you think chicken kebabs sound boring, I don’t blame you. Usually, they are. And dry. But not this recipe. This recipe pays homage to one of the earliest forms of cooking: roasting meat on a spit over a fire. Roasting smaller cuts, like kebabs, became popular in areas like the Middle East where firewood was scarce, as they proved more practical to cook over small fires. According to food historian Gil Marks, the word is derived from the ancient Persian “kabab,” which most likely stemmed from Aramaic.

Today, their popularity holds fierce. Shish taouk, kebabs of marinated, spiced chicken, are enjoyed in Egypt, Syria, Turkey, and Jordan. In Iran, kebab koo-bideh, kebabs of ground meat mixed with parsley and chopped onions, are served alongside rice and yogurt. In Israel, kebabs of spiced ground meat are ubiquitous at holiday barbecues.

Shwarma, while not exactly a kebab, is probably the most internationally beloved example of spit-roasted meat. Its flavorings — cumin, turmeric, and coriander — inspired these kebabs. Bright with lime and onion, and made with juicy chicken thighs instead of breasts, they take mere minutes to cook on a hot grill (you could do this on a grill pan, too). Plus, they’re so versatile: delicious with rice, perfect with warm laffa bread and hummus, and refreshingly offset by tzatziki, tahini, or even bright arils of pomegranate.

If you have leftovers, unskewer them and toss with

greens, olives, hummus, tomatoes, red onion, and good olive oil for a perfect lunch.

Ingredients

For the kebabs:

4 or 5 4 oz. skinless, boneless chicken thighs, trimmed of excess fat and cut into 1/2” cubes
1/4 cup olive oil
1 1/2 tps ground cumin
1 tsp ground black pepper
1 tsp ground turmeric
1 tsp sea salt
1/2 tsp smoked paprika
3/4 tsp garlic powder
3/4 tsp ground coriander

To serve:

parsley
lime wedges
thinly sliced red onion
hummus
laffa bread

Directions

Combine the spices in a bowl. Add the cubed chicken and olive oil, and mix well to combine. Cover and refrigerate for a minimum of 30 minutes, and up to 12 hours. The longer it marinates, the tastier it’ll be!

Take 12-15 wooden or metal skewers. If you’re using wooden skewers, soak them for half an hour so they don’t burn and catch fire on the grill. Thread the marinated chicken onto the skewers — I like to thread them longways so there’s more surface area to grill.

Preheat the grill to medium-high heat and grease it by dipping a few paper towels in vegetable oil then, using tongs, rub them carefully over the grates until glossy.

Place the kebabs on the grill and cook until golden brown, around 5-6 minutes per side. Use

tongs to turn them. They should be charred in places.

Transfer to a platter and scatter with parsley and sliced red onion. Squeeze with fresh lime. Serve with warm laffa bread and hummus.

For more on Jewish food and recipes, please visit MyJewishLearning.com/The-Nosher/

GASTRO Jews

A JEWISH JOURNEY
THROUGH FOOD

Join NextGen for our
FREE monthly virtual
series celebrating the
history, diversity, and
excitement of Jewish
food.

Sunday, Nov. 8th @ 4pm

Chanie Apfelbaum

With her website “Busy in Brooklyn” book “Millennial Kosher” Chanie’s creative twists on old-time cuisine prove that kosher fare is anything but old-fashioned.

For more information visit
<https://www.nextgencharlotte.org>

Jewish Federation
OF GREATER CHARLOTTE

NEXTGEN
Charlotte

EXPERIENCE.
STRATEGY.
ADVOCACY.

Krusch Law
PLLC

Let Our Family Help Yours

Divorce, Child Custody, Child
Support, Alimony, Property
Division, Domestic Violence,
Mediation, Prenuptial Agreements,
and Collaborative Law.

Virtual Consultations Available

CONTACT US AT WWW.KRUSCHLAW.COM
OR BY PHONE AT 704-556-0707
TO SCHEDULE YOUR CONSULTATION TODAY.



ALAN KRUSCH



DAVID KRUSCH

Ushpizin During COVID Meant Delivering Food to Refugees

By Amy Lefkof

Sukkot was celebrated in a very special way on October 6 at the outdoor Camp Mindy Pavilion, when Temple Israel's new Senior Rabbi Michael Wolk joined a group of 16 volunteers from the Jewish Community Refugee Initiative to assist local refugee families during Covid. The group of volunteers filled 100 donated reusable Publix grocery bags with hundreds of pounds of fresh produce, non-perishables such as flour and sugar, and other kitchen supplies, with an Impact and Innovation Grant from the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte.

Addressing the group, Rabbi Wolk explained the significance of doing this mitzvah for refugees during Sukkot. When the Jewish people made their exodus from Egypt, they were refugees — strangers in the land of Egypt who, escaping persecution, had to travel for 40 years before they made their way to the Land of Israel. He then explained ushpizin — the custom of inviting our ancestors to join us in the sukkah. Ushpizin is an Aramaic word for “guests”

and refers to a short prayer recited each night of Sukkot inviting one of our Jewish forebearers to join us in the sukkah. These spiritual guests remind us that we should always have enough food in the sukkah not only to share with our family and friends, but also enough to share with the stranger, the orphan, and other unfortunate people who don't have enough to eat and drink.

Given that during the pandemic we cannot invite guests or strangers to our sukkah for food and drink, it is fitting, said Rabbi Wolk, that we use the opportunity of Sukkot to assemble Covid relief bags for Charlotte refugee families.

On October 7, the 100 bags

were delivered to Refugee Support Services where a drive-through sukkah was supported by masked and socially distanced volunteers. Each bag included a Statue of Liberty welcome postcard inscribed by members of the Charlotte Jewish community, mostly senior citizens, welcoming the refugees to Charlotte, given that the Jewish people know what it is to be strangers in strange lands.



JCRI Jewish Community Refugee Initiative
CHARLOTTE

Student to Student

The Stan Greenspon Center for Peace and Social Justice is pleased to announce a new program: Student to Student High School Peer Education Program.

What? Student to Student is a nationwide program that seeks to fight against antisemitism and prejudice in high school students. It was developed by the Jewish Community Relations Council of St. Louis. It helps young people put a “human face” to Judaism—the best antidote to bigotry and intolerance.

When? The program will launch in Winter 2020 and will be conducted virtually. Charlotte will be the ninth city to launch this program and be first in the southeast.

How? Student presenters (high school juniors and seniors), will speak about a range of topics including, but not limited to: the Sab-

bath, the Jewish life cycle from birth to Bar/Bat Mitzvah to marriage to death, antisemitism and the Holocaust, Israel, the Hebrew language, Jewish dietary practices, and Jewish holidays. They will each share from their denominational perspective (e.g., Conservative, Orthodox and Reform).

For information about becoming a Student to Student participant, please email Talli Dippold dippoldt@queens.edu. To schedule a presentation, please e-mail Donna Tarney tarneyd@queens.edu.

This program is generously sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte.



Calling All Educators

Calling all educators: The Stan Greenspon Center for Peace and Social Justice has incredible Professional Development Opportunities.

Centropa: Holocaust, History, Digital Literacy and the Global Classroom – The Holocaust in Hungary. Facilitated by Lauren Granite, Centropa's U.S. Education Director

November 10 from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Centropa offers free educational resources based on its interviews with 1,200 elderly Jews in Central and Eastern European countries. This series will introduce you to their interviews, photographs, and short films, and include classroom lessons presented by teachers.

Navigating Bias and Prejudice in the Classroom Facilitated by Donna Tarney

November 10, noon to 1:30 p.m. or 3 to 4:30 p.m.

During this 90-minute, interactive webinar, participants will learn how to recognize bias and prejudice in themselves and their students. We will explore how these ideas lead to behaviors that hurt others and disrupt learning. Participants will practice the use of questioning and reflective listening to diffuse tension in the classroom as well as work through situations that arise in the classroom.

Caring for Yourself Facilitated by Talli Dippold and Jennifer Lemberg

November 6 noon to 1 p.m. lunch and learn

In these stress-filled times, educators carry a double load. They carry personal stress and worry about their students' success and well-being. This webinar is designed to help lift some of the burden. Join us as we share simple ways to care for yourself during traumatic times.

Yahad in Unum Session December 9

Yahad – In Unum (“Together in One” in Hebrew and Latin) is a Paris-based nonprofit organization established in 2004 by Father Patrick Desbois. It is dedicated to systematically identifying and documenting sites of mass executions committed against the Jews and Roma in Eastern Europe. Since it was founded, the association has conducted 175 research trips in 11 Eastern European countries, collected 7,000 eyewitness testimonies of the mass shootings, and identified more than 2,900 extermination sites. This session will explore those testimonies with guidance on how to use the resources in your classroom.

To register for any of these sessions, please email Talli Dippold, dippoldt@queens.edu.

QUEENS
UNIVERSITY OF CHARLOTTE

Stan Greenspon Center
for Peace and Social Justice

BRING THE LIGHT AND WARMTH OF YOUR TEMPLE INTO YOUR HOME FOR YEARS TO COME.



Temple images and your text are routed in the wood on one side or both based on the amount of information you want to include.

Size: 12.5" x 4.75" x 1.375" (+/-)
Colors: Gray, Black, Blue, and Cherry Stain
Pricing: Menorah with tree \$89.00. Additional personalized text and 2nd side engraving start at \$98.00
Menorahs of other Temples available.
Orders ready to pick-up in 7-10 days (South Charlotte/across from Arboretum) or can be shipped at additional cost.

Questions / See Samples: contact Alan Gottheim
704-363-3706 or ajg2998@gmail.com



Looking Back

Newspaper archives are a treasure trove of collective memories and experiences, providing a snapshot of our history. The Charlotte Jewish News has been in print since 1979, providing a nearly bottomless opportunity to delve into the history of the greater Charlotte Jewish community. The following is a reprint of the headline from CJN November 2005.

Join us for the Grand Opening of “Main Street” and the Sam Lerner Cultural Arts Center, November 30



November, 2005

A special event for the entire community will be held on Wednesday evening November 30 — some of the most exciting new facilities in Shalom Park will be opened and dedicated. Recently completed as part of the final phase of construction are the new entrance and “Main Street” of Shalom Park. After walking through the architecturally innovative rotunda, you enter the open and attractive lobby that provides immediate access to the entrance to the Sandra and Leon Levine JCC. From there, you may also enter “Main Street”

of Shalom Park which includes the offices of the Charlotte Jewish Federation and of the Levine JCC.

One of the special features of this phase is the Sam Lerner Center for Cultural Arts, a versatile 4000 square foot facility that will be the location for the November 30 event and many exciting cultural and community events for years to come. This new facility is dedicated to the memory of Sam Lerner, one of the founders of Shalom Park, and was made possible by generous contribution of his family and many friends.

Adding to the uniqueness of

the evening will be the presence of Eli Evans, critically acclaimed author of “The Provincials,” which Pat Conroy has described as the “seminal, indispensable book about the Jewish experience in the South... One of a kind, a masterpiece.” In language that inspired Abba Eban to declare, “The Jews of the South have found their poet laureate,” Evans sifts through the sweeping changes in the New South that have transformed the lives of Southern Jews over the last thirty years.

The theme of Evan’s November 30 address, entitled “Judaism in the South — Alive

and Unfolding,” is fitting for this unique event given Shalom Park’s uniqueness as a modern landmark for Jews in the South. Eli has many friends in Charlotte and throughout North Carolina, having grown up in Durham, North Carolina. After attending UNC and then Yale Law School, Evans’s accomplishments include serving as a White House speechwriter for Lyndon B. Johnson and serving as the president of Revson Foundation.

Also included in this phase of Shalom Park’s expansion are the Levine JCC’s new Senior Center and Children and Fam-

ily Place — each promising to be sites for meaning programs for seniors and families. Finally, this phase will include the Luski board room, which will be available to all Shalom Park agencies and a donor board recognizing the generosity of approximately 1000 donors who have made Shalom Park’s Campaign to Expand and Endow Shalom Park a resounding success. The entire community is invited to this special event which will begin at 7:30, a reception and book signing by Eli Evans will follow.

An Important Message to all LJCC Senior Adults

about

Medicare Part D Counseling 2020

Due to COVID-19 the Levine JCC will *not* be offering Medicare Part D Counseling - Open Enrollment - in 2020.

However, Shepherd's Center of Charlotte is accepting calls for virtual or phone appointments with Medicare counselors. Please contact them at 704-365-1995 to make an appointment. Let them know the Levine JCC sent you! **Open Enrollment Dates: October 15 - December 7**



Questions?
jill.lipson@charlottejcc.org





CAMP MINDY

Your J Membership not only supports this...



CAMP SOAR

...it also supports this.

Your J Needs You Now!

To our JFAMILY,

The pandemic has impacted each and every one of us, **challenging our community** in ways we could not have anticipated. Our Levine JCC is not immune to the challenges of COVID and the impact on our J is significant. We all need community now more than ever, and your community needs you now more than ever!

We are excited to let you know that we have been **given a new challenge** - an opportunity to save the J! In order to do that it will take our entire community working together. Today, our challenge is to raise one million dollars. The Leon Levine Foundation has generously agreed to match us dollar for dollar up to \$500,000! You donate. They match. It doubles. You join the J, or unfreeze your membership. They match. It doubles. You upgrade your membership. They match. It doubles. It's that simple.

The value and power of community have never been more apparent than during the last seven months when we faced isolation. Community is built in the moments that make up our lives and we have all had our J moments. Whether it was surviving your first JFORCE class, running that extra mile on the treadmill, sitting on a lawn chair and watching your child score their first soccer goal, or getting on JStage to sing for the very first time. These moments are the fabric of our community, and your community needs you now!

Remember these moments and let them inspire you to make it count today. Together we can ensure that generations to come will have their J moments.

New membership or new upgraded membership monthly payments through 2021 will count as a **1:1 pledge**.

Here's how:

Donate

Upgrade

Join

Let's make this moment count!

With much appreciation,

Peter Blair
Levine JCC CEO

Raizel Kahn
LJCC Board President



charlottejcc.org