

The Charlotte JEWISH NEWS

Celebrating Jewish Life

Vol. 46, No.2

Shevat/Adar 5784

February 2024

Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte Launches 2024 Annual Campaign

By Jessica Goldfarb, JFGC Communications Specialist

The Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte's mission stands firm — to serve as the heart of the community, nurture Jewish identity, cultivate a passionate understanding of Israel, and act as the central force in philanthropy for the greater Charlotte Jewish community. With immense gratitude for the overwhelming support received during last year's Annual Campaign, which surpassed \$5.8 million, we are eagerly looking forward.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte extends its impact into our local Jewish community and beyond, taking immense pride in the positive influence its programs have both within the greater Charlotte area and in Israel. The 2024 Annual Campaign offers an opportunity to be part of continuing this crucial work. Your support ensures the sustainability and expansion of initiatives that better our community, promoting Jewish philanthropy, education, and advocacy for all. Together, we can pave the path towards a brighter future.

This year, JFGC proudly highlights two significant Federation programs, Outshine Hate and LiveSecure, as additional giving opportunities. These initiatives epitomize Federation's commitment to bettering lives and fostering an inclusive, secure community.

Outshine Hate

The Outshine Hate initiative is a testament to Federation's commitment to combatting antisemitism and anti-Israel sentiments. Through education, collaboration with partner agencies, and com-

munity engagement, this initiative addresses biases and prejudices. Outshine Hate focuses on five core areas: institutional and communal change, professional development, community education and educator training, security, and Israel travel and outreach. By uniting our efforts, we strive to create a community that stands strong against hate and fosters understanding and solidarity.

LiveSecure

LiveSecure embodies Federation's pledge to ensure safety and security within every corner of the Jewish communities they serve. Developed in collaboration with the Secure Community Network and Jewish Federations of North America, LiveSecure is a comprehensive program designed to

create robust security plans, facilitate access to security grants, and provide ongoing training and support for local security efforts. Through LiveSecure, we stand vigilant in safeguarding our community's well-being and fortifying ourselves against potential threats.

In light of the reported 337% increase in antisemitic incidents across the United States since October 7, now is a critical time to demonstrate your support for our community, the 2024 Annual Campaign, and these vital programs. By funding initiatives aimed at combating antisemitism and its associated attacks, we can safely and effectively address the underlying causes of hatred and discrimination. These programs serve a crucial role in raising

awareness, fostering education, and building alliances within the greater Charlotte community in order to combat prejudice.

The 2024 Annual Campaign launched at the recent Federation Super Event was just the beginning. Your ongoing support and engagement are essential as we continue to advance Federation's

mission of fostering a stronger, more unified greater Charlotte Jewish community. Over the next several months your participation will be instrumental in continuing the mission to champion Jewish life through philanthropy, advocacy, and education: values that define our community and push us all forward.



Foundation for the Charlotte Jewish Community Announces Sandra Goldman Cemetery Beautification Endowment

By Phil Warshauer, Foundation for the Charlotte Jewish Community Executive Director

Foundation for the Charlotte Jewish Community (FCJC) proudly announces the establishment of a new endowment, the Sandra Goldman Cemetery Beautification Endowment. Established by anonymous donors, the endowment has been created to recognize the inspirational work and commitment of Sandra Goldman on behalf of the Hebrew Cemetery Association and will provide annual support to maintain the cemetery's beauty.

"What an incredible honor to have an endowment created in my name," said Goldman, who has served as the cemetery's director since 2009. "Our Hebrew Cemetery and the Jewish community have an incredibly special space in my heart, and this gesture humbles me immensely. I recognize this endowment will give many people the comfort of knowing that the cemetery grounds will always look beautiful. That is the biggest gift of all."

A native of Liechtenstein, Goldman came to the U.S. in 1995 after living in Zurich and spending time in Israel, where she met her husband, Yaron. Together with their four children, they arrived in Charlotte in 2005, where she immediately immersed herself in the Jewish community. She joined the cemetery staff as a part-time employee in 2009 and was elevated to full time in 2016. In her time at the cemetery, she has assisted with more than 500 burials.

"On behalf of the Hebrew Cemetery Association, I would like to thank our anonymous donors for establishing this endowment to honor Sandra," said Moses Luski, president of the Hebrew Cemetery Association and board chair. "She has aided and provided comfort to so many families during a very



Sandra Goldman

challenging time in their lives. Sandra's personality and dedication to the cemetery allow her to help families navigate through the burial process with empathy and care. She is a true mensch."

In addition to her role at the cemetery, Sandra has been a member of Charlotte's local Hadassah chapter, having served as president as well as on the regional board. She currently serves on the board of the Patient and Family Advisory Council at Atrium Health Levine Cancer and is a very active fundraiser for breast cancer causes,

raising funds for research to find a cure and supporting the un/underinsured with free mammograms and education. Over the years she has raised more than \$800,000.

The Sandra Goldman Cemetery Beautification Endowment has been established at Foundation for the Charlotte Jewish Community to assist with the annual upkeep of our community cemetery, established in 1867 and located on Statesville Avenue. It is the hope of the anonymous donors that others will contribute to the endowment to retain the cemetery's beauty and honor Sandra.

All gifts to the Sandra Goldman Cemetery Beautification Endowment should be sent to the Hebrew Cemetery Association 5007 Providence Road, Suite 113, Charlotte NC 28226. For additional information or questions, call (704) 944-6854.

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

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



Editor's Corner

The Transformative Power of the Arts



Shira Firestone, Editor CJN

In the wake of the deadliest attack on the Jewish community in the United States, a remarkable project emerged. Initiated by Susan Ribnick in response to the Tree of Life Synagogue shooting in 2018, “From Darkness to Light – Mosaics Inspired by Tragedy” is a stunning exhibit that hangs on the walls just outside my office at Shalom Park. Initially, I took the short walk to see the exhibit at the prompting of a colleague, expecting to walk quickly past, then return to my desk to continue my work. But what I saw stopped me in my tracks.

Each mosaic in this expanding international project tells a story that transcends the individual artist. The themes range from confronting antisemitism

and injustice to expressions of profound hope and peace. This collection is not just an artistic endeavor; it’s a communal declaration that in the face of hatred, our response can be one of creativity, unity, and light.

Ribnick explains that she conceived of the project as a way to transform outrage and grief into something that brings light to darkness. And ultimately, isn’t that one of the best gifts that the arts can offer? The opportunity to change us, to help us collect pieces of a deep inner experience and synthesize them into something even more meaningful and healing? Whether as artists engaged in the process or as observers immersed in the experience, the arts offer a way to make sense of our complex emotions, to bridge gaps in understanding, and to illuminate the shared human experience.

I can’t recall a time when the arts weren’t an integral part of my life, though I wouldn’t have identified it as such at the time. Creating and appreciating the arts was just what we did.

Some families took vacation. We put on plays. Using the salvaged, cardboard sets from summer plays, my room became a castle and my brother and I its sovereigns.



Shira, 1973 in the off off off Broadway production of “How the Turtle Got Its Shell”

Some families watched the latest release on VCR. We watched Charlie Chaplin with a film projector, complete with the clickety clack of the reels and the dust particles dancing in the beam of light.

Some families listened to records. We spent three nights a week listening to our father, with a voice to rival Frank Sinatra, sing songs from The Great American Songbook to a small, but appreciative audience.

These seemingly ordinary experiences of my childhood, as routine as a bowl of Captain Crunch for breakfast and the occasional fib about brushing my teeth, laid the foundation for my deep connection to the arts. They taught me the art of storytelling without words, honed my appreciation the power of music to move us, and ultimately paved the way for my future relationship with creative arts. More than anything, they taught me about the transformative power of creation – whether for the one shaping and offering or the one witnessing and receiving.

It is not surprising, then, that as an adult my days are built upon the act of creating. Not a day goes by when I am not either writing, singing, dancing, or crafting. Sometimes it is for distraction or entertainment.

But more often it is the toolbox I rely on to understand myself, make sense of the world around me, and ultimately – hopefully – transform inner experiences into something more meaningful that might bring light to others.

The abundance of upcoming cultural offerings in our community is a testament to the importance of cultural arts. Opportunities abound to experience the power of literature, film, theater, and art.

This March, the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte’s Center for Jewish Education will host the 2024 Jewish Book Festival, a celebration of the art of storytelling and its profound impact on our understanding of Jewish life and history. Renowned authors will share their narratives, inviting us to delve into the vibrant tapestry of Jewish experiences. (March 3, 7 & 17, Page 3)

Our community is privileged to welcome another facet of artistic expression with Robbie Gringras, Federation’s Israeli Artist-in-Residence. Gringras, a renowned solo theater performer, playwright, and inspiring speaker, embodies the dynamic and transformative power of theater. His approach to theater not only entertains but also educates, serving as a mirror to our own lives and a window into the lives of others. His presence in our community is a testament to the role of arts as a bridge – connecting us to diverse perspectives, fostering deeper understanding, and enriching our cultural landscape. (February, Page 2)

Complementing the literary journey of the Jewish Book Festival, the Charlotte Jewish Film Festival offers another vibrant avenue for exploring Jewish identity and culture through the art of cinema. Celebrating its 20th year, the festival showcases an array of films that illuminate the Jewish experience from various angles. As we gather in theaters across Charlotte and Shalom Park, we are reminded of the unifying power of art –

“Art has the power to render sorrow beautiful, make loneliness a shared experience, and transform despair into hope ... It is the sharing of art that whispers, ‘You are not alone’”

how it transcends mere viewing and becomes a shared experience that enriches our community and strengthens our connections to each other and our culture. (January 27-February 28, Page 8)

Then there’s the humorous one-woman show, “Who Chiseled That? The Story of a Life Unscripted, Unstoppable and Unexpectedly Funny.” This show, the brainchild of the talented Merit Kahn, is more than a theatrical piece; it’s a testament to the resilience and humor ingrained in the Jewish community, particularly as reflected in the life of Merit herself. (February 4, page 24)

And of course, I strongly recommend that you come see the mosaic exhibit, “From Darkness to Light – Mosaics Inspired by Tragedy” at Shalom Park. Though it’s tucked away, it’s worth the walk through the maze of hallways to find. (Ask for directions to the hallway behind Gorelick Hall.) And being just steps away from my office – stop by and say hello! (Jan. 15-March 31, Page 28)

As we embrace the upcoming cultural offerings in our community, we are reminded that the arts connect us, deepen our understanding, and enrich our cultural landscape. Through humor, resilience, and the profound expressions of artists, we find solace, inspiration, and the power to bring light to the world.

In the words on Brene Brown: “Art has the power to render sorrow beautiful, make loneliness a shared experience, and transform despair into hope ... It is the sharing of art that whispers, ‘You are not alone’”

Shira

Shabbat Candle Lighting Times

Times are for 28226 zip code. For times in other zipcodes, visit www.charlottejewishnews.org

- February 2 — 5:35 p.m.
- February 9 — 5:42 p.m.
- February 16 — 5:48 p.m.
- February 23 — 5:55 p.m.

The Charlotte JEWISH NEWS

THE CHARLOTTE JEWISH NEWS

Shira Firestone, Editor
Julie Dalli, Proofreader

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

www.charlottejewishnews.org
charlottejewishnews@shalomcharlotte.org

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

Published monthly except July

An affiliate of Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte



Powered By
Jewish Federation
of Greater Charlotte

FEDERATION
SUPER SUNDAY
FEB 4TH
jewishcharlotte.org

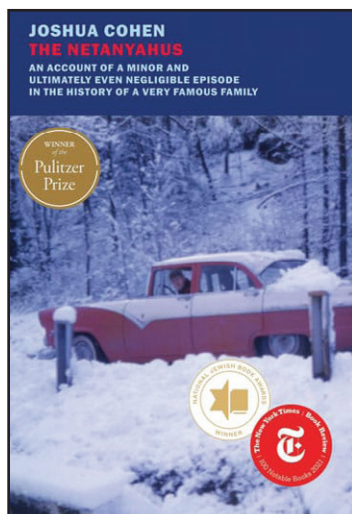
Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte

Center for Jewish Education Presents the 2024 Jewish Book Festival

By Jessica Goldfarb, JFGC Communications Specialist

This March, the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte's Center for Jewish Education will be hosting the 2024 Jewish Book Festival. Mark your calendars for three enriching evenings spotlighting renowned authors and their narratives. Through their compelling books, we will delve into the vibrant tapestry of Jewish life and history, inviting you to engage, discover, and celebrate the Jewish experience through literature.

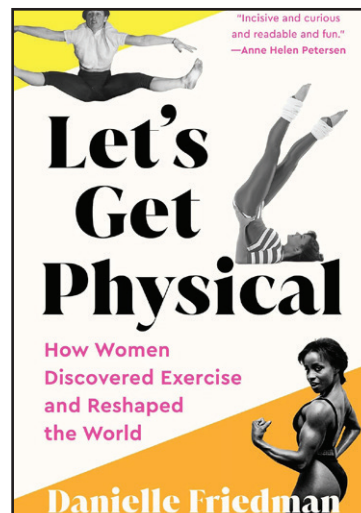
Opening Night with Pulitzer Prize-winning author Joshua Cohen — March 3, 7 p.m. in the Sam Lerner Center for Cultural Arts



The 2024 Jewish Book Festival kicks off on March 3 with author Joshua Cohen. Cohen's book, "The Netanyahu," has been hailed as a wildly inventive, genre-bending comedy of identity, history, and politics. It has won numerous accolades, including the 2022 Pulitzer Prize for fiction and the 2021 National Jewish Book Award. Join us for a captivating discussion of this satirical, yet culturally significant novel and explore the ambiguities of the Jewish-American experience.

Empowered and Fit: Celebrating the History of Women's Fitness with Danielle Friedman — March 7, 7 p.m. in the Sam Lerner Center for Cultural Arts

Jewish author Danielle Friedman joins us on March 7 for a ladies' night out of fitness, food, and fun. Friedman's book, "Let's Get Physical: How Women Discovered Exercise and Reshaped the World," unearths the untold history of women's exercise culture. Join us for an event co-sponsored by Federation's Women's Philanthropy and the Levine JCC (LJCC) featuring drinks, heavy hors d'oeuvres and a chance to "get physical" with LJCC fitness, followed by a book discussion on women's empowerment through physical fitness.

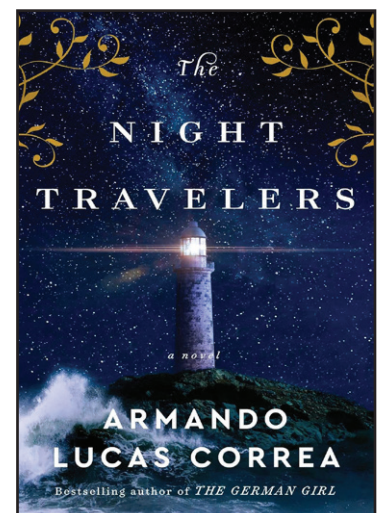


Unbroken Spirit: Tales of Resilience, Courage, and Compassion, a Conversation with Two Authors — March 17, 7 p.m. in the Sam Lerner Center for Cultural Arts

Concluding the festival on March 17, authors Armando Lucas Correa and Weina Dai Randel engage in a powerful moderated discussion with Tair Giudice, Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte's chief impact officer. Correa's "The Night Travelers" and Randel's "Night Angels" offer compelling tales of resilience across generations and selfless courage in the face of incalculable evil. This conversation presents an opportunity to

witness the convergence of two remarkable narratives of often unexplored aspects of the Jewish experience in the WWII era and beyond.

By celebrating Jewish literature through up-close and personal discussions with acclaimed authors, the 2024 Jewish Book Festival will engage and educate audiences of all backgrounds. Join us this March and immerse yourself in the essence of Jewish experiences through the art of storytelling. Tickets are on sale at jewishcharlotte.org.



Federation Welcomes Israeli Artist in Residence: Robbie Gringras

By Jessica Goldfarb, JFGC Communications Specialist

The profound connection between the greater Charlotte Jewish community and Israel is evident, and in these challenging times, more important than ever. Many of us have spent significant time in Israel, immersing ourselves in its food, and culture, and forming deep bonds with its people. Moreover, an increasing number of people within our community are originally from Israel, relocating to Charlotte and playing integral roles in our community. It is for these reasons and more that Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte is committed to continually strengthening and deepening our ties with Israel and its people.

Through the Outshine Hate initiative, Federation hosts an annual Israeli Artist-in-Residence for several days each year. Previously we welcomed Hanoach Piven, an esteemed artist renowned for his creative art and distinctive mixed-media portraits. This year, the focus shifts from visual art to the realm of theater, featuring Robbie Gringras, a globally rec-



Robbie Gringras

ognized solo theater performer, playwright, and inspiring speaker. Gringras is a committed British-Israeli Zionist educator whose work is driven by nuance and complexity.

From February 24 to February 27 Robbie Gringras will be in Charlotte showcasing exciting theater performances and leading workshops for our community. His engagements will span various locations across the city, bringing cultural enrichment to participants. Gringras' theatrical productions not only captivate audiences but also provoke thoughtful introspection. His

book, co-authored with Abi Dauber Sterne, "Stories For the Sake of Argument," challenges readers to think about complex topics from diverse viewpoints, prioritizing clarity and comprehension over agreement — a hallmark of a true educator.

If you are interested in attending one of Robbie's workshops or performances while he is in Charlotte please reach out to Noah Goldman, Israel & global Jewry associate for Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte, at (704) 944-6784 or noah.goldman@jewishcharlotte.org.

COMPASS

Buying, Selling or Relocating?

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



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

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



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

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

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

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



Keith Greenspon — Advisor

704.247.3033

kgreenspon@windinsgroup.com

In her new autobiography, "My Name is Barbra," Ms. Streisand goes into minute detail about her life, about the movies she's starred in, directed, and produced. Her attention to detail is incredible due to her innate sense of cinematogra-

But her relationships weren't

Judaism was an important influence throughout this autobiography. Barbra always felt most comfortable working with Jewish people — especially with those from Brooklyn. Yiddish words and phrases pop up throughout the narrative, and *tikun olam* and other Jewish values are also prevalent. Barbra has a thirst for history, and researched extensively when taking on new projects. She consulted and studied the Talmud with rabbis when writing the script for *Yentl*. She attributes her love of learning and quest for knowledge to her father, Emmanuel, who died at

I haven't even touched on the numerous and diverse awards presented to this remarkable woman. She is one of the few people who is an EGOT winner — Emmy, Grammy, Oscar,

(Continued on page 5)



Maid Brigade®

Greenspon Center Honors Imam Abdullah Antepli With 2024 Upstander Award

By Mary Eshet

Imam Abdullah Antepli will receive the 2024 Stan Greenspon Upstander Award, which is bestowed upon an individual who has taken great risks and exhibited great courage in responding to hate. The event will take place at 7 p.m. Feb. 6 at Queens University. Imam Antepli's speech will be titled, "To Heal Our Broken World: The Role of Interfaith Efforts in Uniting Us." A dessert reception will follow the program.



Imam Abdullah Antepli

"We are honored to present our 2024 Upstander Award to Imam Antepli, recognizing his impactful and far-reaching work to further interfaith understanding and peace," said Rabbi Judy Schindler, director of the Stan Greenspon Holocaust and Social Justice Education Center and Sklut professor of Jewish studies at Queens. "At this time our world needs more upstanders like Imam Antepli, who are courageously committed to combating hate."

The Upstander program is part of Queens University's Presbyterian and Pluralist Week, which follows the United Nations-designated World Interfaith Harmony Week observed the first week of February annually. In establishing this week, the General Assembly of the UN noted that mutual understanding and interreligious dialogue constitute important dimensions of a culture of peace. The concept of Interfaith Harmony Week was conceived by King Abdullah II of Jordan, another courageous Muslim leader committed to promoting positive interreligious relations.

Dr. Adrian Bird, Queens University chaplain, shares that interfaith relationships are

foundational to the Presbyterian tradition. "Queens remembers its Presbyterian roots, including the encouragement to nurture interfaith relationships," he said. "We seek ways to help nourish the religious and spiritual wells of others in ways that will help us build a strong and diverse community." He says the Presbyterian and Pluralist Statement adopted by Queens must be taken off the shelf, and the upcoming week of events is one way to bring the statement to life. The statement affirms Queens' Presbyterian roots, including core values that underlie Queens' commitment to foster knowledge and nurture relationships among people of different religious and philosophical worldviews.

"I believe this is an important and timely event because when we come together across our differences, even substantial differences on matters of great importance, with genuine curiosity, vulnerability, and humility, we create possibilities for transformation for ourselves and the world we share," said Rev. LeDayne McLeese Polaski, executive director of Mecklenburg Metropolitan Interfaith Network (MeckMIN) and a speaker

during the week.

The week will include events that embrace people of all faiths and worldviews, with a range of opportunities to showcase diverse religious and spiritual voices. In addition to Imam Antepli and Rev. Polaski, speakers include Queens alumna and renowned author Liz Childs Kelly, author of "Home to Her: Walking the Transformative Path of the Sacred Feminine," and Rev. Gail Henderson-Belsito, associate minister at Caldwell Presbyterian Church in Charlotte. The week will also include a visit to the "Seeing Auschwitz" exhibit sponsored by the Greenspon Center and a screening of the film "36 Seconds: Portrait of a Hate Crime."

Imam Abdullah Antepli is a globally recognized scholar and leader of cross-religious and cross-cultural dialogue in American higher education and the nonprofit world. His Muslim Leadership Initiative helps young Muslim American leaders understand Judaic and Israeli studies and cultivates compassion in the face of fear

and hate. He has built multiple organizations that facilitate religious and spiritual life on America's college campuses, sowing seeds of understanding between religions, while upholding their cultural integrity and dignity.

Imam Antepli is vice president and provost of community engagement at Duke University with dual faculty appointments at Duke's Sanford School of Public Policy as associate professor of the practice, with a secondary appointment at the Divinity School as associate professor of the practice of interfaith relations. Imam Antepli is also a senior fellow on Jewish-Muslim Relations at the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem, where he founded and co-directs the widely recognized Muslim Leadership Initiative. "The Non-Profit Times" recognized Imam Antepli as one of their Power & Influence Top 50 leaders of 2019, calling him one of the most prominent Muslim leaders in higher education today. Imam Antepli was honored by the Anti-Defamation League with the 2022 Daniel Pearl Award.

"It is critical that we continue to cultivate dialogue, understanding, and respect between the Jewish and Muslim communities. The Quran teaches Muslims that all of humanity is one *umma* (community) and that we have a divine imperative to get to know each other across *ta'aruf* (differences)," said Dr. Hadia Mubarak, assistant professor of religion at Queens University.

The Upstander program is sponsored by the Stan Greenspon Holocaust and Social Justice Education Center at Queens University, the Belk Chapel at Queens University, and Queens Hillel/Jewish Life Program. The program will be free and open to the public.

Visit stangreensponcenter.org/events to register. To register for other events of the week, visit Presbyterian and Pluralist week sign up at <http://tinyurl.com/mtat3tkb>.

QUEENS
UNIVERSITY OF CHARLOTTE

Stan Greenspon
Holocaust and Social Justice
Education Center

Sue's Bookshelf

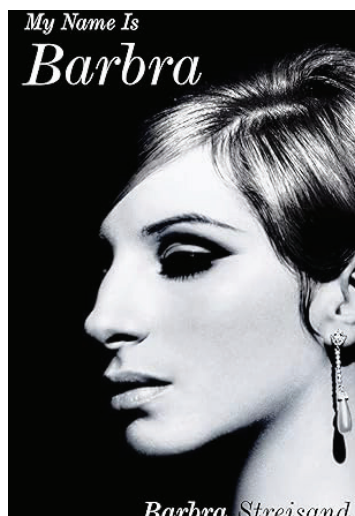
(Continued from page 4)

by Harvard University. Not as meaningful as her private tour of the Anne Frank House and the opportunity to actually sit in the attic where Anne hid.

I haven't even touched on her marriage, divorce, and long-standing relationship with Elliott Gould, or the loving relationship she has with her son Josh, or the beautiful courtship and marriage to actor James Brolin.

Can you see why I can't get Barbra Streisand out of my head? And it's not the plays, movies, and songs — it's the extraordinary and incredible life she's experienced which is detailed in this exceptional autobiography.

"My Name is Barbra" can be found in the newly renovated Levine-Sklut Judaic Library. To reserve a copy, please call or email. (704) 944-6783 or library@jewishcharlotte.org.



Jewish Federation
of Greater Charlotte



Happy Valentine's Day from בי"ה

Malak Jewelers

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

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

Scan to learn more
about why we're
Charlotte's
favorite jeweler!



Thanks to the generosity of so many in our community, the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte has raised more than \$2.6 million to meet the most pressing needs in Israel by supporting the victims of terror and addressing the unprecedented levels of trauma caused by the horrific attacks on Israel.

Jane Abel	Boris and Raisa Brodsky	Adela Easop	Kenneth and Tammy Golder	Jo Harris
Brian and Mattie Ablitz	Marla Brodsky	Paul and Lynn Edelstein	Jay and Amanda Goldfarb	Cheryl Hayet
Scott Abrams and Shari Baum	David and Susan Brown	Eddie and Kim Edwards	Dana and Leslie Goldfarb	Stephanie Haynes
Bernie and Teri Ackerman	Justin and Rachel Brown	Mike Effron	Martin Goldfarb and Phyllis Berlin	Burton and Mindy Hecht-Kole
Joshua and Tracey Adams	Paul Brown	Adva Eisenberg	Diane Goldman	Mara Heiman
Michelle Adler	Gilbert Browne	Adrian Elfersy	Noah Goldman	Michael and Wendy Hennes
Catherine Ake	Martin Bryant	William and Jo Elman	Steven and Talia Goldman	Neil and Susan Hennes
Joel and Maxine Albaum	Susan Burger	Ronald and Petra Emerman	Yaron and Sandra Goldman	Stuart and Carolyn Hennes
Aaron and Liza Alexander	Linda Burling	Brian and Marla Emery	Jeff and Blair Goldsmith	Marian Herring-Brisendine
Elaine Alexander	Pat Burnham	David and Aleen Epstein	Ari and Marcy Goldstein	Marion Herrmann
Michael Allen	Beth Burpee	Donna Epstein	Craig and Michal Goldstein	Stephanie Herrmann
David and Cheryl Alley	Jan Caldwell	Jeffrey Epstein	Margi Goldstein	Florice Hersch
Buzz and Ashley Almon	David and Rachel Campbell	Zachary Epstein-Peterson	Shelton and Ellen Goldstein	Matt and Jane Herson
Eric and Lauren Althofer	Lee Campbell	Bill Eubank	Slade andStacey Goldstein	Amanda Hibbitts
Jodi Andersen	Suzanne Canali	Christy Evans	Stuart and Shari Goldstein	Samuel Hillson
Debbie Anderson	Molly Carmel	Katherine Fainstein	Susan Goldstein	Pauline Hilton
API Cares - Eric Lerner	Bill Cassell	The Purcell Family	Suzanne Goldstein	Danilo Hirschler
Leonie Appel	David and Suzy Catenazzo	Shai and Sharon Fargian	Jeff and Kathy Goldstone	Victor Hoand Julie Chiu
Bob and Tanja August	Susan Chait	Edward Faulkner	Leon and Jennifer Golynsky	Steven and Sandy Hoagland
Stanley and Judy August	Laura Champury	Elliot and Sandra Feldman	Barry and Michelle Goodman	Sheryl Hollander
Katherine Austin	Charlotte Country Day School	James and Barbara Feldman	Grant Goodwin	Emily Hoody-Russell
Lee Babington	Shalom Club	Michael and Marilyn Felson	Leslie and Mary Gordan	Jacob and Elizabeth House
Brian andMarissa Bailey	Emily Chatham	Don and Remie Fernbach	Stuart Gordan	Susan Huiitt
Craig andJill Balick	Suly Chenkin	Yakov and Nina Feygin	Alan Gordon	Noah and Linda Humphrey
Hal Bankirer	Harry and Elaine Chernotsky	Barry andJodi Finkelstein	Barry Gordon	Rhona Hurwitz
Stuart and Ellie Bantit	Heather Chesler	Scott Finkelstein	Daniel and Linda Gordon	Stephen and Cindy Hutter
Joel and Joanna Barman	Melinda Chesson	Lewis and Janice Fisher	Family Foundation	Rachel Jacobsen
Jeff and Melanie Baron	Susan Chesson	Gerald and Terri Fishman	Mark Gordon	Todd Jacobson
John and Gail Baron	Sachin Chitale	Jackie Fishman	Rael and Gabrielle Gorelick	Florence Jaffa
Joseph Barrocas and	Howard Clark	Sandy Fitzig	Todd and Stacy Gorelick	Richard and Terri James
Alison Koehler	Daniel and Nancy Coblentz	Larry Fleishman	William Gorelick	Susan Jarvis Goldstein
Allen andStacy Baum	Brian andSonia Cohen	Benjamin Foodman	Dennis Gorman	Freyr Johnson
Ann Baumgarten	David and Bridget Cohen	William Fortuner	Debbie Gorstayn	Nancy Johnson
Michael and Meredith Baumstein	Eric Cohen	Foundation for the Charlotte	Alan and Merle Gottheim	Frederick Jones
Virginia Beam	Jeff Cohen	Jewish Community	Becca Green	Jane Jones
Andy andBetsy Bell	Kathy Cohen	Leonard and Karen Fox	Harris and Billie Green	Nir and Julie Josipovich
Eric Bell	Mark and Paige Cohen	Lyn Fox	Tara Greenberg	Jacob and Elizabeth House
Jay and Lori Bellefond	Stuart and Jodi Cohen	Nadine Fox	Barry and Karen Greenblatt	Michael Kafer
Kathleen Ben-Shoff	Mark andSamantha Cole	Alain Frank and	Frederick and Donna Greene	Eli Kahn
Benjamin and Tiz Benson	Hilary Coman	Audrey Afflerbach	Adam and Elizabeth Greenhagen	Eileen Kaplan
Jonathan and Tess Berger	Linda Considine	Brett and Sara Frankenberg	David Greenman	Gary Kaplan and
Wendy Berkowitz	Benjamin Cook	Megan Frantz	Herb Greenman	Laura Miles-Kaplan
Steven Berlin	Ivan and Roz Cooper	Mark and Debbie Freedman	Maxwell and Susan Greenman	Kym Kaplan
Adam Bernstein and	Stephen Copulsky	Golda Fried	Keith Greenspon	Rabbi Morton and Mary Kaplan
Tammy Seigel	Gary Cotler and Yi-Jun Lin	Francine Friedman	Stanley Greenspon	Sis Kaplan
Donald and Barbara Bernstein	Carol Couillard	Jared Friedman	William and Gloria Grifenhagen	Andrew and Dana Kapustin
Ira and Marilyn Bernstein	David Cox	Jonathan and Rachel Friedman	Mary Grinton	Pete and Erica Katz
Karen Bernstein	Marcia Cranshaw	Leonard and Shelley Friedman	Matthew Gromet and	Seth and Crystal Katz
Samuel and Nancy Bernstein	Sydney Cresenzi	Reed Friend	Phyllis Schultz	Margaret Kauffman
Romain and Elizabeth Bertrand	George and Andrea Cronson	Beth Fronzaglia	Rabbi Yoseph and	Kathy Kent
Jennifer Billings	Ruth Cronson	Allen Furr	Mariashi Groner	Deborah Kessler
Todd and Donna Birnberg	Brandon and Kara Culp	Haim and Sylvia Gabrieli	Sarah Grossman	Gene Khodak
George Bisworth	David Curry	Charles and Caren Gale	Wayne Grossman	Liz Khodak
Lisa Blau	Kaitlin Danze	Madeline Gallant	Julio and Ruth Guadarrama	Ilene King
Brian andDiana Blecher	Lisa Dasteel	Stephen and Lisa Garfinkle	Camile Guice	Jennifer King
Therese Blewitt	Cameron Davis	Elliot and Peggy Gartner	Dorothea Gyorody	Larry Kinitzky
David and Debby Block	Robert and Elizabeth Davis	Estee Gelbard	James Hall	Robert and Nancy Kipnis
Julian Blumenfeld	Rick Deitchman	Edith Gelber-Beechler	Amy Hammer	Joan Kirschner
Alan and Lee Blumenthal	Mary Dejarnette	Joanie Geller	Brian Handelsman	Steve Kirschner
Jill Blumenthal	Adrienne Der Szander	David and Sheryl Gerrard	Lara Handelsman	Dana Klein
Blumenthal Foundation	Andrew and Julie Dermack	Laurie Gersh	Neil and Sharyn Handelsman	Robert and Moira Klein
Alan, Philip and	Jacques Deutsch	Rabbi Stuart Gershon	Jeff and Laura Handler	Barry and Lorrie Klemons
Samuel Blumenthal	Rachel Diamond	Jessica Giddens	Lawrence Hannes	Rene and Therese Knafo
Julia Bonnheim	John Dillon	Elsa Gillis	Cindy Hargett	Phyllis Knight
Malcolm and Beverly Bonnheim	George and Stephanie DiPaolo	Mark Glaser	Andy and Megan Harkavy	Nikki Koklanaris
David and Bonnie Bornstein	Jeffrey and Dana Ditesheim	Rick Glaser and Ellen Reich	Susan Harkavy	Jaime and Elise Kosofsky
Thor andBonnie Borresen	Tom Dolce	Howard and Merridith Glazer	Graig and Samantha Harr	Larry Kosowsky
Anne Bowers	Robert and Stacy Doline	Judith Glazier	Jordan Harrell	Mekhal Kramer
Sharon Boyd	Chris Doyle	Ann Gluckson	Cynthia Harris	Fred and Marilyn Kraus
Ruth Brandt	Robin and Rebecca Drechsel	Adam and Miriam Gold		
Ben and Heather Braun	Fred and Marcella Dumas	David Goldberg		
Justin Bregman and	Stacy Dunleavy	Ruth Goldberg		
Diana Warth Bregman	Barbara Dworsky	Terry Goldberg		
Stacy Brink	Jill Dye	Tamar Goldblatt		

A NOTE TO OUR DONORS:
You deserve to be properly and accurately recognized. If you find an error in your listing, please contact our office at 704.944.6757.

Hannah Kraus	Scott and Pam Menaker	Alex Ransenberg	Jason Shechter and Caitlin Morris	The Talbert Family Foundation
David Krefetz	Steven and Polly Menaker	David and Karen Ransenberg	David and Julie Sheffer	Haley Timperio
Alvin and Jayme Kreitman	James and Marcia Merrill	Carol Ransone	Morris and Lynne Sheffer	David Tinkler
Cece Krelitz	Shay Merritt	Joel and Wendi Reichard	Jeffrey Shein	Marc and Cheri Titlebaum
Alan Kronovet and Cary Bernstein	W Worth Merritt	Scott Reider and Matti Ordan-Reider	Brian Sher	Alan Tobias and Andrea Cooper
David and Jamie Krusch	Lindsay Messinger	Ian and Rachel Reifkind	Allen Sherman	Gabriella Toossi
Sharon Kugelmass	Steven and Susan Meyer	Brenda Rice	Peter Sherman	Dennis Townsend
Jonathan and Sara Kulbersh	Garry and Jackie Milbrod	Adam and Melissa Richeson	Rhoda Sherman	Ronald and Renee Townsend
Yelena Kurgan	Laura Milgrim	Mark and Stephanie Rindner	Carla Sherry	Ross and Amy Udoff
Joel and Wendy Kveskin	Elaine Millen	Carlos Rish and Nayla Bitar	Loni Sherwin	Boris Vainberg and Anastasia Koralova
Jennifer Lachesky	David and Risa Miller	Scott and Julie Rizzo	Dana Shifley	Robert and Ellie Valenstein
Tomer and Galia Lapidot-Boaz	Gerald and Charlotte Miller	Caroline Robicsek	Suzi Sholin	Trevor Van Ginkel
Robert Larick	Ken and Debby Miller	Livia Robicsek	Michael Shrago	David and Debra Van Glish
Bruce LaRowe and Anita Strauss-LaRowe	Noah Miller	Dennis and Gina Robins	Alan and Janice Shubin	Melissa Van Glish
Harvey and Sandra Lauer	Matt and Summer Minchew	Austin and Roberta Rodgers	Eric and Nicole Sidman	Michael and Judie Van Glish
Kerry Lauer	Mikhail and Alla Mogilevsky	Carl and Sally Rogers	Andy and Michelle Siegel	Jeff and Emily Vaughan
Teri Lavallee	Laura Moore	Connie Rogers	David and Brooke Siegel	Terry and Nancy Vesling
Patricia Lawton	Melissa Moore	Hillary Rogers	Robert and Carol Siegel	Amanda Vestal and Erin Goldstein
Eric and Judy Laxer	Sheila Morgan	Rina Roginsky	Richard and Debbie Sifton	Mark and Amy Vitner
Robin Leavitt	Trey Morris	Cantor Elias and Linda Roohvarg	Milton and Karen Silver	Michael and Liz Waller
Amy Lefkof	David Moses	Sandy Rose	Marc and Mattye Silverman	Lewis Warshauer
Lawrence and Shelley Leibman	Marci Mroz	Stanley Rose	Beth Silverstein	Susan Wasserman
Michael Leiken	Brian Muldowney	Andrew and Jennifer Rosen	Gary Silverstein	Erik and Beth Wauflle
Gary and Donna Lerner	Scott and Lindsay Muns	Brent Rosen	Jerry and Sandy Simon	Richard and JoAnne Weber
Mark and Alison Lerner	Susan Murphy	Jack Rosen	Louis Sinkoe and Kevin Levine	Kristine Webster
Randee Lerner	Eugene and Bonnie Musicus	Mark and Helene Rosen	Michael and Anne Sinsheimer	Yulan Weeres
Todd Lester	Gaya Myers	Dan and Hilary Rosenbaum	Alan and Marcia Skarbnik	Jennifer Weida
David and Michelle Levi	Candace Naliboff	Joel Rosenberg	Eric and Lori Sklut	Michael Weinberg
Linda Leviel	Albert and Janice Nalibotsky	Judith Rosenberg	Mason and Bashia Sklut	Donald and Ilene Weiner
David and Brenda Levin	Marilyn Needle	Mary Rosenberg	Joel and Mary Skodnick	Ron and Janice Weiner
Ross and Jennifer Levin	Judi Neidenberg	Renata Rosenberg	Ira and Stacey Slomka	Andrea Weiss
Allen Levine	David Neisler	Scott and Kara Rosenberg	David Slotkis	Meredith Weiss
David and Madison Levine	Zeev Neuwirth and Lisa Davidson	Marcia Roses	Michael Smith	Robert Weiss
Howard Levine and Julie Lerner Levine	Arthur and Elyse Nevid	Howard Ross and Paula Cagan	Paul Smolen	Seth and Monique Werner
Jonathan and June Levine	Cheryl Newman	Heidi Rotberg	Harrison and Rabbi Rachel Smookler	Stuart and Erin Wernikoff
Louise Levine	Steven Newmark	Mark Roth	Marc and Shari Sokolowicz	Thomas Wetzel
Mark Levine	Rabbi Elizabeth Nichols	Gabriella Rothstein	Arthur Solomon	Robert White
Miles and Debbie Levine	Patricia Norcom	Michael Rothstein	David Sperber	Scott and Dori Whitman
Sandra Levine	Linda Nore	Harold and Lyba Rousso	Eleanor Speros	Howard Widis
Zachary and Shelley Levine	Earl and Tamara Norman	Jane Royal	Marcus Spiegel	Robert Widis
Gary and Andrea Levinson	Michael and Judith Norman	Dan and Leah Rubenstein	Jason and Karen Spiegler	Lindsay Wikle
Hal and Holly Levinson	Ken Offenber	Harry and Rebekah Rubenstein	Adam and Sheila Spitz	Libbie Willard
Lisa Strause Levinson	Howard Olshansky	Ilya and Chantal Rubin	Munroe Spivock Rev Trust	Rick and Marci Willenzik
Adam and Kimberly Levy	Judith Oppen	Ryan Rubin	Mark Spizer	Chris and Marcie Williams
Samuel and Linda Levy	Randy Ordan	Edwin and Leslie Rusgo	Pia Stadiem	Bonnie Wilson
Marc and Laura Lewin	Paul and Gwen Orland	Michelle Rusgo	Raymond Stadiem and Agata Rocka	Brad Wine
Robert and Sandy Lewis	Andy Osborne	Nicholle Ruzal-Bron	Allan Stark	Gail Wine
Gary Lieberman	Gale Osborne	Dawn Sakai	Eva Stark	Susan Winski
Faylinda Lindner	Richard Osborne	Scott and Heather Salam	Philip and Lauren Stark	Eric and Joanna Wisotsky
David and Muriel Lintz	Allan and Marcelle Oxman	Nancy Saltwell	Gary and Stephanie Starr	Marc and Kim Wojnowich
Kenneth and Cecile Lipack	Sherry Padva	Marc and Samantha Saltzman	Robert and Maxine Stein	Sandra Wolchok
Marc and Jill Lipson	Lee and Wendy Pake	Marion Samuels	Stan Steinberger	Kim Wolensky
Rick Lipson	Floyd and Brenda Patten	Bernard and Susan Sandler	P. A. Stephens	Nora Wolf
Mike and Sue Littauer	Guy and Audrey Pearlman	Kenneth and Lynn Sass	Gary Stern	Robert and Sandra Wolf
David Little	Penny Pells	Ronald Saunders	Rebecca Stern	Sandra Wolf
Brian Litwak	Fred Peltz	Suzy Savod	Robert and Marsha Stickler	Charles and Karen Wolff
Malone Lockaby	Mark and Harriet Perlin	Jennifer Sawyer	Roger and Susan Stiefel	Rita Wolfsohn
Adam Loeber	Cynthia Perrino	Gretchen Scavo	Robert and Joyce Stoll	David and Cyndi Wolitzky
Kimberly Logan	Sarabeth Perry	Michael Scharf	Ryan and Sivonne Stone	Morris and Geraldine Wolk
Antonio and Zaydee Lopez-Ibanez	Stan Perry	Kenneth and Jane Schorr	Marvin and Judy Stoogenke	Rabbi Michael and Heidi Wolk
Enrique Lopez-Ibanez	Lee and Diggie Pesakoff	Sara Schreibman	Marc Storey	Evan and Robyn Wolkofsky
Robin Loupus	Jared and Rachel Peterson	Jeff and Karen Schwartz	Jeffrey and Stacy Strauch	Barbara Womack
Jeffrey Lurie	Melita Peterson	Jeffrey and Janette Schwartz	Judi Strause	Kyle Worrel and Nathalie Peter
Luski & Associates	Adam and Wendy Petricoff	Linda Schwartz	Donald Strauss	Susan Worrel
Heather Macaulay	Robert and Lisa Pharr	Tyson and Susan Schwartz	Judson Stringfellow	Liron Yaacov Shabtay
Catherine Mahler	Stephen and Laura Philipson	Zachary Schwartz and Sarah Rose	David and Nancy Strunk	Michael and Nancy Yaffe
Glenn and Karen Malar	Sid Pickard	Brad Seader	Linda Stubbs	Steven Yaffe
Julia Malinsky	Rebecca Pierce-Williams	A-J Secrist	Oscar and Shana Suris	Luis and Andrea Yaquian
Gary and Karen Maniloff	Taylor Polk	Amy Sedaka	Ben and Lisa Sutker	Lawrence and Jill Yass
Alan and Pearl Mann	Barbara Pollack	Craig Sedaka	Helen Sztarkman	Taylor Young
Thomas and Bethany Mann	Jonathan Polsky and Joanna Lindenbaum	Randee Sedaka	Adam and Robin Taback	Nancy Yudell
Leonard and Judy Marco	Larry and Dale Polsky	Randi Seffinger	Jason and Jamie Tanenbaum	Michael Zacks
Jan Marmor	Kimmy Poon	Charna Seide	Kara Tanenbaum	Laura Zagoria
Jennifer Marquez	Elisabeth Pordes	Linda Seigel	Andrew and Bonnie Tangalos	Steven and Marsha Zaidman
Linda Marshall	Gedahlia and Leah Portnoy	Lawrence and Stephanie Seitlin	Perry and Sue Tannenbaum	Jeffrey Zaleon
Cheri Martin	Jonathan and Libby Post	Robert and Stacey Selkin	Barbara Tate	Richard and Berry Zander
Michele Martin	Dave and Laura Press	Emma Sepkowitz	Jon Tauber	Jodi Zanolini
Sarah Martin	Tara Price	Richard and Francie Serbin	Sharon Taubman	Max Zeldich
Lisa Martinez	Aaron and Hilary Prosnitz	Victor Seroussi	Lauren Taylor	Melissa Zimmerman
Morgan Martyn	Mary Prosnitz	Eileen Sexton	Steven Teich and Esther Chipps	Samuel and Emily Zimmern
Jonathan and Dina Massachi	Joel and Carol Prystowsky	Liron and Yaacov Shabtay	Lorene Temming	William and Angie Zimmern
Andrea Mcleary	Dave and Kandy Puckett	Vladimir and Nonna Shakhnovich	Temple Beth El Brotherhood	Benjamin Zlatin
Michael and Robbie McGinley	Tony and Mara Purcell	Joan Shall	Temple Emanuel of Gastonia NC	Mark and Stephanie Zubrinsky
Jennifer McIntosh	Andrew and Shayna Putterman	Shalom Club of Sun City Carolina Lakes	Catherine Tepper	Joseph and Lisa Zucker
Teri McRae	Paul and Claire Putterman	Daniel and Debra Shane	Harry and Kathy Tepper	Jonathan and Kerry Zulman
Daniel and Susie Meier	Myriam Rabaste	Harold and Patricia Shapiro	David and Marisa Thalberg	Richard and Colleen Zulman
Stan Meihaus	Daniel and Monica Rabinovich	Phil and Mindy Shapiro	The Alvin Levine Family	
Batsheva Meiri	Douglas Rae	Carol Sharp	The Dinerman Family	
	Michael and Dena Raffler	Laura Shatkin	The Leon Levine Foundation	
	Andrew Rand		The Morse Family	

The logo for the Charlotte Jewish Film Festival is displayed in a large, bold, multi-colored font. The text is arranged in two lines: "CHARLOTTE JEWISH" on the top line and "FILM FESTIVAL" on the bottom line. The letters are in various colors including pink, orange, blue, green, and white, with some letters featuring small star icons. The background is a solid dark grey.

OPENING NIGHT 2024

CHARLOTTE JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL 2024

SEVEN Blessings

"A heartwarming, funny, and moving story of a family's journey to find their roots." — The New York Times

"A beautiful, heartfelt, and funny story of a family's journey to find their roots." — The Hollywood Reporter

FROM THE CREATORS OF HEADSHOTS HOME, THE TALE OF TEAM ISRAEL

ISRAEL

SWINGS FOR GOLD

THE NEW YORK TIMES: "A MOVIE THAT IS AS EMOTIONAL AS IT IS INSPIRING... IT'S A STORY OF A SMALL COUNTRY THAT HAS A BIG HEART." — JEFF LABRECQUE, THE NEW YORK TIMES

A FILM BY MICHAEL LEVY

PRODUCED BY MICHAEL LEVY

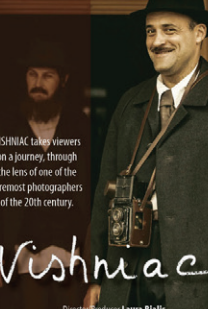
www.israelmovie.com

"An important book, and a hearting story you won't want to forget."
—MAX KIZENE, author of *By Chance Alone*

THE BOY IN THE WOODS

A TRUE STORY OF SURVIVAL
DURING THE SECOND WORLD WAR

MAXWELL SMART



CHARLOTTE JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL 2024

VISHNIAC takes viewers on a journey, through the lens of one of the foremost photographers of the 20th century.

Vishniac

Director/Producer: Laura Bialik
 Executive Producer: Nancy Spielberg
 Producer: Roberta Grossman
 Writer: Sophie Sartain

BASED ON A TRUE STORY

tiff
toronto international film festival

"ABSOLUTELY FASCINATING,
NELISSE IS A REVELATION."

"AUTHENTIC,
BRUTAL, HEARTBREAKING,
AND INSPIRING"

SEP 14 2016

SOPHIE
NELISSE

DOUGRAY
SCOTT

**IRENA'S
VOW**

WRITTEN BY LOUISE ARCHAMBAULT

PRODUCTION DESIGNER: JEFFREY L. KATZ
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY: JEFFREY L. KATZ
EDITED BY: JEFFREY L. KATZ
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS: JEFFREY L. KATZ, JEFFREY L. KATZ
PRODUCED BY: JEFFREY L. KATZ, JEFFREY L. KATZ
SCREENPLAY BY: JEFFREY L. KATZ, JEFFREY L. KATZ
DIRECTED BY: JEFFREY L. KATZ

FANDANGO
A FILM BY AVI NESHER

**THE
MONKEY
HOUSE**

Great *love* requires great *lies*.

CHARLOTTE JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL 2014

WINNER
BEST OF THE FEST
2010

WINNER
BEST OF THE FEST
2011

THE STORY OF
ANNETTE ZELMAN

Directed by: JEFFREY M. HARRIS
Produced by: JEFFREY M. HARRIS
Screenplay by: JEFFREY M. HARRIS
Casting by: JEFFREY M. HARRIS
Cinematography by: JEFFREY M. HARRIS
Editing by: JEFFREY M. HARRIS
Music by: JEFFREY M. HARRIS
Production Designers: JEFFREY M. HARRIS
Executive Producers: JEFFREY M. HARRIS
Producers: JEFFREY M. HARRIS
Director of Photography: JEFFREY M. HARRIS
Casting Director: JEFFREY M. HARRIS
Production Office: JEFFREY M. HARRIS
Post Production: JEFFREY M. HARRIS
Distributor: JEFFREY M. HARRIS

Bella!

THIS WOMAN'S PLACE IS IN
THE HOUSE

Nancy Paine • Wilma Sutton • Barbara Steinwand • Shirley MacLean • Gloria Steinem
Hanna Nahata • Lily Tomlin • Sarah Vander • Phil Donahue • Charles Sargent • Susan Taylor

A Documentary Film
from Wendy Kaminer

THE NEW YORK FILM FESTIVAL
I Am a Woman

BEST ISRAELI BLOCKBUSTER FILM IN 2012



MATCHMAKING
A FILM BY EZZEY TAJMOR

MATCHMAKING with

RENÉE TAYLOR WILLIE ORBISON HALLINDEN

MERV

A FILM BY SAM ROEBLING

To be found, stop hiding.

h Movie Short MERV

[illegible]

GENEVY
1955

LINDA
ALEXANDER

ROBERT
COP

EDITH
BLAZINKA

DONALD
DORFMAN

JOHN
BARQUARO

LOVE ABOVE ALL

MARCH 1968

A FILM BY ROBERT ALTMAN
 CASTING BY JUDITH M. KATZ
 COSTUME DESIGNER JUDITH M. KATZ
 MUSIC BY ROBERT ALTMAN
 EDITOR ROBERT ALTMAN
 PRODUCTION DESIGNER ROBERT ALTMAN
 EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS ROBERT ALTMAN
 PRODUCED BY ROBERT ALTMAN
 WRITTEN BY ROBERT ALTMAN
 DIRECTED BY ROBERT ALTMAN

CHARLOTTE JEWISH
FILM FESTIVAL 2024

IL TRADUTTORE / L'ESTERNO NOTTE

KIDNAPPED

UN FILM DI MARCO BELLOCCHIO

dal 25 MAGGIO AL CINEMA

A FILM BY LEX GILLESPIE

NAPLES 1961
N.Y.

Shavin's
SALAD BAR

THE CATSKIS

EAT. SWIM. EAT. NAP. EAT.

HOME

BASED ON A TRUE STORY

CHARLOTTE JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL 2024

THE CONSULTANT The story of
Arthur J. Finkoelstein

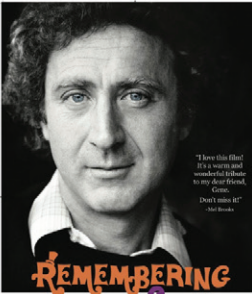


SPONSORED BY THE UNITED
JEWISH COMMUNITY OF CHARLOTTE

The two leading Jewish organizations in Charlotte are proud to co-sponsor the first program in our series of Jewish Film Festivals. We hope you will find this film as enlightening as we do. The film is a must-see for all who are interested in the Jewish community and the world of Jewish film. The film is a must-see for all who are interested in the Jewish community and the world of Jewish film.

אנו שמחים להציג את הסרט הזה כחלק מהסדרה שלנו של פסטיבלי קולנוע יהודיים. אנחנו מקווים שתמצאו את הסרט מעניין ומועיל. הסרט הוא חובה לכל מי שמתעניין בקהילה היהודית ובקולנוע היהודי. הסרט הוא חובה לכל מי שמתעניין בקהילה היהודית ובקולנוע היהודי.

CLOSING NIGHT 2024



**REMEMBERING
GENE WILDER**

"I knew this film.
It's a warm and
wonderful tribute
to my dear friend,
Gene.
Don't make it"
-Clay Aiken

WILDER'S FILM "PETER PAN" WAS A SUCCESS ON BOXOFFICEMOJO.COM, BEATING OUT "THE MONUMENTS MEN" AS THE
"IN THE TOP 100 GROSSING FILMS OF ALL TIME, "PETER PAN" IS THE 10TH GROSSING FILM OF ALL TIME, "PETER PAN"
WILDER'S FILM "PETER PAN" WAS A SUCCESS ON BOXOFFICEMOJO.COM, BEATING OUT "THE MONUMENTS MEN" AS THE

© 2024 THE MONUMENTS MEN. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. THE MONUMENTS MEN IS A REGISTERED TRADEMARK OF THE MONUMENTS MEN. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

Sun, FEB 25 @ 7:30pm
Temple Beth El

FOR MORE INFO & TO PURCHASE PASSES/TICKETS GO TO CHARLOTTEJEWISHFILM.COM

Record-Breaking Attendance at the 2023 JFS Senior Adult Chanukah Party

By Julie Loftis, JFS Marketing Specialist

The 19th Annual Norman Steinberger Senior Adult Chanukah Celebration, hosted by Jewish Family Services (JFS), was a resounding success, drawing a record 155 guests and 24 volunteers. The event featured live performances by students from the Charlotte Jewish Preschool and Charlotte Jewish Day School, video greetings from Hebrew High students, and take-home goodies. Rabbi Wolk of Temple Israel led the chanukiah lighting, with Irving Bienstock, Ruth Goldberg, Daisy Shapiro Rieke, and Julie Shapiro participating in the ceremony. Guests enjoyed lunch and dessert provided by Izzy's Catering and Brookdale Carriage Club, accompanied by a live musical entertainment by Viva Klezmer!. This event, a collaboration between JFS and OASIS at the Levine JCC, was made possible through generous donations from Norman Steinberger (OBM), BlueDot Cares, Connery on Providence, and the Sephardic Foundation on Aging.

The high attendance reflects an increased demand for JFS Senior Engagement Team services over the past year. This rise in requests for senior services, including care management, counseling, friendly visits, Holocaust survivor support, caregiver support, senior programs, and resource connections, mirrors the growing aging population and the challenges of seniors living longer amidst rising living costs.

Sheryl Gerrard, JFS senior engagement manager and former psychologist, holds a certification in gerontology and is a dementia practitioner. She oversees the development and execution of programs and ser-



Left to Right Rabbi Wolk, Julie Shapiro, Daisy Shapiro Rieke, Ruth Goldberg, Irving Bienstock

vices for senior adults across the greater Charlotte area, ensuring diverse offerings and authentic Jewish experiences for independent seniors and those in residential communities, including local Holocaust survivors and their families. As a community resource expert, Sheryl provides support and guidance for care planning. She also serves on the board of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Council on Aging. "Supporting adults through the aging process, whether they are seeking resources for themselves or as caregivers, is an honor," says Gerrard. "People often turn to us in great need, and we have the opportunity to guide them from crisis to stability."

Ruth King and Tracee Morrisette, full-time JFS case managers, assist independent adults over 60 in Mecklenburg County and Jewish seniors throughout

the greater Charlotte area. They connect clients with social opportunities, transportation, and homecare providers. Both bring extensive experience in the aging industry to JFS. According to Tracee, "I was drawn to this position at JFS because I get to work with my favorite population — seniors! My favorite thing about JFS is that the people here love the people they help and go out of their way for them." King added, "It is an opportunity to continue working with senior adults, but in a different capacity than I had in the past. It has been great to get to meet so many new senior adults in the Charlotte area, to provide resources that allow them to stay as independent as possible for as long as possible, and to build ongoing relationships with them."

Amanda Levine, a JFS clinical therapist with a master's degree in social work, specializes in geriatric mental health. She focuses on senior-specific health issues and aging challenges, including life transitions, grief, loss, stress, depression, isolation, anxiety, and family relationship management. She shares that "few people are prepared to deal with aging-related issues. I view my role as one of educator, partner, and advocate, assisting clients in navigating resources and encouraging them to become their own advocates."

For more information about JFS senior adult programs, services, and caregiver support, visit jfscharlotte.org or call (704) 364-6594.



Jewish Family
SERVICES

Engaging • Connecting • Healing

Jewish Family Services Volunteers & Donors December 2023

Volunteers: Jessica Alfandary, Marcia Arnholt, Mike Arnholt, Daniel Benjamin, Andrew Bernstein, Suzy Catenazzo, Dan Coblentz, Jonathan Collman, Andrea Cronson, Julie Dermack, Joni Deutsch, Sheryl Effren, Terri Fishman, Rachel Friedman, Robert Friedman, Meredith Gartner, Richard Goldsmith, Jennifer Golynsky, Laurie Good, Gail Halverson, Rebecca Hockfield, Oren Hubara, Tara Hubara, Dawn Hubbs, Bob Jacobson, Rikki Kinitzky, Etti Krausse, Jennifer Koss, Elliot and Stephanie Kreitman, Marcia Lampert, Eric Lerner, Kim Levy, Adina Loewenstein, Matt Luftglass, Gene Marx, Frada Mozenter, Barbara Rein, Nina Rose, Marilyn Schuster, Janice Shubin, Cindy Siesel, Louis Sinkoe, Harry Sparks, Lorin Steifel, Steve Teich, Gail Vogel, Nancy Wielunski, Amanda Zaidman

Chanukah Party Volunteers: Jessica Alfandary, Dan Coblentz, Jimmy Clonaris, Melissa Duller, Rob Friedman, Estee Gelband, Richard Goldsmith, Leon Golynsky, Jennifer Golynsky, Etti Krausse, Eric Lerner, Susan Lerner, Kim Levy, Matt Luftglass, Laura Milgrim, Nina Rose, Sandy Rose, Sarah Rose,

Lynne Sheffer, Teresa Singer, Marc Sokolowicz, Luis Yaquian, Jeff Zaleon, Barry Woll,

Special Thanks: Charlotte Jewish Preschool, Charlotte Jewish Day School, Hebrew High, Brookdale Carriage Club for participating in the senior adult Chanukah party

Mitzvah Baskets: The Kahn family in honor of Michael Kahn's bar mitzvah

Food Drives: Sun City Shalom Club, Temple Beth El SPICE group

Hadassah Meal Preppies: June Hirschmann, Penny Krieger, Donna Lerner, Yvette Jacobson, Elissa Vining

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

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

Jewish Family Services Tributes December 2023

Happy Anniversary
Susan and Eric Lerner
Paul and Lynn Edelstein

Happy Birthday
Burt Greenspon
Burt and Donna Greenspon
Gary Levinson
Stuart and Carolyn Hennes
Elise Menaker
Gloria Lerner
Paul and Lynn Edelstein
Harry Lerner
Paul and Lynn Edelstein
Larry Polsky
Paul and Marcia Simon
Claire Putterman
Adam Bernstein and Tammy Seigel
Harry Sparks
Gale and Tim Boonstra

Happy Chanukah
Michael Goldberg
Ruth Goldberg
Ashley Hayward
Ruth Goldberg

In Honor of
Milton Berkman on the 70th Anniversary of his bar mitzvah
Mimi Frank

The marriage of Teri Seidman and Herb Verbesey
M.E. Hessberg

In Memory of
Shirley Aron
Alan and Lee Blumenthal
Raisa Bunich
Amherst Green Neighbors
Diyana Dobbertein
Emily and Will Johnson
Niki Simmons
Jeff and Emily Vaughan
Dr. Elliot Martin Eisenstein
Alan and Merle Gottheim
Ron and Janice Weiner
David B. Glass
Stan Greenspon
Anita Hollander
Jack and Suzie Desarno
Irene "Renee" Hyman
Eugene and Bonnie Musicus
Paul Lavitt
Paul and Lynn Edelstein
Norman Mehlman
Paul and Lynn Edelstein
Wendy Yudell Rose
The Yudells — Anne, Nancy, Sherry, Emily
Jay Sara
Gary Silverstein
Sandra Weinstein
Stan Greenspon

REFINE
MORTGAGE

SHOPPING TO GET YOU THE
BEST DEAL



PAUL MATTOS

Mortgage Advisor | NMLS# 2339069

(980) 221-4959

www.CarolinaHomeFinancing.com

PaulM@RefineMortgage.net

115 Stone Village Drive, Suite D
Fort Mill, SC 29708

Refine Mortgage Inc. NMLS# 2417960 | Equal Housing Lender. Contact Refine Mortgage for more information and up-to-date rates.

Religious Life

Uptown Chabad Celebrates Record-Breaking Chanukah Event and Fundraising Success

By Rabbi Motti Groner

As the year drew to a close, Uptown Chabad celebrated remarkable achievements in attendance and fundraising. The community witnessed an extraordinary Chanukah event and a highly successful year-end crowdfunding campaign that exceeded all expectations.

Chanukah Event Draws Record Crowd

Uptown Chabad's 6th annual "Drinks + Dreidels" Chanukah celebration marked a historic turnout, with over 180 young professionals gathering at Club Vine at Ink N Ivy. The event, featuring an open bar, traditional latkes, donuts, dreidel games, and a Chanukiah lighting cere-

mony, was the largest yet.

A highlight was the distribution of over 40 chanukiot kits to those in need, embodying the Chanukah spirit and demonstrating Uptown Chabad's growing support within the Charlotte Jewish community.

Fundraising Campaign Surpasses Goal

Launched on December 10, Uptown Chabad's annual crowdfunding campaign, with dollar-for-dollar matches up to \$40,000 from benefactors including Gary and Jodi Michel, Mark Roth, the Lipsitz family, and other friends, aimed to support community programs and

initiatives.

Exceeding expectations, the campaign reached over \$80,000 in just five days, doubling the previous year's goal. The yearly campaign not only serves as a financial pillar for Uptown Chabad but also acts as a powerful motivator, inspiring young professionals to actively participate in philanthropy and community-building initiatives. The success of this year's campaign reflects the growing sense of responsibility and engagement within our community, highlighting the impact of collective efforts in fostering a vibrant and supportive environment.



Rabbi Motti Groner leads the Chanukiah lighting

Looking Ahead

In 2023, Uptown Chabad reached over 440 young professionals and a total of 1,968 event attendees. We are grateful for our community's support and look forward to continued growth, involvement, and the spirit of giving that defines our success.





VR BUSINESS SALES
MERGERS & ACQUISITIONS

Selling a Business?

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



Adam Petricoff
VR Charlotte

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

apetricoff@vrcharlotte.com

www.vrcharlotte.com



Emma Sepkowitz, Gabe Gorelick, Will Moskowitz, Amos Sepkowitz

Chabad Celebrates Chanukah With "Unite With Light" Concert Featuring Nissim Black

By Rabbi Levi Cohen

Chabad's annual "Unite with Light" Chanukah celebration, held uptown at the Le Meridien, was a resounding success, featuring the electrifying Nissim Black. As an African American convert to Judaism now living an Orthodox lifestyle in Israel, Nissim brought a unique perspective, turning his performance into a journey through his remarkable life story. On stage, dressed in a white Chassidic-style jacket and top hat against the backdrop of a giant menorah and dreidel, Nissim's presence bridged over 2,000 years, connecting us to the proud and joyous Jewish spirit of the Maccabees.

The event, attended by over 600 people including children and young adults, was not just about entertainment. Attendees deeply connected with Nissim Black's message. The energy in the room surged as he performed hits like "Eight Flames," "Hashem Melech," and "Higher." His music, a blend of modern R&B, delivered lyrics that spoke to the soul's yearning for a connection with its creator, embracing identity, and exploring timeless themes.



Nissim Black

A highlight of the evening was the energetic performance by the Charlotte Jewish Day School students. As Nissim started "Eight Flames," the kids took to the stage in dance, breaking down barriers between performer and audience. The crowd's enthusiastic response added an extra layer of joy and communal spirit to the event. And in a touching moment, Charlotte's Chief of Police, Johnny Jennings, addressed the crowd, offering words of support for the Jewish community. The "Unite with Light" Cha-

nukah Concert transcended a mere musical celebration, evolving into a collective experience that united the Charlotte Jewish community in a shared celebration of faith, joy, and cultural diversity. It was a night that not only entertained but also strengthened the bonds of community and heritage.



YALE HAYMOND LAW PLLC

Personal Injury Law Firm

Free Consultation

704-800-HELP

"WHEN IT REALLY COUNTS"



YALEHAYMONDLAW.COM

LICENSED IN NC & SC

Religious Life

Making a Difference for Youth, Families, and Our Communities

By Judy Coco

"How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!" (Psalm 133:1)

In today's unsettling times, the unity of people from diverse backgrounds, faiths, and beliefs for a common good can be a powerful force. "Dancing for Future Stars," the largest annual fundraiser for the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Gaston, exemplifies this unity by bringing together Gaston County community leaders to make a difference. Among these leaders is Rose Planer, a member of Temple Beth El, who is actively building bridges in a community with a small Jewish population. Rose is participating as one of the celebrity dancers in the upcoming event. The event pairs eight local "celebrities" with professional dancers to perform ballroom and freestyle routines. These celebrities raise funds through sponsorships, ticket sales, and donations.

Anna Furr, executive vice president and CFO of the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Gaston, commends the courage of the celebrity dancers. "We appreciate their bravery to put themselves out there, in front of their community. They've committed time



Rose Planer

and an evening to do something that will have a life-long impact for so many," she shared.

The Boys & Girls Club provides a safe, affordable place for young people during non-school hours and summer. Its mission is to inspire and enable young people, especially those at risk, to realize their full potential as productive, responsible, and caring citizens. Through enrichment programs, the Club fosters good character, academic success, and healthy lifestyles, nurturing "future stars." With trained professionals and vol-

unteers, the Club offers homework help, mentoring, emotional support, and social interactions. Notably, 69% of the kids come from single-parent households, and 99% receive free or reduced lunch. The impact is significant, with 92% of Club members advancing to the next grade level.

Now in its 14th year, each iteration of the event has increasingly impacted the work done with Gaston County's kids. From raising \$50,000 in its first year, the event now garners over \$500,000, enabling the Boys & Girls Club to serve more kids, offer higher quality programming, provide transportation to more schools, and continually grow in all areas of its mission.

Rose Planer, a licensed mental health practitioner, is no stranger to making a difference. She has dedicated herself to tikkun olam (repairing and improving the world). Rose has worked with many at-risk youth who rely on organizations like the Boys & Girls Club. For the past seven years, she served on the board of the Jamie Kimble Foundation for Courage, collaborating with teens across Mecklenburg County to create an annual healthy dating relationships campaign with Carowinds. Currently, as a consultant for Hope United Survivor Network, she is developing a youth healthy relationships

project in Gaston County.

As a celebrity dancer, Rose is not just performing; she's building bridges with others who share a commitment to making a difference for youth, families, and the community. You can join others in supporting Rose at the "Dancing for Future Stars" event on March 23, 2024. For support

options, including tickets or sponsorship opportunities, visit <https://bit.ly/GCDFS>.



Jewish Values in Action: Repro Shabbat

By Nicole Sidman

On Friday, Feb. 9, Temple Beth El will join synagogues nationwide in observing Repro Shabbat. Initiated by the National Council of Jewish Women in 2021, this annual event celebrates the Jewish value of reproductive freedom. Repro Shabbat aligns with Parashat Mishpatim, the Torah portion containing verses foundational to Judaism's stance on reproductive health, rights, and justice.

Rabbi Lexi Erdheim emphasizes the event's significance: "Centering a Shabbat experience around reproductive rights and justice affirms that every human being, created b'tzelem Elohim, in the image of God, has a sacred right to control their own bodies, lives, and futures."

Repro Shabbat has seen a significant increase in observance among synagogues and Jewish communities, growing four-fold since its inception. This year, Temple Beth El is proud to partner with the Girls Just Want to Have Choices TriBE, co-led by Crissa Klein and Anik Harrison. Klein shares her connection: "From a young age, my mother taught me the importance of

championing women's rights, including healthcare access. Informed decisions about our bodies and medical choices, deeply rooted in Jewish teachings, should be accessible to all. Post-Dobbs decision, our TriBE, in collaboration with Temple Beth El, is committed to advocating for reproductive rights as a core part of our religion."

The evening will begin with a worship service led by the Girls Just Wanna Have Choices TriBE, followed by an oneg and a screening of "Under G-d," an official selection of the 2023 Sundance Film Festival. This documentary examines the national Jewish response to the overturning of Roe v. Wade and explores religious freedom's role in reproductive justice.

We invite you to join this crucial conversation and film screening. To register, please visit www.bit.ly/reproshabbat23.



...We gladly help you to design your new garage door

NEW YEAR NEW GARAGE

Taking your expectations higher

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

There is a story behind every Smile..



We'd like to be a part of yours

**Smile
CHARLOTTE**

Drs. Rodney and Berman



704-377-2503
www.SmileCharlotte.com

**NEW PATIENTS ALWAYS
WELCOME!**

Religious Life

Navigating Jewish Identity in the Carolinas During the Winter Holidays

By Laurabree Monday
“What do you want for Christmas?”
“What are you asking Santa for this year?”
“Are you ready for Christmas?”

These questions may seem innocent enough, but for children in the Carolinas, where being Jewish is a minority experience, these questions can be loaded and challenging.

My son, approaching his bar mitzvah, has always been quick to share his Jewish identity. Last year in 6th grade, he created a PowerPoint presentation titled, “Things You Should Know if a Kid in Your Class is Jewish?” It spanned over five slides, covering basic Chanukah questions and some age-appropriate jokes. At its core, it was a proud expression of his heritage, well-received by classmates and teachers. He’s the first to pull out his “Happy Llamakkah” sweater for Wear a Tacky Sweater Day (he’s worn it so much this past season that it will be making a trip to the dry cleaners)!

Similarly, my brother has

always worn his Star of David necklace, a constant even during his college swim meets in Wisconsin. Growing up in the Northeast, we were less conscious of being a minority. However, a visit to a small town in Indiana during college, where I was advised to hide my Star of David necklace due to a nearby Ku Klux Klan rally, was a stark reminder of the challenges of openly displaying Jewish symbols. I



Happy Llamakkah

never saw any signs of the rally, but the memory of that conversation has stayed with me. It was honestly the first time that it had ever come up in a setting that left me nervous about being Jewish.

My 10-year-old daughter, while proud of her Judaism, is more cautious. When asked about Christmas wishes, I see the hesitation in her eyes as she decides how to respond. Both of my children agree that the answer often depends on the asker. We’ve always told them that whatever response they’re comfortable with is the right one. Even as an adult, I find myself weighing my answers. A Jewish counselor and mom friend of mine suggests responding based on comfort and safety, emphasizing that there is no wrong way to respond.

Interestingly, responding to “Merry Christmas” wishes is simpler. We either say it back or offer a “Happy Holidays.” It’s the direct questions about Christmas preparations that give pause. We enjoy the Christmas season, even vol-



Different faiths intersect

unteering to ring the Salvation Army Red Kettle Bell, with my son playing Christmas carols on his clarinet. So, are we ready for Christmas? In a perfect world, everyone could answer this honestly, but it’s also okay to have reservations.

If our approach resonates with you, consider visiting Temple Solel. We welcome members and guests with open arms, valuing presence, enthusiasm, talents, and involvement over annual dues. We meet at 7 p.m.

on the 2nd and 4th Friday of every month at Grace Presbyterian Church, 2955 W. Highway 160 in Fort Mill. For more about our services and events, visit templesolelsc.org or call (803) 610-1707. We’d love to meet you.



An Experienced Family Law Legal Team Providing Personalized Solutions For Simple To Complex Litigation Cases.



Alan. R. Krusch



Amy R. Howard



David M. Krusch

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

Plumides, Romano & Johnson, PC
PRJlaw.com
DIVORCE • SEPARATION • ALIMONY • CHILD SUPPORT • CHILD CUSTODY • EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION • PRE/POST-NUPS
2115 Rexford Road, Suite 320, Charlotte NC 28211 P. 704.333.9900 F. 704.358.0536

Religious Life

Temple Kol Ami Welcomes Guest Clergy

By Shari Baum

Temple Kol Ami looks forward to a series of special events and guests that will enrich our congregation's experience in 2024. We are delighted to announce that Cantor Mary Rebecca Thomas, formerly of Temple Beth El, will lead our Kabbalat Shabbat services on Feb. 2 and March 1 at 7 p.m. at Philadelphia United Methodist Church in Fort Mill, South Carolina. The February 2 service, marking our celebration of Shabbat Shira, the



Cantor Mary Rebecca Thomas

ed to be planning a variety of events including a Purim party, community Passover seder, Holocaust memorial lecture, and more. Our Sisterhood and Youth Group are also planning some fantastic activities. All events are generally open to the public, so we encourage you to keep an eye on our website for updates. We are committed to continuing to build and strengthen our Jewish

community in the Greater York County area.

If you live in York County or the Ballantyne/South Charlotte area, Temple Kol Ami may be the place for you! We are a warm and inclusive Reform congregation comprised of Jews from diverse backgrounds. We have in-person Shabbat services generally on the first and third Fridays of the month. We hope you will join

us in 2024 and find your Jewish home in our community! For more information, contact us at yorksynagogue@gmail.com.



Rabbi Ana Bonnheim

Sabbath of Song, promises to be a highlight as we anticipate the joy of Cantor Thomas's beautiful voice in prayer. Additionally, Rabbi Ana Bonnheim will be joining us for select services throughout the year. For specific dates, please visit our calendar at www.templekolamisc.org.

Alongside our bi-monthly Shabbat services, we're excit-

Havurat Tikvah to Hold Zoom Kabbalat Shabbat Services

On Feb. 16 Havurat Tikvah will hold Zoom Kabbalat Shabbat services beginning at 6:30 p.m. Afterward, participants will join together for kiddush at their respective locations. For those who wish to participate in the service, email info@havurattikvah.org by Feb. 15 at noon to RSVP and receive the link.

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

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

Havurat Tikvah is an affiliate of Reconstructing Judaism.

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

vah.org. Havurat Tikvah is also on Facebook at facebook.com/groups/havurattikvah/.



Daniel A. Lewis

Family Law Attorney

DRC - Certified Family Financial Mediator

Collaborative Divorce Professional

Assisting clients in resolving family law disputes since 2005

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

Named to *The Best Lawyers in America*® for Family Law (2019 – 2024)

Proud Member of the
Charlotte Jewish Community Since 2010

Tin Fulton Walker & Owen, PLLC

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

JOIN US!

templesolelsc.org

@TempleSolelSC

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

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



TEMPLE SOLEL
Fort Mill SC

Services: 2nd & 4th Fridays | 7 PM

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

templeisraelinc.org

Our House. **Your Home.**





YOM GEMILUT HASADIM

A Day Performing Acts of Loving Kindness

Sunday March 3, 2024
10 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Temple Israel

During YGH, the entire Temple Israel community comes together to help others. By participating in Mitzvah projects, we will be sharing in Tikkun Olam (repairing the world). This is a wonderful opportunity for Adults, Youth and Families to get involved and make a difference in our community.

There will be many on-site Mitzvah Projects at Temple Israel along with a great off-site project – all of them focused on making a positive impact on the lives of those in need.

See templeisraelinc.org for details.

SAVE THE DATE



Celebrate Purim at Temple Israel

Saturday, March 23, 8 p.m.

Details Coming Soon



Bal Tashchit and Beyond: Reduce Your Footprint, Grow Your Handprint

By Summer Minchew

Most people dream of having a positive impact on the world. In fact, as Jews, the concept of tikkun olam (repairing the world) and acts of service are central to our belief system. But there are days when the brokenness of our world, and the pain and uncertainty are overwhelming. It can become all too easy to fall into a cycle of thinking, "I am just one person, what is the point of even trying?" In times like these, I am reminded that we are called to pursue justice, and we are reminded that we are capable. Rather than relying on God to repair the world, Judaism compels each of us to take action.

You can make a positive difference by choosing a career that helps children, advocating for underserved communities, and giving tzedakah. And while all efforts to repair the world are worthy, we should be reminded that climate change is arguably the biggest crisis our planet is facing right now, and we have the power to help.

By now, most of us have heard of the term environmental footprint. As a refresher, an environmental footprint is the sum of all

the negative effects on the planet, of all the activities it takes to provide each of us with the products and services we buy and use in a year, including the effects from using and disposing of them.

Our environmental footprint comprises our carbon footprint and our water footprint. Our carbon footprint helps us remain conscientious about the greenhouse gases associated with our day-to-day activities such as commuting, powering our homes, and growing and cooking the food we eat. Our water footprint measures not only the water we use and consume but also the water used to produce the products we buy.

We can all work to shrink our environmental footprint. Here are some easy ways:

- Use LED bulbs.
- Buy local produce.
- Take shorter showers.
- Reduce, reuse, recycle.
- Cut out plastic.

But is doing less bad actually repairing the world? What if I told you that you can go one step further? Instead of simply reducing your impact on the environment, you can start having a positive one. Enter the concept

of the environmental handprint, introduced by Gregory A. Norris, director of the sustainability and health initiative for NetPositive Enterprise at MIT. According to Norris, "Handprints were discovered and defined in the context of efforts to create positive change."

A contribution that causes positive change in the world, including reductions to your own or somebody else's footprint, is a "handprint." Here is an example. When you replace your water bottle with a reusable one, you reduce your footprint. When you give a reusable water bottle to your friend, you reduce their footprint. These positive benefits that you create are part of your handprint.

Here are some easy ways to create handprints:

- Place new recycling bins around your school or office, increasing the amount of paper, plastic, glass, or metal that gets recycled by your colleagues.
- Switch all the office printers to double-sided printing, reducing company printer paper waste.
- Plant a tree; it will draw down CO2 and promote biodiversity. The shade from the tree

may encourage outdoor time, providing human health benefits.

- Pay attention to the handprints of manufacturers of products you purchase. Buy from B Corporation certified businesses or support farmers practicing regenerative agriculture.

- Start a carpool in your neighborhood or with sports teammates.

- Participate in a river or beach cleanup.

Our handprint includes the "ripple effects" of our actions. One of my favorite things about being involved with Shalom Green is the handprints I see in our community. For example, let's say you volunteered two hours in the Shalom Park Community Garden during one of Shalom Green's workdays. You enjoyed being out in the garden that day, but maybe you didn't realize the ripple effect of your service. The seeds you planted grew to become carrots that were then donated to Jewish Family Services' food pantry. Those carrots were distributed to more than 50 individuals who otherwise may not have received any fresh vegetables that week. Your volunteer efforts also in-

spired Shalom Green to start their Pe'ah Forward program to engage those who grow at home to give excess produce from "the corners of their fields" to the food pantry, expanding total giving by up to 30%.

I love the concept of handprints because they represent the benefits of our presence. If footprints are what we unavoidably take from the earth, handprints are what we intentionally give. It inspires a sense of hope for our shared planet, that our handprints can influence others, causing changes that wouldn't have happened without our actions. That is tikkun olam. The possibilities are endless. The key is to begin.

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

MIDDLE C JAZZ PRESENTS:

"GOTTA MOVE!"

SUNDAY,
FEBRUARY

18

6:00 PM

Shira Lissek
sings the music of
Barbra Streisand
with the
Noel Freidline Band

MIDDLE
C
JAZZ



USE CODE:
CANTORLISSEK
AT
CHECKOUT
FOR 10% OFF
TICKETS!



North Carolina Holocaust Foundation Addresses the Rise of Antisemitism

By Mitch Rifkin, Chief Executive Officer, North Carolina Holocaust Foundation

The North Carolina Holocaust Foundation has been actively engaged in developing and implementing new educational programs aimed at addressing the tremendous rise in antisemitic incidents, particularly in our public schools. In a startling revelation, the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction has received a 400% increase in reported antisemitic events in schools between October 2022 and October 2023.

In response to this alarming trend, the Holocaust Foundation launched specialized classes for Jewish middle and high school students in January. These classes focus on teaching students how to effectively respond to antisemitic incidents at school.

In 2023, the Holocaust Foundation achieved a significant milestone by introducing a new curriculum on Holocaust education to all public schools from grades 6 through 12. The Foundation has already trained over 3,000 teachers on how to use the curriculum and has equipped each teacher with the necessary methods and knowledge to effectively deliver this curriculum to their students.

Another notable endeavor by the Holocaust Foundation, supported by the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte, is the organization of the fifth annual teacher bus trip to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington D.C. This educational excursion, expected to host 36 teachers in an all-expenses paid four-day trip, is part of the Foundation's ongoing efforts to enhance Holocaust education for teachers.

The Holocaust Foundation is also in the process of finalizing

its website, which will serve as a comprehensive resource for information on past and upcoming programs, including webinars and in-person teacher workshops. Additionally, a monthly newsletter has been developed to keep the community informed and engaged with the Foundation's activities and programs.

The increase in antisemitic incidents at schools has led to a surge in requests for the Foundation's resources, including exhibits, books, plays, and speakers. In response, the Foundation's exhibits program reached over 600 schools and Foundation speakers have visited over 500 classrooms and schools in 2023. Further, the Foundation invested over \$15,000 in 2023 to

purchase classroom sets of books to support Holocaust education.

These initiatives underscore the Foundation's commitment to combat antisemitism through education and awareness, ensuring that the lessons of the Holocaust of inclusion and acceptance continue to resonate and inspire action against hate and bigotry.

If you have questions, please contact me at rif121@carolina.rr.com or (704) 607-3936.



**McEwen Funeral Service
Pineville Chapel**



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

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



Arthur Lustig	2/12/1939	-	11/29/2023
Denyse Benesowitz	11/6/1947	-	12/13/2023
Jeffrey Poelvoorde	9/12/1952	-	12/26/2023
Vladimir Shakhnovich	3/8/1943	-	12/27/2023

**Tradition
and
dignity.
Give your
legacy
the perfect
setting.**



**Hebrew Cemetery
of Greater Charlotte**
Honor • Celebrate • Embrace
www.hebrewcemetery.org



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



Making an Impact: “Seeing Auschwitz” Exhibit in Charlotte Has New Dates

Editor's Note: This article is a reprint from the November CJN. The dates for the Seeing Auschwitz Exhibit have been updated.

By Mary Eshet

Auschwitz was the largest center of human extermination in the history of mankind. As record numbers of visitors explore this historic site in Poland today, a new opportunity has emerged to bring the historical and societal repercussions of Auschwitz to the world. “Seeing Auschwitz” is the world’s first touring photographic exhibit that allows us to bear witness to this history at a local level. The Stan Greenspon Holocaust and Social Justice Education Center at Queens University is proud to host this world-renowned exhibit on its North American debut from February 9- April 15, 2024, at the VAPA Center in uptown Charlotte.

The largest and most lethal of all of the extermination and concentration camps established by Nazi Germany, Auschwitz was central to the Nazi plan to eradicate all the Jews in Europe, as well as to persecute other victim groups. Between 1940 and 1945, at least 1,100,000 people were killed in Auschwitz through a process of systematic and industrialized mass murder. Boys and girls, women and men, most of them Jewish of different nationalities, were deported there, numbered, dehumanized, humiliated, and murdered. Other groups of victims included Poles, Roma and Sinti, Soviet POWs, and minorities of other backgrounds.

“Seeing Auschwitz” com-

prises a collection of 100 photographs of the camp that have survived to the present day, with an audio guide that includes testimonies from survivors. The 60 to 75-minute experience consists of images captured by perpetrators, victims, and liberators, which are presented not just as proof of the mass genocide but as a startling glimpse into the human lives lost.

The photographs come from an album discovered by a Holocaust survivor in the aftermath of World War II. The Auschwitz Album contained 193 images documenting the arrival of people at the death camp, and the selection of those to be sent to the gas chambers. The pictures were taken over a three-month period in 1944, when about 400,000 people, almost all Jews, were killed at Auschwitz. In total, 1.1 million people were murdered there.

The photographers, most likely SS men Ernst Hofmann and Bernhard Walter, were open about their role, sometimes standing in an elevated position such as the roof of a train, for better composition and perspective. “There’s nothing clandestine about these images,” said Paul Salmons, chief curator of the exhibit. “What we’re seeing in these images is the gaze of the killer. When we see people arriving or being sorted, what we’re seeing is what they want us to see – an efficient process, something they’re proud of.”

The exhibit came to be as part of the Holocaust and the United Nations Outreach Programme, which was established by United



Nations General Assembly Resolution 60/7, with a simple and stark aim: to “mobilize civil society for Holocaust remembrance and education, in order to help to prevent future acts of genocide.” The “Seeing Auschwitz” exhibition was originally developed for the United Nations’ observance of the International Day of Commemoration in 2020 in memory of the victims of the Holocaust.

The “Seeing Auschwitz” exhibit is an original creation by Musealia, a Spanish organization dedicated to exploring powerful stories through exhibitions, in collaboration with the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum, the United Nations, and UNESCO. A panel of curators of renowned experts in the history of the camp and education of the Holocaust was brought together to prepare it.

Most recently, the exhibit has been in South Africa. Catherine Boyd, head of education for the Johannesburg Holocaust & Genocide Centre (JHGC), finds the exhibit essential for schools,

not only in terms of the historical content but also because of how it leads the visitor to critically analyze the photographs and compare them with other available resources. “‘Seeing Auschwitz’ really is about letting the learners make the connections and come up with their own responses to learning about the Holocaust,” she said.

The Greenspon Center plans to make the exhibit available to all Charlotte area students in grades 7–12 for free. “The exhibit will offer an incredible learning experience for students, and provide an impactful resource for teachers as they fulfill the requirement of the new North Carolina mandate to teach about the Holocaust,” said Judy La Pietra, associate director of the Greenspon Center.

One 13-year-old visitor to the London exhibit spoke of its

impact: “Thank you for helping me to discover a part of myself I never knew I had. I leave this space a young educated black woman who wants to change the world into a better place. More people need to be taught about this because it’s a part of us and not knowing is like not knowing yourself.”

The exhibit will ask visitors to make connections between multiple histories and between the past and contemporary human rights, urging visitors to understand the consequences of prejudice, “othering,” and indifference to prevent the recurrence of mass atrocities and genocide in all its forms. An adult visitor said, “It was really the most thought-provoking and movingly simple exhibition I have ever been to. Consisting of ‘no more’ than photographs and a few sketches, it brought home, as no other exhibition on the subject has, the enormity of man’s inhumanity to man and the extraordinary resilience of the human spirit.”

Exhibit hours will be Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Thursday, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m., and Sunday 12 p.m. - 5 p.m. from Feb. 9-April 15. Tickets will be available for purchase. The audio guide is free of charge and accessible from your mobile phone. Parking at the VAPA Center is free to the public.

QUEENS
UNIVERSITY OF CHARLOTTE

**Stan Greenspon
Holocaust and Social Justice
Education Center**

SEEING AUSCHWITZ

Charlotte, North Carolina

February 9 - April 15



Seeing Auschwitz is an exhibit to critically analyze the photographic evidence of Auschwitz. Created by Musealia together with the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum and in collaboration with the UN and UNESCO, it incorporates 100 photographs, sketches, and testimonies from the German Nazi camp Auschwitz and the Holocaust, with an audio guide that includes testimonies from survivors.

This exhibit is proudly hosted by The Stan Greenspon Holocaust and Social Justice Education Center at Queens University for the first time in North America.

Tickets and information:
seeingauschwitz.com/charlotte



QUEENS
UNIVERSITY OF CHARLOTTE

Stan Greenspon
Holocaust and Social Justice
Education Center

Women's News

Heart Health Insights from Hadassah Hospital

By Aileen Greenberg-Kriner

In November, a patient arrived by helicopter at Hadassah Hospital Ein Kerem in critical and unstable condition after a helicopter flight from southern Israel. He was a 52-year-old resident of Sderot, a town close to the Gaza border, and had spent many hours sitting still in a safe room sheltering from Hamas missile attacks. After an extended time in the safe room, he began to have difficulty breathing,

but didn't think it was serious or life-threatening since he was a healthy person. Once it was safe, his family evacuated to Eilat along with many other residents. Over the next few days, he didn't feel well and went to the hospital in Eilat. The doctors found that he had a pulmonary embolism, which was blocking blood flow to his lungs. They arranged to fly him to Hadassah Hospital Ein Kerem in Jerusalem.

As soon as the patient arrived

at Hadassah Hospital, a team of doctors mobilized to perform a cardiac catheterization on the critically ill patient and successfully dissolved the blood clot. The patient's condition immediately improved. This was the first documented case of developing a pulmonary embolism from sitting in a safe room for too long. Prof. Eyal Herzog, head of the cardiology department at Hadassah Hospital Ein Kerem, noted, "The phenomenon is identical

to that described in the medical literature regarding people who fly on long flights. Even in a safe room, it is important to get up and move around as much as possible." This significant learning can save many lives in Israel as thousands of people are forced to stay in safe rooms for a long periods.

While we are fortunate to be safe here in Charlotte, the importance of heart health remains universally relevant. The lessons learned from Hadassah Hospital Ein Kerem about the risks of prolonged immobility are a reminder for all of us to be mindful of our cardiovascular health, regardless of our circumstances. February is National Heart Health Month, a month-long initiative to raise awareness of heart health and cardiovascular disease prevention. As we learned from the doctors at Hadassah Hospital Ein Kerem, it is critical to understand risk factors and prioritize prevention.

Hadassah's Healthy Heart Event

Join your Hadassah Charlotte Metro friends on Sunday, Feb. 4 at 2 p.m. as we celebrate "G-d, Israel, and our Hearts; A Seder for Tu B'Shevat (New Year of the Trees)". Experience how the Seven Species of Israel – wheat, barley, grapes, figs, pomegranates, olive oil, and (date) honey -- can promote a healthy heart. Helene Schilian is planning a wonderful Tu B'Shevat Seder with an amazing array of good food and great company. Your event fee of \$18 will help Hadassah and Jewish National Fund (JNF) plant trees in the Hadassah Shade Tree Garden at the Eshkol Resilience Center in Israel.



Mark Your Calendar

... for an educational program with our local city and county officials on February 25 about how to effectively advocate against antisemitism and for Israel.

... for Purim Bingo, on March 10 at 2 p.m.

... to donate generously to our Help Rebuild Israel No Show Event during March.

Visit our website for details and to sign up for these events.

Monthly Happenings

Hadassah Wine & Schmooze on Feb. 6 at 7:00 p.m. at Vintner Wine Market in the Arboretum. Join us!

Short Story Discussion Group meets at 11:45 a.m. on Friday, Feb. 9 via Zoom to discuss Sylvia's Spoon, by Michelle Brafman, on page 31 of "Frankly Feminist: Short Stories by Jewish Women".

Hadassah BookTalk will discuss "The Night Travelers" by Armando Lucas Correa at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 27 via Zoom. Our March selection is "People of the Book" by Geraldine Brooks.

Helpful Info

To learn about membership, contact Laurie Sheinhaus at the phone number or email below, or come to one of our events.

Our website, www.hadassah-cltevents.org, has details and registration links for our events. If you have questions or need additional information, email HadassahCLT@gmail.com or call our general phone number, (980) 553-1880. Follow us on Facebook (Hadassah CLT Metro) and Instagram (Hadassah Charlotte Metro).

Hadassah Southern Seaboard Invites You to Support Our

Misheberach Scroll

(prayer for strength and healing)

for Israel's Missing and Wounded

A general misheberach donation may be made
in any increment of \$18
OR
A personalized misheberach for an individual will be shown
on a scrolling video page for \$18 per name

All proceeds support
HADASSAH'S EMERGENCY APPEAL
At War: Heal Israel Now Campaign



Scan QR Code or type link below in your browser
<https://bit.ly/Misheberach>



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





Around the Table: Visit to Chasidic Brooklyn



During my recent visit to New York City, a city rich in American Jewish immigrant history, I embarked on an enlightening journey into one of its lesser-known narratives. Nestled within the bustling metropolis lies the unique world of the Chasidim of Brooklyn, a vibrant subculture that stands out in the diverse tapestry of the city. I explored Williamsburg, specifically its southern side, which contrasts sharply with the northern "hipster side." Accompanied by my family, we delved into this intriguing community through a walking tour of Chasidic Williamsburg, led by former Satmar Chasidah, Frieda Vizel. This experience, which I highly recommend, offered us a profound insight into American Jewish life.

The story we learned was that in the first half of the twentieth century, Williamsburg was a Jewish neighborhood, but a different kind of Jewish neighborhood than it is today. It started as a continuation of the Lower East Side, offering cheaper housing and more space, and it was a melting pot community representing an array of nationalities and types of synagogues. Most Chasidim, the devoutly religious followers of an 18th-century revival movement within Judaism, had stayed in their communities in Eastern Europe during this time, each led by their own dynasty of rebbes. There were the Belzer, the Pupa, the Satmar, the Lubavitch, the Bobov, and many others, each attached to a specific community in Eastern Europe. Many of the rebbes (perhaps rightly) saw the U.S. and even the nascent Israel as deeply secular societies that would erode Yiddishkeit. But as the Shoah approached, the decision of many rebbes to stay would prove catastrophic. Chasidic communities were decimated by the Nazi genocide.

In the end, it was the Hungarian Jews who survived in the largest numbers. As Frieda explained, the Hungarian government signed on to the Axis powers early in the war. But when the Nazis asked the Hungarians to turn over Hungarian Jews, Hungary refused. In fact, their agreement with the Nazis allowed Hungary to maintain a level of independence from Germany, ironically leading

to more Hungarian Jews being spared deportation right up until the Germans invaded Hungary in 1944. By then, some had a chance to leave, which is why one of the largest communities of Chasidim today is the Hungarian Satmar sect.

When the remnants of the Chasidic communities finally resettled in Israel and New York after the war, they were broken and traumatized. Once reconciled to living in the United States, Joel Teitelbaum, the influential rebbe of the Satmar community, strove to create impenetrable enclaves to retain Chasidic culture and repopulate their communities. The most insular of these communities in the U.S. remain today in Williamsburg, Boro Park, and Kiryas Joel, located north of New York City.

Walking down the bustling commercial area of Lee Ave. on a warm Sunday, we felt as though we were in a foreign country. Women pushed strollers with five or six impeccably dressed and perfectly matching children following behind. Other children zipped around the neighborhood on scooters. Frieda explained the workings of the community, giving special emphasis to the upbringing of children, an important topic as over half the community is made up of minors. We visited toy stores packed with families buying Shabbos play sets and Yiddish board games. We learned about how children pass their time in a world with almost no entertainment, watching the world go by from windows and spending long days in school or cheder. We also visited a dairy restaurant, a chocolate shop, and a bakery called Oneg, known for its babka. The mini babka I got was fabulous, but my personal favorite was the



kichel/kichelach, crunchy sugar-crusted bowtie cookies that I think are the most underrated Jewish pastry.

A couple of cookbooks you should check out if you'd like to learn more about cooking in the Chasidic community are one by the Pupa community called "The Balabuste's Choice Kosher Cookbook," an old-school classic that Frieda recommended; and the more recent "Lekoved Shabbos Kodesh" (title is in Hebrew but the book is in English) by Raizy Fried, a Satmar woman who gives her best recipes and tips for a beautiful Shabbat.

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



Here is my recipe for crunchy Kichelach that always hit the spot in the late afternoon with a cup of tea or coffee.

Sugar Kichelach

- 1/4 cup vegetable oil
- 4 eggs
- 1 tbsp sugar
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 2 1/2-3 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 cup sugar for coating

Beat oil, eggs, 1 tbsp sugar, and vanilla together in a medium bowl. Add flour one cup at a time just until a very soft dough comes together (probably about 2 1/2 cups of flour total) and knead for a minute or two. Roll the dough out on a very lightly floured surface to about 1/2 inch. You still want the dough to be slightly sticky, so just flour enough to prevent a mess. Slice in 1 inch rows and then across to make 1 x 3 inch angled rectangles. Put the rest of the sugar in a separate bowl. As



you lift each rectangle of dough, dunk in the sugar and coat well. Make sure any sticky spots get nice and coated. Then twist each piece of dough in the middle to make a little bowtie and place on a cookie sheet that has been greased or lined with parchment paper. Bake at 350° for about 30 minutes until golden brown.

flour power
COOKING STUDIOS

REA FARMS | SOUTH CHARLOTTE

Birthday parties for little chefs and menches of all ages

"Yom huledet sameach"

FlourPowerStudios.com/ReaFarms

Now more than ever, personalized advice matters



The L/A Wealth Management Group

Peter A. Levinson, CRPS™, CPFA®

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

Merrill Lynch Wealth Management

6000 Fairview Road
Suite 600
Charlotte, NC 28210
704.705.3332

MERRILL LYNCH
A BANK OF AMERICA COMPANY

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

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

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

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

© 2023 Bank of America Corporation. All rights reserved.

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

Education and Youth

BBYO Reflects on 2023 and Moves Into 2024

As BBYO ventures into the new year, 2024, a sense of excitement for the upcoming initiatives is strong across the international order. One of Charlotte's teens took a moment to reflect on the remarkable year we had in 2023. I'm pleased to introduce a recap of our incredible journey, thoughtfully penned by Emily Schenkel, our local chapter president. Her insights offer a glimpse into the vibrant and impactful experiences that defined BBYO Charlotte in the past year from all that BBYO had to offer across the globe.

— Zack Tabachnikoff

By Emily Schenkel

This past year, we have had so many amazing highlights to show on our BBYO Wrapped! We have had members from more than 60 countries spread across the Middle East, Africa, Asia, North America, Latin America, Western Europe, Eastern Europe, Oceania, and the former Soviet Union. With over 101 regions and 700 chapters, we have hosted many programs and fun experiences this year! In 2023, BBYO hosted about 7,000 different programs across the

globe. BBYO's word this year is extraordinary, as we have been getting ready for our centennial year and celebrating all around the order!

Our top places were Dallas, Camp Perlman, and Omaha!

Now, let's travel back to Dallas, Texas, for International Convention 2023. International Convention is an experience like nothing else, hosting more than 5,000 attendees from more than 60 countries, with over 600 programs constantly going on. There were many famous faces at IC 2023, like Loud Luxury, the Hamilton cast, All American cast members, Ryan Turell, Naftali Bennet, Gabby Douglas, Chris Olsen, Maddie Ziegler, Nicky Youre, 24kGoldn, Cash Cash, and so many more! Once people had arrived at IC on Thursday, there were hundreds of things for them to do until dinner and opening ceremonies. Friday was filled with many LEADS Day tracks, Shabbat experiences, and separates. On Saturday, there were many Shabbat service experiences, limmud, meet and greets, Havdallah, BBYO honors, and the block party! Sunday, we held international elections,



Charlotte BBYO gathers together for our international convention registration launch night which sold out to nearly 5000 people in under one hour

sightseeing, BBYO celebrations, and closing ceremonies. On Monday, everyone departed and said goodbye to the most amazing weekend!

Let's go to Perlman Camp!

Two of BBYO's three leadership camp summer experiences take place at Perlman: ILTC and Kallah! At ILTC, each teen got the true camp experience, along with learning more about BBYO leadership and how to lead their communities back home. At Kallah, teens were able to get closer to their Judaism and Jewish heritage while living the camp life.

Other summer programs include CLTC and BBYO Passport!

Now to Omaha, Nebraska! This year, August Execs took us back to Omaha, the place of AZA's founding. International Execs was the official in-person kickoff of our centennial campaign as our movement is almost 100 years old! All of international board and regional presidents from across the globe came together to plan and learn more about BBYO in its current state and in its state from when it was founded. Attendees even got to visit the very school that AZA

was founded in.

Recently, BBYO communities hosted IC and Summer launch parties to get members excited about what's coming up in our order!

BBYO just hosted Giving BBYO Day, where as a Movement we raised \$914,821.91! There were 6,305 donors and 1,057 fundraisers in order for this to happen!

And now it is time for Global Shabbat, BBYO's biggest Shabbat experience yet! This year, we are keeping it forever young by responding to the Movement with Shabbat and Havdallah services happening all around the globe.

2023 was extraordinary and filled with so many new BBYO memories for each teen. We cannot wait to see what happens next in BBYO!

Emily Schenkel is a BBG in Charlotte, North Carolina, who loves exploring her creativity through her face painting business, creative writing, and art.



Sex Education: A Sacred Responsibility

By Rachel Glazer

Jewish traditions and teachings, rich in wisdom, debates, and guideposts, encompass every aspect of the human experience. Yes — even sex. Being a teen in 2024 poses many challenges, some of which are unique to this moment in time, while others are as old as the Jewish tradition itself.

Temple Beth El (TBE) is excited to present two sex ed-

ucation opportunities for our community's Jewish youth this year. The first is the 6th-grade STAR program, standing for Sex, Torah, And Relationships. Initiated in 2004 with insights from Jewish educators, clergy, medical professionals, social workers, and teachers, STAR aims to assist kids in coping with their changing bodies and environments. It also seeks to foster dialogue between parents and

children, affirming that while parents are primary sex educators, the synagogue community provides a supportive and safe space for discussing relationships and emerging sexuality.

This summer, TBE's rabbinic intern, Ally Karpel, collaborated with Rabbi Lexi Erdheim to update the high school STAR curriculum. The revamped program, "Chai Intimacy: Unleashing Jewish Wisdom on Sex

and Relationships," addresses contemporary teen challenges. It opens conversations about consent, sexual health, gender identity, sexual orientation, and more. During Hebrew High's second trimester, teens will explore how Jewish values inform decision-making around sex, relationships, and intimacy. Chai Intimacy will be taught by Rachel Glazer, TBE's assistant director of youth education and



engagement, and Dr. Laura Sinai, a board-certified pediatrician, with clergy presence from Rabbi Asher Knight.

These programs are unique in their comprehensive approach, combining scientifically informed sex education with Jewish learning in a positive, affirming, and open manner. We are proud to offer such high-quality programs to our community's youth, empowering them with knowledge and wisdom.

To learn more about STAR, visit templebethel.org.

Meg D. Goldstein

Attorney-At-Law

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

5401 Lancelot Drive
Charlotte, NC 28270

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



Education and Youth

February Is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month: Help Prevent Your Teen From Becoming a Victim

By Howard Olshansky, JFS Executive Director

During February, advocates for healthy relationships nationwide raise awareness about the epidemic of teen dating violence. This type of intimate partner violence occurs between young adults in current or past relationships and is a serious problem in the United States.

Consider these alarming statistics:

- 1 in 3 adolescents in the U.S. is a victim of physical, sexual, emotional, or verbal abuse from a dating partner.
- 1 in 10 high school students has been purposefully hit, slapped, or physically hurt by a boyfriend or girlfriend.
- 80% of girls who have been physically abused in their intimate relationships continue to date their abuser.
- Violent behavior typically begins between the ages of 12 and 18.

Dating violence can occur in person, online, or through technology and includes physical, sexual, psychological, technolog-

ical abuse and stalking. It affects adolescents across various cultural and religious backgrounds, including within the Jewish community. The prevalence of teen dating violence within the Jewish community occurs at the same rate as that of adult domestic violence.

If you haven't had a conversation with your teen about healthy relationships, now is the time. Use February's Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month as an opportunity to start this crucial dialogue. Here are some tips for talking to your teen:

- Encourage open, honest, and thoughtful conversation about healthy relationships. Allow them to express their values and

expectations, fostering debate to help them form their own understanding.

- Find a balance between sensitivity and firmness. Parenting a teen is challenging, especially in guiding them through relationships. Be open to discussion and respect differing opinions.

- Understand teen development. Adolescence involves experimentation, mood swings, and risk-taking. Brain development during these years significantly influences teens' personalities and actions.

- Recognize that preteens and young teens face pressures about sex, substance abuse, and dating. Be a supportive listener and advisor.



- Take a clear stand against disrespect, abusive language, controlling behavior, and violence.

- Use "teachable moments" from media and real-life events to discuss healthy and unhealthy relationships.

- Teach teens to be "upstanders" who stand up for friends in unhealthy situations.

- Focus conversations on positive aspects and factors that promote healthy adolescent development and relationships.

- Be actively involved in your teen's life. Learn about their

friends, interests, and find shared activities.

- Accept that you will make mistakes, but continue guiding teens toward responsible choices.

If you or your teen needs assistance, contact Jewish Family Services at jfscharlotte.org or (704) 364-6594.





Jewish Family SERVICES

Emergency Numbers

Suicide Crisis Lifeline: 988

Greater Charlotte Hopeline: (980) 771-HOPE (4673)
Crisis line for parenting, DV, and sexual assault

Mobile Crisis: (704) 566-3410
24-hour behavioral health

Jewish Family Services
(704) 364-6594 or info@jfscharlotte.org



CAMP MINDY
TRADITIONAL DAY CAMP
PRESCHOOL • K-5 • TEEN
half & full day
extended care
leadership camps

PERFORMANCE CAMPS
ART & CULTURE UNIT
GRADES 2-8
pick one or both
showcase performances!

SPECIALTY SPORTS CAMPS
FIND YOUR SPORT
GRADES 1-10
tennis • football • lacrosse
all-sports • soccer • basketball

MEMBER PRIORITY

OPENS: December 11th
Members Receive Priority
Registration through 02/01/2024

VIEW OUR 2024 CAMP GUIDE & REGISTER ONLINE AT:
charlottejcc.org/camp

Education and Youth

Jewish Preschool on Sardis Plans New Playground

After over 20 years of nurturing our toddlers, our playground needs a facelift. We have exciting plans to completely renovate the toddler playground into an imaginative, nature-themed space of fun and learning. All the activity areas were chosen to enrich different aspects of a child's development, including physical well-being, creativity, cognitive skills, social skills, and Jewish values.

But we need your help. You can make a mark in your family's name by sponsoring one of the themed activity areas, and leave a legacy as someone who cares for the well-being of the children in our community. Any donation will go a long way in helping us build this joyous place.

We are so grateful to all our donors, and would like to especially thank these families who have dedicated activity areas:

- Sinai Sand Dunes - Thank you Susan & Donald Jacobs and Florence Jaffa!
- Infant Zone - Thank you Barbara & Jerry Levin!
- Sensory Play & Creativity Spot - Thank you Addie Chesson & Family!
- Simcha Swings Reserved -

Thank you Ken Helfing!

- The Promised Sand - one sandbox reserved - Thank you Stuart & Erin Wernikoff!

The following activity areas are still available for dedication:

- Little Kosher Playhouse Area
- Unity Tower
- Pull-up Bars
- Trike Trail
- Drama Deck Musical Area
- Torah Tunnels

To learn more about the project, visit www.jpskids.org/playground. Thank you for all your support!



THANK YOU SO MUCH
to our activity sponsors!

www.jpskids.org/playground

The Playground @ JPS

ב"ה

coming soon!

For dedication opportunities and to check out the details, please visit:



jpskids.org/playground



Our future is in play!



call 704-364-8395 or visit jpskids.org



A project of Chabad of Charlotte

Funded by
Jewish Federation
OF GREATER CHARLOTTE



Education and Youth

Charlotte Jewish Day School Unveils Innovative Spark Lab: A New Era of STEAM Learning and Discovery

STEAM, an acronym for science, technology, engineering, art, and math, is revolutionizing education by integrating these subjects to guide students in solving global challenges. The STEAM program is highly student-centered, empowering students to take charge of their learning. They are encouraged to independently formulate questions and seek answers, with minimal adult guidance. This approach counters the prevalent societal tendency to over-assist children, preventing them from learning their own capabilities developed from watching, taking

risks, and even failing along the way. This approach nurtures their understanding of their strengths and the power of resilience.

At Charlotte Jewish Day School (CJDS), we've enriched our curriculum by integrating social studies with the STEAM disciplines. With CJDS now accommodating grades 6-8, fostering independent thinking and discovery has become a fundamental aspect of our middle school program.

This expansion has led to the creation of a room dedicated to STEAM learning — Spark Lab. The entire school commu-



Rendering of the Spark Lab

nity is eagerly anticipating the inauguration of our new Spark Lab, located on the third floor. The enthusiasm among parents, students, and teachers is equally strong, and we can't wait to unveil this innovative space to the wider community.

This project, made possible by a generous Legacy Learning Labs challenge grant and the leadership of Gale Osborne, reflects our commitment to providing the best for our students. Donna Lerner, Rick Isham, and

Gale Osborne have been instrumental in creating this state-of-the-art space, designed to stimulate innovation and creativity.

Our Spark Lab is more than just a classroom. Its glass walls encourage visual brainstorming, while flexible furniture and vibrant design inspire big, bold thinking. The addition of a podcast and green room further enhances our students' ability to express and share their ideas.

We're also excited to announce Special Friends Day on

Feb. 9, featuring tours of our new facilities. This year, the event will celebrate Israel, reflecting its central role in our studies and prayers. Through music, art, food, and experiences, we'll honor our connection to Israel and our hopes for its peace and safety.

The expansion of CJDS to a TK-8 school aligns with research showing the benefits of K-8 environments for middle school students. This setting offers a balance of independence and nurturing, fostering leadership and role-modeling opportunities.

We invite you to explore the Spark Lab and discover how CJDS can benefit your family. For more information, please contact gosborne@cjdsschool.org.



Rendering of the Spark Lab

LOOKING FOR A MIDDLE SCHOOL?

CHECK OUT OUR NEW DESIGN & INNOVATION LAB OPENING SPRING 2024

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS!

Charlotte Jewish
Day School

704.366.4558 | CJDSchool.org

One-Woman Show Brings Light to Darkness Through Laughter

“Who Chiseled That? The Story of a Life Unscripted, Unstoppable and Unexpectedly Funny” is not just a one-woman show; it's a beacon of light that shines humor into the crevices of life's challenges. This show, the brainchild of the talented Merit Kahn, is more than a theatrical piece; it's a testament to the resilience and humor ingrained in the Jewish community, particularly as reflected in the life of Merit herself.

At the core of this show lies the indelible influence of Merit's grandmother, Eve Kahn. A beacon of Jewish strength, Eve founded a Hadassah chapter in Chicago. Her legacy continues today, with annual luncheons held in her honor and donations made to Hadassah Hospital in Israel. It was at this hospital, beneath a plaque bearing her grandmother's name, that Merit found herself as a patient, having twisted her ankle visiting Masada. This twist of fate serves as a poignant reminder of her grandmother's lasting presence in her life.

Having lost her grandmother to Ovarian Cancer at the tender age of seven, Merit confronted



“Who Chiseled That? The Story of a Life Unscripted, Unstoppable and Unexpectedly Funny” Comes to The Mint Museum, Feb. 4

her own vulnerability when she tested positive for the BRCA1 gene mutation, prevalent among Ashkenazi Jewish women. This revelation, while daunting, has been transformed into a source of empowerment and humor in her show. Through sharing her journey of preventive surgeries, Merit not only educates but also connects with her audience on a

deeply personal level. The show transcends the traditional theatrical experience, weaving humor with the stark realities of life. Merit's skillful comedy brings laughter to even the most somber topics, like her hysterectomy, double mastectomy and divorce. It's a balancing act between light-heartedness and earnestness, demonstrating

the power of comedy to heal and inspire. The show is a reminder that our past does not define us; rather, it's how we choose to narrate our journey that shapes our future. It's about rewriting one's past to rewire the future. Merit says, “Laughter isn't just the best medicine; it's the secret ingredient to genuine con-

fidence.” To that end, she teamed up with Confidence Coach, Charley Childers and created “The Confidence & Comedy Bash,” a one-of-a-kind event at The Mint Museum in Charlotte, NC, on Sunday, February 4, to empower professional women (and a few discerning men) to embrace their worth and find their own funny stories.

“In the professional realm, many women grapple with self-worth. By coupling comedy with confidence coaching, we aim to empower women to laugh at their imperfections and increase self-worth,” says Kahn.

For anyone who values theater, comedy, and personal growth, “The Confidence & Comedy Bash” featuring a performance of “Who Chiseled That? The Story of a Life Unscripted, Unstoppable and Unexpectedly Funny” is an unmissable event, promising not just an afternoon of laughter, but a lifetime of inspiration.

For tickets to The Confidence & Comedy Bash, Sunday, Feb. 4 at The Mint Museum, Charlotte, NC, confidenceandcomedy.com/

Carolina Roots. National Resources.

With four offices in the Carolinas, we know this community and its values.

It's why mid-market businesses trust us when it counts. We know the local courts and understand their market.

We're here where you need us, backed by colleagues in 70 practice areas and 29 offices coast to coast.

Carolina knowledge. National strength.

The Fox Rothschild Advantage.



Brian C. Bernhardt
704.384.2607
bbernhardt@foxrothschild.com



Alexandra J. Hirsch
704.384.2641
ahirsch@foxrothschild.com

101 N. Tyron Street, Suite 1300
Charlotte, NC 28246



CHARLOTTE | GREENSBORO | RALEIGH | GREENVILLE, SC



The Surprising Effect the Gaza War Had on the Tel Aviv Art Scene

By Sarah Mann

Life changed dramatically for millions in Israel on Oct. 7, 2023 and one of them was Inbar Haiman, a young student attending a Peace Festival in the Negev desert that weekend. Caught up in the attack, and then kidnapped and hauled off to Gaza on a motorbike, she was one of the more than two hundred hostages taken prisoner by Hamas that day. Amongst those campaign-

ing for her release was a group of artists who knew her very well. That's because Inbar was a visual communications student in Haifa, with a passion for street art and graffiti, so much so that she'd already established a reputation and name for herself – Pink. “Free Pink” immediately became a rallying cry amongst street artists across Israel, particularly in Tel Aviv, where many graffiti artists picked up their

brushes and spray cans and headed out to the streets, determined to highlight her plight and keep her name alive in peoples' minds. And if you take a street art tour in Tel Aviv these days, you'll see plenty of works on the walls, all with the same subliminal message – bring them home now. The horrors of war impacted the walls of Tel Aviv: creators started filling them with large artworks dedicated to the fallen, the taken and the heroes of Oct.

7 and these challenging times. **Bold, Colorful, and Sardonic – the Tel Aviv Street Art Scene** For anyone that doesn't know,

the Tel Aviv street art and graffiti scene is notoriously fast-changing — new pieces are regularly (Continued on page 26)



(Bein Harim Tours)

DREAM HOME TODAY YOUR HOME TOMORROW

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

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

www.AndyRE.com
andy@andyre.com
@AndyG_Realtor
443.299.8946

There's so Much to Love About Waltonwood!

We offer an abundance of social opportunities along with time-saving amenities so your days are free to spend doing the things you enjoy most with the people you love.

- A fresh, fun and interactive dining experience
- Forever Fit wellness programs encouraging resident independence
- Life Enrichment programs allowing for opportunities of continued learning and special interests
- Housekeeping and maintenance teams providing a truly worry free lifestyle

Schedule a tour today!

Independent Living, Assisted Living & Memory Care

11945 Providence Road
Charlotte, NC 28277

704-246-8670

Assisted Living & Memory Care

5215 Randolph Road
Charlotte, NC 28211

704-496-9310

WWW.WALTONWOOD.COM | WWW.SINGHCAREERS.COM

Tel Aviv Art Scene

(Continued from page 25)

appearing overnight, bold, colorful, and sardonic creations, often with subversive undertones and social and political messages.

And there are two particular neighborhoods in the city in which you'll stumble upon some particularly unusual pieces – charming Nahalat Binyamin and gritty, hipster Florentin.

Nahalat Binyamin – Busting and Bohemian

Nahalat Binyamin is an iconic Tel Aviv street and not far from the beachfront. Partly pedestrianized (so perfect for strolling), it's full of beautifully renovated buildings, many with lovely balconies across which you can gaze at the city. The main street is lined with cafes and restaur-

rants and each Tuesday and Friday it's home to a thriving arts and crafts market where you can buy original handmade pieces

But Nahalat Binyamin is also known for its thriving cultural scene and if you take a Tel Aviv graffiti tour, you'll likely visit here. The area is packed with brightly colored art, graffiti, and murals at every turn. Some of the most popular pieces include 'Who's Your Daddy Now' (starring Mickey Mouse), Theodor Herzl (who had the original idea for the establishment of the State of Israel) Dreaming, the "Bubble Girl" and 'In Complete.'

There's also a stand-out mural by Rami Meiri, picturing two friends standing on the balcony



(Bein Harim Tours)



(Bein Harim Tours)

with flowers, one playing the accordion and the other the violin, and, around the corner, a group of girls dressed in 1930s attire, initiating a cabaret scene. Get your camera out!

Florentin – Hipster and Subversive

Twenty minutes' walk south, bohemian and charming is re-

placed with gritty and working-class in Florentin. This neighborhood in south Tel Aviv is gentrifying fast, but when you wander its streets, it's easy to pick up on the hipster vibes and the "subversive" feel it has to it. Packed with small bars, cafes, and eateries, it still has a whiff of 'underground culture' that's

reflected again and again in the pieces you'll see on walls and doors of local buildings.

From the main drag of Florentin Street itself, through tiny backstreets and past garages and workshops in the industrial area, it's a feast for the eyes – and whether it's hearts and flowers,

(Continued on page 27)



Our emergent curriculum is designed to respect each child as a capable and unique individual, to foster the diverse ways in which they develop and learn, and to create a nurturing learning environment.



For more information, please give us a call

704-944-6776

www.charlottejewishpreschool.org



Tel Aviv Art Scene

(Continued from page 26)

partying animals, animated vegetables or in-your-face political commentary, there's no better way to see it than as part of a Tel Aviv graffiti tour.

The whole area is full of eye-catching local art, whether it's Miss K's "Lady in Fur" or "Wise Owl, Alice in Wonderland" (in Banksy style, courtesy of Jonathan Kis Lev), or 'Musical Greats' (a montage of many who died too young, including Kurt Cobain, Amy Winehouse, Jim Morrison). Hearts, the five-fingered Hamsa (a Jewish good-luck symbol), and the girl with black hair (who seems to be on every other street corner) spring out at you. And then there's the political commentary.

Don't Panic!
Signs of the surprising effect Israel's war with Gaza has had on the art scene here are everywhere. From a simple heart, with '7.10' emblazoned on it, and Superman telling the public "Don't Panic – the IDF Will Protect You" reminders of the ongoing situation pop up constantly. Another that's just appeared shows a soldier hugging a young girl in a pink sweatshirt. Signed by Rotem Zamir, we've no idea what

the backstory is but still, it's hard not to feel touched.

If you're curious about the Tel Aviv street art scene, just remember that the guides and magazine articles telling you what's new

are aren't bad, but by the time you read them they may already be redundant – things are changing so what you'll see one day may well be gone the next – an apt reflection of how fast our

lives and the world around us keep spinning.

This is a Paid Post by Bein Harim Tourism Services, the largest inbound tourism firm in Israel, offering over 150 different

guided tours for every taste. This is a paid post. JTA's editorial team had no role in its production.



webb goldsmith
ORTHODONTICS

SouthPark Arboretum

Braces and Invisalign
For Ages 6-92!



Proud supporters of the
Charlotte Jewish Community!





Scan now
to book your
FREE Consultation!

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 **Charlotte Jewish Preschool** has been included as a beneficiary of their legacy gift.

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Anonymous* (1) | Eric and Susan Lerner | Anne and Mike Sinsheimer |
| Susan and Benjamin Aizenman | Leon (OBM) and Sandra Levine | Ruth Ann and Tom Smith |
| Anthony and Brooke Amo | Elissa and Joshua Levine | Steve and Emily Snyder |
| Brian and Glenda Bernhardt | Adina and Josh Loewensteiner | Stephanie and Steven Starr |
| Andrew Bernstein | Staci and Darren Mond | Joseph (OBM) and Renee Steiner |
| Susan P. Bessey | Elizabeth and Jeremy Naman | Mike and Andie Taylor |
| Lillian (OBM) and Irving Bienstock | Marcelle and Allan Oxman | Amy and Ross Udoff |
| David and Bonnie Bornstein | Rachel and Darren Pierce | Amy and Mark Vitner |
| Michael and Karen Coates-Traynor | Julie and Scott Rizzo | Janice and Ronald Weiner |
| Jennifer and Jonathan Collman | Andrew and Jennifer Rosen | Evan and Debby Weiss |
| Andrea and Jeremy Davids | Renee and Philip Schreibman | Eric and Joanna Wisotsky |
| Jill and Michael Dinerman | Morey and Lynne Sheffer | Marisa and Joe Zeibert |
| Elizabeth Ren and Michael Grunwald | Allen Sherman | |
| Dale Lederer | Jonathan and Stephanie Simon | |

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



A supporting organization of Foundation For The Carolinas

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

704.973.4544 • charlottejewishfoundation.org



LEVINE JCC DEPARTMENT OF **Art & Culture**

PRESENTS



From Darkness To Light **MOSAIC EXHIBIT**



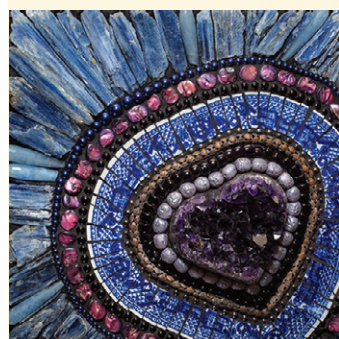
January 15 – March 31

Hallway across from Teen Lounge behind Gorelick Hall

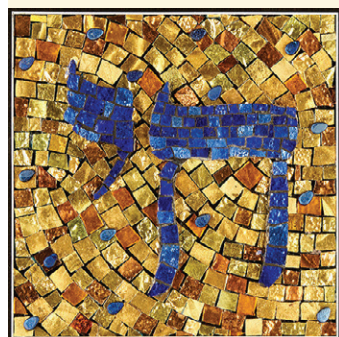


This exhibit is made up of 36 mosaic pieces created by artists around the world.

Lead artist Susan Ribnick is co-president of *The Austin Mosaic Guild* and owns a small company, *Vintage Mosaic* specializing in Italian glass mosaic. After the Pittsburgh shooting that killed eleven people in 2018, Ribnick felt an intense need to do something or say something. This is how the **Tree of Life Project** began in Austin, Texas. Four years later, this international project has doubled in size to include thirty-six pieces created by artists from all over the United States and five countries. The mosaics were created by artists who feel compelled to respond to the issues of antisemitism and violence. Their collective hope is that the artwork will call attention to such problems.



"I have created this piece not only as a way to remember the victims of gun violence, but as a symbol of hope and strength for the communities who are left to cope with the consequences of such events."



Ribnick along with **director Abby Schwartz** hope that **From Darkness to Light** will lead to conversation and action around the tough subjects of hate crimes, antisemitism, gun violence, and injustice.

Mosaic Titles Top to Bottom:

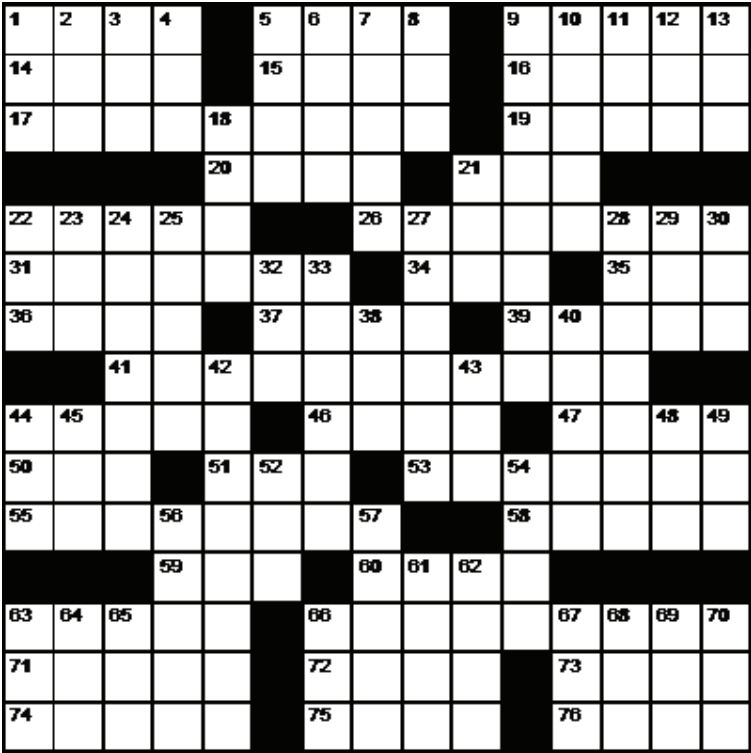
Star of David, Alisa Speaks Out, Skyline of Pittsburgh, Love, Everlasting, Hamsa

Q? michelle.rusgo@charlottejcc.org

Sandra and Leon Levine Jewish Community Center
5007 Providence Road | 704-366-5007 | charlottejcc.org



“Down Time”



- Across**

 - 1. *Star of David item
 - 5. Short punches
 - 9. *Garden spot
 - 14. Fleming, Holm, and Smith
 - 15. School with the most NCAA basketball titles
 - 16. ___ Adumim
 - 17. *Animal that’s cute, furry, chubby, and treif
 - 19. Buc Tom
 - 20. Talented Ma
 - 21. “Her ways ___ ways of pleasantness” (Prov. 3:17)
- Down**

 - 1. Some might eat one on Tu B’Shtat
 - 2. “Seinfeld” co-creator nickname
 - 3. It begins 1 enero
 - 4. Sch. with a campus in Atlanta
 - 5. Sport where Israel often excels
- Across**

 - 22. Accumulate, as wealth
 - 26. *There’s one for Rabin in Tel Aviv
 - 31. *Leah and Rachel
 - 34. Baseball rally killers, briefly
 - 35. Longhorn’s lament?
 - 36. CREF’s partner
 - 37. Words with shake or break
 - 39. Engaging in cyberchat, informally
 - 41. Down time?...or another title for this puzzle
- Down**

 - 44. Bad vibration?
 - 46. Common laborer
 - 47. Recipe abbreviations
 - 50. PC bookmark
 - 51. Word from a heckler
 - 53. *They’re certainly not rabbis
 - 55. *Bibi Netanyahu and Naftali Bennett, e.g.
 - 58. “Me too”
 - 59. Subway scurrer
 - 60. Abba of Israel
 - 63. Pale violet
 - 66. *Stone or marathon
 - 71. Speak from the pulpit
 - 72. Hara prececer
 - 73. One way to run
 - 74. *It always proceeds a bris
 - 75. Falcons quarterback Ryan
 - 76. What many Jews do at the conclusion of 41-Across
- Across**

 - 6. How some feel the day after a big workout
 - 7. “The Producers” role
 - 8. Downward bend
 - 9. Food for Zeus
 - 10. Way less common
 - 11. Cousin of 35-Across?
 - 12. Like jokes you’ve heard
 - 13. Luke (sorta) trained her
 - 18. Org. at 11 Wall St.
 - 21. It pumps up the volume
 - 22. 3 oz., e.g.
 - 23. First person in France?
 - 24. How the Leaning Tower of Pisa stands
 - 25. Top Iranians, once
 - 27. “___ Tomorrow” (Tom Cruise sci-fi flick)
 - 28. “My aim was off”
 - 29. Get an ___ (ace)
 - 30. Cabin material
 - 32. Showed fear, in a way
 - 33. Like loafers
 - 38. Tel Aviv to Tiberias Dir.
 - 40. Legendary tales
- Down**

 - 42. Warm greeter
 - 43. Genetic “blueprint”
 - 44. 4x4, frequently
 - 45. Earlier, in a poem
 - 48. Career athlete
 - 49. Govt. funds for the disabled
 - 52. Meal often eaten for breakfast?
 - 54. Gets less white
 - 56. Inspiration for poets
 - 57. “Peace out”
 - 61. Rabbi Sacks was one
 - 62. Dina, to Ephraim
 - 63. 39-Across chuckle
 - 64. Part of a pension plan, briefly
 - 65. Place to examine 43-Down
 - 66. Jelly by another name
 - 67. 1980s sitcom with a furry lead
 - 68. Letters on Anaheim scoreboards
 - 69. Creatures in 27-Down, for short
 - 70. Pete Alonso, for one

(Answers on page 31)

TRUST YOU NEED.
CHOICE YOU DESERVE.

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



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

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

- Upstairs Banquet Room
- Private Dining
- Full Bar & Wine
- Proudly Serving the Jewish Community SINCE 1980

704-541-1688
10719 Kettering Dr. • Charlotte, NC 28226
www.mywanfu.com

WORK WITH THE **LEADERS** IN
CHARLOTTE REAL ESTATE

SARAH ROSE

SarahRose@remax.net
704 619-0422

STEVE LEPOW

SteveLepow@remax.net
704 975-8500

RE/MAX Executive

Newspaper archives are a treasure trove of collective memories, providing a snapshot of our history. The following article is from The Charlotte Jewish News, October, 1999. To read other issues of The CJN, visit the archives at <https://www.digitalnc.org/newspapers/charlotte-jewish-news-charlotte-nc/>.

Looking Back: Year

First Annual Jewish Community Cultural Arts Festival is Here

If the last Jewish book you read was Chaim Potok's classic, "The Chosen," then folks, in the words of Joan Rivers, we need to talk.

This November and spilling into December, Charlotte is launching its first annual Jewish Community Cultural Arts Festival (JCCAF). With over 50 exciting events (most are free, a small number require tickets) ranging from nationally-acclaimed book authors, award-winning films, lectures by respected professors and clergy, exquisite gallery showings, a Jewish Book Fair, a Jewish Food Festival, fabulous photography exhibits, interactive workshops, and so much more.

"It's an opportunity for the entire Jewish community and beyond, to learn, taste, smell, discover, identify, and explore Jewish culture and heritage," according to Jodi Valenstein, JCCAF Festival chair.

Sponsors of the festival are BBYO, Charlotte Jewish Day School, Charlotte Jewish Preschool, Consolidated High School, The Charlotte Chapter of Hadassah, Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte, Jewish Community Center, Jewish Preschool on Sardis, Lubavitch of North Carolina, Temple Beth El, Temple Israel, Women's American ORT and the Yiddish Institute.

"The response from our community organizations exemplifies the commitment we all feel towards building a strong and vibrant community for our children," says Rabbi Murray Ezring of Temple Israel.

"Being Jewish means having arts, literature and culture flowing through our body," says Rabbi James Bennett of Temple Beth El. "The idea that we, as a community can and will invite each other and our non-Jewish friends and



neighbors is a wonderful step forward for all of us here in Charlotte. Temple Beth El is proud to be a sponsor of the festival and we look forward to this series of programs growing each year ... this is just the beginning."

Festival highlights include presentations by authors and nationally-recognized spiritual leaders David Ariel and Rebbetzin Esther Jungries. Marcus Rosenbaum, who discovered his grandmother's diary, will shed some light on

what it means to be a young Jewish woman growing up in the South in the first half of the 20th century, and other guest speakers will appear daily.

Women's American ORT will be sponsoring an evening with Ellyn Bache, the author of "The Activist's Daughter," "Safe Passage," and other works of fiction and non-fiction. Plan to meet with Bache on November 4 at 7:30 p.m. in Gorelick Hall.

Bache's first work of fiction, "Safe Passage," was made into a film starring Susan Sarandon and Sam Shepard. Her second novel, "Festival in Fire Season," which is set in Wilmington, was a Literary Guild "Editor's Corner" selection. Her most recent novel, "The Activist's Daughter," is about a Jewish girl from Washington, D.C. who tries to escape her activist mother by going to college at

UNC-Chapel Hill during the early days of the civil rights movement in 1963. Bache's collection of short "The Value of Kindness," won the Willa Cather Fiction Prize, and her non-fiction book, "Culture Clash" — a journal about her family's sponsorship of a Vietnamese refugee family, is sued in college intercultural relations classes around the country. She is complete her fourth novel, about two Jewish women whose lifelong friendship is deepened as they each face a crisis of late middle age.

Please consider becoming a Patron of the festival. Persons interested should contact Becky Cohen at the JCC 944- 6725. Individuals interested in volunteering for the festival should contact Ivy Saul at the JCC or call their respective organizations and get involved.

STRETCH
your body
&
your experiences



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

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

A Life Plan Community offered by Liberty Senior Living


THE BARCLAY
AT SOUTH PARK
BRIAR CREEK HEALTH CENTER
AT THE BARCLAY

4801 Barclay Downs Drive, Charlotte, NC 28210



SHOPPING TO GET YOU THE
BEST DEAL



PAUL MATTOS
Mortgage Advisor | NMLS# 2339069
(980) 221-4959
www.CarolinaHomeFinancing.com
PaulM@RefineMortgage.net
115 Stone Village Drive, Suite D
Fort Mill, SC 29708

Refine Mortgage Inc. NMLS# 2417960 | Equal Housing Lender. Contact Refine Mortgage for more information and up-to-date rates.

MEET
your needs
and
new neighbors



~Handpainted Needlepoint Canvases ~ Huge Selection of Yarns ~ Expert Finishing
Complimentary Lessons ~ Unique Gift Ideas

All proceeds go to local charities

Yours Truly
Needlepoint and Knitting

Knit ~ Crochet ~ Needlepoint

THANKS TO THE WORK OF VOLUNTEERS
16,500 blankets have been donated to the Levine Children’s Hospital, Hemby Children’s Hospital and the Shriners Hospital (Greenville, SC) and 10,000 chemo hats have been donated to facilities for cancer patients around Charlotte.

Join Us!

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

(Puzzle on page 29)

1	F	2	L	3	A	4	G		5	J	6	A	7	B	8	S		9	A	10	R	11	B	12	O	13	R
14	I	A	N	S					15	U	C	L	A					16	M	A	A	L	E				
17	G	R	O	U		18	N	D	H	O	G							19	B	R	A	D	Y				
						20	Y	O	Y	O								21	A	R	E						
22	A	M	A	S	S							26	M	E	M	O	R		28	I	A		29		30	L	
31	M	O	T	H	E		32	R	S			34	D	P	S				35	M	O	O					
36	T	I	A	A			37	A	L	E	G							39	I	M	I	N	G				
						41	T	H	E	N	I	N	E	D	A	Y	S										
44	S	E	I	S	M							46	P	E	O	N			47	T	S		48		49	S	
50	U	R	L				51	B	O	O								53	F	A		54	T	H	E	R	S
55	V	E	T			56	E	R	A	N	S								58	A	S	D	O	I			
						59	R	A	T				60	E	B	A	N										
63	L	I	L	A	C							66	J	E	R	U	S		67	A		68	L	E	M		
71	O	R	A	T	E							72	A	Y	I	N			73	L	A	T	E				
74	L	A	B	O	R							75	M	A	T	T			76	F	A	S	T				

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

ASSISTED LIVING | MEMORY SUPPORT
REHABILITATION | SKILLED NURSING



BRIAR CREEK
HEALTH CENTER
AT THE BARCLAY

6041 Piedmont Row Drive South
Charlotte, NC 28210



A Life Plan Community offered by Liberty Senior Living

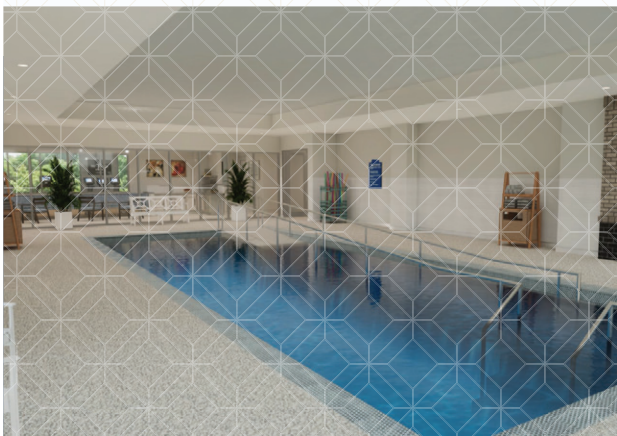


THE VILLAGE

on Morehead

Luxury Retirement Living

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



CONTACT US AT (704) 831-8000



VILLAGEONMOREHEAD.COM

There is something greater that awaits at The Village on Morehead.