The Jewish Federation’s 2017 Main Event, held on Thursday, December 8, 2016 at Temple Israel, was a night to remember.

Main Event co-chairs David and Debra Van Glish welcomed nearly 600 people to the event which featured guest speaker Joshua Malina, cast member of “West Wing” and “Scandal,” who described himself to our generous donors and community leaders as a performer second and a Jew first. In his speech “How to Remain a Mensch in Hollywood,” Joshua Malina linked his strong Jewish upbringing to his support for the great work the Jewish Federation does throughout the local and worldwide Jewish community. His solid Jewish identity and passion for Israel were key elements of his warm, witty, smart and very personal remarks. Following The Main Event, Joshua Malina was gracious and charming as he posed for endless photos with both devoted and new fans.

The Main Event is the official kick-off to the Jewish Federation’s 2017 Annual Campaign, and David Van Glish took the opportunity to announce the 2017 Campaign goal by saying, “To meet the needs of our entire community, Federation is working its way to a $4 million campaign with a goal this year of $3,750,000. Admittedly, that’s a lot of money….but it enables us to thrive in this amazing Jewish community we call home.”

David continued his remarks with the following exciting announcements, “And to jumpstart us on our way, I am honored to announce that The Leon Levine Foundation is making a gift of $706,000 to our 2017 Campaign! Please join me in thanking Leon and Sandra Levine for their cornerstone gift to our campaign which demonstrates their profound commitment not only to the Federation but to each and every one of us as well.

“In addition to their own generous gift, The Leon Levine Foundation is helping us ‘jumpstart’ the Campaign with a creative and motivating match – THE LEVINE LEAP! The Leon Levine Foundation will generously match the LEAP of any donors who increase their gift to the next giving level.”

And respond they did! The 2017 Main Event raised $330,281 which includes $23,336 from The Levine Leap! To learn more about how you can take advantage of this incredible opportunity, please call Sue Littauer at the Federation office 704-944-6758.

Special thanks go to David and Debra Van Glish and their hardworking Host Committee for making the 2017 Main Event a huge success!

And we’re incredibly grateful to our sponsors Swimmer Insurance Agency and Impact Shift Media; and all of the Honorable Menschen donors who went above and beyond to support The 2017 Main Event.

Event co-chair Debra Van Glish, special guests Joshua Malina, and event co-chair David Van Glish.

Brian Bernhardt, Nancy Kipnis, Glenda Bernhardt, and Tracy Brown.

Joshua Malina and Harry Lerner.

Joshua Malina and Jeff Turk.

Cindy and Craig Katzman and Sam and Nancy Bernstein.

More photos and information on The Main Event on page 4.
The Charlotte Jewish News thanks our most recent donors for their generosity in helping us fulfill our mission to continue publishing the latest information about our community. Visit charlottejewishnews.org to see the most updated information.

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**JEWISH FEDERATION NEWS**

**JRC Speaker Series Continues on January 26**

Please join the JRC for the second session of our 2017 Speaker Series on Thursday evening, January 26 in Sam Lerner Center for the Arts at 7 PM. We will be joined by guest speaker, Yotam Goren, who will discuss “Israel and the United Nations: The Challenges and Opportunities.”

Goren is an Israeli diplomat currently pursuing graduate studies at the Harvard Kennedy School. Goren joined the Israeli foreign ministry in 2010, followed by service in the embassy in Amman, Jordan and then the Permanent Mission of Israel to the UN.

In Amman, Goren focused on regional cooperation and political analysis. At the UN, Yotam was elected as Vice Chair of the UN’s Budget and Administration committee and was further responsible for peacekeeping policy, African bilateral and multilateral relations. In his capacity as chair of the UN Committee of Conferences and as a delegate to the UN Budget committee, Goren led the campaign to establish Yom Kippur as an official holiday at UN Headquarters in New York.

Goren was born in Jerusalem in 1981 and spent much of his childhood in the Riverdale neighborhood of New York City. Upon completion of a BA in international studies at the Johns Hopkins University in 2003, Yotam volunteered as a lone soldier in the IDF and served as a combat officer.

This event is free and open to the public, but reservations are required. Please RSVP to Tal Stein, Director of Community Relations and Israel Affairs at tal.stein@jewishcharlotte.org or 704-944-6751.

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**Shabbat Candle Lighting for January 2017**

- Friday, January 6, 5:08 PM
- Friday, January 13, 5:15 PM
- Friday, December 16, 4:55 PM
- Friday, January 20, 5:22 PM
- Friday, January 27, 5:29 PM

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**The Charlotte Jewish News**

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*Published monthly except July*

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JyD FINHER 2017 - Page 2
Growing Pains: Young Jew Experiences Israel

By Michelle Brint

I never really experienced growing pains. I am 5’5” and my vertical prowess came slowly. But, no other words come to mind when I try to explain what it’s like for me to be a young Jew in Israel. Growing pains.

I am participating in a program called Tikun Olam through BINA Secular Yeshiva. I spend three days a week volunteering in a home for adults with lifelong disabilities, teaching English in a High School with a diverse student body, and working for an NGO called Windows Channels for Communication. I spend the other two weekdays in classes: talking about Torah, modern and historic Zionism, cultural Judaism, Israeli politics, and whatever else happens to be on the minds of those in the program with me. Aside from volunteering and learning I am participating in a MASA-GLI Fellowship focused on understanding different narratives of the conflict.

Without the Lerner Subsidy I wouldn’t be here. There is never a moment when I don’t have something to think about. Where I spend my time helps me consider what it means to be Jewish. My classes and volunteer placements help me to build a healthy relationship with Israel; one built on understanding and willingness to question. They have given me a greater appreciation for the communities, which helped, shape me. I am left with questions, and I am left questioning answers I used to have. I don’t always wake up well rested, but I do feel strength in parts of my identity, which have become stronger. Growing pains; so far, they seem to be worth it. ☺

The Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte and The Stan Greenspon Center for Peace and Social Justice at Queens University Community Trip to Germany and Poland

Embracing the opportunity to travel with the Charlotte Jewish community to Eastern Europe will connect you in a powerful way to the past, present, and future of our people. This summer, join the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte and the Stan Greenspon Center for Peace and Social Justice as we travel together through one thousand years of Jewish history.

Explore how Berlin has confronted its past, visiting Holocaust memorial through visits to the Holocaust Memorial, the Book Burning Memorial, and the Topography of Terror which was a documentation center where Nazi persecution and terror were located during the Third Reich. Experience a guided visit of the villa in Wannsee where plans for the “Final Solution” were solidified. Be moved at Gleis 17 (Track 17), a memorial commemorating the main deportation site of Berlin Jews.

In Warsaw, walk the path of remembrance through the Warsaw Ghetto, view the remnants of the Ghetto and visit the Nahum Rapoport Ghetto Memorial, and follow the footsteps of the Warsaw Ghetto Heroes. At our stop in Krakow, connect to Jewish life that once thrived with an interactive program in the Kazimierz Jewish Quarter with stops at the Rema Synagogue and Cemetery, the Altshul (the oldest synagogue in Poland), the Temple (the first “Modern” Orthodox synagogue), the Galicia Jewish Museum, and the Oscar Schindler Factory Museum. Take time to explore and affirm your commitment to moving forward and building up Jewish life by spending the better part of a day with a guided visit through the Auschwitz-Birkenau Complex – the infamous concentration and extermination camps that witnessed the depths and horrors of human tragedy.

A trip through Eastern Europe has many high points. Explore the Jewish life that existed in Berlin through a tour of the center of Berlin Jewry and the Jewish Cemetery. Awaken your awareness of the historic Jewish life of Warsaw through the Gensha Cemetery - one of the largest Jewish cemeteries in the world. Take in the beauty of Nozyk Synagogue, the last remaining pre-Holocaust synagogue in Warsaw. Discover your family roots at the Jewish Genealogy Center and explore the newly opened and award-winning Polin Museum of the History of Polish Jews.

Take some time to appreciate the historic and modern sites that each city has to offer from Berlin’s Checkpoint Charlie and Eastside Gallery (with outdoor paintings on the Berlin Wall) to Warsaw’s Palace of Science and Culture to Krakow’s Wavel Royal Castle and historic Market Square.

Celebrate the renewed Jewish life that is flourishing by enjoying a first Shabbat with the Berlin Jewish Community and a second Shabbat with members of the Krakow Jewish Community. Take pride in Germany’s Jewish revival as we visit Abraham Geiger College, the first liberal rabbinic seminary in Continental Europe since the Holocaust.

The trip will depart on June 15 and return on June 25. Da’at Educational Expeditions, our tour provider, has twenty-five years of experience in creating transformative Jewish travel. Learn from knowledgeable educators, historians, guides, and community leaders in each city. Talli Dippold’s experience in Holocaust education, Sue Worrel’s understanding of Jewish communities across the globe, and Rabbi Judy Schindler’s passion and skill for creating meaningful Jewish connections will make this a trip of a lifetime.

There will be an information session January 30 at 7PM in the FSP Boardroom at Shalom Park. For more information contact Talli Dippold 704-847-3427. ☺
Main Event

Honorable Menschen

Bob and Ann Abel, Amy Augustine, Craig and Jill Balick, Sam and Rubina Batt, Michael and Meredith Baumstein, Milton and Arlene Berkman, Alan Kronovet and Cary Bernstein, Andrew and Elka Bernstein, Sam and Nancy Bernstein, Alan and Lee Blumenthal, David and Bonnie Bornstein, Stuart and Sarise Breidbart, Eliot and Melanie Brown, Larry and Tracy Brown, Steven and Olivia Cohen, Michael and Jill Dinerman, George and Stephanie DiPaolo, Slade and Stacey Goldstein, Jeff and Bari Gorelick, Todd and Stacy Gorelick, Russ and Julia Greenfield, Neil and Sharyn Handelsman, Thomas and Jeanne Huber, David Jacobson, Brian and Raizel Kahn, Harry and Gloria Lerner, Mark and Alison Lerner, Jerry and Barbara Levin, Ross and Jennifer Levin, Howard Levine and Julie Lerner Levine, Hal and Holly Levinson, Adam and Kimberly Levy, Harrison and Annie Lord, Gabe and Stephanie Mathiess, Gary and Jodi Michel, David and Risa Miller, Jeremy and Liz Naman, Rich Osborne, Floyd and Brenda Patten, Guy and Audrey Pearlman, Harold and Lyba Rousso, Michael Rousso and Chelsea Schilling, Jason and Jen Schwartz, Larry Schwartz, Zack and Sarah Schwartz, Linda Seigel, David and Julie Sheffer, Marc and Mattye Silverman, Eric and Lori Sklut, Oscar and Shana Suris, David and Debra Van Glish, Mark and Amy Vitter, Ron and Janice Weiner, Kim and Sue Worrel, Brian and Martha Yesowitch, Bill and Angie Zimmern

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More from Federation’s Main Event

(Continued from page 1)

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BBYO volunteers Kate Hader, Sophie Marx, Abby Meyers, and Eliza Weidner

The Charlotte Jewish News - January 2017 - Page 4
True Friendship Knows No Distance or Boundaries

By Jessica Weil.
Leadership2Gether Participant

A journey that started with an open mind and a new adventure, designed to pair American and Israeli Jewish counterparts initially through Skype. Not really knowing where this would lead, and what the end game was, it slowly developed into a deep friendship, and a different perspective on important Jewish topics and life itself. The focus of these discussions through Skype, scheduled once a month, was to encourage open dialogue around every day Jewish topics in our lives, a modern day “Pen Pal.”

After ten months of skyping and deep conversations about our very personal life experiences with our partners in our sister city, Hadera-Eiron, we developed a spiritual connection and friendship. The culmination of the program was a retreat in Chattanooga, TN where all the American and Israeli participants from the Southeast had an opportunity to meet in person for the first time. Before meeting, I had no real expectations other then finally having a chance to meet Maia, an amazing woman that I admire, and with whom I wish to continue developing our relationship. Upon arrival, Maia and I finally met in person and got to embrace each other as if we had been friends for the last ten months. We then had the opportunity to mingle with the rest of the group, have a drink and some food.

Next came our accommodations, not exactly what we were expecting. The room was a bunch of boxes that we had to arrange, Maia seemed so crampd in this odd setup. Four days later we were complete strangers, all from different walks of life, with different personalities, and the only thing we had in common was our Judaism. The best part was that I finally got to meet Maia, which was a true pleasure, but to my surprise, I also met many other people, and made a lot of other connections with Americans and Israelis. Some live near me in Charlotte. Who knew? Through this program I was amazed in so many ways, I was also humbled by the many “strangers” in Chattanooga that opened their homes to us for Shabbat dinner during our retreat. It was an experience that is hard to explain, but that I will never forget. One night we went to a house where a young Jewish family made us a home cooked dinner for complete strangers after a long day of work. I was again humbled by the young man in our program, a father of three, one being a newborn, who opened his home and hosted Shabbat, and also spent time showing us around his town, again, united only by Judaism.

I am extremely thankful for the speakers and the administration of the Jewish Federation in Chattanooga for their hospitality, and all the hard work they do. I have since returned home to Charlotte, proud of The Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte and our home at Shalom Park and the amazing Jewish community we have. I am grateful that my kids have so many Jewish activities thanks to Shalom Park and its partner institutions. We all know what needs to be done in order for generations to keep reaping the benefits of this amazing Jewish community, and as it is written in Ethics of the Father: “It is not your duty to complete the work, but neither are you excused from it.”

We are starting to recruit for our second cohort of our Leadership2Gether which will begin in early 2017. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Tal Stein, Director of Community Relations and Israel Affairs at tal.stein@jewishcharlotte.org or 704-844-6731.

Some worked out together, others had lengthy conversations while getting ready in the morning. It was an amazing four days where we laughed, cried, and cried some more. It was just so beautiful to take a step back and watch us all blossom as a group.

Often people shy away from programs like Leadership2Gether because they don’t consider themselves Jewish enough or religious enough. I thought about this when the program was presented to me. How am I to discuss these Jewish topics with someone from Israel who is probably more religious than I am. I mean, they live in Israel. Well we learned together and grew together, and there was no judgement, I even picked up a word or two after spending four days surrounded by people speaking in Hebrew. I feel so welcomed in our wonderful community. I know that at times being Jewish for many can be so effortless. However, even the simplest things need to be nourished and developed. Leadership2Gether is a program that nourishes young Jewish leaders, giving us a network of leaders that we can admire, as well as the resources to support and learn from each other.

The amazing Jewish community that we have in Charlotte today has been a result of young leaders before us, coming together to provide a place for Jews where they can feel at home. With the hectic lives that we all lead, and in a society full of instant pleasures and ego-centric needs, we need to make sure we take care of our community. If there is one thing we can do today, it is to strengthen and nourish our community, a community where our children and grandchildren can excel and be proud of our collective Jewish history, and continue to share it with others.

Thank you to our Leadership2Gether Charlotte participants: Yael Ovoshkev, Philip Schreiman, and Jessica Weil.

Leadership2Gether is a program geared for young professionals, and just one of many that are part of the The Jewish Agency’s Partnership2Gether program, which creates a living bridge between Charlotte as well as nine other Southeastern Jewish communities and the Hadera-Eiron region of Israel. Thanks to this partnership, the future of Charlotte’s relationship with Israel is stronger than ever.
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Donations to Jewish Family Services in November 2016

Jewish Family Services received the following donations for Tribute Cards in November 2016. Thank you for allowing JFS to honor your friends and loved ones.

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Kevin Clein to Gerry Yancv from Temple Solel of Fort Mill, SC
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Ellen Dubin to Adina Barkin-skyy from The Askind Family, Douglas Kent Gentile, and George and Lois Schneider
Ted Goodman to Carol Goodman from Marion and David Kro-novetz
Nancy Hodes to Jeffrey and Karen Turk from Gary and Donna Lerner, and Allan and Marcelle Oxman
Abe Luki to Berta Strait from Lee and Alan Blumenthal and Amalia, Avi, Orly, and Ruthie Warshenbrot
Douglas Mann to Elliott Mann from Daniel and Nancy Coblenz Paul Ostrow to Paul and Carole Ostrow from Allan and Marcelle Oxman
Golda Schwartz to Eileen Schwartz from Ruth Brandt and William Cassell
Rabbi Robert Alan Seigel to Tammy Seigel and Adam Bern-stein from Marion and David Kro-novetz
Harvey Tittel to Lori Tittel from Temple Solel of Fort Mill, SC

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO
Tara Benson from Jennifer Koss

Thank you to the following people who contributed their time to Jewish Family Services in November.
Volunteers: JoAnn Abdo, Rick Abrams, Leigh Altman & family, Chaim Burke, Jennifer Colman, Andrew Coston, Sheryl Eilfen, Mel & Caren Frank, Robert Friedman, Jennifer Golynsky, Gail Halverson, Bob Jacobson, Eric Lerner, Matt Luftgass, David Miller, Frada Mozenter, Allan Oxman, Barbara Reim, Louis Sinkoe, Harry Sparks, Sara Stinemetz, Jeff & Stacy Streicher, Liz Wahls, Temperature, Mike Weingberg, Jan Wein, Mary Wennen, and Nancey Wieluschnik
Food Pantry Donations: Temple Israel & Temple Beth El Congre-gants, Frada Mozenter, Dawn Huhrs, Marilyn Schuster, and the Gan Class of Temple Israel Religious School
Food Drives: JCC Tennis Teams and CJDS Mitzvah Munchkins
Community News

Hebrew Cemetery Association: New Leadership, Same Commitments

By Mike Litauer, president, Hebrew Cemetery Association

Two short years ago it was my privilege and honor to join the professional and passionate board of trustees of the Hebrew Cemetery Association of Greater Charlotte. And it is with a profound sense of humility that I accept the honor of serving as President of the Hebrew Cemetery Association of Greater Charlotte for the next two years. I would like to thank the board and as such our community for the trust that they have placed in me and I will do all within my power to be worthy of their mandate.

Please join me and congratulate Brian Yesowitch, our immediate past president for his leadership and accomplishments during his tenure. Brian brought a unique passion and tremendous energy to the board that will he continue on executive committee.

Our plans for 2017 are focused on continuing to provide a respectful and solemn place of internment for our departed, a place of comfort for the bereaved, and a place of beauty and serenity for those visiting the graves of their loved ones or friends. We will continue to work closely with clergy from all of our area congregations to ensure their congregational needs are met. With the financial help of the Norman Steinberger Funeral Assistance Fund and Greater Charlotte Jewish Federation Funeral Assistance Fund we will continue to provide for the funeral and burial needs of Jewish families in financial crisis. Our new Orthodox section is dedicated to providing the strict requirements of Orthodox burial laws, and we have opened a separate and dedicated section to provide the internment needs of our interfaith families.

Additional goals this year include building on our beautification process including partnering with Trees Charlotte and community volunteers to plant an additional 50 trees in the memorial park. This annual event is scheduled for February 12 and we look forward to seeing you there. Look for more information in the CJN as we get closer to that date. We also have plans for two new gardens and the planting of larger trees in the newer section. And through the generosity of Marc and Mattye Silverman we will dedicate the Silverman Circle that will include an awe inspiring sculpture and garden that will welcome visitors to our memorial park for generations to come.

A major initiative for 2017 is the implementation of a new cemetery management system that will allow our community better access to our database and grounds, move us forward in the management of cemetery assets and records, better access and GIS mapping, and remote access and back-up. This system will allow our cemetery staff to more efficiently serve our community and provide seamless processes and transitions as we all move forward.

My parents are interred in a Jewish Cemetery on the edge of the Everglades, home to peacocks, herons, osprey, eagles, and other wondrous wildlife. And yes, to alligators and snakes. I pass through the gates and I get anxious the way I did when I was about to see them when they were alive. I approach their tomb and read the familiar names on the other stones. My anxiousness turns to anticipations. I kiss their stone and begin telling them about their grandchildren and great grandchildren. I know they’ll want to hear that first. They respond with delight (yes I imagine them answering me, or maybe they really are). The conversation turns to Sue and my brother’s and sister’s families and for the first time in a long time the stress that’s accumulated since my last visit is gone. The conversation turns to me and I tell them I miss them and pray for their rest and peace every day. I think back to the good times and the lessons they taught me and my tears turn to sobs. I look up at the trees, gaze at the wildlife, I listen to the birds, I stare at their stone and I pray. I hate to leave. I fight leaving but I know it’s time to go. As I get up from the bench I’m overcome by a wave of tranquility, peace, and comfort as if they had enveloped me with their love. I promise I’ll be back.

I know that many in our community experience those some of those same emotions as they visit their departed. It is my hope that our cemetery provides that same comfort, serenity, and tranquility for all of our community and to know that our cemetery is as much for the living as it is for those departed.

2017 marks the 150th anniversary of the Hebrew Cemetery of Greater Charlotte. I wonder what those handful of devout Jews who purchased this 11 acres in 1867 would think about our wonderful Jewish community and its cemetery today? Look for more information on our commemoration events and dedication of The Silverman Circle later in the year. And please contact Sandra Goldman, our director or me with your comments or suggestions as we move into 2017.

Like us on Facebook: Charlotte Jewish News
What Makes Levine Hearing Different?

Music. A joy that we sometimes don't fully appreciate. I spend so much of my day explaining to patients why they aren't understanding words clearly, but rarely get past that topic to relate the joys and stimulation of hearing music correctly. A new patient reminded me this week of how satisfying it can be to hear a musical instrument with all the fullness that the crisp treble notes bring. In his own words, he was “in denial” for many years. He was “getting by” in his opinion, though his family felt very differently. At his checkup, he was impressed by how much easier it felt to be included in his family’s conversations, and he beamed as he told me he was communicating better with his grandchildren. Still, it was his experience with music that left him in awe. Our brains are flexible and able to help us cope with many situations. When a person begins to lose their hearing, their brain starts to do double duty to cope with the world around it. When it is hard to understand someone, the brain goes on defense, saying, “they were mumbling and not looking right at you when they spoke”.

As environmental sounds become harder to hear, like footsteps on carpet, or the new, little birds in the nest outside your door, you don’t miss them. They went so slowly and gently that you did not even know they were gone. But when a friend shares that a family member is ill and you smile and nod because you misheard what they said, the embarrassment finally brings the realization home. Missing sounds is not benign. In fact, even a mild hearing loss may increase the risk of falling and dementia as your brain’s focus and energy are pulled away from other parts of the brain.

Hearing aids are worn by all ages, discreetly, and happily. Today’s hearing aids are tiny and can connect to a smartphone for Bluetooth phone calls, or they can connect to the television to stream the sound directly to both ears. The solution must fit the person and their needs. I love my job. I love helping people hear better. I invite you come in for a free hearing consultation in my privately owned, local practice to see what better hearing care looks like.

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January Events at Moishe House

Moishe House is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting community among Jewish young adults in their twenties and early thirties. Moishe House looks to fill the void that often exists after graduating college and prior to settling down. The organization brings together groups of three to five Jewish adults who live together and plan local programs, both home-based and external, for other young Jewish adults. There are currently 93 Moishe Houses in 22 countries around the world.

Moishe House Charlotte began in August 2013 and since then has hosted 130+ events ranging from service projects to social events to Jewish learning and more. We are always happy to see new and returning faces, so be sure to join us.

We are pleased to share with you our exciting events for this January:

Event 1: South End Gallery Crawl + Food Truck Friday - Friday, January 6 at 7 PM at the Intersection of Camden Ave. and Park Rd. Charlotte, NC 28203

South End is always a buzz on the first Friday of every month as there is a Gallery Crawl and Food Truck Friday. Join your fellow Moishes to explore all of the galleries that South End has to offer. We’ll start at Food Truck Friday at the intersection of Camden and Park to fill our tummies, and then peruse the galleries.

Event 2: College Football National Championship Watch Party - Monday, January 9 at 8:30 PM at the Moishe House

Are you ready for some football? Join your fellow Moishes at the Moishe House for the climax of the college football season. The winners of the two semi-final games will face off and we will be watching with drinks and snacks. You may be tired Tuesday morning but a wise man once said, “you have to stay up late to roll with the big dogs.”

Event 3: Wine and Cheese - Thursday, January 12 at 7:15 PM at the Moishe House

Join us at the Moishe House for a super classy evening of wine and cheese. Moishe House Endorsed Realtor Andrew Rosen will also be doing a short presentation about a special young adult home ownership program.

Event 4: Trivia Night at Kennedy’s - Wednesday, January 18 at 7:30 at Kennedy’s Premium Bar, 366 N. Caswell, Charlotte.

(Continued on page 26)

March For Love

By Linda Levy

Several hundred people of various faiths, ethnicities, and races participated in a “March for Love,” on Saturday, December 3 at Marshall Park. The event, which started at noon, began with a brief program of songs, poetry, and prayer. Speakers urged participants to take a pledge to be leaders, to associate with others that are different from you - forming a community that promises extra compassion and hope for a brighter tomorrow. Speakers included Rabbi Judith Schindler of the Stan Greenspon Center for Peace and Social Justice at Queens University; Susan Chernyak-Spatz, representatives from several churches, the gay community, and organizations such as Carolina Jews for Justice, and One Meck – an organization working to promote school diversity.

Following the presentations participants marched through flowery streets at the statues of Martin Luther King, Jr., Mahatma Gandhi, and the Holocaust Memorial, all within or near Marshall Park. The flowers were left as a “tribute to those whose loving footsteps we continue to walk in today.”

Several representatives from the media, including The Charlotte Observer and television channels, covered the event.

“Love, unity, compassion and hope” were the guiding themes of the grassroots March for Love. Organizers described the march as “a moving, tangible expression of the commitment to love in our community going forward.”

The Wing Span of the Levine JCC’s Butterfly Project

More than eight years have passed since the Levine JCC embarked on the wonderful journey of the Butterfly Project. Between 2000 and the time the Margaret and Lou Schwartz Butterfly Garden Holocaust Memorial was dedicated at Shalom Park in May 2011, approximately 3,000 butterflies were painted by the Levine community in memory of children who died in the Holocaust. Now in its sixth year of presenting its in-house workshops, the Levine JCC Butterfly Project continues to be successful in so many ways.

As of today, more than 25,500 ceramic butterflies have been painted in Charlotte – meaning that more than 25,500 specific children have been remembered. While the number of people participating in some form of the workshops is impressive, as is the impact the project is making on its participants, it is the far reach of the Butterfly Project workshops that is truly notable.

Since its inception, the Levine JCC Butterfly Project has reached people in every corner of the greater Charlotte area – in both North Carolina and South Carolina – so many different types of organizations. The 128 organizations that have participated in the workshop to date are broken down as follows:

* 37 schools in CMS
* 19 religious organizations (temples, churches, Hebrew High, etc.)
* 12 LJCC Programs (camp, teens, seniors, etc.)
* 11 Independent Schools
* 9 schools from Union County
* 8 schools from Fort Mill
* 8 Charter Schools
* 7 schools from Gaston County
* 6 miscellaneous organizations (preschool, university, library, museum, etc.)
* 4 senior residences
* 3 schools from Cabarrus County
* 2 schools from Lincoln County
* 1 school from York County
* 1 school from the Rowan-Salisbury School System

While the greatest number of participants comes from the geographical area of the school district in which the Levine JCC is located, the reach extends far beyond that. Four of the participating organizations are located more than 100 miles from Shalom Park, including campers from Camp Coleman in Cleveland, GA (215 miles away), who participated during four consecutive summers. Groups that have participated are located in Belmont, Charlotte, Concord, Cornelius, Cramerton, Dallas, Davidson, Fort Mill, Gastonia, Greensboro, Harrisburg, Hendersonville, Huntersville, Indian Trail, Iron Station, Lake Wylie, Landis, Lincolnton, Marshville, Mint Hill, Monroe, Rock Hill, Sanford, Tega Cay, Waxhaw, and Weddingston.

The Levine JCC’s Butterfly Project has been so successful due to the generosity of so many community members. Holocaust survivors Irving Bienstock and Suly Chenkin donate hours upon hours of their time each year. During the 2016-17 academic year, one of the two of them will speak at each of the 74 workshops currently scheduled. Their shared experiences are often the highlight of the workshops for many students. After students learn to speak, they ask many thought-provoking questions, all of which are enthusiastically answered in detail. There are not enough ways to thank Irving and Suly for their dedication to the Butterfly Project.

Additionally, thanks go out to the 38 volunteers who have spent hundreds of hours helping out at workshops since school started this past fall. Judy August, Karen Chase, Elaine Chernotsky, Dan Coblenz, Ann Del Vecchio, Ira Dunst, Sheryl Effren, Aileen Epstein, Darcy Garfinkel, Carole Gelfand, Dayle Glick, Jane Graham, Leslie Gumpert, Lauren Halperrn, Marlene Jack, Dana Kaplan, Joan Kirschner, Mindy Kirshbaum, Judy Marco, Karen Marsh, Malka Me-Zaahav, Kathryn Mizelle, Jill Newman, Elise Orenstein, Ken Orenbach, Gwen Orland, Ruth Paul, Elaine Schellin, Barbara Schupper, Fran Schuler, Janette Schwartz, Barb Sher, Susan Shure, Hagit Stav, Carole Sternstein, Bonnie Tanganos, Nancy Tarbis, and Barbara Ziegler.

Due to the generosity of our many financial donors, we are pleased to announce that, this spring, butterflies will be applied to the remaining two sets of “wings” of the Children’s Holocaust Memorial Sculpture in the Margaret & Lou Schwartz Butterfly Garden.

The purpose of the Levine JCC’s Butterfly Project is to help today’s youth examine the past in order to understand what can happen when individuals and governments fail to take a stand against injustice. The goal is that students implement what they have learned at a Butterfly Project workshop into their daily lives, so that, ultimately, they can better understand how to interrupt hateful behaviors in their schools, communities, society and beyond. Not only are we reaching that goal, but we are doing so for thousands of students, in eight counties, across two states. That’s quite a wing span.

For more information about the Levine JCC’s Butterfly Project or to volunteer, please contact Butterfly Project Supervisor, Lori Semel, at butterflyproject@charlottejcc.org or 704-944-6833.

Visit our website at charlottejcc.org.
Levine JCC Celebrates 30th Annual Meeting

Honors Past Presidents

The 30th Annual Meeting of the Levine JCC was held October 19. The evening began with a beautiful cocktail celebration honoring the LJCC Past Presidents, Donors, and Distinctive Members. Elise Kosofsky, served as Chair of the event at which attendees took a moment to pause and reflect upon the growth and development of the JCC over the past 30 years. The evening was a celebration of the LJCC Past Presidents, who had dedicated their time, energy, and passion to ensuring that the “J” made a positive impact on the lives of our community and the Park as leaders of the “J.”

Harry Swimmer gave an inspiring D’Var Torah, completely mesmerizing all as he told the story of the creation of Shalom Park from idea, to concept, to reality. Harry shared personal stories of the many leaders who took us from the Amity Club to Shalom Park and pushed us all to ensure the vision remains a reality.

Board President, Jon Simon, spoke of the past year’s accomplishments; the LJCC BOD Governance Task Force, the 5th Annual Kids Triathlon, the Butterfly Project’s national award, the Capital Campaigns success, refurbishing of the Family Locker Rooms, and groundbreaking of the new Pool. Jon noted the incredible staff of the “J,” celebrated the volunteers, and thanked the LJCC Board. In looking to the future, Jon spoke of the upcoming expansion of Social Action, Adult, and Cultural Arts programs, of continued work to ensure that our children and grandchildren always have Jewish experiences and relationships, and the focus on the “J” as a place for wellness, physical, social, intellectual and spiritual, where relationships with the Jewish community and Judaism evolve. Jon thanked Peter, the board, staff, and members of the community for their unceasing support.

Peter Blair, CEO, gave a speech about the vision and mission of the Levine JCC 30 years ago, presently, and 30 years into the future. He spoke of the persistent need to design a dynamic and rewarding Jewish experience in this community. Peter noted the importance of ensuring constructive and harmonious relationships in this community exist and are nurtured. He asked the question: “When you vision 2046 in our community, what do you see?” Noting that the J will continue to be relevant by “putting the J at the center” in its strategic decision-making and pressed those in attendance to think about what role they would play in the next chapter of the Levine JCC’s story. The message was clear and those in attendance left excited to write the story in what will be a long story of the Levine JCC.

Outgoing Board Officers and Directors were thanked for their service: Michael Baumanstein, Jonathan Brackis, Jeremy Davids, Penny Lipsitz and Larry Schwartz. The Nominating Committee Chair, Elise Kosofsky, presented the slate of candidates for the President and Executive Director’s Award for passion, dedication, and tireless efforts as Chair of JBuild Capital Campaign.

Peter Blair expressed his appreciation of the value, importance and commitment of the staff to the LJCC, when presenting staff awards including: Outstanding Service Award: Sol Levine, Solomon Shapiro (VP), Mark Bernstein (VP), Ben Jaffa, Jr. (VP), Bob Abel, Harold Josephson (VP), Miles Levine, Larry Gerber, Mike Van Glish, Hal Levinson, Gene Dau­mit, Eric Sklut, Scott Menaker, Lane Ostrow, Phil Berman, Roni Fishkin, Judy August, Larry Schwartz, David Van Glish, and Elise Kosofsky (*Deceased).

Lauren Althofer was recognized as Volunteer of the Year. Lauren, served as a “J” Board member, Board liaison to CJP, and volunteer for the Kids Triathlon and Purim Carnival. Roni Fishkin, Past President of the “J,” received the coveted President and Executive Director’s Award for passion, dedication, and tireless efforts as Chair of JBuild Capital Campaign.

(Continued on page 11)
January is a Great Month to Plan a Wedding

By Kelly Reed Keeling

There are endless details associated with planning a wedding, but the biggest obstacle is finding a location. Once the location is decided, a lot of other pieces involved in planning fall into place. Fortunately, Shalom Park has many catering partners and vendors to help make wedding planning a breeze. Couples choosing Shalom Park as the venue for their wedding find a perfect blend of beauty, convenience, value, and service.

From the moment wedding guests enter Shalom Park, guests are impressed by the tree-lined drive and ample surface and garage parking. What a perfect first impression! As guests enter the lobby and stroll Main Street, the Maurice and Evelyn Schaller crystal collection exudes elegance.

Shalom Park, managed by the Foundation of Shalom Park, has two beautifully appointed reception halls, Gorelick Hall with a seating capacity of 200 (or 150 with a dance floor) and Sam Lerner Center with a capacity of 300 (or 250 with a dance floor). A variety of seating arrangements are possible for plated or banquet meals. Both reception halls offer the latest in AV technology with projectors and screens.

Recently, Charlotte wedding planners discovered that Shalom Park is the perfect location not only for the reception, but also for the ceremony itself. In 2016, Anna Meerovich and Arthur Midgett were married in the Margaret and Lou Schwartz Butterfly Garden. Rabbi Shlomo Cohen officiated the service. Charming flower girls led the procession for this outdoor wedding, and Ms. Meerovich carried fresh-cut peonies in her bouquet for this lovely outdoor wedding at the Park. A reception followed in Sam Lerner Center, where beautiful flowers adorned the tables. Rabbi Cohen thought the occasion so lovely that his own daughter will be married in the Butterfly Garden in 2017.

In the midst of all the wedding planning details - making the guest list, selecting the dress, choosing the invitations, planning the service - it’s nice to know that you have a beautiful venue and professional staff at-the-ready to make your life easier. And what is more, this venue is a community place, a place you can call home for even the most special of all occasions.

Are you, a friend or a loved one looking for a venue for a wedding? Contact Jay Parton, Operations Manager of the Foundation of Shalom Park, at jparton@shalomcharlotte.org or 704-944-6842. Jay will be happy to explain all the options offered by the Foundation of Shalom Park and give a tour. Jay and his staff strive to make wedding planning stress-free and enjoyable for families and their guests. For weddings large and small, the Foundation of Shalom Park is the perfect place to make memories.

Photos by Saul Mark Photography.

Winter and Spring Program Registration GOING ON NOW!

No joining fee thru Jan 31

charlottejcc.org
PJ LIBRARY
SUPERHERO
MITZVAH MANIA

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22, 2017
10:00 - 12:00 PM  |  GORELICK HALL

Come dressed as your favorite superhero and get ready to use your super powers to do some good for the community!

Join us for Storytime with Ms. Debby, Mask Decorating & Mitzvah Crafts

Superhero Dance Party & Superhero Photo Opportunity

*Parents, please remember to bring your cameras*

Cost: FREE, however, space is limited. Register at www.NEXTGENCharlotte.org

Questions? Contact Tair Giudice, 704.944.6759, tair.giudice@jewishcharlotte.org
Hebrew Highlights

By Roz Cooper

We’re off and running for the 5777 Hebrew High season. First trimester classes were fun and educational. Our theme of “Loving Jewish” led students down many paths of learning—from cooking to photography to thinking about tzedaka outside of the box. The teens found their freedom to express themselves through art, poetry, and especially through lively conversation.

Following are some highlights of this session:

* The eighth grade core classes joined forces to learn about Judaism’s long legacy of caring for the environment.
* A large number of parents have joined our PTO. That means that we can offer more special programs, enhance holiday celebrations, and the quality of our classes. For those who have not yet joined, please send a $25 check to the CHS office and mark it PTO.
* New program—Better Together—brings vibrant seniors and our ninth and tenth graders together to learn about and from each other. This group is exploring the arts through slam poetry, music, and the visual arts. They went on a field trip to the Mint Museum this month.
* We have an amazing student council, with new leadership, members from all of our classes, and lots of fresh ideas. These students are our ambassadors to the community, helping at community events, spearheading Tzedaka projects, and leading the school in ruach (spirit). They have been busy planning a fun Hanukkah celebration for the entire student body.
* Great pizza nights! Monthly pizza dinners that serve as the basis of our tzedaka program. Come eat pizza for a good cause.
* Don’t miss the Hebrew High bulletin board. It features creations from our “Jewish Lens” class. Students combined their own photos with commercially produced pictures of Israel to make an interesting and highly personal display. Take a peak and see if you can figure out which part of each montage was taken at Hebrew High.
* Hebrew High was a proud sponsor of the “Up All Night for Israel” program, where students from all of the Jewish youth organizations at Shalom Park spent the entire evening (till 8 AM) learning about Israel, dancing, having fun, and connecting to the Jewish homeland. A highlight of the event was the limo ride around Charlotte while stopping for an Israel themed scavenger hunt.

We are so thankful to our families and the time and effort that they put in to helping Hebrew High be successful. If you haven’t joined the PTO yet, please send your $25 check to the office. PTO funds make our holiday celebrations extra special, and allow us to participate in community programs that enrich our students’ Jewish lives.

Thanks for the snacks, the driving and the support for our school.

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BBYO Honors Gamechangers at Global Shabbat

On Friday December 2, Charlotte BBYO honored local hero Harry Swimmer and renowned television and radio personality Larry King as part of their Global Shabbat program.

BBYO chapters from the United States to the Balkans and everywhere in between took part in Global Shabbat 2016, hosting simultaneous Shabbat programs as one united movement. This year, AZA and BBG celebrated Global Shabbat under the shared theme of “Being a Gamechanger,” for which BBYO teen leaders invited #gamechangers – including Swimmer and King – to enjoy Shabbat with them.

The evening began with services led by BBYO members Sammy Yass, Alana Markel, and Charlie Kapustin and followed by inspiring words of wisdom from two tremendous leaders. Swimmer, founder of Mitey Riders and a CNN Heroes finalist, spoke to teens and their families about following his passions, first in helping raise funds to build Shalom Park and later when he founded his equine therapy program for disabled children.

King, a Peabody award-winning journalist, emphasized values such as perseverance, giving back, and being yourself. “The secret to success is that there no secret,” King explained to nearly 250 teens and families.

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JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER CHARLOTTE ALLOCATES $3,699,079*  

IT’S ALWAYS SOMETHING. THAT’S WHY THERE’S A FEDERATION.

Faced with the responsibility and challenge of effectively distributing funds, the 2017 Allocations Committee (see below), under the leadership of Ira Slomka and Ron Townsend worked conscientiously and tirelessly to ensure a thorough and impactful allocations process.

2017 LOCAL BENEFICIARY AGENCIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anti-Defamation League</td>
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<td>Ballantyne Jewish Center</td>
<td>$12,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Birthright</td>
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<td>Young adult travel to Israel</td>
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<td>B’nai B’rith Youth Organization</td>
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<td>Butterfly Project</td>
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<td>Charlotte Community Agencies</td>
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<td>Charlotte Jewish Preschool</td>
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<td>Consolidated High School of Jewish Studies</td>
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<td>Levine-Sklut Judaic Library and Resource Center</td>
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<td>Molsie House</td>
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<td>North Carolina Council on the Holocaust</td>
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<td>P1 Library</td>
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<td>Sandra and Leon Levine Jewish Community Center</td>
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<td>Shalom Park Freedom School</td>
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<td>Supplemental Gifts and Special Distributions</td>
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<td>Tikkah Charlotte</td>
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<td>ZAB’S Place</td>
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2017 IMPACT & INNOVATION FUND GRANTEES

The Jewish Federation’s Community Impact & Innovation Fund grants are intended to inspire individuals, organizations, synagogues, and agencies to provide innovative and impactful engagement opportunities for the greater Charlotte Jewish community.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ballantyne Jewish Center (Mega Challah Bake)</td>
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<td>Charlotte Jewish Preschool (Learning Garden)</td>
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<td>Global Day of Jewish Learning: Collaborative celebration of community-wide Jewish learning and cultural experiences</td>
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<td>Levine ICC and Temple Kol Tikkah (Young Family Feasibility Study)</td>
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<td>NC Holocaust Foundation (Holocaust Museum Workshop for NC Teachers)</td>
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<td>Shalom Green (Part-time Garden Coordinator)</td>
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<td>Temple Beth El (Baby Boomers/Empty Nester Engagement)</td>
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<td>Temple Kol Ami (Quarterly Shabbatons)</td>
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<td>Uptown Chabad (Young Adult Programming)</td>
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ISRAEL AND OUR GLOBAL FAMILY

Israel and Overseas

Meets the needs of Jews in Israel and world-wide through the Jewish Federations of North America.

Israel as a community, Charlotte is able to designate $353,000 of our overseas allocation:

- Ahari-Givat Olga  
- Chabad Chessed Center  
- Community Shalich  
- Education for Excellence  
- Ethiopian National Project  
- Gidon Association/Makshan  
- Hadera Young Adult Center  
- Hand in Hand: Jewish-Arab Education  
- HIAS  
- JAFI: Ulpanim in Ukraine  
- JDC: FSU Welfare  
- JDC: Supported Housing Hadera  
- Kinneret Wing  
- Nave Michael Children’s Village  
- Partnership-Goether - Hadera Eiron  
- Tkol: Community For Its Children  
- Techno  
- Uplift Mousavat Baruch  
- World Or  
- Yerucham Association

Want to donate? Visit us online: www.jewishcharlotte.org
January 2017

Early Childhood
JChildcare
7 weeks – 7 years old
Children will enjoy a nurturing environment to explore and have fun with crafts and activities, while parents workout.

Mon-Fri AM.............. 8am-1pm
Mon-Thu PM.............. 4pm-7:30pm
Saturday.................. 12pm-3pm
Sunday.................... 8am-2pm
Per Hour: M/$4.50 N/$5.50

Reservations Required! 704-366-5007, or visit LJCC’s customer service desk.

Spanish for Preschoolers
3.5–5 year olds
Children will learn Spanish through the Foreign Language League’s interactive full-immersion method. All teachers are bilingual, native to the language they are teaching, certified and follow a fun curriculum.

Wednesdays, 1:15–2pm
January 4 – February 22
Family Place
M/$120 B/$90 NM/$144

Music and Me
8 months–2 year olds
Interactive music and age-appropriate movement for parent or caregiver and baby/toddler.

January 9 – February 13
LJCC Family Place
M/$75 B/$50 NM/$90

Grades K-5
J STEPS Dance Explosion
Boys and girls will enjoy an active and fun class that will give a diverse education in all styles of dance, including jazz, hip hop, tap and ballet. Ballet/Jazz and tap shoes required.

Mondays, 4–5pm
January 9 – May 22
M/$50 B/$30 NM/$60 per month

Join us for a Lunch & Learn
Special Screening of
SCREEN AGERS

Sunday, Jan 29 @ 1:15pm
Register at LJCC Customer Service
704-366-5007 or charlottejcc.org
Q? Jessie.Cohen@charlottejcc.org

LADIES’ NIGHT OUT
FITNESS PARTY!

JAN 25 • 6:30–8:30PM
Dance To The Decades
with Karen Wielunski!
Ages 21+
Join us for the perfect mix of socializing, a fun workout, healthy food, wine and door prizes.
Proceeds to benefit the LJCC Oasis Senior Enrichment Program.
Member: $20 – Bring a friend for $10!
Register at LJCC Customer Service by 1/20.
Q? Robin.Stier@charlottejcc.org

Pricing Codes:  M=Member  B=Benefactor  NM=Non-Member
Teens

Red Cross CPR/First Aid Course
6th – 8th Grade
January 16th, 9am – 4pm
M/S $100 B/S $90 N/M $110
Register by calling or dropping off at the LJCC
Customer Service Desk at 704-366-5007

Mitzvah Program
6th – 8th Grade
A great way to earn Community Service Hours. Drop-off and pick-up at the LJCC Teen Lounge. Pizza lunch included.
January 24 – Trip to Bright Blessings
10am – 1pm
M/S $5 N/M $5 B/FREE
Register by dropping off at the LJCC
Customer Service Desk at 704-366-5007

SHHIP
Seniors’ Health Insurance Information Program
Free Medicare Counseling available year round! Please call Senior & Adult Director Jill Lipson at 704-944-6792 for information.

Adults

Adult Fencing Class Ages 18+
Students will be introduced to the art of Fencing. Fencers develop good coordination, balance and flexibility which makes this training an ideal means of keeping fit for all ages and abilities. Basic equipment will be provided.
Wednesday, 7:30 – 8:30pm
January 4 – February 22
M/S $100 B/S $100 N/M $228

Ballroom Dancing
Adults 21+
Bring a partner and learn the basics of the Fox Trot, Waltz, Swing, and the Cha Cha. Maybe Dancing with the Stars is in your future! Must bring a partner.
Thursdays, 7-8pm
January 12 – March 2
Swimmer Family Aerobics Studio
Instructor: Bob Peltz
M/S $100 B/S $90 N/M $228

It’s a Novel Thing!
LJCC & Levine-Skifit Judaic Library Adult Book Club
Join us for this informal yet thought-provoking opportunity to share your love of fiction. Group discussions will be facilitated.
3rd Tuesday of each month, 10:30am • Free
For more information or location, contact the Levine-Skifit Judaic Library at 704-944-6790

Writing Class: Tales to Treasure – How to Discover and Write Compelling Family Stories
Adults 21+
Tuesdays, 7-8pm • March 7 – 28 (4 classes)
Room A101 • Instructor: Dana Kumerow
M/S $5 B/S $4 N/M $8
Register with LJCC Customer Service 704-366-5007 by Thursday, March 2, 704-944-6793 or
shari.benjamin@charlottejcc.org

Painting & Beyond Art Class
Adults 50+
Ignite your creativity, and learn from an art instructor.
1st, 2nd & 3rd Mondays of the month
10-11:30am • Room A101
Oasis/M $5 per class • N/M $10 per class
Register with LJCC Customer Service 704-366-5007

Tai Chi/Qigong
Adults 50+
Improve your strength, balance and flexibility through this gentle form of fitness.
Intermediate Level • Ongoing
Tuesdays, 11:15am-12:15pm
Beginner Level • Ongoing
Tuesdays, 1-2pm
Oasis/MS $30 B/S $20 N/M $42 per month
Drop-in fee: M/B/S $12 per class N/M $14 per class

SCHIP
Senior Enrichment
Mon-Fri • 9am-5pm
Weinberg Senior Adult Center

* Game Days
* Enrichment Activities
* Educational Seminars
* Painting Classes
* Monthly Field Trips
* Exercise Classes
* M/W/F Kosher Lunch

If you have questions, contact: Jill Lipson • 704-944-6792
jill.lipson@charlottejcc.org

LJCC Department Directory
Please contact us if you have questions!

Membership
Susan Lerner 704-944-6741
susanna.lerner@charlottejcc.org

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

K-5th Grade Programs
Mitch Ormand 704-944-6733
mitch.ormand@charlottejcc.org

Teen Programs
Jesse Cohen 704-944-6739
jesse.cohen@charlottejcc.org

Adults & Seniors/Oasis
Jill Lipson 704-944-6792
jill.lipson@charlottejcc.org

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

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

LJCC Tennis / CRUSH
Greg O’Connor 704-944-6748
gregory.oconnor@charlottejcc.org

Visual/Performing Arts
Susan Gundersheim 704-944-6778
susan.gundersheim@charlottejcc.org

J-Childcare
Maxine Serrano 704-944-6726
maxine.serrano@charlottejcc.org

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

Like us! Facebook.com/LevineJCC

* An annual administration fee of $20 per individual or $35 per family is required for non-member participation in programs and services.
2016-2017 JCRC SPEAKER SERIES

January 26, February 28, March 23 and May 22
7:00 pm | Sam Lerner Center for Cultural Arts

YOTAM GOREN
January 26: Israel and the U.N. - Challenges and Opportunities

Yotam Goren is an Israeli diplomat currently pursuing graduate studies at the Harvard Kennedy School. Yotam joined the Israeli foreign ministry in 2010, serving in the North America Division in Jerusalem followed by service in the embassy in Amman and the Permanent Mission of Israel to the U.N.

RALPH NURNBERGER
February 28: The Election is Over: Now What?
What can our community expect from America’s next President and new administration?

Dr. Ralph Nurnberger, a professor of International Relations at Georgetown University, is a widely acclaimed speaker who brings humor, current political insights and historical background to his presentations and analysis of political and international issues including American politics and the Middle East.

MICAH HALPERN
March 23: Regional Turmoil Challenge: Influence of ISIS on Palestinian Israeli Conflict and Israeli Arab Minority

Micah Halpern, a syndicated columnist, is also a well-known social and political commentator, educator, and historian. An expert on terrorism, Halpern has been invited for consultations in the White House with terror analysts and has addressed conferences sponsored by the Justice Department.

TBA: Federation Annual Meeting, May 22
2017 JCRC Annual Fall Lecture

All events are free and open to the community.

For more information, please contact Tal Stein, Director of Community Relations & Israel Affairs, 704.944.6751 or tal.stein@jewishcharlotte.org.

WWW.JEWISHCHARLOTTE.ORG
Havurat Tikvah Welcomes Community Shaliach

Havurat Tikvah will host an evening with the Charlotte Jewish community’s new shaliach, Inbal Ozeri, on January 28, 7:30 PM, at a member’s home (location to be available online).

In preparation for the event, attendees will be invited to bring a funny story or joke to share that is the community’s new shaliach, Inbal Ozeri. She served in the Israeli Defense Forces as a network administrator where she specialized in computer management. She was most recently located in Petah Tikva at the Gan Va’No’of Youth Village. The village supports disadvantaged youth through intervention so that they are able to learn and grow into productive adults. Gan Va’No’of is part of Women’s International Zionist Organization, an international organization which began in the UK in 1920, and continues to foster women and their families. It is a volunteer group run by women for women.

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

We value and depend upon member participation and leadership for our religious services, spiritual growth and governance. Havurat Tikvah is an affiliate of the Jewish Reconstructionist Communities, in association with the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College.

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@havuratikvah.org or visit havuratikvah.org. Havurat Tikvah also on Facebook at facebook.com/groups/havuratikvah/.

Special Events for Temple Kol Tikvah Students

By Andrea Kaplan

It was a busy and fun month for Temple Kol Tikvah religious school students. In November, they were privileged to have a visit from their Institute of Southern Jewish Life fellow Rachel Fraade. It was a special treat to have her in town. Rachel worked with the students on a Thanksgiving-themed program. The younger children discussed Jewish themes present in Thanksgiving. They brainstormed about Jewish holidays that also have big holiday meals. The pre-k through 3rd grade children ended their session by creating a cornucopia. They wrote and drew pictures of things they were thankful for and filled the cornucopia with them. The 4th through 7th grade students had a more in-depth discussion about the similarities between Native Americans and Jewish culture and people. Thank you, Rachel, for a wonderful program that was meaningful for all students.

In the beginning of December, the Sisterhood once again sponsored an amazing Chanukah program for pre-k through 1st grade students at Barnes and Noble. Maxine Har- gus is always a hit with the kids and this year was no different. She arrived dressed up as an adorable dog and read the book Latke the Lucky Dog by Ellen Fischer to her audience of kids. They loved it! After a discussion of the book, the children made a menorah out of scrap book paper and popcorn sticks. It was a wonderful opportunity for this age group to gather together and learn more about Chanukah in a fun and interactive way. A portion of the sales from books that parents purchased that day were donated to Temple Kol Tikvah. Thank you, Sisterhood, for organizing another great event at Barnes and Noble.

Connor Wauffle age 6 made this menorah at a recent Chanukah story time at Barnes and Noble sponsored by the Temple Kol Tikvah Sisterhood.
Building Bridges

By Herman Ziegler, Temple Beth El

Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday and Parade, Saturday, January 14

In the year 2000, Temple Beth El reached out to the fragile Grier Heights community to see how we could provide assistance and create fellowship with the people in that neighborhood. The results led to an incredible relationship with participation in several projects and the beginning of a robust Social Action outreach that continues to this day.

Every year on the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday, thousands of people gather to remember the great civil rights leader with a parade in uptown Charlotte. For the last 16 years, Temple Beth El has participated in this parade with Grier Heights Presbyterian Church and Antioch Missionary Baptist Church. Last year, we began a new tradition when Temple Beth El celebrated the day with a pre-parade Interfaith Shabbat Service at First Methodist Church in uptown Charlotte. We will hold the service again this year from 9-9:45 AM. The parade will start at 11 AM at 9th and N. Tryon Streets and proceed to MLK, Jr. Blvd. Transportation is always provided back to the start of the parade.

It is more important now than ever to build fellowship with our neighbors and unite with other houses of worship. Since the beginning of this collaboration, TBE has upheld a pact for “Building Bridges” as we have marched hand in hand with our brothers and sisters in Grier Heights as a symbol of solidarity. Our participation, presence and activity around this event have grown. For the third year, we will have our float, “Building Bridges,” in the parade, along with the marchers. As we join with Grier Heights Presbyterian and Antioch Missionary Baptist’s congregants and youth groups, this is a great opportunity for anyone in the Jewish Community and others to show their support for the Grier Heights community.

Come join us on Saturday, January 14 (9 AM Interfaith Shabbat Service, 11 AM MLK parade) as we march and “pray with our feet.”

JLI’s The Dilemma Starts on January 31

It happens every so often that you read a news story, observe a case, or hear of a dilemma, that grips you, forcing you to consider right versus wrong, and justice versus injustice. As people with an internal moral compass and an inner sense of fairness, we are well equipped to delve into these matters to discuss and debate these issues with those who have differing viewpoints. The opportunity to often think about these cases addressed in the course: Case #1: A dog in a car that might have died in the heat had they not been broken the window. The car was a dog in the car that might have died in the heat had they not been broken the window. The car was a dog in the car that might have died in the heat had they not been broken the window. The car was a dog in the car that might have died in the heat had they not been broken the window.

The Talmud is a compendium of Jewish legal and moral scholarship, transmitted, debated, and preserved through the ages. It serves as a fountain of insight, guidance, and inspiration in the development of Judaism’s inner life, and it is the foundation of Judaism’s principled jurisprudence in constructing a just and loving world. The Talmud positions itself to help us solve the dilemmas that arise from conflicting legal and moral claims. This is because the Talmud seeks not only the right answers, but also the right questions; because it asks not only what, but also why; because the Talmud seeks not only legal and moral claims. This is because the Talmud seeks not only the right answers, but also the right questions; because it asks not only what, but also why; because the Talmud seeks not only legal and moral claims. This is because the Talmud seeks not only the right answers, but also the right questions; because it asks not only what, but also why; because the Talmud seeks not only legal and moral claims. This is because the Talmud seeks not only legal and moral claims. This is because the Talmud seeks not only legal and moral claims. This is because the Talmud seeks not only legal and moral claims. This is because the Talmud seeks not only legal and moral claims.

This, in turn, will make autonomous driving for all a thing of the not-too-distant future. When designing such technology, engineers face moral questions that rarely arise in real life. Suppose the car is fast approaching a tunnel entrance when its braking mechanism fails. Should it choose to swerve to the side to kill the victims or swerve to the side to kill the victims? Should they be rewarded for saving the dog? Should criminals be rewarded or at least not punished for malicious actions that produce unintended positive results for the victim? Should they be rewarded for saving the dog? Should criminals be rewarded or at least not punished for malicious actions that produce unintended positive results for the victim?

Case #2: Tesla Motors, a US-based electric car company, introduced autopilot driving to its electric cars. These cars are driving millions of miles every day on highways across the world, collecting information, and sending it back to a huge central database. This, in turn, will make autonomous driving for all a thing of the not-too-distant future. When designing such technology, engineers face moral questions that rarely arise in real life. Suppose the car is fast approaching a tunnel entrance when its braking mechanism fails. Should it choose to swerve to the side to kill the victims or swerve to the side to kill the victims? Should they be rewarded for saving the dog? Should criminals be rewarded or at least not punished for malicious actions that produce unintended positive results for the victim?

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Summer 2017 - Four Weeks of CGI Ballantyne

A Jewish summer camp conveniently located right near you in Ballantyne. With the help of the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte, our fourth summer season is off to a great start.

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

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

Four weeks of non-stop fun: June 26-July 21
Sign up for single weeks or all four and save.
- Mini CGI (Preschool) Ages 3-5
- Junior CGI Rising K-Rising 3rd Grade
- Senior CGI Rising 4th-Rising 6th Grade

Visit [www.CGIBallantyne.com](http://www.CGIBallantyne.com) for more details and information.

Saturday Night Alive

On January 14 at 7 PM, The Ballantyne Jewish Center is adding some fire and spice to your typical Saturday night. Literally.

Saturday Night Alive is a musical celebration of family and the mystical havdallah ceremony. This event will feature an exciting Board Game Bar, a full spread of goodies and treats, storytelling, candle braiding, and spice bag crafting.

Havdallah is an ancient ritual, performed by our ancestors for thousands of years as a way to mark the conclusion of Shabbat and welcome in the new week. But why the flame? The spices? The wine? Saturday Night Alive uncovers the deeper secrets, symbolism, and meaning latent within this seemingly simple weekly practice.

Don’t miss out on this incredible opportunity to bond with the kids and explore the spiritual significance of the havdallah.

RSVP
Leah@JewishBallantyne.com
$5 per child, pay at the door

CJDS Parent Profile

Jane Herson
Years at CJDS: 5
Husband: Matt
Children: Daniel (4th grade), Annie (2nd grade)
Temple Affiliation: Unaffiliated
Lives in: Charlotte

Our story is perhaps similar to yours. We had planned for our children to attend a public school in our area, did our homework and chose to apply through the magnet lottery program. For us, the uncertainty of the program was difficult, and when we were not accepted into our magnet choices, we thought “What now?”

I don’t remember specifics of our first meeting at CJDS, just feelings - warm handshakes, warm words, smiling children, inviting cooking smells from the cafeteria. That warmth was real and struck us immediately. The staff and the administration were happy to be here - they loved what they were doing! And the children... so happy and cheerful in a nurturing learning environment.

We came to CJDS for the learning community. The small size of the school allows for an intimate, engaging learning experience that we feel is without peer. The entire faculty knows each and every student, and the students grow together academically and socially. Through the school, we’ve also been lucky to meet many parents, whose friendships we cherish.

We share Judaism with our children as a door that is always open - open to experience, to learn, to share, to comfort. The CJDS approach fit us. The focus is on what we all share as Jews, what we can celebrate and learn together. The Judaic education has been a gift for our children. They are grounded and proud of their faith, and Matt and I see it affecting their choices even at such an early age.

Sometimes in life, something unexpected happens and turns out to be the most wonderful experience in the world. For us, CJDS was, and is, that experience that began as a flash of serendipity and has become a cornerstone of our family’s education.
2017 P2G TEEN LEADERSHIP EXCHANGE

In collaboration with the Jewish Federation, Temple Beth, Temple Israel and Consolidated High School of Jewish Studies

Part I - Hadera (June 27 - July 12)
Journey to Israel with teens from across the Southeast and spend two weeks with students from Hadera. Travel the country, engage in tikkun olam projects and learn about Israel’s politics, culture and society. Enjoy Israeli hospitality and teen life.

Part II - Charlotte (July 17 - 31)
Welcome Hadera teens and introduce them to the American way of life. Together they will explore Charlotte’s Jewish community and all the Queen city has to offer to learn about our cultural differences, tzedakah and leadership.

COST: $3,200, includes a $500 subsidy from the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte

For more information, please contact Tal Stein in the Federation office at 704.944.6751 or tal.stein@jewishcharlotte.org

TESTIMONIALS

“Going on this teen trip was definitely a life-changing experience. I met so many amazing people and now have the greatest lifelong friendships. I definitely recommend this trip to any Jewish teen because it was amazing!” - Ellen Garfinkle

“I loved learning about Israeli daily life, culture and of course the food! Also, I made so many friends from Israel and from cities across the Southeast U.S.” - Chad Purcell

“I have come back from this Israel trip with so many fond memories. I will never forget this experience; I fully enjoyed every day of it!” - Limor Goldsmith
TKA Ends 2016 with Joyful Celebrations

As the saying goes, you save the best for last. Temple Kol Ami of Fort Mill, SC had a very busy and joyous end to 2016. In November, we had our First Annual Friendsgiving Shabbat at the Community Center in Baxter Village. Congregants and guests joined together to give thanks for our many blessings (not the least of which is our fantastic community) and enjoyed a lovely potluck meal that would rival any Thanksgiving dinner at mom’s house. We definitely have some excellent chefs at Temple Kol Ami. Another wonderful TKA tradition was born that night.

Temple Kol Ami started December off with our third Shabbat of the year sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte. We were thrilled to welcome Rabbi Ana Bonnheim to lead us in a weekend of prayer, study, cultural enrichment, and student education. We had a packed sanctuary for Friday night Shabbat service on December 2 and enjoyed Rabbi Bonnheims insights into Parshat Tol’dot. The following morning, an enthusiastic group studied Torah with the Rabbi. They delved into the story of Jacob and Esau and the Midrashic commentaries on this Torah portion. Lively conversation and light refreshments were enjoyed by all. On the evening of December 3, we gathered at the home of Dr. Alan and Ana Resnik to bid the Sabbath farewell with a Havdalah bonfire. S’mores, hot cocoa, and apple cider along with our favorite campfire songs from Jewish camp days gone by completed what was a wonderful evening of fellowship. Finally, Rabbi Bonnheim finished off the weekend with a visit to our Religious School on December 4. She met with each class individually, discussing Jacob and Esau and the importance of making good choices with the younger kids, while she explored the meaning of prayer with the older students. The whole weekend was a huge success, and we are so grateful to Rabbi Bonnheim for her leadership and words of wisdom. We look forward to seeing her again at TKA in the future.

We ended 2016 with our Education Shabbat and Chanukah Celebration on December 16. Our TKA Religious School students led us in a lovely service from start to finish, showing off all of their hard work so far this year. Afterwards, we celebrated Chanukah with music, food (including latkes and donuts, of course), and crafts. What a fantastic finish to an incredibly successful year at Temple Kol Ami. We look forward to a 2017 filled with more memories, laughter, prayer, and learning.

Keep up with what’s going on at Temple Kol Ami at www.templekolamisc.org or e-mail us at yorksynagogue@gmail.com for more information.

TKA members enjoy s’mores at the Havdalah bonfire

How To Raise An Adult

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 7:30PM
Providence Day School
Keynote address by Julie Lythcott-Haims, former Stanford University dean

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9
Shalom Park
Workshop tracks for parents, teachers & students

HowToRaiseAnAdult.org

Women’s News

No More Bluesheets

Keep Your Eyes Open for More Information

Very exciting news from the Charlotte Area Jewish Community Directory by Hadassah—no more Blue Sheets will be mailed – all information updates will be done online. We are rebuilding our Community-wide Directory. In order to be listed in this directory, you will need to click a link that we will provide, and add your personal listing to the Directory. Everyone will also be receiving a postcard with the link. With your confirmed listing you will be eligible to receive a free copy of the 2017 Directory. While the actual Directory will remain a beautifully printed, color, spiral bound book, the listings and advertisements will be processed online.

If you or a loved one would like to receive the Directory in a printed, hard copy format through the mail, Patrons will still be available for $18. We will send you your directory to the address you provide. Patrons will be recognized on a Patrons Page in the directory.

Jewels will still be offered for those who wish to recognize children or grandchildren. Honors will be available for those who wish to honor or memorialize loved ones. Additional lines will be available for those who want to include their email, or additional information. We hope to provide an accurate and valuable resource for the entire Charlotte Jewish community. Advertisers will be able to submit payment as well as upload ads electronically. As you can see, our tradition of providing this resource for the past 70 years will continue. We are proud to bring you these upgrades to our Directory in 2017.

More information to come January 2017. The 2017 Directory will be distributed in September 2017. For questions or concerns, please email us cljhadassahdir@gmail.com.

Information

Keep your Eyes Open for More

Women’s News

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Directory

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Directory
Celebrate the TaTas 2016

The whirlwind that was “Celebrate the TaTas 2016” is over, and the Charlotte Chapter of Hadassah can be proud of a job well done. The multi-faceted event brought chapter members, community leaders, medical professionals, and local businesses together, to raise funds for and awareness of breast cancer.

Charlotte Hadassah members certainly proved that they were women who do, as they organized, marketed, and schlepped their way to amazing success. Painting Days, the hallmark event of the TaTas, were fun celebrations of women’s health and bodies. The atmosphere in the room was electric as artists and models collaborated on unique living pieces of art. Mammograms were available on site (free for those without insurance), thanks to Mecklenburg Radiology and Charlotte Radiology. In addition, the days included a tireless effort by Sari Hochberg (founder of Celebrate the TaTas) who made the event run smoothly.

The culmination of all of this activity was “The Big Reveal,” our gala celebration of all things Tata. Held at the Ritz Carlton on October 27, the final event of the 2016 TaTas season was an elegant evening of great food (donated by local restaurants), inspiring messages, and successful fundraising. Thanks to a tireless effort by Sari Hochberg and her team, the silent auction raised more money than ever before. Gifts included original art, jewelry, a Volkswagen lease, and over one hundred other items. Esther Panitch, a CNN legal reporter and proud Hadassah member, served as our emcee for the evening. She added sparkle to the program which included a moving tribute to our own cancer hero, Sandra Goldman. Sandra served as president of Charlotte Hadassah while waging her own fight against breast cancer. We thank her for her help with the TaTas, as well as her strength. She serves as a role model for so many people in our community.

A highlight of the evening, was the presentation of the “Image of Hope Awards,” gratefully given to two outstanding members of the Charlotte medical community. Dr. Matthew Gromet of Charlotte Radiology and Dr. Nicole Abinanti of Mecklenburg Radiology have both dedicated their careers to the early detection and ultimate eradication of breast cancer. We thank them both for their tireless work supported all aspects of the program. The great photos included in this article were taken by Emily Moore. Her eye for a great shot helped us capture the spirit of the evening. In addition, we had outstanding support from our two treasurers, Marci Goldberg and Marci Willenzik. All of this planning, work, nail biting, and fun paid off for co-chairs Roz Cooper and Janice Bernstein, past presidents of the Charlotte Hadassah. The 2016 TaTas season raised $86,000 for breast cancer research at Hadassah Hospital. A very special thank you to the Leon Levine Foundation and their amazing $10,000 challenge grant. You definitely spurred us on to success.

Planning is the key to great events, and it took almost a year of planning to get the TaTas off the ground. Many thanks to Patricia Johnson, Leigh Rose, and Alicia Cooper who made sure that we had plenty of publicity and volunteers. Hats off to Ted Johnson, the master of all things electronic, his expertise was invaluable. Without them, the 2016 TaTas season would not have been so memorable. Thanks, too, to the many volunteers.

Throughout the process, our Chapter President Dana Kapustin served as a role model for so many people in our community. She was beautifully hand crafted by Charlotte glass artist Carmella Jarvi.

Charlotte Jewish Preschool

2017-18 ENROLLMENT at our OPEN HOUSE!
Friday, January 20, 2017

704-944-6776
www.charlottejewishpreschool.org

The Charlotte Jewish News - January 2017 - Page 24
**TEMPLE ISRAEL 120TH CELEBRATION FINALE**

**January 7, 2017**

Please join us Shabbat morning as we conclude our celebratory year and honor those individuals who have helped Temple Israel reach this momentous occasion.

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**ALTERNATIVE SERVICES**

**TORAH TOTS**
Friday, January 13, 5:45 pm

Our high-energy Shabbat program for preschoolers (and their parents) typically takes place twice a month. Join us as we welcome Shabbat with songs, Torah parades, movement, and stories or puppetry. A healthy, bountiful Kiddush snack served after each program.

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**KAVANAH**

Saturday, January 21, 10:00 am

Our Kavanah service meets on the 3rd Shabbat of the month. The Kavanah service combines the ancient practices of Jewish prayer and meditation, along with a Torah study, in an effort to create space for reflection and growth.

*JAVAN N’ JEANS* will not take place in January. Join us for our next JAVAN N’ JEANS on Saturday, February 4, 11:00 am.

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**YOUTH**

**MAHAR - ICE SKATING & HOT COCOA**
(All 3rd-5th Graders Welcome!)
Sunday, January 8, 12:15-3:30pm

Is there any better way to spend a cold wintry day than at an ice rink? Price includes ice-skating, skate rental, bus transportation, and hot chocolate! Don’t forget to bring socks and a warm jacket. Drop-off and Pick-up @ TIRS Building. $15/Group (10 or more members); $25/Non-Member. RSVP to Ariel ( Ariel@templeisraelnc.org) by Tuesday, January 3.

---

**YOUNG ADULTS**

**GUESS WHO’S COMING TO SHABBAT DINNER?**
Friday, January 27

Torah on Tap invites you to a Shabbat Dinner Experience! Want to connect with other Jewish singles, couples, and young families over a Shabbat dinner? Register to be placed with one of our host families. Enjoy their customs & delicious food! Meet new people, and celebrate Shabbat with friends! Host information and start times will be emailed after registration is closed. Space is LIMITED! Registration closes on Tuesday, January 24th.

Contact Josh at josh@jewishfamilies.org to register today!

---

**SISTERHOOD**

**SAVE THE DATE:**
Saturday, February 25

**SISTERHOOD SHABBAT**
9:30 am

Members of Sisterhood will lead us in morning Shabbat services. A lovely Kiddush will follow.

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**EVENTS**

**TEMPLE ISRAEL 120TH CELEBRATION FINALE**
Saturday, January 7, 2017

Please join us Shabbat morning as we conclude our celebratory year and honor those individuals who have helped Temple Israel reach this momentous occasion.

Many individuals have dedicated countless hours to our synagogue over the years and ensured that Temple Israel has been here to serve the congregation and the greater Charlotte Jewish community. More than 25 heroes have been nominated by members and friends of Temple Israel in various categories and will be recognized during Shabbat services and the finale event (reservations now closed).

**YOM GEMILUT HASADIM** (A Day Performing Acts Of Loving Kindness)
Sunday, January 15, 2017 (MLK weekend)

Join the Temple Israel community as we come together to perform acts of loving kindness through “hands on” mitzvah projects at Temple Israel.

A wonderful opportunity for individuals and families to participate in Mitzvah Projects benefiting both the Jewish and broader Charlotte community, as we share in Tikkun Olam (repairing the world).

*Projects will run in 20 & 30-minute increments.

---

**NEW MEMBER SHABBAT DINNER**
Friday, January 20

Immediately after services

Celebrate Shabbat and give a warm welcome to the newest member of our congregational family as we enjoy a delicious Shabbat dinner, immediately following services.

RSVP online or sponsor a New Member’s dinner at TempleIsraelnc.org.
(under “Register for an Event”) or call the TI office at 704-362-7296.

---

**TORAH TOTS - FAMILY PAJAMA-DALLAH**
Saturday, January 28

5:30 – 7:00 pm

Please join us for a fun family service with pajamas, music, havdallah (we’ll make our own havdallah sets), and ice cream - for kids in preschool - 2nd grade.

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**SPECIAL EVENTS**

**GIFT SHOP HOURS:**
Sunday, February 5

18th Annual WORLD WIDE WRAP
All are welcome to join us for World Wide Wrap, which takes place (as usual) on Superbowl Sunday morning as we experience the Mitzvah of tefillin.

---

**MEN’S CLUB**

**SAVE THE DATE:**
Sunday, February 5

18th Annual WORLD WIDE WRAP

All are welcome to join us for World Wide Wrap, which takes place (as usual) on Superbowl Sunday morning as we experience the Mitzvah of tefillin.

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Order Your 2017 Mah Jongg Card Now Through Hadassah

Hadassah is making it easier than ever to order the 2017 card.

1. New: You can order your card now. No need to wait for the Mah Jongg League paperwork. Your address, contact info, and check is all we need.


3. Process your order, but your card and newsletter come directly from the National Mah Jongg League. In return for our help, the NMJL makes a donation to Hadassah.

4. New: Two ways to order - Mark your order to Madeline Aron, 4940 Hardison Park Front Desk, or mail to Madeline Aron, 4940 Hardison Road, Charlotte 28226.


Questions? Call Madeline at 704-996-0342.

Levine-Sklut Judaic Library and Resource Center

It’s a Success! Lifelong Learning @ the Library Continues

Enlightening, informative, and fun are adjectives that have been used to describe the adult education series at The Levine-Sklut Judaic Library. What is the key to our success? When you combine a dynamic teacher and a group of dedicated adult learners who come together to customize a top-quality curriculum, it is win-win educational experience.

The winter session of Lifelong Learning - taught by Rabbi Yossi Groner — begins Wednesday, January 18 and class meets from 10-11:30 AM in Shalom Park. We will be studying Israel: 1973 – Present. Sharpen your mind …

Moishe House Events

(Continued from page 8)

NC 28204

Get ready to drop all that random Jeopardy knowledge that you have been storing while hanging with your favorite people. Join Moishe House for trivia night. Appetizers will be provided.

Event 5: Shabbat Dinner with UNCC and Queens Students - Friday, January 20 at 7 PM at Moishe House.

Join Moishe House for a special Shabbat dinner with the UNCC and Queens University Hillels. Students from both universities will be in attendance, and we want to show them how great the Moishe life can be. A catered meal will be provided.

Event 6: Dinner and a Movie - Friday, January 27 at 6 PM at Yafo and Phillips Place.

We will start the night off right at Yafo for some dinner and then head to Phillips Place for one of the 7 o’clock movies. We’ll place a survey closer to the date for movie selections on the facebook page “Moishe House Charlotte.” And when we get out the night will still be young.

To learn more about Moishe House Charlotte, visit us at www.moishehousecharlotte.org or contact us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/MoisheHouseCharlotte. To Contact us, please e-mail mohocharlottet@gmail.com.
It’s time for Dad to drop me off at JPS for school. We pull into the parking lot and I wave to the grownups waiting for me at carpool. Once I give Daddy hugs and kisses, I get out of the car and hug five teachers that take me to my classroom. Before I get to class, I wave to some of the babies going to the baby classroom. When I was little, that was my classroom but now I’m a big kid. I see my teacher at the door, waiting to give me my morning hug.

I love being able to take out my lunch and put away my backpack and wash my hands all by myself. As I walk over the rug, I see my teachers hang up my picture on the bulletin board. I love looking at all the art my friends and I make at school; it’s just like being at the museum. When the day starts at circle time, I get to say good morning to my friends who are at school today. Circle time is fun and I get my job for the day. My teachers know I can do lots of jobs, today I’m the mitzvah helper.

After circle, it’s time to play. I get to choose any place in the classroom but today I choose to build a hotel with my friends in the block area first. Next, I think I will go help my friends paint the sculpture our whole class made last week. Or maybe I will go to the listening center to hear a story. I can’t wait to go outside to play after choice time inside. We are going to pick vegetables from our garden. I hope I get to pick a red radish. My Mom and Dad talk about my teachers telling them about how much I’m learning, but to me it just feels like fun.

Walking back to my classroom after the playground we pass by the office. I love waving to the office workers. That reminds me … I think that next play time I will make a picture for Ms. Dedee’s office. She has a museum in there, where more of my friends hang pictures. I remember seeing that when I was sick and had to go to the hospital. I remember seeing that when I was sick and had to go to the hospital. I remember seeing that when I was sick and had to go to the hospital.

After we get back to my classroom, it’s time for Judaica. Morah Jayme has a box of torahs for us to hug and dance with. It’s fun singing songs with her and hearing the stories about the Jewish people. Next week there is the wedding of Yitzchak and Rivkah. We get to dress up and play wedding. I hope I get to be Rivkah. When Morah Jayme leaves, we wash our hands for lunch. I’m so hungry. I can’t wait to see what is in my lunch box. I go get a salad with my friends. I can’t wait to have a salad with my friends. I can’t wait to have a salad with my friends.

Building with friends.

An artist creates.

Fingerpainting fun.

Why Choose JPS?

- Warm, nurturing Jewish environment
- Low child to teacher ratios
- Developmentally appropriate instruction
- Innovative, highly-qualified teachers
- Enrichment classes (Zumba, soccer & more)
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NOW REGISTERING TODDLERS - AGE 5 FOR SUMMER & FALL 2017!

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To schedule your personal tour, contact:
Director, Dedee Goldsmith, M.A. at dedee@jpsronsardis.org
jpsronsardis.org 704.364.8395
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Building our future.

Through the Eyes of a JPS Student

It’s time for Dad to drop me off at JPS for school. We pull into the parking lot and I wave to the grownups waiting for me at carpool. Once I give Daddy hugs and kisses, I get out of the car and hug five teachers that take me to my classroom. Before I get to class, I wave to some of the babies going to the baby classroom. When I was little, that was my classroom but now I’m a big kid. I see my teacher at the door, waiting to give me my morning hug.

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Learn: We strive facilitate a community of learners and understand the importance of creating a culture of learning within the school. Our students, teachers/staff, and families all participate and work together as we are both teaching and learning from one another. Our approach to learning and early childhood development is multidisciplinary, holistic, student-centered, and delivered through a Judaic lens. At CJP, we know that children begin to learn and understand the world around them best through play and experiential learning. Our curriculum is designed to respect each child as a unique individual, to foster the diverse ways in which they develop and learn, and to create a nurturing environment in which learning can take place.

Grow: At CJP, growth happens in many ways. Social, emotional, physical, spiritual, and cognitive growth are all important ways in which we grow, especially in the early years. We provide a comprehensive Judaic curriculum that develops the whole child. Our children and families grow new friendships, our staff continuously grow professionally, our CJP family grows or strengthens a love of Judaism through taught values, and celebrated holidays.

Connect: Preschoolers experience so many firsts. For many of our families, CJP provides them with their first connection to Shalom Park’s numerous agencies. We make it a priority to serve as a gateway and a connector, because building our community builds our sustainability. Every day we foster the development of a Jewish identity by providing enriching Jewish learning experiences that connect our staff, students, families and community. As a result of our educational approach and strong community connections, our students thrive at school, at home, and in the community.

Dining Out, Catering & Hospitality

To advertise in the Dining Out, Catering & Hospitality section of The Charlotte Jewish News, contact one of our sales representatives:

Jodi Valenstein, 704-609-0950
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$2 OFF Any Purchase of $10 or more with this ad

Expires 2/28/17
Charlotte Jewish Day School students entered a contest for the National Menorah Lighting in Washington, DC. There are lots of dreams of trips to Washington, reading their essays in front of thousands of people. Wonderful essays have been written and the following four are a taste of what our students think and feel about Chanukah.

**What Chanukah Means To Me**

**By Sasha Levine**

Chanukah means joyous times around the dancing flames. It means spending time with my family, remembering the amazing miracle of the oil. It means singing Hanukkah songs. It means looking forward to the coming Chanukah. It means remembering our ancestors and their struggle to keep the tradition alive.

Once Swimmer saw what the ride on a horse had done for Stacy, he got certified by the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship (PATH) and started Mitey Riders. He now manages Mitey Riders along with local horsewoman Joan Simon.

Today, Mitey Riders hosts 60 or so riders a week; children with conditions such as cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, spina bifida, Down syndrome, post-brain tumor removal, autism, learning disabilities, and more. Many there think Stacy, require a wheelchair for mobility; others need assistance in walking. But all of them live in a new and exciting world when they are atop a horse.

**A CNN Hero**

This year, Swimmer was nominated CNN’s Hero of the Year. He started in a group of thousands, wonnowed down by public voting on the CNN website to 10 finalists. The final award was announced on Sunday evening, December 11, Harry and his daughter Jody attended a gala event in NYC where CNN’s Hero of the Year was awarded. Alas, it was not meant to be, as the winner was Jeson Artiztibal of Colombia, whose work also benefits children with disabilities.

“It was an unbelievable experience and CNN couldn’t have been nicer,” Swimmer says, “Jeson was everyone’s choice to win the final award; he’s a remarkable young man.” Swimmer had his moment in the spotlight where, in front of tears, he was able to express his love for the children that won a war with the Greeks. We were outnumbered, but thanks to a miracle, we won the war and lit the Menorah. But there was a problem! We didn’t have any oil. One day we did find some oil but it was only one bottle. This is where another miracle takes place. The Jews thought the oil would only last for one day, but it burned through day 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and finally 8! The oil had burned for eight whole days! Amazing! This is the point of celebrating Chanukah. Chanukah means a lot to me because it’s a great time to remember the miracles and our ancestors.

Swimmer continued to greet the children coming for their therapeutic rides and to brush the horses. Swimmer continues to provide a place for the disabled even into their adulthood. Since he’s been back from New York and the CNN Heroes event, he says that “people have not stopped knocking on our door.”

**What this special holiday means to me is to remember all the miracles that happened. Chanukah isn’t about presents. It’s about remembering our ancestors.”**

**What Chanukah Means To Me**

**By Austin Adler**

What special holiday means to me is to remember all the miracles that happened. Chanukah isn’t about presents. It’s about remembering our ancestors and the miracle of the oil. It means singing prayers right after our family meal. That’s what Chanukah means to me.

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**What Chanukah Means To Me**

**By Tovah Braun**

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**What Chanukah Means To Me**

**By Yehuda Leib Cohen**

What does Chanukah mean to me? One of the things it means to me is being spending time with my family and friends. Also, I try to help with my community by spreading the miracle. A way I mostly enjoy spreading the miracle is lighting a menorah at the SouthPark Mall. This way hundreds of people can witness the lighting of the menorah. It can make people that know almost nothing about Judaism and Chanukah learn all about it. Another nice way is to have a car menorah parade. Then, we light up the night and people are proud of their Judaism. After the parade I can go home and light my own menorah at my house. That is what Chanukah means to me. ☺
By Avram Mlotek

(Kveller via JTA) — We sit down for dinner. Ravi, my 4-year-old, overhears my phone conversation and learns that my best friend’s grandfather has passed away.

“Tati,” she asks, “will Bubbe come back to life?”

Bubbe, her great-grandmother, passed away three years ago, at the age of 91. Now, Judaism does believe in an afterlife and in a resuscitation of the dead, but for whatever reason I opt not to have that theological conversation with Ravi at this point.

“No,” I offer, “but her memory lives on and Bubbe lives on inside of us.”

She eats a carrot stick.

“When Bubbe comes back to life,” Ravi replies, “I’d like to have a playdate with her.”

Maybe my answer was confusing. “A playdate?” I ask. A nod.

What is going on in that little head of hers, I wonder. “Will Bubbe be an old lady when she comes back to life?” she asks. “I don’t know,” I reply, honestly.

“Well, we won’t run together,” she says with her hands raised, holding a carrot still in one hand. “We’ll go slow because she’ll be old.”

If my Bubbe could have heard this conversation, I know she would have laughed and called Ravi her “bubbeleh” and remarked at her great-grandchild’s “brilliance.”

My Bubbe, Chana Mlotek, was a noted ethnomusicologist and collector of Yiddish song. A recipient of several lifetime achievement awards, she was inducted into Hunter College’s Hall of Fame. She lived a full life, and this Rosh Chodesh Kislev, the first day of the Hebrew month of Kislev, marked her yahrzeit, the date of her passing.

There’s so much more Bubbe could have lived for: seeing a justice of the United States Supreme Court officiate her granddaughter’s wedding (co-officiate, she would insist). She would have gotten to see a great-grandson born carrying her husband’s name. She would have danced at my brother’s wedding this past Chanukah.

And there’s so much Ravi would have enjoyed doing with her Bubbe, too. It just so happens that the apartment we moved into a year ago is on the same block where Bubbe went to work for over 40 years. Ravi would have loved visiting Bubbe in her office, touring the archives and waving to her building every time we walked to the Union Square playground. She would have loved that her great-grandmother could play any song on the piano if you just sang it to her once. But Bubbe’s life ended when it did, and though she did not come to know Ravi as she is today, Ravi did bring her so much joy in her final months. She got to hear Ravi call her “Bubbah,” even if she didn’t hear her later rendition of a Yiddish operetta or “Matchmaker” from Fiddler (night after night after night). “Azoy iz es,” though, that’s the way it is.

“Dos redl dreyt zikh,” and the circle of life continues. We celebrated Chanukah and another family wedding, too. And we will continue to miss you, Bubbe. We sing your songs and play your word games and your memory continues to be a blessing. Now, how about that playdate?

(Rabbi Avram Mlotek is a co-founder of BaseHillel.org.)

Kveller is a thriving community of women and parents who convene online to share, celebrate, and commiserate their experiences of raising kids through a Jewish lens. Visit Kveller.com.

Avram Mlotek

Harry Swimmer

(Continued from page 29)

calling” to express both their congratulations and regrets that he didn’t win the final award. And the kids who come to Mitey Riders, he says, can’t stop smiling.

“It was thrilling all the way around,” he concludes. “Even though it took 23 years, I’m a happy guy.”

“He’s got a … circle of appreciative, happy families,” Hennes beams. About the CNN Heroes nomination, she says, “Finally more of the world knows what a difference he makes. It makes our hearts smile.”

You can still see the clips from the show on CNNHeroes.com. Learn more about Harry Swimmer and the Mitey Riders at miteyriders.org.

“Only our concept of time makes it possible for us to speak of the Day of Judgment by that name; in reality it is a constant court in perpetual session.”

– Franz Kafka
As BDS Resolutions Stall, Pro-Palestinian Students Shift Tactics
By Ben Sales
New York (JTA) - When Northwestern University's student Senate passed a resolution in February 2015 asking the university to divest from Israel, student divestment activist Ben Lorber thought he had a winner.

But nearly two years after the BDS (Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions) resolution passed, and with similar BDS resolutions having failed at most universities, the process started with the same end in mind: to have to reaped. Of about a dozen BDS resolutions passed since November 2015, only two or three have succeeded at universities. A BDS resolution at the University of Michigan failed this academic year.

Perhaps most significant, not one university has actually divested from Israel or companies identified as doing business with the occupying power. BDS has found open ears.

"When we passed, it's never going to be the end of the story," Lorber, an American immigrant to Israel, told JTA. "There are these activists, he said, have "lost theirway." Anti-Israel groups, he said, have "lost theirdrawbacks.

The vote by Northwestern's Associated Student Government Senate was one of three huge campus victories for BDS movement, which aims to boycott, divest from and sanction Israel - within two months in Feb-ruary 2015. It was preceded by similar votes in the University of California Student Association, representing all U.C. students across the state, and in Stanford University's Undergraduate Sen-ate.

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THIS SUPER SUNDAY
THE FATE OF THE WORLD IS IN YOUR HANDS

ON JANUARY 22
YOU HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE A SUPERHERO FOR THE JEWISH WORLD. SIMPLY ANSWER THE CALL AND MAKE A POWERFUL DONATION TO FEDERATION. YOU’LL CHANGE LIVES AND STRENGTHEN THE COMMUNITY AT HOME, IN ISRAEL AND WHEREVER JEWS ARE IN NEED AROUND THE GLOBE—ALL WITHOUT EVEN DONNING A CAPE. ANSWER BY PHONE, TEXT OR ONLINE. MAKE A SUPERHUMAN DIFFERENCE

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