JOIN US, AND BE THE START OF SOMETHING POWERFUL!

Through our Annual Campaign, the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte joins with 153 Federations across North America to answer the needs of the Jewish world.

When a child needs a Jewish education, a subsidy to participate in a Jewish experience like Jewish summer camp, or a BBYO leadership conference, Federation is there. When a family loses its income or an entire community is devastated by a disaster, Federation is there. It’s a pledge we live by.

Whether nurturing and sustaining Jewish identity for future generations or supporting our brothers and sisters in Israel, Federation is where our community comes together as one; where we, as a community, develop innovative responses to critical issues; and where everyone who needs help can get it; where an energized Jewish community grows and celebrates; and where everyone can make a difference.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte has been supporting, sustaining, and revitalizing Jewish life for more than 75 years. Today our work is far from finished – and we need your support to meet our 2018 Campaign Goal of $4,000,000 – much needed dollars to help us meet the needs of our entire Jewish community.

Your contribution enables us to use your gift wherever it’s needed most. 70% of our Annual Campaign is allocated to nearly 50 local agencies and programs in Charlotte; while 30% of the campaign is allocated to our partner agencies in Israel, and in 70 countries around the world. Help us answer the needs of the Jewish world by making your pledge to Federation today.

We pledge to answer the needs but we can only do that with your help. If you have already pledged to the 2018 Annual Campaign, we thank you. If not, please consider a meaningful pledge today. For a complete list of our 2018 allocations, or to donate online, please visit www.jewishcharlotte.org. All pledges are payable and due December 31, 2018. So join us, and be the start of something powerful. We can’t do it without you.

Jewish Federation Announces Officers and Board for 2018-2019

The Annual Meeting of the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte took place on Monday, May 14, in the Sam Lerner Center for Cultural Arts at the Shalom Park. The business meeting included a special tribute to outgoing President, Larry Schwartz, and the installation of incoming President, Alison Lerner, as well as the election of the 2018-2019 Board of Trustees.

Even as the Federation looked forward to new leadership, it looked back in appreciation for Larry’s leadership and dedication over the past two years and the impact he has made on our community. As the torch is passed to Alison we look forward to continued growth. In Alison’s speech she relayed the message, “My goal is to partner with all of you to continue to focus on the Federation Mission — to raise and allocate funds in order to educate and build community, and to support and enrich the lives of the Jewish people around the world, here, and in Israel.” We are fortunate to be a part of a community with such vibrant, progressive leaders, and generous and trusting donors, a combination for lasting and sustainable success.

The Executive Committee will include: Alison Lerner, President; Ron Townsend, Immediate Past President; Larry Schwartz, Immediate Past President; Debbie Porter (JFS). (Foundation of Shalom Park), and Barry Bobrow Sheffer, Ira Slomka, and Marisa Zeibert. Constituent agency signees are: Jonathan Kulbersh (Levine JCC), Barry Bobrow (Foundation of Shalom Park), and Debbie Porter (JFS).

The night recognized several members and agencies of our community for outstanding leadership and commitment. Jason Tanenbaum, Super Sunday Chair, presented the “They answered the call” Award to the Charlotte Jewish Preschool, for providing the most volunteers on Super Sunday. Alison Lerner was also honored with the Lion of Judah Kipnis-Wilson/Friedland Award, recognizing extraordinary women who have set a high standard for philanthropy and volunteerism. Alison Lerner has been active in the Charlotte Jewish community for over 30 years. Her Jewish passion and leadership are most keenly focused on Jewish education, Israel, and strengthening Jewish identity.

Prior to her new tenure as President of the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte, Alison served on the Executive Committee, as Annual Campaign Chair, Lion of Judah Chair, and Allocations Committee member. Additionally, Alison is past Chair of the Board of the Charlotte Jewish Day School, and served on the boards of Jewish Family Services, Temple Israel, the Jewish Preschool on Sardis, and the Foundation for the Charlotte Jewish Community. Her love of Israel has long been a deep source of her Jewish identity.

(Continued on page 2)
Introducing Federation’s New Engagement Coordinator

The Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte is pleased to announce Kara Culp as its new Engagement Coordinator.

Kara will be responsible for implementing our Federation’s engagement initiatives to a variety of demographics, including but not limited to young adults, young families, newcomers, and emerging communities.

Originally from South Florida, Kara has called Charlotte her home for the past ten years. Prior to joining the Federation, Kara was a special education teacher for children with disabilities. A current member of the Bernstein Leadership Group, Kara is also the co-chair of the Social Committee at the Charlotte Jewish Preschool.

"I couldn’t be more excited to work with such a passionate group of people and I look forward to helping our Charlotte Jewish community grow," says Kara.

Kara and her husband Brandon have two children, Julia, 5, and Andrew, 2. We look forward to introducing you to Kara over the days and weeks ahead.

Federation Annual Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

The Charlotte Jewish News

Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte

Published monthly except July

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I would like to make a contribution to demonstrate my support of The Charlotte Jewish News.

Name
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Enclosed in my check for $ $18.00 Basic Annual Subscription $25.00 Friend $50.00 Patron $100.00 Grand Patron Other
Each of my recommendations for this summer’s reading are quick and interesting reads with unique themes. The first is historical fiction written by a well-established Jewish author, the second a family drama written by a new contemporary author who has received high praise from her peers in the literary world.

White Houses, Amy Bloom

Two years ago, I had the incredible good fortune to meet the author Amy Bloom. At the time, Lucky Us was her most recent book, which I read just prior to the publication of her current novel. Over dinner she spoke with great excitement about her work on her newest project—a work of historical fiction about the relationship between first lady Eleanor Roosevelt and journalist Lorena Hickok. It piqued my curiosity and I was eager to read White Houses, published earlier this year.

According to Time magazine, Amy Bloom creates “a novel out of the long-standing affair between Eleanor Roosevelt and Hickok which was an open secret inside The White House (as was Franklin D Roosevelt’s affair with his secretary Missy LeHand).” The story told by Lorena Hickok, known as Hick, goes back and forth from the time she and Eleanor met in 1933, to just after the death of FDR in April 1945. It also describes the blatant differences in their upbringings—the stark poverty of Hick’s background and the wealthy, privileged upbringing of Eleanor. The reader is privy to inside goings on during the Roosevelt White House, and to the passionate yet guarded beautiful love affair between two middle aged women who are not themselves beautiful women.

With so much attention centered today on the well-publicized alleged affair of our current and past presidents, the idea that this affair and those of President Roosevelt’s could be kept relatively secret from the public during this period of history was startling for me.

What to Do About the Solomons, Betsy Byman Ball

“There’s nothing more exciting as a bookseller (or a reader) than discovering a new writer who creates memorable characters in a setting we don’t see every day. Funny, sexy, and smart.” Judy Blume, New York Times “Summer Reading Recommendations, From Six Novelist Who Own Bookstores: What to Do About the Solomons is a multigenerational story about the Israeli and American branches of an extended kibbutz family. The offspring of this dysfunctional kibbutz family each face unique and often hilarious challenges in the modern world. From Israel to southern California and back, this debut novel by Bethany Ball will surely captivate and entertain its readers. Unlike many novelists writing about contemporary Israel, Bethany Ball sticks to the family dynamics without delving into the political arena.

With less than 250 pages, this novel is a quick read and its characters will stay with you long after you turn the last page.

CJE Book Club News:
The CJE Book Club will continue to meet during the summer on the 3rd Wednesday of the month from 10:30 AM–12 noon.
June 20: The Immortalists by Chloe Benjamin
July 18: My Mother’s Kitchen by Peter Gethers
August 15: Waking Lions by Ayelet Gundar-Goshen
For more information about the CJE Book Club, please contact me at sue.bittauer@jewishcharlotte.org.

CJE Calendar

Thursdays: Beat the Heat at the Library: Children’s Room Open All Day for Drop-in play
Fridays: 11 AM–12 noon - PJ Library Baby Story time

June 4-July 29: Blind Date With A Book
June 5: Hebrew Story time, 1:15 PM
June 10: PJ Library and LJCC Super Kids Soar Into Summer, 4:30-6 PM
June 20: CJE Book Club (meeting in Room D118)
July 4: Library Closed
July 18: CJE Book Club (meeting in Room D118)
July 29: PJ Library and Temple Israel Tu B’Av Celebration, 4-5:30 PM

Please Note:
There will be no Wednesday afternoon story time during the summer.
The Children’s Room will be used by Camp Katan from 9:15 AM-12:15 PM and Camp Mindy from 2:15-3:15 PM Monday-Wednesday while Camp is in session.
BE THE START OF SOMETHING POWERFUL!

Here at home and around the world, Federation works to support, sustain and revitalize Jewish life. But we can’t do it without you!

Goodness is not a single act. It’s the sum of many parts. Which is why Federation is always at work, powering the Jewish community in ways you might not think of, in places you’d never suspect. We’re there in times of crisis, sowing the seeds of hope. We’re there in quiet moments that transform lives and strengthen our legacy. Right now, thousands of people need us in a multitude of ways. This is your moment to help. Join us, and be the start of something powerful!

MAKE YOUR GIFT TODAY AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

WWW.JEWISHCHARLOTTE.ORG
The Center for Jewish Education (CJE) is excited to announce the improved Children’s Room located in the Levine-Sklut Judaic Library.

The children's room in the Levine-Sklut Judaic Library recently received a “facelift” with some new kid-friendly furniture and technology. The new design included removing some of the existing bookshelves to create an inviting and interactive space, one that encourages reading, play, and creative activities. Also added is a tablet table with two iPads for our young users. This added technology reflects the change in libraries worldwide, with more and more libraries promoting digital literacy and lead the way to digital citizenship.

This much needed change was made possible thanks to a group of generous donors, who along with funding from the Jewish Federation, made this possible. A special shout out goes to our dedicated Parent Ambassadors who helped us raise the funds for this project: Rochelle Carney, Elina Kurakin, Leslie Kuykendal, Julie Sheffer, Karen Spiegler, and Marisa Zeibert.

We hope you come check us out and check out a book or two while you are there. Be sure to stay tuned for more exciting updates from the library.

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**Thank you to our generous donors:**

Lauren and Eric Althofer
Adi and Ilan Avin
Pam and David Belinkie
Rachel and Larry Berendt
Renee and Nathan Berton
Melanie and Elliot Brown
William and Rochelle Carney
Kara and Brandon Culp
David and Myka Cygielman
Friday PJ Library Playdate Friends
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Tair and Chris Giudice
Jaime and Andrew Gonedes
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Ian Kutner and Steven Chastain
Marissa and Austin Karp
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Kim and Tom Ryan
Julie and David Sheffer
Karen and Jason Spiegler
Amy and Ross Udoff
Rachael and David Weiss
Sue and Kim Worrel
Marisa and Joe Zeibert
Handling the Stresses of Summer

By Howard Olshansky, director, Jewish Family Services of Charlotte

AAAH... summer is here. The kids are out of school, activities have wound down, vacations are being planned, and now we can relax a bit. This all sounds great unless you happen to be a parent of a child with special needs or mental health issues. For those families, summer is often a time of increased stress. Children with depression, ADHD, high levels of stress, or those on the spectrum often rely on daily structure and routine to get them through the day successfully. They don’t manage change well and the transition to summer is often quite challenging. Free time can increase anxiety, new activities increases stress, and the lack of peer interaction can increase loneliness and depression. The key to a successful summer is anticipating and planning how to manage the challenges. Here are some guidelines to consider:

Know and anticipate your child’s triggers - What are the most difficult areas for your child? Do they have trouble managing free time and need a lot of structure, are they unusually shy and anxious about meeting new people, do they need extra assistance with certain kinds of activities?

Think about these triggers as you plan what summer is going to look like for your child. Include your child/youth in your planning - Make sure you are talking with your child about what the summer is going to look like for them. Engage their interests and help them anticipate what they will be experiencing.

Pursue activities that are the right fit for your child - Make sure you are looking for activities and programs that are a good match for your child. You know their triggers and interest, does the program respond to these issues? Do they offer the structure, engagement, or individual attention your child needs, can they manage their special diet or medications, etc. Talk with the program managers about any concerns you have and special requests in advance so they know whether they can accommodate your child’s needs.

Talk to your child about your final plans - Allow them to express their concerns, fears, and anxiety over what is being planned and then play out those scenarios and help them come up with strategies on how they will manage each of those situations. If possible, visit any programs, places that may be part of their summer programming. The more knowledge and information they have the less anxious they will become.

Anticipate needed changes in medication - Changes in routine often require changes in medication, whether it be dosage, times administered, or discontinuing certain medications. For instance, many parents want their child to decrease or go off of ADHD medications during the summer. If this is the case, make certain you are aware of how to manage any changes in behavior. In addition, many psychotropic medications can have adverse effects from the sun and heat of the summer. Be certain to talk with your prescribing doctor about any potential side effects.

Check in - Once your child is engaged in summer activities, check in with them regularly to see how things are going. Talk to them about any problems, challenges they may be having. Monitor their mood and behavior. Also, check in with the program staff. Have they encountered any issues? Remember summer programs are often staffed by non-professionals who wouldn’t know to say something.

Talk to a professional - If your child is in therapy, talk to their therapist about your summer plans. Get their input and let them know what is being planned. They can help your child’s adjustment to a new regiment for the summer. Following these guidelines can truly make a difference in your child’s summer experience and just maybe you too can take some time and relax.

For additional assistance, contact Jewish Family Services at 704-364-6594.

Donations to Jewish Family Services in March 2018

IN APPRECIATION OF
Barry Bobrow and Karen Knooble for the Passover Seder from Harry and Ruth Cronson

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO
Douglas and Paula Gentile from Rose Atkinson
Bill and Frank Schwartz from Cindy Siesel

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO
Margi Goldstein from Edwin and Jill Newman
Stacy Gorelick from Arthur and Julie Lavitt
Barbara Levin from Stuart and Carolyn Hennes, Elise Menaker
Rita Miller from Arthur and Julie Lavitt
Paula Musler from Margi Goldstein, Stuart and Carolyn Hennes, Elise Menaker, Edwin and Jill Newman
Jill Newman from Margi Goldstein, Mark and Linda Rothman, Leonard and Judi Strause

IN MEMORY OF
Barry Lubitz to Shirley Lubitz from Stuart and Carolyn Hennes
Matt Para to Judith Para from Paul and Lynn Edelstein

WISHING A FULL AND SPEEDY RECOVERY TO
Elise Menaker from Paul and Lynn Edelstein

WISHING YOU ONLY CONTINUED GOOD NEWS
Michael Rotberg from Alan and Madeline Aron

SPECIAL EVENT INVITATIONS
Get to know Waltonwood!

Jazz in the Courtyard

Ol’ Fashioned Summertime Open House

Saturday, June 23rd
3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Join us for a fun afternoon with friends and enjoy live jazz music and chef’s choice refreshments.

RSVP today!
(704) 495-6031
5215 Randolph Road
Charlotte, NC 28211

Assisted Living & Memory Care

Tuesday, July 10th
1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Stop by Waltonwood Providence for a tour of our community and enjoy refreshing summertime treats, including pie, watermelon, ice cream, lemonade and more.

RSVP today!
(704) 246-3055
11945 Providence Road
Charlotte, NC 28277

Independent Living, Assisted Living & Memory Care

Jewish Family Services
Youth Visions

Top Ten Reasons to Go to Hebrew High

The year has ended and it is now time to relax over the summer and reflect on the past year. Was it everything you hoped for? Is there something that you would change? Are you ready for the year ahead? Have you registered for Hebrew High yet? If you are on the fence with signing up for Hebrew High (for yourself or your son/daughter?), take a look at these Top Ten Reasons To Go To Hebrew High.

Top Ten Reasons To Go To Hebrew High:

1. Friendships. You can be in elective classes with friends from all temples. Ninth and 10th graders share elective hour classes so that when teens leave their community for college and beyond Hebrew years.

2. Our cooking class is so popular. Our students become culinary artists and make Jewish recipes from around the globe.

3. What would snack time be without double stuffed Oreos? Hebrew High offers a crazy 15 minute snack break with yummy desserts and fun socializing.

4. Class time with clergy brings a special relationship and more personal time with all clergy.

5. Hang out with your new and old friends at our popular overnight retreat. Compete, eat, learn, and laugh at our themed retreats.

6. Student Leadership. Teens have the opportunity to take on leadership roles in the Student Council and help plan fun programs and community building opportunities. This is a great resume builder for college. Students have a voice. We value their opinion and love their input.

7. We can’t say enough about our Charlotte/Blakeney office.

8. Something to this list that needs to be added? Have a new idea for Hebrew High? Email Megan Harkavy at mharkavy@shalom-charlotte.org. She would love to hear your feedback.

Registration for the 2018-2019 school year will be ready at the beginning of the summer. We are working hard to transition from paper registration to a new online system. We will send out detailed information as we get closer to the premier date.

JFS Monthly Volunteers and Donors for March 2018


Food Drives: Jaidyn Shapiro, JCC Youth Soccer

We are proud to announce that Christine Sowle, PA-C has joined our Charlotte/Blakeney office.

Christine Sowle is a board-certified physician assistant having practiced over 13 years in an academic setting in the field of dermatology with a strong background in medical dermatology with some cosmetic dermatology. In addition to skin cancer screenings, she treats various skin conditions including but not limited to acne, psoriasis, and dermatitis. She enjoys spending time with her family usually at various sporting events and loves being active outdoors as much as possible – with sunscreen on, of course.

Schedule your appointment today. Call 704.542.2220 or go to ppsd.com.

Piedmont Plastic Surgery & Dermatology is pleased to welcome Christine Sowle, PA-C to our Charlotte/Blakeney office. Christine Sowle is a board-certified physician assistant having practiced over 13 years in an academic setting in the field of dermatology with a strong background in medical dermatology with some cosmetic dermatology. In addition to skin cancer screenings, she treats various skin conditions including but not limited to acne, psoriasis, and dermatitis. She enjoys spending time with her family usually at various sporting events and loves being active outdoors as much as possible – with sunscreen on, of course.

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Schedule your appointment today. Call 704.542.2220 or go to ppsd.com.
Foundation for the Charlotte Jewish Community Celebrates 20 Years

More than 120 Legacy donors and fund-holders attended FCJC’s Annual Meeting and Community Legacy celebration. A ceremonial candle lighting highlighted the evening and reinforced FCJC’s commitment to Keeping the Flame Burning from one generation to the next.
Mitzvah Day at the Hebrew Cemetery

This past May, Temple Beth El once again chose the Hebrew Cemetery as one of their many Mitzvah projects. Approximately 30 adults and kids went to work on a beautiful Sunday morning. They cleaned weathered headstones, gave the passenger golf cart a good wash, raked some gravel, and picked up trash around the perimeter of the grounds.

This year Bonnie and Thor Borresen spearheaded the event. “Mitzvah Day at the Hebrew Cemetery gave us the occasion to spend a morning in beautiful, serene surroundings and do something for those that can no longer do for themselves,” Thor explains. His wife adds: “It was a way to help keep faith with those who sleep in the dust. We read on the grave markers messages such as: Forever in our Hearts and Never Forgotten. With just a small act of kindness we feel we were able to help echo those messages and reinforce that love, respect, and memories live forever.”

In June, the Bernstein Leadership Group followed suit and got a historic tour of the 150 years old cemetery. They also did a service project.

The Hebrew Cemetery invites all members of our Jewish agencies to take off a few hours on a Sunday and join the groups of volunteers who have done service already. We greatly appreciate the community’s love and care for these holy grounds.

For further questions contact Sandra Goldman at 704-576-1850 or at director@hebrewcemetery.org.

Mitzvah Day at the Hebrew Cemetery

Project captains Bonnie and Thor Borresen

Cleaning headstones.

Kate and Ayla scrub a headstone.

The cemetery’s golf cart got some freshening up, too.

Cleaning headstones was a family activity..
You might just fall in love ...
There are no awkward questions, no forced conversation, no judgmental looks, no need to call. Just have a blind date with a book! Sure, it might turn out to be a dud; or it could be the diamond in the rough you wouldn’t have given a chance otherwise. There’s no knowing until you check it out ...

How to go on a Blind Date with a Book:
1. Pick a book from the Blind Date with a Book display.
2. Don’t open it until you get home!
3. Check it out at the Circulation Desk.
4. Untie the book and read it.
5. To be entered into a drawing for Dinner for Two and a Movie, rate your book on the bookmark provided, and return it to the library.
Moishe House Charlotte Relaunches with New Residents

In August 2013, a new space for Jewish young adults burst on the scene in Charlotte. The concept, which was already a success in dozens of other cities across the world, was new for the Queen City: a group of Jewish young adults live together and, in exchange for a modest rent and programming subsidy, create programs for their peers, from Shabbat dinners to brewery outings to volunteering at local food banks and more.

At its core, Moishe House is about Jewish young adults creating programs for other Jewish young adults, building and growing a sense of Jewish community among both native Charlotteans and the flood of recent college graduates and young professionals who move to the city each year.

Now, the next generation of Moishe House Charlotte is here. Debra Lipson and Eric Rubin have launched the newest iteration of Moishe House Charlotte. They’re also the first-ever two-person Moishe House in the organization’s global network of 108 houses in 27 countries around the world.

“There’s something about having people and friends around who understand your cultural upbringing,” Lipson, 28, said. She and Rubin, 25, were active in Moishe House Charlotte over the past few years and before becoming residents, Rubin was hosting programs for his Jewish friends in his home through Moishe House Without Walls, which supports young adults in creating Jewish programming, regardless of where they live.

“We have such a rich and amazing friend group that really started with Moishe House,” Lipson said. “It’s how I met so many of my close friends when I moved here.”

In exchange, Moishe House staff provides financial support, staff guidance, educational opportunities, and access to the global network of Moishe House residents and learning retreats.

In addition to being home to Moishe House Charlotte and several Moishe House Without Walls hosts, Charlotte is also host to Moishe House’s East Coast headquarters, which is located on Shalom Park. More than a dozen full-time staff members work to support Moishe House’s global operations, including Founder and CEO, David Cygielman, and Chief Operating Officer, Jen Rosen.

“Charlotte has been an incredible spot for a Moishe House for years and we’re very excited this new group is up and running and ready to build on the inspiring work of the leaders who came before them,” said Rosen.

Lipson and Rubin will host three to four programs a month at Moishe House Charlotte, with many of the programs taking place at their rented home in the Sedgefield neighborhood.

“We have events to cater to all types of people and we’re very open to suggestions as well,” Lipson said. “We want people to think of this as their house.”

The first month of programming included a meet and greet to get to know the new residents at Old Mecklenburg Brewery, a cookout for Shavuot at their house, a group outing to a yoga class, and a Charlotte Knights baseball game.

In addition to creating a welcoming space for current Jewish young adults in Charlotte, Lipson said she hopes they can increase awareness of Moishe House Charlotte with groups like BBYO, Hillel and more, that have a special place in people’s hearts, so that they know Moishe House Charlotte is there for them when they come to the city.

This set-up of Moishe House Charlotte, which is generously funded by local supporters, including the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte, The Leon Levine Foundation, and others, is unique because most Moishe Houses have three to five residents, instead of two.

“Ideally, the city of Charlotte will support both this two-person house and an additional house with three to five residents,” said Southeastern Director of Advancement Dave Press. “Charlotte’s close-knit and thriving young adult Jewish community could very well support two houses and two groups of young leaders creating unique, engaging Jewish opportunities for their peers.”

For now, though, the focus is on supporting Rubin and Lipson as they work to introduce themselves and their new house to the community in Charlotte.

To learn more about Moishe House and Moishe House Charlotte, visit www.moishehouse.org.

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Explore Biblical History and Modern Conflicts at B’nai B’rith Institute in Blue Ridge Mountains

Dr. Eric Meyers, a renowned archeologist and biblical scholar, and Dr. Racelle Weiman, an innovator in conflict resolution, diplomacy, and advancing minority rights, will speak at this year’s North Carolina B’nai B’rith Institute of Judaism at Wildacres Retreat Conference Center, August 13–16. The annual event, now in its 71st year and held near Little Switzerland in the Blue Ridge Mountains, welcomes all who want to confront and clarify questions about Judaism and issues affecting Jewish life.

Dr. Meyers, professor emeritus in Jewish Studies at Duke University, whose research has focused on the Second Temple and Greco-Roman periods, will discuss how the Babylonian exile helped Judaism prevail, examine the challenge of Hellenism, and look at the impact of archaeological discoveries.

Dr. Weiman, currently a Charlotte resident, was director of Global Education at the Dialogue Institute of Temple University. In her long career in Holocaust studies and interreligious and interethnic dialogue, she led programs at Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion (Cincinnati) and University of Haifa. She will discuss relations between Indonesian Jews and Muslims, the Philippines as a haven from Nazi Germany, and the legacy of the Holocaust for the 21st century.

Both speakers will engage with participants in question and answer sessions on the Center’s scenic patio, dialogues that, in the past, have extended to the dining hall, walkways, and canteen tables laden with refreshments.

Following this year’s theme of “A Tapestry of Jewish Thoughts,” the B’nai B’rith Institute will also include a Jewish Film Festival of six acclaimed films, most in Hebrew, German, and Yiddish with subtitles. The Yiddish one is Mamele with Molly Picon, a musical comedy filmed in Poland in 1938, and featuring her theme song, “Abi Gezunt.”

Evening entertainment will reflect Carolina’s bluegrass roots and feature Wayne Taylor and the Appalooza Band with fiddle player George Giddens.

Wildacres lodging for this event, limited to the first 100 applicants, includes kosher, family-style meals. All rooms have two beds and a private bathroom. Optional activities include a daily minyan, tennis, hiking, and visits to nearby arts and crafts centers. Cost for Institute events, room and eight meals is $390 per person, with a $10 discount for early registration if checks are received by June 18. Needs-based scholarships are available. On request, guests can ride a golf-cart to the dining hall.

For complete information and to receive a brochure with the required application form, contact Bill Carr, chairperson, at 919-781-4207 or e-mail him at bear3533@gmail.com. Or check the Institute website: bnai­brith.wixsite.com/wildacres.

How Living, Breathing, and Working in Israel Has Ignited My Jewish Identity and Forever Embedded Israel in My Soul

By Kaitlyn Abdo

Last year, I landed in Ben Gurion Airport with two suitcases and a nervous smile with the rest of my Birthright Israel trip cohort. I had never been to Israel before, but I came with the feeling that I had been here for a while. My grandfather, a conservative Jew from Chicago, was very involved in the Jewish community throughout his life. Throughout my childhood, we would celebrate the high holidays when we could with my grandfather. My mother raised both me and my brother in a secular household and was always encouraging us to discover more about our Jewish identities. I never understood how important identifying myself as Jewish was to me until after living in Israel.

A few years ago, I began to ask questions about my Jewish heritage and became curious about the state of Israel. At first, I was wary of traveling to Israel due to the often skewed news coverage in the region, but as time went by, my curiosity grew. Last year, I woke up one day with an intense gut feeling telling me I need to go there — and not just go — but to experience everything Israel has to offer me.

After Birthright, I did another program — an internship at Hebrew University through the Masa’s Onward Israel program. I lived in the vibrant old city of Jerusalem the entire summer, just steps away from the Kotel. It was surreal to me that I was waking up every day in Jerusalem and walking the same streets my ancestors walked two-thousand years ago. Every day, I woke up with gratitude and amazement at the incredible opportunity I was given. Jerusalem is an incredibly special place, and I could feel its essence as I spent Shabbat dinners with friends and family.

(Continued on page 14)
Three members of the Charlotte Jewish community attended the 10th annual J Street conference in Washington DC in April. These are their observations.

**David de Groot:** This year’s conference was held against the backdrop of the difficult political climate in Israel and the US. Among the issues raised and debated were:

* The threats to democratic institutions posed by the Trump administration in the US and by the Netanyahu government in Israel.
* As a single state that would grant equal rights to Palestinian citizens, Israel could not remain both Jewish and democratic. J Street supports two states for two peoples (the “Two State Solution”).
* The Israeli government’s failure to support egalitarian prayer at the Jewish holy sites in Jerusalem.
* The humanitarian crisis in Gaza and the IDF’s handling of the weekly protests being held near the border fence.
* The threat posed by the presence of Iranian forces in Syria.
* The treatment of asylum seekers in both countries which runs counter to Jewish values as expressed in the edict that “You shall not oppress the stranger for you were strangers in the land of Egypt.”

Looking at the list of challenges, it may be tempting to despair, but there were many speakers and organizations representing a wide range of perspectives rather than demonization. They are also, with considerable success, defending Palestinian villages in the occupied territories from demolition by the Israeli authorities, an act which would enable annexation and make a two-state solution unachievable.

Brigadier General Israela Oron, who reached the highest rank ever obtained by a woman in the IDF, and former Mossad Division Head, Rolly Gueron, represented Commanders for Israel’s Security (CIS). CIS is a non-partisan movement comprising the overwhelming majority of available retired IDF generals and their Mossad, Shin Bet (Security Agency), and police equivalents, who are united in the conviction that an eventual two-state agreement with the Palestinians, as part of a regional security framework, is essential for Israel’s security as well as for its future as the democratic home of the Jewish People. Their presence and CIS’s impeccable security-minded credentials prove that the two-state solution is not, as some would claim, the domain only of naïve pacifists.

I attended a breakout session whose panel was four Palestinians who are active in grassroots organizations looking for a solution to the conflict. They are living proof that, in contrast to what is often said, there are serious, committed partners for peace in the region. It was not always easy listening to their perspective on Israel and the conflict, but despite their grievances, they are actively working towards a solution that guarantees human rights, political independence, and personal security to both Israelis and Palestinians.

Avital Brown’s two sons and son in law served in the front lines in the 2014 war in Gaza. This motivated her to join the Women Wage Peace (WWP) movement. WWP is a broad grass roots movement, the largest in the country. The movement has tens of thousands of members from the right, the center and the left of the political spectrum, Jews and Arabs, Ashkenazi and Sephardi, religious and secular, from the center of the country and the periphery, women from kibbutzim and from West Bank settlements, all of whom are united in a demand for a mutually binding non-violent accord, agreeable to both sides.

There were also well-known and respected speakers from the US and Israel. Senators Bernie Sanders from Vermont, Ben Cardin from Maryland, and Brian Schatz from Hawaii (all Jews) gave keynote addresses. From Israel, Knesset members Tzipi Livni, co-leader of the Zionist Union party, Tamar Zandberg of Meretz, and Yoel Hasson of the HaTnuah party also addressed the conference.

With such a diverse list of speakers and attendees, different views were expressed on a number of issues, too complex to go into detail in this article, but as stated in J Street’s principles, “In a country where the rule of law (secular as opposed to religious), minority rights are respected, and where full freedoms of speech, press, and religious expression exist. The consensus among the more than three thousand attendees was that Israel’s future as a liberal democracy was threatened by the failure to equitably resolve the Palestinian conflict and the increased influence and power of the religious element in Israeli society.

The long-standing position of J Street is that the only solution to a liberal, democratic Israel with a majority Jewish population is to implement the longstanding proposals for an independent peacefull Palestine on the West Bank and Gaza (perhaps with some territorial adjustments) alongside a secure Israel - often called the Two State Solution. The major obstacle to this was perceived to be the ongoing expanding Jewish settlements in the West Bank often with confiscation of Palestinian lands. These settlements establish “facts on the ground” that make any withdrawal difficult and give support to those elements in Israel who would like to establish a Greater Israel by annexation of most of the West Bank. Although the official position of the current government of Israel is that they would like to negotiate for “two states,” its behavior suggests that expansion and annexation is the real goal. As was said in the past and many times at the conference, “a greater” Israel could be democratic or Jewish but not both.

There was concern expressed at the conference at the role of the religious authorities in the affairs of the state and their encroachment into those areas that in the past have been the responsibility of the secular authorities, including many activities of daily life. The danger underlined at the conference was the potential for a split between the American and Jewish communities and the erosion of support amongst younger American Jews for Israel.

For more information about the conference or about street j in general and its presence in the Charlotte region, please contact Hannah Morris, Deputy Regional Director Capital South Region - hannahlm@jstreet.org, or David de Groot, Charlotte District Advocacy Coordinator - ddegroot@jstreet.org.

**Senator Bernie Sanders**

Temple Israel’s religious school is seeking creative, energetic and dynamic educators (K & 7th) for the 2018-2019 school year. Competitive pay.

For more info, contact Rabbi Helene Kornsgold at hkor@templeisraelnc.org.

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**To Our Loving Parents, Paula and Richard Klein:**

_Mazel Tov on your 50th Wedding Anniversary on June 30_

Love, Deborah, Rachel, Ilana, & Andrew & Family

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Year Ends with a Film, Picnic, and Mezuah Hanging

Get the popcorn out because Havurat Tikvah is holding an Israeli film night on June 6, 7 PM, at the deGroot residence, 1410 Pine Tree Dr.

On the playbill for the evening will be Elia Ben-Shalom’s The Women’s Balcony, a drama/comedy involving two sides of a congregational discourse in the aftermath of the crash of the women’s balcony section during a bar mitzvah.

A review from Rotten Tomatoes said: “After the concrete crashes, the wife of an elderly rabbi is severely injured and the congregation’s happy little world is turned upside down. The tragedy overwhelms the old rabbi to the point that a younger seminary Rabbi David, takes over. He’s mesmerizing and boldly orthodox, full of strict ideas on faith couples who participate in 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, yeshiva and interfaith couples who participate in projects that promote social justice.

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

Havurat Tikvah is an affiliate of the Reconstructing Judaism movement. This new name was adopted and announced to the worldwide membership during January.

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

Sharon Kugelmass’s newly gregational picnic and mezuzah Havurat Tikvah will hold an event which is open to everyone in the Charlotte Jewish community. The event will be a Friday Night Shabbaton dinner. The theme of the Shabbaton is Liberty as we celebrate our freedoms and the generosity of God for our people and to bring freedom to the entire world with the coming of Moshia.

At the Shabbaton we will celebrate as a community. Participants will enjoy a delicious home cooked American style Shabbat meal, and participate in special entertaining activities during which we will learn how to appreciate and value this God-given freedom. Services will begin at 6619 Sardis Road at 7 PM, followed by dinner and activities. The cost to participate is $50 per family and $18 per single. To register, go to www.chabadnc.org. Send a check to Chabad of Charlotte, NC 28270. For more information, please call 704-366-3984.

Living and Working in Israel

(Continued from page 12)

spoke with complete strangers in the city, who I quickly formed friendships with through the shared feeling of Jewish heritage. I came to realize that all of us as Jews have this amazing unspoken connection, which overcame me while I was in Israel.

I continued my journey to discover my Jewish identity and, in the fall of last year, Masa’s Israel Experience granted me a unique opportunity to experience life like a local through its Israel Teaching Fellowship (ITF) program. I am currently teaching English at Natan, Yonatan, Elementary School in Petah Tikva. As a fellow, I am treated like staff, I have select students I work with every day who have special needs, I oversee once a week to plan lessons for the following week. Through Masa, I have been able to assimilate to every aspect of Israeli society. The ladies at the local coffee shop are already preparing my latte before I even say hello, the seller at the local shuk gives me extra vegetables and stops to make conversation when I visit, and the shop workers do not look at me wide-eyed. I go to the local supermarket every week and always ask me about my time in America in hopes of one day visiting. Life in Israel is different from anything I could ever imagine. I feel connected to every single person. Even though I personally do not know them, to me, they feel like family.

Masa has allowed me to witness firsthand an incredibly beautiful mosaic of Israeli society, from meeting with minority populations, to being given leadership opportunities, to attending touching memorials and ceremonies. On April 17, Masa participants, together with thousands of representatives from Jewish communities across the globe, and even thousands more who tuned in via livestream, joined together for a Yom Hazikaron commemoration event at Latrun, an armored corps memorial site for fallen soldiers and victims of terror. We all wore white in unison, mourning the lives of loved ones taken away from us too soon and soldiers fallen in battle, fighting every day to protect our beloved Jewish state. I was overcome with emotion during the ceremony, even though I did not know anyone who had fallen, I felt connected on a personal level. We all stood together for two minutes in solidarity as we heard the siren and silence consume the audience. Leaning around, I was amazed to see I was not the only one who was affected by this ceremony. There were Jewish participants from all over the world, from diverse backgrounds, yet we all came together on this day to pay our respects and show our strength as a Jewish people. As a nation that has been exiled and displaced so many times in the past, again, it is essential we remember to move forward.

These Masa programs guided me toward the answers I was looking for and opened my eyes to a diverse Jewish community in a place I now consider my home.

Kaitlyn Abdo, a Charlotte native, is a participant in Masa Israel Journey’s Teaching Fellows program, a partnership of Masa, Israel’s Ministry of Education and The Jewish Agency for Israel, created to address the achievement gap in Israel’s public education system. The program invites talented, English-speaking college graduates to Israel as English teachers and teachers’ aides and serves as a vital investment in Israel’s future. Now marking 13 years since its founding, Masa is the leader in immersive international and leadership experiences in Israel for young adults ages 18-30.

Masa is a cooperation between the Jewish Agency and the Government of Israel, made possible by the generous contributions of The Jewish Federations of North America, Keren Hayesod – UJA and other donors worldwide.

On Friday, June 29, Congregation Ha’Torah will host Liberty Shabbaton on Friday, June 29 Shabbat we fast on Sunday. Since we are prohibited from displaying any sign of sadness on the Shab- bat, this Shabbat is transformed to a day of hope and yearning; hope for a better future and yearning to return to our promised land and to see the rebuilding of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem.

Although we now live in comfort and are free from oppression, nevertheless, we have constant reminders that we live on this earth totally without worry. Be it the nuclear menace that is Iran or the constant threat from terrorist who wish to fulfill the goal of destroying God’s beloved people, living in the free world. Yes, we are grateful that we are living in a generation of global blessing from God’s kindness and have seen the fall of the Soviet Union and the re-establishment of Israel as the Jewish homeland. However, we should never lose sight of what life could be without this freedom.

The three weeks give us pause as we reflect on the painful history of the Jewish people who have struggled to this point in our history, and we pray to God to deliver us from all the nastiness that still lurks out there in this big world we live in.

On this Shabbat, we do it with joy as we thank God and celebrate our victories and freedoms and we ask God to bless all of our people and to bring freedom to the entire world with the coming of Moshia.

Ohr Ha’Torah to host Liberty Shabbaton on Friday, June 29

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

TKA Religious School Wraps Up Another Wonderful Year

It’s a wrap! Another year of amazing Jewish education has come to an end at Temple Kol Ami Religious School. From our Torah Tots to our B’nai Mitzvah, there was a whole lot of learning going on. Most importantly, our children strengthened their Jewish identities and made friendships that are so important in our small Jewish community in York County, SC. Along the way, they learned Hebrew, Jewish history and holidays, created wonderful memories and had a lot of fun.

Some of the highlights of the past year included the student-led Shabbat, Pizza in the Sukkah, Chanukah celebration, Purim carnival, mock Passover Seder, and our first ever Living Wax Museum. Our Gimel and Daled classes brought to life famous people, sports, and history including Barbra Streisand, Billy Joel, Sandy Koufax, Idina Manzel, Jack OvotureCotswold.

Our Gimel and Daled children strengthened their Jewish identities and made friendships. Many thanks must go to our awesome teachers and administrators. A big Todah Rabah to Stacey Constant, Ana Resnik, Kimberly Augenstein, and Bonnie Shaw whose dedication and commitment makes a religious school for over 40 students in York County a reality. Shout outs to our awesome madrichim who are so very helpful: Jaiden vanden Broecke, Rafael Vinnik, and Colin Abrams were all called to the Torah, and each chanted beautifully, helped to lead the service and delivered fantastic D’varai Torah. Mazel Tov to these exceptional young men and women as well as their families.

It takes a village to raise our children. Many thanks must go out to our completely volunteer teachers and administrators. A big Todah Rabah to Stacey Constant, Ana Resnik, Kimberly Augenstein, Shari Baum, Ellen Peters, David Dobro, Adena Adams, Jonathan Shaw, Sawn Lowe, Michelle Silva, and Bonnie Shaw whose dedication and commitment makes a religious school for over 40 students in York County a reality. Shout outs to our awesome madrichim who are so very helpful: Jaiden vanden Broecke, Rebecca Adams, Connor Kelly, and Dorothy Augenstein. Lastly, we are so blessed to have an amazing B’nai Mitzvah coordinator and tutor, Shayna Barack.

Temple Kol Ami Religious School looks forward to another wonderful year of Jewish education when we start up again in the Fall. There will be an open house and ice cream social in August, details to follow in the August Charlotte Jewish News. If you would like more information about the religious school or TKA in general, please contact us at yorksynagogue@gmail.com. We would love to be a part of your child’s Jewish educational experience.

Jewish Community of Lake Norman Celebrates Israel @ 70

On Sunday, April 22, the Jewish community in the Lake Norman area gathered to celebrate the amazing milestone of the State of Israel’s 70th birthday. About 120 people of all ages participated. A generous offering of typical Israeli foods was enjoyed by all: pita and falafel, Israeli salad, hummus, tachina, barakhas, chamutzim (pickled vegetables), dates, watermelon, assorted pastries, and much more. In addition, the participants munched on Israeli chocolates, specially imported from Israel for this event. An outstanding highlight of this gathering was a medley of Israeli folk dances expertly organized and performed by the Charlotte JCC Israeli Dancing Group led by Angelica Goldschmidt Hannah. Children and adults danced together joyously to the tunes of traditional and popular Israeli music managed by Ryan, our own DJ.

This event was sponsored by the Jewish Council of Lake Norman, a beneficiary agency of the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte. The JCLKN is committed to developing and implementing community programs to enrich and strengthen Jewish life in the Lake Norman Region. More information can be found in www.JewishCouncilofLakeNorman.org or www.JCLKN.org.
This, Too, is Torah
By Rabbi Dusty Klass

At the annual Shalom Park Freedom School fundraiser this year, the program began with a short video outlining just how far behind a kid in a low-income setting can fall up by 3rd grade when not given the same opportunities afforded middle- and upper-class kids.

But wait – isn’t summer for running through sprinklers and eating popsicles? Aren’t kids exci- ced to make it to the last day of the school year? How on earth can a literacy gap increase over a sum- mer?

The video explains that the in- teractions kids have throughout their summers help them maintain, and even move ahead in reading levels – even when they spend zero hours inside a class- room. Summer camp, vacations with friends and family, and other experiences we generally only have time for in the summer keep them thinking, reading, writing, interacting with people and words and new ideas. And without opportunities to engage with new ideas and words, a whole swath of our students ac- tually regress in their reading lev- els over the summer.

Freedom School offers kids op- portunities to keep exercising their brains over the summer, and to do so in meaningful, creative – and yes, educational – ways.

What I love about this concept of helping ensure that as many kids as possible are given atten- tion and energy to help them use their brains during the summer is that it is deeply Jewish. Of course Freedom School is also a reminder of a Jewish tenet that ap- plies to us all. Judaism is a reli- gion of action, of doing. We are taught that a blessing may only be said if the one who blesses fol- lows their blessing with action – hamotzi lechem min haaretz leads to that first bite of challah; tashukh b’divrei torah propels us into Torah study; borei p’r ha’gafen first, sip of wine or grape juice second. From this we learn that words are not enough, that to live in this world means to engage with the world, to see and hear, of course, but also to touch and taste and feel all of the experiences life has to offer.

That is why this past April, Temple Beth El’s Religious School took our 4th-graders to Camp Thunderbird for a retreat. The work our religious school teachers do in the classroom is im- perative – learning the stories of our matriarchs and patriarchs, practicing the aleph-beh, studying Jewish values – these things lay the foundation for a lifetime of Jewish learning and living. The retreat took that foundation and helped learning come even more alive – our kids took those biblical stories and acted them out, they sounded out the words “lo alecha hamlacha ligmor v’lo ata ben h’divrei torah” lo alecha hamlacha ligmor v’lo ata ben haaretz

懊恼 the commandment “hamlacha ligmor v’lo atah ben haaretz” is deeply Jewish.

And have a little secret – you don’t have to be a kid, or go to camp, to experience this magic. Summer invites us to step outside, to engage with each other – BBQ in the backyard with friends, grab a beverage at one of Charlotte’s Jewish-worship outdoor spots, wander a greenway. The longer days and increased light give us a few more hours to try and live a little more, not just to hear and see, but to touch, taste and feel all there is to offer.

Find your inner kid, let them find your inner kid, let them take out into the sun, and get a little messy. For all this too, is Torah.

Rabbi’s Journal
By Rabbi Chanoch Oppenheim, Charlotte Torah Center

A woman called a rabbi and said, “My eight-year old son Jacob wants to become a rabbi. Can we come by some afternoon to ask you a few questions?” “Of course,” answered the Rabbi. When Jacob arrived with his 4th grade, the Rabbi, the Rabbi said, “Jacob, feel free to ask me anything you want.” The boy asked, “When you aren’t giving a sermon or leading some religious event, how else do you spend your time during the rest of the week?” “Jacob,” the Rabbi replied, “you don’t want to be a rabbi, you want to be a board president.”

Okay, the story may not happen, but Jacob’s question is a good one. What exactly does a Rabbi do? How can a Rabbi help give an answer, especially being as there is no one universal an- swer? Our hope is, this column will hopefully satisfy the reader’s curiosity as we begin to explore some of the issues that come up in the rest of the week of the rabbi and how they are handled. The topic this week is teaching Hebrew. Although the topic does not sound captivating topic, it is a need requested by many people in our congregation.

I feel very strongly that every Jew should know how to read He- brew. A few decades ago a Rabbi in New York was passionate about it that he began a program called Read Hebrew America. His vision was that every Jew in America would have the opportu- nity to learn the language of their heritage. Expert teachers and lin- guists were chosen to come up with a user-friendly methodology for working adults to learn He- brew. Synagogues of all denomina- tions have used the program and continue to do so. I have seen time after time how empowered people feel when they learn to read Hebrew. The Charlotte Torah Center has successfully offered the program several times and it was so easy to use that we are working with the staff at the Oasis to bring the program to Char- lotte’s seniors. But what about the people who have completed the basic course or those with a back- ground? It was resolved that a trial set of classes would be geared to accommodate these people (who also work long hours and have a challenge finding time to devote to this endeavor).

We decided to start it after our morning minyan; that’s when the fun begins. Yes, fun. We get to- gether for fifteen minute a day so people can do it on their way to work. Even if someone doesn’t have a chance to come to the min- yan, they can show up at 20 AM (yes, it’s early but you might be surprised to know how many peo- ple are find that time convenient) and the results have been incred- ible.

Hebrew is an incredibly struc- tured language, which makes it easy to master. English, on the other hand, has elements of Ger- man, Greek, and Latin in it, and evolved over the centuries, as did its pronunciation (consider knead, island, colonel, pneumonia … to name a few). Hebrew doesn’t suf- fer from this confusion and that makes it much less challenging and intimidating to learn. The main thing is that Hebrew unites Jews; it’s one of the few things that leaves.

In addition to its uniformity, Hebrew words have roots that help to understand the essence of the word. For example, the He- brew word for love is ahava and its root is hav, which means give. If one wants to have loving rela- tionship, (s)he needs to focus on what I can give? How many mar-riages, relationships between par- ents, children, siblings, and friends are based on “what can you do for me?” This one word speaks volumes about the Jewish concept of love. How about the Hebrew word ma’oznim, which means a scale, one that works by balancing a weight on one side and an object on the other. But the same word (ma’oznim) shares the same phonological root as “ear.” What’s the connection between “ear” and “balance”? It was only toward the end of the nine- teenth century that scientists dis- covered that the human body’s balancing mechanism resides in the ear but this secret was embed- ded in the Hebrew language thou- sands of years ago. Herein lies the beauty of the language; on one hand, it is richly imbued with meaning and on the other hand it can be painlessly learned without the time expenditure required by other languages.

What does a Rabbi do when he isn’t giving a sermon? Stay tuned for more answers but in the mean- time, this Rabbi enjoys seeing the faces of intelligent professionals, who never thought they would ever learn a second language, con- nect to their ancestral language — and heritage.

From the 4th-6th grade retreat. Right: Jessie and Madde; middle: Sam and Toby; bottom: Eve, Brook- lynne, Sophie, and Syrna. Photos by Jenna Dalli.
Family Engagement

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704.944.6780 | debby.block@jewishcharlotte.org

RSVP by July 26 at www.nextgencharlotte.org
Temple Solel Is Grateful to Have Lay Leader Russ Cobe

Russ Cobe grew up in Bedford, MA. He attended Temple Isaiah in nearby Lexington and has fond memories of their very dynamic Rabbi, Cary Yales. As a young member, he studied and became a Bar Mitzvah, and continued through confirmation and then graduation from Hebrew School. Russ said, “At the time, studying at the Temple was more important to me than traditional High School graduation.” He attended with a small group of friends who were on the same path as he was and Russ said it was very meaningful to continue his education with a select group of people who studied together year-after-year.

Russ received a degree in Music Composition and Religious Studies from Wesleyan University in Middletown, CT. He could not escape his spiritual roots, however, and was occasionally tapped on the shoulder and “voluntold” to lead some services. He said, “I found it was still relevant and very meaningful and something I could do.” One year when he wasn’t able to go home for observances Russ even led parts of the High Holy Day services.

Russ joined Temple Solel almost five years ago - immediately after he and his wife, Mara, attended the synagogue’s first High Holy Day services. It wasn’t long before he was asked to help by Michael Pliskoff and Ede Yakutis the lay leaders at that time. When Michael and his wife Carol moved away, Russ stepped into a co-leadership role with Ede (who was recently accepted into Rabbinical School at the URJ and is leaving for Israel in June). Russ Cobe has been the Lay Leader for several years now and the services he leads are very heartfelt and Kabbalistic.

Temple Solel became affiliated with the URJ in 2015. Our prayer-book is the Mishkan T’filah, which makes services welcoming for those of multiple backgrounds, offering a combination of Hebrew, transliterated text, and English. Russ prepares for services by studying the Torah portion in addition to focusing on any coinciding holidays. He creates an order of service of prayers or readings that help those attending to connect with worship God, and learn. Russ said, “We do each service slightly different, interweaving songs and music with a creative approach. I like to play the piano to make it easier for the congregation to chime in.” Several have commented how much they like the participatory way Russ leads services by giving the congregants the opportunity to read certain texts during the services. It flows so nicely it almost seems rehearsed. Our congregation continues to grow closer over time forming into a meaningful relationship-based community. It is very important to us to make visitors feel welcome and we are pleased how quickly new members become a part of this close-knit congregation who seem more like family or a Havurah. It’s a pleasure to have such compatibility, which allows us to be very effective in the community and working with each other.

In 2015, Russ attended the URJ Hadracha Lay Leadership Training. There were services every day and he learned how to lead and function as a lay leader. There was training on multiple subjects and he said learning how to write and share a D’var Torah was especially meaningful. Shortly following the Hadracha Russ was asked to co-lead a service at the December 2015 URJ Biennial.

In addition to services Russ also does b’nai mitzvah tutoring, hospital visits, funerals, and lends an understanding ear when needed. He fills many of the roles of a Rabbi and is on the Executive Board, designated as the Ritual Officer. We see Russ as our spiritual leader and are very blessed to have him.

Russ was originally concerned that by leading services he might miss out on the connection that takes place by attending a service; however, he said it has not taken away from his personal spiritual experience. “There are always a couple of touch-stone prayers that provide a connection such as the Amidah prayer or singing the Mi Sheberach that connect me to God and to the congregation,” Russ said.

Temple Solel is comprised of all volunteer leaders. Russ leads Shabbat services at 7 PM the second and fourth Fridays of each month. We hope to meet you soon in the community room at St. Philip Neri Catholic Church, 292 Munn Road, Fort Mill, SC. For details, call 803-619-9707 or visit www.templesolelscc.com on Facebook.
Celebrating Yom Ha-Atzmaut in Israel

By Dana Kapustin, president, Charlotte Chapter of Hadassah

What better way to celebrate Israel at 70, than in Israel? I had an amazing opportunity to visit my daughter, Danielle, on Young Judea Year Course in Israel last week, for Yom Ha-Atzmaut.

A treat to see the Young Judea home for Year Course at Beit Hillel in the neighborhood of Sarona in Tel Aviv. Ellen Hershkin, Hadassah’s National President, decided to visit as well. Danielle gave Ellen and me, along with my dear friend Amy Gould, and my sister, Lindsay Feldman, (both lifetime members of Hadassah) a tour of the rooftop garden that she was inspired to create this year. In Jerusalem, we saw the Hadassah Academic College, and we were proud to see one of the places where our donations are going in Israel. While we were up north, we learned about Israel’s relationship with Jordan, we toured a Crusader Fort in Kochav HaYarden, we visited a JNF site, outside of Modim, where we planted trees. No trip up north is complete without a winery tour, and Victor Schoenfeld, Head Winemaker at Golan Wineries gave us a VIP Tour. We were proud to hear that Victor made Aliya after going on Year Course. It was no surprise we had a fellow Judean among us. His love for Israel, wine, and Judaism was felt by all.

Of course, I could go on and on about the wine, food, beautiful land, gorgeous people, singing, dancing, and praying… it was a dream of mine to finally go to Israel with my sister, and we did it. We were inspired by Ellen Hershkin’s words about Zionism. Our excitement was contagious as we sang our way across Israel, “Halleya,” “Yerushalym Shel Zahav,” “Ha Kotel,” “Kan Noladati,” and many other folk songs from the land of Israel. Live, love, celebrate Israel! Don’t take my word for it, we planted trees. No trip up north is complete without a winery tour, and Victor Schoenfeld, Head Winemaker at Golan Wineries gave us a VIP Tour. We were proud to hear that Victor made Aliya after going on Year Course. It was no surprise we had a fellow Judean among us. His love for Israel, wine, and Judaism was felt by all.

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Oftentimes we will always stay with me are singing ‘I Did It My Way’ at Sam Strause’s funeral and singing ‘My Yiddish Mama’ in Yiddish at Rose Luski’s funeral. Cantor Rochevarg also remembers with great fondness his experiences preparing students for B’ni Mitzvah. “I remember one particular student who was having trouble with a specific part in the service during his lessons in the weeks leading up to his Bar Mitzvah. The day of the rehearsal, I stepped towards the lectern prepared to correct him and he held up his hand to me and said, ‘Don’t worry, Cantor, I got this. That was a great moment,” Cantor Rochevarg recalled. When asked what he wishes for Temple Israel after he retires, Cantor Rochevarg shared, “I hope that Temple Israel will have as long and happy of a relationship with my successor that I have had.”

To thank Cantor Rochevarg for his decades of service and pay tribute to his contributions to our community, Temple Israel will host a Celebration Weekend in honor June 15-17. Planning for these retirement festivities has been co-chaired by Peggy Gartner and Margi Goldstein, both of whom wanted to show Cantor Rochevarg how appreciative Temple is for the many years he has shared his gifts with us. Peggy said, “Cantor Rochevarg has trained hundreds of B’nai Mitzvah students during his tenure at Temple Israel and helped to prepare some of our adult members for their B’nai Mitzvah experiences. He has been a fixture on our bimah for many years and we will miss his presence and participation in our services.” Margi added, “Through his encouragement, many of us have become regular Torah readers and love being a part of our Shabbat services. In addition, ‘Cantor and Friends’ has been a wonderful way for Cantor Rochevarg to share his knowledge about and passion for Jewish and secular music with thousands of adults in the Jewish community.”

Celebration Weekend events will include a special Friday evening service followed by a cocktail reception and delicious Shabbat dinner (reservations required), a Shabbat morning service to honor the Cantor followed by a bountiful Kiddush luncheon, and a Sunday afternoon concert and dessert reception. The concert will feature two new, original Cantor Rochevarg parody songs in anticipation of his retirement. It is sure to be a special weekend filled with love and laughter. Visit templeisraelnc.org for details, to make reservations for weekend events or to make a donation in honor of Cantor Rochevarg.©
JTennis, JSteps, JDAD, JMensch, JFit, JTots, JSwim, JStage, JRUN.

Summer 2018

JChildcare.
7 weeks – 7 years old
Children will enjoy a nurturing environment to explore and have fun with crafts and activities, while parents workout.
Mon-Fri AM.............. 8am-1pm
Mon-Thu PM ............ 4pm-7:30pm
Saturday ............... 12pm-3pm
Sunday.................. 8:30am-2pm
Per Hour: M/$4.50  NM/$5.50
Grades K-5th
A great, supervised space for your elementary age child to have fun and hang out with friends, while you workout!
Sundays: 8:30am-1pm
Location: Check with LJCC Customer Service
M/$2/hour
NM/$5.50 per hour
Reservations Required! 704-386-5007, or visit LJCC Customer Service.

LJCC Department Directory
Please contact us if you have questions!

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

J-Childcare
Annie Gray 704-944-6726
annie.gray@charlottejcc.org

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

www.charlottejcc.org  704-366-5007

Sandra and Leon Levine Jewish Community Center
5007 Providence Road  |  Charlotte, NC 28226
704-386-5007 | charlottejcc.org | facebook.com/levinejcc

JJunior CRUSH Tennis Camp – Ages 6-11
Teen CRUSH Tennis Camp – Ages 12-16

Weekly Sessions
Full Day Option: 9am-4pm
Half Day Option: 9am-1pm
OR Per Day

Save The Date
5th Annual CHARLOTTE KOSHER BBQ CHAMPIONSHIP
SEPT 3 – 11AM – 3PM
Register a team by the end of Aug and GUARD

Tennis Camps
Cardio Tennis 18+: A great way to get the blood pumping! An aerobic workout on the tennis court, complete with basic tennis skills and medium to high impact cardio training.

Weekly
- 6:30pm
in Fridays - 9:10am
June 23 – August 17
(9 weeks, no class 7/6 & 7/13)
M$171  B$355  N$225

Men’s Drill 18+: (3:00-4:00 USTA rated)
A drill & play session with the Pro. Emphasis on point play, drills, and match strategies.

Weekly
- 6:30pm
June 23 – August 15
(9 weeks, no class 7/6)
M$171  B$355  N$225

Summer Aquatics

Cardio Tennis 18+: A great way to get the blood pumping! An aerobic workout on the tennis court, complete with basic tennis skills and medium to high impact cardio training.

Weekly
- 6:30pm
in Fridays - 9:10am
June 23 – August 17
(9 weeks, no class 7/6 & 7/13)
M$171  B$355  N$225

Summer Programs
FOR ALL AGES

Summer Aquatics

Cardio Tennis 18+: A great way to get the blood pumping! An aerobic workout on the tennis court, complete with basic tennis skills and medium to high impact cardio training.

Weekly
- 6:30pm
in Fridays - 9:10am
June 23 – August 17
(9 weeks, no class 7/6 & 7/13)
M$171  B$355  N$225

Summer Tennis

Junior CRUSH Tennis Camp – Ages 6-11
Teen CRUSH Tennis Camp – Ages 12-16

Weekly Sessions
Full Day Option: 9am-4pm
Half Day Option: 9am-1pm
OR Per Day

Junior CRUSH Tennis Camp – Ages 6-11
Teen CRUSH Tennis Camp – Ages 12-16
Week 1: June 11-15  Week 2: June 18-22
Week 3: June 25-29  Week 4: July 2-6
Week 5: July 9-13  Week 6: July 16-20
Week 7: July 23-27  Week 8: July 30-August 3
Week 9: August 6-10  Week 10: August 13-17

Summer Taekwondo

K-6th Grade
Teaches blocks, hand strikes, kicking, forms, self-defense, sparring combos, footwork and board breaking thru fitness drills, fun games and team activities.

Students also practice discipline, focus, goal-setting, respect, positive attitude, honesty, teamwork and perseverance.

Uniform & belt testing fees are separate.

Monday – 4:15pm
June 19 – July 31 (7 weeks)
UPSTAIRS ARMS & ARTS STUDIO
Instructor: Master Nyooa Watson
M$105  B$203  N$140

Summer Ceramic

All Levels
Mondays - 10am-12:30pm
Maria Frey (no class 7/12)

Mondays - 6:30-9pm
Mary Coulard (no class 7/12)

Wednesdays - 10am-12:30pm
Leon Nichols (no class 7/4)

Intermediate
Tuesdays - 10am-12:30pm
Wednesdays - 6:30-9:00pm
Colena Barnett (no class 7/3)

Session I
June 18 – July 25 (5 weeks)
M$140  N$285  B$54

Session II
July 30 – August 29 (5 weeks)
M$140  N$285  B$54

All Levels
Mondays - 10am-12:30pm
Maria Frey (no class 7/12)

Mondays - 6:30-9pm
Mary Coulard (no class 7/12)

Wednesdays - 10am-12:30pm
Leon Nichols (no class 7/4)

Intermediate
Tuesdays - 10am-12:30pm
Wednesdays - 6:30-9:00pm
Colena Barnett (no class 7/3)

Pricing Codes:  M = Member  B = Benefactor  NM = Non-Member
Teens
Ronald McDonald House of Charlotte – evening meal preparation
ages 12 and up with parent
Help prepare a meal for residents of the Ronald McDonald House of Charlotte. Volunteers plan the menu, purchase the ingredients and prepare the meal at the RMHC.
Sunday, August 19 • 4–7:30pm
Contact julie.rizzo@charlottejcc.org for the SignupGenius link

Adults
Judah for the Curious
Are you curious about Judaism? Join us for monthly classes on Judaism designed to educate, motivate, and inspire you to live with the use of timeless Jewish wisdom. This month’s topic is “The Afterlife.”
Monday, June 4 • 1pm • FSP Boardroom
FREE
704-944-6753 or sharr.benjamin@charlottejcc.org

Operation Peter Pan (Pedro Pan)
Come hear about Operation Peter Pan (Pedro Pan) from Frank Colunga. Frank was one of over 14,000 children who were part of the largest recorded exodus in the Western Hemisphere of unaccompanied Cuban minors to the United States between 1960 and 1962. He will share his experiences as well as a bit of Cuban history leading to this event.
Monday, June 25
1pm
FSP Boardroom
FREE
704-944-6753 or sharr.benjamin@charlottejcc.org

Ladies’ Night Out 2nd Annual JResort
Enjoy Cocktails and Snacks poolside and a splash exercise class (in the pool or on the deck)
Thursday, July 19 • 7–9pm
M/$14 NM/$21
Register at JCC Customer Service 704-366-5007
704-944-6737 or robin.stier@charlottejcc.org

Tai Chi/Qigong
Adults 50+
Improve your strength, balance and flexibility through this gentle form of fitness.
Tuesdays, 11:45am–12:45pm (all levels)
Swimmer Family Aerobics Studio
Oasis/M/$30 B/$20 NM/$42 per month
Drop-in fee: M/B/$12 p/class NM/$14 p/class

SHIIP
Seniors’ Health Insurance Information Program
Free Medicare Counseling Available year round! Please call Senior & Adult Director Jill Lipson at 704-944-6792 for information
Charlotte Jewish Preschool Goes to Israel

To celebrate Yom Ha’atzmaut the 4s and PreK classes at CJP made the long journey to Israel to celebrate a month long celebration of studying Israel. Students participated in interactive activities that took them all over the country of Israel. Students used their passports to board the airplane where they took off and saw many beautiful sights along the way.

Yom Ha’atzmaut is Israel’s Independence Day which is celebrated on the fifth day of the month of Iyar, which is the Hebrew date of the establishment of the State of Israel when the declaration of Independence was signed in Tel Aviv. Teachers at CJP used interdisciplinary centers to help students understand the importance of this holiday and the importance of the country of Israel.

Once in Israel, students traveled to different cities by going from classroom to classroom. Teachers redesigned their rooms to look like the Kotel in Jerusalem, the Negev Desert and Dead Sea, the Red Sea in Eilat, a Kibbutz in the Galilee, and a café in Tel Aviv where students munched on Israeli delights. Students also had the opportunity to go to a shuk where they used shekels to buy student made tchotchkes and participate in the IDF Boot Camp as Israeli soldiers.

Students, teachers, and parents came together to make this amazing trip a huge success. Students had the opportunity to participate in hands on activities that immersed them in Israeli culture, geography, animal life, and religious practices.
2018 ISRAEL MISSION
THE TRIP OF A LIFETIME

OCTOBER 24 - 31*, 2018
MISSION COST: $4,200**
CHAIRIED BY ALISON LERNER AND STACY & TODD GORELICK

Explore the sites, sounds, flavors and spirits of Israel as you experience the country’s rich food, wine and cultural scene.

MISSION HIGHLIGHTS:
Cooking class with professional Israeli chef
Graffiti tour of Tel Aviv’s underground culture
Israeli wine experience with Master Sommelier
Engage with experts on security, politics and Israeli society
Visit our sister city of Hadera
Unique Israeli art experiences
Celebrate Shabbat in Jerusalem
Enjoy the beautiful Bahai Gardens in Haifa

To learn more, please contact Jason Pressberg, Federation’s Chief Development Officer, at 704.944.6758 or jason.pressberg@jewishcharlotte.org.

*Please note that the ground itinerary begins on October 24 and ends October 31 which requires an October 23 departure from the US and arrival home on November 1.

**Price includes:
7 nights, luxury accommodations
Breakfast daily, 6 lunches & 6 dinners
Deluxe transportation
Portage & gratuities
VIP airport assistance & transfers
($1,582 Single Supplement)
10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY EVENT

- Charlotte Ballet Performance
- Garden Ceremony & more!

Sunday, October 14th
3-5pm • Free
Always a warm welcome.
An inclusive and dynamic Reform Jewish congregation
- More than 1,200 families strong

WORSHIP

Celebrating Shabbat
First Fridays
5:30 pm SongFest
6:00 pm Family Shabbat Evening Service
8:00 pm Shabbat Evening Service
All other Fridays
6:30 pm Shabbat Evening Service
Saturdays
11:00 am Shabbat Morning Service

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

Commemorating Tishah B’Av
Saturday, July 21 at 7:30 pm
Tishah B’Av Learning and Service:
Between the Dark and the Daylight

COMMUNITY

Photo credit: Jenna Dalli

Mazel Tov to the outstanding young men and women of our 2018 Confirmation Class. Jacob Gordon and Leah Harrison were selected from this year’s Confirmation Class to be recipients of the Michelle Miller Award for Jewish Commitment. Photo credit (left): ArtShots Photography

Photo credit: Jenna Dalli

Thanks to everyone who made Mitzvah Day such a success! On Sunday, May 6, more than 500 congregants donated time to countless charities and good causes including the Hebrew Cemetery, Jewish Family Services, Hemby and Levine Children’s Hospital, Salvation Army Center of Hope, Stanley Elementary School, States Park Freedom School and the Jewish Community Refugie Initiative.

The Porch Shabbat ShabBrunch
Saturday, June 16 at 10:00 am
Enyo a relaxing Shabbat morning with old (and new) friends, fantastic food, great company and a little Torah. RSVP by June 13. The Porch events are open to all young adults and families with young children. Learn more about The Porch, and join us for this or another upcoming event.

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LEARNING

Temple Beth El Religious School
Temple Beth El Religious School offers a diverse and innovative Jewish education for children in grades K through 7. Each week, our TBERS students enjoy specials like art, music, drama, technology, and creative experientials and our engaging and passionate Jewish educators are assisted by 85 teen madrichim (teacher assistants). We are building the Jewish leaders of tomorrow. Contact our Religious School office for registration information.

Photo credit: Jenna Dalli

Stay up to date with everything at Temple Beth El – follow us on Facebook and visit our website.
5101 Providence Road | Charlotte, NC 28226 | 704.366.1948 | templebethel.org

Don’t miss the Summer Clearance Sale, July 2–13. Save 50%–75% on select merchandise and stock up on gifts and décor for upcoming festivals and celebrations.

Discovered Traditions is open 10:00 am to 3:30 pm Monday through Friday, before and after Friday night services, and 9:00 am to 1:00 pm on Religious School Sundays. Proceeds support the Temple Beth El Religious School.

A Proud Member of the URJ
Who Said School Can’t Be Fun?

By Mariashi Groner, director, Charlotte Jewish Day School

A fifth grader, Levi Manoim, walked into my office and left a note on my desk during the month of April. “We need to celebrate the 30th year since it is the 30th year of the founding of the day school here in Charlotte,” it said. I hadn’t even thought about it. All I was thinking about was the long “to do” list I had to do to get through to the end of the school year. I couldn’t ignore the note, though, because at CJDS we listen to our students, hear their voices, and try as much as possible to act on their ideas so that they can see how success can happen in the future.

I reached out to the student and asked him to survey his classmates for ideas on how we could actually celebrate and within a week, he came back to me with a stack of notes from their discussions. We took those ideas and created 30 days of celebration for the last thirty days of school. I have to admit that I would have never thought of including the children in this celebration, but thanks to our forward-thinking students, we finished off our school year with the best last thirty days, we’ve ever had, one better than the next.

Some examples of our celebrations:
1) On PE days, 30 of a specific exercise
2) Bring in 30 items for JFS
3) Bring in 30 cents for tzedakah
4) List 30 mitzvot
5) List 30 portions of the Torah
6) Blow 30 bubbles in the air
7) Create a 30 year celebration banner
8) Decorate the sidewalk with chalk congratulating CJDS
9) 30 second Conga line
10) Play 30 songs on the loudspeaker throughout the day
11) Collect pictures of 30 students with loose teeth
12) Design t-shirts in honor of the 30 year celebration
13) 30 minutes of extra recess
14) And on and on and on...

Who Said School Can’t Be Fun?

My favorite thing we did this year at JPS was...

My favorite thing we did this year at JPS was...

Let us give your child a favorite moment

Give us a call (704) 364-8395 or visit jpsonsardis.org

A Licensed Five-Star Preschool, NC Division of Child Development
Celebrating Our Community’s 370 Legacy Donors

Foundation for the Charlotte Jewish Community thanks the 370 individuals and families who have created Jewish legacies to ensure the future of our Jewish community. These generous donors have collectively contributed to more than $25 million through bequests, individual retirement and life insurance plans, without affecting current disposable income or lifestyles. Already, local Jewish organizations have received over $2 million in legacy gifts which have been realized. If you are interested in learning how to create your own Jewish legacy, please contact your favorite Jewish agency, Phil Warshawer or Nancy Kipnis.

Annonymous (37)
Ann and Bob Abel
Bernie and Teri Ackerman
Susan and Benjamin Alzerman
Yvonne Amato
Bernard and Leah G. Anler
Anthony and Brooke Ann
Betty Andrews
Alan and Madeline Aron
Mitro and Gurin Arav
Judy and Stan August
Amy Augusta
Jill and Craig Batch
Michelle and Harvey Baror
Gail and John Baron
Michael and Marrodi Bairstein
Sanford and Les Benjamin
Shair and Benjamin
Monty Ba SST
Benjamin and Elizabeth Banson
Philip M. Barnum
Robert Barnum
Brian and Glenda Bernhardt
Adam Bernstein and Tannany Siegol
Andrew and Ella Bernstein
Bob and Don Berman
Cary Bernstein and Alan Kronavot
Mark (OBM) and Louise (OBM) Bernstein
Nancy and Samuel Bernstein
Susan P. Bessey
Lillian and Irving Biechens
Lee and Jeffrey Biers
Pete Blas
Barry and Lisa Blau
Herb (OBM) and Anita (OBM) Blumenthal
Jill Blumenthal
Lee and Allen Blumenthal
Barry Bobrow and Karen Knoke
Gary and Susan Bogard
Michael and Lenora Boorchard
David and Bonnie Bo erotisch
Sunny Bransom
Mark (OBM) and Walter Brawor
Justin Bragman
Barry H. Brodsky
Tracy and Larry Brown
Chaim and Rachel Harkov Burk
Corys Gail (OBM)
Sara and Marvin Califf
David and Janice Carr
Susan E. Canysh Spatz
Bruce Bishop Chais and Regina Rosenberg
Sally and Richard Chenkin
Judith and Richard Coates
Michael and Karen Coates-Trusty
Jena Cozen
Alphonso and Minza Lee Cohen
Brian and Sonia Cohen
David Cohen
Page and Mark Cohen
Rabbi Shlomo and Yiska Cohen
Steven and Olivia Cohen
Wendy Williams Cohen (OBM)
Jennifer and Jonathan Coleman
David and Bob Cooper
Andrea and George Crosson
Michael and Ruth Culp
Irv and Dediee Gould Gylde
Diana and Douwe DWRM
Andrew and Jeremy David
Arke and Gary (OBM) Davis
Joni and Michael Dine
Diana and Jeffrey Dzhishkwr
Ellen and Dan (OBM) Dubin
Vanna and neko Tho
Steven and Ellen Block Englehardt
David and Alan Epstein
Mary and Sherry nay Benefield
Mary and Barry Ellis Ezraky
Habee Murr and Barbara Ewing
Larry and shayn Mirtom
Harry (OBM) and Margaret (OBM) Federman
Ray and Nancy Ryder
Ron and Ellen Fiscon
Barbara and John Furr
Jeanne Rosenam
Melvin and Caren N. Frank
Robert and Beverly Friedman
Jacob M. and Nathan K. Fruedmant
Albert and Phyllis Garten
Loren sean taylor
Soden and Yael Geller
Pftonam and C. Ebbel
Stephanie and David Gitlin
Nick trassor and Erin Mayo
nancy Yudkin
Rhoda and Aaron (OBM) Gluckman
Alain and Ruth Goldberg
Kent and rav tarver
Sandor Gonderman
Mark and Linda Goldstein
Margi M. Goldstein
Meg D. Goldstein and Matthew Liebghart
Miteh and Anee ward
Shalton and Ellen Goldstone
Joy and Neal sam
Jennifer Cohen Golsky and Lanie Golightly
Barbara and David Goodman
Schtrot and mori noonam
Michelle Goodwin
Scott and Rebecca Goodman
Allen (OBM) Gordon
Bill and Patty (OBM) Gorlich
Jeff and sean connec
Marcielle Gorelick
Shelton (OBM) and Carol Berbeck
Todd and Stanley Miller Gordon
Naam and hone outlin
Ray and carol cameron
Karen Greenblatt
Jim and Muss irovedale
naomi Rosenbaum
Stan Stackman
Jodi and Josh Greenwald
Bill and Gloria Grinfelt
Jasmin and Clay Gruen
Anna Summer
Bonnie Hart
Stephanie Haynes
Richard and Barbara Hert
Tul and m. meassy
Steven and sarah moorenc
Ricki Hopkins
Chrisy and Henduck Howitz
Jonathan M. Howard
Jodie, Michael, Ellysa & Alex Iagrocco
Robert and Linda Isaa
Donald L. and Susan Sachs Jacob
David Jacobson
Jake Jacobson
Robert and Lisa (OBM) Jacobson
Florence Kaufman Jaffe
Sol and Miriam (OBM) Jaffe
Bryan and macawn nan
Ayasha Kalk
Howard and Mary Margaret Kantor
Morton and Mary Kauff
Uma and Andrew Kaplan
David and Susan Karp
Julie and arna Kat
Nanney and noces rogers
Joan Keane
Laura and Richard Klein
Howard and marnin laumears
Larry and Barrie Klompen and Family
John (OBM) Klap
Tom and Jamie Kornfeld
Law and Sheila (OBM) Klein
Abby and Laurence Klein
Robert and Lisa (OBM) KLM
David A. Loux
Jack and Lila Lewis
Barbara and Jules (OBM) Levine
Tina and Eric Eiser
Janis Olsenhaw
Mimi and Dax Lefkowitz
Eric and Susan Lenier
Tom and Judy Lerner
Harry and Olga Lerner
Mark and Arlen Lerner
Binyamin and Ilana Levin
David and Tamrin Lyer and Family
Udna and Norman Levin and Family
Jewell in barbara Levine
Mary and Dony Levine
Abby (OBM) and Helene Levine
Erosh and Joshua Levine
Howard and jessica lawr
Juan and jessica lawr
Kevin Levine and Louis Shubin
Lorin and sandra lea Goodman
Millie and Oba Getz
Sld (OBM) Levine
Eric Levenon
Cindy and jason Levenon
Julie and recy Levenon
Laura and Marc Levenon
Robert and Lara Levenon
Koo and jimmy levenon
marshhal and phyllis Lindhar
All and marc upson
Dan and Ellica Loon
Ron and Marlan lue
I ca and susan Lue
Alisa and Josh Lowender
Anne and Lord Harrison
Noome (OBM) and (OBM) Luah
Audrey Malle
Karen and Gary Mannsfield and Family
Linda McDowland
Peggy and John (OBM) McAnear
Robert and Pam McAnear
Elise Menaker
Polly and Steve Menaker
Scott and Pam Menaker
Laura Miglin
Lisa and David Miller
Staci and Darren Mond
Jennifer Monroe
Yosef and Helen Mosteigh
Elis and Martha Muller
Patsy Sigal Musker
Bruce and Lassie noosal
Leah M. Niskoloff
Edward and Jill Newman
Larry and Carol Nicholson
Michael and Joshua Norman
Erica Toyota
Steven and Paul Orland
Andrew T. Osborn
Sasa Orleans
Richard J. Osborne
Victor (OBM) and (OBM) Osborne
Marine and Arthur Baden
Varrals and Alan Dozen
Sierrra and moy patten
Lynder Patterson
Karen and Martin Patta
Diggie and Lissa Peikus
Wendy and Avon Pitcoff
Natalie and Daniel Mauer
Osborne and Ed Pres
Mitton and lisa Ruth Polic
Larry and Dolly Postal
William and Dobra Porter
Bull and John (OBM) Pransky
Michael and Cheryl Rabenowitz
Dona and Michael Ratcliffe
Karen and David Ransangen
Steven and Miran Raphael
Alan and Jan Nacin
Elizabeth Ben and Michael Grunwald
Tanya and Mitchell Ritzen
Jean and scoot mcco
Albert Rigat
Wendy and Sandy Ross
Andrew and Jennifer Rosen
Paul and Adyson Rosen
Linda and Murray (OBM) Rosen
Wendy and Frank Ros
Karen and David Resseffal Family
Anita Rovens
Iva and Ushar Haim
Joy and javyel na
Sarah Rudden
Neil (OBM) and Caren Sacks
Heri (OBM) and Caren Sacks
Neil (OBM) and Carol Sandlial
Sarah and Merritt Schach
Michael and Sarah Schach
Mark and Karen Schach
Marc and Matty Silverman
Ruth Shmerman
Stana and Marie (OBM) Silverstein
Jonathan and Stephanie Simon
Marcia and Paul Simon
Anna and Mika Sinheimer
Leoni and Eric Shat
Leoard (OBM) and Ann (OBM) Shingler
IVS and Stacey Sherron
Ruth Ann and Tom Smith
Steve and Emily Snyder
Marcia Soloson
Robot Singer
Harry and Laura Spinnick
Siri and Carol Spisman
Sheldon and Randy Sparking
Sophie Spierdinder (OBM)
Mey and Lauri Stark
Stefania and Steven Stark
Bilt Bais
Noreen and Rob Bücher
Joseph and Reenie Shaver
Juss D. Stosk and Betsy Rosen
Sam (OBM) and (OBM) Strasse
Iry and Sylvia Schwartz
Harry and Julian Silverman
Emery and Jacqueline Szabo
Mike and Andra Taylor
Beverly Yusin
Gari and Marc Tibbaut
rudy Toccelli
Johanna and Thomas Tuth
Shaynna Verharrand
Nukole and John (OBM) Turvey
Elumor and (OBM) Turky
Jeffrey and Karen Turk
Harold and Cynthia Turboough
Amy and rosie udolf
Kris and Katia Valter
David and Dobya Van Ghisl
Juda and Michael Van Ghisl
Amy and Mark Viter
Maer and Amy Waiznman
Bob and Ruth Wurshaus
Diana Varth
Janes and Ronald Weiner
Alexandre Weinstein
Mark Wartin
nina and Michael Weiss
Evan and Daniels Weiss
Susan and Robert Weiss
Elizaboth Star Winer
Eric and Joanna Westley
Marc and Kim Wojtczak
Nora Wolf
Robert and Sandra Wolf
Kris and Sue Woman
Michael and Nancy Yaffa
Scott M. and Lisa Braverman Yarborough
Martha and Brian Youssef
Robert (OBM) and Anne Yudlin
sucia and Jack Zobert
Herman and Barbara Ziegler
Emily and Samuel Zimmer
William and Angela Zimmer
(BOBM) Of Blessed Memory

This list is not inclusive. We know there are individuals and families who have created Jewish legacies but have not chosen to make their plans public. We thank them as well.

704.973.4544 • www.charlottejewishfoundation.org
Jewish Preschool on Sardis Summer Programs

The Jewish Preschool on Sardis is celebrating our seventh year of summer programs. From our part day start, to our full summer camps, we’ve been excited about the growth over the years. Children from two months through five years experience summer with water play, storytelling, community visitors, Judaic themed crafts, and fun, professional staff.

Families have loved the continuity from preschool to summer, with the same small and nurturing environment they love about JPS. See some of our favorite memories over the years.

FALL REGISTRATION BEGINS
Monday, July 16 (Members)
Monday, July 23 (Non-Members)

charlottejcc.org
704-366-5007
EDUCATING AND INSPIRING FUTURE JEWISH LEADERS
K - 7th Grade
Register by June 30
704-944-6785
templeisraelinc.org

- Registration for Temple Israel Religious School’s 2018-2019 school year is currently underway. For more information, visit templeisraelinc.org.
- We offer a multi-child discount of $75 per child (after your first child).
- Families new to Temple Israel who enroll a child in the Gan (Kindergarten) class will receive a one-time complimentary family membership to Temple Israel.

Temple Israel’s religious school is seeking creative, energetic and dynamic educators (K & 7th) for the 2018-2019 school year. Competitive pay.
For more info, contact Rabbi Helene Kornsgold at hkornsgold@templeisraelinc.org.

JOIN US
Are you interested in becoming part of a really amazing community? We invite you to Experience Temple Israel.
For singles and couples, young and old, students and families, for those seeking religious knowledge, for those seeking kindred spirits, for fun and a true celebration of all that it means to be Jewish, there is something here for you.

NEW THIS YEAR: Referral Program - If you refer a friend or family member to Temple Israel, you and your referral will get a one-time $250 credit off of Standard membership rates to be deducted from your balance at the end of your payment cycle.
To learn more about Temple Israel and membership opportunities, please contact Monty Bennett at 980-960-2380 or mbennett@templeisraelinc.org.

THE ROSE ROOM – WOMEN OF TEMPLE ISRAEL GIFT SHOP
SUMMER GIFT SHOP HOURS (June - August)
The Gift Shop will be open by appointment only. Please contact Cindy Jonnes, 704-362-2796 or Sheila Barer at (919) 375-4708. We will be happy to meet you at the gift shop for all of your Judaica shopping needs over the summer.

WE HAVE GRADUATION & WEDDING GIFTS!

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

TEMPLE ISRAEL CELEBRATES
The Gift of Cantor Elias Roschevarg
JUNE 15-17

For more information and to make reservations (deadline: June 6), visit templeisraelinc.org.

SPASH INT[O SHABBAT WITH TORAH TOTS!
Friday, June 8 & Friday, August 17
During the summer months, all pre-school families are welcome to SPLASH INTO SHABBAT with Torah Tots at the LJCC Pool/Splash Park! There will be open play, songs, and a Shabbat service, capped off with a delicious kid-friendly meal ($5/person or $18/family).
Pay in advance online at templeisraelinc.org, under “register for an event.” (On day of event, payment with cash or check only.)

TORAH TOTS & PJ LIBRARY CELEBRATE TU B’AV WITH THE JOLLY LOLLIES
Sunday, July 29, 4 p.m.
Location: Temple Israel
Tu B’Av is the Jewish holiday of love and joy. Please join us for a family concert with the musical group, The Jolly Lollies!
The concert will be followed by a fun craft to honor our grandparents. Refreshments will be served.
This event is FREE and all are welcome. Pre-Registration is requested. RSVP to debbby.bluck@jewishcharlotte.org.

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS
FUN IN THE SUN POOL PARTY
Sunday, July 8, 12 p.m.
Join Torah on Tap, Temple Israel’s young professionals group, for our annual fun in the sun pool party. Details to come!
For more information or to join Torah on Tap’s listerv, email torahontapct@gmail.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS
THE WISDOM OF TEMPLE ISRAEL
Saturdays, July 7, 14, 21, 28, & August 4, 9:30am
Join us on Shabbat this summer for a series of guest speakers from our congregational family.
Shalom Park Freedom School Movie Night Was a Great Success

The Shalom Park Freedom School, a six-week literacy program for low-income students hosted by the agencies on Shalom Park, held its annual movie night on May 1. Over 200 people filled Lerner Hall to watch the film, Teach Us All, a documentary about the educational inequalities in America. Attendees heard inspiring speeches from Christy and Andy Horwitz and Amy Andrews, Movie Night Chairs, and Crystal Edwards, our Freedom School Site Coordinator, about how our Freedom School is not only improving our scholars’ reading abilities but also joining in the larger movement for equality and justice in education. Andy challenged each of us to “help these young scholars who are full of potential, to fall in love with reading, gain self-confidence, and foster a strong sense of belief in themselves.” He further encouraged attendees to support the Shalom Park Freedom School and “tackle the work of repairing the world in a meaningful and accessible way - one scholar at a time.”

With the generosity of attendees, approximately $25,000 was raised for the Shalom Park Freedom School.

Please join us in thanking the following people for their contributions to the SPFS Movie Night: Christy and Andy Horwitz and Amy Andrews, SPFS Fundraiser Chairs.

Kim and Adam Levy for the movie snacks and drinks.

Jered Mond and Izzy’s Catering.


There are still many ways to support the SPFS this summer.

Donations

Donations are still greatly needed to fully fund our program. If you would like to support our scholars, please consider making a tax deductible donation. To donate by check, please make your check payable to “Freedom School Partners” and note Shalom Park in the memo. Donation can be dropped off at the Levine JCC front desk or mailed to: Shalom Park Freedom School, PO Box 2612, Matthews, NC 28106. You can also donate on-line at spfreeschool.org. Just click on the “make a donation” button and select the “Shalom Park Freedom School” site in the drop down menu to designate a gift to a specific site.

Volunteer

To sign up to volunteer, click on the “get involved” button on our website, spfreeschool.org. For information about volunteering, please contact Kathy Warshaw at kewarshaw@yahoo.com or Hilary Rosenbaum at dhrose4@gmail.com.

Snacks

Our scholars receive a drink and snack daily. Donations of drink boxes and individually wrapped nut free snacks would be appreciated. Cash or gift card donations for Harris Teeter, Costco, Food Lion, Publix, and Trader Joe’s are also appreciated. For drop off information, please contact Judy Kaufmann, SPFS snack chair, at 704-847-1022 or steveka@att.net.

Dirty Car?

The SPFS Teen Board is selling Autobell gift cards to raise funds for scholars. Please consider purchasing an Autobell gift card for $20. These make great end of year teacher gifts, Father’s Day gifts, birthday, etc.

Want to find a Teen Board member to purchase gift cards from? Contact camille@rsdv.com or betty.b.olson@gmail.com, and they will put you in contact with a Teen Board member.

Greet our scholars this summer at the JCC swimming pool on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday afternoons!

Committed to Excellence

CJDS remains committed to maintaining and preserving the values and principles that inspired us to create our school. Our graduates will become the leaders of tomorrow, equipped with a powerful scholastic, ethical and religious foundation, and confident in their unique strengths, talents, and ability to make a difference in their communities and the world around them.

See it for yourself! Give us a call or stop by and take a tour.

CJDS SETS THE STANDARD FOR ELEMENTARY EDUCATION BASED ON JEWISH BELIEFS

Charlotte Jewish Day School

704.366.4558 CJDSchool.org
How Tisha b’Av Can Help Us Understand the Refugee Experience

By Josef Seidenberg

New York (JTA) — For many Jews, Tisha b’Av is centered around mourning the destruction of the First and Second Temples in Jerusalem. But that interpretation misses out on an important lesson that is made more relevant by recent events, Rabbi David Seidenberg argues.

With the release of a new translation of the Book of Lamentations, the main text read on the annual fast day, the Massachusetts-based rabbi argues that Tisha b’Av, which begins this year on the evening of July 21, provides a powerful way to connect to the refugee experience.

Here’s his translation of chapter 1, verse 3, which depicts a personified Jerusalem in exile:

“She, Judah, was exiled, by poverty, and by (so) much hard labor
She sat among the nations, not finding any rest;
But her tears passed through the streets of Jerusalem. But that interpretation
of the First and Second Temples in Jerusalem argues that Tisha b’Av is centered
around mourning the destruction of the Jew­ness-based rabbi argues that Tisha
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“She, Judah, was exiled, by poverty, and by (so) much hard labor
She sat among the nations, not finding any rest;
But her tears passed through the streets of Jerusalem.
Life happens.
And you want to be ready when it does.

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