FEDERATION CAMPAIGN SURPASSES $4 MILLION!

Thank You!
TOGETHER, WE ARE POWERFUL!

What we do and what we accomplish, we all do together. Part of our educational process is to demonstrate Federation’s power to leverage dollars raised to achieve the greatest impact for the greatest good. Promoting such understanding achieves greater results. We are grateful for your continued support of our Jewish Federation and for caring about fellow Jews in Charlotte, Israel and around the world!

Campaign Co-Chairs Risa Miller and Jeff Turk said, “We are so proud to work with such a passionate and dedicated team of professionals and lay leaders. The increase in our Campaign this year is a direct result of our collective effort and commitment to innovative strategies and to focus on welcoming new donors, reconnecting with past donors, and inspiring loyal donors to reach new levels. We are definitely moving the Campaign needle in a positive direction and we are beyond optimistic that we are well positioned to achieve even greater success in 2019.”

Visit us at WWW.JEWISHCHARLOTTE.ORG

Join us for Women's Philanthropy Annual Kickoff Event, October 18

Israeli Soul: Chef Michael Solomonov and Steven Cook

Hear their Story. Taste their Award-Winning Cuisine. Support Your Community. Thursday, October 18 at 7 PM in Shalom Park

Jump into the Jewish new year with Women’s Philanthropy: Mix, mingle, and network with women of our community who are raising their voices, giving back, and repairing the world together. You will have the opportunity to meet Chef Michael Solomonov and Steven Cook at the launch of their new book, Israeli Soul: Easy, Essential, Delicious.

In Israeli Soul, the duo’s first major book since the trailblazing Zahav, Michael Solomonov and Steven Cook go straight to the food of the people — the great dishes that are the soul of Israeli cuisine. Usually served from tiny eateries, hole-in-the-wall restaurants, or market stalls, these specialties have passed from father to son or mother to daughter for generations. To find the best versions, the authors scoured bustling cities like Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, and Haifa, and sleepy towns on mountaintops.

Michael Solomonov is not your average chef. His deep connection to Israel and his story of triumph out of tragedy is the ultimate Jewish story. On food, Michael believes Israeli cuisine is full of delicious contradictions. The food can be both vibrant and elemental, rich and healthy, old and new. “Israeli food is not a collection of traditional recipes. It is an idea… a shared experience.” Michael is the executive chef/co-owner of Zahav, a modern Israeli restaurant that puts the diverse cuisine of Israel on the map, and extends to Federal Donuts, Abe Fisher, Dizengoff, Golden, and the philanthropic luncheonette, Rooster Soup Company, which donates 100% of its profits to their non-profit partner, Broad Street Ministry Hospitality Collaborative.

Light hors d’oeuvres and wine will be served. Book sale and signing following the program. Tickets are $36. To learn more and to register please visit www.jewishcharlotte.org or contact Tar Giaudice, Director of Education & Engagement, at 704-744-6759 or tar.giaudice@jewishcharlotte.org.

Join Us for the CJE New Community Reads Initiative
Be On The Same Page, Charlotte!

Whether it’s called a city-wide book club, a state-wide reading campaign, or “One Book, One City,” communities of all shapes and sizes are adopting the concept originated by the Washington Center for the Book: people coming together through the reading and discussion of a common book. Last year, the Center for Jewish Education (CJE) introduced its first “One Book, One Jewish Community” event with the intention of making it an annual event for our community.

This year, CJE is pleased to reveal its new community read initiative: “On the Same Page.” On the Same Page will present our community with two author events in the Fall of 2018 and the Spring of 2019, subtitled “Chapter I” and “Chapter II.”

Chapter I will feature Jenna Blum, the New York Times and internationally bestselling author of novels Those Who Save Us and The Stormchasers. Jenna will discuss her new novel The Lost Family, a charming, funny, and elegantly bittersweet study of the costs of loss and love.

Chapter II will feature Martin Fletcher, bestselling author and former NBC News’ Middle East correspondent and Tel Aviv Bureau chief. Fletcher will discuss his newest novel, Promised Land, a sweeping saga, reminiscent of Leon Uris’ Exodus, of a struggling family and a struggling nation.
Women’s Philanthropy: Leading Community and Inspiring Change

The Federation’s Women Philanthropy initiative is how women connect, how they give and how they make a difference. It is the way to engage Jewish women in the fulfilling work of making the world a better place.

This upcoming year, the Jewish Federation’s Women Philanthropy will convene Charlotte women for three unique events to create positive change through their activism, community building, and philanthropy.

Our Fall Kick-Off will take place on Thursday, October 18 at 7 PM. The event will feature renowned Israeli chef and philanthropist, Michael Solomonov, executive chef of Zahav and 2017 James Beard Outstanding Chef in America, and his business partner, James Beard Award-winning restaurateur Steven Cook. The two will talk about their soon to be published new book, Israeli Soul. Michael Solomonov will talk about his love of Israel in all of its contradictions and the tragedy that lead him to find his life’s path.

Next, we will offer women the opportunity to make a difference. We will put our values into action with our Tikkan Olam and Social Action program this winter. And then we will come together in the spring of 2019 to celebrate the women who are guided by our Jewish tradition of tzedakah and make a meaningful gift to the Federation’s Annual Campaign.

This spring event will be open to women making a gift at the Pearl Society giving level of $180 or more. By participating in the Federation’s Annual Campaign we have the opportunity to impact the issues that are so important to us, and to inspire others to do the same.

We hope you will join us for one – or all! – of the events we have in store for Women’s Philanthropy and be inspired to join us. It all starts with you!

For more information on Women’s Philanthropy and ways to get involved, contact Jason Pressman, 704-944-6758, or Tair Giudice, Director of Education and Engagement, 704-944-6759.

SAVE THE DATE

JCRC Fall Lecture

David Makovsky, one of America’s leading experts on Israel

October 4, 7 PM,
Sam Lerner Center for Cultural Arts

The lecture is free and open to the public

For more information, contact Laurel Grauer, director of Community Relations and Israel Affairs 704-944-6751, laurel.grauer@jewishcharlotte.org

CONTENTS

Federation News............................... pp. 1-3
Schools........................................ pp. 22-25
Center for Jewish Education.............. p. 3
Jewish Community Center............... pp. 26-27
Sue’s Book Shelf............................. p. 5
Mazel Tov......................................... p. 28
Community News............................. pp. 7-14
Jewish Family Services...................... pp. 29-31
Synagogues/Congregations............. pp. 15-20
Youth Visions.................................. pp. 31
Women’s News............................... pp. 20
High Holidays................................ pp. 32-39

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

Name........................................... Phone ..........................................
Address ........................................ State .......................................... Zip ..........................................
City ..........................................

Enclosed in my check for $...........

........... $18.00 Basic Annual Subscription
......... $25.00 Friend
........ $50.00 Patron
...... $100.00 Grand Patron
...... Other
Federaion Hires New Director of Community Relations and Israel Affairs

Following a robust national search, the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte is delighted to introduce Laurel Grauer as the new Director of Community Relations and Israel Affairs. Laurel, who until this July was a lifelong Chicagoan, is no stranger to the field of Jewish communal work. While in the Windy City, Laurel worked as a housing case manager for Ezra Multi Service Center, a Jewish social service agency, and she taught for several years at Temple Shalom of Chicago. Laurel was one of the first to receive Chicago Jewish Federation’s 36 under 36 award for her work on behalf of LGBTQ Jews and allies. Most recently, Laurel was the Midwest Manager of A Wider Bridge, the not-for-profit organization that strives for equality in Israel and for Israel, by partnering with LGBT Israels and their North American allies.

Laurel holds a BA in Education from DePaul University, and an MSW from the University of Illinois at Chicago. Her concentration in the field of social work was Community Health and Urban Development.

“It just feels like the right time to be in Charlotte”, states Grauer. “Every Jewish agency and local member I’ve met with so far seems more energized than the next to roll up their sleeves and demonstrate the vibrancy our Jewish community has to offer, especially when it comes to social action and Israel engagement. Furthermore, I could not have asked to be a part of a more welcoming and dynamic team than the one that makes up the Federation’s “All-Star Roster”.

Laurel brings to the position a wealth of experience in advancing mission-critical programs and initiatives. She also has a strong commitment to Israel advocacy while promoting a nuanced understanding on Israel and her diverse communities. Together with the Jewish Council of Community Relations and other community partners, Laurel will identify and cultivate meaningful partnerships, both within and beyond our Jewish community. These partnerships will ultimately advance and advocate on behalf of local, national and Israeli concerns that directly tie into the values of the Federation and the greater Charlotte Jewish community.

Laurel moved to Charlotte with her books and Tzporah, an American short-hair feline who rules the home with an iron paw. In her free time, Laurel is busy exploring the Queen City either by car or by bike. As a die-hard Chicago White Sox fan, she can’t wait to attend her first Knights game. She’s also an avid fan of craft breweries and local podcasts – both of which are plentiful here in Charlotte – and some of her favorite activities include white water rafting, archery, ax throwing, and going to Costco.

Want to connect with Laurel and the Federation’s JCR? You can reach her by phone at 704-944-6751 or via email at laurel.grauer@jewishcharlotte.org."

On the Same Page: Chapter I: “The Lost Family” by Jenna Blum

Sunday, October 21 at 7 PM in the Sam Lerner Center for Cultural Arts

One of Oprah’s Top 30 Women Writers, Jenna Blum made an astounding debut with her award-winning novel Those Who Save Us, a long-running New York Times and international bestseller which garnered effusive critical praise. Jenna has taught novel workshopping for 20 years at Grub Street and goes to Costco. “Every Jewish agency and local member I’ve met with so far seems more energized than the next to roll up their sleeves and demonstrate the vibrancy our Jewish community has to offer, especially when it comes to social action and Israel engagement. Furthermore, I could not have asked to be a part of a more welcoming and dynamic team than the one that makes up the Federation’s “All-Star Roster”.”

Laurel brings to the position a wealth of experience in advancing mission-critical programs and initiatives. She also has a strong commitment to Israel advocacy while promoting a nuanced understanding on Israel and her diverse communities. Together with the Jewish Council of Community Relations and other community partners, Laurel will identify and cultivate meaningful partnerships, both within and beyond our Jewish community. These partnerships will ultimately advance and advocate on behalf of local, national and Israeli concerns that directly tie into the values of the Federation and the greater Charlotte Jewish community.

Laurel moved to Charlotte with her books and Tzporah, an American short-hair feline who rules the home with an iron paw. In her free time, Laurel is busy exploring the Queen City either by car or by bike. As a die-hard Chicago White Sox fan, she can’t wait to attend her first Knights game. She’s also an avid fan of craft breweries and local podcasts – both of which are plentiful here in Charlotte – and some of her favorite activities include white water rafting, archery, ax throwing, and going to Costco.

Want to connect with Laurel and the Federation’s JCR? You can reach her by phone at 704-944-6751 or via email at laurel.grauer@jewishcharlotte.org.

Ann and Andrew are your KEYS to the local Jewish Community.

You know where your glasses are when she misplaces them, how much she hates taking medicine, and her passion for cookies.

We’ll know that, too.

Find out how our extensive training and care philosophy help us make meaningful connections that lead to better, more engaging care.

Start home care today.

hwcg.com/charlotte
704.503.4660

On the Same Page: “Chapter I” with Jenna Blum

Sunday, October 21 at 7 PM

On the Same Page: “Chapter II” with Martin Fletcher

Sunday, March 24 at 7 PM

The KEYS to a successful real estate transaction...

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

Ann and Andrew
704-502-4328
ann.langman@allentate.com
Andrew Rosen
704-604-4756
andrew.rosen@allentate.com

Windermere Insurance Group

A new home for the trusted service you expect from Greenspon & Associates

Since 1974, we’ve assisted clients with their group benefits, life & long term care insurance, annuities, business continuation planning, executive benefits, and 401(k) plans. Our merger with Windermere enhances our ability to deliver an extraordinary level of service and expertise while also expanding our offerings to include property and casualty insurance.

Greenspon & Associates is proud to announce its merger with Windermere Insurance Group.}

The KEYS to a successful real estate transaction...

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

Ann and Andrew
are your KEYS to the local Jewish Community.

Serving the Charlotte community for over 30 years.

Ann Langman
704-502-4328
ann.langman@allentate.com
Andrew Rosen
704-604-4756
andrew.rosen@allentate.com

Keith Greenspon
Advisor

Greenspon & Associates is proud to announce its merger with Windermere Insurance Group. Since 1974, we’ve assisted clients with their group benefits, life & long term care insurance, annuities, business continuation planning, executive benefits, and 401(k) plans. Our merger with Windermere enhances our ability to deliver an extraordinary level of service and expertise while also expanding our offerings to include property and casualty insurance.

704.247.3033
kgreenspon@windingsgroup.com
The transitions of early fall are bittersweet. Summer memories recede as we unpack from vacation and shift into the routines of September. A new school year begins for the youngest in our community followed shortly by a new Jewish year.

Judaism sweetens both of these transitions. Jewish life and learning should always be as sweet as the apples dipped in honey we enjoy at Rosh Hashanah.

At the Jewish Federation, we, too strive to bring sweetness into the lives of our community members and Jews around the world. From a Rosh Hashanah storybook that arrives on the doorstep of a PJ Library family — to a scholarship that helps a child attend Jewish day school, preschool or summer camp — to the college student making connections through Hillel. Federation inspires and transforms lives. And we do it all thanks to you. Your support of the Jewish Federation leads to a year full of happiness and meaning for so many. You are making an amazing difference.

Your support of the Jewish Federation leads to a year full of happiness and meaning for so many.

L'Shanah Tova' U'metukah - to a happy and sweet year! DONATE. VOLUNTEER. MAKE A DIFFERENCE.
Sue’s Book Shelf
By Sue Littauer

When I originally spoke to Tair Giudice, Director of the Center for Jewish Education, about the possibility of working there, she asked me, “Why?” The answer was simple for me. I wanted to write a monthly book column for the CJN and facilitate a Community Book Club.

Well, it’s been an entire year since I’ve been doing just that. Many thanks to all of you who stop me everywhere I go to tell me how much you enjoy the column, incorporate some of the ideas into your own book club discussions, take the time to send me personal notes and emails, and reserve the books I’ve recommended.

Being the coordinator of a community book club has been a wonderful bonus for me. I’ve met so many new people and have gotten to know old friends even better. Reading and preparing for the book club is very motivating to me and our discussions have been insightful and stimulating. The participants are smart and passionate readers.

The most recent CJE Book Club selection was My Mother’s Kitchen: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner and the Meaning of Life by Peter Gethers. The writer is an American author, publisher, and screen writer whose beloved mother’s family founded the famous Ratner’s Restaurant in New York City. The book generated an excellent conversation about the connection between food and family, and the food memories we associate with our parents and grandparents. Whether or not you enjoy cooking (I skipped over all the recipes), this book will fill you with nostalgia … my maternal grandmother’s matzo ball soup, my paternal grandmother’s onion cookies, the meat grinder attached to our kitchen table to make chopped liver, the pressure cooker spewing cabbage soup all over our kitchen are just some of my own memories. Reading about Judy Gethers, the author’s mother, was a gift. This amazing woman, who started her career at age 53, became a friend and mentor to famous new chefs including Wolfgang Puck and beat seemingly insurmountable odds as she faced cancer and a devastating stroke with her courage as she faced cancer and a seemingly insurmountable odds as she faced cancer and a devastating stroke with her courage and determination. This book will have wide appeal for both gourmet cooks, and those who “just make reservations.”

Our CJE Book Club will not meet in September; however, we have a good line up for the remainder of 2018:
- *Stolen Beauty* by Laurie Altenberg, October 17
- *Faithful* by Alice Hoffman, November 14
- *The Book of Separation* by Tova Mirvis, December 19

A great source for information about new books both written by Jewish authors or with Jewish themes is the National Jewish Book Council. And I’m very excited about a shipment of new books we received recently. Those I’ve recently read and highly recommend are:
* Good Neighbors* by Joanne Seiling
* The Husband Hour* by Jamie Brenner
* Sadness Is a White Bird* by Moriel Rothman-Zecher
* Promised Land* by Martin Fletcher

Sadness Is a White Bird and Promised Land will be 2019 CJE Book Club selections.

I hope you’ll share your book recommendations with me, and that you’ll consider joining us for one or more sessions of the CJE Book Club. I can be reached at Sueb.Littauer@JewishCharlotte.org.

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

CJE CALENDAR: SEPTEMBER 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Library Closed Today!</td>
<td>Library Closed Today!</td>
<td>Once Upon a Storytime 1:35 PM Levine-Sklut Judaic Library</td>
<td>Pj Library Baby Storytime 11:00 AM Levine-Sklut Judaic Library</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Closed Today!</td>
<td>Library Closed Today!</td>
<td>Once Upon a Storytime 1:35 PM Levine-Sklut Judaic Library</td>
<td>Pj Library Baby Storytime 11:00 AM Levine-Sklut Judaic Library</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Closed at 10:00 pm today!</td>
<td>Library Closed Today! No Book Club Today!</td>
<td>Library Closed Today! No Storytime today!</td>
<td>Pj Library Baby Storytime 11:00 AM Levine-Sklut Judaic Library</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Have a sweet year. And share what Rosh Hashanah means to you.
#RoshHashanahPublix
The Gates of Learning Through Jewish Studies at Queens University Are Open to All

The beginning of a new Jewish year is an ideal time to fill our calendars with meaningful commitments. Jewish Studies at Queens offers an expansive program filled with lectures, plays, and courses. There is a program for everyone.

While a complete program guide can be found on our website (jsgreensponcenter.org), here is a sampling of our offerings:

**Sklut Lecture - #MeToo: Sexual Misconduct in the Hebrew Bible**

September 26, 5-6:30 PM

Today, more than ever, we are aware of women’s struggles to be heard, to be safe, to be free from objectification and sexualization. The #MeToo Movement has brought to light just how widespread sexual misconduct has been. Sklut Professor Rabbi Judy Schindler and Eric Sklut who have generously established the Sklut Professorship of Jewish Studies at Queens will examine both silenced and amplified venues – both silenced and amplified in the Hebrew Bible and in Rabbinic texts. She will explore how to speak boldly with others and with the wellspring of Torah. This program, led by Rabbi Schindler and RYT Yoga instructors Aly Faber and Shelley Bear, is free and open to everyone, yoga practitioners or not, on Friday mornings.

**TGIF Torah Yoga**

Monthly on Fridays from 10:40-11:40 AM

TGIF Torah Yoga will set the weekend on a perfect note with spirituality and the strengthening and stretching of your body and soul. Connect with others and with the wellspring of Torah. This program, led by Rabbi Schindler and RYT Yoga instructors Aly Faber and Shelley Bear, is free and open to everyone.

**Preserving Memory: Charlotte-Poland Cemetery Experience**

Spring course for Queens Traditional Undergraduates

This spring, for the second year, undergraduate students from Queens, University of North Carolina Charlotte, and Johnson C. Smith will have an incredible opportunity to take a four credit course exploring questions of preservation, memory, and commemoration. The students will travel to Poland to learn, tour, and conduct cemetery restoration work.

**From Marches to Movements: Foundations of Social Change**

Opening lecture - Saturday, September 15, 6:30 PM

Monthly lectures - Mondays, October 8 - November 19, 6:30-8 PM

Drawing on Queens’ dynamic faculty and community leaders who have a depth of knowledge in the work of social justice, social change, and organizing, the Stan Greenspon Center will offer our Third Annual Fall Advocacy Education Program. This year’s program will provide the community with the tools needed to create sustainable social change. Topics include: foundations of social justice, the political process, the role of law in social change, community organizing, and rhetorical strategies of social movements and digital communications.

**From Marches to Movements: Foundations of Social Change**

Opening lecture - Saturday, September 15, 6:30 PM

Monthly lectures - Mondays, October 8 - November 19, 6:30-8 PM

Drawing on Queens’ dynamic faculty and community leaders who have a depth of knowledge in the work of social justice, social change, and organizing, the Stan Greenspon Center will offer our Third Annual Fall Advocacy Education Program. This year’s program will provide the community with the tools needed to create sustainable social change. Topics include: foundations of social justice, the political process, the role of law in social change, community organizing, and rhetorical strategies of social movements and digital communications.

As we welcome a new year, plan on opening the gates to learning and community through Queens’ Jewish Studies. For more information or to register for one of our programs please contact Talia Goldman at GoldmanT@queens.edu.
Making an Impact One Installation at a Time

They say a donation to The Foundation of Shalom Park is like making a donation to every agency on Shalom Park. “How can that be?” one may ask. It’s because Foundation of Shalom Park has been making improvements to Shalom Park – some seen and unseen. What’s been happening?

One of the most visible improvements is the installation of new flooring in all of the first and second floor classrooms of the Charlotte Jewish Preschool and Temple Beth El Religious School. The flooring provides a neutral and calm palate which enhances preschool learning and has a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating.

The Foundation of Shalom Park is completing the installation of a high-volume irrigation system for irrigating all of Shalom Park and Temple Israel landscaping and the athletic fields. Additional valves and meters were integrated for the development of a new water conservation protocol. LED (light-emitting diode) lights were installed in all Shalom Park parking lots, the parking garage and the Howard R. Levine and Alvin E. Levine gyms. These new light fixtures and bulbs enhance energy efficiency and create a brighter and wider light radius.

And what are some of the behind the scenes improvements? Just a few include the following:

“How is the Foundation of Shalom Park helping the agencies I care about?” They are helping to enhance preschool learning, supporting the preparation of lunches for the day school students and the seniors’ programs, keeping the parking lots safer, increasing the quality of the soccer fields, enhancing common area WiFi access, and reducing the carbon footprint, to name only a few impactful items.

Therefore, making a donation to the Foundation of Shalom Park is like making a donation to every agency – all at one time.

You can help the long term sustainability of Shalom Park by donating online (www.shalomcharlotte.com) or Text 2 Donate (text “Give” to 704-343-8828, Charity Code #ShalomParkCLT) or for a legacy donation (contact Terri Beattie at 704-944-6840).

The Foundation of Shalom Park has over 1,000 children being dropped off and picked up for school.

Shalom Park is asking that everyone driving on Shalom Park property obey the following important driving rules.

- Follow the speed limit – 15 MPH
- No talking on your cell phone while driving
- No texting while driving
- Observe Shalom Park street signage
- Watch for children at crosswalks
- Observe the direction of FSP Security and CMPD officers
- Make a full stop at stop signs
- Thank you for being part of Shalom Park community’s solution for keeping our children safe.

“The Foundation of Shalom Park is a 501(c)(3) non-profit agency that owns and manages the properties and facilities for the organizations that are located on the central campus of Shalom Park.”

55+ Active Adult Apartment Homes

Experience endless freedom and a vibrant new lifestyle.

- • Meet new friends and enjoy every day to its fullest with fun fitness classes, seminars, social events & more!
- • Resort style amenities including on-site fitness center, heated pool, beauty salon and movie room
- • Downsize, or as we like to call it, rightsize your life
Sam Strause Levine JCC Invitational Golf Tournament

Awesome is the only word that comes to mind in describing the venue and weather for this year’s golf tournament. Each year, members of the Levine Jewish Community Center come together to celebrate the life and legacy of Sam Strause z”l and raise funds to benefit the Levine JCC Oasis Senior Enrichment Program. This year the Sam Strause Levine JCC 12th Annual Invitational Golf Tournament was held at a new venue, The Golf Club at Ballantyne. The event, co-chaired by Arthur Lavitt and Mike Van Glish featured 22 foursomes participating in a “shot-gun” start. The day kicked-off with lunch, followed by golf, and concluded with a wonderful dinner reception, raffle, and awards ceremony. Contests were setup for players throughout the course. This year, players had several opportunities of making a hole-in-one including a two-year lease of a 2018 RX-L from Hendrick Lexus of Charlotte on Hole 16. Our very own Richard Stolar made a hole-in-one on Hole 13. Richard was awarded a plaque from The Golf Club at Ballantyne and a $1,000 Footjoy golf package.

The Levine JCC expresses its sincere appreciation to our Presenting Sponsors: Lisa Strause Levinson, The Palm Restaurant, and Frank and Amy Scibelli. Presenting Co-Sponsors: Swimmer Insurance Company and South State Bank, along with all the other wonderful sponsors who make this day special. We are so appreciative of all of the golfers that came out to support this wonderful event and to honor Sam. A huge thank you is owed to the golf committee, our volunteers, and the staff leadership of Geneva Boxer, for continuously making the tournament a success. This tournament could not take place without the support of each and every person who participates.

This tournament truly embodies the vision that Lisa Strause Levinson had when she set up the Alene Strause Family Endowment for the Levine Jewish Community Center, with the support from the LJCC and community donors, in memory of her parents. Alene and Sam believed in taking care of the members of this community and their daily actions reflected this belief. The endowment ensures that these needs will be met for generations to come. If you would like to ensure that the seniors in our community live a vibrant Jewish life, please consider making a donation to the Alene and Sam Strause Family Endowment by contacting Peter Blair at 704-944-6800 or Peter.Blair@charlottejcc.org.

Proceeds from the tournament have a tremendous impact on the Levine JCC Oasis Senior Enrichment Program and our senior participants. The mission of the OASIS program is to enrich the quality of all senior participants regardless of religious affiliation. Sponsorships, player fees, and donations to the Sam Strause Levine JCC Invitational Golf Tournament benefit the Oasis program, which touches families and individuals in tangible and profound ways that truly make a difference in peoples’ lives. These dollars directly subsidize nutritional lunches, fund transportation, and sponsor meaningful programming all designed to enhance the lives of seniors in our community who could not otherwise afford to participate. For many seniors, the Levine JCC’s Oasis program is their only contact with the community, a nourishing meal, a health check, any type of physical activity or a myriad of other life sustaining services.

Due to the success of this year’s event, we will return to The Golf Club at Ballantyne. Mark your calendar for next year’s golf tournament being held on Monday, April 15, 2019. We sincerely hope that you will choose to become involved with this fun-filled community-wide special event next year as we host the 13th Annual Sam Strause Levine JCC Invitational Golf Tournament. We look forward to seeing you next year for a beautiful day out on the course at The Golf Club at Ballantyne, a day that benefits our seniors and ensures that we are caring for those in our community who need our support just as Alene and Sam did each year of their lives.

Thank You To Our Sponsors!

Thank you for your continued support and for a successful golf tournament!

The 12th Annual Sam Strause Levine JCC Invitational Golf Tournament benefiting the Levine JCC Oasis Senior Enrichment Program was held at The Golf Club at Ballantyne on Tuesday May 22nd. Eighty-eight golfers played in this year’s special event honoring Sam Strause z”l.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR WINNING TEAMS!

1st Place Seniors (net): Phil Levine, Pete Whittington, Bob Coldwell and Bill St. George

Top Gross Winning Team: Chip Player, Mike Mulvane, John Luby and Jack Doyle

1st Place (net): Stuart Goldstein, Steve Wasser, Brad Funk and Dave Burkholder

2nd Place (net): Darius Chase, Mitch Kronenberg, Vin Marcello, and Bill Hudson

3rd Place (net): Mike Van Glish, Patricia Cuero, Henry DeBoer and Scott DeBoer

Closest to the Pin: Hill Hudson Longest Drive: Vernon Knight

The LJCC board and staff, along with our seniors greatly acknowledge ALL sponsors, players, committee members and volunteers for continuing to come out in support of this annual special event. We look forward to seeing everyone next year on Monday, April 15th!
Fall Transitions Are Not Easy for Everyone

September is often such a memorable time of year. Although we are sad to see summer leave, we easily transition these feelings to an excitement about fall. Our kids look forward to what the new school year will bring and seeing their friends, sports fans gear up for college and/or Panthers football, we look forward to the beautiful fall foliage and we anticipate the promise of new beginnings during the High Holidays.

But for one-fifth of our population who suffer from a mental health issue these events feel very different. For youth that suffer from mental health issues, a new school year brings heightened feelings of stress and anxiety. Sports and fall activities can bring feelings of loneliness and for many, the High Holidays deepen feelings of depression. Transitions are especially hard when someone suffers from mental health illness. These symptoms have become so common that they have actually been named Fall Depression or Autumn Anxiety. But don’t be fooled, they are real feelings with real consequences.

Known as a seasonal disorder, just like seasonal allergies, Fall Depression or Autumn Anxiety if untreated, can have serious consequences. Think about it, seasonal allergies can have serious physical effects like trouble breathing, headaches, sinus infections, etc., so too can seasonal depression and anxiety have a significant impact on someone’s emotional stability. Depression can deepen and result in suicidal thoughts, excessive tiredness, and feelings of isolation. The result can impact one’s ability to go to work, school or engage in socializing activities.

If you suffer from seasonal depression or anxiety there are ways to fight these symptoms. The most important thing is to understand what is happening and take action. Do not ignore it. Here are some tools to use:

1) Plan ahead. Think about what your triggers are and plan how to manage them. If you are emerging from something new, get as much information as possible and check it out in advance. If possible, join the new activity with someone you know so you are not feeling alone in your endeavor.

2) Don’t overextend yourself. Fall is a time when many will encourage you to get involved. Pace yourself and don’t get over-involved. This will only lead to feelings of being overwhelmed and anxious. Just pick one or two activities that are manageable and that you know you will enjoy.

3) Engage in things that make you feel good about yourself. It might be a new hairstyle or buying a new outfit. It could be journaling or adopting a new hobby.

4) Identify someone you can reach out to when you might need help. Make sure it can be a family member, friend, co-worker or clergy. Make sure it is someone you feel comfortable reaching out to when you might be struggling.

5) Seek professional help. If your symptoms are increasing and you are not able to manage them, don’t be afraid to reach out for professional support. For more information or for professional guidance, contact Jewish Family Services at 704-364-6094 or director@jewishfamily.org.
Eat Like an Ancient Israelite

Meat production generates 18% of the world’s man-made greenhouse gases, according to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization. Meat production is in turn one of the biggest threats to our existence here on Earth. This month we consider going back to our Jewish roots as a way to reduce our meat consumption and our environmental impact.

The dietary staples of Ancient Israelite cuisine were bread, wine, and olive oil, but also included legumes, fruits and vegetables, dairy products, and fish. While Kashrut shaped the Ancient Israelite diet, it is important to note that for most people Kashrut was only an occasional concern as meat was eaten only a few times a year when animals were slaughtered for the major festivals or celebrations. Only at the king’s table was meat served daily.

However, most American’s eat like kings. Americans are set to eat more meat in 2018 than ever before. To be precise, the average consumer will eat 222.2 pounds of red meat and poultry this year, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, surpassing a record set in 2004. While the government recommends that adults eat 5 to 6.5 ounces of protein daily, the USDA forecasts the average person will down almost 10 ounces of meat and poultry each day in 2018.

Aside from the health risks, consider the environmental impact. Raising livestock usually causes far more environmental damage than any other part of the life cycle. According to Scientific American, solely in terms of how much grain livestock consume, producing one pound of beef releases 13.67 pounds of greenhouse gases, compared with 3.37 pounds for every one pound of chicken.

While chicken may be a more sustainable choice, the best way to green your diet is to cut back on meat in general. But if it’s not Shabbat without a roasted chicken or a brisket, you’re in luck: Recent years have seen the burgeoning presence of “eco-kosher” and “eco-halal” meat purveyors, who provide local or organic meat that’s also been sanctified by the proper authorities.

In the ideal world, the following applies to a greener diet:

1. Occasionally abstain from eating meat, or cut down on the frequency with which you serve it. Try “Meatless Monday” as a start.

2. When you do eat meat, make sure to choose organic and grass-fed, pasture-raised meat.

3. Avoid processed meat. It’s important that the meat you buy be organic and clean, i.e., not processed or prepared ahead.

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

If you are interested in learning more about Shalom Green, visit our website at shalomgreenCLT.org.

Visit www.ZABSPlace.org/UU to learn more and to sign up for ZABS Place’s Upcycling University. With a goal to do just that. Discover the unique purpose and Treasure in everything. We meet on Wednesdays at 5 PM with each class featuring a new world of treasures.
At Providence Day, we inspire a passion for learning in our students. So from time to time, we go where their curiosity and imagination take us.

www.providenceday.org/admissions
Jewish Council of Lake Norman Hosts Israeli Tzofim Scouts

An evening of high energy, lots of smiles, friendship and conversation, and messages of peace and understanding were all brought together by the Jewish Council of Lake Norman along with Davidson Cub Scout Pack 58 and Boy Scout Troop 58. The event was hosted at the Davidson United Methodist Church August 1 and will long be remembered as special for both the young and young at heart of all that attended.

The evening started with tasks at hand and each group busily setting up what was needed to bring their part of this big event together. While the Tzofim Scouts were setting up props on the stage and organizing costumes for each song and dance routine, the Cub and Boy Scouts and their leaders were busy arranging tables and chairs before the crowd came in for a fundraising hot dog dinner. Members of The Jewish Council of Lake Norman were hustling in the kitchen to prepare a combination of 206 servings of all beef and vegan franks with all the trimmings, setting them out buffet style so the guests could serve themselves. Members of the Davidson United Methodist Church were most helpful, assisting with whatever was needed within their huge kitchen.

There was time after all the hectic setting up and before the rush of the guests arriving, allowing the Israeli Scout teens to sit down and enjoy their meal with the local Scout members, sharing lively conversation and getting to know each other’s scouting programs.

The entertainment began with the Boy Scouts on stage engaging in a musical skit and warming up the audience to a fun filled high energy and enlightening performance by the Israeli Tzofim Friendship Caravan. These young Israeli performers are selected by many rounds of competitive auditions and spend a year rehearsing for their tour, canvassing North America before returning to their home towns and daily routines in Israel. The interactive performance featuring song and dance in Hebrew, English, and Yiddish opens the door to the hopes of peace, love, and acceptance of all cultures which is a constant theme to all that attend their shows.

Vladimir Plotkin, one of JFS’ youngest volunteers, chooses to make a difference - one senior at a time, one week at a time. This bright, young, caring, professional, who recently received a full scholarship to UNC Chapel Hill for his MBA, still finds time every Sunday to pick up 90 year old Paul Cohen for a game of tennis.
Susan Cernyak-Spatz is among the 378 individuals and families in our community who have created 833 unique legacy gifts to support its future. Please take the time to read her story and thank her for her generosity. It is our hope that you will be inspired and encouraged to join her and others who have created legacy gifts to sustain our Jewish community.

I was born in Vienna, Austria in 1922. I fondly remember Shabbat dinners and lighting candles with my parents and grandparents, who had deep roots in Vienna. When I was seven, we moved to Berlin and stayed for nine years. In 1936, we moved back to Vienna and then to Prague as Hitler moved into Vienna in 1938. My mother and I were sucked into the maelstrom when she refused to move to Brussels, where my father had found a safe place for us. In 1942, we were taken to the Theresienstadt concentration camp in German occupied Czechoslovakia. Two days after arriving, my mother and I were separated. She was deported to the Sobibor death camp in Poland and murdered. In 1943, I was sent to Auschwitz-Birkenau and then in 1945, on The Death March to Ravensbruck Women’s Camp in Germany as the Russian army approached Berlin. I was one of 15 girls who survived because of a humane action by an SS officer in a very inhumane world. The Germans were trying to impress the liberators and handed us to the American soldiers and Red Cross. Someone asked a soldier where we should go, and he responded, “Go back to where you came from.” These 18- or 19-year-old soldiers, who traveled across the world to help the oppressed people of Europe, didn’t know what was taking place in those camps or that they even existed.

Following the war, I worked as an interpreter for the British and was briefly reunited with my father in Brussels. I married a soldier and, in 1946, moved to his hometown of Alton, IL, eventually settling in Springfield, MO. In this small Jewish community with other refugee families, I raised three children who attended religious school. In 1964, I was a 41-year-old freshman at Southwest Missouri University earning a PhD in German Literature from the University of Kansas. I came to UNC Charlotte in 1972 and taught for 20 years.

Charlotte is home and the most comfortable and tolerant place I’ve ever lived. Leaving a legacy gift is my way of commemorating my parents, the children, and others who were lost in the Holocaust. It is confirmation that I was a contributing Jew in a community that was so supportive of me. I am convinced that if we don’t fight for Judaism, it may be in danger. We must work fast and furious to stop anti-Semitism and promote tolerance of all religions.

Last month, Moishe House Charlotte celebrated summer with friends, food, and of course fireworks. Their Fourth of July Eve outing to the U.S. National White Water Center had the highest turnout to date. Residents Ari Rubin and Debra Lipson are excited for the continued support and social connections planned for the rest of 2018. For more details on Moishe House Charlotte, follow Moishe House Charlotte on Facebook.
Join Temple Kol Ami for High Holidays

Temple Kol Ami of Fort Mill, SC invites you to join us for the High Holidays. We are thrilled to be led this year once again by cantorial soloist Sara Sherman as well as our wonderful lay leaders Michelle Silva, Jonathan Shaw, and Adena Sherman-Adams. For those who have been with us in the past, you will recall Sara’s beautiful voice and deep knowledge of the liturgy. She is an accomplished professional musician with a degree in piano performance from the Manhattan School of Music. She has won accolades for her piano presentations at music festivals worldwide and has performed at such iconic venues as Lincoln Center. We are excited to experience the Days of Awe with Sara.

Schedule for High Holiday services is as follows: Erev Rosh Hashanah, September 9, 7 PM; Junior Congregation Service, September 10, 9:00 AM; Rosh Hashana, September 10, 10 AM; Kol Nidre, September 18, 7 PM; Yom Kippur, September 19, 10 AM. Yizkor will be around 12:30 PM immediately following the morning service and is free and open to the public. All services are at Temple Kol Ami located at Philadelphia United Methodist Church, 1601 Highway 160 West, Fort Mill, SC. Tickets are available for purchase at www.templekolamisc.org and are open to non-members as well as members. Military and college students are invited to worship with us for free. Two tickets are included in TKA membership.

For more information, please contact us at yorksynagogue@gmail.com or 803-701-0149. Also, it is not too late to enroll your child at Temple Kol Ami Religious School which starts Sept 16. For more information, please contact us at tka.religious-school@gmail.com.

(Continued on page 19)

Chabad Young Professionals held their second mega Shabbat dinner in June with over 100 young Jewish professionals in attendance. It was held at the Springhill Suites in Uptown Charlotte with a beautiful 16th floor patio, an open bar and delicious Shabbat food. We’d like to thank our main event sponsor, Clinispan Health. The event was also sponsored by David and Karen Ransenberg, Andy Griesinger, Brian Hill, and Avi Bagley.

For the very first time, Chabad Young Professionals will be hosting High Holiday services in Uptown at the Hyatt Place.

You can visit theuptownchabad.com/highholidays or email motti@theuptownchabad.com for more information.

Your Local Financial Advisors

Gene Marx has been recognized as a 2018 Forbes Best-In-State Wealth Advisor*

Gene Marx
Managing Director
Senior Vice President, Investments

Catherine Hunter Burke, CFP®
Financial Advisor
Certified Financial Planner™

6805 Morrison Blvd., Suite 350 // Charlotte, NC 28211
T 704.442.4740 // marxwealthmanagement.com

*The Forbes ranking of Best-In-State Wealth Advisors, developed by SHOOK Research is based on an algorithm of qualitative criteria and quantitative data. Those advisors that are considered have a minimum of seven years of experience, and the algorithm weights factors like revenue trends, AUM, compliance records, industry experience and those that encompass best practices in their practices and approach to working with clients. Portfolio performance is not a criteria due to varying client objectives and lack of audited data. Out of 21,138 advisors nominated by their firms, 2,213 received the award. Neither Forbes nor SHOOK receive a fee in exchange for rankings. This ranking is not indicative of advisor’s future performance, is not an endorsement, and may not be representative of individual advisor’s experience. Neither Raymond James nor any of its Financial Advisors or RIA firms pay a fee in exchange for this award/certification. Raymond James is not affiliated with Forbes or Shook Research, LLC. CFP Board owns the CFP® marks in the United States. ©2018 CFP Board.
Thirty years ago the first gathering of members and guests began observing the High Holidays in someone’s home with a borrowed Torah. Service portions, known to Havurat Tikvah members as “chunks,” were distributed among service leaders. With the guidance of and teaching from George Ackerman, who had previously served in a cantorial role at Temple Israel, members began the task of learning their parts and fashioning a full service. A large number of those who volunteered to either lead or participate in services had never done so before. So, Ackerman worked with and provided those who took on the challenge of and accepted an active role in services with tapes of the various prayers and sections for use in preparing for and delivering service ritual and observance, including Torah parshah. Today, many of those early service leaders continue to serve the congregation as they did those many years ago, as well as newer members who were honored to take up the mantle in continuing the tradition of lay-led High Holiday worship.

On September 10, Rosh Hashanah services will begin at 10 AM, followed by a potluck kosher/veggie/dairy/pareve lunch. Afterward congregants will gather for Tashlich at 3:30 PM at the Bridge at Sugar Creek Greenway between Tranquil Avenue and Plantation Place across from 3217 Westfield Rd. Services will continue on September 11 at 10 AM, also followed by a luncheon.

Kol Nidre services will be held on September 18 at 7:15 PM. Attendees must be seated by 7 PM.

On September 19, Yom Kippur services will continue at 10 AM, with Yizkor/Healing services at approximately 12:45 PM. Services will continue at 6 PM, after an afternoon break for a Mincha book discussion of Changing the World from the Inside Out, by David Jaffe. Services conclude with Ne’ilah beginning at 7 PM followed by a break-the-fast potluck supper.

Members and guests are encouraged to bring tallit and kippah if available, however there is a limited quantity of both on hand. Attendees can bring their own shofar to participate in the shofar services on Rosh Hashanah and the concluding service on Yom Kippur.

Childcare is available if requested in advance.

There is no charge for first-time guests, college students, and members of Havurat Tikvah. All others are asked to pay a nominal fee ($54 for individuals, $90 for families). Mail checks to Havurat Tikvah, P.O. Box 12684, Charlotte, NC 28220.

On September 30, the congregation will celebrate Sukkot at the deGroot residence, 1410 Pinetree Dr. Refreshments will be served. Check the calendar for the start time.

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

We value and depend upon member participation and leadership for our religious services, spiritual growth and governance. For more information on upcoming services, programs, membership or other queries, call 980-225-5330, write to Havurat Tikvah, P.O. Box 12684, Charlotte, NC 28220, email membership@havurattikvah.org or visit havurattikvah.org. Havurat Tikvah is also on Facebook at facebook.com/groups/havurattikvah.

For more information, please contact Rabbi Yisrael and Leah Levin 704-246-8881 Leah@JewishBallantyne.com or visit our website www.JewishBallantyne.com.
Traditional in design, innovative in implementation. This is the Latin way.

Charlotte Latin School was founded in 1970 to create an inclusive environment where academic excellence is encouraged, leadership is cultivated, liberal arts are valued and phonics-based reading is essential. We have educated thousands of students in the importance of learning, citizenship, service to others, hard work and Honor Above All.

CharlotteLatin.org  |  704.846.7207
Dining Out, Catering & Hospitality

To advertise, contact one of our sales representatives:
Jodi Valenstein, 704-609-0950
Pam Garrison, 704-906-7034

Temple Beth El Religious School Keeps Our Kids Connected

By Moira Quinn Klein, Past President of Temple Beth El

September is a great month. Temperatures begin to slide from misery to comfortable. So does the humidity, by the way, which means “good hair days” outnumber the “bad” … a reason to love fall that is not to be taken lightly. We celebrate the High Holy Days, Sukkot, and Simchat Torah in quick succession. And moms and dads across the land rejoice as school begins with its rhythms, return to regular schedules, and early bedtimes. I swear, I still feel that sigh of relief today, even though my own children are in their 30s.

Religious school also begins in September. And no matter what religious organization you can name: a synagogue, church, mosque, or temple, your school is your future. That is especially true in the Jewish community. Educating the next generation forges the future of our faith. The more vital your religious school and the more connected it is, the stronger your link to the future.

How do we keep that vital link? How do we ensure that all of our houses of worship are Beit Midrash? The key is intentionality in creating bonds between teachers, parents, students, clergy, and lay leaders.

I know all of our institutions have a strong focus on education: it is who we are as a people. We are blessed to have a talented and dedicated Religious School Director in Susan Jacobs. Susan provides steady, sure, and skilled leadership for our school and has the support of our clergy, staff, and Religious School Committee.

My experience with our Religious School is as a Temple Beth El parent and leader. So I know that Temple Beth El’s Religious School is engaging our 350 or so students by meeting them where they are.

To reach kids today, you have to engage them with some level of technology and the ability to explore and gather information across many platforms. Our students have access to a 15 station computer lab and a classroom set of tablets. Teachers use multiple websites and applications to support the curriculum. We constantly add to our resources as technology advances as it is a high priority.

We also acknowledge that in 2018, families are stretched and need some alternative Religious School options. We spent time exploring what those could be … again, “meeting families where they are.” We made adjustments so that any family who desires to do and Sunday school is easier and also created alternative families for families that travel a long distance or have changing schedules.

We have created opportunities for a deep dive into learning with an off-site retreat for 4th, 5th, and 6th Grades. This time for Jewish learning outside of the tradition of classroom often takes the form of experiences in the outdoors. Students have more occasions to bond with each other, strengthen friendships, and connect to Judaism.

Temple Beth El Religious School has a cool STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Math) Careers curriculum focusing on Israel. This program helps students develop a new connection to modern-day Israel, identify key cities, and recognize their significance as centers of innovation. Ultimately, they will learn about the ways in which Israel is committed to Tikvah Olam and is making global contributions in and outside of Israel.

As always, the core of any school is passionate, creative, and caring teachers. But at Temple Beth El, we take it a step further with our Madrichim Program. Ninety Madrichim, or teen teacher assistants, are vital to the success of our school. Madrichim volunteer their first year and then last year. Often, this is their first work experience. These young role models are teens who are not only supporting the school, they are continuing their own Jewish education and staying connected to our community.

After 7th grade, all of our Charlotte teens are encouraged to continue their Jewish learning through 12th Grade by attending the Consolidated High School of Jewish Studies of Charlotte (Hebrew High). Students of Hebrew High continue to develop strong Jewish values and a sense of unity with the Jewish people.

Finally, we are proud to teach life lessons and Tikvah Olam through a Jewish lens. One topic of interest from the retreat I mentioned is “Finding the Courage to Be Kind and the Strength to Stand Up.” I am proud to know that our Charlotte teens are encouraged to be brave, to be kind, to have courage, and to repair the world. Aren’t you?®

Study Hebrew at Chabad/ Ohr HaTorah

Instructor: Professor Jeffrey Poelvoorde

This is a course for people who want greater access to and understanding of the original texts of Judaism (Torah and Prayerbook Hebrew) in addition to improving their grasp of modern Israeli Hebrew. The course will focus on grammar, vocabulary, reading and conversation.

The class will begin Sunday, October 7 and continue through May 19, 2019. The first option will be at 5-6 PM on Beginning Hebrew. There will be a second option at 6-7 PM on Intermediate and Advanced Hebrew. In January 2019, a third class will begin Monday, 10-11 AM on Advanced Hebrew.


The beginning section will cover Lessons 1-25; the intermediate/advanced section will begin with Lesson 26. Tuition: Full year: $180 or half semester, January-May: $100.

To enroll, please contact Chabad at 704-366-3984 or email rabbicoohen@chabadnc.org.

Catering

Hampton Inn & Suites SouthPark at Phillips Place

Where Families Come Together

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

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

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

www.hamptonsouthpark.com
Temple Solel Seeks Biblical King’s Advice on Time

Whether speaking with a close friend or even someone we barely know, a common statement is, “Where has the time gone?” or “How can half the year be over?” For some of us, it is even worse because we might not even know what day of the week it is. It’s a wonder we can keep everything in order using both our cultural Hebrew calendar by the way of Babylonian influence or succeeding equally to the calendar used by the general population surrounding us. No matter which calendar we use, there are only 24 hours in each day, so how we chose spend our time impacts every day of the life we have been given as a precious gift.

King David reflects and writes in Tehillim (Psalms) 90:12, “So teach the number our days, so that we shall acquire a heart of wisdom.” Quoting one piece of a text can be misleading; however, and in this particular writing there are references to God’s anger and longing for a time where we often overlook in well-doing valued, developing relationships or being a part of a bigger vision, it is a privilege to have a choice. At Temple Solel, we often tell one another we like spending time together.

A most interesting conversation came up multiple times when people discussed how they were utilizing their time. They weren’t happy about it. Two different people said, “I am spending endless hours on my HOA Board and it’s miserable.” The one realization that we often overlook in well-doing is risk of time lost versus reward. Are we investing our time like we would dollars? It certainly makes us look at time a little differently when there is desired return on our investment. Whether we are working, playing, traveling, with family or helping someone or an organization shouldn’t there be a payoff? Whether the result is a goal accomplished, feeling valued, developing relationships or being a part of a bigger vision, it is a privilege to have a choice. At Temple Solel, we often tell one another we like spending time together.

Our indoor picnic was a great success. A special thank you to Blooming Einstein’s, Tanya Trachtenberg, for being so generous with her space and all the great prizes. At our gathering, Laurabree Monday and Wendy Weinberger sponsored the showing of “The Driver Is Red” directed by Randall Christopher - an award winning, cleverly illustrated 15-minute film based in Argentina, in 1960, describing how secret agent Zvi Aharoni hunts down one of the highest ranking Nazi war criminals on the run. Link: http://thedriversired.com. The film is important because it provides us with an example how a man used his time to bring forth justice with an underlying message it didn’t matter how long it took or how old this Nazi criminal was when captured. The risk in this case was absolutely worth the reward, not just for Zvi, but for justice to our people.

In Solomon’s wisdom he wrote in Proverbs 3:5-6—“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not upon your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge God, and God will direct your paths.”

No matter our age, it may be time for us to recalibrate so we know we are on a directed path. The younger the better. In a modern quote Sarah Dessen writes, “There comes a time in every life when the world gets quiet and the only thing left is your own heart. So you’d better learn to know the sound of it. Otherwise you’ll never understand what it is saying.” What’s even better is when we can share these journeys together as a community.

High Holidays at Temple Kol Ami

(Continued from page 15)

If you live in York County or the Ballantyne area, Temple Kol Ami might be the place for you! We are a warm and inclusive Reform congregation comprised of Jews from diverse backgrounds. We wish you and your loved ones Shanah Tovah U’Tuah, a sweet, healthy, and prosperous New Year!®

Ready. For. Anything.
Ready to learn. Ready to succeed. Ready for whatever life has in store for me. Country Day Ready.

Open House Dates:
October 4 (Junior Kindergarten – Kindergarten)
October 11 (Junior Kindergarten – Grade 4)
November 1 (Grades 9–12)
High Holidays at Ohr HaTorah Change of Location

High Holiday services at Ohr HaTorah this year will be at a nearby location due to the construc-
tion of the new expanded Chabad campus. Services will be held at Charlotte preparatory school located at 212 Boyce Road (off Sardis Road).

The High Holiday experience at Ohr HaTorah is a journey of the soul in to the Divine. For those who wish to delve into the deeper spiritual and mystical meaning of the High Holidays will discover that the Ohr HaTorah service is truly rewarding.

Rosh Hashanah falls this year on September 9-11, and Yom Kippur begins the evening of September 9-11, and Yom Kippur begins the evening of September 18, through Wednes-

day the 19th.

The High Holiday service at OHT is a learning experience as Rabbi Yossi Groner provides short and concise commentaries on the liturgy and touches on the mystical significance of many of the rituals observed on Rosh Ha-

shanah.

The atmosphere at OHT re-
fects the holiness of the Holy Days which shapes the synagogue experience as an intimate bond-

ing with God. The melodious and passionate voice of Rabbi Bin-
yomim Weiss, who leads the ser-

vices, helps generate a yearning in the soul which seeks to reach up and touch the Divine.

The main mitzvah of Rosh Ha-

shanah is the sounding the Shofar. At OHT this ritual is the center-piece of the service when all the children are brought in from Ju-

tior congregation and together with all the adults they focus on the happening that unfolds before them.

The Bimah is surrounded by children of all ages. The Torahs are held firmly and the worship-

pers are focused on the signif-

icance of the event. It is at this time that people sense the meaning-

ing of the day as they recite the selected verses from Psalms with feeling and passion. The sound of the Shofar is both a cry from the heart as it is also a triumphal blast of confidence and trust that God will grant all of us a great year. The Shofar service envelopes all assembled as their hearts pierce the heavens with the delicate sound of the Shofar.

Yom Kippur at Ohr HaTorah one can sense the sanctity of the day as the entire synagogue is in-
tensely responsive to the seriousness and holiness of this unique day. On Yom Kippur we are com-

tared to angles as we come clean pure before God. The melodious songs that we sing at Ohr HaTo-

rah emanate from the heart and touch the soul. At the conclusion of Yom Kippur we experience a total transformation from solemnity to joy and happiness, the congregation breaks in to a joy-

ous song and we blow the Shofar with confidence and trust that God indeed has sealed our fate with the bless-

ings for a sweet, happy, healthy,

and prosperous year.

The service schedule at Congreg-

ation Ohr HaTorah is as fol-

lows: Evening services at 7:15 PM and morning services at 9 AM. Yom Kippur Kol Nidrei ser-

vice begins at 6:30 and morning service is at 9. Neilah service begins at 5 PM. Tickets are not required to attend services. For more information please call our office at 704-366-3984 or vis-

it our website www.chabadnc.org.

Women's News

Celebrate the Tatas Fall 2018

Celebrate the Tatas is a unique breast cancer program that cros-

es the divide of age, economics, race, and religion. It educates, celebrates, and empowers wom-

en through artistic expression to raise funds for breast cancer.

Painting Days September 16-17
McDowell Arts Center, Matthews, NC
10 AM-6 PM

Painting Days are the heart and soul of Celebrate the Tatas. Wom-

en ages 21 to 121 have their Tatas painted by volunteer artists. The comradery shared by all partici-

pants makes this a truly special day. Visit www.celebratethetatas.

dom to reserve your spot.

Tournament of Champions
October 6-7
Hillcrest Soccer Complex, Winston-Salem, NC
The Tatas Tournament of Champions is an annual wom-

en’s soccer tournament that raises funds for breast cancer research. Since our tournament began in 2014, we have raised nearly $25,000 to donate to breast can-

cer research. Help us reach our 2018 goal of adding $10,000 to that total.

Visit www.celebratethetatas.

dom to donate.

Novant Health Mobile Mam-

mography
October 22
Shalon Park, Charlotte, NC
9 AM- 3:30 PM

An important part of Celebrate the Tatas is the Novant Health Mobile Mammography Unit, which provides mammography to our community, in a conve-

nient mobile setting. To secure your appointment, call 704-384-

7226. Special funding available for those who need it. No woman should do without.

Questions? Email celebrateth-
etatas2018@gmail.com.

The Big Reveal
October 24
Queen Park Social, Charlotte, NC
7-9 PM (VIP hour: 6-7 PM)
The Big Reveal is a large cel-

ebatory fundraising event featur-
guest speakers: Lori Gentile, MD – Breast Surgical Oncologist, Novant Health; Amy Sobel, MD – Division of Breast Imaging, Charlotte Radiology.

With a special video tribute from Marisa Jackson, breast can-

cer previvor and BRCA advocate. For more information, ticket purchases, sponsorship, and vol-

unteer opportunities, please visit www.celebratethetatas.com.

Welcome Home to Windsor Run

Announcing the grand opening of Windsor Run, Mecklenburg County’s most anticipated new retirement community, featuring:

- Resort-style amenities including a pool and fitness center.
- Stylish apartment homes for contemporary living.
- Delectable dining at multiple on-site restaurants.
- On-site medical center and a future continuing care neighborhood for your changing health care needs.
- Don’t wait to learn more. Call 1-800-583-9680 for your free brochure or to schedule a personal visit.

Welcome Home to Windsor Run

Distinctive retirement living in Matthews.

Windsor Run

Matthews

WindsorRunCommunity.com

Call Julie

Find Your Place

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

THE REALTOR WITH EXPERIENCE & KNOWLEDGE TRUSTED BY RE/ MAX PROPERTY VIRTUA

• BUYERS • SELLERS • RELOCATION

Homes With Cachet

www.HomesWithCachet.com

Windsor Run

Announcing the grand opening of Windsor Run, Mecklenburg County’s most anticipated new retirement community, featuring:

- Resort-style amenities including a pool and fitness center.
- Stylish apartment homes for contemporary living.
- Delectable dining at multiple on-site restaurants.
- On-site medical center and a future continuing care neighborhood for your changing health care needs.
- Don’t wait to learn more. Call 1-800-583-9680 for your free brochure or to schedule a personal visit.

Call Julie

704.236.7536

Julie@JulieTache.com

Celebrate the Tatas Fall 2018

Celebrate the Tatas is a unique breast cancer program that cros-

es the divide of age, economics, race, and religion. It educates, celebrates, and empowers wom-

en through artistic expression to raise funds for breast cancer.

Painting Days September 16-17
McDowell Arts Center, Matthews, NC
10 AM-6 PM

Painting Days are the heart and soul of Celebrate the Tatas. Wom-

en ages 21 to 121 have their Tatas painted by volunteer artists. The comradery shared by all partici-

pants makes this a truly special day. Visit www.celebratethetatas.

dom to reserve your spot.

Tournament of Champions
October 6-7
Hillcrest Soccer Complex, Winston-Salem, NC
The Tatas Tournament of Champions is an annual wom-

en’s soccer tournament that raises funds for breast cancer research. Since our tournament began in 2014, we have raised nearly $25,000 to donate to breast can-

cer research. Help us reach our 2018 goal of adding $10,000 to that total.

Visit www.celebratethetatas.

dom to donate.

Novant Health Mobile Mam-

mography
October 22
Shalon Park, Charlotte, NC
9 AM- 3:30 PM

An important part of Celebrate the Tatas is the Novant Health Mobile Mammography Unit, which provides mammography to our community, in a conve-

nient mobile setting. To secure your appointment, call 704-384-

7226. Special funding available for those who need it. No woman should do without.

Questions? Email celebrateth-
etatas2018@gmail.com.

The Big Reveal
October 24
Queen Park Social, Charlotte, NC
7-9 PM (VIP hour: 6-7 PM)
The Big Reveal is a large cel-

ebatory fundraising event featur-
guest speakers: Lori Gentile, MD – Breast Surgical Oncologist, Novant Health; Amy Sobel, MD – Division of Breast Imaging, Charlotte Radiology.

With a special video tribute from Marisa Jackson, breast can-

cer previvor and BRCA advocate. For more information, ticket purchases, sponsorship, and vol-

unteer opportunities, please visit www.celebratethetatas.com.

Welcome Home to Windsor Run

Announcing the grand opening of Windsor Run, Mecklenburg County’s most anticipated new retirement community, featuring:

- Resort-style amenities including a pool and fitness center.
- Stylish apartment homes for contemporary living.
- Delectable dining at multiple on-site restaurants.
- On-site medical center and a future continuing care neighborhood for your changing health care needs.
- Don’t wait to learn more. Call 1-800-583-9680 for your free brochure or to schedule a personal visit.

Welcome Home to Windsor Run

Distinctive retirement living in Matthews.

Windsor Run

Announcing the grand opening of Windsor Run, Mecklenburg County’s most anticipated new retirement community, featuring:

- Resort-style amenities including a pool and fitness center.
- Stylish apartment homes for contemporary living.
- Delectable dining at multiple on-site restaurants.
- On-site medical center and a future continuing care neighborhood for your changing health care needs.
- Don’t wait to learn more. Call 1-800-583-9680 for your free brochure or to schedule a personal visit.

Welcome Home to Windsor Run

Distinctive retirement living in Matthews.
One Stop Shop for Inground Pools & Outdoor Living

(Why Deal With Multiple Vendors?)

Contract Now For Your Pool Build
Anytime In 2018, Or Be First On Our Schedule In 2019

We Will Beat Any Apples To Apples Written Quote

Design Your Own Pool & Backyard With Our Free In-Home 3D Software Presentation
To Create Your Personal Custom Dream Paradise “In Your Budget”

• All Pool Surfaces (Liner, Fiberglass, Concrete/Gunite)
• Spas/Water Features
• Pool Coping & Tile
• Patios (Brick Pavers, Travertine, Marble, Cement)
• Custom Kitchens & Bars
• Brick Fireplaces & Fire Pits
• Hardscaping & Stonework
• Retaining Walls
• Pergolas & Aluminum Fencing
• Custom Outdoor & Pool Lighting
• Irrigation
• Weekly Pool Maintenance & Repairs
• Water Testing
• Pool Renovations
• Acid Washing
• Leak Detection
• Pool Liner Repair & Replacement
• Install Salt Chlorine Systems
• Heaters
• Pumps
• Filters
• Motors
• Pool Covers
• Open & Close Pools

In Business Since 1982 • BBB A+ Rating • Home Advisor Five Star Rating
• Contractor’s License #80326 • Fully Insured

BLUE CRYSTAL POOLS
(704) 256-3743
rick@bluecrystalpoolsinc.com
Mineral Springs, NC 28108
www.bluecrystalpoolsinc.com

100% POOL FINANCING IF QUALIFIED
www.lyonfinancial.net/apply
www.lightstream.com
www.lendingclub.com/loans
www.hfsfinancial.net

www.bluecrystalpoolsinc.com
SCHOOL NEWS

Jewish Preschool on Sardis Prepares for New Year

By Dedee Ephraim Goldsmith

“The secret to change is to focus all of your energy not on fighting the old, but on building the new.” Socrates

A new school year is upon us and JPS is so excited to start 5779. We have new children to welcome, new families to befriend, and new classrooms to add to our mishpacha. We are not stopping there, however, we are also adding to our administrative team. Joining Devorah Gorkin, our co-director is Leah Levin (PTO and family liaison), Chaya Greenberg (administrative assistant), and Wanda Vande Linde (JPS 3s teacher and her new role as staff liaison). This strong team will serve in place while our search continues to find the perfect co-director for Devorah.

As you may have already heard, I am leaving the Jewish Preschool on Sardis to pursue a new challenge and help another program grow and thrive. There are so many emotions wavering through me, leaving JPS as the director. This decision was a difficult one to make, knowing that I would be leaving the children, staff, families, and community that I’ve cherished over the years. I am so proud of the work we’ve done, the milestones we’ve accomplished, the goals we’ve set for the future, and the community we’ve built as a result. I’ve grown and learned so much more than I could have ever imagined. It has been my honor to work among the incredible teachers and staff at JPS, with whom I’ve had the pleasure to laugh with, cry with, play with, and learn from. It truly has been an honor to have served as the leader of the Jewish Preschool on Sardis and I know the school will continue to thrive and set the bar for quality early childhood programming in the years ahead. Many thanks to each of you for your support, guidance, and community building that I’ve been so fortunate to be a part of over the years. I look forward to seeing where JPS grows to, and I promise not to be a stranger.

A Fond Farewell to Dedee Goldsmith

In Judaism we are taught that educators are actually the builders of a community. They are the ones to whom we entrust our children to guard and shape their souls, as they are our future. Chabad of North Carolina and Congregation Oh HaTorah celebrated seven years of Dedee Goldsmith’s leadership at The Jewish Preschool on Sardis. In Judaism, seven is a milestone number as it represents a complete cycle. Seven days of the week, the six days of creation with Shabbat making a complete cycle of seven.

Dedee has given our preschool a complete seven years which leaves us with a quality preschool that has grown to a full time program with an infant class. She leaves the school strong and at capacity with a waiting list. We will be forever grateful to Dedee for her professionalism, wisdom, focus, and direction she has provided during her years of leadership.

Dedee’s professional journey is now taking her to lead another educational institution that will greatly benefit the children there.

It is therefore a bittersweet farewell as we bid her good bye, because we will miss her devotion, commitment, and dedication to the children, the staff and the school.

At the same time, we applaud her and take pride as she takes on a new challenge where we know she will be just as successful.

Although change is difficult, it allows us to explore new opportunities which will bring the school to greater heights in the years to come.

In the interim, as JPS searches for a new co-director, we are pleased to announce that Devorah (Weiss) Gorkin will assume position of co-director at JPS. Devorah has been on staff this past year assisting Dedee. Leah Levin from the Ballantyne Chabad of North Carolina and Congregation Ohr HaTorah celebrated seven years of Dedee Goldsmith’s leadership at The Jewish Preschool on Sardis. In Judaism, seven is a milestone number as it represents a complete cycle of seven. Seven is a milestone number as it represents a complete cycle.

Chaya Greenberg will serve as administrative assistant. Chaya was part of the JPS team during 2014-16 and had developed a wonderful relationship with parents and staff. JPS sees every child as a precious gem with individual gifts. Like a young sapling, each child is nurtured with love and individualized care. This pervasive view which is shared by teachers and all the staff at JPS has guided us throughout our existence since its inception.

Jewish Preschool on Sardis was founded in 1986 by Rabbi Yoysi and Marashi Groner with the help of Fern Sanderson, the Preschool’s first director. JPS is a 5 star school and has always put the care of its students as its first priority.

If you would like to explore more about JPS or schedule a tour, please call Devorah at 704-364-8395.

Building Bodies and Team Spirit at CJDS

Physical Education and movement in general is as important to a child’s development and education as teaching the multiplication tables or writing conventions. At CJDS, like all elementary schools, we aim to achieve a balance between providing all the learning that is expected during a typical school day and still assuring the amount of free and structured play that their brains and bodies need to be successful, happy, and relaxed. We have found a combination of activities and interventions both in and out of the classroom to be the best way to meet our children’s needs.

CJDS provides numerous flexible seating options such as Hokki stools and ball chairs as well as movement breaks throughout the school day. When students feel the freedom to move according to their bodies’ needs, academic performance is boosted, brain development increases, and enhanced social skills are observed. In addition to recess, where the students’ choose what they want to play with minimal interference from the adults, we provide two structured physical activity ses (Continued on page 24)

Physical Education is an important part of life at CJDS.
Shanah Tovah Um’tukah • 5779
The Clergy, Staff, and Lay Leaders of Temple Beth El Wish the Charlotte Jewish Community a Happy and Sweet New Year

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.

The High Holy Days
Join us for warm and welcoming High Holy Day Services. Temple Beth El offers several different services from S’lichot to Simchat Torah to suit the needs of your schedule and family. Call the Temple Beth El office at 704.366.1948 or visit www.templebethel.org for more information.

COMMUNITY

Sukkot Celebration with Dan Nichols
Sunday, Sept. 23 at 6:00 pm

Don’t miss this Sukkot Celebration! Feed your soul in prayer and in song with the music of the incredible Dan Nichols.

THIS CONCERT IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY.

Dan Nichols is a singular talent in the world of Jewish music. One of the most dynamic, influential, and beloved Jewish musicians in North America, Dan’s live performances are legendary for their unrestrained energy and infectious spirit. Dan’s melodies have become an integral part of the spiritual and liturgical experience of countless individuals and Jewish communities, including Temple Beth El.

LEARNING

“Turn it, and turn it, for everything is in it. Reflect on it and grow old and gray with it. Don’t turn from it, for nothing is better than it.” — Pirkei Avot

Join us as we uncover the richness of our tradition, turning it and exploring it as we discover new wisdom for our generation. Find ongoing adult education opportunities on our calendar www.templebethel.org.

Are you interested in Temple Beth El membership or learning more about what makes our congregation unique? Contact Candace Naliboff, Director of Member Services at 704.749.3068 or cnaliboff@templebethel.org.

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

Celebrating 75 years of Reform Judaism in Charlotte. From generation to generation, from strength to strength.
The Charlotte Jewish News - September 2018 - Page 24

Physical Education at Charlotte Jewish Day School
(Continued from page 22)

sessions. The Physical Education session includes crossfit exercises as well as specific skills and rules of team games such as basketball, soccer, handball, and kickball.

The second session is less typical for an elementary school. In the past, we have offered Tae Kwon Do, Yoga, and most recently team building with fitness instructor, Eldad Malka. Eldad lead our students in team building exercises, challenging them physically, emotionally, and mentally to collaborate, problem solve, and reach far out of their own comfort zone.

These team building experiences were so beneficial to the development and growth of our children that we have found ways to continue the experience in the coming year. We have reached out to Kinetic Heights, an obstacle-based challenge and fitness center to provide team building classes and Parkour fitness instruction. Parkour fitness is a program that teaches navigating by movement around, across, through, over, and under in structured activities. Situation-dependent activities can include, running, climbing, swinging, vaulting, jumping, and many other types of movements getting the children to use their bodies in new and challenging ways.

As important as it is to feed, challenge, and strengthen the brain, the body and heart deserve equal attention and time. We are looking forward to a strong, physical year.

Mental Health is Real

Q - Question
P - Persuade
R - Refer

Recognize the warning signs of someone at risk and how you can help.

QPR Suicide Prevention Training
September 14, 2018
11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Shalom Park, 5007 Providence Rd. • Teen Room
Lunch will be served • RSVP: 704. 364-6594

Presented by

Swimmer Insurance Agency
725 Providence Road Charlotte, NC 28207 | 704.333.6694
www.swimmerinsurance.com

Wishing You and Your Family The Very Best This Holiday Season

The New Year
By Emma Lazarus

Not while the snow-shroud round dead earth is rolled,

And naked branches point to frozen skies.—

When orchards burn their lamps of fiery gold,

The grape glows like a jewel, and the corn

A sea of beauty and abundance lies,

Then the new year is born.

Look where the mother of the months uplifts

In the green clearness of the unsunned West,

Her ivory horn of plenty, dropping gifts,

Cool, harvest-feeding dews, fine-winnowed light;

Tired labor with fruition, joy and rest

Profusely to requite.

Source: Poetry Foundation
CJP Staff Participates in Team Building Exercises at the White Water Center

Staff orientation is an exciting time every year as we have professional development sessions and reconnect with our co-workers back at school. But this year, our administrative team took a different approach by emphasizing teambuilding among the Charlotte Jewish Preschool team. On our third day of orientation we ventured out to the White Water Center for team building games led by their expert staff. After six hours of challenges our staff walked away from the White Water Center sopping wet from rain, but stronger than ever. Here is what some of our staff members have to say about their experience:

Tara Cohen, 2s Teacher
“Teambuilding with my work family at the White Water Center sounded like a fun way to spend ‘a day at work,’” until I saw the weather forecast showing rain for the day. When we were told we would be expected to attend, rain or shine, I have to admit that I wasn’t really looking forward to the day anymore. After some mulling, we were split into groups to spend the afternoon overcoming obstacles and challenges. My group consisted of both new and old faces to CJP, I expected to act as my usual jovial self but planned to sit back and let others take charge. I will admit that I was surprised to be laughing continuously through each obstacle we faced. As much as we took it seriously to succeed, we laughed at ourselves, joked with each other, and ultimately overcame it all together as a team.

“There was one challenge in particular that I genuinely thought was impossible. We were stumped for several minutes with no idea how to even begin. We asked probably thirty questions to our leader about potential ways to get our materials from the center of the obstacle. Finally, someone suggested an idea that rang clear to us all and together we were successful in yet another challenge. After several challenges, we were asked to talk about things that were good, bad, and had potential to turn bad for us as a group. The first thing we all said was that we had so much fun laughing and problem-solving together. We pointed out that there was never a single person who took over completely and dictated to the rest of the group. It was pretty neat to relate work situations to the problem solving we did there that day. We are constantly on the move, thinking, watching, and looking out for one another. It was a great way to work together outside of CJP for a change.”

Sandy Speight, 3s Teacher
“This team building trip was such an amazing way to learn about myself and those that I work with. I think that when you have the opportunity to get outside, you’re able to grow in a different way. I got to experience how people really interact with others. Through this experience I trusted others to guide me, asked for help, advice, and guidance, and I relied on somebody other than myself. That’s hard for a lot of people to do.

“I feel that when a group of people go into a different environment and interact, something magical happens. I know that I laughed more, had a huge smile on my face, enjoyed the rain, the challenges, and especially the camaraderie. It felt like we were a team, all there for the same purpose even though each of the three groups was doing different things.

“My favorite activity was a physical challenge – we were standing in a single file line on a log. One of our pregnant staff members was in my group and it was so awesome how all came together to make sure that she was ok. As a team we silently communicated that she came first and her safety was paramount. We accomplished our goal and it felt so good, and I felt important because I was a part of the process.”

Our team building day at the White Water Center allowed our new and old staff members to work together and bond through shared, challenging experiences. The skills we developed together – from creative problem-solving to communication – translate into the classroom environment. Not only do we hope to implement these fine-tuned skills with each other in the workplace, but we also plan to call on them with our students who we welcomed back on July 30. We are excited for our half-day staff and students to come back after Labor Day so our CJP family can be complete.

Three Questions with Ms. Crystal Edwards

The Shalom Park Freedom School (SPFS) has wrapped the eighth successful summer literacy immersion program – thanks in very large part to support from our Shalom Park community. We spoke with Ms. Crystal Edwards (CE), the Site Coordinator for the Shalom Park Freedom School 2018, to catch a glimpse of how things went for our scholars this summer.

Question 1: What did a typical day at SPFS look like for the scholars this summer?

CE: [During a typical day] scholars are greeted with the Good Morning Chant at 8 AM as they unload the buses. The scholars eat breakfast with their classes and interns before beginning Harambee. Harambee is a Kiswahili word that means “let’s pull together.” I liken it to a 30-minute pep rally filled with call and response songs and chants, as well as a community member read aloud guest.

After Harambee, scholars disperse to their classrooms to engage in an Integrated Reading Curriculum (IRC). During IRC, interns and scholars read a culturally relevant book and engage in interactive activities. Following lunch, the scholars engage in field trips like bowling or Discovery Place or afternoon activities such as Community Gardening or Drama. On Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, SPFS has an extended hour planning that consists of swimming lessons at the JCC, a visit to the Levine-Sklut Judaic Library, Mindfulness, or Extend- ed DEAR (Drop Everything and Read).

Question 2: What was your most surprising moment this summer?

CE: The “Rock the Freedom School” chant is a chant in which the leader asks a subset of people to “Rock the Freedom School.” For example, the leader may call for all of the girls or level one scholars. At one Harambee, a scholar called for all of the ladies to Rock the Freedom School; and

A scholar interviewing Harambee reader Betsy Olinger to introduce her at the Harambee reader.

Applications for the 2019 Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte Impact and Innovation Fund are now available.

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

For more information or to receive an application, please contact the Federation office, 704.944.6757 www.jewishcharlotte.org

Scholars choosing books in the Levine-Sklut Judaic Library.
JCHILDCARE.

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

Mon-Fri AM.............. 8am-1pm
Mon-Thu PM ..........4pm-7:30pm
Saturday ................. 12pm-3pm
Sunday ......................8:30am-2pm

Per Hour: M/$4.50 NM/$5.50

Grades K-5th
A great, supervised space for your elementary age child to have fun and hang out with friends, while you workout!
Sundays, 8:30am–1pm
Location: Check with LJCC Customer Service
M/$2/hour
NM/$5.50 per hour

Reservations Required! 704-366-5007, or visit LJCC Customer Service.

LJCC Department Directory
Please contact us 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

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

J-Childcare
Amie Gray 704-944-6726
amie.gray@charlottejcc.org

Social Action
Jill Rizzo 704-944-6730
jill.rizzo@charlottejcc.org

www.charlottejcc.org • 704-366-5007
Early Childhood

Music & Me
8-18 months
Interactive music and age-appropriate movement for mommy, daddy, or caregiver with baby/toddler.
Mondays, 12:12-12:40pm
September 17 – December 3
Family Place
M/$120 B/$80 NM/$144

Zumba Kids Jr.
4-5 year olds
Come join the dance party! Preschoolers will have a blast dancing to different sounds from around the world. They will explore new cultures and rhythms through games and movements.
Fridays, 1:15–2pm
September 14 – December 7
Swimmer Family Aerobics Studio
M/$180 B/$108 NM/$240

K-5th

Winter Basketball Leagues
Micro-Basketball (4 & 5 years)
January 6 – February 25
Under 8 Hoopsters (6 & 7 years)
December 2-February 25
Under 10 Hoopsters (8 & 9 years)
December 2-February 25
Girls Interfaith Basketball (grades 4th–10th)
Mid-Nov through mid-February
Boys Interfaith Basketball (grades 4th–12th)
Mid-Nov through mid-February
Registration begins:
Members - September 17
Non-Members - October 1
Practice and game times TBD

Zumba Kids Jr.
4-5 year olds
Come join the dance party! Preschoolers will have a blast dancing to different sounds from around the world. They will explore new cultures and rhythms through games and movements.
Fridays, 1:15–2pm
September 14 – December 7
Swimmer Family Aerobics Studio
M/$180 B/$108 NM/$240

K-5th

Winter Basketball Leagues
Micro-Basketball (4 & 5 years)
January 6 – February 25
Under 8 Hoopsters (6 & 7 years)
December 2-February 25
Under 10 Hoopsters (8 & 9 years)
December 2-February 25
Girls Interfaith Basketball (grades 4th–10th)
Mid-Nov through mid-February
Boys Interfaith Basketball (grades 4th–12th)
Mid-Nov through mid-February
Registration begins:
Members - September 17
Non-Members - October 1
Practice and game times TBD

Floor Hockey
Want a fast-paced, action-packed sport? Learn basic hockey skills, strategy and game play.
Mondays, 4:30–5:15pm
September 17 – December 3
Alvin E. Levine Gymnasium
M/$165 B/Free NM/$220

Teens

Butterfly Project Workshop
for Home-Schooled Students
If you home school your 5th through 12th grade students, please join us at this Levine JCC Butterfly Project workshop.
Thursday, September 20
10am
Sam Lerner Center
$5 per participant
Please register at the LJCC Customer Service Desk or call 704.366.5007

Adults

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 Native Named to Seventh Annual “36 Under 36” List

Chicago — Brooke Kerendian, 31, a Charlotte native, has been named to the seventh annual “Double Chai in the Chi: 36 Under 36” list of young Jewish professionals in Chicago. Kerendian is joined by 35 other young Jewish professionals in Chicago. Growing up in Charlotte, Kerendian’s family attended Chabad Lubavitch congregation (Ohr HaTorah) and was a graduate of Charlotte Jewish Day School. As a teen, Kerendian was a student at Hebrew High and a member of BBYO. “As far back as I can remember, Brooke has always outdone herself in everything she has undertaken,” says Mariashi Groner, director of The Charlotte Jewish Day School, about Kerendian’s days in elementary school. “She always reached for excellence and achieved it. In her own quiet, sweet and determined way, she pursued her goals and realized her objectives. We are very proud of her and all that she has accomplished.” Groner added, “More importantly, Brooke is proving her lifelong commitment to Judaism through donating her time and talent to others who are less fortunate. I know that she is bringing much nachas to her parents, as she is to us at JPS and CJDS, her earliest Jewish educations.”

Presented by the Jewish United Fund of Metropolitan Chicago’s Young Leadership Division (YLD) and Oy!Chicago (www.oychicago.com) — website for Chicago 20- and 30-somethings — the list shines a spotlight on the faces of Chicago’s Jewish future and recognizes the amazing contributions of this generation.

The young professionals featured are noted for making a difference through their work, giving back in their free time, and earning distinction in the Jewish community and beyond.

“The future of our Jewish community is in good hands with these 36 individuals. Like always, this year’s list does not disappoint,” said Stefanie Perkos Bregman, co-founding editor of Oy!Chicago. “This marks our seventh year of this initiative, and I’m always amazed at the innovative, philanthropic work that is happening right here in Chicago.” This year’s list is replete with entrepreneurs, activists, fundraisers, and more, running the gamut from artists to rabbis, attorneys to social workers... and, well, the list goes on.

“Year after year we see such a driven group who are both leaders in their professions, and doing amazing things to build a stronger and more unified Jewish community here in Chicago,” said Alex Entratter, current YLD campaign chair and former honoree. “To see so many people creating new opportunities that better our community is truly inspiring. This is just the beginning of a bright future for these individuals and the community they are impacting.”

Three Questions for Freedom School’s Crystal Edwards

(Continued from page 25)

the girls went wild - screaming and dancing. The scholar then called for the boys to Rock the Freedom School and you could hear a pin drop. As the chant ended, I was just about to tell the boys to give more energy when I heard this voice come from the stage. EH, a level 2 scholar, looked at his peers and said “I noticed that the girls always outdo the boys. I think the boys can do better. We have to!” I was surprised yet so proud of EH for not being ashamed to fully engage in the program. He didn’t care what the “cool kids” thought - EH wanted everyone to Rock the Freedom School. Needless to say, I did not have to tell the boys anything after EH finished.

Question 3: What do you hope the scholars gained this summer?

CE: Every scholar started at a different level this summer and some presented more consistent challenges. Those scholars were accustomed to a certain way of discipline. The Freedom School model allows for discipline yet encouragement. Through the challenges scholars faced this summer, I hope they gained a sense of compassion and forgiveness. We treated every day like a new day and did not hold scholars to the mistakes of their past. As they saw the SPFS team forgive and show compassion toward each other, we are only a six-week program so we may not see the seeds we planted blossom but I have faith that we did indeed plant seeds. Even though the 2018 program has wrapped we are already preparing for the future – please consider making a tax-deductible donation to the Shalom Park Freedom School. If you choose to donate online, in the “gift information” section please indicate you would like your gift to go towards the Shalom Park Freedom School site: http://spf-freedom-school.org/donate-now!.

The Grove (in Carolina Orchards, 1285 Carolina Orchards Blvd Fort Mill, SC)

2018 High Holidays Schedule / Locations

- Erev Rosh Hashanah: Sunday, Sep. 9 – 7PM
- Rosh Hashanah Service: Monday, Sep. 10 – 10AM
- Shabbat Shuvah: Friday, Sep. 14 – 7PM
- Erev Yom Kippur: Tuesday, Sep. 18 – 7PM
- Yom Kippur: Wednesday, Sep. 19 – 10AM and 3PM
- St. Philip Neri Church
- 292 Mann Road
- Fort Mill, SC
- The Grove (in Carolina Orchards, turn into the parking lot at the Model Village and Amenities Center),
- 1285 Carolina Orchards Blvd
- Fort Mill, SC
- 803-619-9707 http://www.templesolel.com

Our Best Wishes For
A Happy And Healthy
New Year

Sandra & Leon Levine

Mazel Tov & Congratulations

Happy New Year

from

Bill Gorelick

Betsy Olinger engaging the scholars as a Harambee Reader.

Brooke Kerendian

Volunteers helped plant these seeds all six weeks. On the Great Day of D.E.A.R. (Drop Everything And Read) where each scholar had a volunteer reading buddy from the community.
JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES

The New Year Brings New Programs and Priorities to JFS

September is often the time of year when we feast on foods dipped in honey in hopes of having a sweet year, dine on fish heads that signify the head of the year is upon us, and snack on pomegranates, which are said to have 613 seeds, the same number of commandments. It is also a time of year for us to celebrate the universe, a new beginning and the possibilities the New Year brings. The ending of one chapter and start of another, with new hopes and new dreams.

As we embrace that spirit and embark on a new year, we here at JFS are looking into the future with a heightened commitment to strengthening our impact and responding to the growing needs of our community. The continuing issues of mental illness, food insecurity, domestic violence and aging continue to grow and this year JFS has seen significant increases in our community accessing therapy, the food pantry, and services to our senior adults and their caregivers. By year’s end we will have touched over 3,500 lives, double the number of lives touched in 2017. Recognizing that it is important that we not only respond to the capacity of the growing needs of our community but also the diversity of those needs, JFS is positioning itself to increase our flexibility in addressing our growing and changing community. For example, with the increase in children and youth accessing clinical services, we identified the importance of helping parents navigate the challenges facing today’s youth. To ensure our effectiveness it was critical not only to enhance both our competencies, as well as our flexibility in implementing the most effective interventions.

In addition, with our grant from the JFNA Center for Advancing Holocaust Survivor Care, we are significantly strengthening our engagement with our community’s Holocaust survivors. Just this past month, in partnership with the Greenspon Center for Peace and Social Justice at Queen’s College, 14 of our community’s survivors were videotaped giving them the opportunity to tell their stories. One 76-year-old survivor from Siberia, Frieda Schwartz, who now lives in Sun City was a bit uneasy telling her story. “I was so nervous to come here today,” Schwartz said, “but I am leaving feeling like I left my mark. I told stories I have never shared before.” Capturing and preserving individual survivor legacies that can be archived locally and used for educational purposes is just one part of the grant, which also focuses on socialization and engagement for this population as well as providing second generation family members with the opportunity to share their unique and challenging experiences living with a survivor.

To respond to these growing needs, however, requires the resources to grow our capacity. The recent kick-off of our annual Family to Family Campaign represents a significant percent of the support we will need to address the issues of our children and youth, members of our community suffering with a mental illness, the isolated seniors and other traumas. JFS has always been able to depend upon you to ensure that those who need our services can gain access to them. One person can change the lives of many. Reaching out and touching one does indeed have a ripple effect in healing our community as a whole.

Donations to Jewish Family Services in July 2018

IN MEMORY OF
Matt Siddot to David and Suzy Catenazzo from Michael and Robin Stier, Ronald and Janice Weiner
Bernice Schwartz to Alan and Merle Gotthieb from Veanna Klamann
The mother of Russell and Fay Sinkoe from Terri Gottlieb
John Halverston to Andrew and Jill Halverston from Jonathan and Stephanie Simon

Happy Birthday to
Steven Hookfield from Gary and Janie Levinson

Laura Milgrim from Harry and Ruth Conson, Carol Gorlick
Pearl Rosenthal from Lillian Buller, Estelle Rosen
Steve Weiner from Gloria Goldberg

Happy Anniversary to
David Kronovet from Elise Menaker
David Feibus from Jack and Vera Mendel

Wishing a Full and Speedy Recovery to
Matthew Luftglass from Ronald and Janice Weiner
Elaine Schefflin from Paul and Lynn Edelstein
Jan Weiner from Matthew Luftglass and Meg Goldstein

IN MEMORY OF
and Janie Levinson

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO
lut
Swimmer from Eric and Lori Skfranek and Harry and Marilyn Deal
and Jill Halverstam from Jona-
Julia Greenfield from Paul and Klaiman
Merle Gottheim from Veanna Weiner

IN MEMORY OF
"L'SHANAH TOVAH
Best Wishes for a Happy & Healthy New Year
from Gary Silverstein and the staff at Mann Travels

Happy New Year
Anne Yudell

Spend the High Holidays with Temple Kol Ami of Fort Mill
We will be led by the incredibly talented cantorial soloist Sara Sherman of New York

Tickets available for purchase* at
www.templekolamisc.org

Service Schedule:
Sep 9 Erev Rosh Hashana 7 PM
Sep 10 Rosh Hashanah 10 AM
Sep 18 Kol Nidre 7 PM
Sep 19 Yom Kippur 10 AM

All High Holiday services held at:
1691 SC-160, Fort Mill, SC 29708
Conveniently located to the Greater York County/Ballantyne/South Charlotte areas

Reminder to register for Religious School e-mail: tka.religiousschool@gmail.com
*Tickets are included in TKA membership

MANNTRAVELS.COM 800-343-6266

The Charlotte Jewish News - September 2018 - Page 29
The lecture is free and open to the public.
For more information, please contact Laurel Grauer, Director of Community Relations & Israel Affairs, 704.944.6751 or laurel.grauer@jewishcharlotte.org.

The role of the JCRC includes promoting and cultivating positive relations between the Jewish community and the Charlotte community at large, participating in the improvement of our local and global communities and encouraging engagement with and fostering a strong relationship between the local Jewish and greater Charlotte communities and Israel.
Why Hebrew High is the Place for Jewish Teens to be on Wednesday Nights...

There will be surprises galore this year at Hebrew High. Here are just a few:

* Forget everything you thought that you knew about Core Classes. This year we are really mixing things up, with new topics, new electives, and lots of fun.
* The unveiling of Hebrew V – For the first time since we began Hebrew for Credit, we have students taking level V Hebrew. Students can receive CMS and UCPS foreign language credit for taking Hebrew at Hebrew High.
* Opportunities for creativity abound. Music, drama, art, cooking, and science electives are offered to meet the interests and needs of all types of learners. There is really something for everyone at Hebrew High.
* Post Confirmation Experience for 11th and 12th graders will be better than ever. In this very special class, students are given an opportunity to express their ideas and feelings about Judaism and Israel in a non-judgmental community of peers. This is especially important at this time, when our young adults are being challenged on campuses everywhere.
* New monthly outreach endeavors with Jewish Family Services. We are partnering with JFS on several drives throughout the year. Our first drive is collecting scotch tape and ribbon for their holiday drive. This is a great way for Hebrew High to instill Tzedakah in our teens.
* Dinner now offered on Wednesday Nights. We will offer dinner from 6:30-7 PM before class begins. Students can sign up by trimester, yearly or just walk in. Sign-up sheet and information is available at www.hebrewhigh.org.
* Amazing faculty – Rabbis, Cantors, and professional teachers all help make our school a welcoming, and caring environment. These amazing role models help students learn how to balance their secular and Jewish lives.
* Enroll your 8th through 12th grade students today. Don’t let them miss out on the Hebrew High experience. For more information call Megan Harkavy at 704-944-6782 or email mharka-yy@shalomcharlotte.org. Check us out at Facebook.com/Hebrewhigh or Instagram @hebrewhigh.

Friendship Circle’s Junior Teen Friend for Bar/Bat Mitzvah Projects

Our Junior Teen Friend program is designed for pre-teens entering into adulthood. The purpose is to provide the teens with a meaningful way to empower themselves as they give to others. Boys and girls, ages 12-13, will meet twice a week for a three-week series. Each session will build upon the previous lessons, helping them reach a point of confidence in spending time with a special friend.

Week 1:
Wednesday, October 17 from 6:30–7:30 PM – “Intro To Special Needs; Understanding the Challenges”

Week 2:
Wednesday, October 24 from 6:30-7:30 PM – “Engaging People with Special Needs and Making Friends”

Week 3:
Wednesday, October 31 from 6:30-7:30 PM – “Bridging the Gap – What We Can Do About It”

Hands-On Activity, Sunday, October 21 from 3:30–4:30 PM – “Birthday Circle”

Hands-On Activity, Sunday, October 28 from 3:30-4:30 PM – “Dinner on a Plate”

Hands-On Activity, Sunday, November 4 from 3:30–4:30 PM – “Sunday Circle”

Graduation: Wednesday, November 7 at 6:30 PM

All programs (except bowling) are held at Lubavitch Educational Center, 6619 Sanders Road. Friendship Circle’s “JFF” qualifies for six hours of community service. After completing the semester, participants may schedule a meeting to register as a Friendship Circle Teen Friend.

For more information or to RSVP, please contact Sophie at 704-366-5983 or sophie@friendshipcirclenc.org.

Friendship Circle is a beneficiary of the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte.
When We Strive for Higher

By Rabbi Yossi Groner, Congregation Ohar Ha-Torah

Rosh Hashanah marks the birthday of the first humans, Adam and Eve. According to the Torah, they were created on the sixth day of creation.

Now you would think that the first day of creation would be listed as day one in year one. Not so fast, the Talmud in tractate Rosh Hashanah says that the world was created on 25th day of the month of Elul, which was a Sunday. It wasn’t till Friday of that week, that Adam and Eve came into existence. The description in the Book of Genesis of Adam and Eve’s creation, was on the 1st day of the month of Tishrei, known as the first day of Rosh Hashanah.

The translation of the words Rosh Hashanah are “Head of the Year.” And indeed, the Jewish New Year is the birthday of humans that marks the beginning of the New Year, which according to the Talmud, it is the birthday of humans that marks the beginning of the New Year, which was not the first day of creation.

Why is the birth of humanity celebrated as the New Year? Why humans more than any other species?

This question can be answered with another seemingly peculiar claim found in a Talmudic statement, that the entire world was created for the sake of humanity.

Well for starters, the Torah itself states that humans are the only species created in the image of God. This does not mean that we humans are minor deities, far from it. What it says to us is, that only humans were created with the intellectual capacity to analyze, think intelligently, and strive to reach higher and deeper.

Rabbis write “The spirit of the human rises higher as the spirit of the beast descends lower.” This was written in not as a boast, rather it is a call to humans to live up to our purpose.

Observe an animal, it is looking downward most of the time seeking food and sustenance. The human conversely, seeks to comprehend, invent, and explore the beyond.

The Jewish story of exploration began with Abraham who at the early age of three began to ponder the beyond and discovered God. Since Abraham, we the Jewish people have been pondering, wrestling with faith, and exploring the secrets of the universe. Ultimately, through study and meditation, we seek to build a relationship with the Divine.

There is an old story about a fish that loved a bird; they decided to bond and stay together. The question was, where would they live? The fish lives below in deep waters and the bird flies high in the sky.

This is actually the case with us people as there are two components to the human being, body and soul. The body is naturally more aligned with the animal kingdom, as its main focus is sustenance and pleasure. The soul, on the other hand, is more aligned with the human spirit which seeks to rise upward and reach a deeper and more meaningful life.

This arrangement of body and soul being one unit is part of our daily struggle as the body and soul each pull us in their respective directions. Although they are meant to live in harmony and to complement each other, this synchronization seems as elusive as the arrangement between the fish and the bird.

Our pragmatic side tries to solve this dichotomy by allocating time and energy for both the soul and the body. Every day we have moments of the day that we emphasize the soul, as during time of prayer and Torah study. The majority of the day however, is reserved for the needs of the body. Eating, sleeping, exercise, and even work.

There are times of the year, especially the first ten days of the Jewish New Year, when the emphasis on the soul is more pronounced. Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, known comprehensively as days of awe are days primed for our spiritual awakening. During these precious days, we focus on the state of our soul and reach for higher things in life, as we introspectively view where we are in our spiritual life and strive to be better.

Although we pray on Rosh Hashanah for material wealth and health, it is in the context of our spiritual connection with God that we put forth are requests. Our hope and desire is that we seize the moment and tap into this spiritual vibe that resonates with us during these holy days and allow it to nurture our soul to reach for higher spirituality every day of the year.

When We Strive for Higher

By Rabbi Yossi Groner, Congregation Ohar Ha-Torah

Rosh Hashanah marks the birthday of the first humans, Adam and Eve. According to the Torah, they were created on the sixth day of creation.

Now you would think that the first day of creation would be listed as day one in year one. Not so fast, the Talmud in tractate Rosh Hashanah says that the world was created on 25th day of the month of Elul, which was a Sunday. It wasn’t till Friday of that week, that Adam and Eve came into existence. The description in the Book of Genesis of Adam and Eve’s creation, was on the 1st day of the month of Tishrei, known as the first day of Rosh Hashanah.

The translation of the words Rosh Hashanah are “Head of the Year.” And indeed, the Jewish New Year is the birthday of humans that marks the beginning of the New Year, which according to the Talmud, it is the birthday of humans that marks the beginning of the New Year, which was not the first day of creation.

Why is the birth of humanity celebrated as the New Year? Why humans more than any other species?

This question can be answered with another seemingly peculiar claim found in a Talmudic statement, that the entire world was created for the sake of humanity.

Well for starters, the Torah itself states that humans are the only species created in the image of God. This does not mean that we humans are minor deities, far from it. What it says to us is, that only humans were created with the intellectual capacity to analyze, think intelligently, and strive to reach higher and deeper.

Rabbis write “The spirit of the human rises higher as the spirit of the beast descends lower.” This was written in not as a boast, rather it is a call to humans to live up to our purpose.

Observe an animal, it is looking downward most of the time seeking food and sustenance. The human conversely, seeks to comprehend, invent, and explore the beyond.

The Jewish story of exploration began with Abraham who at the early age of three began to ponder the beyond and discovered God. Since Abraham, we the Jewish people have been pondering, wrestling with faith, and exploring the secrets of the universe. Ultimately, through study and meditation, we seek to build a relationship with the Divine.

There is an old story about a fish that loved a bird; they decided to bond and stay together. The question was, where would they live? The fish lives below in deep waters and the bird flies high in the sky.

This is actually the case with us people as there are two components to the human being, body and soul. The body is naturally more aligned with the animal kingdom, as its main focus is sustenance and pleasure. The soul, on the other hand, is more aligned with the human spirit which seeks to rise upward and reach a deeper and more meaningful life.

This arrangement of body and soul being one unit is part of our daily struggle as the body and soul each pull us in their respective directions. Although they are meant to live in harmony and to complement each other, this synchronization seems as elusive as the arrangement between the fish and the bird.

Our pragmatic side tries to solve this dichotomy by allocating time and energy for both the soul and the body. Every day we have moments of the day that we emphasize the soul, as during time of prayer and Torah study. The majority of the day however, is reserved for the needs of the body. Eating, sleeping, exercise, and even work.

There are times of the year, especially the first ten days of the Jewish New Year, when the emphasis on the soul is more pronounced. Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, known comprehensively as days of awe are days primed for our spiritual awakening. During these precious days, we focus on the state of our soul and reach for higher things in life, as we introspectively view where we are in our spiritual life and strive to be better.

Although we pray on Rosh Hashanah for material wealth and health, it is in the context of our spiritual connection with God that we put forth are requests. Our hope and desire is that we seize the moment and tap into this spiritual vibe that resonates with us during these holy days and allow it to nurture our soul to reach for higher spirituality every day of the year.

Rosh Hashanah: A Most Confusing Holy Day

By Rabbi Murray Ezing, Temple Israel

Should the celebration of Rosh Hashanah be focused on awe and fear; or should the Jewish New Year be filled with joy, love, and friendship? The liturgy of our Machzor does not offer us a clear answer to this question. Perhaps the confusion stems from the liturgy itself. The Machzor praises God and our creator’s constant presence in the lives of our ancestors. It is a joyful relationship marked with psalms and a musaf emphasizing God’s steadfast presence. Yet, perhaps the best known High Holy prayer is the Unetaneh Tokef: “on Rosh Hashanah it is written… Who shall live and who shall die.” Obviously a prayer meant to make us fear what God’s decision about our future might be. Yet the prayer ends with a promise of leniency: “re-pentance, prayer, and acts of righteousness can avert the evilness of the decree.”

Yoram Ettinger wrote a beautiful “Rosh Hashanah Guide For The Perplexed.” He emphasizes a rabbinic teaching which shares the essence of the new year. He reminds us that, “Shanah, Hebrew for year is also the Hebrew root of shmin (change/transform) and shmin (rehearsal),” teaching us to change negative behaviors by repeating positive behavior by

(Continued on page 36)
SPECIAL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS FOR PRESCHOOL FAMILIES
- Rosh Hashanah Program
  - Tuesday, September 11 (9:30–10:30 a.m.)
  - Sam Lerner Center at Shalom Park
  - Yom Kippur Program
  - Sunday, September 16 (9-9:45 a.m.)
  - Sam Lerner Center at Shalom Park
  - Sukkot Program
  - Monday, September 24 (11 a.m.–12:30 p.m.)
  - (Temple Israel Sukkah)
  - *Tickets Required

YOUTH
- MAHAR KICKOFF - ITZA MITVAH: APPLE PICKING & FALL FUN
  - 3rd-5th grades
  - Sunday, September 23 (12:15-4:30 p.m.)
  - Join your friends for a fun afternoon as we celebrate the start of the new Jewish Year with apple picking and games at Carrigan Farms. Cost: $15/TI-Y Members; $20/Non-Members.
  - Register at templeisraelnc.org or visit templeisraelnc.org.

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS
- YOM KIPPUR BREAK FAST
  - Wednesday, September 19 (8 p.m.)
  - You have fasted all day; now join Torah on Tap and other young professionals from the greater Charlotte Jewish community at Portofino’s (5126 Park Rd.) as we celebrate the end of Yom Kippur and the start to an exciting New Year.
  - You will provide the appetizers to start you off.
  - For more information or to RSVP, email torahontapct@gmail.com.

WOMEN OF TEMPLE ISRAEL
- NOSH, COOK & KIBBITZ SERIES
  - Tuesday, September 25 (7 p.m.)
  - In the first event of this cooking series, celebrate under the sukkah with dinner and Havdallah led by Cantor Lissek! Cost: $36/WoTI Members; $45 Non-members
  - If you join WoTI at the event, $15 will be credited to your WoTI membership.
  - Register at templeisraelnc.org

SCOTCH & CIGARS IN THE SUKKAH
- Wednesday, September 26 (7:30 p.m.)
  - Join us as we indulge in some scotch, enjoy a cigar and hear from our guest speaker, Bobby Selkin.
  - Please RSVP by September 19 to Michael Abadi at abadim7470@aol.com.

TEMPLE ISRAEL BOOK CLUB
- Wednesday, September 12 (7:30 p.m.)
  - Location: Shalom Park - Room A11
  - Dr. Jay Jacoby, distinguished professor of literature and yearly guest at the Temple Israel book club, will lead the club discussion of “A Replacement Life” by Boris Fishman.
  - For additional information contact Linda Levy (704) 366-6362, levyollie@aol.com or visit templeisraelnc.org.

SUkkOT FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL
- Sunday, September 30 (11 a.m. - 2 p.m.)
  - Temple Israel will host a special Sukkot celebration when Papi Queso, King of Pops and Fresh Med come to Shalom Park! An Olde Mecklenburg Brewery truck will also be on site! Don’t forget to bring a picnic blanket or chairs (if desired).

TEMPLE ISRAEL VOLUNTEER EXPO
- Sunday, September 30 (11 a.m. - 2 p.m.)
  - Location: Leon & Sandra Levine Social Hall
  - This program (in two parts, to be offered in both the fall and spring 2019) will offer a distinctive approach to Jewish ethics, bringing the wisdom of our classical Jewish texts to bear on the unique challenges of our day.
  - Cost: $36/Temple Israel congregants and $54/general admission.
  - For additional details, visit templeisraelnc.org.

THE ROSE ROOM - WOMEN OF TEMPLE ISRAEL GIFT SHOP
- GIFT SHOP HOURS
  - Sunday: 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
  - Monday through Saturday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

ROSE ROOM NEWSLETTER
- More info available on templeisraelnc.org

TEMPLE ISRAEL RELIGIOUS SCHOOL
- K - 7th Grade Classes begin September 23
  - 704-944-6785
  - templeisraelnc.org

THE ETHICAL LIFE: JEWISH VALUES IN AN AGE OF CHOICE
- Wednesdays, October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, and November 7
  - 7-9 p.m. (with break for Minyan)

EDUCATING AND INSPIRING FUTURE JEWISH LEADERS
- The Charlotte Jewish News - September 2018 - Page 33
Three Jewish Suggestions for Inspiration

By Chanoch Oppenheim, Charlotte Torah Center

When was the last time you were inspired by a Jewish idea? We are proud of the Jewish contributions to civilizations over the centuries to science and the humanities, but when was the last time we connected to one’s Judaism—i.e. the concepts first presented in a way (s)he related to. These High Holy Days, Yamim Noraim, are different than all the other days of the year. The worship shared has a heightened sense of urgency. The prayers and readings emphasize the specific themes of the season. Man of the Year, Man of the Year, the High Holy Days are an ordeal or a burden, simply needed, just the desire to expand productivity is Essentialism by Greg McKeown. One of his recommendations is to read a book written long before the digital age because the themes have withstood the test of time. Jews all over the globe do this daily; why not join them? What does a 103-year-old Pulitzer prize winning author (Herman Wouk) and a Nobel Prize winning mathematician (Robert Aumann) have in common with a Jewish high school student or drama coach? They have a fixed time for Torah study. This is one of the few areas left that unites us as Jews—no politics or social class distinctions, just a desire to become wiser and happier. Find a teacher, student, or friend—and unite with Jews throughout the world who have done the same thing for centuries. Finding inspiration is one of the great challenges of the 21st century. As we approach the Jewish New Year, let us not forget that we have a birthright with a deep reservoir of wisdom applicable to any life circumstance or age. There’s no formal education needed, just the desire to expand yourself.

Why Are These Services Different Than All Others?

By Rabbi Michael Sheldris, Temple Kol Tikvah

The High Holy Days, Yamim Noraim, the Ten Days of Awe are most certainly different than all the other days of the year. The worship shared has a heightened sense of urgency. The prayers and readings emphasize the specific themes of the season. Man of the Year, Man of the Year, the High Holy Days are an ordeal or a burden, simply needed, just the desire to expand productivity is Essentialism by Greg McKeown. One of his recommendations is to read a book written long before the digital age because the themes have withstood the test of time. Jews all over the globe do this daily; why not join them? What does a 103-year-old Pulitzer prize winning author (Herman Wouk) and a Nobel Prize winning mathematician (Robert Aumann) have in common with a Jewish high school student or drama coach? They have a fixed time for Torah study. This is one of the few areas left that unites us as Jews—no politics or social class distinctions, just a desire to become wiser and happier. Find a teacher, student, or friend—and unite with Jews throughout the world who have done the same thing for centuries. Finding inspiration is one of the great challenges of the 21st century. As we approach the Jewish New Year, let us not forget that we have a birthright with a deep reservoir of wisdom applicable to any life circumstance or age. There’s no formal education needed, just the desire to expand yourself.

Get to dress up, fight for the best parking spots, and fight through the throngs of people filing in to services. Then we get to listen to beautiful melodies and appreciate the artful poetry of the prayers and the beautiful choreography of the Torah service.”

She had transformed High Holy Days into a theater production. The rabbi, cantor, and Torah readers were the actors, the congregation members were the audience and the clergy robes, tallitot, and even the Torah were props. Unlike regular Shabbat services at which the Rabbi is humble facilitator and all worship together, the rabbi, cantor, and Torah are limited to low key roles of leading and sublet our religious responsibility to our rabbis and cantors.

These High Holy Days, the sound of the Shofar challenges us to hearken to our best selves. In order to do this, we must be willing to show up to the big game. A colleague shared this anecdote (Continued on page 35)
The High Holy Days: Self Compassion in the Uncertainty of Certainty

By Rabbi Asher Knight, Temple Beth El

Years ago, during a visit to the Cairo museum, I stared into the face of Ramses II. Mummified and frozen in time, his body delicately preserved since the time of his death in 1213 BCE. Tradition tells us that Ramses enslaved and tried to destroy our people. My family was surprised (as were a few tourists) when I blurted out: “Look who’s laughing now, Ramses!” Jews have survived Pharaohs and tyrants just like him over millennia, yet Ramses’ civilization and those of similar oppressors have faded into the sands of time.

In A Letter in the Scroll, Rabbi Jonathan Sacks explains that the ancient Egyptians were obsessed with death and afterlife expressed by mummies and stone monuments. Power and certainty are some of life’s greatest illusions. The Egyptians dominated and conquered. Then their civilization and its glory disappeared. The pyramids and crypts are memories only for the individuals who had them constructed. The certainty of a secure “after-life” evaded the Egyptian rulers. Crypts do not teach future generations how to live. The Egyptian crypts do not teach future generations how to live. The Egyptian crypts do not teach future generations how to live.

Ramses’ civilization and those of similar oppressors have faded into the sands of time. Then their civilization and its glory disappeared. The pyramids and crypts are memories only for the individuals who had them constructed. The certainty of a secure “after-life” evaded the Egyptian rulers. Crypts do not teach future generations how to live. The Egyptian crypts do not teach future generations how to live. The Egyptian crypts do not teach future generations how to live.

Rabbi Shields’ Holiday Message

(Continued from page 34)

The High Holy Days become infused into our lives and continue to pray both towards community, and our sense of responsibility to the world. Uncertainty reminds us that we are tiny compared to the immense Universe and the organizing force that permeates all of creation, which we call Echad, One.

How do we embrace the uncertainty of certainty? The Yamim Noraim, the Days of Awe, call out to us to root ourselves in an honest understanding of our lives as they are. We are encouraged to clearly explore our habits and tendencies. The goal is not to make us feel bad about ourselves. Instead, Judaism acknowledges the courage it takes to see ourselves honestly and views life as a teacher, rather than as a means to a celestial end.

The High Holy Days call out to us: with all the worries about the future and the guilt we may have about our past, take time to focus on being present with yourself in the “right now.” Our tradition calls this cheshbon hanefesh an accounting of our souls. But this is not simply about emphasizing our failures. It’s about an approach to self-reflection that recognizes the good, too. By having unconditional compassion, loving-kindness, and even a sense of humor with ourselves, the insights we gain into our own lives help to humble us. When we have clarity into the complexity of our own souls, we can have empathy and sympathy for others. When we recognize what irritates us about ourselves, we may be more forgiving. When we intentionally consider the ways we can grow and change, we may recognize and respect the individuals in our lives – our family, friends, and colleagues – as on similar and different paths.

The High Holy Days help to prepare us for the most ordinary of days. Each day and every week, we have moments of joy, comfort, pleasure, and tenderness. Sometimes we have annoyances and frustrations that blind us to or obscure the good. Life can certainly be a struggle. The cheshbon hanefesh – the accounting of our souls – at this season, encourages us to have an awareness of the ways we close our minds and harden our hearts. Through compassionate introspection, we can build trust with ourselves and our own journey and have faith in others and God.

We learn from our achievements and our mistakes, and we go on living life to the fullest and helping others.

May we, at this season of return, look back at our lives – this last year, this last month, this last week – and rejoice that in our living, we have the ability, the wisdom, and the consciousness to boldly go forward in our lives with more compassion towards ourselves and others. In this way, we choose to live each and every day with the values we want to pass on to future generations.

The Charlotte Jewish News - September 2018 - Page 35

Rabbi Asher Knight

The Charlotte Jewish News - September 2018 - Page 35
was extremely concerned about 1936. My mother had a good job, parents dated from about 1929 to in the family to own her own car. She was the first department store. She took business courses and had a evil eye. She clung to the fear of the Evil Eye. “Kinehora” is a folk way of distracting the evil eye from harming children and loved ones. Her practice of averting the evil eye was clear when we were young. She would never freely give out compliments. And she would deflect those expressed by others, lest they draw the attention of the Evil Eye. Let anyone say about my cousins, “Oh, Myra is looking so adorable” or “Look at Warren’s beautiful curls” or “Beverly is becoming beautiful,” and my mother would always respond with the following – “Not so cute,” as she moved her mouth to the left and paused, then nodded and said, “There are others far more beautiful.” My mother’s nieces and nephews loved to be with my mom. Our house was a refuge for many. They could share their problems with her. However, you got only a few blow kisses and rarely any compliments.

When my brother and I had children, she further perfected her approach. Her grandchildren adored her, her house, and her cooking. Yet she was diligent in keeping the Evil Eye away from her grandchildren.

After years I finally understood “kinehora” – and how she could be both “modern” and “superstitions.” First she would never use the word “kinehora.” She followed the pattern except she would never use the Yiddish term, because that would have been too old-fashioned. The traditional way of using kinehora is made clear in a Leo Rosten story. An elderly Jewish man is in court. The prosecutor asks, “How old are you?” He answered softly, “Kinehora, 81.” The lawyer responds, “Just tell me how old you are.” He again answers, “Kinehora, 81.” Exasperated, the judge demands that he just answer the question. The old man’s lawyer, also Jewish, begs the court’s indulgence to ask his client the question. “Kinehora,” he asks, “How old are you?” The elderly man smiles and says, “81.”

My mother used the form but left out “kinehora.” This is an example of how Jews recreate our culture. She carried on “kinehora” without negating her self-image as a modern American woman. I have come to a more nuanced understanding of “kinehora.” While it is easy to write it off as mere superstition, it functions to teach the highest Jewish value - humility. My mother’s parents were adamant that their children should never behave as if they were better than others. My father was quiet and gentle (though quite athletic). He was educated in Masur which stressed humility, communal living, and self-sufficiency.

My mother’s use of “kinehoro” functioned to instill humility. Jewish folk patterns were developed in the days of the Yiddish term.

If my mother heard this story, she would say quietly but with a smile, “Don’t think you’re so smart.”

Allen B. Saxe is a retired an thorapist, a founding member of Havurat Tikvah in Charlotte, NC and founder of the Dilworth Soup Kitchens in Charlotte. You can contact him at allenbsaxe@gmail.com.

Kinehora - A Rosh Hashana Story

By Alan Saxe, Havurat Tikvah

I often think about how much my mother, Jessie Bensman Saxe, would have loved to be with us on the High Holy Days. My mother was steeped in Jewish folklore. While she was an expert Yiddishist and its superstitions, she saw herself as an educated, modern, professional woman and, in part, that was accurate. Let us share this paradox with you and how she used “kinehora” to be ever watchful of the evil eye.

My mother was born and raised in the United States. After she graduated from high school, she took business courses and had a career as a bookkeeper in a major department store. She was the first in the family to own her own car.

My dear father courted her for six years. Born in Poland, my father had studied at the two finest Yeshivot (Mir and Kelm). My parents dated from about 1929 to 1936. My mother had a good job, but it was the depression, and she was extremely concerned about the future.

My mother’s wedding dress was a long pink lace gown. Kaf ia, our eldest daughter, wore it at her wedding. The dress is about a size four so my mother and father were quite trim.

So you now have a picture of my mother at this stage of her life: Attractive, working woman, independent.

At the same time she was steeped in Jewish culture and folklore of the Jewish community of Sheboygan, WI. She carried on “kinehora.”

To learn how you can create your own Jewish legacy, contact Phil Warshauer (704) 973-4544 or Nancy Kipnis (704) 973-4554.
I’m Israeli, and Rosh Hashanah is Just Not the Same in the US

By Lior Zaltzman

New York (JTA) — Last year, in a fit of desperation and loneliness, I booked tickets for a five-day trip to Israel for Rosh Hashanah. I didn’t tell my friends I was coming — the sole purpose of my travel was to have a holiday dinner with my family.

Financially, logistically, and even physically, it was an ill-advised decision, I know. But for my soul, it was the right thing to do.

I left Israel for New York in 2009. I feel at home in my lush Brooklyn neighborhood with its beautiful brownstones, in an apartment my husband and I have filled with paintings and books. I love that the city has so much to offer as far as diverse faces and stories and religions. I love how New Yorkers refuse to meet a stranger’s gaze, but if you drop your wallet or MetroCard on the sidewalk (as, um, I often do) they will come running after you to make sure you retrieve it.

But there are some days when I feel like moving to the U.S. was a huge mistake. These feelings are most acute on the Jewish holidays — especially on Rosh Hashanah.

Celebrating Rosh Hashanah with my family in Israel is the best. We’ve never gone to synagogue; we rarely even mention deity would have let such a horror happen. He decided there was no place for religion in his life. My family takes being secular very seriously. They scarf down any rituals when it comes to Rosh Hashanah.

Once, when we visited his parents on the holiday, I attended synagogue with my mother, just to see what it was like. While the service was warm and filled with music, it felt completely alien.

It reminded me of a time a few years ago when I snuck into a Midnight Mass with a few other restless Jews. Certainly I could see the awe that came with such a ritual, but I felt very distinctly that this wasn’t for me.

Like about 40% of the Jews in Israel, my family is secular. My grandfather, who lost most of his family to the Nazi regime, only religious epiphany the Holocaust was divine punishment for a lack of religious piety. But to my grandfather, who lost most of his family to the Nazi regime, the only religious epiphany the Holocaust had in store was that no deity would have let such a horror happen. He decided there was no place for religion in his life.

My family takes being secular very seriously. They scarf down like seafood paella and blue crabs, the preparation of which my mom has long perfected, having become fast friends with the local fishermen. We ensure my grandmother and my mother that, yes, there is enough food, and yes, the dishes are just as good as they were last year. But most important we are together, and that fills us all with giddy delight and a certain spiritual awe.

My husband, a nice American Jewish boy, has told me about his own family’s habits on the High Holidays, particularly the long services at his Kansas City synagogue. He does not seem too gung-ho about celebrating the new year. Sure, he’ll fast on Yom Kippur, but he is happy to forgo any rituals when it comes to Rosh Hashanah.

For my grandmother’s 70th birthday, we all take a tour of Jerusalem’s many churches, and, encouraged by our tour guide, sing “Jerusalem of Gold” on a rooftop of a haredi Orthodox neighborhood, where the singing voices of women are explicitly forbidden.

What does it mean to be Jewish when you’ve lost your faith? Most secular Israelis consider themselves Israelis first and then Jewish, according to a recent Pew study. To them, Judaism isn’t about religion — it is about culture, ancestry, and history.

When you are an Israeli living in Israel, it is so easy to take your Judaism for granted. Judaism is in the language you speak every day, in a golden Star of David necklace; in the foods of myriad Jewish cultures that intermingled; in the Friday-afternoon rush to get your weekend groceries before the stores close for Shabbat.

But more than anything, it’s in family. And in my family, it means Shabbat dinners where candles don’t get lit and blessings don’t get recited, yet everyone is laughing and talking as roasted eggplant and matzah ball soup are passed around. After centuries of persecution, here we are sitting as a family, strongly anchored and aware of our history, but confident in our future together.

So why is there anything more Jewish than that?

When you’re an Israeli outside of Israel, it becomes increasingly hard to take Jewish secularism for granted. Certainly I am still Israeli — but I feel disconnect ed from my culture, my rituals.

In America, doing Jewish things usually means making a religious choice, and with so many diverse and open synagogues, the choices do seem abundant.

Secularism, on the other hand, implies a fast track to assimilation — which isn’t my thing, either. You would think that in eight years in the U.S., I would have found some solution that works for me for the Jewish holidays. Yet I still feel just as helpless and lonely whenever September rolls around.

Most of my Israeli friends don’t seem to have solutions, either. Many of them just choose to ignore the Jewish holidays or find a certain comfort in hanging out with other Israelis eating shakshuka at a local Israeli restaurant. Some institutions have tried to introduce Israelis to synagogue culture on their own terms.

None of these have felt right to me, nor has celebrating the new year at services, American-style.

So this year, my family is doing something really radical for Rosh Hashanah: My parents and brothers are flying in from Israel, and then we’re all heading to Chicago, where my in-laws will be waiting.

For the holiday meal, we’ve reserved a large table at a seafood restaurant, where we will most certainly delight in treif delicacies and open synagogues, the choices

Illustration by Lior Zaltzman.
It’s a New Year, Why Not Swap in These Recipes for Old Favorites?

**Appetizer: Beet and Sweet Potato Latkes**

By Shannon Sarna

New York (JTA) - The sweetest time of year is upon us, quite literally: It’s Rosh Hashanah. And while I know most families have their standard holiday dishes they make year after year, sometimes it’s nice to swap in a new appetizer, alternating main dish or quick but delicious new dessert to serve. Trade in your beet and apple salad for some sweet beet latkes. Instead of a brisket, try a slow-cooked pomegranate lamb stew. And if you want the easiest, cut-est apple dessert, you’ve got to try my friend Sheri Silver’s easy apple pie cookies.

Wishing you and your family a sweet and delicious new year.

**Ingredients:**

- 1 med. Idaho potato
- 2 carrots
- 1 sm. sweet potato (can also use apple)
- 1/4 c. all-purpose flour
- 1 t. fresh thyme
- 1 t. salt
- Additional sea salt for sprinkling

**Directions:**

Peel beets, sweet potato, and potato. Cut each in half. In 3 or 4 batches, place vegetables through food processor for a coarse grate (you can also grate coarsely by hand). Place mixture in a large bowl. Add eggs, flour, thyme and salt. Heat around 1/4 c. vegetable oil in a large sauté pan over medium-high heat. Form bite-size mounds of latkes, taking care not to squeeze too much liquid out of the latkes. Fry till brown and crispy on each side, then place on a wire rack on top of a baking sheet to cool. Immediately sprinkle with an additional pinch of salt while they are still hot. Serve warm with applesauce, if desired.

**Main Dish: Lamb Stew with Pomegranate**

**Ingredients:**

- 3 lbs. lamb stew meat, cut into 2”-4” pieces
- 1 lg. onion, sliced
- 3 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 t. salt
- 1 t. pepper
- 3 cinnamon sticks
- 2-1/2 to 3 c. water or stock
- 3 T. pomegranate molasses, plus extra for drizzling
- 1 c. pomegranate seeds, divided

**Directions:**

Heat a heavy casserole with a little oil over medium-high heat. Sear lamb pieces on each side till lightly golden. Remove lamb. Add onion and saute till translucent. Add garlic and saute for another 3 min. Place lamb back into the pot and add salt, pepper, cinnamon stick, pomegranate molasses, and half the pomegranate seeds. Add 2 to 2-1/2 c. water or stock, till meat is covered. Bring to a boil. Reduce the heat to low-med., cover, and continue to cook over low heat for about 2 hrs. Check on stew periodically, and add more water if needed. Lamb should be fork tender when it is done. Serve stew over couscous or rice. Drizzle top of stew with additional pomegranate molasses (around 1-2 T.), the remaining pomegranate seeds and freshly chopped herbs such as parsley, mint, and/or cilantro.

**Dessert: Easy Apple Pie Cookies**

(by Sheri Silver)

This recipe comes straight from a dear friend and colleague, who always knows just how to make dessert super easy, super adorable, and super delicious. The secret to these cookies is a rich crumble topping and store-bought pie crust.

**Ingredients:**

**For the streusel:**
- 4 T. unsalted butter, melted
- 3/4 c. flour
- 1/4 c. light brown sugar
- 1/4 c. white sugar
- 1 t. cinnamon
- pinch of kosher salt

**For the filling:**
- 2 Granny Smith apples, peeled, cored, and diced
- 1 store-bought refrigerated pie crust

**Directions:**

Make the streusel: Line a small baking sheet with parchment paper. Unroll your pie crust and use a glass or cookie cutter to cut circles that are slightly larger — about 3/4” — than the base of your muffin cups (I used a 2 1/2-inch cutter). Place the circles in the bottom of each muffin cup, pressing gently along the sides and bottoms. Spoon some apple filling into each crust and top with the streusel. Bake cookies for 20 min., or till streusel is golden brown. Cool completely in tins on a wire rack. Serve immediately or store, covered, for up to three days.

No Joining Fee
THROUGH SEPT 30

Register for Fall Programs Today!

Charlottejcc.org
A Guide to the High Holidays Prayers

By Rabbi Issach Waldman

(Rabbi Issach is a spiritual leader and teacher who emphasizes the themes of the Days of Awe — introspection and repentance.

Rosh Hashanah as the Opening Day of a Court Trial

— The great shofar is sounded. A still small voice is heard. This day, even the angels are alarmed, seized with fear and trembling as they declare: “The day of judgment is here.”

In a loud and trumpeting voice, the cantor describes the shofar’s blast, then softly and gently describes a “still, small voice.” This poignant image from the masorah (“additional”) service sets a tone for the High Holidays. It is a dichotomy that is played out over and over throughout the liturgy of the Days of Awe.

On these days, we sing of the king, who sits in judgment, over which anyone who sits in judgment over us, while at the same time we appeal to God, who sits atop a long-standing tradition of forgiveness, like God to a shepherd sheltering a flock.

Rosh Hashanah is the first day of court. In the liturgy, we see this played out in the number of references to God, as sovereign and a most judicious king. Additions and different emphases start as early as the beginning of the Shacharit (morning) service, with the word Hamelekhi, the King.

While these words also appear in the liturgy of Shabbat morning, on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur they are highlighted in such a way that a new leader begins the service with a powerful note on the word “king” itself.

Ashamnu and Avina Malkeinu

The structure of the morning service on Rosh Hashanah is similar to weekday and Shabbat services. It is, however, additional piyutim (liturgical poems) such as L’eyl Orekh Din (“to the God who sits in judgment”) or Adonai Malkeinu (“Adonai is our King”) that evoke the seriousness with which we would approach a trial with the true judge.

Torah Readings on Rosh Hashanah

The Torah reading on Rosh Hashanah is from the story of Isaac’s birth, described as God’s kindness in giving a child to Abraham and Sarah in their old age (Genesis 21). On the second day we read the story of the binding of Isaac, which ends with a ram as a substitute for Isaac (Genesis 22). The shofar is sounded on Rosh Hashanah and is considered to be symbolic of this ram.

U’netaneh Tokef: Who Shall Live and Who Shall Die

As the continuation of the piyut U’netaneh Tokef quoted above tells us, “We are inscribed in the book of life, while on Yom Kippur the book is sealed. These simple lines open us up to the possibility of teshuvah (repentance) and of reflection of our past deeds. U’netaneh Tokef is recited on both Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur as an introductory piyut to kedushah (holiness), literally in the masorah Amidah. The key line of this prayer follows on the heels of a long rhetorical piece that demands what must be asked among this congregation will be here next year: How many will perish and how many will be brought back? But, the liturgists note, even those who are fate for the worst can depend on the following precept: “penitence, prayer, and good deeds can annul the severity of the decree.”

The Shofar Blasts

This and is perhaps the best-known feature of Rosh Hashanah services. There are two sets of shofar blasts on each day of the holiday. The first follows the Torah service. The second is intertwined with three unique sections of the Shacharit morning prayers. Each of these sections contains 10 verses on each of the topics – Malkhuyot (verses relating to God’s Kingship), Zikhronot (verses relating to memory) and Shofarot (verses relating to shofar). Each of these sections contains 10 verses on each of the topics – Malkhuyot recalls that God is king, Zikhronot recalls God remembering us for the good and Shofarot gives quotes in which the shofar is sounded, including a proverb out mostly in the future, heralding future redemption. The sounding of the shofar is interspersed through each of these three prayer sections, showing itself to be a part of the prayer itself. In Reform and other liberal congregations that do not recite musaf, these sections – and the shofar sounding – are added to the morning Shacharit.

Rabbi Michael Strassfeld has written in his book “The Jewish Holidays” that these three sections, unique to Rosh Hashanah, reflect three central principles of Judaism:

- The acceptance of God as King of the world
- The acknowledgement that God intervenes in the world to punish the wicked and reward the good.
- The recognition that God was revealed in the giving of the Torah at Sinai and again will be revealed at the end of days.

If we were to pick out one piyut that epitomizes the theology of the Rosh Hashanah, we might choose L’eyl orekh din (“to God who sits in judgment”). The piyut presents the key line that God probes all of our hearts and therefore will always divine our most secret sins. It moves on to say that God probes with wrath in judgment, so that regardless of the darkness of our secret sins, God will suppress anger in discovering them. It ends by announcing that God acts with compassion, accepts God’s subject and guards those who love God. We may take from this that even while we call Rosh Hash-

Because our people were refugees too...
Life happens.
And you want to be ready when it does.

Let us help you connect your financial goals to what matters most

Getting to know you and what you care most about — planning for college, taking care of an elder family member, passing a legacy to future generations, buying a second home — is so important. Once we understand your priorities, together we can help you pursue the goals you’ve set for yourself and your family. Call to learn more today.

The Rivlin Firestone Group

Michael N. Firestone, CFP®, CRPC®
First Vice President
Wealth Management Advisor
Senior Portfolio Advisor
NMLS#: 526532

Merrill Lynch
13850 Ballantyne Corporate Place
Suite 100
Charlotte, NC 28277
704.341.5131
http://fa.ml.com/rivlin_firestone

Douglas H. Rivlin
First Vice President
Wealth Management Advisor
Senior Portfolio Advisor
NMLS#: 526650

Life's better when we're connected®