There’s Still Time to Make an IMPACT to the 2019 Jewish Federation Annual Campaign!

Through our Annual Campaign, the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte joins with 147 Federations across North America to answer the needs of the Jewish world.

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

Whether nurturing and sustaining Jewish identity for future generations or supporting our brothers and sisters in Israel, Federation is where our community comes together as one; where our community answers the needs but we can only do that with your help. If you have already pledged to the 2019 Annual Campaign, we thank you. If not, please consider a meaningful pledge today. For a complete list of our 2019 allocations, or to donate online, please visit www.jewishcharlotte.org. All pledges are payable and due December 31, 2019.

IT ALL STARTS WITH YOU. YOU MAKE EVERYTHING WE DO POSSIBLE!

CAMPAIGN 2019: AT A GLANCE
Goal: $4,300,000
1267 Donors
60% Complete
$2,618,758 Raised
As of 05-13-19

OUR COMMUNITY IS COUNTING ON YOU!

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

Talk to a professional
If your child is in therapy, talk to their therapist about your summer plans. Get their input and let them know what is being planned. They can help your child’s adjustment to a new regimen for the summer.

Following these guidelines can truly make a difference in your child’s summer experience and just maybe you too can take some time and relax.

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

Summer Time Is Fun Time ... Or Is It?

Ahhh... summer is here. The kids are out of school, activities have wound down, vacations are being planned, and now we can relax a bit. This all sounds great unless you happen to be a parent of a child with special needs or concerns, fears, and anxiety over what is being planned and then play out those scenarios and help them come up with strategies on how they will manage each of those situations. If possible, visit any programs, and/or places that may be part of their summer programming. The more knowledge and information they have, the more they will become.

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

Know and anticipate your child’s triggers
What are the most difficult areas for your child? Do they have trouble managing free time and need a lot of structure, are they unusually shy and anxious about meeting new people, do they need extra assistance with certain kinds of activities? Think about these triggers as you plan what summer is going to look like for your child.

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

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

Talk to your child about your final plans
Allow them to express their concerns, fears, and anxiety over
Tributes to the Jewish Federation Annual Campaign

The Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte thanks and acknowledges the following tributes made March 8, 2019 through May 6, 2019.

In honor of Eric and Susan Lerner’s birthdays
By: Barry and Michelle Goodman

In honor of Mark Lerner
By: Barry and Michelle Goodman

In honor of Emily Zimmerm
By: Jill Newman

In honor of Sam and Emily Ziimmern’s birthdays
By: Rick Abrams and Dru Dougherty

In memory of Maxine Ebert
By: Lana Sidoti

In memory of Sandy Bogner
By: Eric and Susan Lerner

In memory of David Goodman
By: Delores Kimmel, Gary and Wendy Weisband

If you would like to make a Tribute to the Jewish Federation, please contact the Federation office at 704-944-6761.

Shabbat and Holiday Candle Lighting for June and July 2019
Friday, June 7, 8:17 PM
Saturday, June 8, Erev Shavuot, after 9:20 PM
Sunday, June 9, 2nd night of Shavuot, after 9:21 PM
Friday, June 14, 8:21 PM
Friday, June 21, 8:23 PM
Friday, June 28, 8:23 PM
Friday, July 5, 8:23 PM
Friday, July 12, 8:21 PM
Friday, July 19, 8:18 PM
Friday, July 26, 8:13 PM

On March 28, 85 women came together to celebrate the power of a woman’s gift. Everyone in attendance pledged a gift of $180 or more to the Federation’s Annual Campaign. The event was co-chaired by Liz Ren and Staci Mond who are Women’s Philanthropy Pearl Co-chairs. We enjoyed a presentation by Cathy Barrow, female entrepreneur, who spoke about her latest cookbook of pies and her journey along the way through her many careers.

On April 30, 25 women gathered to learn about the literacy crisis in Charlotte from Read Charlotte’s executive director Munro Richardson and got a lesson on active reading from librarian Jenna Marotta. Next the women went off to Sterling Elementary and read to 2nd and 4th grade students. They gave book bags to each student of books donated by Federation women.

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

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

$18.00 Basic Annual Subscription
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Other
Blind Date with a Book
Summer 2019, Adult Fiction

Don’t judge a book by its cover. The Center for Jewish Education – home of the Levine-Sklut Judaic Library - would like to set you up on a blind date with a book. Try something different this summer. Visit the library and select a current book from our “Blind Date with a Book” display. Each book will be wrapped and have a brief description, but you will not know what the name of the book until you get home.

Unlike a typical blind date, there will be no awkward questions, no forced conversation, no judgmental looks, and, of course, no need to call or text. Sure, your blind date might turn out to be a dud, but it could be the diamond in the rough you wouldn’t have given a chance otherwise. There’s no knowing until you check it out.

Each book will include a “Rate your Date” bookmark. Was it love at first sight, just friends, or no chemistry? Return your completed bookmark to the library to enter a drawing for a chance to win dinner and a movie on us. “Blind Date with a Book” will run from June 3–July 28. You never know, you might just fall in love. See page 24.

Sue’s Book Shelf
By Sue Littauer

When selecting books for our book clubs, how many times have we heard “not another Holocaust book”? I’ve just finished reading three Holocaust books and each one has been unique and fascinating.

In a recent article by Emily Burack, “Why Is Holocaust Fiction Still So Popular?,” the author states, “The four key reasons these books remain at the top of the charts: a mix of who is telling the story (the third and fourth generations), the types of stories (not straightforward but morally ambiguous), the historical truth at the heart of all these novels, and our current political moment.”

The three books I’ve read recently represent a variety of viewpoints and experiences. The first We Were the Lucky Ones by Georgia Hunter tells the incredible story of her Polish Jewish family’s survival despite all odds and having been dispersed across the globe.

Beneath a Scarlet Sky by Mark T. Sullivan tells the story of Pino Lella, an Italian teen in Milan whose courageous acts saved the lives of many Jews first by leading them across the treacherous Alps to freedom, and later by becoming the chauffeur for a high-ranking Nazi officer and using classified information to help the Allies to defeat the Nazis. I was very interested to learn that the Italians saved the majority of their Jews - of their 45,000 Jews, 8,000 died in camps, 7,000 fled, and 30,000 lived in hiding and were liberated by the Allies – thanks to people like Pino who risked their own lives to protect them.

According to Georgia Hunter, “When I set off to write my book, I never thought it would feel so relevant or so timely. We live in a world where the number of survivors is shrinking and yet Anti-Semitism seems to be on the rise in a lot of places. Maybe that’s part of what’s inspiring writers to write these stories down.”

And that’s possibly the most compelling reason for why we keep reading them.

Other News...

Beneath a Scarlet Sky is soon to be filmed, starring Leonardo DiCaprio and Marisa Tomei, and Martha Hall Kelly’s prequel to Lilac Girls is now in our Center for Jewish Education and in the public library. For those of you who read the incredible book The Invisible Bridge by Julie Orringer which took place in Hungary during World War II, you will be as eager as I am to read her new book The Flight Portfolio which tells the story of Varian Fry, who helped thousands of Jews flee occupied Europe, and the first American to be named “Righteous Among the Nations” by Yad Vashem.

CJE Book Club:
* June 19 – Harvey Milk: His Lives and Death by Lillian Faber

* July 17 – Together by Judy Goldman. The author will be joining us for this discussion.

Everyone is welcome. For more information, contact sueb.littauer@jewishcharlotte.org. ©
IT ALL STARTS WITH YOU.
YOU MAKE EVERYTHING WE DO POSSIBLE!

Everyday, the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte, together with you, our donors and partners, enriches lives, builds community and fosters a thriving Jewish future locally, in Israel and around the world. Our impact is extraordinary.

Friends, family and neighbors are connected to one another and to Jewish life. Children and teens are inspired to discover their Jewish identities, and individuals of all abilities and backgrounds are welcomed and included.

IT ALL STARTS WITH YOU! You make everything we do possible.

MAKE YOUR GIFT TODAY AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

WWW.JEWISHCHARLOTTE.ORG
Women’s News

President’s Message
By Sharon Goretsky, president, Charlotte Chapter of Hadassah

I can’t believe it’s summer already. The first six months of my presidency have certainly flown by. Hadassah Charlotte has been very busy.

• We gathered with old and new friends at Vintners. It was wonderful seeing so many women come out to meet new people and find out what Hadassah is all about, while catching up and getting to know each other.

• We baked hamentashen with the incredible Women of Wonder (WOW). Two powerful groups of women with a love of Israel make for one successful evening, not to mention, Sara Oppenheim treated us to the best, nontraditional hamantaschen I have ever eaten. Egg rolls, deli meat … yum!

• We joined several other local nonprofit groups at Stronger Together. Sponsored by Ciena and Conterra Networks, the evening brought together women and men in technology to hear from industry and non-profit leaders celebrating diversity in the workplace.

• We partnered with Novant Mobile Mammography Unit once again, but for the first time with a springtime date. Hadassah Medical Organization Breast Cancer Research continues to be a priority, and screening mammograms continue to be one of the most important things a woman can do for herself. Look for another date in October.

• We gathered for our annual Passover Tasting Lunch. Everyone outdid themselves this year. The food was delicious and everyone left with a cookbook including all the recipes of the day. I am sure some of those dishes made their way onto Seder tables around Charlotte.

• We are grateful for our Sun City ladies, who once again, put on a great Game Day. Over 100 women (and some men) came together for an afternoon of games and a delicious lunch. I even learned how to play Rummy Cube.

• We celebrated our New Member Lunch at the lovely home of Amy Deloach. This annual tradition is one of my favorites.

• We have worked incredibly hard to compile the next edition of Hadassah’s Charlotte Jewish Community Directory. Under the fearless leadership of Dana Kapustin, the directory committee has made hundreds of calls, camped out at events to get people to update their information, and met more times than I can remember. It is our pleasure to provide the directory for what is now over 70 years. Look for the 2019 Directory in September.

• We learned about Health Care Consumer Empowerment from expert and author (and Hadassah Life Member) Lorrie Klemons. In these times of high tech medicine and health care being run like businesses, knowing how to advocate for yourself and your family is of vital importance. This is only a partial review of what we’ve done. There is a lot more coming.

This summer, a group of us from Charlotte will travel to New York for Hadassah’s National Convention. I cannot wait to meet Hadassah members from all over the country and see what they are doing in their communities. I know we will bring back fabulous ideas.

I hope everyone has a wonderful summer. We look forward to seeing you at an event or meeting in the fall. It is never too late to come to your first Hadassah function, or to come back to Hadassah. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions, ideas, or just to say hello. My email is always open (sharon.goretsky@gmail.com).

The best is yet to come.

Youth Visions
BBYO End of Year Wrap Up
As the school year comes to a close we want to highlight some of the amazing things that Charlotte BBYO has accomplished this year. Thank you to our outgoing chapter presidents, Maya Lapidot-Boaz, Karli Silver, Daniel Pearlman, and Drew Levin for their dedication to BBYO this year.

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The best is yet to come.
Hebrew High Year in Review

It is hard to believe that another year of Hebrew High is over. Hebrew High continues to be a safe haven for our students. With low student/teacher ratios, we notice when students miss a lot of classes or when they don’t seem themselves. They become an extension of our own families and we are vested in their wellbeing. This year we have initiated more “all school” programs to promote relationships between temples. This has proved to promote the “consolidated” in our name. Here are some highlights to shed light on just how incredible our 2018-2019 was.

Some highlights of the amazing year:

Julie Buckner – Julie shared the story of her son who passed away from combining alcohol and Adderall. Students learned an important and lifesaving lesson on peer pressure, drinking, drugs, and the value of one’s life.

8th and 9th grade retreat - We moved the retreat off campus to Kinetic Heights to provide a new experience for students. The goal was to learn how to work with, and rely on, your peers. All events of the retreat explored the idea of Kehilla (the importance of the community in Judaism). Students worked with team leaders from Kinetic Heights who emphasized that relationships are built on trust and is learned through relying on each other. This goal was accomplished through a series of obstacle courses where students worked as a team to get to the end. If a student had trouble, the other students came together to help that person reach the finish line. It didn’t matter who was in 8th or 9th grade, who was athletic, who was tall or who was short. Everyone participating was an equal part of the group coming together to complete a common goal.

Purim Party – Our students decorated masks for Oasis, made edible graggers, and made over 100 sandwiches for Operation Sandwich.

First Annual Hebrew High Cup – The First Annual Hebrew High Cup was held on Wednesday, April 3. The games brought together over 50 athletes who competed in various activities. Open House for Rising 8th and 9th graders – Again this year we incorporated our Open House during Hebrew High hours (as opposed to having it on a different night of the week). Students participated in elective classes with current students and parents had a Q & A with Megan Harkavy, our director. We had 32 families sign up for the Open House. This number was a big increase over previous years.

Things to look forward to next year:

* More all-school programming
* More elective choices
* Connections with the Greater Charlotte community

And finally … a big thanks to all our teachers. Your commitment and dedication to Hebrew High is infinite. To our Governing Board, thank you for working tirelessly to keep Hebrew High “The Place To Be On Wednesday Night!” And to Temple Beth El, Temple Israel, and the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte, your support makes it all possible.

Have a great summer and look forward to next year:

* Connections with the Greater Charlotte community
* More elective choices
* More all-school programs

Friendship Circle Launches Friendship Loaves

We’re all about recognizing abilities, especially when they smell and taste as good as freshly baked Challah. Friendship Loaves was launched to offer culinary opportunities to our Specially Talented Friends. Led by Sophie Molinari, our special friends learn all about the uniqueness of the Mitzvah of Challah while mastering some really cool baking skills. Their Freshly Baked Challah is available for purchase every other Friday. You can pre-order your Challah at FriendshipCircleNC.org and pick them up at ZABS Place between 10 AM and 4 PM. Friendship Circle is a project of Chabad of Charlotte and beneficiary agency of the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte.

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Ralph and Sandra Besnoy from Alan and Ruth Goldberg
Marion and David Kronovet from Elise Menaker
Nancy Jane Very from Allan and Marcelle Oxman

IN MEMORY OF
Ethel Gordon to Robert and Barbara Green from Paul and Lynn Edelstein
Myron Kaufman to Donald and Susan Jacobs and Florence Jaffa from Paul and Lynn Edelstein
Tribute(s) for Dave Jacobson
Jack Lerner to Rhonda Koget from Paul and Lynn Edelstein
Larry Shead to Teri Seidman from Andrew and Amy Lamparello
Your sister Gladys to Steve and Barbie Weiner from Ben and Margie Liebstein

IN APPRECIATION OF
David Jacobson for your generosity and friendship from Judy and Mimi
Marvin and Anita Shapiro from Kalman and Toby Gordon

WISHING A FULL AND SPEEDY RECOVERY TO
David Jacobson from Allan and Marcelle Oxman

THANK YOU TO
David Jacobson from Cynthia Titlebaum

Like us on Facebook: Charlotte Jewish News

OVERTURE Teens learning how to make sushi

Jammin’ at CTeen drum circle

CTeen Havdalah at the fire pit

By Esther Manoim

Dear Future CTeener,

Like having fun on the weekends? You’ll have a blast here. Hate being bored? You’ll never be bored here.

What am I talking about? Chabad’s CTeen Club for teens in 7-8th grade. We meet every Sunday evening and it’s so much fun. I always look forward to ending my weekends with some of the coolest programs and getting to connect with friends I don’t otherwise get to see often. Some of my favorite programs have been painting, baking competitions, and minute-to-win-it games. Especially when a Jewish holiday is coming up, we get to refresh our knowledge with super-fun activities and competitions.

But most of all, the reason I love being a part of CTeen is that it helps me stay connected with my Judaism. Some of my favorite CTeen experiences are when Rabbi Groner joins us and shares some deep insights into what it means to be a Jew.

These are my favorite. I learn so much and I am able to think deeper about topics that I may or may not be familiar with.

To learn more or sign up visit ChabadNC.org/Teens.

Why Join Our CTeen Club?

Jewish Family Services

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“I love being a part of CTeen. It helps me stay connected with my Judaism.”

Lou & Pam, Overture Residents

Jewish Family Services

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Jewish Family Services Hosts High Tea for the Holocaust Survivor Community

On May 5, prior to the Yom HaShoah Community Commemoration Program, Jewish Family Services hosted a “high tea” for our community’s Holocaust survivors and their families. Guests included 21 of our community’s survivors and 15 of their family members who were able to gather and socialize, some meeting for the first time. Multiple languages, Russian and Yiddish among them, could be heard throughout the room as survivors from the same countries connected with each other.

During the Yom HaShoah program, survivors and their families were joined by 10 of our community’s youth, who were participating in the Yom HaShoah program by lighting candles for each of the survivors and reading some of their quotes. “I am so happy to honor someone who was able to live through the atrocities of the Holocaust,” said one of the youth. This event was just one of a number of social activities for our community’s Holocaust survivors that JFS has been able to host thanks to a grant from the Jewish Federations of North America's Center for Advancing Holocaust Care. “It has been so heartwarming to be able to offer opportunities for our survivors to connect and socialize with each other and to truly feel connected to our community,” said Howard Olsansky, Executive Director for JFS. One survivor shared their sentiment, too: “It has been such a wonderful experience to be involved in such meaningful programs with JFS. I am so grateful. It makes me feel so special and gives me the opportunity to connect with so many members of the community who understand what we experienced.”

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–Liana Millu
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JFS Monthly Volunteers and Donors


Thank you for delivering Passover bags: Ballantyne Jewish Center, Charlotte Jewish Day School, Dan Coblenz, Maya Cohn, Stephanie Kretman, Bonnie Tangelos, Matt Luftglass, Fred Shporer

Thank you for decorating JFS Monthly Volunteers and Donors

Thank you for delivering Passover bags: Hebrew High

Thanks you for delivering Passover bags: Community Gardens

Thank you for decorating Passover bags: Hebrew High

Announcing – Summer Wine and Wisdom

The Greenspon Center for Peace and Social Justice is thrilled to announce our Summer Wine and Wisdom Series. Rabbi Judy Schindler invites you to come out to the Selwyn Pub for study and socializing. Bring a friend, grab a glass of iced tea or wine, and enjoy learning more about Torah and the ways in which it can touch and lift our lives. As with everything summer, this is a casual and relaxing event with a little something for everyone. Sign up for one session, or all three. Space is limited, so sign up now.

Session Topics:

May 29 – Music in the Bible

Songs were sung at the Sea of Reeds and in the ancient Jerusalem Temple. Even King David played the harp in such a way that would soothe King Saul’s troubled soul. Music had healing and spiritual power then and has similar power now. The Zohar states that “there are gates in the heavens above that open only to the sound of song.” Come and explore the messages about music in the Bible that can teach us today.

June 19 – Meditation in the Bible

Meditation does not belong to New Age spirituality, it is old as the Hebrew Bible itself. In the book of Genesis (24:63), Isaac was meditating in the fields in the afternoon when he looked up and saw Rebecca approaching. Perhaps it was his meditation that prepared him to move forward from mourning the death of his mother to embracing this next chapter of his life. At Selwyn pub while sipping refreshing summer drinks, we will try to uncover some of the power of Jewish meditation – from Biblical to mystical to modern teachings.

July 17 – Making Romantic Relationships Work

Falling in love is the easy part, building love is hard. The last letter of the Torah is the Hebrew letter lamed and the first letter of the Torah is the Hebrew letter bet. Taken together they spell the Hebrew word lev which means heart. The Torah is built on love. Jewish tradition has a wellspring of wisdom to guide us doing the work that can help keep the flames of romantic relationships alive.
Tony Award Winner The Band’s Visit Comes to Charlotte

By Amy Krakovitz

“Whatever you do,” director Eran Klirnin said to Orin Wolf when asked about turning his film The Band’s Visit into a Broadway musical, “don’t put my characters into cat costumes.”

Klirnin need not have feared. Wolf and his collaborators were true to the film’s delicate nature when they transformed this quiet, heartfelt movie into a quiet, heartfelt Broadway show.

The original seed of the story began when Klirnin read about a visitor to Israel getting lost while driving and ending up in Netanya instead of Tel Aviv. Klirnin combined that with a dreamy vision he had of a singing policeman, and The Band’s Visit was born. It is the simple story of the Alexandria Quartet, an Egyptian police band touring Israel to perform a concert, and ending up in the middle of the desert in Bet Hatikvah, rather than in the booming cultural center of Petah Tikvah.

The movie, released in 2007, won numerous film awards and might have retired quietly away into the annals of cinema, but for The Other Israeli Film Festival at the JCC in Manhattan. Theater producer Orin Wolf saw the film there and knew the moment the final credits rolled that this tender story deserved its moment upon the stage.

Years of effort and persistence paid off. The legendary Hal Prince was involved as was veteran director David Cromer. But the writing team of Itamar Moses (book) and David Yazbek (music) is what made the final production a success. That it was.

As Yazbek was half Lebanese and has one Jewishgrandparent on his mother’s side, he always wanted to write music that reflected his Middle Eastern heritage. The results of his work reflect not just Middle Eastern sounds, but jazz, klezmer, ballads, and something that might be classified as R & B.

Moses is the son of Israeli transplants who was raised in California and educated in the east. He had already penned several successful theater productions, as well as some scripts for some well-known television series. When he was approached to work on The Band’s Visit, he hesitated to get involved in another musical. But when he became familiar with the story line, he signed on. The idea of a quieter, less boisterous musical appealed to him.

One of the affectations of the writing is that the Egyptian cast members speak to one another in Arabic and the Israeli characters speak to one another in Hebrew. Only when they talk cross-culturally do they speak English. “The audience is expected to do a little work,” Wolf explains. “They have to lean into the story.”

Even the musical numbers are essentially quiet. There are no big dance numbers or booming orchestras. This is a story that takes place in one night among several people, and the moments are more poetic than promotional.

The traveling company of The Band’s Visit will perform at Knight Theater August 6-25. Tickets are available now at tix.carolinatix.org.

Shalom Green is excited to announce the launch of the Shalom Green Horticultural Education Program. Developed for teens age 12-18, this twelve week program will allow student participants to learn the how’s and why’s of gardening, the importance of environmental stewardship, and how to research and implement a horticulturally-based service project that addresses a need within the community.

Shalom emphasizes our need to preserve our natural resources and generate new ones for future generations. We are encouraged l’shomer shel shmoreh, “to till and to tend,” to become the Earth’s stewards. Students may choose to participate in the program as a means of meeting volunteer or educational requirements. For example, Bat/Bat Mitzvah or high school projects requiring volunteer hours.

The Shalom Green Horticultural Education Program will provide a wonderful opportunity for students to focus their volunteer efforts while gaining skills and knowledge through a structured, guided experience. Working under the guidance of the Shalom Green Garden Coordinator, each student will receive an individualized curriculum and project experience with educational components including research, design, implementation, and reporting of results.

Bobbie Mabe, Shalom Green Garden Coordinator and Certified Horticultural Therapist, says of the program, “We hope to provide an avenue for exploration, critical thinking, and social skills development.

Initial funding for this program comes thanks to Cynthia Crane in honor of all those waking up to what Earth, Adamah, has to teach us. Please join her in bringing people and land together again.

The inaugural summer session starts on June 13 and the application deadline has been extended to June 6. Online applications and session dates are available on the Shalom Green website (www.shalomgreenCLT.org). If you have an idea for an article, please email info@shalomgreenCLT.org.

If you are interested in learning more about Shalom Green, please visit www.shalomgreenCLT.org. Like us on Facebook: Facebook.com/ShalomGreenCLT. Follow us on Twitter @ShalomGreen_CLT.

Bal Tashchit and Beyond

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Shalom Green Horticultural Education Program

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Shalom Green Horticultural Education Program

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A New Alternative for the High Holy Days this Year

The Kol Nidre Experience – Free

With the incredible success of The Rosh Hashanah Experience last year, the continuing growth in the number of people getting together for The Ruach Shabbat Experiences, and numerous requests, The Ruach and Rabbi Rachel Smookler have agreed to offer another alternative service for this year’s High Holy Days: The Kol Nidre Experience. The KNE will held on Tuesday, October 8 at 6:30 PM. Details with the venue’s owners are being finalized and the location will announced within the next month or so. (The Rosh Hashanah Experience will be held on at The Fillmore at the NC Music Factory this year at 10 AM on September 9 but that will not be the venue for The KNE.)

“Yom Kippur is a time of reflection. A time to ask yourself, ‘who am I, what do I value and how do I want to live my life?’” offers Rabbi Smookler. The Kol Nidre Experience will include music, prayer, and time for personal reflection that will provide inspiration to help people better know themselves and each other. “We want people to gather, connect as a community and feel comfortable as we explore our vulnerabilities and strengths. It’s about being authentic with yourself as well as others. It’s about being grateful. It’s about letting go of the past with the freedom to move forward in a positive way.”

Of course, Kol Nidre, which means “All Vows,” is central to the meaning of the prayer and it contains the powerful words, “We want people to understand the meaning of the prayer and be moved by its powerful words.”

The KNE will last just about an hour and all are welcome. It will be the perfect foundation for and beginning to the Day of Atonement. This year, don’t just celebrate the High Holy Days… experience them.

The Ruach is an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to spread the joy of Judaism through music. To get updates about The High Holiday Experiences and become part of The Ruach Community, email The Ruach and get on the band’s information and invitation list: the.ruach.band@gmail.com. Also, you can follow The Ruach on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

The Holocaust and Genocide Educational Awareness Bill

The North Carolina Council on the Holocaust along with the North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teachers has presented to the General Assembly House Bill 437. The purpose of this legislation is to recommend to the General Assembly to incorporate the study of the Holocaust and genocide into the public schools curriculum, making North Carolina one of a few states in the country to mandate the teaching of the Holocaust.

The Bill has passed the NC House and is pending NC Senate and gubernatorial approval.

Never in our time has legislation of this type been so very important. The number of hate crimes and Anti-Semitic incidents continue to rise. Whenever we ask a Holocaust survivor what can we do to honor you, the survivor says, “Teach the children.”

The survivors are leaving us and along with their passing, we need to make sure that we live up to the mantra of “Never Again.”

When students hear about the hatred and atrocities of the Nazi regime, they will learn the lessons of the Holocaust - the values of tolerance, plurality, compassion, inclusion and democracy.

The Holocaust Council is proud to have introduced H.B. 437.

Public School Teacher’s Trip to the Holocaust Museum

For the third straight year, the North Carolina Holocaust Foundation will sponsor an educational bus trip to Washington for 6th-12th grade school teachers. The teachers will focus on lessons learned from the Holocaust so to better teach their students about diversity, differences, and bullying.

The trip will last four days. The teachers will visit the Holocaust Memorial Museum and the Jewish War Memorial Museum. The teachers will meet with a Holocaust survivor and will attend Shabbat services at a Washington area synagogue.

This remarkable experience is sponsored by the NC Holocaust Foundation, the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte, The Greensboro Center at Queens University, and Stan Greenspon.

The trip will leave from Shalom Park on June 26 at 9 AM. Anyone who would like to be part of the sendoff please join us.

If you are interested in learning more about the North Carolina Holocaust Foundation, please contact Mitch Rifkin at mitch@carolina.rr.com.
By Cantor Elias Roochvarg

I cannot think of a nicer retirement gift than the one Temple Israel gave Linda and me: a trip to Israel. I had heard from friends that the experience they had as volunteers there was very worthwhile, so I applied for and was accepted into a three-week program with the organization SAR-EL, which recruits volunteers from all over the world to do civilian jobs on Israeli army bases.

Linda is still working, so she could not take as much time off as I, so she joined me after the three weeks. We spent most of Passover in Jerusalem and a few days in Tel Aviv before returning home. I planned the trip so that I would have a couple of days in Israel with family to overcome jet lag before I started my volunteer work.

I was “stationed” at Anatot (birthplace of Jeremiah), in the West Bank, maybe 20 minutes from Jerusalem. There are 12 of us volunteers on this base, i.e., four couples and four individuals. I thought I was the youngest volunteer - at least on this base, but in the pre-lights-out chat with my new roomies, I discovered that one is 82, one is 77, and the 3rd is 66 - three years my junior (though he looks older). I saw a few younger volunteers at the airbase, though he looks older. I saw a 16-year-old volunteer - at least on this base, except for the madrichot to avoid argument. The barracks were Spartan.

Breakfasts on site generally included eggs - hard boiled or scrambled, vegetables as at every meal, bread (though no toast option), yogurt, and cottage cheese, bran flakes, hot water, but the only coffee was instant. They had chocolate milk, which comes in bags. Lunch, the main meal here, consists of choice of meat or fish - could have had both, but had fish, plus lots of choices of veggies. Beverage options included water plus a concentrated apple flavored water enhancer. There was also coffee and tea. Dinners are dairy, and overall a more modest affair. This was our typical daily schedule:

7:30 - breakfast
8:30 - flag raising ceremony
9-11:30 - work
11:45-12:30 - lunch
1-4:15 - back to work
5:30-6:30 - dinner
6:30 - evening activity

Our job usually was counting “stuff” like helmets, Kevlar vests, canteens, etc., loading them into boxes, and sorting and putting duffle bags on industrial shelving. The duffle bags weighed about 30 pounds and some had to be put on high shelves. I was the tallest one in my group, so it was hard work. Two of my roomies and I did about 50 duffle bags in a day. Richard and Stan, the 82 year old and 77 year old respective - are amazing in their stamina. They didn’t rest till the job was done. I think it was more physically rigorous labor than I have done in years - if you don’t count bringing up all the Passover boxes from the basement. The sorting was particularly important: If a soldier gets a helmet with a broken strap, or a canteen whose cap does not close properly, s/he is at a disadvantage. Our doing these tedious jobs frees up the soldiers for other work.

The evening activities were primarily educational presentations and discussions. One night the topic was Ethiopians and the challenges they faced in making Aliyah. Another evening activity was a discussion of three major dilemmas that face/have faced Israel:

1. The ban on public transportation on Shabbat;
2. whether or not Israel should negotiate with terrorists, specifically for the release of hostages; and
3. the exemption from military service of many ultra-Orthodox yeshiva students.

The discussions were all animated and well moderated by the majdichot to avoid argument.

We got weekends off (i.e., from Thursday after lunch thru Saturday night). A bus took us from the base to the train station in Tel Aviv. I took the train to Lehavim, where I have cousins. On Saturday night). A bus took us from the base to the train station in Tel Aviv. I took the train to Lehavim, where I have cousins. On the train, I sat opposite a young 8-year-old child. She, like me, had just gotten on the train. We had traveled about three minutes to the next stop, still in Tel Aviv, when the child asked his mother, “Imma, higashu?” Mommy, are we there yet? Of course that phrase brought back memories of hearing the same question innumerable times when my children, now in their 20s, were his age. Every second, somewhere in the world, some child is asking his/her parents that question. And Israel is no exception.

Highlights of My Recent Visit to Israel - Part 1

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April was a great month for Moishe House Charlotte–NoDa. We hosted a DIY program for Earth Day, during which participants designed personal succulents in small flower pots for their apartments, houses, or office desks. We also enjoyed baking matzah pizza at the house, followed by a viewing of the classic Passover movie, The Prince of Egypt. Finally, we shared an enjoyable, kosher-for-Passover Shabbat dinner with our community. At our table, we discussed topics around sustainability in the foods we eat, our daily routines, and in Judaism and Jewish practices.

Want to learn more about Moishe House in Charlotte or find out about our upcoming events? Visit our Facebook page at facebook.com/MoHoCharlotteNoDa or email us at mohocharlotteno-da@gmail.com to be added to our monthly e-newsletter.

Moishe House Provides a Space for Young Adults to Celebrate Passover Together

Meet the Residents of Moishe House Charlotte – NoDa

Aaron Goldstein, 23
Aaron was born and raised in Anderson, MO. He attended the University of Kansas for a degree in Geology. During college, Aaron also studied abroad at the University of Leeds. Aaron currently works as a Staff Geologist/Geophysicist for Intertek-PSI.

Calvin Newman, 22
Calvin is a native of Chapel Hill, NC. He graduated from NC State University. While in college, Calvin helped to found a chapter of the Alpha Epsilon Pi Fraternity on his campus. He is currently working as a Financial Analyst at TTI Floor Care North America.

Daniel Rich, 24
Daniel was born in Birmingham, AL. He spent most of his summers growing up in Minneapolis, MN. Daniel graduated from University of Pennsylvania with a degree in English. He currently works as a retirement specialist.

Caleb Seidler, 23
Caleb is a native of Charlotte, NC. He currently works as a Music Teacher at Charlotte Jewish Preschool, as well as working at the Levine JCC after-school program. Caleb also plays music at PJ Library events in Charlotte and teaches at Temple Beth El Religious School.
Sacred Ground

By Susan Jacobs, Director of Education, Temple Beth El Religious School

On Sunday, April 7, Temple Beth El Religious School third grade students and their parents took a field trip to The Hebrew Cemetery of Charlotte. Our third graders have been learning about Jewish life cycle events all year and the rituals around death and burial are part of their studies. This is not an easy or comforting subject matter to discuss.

The Hebrew Cemetery is rich in history and was the first institution founded in Charlotte in 1867. Many of the first Jewish citizens are buried there as well as Jewish soldiers who fought for the Confederacy. Of course, many of us have loved ones who are buried there, and we feel a deep connection because that is their resting place.

So why did we decide to take these young students to visit the cemetery? We take them because if they visit before they experience the loss of someone close to them, then the cemetery is not a scary or sad place. It gives them a chance to learn and think about the holiness of the Jewish ritual of taharah, the purification of the body. Rabbi Knight and Brian Yesowitch were there to explain the process and rituals to students and their parents. Students and parents also had the opportunity to ask questions and share their own stories.

Another Wonderful Year

It’s a wrap! Another year of amazing Jewish education has come to an end at Temple Kol Ami Religious School. From our Kita Aleph to our B’nai Mitzvah, there was a whole lot of learning going on. Most importantly, our children strengthened their Jewish identities and made friendships that are so important in our small Jewish community of York County, SC. Along the way, they learned Jewish history and holidays, created wonderful memories, and had a lot of fun. Some of the highlights of the past year included the student led Shabbat, Pizza in the Sukkah, Chanukah celebration, Purim carnival, mock Passover Seder, Israel Independence Day celebration, and lots of visits with Rabbi Ana Bonnheim. We also started our Youth Group which was a lot of fun for our 5th-8th graders. TKA Religious School is proud of all of our students and all that they have achieved, but we are definitely kvelling over helping to lead two of our young adults to their B’nai Mitzvah in the past year. Jason and Natalie Linch were called to the Torah, and each chanted beautifully, helping to lead the service, and delivered fantastic D’varim Torah. It takes a village to raise our children. Many thanks must go out to our completely volunteer teachers and administrators. A big Todah Rabah to Stacey Constant, Ana Retnik, Shari Baum, Ellen Peters, Fran Lyons, David Dobro, Jonathan Shaw, and Bonnie Shaw whose dedication and commitment makes a religious school for close to 40 students in York County a reality. Shout out to our fantastic madrich Colin Abrams for helping out on Sundays. Lastly, we are so blessed to have an amazing B’nai Mitzvah coordinator and tutor, Shuya Burack.

Temple Beth El Religious School is grateful to the Hebrew Cemetery Association for hosting this important trip and for taking time to give us a tour of the grounds and the beautiful chapel.

Brian Yesowitch takes the 3rd grade class for a tour of the cemetery’s highlights as he explains the Jewish rituals of caring for the deceased.

Temple Beth El’s third graders stand before the marble ark that was originally in Beth El’s sanctuary.

SYNAGOGUES & CONGREGATIONS

TKA Religious School Concludes Another Wonderful Year

Religious School looks forward to another wonderful year of Jewish education when we start up again in the Fall. There will be an open house and ice cream social on August 25, details to follow in the August Charlotte Jewish News. If you would like more information about Temple Kol Ami in general, please contact us at yorksynagogues@gmail.com. We would love to be a part of your child’s Jewish educational experience.

In June, you are invited to join Temple Kol Ami at our annual picnic on June 2 at McDowell Nature Preserve in Charlotte from 12-4 PM. There will be a face painter/balloon artist, lots of great food, music, and our annual water gun fight. On June 21st, we will welcome Rabbi Bonnheim back for Kabbalat Shabbat service at Philadelphia United Methodist Church in Fort Mill. The community is always welcome to join us for worship and fellowship.

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 congregation comprised of Jews from diverse backgrounds. There are so many wonderful advantages to being a member of TKA, not the least of which is being a part of the revitalization of the Jewish community of this area. We hope you will come play and pray with us sometime soon. For more information about Temple Kol Ami, check out our website at www.templekolamisc.org.
Experience the Ten Commandments at Chabad of Charlotte

A fantastic experience will be happening on Sunday, June 9, at Chabad of Charlotte. It is the holiday of Shavuot when we receive the monumental event that changed the Jewish landscape forever - God giving of the Torah at Mt. Sinai. All children attending this event will be invited as the guests of honor. They will march in to the sanctuary and be positioned in front of the Bimah as the Ten Commandments are read from the Torah scroll. Just like the first time Moshe proclaimed the children to be the guarantors of the Torah, so it is today, that the children guarantee the Torah will be studied and observed.

Morning services on Sunday will begin at 10 AM. The Ten Commandments event begins at 11 AM, followed by a delicious dairy feast which awaits all guests and there will be an exciting ice cream party for the children. This event is open to the entire Jewish community. On Monday, the second day of Shavuot, morning services will be at 10 AM and Yizkor will be at 11:30 AM. The festival of Shavuot is most notable for its luxurious and delicious dairy foods such as blintzes and cheesecake. One reason for this is that on Shavuot the people of Israel received the Torah. The Torah can be compared to milk which nurtures and strengthens the basic health of a person. Similarly, the Torah gives us strength and purpose. Another reason is that one of the first commitments the Jews made to God upon entering this special covenant was to observe the Kosher laws. They were not yet familiar with Kashrut and only ate dairy until they were proficient in their new life style. Thus, it has been a tradition for thousands of years for Jews to feast on dairy foods during the festival of Shavuot in commemoration of this mitzvah.

Another Shavuot tradition is to study the Torah all night long on the first evening of Shavuot. According to the Midrash, the Jewish people slept such a peaceful sleep on the morning when the Torah was to be given that they had to be awakened by God. To make up for this relaxed attitude to this great gift from God, we study the entire night preceding the reading of the Ten Commandments on Shavuot. Chabad of Charlotte will conduct Torah study classes throughout the night starting at midnight (Saturday night). For more information about our Shavuot programs, please visit our website at: www.chabadnc.org.

Family Shavuot Celebration

Ballantyne Jewish Center invites you and your family to join us to hear the Ten Commandments read from the Torah and enjoy a delicious dairy meal in honor of the holiday of Shavuot. Shavuot is the time when we commemorate God’s giving of the Torah at Mt. Sinai and a time to celebrate the true heroes of this holiday which are the children. Before God gave the Torah He demanded guarantors. The Jewish people made a number of suggestions all rejected by God until they declared, “Our children will be our guarantors that we will cherish and observe the Torah.” God immediately accepted them and agreed to give the Torah.

Let us make sure to bring all our “guarantors” along on the first day of Shavuot to be present for the reading of the Ten Commandments. There will be a special program, fun activities and an ice cream party for them to enjoy.

Sunday, June 9
5-6:30 PM
South Charlotte Banquet Center, 9009 Bryant Farms Rd.

Open to the community free of charge.

RSVP is appreciated - email Leah@JewishBallantyne.com or call 704-246-8881.

There will be a minyan and Yizkor service the following morning service.

Monday, June 10
At the Ballantyne Jewish Center
8632 Bryant Farms Rd.
10 AM Service begins.
11:30 AM Yizkor
Followed by a Kiddush Lunch

For more information visit us online www.JewishBallantyne.com.

Hebrew School of the Arts Registration for the 2019-2020 School Year is now open. Call 704-246-8881 or email Leah@JewishBallantyne.com www.JewishBallantyne.com/HbrewSchool

Havurat Tikvah Hosts Shavuot Service, Lunch ’n Learn

Havurat Tikvah will hold a Lunch ‘n Learn on June 9, 11 AM, at Strawberry Hill Apartments Clubhouse, 5101 Strawberry Hill Dr., followed by a Yizkor service in honor of Shavuot.

Shavuot is the time that the Jewish community celebrates the giving of the Torah. In observance of the holiday, the congregation will look at Jewish texts — and one’s own beliefs and experiences — to address the following questions about the gift of Torah: Do we really need Torah, and if so why?; What is the essence, or basic theme, of Torah?; Does each person have his or her own special Torah?; And can we, and should we, add to the Torah new ideas and new mitzvot? Havurat Tikvah member Dr. Charles “Charlie” Brown will lead the discussion. He also serves as spiritual leader at Temple Emanuel in Gastonia, NC.

A dairy lunch will be provided after the discussion and service. A reservation is required and is due by June 2. Email admin@havuratikvah.org to RSVP or to learn more.

On June 19, a monthly minyan service will be held. They will continue over the summer and early fall leading up to the High Holidays. Information on times and locations will be on the congregation’s website as plans are finalized.

Havurat Tikvah will hold an End-of-Year “Graduation” Picnic on June 23 from 12-3 p.m. Participants are asked to bring a dish. The congregation will provide dessert. To attend, RSVP by June 20 to admin@havuratikvah.org.

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

We value and depend upon member participation and leadership for our religious services, spiritual growth, and governance. Havurat Tikvah is an affiliate of Reconstruction Judaism. For more information on upcoming services, programs, membership or other queries, call 980-225-3330, write to Havurat Tikvah, P.O. Box 12684, Charlotte, NC 28220, email membership@havuratikvah.org or visit havuratikvah.org. Havurat Tikvah is also on Facebook at facebook.com/groups/havuratikvah.
Temple Solel Announces Big Move

As we think about the recent account of the “Exodus” more comes to mind than the wonderful Community Pesach Seder we experienced in South Carolina with our members and guests of close to 60 attendees led by Lay Leader, Russ Cobe. Solel in Hebrew means “pathfinder,” and we cannot think of a better description of the time we are in right now as a congregation!

After months of searching and discussion, we have secured a beautiful location to transition to. There will still be a couple more services at our current location; however, we will celebrate seven years at our annual meeting scheduled June 23 at the new location. It is through the generosity and partnership of UMC Belair Church which Reverend Mary Joy Fort leads, and her Trustees, that this is possible for our small congregation. We have been partnering with UMC Belair for Social Action with the enthusiastically, they completed a Master’s degree in International Studies with a concentration in Latin America at Central Connecticut State University, in addition to a Bachelor’s degree in History with a Spanish minor at Providence College in Rhode Island. Rabbi Rozovsky has a special commitment to this nation’s armed forces. He has served as a chaplain in multiple military settings, and was a fellow at the Jewish War Veterans of America (JWV) Cincinnati-Dayton chapter, Cincinnati, OH. When he visited last year he held a very riveting discussion on “War Crimes in the Bible” where we learned that there are accounts in the Bible considered a crime that may not be the case in our current time. There were mutual points both a Biblical and modern audience were able to agree on.

For more information write us at info@templesolel.org or call 803-619-9707. Temple Solel holds regular Shabbat services at 7 PM on the second and fourth Fridays of each month. We hope to see you soon in the Community Room at St. Philip Neri Church, 292 Munn Road, Fort Mill, SC. We hope to see you starting July 12, at the new location Belair UMC Family Life Center, 8095 Shelley Mullis Rd., Fort Mill, SC 29707.

Meltsner Selected as “Free Spirit”; Will Represent NC at Journalism Conference

Jack Meltsner has been selected to represent North Carolina at the 2019 Al Neuharth Free Spirit and Journalism Conference. The conference targets rising high school seniors who are interested in pursuing a career in journalism and who demonstrate qualities of “free spirit.”

Jack’s winning essay highlighted the subtle and not-so-subtle Antisemitism he experience at East Mecklenburg High School and how he took it into his own hands to combat it.

This honor includes attending the national conference in Washington, DC, June 14-20, plus a $1,000 scholarship to college of his choice.

Douglas Doolen, the head JV Baseball Coach at East Meck, says of Jack, “One of Jack’s greatest qualities is that he knows who he is. He inspires others with his belief in himself and his ability to … articulate his thoughts to those around him. … Where I have been most impressed with Jack is his knack to lead without hesitation. … The best part of him is that nothing will stop him from achieving his dreams.”

Jack joins 49 other student journalists in their pursuit of excellence in journalism, a support of the First Amendment, and the cultivation of their free spirits.

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Temple Beth El Confirmation Class

By Rabbi Dusty Klass

How do we act Jewishly in the world? What does it mean to make Jewish choices? What does it feel like to explore our larger world, both Jewish and secular, through a Jewish lens? This year, our confirmation class took a look at all of these questions; together, we studied Jewish values and, in particular, our commitment to social justice. We traveled together to Charlotte and were warmly welcomed into the KKBE Jewish community, one of the oldest synagogues in the United States. We reflected on God, and current events. And, we built new connections and strengthened existing relationships with each other.

On May 10, the TBE Confirmation class of 5779 shared their experiences, taught Torah, and led our Temple Beth El community in prayer. Mazel tov to Sydney Blumsack, Anya Dippold, Jack Evan Biller, Sofia Blank, Connor Abeshaus, Brett Adelman, Haiden Berton, Eli Biber-Bishop, Evan Biller, Sofia Blank, Connor Blumsack, Anya Dippold, Jack Feldman, Ava Gentile, Benjamin Gose, Benjamin Guadarrama, Eddie Horwitz, Ashley Horwitz, Kate Lewin, Annie Morgan, Sam Olinger, Olivia Potier, Avery Rosen, Brennan Russak, Max Sawyer, Kiera Schneiderman, Lily Shinn, Lindsey Strawser, and Amanda Wine. We cannot wait to see what you do next.

Our community also presented the Michelle Miller award to two outstanding Jewish ambassadors in our Confirmation Class. Michelle Miller (1985-2002) was a member of the Temple Beth El Confirmation class of 2002 who deeply embraced Judaism, was dedicated to learning about her Jewish faith, and excelled in teaching others about Judaism. Michelle’s life was devoted to furthering the values of Judaism in herself and others. In her memory, her parents, Fred and Joy Miller, and her sister, Rose Planer, have established the Michelle Miller award for Jewish Commitment which includes a scholarship that goes to the student(s) who stand out among his or her classmates as one who embodies these same values surrounding the teaching and living of Judaism that Michelle embraced.

Lily Shinn and Olivia Potier have been selected as this year’s confirmation class recipients of the Michelle Miller Award for Jewish Commitment.

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Lily Shinn
Lily is one of our star Madrichim, working both in the music room and in our 5th grade classroom with Mrs. Montoni. Mrs. Montoni writes: “I have known Lily since she was in 3rd grade. Even then, she was serious when she needed to be and playful when she wanted to be. She is mature, self-motivated, careful, and attentive. She really adores the students and likes helping them individually.” Lily has been incredibly active in LIBERTY, Temple Beth El’s NFTY group, and was recently elected to serve as the NFTY-SAR Region’s Programming Vice President. Lily is the perfect mix of passion and compassion. Her love of Judaism is palpable, and her commitment to community is unmatched. She is careful and kind, humble but steadfast in her beliefs. Everything she does seems to be in service of others — it truly brings her joy to bring joy to others.

We are confident that students like Lily and Olivia carry the hope we hold for the future of the Jewish people and will do great things. A special thank you to Fred and Joy Miller and Jonathan and Rose Planer for sharing Michelle’s story with all of us, and for supporting this program and inspiring and celebrating our stellar youth. What a beautiful and meaningful way to honor Michelle’s memory.
Statesville Congregation Prepares Legacy Plan

By Jan Jaben-Eylon

When Statesville, NC-native Wendy (Gordon) Pake first heard about Atlanta-based Jewish Community Legacy Project (JCLP) at Congregation Emanuel’s services about a year ago, part of her heard intimations of preserving her synagogue as a museum. But another part heard about the opportunity to sustain the congregation’s long history. That was what excited her.

The resulting legacy committee established by Congregation Emanuel, with the assistance of Noah Levine, JCLP director, has two goals. Pake explains. One is to preserve the history of the second oldest functioning Jewish congregation in North Carolina and Statesville’s entire Jewish community, and the other is to “strengthen Congregation Emanuel’s future and maintain its role in the community. The congregation, established in 1883, has always been an important part of Statesville. My big motivation, after looking at their website (http://jclproject.org/jewish-community-legacy-project-jclp.html), was that I wanted to preserve our history and yet we still see a viable congregation that can continue to grow.”

JCLP was launched 10 years ago by former head of the Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta, David Sarnat, to assist small Jewish communities prepare for whatever future awaits them, and to ensure that their legacies reflect the aspects of Jewish life that were important to them.

Congregation President Beverley Maurice sees the legacy plan that her synagogue is creating under the guidance of JCLP as “a form of life insurance for the synagogue. We’re not expecting to close in the near future, but it’s like life or health insurance; you hope you never need it.”

Barry Gordon, who is helping the congregation work with a city planner to make sure the building can never be used for anything other than a synagogue, and “won’t be torn down” says that JCLP introduced them to Phil Warshauer, director of the Foundation for the Charlotte Jewish Community, who is guiding the congregation in creating an endowment to cover bills, repairs, upkeep and “keeping the congregation going.”

Indeed, Pake points out that Congregation Emanuel had experienced a rebirth before. In the 1920s, the number of Jews in Statesville declined so dramatically that the building closed for about 30 years. But in the 1950s, as one of the North Carolina circuit rabbis made Statesville his home base, and Jews returned to the community for the growing textile industry, the building was reopened, and a religious school was established along with an active women’s auxiliary.

“I’m hoping for another rebirth,” says Pake who recalls “everything revolving around the synagogue” as she was growing up. “We had three classrooms full of kids, a Purim shpiel and Chanukah parties,” says one of nine first cousins who grew up in Statesville. Her father, who passed away three years ago, was one of five brothers in the community. “He was in services every Friday night. I want my kids to know what it was like,” she adds, explaining her motivation to preserve the congregation’s history.

JCLP, which facilitated legacy plans for congregations in Whiteville, Rocky Mount, and Kingston, does not charge for its services. Nationwide, JCLP has worked with more than 40 communities, most of which are still active. Through their legacy plans, these congregations have established endowments for perpetual care of their cemeteries, Holocaust education, scholarships for young people to visit Israel or attend Jewish camps, as well as programs that help their local communities.

“North Carolina has a rich history of Jewish involvement,” explains Levine. “The congregations in the small communities throughout the state have always provided quality Jewish experiences to their members. And these communities have benefitted from the involvement of Jews in their political, cultural, and educational activities. JCLP is helping them preserve that noble legacy.”

As some small congregations around the country have closed their doors, JCLP has assisted them in finding homes for their religious items. This handiwork has been much appreciated in the Carolinas. In May 2013, a congregation in Auburn, NY, closed its doors and decided to donate a Torah to Temple Kol Tikvah of Lake Norman in Davidson, NC. Three years later, on Labor Day weekend, Temple Solel in Fort Mill, SC – about five miles from the North Carolina border – received a donated Torah from Temple Hadar Israel in New Castle, PA, all with the assistance of JCLP.

Shelley Pawlyk, president of seven-year-old Temple Solel, said the Torah is “one of the most beautiful Torahs I’ve ever seen.” The Torah will be paraded in the Temple’s new location, at United Methodist Church’s Belair Family Life Center on July 12. Pawlyk is related, by marriage, of the 58-member Temple because, she says, it is smack dab in an area that is experiencing a lot of incoming Jewish retirees. “We are the new Florida.”

Congregation Emanuel’s Maurice is similarly excited about the future as her synagogue works with JCLP on its legacy plan. “People are moving up this way. I feel there can be a growth spurt. It’s giving me a lot of hope.”

SCHOOL NEWS

Congratulations to the Graduates of the Charlotte Jewish Preschool

By Brooke Amo, director

It is hard to believe that this school year is coming to an end, and we are already approaching summer. This year at CJP, we have inspired learning in over 277 students, built partnerships with 220 families, have a work family with over 65 staff, and created a culture that we are proud to be a part of and call our home.

This year, our students have experienced everything from dipping apples in honey, playing Purim shpeil, building Temples out of pipe cleaners and loose parts, selling hot dogs, playing hopscotch, eating matzah, playing hopscotch, playing the recorder, making “everything revolving around the community for the growing textile industry,” building the building was reopened, and a religious school was established along with an active women’s auxiliary.

dren for giving us big hugs, laughing at our jokes, showing us what is important, making our days meaningful, and filling our hearts and halls with joy every day.

Mazel Tov to the graduating class of 2019. It has been an honor getting to know all of these children over the past four years.

SUMMER AQUATICS HOURS

OPENING DAY KICK-OFF!
Sat, May 25 • 12–6:45pm

FUN SUNDAYS!
Family Activities • Prizes
11am-1pm • Jun 16-Aug 18

FATHER’S DAY POOL PARTY!
Sun, June 16 • 11am-2pm

4th of JULY POOL PARTY!
Thu, July 4 • 11am-2pm

MEMORIAL DAY (Mon, 5/27)
KIDS TRIATHLON (Sun, 6/2)
ERUV SHAVUOT (Sat, 6/8)
SHAVUOT (Sun, 6/9 & Mon, 6/10)
4TH OF JULY (Thu, 7/4)
LABOR DAY (Mon, 9/2)

Holidays – Modified Pool Hours
(visit charlottejcc.org or pick up a flyer for details)

INDOOR POOL Hours
(visit charlottejcc.org or pick up a flyer for details)

Sundays–Thursdays
11am-7pm
Fridays
11am-5:45pm
Saturdays
12-7pm

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

Wellness & Fitness
Jenny Crow 704-944-6870
jenny.crow@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
Julie Rizzo 704-944-6730
julie.rizzo@charlottejcc.org

Sandra and Leon Levine Jewish Community Center
5007 Providence Road  |  Charlotte, NC 28226
704-366-5007 | charlottejcc.org  | facebook.com/levinejcc
### Summer Programs

#### Summer Aquatics
- **Sunday Session**
  - June 16 – August 11
  - (no class on 7/7)
  - M/S: $28  B/S: $27  NM/S: $31
- **Infant / Toddler**
  - 9:30-10:00am  |  4:30-5:00pm
  - Preschool: 9:30-10:30am  |  1:30-2:30pm
- **K-5th Grade**
  - 10:50-11:35am

#### Summer Carambolas
- **Adults 16+**
- **SESSION I**
  - June 17 – July 23 (5 weeks)
  - M/S: $160  B/S: $155  NM/S: $194

#### Summer Fencing
- **7 years – Adult**
- Students will learn the skill of attacking and defending with either the foil, epee or saber, then a series of fencing drills and open fencing with other students. The final stage is tactics and strategy for competitive situations.
- All equipment provided and included in the class fee. Equipment for purchase.
- Instructor: Daniel Maguire 7/20
- June 4 – June 11
- July 2 – July 24
- August 6 – August 24

#### Preschool Enrichment
- **Ages 3 1/2 – 5**
- June 18 – July 23
- **Tuesdays & Thursdays**
  - 11:30-12:30pm
  - Camp Katan Building

### Summer Tennis
- **Cardio Tennis**
  - A great way to get the blood pumping!
  - An aerobic workout on the tennis court, complete with basic tennis skills and medium to high impact cardiovascular training.
  - Wednesdays: 6:30pm
  - Fridays: 9:10am
  - June 12 – August 4
  - M/S: $28  B/S: $27  NM/S: $31

#### Summer Bolly Dance
- **Mondays**
- June 3 – August 4 (11 classes)
- M/S: $28  B/S: $27  NM/S: $31

### Other Programs
- **Adults**
  - **Art with Parkinson’s**
    - Spend time with others who have Parkinson’s disease, and immerse yourself in art to help you relax. We will use a variety of mediums of art, and you should experience emotional, physical, and social benefits. The act of creating art can reduce tremors, freezing, isolation, depression, and anxiety.
    - Instructor: Eileen Schwartz, BFA, MAE, CDP
  - **Oasis Book Club**
    - June’s Book: Our House, by Louise Candlish
    - Friday, June 28, 1–2pm
    - FSP Boardroom • Free

### Memory Café
- **Caring for a family member with mild to moderate dementia?** Come with them to the Memory Café. Socialize, meet new friends, engage in activities together and just have fun. A light breakfast will be served.
- The purpose of the program:
  - social engagement & discussion
  - a safe, relaxed and non-judgmental environment
  - enjoy music, art, and more
  - Meets twice every month:
    - 2nd & 4th Thursdays • 10am – 12pm
    - Weinberg Senior Center
      - 704-944-6792 or jill.ipson@charlottejcc.org

### Swimming Leagues
- **FALL YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUES**
  - Ages 2.5 – 18
  - Registration begins July 15th

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**Like us!**  ·  facebook.com/levinejcc
Charlotte Jewish Day School: The Year in Review

Third grade proudly displaying their art work.

CJDS students filling their I Spy Mishloach Manot for Purim.

Levi Garrison and Josh Wisotsky enjoying the CJDS Times, published quarterly by the Newspaper Club.

Heidi Zielinski proudly modeling the new CJDS sweatshirt and cap.

The Rose family enjoying the mitzvah of Lulav and Etrog and eating in the CJDS Sukkah.

Kindergarten having too much fun on a Pesach scavenger hunt at Publix.

Ryan Maltz, first grader, reading the haggadah at the model Seder.

Maayan Nerenberg - One of our empathy heroes.
# Celebrating Our Community's 387 Legacy Donors

Foundation for the Charlotte Jewish Community thanks the 387 individuals and families who have created 864 unique Jewish legacies to ensure the future of our Jewish community. These generous donors have collectively committed more than $26 million through bequests, individual retirement and life insurance plans, without affecting current disposable income or lifestyles. Already, local Jewish organizations have received over $2 million in legacy gifts which have been realized. If you are interested in learning how to create your own Jewish legacy, please contact your favorite Jewish agency, Phil Warshauer or Nancy Kipnis.

| Andrea and Jeremy Davids | Arlene and Gary (OBM) Davis | Jill and Michael dinerman | Dana and Jeffrey d'Ellschen | Ellen and David (OBM) dubin | Merry and freud dumes | Steven and Ellen dubin | Barry and Maryellen eazray | Murray and Barbara eiring | Harry (OBM) and margaret eiger | Federman | Alex and nancy felder | Roni and slanie fichten | DeLicia and peter fisch | Robert and friedman friedman | Adam foodman | Melanie W. and Karen N. frank | Jacob M. and Hunter K. Freudenthal | Albert and Phyllis garten | Loren Lea gilfiller | goodwin gilder | yehoshua E. ginzburg | Stephanie and david gilfin | Nancy Glass | Rosia (OBM) and aaron (OBM) goldman | gilber | Ken and Tammy goldman | Sandra goldman | Mark and Linda goldsmith | Margaret L. goldstein | Meg D. Goldstein and Matthew Luftglass | Milton and arline goldstein | Sholton and ellen goldstein | Joy and Neal golphin | Jennifer Cohen Gohnlysky and Leon Gohnlysky | Barbara and David (OBM) Goodwin | Brett H. goodman | Michelle Goodeman | Scott and rebecca goodman | Allen Gordon (OBM) | Bill and Patty (OBM) gonsik | Jeff and Marty gonsik | Marnella gonsik | Shilton (OBM) and carole gonsik | Todd and stacy Miller gonsik | Alan and marla Gottlieb | Fay (OBM) and dan (OBM) green | Karen greenblatt | Julia and russ greenfeld | Keith E. greenspan | Rylsyn greenspan | Stan greenspan | Jodi and Josh greeneveld | Bill and Gloria grinshagen | Debbie and clay grubb | elizabeth rein and michael grinawald | Anna ginsburg | Bonnie hart | Stephanie haymos | Richard and Barbara herd | Ted and M.E. heusberg | Steven and Sharon hoffard | Vicki higgins | Joel horvitz | Chrisy and Andy horvitz | Jonathan M. howard | Jodi, Michael, eyal & alex iagrocco | Robert and Linda iower | Donald L. and susan sachs jacob | David jacobson | Jake Jacobsen | Robert and lesia (OBM) Jacobson | Florence Kaufman Jaffa (OBM) Sol (OBM) and Janet (OBM) Jaffa | Elie and Raisel kalton | Alyson kalk | Ronald and Mary-margaret kantor | Morty and noni kaplan | Dana and Andrew kaspian | Andrew and Susan karp | Barbara and Alan Katz | Kenneth & Karilyn Katz and Family | Nancy and Robert kipnis | joan kirschen | Paula and Richard klein | Robert P. and Maria Quinn klein | Lorraine and Barry klemens and family | John Daniel kling | Barry bierov and Karen kneidel | Elisa and jaime Knysz | Lee and Shelia (OBM) krislov | David A. lush | jack (OBM) and carole lush | gladyss (OBM) lavit | Judy and Eric lexer | Dale lidner | Jennifer and david latkowsky | alison and mark larner | eric and susan larney | Gary and Donna larney | Harry and Gloria larney | Barbara and Jerry levine | Binyamin and Shana levine | David and Brenda levinsky and family | Donna (OBM) and norman levin and family | rush | alvin (OBM) and helen levine | elise and joshua levine | Howard and Julie larimer levine | Leon and Sandra levine | Mike and Shana levine | sol (OBM) | elise levinson | eric levinson | Gary and jenie levinson | Holly and Hal levitt | Jack and Allison levinson | Lisa strassman levine | Sam and Linda levy | Lauren and marc levain | Robert and irita litz | Andrew and gewoolden lindner | Marshall (OBM) and fayunda linthner | Jill and Marc lipson | Don and elicia liss | Ron and Frances liss | Susan and Michael litwiner | Adina and Josh lowenstein | Annie and Harrison lord | Ross (OBM) and abu (OBM) lusky | Audrey madams | Karen and Gary mantelloff | Larryinker and sheri mcknight | Linda mccall | megyn mecan | Michael (OBM) meicaleen | The Meicaleen family | elise menaker | Polly and Steve menaker | Scott and pamela menaker | Laura migdil | ries and david milker | Staci and damon monod | Jennifer monroe | Yeul and Helen moshfigh | Elba and Martin potter | Margaret musa | Paula Sigal Muizer | Bruce and canadice nauhoff | Leah M. nafkh | edwin and jill newman | Larry and carole nicholson | Michael and judith norman | eva nove | gwen and paul orland | Amanda T. Osborne | gail osborne | Richard J. Osilga | victor (OBM) and Evelyn (OBM) Osborne | nadine and Arthur oneheder | Marcella and amnon osman | Brianne and royd fallon | Cyndee paterson | Harriett and marx parlin | Doggie and lee pealakoff | Wendy and adam patricoff | Mandy and ludwina peacock | marla and N. pierce | deformation | Deborah and Ed Piser | Martin and gina roth | Larry and doli polsky | William and debra porter | Bali and John (OBM) pransky | Michael and cheryl pransky | Daniel and rafael pransky | Karen and David rassengers | Steven and mariah rasmussen | Alan and jan roznick | rick glasser and elan reich | Tonda and Mitchell riklin | julie and scott roes | Albert rozgut | Wendy and sandy rosse | Andrew and jennifer rosen | elise and sherry rosan | estare and murray (OBM) rosan | loren G. stokes and beston rosan | Wendy and frank rosan | Tracey and sherry su | larman rosan | jeff and sami rosen | Jennifer Rose and Michelle rosenblatt | Evan and melanie (OBM) rosenblatt | sara (OBM) and ben (OBM) rosenblatt | Matt and rebecca rozen | Matthew and amanda rozenblatt | Karen and ross rozenblatt | Michael Scharf | Marty and esther schafflin | Mika (OBM) and sara schraubman | ronnie and phil schraubman | Chris & jon schuller | Larry schwartz | Albert (OBM) and Dorothy (OBM) segel | malve segal | Howard and andrew Seidler | Linda C. seigel | Amy Jil seidler | Bobby and Stacey Sokol | Daisy Shapiro-Rieke / Julie Irma Shapiro | Morry and Lynne shaffer | Lisa and Fred shperer | raewna siegel | Marc and Matty silverman | Ruth silverman | Gary and marlene (OBM) silverstein | jonathan and stephanie simon | marcia and paul simon | Anna and mike sinhaem | Lori and Eric sklar | Leonard (OBM) and Ann (OBM) skilinger | stacey anna stamler | Ruth Ann and tom smith | stew and emily spiegel | Mark Solomon | harry and louise spitz | Bob and carol spizman | Sheldon and randy sperling | Sophy spindler (OBM) | Philip and Lawrence stark | stephanie and steven starr | Robert and marcia stein | Norman stinchfield | Joseph and renee stiner | sam (OBM) and alana (OBM) strauss | Anna strauss-lafayette and bruce lalanne | irving and sylvia swartz | marlina and harry swimmer | emery and jacqueline stabo | mike and andy toleman | berylly tiran | cheil and marc tilebaum | patty torenick | juliana and thomas toth | stephanie townsend | natalie and mike (OBM) tromey | ekawon and morton (OBM) turk | Jeffrey and karen turk | harold and cynthia turstuba | amy and ros gold | Fred and kate valer | david and debra van gils | lori and michael van gils | amy and mark vitar | mara and yaan wayzin | phil and beth warshawer | jen and randall weiner | Liz wolf | Alexander weilstain | harriet and barnett weilstain | mark weintraub | amma and michael weiss | evan and debby weiss | susan and robert weiss | elizabeth star weiner | muriel weiss | eric and janae wesley | mars and kate wojcik | nora wol | Robert and Sandra woff | Kim and sue worsell | Michael and nancy yaffe | Smotik and maria yarrow | Martha and Brian yarrow | robert (OBM) and anna yudof | maria and joes yutz | herman and Barbara ziegler | emily and samual zimmern | William and angela zimmer | Mirfeld (OBM) zuckerman |
Adult Learning

BLIND DATE WITH A BOOK
June 3 - July 28, 2019
in the Levine-Sklut Judaic Library

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

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

Contact:  Debby Block, CJE Program Coordinator
704.944.6780  |  debby.block@jewishcharlotte.org

www.jewishcharlotte.org/CJE
Family Engagement
FAMILY ALEF-BET YOGA & FUN IN THE PARK
Sunday, July 14, 2019
10:00 - 11:00 AM | Freedom Park (near the playground)

PJ Library and Temple Israel Present:
FAMILY ALEF-BET YOGA &
FUN IN THE PARK

Yoga for the whole family!
Followed by snacks and outdoor fun
Geared for Families with Children 3 to 8 years old.

This event is free, but space is very limited.
“BYOYM” -- Bring your own yoga mat or towel
(one for each family member)

Limited space for yoga session.
Pre-registration is required!
RSVP to www.nextgencharlotte.org by July 11

Contact:  Debby Block, CJE Program Coordinator
704.944.6780 | debby.block@jewishcharlotte.org

RSVP by July 11 at www.nextgencharlotte.org
ICE CREAM & BREWERY CRAWL

Starting Location: Golden Cow Creamery (170 W Summit Ave)

It’s time for Shavuot, and for Torah on Tap that means ice cream! Join us as we crawl to three local ice cream shops and three breweries in South End and Plaza Midwood – Golden Cow Creamery, Wooden Robot Brewery, 2 Scoops Creamery, Sycamore Brewing, and Jen’s Splendid Ice Creams!

WOMEN OF TEMPLE ISRAEL (WOTI)

HIGH TEA & HIGH FASHION
Sunday, June 23, 4-6 p.m.
Location: Leon & Sandra Levine Social Hall
Please join us as we enjoy High Tea & High Fashion at a special fashion show exclusively for our members! Admission to this members-only event is GRATIS, but an RSVP is required by June 19. Please visit templeisraelnc.org for details.

- Fashions provided by Julie’s Boutique and Shower Me with Love
- Jewelry by Brownlee Jewelers

EMPTY NESTERS

EMPTY NESTERS AT THE KNIGHTS!
Thursday, August 1, 7 p.m.
Those long days of Summer are just begging for a ball game! Come root for the Charlotte Knights as we take on the Durham Bulls. $20 per ticket. To purchase tickets, visit templeisraelnc.org.

Shabbat service, capped off with a delicious kid-friendly meal
4:30 p.m.

SPLASH INTO SHABBAT WITH TORAH TOTS!
Friday, June 21 & Friday, August 16
During the summer months, all pre-school families are welcome to SPLASH INTO SHABBAT with Torah Tots at the UNC Pool/Splash Park! There will be open play, songs, and a Shabbat service, capped off with a delicious kid-friendly meal ($5/person or $25/family).

(Today of event, payment with cash or check only)

PAY IN ADVANCE ONLINE AT TEMPLEISRAELNC.ORG.

UPCOMING EVENTS

CELEBRATE SHAVUOT AT TEMPLE ISRAEL
EREV SHAVUOT
Saturday, June 8
7 p.m. - Erev Shavuot Service
8 p.m. - Tikkun Leil Shavuot/Study Session
9 p.m. - Shavuot Dairy Dessert Party
Join Cantor Lissek and Rabbi Kornsgold for thought provoking study and stimulating discussions. We gather together to study as we prepare ourselves for the receiving of the Torah on Shavuot.

SHAVUOT – DAY 1
Sunday, June 9
9:30 a.m. - Yom Tov Morning Service
9:30 a.m. - Preschool Shavuot Program (see Torah Tots)
12 Noon - Kiddush Luncheon
5:30 p.m. - Yom Tov Mincha Service

SHAVUOT – DAY 2
Monday, June 10
9:30 a.m. - Yom Tov Morning Service, including Yizkor
12 Noon - Kiddush Luncheon
7:30 p.m. - Evening Minyan

TEMPLE ISRAEL BOOK CLUB MEETING
Featuring Discussion Leader, Jay Jacoby
Monday, June 17, 7 p.m.
Join us as we discuss, The Beautiful Possible by Amy Gottlieb, described as “a fable for the modern era, a love story steeped in biblical text and mystical yearning” and chosen by Jay himself. Everyone is welcome to attend, even if you haven’t read the book. For additional information contact Linda Levy (704-366-6362, levyjolie@aol.com).

JOIN US

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

Temple Israel’s 2019-2020 Annual Commitment campaign has commenced!

NEW MEMBER REFERRAL PROGRAM - If you refer a friend or family member to Temple Israel, you and your referral will get a one-time $250 credit off of Standard commitment rates* to be deducted from your balance at the end of your payment cycle.

To learn more about Temple Israel and membership opportunities, please contact Monty Bennett at 704-362-2796 or mbennett@templeisraelnc.org.

*If you are contributing less than a Standard commitment level, you will receive a 15% credit off your total commitment balance - up to a maximum of $250.

EDUCATING AND INSPIRING FUTURE JEWISH LEADERS

K - 7th Grade
Register by June 30
704-944-6785
templeisraelnc.org

Registration for Temple Israel Religious School’s 2019-2020 school year is currently underway. Classes meet on Sunday mornings (9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.). Additionally, students in grades 3-7 will choose one weekday session to attend (Tuesday, from 4:45-6:15 p.m. or Wednesday, from 5:15-6:45 p.m.).

We offer a multi-child discount of $75 per child (after your first child). This amount will be deducted from your tuition IF REGISTRATION IS RECEIVED BY THE DEADLINE (JUNE 30, 2019). Any registrations received after July 31, 2019, will not receive the discount.
Chabad Launches “CKids Grow” for Rising Kindergartners

Learning is great but experiencing is even better at CKids. We take your kids through a time machine to learn about Jewish heritage, traditions, and so much more. We don’t do lessons, we do adventures. Here’s how we help your child grow:
- Using favorite activities to simulate real-life challenges
- Encouraging children to explore their peers’ perspectives and discover fresh solutions
- Fusing the most innovative child development research with the timeless wisdom of Torah
- Pride in the Jewish tradition of compassion and integrity

To learn more or sign up for the 2019/2020 School Year visit www.ChabadNC.org/CKids.

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Cultural Arts Summer

SUMMER PERFORMING ARTS CAMP SHOWS

Disney's My Son Pinocchio Jr. Saturday, July 13
2pm • 4pm (sensory friendly) • 6pm

Disney's Sleeping Beauty KIDS Saturday, August 3

The Band’s Visit 1pm
Golda’s Balcony 5pm
Skype Visit with special guest producer/director following the film
Skype Visit with Producer David Fishelson following the film

Sunday, July 21 • Gorelick Hall at Shalom Park

For more info or to buy tickets: charlottejcc.org/culturalarts or LJCC Customer Service 704-366-5007
Lucky to Have Found JPS

By Rachel Diamond

It has been 20 years since I lived in Charlotte but I always knew I’d eventually move back and raise my family here. Luckily, my husband, Juan, a PA native, agreed with this plan. We moved here in June 2018 with our then two-year-old daughter, Anna. There were a lot of changes to anticipate; new job, new home, living with my parents, etc.

But I was by far most anxious about how my daughter would transition through all of these changes. She had been at a fantastic school in the Philly area and I didn’t think we would be lucky enough to find another school that would compare. Along came JPS and I’m happy to say our luck has continued. JPS has welcomed our family with open arms - this was another thing I was concerned about because my husband isn’t Jewish. JPS has a warm, embracing, fun, and light hearted atmosphere. The teachers are awesome and their main goals are to let the kids have fun while instilling lifelong values at this young age.

It’s pretty special to hear your two-year-old sing the Four Questions at Seder. And I’m quite certain if it were up to Anna all of our life savings would go towards tzedakah.

My husband and I have also been very impressed with how the school is run. Any time of day that I call I always hear a voice on the other end; we get weekly and daily updates that let us know what our daughter is learning; we receive prompt and informative communication regarding staffing and important issues such as security measures and safety.

When I dropped my daughter off on her first day the director could sense my anxiety and said “you take care of you and we’ve got her.” We couldn’t be happier with our choice of JPS and Anna feels the same way.
This summer the Shalom Park Freedom School (SPFS) will be opening its doors for the 9th summer to serve 75 students from Huntingtowne Farms and Sterling Elementary schools that are from socioeconomically disadvantaged backgrounds. The goals of the SPFS are to provide a six-week program to facilitate literacy and character-building for these scholars. Preliminary research suggests these efforts are making a difference for participants in the Freedom School.

Without summer programs like the SPFS, 75% of students from low income homes are estimated to lose 2-3 months of learning over the summer. In contrast, 90% of Freedom School scholars gained or maintained their reading ability.

Want to know three super simple – and free - ways to support SPFS?

1. **Welcome our Shalom Park scholars – they are our guests.**
   Our scholars are excited, and it is summer. Smile and wave when passing them in the hallways.
   Yes, it can be that simple to show a scholar that they matter, that they are seen. The universal saying “it takes a village” to raise a child rings true. This summer please welcome “our” scholars to our village when you see them on the Shalom Park campus.

2. **Would you be willing to purchase your Amazon items through Amazon Smile?**
   Here is the link for the Shalom Park Freedom School Amazon Charity List: https://smile.amazon.com/hz/charitylist/1S/TFDAUT8OPY2/ref=smi_ext_lnk_lcl
   It is run through the LJCC amazon smile account. You have to have an Amazon smile account to use it. Purchases will come directly to the LJCC.

3. **Save the date(s)**
   We need Reading Buddies on Wednesday, July 17 at 1-2:30 PM in Lerner Hall. This is for the Great Day of D.E.A.R. (Drop Everything and Read), an amazing opportunity to connect one-on-one with a scholar and a book. 1-1/2 hours of your time is all we need.
   Have just a short window of time? How about 45 minutes? Throughout the SPFS program we need Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday DEAR readers: volunteer opportunities 2:45-3:30 PM.
   Please follow the Shalom Park Freedom School Facebook page for information about signing up for this and additional volunteer opportunities in the coming weeks. The volunteer coordinators are working tirelessly to get everything setup to welcome our volunteers – and our scholars. We will post the link to volunteer on the Facebook page and on the Shalom Park Freedom School website, http://spfreedomschool.org.

Want to know additional ways you can help support SPFS?
Snacks! SPFS scholars receive a snack each day – which is 2,025 snacks for the 2019 summer. Donations of non-perishable, individually wrapped snacks (nut free) would be greatly appreciated. Cash or gift card donations from the following would also be appreciated: Harris Teeter, Costco, Food lion, Publix, Trader Joe’s etc. Donations may be dropped off at the JCC front desk, or you may contact SPFS snack chair Maddy Gallant, at mag1063@hotmail.com.

Thank you to everyone in our community for welcoming and supporting the Shalom Park Freedom School.

June 17 - July 25 Will Be Here Before Ya Know It

Freedom School scholars love their volunteers!
Award-Winning Israeli Actor Sasson Gabay and Star of Beautiful on Broadway, Chilina Kennedy, Cast in the North American Tour of the Tony® Winning Best Musical The Band’s Visit

Producers announced today that award-winning Israeli film actor Sasson Gabay will reprise the role of “Tewfiq” in the upcoming North American tour of the 10-time Tony® Award-winning Best Musical, The Band’s Visit, the role he created in the 2007 film of The Band’s Visit and most recently played on Broadway. Joining him for the tour is critically acclaimed actress Chilina Kennedy in the role of “Dina.” The Band’s Visit will play Charlotte’s Knight Theater August 6-25. Tickets are available at BlumenthalArts.org, by phone at 704-372-1000 and at the Belk Theater Box Office (130 N. Tryon St.).

The Israeli star of stage, TV and screen, Sasson Gabay recently received the Lifetime Achievement Award for his contribution to Israeli cinema at the Israeli Film Festival. Gabay is one of the most respected and outstanding actors in Israeli film with work spanning five decades, including some of Israel’s most popular and critically-acclaimed films as well as international hits such as Rambo III, Gett: The Trial of Viviane Amsalem, Delta Force One: The Lost Patrol and The Band’s Visit (Israel’s top-grossing film in the US).

Chilina Kennedy is known for her role as “Carole King” in Beautiful: The Carole King Musical on Broadway. She has starred as “Mary Magdalene” in Des McAnuff’s Broadway revival of Jesus Christ Superstar and headlined many productions around the world including the first national tour of Mamma Mia!, Atlantic Theater Company’s This Ain’t No Disco, and three seasons at the Stratford Festival, including “Maria” in Gary Griffin’s West Side Story.

“We are honored to have Sasson Gabay and Chilina Kennedy headline our national tour. In the history of Broadway, I don’t believe an actor has ever originated a role on film, played it on Broadway, and then continued with the tour. This speaks to Sasson’s artistry and his commitment to this particular work,” says producer Orin Wolf. “It is also fitting that he will be seen opposite Chilina Kennedy whose world class talent is already known to Broadway fans all over the world. Seeing these two artists together promises to be one of the great theatrical events of the season. How exciting that this has been assembled exclusively for Broadway audiences nationwide who hunger for world class entertainment.”


Sasson Gabay and Adam Gabay are appearing with the support of Actors’ Equity Association.

“The producers, casting directors, and creative team have spent many months carefully building this cast for our national tour. We are excited and proud to have these wonderful actors take the story of The Band’s Visit out into the world,” says director David Cromer.

Chilina Kennedy is best known for her role as Carole King in the Broadway musical Beautiful.

Sasson Gabay in his role as Tewfiq in The Band’s Visit.

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Limited space available for 2019-20

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704-364-8395 / info@jpskids.org
On Shavuot, Remember that Ruth Was a Poor Immigrant

By Ruhi Sophia Motzkin Rubenstein
Eugene, OR (JTA) – A destitute widowed immigrant does what it takes to scrape by so she and her aging mother-in-law can survive. She deals with invisibility; she deals with unwanted attention; she performs manual labor; and she eventually marries up, has a child and escapes the grind. Presumably, this is the happy ending she was hoping for.

Where have we heard this story before?
Every year for millennia, Jews read the Book of Ruth during Shavuot — beginning this year at sundown on June 8. It is often read as a story of unwavering loyalty, of the rewards for kindness, or as a model for conversion. It is a microcosm of all of Torah of which the rabbinic sage Ben Bag-Bag wrote, “Turn it and turn it, for everything is in it.”

Ruth is also, vitally, the story of a poor immigrant woman. Every time we fail to notice that, Ruth suffers invisibility twice — first in the text, and then in our reading of the story and our ignoring its narratives of immigration, poverty and struggle.

Last year, Shavuot coincided with the opening of the Poor People’s Campaign (PPC), organized with the Poor People’s Campaign prior to her assassination. According to its website, the PPC “is uniting tens of thousands of people across the country to challenge the evils of systemic racism, poverty, the war economy, ecological devastation and the nation’s distorted morality.” Between Mothers’ Day and the end of June, tens of thousands of people — including members of T’ruah: The Rabbinic Call for Human Rights — will rally and commit acts of civil disobedience at our national and state capitals in order to show “the human and economic costs of inequality” and demand work towards a society in which “justice and equality are a reality for all.”

The first week of the Poor People’s Campaign, from May 14 to 19, focused on how poverty particularly affects women, children, and people with disabilities. The second week focused on the intersection of poverty, xenophobia, and racism. And Shavuot came at the cusp of those two weeks, with its reading about Ruth, a poor immigrant woman struggling in an unfamiliar culture.

The responsibility to care for the poor, immigrants, women and other vulnerable populations is explicit throughout Torah. In Chapter 2 of the Book of Ruth, Boaz went beyond and assured his men not to touch you,” leaving us to wonder, if we pay attention, what his men might have attempted to do without Boaz’s protection. It was terrifying to be a poor immigrant woman then in many of the same ways it is now.

Ruth demands that society care for the most vulnerable, and it is evident that the United States in 2019 needs that corrective as badly as the land of Israel did in the time of Ruth. As the Poor People’s Campaign notes, citing the Supplemental Poverty Measure, a whopping 43.5% of the U.S. population — or 140 million people — are poor or low-income. That includes 38.2 million children, or 51.9% — more than half! — of America’s children under 18.

How do we deal with that? How do we raise the voices of those who like Ruth might otherwise be invisible? What are we willing to do to ensure that the vulnerable aren’t mistreated? But beyond that — what changes are we willing to demand so that so many people don’t have feel vulnerable in the first place?

One way is to join an action with the Poor People’s Campaign. And let’s bring visibility to those who have traditionally been rendered invisible — starting with our own tradition, and the story of Ruth. Let us honor the entirety of Ruth this Shavuot.

When we read the Book of Ruth, let’s acknowledge not only her loyalty and kindness, but her courage and struggle, as a poor woman and an immigrant.

(Rabbi Ruhi Sophia Motzkin Rubenstein serves as the rabbi of Temple Beth Israel in Eugene, Oregon, and is a member of T’ruah: The Rabbinic Call for Human Rights. T’ruah has created numerous Jewish resources [including a text-study on the Book of Ruth] for the Poor People’s Campaign.)

Picture of Naomi, Ruth, and Orpah courtesy of MyJewishLearning.com.

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Picture of Naomi, Ruth, and Orpah courtesy of MyJewishLearning.com.
“A celebration for the whole Family”

SAVE THE DATE
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FOR MORE INFO CALL 704-366-3984 OR VISIT CHABADNC.ORG/GRANDOPENING