WHAT’S INSIDE

A Mensch at the Helm
On July 1, Rabbi Ari Leubitz will become Atlanta Jewish Academy’s new head of school.

Farber on Film
Funnyman Jerry Farber gets laughs and gets serious in a new short film.

Remember the Children
This year’s Yom HaShoah Commemoration, at Greenwood Cemetery, will honor the children of the Holocaust—those who died and those who survived.

Artists Among Us
Atlanta is home to several accomplished members of the American Guild of Judaic Art.

A Telling Collection
Rabbi Tobias Geffen’s 2007 donation of 99 Haggadot to Emory University’s Pitts Theology Library has inspired more donations and acquisitions.

Davis Expansion
In less than a year, The Davis Academy will have a new performing arts center, Lower School cafeteria, and more.
Communal continuum

BY Marvin Botnick

Much has been written and many words have been spoken on the issue of defining Judaism and what constitutes a Jew. What is generally agreed to is that there is no agreement.

Some view this appellation as cultural, some ethnic, some religious, some linguistic, some moral, some culinary, and some as organizational membership. Regardless of the parameters, most would acknowledge that there is some commonality.

But the above elements are not genetically inherited. They are learned components, whether formally taught or absorbed by exposure, and they become part of who and what an individual becomes. Historical environs and the moral, ethical, linguistic, some moral, some culinary, some ethnic, some religious, some organizational membership.

Judaism is not merely a collection of individual humans, but rather it is a many-faceted community. Regardless of how some people may wish to define and construe their affiliation, their Jewishness does impart a unique tint to their universe.

I have a concern, however, about whether or not we are becoming a confederation rather than a community. Judaism has not been an alliance of unconnected individuals or bodies that have joined together to form an umbrella organization. Rather, it is the evolution of a theocracy that is grounded in shared values, beliefs, expectations, and meanings amongst individuals. It is the support of others and the visional pursuit of the perfection of the world.

The amazing story is that historically we have been able to maintain an interconnectivity of identity even though we have lived as a people without national boundaries. Although not necessarily known to one another and being influenced by many and varied cultures in which we have lived, we, somehow, did maintain elements of shared interest.

Having the foundation of a common history and elements of shared interests are critical components that have provided the communal linkage. But these do not and will not stand alone and require the shared support for the common good.

There is no legislated requirement, but our vibrancy is heavily bolstered by the continuous seeking of knowledge and understanding of our rich and meaningful heritage — a task that is ongoing. Hand and hand with this is the necessity of the financial support of Jewish institutions that constitute the mechanism and vehicles to impart our rich heritage, meaning, and vision of a better world to the present and future.

If we wish to continue as a community and not merely a confederation, it is incumbent on us to support the institutions that are vital in this endeavor. These are the vehicles that have impacted our continuation over the centuries; that have transmitted our values, meaning, and understanding of life; that have enabled us to encompass within our being the meaning of humanity. And as a community, we have understood that it is incumbent on us to not only pursue this unilaterally for our own benefit, but also that we have the duty and obligation to support these institutions for the benefit of all.

So it is with chagrin and consternation that I read in a recent report by one of our institutions a statement that certain of its members had resigned with the explanation that it “no longer meets their needs — children are grown.”

In our world today, it seems as though the mantra is fees for services. Community is not quantifiable. Education and study are required, but our knowledge and understanding of our heritage — a task that is ongoing. Hand and hand with this is the necessity of the financial support of Jewish institutions that constitute the mechanism and vehicles to impart our rich heritage, meaning, and vision of a better world to the present and future.

If we wish to continue as a community and not merely a confederation, it is incumbent on us to support the institutions that are vital in this endeavor. These are the vehicles that have impacted our continuation over the centuries; that have transmitted our values, meaning, and understanding of life; that have enabled us to encompass within our being the meaning of humanity.
What’s Happening

March-April 2016

The Jewish Georgian

Page 3

What’s Happening

By Reg Regenstein

Georgian of the Year Sam Olens.

Georgia Trend magazine has named Attorney General Sam Olens “Georgian of the Year.”

As writer Susan Percy notes, “Attorney General Sam Olens has taken on some of the state’s toughest problems—sex trafficking, prescription drug abuse, and Medicaid fraud—and championed open government. And he’s not done yet.

“He’s a lot more, but Sam Olens is basically a good guy. Georgia’s Republican attorney general, in the middle of his second term, is a plays-well-with-others, roll-up-your-sleeves-and-get-to-work consensus builder, a lawyer’s lawyer who is quick to share credit and gives every sign of loving what he does.”

Replies Sam Olens, “What greater honor can there be for an attorney than to represent the state?”

Our response: being married to Lisa is one thing that comes to mind.

Read the entire article at: georgiatrend.com/January-2016/Georgias-Advocate/

A Jewish View of the War of Yankee Aggression. That was the title of one of the most amazing speeches we have ever heard. If you’re looking for a spellbinding and provocative speaker for your group, here he is.

Rabbi Eric Wisnia, who has served Congregation Beth Chaim, in Princeton Junction, New Jersey, since 1977, spoke to the Atlanta Civil War Roundtable, at the Capital City Club Downtown. His main point: “It ain’t necessarily so,” he sang, quoting George Gershwin’s Porgy and Bess, referring to the traditional narrative of The War Between the States, that “You Southerners were not as good as us Yankees.”

He points out, accurately, that the War was not all about slavery, and that some states in the North held slaves throughout the conflict: “My own New Jersey had slaves until they were freed in 1866 [the year after the war ended], New York banks financed the slave plantations,” and he added that “The North was as complicit as the South in slavery.”

“It’s time to stop blaming the South,” he concludes.

He remembers well when he was a boy and a nice black family moved into his neighborhood, in Levittown, Pennsylvania, in 1957, causing violent protest and opposition.

The Brooklyn native says he “is a Southern boy at heart.” Not long ago, he was in Brookhaven, Mississippi, rededicating a monument to Jewish Confederates.

See Happening, page 4

Join us on May 5, 2016
at the Buckhead Theatre for
Fed Talks 2016

Featuring

Marty Kogon
Lifetime Achievement Award Winner

Susan Jackson
President and CEO of Focus on a Jewish Tomorrow

Randy Gold
Founder of JSwipe

David Yarus
President and CEO of Focus on a Jewish Tomorrow

INFO & REGISTRATION AT JewishAtlanta.org/FEDTalks or call Kesavi Miller at 678.222.3723

This event generously sponsored by

Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta

wishes you a happy Passover and invites you to

North Druid Hills
2484 Briarcliff Rd. Suite 35
Atlanta Ga 30329
678 932 8204

Monday – Friday 9 AM to 9 PM
Saturday – 9 AM to 7 PM
Sunday –10 AM to 6 PM

Put some overtime toward yourself.

Don’t let the 9-to-5 grind you down. With regular massage treatments, you’ll find the energy to climb even higher on the corporate ladder.

Introductory 1-hour massage with free aromatherapy $49.99

Introductory 1-hour essential custom facial with free aromatherapy $59.99

See Happening, page 4

Jewish Change Makers

Movers

Shakers
Spring and Tom Asher

Tom is currently president of The Rich Foundation and a trustee of the Atlanta History Center and the Woodruff Arts Center. Spring is a past co-chair of The Breman Museum, a current board member of The Temple and The High Museum, and vice-chair of The Atlanta Jewish Film Festival.

Tom spent his career in the investment business and was a charter member of the Chicago Board Options Exchange. A past chair of The Howard School, The Breman Museum, MedShare International, AADD, and Georgia Community Support, Tom received the WXIA-TV Community Service Award for his work with intellectually disabled citizens.

Spring and her partner Wicke Chambers received The Best of Gannett Award and six Emmy awards as producers at WSB-TV and WXIA-TV. They are co-authors of The Lip-Smackin' Coke-Crackin' Cookbook for Kids and founders of Speechworks, now owned by son Joey Asher.

We grew up on Springdale Road, in Druid Hills, across the street from Tom and his brother, Norman, and their widely respected parents, Helen and Joe, who ran the men’s department at Rich’s. We still remember when it snowed once, about 65 years ago, and Tom and Norman came over and pulled us for a ride through the snow in a sleigh.

It was a great neighborhood. Dulcy and Jay Davis, and their wonderful parents, Adele and Al, were right across the street. Down the street were Sue, Dottie, and Lyons Joel, and their lovely parents, Dorothy and Lyons, Sr.

For further information on the dinner, call Jennifer Pardee at the AJC, 404-233-5501 ext. 206, or visit www.AJCAtlantaOrg/Selig2016.

GIALLO OVER GIALLO. The many loyal, some would say fanatic, fans of the hot new authentic, coastal Italian restaurant, Il Giallo Osteria & Bar, are up in arms over a mixed review of the eatery in The Atlanta Journal-Constitution.

Having been there some twenty times ourselves, we can attest to the superb food and service, as does the faithful patronage of many members of our community, one not known to flock to mediocre eateries. In fact, the day our rave review came out in the last issue, we ran into there the lovely and, as does the faithful patronage of many members of our community, one not known to flock to mediocre eateries.

We have never been to Giallo when it wasn’t crowded with happy customers, including lots of people we knew, when the food wasn’t marvelous and the service outstanding.

On what President George W. Bush called “the internets,” Facebook and Yelp sit up with similar testimonials, such as “out of this world,” “amazing, mouthwatering,” “impeccable service,” “perfect from start to finish,” “best Italian food in Atlanta,” “phenomenal pasta,” and “simple but delicious.”

Maybe the disappointed reviewer is more accustomed to traditional American Italian fare, such as at The Olive Garden or Domino’s Pizza or Chef Boy-R-Dee—all of which are very popular—and maybe he should stay focused on food he knows and is more to his taste.

Giallo’s acclaimed chef Jamie Adams served as the risotto chef at the famous Madonna restaurant in Venice in the mid-‘80s, and his risotto with squid and black ink (risotto nero con seppie) is our favorite dish. Squid is said to be an aphrodisiac, and our experience tends to confirm that. Don’t ask.

Jamie has long had a huge Jewish following, and is a veteran of Pricci, The Atlanta Fish Market, and Veni, Vidi, Vici, so he is not without experience satisfying and thrilling sometimes picky and hard-to-please customers at Atlanta’s finest establishments.

Thus began a nine-month-long job as MLK’s driver and personal aide, during which Tom got to know such legendary civil rights leaders as John Lewis, Andrew Young, and Julian Bond.

Expelled from high school in 1965 for marching in the Selma-Montgomery march, Tom committed himself to the Civil Rights Movement and was an aide to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., from 1966 until King’s assassination in 1968. During this time, he served as a trusted driver and personal aide to King and his family.

Today, our friend Tom, a political commentator and gadfly, party host, and sometimes bust-about-town, operates the Civil Rights Tours Atlanta. This is a fascinating bus tour that he describes on his web site as a look at “a city steeped with block after block of historic buildings and places where black people struggled and prospered to make Atlanta the citadel for black America and the cradle of the Civil Rights movement.”

The three-hour bus tour includes famous moments, places and people... Civil Rights Tours Atlanta is about you—taking you to the places where history was made by those who made history.

Tom, a born raconteur, loves regaling guests with personal stories about King and other personalities. He says King was in many ways an ordinary person. Guillory notes, “A lot of people look up to him as saintly, but he was very much one of us. He worked briefly in a mattress factory, lived in Vine City, played pool, and wanted to be connected to the people. That just makes Tom, a born raconteur, loves regaling guests with personal stories about King and other personalities. He says King was in many ways an ordinary person. Guillory
Congressman John Lewis and Tom Houck

notes, “A lot of people look up to him as saintly, but he was very much one of us. He worked briefly in a mattress factory, lived in Vine City, played pool, and wanted to be connected to the people. That just makes me realize how each and every one [of us] may not be a saint, but we can be as Martin Luther King Jr. was, to make a difference as much as he has.”

As Tom told us exclusively, “Civil Rights is, as you know, a Jewish cause...and there is much conversation about the Jewish contribution to MLK and the movement.” Indeed, the year when we were being confirmed at The Temple, in the 10th grade, the synagogue was bombed, one Sunday morning in 1959, by racists who were infuriated by Rabbi Jacob Rothschild’s strong and outspoken support of King and the movement.

To book the tour, which was recently the subject of a major story on the CBS Evening News, check out www.civilrightstour.com, or call 844-442-4845.

NEW FILM: THE JERRY FARBER STORY. One of the most popular films offered by The Atlanta Jewish Film Festival was Leanna Adams’ epic, Jerry-Atric: One Comic’s 77 Year Climb to the Top of the Bottom, edited by Neil Logan Butler.

The film covers Jerry’s growing up in Greensboro, his early career as a schnoitzel salesman in Atlanta, still “undeterred by age or misfortune, an Atlanta comedy legend who keeps plugging away at his decades old showbiz career, determined to get the last laugh.”

Along with Buckhead Mayor Sam Massell and comic Josh Harris, we were honored to be briefly featured in the documentary, saying, “Jerry does a lot of adult humor—all his jokes are at least 21 years old.”

We figured that if only the people Jerry owes money to showed up, the film would be a sell-out. He says that he signed over a hundred autographs that day... but, sadly, no one ever asked for one.

Before the showings, Jerry was standing out in front of the Lefont Sandy Springs Theaters, holding court, like at a Hollywood premiere, greeting the likes of his son Joshua, former wife Roberta Rochman, friends Judy Ayal, Debra Berger, Gayle and Dan Glazer, Anna and Jerry Heltzer, Judy Landey, Larry Liebross, Howard Ossoff, David Kuniansky, and Chana Shapiro.

He calls producer Leanna her “future 4th ex-wife,” and expressed disappointment that son Joshua didn’t make the premiere, since “there was another film he liked better.”

REBECCA PORTMAN. Meet Rebecca Portman, the newest Humane Society of the United States staff member. She is the new food policy coordinator for HSUS in Georgia, focusing on improving the treatment of farm animals. HSUS is the nation’s largest and most influential animal protection organization.

She grew up in Savannah, where her father was the town pediatrician for 50 years, and her family attended Congregation B’nai Brith Jacob, where her dad still belongs. She attended Hebrew day school until 6th grade.

Becky says, “Like many others I know, I feel a strong disconnect between the slaughter rituals and Tza’ar ba’alei chayim (the code of Jewish laws forbidding cruel treatment of animals). This is one of the reasons I pursued work to help farm animals gain protection from serious abuse and neglect.”

She goes on to observe, “Most animals raised for food suffer inhumane standards of living due, in part, to American’s high demand for animal products. Factory farms cram egg-laying hens into cages so tiny they can’t even spread their wings. Breeding pigs and veal calves are stuffed into cramped individual cages so small they can’t walk or turn around. But we can change that. At the Humane Society of the United States, we advocate for compassionate eating—or the three Rs: ‘reducing’ or ‘replacing’ consumption of animal products and ‘refining’ our diets by choosing products from sources that adhere to higher animal welfare standards. Enjoying more plant-based meals is not only more nutritious and environmentally sustainable, but also helps reduce the number of animals on factory farms.”

Becky and her husband, a pediatric neuro-oncologist at Emory, now reside in Decatur with their 9-year-old daughter.

Our fondest memory of Savannah is 55 or so years ago, dancing with Mickey Ginsberg and competing for her attention with Steve Selig, at a dance following our high school’s playing Savannah Country Day school in soccer, which few Georgia schools played at that time.

Jerry Farber (photo: Peter Polites)

FIGHTING A RARE DISEASE. Susan and L.D. Codden are working extra hard to fight an often misdiagnosed, rare, predominantly Jewish genetic disease known as APBD—adult polyglucosan body disease. It is an inherited malady of metabolism that damages the nervous system, showing no symptoms in infancy or childhood, then hitting and disabling its victims when they’re in the prime of life, sometimes as young as 35.

Susan tells us exclusively, “We have an amazing opportunity to double the funds raised by the APBD Tour de Friends biking team in The University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine’s Orphan Disease Center Million Dollar Bike Ride (MDBG) in Philadelphia.”

A former Coca-Cola attorney, L.D. adds, “From my perspective there are two fabulous features of the Penn program, namely, Penn provides a match of funds raised by each rare disease team up to a maximum match of $50,000. Second, the program injects Penn’s resources and knowledge into the search for treatments or cures for these diseases. Hard to imagine anything better than that.”

Visit givingpages.upenn.edu/defeatAPBD to learn more about APBD or to donate online. All donations are tax deductible and go to Penn’s Orphan Disease Center. Visit milliondollarbikeride.org to learn more about the bike ride. Donations by check should be made payable to Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania and sent to Development Alumni Relations, Attn: Brian Lewis, 3451 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA, 19104. Note APBD Fund-Million Dollar Bike Ride on the check.

DOUG TEPER AND VICE PRESIDENT BIDEN. We’d like to apologize for the boisterous, rowdy photo we ran in our last issue of former state legislator Doug Teper and producer Perry Goodfriend, as we received several complaints that it scared little children and was not fit for a family newspaper. We agree. So here is a more tasteful and dignified photo of Doug with Vice President Joe Biden.

It was taken at Forward Operating Base (FOB) Warrior in Kirkuk, Iraq, on January 13, 2009, with Senator Joe Biden, then-chairman of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, who the following week was sworn in as vice-president of the United States. Doug was serving as governance specialist for the U.S. Department of State at Provincial Reconstruction Team Kirkuk.

Thanks, Doug, for your service, and we look forward to seeing you—and Perry—at the reopening of Manuel’s tavern.

W e s t e r n  J e w i s h  G e o r g i a n

March-April 2016

Page 5

Visit givingpages.upenn.edu/defeatAPBD to learn more about APBD or to donate online. All donations are tax deductible and go to Penn’s Orphan Disease Center. Visit milliondollarbikeride.org to learn more about the bike ride. Donations by check should be made payable to Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania and sent to Development Alumni Relations, Attn: Brian Lewis, 3451 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA, 19104. Note APBD Fund-Million Dollar Bike Ride on the check.
Society for Reform Classical Judaism

By Ruben Stanley

Much has been written about, many conferences have highlighted, and untold meetings and discussions have centered on the uniqueness of the continuation and longevity of Judaism. The inherent adaptive ability of its followers to understand and retain the core tenants, even with the forceful removal from the physical location and trappings, has allowed it to survive exile from the land, destruction of the structures, conquest, enslavement, and unbelievable persecution. In addition, disbursement of the population through engagement in commerce along the trade routes of the time resulted in the establishment of communities in other lands.

Gradually, with the development of these enclaves in other lands, some of the clothing, speech, food, and customs of the native inhabitants were merged into the lifestyle of the Jews. There is the halakhic rule of dina de-malkhuta dina, which says that the law of the country is binding and therefore it became incorporated in the lifestyle, although there is commentary that it cannot be in conflict with Jews teachings.

Perhaps a contributor to our longevity is the fact that we did not worship a physical structure or site. While we did have sacred writings, it was not the physical presence of these objects that was holy but rather their content, which words and teachings could be and were transported without the actual presence of the objects.

In addition, the dispersion of the population in many different directions resulted in the restructuring of practices. While the monotheistic concept and underlying beliefs remained intact, the elimination of the Temple and the centrality of a functioning priesthood resulted in external influences that produced an evolution and interpretation of certain practices that were not universal. The surrounding people, culture, and language often had an impact on the outward practices and methods of observance.

Since the exile, Judaism, unlike many religions, does not have a single, central authority or governing hierarchy. In much of our history, not only were we living as a minority, but we were also relegated to a non-citizenship status that had to self-regulate under an authoritative dictate of the governing power of the land in which we lived and to which we had to pay taxes. What universally remained was the centrality of the synagogue, which was the house of worship, the house of study, and the house of assembly. Although the basic foundation of Judaism remained in place, it is no wonder, then, that the methods, customs, and culture evolved along different lines. One such evolution is the present-day Reform Movement, which began in Germany but matured in the U.S. With the granting of citizenship to the Jews of France in the 1890s, which spread to other countries, there gradually emerged a newly amalgam status for Jewish residents. Prior to this emergence, individuals who were identified as Jews were seen as a different nationality and were merely alien residents.

In an attempt to deal with what some saw as a conflict and a duality of identity, in 1885, leading Reform rabbis in the United States convened in Pittsburgh and adopted what is known as “The Pittsburgh Platform,” which is recognized as the pioneering statement for what is described as Classical Reform Judaism in America. Among other postulates, the document espoused the concept that “We consider ourselves no longer a nation, but a religious community . . . .”

Since that time, with the events of the Holocaust, the establishment of the State of Israel, and the reclamation of the Hebrew language as an active, every-day practicing tongue of a nation, the position of the Reform Movement and its liturgy has been motivated from the principles of The Pittsburgh Platform. More Hebrew has been introduced into the service and religious school training, involvement with and support of the State of Israel has become an active ingredient, and a campus for Hebrew Union College—Jewish Institute of Religion, the Reform Movement seminary, has been established in Israel at which location all rabbinical, cantorial, and educational students participate in the Year-In-Israel program.

There are those, however, within the Reform Movement who identify with original premises of the Classical Reform practices. In 2008, The Society for Classical Reform Judaism was formed headed by Rabbi Howard A. Berman, its executive director. In an article in the May 2010 issue of Achim Magazine, Rabbi Berman writes that, “We believe that Judaism is first and foremost a religious faith. We are indeed a distinctive people, with a unique history and destiny, but we are primarily a spiritual community . . . not merely another social, ethnic or cultural group.” The Society is an entity within the Reform Movement and not a separate body, and its purpose is to offer a different alternative within the broad concept of the Movement. In a statement by Rabbi Berman, entitled “Classical Reform Judaism: A Concise Profile,” he points out that, “Theologically, Classical Reform was grounded in Biblical tradition of the Hebrew Prophets, interpreted as the emphasis on ethical action and social justice, rather than on ritual observance or ceremonial law.”

B.H. Levy, Jr., Doug Pike, and Larry Pike

Last month, on the weekend of February 19, Rabbi Berman was in Atlanta to participate in services at The Temple and spoke about the Classical Reform movement. The services were conducted using the newly revised Union Prayer Book, which was compiled by Chicago Sinai Congregation and the Society for Classical Reform Judaism, and is an updated siddur used by the Reform Movement up until 1975.

Rabbi Berman pointed out the historical thrust of the Classical Reform concept that deals with the acculturation of Jews into the present-day society and not the assimilation. There is the recognition of the strong tie of Jews to the State of Israel and the Eritz Yisrael, but this is distinct from the concept of a people living in exile. Berman points out that the Society’s position is that Judaism is a “universal faith, rather than an ethnic, cultural or nationalistic identity.” He adds that “. . . it is the religious quest for faith and meaning that is at the core of our Jewish identity.”

The Society has a strong Georgia connection. B.H. Levy, Jr., of Savannah was a founder, and, until this past year, its president. While he has stepped down from that position, he remains a member of the board. Larry Pike of Atlanta now serves as chair of the board and Douglas Pike of Atlanta serves as vice president. In addition, Rabbi Robert Haas of Congregation Mickve Israel of Savannah is a member of the board.

MJCCA Day Camps provide options to families for summer 2016

MJCCA Day Camps are some of Atlanta’s most popular camp programs for children ages 5 to 14, offering more than 100 options to families across Metro-Atlanta. Through its expanded locations, state-of-the-art amenities, and exciting Specialty Camps, there is a camp for every interest. Camps run May 31 through August 12. For more information or to schedule a tour, visit atlantajcc.org/camps or call 678-397-2890.

In addition to the returning Day Camps, new Day Camps include:
• Cirque: Cirque offers campers the chance to try all that the circus has to offer. Instruction will focus on developing coordination and aerial awareness, while building strength and flexibility.
• You Think You Can Dance: A spin-off of the popular TV show, this camp will focus on developing and strengthening dance skills and teaching campers about the art of performance.
• Comic Camp: Campers will explore the world of comics in our new Comic Camp. This camp is led by renowned professional comic, Jordan Gornick, who managed the Batman comic franchise, along with many other comic achievements.
• Minion Madness: Campers will explore the lives of the quirky Minion characters, and will learn their ‘banana language,’ create Minion crafts, cook Minion-themed recipes, play Minion bowling, and have a water-gun hunt.
• Zombie Invasion: Campers will learn how to survive a zombie invasion, create zombie costumes and crafts, apply zombie makeup, enjoy zombie food activities like zombie brain cupcake decorating, and play games such as zombie tag.
Now, Camp Late Nights, in addition to the new locations, the fun of camp can be extended through the MJCCA’s new Camp Late Nights program, which starts when the camp day ends, giving campers even more time to spend hanging out with their camp friends. Dinner is included with each of these options, which will run from 4:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Each Camp Late Night will feature a special theme, including:
• Wet and Wild, featuring Slip ’N Slides, water balloons, and pool games
• Karaoke and Movie Night, when kids can sing along to their favorite songs and enjoy a movie
• Rec Games & Inflatables
• Talent Show night

New Bumper Boats: The beautiful lake at Zaban Park will be transformed into a mini amusement park with the addition of new bumper boats. Campers can bump, splash, and cruise around the lake as they cool off during the hot days of summer.
Rabbi Ari Leubitz has been appointed Atlanta Jewish Academy’s second head of school, succeeding Rabbi Pinchos Hecht, beginning July 1.

Ian Ratner, president of AJA’s board of trustees, along with the search committee (co-chaired by Nancy Weissmann and Dr. Channa Falk), trustees, administration, faculty, staff, professional advisory committee, parents, alumni, students, and other members of the AJA community, conducted a five-month comprehensive, international search.

Rabbi Hecht led AJA through its creation resulting from the merger of Greenfield Hebrew Academy and Yeshiva Atlanta. He assisted in the search for AJA’s second head of school and is committed to the successful integration of Rabbi Leubitz into the AJA community.

“In my trips to Atlanta thus far, I have witnessed an amazing level of warmth, engagement, and excitement about Atlanta Jewish Academy’s past, present, and future,” says Rabbi Leubitz. “I am drawn to the opportunity to head AJA, because I believe that my own experience, vision, and skill set align well with what the school needs as it moves from its strong tradition to its future as a bright light in the Jewish and secular educational communities nationwide. My family and I are very much looking forward to planting roots in the warm and welcoming AJA community.”

Rabbi Leubitz currently serves as head of school at Oakland Hebrew Day School in Oakland, California. Prior to his tenure there, he was the principal of Shalhevet High School in Los Angeles. With experience in Judaic studies leadership, teen engagement, and business, Rabbi Leubitz brings many desirable skills and strengths to AJA. All who know him describe him as a mensch, a thoughtful professional, and a leader with a clear educational vision that aligns with AJA’s mission. He is regarded as a sought-after advisor and leader in the Jewish educational community.

Rabbi Leubitz studied at Bar-Ilan University, earned a bachelor of science degree from Sy Syms School of Business at Yeshiva University, studied at Yeshivat Ohr Sameach, in Monsey, New York, and received his semikhu (ordination) from Yeshivat Cheoveei Torah Rabbinical School.

Rabbi Leubitz and his wife, Florence, an audiologist, have three children, Eliana, Aiviva, and Ezra, who will attend Atlanta Jewish Academy, beginning in the fall of 2016.

Civil Rights and 50th anniversaries

**BY Janice Rothschild Blumburg**

“What do you think we should give Martin at the dinner?” my husband asked me one night, little more than 50 years ago.

Rabbi Rothschild was referring to the dinner on January 27, 1965, the groundbreaking event at which Atlanta honored Martin Luther King Jr., for receiving the Nobel Prize for Peace, which the rabbi co-chaired.

I suggested a crystal bowl from Steuben.

The next evening, he returned from a meeting of the committee with Mayor Ivan Allen, Jr., and said, “Ivan likes your idea. He says to go ahead and get it.”

Who, me? This dinner, unprecedented in Atlanta for being racially integrated, would surely draw worldwide attention. It was awesome enough to me to be personally acquainted with a winner of the Nobel Peace Prize. To be entrusted with selecting an envelope nearby and began sketching my idea for the bowl’s inscription. Because Atlanta is the Dogwood City and also because of a Christian legend connecting the dogwood tree with the Prince of Peace, I roughed out an image of a dogwood blossom for the center of the design.

Early the next morning, I called the Steuben headquarters and asked to speak to the president. A vice president came on the line, heard my request, and said he doubted that the order could be filled in time for the presentation. With Christmas less than two weeks away, he explained, his workers had their hands full filling those orders and were customarily rewarded with time off to decompress afterward. Nevertheless, he offered to ask the engravers if they were willing to forego their vacation in order to inscribe the bowl—in strictest confidence—for Dr. King. He told me to call back the next day.

I had one more question before hanging up: how much would it cost? In order to keep the price of tickets very low, so that a maximum number of King’s followers could afford them, the committee had a very tight budget. The estimated price for the bowl was almost twice the amount budgeted for it.

When I reported this to Mayor Allen, he replied, “Whatever it costs, we’re going to do this thing right. I’ll pay the difference personally if need be.”

To my delight, it wasn’t needed. As a tribute to Dr. King, Steuben authorities voluntarily cut the price to fit our budget, and when the engravers learned for whom the bowl was being prepared, they agreed to forego their vacation to finish it on time.

The rest is history. The bowl currently resides in a showcase at the King Center. (It was temporarily moved to the National Historic Site museum across the street, during the recent events commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Nobel award.)

On January 27, the Atlanta History Center observed the 50th anniversary of the dinner itself, honoring those who sponsored the event and their survivors. The program featured four of us who remember it well, Mayor Sam Massell Jr., Ambassador Andrew Young, Bilye Williams Aaron, and myself, as panelists; the moderator was author Hank Klebanoff, James M. Cox Jr. Professor of Journalism, at Emory University.
BALSER SYMPOSIUM. On Friday, January 29, at the 10th Annual Balser Symposium, more than 200 financial professionals converged on the Georgia Tech Hotel and Conference Center, to hear Lawrence Brody, estate planner for high net worth individuals, on the use of life insurance in estate and non-qualified benefit planning.

POWER OF ONE. The Jewish Abilities Alliance and the Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta celebrated National Jewish Disabilities Awareness & Inclusion Month, in February, by hosting the second Annual Power of One reception. The event honored those who have made an impact on the inclusion of people with disabilities in the Atlanta community.

The Power of One 2016 reception was in memory of Robyn Berger, an advocate for the disabilities community. Honorees were Helane Levy, Atlanta Jewish Academy; Jaime Schwartz, Breman Religious School of The Temple; Lauren Gordon, Camp Coleman; Becky Borak, Camp Judaea; the Kessler Family, Camp Living Wonders; Lauren Lebovitz, Camp Ramah Darom; Jeremy Sachs, Congregation Beth Shalom; Derric and Victoria Rags, Congregation B’nai Torah; Diane Mallin and Sara Dean, Congregation Dor Tamid; Sheri Frohlich, The Davis Academy; Jane Escalera, The Epstein School; Simon Barzilay, Friendship Circle; Bruce Lindemann, Jewish Family & Career Services; Gail Heyman, Jewish Home Life Communities; Lisa Marks, Jewish Interest Free Loan of Atlanta; Kenny Sonenshine, Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta; Jeffrey and Laura Marcus, Temple Emanu-El; Tovah Martin, Temple Kol Emeth; Roger Gelder, Martin Isenberg, and Bob Thompson, Temple Sinai; and Jennifer Lieb, Weinstein School at Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta.

PJ LIBRARY. PJ Library, a program of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation, gives the gift of age-appropriate, Jewish-themed books at no cost to families with children ages six months through eight years old being raised in a Jewish home. Additionally, it also provides high-quality, valuable, and diverse programming, including family concerts, tot Shabbats, and Book It To Shabbat weekend retreats to Greater Atlanta families. With the support of Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta, PJ Library books and CDs are sent to 2,500 children each month.

Don’t walk—run!

And that is what Ronnie Frostig has done for 22 years now. I have known him for many years, and decided I wanted you to know him, too.

Ronnie runs marathons. He says he gets that runner’s high when he runs. He does not go with a group; he goes alone…and always strives for the top medal. In fact, he has won a number of them. He makes friends with other runners, and all his trips are interesting and fun.

For instance, when he was in Berlin, in February of 2015, the marathon took the runners through the major sights, starting with the Brandenburg Gate.

Ronnie does not compete with other runners, but runs at his own pace from start to finish. He is not concerned with other runners’ times, as it would diminish his concentration.

For the last few years, he has run two or three marathons a year—the most he ran in one year was six. He has run in all six major marathons: Boston, Chicago, New York, Tokyo, London, and Berlin.

In 2016, Ronnie will travel to Liverpool. And, heck, I will keep trying to increase my speed on the treadmill. Right?
Emory University's growing Haggadah collection is the subject of a new exhibition

By M. Patrick Graham

In 2007, the Emory University’s Pitts Theology Library was blessed by a Jewish rabbi, whose grandfather, Rabbi Tobias Geffen, emigrated from Kovno, Lithuania, to America in 1903 and then settled in Atlanta in 1910, where his influence was legendary in the Orthodox community. Rabbi David Geffen, the grandson, was an Emory College alumnus, completed his rabbinic training at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, and then received a Ph.D. from Columbia University. He published his own Haggadah, entitled American Heritage Haggadah: The American Experience (1992), and has studied the genre of Haggadot extensively. So, as he and his wife, Rita, moved their home to Israel, in 2006-2007, to be nearer their children and grandchildren there, he was introduced to me by Randy Gorod, a colleague at Emory, and Rabbi Geffen offered his collection of Haggadot to the Pitts Theology Library. I was surprised and absolutely delighted at this generous offer, which would lay the foundation for a new direction of collecting for the library.

Having completed my own Ph.D. at Emory in Old Testament (now, the degree is given in Hebrew Bible), I immediately understood the significance of Rabbi Geffen’s offer and its research potential. The Jewish Passover has been celebrated for millennia, and the Haggadah tradition has come to embody this important religious practice. To build a collection of Haggadot at Emory would enable faculty and its students from across the university to explore this religious observance, and how it has been adapted for and nourished faith communities across the globe.

So, Rabbi David Geffen began the Pitts Theology Library’s Haggadah collection with his gift of about 180 volumes of Judaica, including 99 Haggadot that are designated “The Rabbi David Geffen Haggadah Collection.” Since that gift, Rabbi Geffen has continued to send exquisitely beautiful volumes related to the Haggadah and Jewish printing and has offered encouragement, ideas for developing the collection, and a raft of interesting articles and reminiscences about early Jewish life in Atlanta. Every theological library should have such rabbis as friends.

As word of this interest in Haggadot at Emory spread in the Jewish community, Lauren Azoulai contacted the Pitts Library about her father’s collection. Richard K. Goldstein was a Jewish social worker, who lived in Hollywood, Florida, and for 30 years had been collecting Haggadot, enlisting family, friends, and acquaintances in his efforts. As Mrs. Azoulai described this, “Anyone who has known Dick well over these many years has been recruited into a special army—an army of Haggadah soldiers. Wherever we are and wherever we traveled, we were always on the quest for more Haggadot.” After discussing the library’s interests in Mr. Goldstein’s collection, he decided to donate these to Pitts as well. So, now there are 579 Haggadot that bear the designation “The Richard K. Goldstein Haggadah Collection.”

To celebrate the gift of this marvelous collection, a dedication ceremony was held in the Pitts Theology Library, on April 17, 2008. Rabbi Donald Tam, for whom the Tam Institute of Judaic Studies at Emory University is named, spoke at the event, recalling his work as a young rabbinical student under Mr. Goldstein’s direction, at a Jewish day camp. He praised Dick Goldstein’s gentleness, strength, patience, and collaborative spirit—a man who understood “the word ‘Jew’ not as an exclusionary designation but a designation of responsibility: to help heal a broken world, one person at a time, working through our imperfect self with others.” Would that every theological library had more Jewish social workers as friends!

Since these two gifts, several others have donated Haggadot or related materials to the Pitts Theology Library, and so the library continues to be blessed. In addition, the library has found another ally in the person of Daniel Kestenbaum, whose auction house in New York City continues to offer historic and interesting Haggadot for sale. Our purchases there have included the first three editions of the illustrated Amsterdam Haggadah (1695, 1712, and 1781) and others from Italy, India, and France. The illustrations from these historic materials have been digitized and made freely available to the world, through the Pitts Library’s Digital Image Archive (http://pitts.library.emory.edu/dia/searchform.cfm).

The Amsterdam Haggadah of 1695, Abraham Hai Morpurgo, 1864: Printed in Italian in 1864, L’Haggadá Illustrata is a famous illustrated edition produced in Europe. Here it illustrates and translates the 15 steps to the Seder, with Italian instructions and people performing the different movements.

The efforts of the Pitts Theology Library to acquire Haggadot for students and scholars is hardly the first in America. The 4,000 Haggadot of the Jewish Theological Seminary constitute one of America’s largest collections, along with those of the Library of Congress (Abraham H. Berman Haggadah Collection), University of Pennsylvania, and Harvard University. However, in order to commemorate the modest beginning of Emory’s Haggadot collections, the Pitts Theology Library has found an ally in the Tam Institute of Judaic Studies, and the two will mount an exhibit of Haggadot and related materials, March 7-June 30, in the new exhibition gallery of the Pitts Library. Curated by Adam T. Strater, the exhibit, “Reading the Telling: The Passover Haggadah Across Time and Place,” is open to the public at no charge, during regular library hours.

M. Patrick Graham is the Margaret A. Pitts Professor of Theological Bibliography, Pitts Theology Library, Candler School of Theology at Emory University.
UNITY CONVENTION. JSU clubs around greater Atlanta joined together for a one-of-a-kind Jewish Unity Convention. Teens from close to two dozen high schools took part in the event, which combined an activity-filled, spiritually uplifting Shabbat and a ski trip in the North Carolina mountains.

There were a number of firsts. For many teens, it was their first ever Shabbat spent bonding with their Jewish peers. And others took to the slopes for the first time.

The event took place near the Nantahala Forest, at an exclusive, luxurious resort. Rabbi Neiditch utilized the serenity of Shabbat to infuse meaning into the weekend festivities with enlightening educational sessions. Taking in the natural beauty of mountain scenery, sunrises and sunsets, streams and serenity, teens also appreciated the extra care to have the proceedings laced with greater educational symbolism.

Shabbat was filled with inspirational and powerful stories with Jewish-themed messages from Rabbi Neiditch and was brought to a zenith in a memorable, one-of-a-kind Havdalah service. Afterwards, it was just a matter of hours until the excitement reached even greater heights—literally—upon the resort’s snow-covered mountaintops.

After a day of skiing and a delicious barbecue dinner, everyone boarded buses for the trip back to Atlanta. All of the teens were amazed at how close they became in such a short period of time. The only question on everyone’s mind was, “When can we do this again?”

JSU FIGHTS HUNGER WITH TIKKUN OLAM. Recently, a special charitable project was spearheaded by Rabbi Chaim Neiditch, director of the JSU, as he led members of 15 Greater Atlanta clubs in preparing food for the region’s homeless. Inspired by the idea of tikkun olam, Rabbi Neiditch spoke of how important it was, as a central tenet of Judaism, to give of one’s time to help others—a true form of charity, tzedakah.

Since the ideas of giving tzedakah and tikkun olam hold true regardless of a person’s religion, as it’s important to care for all the world’s inhabitants, it was thus with great vigor that hundreds of teens participated in this noble program.

Aside from packing the food into lunch bags, the teens also decorated the bags with messages of positive thought, well wishes, encouragement, and hope. Thousands of sandwiches were then brought to a children’s shelter in downtown Atlanta for distribution.

HEBREW NAMES. While Shakespeare might have said that “a rose by any other name would smell as sweet,” Judaism, in fact, attaches a very special importance to one’s Hebrew name. More than 600 teens learned this firsthand recently, while making Hebrew name bracelets at 15 JSU Public School Clubs in Atlanta. Guided by Rabbi Chaim Neiditch, the teens learned about the divine inspiration their names carry and how maintaining Jewish names has been one of the factors in the Jewish nation’s survival for millennia.

Ensuring that the day’s lessons also carried some added meaning, all the participants learned the translation of their Hebrew names and discussed how their names related to them personally. Many of the teens also shared stories of their families’ Jewish background and about ancestors they were named after. In addition to memories of a great time with their friends, every teen took home a bracelet, necklace, or key chain to proudly display their Jewish name.

President of ThetaRay and former senior executive with HP, both women shared their personal journeys to leadership. For updates and information, visit Conexx Women’s LinkedIn page, at linkedin.com/groups/7038277/profile.

CHAI GALLERY OPENS. The Chai Gallery of Fine Art, 5975 Roswell Road, Sandy Springs, celebrated its grand opening on March 12. The gallery features work by Salvador Dali, and others. For details, visit chafineart.com.

Aside from packing the food into lunch bags, the teens also decorated the bags with messages of positive thought, well wishes, encouragement, and hope. Thousands of sandwiches were then brought to a children’s shelter in downtown Atlanta for distribution.

Rabbi Neiditch teaches teens at Chattahoochee High School about the significance of having a Jewish name.

Grady High School teens decorate sandwich bags with messages of hope.

JSU teens at Dunwoody High School proudly display their Jewish name bracelets.

Lisa M. Reisman, MSN, CNP

CONEXX WOMEN. Conexx’s newest group, Conexx Women, gives women unique networking opportunities in the Southeast and Israel. Its first event, on January 28, was “Taking Chances in Corporate America,” featuring Becky Blalock, author of Dare and former Southern Company CIO, and Kris Robinson, executive vice president of ThetaRay and former senior executive with HP. Both women shared their personal journeys to leadership. For updates and information, visit Conexx Women’s LinkedIn page, at linkedin.com/groups/7038277/profile.

CHAI GALLERY OPENS. The Chai Gallery of Fine Art, 5975 Roswell Road, Sandy Springs, celebrated its grand opening on March 12. The gallery features work by Salvador Dali, and others. For details, visit chafineart.com.

HSU News

UNITY CONVENTION. JSU clubs around greater Atlanta joined together for a one-of-a-kind Jewish Unity Convention. Teens from close to two dozen high schools took part in the event, which combined an activity-filled, spiritually uplifting Shabbat and a ski trip in the North Carolina mountains.

There were a number of firsts. For many teens, it was their first ever Shabbat spent bonding with their Jewish peers. And others took to the slopes for the first time.

The event took place near the Nantahala Forest, at an exclusive, luxurious resort. Rabbi Neiditch utilized the serenity of Shabbat to infuse meaning into the weekend festivities with enlightening educational sessions. Taking in the natural beauty of mountain scenery, sunrises and sunsets, streams and serenity, teens also appreciated the extra care to have the proceedings laced with greater educational symbolism.

Shabbat was filled with inspirational and powerful stories with Jewish-themed messages from Rabbi Neiditch and was brought to a zenith in a memorable, one-of-a-kind Havdalah service. Afterwards, it was just a matter of hours until the excitement reached even greater heights—literally—upon the resort’s snow-covered mountaintops.

After a day of skiing and a delicious barbecue dinner, everyone boarded buses for the trip back to Atlanta. All of the teens were amazed at how close they became in such a short period of time. The only question on everyone’s mind was, “When can we do this again?”

JSU FIGHTS HUNGER WITH TIKKUN OLAM. Recently, a special charitable project was spearheaded by Rabbi Chaim Neiditch, director of the JSU, as he led members of 15 Greater Atlanta clubs in preparing food for the region’s homeless. Inspired by the idea of tikkun olam, Rabbi Neiditch spoke of how important it was, as a central tenet of Judaism, to give of one’s time to help others—a true form of charity, tzedakah.

Since the ideas of giving tzedakah and tikkun olam hold true regardless of a person’s religion, as it’s important to care for all the world’s inhabitants, it was thus with great vigor that hundreds of teens participated in this noble program.

Aside from packing the food into lunch bags, the teens also decorated the bags with messages of positive thought, well wishes, encouragement, and hope. Thousands of sandwiches were then brought to a children’s shelter in downtown Atlanta for distribution.

HEBREW NAMES. While Shakespeare might have said that “a rose by any other name would smell as sweet,” Judaism, in fact, attaches a very special importance to one’s Hebrew name. More than 600 teens learned this firsthand recently, while making Hebrew name bracelets at 15 JSU Public School Clubs in Atlanta. Guided by Rabbi Chaim Neiditch, the teens learned about the divine inspiration their names carry and how maintaining Jewish names has been one of the factors in the Jewish nation’s survival for millennia.

Ensuring that the day’s lessons also carried some added meaning, all the participants learned the translation of their Hebrew names and discussed how their names related to them personally. Many of the teens also shared stories of their families’ Jewish background and about ancestors they were named after. In addition to memories of a great time with their friends, every teen took home a bracelet, necklace, or key chain to proudly display their Jewish name.

President of ThetaRay and former senior executive with HP, both women shared their personal journeys to leadership. For updates and information, visit Conexx Women’s LinkedIn page, at linkedin.com/groups/7038277/profile.

CHAI GALLERY OPENS. The Chai Gallery of Fine Art, 5975 Roswell Road, Sandy Springs, celebrated its grand opening on March 12. The gallery features work by Salvador Dali, and others. For details, visit chafineart.com.
2015 PAM AMERICAN MACCABI GAMES. The 2015 Pan American Maccabi Games were held in Santiago, Chile, in late December and early January. Our son-in-law, Marc Backal, served as the team doctor for the 200-person USA delegation. He was also involved in a humanitarian effort, the Vision Project, which I will talk about later in the column. Our daughter, Cathy, was a volunteer and involved in many of the coordinating and supervising activities. Our 16-year-old granddaughter, Rachel, was a member of the USA Woman’s Soccer Team, which defeated Brazil for the gold medal.

Competition took place in 13 sports.

Seven members of the USA delegation were from Georgia: Lindsey Adler, Junior Gymnastics—Girls, Buford; Laura Barg-Walk, Open Field Hockey—Women’s, Atlanta; Joshua Blank, Youth Soccer—Men’s, Atlanta; Emily Duner, Open Soccer—Women’s, Atlanta; Jared Hopkins, Juniors Basketball—Boys, Atlanta; Warren Russ, Open Soccer—Men’s, Head Coach, Americus; Nicholas Salinger, Open Futsal (Soccer), Atlanta.

I told Cathy that I planned on writing about the games, so, in addition to supplying the above list, she provided highlights of the daily activities, as well as a message from Ted Margolis, executive director of Maccabi USA. Mr. Margolis wrote about more than just the daily athletic competition. He emphasized what Team USA did in putting together food parcels for the poor within the Jewish community and how many athletes visited a cancer ward for children and put on sports demonstrations.

Mr. Margolis talked about the Vision Project, which was initiated, organized, and implemented by Dr. Backal, in cooperation and coordination with Chilean Dr. Alfredo Misraji and his San Bernardo team. Through their efforts, 900 children, who never received vision care, were screened, and about 600 free pairs of glasses were provided for them. Each day, two USA athletic teams were brought to the clinic in San Bernardo, to play with the kids, help with the screening, and distribute food and clothing. A side benefit of this project was that $300,000 in funds was provided by the government to complete an elementary school next to the clinic. In addition, two vision examination machines were left there for future screenings. Marc said that the response to the Vision Project has been incredible. He’s received letters from medical people, Maccabi people, the Jewish community, family, and friends.

My granddaughter, Rachel, wrote, edited, filmed, and produced, with some help from her father, a video, Maccabi USA Gives Back. (Google “Maccabi USA Gives Back” to view it.) It includes video of the clinic where the children were being screened by the volunteer athletes and staff. One part shows Marc putting a pair of glasses on a 10-year-old for the first time in her life; her response of pure joy was heartwarming. She is just one of 600 children who can see clearly today, thanks to these tremendous acts of tzedakah and chesed.

Rachel was also able to incorporate testimonials from a few of the Maccabi athletes and what the experiences meant to them. She interspersed facts and quotations throughout the video that amplified what was accomplished there.

In another message in the daily Maccabi USA update, Joshua Blank, an Atlantan who participated in the Youth Men’s Soccer competition, said, “It is difficult for me to explain the emotions I felt walking into the opening ceremony. Here I was, surrounded by 400-plus Jews from the United States, marching into a stadium filled with thousands of Jews from dozens of countries. Not only that, everyone was smiling, trading gear, and enjoying each other’s company.

“At my team’s final dinner together, our coaches asked us to go around the table and share our favorite memories. To my surprise, only a few of those mentioned something soccer-related as their favorite memory. Rather, many spoke of the community service we did in one of the poorest neighborhoods I’ve ever seen in my life.”

After watching the video four or five times, I wrote Rachel and told her how proud Nancy and I were of her. It goes to show how sports can be a vehicle to promote and carry out Jewish values such as tzedakah and chesed.

What those individuals accomplished at the games and through the Vision Project will have a ripple effect that will be felt for years and years to come.

JERRY FARBER AT METULLA HADASSAH INSTALLATION. Jerry Farber volunteered his time to perform his comedy act at the December installation of the Board of Metulla Group of Greater Atlanta Hadassah. My wife, Nancy, was installed as president of the organization.

Jerry’s act was hilarious and was well received by the 40 people in attendance. I introduced myself to him before the program, and he said that he read and enjoyed “Schwartz on Sports.” We talked about our college days and guys from the Jewish sports scene. Freddie Benamy and Jay Cohen, both of whom I played basketball and softball with, came up in conversation. I told Jerry that I had seen him perform at my son Michael’s AEPi fraternity, during family weekend at the University of Georgia. I introduced him to Michael, who was there for his mother’s installation, and Jerry talked with Michael about the sport of wrestling. Michael wrestled in high school, and Jerry wrestled at the University of North Carolina. They instantly connected over the sport.

It was amazing to see how Jerry worked all the comments and information from talking with those in attendance into his routine. That’s why he’s a pro at what he does. I don’t think he’d mind being considered a Jewish Georgian, and he certainly is an Atlanta icon.

After Jerry’s performance, the installation of the 2016 Metulla Hadassah Board took place. Our daughter, Mindy, who is president of her Birmingham Chapter, performed the honors. Mindy was a teenager in the late ‘70s, when Nancy was president of her ORT chapter. Now, almost 40 years later, Mindy was installing her mother as president and continuing the Jewish tradition of L’Dor V’Dor.
LEARN HOW TO
Energize Your Brain’s
Highest Potential
Live your life from your
energized brain with
more fun and purpose
while removing stress

BRAIN ENERGETICS
Your Life with No Limits.

Attend a LIVE Demonstration
FREE when you
pre-registered.
$97 at the door.

Thursday, April 14 @ 7pm
Thursday, May 19 @ 7pm

For information and to pre-register,
http://HBL-4-14-16.eventbrite.com (April)
http://BE-5-19-16.eventbrite.com (May)

Atlanta Alternative Health
6558 Vernon Woods Dr NE
Sandy Springs, 30328
404.267.1830

New Location

JEWISH FERTILITY FOUNDATION | Atlanta

GAMES
&
Dames
An Evening for Women

THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 2016
7:00 - 10:00 PM
CONGREGATION B’NAI TORAH

Mah Jongg, Canasta, Mexican Train, Bunco, and more!

RAFFLE & PRIZES!
BRING YOUR TEAM OR COME ALONE!
WE’LL SUPPLY DRINKS, DESSERT & WINE
NEVER PLAYED? LEARN HOW AT OUR LEARNING TABLES!

WWW.JEWISHFERTILITYFOUNDATION.ORG/GAMESDAMES.HTML

PERFECT PLATES
FOR PASSOVER

Let our chefs do the cooking, so you can spend more time with your family.

~ THE FEAST ~
Alon’s Famous Brisket
Pan Seared Salmon | Lamb Shank
Garlic Rosemary Lamb Shoulder
Dried Fruit Chicken | Beet Salad
Israeli Vegetable Salad | Orange Glazed Carrots
House-Made Gefilte Fish | Sephardic Haroset
Duck Fat-Roasted Yukon Gold Potatoes
Chicken Soup | Matzah Ball 4-pack | Crudité

~ THE TREATS ~
Chocolate Flourless Torte
Rosie | Apple Sponge Cake
Chocolate-Covered Matzah Caramels with Maldon Salt
French Almond Macaroons Macaronade with Fresh Fruit

FOR A FULL MENU AND TO PLACE AN ORDER TODAY VISIT ALONS.COM

Dunwoody 4505 Ashford Dunwoody Rd NE | 678.397.1781 • Virginia-Highland 1394 N. Highland Ave | 404.872.6000
An unlikely friendship formed between actress-turned-filmmaker Leanna Adams, 36, and Atlanta comedy legend Jerry Farber, 77. “Jerry is one of the few elders in the industry genuinely interested in helping young comedians get ahead,” Adams says. “He’s had a transformative influence on me, always pushing me to do more to get where I want to be with my career,” she adds. As a tribute, she decided to direct and produce her first documentary film to tell his story.

The 18-minute short film premiered at the Atlanta Jewish Film Festival, where it was screened on February 7 and 12. In a world-class festival of international scope, only one film featured someone from Atlanta. *Jerry-actrics: One Comic’s 77-year Climb from the Top to the Bottom* is a portrait of an artist still searching, still curious, and still feeling the thrill of performing and making people laugh. (View the trailer at jerryfarberdocumentary.com.)

Beneath the veneer of silly jokes, Adams also reveals the serious side of a man who struggled with a lifelong gambling addiction. “I’m hoping others can learn from my mistakes,” Farber tells her.

After its premiere at the prestigious Atlanta festival, *Jerry-actrics* is being entered in film festivals around the country. Leanna Adams believes the short documentary just scratches the surface of a larger universal story; she is eager to expand it to a full-length feature.

Farber, who performs almost every week of the year at comedy clubs, corporate events, and college campuses around the East Coast, now sees himself as “representing the old-timers.” He’s committed to showing young people, “We love. We have passions. We still have dreams. We’re not dead yet so don’t treat us that way.”
www.mynertamid.org

Exodus 5K/1 Mile Fun Run
Sunday, April 17 • 7:00 - 10:00 am
Registration is now open for our first Annual Exodus 5K/1 mile Fun Run. Open to all ages with a costume contest and prizes for the first finishers.
Entry fees: 5K - $25 until 4/16, $30 run day, 1 mile - $20
Water, snacks, parking and restrooms available.
To register, go to mynertamid.org

Annual Passover Seder
Saturday, April 23 • 6:00 - 8:00 pm
Please join us for this family friendly traditional Passover dinner. Bring your own matzo and grape juice
Members $10.00 per person, limit $40.00 per household
Non-members: $18, children under 10: $12, Under 2: free.
For more details and to purchase tickets, visit www.mynertamid.org or call 678-264-8575.
Please make your reservations early - seating is limited!

678-264-8575
1349 Old Highway 41, Suite 220
Marietta, GA 30060

PointeNorthIns.com

THE RIGHT COVERAGE MAKES THE DIFFERENCE
- Personal Insurance
- Business Insurance
- Employee Benefits
- Executive Benefits

Call Rick Swerdlin
CIC, ARM, Sr. Vice President
678.336.7370
888.297.6317
1215 Hightower Trail
Building B • Suite 120
Atlanta, GA 30350

www.BenniesShoes.com

Bennie's Shoes since 1909

Sperry • Sebago • Timberland
Merrell • J&M • Ecco • Florsheim
Clarks • Ugg • Cole-Haan • Bass
Allen Edmonds • New Balance
Cole-Haan • Allen Edmonds
Sizes 6-16 A-EEE

404.262.1966 • 2625 Piedmont Rd. • Buckhead
Mon-Sat 8-6 Sun 12-5
Celebrate Israel Independence Day with Jewish National Fund

Thursday, May 12, 2016

With Honored Guest: Lt. Col. (Res.) Tiran Attia, Director, Special in Uniform

Learn how JNF integrates young men and women from Israel’s special needs community into the Israel Defense Forces

13th Annual Jack Hirsch Memorial Breakfast
The Temple
1589 Peachtree Street • Atlanta, GA
7:30 am Registration
8:00 – 9:00 am Program
Complimentary breakfast
For more information and to RSVP, visit jnf.org/hirsch2016

Women for Israel Southeast 3rd Annual Yom Ha’atzmaut Celebration Luncheon
Congregation B’nai Torah
700 Mount Vernon Highway NE • Sandy Springs, GA
11:00 am
$54 couvert
For more information and to RSVP, visit jnf.org/wfiluncheon
The American Guild of Judaic Art, now celebrating its 25th anniversary, counts several Metro Atlantans among its talented members

We are storytelling creatures. Our memories, histories, lessons, and fables are stories we pass to one another to teach, inspire, and entertain. Every artist and every piece of artwork has a story to tell. — Bonnie Cohen, AGJA member and mosaic glass artist

Members of the American Guild of Judaic Art (AGJA), an organization founded in New York City, in 1991, create art that can be considered hiddur mitzvah, a way to beautify or glorify Jewish rituals and celebrations. Twenty-five years later, the organization has members from across the United States, as well as Canada, Israel, and other countries.

Metro Atlanta is home for several AGJA members; plus, there are AGJA artists in other cities who have had their work installed in Atlanta-area synagogues. All have one thing in common—they love to create with a Judaic or Jewish viewpoint.

The month of March has been designated Jewish Arts Month, to raise awareness and to encourage exhibitions and collections, so future generations gain a better understanding of Jewish culture. The guild wants synagogues to consider that visual arts can be an integral part of their outreach to members. Synagogues can designate a room or create a gallery to display revolving art exhibitions on Jewish themes. The visual arts are a large part of Jewish culture, along with music, theatre, literature, and poetry; together, all forms of Jewish art enrich the lives of the Jewish community and beyond.

Ellen Filreis, from Atlanta, creates one-of-a-kind, often whimsical 3-D sculptures that tell visual stories. If you look carefully inside her shadow box Generation to Generation, you see a balsa wood house, handmade papers, fibers, charms, a tree branch, Jewish miniatures, wire, tags, lace leaves, brads, ribbon, and even a cinnamon stick. Filreis is publishing her first book this spring. An exciting new book authored by her daughter, Ayelet. The book, Chai Spy, is a visual Jewish journey about Jewish life and holidays. Filreis also works with mixed media on canvas and hand-stamped jewelry.

At Beth Jacob Congregation, in Atlanta, member Barbara Fisher created a Torah blanket titled The Doves, commissioned by Dr. Rita Botnick and her family, in memory of their father and grandfather, Aaron Sinkoe. This textile is used to keep the open Torah covered during short breaks in the services. Fisher also works with synagogues across the United States to create colorful designs for their Torah covers, bima curtains, and other Judaic textile projects. She employs the same appliquéd technique with ultra suede to make other items, ranging from Shabbat challah covers to tallit bags.

Meg Fisher, from Marietta, is well known for her commissioned tallit (prayer shawls), often created with repurposed family textiles. Her Tallit of Ties was made using a bar mitzvah boy’s deceased grandfather’s ties. Fisher says, “I sat with him, his mother, and grandmother to choose which ties to include, and when it was time to assemble the tallit, I let him decide the arrangement.” Another tallit had a tree theme; the leaves were made from family garments.

Originally from South Africa, multitalented artist Lynette Joel of Atlanta creates a wide variety of work, including paintings of The Twelve Tribes, Jewish story quilts, ritual textiles, and tallit bags. She has also worked in collaboration with other AGJA artists. Examples include her painting of Zebulun, one of the 12 Tribes, which inspired a large donor wall installation at Young Israel Congregation in Toco Hill, Atlanta, created by mosaic artist Bonnie Cohen, of Akron, Ohio. Joel also collaborated with Decatur artist Flora Rosefsky, interpreting Rosefsky’s designs with machine embroidery for six Torah covers for The Temple, in Atlanta. The newest Joel-Rosefsky collaboration is a set of six Torah covers for Temple Emmanu-El, in Dunwoody, to be formally presented this spring. An exciting new book authored by Joel, featuring Joel’s series of the 12 Tribes, will be available this year.

Miriam Karp, a noted Atlanta ketubah (wedding contract) artist and calligrapher,

See JUDAIAC ART, page 21
FIND THE THINGS YOU NEED FOR YOUR PASSOVER SEDER TABLE AT KROGER.

MAY YOU ENJOY THE TRADITIONS AND TOGETHERNESS OF THIS HOLIDAY

HAPPY PASSOVER
 Hog Shama

MAY YOU ENJOY THE TRADITIONS AND TOGETHERNESS OF THIS HOLIDAY

FIND THE THINGS YOU NEED FOR YOUR PASSOVER SEDER TABLE AT KROGER.
Remember JScreen this spring season

Spring has officially sprung, so we can put the jackets away and enjoy the blooming flowers and outdoor activities. With offspring (pardon the pun) being born, let’s face it—there is nothing sweeter than seeing little ducklings paddling in a pond. It makes us think about expanding our own families. It’s important to get all of your ducks in a row (these puns keep coming), before making the decision to add a little one to your clan.

JScreen, a national non-profit initiative out of Emory University, is here to help make life easier, with its convenient way to screen for Jewish genetic diseases. A common misconception is that doctor’s offices will automatically screen couples for these common genetic diseases, to see if they have the potential to pass them on to future children, but often the screening panel offered is very limited or only mentioned when the woman is pregnant. It’s imperative that those planning on having children within the next few years receive testing for a comprehensive disease panel to learn if they are carriers of genetic diseases and to help them plan ahead for the health of their families. The sooner the better, so don’t wait!

One of the most joyous Jewish holidays, Purim, also coincides with the start of the spring season this year. Two main themes of this holiday are donating to charity and giving Misloach Manot (food and snack baskets) to friends—both actions enhancing the well being of others and therefore the greater health of the community. True communal efforts seem to be rare these days, so JScreen is encouraging everyone to come together for their compelling initiative—to protect our children and grandchildren from Jewish genetic diseases. Whether you are supporting JScreen or another organization whose mission is important to you, it’s important to participate in the act of giving. When it comes to delivering gifts of food and goodies, consider including a JGift (jscreen.org/gift) to offset the cost of genetic screening for a friend or family member. We are all so busy in our day-to-day lives that performing a thoughtful gesture might be on your mind, but following through and making it happen is another story. Take time to bake cookies, grab some candy at the store, or individually wrap hamantaschen. Misloach Manot baskets are a great way to fortify friendships, to ensure people have food to enjoy for the customary Purim holiday feast.

You may be wearing a mask at this year’s Purim costume party, but unmask your DNA with genetic screening. For more information about JScreen, visit www.JScreen.org, or email info@jscreen.org.

Dancing for a Cure

Karen Schatten Shmerling comes from a family of doctors, but she will try a novel way to fight a dreaded disease. She is going to dance to end Alzheimer’s.

Karen will be a contestant in “Dancing Stars of Atlanta,” an event that mirrors the popular TV Show “Dancing with the Stars.” The gala evening will raise funds for the Alzheimer’s Association, Georgia Chapter, and will be held Saturday, April 30 at the Cobb Galleria Centre.

Karen sent an email to friends and family, telling of her intentions to participate in this exciting fundraising dance competition. She said, “This year I agreed to participate to raise funds and awareness for Alzheimer’s in memory of my father-in-law, Dr. Sanford Shmerling, and my uncle, Dr. Perry Gold, and in honor of my mother, who has dementia.”

Starting with classes here in Atlanta, Karen has danced since age six. She danced with the Ruth Mitchell Dance Company and later attended Skidmore College, where she majored in classical ballet. Married to Dr. Ricky Shmerling, Karen has three grown children: Michelle, a physical therapist, who is married to Josh Guterman; Brian, a lawyer; and Elena, who is teaching in Chile.

For the last six years, Karen has coached the Dream Supremes, a senior dance team that performs at half time for the WNBA women’s basketball league. The average age of the Dream Supremes is 67; they are now preparing for their seventh season.

“Dancing Stars of Atlanta” will be a whole new experience. Karen admits that she has never done ballroom dancing, but is a whole new experience. Karen admits that she has never done ballroom dancing, but is rehearsing diligently with her professional dance partner, Jonathan Chen.

Jonathan has training in ballroom and Latin dance and is a 2014 U.S. Professional Mamba Silver Medalist. For their performance, Karen and Jonathan are planning a spicy cha-cha.

The 2016 Dancing Stars of Atlanta hopes to raise $1 million for Alzheimer’s research, patient care, and support programs. The Georgia chapter serves more than 200,000 Georgians living with Alzheimer’s disease.

Karen will be dancing in hopes of getting votes and donations for her efforts to “advance the fight against this disease that affects so many.” To cast your vote/donate, visit www.dancingstarsofatlanta.com.
BREAST STROKES—BIG REVEAL. A GREAT SUCCESS. The Stave Room at American Spirit Works, in Atlanta, was the setting for Hadassah Greater Atlanta’s Breast Strokes—The Big Reveal. The gala fundraiser, which was a sell-out, took place February 20, with more than 500 attendees from Atlanta and beyond. Breast Strokes—The Big Reveal was a two-part event to raise funds for breast cancer and genetic research programs at Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem and for breast cancer education, advocacy, and prevention in the United States.

The first part of this project was Paint Day, which took place in late October 2015. On that day, 35 courageous women, many of whom are breast cancer survivors, volunteered to have their torsos painted and photographed to raise money for breast cancer research. Guests at The Big Reveal viewed spectacular 24” x 30” canvases from Paint Day and enjoyed delicious food, lively music, and an abundance of auction items. CNN correspondent Holly Firfer served as special guest host and auctioneer.

This year’s The Big Reveal honorees were The Schube Women—Maxx and her daughters, Rochelle and Alana, who are all BRCA1 positive. They wanted to tell their stories in the hope of educating people about the BRCA gene mutations; teaching women—especially young women—to check out their bodies and make sure that any abnormalities they find are examined by a doctor; and inspiring funding for breast cancer and genetic research programs at Hadassah Hospital. The evening included the premier of a powerful film by Adam Hirsch, documenting the Schubes’ breast cancer journey, from Alana’s chemotherapy sessions to surgery at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, in Houston.

In her remarks, Maxx Schube gave special thanks to the honorary chair, Atlanta plastic surgeon Diane Z. Alexander, MD, FACS, whom she said instilled in her and her daughters “the confidence that, no matter how long the journey, we would be whole again.” In her tribute to Rochelle and Alana she said, “The real admiration goes to my two brave and courageous daughters, who each fought the good fight and were both willing to share their stories when called upon.” She added, “The journey is not over,” and urged the audience to share their story with those who were not present.

Dr. Alexander specializes in cosmetic facial surgery, body sculpture, breast rejuvenation and breast cancer reconstruction. She shared that, 30 years ago, when she was in medical school, mastectomies were not done in a “pretty way.” In spite of improvements made since then, she said, “This disease keeps getting meaner and more vicious. Twenty-three-year-old women should not have breast cancer; 29-year-old women should not have to have their breasts removed to save their lives, and parents of those children should not have to watch them go through it. The Hadassah Medical Organization is making an extraordinary difference for our sisters, mothers, daughters and friends who have breast cancer or the genetic predisposition to have it in the future. There are many great organizations that fund breast cancer research. This is the one that Kent and I are most actively supporting. We hope you will join us in the fight for the cure.”

The Big Reveal may be over, but those interested in supporting breast cancer research at Hadassah Medical Organization can still purchase items at atlanta-hadassah.org. Wall prints, greeting cards, phone cases, throw pillows, shower curtains, and duvet covers are available in various formats and sizes. In addition, 24” x 30” canvases from this year’s and last year’s events and commemorative composite posters can be purchased (for $200 and $36, respectively), by calling the Hadassah office, at 678-443-2961.

Hadassah Atlanta, one of Atlanta’s largest women’s organizations, is celebrating its 100th year of serving the Atlanta community. The Centennial Celebration and Gala will take place October 30, at the Grand Hyatt Atlanta. In addition, Atlanta will host the Hadassah National Convention, in July 2016.

For more information on Breast Strokes and Hadassah Greater Atlanta, visit hadassah.org/atlanta.

Honorary Chair Dr. Diane Alexander

Big Reveal Chair Wendy Bearman (from left), Breast Strokes Co-Chair Sue Rothstein, Centennial Chair Phyllis M. Cohen, and Breast Strokes Co-Chair Annie Kohut flank a commemorative canvas depicting the painted torsos of 35 volunteer models. (Photo: Rachel Palazzo)

Photos of models’ torsos at Hadassah Greater Atlanta’s Breast Strokes—The Big Reveal (Photo: Lauren Wade)

“The Schube family: (from left) Talia Rachman and fiancé Jeremy Schube; and Alana, Rochelle, Maxx, and Keith Schube (Photo: Ric Mershon)

“First they came for the Socialists, and I did not speak out — Because I was not a Socialist.

“Then they came for the Trade Unionists, and I did not speak out — Because I was not a Trade Unionist.

“Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out — Because I was not a Jew.

“Then they came for me — and there was no one left to speak for me.”

—Pastor Martin Niemöller (1892-1984)
JF&CS News

THE TASTING. Are you in the mood for fabulous food from some of Atlanta’s best restaurants, along with superb wine from an array of top vineyards from around the world, and spirits? How about a silent auction featuring some spectacular, high-end prizes? Then The Tasting is for you. A fun, festive, elegant affair, The Tasting raises funds for the Zimmerman Horowitz Independent Living Program.

The nonsectarian Z-H ILP, a program of Jewish Family & Career Services, serves individuals with developmental disabilities—as well as their families and caregivers—so they can work, live, and thrive in their communities. Every dollar raised at the benefit—one of JF&CS’s marquee events—goes to servicing the clients.

This year’s Tasting—the 16th—will take place April 13, from 7:00-10:00 p.m. Following last year’s success, the event will be held for the second time at Mason Fine Art, in Midtown. Lani and Spencer Preis and Mindi and Mike Sard will chair it for the second time.

“This has been one of our favorite events to attend,” Lani Preis said. “We love both the social aspect of The Tasting, as well as the community it serves.” Both have been involved in several organizations with a similar focus, including nearby Camp Twin Lakes.

The Preises first got to know JF&CS in Atlanta in 2006, when they sought support through some personal difficulties. “The work JF&CS does is quite meaningful on a personal level,” she said. “I feel I easily could be on the receiving end of services again and know how much JF&CS lifted me out of a bad place. At the same time, when given the opportunity to interact with the clients, it simply feels good!”

Likewise, the Sards enjoy the hands-on aspect of volunteering. “You’re involved with the people you are helping,” said Mindi Sard. “They aren’t put off somewhere else, where you have no contact with them.”

One reason she jumped at the chance to chair The Tasting was the personal connection she feels to the program. She sometimes visits the clients of Tools for Independence WORKS, the developmental disabilities division’s day program and job coaching service. “I think it’s a group that’s passed over by our society. And ILP is one of the services that serves the entire community.”

Both couples had attended The Tasting over the years and been involved in various committees. Then, last year, they were asked to chair what would turn out to be a completely revamped event, after more than a dozen years at the Grand Hyatt Buckhead.

“This year’s Tasting will feature some new restaurants, as well as many that have participated before. Visit thetasting.org for more details.

The Tasting features delicious dishes and wines from Atlanta’s finest restaurants and raises funds for the Zimmerman Horowitz Independent Living Program

Tasting Co-Chairs Lani Preis and Mindi Sard

30 YEARS OF PAL. On Sunday, February 28, the PAL program celebrated its 30-year anniversary, at Congregation B’nai Torah. The event included live music, arts and craft, and fun for PALs of all ages. The event honored Ellen Moore, Kaethe Solomon, and all past PAL coordinators. Little PALs placed in the ’80s reunited with friends and family and introduced their kids and spouses. Heartfelt presentations were made to Moore and Solomon for the incredible impact the PAL Program has had on its participants.

PAL began in 1986, when Ellen, a volunteer coordinator and part-time therapist at Jewish Family Services, saw the stress experienced by some of the agency’s single-parent clients.

As she recalled, board member Archie Solomon, of blessed memory, volunteered as a big brother when he was a young man in another city and found the experience gratifying. He suggested sending out a needs assessment to the community.

“The assessment indicated a need did exist for a program,” said Moore. So Solomon approached the Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta, which agreed to help fund it, if he provided the seed money and the program proved successful.

“Archie grew up in a poor family,” explained his wife, Kaethe Solomon. “He wanted to help make life easier for the next generation.”

The first meetings took place in the Solomon’s home. Before long, the program was a hit.

“I was very excited about starting PAL,” Moore said. “I loved all aspects of it. My social work skills really helped in the screening of volunteers, who all were wonderful.”

Moore enjoyed working with single parents and their children and coordinating efforts with the counseling program. “The program has definitely been a highlight of my life. It brought me tremendous joy,” she said. “I’m delighted it continues to help so many people.”

Eventually, Moore stopped running PAL. But she has stayed involved, giving input when asked and going to some events. Now, with Carly Sonenshine as its director, Moore is happy to see the program has become such a big success. “ Carly has been an extraordinary asset, and the volunteers have been a tremendous blessing to the families. Many have told me they gained a lot personally from participating. Those who have continued to be a presence in their little PALs’ lives have enjoyed watching them grow into adults. I feel lucky to have been part of it.”

Kaethe Solomon believes the parents get at least as much out of the program as the children do. “It’s created a sort of partnership with the parents—that somebody else is on my team, helping me and my child.”

It’s heartwarming for Moore to see the lasting effect of the program. “I can only assume from the fact that it has continued for 30 years, the impact has been felt throughout the community.”

Ellen Moore and Kaethe Solomon

Susan Londe and her little PAL, Ariele Hershkovitz

Carly Sonenshine and Kaethe Solomon

FAMILY FUN AT ARTSCAPE 2016. Kids of all ages found something to love at Artscape. JF&CS’s annual family fun event, Artscape took place February 21, at Sensations Theraput. It was presented by FITS.

Children enjoyed trampolines, Zamba, soccer, races, and wall climbing, as well as story time and popsicles from King of Pops. Charlotte Spector, 6, loved the climbing wall and zipline. Her brother, Jonathan, 3, had a great time playing musical instruments from Sandy Spring Music and painting with La Dee Da Art Studios.

This year’s event attracted more than 300 attendees and raised more than $23,500 to support JF&CS’s Counseling Services.

Artscape chairs Liann Baron and Rabbi Brad Levenberg, of Temple Sinai, were excited to help organize and promote the event.

“Artscape drew me in immediately,” Baron said. She volunteered for three years and decided to co-chair this year at Rabbi Levenberg’s request.

“It’s such a fun event that raises money and brings awareness to the community about JF&CS and all the amazing services it provides,” Baron said. “I’m at a time in my life where my focus is my kids. Artscape allows them to be part of something amazing and hopefully teaches them how important it is to give back.”

Shortly after moving here in 2006, Rabbi Levenberg became involved with JF&CS, through Temple Sinai’s partnership with the agency. He became a board member in 2014. This was his first time chairing an event.

“A lot of agencies care for the spiritual or the inspirational side of Judaism. I love that JF&CS lives the mission of caring for one another. I have relied on it many times over the years, to support those in need who come my way. We are a better and stronger community because JF&CS is here,” he said.

The Artscape Planning Committee also included Suganda Rosenhaft and Ari Trits, activities co-chairs; Arielle Kleneman, volunteer chair; and patron families co-chairs Debra Greenfield, Gennye Krasner, Gabbi Promoff, and Amy Rosen.

Jonathan Spector enjoys painting a fish at the La Dee Da Arts and Crafts station.
Second Helpings Atlanta volunteers feel the love

There was lots of love in the room at the annual Second Helpings Atlanta Volunteer Appreciation Dinner. Gratitude to food donors and volunteer drivers was expressed in a number of ways, including thank-yous from SHA leaders and agencies, delicious food, and door prizes. SHA is a nonprofit volunteer food rescue organization fueled by volunteer drivers, who pick up food from donor sites and deliver it to agencies across the Atlanta metro. To date, SHA has rescued more than 4 million pounds of freshly prepared food that otherwise would have been discarded.

The event, held at Temple Sinai, attracted more than 140 volunteers and guests, according to Nichole Essawy, who led an energetic planning committee. A number of volunteers brought their children to the dinner. The kids got into the spirit by packing 80 lunch bags with sandwiches to the dinner. The kids got into the spirit of the evening, in more ways than one. The Rosenber Financial Group sponsored a delicious chicken dinner. And Nothing Bundt Cakes, in Sandy Springs, provided decorated Bundt cake centerpieces that doubled as door prizes. Generous businesses donated more than $1,000 worth of raffle prizes, including gift cards to food stores, restaurants, and retail stores; car washes; and spa treatments.

Greetings and remarks were delivered by outgoing SHA President David Schoenberg, incoming President Gareth Young, and Executive Director Joe Labriola. Community Assistance Center Executive Director Tamara Carrera spoke movingly about the impact of the food collected by SHA on members of the community.

Donated food was the theme of the evening, in more ways than one. The Volunteer Appreciation Dinner is our way of saying thanks for all they do and is in every way a labor of love.

Want to know more about how you can help eliminate hunger in our community? Visit www.secondhelpingsatlanta.org.

Judaic Art

From page 16

creates not only one-of-a-kind ketubot, but also other Judaic-inspired illustrations and paintings. Karp created a personalized sukkah, in which each of the hand-painted wood panels depicted her own family, dressed as Biblical characters, sitting at a traditional holiday table. Karp is open to creating other personalized sukkahs on a commission basis. One of Karp’s ketubot incorporates symbols important to the bride and groom, which include buildings representing the Atlanta skyline, such as The Temple, where the couple married, the Fox Theatre, and Piedmont Park, all to make Karp’s ketubot both personal and meaningful.

Three synagogues in the metro Atlanta area commissioned AGJA member Claude Kandel, from Minneapolis, Minnesota, to create exquisite ner tamid (eternal lights) for their sanctuaries. Those synagogues include Temple Sinai (Sandy Springs), Chabad of Cobb County (Marietta), and Young Israel Congregation of Toco Hill (Atlanta). According to Kandel, “My pieces combine traditional forms with evocative blown and stained glass. I seek a radiant purity of light, which inspires and calms the spirit of the congregant...allowing worshippers to focus on their prayer.”

Susan Big, needlework artist from Sandy Springs, combines her appreciation for both Jewish tradition and text in her needlework, which ranges from unique quilts to large art quilts suitable as wall installations for homes or public institutions. Other Judaic needlework projects include silk painted Seder pillows and challah covers. As a board member of The International Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Needlework and an active member of the Peach State Stitchers, Atlanta Chapter. Big presented several needlework educational workshops, such as the popular “Gefilte Fish” program, conducted for LIMMUD. Big incorporates her research from Jewish text to find original ways to express themes visually, through the art of needlework.

AGJA member Flora Rosefsky’s art reflects a contemporary expression of Jewish text, rituals, and celebrations. Rosefsky conjures up montage portraits, thematic mixed-media collages, and design projects commissioned by synagogues or other Jewish institutions. In metro Atlanta, those projects include narrative story quilts for The Bremen Museum, The William Bremen Jewish Home, and Jewish Family & Career Services. Rosefsky and Anne Mandel co-designed the Justice, We Shall Pursue quilt, sewn by members of the Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Needlework–Peach State Stitchers, Atlanta Chapter, which is installed at the National Center for Civil and Human Rights, in downtown Atlanta. Rosefsky often uses the collage process to design her commissioned work, such as the stained glass windows designs for Temple Kehillat Chaim, in Roswell, Georgia.

The common thread that connects these AGJA members is their philosophy that creating beautiful Judaica today for the home or institution is not only fulfilling and enriching for the people who see their work now, but it also helps to ensure a legacy for future generations.

To learn more about the American Guild of Judaic Art, its members, and their work, visit jewisheart.org. Websites and pertinent information about member artists are listed on the AGJA website’s artist directory pages.
During an all-school Kabbalat Shabbat service on February 19, nearly 1,000 Davis Academy students, teachers, families, and community supporters celebrated the school’s future. It was a ceremonial groundbreaking at the Reform Jewish day school’s Lower School campus, for several exciting new school additions.

In less than a year, The Davis Academy community will enjoy a 600-plus seat Performing Arts Center, spiritual and community gathering space, and multiple flexible learning spaces. And a “temporary” portable unit that has served as the Lower School cafeteria for nearly 15 years will be replaced by a state-of-the-art, permanent dining hall and kitchen.

These major enhancements are possible thanks to the generosity of Davis Academy parents, grandparents, faculty, alumni, and caring community donors, who have participated in the $7.5 million Next Stage Capital Campaign, led by Campaign Co-chairs Mara Berman, Jon Leven, Sam Tuck, and a host of volunteers.

Thanking supporters and leadership, Davis Academy Head of School Amy Shafron said, “Today, we will grab our shovels and ceremoniously break ground on this exciting project. In just a matter of days, we will officially begin building our new sacred spaces—so that we can do what we do best as a community—to celebrate and nurture each child’s creativity, to eat together, to pray together—and to learn together—to be a kehillah dedicated to the very best for our children and our future.”

This is the fourth major building expansion for The Davis Academy, located in the Sandy Springs/Dunwoody area and now in its 23rd year. After quickly outgrowing its very first classrooms in the Junior Achievement building, on Abernathy Road, the school’s first permanent home (now the Lower School building) was completed in 1996, with the additional middle grades wing and gymnasium added in 1999. A separate Middle School middle grades wing and gymnasium completed in 1996, with the additional middle grades wing and gymnasium added in 1999. A separate Middle School campus, located about a half mile away at the intersection of Roberts and Spalding Drives, opened in 2004.

Construction for this exciting phase of The Davis Academy’s growth began the first week of March. Kyle Epstein, of Warren Epstein & Associates, Architects, Inc., who designed the Lower and Middle School buildings, is the architect on the project. Brasfield Gorrie is the construction firm, and Davis grandparent Joe Rubin is the volunteer project coordinator. The project is expected to be completed by January 2017.

Ceremoniously breaking ground on the exciting new Davis Academy additions: (from left) Sandy Springs Councilman Andy Bauman, Davis Academy Head of School Amy Shafron, Next Stage Campaign Co-chair Sam Tuck, Davis Academy founding families Jerry and Dulcy Rosenberg and Jay and Ann Davis, Davis Academy Board of Trustees President Debbie Kurzweil, Next Stage Campaign Co-chairs Jon Leven and Mara Berman, and Sandy Springs Mayor Rusty Paul

More than 600 community leaders will gather, on May 2, at the InterContinental Buckhead Atlanta, for the Friends of the Israel Defense Forces Atlanta Gala Dinner, honoring the brave men and women of the Israel Defense Forces.

The evening, which is one of the Atlanta Jewish community’s largest events, will pay tribute to the IDF’s Lone Soldiers—those serving without any immediate family in Israel. Attending will be active-duty and former Israeli soldiers and prominent local and national community leaders, including FIDF National Board Member and Southeast Region Chairman Garry Sobel; FIDF National Director and CEO Maj. Gen. (Res.) Meir Klifi-Amir; and FIDF Southeast Region Executive Director Seth Baron.

“The courageous soldiers of the IDF put everything on the line to defend the State of Israel and Jews around the world, but Lone Soldiers go above and beyond, leaving behind their friends, families, and everything they know,” said Baron. “This gala presents a wonderful opportunity for the Atlanta community to show them our love and appreciation for their sacrifices.”

The funds raised at this event will go toward FIDF well-being and educational programs for IDF soldiers, including the Adopt-a-Brigade Program, which supports soldiers in need and funds rest and recuperation weeks for the FIDF Southeast Region’s adopted brigade, the IDF Combat Intelligence Collection Corps; the IMPACT! Program, which grants full academic scholarships to IDF combat veterans; the Lone Soldiers Program, which supports soldiers with no immediate family in Israel; and the Wounded Veterans Program, which provides wounded veterans with physical, social, and psychological services and special prosthetics.

FIDF Southeast Region Development Director Jamie Perry, Brig Gen. (Res.) Gila Klifi-Amir, FIDF National Director and CEO Maj. Gen. (Res.) Meir Klifi-Amir, and FIDF Southeast Region Executive Director Seth Baron (photo: Gregg Mooney)
JTS honors David Geffen

By Ruben Stanley

For three generations, the Geffen family has been inextricably bound up in the history of Atlanta.

The patriarch, Rabbi Tobias Geffen, a native of Lithuania, arrived in Atlanta in 1910 to assume the pulpit of Atlanta’s Congregation Shearith Israel, a position he maintained until his death in 1970. He was the voice of Orthodox Judaism in the South, and, among other undertakings, he organized the first Hebrew school in Atlanta, began daily Talmud classes, and oversaw the construction of a mikveh for the community.

One of Rabbi Geffen’s sons, Louis Geffen, grew up and was educated in the city schools, Emory University, and Columba/University Law School. He became a lawyer, and, as an officer with the 310th Military Government Group of the U.S. 3rd Army, he served as the chief prosecutor at the Yokohama war crimes trials. After the war, he returned to Atlanta to practice law and involve himself in the Jewish and general community. In the 1930s, he served on the Atlanta City Council and the Board of Education. He lived in Atlanta until his death in 2001.

David Geffen, Louis’s son, followed his father’s educational track through Emory University and then opted to join the rabbinate. He was ordained in 1965, and, while he never served in a pulpit in Atlanta, he has continued to maintain close ties with many childhood friends and has become a recorder of much of the Atlanta Jewish community’s history, especially the impact and involvement of his grandfather in this evolution. He moved to Israel with his family in 1977, and, with the exception of a period from 1993-2004 when he served as the rabbi at Temple Israel in Scranton, Pennsylvania, he has made his home in Israel.

On February 2 of this year, Rabbi Geffen, along with Professor Lee Israel Levine and Aaron Densky, all of whom had graduated from The Jewish Theological Seminary (JTS) 50 years ago and had made aliya, were honored by JTS with the Louis Finkelstein Award. The recognition was presented “For their extraordinary contributions to the State of Israel and in celebration of the 50th anniversary of their ordination from JTS.”

While no longer serving as a pulpit rabbi, Geffen has taken his love of Judaism and its history and blended them into the excitement of living in Israel. He is now devoting his time to transforming this background and experiences into stories and tales to be carried in newspapers in Israel and the Anglo-Jewish press around the world. With the treasure trove of information and graphics about the growth and evolution of the Jewish community he has from his family’s archives and records, Rabbi Geffen’s columns that have been published in The Jewish Georgian have been meaningful and important to the paper’s contribution to a better understanding of how and why the Atlanta Jewish community has blossomed into a leading enclave in the United States.

The Jewish Georgian joins the many others in thanking Rabbi Geffen and his entire family on the difference they have made, and we offer our congratulations to him on this well-deserved recognition.

The fork in the road of life

BY Balfour “Bo” Levine

Fate often slips a fork in your road of life, and years later you might wonder what would have happened had you zigged instead of zagged at that junction.

When I was about three years old, my parents divorced. That, in and of itself, is a long, sad, part of my life’s story. Mama had written her mother in Russia that she was coming home to them and bringing her toddler (me) with her. When we arrived in Harbin, Manchuria, a city with a sizeable Jewish community, about halfway on the train’s journey to Russia, we received word from my mother’s family that, since there was famine in the land, they couldn’t take care of us. Furthermore, they instructed my mother to return to her husband (my father, Jacob Friend), who was still living in our house in Shanghai, China. Incidentally, my mother was very unhappy with her family for not welcoming us back to them, and of course, all of our lives were changed forevermore.

Thinking about that change, I’ve long suspected that Mama and I would have perished of hunger and all the wars in Russia had we gone on to our destination. Instead, we lived in Shanghai, where I was well educated in the British schools there. And though WWII was no picnic under the Japanese, we did survive.

After the war, I got in touch with my father’s brother, Louis Friend, in Eastman, Georgia, who sent me passage money and a transfer from St. John’s University, in Atlanta, to Harbin, Manchuria, where life was indeed a picnic.

By Ruben Stanley

For three generations, the Geffen family has been inextricably bound up in the history of Atlanta.

The patriarch, Rabbi Tobias Geffen, a native of Lithuania, arrived in Atlanta in 1910 to assume the pulpit of Atlanta’s Congregation Shearith Israel, a position he maintained until his death in 1970. He was the voice of Orthodox Judaism in the South, and, among other undertakings, he organized the first Hebrew school in Atlanta, began daily Talmud classes, and oversaw the construction of a mikveh for the community.

One of Rabbi Geffen’s sons, Louis Geffen, grew up and was educated in the city schools, Emory University, and Columba/University Law School. He became a lawyer, and, as an officer with the 310th Military Government Group of the U.S. 3rd Army, he served as the chief prosecutor at the Yokohama war crimes trials. After the war, he returned to Atlanta to practice law and involve himself in the Jewish and general community. In the 1930s, he served on the Atlanta City Council and the Board of Education. He lived in Atlanta until his death in 2001.

David Geffen, Louis’s son, followed his father’s educational track through Emory University and then opted to join the rabbinate. He was ordained in 1965, and, while he never served in a pulpit in Atlanta, he has continued to maintain close ties with many childhood friends and has become a recorder of much of the Atlanta Jewish community’s history, especially the impact and involvement of his grandfather in this evolution. He moved to Israel with his family in 1977, and, with the exception of a period from 1993-2004 when he served as the rabbi at Temple Israel in Scranton, Pennsylvania, he has made his home in Israel.

On February 2 of this year, Rabbi Geffen, along with Professor Lee Israel Levine and Aaron Densky, all of whom had graduated from The Jewish Theological Seminary (JTS) 50 years ago and had made aliya, were honored by JTS with the Louis Finkelstein Award. The recognition was presented “For their extraordinary contributions to the State of Israel and in celebration of the 50th anniversary of their ordination from JTS.”

While no longer serving as a pulpit rabbi, Geffen has taken his love of Judaism and its history and blended them into the excitement of living in Israel. He is now devoting his time to transforming this background and experiences into stories and tales to be carried in newspapers in Israel and the Anglo-Jewish press around the world. With the treasure trove of information and graphics about the growth and evolution of the Jewish community he has from his family’s archives and records, Rabbi Geffen’s columns that have been published in The Jewish Georgian have been meaningful and important to the paper’s contribution to a better understanding of how and why the Atlanta Jewish community has blossomed into a leading enclave in the United States.

The Jewish Georgian joins the many others in thanking Rabbi Geffen and his entire family on the difference they have made, and we offer our congratulations to him on this well-deserved recognition.

The fork in the road of life

BY Balfour “Bo” Levine

Fate often slips a fork in your road of life, and years later you might wonder what would have happened had you zigged instead of zagged at that junction.

When I was about three years old, my parents divorced. That, in and of itself, is a long, sad, part of my life’s story. Mama had written her mother in Russia that she was coming home to them and bringing her toddler (me) with her. When we arrived in Harbin, Manchuria, a city with a sizeable Jewish community, about halfway on the train’s journey to Russia, we received word from my mother’s family that, since there was famine in the land, they couldn’t take care of us. Furthermore, they instructed my mother to return to her husband (my father, Jacob Friend), who was still living in our house in Shanghai, China. Incidentally, my mother was very unhappy with her family for not welcoming us back to them, and of course, all of our lives were changed forevermore.

Thinking about that change, I’ve long suspected that Mama and I would have perished of hunger and all the wars in Russia had we gone on to our destination. Instead, we lived in Shanghai, where I was well educated in the British schools there. And though WWII was no picnic under the Japanese, we did survive.

After the war, I got in touch with my father’s brother, Louis Friend, in Eastman, Georgia, who sent me passage money and a transfer from St. John’s University, in Atlanta, to Harbin, Manchuria, where life was indeed a picnic.

JNF News

BIRTHRIGHT TRIP FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT. Birthright Israel, Sborashim, the National Conference of Shomrim Societies, and Jewish National Fund are presenting the first-ever Law Enforcement Israel Adventure, a free 10-day trip to Israel, for Jewish-American law enforcement officers.

This program, departing from New York City on May 29 and returning on June 9, is designed to connect law enforcement officials to their Jewish roots and Israeli counterparts. Participants will travel with their Israeli peers for the entire experience. From awe-inspiring hikes and exploring legendary cities to connecting with and learning from the law enforcement community in Israel, police officers will have the remarkable opportunity to take an adventure that blends their professional passions with a journey full of self-discovery.

This unique Birthright Israel trip was conceived by NCSS chaplain Rabbi Tzvi Berkowitz, of Howard Beach, New York, who worked with Birthright Israel and Sborashim to bring the idea to fruition, increasing the eligibility age limit from 26 to 29, to allow a greater range of young adults to take part in this vital program.

This trip is for participants who are eligible for Birthright Israel and ages 22-29. Register at israelwithisraelis.com/trip/law-enforcement. For more information, contact Adam H. Brill, at 212-879-9305 x222 or abril@jnf.org. This trip is a gift from Birthright Israel.
And this was the year of the Ice Dawgs

The University of Georgia’s name conjures up many visions, the most notable of which is a leading academic institution. But integral components of the flavor of the institution are the inter-conference athletic competitions, the tailgate parties, and, of course, the downtown scene.

For many different reasons, not the least of which is the financial commitment required to field a team to compete as a sanctioned varsity sport of a particular institution, there has developed a club team format. Independent of the NCAA conferences, these teams are not funded by the athletic programs of the schools. They do, however, join together to form separate, non-varsity conferences, which, while associated with particular institutions, are not varsity teams. As a result of this initiative, there are a much greater array of opportunities to participate in competitive athletics, which otherwise would not be available.

One such team is the University of Georgia Ice Dawgs, a non-varsity ice hockey team. The team is a member of the South Eastern Collegiate Hockey Conference (SECHC), often referred to as “SEC Hockey.” All of the teams are non-varsity, intercollegiate ice hockey programs at universities that are members of the Southeastern Conference (SEC).

The Ice Dawgs program has been around for 28 years, and it was a founding member of the SECHC, which was organized in 2008. After moving its venue from the Atlanta Ice Forum in Duluth, Georgia, some 50 miles away, to the Akins Ford Arena in downtown Atlanta for its 2014-15 season, the team’s celestial stars seemed to be properly lined up for the coming seasons. Eric Linkowski, who had played at the University of Connecticut and in both the Canadian Hockey League and the East Coast Hockey League, took over as the head coach, and Rick Emmett was named assistant coach, bringing more than 20 years of playing and coaching experience at the elite amateur and professional levels.

In addition, 16 new players were added to the team’s growing roster.

The inaugural year at Akins Ford Arena resulted in an 11-18-0 overall record and ended up with a 1-7-0 season in conference play. But the 2015–2016 season saw a dynamic, new team that compiled an overall season record of 21-3-1, which included a 13-game winning streak. In conference play, the team compiled a 9-0 undefeated season and brought home the Army Strong Championship Cup as the winner of the SECHC tournament. As the winner, the Ice Dawgs earned a berth in the American Collegiate Hockey Association (ACHA) regional tournament for the first time in 10 years.

This season roster included David Spielberger of Atlanta, who finished his rookie season with eight goals, seven assists and 15 points. Spielberger started playing hockey when he was four years old. His dad, Lee, played travel hockey as a kid in Atlanta, which influenced his son to take up the sport.

“My favorite part of UGA Hockey is the friendships that are created on the team,” Spielberger said. “UGA is an extremely large campus, but being on the team makes the campus seem a lot smaller. I have met people that share the same passion as I do and will be able to be friends with them for a long time.”

Grant Schwartz, a senior from Dallas, Texas, who was one of the goalies for the Ice Dawgs, handled 864 shots on goal, only allowing 19 the entire season to reach the back of the net. He started playing when he was eight years old, getting hooked on the sport after putting on all of the goalie gear, playing street hockey in his driveway and roller hockey. He made the transition to ice hockey when he was 10 years old.

“My favorite part of UGA hockey has to be hanging out with the boys on and off the ice,” Schwartz commented. “When you spend the majority of your time with this ‘special’ group of people, it creates a lot of good chemistry which equates to success on the ice.”

“I was very happy to make it to SECHC championship competition, as I saw the potential in our team to win it for the first time in UGA hockey history,” Spielberger added. “When we set goals at the beginning of the year, one was to win this tournament, and I felt our odds were great with the momentum we had going in.”

“After previously playing for less successful Ice Dawgs teams in past seasons, it made winning the championship feel much more special,” Schwartz continued. “It was an excellent display of what hard work and dedication will get you, and I think the UGA hockey family really deserved all of the success that we accomplished.”

At the ACHA regionals, the Ice Dawgs had new competition on their schedule, sending Christopher Newport University packing after a 3-1 victory. Georgia and Vanderbilt met for the third time in a game in which the winner would advance to nationals. After a long fought battle, the Ice Dawgs saw their best season in years come to an end, losing 5-3. And while they did not advance to the national tournament, the team will remember this season for a long, long time.

In addition to Spielberger and Schwartz, the team’s roster includes Atlantan Michael Falkenstein, a senior, assistant captain, and secretary of the hockey foundation who finished his senior season with 11 goals, nine assists and 20 points. All three of these players love the sport, and they are especially grateful for the friendship and kindred spirit that has developed amongst all of the players. When the whistle blows and the puck is dropped, there are no individuals but only teammates.

Alex Carey, the team captain, said it best when he commented that “the variety of backgrounds on this team gives everyone the chance to learn about others. We have learned to play the sport with people who have come to this point from different experiences; we are also learning to understand each other on a higher plain. This makes us a more cohesive and formidable team.”

The athletes will take a few months off before they begin preparing for their 2016-17 season, looking for a shot at nationals and to continue bringing the heat, even on the ice.
Honor your favorite baby mama.

She’ll love it when you drop one—or more—of these on her: Drop necklaces from Aero Diamonds. Beautiful ways to remember all the wonderful things she’s done while saying she’ll always be in your heart.

Fine jewelry, watches and art...

WORTHMORE Jewelers

Amsterdam Walk + 500 L:3 Amsterdam Ave + Midtown + 404/892-8294
Decatur Square + 117 East Court Square + Decatur + 404/370-3979
www.worthmorejewelers.com
THE WEBER SCHOOL
ARTS in April

4-5
A TASTE OF THE ARTS
FINE ARTS NIGHT

4-13
Spring Concert

4-10 - 4-11
ELEVATE
Student Dance Showcase

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT US ONLINE AT WEBERSCHOOL.ORG/ARTS.

ATLANTA FINE HOMES
SOTHEBY’S INTERNATIONAL REALTY

congratulates
No. 5 large team, company-wide
$29 million in sales, 2015!

Selling Cottages to Castles, The Eydie Koonin Group is
“The Team Friends Recommend”

EYDIE KOOKIN + KERI GREENWALD + MIKE TOLTZIS
ek. 404.697.8215 | kg. 404.307.6000 | mt. 404.376.9135
atlantafinehomes.com | 404.237.5000

© MMXVI Sotheby’s International Realty Affiliates, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Equal Housing Opportunity.
Each Office Is Independently Owned And Operated.

FIFTH THIRD BANK
Broadway Atlanta

SUBSCRIBE TODAY FOR THE 16/17 SEASON

THE BEST VALUE. THE BEST SEATS.
THE BEST WAY TO EXPERIENCE BROADWAY.

Learn more about becoming a subscriber at - BroadwayInAtlanta.com • 800-278-4447
BOOK A GROUP: 404.881.2000 • FoxTheatre.org/Group
A simple saliva DNA test can help you plan for a **healthy** future family.

Get screened *before* you start or grow your family. JScreen offers fast, confidential, at-home genetic testing for **Tay-Sachs and other Jewish genetic diseases**. Get screened for more than 100 diseases for only $99.

Know someone who’s planning a family? Purchase a **JGift certificate** for someone you love.

*Take Action. Take control. Get screened.*

JScreen
info@jscreen.org
404-778-8640
## APPETIZERS

- **Matzo Ball Soup** (2 Matzo Balls)  
  $8.95/qt  
  Extra Matzo Balls - $2.00 ea
- **Chopped Chicken Liver**  
  $11.95/lb
- **Chopped Herring**  
  $12.95/lb
- **Charoset**  
  $11.95/lb
- **Gefilte Fish**  
  $3.95 each

## MATZO FARFEL KUGELS

- **Plain Farfel**  
  Small (serves 4-6) $10.95  
  Large (serves 12-14) $21.95
- **Spinach, Mushroom & Onion Farfel Kugel**  
  Small (serves 4-6) $12.95  
  Large (serves 12-14) $26.95

## ENTREES

- **Orange Roasted Chicken**  
  Full $12.95 | Half $6.95
- **Turkey Breast and Gravy**  
  $12.95/lb
- **Goldberg's Famous Brisket**  
  $15.95/lb

## MENU ADDITIONS

- **Shank Bones**  
  $7.95 each
- **Beet Horseradish**  
  Choice of Red or White  
  $4.25 each
- **Egg**  
  $1.25 each
- **Bitter Herb**  
  $2.95 each
- **Charoset**  
  $3.95
- **Whole Seder Plate**  
  (Plate not included)  
  $19.95 each

## VEGETABLES

- **Oven Roasted Potatoes**  
  $19.95/lb
- **Broccoli & Cauliflower with Lemon and Fresh Herbs**  
  $9.95/lb
- **Tzimmes**  
  $13.95/lb
- **Squash Casserole**  
  Small (serves 4-6) $10.95  
  Large (serves 10) $21.95
- **Salads**  
  Choice of Southwest, Garden or Superfood  
  $5.95/person

## DESSERT

- **Coconut Macaroons**  
  $13.99/dozen or $1.50 each
- **Chocolate Dipped Macaroons**  
  $13.99/dozen or $1.50 each
- **Fruit Salad**  
  $5.99/lb

---

For more information contact Howard or Lesley at  
Catering@goldbergbagel.com | 404-256-3751 | www.goldbergbagel.com

---

**ALPHARETTA** - 770-663-8555  
3180 Avalon Blvd  
Alpharetta, GA 30009

**DUNWOODY** - 770-455-1119  
4520 Chamblee Dunwoody Rd  
Atlanta, GA 30338

**EAST COBB** - 770-578-3771  
1062 Johnson Ferry Rd, NE  
Marietta, GA 30068

**BUCKHEAD** - 404-256-3751  
4383 Roswell Rd  
Atlanta, GA 30342

**TOCO HILLS** - 404-329-5000  
3003 N. Druid Hills Rd  
Atlanta, GA 30329

**WEST PACES** - 404-266-0123  
1272 West Paces Ferry Rd, NE  
Atlanta, GA 30327
Jared Powers Named MJCCA CEO

The Board of Directors of the Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta has selected Jared Powers as the agency’s new chief executive officer, effective March 1. Powers previously served as the agency’s chief program officer, overseeing more than $17 million in programming revenue. Powers has been instrumental in growing the agency’s programming, enhancing the quality of programs, and improving customer service.

Powers was selected as a result of a six-month nationwide search, in which 200 candidates from 25 states were considered. The search was spearheaded by a nine-member MJCCA search committee comprising several past presidents and chaired by Past President Sherie Gumer, in conjunction with BoardWalk Consulting.

Powers joined the MJCCA in 2005 as director of Sports and Camping at Shirley Blumenthal Park, rising to senior program director and then relocating, in 2010, to the Zaban Park campus, to serve as chief program officer and member of the MJCCA’s senior management team. Under his leadership, the MJCCA greatly expanded its Day Camps offerings to become the largest

Jared Powers

JCC day camp in the country, enhanced and grew numerous program areas, and created strategic partnerships with organizations such as the Atlanta Hawks.

“As interim CEO for the past six months, I have seen first-hand that there is no better person than Jared to serve as the next CEO of the MJCCA,” said Douglas Kuniansky, who is chair of the Board of Directors, and was acting CEO prior to Powers’ appointment. “His professional experience in operations, programming, and finance, along with his positive relationships with staff and members and his love for the MJCCA, make him perfectly suited for this new role.”

Powers holds a BA in finance from the University of Florida and an MBA in finance from Georgia State University. He grew up participating in MJCCA programs as an Ajecomce camper, BBYO teen, and camper and staff member at Camp Barney Medintz.

The MJCCA continues to shape the life of his family. Powers and his wife reside in Dunwoody with their two sons, who graduated from The Weinstein School preschool, attend the Club J after-school program, participate in MJCCA youth sports, and attend MJCCA Day Camps and Camp Barney Medintz.

In 1948, a memorable Seder in Jerusalem

By David Geffen

“By the end of March 1948, here in Jerusalem the situation was very bad.” Professor David Macarov, speaking last year at a Monday night Fuchsberg Forum, directed by Rabbi Eddie Romm, immediately had us all on the edge of our seats. His presentation focused on the Seder in Jerusalem, in April 1948, which he and his wife, Frieda, attended at their friends Bea and Jerry Renov’s place, in the HaMekasher neighborhood, now an Egged bus company parking lot next to Binyanei HaUma.

Frieda and David Macarov, 1948 (Courtesy of the Macarov family)

“Convoys from the coast were not getting through, despite determined fighting and heavy losses,” Macarov continued. “Frieda and I had no meat since December. The rations called for one egg per week and a quarter loaf of bread. Sugar, rice, potatoes, onions, and margarine were among the items severely rationed. The water pipes to Jerusalem were cut. We lived on a jerry can of cistern water a week.”

Frieda and David Macarov were married in New Jersey in December 1946. They moved into a small apartment in Manhattan in New York. A registered nurse, Frieda began a job at a local municipal health clinic. David continued his work for Mossad Aliyah Bet, a clandestine Zionist operation committed to purchasing ships, boats, tugs, and launches to transport

The Atlanta Jewish Film Festival celebrates its Sweet Sixteen

By Brian Katzowitz

Since 2000, the Atlanta Jewish Film Festival (AJFF) has quietly established itself as a mainstay on the city’s social calendar, while consistently increasing in size and scope. After the conclusion of the 2015 festival, organizers announced they had officially broken away from a pack of more than 200 other Jewish film festivals to become the largest of its kind in the world.

Celebrating its “Sweet 16” this year and with its new status as the global leader in Jewish film under its banner, the festival’s organizers made it clear they don’t plan to rest on their laurels. The 23-day festival kicked
LEARN HOW TO
Energize Your Brain’s Highest Potential
Live your life from your energized brain with more fun and purpose while removing stress
BRAIN ENERGETICS
Your Life with No Limits.

Attend a LIVE Demonstration
FREE
when you pre-registered.
$97 at the door.

Thursday, April 14 @ 7pm
Thursday, May 19 @ 7pm
For information and to pre-register,
http://HBL-4-14-16.eventbrite.com (April)
http://BE-5-19-16.eventbrite.com (May)

Atlanta Alternative Health
6558 Vernon Woods Dr NE
Sandy Springs, 30328
404.267.1830

New Location

AJC Atlanta’s 30th Annual Selig Distinguished Service Award Dinner
honoring
Spring & Tom Asher
WED. MAY 18 2016
ATLANTA HISTORY CENTER

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: DAVID HARRIS
AJC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER | EDWARD AND SANDRA MEYER OFFICE OF THE CEO

6:00PM | Cocktails 7:00PM | Program & Dinner

VISIT AJCATLANTA.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION

SCORE media
ALL YOUR SPORTS MARKETING NEEDS
NEWSLETTERS | EVENTS | SOCIAL MEDIA
WEBCASTING/TV PRODUCTION
WEBSITES | SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS

WWW.SCOREATL.COM | 404.256.1572

AUTOGLO HAND CAR WASH
$69.99 HEADLIGHT RESTORATION SPECIAL!
INCLUDES FREE WASH WITH SERVICE
404.633.4210
2214 Cheshire Bridge Rd. N
Atlanta, GA 30324
**KATZ FAMILY**

**MIDAS**

**WE TAKE CARE OF EVERYTHING**

- **OIL CHANGE**
  - $21.99
  - Up to 6 qts 5w20/30 Conventional Oil
  - In-Stock Oil Filter
  - Courtesy Check w/ visual brake check

**Katz Family Oil Change**

- Up to 6 qts 5w20/30 Conventional Oil
- In-Stock Oil Filter
- Courtesy Check w/ visual brake check

**7 Convenient Locations**

- 820 Holcomb Bridge Rd (East of Alpharetta Pkwy)
  - Roswell, GA 770-998-2074
- 2730 Town Center Dr. NW (Across From Town Center Mall)
  - Kennesaw, GA 770-425-5300
- 1105 Johnson Ferry Rd
  - Marietta, GA 770-509-1838
- 2730 Town Center Dr. NW
  - Marietta, GA 770-425-5300
- 920 Holcomb Bridge Rd (East of Alpharetta Pkwy)
  - Roswell, GA 770-998-2074
- 2730 Town Center Dr. NW (Across From Town Center Mall)
  - Kennesaw, GA 770-425-5300
- 463 Calvin St. N
  - Atlanta, GA 770-461-7731
- 920 Holcomb Bridge Rd (East of Alpharetta Pkwy)
  - Roswell, GA 770-998-2074
- 2730 Town Center Dr. NW (Across From Town Center Mall)
  - Kennesaw, GA 770-425-5300
- 1105 Johnson Ferry Rd
  - Marietta, GA 770-509-1838

**THE JEWISH GEORGIAN**

**March-April 2016**

**THE JEWISH GEORGIAN**

**Page 31**

**Hadassah Greater Atlanta**

proudly invites the community to join us in honoring the recipients of **The Marian F. Perling Hadassah Chessed Student Awards** at a special Centennial event in memory of Marian F. Perling z”l

Sunday, May 15, 2016
2:30 – 4:00 p.m.
Congregation Or VeShalom
1681 North Druid Hills Road NE, Brookhaven, GA 30319

The Marian F. Perling Hadassah Chessed Student Awards recognizes outstanding students in Jewish day schools and yeshivas for their love for Israel, concern for fellow Jews, Jewish culture and help-human efforts and good academic standing. Each year the exceptional accomplishments, high ideals and aspirations of the Chessed recipients are awe-inspiring, as a special tribute to Hadassah Atlanta’s Centennial year, this year’s Chessed program will also be highlighting a spotlight on its alumni.

RSVPs appreciated by May 10th
Hadassah Greater Atlanta
Phone: 478-443-2901

**Katz Family**

**OIL CHANGE**

- Up to 6 qts 5w20/30 Conventional Oil
- In-Stock Oil Filter
- Courtesy Check w/ visual brake check
- No change to sneak
- Refreshments served
- Dietary laws observed

**WE TAKE CARE OF EVERYTHING**

- 820 Holcomb Bridge Rd (East of Alpharetta Pkwy)
  - Roswell, GA 770-998-2074
- 2730 Town Center Dr. NW (Across From Town Center Mall)
  - Kennesaw, GA 770-425-5300
- 920 Holcomb Bridge Rd (East of Alpharetta Pkwy)
  - Roswell, GA 770-998-2074
- 2730 Town Center Dr. NW (Across From Town Center Mall)
  - Kennesaw, GA 770-425-5300
- 463 Calvin St. N (Hudson Plaza)
  - Atlanta, GA 770-461-7731
- 1105 Johnson Ferry Rd
  - Marietta, GA 770-509-1838

**VITALS**

- 678.894.9667
- www.hearatlanta.com

**Happy Passover! Your Neighborhood Audiologists**

**Hearing Loss? Memory Loss? Which is it?**

Mild to moderate memory loss and hearing loss can have the same symptoms.

Schedule an appointment today for a **FREE** wellness hearing screening

Transportation available — Please call for more information

5 Convenient Locations

- 7113 Mt. Vernon Rd., Suite 3
  - 678.894.9667
- 1911 Williamsburg Dr., Suite A
  - 404.935.0260
- 1501 Old Concord Road, Suite 102
  - 770.654.0578
- 478.452.0578

**THE LONDON FAMILY**

**AgeSmart Lectures**

**JEWISH HOME LIFE COMMUNITIES**

**How to Drop the “Shoulds” On Your Path to Living Well**

Presented by
Sarah H. Kagan, PhD, RN
University of Pennsylvania

Sometimes the pressure of doing what “they” say “you should” can be an impediment to making the changes that are right for you. Join us to learn how to stop giving in to artificial assumptions about healthy aging and embrace your own path to living well.

**Sunday, April 17th**

11:00 am — 12:30 pm

The William Breman Jewish Home
3150 Howell Mill Road, NW, Atlanta

This event is free and open to all!

No matter what your age and perspective on health and well being, you’ll want to join the conversation.

Space is limited • RSVP Today • 404.351.8410 • www.JewishHomeLife.org

**RSVP Today**

**404.351.8410**

**www.JewishHomeLife.org**

**Sunday, April 17th**

**11:00 am — 12:30 pm**

The William Breman Jewish Home
3150 Howell Mill Road, NW, Atlanta

This event is free and open to all!

No matter what your age and perspective on health and well being, you’ll want to join the conversation.

Space is limited • RSVP Today • 404.351.8410 • www.JewishHomeLife.org

**“Drink more water!” “Stop eating sugar!” “Meditate!” “Exercise more!” “Care for your parents!”**

**How to Drop the “Shoulds” On Your Path to Living Well**

Presented by
Sarah H. Kagan, PhD, RN
University of Pennsylvania

Sometimes the pressure of doing what “they” say “you should” can be an impediment to making the changes that are right for you. Join us to learn how to stop giving in to artificial assumptions about healthy aging and embrace your own path to living well.

**Sunday, April 17th**

11:00 am — 12:30 pm

The William Breman Jewish Home
3150 Howell Mill Road, NW, Atlanta

This event is free and open to all!

No matter what your age and perspective on health and well being, you’ll want to join the conversation.

Space is limited • RSVP Today • 404.351.8410 • www.JewishHomeLife.org

**“Drink more water!” “Stop eating sugar!” “Meditate!” “Exercise more!” “Care for your parents!”**

**How to Drop the “Shoulds” On Your Path to Living Well**

Presented by
Sarah H. Kagan, PhD, RN
University of Pennsylvania

Sometimes the pressure of doing what “they” say “you should” can be an impediment to making the changes that are right for you. Join us to learn how to stop giving in to artificial assumptions about healthy aging and embrace your own path to living well.

**Sunday, April 17th**

11:00 am — 12:30 pm

The William Breman Jewish Home
3150 Howell Mill Road, NW, Atlanta

This event is free and open to all!

No matter what your age and perspective on health and well being, you’ll want to join the conversation.

Space is limited • RSVP Today • 404.351.8410 • www.JewishHomeLife.org
MJCCA News

DR. BUXBAUM HONORED. Dr. Shelley Buxbaum, director of the MJCCA’s Lisa F. Brill Institute for Jewish Learning, was honored for her leadership at the 21st Annual International Directors Conference, for the Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning, in San Diego. Dr. Buxbaum was one of three Melton program directors honored during the conference; this is the fourth time she has been honored by the Melton organization.

The Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning is a two-year, non-denominational Jewish education program and part of the Lisa F. Brill Institute for Jewish Learning. The MJCCA’s program has become one of Melton’s largest and most successful.

Dr. Buxbaum earned bachelor of religious education, M.A., and Ph.D. degrees from the Jewish Theological Seminary and received a bachelor of arts degree in religion and anthropology from Barnard College. While earning her Ph.D., she attended Bank Street College and was invited to the Hebrew University as a visiting scholar. She has been with the MJCCA since 2009.

HARRIS JACOBS DREAM RUN. The 23rd Annual Harris Jacobs Dream Run is Sunday, May 1. Proceeds from the 2016 HDR support programming for individuals with special needs at the MJCCA.

The HDR was created 23 years ago to serve the community with a fun, active, and family-friendly event that honors the memory of Harris Jacobs—a past president of the MJCCA, beloved member of the Atlanta Jewish community, and staunch children’s advocate.

The 5K Road Race begins at Zaban Park, at 8:00 a.m., and follows a certified, family-friendly course through Dunwoody neighborhoods. A one-mile Special Needs Community Walk also begins at 8:00 a.m. Both end at Zaban Park.

All pre-registered runners will receive a high-performance T-shirt, and there will be awards and prizes following the race.

The HDR course is certified as a 2017 Peachtree Road Race qualifier, allowing runners to use their times to qualify for a start wave in the Peachtree Road Race. Each participant will be chip-timed at the start and finish lines.

There will be a family-friendly, post-race party with food, music, raffles, and local vendors.

The HDR requires approximately 60 volunteers to help with registration, the starting line, water stations, and the finish line. To volunteer, contact Pam Morton, at 678-812-3981 or hjdr@atlantajcc.org.

The HDR chair is Brian Ross; Hannah Yahaba O’Donoghue is vice-chair. Register at atlantajcc.org/HDR, active.com, or in person at the MJCCA, 5342 Tilly Mill Road, Dunwoody.

For complete details, including a full schedule and registration fees, visit atlantajcc.org/HJDR.

HARRIS JACOBS DREAM RUN (HJD) begins, 2015 (photos: Jennifer Bienstock, MJCCA)

ROSENBERG HONORED. Josh Rosenberg is the first recipient of the MJCCA’s Steven and Janet Cadranel Biennial Young Leadership Award. This award will fund Rosenberg’s travel to Baltimore, to represent the MJCCA at the JCCs of North America Biennial Awards Ceremony, in May. This award celebrates emerging MJCCA leaders, in honor of Steven and Janet and their children, Asher, Morris, and Max Benator families, as well as the Albert Tenenbaum family.

Rosenberg, a principal with Bessemer Trust, sits on the MJCCA’s Board of Directors and is co-chair of the MJCCA’s Erwin Zaban Leadership Development Program. As well as the JCCs Biennial, Rosenberg will be a part of the JCC’s prestigious Esther Leah Ritz Emerging JCC Leaders Institute. Emerging JCC Leaders are crucial to the JCC movement; the biennial is considered a starting point in a long-term relationship among the movement’s future leaders.

FOR THE LOVE OF TREES. The MJCCA and Trees Atlanta are embarking on a new partnership. During their first event, Family Tree Planting Day, February 7, children in the Club J after-school program, as well as teens and their families, planted 21 trees at the MJCCA’s Zaban Park campus, outside of the Kuniansky Family Center. Twelve trees were purchased by the MJCCA and the rest were donated by Trees Atlanta. Trees Atlanta is also conducting educational programs at the MJCCA, teaching participants about the various species on campus and how to care for them.

On March 6, the Teen Department was involved in a community service project with Trees Atlanta, along the Atlanta BeltLine. As part of J-Serve, the International Day of Jewish Youth Service, participants cut back overgrowth in the area.

This partnership marks the first time Trees Atlanta has worked with an organization outside Atlanta’s Perimeter, according to Co-Executive Director and Chief Program Officer Greg Levine.

According to Trees Atlanta, DeKalb County and the Dunwoody area lost fewer trees to development than Fulton, Cobb, and Gwinnett counties, which lead metro Atlanta for urban tree loss. “We are excited to be able to help ensure these areas don’t fall prey to the tree loss seen in other parts of metropolitan Atlanta. With its heavily wooded, 52-acre Dunwoody campus, the MJCCA was a perfect fit,” Levine adds.

At the MJCCA’s Family Tree Planting Day: (front, from left) Alexandra Berkowitz and Emily Friedenberg; and (back) Jay Silverman and Susan Friedenberg


For the 3:00 p.m. Master Cooking Class, Chef Shoyer will prepare a recipe from her book. This class will take place in the MJCCA’s state-of-the-art culinary studio, in the Kuniansky Family Center. Space is limited. Tickets, $65/MJCCA members and $80/community, include the class, a copy of the book, and admission to the author talk that evening.

For the 7:30 p.m. Author Talk and Signing, Chef Shoyer will discuss how her innovative Passover collection celebrates culinary freedom, while still honoring the holiday’s dietary rules. Tickets are $10/MJCCA members and $15/community.

To purchase tickets, call the MJCCA Box Office, 678-812-4002, or visit atlantajcc.org/bookfestival.

DIKEMBE MUTOMBO AT EDGewise SPEAKER SERIES. The MJCCA hosted NBA Hall of Famer and Atlanta Hawks legend Dikembe Mutombo, as part of its Edgewise Speaker Series, on February 4. Mutombo discussed his Dikembe Mutombo Foundation, which seeks to improve the quality of life for people in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Mutombo is most recognized for his years in the NBA, six of which were played with the Atlanta Hawks. He is also known for his charitable work and passion for giving back. He has been a spokesman for the international relief agency CARE.

Oliver Eden (left) and Jason Eden enjoy Family Tree Planting Day

Paula Shoyer (photos: Sterling Epicure)

Dr. Shelley Buxbaum (center) with executives of Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning (photo: Florence Melton School of Adult Learning)
was the first youth emissary for the U.N. Development Program, and now serves on the boards of the National Constitution Center, Special Olympics International, the CDC Foundation, and the U.S. Fund for UNICEF.

He was joined by Dr. Lillian Schapiro, an OB/GYN at Peachtree Women’s Specialists, P.C., who has participated in volunteer medical missions to the Biafra Marie Mutombo Hospital, in the Congo. Schapiro is one of the first recipients of the Caring for Congo Award, given by the Dikembe Mutombo Foundation.

Nathalie Dupree, of Charleston, is the author of 13 cookbooks, including Shrimp and Grits Cookbook. She has hosted more than 300 television shows and specials that have shown nationally on PBS, Food Network, and The Learning Channel. Cynthia Graubart, of Atlanta, is the author of Slow Cooking for Two, Double Dinners for Two, and The One-Arm Cook. She has a regular column in Southern Living, Dikembe and Graubart are coauthors of the James Beard Award-winning Mastering the Art of Southern Cooking, as well as Southern Biscuits.

YOUNG GARDENERS. For the students of The Sunshine School, the MJCCA’s preschool in East Cobb, it’s all about the basil. The preschoolers are developing green thumbs and enjoying the fruits and vegetables of their labor, through an edible organic gardening program. All of The Sunshine School’s students are involved, and they help plant, water, and harvest what is grown. According to school Director Raye Lynn Banks, the teachers present lessons that correspond with what the children are doing in the garden. The students are learning things in a real, hands-on way. For example, if a teacher has a lesson about plant nutrition, the students will get to directly apply this knowledge to their work that day in the garden,” Banks says. Other topics include composting and the importance of worms to a garden.

Though the students grow herbs, including basil, lavender, mint, oregano, parsley, sage, rosemary, thyme, and chives year-round in the two on-site gardens, most of what is grown is seasonal. The summer gardens feature tomatoes, cucumbers, okra, corn, edamame, strawberries, marigolds, and sunflowers, while the fall and winter gardens include items such as lettuce, carrots, radishes, spinach, kale, cauliflower, broccoli, kohlrabi, Swiss chard, Brussels sprouts, and garlic. “We even grew a pumpkin, just in time for fall,” says Banks. These lessons correspond with the school’s wellness curriculum, which seeks to inspire preschoolers and their parents to embrace healthy eating habits and physical fitness at an early age. The gardens feature a compost bin, and the preschoolers help by putting food scraps and yard waste into the bins. In turn, they learn how compost is used to enrich the soil.

Just being exposed to the healthy foods they grow in the garden is having a positive impact on the students. “The children love getting to eat the food they grow,” Banks explains, and adds that, on occasion, teachers will even make recipes featuring fresh foods from the garden. “We encourage the children to at least try everything. If they think it is something they will not like, we will tell them how much better it will taste if they try it, and they usually persuade them to try things that are outside of their comfort zone.”

Parents are thrilled with the enthusiasm for healthy foods many of the preschoolers are bringing home. “In fact, one parent sent me a message on Facebook thanking me, because her son tried and loved okra from the school’s vegetable garden, and he now asks for okra as a snack. This is what the program is all about,” concludes Banks.

The Sunshine School is located at Temple Kol Emeth at 1415 Old Canton Road, Marietta, in East Cobb County.

JEWISH TEENS GIVE BACK. Approximately 250 metro Atlanta teens, along with 11,000 Jewish teens in 80 communities across 16 countries, participated in a day of community service and improvement projects, as part of J-Serve, an International Day of Jewish Youth Service, on March 6.

Teens from the MJCCA chose from 11 projects and worked with teens from other organizations. Projects included: hosting a party for adults with special needs, with enAble of Georgia; attending Remember and Respond: Holocaust Awareness and Refugee program, with Am Yisrael Chai; earning CPR certification and learning about Israeli technology, with StandWithUs and Hadassah; hosting a party for youth with special needs at the Birthday Club, with The Friendship Circle; sorting and packing meals for families in need, at Action Ministries’ Feed the Hungry program; attending the Israel Advocacy Training and Service Fair with StandWithUs, American Jewish Committee, Alexander Muss High School in Israel, Jewish National Fund, and Jerusalem U; and planting trees and landscaping along the Beltline, with Trees Atlanta.

“J-Serve is not only a meaningful day of service but an opportunity for teens to make a Jewish connection to our traditions and values. We know the importance of helping others, and J-Serve is an annual program for us to come together as Jewish teens to make a difference in our community,” said Zoe Toporek, an 11th-grader at The Weber School, and a J-Serve planning committee member.

SUPPER WITH SURVIVORS. It was a mitzvah years in the making, as more than 70 young adults joined more than 40 Holocaust survivors at the MJCCA, February 21, for Supper with Survivors. Each survivor was paired with a young adult, with the hope that connections and friendships would be made.

Spearheaded by Young Adult Program Director Roey Shoshan, the event has been a dream of his since he began working at the MJCCA, in 2011. “My first interaction with a Holocaust survivor was in Israel, when I was 10 years old,” said Shoshan, a native of Petach Tikva, Israel. “The experience made a huge impact on me, and I always made a point to visit survivors to hear their stories, so I thought it would be worthwhile to connect my generation with Holocaust survivors.”

The MJCCA embraced the idea, and Karen Edlin, from Eternal Life-Hemshech, an Atlanta-based organization formed to honor the memory of Holocaust victims and survivors, provided event funding and support. The response from the MJCCA’s young adults, as well as the survivors, was immediate, and spots filled up quickly.

“Our goal was to create special connections—simply bringing the two sides to the dinner table was not enough,” Shoshan explains. The young adults were required to phone their survivors before the event to make arrangements for evening, pick them up at their homes, accompany them to the event, sit with them at dinner, and then take them home. “We felt the car ride would serve as a great ice breaker,” he adds.

By the time they arrived at the MJCCA, participants were smiling, chatting, and looking forward to the dinner, where the animated conversations continued. Following the event, many young adult attendees were posting meaningful posts on social media outlets.

“Connections were being created before our eyes,” says Shoshan. “Slowly, photos and documents were being passed around, and meaningful bonds were being formed.”

Elizabeth Mennen, 27, an actuary from Inman Park, was on board from the moment she found out about the event. “I attended something similar while I was in college and found it extremely powerful,” she says. “I am aware that my generation is really the last to have the opportunity to get to know these survivors, and it is a privilege I do not take lightly.”

Mennen, who co-chairs the MJCCA’s Young Adult Committee, is an active participant in the center’s co-ed sports leagues; she met her fiancé, Zach Shuder, at the MJCCA, playing on a co-ed dodgeball team. The couple was paired with Ben Walker, an 81-year-old survivor from Romania.

Though she was apprehensive beforehand, Mennen says she was blown away at the event, “You have to sort of experience it to understand,” she says. “You just have to be there.”

Elizabeth Mennen, 27, an actuary from Inman Park, was on board from the moment she found out about the event. “I attended something similar while I was in college and found it extremely powerful,” she says. “I am aware that my generation is really the last to have the opportunity to get to know these survivors, and it is a privilege I do not take lightly.”

Mennen, who co-chairs the MJCCA’s Young Adult Committee, is an active participant in the center’s co-ed sports leagues; she met her fiancé, Zach Shuder, at the MJCCA, playing on a co-ed dodgeball team. The couple was paired with Ben Walker, an 81-year-old survivor from Romania. Though she was apprehensive beforehand, Mennen says she was blown away at the event, “You have to sort of experience it to understand,” she says. “You just have to be there.”
illness, she met the young couple when they dropped Ben off at the end of the night. She continues, “Ben and Ruth were able to tell their stories with such grace, and they had so much insight and life to share. In such a short time with them, we were able to genuinely connect in a very meaningful way.” Mennen immediately shared the experience with family and friends, posting photos and an emotional commentary on Facebook. “I am honored to be able to pass along their stories for the rest of my life. The whole experience made me feel deeply proud to be Jewish.”

Mennen and Shader plan to have dinner with Ben and Ruth next month. Mennen’s experience and feedback from other young adult participants, as well as comments from the survivors, proved the experiment was a huge success. The MJCCA is already thinking about next year’s event, and hopes to host more outings with the survivors.

Films such as Above and Beyond (2015) and Run Boy Run (2014) explored ways in which we cope with personal tragedy and come to terms with our past. This year’s film is no different, but instead of introducing such weighty themes via a documentary retrospective or World War II period piece, it is a present-day suspense thriller borrowing elements from Hitchcock and Polanski.

The story follows the experiences of Zev Gutman, an Auschwitz survivor living out his days in a retirement home, while slowly succumbing to the onset of dementia. Following the death of his wife, Zev is reminded by Max, his closest friend and fellow camp survivor, of a promise he had made to seek vengeance on the person responsible for their sufferings.

And thus Zev sets out on a mission of retribution, aided by handwritten notes that fill in the gaps of his memory. The script, penned by Benjamin August, cleverly keeps the audience in the dark about the details of the plan, creating a sense of confusion that better illustrates the worsening state of Zev’s mental capacity.

Christopher Plummer gives an astonishing performance, convincingly conveying a man adjusting to a present-day life he doesn’t understand, while coming to grips with a past he can’t remember. As his journey progresses and the totality of the plot is revealed to the audience, the tension and pace intensify, leading to a gripping third act. While the conclusion leaves more questions than answers, Remember ultimately shows us how the passing of time not only fades the scars of history, but also can manipulate our own memories.

In a Q&A session following the screening, August noted that his motivation to write this story was partly driven by a ticking clock. Time is running out to tell stories set in the present day about the people who witnessed the atrocities of the Holocaust first-hand.

Throughout the three-week event, the festival showcased other films delving into the lives of people who were impacted by the Nazi regime. What Our Fathers Did: A Nazi Legacy examines the descendants of Nazi war criminals and the conflict of loving a father who left behind a legacy of genocide.

While Holocaust films will always have a strong presence in Jewish cinema, one of the strengths of AJFF is the diversity of the film selection. A new generation of Jewish millennials, who bring a different perspective on politics and religious identity, are sure to have a stronger voice in the coming years. Now that the festival has finally reached the top of the mountain, in terms of audience size, the question moving forward for festival leaders will be how to continue attracting large audiences while offering more intimate films with lesser-known subjects.
Seder

From page 29

Frieda, Varda (daughter), and David Macarov at a Seder on Passover, 1948, Jaffa, Israel (Courtesy of The Cuba Family Archives for Southern Jewish History at The Breman Museum)

David and Frieda Macarov at their wedding (Courtesy of the Macarov family)

Frieda, also present at the Monday night forum, recalled a conversation back in 1947. “As David arrived home one day in February, I told him a letter had arrived in 1947. “As David arrived home one day in February, I told him a letter had arrived in 1947. On the 10th of April, 1948, rumors were rife that a convoy would get through with food supplies before Passover.

The trucks became real as they emerged downtown Jerusalem.

“In early November,” David recalled, “all 18 American Jewish war vets at the university were called to a private meeting. A Haganah operative, born in the USA, but in Jerusalem since he was two, told us in broken English that we did not have to volunteer, but the Haganah needed our military talents, so it was hoped we would sign on even though it was illegal.”

David had a lot of Haganah adventures, some more dangerous than others. Frieda was not officially a member, but she performed secret missions as well for the group. They lived through the vote on November 29, 1947, the passing of the U.N. partition plan, the bombings of The Jerusalem Post and the Jewish Agency building, and other events in 1948, until Israel became a state.

“As April dawned,” Frieda stressed, “my friend Bea Renov, by then a mother, spoke to me about the forthcoming holiday.” Bea grew up in Atlanta, and was a Zionist enthusiast through the ‘30s and the ‘40s in Young Judea and at the religious school at the Shearith Israel synagogue run by Samuel Geffen, a son of Rabbi Tobias Geffen. She spoke Yiddish with her parents, the Sirotas, and during WWII, as president of Southern Region Young Judea, she organized Hebrew-speaking groups for the membership.

“Bea informed me that it was best to have the Seder at the Renov’s place,” Frieda said. “She explained that a neighbor had introduced her to the mallow plant, which grew wild, and taught her what to prepare from it. As a result, her breast milk had risen in quality, and Bea herself had gotten stronger. The decision was made—Seder at the Renovs.

The only problem—little or no food. “Chief Rabbi Herzog understood how to help people who wanted to observe Passover in the midst of all this turmoil,” Macarov explained. “Herzog made a psak that all food, even if it had a hametz content, was kosher to eat on Passover.” A Ph.D. scientist, as well as a noted talmid chacham, the chief rabbi calmed the religious fears of the 100,000 Jews residing in Jerusalem.

“A few American Haganah friends of mine had been participating in the digging of what became the famous Burma Road. Now I know Mickey Marcus planned it and saw to its completion before he was accidentally killed.” David Macarov emphasized that around the 10th of April 1948, rumors were rife that a convoy would get through with food supplies before Passover.

An American female Haganah member, Ziporah Porath, wrote to her family in Brooklyn. “We felt that the siege would be broken for the chag.” Through his vivid description, Professor Macarov placed Jerusalemites 2015 in Jerusalem April 1948, two days before Pesach.

Go down to the current string bridge today in Jerusalem and imagine hundreds of Jerusalemites—maybe thousands—lining Herzl Boulevard and other crowds sprawled along Jaffa Road down to the Shaarey Tzedek hospital. All awaiting the convoy. The trucks became real as they emerged from the road below into the city. We were all in tears as we viewed what was plastered on every windshield—the biblical words—im eskhaacheh yerushalayim—‘if I forget thee o Jerusalem let my right hand wither.’ We ran to the trucks driving in—grabbed the drivers—handed them flowers—embraced them as best we could. The local girls kissed all the drivers. The Yom Suf into Jerusalem had been split, and the bearers of subsistence came through safely.

The Macarvos received eggs, a chicken, matzoh, and other dried foods. The Renovs were given more of everything, because they had a baby. On the night of their arrival, the drivers were feted throughout the city and invited to a multitude of Sedarim. “I remember Jerusalem governor Dov Yosef, nattily dressed, shaking hands with the drivers and embracing them warmly. From afar it seemed to me Rabbi Herzog was blessing those who had gotten through.”

On the Seder night, the two couples, four American-born Jerusalemites and a RenovSabra under the table for protection, took a different breath, slowly realizing that they had left a symbolic Egypt and were living in Yerushalayim.

“Seder,” David announced, “is the order we give to life. This Jerusalem Seder is much, much more. It is freedom, it is on our own soil, it is the laughing and crying of a baby born here. Our ancestors were slaves to Pharaoh in Egypt—our sisters and brothers were slaves and slaughtered in Europe, but remnants have survived with God’s help and our hands, and are in this special city tonight.”

Get The Jewish Georgian at home

Receive the next 6 issues for only $20

Name:
Address:
City:_________________________State:________Zip:

Please mail this form together with your check to:

The Jewish Georgian
8495 Dunwoody Place • Suite 200 • Atlanta, GA 30350

This article is reprinted from The Jerusalem Post, with permission.

Jerry Renov continued, “We are eating the bread of affliction, the staple of the desert wanderers, but just as they were privileged to enter this land, we are too. Baruch ata adonai eloyhem melech haolam sheheheynu vekimam vaheigianu lazman hazeh—we are alive and blessed to reach this moment, amen.”

It is with great sadness that we note the passing of David Macarov (z’l), in January of this year.
SLINGSHOT RECOGNIZES ATLANTA ORGANIZATIONS. Slingshot has released Slingshot ’16—its 11th annual guide to North America’s most innovative Jewish organizations. Four Atlanta organizations—Jewish Kids Group, Atlanta Jewish Music Festival, Screen, and SOJOURN—are included in this go-to resource for volunteers, activists, and donors looking for new opportunities and projects to help ensure the Jewish community remains relevant and thriving.

Among the hundreds of organizations that applied for inclusion, 50 were selected, based on their innovative approach, the impact they have in their work, the leadership they have in their sector, and their effectiveness at achieving results.

CAMP LIVING WONDERS. Camp Living Wonders is now accepting applications for summer 2016. This is the Southeast’s only Jewish overnight camp built to empower kids with special needs and their families to integrate into their communities with confidence and independence. At Camp Living Wonders, campers develop independence and Jewish pride, make developmental strides, and form extraordinary bonds with other campers and staff. Scholarships are available. For more information, visit camplivingwonders.org.

Gum control

By Eva Friedlander

No, the title is not a typo. It’s a rather amusing story going back to the days when American chewing gum was a big sensation in Europe.

I remember, as a little girl in Europe, how all of my little playmates, boys and girls, gathered in their families’ cellars or basement storage rooms with their precious novelty of packaged American chewing gum. The kids formed clubs solely dedicated to their new favorite pastime of unwrapping the neatly, individually packaged pieces of chewing gum and chewing away for hours, dreaming about the wonderful young country that gave the world so many exciting new notions and lifestyles.

Parents were not too happy about this new pastime, worrying about their children possibly ruining their teeth or, heaven forbid, swallowing the gum. None of this kept the children from pursuing this new hobby.

This was also the perfect setting for talking about the wonderful American cowboy movies that the children had seen in the movie theaters and having contests to see who could keep the chewing gum chewable longer. One redeeming element of the new pastime was that it was considered less harmful than experimenting with cigarettes or cigars.

This rather harmless fad from my childhood popped in my mind, when so much is being discussed in the media and even by our president in his recent speech about gun control.

Wouldn’t it be better if we all just chewed more gum?
You've played all over the world to many Atlanta debut and plans for the future. To ask Tair, Liron, and Tagel about their singers, and more.

In full swing, with a diverse line-up of the Atlanta Jewish Music Festival featured global sensation A-WA headed to the mountains to join the armed of men and women who took up arms and Organized by the Jewish Museum of Greece, “Synagogists” an exhibition about Greek Jews who escaped Nazi forces and joined Greece’s resistance movements during the Holocaust. The exhibition at the Katz Family Mainstreet Gallery will run from March 30-May 15. The exhibition at the Katz Family Mainstreet Gallery will run from March 30-May 15. Organized by the Jewish Museum of Greece, “Synagogists” tells the personal stories of men and women who took up arms and headed to the mountains to join the armed resistance. Photographs, documents, letters, proclamations, underground newspapers, and other relevant materials are presented for the first time. For details, visit atlantajcc.org.

JEWS FOR FERTILITY FOUNDATION FUNDRAISER. Games & Dames, an evening for women of all ages, is April 7, 7:00-10:00 p.m., at Congregation B’nai Torah. The Jewish Fertility Foundation’s first fundraising event, Games & Dames will feature Mah Jongg, Canasta, Bunko, and more. Guests can bring their teams, come alone, or join a learning table. The evening includes dessert, drinks, and wine, plus doors prizes and raffles. The event is $30 in advance, $36 at the door. Pre-register at jewishfertilityfoundation.org/gamesdames.html, or a send a check to Jewish Fertility Foundation 2472 Jett Ferry Road, Suite 400-180, Dunwoody, GA, 30338. For details, visit jewishfertilityfoundation.org/upcoming-events.html.

MEET AUDREY JACOBS. On April 7, 5:30-8:00 p.m., Conexx Women presents Audrey Jacobs, vice president of OurCrowd. Jacobs oversees the Americas activities, building the investor community and leveraging the investor’s network to develop the OurCrowd portfolio companies. Through her lectures, she educates about the risk and reward of investing in early-stage companies, as well as how to raise capital. Prior to OurCrowd, Audrey spent 20 years building brands for technology companies with leading global public relations firms, such as Porter Novelli. For information, contact Orna Sharon, at 914-924-8642.

ART OUT LOUD. On Sunday, April 17, 2:00-4:00 p.m., the Jewish Tower in conjunction with Jewish Family and Career Services (JF&CS), will host their annual Art Out Loud Art Show at the Jewish Tower. The show will feature more than 100 pieces of work ranging from abstract painting to watercolor, and collage. The afternoon will include tasty treats, music, video, and a live raffle. Art Out Loud will take place at The Jewish Tower, 3160 Howell Mill Road. Families are welcome. For more information, contact Danielle Dollinger at ddollinger@jcs-atlanta.org or 770-677-9344.

NEVER FORGET. On Sunday, May 8, 3:30-4:30 p.m., the Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta (MJCCA) will hold a special Holocaust Remembrance Day, Yom HaShoah, in early-stage companies, as well as how to raise capital. Prior to OurCrowd, Audrey spent 20 years building brands for technology companies with leading global public relations firms, such as Porter Novelli. For information, contact Orna Sharon, at 914-924-8642.

ART OUT LOUD. On Sunday, April 17, 2:00-4:00 p.m., the Jewish Tower in conjunction with Jewish Family and Career Services (JF&CS), will host their annual Art Out Loud Art Show at the Jewish Tower. The show will feature more than 100 pieces of work ranging from abstract painting to watercolor, and collage. The afternoon will include tasty treats, music, video, and a live raffle. Art Out Loud will take place at The Jewish Tower, 3160 Howell Mill Road. Families are welcome. For more information, contact Danielle Dollinger at ddollinger@jcs-atlanta.org or 770-677-9344.

NEVER FORGET. On Sunday, May 8, 3:30-4:30 p.m., the Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta (MJCCA) will hold a special Holocaust Remembrance Day, Yom HaShoah, in early-stage companies, as well as how to raise capital. Prior to OurCrowd, Audrey spent 20 years building brands for technology companies with leading global public relations firms, such as Porter Novelli. For information, contact Orna Sharon, at 914-924-8642.

ART OUT LOUD. On Sunday, April 17, 2:00-4:00 p.m., the Jewish Tower in conjunction with Jewish Family and Career Services (JF&CS), will host their annual Art Out Loud Art Show at the Jewish Tower. The show will feature more than 100 pieces of work ranging from abstract painting to watercolor, and collage. The afternoon will include tasty treats, music, video, and a live raffle. Art Out Loud will take place at The Jewish Tower, 3160 Howell Mill Road. Families are welcome. For more information, contact Danielle Dollinger at ddollinger@jcs-atlanta.org or 770-677-9344.

NEVER FORGET. On Sunday, May 8, 3:30-4:30 p.m., the Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta (MJCCA) will hold a special Holocaust Remembrance Day, Yom HaShoah, in early-stage companies, as well as how to raise capital. Prior to OurCrowd, Audrey spent 20 years building brands for technology companies with leading global public relations firms, such as Porter Novelli. For information, contact Orna Sharon, at 914-924-8642.

ART OUT LOUD. On Sunday, April 17, 2:00-4:00 p.m., the Jewish Tower in conjunction with Jewish Family and Career Services (JF&CS), will host their annual Art Out Loud Art Show at the Jewish Tower. The show will feature more than 100 pieces of work ranging from abstract painting to watercolor, and collage. The afternoon will include tasty treats, music, video, and a live raffle. Art Out Loud will take place at The Jewish Tower, 3160 Howell Mill Road. Families are welcome. For more information, contact Danielle Dollinger at ddollinger@jcs-atlanta.org or 770-677-9344.

NEVER FORGET. On Sunday, May 8, 3:30-4:30 p.m., the Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta (MJCCA) will hold a special Holocaust Remembrance Day, Yom HaShoah, in early-stage companies, as well as how to raise capital. Prior to OurCrowd, Audrey spent 20 years building brands for technology companies with leading global public relations firms, such as Porter Novelli. For information, contact Orna Sharon, at 914-924-8642.

ART OUT LOUD. On Sunday, April 17, 2:00-4:00 p.m., the Jewish Tower in conjunction with Jewish Family and Career Services (JF&CS), will host their annual Art Out Loud Art Show at the Jewish Tower. The show will feature more than 100 pieces of work ranging from abstract painting to watercolor, and collage. The afternoon will include tasty treats, music, video, and a live raffle. Art Out Loud will take place at The Jewish Tower, 3160 Howell Mill Road. Families are welcome. For more information, contact Danielle Dollinger at ddollinger@jcs-atlanta.org or 770-677-9344.

NEVER FORGET. On Sunday, May 8, 3:30-4:30 p.m., the Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta (MJCCA) will hold a special Holocaust Remembrance Day, Yom HaShoah, in early-stage companies, as well as how to raise capital. Prior to OurCrowd, Audrey spent 20 years building brands for technology companies with leading global public relations firms, such as Porter Novelli. For information, contact Orna Sharon, at 914-924-8642.

ART OUT LOUD. On Sunday, April 17, 2:00-4:00 p.m., the Jewish Tower in conjunction with Jewish Family and Career Services (JF&CS), will host their annual Art Out Loud Art Show at the Jewish Tower. The show will feature more than 100 pieces of work ranging from abstract painting to watercolor, and collage. The afternoon will include tasty treats, music, video, and a live raffle. Art Out Loud will take place at The Jewish Tower, 3160 Howell Mill Road. Families are welcome. For more information, contact Danielle Dollinger at ddollinger@jcs-atlanta.org or 770-677-9344.

NEVER FORGET. On Sunday, May 8, 3:30-4:30 p.m., the Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta (MJCCA) will hold a special Holocaust Remembrance Day, Yom HaShoah, in early-stage companies, as well as how to raise capital. Prior to OurCrowd, Audrey spent 20 years building brands for technology companies with leading global public relations firms, such as Porter Novelli. For information, contact Orna Sharon, at 914-924-8642.

ART OUT LOUD. On Sunday, April 17, 2:00-4:00 p.m., the Jewish Tower in conjunction with Jewish Family and Career Services (JF&CS), will host their annual Art Out Loud Art Show at the Jewish Tower. The show will feature more than 100 pieces of work ranging from abstract painting to watercolor, and collage. The afternoon will include tasty treats, music, video, and a live raffle. Art Out Loud will take place at The Jewish Tower, 3160 Howell Mill Road. Families are welcome. For more information, contact Danielle Dollinger at ddollinger@jcs-atlanta.org or 770-677-9344.

NEVER FORGET. On Sunday, May 8, 3:30-4:30 p.m., the Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta (MJCCA) will hold a special Holocaust Remembrance Day, Yom HaShoah, in early-stage companies, as well as how to raise capital. Prior to OurCrowd, Audrey spent 20 years building brands for technology companies with leading global public relations firms, such as Porter Novelli. For information, contact Orna Sharon, at 914-924-8642.

ART OUT LOUD. On Sunday, April 17, 2:00-4:00 p.m., the Jewish Tower in conjunction with Jewish Family and Career Services (JF&CS), will host their annual Art Out Loud Art Show at the Jewish Tower. The show will feature more than 100 pieces of work ranging from abstract painting to watercolor, and collage. The afternoon will include tasty treats, music, video, and a live raffle. Art Out Loud will take place at The Jewish Tower, 3160 Howell Mill Road. Families are welcome. For more information, contact Danielle Dollinger at ddollinger@jcs-atlanta.org or 770-677-9344.

NEVER FORGET. On Sunday, May 8, 3:30-4:30 p.m., the Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta (MJCCA) will hold a special Holocaust Remembrance Day, Yom HaShoah, in early-stage companies, as well as how to raise capital. Prior to OurCrowd, Audrey spent 20 years building brands for technology companies with leading global public relations firms, such as Porter Novelli. For information, contact Orna Sharon, at 914-924-8642.
More Matzoh, More Memories
FROM ORGANICS TO KOSHER FOR PASSOVER, WE’RE HERE FOR YOUR TABLE.
WFM.COM

Kosher Affairs
BY Roberta Scher

PASSOVER
Passover is coming—it is a holiday that requires extraordinary energy, detailed organization, meticulous planning, and much preparation. It is also a time that seriously stretches the food-shopping budget. As I do each year, I am sharing some suggestions (old and new) on how to save money at Passover. (Is that an oxymoron?)

SHOPPING AND FOOD PREPARATION TIPS
• When possible, use everyday products that are considered kosher without special Passover certification. Some examples: pure granulated sugar; non-iodized salt; sea salt; most whole spices; baking soda; unflavored cocoa, such as Hershey’s; extra-virgin olive oil; raw, whole nuts, such as pecans and almonds without additives; salmon, such as Kirkland brand frozen; ReaLemon and ReaLime juices; plain tea and plain ground coffee; unsweetened, whole frozen fruit; and eggs.
• Several everyday food brands have year-round kosher for Passover certification designated on the label—e.g. Domino’s light and dark brown sugar.
• Prior to Passover, Breakstone and Publix dairy products with Passover certification are usually available at Publix.
• Make your own preserves. I make homemade orange preserves and strawberry preserves every year. The ingredients: sugar, fresh lemon, and fruit.
• Make your own vanilla sugar. I make mine with vanilla beans.
• Use chicken bones to make your soup; for convenience, tie them in cheesecloth.
• If you have a Passover-designated food processor, make your own matzoh meal, matzoh farfel, powdered sugar, chopped nuts, etc. If you are thinking of purchasing a Vita-Mix, Blendtec, or similar high-powered blender, pre-Passover is the time! Make cookies and cakes when possible, instead of purchasing.
• Plan ahead—make a master list and update it yearly.
• Create a buying group of friends, and order hard-to-find or locally costly items online.
• Freeze leftover Seder wine in ice cube containers or in sealable plastic bags. These can be added to recipes that call for wine.
• Be aware that some items may be frozen or stored from year to year. Check with the manufacturer when in doubt.
• At Passover, the dollar store is your friend for decorations, disposables, afikomen gifts, and more.

While preparing for Passover and the Seder, remember the real goal...arriving at the Seder table focused on the meaning of the Haggadah and rested enough to enjoy the experience with family and friends.

Finally, always consult with your rabbinical authority, or contact the Atlanta Kashruth Commission, because Passover guidelines change from year to year. By the way, the AKC offers an annual kosher-for-Passover food guide, which is perfect for local shoppers. To receive a copy, call 404-634-4063, or email akc@kosheratlanta.org.

Other kosher-for-Passover guides can be accessed online, at sites including OUkosher.org, www.star-k.org, and crcweb.org.

NEW THIS PASSOVER
Here are some new Passover products:
• Matzolah—An old favorite in a new variety: Chocolate Almond
• Ceres Peach, Mango, and Fruit Medley Juices
• Welch’s/Manischewitz—New! Grape Juice
• Manischewitz Hazelnut Chocolate Macaroons
• The Chosen Bean Gourmet Fair Trade Coffees and Espresso
• Gefen Organic Beets, peeled and ready to eat
• Gefen Frozen Mashed Potatoes
• Kedem Tilapia Gefilte Fish
• Gefen Frozen Chopped Garlic and Sautéed Onions
• Red Boat Fish Sauce—New in the kosher world!
• Pereg Almond, Coconut, and Quinoa Flour

I am excited to try recipes for the brand-new product Red Boat Fish Sauce. It is available at The Spicy Peach. The sauce is not only OU kosher certified, but can also be used at Passover. I have never used fish sauce, and this is the first one available to the kosher consumer. Made from only anchovies and salt, it is an all-natural, first press, “extra virgin” Vietnamese fish sauce, aged for a year and coveted around the world. Visit redboatfishsauce.com.

Recently announced by Whole Foods: Shoppers looking for the latest Passover food trends or traditional products will find many new and exclusive kosher-for-Passover 2016 offerings at Whole Foods Market. Some of Kedem/Kayco’s new Passover items include salted, chocolate-drizzled coconut macaroons; ancient grain matzoh; and more, much of which will be exclusively available at Whole Foods Market. The new items include a selection of natural, gluten-free, and dairy-free choices. Briarcliff
Whole Foods will be stocking many of the products.

SWEET! For All Occasions Catering will be making kosher-for-Passover desserts. For more information, call 404-953-8157.

Searching for a Passover hostess gift? I present four ideas:
• Check out Artscroll/Shaar’s Kosher by Design Brings it Home, the final book in Susie Fishbein’s bestselling series. It is available at Judaica Corner or Amazon.com. Many of us have enjoyed a scrumptious steak and frites at Manhattan’s Le Marais. And now, there is a cookbook, written by the restaurant’s chefs, and published by Gefen. The book just arrived at my door, so we can’t share thoughts (or recipes) until next column. However, my guess is that I will love it! I have always wanted Le Marais’ recipes…and now I will have many of them.
• I am a fan of The Chosen Bean, a new coffee subscription service. The company ships year-round and even offers kosher-for-Passover coffee and espresso. They process artisanal beans sourced from “the top 2% of all beans worldwide,” provided by farmers with small parcels of land and limited crops. Visit thechosenbean.com.
• Wine is always an excellent gift choice at Passover. I often buy wine at local stores (Kroger, Whole Foods, Kosher Gourmet, Tower Wine, Total Wine). When I need a full case, I usually order from kosherwine.com. This company posts discount online coupons, offers free shipping on 12 bottles, and charges no tax.

“In every generation a person must see himself as if he has personally come out of Mitzrayim (Egypt).” As we re-live our heritage, may Passover and our Seder be joyous—a celebration of our freedom. Wishing our readers a wonderful, delicious, and kosher holiday!

What’s cooking? Email kosheraffairs@gmail.com.

This column is meant to provide the reader with current trends and developments in the kosher marketplace. Since standards of kashruth certification vary, check with the AKC or your local kashruth authority to confirm reliability.

See RECIPES, page 44

---

FOR ALL OCCASIONS & MORE

Passover ’16 Menu
Located at AJA: 5200 Northland Dr., Atlanta, GA 30342
404.953.8157 • office@FAOcatering.com

CASEROLEs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEDIUM (serves 6-8)</th>
<th>LARGE (serves 15)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*Potato Kugel........$18.95</td>
<td>$32.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Squash Casserole...$18.95</td>
<td>$32.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Broccoli Kugel.....$18.95</td>
<td>$32.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Apple Kugel.........$18.95</td>
<td>$32.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carrot Tzimmes.......$18.95</td>
<td>$32.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spaghetti Squash with Dried Fruit....$25.00</td>
<td>$43.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roasted Potatoes.....$18.95</td>
<td>$32.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garlic Mashed Potatoes.$18.95</td>
<td>$32.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broccoli Potato Kugel.$18.95</td>
<td>$32.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grilled Vegetables....$18.95</td>
<td>$32.95</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SOUPS, SIDES & SALADS

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*Matzah Ball Soup (with 4 Matzah Balls) (serves 3-4)</td>
<td>$14.95/QT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Matzah Balls</td>
<td>$1.75/EA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Large Potato Cakes</td>
<td>$2.25/EA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Large Apple Pancakes</td>
<td>$2.25/EA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haroset</td>
<td>$8.99/LB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gefilte Fish</td>
<td>$14.95/LB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cucumber Salad</td>
<td>$10.99/LB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuna Salad</td>
<td>$18.00/LB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egg Salad</td>
<td>$14.00/LB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quinoa Carrot Salad</td>
<td>$12.00/LB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roasted Beet Salad</td>
<td>$12.00/LB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Israeli Salad</td>
<td>$10.99/LB</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DESSERTS

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*Matzah Brittle...$3.50/Per Sheet</td>
<td>Plain Macaroons...$2.75/EA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flourless Chocolate Cake (serves 8)</td>
<td>$32.95/Per Cake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Mandel Bread...$14.95/LB</td>
<td>*Marshmallow Surprise...$3.25/Per Square</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Chocolate Matzo Cake (7 Layers)...$28.95/Per Cake</td>
<td>*Chocolate Crinkle Cookies...$14.95/LB</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pick-up or Delivery: Friday April 22nd 9am-1pm
For Pick-up during Chol Hamoed Please call us to schedule a pick up or delivery.

EVERYTHING IS PAREVE • Delivery Fee $35.00
*MEANSTHIS DISH IS GEBROCHTZ
On May 1, we pay tribute to the children who died and those who survived

By Harold Kirtz

Children endured the harshest conditions during the period of the Holocaust. More than a million Jewish children died; but many thousands survived. As a group, those who survived are the “child survivors,” and those are the people whom we acknowledge on May 1, at this year’s annual Yom HaShoah Commemoration.

According to the U.S. Holocaust Museum, when World War II began in September 1939, there were approximately 1.6 million Jewish children living in the territories that the German armies or their allies would occupy. When the war in Europe ended in May 1945, perhaps as many as 1.5 million Jewish children were dead, targeted victims in the Nazis’ calculated program of genocide.

All Jews were targeted for death, but the mortality rate for children was especially high. Only 6-11% of Europe’s prewar Jewish population of children survived, as compared with 33% of the adults. The young generally were not selected for forced labor because of their lack of physical endurance, and the Nazis often carried out “children’s actions” to reduce the number of what they called “useless eaters” in the ghettos. In the camps, children, the elderly, and pregnant women routinely were sent to the gas chambers immediately after arrival.

Of the estimated 216,000 Jewish youngsters deported to Auschwitz, only 6,700 teenagers were selected for forced labor; nearly all the others were sent directly to the gas chambers. When the camp was liberated on January 27, 1945, Soviet troops found just 451 Jewish children among the 9,000 surviving prisoners.

Many children, however, discovered ways to survive. Around 10,000 children were saved by the Kindertransport trains, between December 1938 and September 1939, when World War II broke out. These children, most of whom were taken to Britain, were unaccompanied by their parents.

Some children could pass as non-Jews and live openly. Those who could not had to live clandestinely, often in attics or cellars. Some non-Jews hid Jewish children and sometimes, as in the case of Anne Frank, hid other family members as well. Children posings as Christians had to carefully conceal their Jewish identities from inquisitive neighbors, classmates, informers, blackmailers, and the police. Even a momentary lapse in language or behavior could expose the child, and the rescuer, to danger. They faced constant fear.

In the town of Le Chambon-sur-Lignon, France, an extraordinary thing happened. Almost the entire Protestant population of the town, as well as Catholic residents, hid Jewish children, from 1942 to 1944. In Italy and Belgium, priests and nuns hid many children who survived the war in hiding. But this was too often the exception, not the rule.

Living as a non-Jew required false identity papers, which were difficult to obtain in German-occupied Europe and were subject to frequent review by the authorities. Over the course of the war, children often had to move from one refuge to another. For the children who had to leave their parents behind, the emotional pangs of separation were constant and the worries were many.

Some children survived by smuggling food and medicines into ghettos, after smuggling personal possessions out of the ghettos to trade for them. Children who had been in youth movements before the war later participated in underground resistance activities. Some children escaped with parents or other relatives—and sometimes on their own—to family camps run by Jewish partisans.

Liberation brought no end to the sufferings of the Jewish children who survived the Holocaust. Many faced the future alone without parents, grandparents, or siblings.

After the war, refugees and displaced persons searched throughout Europe for missing children. Thousands of orphaned children were in displaced persons camps. Many surviving Jewish children fled Eastern Europe as part of the mass exodus to the Western zones of occupied Germany, en route to the Yishuv, the Jewish settlement in Palestine. Through Youth Aliyah, thousands migrated to the Yishuv and then to the State of Israel, after its establishment in 1948. Some came to the United States.

A number of child survivors live in Atlanta. One of them, Robert Ratonyi, will tell his story on May 1, at 11:00 a.m., as the featured speaker at the annual Yom HaShoah Commemoration at Greenwood Cemetery. Robert was born in 1938, one year before World War II began. Part of his story is as follows: Robert recalls the terrifying night of October 10, 1944, when armed members of the viciously anti-Semitic Arrow Cross (Hungarian Nazis), banged on the doors of the apartment building where his family lived and ordered all the Jews in the building to gather in the courtyard. As six-year-old Robert stood there, holding his mother’s hand, someone shouted, “All grownups, two steps forward!” and everyone, grownups and children, began to wail and cry. Suddenly, the women were ordered to turn left and marched out through the gate of the building. This was the last time Robert saw his mother, until after the war.

He endured many hardships during the war and immediately afterwards. Come and hear him share his story, as we continue to learn the lessons of history, to keep from repeating such a horrific outcome.

Harold Kirtz is co-vice-chair of the Holocaust Commemoration Committee.

Atlanta remembers children of the Holocaust

Buried among the ashes and unmarked graves of six million Jews murdered in the Holocaust are 1.5 million children, whose futures were stolen from them by the Nazis.

Atlanta will remember and pay tribute to the children who died and those who survived against all odds. In the 51st annual Yom HaShoah Holocaust community-wide commemoration, Sunday, May 1, 11:00 a.m. (rain or shine), at Greenwood Cemetery, 1173 Cascade Rd SW. Hungarian child survivor Robert Ratonyi, only six years old when he was forced to wear the yellow star and face the terrors of loss, is the featured speaker.

Yom HaShoah is the Hebrew name that translates as “day of remembering the catastrophe and atrocities committed against the Jewish people in World War II.”

This community-wide commemoration is sponsored by The Breman Museum, The Weinberg Center for Holocaust Education, Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta, and Hemshech—The Organization for Holocaust Survivors, Families, and Friends.

For more information, visit thebreman.org.
The AKC wishes you and your family a happy and kosher Passover.

Moshe told Pharaoh, in the name of the Almighty, “to let my people go, that they may serve me.” The holiday of Passover is the holiday of the Jewish people celebrating their freedom and their ability to serve the Almighty.

Celebrate your Passover with authentic kosher foods. Do not be misled by non-kosher for Passover caterers and bagel stores that sell non-certified Passover foods. This food is not kosher for Passover. Below is a guide to preparing your kitchen for Passover.

May this holiday bring joy to you and your families.

L’shana Haba B’Yerushalaim.

PREPARING AND KASHERING THE KITCHEN FOR PESACH

(Must be done before Erev Pesach—mid-morning)

OVENS

Conventional Oven (gas or electric): Thoroughly clean with an oven cleaner. If a caustic type of oven cleaner (such as Easy-Off) is used and some stubborn spots remain after two applications, the remaining spots may be disregarded. Once the oven and racks have been cleaned, kasher the oven by turning it to broil or the highest setting for 40 minutes.

Self-cleaning oven: The self-cleaning cycle will clean and kasher the oven simultaneously. Clean the inside face of the oven door, as well as the opposing outer rim of the oven outside the gasket, as these areas are not necessarily cleaned during the cycle.

Continuous cleaning oven: One should inspect the oven to make sure it is clean. Then the oven should be turned on to 450 degrees for one hour, so that the continuous mechanism can work. If spots remain, leave the oven on for a few hours, to allow the continuous clean mechanism to deep clean, or remove the spots with oven cleaner or steel wool. If the spots are dark and can be crumbled if scratched, they can be disregarded. In all cases, the oven should then be kasher by turning it to broil for 40 minutes.

Broiler: Since food is cooked directly on the pan or grill, it must be heated to a glow in order to be used on Pesach. An alternate method is to replace the pan with a new pan and kasher the empty broiler cavity by cleaning and setting it to broil for 40 minutes. If one does not intend to use the broiler on Pesach, one may still use the oven, even without kashering the broiler, provided the broiler has been thoroughly cleaned.

Oven hoods and exhaust fans filters:

These should be cleaned and free of any food residue.

Microwave ovens: If the walls of a microwave get really hot, it cannot be kashered for Pesach. To test, cook an open potato in the microwave, until it has been steaming for a few minutes. Place your hand on the ceiling of the microwave to see if it has become too hot to touch. If you cannot hold your hand there for 15 seconds, then it should not be used for Pesach. If you are able to hold your hand there for 15 seconds, then the microwave can be kashered for Pesach. First, it should be cleaned. A toothpick should be used to clean out the holes of the vent. Wait 24 hours since the last use. Fill a large paper container with water, and bring to a boil. Move the container to a new spot, and bring to a boil again. The turntable should be replaced. Some recommend taping a piece of cardboard or contact paper over the glass windowpane.

Barbeque grills: A grill cannot be kashered by just turning on the gas. Kashering should be done with a blowtorch (only by qualified personnel) or by sandwiching the grates between charcoals and setting them on fire. An alternate method is to replace the grates of the grill. The part of the grill cavity, which is level with the grate, must also be kashered by heating it to a glow. The empty grill cavity must be kashered by cleaning, closing the hood, and setting it to broil for 40 minutes.

COOKTOPS

On a gas range, the cast iron or metal grate(s) on which the pots sit may be kashered, inserted into the oven, and kashered together with the oven.

On an electric cook top, turn the burners on the high heat setting for a few minutes, until they come to a glow.

For both types of cook top, the area between the burners should be covered with a double layer of heavy-duty foil. The knobs with which the gas or electricity is turned on should be cleaned.

Glass, Corning, Halogen, or Cera electric smooth-top ranges: To kasher the burner area, clean well, and turn on the elements until they glow. The burner area is now considered kasher for Pesach. The remaining area that does not get red hot is not kasher for Pesach, so it should be covered with foil, if it will not damage the cook top. Another option is to place an approximately 1/8” thick metal disc on the burner area to raise the Pesach pots above the glass surface. This will help prevent the pots from coming in contact with the non-kosher-for-Pesach area of the cook top. This disc should not extend beyond the designated cooking area.

METAL UTENSILS, SILVERWARE, POTS, KIDDUSH CUPS

When possible, it is preferable to have separate utensils for Pesach. If this is not practical, one can kasher some types of utensils. Different utensils have different methods of kashering.

Metal utensils that have been used for cooking, serving, or eating chometz may be kashered by cleaning them thoroughly, waiting 24 hours, and then immersing them, one by one, into a kasher-for-Pesach pot in which water is bubbling (rapidly boiling). One can kasher an oversized pot by bringing water to a boil and dropping a hot rock into the pot, causing the pot to overflow on all sides. The rock needs to be heated in order to make sure the water stays boiling. For pots with handles of a separate material, one should consult with a rabbi before kashering. Bake pans and sheet pans cannot be kashered.

SINKS

China and porcelain sinks should be completely lined with contact paper or other appropriate material. In addition, dishes that are to be washed in china or porcelain sinks must be washed in a Pesach dishpan and placed on a Pesach rack.

Stainless steel sinks can be kashered. Clean the sink thoroughly. The sink should not be used with anything hot for 24 hours prior to kashering. Then, pour boiling hot water over the sink from a Pesach kettle/pot, covering every part of the sink, including the drain and the spout of the water faucet.

GLASSWARE

When special Pesach glassware is unavailable, one may kasher drinking glasses by immersing them in cold water for three 24-hour periods. The water should be emptied and refilled in between. This procedure, however, does not apply to glass (Pyrex) that is used with heat.

COUNTERTOPS

Granite, marble, and stainless steel countertops may be kashered by cleaning, waiting 24 hours, and then immersing them, those countertops need to be covered with a non-porous material. For further information on kashering the many new types of materials used to make countertops, visit www.crweb.org or www.star-k.org.

MISCELLANEOUS

Baby High Chair: Thoroughly clean. It is preferable to cover the tray with contact paper.

Blechs: These require kashering with a blowtorch.

Blender/Food Processor/Smoothie Machine: A new or Pesachdik receptacle (plus any part of the unit that makes direct contact with food) is required. Thoroughly clean the appliance. The blade should be treated like any knife, which should be kashered through boiling water.

Can Opener (manual or electric): Clean thoroughly.

Coffee makers: For coffee makers that have brewed only unflavored decaffeinated or pure coffee, clean thoroughly, and replace with new or Pesach glass carafe and new filters. For all other coffee makers, clean thoroughly. Do not use for 24 hours. Pour one cup of water into chamber. Heat water in unit, and allow it to drip over the exposed metal base. Replace with new plastic filter holder and new filters.

Kegur Machine: The Kegur is a new type of coffee maker that would require kashering year-round if it was used with non-kosher products, including hot cocoa mix, Swiss Miss, and Café Escapes. If anyone places a non-kosher or non-KFP mug under the machine, it would not affect the status of the machine. Kegurs should be kashered before Passover use, as some kosher products are not KFP. One should always check with one’s rabbi, but according to many, one can kasher a Kegur for Passover.

In order to kasher a Kegur for Passover, wait 24 hours, then clean thoroughly. Then either dip the K-cup holder in boiling water, or pour boiling water over the holder. One way to do this is to cover the bottom of the cup holder with the torn-off base of a Styrofoam cup, and allow the hot water to fill and go through the system. It is not possible to toss a Kegur machine, and according to many it is not necessary.

Refrigerator/Freezer: Thoroughly clean. Lining shelves is not necessary. Ice trays should be put away with chometz dishes.

Shelves: Those used year-round should be cleaned and covered for Pesach.

Tables: A table upon which chometz is eaten during the year may be used on Pesach if it is covered with a waterproof covering (e.g., a sheet of plastic). It is preferable to put cardboard or four or more layers of newspaper on the table under the plastic covering. Table pads may be overturned and used.

ITEMS THAT CANNOT BE KASHERED FOR PESACH

Bread Machine

China

Crockpot

Grate (any)

Knives with plastic handles

Melmac

Pasta maker

Plastic utensils

Porcelain

Porcelain enamel pots

Pyrex

Sandwich maker

Stoneware

Synthetic rubber

Teflon

Toaster oven

Waffle iron

Rabbi Reuven Stein is director of supervision for the Atlanta Kashruth Commission, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting kashruth through education, research, and supervision.
Join our Temple clergy and community as we remember our people’s story from slavery to freedom.

Learn about our efforts to combat slavery today and celebrate our many paths towards freedom.

**Friday, April 22, 2016**

- **Check-in:** 5:45 PM
- **Shabbat:** 5:30-6:00 PM
- **Seder:** 6:15 PM

Grape juice will be provided for the four cups. You are welcome to bring your own wine to enjoy.

**Cost:**

**MEMBERS:**
- $60 Adults
- $25 Children

**NON-MEMBERS:**
- $65 Adults
- $35 Children

**RSVP**

By Tuesday, April 12, 2016 to Joya Schmidt at jschmidt@the-temple.org or 404.873.1731.

For registration and more info, visit the-temple.org/passover.
**Passover Friendly Recipes**

### Lemon Garlic Chicken
By Renee Chernin

Atlanta’s own “Queen in the Kitchen” has made her mark in the cooking world. Renee lives in Jerusalem’s Old City, and continues to create outstanding recipes on her website TheKosherChannel.com and in her books. *Cooking for the King* is a series of holiday-themed kosher cookbooks, seasoned with Torah insights into food and cooking. These books are designed to be go-to guides for the holidays, with recipes fresh in their simplicity, helpful cooking tips, and inspiration for every season. They are available at Judaica Corner, Amazon.com, and TheKosherChannel.com.

1 3-pound chicken
1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil
1 lemon, washed well and halved

Preheat the oven to 400 degrees. Wash and dry the chicken.

In a large bowl, combine all ingredients, squeezing the lemon juice over all and tossing in the halves. Roll the chicken around in the bowl and stuff the cavity with half a lemon and some of the garlic. Place the chicken in a roasting pan, breast side up. Pour liquid over bowl and stuff the cavity with half a lemon, washed well and halved in the halves. Roll the chicken around in the bowl and touch to the touch; shift the pans from front to back and top to bottom halfway through.

Slide the parchment paper (with the cookies) onto 2 wire racks to cool. Cool completely before serving.

Bake the cookies for about 20 minutes, until the tops of the cookies are glossy and lightly cracked and feel firm to the touch; shift the pans from front to back and top to bottom halfway through.

### Chocolate Bark
This is an easy, no-bake, delicious, gluten-free 4-ingredient treat, perfect for gifting or munching. Make this quite often, year round. Parve or dairy.

10 ounces (3 bars) finely chopped semi-sweet chocolate, or chocolate chips (I use Alprose or Schmerling brand chocolate bars)
1/2 cup powdered sugar
1/4 cup plus 3 tablespoons unsweetened cocoa powder (Dutch processed preferred)
2 3/4 cups walnut halves (about 9 ounces)
3 cups confectioners' sugar

Line a 9” x 13” pan with parchment paper. Place the chocolate in a heatproof bowl in the microwave or over a pan of simmering hot water, until chocolate is almost melted. (Do not let the bowl touch the water.) Stir with a silicone spatula until smooth. Be careful not to burn the chocolate.

With the spatula, immediately spoon the warm melted chocolate over the parchment paper and spread evenly. Sprinkle on the nuts, dried fruit, and optional ingredients. Press in gently with a spatula or spoon. Refrigerate at least 4-6 hours or overnight, until firm.

Break or cut into small pieces. Serve at room temperature. If there are any luscious leftovers, store in the refrigerator.

### Fudgy Chocolate Walnut Cookies
Adapted from French pastry chef Francois Payard

2 3/4 cups walnut halves (about 9 ounces)
1 cup plus 3 tablespoons unsweetened cocoa powder (Dutch processed preferred)
1/4 teaspoon salt
4 large egg whites, at room temperature
1 tablespoon pure vanilla extract

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Position 2 racks in the upper and lower thirds of the oven. Line 2 large rimmed baking sheets with parchment paper.

Spread the walnut halves on a large rimmed baking sheet and toast in the oven for about 9 minutes, until they are golden and fragrant. Let cool slightly, then finely chop them.

In a large bowl, whisk the confectioners’ sugar with the cocoa powder and salt. Whisk in the chopped walnuts. Add the egg whites and vanilla extract and beat just until the batter is moistened. (Be careful not to overbeat, or it will stiffen.) Spoon the batter onto the baking sheets in 12 evenly spaced mounds.

### Beef and Potato Sofrito
Adapted from *Jewish Soul Food* by Janna Gur (Schocken Books)
The roots of this recipe are Sephardic.

Serves about 6-8.

1/3-cup vegetable oil
2 pounds stewing beef, such as chuck or brisket, sliced or cut into 1-inch cubes
Salt and freshly ground black pepper
Dash of ground turmeric or sweet paprika
1/2 cup diced yellow onion
1/2 cup capers with a bit of juice
1/2 cup pitted Spanish green olives
1 cup pitted prunes
1/2 cup red wine vinegar
1/2 cup olive oil
1 cup pitted prunes
1/2 cup peeled Spanish green olives
1/2 cup capers with a bit of juice
6 bay leaves
1 cup brown sugar
1 cup white wine
1/4 cup Italian parsley or fresh cilantro, finely chopped

In a large bowl, combine chicken quarters, garlic, oregano, pepper, salt, vinegar, olive oil, prunes, olives, capers and juice, and bay leaves. Cover and let marinade, refrigerated, overnight.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Arrange chicken in a single layer in one or two large, shallow baking pans, and spoon marinade over it evenly. Sprinkle chicken pieces with brown sugar, and pour white wine around them.

Bake for 50 minutes to 1 hour, basting frequently with pan juices. Chicken is done when thigh pieces, pricked with a fork at their thickest, yield clear yellow (rather than pink) juice.

With a slotted spoon, transfer chicken, prunes, olives, and capers to a serving platter. Moistener with a few spoonfuls of pan juices, and sprinkle generously with parsley or cilantro. Pass remaining pan juices in a sauceboat.

To serve Chicken Marbella cold, cool to room temperature in cooking juices, before transferring to a serving platter. If chicken has been covered and refrigerated, allow it to return to room temperature before serving. Spoon some of the reserved juice over chicken.

Note: Capers must be certified kosher for Passover. If you can’t find them, just add a few extra onions.

### Blintz Casserole
Although this tastes just as delicious as individual cheese blintzes, this baked blintz casserole is much less labor intensive. No actual blintzes are used—it is simply rich, cheesy, and buttery. A family favorite. I serve it with a topping of side of fresh blueberries or strawberries.

Serves about 12.

**Dough:**
1/2 lb. butter
1/2 cup sugar
2 eggs
1/2 cup cake meal and 1/2 cup potato starch
3 teaspoons Passover baking powder
1 pinch salt
1/2 cup milk
1 teaspoon vanilla

**Filling:**
3 packages of farmer’s cheese or 1 package farmer’s cheese and 1 24-ounce container of cottage cheese
Juice of 1 lemon
1/2 cup sugar
2 eggs
Salt to taste
Cinnamon (optional)

Melt butter in a 2-quart casserole. Add all other dough ingredients to the casserole dish, and mix all dough ingredients together with large spoon. Divide dough in half, and press half into
the casserole dish. (It will be sticky.) Set other half aside.
Mix filling and spoon into casserole.
Top with remaining half of dough.
Bake about 1 1/2 hours, at 300 degrees or until brown.

This recipe is Passover friendly; for non-Passover times, simply substitute flour for the cake meal and potato starch. Freezes well.

---

**Aunt Fanny’s Baked Squash**

Adapted from the original recipe served at the landmark Southern-themed restaurant Aunt Fanny’s Cabin.

Serves about 6-8.

3 lbs. yellow summer squash
cup chopped onions
1/2 cup Passover matzoh meal*
1/2 cup chopped squash into about 1/2-
3 tablespoons melted margarine or butter, divided**
1 teaspoon salt, or to taste
1/2 teaspoon black pepper, or to taste
2- quart casserole dish, greased

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
Bring a 3-4 quart pot of salted water to boil.
Wash and cut squash into about 1/2-
inch chunks. Boil until just tender. Drain very well, and then mash with fork or in processor.

Add all other ingredients, except 1/4 cup of the margarine.
Pour mixture into baking dish. Melt remaining margarine, and spread over top of casserole. Sprinkle with some additional matzoh meal.
Bake for one hour, or until brown on top and set.

* For non-Passover consumption, cracker meal or bread crumbs may be used.
** 1/4 cup of vegetable oil may be used instead of butter or matzoh.

---

**Passover Eggrolls**

From the Scher family files
(by we added fish sauce this year)

These eggrolls are absolutely delicious. The wrappers are not as crispy as authentic Chinese eggrolls, but hold the filling and make a savory treat and an excellent appetizer.

Makes about 12.

**Filling:**

1/2 bag of coleslaw
8 ounces mushrooms, chopped
1 teaspoon fresh ginger, chopped

1 garlic clove, chopped
3 scallions
1 egg, slightly beaten
1/8 cup fish sauce
3 tablespoons vegetable oil

Heat oil. Sauté coleslaw, scallions, and mushrooms for about 3 minutes or until tender and softened. Add garlic, ginger, and pepper, and sauté for about 1-2 minutes more. Mix in fish sauce. Let cool a few minutes, and mix in beaten egg. Drain excess liquid.

**Wrappers:**

6 eggs
One heaping 1/2 cup of potato starch
1 cup water
Pinch of salt and pepper
1 tablespoon vegetable oil

In a mixing bowl, beat eggs with a whisk. Add salt, pepper, and oil, and whisk into the beaten eggs. Separately, whisk water and potato starch together, and add to egg mixture. Stir to blend.

Heat a lightly oiled 7” fry pan (nonstick is best). Pour in a thin layer of batter. Rotate the skillet until bottom is covered. When the edges begin to curl and the crepe looks dry on the edges, flip the crepe out onto waxed or parchment paper, cooked side up. Continue the process until all batter is used. Add more oil to pan, if needed.

---

**Passover Ingredient Substitutions**

By Eileen Goltz of Confidentiallykosher.com

1 oz. baking chocolate (unsweetened chocolate) = 3 tablespoons unsweetened cocoa powder plus 1 tablespoon oil or melted margarine
16 oz. semi-sweet chocolate = 6 tablespoons unsweetened cocoa powder plus 1/4 cup oil and 7 tablespoons granulated sugar
14 oz. sweet chocolate (German-type) = 3 tablespoons unsweetened cocoa powder plus 2 2/3 tablespoons oil and 4 1/2 tablespoons granulated sugar
1 cup confections’ sugar = 1 cup granulated sugar minus 1 tablespoon sugar plus 1 tablespoon potato starch pulsed in a food processor or blender
1 cup sour milk or buttermilk for dairy baking = 1 tablespoon lemon juice in a 1 cup measure, then filled to 1 cup with Passover nondairy creamer, then stirred and steeped for 5 minutes
Butter in baking/cooking = parve Passover margarine in equal amounts. Reduce salt.
1 cup molasses = 1 cup honey (Similar consistency and sweetness, but the flavor will be somewhat different.)
1 cup milk (for baking) = 1 cup water plus 2 tablespoons margarine, or 1/2 cup fruit juice plus 1/2 cup water
1 1/4 cups sweetened condensed milk = 1 cup instant nonfat dry milk, 2 3/4 cup sugar, 1/3 cup boiling water, and 3 tablespoons margarine. Blend all the ingredients until smooth. To thicken, let set in the refrigerator for 24 hours.
Italian Seasoning = 1/4 teaspoon each dried oregano leaves, dried marjoram leaves, and dried basil leaves, plus 1/8 teaspoon rubbed dried sage. This can be substituted for 1 1/2 teaspoons Italian seasoning.
Curry Powder = 2 tablespoons ground coriander, 1 tablespoon black pepper, 2 tablespoons red pepper, 2 tablespoons turmeric, 2 tablespoons ground ginger. Makes 2 1/2 cup.
Rice vinegar = 3 tablespoons lime juice plus 2 teaspoons sugar
Cider vinegar = 2 tablespoons lemon juice plus 1 tablespoon orange juice
Water Chestnuts = raw jicama
Chicken fat or gribenes = 2 caramelized onions; sauté sliced onions in 2 tablespoons oil and 2 tablespoons sugar. Cook until onions are soft and golden, then puree.
1 cup brown sugar, 2 tablespoon vinegar, 1/4 teaspoon cinnamon, dash of ground cloves and dash of allspice
1 cup honey = 1 1/4 cups granulated sugar plus 1/4 cup water
1 cup corn syrup = 1 1/4 cups granulated sugar plus 1/3 cup water, boiled until syrupy
1 cup vanilla sugar = 1 cup granulated sugar with 1 split vanilla bean left for at least 24 hours in a tightly covered jar
1 tablespoon flour = 1 tablespoon potato starch
1 teaspoon baking powder = 1/4 teaspoon baking soda plus 1/2 teaspoon cream of tartar; if keeping for awhile, add 1/4 teaspoon potato starch
1 cup bread crumbs = 1 cup matzoh meal
1 cup marshmallow cream (2.5 ounces) = 8 large marshmallows or 1 cup miniature marshmallows
1 cup of flour = 5/8 cup matzoh cake meal or potato starch, or a combination sifted together
1 cup corn starch = 7/8 cup potato starch
1 teaspoon cream of tartar = 1 1/2 teaspoons lemon juice or 1 1/2 teaspoons vinegar
1 cup graham cracker crumbs = 1 cup ground kosher-for-Passover cookies (Optional: add 1 teaspoon cinnamon.)
1 cup bread crumbs = 1 cup matzoh meal
1 matzoh meal = 3 matzohs ground in a food processor
1 matzoh cake meal = 1 cup plus 2 tablespoons matzoh meal, finely ground in a blender or food processor and sifted
3 crumbled matzoh = 2 cups matzoh farfel
Chicken fat or gribenes = 2 caramelized onions; sauté sliced onions in 2 tablespoons oil and 2 tablespoons sugar. Cook until onions are soft and golden, then puree.
1 cup milk (for baking) = 1 cup water plus 2 tablespoons margarine, or 1/2 cup fruit juice plus 1/2 cup water
1 1/4 cups sweetened condensed milk = 1 cup instant nonfat dry milk, 2 3/4 cup sugar, 1/3 cup boiling water, and 3 tablespoons margarine. Blend all the ingredients until smooth. To thicken, let set in the refrigerator for 24 hours.
Italian Seasoning = 1/4 teaspoon each dried oregano leaves, dried marjoram leaves, and dried basil leaves, plus 1/8 teaspoon rubbed dried sage. This can be substituted for 1 1/2 teaspoons Italian seasoning.
Curry Powder = 2 tablespoons ground coriander, 1 tablespoon black pepper, 2 tablespoons red pepper, 2 tablespoons turmeric, 2 tablespoons ground ginger. Makes 2 1/2 cup.
Rice vinegar = 3 tablespoons lime juice plus 2 teaspoons sugar
Cider vinegar = 2 tablespoons lemon juice plus 1 tablespoon orange juice
Water Chestnuts = raw jicama
Orange liqueur = equal amount of frozen orange juice concentrate

---

**Dipping Sauce:**

1 cup sweet and sour sauce
Optional: 1 teaspoon fish sauce, a pinch of ginger and garlic

These can be frozen, and reheated, uncovered, in oven at 375 degrees.

---

**March-April 2016**

**THE JEWISH GEORGIAN**
VIRTUAL FIELDTRIPS. Davis Academy second through eighth-grade students recently visited some amazing places without ever leaving campus, thanks to the Google Expeditions Pioneer Program. Using the Google Cardboard viewer, powered by a Smartphone, students explored faraway places, such as Spain and Israel, and even the world’s biomes, in 360-degree panoramas and 3D images.

FIRST IN TECH. Nineteen Davis Academy students took first place at the North Atlanta Jewish Students Technology Fair. Their winning categories included Robotics, Animation, Video Production, Multimedia Design, and more.

PERSONAL STORIES. As part of their studies on immigration, Davis Academy fifth-grade students have been hearing the personal stories of Davis parents and friends. They describe escaping hardships or dangerous situations from places such as the former Soviet Union, Iran, South Africa, and South America. Other Davis families emigrated from Israel. Despite the struggles of starting over, most visitors told students the same thing: the United States is the greatest country on earth, and they are thankful for the freedoms and opportunities available here. Here, Natasha Bondareva tells her story about coming to America from Ukraine.

WEATHER TRACKERS. WSB-TV Meteorologist Katie Walls visited Davis Academy first and third graders, on February 2, and gave an engaging and informative talk about weather and weather safety. Davis Academy first-graders are especially interested in weather, because they monitor a rain gauge that is mounted in the back of the school. The students report their data to a national database, which is used by meteorologists, municipalities, and even farmers. Pictured: Katie Walls and a first-grade class, near the rain gauge.

AN ARTFUL PURIM. Purim at The Epstein School is always an exciting, fun-filled, festive day that includes music, singing, and colorful costumes. This year, for third-grade students, it will also include beautiful, hand-made, environmentally friendly groggers, created from recycled plastic Nuevo drink bottles, donated by parents and volunteers. The bottle’s shape was perfect for making a noisemaker or shaker to drown out the name of Haman, as students read from the Megillah. Students filled the bottles with beans and stones, covered them with plaster casting material, and then painted creative designs on them using colorful paints and glitter, as shown here with Ryan Merlin.

YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS. Epstein fourth-grade students demonstrated their entrepreneurial skills, when they dove into the “Shark Tank.” The Sharks, Epstein parents David Zalik, CEO of GreenSky Financial, LLC, and Rachael Abt, owner and chief branding officer at Land of Eden, LLC, along with Epstein’s COO David Levy and Michelle Epstein, library media specialist, evaluated 12 business presentations, which included budget analysis, marketing strategies, posters, slogans, T-shirts, prototypes, and demos. Among the concepts were Pro Pops (healthy protein-based ice pops), Covercro (Epstein logos that attach with Velcro to cover logos on socks that do not meet the school uniform requirements), Food Fun (a board game for finicky eaters), and Cardboard Arcade (an affordable, entertaining, easy-to-assemble arcade kit designed to help reduce children’s screen time). Pictured: Jesse Berzack, Dalai Shaw, and Maya Clayman.

FIRST PLACE WINNERS AT NAJS TECHNOLOGY FAIR. Nineteen Epstein students took first-place honors at the 2016 NAJS Technology Fair and will now go on to compete at the state-level 2016 Georgia.
Educational Technology Fair. The winners are: (back, from left) Jonah Katz, Maya Kahn, Galya Fischer, Matthew Neuberger, and Jacob Greenwald; (middle) Dylan Wendt, Lila Ross, Jessica Covin, Barri Seitz, Lindsay Greenwald, Shai Bachar, and Gavin Brown; and (front) Foster Berlin, Andrew Frank, Jordan Leff, Elliott Furie, Naomi Furie, Leo Silver, and Sophie Carmel.

Jewish communities. Here, Weber seniors of the complexities of rebuilding modern in Poland, where Weber seniors explored a Jewish ideals. The trip included one week ethical standards consistent with the highest and respects and advances the academic and educational processes. Performing Arts Director in Residence Hilda Willis, a nationally recognized actress and director, works as educational consultant at Kenny Leon’s True Colors Theater; producing artistic director for Hilda’s Place, in Mount Pilot, North Carolina; and a career coach to several celebrities. Dance teacher Jai Jones is the founder and artistic director of award-winning performing arts organization Atlanta’s Resource for Entertainment and Arts (AREA).

WEBER SENIORS SHARE ISRAEL POLAND EXPERIENCE. Weber seniors who participated in the Senior Israel Poland Experience reflected on their journey, discussing moments from the trip that held special meaning. The enthusiastic group of seniors (pictured) prepare to re-enact their experience in Gadna (Israeli military training), which included push-ups. While on the trip, students enjoyed experiential learning, based on important historical events that molded the Jewish people and the State of Israel.

RESPECT AND UNDERSTANDING AMONG FAITHS. Peace by Piece members from Weber and the WD Mohammed School spent the day with their Marist counterparts, observing Ash Wednesday services and learning about Catholicism and the season of Lent. At a school-wide mass, Marist participants took Communion and received a cross on their foreheads created from ash. After services, greetings from the attending community bishop and a warm welcome by school officials and faculty, students enjoyed panel discussions and a community meal. Pictured: Students from The Marist and The WD Mohammed schools, in a round-table discussion hosted by Weber during Sukkot last fall.

SINGAPORE MATH. Armed with board games, laptops, and ActivBoards, Epstein second-grade students led their parents through a series of experiential math activities. In Singapore math, students move through a three-part learning process: a concrete representation of a problem using manipulatives such as cubes, as shown in top photo, with Abby Deckelbaum, center, and parents Brenda and Geoffrey; a pictorial representation, such as bar models and 10 frames, as shown in bottom photo, with Judah Becker, right, and parents Jeremy Becker and Dori Black; and abstract thinking about math, i.e., writing the algorithm and solving it. Students are encouraged to talk about math, listen to others, and collaborate, in order to discover the many ways one can approach a single problem.

WEBER STUDENTS MODEL INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMACY. Students from The Weber School represented Qatar and the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea at the University of Georgia Model UN Conference. Juniors Justin Wolozin, Yarden Willis, and Shannan Berzack participated in the first General Assembly of the United Nations, where delegations focused on the Iran nuclear deal and maritime piracy. Sophomores Aaron Gordon, Asher Stadler, Sam Fialkow, Jordan Arbiv, and Adam Spector participated in the third General Assembly of the United Nations, where delegations focused on economic, social, and cultural rights of Syrian refugees. Pictured: Weber UN team with Marc Leventhal, team advisor.

ACADEMIC SPOTLIGHT. Weber’s Fine and Performing Arts faculty excel both in and out of the classroom. Director of Fine and Performing Arts Amber Singleton (top row, from left) has a thriving career as an independent artist. Music Program Director and education technologist Drew Cohen serves on the Atlanta Jewish Music Festival board. Visual Artist in Residence Cheryl Myrbo, a noted artist and educator who currently teaches ceramics and painting, is in her 17th year as director of the Atlanta High School Art Exhibition for the Atlanta Dogwood Festival. Benita Carr (bottom row), Weber’s new digital photography instructor, has taught various courses, including photography, directed study, documentary photography, and alternative processes. Performing Arts Director in Residence Hilda Willis, a nationally recognized actress and director, works as educational consultant at Kenny Leon’s True Colors Theater; producing artistic director for Hilda’s Place, in Mount Pilot, North Carolina; and a career coach to several celebrities. Dance teacher Jai Jones is the founder and artistic director of award-winning performing arts organization Atlanta’s Resource for Entertainment and Arts (AREA).

NEW DEAN. Joy Gray Prince (pictured) is Weber’s new dean of College Advising. She brings more than 20 years of experience, including teaching, college-advising work at the high school and university levels, and managing a private college-consulting firm. At Weber, she will provide leadership for all aspects of college and gap-year advising and will serve on the senior leadership team. Her first priority will be to meet with and build relationships with Class of 2017 students and parents, while sharing her best advice, wisdom, and experience with students in the current graduating class who are still considering college options.

TECH FAIR. Atlanta Jewish Academy students made their mark at this year’s North Atlanta Jewish Students’ Technology Fair. Thirteen AJA projects took first-place; those students went on to compete at the statewide Georgia Educational Technology Fair. AJA students also won four second-place ribbons and five third-place ribbons. Upper School students won multiple first-place ribbons; Dan Jutan won three first-place ribbons for three different projects, and Shaun Regenbaum won first place for his 3D modeling project. At the statewide competition, Shaun’s project won second place, and one of Dan’s projects won third place. Pictured: eleventh-graders Dan Jutan (left) and Shaun Regenbaum.

FOR A GOOD CAUSE. For the annual Cause Fair, AJA Upper School students
chose a cause important to them, researched it, wrote a persuasive paper, and made an audio-visual presentation to convince others to support it. At the fair, they used public speaking skills to bring their causes to the forefront. Their audience—family, friends, and AJA Junior High students—voted on the projects, with the winners receiving charitable donations. Here, Shayla Hirsch, in his presentation titled “Game of Loans,” discusses the link between the rising price of college and exploding federal education loans.

CAPS FOR SALE. Atlanta Jewish Academy’s K’far students (two-year olds) enjoyed listening to their teachers read Caps for Sale, the classic picture book by Esphyr Slobodkina. These young fans were so intrigued by the story of a cap salesman who encountered some hat-obsessed monkeys, that their teachers helped them make their own special hats. Pictured: (from left, front) Yuval Hoch, Eitan Bimbaum, Avishag Shalom; and Daniel Sacks (from left, back), Avigail Combs, Nittai Arbeli, Maayan Brummer, and Emma Robins.

MEZUZAH PROJECT. Gary Rosenthal, a glass and metal artist specializing in Judaica, visited AJA sixth- and seventh-graders with materials to make beautiful mezuzot covers. Parents, grandparents, and other special friends worked with AJA students to assemble glass mosaics to be used for mezuzah covers in the new Upper School, the site work for which will begin this month. Here, sixth-grader Aryeh Freitag (right) works with his mother, Rivka, to create a mosaic.

DR. SEUSS’ BIRTHDAY. AJA kindergarten and first-grade students celebrated what would have been the 112th birthday of Dr. Seuss, their favorite author. Students read his books, used silly Dr. Seuss-inspired names, sampled green eggs, dressed up as the iconic “Cat in the Hat,” and even ate popsicles that looked like the Cat’s red-and-white-striped hat. Ms. Emily Pullman’s kindergarteners disguised as Cats in Hats: (from left) Jason Deutsch, Noa Russell, Lindsey Webber, Daniel Berger, Max Frushtick, and Suri Roth.

CREATIVE SYMBOLISM. Torah Day School second-grade girls in Mrs. Cohen’s class recently used pudding to symbolize the mud pits mentioned in the parsha they were studying.

PESACH PREPARATIONS. TDSA’s fifth-grade science classes traveled to Lake Lanier to test the water as part of their study of the environment and the world around them.

DUAL-TASK MEMORIZATION. Everyone has a favorite technique to memorize important facts. TDSA’s eighth-graders discovered that exercise can boost your memory and brainpower. They found the most effective way to memorize π is to walk the halls at Torah Day School.

A LASTING LEGACY. As part of a time-honored tradition at Torah Day School of Atlanta, graduating students were invited to personalize a graduation brick.

THE GREAT OUTDOORS. Recess or playing outside is an essential component of education at TDSA. It is evident that productive learning happens when TDSA’s first-grade girls are at play...especially when they can enjoy an early spring.

Special Sabbath observances at Congregation Shearith Israel

Congregation Shearith Israel hosted several special Sabbath services during the month of February. On February 13, the congregation hosted Inclusion Shabbat, celebrating Jewish Disability Awareness Month. Quoting the prophet Isaiah, Rabbi Melvin Sirner referred to the Divine Command, saying, “That my house be a place of prayer for all My people.” Many members of the congregation with special needs and their families participated and were granted honors in the service. PearlAnn Horowitz and Rebecca Cheskes, leaders of the community, shared some of their own experiences and involvement in opening doors in the Jewish community. A special Kiddush luncheon was held following services, in honor of those participating. Veteran Shearith Israel leaders Arlene and Harold Koslow and Rachael and Jack Rosenberg co-chaired the day.

On February 20, Shearith Israel hosted Sisterhood Shabbat. The service was led in its entirety by women of the community. Erin Chernow coordinated the events of the day. A festive Kiddush was tended by the Sisterhood, following the Sabbath Saturday morning service.
USO has served our military for 75 years

BY Leon Socol

The USO (United Service Organization) was founded just before WW II by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, who recognized that maintaining high morale in our fighting forces was vital to completing our war efforts. Roosevelt felt it was important for military personnel and civilians alike to be connected to and supportive of each other. Military personnel could be trained to fight and gain victories over our enemies. But overcoming the loneliness of being separated from family and friends required an organization that could provide comfort and care, encouraging them to do their duty to their country, knowing they were connected to people who cared about them and their welfare.

The USO’s mission is as vital today as it was in 1941. In February, in honor of its 75th year, celebrations were held in each of the 200 USO facilities throughout the world. Throughout the celebration year, there will be all types of events for the young and old, to educate the public about what the USO does for our service people, whether we are at peace or in war. It’s more than just a cup of coffee and a doughnut. The public will be amazed at programs the USO has for families and children. There will be historical and real-time memories, and the public is invited to share their stories of connection with the USO.

The USO can succeed in its mission only if all Americans stay connected to their neighbors, friends, and relatives, while our military men and women carry on in defense of our country. The USO is dedicated to making those connections easier to maintain.

Throughout the years, the USO—a non-profit organization that is not a part of the federal government—has been blessed with support from individuals and corporations. In addition, the USO depends on thousands of volunteers to staff their locations.

The Atlanta USO birthday celebration took place in its completely renovated and newly equipped facility at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport. The Atlanta USO has hosted thousands of service personnel each year, and the installation of new “everything” was certainly needed. It is undoubtedly one of the finest USO installations in the nation.

Like many Atlanta residents, I volunteer my time to greet and welcome incoming and departing military personnel. I am very proud to show them the wonderful Atlanta USO and invite them to partake of all the services it offers. You don’t see as many service men and women in uniforms these days, because military personnel may often be the target of terrorists. It’s a little more difficult to recognize the civilian-clothed military, but you note their bearing and grooming. It’s something that is instilled in them.

The Atlanta USO Birthday party was hosted by Mary Lou Austin, who has a long tenure as the president and CEO of USO of Georgia, Inc. Speakers included high-ranking military officers, Atlanta airport officials, and former Atlanta Mayor Andrew Young.

Following the program, delicious birthday cakes were served, along with finger food and lunch. The mixture of military and civilian guests graphically depicted how united people are in supporting the USO and made visible its vow: we will be here until the last service person comes home, and maybe even longer than that.

Former Atlanta Mayor Andrew Young and Mary Lou Austin (center) cutting the USO birthday cake

USO volunteers Barry and Rona Siedel, Gail Solomon, and Leon Socol greet incoming service men and women arriving at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport.
HOSTING PRIVATE EVENTS

Every Night is Event Night:
College, Classic Rock and Baroque Flamenco, Poker, Karaoke, Jazz.
Live DJ Spinning 60s, 70s, 80s and today’s hits, Greek Night, and Brazil Night.
Visit CosmoMarietta.com for details

770.485.8069
2475 Delk Road, SE • Marietta, GA 30067
Monday - Thursday: 4 pm - 1 am
Friday and Saturday: 4 pm - 2 am
Sunday: 4 pm - 1 am
Modern American Menu by Chef Niki Linbro

Photo: Joan Marcus

MOLLY BLANK CONCERT SERIES
Celebrating Jewish Contribution To Music
Exclusively at the Bremen Museum

Tickets at TheBremen.org

THE KING OF SWING
A NIGHT OF
BENNY GOODMAN
SUNDAY, MAY 15

Featuring The Joe Gransden’s Big Band
with guest clarinetist Allan Vaché

OUT OF CONTROL
AMAZING

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

Beautiful
The Carole King Musical

ON SALE NOW! MAY 24-29
FoxTheatre.org/Beautiful • 855-285-8499
A Survivor’s Story

May 22, 2016 • 1:00–4:00 pm

In honor of Holocaust Remembrance Month, Congregation Ner Tamid is partnering with KSU in a joint venture in memory of those who died during this period of WWII.

Please join us for this special event:

A survivor’s son will tell his family’s story. There will be a display chronicling a young boy’s plight during this time, followed by a Q&A, coffee, cookies, & tea.

678-264-8575
1349 Old Highway 41, Suite 220
Marietta, GA 30060

www.mynertamid.org

A Survivor’s Story

May 22, 2016 • 1:00–4:00 pm

In honor of Holocaust Remembrance Month, Congregation Ner Tamid is partnering with KSU in a joint venture in memory of those who died during this period of WWII.

Please join us for this special event:

A survivor’s son will tell his family’s story. There will be a display chronicling a young boy’s plight during this time, followed by a Q&A, coffee, cookies, & tea.

678-264-8575
1349 Old Highway 41, Suite 220
Marietta, GA 30060

www.mynertamid.org

A Survivor’s Story

May 22, 2016 • 1:00–4:00 pm

In honor of Holocaust Remembrance Month, Congregation Ner Tamid is partnering with KSU in a joint venture in memory of those who died during this period of WWII.

Please join us for this special event:

A survivor’s son will tell his family’s story. There will be a display chronicling a young boy’s plight during this time, followed by a Q&A, coffee, cookies, & tea.

678-264-8575
1349 Old Highway 41, Suite 220
Marietta, GA 30060

www.mynertamid.org

A Survivor’s Story

May 22, 2016 • 1:00–4:00 pm

In honor of Holocaust Remembrance Month, Congregation Ner Tamid is partnering with KSU in a joint venture in memory of those who died during this period of WWII.

Please join us for this special event:

A survivor’s son will tell his family’s story. There will be a display chronicling a young boy’s plight during this time, followed by a Q&A, coffee, cookies, & tea.

678-264-8575
1349 Old Highway 41, Suite 220
Marietta, GA 30060

www.mynertamid.org
Have a joyous Passover. And share what it means to you.

#PassoverPublix