# Jewish Georgian

Volume 26, Number 5

## WHAT'S INSIDE A Wedding to Remember

It was a day of meaning and beauty for the bride, the groom, and all in attendance. By Janice Rothschild Blumberg Page 14

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The Breman Museum's Cuba Family Archives for Southern Jewish History is now digitizing documents and will start putting them online by the end of the year. By Jeremy Katz Page 18

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Twenty places in the U.S. call themselves Jerusalem.

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Since its opening in 1984, the Shearith Israel Women's Shelter has helped more than 1,000 women beat homelessness and restart their lives.

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The MJCCA presents the epic musical drama *Les Misérables*, August 7-17. Page 24



### THE JEWISH GEORGIAN

### July-August 2014

## Don't let zealousness blind your view



## BY Marvin Botnick

Carnac the Magnificent, the "mystic from the East," was a fictional character played by Johnny Carson on television's "Tonight Show Staring Johnny Carson." The introduction of Carnac by Ed McMahon would declare to all that Carnac, in his "borderline divine and mystical way, will ascertain the answers having never before seen the questions." Carnac would hold a sealed envelope up to his forehead that contained a question, and then, prior to opening the envelope and reading the question, he would give the answer to the question inside the sealed envelope.

It seems that there are many who don the Carnac costume to play that part when there are problems involving the existence and actions of Israel. Without identifying the problem that is contained in the envelope, the answer to the question always seems to be Israel.

### Jewish Georgian

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There is a saying that "If the facts don't fit the theory, change the facts." Some attribute this to Albert Einstein; however, this sourcing is in question. In a discussion this quote on the website brightdrops.com, the comment is made that "Most 'facts' are just other people's opinions . . ." The observation goes on to say that "Many times facts lead to strongly held beliefs that we have that change the way [we] act and ultimately the way we think and the lives we lead. What if these beliefs are based on facts that aren't really facts?" The epitome of such a mindset is the following statement made by Rep. Earl Landgrebe (R-IN), a Nixon partisan, in connection with the Watergate hearings: "Don't confuse me with the facts. I've got a closed mind."

So how did we get to the present situation?

Embodied in Resolution 181 of the U.N. General Assembly approved on November 29, 1947, which created the state of Israel, was the provision for the creation of the Palestinian state they now desire, but with more land than the area for which they are now negotiating. The reaction by the Arab Higher Committee to the U.N.'s approved partitioning and creation of the State of Palestine and the State of Israel is contained in the Arab Higher Committee for Palestine's Statement of 6 February 1948 to the United Nations Palestine Commission. Section 8 of this response states:

"The United Nations has no jurisdiction to order or recommend the partition of Palestine. There is nothing in the Charter to warrant such authority, consequently the recommendation of partition is *ultra vires* and therefore null and void."

What followed the legal establishment of Israel by the nations of the world was an attack on this nascent nation by its surrounding Arab countries with the intent to destroy it and its populace. It was the first

# About The Cover



ON THE COVER. Photos from Connecting Community Atlanta – Israel Mission 2014. Collage design by David Schendowich

of a number of unsuccessful attempts to conquer, destroy, and dismantle Israel.

Now, once again, Israel has been forced to take defensive military action against its antagonists, who have chosen to attack Israel's civilian population. As has been the case for decades, Israel has been forced to defend itself against attacks by surrounding forces that deny its very existence.

If there is a genuine desire for peace, why would the Middle East countries supply Hamas with 10,000 missiles, none of which are for defensive purposes? Why would Hamas not agree to the cease-fire mediated by Egypt that Israel accepted? Who is supplying the money and support to Hamas? As in the past, is the military action being supported by other neighboring countries to take the spotlight off of their activities?

Not only is Israel having to militarily fight for its right to exist, more and more there is a move to discredit it in the eyes of the world. "Casuistry" is a wonderfully descriptive word in the English language that is defined as "specious or excessively subtle reasoning intended to rationalize or mislead." The public relation campaign being waged against Israel is a perfect example of the meaning of this word. Unfortunately, there appears to be more of these efforts that tend to complicate rather mitigate the problem.

Some organizations and groups around

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the world have taken as their mission to delegitimize the state of Israel. There are some amongst us who choose to portray Israel as an immoral nation acting in an illegal fashion. Some have a vested interest that might influence their actions, some have a negative perspective of the people of Israel, and some are influenced by others without investigating for themselves.

In 2004 at the 216th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA), the Israel/Palestinian Mission Network (IPMN) was formed "for the purpose of creating currents of wider and deeper Presbyterian involvement with Palestinian partners, aimed at demonstrating solidarity and changing the conditions that erode the humanity of Palestinians living in Jerusalem, the West Bank, and Gaza." In January of this year, IPMN published "Zionism Unsettled: A Congregational Study Guide," which included a companion study guide and was sold through the church's online store.

At the 221st General Assembly in June of this year, a vote was called and passed authorizing the sale of the stockholdings in three corporations that were doing business with Israeli operations in the West Bank.

I did purchase the publication from the online bookstore of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and was dismayed over the

See ZEALOUSNESS, page 5

### Made in Israel. Available at Abbadabba's.





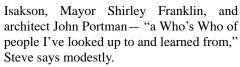
# What's **HAPPENING**



GOVERNOR DEAL CELEBRATES ISRAELI INDEPENDENCE DAY. Governor and Mrs. Nathan Deal attended a celebration of Israel's 66th anniversary as a nation, at The Temple, prior to leading a trade delegation to Israel that included some of the state's top business leaders. In his remarks, the governor noted proudly that Georgia is the eighth largest trade partner with Israel in the United States.

Israel's Consul General of Israel to the Southeastern United States Opher Aviran warmly welcomed the governor and first lady to the event, which included Attorney General Sam Olens and his wife, Lisa Olens; State Commissioner of Agriculture Gary Black, State Commissioner of Public Health Brenda Fitzgerald, Georgia Bureau of Investigation Director Vernon Keenan, and many other state leaders.

The Temple's Rabbi Peter Berg called Governor Deal "the single greatest friend Israel has in the State of Georgia," and said the upcoming trip "means the world to everyone in the room here."



At the event, an equally distinguished panel of community leaders, including Doug Hertz, Vince Dooley, Mike Leven, and Larry Gellerstedt, will pay tribute to Steve's many accomplishments and contributions to our city. Other city leaders involved in honoring Steve are co-chairs Mayor Kasim Reed, Bernie Marcus, and Steve Koonin.

Steve heads up the real estate and parking empire known as Selig Enterprises, and, with his equally dedicated wife, Linda, is a generous philanthropist and major supporter of many of our community's most important institutions. But he would probably say that their greatest accomplishment is their five kids and 14 grandchildren.

Amazingly, we were not asked to speak at the affair, but if we had been, we could have told some great tales about growing up with Steve. But I guess we'll have to settle for stories of his civic and business accomplishments, which are far too numerous to list here.

The event will be held Thursday, October 2, 6:00 p.m., at the Georgia World Congress Center, Georgia Ballroom. For more information and tickets, visit councilforqualitygrowth.org, or call 770-813-3370.



Deputy Consul General Ron Brummer (from left), Consul General Opher Aviran, First Lady Sandra Deal, Governor Nathan Deal, Talyah Aviran, and The Temple's Senior Rabbi Peter Berg (photos: Robb D. Cohen, RobbsPhotos.com)

STEVE SELIG HONORED AT GALA DINNER. This fall, our lifelong friend Steve will be awarded the 2014 Four Pillar Award, by The Council for Quality Growth, one of the most prestigious honors one can achieve.

Former recipients include the likes of The Home Depot co-founder and Falcons owner Arthur Blank, Senator Johnny

Fred

Scheer

uniform, 1944



Linda and Steve Selig

STORY OF A JEWISH SOLDIER CAPTURED BY THE GERMANS. Seventy years ago, Frederick Scheer was a 20-year-old Jewish infantryman

in

ago, Frederick Scheer was a 20-year-old Jewish i n f a n t r y m a n , fighting the Germans in the hedgerows of France, in the weeks after D-Day. The other

evening, at Mary Mac's Tea Room, he told the story of his capture by the Germans, his imprisonment in a POW work camp, and his three escape attempts the last one, in the Spring of 1945, being successful. With the war ending and the German Army disintegrating, Fred and three companions, "a Brit, an Aussie, and a Kiwi," were able to walk away from their captors and connect with the approaching American forces.

Fred and his lovely wife, Gerry, of the old and distinguished Atlanta Kessler family, were guests of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, who meet regularly at Mary Mac's to hear speakers on the War Between the States and World War II.

In the audience was the lovely Jill Berry, who, with her equally lovely daughter, Jade Sykes Slover, specializes in musical entertainment for soldiers, vets, and senior citizens. Jill was very proud to tell everyone that her friend Lee Weinstein, serving a second term as commander of the World War II Roundtable, recently received the prestigious Phoenix Award from Mayor Kasim Reed, for his outstanding service to the community.

Fred has authored two books on World War II: his own story, *A European Sojourn,* 1943-1945, and *POW Stories*, a collection of accounts by American soldiers captured by the Germans.

He grew up in the only Jewish family in Eatonton, Georgia. After returning home from the war, he became president of Haas & Dodd Realty Company and was voted Realtor of the Year.

If you need a really fascinating and witty guest speaker or if you want one of his books, contact Fred at 404-841-6264 or foscheer@mindspring.com.



A European Sojourn, 1943-1945: An Autobiography



Gerry and Fred Scheer



Jill Berry and Jade Slover

DR. SPANIER RETIRES AFTER 14,000 BABIES. Talk about a guy who delivers. The delightful Harriet Spanier tells us exclusively that an era has passed in Atlanta—her gynecologist husband of 60 years, Jack, is retiring. "After delivering 14,000 babies and practicing 59 years (54 years doing OB-GYN)," says Harriet, "Jack performed his last delivery on May 23, 2014: A beautiful little girl named Carolina. How fitting a name, as his career started in Charleston, South Carolina."

Dr. Spanier moved to Atlanta from Charleston, in 1958, after serving as a medical officer for the United States Marines.

Dr. Spanier's list of honors is too lengthy for us to print here, but he was one of the founding members of Northside Hospital, where he served as chairman and a member of the Board of Trustees.

Harriet and Jack are the parents of Beth, Amy, and Jonathan; grandparents of Michael and Rachel Winston; and great grandparents of Victoria Anne Winston.

HOLLYWOOD FILM EXEC VISITS ATLANTA. Hollywood production exec Marc Wolloff, son of fiery redheaded Bloomingdale's retail associate Bonnie Wolloff, just surprised his mom with a visit to Atlanta, where he talked to the Georgia Film Board about doing more shows from here.

Marc is vice president of production for FremantleMedia, which produces such hit shows as "American Idol," "The X Factor," "America's Got Talent," "Let's Make a Deal," The Price is Right," and other popular shows.

Bonnie and her late husband, Bill, lived in Atlanta the early seventies, when Marc was just a baby. As Bonnie observes, "Who knew, when he tried out for the movie *Jaws*, at four years old, that he would be returning 39 years later with twenty years' experience in the production industry?"

Marc, who has been nominated for an Emmy for his work on "The Jeff Corwin Experience" on Animal Planet, was in town to start production for this season's "Family Feud," with Steve Harvey, which reportedly brings in more money than any other reality show in the country.

Show business seems to run in the Wolloff family DNA. Bonnie's adorable 11-year-old granddaughter, Brooke, has a just-released animated series, called "Tumble Leaf," on Amazon TV, iPad,

### THE JEWISH GEORGIAN

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Happening From page 3



Marc and Bonnie Wolloff

iPhone, and other media. Her 13-year-old grandson, Max, does improv; and Marc's beautiful wife of 14 years, Michelle, is a vice president of DirecTV. And Bonnie's cousin is Broadway star Joel Gray (Cabaret); his daughter Jennifer will always be remembered for her role as Baby in *Dirty* Dancing.

GOLDBERG'S ADDING TWO MORE EATERIES. Attention fans of Goldberg'sthe legendary deli is opening two new outlets, one in Alpharetta, the other downtown, to join its nine other popular locations.

We have learned this exclusively from Howard Aaron, who, with Wayne Saxe, owns and runs Goldberg's and can often be found at the popular Roswell Road location, which serves the best kippered herring we have ever had.

The Alpharetta outlet will be at the Avalon Shopping center. Downtown, the establishment will be called The Atlanta Braves Bar and Grill, located at 200 Peachtree Street.



Wayne Saxe and Howard Aaron

DANA MOSES SHEPARD HONORED BY NEW ORLEANS. Atlanta native Dana Moses Shepard is being honored for her contributions to the betterment of New Orleans, as part of the city's Young Leadership Council.

Dana is the wife of Louis Shepard and the daughter of our renowned aunt, Rita Moses, and the late Graham Moses.

Watching Dana grow in Atlanta, we always knew, with her brilliance and scintillating personality, she was destined for great things.



Dana and Louis Shepard

JOSH HARRIS' COMEDY ALBUM. In mid-May, Atlanta's hottest young comic star, Josh Harris, launched his grassroots Kickstarter campaign, to raise money to fund an album of his hilarious comedy songs.

Within just a few days, his campaign passed \$11,000 in donations. It was ranked the #1 Kickstarter music campaign in Georgia and #13 in the country!

Josh says his "dream is to do this comedy music album and then start making music videos of the songs."

He describes his music as having "a beat you can dance to and not one dirty word .... As a fan of putting clean, but always a little twisted, comedy storytelling to music, these mini-comedies could become pitch platforms to launch films and even sitcoms, with the unique voice of a half-Southern Jew who can sing, dance, write, direct, and now produce his own brand of clean funny."

Josh adds, "I'm getting a lot of help from my mentor, Jerry Farber, who has encouraged me every step of the way and helped me build a network of fans who believe in what we're doing.'

Josh started out writing promotional copy at The Cartoon Network and made it to the semifinals on Bill Bellamy's "Who's Got Jokes?" and NBC's "Stand-Up for Diversity."

Unlike many successful artists, Josh doesn't give much credit to any one school he attended, "because I've been to so many," he says. "But the good news is none of them sends me letters asking for money, because they know comedians don't have any .... But I've promised to donate to each of them a Josh Harris timeout chair, for any student who gets in trouble and just needs time to daydream."

Josh appears regularly at comedy clubs around Atlanta, mostly at Jerry Farber's Side Door, in the Landmark Diner, at



**Josh Harris** 

Roswell Road and Blackland in Buckhead. To follow Josh or support his project, visit www.funnyjosh.com.

HELPING DISABLED ISRAELIS. We have written many times about The Israel Sports Center for the Disabled and its courageous Moshe



helping rehabilitate disabled Israelis through sports, such as swimming and wheelchair basketball, Moshe has been honored by the Israeli human rights and public interest

**Moshe Rashkes** 

group Tnuat Ometz, with a lifetime achievement award for his dedicated work.

A recent article by Amos Aricha, the renowned Israeli playwright, artist, and author, calls Moshe "the Ideal Israeli," praising the "accomplishments of this warrior, writer, and dominant leader in the disabled sports movement."

Moshe was born in Bialystok, Poland, and came to what was then Palestine, in 1931, when he was three years old; at 14, he volunteered for the Jewish self-defense force, the Haganah.

In Israel's fight for independence, in 1948, Moshe took part in the defense of Tel Aviv and reconnaissance missions. Later, with the Palmach, he escorted convoys to Jerusalem and served as a commander with the famous Etzioni Brigade.

Moshe was seriously wounded in the battle known as Operation Maccabi, the day before the declaration of Israel's independence and was severely wounded. Surgeons were barely able to save his life, and one of his arms was shattered beyond repair, causing him to endure severe pain throughout his life. He is one of the founding members of the Israel Sport Center for the Disabled

As Aricha observes in his article, Moshe's "trait of acceptance and never complaining has characterized him at all the crossroads of his life and career. Instead, he remained focused on those around him."

Moshe regularly heads a delegation of world champion disabled Israeli athletes to Atlanta, so if you'd like to meet him in person and get involved in supporting the ISCD, get in touch with them to learn of their schedule. You can see them on YouTube at youtube.com/watch?v=BAQyYhRg9jA; find them on Facebook at facebook.com/ spivakcenter; or visit fiscd.org.

BARRY FARBER. New York talk show star Barry Farber, the dean of talk radio and best known as the older bro of Atlanta comic Jerry Farber, has been invited into the National Radio Hall of Fame, a terrific honor. His syndicated radio program is heard on the Internet all over the United States and the world. His latest book is Cocktails with Molotov, about meeting and talking with Stalin's infamous foreign minister.

And Barry's bro, Jerry, is also on a roll of sorts. Three weekend shows in a row at his Side Door nightclub raised thousands of dollars for Jewish Family & Career Services, The National Multiple Sclerosis Society, and The ALS Association, which fights Lou Gehrig's disease. Plus, Jerry is always helping groups that rescue and protect animals.



**Jerry Farber** 



**Barry Farber** 

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY. The renowned Gene Asher spent the day with daughters Laurie and Susan. Gene, founder of The Jewish Georgian and a combat Marine veteran of the Korean War, recently celebrated his 86th birthday. Semper Fi, Gene.



Laurie, Gene and Susan Asher



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### Zealousness

### From page 2

presentation. I do not question the right to take a differing view of a situation, but to me, this was not an attempt to present a fair and equitable picture of events. Peter Smith in the Pittsburg Post-Gazette of June 21, 2014, wrote, "Advocates for divestment said Presbyterians need to take action to break the longstanding occupation. Their historic mission work among Arab Christians has partly fueled their affinity for the plight of Palestinians."

Passages such as the following found on page 52 of "Zionism Unsettled" were inflammatory, unfounded, abusive, and offensive and did nothing but inflame a tense situation.

"The Israeli government has continuously promoted ethnic cleansing since the founding of the Jewish state. Laws rather than guns are now used to promote the exodus of Palestinians."

Subsequently, the sale of this publication was removed from the church's website. The following is an excerpt from an article of the June 27, 2014, issue of The New York Times by Laurie Goodstein about the church's revocation.

"After months of outrage over a publication that critics say denigrates Israel, the Presbyterian Church (USA) announced Friday that it was no longer selling the study guide 'Zionism Unsettled' on the church's website.

"The study guide was prepared by a Presbyterian advocacy group, the Israel/ Palestine Mission Network, as a resource for discussions in churches, and it contains essays that cast the theology and history of Zionism as inherently racist and unjust. Many American Jewish organizations, and Presbyterians as well, denounced the study guide soon after it was issued in January.

"Last week at its general assembly in Detroit, the church passed a measure declaring that "Zionism Unsettled" did not represent official church policy, but the guide remained for sale on the church's website."

While we applaud and thank the Presbyterian Church (USA) for this action on its part, which is very meaningful and important, unfortunately, the addition of this color to the palette that is being used to paint a misrepresentative picture of Israel and foster further hatred cannot be erased.

We have a commandment in Judaism, lashon hara, which forbids gossip and derogatory speech against another. The following story is from the website Judaism 101, and is a Chasidic tale about the danger of improper speech.

'A man went about the community telling malicious lies about the rabbi. Later, he realized the wrong he had done, and began to feel remorse. He went to the rabbi and begged his forgiveness, saying he would do anything he could to make amends.

"The rabbi told the man, 'Take a feather pillow, cut it open, and scatter the feathers to the winds.' The man thought this was a strange request, but it was a simple enough task, and he did it gladly. When he returned to tell the rabbi that he had done it, the rabbi said, 'Now, go and gather the feathers. Because you can no more make amends for the damage your words have done than you can recollect the feathers.'

Speech has been compared to an arrow: once the words are released, like an arrow, they cannot be recalled, the harm they do cannot be stopped, and the harm they do cannot always be predicted, for words like arrows often go astray."





## Statement on "Zionism Unsettled"

### By Katharine Henderson

President, Auburn Theological Seminary

"Zionism Unsettled," a publication by the Israel/Palestine Mission Network, an advocacy group created by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A), is not a congregational study guide as it claims to be, but rather a polemic that reduces the complex and multiple narratives of Israelis and Palestinians through a single lens: the problem of Zionism. The premise of the document appears to be that Zionism is the cause of the entire conflict in the Middle East and the root of all its problems. For its authors, Zionism functions as the original sin, from which flows all the suffering of the Palestinian people.

One of the important consequences of this polemic is to undermine the legitimacy of the state of Israel and contradict policies of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) over several decades. Our denomination has consistently supported the needs and aspirations of both Israelis and Palestinians; it has advocated for justice, security and reconciliation for all, while acknowledging the complexity of the problem and the difficulty in reaching a just and lasting peace.

An ideologically driven document such as this one cannot conceivably promote solutions that all parties in this conflict urgently need. Moreover, it is written at a particularly unfortunate moment as world leaders struggle to engage in new efforts to work toward resolution of the practical problems that face everyone in the region and make actual reconciliation between the parties extremely difficult.

This document purports to be about love, but it actually expresses demonization, distortion and imbalance. Sadly, its sweeping allegations, blanket condemnations and troubling omissions are not likely to foster productive conversations, but rather to prevent them. It creates walls not just between Presbyterians and Jews, Israelis and Palestinians, but also within the Presbyterian body itself.

The Presbyterian Church has in the past wisely recognized our prophetic role

in repairing breaches, not exacerbating them. I pray that church leaders will pursue proactive measures to mitigate the damage of this publication by reassuring those who are alarmed by this document that it does not reflect or represent the viewpoints of a vast majority of Presbyterians. On a local level, I hope that Presbyterians will reach out to Jewish colleagues and rabbis to learn about their understandings of Zionism, as well as to Arab Americans, Israelis, Palestinians and Palestinian Americans as well as both Muslims and Christians to supplement a narrow and partisan discourse with a broader range of voices. And for those of us who believe in the power of prayer and a God who can make a way out of no way, now would be the time to pray for all those, both in the U.S. and the Middle East, who seek a just and lasting peace.

Auburn Theological Seminary is the second oldest seminary affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (USA). Located in New York, It was founded in 1818.

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## Atlanta Jewish Academy created in merger of GHA and YA

The merger of Greenfield Hebrew Academy (GHA) and Yeshiva Atlanta (YA), many months in the planning, is now complete. The new school has a new name, Atlanta Jewish Academy (AJA), with one mission and one board. The mission was developed in a collaborative fashion by the former boards of both schools along with several parents from both institutions.

Atlanta Jewish Academy is a college preparatory, co-educational, preschool through twelfth grade, independent Jewish day school, guided by modern orthodox values and principles. Embodying the ideals of community, tradition, individual development, and educational innovation, Atlanta Jewish Academy develops the whole person for college and life. This is done by fostering a love of Torah, Israel,

secular and Judaic education within an inclusive, nurturing community.

AJA anticipates and is planning for significant new educational opportunities and synergies in the future and reports that the school's combined enrollment has increased for the upcoming 2014-2015 school year.

The new head of school, Rabbi

and all Jewish people through an excellent Pinchos Hecht, is enthusiastic about the opportunities offered by a school that spans from preschool through twelfth grade. "This new paradigm allows us to use all the tremendous resources of both institutions to create a contemporary, relevant, meaningful education, with excellence in both Judaic and general studies."

## AICC, Southeast Region, is now conexx



Shai Robkin unveils conexx: America Israel Business Connector

At its annual Eagle Star Awards Gala, on June 11, the American-Israel Chamber of Commerce, Southeast Region, announced its new name-conexx: America Israel Business Connector.

For the past 22 years, AICC has been widely regarded as the largest and most effective organization of its kind in North America. Recognizing that continued success requires constant re-examination of mission and strategy, the Board decided to use the opportunity presented by the transition of both the volunteer and professional leadership the past year to explore how the organization could most effectively build on its solid foundation to develop an expanded vision for the future.

According to Joel Neuman, Chairman of conexx, the objectives of the re-branding process were to establish "a clearer message about who we are and what we do; expand awareness and

engagement; build deeper relationships and attract strategic, sustaining partners; and create a brand that reflects the goal of being the 'go-to' address for Americans and Israelis looking to do business with each other."

"We hope that our new branding adequately reflects our unique ability to connect U.S. companies with Israeli innovation and create the environment that supports communities of opportunity in both Israel and the Southeast," adds Shai Robkin, conexx president & CEO. "With our new branding, we look to more effectively communicate with the largest possible business audience that conexx is a smart, trusted, serious, compelling, multi-dimensional, and results-oriented organization."

For more information, visit www. conexx.org.

time

## On the road again



When I was a child I used to take the train from the little South Carolina town where I lived to Charleston, to visit relatives, who would meet me at the station. Nobody flew much back then.

My youngest daughter and her family moved to Charlotte, North Carolina, about two years ago. Charlotte was the closest big city to the little town where I grew up, and we used to go there often. Charlotte is a lovely city and reminds me of Atlanta about forty years ago. I was thrilled when I learned that was where they were moving.

At first, I would fly to Charlotte, but AirTran was sold and the schedule changed. My son drove me once, as driving on I-85 is not what I remember; there are trucks and so much other traffic. So what was I to do when my five-year-old twin grandchildren were graduating from

Jewish Preschool on Sardis? There had to be an easy

way to go. of A11 а sudden, I kept hearing about the Megabus that went to Charlotte. What is Megabus? Well, I looked into it discovered and that Megabus is an extremely

low-cost intercity bus service. My friends thought I was nuts, but I wanted to get on this bus and on the road again.



**Charleston, South Carolina** 

It took a little over four hours, just like driving, and it was extremely inexpensive. I was game. My son drove me to the place where you board, and there it was. It left on the dot-not a second late.

It was double-decker bus, with all the bells and whistles we are used to on a plane: it had a bathroom, reclining seats, wi-fi and electrical outlets at each seat, and it was very clean and comfortable. I sat behind the driver and across from steps that went to the upper level. The seat was perfect for me, as I am short; there was not enough legroom for a tall person.

> No one sat next to me, so I pulled out my book and relaxed. We arrived in Charlotte thirty minutes early, and I was met by my sonin-law.

> Maybe I am adventurous, but I am delighted to have this alternative way of visiting my grandchildren. This time, my son came

from Atlanta to Charlotte to pick me up for the return trip, but I am definitely ready for a round-trip visit by bus.

## Notes from an old dinosaur



I must admit it—I am a dinosaur! My camera still has film in it, this article was written on my trusty IBM Selectric III typewriter, I don't comprendez 'puters, and have no idea what to do with the cell phone that my children gave me to use whenever I drive. (They say that, in case of the "God forbids," I can dial 911).

I enjoy using the treadmill in our exercise room here at the Renaissance, and the boredom is alleviated by my little boombox that I plug in, as I'm hopefully

burning a few calories each I have a bunch of cassettes (yes, I still use those that I've accumulated over the years) and listen to golden oldies to kill time.

Yesterday, Ι heard the nasal tones of Willie Nelson singing "Blue Skies." Wow, that took me back to my childhood in China, where my father had bought a gramophone, and "Blue Skies" was among the tunes on those big old 78 record platters. That company making those old phonographs, as we call them now, was

RCA Victor, with the logo of a dog, listening to "His Master's Voice." It did not run on electricity; we had to wind it up every few minutes. But it was pure magic for this sixyear-old. There was even more magic

a year or two later, when my father brought home a box, plugged a wire into probably the only outlet in the entire house, andvoila! — a man's voice came out, about was ecstatic, I'm sure,

saying something the

day's news. Papa but the magic was all mine.

I do have some CDs and play all

those wonderful tunes we call golden oldies, and I listen to them on another player in my apartment. Of course, they are outdated, too, what with smartphones, iPods, and all the other whatchamacallits on the market now. that every teenager uses to tweet, twiddle, or

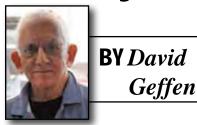
take pictures, be on Facebook or whatever else the young folks do to, with, and for, these days.

I told you I was a dinosaur. Believe me. I can't even name some of the modern marvels around me. Perhaps in my next life; but, by that time, all the above stuff will be obsolete. And then what? I'm too old and tired to even think about it. In fact, a little nap would feel just right now.

In the meantime, God Bless America.

This is reprinted from the July-August 2012 issue of The Jewish Georgian.

## **Twenty locales in 10 U.S. states named Jerusalem**



Did you ever hear that, in 1895, "Jerusalem oranges" were shipped to Chicago for Christmas-Chanukah? According to a major story in the *Chicago World* newspaper:

"A shipment from [Jerusalem] to the Chicago wholesale fruit market has arrived. These oranges are competing with the California market for the holiday trade.... As the top of the first case was removed and the golden fruit came in view, a south water [wholesale district] wag was heard softly singing 'Jerusalem the golden.""

Americans in the Colonial period, being fervent Bible students, frequently saw what they were doing as a repetition of what had happened in ancient days. Moreover, they felt biblical place names should reappear in American geography. It is amazing when you study a map of the United States and see what the early Americans have bequeathed to the world: Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Salem, Carmel, and many more, even the town of Ai.

What is referred to as the "New Jerusalem" concept was initially formulated by Ezekiel, in Chapter 48:35. This became a part of the theological construct of the faiths rooted in the Bible.

When the Puritans colonized New England in the 17th century, this ideal was a motivating factor. The Puritans, inspired by passages about the New Jerusalem in the various parts of the Bible, interpreted it to be a symbol of the new world. Those early settlers saw themselves as the builders of New Jerusalem on earth.

Moshe Davis, who is considered creator of America-Holy Land studies, took the relationship of biblical names and the United States one step further when he stated, "We can see a manifestation of spiritual folklore in the map of America itself."

To understand this more fully, he suggested homing in on this concept in the following fashion: "If one's child could be called by a biblical name, why not one's home, one's town and city?"

He stressed that, along America's expanding frontier, there are to be found hundreds of place names of biblical origin. Sixty years ago, he and his wife, Lottie, created a map of the U.S. featuring many locales with biblical names.

The map was so widely cited and well received that it was the subject of a fascinating TV show on the nationwide "Landmarks of America" series. In one scene, a lonely hobo, trying to hitchhike somewhere in America, appears on the TV screen. A car stops briefly and then drives away. We hear the man calling out, "But I only wanted to go to Jerusalem." He turns to the camera and speaks. "There's at least one Jerusalem in Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Rhode Island, Ohio, Tennessee, Vermont, Utah, Michigan, Maryland, and New York. In fact, if you send a letter to a party named Smith or Brown in Jerusalem... you'd better put the state down, because there are 11 states that call a village or a town or a city by that name."

The naming of places as Jerusalem began in America in 1687, when a new tract of land, in what became New York State, was called Jerusalem by the settlers who were most desirous of using this name for communities being founded. When Davis and his wife did their initial research six decades ago, they located only four American Jerusalems.

In a footnote to an article, Davis wrote. "Jerusalem, as a name, appeared less than Carmel, Salem, even Galilee on the map, because some settlers felt it, Jerusalem, was just too holy." However, as the years passed into the 21st century, closer study revealed twenty Jerusalems. Looking at some of them will help us see how significant the name of the key city in Eretz Yisrael was.

My first face-to-face meeting with such a locality occurred in the early 1970s. My wife's brother, Dr. Sidney Feld, of Bethesda, Maryland, was then a doctoral student in marine economics at the University of Rhode Island. He rented a little house in Narragansett, Rhode Island, for himself and his wife, Carol. One summer, around American Independence Day, Rita, I, and our three children visited them. U.S. naval ships could be boarded on July fourth at the base in Newport, Rhode Island.

After enjoying the ship visitations, we drove to the famous Newport Touro Synagogue, the oldest in the U.S., constructed in the 1750s. We were speaking to a guide there, who asked where we were from. I said we were staying in Narragansett for about a week. "Have you been to the Jerusalem community in Narragansett?" We were taken aback, but he insisted there was a Jerusalem there.

On our return to our vacation home, we decided to find the site. Bright and early, we were off to a local information office in Narragansett. The person in charge took out a big map of the town and showed us, near the fishing docks, not only a Jerusalem, but also a Galilee. We drove to the area, where signs for both locales were quite visible.

I have always suggested in talks that the famous 18th century *shaliach* from the Holy Land, Haim Yitzhak Carigal, who spoke on Shavuot in the Newport synagogue in 1773, bequeathed the name Jerusalem to Rhode Island. The actual story is a bit different.

In the 19th century, the fishermen of Narragansett decided that they wanted a biblical linkage for the area where they plied their trade. So, naturally, Galilee was the name chosen. In 1902, a fisherman from Nova Scotia, Canada, sailed into Narragansett Bay and shouted out, "Where am I?" A local worker replied, "You are in Galilee." Then, the Canadian pointed to

# The Atlanta connection with Israel's new president

### By David Geffen

With its election on June 10, Israel chose the Hon. Reuven Rivlin as its next president. Rivlin, whose family has lived in Jerusalem since 1842, is a member of the Likud party and was elected to the Knesset in 1977, serving as the speaker of the Knesset for two terms. A very loved member of the Israel political scene, for him Jerusalem is the center not only of Israel but also of the Jewish people.

And for Jewish Georgians, Rivlin's election brings a connection to Israel's officialdom. You see, the leading aide of the newly elected president is attorney Harel Tubi, who is married to Sharone Wilensky, a great-granddaughter of Rabbi and Mrs. Tobias Geffen. As many of the readers of this paper know, the Geffens were residents of Atlanta, and, for six decades of the 20th century, Rabbi Geffen was a spiritual leader in the Atlanta Jewish community and the voice of Orthodox Jewry in the South. The Geffen connection with Jerusalem began when Rabbi authored 13 articles, from 1910-1914, in the monthly HaMaasef published in Jerusalem.

One of the Geffens' eight children was Bessie Geffen Wilensky of New Orleans. She was a leader in the South of the Young Judea organization, which sent hundreds of American-Jewish youth to the study center in Jerusalem. It is no surprise, therefore, that her son Dr. David Wilensky was a student at Hebrew University, and, as it happens, the Six-Day War that occurred in 1967 took place during his studies there. He and his wife, Sheila, made *aliyah* in 1977, and their fourth child, Sharone, who married Harel Tubi ten years ago, was born in Jerusalem. They have three children.

Atlanta Jewry has been linked closely to *Eretz Yisrael* since 1896 when a Jerusalem author received assistance from the community to publish his book

another side of the bay and said, "What's that?" Quickly, the answer came back, "If this side is Galilee, that must be Jerusalem." Since then, the name has been on the state map.

Jerusalem, Utah, is linked to a disciple of Joseph Smith, the founder of the Mormon church. Professor Davis located a document in the Mormon archives in Salt Lake City, Utah, dated March 30, 1836, and signed by Joshua Sexias, of a noted American Sephardic family. "The certificate attests to the fact that Joseph Smith successfully completed a course of Hebrew under Sexias' guidance." in Hebrew in Jerusalem. Today, Professor David Macarov, at 95, is the oldest Atlanta Jew living in Israel, in Jerusalem of course. He and his wife, Fieda, made *aliyah* in 1947 and fought in the Israel's War of Independence.



Harel Tubi, father; Hon. Reuven Rivlin, Israel's newly elected president, holding Yonatan Tubi at his *Brit Milah*; and Dr. David Wilensky, grandfather



The Tubi family: Sharone, Harel, and their children

As Smith developed the Mormon faith in the 1820s, he led his followers to Kirtland, Ohio, where they built a temple. He could not understand all of the divine revelations for this construction, because he knew no Hebrew. Smith hired Sexias, the son of Gershon Mendes Sexias, the reverend of the Shearith Israel Congregation, in New York. Joshua Sexias was a fine Hebraist, taught at various colleges and was at Oberlin College, in Ohio, when Smith turned to him.

"My soul delights in reading the word

## See one of the world's most popular musicals at the MJCCA

MJCCA Arts & Culture presents *Les Misérables*, August 7-17, at the Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta's Morris & Rae Frank Theatre, 5342 Tilly Mill Road, Dunwoody.

One of the world's greatest musicals, *Les Misérables* is the winner of over 100 international awards and has become a global success on stage and screen, sweeping audiences through an epic tale of broken dreams, passion, and redemption, against the backdrop of a nation seething with revolution.

The production will be produced by MJCCA's Director of Arts & Culture Brian Kimmel and directed by Levi Kaplan. This program is recommended for ages 14+.

*Les Misérables* features Michael Barthel (Jean Valjean), Lucas Morgan (Javert), Kelly Tansey (Fantine), Sarah Valleroy (Eponine), Kyle Wilkerson (Thenardier), Nicole Falco (Madame Thenardier), Daniel Harper (Marius), Jo-Jo Stein (Cosette), Eric Rich (Enjolras), Jake Holleman (Foreman), Sarah Daniels (Courfeyrac), Brett Leverette (Bamatabois), Chase McGrath (Grantaire), Marco Schittone (Gavroche), Avi Spector (Joly), Will Domenico (Combeferre), Tyree Jones (Bishop of Digne), and Elena Dollinger (Young Eponine).

Showtimes are August 7, 13, and 14, 8:00 p.m.; and August 10 and 17, 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$15-29. For information, call 678-812-4002, or visit atlantajcc.org/boxoffice.



Jo-Jo Steine as Cosette and Michael Barthel as Jean Valjean (Photo: Katie Wilson)

## **MJCCA News**

**MJCCA SUPPORTS SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY-WIDE.** The Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta recently awarded the MJCCA a Grants to Green Campus Assessment, to "green" its buildings, site, and operations at the Zaban Park campus. The assessment will be performed by Southface Energy Institute, which will identify high-impact opportunities for reducing operating costs and environmental impact. The MJCCA will implement Southface's recommendations in an effort to support and maintain environmental sustainability.

Since 2008, the Grants to Green initiative has helped nonprofit organizations in the 23-county metro Atlanta region assess facilities; identify and implement energy, water, and resource-efficiency upgrades; and adopt best management practices for sustainability. To date, 144 local nonprofit organizations have received Grants to Green Assessment and/or Implementation Grants. Collectively, these nonprofits have saved over \$1 million a year in utilities, including energy, water, and gas costs.

The Grants to Green Campus initiative will further the MJCCA's commitment to transform how the agency operates and delivers services, establishing the MJCCA as a strong environmental steward and leader in the community, as well as furthering its strategic plan for long-term financial sustainability.

The MJCCA's recent efforts to support environmental sustainability include: recycling 3-5 tons monthly, including electronic equipment; installing more energy-efficient lighting fixtures in its main building and parking lot; offering three community gardens for its preschools and summer day camp; ensuring new computers/monitors meet ENERGY STAR standards; utilizing lighting timers; adhering a pool cover for after hours, which creates a thermal blanket to keep the pool heated and reduce energy; installing a misting system that collects and utilizes rainwater to cool the rooftop HVAC units; and planting 100 trees and 5,000 daffodils in recent months to further "green" the campus.

"After the assessment is completed, the MJCCA's Governance Board will determine

which recommendations to implement and ensure that adequate funding is secured," said Gail Luxenberg, CEO of the MJCCA. "The Community Foundation's generous support of the MJCCA will enable our agency to decrease unnecessary waste and expenses, enabling us to focus more resources on programs and services for our community members."

HARRY MAZIAR CLASSIC. The MJCCA BB&T Harry Maziar Classic took place June 2, at the Atlanta Country Club, in Marietta. Each year, the tournament honors an outstanding member of the community. The 2014 honoree was Doug Hertz, president and CEO of United Distributors, in appreciation of his dedication to Atlanta's vibrant Jewish community.

This year's tournament, which had a record 140 participants, raised \$300,000 through sponsorships, contributions, and auction items. Proceeds help the MJCCA provide more than \$500,000 a year in scholarships and financial aid. The MJCCA currently has the highest user rates in its history and serves more than 55,000 people every year through its innovative programs and vital services, including preschools, sports leagues, summer camps, programming for people with special needs, and more.

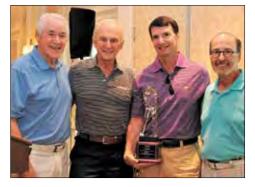
This year, sponsors could invite their guests to the inaugural women's wellness event, which coincided with the tournament.

The 2014 tournament winners are: Putting contest: Michael Coles Longest drive (male): Jay Dermer Longest drive (female): Virginia Hepner First place team net score: Paul Freeman, Adam Freeman, Jay Dermer, Scott Alterman Second place team net score: Garrett Van de Grift, Russell Breier, Michael Elmore, Bob Crean

Third place team net score: David Johnson, Tom Bethel, Ben Wilson, Chad Burchfield Fourth place team net score: Andrew Steinberg, Jim Pfeifer, Leo Yerashunas, Keith Brennan



BB&T Atlanta Market President Abraham Cox (left) accepts a pin flag from MJCCA President Doug Kuniansky. BB&T was Title Sponsor of the tournament. (Photos: Eagle Shots)



Harry Maziar (from left), tournament Co-Chair Howard Halpern, tournament honoree Doug Hertz, and tournament Co-Chair Ron Brill

GYMNASTS WIN REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS. The 2014 Region 8 Xcel Championships took place May 16-18, hosted by Foothills Gymnastics, in Hickory, North Carolina. Over 800 gymnasts from eight states competed.

Three gymnasts from the MJCCA's award-winning Perimeter Gymnastics Program were named regional champions: Sophia Mokotoff, Xcel Silver, bars; Halle Kwatnez, Xcel Gold, beam; and Sophie Pike, Xcel Platinum, floor exercise.

All MJCCA Gymnastics Program classes are led by highly trained professional coaches. With access to 7,000 square feet of dedicated space and top-of-the-line Olympic gymnastics equipment, participants have the opportunity to learn and master the vault, balance beam, bars, and floor exercise, in a caring, supportive environment. The program is open to all; the team is by invitation only.

For Information, call 678-812-4044, or visit www.atlantajcc.org/gymnastics.



Perimeter Gymnasts Sophia Mokotoff, Halle Kwatnez, and Sophie Pike, 2014 Xcel Regional Gymnastics Champions (Photo: Katie Wilson)

A GIRL THING. Rosh Hodesh: It's a Girl Thing! is a program of Moving Traditions at the MJCCA that draws on Jewish teachings to help girls in grade six navigate the complexities of adolescent life. The group will meet one Sunday a month, September 7, 2014-May 3, 2015, at the MJCCA, Zaban Park.

Parents and their daughters are invited to "A Taste of Rosh Hodesh," an informational meeting, on Sunday, August 3, 4:00-5:30 p.m., at the MJCCA, where they will get the chance to ask questions and experience the program firsthand.

A contemporary celebration of the ancient New Moon holiday, Rosh Hodesh builds girls' self-esteem, leadership skills, and Jewish identity. The program works on an intimate model, bringing together small groups of girls for monthly celebrations. Each gathering will focus on specific life lessons that draw on core Jewish values and practices to explore such issues as body image, friendship, family, assertiveness, and social action. Activities include arts and crafts, creative writing, role-playing, and small group discussion.

The program fee is \$185/MJCCA members and \$240/community.

For more information, contact Laura Ross, MJCCA Teen Department director, at 678-812-3971 or laura.ross@atlantajcc.org. Register at atlantajcc.org/teens.

**YOM HASHOAH OBSERVANCE.** More than 400 people attended a Yom HaShoah Commemoration at the Besser Holocaust Memorial Garden, located on the campus of the MJCCA.

The program included the lighting of

### Page 9

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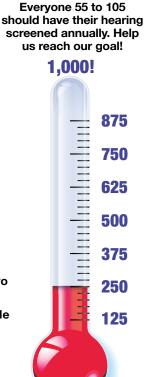
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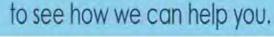
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### THE JEWISH GEORGIAN

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## MJCCA

### From page 8



Harry Scheinfeld (front, from left), Isaac Scheinfeld, Elaine and Bob Feldberg; (back) Morray Scheinfeld, Maria Dziewinski (standing in front of Morray), Gina Karp, Jeanette Arogeti, Amy and Robert Arogeti, Doug Kuniansky, and Rabbi Brian Glusman (all photos: Barry J. Taratoot)

A class from Riverwood High School, with teacher Zachary Feldberg



of the Six Torches, in memory of the six million Jews who perished in the Holocaust; a special musical presentation; and remarks from Jim Barfield, author of *Boxcars*, who drew on his ancestry to tell the story of two young people during World War II.



Guest speaker Jim Barfield playing his guitar during the commemoration

**ALL FALL DOWN.** On June 26, a Page From the Book Festival of the MJCCA, in partnership with the AJC Decatur Book Festival, presented *New York Times* bestselling author Jennifer Weiner. She discussed her newest novel, *All Fall Down*, a book that exposes the secret world of women who appear to have it all; women who are smart, successful...and addicted. Guests enjoyed the engaging dialogue between Jennifer Weiner and WABE's Mara Davis held in an "in conversation with" format, as well as the insightful audience questions. Highlights also included a wine reception before the program and a book signing with cookies and coffee following the program. Special thanks to *Jezebel*, the event's media sponsor.



Jennifer Weiner and Mara Davis





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## **Before Baby: How to prep for pregnancy**

Can you hear that? There's a storm on the horizon—a very good and happy one. Soon, the rolling thunder of baby announcements will drench your social media feeds and flood your mailboxes with the joyous news that another friend or loved one is hearing the pitter-patter of little feet. With more babies born in September than any other month of the year, baby season is ramping up.

If the influx of birth announcements happens to spark your or a loved one's interest

in adding to your family, there are a few things future moms and dads can do to prepare for pregnancy. (Future grandparents can join these conversations as well.) These tips for pre-prenatal health can help ensure that when the time comes to start trying for that new addition, couples can feel confident they are in great health, leading to a happy pregnancy and a healthy child.

FOLIC ACID. Sometimes referred to as folate or vitamin B9, folic acid is found in leafy greens, like kale, fortified breakfast cereals, peanuts, and even orange juice. Folic acid helps prevent birth defects relating to the brain and the spine, most notably spina bifida.

Because the problem leading to spina bifida happens in the first few weeks of pregnancy, often before a woman even knows she is pregnant, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) urges women to start taking 400 mcg of folic acid every day, well before they begin trying. Studies have also found folic acid may help prevent some heart



defects and even cleft palates.

GET "JSCREENED." Eighty percent of babies born with a genetic disease have no known family history of that condition. Also, one out of every four Ashkenazi Jews is a Jewish genetic disease carrier. One of the most convenient and easiest ways for future moms and dads to screen themselves against over 80 different genetic diseases, including the 19+ Jewish genetic diseases, is with JScreen (www. jscreen.org).

Based out of Emory University, JScreen is a national program that offers salivabased genetic testing. Saliva is collected from the comfort of one's own home and then sent to the lab for processing. If a person or couple's risk is elevated, a certified genetic counselor from Emory University will contact them to discuss their results. If you or someone you know is considering getting pregnant

now or in the future, go to www.jscreen.org to learn more and order a screening kit. You can even give the gift of screening to a friend or loved one, by purchasing a JScreen gift card at jscreen.org/gift.

ACT LIKE YOU'RE ALREADY PREGNANT. Don't do anything you wouldn't do while pregnant, and make sure your partner follows suit. This means being mindful of one's seafood intake, to avoid ingesting too much mercury. This also means that those who smoke or consume alcohol on a regular basis will need to rethink those habits. Smoking and consuming alcohol can both adversely affect fertility, lowering sperm count and motility in men and egg production in women. If you have diabetes, talk to your doctor about getting your blood sugar under control before you get pregnant. High blood sugar is known to increase the risk of birth defects.

As always, please talk with your doctor about the most appropriate practices for you. The best chance of having a healthy baby is to be the healthiest you can be. By making a few lifestyle tweaks, communicating openly with your doctor, and gaining vital knowledge about your genes, you might very well find yourself "singin' in the rain" when the baby announcement storm makes landfall next year.

### **Gift of Chai**

JScreen and The Gift of Life are partnering to provide the Gift of Chai, sponsored by Hebrew Order of David, on Sunday, August 24, 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., at the Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta, 5342 Tilly Mill Road.

JScreen helps you plan ahead for your future children's health with a simple genetic screening test on saliva (no blood draws!). Screen for 19 Jewish diseases, plus 63 others common in the general population. Go to www.jscreen.org/reg/giftofchai to get more information and to pre-register for a JScreen kit.

Gift of Life is a blood stem cell and bone marrow Donor Registry for children and adults. A simple cheek swab is all it takes to join the Gift of Life bone marrow registry.

For more information about the Gift of Chai event, contact either David Lurie at 404-518-7066 (david@atozis. com) or Steve Kaufman at 770-597-2066 (capitalcitymgt@gmail.com).

### Just Take 10. Join the movement.



Plan for your future family's health with just a 10-minute investment of time. JScreen.org provides information and access to an at-home saliva genetic test designed specifically for individuals with Jewish heritage.

Whether you're single, dating, growing your family or just curious, request a genetics kit to learn more.





## Adult polyglucosan body disease: what people of Ashkenazi Jewish descent need to know



Do you know someone with urinary issues and peripheral neuropathy (foot or leg numbness)? It's possible he or she has adult polyglucosan body disease (APBD).

APBD is a genetic disorder that results in the low activity of an important enzyme, glycogen branching enzyme (GBE1), which is used to make glycogen.

Glycogen is the reserve "fuel" that is stored in your cells. Stored glycogen normally takes over when your normal fuel, glucose, runs low. Glycogen is made by your body from glucose, but your cells must have a special enzyme called GBE1 to make it correctly. Without enough GBE1, APBD patients develop malformed glycogen.

What is so bad about malformed glycogen?

First, when there is low activity of the branching enzyme, newly formed glycogen is manufactured incorrectly into long strands called polyglucosan bodies. These polyglucosan bodies cannot be used for fuel, so they build up inside nerve cells. This causes damage to these nerves. The damage often results in numbness and eventually weakness in the muscles controlled by these nerves. Hence, this disorder has become known as "adult polyglucosan body disease."

Second, since a lot of the glycogen was built incorrectly and cannot be used as normal fuel, the cells needing this fuel run low on energy much faster than normal. As a result, patients with APBD often report serious fatigue at certain times of the day.

How does low glycogen branching enzyme activity affect APBD patients long-term?

Onset of symptoms may occur as early as age 35. Generally, however, most people are diagnosed in their 50s or 60s. The typical APBD patient will initially experience numbness in his or her extremities, often in the toes and feet. In addition, he or she may often develop urinary frequency that far exceeds the norm. Over a period of years, the numbness will progress to a loss of muscle control and eventually to an inability to walk. The urinary frequency will often progress to a near complete loss of urinary control.

Damage to other parts of the body varies from person to person. The end stage of APBD follows a similar pattern to other debilitating degenerative diseases, such as amyotrophic lateral sclerosis and multiple sclerosis. It has been documented that APBD patients have a reduced life expectancy.

### How common is APBD?

A recent study by Dr. Marvin Natowicz, of the Cleveland Clinic, found roughly 1 in 35 Ashkenazi Jews carries the mutation that causes APBD. However, APBD is not a wellknown disease, even in the medical community. Many APBD patients are misdiagnosed, with many undergoing inappropriate treatments and surgeries.

For this reason, we are working hard to get the word out about APBD and help people obtain the correct diagnosis. In addition, there are a number of research projects underway around the world, which will provide more information about APBD and ultimately lead to a cure. The key to success is a continued strong focus on research and spreading awareness of APBD.

### Is there a test for APBD?

Yes. A health care provider can take a blood sample and send it for analysis, or you can collect a saliva sample using an at-home test kit and mail it in for analysis.

For more information and directions for the blood test or at-home saliva test kit, visit www.apbdrf.org.

Gregory Weiss, a patient himself, founded the Adult Polyglucosan Body Disease Research Foundation (APBDRF) in 2005 and serves as president and chairman of the board. The Foundation is dedicated to increasing public awareness and understanding of APBD, especially in the at-risk Ashkenazi Jewish Community and the general medical community, which still remains largely unaware of the disease.

July-August 2014

## A wedding in Jerusalem



**BY** Janice Rothschild Blumburg

It was a wedding like no other. The former Meredith Edge Loveman and General Robert Magnus, United States Marine Corps, Retired, spoke their vows beneath a chuppah of lush greenery, white roses, and dahlias, set against an incomparable backdrop: the Mount of Olives. The real Mount of Olives. With the Dead Sea faintly visible on the horizon to our right.

A soft breeze embraced us, lulling those of us from America into a dreamlike reverie, as we waited for the ceremony to begin. Aware that some of Israel's top military brass, as well as government leaders and diplomats, would be there, we looked around, hoping to identify them. I recognized Moshe Arad, who had been a young press attaché at the Washington embassy and a friend of my late husband, David Blumberg, before becoming Israel's ambassador to the United States and Great Britain. I wondered if he would remember me.

Most fascinating of the notables were two surviving heroes of Israel's War of Independence, Harold "Smoky" Simon and Lou Lenart, both in their nineties.

Simon, after serving as a Lancaster navigator-bombardier as a South African in the Royal Air Force during World War II, came to Israel with his wife, Myra, in 1948, and flew 24 operations, soon being promoted to chief of Air Operations for the Israel Air Force.

Lenart, after serving as a Corsair pilot in the United States Marine Corps during World War II, also volunteered to defend the new state; he is one of the surviving pilots who created what is now the Israel Air Force. He led the nation's entire corps of four planes and four pilots (including the late Ezer Weizman, Israel's former president and defense minister) on its first combat flight. Their surprise attack against an Egyptian force of 10,000, already advanced as far as Ashdod, is credited with having saved Tel Aviv.

Both Simon and Lenart participated in the marriage ceremony as escorts for the bride and groom. Other notables filled such roles as symbolic holders of the chuppah, readers of the seven blessings, and announcer, identifying them and explaining the significance of each part of the service for the many guests who were not Jewish. Rivka Arad, wife of the ambassador, was matron of honor. Youngest and most impressive of the attendants was Eric Frazier, one of two wounded-warrior ring bearers, a retired U.S. Marine in his early thirties. A member of the U.S. Biathlon Development Team, he also hand-cycled from San Francisco to Virginia Beach in the 63-day Sea-to-Shining-Sea ride. Eric whizzed up to the bema on wheels, receiving an emotional burst of applause from admiring onlookers as he returned to his place. Hardly a dry eye in sight.

#### The bride and groom (Photo: Chanan Getraide)

Emotional highs continued. After reading aloud their ketubah, the bride and groom, each with his and her own glass, stomped on them together. Then, four U.S. Marines in dress uniform lined the aisle, to begin the sword ceremony so dear to Marine tradition. First, after sounding ritual orders, they formed a canopy with their swords for the newlyweds. Then they halted the newlyweds' progress with crossed swords and welcomed the bride to the Marine Corps family. The bride, bare-shouldered in a fabulous off-white gown by Israeli designer Pnina Tornai, and the groom, in Marine Corps



Gen. Robert Magnus (USMC to the ensuing retired) and Meredith Loveman Magnus under their chuppah klezmer band, in Jerusalem (Photo: Chanan having intoned Getraide)

approached their chuppah, now ushered them out with the stirring rhythm of the Marine Corps Hymn.

Lou Lenart with Cecily Abram (Photo: Charles Thornton)

At dinner following the ceremony, Jewish tradition mingled with regional sentiment. Dancing began with the hora, then proceeded with a variety of music, much of it reminiscent of the seventies and eighties, fondly remembered by the bridal couple and many of their guests. A few of us even recognized renditions of

"Georgia On Mind" Mv "Sweet and Georgia Brown, played in tribute to the bride, a multigenerational Georgian. Toasts were offered by friends from Israel. from America, and from even across the river

Leaving chuppah, awaiting Marine sword ceremony (Photo: Chanan Getraide)

blue-white dress uniform. one side aglow with medals, then marched through the sword arch and proceeded triumphantly celebration. The "Jerusalem of Gold" as the bride and groom

Quarterly, in addition to serving as consultant and advisor to several other corporations and non-profits. This was surely the "live out your dream"

wedding for the happy couple, but Bob and Meredith Magnus made it far more than that, not only for their friends who attended, but possibly even for Israel and beyond. For those of us who came from abroad-most of whom were not Jewish and would probably never have visited Israel otherwise-they provided two full days of fascinating sightseeing, taking us to places either unknown or off limits to ordinary tourists. They showed us Masada and the Dead Sea, but their focus was on Israel's extraordinary breakthroughs combining scientific knowledge of bird migration with ecology and agriculture, of special benefit to the air forces of Israel and neighboring nations. Our overly qualified "tour guide" for both days was Professor Yossi Leshem, of Tel Aviv University, founder and director of Israel's International Center for the Study of Bird Migration.

This other aspect of the Magnuses' Jerusalem wedding is also a love story, one especially suited to The Jewish Georgian's next issue, when the approach of High Holy Days suggests reflection and awe. So stay tuned. There's lots more to come about the good things that are happening among Israelis, partnering with their colleagues in Jordan and the Palestinian territories.



**Cecily Abram**)

(Photo: Eric Frazier Chanan Getraide)

in Jordan.

The unusual ceremony, performed by an Israel Army brigadier commander rather than a

rabbi, incorporated all of the elements necessary for a Jewish wedding. The legal requirements had already been fulfilled by Rabbi Alvin Sugarman, who married the Magnuses at The Temple in Atlanta, several weeks earlier. They live in Brunswick, where Meredith has been active in the community and vice president of Temple Beth Tefilloh. Bob, who served as the 30th assistant commandant of the Marine Corps, retired in 2008, after 38 years of active duty. He is currently chairman of the board, Elbit Systems of America; a director on the boards of AugustaWestland NA, EnerSys, and Fairway Group Holdings; and chairman of the editorial board for the journal Common Defense

### Page 15

## Hadassah News

HADASSAH RECEIVES GRANT FROM MDRT FOUNDATION. As part of its Worldwide Grant Program, the Million Dollar Round Table Foundation (MDRT) awarded a \$25,000 grant to Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America. MDRT is an international, independent association comprising nearly 36,000 of the world's leading life insurance and financial services professionals, from more than 78 countries.

The grant will support the palliative care program of the Pediatric Hematology-Oncology Department of the Hadassah Medical Organization, so that children dying from various forms of cancer may enjoy the best quality of life possible during this most precious time. Hadassah believes in providing all patients with quality care, regardless of nationality, religion, or creed.

Representing the MDRT Foundation, 40-year MDRT member and Knight of the Foundation Bill Loventhal, CFP, CLU, presented the grant at the Greater Atlanta Hadassah board meeting on April 30. Loventhal is a financial advisor at Northwestern Mutual and a Hadassah Associate. Sue Rothstein, president of GAH, accepted the award on behalf of Hadassah.



Bill Loventhal presents a facsimile of the \$25,000 check awarded to Hadassah from the Million Dollar Round Table Foundation to Sue Rothstein, GAH president.

CHESED STUDENT AWARDS. Twentytwo Atlanta-area Jewish teens were honored



on Sunday, May 4, at Greater Atlanta

Hadassah's 23rd Annual Marian F. Perling

Hadassah Chesed Student Awards Program,

annually, since 1992, to one student from

each of the Atlanta-area Jewish day schools

and synagogue religious schools. Students

in grades 7-12 are eligible to receive the

award, and each school chooses its own

recipient. Nominees are chosen based on

criteria that are of paramount importance to

the Hadassah organization and its members:

love for Israel, concern for Jews and Jewish

culture and heritage, concern for fellow

human beings as exemplified through

manner and deed, and acceptable academic

Perling Hadassah Chesed Student Awards

are: Ahavath Achim Synagogue-Sarah

Spielberger; Congregation Beth Shalom-

Daniel Ackermans; Congregation B'nai

Torah-Lexi Newman; Congregation Dor

Tamid-Talia Capozzoli; Congregation

Etz Chaim-David Medof; Congregation

Gottlieb:

L'Torah—Andrew

Recipients of the 2014 Marian F.

standing.

Gesher

The Chesed Awards have been given

held at Congregation Or Hadash.

Greater Atlanta Hadassah leadership at the Chesed Student Awards: (from left) Paula Zucker, organizational vice president; Linda Weinroth, Chesed Awards presenter; Phyllis M. Cohen, past GAH president and Chesed Awards program creator; Eileen Cohn, Chesed Awards program chair; Sue Rothstein, GAH president; and Diane Fisher, GAH communications team leader and immediate past president



Recipients of the 2014 Marian F. Perling Hadassah Chesed Student Awards: (Back, from left) Ethan Fialkow, Sarah Spielberger, Ruby Freeman, Ian Phillips, Andrew Gottlieb, Daniel Ackermans, Noam Gal, Jessica Shiffman, Nicole Berne, Elias Mansbach; (front) Abbie Frankel, David Medof, Lauren Palgon, Maayan Schoen, Lexi Newman. Not pictured: Talia Capozzoli, Jael Azani, Shira Shkarofsky, Juliana Zitron, Yarely Perez, Jamie Lief, and Abigail Bocinec

Congregation Or Hadash-Nicole Berne; Congregation Or VeShalom-Yarely Perez; Congregation Shearith Israel-Elias Mansbach; Greenfield Hebrew Academy-Jael Azani; Temima High School-Shira Shkarofsky; Temple Beth Tikvah-Jessica Shiffman; Temple Emanu-El-Lauren Palgon; Temple Kehillat Chaim-Ian Phillips; Temple Kol Emeth-Jamie Lief; Temple Sinai-Ruby Freeman; The Davis Academy-Abbie Frankel; The Epstein School-Juliana Zitron; The Temple-Abigail Bocinec; The Weber School—Ethan Fialkow; Torah Day School-Maayan Schoen; and Yeshiva Atlanta High School-Noam Gal.

EVERY BEAT COUNTS. Greater Atlanta Hadassah's Metulla Group held its "Every Beat Counts" spring luncheon and fashion show on May 4, at the Country Club of the South. Every Beat Counts: Hadassah's Heart Health Program educates women about risks, prevention, and detection of heart disease, the #1 cause of death among women in the U.S. and worldwide. Dr Marlene Blaise, cardiologist, presented a discussion on women's heart health. In keeping with the theme, lunch was heart



Event Co-chairs Randi Mazer (left) and Linda Lieberman



Fashion show models Michele Merbaum, Metulla president (left), presents certificate of appreciation to Dr. Marlene Blaise.



Anita Otero (from left), Ruth Berg, Livie Sklar, Judith Bracker, Sheila Hertz, Nancy Schwartz, Connie Mintz, Jeri Edelman, Barbara Lang, Judy Price, and Jennifer Hackman

healthy and delicious. Attendees were entertained by an exciting fashion show presented by Karen's Fine Apparel, with upbeat music and magnificent spring fashions worn by Metulla models. Proceeds of the silent auction will benefit Hadassah's good causes.

AN IMAGINARY TRIP TO ISRAEL. On May 4, in observance of Yom Ha'atzmaut, Greater Atlanta Hadassah's Training Wheels group took a trip to Israel without having to leave Atlanta! Using their imaginations, they traveled to several places, sightseeing and creating their own souvenirs along the way. Their plane landed in Tel Aviv, where they toured the city and made Israeli flags and magnets to help them mark the beginning of their trip. In Jerusalem, they wrote notes to put into The Kotel. They moved on to Safed, where they joined other artists to make picture frames that looked like pieces of the wall. They ended their journey in Eilat, where they put on their sunglasses for a trip to the beach and a picnic.

Training Wheels/Al Galgalim, a Jewish family education program created by Hadassah, lets parents and children ages 3-5 become partners in discovering the joys of being Jewish.



Andrew's puzzle speaks for itself.



Alice's picture frame reminded some of the Training Wheels participants of The Kotel.

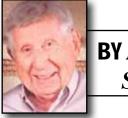


Micah is proud of his Israeli flag.

THE JOY OF SONG. The Mount Scopus group of Greater Atlanta Hadassah welcomed Rabbi Karmi Ingber, May 20, at the Clubhouse at Huntington Condominiums, in

> See HADASSAH, page 17

## Women's Shelter Gala was an impressive gathering



### **BY** Leon Socol

It was bitterly cold in Atlanta in the winter of 1983. That's when Rabbi Marc Wilson, of Congregation Shearith Israel, decided something had to be done to help get Atlanta's homeless women off the streets. He gathered a small, dedicated, group to help form the CSI shelter.

On June 8, that group of founders-namely Helen and Frank Spiegel, Jane and Herb Axelrod, Annette Easton, and Sara and Marshall Duke-were honored at a gala concert at the synagogue,



Jane and Herb Axelrod

marking the shelter's 30th anniversary. The the guests have been able to become Atlanta Community Symphony Orchestra performed free of charge, so the public could enjoy a free concert.



Spiegel spoke about the Helen history of the shelter, including her husband Frank's involvement in its development. Frank celebrated his birthday at the Gala with a huge cake.

Early on, the CSI Women's Shelter was sometimes referred to as a "hot and a cot," but as the years passed, it has provided much more than just a hot meal and a bed. The shelter's guests, as the homeless women are called, now have shower and laundry facilities, comfortable furniture, television, and a warm, homey atmosphere. Recently,



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computer literate, thanks to the donation of several computers.

The women's shelter is housed in the basement of Congregation Shearith Israel. It is the only homeless shelter in the United States that is so located.

### \_\_\_\_\_

Each year, the ACSO plays a free concert at CSI, but this year was special because it marked the 30th anniversary of the shelter's opening. The musical program was special, too; in addition to compositions by Tchaikovsky and Bizet, it featured the world premiere of the compositions "Elegy for Anna Lee" and "Psalm 23," by Atlanta composer and poet Dan Veach, who is also a member of the orchestra. The concert was skillfully led by the orchestra's longtime artistic director and conductor, Juan R. Ramirez.



ACSO Conductor Juan Ramirez and composer/musician Dan Veach



Atlanta Community Symphony Orchestra prepares for the concert

Susan Levitas led the afternoon program, introducing each of the founders and giving a brief history of the shelter. She revealed that during the past 30 years, the shelter has welcomed and accommodated almost a thousand homeless women. She praised the work of the many volunteers who prepared hot kosher evening meals and visited with shelter guests.

David Benner, a member of the shelter's Board of Directors, paid a special tribute to Annette Easton, for her countless contributions. He announced that a special plaque bearing testimony to her service was being installed in the shelter's hospitality room.

Helen Spiegel, who headed up the shelter for many years, told of the trials and tribulations of getting contributions of money, food, and supplies to keep the shelter open each year, from fall to spring.

Retired CSI Executive Director Jane Axelrod told me what impressed her most over the years were the volunteers, who have done so much to help these homeless women start new lives, obtain their own housing, and find employment. The shelter guests' accomplishments are reward enough for those who donate their time, talents, and money to the shelter.

Event Chair Lauren Rudick and Arlene Koslow prepared gourmet kosher hors d'oeuvres and beverages.



Arlene Koslow, aspiring chef Jermaine Robinson, and Lauren Rudick



The kosher hors d'oeuvres tasted as good as they looked.

This event, the annual fundraiser for the shelter, also included a silent auction that featured art and craft objects, personal services, and products. If you'd like to make a contribution to this most worthy community project, visit www.sishelter30. org or Sallie Weddell at www.sweddell@ bellsouth.net.

Beautiful music, delicious food, and tribute to wonderful volunteers. What more could you want on a gorgeous Sunday afternoon?



## **Davis Academy Mechina** program marks 10 years



Zachary Cohen (from left), Aaron Rice, Mechina teacher Amy Shapiro, Maqueline Weiss, Dima Arkhipov, and Isaac Weissman. Not pictured: Eli Katz

This year's Davis Academy graduation, who were in the first Mechina class, and, on May 29, celebrated the accomplishments of the 72 eighth-grade students of the Class of 2014. But there was another very special milestone this

year. While many of those students came to Davis as kindergarteners, six began in the inaugural class of Academy's Davis now highly regarded Mechina: Kindergarten Prep program, which just completed its tenth year.

The Davis Academy Mechina: Kindergarten Prep program is a full-day program for four-year olds (who turn five by December 31). Children are fully integrated into the larger school with an age-appropriate curriculum, including all academic subjects, Jewish studies, fine arts, technology, and physical education.

In honor of the Mechina program's tenyear anniversary and the graduating students who began in its class, The Davis Academy created The Emet Society. The Hebrew word emet means truth. It begins with the Hebrew letter *aleph* and ends with the letter tav, symbolically encompassing the entire Hebrew alphabet (and the Davis Academy journey) from beginning to end. Meaning is also found in the fact that the middle letter, mem, symbolizes menschlichkeit, the values at the center of Davis Academy's core mission.

The first members of The Emet Society are the six students-Dima Arkhipov. Zachary Cohen, Eli Katz, Aaron Rice, Maqueline Weiss, and Isaac Weissman-



upon their Davis graduation, hold the distinction of being the first students to complete ten years at The Davis

Academy. On another sweet note, the teacher who began the program ten years ago, Amy Shapiro, continues to teach the Mechina class.

Maqueline Weiss's parents, Cheryl and Michael, expressed their appreciation for the Mechina program.

"We did not expect that being part of the Mechina program would become such a milestone in our daughter's life," said Michael Weiss. "The bonds formed among this group of students, along with their love of their school and heritage, was evident at graduation, when tears of pride, joy, and even tears of the unknown road ahead flowed. As the very first ones to complete this special program at Davis, this group of students came full circle. They learned together, and, over the years, the group grew closer and closer, fostering a unique journey. Now, even though they're leaving Davis and moving across the community to new high schools, they take with them this special bond of friendship and knowledge, knowing that they went the extra mile, and it will last them a lifetime.'

Added Cheryl Weiss, "Giving her the extra year in the Mechina program allowed Maqueline the time to grow and mature into the lovely young lady she has become. We believe the Jewish community will be the beneficiary of her years at Davis."

### Hadassah From page 15

Tucker for "The Mystical Power of Music and the Joy of Song." Rabbi Ingber, who played his guitar and banjo during this fun-filled evening, established the Atlanta Outreach Kehilla, an organization dedicated to bringing a unique, exciting, welcoming approach to Judaism to metro Atlanta residents.



Susan Berkowitz (left) and Suzy Tibor of the Mt. Scopus Group with Rabbi Ingber

A TOUR OF TOCO. On Sunday, June 9, the Mount Scopus Group of Greater Atlanta Hadassah held its third annual "Tour of Toco Hill." Members and friends saw a variety of home, condos, and designer remodeled homes. The funds raised from this event support women's health and research at the two Hadassah Hospitals in Jerusalem, Israel.



Evi Resnick (from left), Keren Fisher, Chava Neidich, and Bev Fermen





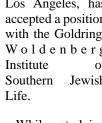
## **Rabbi Jeremy Simons joins ISJL team**

a rabbi at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute



of Religion, in Los Angeles, has accepted a position with the Goldring/ Woldenberg Institute of Southern Jewish Life.

Rabbi Jeremy Simons



While studying HUC-JIR, Simons Rabbi served as а

Jeremy Simons, recently ordained student rabbi for the Wood River Jewish Community, in Sun Valley, Idaho, and Temple Beth Israel, in Redding, California. He is passionate about social justice issues and has served as a speaking fellow with the American Jewish World Service and as a rabbinic intern with the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism. His love for travel and deep respect for the congregations that continue to thrive, even without a fulltime rabbi, led him to the ISJL position.

> "I'm very excited to learn about these communities and their members and also to build upon the incredible work of Rabbi Marshal Klaven and his predecessors," says

Rabbi Simons. "When I moved to Nashville as a child, I remember the warm greeting my family received from our temple and have really missed that famous Southern hospitality. I can't wait to get started!"

Simons attended The Ohio State University as an undergraduate, earning a bachelor of arts in political science and philosophy, magna cum laude. He also spent four years as a youth educator in West Newton and Framingham, Massachusetts, prior to attending rabbinic school. He is excited about working with community members of all ages and looks forward to bringing his commitment to Jewish life and learning to the ISJL team. His rabbinic territory will include Georgia.

Rabbi Simons plans to hit the ground running, bringing continuity and enthusiasm to the itinerant rabbinic program at the ISJL

The Goldring/Woldenberg Institute of Southern Jewish Life is dedicated to providing educational and rabbinic services, preserving the rich history of the Southern Jewish experience, sharing Jewish cultural and artistic programs, collaborating with other nonprofits, and facilitating community engagement opportunities throughout a thirteen-state region.

## Alexander Family Papers are the first project of Cuba Family Archives' new digital scanner

By Jeremy Katz

June marked a landmark event in the history of the Cuba Family Archives for Southern Jewish History at The Breman Museum.

With the generous support of the Alexander family, the Archives purchased a top-of-the-line

document scanner to



Fujitsu 6770 document scanner

begin digitizing its thousands of manuscript collections. The scanner, a Fujitsu 6770, is able to scan up to 99 pages per minute through its sophisticated document feeder. Any documents that are too fragile to scan through the feeder can be digitized using the attached flatbed scanner, making it a powerful two-in-one machine.

The scanner is currently being used digitize the Alexander Family Papers, to housed in the Archives, which total

roughly 15 linear feet. These papers include the significant work of Henry Alexander Sr., Henry Alexander Jr., and Cecil Alexander.

Henry Alexander Sr. was active in both the general and Jewish communities. As a lawyer, he was asked to help in the appeals process for the Leo M. Frank trial. He was a co-founder of the

Atlanta Historical Society and president of the United Hebrew School. His papers consist of court transcripts, correspondence, and newspaper articles relating to the Leo Frank Case, general family correspondence, Alexander family genealogical and



material. Cecil Alexander Jr. was a World

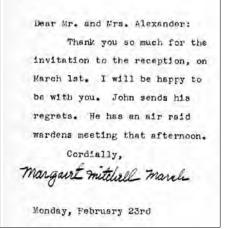
Henry Alexander Sr.

renowned architect, and outspoken an during activist the Civil Rights Movement. Cecil influenced the physical appearance, as well as the political, social, and racial structure, of

His Atlanta. papers consist of correspondence.

certificates, speeches, and newspaper articles.

The Archives' goal is to make this material available online by the end of the year and many more collections available online soon thereafter. It is hoped that other families that have papers in the Archives will come forward to support the project as



Letter from Margaret Mitchell, found in Alexander family papers

well.

For more information, contact Jeremy Katz, archives director, at jrkatz@ thebreman.org or 404-870-1862.

## **Epstein School alumni shine**

Five members of The Epstein School's eighth-grade Class of 2010 are the top graduates at their respective high schools: Mallory Harris, valedictorian, STAR student, and UGA Fellow, Dunwoody High School; David Zarge, valedictorian, North Springs High School; Daniel Abravanel, valedictorian, The Weber School; Steven Burgess, salutatorian, North Springs High School; and Daniela Friedman, salutatorian, The Weber School.

These achievements illustrate that Epstein students are superbly prepared for life and academics in the high schools of their choice. Epstein's innovative teaching techniques, paired with its language immersion curriculum, provide students with a rich academic foundation, individualized attention, and leadership skills.

Through 21st Century Learning, students develop skills that will help them succeed, not only in higher education but also in the job market of tomorrow.

"Having information is not nearly as important as knowing how to use it, and that's something our students excel at doing," explains Head of School Stan Beiner. When our eighth-graders graduate, they leave with skills such as critical thinking, problem solving, independent learning, social thinking, innovation, collaboration, leadership, and bilingual communication, which will carry them for a lifetime."

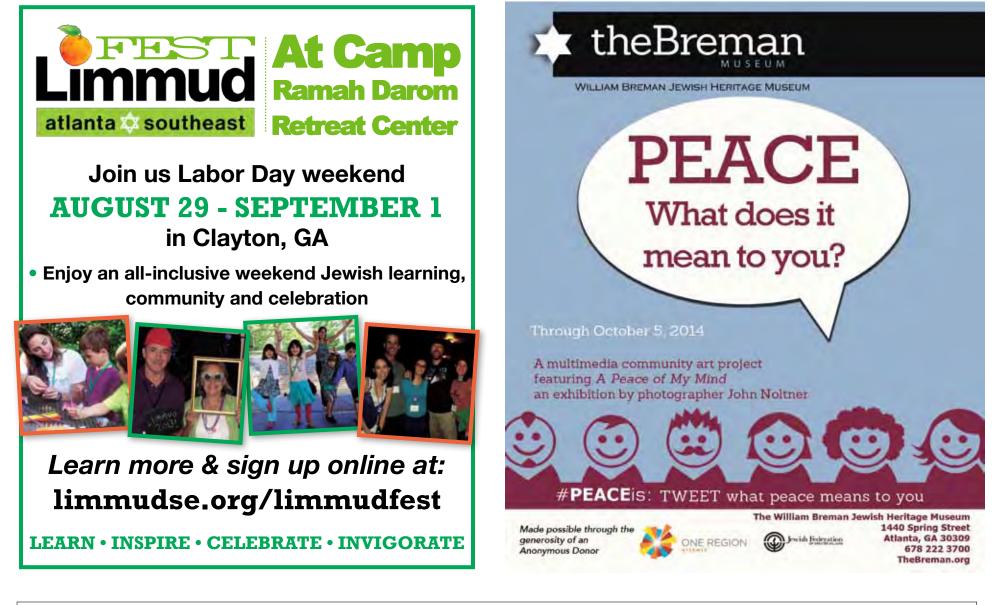
The Epstein School has also been identified as an Education Innovator and a

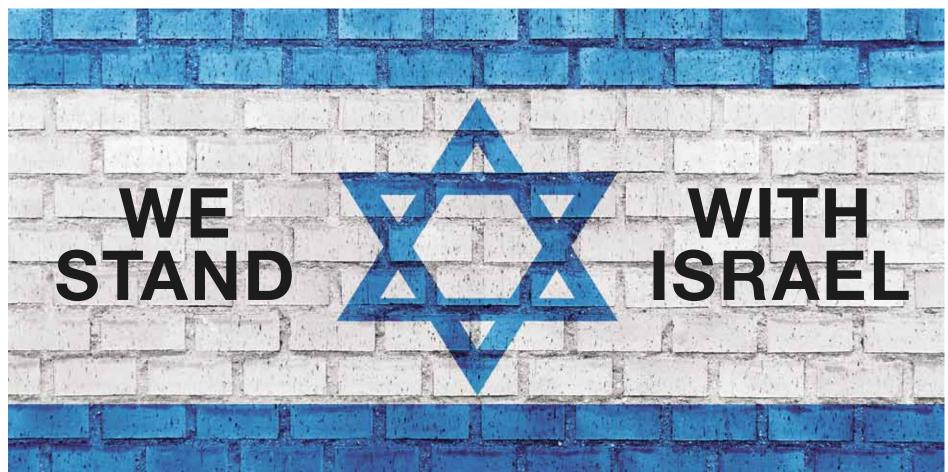


DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI. Mallory Harris (from left), David Zarge, Daniel Abravanel, Steven Burgess, and Daniela Friedman

Blue Ribbon School, by the United States Department of Education. Over the past five years, more than half the seventh-graders tested qualified for the Duke University Talent Identification Program (TIP) for academically gifted and talented youth. This

year, 17 seventh-graders scored high enough on the ACT test to receive State Level recognition and/or be eligible to participate in TIP's Center for Summer Studies or Academy for Summer Studies, and two qualified for Grand Level recognition.







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> Sunday, August 24, 2014 MJCCA 5342 Tilly Mill Road Dunwoody, GA 30338 10 a.m.-5 p.m.







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### QUESTIONS?

For more information about the event, contact David Lurie at (404) 518-7066, david@atozis.com or Steve Kaufman at (770) 597-2066, capitalcitymgt@gmail.com

For more Drive info & to pre-register for a JScreen saliva kit, visit: www.jscreen.org/reg/giftofchai (Walk-ins welcome)

# Jewish Georgian

## What does peace mean to you?

Within Judaism, the word shalom (peace) reaches beyond a simple state of being or even the end of a conflict: it is the ultimate completeness of the world. Shalom is the purpose of the Hebrew Scriptures and that of Tikkun Olam, our acts to repair the world. In Judaism, peace, or a perfect wholeness, is not something to wait or hope for, but something to work toward.

Rabbi Simeon ben Gamaliel (10 BCE - 70 CE) said: "The world rests on three things: On justice, on truth, on peace." Said Rabbi Mona: "But these are one and the same: For if there is justice, there is truth, and if there is truth, there is peace." — Babylonian Talmud, Derech Eretz Zutta Perek HaShalom

The William Breman Jewish Heritage Museum is the epicenter for exploring the meaning of peace this summer. "PEACE: What does it mean to you?" is an interactive exhibition that runs through October 5. Of interest to all ages, it features a number of elements that include "A Peace of My Mind" by photographer John Noltner, interactive activities, yoga classes with instructor Eleanora Lipton, and photography workshops by Joel Silverman.

A PEACE OF MY MIND. Photographer John Noltner explores

the meaning of peace through photographs of ordinary yet diverse individuals that foster public dialogue about issues related to conflict resolution, responsibility, civic and peace. With black and white portraits and oral histories, over fifty subjects describe what peace means to them, how they work toward



John Noltner



"PEACE: What does it mean to you?" exhibit at The Breman

it in their lives, and some of the obstacles they encountered.

Visitors of all ages are encouraged to explore the portraits and participate in activities that help them answer the question...What does peace mean to you? For some it might mean the end of war. For others it is healing broken lives and communities. For many it starts with a piece of music, or a prayer. Peace is a universal desire, but it remains elusive. Everyone who uses Twitter

See PEACE, page 23

## Touch a truck, touch a heart

**Greater Atlanta** 

Hadassah

2014

Greater Atlanta Hadassah announces a fun-filled and community heart-health education event for the entire family. The event is our first ever Touch A Truck Family Festival to benefit heart health, and will take place on Sunday, September 7, at Centennial High School from 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. There will be an hour set aside for specialneeds children to explore without horns, sirens, and flashing lights from 11:00 a.m.

to noon. A severe-weather date is scheduled to take place on Sunday, September 14.

Touch A Truck is educational an hands-on family event for kids of all ages. Children will have the opportunity to climb aboard a fire truck, police car, big rig or bulldozer, to explore, ask questions,

and interact with vehicles of all types - public service, crime

fighting, emergency, utility, construction, landscaping, transportation, delivery, in a safe, supervised environment. They will meet the people who build, protect, and serve the metro Atlanta community.

Family-friendly entertainment includes crafts, activities, appearances by local mascots, kid-friendly food venders, demonstrations for healthy living, and public safety information.

September 7th is also National Grandparents Day, giving every generation of the family the opportunity to explore, play, and learn together.

Admission is \$5 per person, with a maximum of \$15 per family for tickets

purchased in advance online at http://www.hadassah.org/ touchatruck or \$20 at the event. Children under 2 are free. Food will be available for purchase at the festival. Parking is available at Centennial High School with additional parking at Kohl's across from Centennial High School.

The festival will be focusing on heart health for the entire

family and raising funds for Hadassah's heart-health programs in Israel and the United States as part of Hadassah's Every Beat Counts: Hadassah's Heart Health Program<sup>TM</sup>. Visit www.hadassah.org/ touchatruck for more details.

## **Clark Howard headlines JELF fundraiser**

**Clark Howard** 

Jewish Educational Loan Fund will present a JELF Special Event with Clark Howard. Proceeds will support JELF's interest-free loan program.

Every day across America, Clark Howard's voice is heard on more than 150 stations, advising consumers how to

save more, spend less, and avoid getting ripped off. It's more than just a motto for Clark; it's a way of life. As a successful entrepreneur, radio host, TV personality, best-selling author, and newspaper columnist, the Atlanta-based multimedia magnate is dedicated to helping Americans of all means get ahead in life.

This Special Event, at Maggiano's Buckhead, 3368 Peachtree Road NE, begins with a 5:30 p.m. reception and continues with the program at 6:15 p.m.

Tickets are \$54 per person (\$18 tax deductible) and \$36 per person under 35. Host a table for \$375 and receive eight tickets for the price of seven, program

On Wednesday, August 13, The recognition, and reserved priority for hosts and guests.

The Jewish Educational Loan Fund (JELF) grants interest-free loans to Jewish students in need of final dollars to attend post-secondary educational institutions, including colleges, graduate schools, and professional and vocational schools. JELF

loans bridge the gap between financial aid received and the total amount a student needs for school. Beneficiaries are preparing for their first career

JELF serves the fivestate region of Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia. JELF maintains a 99%+ repayment rate, ensuring that as loans can be repaid, more loans are made. Since 1961, JELF has loaned over \$8.5 million to over 3,500 students.

Event tickets are available at jelf.org/ clarkhoward or by calling 770-396-3080. For more information, contact Melissa Kerbel at mkerbel@jelf.org or 770-396-3080

or pursuing a new career.

For all the seasons of your life, we look forward to caring for you and your loved ones in 2014!



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### Peace From page 21

can post what peace means to them using #PEACEis.

"The William Breman Jewish Heritage Museum is proud to be hosting this exhibition for the first time in the Southeast," states Aaron Berger, The Breman Museum executive director.

Tim Frilingos, curator at The Breman Museum, emphasizes "The installation features Noltner's portraits as a starting point for exploring how we understand the meaning of peace. Visitors are given multiple opportunities to share their thoughts and become part of the dialogue."

John Noltner says "In a world that asks us to focus on the things that can separate us, "A Peace of My Mind" explores the common humanity that connects us. I hope you'll join the conversation."

For more information, visit thebreman. org, or call 678-222-3700.

PORTRAIT PHOTOGRAPHY WORK-SHOP. Joel Silverman, Atlanta based advertising photographer, will teach a beginner portrait photography workshop where students learn how to get the greatest emotional impact out of their portraits. This class is perfect for students age 14+, parents, grandparents, and just about anyone who wants to take better portrait photographs with their camera, phone or tablet. No special photo equipment is required.



### Joel Silverman

Mr. Silverman is known for his convincing portrayal of relationships on camera. You may have seen his work in recent *Georgia on My Mind* tourism spots and ads for Ted's Montana Grill. He has taught photography for Panasonic's Digital Photo Academy, Portfolio Center, and The Creative Circus.

Workshop dates are July 29, August 1, August 26, and September 23, 4 p.m.-



Photography workshop at The Breman

6 p.m. The cost per class: \$25/members, \$36/community. Space is limited. RSVPs are required. To register or for more information, contact Jennifer Reid at jreid@thebreman.org or call 678-222-3724. Private workshops are available for groups. For more information call 404-870-1632.

YOGA CLASSES. The Breman will host "Yoga in the Gallery" every other Thursday, 11-11:45 a.m., July 3 through October 2. The

museum has joined forces with yoga instructor Eleanora Lipton, offering yoga classes and meditation, thus perfect for teens to seniors.

Lipton

Ms.

Eleanora Lipton

is co-author of The Therapeutic Art of Polarity; yoga Instructor at Atlanta Polarity & Intuitive Yoga Center and Park Place; a nationally recognized Polarity and Intuitive Yoga instructor; polarity therapist at Living Foods Institute; and member of the senior faculty at the Temple of the Inner Self. She brings a richness of skill, sensitivity, and experience to the facilitation of the polarity process, growing wellness, health building, and living with passion. Yoga in the Gallery has been made possible through the generosity of Elinor Breman.



Yoga at The Breman

Class dates are: July 3, 17, 31, August 7, 21, September 4, 18, and October 2. Classes are free for members, and the community is admitted free with regular admission. Space is limited, and RSVPs are required. For information or to register, contact Jennifer Reid at jreid@thebreman.org or call 404-870-1632. Yoga mat and comfortable clothes required.

Water in the desert signifies life



Years ago, who would have thought that the science fiction of Buck Rogers' space travel would become reality? Now, not only do we have people traveling in space, but we also are trying to determine if there is or was life on other planets. And, in this effort, the first thing we look for is evidence of water, now or in the past.

Water is essential. Without it, life as we know it cannot exist.

No country is more aware of this than Israel. From the time of Abraham some 3,500 years ago when he, together with his son Isaac, were taking a stance in front of the Philistines on the issue of wells, this conflict has continued even up to the present time.

As someone who has spent most of his adult life involved in the agriculture economy in the desert environment of Israel's Arava Valley, I personally can attest to the critical interrelationship of water, food, and life. And when I arrived in the U.S. and began meeting the people of the Southeast, I found that, while the degree of challenge in providing water is different, there are many similarities.

One of the first questions I was asked when I came to Atlanta last year from Israel was, what is the average yearly rainfall in the Arava Des-



### Idan Reservoir

ert? The answer: one to two inches. To put that in perspective, in Atlanta in 2007, which was classified as a drought year, the rainfall was 31.85 inches. Although this resulted in bans on watering lawns and washing cars, as well as other restrictions, it was still was 30 inches more rain than is typical in the Arava Desert.

In the 1980s, Israel experienced a severe water crisis as a result of increased demand from a growing population and agricultural sector, as well as climate change. The water levels in the Sea of Galilee fell, and the Jordan River stopped flowing into the Dead Sea.

In response, Israel implemented various programs to cut back on water use and began construction projects to change the water flow. Jewish National Fund (JNF) was a key partner in these efforts and helped to build 270 reservoirs across the country. Israel built 135 waste treatment facilities to direct water for agriculture. The country recycles 77% of its wastewater, ranking it number one in the world in this effort. Spain ranks a distant second at 17%; the U.S. is at about 3%.



### **Ein Yahav Reservoir**

All this, together with the advent of desalination plants, has helped lift Israel out of this crisis, but issues still remain, and the agricultural sector cannot afford to pay the price of desalinated water.

On a personal note: My hometown—the Arava Valley—located in the Great Rift Valley, stretching from the Dead Sea to the Gulf of Eilat and bordering Jordan, has an extreme desert climate. The Arava region is not connected to the national water system; it draws its water from 55 wells. Many require complex drilling of aquifers, which have ancient, brackish water with high salinity and large amounts of sulfur and iron.

The lack of fresh water, along with the climate crisis, a decline in rainfall, and increases in farmland and population (in addition to the importance of keeping the borders safe), threatens the future of the Arava region. The combination of salty soil and the poor quality of water threatens the continuation of agriculture in the Arava Valley, which is the leading economy for the communities in this area. The crop yield has lessened due to the rising salinity. Edible grapes dry out and die because of the salt, and many other crops will not grow.

Since taking the position with the JNF office in Atlanta, I have found a kindred spirit with the people here, regarding what a water problem means. Both here and in Israel, decisions and strategies to address this problem must made. In Israel, the challenge of finding an additional supply of fresh water for the area must be addressed at the national level, or the existing and future settlements of the South are in jeopardy.

Jewish National Fund is an active participant in finding such a solution. It has established five reservoirs to absorb floodwater (fresh water) and also funds agricultural research and development to seek solutions to the problem of salinity. JNF understands the tremendous importance of this area for the future State of Israel and established the JNF Parsons Water Fund to deal with future water challenges.

While the immediate water crises in the Southeast U.S. that existed just a few years ago has been eased and restriction on water usage has been lifted, you will remember the lifestyle changes that took place and the water battles between state and local governments. Israel's challenge not only still exists but also is growing.

The JNF Parson Water Fund is critical to addressing this problem. As it has been since JNF's founding in 1901, water remains one of the key elements in the bringing to fruition the vision of Israel.

Ezra Ravins is JNF-KKL Israel Emissary to the Southeast USA.

## **JF&CS** News

DIAGNOSING AUTISM. Studies indicate that autism has become more prevalent in recent years. Indeed, it is among the fastest growing—if not *the* single fastest growing—developmental disabilities in the United States. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention now estimates that one in 68 children—and one in 42 boys has autism spectrum disorder.

The Autism Society of America defines Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) as a complex developmental disability that typically appears during the first three years of life and affects a person's ability to communicate and interact with others. Children and adults with ASD typically show difficulties in verbal and nonverbal communication, social interactions, and leisure or play activities.

Most signs of ASD become apparent between the 2-6 years of age, but some actually appear as young as 12 months. New research promises to detect its possibility in early infancy, said Peggy Kelly, JF&CS' director of Clinical Services, citing information from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. A recent report in the *New England Journal of Medicine* suggests autism might even start in the womb.

"There are some behaviors that might and I emphasize might—indicate a child has ASD," she said. "If you don't see your child babble, coo, or make gestures by 12 months, for instance, or if he or she does not say single words by 16 months or two-word phrases on his or her own by 24 months you might want to have an evaluation."

As children get older, other signs become more obvious, she said. "Here are just a few examples of things you might notice: A lack of or delay in spoken language or repetitiveness in language and/or motor mannerisms. Little or no eye contact, a lack of interest in peer relationships, the absence of spontaneous or make-believe play, or a persistent fixation on objects—any of these signs merit further investigation by a pediatrician or specialist."

None of this is cause for alarm, she cautioned, even if your child does get a diagnosis. ASD is treatable, and the right kind of help early on will improve the likelihood of positive results.

For more than 20 years, JF&CS has served adults with ASD through the Developmental Disabilities Services— Tools for Independence division. Recently, Tools for Families began serving children as young as 18 months suspected of having ASD or developmental delay. Autism Spectrum Testing Services, which falls under the Autism Support Services umbrella, addresses a gap in services in the community, as well as the long wait time currently experienced in the market.

JF&CS' evaluations include, when appropriate, a classroom observation. Particularly in preschool children, this is often the environment in which symptoms of ASD become more pronounced and interfere with developmental tasks, such as adjusting to a new setting, engaging in reciprocal interactions, following classroom directions, and developing friendships.

"We believe early identification and diagnosis allows for opportunities for early intervention and access to other resources," said Kelly. "We really focus our program on observing and understanding the young child and his or her environments."

To have your child evaluated for possible ASD, e-mail testing@jfcs-atlanta. org, or call 770-677-9319.

In addition to young children, JF&CS has begun addressing another population for whom services had been lacking in the community: adults between 17 and 30 years old with high-functioning ASD. A program of Developmental Disabilities Services—Tools for Independence, Young Adult Autism Services focuses on clinical and vocational support and social inclusion. For more information, e-mail autism@jfcs-atlanta.org or call 770-677-9436.

HELPING MORE DENTAL PATIENTS. If you have ever needed a tooth crowned, you know the procedure. You go to the dentist and get a mouth full of goo. The impression goes to a lab, where it takes a few weeks. You go back to the dentist, and the crown gets fitted. Maybe it needs to be refitted. The whole thing can take many weeks and multiple visits. And it's costly—too costly a service for Ben Massell Dental Clinic (BMDC) to be able to provide to all the patients who need it.

That's about to change, thanks to the donation of two Chairside Economical Restoration of Esthetic Ceramics (CEREC) machines by Sirona Dental Systems. CEREC provides the technology to allow dentists to fabricate and fit crowns in a single visit.

"Our dentists know how to make crowns, but we don't have the money," said Keith Kirshner, director of BMDC, a program of JF&CS. "It has been the one gap in terms of being able to provide comprehensive services. CEREC keeps BMDC at the pinnacle of technology and should attract more volunteers."

The machines let dentists take pictures in a patient's mouth and come up with a 3-D rendering of a perfect crown. This digital impression replaces the putty normally used. The image is sent wirelessly to a mill, into which a block is inserted and then shaped into the exact crown the computer directs it to make. The whole procedure takes one visit, just a little longer than the first visit for a traditional crown.

Dr. Michael Chalef, a long-time member of the BMDC Committee, incorporated the technology about seven years ago into his private practice in Sandy Springs. After learning how to use it, which took some time, he was sold. "It wasn't just the technology. It's that patients don't have to come back to the dentist. I saw the value not so much in economic terms, but in the time value for patients."

After seeing how well it worked, Chalef felt it would be a boon to the clinic. So he contacted Sirona's institutional division, which donates CEREC machines to dental schools. The problem was the company saw BMDC more as a charity dental provider than a teaching institution. But last summer, Lutheran Medical Center's Advanced Education in General Dentistry brought four full-time residents to BMDC, and that clinched the deal. Sirona came back with an offer: two CEREC machines—each one worth about \$100,000.

Following that, Kirshner and Chalef were able to secure the donation of some of the initial supplies the machine requires. While the machine absorbs the lab costs, there will be ongoing supply costs.

"It's still not free, but I'm hopeful others will come through with funds for the rest of the supplies," said Chalef, who, in addition to volunteering at the clinic, has made it his mission to provide funds to offset the costs to operate the technology. He hopes others will follow suit.

"There are so many people who need crowns, and while we won't be able to use it for every patient, it will go a long way in helping many," said Chalef.

If you need a dental implant, consider having your 3D X-ray taken at BMDC. This is an out-of-pocket expense anywhere you go and a way you can support the clinic. You can take the image back to your dentist on a CD. Call 404-977-9675 for more details.

FIGHTING ADOLESCENT ADDICTION. If anyone understands how easy it is for addiction to begin in adolescence—or younger—it's Erica Katz, coordinator for H.A.M.S.A. (Helping Atlantans Manage Substance Abuse), a program of the Counseling Services—Tools for Life division of Jewish Family & Career Services.



#### Erica Katz

Erica took her first drink in middle school and her last one at 20. After a long road to recovery, she has been sober for more than seven years. One of her goals is to prevent others from going down the same path.

"Prevention education in middle and high school is a huge priority for H.A.M.S.A.," Erica said. "Schools recognize it's important to engage kids in conversations about alcohol and drugs and making healthy choices."

At the start of the 2013-14 school

year, Erica began bringing her interactive prevention program, Community of Concern, to local Jewish schools: The Davis Academy, The Epstein School, Greenfield Hebrew Academy, The Weber School, and Yeshiva Atlanta. She and her team also have met with both parents and students at Congregation Etz Chaim, Temple Sinai, The Temple, Congregation Kol Emeth, Congregation Dor Tamid, and Temple Beth Tikvah.

Community of Concern is built on the concepts of Prime for Life, an evidencebased motivational prevention, intervention, and pretreatment program often used in classrooms across the country. (The state of Georgia requires DUI offenders to participate in the program as well.) It employs a variety of tools like Microsoft PowerPoint, storytelling, humor, interactive activities, interviews, and video. A questionand-answer session allows audiences to engage the presenters and learn how to get help and support.

Erica and her team conducted 27 presentations this school year. Other private and public schools refer students to her in response to incidents at school.

With stories abounding lately about kids doing—and sometimes dying from—drugs, parents are grateful for the presentations and awareness they raise.

"Thank you for arranging this absolutely fantastically eye-opening program for parents," said one mom. "It was the most powerful alcohol and drug awareness program I have ever attended. If it changes the course of one teen's (or adult's) life, it has done a successful job. [The] program should be attended by all our children and all their parents."

"Last night was so powerful for my husband and me," said another. "We realized we are in the mix with all the parents who think 'our child is a good kid, good grades, scholarship for college, active in youth group, a Girl Scout, she doesn't go to parties, she follows the rules, etc. It's no big deal if she's smoking pot once in awhile.' Well, last night turned our world on its axis, and we are taking a different approach. We realized we need to take preventive measures now so we don't have to look back and wonder what happened. We know it is not probable, but it is possible for a problem to develop. Thank you for this powerful program."

For Ronit Walker, who has a 15-yearold daughter and two sons, 13 and 11, "It was the most powerful anti-drug program I have ever attended. I completely identified with Rachel, the recovering addict who spoke to us. She attended Jewish day schools, and her life experiences mirrored my family's. She could have been my daughter. Her mother was also kind enough to share her experiences. They made me realize that addiction is everywhere and very close to home."

For more information about Community of Concern or H.A.M.S.A., or if you would like to see the program at your school, call 770-677-9318, or e-mail hamsa@jfcsatlanta.org.

### Jerusalem

### From page 7

of the Lord in the original," Joseph Smith wrote in a diary he kept during the course. In the certificate Sexias presented Smith, he emphasized, "(Smith) has been indefatigable in acquiring the principles of the sacred language of the Old Testament scriptures in their original tongue."

With this knowledge of the Bible in Hebrew, it was natural that Smith and his followers adopted biblical names for many of the places they established. The best known for most travelers is the magnificent Zion National Park. There are fourteen sites in Utah bearing biblical names.

In the 1870s, Mark Christensen, a Smith religious adherent, founded a small settlement in Sanpete County, Utah, and named it Jerusalem. As a Mormon, he fathered many children with various wives. Many of his descendants departed long ago, moving to many other states. However, while taping interviews with residents of Jerusalem, Utah, a recent visitor was told by a descendant of the founder that citizens of the small community, despite its many economic issues, feel it is blessed by God, and they are very proud of the name Jerusalem.

Recently, when the Ten Commandments carved in Hebrew on the Wilmington, Delaware, courthouse were removed, as the building was being remodeled, an interesting find was made. On the back of the tablets it read, "These were fashioned from quarries near Jerusalem in the Holyland."

In 1976, when the Hebrew University was planning a bicentennial exhibition, to mark the 200th birthday of the U.S., letters were sent to all the American Jerusalems. A letter to the mayor of Jerusalem. Arkansas. was returned, unopened. The postmaster wrote by hand, "no mayor here-returned to sender." The letter bears the postmarks of Jerusalem, Israel, and Jerusalem, Arkansas,



s (immilia

RABBI PETER BERG

### JF&CS

### From page 24

GETTING THE RIGHT KIND OF CARE AT HOME. With an upcoming surgery scheduled, Howard Goldmacher and his wife, Iris, realized they were going to need some extra day-to-day help. So they called JF&CS' Legacy Home Care and arranged for a caregiver to come a few times a week, four hours at a time.

They were matched with Okay Onuorah, who helped with household chores and driving to doctor appointments. Okay started with the Goldmachers several weeks before the surgery, so everyone could get used to the arrangement. But when Howard had to have an unexpected



Howard Goldmacher, Okay Onuorah and Iris Goldmacher



operation before his planned surgery, Okay's care became even more vital. He upped his hours and started to care for the Goldmachers four times a week. The couple couldn't be more grateful and even joke that they want to adopt him.

"Okay has been a lifesaver," said Howard. "I don't know what I would do without him."

For more information about Legacy services, call 770-677-9353, or visit www. ytfl.org/legacy.

NEW BOARD. JF&CS' newest members of the Board of Directors are: Lindsay Borenstein, David Bronstein, Sheri Kornblum, Tara Kornblum, Rabbi Brad Levenberg, Bruce Lindemann, Justin Milrad, Missy Rivner, Abby Rosenthal, and Jeff Swygert.



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## THE TEMPLE IS YOUR TEMPLE





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### THE JEWISH GEORGIAN

## Back in the valley of the shadow



**BY** Dan Gordon Captain (RES) Israel Defense Forces

Shalom from an Israeli soldier in the war zone.

This current rain of rockets is carried out by a terrorist army, Hamas. Terrorist armies are equipped, trained, organized, and financed like armies, but their tactics are terror, directed not against military targets as much as against civilian populations. That is what ISIS and Hezbollah are. That is what Hamas is as well.

First, there are a few myths being propagated by many in the press that need to be cleared up. The Fourth Estate has projected Hamas as the duly elected ruler of Gaza that is resisting Israeli occupation; that Hamas is caught up in a cycle of violence with Israel that resulted from Israel unleashing a vicious airborne onslaught against the defenseless people of Gaza; and that ineffectual rockets were fired against the Israeli occupiers to protest both the brutal torture/ murder of a Palestinian teen by the Jews and the ensuing riot at which there was an equally brutal beating of an American/Palestinian teen at the hands of the forces of occupation.

In addition, at the time of this writing, almost 100 Palestinians have died in the bombings. Included in this number there are

reported to have been some 40 women and children while there has not been one Israeli fatality. Because of this disparity, Mahmoud Abbas, who heads the Palestinian governing body, has called the present action genocide.

I think that about sums up the narrative, so let's take it one by one.

• There is no Israeli occupation of Gaza and hasn't been for almost ten years. In 2005, the Israeli army uprooted almost ten thousand people from their farms, businesses, and places of worship, all of which had been theirs for generations. But those ten thousand people uprooted by the IDF were Jews, not Palestinians. It was one of the most painful operations in IDF history. We engaged in what almost amounted to fratricide, quite literally, in the hopes of giving peace a chance — in the hopes that Gaza would become the Singapore of the Middle East. Instead, the infrastructure we left behind intact, which would have provided jobs for thousands of Palestinians and tens of millions of dollars in exports, was destroyed and turned into rocket launching sites, which began firing rockets at us as we were leaving.

• Hamas is not the duly elected government of Gaza. It seized power in as bloodthirsty a coup as has ever been seen, not from Israelis, but from its fellow Palestinians. The butchers lined up some of their fellow Palestinians against walls and machine-gunned them. Others they tied up, blindfolded, and pushed off three-story buildings. Those who spoke out had their kneecaps shot off. Gaza is indeed occupied, and its citizens are terrorized, but not by Israelis but rather by the terrorist army of Hamas.

• This war is not the result of a cycle of violence. It is a planned offensive carried out by Hamas. Hamas began firing rocket against Israeli civilian communities long before the three Israeli teen-aged boys were kidnapped. Israel didn't respond. Instead, it all but begged for calm, which it said would be answered by calm. That's not opinion, that's fact. When Israel didn't respond to that provocation, Hamas's chairman called out to his terrorist cells to kidnap Israeli civilians, and one responded by doing just that and then murdering them in cold blood. And still Israel did not respond by attacking Gaza. Then a group of deviant, murderous Israeli thugs kidnapped, mercilessly tortured, and killed a Palestinian teen. But there are heartless murderers in every society. Israel immediately denounced the murders and within days caught the murderers. They will be tried and punished to the fullest extent of the law. Hamas, on the other hand, dispatched and then celebrated the murderers it sent to kill the three Israeli boys. To see any moral equivalence between the two is to say that Ted Bundy is no different from Osama Bin Laden. We will name no streets after the murderers of the Palestinian boy; no squares or statues will be unveiled in their honor; they will not be called martyrs; we will not pass out candy in celebration of their heinous deeds; and we will not raise our children to emulate their murderous acts. That's the difference.

• As of this writing, Israelis have not

yet been killed in the latest round of rocket attacks against our civilian populations, not for lack of trying on Hamas's part. It has fired hundreds upon hundreds of rockets at us praying to Allah that each one strikes down a score of Zionist infidels. It has not succeeded, and that's primarily due to a merciful God, to the Iron Dome missile-defense system, and the best civil-defense command in the world. Had those efforts not been in place, we would be mourning thousands of dead and wounded.

• No country in the world does as much to avoid enemy civilian casualties as Israel. We drop leaflets warning of an impending attack, we literally call the occupants of the house we are about to bomb and tell them to flee, and then we drop flares as a final warning before we attack. Hamas, on the other hand, hides behind its women and children as Human shields.

• Finally, Hamas wants this war. When it murderously conquered Gaza from its brethren PLO, it was faced with a problem: now it had to govern. It had to collect garbage and create an economy that would provide jobs. Through incompetence and corruption it had failed at both. There is forty-percent unemployment in Gaza. Hamas cannot afford to pay its own terrorist army. For the first time there have been demonstrations against its rule, and it feared being toppled from within because it had produced only rockets, suicide bombers, poverty, and misery. On the other hand, new, more radical groups like Islamic Jihad, ISIS, and Al Qaida threatened to topple its control because it was not radical enough. So it would rather

See VALLEY, page 27



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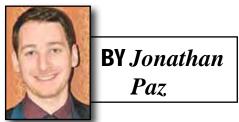
Climb. Explore. Learn. Touch!

Greater Atlanta Hadassah is excited to announce our first ever "Touch-A-Truck Family Festival to Benefit Heart Health" to be held at Centennial High School in Roswell, Georgia on Sunday, September 7, 2014 from 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m. (Severe Weather Date: Sunday, September 14, 2014). This is a FUN raising, FUND raising, and community Heart Health Education event! In preparation for this event, the organization is seeking sponsors and participants:

- We are always on the lookout for a great mix of "things" that go." Do you have a unique truck or vehicle that you would like to showcase at Touch-A-Truck?
- ♥ Touch-A-Truck offers sponsors and venders an excellent opportunity to interact with parents, children, volunteers, and the metro Atlanta community-at-large.
- ♥ Our "vehicle extravaganza" will be an incredible familyfriendly festival with a Kids Zone area as well as performers "roving" the event. We are looking for puppeteers, clowns, sports mascots, magicians, jugglers, singers, face painters, crafters, a book vendor, bouncy trucks and more.
- ♥ We are looking for a variety of yummy foods for our 3,000 guests, including our smallest guests — kids. We have room for 5-7 food trucks and provide a captive audience to dine on your culinary creations.
- We have room for a limited number of exhibitors who will share information about important health issues such as heart health, physical activity, nutrition, safety, and more.

For more information, visit: www.hadassah.org/touchatruck

## Life under Hamas attack on Israeli civilians



**TUESDAY, JULY 8, 2014.** Everyone is fine, and the rocket was shot down. But 10 minutes ago I experienced my first shelter run in the 23 years I've been coming to Israel.

One second I was watching television in the apartment, and the next second the sirens are going off. We had just 90 seconds to get down to our shelter. It's always been an understood reality when being here in the past, but never has it hit so close to home for me until today.

The fear was real and the adrenaline was pumping through my veins. It didn't last long, but I pray and hope that no more rockets are fired and that Tel Aviv won't hear any more sirens. Please keep Israel, all the soldiers and reserves, in your thoughts! I stand strong with Israel!

**THURSDAY, JULY 10, 2014.** What a way to be awakened. Under city-wide sirens alarming Tel Aviv that we are in a red alert. As I was running down to the shelters at 8:00 a.m. for now the third time, my younger brother and sister were walking to preschool. I heard four loud BOOMS up above and four to five missiles being intercepted by the Israeli Iron-Dome system. I can't even imagine the outcome that would have taken place without such a defense mechanism. The damage would have been unforgivable.

Hamas needs to either man up or shut up!!

In the south of Israel, families and kids are sleeping in shelters because they are under constant attack in civilian zones. They only have 15 seconds to get to safety from the attacking rockets. Hamas needs to quit hiding behind civilians, hospitals, and homes. Stop showing false pictures and videos as propaganda to the world, and cease firing.

The world gets on Israel's case despite our efforts to be surgical in our retaliation. Civilians end up getting hurt in Gaza, but, honestly, what other army, beside the Israel Defense Force, IDF, calls to warn the people in the target houses to tell them to evacuate an hour prior to an attack?

After all this, we are the ones still willing to shake hands and make peace, even with people who continue to commit war crimes!

"The truth is that if Israel were to put down its arms, there would be no more Israel. If Hamas were to put down their arms, there would be no more war." —Benjamin Netanyahu

I stand strong with the state of Israel!

FRIDAY, JULY 11, 2014 — ROCKETS OVER TEL AVIV. I was awakened again to the sounds of sirens blaring outside my window. It's as if they were my alarm clock for the fourth straight day. This time my experience was different and a lot more real.

This time one of the rocket interceptions was a direct hit right overhead, over our building. The explosion was enormous. The people in the shelter screamed out at the sound of it. The boom was much louder and closer than any of the previous times. Some of us even thought it hit something on the ground nearby.

After hearing a few more booms (intercepted rockets) off in the distance, it was finally safe to leave the shelter. You're supposed to wait five to ten minutes before leaving in case of falling debris. As I went outside to street level, I looked up, and I couldn't believe what met my eyes!! Directly above me were the white trails left behind by the Hamas missiles. The smoke streaks left in the sky were right there. I actually caught some of it on video. It took me a second to comprehend what I was looking at, and that the interception cloud was right above my building.

Each red alert has gotten closer and closer. I almost have to remind myself that this isn't a normal thing. It has now become somewhat routine each additional time we are called to the shelter. After four days you begin to become more relaxed and think nothing has or will hit near you. This time was a reminder of how real and serious the situation is.

I think about all the Israelis who live here and deal with this on a regular basis. On one hand, they are constantly living under stress, but on the other hand they are so used to the feeling that they continue to go about their daily lives as usual, just like you and me.

The mentality of the people living in Israel is as follows: Hamas will have won ONLY if we allow them to implement fear into our lives. You will see a lot of Israelis making light of the situation and laughing. I think this is only a psychological defense. What else can you do? What would you do?

If people now don't believe the IDF has a legitimate reason to send ground troops in, then they are either terribly misinformed or out of their mind.

I realize that it isn't fair when the news only shows one side of the story. Typically it is not in Israel's favor, which is the exact reason I keep posting my first-hand experience, from the inside looking out.

I hope that more people will understand the honest facts despite what news media is reporting or failing to report. Israel needs to have the world behind its decision to defend herself. We need to have the green light to allow the army to do what they need to do!! Everybody's support has really meant and spoken volumes to me! הדות and again thank you!!

Peace – Shalom I stand strong with Israel!

SATURDAY, JULY 12, 2014 — OPERATION PROTECTIVE EDGE.

Finally, it has been a peaceful day in Tel Aviv. It's been somewhat relaxing with the absence of sirens thus far. As I went to the pool with my family and saw the many families who also were in the water, it felt as if nothing was going on in this country. It's an amazing site to witness. One would be puzzled at the sight, but this is how we stay winning and beat terrorism. I am sure people still had it on their minds, but you would never know it.

Maybe our prayers have been answered. Maybe it's just the irony that today is Shabbat, and just by chance the situation has quieted in a few regions. One thing is for certain: We have not heard the last siren. A few times while at the pool hanging out, several of us thought we heard red-alert sirens, but they had not sounded.

Although it was quiet in Tel Aviv, southern Israel has not had the same leisure. Today, 72 plus rockets, of the 700 since the start, have been fired from Gaza Strip.

Earlier this morning, two Israelis were injured after a Hamas rocket slammed into a home. This occurred as the two were running to a shelter in the town of Netivot.

The plus side of the Iron Dome protecting us is now leading us to a unique set of circumstances. Due to its 90% success rate to date, voices in the international media are now speaking to the uneven number of casualties. As great as the Iron Dome has proven to be, from a propaganda perspective, it is now shifting the sentiment to Israel's enemy.

When compared to Hamas, Israel has a lot fewer casualties. Hamas continues hiding behind women and children, committing war crimes, and encouraging the population to act as human shields in mosques, hospitals, and homes. Israel even has acquired video evidence of a rocket leaving a mosque. We then sent a warning missile followed by a missile that leveled the building. The world needs to remember that without the Iron Dome, Israel would have had hundreds of injuries and casualties. It's unreal to think that such a success story is creating a problem at the same time.

It is now 8:00 p.m., and we are waiting

## Valley

### From page 26

fight a limited war against Israel, which it knows it will lose, than be toppled from

within. The economy is in shambles? Of course, the Israelis bombed us. You say we're not radical enough!? Look how many rockets we launched. We terrorized Tel Aviv and Jerusalem. All it desperately needs now is one kidnapped soldier to hold hostage, one direct hit on a score of Israelis, one terrorist operation that kills a dozen civilians, and it can declare a divine victory. And the tragic part is that we Israelis will not pay the greatest price. The Palestinian people will, and their leaders, cynically exploiting them for my dad's friends to come over for dinner. On the news Hamas just announced they have stronger missiles that will reach Tel Aviv at 9:00 p.m. tonight. Our guest called within one minute and cancelled. This is the psychological warfare that Hamas is trying to implement.

Most of the injuries are not physical but instead are psychological. Think about it, if you were living here, how long would it take for you to forget what you experienced? The stress the situation is bringing into Israel will be felt for years to come by all ages.

We are now waiting as Israel is still debating sending in ground troops. If troops are sent in, one thing is certain: Israel will have many casualties. At this point we will have to wait and see what happens.

I stand strong with Israel! Peace - Shalom

**LATE EVENING SATURDAY, JULY 12, 2014.** As promised by Hamas, a peaceful day turns into a noisy and anxiety-filled evening. Moments after my day 5 posting, Tel Aviv was targeted by seven Hamas rockets. All were intercepted except for one that hit in Mod'ien, where two of my first cousins live with their families.

Jonathan Paz, who grew up and lives in Atlanta, was in Israel visiting his family, including his sister, Danielle Paz, who its attending college there. This is a diary of his experience during the rocket attacks on Israel by Hamas.



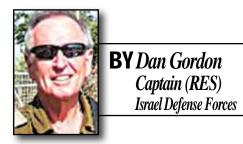
to maintain their own power, will focus the hatred on us, dooming another generation of hapless Palestinians to misery at the hands of its own people.

As for us, we are on familiar ground as old as the psalmists. We are once again in the valley of the shadow of death.

And we fear no evil, for Thou art with us.

Dan Gordon is an award-winning screenwriter of such motion pictures as The Hurricane, starring Denzel Washington, and Wyatt Earp, starring Kevin Costner. His plays have been performed on Broadway and in London's West End. He serves in the Israel Defense Forces as a captain (reserves), assigned to the Military Spokesperson's Unit.

## Whose war is it now?



If there was ever any doubt before, there is none now.

This is Hamas' s war. They wanted it. They got it. They own it.

And they own all the consequences that will befall their own people whose lives and well-being, whose property and livelihoods they have so callously exploited.

Why? For two reasons:

1. To maintain their own power, and

2. To follow the directives of their Iranian puppet masters.

The first and foremost reason they wanted this war was, and is, to maintain their own power; to maintain the literal stranglehold they have on the hapless people of Gaza. Following their bloodthirsty coup against their fellow Palestinians, they faced what seems to have been an unexpected problem. Now that they had indeed "occupied" Gaza, they had to rule it. That means mundane things like providing electricity and water, processing raw sewage, collecting garbage, and providing the conditions, which would create, if not economic growth, at least prevent Gaza from falling into abject misery and poverty.

At all of these things, they have utterly and completely failed.

There is over forty percent unemployment. Indeed, they have failed so miserably that within the last few months they were not able even to pay the salaries of their own soldiers and bureaucrats.

Thus, for the first time they were actually beginning to face demonstrations against their completely corrupt and incompetent regime, which they feared could become the first cracks in the dikes holding back a flood of discontent that could sweep them from power. At the same time, they were being pressured from newer breeds of terrorists like ISIS, Al Qaida, and Islamic Jihad, who perceived them as too tame toward Israel. Thus, their calculation was that a limited war against Israel, even one they knew they would lose, would be to their advantage. It would rally the populace around the flag, focus it's anger at Israel instead of the Gazans' own rulers, and prove their terrorist street cred to their competitors.

In order to hype a conflict for which their own population showed absolutely no appetite, they promised "surprises" for the Zionist enemy, if not actual military victory. They dug tunnels under Israel's borders and intended to use them to infiltrate with their most elite commandos, who would then kill and kidnap as many Israeli CIVILIANS as possible.

Instead, Israel discovered the tunnel and used it against them. We used it to allow our own commandos to attack and wipe out the entire force, which Hamas had hoped and promised would provide their own version of "Shock and Awe." When they infiltrated a terrorist cell onto Zikim beach near Ashkelon, Israeli forces discovered and destroyed them.

They have to date launched over 1,300 short-, medium-, and long-range missiles against Israel, promising to devastate the Israeli civilian population against whom their rockets were aimed. They promised to "Open the Gates of Hell" on the Zionist enemy.

Instead, thanks to its Iron Dome missiledefense system, a civil defense operation second to none in the world, and a civilian population which has displayed the grace and courage under fire reminiscent of London under the Blitz, yesterday Israel suffered its first and only fatality; a civilian, father of three who had gone out to deliver food to the soldiers. Just a nice man, doing a good deed. That is, thus far, "Hamas' Divine Victory."

The only misery they have managed to inflict has been that which they have visited

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against their own people.

There is the second reason Hamas decided to go to war against Israel. Their Iranian puppet masters told them to. In that way, Iran, engaged in supposed nuclear negotiations with the West, could now say, "How can we make concessions of any kind when the Zionist enemy is committing genocide in Gaza?" That, after all, is the tune to which Iran has taught its Hezbollah and Hamas puppets to dance, a terrorist two-step, if you will; commits acts of terror against Israel's civilian population while hiding behind your own civilian population; launch your rockets from schoolyards, mosques, hospital courtyards, and crowded neighborhoods, and then, when Israel, having no other choice but to strike those rocket launchers, attacks them, accuse Israel of genocide. That way you can both be a terrorist and claim the mantle of victimhood.

One can't blame them for doing it, because to a degree it works. There are only too many apologists and enablers in the West for whom this perversion of morality and logic has almost taken on the aura of religion. Israelis are white European colonialists oppressing the brown-skinned indigenous people.

Never mind that the majority of Israel's population comes from the Middle East. Disregard that they have lived here for thousands of years and were turned into homeless refugees when they were driven from their homes in Iraq, Iran, Syria, Egypt, Sudan, Yemen, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Lebanon, and other Middle Eastern states for the crime of being Jews. Facts don't matter. Only the mantra does.

That Hamas started this war is beyond doubt. They began by launching rockets into southern Israel in clear violation of the 2012 cease-fire agreement, which was the result of the last war they started with Israel.

But Israel didn't respond, saying instead "calm would be met with calm."

Then Khaled Mashal, Chairman of the Hamas political bureau — not its military wing mind you, but the supposedly more moderate, political wing — issued a public call for Hamas cells in the West Bank to kidnap Israelis. One of those cells answered the call. They kidnapped three Israeli schoolboys on their way home from school and then murdered them in cold blood, laughing and singing as they did so, "We got three! We got three."

And still Israel did not attack Gaza. Instead, it carried out a police action in the West Bank, trying to put Hamas out of operation there before they could turn the West Bank into another Hamas state only a few miles from Tel Aviv.

Of course, there were those who then pointed to the horrific torture and murder of a Palestinian teenager by a demented group of Israeli murderous thugs as a sure sign that there was a moral equivalence in this struggle. "The Palestinians killed three Jews; the Jews killed a Palestinian teen." What's more, a handful of Israeli police brutally beat

the Palestinian/American teenaged cousin of the murdered boy.

There is no denying that every society has cold-blooded murderous thugs. But look at the difference in the actions of Hamas and Israel. Hamas did nothing to try to identify and arrest the murders of the three Israeli students; Israel, in stark contrast, identified and arrested the thugs that perpetrated the dastardly actions on the Palestinians.

But let's say you just don't buy that. Let's say you simply believe the Zionist racist society was indeed committing genocide in Gaza. Yesterday, Egypt, a Moslem Arab state, offered up a cease-fire proposal, which Israel accepted unconditionally. It was to have gone into affect at 9:00 a.m. this morning. There was a chance to end the bloodshed, end the suffering, not just of the Israeli people but especially that of the Palestinian people in Gaza, about whom so many in the world have rightly expressed so much concern. There was a chance to put an end to the supposed cycle of violence.

Hamas gave its answer within an hour. They launched a barrage of rockets at Israel's most populous city, Tel Aviv. Had it not been for the Iron Dome intercepting all of them, there would have been thousands, not hundreds, of casualties. Since then another hundred rockets have rained down on Israel. I had the dubious honor of having had Iron Dome keep me above ground once again.

This morning there was a chance for a cycle of peace.

Hamas has answered that with war. Now there can be no doubt as to the legitimacy of what Israel must do. And what, all in all, are Israel's goals in this conflict?

Not peace. We know that won't happen as long as Hamas's charter says "We look forward to the fulfillment of the promise that the time will come when the Muslims will rise up and kill the Jews until the rocks and the trees cry out, 'O Muslim, there is a Jew hiding behind me. Come and kill him."" That's their charter. That's their "We the People."

No, we're not so naive as to believe that this will be the war to end all wars, and that peace will descend upon our beleaguered nation. Our goal, our hope, our prayer is just for a few more years of quiet in which to raise our children and grandchildren. Until the next time, we have to fight simply for the right to live in the Jewish state.

But make no mistake. From now on, this is Hamas's war. Only those who prefer to see the sheep's clothing, rather than acknowledge the wolf within, will see it for anything else.

Dan Gordon is an award-winning screenwriter of such motion pictures as The Hurricane, starring Denzel Washington, and Wyatt Earp, starring Kevin Costner. His plays have been performed on Broadway and in London's West End. He serves in the Israel Defense Forces as a captain (reserves), assigned to the Military Spokesperson's Unit. July-August 2014





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### THE JEWISH GEORGIAN ~ KOSHER LIVING

## **Kosher Affairs**



**BY** Roberta Scher

Once again, we are enjoying-or shall I say enduring-the long, hot Atlanta summer. No complaints here-I love all four seasons in Atlanta! However, by the time this column goes to press, I will be leaving Hotlanta and heading North, on my way to the annual Fancy Food Show, a summer highlight for me.

Since 1955, the Fancy Food Shows (winter in San Francisco, summer in New York City) have been North America's largest specialty food and beverage marketplaces, presenting over 260,000 innovative products. What a fabulous foodie experience.

Over the past 10 years, I have watched the kosher selection at these shows grow and grow and grow. This year, I was pleased to discover that several of the products chosen as finalists for the show's coveted sofi Awards (Specialty Outstanding Food Innovation) are certified kosher. The award is considered the specialty food industry's most prestigious honor. The 2014 competition attracted 2,737 entries

How wonderful for kosher eaters that so



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many prestigious, quality brands have chosen to go kosher. These brands recognize and embrace the business benefits and expanding market for products with kosher certification. I have had the pleasure of trying some of these products, and, of course, I will let you know if any of the kosher certified brands take home the gold statuette. A final round of judging for these awards will be held at the Summer Fancy Food Show.

By category, the 2014 kosher-certified sofi finalists include:

### Classic: Lotus Foods Forbidden Rice



Forbidden rice is an ancient grain, eaten by the emperors of China and thought to give increased health and longevity. It is a medium-

ORGANIC

treasured rice, for its roasted nutty taste, soft texture, and deep purple color. It is kosher certified parve by the Scroll K. For more information. visit www.

Co-

in small batches

in copper kettles, are made with fair trade chocolates and organic ingredients whenever possible. These artisan-crafted, coconut-milk caramels are gluten-free, dairy-free, GMOfree, vegan, and kosher certified parve by Earth Kosher. Visit www.jjssweets.com.

Innovation in Packaging/Design: Late July Organic Snacks Restaurant Style Sea Salt Tortilla Chips

These chips are USDA Organic and non-GMO. This company believes that families have a right to know what's in their food and supports food labeling initiatives. Their nominated restaurant-style chips are certified organic, non-GMO project verified, and certified gluten-free, nut-free, and vegan. They are Kof-K kosher certified. Visit www.Latejuly. com.

Frozen Savory: Uncle Irv's Caramelized Onion Kugel by Locker Family Recipes

All I can say is yum; Uncle Irv sure knows his kugel! This classic noodle dish, passed down from generation to generation, has conveniently made its way to the freezer aisle of the grocery store. The Kugel Company, now lovingly known as Locker Family Recipes, has created pre-baked homemade kugels that are ready to eat any time, anywhere. Uncle Irv's savory caramelized onion kugel goes well with salmon or fish or as an entrée on its own. The kugels are certified OU-dairy.

Don't miss the other flavors: Aunt Nonie's (vanilla cinnamon, as a dessert or a sweet side), Aunt Dotty's (lemon coconut), and Uncle George's (gluten-free sweet potato). Each variety is accompanied by a memory of a Locker family member. I enjoyed the stories-and, as I have noted, the kugels are delish! Visit Kugelcompany.com.



Oil: Ascolano Extra Virgin Olive Oil by Lucero Olive Oil

Not your average olive oil, this exquisite, internationally acclaimed, award-winning olive oil is the result of three generations of farming and producing olives in Northern California. Certified Kof-K kosher, it is 100% Ascolano extra virgin olive oil, cold pressed, unfiltered, and naturally grown in Corning, California. Visit www.Lucerooliveoil.com.

Pasta, Rice or Grain: Speghettoni Matt Monograno

USDA Certified Organic Product: Rigatoni Kamut Monograno

Kudos to Pastificio Felicetti of Italy for obtaining OU certification of their exceptional pastas, which have earned the company a double nomination this year. I contend that pasta should be treated like fine wine, chocolate, and coffee. Pastas from Felicetti of Italy have been recognized in two sofi categories. Both are organic and exceptional in texture and taste. The Speghettoni is a traditional long pasta and lovely to serve topped with classic Italian sauces. The rigatoni is a short pasta, perfect for cheesy or sauced casseroles. Visit www.felicetti.it/en.

Snack Food: Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough Macaroons by Hail Merry



These gluten-free and vegan macaroons, certified Star-K parve, are crafted with organic fair-trade chocolate chips, almond flour, and organic maple syrup from a family farm in Vermont. They are great at room temperature or mixed into ice cream. They won Best of Show at Natural Foods Expo West 2014. Visit www.hailmerry.com/our-story.

Snack Food: Coconut Snack Bars by Simple Squares

This company's motto is "See how delicious simple can taste." Simple Squares produces what it calls "unfired fare," with simple ingredients. The nominated organic coconut snack bars contain cashews, almonds, honey, unsweetened coconut, vanilla, and sea salt. They are raw and paleo-friendly, protein rich, low in sodium and sugar, and a good source of fiber. They have no wheat, gluten, dairy, corn, soy, or refined sugars. The are Apple K Kosher certified. And yes, they taste great! Visit shop.simplesquares.com/coconut.

As an admitted foodie, I am feeling motivated and excited by all of the kosher food choices, some of which have finally come to Atlanta and are available at the new kosher market, The Spicy Peach. If you haven't yet been there, I suggest that you visit.

Happy 5th Anniversary, Fuego Mundo. Congratulations for bringing top-notch Latin dining to Atlanta, and thank you for making that dining kosher. Each time I visit, I enjoy the food, the atmosphere, and, yes, those wonderful red sangrias.

\_\_\_\_\_

I still have a kosher restaurant wish list for Atlanta, but more about that in another column.



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.

grain heirloom HEALTHIER RICE

lotusfoods.com. Confection: Cocomels by JJ's Sweets

comels, cooked

## Fresh Cool Summer Recipes

Summer Gazpacho Adapted from a recipe by Alton Brown, The Food Network



1 1/2 pounds vine-ripened tomatoes, peeled, seeded and chopped\*

Tomato juice

1 cup cucumber, peeled, seeded, and chopped

1/2 cup chopped red bell pepper

1/2 cup chopped red onion

1 small jalapeno, seeded, and minced

1 medium garlic clove, minced

1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil

1 lime, juiced

2 teaspoons balsamic vinegar

2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce

1/2 teaspoon toasted, ground cumin (or, if

you prefer, cilantro)

1 teaspoon kosher salt

1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper 2 tablespoons fresh basil leaves, sliced chiffonade-style (cut into long, thin strips)

Place the tomatoes and juice into a large mixing bowl. Add the cucumber, bell pepper, red onion, jalapeno, garlic clove, olive oil, lime juice, balsamic vinegar, Worcestershire sauce, cumin, salt, and pepper, and stir to combine. Transfer 1 1/2 cups of the mixture to a blender, and puree for 15-20 seconds on high speed. Return the pureed mixture to the bowl, and stir to combine. Cover and chill for 2 hours and up to overnight. Serve with chiffonade of basil.

\* How to peel and seed tomatoes: Fill a 6-quart pot halfway with water, set over high heat, and bring to a boil. Make an X with a paring knife on the bottom of each tomato. Drop the tomatoes into the boiling water for 15 seconds, remove, and transfer to an ice bath. Allow to cool until able to handle, approximately 1 minute. Remove, and pat dry. Peel, core and seed the tomatoes. When seeding the tomatoes, place the seeds and pulp into a fine mesh strainer set over a bowl, in order to catch the juice. Press as much of the juice through as possible, and then add enough bottled tomato juice to bring the total to 1 cup.

No-Bake Dark Chocolate Peanut Butter Pie Adapted from Mayim's Vegan Table by Mayim Bialik with

Dr. Jay Gordon (Da Capo Press)

Three ingredients, one prepared pie crust; that's it. It's simple to make and tastes like a peanut butter cup. Top it with sliced bananas, decorate it with whipped cream, or just eat it straight out of the pie dish. Enjoy this fabulous, simple recipe. Serves 8.

2 cups vegan dark chocolate chips 1 1/2 cups creamy peanut butter

1 (13.5 ounce) can coconut milk

Prepared vegan piecrust, preferably graham cracker

Melt the chocolate chips in a glass bowl in the microwave, stirring twice, about 3 minutes. Remove, and stir until the chocolate is completely melted. Stir in the peanut butter and coconut milk until combined.

Pour into prepared crust and refrigerate until firm, about 2 hours.

Honey Dijon Chicken Breasts Adapted from a recipe by Sunny Anderson, The Food Network



Serves 4.

2 tablespoons honey 2 tablespoons Dijon mustard 1 tablespoon extra virgin olive oil, plus more for grill 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt Freshly ground black pepper, to taste 4 boneless skinless chicken breasts, butter-

flied

1 lime, cut into wedges

In a small bowl, combine the honey, mustard, 1 tablespoon of oil, salt, and pepper. Mix well, and put the mixture into a large plastic resealable bag. Add the chicken, seal the bag, and shake. Refrigerate at least 2 hours.

Remove the chicken from the bag, and arrange it on a well-oiled grill, pre-heated to medium. Cook until a nice crust forms on both sides, about 4 to 5 minutes per side. Let the chicken rest on a serving platter, covered with foil, for 10 minutes before serving. Garnish with lime wedges.

To learn how to easily butterfly a chicken breast, watch this video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yqjfQP3Mp2k

Guacamole Deviled Egg Salad FLTs Adapted from a recipe by Rachael Ray, The Food Network

I often watch the bubbly Rachael Ray, always thinking how to re-make her recipes with kosher substitutions. This one was easy to adapt. We simply used Facon instead of bacon, and the BLT became the FLT. Otherwise, everything else is the same. This sandwich-or as Rachael calls it, a "sammie"-is delish. Serves 4.

This recipe can be served as an open faced sandwich, or as a dip alongside chips.

12 slices Jack's Gourmet Facon\*

1/2 red onion, finely chopped

1 standard green jalapeño pepper, seeded and finely chopped

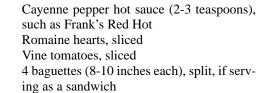
1 red jalapeño pepper, seeded and finely chopped

1 large clove garlic, grated or finely chopped Salt

Juice of 1 1/2 limes

2 large ripe Hass avocados, pitted and scooped from skins

A small handful of cilantro, chopped 12 eggs, hard-boiled and peeled



Prepare the Facon according to package directions.

Place the chopped onion, chili peppers, and garlic in a bowl. Salt liberally, then douse with lime juice; let stand for 10 minutes. Add the avocados and cilantro and mash with a potato masher until fairly smooth.

Peel and chop the egg whites and yolks and dress with hot sauce, salt and pepper. Add the eggs to the guacamole and combine to make the salad.

Serve on split baguettes with romaine and tomatoes.

As an alternative, you can serve the mash-up of egg salad and guacamole as a brunch dip, mounded in a bowl and topped with chopped tomatoes, Facon, and sliced romaine hearts, alongside tortilla chips for dipping.

\* Facon is kosher and available at The Spicy Peach or at jacksgourmet.com.



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Now he has the diagnosis and he is joining with others who are working to find a cure.



## **Memories of Rich's**



On Monday morning, May 12, a friend and I headed to The Breman Museum to see the "Return to Rich's" exhibition. Rich's was truly a beloved Atlanta institution. You can certainly understand our excitement as we shared our own recollections.

It was only about 10:30 a.m. when we arrived, and we were alone at first. We looked at and read everything we could. It was all so interesting.

A special feature was that you could use your cell phone to access recordings by someone you might know (e.g., Former Atlanta Mayor Sam Massell) talking about how Dick Rich used to make trips around the store and talk to customers or employees. Or you could hear about dining at the Magnolia Room. There were wonderful artifacts throughout the exhibition, including a fine portrait of Mr. Rich. There were dresses spanning the decades and a section on Sol Kent, who started Fashionata, in 1945.

There were many reasons that Rich's was so successful. It was the "store that married a city," according the title of a 1949 article in *The Saturday Evening Post*. "They did not merely identify with the life of the city and the state, it was naturally and absolutely a true part of this life," said Dick Rich. Rich's "believed that their customers were first priority—that no transaction was complete until the customer was satisfied," writes exhibition curator Dr. Catherine Lewis. The return policy at Rich's was unique—you could bring back any item, no matter how long ago it was purchased, and it was replaced or your money was refunded.

When Mr. Rich died on May 1, 1975, an era in retail came to an end. The store merged with Federated the next year and, in 2005, became Macy's.

The Breman Museum and its entire staff hit a homerun with this exhibition.



*Return to Rich's* exhibition (Photos courtesy of The Breman Museum, Ivani Photography)

Fashionata and Sol Kent (fashion photo courtesy of Helen Reiser)





The team that created the exhibition: Dr. Catherine Lewis (from left), Jeff Clemmons, Bill Selman, Aaron Berger, Timothy Frilingos, and Dale Brubaker



**Portrait of Dick Rick** 

ADULT PB DISEASE (APBD)



Contact us and let us help you get a diagnosis today!



## 🚯 Kosher Korner



### BY Reuven Stein

When you are having a catered event whether it is small or large, formal or casual, buffet or full-service, drop off or pick up, indoor or outdoor—you want it to be a success. It's all about planning and knowing what to do and what not to do.

In honor of Shavuot, the holiday of the giving of the Torah and the Ten Commandments, I have listed ten things to be aware of when dealing with kosher catered events.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS OF KOSHER CATERING

1. Never assume. Sometimes, an event from a Jewish organization may not be kosher.

"Kosher style" is usually not kosher.
 Some kosher caterers have non-kosher divisions, or they may cater food in an institution that has its own form of supervision or no supervision.

4. Sometimes, meat and fish will be at the same buffet. They should not be eaten together.

5. Sometimes, dishes may contain cheeses, thus requiring a six-hour wait before meat can be eaten. (For example, ranch dressing or pizza may contain Parmesan.)

6. Restaurants that are exclusively *Chalav Yisrael* will cater non-*Chalav Yisrael* events or cater out of a synagogue kitchen that is not *Chalav Yisrael*.

7. Most flatbreads, cornbreads, mezonos

rolls, and tortillas require washing and bentching.

8. One of our restaurants makes a yucca "cheese" bread that is a *shahakol* bread and pareve.

9. If pareve foods, such as French fries or falafel balls, are fried in meat oil, they will be rendered fleishig.

10. If in doubt, ask for the mashgiach.

Rabbi Reuven Stein is director of supervision for the Atlanta Kashruth Commission, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting kashruth through education, research, and supervision.

## **JSU News**

The following JSU teens participated in the Holocaust memorial service: Tal Oren, Riley Pinson, and Lee Setty, Alpharetta JSU; Chase Barron, Leigh Collier, Maddi Kahn, Morgan Kahn, Julia Lee, Samantha Horwitz, and Celia Senerman, Centennial JSU; Carly Clark and Sara Rountree, Chamblee JSU; Adam Estroff, Chattahoochee JSU; Samuel Trump, Dunwoody JSU; Isabella Cantor and Seth Gregson, Lakeside JSU; Allison Fine, Marshall Fine, Braden Greenbaum, and Ruby Zimmerman, Lassiter JSU; Gal Moskovitch, Northview JSU; David Goldfarb, Eden Kalfon, Noa Kalfon, and Gabby Naturman, Riverwood JSU.

The JSU teens received overwhelmingly positive feedback about their respectful and



Chase Barron and Ruby Zimmerman carried in the yellow Jewish Star of Remembrance to start the memorial service.

helpful participation and received free passes for their families to The Breman Museum as a token of appreciation for their efforts.

THE MEANING OF CHALLAH. Anyone who has ever passed by a Jewish bakery on Friday morning recognizes the distinct, enchanting aroma of challah. Challah is essential to Shabbos meals, as braided loaves of bread become sanctified to a higher purpose. Challah is the first morsel of food to enter a person's mouth after Kiddush is made on Friday night or Shabbos day; it signifies the beginning of a meal.

The significance of challah in the Jewish world and much more about the holiness of shabbos was conveyed by the Jewish Students Union's Executive Director Rabbi Chaim Neiditch to hundreds of teens, as he visited a dozen clubs at metro Atlanta high schools.

Rabbi Neiditch went on to teach the teens that the concept of challah originally came from the manna from Heaven that G-d provided to the Jews in the desert, after the Exodus. We've continued the tradition today to signify G-d's continued sustaining of his Chosen People.

Participants also made their own challahs. Rolling, kneading, matting, shaping, and braiding the dough gave the teens an appreciation of the effort the goes into making challahs. The reward? The sweet smell of challahs baking and then, finally, the incomparable taste of challah at the Shabbos table.



Rabbi Neiditch and JSU leaders staffing the Holocaust memorial service



Eric Dallow, Bryan Koblitz, Jaron Longo, Blake Teilhaber, and Chase Barron braid challah at Centennial High School JSU.



Allison Saks, Isabella Cantor, Jessica Thompson, and Heidi David show off their challahs at Lakeside High School JSU.

BACCALAUREATE PROGRAMS. JSU's founder and executive director, Rabbi Chaim Neiditch, was the keynote speaker at the baccalaureate ceremonies of two Atlanta-area public schools: Chattahoochee High School and Centennial High School. Typically, these ceremonies have overt Christian themes, but in an indication of the JSU's reach and influence, this year's ceremonies were markedly different.

And although the rabbi may have surprised some graduates, they had a surprise for him of their own. Male JSU graduating seniors donned yarmulkes. JSU members sat beaming in their seats, as their classmates and teachers heard the words of wisdom that they, in their JSU clubs, had absorbed throughout their high school years.

"You inspired us, Rabbi," said Bryan Koblitz. "We were just so proud that you were representing us up there and wanted people to know that Judaism has been a big part of our high school experience, and that is all thanks to you and JSU."

The rabbi is a regular feature in the halls of public high schools across greater Atlanta. He is a symbol to countless teens who turn to him as their sole connection to Judaism, community, and inspiration. When talking about his work, Rabbi Neiditch recounts waking up very early in the morning to make it to Jewish Student Union meetings with challah dough, convection ovens, kiddish cups, and Hebrew name bracelets in tow. There are over 2,000 Atlanta high school students for whom JSU is a consistent community and a source of ongoing positivity and learning.

Addressing the graduating seniors, parents, and faculty members in his speeches, Rabbi Neiditch touched on the importance of family, setting life goals, and believing in oneself. Parents in the audience were delighted to see the prominence given to the Jewish Student Union and to hear from the rabbi who meant so much to their children. However, no one was quite as exuberant as the teens, who had received Jewish pride and a deep sense of belonging alongside their high school diplomas.

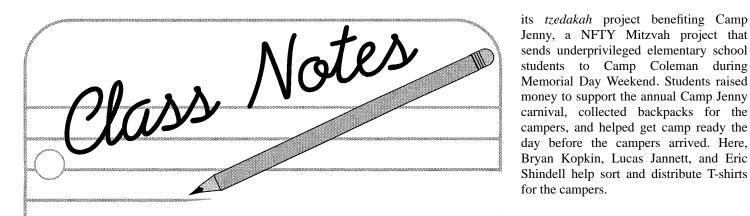


Rabbi Neiditch with some of the JSU students who wore yarmulkes to their baccalaureate ceremonies



Rabbi Chaim Neiditch at the Centennial High School baccalaureate ceremony

### THE JEWISH GEORGIAN



By Belle Klavonsky



SUMMER FUN. Over the summer, The Davis Academy is home to several community day camps. One week, the Lower and Middle School buildings played host to The Hawks Basketball Camp. Amid the empty hallways and classrooms, it was nice to see familiar faces, as several Davis students were campers. Shown here with Harry the Hawk are Davis Academy students Isaac Goldman, Sam Mahle, Jared Berenthal, Andrew Altmann, Max London, Ryan Gold, and Eli Minsk, at the Middle School basketball camp.



DAVIS MATHLETES. During the spring Noetic Learning Math Contest, 80% of Davis Academy participating students received National Honorable Mention or higher. The students pictured had scores that earned them placement on the National Honor Roll: (front, from left) Mick Shrubstock, third grade; Jared Forman, fourth grade; and Caleb Mahle, third grade; (back) Tyler McMahon, fifth grade; Samuel Durbin, fourth grade; Will Hopkins, fifth grade; and Sydney Leahy, fourth grade.

GIVING BACK. The Davis Academy Mechina: Kindergarten Prep class had a year-long *tzedakah* project benefiting Amy's Holiday Party, through Creating Connected Communities. The four- and five-year-olds



made decorations and raised over \$130 for the party, the most ever raised by any Davis Mechina class. Amy's Holiday Party is held in December and provides a holiday experience for underprivileged children. Pictured: (front row) Remy Rosenberg, Hannah Rosenberg, Carly Coffey, Joey Mekyten, Matan Levi, Ryan Kasmen, Emma Hatton, Marisa Ragghianti, and Ashtyn Bens; and (back) Lucas Fineman, Ethan Lipman, Jake Tessler, Amy Zeide, Hallie Moore, and Jenna Cohen



THE GREAT OUTDOORS. Davis Academy fourth-graders had an unforgettable day at the Wahsega 4-H Center, which included wading through a stream to discover aquatic life, baking combread, panning for gold, making candles, and dissecting locusts. For many, the most exciting part of the day was a rigorous fitness program to demonstrate that they could survive in challenging situations. During the ecology program, students were excited to have caught a creek frog. Pictured: (clockwise from bottom left) Amalia Haviv, Alexa Freedman, Lily Stark, Annalise Hardy, Alon Rogow, Sasha Wildstein, and Grayce Sheinis



KINDERGARTEN GRADUATION. Torah Day School celebrated its kindergarten graduation with a program showcasing all the wonderful new skills that the kindergartners acquired this year.



REMEMBERING THEIR YEARS AT TDSA. Forty-two eighth-graders graduated from TDSA, each sharing their most precious memories of their years at the school. In this moving and insightful

### July-August 2014



exchange, one could easily see how every teacher and administrator touches the lives of every student.



DIG IT. Students in TDSA's seventhgrade Navi class created their very own archaeological dig, a creative way to share the rich and vast Jewish history lessons they have learned.



MORNING PRAYER. The seventh-grade boys in Rabbi Alterman's TDSA class trekked up Stone Mountain for morning *davening* to simulate the Har Sinai experience.



ON THEIR BEST BEHAVIOR. TDSA's second-grade girls enjoyed a rich extracurricular unit on good manners, with professional etiquette teacher Mrs. Kaye Green. They learned how to greet guests and hosts, how to serve guests, how to take food from a buffet, and so much more. Their culminating activity was a special mother-daughter tea party.



MACY'S INTERNSHIP. Outstanding essays and interviews earned Davis seventhgraders Abbi Goldberg, Joelle Zelony, Hannah York, Sophia Gurin, and Isabella McCullough (pictured) a unique opportunity to shadow Macy's employees and learn about the retail industry from the inside, on Sunday, May 18. Mr. David Rifkin, seventhgrade language arts teacher, facilitated the project.



CAMP JENNY. The Davis Academy fifth grade spent this school year working on

### July-August 2014

### THE JEWISH GEORGIAN

At the end of the school year, the second grade

held its Chagigat Chumash for an audience

of nearly 150 friends and family members.

Students demonstrated their knowledge of

the five books of the Torah with handmade

models of sifrei Torah, songs, and recitations.

Using cups as percussion instruments to

perform Eretz Zavat Chalav u'D'vash, are

Amber Lewis (from left), Netanel Gold,

Mollie Glazer, Mikey Wilson, Alon Kochav,

Leora Frank, and Jaeger Ouanounou.

WELCOME RABBI HECHT.

Pinchos Hecht has been named head of

school of the newly combined Greenfield

Hebrew Academy/Yeshiva Atlanta, known

as Atlanta Jewish Academy. Rabbi Hecht

will be instrumental in making sure the new

school stays true to the principles that have

helped shape Greenfield Hebrew Academy

and Yeshiva Atlanta, while also making sure

the new school produces the most unique

and talented high school graduates in the

country. Rabbi Hecht is focused on creating a

community of caring that focuses on the needs

of the children and their best interests.

Rabbi



TIME-SENSITIVE. Dr. Alan Feingold, TDSA's K-5 science teacher, taught the second-grade boys how to make and read sundials. The boys were able to tell the time of the day, even taking Daylight Saving Time into consideration.

CHESED AWARD. The Epstein School's Juliana Zitron has received the 2013-



14 Hadassah Chesed Award. Chesed means act of kindness; the award is given each year to an eighthgrader who has demonstrated academic excellence, care and concern for

Ogden

his or her fellow man, an appreciation for his or her Jewish heritage, and a love for Israel.



ATHLETES OF THE YEAR. Epstein students Sloan Wyatt and Samuel Fialkow are this year's recipients of the prestigious Epstein Eagle Athlete of the Year Award. The award is given each year to one male and one female eighth-grade student who excels in sports. Candidates must play sports in all three seasons and exemplify the high standard of character expected of an Epstein Eagle in the areas of leadership, coachability, and sportsmanship.



Republic of Yemen. The delegates were

and Meira Zibitt. Their advisor is Judaics

teacher Marc Leventhal.

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A MIGHTY FLAME FOLLOWETH A TINY SPARK. Humanities and Judaics teacher Barbara Rosenblit recently spoke at the Dante Society of America Annual Meeting in Cambridge, Massachusetts. She shared the podium with her two Dante professors, Ron Herzman and William Stephany, and teacher, poet, and winner of the Traum Prize Terry Quinn. Barbara studied with them in Siena, Italy, in 2002 under a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

DEEP READING. Weber students in grades 10-12 began lining up before 7:00 a.m. to sign up for their top choices for this year's Faculty/ Staff Summer Reading Program. Students are reading books selected by faculty and staff from every area of the school; then, in August, they will participate with these faculty and staff members in seminar discussions based on their selections. The program fosters lifelong reading; familiarizes students with a wide range of literary genres and universal themes transcending time and place; and challenges students to broaden their experience of what it means to be human.

POETS. Weber Hebrew teachers Ariella Livnat and Elite Shaier led their students in analyzing Hebrew poems and then had them compose poems to enter in RAVSAK's fourth annual Hebrew Poetry Contest. In the High School Division, Native Hebrew Speaker, Idan Livnat won 1st place and Dotan Brown won an honorable mention: in the High School Division, Non-Native Hebrew Speaker, Ilan Palte and Rachel Jones won 1st and 2nd places, respectively, and Alan Ilyayev, Bonnie Simonoff, and Tova Beeber won honorable mentions. Their poems appear in the summer issue of RAVSAK's journal of Jewish education, HaYidion, and on its website.

IN GOOD COMPANY. Weber English teacher Sam Bradford was published in Mikrokosmos, the literary journal of Wichita State University's MFA program. For the journal's 60th anniversary celebration, held in WSU's Ulrich Museum of Art, Mr. Bradford read an excerpt from his story. Past contributors to Mikrokosmos include William Burroughs, Charles Plymell, William Stafford, Jeanine Hathaway, Tom Noyes and Justin Nicholes, among others.

THE RESULTS ARE IN. As they campaigned for positions on the Weber Student Council, candidates spoke to the entire school, delivering thoughtful speeches that tackled a wide range of issues. Members of the Student Council 2014-15 Executive Board are: Emma Popowski and Zoey Weissman, presidents; Jake Weiser and Ilan Palte, vice presidents, finance; Sara Murphy and Samantha Leff, vice presidents, communications; and Marissa Oves and Jeremy Shapiro, vice presidents, programming.



ALUMNI HALL OF FAME. Epstein School alumni consistently excel at the very best high schools and colleges and later in their



careers and community involvement. The

following students from the Class of 2010

are this year's inductees into the school's

Hall of Fame: (from left) Daniel Abravanel,

valedictorian, The Weber School; Olivia

Sachs, National Merit Finalist and top-ten

student at North Springs High School; David

Zarge, valedictorian, North Springs High

School; and Steven Burgess, salutatorian,

GHA GRADUATION. Greenfield Hebrew

Academy graduates took to the stage for a

graduation presentation that incorporated

words of Torah, music, and video. They

addressed thoughts from Pirkei Avot (Ethics

of Our Forefathers) for guidance on the road

ahead of them and shared their memories

of their senior trip to Israel. Pictured: (from

right) Sammy Frankel, Nate Linsider, and Ben

North Springs High School.

A NIGHT AT THE ZOO. First-graders at GHA created and sold bookmarks to raise funds for their annual overnight trip to Zoo Atlanta, which took place at the end of the school year. Accompanied by parents and teachers, the students watched presentations and had the chance to meet some animals up close before they retired to their sleeping bags. In the morning, they enjoyed a private tour of the zoo. Here, Kayla Joel takes a ride on the zoo's merry-go-round.



CHAGIGAT CHUMASH. GHA presented its second-grade students with one of the most important books they will ever receive and honored them for their achievements this year.



ITV CHIMES. To keep pace with a flood of new applications for the coming year, the newly formed Greenfield Elementary School of Atlanta Jewish Academy, is expanding its infant and toddler program, doubling the space for the K'far section of the Infant and Toddler Village (ITV). Children between the ages of six weeks and two years will enjoy an entirely new room during the 2014-15 school year, enabling the school to serve more children through this exceptional program. Budding musicians Kol Salzberg and Lev Geller play chimes in the Imagination Playground.

MODEL UN. The Weber School sent seven delegates to the HeschMUN (Model United Nations) conference, at Abraham Joshua Heschel School, in Manhattan. This was Weber's first time participating in a Model UN conference, which involves drafting position papers concerning specific world crises and defending the policies of the country the delegation represents, leading to resolutions in the various UN committees. The HeschMUN conference addresses issues in the Middle East; Weber represented the

## **Jewish Home Communities News**

SPRING LUNCHEON. The Auxiliary, a volunteer and fundraising arm of The William Breman Jewish Home, hosted its annual Spring (Auxiliary) Luncheon, May 19, at The InterContinental Hotel, in Buckhead, with over 250 people in attendance.

In addition to recognizing the hard work of several special volunteers, the event marked the beginning of an exciting new year for the organization, with the announcement of incoming board members. Sue Saban and Cherie Aviv were installed as co-presidents.

Nancy Baron and Nancy Lebovitz were named Volunteers of the Year for their dedication in providing the weekly Tea Time program to residents of The Home and patients at The Aviv Rehabilitation Center.

Billie Greenberg, Miriam Hirsch, Martha Jo Katz, and Ava Wilensky were recognized as Auxilians Extraordinaire for The Home's November 2013 Gala. Hirsch, Katz, and Wilensky planned this extraordinary evening; as sponsorship chair, Greenberg helped facilitate the raising of gross proceeds over \$700,000.

The Auxiliary luncheon also offered a fun shopping experience, with vendors selling jewelry, giftware, clothing, and other merchandise. Door prizes and raffle items included a gift certificate to Solomon Brothers, a glass sculpture from Frabel Glass Art Studio, and a Las Vegas vacation trip from Las Vegas Sands Corporation.



Martha Jo Katz, Ava Wilensky, Miriam Hirsch, and Billie Greenberg



Nancy Lebovitz and Nancy Baron

AUXILIARY MEMBERS HONORED. At the Partners in Senior Life 39th annual conference. held in May, The Auxiliary of The William Breman Jewish Home (The Home) saw two of its members, Phyllis Isenberg and Margie Stern,



honored. The Home is a member of PSL, a national organization of professionals, lay leaders, and volunteers who represent agencies that provide senior care services.

Phyllis Isenberg received The Freda & Pearl Schwartz Eishet Chayal Fund-Woman of Valor Award. This award recognizes the hard work and dedication of a seasoned volunteer, over the age of 45, who has devoted more than

five years of dedicated service to her Auxiliary organization.

Phyllis' leader-

ship with The Auxiliary of The Home is extensive. She served as president from 2001-2003 and continues to work behind the scenes, as well as develop young

leadership. Phyllis is also on the national board for PSL and worked

tirelessly as a change agent to help PSL transition to its new mission, values, and branding structure. Her leadership at PSL not only included revitalizing the board structure but also working with and mentoring other Auxiliary organizations.

Harley Tabak, The Home's president and CEO, came to the conference to honor Phyllis, who was not aware she was getting this prestigious award. "I was so surprised, humbled, honored, and proud to accept this award," she said.

In addition to her work with The Auxiliary and PSL, Phyllis is involved at The Home, is president of an Atlanta group home that provides housing for adults with developmental disabilities, and also teaches English as a Second Language (ESL) classes.

Margie Stern received The Rose M. Richshafer Fund-Senior Mentor Award. This award is given to a volunteer who demonstrates excellence as a role model, advisor, and mentor to fellow Auxiliary members.

Margie, who has been involved with The Auxiliary since 1987, served as Auxiliary copresident from 2009-2011 and currently serves on the Board of The Home. During Margie's



tenure as co-president, she worked to refresh The Auxiliary and bring about new programs, including the Bell Ringer program. She engaged existing and new members to be active participants, developing new leaders for The Auxiliary. Margie continues to be an active Auxiliary volunteer, whether it is

**Margie Stern** 

being a manicurist on Wednesdays or designing invitations for signature events.

"I'm so proud to have been presented with this award," said Margie. "I believe it is important to encourage our new and younger members to become more involved and take on leadership roles. I am delighted that I can be a resource for them."

In addition to her work with The Auxiliary and The Home, Margie is vice president of membership at The Breman Jewish Heritage & Holocaust Museum.

firms to provide case evaluation for litigants

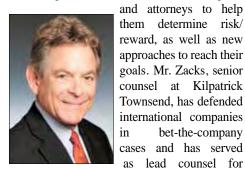
## NESS B

### By Marsha Liebowitz

Phyllis Isenberg

HONORS FOR ROSENBERG. Mark Rosenberg, managing director, Wealth Management, and financial advisor in Morgan

Stanley's Perimeter Wealth Management office, has been named of advisors, for the second consecutive year. He has been named one of "Barron's Top 1,200 Advisors" (individuals screened on criteria



them determine risk/ reward, as well as new approaches to reach their goals. Mr. Zacks, senior counsel at Kilpatrick Townsend, has defended international companies bet-the-company in cases and has served as lead counsel for plaintiffs in over 100 catastrophic injury and

**David Zacks** 

wrongful death cases.

PARADIES AT REAGAN AIRPORT. Airport concessionaire Paradies received the award to operate an all-inclusive food and beverage program at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport on Pier B/C and Pier C. Paradies and its exclusive partner, Lettuce Entertain You Enterprises, are introducing several first-ever and one-of-a-kind airport dining experiences, including Wow Bao and Magic Pan, that will complement additional brands, such as Dunkin' Donuts, Capital City-themed gastropubs U Street Pub and Washington Pour House, and proprietary Say Si Bon! Gourmet Market. Restaurants will include communal tables equipped with charging stations.

to the firm's Chairman's Club, an elite group composed the firm's top financial

Mark Rosenberg

including assets under management, revenue produced for the firm, and quality of service provided to clients) and one of The Financial Times' "Top 400 Financial Advisors" (individuals who have a minimum of \$250 million in assets under management and ten years of industry experience).

NEW FIRM. David Zacks now offers mediation, alternate dispute resolution, and case evaluation services through Zacks Resolution, LLC (www.zacksresolution.com), operating out of Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton's Atlanta office. Zacks Resolution also targets small

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MISH MAS

By Erin O'Shinskey

FIDF GALA. On May 15, The Friends of the IDF Southeast Region hosted its 2014 Atlanta Gala Dinner, A Night to Honor the Soldiers of the Israel Defense Forces. Over 400 FIDF supporters gathered at the Georgia Aquarium and raised more than \$450,000 for programs supporting the wellbeing of the men and women who serve in the IDF.



FIDF National Board Member and Chairman of the Southeast Region Garry Sobel and Lt. Avihai Rigbi, honoring fallen soldiers (Photos: Greg Mooney)



FIDF National Board Member and Chairman of the Southeast Region Garry Sobel, Georgia Aquarium Founder Bernie Marcus, and FIDF Southeast Region Executive Director Seth Baron and his wife, Susan Baron



Former Israeli Ambassador to the United States Danny Ayalon



FIDF IMPACT! Scholarship recipient Karina Shatainluf and FIDF IMPACT! Scholarship donor Lindy Shallcross

ATLANTA JEWISH TEEN FOUNDATION. The Atlanta Jewish Teen Foundation is accepting applications from high school sophomores and juniors who want the chance to make the ultimate charitable decision: allocating \$10,000 to the non-profit organization or program they choose. During 11 sessions, 20 teens will establish priorities, create a grant application for charities to compete, conduct interviews, and select a recipient. The program mirrors the process that the Federation undergoes each spring, to determine how Annual Campaign funds will be disbursed. Applications, due August 15, can be found at jewishatlanta.org/page. aspx?id=258281. For information, contact Jillian Wagenheim at jwagenheim@jfga.org or 404-870-1869.



On May 6, The 11th Annual Jack Hirsch Memorial Breakfast honored Matt Brill, Richard Kopelman and Morris Maslia. Here, Richard Kopelman receives his award from Eli Mansbach.



Breakfast, chaired by Mark Spiegel and Karen Isenberg Jones (pictured), was attended by over 400 members of the community.

JOIN THE SCOUTS. Formed in 2002 and sponsored by the Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta, Cub Scout Pack 1818 serves Dunwoody, Alpharetta, and other North Atlanta suburbs. In addition to Scouting activities such as hiking, camping, and the Pinewood Derby, the pack promotes Jewish-themed activities and outreach, including Sukkah-decorating, Shavuot hikes, and Hanukkah parties. There are dens for all ranks (Tigers, Wolves, Bears, and Webelos); additionally, Troop 1818 is available for Jewish boys old enough to be Boy Scouts. Contact Janet Simmerman at jfsimmerman@gmail.com or go to pack1818. com for information about joining this pack.



PROUD SCOUTS. Members of Cub Scout Pack 1818 are recognized for achieving their next rank at the Blue and Gold, held at Gesher L'Torah. Pictured (from left, front) are Drew Heller, Noah Diamon, Daniel Getzow, and Ben Beck, with their parents (back) Matt, Dyann, Barry, and Mark, respectively.

COBB'S FIRST MIKVAH. On July 1, the Cobb County Jewish community made history at a groundbreaking ceremony for its first mikvah. There are many detailed laws that are critical to a mikvah's construction, and the local community worked with world-renowned experts, who guided the plans and construction. In the modern era, mikvahs resemble elaborate, upscale spas, allowing the aesthetics to express the inner beauty and sanctity of this tradition. For information, visit www.chabadofcobb. com.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL AT NER TAMID. Reform Jewish Congregation Ner Tamid conducts weekly Religious School classes, Pre-K through 12th grade, including Hebrew in the upper grades, confirmation, and b'nai mitzvah. Religious School begins August 17. For information, visit www.mynertamid.org, or call 678-264-8575. The congregation, a Union for Reform Judaism member, established in 2006, has held services and religious school in various West Cobb locations and just moved into its own space in the Kennesaw Mountain Business Park. Its Religious School follows the Institute of Southern Jewish Life curriculum.

Thought you'd like to know

### By Jonathan Barach

PHOTOGRAPHY, YOGA, PEACE. "Peace: What Does It Mean to You?" a multimedia community art project, runs through October 5, at The Breman Museum. Featuring "A Peace of My Mind," a photography exhibition by John Noltner, the project fosters public dialogue about issues related to conflict resolution, civic responsibility, and peace. Profiles include Holocaust survivors, a homeless man, crime victims, and regular folks from all walks of life. There is a full schedule of related programming, including photography workshops with Joel Silverman and free yoga for members with Eleanora Lipton. For more information, visit thebreman.org.

A STOLEN LIFE. The Mémorial de la Shoah, Paris, France, is presenting its touring

exhibition "Hélène Berr, A Stolen Life," through August 10, at the Marnie and John Burke Memorial Library, Spring Hill College, in Mobile, Alabama. Berr was a young Jewish French woman whose promising future was brutally cut short by Vichy Government's laws and the Nazis' extermination plan; this exhibition is based on her journal. For more information, contact the library at 251-380-3870, or visit shc.edu/calendar.

PJ LIBRARY SHABBAT STORY TIME. Enjoy a Shabbat-themed story time, every Friday through July 25, 9:45 a.m., at In the City Camp, at Emory University. Story time is best suited for children 5-8 years old; they do not have to be campers to attend. In the City Camp gives children the character-building experience of Jewish overnight camp in a day camp setting. For information, contact Lisa

Lebovitz at 678-222-3721.

POOL PARTIES. Dive Into Shabbat is July 25, August 1, and August 8, 5:00-7:00 p.m., at the Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta. This free program includes Shabbat songs and blessings, with Rabbi Brian Glusman, at 6:00 p.m. On July 25, cast members from the MJCCA's *Les Misérables* production will perform. Bring a picnic, or purchase kosher pizza, drinks, and snacks from the outdoor grill; free ice pops, challah, and grape juice are provided. For details, contact Rabbi Glusman, 678-812-4161 or rabbi.glusman@atlantajcc. org. In case of threatening weather, call the weather hotline, 678-812-4011, the afternoon of the event.

COMMUNAL SHABBAT SERVICE. The 6th Annual Reform Movement Shabbat is August 1, 6:30 p.m., at The Temple. This summer, the entire Atlanta Reform Jewish community will gather together for a communal Shabbat service honoring Rabbi Alvin Sugarman, rabbi emeritus, The Temple; Rabbi Phil Kranz, rabbi emeritus, Temple Sinai; and Rabbi Donald Tam, rabbi emeritus, Temple Beth Tikvah. This is a wonderful opportunity to worship together as one Reform family. For those saying Kaddish, a comprehensive yahrtzeit list from all the participating congregations will be read. An Oneg will follow. For information, visit http://www.the-temple.org/calendar.aspx.

TASTE OF JUDAISM. Taste of Judaism is a multi-session class, welcoming unaffiliated Jews, interfaith couples, and those of other religious backgrounds who are curious about Jewish tradition. The sessions, which explore Jewish spirituality, values, and community, are free and open to the public. The next

### THE JEWISH GEORGIAN

## **Schwartz on Sports**



BERNIE MARINO TALKS BASEBALL AT MJCCA EDGEWISE. At the Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta, on April 24, Sid Stein introduced Edgewise speaker Bernie Marino as a "fanatic baseball fan." After listening to Bernie speak about our National Pastime, I would agree. Everything was baseball, particularly Joe DiMaggio, the Yankees, the Braves 400 Fan Club, and the Baseball Hall of Fame.

We even started out the program by singing, "Take Me Out to the Ballgame," ironically led by a Red Sox fan. I expected Kate Smith to come back from the dead to lead us in the singing of "God Bless America."

Bernie had Braves hats and foam tomahawks for everyone, and I proudly wore my Braves 1966 National League Pennant Championship T-shirt. There were many others there dressed in baseball shirts and hats.



Two true baseball fans: Stan Sobel (left) and Ronnie Klee

I learned a lot about Joe DiMaggio—The Yankee Clipper, Jolting Joe, and husband of Marilyn Monroe. What an unusual marriage that was. Bernie took us through Joe's life, from growing up in California to becoming a New York Yankee in 1936, to being inducted in The Hall of Fame in 1955, and beyond. For a quiet, stoic, modest, unsophisticated guy, he had quite a life of fame and fortune.

Of course, his record of getting at least one hit in 56 consecutive games may never be broken. If he could have reached 57, Heinz 57 would have given him a \$10,000 promotion deal. He ended his career with the Yankees, in 1949, by saying, "I'd like to thank the good Lord for making me a Yankee." He really brought honor to the uniform.

Bernie's talk included the Baseball Hall of Fame and the three Atlanta Braves who will be inducted this year: Bobby Cox, Tom Glavine, and Greg Maddux. Bernie has been a great supporter of the Braves since he moved to Atlanta in 1972; he served as president of the Braves 400 Fan Club.

Bernie concluded his presentation by giving us a baseball quiz. I'm proud to say I got eight out of ten right, but never realized that Hank Aaron had at one time in his major league career worn the number 5.



Bernie talks about his baseball fan experiences over the years.

### Thought

### From page 37

class is August 3 and 10, 10:00-11:30 a.m., at the MJCCA Zaban Park; the instructor is Brian Glusman. For details, contact Laurie Finklestein, Laurie.finklestein@atlantajcc.org or 678-812-3723, or visit www.atlantajcc.org/ brill.

FAMILY FUN IN THE PARK. Shearith Israel Shelter will host its third annual Family Fun Day and Picnic on Sunday, August 10, 3:30-6:30 p.m., at Glenlake Park and Glenlake Pavilion in Decatur. Bring your food, lawn chairs, glove, bat, ball, and Super Soaker. Watermelon will be provided, and cold drinks will be available for \$1. Voluntary contributions of up to \$5 will be accepted to help defray costs. For more information, contact Yvette Smith at ysmith@shearithisrael. com or 404-873-1743.

A WEEKEND AT CAMP BARNEY. The

first-ever Young Adult Weekend at Camp Barney (ages 21-35 years) is August 15-17, at Camp Barney Medintz. Sleep in a cabin, celebrate Shabbat, enjoy the lake and pool, and socialize with other Atlanta-area young adults. The cost is \$199 and includes all meals and entertainment. For more information, contact Roey Shoshan at 678-812-4055 or roey. shoshan@atlantajcc.org.

U.S.-ISRAEL CONNECTIONS. conexx: America Israel Business Connector presents its 18th Annual Professional and Business Seminar, "Enhancing U.S.-Israel Connections Through Innovation and Expertise," August 21, 7:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., at The Selig Center. Learn why Israel is a major force in this region's economy and how to get involved in this mutually beneficial activity through innovation, investment, legal considerations, business culture, trade, and mergers and acquisitions. Keynote speakers are Yosef Abramowitz, president & co-founder EnergiyaGlobal, and Kobi Rasner, president, Synergy Overseas.

I was one of 28 men and women in attendance at this program and enjoyed getting to meet and hear that "fantastic baseball fan," Bernie Marino.

BASKETBALL BUNCH AT LUNCH. The 6th Basketball Bunch at Lunch took place May 5, at Taco Mac, in The Prado. Those attending played in the AJCC Men's Basketball League sometime between the years 1965-1985. We had 32 ex-players attending, breaking our old record of 29; eight had never before been at a BBAL. Everyone had a good time and promised to bring more first timers to our next get together.



Basketball Bunch at Lunch first timers: (from left) Jeff Dworetz, Jon Bennett, Larry Liebross, Jon Ginsberg, Barry Brouner, and Steve Horn. Not pictured: Brian Wertheim and Ed Mendel

The planning committee—Stan Sobel, Howie Frustick, Ray Taratoot, and I—came up with a few new ideas that were well received. Everyone had a nametag, to account for senior moments. Everyone introduced himself and shared one thing he remembered from the days in the league. This gave us another chance to connect with one another. We also had two tables full of memorabilia of that 20-year period, from the "Schwartz Archives." Lots of memories were revived after looking at some of the pictures and reading the articles. I know that I always get enjoyment out of doing it, and I'm glad I've collected all this memorabilia

Register at aiccse.chambermaster. com/events/details/2013-professionalseminar-203, or contact Barry Swartz, 404-843-9426 or bswartz@conexx.org, for information.

DIVE INTO SHABBAT INTOWN. Join the MJCCA, Jewish Kids Groups, and PJ Library for an Intown Shabbat Pool Party and Picnic, August 22, 5:00-7:00 p.m. This free program takes place at Emory University's Student Activity and Academic Center. Open swim begins at 5:00 p.m., followed by songs at 6:00 p.m. Bring a picnic dinner or enjoy free snacks and drinks courtesy of the MJCCA. For details, contact Rabbi Brian Glusman, 678-812-4161 or rabbi.glusman@atlantajcc.org. In case of threatening weather, call the weather hotline, 678-812-4011, the afternoon of the event.

LIMMUDFEST. The 6th annual LimmudFest is August 29-September 1. This Labor Day weekend, hundreds of Southern Jews of all backgrounds, lifestyles, and ages will gather at Camp Ramah Darom for a weekend of Jewish learning, community, and celebration. over the years. Basketball at the AJCC and the association with so many guys over the years has always been a big part of my life.

We also changed the seating arrangement so that guys weren't stuck at one long table, but could get up and mingle.

Because of the time it took to order and eat, we didn't get a chance to try our other new activity: the first BBAL Trivia Contest, for the years 1965-1985. I had 12 good questions ready and a few tiebreakers, just in case someone got them right. I'll have to save that for the next get-together.

It was ironic, though, that several questions I was going to ask were answered in the introduction segment and while guys talked informally at their tables. I have to throw out all questions relating to the "special" rules the league had, like the fast-break rules and rules pertaining to the designated "A" players having to sit out four consecutive minutes. Also tossed out were questions related to Howie Frushtick as the center's big man, as well as George Wise playing from 1966 to 2011, until the age of 80. But don't worry, I've got plenty more in the "Archives." I'm anxious to crown the first BBAL Trivia Contest winner. But that will come next time.

If any "Schwartz on Sports" readers who played in the league between the years 1965-1985 would like to attend our next get-together, please contact me at drjsch7@comcast.net, and we'll include you. We're out to break our record again next time.

ALTA COCKER VII. Mother Nature didn't like the fact that she wasn't invited to attend the Alta Cocker VII softball game on April 20, even though Father Time was the guest of honor. So, she left the softball fields at the MJCCA a muddy quagmire. Because of the Men's League play on Sundays, the game has not yet been rescheduled. If we play, you can be certain it will be covered in a future column.

Hope you enjoyed the column. Until next time, drive for the bucket and score.

Participants can choose from a full schedule of workshops, discussions, speakers, musical performances, arts, text study, Jewish culture, and ritual, all planned by a diverse community of Limmud volunteers. Kids are welcome; this year, Atlanta's In The City Camp will provide weekend-long programming and supervision. For more information or to register, visit Limmudse.org.

HIGH HOLY DAYS AT NER TAMID. Reform Jewish Congregation Ner Tamid will hold High Holy Days Services at 1349 Old Hwy 41, Suite 220, Marietta, beginning September 24, with Erev Rosh Hashana, and ending October 4, with Yom Kippur and a community potluck Break Fast. Tickets are \$90 per person (advance purchase only) for all services, which may be applied to membership. Childcare (ages 2-6) is available for a small fee for daytime services. For details and tickets, visit www.mynertamid. org. To learn more about Ner Tamid, attend an Open House, August 10, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon, or call 678-264-8575.

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