JCNCF’s Annual Holocaust Program Set for April 23

By Abe Goldman, Chair
Yom Hashoah Committee

JCNCF’s 2017 Yom Hashoah community Holocaust remembrance program will be held on Sunday, April 23 at 7 PM at Congregation B’nai Israel. We are very pleased this year to welcome Dr. Mark Wygoda as our featured speaker. Dr. Wygoda’s talk, Hermann Wygoda: From Warsaw Ghetto Smuggler to Italian Partisan Commander, deals with his father’s remarkable experiences across several countries during World War Two, and adds to the chronicles of resistance to the Holocaust by Jews and others. Mark Wygoda is head of the Department of Zoology at McNeese State University in Lake Charles, LA, and he earned his PhD in Zoology at the University of Florida in 1982. He edited his father’s memoirs, which were published in 1998 under the title In the Shadow of the Swastika by the University of Illinois Press.

Hermann Wygoda, Mark’s father, was a civil engineer in Warsaw when the Nazis occupied the city and the rest of western Poland in 1939. He refused to move into the ghetto or to wear an armband identifying him as a Jew, and instead assumed the identity of a Pole and worked to smuggle food into the ghetto. His mother, brother, and young son were sent to Treblinka and murdered there by the Nazis in 1942. Hermann, who spoke fluent German as well as Polish, then passed himself off as a German national and was able to work at a German border patrol camp, together with another Jew in disguise, Leon Peregal. Both men went to Berlin in early 1943, where they worked for a skilled labor recruiting company owned by two German businessmen. During a leave of absence in May 1943, Hermann returned to Warsaw during the Warsaw Ghetto uprising, and for four days he helplessly watched the last stages of the revolt and its brutal suppression from a friend’s apartment near the ghetto.

In December 1943, Hermann and Leon used forged travel documents to travel by train from Berlin to Savona, Italy, a German-occupied port in northwestern Italy. Although they felt relatively safe there, Hermann was arrested by German military police as a suspected spy on one morning in February. He managed to escape that night and spent the next few weeks living in a cave in the mountains north.

Hermann Wygoda: From Warsaw Ghetto Smuggler to Italian Partisan Commander
Sunday, April 23 at 7 pm
Congregation B’nai Israel

Featuring Mark Wygoda, Ph.D.
Dr. Wygoda is the editor of the text In the Shadow of the Swastika, written by his father, Hermann

Continued on page 7

Tikkun Olam with Dave and Karen Deeter

By Dawn Burgess-Krop

Karen and Dave Deeter are probably the quietest power couple you will ever meet. But, make no mistake, through their deeds and commitment, they make a difference every day. As with many they do, their story is the story of other people. They met through ballroom dancing and began as dance partners, then became friends. Karen came to Gainesville from Shreveport, Louisiana in 1967. She and her first husband had a daughter, Sarah, age 50, and soon after, adopted Tim, who was from Korea. A decade later, they adopted Jon, who had cystic fibrosis. Through being a foster parent, Karen’s familiarity with the disease led her to later adopt Josh, who died of the disease at 30. They adopted Kelvin out of foster care when he was eight and one-half years old. Kelvin succumbed to cystic fibrosis a few years ago. Dave had come to Gainesville from Indiana. Dave was a Viet Nam era vet and spent his career in Gainesville as an auditor and fiscal assistant. The younger boys were in their teens when Dave and Karen met and had to “approve” Dave as the relationship developed.

April is National Donate Life Month. Dave and Karen became activists for organ donation while advocating for

Continued on page 6
The JCNCF’s Community Relations Group will hold their next meeting on Wednesday, April 19 at 5:30 pm at Temple Shir Shalom.

This group has formed in response to the rise of anti-Semitism and other hate based rhetoric and activities, locally and nationally.

To get involved with this group, please contact the JCNCF office at 352.371.3846 or office@jcncf.org.

JCNCF Mission Statement
As set forth in the Articles of Incorporation, the JCNCF has been formed to operate and engage in philanthropic, cultural, and other group activities for charitable and educational purposes that shall contribute to the welfare of the Jewish community of North Central Florida and other Jewish communities around the world.

The Chronicle is published 10 times per year by the Jewish Council of North Central Florida, Inc.

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The Chronicle is produced for the community by JCNCF staff and volunteers. The opinions expressed are those of the contributors and are not necessarily representative of the Jewish Council Board of Directors or supporters.

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Submissions Policy
News and announcements of events that are of interest and open to the entire Jewish community will be included as space allows. The times and places of regular and special Jewish religious events, as well as Jewish organizational events, will be placed in the Chronicle’s monthly community calendar.

Please submit original material of 500 words or less, not published or to be published elsewhere, along with photos of interest to the community. Submissions may be e-mailed in Word document format to chronicle@jcncf.org; or dropped off at the Jewish Council of North Central Florida office. Please submit photos in high resolution with a caption identifying the subject and all people depicted. JCNCF reserves the right to edit all submissions. The Chronicle does not publish letters to the editor.

The Chronicle and the Jewish Council do not endorse the goods and services advertised in these pages, and make no representation as to the kashrut of the food, products, and services in such advertising.

If you have any questions, email chronicle@jcncf.org or call 352.371.3846.

All submissions are due on or before the 10th of the month prior to publication.

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Thank You!
JCNCF thanks the following for helping assemble and delivery Purim Bags.

Amira and Hadar Bilitzer,
Andy Fonorow,
Andy, Russ and Sharon Hirshik,
Shea Huey, Elaine Kaplan,
David Karpf, Irene Kellner
and Marcia Storch
Itzhak Perlman Honored at Purim Event

By Howard Rothman

Itzhak Perlman came to Gainesville again, Itzhak Perlman played a recital again and Itzhak Perlman conquered again. Unlike his other concert appearances in our town, Perlman’s recital was on Purim. The JCNCF, in collaboration with the Lubavitch Chabad Jewish Student and Community Center, hosted an after concert reception for maestro Perlman complete with kosher goodies, Hamantaschen and a Megillah reading.

Although Perlman no longer plays like the Perlman of ten or twenty years ago (after all, he is 70), he still plays better than most other violinists and can still pack a concert hall. His program included an early Beethoven sonata, op. 12, No. 1, a Vivaldi, sonata, a Robert Schumann Fantasiestucke and the Ravel Sonata. As is his custom he ended with what amounted to a number of virtuoso encore pieces including works by the great Polish violinist Henri Wieniawski and the great Austrian-American violinist, Fritz Kreisler. His tone is as velvety and rich as ever. In fact, my one criticism of his playing concerns the Blues movement of the Ravel sonata which I believe should be played in a sexy and “dirty” manner. Perlman’s playing was certainly sexy enough but that rich tone emanating from his violin was certainly not dirty.

At the reception, Perlman displayed his graciousness and his sense of humor and kibitzed with several of his admirers, including Rabbi Berl Goldman who provided the sumptuous banquet. Perhaps, Maestro Perlman can return to Gainesville for Pesach and join us for a Seder. Now that would be something.
A Night With PJ Library

By Debby Kinman-Ford, Director
B’nai Israel Community Day School

In February, PJ Library families gathered to celebrate Havdalah together. PJ Library events are lovely intimate programs where families can join together to share storytelling. February’s event, PJs Pizza and Havdalah was no different.

The evening began with food, of course. They joined together to sing Hamotzi, then enjoyed a dinner of pizza, salad and sweets. They enjoyed the meal in each other’s company and then as children finished, they joined together and spoke about what they did for Shabbat that day. Some children replied they went on walks or played, one went to Disney World for his birthday while others went to other venues around town. They spoke about how nice it was to celebrate Shabbat with family and the ones you love. After that they were joined by their parents and lit the Havdalah candle while singing Debbie Friedman’s Havdalah song as they smelled the spices and held hands.

Once the families said goodbye to Shabbat, they read several PJ Library books together about Tu B’Shevat and ended the evening with a craft, making their own Havdalah spice boxes to take home. Each child got to choose the spices they wanted for their boxes and the delicious smells of cinnamon, allspice, nutmeg and coriander filled the room. When that was done, it was time to say good night and go home to enjoy the warmth of our beds and maybe they were able to squeeze in one more story.....
By Ralph Lowenstein

About Face at UN Security Council

President Obama’s last act in regard to Israel at the end of December 2016 was to order there be no U.S. veto of Security Council Resolution 2334, which condemned all settlements in land captured by Israel in the 1967 Six-Day War, including east Jerusalem. The resolution, which passed 14-0, with the U.S. abstaining, called the settlements a “flagrant violation” of international law, and said they had “no legal validity.” This essentially opened Israel to possible punitive action by international courts.

The Old City of Jerusalem is technically in east Jerusalem, as is the Western Wall and the Temple Mount. Yeshivas and rebuilt synagogues are located there, along with hundreds of Jewish homes in the Jewish quarter. Many Jewish residential neighborhoods now lie in parts of east Jerusalem that were captured by Israeli troops in 1967.

On Feb. 16, 2017, in one of her first speeches to the United Nations Security Council as representative of the Trump administration, UN Ambassador Nikki Haley, an Indian-American and former governor of South Carolina, had this to say:

“I’m here to say the United States will not turn a blind eye to this anymore. I am here to underscore the ironclad support of the United States for Israel. I am here to emphasize that the United States is determined to stand-up to the UN’s anti-Israel bias. We will never repeat the terrible mistake of Resolution 2334, nor allow one-sided Security Council resolutions to condemn Israel. Instead, we will push for action on the real threats we face in the Middle East.”

Israel Gas Sales Soar

Israeli Energy Minister Yuval Steinitz has reported that Israel earned $800 million from selling natural gas in 2016. He said plans were advancing for constructing gas lines from Israel’s Mediterranean Sea reserves to Turkey, Greece and Cyprus. “Our goal is to supply 10% of the European energy market,” he said. (Times of Israel)

Apple Buys Israeli Company

Apple has purchased Realface, an Israeli startup whose facial recognition technology can be used to authenticate users. (Times of Israel)

Israel Boosts US Economy

Israel, known as the “startup” nation, is having a significant effect on the U.S. economy. With a population of only 8 million, Israel is transferring numerous branches of this startup power to the American production network. According to a recent Massachusetts-Israel Economic Impact Study, Israeli-founded businesses generated $18.1 billion in economic impact for Massachusetts alone in 2015, which is 4% of the state’s GDP. Over 200 Israeli-founded businesses in greater Boston created 28,000 jobs. (Washington Times)

Knesset Passes BDS Ban

The Knesset in March approved a bill allowing the Interior Ministry to bar visitors who support the BDS (Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions) movement aimed at punishing Israel for settlement activity.

Interior Committee chairman David Amsalem, who proposed the bill, said, “If someone demeans me, I do not let them into my home.” Another member of the Knesset, Ayman Odeh, disagreed. He said: “I am also against the occupation and for boycotting the settlements. . . . So saying that people cannot enter because they boycott the settlements will serve to ensure Israel’s exclusion throughout the world.”

Israel in Brief: News and Developments

Yes, there’s even baseball in Israel. Shown is an unnamed coach on the Israeli baseball team, who played in the World Baseball Classic, March 6 through 22. Also shown is Israel’s life-sized mascot, named “Mensch.”

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Tikkun Olam with Dave and Karen Deeter

Continued from page 1

their son, Josh Abbott. Josh had cystic fibrosis, a genetic disease that causes thick mucus buildup in the lungs, pancreas, and other organs, with the lungs being most significantly affected. Their efforts to secure a double lung transplant for Josh led the family through a legislative process, the effects of which resound to this day.

In trying to save Josh’s life, the Deeters learned that Medicaid would pay for a lung transplant for adults, but not pay for the enormous cost of hospitalization after the surgery. Josh testified before the Florida legislature about the need to modify this law. With the help of state senator, Rod Smith, a bill was passed to address this issue, but by the time it wound its way through the legislature, Josh’s condition had deteriorated. The bill would pay for the surgery, but not the hospitalization. The family was expected to pay the enormous cost of hospitalization after the surgery. Through the Maimonides society, then under the umbrella of JCNCF, fundraisers were held to raise money to assist with the costs of Josh’s care.

With his oxygen tank, Josh again addressed the legislature about his struggle to obtain a life-saving lung transplant. It is said there was not a dry eye in the Senate chamber when Josh described his fight to live. State Senator Steve Oelrich assisted with this phase. Josh was in the hospital when requested to testify before the house. The bill passed unanimously the second time. After Josh’s transplant, Florida’s online organ and tissue donor registry also required a bill to be enacted through our legislature. Although passed unanimously, Governor Charlie Crist vetoed it. The bill was restructured the following year and the new registry, named the Joshua Abbott Organ and Tissue Registry (www.DonateLifeFlorida.org), was launched in July 2009. Enrollment has nearly doubled in the past eight years to more than 9.3 million individuals. Josh’s transplant gave him eleven more months of life and they were good months. When he died, Josh was an organ donor.

Karen fondly recalls that Josh was in the hospital in intensive care on a ventilator during the high holidays. Rabbi Kaiman came in to softly blow the shofar for Josh as the entire nurse’s station and residents came in to learn about the ritual and experience the moment.

Karen and Dave have lived the essence of tikkun olam. Many years ago, they attended Hillel and regularly hosted Kiddush lunch in their home. Karen has served as the Educational Coordinator for Brain Injured Children, taught classes on caring for special needs children for foster parents, and worked in waste management for 25 years. Dave is on the board for the Art Association of Alachua County and teaches art at Reichert House, where Karen also tutors. Dave is a bee keeper and member of the Gainesville Area Bee Club. Karen and Dave have both advocated with GRU against mountain top removal for coal. They are ardent environmentalists.

Josh understood the nature of his disease as a child. He drew a picture of himself in a grave and asked, “when I’m gone, do you think people will remember me?” As people continue to benefit from Josh’s advocacy, the answer is “yes we will.”
Save the Dates for Yom Hashoah and Yom Ha’Atzmaut

Continued from page 1

west of Savona. Found there by local partisans, he joined them and became commander of a detachment of about 100 young fighters who were part of the Italian Liberation Army. He took the name “Comandante Enrico,” and using his mountain cave as his headquarters, he and his men began to fight the Germans more successfully. As their fame in the area grew so did their numbers. Less than a year after his escape from the Germans, he led a partisan division of over 2,500 fighters.

Hermann’s stronghold in the mountains was attacked only once by the Germans. In the ensuing fight, in November 1944, the Germans were soundly defeated and driven out of the mountains. They never again tried to attack Comandante Enrico.

On April 25, 1945, Hermann led his division out of the mountains to liberate the city of Savona. Following the war, he became a police inspector for the city, and a year later he was awarded the Bronze Star medal for valor in combat by US General Mark Clark. That facilitated his emigration to the United States, where he started a new family and a new life as a home builder in Chattanooga, TN.

In addition to his father’s resistance to the Nazis, Mark Wygoda will talk about coming to terms with memories of the past by both Holocaust survivors and children of survivors.

Our remembrance program will also include recognition of the passing last year of Elie Wiesel and of Frank Towers, the liberator who spoke at and frequently contributed to our previous commemorations.

We are very grateful for the sponsorship of the Jewish Council for North Central Florida for this year’s commemoration as well as generous support from Congregation B’nai Israel, Rabbi David Kaiman, Rabbi Michael Joseph, and the B’nai Israel Sisterhood and Men’s Club.

On Sunday, April 30, celebrate Israel’s 69th birthday with a picnic at Sholom Park in Ocala. For the first time, the Jewish Council has moved the location of the annual community Israel Day celebration, with the plan to alternate sites between Gainesville and Ocala every other year.

Most elements of the day will remain the same, however, with activities for all ages. Guests will enjoy traditional Klezmer music by Chutzpah, face painting by Fabulous Faces, and a hands-on art project from the Appleton Museum of Art! A food truck, Bubba Luigi’s Road Trip, will have delicious falafel and other vegetarian goodies for purchase.

JCNCF is looking for volunteers to help with set-up, clean-up and other event activities. For more information and to RSVP, please call 352.371.3846 or email office@jcncf.org.
North Central Florida Passover Seders

Passover begins at sundown on Monday, April 10. Please confirm times, pricing and RSVP details with individual congregations. Community contact information is included on page 10.

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### Congregation B’nai Israel

**Monday, April 10th at 6:30 pm**

$54 for members, $60 for non members and Free for children 13 and under

RSVP to Casey@Bnaigainesville.com

This is NOT “your father’s seder! If you’ve not been to one of Rabbi Kaiman’s seders you are going to find out that this is far from your usual experience. Definitely non-traditional and definitely interactive, fun and participatory.

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### Temple Shir Shalom

**Monday, April 10 at 6 p.m.**

Adults: $61 (members) and $71 (nonmembers), Children 9-12: $40, Children 4-8: $30 and Children under 3 are free.

Reservations made after April 3 - 5 are $81 per person and $80 for children.

Reservations accompanied by full payment can be sent to Temple Shir Shalom ATTN: Seder, 3855 NW 8th Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32605.

NO MONEY WILL BE COLLECTED AT THE DOOR. PAYMENT AT THE TIME OF RESERVATION IS REQUIRED.

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### UF Hillel

**Monday, April 10 at 7 pm**

We are having brisket, matzah ball soup and of course, lots of matzah. Sponsored in part by the Marvin Sheldon Memorial Fund, dinner is kosher and free to students and the community.

Contact UF Hillel to RSVP or to gift a meal.

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### Temple B’nai Darom

**First Seder:**

Monday evening, April 10 at 6 pm
at 49 Banyan Course, Ocala
$30 per person,

Contact Sheila Cohen for reservations
760-887-1467

**Second Seder:**

Hosted by Congregation Beth Israel

Tuesday, April 11th at 6 pm
at the Royal Oaks Golf Club in Oak Run
$30 for members
$35 for non-members

Contact Estelle Magidson for reservations
352-861-254

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### Lubavitch-Chabad Jewish Student & Community Center

**First Seder Night:**

Monday, April 10 at 7:45 pm

**Second Seder Night:**

Tuesday, April 11 at 8:45 pm

All are welcome, No experience necessary. Donations for Seder appreciated, prior to Passover. For reservations or to help sponsor a student’s Seder, please contact Rabbi Berl or Chanie Goldman at 352.336.5877 | Rabbi@JewishGator.com

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### Chabad of Marion County

**First Seder**

Monday, April 10 at 7:30 pm

Adults $35, children $25

Enjoy the holiday of freedom at an inspirational Seder, complete with a gourmet Passover dinner, the original hand-made Shmurah Matzah, and four cups of exquisite Kosher wine. Journey with us through the Haggadah, and the story of our people with traditional songs, stories, and spiritual insights.

Our Seder is English friendly with Hebrew/English Hagaddas so everyone will feel welcome.
Mazel Tov!

Mazel Tov to the Puckett Family!

Anthony Charles Puckett, Jr. was born in February to Anthony and CB Puckett. Anthony senior is the son of Cindy and John Puckett.

Mazel Tov to the Block Family!

Announcing the birth of Kylian Anson Block who was born on February 21. Kylian is the son of Jon Eron and Melinda Daina Block and the grandson of Joanne and Ed Block and Michael and Julie Pjekne.

Transitions: Community Life Events

Do you have a life cycle event you would like to share with our JCNCF community? Please submit items to chronicle@jcncf.org. Submissions may be edited as space allows. Pictures are welcome and encouraged! Transitions may include birth, engagement and wedding announcements, bar and bat mitzvah, graduations, promotions and honors, and memorials.

In Memoriam

Our community mourns the passing of these beloved friends and family members:

Jonathan Cohen,
Husband of Sylvia Teng,
Father of Phacelia and Ravine,
Son of Carol and Robert

Shirley Goldberg,
Mother of Jeffrey Goldberg and Anne Koterba

May their loved ones find solace in their memory.

Jordan Glen School's Summer Camp 2017
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North Central Florida Congregations & Organizations

Gainesville

B’nai Israel Community Day School (DS)
Debby Kinman-Ford, Director
www.bnaiisraelcds.org
352.376.1508, ext 101

Center for Jewish Studies at the University of Florida (CJS)
Dr. Jack Kugelmass, Director
Sandra James, Office Assistant
web.jst.ufl.edu
PO Box 118020, Gainesville, FL 32611
352.392.9247

Congregation B’nai Israel (CBI)
Rabbi David Kaiman
Jenifer Petrescu, Executive Director
Shauna Sikron, Coordinator of Jewish Learning
Casey Leopold, Programs
Denise Thompson, Administrative Assistant
www.bnaigainesville.com
3830 NW 16th Blvd, Gainesville, FL 32605
352.376.1508

Gainesville Chapter of Hadassah (HAD)
Meredith Bacharach, President
mwbacharach@gmail.com
352.256.7631

Isser and Rae Price Library of Judaica (LIB)
at the University of Florida
Dr. Rebecca Jefferson, Director
cms.uflib.ufl.edu/Judaica/Index.aspx
George A. Smathers Libraries, University of Florida
Gainesville, FL 32611
352.273.2865

The Tabacinic Lubavitch-Chabad Jewish (LCJC)
Student & Community Center
Rabbi Berl & Chanie Goldman, Directors
Rabbi Aharon Chaim & Pessie Notik, Co-Directors
www.jewishgator.com
2021 NW 5th Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32603
352.336.5877

Temple Shir Shalom (TSS)
Rabbi Michael Joseph
Ross Van Boven, Director of Religious School
Ann Eisenstadt, Office Manager
www.shirshalom.net
3855 NW 8th Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32605
352.371.6399

UF Hillel (HLL)
Rabbi Adam Grossman
www.ufhillel.org
2020 W University Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32603
352.372.2900

Ocala and Surrounding Locations

Chabad Lubavitch Jewish Center of (CLJC)
Marion County & The Villages
Rabbi Yossi & Chanie Hecht, Directors
www.jewishmarion.org
13030 CR 103, Oxford, FL 34484
352.291.2218

Congregation Beth Israel (CBI-O)
Rabbi Karen Allen
www.bethisraelocala.org
7171 SW Hwy 200, Ocala, FL 34476
352.450.2056

Congregation Beth Sholom (CBS)
Hazzan Mordecai Kamlot
www.bethsholomcitrus.org
102 Civic Circle, Beverly Hills, FL 34464
352.746.5303

Temple Beth Shalom (TBS)
Rabbi Ze’ev Harari
www.jewishocala.com
1109 NE 8th Avenue, Ocala, FL 34470
352.629.5837

Temple B’nai Darom (TBD)
Rabbi Harold Jaye
www.facebook.com/TempleBnaiDarom
49 Banyan Course, Ocala, FL 34472
352.624.0380

Temple Shalom of Central Florida (TSCF)
Sheldon Skurow, Spiritual Leader
www.templeshalomcentralfl.org
13563 County Road 101, Oxford, FL 34484
352.748.1800
Community Calendar for January 2017

The JCNCF Office will be closed
Tuesday, April 11, Wednesday, April 12, Monday, April 17 and Tuesday, April 18
for Passover

Tuesday, April 4
- Torah Study with Rabbi Joseph at TSS, 9:30 am. (Repeated April 11, 18 & 25)
- Torah on Tuesday with Rabbi Kaiman at CBI, 12 pm. (Repeated April 25)

Wednesday, April 5
- Friendship Circle at CBI, 10:30 am to 1 pm (Repeated April 19 & 26)
- CBI Lev Tov at St. Francis House, 5:30 pm (also April 19)
- Caregivers Support Group at TSS, 7 pm. For more information contact Lori Waxenberg, loriwbax@gmail.com

Friday, April 21
- Sisterhood Shabbat, Special musical guests Joseph & Lynn Goldovitz at TSS, 7 pm.

Sunday, April 23
- Yom Hashoah community Holocaust remembrance program at CBI, 7 pm.

Thursday, April 27
- Helping Hands Clnic Dinner at First United Methodist Church, 2:30 pm.

Sunday, April 30
- Yom Ha'atzmaut at Sholom Park, Ocala, 11 am to 1 pm.
In This Issue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yom Hashoah</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Tikkun Olam Continued</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tikkun Olam with Dave and Karen Deeter</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Yom Hashoah Continued</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JCNCF Update</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Yom Ha’Atzmanut</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Itzahk Perlman</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>North Central Florida Seders</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PJ Library Havdalah</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Transitions</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Israel in Brief</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Directory &amp; Community Calendar</td>
<td>10-11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Save These Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHEN</th>
<th>JCNCF Programs &amp; Events</th>
<th>WHERE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, April 23 at 7 pm</td>
<td>Holocaust Remembrance Event</td>
<td>Congregation B’nai Israel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, April 30 at 11 am</td>
<td>Israeli Independence Day Celebration</td>
<td>Sholom Park, Ocala</td>
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</tbody>
</table>