The Jewish Council of North Central Florida supports Jewish life locally and globally and operates entirely on donations from the community. The JCNCF Annual Campaign distributes funds to our brothers and sisters in Israel, the former Soviet Union or wherever the need is greatest.

Last year, emergency resources were directed at communities at risk in France and the Ukraine, which continue to be hot spots of violent anti-Semitism. This year’s Annual Campaign Kick-off speaker is Samantha Dubrinsky, pictured at left. Ms. Dubrinsky, Director of Community Impact and Special Projects at the Birmingham Jewish Federation, is a rising star in Jewish philanthropy, both for the press she’s getting for her poignant and moving stories of Jews at the crossroads in France and the Ukraine as well as for her success in engaging millennials back home in Alabama.

What’s the connection between Alabama and Odessa? What’s the secret to Birmingham’s millennial engagement success? Don’t miss Samantha’s inspiring story at Temple Shir Shalom on Sunday, October 11 at 7 pm.

Samantha’s story continues on page 4

Tikkun Olam with Jill Tomar

By Dawn Burgess-Krop

There's an old saying that suggests if you want to get something done, you ask a busy person. Never does this adage apply more aptly than to Jill Tomar. Jill has recently been elected as President of the Florida Region of Women’s League for Conservative Judaism, a term she will serve for three years. Jill has been involved with the Women's League since the age of 25. She explains that Women's League is the organization in Conservative Judaism that encompasses Sisterhood. Facilitating Jewish community involvement and supporting Jewish experience and education is a prime motivation for Jill's volunteerism.

Jill has served as President of B'nai Israel Sisterhood and has been a constant on their Board. She is an avid volunteer and chairs fundraisers, manages the Sisterhood Gift Shop, and is always willing to cook and bake for events. There is rarely a project in which she is not involved.

Jill cites her mother as the source of her passion, indicating that her mother served in many leadership roles. She states, "I join organizations to do things. I'm not passive and I often end up in leadership positions."

Jill met her husband, Scott, in USY at the age of 15. Both from Philadelphia, they attended Temple University where Tikkun Olam continues on page 15
Welcome Tamara Segal

The Board of JCNCF is pleased to announce that Tamara Segal has joined our team as the new Community Engagement and Media Associate.

Tamara has lived in Gainesville for 15 years. In that time, she has been a board member for Gainesville Hadassah and chaired many Jewish functions including the Triple Chai luncheon and the Purim Masquerade Ball. She volunteered at Congregation B’nai Israel, chairing the Mock Mitzvah soiree/ fundraiser, Purim carnival, misloach manot, cast parties for Chavaya. She also served on B’nai’s Chavaya, Sisterhood, and grant distribution board.

Prior to coming to Gainesville, she has lived in Minneapolis, Dallas, Chicago, and Boston. She earned her degree from the Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota. Her business career consists of ten years of management experience with Sprint Communications in Finance, Billing and Customer Service Departments.

Please join us in welcoming Tamara to the organization!

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.

For more information, please call 352.371.3846 or email chronicle@jcncf.org.

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Smart Conversations with 92nd Street Y
At Congregation B’naï Israel, Sunday October 18, 7pm
Made Possible by a Grant from JCNCF

By Dawn Burgess-Krop

Rabbi David Kaiman conceived of the idea of bringing programs from the 92nd Street Y, a cultural and community center in the Upper East Side of Manhattan, to Gainesville, and now our community has a unique opportunity to experience the Y’s stimulating presentations and conversations in comfort at B’naï.

Rabbi Kaiman expresses his desire to “bring to our community the diversity of programs that reflect many opinions and points of view.” He believes the high quality of speakers available through this program offer thoughtful ideas and that debate will add quality to our community. This program is sponsored locally by a grant from JCNCF, and Rabbi Kaiman is using the full amount of the grant to purchase licensing fees for three programs.

These evening programs are open to the entire community and are provided free of charge. All SmartConversations will be held at Congregation B’naï Israel. Please note that each talk streams to Gainesville via a video feed, and thus the times may vary. Following are the dates and programs:

Sunday, October 18, 2015, at 7:30 pm: Dennis Ross, former U.S. Ambassador to Israel, and Ethan Bronner, managing editor at Bloomberg News and former New York Times Jerusalem correspondent, speaking live on the U.S.–Israel relationship from President Truman to President Obama.

Sunday, November 8, 2015, at 8:00 pm: Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks, former Chief Rabbi of Great Britain, presenting a live address from the 92nd Street Y titled “Not in God’s Name: Confronting Religious Violence.”

Wednesday, December 16, 2015, at 8:15 pm: Former NBC newsman and Meet the Press moderator David Gregory, along with religious scholars Erica Brown and Peter Rubenstein, discussing issues of faith, identity, and leadership. David Gregory’s new book is titled “How’s Your Faith?”

Save the Dates For These JCNCF Grant-Funded Community Programs

October 23–25
Meet the Fellow from the Institute of Southern Jewish Life at Temple Shir Shalom
The ISJL produced the new Hebrew school curriculum recently adopted by TSS.

November 8 at 11 am
The Jews of Kaifeng
Presented by Alice Bolocan, Ph.D., and Congregation Beth Israel of Ocala at the Community Center at On Top of the World

November 15, 10 am to 2 pm
Israeli Cultural Fair
Hosted by Chavaya at Congregation B’naï Israel
By Samantha Dubrinsky,  
Director of Community Impact -  
Birmingham Jewish Federation

“Could have been them.” This sentence constantly ran through my head while I was in Ukraine in June on a Jewish Federations of North American trip. The purpose of the trip was to assess the needs of the Jewish community there and to see how Jewish federations are helping our fellow Jews amid the turmoil in their war-torn country.

You see, my great-grandfather was from Odessa, formerly part of Russia, but now part of the Ukraine. He immigrated to the United States in 1917, during the Russian Revolution—a time when many Russians, and especially Jews, experienced hardship and threats to their safety. If not for my great-grandfather making the courageous decision to leave for a better life, I could have easily been one of the people we met in Ukraine.

At dinner on the first night in Dnepropetrovsk, we ate with some of the young leaders in the Jewish community. As we sat eating together, I thought about my great-grandfather and my safe and comfortable life in the United States. It continually occurred to me that any of these young people could have easily been one of the people we met in Ukraine.

Even earlier this year I traveled to Paris on a Jewish agency fact-finding trip in the wake of two terrorist attacks. Again, the same sentence ran continually through my head. “Could have been them.” But in France it was different. My family has no roots in France, but I could easily see myself in that Jewish community. I could imagine myself in their shoes when I saw the fear in the eyes of the young Jews deciding whether they should leave for Israel because of the anti-Semitism facing their community, or stay in what might be a risky situation.

Before traveling to France, I did not understand how much the freedom and protection that we receive from the government in the United States contributes to the safety and well-being of our American Jewish community. No, French Jews are not in a country suffering from war and struggling to meet basic necessities, but they are in a war of their own—a war against intensifying and, at times, violent anti-Semitism. In Paris, a Jewish community member told our group that the French government has made a religion of being secular, so there is no real protection for religious groups by the government.

Through the Federation system, we are helping Jewish people all around the world to live safe and secure lives. The agencies we support are doing amazing work around the globe, but they need our help to fulfill continuing needs.

I hope that in the coming years, none of us will ever think “I could have been them.” But for that to happen, these dire situations must be resolved.

Samantha Dubrinsky will speak at Temple Shir Shalom at 7 pm on Sunday, October 11. Her talk is free and open to the public and is sponsored by the Jewish Council of North Central Florida, the Birmingham Jewish Federation and the Jewish Federations of North America. For more information or to RSVP, please contact JCNCF at 352.371.3846 or office@jcncf.org.
Israel in Brief: News and Developments

By Ralph Lowenstein

Tel Aviv Subway. Work has finally begun on the long-planned and long-awaited Tel Aviv subway system. The “Red Line,” the first leg of the project, is expected to be completed in 2021. The “Red Line” will have 33 stops, 10 of them underground, running mostly through central Tel Aviv. Eventually, the larger system will terminate in Netanya to the north, Ashdod to the south, and Modi’in to the east. The Red Line alone will cost $3 billion. Tel Avivians hope it will provide some relief from the half-million cars that jam the city’s narrow streets daily from surrounding suburbs.

The 5-Second Dash. Because so many Israeli towns and farms are very close to the Gaza border, civilians in the past have had only 5 seconds to find shelter after first hearing the warning siren of an incoming mortar round. A new radar system was recently tested by the Israeli Defense Forces that more than doubles that warning time. Stand in the backyard of your house one day and see if you can get to an interior bathroom in 12 to 13 seconds, the period of time the new alert allows.

Israeli Dolphins. Hamas claims to have captured an “Israeli” dolphin off the Gaza coast equipped with “spying equipment,” including cameras. The Palestinian newspaper Al-Quds reported that the dolphin was equipped with a device capable of firing arrows.

Family Values Noted. According to the Jerusalem Post, Israel was listed in fourth place out of 41 countries in the 2015 InterNations Family Life Index, released last month. The Family Life Index ranks countries according to availability and costs of child care and education, quality of life, and family well-being.

Computer Power. The people who devote their energy to organizing Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions (BDS) campaigns against Israel are more than likely communicating with each other with computers chock-full of Israeli-designed parts. Almost every computer manufacturer has a major research lab located in either Haifa or Tel Aviv. Intel a few weeks ago announced its new advanced processor, called the Skylake, developed at Intel’s Haifa R&D lab. Skylake has more than double the performance, triple the battery life, and 30 times better graphics than the most popular computers in use today. Skylake extends use of devices as long as 10 hours by reducing energy use from the current 40 or 45 watts to less than 9 watts.

Israeli Citizenship Wins. In an Israeli television station survey conducted in August, 52% of Arabs living in Jerusalem told pollsters that they would prefer to be “Israeli citizens with equal rights”; 42% said they would prefer Palestinian citizenship when a Palestinian state is established.

Bucks for Surgery, Cosmetics. HeartWare International, which deals in heart failure systems, has just agreed to acquire an Israeli company, Valtech Cardio Inc., for $857 million. Valtech specializes in valve repair and replacement devices. The Chinese investment giant Fosun has agreed to buy the Ahava Dead Sea cosmetics company for $76.5 million.

IsraAid volunteers helping refugees reach the shore after their boat overturned off the Greek coast, September 13, 2015. Photo courtesy of Israel21C.
Together we do extraordinary things.

Thank you to all those who support the JCNCF Annual Campaign or any of our special fundraising projects and activities. The generous donation of your time, talent and treasure enables us to support Jewish life locally and globally.

By David Pawliger

Recent Pew polling indicates a progressive decline in affiliation with religious congregations, not only in general but also in our Jewish community. This trend may or may not be alarming, depending on one’s point of view, but some consider it a sad reflection of waning concern for one another.

Many congregations struggle to maintain their existence. The challenges are not only financial, including facilities maintenance, personnel compensation, program expenses, et cetera but also entail the volunteerism upon which the success of many organizations is so dependent. Sadly, some congregations eventually fail because of waning interest or sense of commitment.

As the sweet memory of Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and Sukkot lingers, we are reminded that there are myriad reasons for affiliating with and supporting a religious organization. Unfortunately, many see no current reason or feel no need to do so. Sometimes, membership is allowed to lapse because needs have been fulfilled and future needs are not yet perceived.

However, if not at present, at some time(s) in each of our lives we are likely to experience a need for the resources which only a congregation can provide. When that occurs, we may be fortunate to have a congregation available on which we can depend—a congregation that exists because of the commitment, foresight, and generosity of its benefactors. It is important that each of us does what we are able to do NOW to support our local congregations so as to ensure that a spiritual home and spiritual comfort are available in years to come for our children, their children, and our fellow community members. Among resolutions for the new year, hopefully congregation membership will be given high priority.
Caregiving: It Doesn’t Have to be a Solo Venture

By Heath Lynn Silberfeld

A monthly Caregivers Support Group is sponsored by the JCNCF for men and women who are in need of perspective, encouragement, and resources related to caring for a loved one. The nondenominational group welcomes all participants. Participation is strictly confidential. As the group likes to tell first-time attendees, “Whatever is said here stays here.”

The group has been meeting since Harriett Pawliger, M.Ed., Ed.S., and Licensed Mental Health Counselor, founded it in 1999. Harriett continued to facilitate it through 2007. The group is currently led by co-facilitators Lori Waxenberg, Ph.D., and Nancy Coleman, Ph.D., two very experienced and talented psychologists. Through their kindness and generosity, and those of the group, participants support each other through the many, varied, and challenging realities of caregiving.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 4, 2015.

Participants typically have spouses, partners, parents, children, or siblings in need of extra attention and assistance due to a life-threatening, chronic, or fatal illness or injury. Some people have attended the support group regularly for years, some to get what they can from a single session.

Some caregivers need to talk about their struggles. Others prefer to quietly listen and learn. Some find relief in simply knowing that others face the same difficult situations. Others seek advice from the group regarding self-care, which is an essential component of successful caregiving, or they choose to delve deeply into the emotional difficulties they face as primary caregivers.

All topics related to caregiving are discussed in the open and confidentially—no topic or experience is taboo. And if you think you might benefit in some way from attending, you probably will!
Ancestors & Archives Find a Home at UF’s Price Library of Judaica

By Heath Lynn Silberfeld

I asked my father, Alfred M. Silberfeld, to write his autobiography in 1976, and nearly 40 years later that led me to the Isser and Rae Price Judaica Library at the University of Florida on August 30, 2015. What a delightful afternoon that was!

My father lovingly did record the story of his life for me, but as he wrote he found that he had a lot of unanswered questions. The search for answers led him to dig deeper, first at the New York Public Library, where we looked up our surname in telephone books and U.S. Census records from the 1890s through 1910s to obtain basic details of our ancestors, such as where they had lived, how many members were in their families, what their genders and ages were (therein lie some clues to the year of birth, marriage, and death), and so on. Then came a trip to the Mormon Library in Salt Lake City because the best organized and most extensive genealogical records in the world are collected there. Every trip to Europe my father took with my mother, Sylvia, yielded new contacts with previously unknown family members, fascinating photos, more stories. Friends helped my father translate documents from Polish, Russian, Japanese, and Hebrew into English, and the family tree grew from a few dozen to more than 5,000, including Rashi. (Many of you can trace back to Rashi, too!)

My father loved this work, and he bemoaned the fact that I did not take to it as he had. Of course, he was retired and I was not, he had time and I did not. Since his passing, and with the help of a family friend and member of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Palm Beach County, which my father co-founded, I’ve faithfully stored his computer files and backups and the boxes of printouts, certificates, lists, letters, and photos he compiled. But what am I to do with them? I enjoy perusing them occasionally, but I’m unlikely to ever dig into and expand our family genealogy as he had.

Archival material can take many forms. These are some of the documents Alfred Silberfeld compiled in his lifetime.

Father and daughter in a relaxed moment.

All photos courtesy of Heath Lynn Silberfeld.
Then I read about the “Preserving Jewish Family Stories” event at the Judaica Library. Billed as an opportunity to have curators from the Department of Special & Area Collections (www.uflib.ufl.edu/spec) examine one’s family papers (letters, diaries, documents, scrapbooks, ephemera, photographs, and so on), to talk about the stories behind them, and to discuss how to best preserve them at home, I knew I had to be there.

I showed the curators my father’s autobiography—The Journeys Which Were Before Me—and Many Branches, Many Roots, which he compiled using Roots Magic software. I also took along his bar mitzvah prayer-book and a Siddur written by Rabbi Julius Silberfeld, a cousin who had married my father’s parents and is written about by Philip Roth in The Plot Against America. The Judaica Library staff were seriously interested in all I had brought, and all I had at home, and I was thrilled to have found an appropriate place for this part of my father’s extensive legacy.

Recently, Phil and Barbara Emmer, longtime Gainesville residents and philanthropists, donated all of Phil’s business records, going back to his days of hawking newspapers and later helping to build the Fontainebleau Hotel in Miami Beach, to establishing Lincoln Estates in East Gainesville and building residences and other buildings throughout the United States as Emmer Development Corporation, to raising funds to build the Hillel building on University Avenue. The Emmer collection has roots in Jewish social and business history as well as Gainesville, Florida, and American social history. Even African American history is part of this collection because Phil helped obtain FHA credit when nobody was giving it to buyers on the east side of town—and he kept records about it. Phil also

**Barbara and Phil Emmer, local businesspeople and philanthropists, recently donated to the Judaica Library.**

took it upon himself to help those who needed help with budgeting for a mortgage, utilities, food, and the many other necessities of life. That’s tiktok olam, and it’s a good thing that Phil “didn’t like throwing things away” because the curators are thrilled to have been given his rich archive.

The August 30 event was a first-time out for the curators, and they expect to offer it again. But you may contact them any time you wish to discuss what you have that might be of interest to scholars and others wanting to explore the history of Jewish life in Florida, Gainesville, and elsewhere. The material of interest to the curators is wide ranging—think cookbooks to passports, photos to newspaper clippings, birth certificates to obituaries—almost anything is worth a look. I was surprised and pleased to learn that they will come to my home—yours, too—to help sort, organize, and choose what to donate.

My father has been gone from this world nearly three years, but it is so very comforting to know how happy he would be about the fact that his deep knowledge and mastery of Jewish genealogy didn’t die with him—May His Memory Be a Blessing—but will serve the research needs of those who will find an archive of his collected materials at UF. You and yours may find this reward awaits your family, too, at the Price Judaica Library right here in North Central Florida.

**Save the Date!**

**Monday, November 9**

**The Melting Pot: Jewish Food in the Old & New World**

Presented by Eve Jochnowitz and the Isser and Rae Price Library of Judaica

**Brochure and pamphlets from the Isser and Rae Price Library of Judaica at the University of Florida, Smathers Libraries.**
Books, Books, Books
There’s a whole lot of reading going on

By Dawn Burgess-Krop

For its October 14, 2015, meeting, Hadassah’s Book Club will be reading My Promised Land, a nonfiction book by Ari Shavit. This meeting will be held in a private home, and those locations are not publicized. Marcy Brody is the chair of the Hadassah Book Club and invites you to contact her for more information: marcybrody@gmail.com or 610.529.3050.

A diversity of reading styles is the goal of the Hadassah Book Club, and Marcy readily admits that every selection may not please every reader. She suggests that book club members often change their opinion of a book after hearing the perspectives of fellow readers, and that the exchanges often allow for a better understanding of one another.

Remaining selections for the fall include The Boston Girl by Anita Diamant (November 11) and The Rosie Project by Graeme Simson (December 9). For these two meetings, the book club will meet at Congregation B’nai Israel at 7:00 pm.

For more information about any of these activities, please contact Marcy Brody at marcybrody@gmail.com or 610.529.3050.

B’nai Israel Community Day School teacher, Ashley Conley, reads to a class.
Photo courtesy of B’nai Israel Community Day School.

PJ Library books are sent to children monthly, based on topics appropriate to their age. Households with small children of various ages may receive different books for each child. October book themes include a story about challah for Shabbat and a book about a child coping with being the only Jewish child in class. The final selection, Bone Button Borscht, is an adaptation of the classic story Stone Soup, depicting a beggar yearning for a hot meal who cleverly removes buttons from his coat for a communal soup while also teaching a selfish village about cooperation and sharing.

Want a warm and welcoming place to find a book of Jewish content and enjoy quiet moments? Why not pull up a chair in the B’nai Israel Library? Lovingly tended by Becky Howard, this collection contains a rich variety of Jewish fiction, nonfiction, children’s books, and current periodicals for reference or checkout. Enjoy the fresh flowers from Michelle Jensen’s garden placed on the library table weekly. This could be your moment of . . . Zen?
Hillel at UF Gives Students Home, Purpose, Future

By Trevor Youshak,
Hillel Journalism Intern

Imagine: You’re new to campus and know very few people. That was my case, when I began college in 2013. I did not expect much from UF Hillel; I simply thought it would be a place to meet some people and get some free food on Friday nights. As time progressed in my first year, I became heavily involved and was hired to work in the summer of 2014 for Hillel. This was the exact time that Rabbi Adam Grossman was hired and an entire new team came onboard. While at first the introduction of Rabbi Adam and Gia Campagna, Israel Engagement Coordinator, was met with caution, as time passed I realized they brought fresh insights to Hillel that provided unimaginable and relevant opportunities I had not expected previously: unique opportunities to experience networking, career advancement, and leadership development.

One initiative in particular is the UF Hillel Works program. This program matches students for internships with Jewish Gator alumni based on their career aspirations as well as provides professional development seminars such as resume building and marketing basics.

My passion is to help people. I have been through medicine and now law, and I truly consider myself a people-oriented individual. UF Hillel matched me with Three Rivers Legal Services, a local not-for-profit law firm, which serves low-income individuals in North Florida. This allowed me to incorporate my interest in Judaism with my career path, because every day I was able to do a mitzvah by helping people with legal work who otherwise couldn’t have afforded it. Having just finished the internship, I could not have been more grateful for the chance to combine my passion for helping people with my interest as a future lawyer. I have learned so much from the experience and even confirmed to myself the passion I have for the law.

UF Hillel is no longer simply a place to meet friends and get a Shabbat meal. Hillel is a place to grow, personally and professionally. UF Hillel is “College: The Jewish Way. Find Your Home, Find Your Purpose, Find Your Future.” UF Hillel is my second home. The atmosphere within it is always warm and homely, and I feel comfortable going there for friendly support or advice. My girlfriend, who isn’t Jewish, always finds warmth in the UF Hillel due to the open arms of each and every member of the team. Everyone should feel comfortable in their home.

UF Hillel helps me find greater purpose. The team is very supportive of one another and pushes me to become a better person. Each member works well with one another, and because of that we are able to plan some incredible events to help students and give back to the community with cans from a food drive and more.

UF Hillel prepares me for my future. More than just four years, it is a networking platform to help me succeed in every aspect of life, including my career. Programs like UF Hillel Works bridges the gap between alumni and students by providing students with the experience necessary to find themselves, find their purpose, and, most important, develop as a leader.

I am grateful for what UF Hillel has provided me in these past few years, and I am excited by what I can continue to help give back, not just in my next two years but well beyond. Through UF Hillel, I believe I have in fact become a better person and will continue to learn and grow as I progress here in my second home.

Not your Bubbe and Zayde’s Shabbos …

UF Students line up for Food Truck Friday Night, one of Hillel’s innovative approaches to Shabbat. Photo from Facebook.
The Mitzvah Minute

The Mitzvah Minute is a brief monthly inspiration on how easy it can be to do good deeds every day, if you look for the opportunities. It only takes a minute and you can help heal the world!

The Torah is replete with reminders of our obligations as Jews to share our bounty with others. We are reminded that we have often been strangers and have an enduring obligation to feed the hungry and house the stranger. While on the eve of every holy day we put aside a special gift for the poor, our obligation is not confined to those times. These lessons are being acted upon in meaningful ways in our own community.

The mitzvah of feeding the homeless at St. Francis House is performed twice a month by the Lev Tov ("good heart") group at B’nai Israel. The group is scheduled the first and third Wednesday of every month unless it coincides with a Yom Tov/holiday. Volunteers are always welcome and are asked to contribute part of the meal and stay to assist in serving the meal at 6 pm. Serving and clean up go very quickly, and the interactions with the recipients are gratifying. Please call Rebeca Shalom, who heads the B’nai group, to volunteer: 352.335.9505.

For years, JCNCF has undertaken preparing a monthly meal for the Helping Hands Clinic, a program that provides meals, medical services, and other assistance to homeless women. This school year, cooking for the clinic patrons has been undertaken by the families of the B’nai Israel Day School. In October, the Kahol Class (three-year-olds) is providing the meal, with a different class being responsible for each month. What better way to teach our children about mitzvot than by meaningful engagement?

If you are unable to volunteer, please shop the BOGO (Buy One, Get One Free) items at Publix and bring them to Temple Shir Shalom or Congregation B’nai Israel. Items will be donated to the Bread of the Mighty Food Bank.

Seventh Annual JCNCF Community Mitzvah Day
Sunday, November 22 at 9 am

Registration, Breakfast and Program Opening at Hillel

Service Projects at Hillel, Chabad, Congregation B’nai Israel, Temple Shir Shalom and other locations in the Gainesville area.

Projects to benefit: ARC of Alachua, Bread of the Mighty, Displaced Homemaker’s, St. Francis House & the SFH Pet Clinic, Ronald McDonald House and more!

Look for more details in the November Chronicle and pre-register for projects at www.jcncf.org.
Mazel tov to parents Rabbi Aharon Chaim and Pessi Notik and big brother and sister Yaakov and Bracha on the arrival of Bailey on August 16, 2015.

Mazel tov to parents Ronna Gersch and Jason Zaremski and big sister Zoe on the arrival of Abigail on August 19, 2015.

Mazel tov to Rochel Goldman, daughter of Rabbi Berl and Chanie Goldman, on her Bat Mitzvah celebrated August 29, 2015. Rochel, who is the third of the eight Goldman children, is the oldest still living at home, where she is a role model and a big helper to her siblings and the community. She enjoys learning music and other things. She attends a virtual online school. Several of her friends from Canada, Chicago, and many parts of Florida came to town to attend this event.

Mazel tov to Alexa Katz (photo above), daughter of Michael and Robyn Katz, and big sister to Lucas on her Bat Mitzvah at Temple Shir Shalom on October 17, 2015. Alexa is a seventh-grader at Oak Hall School, where she is an excellent student and a member of the basketball and volleyball teams. Alexa has combined her love of music and philanthropy in her mitzvah project, “Noteworthy Kids which is collecting money and musical instruments for a local public school in need.

Mazel tov to Alex Kane, son of Todd P. Kane and Tina L. Lacy, on his Bar Mitzvah at Temple Shir Shalom on October 24, 2015. Alex attends the Academy of Technology and Gifted Studies at Howard Bishop Middle School. His favorite subject is history, and he enjoys playing recreational baseball, reading, learning, playing video games, and spending time with his friends and family. He is kindhearted, empathetic, and extremely patriotic. For his mitzvah project, Alex volunteers with the Marion County Habitat for Humanity for the Annual Strawberry Festival fundraiser. He also volunteers at Clown Camp at the Volusia County Public Library.

Mazel tov to Alicia Rudin who reports, “People handle midlife crisis in many ways. Some people buy fast, red sports cars; others have affairs. I went back to school to figure out what I wanted to do. I’ve always liked science and enjoyed helping people, so I went to the Health Sciences Counseling Office at Santa Fe College to explore my options. Eighteen months ago I enrolled in the Cardiovascular Technology program to learn how to perform electrocardiograms and vascular ultrasounds. I spent the first 12 months in the classroom and lab learning physiology, physics, and how to use the various ultrasound and physiologic diagnostic equipment; over the following 6 months, I completed my training with clinical rotations.

Now that I have finished my A.S. in Cardiovascular Technology and passed both my registry exams (RCS—Registered Cardiac Sonographer & RVS—Registered Vascular Specialist), I’m looking for a job!”

Mazel tov to Dr. Ron Cohen! Recently, Dr. Ron Cohen, Director of the Center for Cognitive Aging and Memory at UF was named the Evelyn F. McKnight Chair for Clinical Translational Research in Cognitive Aging. The endowment supporting this chair is from the McKnight Brain Research Foundation. Dr. Cohen is leading a study funded by the McKnight Brain Research Foundation on successful cognitive aging. This study is designed to assess men and women over the age of 80 who are not experiencing significant memory loss or functional decline. Participants will undergo magnetic resonance imaging that will measure brain structure (FMRI). They will also complete some cognitive tests and will be paid for their participation. For more information, contact Taylor LeCorgne, tlecorgne@ufl.edu, 352.294.5844, or for specific questions, you may contact Dr. Cohen at atroncohen@ufl.edu.

Do you have a life cycle event you would like to share with our JCNCF community? Please submit items to chronicle@jcnf.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.
Sukkot
September 27, 28 & 29

Hoshanna Rabba
October 4

Shemini Atzeret
October 5

Simchat Torah

Ocala Congregations

Congregation Beth Israel ~ 7171 SW Hwy 200, 34476
352.450.2056 ~ www.bethisraelocala.org
Rabbi Karen Allen

Sunday, Oct 4  Sukkot Celebration 3 pm

Chabad Jewish Center of Marion County &
The Villages ~ 3500 SW 34th Avenue Circle, 34474
352.291.2218 ~ www.jewishmarion.org
Rabbi Yossi Hecht

Fri, Oct 2  Pizza in the Hut - Sukkot for Children - 3:30 pm
Mon, Oct 5  Simchat Torah Celebration with Service,
Hakafot, Buffet & L’Chaim - 7:30 pm
Tues, Oct 6  Children’s Simchat Torah Event - 5 pm
  Adults also welcome!

Temple Beth Shalom ~ 1109 NE 8th Avenue, 34470
352.629.5837 ~ www.jewishocala.com
Rabbi Ze’ev Harari

Mon, Oct 5  Sukkot Service & Yizkor - 10 am
  Simchat Torah Celebration & Dinner - 5:30 pm

Temple B’nai Darom ~ 49 Banyan Course, 34472
352.624.0380 ~ www.facebook.com/TempleBnaiDarom
Rabbi Harold Jaye

Gainesville Congregations

Congregation B’nai Israel ~ 3830 NW 16th Blvd, 32605
352.376.1508 ~ www.bnaigainesville.com
Rabbi David Kaiman

Sun, Oct 4  Hoshanna Rabba - 7 am
Mon, Oct 5  Shmini Atzeret/Yizkor - 9:30 am
  Mincha - 6 pm
  Simchat Torah - 6:30 pm
Tues, Oct 6  Simchat Torah - 9:30 am

Hillel at UF ~2020 W University Avenue, 32603
352.372.2900 ~ www.ufhillel.org
Rabbi Adam Grossman

Fri, Oct 2  Shabbat in the Sukkah
  Student Led Services - 6:30
  Dinner by Celebrations - 7:30

Tabacinic Lubavitch-Chabad Jewish Student &
Community Center ~ 2021 NW 5th Avenue, 32603
352.336.5877 ~ www.jewishgator.com
Rabbi Berl Goldman & Rabbi Aharon Chaim Notik

Wed, Sept 30  Sukkot Family Celebration, Music,
  BBQ and fun for everyone under the Sukkah - 5 to 7 pm
  Adults $10/Children/$7 Family $36/Sponsor$180
Sun, Oct 4  Shmini Atzeret Service, Hakafot,
  Dancing with the Torah, Dinner - 7:30 pm
Mon, Oct 5  Shmini Atzeret Morning Service - 10 am
  Yizkor, Mussaf, Kiddush 12:30 pm
  Grand Simchat Torah Celebration - Service, Buffet
  & L’chaim, flags and treats for kids - 8:30 pm
Tues, Oct 6  Service - 10am
  Hakafot, Kiddush, Mussaf - 12:30pm

Temple Shir Shalom ~ 3855 NW 8th Avenue, 32605
352.371.6399 ~ wwwshirshalom.net
Rabbi Michael Joseph

Sun, Sept 27  Sukkot Service & Potluck - 6:30pm
Sun, Oct 4  Simchat Torah Celebration - 6:30 pm

Save the Dates for Gainesville’s
Community Chanukah Events

JCNCF - Sunday, December 6 at 5 pm
CBI - Tuesday, December 8 at 6 pm
  PJ Library & Day School -
  Thursday, December 10 at 5:45 pm
TSS - Saturday, December 12 at 6 pm

Chabad & Hillel - day/time TBA
Jewish Community Calendar for October 2015

Wednesday, September 30
JCNCF Seniors in the Sukkah Brunch with Friendship Circle at Cong. B’nai Israel, 10:30 am - 12:30 pm

Sunday, October 4
CBI Sisterhood Member Lunch in the Sukkah, 12 pm
PJ Library Sukkot Outing to the Rogers Farm Fall Festival, 3-5 pm

Monday, October 5 - Shmini Atzeret
CBI & Day School, JCNCF & TSS offices are closed

Tuesday, October 6 - Simchat Torah
CBI & Day School, JCNCF offices are closed
No Torah Study at CBI or TSS
Temple Shir Shalom Sisterhood Board Meeting, 6:30 pm

Wednesday, October 7
Friendship Circle at Cong. B’nai Israel, 10:30 am to 1 pm
JCNCF Caregivers Support Group, 7 pm; for location and more information contact Lori Waxenberg at loribwax@gmail.com

Thursday, October 8
Cong. B’nai Israel Board Meeting, 6:30 pm

Friday, October 9
Superhero Family Shabbat Dinner at CBI, 5:30 pm
Sisterhood Pink Shabbat for Breast Cancer Month. Wear pink to honor survivors and victims at TSS, 7:30 pm

Sunday, October 11
Day School Moms’ Brunch out at Francesca’s, 10 am
New Moon Yoga at CBI, 6 pm
Samantha Dubrinsky Talk at Temple Shir Shalom, 7 pm

Tuesday, October 13
TSS Torah Study with Rabbi Joseph, 9:30 am
Torah on Tuesday with Rabbi David Kaiman at CBI, 12 pm
JCNCF Board Meeting at Temple Shir Shalom, 7 pm

Wednesday, October 14
Israel Bonds presents guest speaker Daniel Pipes, President of The Middle East Forum at CBI, 6 pm
Back to Basics Adult Ed Class with Rabbi Michael Joseph at Temple Shir Shalom, 7 pm

Friday, October 16
Friendship Circle at Cong. B’nai Israel, 10:30 am to 1:00 pm

Saturday, October 17
Alexa Katz Bat Mitzvah Celebration at TSS, 10:30 am

Sunday, October 18
CBI Men’s Club Meeting, 9:00 am
Blintzes, Bagels and Bingo - Sisterhood New Member Event at TSS, 9:30 - 11:30 am
Smart Conversations with 92nd Street Y at CBI, 7:30 pm

Tuesday, October 20
TSS Torah Study with Rabbi Joseph, 9:30 am
Torah on Tuesday with Rabbi David Kaiman at CBI, 12 pm
JCNCF Board Meeting at Temple Shir Shalom, 7 pm

Wednesday, October 21
Day School Parent Teacher Partnership Meeting, 8:30 am
Back to Basics Adult Ed Class with Rabbi Michael Joseph at Temple Shir Shalom, 7 pm
Young Couples’ Cooking Class at CBI, 7-9pm. RSVP required to 352.376.1508, ext 101.

Saturday, October 24
Alexander Kane Bar Mitzvah Celebration at TSS, 10:30 am

Saturday, October 31
Birthday Shabbat at CBI, 9:30 am

Tikkun Olam continued from page 1

Jill earned a degree in nursing and Scott studied dentistry and public health. They dated for seven years and have been married for 34. Scott’s pursuit of a Ph.D. in addition to his DMD took them to Ann Arbor, Michigan, for four years, and they then spent three years in San Francisco and two years in Atlanta, where Scott worked for the Center for Disease Control. Because her nursing degree allows employment wherever she goes, Jill has always worked, primarily in children’s hospitals as a pediatric intensive care nurse.

The Tomars have been in Gainesville for 15 years. During the school year, Jill is a school nurse, currently at Buchholz High School. During the summer, she "goes to camp." Jill has been a nurse for Camp Ramah Darom in Clayton, Georgia for 16 years. This year, she serves as their nurse consultant throughout the year, and assists in preparing for camper’s medical needs. Jill describes camp as her favorite time of the year, stating, "it's so easy to be Jewish at camp, because you live it throughout the day and week."

Jill and Scott have two sons, Josh, 29, who is married and works as a software engineer, and lives in Los Angeles, and Avi, 21, who is a senior in music education at Stetson University. Jill loves to cook and bake, as all who know her can attest. Jill enjoys exercising, and she and Scott both love to travel. Most of all, Jill states that her greatest happiness is time spent with her family.

The Gainesville Jewish community has been the beneficiary of Jill’s vast energy, creativity, and enthusiasm, and we are fortunate to have her in our midst.
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Save These Dates

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