Aliyah, Flight to Hope and Freedom

By Idan Peysahovich
Advisor, The Jewish Agency for Israel

Editors’ Note: In 1990, world Jewry, including the Jewish community of North Central Florida, raised nearly $1 billion in support of Operation Exodus. This mission airlifted and resettled nearly 1 million Jews fleeing the Former Soviet Union. Fourteen year old Idan Peysahovich and his family were one of the families flown to safety. He recently visited Gainesville and shared his story...

It was very cold day in December 1990, in a distant town in Siberia. Chanukah was about to begin.

I was a 14 year old teenager in a typical family of Russian Jews growing up in a provincial Soviet industrial center. My future and my family’s future looked very blurry and scary in those days. We all understood that the collapse of the Soviet Empire was just around the corner.

These days of Chanukah of 1990 I will remember always. Two young students came to celebrate Chanukah with our small and distant community lost in the snow of the Siberian plateau. One of the students was from Yeshiva University of New York and the other came from Hebrew University in Jerusalem. They were the first foreigners I ever saw, the first two Jews from “the outside world.” The meeting with them was a turning point for me and my family for generations to come.

What amazed me more than the Tikkun Olam with Alex and Beverly Sherman

By Dawn Burgess-Krop
JCNCF President

Whenever there is a Jewish community event, there is one diminutive person who always appears in the background, offering to help. And she means it! Since making Gainesville their home in 1991, Beverly and Alex Sherman have been stalwarts in our Jewish community, and Beverly will reliably slice a melon or clear a table.

Alex and Beverly just celebrated their 68th wedding anniversary! Arriving on Ohio State University campus from Cleveland as a freshman, Beverly was introduced to Alex, originally from Dayton. Alex was a graduate student studying physics while serving in the Naval Reserves in World War II. While serving in the navy, Alex was sent from a co-op at General Motors to Yale University for an undergraduate degree in mechanical engineering. After a courtship while attending OSU, they married after Beverly completed her second year of college.

Life for the Sherman family involved multiple moves for Alex’s jobs. Their first child, Stephen, was born in Chicago, and they lived in Buffalo before moving to Hartford, Connecticut, where Howard and Janet were born. There followed moves to the Washington, DC area before settling in Redlands, California.

After her children were older, Beverly returned to college and completed her education degree in 1970. While Alex worked as an engineer, she was able to secure teaching positions in Connecticut, DC, and California. She also sold SAVIN typewriters.

When a wise daughter-in-law suggested they should retire near one of their children, they chose Gainesville, home of daughter, Janet, as their final move. They have five grandchildren, two in Gainesville, with the remaining three in Colorado and Virginia. Alex and Beverly appreciated the atmosphere of Gainesville and immediately began their involvement with our community.

Alex offers that he became involved with United Jewish Appeal when he was in college. At that time, volunteers were given cards of people to solicit and he...
JCNCF Welcomes New Assistant Director

The Jewish Council of North Central Florida is pleased to announce the hiring of our new Assistant Director, William A. Alford Jr. William is a North Central Florida native and has a background in special events and nonprofit management. He is also a local Realtor with Berkshire Hathaway Home Services Trend Realty. William’s focus is community engagement and programs development. William will be the main point of contact for submission to The Chronicle and the weekly e-newsletter. William is a 2010 graduate of the University of Florida with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science.

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.
JCNCF Elects New Board Officers

The Jewish Council of North Central Florida recently hosted its Annual Campaign Kick-off reception at the home of Libby Brateman on Sunday, September 11. Featured speaker, Idan Peysahovich (third from the left in the photo at right), shared his personal journey out of the Former Soviet Union during Operation Exodus in the early 1990s (see his story on page 1). The group also honored Dawn Burgess-Krop (3rd from the right) for her service to the JCNCF Board, including her current tenure as President.

Over the summer, the Board of the Jewish Council voted in a slate of new officers. Dawn Burgess-Krop will continue as President, and Rosalie Bandyopadhyay, Adam Smith and Nadav Katz will serve as Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary, respectively.

Rosalie Bandyopadhyay returns to the Jewish Council Board as Vice-President. She was a founding member of JCNCF when the previous Gainesville Jewish Appeal transformed into the Jewish Council in 1999/2000. She served on the Board of Directors and two years as Secretary. Rosalie was Chair for six years from 2004 – 2009 for the Annual Fundraising Campaign.

Rosalie, her husband Bhaskar and daughters Reba and Sheila moved to Gainesville in 1980 from Syracuse, N.Y. They have been continuous members of Congregation B’nai Israel since their arrival and both daughters were Bat Mitzvahed at B’nai Israel and graduated from the synagogue’s Judaic High School. The family has now expanded in Gainesville to include son-in-law Nick Raines and granddaughter Miranda, a recent graduate of the B’nai Israel Community Day School.

Rosalie held numerous volunteer positions at B’nai Israel including serving on the Rabbi Search Committee, Religious School Committee and Chair of the Budget, Personnel and By-laws Committees. She was Treasurer, Vice-President and the first woman President of B’nai Israel.

Rosalie is the retired Executive Director of the Florida Diabetes Camps, a non-profit organization providing education and programs statewide for children with insulin dependent diabetes and their families. She is also active in the League of Women Voters and is a life member of Hadassah.

Adam Smith is JCNCF’s new Board Treasurer. He is a Visiting Professor at the Levin School of Law at the University of Florida. He teaches Individual Income Tax, Corporate Tax, and Federal Tax Research. Before joining the UF Law faculty, Adam worked for the I.R.S. Office of Chief Counsel, where he represented the Commissioner in various Tax Court proceedings and advised the I.R.S. on procedural and substantive tax matters.

Adam is also a C.P.A., with more than four years of public accounting experience in audit and real estate tax. His expertise includes financial and tax accounting, tax procedure, individual tax, corporate tax, partnership tax, and tax collection. He holds a J.D. and an LL.M. in Taxation from the University of Florida, and Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in accounting from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Adam is married to Tammy, who is a first year resident at the University of Florida College of Medicine. They are parents to Gila, who is in the “ones class” at the B’nai Israel Community Day School.

Nadav Katz is JCNCF’s new Board Secretary. He is an Assistant Director in accounting at the University of Florida. Originally from Jerusalem, he graduated from the University of Florida with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology, and a Master of Business Administration in 2014. In addition to his position at UF, Nadav has been involved in strengthening the Jewish community.

Prior to his appointment to the Jewish Council of North Central Florida, Nadav worked as a Hebrew instructor at Chavaya and continues to translate songs from English to Hebrew. Nadav enjoys reading, traveling and cooking with his fiancé, Alisha Kinman.

JCNCF welcomes new board members Jenna Backer Price and Anna Jordan
Aliyah, Flight to Hope and Freedom

(Continued from Page 1)

Chanukah celebration, is that those two young Jewish guys were very different from all of us living in Russia, they were free. I felt it so much, they were free to express themselves, free to feel pride about their Jewishness. They were for me people from a different reality, like a species from another planet. That day I made a deal with myself, I decided to start my journey to my freedom to feel connected with my history and heritage, to feel proud to be Jewish and live a positive and meaningful life.

In a little less than two years after this meeting, my family landed at Ben-Gurion airport with many others who made Aliyah to Israel as part of Operation Exodus that day. Aliyah to Israel for my family was not an easy step, but it was a very important one. I have no doubt that it will influence many generations to come.

Coming to Israel in my case was a reconnection to culture, tradition and history that most of the Jews of the FSU were detached from. The biggest gift of our Aliyah was a possibility of a better future for my family and for thousands and thousands of Jews from the FSU.

We grew up in Russia during a time when being Jewish reminded us of sad memories, from pogroms and oppression to antisemitism and restrictions, the list goes on and on. Fear was one of the key elements of our Jewish identity. In Israel, from the very first moment things changed dramatically. I could feel it everywhere in every breath I took, it was a place of hope and freedom. We began to gain positive Jewish experience, this is for me the most important transformation that I felt.

After years of living in Israel serving in the IDF and following my graduation from Tel Aviv University and years of working in different positions and places, I felt a strong passion to try and give back and help those Jews who were still in the FSU and other places who may need help.

This passion brought me to The Jewish Agency for Israel. I offered my help in the agency’s efforts to connect and educate Jews in the FSU about Israel and Jewish culture. Shortly thereafter I became an Israeli counselor sent to spend a summer in children's camps in the FSU organized by The Jewish Agency for Israel, where I discovered that, there are still thousands of Jewish kids, exactly in the same situation as I was right before my Aliyah to Israel. So, I wanted to share with them my journey and my experience. A few years after this I joined the Aliyah department of the Jewish agency focusing on direct work and assistance to Jews around the world who seek to make Israel their home.

During my work in the Aliyah department and later, as a senior representative of the Jewish Agency in many places throughout the FSU I had the privilege to help and assist many communities and individuals in their desire to reconnect with Israel and Jewish culture, but especially I feel proud of being able to help those who decided to make Aliyah.

Most Jewish communities today live in countries where they are safe and free. Still there are tens of thousands of Jews who live in a very risky and dangerous environment.

It was an honor and privilege to be a part of amazing efforts to save and assist Jewish communities around the world during difficult times and in the situations when help was a matter of life or death.

I believe that it is our obligation and responsibility to each other, as Jews, to come and help, especially to those of our fellows who live today in very difficult situations of physical danger threat to life. For many of them Aliyah to Israel means the beginning of their journey to freedom.

I know that, with our hard work within the Jewish Agency, together with Jewish communities worldwide we can save many Jewish lives and give them the two biggest gifts: hope and freedom.

Idan’s ancestors, Belarus 1932. All but two of the children perished in the Holocaust. One of the two who survived was Idan’s grandmother.

Idan (3rd from left) in school in Soviet Russia. Sign reads: USSR is your homeland.
Japan-Israel Deals Increasing

Japanese executives say they are increasingly drawn to investments in Israel, with the world price of oil dropping, and thus the influence of Arab oil suppliers shrinking. Bilateral trade between Israel and Japan has risen by 78% in the first seven months of 2016, making Japan Israel’s fourth-largest market in Asia. (Reuters)

Azerbaijan Trade Rises

Azerbaijan is now Israel’s closest Muslim ally, with Azerbaijan providing 40% of Israel’s oil, and Israel selling that country sophisticated arms, including missile systems and drones. Azerbaijan shares a 470-mile border with Iran. The majority population in both Azerbaijan and Iran is Shiite Muslim. Iran is not happy about the Israeli-Azerbaijan relationship. (Bloomberg News)

Israel in Brief: News and Developments

By Ralph Lowenstein

Short Memories

A recent story in the Jerusalem Post describes the difference between image and fact in regard to the reputation of the Netherlands as a staunch defender of Jewish refugees such as Anne Frank during World War II. Three-quarters of the 140,000 Jews in Holland were murdered in Nazi death camps. Although many Dutch people helped Jews, some Dutch SS volunteers participated in these mass killings. A recent poll showed that 38% of the Dutch population agreed that Israel is conducting a war of extermination against the Palestinians. The Labor Party, a junior partner in the current government of Holland, has promoted a parliamentary motion which might lead to sanctions against Israel.

Saved from the Ruble

During construction work near Al Aqsa Mosque on the Temple Mount in 1999, the Islamic Waqf (religious trust) left a large amount of debris outside the wall of the Mount. Shards in the debris, examined laboriously by Israeli archaeologists, turned out to be tiling from the Second Temple courtyard. Some 600 colored floor tile pieces were found, of which about 100 have been positively dated to the period of the Second Temple, which was destroyed by the Romans in 70 AD. The tiles went on public display in Jerusalem in September.

Druze Becoming Citizens

Some 30% of Druze residents in the village of Majdal Shams on the Golan Heights have elected to become citizens of Israel, and the residents of the other three major villages on the Heights seem to be following suit. They have apparently determined that their villages will not be turned over to Syria – and Israel is a far safer place. (Ha’aretz)

World Jewish Population

In 1939 there were 16.6 million Jews living throughout the world. One-third were killed in the Holocaust. According to Ynet News, the population numbers have still not returned to the 1939 level, with the 43% of the world’s current 14.31 million Jews (6.2 million) living in Israel and 40% (5.7 million) living in the United States. The next-largest Jewish populations are France, 467,000, Canada, 386,000, Britain, 290,000, Russia, 183,000, and Argentina, 181,000. Some 10% of France’s Jews have immigrated to Israel since 2000. In 1939, only 449,000 Jews lived in Palestine. When the state of Israel was declared in 1948, only 650,000 Jews were living there. Today, 98.6% of all Jews in the world live in just seven countries.

A week-long festival – Ozraeli – celebrating Australia and Israel’s friendship is now underway. Read the full story at Israel21c.com Photo credited to Michael Huri/KKL-JNF

Japan-Israel Deals Increasing

Japanese executives say they are increasingly drawn to investments in Israel, with the world price of oil dropping, and thus the influence of Arab oil suppliers shrinking. Bi-lateral trade between Israel and Japan has risen by 78% in the first seven months of 2016, making Japan Israel’s fourth-largest market in Asia. (Reuters)

Azerbaijan Trade Rises

Azerbaijan is now Israel’s closest Muslim ally, with Azerbaijan providing 40% of Israel’s oil, and Israel selling that country sophisticated arms, including missile systems and drones. Azerbaijan shares a 470-mile border with Iran. The majority population in both Azerbaijan and Iran is Shiite Muslim. Iran is not happy about the Israeli-Azerbaijan relationship. (Bloomberg News)
(Continued from Page 1)

went from door to door to ask people to contribute to Israel and world Jewry. Since this early experience, Beverly and Alex sought out the network connected with the Jewish Federation as soon as they arrived in a new city. Alex has served on numerous boards and was president of the board of what evolved into JCNCF with Beverly also serving on the JCNCF board for many years.

When asked about his lifelong commitment, Alex replied, "I just felt it was the right thing to do." He adds that at one point in time, the Jewish Federation was the only organization putting considerable energy and money toward assisting Russian Jews to leave the Soviet Union. As times have changed, the Shermans strongly support local programming as a means to encourage Jewish involvement in the larger community.

Beverly is not one to let grass grow under her feet. Hadassah has been a lifelong commitment for Beverly and she is currently responsible for Rosh Chodesh, a monthly educational program. Beverly and Alex also practiced the Jewish virtue of welcoming the stranger through participation in the Jewish Newcomers group, originally founded by Roz and Phil Slater and Linda Stuart.

A decade ago, Alex, as president of JCNCF, and Beverly, as Hadassah member, were honored to represent the Gainesville community in Israel, with a plaque being placed on the wall of a new section of Hadassah Hospital. Beverly and Alex have served our community long and well and we thank them for their knowledge and kindness (and always offering to help!).

Healing the World in a Mitzvah Minute

*Mitzvah Minute are mitzvot you can perform in your daily life while improving the life of someone else!*

JCNCF’s annual Mitzvah Day is scheduled for Sunday November 20 and that means it’s time to clean out your closets! Now is a great time to get rid of clothing and household good you no longer need while doing a mitzvah too! JCNCF distributes donated items to many local organizations. For example, clothing goes to Displaced Homemakers, Tacachale, ARC and many others. In the past CDS Behavioral Services and Peaceful Paths have received household goods.

JCNCF is collecting items for Mitzvah Day now. Donation bins have been set up at Cong. B’nai Israel and Temple Shir Shalom. For more information about what items are needed or to make a donation, please contact the JCNCF office at 352.371.3846 or email office@jcncf.org.
Cong. Beth Israel and Temple B’nai Darom of Ocala Merge

By Mary Chang
Vice President Temple Beth Darom

Bonds forged while working together on a project can sometimes lead to other endeavors. And this is definitely the case with the merger of Ocala’s Congregation Beth Israel and Temple B’nai Darom. At an event five years ago, leaders of both groups, including their respective presidents, worked together harmoniously, prompting the idea that a coming together of their congregations, whose Sisterhods had already merged, would be mutually beneficial.

This past spring, with both boards’ approval, a merger committee was formed to investigate the idea and come forward with proposals for implementation. With a list of items that we felt would be important to resolve we met. There was an immediate bonding and sense that our two groups could work together congenially. We were able to go down our list in one meeting and generally agree on all items. A new name was chosen, taking one part from each Congregation and Temple Beth Darom, House of the South, was born. Our congregations agreed and overwhelmingly passed the merger agreement.

Our plans include selling the property at Temple B’nai Darom and relocating somewhere in the southwest highway 200 corridor. As both groups have a ‘part time’ spiritual leader we will continue with services every week being led by either of our two leaders, Rabbi Harold Jaye or Karen Allen, according to the schedule that they currently follow. Members will be able to attend services every week with lay leaders filling in as needed. Until the sale of the property of Temple B’nai Darom occurs, groups will continue services in the building where they currently hold those services. This will commence after the High Holy Days in October this year. At this point we will continue to incorporate both Reform and Reconstructionist teachings depending on which spiritual leader is performing the service.

As time passes, we will merge other functions into our new congregation. Bylaws and officers have been set; finances and budgets have been agreed upon and fundraising events are in the works. Our Sisterhood has new co-presidents, Elaine Morrison and Florence Shiner, and a full agenda of interesting events for the coming year.

This exciting first step to bring Ocala’s Jewish community closer has long been the dream of both Congregations’ presidents, Mary Chang and Bob Levenson. We all look forward to many years worshipping together and all the new and exciting plans that will develop!
Gainesville Congregations

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

Sun, Oct 2
Cemetery Memorial - 1 pm
Erev RH Service - 8 pm

Mon, Oct 3
RH Morning I - 8 am
Circle Minyan - 9:15 am
Tashlitch - 6:15 pm
Minhah - Maariv - 7 pm

Tues, Oct 4
RH Morning II - 8 am
Minhah & Maariv - 6 pm

Tue, Oct 11
Kol Nidre - 6:45 p.m

Wed, Oct 12
YK Morning Service - 8 am
Circle Minyan Service - 9:15 am
Minhah - 5:30 pm
Neilah - 7 pm

Mon, Oct 17
Sukkot 1 - 9:30 am

Tue, Oct 18
Sukkot 2 - 9:30 am

Sun, Oct 23
Hoshanah Rabbah - 8 am

Mon, Oct 24
Shmini Atzeret - 9:30 am
Yizkor Mincha - 6 pm
Simchat Torah - 6:30 pm

Tue, Oct 25
Simchat Torah - 9:30 am

Hillel at UF ~ Rabbi Adam Grossman
2021 W University Avenue, 32603 ~ 352.372.2900
www.ufhillel.org

Join us for Erev Rosh Hashanah and/or Rosh Hashanah day services at UF Hillel. Traditional services will be led by song leader, Jackie Brenner and Alternative services will be led by song leader, Julia Sabra. Celebrate the New Year with dinner following services on Erev Rosh Hashanah and brunch on Rosh Hashanah day.

Sun, Oct 2
Services 7 - 8 pm
Dinner - 8 - 10 pm

Mon, Oct 3
Services 10:30 - 12 pm
Brunch - 12 - 1 pm

Tue, Oct 11
Pre-YK Dinner - 6 - 7:30 pm
Erev YK Services 7 - 9 pm

Wed, Oct 12
YK Morning Services 10:30 am - 12 pm
YK Neilah 6 - 7:00 pm
YK Neilah Break The Fast 7 - 8 pm

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

Sun, Oct 2
Tashlitch with Religious School - 11 am
RH Evening Service - 8 pm

Mon, Oct 3
RH Service - 10 am
RH Nosh - 12:30 pm
RH Family Service - 1:30 pm

Sun, Oct 9
Cemetery Memorial Service - 11 am

Tue, Oct 11
YK Evening Service - 8 pm

Wed, Oct 12
YK morning service - 10 am
YK Family Service - 1:30 pm
YK Afternoon Service - 3:30 pm
YK Yizkor Service - 4:30 pm
YK Concluding Service - 5:30 pm

Sun, Oct 16
Sukkot Service and Potluck - 6:30 pm

Sun, Oct 23
Simchat Torah Celebration - 6:30 pm

Yamim Noraim 5777

Rosh Hashanah ~ October 3 & 4

Yom Kippur ~ October 12

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

Sun, Oct 2
Candle Lighting 6:55 pm
Erev RH Service & Holiday Dinner - 7:30 pm

Mon, Oct 3
RH Morning Service - 10 am
Shofar Blowing, Mussaf, Lunch - 12:30 pm
Student & Family Tashlitch at Lake Alice - 5:30 pm
Candle Lighting after 7:47 pm
RH Evening Service & Holiday Dinner - 8 pm

Tue, Oct 4
RH Morning Service - 10 am
Shofar Blowing, Mussaf, Lunch - 12:30 pm
Holiday Ends 7:46 pm

Tue, Oct 11
Candle Lighting - 6:45 pm
Fast Begins - 6:45 pm
Kol Nidrei and Evening Service - 7 pm

Wed, Oct 12
Shcharat Morning Service - 10 am
Yizkor followed by Mussaf - 12:30 pm
Mincha Afternoon Service - 5:30 pm
Neilah Closing Service - 6:30 pm
Napoleon’s March - 7:37 pm
YK and Fast Ends - 7:45 pm

Sun, Oct 16
Evening Service followed by dinner - 7:30 pm

Mon, Oct 17
Morning Service followed by Mussaf and Kiddush Lunch in the Sukkah - 10 am
Candle Lighting after 7:32 pm
Evening Service followed by dinner - 8 pm

Tue, Oct 18
Morning Service followed by Mussaf and Kiddush Lunch in the Sukkah - 10 am
Holiday Ends - 7:31 pm
Sukkot Family Celebration with Kosher BBQ, music and entertainment - 5 - 7 pm
(Adult $10, Children $8, Families $36)
Candle Lighting - 6:32 pm

Sun, Oct 23
Evening Service followed by Hakafot and dinner - 7:30 pm

Mon, Oct 24
Morning Service - 10 am
Yizkor Service followed by Mussaf and Kiddush Lunch - 12:30 pm
Candle Lighting after 7:25 pm
Evening Service and Hakafot - 7:30 pm - 12 am
Morning Service - 10:30 am

Tue, Oct 25
Hakafot, Mussaf and Kiddish Lunch - 12:30 pm
## Sukkot ~ October 17 & 18

## Shemini Atzeret ~ October 24

## Simchat Torah ~ October 25

### Ocala Congregations

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sun, Oct 2</td>
<td>Erev RH Service - 7:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon, Oct 3</td>
<td>Morning Service - 10 am, with lunch at Stone Creek Grill, followed by Tashlich at Shalom Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues, Oct 11</td>
<td>Kol Nidre - 7:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed, Oct 12</td>
<td>YK Morning Service - 10 am, Afternoon Study Session - 4 pm, Yizkor Memorial Service - 4:30 pm, Neilah Service, followed by a covered-dish Break the Fast - 5 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sun, Oct 2</td>
<td>Erev Rosh Hashanah - 7:30 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon, Oct 3</td>
<td>Rosh Hashanah Day 1 - 9:30 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue, Oct 4</td>
<td>Rosh Hashanah Day 2 - 9:30 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue, Oct 11</td>
<td>Erev Yom Kippur &amp; Kol Nidre - 7 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed, Oct 12</td>
<td>Yom Kippur Morning - 9:30 AM, Afternoon Service &amp; Yizkor - 4 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri, Oct 21</td>
<td>Services, Kiddush in the Sukkah - 7:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun, Oct 23</td>
<td>Simchat Torah Service - 6:30 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sun, Oct 2</td>
<td>Erev RH Service - 7:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon, Oct 3</td>
<td>RH Morning Service - 10 am, Torah Reading - 11:45 am, Shofar Blowing &amp; Kiddush to follow 12:15 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue, Oct 4</td>
<td>RH Service - 7 pm, Dinner, RSVP required - 8 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue, Oct 11</td>
<td>Kol Nidre - 6:45 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed, Oct 12</td>
<td>YK Morning Service - 10 am, Torah Reading - 12:30 pm, Yizkor Service - 1 pm, Mincha - 5:30 pm, Neilah - 6:30 pm, Refreshments and Breaking the fast - 7:37 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Chabad Jewish Center of Marion County & The Villages Center for Jewish Life and Learning ~ Rabbi Yossi & Chanie Hecht**  
13030 CR 103, 34484 ~ 352.291.2218  
www.jewishmarion.org

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sun, Oct 2</td>
<td>Erev RH Service - 7 pm, Dinner, RSVP required - 8 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon, Oct 3</td>
<td>RH Morning Service - 10 am, Torah Reading - 11:45 am, Shofar Blowing &amp; Kiddush to follow 12:15 pm, Tashlich Service at the pond alongside Walmart on CR 446- 4 pm, RH Service 7pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue, Oct 4</td>
<td>RH Service - 7 pm, Dinner, RSVP required - 8 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue, Oct 11</td>
<td>Kol Nidre - 6:45 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed, Oct 12</td>
<td>YK Morning Service - 10 am, Torah Reading - 12:30 pm, Yizkor Service - 1 pm, Mincha - 5:30 pm, Neilah - 6:30 pm, Refreshments and Breaking the fast - 7:37 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Simchat Torah Eve ~ October 25**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sun, Oct 16</td>
<td>Sukkot Eve - 7:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun, Oct 23</td>
<td>Atzeret-Simchat Torah Eve - 7:30 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Giving & Receiving Care: Conversations on Aging

By Rabbi Michael Joseph
Temple Shir Shalom

Temple Shir Shalom members and friends responded with interest and enthusiasm to the opportunity to learn and speak about the realities of aging that was offered to them by the Giving and Receiving Care program held over the weekend of September 16, 17 and 18.

The weekend program began with a special Shabbat sermon on Friday evening by TSS Rabbi Michael Joseph. Rabbi Joseph pointed out in his talk the lack of discussion between generations about aging. “Seniors brag or complain to each other about the support they do or do not receive from their adult children,” Rabbi Joseph said, “and adult children complain to each other about their ‘sandwich generation’ burdens—but there is little talk between generations beyond the logistics of doctor visits.” The overall goal of the weekend program, Rabbi Joseph said, “is to foster conversation between generations, and to help us remember that the young, the old, and the in-between all have roles to play in caring for each other.”

For the Saturday afternoon component of the weekend program, over seventy participants filled beyond capacity the Acorn Room at Oak Hammock to hear a talk by Dr. Steven DeKoskey, interim director of the McKnight Brain Institute at the University of Florida and renowned expert on Alzheimer’s Disease. Dr. DeKoskey’s talked focused on an issue that has worried everyone over a certain age: which cognitive age-related changes are normal and which are not; or, in other words, when I keep misplacing my cell phone does it mean I am becoming senile? Dr. DeKoskey’s message was one of hope and even wonder, stressing recent research into the strong adaptability of the aging brain. People who are aging in normal health, he stressed, can perform all the mental tasks of a much younger person, albeit more slowly. And, he said, the most important “medicine” to insure healthy aging is continued learning and social engagement, items that are widely available at low cost without a prescription.

On Sunday morning, parents and grandparents, along with their young students, crowded the Sanctuary and classrooms of Temple Shir Shalom for round-table intergenerational conversations on aging, each group facilitated by mental health professionals from the congregation. People from age 5 to 95 spoke about the pluses and minuses of growing older, their hopes and fears about growing older, the ways they could help each other. Nancy Kanter, one of the group leaders, commented afterwards that participants of every age were hungry to feel that their voices were being heard, and that this was just what the weekend program offered—an opportunity to speak and be heard.

Temple Shir Shalom Welcomes New Religious School Director

The Temple Board and Religious School Committee are proud to announce that Ross Van Boven has been hired to lead our Religious School. Ross is entering his 10th year as a professional educator, having taught at the elementary (K-5) level and in middle grades. A three-time graduate from the University of Florida with a Bachelors in Education, Masters in Elementary Education, and a Doctoral degree in Curriculum and Instruction, Ross is passionate about working together with students, families, and other educators to improve learning for all students. His particular interests are in gifted/talented education, differentiated instruction, and curriculum design. Ross has resided in the Gainesville community since 2002, living with his wife Andrea and two children Hana and Owen.
The Chronicl
Elul, 5776 - Tishrei, 5777

B’nai Day School Moving and Grooving in the New Year

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

Our new school year kicked off over a month ago. Children and families have settled in and we have already held a “Back to School Night” and a “Mom’s Brunch Out” at Francesca’s Trattoria. Since the new school year is underway we thought we’d catch you up on what’s new at the day school this year.

We were excited to attend the JCNCF session on security a couple of weeks ago with the Gainesville Police Department and are happy to tell you all the plans they suggested we already have in place. We have had Alachua County Sheriffs Office come do a security check and security training twice in the last two years as well as GPD coming out doing the same training. They have done a special training for our staff and additionally, several of our staff have also gone through personal defense training with ACSO. We also installed a new security system and continue to have a staff committee that monitors our grounds on a monthly basis. We hope we never need to use any of those measures but we feel confident we are providing a fun and SAFE learning environment to our families.

Also new this year, we have expanded our gardening program to include a worm farm and a butterfly bus. We continue to have an extensive herb garden (we just made basil pesto with the classes today as I write this article), and a vegetable garden, a citrus orchard with nine citrus trees, a fruit tree area with apple, fig, pomegranate and olive trees and blueberry bushes. And, of course, we have chickens!

If you’d like to keep up with what’s happening in Jewish early childhood education in our community, we have a very active Facebook page, a Twitter page and several Pinterest boards. We share photos of what’s happening at school, as well as, early childhood education articles, Jewish education articles and fun things happening in the Jewish community around the globe. Check us out!

CBI Welcomes New Coordinator of Jewish Learning

Hi, my name is Shauna Sikron and I am very excited to join Congregation B’nai Israel as the new Coordinator for Jewish Learning. From both a personal and a professional standpoint, I have been committed to the development of Jewish life and learning for many years. Having grown up in a secular Jewish family in St. Augustine’s dwindling Jewish community, Judaism struck me as both a familiar pillar, as well as, a distant entity. My identity as a Jew was strong, but I grew up longing for a community to inhabit the deep values of my Jewish culture.

After graduation from the University of Florida with a degree in Anthropology, I traveled to Israel where I eventually made aliyah and lived for several years in the Negev. I worked for an Israeli non-profit that settled college students in peripheral communities and later on a goat farm where I cultivated a love of baking and cheese. After some time, I enrolled in Ben Gurion University to student Zionist development in the Negev. While studying, I volunteered and later worked as an English tutor in a high school for several years. I discovered that I loved being an educator, especially in a Jewish context. The Jewish calendar and community influences every subject taught in Israel and I am so happy to be joining a congregation where this can be felt as well.

Last year, together with my beloved husband, Itamar, and dog, Sharona, I returned to Florida with the hope of continuing my passion for Jewish learning a little closer to home. It is with great gratitude that I take on my new role at B’nai Israel and I look forward to meeting everyone as we begin this bright new year.
“L’dor vador: One Dress, Many Brides”

By Meredith Bacharach & Avigail Ruth Bacharach Short

This story begins in Baltimore, Maryland in 1931. Sarah Rombro Ribakow’s oldest daughter, Beatrice, was engaged to be married in 1932. Sarah took upon the loving task of making a wedding dress for the joyful occasion. Most young women of that generation had been taught to make lace by hand. Sarah, who is remembered for her fearlessness in all matters, began to hand lace a dress for her daughter, “Bea.” One afternoon, during one of her many visits to help a less fortunate member of the Jewish community, Sarah was very seriously injured in a trolley car accident, requiring total bed rest.

Sarah was revered for her tenacity of spirit and dedication to helping others. Her renown as a community organizer in the Baltimore Jewish community would become one of her legacies. The Sarah Ribakow/Tikvah Chapter of Amit Women bears her name to this day. Sarah’s network of friends, many of whom she had mobilized to volunteer, shared her dedication to the fulfillment of mitzvot (commandments) and tzedakah (justice, righteousness). This strong community of women, brought together by their shared desire to take Jewish communal action to help the needy, stepped forward to help Sarah complete her daughter’s wedding dress. The women took turns visiting her as she convalesced - hand making lace with her at each visit. The soon to be wedding dress, intricately laced with the help and expertise of these loving women, became a beautiful expression of their respect and love for Sarah.

Sarah recovered and was able to celebrate the wedding of her daughter, Beatrice, in 1932. Her two other daughters, Toba and Maxine, chose to wear the same lovingly constructed wedding dress that their older sister had worn. A tradition was born! From 1932 through 2016, ten family brides have celebrated their betrothals wearing a dress that represents a rich cultural and family heritage. The dress is exquisite. Each woman’s lace work is distinct - the pieces complement and strengthen each other - much like the women themselves. Sarah Ribakow and her friends could not have known that they were creating a symbol of chesed, of loving kindness, that would endure for so many years!

Mazel tov to the family’s most recent bride, Avigail Ruth Bacharach Short! L’dor vador!

Avigail Ruth Bacharach, great-granddaughter of Sarah Ribakow, daughter of Albert and Meredith Bacharach, with husband, Brad Short, in Chattanooga, Tennessee, on their wedding day, September 4, 2016.
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@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.

Shalom, Babies!
Mazel tov to...
Alexis and Bartley Morrisroe and grandparents Marcia and Henry (Hank) Storch on the birth of Jacob Evan!

Rabbi Yossi and Chanie Hecht on the birth of Chaya Mushka!

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

Sue Amar, Wife of Al Amar
Mother of Robert (Shana) and Grandmother to Jacob and Evan

Gertrude Hecht Block,
Wife of Seymour Block, z”l

Joan Cullman-Rosov,
Wife of Theodore Rosov

Arlene Greer

Sherman Klausner,
Husband of Adria Klausner

June Mester,
Mother of Cheryl, Debbie, Laura and Mark

Norman Stoller,
Brother of Elaine Kaplan

Kenneth Slovin,
Brother of Cindy Dern

Mazel tov to Jeffrey Morris, son of Jon and Leah Morris, who is currently serving as a Peace Corps volunteer in Linden, Guyana. He works as a teacher and counselor in a small impoverished town in Region 10. Jeffrey works to provide literacy instruction in a country with some of the highest illiteracy rates in the world. He is currently undertaking the massive project of developing a fully functioning library to assist the children and the teachers with literacy instruction. He hopes to share the joys of reading with these children!

As a volunteer, Jeffrey mostly relies on community donations which are sparse. He is asking for the support of the North Central Florida Jewish community to help in collecting books for grades 1 through 5. He also needs funds to cover the shipping of the books to Guyana which is expensive.

Any financial or material donation is much appreciated and could help change the life of a child in need. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jon or Leah Morris at 352.376.3737

Mazel Tov to Logan Locascio on being named a National Merit Scholarship semifinalist! Logan is the son of Dave and Patti Locascio and big brother to Leah Locascio pictured here with him.

Mazel Tov to Logan Locascio on being named a National Merit Scholarship semifinalist! Logan is the son of Dave and Patti Locascio and big brother to Leah Locascio pictured here with him.

Chaya Mushka Hecht

Jacob Evan Morrisroe

Mazel Tov to Logan Locascio on being named a National Merit Scholarship semifinalist! Logan is the son of Dave and Patti Locascio and big brother to Leah Locascio pictured here with him.
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 Kugelman, 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**
*at the University of Florida (LIB)*
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 Student & Community Center (LCJC)**
Rabbi Berl & Chanie Goldman, Directors
Rabbi Aharon Chaim & Pessie Nottik, 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 Marion County & The Villages (CLJC)**
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, 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, 34470
352.629.5837

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

---

Get in the Mitzvah Day spirit by participating in our t-shirt design contest! Original artwork should express the theme of:

**Make Every Day a Mitzvah Day**

All designs must be submitted by 5 pm on Monday, October 31.

Visit www.jcncf.org for full contest details.

---

**Sunday, November 20**

Save the date for JCNCF’s 8th Annual Community Mitzvah Day!

Get in the Mitzvah Day spirit by participating in our t-shirt design contest! Original artwork should express the theme of:

**Make Every Day a Mitzvah Day**

All designs must be submitted by 5 pm on Monday, October 31.

Visit www.jcncf.org for full contest details.
Jewish Community Calendar for October 2016

Please note that the JCNCF Office will be closed Monday, October 3, Tuesday, October 4 and Wednesday, October 12 in observance of Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur. We will also be closed Monday, October 17, Tuesday, October 18, Monday, October 24 and Tuesday, October 25 during Sukkot

Rosh Hashanah October 3 & 4
Tuesday, October 4
- Torah Study with Rabbi Joseph at TSS, 9:30 am (Repeated Oct 18, 20 & 25, NO Torah Study on Oct 11)
- Torah on Tuesday Rabbi Kaiman at CBI, 12pm will only be held on Oct 11
- Buffet Night at Café Chabad, 6 to 7:30 pm (each Tue night)

Wednesday, October 5
- Friendship Circle at CBI, 10:30 am to 1 pm (Repeated Oct 19, NO Friendship Circle on Oct 12)
- CBI Lev Tov at St. Francis House, 5:30 pm (also Oct 19)
- Hebrew with Yossi at B’nai Israel, 6:30 pm (Repeated every Wednesday)
- JCNCF Caregivers’ Support Group, 7 pm; Contact Lori Waxenberg at loribwax@gmail.com prior to attending.
- Hebrew Reading Crash Course at Chabad, 8 pm. $65, free for UF and SFC students.

Thursday, October 6
- Social Dancing at B’nai Israel, 6 pm (Repeated Oct 13, 20, & 27)

Friday, October 7
- Yiddish Chavurah at CBI, 9:30 am (Repeated every Friday)

Sunday, October 9
- Jewish Youth Zone: Monthly Enrichment Program, at Lubavitch-Chabad Student & Community Center 2 to 3:30 pm

Yom Kippur, October 12

Sukkot, October 17 & 18
Sunday, October 23
- Cong. B’nai Israel Sisterhood in the Sukkah, 12 to 1 pm
- Cong. B’nai Israel Daisy/ Brownie Meeting Troop Meeting 1:30 to 2:30 pm

Thursday, October 27
- Cong. B’nai Israel, Jewish Food: What is it?, 6:30 to 7:30 pm

Shemini Atzeret, October 24
Simchat Torah, October 25
Sunday, October 30
- Temple Beth Darom, “You Don’t Have to Be Jewish...” A comedy performed by The Yiddish Rascals, 2 pm. Contact Shelly Lebowitz at 3542.964.3655 for more information and tickets which are $12.

Please note that the JCNCF Office will be closed Monday, October 3, Tuesday, October 4 and Wednesday, October 12 in observance of Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur. We will also be closed Monday, October 17, Tuesday, October 18, Monday, October 24 and Tuesday, October 25 during Sukkot
In This Issue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flight to Hope and Freedom</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Ocala Congregations Merge</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tikkun Olam</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>October Holiday Schedule</td>
<td>8-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Assistant Director at JCNCF</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Giving &amp; Receiving Care</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JCNCF Elects New Officers</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>B’nai Day School Update</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flight to Hope and Freedom cont.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>One Dress, Many Brides</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Israel In Brief</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Transitions</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tikkun Olam continued</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>October Community Calendar</td>
<td>15</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>October 5, 7 pm</td>
<td>Caregivers Support Group</td>
<td>TSS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 27, 2:30 pm</td>
<td>Helping Hands Clinic Dinner</td>
<td>First United Methodist Church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 20, 9 to 12 pm</td>
<td>Mitzvah Day</td>
<td>TSS, CBI &amp; Chabad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 4, 7 pm</td>
<td>Israeli Consul General Visit</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>