By Marcia Baron
Glaser Musciworks

The Jewish community of North Central Florida will host a series of special pre-holiday musical events the weekend of Friday, September 23 through Sunday, September 25. Recording artist Sam Glaser, an award-winning Los Angeles-based composer and performer of contemporary Jewish music, will be leading a High Holiday warm-up Shabbaton sponsored by the B’nai Israel Community Day School, Congregation B’nai Israel, JCNCF, PJ Library and Temple Shir Shalom.

The Shabbaton will kick off with a pre-Shabbat family musical program which will take place at the B’nai Israel Community Day School, (3830 NW 16 Blvd, Gainesville, FL 32605) on Friday, September 23 from 4:30 to 5:30 pm. After Shabbat there will be Havdalah with Sam followed by dessert and a Selichot learning program that will take place in Congregation B’nai Israel’s social hall on Saturday, September 24 from 8 to 9:30 pm.

The Shabbaton culminates in a community religious school concert to take place at Temple Shir Shalom, (3855 NW 8th Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32605), on Sunday, September 25 from 10 to 11 am. All programs are free and open to the community. For more information about these events, please contact Debby Kinman-Ford at 352.376.1508 or debby@bnaigainesville.com.

Our Community Says Farewell to Frank Towers

By Ken Wald
JCNCF Yom HaShoah Committee

Like many of the Greatest Generation, Frank Towers was a silent hero. For years, he did not speak publicly of his part in the rescue of a trainload of Jews bound for the extermination camps near the end of the second World War. Not until decades later, when the child of a woman on that train contacted him, did Frank let on about his role as a savior.

Even when he broke his silence, Frank did not call attention to himself. The focus was always on those who he rescued, their lives, their futures, their hopes. Or he talked about what could possibly prompt humanity, if one can use that term to refer to the Nazi authorities, to treat other human beings with such wanton cruelty.

That modesty extended to his volunteer work as a historian at Camp Blanding. Every email he sent me trumpeted the glory of the Army’s 30th Infantry Division, not himself, and ended with the signoff, “Yours in Old Hickory Friendship.”

I only heard Frank describe his own actions when he was speaking to audiences about the importance of standing up for what was right. Those audiences usually comprised students who he believed needed to be taught their responsibility to confront evil. Those who attended the annual Holocaust commemoration in Gainesville may remember hearing that message as well when he was the guest speaker in 2012.

Frank was one of the regular candle lighters at the Yom HaShoah ceremony, chosen to represent the liberators who deserved our respect and gratitude. He always showed up promptly, usually the first to arrive, and walked across the stage with military bearing.

At the end of the ceremony, I customarily shook his hand and thanked him for his participation in the event and in the rescue of my fellow Jews. He always returned the thanks vigorously, wordlessly telling me of his gratitude that we understood and embraced his message.

Frank died, fittingly, on July 4th. He is and will be missed.

(Continued on Page 12)
By Dawn Burgess-Krop

JCNCF, indeed, our entire Jewish community owes a debt of gratitude to Heath Lynn Silberfeld for her membership on our board and service as JCNCF secretary for three years. Heath’s expertise as an editor proved invaluable to JCNCF on many levels. With her characteristic diligence, Heath kept business moving along with gentle nudging, made sure our community was notified of the loss of a beloved member, and was unfailingly committed to our JCNCF mission.

Heath spearheaded important projects that led to JCNCF becoming stronger and more responsive to our community needs. She was always there to volunteer and encourage others to follow her example. Did you know she also makes a mean guacamole? We have long appreciated her many talents and will aspire to maintain her expectations of excellence. Todah raba, Heath.

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**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.

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**The Chronicle**

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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.

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

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.

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

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JCNCF Community Grants Impact Locally

By Sharon Hirshik
Chair, JCNCF Grants Committee

The JCNCF Grants Committee is the contact for community grants requests. We receive each request in a prescribed format as part of our determination of the cost/benefit of each request. We take the responsibility of being good stewards of our donors’ money very seriously. After we receive grant requests from local organizations, we spend several months carefully reviewing them. We must decide if we will advise the board to fund a particular grant request and how much of that request we want to fund. We encourage all the organizations requesting grants, to seek additional funding from other sources. The Grants Committee then presents the recommendations to the JCNCF Board. The board members may vote to accept the committee’s recommendations or, after thoughtful discussion, decide to make modifications to the recommendations. A vote is taken and the Grants Committee notifies the organizations of the board decisions.

This year, JCNCF was pleased to award funds to Congregation B’nai Israel, Temple Shir Shalom and the Center for Jewish Studies at the University of Florida. The grant requests that they submitted for consideration were innovative, culturally significant and open to the public; important considerations for the Grants Committee. Additionally, the programs support the mission of JCNCF.

Congregation B’nai Israel’s program as described by Jenifer Petrescu, Executive Director, is sure to be fun for the whole family! “It is a well-known fact that the Jewish community comes together, especially when there is delicious food involved. Our goal is to bring a little piece of the New York Deli to Gainesville! It will be a food lover’s dream! Pastrami will be featured on the mouth-watering menu along with corned beef, knishes, stuffed cabbage, matzo ball soup, kosher hot dogs, falafel plates, and other traditional Jewish style eats — but make sure to save room for delicious parve desserts direct from New York along with other delicacies imported and available for take out! Of course you’ll also find bagels, shmear, lox and more!”

Rabbi Michael Joseph of Temple Shir Shalom speaks of the background information that encouraged him to request his grant, “During the summer 2014 trip to Atlanta for teenagers and parents that was co-sponsored by Temple Shir Shalom and the JCNCF, participants experienced an installation at the Breman Museum that told the story of Jews in Atlanta “through 18 artifacts.” The installation modeled an innovative way to learn history that was as interesting to our teenagers as to our parents. We had budgeted very little time to this museum; we ended up staying much longer than planned. For this grant, Temple Shir Shalom is asking for funds to create a similar exhibit focusing on the Jewish history of Gainesville and north central Florida, albeit on a smaller scale. This project will be managed by Rabbi Joseph, enlisting the talents and energies particularly of our local Jewish teenagers.”

The Center for Jewish Studies program “is intended to help promote coexistence among Jewish and Muslim students”, says Jack Kugelmas, Director of the Center for Jewish Studies. Jack asked JCNCF “to help fund a concert of Jewish and Arab music, tentatively called Playing for Peace 2... we feel strongly that in the face of a seemingly intractable Israeli/Palestinian conflict, campuses have become difficult terrain for Jewish students and that many students would welcome an opportunity to express their desire to see an end to this conflict. Given the important part that Jews have played in music through much of the Middle East, bringing Jews and Arabs to experience that cultural synergy may go a long way towards fostering a less conflictual and more peaceful perspective on the history of relations between the two groups.” JCNCF grants have helped to support these three special programs, bringing enrichment and pleasure to the entire community. We have a lot to look forward to this year. See you there!
Tikkun Olam with Mitzvah Makers

By Dawn Burgess-Krop
JCNCF President

Did you know there is a secret organization in our Jewish community? They have been anonymous before there was an Anonymous. The group has been meeting secretly for 25 years and no one knows who they are or what they do. In the last few years, their cover has been blown, and The Chronicle is here for the exposé.

This secret group is a collection of women who call themselves "Mitzvah Makers." The concept for the group was formulated by Charna Cohn when she was the director of the Information and Referral Service, then a United Way agency. In her capacity, Charna would attempt to locate services and referrals for people with a wide range of needs. She found that she too often encountered individuals who were experiencing life crises and needs which did not fit within the capacity of the various social services agencies to fill. There were many people who were one crisis away from being homeless or unable to obtain critical needs.

Charna is never one to be complacent with unsolved problems, so she reached out to a friend and social worker, Bonnie Cooper, and together, they brought the problem to their Rosh Chodesh group and the birth of Mitzvah Makers resulted. Barbara Oberlander has served tirelessly for countless years as the secretary for Mitzvah Makers and corresponds with agencies and chronicles the contributions.

In its initial phase, Mitzvah Makers involved women of the Rosh Chodesh group, and they met on alternating months to contribute $25.00 each. Mitzvah Makers now includes some non-Jewish community members, and other organizations have followed their example. Although the group has expanded and evolved and the contribution amount has changed over the span of 25 years, the concept has remained largely intact.

Mitzvah Makers works anonymously with social services agencies in Alachua County and solicits cases where they can offer help. The group rotates members who serve as the "social worker" of the month, and reach out to a wide variety of agencies in Alachua County. The agencies identify cases that meet the criteria for Mitzvah Makers and the "social worker" compiles a list for consideration by the membership. Serious discussion is involved in identifying the most pressing needs and dividing up the funds available and group consensus is reached.

Criteria for Mitzvah Makers requires that the donation meets a one-time need. Mitzvah Makers does not pay rent or utilities, but the range of needs they have fulfilled is vast. Mitzvah Makers helps a domestic violence victim get basic necessities to start over, buys glasses, beds, helps with hearing aids, and even necessary car repairs for someone to get to work so they can provide for their family. They regularly help the Homeless Van purchase new tents for the homeless. Because dental health is fundamental to physical health, Mitzvah Makers works with Acorn Clinic meet urgent dental needs.

In keeping with Maimonides' definition of the levels of tzedakah, Mitzvah Makers provides assistance in ways in which the recipient and the giver are unknown to each other, and the funds are distributed by a communal agency. The stark reality of every Mitzvah Makers meeting is the number of people in our community who live on the edge, where one misfortune can disastrously upend their lives. Mitzvah Makers members leave every meeting profoundly touched by the stories they hear and rededicated to make a difference on the ways they can.
Three Look-Alikes.

Identical triplet girls were born this spring in Hadera’s Hillel Yaffe Medical Center to Mrs. Hadiyah Badran, 33, an Israeli-Arab from a small town in Central Israel. Identical triplets are very rare, this being only the second one in Israel’s history. Mrs. Badran said she and her husband were praying for a girl, since they already had five boys. Dr. Haim David delivered the girls by C-section in the mother’s 32nd week of pregnancy. The girls were able to go home after one month in the hospital. “We will need a bigger car,” Mr. Badran said. (Ynet News)

Israel in Brief: News and Developments

By Ralph Lowenstein

News on the “BDS” Front.
Gov. Andrew Cuomo recently signed an executive order banning New York state agencies and departments from investing in companies or groups that, as a policy, promote or engage in boycotts, divestment or sanctions (BDS) against Israel. Gov. Cuomo said “we want the world to know, we want Israel to know, we’re on their side.” Seven states, including Florida, have passed bills that have the same effect as Cuomo’s executive order. Those who are interested in the history and arguments surrounding the BDS movement against Israel should go to the Internet, Google “jkrfoundation.org,” and download the 7-page document that the Justus and Karin Rosenberg Foundation has recently published on the subject.

Water Management Leader.
Israel is now the world’s leader in water conservation, according to the Huffington Post, which writes that Israel is now one of the few countries in the world that can function without rain. Six major desalinization plants are key to this success, along with severe rationing, high public awareness against wasting water, and large reservoirs, including 250 storage tanks, that can provide water during the summer months, when it never rains. Many of these projects were built with private U.S. funds, coming mainly from the Jewish National Fund (JNF), an organization supported each year by North Central Florida contributions to JCNCF’s Annual Campaign.

Security Council Condemns Killings.
In a statement approved by all 15 members, the UN Security Council has condemned the June 8 terrorist shooting in a Tel Aviv restaurant that killed four civilians. It was the first UN official condemnation of such terror since the current wave of attacks occurred eight months ago, according to Israel’s UN Ambassador Danny Danon. One of the murder victims was Dr. Michael Feige, 58, a sociologist and anthropologist who headed the Israel Studies program at Ben-Gurion University. (Washington Post)

Jews Return to Germany.
More than 200,000 Jews now live in Germany, the fastest-growing Jewish population in Europe. A documentary on the subject, “Germany & Jews,” was recently reviewed in the New York Times, and might be an interesting choice for next year’s JCNCF Jewish film festival.

Jeffrey L. Meldon
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JCNCF’s Annual Campaign Supports Jewish Life Locally

By Virginia Brissette Hirshik, Executive Director

The Jewish Council of North Central Florida (JCNCF) functions as the umbrella organization for the varied Jewish communities of Gainesville, Ocala, and surrounding areas. Our mission is to serve the cultural, and educational needs of the Jewish community locally and regionally and the philanthropic needs of Jewish causes worldwide.

Our goals are to offer fun and compelling educational and social opportunities for the Jewish community of North Central Florida and to support Jewish humanitarian causes locally and globally. We achieve that by our Annual Campaign and other targeted fundraising efforts and by collaborating with community partners to provide a wide range of activities and celebrations.

JCNCF is proud of the many educational programs, social gatherings and humanitarian initiatives that we are able to fund through your donor dollars. Thank you for being our partner in building Jewish community.

JCNCF Community Programs
These JCNCF Signature Programs were made possible by your generous gifts to the Annual Campaign. Thank you for your investment in our Jewish community.

- Fifty Jewish seniors attended Seniors in the Sukkah, a holiday brunch co-sponsored with Friendship Circle.
- Eighty people heard a talk on the status of Jews in France and the Ukraine from Samantha Dubrinsky of the Birmingham Jewish Federation.
- The Seventh Annual JCNCF sponsored Mitzvah Day engaged more than 200 people who worked on 22 projects at 13 different sites.
- Volunteers from the B’nai Israel Community Day School, Temple Shir Shalom’s Social Action Committee and the general community served over 400 meals to hungry and homeless women through JCNCF’s monthly mitzvah project at the Helping Hands Clinic.
- 125 mishloach manot bags were delivered for Purim.
- Nearly 500 tickets were sold for 10 screenings at the Sixth Annual Gainesville Jewish Film Festival.
- More than 130 guests sang along to Favorites from Fiddler on the Roof with the Oak Hammock Singers, a collaboration with Oak Hammock’s Community Services.
- Over 180 people remembered the Holocaust together at the JCNCF Yom HaShoah event featuring Dr. Sam Kassow, author of Who Will Write Our History?

PJ Library Gainesville & Ocala
PJ Library is a partnership between JCNCF and the B’nai Israel Community Day School. Each month, 150 children and their families received PJ Library books and CDs featuring Jewish content to enjoy together - that’s 1,800 for the year! Additionally, PJ Library families gathered for Jewish enrichment programs like Sukkot at the Roger’s Farm Corn Maze, Tu BiSh’vat at Paynes Prairie, and a Passover scavenger hunt at the Florida Museum of Natural History.

JCNCF Awarded Nearly $12,000 in Local Grants
Local grants allowed area congregations and organizations to supplement their educational and social program offerings. Grant funded offerings from this past year include:

- Nearly 150 people attended the Center for Jewish Studies' East & West 3 Cantorial Concert, which was sponsored, in part, by a grant from JCNCF.
- Community members were challenged and inspired by the timely and provocative topics discussed during the speaker series, Smart Conversations with the 92nd Street Y hosted by Congregation B’nai Israel.
- Congregation Beth Israel of Ocala hosted scholar Alice Bolocan, Ph.D. for a Lunch and Learn on the Jews of Kaifeng.
- Temple Shir Shalom led a community Civil Rights trip to Jewish Atlanta.
- Chavaya at Congregation B’nai Israel program hosted a community wide Israeli Culture and Arts Festival.
- Temple Shir Shalom’s religious school adopted a new curriculum from the Institute for Southern Jewish Life.
The Annual Campaign for 2015/2016 raised nearly $160,000. Over $40,000 went to the Jewish Federations of North America, which distributes funds through the Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) and the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI). Your gift to the Annual Campaign supports our brothers and sisters in Israel and wherever there are Jews in need around the world.

Your dollars helped Ukrainians, like the family in the photo at left, who are trapped in a war, to receive regular visits to ensure they are safe and have food and fuel for heating. The Annual Campaign also provides resources for Jewish families leaving Europe or other areas where they fear anti-Semitic violence and discrimination.

JCNCF Allocations for World Jewry

- Over $10,000 went to the Jaffa Institute, which has numerous programs to help the poor in Jaffa-Tel Aviv, ranging from after school programs for at-risk kids, to supplying food packages for Holocaust survivors.
- Over $10,000 went to the Beit Ruth Educational and Therapeutic Village, a supportive home and innovative community for abused and neglected girls and young women in Afula, Israel.
- Over $1,300 was raised for the Lone Soldier Program. This community also sent 36 care packages to Lone Soldiers - young men and women who move to Israel to serve in the Israel Defense Forces. Hundreds of hand-made cards and notes were lovingly created by grateful community members who participated in JCNCF’s Annual Mitzvah Day.

The Jewish Council operates entirely on the contributions of generous community members. Every dollar JCNCF raises is critical to the continued growth and health of our community. Please consider a gift to this year’s Annual Campaign. Together we create the foundation for our children and their Jewish futures.

Together we can do extraordinary things!

The Jewish Council of North Central Florida is grateful for your donation and thanks you for supporting the Annual Campaign and our many community events and programs.

I am/We are pleased to pledge/donate the following amount to support Jewish life in North Central Florida while also maintaining support for international Jewish needs. To make your donation securely online with a credit card, go to www.jcnf.org. Please call or email the JCNCF office for instructions on how to donate stock or to make your gift directly to The Jewish Federations of North America. Contact us at 352.371.3846 or at office@jcnf.org.

Name ____________________________ Email ____________________________ Phone ____________________________

Street ____________________________ City ____________________________ State ________ Zip ____________

Signature ______________________________________ Pledged $____________________ Enclosed ____________
Together we do extraordinary things.
The Jewish Council of North Central Florida supports Jewish life locally and operates entirely on donations from the community.

Year after year, the individuals listed on this Roll of Honor help build our community. Through their gifts to the JCNCF Annual Campaign, the organization makes a difference in the Jewish community of North Central Florida and around the world, wherever there are Jews in need.

Thank you to all who make our work possible!

**JCNCF Annual Campaign Roll Of Honor 2015**

**Ner Tamid - Eternal Light**
$18,000 +
Steven Slutsky

**Seraphim - Angels**
$10,000 - $14,999
Dawn Burgess-Krop & Harry Krop
Stuart & Charna Cohn

**Maccabim - Maccabees**
$7,500 - $9,999
Michael & Phyllis Warren

**Double Chai Meyot**
$3,600 - $4,999
Mickey & Toba Smith
Ken Wald & Robin West

**Patronim - Patrons**
$3,000 - $3,599
Ronald Cohen & Kim Sandler
Richard & Rebecca Howard
Michael & Karan Schwartz
Marvin Slott
Norman & Roslyn Levy
David & Vangie Weiner

**Am Yisrael - People of Israel**
$2,400 - $2,999
Bhaskar & Rosalie Bandyopadhyay
Edward & Joanne Block
Norman & Roslyn Levy
Michael & Betty Wolf

**Chai Meyot**
$1,800 - $2,399
Jill Freedman & Dave Nelson
Jim & Ellen Gershon
Steven & Randy Kraft
William & Judy Page
David & Harriet Pawliger
Robert & Leslie Roseman
Daniel & Hannah Sokol

**Meitivim - Benefactors**
$1,200 - $1,799
Eve Ackerman & Howard Rosenblatt
Libby Brateman
Andrew & Sharon Hirshik
Barry & Elaine Jacobson
Anna & Robert Jordan
Gilda Josephson & Jeff Weingarten
Alfred & Patsy Lewin
Ralph & Bronia Lowenstein
Gary & Suzy Miller
Michael & Jaquelyn Resnick
Desmond & Nadine Schatz
Mark & Ruth Sherwood

**Chalutzim - Pioneers**
$800 - $1,199
Anonymous
Marjorie Baros & Phil Kabler
Steve & Linda Bobroff
Judy Breiner & Abe Goldman
Bennett & Arlene Brummer
Alan & Patricia Goldblatt
Dee Dee & Leslie Hendes
Freda Green
Helene Johns
Richard & Dorothy Melker
Anthony & Shelley Salzman
Mark & Tamara Segal
Alex & Beverly Sherman
Izzy & Roz Shever
Henry & Marcia Storch

**Ozrim - Helpers**
$360 - $799
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Elaine Kaplan
Theodor & Nina Krauthammer
Jerome & Eleanor Levinrad
Linda Lewis & Clifford Levin
Allen & Myrna Neims
Barbara Oberlander
Gerald & Martha Schaffer
David & Carole Silverman
Robert & Connie Stern
Scott & Jill Tomar

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Bonnie Baker
Reba Bandyopadhyay & Nick Raines
Richard & Shirley Barkin
Adela Beckerman & Leonard Fontana
Olivia Berger
Amira Blitzler
Gabriel & Nancy Bitton
Jill Bohlin
Richard Buncher
In Roll Of Honor 2015-2016

Extraordinary things.
The Jewish Council of North Central Florida supports Jewish life locally and globally and operates entirely on donations from the community.

Individuals listed on this Roll of Honor help build our community. Through the Annual Campaign, the difference in the Jewish community of North Central Florida and around here is Jews in need. Make our work possible!

Tomchim - Supporters
$100 - $359
Lior Busel & Ophir Lehavy
Howard & Marian Cohen
Jerry & Sherry Cohen
Joel & Yulien Cruz-Davis
Aharon & Malka Dagan
Diana Davis & Debra Willis
David & Karen Deeter
Jordan & Cindy Dern
Eric & Jacquelyn Diamond
Florence Fox Vendeland Elliot
Ethan Fieldman
Beverly & Edward Gilbert
Joyce Glicksberg
Stephen Golant & Dora Kemer
Shirley Goldberg
Marcio Guellmann
Charles & Cathy Guy
Raphael & Rose Haftka
Michael & Allison Haller
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Michael & Renee Speisman
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Virginia Ann Menard
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Herbert & Amy Schwartz
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Alon Sharabi & Renata Wajskman
Marvin & Francine Simring
Stephen & Michele Sugrue
Isadore & Rhoda Swerlick
Leonard & Sharyn Weiss
Edith Weizten
Malorie Whitefield
Louise & Yosef Yaniv
Paul & Ruth Zimmerman
Marc & Lisa Zumberg
Teach Your Children Well

By Dawn Burgess-Krop
JCNCF President

Ask yourself how the world might be different if all children were taught from early childhood about the obligation to help others and interact with kindness. The atmosphere of tikkun olam (repair the world) abounds at the B’nai Israel Community Day School where Debby Kinman-Ford, Day School Director, believes in creating a consciousness of thinking of others. Parents are involved with their children in acts of tikkun olam, from saving leftover party favors to create a "Birthday in a Box," complete with homemade cards and a cake, for children who are in circumstances where they do not get to celebrate a birthday to regularly singing for the Friendship Circle. The many acts that occur with regularity at the Day School encourage children to appreciate their circumstance and empathize with others.

Each class at the Day School has once again committed to provide a monthly dinner for women attending the Helping Hands Clinic. Helping Hands provides monthly medical care, a hot meal, and other services for homeless women. This is the second year B’nai Community Day School has committed to performing this important mitzvah. Through their service and example, these parents are teaching their children to consider ways to improve the world in the context of their daily lives.

Congratulations Debby!

Debby Kinman-Ford, director of B’nai Israel Community Day School, was recently featured in Business in Greater Gainesville’s Fierce Awards 2016. Debby is one of 18 women in the Gainesville community featured in this year’s Fierce list that recognizes transformative women in the business community.
Gainesville Congregations

Congregation B’nai Israel ~ 3830 NW 16th Blvd, 32605
352.376.1508 ~ www.bnaigainesville.com
Rabbi David Kaiman
Sat, Sept 24 Selichot - 8:30 pm
Service - 10:30 pm
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
Tashlich - 6:15 pm
Minah - Maariv - 7 pm
Tues, Oct 4 RH Morning II - 8 am
Minah & Maariv - 6 pm

Rabbi Adam Grossman
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

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
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 Tashlich 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

Temple Shir Shalom ~ 3855 NW 8th Avenue, 32605
352.371.6399 ~ www.shirshalom.net
Rabbi Michael Joseph
Sat, Sept 24 Selichot Reception & Service - 8 pm
Sun, Oct 2 Tashlich w/ 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

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Yamim Noraim

Rosh HaShana
October 2, 3 & 4

Ocala Congregations

Chabad Jewish Center of Marion County & The Villages Center for Jewish Life and Learning 13030 CR 103, 34484
352.291.2218 ~ www.jewishmarion.org
Rabbi Yossi Hecht
Sun, Oct 2 Erev RH Service - 7 pm
Dinner, RSVP required - 8 pm
Mon, Oct 3 RH Morning Service - 10 am
Torah Reading - 11:45 am
Shofar Blowing & Kiddush to follow 12:15 pm
Tashlich Service at the pond alongside Walmart on CR 446 - 4 pm
RH Service 7pm
Dinner, RSVP required - 8 pm
Tue, Oct 4 RH Morning Service - 10 am
Torah Reading - 11:45 am
Shofar Blowing & Kiddush to follow 12:15 pm

Congregation Beth Israel ~ 7171 SW Hwy 200, 34476
352.450.2056 ~ www.bethisraelocala.org
Rabbi Karen Allen
All services will be held at the Enrichment Center at The First Congregational United Church of Christ 7171 State Road 200, Ocala
Sun, Oct 2 Erev RH Service - 7:30 pm
Mon, Oct 3 RH Morning Service - 9:30 am

Temple Beth Shalom ~ 1109 NE 8th Avenue, 34470
352.629.5837 ~ www.jewishocala.com
Rabbi Ze’ev Harari
Sun, Oct 2 Erev RH Service - 7:30 pm
Mon, Oct 3 RH Morning Service - 9:30 am

Temple Shir Shalom ~ 49 Banyan Course, 34472
352.624.0380 ~ www.facebook.com/TempleBaniDarom
Rabbi Harold Jaye
Sun, Oct 2 Erev RH Service 7:30 pm
Mon, Oct 3 RH Morning Service - 10 am with lunch at Stone Creek Grill, followed by Tashlich at Shalom Park
**Lest We Forget: In Memory of Frank Towers**

**By Varda Weisskopf - Daughter of Holocaust Survivor**

On April 6, 1945, nine days before the liberation of the Bergen Belsen concentration camp, around 2,500 Jewish internees were ordered to prepare to leave the camp the following day. On April 7, the prisoners exited the camp gates and began to march the approximately ten kilometers to the nearby railway station in the town of Celle, where they were ordered to board a train which would take them to the Theresienstadt concentration camp. After six days the train halted alongside the village of Farsleben in Germany, and was liberated on April 13, 1945 by the 743rd Tank Battalion, part of the 30th Infantry Division of the Ninth United States Army. The survivors were transferred by available vehicles organized by the division’s liaison officer, 1st Lt. Frank W. Towers, to the town of Hillersleben, which served as a German Air Force base.

Frank Towers, then a young officer in the 30th Infantry Division of the U.S. Army, had previously participated in the invasion of Normandy and had arrived in the area where the train had stopped during the advance of the American army. It was he who arranged for trucks to bring the survivors to the nearby German air force base, Hillersleben, which the U.S. Army evacuated for the survivors. He brought the convoy of trucks along side roads, with which he was familiar, as the main routes were either blocked or destroyed.

Frank Towers was born in the United States, received an MBA from the University of Vermont, after which he joined the U.S. Army where he served for ten years, mostly with the 30th Infantry Division of the U.S. Army. Mr. Towers was the president and historian of "The 30th Infantry Division Veterans of WWII". He was awarded many medals for bravery during his military service and thereafter, among them a citation from Queen Beatrix of The Netherlands in 1999 and the French Legion of Honor from President Sarkozy in 2009. He also received recognitions of honor from many European countries, which he helped liberate, such as honorary citizenship from the Dutch city, Maastricht. He established an enormous memorial association for soldiers who are buried in Normandy, and he was helping Mr. Rozell with the train project, with survivors’ reunions and in publicizing the story and the Holocaust itself in the United States.

On January 2010, I received an email from Mr. Frank Towers, the American officer who saved my father and was among the liberators of this train, in which he wrote: “Dear Varda, I am so happy to have taken part in giving new life to your father and rescuing him from The Final Solution.”

He asked me to help him locate survivors from the train in Israel and I found about 100 survivors throughout the world, who were able to contact their liberators.

On May 18, 2011, an international reunion of the train survivors was held in Israel, in the presence of the American officer, Major Frank W. Towers, one of the liberators of this train. I merited organizing this reunion.

Frank was an amazing person who gave a lot of his time to commemorate the Holocaust of the Jewish people.

*May his memory be blessed.*

**By Judith Weaver - Media Specialist, High Springs Community School**

As a young soldier during the winding down phase of World War II, Frank and his fellow soldiers discovered a group of railroad cars pushed off the side of the tracks. Pulling back the doors, what they found inside the cattle cars had battle hardened soldiers sick to their stomachs. The cars were filled with men, women and many children who were among the last to be sent to the gas chambers. But word of the end of the war caused the engineer and his crew to abandon the cars and run. The people in the cars had been locked inside for days and left to die.

Years after the war, Frank Towers took up his mission to find these survivors, and to be a personal witness to his experience. As part of this mission, Mr. Towers came to High Springs Community School to speak to the 7th graders learning about the Holocaust. His visit to our school was important because he could say, “I was there.”

Mr. Towers told the students that the Holocaust was a greater form of bullying. He wanted our students to think about the connection between bullying a student at school, and the killing of eleven million people by the Nazis.

While Mr. Towers won many awards from countries and important people, at our school he is the man who made us all realize that we must each take personal responsibility for those around us and how we treat them. There is nothing too small to be inconsequential. As those who fought and survived pass on from us, we must teach this lesson just as Mr. Towers did; we must pay it forward.

*Thank you, Frank Towers, for touching so many lives with dignity and truth, and for your service to our country during World War II.*
Mazel Tov!
Ethan Gutter celebrated his Bar Mitzvah one August 20th. The son of Michael and Jessica, and older brother to Brooke Gutter, Ethan is an intelligent, funny, and loving young man. He has lived in Gainesville since he was 4 and was in Miss Pedie’s pre-K class at B’nai Israel day school. He now attends Westwood middle school and is in the Cambridge program.

Because of his love for animals Ethan has chosen to volunteer at the Humane Society for his mitzvah project. If you would like to contribute dog or cat food, or treats, toys, or supplies, there are drop off bins located outside the B’nai Israel day school front office and main office. If you would like to write a check please make it out to Alachua County humane society and put it in an envelope for Ethan Gutter; Attention Jennifer Petrescu at B’nai Israel. Thank you so much for supporting Ethan’s cause!

Mazel Tov to David Morgenstern and Raphael Rosenblatt. David Morgenstern and Raphael Rosenblatt were married on June 26 in Cleveland, Ohio with Rabbi Isabel de Koninck officiating. Mr. Rosenblatt, son of Eve Ackerman and Howard Rosenblatt, is a senior director at Year Up, a Boston-based employment program for low-income young adults. Mr. Morgenstern, is with Nike’s management training program.

Jacob Amar was called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on August 27, 2016 at Congregation B’nai Israel. Jacob is the son of Robert and Shana Amar and older brother to Evan. Jacob is a life long resident of Gainesville. He started at B’nai Israel Day School as a baby and continued there through pre-school. He is currently in the 8th grade at Lincoln Middle School in the rigorous Lyceum program.

Jacob had the opportunity to travel to Israel over the summer where he gained an appreciation for Israel’s beauty and rich history. That inspired his Mitzvah Project which is collecting items for the “Lone Soldier Packaging” project. He also plans to participate in organizing these items and preparing care packages to be sent to the IDF soldiers during Mitzvah Day in November. Jacob looks forward to his next visit to Israel and is counting the days until he is eligible to go on Birthright Israel.

Mazel Tov to Mark Segal, M.D., Ph.D., chief of the division of nephrology and David Weiner, M.D., chief of the renal section at the University of Florida affiliated VA Hospital. UF Health Shands is ranked #11 in the nation in the medical specialty of nephrology by U.S. News & World Report. The Division of Nephrology, Hypertension & Renal Transplantation is the highest ranked subspecialty in medicine for the second year in a row and since 2002, it is the highest ranked adult specialty ever for the College of Medicine.

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Making the Moment Photography
North Central Florida Congregations & Organizations

**Gainesville**
- **B’nai Israel Community Day School (DS)**
  Debby Kimman-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 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 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 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)**
  Hazan 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

The JCNCF staff is grateful to Helen Kornblum of Natural Order Coaching & Organizing for the generous donation of her time and organizational expertise. Thank you for helping us get organized!
Jewish Community Calendar for September 2016

Sunday, September 4
- CBI Men’s Club Meeting, 9am
- Beth Israel of Ocala Labor Day Weekend Picnic, 1 pm

Monday, September 5 - Labor Day
CBI & Day School, JCNCF & TSS offices are closed

Tuesday, September 6
- Temple Shir Shalom Torah Study with Rabbi Joseph, 9:30 am (Repeated Sept 13 & 20, 27 same time)
- Torah on Tuesday at CBI, 12pm (Repeated Sept 13, 20 & 27)
- Buffet Night at Café Chabad, 6 to 7:30 pm (each Tue night)

Wednesday, September 7
- Parents Association Meeting CBI Day School 8:30 to 9:30 am
- Friendship Circle at Cong. B’nai Israel, 10:30 am to 1 pm (Repeated Sept 14, 21, 28)
- CBI Lev Tov at St. Francis House, 5:30 pm (also Sept 21)
- JCNCF Caregivers’ Support Group, 7 pm; Contact Lori Waxenberg at loribwax@gmail.com prior to attending.
- Hebrew Reading Crash Course at Chabad, 8 pm (also Sept 14, 21, 28 & Oct 5) $65. Free for UF and SFC students.

Thursday, September 8
- Sisterhood Book Club Meeting at CBI, 10 am
- Congregation B’nai Israel Board Meeting, 6:30 pm

Friday, September 9
- Beth Israel of Ocala Yard Sale, 1 pm

Sunday, September 11
- CBI Day School Mom’s Brunch Out at Francesca’s, 10:30 am
- Jewish Youth Zone: Monthly Enrichment Program, at Lubavitch-Chabad Student & Community Center, 2 to 3:30 pm

Tuesday, September 13
- Hadassah Rosh Hodesh, Speaker Gerald J. Kirkpatrick at CBI, 10 am
- Temple Shir Shalom Board Meeting, 7 pm

Thursday, September 15
- Social Dancing at B’nai Israel, 6 pm (Repeated Sept 22 & 29)
- The German Doctor at The Thomas Center, 7pm

Friday, September 16
- Giving and Receiving Care, Special service and Oneg at Temple Shir Shalom, 7 pm

Saturday, September 17
- Giving and Receiving Care: Age Associated Cognitive Change: A Non-Clinical Perspective with speakers Ron Cohen & Kim Sandler Cohen at Oak Hammock, 4 pm

Sunday, September 18
- Giving and Receiving Care: Round-Table Multi-Generational Discussions at Temple Shir Shalom, Facilitated by Mental Health Professionals, 10:30 am

Tuesday, September 20
- JCNCF Board Meeting, 7 pm

Thursday, September 22
- The Politics of Jewish Cooking with Richard Scher, CBI, 12 pm (Repeated Sept 29)
- Hadassah Meeting, 5:30 pm
- How to Win Enemies at The Wooly, 7 pm

Friday, September 23
- Sam Glaser Pre Shabbat family musical program at B’nai Israel Community Day School, 4:30pm

Saturday, September 24
- Sam Glaser Havdalah followed by dessert and a Selichot learning program in B’nai Israel’s social hall, 8 pm
- Temple Shir Shalom Selichot service and reception, 8 pm

Sunday, September 25
- Sam Glaser Community religious school concert at Temple Shir Shalom, 10am

Wednesday, September 28
- Yiddish on the Battlefields of Spain, a talk by Jack Kugelmass, 11:30 am at the Center for European Studies.
- CBI Day School Parents’ Meeting, 8:30 to 9:30 am & 4:30 to 5:30 pm
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