In A Time Like No Other, We Rise

The last six months have been a time like no other. For the Jewish Council, 5780 was supposed to be the year of marking and celebrating some organizational milestones - the tenth year of the Gainesville Jewish Film Festival and ten years of having a full-time program professional, among them. While we can always celebrate those accomplishments at another time, nothing can replace the losses that our community, our nation and our planet have sustained in 2020, so far. We mourn and our hearts are heavy for loved ones - family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers, who have been impacted so greatly by the unprecedented events of this time like no other.

We are living through the largest pandemic in more than 100 years, one that has generated a devastating economic crisis. And the urgent need for a national reckoning of our nation’s oldest wounds of racism and classism have never been more apparent. At a time when we most need to lean on each other for support, we must also stay physically distant. The ways we work, learn, and observe our traditions have all been drastically impacted. But among the joys we have been able to find in these past months, we have managed to work, to learn and to be Jewish in a time that has been like no other. We are a community that can pivot during times of crisis, working together to ensure that we all feel connected, empowered and cared for.

This period of time has made clear that JCNCF’s mission to care for our community, whatever the needs may be, is more important than ever. With your help, we will find new ways to adapt to ever-changing needs here in North Central Florida, in Israel, and around the world. Above all, we must continue to find innovative new ways to keep each other close in our thoughts and hearts during these times when we must be apart.

We hold dear the wisdom of the generations who have come before us, and we’re grateful to all who have worked to build our wonderful Jewish community here in North Central Florida. We’re especially appreciative for those who have supported the Jewish Council’s mission with their time, talent and treasure for nearly 50 years. From this strong foundation, we will continue our work to repair the world.

This is a time like no other, and together, we will rise to the challenge. In that spirit, the Board and Staff of the Jewish Council wish you - our family, our friends, our community - a happy new year filled with the promise of hope for better days and better times. L’shanah tovah tikatevu ve techatemu.

The Community Kvell with Jewish Federations of NA

Wednesday, September 16 at 1:30 pm

Jewish Federations of North America invites you to join an all-star, multi-generational celebrity family for a community gathering and L’chaim for the Jewish New Year. Jam-packed with inspiration and meaningful Federation moments, this campaign accelerator moment is a great way to begin the campaign year as a community, as well as, with Federations from across North America for a national Jewish gathering you won’t want to miss! This program is open to existing and new donors with no minimum gift requirement. Register today by visiting https://www.jewishfederations.org/.

LET’S Kvell TOGETHER

9.16.2020 | 1:30PM (ET)
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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Together we can do extraordinary things!
JCNCF’s Annual Campaign goal for last year (2019/2020) was $200,000, and we raised over $185,000. That was 93% of our goal. Thank you to everyone who made that possible. Check out the complete list of donors on pages 8 & 9. Visit www.jcncf.org to make your secure donation online now, or contact us at 352.371.3846 or office@jcncf.org.

The Jewish Council of North Central Florida operates entirely on the contributions of generous community members like YOU! With that in mind, the JCNCF events that you see listed in this newsletter each month are made possible by those donations. Please consider making a gift to the Annual Campaign or to any of our special funds. Your donation supports Jewish causes locally and globally and means so much to so many.

Name ____________________________ Email ____________________________ Phone________________________
Street ___________________________________ City _______________________ State ________ Zip__________

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

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

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

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

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

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Welcome, Larry Hartfield - JCNCF’s New VP and Board Chair!

By Dawn Burgess Krop, JCNCF Past President

JCNCF welcomes our new Vice President and Board Chair, Larry Hartfield!

The Jewish Council of North Central Florida (JCNCF) is delighted to announce that Larry Hartfield has accepted the leadership role of Vice President and Board Chair in our organization. Larry is a man of many talents and will bring his considerable skills to serve JCNCF in this role.

Larry is originally from New Jersey and grew up near the shore. In the early 70s, his family, comprised of his parents, Larry, and his older sister, Merrill, moved to Fort Lauderdale. Ultimately, Larry landed at University of Florida in the College of Architecture and has been in Gainesville henceforth. He worked in the building industry for years and spent a decade at the Gainesville Health and Fitness Center. For twelve years, Larry has worked as a Licensed Insurance Agent and sells all lines of insurance. Larry has been married to his wife, Deb, for twenty-one years and has two stepdaughters. Deb has been a longstanding nurse at the Veteran’s Administration Hospital.

Karate is Larry’s “passion” and he has been a karate instructor and sensei. He has also been a member of the Freemasons, an international organization for mutual help and support, for 21 years. Besides having served a few terms on the JCNCF board, Larry also serves on the Security Committee at Congregation B’nai Israel.

Larry expresses appreciation to Howard Rosenblatt for guiding his reconnection to Jewish life. He had lost touch with the Jewish community, and through Howard, began to help complete a minyon “because that’s what you do.” His involvement in the Jewish community evolved and expanded. He harkens back to his mother, who “raised him to be a part of a community.” Therefore, he indicates that when Debby Kinman-Ford asked him to assume the leadership role at JCNCF, he felt he should give back to his community. Beyond that, he joked, “you don’t say ‘no’ to Debby, especially when she promises to serve as your wingman.”

There is a prevailing thread to all of Larry’s connections which require dedication, commitment, and community. He feels the need to step up when called upon “because that’s what you do.” Like every living organism, organizations are ever changing and evolving. JCNCF is adapting to our new world with the presence of a dangerous virus which has caused all of us to realign our socialization, outside encounters, and daily habits. Larry’s unique experiences are well suited to our current challenges and we welcome him to bring his perspective to our present circumstances. No leader fills their role without enormous help from past leaders and upcoming leaders. In this challenging time, there is comfort in our leaning upon one another in moving forward. We appreciate Larry’s willingness to guide us on this path.

JCNCF’s Community Micro Grants Update

The Jewish Council of North Central Florida, Inc. (JCNCF) will accept Micro Grant applications for projects and activities which further the mission of JCNCF: To operate and engage in philanthropic, cultural, charitable, educational and religious activities that contribute to the welfare of the Jewish community of North Central Florida and other Jewish communities located throughout the world. The goal of a grant must reflect one of the three areas specified in this passage from Pirkei Avot “The world is built on three things: Torah (Jewish law & learning), Avodah (service to G-d & Jewish community) and Gemilut Chassadim (acts of loving kindness)”. Micro Grants submissions began August 1st and will be awarded from September through June of each year. Micro Grant Requests should be submitted by the first day of the month before it is needed from August 1st through May 1st. (For example, submit by August 1st for a September event.) We will be offering one Micro Grants of $360 each month from September to June. Here is a small sample of grants that we funded in the past year.

1. Cong. B’nai Israel Chavaya requested funding for materials needed to develop the Hebrew School’s Arts program stating “we intend to turn a particular focus toward lessons of Jewish Creativity and Innovation.” The grant directly benefited the 50 students.
2. Congregation Beth Israel of Ocala’s Sisterhood requested funding for gifts to be given to the Jewish residents of assisted living facilities in their area. The goal of the Sisterhood is to foster Jewish culture and giving in the community.
3. The Shabba Tones, Gainesville’s brand-new choir requested funding to order choral music to begin their rehearsals. The vision of the Shabba Tones, which has 30 people participating, is to preserve Jewish choral music and present it to the public, and touch people’s hearts.

Please go to the JCNCF website, jcncf.org to download the Micro Grant Request Form. The Grants Committee looks forward to receiving your request.
The Jewish Council’s Annual Campaign is Powered By YOU!

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.

The 2019/2020 Annual Campaign made over $185,000 with an additional $7,500 in program sponsorship. The Jewish Council operates entirely on YOUR generous contributions. Every dollar JCNCF raises is critical to the continued growth and health of our community. We are grateful to the JCNCF Board and all of the donors and volunteers who make our work possible. Together we create the foundation for our children and their Jewish futures.

Your gift to the Jewish Council also supports our brothers and sisters in Israel and wherever there are Jews in need around the world. This issue of The Chronicle focuses on the good that we do through our Annual Campaign and other special drives. Please take the time to read about the wonderful work our worldwide partner charities do. It is our pleasure to highlight the Joint Distribution Committee (JDC), the Beit Ruth Educational and Therapeutic Village and The Jaffa Institute. JCNCF is proud of the many educational programs, social gatherings and humanitarian initiatives that we are able to fund through your donations. Thank you for being our partner in building Jewish community locally and globally.

Local Grants & Programs

These grants and programs were made possible by YOUR generous gifts to the Annual Campaign.

- $2,600 in micro-grants allowed area Jewish organizations to supplement their educational and social program offerings. JCNCF also awarded $6,000 in Youth Experience Scholarships.
- Over 75 people participated in A Taste of Rosh HaShanah, an educational program hosted at The Atrium.
- Nearly 100 people attended JCNCF’s Campaign Kickoff at Hillel featuring, Eric Fingerhut, President & CEO of the Jewish Federations of North America.
- Over 100 people attended the No Place for Hate Program by the Anti-Defamation League.
- The Eleventh Annual Community Mitzvah Day engaged more than 100 people who worked on 21 projects at 8 different sites.
- Over 100 guests attended Latkes & Vodkas, a Chanukah Happy Hour, an event co-hosted with Hadassah.
- 125 mishloach manot bags were delivered for Purim.
- Hundreds of people have remembered the Holocaust by viewing a Yom HaShoah compilation video, curated by Phillip Schwartz.
- Over 200 people celebrated Israel’s 72nd Anniversary by viewing a livestream concert, featuring Israeli artist, Rami Feinstein.
- 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.

Allocations for World Jewry

- $35,000 to the Jewish Federations of North America, which distributes funds through the Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) and the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI).
- $10,000 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.
- $10,000 to The Jaffa Institute, which has numerous programs to help the poor in Tel Aviv-Jaffa, ranging from after school programs for at-risk kids, “welfare to work” guidance and mentoring for women entering the workforce, to supplying food packages for Holocaust survivors.
- Nearly $1,000 was raised for the Lone Soldier Program. Lone Soldiers are young men and women who move to Israel to serve in the Israel Defense Forces (IDF).

Mitzvah Makers Distributed Over $13,000 to Local Individuals in Need

JCNCF’s anonymous giving circle supported individuals in need through these partner agencies: ACORN Clinic, ARC of Alachua County, Black on Black Crime Task Force, Bread of the Mighty, Catholic Charities, Child Advocacy Center, Citizens for Social Justice (The Home Van), Family Promise, Focus on the Future (Displaced Homemakers) Guardien Ad Litem, Habitat for Humanity, Helping Hands Clinic, Partnership for Strong Families, Peaceful Paths, Radiant Hands, Rural Women’s Health Care Project, Star Center Children’s Theater, St. Francis House, Three Rivers Legal Services and UF Health Patient and Family Resources.
In a Chaotic World, JDC and Federations Provide Stability and Hope

by Elisheva Massel, Director, Strategic Partnerships, Global Resource Development, JDC

For more than 106 years, the Jewish Council of North Central Florida’s overseas partner the Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) has served as the global Jewish 9-1-1, putting Jewish values into action and answering the call of Jews, Israelis, and others in need around the world. Today, that mission continues as JDC works to lift lives, strengthen communities in 70 countries, and respond to coronavirus.

In the former Soviet Union, this work takes place across 11 time zones and 11 countries, where JDC ensures that 80,000 + elderly Jews, many alone and surviving on pensions as low as $2 a day, are cared for. JDC provides them with food, medicine, and more than 18 million hours of home health care each year, as well as free medical consultations, subsidized medication, and loans of needed medical equipment. In the winter, relief comes in the form of warm blankets, jackets, boots, wood, coal, electric heaters, and utility subsidies.

Thousands would die without the aid that these Jews receive from JDC. This includes Liudmila, a 66-year-old retired librarian living alone in Minsk, Belarus. Liudmila hasn’t been outside in nine years—she has been disabled all her life, restricting her ability to address her daily needs including bathing, cooking and getting herself dressed. Thankfully, Liudmila is aided by the care of one woman: her home-care worker.

“My home-care worker is the sunshine in my window,” she said. “Since I have a cataract, she reads to me. She bathes me, she cooks for me, she does laundry for me, she cleans. She is my eyes, my legs, and my ears.”

Today, in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic, JDC has adjusted its Former Soviet Union operations ensuring it can continue uninterrupted in its services and care for those, like Liudmila, who rely on it during these trying times.

In Israel, JDC partners with the Israeli government to solve overarching social issues and gaps in social services impacting the most vulnerable like the elderly, people with disabilities, and the unemployed. To drive this change, JDC brings together various partners – municipalities, the business sector, and NGOs – to create innovative social service models that are deployed nationwide.

Today, JDC is helping deliver widespread pandemic-related relief for hundreds of thousands of Israelis. It has delivered essential care services, meals, and deployed trained volunteers to address needs for those quarantined and homebound. It has trained newly unemployed Israelis to re-enter the workforce and created public awareness campaigns around safety measures and mutual responsibility.

In Europe, JDC has long worked to empower Jewish communities and build the next generation of leaders by providing expertise, training and programming. This includes initiatives like Camp Szarvas, the JDC-Lauder international Jewish summer camp in Hungary that’s fostered Europe’s rising Jewish leaders and community life since 1990.

With the pandemic halting in-person programming this summer, Camp Szarvas – as well as the region’s JDC-supported JCCs, summer camps, and leadership development programs – is providing online offerings, ensuring it can continue to engage and inspire campers and communities. Additionally, JDC’s resilience training in recent years has helped prepare communities to address pandemic challenges.

“JDC has always been the first place to turn when we needed advice, help, and support, and this crisis is no different,” said Julia Dandolova former JDC employee, and CEO of Shalom, the Organization of Jews in Bulgaria. “JDC’s Europe team were the first ones to call us when the quarantine began. Basically, for European Jewish communities like mine, JDC is still the 9-1-1— the first people we consult with in times of emergency.”

Around the world, with your support, JDC means different things to different people. For some, it’s a homecare worker who becomes family, a pandemic relief package, or a program that inspires Jewish identity, leadership, and responsibility. Ultimately, JDC and its Federation partners, including the Jewish Council of North Central Florida – which is part of JFNA’s Network of Independent Communities, are the hope that comes from knowing no matter where you are, or what is going on in the world, you are never alone.
As Domestic Violence Rises, Global Organizations Turn to Beit Ruth

by Danielle Burenstein, Executive Director, Beit Ruth Educational & Therapeutic Village

Dear JCNCF Friends - Everyone at Beit Ruth was saddened to learn about the significant increase in cases of the Corona virus in Florida during the summer months. We reached out to JCNCF’s Virginia Brissette Hirshik and William Alford to offer our support and wishes for everyone’s good health and safety. It is such a trying time for everyone, but please know our thoughts are with you.

Sadly, in addition to a rise of Corona virus cases, the world has seen a rise in domestic violence during the pandemic. This is a startling reminder of the challenges faced by organizations like Beit Ruth that fight daily to break the cycle of violence for women and girls around the world, as well as the uncomfortable realities faced by the girls and young women we protect.

At the Beit Ruth Educational & Therapeutic Village, our on-the-ground therapeutic and program staff have been concerned – but unfortunately, not shocked – at the unnerving rise in domestic violence statistics. In May, Israeli newspapers reported that the number of domestic violence complaints reaching the Social Affairs Ministry was close to 10 times the number per week during the first month of the lockdown; the Ministry received 512 complaints in a one-week period or an average of 73 a day. Complaints reached a peak in April, with 400 complaints filed in a two-week period. In June, the Knesset met to discuss a 40% rise in domestic violence cases, including violence against children.

The Israeli government designated Beit Ruth as an essential organization during the virus outbreak, knowing there would be no other place for our girls to go. Going back to an abusive home or to the streets was not an option. Therefore, we were resolute in our determination to operate, uninterrupted, while adhering to health and safety guidelines for our girls and staff. And because it pained us to think that this was not the case for all children who endured abuse, we moved into greater action through our advocacy work that leverages Beit Ruth’s decades-long expertise in addressing domestic/family violence.

The Beit Ruth Advocacy & Outreach Initiative works to drive awareness, builds public support, and works to influence public policy with the goal of breaking the cycle of violence for girls and young women in Israel and now, other places around the world. During Covid-19, we went into overdrive.

Sought after by MASHAV, Israel’s Foreign Ministry Agency for International Development and others, we shared our methodology with nearly 100 women leaders in Africa, Asia, Russia, and Latin and North America. Ronit Lev-Ari, a founding member of Beit Ruth’s staff and a recognized leader in the field of gender-based violence, led a livestreamed webinar that presented our successful model to treat young girls who suffer from complex post-trauma as well as how to keep women safe during the pandemic (read more about it at https://www.israel21c.org/israeli-experts-teach-the-world-how-to-aid-abused-girls/).

We also partnered with the Ministry of Science & Higher Education of the Russian Federation. Again, Ms. Lev-Ari was invited to lead a virtual webinar livestreamed in Russia on the topic of “The Family” as part of an international training program. The goal was to build the capacity of professionals in Russia to address family violence and to understand the needs of at-risk youth.

One of many seminars within Israel included the Social Workers Association where we were asked to train social workers about how to treat complex post-trauma through a gender lens thereby acknowledging the differences in how girls respond to abuse and the necessary treatment to address these differences. This is a cornerstone philosophy upon which Beit Ruth was founded.

As a provider of direct and onsite therapy, education, and evidence-based programs since 2006, Beit Ruth has a keen understanding that to help stop the epidemic of abuse on a larger scale, we must continue to share our Village treatment model and play an active role in social change efforts that are helping to shape the national conversation and policies to help end the epidemic of abuse and violence against girls.

We wish you all a Shana Tova u’Metukah, a happy and, especially, a healthy New Year!
We May Have lost Time, But We Only Gained Hope: Back-to-School in Israel

by Emma Eytan, The Jaffa Institute

From the onset of COVID-19 in early 2020, this global health and economic crisis has impacted people from all walks of life. Amid the crisis, Israeli nonprofit organization, The Jaffa Institute, continues to work indiscriminately. As Founder and President, Dr. David Portowicz, stated in our July webinar: “Not for one minute did we forget our responsibility to help the children and families [during the Coronavirus lockdown]”.

This summer, following Israel’s extensive national COVID-19 lockdown, our educational staff members developed an innovative Summer Camp curriculum to compensate for the several months during which the children in our care were trapped at home. Each week, our staff integrated the dynamic topic of science into fun art, music, cooking, and sports activities.

One week, the kids “traveled” to Italy, where they explored STEM subjects while learning about the country. Cooking up a pizza, the kids developed an understanding of the science behind why yeast rises. They then decorated the pizza to look like the Italian flag, using mozzarella, tomato, and basil to capture the white, red, and green stripes. In the other weeks, the kids “visited” Japan, where they learned about robots, as well as the African continent, where they focused on the environment and climate. Lastly, program participants learned about the innovative technologies coming out of their home – the “Start-Up Nation”!

With the successful Summer Camp Program behind us, we are now gearing up for the complex new year ahead. Similar to the schools in Gainesville, our programs are learning to adapt daily to the new regulations and precautions set by the education professionals in the local and national government. Here is a glimpse of our evolving strategy for the new school year:

- As a result of the pandemic, 44.6% of Israelis reported that their financial situation worsened. For families already struggle to make ends meet, this setback could put their safety and wellbeing at risk, which is why the Jaffa Institute’s Food Distribution Center expanded to reach 500 additional households and will continue these efforts this school year to ensure that the children in our care have the necessary nutritional foundation in order to focus and succeed.

- As a result of the lockdown, 25% of Israeli parents reported that their children’s mental health suffered. To better serve the community’s needs this year, we are emphasizing the importance of therapy for the children in our programs. This therapeutic support ranges from horseback riding for Ethiopian-Israeli teens to culinary sessions with our Stepping Stone Program for At-Risk Teenage Girls.

- Adapting to the constant state of uncertainty, our successful Laptop For Every Child Campaign ensures that each child is equipped and staff member is trained with the necessary tools in their home in the case of transition to hybrid of remote learning in the 2020-21 academic year, ensuring a continuum of educational and therapeutic support in the face of the ongoing pandemic.

With this in mind, we are more motivated than ever to adapt, change, and grow along with our community so that we may continue to be their beacon of light even in the deepest times of darkness. As our long-standing partner, JCNCF has known that this is the Jaffa Institute’s promise of nearly 40 years, and, with your support, we are not stopping anytime soon.

Want to see how we progress in the upcoming school year? Follow us on Facebook and Instagram, and sign up for our newsletter for all of the latest updates! We look forward to the time when we can meet in person once again! In the meantime, please contact Mitch Chupak at, mitch@jaffainst.co.il with any questions.
Together we do extraordinary things.
The Jewish Council of North Central Florida
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around the world, whenever there are Jews in need. Thank you to all who make
our work possible!

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Extraordinary things.

The Jewish Council of North Central Florida
locally and globally and
visions from our community.

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ews in need. Thank you to all who make

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Rabbi Gerald and Dora Friendman
Hadassah Florida Central Region
Arthur and Sylvia Haller
Jill Hirsh
Betty Jacobson
Debra Kinman-Ford
Charles and Elizabeth Kramer
Ryan and Jennifer Law
Rochelle Lebowitz
Carl Leventhal
Charles and Sandy Levy
Kathy Martin
Robert and Nancy Parks
Alejandra Porter
Vera Rabino
Sharon Reinblatt
Ann-Marie Magne and Lee Schwartz
Herbert and Amy Schwartz
Jan Scott
Alon Sharabi and Renata Wajsman
Robin Kaufman-Talor and Zvi Talor
Temple B’nai Darom
Stephen and Nancy Vogel
Marc and Lisa Zumberg

Thank you!
Zoom Into the Fall With PJ Library & PJ Our Way

By Alicia Rudin, Family Programs Coordinator, JCNCF

This year North Central Florida PJ Library had its first fund raising event – Make the Match! Eve Ackerman, a local author, supported the mission of PJ Library by offering to match, dollar for dollar, all donations made between Purim and Yom HaAtzmaut, so that children on the waiting list for enrollment would be approved. Thanks to the following families that helped us reach our goal! The Merhars, Teitelbaums, Zarons, Carsons, Okuns, Altmans, Leightmans, Zinns, Laws, Woods and again – Eve Ackerman and Howard Rosenblatt.

We would also like to thank those of you who have contributed to North PJ Library Central Florida throughout the year: Kevin & Nancy Miner, Dawn Burgiess Krop & Harry Krop, Steve Slutsky, Rosalie & Bashkar Bandopadhayay, Harvey Goldstein, Neil & Judy Zipkin, Julia & Charles Egan, and Ido & Jodi Oren.

Learn to Make and Braid Challah for Rosh Hashanah

Let's meet on Zoom and I'll show you how!

Sept. 9 - Make Dough
Sept. 10 - Braid & Bake
3:00–4:30 pm each day

E-mail me to get the Zoom link, recipe, and supply list
RSVP
Alicia Rudin
family@jcncf.org

PJ Library families are invited to learn how to make Challah (September 9 at 3-4:30 pm) and braid and bake (September 10 at 3-4:30 pm). Interested families should email Alicia Rudin at family@jcncf.org to RSVP.

Other programs this fall will include: a virtual High Holiday & Sukkot Tour of Israel on Sunday, October 18, Mitzvah Day on Sunday, November 15 (culmination of a month of daily mitzvot), and ending with a virtual Program about Hannukah in Israel on Sunday, December 13.

We are looking forward to reaching out to you all!
What’s Nu Around Gainesville?

Mazal Tov to Debby Kinman-Ford, former day school director at B’nai Israel Community Day School and former Gainesville residents- Eytan Oren, and Diane Otto for starting CEDAR Learning- a company offering consulting services, workshops, and holiday curriculum to Jewish organizations around the country. CEDAR (Creative Educational Design And Resources) helps schools and organizations create family programming, nature experiences, team building and new heads of school training and resources. They also publish a weekly blog on all things educational and Jewish. Explore their website www.cedarlearning.com or follow them on various social media platforms, including Face Book, Instagram, Linked IN or Pinterest.

Antisemitism and Bigotry:
Encounters With Hate Among Children K-12
Moderated by ADL Florida Deputy Regional Director
Yael Hershfield
Tuesday, September 8 at 7:30 pm

Speakers will include Stacey and Mason Steinberg

Through two case studies, attendees will be able to understand how antisemitism and prejudice impacts students and how parents and community can advocate on behalf of their children.

For more info, please visit https://florida.adl.org/

JCNCF Continues to Support the Helping Hands Clinic

Congregation B’nai Israel’s Circle Minyan will be holding a virtual Rosh HaShana service on Saturday, September 19 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. We will be using the Circle Minyan High Holiday Booklet. This service is open to the community. For the Zoom link to the service, and a PDF copy of the High Holiday Booklet, please contact Stuart Cohn at cohn@law.ufl.edu.

On Monday November 16, the Jewish Council needs your help to provide a special holiday meal for the Helping Hands Clinic!

JCNCF will be partnering with Chef Empowerment Kitchen, a local nonprofit to provide a special meal for the clinic’s patients and volunteers. To donate now in support of this project, please contact the JCNCF office at 352.371.3846 or office@jcncf.org

Thank you to everyone who helped the Jewish Council sponsor a meal at the Helping Hands Clinic on June 29!

Sponsors:
Rosalie & Bhaskar Bandyopadhyay,
Sharon & Andy Hirshik, Elaine & Barry Jacobson,
Elaine Kaplan, Myrna & Allen Neims,
and Barbara Oberlander

And a special thank you to Daniel Bloom and his team at DB’s Rolling Dough!
Transitions: Community Life Events

Over the past several months the Jewish community of North Central Florida has witnessed the passing of many friends and family. Several people who have made a significant contributions to the Jewish Council of North Central Florida have left us recently, and as we reflect on their memories, we look forward to honoring them in upcoming editions by sharing their personal stories with you.

For the first of these tributes we acknowledge the triumphant life of Sol Bleiweis, a survivor of the Shoah, who as a young man experienced the horrors of Nazi cruelty in the Lodz Ghetto, Auschwitz-Birkenau, and Bergen-Belsen.

Sol endured all of this and came out on the other side an inspiring figure. To quote JCNCF’s Yom Hashoah Committee profile of Sol, “After talking to Sol for even a short period of time, it becomes clear that he is unwilling to let his experiences in the Holocaust define or limit him in any way. Sol recognizes that living life to the fullest and with an awareness that each day is a gift is the best way to honor memories of family and friends who perished during the Holocaust.”

Mazel Tov to Dr. Steven DeKosky!

Dr. Steven DeKosky received the Henry Wisniewski Lifetime Achievement Award during the 2020 Alzheimer’s Association International Conference. The award recognizes significant contributions to Alzheimer’s disease and dementia research, either through a single scientific discovery or a body of work.

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Transitions: Community Life Events

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

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

Beatrice Beer,
Wife of Carl Beer z’l,
Mother of Bennett & Meena, Teddi & Jeff,
Barry, Claudia & Ron, and Jacqui & Carlos.

Sol Bleiweis,
Husband of Beverly,
Father of Mark, Glenn, Shari, Bonnie, Ted and Lisa.

Gloria Rita Malbouef Boudah
Mother of Louis Boudah, Doreen & Roland,
Cheryl & Daniel, Mary & Michael, Denis & Sandra,
Melinda & Russell, Terry, and Rafaeala Boudah.

Jean Levine,
Mother of Lisa Levine.

Ralph Lowenstein,
Husband of Bronia Lowenstein,
Father of Henry and Joan.

Miriam Novack

Jack Price

Jerrold “Mickey” Smith
Husband of Toba Smith,
Father of Marc & Laurie, Rebecca and Alon,
and Meredith & Andy.

May their loved ones find solace in their memory.
Gainesville Congregations & Organizations

B’nai Israel Community Day School (DS)
www.bnaisraelcds.org
352.376.1508, ext 101

Center for Jewish Studies
at the University of Florida (CJS)
Dr. Norman J.W. Goda, 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
Cassidy Oody, Programming Coordinator
www.bnaigainesville.com
3830 NW 16th Blvd, Gainesville, FL 32605
352.376.1508

Gainesville Chapter of Hadassah (HAD)
Meredith Bacharach, President
mwbacharach@gmail.com
352.256.7631.0

Hillel at UF (HLL)
Rabbi Jonah Zinn
www.ufhillel.org
2020 W University Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32603
352.372.2900

Interfaith Encounter Association (IEA)
www.interfaith-encounter.org

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

Society for Humanistic Judaism (SHJ)
Rick Gold
goldrickus@gmail.com
571.337.8018

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

Temple Shir Shalom (TSS)
Rabbi Michael Joseph
Ross Van Boven, Director of Religious School
Ann Eisenstadt, Office Manager
www.shirshalom.net
3855 NW 8th Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32605
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(800) 373-8000
Accident/Personal Injury Attorney
Email: jmeldon@meldonlaw.com
Website: meldonlaw.com

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Ocala & Other Congregations & Organizations

Beverly Hills Chapter of Hadassah (BHCH)
Miriam Fagan
352.746.0005

Chabad House of Ocala & The Villages (CHOV)
Rabbi Yossi & Chanie Hecht, Directors
www.ourchabad.org
13030 CR 103, Oxford, FL 34484
352.330.4466

Congregation Beth Israel (CBI-O)
Elaine Morrison, President
www.bethisraelocala.org
4511 SW 48th St. Ocala, FL 34474
352.236.0701

Congregation Beth Sholom (CBS)
Cantor Alisa Forman, Spiritual Leader
www.bethsholomcitrus.org
102 Civic Circle, Beverly Hills, FL 34464
352.746.5303

First Congregation Sons of Israel (FCSI)
Rabbi Joel Fox
www.firstcongregationsonsofisrael.com
161 Cordova Street, St. Augustine, FL 32084
904.829.9532

Ocala Chapter of Hadassah (OHAD)
Judi Siegal, President
morrobay03@embarqmail.com
352.237.8277

Temple B’nai Darom (TBD)
Rabbi Harold Jaye
www.facebook.com/TempleBnaiDarom
7465 SW 38th Street in Ocala, FL 34474
352.624.0380

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

Temple Shalom of Central Florida (TSCF)
Rabbi Zev Sonnenstein
www.templeshalomcentralfl.org
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<tr>
<th>WHEN</th>
<th>JCNCF Programs &amp; Events</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, September 9 &amp; Thursday, October 10, 3-4:30 pm</td>
<td>PJ Library Challah Bake</td>
<td>Zoom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, September 16, 1:30 pm</td>
<td>The Communal Kvell with JFNA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, September 19 &amp; Sunday, September 20</td>
<td>Rosh HaShanah</td>
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<td>Monday, September 28</td>
<td>Yom Kippur</td>
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<td>Saturday &amp; Sunday, October 3 &amp; 4</td>
<td>Sukkot 1 &amp; 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday &amp; Sunday, October 10 &amp; 11</td>
<td>Shemini Atzeret &amp; Simchat Torah</td>
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<td>Sunday, October 18, at 10 am</td>
<td>High Holiday &amp; Sukkot Virtual Tour of Israel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, October 25, 11 am</td>
<td>JCNCF Annual Campaign Kick-Off</td>
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