Thank You for Another Great Year

By Virginia Brissette Hirshik
JCNCF Executive Director

The opening song of the musical, Rent, starts with the line, “Five hundred twenty five thousand six hundred minutes” and goes on to ask, “How do you measure a year in the life?” In the non-profit world, organizations typically measure a year by annual campaign numbers. Did we make our fundraising goal? How many people participated in the campaign? How many new donors did we engage?

Those are all important and valid barometers of progress and success, and the September edition of the Chronicle will feature our campaign roll of honor and more information about the annual campaign. (In case you were wondering, we still need to raise about $10,000 to make our goal of $160,000 by August 31. Please give.)

For this “end of the year” issue, the editors chose to feature a two page spread of photos (pages 8 & 9) highlighting the many events and activities JCNCF offered this past year. Through these photos you can see another way of measuring a year in the life of our community. How many children learned about Jewish values or holidays through PJ Library family outings? How many adults were moved by the music of the East and West concert or a movie at the Gainesville Jewish film festival? How many people felt joy by participating in Jewish holiday celebrations sponsored by the Jewish Council and our community partners?

Those numbers are not as easy to quantify, but we know that the answers to those questions are as important as how much money did we raise. The photo spread makes a bigger impact than a pie chart or a progress thermometer ever could. This is our small, beautiful, slightly-wacky Jewish community. Thank you for being part of it.

Tikkun Olam with Roz Shever

By Dawn Burgess-Krop
JCNCF President

To three-year-olds at B’nai Israel Day School, Roz Shever is known as “Miss Roz.” In different circles, she is affectionately called “Mama Maj,” conferred by the many dozens of mah-jongg players who have learned the game through Roz’s tutelage. She is a woman who wears many different hats and touches lives from young to old in important ways.

Roz was born in Pensacola, Florida, and has the distinction of knowing Rabbi David Kaiman “since he was born.” Her husband, Izzy, was also born in Pensacola and took her to their high school prom. Roz attended the University of Alabama, where she met her first husband, a navy aviator. They married and had three sons: Michael, Gregg, and Lawrence. During their time as a navy family, Roz lived in various places, ultimately residing in Nashville, where she worked as a medical secretary for a cardiac surgeon. At the age of 46, she found herself suddenly widowed, with her youngest son only 12 years old.

Roz remained a widow for seven years. With her three sons grown and all living in Orlando, she was contemplating a move to be near them when Izzy called her. He was working in Washington, D.C., for the Department of Defense and invited her for a visit. After dating for 18 months, Roz married her high school sweetheart and moved to northern Virginia in 1994. While living near D.C., Roz volunteered for six years at the White House Greetings Office - and has many interesting stories to tell.

Izzy retired in 2000, and they searched for a college town for their next home. They settled in Gainesville, where Roz had previously lived and had friends. Always involved in Sisterhood everywhere she lived, she immediately became active at B’nai Israel. She encouraged a renewed involvement with Women’s League, and with Rebeca Shalom, established the Torah
Yom HaShoah Community Event Draws Over 150 on May 1

Event host, Ken Wald (center) passes a candle to speaker, Samuel Kassow (right) while Frank Towers (left) looks on.

JCNCF’s Community Holocaust Remembrance Event was made possible by the following:
- Center for Jewish Studies at the University of Florida
- Congregation B’nai Israel
- Harry Rich Endowment for Holocaust Studies at UF
- Andy & Sharon Hirshik
- Rabbi David Kaiman & Rebeccah Shalom, In Memory of Sol Shalom, z”l
- Dr. Harry Krop & Dawn Burgess-Krop
- Sisterhood of Congregation B’nai Israel
- Sisterhood of Temple Shir Shalom
- Temple Shir Shalom

The Yom HaShoah Committee is Estelle Aden, Jordan Dern, Abe Goldman, Virginia Brissette Hirshik, Lynne Holt, Barbara Oberlander, Philip Schwartz, Steven Slutsky, Kenneth Wald, and Robin West.

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

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

The Chronicle does not publish letters to the editor.

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

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.

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

The 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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A unique “Seder” celebration was held in Gainesville among members of the Jewish and African-American communities on Tuesday, May 3, 2016. Sponsored by the Jewish Council and the Faith Missionary Baptist Church, with financial support from the Israel Action Network, an initiative of the Jewish Federations of North America, the Seder focused on the two communities’ common heritage of slavery and movements to liberation. The Seder booklet substantially followed the form of the traditional Haggadah while also including numerous readings and songs reflecting the history and struggles of the African-American community.

The Seder booklet was created by a Jewish-African American committee consisting of Ed Block, Stu Cohn, Gilda Josephson, Tracey Hickmon and Taylor Parker. The service was led by the Seder committee (unfortunately Gilda was not able to attend) and participants singing “Go Down Moses,” “Oh Freedom,” and other powerfully relevant songs. Throughout the service, explanations were given in the booklet and by the leaders regarding the meaning of the various customs. Everyone present participated through shared readings and singing.

The meal was served after the first portion of the Seder. Dawn Burgess-Krop and her team of chefs provided kosher brisket and turkey, matzoh ball soup (ask Virginia Brissette Hirshik for her recipe!) and other foods, along with contributions from members of both communities. Tracey Hickmon’s mother in law, Blondie, baked a hundred hoecakes which were a big hit with all. It was a marvelous Seder feast, topped off with fabulous desserts that followed the conclusion of the service.

The evening began with a welcome from Minister Lawson representing the Faith Missionary Baptist Church and concluded with Dawn Burgess-Krop’s closing comments in which she noted the importance of the Seder to the Jewish people and to our enduring support for Israel. Dawn also introduced Jacob Atem, a survivor from the Sudanese genocides and one of the original “Lost Boys of Sudan,” who held his young son, Samuel (one of the Afikomen finders), while speaking movingly about the importance of tolerance and respect.

The evening ended with hugs all around and remarks on the beauty and significance of the Seder celebration. Perhaps this will be the beginning of a new Gainesville tradition.
Tikkun Olam with Roz Shever

Roz volunteers weekly in the three-year-olds class at B’nai Israel Day School, and she and Izzy shop weekly for the Shabbat mini-kiddush lunches. She participates in Lev Tov, the feeding of the homeless at St. Francis house, and formerly volunteered for the Maimonides Society.

In addition to Roz’s many volunteer activities, she enjoys doing Tai Chi, reading, traveling, and keeping in touch with friends scattered about through Facebook. She and Izzy have six children between them and ten grandchildren. Roz truly represents the meaning of Tikkun Olam and leaves the world a better place every day through her smile, her warmth, and her deeds.

Junket to Jewels

On Friday, June 24th from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. and Sunday, June 26th from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., we will be having our Junque to Jewels Rummage sale.

Come drop off your junk are the closing Sisterhood event on Sunday, June 5th, and we will turn it into jewels.

We need YOU to volunteer!
Monday, Tuesday and Wednesdays each week leading up to our sale from 10 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Help us sort and price the junk so we can turn it into our jewels!
To volunteer, please email Jodi Oren at jodioren51@gmail.com or Roz Shever at rozschever@gmail.com.

One day in mid-June, we will have a FURNITURE DAY pick up for the Junque to Jewels Sale. If you have a piece of furniture that can be picked up easily please contact Roz Shever at rozschever@gmail.com for arrangements. We will have that dedicated day to pick up your donation. Other items you have may be brought to the synagogue social hall anytime after June 5th during synagogue hours.

Above: Jill Tomar, Jodi Oren, and Roz Shever at a conference of the Women’s League of Conservative Judaism in 2011.
Below: Izzy and Roz in Banff National Park in the Canadian Rockies.

Izzy and Roz enjoy an outing to Satchel’s with their grandchildren

Tikkun Olam continued from page 1

Fund. When mini-kiddush luncheons following Saturday morning services were threatened to be eliminated, she and Jeannie Bobroff found a way to keep them going. She has chaired the Florida Regional Conference and is currently an International Board Member of the Women’s League.

When a fund-raiser is considered, Roz has been the one to seek. With Toba Smith, she co-chaired the B’nai Israel Academy Awards. She also chaired Rabbi Kaiman’s 10th Anniversary Celebration and is in the process of chairing the fifth Junque to Jewels Sale, thus earning her the well-deserved title of “Junque Queen.” (Y’all come now! June 24 & June 26!)

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Israel in Brief: News and Developments

By Ralph Lowenstein

Vanishing Temples.
UNESCO has maintained its record as one of Israel’s two worst enemies in the United Nations (the other is the Human Rights Council) when its Executive Board of 58 members passed a resolution in April naming the Temple Mount in Jerusalem as an exclusive Muslim shrine. There was no mention of the two Jewish Temples that previously stood in that area. The resolution referred to the Western Wall as “Al-Buraq Plaza” (Buraq was Mohammed’s winged horse). Among the members of the Executive Board voting in favor of the resolution were France, Spain, Sweden, Russia, and Slovenia. Only six states voted against the resolution: the United States, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Germany, Estonia, and Lithuania. The resolution also condemned all Israeli presence in eastern Jerusalem and Israeli control of the Cave of the Patriarchs in Hebron and Rachel’s Tomb near Bethlehem.

Egypt’s Children Get New View.
According to Israel’s Institute for National Security Studies, significant improvements have been made in Egyptian textbooks since General Abdel Fattah el-Sisi became president of Egypt (deposing Mohamed Morsi, who replaced Hosni Mubarak). One new textbook has a full chapter devoted to the peace treaty with Israel, supporting it as a condition for improving Egypt’s economic condition. The book mentions Israel as a partner in the peace relationship and makes less mention of the wars with Israel and the Palestinian problem. It includes a photo of Menachem Begin alongside Anwar Sadat.

Israel’s Global Influence Grows.
Shlomo Ben-Ami, a former foreign minister of Israel, writes that Israel “currently enjoys a degree of global influence unprecedented in its history.” He cites the following: China is now Israel’s third-largest trading partner, Israel is India’s second-largest supplier of military technology, the bilateral relationship with Moscow is “flourishing,” and Saudi Arabia maintains discreet security links with Israel, while other Sunni Gulf monarchies and Egypt are quietly cooperating with Israel to contain Islamist terrorism and Iranian expansion. In addition, Alexis Tsipras, who was hostile to Israel when active in the Greek opposition, has become a close ally as prime minister, and Hungary has come out against the European Union’s new labeling guidelines targeting Israeli goods produced in the territories.

(Projects Syndicate)

Professors Sue Over Boycott of Israel.
Four professors who were longtime members of the American Studies Association (ASA) are suing the association as a result of its boycott of Israel. In December 2013, ASA became one of the first academic organizations to participate in the boycott, divestment, sanctions (BDS) movement against Israel. The lawsuit, filed in April, charges ASA with violating the District of Columbia law governing tax-exempt nonprofit institutions. The boycott of another country, the lawsuit contends, is outside the scope of ASA’s charter. The suit also contends that ASA refused to circulate or post to its website before the vote several letters opposing the resolution, including one signed by approximately 70 ASA members, and another in opposition from eight former ASA presidents.

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)
Celebrating Israel at “the Jordan”

Thank you ...

Jordan Glen School and Summer Camp
Joel & Yulien Cruz-Davis
Jeff & Robin Davis
JCNCF Board & Officers
Rabbi Berl Goldman
Rabbi Ze’Ev Harari
Rabbi David Kaiman
The Klezmer Katz

Vendors: Alachua County Sheriff’s Office, Aviant Party Rentals, Bubba Luigi’s Road Trip, Captain Character, City of Gainesville, Dampier Septic, Fabulous Faces Entertainment, Leapin’ Lizards Delicious Bites, and Soup to Nuts.

Thank you to the many guests and volunteers who made the celebration so much fun!

Your help was so appreciated!

Thank You, Jordan Glen School and Summer Camp

By Dawn Burgess-Krop
JCNCF President

The Jewish Council owes a tremendous thanks to Jordan Glen School and Summer Camp for hosting the community Yom Ha’Atzmaut celebration this year. Housed under the campus’s beautiful canopy of trees, with chickens and peacocks wandering about, the atmosphere was peaceful, relaxed, and full of fun. It was a wonderful way to celebrate Israeli Independence Day!

Jordan Glen School has been teaching children and hosting summer camp for more than 40 years. Seeking to create an alternative school, Jeff Davis founded Jordan Glen after teaching in an inner-city school in Atlanta. He sought to create a rural setting where students could spend a great deal of time outdoors and have a flexible learning experience. Jordan Glen is now run by Joel Cruz-Davis and remains a family enterprise.

Jordan Glen started with 11 students and now has 120 in pre-kindergarten through eighth grade. Almost all of the eighth-graders have transitioned to the International Baccalaureate program at Eastside High School. Students at Jordan Glen are expected to use good judgment, which earns them a great deal of freedom as they learn to meet their responsibilities and structure their time. Classes are often multigrade experiences, and mentoring younger students contributes to learning and assuming the responsibility to help others.

Joel states that parental involvement enriches the school through special classes, such as sushi making, home repair, and gardening. He reports that the pre-K class students are active gardeners. A published poet has taught poetry, and the arts are an important component of Jordan Glen’s special classes.

Jordan Glen also has a summer camp that began in 1979. While enjoying traditional camp activities such as archery, tennis, and swimming, campers also make crafts and participate in filmmaking, dance, and theater. The Jordan Glen philosophy encourages creativity and social interaction through group processes.

Joel and his husband, Yulien Cruz Davis, have twin five-year-old sons (all shown in the photo below), Simcha and Stanley Jose (shown as Spiderman at left). Yulien is a dentist and has a practice of family and cosmetic dentistry. Joel is delighted to observe that the Davis family has four generations living in the area, beginning with his grandmother, Florence Kuttner, extending to his parents, Robin and Jeff Davis, who still reside on the Jordan Glen property, his three siblings, and now his twins and their cousins.

We thank Yulien and Joel for opening up Jordan Glen to the community for our celebration. With music, Captain Character, bingo, beer tasting, and much more, it was a wonderful day!
JCNCF Year in Photos

August: PJ Library Pool Party hosted by Adam & Kara Stein (left photo)

September, center: JCNCF Major Donor Brunch hosted by Helene Johns (left) with Larry Hartfield (right) Right: Beverly and Alex Sherman.

October, left: Guest speaker, Samantha Dubrinsky visits with UF Law Students.

October, center: PJ Library Sukkot at the Corn Maze.

October, right: Seniors in the Sukkah with Friendship Circle and CBI Day School children.


December: PJ Library celebrates Chanukah with the B’nai Israel Community Day School. Below: Zoe, Sarah and Owen Ben Shoshan read stories with Roz and Jake Okun.

December: Hannah Sokol, Dahlia Stein and Suzanne Tabakman celebrate at the JCNCF community Chanukah party hosted by Bill and Esther Mauffray
JCNCF Year in Photos

January: Randy Kraft and Mitch Chupak at the Beit Ruth Brunch

January: The East and West 3 Concert

January: PJ Library Tu BiSh’vat at Paynes Prairie

February: Debby Kinman-Ford (center) and Gidon Herman (back) lead havdalah for PJ Library families

March: Virginia Brissette Hirshik and Meredith Bacharach were in the holiday spirit for PJ Library Purim

March: The Oak Hammock Singers performed favorites from Fiddler on the Roof.

April: Tammy and Gila Smith, Amy, Skylar, Ari, Ava, and Avi Vaknin attended a PJ Library Passover event at the Florida Museum of Natural History

May: Robin West led the community choir, Neshama, as they practiced songs for Yom HaShoah.

May: Taylor Parker, Stu Cohn, and Tracey Hickmon helped lead the community Seder.
Gainesville is Mad for Mah Jongg

By William Alford
JCNCF Intern

On any given day in Gainesville, one can find at least one group of friends gathered around a table shuffling, passing and slapping down tiles decorated with bamboo, dragons, sparrows and Chinese characters. They have all gathered for an hour, or two, or three, to play the game of Mah Jongg. For many, the mention of Mah Jongg conjures up the cliched image of bubbes spending an afternoon playing and catching up. But how did this come to be? What is the Jewish connection to Mah Jongg?

Like many imports from the Far East into Western pop culture, the origins of Mah Jongg are buried so deep in myth and misinformation that no one is very confident in stating the fine details. Over many years, Chinese games similar to Rummy morphed from cards to the familiar tiles we recognize today. The distinctive design was in place by 1912 when Joseph Babcock learned of the game during a business trip to China for the Standard Oil Company. He returned to America with Mah Jongg sets, simplified rules that would become American Mah Jongg, and an interest in this exotic pastime that he was eager to share.

New aficionados of the game bought their first sets from the Abercrombie & Fitch Company who sold over 120,000 units, sourced directly from Chinese villages. At the height of its popularity, hosts would transform their parlors with Chinoiserie, gather their friends for a night of socializing, possibly with Eddie Cantor singing “Since Ma is Playing Mah Jongg” in the background.

In 1937, a group of Mah Jongg enthusiasts came together to straighten out some of the growing confusion they were encountering as the game grew in popularity, but also in difficulty due to varying rules. This group, a sizeable portion of whom were Jewish women, founded the National Mah Jongg League. As they state on their website, “For more than 70 years, the National Mah Jongg League has been the arbiter for everything that relates to American Maajh. The League started with 32 members and today numbers 350,000.”

One of Gainesville’s longest playing groups can be found on Monday afternoons adding the click of their shuffling tiles to the clatter of coffee cups and chatty conversation at the Bagel Bakery. Connie Stern, Robin West, Linda Dassa, Sara Bertrand and Linda Palmer enjoy their weekly meetings which started 8 years ago. All of the women in this group learned to play from their mothers. Robin had the unique fortune to learn the Hong Kong style from her mother who played with other military wives whose families were also in the US Air Force. Military families stationed in Asia are the other most common demographic of Mah Jongg players outside of the Jewish and Chinese communities.

The Bagel Bakery players were the first to share with me a refrain that I heard repeated by all the groups I interviewed. Mah Jongg is about enjoying a game with friends, but the time they spend together means a lot more than that. Linda Dassa expressed that “You grow to depend on each other outside of the game.” Sarah Bertrand added that her previous Mah Jongg groups have been a great support network for life challenges. Even though groups may meet only once a week or less, the women expressed that they are there for each other whenever a member is in need. Robin shared an inspiring story of a young lady she knew in her youth who suffered from severe rheumatoid arthritis. She and Robin enjoyed playing Mah Jongg together, so her friend decided to fill...
some of the time that she was con-
Fined to her home hand crafting a
Mah Jongg set of her own so they
would not have to borrow sets from
their mothers. This was my first ex-
ample of how Mah Jongg serves as a
form of “therapy” for many people.
Sara, a breast cancer survivor, organ-
izes a Mah Jongg tournament which
raises money for the Metastatic
Breast Cancer Network. She just
completed her 4th fundraiser this
past March, which raised $1,255.
Mah Jongg has provided healing for
the body, mind, and heart.

Another group comprised of
Ervene Katz, Sharon Hirshik, Corinne
Lipnick, Vivian Miller and Mimi
Baumstein meet weekly on Tuesday
afternoons. The room fills with the
laughter and chatting of friends who
have been playing together for 3
years now. All are former students of
Gainesville’s most prominent Mah
Jongg maven, Roz Shever, or as she is
affectionately known as, Mama Maj.
Roz has taught 50 students and
paired up many groups who still play
together. The group shared favorite
moments like the time when Vivian
got Mah Jongg on her second draw.
But as our conversation progressed it
again turned to the deeper meaning
of their group. When I asked the
women if they felt it was more about
the social aspect than the game, Er-
vene interjected that she wasn’t sure
“social” was the right word. After a
bit of discussion amongst them-
selves, Vivian volunteered, “I hate to
see 3:30 come,” which is when the
friends pack up and part ways. The
group decided that the best way to
describe Mah Jongg’s effect on them
is that when you are playing the
game, it’s all your mind is focused on.
It gives you some time to step back
from the problems that are troubling
you and to focus on something relax-
ing, and at the same time challeng-
ing, while in an extremely supportive
environment.

It is well known in the Gaines-

ville Mah Jongg community that the
most serious group of players meet
on Wednesdays after Friendship Cir-
cle in the library at Congregation
Bnai’ Israel. Natalie Berger, Muriel
Camner, Jill Hirsh and Delores Siegel
have been playing in this group to-
gether for the last 7 years. They were
by far the most experienced players I
interviewed. Natalie has been playing
the game for 70 years; first learning
in New York and playing in the even-
ings and on weekends with her girl-
friends. She and Muriel have been
playing together for 20 years now in
various groups. Muriel learned the
game from a group of friends in
south Florida 50 years ago. Dolores
has been playing for 53 years and Jill
is considered the relative newcomer
to the game, only picking it up in
1984. These ladies are filled with as
much charm as they are zeal for the
game. The group shared with me
that they are looking for new mem-
bers to join them, but cautioned me
that whomever joins needs to be
ready for a fast paced game. When I
asked the group if they see Mah
Jongg being preserved by the next
generation they said, like knitting it is
experiencing a surprising revival.

Many have the impression that
Mah Jongg is just a game for the
"older set." Turns out, that would be
wrong. A year and half ago, Stacey
Steinberg, a working mother of
three, expressed interest in learning
to play Mah Jongg to her friend, Amy
Grossman. Upon posting their mahjong
pursuits on Facebook, they were del-
uged with requests from young women
seeking to learn to play. They started a
game with friends, currently consisting
of themselves, Keri Wernecke and Sha-
ri Ostovar. Keri expressed to me that
she was both curious about the game
itself, which her mother and grand-
mother played, and wanted a way to
connect with other Jewish women in
her community. The group has hosted
meetings of women outside their regu-
lar group who are interested in learn-
ing the game. She echoed the senti-
ments of all of the women I spoke
with; beyond the leisure and relaxation
the game provides, its real value is
comradery and setting aside a time
and place to build real lasting and sup-
portive relationships. It seems like the
socialization and friendship offered by
Mah Jongg will continue for years to
come.
Celebrating a Milestone: 50 Years of Transplants

On Thursday, April 28, the University of Florida and UF Health Shands recently celebrated the 50th anniversary of its transplant program. Dr. Dick Howard, keynote speaker and a long time JCNCF Board member, has served much of that time as Chief of Transplantation. He is currently Medical Director of the North Florida area’s Organ Procurement Organization and has served as president of the American Society of Transplant Surgeons.

By Dr. Dick Howard
JCNCF Board Member

I came to the University of Florida in 1979 and enjoyed a wonderful relationship with Dr. Bill Pfaff until he retired in 1995. Dr. Pfaff had performed the first organ transplant in Florida at a time when few transplant programs existed. Bill performed the first kidney transplant in Florida in 1966. He had never done a transplant previously. In fact, he had never before seen one performed. The recipient of that first kidney transplant survived for many more years.

I took over as chief of the Division of Transplantation when Dr. Pfaff retired. I gave up that position in 2007 but stayed on staff. When the new chief of transplantation left for another position, I resumed being chief until I retired from the university in 2010.

For organ recovery purposes, the United States is divided into 58 geographic areas. Each area has one organ procurement organization (OPO) that is responsible for identifying and managing deceased organ donors. LifeQuest Organ Recovery Services is the name of the OPO that serves North Florida. Its area extends from Jacksonville to Pensacola and from the Georgia border to Marion County. When organs are available for recovery, we get a call, usually in the middle of the night, to be at the airport in 30 to 60 minutes. We then get on a chartered plane and fly to a hospital, perhaps as far away as Puerto Rico. We recover organs in the operating room and return to Gainesville, with a typical elapsed time of 6 to 8 hours. Organ recovery has been called the most dangerous job in medicine since several transplant teams have died in air crashes. Infections from patients are another occupational hazard. If you ever need an organ transplant, Florida is a good place to be: Its OPOs are some of the most successful in the country. In 1979 Florida had 4 organ transplant programs; today there are 13, and another will soon open in Pensacola.

Transplantation requires a dedicated team of professionals: surgeons, physicians, nurses, transplant coordinators, social workers, OPO coordinators, lab personnel, operating room personnel, database experts, administrative staff, and more. To date, more than 8,000 organ transplants have been performed at the University of Florida. Liver transplants were first performed in 1986, pancreas transplants in 1995. The thoracic surgeons first performed heart transplants in 1985 and lung transplants in 1994.

Transplant results have improved a great deal over time. It was unusual for kidney transplants to survive more than two years in the early days. Today survival is over 90% at one year, and results are similar for other organs as well.
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.

In Memoriam

Our community mourns the passing of beloved friend and family member William Diamond

May his loved ones find solace in his memory.

Mazel tov to Cindy and Jordan Dern (shown above volunteering at the Israeli Independence Day Event) who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on May 22. The couple traveled to Las Vegas and Utah to celebrate and to continue their luck.

Ben and Ashley Bobroff are proud to announce the birth of Rachel Gabriella Bobroff on April 22, 2016 at 12:09 am. Rachel weighed 4 lbs. 15 oz. and was 17-3/4 inches long. The family lives in Gainesville where Rachel’s paternal grandparents, Steve and Linda, can sufficiently spoil her.

Mazel tov to Shannon and Marc Gershow of New York City. Dylan Jacob Gershow (pictured above) arrived on April 30 weighing 7 lbs, 1 oz. Jim and Ellen Gershow are the proud grandparents.

Mazel tov to the newly elected Executive Board at Temple Shir Shalom. Mark Werner, will be returning as president of the congregation, Rose Koenig, as 2nd vice-president, Annie Sair, as treasurer and Adela Beckerman, as secretary.

Mazel Tov to Scott Tomar, D.M.D., M.P.H., Dr.P.H, who recently began a two year term serving as chair of the Oral Health Section of the American Public Health Association. Scott is Interim chair and professor in the department of community dentistry and behavioral science.

Mazel tov to Jenifer Meiselman and Jeremy Titus on the arrival of their son, Max. He was born on May 6, 2016 at 10:28 pm weighing 9 lbs, 1 oz and 21 inches long. He will be a great addition to the “troop” of which Willow and Evelyn are the big sisters. Jennifer is the leader of a Jewish Girl Scouts group.

Mazel tov to Amy and Rob Wilson on their latest addition in Tampa. Connie and Bob Stern have another new Grandson, Graham Isaac.

Mazel tov to Kim Sandler Cohen for joining the JCNCF board.

Rachel Gabriella Bobroff taking a snooze.

Mazel tov to Cindy and Jordan Dern

Mazel tov to Shannon and Marc Gershow

Mazel tov to Jenifer Meiselman and Jeremy Titus

Mazel tov to Amy and Rob Wilson

Mazel tov to Kim Sandler Cohen

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GAINESVILLE ENT & ALLERGY ASSOCIATES
7135 NW 11th Place, Suite A
Gainesville, FL 32605
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North Central Florida Congregations & Organizations

**Gainesville**

**B’nai Israel Community Day School (DS)**
Debby Kinman-Ford, Director
[www.bnaiisraelcds.org](http://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](http://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
Suzanne Chester, Chavaya (Religious Education) Director
Stephanie Savage, Programs
[www.bnaigainesville.com](http://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](http://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](http://www.jewishgator.com)
2021 NW 5th Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32603
352.336.5877

**Temple Shir Shalom (TSS)**
Rabbi Michael Joseph
Debbie Boada, Religious School Principal
Ann Eisenstadt, Office Manager
[www.shirshalom.net](http://www.shirshalom.net)
3855 NW 8th Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32605
352.371.6399

**UF Hillel (HLL)**
Rabbi Adam Grossman
[www.ufhillel.org](http://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](http://www.jewishmarion.org)
3500 SW 34th Avenue Circle, 34474
352.291.2218

**Congregation Beth Israel (CBI-O)**
Rabbi Karen Allen
[www.bethisraelocala.org](http://www.bethisraelocala.org)
7171 SW Hwy 200, 34476
352.450.2056

**Congregation Beth Sholom (CBS)**
Hazzan Mordecai Kamlot
[www.bethsholomcitrus.org](http://www.bethsholomcitrus.org)
102 Civic Circle
Beverly Hills, FL 34464
352.746.5303

**Temple Beth Shalom (TBS)**
Rabbi Ze’ev Harari
[www.jewishocala.com](http://www.jewishocala.com)
1109 NE 8th Avenue, 34470
352.629.5837

**Temple B’nai Darom (TBD)**
Rabbi Harold Jaye
[www.facebook.com/TempleBnaiDarom](http://www.facebook.com/TempleBnaiDarom)
49 Banyan Course, 34472
352.624.0380

**Temple Shalom of Central Florida (TSCF)**
Sheldon Skurow, Spiritual Leader
[www.templeshalomcentralfl.org](http://www.templeshalomcentralfl.org)
13563 County Road 101, Oxford, FL 34484
352.748.1800

Beginning June 3, the Jewish Council office will be closed on Fridays through the summer.

Our hours will be Monday through Thursday 9 am to 5 pm
Jewish Community Calendar for Summer 2016

Wednesday, June 1
♦ CBI Yoga with Chaya, 5:30 pm
♦ JCNCF Caregivers Support Group, 7 pm. For location and more information, please contact Lori Waxenberg at loribwax@gmail.com.

Thursday, June 2
♦ CBI Tai Chi Quan, 1:30-2:30 pm

Monday, June 6
♦ CBI Israeli Folk Dancing, 7:15 pm

Tuesday, June 7
♦ CBI Tai Chi Quan, 1:30-2:30 pm

Wednesday, June 8
♦ CBI-O Sisterhood will hold a luncheon at “Tea with Lee” on East Silver Springs Boulevard in Ocala. This will be the final meeting of the season and the group invites all area women to attend. RSVP to Shelly at rareone@embargmail.com.
♦ CBI Yoga with Chaya, 5:30 pm
♦ Hadassah Book Club at CBI, 7 pm. The group will discuss The Girl on the Train by Paula Hawkins.

Thursday, June 9
♦ CBI Tai Chi Quan, 1:30-2:30 pm

Sunday, June 12 Shavuot 1st Day

Monday, June 13 Shavuot 2nd day
♦ CBI Israeli Folk Dancing, 7:15 pm

Tuesday, June 14
♦ CBI Tai Chi Quan, 1:30-2:30 pm

Wednesday, June 15
♦ CBI Yoga with Chaya, 5:30 pm

Thursday, June 16
♦ CBI Tai Chi Quan, 1:30-2:30 pm

Monday, June 20
♦ CBI Israeli Folk Dancing, 7:15 pm

Tuesday, June 21
♦ CBI Tai Chi Quan, 1:30-2:30 pm

Wednesday, June 22
♦ CBI Yoga with Chaya, 5:30 pm

Thursday, June 23
♦ CBI Tai Chi Quan, 1:30-2:30 pm

Thursday, June 23
♦ Helping Hands Clinic, 2:30 pm at the First United Methodist Church

Friday, June 24
♦ CBI Junque to Jewels Sale, 9 am to 4 pm

Sunday, June 26
♦ CBI Junque to Jewels Sale, 9 am to 4 pm

Monday, June 27
♦ CBI Israeli Folk Dancing, 7:15 pm

Tuesday, June 28
♦ CBI Tai Chi Quan, 1:30-2:30 pm

Wednesday, June 29
♦ CBI Yoga with Chaya, 5:30 pm
♦ CBI Hebrew class, 6:30 pm

Thursday, June 30
♦ CBI Tai Chi Quan, 1:30-2:30 pm

Monday, July 4 Independence Day

Tuesday, July 5
♦ CBI Tai Chi Quan, 1:30-2:30 pm

Wednesday, July 6
♦ CBI Yoga with Chaya, 5:30 pm
♦ JCNCF Caregivers Support Group, 7 pm. For location and more information, please contact Lori Waxenberg at loribwax@gmail.com.

Thursday, July 7, Tuesday, July 12, Thursday, July 14

Tuesday, July 19 and Thursday, July 21
♦ CBI Tai Chi Quan, 1:30-2:30 pm

Thursday, July 28
♦ Helping Hands Clinic, 2:30 pm at the First United Methodist Church

Wednesday, August 3
♦ CBI Yoga with Chaya, 5:30 pm
♦ JCNCF Caregivers Support Group, 7 pm. For location and more information, please contact Lori Waxenberg at loribwax@gmail.com.

Thursday, August 28
♦ Helping Hands Clinic, 2:30 pm at the First United Methodist Church

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Jordan Glen School’s Summer Camp 2016
June 13 - July 1 July 5 - July 22

SPORTS • ARTS & CRAFTS
SWIMMING • TENNIS • DANCE

Transportation Available
Limited school openings for Fall 2016
Pre K - 8th Grade

info@jordanglen.org
visit us online: www.jordanglen.org
Or call: 495-1222

Eric Hill
Owner/Operator
Call: 352.375.0797
Email: xerocopy@bellsouth.net
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Jewish Council of North Central Florida

Highlights from This Issue

Year in Review page 1
Tikkun Olam with Roz Shever page 1
Yom HaShoah page 2
Community Seder page 3
Tikkun Olam continued page 4
Israel in Brief page 5
Yom HaAtzmaut page 6
Jordan Glen School and Summer Camp page 7
JCNCF Year in Photos pages 8 & 9
Mad About Mah Jongg pages 10 & 11
Celebrating 50 Years of Organ Transplants page 12
Transitions page 13
Community Directory page 14
Events Calendar for the Summer page 15

Save These Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHEN</th>
<th>JCNCF PROGRAMS &amp; EVENTS</th>
<th>WHERE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, June 1, 7 pm</td>
<td>Caregivers Support Group</td>
<td>Temple Shir Shalom</td>
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<tr>
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