



The Chronicle

The Community Newspaper of the Jewish Council of North Central Florida

Issue #1, September 2019

Elul - Tishrei 5779 - 5780

The Jewish Federations of North America Names New CEO

Eric Fingerhut to Speak at JCNCF Campaign Kick-Off



The Jewish Federations of North America is pleased to announce the appointment of Eric D. Fingerhut, formerly the president and chief executive officer (CEO) of Hillel International, as JFNA's new president and CEO, who began his tenure on August 6, 2019.

"For more than half a decade, the Jewish world has watched as Eric spearheaded transformational change at Hillel," said Chair of the JFNA Board of Trustees Mark Wilf. "With a clear vision for the future of Jewish life on college campuses and universities, he took a 90-year-old organization and made it new

again. We believe he can bring the same energy and imagination to Federation. He's the right leader at the right time."

At Hillel, Fingerhut developed groundbreaking partnerships, asserted leadership in advocacy for Israel and instituted a cultural transformation. He doubled Hillel's collective annual revenue from \$90 million to nearly \$200 million. He also revolutionized the development of talent across the entire Hillel network.

"Eric brings more than an impressive resume," Wilf said. "A CV can't convey the character of a person. What did we learn about Eric through this process? We saw a man with a commitment to Jewish life and values. Humble despite his many accomplishments. Someone with a compelling vision for a Jewish future."

"I grew up in Cleveland," Fingerhut recounts. "My mother was a receptionist at the Federation-supported Cleveland Jewish News for 30 years. My father sold insurance. I didn't realize it at the time, but my early life was shaped by Federation. I went to pre-school at the JCC. I vividly remember carrying signs in the walkathons standing up for Israel during the 1967 and 1973 wars."

Fingerhut continued. "Never did I imagine that nearly a half century later, I would have the opportunity to lead a Movement that has impacted my life and so many others. It has a rich history, and I believe it can have an even more impactful future. I am excited to take on that challenge."

JFNA represents 147 Jewish Federations and over 300 Network communities, raising and distributing more than \$2 billion annually and through planned giving and endowment programs. In support of social welfare, social services and educational needs, JFNA protects and enhances the well-being of Jews worldwide, and leads in the fields of caregiving, aging, philanthropy, disability, foreign policy, homeland security and health care.



Please join us to welcome our very special guest speaker

Eric D. Fingerhut

President & CEO

The Jewish Federations of North America

at the JCNCF Annual Campaign Kick-Off Event
for an engaging conversation

"Flourishing Jewish Communities in the 21st Century"

Sunday, October 6, 2019

Kick-Off Event Program at 5:30 pm

The University of Florida Hillel

2020 West University Avenue
Gainesville, Florida 32603

Free & Convenient Parking at the O'Connell Center
Kosher Dietary Laws Observed

For security purposes, guests must pre-register for this event.

*Kindly RSVP by 5 pm on Monday, September 30
by contacting 352.371.3846 or office@jcncf.org*

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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.

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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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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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JCNCF Provides Funding for Jewish Engagement

Micro Grants

Are you a Jewish institution or group in search of funding for a project that will engage your community? JCNCF offers monthly Micro Grants of \$360 to support programs that enrich the North Central Florida Jewish community.

JCNCF's Grants Committee will evaluate requests for funding. The committee will be looking for creative programs that benefit and engage the Jewish community – both those affiliated with a religious institution and those who are unaffiliated.

Any Jewish institution in North Central Florida can submit a grant request. Entities whose program will bring a greater understanding of Jewish themes and issues may also apply.

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 Chassidim (acts of loving-kindness)". Send us your ideas and plans. Hopefully, we can help with a grant from the Jewish Council of North Central Florida.

Youth Experience Scholarship

The Jewish Council of North Central Florida (JCNCF) is proud to be awarding scholarships to individuals between the ages of 10 to 21 who reside in North Central Florida. Individuals are encouraged to apply for scholarships to attend qualified not-for-profit Jewish Youth Experience programs.

The program must be an out of town experience that ends by August 31, 2020. The deadline for application submissions is December 1, 2019.

Some of the criteria used in selecting scholarship recipients would include: Demonstrated interest, achievement, and leadership in Jewish education (Religious School, Bar/Bat/B'nai Mitzvah, Jewish Youth Groups, Mitzvah Projects, etc.), reason(s) for attending the Youth Experience Program selected, involvement in community service organizations and/or projects, and financial need.

Recipients will be required to do one follow up activity after their experiences.

Applications for both the scholarship and the grants can be found by visiting www.jcnf.org/services.html.

CELEBRATE
Our 95th
ANNIVERSARY

Sunday
September 22nd, 2019
6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

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“The Group” Needs You!

By Edward Block

The existence of gross disparities and inequities along racial lines in Gainesville and Alachua County are now widely acknowledged and recognized. These disparities have existed for decades and can be found in the criminal justice system, health and transportation, housing, family support, and perhaps most importantly in education. A number of groups, agencies, and institutions in Gainesville and Alachua County are actively working to address these disparities, efforts that will take time and resources. Given the importance of education of our youth, a volunteer group of concerned Jewish and African-American citizens of Gainesville (The Group) is undertaking an effort to mobilize an “army of volunteers” to attack the racial disparity in education and to improve the educational support services to “at risk” school children at Metcalfe and Rawlings elementary schools in Gainesville.

The School Board of Alachua County has a well-developed, albeit undersubscribed, community volunteer program in schools throughout the system. The operative word in this preceding sentence is “undersubscribed”. Numerous studies have shown that community involvement in schools extends the effectiveness of teachers and staff, allows the district to deliver valuable service to students and schools that wouldn’t be feasible without the support of the community, and perhaps above all improves student performances. Young people are more likely to grow up successfully when they experience developmental relationships with important people in their lives, i.e., role models and mentors.

The Group is endeavoring to recruit a new army of volunteers and mentors from our respective communities, i.e., the Jewish and African-American communities in Gainesville and Alachua County, who can and will make a difference in the lives of the children of Gainesville. The School Board of Alachua County has a myriad of volunteer options that are begging to be filled. These include, but are not limited to, classroom assistants who work closely with classroom teachers and staff, one-on-one tutors who work with a student in need of help in academic subjects, mentors who work with discouraged students to motivate the student to achieve and stay in school, and lunch buddies who meet one-on-one with a student over the student’s lunch break and serve as a positive role model and friend. The time commitment can be as little as 1/2 hour per week (lunch buddy) or 1 hour per week (tutor or mentor) or as much as 1 or 2 days per week (classroom assistant). All that is needed to be a success as a volunteer in this army is any one (or more) of the following 4 elements (1) Express Care and Respect (show the student that he/she matters to you), (2) Challenge Growth (push the student gently to keep getting better), (3) Provide Support (help the student complete tasks and achieve goals, and/or (4) Expand Possibilities (connect the student with people and places that broaden his/her world). Relationships based on these elements make for powerful influences in the lives of young people.

The volunteer programs begin in October. To find out more about the volunteer opportunities available in the Alachua County Public Schools, contact Liz Stark, Volunteer Coordinator, at starkef@gm.sbac.edu or 352-955-7250 ext 252. I was a lunch buddy for a 4th grader at Metcalfe Elementary this past year, and it was an incredibly rewarding experience. I hope you will join me in this upcoming year as a member of our army of volunteers.



On Tuesday, July 16 members of the Gainesville African American and Jewish communities journeyed together to visit memorials to the Newberry 6 and the victims of the Rosewood Massacre. (Ed block top right)



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Miss Emily Family Weekend September 27 - 29



Kiddo Kabbalat Shabbat & Dinner
Friday, September 27, 5 pm to 7 pm

Munchkin Musica Minyan
Saturday, September 28
10:30 am to 11:45 am

Head, Hands, Heart
Sunday, September 29, 11 am to 12 pm

As the Jewish community prepares for a new year, Congregation B'nai Israel is thrilled to host Miss Emily Teck for a weekend of musical celebration September 27 - 29. Just before Rosh HaShana, this weekend will offer a series of programs for families to participate in the High Holidays through a creative, kid-friendly and engaging family experience.

Miss Emily is a Jewish musical educator who specializes in programs for children. Jewish families of North Central Florida are invited to join Miss Emily at Congregation B'nai Israel for a weekend that will include: Kiddo Kabbalat Shabbat on Friday evening at 5 pm, Munchkin Musica Minyan on Saturday morning at 10:30 am, and Head, Hands, Heart on Sunday morning at 11 am. Both Kiddo Kabbalat Shabbat and Munchkin Musica Minyan are aimed at young children under 8 and Head, Hands and Heart will be a family program designed for children and adults of all ages. This weekend is co-sponsored by Congregation B'nai Israel, the B'nai Israel Community Day School, and PJ Library North Central Florida.

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Finding Saroni -

By Steve Bobroff
Past President, JCNCF

Linda and I went on an amazing 10-day Jewish heritage tour of Eastern Europe in May, including visits to Krakow, Auschwitz/Birkenau, Budapest, Prague, and Berlin. I have documentation from family records, Ancestry.com, and other sources, of more than 20 family members who died in Auschwitz/Birkenau (as well as many others who died in other camps). I managed to handle my emotions better than I had expected to as we toured Auschwitz. Our group tour ended in Berlin, where we chose to stay for an extra night. We then rented a car for a journey to central Germany (and later to Amsterdam) to follow my roots and find graves of three of my great-grandparents, especially my namesake, Saroni Meyerhoff.

I was blessed to have all four of my grandparents until after I turned 25 years old. The Bobroffs lived in Gainesville and the Meyerhoffs in Jacksonville, so I was very close to all of them. My mother, Gertrude Meyerhoff Bobroff and her brother Eric were born into an Orthodox household in the small town of Arolsen, Germany. Their mother, Elsa Katz Meyerhoff (6 siblings), also from Arolsen, married Albert Meyerhoff (8 siblings) from Volkmarsen, a small town just a few kilometers down the road.

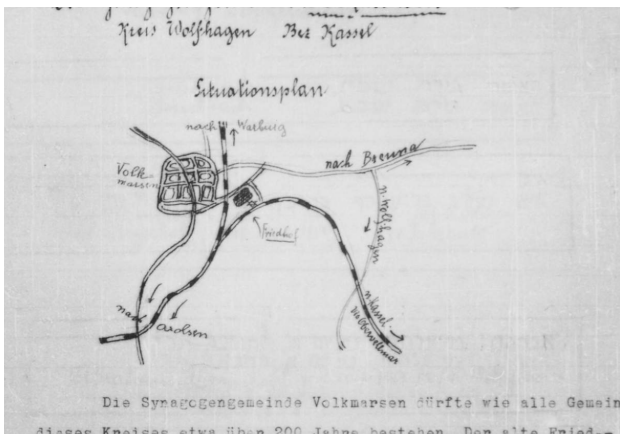
Albert Meyerhoff served in the German armed forces in WWI, which claimed the lives of 2 of his brothers. Albert's father, Saroni Meyerhoff (for whom I was named) died in 1923 and was buried in Volkmarsen. Albert's mother, Regina Neuhaun Meyerhoff, who also died between the two world wars, in 1934, was buried next to Saroni.

Albert had a successful clothing business in Arolsen. As life became difficult for Jews in Germany in the 1930's, the family was forced to close their business. My grandfather began selling to his customers door-to-door (in mostly rural areas) first by car, then by bicycle. In March of 1935, an edict declared that buying anything from Jews was forbidden. His customers told my grandfather that they could be arrested, and wanted him to secretly come visit them at night, and he informed them that he would rather lose their business than follow those rules.

Things were getting worse for his children as well. Gertrude and Eric's teachers were no longer allowed to call on the children in class, and they were also forced to sit in the back of the room. In December of 1935, the family gave most of their furniture and belongings to their employees and neighbors in Arolsen, as they were forced to move to Kassel, a much larger city, to find landlords who would rent to Jews. They had to move several times in Kassel as things got even worse, and my mother and her brother were eventually placed in an orphanage by their parents, because nobody would rent rooms to Jews who had children. Of course, they were too young to understand why they had to live in an orphanage, or why they were being bullied by children who were not afforded the luxury of having their parents visit them.



Up-close photo of the gravestone of Saroni Meyerhoff.



Baruch Wormser's location map of Volkmarsen Cemetery.

On May 11, 1937, my grandfather took advantage of a combination of foresight, stubbornness, planning,chutzpah, and luck to get his family on a train to Paris and eventually board a ship to Florida, where his older brother lived. Within a few years, my grandparents operated a boarding house and became kosher caterers in Jacksonville.

I knew that my great-grandmother, Ida Katz perished in Theresienstadt concentration camp in 1942, but her husband, Jacob Ha-Cohen Katz died before WW2, and we had no problem locating his headstone in the cemetery in Arolsen. I brought along photographs (on my cell phone) of his grave and the Meyerhoff graves, both taken before WWII. We enjoyed two days in this quaint German town where my grandmother grew up, and even found the site of their family home.

I had been unable to find information about the Meyerhoff graves until just a few days before we left for our trip. After an

Searching for My Roots in Central Germany

extensive online search, I discovered a copy of a survey done by Baruch Wormser in July of 1938 (14 months after my family left), showing a crude city location map and handwritten records in both German and Hebrew of all 118 gravestones in the "New" Volkarsen Jewish Cemetery (established 1845).

Leaving Berlin, we spent several hours driving through rain showers and arrived in Volkarsen at about 6PM. We searched for a while and finally found the cemetery. There was a sign at the unlocked entry indicating that the only record of the Jewish gravestones was Mr. Wormser's survey in July 1938, because at the end of 1938 "violent socialist criminals" smashed all of the gravestones and used part of them for paving roads. After the war, a memorial had been built at the back of the cemetery, ordered by "official directive" using parts of some of the broken headstones, and was dedicated in July of 1948.



Entry of the Old Jewish Cemetery in Volkarsen.



The photo above shows the front of the monument and surrounding 3 walls, all made of gravestone pieces, inside the Volkarsen cemetery. The photo at right shows an UP-CLOSE view of what remains of Saroni and Regina Meyerhoff.

I have come to realize why my mother found it so important to teach Hebrew classes in our home dining room before Congregation B'nai Israel had a school, and why she became a teacher and principal at said school for over 20 years. When she was a mere 10 year old, she and her family were forced out of Germany, and she dedicated her life to ensuring that the Nazi regime did not force Judaism off of the face of the earth.

After the passing of two generations, and with so many German people having owned and admitted to the atrocities performed by their ancestors, I am still processing whether or not I will ever be able to forgive. I certainly will NEVER forget. I currently have no desire to ever return to Germany.

In the drizzling rain, Linda and I entered through the entry gate (erected in 1968) and walked down the paver-covered path to the back of cemetery to view the memorial. There was a two-sided pedestal, about 8 feet tall, 4 feet wide, and 1 foot thick, comprised of broken gravestone pieces, with an engraved marble plaque attached, explaining what had happened there. The pedestal was surrounded on 3 sides by a wall which stood about 2 ½ feet tall, and also 1 foot thick and made of gravestone pieces viewable on both sides. As I walked along in horror, taking photos of the wall, for possible later evaluation, I suddenly felt as though I had been struck by one of the sledge hammers that had destroyed the gravestones. I looked down and saw the letters "S a r o" which matched exactly the family photo of Saroni and Regina's gravestone from my old family photo.

It has been very difficult for me to process just exactly how to react to the discovery of the destruction of my great-grandparents' (and all the other) gravestones. My Mom never visited Germany, but surprisingly, my grandmother bravely traveled alone to Arolsen several years after my grandfather died, to visit a non-Jewish childhood friend she had stayed in touch with over the years.



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Meet Rabbi Zev Sonnenstein of Temple Shalom

By Susan Sirmai Feinberg
Marketing Director, Temple Shalom



Rabbi Sonnenstein models one of his collection of unique tallitot during services.

Rabbi Zev Sonnenstein, (Rabbi Zev as he prefers), is originally from Rockland County, New York where he began his Spiritual Journey before he settled in Central Florida. He joined Temple Shalom of Central Florida in February 2019. He has a positive and spiritual energy about him which shows whether it is from the Bima, religious school, counseling in his office, making hospital visits or the activities he is involved in. If there is a need for something, Rabbi Zev seems to find more hours in the day to help. His "Rappin' with the Rabbi" Program has enabled him to meet many Community Members in a short time.

Rabbi Zev introduced his special talents to the Temple Members quickly when he presented his original musical Purim Spiel a few weeks after arriving, brought new Music to the Temple Choir, modeled at the Sisterhood Fashion Show and then led the sold-out Passover Seder as Moses. The Temple had a three-day Shabbaton in May to celebrate Temple Shalom's Chai Anniversary to formally welcome Zev to the Temple with a Chai Dinner Dance, special Shabbat Service and a joyous Concert with Rabbi Zev and Friends.

Zev's unique background makes him an ideal fit for his current Congregation, who loves to sing. He has taken an active role in Jewish spiritual life since he joined the temple choir, at Temple Beth-El, Spring Valley, NY as a child. From that point on, he knew he must become a Cantor. After Zev graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in music and Voice Performance from The State University of New York, he moved to Israel and completed his first year of Cantorial school at The Hebrew Union College-School of Sacred Music, Jerusalem Campus. When returning stateside, he continued his Cantorial studies at The Jewish Theological Seminary, NY, and The Academy for Jewish Religion. He continued his Rabbinic studies at The Jewish Spiritual Leadership Institute, NY, where he received his Rabbinic ordination in 2014. He is an active member of the Guild of temple musicians, Cantors Assembly and American Conference of Cantors.

Zev Sonnenstein has served as Cantor-Spiritual leader for: The Jewish Congregation of Kinnelon, NJ; Reform Temple of Putnam Valley, NY; Jewish Home and Hospital, NY; The Reform Temple of Suffern-Shir Shalom, NY; Ramapo Manor Nursing Home, NY; Temple Beth-El, NJ; the Cantor of Temple Beth-El, Ormond Beach, FL; Rabbi of Temple Beth Shalom at Palm Coast, FL; before becoming the Rabbi at Temple Shalom of Central Florida in February 2019.

Rabbi Zev is excited to build relationships with all the wonderful members of Temple Shalom and the surrounding communities. Rabbi Zev has a passion for collecting Talitot, yadayim and "fun socks". He is committed to supporting the homeless community, disadvantaged women and children shelters and the local Humane Society due to his love of animals.

Contact Rabbi Zev by checking our website www.tscfl.org or by email or rabbizev@tscfl.org or phone 352-748-1800.



JCNCF President & CEO Virginia Brissette Hirshik (center) celebrated Temple Shalom of Central Florida's 18th anniversary and welcomed Rabbi Zev Sonnenstein.

From left : Melanie Dolan, Rabbi Zev Sonnenstein, Virginia Brissette Hirshik, Marcia Cohen-Robins and Ron Robins.

A New Voice in Our Community: Rabbi Jonah Zinn

By Heath Lynn Silberfeld



The Zinn family has settled in Gainesville as Rabbi Jonah Zinn begins his tenure as Executive Director of UF Hillel. In addition to the commitment that Rabbi Jonah brings to that student organization, he and his family are furthering the roots his Florida-native wife, Jamie, set here in the mid-2000s when she attended the University of Florida. A lot has happened in ten-plus years, including the birth of the Zinns' two children—Jacob, age 3, and Talia, age 1—as well as development of a career aimed at cultivating Jewish life.

Considering Rabbi Jonah's upbringing, education, and résumé, serving as rabbi at UF Hillel is an appropriate fit, personally and spiritually. Rabbi Jonah grew up in a "pluralistic family" in Worcester, Massachusetts, with parents committed to Jewish identity, community, social service, and temple infrastructure, and both served as presidents of their Reform congregation. Their involvement greatly influenced how Rabbi Jonah spent his youth, the lessons he learned, and his commitment to Jewish identity and culture. To Hillel, he brings a focus on com-

munity building, student engagement, Israel advocacy, and Jewish learning for our college-age *mishpocha*.

Rabbi Jonah's formative years also include attending a Conservative day school, participating in an Orthodox Boy Scouts troop, and, of course, graduating from high school. Next for Rabbi Jonah was attending George Washington University, where he completed a minor in Jewish studies and a B.A. in political science, which has a lot to do with why he never tires of reading "a lot" of news.

While at George Washington, Rabbi Jonah had his first engagement with Hillel: helping students find their voice, fostering their leadership skills, engaging mentors. "In my work with Hillel, I strive to help students create a range of Jewish opportunities that reflects the diversity of Jewish life. Creating such a menu of opportunities enables students to find their place in the Jewish community and strengthens their commitment to Jewish life."

Rabbi Jonah then worked for the Jewish Fraternity Alpha Epsilon Pi and Hillel at the University of Virginia. There he oversaw student leadership development, supported Birthright programs, and organized Hurricane Katrina service trips.

Next he attended Hebrew Union College—Jewish Institute of Religion and completed an M.A. in Hebrew literature. He then was ordained as a rabbi, with coursework and residency in both New York and Jerusalem.

Rabbi Jonah spent the past five years as assistant and associate rabbi for 1,700 families in St. Louis where, in addition to general rabbinic work, he oversaw engagement programming for teens, young adults, and families with young children.

Spending time with students is the best part of the job for Rabbi Jonah, and he sees no limit to the ways students can be supported. He's already recognized that UF students are super smart and have great ideas, and he strives to foster their development. Rabbi Jonah likens Hillel to an operating system with limitless applications: "The building and our professional staff form the basis of the operating system, our wide range of programs and opportunities are the apps, and students are the end-users. They are also the best app developers, which is why Hillel partners with student leaders in everything we do."

Rabbi Jonah knows that spirituality can be developed through music and mindfulness practices, as well as through book learning and prayer, and that community service can be developed through Jewish learning, study of Jewish issues, service learning, and Israel trips.

"For UF Hillel, the past is the past," he noted. The organizational mission of Hillel is to provide resources and support "to inspire every Jewish student to make an enduring commitment to Jewish life, Jewish learning, and Israel." Even this summer, a slow time on and around campus, Hillel programs have included a schmooze over pizza, a social at The Swamp, a Shabbat dinner, and a BBQ. The fall schedule includes UF Hillel Welcome Week with Welcome Back Shabbat, Tie-Dye Tuesday, Sunday Bagel Brunch, and a UF-to-Israel kickoff party. Hillel programs will always include religious services for varied preferences, community building, Jewish learning, and Israel advocacy, plus Birthright trips, an Onward Israel summer internship program, and the Fact Finder Israel trip for student leaders of all races and religions.

Rabbi Jonah's hours at Hillel and with students will be many, the days will be long and engrossing, and the rewards, including for the larger Gainesville Jewish community, will be many. Rabbi Jonah is a model of his clear intention for students—for them to understand themselves and then to respond beyond themselves—and his vision and actions are wisely rooted in Jewish tradition and community.

Chavaya Embraces Jewish Creativity and Innovation

**By Shauna Sikron, Coordinator of Jewish Learning
Congregation B'nai Israel**

Chavaya, as Congregation B'nai Israel's Hebrew school is known, is comprised of more than 50 students that range in age from kindergarten to seventh grade. Our students celebrate the joys of the Jewish calendar together and learn the Jewish values that drive the actions of our community. We learn from the Torah, sing songs together, collect tzedakah and do mitzvah projects that benefit local charities. We love to be busy in the kitchen learning staple recipes from our rich culture (cue the challah) as well as making our own (we ferment our own pickles and sauerkraut for B'nai's Jewish Cultural Festival).

Of course, we also study Hebrew. In our we speak to one another as well through prayer. Our youngest students learn Hebrew first through lessons that introduce the Alef bet in multisensory ways (by eating a "tut"/strawberry as they learn the letter tav/ת, for example). Last year, we also introduced the successful "Hebrew Through Movement" curriculum that matches Hebrew commands to basic movements with great engagement. Our 2nd-7th grade students learn Hebrew through the Mitkadem program, a multi-level program that allows students to study and progress at their own pace. Thanks to the generous support of the Jewish Council of North Central Florida, we are fortunate to offer a digital version of this curriculum for our 3-7th grade students to continue their Hebrew study at home.

As we begin a new school year, our curriculum will be guided by the themes of Jewish creativity and innovation. We will build on our music and arts program and commence a school-wide film project. We will also turn a special focus to the innovative spirit of Judaism through lessons of Jewish history, interactive play and technology.

I welcome those interested in learning more about Chavaya to visit our comprehensive Hebrew School page on the B'nai Israel website. Registration information, expectations for each class, details of the curriculum, teacher biographies and more can all be found on our webpage: <http://www.bnaigainesville.com/about-chavaya/>



What's New at the B'nai Israel Community Day School

**By Debby Kinman-Ford, Director
B'nai Israel Community Day School**



We continue to expand our gardening space with a new herb and flower garden, as well as some other nifty additions. As we grow the school to include elementary age children, we continue to think in a forward direction of what types of activities and learning environments we can include in our program.

The B'nai Israel Community Day School can't wait to share more with you as we put new programs into place!

B'nai Israel Community Day School begins its 46th year this fall. With a rich community to draw from, we are fortunate to have a full preschool and K-1 day school program. New this year is our further expanded outdoor facility. We are installing a Koi pond to join our rabbits and chickens, a wooded play area and an outdoor art area and discovery space.

Our wooded play area features a quiet reading space, bamboo chimes hung in the trees, a natural abacus, and eventually, a small suspension bridge and wood platforms.

Our outdoor art area will be the perfect compliment to our new art education classes! With areas to draw with chalk, paint, collect bugs outdoors, or weave on the nature loom there are even more things for kids to do outdoors.

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 these beloved friends and family members:

Ina Colen,
Mother of Ken Colen and Blaise Bonaventure

Toby Meldon,
Mother of Cary and Jessica.

Sarah Stein,
Mother of Dahlia, Patty, and Shalom.

Penley Warinner,
Wife of Corin Warinner, Mother of Dorian and Calvin.

May their loved ones find solace in their memory.



Baby Genevieve Helen Coates was born on June 10, to parents Michelle and Lawson Coates of Boonton, New Jersey. She is welcomed by elated grandparents Sylvia and Arthur Haller of Gainesville.

Zoe Beiner and Eytan Oren were married July 7th at The Temple in Atlanta, GA. Zoe is the daughter of Stan and Rabbi Judith Beiner of Sandy Springs, GA. Eytan is the son of Ido and Jodi Oren of Gainesville.



Baby Naomi Ruiz was born to parents Cheri and Gabe Ruiz on July 6.



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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
Diamond Hadley, Administrative Communications Specialist
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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

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 Tabacnic 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
352.371.6399

UF Hillel (HLL)

Rabbi Jonah Zinn
www.ufhillel.org
2020 W University Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32603
352.372.2900



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www.ourchabad.org

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352.330.4466

Congregation Beth Israel (CBI-O)

Rabbi Karen Allen

www.bethisraelocala.org

4511 SW 48th St. Ocala, FL 34474

352.450.2056

Congregation Beth Sholom (CBS)

www.bethsholomcitrus.org

102 Civic Circle, Beverly Hills, FL 34464

352.746.5303

First Congregation Sons of Israel (FCSI)

Rabbi Joel Fox

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161 Cordova Street, St. Augustine, FL 32084

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Temple B'nai Darom (TBD)

Rabbi Harold Jaye

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Save These Dates

WHEN	JCNCF Programs & Events	WHERE
Friday, September 27 - Sunday, September 29	Emily Teck Weekend Program	Congregation B'nai Israel
Monday, September 30 & Tuesday, October 1	Rosh HaShanah	
Sunday, October 6, 5:30 pm	JCNCF Annual Campaign Kick-Off	UF Hillel
Wednesday, October 9	Yom Kippur	
Sunday, October 20, 3 pm	PJ Library Edible Torah Making	Temple Shir Shalom
Sunday, November 17, 8:30 am	Mitzvah Day	UF Hillel, Plus Other Sites