

# THE CHRONICLE

North Central Florida's Jewish Community Newspaper

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Adar I - Adar II 5771

## Community Day School Icon 'Miss Pedie' To Retire After More Than 25 Years

Herta Pedersen, better known to the students and family at B'nai Israel Community Day School as just Miss Pedie, is retiring this spring after more than 25 years at the school.

Over the years, Miss Pedie has taught hundreds of children and prepared them for entrance into kindergarten. Each year, she refines the basics children have learned previously at the school with language and math. Beyond that she teaches them to be advocates for themselves and how to get along with others.

Cory Roberts, a parent of one of Miss Pedie's former students said Miss Pedie made the children feel special.

"For my daughter, Oona, her time with Miss Pedie has been some of the best of her life," Roberts said. "She loved that Miss Pedie made her feel cared about and a part of her family. For her, it felt like an extension of home.

"Doing that allowed my daughter to really grow and become a confident



"Miss Pedie"

girl," she said. "People still come back after 20 years to visit her because she has had such a wonderful impact on their lives."

Erin King, another parent, spoke of how her daughter, Ruth, due to when her birthday falls in the school year, spent two years in Miss Pedie's class loving every minute of it. They

could have picked any year to repeat but chose Miss Pedie's class because "Every year was new and fresh with her."

"Everything she did was engaging and valuable," King said.

Stories like these are being repeated over and over again as people start to hear about Miss Pedie's retirement.

B'nai Israel Community Day School Director Debby Kinman-Ford praised Miss Pedie on her retirement.

"Miss Pedie is a wealth of information about child development and child rearing." She said. "She is a great sounding board for me and I will truly miss getting to work with her every day."

To celebrate Miss Pedie's 25 years of service to the school, a brunch will be held on Sunday, June 5. More information will follow in the coming month.

"Right now we are trying to get

*(Continued on page 14)*

### Correction

Due to a layout error, a name was inadvertently omitted from the first JCNCF Memorial Wall in February's *Chronicle*.

**Deborah Herbstman** is remembered by **Barbara Herbstman**.  
*The Chronicle* regrets this error.

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On Feb 3, Alachua County Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Dan Boyd spoke to JNET on *Achievement and Accountability in Public Schools*. JNET meets at 5:30 p.m. on the first Thursday of every month at Leonardo's 706 on West University Avenue.

# Ocala's Temple Beth Shalom Will Screen Documentary on The Early History of Israel

The Sisterhood of Temple Beth Shalom (1109 N.E. 8th Avenue, Ocala) is sponsoring a film night, Saturday evening, March 19 at 7:30 p.m. and open to all. Admission is \$3 per person.

The film is *In Search of Peace: 1948-1967* about the early history of Israel and the struggle for peace in the region. Refreshments will be served.

Featuring the voices of Edward Asner, Anne Bancroft, Richard Dreyfuss, Miriam Margolyes and Michael York. The New York Times calls In

Search of Peace "an unabashedly emotional and stirring inspirational history of Israel."

In Search of Peace chronicles the first two decades of Israel's existence, offering new insights on the origins of the Middle East conflict.

The film weaves together historical narrative, anecdotes and dramatic personal stories, drawing on interviews with the leaders who helped make that history.

Combining a rich tapestry of rare archival film and photos, In Search of

Peace not only examines events in Israel, but their impact on other places as well - the Arab refugee camps, the General Assembly of the United Nations and from there to the world capitals of Moscow, Paris, London, Buenos Aires, Cairo and Washington, D.C.

The film offers a unique global perspective on one of the most important events of the Twentieth Century and one of the seminal events in the 3,500-year history of the Jewish People.

## THE CHRONICLE

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## Submission Policy

### General

Please submit all material on or before the 15th of the month prior to publication. Because of space limitations, it is not always possible to publish all items submitted. If an item is not published and is still relevant, it will be automatically considered for the next month's Chronicle.

**Publication and/or specific placement in *The Chronicle* cannot be guaranteed.**

In addition to regular columns and sections, articles in *The Chronicle* fall into two broad categories: News and Upcoming Events.

News articles are about events, awards, promotions, shows, etc. that have already taken place. Please include a photograph whenever possible. Upcoming Events are programs, classes, shows and such that have yet to occur. These events must be open to the entire community and the article should indicate this, include complete information regarding location, time, date, and costs if any, and a contact number to call for more information.

**Photographs:** When taking photographs you plan to send in for publication, please make sure your camera is set to high resolution. Photos that are not high resolution may not print well. Unless it is large group shot, include the names of everyone in the photo.

Material can be e-mailed in Word Document format to [chronicle@jcnf.org](mailto:chronicle@jcnf.org), faxed (please don't fax pictures) to (352) 379-5802 or left in the Jewish Council of North Central Florida mailbox at Congregation B'nai Israel. If you have any questions, e-mail [chronicle@jcnf.org](mailto:chronicle@jcnf.org) or call (352) 379-5802.

### Letters to the Editor and Opinion Pieces

The Jewish Council of North Central Florida publishes *The Chronicle* to inform the Jewish Community of events, support community Jewish activities and promote Jewish community cohesion through charity, good will and the promotion of mitzvot. To this end, *The Chronicle* encourages a democratic free exchange of ideas and opinions through Letters to the Editor.

To carry out this purpose, *The Chronicle* will adhere to the tenet of our sage Hillel "Love thy neighbor as thyself."

Therefore, *The Chronicle* will not publish any letter or article that espouses or promotes hate or prejudice of any individual, religion, race, country or social group.

To maintain a diversity of opinion, any one writer is limited to three letters to the editor or opinion-type columns per year. For space considerations, it is beneficial to limit the letters to 500 or fewer words. However, we reserve the right to edit the letters in the interest of space and clarity.

All letters must be signed and include the author's address and phone number or e-mail. Submissions may be e-mailed to: [chronicle@jcnf.org](mailto:chronicle@jcnf.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.*

# Purim Activities

## JCNCF/Maimonides Society

Maimonides Society Senior Purim Party with Friendship Circle at Congregation B'nai Israel. To RSVP or to volunteer at this event, please contact Virginia Brissette at 371.3846 or virginia@jcnf.org. March 16 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Chai Tots Purim Carnival outings:

- Temple Shir Shalom, 11 a.m.
- Congregation B'nai Israel, 1 p.m.
- Lubavitch-Chabad Center, 4 p.m.

## Temple Shir Shalom

Sisterhood Hamentashen Making Workshop, March 13, 2 p.m.

Purim Celebration Saturday, March 19

- Potluck Dinner, 6 p.m.
- Megillah Reading, 7 p.m.

Purim Carnival, Sunday, March 20, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

## Congregation B'nai Israel

Megillah Reading, Rocky Horror Purimspiel performed by B'nai Israel members followed by desserts and schmoozing during the "Time Warp" cast party. Saturday, March 19, 8:30 p.m.

Day School Purim Kabbalat Shabbat, March 18 noon to 12:30 p.m.

## Chabad Jewish Center of Marion County & The Villages

Chinese-themed Purim Celebration at the Ocala Courtyard by Marriott, 3712 SW 37th Ave. Ocala, FL 34474. Cost: Adult \$10 Family \$25 Sponsorship opportunities available, RSVP is not necessary but always appreciated, and can be done via email at info@jewishmarion.org or by calling our office at (352) 291-2218.

- Megillah Reading, 5:30 p.m.
- Buffett Dinner, 6 pm.

## Temple Beth Shalom

Purim Masquerade Ball, March 26, 6:30 p.m.; Music, Silent Auction, Dinner and Dancing. Masquerade Attire or Black Tie only. For more information, call (352) 208-3031

## Temple B'nai Darom, Ocala

Purim Service; Havdalah, Megillah Reading, Holiday Songs and Refreshments, Noisemakers, Saturday, March 19, 8 p.m.

## Lubavitch-Chabad

### Jewish Student & Community Center

Purim in China - Purim around the world feast and celebration, with the whole family!

Featuring:

Dine at the Kosher Chinese Buffet. A variety of specialties including: beef, chicken and vegetable dishes, desserts and open bar

- Ventriloquist
- Klezmer Live Jewish Music
- Purim Craft
- Oriental Masquerade (or costume of your choice)

Free Raffle! Purim fun and entertainment for all ages! Megillah Reading 4 p.m.

Chinese Buffet Feast 5 p.m. with all the entertainment

Adults: \$14 Children: \$10

Students: \$10 Family: \$45

Sponsor: \$180

For more information & to rsvp contact:

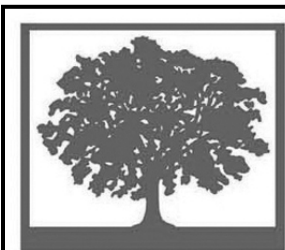
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# Deputy Counsel Updates JCNCF on Israel's Development As a Green Industry Leader

On Wednesday, January 26, the Gainesville Jewish community welcomed Paul Hirschon, Deputy Consul General for Israel to Florida and Puerto Rico. Speaking at a JCNCF event at Temple Shir Shalom, Hirschon discussed Israel's development as a world leader in many industries, from ground-breaking "green" & "clean" technology, to advances made in communications.

Here some excerpts from Hirschon's comments at the event:

Israel is still a very young, and very small, country – only 62.5 years old. But in that short time, Israel has developed as a leader in numerous industries. Israel is the third most represented country on NASDAQ, behind only China and the United States. Israel has as many resources invested in start-ups as does the entire United States and is the third largest destination for venture capital, behind California and Massachusetts. Israel is the home to more scientists per capita than any other industrial country and more scientific papers are published out of Israel than any other country in the world.

From its founding in 1948 into the 1980s, traditional economic sectors such as agriculture, textiles and minerals dominated Israel's economy. But in the 1990s, technology sectors began to drive the economy's size and growth, leading to an economic transformation. Israel has become a global high-tech and entrepreneurial leader and is home to some of the most innovative technologies and successful



From left to right, Israel Deputy Consul General Paul Hirschon, Gainesville Mayor Craig Lowe and JCNCF Executive Director Maurice Levy chat during a JCNCF event at Temple Shir Shalom.

high-tech companies in the world. Since its establishment, Israel's exports have grown from some 30 million dollars a year to over 30 billion dollars a year. Israel's per capita Gross Domestic Product (GDP) increased from

\$10,000 to \$20,000 in only ten years, from the early 1990s through the early 2000's, and even more impressive, has increased by another \$10,000 to \$30,000 in the past eight years since.

(Continued on page 14)

## Congregation B'nai Israel Will Host 'Mock Mitzvah' On April 18

At Congregation B'nai Israel, we believe that nothing builds community like dancing the *hora* with 100 or more of your closest friends at a simcha.





So we're hosting a "Mock Mitzvah" on Saturday, April 9, 2011.

It's a bar/bat mitzvah themed event honoring our Mock Bar Mitzvah Boy, Jesse Lipnick and Mock Bat Mitzvah Girl, Cydney Robbins. Thanks to a delicious meal provided by Dawn Burgess-Krop and the B'nai Israel Catering Corps., fabulous music

and entertainment by Innovative Entertainment, and over-the-top "Judaica Kitsch" decorations by our planning committee, this simcha is sure to be a great time!

You can join us with a \$54 "gift." Sponsorships are also available. Contact Erin@bnaigainesville.com or (352) 376-1508 x103 for more information.

We'd love to welcome you to our mishpachah – come out and celebrate with us!

 <p>info@jordanglen.org visit us online: www.jordanglen.org Or call: 495-1222</p>	<p><b>Jordan Glen School's Summer Camp 2011</b> June 13 - July 1 July 5 - July 22</p> <p><b>SPORTS • ARTS &amp; CRAFTS SWIMMING • TENNIS • DANCE</b></p> <p>Transportation Available <i>Limited school openings for Fall 2011 Pre K - 8th Grade</i></p>	 <p>SUSAN NEUGROSCHER, GRI, CRS REALTOR-ASSOCIATE® (352) 372-5375 BUS. (800) 755-0086 TOLL FREE (352) 371-1526 FAX (352) 376-0839 RESIDENCE (352) 870-1722 CELL susanneug@aol.com</p> <p><b>COLDWELL BANKER</b>  </p> <p>M. M. PARRISH, REALTORS® 3870 NW 83rd Street Gainesville, FL 32606 www.mmparrish.com</p> <p><small>Each Office Is Independently Owned And Operated.</small></p>
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## Artist Elizabeth Barakah Hodges Shows Israeli-Inspired Work at Next Jewish Newcomers Meeting

The Jewish Newcomers and Friends are looking forward to seeing some of Elizabeth Barakah Hodges' artistic endeavors and hearing her speak about them. The meeting will take place at Temple Shir Shalom at 7:30 p.m. on March 16.

Born in the South of artist parents, Elizabeth Barakah Hodges chose words as her medium and earned a doctorate in Comparative Literature and became a university professor. Two decades later while living in Boston, she enrolled in a 6-week design course and then found herself taking a

painting class under the same teacher, artist Sandy Sokoloff.

"He kept telling me I was good until finally I believed him," Hodges said.

She graduated, magna cum laude, in 1995 and was named University of North Florida's 1997-1998 Outstanding Alumna in Art. Her artist life is charmed, she says.

"As an artist and as an art teacher, I feel I am swimming in the holy stream," Hodges said. "I paint, I apply -- but I'm not invested in a particular outcome and yet I have had opportu-

nities that I could never have imagined. I have no ambition for this career but doors open."

One door was the summer of 2005 when she lived in Ein Hod Artists Village and traveled throughout Israel. Her presentation to the Jewish Newcomers concerns her experiences in Israel and the art series, Light and Peace, which has occupied her since.

This work was exhibited at the Hippodrome State Theatre in 2006 and, greatly expanded, at the Jewish Community Alliance in Jacksonville.

*(Continued on page 14)*

## Marion County Lubavitch-Chabad Hosts Chinese Purim

The Chabad Jewish Center of Marion County & The Villages presents the 2,366th Annual Purim Celebration creating Jewish excitement and fun for the whole family. The entire Jewish community is invited regardless of affiliation or background.

Purim celebrates the salvation of the Jewish people, in the year 3405 from Creation (356 bce), from Haman's plot "to destroy, kill and annihilate all the Jews, young and old, infants and women, in a single day." (Purim literally means 'lots' for Haman determined the day of annihilation by throwing a lottery.)

It is observed by public readings of the Megillah – 'Scroll of Esther', sending food portions to friends, giving gifts of money to the poor, and enjoying a festive meal accompanied with joyous drink. It's also customary to dress up on Purim.

This year our Purim will be Chinese themed including a Chinese Buffet Dinner, Chinese entertainment, Megillah reading, clowns, hamantashen and more!

"We try to bring a new excitement to our annual party with styles from all over the world" says Chabad Director Rabbi Yossi Hecht. "Come in Chinese

attire or any costume".

The event will be held Sunday Evening, March 20th. Starting with Megillah reading at 5 p.m. and the Chinese Buffet Dinner 5:30 p.m., The event is will take place at Ocala Courtyard by Marriott, 3712 SW 37th Ave. Ocala, Fl 34474.

Cost: Adult \$10 Family \$25 Sponsorship opportunities available, RSVP is not necessary but always appreciated, and can be done via email at [info@jewishmarion.org](mailto:info@jewishmarion.org) or by calling our office at (352) 291-2218.

For more info visit us at [www.JewishMarion.org](http://www.JewishMarion.org).



Volunteers from Hillel and Kids Konnect got together on February 7 to bake treats for children at the Pine Ridge Community Center After School Program.



Gainesville Chapter of  
Hadassah  
Invites you to  
Hadassah Shabbat

Roslyn F. Levy

will be honored as our  
Woman of Valor

8:00 p.m., Friday, March 25, 2011  
Congregation B'nai Israel  
3830 NW 16 Blvd.  
Gainesville, FL 32605



## The Rabbi's Pen

# Houses of Faith Uniting To Build Habitat House

Words from Guest Columnist

**Rabbi Michael Joseph**

Temple Shir Shalom, Gainesville

In the early fall of 2010, a remarkable coalition of religious leaders and lay people emerged to oppose the outrageous plans of the Dove World Outreach Church to stage a public burning of the Qur'an, the Muslim sacred scriptures.

The Dove World plans threatened to cast the pall of religious hatred over our community; the actions taken to thwart these plans opened doors and hearts to one another throughout the community. What had threatened to become a grave embarrassment became instead a moment of unity and pride.

Many members of this informal interfaith coalition pledged to continue their new found friendship and cooperation without waiting for the next crisis.

And now, representatives of 17 different Gainesville area congregations -- Jews, Christians and Muslims -- partners in the religious life of the community, begin to fulfill this promise by announcing the formation of the Interfaith Habitat for Humanity Working Group.

This group, in partnership with Alachua Habitat for Humanity, our local affiliate of the international organization, will build a home for a needy family in the community.

Among the charter members of the group are Congregation B'nai Israel, P'nai Or Congregation, and Temple Shir Shalom.

The Interfaith Habitat House Working Group has a site already chosen for this building project, which we hope to be just the first of many.

Our first site is in the Celebration Oaks neighborhood, which includes a number of other Habitat homes. We have a partner family that has been interviewed and selected by Alachua Habitat for Humanity. Together with our partner family, we have held a service of site dedication.

We have received pledges of over half of the \$65,000

needed to make this dream a reality. Now we are asking congregations, clergymen and women, and all people of good faith throughout the community to step forward and support this effort with contributions of time, money, and the physical effort of construction.

Please contact me at [rabbijoseph@shirshalom.net](mailto:rabbijoseph@shirshalom.net) to see what you can do to help.



**Attendees at the Interfaith Habitat House meeting:**  
Back row (left to right) Scott Winzeler Executive Director for Alachua Habitat for Humanity; Fr. Rolan Julian, St. Patricks Catholic Church; Rabbi David Kaiman, Congregation B'nai Israel; Greg Magruder, Parkview Baptist Church; Andrew Pridgen, Trinity United Methodist Church and Steve Colley Parkview Baptist Church.

Front row (left to right) Debbie Herring, Trinity United Methodist Church; Rev. Andy Bachmann, The United Church of Gainesville; Tallulah Brown, Holy Trinity Episcopal Church; Sartaj Baban, Islamic Community Center; George Chappell, University Lutheran and Rabbi Michael Joseph, Temple Shir Shalom.

The Rabbi's Pen is a monthly column featuring a message from one of North Central Florida's Rabbis.

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# Celebrate Purim at Lubavitch-Chabad

Lubavitch-Chabad invites you to celebrate Purim in China. Join the 11th Annual Purim around the world feast and celebration, with the whole family!

Sunday March 20, 2011 at 4 p.m. featuring:

- Dine at the Kosher Chinese Buffet with a variety of specialties including: beef, chicken and vegetable dishes, desserts and open bar.
- Ventriloquist
- Klezmer Live Jewish Music
- Purim Craft
- Oriental Masquerade (or costume of your choice)

Free Raffle! Purim fun and entertainment for all ages!  
Megillah Reading 4 p.m.

Chinese Buffet Feast 5 p.m. with all the entertainment

Adults: \$14 Children: \$10

Students: \$10 Family: \$40.00

Silver Sponsor: \$180 Gold Sponsor: \$360

For more information & reservations contact:

336.5877 - www.JewishGator.com -

Rabbi@JewishGator.com

At: Lubavitch-Chabad Jewish Student & Community Center, 2021 NW 5th Ave. (five blocks north of the stadium)

## About Purim

More than 2,000 years ago in the country of Persia, King Achashverosh took a new bride, Queen Esther, a secret Jewess. With the help of G-d, she saved the Jewish nation from complete annihilation by Haman. Each year on the fourteenth day of the Hebrew month of Adar we celebrate the joyous holiday of Purim to commemorate this great miracle.

There are four special Mitzvos we perform on Purim:

1. HEAR the reading of the Megillat Esther (story of Purim) on Purim night and again the next day.
2. SEND Mishloach Manot (food packages containing at least two ready-to eat items) to at least one friend.
3. GIVE Matanot La'evyonim (charity to the poor) to at least two needy people or put money into charity boxes.
4. EAT a Purim feast during Purim day with family and friends.

This Year Purim begins on Saturday night, March 19 at nightfall and concludes on Sunday, March 20 in the evening.

For more information or to sponsor any of our programs, please contact Rabbi Berl or Chanie Goldman  
www.JewishGator.com - 352.336.5877 -  
Rabbi@JewishGator.com




Temple Shir Shalom Rabbi Michael Joseph and volunteers from the Lubavitch-Chabad Student Group and the Maimonides Society host an Erev Shabbat Oneg with residents at The Village on Jan 28.

**B'NAI ISRAEL  
SISTERHOOD'S  
HAMENTASCHEN BAKE  
Sunday, March 13, 2011**


**Hamentaschen Order Form**  
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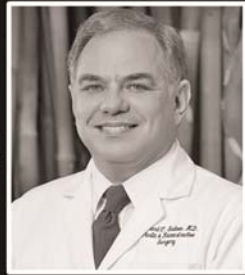


**Hamentaschen order  
pickup 2 to 4 pm on  
Sunday, March 13,  
2011 in the Social Hall.**  
Contact Elaine Kaplan  
at 377-9511  
(etaleah@cox.net) for  
more information.

**All orders must be  
accompanied by  
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**JCNCF Local Grants In Action**

# Shir Shalom Beyond B'nai Mitzvah Program Aims to Keep Teens Involved

Temple Shir Shalom has introduced an important new program called Beyond B'nai Mitzvah for its post-b'nai mitzvah and high school age students.

This new program, along with a re-emergent Temple Youth Group, will significantly strengthen the congregation's offerings to teenage members.

"We hope," said Rabbi Michael Joseph, "to make it both easier and more likely that our children will choose Jewish paths for themselves."

"Beyond B'nai Mitzvah" will meet on five Sunday afternoons during the current academic year and then resume in the fall of 2011.

Each session, from 12:30 to 2 p.m., will include a full lunch, a short study session and a program presented by various prominent members of our



**Guest Speaker Amanda Solomon, Manoa Arts Intern at the UF Hillel, talks to participants during the first session of Temple Shir Shalom's Beyond B'nai Mitzvah program**

Jewish community. These guests will each present, through personal experience, their paths to adult Jewish commitment.

Rabbi Joseph will coordinate this program in partnership with Virginia Brissette, along with the assistance of

*(Continued on page 9)*

**Thanks for Your Support**

**Maimonides Society of Gainesville**

A Division of the Jewish Council of North Central Florida, Inc.

**Together, We Can Make Things Happen!**

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**Maimonides Society Annual Dues**

\$36 for individuals      \$72 for couples/families

**What Maimonides Society Projects Interest You:**

- ♦ Develop/present educational programs or social programs
- ♦ Help prepare/serve Shabbat dinners in senior residential facilities
- ♦ Provide volunteer services (transportation/shopping/respite care/ etc)
- ♦ Join other Jewish families with young children and become involved with Chai Tots
- ♦ Deliver shalom baby bags to newest members of community
- ♦ Deliver holiday gift bags for Rosh Hashana and Passover to elderly in our community
- ♦ Sponsor a special project or program

To learn more contact Maimonides Society at [maimonides@jcnCF.org](mailto:maimonides@jcnCF.org)

**Enclosed is my:**

\_\_\_\_ Membership/Annual Dues in the amount of:      \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_ Donation in the amount of:      \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**TOTAL:**      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Checks should be made payable to "The Jewish Council" and mailed to:

Maimonides Society  
 3835 NW 8th Avenue., Gainesville, FL 32605  
 (352) 374-8728

\*Your contributions are tax deductible as allowed by the Internal Revenue Code

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# A Double Dose of Happiness

**By: Rabbi Berl Goldman**

Lubavitch-Chabad  
Jewish Student & Community Center  
at the University of Florida

Every day of the year has its own distinctive qualities and potential. Certainly there are famous holidays on the Jewish calendar, whose customs and importance we anticipate and celebrate with renewed vigor and excitement every year.

Then there are the ordinary days, which silently implore us to find importance within them and to uplift their mundane 24 hours. Occasionally we chance upon a special day, though not very well known, definitely not ordinary, and in fact quite extraordinary.

One of these unique days is Purim Kattan, the small Purim, which only occurs during a leap year, seven times every nineteen years. Perhaps we should view Purim Kattan as a precious guest, who doesn't visit very often and thus deserves special attention.

Although we don't celebrate Pu-

rim Kattan with all of the customs and laws associated with Purim, it still retains the same spirit and qualities of a 'regular' Purim.

Purim celebrates the victory of the Jews over their enemies, led by Haman who wanted to annihilate them. The ultimate triumph of the Jewish people was so great that the Book of Esther tells us, "Many from among the people of the land professed themselves as Jews."

This idea of Jewish pride, determination and success, even in the face of unparalleled darkness and challenge is reflected and celebrated on Purim Kattan, equally as it is on Purim.

Indeed, the name Purim Kattan which means small Purim alludes to the Jewish people who are called small, yet simultaneously indicates that although there are times when we are small and our numbers may seem insignificant, we still carry the power of Purim when the Jewish strength and power was felt the world over.

Just as an example, Jews make up only 0.2% of the world population, yet they account for 22% of Nobel Prize

winners.

What is the lesson we can derive Purim Kattan and its practical implication for us today? How can we internalize its ideals, besides for getting a head start on eating hamentashen? Purim Kattan, although smaller and seemingly less significant still comes first and introduces the aspects of Purim of overcoming obstacles and challenges, and eventually triumphing over evil, as in the days of Purim.

We are living in very turbulent times. There is unrest in the Middle East and throughout the world. We can certainly use the encouragement of Purim Kattan and utilize our talents and strength, no matter how insignificant they may seem, to improve our little part of the world, which will ultimately lead to the betterment of the entire world.

And this along with the message of the month of Adar, "When Adar comes in, joy increases," which we have in a double dose this year, 60 days, will only lead to more positivity and tranquility around us. May the joyful months of Adar bring happiness and good luck to the Jewish people

*(Continued on page 15)*

## Beyond B'nai Mitzvah

*(Continued from page 8)*

religious school principal, Debbie Boada. The program is subsidized by a grant from the Jewish Council of North Central Florida, and there is no cost to families for the sessions to be held this school year. It is open to Shir Shalom students in the 7th grade and above, whether or not they have yet become, or are planning to become b'nai mitzvah.

Please check the Temple calendar for dates, and/or call for more information.



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# Harry Krop Discusses Forensic Psychology at Next JNET Gainesville Meeting March 3

Dr. Harry Krop will present an interesting Inside Look into the World of a Forensic Psychologist at the next JNET Gainesville meeting March 3 at Leonardo's 706.

## Temple Shir Shalom's Annual Community Seder is April 18

Temple Shir Shalom will host its annual Community Passover Seder on the first night of Passover, Monday, April 18 at 6 p.m.

The menu includes baked apricot chicken, brisket of beef, vegetables and of course matzo ball soup, charoset, gefilte fish and all the traditional fixings. Food will be served family style so there is no need to indicate vegetarian preferences.

Prices until April 1 are: Adults: \$40 (members) and \$50 (nonmembers), Children 9-12: \$20, Children 4-8: \$10 and Children under 3 are free.

Prices April 2-11 are: Adults: \$45 (members) and \$55 (nonmembers), Children 9-12: \$25, Children 4-8: \$15 and Children under 3 are free.

Reservations made after April 11 and walk-ins are \$75

For further information, please contact: Temple Shir Shalom, 371-6399. Reservations accompanied by full payment can be sent to Temple Shir Shalom ATTN: Seder, 3855 NW 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32605.

Krop will discuss the psychologist's unique role in death penalty cases, using examples from some of his high profile cases, including Danny Rolling and Eileen Wuornos. He will also talk about some of the challenging ethical issues he faced while working on these cases.

Dr. Krop is a clinical psychologist specializing in forensic psychology. Over the course of his career, he has evaluated over 2,000 murder cases. Currently, Harry works in private practice is an associate professor in the Department of Psychiatry at UF.

Join JNET Gainesville meets the first Thursday of every month from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Leonardo's 706, 706 West University Avenue. For \$7, delicious pizzas and appetizers, cash bar and the best 90 minutes of networking in town.

Contact Josh at [josh@jcnf.org](mailto:josh@jcnf.org) or 352-371-3846 to RSVP and with any questions.

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Thank you for your donations of time, money and resources to provide tutoring and snacks for the Pine Ridge Community Center's After School Program. Anyone interested in a one time or ongoing donation of snacks or baking, making sandwiches, or volunteering at the center should contact Virginia Brissette at 371.3846 or [virginia@jcnf.org](mailto:virginia@jcnf.org).

### Maimonides Society Services Form

The Volunteer Outreach Program provides personal services such as respite care, companionship, reading, letter writing, grocery shopping/delivery, transportation, hospital visitation, etc. to those in need. Please let us know if you, or a family member in Gainesville can use the assistance of one of our volunteers; or if you would like to volunteer to help provide some of these much-needed services in our community.

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# Day School Establishes Goldstein Early Childhood Fund With \$12,000 Donation

Harvey Goldstein, a congregant of Bnai Israel has donated \$12,000 toward the establishment of the Goldstein Early Childhood Fund at the B'nai Israel Community Day School.

The purpose of the fund is to provide scholarships to needy families, to make improvements to the Day School and to offer programs for Day School families. The fund has been established in honor of Mr. Goldstein's children, Elana, Glenn and Alisha Goldstein and in memory of his parents, Ella Levine and Jacob Goldstein.

Debby Kinman-Ford, the Day School Director, is ecstatic about the fund.

"It will allow us to help families, including those not affiliated with Bnai Israel with their tuition," she said. "Quality child care is expensive and this scholarship fund will make Jewish

early child education more accessible for several families.

"In addition to the scholarships and enhancement of our family programming, the Goldstein Early Childhood Fund will allow us to have upgrades done in the school we might not have been able to afford otherwise," she added. "Our whole staff and our Parent Teacher Partnership are thrilled!"

In addition to the initial donation, Mr. Goldstein would like to see the community continue the fund beyond this year. He has offered to match up to \$2,500 for monies donated to the fund. This will enable the school to continue to offer scholarships past this first year.

The school plans to recognize Mr. Goldstein's generosity on Friday, March 11 with a special Kabbalat Shabbat program in his honor at noon.


The community is invited.

For more information about the Scholarship fund or to make a donation to the Goldstein Early Childhood Fund, you may contact Debby Kinman-Ford at 376-1508 ext. 101 or email her at [debby@bnaigainesville.com](mailto:debby@bnaigainesville.com).

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Daniel Silver helps little sister Tammy pin the branch on the Tu B'Shvat tree at the January Kids Konnect.



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# Films on Jews in Sports Kicks Off First Gainesville Jewish Film Festival March 14

The University of Florida Hillel in conjunction with the Jewish Council of North Central Florida and the Jewish Student Union is proud to present the First Gainesville Jewish Film Festival in March 2011.

## Community Jewish Learning Day April 3

On Sunday, April 3, the Jewish Community of North Central Florida will come together for a day of Jewish learning and discussion. A thought-provoking selection of classes and lectures on a variety of Jewish themes and topics will be offered. Come for one session or stay for the entire program.

There will be a variety of classes between 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. with morning classes at Congregation B'nai Israel and afternoon sessions at Temple Shir Shalom. A Kosher lunch will be available for purchase,

Look for detailed information in the April Chronicle.

All film screenings will be shown at the Hippodrome Theatre in downtown Gainesville. The festival will be a duration of six nights, each focusing on a different Jewish issue.

Topics range from Jews in Sports to Social Action and Philanthropy. Films will be followed by interactive discussions led by some exciting speakers like Professor Norman Goda and Rabbi Daniel Wolnerman.

Opening night is Monday, March 14th and we will be featuring *The Yankles*, a newly released comedy that follows the struggles and successes of a yeshiva baseball team.

The program will begin at 7 p.m. each night and will be free to the public.

Dates and Topics for the film series:

- March 14 - Opening Night - Jews in Sports
- March 15 - Significance of a Homeland
- March 21 - Jewish Identity
- March 22 - Social Action
- March 28 - Holocaust Remembrance
- March 29 - Contemporary Jewish Media



Gabriel Bitton and Victoria Bitton (unrelated), both natives of Morocco, speak to students of the Temple Shir Shalom Religious School about Jewish life in North Africa, on Sunday, January 30, 2011.

### JNET Gainesville's March Event

**Dr. Harry Krop**  
**Clinical Psychologist**

will speak about

*An Inside Look  
Into The World  
of a Forensic Psychologist*

Clinical forensic psychologist Harry Krop will discuss the psychologist's unique role in death penalty cases, using examples from some of his high profile cases, including Danny Rolling and Eileen Wuornos. He will also talk about some of the challenging ethical issues he faced while working on these cases.

Thursday, March 3, 2011

5:30 - 7 pm at Leonardo's 706

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Friday, 6 p.m. – Kabbalat Shabbat

Saturday, 8:30 a.m. – Torah Circle

Saturday, 9:30 a.m. – Shacharit Service

Saturday, Varied Times, – Seudat

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Tuesday, noon, Torah on Tuesdays

Tuesday, 6 p.m. – Minyan

Thursday, 7 a.m. – Minyan

Thursday, 8 a.m. – Bagels & Schmooze

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 Saturday 10 a.m. - Shabbat Morning Torah Study

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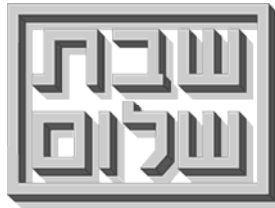
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## COMMUNITY NACHAS

At the Alachua County School Volunteer Luncheon, **Marc and Leslie Suskin** were named Volunteers of the Year for Sidney Lanier Center and **Halle Bensen** was named Youth Volunteer of the Year for Lake Forest Elementary School.

**Isaac Douglas Werner**, a senior at Buchholz High School who volunteers countless hours in the community, was honored at the 28th annual Ebony Appreciation Awards Banquet Feb. 27.

**Caitlin Hunter** made the Dean's List at the University of Florida for the Fall 2010 term.

**Paul Richards** premiered a new composition commissioned in honor of the University of Florida Symphony Orchestra's 100th anniversary season. *Dream Theater*, a four-movement work for large orchestra, is inspired by the brilliant photography of Jerry Uelsmann. The premier performance was Feb. 26.

## Party Like It's 5771 at Congregation B'nai Israel

Party at B'nai Israel this Purim! Megillah Reading begins at 8:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 19. It will be followed by the Rocky Horror Purimspiel performed by B'nai Israel members. Stick around for desserts and schmoozing during our "Time Warp" Cast Party. All are welcome to attend. Come in costume and bring your favorite grogger! We're gonna party like it's 5771!

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## Israel

(Continued from page 4)

Israel leads the field in clean technology, nano-technology and communications. Fifty-eight percent of all Israeli exports today are technology. Cell phones & text messaging technology would not exist without Israeli inventors. Israel is second behind the United States in the development of Internet application software. Israel is on the forefront of clean technologies, from its water desalinization efforts and its increasing use of solar energy to its role in the development of battery powered cars. For example, Israel is the number one recycler of water in the world, recycling 70 percent of its waste water. Number two? Spain, who recycles 12 percent of its waste water.

Israel is a land of very limited natural resources, and to some extent, was forced to develop many of these technologies for its own survival, sustainability and growth. Theodore Herzl and the other original Zionists had plans to develop and "green the desert." Today's Israelis take that to a whole new level - to not only develop and "green" the land of Israel, but the entire world.

## Miss Pedie Retires

(Continued from page 1)

names and addresses of former Day School families so we can send them invitations to the brunch and have them be a part of celebrating her years of educating our children," said Kinman-Ford.

If are a former student of Miss Pedie's, or the family member of a student, please e-mail Debby Kinman-Ford at [debby@bnaigainesville.com](mailto:debby@bnaigainesville.com) or call (352) 376-1508 ext. 101.

## Newcomers

(Continued from page 5)

The painting "Trees" was in a national juried exhibit on view at Hillel Foundations at Columbia University in New York City and at Boston University in Massachusetts, Spring 2007. "Trees" is also the subject of an article by Menachen Wecker entitled "Jewish Women Artists Talk About Their Work (Part Three)" published in the national on-line newspaper Jewish Press, April 2, 2007.

"The Blue Door" from her Israel series is reproduced in the Spring 2008 issue of Reform Judaism Magazine's article on art in Israel.

In Gainesville, Elizabeth Barakah Hodges's art is carried by Hector Framing and Gallery, and several of her Judaic paintings are on view in the hall of Congregation B'nai Israel. Online her work may be seen at [www.elizabethhodges.com](http://www.elizabethhodges.com). She teaches art through Santa Fe College's Community Education Program.

Members and friends of the Jewish Newcomers are invited to attend this presentation and meet and greet the artist. Light refreshments will be served after the meeting.

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# Jewish Community Calendar — March 2011

**Tuesday, March 1**

Temple Shir Shalom Torah Study with Rabbi Joseph, 9:30 a.m.; also on March 8, 15, 22 and 29.

Temple Shir Shalom Sisterhood Board Meeting, 7 p.m.

**Wednesday, March 2**

JCNCF Maimonides Society Caregiver Support Group Meeting, 7 p.m. at Temple Shir Shalom

**Thursday, March 3**

JNET Gainesville with Forensic Psychologist Dr. Harry Krop, 5:30 p.m. at Leonardo's 706, \$7

**Saturday, March 5**

University of Florida Spring Break through March 12

**Sunday, March 6**

Temple Shir Shalom Adult Education Yiddish with Bernie Zeldin, 11 a.m.; also on March 13 and 20

Isser and Rae Price Library of Judaica at UF 30th Anniversary Rededication Celebration, 2 p.m. in Smathers Library Room 1A

**Tuesday, March 8**

Temple Shir Shalom Board Meeting, 7 p.m.

**Thursday, March 10**

Congregation B'nai Israel Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m.

**Friday, March 11**

B'nai Israel Community Day School Parent Teacher Partnership Meeting, 8:30 a.m.

B'nai Israel Community Day School Kabbalat Shabbat in honor of Harvey Goldstein, noon

**Saturday, March 12**

Temple Shir Shalom Shabbat Worship and Torah Study, 9:30 a.m.; also on March 26

**Sunday, March 13**

B'nai Israel Community Day School Stay and Play, 3 to 5 p.m.

**Monday, March 14**

B'nai Israel Community Day School Sprit Week, through March 18

**Tuesday, March 15**

Jewish Council of North Central Florida Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m. at Temple Shir Shalom

**Wednesday, March 16**

JCNCF Mitzvah Day planning meeting at the JCNCF office, 6 p.m.; For more information about Mitzvah Day, please call JCNCF at 371.3846 or email maimonides@jcncf.org.

Jewish Newcomers and Friends, 7:30 p.m. at Temple Shir Shalom, featuring a presentation by artist Elizabeth Barakah Hodges

**Saturday, March 19**

In Search of Peace : 1948-1967, a documentary, at Temple Beth Shalom, Ocala at 7:30 p.m., \$3

**Sunday, March 20**

**Purim**

**Thursday, March 24**

JCNCF sponsored meal at the Helping Hands Clinic for the Homeless, 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.; For more information or to volunteer for this project, please contact Virginia Brissette at 371.3846 or virginia@jcncf.org.

**Friday, March 25**

B'nai Israel Community Day School Miss Pedie's Tea Party, noon

P'nai Or Kabbalat Shabbat service, 7:30 p.m. at United Church of Gainesville (NW 5th Ave at 17th St). Led by Rabbi Shaya Isenberg and Bahira Sugarman, this is our "Pre Pesach Chametz Cleaning" (spiritual preparation for Passover) Followed by dessert pot luck. All welcome. Call 331-5672 for more information.

Saturday, March 26

**Sunday, March 27**

Temple Shir Shalom No Sunday School

**Monday, March 28**

Alachua County Public School Spring Break through April 2

## Double Dose

*(Continued from page 9)*

and to the entire world.

On behalf of my wife Chanie, our children, Mendel, Mushka, Rochel, Levi, Shmuel and Meir, we wish you all a happy Purim and we look forward to celebrating a Purim in China bash together on Sunday, March 20th.

*Note: The articles written or published by the Lubavitch-Chabad Center are primarily based on Chassidic insights, discourses, letters and talks by the Lubavitch Rebbe of righteous memory. Periodically we present*

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Sadove Cosmetic Surgery  
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### THERAPIST/MEDIATOR

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