THANK YOU

FOOD FEST

VOLUNTEERS

& SPONSORS

DECEMBER 2019

CONTACT
Hanukkah Celebration!

Friday December 13

Service, 6pm
Dinner and Party, 7pm

Cost: $6/person - $12/Family for members
$8/person - $16/family for non-Members
RSVP to 912-233-1547

Don't forget to bring your menorah!

We will be collecting clothing for the homeless as well as new unwrapped gifts for children ages 5-13.
### DECEMBER EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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### MAZEL TOV

- **Mazel Tov to Tara and Jason Tirey on the birth of their twin boys, Maddox and Morgan!**
- **Mazel Tov to Ann Sainz Jones and Harrison Garrett on their wedding November 15th.**
- **Mazel Tov to Hannah Jensen on her Bat Mitzvah.**
- **Mazel Tov to Serena and Caleb Epstein on their B’Nei Mitzvah.**
- **Mazel Tov to Lauren Denton and her friend Mo Dixon on the opening of their store Lisa Lisa’s Gift Closet.**

Please call the office at 912-233-1547 for more information or to make a reservation.

Sponsor a Kiddush Lunch to celebrate a special occasion or to remember a loved one.
A native Savannahian, Glenn Kersey and his wife Peg are moving back to Savannah where he wants to continue his 17 year connection to Reform Judaism. A Jew by choice, he proudly became a Bar Mitzvah at age 49. Glenn is a registered nurse and has worked at the Roosevelt Warm Springs Hospital for approximately 30 years. He looks forward to continuing his Jewish education and worship at Mickve Israel.

Claudia Edison is a SCAD alumna and local freelance illustrator and concept artist originally from the New York area, spending her free time cooking and serving with Savannah Food Not Bombs and volunteering with La SUYA (Savannah Undocumented Youth Alliance). Having attended services on and off since 2014, she would like, as a new member, to get more involved with Mickve Israel and the Jewish community to promote and practice Tikkun Olam.

Currently working as an environmental educator at the Burton 4-H Center on Tybee Island, Ace Reuben Spitzer is a recent university graduate and is interested in wildlife conservation and disease management and ecology. Although he will be departing in June when his position ends, he hopes to attend services and adult education classes as well as Young Jewish Savannah events during his time in Savannah.

Xenia H. Halfacre, a retired high school reading teacher, was introduced to Judaism as a young child when her mother enrolled her in a Jewish day school in Chicago though her family was not Jewish. Moving to Savannah two years ago from Florida to be near family members, she came to Mickve Israel and found it to be a warm and welcoming place. Recently completing conversion after studying with Rabbi Haas, she is already firmly entrenched in congregational activities and is a regular attendee at services.

Bluffton residents for 13 years, Steve and Billie Cohen are originally from Central New Jersey and are past members of Mickve Israel. They look forward to resuming their active participation in many facets of our congregation and bring much experience from involvements in Sisterhood, Brotherhood and as Board members of New Jersey congregations. Their interests include reading, music, tennis, mah jong, knitting, woodworking and traveling.

I really appreciate all of you who came to say goodbye to my mother. Here's my phone number (912-257-0811) if you ever want to call me to say hello. Thank you all for keeping our mother's memory alive.

Nicholas Seward
Frances Lowery-Wilson's son

Enjoy a 20% discount off all Hanukkah Menorahs in the gift shop throughout December.
Happy Chanukah

This will be an especially interesting year for me, as it’s the first year since I married April in which Hanukkah and Christmas share a common day. So, when Amira and Aryeh visit their grandmother, she will be able to wish them a Happy Chanukah and a Merry Christmas at the same time, although, she will probably have trouble with the “Ch” in Chanukah. I hope my children will continue to create and foster relationships with family and friends throughout their lives, even if religions differ. Although it may have taken a second for me to adjust to this holiday I had never celebrated before, I appreciate the opportunity my children will receive to teach their family members about their Jewish celebration even as they learn to respect the cultures and religions of others. We may even start a new tradition of dipping a latke into eggnog. I, April, and Amira and Aryeh thus want to wish everyone all the best for the holiday season.

Eight Ideas for Hanukkah Nights and None of Them are Presents

Hanukkah is one of the most beloved Jewish holidays. But it can be hard to get your kids focused less on "eights nights of presents" and more on eight nights celebration. Here are some themes that can help make your family's Hanukkah a bit brighter this year.

DECORATION NIGHT
On the first night, decorate your home for Hanukkah. Need ideas? Make crafts with tutorials from creativejewishmom.com or hit your local craft for some blue and silver inspiration. You can also find some ideas on the PJ website or Pinterest!

MEMORY BOOK NIGHT
On the first night, decorate your home for Hanukkah. Need ideas? Make crafts with tutorials from creativejewishmom.com or hit your local craft for some blue and silver inspiration. You can also find some ideas on the PJ website or Pinterest!

MEMORY BOOK NIGHT
Begin a “scrapbook” to document your family Hanukkah experiences. Add photos and drawings along with quotes from every family member to begin a tradition that can be added to every year.

FAMILY TREE NIGHT
Trace the roots of your family tree. Start by telling stories and asking each other questions. Use a big sheet of paper or dry erase markers on a glass door to list the members of your family and create the branches. Encourage children to list whoever comes to mind—whether they're biological or chosen family.

LOOK AT LIGHTS NIGHT
Take a cue from the story Chanukah Lights Everywhere and spend time looking at the lights all around you. If it's warm enough, take a flashlight outside and look at the stars, or, on a chilly night, hop in the car and take a ride through town to notice the lights on signs, decorations, and streetlights.

SONG & DANCE NIGHT
Circle round the Hanukkah lights and sing a few holiday classics. More adventurous singers might consider learning a song from here: https://www.kveller.com/article/top-ten-hanukkah-songs/. Need more ideas for some non-traditional songs to sing or tracks to dance to? Head over to our post https://pjlibrary.org/beyond-books/pjblog/november-2016/singing-and-dancing-hanukkah-2016

LATKE NIGHT
Even young children can pat-pat-pat latkes into patties. Read Kveller.com’s “Not Your Mother’s Latkes” for some new latke ideas. Or, enjoy making traditional latkes. You can even try your hand at gluten-free and vegan latke varieties.

GRATITUDE NIGHT
Take time to just "be" as a family. Talk about the things you're grateful for--each other, your home, games you play, favorite treats to eat, quirks, traditions, anything. You can have a conversation or spend the night doing a bigger activity like making a gratitude wall (https://www.thankful-tradition-gratitude-wall). For more ideas, check out https://pjlibrary.org/gratitude.

COOKIE NIGHT
Put a Hanukkah twist on the classic sugar cookie. Read a story like Hanukkah Cookies With Sprinkles to complement your baking. If you want to just focus on decorating, go the "semi-homemade" route with a tube of premade cookie dough. Just cut, bake, then decorate.

Reprinted from: https://pjlibrary.org/beyond-books/pjblog/november-2016/eight-more-ideas-for-hanukkah-nights
5 Things You Should Know About the WZC Elections

Here are five things you should know about the upcoming World Zionist Congress (WZC) elections and why they’re critically important to the Reform Movement – in North America, in Israel, and around the world.

1. The World Zionist Congress (WZC) is a representative body of the world’s Jewish people.

Established by Theodor Herzl in 1897, the Zionist Congress (as it was originally known) was the legislative body of the Zionist Organization (ZO), a non-governmental entity that promotes Zionism. Today, the two bodies are known respectively as the World Zionist Congress (WZC) and the World Zionist Organization (WZO).

The WZC, also known as the Parliament of the Jewish People, comprises 500 delegates and meets in Jerusalem every five years. It enables delegates to exert ideological influence on both Israeli society and the global Jewish agenda, as well as allocate financial and other resources to various organizations – including the Reform Movement – in Israel.

The 38th World Zionist Congress is scheduled to meet in Jerusalem in 2020; the elections to determine the size of the various delegations that will attend are scheduled to be held from January 21 to March 11, 2020 (MLK Day to Purim).

2. Participating in the WZC elections is the only way North American Jews can weigh in democratically about issues in Israel.

Currently, the United States has 145 delegates in the WZC, the largest single delegation outside Israel. Thanks to a robust turnout in the 2015 elections, 56 of the 145 delegates (39 percent) represent the Reform Movement and, as a result, have been able to ensure that more than $4 million a year ($20 million over five years) is being directed to the Israeli Reform Movement. By comparison, the Israeli government annually provides nearly 4 billion NIS ($1.1 billion) to Orthodox and Haredi institutions in Israel.

A strong election turnout among North America’s Reform Jews and our supporters and allies will ensure that financial resources will continue to flow to our Israeli movement – including Reform congregations and institutions. It also will allow us to fill leadership positions in some of Israel’s national institutions, including the World Zionist Organization (WZO), the Jewish Agency for Israel, and Keren Kayemeth LeIsrael - Jewish National Fund (KKL-JNF).

A leadership role in KKL-JNF will enable us to ensure that decisions about government and public spending over the Green Line, including land purchases, reflect the Reform Movement’s values and positions. Only in this way can we continue to build a democratic society in Israel that truly reflects the Jewish values we hold dear: pluralism, equality, economic justice, and peace.

What’s more, because JAFI and the WZO support programs of the World Union for Progressive Judaism (WUPJ), high voter turnout will prove beneficial for WUPJ congregations and for Netzer Olami and Tamar, which offer programming for Progressive Jewish youth and young adults in communities around the world.

3. Any Jew over the age of 18 is eligible to vote.

Voters in the WZC elections must:
- Be 18 years of age or older (by June 30, 2020)
- Self-identify as Jewish
- Agree to the Jerusalem Program, the official platform of the WZO and the Zionist Movement
- Agree to pay a minimal processing fee.

4. You can help mobilize voters in your community.

Mobilizing voters will be essential for the Reform Movement to achieve success in the WZC elections. Congregational captains will play a key role by identifying three to five leaders, including one staff member, within their synagogue community who will, in turn, mobilize congregants to vote. Union for Reform Judaism (URJ) leaders will keep congregational captains informed about the election and how their members should prepare for the voting period.

Tell us how many voters from your community you anticipate will participate in the upcoming WZC election. (We would be glad to consult with your congregation to help determine the number of voters you hope to mobilize within your community.)

Attend the URJ Biennial from December 11-15 in Chicago, IL, and your congregation’s mobilization team can attend a special Sunday symposium about the WZC election. (There is an additional $36 fee for the symposium, which thanks to ARZENU, the umbrella organization of Reform and Progressive religious Zionists, is being subsidized.)

5. Voting will be quick and easy.

All voting will be completed online and will be accessible from mobile devices. It is a simple process and will take only a few minutes.
Exciting times for Sisterhood and CMI! The 5780 Food Fest was the best ever for a number of reasons. We had many new members participating; we had new foods (e.g., black and white cookies at the Sisterhood Sweets Booth), lots of CMI spirit, and a beautiful day (most of the time). Thank you to all Sisterhood members (long-standing and new) who worked on this worthwhile event.

The best way to meet new women is to participate and work on our undertakings. Here is a preliminary schedule of what we have planned:

- **Shalom School Hanukkah party** - December 15, 11:30-12:30. Join students, moms, teachers, and Sisterhood volunteers to celebrate this festive holiday!
- **Holiday Gift Wrap Fundraiser** - During the last two weeks of December, we have a store in the Savannah Mall to sell our gift wrapping services. We take shifts and have lots of fun! For more information and to volunteer, call Anita Homansky 912-352-0468.
- **Mah Jongg Tournament** - January 14, 2020-11:30-3:00, open to members and non-members.
- **Trivia Night** - February 22, 2020 at CMI - In addition to trivia we have Craft Beer and Wine Tasting $25. Men and women invited.
- **Sisterhood Seder** - March 25, 2020 - a creative and beautiful Women’s Seder.
- **Bingo Night-Dessert** - April 25, 2020 - Everyone invited for laughs and sweets!
- **Sisterhood Shabbat Service** - May 9, 2020 - Our members lead, read (in Hebrew and English), and sing at this beautiful, original Shabbat service.

This is just some of our schedule. Join Sisterhood where you will be warmly welcomed. Give us some of your ideas. It will be time well-spent.

Judaism 101 will take a more in-depth look at Judaism with its primary focus on Reform Judaism. Sessions will include looking at Jewish theology and beliefs, holidays, life cycle events, prayer, history, synagogue, anti-Semitism, the Holocaust and more.

Please call Tim at the office at 912-233-1547 x313 for more information or to register.

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**From the Desk of Debbie Owen**

**Last Minute Donations**

2019 is coming to an end soon which means that it is time to think about any last-minute donations you would like to get in before the “deadline”. Congregation Mickve Israel has several funds available to relieve your tax stress. Please consider the funds below that have the greatest need:

**Social Action** ~ this fund includes Backpack Buddies, a project to feed children in need.

**George & Julia Solomon** ~ Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund.

**High Holiday Donation** ~ Just in case you haven’t made yours yet, there is still time.

**Building Maintenance** ~ this fund helps with the many challenges that we face weekly. We have about 1,000 fixtures with light bulbs, 17 toilets, 14 sinks, 8 a/c units and 7 refrigerators/freezers (what could go wrong?). This fund only helps with repairs and/or replacement of these items, not supplies like the light bulbs. This fund can also help with needed security upgrades.

**All funds are open for donations of any amount and are 100% tax deductible.** Call or email any member of the office staff (listed on the back of Contact) to make your donation today or mail it to PO Box 816, Savannah, GA 31402.
**Community Mah Jong and Card Luncheon**

**RESERVE YOUR TABLE NOW**
**JANUARY 14, 2020**
**AND BRING YOUR GAME OR JOIN ANOTHER!**
**11:30AM - 3:00 PM**

**ENJOY YOUR CHINESE-THEMED LUNCH AND INCREDIBLE RAFFLES!**

$18.00 PP - CALL 401-338-4211 TO RESERVE YOUR TABLE

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**SIGN UP FOR THE HOLIDAY GIFT WRAP AT THE SAVANNAH MALL**

This is one of Sisterhood’s major fundraisers for the year.

A portion of the proceeds goes to Second Harvest Food Bank to fill a critical need here in our community.

During this holiday season, we will be providing this service from December 14 through Christmas Eve from 11 am - 8 pm in 3 hour shifts.

Volunteer sign-ups are at signupgenius.com

Questions: email anitahomansky@gmail.com

Thank You!

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**SHALOM SCHOOL HANUKKAH PARTY**

**SPONSORED BY CMI SISTERHOOD**

**Sunday, December 15th, at 11:30am**

Shalom School students and parents are invited to come out for this wonderful event sponsored by Sisterhood.

Join us for food, fun, friends and games. We’ll have latkes, donuts, and other goodies as we celebrate the Festival of Lights.

This party highlights the giving of Sisterhood scholarships to Shalom School.
The generosity we receive does not go unnoticed. We thank everyone who supports Congregation Mickve Israel through contributions, participation, volunteerism and other means. A special thank you to those listed below who have given Honor Dues. Please consider joining this special group by giving Honor Dues in 2019.

**PILLAR**
($10,000 and above)
The Solomons Family

**Benefactor**
($5,000–$9,999)
Mrs. Toby Hollenberg
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Kole

**Sustainer**
($3,600–$4,999)
Mrs. Toby Hollenberg

**Leader**
($1,800–$3,599)
Anonymous
Anonymous
Anonymous
Ms. Nancy Green

**Patron**
($720–$1,799)
Anonymous
Anonymous
Anonymous
Dr. Peggy Good
Mr. & Mrs. David House
Mr. & Mrs. B.H. Levy, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Mires Rosenthal, Jr
Mr. & Mrs. Allan Schoenberger
Mr. & Mrs. William Sklar
Mr. & Mrs. Duane Tomlin
Dr. Stephen Wagner

**Chai Member**
($360–$719)
Anonymous
Dr. Allen Berger
Mrs. Muriel Bono
Dr. & Mrs. Joel Greenberg
Mr. & Mrs. Martin Grossman
Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Harris, Jr.
Mrs. Jane Kahn
Mr. & Mrs. John Kohn
Dr. Harvey Lebos
Dr. & Mrs. Ronald Levit
Mrs. Joan Levy
Dr. & Mrs. George Schuster
Mrs. Cathy Shriver
Mr. & Mrs. Brad Sinoff
Dr. & Mrs. Anthony Sussman

**Supporter**
($100–359)
Mrs. Janet Basseches
Ms. Kate Bosslter & Family
Mrs. Marie Dodson
Mr. & Mrs. David Forman
Mr. Charles Puchgott, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Green

**Thank you!**

Honor Dues as of August 16th, 2019

Only those names with Memorial plaques are published. For information on purchasing a plaque or to request that a loved one’s name be read during Shabbat services, contact Jennifer Rich at 912-233-1547, ext. 302 or jennifer.rich@mickveisrael.org

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We Remember Those with Yahrzeits

**December 6 & 7**
Faletta D. Bentschneker
George Brown
Annie G. Byck
Olivia Marie Coleman
Maude Rice Dryfus
Lyn Stacie Getz
Alvin F. Kahn
Jerome M. Krapf
Rudi Loebinger
Ziprah De Sola Mendes
Joseph H. Mendes
Alma Hannah Mendes
Adele Meyer
Barney Mintoff
Helen Engel Weil

Hannah Kassel Goldsmith
Octavis A. Meyer
Annette Peltz
Hedwig Freund Richtman
Louis Laurent Rosenthal
Minnette R. Taylor

**December 20 & 21**
Sylvia Blumenthal Barnett
Rebecca P. Dewald
Marian Katzman Eisenstein
Ilse Frank
Zelda Wetherhorn Homans
Miriam H. Leffler
Maurice F. Meyer
Julius Oelsner
Joseph A. Price
M. Fred Rosolio
Anne Ehrlich Solomon
Lewis Wolner

**December 27 & 28**
Jacqueline Brower
Sims Gaynor
Lawrence Gutstein
Richard A. Heller
Samuel David Hirsch
Elsie Jerrine Holitsser
Stephen Hollenberg
Herbert Lester Kayton
Martin Edward Kirschbaum
Eva O. Lipman
Eleanor Longwater
Eleanor Longwater
Ralph L.Michels
Mires Rosenthal
Edwin Wise Rothschild
Henry H. Schaul
Clara F. Weil
Rosalind Kravitch Weitz

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To the Building Repair/Maintenance Fund

In memory of Ellen, mother of Betty Rosenthal
- Julian Friedman & Lydia Sawyer
- Flo Knudsen

In honor of Jane Feiler’s birthday
- Eileen Cohn

In honor of Kayton Smith’s birthday
- April & Robert Haas

To the Shalom Y’all Jewish Food Festival

In honor of Lauri Taylor’s 11 years of leadership
- Toby Hollenberg

To the General Fund

In memory of Sylvia Dane
- Margo & Andrew Ames
- Toby Hollenberg & Michael Bonder
- Eva Odrezin
- Betty & Bubba Rosenthal

In memory of Albert Davne
- Barbara Davne Bart

In memory of Randy Bart
- Barbara, Daniel & Matthew Bart

In memory of Julius “Boo” Hornstein
- Barbara & Leon Aronson
- Ruth & Neal Markowitz

In memory of David Meddin
- Jack Steinberg
- Marilyn & Mickey Steinberg

In memory of Dick Kent

In memory of Muriel Maida
- Betty & Bubba Rosenthal

In honor of Gabby Blattner
- The Abels

In honor of Judy Byck
- Cookie & Barry Gale

In honor of her visit with us
- Eliza Graff

In honor of Rabbi Haas and the 286th anniversary
- Craig Yokum

To the George & Julia Solomon Fund
(Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund)

In memory of Bernice, mother of Barry Laskey
In remembrance of Marion Levy Mendel’s birthday
- Doris & Martin Greenberg

In memory of Pia Eloovich
- Malvina Leder

In memory of David Meddin
- Cathy & Philip Solomon

In memory of Ellen, mother of Betty Rosenthal
- Doris & Martin Greenberg
- Ellen Byck

In memory of Sylvia Dane
- Carolyn Ball
- The Byck Family
- Eileen Lobel
- The McSwain’s
- Ann & Steve Solomon

In memory of Julia “Boo” Hornstein
- Ann & Steve Solomon

In memory of Seymour Dember
- The Strauss Family

In memory of Edward Benjamin Sterns
- Doree & Eugene Ginsburg

In honor of the birth of Aryeh Haas
- Tim Slivinski & Caleb Ben-Avram
- Carol Davne
- Marla & Morris Gefen
- Joanne & Dick Hochman
- Cathy & Jeff Ignatoff
- Rachel & Eliot Israel
- Gail & Michael Siegel
- Dorothy Stock
- Tami & Lenny Tishberg

In honor of Malvina Leder’s special birthday
- Ellie Dixon

In honor of his Alyah in March
- Mel Gamzon

In honor of Michael Dobbs
- Marjorie & Paul Felser

In honor of the Victor’s 40th anniversary
In honor of the birth of the Greenberg’s grandson
In honor of Peggy & Stan Harris’ 55th anniversary
- Malvina Leder

In honor of April Haas
- Lucile Smith

To the Kiddush Lunch Fund

In memory of Muriel, sister of Allan Ratner
In memory of Ellen, mother of Betty Rosenthal
In honor of Ina Kuller’s speedy recovery
- Tami & Lenny Tishberg

To the Memorial Endowment Foundation Fund

In memory of Sylvia Dane

In memory of Fran Wilson
- Sue Friedman

In honor of Malvina Leder’s birthday
- Carol & Joel Greenberg

In honor of David Byck and his steady hands
- April & Robert Haas

To the Mildred A. Kuhr Music Fund

In memory of Sylvia Dane
In memory of Julius “Boo” Hornstein
In memory of Dick Kent
- Marie Dodson

In memory of Sylvia Dane
In memory of Dick Kent
- Joan Levy

To the Museum Fund

In memory of David Meddin
- The Feiler Family

In honor of the Hochman’s granddaughter’s graduation
- Marilyn & Bob Slagel

To the Social Action Fund (Backpack Buddies)

In memory of Sylvia Dane
- Barbara Bart
- Marcia & Sandy Berens
- Julian Friedman & Lydia Sawyer

In memory of Dick Kent
- Marcia & Sandy Berens

In memory of David Meddin
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In honor of Malvina Leder’s 90th birthday
- Rhoda Halperin
- Peggy & Stan Harris

In honor of Julie Hirsch & her recognition as Women of Valor
- Marilyn & Bob Slagel
- Leslie Westmoreland

In honor of Julius Edel’s birthday
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In honor of the Montana’s new great grandson
- Rhoda Halperin

In honor of the Tishberg’s anniversary
In honor of the Willner’s anniversary
- Malvina Leder

In honor of the birth of Aryeh Haas
- Julian Friedman & Lydia Sawyer
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To the Camps Scholarship Fund

In honor of Julie Hirsch’s birthday
- Yelena Chernyak

In honor of Malvina Leder’s birthday
- Millie & Les Willner

In honor of the birth of Aryeh Haas
- Carole Lurie
ESSEN, ESSEN!

I am pleased to share with you that I’ve been asked to contribute recipes as an addition to The Contact. I’m calling my ‘column’ Essen, Essen (eat, eat, in Yiddish), as a nod to childhood memories.

To me, a recipe is simply a guideline. In savory cooking, you can usually adjust the seasoning to suit your personal taste. This differs from baking where recipes are really a formula. Great results are dependent upon the interaction of the ingredients: type of sugar, eggs, leavening, and even the type of flour.

My personal preference is for well-seasoned, medium spicy, ethnic food. The recipes in The Contact have been designed for the average palate. I encourage you to adjust the seasoning as you please. If you have any questions, please give me a call. Essen, Essen, and enjoy!

Ina Kuller

CHICKEN VERA CRUZ

Ingredients

- 4 boneless, skinless chicken thighs, open and lay out flat; place in Pyrex dish
- 2 T. olive oil
- 1 medium green or red pepper
- 1 medium onion sliced
- 2-4 cloves of garlic, chopped
- Salt and black pepper
- 2 t. oregano
- 2 t. cumin
- 1/2 to 1 t. ground chili powder
- 1 t. sweet Paprika
- 1-8 oz. can Tomato sauce
- 6-8 chopped stuffed green olive
- 2 t. butter, optional, but enriches the finished sauce

Directions:

Heat oil in small saucepan and sauté peppers, onions, and garlic. When onions/peppers are slightly translucent, pour over thighs, sprinkle with all the seasoning, add sauce and olives. Bake at 350° for 20 minutes, covered with foil. Uncover, continue to bake or 15 minutes.

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As we all know, it’s very important to learn who you can count on, who will be there when you’re up to your neck in stuff to do, who will be there when things inevitably go amiss, and who will make you smile and keep you keeping on! Lauri Taylor is one of those people. She has been our fearless, tireless Food Festival Chair since 2010. Lauri took the mantle from Margie Levy and helped shape the Festival into one of the best Jewish Food Festivals (we think the ABSOLUTE BEST) in the United States. During the past three years I’ve worked side by side with her as Co-Chair, I’ve enjoyed the time immensely and have gained not only new knowledge, but also a friend and mentor.

From developing critical relationships with our police force, to nurturing connections with vendors, to streamlining the processes and manual that make the Festival run efficiently, Lauri has done it all with professionalism and joy. All her work and efforts will ensure the long-term sustainability of the Festival for years to come.

The Festival has been more than a volunteer job for Lauri – it became a much-loved part of her life. It’s now time for her to step aside to spend more time with her husband Will and to focus her efforts on the business she and Will own – Taylor Upholstering.

Lauri, we can’t thank you enough for all you’ve done and the impact you’ve had in creating an incredible Shalom Y’all Food Festival!

Marc Friedman and Mark Lebos have been helping with all types of Food Festival tasks since they were kids growing up in Savannah. Marc Friedman (along with his brother Alex) masterminded the organization of the latke booth and production of thousands of latkes over the years. With his expertise as a landscape architect, he developed the detailed maps used for the planning and set-up of the Festival. Marc Lebos created the excellent kid’s zone that has become a highlight of the Festival for families. His energy and work ethic have kept the Festival preparations during the days leading up to the Festival and through the Festival day, running smoothly and much more fun!

Marc and Mark have worked together for many years to perfect the logistics needed to gather the trucks, supplies and equipment for Festival day, as well as the organization and execution of set-up, tear-down and clean-up the day of the festival. Moving the Festival from Forsyth Park to Monterey Square was no easy task, and their knowledge, organization and hard work enabled it to be accomplished successfully and seamlessly. As Marc and Mark step down as Co-Chairs of the Festival, we thank them for all they’ve done to develop the Food Festival into a fantastic community event and for giving us the gift of their expertise and dedication over the past many years.

A Special Thank you to Kerry Rosen (Volunteer Chair), Toby Hollenberg (Phone-a-Thon Chair), David Rubnitz (Sponsorship Chair), Larry Silbermann, Chris Miliades and Bubba Rosenthal (Sponsorship), Steve Wagner (Logistics Chair), Jeff Roseman (Purchasing Chair), Lauree Morris (Publicity Chair), Kathy Forman, Katie Celiz, Carol Solon and Sue Kantor (Cooking Coordinators), Carol Greenberg (Entertainment Chair). And Thank you to the JEA for donating

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The Stamps String Quartet, Class of 2022
January 8, 6:30 pm at Congregation Mickve Israel
Quartet No. 2 in F Major, Op. 92 - Sergei Prokofiev (1891–1953)
Summa - Arvo Pärt (1935–)
Quartet No. 6 in F minor, Op. 80 - Felix Mendelssohn (1789-1847)

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