

# Federation News

**JEWISH ENGAGEMENT COMMUNITY AWARDS.** Renee Evans, Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta Advisory Board member, and Joanne Birnbrey, Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta's 2018 Integrated Community Campaign chair, gave out the Jewish Engagement Community Awards (JECA) in recognition of individuals who helped families in need in the North Metro schools. The award winners included Dr. Christopher Matthews, assistant superintendent, Student Support Services, Fulton County Schools; Mrs. Linda McCain, Fulton County School board; Mr. Carlton Harris, assistant principal, Johns Creek High School; Dr. Jimmy Zoll, principal of Johns Creek High School; Rabbi Chaim Neiditch, Jewish Student Union (JSU), and Ms. Beth Gaan. Each was honored for

demonstrating compassion, understanding, and the willingness to go the extra mile.

Fulton County revisited its bullying and special education guidelines, leading to the changes in policies and training for administrators and teachers, which will ultimately help the school system's most vulnerable population. Renee Evans stated, "I have never experienced a group of individuals from a school system jump into action, achieving excellence for not only one family but all special education students in Fulton County. It was exceptional, showing the value of collaborating, in a caring, focused way."

**YEAR ONE OF TIKKUNATL.** Federation's reimagined Super Sunday, *TikkunATL* (*Tikkun* means repair), was a success and



**Renee Evans (from left), Beth Gaan, Dr. Jimmy Zoll, Rabbi Chaim Neiditch, Carlton Harris, and Joanne Birnbrey**

is not over just yet. The first in what CEO Eric Robbins wants from Atlanta in meeting people where they are and doing things differently, this year certainly was different and everyone is happy with the early results.

*TikkunATL* Chairs Kevin Rabinowitz, Renee Evans, Avery Kastin, and Sarah Arogeti, along with Campaign Chair Joanne Birnbrey and Vice Chair Steven Cadranel led this year's effort.

Super Sunday had been stale; that was a fact. Federation decided to mix it up by creating opportunities in which fundraising, coupled with community service, would blend to provide volunteers with unique experiences at a location of interest and convenience for them. *TikkunATL* has raised more than 80% of its targeted financial goal thus far, involving approximately 100 volunteers and counting. In the words of Robbins, "I thought the entire effort

was incredible and the perfect example of approaching these events in creative and innovative ways. We have learned a lot."

The first event was a lovely brunch at the Grand Hyatt Buckhead, followed by a phoning session, followed by Mobile Monday, where Federation staff and volunteers made calls. Volunteers texted and emailed their friends and family throughout the day with messages about the 2018 Integrated Community Campaign. Earlier this month, a group visited Berman Commons and helped residents with an art project and then made calls. We even gained a resident volunteer, Sandra Schwartz, who previously served as president of the Southeast region of Hadassah. She made calls for us at the phoning. At the same time across town, more than 40 volunteers comprised of students, staff, and board volunteers had a pizza party and calling session at Hillels of Georgia. We also had a traditional phone-a-thon at the Selig Center. Volunteers had the opportunity to visit the Berman Museum free of charge. That same week, volunteers went to Temple Emanuel in Sandy Springs, where they worked in Garden Isaiah and made more calls.

On November 12 there was a phone-a-thon at Torah Day School. Stay tuned for details on Giving Tuesday, an extension of *TikkunATL*, which will be held on November 28 at Selig Center from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

For more information or to volunteer, contact Randy Gorod at 678-222-3723 or rgorod@Jewishatlanta.org.



**Campaign Chair Joanne Birnbrey and volunteer Ronette Throne representing Federation partner, the Epstein School, make calls at Berman Commons**

## Thought you'd like to know

By Jonathan Barach

**L'CHAIM!** Heritage Sandy Springs unveiled its newest community exhibition in September, at the Sandy Springs Festival. "L'Chaim Sandy Springs! A Toast to Jewish Participation in Our City," a series of nine oversized panels featuring photographs and interviews, salutes the many contributions of the Jewish community to the city of Sandy Springs. The exhibition, which will travel throughout Sandy Springs for three years, is now on view at Temple Sinai, through January 5, and will then travel to The Weber School. Find the full schedule at [bit.ly/lchaimss](http://bit.ly/lchaimss).

**KNOWLEDGEWISE.** Join other active mature adults (50+) at the Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta (MJCCA) Zaban Park, 5342 Tilly Mill Road, Dunwoody, for informative talks from Atlanta business leaders and experts on a broad range of topics. Coffee and treats provided. These sessions are \$5/Community and SilverSneakers and free for MJCCA members. Upcoming sessions are November 16 and 30, 10:30 a.m.-12:00 noon. For details, contact Earl Finley, at 678-812-4070 or [earl.finley@atlantajcc.org](mailto:earl.finley@atlantajcc.org).

**YIDDISH VINKL.** At the MJCCA Zaban Park, active mature adults (50+) can enjoy lively conversation, jokes, and stories in the mother tongue. Yiddish speakers of all levels, from expert to beginner, are welcome. These sessions are \$5/Community and SilverSneakers and free for MJCCA members. The next session is November 17, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 noon. For details, contact Earl Finley, at 678-812-4070 or [earl.finley@atlantajcc.org](mailto:earl.finley@atlantajcc.org).

**CHOPPED.** Teen Chopped Masters is November 19, 5:00-7:00 p.m., at MJCCA Zaban Park. Open to boys and girls in grades 9-12, this program is \$30/community and \$20/MJCCA members. As on TV, teens will compete in a race against the clock to create dishes with mystery ingredients. Advanced registration is requested. Contact Sandra Bass, at 678-812-3798 or [sandra.bass@atlantajcc.org](mailto:sandra.bass@atlantajcc.org).

**TURBO TURKEY WORKOUT.** Enjoy a 90-minute workout before savoring a delicious Thanksgiving meal, November 23, 8:30-10:00 a.m., at MJCCA Zaban Park campus. This free session is open to the entire family. Reservations are requested.

Contact Deanne Jacobson, at 678-812-4025 or [deanne.jacobson@atlantajcc.org](mailto:deanne.jacobson@atlantajcc.org).

**30-MINUTE MEALS.** On November 28, 7:00-9:00 p.m., at MJCCA Zaban Park, learn how to prepare delicious meals at home in less time than it takes to get takeout. This class is \$50/Community and \$40/MJCCA members. Advanced registration is requested. Contact Sandra Bass, at 678-812-3798 or [sandra.bass@atlantajcc.org](mailto:sandra.bass@atlantajcc.org).

**SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE.** Congregation Or Hadash presents its 2017 Scholar-in-Residence, Professor Rabbi Rachel Adler, the David Ellenson Professor of Modern Jewish Thought and Feminist Studies, at Hebrew Union College of Los Angeles. Rabbi Adler will present talks on a variety of ethical and theological themes on December 1, 7:45 p.m.; December 2, 12:30 p.m.; and December 3, 10:00 a.m. Visit [bit.ly/COHSIR-2017](http://bit.ly/COHSIR-2017) for more information, a complete schedule, or to RSVP.

**SHOP AND SHMOOZE.** The 9th Annual Florence and Seymour Gerson Mikvah Chanukah Bazaar takes place December 3, 7:30-10:00 p.m., at Beth Jacob Heritage Hall, 1855 Lavista Road, Atlanta. Shop for Chanukah while enjoying a relaxing evening with friends at the mikvah's only fundraising event of the year. Don't miss out on exciting items from new local and out-of-town

vendors. All proceeds benefit the mikvah. The minimum suggested donation is \$18. For more information or to be a vendor, contact [shopandshmooze@gmail.com](mailto:shopandshmooze@gmail.com).

**PROMUKKAH!** Grab your bow ties, fancy clothes, and dancing shoes for the annual prom-themed Hanukkah party, Promukkah!, December 16, 8:00 p.m., on the eighth floor of Ponce City Market, 675 Ponce de Leon Avenue. (Use elevators near West Elm.) Enjoy drinks and noshes, music and dancing, a photo booth with take-home magnets, a corsage- and boutonniere-making station, vintage prom-themed movies, and live entertainment. Tickets in advance are \$18 (beer and wine included), or \$10 (without). For more information, contact Becky Herring, at [beckyh@interfaithfamily.com](mailto:beckyh@interfaithfamily.com). Register at [tinyurl.com/y7cnogbz](http://tinyurl.com/y7cnogbz).

**MENORAH LIGHTING ON MARIETTA SQUARE.** Celebrate Hanukkah with a Menorah Lighting on the Glover Park Stage, in Marietta. Presented by Congregation Ner Tamid, this event takes place December 18, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Led by Rabbi Joseph Prass, it will feature holiday music, free hot chocolate, jelly donuts, a \$100 door prize, a photo booth, and games and stories with PJ Library. All are welcome. Arrive early for free parking on local streets or the municipal garage on Cherokee Street. For more information, visit [mynertamid.org](http://mynertamid.org), or call 678-264-8575.