



THE JEWISH VOICE

SERVING NORTHERN PALM BEACH COUNTY
INCLUDING WELLINGTON, NORTH PALM BEACH,
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FEATURING JEWISH NEWS AND EVENTS

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Back-to-School Supply Drive — Supports Local Families with Essentials, Books, Masks

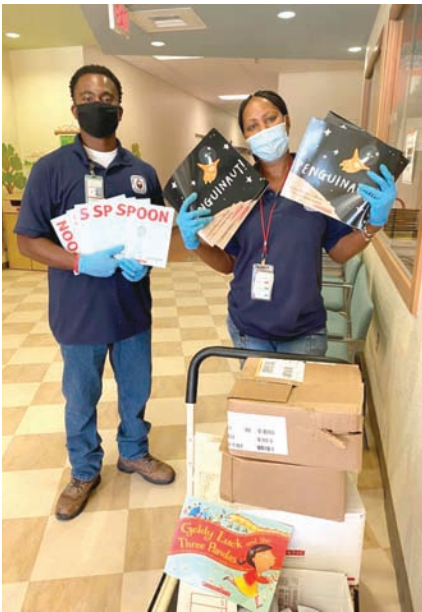
Even with most schools going virtual this year and students attending class from home, thousands of children are still in critical need of supplies to support their academic success. Families in Palm Beach County’s western communities received incredible support thanks to Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County’s Jewish Volunteer Center (JVC) and its network of interfaith and community partners, as well as its partnership with Education Foundation of Palm Beach County. Through the partnership, more than 100 JVC volunteers packed nearly 750 backpacks as well as nearly 1,000 pencil boxes filled with school supplies, books, and protective face masks for all students at four Title 1 schools: Belle Glade Elementary, Gove Elementary, Gladeview Elementary, and Pahokee Elementary Schools. Education Foundation and FPL volunteers assembled the additional, for a total of 2,400 backpacks.

Federation and additional donors also raised more than \$67,000 to purchase school essentials for local teachers

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Local students Jesse Berg and his sister, Blake, along with family friend Phoebe Denenberg assemble backpacks at home in Palm Beach Gardens.



Teachers at Gove Elementary received a shipment of books.



Gemma, 6, and her brother Sonny, 7, helped pack pencil boxes for local students.

Rosh Hashanah Meals Distributed to Local Community Members in Need

Ferd & Gladys Alpert Jewish Family Service (JFS) worked to distribute Rosh Hashanah meals to those in need throughout Palm Beach County, through a coordinated effort with the Jewish Volunteer Center of the Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County, The Kind Kitchen of Palm Beach, as well as its annual Kosher Food Pantry’s distribution of Rosh Hashanah holiday food baskets.

The three non-profits teamed up with more than 150 volunteers packaging meals, greeting and welcoming drivers, loading meals into cars, and making contactless deliveries. A total 230 holiday meals from The Kind Kitchen were delivered to 173 households in Boynton Beach, Lake Worth, Palm Beach Gardens, Royal Palm Beach, Wellington, and West Palm Beach.

“What a mitzvah it was to usher in the new year by providing a bountiful, home-cooked meal for adults and families for Rosh Hashanah,” said Alpert JFS Director of Volunteer Leadership Belinda Lasky. “We are grateful to the large number of volunteers who offered their time to prepare the packages and deliver them to households in need throughout our community.”

“It is always fulfilling to know that the work we do in the community brings joy to the volunteers and the recipients we serve,” said Melissa Hudson, Director, Jewish

Volunteer Center, Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County. “The outpouring of volunteer support we received to deliver meals to homebound members of the community is a hopeful reminder that there is good and kindness the world.”

“It was really heartwarming to see everyone’s support for the community-wide Rosh Hashanah meal distribution. The overwhelming response, both physically and financially, was tremendous,” said Chana Ezagui, who runs The Kind Kitchen of Palm Beach. “The desire to help others, especially during difficult times, is incredible, showing me that every person is filled with good deeds, like the seeds of a pomegranate, which is a traditional holiday food. G-d surely sees and will bless everyone for a sweet and healthy New Year.”



Alpert JFS’ Kosher Food Pantry provided Rosh Hashanah holiday baskets to 35 families under age 65, consisting of 85 individuals. A frozen kosher turkey for those able to cook their own meals,

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Women Gather for Virtual Challah Bake

The annual Chabad of Palm Beach Gardens Challah Bake is always an exciting start to the New Year. With entertainment, speakers, and a buffet, the women leave with much more than just a round challah for the holidays.

This year the event took on new meaning as participants embarked upon a year like never before. Innovative planning allowed for women to partake in this special evening from the comfort of their own homes.

While the annual event involves lots of socializing and a gourmet spread, this year the virtual event was more intimate, food for thought.

The featured speaker, author and challah expert Rochie Pinson, offered guidance to the meaning of each step of



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Beloved Community Member

Dorothy Adler Passes Away at 101 Years Old

Beloved and prominent community member Dorothy Adler passed away at the age of 101 on September 1, 2020. She was a dedicated and loving wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, passionate about helping others and supporting the Jewish community.

For more than three decades, Adler dedicated significant time and philanthropy to Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County and its Commission for Jewish Education, including the PJ Library program, which has provided nearly 200,000 Jewish-themed children's books and music since 2008. Over the years, Adler also held many significant leadership roles at Federation, earning the Kipnis-Wilson/Friedland award for exemplifying the highest standards in philanthropy and volunteerism.

"Dorothy was such a blessing to the world and our community here in the Palm Beaches. In addition to being a dear personal friend, she was filled with care, love, humor, and unquestionable generosity



Dorothy Adler personally delivering the 100,000th PJ Library book in the Palm Beaches, 2015

Back-to-School Supply Drive from page 1

to help offset the cost of purchasing necessities for their students. According to Education Foundation, teachers spend an average of \$875 annually out of their own pay to purchase items like notebook paper and pencils for students who cannot afford them.

"Particularly during such a stressful season for families, students, and teachers, Federation and our network of partners are committed to supporting our children and their educational needs so they can focus on their classwork instead of whether they can access basics such as notepads, rulers, and calculators," shared Melissa Hudson, director of the Jewish Volunteer Center at Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County. "We are a community that supports each other and are incredibly proud how, even during a pandemic, we could mobilize such a large-scale volunteer initiative. This is what community is all about."



Lexi Simon and her dad, Dr. David Simon, residents of Wellington, were two of more than 100 volunteers who helped pack the backpacks.

In order to fill 2,400 backpacks, and to ensure everyone's safety during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, Education Foundation and JVC in partnership led a contactless back-to-school backpack volunteer packing event. The drive-thru event enabled the volunteers to remain in their cars while donations such as masks, backpacks, and school supplies were placed in their trunks to be sorted, packed, and returned to Red Apple Supplies. Supplies were generously delivered to the four schools by 2 Men and a Truck, who donated their time and resources. Backpacks were distributed at drive-by pickup events at schools in early August.

Thousands of books were donated by Federation's Anne & Sam Klein Literacy program, and 5,000 masks were donated by ICNA Relief: Muslims for Humanity.



for the nearly 30 years that she was active with our Federation," shared Hope Silverman, Chair of the Board of Directors, Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County.

Born Dorothy Schepps on May 21, 1919, in Brooklyn, NY, to Frank and Rose (Longberg) Schepps, she married Herbert Adler in 1941 in New York, where they made their home for many years, eventually moving to Palm Beach in the 1960s. Dorothy's connection with Jewish Palm Beach was sparked after she participated in a Federation mission to Israel, when she saw the bond between our local community and the people of Israel.

During a Jewish Federation celebration of her 100th birthday, Adler reminisced about why she cared so deeply about the Jewish community, "What kept me connected was really seeing the wonderful things that Federation does for people ... that there was so much more to do, so much more to give, so much more to learn. And that's why I kept going."

Dorothy is predeceased by Herbert Adler, her husband of 50 years, and son Michael Adler of Washington, DC. She is survived by her two daughters, Carol Adler of New York, NY, and Ellen (Barry) Direnfeld of Arlington, VA; grandchildren Robin (Scott) Weisman of Brookline, MA, Deanna Levine of Denver, CO, Lauren Direnfeld of Reston, VA, Jonathan (Elizabeth) Direnfeld of Arlington, VA, and Daniel (Lauren Tavar) Direnfeld of Falls Church, VA, Sarah Adler of New York, NY, and Eve Adler (Dr. Hal Schwartzstein) of Kew Gardens, NY; great-grandchildren Sydney and Zachary



Dorothy Adler with her family, at her 100th birthday celebration



Dorothy Adler was honored at the Commission for Jewish Education's 25th anniversary gala: Barry Direnfeld, Ellen Direnfeld, Dorothy Adler, Carol Adler, Robin Weisman.

Weisman, Cecile and Genevieve Direnfeld, and Arthur and Marlon Schwartzstein.

Donations in Adler's name may be made to Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County and its PJ Library program, at jewishpalmbeach.org/tribute or 1 Harvard Circle, Suite 100, West Palm Beach, FL, 33409.

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