

Lucky Numbers

By Dedee Goldsmith, director,
Jewish Preschool on Sardis

256. 96. 26. These numbers reflect 1) the combined years of experience that our staff have in the field of early childhood, 2) the total number of years our teachers have at JPS and 3) the number of years The Jewish Preschool on Sardis has been in existence. A lot of heart and soul is poured into

our school each and every year.

At this time when many reflect upon the year and contemplate what he or she is thankful for, I wish to share my thanks publicly for the JPS team. While the collective number of years with child care experience is striking, it is truly the small things each teacher brings that makes JPS unique and special.

I am thankful for Ms. Betty's ability to join JPS during the school year and to jump in with both feet, ready to help out and learn all that JPS is about.

I am thankful for Ms. Beverly's ongoing love for JPS. As the teacher with most seniority here, her wisdom and her love of the school as well as the children that fill it, is unsurpassed. It is truly special to think of all the families that she has touched over the

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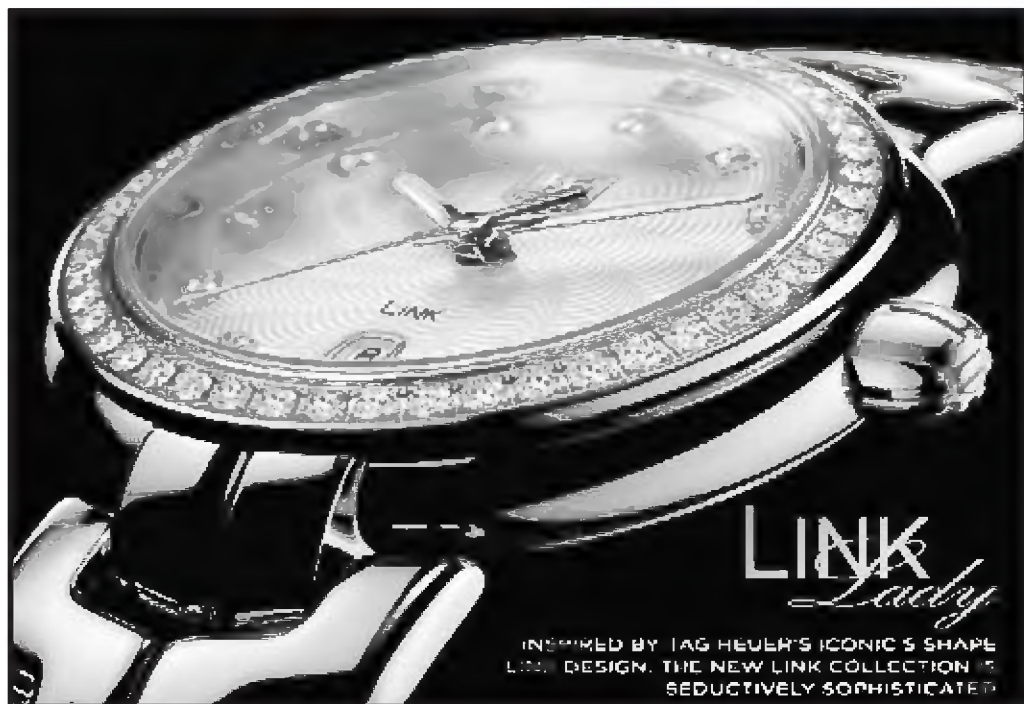


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Ms. Cathy with Sophie.

years.

I am thankful for Ms. Cathy's ability to allow children to be children. Her heart sings when she sees a child develop a new skill, make new strides or cultivate a new friendship.

I am thankful for Ms. Eileen's cheerful nature and her kindergarten background. It is exciting to see the children in extended day leave with smiles on their faces and projects that reflect their days.

I am thankful for Ms. Elizabeth's fast love for JPS. In her first year, I can see her roots growing here while helping the children to grow wings.

I am thankful for Ms. Ellen's kind spirit and ability to take on any task. She is a fearless provider and is always will to do whatever task that may benefit the children in her room.

I am thankful for Ms. Jayme's creative nature and passion for Judaica. Both pieces combined keep our program strong and growing. She epitomizes the term professional.



Ms. Jaymie with Jonah.

I am thankful for Ms. Jennifer H.'s direct and fun persona. She knows the children in her class so well and is talented at helping them reach the next level.

I am thankful for Ms. Jennifer O.'s contagious laughter. Her love and appreciation for each child's personality, and the humor to manage it all is infectious.

I am thankful for Ms. Kate's playful spirit and passion for nature. Playfulness is much needed when recreating stories in character and role playing with the class. Her love of nature not only inspires the children but also the staff.

I am thankful for Morah Sara's Judaic knowledge and her spontaneous presence. She reminds me to know the past, appreciate the present and plan for the future.

I am thankful for Ms. Sarah's sweet disposition and child care business sense. Her balance of education and fun is the perfect combination as witnessed and felt by each child as she greets them for extended day.



Ms. Beverly with Michael, Cole, Sarah, and Julianna.

I am thankful for Ms. Terri's passion for early childhood best practices and implementing those practices daily.

I am thankful for Ms. Wanda's giant heart and gentle nature. Her passion for what she does is so genuine and so on target with what each child needs.

I am thankful for Lisa's drive. Her organization, insight and drive is motivational and supportive in ways I cannot measure.

I am thankful for Leah's get it done attitude. It is wonderful to work alongside of someone you can bounce ideas off of, talk over important matters with and enjoy fresh perspectives with in a respectful and enthusiastic manner.

It's a time to offer thanks and pause in appreciation for all we have. Thank you Jewish Preschool on Sardis for challenging me, for filling me with love each and every day and for the opportunity to grow year after year. Wishing each of you a thank-filled Thanksgiving holiday. In gratitude, Dedee. ☆

Losing My Sister Book Discussion and Meet the Author

Thursday, November 29, 11 AM-12:30 PM
JCC Weinberg Senior Center

Award-winning Charlotte author and poet Judy Goldman explores sisterhood and family in her heartbreaking and uplifting memoir, *Losing My Sister*. Join Judy for a discussion of her newly released book. Discussion and book signing will be followed by a complementary lunch provided by Elm-croft of Little Avenue.



Sponsored by Jewish Family Services, Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte, and the Levine-Sklut Judaic Library. To reserve your spot, please call 704-364-6594. ☆