

# Women's News

## Hereditary Cancer Syndromes in the Jewish Community

### Educational Event Featuring Katya Lezin

Levine JCC on June 3  
from 7-9 PM

Free and open to the community  
You may know that certain

types of cancer are more common  
among Jewish people than in the  
general population. You may also  
know that finding certain genetic

risk factors can be helpful in figuring out if you personally are at increased risk. We invite you to attend a free educational event to learn more about these issues and to hear from experts in the field.

Angelina Jolie recently was in the news because she had surgery to prevent breast cancer after she learned that her family history of breast cancer was due to their having the BRCA genetic mutation. BRCA-1&2 mutations occur in only about one out of every 300-800 people, but in Ashkenazi Jewish people, it is much more common – one in 40 carry this gene. Inheriting either gene increases a woman's lifetime risk of developing breast cancer to 65-74%, according to the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology. The risk of getting ovarian cancer is also higher than in people without these mutations, 39-46% for those who have BRCA-1 and 12-20% for BRCA-2. Genetic testing is the first step in both cancer prevention and early detection.

Speaking at the event, which will be held in Gorelick Hall on June 3 from 7-9 PM, will be **Katya Lezin, R. Wendel Naumann, MD, and Teri Howell,**

RN. It will be hosted by the Charlotte Chapter of Hadassah, by the Jewish Community Center, and Myriad Genetic Laboratories.

Katya Lezin lives in Charlotte, is a columnist for the Charlotte Observer, and was diagnosed in 2011 with ovarian cancer related to her having the BRCA-1 genetic mutation. She says that she "now travels the country as a patient advocate and survivor, speaking to ... anyone who will listen to her account of the upside of being BRCA-1 positive and being a cancer survivor." Katya has written a memoir entitled "But I Just Grew Out My Bangs - A Cancer Tale," and she will be signing books at the end of her talk.

R. Wendel Naumann, MD is currently the Director of Minimally Invasive Surgery in Gynecologic Oncology and Professor in the Department of Ob/Gyn at the Levine Cancer Center at Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte, North Carolina. Current



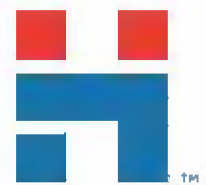
On left is Katya during chemotherapy. On right is Katya today.

research interests include targeted therapy for ovarian and uterine cancer as well as minimally invasive surgery for pelvic masses and ovarian cancer.

Teri Howell, RN will describe the genetic screening tests offered by Myriad Labs.

This event is free and open to the public. Please join us on June 3 at 7 PM in Gorelick Hall at the JCC. Refreshments will be served. ✨

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## Hadassah's Israeli Products Fair Needs You

Are you or someone in your family going to Israel this summer? Do you want the opportunity to talk about it or have a fabulous photo from your trip on the big screen at Hadassah's 2nd Annual Israeli Product Fair? This year, our fair will be bigger and better than ever. Scheduled for November 22, this event will feature fantastic Israeli products, a special Israel travel room, speakers who have recent visited Israel, amazing raffle prizes, kids activities, music, and much more. For additional information or to get in-



involved, please contact Stacy Baum, 704-808-0423 or schree@carolina.rr.com. ✨

## Jewish American Soldiers: Stories from WWII tells the stories of Charlotte-area Jewish American World War II veterans

The documentary, produced by Full Scale Productions, Inc., and Hornet's Nest Jewish War Veterans Post 765, will be told mainly through first-person interviews, but might include short bits of narration.

Any Jewish War Veterans that would like to contribute with stories, photos, film, or documents are asked to contact Full Scale Productions at 704-846-7927.

Hornet's Nest Jewish War Veterans Post 765, a 501(c)(3), is requesting the money through crowd funding at [www.gofundme.com/jews-ww2-doc](http://www.gofundme.com/jews-ww2-doc) in

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