

# THE Jewish Georgian

## Happy Chanukah



## Holocaust music finds home at Emory Libraries

Italian musician, composer, and musicologist Francesco Lotoro's unique library of music written in the concentration and internment camps of World War II has found a permanent home at Emory University Libraries.

The collection is a personal and professional passion Lotoro has pursued since first discovering a piece of Holocaust music on a trip to Prague in 1991. As he continued searching for similar pieces, he found music scribbled in notebooks and diaries and even written on toilet paper. After 20 years of seeking such music, Lotoro has amassed a collection of more than 4,000 manuscripts and nearly 13,000 pieces of microfiche, as well as numerous letters, drawings, and photographs.

Paul Root Wolpe, director of the Emory University Center for Ethics, approached the Emory Libraries about the accumulated materials, and the Libraries agreed that the



Francesco Lotoro (photo: D. R. Foah, 2008-2010)

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## Ben at The Breman

By R.M. Grossblatt

I didn't learn about the Holocaust until I was a Sunday school teacher at



Ben Hirsch

Temple Sinai. Ben Walker, the director, asked me to pick up the French documentary *Night in Fog* from the Hebrew Academy (now Greenfield Hebrew Academy) and show it to my 7th-graders. For the following week, I couldn't eat or sleep, but it awakened in me the need to remember the Holocaust and connect more to Judaism. That was decades ago.

Recently, I was reawakened at The

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## Amy's Holiday Party grows into a new organization

In 1995, twelve-year-old Amy Sacks wanted to make a difference in other children's lives. She decided to donate a portion of her bat mitzvah money to host a holiday party for Atlanta's homeless children.

Amy Sacks Zeide is now 27, and what began with twenty-five children, help from family and friends, and a budget of a few hundred dollars has blossomed into an annual event for nearly 600 Atlanta homeless, refugee, and orphaned children. This year's party is Sunday, December 12, at the Holiday Inn Capitol Center.

Amy's Holiday Party is planned by area teenagers who, guided by adult volunteers, fundraise, host all aspects of the party, and truly learn about the importance of community involvement. More than 300 teens come each year to volunteer their time.

It takes an operating budget of over \$60,000 to provide this special day for these children. At the event, each child receives two brand-new toys and is treated to a carnival, lunch, arts and crafts, a memory photo with

Santa, and more. Financial support is sought from multiple sources—foundation and corporate sponsorships, individual donations of any amount, toy drives, and in-kind donations of goods and services.



Amy Sacks Zeide at Amy's Holiday Party

This year, Amy has created a non-profit organization that will expand the scope of these efforts beyond the party itself.

Creating Connected Communities, Inc., was formed with the mission of providing young adults with tools and resources to assist people in need and to help them become community leaders through partnership, advocacy, and mentorship training. Additional funding and support is needed to launch these new initiatives.

For more information about Amy's Holiday Party & Creating Connected Communities Inc., or to make a donation, visit [www.amysholidayparty.org](http://www.amysholidayparty.org), or contact Tara Kornblum at [director@amysholidayparty.org](mailto:director@amysholidayparty.org) or 404-532-9515.

## New book heralds Jewish athletes

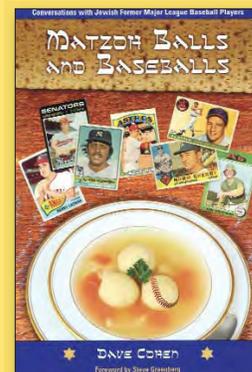
By Scott Janovitz

*Matzoh Balls and Baseballs*

By Dave Cohen

Havenhurst Books, 2010

\$14.95



The history of Jews, on this continent and every other, has been studied in great detail. From education to politics, finance, and entertainment, Jews have played many different prominent roles in nearly all forms of society, and their stories have been recounted, reviewed, and analyzed throughout.

Tales concerning the Jewish athlete, however, have been mostly muted over the years, whether it's been the stories or the audience that have been difficult to come by. This year, though, local sports personality Dave Cohen took a big step in the effort to fill in this noticeable void. His new book, *Matzoh Balls and Baseballs*, discusses some of the most remarkable—and ordinary—Jews to have ever played our national pastime and also features informative interviews with all of the aforementioned athletes.

For those interested in baseball, the book informs on the impact Jews had on the game throughout the 20th century, while those reading from a Jewish perspective will discover the many different paths their brethren traveled to gain acceptance and find success in professional athletics.

The great Hebrew Hammer, Al

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