



THE REFLECTOR

Volume 63 | Issue 7

Tammuz/Av | 5775 | July 2015

in this ISSUE

FEDERATION



INTERFAITH JOURNEY
PAGE 2

AGENCIES



A HOME RUN
PAGE 6

COMMUNITY



BUTTERFLIES
PAGE 19

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|------------|----|
| FEDERATION | 2 |
| FOUNDATION | 5 |
| AGENCIES | 6 |
| HADASSAH | 16 |
| SYNAGOGUES | 17 |
| COMMUNITY | 20 |

JCFR, RJF hold joint Annual Meetings

On Thursday night, May 28, The Jewish Community Federation of Richmond and Richmond Jewish Foundation held their joint annual meeting at the Weinstein JCC attended by more than 120 community members. The meeting featured awards to volunteers from both agencies, remarks by President Richard Samet of the JCFR and Chairman Jim Weinberg of the RJF and installation of Officers and Board of Directors to both agencies by longtime community leader Richard November.

Dan Siegel received the Federation's Distinguished Community Service Award from Mark Sisisky, a former recipient. Brian and Ruth Greene received the President's Award from Richard Samet. Campaign Chair Ellen Renee Adams presented the Sam E. & Virginia V. Binswanger Young Leadership Award to Ashley Noell and the William B. Thalheimer Sr. Young Leadership Award to Matt Kaplan.

For RJF, Charles and Yvonne Gold were honored with the Anne & S. Sidney Meyers Endowment Achievement Award from Steve Markel, a former recipient; Seth Kaplan received the first Jack Paul Fine Mitzvah Society Award from Frances Goldman, chair of the RJF Professional Advisory Committee; and Frances Goldman received the Chairman's Award from Jim Weinberg.

State of the Agency reports were given by Federation Immediate Past-President Nathan Shor, who read the report by CEO Samuel Asher (who was not able to attend due to recent surgery); and RJF President Robert Nomberg.

Federation Officers installed are: President, Richard Samet; President-Elect Nannette Shor; Vice President, Stuart Siegel; Vice President, Seth Kaplan; General Campaign Chair, Nannette Shor; Secretary/Treasurer, Mike Sievers; Assistant Secretary/Treasurer, Deane Dubansky; Immediate Past President, Nathan Shor; and Honorary Vice Presidents, Ric Arenstein, Jerry Gumenick (obm), Neil November and Mark Sisisky.

RJF Officers installed are: Chairman, Jim Weinberg; Vice-Chair, Adam Plotkin; Secretary, Miriam Davidow; and Treasurer, Beth Long.

JCFR

In the State of the Federation report delivered by Shor for Asher, he noted, "For decades, the JCFR has worked to assist the community to build the buildings; the infrastructure; the



Yvonne and Charles Gold were honored with Richmond Jewish Foundation's Anne & S. Sidney Meyers Endowment Achievement Award from Steve Markel (center),



(From left) Dan Siegel received the Federation's Distinguished Community Service Award from Mark Sisisky, a former recipient.

programs; and institutions that we have all come to recognize as the cornerstones of Jewish life in Richmond. We are extremely proud of all that's been accomplished on behalf of our community and hold fast to our desire to preserve all that's been created. But in recent years, alongside our desire to support the traditional Jewish institutions,

awareness of changing times has grown ever more pressing.

"As the world around us grows, changes, evolves, and advances, so too, must our Jewish world. Defining 'Jewish' has become more complicated than

Annual Meeting *More on page 12*

Holocaust survivors: this generation needs to know the past

Editor's note: The following article appeared May 24 in The Roanoke Times. Reprinted by permission of The Roanoke Times, copyright 2015.

By **Yann Ranaivo** yann.ranaivo@roanoke.com 381-1661

Ferrum - Why do some people hate? Halina Zimm has asked herself and others that question countless times over the years and has probably never quite got a satisfactory answer. But for someone who witnessed first-hand an era marked by some of the most terrible crimes committed against humanity, that question has been life-defining. Zimm spent her teen years in the early 1940s escaping the encroachment of Nazi Germany, which first chased her and her family out of Lodz, Poland, and then out of a small farming town before she eventually ended her run alone in Warsaw, where she worked for a wealthy



Holocaust survivors Alan and Halina Zimm tell their stories of survival of the atrocities of the Nazis during the World War II at an audience at Ferrum College ending a two-day conference on the Holocaust May 24. Special to Roanoke Times by Don Petersen

Polish couple.

Zimm has told that story of her early life many times in the decades that followed the end of World War II, and she and her husband, Alan Zimm, were at Ferrum College on Sunday

Survivors *More on page 22*

Experience Israel on the Interfaith Journey, Jan. 17-27



Participants on the Interfaith Journey in 2013 at the ancient Roman archeological sites and ruins at Caesarea, near the Mediterranean Sea, listen to the guide describe the history of the area .

If you've never been to Israel or you've never been as part of an Interfaith group, you will have an opportunity early next year to remedy that situation.

From Jan. 17 through Jan. 27, the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond is coordinating its third Interfaith Journey to Eretz Yisroel. Veteran Israeli guide Frances Oppenheimer will join with Richmond clergymen, Rev. J. David Niemeyer of St. Mark's Episcopal Church and Rabbi Ben Romer of Bonay Kodesh, to provide an unforgettable learning experience for the participants.

JCFR Board member Marvin Daniel and former JCFR leader Cathy Plotkin

are co-chairing the trip. "My first visit to Israel was on the Federation's 75th Anniversary Mission," Daniel said. "It was an amazing experience and, as I am the Christian partner in an interfaith marriage, I knew that many of my friends would love to participate in such a trip and it would help the members of both faiths to better appreciate their common bonds."

A grant from the Captain James M. Klaus Inter-Group Outreach Fund of Richmond Jewish Foundation makes the participation of the clergy possible. "The involvement of knowledgeable spiritual leaders is what makes these journeys really special. Their understanding of and ability to explain

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

• **July 13 | Noon**
'Food for Thought' Speaker Series
Weinstein JCC

• **August 17 | 8 a.m.**
Beth-El Golf Tourney
Sycamore Creek Golf Club

• **August 24 | 5-7 p.m.**
Girl Scout Troop 4613 Registration
Keneseth Beth Israel

• **September 1 | 7:30 p.m.**
JFT Jr. Show Opening '13'
Weinstein JCC

• **Through Dec. 30**
Other Side of the Curtain Exhibit
Beth Ahabah Museum & Archives

• **Through Dec. 30**
'Auschwitz Oiswieccim' Exhibit
Virginia Holocaust Museum

Visit www.jewishrichmond.org for a complete calendar of Jewish community events.



Rabbi Ben Romer



Rev. J. David Niemeyer



our shared traditions as well as why and how our paths diverged is so important," Plotkin said.

The trip will include two nights in Tel Aviv, two nights in a Kibbutz guest house in the north, and four nights in Jerusalem. The group will visit sites important to both traditions including Masada and the Dead Sea, Nazareth, the Galilee, the Golan and many significant locations in Jerusalem. The cost, including airfare, is \$4,356 double occupancy. The single supplement is an additional \$663. A land only price is available and all prices are subject to change.

For more information or to register, call Matt Langsam at the Federation at (804)545-8652 or email him at mlangsam@jewishrichmond.org. Space is limited and applicants will be accepted on a first come, first-served basis.

For those who would like to pay in installments, seven equal monthly payments of \$623 are due by the 30th of each month beginning in June. Payments are fully refundable before Sept. 30.

THE REFLECTOR

הנה מה טוב ומה נעים
שבת אחים גם יחד
*How good & pleasant it is
for brethren to dwell in unity.*

The Reflector is published monthly by the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond. Copy must be received two and a half weeks prior to the date of publication. The Reflector reserves the right to edit or refuse any copy or advertisement submitted. Views expressed by guest writers and reader's letters do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond.

Call for information about advertising in *The Reflector* at 545-8655. Acceptance of advertising does not endorse or guarantee kashruth.

Richard Samet, *President*
Samuel H. Asher, *Chief Executive Officer*
Matt Langsam, *Assistant Executive Director*
Raymond (Skip) Kozakewicz, *Editor*
Sara Rosenbaum, *Director of Operations*



**Jewish Community Federation
OF RICHMOND**

5403 Monument Avenue • Richmond, VA 23226
(804) 545-8620
Email: reflector@jewishrichmond.org



Insist on Stevie & The Stevie Watson Team!

Stevie.Watson@LongandFoster.com

754 - 4551





Thinking about selling your house?





Want to know what it's worth?





Call or email me for a free market analysis!





Richmond delegation sees first-hand war-torn Jewish Ukraine

By Samuel Asher
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, JCFR

Note from Samuel Asher: I had planned to go on a Mission to the Ukraine, June 14-18, with four other Richmonders but an accident in May forced me to cancel. I am pleased to report to the community our Richmond delegation of Mark Sisisky, Richard Samet, Zach Sisisky, Michal Coffey and Matt Langsam made up 50 percent of the volunteers on the mission and were part of a national mission by the Jewish Federations of North America and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee. The following are daily blog entries submitted during their mission. They saw first-hand, the many challenges facing the war-torn nation's 350,000 Jews. This crisis speaks to the most fundamental reasons why Jewish Federations are so critical: We do not turn away. We make a difference.

Monday, June 15, Dnepropetrovsk, Ukraine

Today we arrived to sweltering heat in Dnepropetrovsk. Air conditioning is a luxury.

Richmond's own Mark Sisisky opened the JFNA mission by stating to the participants, "we have a great opportunity upon us. It is our responsibility to witness the despair, hear the stories of the displaced, assist the activities on the ground, and move the community forward. The soul purpose is to help our Jewish brothers and sisters in the Ukraine."

There is a widespread feeling of despair in Dnepropetrovsk, the Ukraine's fourth largest city. It consists of broken and crumbling buildings, peppered with a few modern buildings here and there. Since the collapse of the Soviet Union some 25 years ago, not much has changed. But the tension of new Russian occupation is palpable.

One bright spot; the JDC is on job. It has become the defacto social service delivering food and supplies to community members. There are displaced people who

www.JewishRichmond.org

Ukraine Richmond Delegation

Mark Sisisky - Executive Committee Member of JDC; Member of JDC Board of Directors and Honorary Vice President of JCFR

Richard Samet - JCFR president and attorney

Zach Sisisky - JCFR board member; founder and director - Richmond Autism Connection

Michal Coffey - A Susan & Mark Sisisky JDC Global Enrichment Fellow of Richmond Jewish Foundation; director, VCU Campus Learning Center

Matt Langsam - assistant executive director JCFR

will stay and others who will immigrate to Israel.

Inflation has tripled. Funds have devaluated to disastrous proportions. It is heartbreaking to see the suffering.

Through the assistance of JFNA and the JDC, the objective is to create a thriving Jewish community for those who stay and to assist those who wish to start a new life in Israel.

Tuesday, June 16, Dnepropetrovsk, Ukraine - Update by JCFR President Richard Samet

Today we got a crash course in the Crisis in Ukraine, and the role that JDC plays in trying to alleviate the suffering of those who have been displaced by the violence, and those who have been trapped in the separatist strongholds of Luhansk and Donetsk. We learned that tens of thousands of Jews receive support and services from JDC, in particular shut-ins, the aged, and those in need of special services.

We broke into four groups to visit displaced families who had to leave the war-torn areas with little more than they could carry,

and with little or no prospect of finding work as refugees. I met a family of four, with a special needs, adult son who had been placed in one bedroom, 200 square foot, Soviet-era apartment, walking up the unlighted, bare concrete stairway to reach their fifth floor flat.

Other participants in the mission met with families who were on JDC's rolls prior to the outbreak of the conflict, providing a single mother, her six-year-old daughter, and the girl's grandmother, a cramped apartment. Also, the young girl, Anna, begins kindergarten in the fall, so the JDC outfitted the apartment with a desk to provide Anna with her own space for her schoolwork. A simple desk was the fulfillment of Anna's grandmother's dream for her granddaughter.

We then traveled to the Menorah Center, which is the heart of the Dnepropetrovsk Jewish community, where we got to sing and dance with some of the elderly users of the JDC Hesed Menachem Jewish Welfare Center, followed by a cheery lunch with the chief Rabbi of the Dnepropetrovsk region.

The other shoe fell after lunch, however, when we learned of the toll that corruption and violence has taken on the Jewish community trapped in the self-declared republics of Luhansk and Donetsk. The spirit and infrastructure of both regions are equally broken, with the failure of essential services such as water and electricity compounding



Mark Sisisky with Rabbi Kamenitsky, Chabad of Dnepropetrovsk, and chief Rabbi of the region.

the misery of watching the cities getting reduced to ruins by the fighting, while food and medication are in short supply.

JDC volunteers make every effort to find ways to get supplies to Jewish families in need in these closed areas.

Wednesday, June 17 Ukraine Day Three - Zaprozhe: Update by JCFR President Richard Samet

Today our focus was on how JDC assistance invigorates the rebirth of a vibrant Jewish community in Ukraine, a difficult task after 70 years of Soviet efforts to destroy it to its very roots.

To that end, we traveled to the industrial city of Zaprozhye, a technical and industrial center to which many of the best and brightest engineers, scientists, and

technicians, were sent during the Soviet regime. Very often, those individuals were Jewish, and now many of them are elderly and in need of services and assistance.

Fortunately, JDC's Hesed Michael houses are the agencies that provide those services. Inessa Nosenko is the director of Jewish Family Services for Hesed Michael, guiding the provision of cultural activities, family retreats, and programs for families as well as special needs clients.

Zaprozhe's Jewish population of about 10,000 is roughly ten percent of the total population of the city, which is suffering from the economic fallout caused by the unrest in the east, with resultant unemployment and financial struggles.

Ukraine More on page 20

Camp Sababa has spots remaining

Aug. 10-14, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Congregation Or Ami

9400 Huguenot Road, Richmond

For campers who are rising K - 6th graders and older CITs

Final registration is due by July 15.

Camp Sababa is designed, implemented and run by area religious school directors and teachers and is a great way for your child to finish up the summer.

With a strong emphasis on Hebrew, children from all over Richmond have enjoyed this camp for four previous summers. Activities include singing, dancing, nature, crafts, drama and special events like Israel Day, Mayim (water) Day, and Color Wars.

This program is supported by the Richmond Council for Jewish Education. Total cost for the week is \$100.

For more information, contact Sara Rosenbaum at srosenbaum@jewishrichmond.org or call (804) 545-8629.

Tikkun Olam Teen Exchange

For two weeks in July, two Richmond teenagers will join participants from Chattanooga, Jacksonville, Nashville, Knoxville and Charlotte on the Partnership 2Gether Tikkun Olam Teen exchange in Israel.

This program is a part of the Partnership 2Gether annual program. Richmond is a member of the Southeast consortium, along with the communities of Charlotte, Chattanooga, Jacksonville, Nashville, Knoxville, Pinellas County, Louis and Flagler counties -- that all share a partnership with the city of Hadera- Eiron, Israel, located about 28 miles north of Tel Aviv.

The teens will explore our Partnership region of Hadera, sightsee in Israel and participate in volunteer projects, while staying in their Israeli peers homes.

In August, four of the Israel teens will visit Richmond in the reverse exchange program.

Be on the lookout in future editions of the *Reflector* for more about these exciting trips.

For more information about next year's teen trip to Israel or further Partnership 2Gether programs, contact Doni Fogel at dfogel@jewishrichmond.org or (804) 545-8626.

Network JCFR goes to the Diamond

On Sunday, June 14, Network JCFR participants were on hand at the Diamond to see a win for the Richmond Flying Squirrels.

Thank you to JCFR Board Vice President Seth Kaplan for the tickets and the use of the Morgan Stanley corporate box. This is the second time this season he has graciously provided the skybox tickets to Network JCFR.

A full box of 17 people -- several families, their friends and other young adults -- enjoyed the afternoon and a visit from Nutzy the Flying Squirrel in the skybox.

Hardywood Food Truck Event

Thursday, July 16, 5:30 p.m.

at the Hardywood Food Truck Court
At Hardywood Park Craft Brewery –
2408 Ownby Lane, Richmond

Join Network JCFR for favorite local gourmet mobile food vendors! Enjoy Hardywood's seasonal craft beers to pair with eclectic tacos, wood-fired pizza, authentic French crepes, handmade ice cream, and more.

Visit Facebook to RSVP or contact Sara Rosenbaum at (804) 545-8629 or srosenbaum@jewishrichmond.org.



The Gottlieb family enjoys an afternoon at the Diamond on June 14.



The Rozenblum family and Daniel Pereira watch the Richmond Flying Squirrels in action June 14 outside a skybox during the JCFR Network event.



Interfaith Journey to Israel III • January 17-27, 2016



Dead Sea

Highlights:

- 2 nights in Tel Aviv
- 2 nights in a Kibbutz Guest House
- 4 nights in Jerusalem
- 5-Star Hotels

Visit Mt. of Beatitudes & Nazareth
Climb Masada & Float in the Dead Sea

Marvin Daniel
Cathy Plotkin
Interfaith Journey Co-Chairs

Reverend J. David Niemeyer
St. Mark's Episcopal Church
Rabbi Ben Romer
Bonay Kodesh
Interfaith Journey Clergy

Price Includes

Roundtrip airfare & gratuities
double occupancy \$4,356*
Single supplement additional \$663*

For more information or to register, please contact Matt Langsam at mlangsam@jewishrichmond.org or 804-545-8652

*Prices subject to change • Land only price available • Call for details

Thank you Friends of Reflector

The *Reflector* staff and Jewish Community Federation of Richmond thank the following for their donations to the *Friends of*

Reflector recent 2015 request. As always, we thank the community for supporting the *Reflector*.

Judy & Chick Becker
Betty Borton
Yael Buchsbaum
Jack & Bari Cohen
Frona & Alan Colker
Debra Craghead
Goldie Culliner
Ron Friedman
Dr. & Mrs. Lawrence Gelber
Gail & Sam Genderson
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Goodstein
Carol Haykin
Minnie Held
Edythe Hoffman
Ellen Hofheimer
Inge & Harold Horowitz
Cecil Jacobs
Steve Jacobson

Pat Janner
Ron Kasoff
Celeste Kocen
Blanche Kornfeld
Karen & David Kravitz
Frank Kress
Sandra Levin
Judith & John Levy
Bertha Linas
Rena Lipkind
Barbara Lowenstein
Sheryl Luebke
Sheldon Milstien
Victor & Dale Moes
Abby Moore
JoAnn & Charles Myers
Ellen & Richard November
Frances Nunnally
Alfred Opengart

James Padow
Paul Ratki
Sylvia Rosenbaum
Sylvia Russinsky
Wallace Saval
Peter Schatzki
Ida Schreiber
Julie E. Semp
Stanley & Frances Shapiro
Marlene Sherman
Hattie Shocket
Ann Silverstein
Norman Sporn
Carole Stevens
Marian Ticatch
Sylvia Treger
Mark & Leslie Weiner
Gerry Weiss
David & Rebecca Winston
Anonymous

FOUNDATION HAPPENINGS



By Robert Nomborg
PRESIDENT & CEO, RJF

Is your will up to date?

to the charity or charities of your choice. Life involves a string of choices, and the most important choices we make involve the use and disposition of what we have. This is called stewardship, the management of our resources.

Our acts during our lifetime become a statement of our beliefs. Our last act, our will, can serve as an enduring legacy of our Jewish values. We assert our place in Jewish tradition when we plan and write a will.

We live in a nation of laws. During our lives, different laws apply to us. When we are born our birth is registered as required by law. As adults, we comply with legal requirements in purchasing a home, in paying taxes, in securing a passport and in many more of life's activities.

For assistance in writing your will, you may want to contact your attorney. Or, you may first want to talk with Richmond Jewish Foundation. We can provide basic information about wills and bequests, as well as relate various ways others have created an endowment through RJF to support the charities of their choice in their estate plans.

When we die, our life's passing is noted in securing a death certificate and in the probate process. In all of life's activities, the law is there.

For over 35 years, RJF has provided planned giving and endowment services, including agency fund administration, donor-advised funds, charitable trusts, scholarships and more, to individual donors, families and charities interested in either Richmond area causes or matters of concern to the Jewish community.

One of the most important legal opportunities each of us face pertains to the future ownership of our possessions. Before we die, we can make a will that determines who will receive our estate.

In the event we do not have a will, the court or others will decide for us, often ignoring our important preferences. Deciding not to write a will suggests a lack of civic responsibility and a lost opportunity to demonstrate our love to those whom we cherish, family, friends and charities.

Our mission is to enable donors to create ongoing resources to meet current and future charitable, religious, educational and scientific needs of the Jewish people and others throughout the world. RJF will serve as a fiscal steward for the resources it manages.

Every person has the legal right to make a will. Details of your will include the naming of an executor, deciding who will serve as guardians of minor children, providing guidelines concerning how the children will be raised, determining the use of accumulated wealth, and expressing gratitude for all of life's blessings by giving

For more information about how to create a legacy in your will to support your favorite causes, please contact Robert@rjfoundation.org or (804) 545-8656.

JCFR Condemns South Carolina Church Shooting

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 18, 2015

JCFR Condemns South Carolina Church Shooting

The Jewish Community Federation of Richmond, and its advocacy division, the Jewish Community Relations Committee, are deeply shocked and saddened by the shooting that took place last night at the historic Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, South Carolina. The shooter killed nine African-American churchgoers in what local police have labeled a hate crime.

We strongly condemn this violent and heinous act.

The gunman, identified by the FBI as 21-year-old Dylann Storm Roof, is reportedly in custody. The Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division is believed to be launching a hate crime investigation.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of the victims, the Emanuel AME Church, members of the AME Church nationwide, the African American community, and the citizens of Charleston, as they grieve for the victims of this tragic crime.

May they be comforted among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

For additional comments, contact JCFR CEO Samuel H. Asher at sasher@jewishrichmond.org or by calling (804) 545-8622.

Advertise in The Reflector!

The Reflector is the most cost-effective way to reach Richmond's most affluent, quality conscious families. We deliver directly to approximately 3,500 households - reaching about 10,000 people in the Richmond-Metro area.

Call for rates and publication dates:

Rod Brinks (804) 545-8655
rbrinks@jewishrichmond.org



Weinstein JCC Annual Meeting - a home run

It was “Play Ball” at the Weinstein JCC’s May 19 Annual Meeting.

With a baseball theme, this festive and spirited event included important awards, votes and installation of board members, along with ballpark food, atmosphere, ball caps, attendees sporting their favorite team shirts and even a seventh inning stretch that included the singing of “Take Me Out to The Ball Game” led by the JFT singers.

New Weinstein JCC board members include Ashley Brooks, Andy Brownstein, Karen Farzad, Robin Salzberg, Sandy Sisisky and Dean Whitbeck.

Benny Winkelmann was awarded the Arenstein Family Excellence in Youth Service award, which recognizes the outstanding contribution of a member of the Jewish community between the ages of 12 and 19.

Weinstein JCC President, Chris Greenberg, gave out President’s Awards for outstanding service to the Weinstein JCC during the past year to Shelley Gouldin, Stuart Simon and Sara Villalona.

Messages from the president and CEO Jay Jacobs focused on not staying complacent and

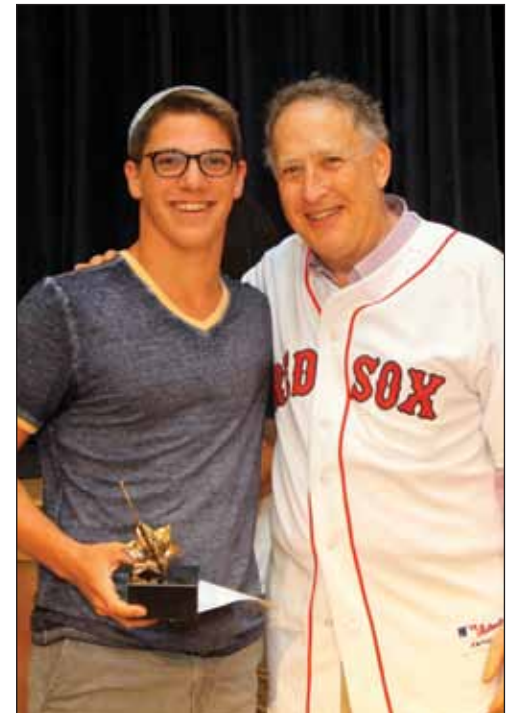


(From left) Sara Villalona, Shelley Gouldin and Stuart Simon pose with their President’s Awards received from Weinstein JCC President Chris Greenberg.

continuing to develop and grow the necessary resources (program, staff, facility, funds) to ensure a strong, vibrant future for the Weinstein JCC. The participation by the Center’s leadership, staff and members coupled with the

festive baseball-themed environment made this annual meeting one for the record books!

For information about programs and activities, questions, call (804) 285-6500.



Benny Winkelmann holds the Arenstein Family Excellence in Youth Service award he received from Ric Arenstein.

Celebrate health and happiness this summer

Join the Weinstein JCC and find your perfect FIT!



Call 285.6500 or visit weinsteinjcc.org

New Members Get One Free Month and \$1 Registration

New cardio and state-of-the-art strength training equipment • Salt water pools • Over 80 group fitness classes weekly

Jewish Living gets fun at the Weinstein JCC

Community members should mark their calendars for some fun and exciting new opportunities to live and learn Jewishly this fall at the Center, beginning with the 3rd Annual Jazz in the Sukkah event on Thursday, Oct. 1 from 5:30-7 p.m.

The Bob Blagg Quartet featuring Deb Clinton – Jewish Family Theatre artistic director – on vocals will entertain with standards, classics and a few modern hits thrown in for good measure. Light refreshments will be served. This event is free and open to all.

On Sunday, Oct. 25 beginning at 6:45 p.m., the Weinstein JCC will host a star studded “Trial of Esau vs. Jacob.” Attendees are summoned to a trial 3,000



years in the making in which Jacob has been indicted on the charges of fraudulent misrepresentation, duress and coercion. Jacob says he is the victim of a smear campaign and expects to be fully indicted!

Celebrity attorneys Irv Blank, Sherri Thaxton, Jay Tronfeld and Jason Krumbein will act as legal counsel for the

evening making shocking allegations. The Honorable Bobby Pustilnik, a retired judge, will preside over what is sure to be the trial of the century.

Jacob and Rivka will be played by Jewish Family Theatre regulars, Dr. Neil Sonnenklar and Elisheva Marks. The event, sponsored and conceptualized by Hannah and Allen Cohen, will be preceded by a cocktail reception at 6 p.m. and followed by dessert and coffee.

More fun and educational Jewish enrichment will continue into the fall and beyond. Tuesday, Nov. 17 at 7 p.m. Cantor Susan Berkson will perform a concert of Yiddish Art Songs.

The second Wednesday of each month

from September - June, the Weinstein JCC will partner with Richmond Hadassah to present lunchtime learning opportunities from 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. This free hour-long program brings local Rabbis, scholars, Jewish educators and experts from fascinating fields of study to help us engage, learn and socialize.

For more information on Jewish Living at the Weinstein JCC, contact Erin Mahone at (804) 545-8644 or emahone@weinsteinjcc.org.



The Weinstein JCC is supported, in part, by a generous contribution from the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond.



(LEFT) Having some laughs and showing off their distinctive shorts while waving flags are (from left) Danny Jackson, Ronnie Adolf (chair), Jay Schwartz and Steve Biegler. This group has played together in the Jewish Community Golf Classic for many years.



(RIGHT) The winning foursome (representing REF Advisory) are (from left) Craig Brotzman, Randy Waldron, Sam Beach and David Greenberg,

18th Annual Golf and Tennis Classic raised fun and funds for 3 local agencies

Jefferson Lakeside Country Club was the place to be on Monday, June 1, as Beth Sholom Lifecare Community, Jewish Family Services, and the Weinstein JCC hosted the 18th Annual Jewish Community Golf and Tennis Classic at Jefferson Lakeside Country Club.

The event, chaired by Ronnie Adolf and sponsored by SIL and GuideOne Insurance, consisted of more than 125 golfers.

Another key event sponsor, Unidine, provided all the tournaments' meals and snacks. The tennis tournament, in only its 2nd year, grew to 20

players from 16 in 2014 and followed a competitive, yet fun, round robin format.

A huge “Thank You” goes out to all of this year’s sponsors and participants for swinging their club or racquet to help raise over \$50,000 in support of all three of these worthy Jewish organizations.

Please consider joining the golfers and tennis players next year for the 19th Annual Jewish Community Golf and Tennis Classic.

For information on participating or supporting, call (804) 285-6500



(LEFT) Competitors in the Tennis Tourney are: (Back Row/ from left) Mike Camp, Jeff Marks, Jeffrey Scharf, Gary Weiner and David Nisenson; (Middle Row) Faith Kallman, Rob Mays, Scott Belleman, Carl Weiss, Sandy Sisisky and Gavin Raphael; (Front Row) Laura Armour, Nancy Belleman, Daniela Jensen, Sydney Fleischer, Reid Cardon and Eric Shoenfeld.

NOW OFFERING A 3 COURSE PRIX FIXE, NIGHTLY. THE PERFECT WAY TO CELEBRATE SHABBAT!

804 332 6434
111 East Grace St.

Perly's
DELICATESSEN RESTAURANT

@perlysrichmond

For Federation events & Jewish happenings

f Like us on Facebook

[facebook.com/JCFRichmond](https://www.facebook.com/JCFRichmond)

Tradition

Dignity HONORED PROVIDER

WOODY FUNERAL HOME
SERVING RICHMOND SINCE 1905

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| Parham Chapel 1771 Parham Rd 804-288-3013 | Huguenot Chapel 1020 Huguenot Rd 804-794-1000 | Atlee Chapel 9271 Shady Grove Rd 804-730-0035 | Woody Advanced Planning 804-288-3013 |
|--|--|--|--|

5400 Men's Club

July 6 - Kevin Connolly: U.S. Marshalls Service, "An Overview of the Mission of the U.S. Marshalls Service."

July 13 - JFS and Weinstein JCC: Food for Thought: Randy Davis, community outreach coordinator/Medicaid Fraud Control Unit at Office of the Attorney General of Virginia, "Protecting Virginia's Most Vulnerable Citizens: Health Care Fraud

and Elder Abuse."

July 20 - Professor Brandon Garrett, University of Virginia Law School, "Too Big to Jail: How Prosecutors Compromise with Corporations."

The 5400 Men's Club and Women's Room welcome new members at these combined programs.

For details, call (804) 285-0098.

JFT launches 'Second Stage' Youth Theatre Production

Beginning this summer, Jewish Family Theatre will produce an all-teen musical through the newest JFT Jr. program – Second Stage, which takes kids ages 13-16 from process to performance to produce the Jason Robert Brown musical "13."

The show will open on Tuesday, Sept. 1 at 7:30 p.m., and runs Sept. 2,3,9, 10 and 12 at 7:30 p.m.

The musical "13" tells the story of Evan Goldman who has six weeks to go before he turns 13, and after an idyllic childhood in New York City, he's just been uprooted and brought to Appleton, Ind., with his mother. He has one mission: get all the cool kids in school to come to his Bar Mitzvah, or else spend the rest of his academic career banished to the land of the Geeks.

"13" is a show about finding out who you are, finding out what you need, and finding out what's really important. Book by Dan Elish, music and lyrics by Jason



Robert Brown and directed by JFT Artistic Director Deb Clinton with musical direction by Jason Marks and choreography by Kate Belleman – "13" has been described as "a smart, fun look at the joys and agonies of growing up" by "Backstage Magazine," and will certainly thrill audiences of young people and parents alike.

For additional information regarding tickets to "13," contact Erin Mahone at (804) 545-8644 or emahone@weinsteinjcc.org.

Jewish Community Federation OF RICHMOND

There's More Online!

Events, Community Snapshot, News & Information

Log on for more...
www.JewishRichmond.org

JFS holds Annual Meeting

JFS held its 166th Annual Meeting on Thursday, June 11. Guests gathered at Luck Stone Corporation in Manakin-Sabot to celebrate a year of successes that included providing the highest quality services to its clients, new community collaborations and the Big Schtick.

After two years of a comprehensive effort to strengthen the core of its organization, JFS has begun to realize the benefits of this work. Its “Financial, Program and Operational Health” is the best it has been in many years. In fact, JFS expects to close out this year with record results.

What JFS is most proud of is how well it has reengaged with the community. This includes the work with the other Jewish organizations and Synagogues including KiRVA, “Food For Thought,” EnRICH, “The Big Schtick,” Jewish Community Golf and Tennis Tournament, “Drawback the Curtain” as well as a renewed financial commitment with the Richmond Jewish Foundation. Outside the Jewish community, JFS also has taken a leadership role in Richmond’s Age Wave initiative and No Wrong Door (a program to connect senior’s needs with services) in addressing the current and future needs of the growing senior population.

“I am proud of what we have accomplished and excited about what is



JFS President Elizabeth Thalhimer Smartt welcomes community members to Annual Meeting.



(From left) Newly installed JFS President Bernie Henderson recognizes longtime board member Larry Salzman for his many years of service.

yet to come,” said CEO Gregg Davidson.

There were many compelling speeches during the evening, as board members



Life Gets Complicated...

when your parents get older...

Simplify with Care Management by JFS.

There are lots of complex decisions to make as your parents grow older.

- Is their house safe to live in?
- What medical care do they need?
- What’s the best way to manage their affairs?

The professional, compassionate Care Managers at JFS can help you make sound decisions to keep your parents happy, comfortable, and safe.



To simplify their lives - and yours,
Call 804.282.5644, today!

6718 Patterson Avenue • Richmond, VA 23226 • 804.282.5644 • www.jfsrichmond.org

looked back on the past year and shared their thoughts.

Elizabeth Thalhimer Smartt welcomed guests to the event and shared her reflections on serving as the JFS president for the past two years. Her remarks centered on her original

motivation for becoming involved with JFS, which was the fact that her grandmother, Barbara Thalhimer, served as the JFS president from 1948-1949. This legacy inspiration led to

JFS More on page 20

Impact Grants spark opportunities for JFS

The Jewish Community Federation of Richmond has generously awarded two community Impact Grants to Jewish Family Services and its partners that will fund two new and growing programs to better serve Jewish seniors in Richmond. Funding will support the collaborative projects KiRVA and EnRich, both designed to lessen isolation for our aging population.

KiRVA is a project that first began as a joint effort between JFS and Congregation Beth Ahabah. KiRVA connects volunteers with elderly congregants who wish to have a weekly (or more often) visitor. Many of these individuals may

have become separated from the congregation because of illness or physical disabilities that make it difficult to attend. Volunteers act as a social bridge between the congregation and senior individuals and help lessen isolation for a vulnerable population.

JFS staff and social workers are available to provide guidance on matching seniors with volunteers based on needs, interests, and abilities. This is the only program of its kind that combines pastoral care with health and human services. The first year has already been incredibly successful at Congregation Beth Ahabah, and is expected to grow in the coming year. Congre-



New Impact Grants from JCF will better serve JFS programs for seniors.

gation Beth Ahabah KiRVA coordinator Rachel Schmidt noted, “KiRVA is important to our Jewish community because it is the responsibility of all Jews to care

for one another.”

With awarded JCFR Community Impact funds, KiRVA will grow to become a program at Temple Beth-El. KiRVA reinforces the relationship between Jewish seniors and their Synagogue, allowing all congregants to remain valued members of the community no matter their physical constraints.

Community Impact funding also will be used to jumpstart an exciting new program from the Weinstein JCC and JFS, EnRich.

EnRich is built off of the new ongoing speaker series for older adults, “Food for Thought.” “Food for Thought” brings a variety of speakers, all experts in the fields of

aging, to give free monthly talks on issues impacting seniors today. In addition to “Food For Thought,” EnRich will offer monthly programming that meets the social, mental and physical needs of Jewish individuals 65 and older. It offers a unique opportunity for Jewish seniors to convene in a central location to share traditions and engage in fulfilling programming.

EnRich will meet once a month, encompassing three key pieces: the “Food for Thought” speaker series, a creative track and an active track, running from noon - 3:30 p.m. at the Weinstein JCC. After “Food

Impact More on page 21



Alvin Lehman is excited at Weinstein JCC annual meeting.

Life around Richmond Jewish Community



Flight A Tennis winners at Jewish Community Golf and Tennis Classic - (from left) Rob Mays, Jeff Marks and Gary Weiner.



JCFR Immediate Past President Nathan Shor addresses community members at JCFR/RJF annual meeting.



The Adams family poses for a photo at RTA's Lev Nativ Gala - Jennifer, Louis, Rebekah, Ellen Renee and Stephanie.



Nancy Belleman is ready to return a serve at the Jewish Community Golf and Tennis Classic.

(From left) Leslie Cohen, Rebecca Kallman-Winston, Frances Goldman and Bari Cohen at reception prior to JCFR/RJF annual meeting.



March of Living teaches life lesson to Richmond teen

Editor's Note: On April 16, two Richmond teens Annie Weinberg and Rachel Markhoff took part in The March of the Living that brings students from all over the world to Auschwitz in Poland, in order to study the history of the Holocaust and to examine the roots of prejudice, intolerance and hate. The following is a reflection by Weinberg on her experience and the impact on her since returning. A graduate of Rudlin Torah Academy, she is recent graduate from Glen Allen High School and plans to attend the University of Virginia. In addition, she has served as both the vice president of programming and of membership for Virginia Council BBYO. The Jewish Community Federation of Richmond provided partial subsidies to assist the two teens to take part in the special program.



Annie Weinberg

we would feel reflecting on our experience from home.

I waited. And for a while that shock didn't come. I didn't speak in detail about my experience to anyone, even my parents. It wasn't that my experience was exceptionally intense compared to anyone else's, I just didn't want to reflect quite yet. I immediately began working on my blog and research paper that focused on my trip

and the links between the Holocaust and the creation of Israel.

The final draft and presentation were due right when I got back, and at the time, finishing these assignments was my way of processing my trip. So, I waited for the intensity and reality of what I had done over those two weeks in Poland and Israel to come.

After a month of fond memories and missing the friends I had made, my moment came at an interesting time – the last day of my senior year of high school. We received our yearbooks and I was flipping through reading the quotes under each student's name. These quotes are usually inspirational or funny and usually are not offensive because they get filtered out by our class administrator and the yearbook staff. But, lo and behold under one student's name read "I survived - Elli Weisel."

At first I wasn't so angry, the student could have looked up a quote and seen this, and figured it was appropriate as they had survived high

school as well. But then I remembered in the 10th grade at our school everyone read "Night" by Elli Weisel and should know this quote references surviving the Holocaust. Then I was mad. It seemed crazy to me a staff member as well as yearbook students could filter through classic immature sexual references but not pick up on a quote used to imply that surviving high school compares to surviving the largest genocide in history. It made me sick, and it finally made me breakdown. The moment came.

Without even thinking I emailed my assistant principal and wrote of my discomfort with the fact the school had allowed this quote to be in our yearbook. He responded quickly and we discussed my concern. I wasn't looking to get anyone in trouble, I just wanted to prevent this from happening again. I was satisfied with his response and moved on.

A few months ago I would have never done this. I have never made a big deal about jokes like this before

and often brush them off like they are just playful. It seemed "March of the Living" changed my perspective. I realize now it may start as a joke, and it may even be funny to me, but letting people say things like what that student said only encourages people to make hurtful comments more often, leaving our world a little more hateful each time.

As I mentioned, this moment came on my last day of high school and I saw this as significant. As I transition into the somewhat more realistic world of college, I'm fully aware of the hatred and ignorance that will be more prevalent than it has been thus far. I see it as a time for me to step up and be a better advocate for my culture, heritage and religion.

The "March of the Living" encouraged me to go into this scary world with knowledge and confidence to help me stand up for what I believe is right, and I could not be more thankful.

By Annie Weinberg

They said it would hit us when we got back. They said all of the concentration camps, the pictures, the stories, would hit us hard when we returned to our regular lives. They said even the way we felt walking through Auschwitz would not compare to how

The strength of a people.

IMPACT
GRANTS



Every year, through the Annual Campaign, countless lives are saved, cared for, reached out to, and rebuilt - around the world and in Israel. Through Federation, this critically important work continues to help people in need, all while strengthening our community here at home.

Through the Impact Grants we: **STRENGTHEN** the Jewish identity of youth and teens; **ENGAGE** interfaith families in Jewish activities, and **IMPROVE** the lives of Jewish seniors and older adults.

Because together, we're better and stronger.

For more information, visit us at:
JewishRichmond.org



THE STRENGTH OF A PEOPLE
THE POWER OF COMMUNITY



(From left) Brian and Ruth Greene received the President's Award from Federation President Richard Samet.



Matt Kaplan received the William B. Thalheimer Sr. Young Leadership Award and Ashley Noell received the Sam E. & Virginia V. Binswanger Young Leadership Award, from Ellen Renee Adams.



Seth Kaplan holds the first Jack Paul Fine Mitzvah Society Award he received from Frances Goldman, who received the Richmond Jewish Foundation's Chairman's Award from Jim Weinberg.

Annual Meeting

Continued from page 1

ever before; Jewish identity building manifests itself in more ways than ever before; expectations are higher, curiosity is greater, and expressions of one's Judaism are more diverse. All of which creates a very fundamental, existential question: how do we preserve and value the establishment while creating room for new ideas and opportunities?

"The JCFR is proud of the role we've played in building and shaping our community. Believe it or not, we actually do more than just ask everyone for money all day long," said Shor. "One of the most exciting outcomes of our work is the newly established Impact Grants. Impact Grants are intended to inspire agencies, individuals, organizations, and Synagogues to develop innovative and/or impactful programs and services that support and enhance the Jewish community of Richmond. Impact Grants were created to augment our existing allocations model.

He noted an ad hoc committee of agency representatives and Federation leadership studied approaches used in other communities for the allocation of Annual Campaign funds and community planning questions within the Jewish Community of Richmond. Jim Weinberg chaired this committee, which worked diligently on this process for a period of 3 years, and then an Impact Committee was formed, chaired by Amy Nisenson. The committee selected 5 recipients and a total of more than \$66,000 was provided for a number of programs.

Shor announced the recipients: Jewish Family Services – KiRVA - \$7,360; Keneseth Beth Israel/ Jewish Student Union - \$15,000; Rudlin Torah Academy - Midor l'dor - \$11,500; Weinstein JCC EnRich - \$22,670; and Beth Sholom Elder Abuse Advocacy - \$10,000

(The June Reflector has more details about these grants. Visit www.jewishrichmond.org for information.

Shor concluded, "We are so fortunate here in Richmond when, in so many communities around the country, they are facing daily operational struggles and are forced to make hard choices in their Jewish landscape, we here in Richmond continue to reap the benefits of the generosity of those who, decades ago, were committed to our Jewish future. And as if that wasn't, enough, here we are tonight, poised to embrace so much more – more programs, more opportunities, more invitations to enrich our Jewish lives in ways never imagined decades ago. Thank you to all of you who have made this possible."

Richmond Jewish Foundation

In his State of Agency Report, Richmond Jewish Foundation President Robert Nomberg said, "Serving as our community's planned giving and endowment resource Richmond Jewish Foundation continues to focus on the future and if the future is anything like this past year



Shirley and Bob Reinhard. Bob Reinhard was recognized by Nathan Shor for his longtime volunteering for the Annual Campaign



(From left) Longtime community leader Marcus Weinstein and RJF Chairman Jim Weinberg.

we can all expect a financially safe and secure foundation for the next generation of Jewish Richmond. At the end of the year RJF was managing \$34.5 million in assets. We finished 2014 up 4.9 percent and over the past five years we have averaged an 8.3 percent return per year. The funds you've entrusted to our care are well managed and continue to grow year after year."

He continued, "Last year we received over \$2.1 million in donations. This is the most we've received in over a decade and we granted out over \$1.8 million. Again, more than we've sent out the door in over a decade. This is a healthy foundation."

Nomberg added, "While the performance of our portfolio is certainly important...just as important is helping our generous donors connect their interests and passions with securing our community's future.

He described the importance of creating a legacy and the steps to take in "security our community's future."

"Over 150 families have already created their legacy. Those are the permanent endowments you see listed in the annual report year after year. Additionally, 125 new individuals and families have started the process as part of Create a Jewish Legacy promising \$20 million future dollars."



Steve and Kathie Markel at the reception prior to the meeting. Steve Markel is a former RJF chairman.

In presenting the Jack Paul Fine Mitzvah Society Award to Seth Kaplan, Frances Goldman said, "RPAC created the award to honor local estate planning professionals committed to philanthropic giving and the future of the Jewish community and who have been instrumental in referring their clients to RJF."

Goldman, a RJF board member and chair of its Professional Advisory Committee, noted, "Jack Paul Fine (OBM) loved his family, his community and his profession. His fingerprints are on dozens of funds created at RJF. He served as chairman of RJF from 1996-1998

Annual Meeting *More on page 13*



(From left) Federation board members Karin Fine and Elise Scherr.



(From left) Rosann Bocciarelli and Susan Craven, Richmond Jewish Foundation board member.



Josh Rubinstein, JCFR board member; and Nannette Shor, JCFR president elect and Campaign Chair.



(From left) Adam Nelson, Senior Leadership Institute graduate and Debra and Andrew Pegalis, a SLI graduate.



(From left) Barbara Mandel and Deane Dubansky, Federation assistant treasurer.

Annual Meeting

Continued from page 1

and in 2002 received the Anne & S. Sidney Meyers Endowment Achievement Award.”

The Jack Paul Fine Mitzvah Society Award is a fitting tribute to Jack’s devotion to his profession and to the strength and continuity of Richmond’s Jewish community.

Kaplan, a member of the RJF Investment Committee, serves on the Federation’s Executive Committee and is a vice president of the board, is a certified financial planner and certified portfolio manager with over 25 years of industry experience.

RJF Chairman’s Report

Jim Weinberg thanked the community members for attending the meeting. “The Jewish Community Federation of Richmond and Richmond Jewish Foundation have a shared common mission. We want to build, grow and sustain a vibrant Jewish community.”

He noted, “We owe a debt of gratitude to the community for all you do.”

Meyers Award

Steve Markel presented the Anne and S. Sidney Meyers Endowment Achievement Award to Yvonne and Charles Gold, one of Richmond Jewish Foundation’s most long-standing and ardent supporters. Markel noted “They have been active donors for close to thirty years and created one of the Foundation’s first donor advised funds. The Golds routinely donate to and recommend from their donor advised fund supporting several dozen Jewish, Christian and secular organizations in Richmond. The Golds plan to continue their generous philanthropy after their lifetimes by supporting several organizations through their estate including the Foundation’s Genesis Fund.”

JCFR DCSA Award

Mark Sisisky presented the Federation’s Distinguished Community Service Award to Dan Siegel, a former JCFR president

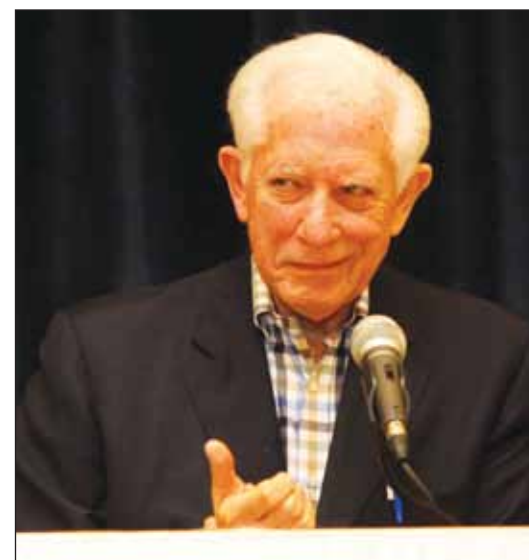
and longtime community leader at Beth Shalom Lifecare Community and other agencies and organizations.

JCFR President’s Report

Federation President Richard Samet provided his President’s Report and noted “The Federation touches lives, creates change and makes the world a better place and you, its members, have lived generously to ensure Jewish welfare and continuity. Our collective philanthropy, given through our 2015 Jewish Federation Campaign, met the challenge of raising sufficient funds to meet the day-to-day demands for immediate relief and social services offered here in Richmond, the Diaspora, and in Israel.

“Within the rubric of ‘Jewish Community’, we are a diverse group that represents every aspect of not only the spectrum of American Jewry, but nearly every aspect of the spectrum of American life in the 21st century ... If I were asked to summarize the greatest strength of the Richmond Jewish Community, I would have to also answer ‘miles and miles of heart. Which is to say ‘passion’. There is the shared passion for the survival of the Jewish people, but there is also the passion for what our agencies provide to our community and to Jews around the world. While we are not uniform, we are united in our commitment to heal the world.

So, I want to say thank you to each and every one of you for making our community strong and vibrant.



Longtime community leader Richard November installed officers and board members for JCFR and RJF.



Ellen Renee Adams (right) is all smiles as she receives the Chesed Award from Susan Sisisky, a former recipient of RTA's award.

RTA holds Lev Nadiv Gala

Nearly 160 people thrilled to the sounds of classic Yiddish music on May 31 when opera singer and Hampton Roads native David Krohn performed for Rudlin Torah Academy's Lev Nadiv Gala at the Weinstein JCC.

RTA presented its annual Chesed Award to Ellen Renee Adams and the ABCD (Above and Beyond the Call of Duty) Award to Rebecca Kalman-Winston, both past presidents of RTA. The Double YOD (Years of Dedication) Award went to RTA teacher Susan Schaefer.

"Ellen Renee is often called upon to tackle difficult jobs and she always stands up to the challenge," said Susan Sisisky in presenting the Chesed Award to Adams. "She has cast her net far and wide in leadership positions within our city."

Adams is on the board of the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond, and recently finished serving as its General Campaign Chair for the past two years. She also has served on the boards of JFS Richmond, the Weinstein JCC, Temple Beth-El, Rudlin Torah Academy and BBYO.

Kalman-Winston serves on the boards of both the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond and the Richmond Jewish Foundation. She is a life member of Hadassah and has recently become a court-appointed special advocate, representing the interests of abused and neglected children, in the Henrico County court system.

Krohn, 30, a Juilliard-trained opera singer whose father was Rabbi Philip Krohn (obm) of Gomley Chesed Congregation in Portsmouth, is development officer for the Houston Grand Opera. The elder Krohn was a native of Poland and a fluent Yiddish speaker who passed on his love of Yiddish music to his son.

"Music plays a central role for many religions and cultures," said Krohn. "But few



Rabbi Bart, RTA principal, presents the Double Years of Dedication Award to RTA teacher Susan Schaefer.

place such a strong emphasis on it as Jews. To understand our tradition, it requires an understanding of music."

Krohn congratulated RTA on re-launching its music program this past year in partnership with The Academy of Music: "Arts education is often the first thing to hit the chopping block when budgets are tightened in our schools. And yet countless studies have shown that children exposed to the arts in these crucial ages will score an average of 100 points higher on SAT's, be more likely to attend and graduate college, and lead more fulfilling lives."

He performed several songs during the evening, including the traditional Yiddish lullaby "Rozhinkes Mit Mandlen" (Raisins and Almonds) and "Zol Shoy'n Kumen Di Geulah" (Let the Redemption Come), accompanied on the piano by Dr. Charles Staples, an instructor at VCU.

The next day, Krohn visited RTA – where a kindergarten student presented him with a paper airplane – and both performed and taught the students about voice and muscle exercises that singers use.

For details about Rudlin Torah Academy, call the school office at (804) 353-1110 or visit the website at www.rudlin.com.

RTA holds annual meeting

RTA installed Dr. Robert Weisberger as president and welcomed five new board members at its annual meeting on May 27 and recognized Sander Altman, a school parent, for his hard work on many projects.

Weisberger, retired from practice, was an emergency room physician in Richmond from 1984 - 2007. Among his many professional accomplishments was helping to plan and launch the emergency department at Bon Secours St. Francis Medical Center in 2005, as well as forming and leading the Emergency Department group that staffed the St. Mary's and Richmond Community ER's. He is an adjunct professor at VCU's School of Allied Health Professions and served as medical director of Lakeside Volunteer Rescue Squad for 30 years.

He has served on the board of directors and as vice president of the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond and on the board of directors of the Richmond Jewish Foundation and the Weinstein JCC. He received RTA's Chesed Award in 2010.

RTA's new board members, serving two-year terms, will be Meggie Hirsch, Avery Lynn, Rabbi Elliot Plotnick, Yael Levin Sheldon, Shoshanna Schechter-Shaffin and Nathan Shor.

The annual meeting marked the end of Brian Greene's tenure as president. Greene, an attorney with GreeneHurlocker, oversaw RTA's transition to its new building on Paterson Avenue and the separation of the



New RTA President Dr. Bob Weisberger praises outgoing RTA President Brian Greene.

K-8 program from the Yeshiva of Virginia and Shaarei Torah of Richmond. RTA's enrollment, which had been dropping for several years, has grown since moving to the new facility.

Altman, a general contractor in Richmond, was recognized by Greene with the annual President's Award for the many things he has done and continues to do for the school, such as building the Sukkah, constructing the playground fence and chaperoning the recent senior trip to Washington, D.C. In presenting the award, Greene said, "Sander is someone who never says no."



Rudlin Torah Academy is supported, in part, by a generous contribution from the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond.



(From left) Elaine Ragone presents Above and Beyond the Call of Duty Award to Rebecca Kalman-Winston.



(From left) Members of RTA's faculty at event are Devorah Aronowitz, Jane Samora, Cathy Klosenberg, Jenny Williams, YOD honoree Susan Schaefer, Judy Lessin and Joan Cantor.

Life Enrichment Programs at Beth Sholom



On the Campus of Beth Sholom Lifecare Community, the residents' well-being is approached holistically. Each week a broad spectrum of activities are offered and designed to support the emotional, mental and physical needs of our residents.

Regular activities include arts and crafts, music programs, yoga and other exercise classes, games, movies, parties and outings as well as Shabbat dinners, bible study and spiritual services for a variety of denomi-

nations.

BSLC values and encourages the opinions of its residents. For example, the dining room offers food demonstrations, where residents are asked to give their input on new dishes. Resident Councils also play an active role in programming and providing valuable feedback to staff. There is always something going on for everyone.

For details on BSLC activities, call (804) 421-5330.



Beth Sholom Home is supported, in part, by a generous contribution from the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond.



The Walking Club takes a break (from left) Edith Frishtick and Mollie Cohen.



Candy Coleman enjoys the pet therapy program.



At the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts during a recent visit are: (In front/sitting) Carol Sear; (standing from left) Harriet Puckett, Samantha Goodman, Life Enrichment coordinator; Angelica Canty, certified nursing assistant; Katie Lee, Life Enrichment coordinator; and Mollie Cohen.

A Day at the ballpark- Beth Sholom at the Diamond

Members of the Beth Sholom Men's Club from across the campus enjoyed an afternoon recently at The Diamond to see the Richmond Flying Squirrels take on the Binghamton Mets.

Thank you to Local News LLC for the tickets and to the Squirrels for the upgrade to box seats.

Fun was definitely had by all who attended, and as the Squirrels motto says, "Have Fun, Go Nutz!"



(From left) David Steindler and Carl Rhodes are two residents who enjoyed their time at the recent baseball game at the Diamond.



Hadassah members at a Lunch and Learn session on June 17 at the Weinstein JCC (from left) are Phyllis Ellenbogen, Julie Beck-Berman (seated); Shelia Walker, Hattie Shocket and Barbara Rubin. At the program, Beck-Berman revealed the secrets of Susanna in her biblical courtroom mystery drama to the group. Photos courtesy of Victoria Caplan

It's Check It Out time
By Susie Adolf

It's not too early to check out your volunteer schedule for fall 2015-16. Hadassah's Check It Out Health Program and Scholastic Health Education Programs in both public and private schools go hand-in-hand with Hadassah's Health Education Program.

Check It Out, a health awareness project, is a free program for high school students to increase their awareness of breast, cervical and testicular cancer and to teach them about early detection. The students learn about the need for self-examination and are taught to take care of and be responsible for their own bodies.

Single-sex group sessions for boys and girls are held concurrently and run about 45 minutes. The presentations are held throughout the school day during 9th and 10th grade health class periods and we typically see about 20-30 students per session (approximately 200 students per school visit). Annually, we present this program to over 4,000 young people.

When the Hadassah team visits a classroom there are usually three of whom attend: A Hadassah volunteer to introduce the program to the class, a registered nurse and a survivor of breast cancer. Richmond Hadassah is looking for more volunteers to go to the schools and also any survivors who feel comfortable talking about their own story. You are welcome to come to our training session meeting (date to be announced) or just accompany us to a school and see first hand how this works.

The 45-minute program has been presented to more than 33,000 freshman and sophomore students in the Richmond, Henrico, Hanover

and Goochland school systems. We are now moving into women's detention centers, per their request and our outreach also extends to local universities in the area and to outlying county school systems.

If you have any questions or if you would like to volunteer once the dates and schools are scheduled a sign up list goes out and you can attend as many or as few sessions as fits your schedule. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Susie Adolf at shoozie@aol.com or (804)301-9595.

Cards, Certificates, Trees

The Richmond Chapter of Hadassah offers many ways to honor or memorialize friends and loved ones. Beautiful 5x7 or 8x10 certificates are sold by Frona Colker (747-0221) and Edie Merriam (282-6691.) If you are interested, please contact either one to hear about the different certificates available in all price ranges.

JNF trees also are a wonderful way to honor friends and loved ones. They are sold by Marian Winer (270-7898) who can provide all the information needed about this option.

For joyous, memorializing, caring, and special occasions, cards are the perfect gift. Marsha Marks (285-8188) and Barbara Rubin (515-0755) can tell all about the Hadassah cards and help pick the most appropriate card with the perfect sentiment.

There are beautiful and appropriate cards for every occasion, All proceed support Hadassah projects.

S.L. NUSBAUM Realty Co.
Since 1906.

LEASING | DEVELOPMENT | MULTI-FAMILY | SALES | FINANCIAL SERVICES

Whether you are in the market to buy, sell, lease or develop commercial property, we are here to help. Put our experience to work for you.



Nathan Shor
Vice President
Regional Director



James Gresock
Senior Vice President



Bob Butcher
Vice President



Reid Cardon
Brokerage Associate



Integrity. Experience. Success. Since 1906.

For more information, contact: Nathan Shor, Vice President, Regional Director
9211 Forest Hill Avenue | Suite 110 | Richmond, VA 23235 | 804.320.7600
nshor@slnusbaum.com | www.slnusbaum.com



Photo by Victoria Caplan

Thoroughly enjoying the June 14 Hadassah Book Club presentation and review are (clockwise from bottom left) Marilyn Trowsell, Evie Windmueller, Lee Bank, Deborah Cohen and Julie Beck-Berman. The subject of merriment was Elinor Lipman's "The Inn at Lake Devine," a sparkling romantic comedy about, of all things Anti Semitism. There will not be a Book Club meeting in July.

e-Member Program 2015

Hadassah has come up with a novel new networking plan through Facebook and LinkedIn groups. The eMember can network with like-minded women who take pride in their Jewish connection.

Early registration for online webinars and access to the National Professional Directory are just a few of the benefits that allow the eMember to find her time and place in Hadassah. The eMember stands side-by-side with the 330,000 members, associates and advocates for women's rights to empower women to take care of their health, to advocate for, and to

promote Israel's security, support, groundbreaking medical research and promotion of humanitarian efforts around the world.

Early registration for online webinars and access to the National Professional Directory are just a few of the benefits that allow the eMember to find her time and place in Hadassah.

Early registration enables access to the Email Action Network and the soon-to-arrive Professional Directory, the members Insurance program and the tax deductible enrollment fee.

For further information, contact Susie Adolf at shoozie@aol.com.



Getting ready for fun up ahead

By Hazzan Marian Turk
DIRECTOR OF CONGREGATIONAL
LEARNING AND MUSIC
TEMPLE BETH-EL

School may be out for the year, but at Temple Beth-El we are busy getting ready for an exciting year ahead. The school year that just ended saw our students making huge leaps in their Hebrew knowledge thanks to our implementation of the Hebrew Through Movement teaching methodology and some creative and engaging teaching on the part of our staff.

Over the coming year our students will benefit from even more engaging Hebrew teaching, and they will learn to love Jewish prayer

through our newly designed tefillah program.

We also are very excited to be able to offer, once again, 6 free spots in our dynamic, fun-filled Pre-K program. Our Pre-K teacher, Laurie Kaplan, guides our youngest students to an early love of Jewish learning through stories, craft, and song. If you are one of the first 6 to sign up, tuition for your 3-5 year old child is free, so make sure you sign up early.

Are you looking for a caring, dynamic environment for your child to receive a meaningful Jewish education? We hope you will consider Temple Beth-El Religious School.

For more information or to take a tour of the school, contact Hazzan Marian Turk at hazzan.turk@bethelrichmond.org or at (804) 814-3582.



Temple Beth-El Religious School students participate in an interactive tefillah session.

Beth-El Summer happenings

Beth-El Adult Education Fabulous Females of the Hebrew Bible

When: Sundays, June 14, June 28, July 12, and July 19 at 10 a.m. (following Sunday morning Minyan)

Where: Chapel at Beth-El Religious School, 601 N. Parham Road

Join Hazzan Marian Turk as congregants and guests explore women in the Bible. All will learn about the different ways women are portrayed in the Bible and also learn about some specific women. Come and learn - you might just find yourself a new role model.

Five Phenomenal Friendships

When: Sundays, Aug. 2-30 at 10 a.m.

Where: Beth-El Religious School, 601 N. Parham Road

Join Rabbi Michael Knopf for a Sunday morning nosh and learn about some of the great friendships in Jewish history. Together, all will learn what these models have to teach us about fashioning happy and healthy relationships in our lives. Each class will cover a different alli-

ance, and people are welcome to attend one, some, or all sessions.

Special one-time Adult Education Session: Moving through the Tree of Life: Where T'ai Chi Meets Kabbalah

When: Wednesday, Aug. 5 at 7 p.m.

Where: Beth-El Religious School, 601 N. Parham Road

Join members for a special session combining prayer with movement, with guest instructor Sue Gurland. Using gentle meditative exercises in a Jewish context, Moving Through the Tree of Life connects the "Divine spark within us to the Divine Source of Being. Its standing postures are drawn from energetic traditions, including t'ai chi, qigong and yoga. They are easy to follow and resonate with our Jewish souls." For more, visit her website at www.movingthroughthetreeoflife.com.

For details on all programs and classes, contact Jayne Sklon in the Temple office at (804) 355-3564 ext. 104, or j.sklon@bethelrichmond.org, or visit our website at www.BethelRichmond.org.

Golf Tourney planned

Back by popular demand!

Temple Beth-El invites community members to play in its seventh annual golf tournament. This event will take place Monday, Aug. 17, at the beautiful Sycamore Creek Golf Club, 1991 Manakin Road, Manakin-Sabot.

Like last year, the tournament format will be Captain's Choice/Scramble with check-in and practice starting at 8 a.m. followed by a 9 a.m. shotgun start. An awards luncheon will

conclude the event. Cash prizes will be given for first, second and third place, and there will be multiple contest opportunities for golfers including "longest drive," "closest to the pin" and many door prizes to be raffled off.

The cost to enter is \$415 per foursome or \$125 per person. This includes a golf cart, range balls, refreshments, door prize/raffle ticket, gift bag and the awards luncheon.

Don't miss this fun tournament. If you

Golf *More on page 18*

Get more mattress
for your money with the
Free Size Upgrade Event
from Magniflex




**THIS
IS
FREE**



LaDIFF

OPEN: TUES-SAT 10-6, SUN 12-5
SHOP: 125 S 14th St, RVA 23219
BROWSE: ladiff.com
CALL: 800-642-5074
FREE PARKING



VIRGINIA **rep**
NOVEMBER THEATRE

DIRECTED BY CHASE KNIFFEN





**STARRING STACEY CABAJ
AND BRANCH FIELDS**

**Complimentary Tickets
for WWII Veterans!**

**RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S
SOUTH PACIFIC**

JUNE 26 - AUG 9, 2015 | VIRGINIAREP.ORG | 804-282-2620

PREMIER SPONSOR



KBI honors our longtime parliamentarian

Alan Laskoe became parliamentarian when Keneseth Beth Israel moved to Pepper and Patterson. A committee was formed to create a new constitution, and he was solicited to be chairman. After the constitution was approved, Laskoe was asked to assume the role as parliamentarian; and it was added to the constitution. In June 2015 he was voted parliamentarian emeritus.

He has served under every shul president since then and has a collection of all the constitutions.

His grandfather, instrumental in setting up orthodox Synagogues in Richmond, was president of the shul on 19th Street, and his father later became secretary. He has been with KBI since it was on 19th Street and was involved in other moves, including the Boulevard. As its membership moved to the near West End, the current location was built. When KBI moved, the membership grew.

He and Aaron Blum selected the stain glass windows for the shul; Laskoe's name in the stained glass panel by the front door honors him for his work for KBI. He arranged for the Jewish War Veterans to donate American and Israeli flags for the bima. He worked bingo as their caller for 12 years and was the head of the bingo committee. He was

master of ceremonies for the Annual Awards Banquet. He served as chairman of the nominating committee for several years.

He assists with the Veterans Day Dinner; he arranged for the panels of members to be displayed at the Dinner. He has worked in the Food Festival since its inception.

He has seen thinking go from old fashioned to modern. Women have come onto the board and vote. Announcements are sent by email, and KBI has a website. Activities are geared toward the 21st century with scout troops, pizza parties, classes, and lecturers

Laskoe served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He owned Southside Hardware and was chairman of the Hull Street Merchants Association for 12 years. Alan and Helene have two sons, two daughters, eight grandchildren, and two great grandsons. They have been married for 55 years.

For information about KBI, call the Temple office at (804) 288-7953.



Alan Laskoe

Bonay Kodesh happenings

By Heather Nees

PRESIDENT
BONAY KODESH

We are here! We are here! Bonay Kodesh continues to grow and thrive.

Like growing a garden, you have to till the soil, plant the seeds, water, feed and coax it along. We are now beginning to bloom.

We have had a fun and meaningful year of religious school and social action activities that involved all ages. We are forging new relationships and trying new things. We earned a lovely award from the people at Richmonders Involved to Strengthen Communities and congratulate our champion, Steve Saltzburg on a job well done.

We have a web presence (bonaykodesh.org and jewishchesterfield.org). We have regular Torah study led by our award winning and highly esteemed spiritual adviser, Rabbi Ben Romer. His travels and adventures make for lively discussions.

As we are planning for the fall and High Holy Day worship, we will be having Shabbat dinners around town at various homes. Dinner

and worship are open for anyone who wishes to join us. If you would like to open your home and host a dinner, that's great too.

Locations change from week-to-week, so contact us via our website.

Our Youth Group is growing and seeking new members, and spending quality time together this summer.

We are not an alternative to something else. We are not a 'congregation.' We are building Kehillah K'doshah ... sacred community. A Jewish community that is open to all who want to be part of something meaningful; either as their primary spiritual community, an addition to their spiritual community or a place to be on a spiritual journey.

All are welcome and there is something for all to participate in.

Nitra'e bekarov!

For information or activities, visit us at bonaykodesh.org or jewishchesterfield.org.

Golf

Continued from page 17

enjoy playing golf, find some friends and put a team together or enter as an individual and a team will be put together for you. Tournament sponsorships are a fantastic opportunity to get your business/name seen.

There are several levels of sponsorship available with multiple price points that any business can find affordable. In all levels, the business or individual will be given signage on the course during the event and they will be mentioned in the program booklet given to all participants. A few sponsorship levels include either a foursome or a discounted foursome price! For different levels of sponsorship, Beth-El also will advertise the business on the Temple website and in the monthly newsletter beginning with the large High Holiday issue.

Sponsorships:

- Less than \$200 – listed on the website until the next tournament and provided a single listing in newsletter.
- Above \$200 and below \$1,000 – listed in larger format on website until next tournament



and provided an ad in newsletter for three months after tournament.

- Above \$1,000 – listed in prominent spot on our website until next tournament and provided with ad in newsletter for same time frame.

For more information on sponsorships or registering to play, contact Jayne Sklon in the Temple office at (804) 355-3564 ext. 104, or j.sklon@bethelrichmond.org. You can also register online at www.bethelrichmond.org/?p=200.



Children make butterflies at Or Ami Religious School.



A religious education for every child

Even though it's the heart (and heat) of summer, it's not too early to think about your child's religious school education. At Or Ami's Joy Kramer Religious School, a visitor finds a hands-on, active, creative, and joyous atmosphere.

Terri Halperin, chair of Or Ami's Education Committee, is enthusiastic about the school's dynamic curriculum. "We strive to develop each child's personal connection to Jewish tradition. We want to inspire a sense of pride and joy in the Jewish faith and culture," she said.

Parents – and children. – find the school, with its diverse student body, meets their needs.

"We chose Or Ami because of the quality of the school's leadership," said Dan Feldman. His son Joey, a rising fourth-grader, says his favorite part of the day is the assembly that opens each religious school day. "We get to play games!" said Joey.

Benjamin Montgomery Tucker, seven years old, is beginning to learn Hebrew – and he enjoys that a lot. "As a parent, I think the school is teaching him to be proud of his Jewish identity. It's helping him (and

our whole family) feel connected to both Or Ami and Judaism," said his mother, Heather Montgomery.

The 2015-16 school year will begin with a special family education day scheduled for Sunday, Aug. 30 from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Children will meet their teachers and classmates. Families will enjoy a program about the High Holy Days. The morning will end with a cookout hosted by the Education Committee.

Interested in learning more? Rabbi Ahuva Zaches, Or Ami's spiritual leader and director of the religious school, welcomes calls at (804) 272-0017. People also can send questions to educate@or-ami.com. More about the school—including information about how to qualify for an early bird tuition discount – is at <http://www.or-ami.com/learning/school>.

School may be out for the summer, but Or Ami continues to meet at Friday night services (7.30 p.m.) and Saturday morning Torah study sessions (10.30 a.m.; call ahead to confirm participation). We look forward to seeing you at Or Ami soon, and often.

For details on Or Ami, visit www.or-ami.com or contact.office@or-ami.com.



Or Atid kicks off summer with a bang

Congregation Or Atid has been busy and summer has just started. Kadima spent a fabulous day at Kings Dominion on May 31.

On June 6, a Spiritual Nosh was held at the home of Sue and Norm Geller. Or Atid holds "Spiritual Noshes" every couple of months to have dinner and then discuss a specific topic. The topic that night was Anti-Semitism, but it wasn't simply about hate crimes against Jews.

Those in attendance spoke of their own experiences with ignorance by non-Jews about Judaism, as well as incidents of real Anti-Semitism here and around the world. The discussion led to what we can do to educate people of other religions about who we are as a people, culture and religion.

Once ended, the group gathered in a circle for a Havdalah service led by Rabbi Shaffin. The service was beautiful, spiritual and everyone felt part of the Or Atid "mishpacha" as they chanted arm in arm. The "Nosh" was attended by over 20 congregants. Not only was there a great conversation, but opportunities for learning and socializing.

A very special Shabbat service was held on Friday, June 12. Members of the Grove Avenue Baptist Church joined congregants as their pastor, Rev. Mark Jenkins, spoke about Jewish-Christian relations, Christian philo-Semitism (love of Jews), and Christian



Or Atid attendees gather at "Spiritual Nosh" held June 6.

Zionism. It was a very interesting perspective on how the two religions are so interconnected and have so much in common. Over 100 people from Grove Avenue Baptist Church joined a very large turnout of Or Atid congregants.

Shabbarbeques are back! Shabbarbeques have become one of Or Atid's most enduring summer traditions. The first one will be held on July 24, the second on July 31, and the last will be on Aug. 7. The grill is fired up, dinner is informal and congregants can sit at their tables during services. This is a great opportunity for families to get to know other members and the award winning religious school. Shabbarbeques start at 6:15 p.m. and Or Atid warmly welcome all to join them for one or all three of them.

Call the office at (804)747-4747 to attend.

Beth Ahabah begins Senior In-Reach Program



A Beth Ahabah senior visits with a congregational volunteer recently.

By Rachel Schmidt
Congregation Beth Ahabah

Congregation Beth Ahabah, along with Jewish Family Services, is piloting a Senior In-Reach Program. The goal of this program is to enhance the quality of life and preserve the independence of our seniors.

Congregational volunteers bring Jewish flavors and traditions to those who may no longer be



able to participate in Jewish life the way they once did. They make telephone reassurance calls and friendly visits. The program also provides meaningful opportunities for Synagogue volunteers to engage Jewish seniors, and builds and strengthens the Jewish community by bringing together the synagogue, volunteers, seniors and community collaborators.

As of mid-June, 36 volunteers are participating. Congregational volunteers call to wish their senior a "Shabbat Shalom." Other volunteers make visits and sometimes take in a movie or have a lunch date. In addition to individual activities, volunteers and seniors have had two social gatherings. These functions gave both groups

Beth Ahabah *More on page 20*



Old Original
BOOKBINDER'S
Restaurant

SEAFOOD & STEAKHOUSE

WINNER
Open Table's Diner's Choice Awards
SINCE 2005

•

Unparalleled Service

2306 East Cary Street • (804)643-6900
www.bookbindersrichmond.com

CELEBRATING OUR 13TH YEAR IN RICHMOND



PRIVATE ROOMS
Available for up to 70 Guests

Girl Scout Troop 4613 goes horseback riding

Troop 4613 met on Sunday, May 3, at Foxmeade Farm in Midlothian for its last fun event of the year. Thanks to loyal cookie customers, the girls' dedication, and hard work, the trip was paid for, including a refreshing surprise afterward.

Excited girls hurriedly left their cars and asked leaders, "can we start now?"

The girls met with co-owner Claire Durham. Foxmeade Farm is family owned and has been operating since the 1950s. The 14 Girl Scouts, ranging from 6 to 14 years old, listened to Durham talk about some of the horses on the farm, their names, and ages. The troop also learned the safety rules. Participating, the girls were living the Girl Scout Law, being considerate and caring, friendly, and helpful, and so much more.

The girls were split into groups, the first group to ride. A second group joined Sarah, a Foxmeade Farm staff member (and Durham's sister) at a table covered with an array of horse food. This group learned what natural grasses horses eat, how they look like in early and late stages of growth, and even saw horses' teeth that had been pulled.

The third group learned how to groom horses and where horses liked to be scratched. The troop also got to tour



The girls from Girl Scout Troop 4613 pose at the entrance of the Foxmeade Farm in Midlothian.

the barn, the room where their large collection of different types of saddles are kept, and entrance to the hayloft (but they could not climb up to see it-darn!)

As the day grew hotter, and after a few hours of riding, grooming, learning, and touring, the girls were surprised by the leaders telling them they were going out for ice cream! What better way to cool off.

As Troop 4613's third season draws to a close, plans are already in the works for a fun-filled fourth season.

In a few weeks, Boy Scout Troop 613 will have its turn to go horseback riding.

When people ask, "What is Scouting?" Our devoted scouts can confidently reply, "Scouting is Fun!"

To take advantage of all that Scouting offers, contact KBI, the Scouts' Sponsor Organization, at (804) 288-7953.

a four-way-get-together." "Talked with my senior and we learned about each other. Agreed that we should maintain contacts and stated that he would enjoy going out to lunch. I learned that my senior served in the Army but had a bad experience that he attributed to anti-Semitism."

"I spoke with my senior today who brightened up as we talked." "Assisted my seniors in obtaining information about the Hebrew Cemetery, he was most appreciative."

For more information about the program, contact Rachel Schmidt at rachelcohen-schmidt@gmail.com.

Editor's note: The JCFR recently provided Impact Grants to Jewish Family Services for its collaborative efforts for senior adult services. See article on Page 9.

Beth Ahabah

Continued from page 19

the opportunity to share in each other's lives.

Beth Ahabah has approximately 100 congregants over the age of 80. The Senior Bridge is crucial to the continued connections between our congregants and the congregation.

The following are some comments from our volunteers' monthly reports:

"Helped with a few things at Mr. C house then went to eat at a Mexican Restaurant." "Visited Mrs. N@ Westport Nursing home who was enjoying a game of Bingo. My next visit found Mrs. N reading the newspaper and she spoke about her interest in art and her gardens."

"I spoke briefly with Helen and Bob who are doing fine. They were disinterested in meeting for lunch but Bob said 'Keep Calling' so that is the plan. Coincidentally, Bob knows about another senior being served by another Senior Bridge volunteer. Plans are in place for

JFS

Continued from page 9



Jerry and Ann Samford receive the JFS Shamash Award, one of the highest awards in the Jewish Community.

her 15-year board involvement with JFS during which she took on many leadership roles including involvement with "Draw Back the Curtain" and co-chairing the "Big Schtick" committee. More importantly, she became a member of the JFS family and followed in her family footsteps of philanthropy and community involvement.

Larry Salzman and Jerry Samford were recognized for their years of service as JFS board members. Their volunteer time, advocacy, financial support, business acumen, and invaluable insight have guided JFS toward a stronger future and our agency will continue to benefit from their leadership. Both will be remaining on the JFS Board of Trustees. New board member Tom Topinka was installed to the board and the audience voted and approved the new slate of officers.

The officers are Bernie Henderson – president; Ron Felmus – 1st vice president; Sandy Sisisky – 2nd vice president; Eric Shoenfeld – treasurer; Karin Fine – secretary; and Elizabeth Smartt – immediate past president.

Henderson then addressed the audience as the new JFS board president and his remarks focused on why JFS was important to him and the importance of the work it provides on a daily basis. Sharing several personal stories illuminated why he was such a strong supporter of our agency and the theme

of his term in this new leadership role.

JFS COO Sydney Fleischer, selected several client cases to share with the audience that brought the faces of our clients to life. The audience listened attentively as she conveyed the challenges that our clients face every day and how our staff is making a real impact in their lives. Fleischer's presentation was accompanied by a power point of the Rich History photographs.

The final highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Shamash Award to Jerry and Ann Samford. The JFS Shamash Award is one of the highest awards bestowed on those who are recognized leaders in the Richmond Jewish community as well as supporters of JFS. The Shamash is the candle in the menorah that serves and lights the other candles, reflecting the impact of those receiving the award. Jerry and Ann have been an integral part of the JFS "family," advocating for the agency and for those we serve.

He has been a JFS board member since 2005, becoming president in 2011, and is a trustee of the JFS Supporting Foundation.

She has been an ongoing and dedicated volunteer, providing years of service to JFS. Their sustained and generous volunteer time, financial and in-kind donations include hosting several fundraisers and Friend-Raiser events, many at their own home. The Samford's dedication to community collaboration has had a deep and far-reaching impact on the agency.

"The Shamash is the helper candle; the flame that lights the other flames and helps them burn brightly," said Jerry Samford. Jerry and Ann's years of service to JFS has undoubtedly helped JFS burn brighter.

Past award recipients of the Shamash Award include: Sydney and Frances Lewis (2001), Rudy and Esther Bunzl (2002), Barbara and William B. Thalhimer Jr. (2003), Abby Moore (2004), Patricia Asch (2005), Susan and Art Davis (2007), Shelley and Richard Birnbaum (2009) and Harry Grandis (2011).

For information on JFS programs and services, call (804) 282-5644.



Jewish Family Services is supported, in part, by a generous contribution from the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond.

Editor's Note: Correction

In the July Reflector, Shamash was spelled incorrectly in a headline in the print edition. This award is an significant honor and the Reflector editor regrets this error.

Friendship Circle to focus on inclusion in 2015

Friendship Circle of VA is coming to the end of its second year of programming in the Richmond area. But this is anything but the end! FCVA has grown and expanded in the community with over 30 Friends@Home visits each week in the home of a child with disabilities.

The group encourages meaningful weekly friendships for children with disabilities in the comfort of their own homes with local teenage friends. "The benefits for our FCVA buddies is immeasurable," said Dr. Sarah Kranz-Ciment, PT, DPT, program director. As a buddy recently told his FCVA teen friends on their last visit "you are both my best friends."

"What has been the most incredible surprise outcome of FCVA since we began," said Kranz-Ciment, "is the amount of calls we get from parents and teen friends as to how volunteering with FCVA and getting to know their buddy on a weekly basis has changed their lives forever."

While on a family vacation, one teen friend made a new friend with autism at the beach while another changed their year-end school project to disability inclusion, and others say that being involved with their buddy has kept them grounded while in high school. "I receive much more than I give" says an FCVA volunteer.

Our newly formed Inclusive FCVA Junior Board led by Jeff Matherne has been a huge success and the precursor to a brand new Junior Board program this upcoming year. This past year the Junior Board designed a new Birthday Circle program that will create birthday parties for every FCVA buddy with an abundance of friends and fun catered to each individual's needs. The board wrote a grant to fund this program and recently learned it was accepted! The upcoming Junior Board will gain a working knowledge of nonprofits and their operations as well as an in-depth view of the disability community via FCVA community partnerships and



A Shaarei Torah high school student is part of a selfie taken by her buddy at Jumpology. At the program RTA and Collegiate students had a great time with their buddies.

experiences throughout the year.

This past year FCVA has had new events at local venues and has always invited the siblings of both the buddies and the volunteers to continue to promote inclusion within every part of our community. The Year-End Bowling Event was held June 28!

Friendship Circle is looking for 30 new teen volunteers this summer to participate in its Friends@Home program in the fall. It also is ready to grow its current working board and are looking for candidates to fill some open positions for September.

A special thanks RTA, Shaarei Torah and Collegiate students who spent time recently at Jumpology with their buddies. The Collegiate students are Jack coke, Virginia Harris, Sarah Whitaker, Katherine Reid, Mackie Chase, and Peyton Lyons,

For more information and details, contact Kranz-Ciment at (804) 740-2000 x 4.



Students celebrate Lag B'Omer at the Malcolm Rosenberg Hillel Center at Virginia Tech.

Happenings at Va Tech Hillel

It was a busy spring at Virginia Tech.

Hillel at Virginia Tech was one of 394 teams at Virginia Tech Relay for Life, which raised \$514,601.94 for the American Cancer Society. Virginia Tech hosts the largest collegiate Relay for Life in the world, and Hillel is glad to participate.

Freshman Lizzy Merin and sophomore Adam Millstein led over 120 guests through the story of freedom and redemption for a vibrant and joyful Passover Seder. The evening had a unique theme, as the service leaders took all on a "Passover Across America," giving information on the diverse Jewish communities that exist throughout the country.

Friends of Israel at Virginia Tech prepared over 100 cups of Israeli Couscous for its Hillel Israel booth at Virginia Tech's 65th Annual International Street Fair.

To celebrate Israel's Independence Day, Friends of Israel hosted an authentic Israel BBQ where students could pose in front of its version of the Western Wall and sign the Declaration of Independence.



Hillel students get into the spirit on Israel Independence Day at Virginia Tech.

As part of its Holocaust Remembrance program, Hillel students hosted a "Reading of the Names" Memorial at the central campus location, the Virginia Tech Drillfield. Hillel students distributed information about the Holocaust, along with over 1,000 white roses. Reading the names of men, women and children who were killed during the Holocaust is a personal yet symbolic way of remembering these individuals. Volunteers also came from many different areas in the community, and Virginia Tech Hillel appreciates the support.

For more about Hillel, visit www.hillelatvirginiatech.com/.

Impact

Continued from page 9

for Thought," participants in EnRich will have the option of two consecutive activities, with two offerings for each session. For each session individuals choose between an "active" track (gentle yoga, Zumba, dance, water aerobics, etc.) or a "creative" track (ceramics, film, book clubs, storytelling, cooking, etc.).

The content of many of EnRich activities are designed to serve the interests of the Jewish community, and will include collaborative projects with other groups. The program will debut this September,

so keep an eye out for more info!

Thanks to generous funding from the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond, these new programs will provide much needed services and improve the lives of older Jewish adults, and promote collaboration between agencies.

For questions about KiRVA or Enrich, contact JFS Program Specialist Brian Strauss at (804) 282-5644 ext.265 or bstrauss@jfsrichmond.org or Weinstein JCC Adult Programming Coordinator Shari Menlowe Barck at (804) 545-8611 and sbarck@weinsteinjcc.org.

We want to thank everyone in the community for your many acts of kindness and help, for your compassion, your cards

of sympathy and your generosity

to honor the memory of Marty

and to help us get through this time of sorrow.

We truly appreciate having so many good friends.

Pat Janner & Family



Holocaust survivors Halina and Alan Zimm with their grandchildren Jordana McMahon (left) and Tova Zimm. The Zimms have four children and 10 grandchildren. Photos: Special to Roanoke Times: Don Petersen

Survivors

Continued from page 1

(May 24) to recount their experiences in the Holocaust.

The Zimms' appearance was the keynote event in a weekend-long conference that saw many different presentations on various Holocaust subjects.

Halina Zimm's demeanor was calm, but some parts of her story touch her emotionally to this day, particularly that of the goodbye between her and her sisters and her father, when it became clear that they would no longer be safe in the farming town. The sisters split up when they left so they wouldn't draw attention to the fact they were parentless teens.

Zimm admired her father for his defiance of the Germans at the time and also for his progressive mindset, particularly his views that all women should be educated.

"Because of him, everyone survived," she said, referring to herself and her sisters.

Zimm tried to hold back tears in front of the mixed crowd of students, faculty and staff Sunday as she recalled when she and her parents parted ways.

"When I said goodbye to my father and mother, I knew I would never see them again," she said. "He said, 'If they stay here, they surely are going to die.'"

Zimm said her parents decided that she should return to Germany where she could effectively hide from authorities by pretending to be a Christian. She said her parents stayed back in part because it was much tougher for Jewish men to mask their background than women.

Zimm said German authorities, for example, would simply ask Jewish men trying to hide their identities to drop their pants, which would in turn reveal that they were circumcised, a practice that was almost exclusive to Jews at the time.

Although the plan was for Zimm to return to Germany, she said she feared she would fall into the hands of Nazi authorities there. Instead, she went to Warsaw, where she fortunately found work for a young couple and went to some elaborate means to portray herself as Catholic.

"I never revealed I was Jewish," she said. "My father said, 'Never tell anybody you're Jewish.'"

Zimm said she was grateful to her employers for immediately taking her in. She said the wife even once defended Zimm when authorities showed up at the couple's house to question Zimm's background.

But one night as Zimm



Alan and Halina Zimm take a pause together after telling their stories of survival of the atrocities of the Nazis.

broke down over the crushing of the brief Jewish uprising in Warsaw, the wife said something that has long confused Zimm.

"I feel sorry for them as human beings, but as Jews, let them burn," Zimm recalled her saying.

Zimm then wondered about her employer's personal views.

"Where did this come from? The hate?" Zimm said. "Nobody is born with hate."

Alan Zimm had different experiences. Unlike his wife, he was sent to two concentration camps.

Alan Zimm spent about six months at one camp in Germany, where the prisoners were used to help assemble V-2 rockets at a facility that many of the region's residents were not even fully knowledgeable about.

"The Allies didn't even know there was a factory," he said. "The people who lived around the factory never even knew what was made there."

Zimm said he was among approximately 35,000 prisoners, most of whom were not Jewish. Zimm recalled prisoners from countries such as France, Belgium and Poland.

But while he was in concentration camps, Zimm said he was fortunate to find help from kind people, even those presumed to not be on his side.

"The reason I survived is because



Wiping away tears, Halina Zimm tells of her survival as a teenager in Europe.

there were many Germans who were nice," Zimm said. One of those was his German foreman, who he said would hide sandwiches in the machines Zimm worked on.

"He was so nice to me. He did that so many times," Zimm said.

Then when time came to get transferred to another camp, Zimm recalled another act of kindness from the foreman. He said the man stuck some bread under Zimm's shirt and expressed his confidence that if Zimm survived about two or three weeks, he would be a free man.

Sure enough, Zimm said the British liberated the camp within weeks.

Melvin Macklin, an English professor at Ferrum who organized the conference, said it's important that today's generation understands history to make positive changes in the world.

"Whenever somebody is talking about it, they need to hear it," Macklin said. "If we're going to eliminate hate ... the young people have to learn."

"We talk about it in the classroom, but when they hear it from survivors, it makes much more of an impression."

Reflections on Zimms at Holocaust Program

Dr. Charles Sydnor, CEO and executive director of Virginia Holocaust Museum and Megan Ferenczy, VHM education director, attended the two-day program at Ferrum College.

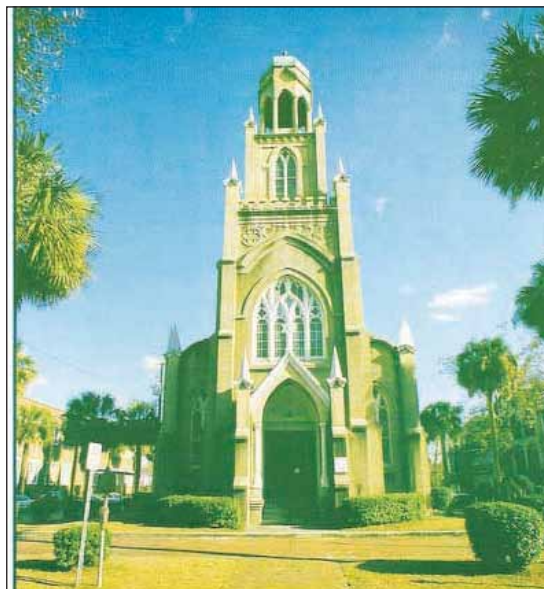
Sydnor said, "I have seen audiences of college students react to Survivors of the Holocaust at events over the last 25 years, but I cannot recall another instance in

which young people responded to Survivors the way the students and faculty at Ferrum responded to Alan and Halina Zimm. It was really something to experience!"

For more information on Holocaust programs, and the Virginia Holocaust Museum and its collections and exhibits, call (804) 257-5400. Also, visit www.va-holocaust.com.



Community members traveling south may want to visit Mickve Israel Synagogue in Savannah, Ga. Beth Ahabah Museum & Archives has research materials on numerous Jewish treasures on the east coast as well as throughout the U. S. including "A Travel Guide for the Wandering Jew." The museum welcomes visitors to come in and read the materials and talk with the staff.



'A Travel Guide for the Wandering Jew'

By **David B. Farris**
Executive Director,
Beth Ahabah Museum & Archives

A book that brings people to our door. Most of the visitors to the Beth Ahabah Museum & Archives are not Richmonders. Many are so-called "Snowbirds," Northerners either going to or coming from Florida who want to absorb a little history and culture on the way. Others find themselves in Richmond when they attend meetings or family events, and a few come just out of curiosity, maybe having heard that Steven Spielberg's "Lincoln" was partially filmed here.

Some are fortunate enough to own a copy of a very useful book, now mostly found in libraries, called "A Travel Guide for the Wandering Jew," by Susan Lieberman. In its 300-plus pages are listed Synagogues and places of historical interest in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Virginia alone takes up nine pages, and the Richmond portion is quite thorough.

The snowbirds I mentioned earlier are especially fortunate to be on the East Coast, as Jewish sites are plentiful. For example, all six of the oldest synagogues in America were strung out along or not too far from present-day I-95 and either they or their descendants (such as Beth Ahabah) can be easily reached by car.

Two cities I have found to be particularly interesting are Charleston, S.C., and Savannah, Ga. Beth Elohim in Charleston looks like a Greek temple turned sideways to the street, and the sanctuary features a cylindrical ark whose wooden doors slide on curved tracks. These doors are kept open most of the time, because once

they were jammed shut by an earthquake. When they got them opened again, they thought it best just to leave them that way! Congregation Mickve Israel in Savannah is said to be the only Synagogue in the U.S. built in the style of a gothic cathedral. It seems that when the congregation had bought the land and accumulated enough money to put up a building, they didn't have enough left to hire an architect. Not to be stopped by this, they found a builder who already had a set of plans that would work. That's why Mickve Israel looks like a Roman Catholic church.

The Jewish treasures of America are listed in this book for the use of travelers, along with places where Kosher food can be enjoyed in many cities and Jewish entertainment found. Safe, comfortable places to stay are included as well.

Come by our Museum & Archives before your next trip, spend some time going through "A Travel Guide for The Wandering Jew" in our research library noting the Jewish attractions at your destination, and thereby increase the educational aspect of your vacation or free time wherever you go. You can also go to the Beth Ahabah Website, www.bethahabah.org, and read "Wanderings," a blog describing Jewish activities, exhibitions and events coming up in many cities around the continental United States.

We are open from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Sunday through Thursday and other days and times by appointment. Bring us your visitors too, and we will entertain and educate them for an hour or so. We are located at 1109 W. Franklin St., just west of VCU, and our number is (804)353-2668.

Refinish Your Floors

With No Dust. No Odor. No Downtime.

Sandfree Wood Floors is the perfect solution for re-vitalizing all your wood floors.



Evan Silverstein would like to extend a special offer for all The Reflector's readers. For the next month, you'll receive a 10% discount on refinishing your wood floors, and an additional 5% will be given to the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond.

Free Estimates!
804.909.0501

- CHANGE COLORS
- ENHANCE EXISTING COLORS
- OVER 30 COLORS
- REPAIR SHADING
- REPAIR DOG STAINS
- CUSTOM COLORS AVAILABLE
- FLOOR REPAIR AND NEW INSTALLATION



SandFree.com

WOOD FLOOR RECOLORING & REFINISHING

No Dust! No Odor! No Downtime!



Now offering Sanding Services with our Dust Containment System which captures 90% of the dust! Visit our site at www.sandfree.com

RJCL Happenings



The Richmond Jewish Coalition for Literacy, with support from JCFR, hosted Lunch in the Garden at Swansboro Elementary School on June 10. (Above) Two of Stacey Crochunis's first graders enjoy the beautiful day. All the mentors and their mentees had a great time ending the school year with the special lunch. The RJCL mentors have celebrated another productive and supportive year with the goal of enabling the children to become more secure in their leaning. There are more than 40 literacy volunteers sharing at least one hour a week, serving as both tutors and mentors to a children. The mentors and their students will be back in full swing in the fall and would love to have new mentors and volunteers. If you can join RJCL, contact Katy Yoffy at (804) 965-0502 or kyoffy@gmail.com or Robin Jackson at 740-6677; or rocknrobn@comcast.net.



An elderly couple pose for a photo during a visit to their apartment by the Ukraine Unity Mission group. They live in a JDC displaced persons facility with many other Jews.



Zach Sisisky visits with a client at the Jewish Community Center in Zaporzhye, Ukraine.

Photos courtesy of JFNA Marketing



Michal Coffey and Mark Sisisky interact with children during a day camp orientation at the Jewish Community Center in Zaporzhye.



(LEFT) JCFR President Richard Samet interacts with children during a day camp orientation at Menora Center in Dnepropetrovsk, Ukraine.

(RIGHT) JCFR Assistant Executive Director Matt Langsam visits an elderly senior citizen at the JDC Parlograd Camp for Displaced Persons along with Julie Oreck, a Federation leader from New Orleans.



Ukraine

Continued from page 3

In providing those services, Director Nosenko works to benefit all. She instills young community members with a sense of service and tzedakah by engaging them in the support programs of her agency.

We met 19-year-old Alexandra who first came to Hesed Michael at age seven because her mother needed daycare for her to be able to work. Now, Alexandra is the coordinator for nature studies at the center, one among many of the youths who have taken on positions of authority through years of coaching by Ms. Nosenko.

Our group then returned to the Menorah Center in Dnepropetrovsk, and the JCC that is housed there, to see how it contributes to the rebuilding of a vigorous Jewish community in the region. We learned that it provides a

nucleus for the Jewish residents of the region for meetings, social gatherings, educational and cultural programs.

In a meeting with the director, and several counsellors of the Jewish camp that starts tomorrow, we discussed the successful attributes and strategic goals common to leaders of camps and of Jewish communities. We finished the evening with farewell dinner at the Center.

It was an incredibly enlightening day. JCFR Mission to Ukraine: Thursday, June 18

June 18, Final Day Ukraine, Crisis and Renewal - Update by Matt Langsam, Assistant Executive Director, JCFR

They say “to see it is to believe it.” The last few days in Dnepropetrovsk, Ukraine have been so.

Our delegation has witnessed the best and worst that humanity has to offer ...

We have seen the displaced people who remember the atrocities of World War II. These were the people who fled their homes with only what they could carry. Their options to return home were and are still bleak. Even still, most lived close to the frontline and may not have a home to return to.

I am impressed with the young displaced people; their courage and sense of optimism is amazing. For the elderly who suffered through The Shoah, Stalinism and Communism this is yet another struggle in a very hard life. Yet their will to live is inspiring.

We also are witnessing the rebirth of Judaism in this part of the world. The fire of evil may have tried to consume the Jews of Eastern Europe but the flames were not successful in completely destroying our people.

Day camp orientation took place yesterday at the Menora Center in Dnepropetrovsk. The room was filled with laughing, rambunctious Jewish children.

Through the donations of JCFR, and the collective contributions of the Jewish Federations of North America, combined with the on-the-ground efforts of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC), there is now, finally, evidence of rebirth and renewal. The system is working, thanks to you.

This has been a heart wrenching and inspiring trip. One of dualities and extremes, but one I will never forget.

Look for more details on the Ukraine Mission in the August Reflector and by visiting www.jewishrichmond.org.

As always, I welcome comments and feel free to email me at sasher@jewishrichmond.org.