

The Voice of the Greater New Haven Jewish Community

# SHALOM



**CHANUKAH:**  
Children's books, Recipes  
& More *pages 15-18*

## NEW HAVEN

WINTER 2023 • CHESHVAN/KISLEV 5784



**New Haven  
Stands with  
Israel** *pages 2, 3*



## Standing Strong With Our Brothers and Sisters in Israel

Unity.

To most people, unity signifies coming together, joining forces and living in harmony. But to Jewish communities everywhere unity means so much more. To Jews throughout the world, unity is our life force, not only bringing us together, but empowering us with a spiritual strength that helps us weather the darkest storm.

To be sure, unity is the miraculous force that sustains the Jewish people. Yes, our communities often seem rife with division and as varied as the diverse societies in which we live. After all, we are a people with many customs and practices. But in times of trouble, we instinctively come together, minimizing our differences, sharing a sense of peoplehood and embracing our shared values and priorities. Simply put, we become one. Unity fortifies us.

And so, when we awoke on the morning of Simchat Torah to a living nightmare – the people of Israel under a barbaric attack of an unprecedented size and scale by the terrorist organization Hamas— Jews did what we do best. Instinctively, we turned to one another. We became one.

At the Beckerman Lender Jewish Community Building in Woodbridge, on October 9 – two days after Israel was so viciously attacked by Hamas terrorists – becoming one meant more than 500 members of the Greater New Haven Jewish community came together to demonstrate our unshakeable unity. The effect was inspiring and impactful. With comments from community leaders and others, we prayed together, cried together, and stood together shoulder to shoulder with the people of Israel – our brothers and sisters – who continue to suffer mightily from the effect of this monstrous attack.



I looked across the auditorium and was moved by the sight of our entire community sitting together. Our Jewish agencies, our synagogues, our lay leaders... We were all gripped by this shared moment of mourning.

I was so proud of this show of unity. And I was – and am – so thankful for the opportunity to be part of a community that stands with Israel and with one another, and who are committed to the safety and well being of Jews the world over.

Likewise, I am so appreciative of the support given to us by different facets of the greater community here in New Haven and



beyond – our elected officials: federal, state and local, our local law enforcement partners and so many others. We are so thankful for your support.



In the weeks since the attack, we have witnessed an outpouring of assistance from all sectors of our community – supplies donated for victims of terror, letters and cards written to IDF soldiers, and tens of thousands of dollars raised (and counting!) towards our \$1.8 million Israel Emergency Fund goal.

But the needs continue to grow and we, as well as our family in Israel, rely on your continued support to meet them.

Please visit [jewishnewhaven.org](http://jewishnewhaven.org) to learn more about how you can help: from donating to advocating on behalf of Israel to staying vigilant about the safety of our community and its institutions.

As it says in the Talmud (Shevuot 39a)  
Am Yisrael Arevim Zeh Bazeh

All of Israel are responsible for one another

Gayle Slossberg, Chief Executive Officer  
Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven

## SHALOM NEW HAVEN

SHALOM NEW HAVEN is published six times per year and delivered free of charge to the Greater New Haven Jewish community by the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven.

### COPY DEADLINES

Copy deadlines for the upcoming *Shalom New Haven* issues are:

- Nov. 28 for January/February issue
- Jan. 28 for March/April issue
- March 28 for May/June issue
- May 29 for July/August issue
- July 28 for September/October issue
- Sept. 28 for November/December issue

### SUBMISSIONS

To submit an article or photo, please email [snh@jewishnewhaven.org](mailto:snh@jewishnewhaven.org). Please include your contact information when submitting.

Space is limited; submission does not guarantee publication. All articles are subject to approval by the editorial board.

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# Horried, Heartbroken, Angry and Ready To Stand Up for Israel

For the past 12 months I have found my president's message very easy to write as there was always something wonderful in our community I wanted to share. This time, it is very different.



Listening to the terrible stories of the massacre and the many who have lost their loved ones, or have their loved ones missing...is just a terror we never expected. We say "Never Again" but it has happened again. It is just heartbreaking and the sadness will envelop all of us for quite some time if not the rest of our lives.

I wanted to write about our well attended annual meeting and the wonderful opportunity to be together and recognize so many amazing people in our community. And of course, it was moving to say goodbye to Amy Holtz and exciting to welcome Gayle Slossberg as our new CEO. But now, all I can think about is our memorial gathering on October 9, and embracing my son Max during Hatikvah, with tears streaming as I thought, and we all thought, that any of these babies, children, parents, grandparents could be ours— indeed they are ours!

And now we get to experience anew the crushing weight of antisemitism as we navigate a world that doesn't understand what it means to be Jewish! Yet,

all of you and our community are stepping up to help, are asking to help and have helped, as we all work diligently to support our Jewish brothers and sisters in Israel, around the globe, and here at home. Once again the Jewish Federations, all over North America, are responding to assist, and each of you can be proud to be a part of this effort.

This is the time to speak up and be proud of our

heritage, to rejoin and strengthen our synagogues, to think about enrolling our children in our Jewish schools, to join and participate in the JCC, to plan to attend Jewish summer camps, and to provide support our most vulnerable in our community—especially the young, infirm and old!

Remember—your gift to the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven is the "One gift that touches many Jewish lives"...thank you very much for your continued support!

Am Yisrael Chai!

Gerry Barker, President  
Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven

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**NEW HAVEN BEIT MIDRASH**

POWERED BY  
Jewish Federation OF GREATER NEW HAVEN

50th ANNIVERSARY  
PARDES North America  
TRUST YOUR JOURNEY

▶ **SESSION 1: HAKARAT HATOV:**  
**GRATITUDE**

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21 | 7-9 p.m.**  
**Keynote Speaker: Dr. David Bernstein**  
LOCATION: Westville Synagogue, 74 West Prospect St., New Haven

Our guest teacher will be Dr. David Bernstein, Dean Emeritus of the Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies in Jerusalem.

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THE WESTVILLE SYNAGOGUE

CONGREGATION MISHKAN ISRAEL

**SIGN UP AT**  
[jewishnewhaven.org/beit-midrash](http://jewishnewhaven.org/beit-midrash)

# JCC Welcomes Six New Board Members

This past spring, JCC President David Sirowich sent out a call to all members asking for nominations to the Board of Directors. Working in cooperation with the JCC staff, the Board members have the ability to influence new program initiatives and policy. David's call to the community yielded many willing and qualified candidates. At the JCC annual meeting on September 7, the JCC Board added six new board members with impressive credentials and commitment to its rolls. We welcome the JCC's new Board members.

**MELINDA AGRON** is a principal at Newman Architects in New Haven, where she works at the intersection of building design and organizational strategy. She has an MBA, in addition to her graduate architecture degree, and is involved in development planning for higher education. Melinda is a Beverly Levy Early Learning Center parent.

**SYMONE MAGUIRE** is Assistant Director of Human Resources at Yale University's Law School. Symone has a BS in Hospitality Management from Cornell University and an MBA in Human Resources Management from University of New Haven. After utilizing the programs and services of the JCC, Symone and her husband enrolled their youngest child in the Beverly Levy Early Learning Center.

While **HANK NUSSBAUM** was New Jersey and New York educated, he is a long time Connecticut resident and JCC member for 25 years. Hank was an attending physician at Yale for many years and currently practices Addiction Medicine. You can find Hank exercising in the fitness room frequently.

**MARC ROSEN** is a Professor of Psychiatry at Yale and directs the Addiction Services at VA Connecticut. Marc joined the JCC after moving to Woodbridge in 1994. He and his family have used the JCC for childcare, basketball, hanging out, swimming and "schvitzing."

**JOSHUA SAPIRE**, a University of Texas and Yale University graduate is a Physician with Advanced Radiology Consultants. A resident of Woodbridge, he is a long-time supporter and user of the JCC. Josh believes institutions like the JCC provides a vital resource for Jewish life in greater New Haven.

**STACIE SERGEEV** is an accomplished Packaging Designer at the children's education and play brand Melissa & Doug, Stacie exudes a high-energy, can-do attitude that resonates in every aspect of her life. She is a parent of a four-year-old student at the Beverly Levy Early Learning Center and a super volunteer for PJ Library programs.



Melinda Agron



Symone Maguire



Hank Nussbaum

## JCC OF GREATER NEW HAVEN



Marc Rosen



Joshua Sapire



Stacie Sergeev

# Israel Emergency Fund

### Donate

[jewishnewhaven.org/  
israel-donate](http://jewishnewhaven.org/israel-donate)



Donate to support the victims of terror and thier families

### Advocate

[jewishnewhaven.org/  
israel-advocate](http://jewishnewhaven.org/israel-advocate)



Urge your elected officials and reps to support Israel

### Stay Informed

[jewishnewhaven.org/  
israel-subscribe](http://jewishnewhaven.org/israel-subscribe)



Sign up to receive email updates from Jewish Federation

### Stay Alert

[jewishnewhaven.org/  
israel-secure](http://jewishnewhaven.org/israel-secure)



If you see something, say something at SecureJewishCT.org



Jewish Federation  
OF GREATER NEW HAVEN



**JEWISH  
FAMILY SERVICE**  
OF GREATER NEW HAVEN

WISHING OUR  
WONDERFUL COMMUNITY

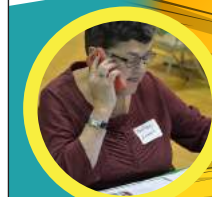
*a joyous Holiday Season*

HAPPY CHANUKAH MERRY CHRISTMAS

SAVE THE DATE  
**JFS SPRING CELEBRATION**

APRIL 7, 2024 | 6:00 PM | JCC

[www.jfsnh.org](http://www.jfsnh.org)



**SUPER  
SUNDAY**  
NOVEMBER 19, 2023

JOIN the Jewish Federation of  
Greater New Haven **IN-PERSON** as  
we rally to raise **IMPORTANT** funds  
to **SUPPORT ISRAEL!**

Jewish New Haven's  
**LARGEST** One-day Fundraiser!

[jewishnewhaven.org/supersunday](http://jewishnewhaven.org/supersunday)



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Danielle R. Pannese,  
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Before care 7:45 AM,  
After care until 5 PM

FOR MORE INFO:

[LPILL@SCHACADEMY.ORG](mailto:LPILL@SCHACADEMY.ORG)

# SECURITY CHECK

## Michael Shanbrom Conducts Security Training at Area Synagogues

Over the past two years, the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven, in collaboration with neighboring federations and the Secure Community Network (SCN), has worked tirelessly to enhance our community's safety, knowledge, and readiness to respond to threats. In advance of the High Holidays, Regional Security Advisor Michael Shanbrom conducted a series of community wide security trainings at New Haven area synagogues. More than 4,000 community members in our region have undergone SCN core training, which equips individuals with life-saving skills such as Situational Awareness, Active Threat Response, and Stop the Bleed techniques. Ongoing training initiatives ensure that our community remains prepared for any eventuality.



**Regional Security Advisor Michael Shanbrom conducts a security training at a Temple Beth David.**

**THURSDAYS**  
10/12 through 12/28  
(Except Nov. 23)  
9:30-10:30 am  
Beckerman Lender Community Building  
**Contact:**  
Kayla Bisbee at [kbisbee@jewishnewhaven.org](mailto:kbisbee@jewishnewhaven.org)  
[jewishnewhaven.org/sb-cafe](http://jewishnewhaven.org/sb-cafe)

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**FREE!**  
Best for parents with babies to 2 years old

Weekly meetups for families raising Jewish babies and toddlers. Kosher refreshments provided from Café J.

Shalom Baby | Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven | Women's Philanthropy | Library of Judaism | Pomegranate | Sabra Society | PJ Library

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**\$1<sup>00</sup> OFF**  
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# Wexner Heritage Graduates



The Wexner Heritage Program, renowned for its commitment to Jewish leadership development, celebrated the graduation of its latest cohort from New England earlier this summer, including seven members of the Greater New Haven community. This prestigious program equips participants with the knowledge, skills, and network to lead their communities into the future. Pictured above, from left to right, are six of our local graduates as they gathered together to celebrate the completion of the 2-year program: Gerald Garcia, Julie Katz, Elyse Krantz, Sami Merit, Vlad Katsovich and Chaim 'Abi' Vail. (Not pictured: Betsy Schulman). Their diverse backgrounds and shared passion for Jewish community building promise a bright future for the Greater New Haven Jewish community. Keep an eye on these emerging leaders as they embark on their next chapter, fortified by the Wexner experience. Kol hakavod to the graduates!

# Sukkot: 'Under One Big Tent' Our Community J.E.D.I. Gathering



Members of the Greater New Haven Jewish community came out in droves for our community-wide J.E.D.I. Sukkot Gathering, featuring songs and stories around the campfire and more. Our physical sukkah was small, but the metaphorical sukkah Rabbi Isaiah Rothstein built had room for everyone, a cornerstone of Jewish Federations' Jewish Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (J.E.D.I.) initiative.



# \$20 OFF!

## YOUR FIRST MONTH OF MEMBERSHIP

The leaves are falling. So are our prices!



Scan the QR code or follow [jccnh.org](http://jccnh.org) to get your discount today

Offer expires on December 31, 2023. Valid for first month only, with a secure payment plan. Normal rates apply in the second month. The offer is valid only for new or returning members whose membership lapsed at least six (6) months ago. Limit one per household. Promotional offer not redeemable for cash, is non-transferable, and cannot be used in conjunction with any other coupon or discount. Jewish Community Center of Greater New Haven reserves the right to withdraw or amend this offer at its own discretion.

## New Haven Chapter of HaZamir Sets Its Sights on Carnegie Hall

How do you get to Carnegie Hall? Practice, practice, practice – and join the New Haven chapter of the HaZamir International Jewish Teen Choir.

With members in 27 U.S. chapters plus 10 Israeli cities, HaZamir: The International Jewish Teen Choir is ready to launch its new season. Among the choir's members are 7 or 8 students entering grades 9-12 from the choir's New Haven Chapter. In addition, the leaders of HaZamir New Haven – Jacob Schonberger and Zoe Schulman – are encouraging other Jewish teens to join the local chapter for a rewarding experience of music, culture, leadership and friendship.

If they do, they will be among hundreds of young singers who will gather together for a three-day Festival next spring, culminating in a gala performance at Carnegie Hall in New York on April 7.

Created in 1993 by Maestro Matthew Lazar of Zamir Choral Foundation as a platform for talented Jewish teens to sing great Jewish music at the highest standard of excellence, the group has, for 30 years, served as a training ground for a new generation of singers, conductors, composers and leaders, investing in young people so that they have a deeper understanding of the values, traditions and glory of Judaism and artistic expression. The Zamir Choral Foundation's musical programs include North American Jewish Choral Festival; HaZamir Preparatory Program for 7th and 8th graders; HaZamir: The International Jewish Teen Choir; Zamir Noded for young adults 18-30; and the acclaimed Zamir Chorale.

HaZamir New Haven is conducted by Sarah Shapiro. An accomplished singer, choral composer and conductor, who will receive her M.M. in Choral Conducting at Yale University in 2024.

"This is a life-changing opportunity for these teens, as they express their Jewish identities through their love of music while building strong connections to peers from a range of cultural and economic backgrounds and levels of religious observance," says



**Members of the HaZamir International Teen Choir include several from Connecticut. They are: (front row, l to r) Ari Hurwitz, Zoe Schulman, Shai Hurwitz, Aviva Robbins; (back row, l to r): Jacob Schonberger, Alma Goren-Eisenberg, Sarah Shapiro (Conductor).**

Vivian Lazar, the Director of HaZamir. "HaZamir teens perform on the world's biggest stages, boosting self-esteem and allowing them to achieve great success."

As one HaZamir alumnus summed up the experience: "HaZamir taught me invaluable lessons about unity, the power of the collective, Judaism, leadership, and friendship."

For more information on HaZamir, email [hazamir@zamirchoralfoundation.org](mailto:hazamir@zamirchoralfoundation.org) or visit [www.hazamir.org](http://www.hazamir.org)



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POWERED BY  
**PJ Library** Jewish Federation OF GREATER NEW HAVEN  
 BEVERLY LEVY Early Learning Center JCC OF GREATER NEW HAVEN  
 Ezra ACADEMY

# PJ GIVES BACK!

## VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCES FOR FAMILIES

Details and events can be found at [jewishnewhaven.org/pj-gives-back](http://jewishnewhaven.org/pj-gives-back)




**PJ Library at the JCC's Annual Gift and Craft Fair**  
 Sunday, Dec. 3 | 10 am-3 pm. | FREE  
 JCC, 360 Amity Road, Woodbridge  
 Chanukah themed stories and crafts every hour on the hour!



POWERED BY  
**PJ Library** Jewish Federation OF GREATER NEW HAVEN

# Meet your PJ Library PARENT CONNECTORS



PJ Library of Greater New Haven was recently awarded a generous grant from PJ Library and the Harold Grinspoon Foundation allowing our PJ Library to hire three PJ Library Parent Connectors for the coming year. The new team of Parent Connectors— Amanda Robinson (West Haven/Milford), Phoenix Matosian (Seymour/Shelton/Oxford) and Shari Rahamim (Hamden/surrounding area) – met for their first day of training at the end of September and are excited to start connecting with families raising Jewish children in their regions! The three moms will reach out to families to setup up coffee dates, play dates and neighborhood gatherings. Pictured here (l to r): Amanda Robinson, Phoenix Matosian, Shari Rahamim, together with Kayla Bisbee, Director of Jewish Family Engagement.

# Announcing our new

POWERED BY  
**JEWEL Society** Jewish Federation OF GREATER NEW HAVEN  
 Jewish Women Emerging Leaders Supporting PJ Library in Greater New Haven  
**PJ Library**




**JEWEL Society Chair, Stacy Hutton**

We are thrilled to announce the launch of the JEWEL Society for moms of PJ Library kids in Greater New Haven!  
 Formed in 2023 to encourage support for the activities of PJ Library and engage a new generation of Jewish leaders, “JEWEL” is an acronym for “Jewish Women Emerging Leaders,” selected by the Society's founders to embody the philanthropic endeavor of our valued members who are taking personal responsibility for the growth and continuity of a vibrant Jewish identity in our community.

With gifts to PJ Library, JEWEL Society members help us provide Jewish programming for the families of the more than 800 children from birth to eight years old currently enrolled in PJ Library (another 100+ of children ages 9-12 are member of PJ Our Way – [pjourway.org](http://pjourway.org), enriching their lives with Jewish books, local family programming and outreach.

To become a member of the JEWEL Society, the mothers of children enrolled in PJ Library and PJ Our Way give a gift of \$118 to PJ Library locally. In recognition of their donation, they receive a special bracelet and invitations to exclusive JEWEL Society social events. Members then receive a commemorative charm for each year of continued support.

Join the JEWEL Society today and save the date for our inaugural event, Tuesday, November 28 at 7:30pm, exclusive to the founding members.

“I love the idea of engaging a diverse group of women in philanthropic endeavors, and



encouraging them to support and strengthen Jewish life through outreach events and community education programs, such as PJ Library,” says JEWEL Society Chair Stacy Hutton. “My background in Women’s Studies, having worked for both the Women’s Bureau and the Women’s Fund of Long Island (formerly the Long Island Fund For Women & Girls), along with my active participation within the Jewish community highlight two of my passions. I am so excited to bring Jewel Society to the Jewish women of PJ Library in Greater New Haven and I cannot wait to see it come to life!”

Learn more and become a founding member by visiting [jewishnewhaven.org/jewel-society](http://jewishnewhaven.org/jewel-society).

## AT THE JCC

# Wellness Focus: Practicing Compassion with Ourselves



By Susan Donovan

JCC Director of Wellness & Group Exercise, JCC of GNH

It's so easy to criticize ourselves – aloud and in our heads – when something goes wrong or when we are feeling inadequate. Being hard on ourselves can be counterproductive; it doesn't motivate us to do better, or make us humble. It can actually erode self-esteem and motivation.

However, if we started treating ourselves like we would treat others – by being comforting and supportive – we can begin to develop resilience. It takes practice to tune out our inner critic, but in time this practice will build the ability to

confidently face some of life's challenges.

And, being kind to ourselves through self-compassion can actually boost our health! Research supports the theory that people with self-compassion are less likely to suffer from stress and depression.

But what does that actually mean? How can you start practicing self-compassion? Here's a few suggestions to start with:

**SILENCE YOUR INNER CRITIC.** It's the voice that calls you names, heaps blame, compares you to others. Once you recognize it, you can take steps to quiet it. It's like bullying, and we pretend it's okay because it's ourselves. But it is not okay and should not be okay.

**LEARN FROM MISTAKES AND MOVE ON.** Dwelling on errors serves no purpose. Simply understand what happened and how to avoid similar mistakes in the future, then chalk it up to being human. We all make mistakes, but it doesn't detract from our worth, it can help us gain experience and insight.

**PRETEND YOU'RE SOMEONE ELSE.** Not for comparison, of course, but spin the Golden Rule. We treat others like we want to be treated, but how about treating yourself as well as you treat others? If you wouldn't say something to a friend, don't say it to yourself. Support yourself as much as you support others.

**GET OUT OF YOUR HEAD.** If mirror affirmations aren't your style, try activities that help you focus on something other than negative thoughts. Head outdoors for a hike in the woods or a bike ride, try mindfulness through yoga or meditation, sing along to your favorite music, or dig into a craft.

It takes practice to tune out our inner critic but we all deserve to create a judgement-free zone where we can nurture ourselves and provide the same encouragement that we give others – it can result in us becoming happier and healthier!

Susan Donovan, Director of Wellness and Group Ex / JCC of Greater New Haven, can be reached at [susand@jccnh.org](mailto:susand@jccnh.org).



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## AT THE JCC

### Elliot Markman's Journey Back to the JCC: A Lifelong Connection

Elliot Markman's ties to the Jewish Community Center of Greater New Haven run deep. His father grew up at the JCC on Chapel Street and formed a close bond with Allan Greenberg, a relationship that Elliot has cherished throughout his life.

"I grew up playing basketball here," Markman recalls. From attending summer camps at the age of four to working as a counselor in his early twenties, the JCC has been a constant in his life. "It's kind of like a second home," he says, emphasizing the lifelong friendships he's made there.

After graduating from college, Elliot found his way back to the JCC, drawn by the relationships he had built over the years. He speaks fondly of Nicolle



DeMorro-Vigneron, JCC Assistant Director, with whom he's shared a bond since he was 17. "The people that I work with here are like real friends and family," he says, noting their deep connection. "Jews don't have

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godparents but Allan Greenberg is the closest thing I have to one," he adds.

Now overseeing the Youth Basketball Program, Markman is eager to shape its future. He credits the program for his love of basketball and aims to preserve its essence while adapting to the evolving landscape of youth sports. He's also keen on reviving traditions, like the jamboree at the end of every Biddy Basketball season, which his family used to sponsor in memory of his father.

Markman notes that the opportunity to make decisions is the most rewarding and challenging aspects of his new role. "It's really nice to get my hands on being the person who's going to make the decisions," he says. While this newfound responsibility can be daunting, he's excited about the chance to make a lasting impact.

Elliot's mission is to create lifelong memories for both children and adults. Whether it's teaching swim lessons or

introducing someone to basketball, he finds joy in imparting skills and passions that last a lifetime.

**"It's my job to give them a reason to...go to my basketball league and have a great time," Elliot says.**

Reflecting on the JCC's evolution, Markman is optimistic about its future. He praises the center's commitment to member engagement and its ability to adapt and expand its offerings. "It is a community center," he emphasizes, highlighting its role as more than just a gym or a pool. For Elliot, the JCC's adaptability and commitment to the community are reasons he's excited to be back.

In his closing remarks, Markman expresses his gratitude for the opportunity to share his journey and his hopes for the JCC. "Thank you, man. I'm excited," he says with a smile.

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Dr. Giovanni Borromeo



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**"There are times in life when we must act out of pure principle alone..."**

Dr. Adriano Ossicini

This year, Italian Jewry celebrates the 80th anniversary of the daring Fatebenefratelli Hospital rescue operation. Our 17th annual Kristallnacht commemoration this year will therefore honor the trio of doctors who risked their lives to save Italian Jews from the clutches of Nazism, by inventing a fake disease: "Syndrome K." For their deeds of conscience and courage, Dr. Giovanni Borromeo has been honored by Yad Vashem, Israel's Holocaust Remembrance Center; and Dr. Vittorio Sacerdoti has been honored by B'nai Brith's Committee to Recognize Jewish Holocaust Rescuers. On November 12th we will shine a light on Dr. Adriano Ossicini and his life-saving heroism.

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- United States Senator Richard Blumenthal will present a U.S. Senate Certificate of Special Recognition to Dr. Cristina Ossicini, which she will receive on behalf of her late father Dr. Adriano Ossicini.
- Dr. Cristina Ossicini will speak on her father's legacy.



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# ART AS MEDICINE: Feelings Matter

By *Elanit Kayne Linder*

Director, Care Navigators, Jewish Family Service of Greater New Haven, Author of “*The Bucket and the Stone*”

As we enter into the new year of 5784 with all of our different prayers and practices, flavors of Judaism, and synagogues that sprinkle across the landscape of Greater New Haven, one thing is clear to me: feelings matter. As early as 1991 Dr. J. Andrew Armour proved that the heart has an intelligence, literally an energy affecting brain coherence. The intrinsic cardiac nervous system fires ninety percent of the information or neurons from the heart to the brain in communication, and not the other way around. If we literally remain open hearted, transparent, and loving, we can affect our cognitions and neuropathways. This research shows that our hearts literally process our environment in a similar yet different way than our minds (Dispenza, 2017). In *The Bucket and the Stone*, I refer to these different centers as thought and intuition (Linder, 2017).

This year, I will present to you my new series Journey-Drawings: Art as Medicine, I believe that we must not only understand our feelings on the both the intellectual and heart level, but we must be able to visualize them too. It is the visualization that allows us to take the idea or feeling, out of our physicality and present it back to ourselves. This presentation, or step back, takes the

emotion down and engages our executive decision maker (Kalmenson, 2013).

We all suffer. Judaism is full of suffering both in our historic journeys and the spiritual ones given over in the Torah. The question is how do we heal both as (i)ndividuals and as a community? (i) will use a simple set of (i)conography to make the lofty concepts of quantum physics and Jewish Mysticism not only understandable but also cross-cultural, so that we can all learn together regardless of background or affiliation. It is this unity and oneness that I am very invested in as an (i)ndividual and (i)n community.

(i) is the small spark from the [I]nfinite that is inside of the body as the soul. It is the spark. Jewish Mysticism and Kabbalah name the different layers and manifestations of the soul as nefesh, ruach, neshamah, chayah, and yechidah. For the purposes of Realistic M(i)nimalistic communication, we will use (i).

[I] is the [I]nfinite large and expansive. One might name [I] the Universe, or an un-ending expansive energy. One might name [I] G-d. Jewish Mysticism and Kabbalah have 72 names for the [I]nfinite and its manifestations in the world.

The Beis Samech Daled is translated to with G-d’s help. In our work it represents the proposal that everything in this world is yesh me yesh or something from something. The below drawn Hebrew letters represent “with G-d’s

help” or yesh me ayin translated to something from nothing. Only with G-d’s help can the world itself change in miraculous ways ie something from nothing.

If I just got a little too religious for you, and your Jewish practice involves lox on a bagel, or a 7% return on a DNA test at 23andMe, let me share some quantum physics. There is the infinite: some big dark space out there with sparkly little stars in it and we don’t know where it ends. This we can all agree on. When we choose what we know in front of us: this is where I go every day, my personality in public is like this, when I wake up I check my cell phone; or negative cognitions such as I’m 50 years old I can’t go back for my master’s degree, my husband will always blame me, or I can’t stand the line in this grocery store; we are missing more than 99% of what is in front of us and the infinite amount of other options in that moment, the present tense.

Dr. Gabor Mate discusses the healing or returning to ourselves and inner qualities as it relates to trauma, illness and person in environment. Viktor E. Frankl created logotherapy with the intent that creating meaning in our lives is the healer. Rabbi Majeski in the Chassidic Approach to Joy speaks like Dr. Joe Dispenza in picking something other than the material in front of you, but something more expansive in the quantum to focus on. What all philosophies have in common,

*(Continued on page 20)*

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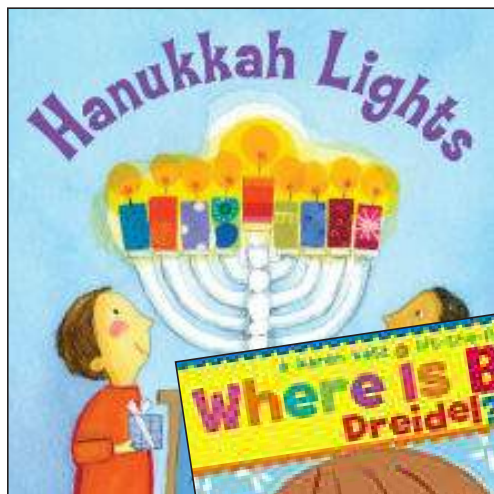
# CELEBRATING CHANUKAH

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This year, Chanukah will begin in the evening on Thursday, December 7, 2023 and end in the evening on Friday, December 15, 2023.

Chanukah, the Festival of Lights, brings joy and sparkle during a dark time of the year. Beginning on the 25th of the Jewish month of Kislev, which falls in November or December in the Roman calendar, Chanukah is a time to eat delicious latkes, play dreidel, enjoy gathering with family and friends — and, of course, light Chanukah candles. A Chanukah, or Chanukah menorah, holds nine candles — one for each of the eight nights of Chanukah, plus the shamash, or “helper,” which is used to light the other candles (the number of which increases each night of the holiday). Many families exchange gifts during Chanukah, too.

The Chanukah story goes back to the second century BCE, when the ancient Greeks ruled Judea and confiscated the Holy Temple. The small Jewish Maccabee army staged a successful revolt. When the Maccabees took back the Holy Temple, they discovered that the ner tamid, the eternal light that burned continuously in the Temple, had gone out — and they only had enough oil to relight the lamp for one day. Miraculously, the oil

continued to burn for eight full days, the amount of time it took to obtain more oil. Then, as now, the burning flame lighted up dark days, offering a symbol of hope and gladness.

#### CHANUKAH WITH KIDS UNDER AGE 5

For small children and toddlers, Chanukah is experienced through the senses: beautiful candles shining, the taste of delicious, sweet, sticky sufganiyot, and evening snuggles with family. Introduce your little ones to Chanukah with stories like “Where is Baby’s Dreidel” and “Hanukkah Lights”.

- Decorate a glow-in-the-dark pathway with your family to guide friends and visitors to your menorah.
- Dip healthy “zucchini candles” for dinner or bake veggie latkes.

#### CHANUKAH WITH KIDS AGES 5+

When kids get older it’s easier to involve them in traditions such as lighting the menorah or making latkes. You can also explore the Chanukah story in more detail, using it as a jumping off point for talking about what it means to be brave, thinking about the Jewish value *ometz lev*, or courage, and thinking about ways that your family can be “lights in the dark” for others. Great books for this age group include *Hanukkah Cookies With Sprinkles* and *Hershel and the Hanukkah Goblins*. Check out a few more choices on the page at the right:

## How do you spell Hanukkah?

By Micah Sachs  
*InterfaithFamily.com*

At *InterfaithFamily.com*, we spell it H-A-N-U-K-K-A-H. But search our site and you’ll find references to CHANUKAH (157 search results), HANNUKAH (72),

HANUKAH (46), CHANUKKAH (13) and HANUKA (5). HANUKKAH is the spelling of choice at non-Jewish websites like Wikipedia and Blue Mountain and tends to be the preferred spelling of transdenominational or progressive Jewish organizations, like My Jewish

Learning, the Conservative movement and the Reconstructionist movement.

Meanwhile, more traditional organizations—like Chabad, Aish HaTorah and the Orthodox Union—go with CHANUKAH. But there is one big exception to this division between traditional and progressive: the progressive Reform movement prefers CHANUKAH. Meanwhile, *Judaism 101*, one of the oldest and most frequently cited Jewish reference sites, goes with CHANUKKAH.

A few years ago, Robert Siegel of NPR interviewed Rabbi Danny Zemel of Temple Micah in Washington, D.C., to get to the bottom of the spelling mystery. They didn’t.

While you can find just about any spelling you can imagine online (including XANUKAH, with 162 references on Google, and HANNNUKAH, with 154), two spellings have separated themselves from the pack: HANUKKAH and CHANUKAH. HANUKKAH produces 11 million search results, while CHANUKAH produces 2.6 million.

No other spelling produces more than 600,000 results. This is a marked change from three years ago, when Siegel said CHANUKAH was the leader with 2.8 million references, followed by HANUKAH with 691,000.



# Chanukah With Kids

- Build some Lego dreidels together.
- Play dreidel.
- Share the light of the holiday with others by making special get well goodie bags.
- Make some candles of your own by recycling your old crayons.



## CHANUKAH WITH TWEENS

Once kids reach upper elementary and middle school, they've battled the "December dilemma," helped make the latkes, and have had their share of hand-print menorahs. While it may seem tough to keep engaging kids of this age-group, Chanukah is a great opportunity to hand off some of the holiday responsibilities to your tweens. Invite them to choose an activity for each night, make a dish, say the blessings, or read a story.

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# Latke Recipes for Chanukah

## LATKES SALMON BENEDICT

By Shannon Sarna/The Nosher ([thenosher.com](http://thenosher.com))

These days, Chanukah ends up being a fun, though harried, time of year – work parties, friend parties, and of course celebrations with both sides of the family. All those latkes and apple sauce can get a bit boring for all eight crazy nights.

So why not try a Chanukah latke brunch? Get out the bloody mary mix, throw together a nice fruit salad, and serve up some latkes and eggs as a fun alternative to the traditional latke spread.

*This recipe is inspired by Essex House in New York City.*

### DIRECTIONS

Put potatoes, onion and garlic cloves through a food processor in batches.

In a large bowl, mix together grated potato and onion along with flour, egg, lemon zest, salt and pepper. Let the mixture sit for around 10 minutes, and then strain some of the excess liquid.

In the meantime, heat a few Tbsp of oil on medium high heat in a large skillet. When oil is almost sizzling, put together latke patties, draining excess liquid once again, in your hand. Fry on each side until golden and crispy.

Dust the hot latkes with just a sprinkling of salt while they are still hot. Let the latkes drain on a cooling rack or on plate with paper towel.

When ready to serve, poach or fry eggs.

On a serving plate arrange latkes topped with smoked salmon and eggs. Add dill for a festive garnish.

### INGREDIENTS

5 Yukon Gold potatoes, peeled  
1 small onion  
3 garlic cloves  
1 egg, beaten  
½ cup unbleached all-purpose flour  
1 Tbsp lemon zest  
salt and pepper  
oil, for frying  
12 eggs  
smoked salmon



## SWEET POTATO LATKES WITH MAPLE CREAM

By Naomi Ross/The Giving Table

When I was a child, she would come over to help my mother cook for the holidays. Nonchalantly, she would call me over repeatedly. “Taste this,” she would say. Ten minutes later she would do it again. “Does it need more salt? Does it need more sugar?” What I didn’t know back then was that she was actually training me to taste and season.

These sweet potato latkes remind me of her, but they also bring something different from the traditional latkes of my childhood: A little bit of spice complements the warm flavors of sweet potato.

Some cooking notes: The natural sugars in sweet potatoes can cause sticking in the pan. Do not try to move about or flip the latkes until a golden crust forms on the bottom of each latke. Latkes are best made fresh out of the pan, but if making in advance, reheat uncovered on a sheet pan in a single layer in a 350° F oven for 10–15 minutes or until hot and re-crisped.

*This recipe is excerpted and published with permission from The Giving Table by Naomi Ross.*

### INGREDIENTS

#### FOR THE MAPLE APPLE CREAM:

½ cup sour cream  
¼ teaspoon cinnamon  
1½ teaspoons maple syrup  
½ apple, peeled and grated

½ cup all-purpose flour  
4 large eggs, lightly beaten  
1 tsp salt (or more to taste)  
1 tsp cinnamon

½ tsp ground ginger  
½ tsp freshly ground black pepper

Canola or vegetable oil, for frying

#### FOR THE LATKES:

2½ lbs medium sweet potatoes (about 3–4), peeled and grated  
4 scallions, finely chopped

### DIRECTIONS

To make the maple cream: Combine all ingredients in a small bowl. Whisk to blend.

To make the latkes: In a large mixing bowl, stir together potatoes, scallions, flour, eggs, and spices.

Heat about ¼-inch oil in a large nonstick skillet over medium-high heat until hot (not smoking). Working in batches, spoon potato mixture (approximately 2–3 tablespoons per latke) into oil and flatten with the back of the spatula. Cook until golden brown, flipping once, about 2–3 minutes per side. Transfer latkes with a slotted spatula to a rack or place on paper towels to drain.

Serve hot with applesauce and sour cream or maple apple cream.



# Intern to Intern—a glance into PAVE

By Gillian Jasper

Do you see some new faces around JCC and wonder who we are? My name is Gillian Jasper, I am 21 years old, and in the PAVE program. I am the JCC Marketing and Cafe J Intern for the year.

I like playing basketball, soccer, and running track. I have been president of a sports team, Unified Sports in high school, and played on the team for 5 years. I have an older sister, Gabrielle, an older brother, Adam, and a Puggle, Charlie. In the past, I have interned at a bakery and a daycare. One of my jobs before starting PAVE was cleaning a church.

As I have conducted an interview with my fellow PAVE interns, they will describe what this program is from their point of view. As I know it, it is a Work-Based Learning internship program that stands for Partnership Achievement through Vocational Experience, it is an internship program. You have to apply for it, go through an interview, then finally, if you are accepted, you are assigned a worksite.

This is unpaid, and does not guarantee you a job at the end, but admits in the program learn skills such as: professionalism, office skills and customer service skills. Some examples of worksites include: JCC Of Greater New Haven, Yale New Haven Hospital, and Whelen Engineering Company Inc.



JCC of Greater New Haven's 2023-24 PAVE Interns, Left to Right: Gillian, Margaret, Alex

First, I would like to introduce you to Margaret, she likes to help people. She had two dogs as a child. She is a twin, has 3 sisters, and an older brother. In her words, this program is like an internship," so she is working at JCC, and likes it so far." She is in the program because she wants to get more experience before she gets a real job. So far, she likes the different things because she has a better understanding of what business looks like. She works in the cafe, the gym, and the spa. In the past,

she has done retail, the cafe, and English Chapel, where she did cleaning tasks. She enjoys repetitive office tasks, such as cutting envelopes.

Next up is Alex, he has a cat named Misty, a sister named Emily, and a brother named Nico. To him, "PAVE is work that we are good at." He works in the Membership Services Office and Cafe J. Prior to starting this program, he says, "I just cleaned the toilets, sinks, and mirrors at English Chapel." His dream job is making smoothies.

At Yale, interns assist with lab tasks, wipe down tables, package food items for the cafeteria and put silverware in packages. At Whelen, interns build lightbars for police cars, ambulances, and fire trucks. At JCC, interns do clerical work, customer service and stock food at Cafe J, work in the fitness center, and at the spa desk.

If you see us around, feel free to say hi.

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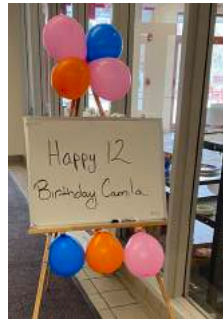
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## ART AS MEDICINE *(Continued from page 14)*

regardless of religious or secular affiliation, is that what happens is not always in our control. It is what we do with the suffering, how we learn from it, what we choose in the moment, and if we are able to see that moment as good, that counts ... and to quote myself, gets us to the "sparkly life!"

### NOW I WILL CONTINUE WITH MY SPARKLY (I)CONOGRAPHY:

The world, or our lowest level of the [I]nfinite is represented by the ground or a plane, usually some green form of grass, though it can be other colors. The tsimtsum or contracting of [I]nfinite energy to reach this lowest level of the worlds, or plane is represented by golden cross hatchings. Vessels or buckets are drawn from a vascular vessel and can represent an (i)ndividual in communication with another or (i)n communication with oneself.

There are many representations of vessels in indigenous cultures including Judaism. The Tanya speaks to the two sides of the heart the yetzer hara and the yetzer tov, or a more negative and more positive flow of information and blood. This works for me in the most applicable therapeutic knowledge of the positive and negative cognitions. In Anatomy of the Soul, Rebbe Nachman also relates blood flow to suffering. If I've gotten too off topic or spiritual for you, Chinese Medicine does the same (Kaptchuk, 1947).

The stone represents humility and the ability to be moved. Stones are literally alive and change shape in the wind, rain and earth. It is our ability to be in the present, as well as to be moved by our environment that is actual life and creativity. I do not know that any one of us can argue complete control over our own lives. Plants both as flowers and as small red dotted plants represent growth.

Whether we believe in Gd or not, there is the action that we take, and then the happening, or life that meets us in the middle. The meeting, and how we handle it, is the magic of the sparkly life. I look forward to going on this spiritual, emotional, and sparkly journey with you monthly! Please write a note to me about something you are going through, no more than 200 words, and allow me to help you visualize it.

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# Retirement Plans and Charitable Giving

Retirement plans can present tax-smart charitable giving opportunities both (1) during a donor's lifetime, as well as (2) in the donor's estate plans.

### 1. Charitable Giving Opportunity with an IRA During a Donor's Lifetime— Available for Those 70½ and Older

The Charitable IRA Rollover is a way for donors age 70 ½ and older to pay less tax while supporting their favorite charities. A Charitable IRA Rollover allows donors to direct up to \$100,000 (or less if they choose) from their traditional IRA to charity, tax-free.

The Charitable IRA Rollover creates an opportunity for donors to establish an endowment or make an outright charitable gift to a charitable organization. Your rollover can be directed for a capital campaign gift, current needs, or restricted for endowment purposes. Your gift can be earmarked for your synagogue, a local Jewish agency, Jewish education, or any program or organization that is important to you.

NOTE, although under current tax laws the RMD (Required Minimum Distribution) does not begin until age 72, you can begin using the IRA Charitable Rollover in the year you turn 70 ½. In addition, donor advised funds do not qualify for the IRA Charitable Rollover.

#### THIS STRATEGY MAY BE RIGHT FOR YOU IF YOU:

- You want to make a qualified charitable gift from your IRA to reduce the value of future distributions you will be required to take
- You do not itemize your deductions and would like to realize an increased tax benefit for your giving
- You wish to make an impactful gift to benefit the community
- You already contribute to charity at your deduction limit, and you want to donate more
- You do not need your Required Minimum Distribution—all it does is raise your tax liability
- You have a secondary smaller IRA you do not need
- You wish to reduce your IRA and remove it from your taxable estate

### 2. Retirement Plans as Part of Your Estate Plan

Retirement plans, such as IRAs/401Ks/403bs, are tax-plagued assets when they are left to a non-spouse beneficiary. Under the Secure Act, a non-spouse beneficiary of an IRA/401K/403B must withdraw the entire amount of the inherited retirement within 10

years –non-spouse beneficiaries are no longer permitted to “stretch” the withdrawals over their lifetime. For example, Mr. Cohen passes away (assume Mrs. Cohen predeceased him) and his 2 sons are the named beneficiaries of his \$150,000 IRA. The sons will need to withdraw the entire \$150,000 within 10 years, which means paying about \$50,000 in income tax. That \$150,000 asset, when left to the Cohen sons, will only be worth about \$50,000. A \$1,500,000 IRA? The sons will need to withdraw it within 10 years and pay about \$500,000 in taxes!

**A TAX-SMART SOLUTION:** If Mr. Cohen had named a charity as the beneficiary of the IRA, at Mr. Cohen's passing, the charity would have received the entire IRA, tax-free. Mr. Cohen could then leave his other, tax-free assets to his sons.

### DIFFERENCES BETWEEN RETIREMENT PLAN GIFTS TO CHARITY DURING LIFETIME VS. IN DONOR'S ESTATE PLAN

DURING LIFETIME	IN ESTATE PLAN
IRA Only (Not from 401K/403B)*	IRA/401K/403B okay
Maximum \$100,000 per year	No maximum
Any US-based public charity (but not to donor-advised fund)	Any US-based public charity (including donor-advised fund)
Not subject to income tax	Not subject to income or estate tax
Accomplished via rollover/distribution from IRA directly to charity	Accomplished by naming charity as designated beneficiary for all or part of the retirement plan
Contact plan administrator for rollover paperwork	Contact plan administrator for proper beneficiary designation form
Must be 70 ½ or older	Can designate at any time but charity will only benefit at your passing

Please consult your professional advisor concerning your tax plans. For more information, visit [newhavenjewishfoundation.org/retirement-plans-and-charitable-giving](http://newhavenjewishfoundation.org/retirement-plans-and-charitable-giving).

**2023 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS**

▶ **The Emma Kohn Podoloff Scholarships was awarded to:**

**NOAH BROWN**

from Wilbus Cross High School in New Haven and will attend Bard College

**JACOB BETTENCOURT**

from Amity High School in Woodbridge and will attend University of Connecticut

**SOPHIA McDERMOTT**

from Amity High School in Woodbridge and will attend Wesleyan University

▶ **The Mary Taylor Friedler Scholarship was awarded to:**

**HARRISON ROSS ROSENAY**

from Amity High School in Woodbridge and will attend Quinnipiac University

▶ **The Stuart J. Drell Scholarship was awarded to:**

**JACOB BETTENCOURT**

from Bethany and will attend University of Connecticut

**ELIJAH HARRIS**

from West Hartford and will attend Brown University

**MYLES KAPLAN**

from Madison will attend the University of Delaware

▶ **Israel Summer Experience Scholarship was awarded to:**

**HAILEY WEISSMAN**

from Cheshire attended BBYO Israel Journey

**SOLOMON GHOLIAN**

from Orange attended Merkos L'inyonei Chinuch

▶ **Gap Year Israel Experience Scholarships was awarded to:**

**YARDEN PAWLAK**

from New England Jewish Academy and will attend Naale Elite Academy

**CHAYA DRIZIN**

from Beis Chana Academy and will attend Seminary Chaya Mushka

**Mazel Tov to our Jewish Foundation Scholarship Awardees!**

Scan the QR code to find out more!



# Using Appreciated Stock for Charitable Giving

## DONATING LONG-TERM APPRECIATED SECURITIES CAN PROVIDE ADDITIONAL TAX BENEFITS

- When you donate long-term appreciated securities, you can claim a charitable income tax deduction for the fair market value of the securities on the date of transfer, no matter what you originally paid.
- You pay no capital gains tax on the transfer. For example, if the securities originally cost \$2,000 and now have a fair market value of \$10,000, you do not pay tax on the \$8,000 gain and you may claim a charitable income tax deduction for the full \$10,000.

CASH VS. STOCK	Option 1: Gift of \$10,000 cash	Option 2: Gift of \$10,000 stock
Initial cost basis of securities/appreciation	Not applicable	\$2,000/\$8,000
Capital gains tax saved or paid, assuming 20% rate*	Not applicable	\$1,600
Personal income tax savings* (0.35 × amount donated to charity)	\$3,500	\$3,500
Net Tax savings	\$3,500	\$5,100

**DONATING CASH VS. STOCK** In the example above, right, you see that donating the stock results in no capitals gains tax being paid, a larger itemized deduction, and more money for the charity of your choice.

Note, certain federal income tax deductions, including the charitable contribution, are available only to taxpayers who itemize deductions, and may be subject to reduction for taxpayers with AGI above certain levels. Deductions for contributions of appreciated property generally are limited to 30% of the donor's AGI, however, excess contributions may be carried forward for up to five years.

If you hold securities with a loss, it is usually better to sell first. By doing so, you can take the capital loss for tax purposes and then donate the cash. In most cases, donating appreciated securities can be a cost-effective way to benefit the charities of your choice.

For more information, visit us online at [newhavenjewishfoundation.org/retirement-plans-and-charitable-giving](https://newhavenjewishfoundation.org/retirement-plans-and-charitable-giving)



## OPEN A DONOR-ADVISED FUND WITH THE JEWISH FOUNDATION

Think of a donor-advised fund as your charitable bank account. When you contribute cash or securities to your DAF, you are eligible to take an immediate tax deduction. Those funds can be invested for tax-free growth, and you can recommend grants to any IRS-qualified public charity over time.

- 1 Establish a special charitable fund in your name with the Jewish Foundation.
- 2 Contribute cash or appreciated securities.
- 3 Foundation sells the assets and credits your fund with the sale proceeds.
- 4 You receive a tax receipt for charitable deduction purposes—no capital gains taxes are payable.
- 5 The proceeds are invested and continue to work for you, tax free.
- 6 Request distribution to qualified charities—at your convenience.

### EXTRA TIP: CONSIDER BUNCHING!

No longer itemizing? Consider “bunching” donations.

The advice from many experts is to bunch donations so that your itemized deductions go beyond the current standard deduction amounts for 2023 of \$13,850 for individuals and \$27,700 for those who file jointly (adjusted annually for inflation). If you do not routinely exceed the standard deduction, you can get over it by bunching donations of stock to charities or to a donor-advised fund.

Scan to learn more about opening a Donor-Advised Fund or visit



<https://newhavenjewishfoundation.org/donor/>



Jewish Foundation  
OF GREATER NEW HAVEN

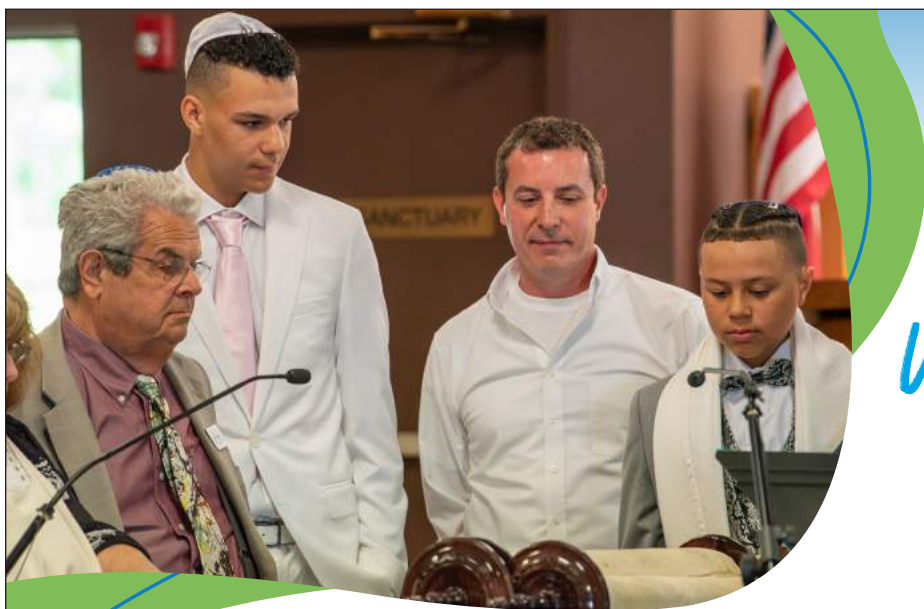
# Foundation News

## Summer of Service and Gratitude

*“As a result of the Foundation's generosity, I was inspired to give back to the community, ensuring that others also have the chance to grow and contribute. I had an incredible and fulfilling experience volunteering at Cafe J this summer, at the JCC. The time I have spent at Cafe J has been eye-opening and enriching in ways I could never have imagined. Working with the interns from Chapel Haven taught me valuable life lessons and the power of human connection. I am thankful for the chance to make a positive impact on our community, and I owe a significant part of this opportunity to the **Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven's Israel Experience Scholarship** for my gap year scholarship that supported me so that I may enrich my education in Israel. I will remember this summer and the lessons of gratitude and service for the rest of my life.”* —Yarden Pawlak



David Schleifer(left) and Yarden Pawlak (right)



*What will your Jewish legacy be?*

**Lee and Peter Stolzman Created a Legacy for Temple Emanuel**

*“Three generations at Temple Emanuel and five B’nai Mitzvot. From generation to generation. That is why it is important for us to be part of the Temple Emanuel Leave a Legacy initiative.”* —Lee and Peter



Create your Jewish legacy today by scanning the **QR code** or visiting [newhavenjewishfoundation.org/create-a-jewish-legacy](https://newhavenjewishfoundation.org/create-a-jewish-legacy)

# The Saltzman Family Fund Helps the Homeless Through DESK

Since 1987, Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen (DESK) has been a well-known presence in New Haven, offering daily hot meals and a food pantry to those in need. Addressing evolving societal needs, the organization has expanded its focus beyond food assistance, opening a daytime Drop-in & Resource Center to support the unsheltered homeless as a place of refuge.

Steve Saltzman, a partner at Brenner, Saltzman & Wallman LLP had witnessed the transformation of DESK over the years. DESK's

mission struck a chord with Saltzman, and he felt a responsibility to take action. "It's important that we support the entire community," Steve Saltzman emphasized. Guided by this belief, he took meaningful steps to create a long-lasting positive impact.

Enter the Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven. Founded with a vision to connect donors with community causes that resonate with their values, the Jewish Foundation offers expert endowment



management services, and connects generous individuals to such organizations, growing resources to help build the future and ensure the community's lasting strength. Saltzman worked directly with Lisa Stanger, Executive Director of the Jewish Foundation, and established an endowment fund to support DESK's efforts and uphold the organization's mission

"The Saltzman Family Fund, borne out of Steve's dedication to his community and philanthropic goals, became a shining example of the Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven's partnership with donors and community organizations," said Stanger. "With the Jewish Foundation, you can create an endowment to benefit what is important to you. We are thrilled to support DESK with the Saltzman Family Fund, and look forward to watching the fulfillment and expansion of DESK's mission."

According to Luis Olmo-Rivera, DESK's Development

Director, the Saltzman Family Fund will cover operational expenses for flagship programs like nightly dinners and the Drop-in & Resource Center. However, the intention is to eventually channel these funds toward developing new services that can effectively address the evolving needs of the community they serve. "The Saltzman Family Fund is crucial for ensuring DESK's sustained operational funding, enabling the organization to continue its mission of assisting the most vulnerable in Greater New Haven," says Olmo-Rivera.

The Saltzman Family Fund, DESK, and the Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven demonstrate the power of collaboration, compassion, and progress. Through transparent communication, endowment expertise, and a commitment to community, dedicated individuals and forward-thinking organizations can shape the future of positive change through impactful philanthropy.

Steve Saltzman has also established endowment funds at the Jewish Foundation for the benefit of the Jewish Cemetery Association of Greater New Haven, the ADL to fund Holocaust Education, Friends of Jewish heritage Poland, a PACE Fund (Perpetual Annual Campaign Endowment) for the Jewish Federation Annual Campaign, a Donor Advised Fund, as well as a LOJE fund (Lion of Judah Endowment) in memory of his late wife, Marilyn, to endow her Lion of Judah gift to the Jewish Federation Annual Campaign.

To learn more about DESK visit: [deskct.org](http://deskct.org) and [newhavenjewishfoundation.org](http://newhavenjewishfoundation.org).

## WOMEN OF VISION GRANT APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

The Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven's Women of Vision Society has been helping women and girls in the Greater New Haven area and Israel for over 20 years. This endowment, created by 100 founding members in our community, has tackled issues from domestic violence and health to acculturation and spirituality.

The endowment has more than doubled its membership and giving since its creation. Since its inception in 1998, Women of Vision has disbursed over \$220,000 to help seed and sustain critical programming and services for women and girls.

Application deadline is Tuesday, January 30, 2024. Grant awards typically range between \$500 and \$3000 for qualifying programs.



For more information, application and guidelines please visit <https://newhavenjewishfoundation.org/women-of-vision/>



# BECKERMAN FAMILY PACE CHALLENGE



Established in partnership with the Beckerman Family Foundation, this is now a \$5 million community campaign for PACE. To date, \$4,008,333 has been raised and we have met our goal for the \$2 million Beckerman Family PACE Challenge match. This campaign is intended to secure the future of the Greater New

Haven Jewish community through newly established and increased Perpetual Annual Campaign Endowment (PACE) funds. Thank you to the families listed below for helping us successfully complete our challenge. If you would like to join them in helping us reach (and surpass!) our \$5 million goal, contact Lisa Stanger at (203) 387-2424 x382, [lstanger@jewishnewhaven.org](mailto:lstanger@jewishnewhaven.org).

## CURRENT DONOR LIST

(as of 10/20/23)

<i>Norman &amp; Caron Alderman**</i>	<i>Judith Hahn**</i>
<i>Richard Amerling**</i>	<i>Betsy and Jeffrey Hoos**</i>
<i>David &amp; Karen Astrachan*</i>	<i>Scott &amp; Jocelyn Hurwitz**</i>
<i>Rosalind &amp; Stephen Atkins*</i>	<i>Bruce &amp; Irene Jacobs*</i>
<i>Steve &amp; Judy August*</i>	<i>Cari &amp; Keith Kaplan**</i>
<i>Gerry &amp; Debbi Barker*</i>	<i>Joel &amp; Iny Karp**</i>
<i>Brad Beckerman**</i>	<i>Sandy &amp; Elliott Kerzner PACE Fund*</i>
<i>Linda &amp; Leonard Bell*</i>	<i>Ed Konowitz*</i>
<i>Harvey Bixon*</i>	<i>Jackie Koral*</i>
<i>Rob &amp; Stacey Bland*</i>	<i>George &amp; Susan Krall**</i>
<i>Leatrice Brodner*</i>	<i>Barbara &amp; John Lichtman**</i>
<i>Jay &amp; Lynn Brotman*</i>	<i>Bill Loftus*</i>
<i>Mark &amp; Linda Caplan*</i>	<i>Joan &amp; Stuart Margolis*</i>
<i>Linda Caplan LOJE Fund*</i>	<i>Lisa Martin**</i>
<i>Nancy Cohen*</i>	<i>Marc &amp; Nancy Olins**</i>
<i>Rhoda Cohen*</i>	<i>Barbara Green Orell*</i>
<i>Michael and Karen Diamond**</i>	<i>Hap &amp; Stacey Perkins**</i>
<i>Jody Ellant**</i>	<i>Jodi &amp; Richard Pollack**</i>
<i>Rick and Debra Epstein*</i>	<i>Paul &amp; Rita Portnoy*</i>
<i>Ronald Farber Memorial PACE Fund*</i>	<i>Eric Ravid**</i>
<i>Dale &amp; Robert Felice**</i>	<i>Norman &amp; Karyn Ravski*</i>
<i>Marilyn Fishbone**</i>	<i>Stephen Saltzman**</i>
<i>Adam Fleischman*</i>	<i>Shirley Scholder**</i>
<i>Andrea &amp; Steven Fleischman*</i>	<i>Jimmy Shure**</i>
<i>Julie Fleischman*</i>	<i>Colby &amp; David Sirowich*</i>
<i>Samantha Fleischman*</i>	<i>Susan and Doug Skalka*</i>
<i>Zoe Fleischman*</i>	<i>Mark and Judy Sklarz**</i>
<i>Claire Frankel**</i>	<i>Ina Silverman &amp; Jay Sokolow*</i>
<i>Kal Watsky &amp; Deborah Fried**</i>	<i>Emily Fine &amp; Stephen Stein*</i>
<i>Suzanne Gallant**</i>	<i>Jeffrey &amp; Robyn Teplitzky*</i>
<i>Gary &amp; Patricia Ginsberg*</i>	<i>Barry and Hyla Vine**</i>
<i>Dena Schulman-Green &amp; Eric Green**</i>	

\*= new fund established

\*\*= added funds to existing PACE/LOJE

## IN OUR SYNAGOGUES

### BEKI Kids and Teens Plan a Busy Year

Congregation Beth El - Keser Israel | 85 Harrison St, New Haven | (203) 389-2108 | [beki.org](http://beki.org)

It promises to be a busy year for every age group at Congregation Beth El - Keser Israel [BEKI].

BEKI's Kadima youth group for 4th through 8th graders offers a chance for tweens and grade schoolers to have fun while making new Jewish friends. Kadima started off the year with blueberry picking at Bishop's Orchards. Upcoming events include a November 12 trip to the Adventure Ropes Course at Jordan's Furniture and a Chanukah party on December 9.

At the USY fall kickoff event, 23 teenagers — grades 7-12 — gathered over pizza and sushi to discuss plans. Led by USY co-presidents Miranda Hurwitz, Miles Katz, and Daniel Manning, all seniors at Amity High School, the group focused, among other things, on how to fulfill high school required volunteer hours in ways that live out Jewish values. BEKI will match teens with volunteer opportunities



Seventh grader Jacob Kleinstein (in red shirt) speaks at an ice breaker at BEKI USY's kickoff event .

that align with the congregation's values, whether that means helping out at the synagogue or serving the larger community.

Meanwhile, BEKI USY is gearing up for Sunday, November 5, when they teen will bake pareve Thanksgiving pumpkin and apple pies in BEKI's kitchen. Proceeds from the annual project will benefit a local nonprofit that serves the hungry. In addition, pies sponsored by community members are donated to those in need through programs at the Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen (DESK).

In December, BEKI USY plans to host a Hanukkah game night. Teen Keshet, a learning program for 7th through 12th graders led by Education Director Annie Norman-Schiff and Rabbi Eric Woodward, that meets alternating Wednesday nights from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. the Teens explore Jewish texts and ideas that address their own interests.

For more information about BEKI, go to [www.beki.org](http://www.beki.org).

## CBSRZ CEMETERY ASSOCIATION, INC.

A 501(c)(13) not for profit cemetery association

is making ten plots available  
in its scenic and historic Fountain Hill Cemetery,  
located in Deep River, CT

CBSRZ Members and Jewish non-members are welcome  
Cremains are also welcome

For more information please contact Wendy Bayor  
[Wendy@cbsrz.org](mailto:Wendy@cbsrz.org) 860.526.8920

## Beth Israel Synagogue Launches “Colors of My Jewish Year”

Beth Israel Synagogue | 22 N Orchard St, Wallingford | (203) 269-5983 | bethisraelwallingford.org



Marcy Thomaswick reads children a book about the holiday of Sukkot.

Twenty-seven children from Wallingford, Meriden and North Haven were in attendance for the opening sessions in the new “Colors of My Jewish Year Program” — an innovative program made possible through a generous grant from the Jewish Federation of Greater New

Haven in partnership with PJ Library and the Wallingford, North Haven and Meriden libraries.


The goal of the 6-session monthly program is to provide interactive, educational programs and life-affirming Jewish






experiences for affiliated, unaffiliated and interfaith Jewish youngsters (ages 3-8) in the Greater Wallingford area. Each session is held in two different locations – Wallingford Library and either the Meriden or North Haven library.




The sessions, led by Beth Israel Educational Director Marcy Thomaswick, span the months of the Jewish year and cover different holidays. The Sept. 13 and 14 topic was Rosh Hashanah and the one for Sept 27 and 28 was Sukkot. Future sessions will cover Chanukah (Nov. 30 and Dec. 6), Tu B’shvat (Jan. 17 and 18, 2024), Passover (April 17 and 18, 2024), Shabbat (May 2, 2024), and Shavuot (June 5, 2024). Attendance is free.

For more information or to register, visit [bethisraelwallingford.org/comjy](http://bethisraelwallingford.org/comjy).









### Check out and

# SAVE

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## IN OUR SYNAGOGUES

# The Value of Sisterhood AT TEMPLE BETH SHOLOM

Temple Beth Sholom | 1809 Whitney Ave, Hamden | (203) 288-7748 | tbshamden.com

By Sharon Rosenblatt

Co-president of Temple Beth Sholom in Hamden.

When it comes to a synagogue’s Sisterhood or Hadassah or any women’s group, I think many women assume it will be the meetings our moms and grandmothers would whisk off to one weeknight a month. If you asked me to close my eyes and think about Sisterhood when I was a six-year-old girl, I’d smell my mom’s Crest toothpaste as she freshened up to help plan a fashion show or fundraiser at Temple Beth Sholom in Hamden.

Today, I’m a 36-year-old ‘girl’ and I am Temple Beth Sholom’s Sisterhood president, alongside Melissa Hammer. The age of our members ranges from their 20s to their 90s. I love this spread. Where else besides a synagogue would you talk mah jongg and Instagram simultaneously?

If your organization is lucky enough to have a dedicated women’s group, I urge you to join. In my fourth year of presidency, I’d like to share some of the joys and values I receive from this group:

**COMMUNITY:** I truly treasure the friendships I’ve made with women both younger and older than me. I was initially worried I’d be barking up the wrong tree and



just making friends with my mom’s friends, which was moronically ageist of me. My mom has awesome friends who like me for me, and we have much more in common than I ever expected.

**EDUCATION AND LEARNING:** My other social circles don’t value learning and continual growth the way Sisterhood does. I have expanded my network with book clubs and lectures about immigration, the Torah, the Holocaust, and feminism, which I assure you I wouldn’t have done on my own.

**CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL GROWTH:** My faith and connection with Judaism has grown in dynamic ways. I used to see aspects of religion as regimented and

**Temple Beth Sholom Sisterhood**

**Co-President Sharon Rosenblatt at a paint party with other member of the Temple Beth Sholom Sisterhood.**

unchangeable, but Sisterhood has helped me find a new connection with unchanging prayers and to question long held beliefs.

**SOCIAL CONNECTIONS AND FUN:** It’s not all learning and fundraisers. I’ve had a blast planning just pure fun events with our members, including Zumba, paint nights, yoga, trivia, and even “Never Have I Ever” over Zoom.

**LEADERSHIP AND TIKKUN OLAM:** As Jewish women, we have an obligation to make the world better for generations to come. Sisterhood has taught me that leadership means growing outside yourself to benefit the greater good.

Of course, there are many more reasons to join Sisterhood. So, take a page from would-be Sisterhood member Beyoncé: “Okay, ladies, now let’s get in formation.” Find your group and find your soul!

Sharon Rosenblatt can be reached at [TBSsisterhood@gmail.com](mailto:TBSsisterhood@gmail.com)



## Inspired by His Immigrant Heritage, Albert Schatz's Discovery Saves Lives

By **Yelena Gerovich** New American Acculturation Program Coordinator

Autumn in Connecticut is a breathtaking sight to behold. The trees burst into a magnificent tapestry of colors. The crisp, cool air carries the promise of the joyous gatherings of families coming together to celebrate the Jewish holidays. It is a time when cherished memories are shared, and stories of courage and innovation take center stage.

It is also a time when we remember Albert Schatz, the Jewish scientist from Norwich, Connecticut who, 80 years ago in October 1943, discovered a cure for the deadly disease tuberculosis, forever changing the course of medical history.

Schatz's journey began on a farm in Norwich, where his immigrant parents, one from Russia and the other from Poland, raised him with a strong work ethic and a love for education. Growing up in a tight-knit Jewish community, young Albert was immersed in the rich tapestry of his cultural heritage. The immigrant experience forged in him a spirit of resilience and a profound appreciation for the opportunities that America offered.

Schatz excelled academically and, in 1942, set out to earn his Ph.D., under the mentorship of Selman Waksman. Himself a Russian Jewish immigrant, Waksman had pioneered soil microbiology research at Rutgers. In 1943, the Mayo Clinic asked Waksman to search for an antibiotic to combat the virulent disease tuberculosis. Waksman entrusted the mission to Schatz.

On October 19, 1943, Schatz made a historic discovery – in just three and a half months of tireless work, he had found an antibiotic effective against both tuberculosis and gram-negative bacteria. He named it streptomycin. Tuberculosis, often referred to as TB, loomed as a formidable and widespread health threat during the early to mid-20th century. His work saved countless lives and laid the foundation for the development of modern antibiotics, ushering in a medical revolution.

After the discovery, a dispute arose between Schatz and Waksman over the patent rights for streptomycin. Waksman, as the head of the laboratory and Schatz's mentor, claimed that the discovery was the result of the collective efforts of his research team and, therefore, belonged to the university. Over time, Schatz received increasing recognition for his role in the discovery of streptomycin, especially in the scientific community.

While Albert Schatz did not receive a Nobel Prize like his mentor Selman Waksman, he did receive other honors and awards for his work. For example, he was elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology. The fight against tuberculosis continues, and Albert Schatz's legacy inspires us all to persevere in the quest for a TB-free world.

The New American Acculturation Program provides educational classes, programs and holiday celebrations. For more information, including sponsorships of specific programs, please contact Yelena Gerovich at 203 387-2424x321, or email [ygerovich@jewishnewhaven.org](mailto:ygerovich@jewishnewhaven.org).

## Открытие еврея-иммигранта Альберта Шаца спасает жизни во всем мире

Осень в Коннектикуте – это словно картина, на которую хочется смотреть бесконечно. Деревья превращаются в настоящее произведение искусства, краска которого меняется каждый день. Но осень в нашем штате – это не только природа в своей великолепной красе, это также время празднований еврейских праздников, когда мы делимся воспоминаниями и интересными историями. Одна из таких историй начинается с семьи иммигрантов из России и Польши.

Это история Альберта Шаца, молодого еврейского ученого, который 80 лет назад перевернул медицинскую историю, открыв лекарство от туберкулеза. Путь Шаца начался на ферме в Норвиче, Коннектикут, где его родители, иммигранты из России и Польши, внушили ему любовь к труду и образованию. Он рос в еврейской среде, что дало ему возможность узнать и погрузиться в культурное наследие своих предков. И этот опыт иммигранта сформировал в нем дух исследователя, упорства и глубокую благодарность перед Америкой за возможности, которые она ему предоставила.

Шац был одаренным студентом и в 1942 году отправился учиться на степень доктора наук под руководством Зельмана Ваксмана. Сам Ваксман был еврейским иммигрантом из Украины и первооткрывателем исследований по почвенной микробиологии в Раттерсе. И однажды в 1943 году Майо-клиника обратилась к Ваксману с просьбой найти антибиотик для борьбы с туберкулезом. Именно эту задачу он поручил своему студенту Шацу.

И вот 19 октября 1943 года стал днем, который навсегда изменил медицинскую историю. Всего за три с половиной месяца усердной работы Шац сделал историческое открытие – он нашел антибиотик, эффективный против туберкулеза. Этот антибиотик он назвал стрептомицин. Туберкулез, или ТБ, был серьезной угрозой здоровью людей в первой половине 20-го века, и открытие Шаца спасло бесчисленные жизни и положило начало развитию современных антибиотиков, открыв новую эру в медицине.

Но после открытия возник спор между Шацем и Ваксманом о патентных правах на стрептомицин. Ваксман утверждал, что открытие было результатом совместных усилий его исследовательской команды и, следовательно, принадлежит университету. Только с течением времени Шац получил настоящее признание за свою роль в этом открытии, особенно в научном сообществе.

Хотя Альберт Шац не получил Нобелевскую премию, как его наставник Зельман Ваксман, он был удостоен других наград и почестей за свою работу. Его избрали членом Американской академии микробиологии. Борьба с туберкулезом продолжается, но история Альберта Шаца вдохновляет на постоянство в стремлении жить в мире без людей погибающих от туберкулеза.

История Альберта Шаца – это история смелости и инноваций, и она напоминает нам о том, что независимо от происхождения и обстоятельств, каждый из нас может изменить мир к лучшему.

Наша образовательная программа предлагает разнообразные классы, программы и праздничные мероприятия. За дополнительной информацией, в том числе о спонсорстве конкретных программ, обращайтесь к Елене Герович по телефону

(203) 387-2424 (tel: (203) 387-2424) x321 или по электронной почте [ygerovich@jewishnewhaven.org](mailto:ygerovich@jewishnewhaven.org)

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\*Tributes listed are up to October 4, 2023

## JEWISH FEDERATION

In memory of Herb Newman  
Carole Greenbaum  
Lisa Stanger & Greg Colodner  
MBI Company Group LLC.  
Barry & Hyla Vine  
Gillie Winnick (Lender) & Family  
Suzanne Weinstein  
Bernard & Laurie Becker  
Terry Newman & David Rubin  
Madeline & Arnold Potash

In honor of Amy Holtz for her excellent service and friendship  
Judy Alperin

In memory of Civianna Bloch  
Judy Alperin  
The Teplitzky Family

In appreciation of Stacey Smith to Women's Philanthropy Dignity Grows program  
Judy Cooper

Wishing a sweet new year to Susan Naiman to Women's Philanthropy Dignity Grows program  
Judy Cooper

Wishing a sweet new year to Judy & Bob Rosenkranz to Women's Philanthropy Dignity Grows program  
Judy Cooper

Wishing a sweet new year to Leslie Gold to Women's Philanthropy Dignity Grows program  
Judy Cooper

Wishing a sweet new year to Sharon & Greg Mogel to Women's Philanthropy Dignity Grows program  
Judy Cooper

In honor of Julia Rosen on becoming a Bat Mitzvah to the Morocco Earthquake Relief Fund  
Esther & Irwin Nash

In appreciation of Amy Holtz for her work in our community, her leadership and friendship, to Women's Philanthropy Dignity Grows program  
Debbie Brander

In honor of Betsy Hoos' special birthday  
Amy, Mark & Sarah Holtz

## JCC

In memory of Mickey Pite  
Joanne Zitser  
Mark & Judy Sklarz

In appreciation of the JCC for their work in adaptive & special needs programming to the Inclusion Fund  
Judy Alperin

In memory of Herb Newman  
Mark & Judy Sklarz

## JCARR

In memory of Herb Newman  
Sharon Bloomenthal

In honor of Sheldon Natkin  
Joe & Cindy Goldberg

## HAWAII

In honor of the Muse Family for their friendship.  
Jess, Ben, James & Eleanor Feinberg

In memory of Debra Kuperstoch  
Lucia, Frances & Perry Hack  
Dignity Grows

In honor of Elaine Ades birthday & wishes for a Happy New Year!  
Judy Cooper

## JEWISH FOUNDATION

BECKERMAN FAMILY SUPPORTING FOUNDATION, INC. JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of Herbert S. Newman  
David A. Beckerman  
Foundation Inc.

VELMA & STUART GRODD FUND FOR JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER MEMBERSHIP

In memory of Jean Swank & In honor of Hank & Maddie's future wedding  
Velma Grodd

DR. ALLAN & CLAIRE FRANKEL PERPETUAL ANNUAL CAMPAIGN FUND

In memory of Herbert Glassman, Bill Lane & Herbert S. Newman  
Claire L. Frankel  
In honor of Claire Frankel's milestone birthday  
Linda Meisel

BETTY LOU & JOSEPH BLUMBERG 50TH ANNIVERSARY FUND

In loving memory of our beloved friend, Herbert S. Newman  
Betty Lou & Joe Blumberg

LEONARD MARGOLIS ATHLETIC ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of Steve Swirsky  
Stephen & Ronda Margolis

SYDNEY A. PERRY FUND FOR JEWISH LEARNING & LEADERSHIP

In honor of Elliot Krantz becoming a Bar Mitzvah  
Dr. Betsy Schulman

THE MARY LOU & EDWARD WINNICK FOUNDATION

In memory of Herbert S. Newman & in honor of Robyn Teplitzky for her Jewish Historical Society honor  
Mary Lou Winnick

THE TOWERS ENDOWMENT IN HONOR OF FRAN WALLNAU

In memory of Fran Wallnau  
Sheila Mushin

DAUGHTERS OF 1853 NURSING SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In memory of Regina Weil Baumann, Ruth Baumann Leichter, Claire Baumann Ginsburgh  
Warren & Mary Ann Flagg

HOOS FAMILY PERPETUAL ANNUAL CAMPAIGN FUND

In honor of Betsy Hoos  
Brian & Marilyn Rothberg

THE CHARLES & VIOLET FUND AT CONGREGATION BETH EL-KESER ISRAEL IN HONOR OF JAY SOKOLOW

In honor of Jay Sokolow  
Charles Ludwig

SKLARZ FAMILY FUND FOR THE RABBI'S ENDOWMENT AT CONGREGATION MISHKAN ISRAEL

In honor of Mark Sklarz  
Ellen Lane

CONGREGATION MISHKAN ISRAEL ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of Margo Wiener  
Ruth Sack

## DAVID BECKERMAN: Ways to Preserve and Sustain our Community



*In 2019, the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven introduced the inaugural Isadore E. "Zeke" Still Award for Campaign Excellence. Presented each year at the Annual Meeting of the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven, the Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven, Inc., and the Jewish Community Center of Greater New Haven, each year the*

*Zeke Still Award is presented to a longtime Federation supporter who's generosity and innovative thinking exemplifies the core Jewish values that Federation aims to uphold—values like tikkun olam (repairing the world), tzedakah (charity), and chesed (kindness).*

*There are few Federation supporters who have earned this accolade as wholeheartedly as David A. Beckerman – which is why the New Haven philanthropist is the recipient of the 2023 Zeke Still Award.*

*A generous donor to Federation's annual campaign, Beckerman has established numerous endowments at the Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven. But perhaps his greatest achievement is his success in promoting the importance of PACE (Permanent Annual Campaign Endowment). Seeing how important PACE has been in funding the Federation annual campaign, Beckerman provided a generous match and started the Beckerman Family PACE Challenge. PACE provides*



Mark Sklarz

*annual funding for our community campaign, thus insuring we can continue to provide for Jewish New Haven.*

*While David Beckerman couldn't be present at the September Annual Meeting to accept his award, he did share a message with those in attendance. In his message, he explained the value of PACE and how it contributes to the health and longevity of the New Haven Jewish community.*

### FROM DAVID A. BECKERMAN (READ BY MARK SKLARZ):

Thank you to our CEOs, Amy Holtz of the Federation and Lisa Stanger of the Foundation, for this award. While receiving awards from our community and being recognized is most gratifying, our family did not create the PACE CHALLENGE (Permanent Annual Campaign Endowment) for that purpose.

We have learned a great deal from the past and understand that traditions often are tied to history rather than current reality. At times it is very difficult to accept that as fact. In my opinion this is one of those times and we as a community need to understand that adhering to just a tradition that may be eroding our base is very dangerous.

I am speaking of the general Annual Community Campaign. Just over a decade ago, the Greater New Haven community raised approximately \$3.2 million for our Annual Campaign. The PACE contribution was a mere \$19,000. Since that time, our Annual Campaign has decreased. In 2022 the Campaign raised \$2.2 million dollars and PACE FUNDS contributed a much needed \$550,000. That means the Annual Campaign raised only \$1,650,000, continuing a downward trend.

At a minimum, the objective of PACE is to preserve and perpetuate each donor's annual gift and protect the community's future. It is our ONLY insurance policy for sustainability.

The facts are as clear as a bell. PACE MUST be the priority. We have lost so many businesses and key families that supported the Greater New Haven community for decades.

The Lenders, Trachtens, Eders, Reiters and others who for so many years provided enormous support can no longer carry the weight of the community. So many of businesses — such as Gant, Setlow, Lee Beachwear and Starter no longer exist in New Haven.

The pressing and ongoing concern is obvious: People move from the community or pass away and WITHOUT PACE, we have no plan to sustain their gifts.

Professionals and business people who have earned their livings in and enjoyed the great benefits of our community should feel a compulsion to establish a

*(Continued on page 31)*

# NOVEMBER 2023 EVENTS

**Shalom Baby Café THURSDAYS, NOVEMBER 2, 9, 16, 30.** 9:30-10:30 am. FREE. JCC, 360 Amity Road, Woodbridge. Contact: Kayla Bisbee at (203) 387-2424 x300, email kbisbee@jewishnewhaven.org, or visit jewishnewhaven.org.

**Temple Beth David: Installation Weekend for Rabbi Rebecca Gutterman NOVEMBER 3 - 5.** FREE. Temple Beth David, 3 Main Street, Cheshire. A weekend of events celebrating the installation for Rabbi Gutterman. Contact: Melissa Lampi, (203) 272-0037, email melissa.r.kaye@gmail.com, or visit tbdcheshire.org.

**Shir Magic Concert at Temple Emanuel — featuring Elana Arian NOVEMBER 4.** 7-9 pm. \$25. Temple Emanuel of Greater New Haven, 150 Derby Avenue, Orange. Contact: Sara Reifler (203) 397-3000, office@tegnh.org, tegnh.org.

**“Can’t Smile Without You” A Barry Manilow Tribute NOVEMBER 4** 7:15-10 pm. \$36. Congregation Or Shalom, 205 Old Grassy Hill Road, Orange. Contact: Rachel Steigleder (203) 799-2341, email Congregationorshalom.rachel@gmail.com, or visit orshalomct.org.

**Congregation B’nai Jacob: Orthopedic Management of the Aging Adult NOVEMBER 4,** FREE. Congregation B’nai Jacob, 75 Rimmon Rd., Woodbridge. Dr. Norman Kaplan will deliver a talk about the significance of our bones, focusing on orthopedic challenges and solutions for the aging adult. Contact: (203) 389-2111, or visit bnaijacob.org.

**Arts Cafe at Congregation Beth Shalom Rodfe Zedek NOVEMBER 5** 3-5 pm. FREE. Congregation Beth Shalom Rodfe Zedek

55 East Kings Highway, Chester. Contact: Wendy Bayor (860) 526-8920, wendy@cbsrz.org, cbsrz.org.

**Congregation B’nai Jacob: The Thought and Stories of Rebbe Nachman of Bratzlov MONDAYS, NOVEMBER 6, 13, 20, 27.** 7:30-9 pm. FREE/members; \$100/non-members. Congregation B’nai Jacob, 75 Rimmon Rd, Woodbridge. An ongoing program led by Rabbi Rona Shapiro focusing on Rabbe Nachman of Bratzlov, a great-grandson of the Baal Shem Tov, the founder of hasidism. Contact: (203) 389-2111, or visit bnaijacob.org.

**PJ LIBRARY: PJ Feeds: Helping the Community NOVEMBER 6-9** Times and locations to come. FREE. Contact: Kayla Bisbee at (203) 387-2424 x300, or email kbisbee@jewishnewhaven.org, or visit jewishnewhaven.org/pj-gives-back

**Israeli Dance at JCC TUESDAYS, NOVEMBER 7, 14, 28.** 6:45-7:45 pm. \$16. Contact: Leng Tan at (203) 912-4086, or go to IsraeliDanceTeacher@gmail.com or visit ctisraelidance.com

**Jewish Federation: Creating Safe Spaces to Feel: A Talk on Working with Trauma in the Midst of War NOVEMBER 8.** 7-8:15 pm. FREE. Based on Nitsan’s recent book: Together Beyond Words: Women on a Quest for Peace in the Middle East. Quinnipiac University, 275 Mount Carmel Avenue, CCE101 (Mt. Carmel Auditorium) Hamden Contact: Rabbi Josh Pernick (203) 387-2424, or jpernick@jewishnewhaven.org, or visit jewishnewhaven.org.

**JBC’s: Jewish Book Month’s Community Read with Dani Shapiro NOVEMBER 8.** 1 pm. Via Zoom. FREE. In partnership with the JCC Cultural Arts Program. Contact: Susan Skalka, susans@jccnh.org.

**Westville Synagogue: Westville University NOVEMBER 8—JUNE 19, 2024** 7:30 pm. FREE and also available via zoom. Westville Synagogue, 74 Prospect St., New Haven. An educational initiative that offers 20-25 programs lecturers each to the community, reflecting our commitment to Jewish learning, history, culture, law and Israel. Contact: (203) 389-9513, or visit westvilleshul.org.

**Jewish Federation: Israeli Afterschool ALTERNATE MONDAYS, NOVEMBER 13, 27.** 4:45-5:45 pm. FREE. JCC, 360 Amity Road, Woodbridge. Contact: Rabbi Josh Pernick (203) 387-2424, or email jpernick@jewishnewhaven.org, or visit jewishnewhaven.org.

**2023 Community-wide Kristallnacht Commemoration NOVEMBER 12.** 9-11 am. In-person and via zoom. FREE. Congregation Or Shalom, 205 Old Grassy Hill Rd., Orange. Contact: Rabbi Alvin Wainhaus (203) 799-2341, or email info@orshalomct.org, orshalom.org.

**Sunday Afternoon Movie Series presents Ties NOVEMBER 12** 3 pm. FREE. Beth Israel Synagogue, 22 North Orchard St., Wallingford. A compelling tale of antisemitism in an elite prep school in the 1950s. Contact: (203) 269-5983, visit bethisraelwallingford.org or email info@bethisraelwallingford.org.

**Jewish Historical Society presents: Ruth Simon McRae and Jewish Art NOVEMBER 16** 7-8 pm. FREE. Via zoom. Contact: Jacob Griffith-Rosenberger (203) 392-6125, visit jewishhistorynh.org or email archivist@jewishhistorynh.org.

**Jewish Federation: Beit Midrash Session 1: Gratitude NOVEMBER 21** 7-9 pm. FREE. Guest Speaker: Dr. David Bernstein, Dean Emeritus of the Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies in Jerusalem. Westville Synagogue, 74 West Prospect St. New Haven. Contact: Rabbi Josh Pernick (203) 387-2424, or jpernick@jewishnewhaven.org, or visit jewishnewhaven.org.

**Beth Shalom Book Club NOVEMBER 27** 7:10-8:10 pm. FREE. In-person and via zoom. Temple Beth Shalom, 1809 Whitney Ave., Hamden. Contact: Jo Ben-Atar (203) 288-7748, tbshamden.com or TBScommunicationsVP@gmail.com.

**Adult Education Liturgy Class NOVEMBER 28** 7 pm. On Zoom. Beth Israel Synagogue, 22 North Orchard St., Wallingford. Three-session on elements of Hebrew prayer and the history and meaning of specific prayers. Contact: (203) 269-5983, bethisraelwallingford.org or email info@bethisraelwallingford.org.

**PJ Library and the Jewish Federation: Jewel Society Inaugural Event NOVEMBER 28** 7:30-9 pm. Moms who contribute \$118 to PJ Library locally to become a member of the JEWEL Society will receive a special bracelet and invitations to exclusive JEWEL Society social events. Location available upon registration. Contact: Kayla Bisbee (203) 387-2424 x300 or email kbisbee@jewishnewhaven.org.

**Beth Israel Synagogue: Hanukkah—Colors of My Jewish Year NOVEMBER 30** 4:30-6 pm. FREE. Wallingford Public Library 200 North Main Street, Wallingford. Contact: (203) 269-5983, or email info@bethisraelwallingford.org, or visit bethisraelwallingford.org/comjy.

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[lbarger@jewishnewhaven.org](mailto:lbarger@jewishnewhaven.org)

## DECEMBER 2023 EVENTS

**Congregation B'nai Jacob: Hasmoneans, Hanukkah & Herod** **DECEMBER 3** 10 am. FREE. Congregation B'nai Jacob, 75 Rimmon Rd, Woodbridge. Dr. Jesse Cedarbaum will present a slideshow and talk highlighting recent archeological discoveries in Israel and discussing archeological finds related to the Chanukah story and other cultural discoveries. Contact: (203) 389-2111, bnaijacob.org

**BEKI Sisterhood Presents: Author/Artist Joel Silverstein, 'The Brighton Beach Bible'** **DECEMBER 3** 9:30 am-12:30 pm. FREE. BEKI, 85 Harrison St., New Haven. Contact: Harriet Friedman at giftshop@beki.org



**JCC's 19th Annual Gift & Craft Fair** **DECEMBER 3** 10 am-3 pm. FREE. JCC, 360 Amity Road, Woodbridge. Contact: Jess Ciola at jessc@jccnh.org, or visit jccnh.org.

**Congregation B'nai Jacob: The Thought and Stories of Rebbe Nachman of Bratzlov** **MONDAYS, DECEMBER 4, 11, 18** 7:30-9 pm. FREE/members; \$100/non-members. Congregation B'nai Jacob, 75 Rimmon Rd, Woodbridge.

An ongoing program led by Rabbi Rona Shapiro focusing on Rabbe Nachman of Bratzlov, a great-grandson of the Baal Shem Tov, the founder of hasidism. Contact: (203) 389-2111, or visit bnaijacob.org.

**Israeli Dance at the JCC** **TUESDAYS, DECEMBER 5, 12** 6:45-7:45 pm. \$16. Contact: Leng Tan at (203) 912-4086, or go to IsraeliDanceTeacher@gmail.com, or email ctisraelidance.com.

**Beth Israel Synagogue: Hanukkah—Colors of My Jewish Year** **DECEMBER 6** 4:30-6 pm. FREE. North Haven Memorial Library 17 Elm Street, North Haven. Contact: (203) 269-5983, or email info@bethisraelwallingford.org, or visit bethisraelwallingford.org/comjy.

**Shalom Baby Café** **THURSDAYS, DECEMBER 7, 14, 21, 28** 9:30-10:30 am. FREE. JCC, 360 Amity Road, Woodbridge. Contact: Kayla Bisbee at (203) 387-2424 x300, or email kbisbee@jewishnewhaven.org, or visit jewishnewhaven.org

**"Shabbanukah"** **DECEMBER 8** 6 pm. FREE (donations welcome). Beth Israel Synagogue, 22 North Orchard St., Wallingford. Celebrate Shabbat and Chanukah with services, followed by a homemade Shabbanukah dinner with latkes. Bring your menorah for communal candle lighting. Contact: (203) 269-5983, visit bethisraelwallingford.org or email info@bethisraelwallingford.org.

**Jewish Federation: Chanukah Concert—Michon Biton** **DECEMBER 10** 3 pm. FREE. JCC Vine Family Auditorium, 360 Amity Road, Woodbridge. Rabbi Josh Pernick at (203) 387-2424, or email to jpernick@jewishnewhaven.org, or visit jewishnewhaven.org.

**Jewish Federation: Israeli Afterschool** **ALTERNATE MONDAYS, DECEMBER 11** 4:45-5:45 pm. FREE. JCC, 360 Amity Road, Woodbridge. Contact: Rabbi Josh Pernick (203) 387-2424, or email to

jpernick@jewishnewhaven.org, or visit jewishnewhaven.org.

**Sunday Afternoon Movie Series: Crimes & Misdemeanors.** **DECEMBER 17** 3 pm. FREE. Beth Israel Synagogue, 22 North Orchard St., Wallingford. This Woody Allen film, redolent of Jewish angst, explores our motivations to commit sins and how we deal with the guilt that comes when we do so. Contact: (203) 269-5983, visit bethisraelwallingford.org or email info@bethisraelwallingford.org.

**PJ Library: PJ Reads: Promoting Literacy** **DECEMBER 17** 12-2 pm. FREE. Ezra Academy, 75 Rimmon Road Woodbridge. Contact: Kayla Bisbee at (203) 387-2424 x300, or email kbisbee@jewishnewhaven.org, or visit jewishnewhaven.org/pj-gives-back.

**Beth Shalom Book Club** **DECEMBER 25** 7:10-8:10 pm. FREE. In-person and via zoom. Temple Beth Shalom, 1809 Whitney Ave., Hamden. Contact: Jo Ben-Atar (203) 288-7748, visit tbshamden.com or email TBScommunicationsVP@gmail.com.

## Israel Afterschool

Alternate Mondays  
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FOR KIDS 12 AND UNDER!



Join us every other Monday for a Hebrew-language immersive experience for kids. We will be living out the Jewish calendar through timely Hebrew books and activities. This program is open to all, though the primary language of conversation and instruction is Hebrew.

[jewishnewhaven.org/israel-afterschool](http://jewishnewhaven.org/israel-afterschool)

## DAVID BECKERMAN (Continued from page 29)

PACE Fund or remember our community in their ESTATE PLANS.

PACE is clearly the answer, yet it will NOT be the priority it should be if we continue along the traditional route and HOPE the Annual Campaign will be sufficient to support our community needs. The Annual Campaign must be increased dramatically and, based on recent history, PACE is the insurance to achieve that goal.

We now are passing the torch of leadership from one administration that performed noble efforts despite being handicapped with substantial obstacles over the last several years.

Our new administration has the opportunity to recognize that, while history and traditional policy have value, times demand change and will provide the financial insurance our community needs and requires at this time. PACE WILL PROVIDE THAT NEW DIRECTION FOR US AND NOW IS THE TIME FOR SUCH A PRIORITY!

It is crucial that there be a strong effort to implement a PACE Campaign that involves the entire community and the new administration, even if it temporarily affects a portion of the General Campaign.

Our family's PACE Challenge of \$2 million had less than 70 Gifts (and 5 of the 70 are our Family) from over 20,000 Jews in the Greater New Haven area. WE CAN AND MUST DO BETTER THAN THAT!

Hats off to the Foundation which (with limited help) has met our challenge that at least \$1 million had to be raised in NEW PACE FUNDS. To date, a total of \$2.2 million has been raised with ONLY 70 Gifts.

This Means \$4.2 million of PACE Funds will be added to the existing category in 2023. Again, I say PACE is the future and the priority we must support to sustain our community.

PLEASE create a new tradition and build history of a different kind.

The ACTION MUST BE NOW! TIME IS NOT ON OUR SIDE.

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