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The New Jewish Voice

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UJF To Host Jewish Community Pride Celebration

BY ERIC ROSS,
UJF DEPUTY DIRECTOR

United Jewish Federation of Stamford, New Canaan, and Darien (UJF) will host its first-ever Jewish Community Pride Celebration on Friday, June 14, from 5:00 to 6:30 pm at the Stamford Jewish Community Center. Please join in celebrating the diversity that exists within this Jewish community.

The Jewish community celebration will include live music, Shabbat crafts projects for kids, and refreshments from 5:00 to 5:45 pm, followed immediately by a brief program.

Since 1970, June has been celebrated as Pride Month. In 2000, President Bill Clinton officially designated June as Gay and Lesbian Pride Month, which was then updated in 2009 to the more-inclusive name Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride Month. Pride Month is also an annual celebration of the many contributions made by the LGBTQIA+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, Intersex, Asexual) community to history, society, and culture worldwide.

UJF is grateful to the members of the Pride Celebration Host Committee for making this event possible: Sharon Feintuck Feller, Elise Feldman and Deepa Nayini, Liat Feller, Sharon Franklin, Rhoda and Avi Freedberg, Cantor Katie Kaplan, Ari and Leo Linder, Dinah Miller Marlowe, Dayna Patashnik, Jaime Ross, and Nadav Shachmon.

Cantor Katie Kaplan shared, "I am so honored, as a clergy member in Stamford, to be part of this community effort to engage and support our Jewish and LGBTQIA+ members of the community. We are increasing our community visibility through celebratory events like this Pride Celebration."

Ari Linder added, "My spouse Leo grew up in a Jewish community that didn't know how to include Jews who are also nonbinary. Over 30 years later, today we're nonbinary newlyweds and our local Jewish community is a big, loving part of our lives. We're lucky that we get to attend Pride Shabbats at different local shuls, but we're especially excited for this new event

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Delving into Israel's Complex History and Zionism

Rabbi Mike Uram

(Courtesy of UJF) In an effort to shed light on Israel's intricate past and present, Rabbi Mike Uram, Chief Jewish Learning Officer at the Jewish Federations of North America, will be hosting an enlightening session on Thursday, June 6, at 7:45 pm at the JCC. The event seeks to unpack Israel's history through a lens of complexity, providing attendees with a comprehensive understanding of key features of Israel and Zionism, and aims to explore where misunderstood terms such as "occupation", "apartheid" and "colonialism" might have come from.

With the intention to foster a space that encourages curiosity and inclusivity, Rabbi Mike invites individuals from all walks of life to participate, emphasizing that no prior knowledge is required. The session promises to create an environment where questions of all kinds are not only welcomed but encouraged.

Rabbi Mike's address will delve into a variety of topics, including:

- **Zionism:** Exploring the origins and principles of the Zionist movement.
- **Short History of Jews and Arabs in the Land:** Examining the intertwined history of Jewish and Arab communities in the region.
- **1948: War of Independence and How the Conflict Started:** Unraveling the events surrounding the establishment of the State of Israel and the ensuing conflict.
- **Six Day War and the Birth of the Settlements:** Understanding the ramifications of the Six Day War and the subsequent settlement expansion.
- **The Intifadas and the Oslo Peace Process:** Analyzing the uprisings and peace efforts that have shaped the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Rabbi Mike Uram brings a wealth of experience and expertise to the discussion. As the former Chief Vision and Education Officer for Pardes North America and Executive Director and

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Celebrating Israel@76

Bi-Cultural Hebrew Academy seventh grade girls pose at a community-wide celebration of Yom HaAtzmaut, Israel's Independence Day. The students showed their pride and love for Israel in their performances of a choreographed "Flag Dance," known in Hebrew as *Daglanut,* at community celebrations of Israel's 76th birthday, both in the evening of May 13 at Congregation Agudath Sholom and the next day at Temple Beth El. *(See more photos on pages 8-9.) (PHOTO CREDIT: AVIVA MALLER)*

From UJF's Chief Executive Officer

L'Hitraot...See You Soon!

BY DIANE SLOYER

Diane Sloyer, UJF CEO

For the past two years, the Greater Stamford community has been enriched by the presence of a remarkable individual, Yoav Yaron, an emissary from Israel, whose mission was to bridge the gap between our local community and Israel. As he prepares to bid us farewell and return home, his departure leaves behind a legacy of warmth, understanding, and a deeper connection to Israel.

Known simply as Federation's *shaliach,* a Hebrew term meaning emissary, Yoav arrived at UJF with a clear purpose: to bring Israel closer to the hearts and minds of the local community. With his unique style and depth of knowledge, he embarked on this journey, leaving an indelible mark on those he encountered.

When the Federation board committed to this initiative over three years ago, no one knew the invaluable role Yoav would serve in the wake of October 7.

Yoav worked with every synagogue and agency in our community and made friends everywhere he went. He bonded with the pre-k at the JCC and worked with the Israel Club at Bi-Cultural Hebrew Academy. He taught the 5th grade curriculum at Temple Sinai's Religious School, led UJF's Kuriansky Teen Tzedakah program, and was a co-leader of the local BBYO Chapter. He was the founding director of the local "Moishe House Without Walls," partnering with other local organizations to provide meaningful programs to the growing younger population in our area. And the list goes on…

From our Shabbat and holiday tables, to super bowl parties, fishing trips, making beer and hanging out, the entire community has benefited from Yoav's ability to connect with people on a personal level. Whether it be speaking to a group of students, leading a discussion on Israeli politics, or sharing stories of his own upbringing, he had a way of making everyone feel important and valued. His authenticity and passion shone through in everything he did, leaving a lasting impression on those who had the privilege of meeting him.

Although Yoav may be leaving Stamford physically, the impact of his presence will continue to be felt for years to come. His legacy serves as a reminder of the power of individuals to make a difference and to unite communities in a shared journey of discovery and understanding.

Please join UJF on June 25 at Temple Sinai when our community will offer a heartfelt thanks to Yoav Yaron who will always remain a cherished part of the fabric of our community.

UJF To Host Jewish Community Pride Celebration

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that lets us all celebrate together!"

This is a free community event, and open to all ages. Advance registration is requested at www.UJF.org/Pride. For more information or to sponsor this event, please contact Eric Ross at Eric@ujf.org or (203) 321-1373.

Delving into Israel's Complex History and Zionism

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Campus Rabbi of Penn Hillel for over 16 years, he has been deeply involved in Jewish education and community building. His best-selling book, *Next Generation Judaism: How College Students and Hillel Can Help Reinvent Jewish Organizations*, earned him a National Jewish Book Award.

The session aims to equip participants, regardless of their background or religious affiliation, with a deeper understanding of Israel's complex reality. At a time when navigating discussions about Israel can be challenging, Rabbi Mike hopes that attendees will leave feeling more grounded and confident in engaging with Jewish communities, particularly amidst the current complexities surrounding Israel.

For those interested in gaining insight into Israel's multifaceted history and its implications for contemporary Jewish life, Rabbi Mike's session offers a valuable opportunity for learning and dialogue.

This event is being brought to the community by UJF's NextGen and JCRC (Jewish Community Relations Council) and is open to all. Registration can be found at www.ujf.org/uram. For more information, contact Melanie Vorm at melanie@ujf.org

UJF President's Message

Jewish Pride

BY MICHAEL SCHLESSINGER

Michael Schlessinger, UJF President

Tensions are running high in our community. New events in the Middle East, on college campuses, and in our peculiar election year come at us rapid fire. Our preconceptions are challenged . . . about the world and our place in it, our safety and security, and our obligations to our fellow Jews. A year ago, it would have been unfathomable that Iran would launch over 300 lethal projectiles toward Israel from its own air space, much less that a couple weeks later, such an attack would have been entirely displaced in our conversations by pro-Hamas encampments at Columbia, UCLA, and campuses across North America.

It's tempting to react to these upsetting events by adopting a strong view that promises a solution and thus creates a personal refuge. At another time, I might have been such a refuge seeker, but as UJF president, one is both exposed to a wide range of views while discouraged from adopting any one.

Thus, I have heard both that 1930s Germany is now upon us ("the yellow stars are coming") and that it is actually Netanyahu who leans fascist. That an Israel falsely accused of ethnic cleansing might as well pursue that agenda and that a one-state solution with "benevolent" Arab rule might be workable. That it is not unreasonable to expect diaspora Jews to reject Zionism, and that "anti-Zionism" is but a thin cover for Jew hatred. That educating young Americans on Jewish history will change hearts and minds, and that Ivy League campuses are hermetically sealed fact-free zones. That a vote for Trump or, depending upon the proponent, that a vote for Biden will end the American experiment as we know it.

I don't make light of the search for a solution -- indeed our inaction may be judged harshly by history. And I believe our Jewish institutions have failed us in letting things get to this point.

However, stepping back from any given policy prescription, I often find its problem-solving appeal fleeting. As a recent example, we have long advocated for the **International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance** (IHRA) definition of antisemitism, which calls out the bigotry in judging Israel by a standard not applied to any other nation. But the recent House bill adopting that definition may ultimately do it more harm than good to the extent it infringes on the First Amendment.

Like so many times in our fraught history, we are being tested. Jonathan Glazer struck a nerve at the Oscars when he seemed to be renouncing his Judaism. Indeed, our college-age children are being asked to renounce their Judaism just to make their way to their classes. And yet we persist.

My pride in our entire community -- from left to right, observant to secular -- has never been stronger. The instinct to be visibly and proudly Jewish, whatever the security considerations, seems important. Like our Israeli counterparts, we diaspora Jews will stick together and not be intimidated. Nothing infuriates our enemies more than our simple, defiant presence. What can UJF do to celebrate and amplify our Jewish pride? … Please share your thoughts.

CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES

June 7 ..... 8:07 pm
June 14 ..... 8:10 pm
June 21 ..... 8:12 pm
June 28 ..... 8:13 pm

UPCOMING DEADLINE

July-August 2024 Edition
Deadline: Monday, June 3, 2024

Email submissions to
sandy@ujf.org
You should receive notification that your submission was received!

Temple Beth El's Rabbi Hammerman to Retire

BY SHERRY SHAMEER COHEN

For congregants of Temple Beth El (TBE), Rabbi Joshua Hammerman's retirement at the end of June is a poignant occasion. During his 37 years as TBE's rabbi, he has brought vibrancy and relevance to changing times through his teachings, sermons, community involvement, and innovative programs.

Rabbi Joshua Hammerman

Although part of the Conservative movement, Rabbi Hammerman has always been open to change and to engage congregants and unaffiliated Jews. He was among the first to embrace electronic communications to inform congregants of life cycle events, services, and commentary. He encouraged high school graduates to stay connected with him via email after they left for college. He helped steer TBE to become one of the first area synagogues to welcome LGBTQIA+ Jews to an annual Pride Shabbat.

As he looks back at his years at Beth El, Rabbi Hammerman recalls the story of a quiet rabbi who was asked what was his greatest accomplishment? "He answered, 'I raised nice kids.'

"I think I did," says Rabbi Hammerman. "I couldn't be prouder of mine – and I'm pretty darn proud of the hundreds of others who have grown up here. They're all my kids, by the way.… Every Jewish child deserves to have their own childhood rabbi, who will love them unconditionally and always be there for them – and that relationship lasts for life … .A rabbinical career is built one relationship at a time. And those relationships are 90 percent of why what I do matters. Sermons, teaching, programming, spirituality, Israel, social activism and justice – they all have their place. But it still always comes back to what happens one on one."

A prolific writer of articles and books, Rabbi Hammerman says, "Writing will always be big for me, and hopefully now I'll have the time to focus on larger projects." He will continue his regular columns for the Religion News Service and his Substack newsletter.

The Hammermans will live full-time in Madison, Connecticut when he steps down. He says Madison is "great for us, our kids and dogs, and not too far from anywhere else I would need to be - but not too close either. Plus, being so close to the beach, now people can call me 'Rabbi Hammonasset.'" A native of Brookline, Massachusetts, and an avid baseball fan, he will be happy to again be "east of New Haven…back on friendly turf, on the Red Sox side of the state. I call it the DiMaggio Line."

Stepping into the role of spiritual leader at TBE in July is Rabbi Michael Rose Knopf of Temple Beth-El in Richmond, Virgina. What advice would Rabbi Hammerman give to Rabbi Knopf? "Only to enjoy every minute of getting to know so many amazing people."

"I am thankful for each and every day that this community has enabled me to have the greatest job in the world and to make a small difference in the lives of so many fellow human beings."

Rabbi Hammerman can always be reached directly by email at joshuah@tbe.org. Also visit www.joshuahammerman.com

TBE Cantor's Concert

(Courtesy of Temple Beth El) Temple Beth El invites the greater Stamford Jewish community for an enchanted evening of song at this year's Cantor's Concert on Sunday, June 9, at 7:00 pm.

The concert will feature TBE's own Cantor Katie Kaplan, Cantor Micah Morgovsky from Temple Sinai and Romemu's director of music and family education, Shimon Smith, singing songs from the Jewish American Songbook including works of Harold Arlen, Irving Berlin, Gershwin, Rodgers and Hammerstein, and more! They will be joined by a five-piece jazz band to capture the essence of the music.

The concert also honors Dana and Carl Weinberg, who have been leaders in the Beth El and Stamford communities for over two decades. For tickets or journal ads, go to www.tinyurl.com/tbecc24

Community Calendar Keeps Focus on Local Events

BY TALY FARBER, UJF OFFICE MANAGER

United Jewish Federation (UJF) of Stamford, New Canaan and Darien is pleased to offer an updated online "community calendar" on its website with a full listing of upcoming events and programs taking place around the Jewish community.

Stamford, New Canaan and Darien is an active Jewish community with many informative and educational programs taking place each month, and thanks to a well-utilized calendar, planning and registering for community activities just became easier. Dedicated to promoting Jewish events organized by local Jewish organizations, UJF's community calendar offers synagogues, schools, and agencies the opportunity to post detailed listings that pertain to the Jewish community. Each calendar posting is viewable by day and month and viewers can easily access information about and register for the events/programs.

While preparing and planning for events and programs can get overwhelming at times, it's the hope of United Jewish Federation that the community calendar can present an organized and valuable resource for all to use. If you are new to using UJF's community calendar and would like to know more about posting guidelines, please contact UJF Office Manager, Taly Farber, at taly@ujf.org for further information.

To view UJF's community calendar, visit www.ujf.org/calendar, and while you are there make sure to sign up for some great events taking place across the community. Happy calendaring!

DON'T FORGET TO USE THE COMMUNITY CALENDAR.

THE CALENDAR CONTINUES TO BE IMPORTANT TO AVOID CONFLICTS.

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Challenges in Jewish Education Panel

(Courtesy of Young Israel of Stamford) Rabbi Avi Bloom, head of technology at SAR High School, Bronx, New York, and Sarah Rubinson Levy, an educational consultant on technology from Denver, Colorado, will discuss "Artificial Intelligence: Applications to the Day School Curriculum" at the annual "Challenges in Jewish Education Panel." The one-hour program will be held at Young Israel of Stamford on Shabbat morning, June 8, at 11:00 am, immediately after morning services. The event, which will be moderated by Rabbi Tzvi Bernstein, is being sponsored by the Bi-Cultural Hebrew Academy in Stamford, in partnership with the Young Israel of Stamford.

"I'm excited that we will once again bring two top-notch Jewish educators to our community to discuss a timely and important issue relating to our community," said Michael Feldstein, who is organizing the event. "In years past, we have had more than 200 people come out on a Shabbat morning to hear our speakers. It demonstrates that our community members are interested and concerned about challenging topics facing our community, and want to hear what other professionals from other schools have to say on the subject."

Rabbi Bloom has been at SAR High School as its director of technology for seven years. Before that he worked at the school as a teacher and as the student activities coordinator. He received his rabbinic ordination and master's degree in education from Yeshiva University.

Sarah Rubinson Levy

Rabbi Avi Bloom

Rabbi Tzvi Bernstein

Sarah Rubinson Levy has been an education consultant and curriculum developer for the past 20 years. She was the founder and head of school at Einstein Academy in Denver, CO, and was the director of Jewish Life and Learning at the Denver Jewish Day School. She is the founder of Sarah Rubinson Consulting and Contracting, where she advises school administrators on how they can effectively integrate various new technologies into their curricula.

The panelists will continue the dialogue and answer questions from the audience at *seuda shlishit* (third meal) at 8:00 pm, following *mincha* (afternoon service.)

The program is sponsored by Gayle and Howard Rothman and open to the entire community.

The New Jewish Voice

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Chabad of Stamford Hosts JWC Summer Soiree

(Courtesy of Chabad of Stamford) Chabad of Stamford is excited to announce its annual JWC (Jewish Women Connected) "Summer Soiree," inviting all women in the community to a summer garden party at a private residence in Stamford. Save the date for Wednesday, June 20, starting at 6:30 pm, as women from across the community come together to celebrate the culmination of another year. This event promises an evening filled with friendship, new connections, cocktails, and delicious refreshments. Surrounded by the serene beauty of a private residence's gardens, this event offers a unique outdoor experience that adds to the beauty of the evening.

For more information and to register, visit Chabad's website at www.stamfordchabad.org or contact programs@stamfordchabad.org for additional details.

Celebrating Lag Ba'Omer

(Courtesy of Chabad of Stamford) Chabad of Stamford extends a warm invitation to the Stamford community for a family BBQ in celebration of Lag Ba'Omer on Sunday, May 26, at 4:30 pm.

New this year, there will be the added attraction of a "Mitzvah Fair for Israel." There will be booths with various activities for children and adults in order to engage in *mitzvot* (good deeds) through hands-on experiences, crafts, activities and learning sessions, all in honor of Israel.

Experience a day filled with fun, music, games, and delicious food. Indulge in hot dogs, hamburgers, and roasted marshmallows around the *medurah* (bonfire), creating fun and memories.

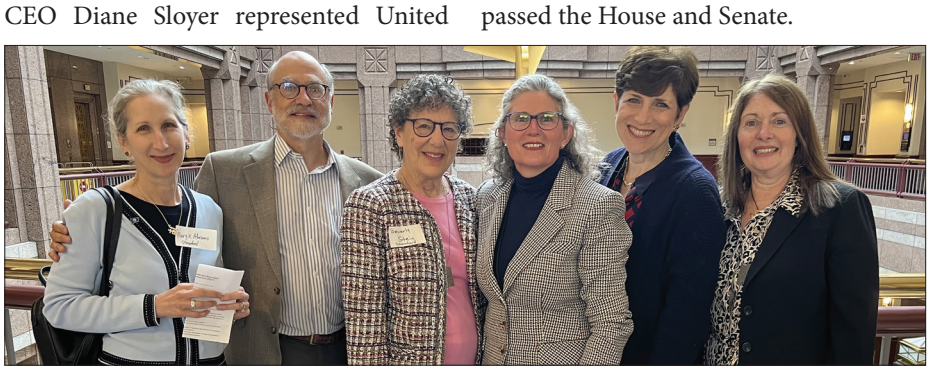
For more details, please reach out to programs@stamfordchabad.org or visit www.stamfordchabad.org.

Delegation Meets with Legislators

(Courtesy of UJF) On May 1, the Jewish Federation Association of Connecticut held its second Annual Advocacy Day at the State Capitol in Hartford. A total of 44 elected leaders stopped by and connected with dozens of Jewish Federation executives, Jewish service agency executives and lay leaders from across the state. The priorities lobbied for that day included requests for legislation to increase security funding for Jewish institutions as well as two pieces of legislation centered around hate crimes.

Beverly and David Stein, Marjory Abrams, Jewish Community Relations Council Director Sharon Lewis, and UJF CEO Diane Sloyer represented United Jewish Federation of Stamford, New Canaan and Darien, and met with State Representatives Rachel Khanna, Corey Paris, Matt Blumenthal, and Tom O'Dea, and State Senators Patricia Billie Williams and Tony Hwang. State Comptroller Sean Scanlon addressed the group and reiterated his support for the Jewish communities around the state.

The legislative session ended on May 8, and the group's lobbying helped to secure passage of a bill that allows Jewish organizations to apply for the state and federal security grants in the same year. In addition, a task force addressing the effect of hate and bullying speech on children passed the House and Senate.



(l-r) **Marjory Abrams, Beverly Stein, State Representative Matt Blumenthal, David Stein, Sharon Lewis**

(l-r) **Marjory Abrams, Beverly Stein, State Representative Matt Blumenthal, David Stein, Sharon Lewis**

So Long, Farewell

BY SHARON LEWIS, UJF JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL DIRECTOR

I began working as the Director of the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) in January 2021. In those days, the COVID pandemic was still raging, and we really did not know what the next day would bring. I was fortunate to have a group of caring people on the JCRC Committee who helped to create the agenda for that year, keeping social distancing rules in mind. The focus of the committee was mostly on growing and securing interfaith and multicultural connections. Several large events with community partners helped to make inroads in that direction. Most recently, we hosted a meaningful interfaith seder at UConn Stamford, led by Rabbi Joshua Hammerman, in his last communal appearance before retirement, together with Rev. Mark Lingle of the Interfaith Council of Southwestern Connecticut.

Sharon Lewis

Over the last three years, the committee has almost doubled in size, and the work has shifted to meet the changing needs of the community, often dictated by current events. Rising levels of antisemitism, especially since October 7, have forced us to focus on advocacy at the municipal, state, and federal levels. We have successfully advocated for increased security funding, Holocaust education and a hate crime task force in Connecticut. Our efforts to support Israel and combat a strong anti-Israel bias in the media have also occupied a great deal of committee time and effort.

There is still a lot of work to do, but I will have to watch it from the sidelines. I will be retiring on June 30 to pursue other personal interests. I am proud of the work that the JCRC has done, and I know that whoever succeeds me will continue to advocate for our community with the help and input of the JCRC Committee.

Statewide Holocaust Commemoration

(Courtesy of UJF) On Friday, May 23 the 42nd Annual Statewide Commemoration of the Holocaust was held in the Senate Chamber of the State Capitol in Hartford.

For the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic, hundreds of people from across the state and elected leaders attended the ceremony entitled "The Power of Words." The program included prayers, songs, and a keynote address by Holocaust survivor Endre (Andy) Sarkany, who was born in Budapest in 1936 and now lives in New Haven. Temple Sinai Cantor Micah

CONTINUED ON PAGE 17

(l-r) **UJF CEO Diane Sloyer, Beverly Stein, and UJF Jewish Community Relations Council Director Sharon Lewis in the Senate Chamber at the State Capitol in Hartford for the 42nd Annual Statewide Commemoration of the Holocaust.**

Cheesecake or Not!

BY RONNIE FEIN

Tell me Shavuot is coming and my first thought is cheesecake.

Of course it is! Cheesecake is the holiday's iconic dish and I love it.

Who doesn't?

I make all kinds of cheesecake (and you can find recipes on my website www.ronniefein.com for all sorts of goodies such as classic New York cheesecake, my grandma's special Romanian cornmeal cheesecake (Malai), my Aunt Kate's strawberry-topped cheesecake. Also pumpkin cheesecake, chocolate, cheesecake brownies, cookies ….. I could go on).

On the other hand you can't just eat cheesecake. You have to eat real food too. Especially dairy food because Shavuot is generally a dairy holiday.

I love dairy.

Especially if there is a potato involved.

So this kugel is a wonder as far as I am concerned. It's a perfect Shavuot dish, whether for brunch, lunch or dinner. You can serve it as a main course all by itself or with a crisp green salad. I've also served it with a fried egg on top, because, why not?!

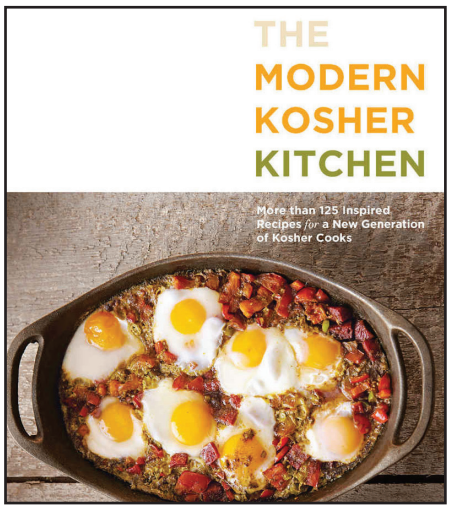
Potato cheese and spinach kugel

POTATO CHEESE AND SPINACH KUGEL

- 4 medium Yukon Gold potatoes (about 1-1/2 pounds)
- 8-10 ounces fresh spinach
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 cup crumbled feta cheese
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh dill
- 6 large eggs
- 5 tablespoons melted butter
- salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste
- 3/4 cup panko crumbs
- 2-3 tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees. Lightly grease a 2-quart baking dish. Peel the potatoes, cut them into chunks and boil them in lightly salted water for about 15 minutes or until tender. Let cool and chop into small pieces. Place the potatoes in a bowl. While the potatoes are cooking, wash and dry the spinach and chop it coarsely. Heat the olive oil in a sauté pan over medium heat. Add the onion and cook for about 3 minutes or until softened. Add the spinach and cook for 1-2 minutes or until wilted (if there is liquid in the pan, raise the heat and cook until it evaporates, or drain using a strainer). Add the spinach mixture, the feta cheese and dill to the potatoes and mix gently to distribute the ingredients evenly. Beat the eggs in a large bowl. Mix in 3 tablespoons of the melted butter and pour over the potato mixture. Sprinkle with salt and pepper. Gently mix the ingredients. Place the mixture inside the greased baking dish. In a small bowl, mix the panko, the remaining 2 tablespoons melted butter and the Parmesan cheese and sprinkle over the ingredients. Bake for about 30 minutes or until hot and crispy. Makes 8-10 servings.

Ronnie Fein is a cookbook author, food writer and cooking teacher in Stamford. She is the author of The Modern Kosher Kitchen and Hip Kosher. Visit her food blog, Kitchen Vignettes, at www.ronniefein.com, friend on Facebook at RonnieVailFein, Twitter at @RonnieVFein, Instagram at @RonnieVFein.



Pre-Shavuot Celebration at The J

(Courtesy of JCC) Celebrate Shavuot with your little ones at The J's Pre-Shavuot celebration on Sunday, June 9 from 3:30 to 5:00 pm for an enchanting concert experience with *songs for seeds*. The concert at the Stamford JCC, for families with children from birth through six years old, will feature an array of catchy tunes and beloved classics for everyone to groove along to, indulge in delectable dairy treats, and mark the essence of Shavuot traditions.

Pricing is free to JCC members and $25 per family for the community. For questions and more information, contact Danielle Mittleman at 203-487-0976 or dmittleman@stamfordjcc.org.

Scholar-in-Residence at CAS for Shavuot

(Courtesy of Congregation Agudath Sholom) Congregation Agudath Sholom (CAS) is pleased to announce that Rabbi Dr. Tzvi Sinensky will be scholar-in-residence for the holiday of Shavuot, Tuesday evening June 11 through Thursday June 13. This is an opportunity to learn from a prolific and leading mind in Jewish scholarship today.

Rabbi Dr. Tzvi Sinesky

During his visit, Rabbi Sinensky will deliver a series of lectures on the teachings of Rabbi Dr. Norman Lamm, a towering figure in modern Jewish intellectual history. He will also explore the definition of Jewish strength, examining what it means to be a strong and resilient Jewish community in today's world.

Rabbi Sinensky is scheduled to speak on the first night of Shavuot (Tuesday) at 11:30 pm and again at 12:30 am, to deliver the sermon on the first day of Shavuot (Wednesday) at approximately 11:00 am, and to give a pre-mincha lecture on the first day (Wednesday) at 6:00 pm and on the second day (Thursday) at 7:00 pm.

Please check the Agudath Sholom website for the full schedule: cas-stamford.org

Rabbi Dr. Tzvi Sinensky is Director of Judaic Studies and Upper School Principal at Main Line Classical Academy in suburban Philadelphia, Director of the Lamm Heritage Archives, and Editor of *The Lehrhaus*. He earned his PhD in Jewish Philosophy on the subject of rabbinic conceptions of manhood at Yeshiva University's Bernard Revel Graduate School of Jewish Studies. A highly-regarded speaker and author, he completed three book-length series published by Yeshivat Har Etzion's Virtual Beit Midrash, is editor of a forthcoming posthumous edition of Rabbi Norman Lamm's *halachic* (religious law) writings, and is currently writing a book on the overarching themes in Rabbi Lamm's work. Rabbi Sinensky lives in Lower Merion, Pennsylvania, with his wife and three children.

"Don't miss this chance to learn from Rabbi Dr. Sinensky's vast knowledge and expertise! His lectures will inspire and challenge you, and provide a deeper understanding of Jewish tradition and its relevance to our lives today," said Rabbi Daniel Cohen, Senior Rabbi at CAS.

All lectures are free and open to the public.

Shavuot with Chabad of Stamford

(Courtesy of Chabad of Stamford) Join Chabad of Stamford on June 11 and June 12 in celebrating Shavuot, the Feast of Weeks, the day when, according to tradition, G-d gave the Torah to the Jewish people. There will be several exciting and fun initiatives for all ages.

To commemorate the giving of the Torah, Chabad is offering children the unique opportunity to purchase a letter which will be part of a *Sefer Torah* (Torah scroll) in Jerusalem dedicated exclusively to Jewish children worldwide. Each child can order a letter for just $1 (with sponsorship options available), and Chabad encourages community members to order letters for their friends and relatives under bar and bat mitzvah age. A beautiful certificate will be sent from Israel to each participant in this special mitzvah.

Additionally, Chabad will again be selling their delicious cheesecakes, perfect for enhancing Shavuot celebrations at home.

As a prelude to Shavuot, on Tuesday, June 11, Chabad will host an all-night learning experience affectionately dubbed "Ted Talks" in honor of one of their members. Community members are invited to submit their "TEDtalk topics" related to a topic of Judaism that they'd like to discuss. Submissions can be sent to Rabbi Moshe Shemtov by Sunday, June 9.

On Wednesday, June 12 at 11:00 am, join Chabad for a festive Shavuot celebration featuring a reading of the Ten Commandments alongside an engaging children's program. The morning will culminate in a dairy buffet and an ice cream party, adding to the joyous atmosphere of the holiday.

For more details or to sign up for any of the events, reach out to programs@stamfordchabad.org or visit www.stamfordchabad.org.

Passover Stories With PJ Library

UJF Deputy Director Eric Ross reads to participants.

Matching dresses at TBE's BimBam series.

(Courtesy of UJF) Thanks to a United Jewish Federation "Community Impact Grant," PJ Library has been able to partner with Temple Beth El on its 2023-2024 monthly "ShabbuzzBimBam" Shabbat music and movement program for families with children ages newborn to five years old. In mid-April, UJF Deputy Director, Eric Ross joined in the festivities once again, and held a read-along with a Passover-themed PJ Library book.

Gan Yeladim Prepares for Passover

Children at Gan Yeladim gather outside to burn *chametz* before Passover.

(Courtesy of Chabad of Stamford) At Gan Yeladim, the focus is on hands-on learning whenever possible, encouraging children to "live what they learn." This approach is particularly evident during holiday preparations. Prior to Passover this year, the children crafted their own Haggadahs to bring home. Leading up to the holiday, they meticulously cleaned their classrooms and conducted a *chametz* (leavened foods) search using a feather, candle, and spoon. Furthermore, the children participated in an authentic *Biur Chametz* ceremony, where they burned the *chametz* under the guidance of Morah Leah Shemtov and learned about fire safety principles.

Schoke JFS Provides Passover Meals

(Courtesy of Schoke JFS) Schoke Jewish Family Service provided more than 500 Kosher for Passover meals to households across Fairfield County, ensuring families were fully prepared to celebrate the holiday.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to the dedicated volunteers whose efforts made this act of kindness possible.

Elizabeth Hinds, Volunteer Services and Programs Coordinator, packing Kosher for Passover Meals.

Chabad of Stamford's Model Matzah Bake

(Chabad of Stamford) Chabad of Stamford hosted a fun "Model Matzah Bake" event that brought together over 25 families for a memorable experience prior to Passover. The atmosphere was lively with music, engaging story times, hands-on baking activities, and delicious snacks shared among all participants.

The Benador family learns the ancient craft of matzah-making.

One of the highlights of the event was the captivating retelling of the story of Pesach, complete with costumes and interactive elements like the "crossing of the Red Sea" which made it enjoyable for children and adults alike. The rich narrative and visual depiction of the Passover story added depth and meaning to the baking experience.

As part of the event, each family had the opportunity to create their own flour from scratch, following the time-honored ancient traditions of matzah-baking. The process was not only educational but also deeply symbolic, connecting participants to the ancient customs and rituals associated with Passover.

The act of baking matzah together fostered a sense of unity and joy among the families, as they worked side by side to make matzah.

Seniors Pre-Pesach Sing-along

Children of Gan Yeladim sing for seniors.

(Courtesy of Chabad of Stamford) On April 9, Gan Yeladim hosted an intergenerational celebration in honor of Rosh Chodesh (first of the month) Nissan. Sponsored by the Schoke Jewish Family Service "Anachnu" Program and in conjunction with Chabad's "Betsy's Buddies" program, almost 70 seniors joined the children of Gan Yeladim for a morning of singing and celebrating. Led by Dovi Siderson on guitar, the children danced and sang Passover songs with the seniors who clapped and sang along. For the more senior members of the Stamford community, it was an opportunity to share the joy of Nissan and watch as the next generation excitedly engaged in Judaism.

After the program, the older children in the Gan handed boxes of *shmurah matzah* to the guests. The children were proud to participate and took this responsibility very seriously. They carefully delivered each box of matzah to the seniors taking extreme care not to break the delicate contents. After the children returned to their classrooms, the seniors enjoyed a private concert with Dovi, snacks, and cheerfully took their matzahs home. The event was full of pre-Passover joy. Chabad of Stamford wishes to thank Schoke JFS for organizing such a meaningful intergenerational event.

Remembering the Fallen

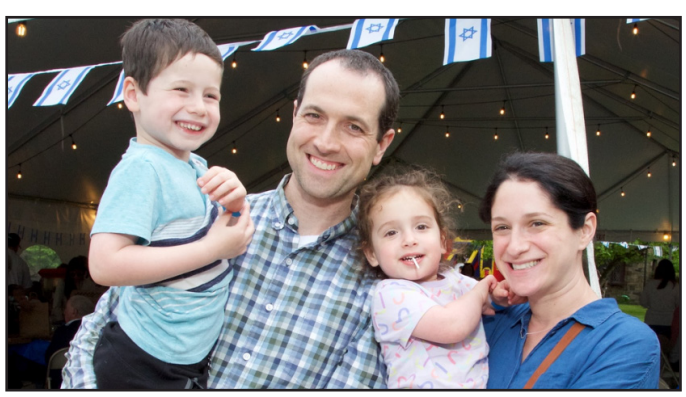
Yom HaZikaron, Israel's Memorial Day, is an annual commemoration of Israel's fallen soldiers and victims of terror. This year brought additional heartache, as hostages remain captive and the war continues. The Board of Rabbis and United Jewish Federation joined together to host this meaningful ceremony at Congregation Agudath Sholom. *(PHOTO CREDIT: AVIVA MALLER)*

Celebrating Israel @ 76

As the sun set on Yom HaZikaron (Israel's Memorial Day), Israel's 76th Birthday community-wide celebration began at Congregation Agudath Sholom and continued the following day at Temple Beth El.

The events were sponsored by United Jewish Federation of Stamford, New Canaan, and Darien and the Stamford Board of Rabbis, in partnership with Bi-Cultural Hebrew Academy, Congregation Agudath Sholom, Temple Beth El, Temple Sinai, and Young Israel of Stamford. *(PHOTO CREDIT: AVIVA MALLER)*

Celebrating Israel @ 76 (continued from page 8)



Stepping into Spring with UJF Women's Philanthropy

Over 100 women gathered for UJF's Annual Spring Dinner at the Stamford Nature Center Bendel Mansion. The theme of Dor L'Dor-generation to generation, brought together women of all ages for a festive evening of philanthropy and fun. All proceeds from the evening will benefit the increasing security costs in our local community. A special thanks to Aviva Maller for the fabulous décor and photography. Music by Arielle Eden. *(PHOTO CREDIT: AVIVA MALLER)*

Bits & Pieces

Sandy Golove

BY SANDY GOLOVE

To submit information to Bits and Pieces, call (203) 912-9945 or email sandy@ujf.org.

MAZEL TOV TO GROWING FAMILIES:

Shai & Jay Ozery on the birth of a daughter.

Yona & Zvi Eli Scholnick on the birth of a son; and to grandparents **Audrey & Mark Wagshul.**

Danielle & Robbie Schrag on the birth of a son; and to grandparents **Howard Schrag and Rob Tomczyk.**

Morah Peshy & Mendy Tiefenbrun on the birth of a son.

MAZEL TOV TO MARRIAGES/ ENGAGEMENTS:

Arlene Gewanter & Lloyd Contract on the engagement of their granddaughter **Shifra Gewanter,** daughter of **Batya & Rich Gewanter to Chezky Steinberg,** son of **Sharon & Yoni Steinberg.**

Leslie & Joseph Heyison on the engagement of their daughter **Claire (Brenda) Heyison to Yonah (Akiva) Meiselman,** son of **Terry Shuch & Neal Meiselman.**

MAZEL TOV B'NAI MITZVAH:

Jules Alexander: daughter of **Natalie & Jeffrey Alexander.**

MAZEL TOV TO BAR/BAT MITZVAHS:

Jack Avery Wolfson: son of **Wendy & Arin Wolfson;** and grandparents **Sheila & Daniel Wolfson.**

WE MOURN THE LOSS OF:

Ruth Alpert: mother of **Stephen Alpert and Nancy Alpert Halpert.**

Dr. Bruce Delman: husband of **LLily Delman;** and father of **Gladys Teitel, Carmit Birnbaum, Tal Delman and Miriam Halevi.**

Ralph Freydberg: husband of **Susan Freydberg.**

Hana Goldstein: wife of **Gideon Goldstein;** and mother of **Dov Goldstein and Melissa Noah.**

Rochel Lipskar: grandmother of **Leah Shemtov.**

Sherman Reiner: husband of **Adrienne Reiner** and father of **Hamilton Reiner, Brett Reiner, and Marc Reiner.**

Miriam Schwartz: mother of **Ayala Rieder, Tzvi Schwartz and Yaakov Schwartz.**

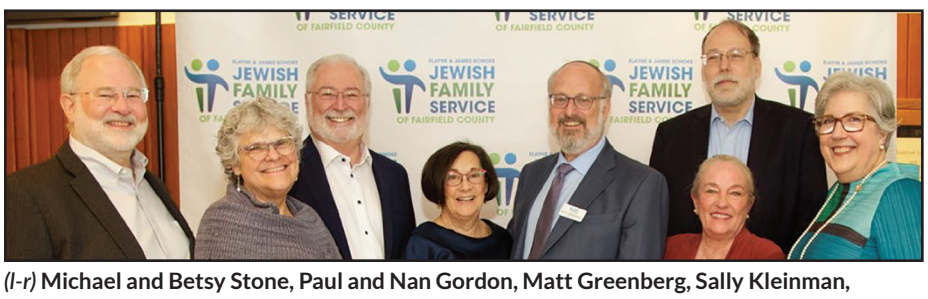
Emma Sterenka: mother of **Brian Sterenka.**

An Evening with Schoke JFS

***(l-r)* Matt Greenberg, Schoke JFS President and CEO; Connecticut State Representative Matt Blumenthal; Janet Wainright, Schoke JFS Development Officer; An Evening with Schoke JFS co-chairs Connie Freeman, Meryl Japha, Esther Rein, and Jillian Klaff.**

(Courtesy of Schoke JFS) Schoke Jewish Family Service held its annual gala "An Evening with Schoke JFS" on April 7. The evening celebrated the agency's work across Fairfield County and honored 44th Annual Mitzvah Award recipients Nan Gordon and Paul Gordon and Betsy Stone and Michael Stone, Volunteer of the Year Award recipient Sally Kleinman, and Community Service Award recipient Ronnie Sichel. Schoke JFS extends its heartfelt gratitude to the generous donors, dedicated sponsors, hardworking event committee, selfless volunteers, committed Board members, and diligent staff for their invaluable contributions in making An Evening with Schoke JFS a triumph.

Countless families and seniors facing hardship will receive the vital support they need through the community's generosity to the Japha Family Emergency Assistance Program. Contact Schoke JFS at 203-921-4161 if you would like more information or are interested in getting involved.



***(l-r)* Michael and Betsy Stone, Paul and Nan Gordon, Matt Greenberg, Sally Kleinman, Ken Neuhaus, and Ronnie Sichel.**

The Hebrew Corner

A Monthly Primer by Robert Abrams, UJF Education Committee Chair

Robert Abrams

HOW MANY MEANINGS CAN ONE WORD HAVE?!?!

If you've been reading this column, you know that Hebrew is a very conceptual language. By "conceptual" I mean that if one takes a three consonant root and applies different vowels, and adds a prefix or a suffix to those same three consonants, a person can come up with myriad meanings (okay, that's an overstatement) and applications of the basic meaning of the root word.

Well, not today!

Today's three-consonant shoresh or root is Pay, Kuf, and Dalet. And we're on our way…

Dependent upon the usage, when these three letters are used as the root of a word, it can mean: to order or command; to count, number, take a census, or muster; to appoint, or entrust; to remember or recall; to punish, recompense, chastise, or take revenge; to visit or visit upon; to miss, or lack something. That's enough definitions, right? So, how can we make sense of all of these meanings?

Let's begin with the idea of responsibility. In modern Hebrew a "job" is a taPh-KeeD, and a commander or head of something in modern Hebrew is either a muhPhaKayD (for a male) or a muhPhahKeDet (for a female). And when I try to relate all of the meanings above with these two words, I finally see the connection: **Responsibility**. And all of the different definitions involve either taking responsibility for an action, or being given the responsibility - or punishment - for an action.

Let's try out this hypothesis.

To command or order - Being *responsible* for the commanded activities.

To count, gather together, take a census - Being *responsible* for a group. To appoint or entrust - Giving *responsibility*. To remember or recall - Recalling that someone or something is or was *responsible* for something. To punish, recompense, reward or punish - The effects on those *responsible*. To visit or visit upon - Also administering the appropriate reward, punishment, or answer to those *responsible* for actions or for a request. And finally, to miss or miss something - A *responsibility* was forgotten, missed, or someone failed to achieve it.

That is a lot of meaning for three consonants. But once we remember that Hebrew normally uses three consonants to represent a concept, the multiple definitions and applications become much clearer.

Rothschild Society Gathering

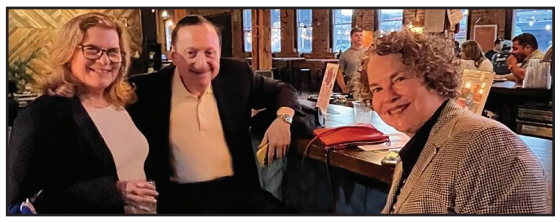
(Courtesy of UJF) In early May, over two dozen business professionals gathered for United Jewish Federation's Rothschild Society "Networking Happy Hour." After a long hiatus, this was the first opportunity for Rothschild Society members to gather together, make new connections, and meet other Jewish members of the local business community.

This event was made possible thanks to event sponsors Avram and Rhoda Freedberg, Michael and Leslie Moskowitz, and Michael Schlessinger and Monica Smyth Schlessinger.

The Rothschild Society is UJF's Affinity Group for business professionals interested in helping the local and global Jewish communities, through education, leadership, and networking opportunities.

To get involved with UJF's Rothschild Society, please contact Eric Ross at eric@ujf.org.

***(l-r)* Diane Sloyer, Richard Shapiro, David Eben, Michael Moskowitz, and Alix Field Eben.**



***(l-r)* Lauren Friedman, Avram Freedberg, and Rhoda Freedberg.**

***(l-r)* Scott Krowitz, Robert Hoff, Michael Schlessinger, and Michael Moskowitz.**

A Message from UJF's Community Shaliach

Finding Comfort Being As One

BY YOAV YARON

Yoav Yaron

It always happens during this time of the year. The tension between commemorating Yom HaZikaron (Day of Remembrance) and celebrating Yom Ha'Atzmaut (Israel Independence Day) is far too delicate.

This year, even more so.

As I grow older, I sadly know more names and faces of the fallen and victims of terrorism. It's part of being an adult I assume. The celebration of Yom Ha'Atzmaut itself stirs up a lot of personal feelings and emotions as I attempt to find the right balance between grieving and excitement. It has been years since I actually joined in the festivities of Yom Ha'Atzmaut night in Israel, which is usually packed with people proudly cheering, enjoying live music, eating cotton candy, nibbling on corn on the cob, and simply having the best night celebrating Israel's independence.

When Yom HaZikaron ends and Yom Ha'Atzmaut begins, that's when I feel numb. My tears start to dry out. Yet, in my heart I am not truly ready to celebrate just yet.

Barbecue, or *Al HaEsh* (translated to on the fire in Hebrew), is the most "sacred" tradition of Yom Ha'Atzmaut day.

In Israel during the day, you can smell BBQ all over the country. There are times when people who live in a building will camp outside overnight to secure a good spot in the national or city parks, just to be part of the festivities. I don't know where and why this tradition started, but I do know it's in our blood. The *Al HaEsh* allows you to have a long-lasting meal with so many people, by enjoying the outdoors and our shared Jewish heritage together.

It might be that we needed an excuse to grill and be outside.

In the end, the reason actually doesn't matter. What matters is the tradition of it all. The traditions keep us as one. It keeps our culture alive and vibrant. And in Israel we love traditions. We love rituals. We cherish the opportunity to share food with friends, family, and as a Jewish community.

As we finish an emotional 48-hour rollercoaster between Yom HaZikaron and Yom Ha'Atzmaut, I find comfort in being one as a community with friends and people I've grown to think of as family these last two years.

It's this act of togetherness that keeps us going.

TEEN VOICES

Caring For Others

BY LIAV VADEL

Liav Vadel

What a moving experience! I am Liav Vadel and over the last three months, I have had the pleasure of participating in the Kuriansky Teen Tzedakah Corps program with UJF.

Through this program I have not only had the joy of giving *tzedakah* but I embarked on a journey of learning the importance of helping those in need and doing what is right.

The Kuriansky Teen Tzedakah Corps is a program where Jewish high school students such as myself gather to learn about tzedakah and then proceed to research organizations that can effectively use funding to help people in Israel who are in need. We then have the opportunity to donate to a few different organizations. Not only is the Kuriansky Teen Tzedakah Corps program something meaningful for any student's upbringing, but it really teaches us *gemilut chasadim!*

Liav Vadel is a Senior at Academy of Information Technology & Engineering (AITE) in Stamford and will be attending Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Shalom, Shalom!

(Courtesy of UJF) United Jewish Federation (UJF) *Shaliach* (Community Emissary) Yoav Yaron had an opportunity to visit with Greg Weil, who recently joined the Stamford community. UJF delivers "Shalom Stamford" bags to new Jewish arrivals to Stamford, New Canaan, and Darien, and "Shalom Baby" bags to new Jewish babies in town. If you know of someone who recently moved to the area or welcomed a child into their family, please contact Eric Ross at Eric@UJF.org.

Community Shaliach Yoav Yaron (right) visits with new arrival to the community Greg Weil

UJF's Kuriansky Teen Tzedakah Corps Gives Back

(Courtesy of UJF) On May 5, UJF's Kuriansky Teen Tzedakah Corps program met at Napoletana kosher dairy restaurant in Stamford for their last meeting of the school year. This teen cohort, supported annually by the generosity of the Kuriansky Family Foundation, is dedicated to learning about Jewish values of philanthropy.

Led by UJF Community Shaliach Yoav Yaron, the group reviewed and reflected on past meetings, shared the difference between *gemilut chasadim* (acts of loving kindness) and *tzedakah* (charity), and how they can each make a difference in the world as future philanthropists. The meeting also provided the chance to discuss organizations in Israel which support communities in need.

The teens chose to allocate funds to the following organizations, with each organization receiving $1,600:

Rebuilding Be'eri Together: Kibbutz Be'eri was one of the kibbutzim heavily impacted by the horrific attacks that took place on October 7, 2023.

OneFamily: The mission at OneFamily is to provide support to victims of terrorism and their families in Israel to ensure they are reintegrated into society.

Leket Israel: Leket Israel, the National Food Bank of Israel, focuses on harvesting surplus, agricultural produce, and collecting cooked meals for the needy in Israel.

Students who participated this year also received certificates of completion for their involvement and accomplishment.

Thank you to all of the wonderful teens who made the 2024 Kuriansky Teen Tzedakah Corps program so special: David Angel, Richard Baer, AJ Dayan, Kira Doft, Noa Farber, Asher Farber, Gabriel Haron, Julian Landauer, Tamar Links, Nathaniel Morgulis, Sadie Palker, Ari Rosenfeld, and Liav Vadel.

To join the next cohort of the Kuriansky Teen Tzedakah Corps program, email dianesloyer@ujf.org.

Kuriansky Teen Tzedakah Corps students allocated $1,600 to One Family.

Kuriansky Teen Tzedakah Corps students receive certificates of completion of the program from program facilitator Yoav Yaron *(far right)*.

UJF Brings the Growing Darien Community Together

(Courtesy of UJF) Through United Jewish Federation's NextGen Initiative, members of the growing Darien Jewish community got together on a Saturday night in May to get to know one another and the broader Jewish community. In its inaugural Darien-based Happy Hour dubbed "Newish & Jewish", the evening drew over 20 NextGen attendees who gathered to connect and enjoy cocktails, wine, beer, and light bites. A key initiative of UJF, NextGen unites young Jews in their mid-20's, 30s, and 40s, from all backgrounds and affiliations.

Dignity Grows Community Pack Makes a Difference

Volunteers packed 400 Dignity Grows tote bags.

(Courtesy of UJF) Cheers to the dedicated group of volunteers, local organizations, synagogues, and area churches for coming together with United Jewish Federation of Stamford, New Canaan, and Darien (UJF) to pack Dignity Grows totes on Thursday, April 18 at Serendipity Labs in Stamford.

Because of this community-wide event to help equip women in need and combat "period poverty," 400 tote bags were filled with essential feminine hygiene products to be delivered to New Covenant Center, Person to Person, Inspirica, Domestic Violence Crisis Center, and Elayne and James Schoke Jewish Family Service.

Together with a student-led pack-party at Westhill High School, a total of 500 totes were delivered in May thanks to UJF's Dignity Grows chapter.

Toby Lazarus, Jennifer Sabbah, and Cathy Satz display their filled Dignity Grows totes.

Schoke JFS Welcomes Interns to their Staff

(Courtesy of Schoke JFS) The Schoke Jewish Family Service Case Management department has expanded this fall to a team of seven individuals, including four interns. Under the leadership of Hannah Pollack, LCSW, Director of Case Management, these interns were carefully mentored and supported to excel in their social work careers. Their contribution has significantly enriched the department, and Schoke JFS expresses deep gratitude for their decision to join the team this year. As the Case Management department says goodbye to this proficient group, they look forward to welcoming another cohort of interns in the fall.

To learn more about interning with Schoke JFS, contact Hannah Pollack at hpollack@ctjfs.org, 203-921-4161.

(l-r) Schoke JFS Case Manager Carolyn Spencer, Intern Rebecca Siderson, Director of Case Management Hannah Pollack, Intern Christy Hahn, and Anachnu Program Director Marina Sapir.

(l-r) Intern Samantha Barone, Hannah Pollack, Carolyn Spencer, and Intern Rebecca Brower.

JCC's "Jr. Company" Hosts First Dance Showcase

(Courtesy of JCC) The Jr. Company, the Stamford Jewish Community Center's dance repertory company designed for children, dazzled at their first showcase titled *Prima*, on Sunday, April 7 at The J. Bravo to the rising stars and their wonderful instructors, Celina Lopez, Head of Jr. Company and Performing Arts Director of Operations; Meghan Meehan, Performing Arts Artistic Director; Susanna Procario-Foley, Performing Arts Coordinator, and Alyssa Vartuli, Head Teacher of Hip-Hop and Tap.

(PHOTO CREDIT: HALEY BLAU)

Chabad of Stamford Relaunches Tiny Treasures Classes

(Courtesy of Chabad of Stamford) Chabad of Stamford's littlest participants are invited to join the relaunch of the Tiny Treasures "Mommy and Me" program this spring with a series of hands-on experiential classes. The weekly class returned after the Passover break with a series centered around the "Shabbat Box Experience." Each week, the children work on a project that will culminate in the creation of their very own Shabbat boxes.

Tiny Treasures classes are open to children from birth to 2 years old and are held on Thursday mornings at 9:30 am at Chabad of Stamford at 770 High Ridge Road. The next classes will be held on May

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19

A Little Love Goes a Long Way

(Courtesy of Friendship Circle) Back in November, 2023, The Friendship Circle of Fairfield County held two events with Fairfield teens and Westport families. At these events, volunteers packed presents to be delivered to the Jerusalem Branch of the Friendship Circle in Israel, which is helping displaced families and their children with special needs, in addition to its usual participants.

Many Connecticut teens and families participated, and four large bags of sensory gifts were prepared to send to Israel for Chanukah. Due to the war, the bags somehow went missing in Israel and then were found - just in time for Purim! So while delayed, the gifts arrived in time for the next holiday, to help the children and their families celebrate.

The mother of an Israeli child with special needs who received a Friendship Circle package said, "The noise canceling headphones are amaaaaazing for him! He's had a really hard time on his afternoon van ride home from school lately due to all the noise - he didn't want to go! These have solved the problem!"

Sensory gifts to be packaged and shipped to Israel.

Sarah Lipsker, Westport and Fairfield Friendship Circle Coordinator, noted, "This special project helped our volunteer families, who feel so passionately about helping children and their families with unique abilities, to connect with our brothers and sisters in Israel in such a trying time and in such a special way. We are so grateful for all the gifts they brought and packed, in addition to the special gifts our local friends received."

If you would like to become involved with the Friendship Circle, please contact Director Malya Shmotkin at malya@friendshipct.com.

A friend in Jerusalem enjoys his gift of noise-canceling headphones.

From Generation to Generation

BY ARI VOGEL

(Courtesy of JHSFC) The Jewish Historical Society of Fairfield County (JHSFC) is proud to offer L'*Dor V'Dor* (From Generation to Generation), a program which provides students with interactive and experiential lessons designed to develop an appreciation for Jewish heritage.

Recently, Jewish and non-Jewish 10th grade students from The Pinnacle School in Stamford visited the JHSFC archives. As part of their class unit on the Holocaust, Lindsay Scavone, 10th grade teacher, reached out to JHSFC to explore program opportunities. Leah Tillman, Rhonda Ginsberg and Debra Emery, key leaders in JHSFC, put together an age-appropriate agenda that helped students understand the horrors of the Holocaust.

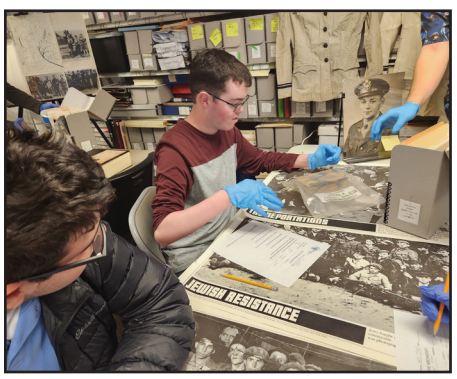
As part of the organization's "I am an Archivist" program, students were presented with objects, artifacts, photos, letters, and other memorabilia from the Holocaust. The students were able to touch these artifacts, including a doctor's bag filled with medical tools and an original Purple Heart medal. They also had the chance to read original, heartfelt written words from the World War II era.

Each child had the opportunity to pick one artifact, learn more about it from one of the JHSFC members on-site, and tell the entire class about this artifact. Many students were rapt with this type of show-and-tell.

Leah Tillman told the students about her family's struggles. Leah's parents were sent to a displaced persons camp, and Leah was born in Munich, Bavaria, Germany. The grandmother of one of the Pinnacle students told the class how her own grandmother had offered shelter and protection to Jewish people in her basement during the Holocaust.

The students appeared to find this entire experience at JHSFC archives to be very powerful and meaningful. The personal stories and artifacts made history real and compelling.

If you are a teacher and would like to schedule time to bring your classes to visit the JHSFC Archives, please contact JHSFC at (203) 359-2196. Also visit the website at https://jhsfc-ct.org/LDor-VDor.html. "



The Pinnacle School 10th graders explore World War II soldier memorabilia.

The Pinnacle School 10th grader investigates concentration camp currency.

Gan Yeladim Children Recite Special Springtime Blessing

(Courtesy of Chabad of Stamford) Each spring, the children at Gan Yeladim have an exceptional opportunity to say a unique *bracha* (blessing). This blessing is said when someone first sees more than one blossoming fruit tree within the month of Nissan, the first month in the Jewish calendar. It celebrates the power of hope and renewal, a central theme in Judaism.

Upon seeing a fruit tree in bloom in the springtime, the *Birkat Ha'Ilanot* is recited, a special blessing which acknowledges G-d's ongoing renewal of creation and gratitude for the beauty of trees in the world. The essence of this prayer is to draw inspiration from the splendor of nature, to feel G-d's love for His people, and to express gratitude. In a world filled with challenges and turmoil, this prayer takes on added significance this year, reminding people of the enduring hope and resilience found in nature even after the bleakest of winters.

The blossoming trees serve as a powerful metaphor, teaching a profound lesson about renewal and transformation. Witnessing how trees, once barren and withered, can burst into vibrant bloom, offers hope and revitalizes spirits. It instills the courage and inspiration to rise above despair, knowing that even in the darkest times, there is a process underway leading to a new season of growth and beauty. Just as G-d can bring blossoms to a barren tree, so too can He bring about redemption and renewal for people..

On a wider level, many Jews believe that this blessing helps them appreciate G-d's love for all of humanity, regardless of its merits. With hearts full of hope and anticipation, Jews all over the world offer prayer for an era of redemption, akin to the blossoming of once-barren branches, ushering in a time of peace for current and future generations.

Children at Gan Yeladim reciting the blessing over the blossoming fruit trees.

Gratitude is also extended to Lael and Danielle Shapiro, former Gan parents, whose act of planting fruit trees at the school years ago allows everyone, young and old, to come together each spring and partake in this meaningful and uplifting experience.

Life and Legacy Honor Roll

United Jewish Federation is proud to partner with the Harold Grinspoon Foundation to bring the Stamford, New Canaan and Darien community the Harold Grinspoon Life and Legacy Program. Through communal efforts, the following individuals have made a commitment to one or more Jewish communal institutions to secure our Jewish future. The names in blue indicate that formal actions have been taken.

For more information, contact Lenore Fogel at Lenore@ujf.org, or Diane Sloyer at (203) 321-1373 or dianesloyer@ujf.org.

20 Anonymous
27 Anonymous
Adrienne & Michael Alexander
David Amsellem
Alice & David Andersen
Jeri Appel
Mark Appel
Ricky Snow Arbron
Suellyn Bache
Monica Becker & Edieal Pinker
Rachel Tyd & Robert Beldock
Gayle & Mitchell Bell
Debra & Michael Berg
Dina & Paul Berger
Karen & Ira Berk
Devra Jaffe- Berkowitz & Parry Berkowitz
Lynn & Harvey Berman
Berkun Family
Darona & Rabbi Tzvi Bernstein
Jen & Andy Bernstein
Melody & Claude Bernstein
Bruce & Nancy Blasnik
Judith Block
Ilana Springer Borkenstein & Daniel Borkenstein
Jodi & Richard Boxer
Amy Bubel
Henry Bubel
Blake & Daniel Bueckman
Judy & Jeff Cahn
Kate & Peretz Cik
Roberta & Alan Cohen
Andrea & David M. Cohen
Diane & Rabbi Daniel Cohen
Malerie Yolen-Cohen & Jeff Cohen
Judy & David S.* Cohen
Mimi Cohen
Rachel & Ephraim Cohen
Saul Cohen*
Marsha Colten
Tracy & Nahum Daniels
Janice Steinberg & Stephen Davidson
Andrea Dener
Elayne Dener
Rabbi Yisrael Deren
Helen & Marty Donner
Fran & Bob Dorf
Shoshana Dweck
Heather & Glenn Dynner
Debra & Dan Faizakoff
Michelle Fanwick
Esta & Jay Feinsod
Sharon & Michael Feldstein
Peggy & Jerry Fensterstock
Linda Hurwitz & Richard Fine
Robin & Jason Fischel
Gail Berman & David Fogel
Stephanie & Howard Fogel
Lenore Fogel
Ilan Fogel
Miriam Lavinksy & Morton Folb*
Beverly Frank
Sharon Franklin
Robin Frederick
Julia & Eli Freedberg
Connie & Alan Freeman
Maxine & Jay Freilich
Susan Frieden
Rachel & Keith Friedman
Marc Friedman
Donna & Edward Fuhrman
Nancy & Mark Funt
Heidi & Harrison Ganz
Lesley & Dennis Gehr
Gary Gepner
Carole Gladstone
Herbert Gladstone*
Sylvia & Herb Gladstone*
Leslie Glenn
Michael Gold
Abby Goldberg
Cyndy & Eric Goldberg
Marilyn & Irving Goldblum
Alicia & Jason Goldstein
Caryl & Melvin Goldstein*
Judy & Howard Goldstein
Sharon & Bruce Goldstein
Meryl & David Gordon
Nan & Paul Gordon
Linda Gornitsky
Loralee & Philip Granowitz
Shira & Ethan Green
Allison & Frederic Greenbaum
Sharon & Larry Greenberg
Susan & Edward Greenberg
Pam Ehrenkranz & Matt Greenberg
Rhonda Greif
Grecia & Ron* Gross
Caryn Halbrecht & Tommy Haendler
Jeremy Hager
Kayla & Leon Hanna
Scott Handelman
Wynd Harris
Jacqueline Herman
Elissa & James Hyman
Rebecca Isenstein
Shara & Rabbi David Israel
Sari & Alan Jaffe
Meryl & Ron Japha
Anne Liss Johnson
Sadae & Michael Kadish
Judith & Grant Kallen
Peggy Kalter
Helene & Harvey Kaminski
Chanie Kamman
Roni & Jan Kaplowitz
Jason Kaplowitz
Lisa & Arnold Karp
Jeannie Kasindorf
Jessica & Ilan Katz
Joy Katz
Larry Katz
Judith & Sheldon Katz
Mark S. Kaufman
Betsy & Peter Kempner
Madelyne Kirch
Liz & Marc Kitay
Elissa & Philip Klapper
Sally Kleinman
Harris Kligman
Naomi & Rabbi Eli Kohl
Susan Kostin
Arthur Kramer*
Claudia Kraut
Norma Kraut
Jeannie & Brian Kriftcher
Carol & Allen Krim
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Nina Kuch
Svetlana Kunin
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Helen & Ed Kweskin
Lieba & Steve Lander
Hannah & Ilan Lastoff
Dallice & Ian Lazarus
Shelley Leibowitz
Lois Stark & Gary Lessen
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Elizabeth Libner
R. & J. Licht
Ronnie & Gary Lilien
Vered & Mark Links
Lisa & Seth Linzer
Pamela Feldstein & David Loewenberg
Eleanor & Mort Lowenthal
Stu Madison
Lisa & Jeff Manheim
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Susan & Len Mark
Dinah Miller Marlowe
Seth Marlowe
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Rhonda Schaffer-Maron & Jeffrey Maron
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Tanya Barton- Radin & David Radin
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Leah & Rabbi Moshe Shemtov
Marsha Kaiser Shendell
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Cantor Micah Morgovsky & Rabbi Benjamin Spratt
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Gladys & Greg Teitel
Julie & Rabbi Jay TelRav
The Estate of Judith Bragin*
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The Estate of Thomas Gilmartin*
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Rebecca Tipermas
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Ellen & Richard Weber
Linda Gornitsky & Harvey Weber
Dana & Carl Weinberg
Marian Weinberg
Leon Weisburgh
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Leigh Wilson
Robyn & Mark Winarksy
Dana Horowitz & Peter Wolly
Neda Khaghan & Robert Yaghoubian
Rita & Abe Yellen
Marcia Gordon & Seth Young
Sheryl & Dan Young
Lauren & Joe Zalis
Joan Zinbarg*
Renee Zinn
Navah & David Zizmor
Shira & Mitchell Zucker

**Of Blessed Memory*

This is the list provided to UJF at time of publishing. We apologize for any names that have been omitted. Please let us know and the missing names will be added to the next issue of the paper. Names in blue have finalized their commitment at the time of publication.

United Jewish Federation
of Stamford, New Canaan, and Darien
Serving Greater Fairfield County

CHAPTER TWO PRESENTS
ISRAELI COOKING WORKSHOP

Join UJF's Chapter Two for a hands-on Israeli cooking workshop with UJF Community Shaliach (Israeli Emissary), Yoav Yaron.

Chapter Two is UJF's affinity group for women in Fairfield County who are "empty nesters" looking to create a network through shared interests and an appreciation for community.

Registration is required, no walk-ins.
Deadline to sign up is Thursday, June 6.

TEMPLE BETH EL
350 ROXBURY ROAD

MONDAY, JUNE 10
11:00AM-1:00 PM

$25 EARLY BIRD RATE UNTIL 5/27
$36 AFTER 5/27

WWW.UJF.ORG/COOKING

Graduating With Pride and Promise

(Courtesy of UJF) In November of 2019, United Jewish Federation (UJF) facilitated the partnership of the Stamford, New Canaan and Darien Jewish community with the Harold Grinspoon Life & Legacy program. Eleven community organizations began a four-year journey of building endowments and securing the Jewish future. After an energetic start, COVID hit, but despite the challenges, the Stamford, New Canaan and Darien community continued on with vigor with its Life & Legacy objectives and will complete the four- year program successfully in July.

Under the leadership of United Jewish Federation's (UJF) community coordinator Lenore Fogel, UJF was honored on May 6 at the 2024 Life & Legacy Leadership Conference in Springfield, Massachusetts. This annual conference is collaborative and educational and includes inspiring keynote speakers, networking, skill-based workshops from industry leaders, discussions and more.

David Gordon, who was Federation president when UJF was accepted into and launched Life & Legacy, accepted the award "for outstanding leadership in integrating legacy giving into the culture of the Stamford, New Canaan, and Darien Jewish Communities," on behalf of the community. David's vision made this program a reality, and to date, the Stamford, New Canaan and Darien Jewish community has 554 legacy commitments and an estimated $15.2MM in future and realized gifts.

UJF Immediate Past President David Gordon accepts an award on behalf of United Jewish Federation from Harold Grinspoon Life & Legacy Senior Advisor Arlene Schiff.

UJF CEO Diane Sloyer, David Gordon, Meryl Gordon, and UJF Life & Legacy Coordinator Lenore Fogel

After completion of the Life & Legacy program in July, the community will be eligible to apply to be part of Life & Legacy Plus, which provides four more years in which local Jewish organizations and synagogues will continue to have an opportunity to obtain incentive grants for reaching legacy commitment goals. If accepted, these incentive grants will motivate the organizations to obtain legacy commitments and motivate donors to make their legacy commitment within a given time frame.

If you are interested in obtaining more information about the Life & Legacy program, please contact the UJF community coordinator Lenore Fogel at Lenore@ujf.org or call 203-321-1371, ext 4.

Did You Know?

As of 2024, the Harold Grinspoon Life & Legacy Program has 898 participating organizations located in 75 communities across the United States and Canada. Together they total over 1.7 billion dollars in realized and future gifts.

United Jewish Federation's ten local participating organizations are: Bi-Cultural Hebrew Academy, Chabad of Stamford, Congregation Agudath Sholom, Friendship Circle of Fairfield County, Stamford Jewish Community Center, Schoke Jewish Family Service, Temple Beth El, Temple Sinai, United Jewish Federation, and Young Israel of Stamford. To date the community has received 554 legacy commitments totaling over 15 million dollars in realized and future gifts.

Statewide Holocaust Commemoration

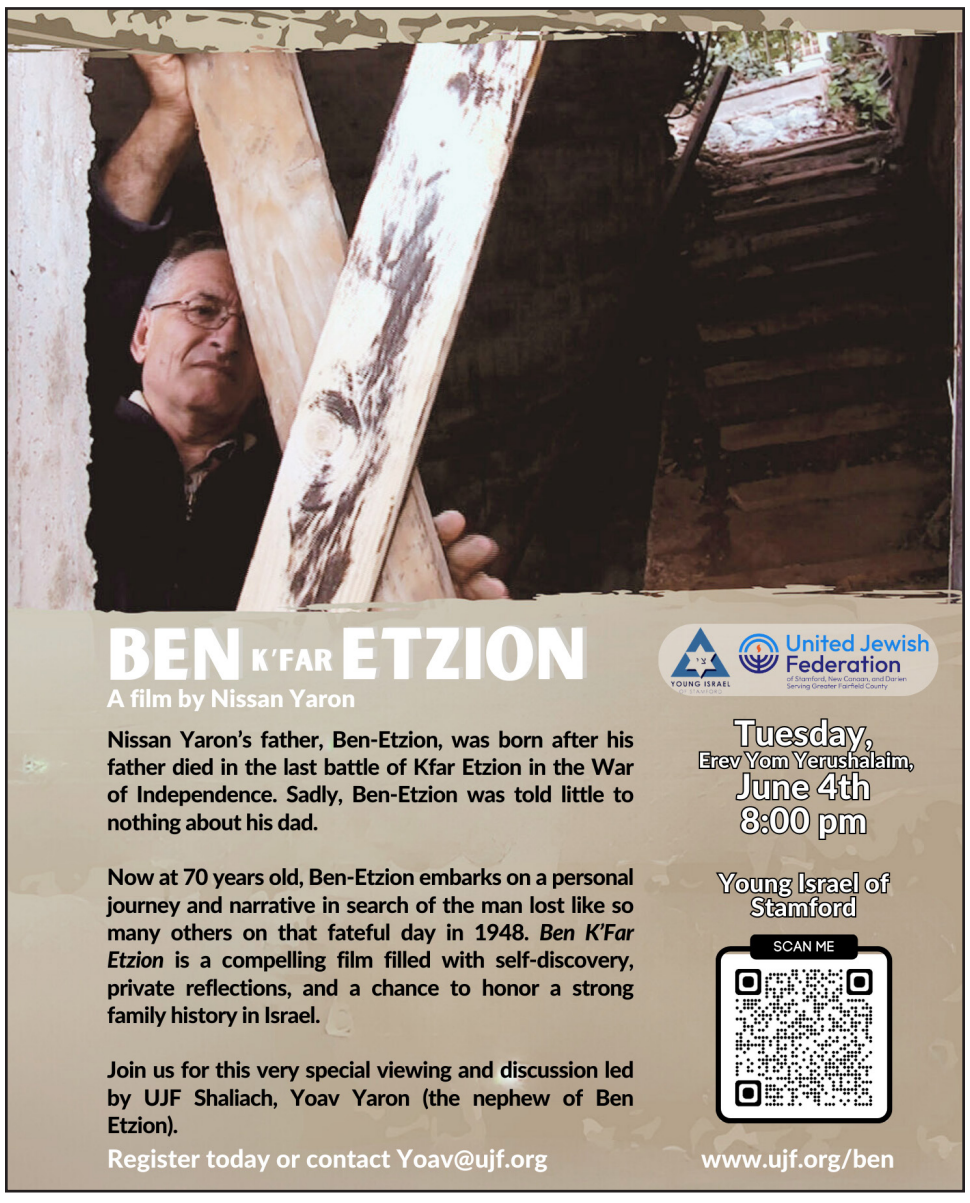
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

Morgovsky and Temple Beth El Cantor Katie Kaplan sang *Eli, Eli* as part of the ceremony. Temple Beth El Rabbi Joshua Hammerman gave the benediction. The event was organized by Voices of Hope, a non-profit founded by families of Holocaust survivors across Connecticut, whose mission is to promote a culture of courage to stand up against hatred through Holocaust and genocide education and remembrance.

This year's ceremony was sponsored by Voices of Hope, The Jewish Federation Association of Connecticut (JFACT), the Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford, the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven, and United Jewish Federation of Stamford, New Canaan, and Darien, in coordination with the Jewish Federation of Western Connecticut, UJA-JCC Greenwich, the Connecticut Region of ADL and the United States Holocaust Memorial Council.

(l-r) **Cantor Micah Morgavsky and Cantor Katie Kaplan in the Senate Chamber at the State Capitol.**

(l-r) **Beverly Stein, U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal, and Rabbi Joshua Hammerman in the Senate Chamber at the State Capitol.**



Arab Israeli Conflict-Resolution Activist Helps Keep the Peace

Israel's Arab citizens have not taken up Hamas calls to join the fray. One well-known figure was instrumental in dousing the flames.

BY ELANA SHAP/ISRAEL21C

October 7 made both Jewish and Arab Israelis jittery. Aside from pain and shock, many wondered how the massacre would impact relations between them.

For conflict-resolution activist Mohammad Darawshe, decades of bridge-building between the two populations was put into jeopardy overnight.

Mohammad Darawashe, a conflict-resolution activist. *(PHOTO COURTESY OF MOHAMMAD KHALILIEH)*

"There were daily calls by Hamas to Arab citizens to create another front by joining the war. The environment was ripe with problems and I knew we had to prevent escalation," he tells ISRAEL21c.

Surveys confirmed what was already clearly apparent to Darawshe, who lives in the Galilean town of Iksal with his wife and four adult children. Mutual mistrust was soaring amongst Jews towards Arabs (from 50 percent in regular times to 81%) and in reverse from 24% to 52%.

The Director of Strategy at Givat Haviva's Center for Shared Society, Darawshe quickly mobilized local and national Arab leaders to convey to their populations they did not want to be part of this war.

They got Jewish and Arab mayors of neighboring towns and villages to issue joint statements encouraging good relations between communities.

The outcome was a "collective decision by Arab citizens that what happened on October 7 does not represent us. An understanding that at the end of the day, when this war is over, we're going to stay Israeli citizens. What we do now will reflect on our relationship with our fellow Jewish citizens tomorrow."

OFFERING A WARM HAVEN FOR THE DISPLACED

The other swift action taken by Givat Haviva was to give immediate refuge for the first two months of the war to more than 300 displaced residents mostly from Ashkelon in the south.

A mental health center staffed by volunteer clinical psychologists who specialize in trauma treatment was set up and the campus' Shared Arts Center hosted daily workshops facilitated by art therapists and leaders.

To create a warm, supportive community in which evacuees would feel valued and significant, committees were set up in which family representatives could actively participate in planning programs and activities.

Children were enrolled in local schools selected to align with their backgrounds and afterschool clubs were established. Youth counselors organized evening activities for teens.

Most of this activity ended in December when the evacuees returned to Ashkelon.

PUBLIC TO PRIVATE PAIN

Throughout this difficult period, the Darawshe family was also dealing with their own personal tragedy from the Hamas attack.

Awad Darawshe, a 23-year-old cousin who worked as a United Hatzalah paramedic, was murdered by Hamas as he tried to treat injured partygoers at the Supernova music festival.

"He thought in selflessness. He didn't care about the culture, identity or ethnicity of the people he was treating," Darawshe told reporters at the time. "On the contrary, he thought because he had a different ethnicity, he could probably save them because he spoke Arabic and he wanted to save the Jewish and international kids there."

SHARED SOCIETY, SHARED FUTURE

Givat Haviva was founded in 1949 by the Kibbutz Federation as a nonprofit organization to create mutual responsibility, civic equality and cooperation between divided groups in Israel.

Its Center for a Shared Society has a 40-acre campus in the north where education, language instruction, culture and art are used to empower and bring Arabs and Jews together.

Darawshe joined in 2000 after leaving his role as campaign manager for the Democratic Arab Party and later the United Arab List (RAM).

He has been committed ever since to building up Givat Haviva's programs and 2024 was supposed to have a record enrollment of 3,000 Jewish and Arab youth participating in joint programs around the country.

Although the Hamas attack and ensuing war made it impossible to form new groups, many of the existing ones resumed within a month. It was a relief to Darawshe, who is a staunch believer in continuity: "The impact of one-time programs evaporates with 'returning home syndrome' that pulls you right back into stereotypical thinking."

A country circus at Givat Haviva. *(PHOTO COURTESY OF JESSE COLTON)*

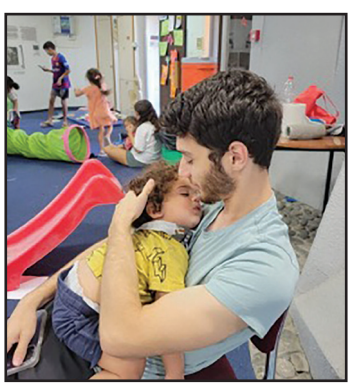
Kids playing soccer at Givat Haviva. *(PHOTO COURTESY OF JESSE COLTON)*

Stereotypes are easy to fall back on here, he says, due to the ongoing conflict which "keeps beaming negativity" and the fact of limited interaction between the two sectors of society – 92% of Arab citizens live in separate towns and villages and the 8% in mixed cities usually live in separate neighborhoods.

As a consequence, education is separated too, with only eight mixed schools around the country.

Darawshe's solution is to bring Arab teachers into Jewish schools and Jewish teachers into Arab schools. Today there are 2,500 teachers in the program, which he considers one of the best projects in coexistence today.

Mosaic workshop for evacuees at Givat Haviva. *(PHOTO COURTESY OF JESSE COLTON)*



A preschool classroom at Givat Haviva. *(PHOTO COURTESY OF JESSE COLTON)*

"It can change a whole school culture. If you have an Arab teacher in a Jewish teachers' lounge they probably will not be making jokes about Arabs, at least not nasty ones. The presence of a Jewish teacher in an Arab teacher's lounge changes the discourse about how you talk about Jews."

Social interaction and cultural exploration also come about as they discover each other's religious holiday in real time.

NO HUMMUS COEXISTENCE

Darawshe, who has an MA degree in peace studies and conflict management from Haifa University and worked previously as co-director of The Abraham Initiatives, says the way to build a shared society is not about meetings based on "hummus coexistence where you eat hummus, enjoy each other's company and go home. These [meetings] fake equality and avoid talking about the problems."

At the same time, getting involved immediately in the narrative debate is also not conducive to building bonds as "it starts a ping pong blame game."

The best way to build connection, he says, is to start off understanding mutual interests and that "we live in the same country, we share the same buses and shopping malls."

He notes "islands of success in Jewish-Arab relations" including the fact that one-third of the medical sector in Israel today is Arab.

THE MENTOR WHO SET HIM ON HIS PATH

It was the late Emile Shouafani, organizer of the first Jewish-Arab group to Auschwitz-Birkenau, who set Darawshe on his path at age 16.

As his teacher at the Nazareth High School Darawshe attended, Shouafani suggested he take part in programs for Jewish and Arab youth at Givat Haviva.

"I went to Muslim elementary school, Catholic high school, Hebrew University. I learned Christianity from Christians, Judaism from Jews, Islam from Muslims. It gives you the real sense of what another culture is and not a stereotypical sense. Diversity in education is also a wonderful way to get a well-rounded perspective of life," he reflects.

UConn Hillel Responds to Encampment

BY DANI BERGMAN, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT AT UCONN HILLEL

Dani Bergman

UConn Hillel had a record year with over 1,000 engaged students. This past academic year has been an incredibly challenging one for our Jewish Huskies, but together, we've fostered an environment where students can turn to Hillel both in the face of challenges *and* to celebrate Jewish life every day. Just last month, nearly 100 students joined us for our Passover Seder. UConn Hillel is a warm, inviting, and inclusive community for Jewish Huskies, and we're here to care for our students no matter what.

Jewish college students recognized this was a pivotal year where they could either hide their Jewish identity or lean into it with pride, and overwhelmingly, Jewish students chose to embrace their Jewish and Zionist values.

In April, Jewish Huskies enjoyed a four-day extravaganza celebrating Israeli culture. Hundreds of Jewish and non-Jewish students joined us for food, fun, and learning at Hillel and across campus. While there were disruptions at one of the earlier on-campus activities, we were inspired by the resilient spirit our students brought and felt throughout the week, highlighting the vibrant spirit of "Am Yisrael" within the UConn community.

Later that month, an encampment was set up on UConn's campus on April 25. Thanks to UConn President Dr. Radenka Maric, University of Connecticut policy was followed and on Tuesday, April 30, the encampment was shut down entirely with 24 students and one alumna arrested.

UConn Hillel is looking forward to welcoming students back in the fall semester and having another great year. We will continue to provide moments of fun and connection while providing mentorship and advocacy support to our Jewish Huskies.

UConn Hillel graduating seniors pose in front of Hillel House.

Chabad of Stamford Relaunches Tiny Treasures Classes

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

30, June 20, June 27, and July 11.

Led by Morah Leah Shemtov, the classes feature singing, creative movement, playtime and fun. Each child has the opportunity to braid their own challah with the help of their parent or caretaker. The featured classes will build on these activities while adding arts & crafts projects. The children will complete projects such as creating a rainbow challah cover, decorating a stained-glass candle and creating a mosaic challah tray and finger-painting a box to hold all of their beautiful shabbat creations.

The Tiny Treasures - Shabbat Experience classes are free and open to all mothers, caregivers and their 'tiny treasures'. (Sponsorships are available.) Please RSVP by email to admin@stamfordchabad.org or online at www.stamfordchabad.org

Chabad of Stamford's Tiny Treasures class prepares for Shabbat.

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Advertise with us & reach the Jewish community of Greater Stamford!
Call Diane Sloyer at **(203) 321-1373, ext. 105**
or email **dianesloyer@ujf.org**
THE NEW JEWISH VOICE

United Jewish Federation
2024 JEWISH COMMUNITY
PRIDE CELEBRATION
Friday, June 14 • 5:00 - 6:30pm
Stamford JCC
1035 Newfield Ave, Stamford, CT 06905
In honor of Pride Month, United Jewish Federation of Stamford, New Canaan, and Darien (UJF) will be hosting our first-ever Jewish Community Pride Celebration.
This is a free community event, family-friendly, and open to all. Dietary laws observed.
FREE, but advance registration is requested
(event sponsorship is available at $180)
www.UJF.org/Pride
Host Committee:
Sharon Feintuck Feller • Elise Feldman & Deepa Nayini • Liat Feller • Sharon Franklin
Rhoda & Avi Freedberg • Cantor Katie Kaplan • Ari & Leo Linder • Dinah Miller Marlowe
Dayna Patashnik • Jaime Ross • Nadav Shachman
To join the Host Committee, please contact Eric Ross at eric@ujf.org or 203.321.1373

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