



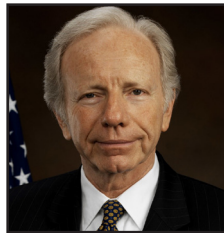
THE NEW JEWISH VOICE

A PUBLICATION OF UNITED JEWISH FEDERATION

In Memoriam: Senator Joseph Lieberman, z”l

BY MERYL G. GORDON

Joseph Isadore Lieberman, who served as a United States Senator from Connecticut from 1989 to 2013 and who as Al Gore’s running mate in 2000 was the first Jewish nominee on a major party’s presidential ticket, died on March 27. He was 82 years old.



Joseph I. Lieberman

Austria-Hungary. He received his bachelor’s degree in political science and economics from Yale College in 1964 and his law degree from Yale Law School in 1967, becoming the first in his family to graduate from college.

Lieberman began his political career in the Connecticut Senate, where he served for ten years beginning in 1970. He served as Connecticut Attorney

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Joe Lieberman was born in Stamford, Connecticut, to Henry and Marcia (née Manger) Lieberman, and attended Stamford High School. His grandparents were immigrants from Poland and

The Legal Battle Against Antisemitism Today

(Courtesy of UJF) United Jewish Federation of Stamford, New Canaan, and Darien’s (UJF’s) Cardozo Society will host a presentation entitled *The Legal Battle Against Antisemitism Today* on Wednesday evening, May 22 at Temple Sinai. Dinner and networking will occur from 6:30 to 7:30 pm, followed by the program. Presentations will be given by Attorney Daniel Schlessinger and Dr. Asaf Romirowsky. The Cardozo Society is chaired by Robert Hoff and Julie



Daniel Schlessinger

Daniels. The event is open to the entire community.

Daniel Schlessinger (brother of UJF President Michael Schlessinger) is a business litigator and partner at the Chicago-based law firm of Jaszczuk P.C. He is the current Chairman of the Board of

Governors of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, having previously served as President and Chair of its American Friends group. Schlessinger and his co-counsel

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UJF Women’s Philanthropy Hosts Annual Spring Dinner

BY NANCY SCHULMAN

United Jewish Federation’s (UJF) Women’s Philanthropy invites all community women to this year’s annual Spring Dinner being held at the Stamford Museum and Nature Center on Wednesday, May 15 at 6:30 pm. The event will feature guest speaker Corie Adjmi.

Adjmi is the best-selling, award-winning author of the novel *The Marriage Box* and the short story collection *Life and Other Shortcomings*. She has won a number of

International Book Awards, American Fiction Awards, Best Book Awards and an IBPA Benjamin Franklin award. The Jewish Chronicle included *The Marriage Box* on a list of Best Jewish Books and Adjmi’s prize-winning essays and short stories have appeared in dozens of journals and magazines, including HuffPost, Newsweek, North American Review, Indiana Review, Medium, Motherwell and Kveller.

Attendees will be welcomed by a Host Committee of mothers and their daughters/daughters-in-law, with the

theme of *L’dor v’dor*, From Generation to Generation. Host Committee members are Arielle Poser Bedik and Caryl Ferber Poser, Natalie Behrend and Stephne Behrend, Robin Fischel and Ellen Weber, Joanna Frank and Lynn Lowin, Rachel Sackman and Gayle Rothman, and Rachel Lipinsky Waldstreicher and Sandi Waldstreicher.

“It’s wonderful to have something enjoyable to look

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Young Israel Thanks First Responders

(Courtesy of Young Israel of Stamford) Young Israel of Stamford spread warmth and gratitude when they visited Stamford police officers, firefighters, and EMS workers. Bringing coffee, muffins, and heartfelt thank-you cards, members of the synagogue of all ages extended their appreciation to the first responders. At the police station, the kids were given Junior Officer badges, while at the fire station, they eagerly explored a fire truck. At the EMS station, participants gained insights into the profession of emergency medical services. Touched by the gesture, the first responders expressed their gratitude, and the Young Israel of Stamford families felt fulfilled by their act of kindness, embodying the spirit of *hakarot hatov* (appreciation of the good). (PHOTO CREDIT: TOBY RING)



HONOR, COMMEMORATE, & CELEBRATE



Sunday
May 5
4:00 pm

**Yom HaShoah: Community
Holocaust Commemoration
at Temple Sinai**

Sponsored by UJF and Stamford Board of Rabbis

Monday
May 13
7:00 pm

**Yom HaZikaron &
Yom Ha'Atzmaut Transition
at Congregation Agudath Sholom**

Sponsored by UJF and Stamford Board of Rabbis

Tuesday
May 14
5:00 pm

**Celebrate Israel at 76:
Now and Forever
at Temple Beth El**

Sponsored by UJF, Bi-Cultural Hebrew Academy, Temple Beth El, Temple Sinai, Congregation Agudath Sholom, Hadassah, Friends of the IDF, the Israel Cancer Research Fund, Stamford JCC, and Young Israel

Sunday
June 2
7:00 pm

**Yom Yerushalyim
Film: Ben (son of) Kfar Etzion
by Nissan Yaron
at Young Israel of Stamford**



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Federation**
of Stamford • New Canaan • Darien
Serving Greater Fairfield County

From UJF's Chief Executive Officer Navigating Life's Blur

BY DIANE SLOYER

Since October 7th, my life has felt like a whirlwind of emotions—devastation, constant worry, heartache, and a profound sense of helplessness. And the list of emotions goes on. Amidst this tumult, however, there exists a delicate balance, where moments of joy intertwine with deep care and concern for Israel, its people, and our homeland as well as the Jewish diaspora, including right here in America.

My days seem to blur together, each one bringing its own set of challenges and anxieties. The news is filled with reports of antisemitic acts and hate crimes, adding to the weight on my heart. It's a heavy burden to carry, this worry for the safety and well-being of the Jewish people and the Jewish homeland.

I cry a lot and bet you do too. I recently learned we shed three types of tears: reflex tears that cleanse foreign matter from the eye; basal tears that coat the eye and supply nutrients; and emotional tears, which flush stress hormones and other toxins out of our system. Emotional tears — the only salty ones, by the way — also release oxytocin and endorphins.

How do you sleep at night? I imagine it is as hard for you as it is for me. I am afraid to read the news and afraid not to read the news, even though it is never good.

In times like these, it's important to find ways to cope with the overwhelming



Diane Sloyer, UJF CEO

emotions that threaten to consume us. Whether it's through connecting with others who share our concerns, engaging in acts of solidarity, or simply taking time for self-care and reflection, we must actively seek out sources of hope and resilience.

Solidarity has been a comforting force for me in recent months. With Jews being only 2 percent of the population, lack of unity is our worst enemy. According to Golda Meir in her autobiography *My Life*, "To me, being Jewish means and has always meant being proud to be part of a people that has maintained its distinct identity for more than 2,000 years, with all the pain and torment that has been inflicted upon it.

As I continue to navigate the blur of life, I hold onto hope and cling to the moments of joy that sustain us. Let us continue to be proud Jews, caring deeply for Israel and its people, even in the face of adversity. And let us never forget that, even in our darkest moments, love and solidarity will always prevail.

Oh, and I do drink a lot of coffee. Please share your thoughts with me. Reach out to dianesloyer@ujf.org if you would like to grab a cup!

Yom HaShoah Commemoration

(Courtesy of UJF) United Jewish Federation of Stamford, New Canaan, and Darien (UJF), the Stamford Board of Rabbis, and The Jewish Historical Society of Fairfield County invite the community to commemorate Yom HaShoah on Sunday, May 5 at 4:00 pm at Temple Sinai in Stamford.

Yom HaShoah is observed on the 27th of Nissan as Israel's day of commemoration for the approximately six million Jews murdered in the Holocaust by Nazi Germany and its collaborators. The Stamford Jewish community has traditionally come together to recognize this day.

This year's Yom HaShoah commemoration will feature Dr. Joanne Intrator, speaking about her book, *Summons to Berlin: Nazi Theft and a Daughter's Quest for Justice*. The book describes the process of restitution but also explains how people and their organizations behave and what motivates them to act in



Dr. Joanne Intrator

ways that many would describe as sociopathic. Dr. Intrator is a psychiatrist whose extensive work on psychopathy gave her unique insights during this quest for justice. Dr. Intrator comes to Stamford through the Jewish Book Council, of which UJF is a member.

This year, Toby Schaffer, long-time Stamford resident and daughter of survivors, will chair the event and speak about her family's experience in Hungary during the war. "It is truly an honor to chair this event and give voice to my parents' stories. Like so many other children of survivors, my parents' experiences in the war affected our family life in the United States in many ways," Toby shared.

This free event is open to the public but registration is required www.ujf.org/yomhashoah2024. For more information contact JCRC Director, Sharon Lewis at slewis@ujf.org.

The Jewish Community Commemorates and Celebrates

(Courtesy of UJF) For many years, the Jewish community in Stamford, New Canaan, and Darien has gathered to commemorate Yom HaZikaron (Israeli Memorial Day) and Yom HaAtzmaut (Israeli Independence Day). The two days are always observed in succession to reinforce that the existence of the Jewish state has come through sacrifice.

Beginning on Monday, May 13, in the evening, the community will gather at Congregation Agudath Sholom, 301 Strawberry Hill Avenue, Stamford to remember the more than 25,000 who have given their lives for Israel since 1948, including those soldiers and civilians who have died since October 7. The ceremony will include personal stories, prayers, songs, and the lighting of memorial candles. At sundown, Yom HaZikaron changes to Yom HaAtzmaut, and the spirit in the room will become more celebratory with dancing, singing, live music, crafts and light refreshments.

The Yom HaAtzmaut celebration will continue with a festival at Temple Beth El on Tuesday, May 14. The festival is sponsored by UJF, the Stamford Board of Rabbis, Congregation Agudath Sholom, Temple

Beth El, Temple Sinai, Hadassah, Friends of the IDF, Bi-Cultural Hebrew Academy, Israel Cancer Research Fund, Stamford JCC, and Young Israel. The festival will be fun for people of all ages and will include a traditional Yom HaAtzmaut barbecue, bounce houses, crafts, music, an Israeli film discussion and more.

"This year, we are all too aware of the sacrifices made for Israel. That's why it's so important to show that we are working together to acknowledge the sorrow, recognize our strength, and celebrate our collective spirit as a community," said Diane Sloyer, UJF CEO.

"Since the atrocities of October 7, we have been very focused on Israel and the war against Hamas. Given that, it is even more important to celebrate Israel's 76th birthday and remember the amazing state that we have. I encourage everyone to join us this year," Sloyer continued.

Notably, this year's English date of Israeli Independence Day, May 14, is the same as it was in 1948.

To register for this event please visit www.ujf.org/Israel76. For more information and to get involved, please contact Sharon Lewis, slewis@ujf.org or Yoav Yaron, yoav@ujf.org.

In Memoriam: Senator Joseph Lieberman, z"l

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General from 1983 until his election to the United States Senate.

Senator Lieberman became known as a role model for Orthodox Jewish observance in politics, keeping kosher and praying daily in addition to not working on Shabbat. He authored *The Gift of Rest: Rediscovering the Beauty of the Sabbath* in 2011, in which he wrote that on Friday nights he walked the four miles from the Capitol building to his home after a late vote so as not to drive on Shabbat.

At the Senator's funeral at Congregation Agudath Sholom (CAS) in Stamford on March 29, he was eulogized by Governor Ned Lamont, Senator Richard Blumenthal, Senator Chris Murphy, former Senator Chris Dodd, former Vice President Al Gore, as well as all his children, and Rabbi Daniel Cohen, Senior Rabbi of CAS.

In his eulogy, Rabbi Cohen said, "One of the greatest accolades for a human being is that their inside is like their outside. Senator Joe walked with the world with dignity, grace, faith, courage, honesty, kindness, and love with his effervescent smile in all spheres of his life. Whether as a husband, father, grandfather, statesman, Senator, and friend to all and stranger to no one ... To his everlasting credit and our eternal benefit, he lived with a higher purpose and walked this

world with humility and grace."

Senator Lieberman's cousin, Bi-Cultural Day School's Head of School Rabbi Tzvi Bernstein, remarked, "Joe was loved by people all over the world, but nowhere as much as by the Stamford Jewish community. He was everyone's personal friend and he never tired of having a warm conversation with anyone who came over to say hello or to ask his opinion on any political or other matter. He had the most winsome personality of anyone I have ever known and he will be sorely missed by everyone who had the privilege to know him."

Renee Manger, also a Stamford Jewish community member and first cousin of the Senator, shared, "Joe and my father, his 'Uncle Ben,' z"l were very close in their lifetimes and that strong bond continued with our family after my father passed. I was privileged to be Joe's first cousin and in countless loving, meaningful and generous ways he profoundly touched my life, and the lives of my mom, his 'Aunt Faye,' z"l, and my siblings, Joyce, Marc and Steven, z"l. We will miss him deeply."

Senator Lieberman is survived by his wife, Hadassah, their daughter Hana Lowenstein, his son Matt Lieberman and daughter Rebecca Lieberman, his stepson, Rabbi Ethan Tucker, and his sisters, Ellen Lieberman and Rietta Miller.

An Evening of Song



Cantor Katie Kaplan



Cantor Micah Morgovsky



Musician Shimon Smith



Honorees Carl and Dana Weinberg

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

The concert is sponsored by the Mann Family in loving memory of Norma and Milton Mann, z"l.

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. They will sing songs from 1910-1960, including works of Harold Arlen, Irving Berlin, Gershwin, Rodgers and Hammerstein, and more. Band musicians will include Chris Coogan, Koby Hayon, Nadav Snir-Zelniker, Peter Slavov, and Nir Naaman.

Cantor Kaplan stated, "I'm excited to offer this program of classic and familiar songs from 'The Jewish American Songbook' that are sure to have everyone beaming from ear to ear. We will be joined by a five-piece jazz band to capture the essence of the music and help us bring these songs to life."

Cantor Micah Morgovsky has been Temple Sinai's cantor since 2008. At Temple Sinai, Cantor Micah encourages everyone to find their own sacred voice and regularly collaborates with local musicians to bring new and innovative worship experiences to the community. She enjoys playing flute and guitar and is a certified Zentangle teacher. Her husband, Benjamin Spratt, is Senior Rabbi at Congregation Rodeph Sholom in Manhattan.

Shimon Smith is director of music and family education at Romemu in New York City. Born in South Korea and raised in Hoboken until the age of five, he moved to Israel and became one of the country's

leading songleaders/cantorial soloists. He moved to NYC a year ago to become part of the Romemu family. Shimon writes original Jewish music and was featured in Transcontinental music publications and PJ Library. He is also the host of "Best in Israeli Rock" on Jewish Rock Radio.

The concert also honors Dana and Carl Weinberg, who have been leaders in the Beth El and Stamford communities for over two decades. Carl has served on TBE's Board of Trustees since 2011 and was president of TBE from 2017 to 2020. After retiring as a Principal at PricewaterhouseCoopers, his community activities have included United Jewish Federation's Allocations Committee, consulting for the Jewish Historical Society of Fairfield County, serving as a career coach for Future Five, and nine years on the City of Stamford's Personnel Commission. Carl currently serves on the Stamford Board of Representatives for District 20.

Dana has been an active volunteer at TBE since she and Carl joined the synagogue in 2000. For the past nine years, she has organized and led TBE's Temple Rock Auction. Dana also volunteers extensively at the Bartlett Arboretum & Gardens, where she leads the Sensory Garden and serves on the Education Committee.

There will be an online tribute journal to honor the Weinbergs.

General Admission tickets are \$36 in advance (\$45 at the door). A dessert reception will follow the concert. For tickets and to place a journal ad go to www.tinyurl.com/tbecc24

For more information, contact the TBE office at 203-322-6901, x300, or email office@tbe.org.

Chapter Two Gets Cooking

(Courtesy of UJF) Emissary) Yoav Yaron at United Jewish Federation of Stamford, New Canaan, and Darien (UJF) is pleased to continue engaging the Jewish community through interesting and unique Affinity Group programs this spring.

Chapter Two is UJF's affinity group for women in Fairfield County who are "empty nesters" and looking to create a network through shared interests and an appreciation for community. On Monday, June 10 at 11:00 am, United Jewish Federation's Chapter Two will host a "Hands-On Israeli Cooking Class" with Community *Shaliach* (Israeli

Temple Beth El.

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

Additional details and registration can be found at www.ujf.org/cooking.

To get involved, please contact UJF Deputy Director, Eric Ross at Eric@UJF.org.

An Evening with Bret Stephens

(Courtesy of CAS) Congregation Agudath Sholom invites the community to the Royce and Dr. Alfred Wolfsohn Memorial Lecture featuring a conversation with Bret Stephens on "Israel and Antisemitism," on Thursday, May 23, at 7:30 pm at the synagogue. The evening is free and open to the entire community.



Bret Stephens

Bret Stephens is an American conservative journalist, editor, and columnist. He has been an opinion columnist for The New York Times and a senior contributor

to NBC News since 2017. Since 2021, he has been the inaugural editor-in-chief of SAPIR: A Journal of Jewish Conversations.

Please RSVP at www.cas-stamford.org.

Summer at Gan Yeladim

(Courtesy of Chabad of Stamford) Registration for the 2024 Gan Summer Camp at Gan Yeladim of Stamford is now open! Designed for children aged 6 weeks to 5 years, Gan Yeladim's summer camp promises an exciting journey from June 18 to August 9.

Campers will delve into various activities including art, gardening, interactive music, literacy, storytelling, dramatic

play, and sports. For the older ones (ages 3 and a half to 5), swimming is also part of the fun. From water and rain play to imaginative adventures, *davening* (praying), Shabbat parties, art, science, and culinary experiences, the diverse program ensures every child thrives.

For more information and to sign up, contact wendy@stamfordchabad.org or call 203-324-2223.

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Summer Fun at the Stamford JCC

(Courtesy of JCC) The Stamford Jewish Community Center offers several programs for summer fun at the JCC.

Day Camps@The J is a traditional full day camp including swimming, sports, arts, music, adventure activities, and theme days, from June 24 through August 16, with an additional "post week" of August 19 to 23. Activities are geared to different age groups. The K'tanim program serves ages 20 months through 3 years. Chaverim is for 3 to 4 year-olds, Bonim for kindergarten through 2nd grade, Tzofim for 3rd through 5th grade, and Na'arim for 6th through 8th grade.

For more information, call 203-487-0991 or email daycamps@stamfordjcc.org.

At **Stamford J Basketball Summer Camps**, the focus of the clinics is on player skill and "basketball I.Q." development, achieved through high level coaching, individual player attention, and repetition. Players will work on ball handling,

shooting, footwork, offensive skills and decision making, and more. The Stamford J Basketball coaching staff includes local high school and AAU coaches and former college and professional players. Camp dates are June 24 through August 16, for grades 3 through 8. Morning programs are available.

For more information, call 203-487-0971 or email mconcepcion@stamfordjcc.org.

Performing Arts at The J Summer Programs offers children the opportunity to learn multiple styles of dance in the Summer Dance Theater (grades K-8) and Once Upon a Stage (ages 3-5) or discover what it takes to put on a musical with the Midsummer Players program (grades 3-8). Programs run from July 1 through August 16. Full and half-day options are available.

For more information, call 203-487-0937 or email performingarts@stamfordjcc.org

A Morning with Einat Wilf

(Courtesy of UJF) On April 15, United Jewish Federation and UJA-JCC Greenwich were fortunate to host Dr. Einat Wilf at the Bruce Museum in Greenwich to a sellout crowd of over 150.

Dr. Wilf is a leading thinker on Israel, Zionism, foreign policy and education. She was a member of the Israeli Parliament from 2010 to 2013, where she served as Chair of the Education Committee and Member of the influential Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee.

Born and raised in Israel, she served as an Intelligence Officer in the Israel Defense Forces, Foreign Policy Advisor to Vice Prime Minister Shimon Peres and a strategic consultant with McKinsey & Company.

Dr. Wilf holds a BA from Harvard, an MBA from INSEAD in France, and a PhD in Political Science from the University of Cambridge. She was the Goldman Visiting Professor at Georgetown University.



Program facilitator Evan Bernstein, UJF CEO Diane Sloyer, UJA-JCC Greenwich CEO Pam Ehrenkrantz, and speaker Dr. Einat Wilf

She is the author of seven books that explore key issues in Israeli society. "We Should All Be Zionists," published in 2022, brings together her essays from the past four years on Israel, Zionism and the path to peace; the co-authored "The War of Return: How Western Indulgence of the Palestinian Dream Has Obstructed the Path to Peace," was published in 2020.

According to Dr. Wilf, the core of the Israel-Palestinian conflict is not primarily territorial but revolves around the status of Palestinians as refugees. She claims that without addressing this matter, a resolution to the conflict remains elusive. Dr. Wilf has consistently emphasized the imperative of taking action in the UN to dissolve UNRWA, contending that it perpetuates the Palestinian refugee problem.

Evan Bernstein, a Stamford resident and Jewish Federation of North America's VP of Jewish Community Relations, facilitated the Q and A format. Dr. Wilf's remarks and insights were particularly timely based on the recent attack on Israel by Iran.

Walking The Walk!

(Courtesy of Friendship Circle)

Close to 50 teen volunteers gathered at the Friendship Circle Center in late March to learn fundraising tips for the organization's yearly fundraiser, "Friendship Day," which will take place on Sunday, May 19 beginning at 12:30 pm on the track at Westhill High School. "Friendship Day" includes a fundraising walk plus a family fun



Friendship Circle teen volunteers

day. There will be entertainment for kids, bumper balls, laser tag, shows, face painting, and more.

Roger Lob, past President of the Board of Friendship Circle and a long-time volunteer, spoke to the teens about fundraising techniques and approaches. Mark Lob, Roger's son and a long-time Friendship Circle participant, spoke about his first

volunteer friend and their friendship. In a beautiful progression of events, that same friend, Elie Niedober, is now the President of the Board of the Friendship Circle and was also in attendance at this training session.

Teens were given the opportunity to take ownership in a new way. Keren Roitman, a teen volunteer, spoke about her experiences running her "Friendship Day" fundraising page on the organization's website and

shared tips for success. Volunteers learned how to set up their own fundraising page. They also teamed up with other volunteers to work on their fundraising.

During the meeting, the teens had a chance to socialize and enjoy a pizza dinner. Chani Cunin, Volunteer Coordinator, said, "It was amazing to watch our volunteers add one more way to be passionate about supporting the organization that they love. It

was a wonderful way to empower them and see them rise to the challenge."

If you would like to contribute to one of the teen leader walk pages, please go to the website at www.friendshipdayct.com.

To learn more about Friendship Day and the Friendship Circle, please contact Director Malya Shmotkin at Malya@friendshipct.com

Women's Mega Challah Bake

(Courtesy of Chabad of Stamford) Chabad of Stamford will host its Mega Challah Bake on May 22 at 6:30 pm at the Italian Center. Women and girls aged ten and above from the entire community are invited to bake challah together and be inspired by a very special guest from Israel. The Mega Challah bakes began here in Stamford in 2009, uniting women and has grown globally within the Jewish

community. The bake will teach challah-making skills and celebrate Pesach Sheini, a Jewish holiday about second chances. The event emphasizes gratitude, unity, and Jewish pride, encouraging participation to strengthen community bonds.

To join or learn more, contact Chabad at 203-3CHABAD, email programs@chabadstamford.org, or visit www.StamfordChabad.org/challah.

Upcoming JBabyEvents at The JCC

(Courtesy of JCC) The Vogel Family Center for Early Learning at The Stamford JCC offers weekend events for families with young children. Check out the upcoming May events!

Back by popular demand, the "Character Breakfast" returns to The JCC. Join everyone on Sunday, May 6 for a fun breakfast for the whole family where you'll meet some of your favorite personalities. This event will be split into 2 sessions: 9:15 to 10:30 am with Abby Cadabby and Elmo and 11:15 am to 12:30 pm with Mickey and Minnie. This event is tailored for children birth to 6 years old accompanied by an adult.

The Character Breakfast is \$10 per person (1 year old & up. \$45 max per

family) for JCC members and \$20 per person for community.

Join the JCC for "Babies, Blocks, and Bagels" on Sunday, May 19 from 9:30 to 11:00 am. This event is designed for families with children from birth to 3 years old (siblings up to 6 years old warmly welcomed). Enjoy a heartwarming morning of laughter and togetherness!

"Babies, Blocks and Bagels" is free and included in JCC membership. The community can join for \$10 per family.

Registration is required for both events. To register visit www.stamfordjcc.org. For more information on either event, please contact Danielle Mittleman at 203.487.0976 or dmittleman@stamfordjcc.org.

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JCC Hosts Annual Golf and Tennis Outing

(Courtesy of JCC) More than 100 golfers and tennis players are expected to participate in the Jewish Community Center's 29th annual Golf and Tennis Outing on Monday, June 24 at Tamarack Country Club in Greenwich.

Dubbed "Fore the Kids," the outing is held each year in support of early childhood education for children with special needs, inclusion programming, summer experiences and youth sports. These funds allow The JCC to make programs accessible to all. The event

includes a buffet luncheon, shotgun start for golf and tennis at 12:45 pm, cocktail hour, and an awards dinner to end the day.

Craig L. Price is serving as event chair. Phil Dinan is once again serving as Golf Chair and Eric Roth is this year's Tennis Chair.

For reservations or information about sponsorship and underwriting opportunities, please contact Shannon Jacobs at 203-487-0965 or sjacobs@stamfordjcc.org.



Tennis participants at the 2023 Golf & Tennis Outing at Tamarack Country Club in Greenwich. (PHOTO COURTESY OF FRANCISCO COSTA)

Celebrate Lag B'Omer in Style

(Courtesy of Chabad of Stamford) Chabad of Stamford extends a warm invitation to the Stamford community for a fun and memorable Lag B'Omer family celebration. On Sunday, May 26, starting at 4:30 pm, join Chabad for their annual family BBQ and kids Trike-a-thon. This celebration promises fun-filled activities, lively music, engaging games, and a barbecue for everyone to enjoy and indulge in hot dogs, hamburgers, and roasted marshmallows around their *medurah* (bonfire).

Young children under the age of 5 are encouraged to bring their trikes and participate in the annual Trike-a-thon, which will take place in the back parking lot. Families and friends can sponsor each child at the Trike-a-thon, with all proceeds contributing to a good cause. Don't miss out on this opportunity to get together with family and friends in celebration of the holiday. For more details, please reach out to programs@stamfordchabad.org or visit www.stamfordchabad.org.

Mothers and Mimosas

(Courtesy of JCC) Mother's Day is fast approaching, and what better way to celebrate these special women than with a memorable and creative experience! On Sunday, May 12, from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm, the Stamford JCC is offering a morning filled with mimosas, bagels, and the opportunity to unleash the inner artist by painting a vibrant spring-themed composition.

This exclusive event, designed for adults 21 and over, offers an opportunity to indulge the creative spirit in a relaxed and social setting. Led by the talented and experienced instructor, Sarah King, this event promises to be a delightful blend of creativity and fun, perfect for mothers and friends alike.

The event is \$40 for JCC members and \$55 for the community. Registration is required. To register, visit www.stamfordjcc.org. For more information, please email performingarts@stamfordjcc.org.

JCC to Host Community Smokin' Showdown

(Courtesy of JCC) Fire up the grills and unleash your inner pitmaster! Join the first Stamford JCC "Smokin' Showdown," a BBQ competition with a delicious twist to kick off the grilling season. Smoke the competition with your best brisket creation, savor the

smokey sides, and celebrate your team spirit all Saturday night long. Event cooking will run Saturday, May 4 at 6:00 pm to Sunday, May 5 at 11:00 am. at the JCC, located at 1035 Newfield Avenue in Stamford. The BBQ Tasting Party will take place on

Sunday, May 5 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. Judges and The J community will decide who takes home the trophy at the BBQ Tasting Party on Sunday.

Admission to the Smokin' Showdown is \$200 per team for JCC members and \$300 per

team for the community. BBQ Tasting Party tickets are \$10 per person for JCC members and \$20 for the community.

For information, please contact Eli Schaffer at 203.487.0983 or eschaffer@stamfordjcc.org or visit www.stamfordjcc.org.

Something Sweet for UJF's Boomer Engagement Network

(Courtesy of UJF) United Jewish Federation of Stamford, New Canaan, and Darien (UJF) is excited to continue engaging the Jewish community through interesting and unique Affinity Group programs this spring.

At 7:30 pm on Monday, June 3, UJF will host a Boomer Engagement Network (B.E.N.) event featuring Uriel Lin, an Israeli *shaliach* (emissary) for the Jewish Agency currently serving in Maryland.



Uriel Lin

As Uriel's family has worked as honey farmers in Israel for three generations, she will share a presentation on the history of honey farming in Israel. The program will include honey-tasting directly from her family farm.

B.E.N. is UJF's affinity group for single "boomers" looking to create a greater sense of community. Additional details and registration can be found at www.ujf.org/honey.

UJF Women's Philanthropy Hosts Annual Spring Dinner

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

forward to with the upcoming Women's Philanthropy Spring Dinner," says Ellen Weber, a Host Committee member. "This event is always so lovely, and after this long and very difficult last six months, the event is sure to bring a smile to our faces. And to have my daughter Robin joining me as a committee member for the dinner is an added treat!"

Guests will enjoy a buffet dinner at 6:30 pm along with music, the "Tricky Tray" and Silent Auctions, and more. The program featuring Cori Adjmi will begin at 7:30 pm.

The Spring Dinner will be held in the Bendel Mansion at The Stamford Museum and Nature Center located at 39 Scofieldtown Road, Stamford. Tickets are



Corie Adjmi

\$95 through May 3, \$125 after May 3, \$75 NextGen and \$360 for Event Sponsor. Event Sponsors will receive an event ticket and a signed copy of Cori Adjmi's

book, *The Marriage Box*.

"Tricky Tray" raffle/auction tickets are available now at \$72 for 100 tickets, \$54 for 65 tickets and \$36 for 36 tickets. All ticket packages will be \$10 more at the event. Auction proceeds will support increased Jewish communal security needs.

Register online at www.ujf.org/spring24 or call Lara Agatstein at 203-321-1373.

A Musical Weekend at Temple Sinai

(Courtesy of Temple Sinai) Temple Sinai welcomes Noah Aronson to the community for a musical weekend. He'll join Sinai's clergy and volunteer musicians on the *bima* (platform) for a musical Shabbat service on Friday, May 3 at 6:00 pm. All are welcome to attend this joyous Shabbat service.



Cantor Noah Aronson student body and their families. It promises to be a memorable weekend filled with song and connection.

Aronson will lead programming throughout Shabbat, including a concert at the Temple Sinai Gala on Saturday evening (tickets required). Sunday morning at 9:00 am, he will offer an energetic musical program for the entire Religious School

Jewish singer/songwriter Noah Aronson has been creating and inspiring audiences with his heartfelt and soulful music for the last 20 years. His music is sung in communities and summer camps around the world, and he tours year-round giving concerts and leading music-driven prayer experiences. Aronson has released ten albums of original music including his debut solo album *Am I Awake* in 2011. His groundbreaking album entitled *The Left Side of the Page* revolutionized the way contemporary Jewish communities engage

with their liturgy. Through the years, Noah has served on the faculty of Hebrew Union College of Sacred Music, Hava Nashira, Shabbat Shira, Shirei Chagigah and the Wexner Heritage Foundation and has partnered with countless communities around the world to help people feel more connected in mind and body and spirit through music.

For more information, visit www.templestamford.org or call 203-322-1649.

Weekend Fun for Children at The JCC

(Courtesy of JCC) Looking for fun weekend plans for your child? Look no further than The Stamford JCC. The Selkowitz Center for Youth & Family at The JCC offers weekend programming and event options to help you and your child make the most of your days off.

Grab your light sabers and Jedi friends and journey to a galaxy far, far away! Join The JCC on Saturday, May 4 from 5:30 to 8:30 pm for "Kids Night Out: *Star Wars* Night" for grades K to 5. Enjoy games, snacks, and movie time. *Star Wars* themed clothing encouraged!

Are you a Nintendo lover? The JCC has the perfect night for you, complete with the Super Mario Bros movie and

Nintendo-themed board games and crafts. Join us on Saturday, May 11 from 5:30 to 9 pm for "JClub: Nintendo Night." This event is for children in grades 3 through 8.

Snacks and refreshments will be provided at each event; however dinner should be eaten prior to arrival. Members pricing is \$25 for the first child, \$15 per each additional child. Community participants are encouraged to participate for \$40 for the first child, \$20 per each additional child.

For questions and more information, contact Reyanne Neal at rneal@stamfordjcc.org. To register, visit www.stamfordjcc.org.

Murder Mystery Night at The JCC

(Courtesy of JCC) Sharpen your detective skills for an evening of intrigue, laughter, and suspense at The JCC's first Murder Mystery Night! This immersive experience takes place on Thursday, May 23 at 7:30 pm and is exclusively for ages 21 and above. This evening promises an unforgettable adventure into the world of crime-solving with participants from The

JCC's "Intro to Improv" class as suspects. Tickets for this event are \$15 for members and \$30 for the community. Register today for the chance to team up to solve this 'whodunnit'.

For more information, please contact Eli Schaffer at 203.487.0983 or eschaffer@stamfordjcc.org or visit www.stamfordjcc.org.

JUDA Hebrew School Open House

(Courtesy of Chabad of Stamford) Parents and children are invited by Chabad of Stamford to explore their JUDA Hebrew School of the Arts program at an upcoming open house on Tuesday, May 14 at 4:00 pm. Chabad extends a warm welcome to all students from Kindergarten to 7th grade to discover JUDA (Judaism through the Arts), an engaging and innovative Jewish educational after-school program that emphasizes Jewish learning using drama, outdoor adventures, art, crafts, cooking and other creative activities to bring Judaism to life.

For children in grades pre-K through 7, Chabad offers an educational program that includes Hebrew school, Judaic homework assistance, fun interactive lessons and engaging games with "fantastic" prizes. In addition, Chabad's "Chai Five Mitzvah Club" meets monthly

for students in grades 3 through 7, where kids explore creative ways to positively impact lives within the community through various *chesed* (kindness) projects.

Children from diverse backgrounds are encouraged to join and benefit from a meaningful and enjoyable Jewish education at JUDA. The program focuses on interactive learning experiences, hands-on discoveries, and small group settings, allowing children to grasp Jewish ideas and values through tangible and artistic methods.

Chabad's youth offerings extend to older students with its monthly "Bat Mitzvah and Beyond Club" for girls in 6-8 grade and its dynamic "Cteen" program for high schoolers. Interested parents can learn more or RSVP by contacting programs@stamfordchabad.org.

NETWORKING HAPPY HOUR

**THURS.
MAY
2**



**7:00 pm
-
8:30 pm**

Rothschild Society

An Affinity Group of United Jewish Federation

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.

<p style="font-weight: bold; color: #ff9900;">General Admission</p> <p style="font-size: small; color: white;">\$36 by April 29 \$45 after April 29 Sponsorship: \$100</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold; color: #ff9900;">Third Place</p> <p style="font-size: small; color: white;">at Half Full Brewery 575 Pacific St. Stamford, CT.</p>
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Host Committee (In Formation) : Jodi Hadge and Michael Moskowitz

Advance registration required

For more information contact Eric Ross at eric@ujf.org
www.ujf.org/happyhour

UPCOMING



NEXTGen

DATES YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS!



Saturday, May 11

Newish and Jewish (or come just because!): Our first Darien Happy Hour



Saturday, May 18

Annual Yom Ha'Atzmaut Party



Thursday, June 6

An Evening with Jewish Federations of North America's Chief Learning Officer, Rabbi Mike Uram: Demystifying the Myths Around Israel/Palestine



Friday, July 21

NextGen and PJ Library Team Up for a Scavenger Hunt and Ice Cream



Sunday, September 15

NextGen and JFS Apple Picking Morning



Saturday, December 7

Pre-Chanukah Party

Learn more and register at www.ujf.org/nextgen

Westhill High School Hosts UJF Dignity Grows

(Courtesy of UJF) Thank you to students at Westhill High School for teaming up with United Jewish Federation of Stamford, New Canaan and Darien's (UJF's) Dignity Grows chapter to make a big difference. The Feminist Club at Westhill spearheaded the packing of 100 Dignity Grows totes to be distributed to students. For the remainder of the school year, totes will be packed and distributed by the Westhill club's students, with the hope of expanding distribution to more schools in the district in the near future.

Through UJF's Dignity Grows chapter, feminine hygiene and personal care products are packed and delivered each month to girls and women in need across Fairfield County. For more information



Westhill students pack and distribute totes as part of UJF's Dignity Grows program.

about how you can host your own Dignity Grows pack, contact Taly Farber (taly@ujf.org) today!

JCC Early Learning Mitzvah Day Fun

(Courtesy of JCC) The children and staff of The Vogel Family Center for Early Learning at the Jewish Community Center participated in a "Mitzvah Day," spreading *shalom* to others through *mitzvah* projects.

Ninety Purim *shalach manot* packages and personalized cards were assembled and donated to Schoke Jewish Family Service for their clients.

Teams of staff and children prepared 15 lasagnas for the residents at Inspirica, a shelter for adults and children, and Kids In Crisis, an agency that provides 24/7 crisis prevention and intervention services for

babies, children, and teens.

Over 200 pairs of PJs were collected through the "JCares Pajama Drive" and were sorted and packaged by our children. They added notes wishing the recipients warm and cozy nights. The pajamas will be donated to Inspirica and Kids In Crisis.

Children enjoyed a challenging obstacle course, earning a dollar each to put in a tzedakah box. United Jewish Federation connected the JCC to a pre-school in Israel where the children will donate the money they "earned" to purchase a Bet Alpha Absorption Center Gymboare.



Making Purim Shalach Manot Packages for Schoke Jewish Family Service.



Packing pajamas for Inspirica and Kids in Crisis.



Navigating an Obstacle Course to raise money for a pre-school in Israel.

(ALL PHOTO COURTESY: HALEY BLAU)

Agudath Sholom Dinner Celebration

(Courtesy of Congregation Agudath Sholom) In an evening of gratitude and joy, over 225 people attended Congregation Agudath Sholom's annual dinner in March, celebrating "Am Yisrael Chai as a Way of Life" and offering heartfelt appreciation to the honorees for their dedication and service to the synagogue and community.



Guests of Honor Dinah Miller Marlowe and Seth Marlowe and family.



Chai Award recipient Judd Love and family.



Young Leadership Award recipients Sam and Amy Siroka and family.



Community Service Award recipients Chris Beldotti and Mike Beldotti and families.

(ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF AVIVA MALLER PHOTOGRAPHY)

Pickle for a Purpose with Friendship Circle

(Courtesy of Friendship Circle) On March 31, the Friendship Circle of Fairfield County held its first-ever Pickleball Fundraiser. About 35 people participated in the competition. The "Paddle Up Paddle Down Tournament" was held at the Intensity Club in Norwalk.

First place winners were Matt Healy and Gary Cortell from the Men's Division and Julie Rosenberg and Marla Lewis from the Women's Division. Gary said, "It was amazing to participate in such a worthy cause. It was fun to get out and play with new people, make new friends and support this

incredible organization."

Pickleball Pro Angela Spanakos facilitated the event. Funds from the event benefit the general Friendship Circle fund. All participants received goodie bags with Friendship Circle swag and treats. Shira Nerenberg, Special Events Coordinator, shared, "What a fun and exciting evening! It felt great to be having a wonderful time and supporting such a special organization."

For more information about the Friendship Circle, please contact Director Malya Shmotkin at malya@friendshipct.com



Matt Healy and Gary Cortell, Men's Division Winners.



Julie Rosenberg, Women's Division Winner. (Not pictured: Marla Lewis)

Schoke JFS Facilitates Statewide Kosher Passover Distribution

(Courtesy of Schoke JFS) The groundbreaking partnership between Elayne and James Schoke Jewish Family Service of Fairfield County (Schoke JFS) and New York-based Met Council on Jewish Poverty, which began over three years ago, has recently expanded its efforts to meet all kosher Passover needs across Connecticut. This partnership, which has now broadened its scope to include Jewish Family Services of Greater Hartford, is making a significant impact in addressing the challenges of providing kosher Passover food in the region.

Schoke JFS and Jewish Family Services of Greater Hartford, the sole kosher food pantries in Connecticut, have faced difficulties in maintaining an adequate supply of kosher Passover food. However, with the support of the Met Council and its generous allocation of charitable funding, this partnership has been able to provide vital assistance for Passover 2024.

To mark this significant milestone,

Channel 12 News, volunteers, and staff from all three organizations gathered on March 28, to welcome the Met Council delivery truck. The delivery included over 50 cases of frozen chicken, 40 cases of eggs, fresh produce, and more than 100 cases of shelf-stable kosher Passover items, including popular items like gefilte fish, matzah ball soup, and grape juice. Half of these supplies were distributed to Schoke JFS, while the other half went to Jewish Family Services of Greater Hartford.

This collaboration underscores the power of partnerships and community support in addressing critical needs, particularly during significant holidays like Passover. Schoke JFS is grateful to serve the community and ensure that everyone has access to essential food resources.

If you are interested in getting involved in Schoke JFS or need additional information, please contact Leah Schechter at LSchechter@ctjfs.org or 203-921-4161.



(L-R) Leah Schechter, Schoke JFS Chief Program Officer; Beverly Stein, Schoke JFS Board Member; Matt Greenberg, Schoke JFS President & CEO; Carmen Hughes, Stamford's Director of Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion; Ken Neuhaus, Schoke JFS Board Chair; Jen Bernstein, Schoke JFS Director of Food Programs; Neil Katz, Schoke JFS Board Member; and Ben Zaientz, Met Council Senior Manager of Agency Relations.

Feeding the Community

(Courtesy of Schoke JFS) Schoke Jewish Family Service, in collaboration with Stamford PAL (Police Activities League) Center and Building One Community, embarked on a meaningful initiative to address the nutritional needs of the immigrant community. Schoke JFS distributed a variety of essential food items and fresh produce through the Kosher Mobile Food Pantry.



PJ Library Joins in the Purim Festivities at TBE

(Courtesy of UJF) On Sunday morning, March 24, PJ Library joined in the fun and merriment at Temple Beth El's Purim festivities. All throughout the Purim *shpiel* and the magic show, there was a PJ Library "Book Nook" set up for anyone needing a break from the excitement for a little quality quiet time.



Father and son dinosaurs take a time out with PJ Library.



Firemen love reading about Sammy the Spider's first Purim too.

Chabad of Stamford's Family Hamantashen Bake

(Courtesy of Chabad of Stamford) The children at Gan Yeladim are "baking" the world a better place! One week before Purim, Gan hosted the annual "Family Hamantashen Bake" where children and their parents were invited to bake hamantashen ahead of the holiday. The children wore stylish orange hats and aprons, and got to work!

With rolling pins in hand, the little chefs rolled out their dough and cut them into circles. Then they had to make a big decision: which filling to fill their hamantashen with! Next, they put those

fine motor skills to work by pinching the corners into the shape of Haman's hat. Finally, the chefs picked their toppings and the hamantashen were popped into the oven.

While waiting for the tasty goodies to bake, the children heard the story of Purim from Morah Leah Shemtov. Finally, the hamantashen were ready to eat! The children were so proud of their creations, and what they didn't eat they took home to give out on Purim day with their *shalach manos* (Purim gift baskets).



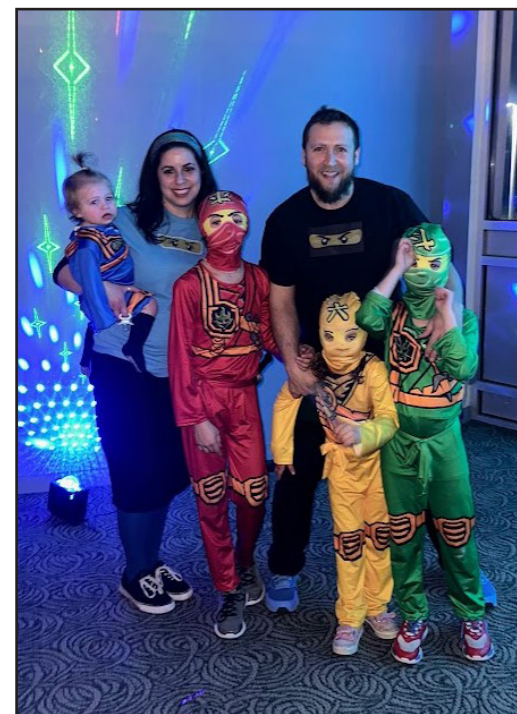
Getting ready for Purim at the annual family hamantashen bake.

Chabad of Stamford Brings Joy and Light

(Courtesy of Chabad of Stamford) The Purim celebrations at Chabad of Stamford this year were exceptionally joyous, exuding much *ruach* (spirit) at a time when the community needed it most. More than 700 community members attended the Purim disco-themed bash and carnival celebrations and heard the Megillah being read dozens of times at *shul* and at people's homes.

Chabad distributed more than 1,000 *shalach manos* Purim packages throughout the Stamford area. This undertaking was made possible by the dedication and hard work of numerous volunteers. As Purim fell on Saturday night this year, Chabad was thrilled to give out their Purim gifts to the community - 1,000 beautiful Havdalah sets.

For Rabbi Moshe, this was important because "as it says in the Megillah and as we say each Saturday night at Havdalah, 'and the Jews had light, joy, gladness and honor' so may it be for us! All Jews in Israel and around the world! At such a dark time, it was important to spread light and joy in the community and beyond."



The Warmflash family grooves into the Purim spirit at Chabad of Stamford's disco-themed Purim Bash.

Much of the fundraising for the Purim project and the *tzedakah* (charity) efforts this year were dedicated to those in need in Israel and to providing groups of soldiers there with Purim parties on their bases.

Bringing the Joy of Purim to Displaced Families

(Courtesy of UJF) This Purim, United Jewish Federation's NextGen sent suitcases of costumes to Israel. Displaced families left their homes with very little, and these costumes enabled children of all ages to dress up for Purim.

Federation's solidarity mission participants, who traveled to Israel in early February, met with families from Shlomi, in the North of Israel on the

Lebanese border, who are living in the Dan Boutique Hotel in Jerusalem. As tensions continue to escalate in the North, these families have no idea when they will return home and they continue to live in small, cramped hotel rooms. Thank you to everyone who donated costumes to UJF's NextGen and for providing these kids and families with a festive Purim!





Celebrating Purim with UJF

(Courtesy of UJF) United Jewish Federation of Stamford, New Canaan and Darien co-hosted a Purim party with Stamford Jewish Experience, Congregation Agudath Sholom, Moishe House Without Walls, Chabad of Stamford, Young Israel, Temple Beth El, and Chabad of Harbor Point at Third Place by Half Full Brewery for young adults. Over 60 participants gathered

from around Fairfield County for a festive evening of fun, enjoying the camaraderie of new and old friends. Many donned Purim costumes which added fun and joy to the celebration. There were “surprise visits” from two different Batmen, his side-kick Robin, the Pink Power Ranger, Chewbacca, a flamenco dancer, and even a 6-foot tall talking hotdog (adeptly played by UJF Community Shaliach Yoav Yaron.)



Remy Margareta, Jason Fischel, and UJF Board Member Robin Fischel



Daniela and Nachum Glaser



Roe and Avital Zoarets



UJF Deputy Director Eric Ross and UJF Shaliach Yoav Yaron

Seeing Double at BCHA During Purim Week

(Courtesy of Bi-Cultural Hebrew Academy) A fun-filled tradition, Bi-Cultural Hebrew Academy (BCHA) celebrated Purim Week in grand fashion across the entire school in mid-March. Along with students and faculty taking

part in an assembly focused on the attributes of the joyous holiday, students also took part in “Dress Like a Teacher/Staff Member Day” while enjoying some singing, dancing, and “twinning” along the way.



BCHA 4th grade teacher Beth Fritz poses for a photo with her “twins”. (ALL PHOTO CREDIT: PAUL SILVERFARB)



Rabbi Tzvi Bernstein, Head of School at BCHA, stands next to his “twin”, his grandson, 1st grader Ezra Hauptman.



During “Dress Like a Teacher/Staff Member Day” at BCHA, security officer Stu Joseph found his twin.

Anachnu Celebrates Purim

(Courtesy of Schoke JFS) Schoke Jewish Family Service organized another successful in-person event for the Anachnu program. A heartwarming Purim party was held at Temple Sinai

attended by 42 Holocaust survivors. They were delighted to watch a Purim musical play, participate in various Purim festivities, enjoy a sumptuous lunch, and receive handmade Purim party bags.



Holocaust survivors enjoying the Purim play.



Schoke JFS staff members, Cantor Micah Morgovsky and Rabbi TelRav participating in a musical play recounting the events described in Megillah Esther.

Bits & Pieces



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

MAZEL TOV TO

GROWING FAMILIES: Michelle Behrend & Cameron Krewson

on the birth of a daughter, Asa Behr Krewson, and to grandparents **Stephene & Kerrin Behrend**.

Barbara & Gary Bloom on the birth of a granddaughter, Fern Augustine Bloom.

Francesca & Daniel Goldstein on the birth of a daughter, and to grandparents **Danielle & Steven Thau**.

Nicky & Steve Klima on the birth of a son; and to grandparents **Lisa & Seth Linzer** and **Maryann & Pat Klima**.

Bari Mimoun & Stephen Youdeem on the birth of a son, Lev Asher Youdeem, and to grandparents **Nancy & Gadi Mimoun**.

Audrey & Mark Wagshul on the birth of a grandson.

MAZEL TOV ON MARRIAGES/ ENGAGEMENTS:

Adrienne & Michael Alexander on the engagement of their son, **Danny Alexander to Julia Taubes**, daughter of **Susan & Daniel Taubes**.

Claudine & Stuart Feurstein on the marriage of their son, **Saul Feit to Sabrina Schochet**, daughter of **Devorah & Ben Schochet**.

Mazi Scherban on the marriage of her daughter, **Lilly Scherban to Benjamin Simon**.

MAZEL TOV B'NAI MITZVAH:

Hailey Biren: daughter of **Natalie & Adam Biren**.

Grant Bradley: son of **Jessica & Jonathan Bradley**; and to grandparents **Sandy & Fred Golove** and **Carol & Jason Joseph**.

Sabrina FioRito: granddaughter of **Susan & Len Mark**.

Joshua Friedman: son of **Rachel & Keith Friedman**.

Alisa Karasik: daughter of **Julie Veetal & Jacob Karasik**.

Ilana Meth: daughter of **Jennifer & Harris Meth**.

Madelyn Meth: daughter of **Jennifer & Harris Meth**.

Stella Pachter: daughter of **Lauren & Daniel Pachter**.

Elizabeth Schieber: granddaughter of **Aviva & Paul Schieber**.

Olivia Simner: daughter of **Sarah & Daniel Simner**.

Noam Shrage: grandson of **Bruce Newman**.

WE MOURN THE LOSS OF:

Florence Aronson: mother of **Maxine Freilich**.

Helene Ehrlich: mother of **Sandi Waldstreicher and Randi Mandel**.

Bella Galynskaya: mother of **Margarita Kunin and Michail Galynski**.

Linda Gotel: mother of **Irene Okun**.

Cary Jettelson: brother of **Nancy Freedman**.

Tommy Kraus: father of **Daniel Kraus and Michael Kraus**.

Senator Joseph I. Lieberman: husband of **Hadassah Lieberman**; and father of **Matthew Lieberman, Rebecca Lieberman, Hana Lowenstein and Ethan Tucker**, and brother of **Ellen Lieberman and Rietta Miller**.

Cynthia Pinchas: sister of **David Singer**.

Regina Bistriz Resnick: mother of **Joyce Resnick**.

Joel Saban: grandfather of **Lindsay Shulman**; father of **Rhonda Goldenberg, Cheryl Siegmund, Susan Saban and Meredith Lustig**, and companion of **Judeah Lerner**.

Barry Silver: cousin of **Beth Peters**.

Jacqueline Silver: mother of **Matthew Silver**.

The Hebrew Corner

A Monthly Primer by Robert Abrams, UJF Education Committee Chair

DO WE READ OR ANNOUNCE?

I have often wondered how one word can mean two very different actions. And this column's example will show you exactly what I mean.

How do we say "to read" in Hebrew? We use the three

Hebrew consonants Kuf, Reish, and Alef, and the answer is liKRohA, pronounced leek row (as in rowing a boat).

Now comes the next question. How do we say "to call to" in Hebrew? Again we use the three Hebrew consonants Kuf, Reish, and Alef, and the answer is again liKRohA, pronounced leek row (as in rowing a boat).

I think the answer to the question above, and the way to reconcile the two meanings of these words that use the same three letter shoresh/root, can be found in an action that you and I take for granted.

We refer to the reading of the Torah as "K'RiAht HaTorah": quite literally, reading the Torah. So, why isn't it called "The Calling Out" or "Announcing the Torah" or "The Reading Out Loud of the Torah"? The answer is that the phrase "K'RiAht HaTorah" really means *all* of these things at the same time.

Our practice of reading the Torah in public begins after the destruction of the First Temple by the Babylonians in 586 B.C.E. At that time, most of the Jewish people were brought into Babylonia, leaving the minority of our ancestors



Robert Abrams

in our homeland, lonely, in mourning, and destitute. Less than a century later, the Persian Empire routed the Babylonians and took over their empire. The Persians ruled differently and allowed many of the Babylonian Empires' conquered peoples to return to their homelands. Our

ancestors, too, were allowed to return to our homeland of Israel.

Much of this detail is found both in the historical record as well as in the books of Ezra and Nehemiah in our Bible. When Ezra returned to Israel in an effort to help the Jewish population regain our collective history, Ezra instituted the reading of the Torah three times each week.

As you might imagine, there were not too many scrolls around for people to read, refer to, or study. And there certainly were no books. So, when people would read a decree, they would read it outloud. In essence, the reader was calling out the announcement to all present. Now think about applying that idea to Ezra's institution of reading the Torah three times each week. No one was sitting in their local synagogue or temple looking in their copy of the Bible at their seat. They were most assuredly listening to what was being *called out* by the Torah reader. Historically, then, reading and calling out were accomplished *simultaneously*. Hence the use of the three consonants Kuf, Reish, and Alef being used for reading and announcing.

The Legal Battle Against Antisemitism Today

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Aliza Lewin, CEO of the Louis Brandeis Center, have spent the past 20-plus years attempting to enforce one of the early legal provisions targeted at terrorists, related to the Sbarro Pizza bombing in Jerusalem in 2001. Representing Stanley and Joyce Boim in this case, whose son David was the first American killed by Hamas, the case is still pending in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. This case has become a source of information for numerous new lawsuits growing out of campus antisemitism today, as much of it is linked to the same nefarious proxy tax-exempt organizations Schlessinger has been targeting.

Dr. Romirowsky is the Executive Director of the Association for the Study of the Middle East and Africa (ASMEA), as well as the Executive Director of Scholars for Peace in the Middle East (SPME). He is also a senior nonresident research fellow at

the Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies (BESA). He has worked very closely with

Schlessinger on his case related to the Sbarro Pizza bombing for many years. Romirowsky is the co-author of *Religion, Politics, and the Origins of Palestine Refugee Relief* and a contributor to *The Case Against Academic Boycotts of Israel*. Recently, he co-edited "Word Crimes: Reclaiming the Language of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict," a special issue of the *Journal of Israel Studies*.

The Cardozo Society is UJF's affinity group for legal professionals in Fairfield County, providing education, leadership, and networking opportunities aimed at helping the local Jewish communities.

Please visit www.ujf.org/Cardozo for more information and to register. Early-bird registration is available through May 16 for \$36 per person, and \$45 per person after May 16. Participating attorneys will receive CLE credit at no additional charge.



Dr. Asaf Romirowsky

Tribute gifts to Federation

are meaningful ways to celebrate, honor and remember family and friends.



Visit: WWW.UJF.ORG/TRIBUTE

A Message from UJF's Community Shaliach Finding Common Ground

BY YOAV YARON

More and more, I find myself reflecting on Israeli culture and its relation to world Jewry since the October 7 massacre took place.

How can I bring the multicultural facts of life of the Israeli people to us here in Stamford, New Canaan and Darien? How do we find a way to strongly connect to so many things that are happening in Israel beyond the headlines of war?

When I attended University of Haifa, I decided to focus on American Jewish



Yoav Yaron

The result: the women share the same challenges and success stories. When I decided to become a *shlichut* (Israeli emissary), I knew my biggest challenge wouldn't be navigating through politics. Instead, the daunting task would be how to bring the diversity of

Israel to a new community and feature voices not generally heard or ignite conversations that usually have not been heard. Thanks to Gadeer Kamal Mareeh (Senior Envoy for the Jewish Agency for



The audience views Cinema Sabaya at Temple Beth El.



Israeli film critic Avner Shavit



Gadeer Kamal Mareeh, Senior Envoy for the Jewish Agency for Israel

Studies in an effort to better understand our brothers and sisters outside Israel. As the classes went on, I realized I knew very little and understood even less about Jewish society in the United States. I had to look past my own experiences.

On Sunday, March 31 at Temple Beth El, UJF hosted the screening of the 2021 Israeli film *Cinema Sabaya*, which tells the story of Israeli Arab and Jewish women from their perspectives and through their own lens after taking part in a video workshop. From director Orit Fouks Rotem, *Cinema Sabaya* engages the audience through personal experiences of conflict, anger, laughter, and most importantly, common ground.

Israel to Washington D.C), Israeli film critic, Dr. Avner Shavit, and everyone who attended, we were able to create that experience with *Cinema Sabaya*.

The film allowed us to consider what we have in common. In these times, with hostages still being held by Hamas, it's important to be able to see the broader picture of life in that way. It's critical to connect person-to-person. With the help of Federation and the healthy dialogue that came from screening *Cinema Sabaya*, I invite us all to find common ground by opening our eyes and minds, for only then will we prevail together. We are one.

Soldier and Survivor Share Their Stories

(Courtesy of BCHA) During a recent "Jewish Thought and Law" class at Bi-Cultural Hebrew Academy (BCHA), the entire Upper School student body, as well as 8th graders, heard from BCHA class of 2015 alumnus Nathan Haron and survivor Esther Marcus about some events of October 7. Nathan is an Israel Defense Force (IDF) reservist, and Esther is a surviving resident of Alumim, one of the kibbutzim that was attacked on October 7. Esther told of her experience being in the kibbutz on that terrifying day. She also spoke to the students and faculty in attendance about how residents

in the kibbutzim fought back against the terrorists and how her family stayed safe during the invasion. Nathan then spoke about his experience as a member of the Nachal Brigade, one of the IDF's main infantry units, and about leadership in times of crisis. He also told the students that the money they raised at school and sent to Israel was used to provide waterproof boots to members of his unit. This program illustrated a very strong connection between the students at BCHA and the IDF soldiers in Gaza and on the northern border.



IDF Reservist and BCHA graduate Nathan Haron, BCHA Head of School Rabbi Tzvi Bernstein and survivor Esther Marcus speak to students at BCHA. (PHOTO COURTESY OF PAUL SILVERFARB)

Sweetie Pies – Pi Day at Gan Yeladim

(Courtesy of Chabad of Stamford) Gan Yeladim marked Pi Day in the most delicious way! March 14 (or 3.14) was Gan Pi 4 Parents, a day when the children's special grown-ups were invited to the classrooms for learning, lunching and laughter. Parents were encouraged to bring a measuring device such as a ruler, tape measure, yardstick or measuring cups; anything that the

children could use. In each room, the children experimented with fractions, measurements and counting to develop early math skills.

After spending time with the children in the classroom, parents and caregivers were invited to enjoy a slice of pie and iced coffee with the other adults. At the end of the day, families also had the opportunity



Tiny mathematicians celebrating Pi Day with a sprinkle of fun and a dash of learning at Gan Yeladim.

to take home a Pi DIY Kit complete with ingredients for a homemade pizza pie as well as a chocolate pie for dessert. These special kits were put together by Gan parents who wanted to help the children bring the learning home. All proceeds from the DIY kits were donated to *tzedakah* (charity) in Israel, bringing meaning and love to this delicious day.

Timeless Jewish Practices Bring Blessings Home

(Courtesy of Chabad of Stamford) On March 7, women in Stamford gathered to discuss the *mikveh* (Jewish ritual bath), one of the most important mitzvot in Jewish life. The “Bringing Blessings Home” event sponsored by Chabad of Stamford was hosted by a local community member who opened her home to women hoping to learn more about this special mitzvah.

First, each guest had the opportunity to create their own bath bombs mixed with essential oils for “utter relaxation.” Then guests enjoyed a hot chocolate bar with toppings such as slivered chocolate, marshmallows and chocolate chips.

Finally, the attendees sat down with their hot chocolates to discuss the *Halachot* (laws) associated with the mikveh, along with common questions and misconceptions. Leah Shemtov of Chabad of Stamford led the conversation to help destigmatize this holy mitzvah.

The pleasant and comfortable atmosphere encouraged open conversation around a subject that is often thought to be taboo and provided enlightenment to some women who are new to this mitzvah and reaffirmed all who have made a commitment to this important practice.



Participants enjoy the hot chocolate bar, food, and friendship.

Shabbat Table with Empty Chairs

(Courtesy of Temple Beth El) Every Shabbat, Temple Beth El members enter the lobby of the synagogue to find a beautifully set Shabbat table with nine empty chairs and a baby’s highchair. The table, adorned with a linen tablecloth and

blue linen napkins at each place setting, has a poster honoring an Israeli hostage on the back of each chair. This idea for a symbolic empty Shabbat table began in Tel Aviv and has been replicated by Jewish communities around the world.



(PHOTO CREDIT: AVIVA MALLER PHOTOGRAPHY)

NEXTGen

YOM HA'ATZMAUT

ISRAEL IS TURNING 76 & WE'RE THROWING A PARTY!

PRESENTING
WE ♥ ISRAEL

ISRAELI BITES, DRINKS, BONFIRE, MUSIC, ALL DIPPED IN HUMMUS!

Sat, May 18 | 9pm until late | Private backyard in Stamford
(address received upon registration)

\$54 per person early bird; \$65 per person after May 10
\$180 sponsorship (includes two tickets)

Dress code: Blue & White, or Israeli Swag

All proceeds from this event will go towards purchasing a much-needed tractor to aid crop cultivation in the south of Israel, supporting local farmers and the wider communities.

RSVP – www.ujf.org/nextgenisrael

For any questions, please contact Melanie Vorm at melanie@ujf.org

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

Goodbye Yoav!

Please join Federation on Tuesday, June 25 at 5:00 pm at Temple Sinai to bid a fond farewell to Yoav Yaron, UJF's Shaliach (Israeli Emissary) and share our gratitude for his two years of service to our community.

This a free event but contributions to help support UJF's Shaliach program are welcome.

Advance registration is required.
Contact: UJF Deputy Director, Eric Ross at eric@ujf.org

www.ujf.org/yoav

Community Interfaith Seder Returns

(Courtesy of UJF) United Jewish Federation's Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) once again convened the community for what is hoped to be an annual Interfaith Seder on Thursday, April 11 at UConn Stamford.

After a prolonged COVID hiatus, UJF partnered with the Mayor's Multicultural Council, the Interfaith Council of Southwestern CT and UCONN Hillel for an evening of goodwill, fellowship and freedom with over 80 people in attendance.

The Passover Seder is one of the most observed rituals of the Jewish people throughout the world and the Haggadah specially prepared for this event addressed

universal themes of kindness, welcoming the stranger and gratitude. The event was organized by Sharon Lewis, UJF's JCRC director and the committee of Debby Goldberg, Lorraine Kveskin, and Julie Rose. The Seder was led by Rabbi Joshua Hammerman, Senior Rabbi of Temple Beth El in Stamford and Reverend Mark Lingle, Pastor at St. Francis Episcopal Church and President of the Interfaith Council of Southwestern CT.

Rabbi Hammerman has led all the Interfaith Seders held in this community in the past and it was fitting that this was Rabbi Hammerman's last communal event as he will be retiring in June.



Bringing Color to Mornings

(Courtesy of Chabad of Stamford) Moms at Gan Yeladim spent a morning splashing colors, making memories, and creating watercolor "masterpieces" together.



(l-r) Anna Wright, Ayelet Rand, Tess Brown Morris, Eve Weiner, Jessica Graber, Audrey Speter and Jessie Katz.

Welcoming New Faces in New Places

(Courtesy of UJF) During the month of March, United Jewish Federation of Stamford, New Canaan and Darien (UJF) staff had the opportunity to visit with three new transplants to the community. UJF NextGen Director Mel Vorm brought friendly smiles and a “Shalom Stamford” bag with her to see Remy Margareta. UJF Community Shaliach Yoav Yaron shared “Shalom Stamford” bags this month with Rachel and Ben Zehden and with Roe and Avital Zoarets, who recently moved from Israel to Stamford to be closer to

Avital’s sister Michal Greenberg. And UJF Deputy Director Eric Ross shared a warm “Mazel Tov” and a “Shalom Baby” bag with Yoel and Sara Kelman to celebrate the arrival of their new baby boy.

UJF delivers “Shalom Baby” bags to all new Jewish babies in town, and “Shalom Stamford” bags to all new Jewish arrivals to Stamford, New Canaan, and Darien. 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 visits with Roe & Avital Zoarets and her sister Michal Greenberg.



Yoel and “baby boy” Kelman thank UJF for their “Shalom Baby” bag.

An Introduction to Krav Maga

In April, UJF’s NextGen hosted both a women’s and men’s introduction to Krav Maga, an Israeli martial art. Developed for the Israel Defense Forces (IDF), Krav Maga is derived from a combination of techniques used in aikido, judo, karate, boxing, and wrestling. It is known for its focus on real-world situations and its extreme efficiency.



Learning from the PJ Library Pros

In April, UJF Deputy Director Eric Ross attended the PJ Library International Conference in Springfield, MA. The conference was filled with speakers, interactive sessions, and shared best practices so all PJ Library communities can take their programming to the next level. UJF’s PJ Library program delivers over 6,000 books to local families annually.



UJF Deputy Director, Eric Ross, and PJ Library Engagement Coordinator Lori Hoch Stiefel attend the conference.

AFFINITY GROUPS JUNE

UPCOMING EVENTS

**MON.
JUNE 3
7:30 PM**

BOOMER ENGAGEMENT NETWORK (B.E.N.)

SWEET AS HONEY SPRING SOCIAL
Featuring Uriel Lin, Israeli Shlichah & Third Generation Honey Farmer

AT: WORKPOINT IN STAMFORD
www.ujf.org/honey

<

**MON.
JUNE 10
11:00 AM**

CHAPTER TWO

HANDS-ON ISRAELI COOKING CLASS
Featuring Yoav Yaron
Community Shaliach

AT: TEMPLE BETH EL
www.ujf.org/cooking

For more information about UJF Affinity Groups, contact Deputy Director, Eric Ross (eric@ujf.org)

<

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

From all of us at
United Jewish Federation,
to all of you...

Happy Passover

✪

Michael Schlessinger, President
Diane Sloyer, Chief Executive Officer

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 Lavinsky & 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
Elizabeth & Scott Krowitz
Nina Kuch
Svetlana Kunin
Jackie & Marshall Kurland
Lorraine & David Kweskin
Helen & Ed Kweskin
Lieba & Steve Lander
Hannah & Ilan Lastoff
Dallice & Ian Lazarus
Shelley Leibowitz
Lois Stark & Gary Lessen
Marla & Jason Lewis
Sharon & Jeffrey Lewis
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
Norma & Milton Mann*
Susan & Len Mark
Dinah Miller Marlowe
Seth Marlowe
Chris Maroc
Rhonda Schaffer-Maron & Jeffrey Maron
Melanie Massell
Sandra Mehl*
Michal & Rabbi Levi Mendelow
Janice & Jake Meyer
Nancy Zinbarg Mimoun

Bennet Moskowitz
Marguerite & Kenneth Neuhaus
Becky & Omer Neumeier
Rose* & Bruce Newman
Marsha & Louis Panzer
Leah & Doni Perl
Robin Evans & Jeffrey Perry
Dr. Shay Pilnik
Michele & Scott Piskin
Caryl Ferber Poser & Peter Poser
Tanya Barton- Radin & David Radin
Enid Randall*
Bonita & Stephen Rappoport
Judith & Robert Raymond
Lisa & Harry Rich
Judy & Adam Rin
Jamie & Toby Ring
Betty & Dan* Roberts
Sonia & Brian Roitman
Linda & David Roitman
Romanowitz Family
Arlene & Carl Rosen
Julie & Remi Rosenberg
Natalie & Mark Rosovsky
Irma Ross
Sandra Ross
Sally & Jim Rothkopf
Ruth Rothseid
Terry Newman & David Rubin
Linda & Leonard Russ
Bonnie Russo
Edith Samers
Renee Samson*
Sharyn & Richard Sarner
Sharon L. & Charles H Saul
Leah Schechter
Hilde Scheraga*
Jayne & Bud Schiff
Judy Schneiderman
Nancy Schiffman
Chaya Segal
Carol Ruth & Herman Shepherd*
Monica Smyth & Michael Schlessinger
Elayne & James Schoke*
Daniel Schwartz
Chaya & Levi Segal
Betsey & Arthur Selkowitz
Myrna & George Sessa
Diane & Steve Shaby
Debbie Katz Shapiro
Leon Shapiro
Tara & Richard Shapiro
Jessica & Laurence Sheinman
Leah & Rabbi Moshe Shemtov
Marsha Kaiser Shendell
Rosalyn Mae Sherman
Stephanie & Bob Sherman
Malya Shmotkin
Ronnie Ness Sichel & Steven Sichel
Lisa & Grant Silver

Miriam Landsberg-Silverman & Eliezer*
Silverman
Paula Simon
Gloria & Randy Skigen
Marty Skrelunas
Diane & Elliot Sloyer
Michal Fox Smart
Brenda & Bruce* Smith
Ed Smith
Louise & Ami Soifer
Greta Solomon
Miriam & Steve Sosnick
Sandy & Moshe Speter
Ed Spilka
Cantor Micah Morgovsky & Rabbi Benjamin Spratt
Eileen & Fred Springer
Beverly & David Stein
Betsy & Michael Stone
Gladys & Greg Teitel
Julie & Rabbi Jay TelRav
The Estate of Judith Bragin*
The Estate of Sheila Carmine*
The Estate of Thomas Gilmartin*
The Estate of Ronald Gross*
Rebecca Tipermas
Hildi and David Todrin
Gail & Steven Trel
Pamela & Richard Vogel
Phyllis & Harvey Walzer
Annie & Jeremy Watman
Shternie & David Wayne
Ellen & Richard Weber
Linda Gornitsky & Harvey Weber
Dana & Carl Weinberg
Marian Weinberg
Leon Weisburgh
Janet Welkovich
Barbara & Ken White
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.

This Passover, ensure every generation is remembered forever.



Strengthening the future of the Jewish community starts here.

To learn more about making a Legacy Gift, contact Life and Legacy Coordinator, Lenore Fogel (lenore@ujf.org)

Celebrating Four Years of Life and Legacy

(Courtesy of UJF) On Thursday May 30, United Jewish Federation of Stamford, New Canaan and Darien (UJF) and the community of legacy donors will celebrate the successful completion of the four-year Life and Legacy program. UJF has successfully spearheaded this initiative and has been invited to apply for the LEGACY PLUS program to continue to concretize legacy giving in the Stamford, New Canaan, and Darien Jewish community.



A.J. Jacobs

Legacy donors will be treated to an evening at the Stamford Museum and Nature Center Farmhouse, 39 Scofieldtown Road, beginning with cocktails and dinner at 6:30 pm. Author A.J. Jacobs, a journalist, lecturer, and human guinea pig whose books include *Drop Dead Healthy*, *The Year of Living*

Biblically, and *The Puzzler*, will be the guest speaker. He is also a contributor to NPR, *The New York Times*, and *Esquire*, among other media outlets. Jacobs lives in New York City with his family.

Life and Legacy assists communities across North America, through partnerships with Jewish Federations and Foundations, to promote after-lifetime giving to build endowments that will provide financial stability to Jewish day schools, synagogues, social service organizations, and other Jewish entities. Through training, support and monetary incentives, this four-year partnership program motivates Jewish organizations to secure legacy gifts, steward donors, and integrate legacy giving into the philanthropic

culture of the Jewish community.

Since its launch, loyal community donors nationwide have committed 1.4 billion dollars in future gifts to participating organizations, securing a strong Jewish future for the next generation and beyond. This vision and initiative is the brainchild of Harold Grinspoon, and his Foundation continues to support this crucial and worthwhile initiative.

"Legacy planning and giving is not about wealth. It is understanding that a community existed for you, and you are helping it to survive and flourish for future generations. Gifts do not need to be large and there are so many easy ways to make a legacy gift part of a plan," shared Lenore Fogel, UJF's Director of Life and Legacy.

On May 6, Federation will receive an award for outstanding participation in and successful completion of the 4-year program.

The award will be presented at the annual Life and Legacy Conference in Springfield, MA. UJF's Immediate Past President David Gordon will accept the award on behalf of UJF, since it was during his term that Federation was accepted into this program.

The successes of the past four years include a total of 553 Legacy pledges at an estimated total of \$15,151,660 across the community. Ten organizations complete the Stamford, New Canaan and Darien cohort, with participants spanning all generations and affiliations. The future of these organizations is bright, with growing endowment funds to help supplement the annual budget.

Legacy donors can RSVP to the celebration at www.ujf.org/celebrate. Please contact Lenore Fogel at lenore@ujf.org for more information on how to become a part of the program.

CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES

May 3.....	7:36 pm
May 10.....	7:43 pm
May 17.....	7:50 pm
May 24.....	7:56 pm
May 31.....	8:02 pm

UPCOMING DEADLINES

June 2024 Edition Deadline: Monday, May 6, 2024

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

"I spent two years commuting from Stamford to NY for High School. I'm so glad I transferred to BCHA Upper School. Now I could get all my homework done, enjoy participating in sports, and get a good night's sleep! Best decision ever."



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Israel Approves World's First Cultivated Beef Product

Health Ministry approves manufacturing and marketing of Aleph Farms' Petit Steak, cultivated from cells of a Black Angus cow.

BY ABIGAIL KLEIN LEICHMAN/
ISRAEL21C.ORG

In a world first, Aleph Farms of Rehovot has received regulatory approval from Israel's Ministry of Health to introduce its unique Aleph Cuts cultivated beefsteaks in the Israeli market.

"This green light is the first ever for non-chicken cultivated meat anywhere in the world. It is also the first for cultivated meat of any kind in the Middle East, where solutions to food insecurity and climate change are woven into the very fabric of regional collaboration," the company announced.

Aleph Cuts' first commercial product, Petit Steak, is made of non-modified cells of a premium Black Angus cow named Lucy, as well as a plant protein matrix of soy and wheat.

Aside from starter cells from one of Lucy's fertilized eggs, no animal-derived components or antibiotics are used in the cultivation process or the final product.

"A controlled and traceable process, including an aseptic production



Aleph Cuts cultivated ribeye steak.
(PHOTO COURTESY OF ALEPH FARMS)

environment, increases transparency and greatly reduces any risk of contamination," the company explains.

One advantage of cultivated steak is environmental; conventional cattle farming has the highest environmental footprint of all animal agriculture and many regions are especially reliant on imports for beef.

Another advantage is that beef delivers the highest value of common animal proteins in global markets, shortening the timeline to price parity.

"The entire Aleph team has united in strength and determination to deliver no matter what during these difficult times in Israel," said Didier Toubia, CEO and Co-Founder of Aleph Farms.

"We are excited to carry this resilience forward in the form of innovation in agriculture and food security. Such innovation has been at the heart of Israel's vision from the country's very beginning, from early kibbutz practices to modern drip irrigation," he said.

"With its global leadership in cellular agriculture, Israel continues to push for greater regional integration and economic collaboration, which will be crucial for stabilizing the region. We believe that addressing joint challenges like food security is the best way to ensure the prosperity of the Middle East and other parts of the world that rely heavily on massive food imports, especially in Asia."

Alla Voldman, VP of Strategy & Policy at The Good Food Institute Israel, said this achievement "underscores Israel's unwavering support of its alternative protein sector, which stands out globally. Three out of the first eight cultivated meat companies worldwide are Israeli, and 15% of global investments in the field are allocated to Israeli cultivated meat companies. This ecosystem includes the world's largest cultivated meat consortium, led by Tnuva with an investment of around 60 million shekels from the Israel Innovation Authority."

Dr. Ziva Hamama, Food Risk Management Department Director at Israel's Ministry of Health added that this regulatory milestone, "the first of its kind worldwide, reflects a comprehensive assessment of crucial factors, from toxicology and allergens to nutritional composition, microbiological safety, and chemical safety throughout the entire production process – from the initial cell isolation to processing and packaging."

New York Tech Professionals Help Rebuild War-ravaged Kibbutz

Members of a self-funded delegation take time off from work to help Kibbutz Re'im residents rebuild following October 7 attacks.

BY YULIA KARRA/ISRAEL21C.ORG

Tech professionals from New York-based venture capital funds, startups and high tech companies recently spent a week in Israel, volunteering in the rehabilitation efforts at Kibbutz Re'im, which was ravaged by Hamas terrorists on October 7.

The Supernova music festival, where 364 civilians were killed and many more left wounded, took place at a parking lot in Re'im, just outside the kibbutz.

Among those who took part in the delegation were eight startup founders, product managers, R&D and business development managers from companies such as LinkedIn, Stripe, BlackRock and Meta-owned WhatsApp.

The delegation also included investors from TCG, Park Rangers Capital and DST Global.

The members of the delegation, mostly between the ages of 25 and 35, took time off from work to help the residents of the kibbutz with construction projects, including building structures from scratch.

The delegation was self-organized and partially supported by donors, including Eugene Fooksman, one of the first programmers at WhatsApp, who also

joined the trip.

It came about after members of Kibbutz Re'im traveled to New York for a fundraising trip months earlier. The investors and tech executives who met the survivors of the Hamas attacks were so moved by the meeting that they decided to help with the rehabilitation efforts from up close.

The delegation also visited other Israeli communities that were impacted by the October 7 attacks, meeting with survivors, soldiers and family members of victims and hostages; as well as fund managers and thought leaders such as Yuval Ariav, founder and managing partner at Symbol, Noam Bardin, former CEO of Waze, and Eyal Naveh from Brothers in Arms.

Ryan Daniels, founder of AI platform



Members of the New York delegation paint a structure in Kibbutz Re'im.
(PHOTO BY AVIV LAZAR)



The destruction caused by Hamas terrorists in Kibbutz Re'im on October 7, 2023, near the Israeli-Gaza border, in southern Israel, November 26, 2023. (PHOTO BY YOSSI ZAMIR/FLASH90)

A.Team and the man who initiated the delegation, called the visit "one of the most important things I've done in my life."

"Usually, Israelis are considered to be bold — with chutzpah — but here I felt the exact opposite. As people who came from the outside, we had a kind of naivete that managed to bring some positivity and hope to people who have been understandably traumatized since October 7," he said. "For the first time, some of the residents chose

to return to sleep in their homes, following months when they came to the kibbutz for only a few hours at a time."

Daniels added that as a result of the visit, some members of the delegation have expressed interest in immigrating to Israel, while others have started learning Hebrew.

"I really feel that the delegation received much more than we gave," he said. "We intend to maintain this relationship with our friends in Re'im until the full recovery of the kibbutz."

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UNITED JEWISH FEDERATION'S
WOMEN'S PHILANTHROPY

Annual Spring Dinner

DOR L'DOR
GENERATION TO GENERATION

Wednesday, May 15
2024

WITH GUEST SPEAKER

Corie Adjmi

Bendel Mansion

Stamford Museum and Nature Center,
39 Scofieldtown Road

6:30pm: **BUFFET DINNER, MUSIC, TRICKY TRAY,
SILENT AUCTION & MORE**

7:30pm: **PROGRAM**

\$95 through May 3rd • \$125 after May 3rd
\$75 NextGen • \$360 Event Sponsor*
*Includes 1 ticket and a signed book

Register online at www.ujf.org/spring24
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HOST COMMITTEE

Dor L'Dor

GENERATION TO GENERATION

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Robin Fischel & Ellen Weber
Joanna Frank & Lynn Lowin
Rachel Sackman & Gayle Rothman
Rachel Lipinsky Waldstreicher &
Sandi Waldstreicher

AUCTION COMMITTEE

INFORMATION

Gianna Bergman
Stella Cohen
Robin Fischel
Jennie Fishman
Lynn Lowin
Cathy Satz
Monica Smyth