



THE NEW JEWISH VOICE

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A PUBLICATION OF UNITED JEWISH FEDERATION OF
GREATER STAMFORD, NEW CANAAN AND DARIEN

Forgiveness for Failings in Friendships

Joseph and Julia Macy Memorial Lecture at CAS

Rabbi Saul J. Berman, an Orthodox teacher and thinker who has made contributions to the role of social ethics in synagogue life and to the understanding of the applicability of Jewish law to contemporary society, will be the featured speaker at a pre-Rosh Hashanah lecture at Congregation Agudath Sholom on Tuesday, September 12, at 7:30 pm. His topic, which will focus on the obligation of forgiving individuals before the High



Rabbi Saul Berman

Holidays, will be “Forgiveness for Failings in Friendships.” “We are delighted to be able to host one of the major figures in the Jewish community for an important program,” said Michael Feldstein, who is helping to coordinate the event. “We are also very proud to have the family of Joseph and Julia Macy, well-known philanthropists from our local area, dedicate this lecture in their memory.”

See “Friendships” on page 2

Israeli Company Produces Water from Air

BY ANDREW TOBIN

(JTA) – Large parts of Florida are suffering from severe drought, and hurricane season threatens to make things worse. Enter Water-Gen, an Israeli company whose technology captures humidity to extract drinking water from the air.

On June 19, the South Florida city of Miami Gardens announced it was launching a pilot program with the company to address its water problems – the first U.S. city to do so. “As representatives responsible

See “Water” on page 18

A Note from Federation’s Interim Director A New Year Filled with Opportunities

Dear Friends,
For those of you who don’t know me, my name is Diane Sloyer and I have recently begun serving as the interim executive director for United Jewish Federation of Greater Stamford, New Canaan and Darien. Twenty-three years ago, my family moved to Stamford (wow – time flies!) and I worked at UJF as the director of leadership development. More recently, I served as the executive director of the Federation in Rockland County for more than seven years. I’m proud and excited to be back home, and to work with all of you to strategically guide UJF and the local Jewish community.



Diane Sloyer

As a community, we make a difference in the lives of countless people. Federation works to repair the world and to keep Jewish life thriving, and we could not do it without support from people like you. Fourteen years ago I endowed my “Lion” gift* and I continue to be a proud donor today. I have always believed in the Federation

mission and strongly believe that if we work together, Federation will continue to serve as the community convener we so desperately need and deserve. So, why do I believe and why do I care?

◆ Need knows no borders
Your donation to Federation provides care for Jews in 70 countries. Through our partner agencies we help hundreds of thousands of destitute Jews in Europe, the former Soviet Union, and many other places in desperate need of the lifeline we provide.

Israel’s success, in so many areas of innovation and technology, is a source of great pride for all of us. Nonetheless, as is often the case, economic gains are not distributed equally. Through our partners, we offer support to a myriad of social programs that make a real difference, including support to provide job training for new immigrants and intervention programs for at-risk youth so they can lead productive lives.

See “Opportunities” on page 2

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Ribbon Cutting Opens 2017 Back to School Shop

With the support of more than 175 community volunteers, nearly 250 disadvantaged Stamford public school children “shopped” free of charge for new clothing and school supplies at the third annual Back to School Shop event held at Davenport Ridge Elementary School. A ribbon cutting ceremony, led by event co-founders Meryl Japha and Jane Levene, with area dignitaries and other supporters, kicked off the event. See article on page 5.

L-r, first row: Meryl Japha, co-founder, Back to School Shop; Jane Levene, co-founder, Back to School Shop; and Earl Kim, superintendent, Stamford public schools. Second row: Ricky Arbron, president, United Jewish Federation; Dr. Tamu Lucero, assistant superintendent of schools; Randall Skigen, deputy mayor; and Geoff Alswanger, president, Stamford Board of Education. Third row: Mike Pisseri, principal, Davenport Ridge Elementary School; Meira Rosenberg, Stamford author; Sonya Van Norden, Community Action Agency of Western Connecticut; and Andy George, Stamford Board of Education. (Photo by Beth Shepherd Peters)

UJF President's Message

Dear Friends:

By the time you receive this issue of *The New Jewish Voice*, summer will be coming to a close and the Jewish holidays will be upon us. As we enter this period of reflection, we at Federation are fortunate that Diane Sloyer has come on board as our interim executive director. Diane and her family have been cherished members of the community for more than 23 years, and we are grateful she has joined our team and hit the ground running. Her strong Federation background makes her well suited to help us navigate the strategic thinking and planning that is necessary at this time.



Ricky Arbron,
UJF president

partner organizations as well as members at large of the community, was created to better understand the needs of our Jewish community. It is important to note that the presidents come to at least one meeting each year, and may designate a representative on their behalf for the other meetings.

I recently returned from a conference where Terry Jones, the founder of Kayak.com, was a keynote speaker. He spoke about change and disruption, and emphasized that one cannot be afraid of change, but should welcome it.

Three years ago, Federation made significant changes to its allocation process and by-laws, incorporating some changes to address concerns of our donors and partner agencies. At that time, we also committed to revisit and review the changes after a three-year period to review what was working, and what perhaps was not. That review has begun and I plan to report back to you upon its conclusion. As we work toward the High Holidays, we will search for ways we can each improve next year. I hope that you will join our campaign and be part of the bigger solution.

Jewish Federations play an active role in supporting and protecting our

people, no matter what the political, economic or social environment. I am a proud donor and equally proud to be serving as your president. I thank you for this opportunity. I cannot do it alone! I need and value your input and assistance, so please join a committee, make a gift to our annual campaign and be part of our moving forward. Together we can really make a difference.

As the world around us struggles with complex and life-altering issues, I hope we all find the strength to make an impact. Wishing you and your families a peaceful, healthy and joy-filled New Year.

Shanah tovah,
Ricky Arbron

Diane has been on a "listening tour" of our community, and I have been speaking with many of you as well, to gain insight into your thoughts about Federation. Our goal is to share your thoughts with our board members, have further discussions and take appropriate actions, as required. Now in its third year, UJF's Advisory Council, composed of the presidents of all of our

Opportunities...

◆ We build global peoplehood and nurture Jewish life

In addition to caring for those in need, we nurture Jewish life today and strengthen it for the future. Because we believe that cost should not be a barrier to Jewish identity, we fund schools, camps, preschool programs, Israel trips like Birthright and MASA, international service experiences and Jewish leadership programs. Your gift helps support programs both locally and internationally that strengthen

our common tradition and build Jewish peoplehood.

◆ We mobilize in the face of emergencies

Federation is able to respond quickly and effectively when disaster strikes. We are here today, as we have been in the past, in case there is an emergency—in Israel, globally, or in our own backyard.

The month of Elul arrives with the traditional blasts of the *shofar* each morning, reminding us of the need for introspection as we approach the New

Continued from page 1

Year. I look forward to working with each of you and, together as a community, to implementing our shared values of *tzedakah* and *tikkun olam*. We are *better together*.

Wishing you and your family a peaceful, healthy and joy-filled New Year.

Shanah tovah!

Diane Sloyer
Interim Executive Director
dianesloyer@ujf.org

*"Lion" gift—a minimum gift of \$5,000 or more per year to the Annual Campaign.

CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES

August 18.....	7:30 pm
August 25.....	7:20 pm
Sept. 1.....	7:08 pm
Sept. 8.....	6:57 pm
Sept. 15.....	6:45 pm
Sept. 20.....	6:36 pm
Sept. 21...after	7:33 pm
Sept. 22.....	6:33 pm
Sept. 29.....	6:21 pm
Oct. 4.....	6:33 pm
Oct. 5.....after	7:10 pm
Oct. 6.....	6:09 pm

Friendships.....

Born in Hungary and a survivor of the Holocaust, Joseph Macy built a business in the United States, and supported many Jewish causes, including his synagogue, Ahavath Achim, in Fairfield, CT, and the Orthodox Union. "He had a passion for life, and possessed an intense love and devotion to his family and to the larger Jewish community," said Rabbi Daniel Cohen, spiritual leader of CAS. "Julia Macy, his partner in everything that her husband did, was an active and much loved member of the Fairfield Jewish community in her own right."

Their two daughters are Toby Schaffer, who lives in Stamford, CT, and Barbara Friedman, who lives in Englewood, NJ. They also have many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Rabbi Berman was ordained at Yeshiva University, from which he also received his B.A. and his M.H.L. He completed a degree in law at New York University and an M.A. in political science at the University of California at Berkeley.

Rabbi Berman was an early leader in the Soviet Jewry movement, and a participant in the Civil Rights movement. He was present at the demonstrations in Selma, AL, in 1965. From 1969-1971, Rabbi Berman was the spiritual leader of Young Israel of Brookline, MA, where he organized the Torah Community Project, a study-centered activist setting for students and young adults in the Boston area.

In 1971, Rabbi Berman was appointed chairman of the Department

Continued from page 1

of Judaic Studies at Stern College for Women of Yeshiva University. Under his leadership, it grew into the largest undergraduate Department of Jewish Studies in the United States. He currently teaches courses there.

From 1984-1990, Rabbi Berman was the senior rabbi of Lincoln Square Synagogue in Manhattan. He also serves as an adjunct professor at Columbia University School of Law, where he teaches a seminar in Jewish law. In 1997, Rabbi Berman became director of Edah, an organization devoted to the invigoration of modern Orthodox ideology and religious life.

Rabbi Berman is a contributor to the Encyclopedia Judaica and is the author of numerous articles, which have been published in journals such as Tradition, Judaism, Journal of Jewish Studies and others.

The lecture is free and open to the entire community. Refreshments will be served after the lecture.

Rosh Hashanah Greetings from

Judith Roll, Chef/Owner

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Rosh Hashanah Services:	Wednesday, Sept. 20	8:00 pm
	Thursday, Sept. 21	10:00 am
Yom Kippur Services:	Friday, Sept. 29 (Kol Nidre)	8:00 pm
	Saturday, Sept. 30	10:00 am
	Yizkor service	5:00 pm
	Martyrology	6:30 pm
	Closing service	7:00 pm
	Break Fast	7:30 pm

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COMMUNITY NEWS

A Message from the JCRC Director

BY LAUREN STEINBERG

Since its inception in April, the Jewish Community Relations Council, the public affairs arm of the United Jewish Federation of Greater Stamford, New Canaan and Darien, has been hard at work getting to know our neighbors. The JCRC is made up of volunteers from the area and is chaired by Peter Lilienthal, of Stamford. We have met with priests and ministers, and spent time at a mosque. We have discussed social justice work organizations that provide shelter, food, job placements and youth services. We have been in and out of government offices meeting our public officials. Throughout these meetings, the conversation has centered on the Jewish communi-



Lauren Steinberg

ty's interest in building community and relationships with our neighbors.

It's important to stand together with our peers. But as the sage Hillel stated in "Ethics of Our Fathers," "If I am not for myself, who am I? If I am only for myself, what am I?" As we embark on our mission of forging alliances and representing the community, we must first ask: Who are we, the Stamford, New Canaan and Darien Jewish communities? What do we stand for? And, what can we accomplish together?

In forming the JCRC, we in the Federation community have begun to answer those questions together. We are a community that prides ourselves on our acceptance and welcoming of others. We are

deeply Zionist and looking to support Israel, even as we express diverse views on political solutions. We seek to care for the strangers and less fortunate among us. We strive to ensure safety and security for ourselves and our children in a troubled world. We recognize the importance of remembering our people's history, learning from it and enabling others to learn from it. We work to ensure that antisemitism is unacceptable today and that no one is hurt by racism or bigotry. We are committed to supporting our communal institutions and aiding the State of Israel and Jews abroad.

Through programs for our agencies and for the public on Jewish communal security, Israel education and advocacy, interfaith partnerships, Holocaust remembrance and social justice, the JCRC and Federation have been working to act on these important causes. We are eager to work with you – the entire community – and to hear from you on how we can be more engaged and better involved. And we want to know how you want to be involved, as well. Please contact me any time with your ideas. I look forward to making an impact together.

Solving the Mystery

Tracking and Recovering Art Stolen by the Nazis

BY SUSAN SABREEN AND SHARYN SARNER

Have you ever thought about how you would get back your family's art if it had been stolen by the Nazis? The Jewish Historical Society of Fairfield County will answer that question at a presentation by two women, Marianne Rosenberg and Alice de Picciotto, who are actively involved in finding and recovering their families' looted property, and who say it's an extraordinarily difficult effort. To learn about the challenges that these two families have encountered, join the Jewish Historical Society on Sunday, September 24, at the Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Dr., Greenwich. Complimentary refreshments will be available at 10:30 am and the presentation will begin at 11 am. The program is free and open to the public. However, seating is limited, and for that reason reservations are recommended to guarantee a seat.

The speakers come to the story from two very different angles. One family owned an art business with detailed records about all the art that was stolen, while the other had a personal art collection, without such records– which meant that the heirs' first task in recovering any of their art was simply to find out and document what they had owned.

THE ROSENBERG FAMILY

Marianne Rosenberg is the granddaughter of the art dealer Paul Rosenberg. His gallery, at 21 rue la Boétie in Paris, flourished in the 1920s and 1930s, and became known as one of the most important sources of 19th and 20th-century French paintings, placing works in museums in both Europe and the United States. Paul exclusively represented numerous artists, including Georges Braque, Marie Laurencin, Fernand Léger, Henri Matisse and Pablo Picasso, See "Mystery" on page 4

Deadlines for articles

The deadlines for the next three issues of *The New Jewish Voice* are:

Monday, August 28 October
 Monday, September 25 November
 Monday, October 30 December/Chanukah

Send *New Jewish Voice* article submissions to Sandy Golove at sandy@ujf.org marked "Stamford Voice" in the subject line. Expect an acknowledgment; please re-send if you do not receive one.

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Caitlin R. Trow joined Bloomenthal & Trow, LLC as an associate in February 2017, bringing with her more than four years of litigation experience. Caitlin will concentrate her practice in the areas of family law, personal injury, civil litigation, and real estate. Caitlin received her B.A., magna cum laude, from Bucknell University and her J.D. from New York Law School.

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UConn Judaic Studies' Fall Offerings

BY REBECCA ISENSTEIN

The Center for Judaic and Middle Eastern Studies at UConn-Stamford is getting ready for its fall semester, beginning with its biannual Lunch and Learn Series. The series will commence on Thursday, September 28, at noon, with "The Politics of Jewish Emancipation 1780-1918" by Dr. David Sorkin, professor of modern Jewish history at Yale University.

On Thursday, October 26, Dr. Yehuda Mirsky, professor of near eastern and Judaic studies at Brandeis University, makes his first appearance in the series with "Rabbi A.I. Kook, Founder of the Chief Rabbinate: An Orthodox Revolutionary and His Lasting Impact." Mirsky's areas of expertise include Jewish thought, Israel and Zionism, study of religion and political thought. He has written on politics, theology and culture for a number of publications, including *The New Republic* and *The Economist*.

UConn-Stamford's Dr. Beth Ginsberg, professor of political science, will present the third lecture, "From Moses to Joseph (Lieberman): The History of Jewish Participation in the Political Process" on Thursday, November 2.

Closing the series on Thursday,

November 9, Rev. Dr. Blaine Edele, pastor of Union Memorial Church in Stamford, will present "The Parting of the Ways: How Judaism and Christianity Went Their Separate Ways."

Lectures in the series are sponsored by local community members, including Nina and Norman Lotstein and Maria Jacobson, and the Jacobson Endowment Fund.

In addition to its Lunch and Learn Series, the Center is preparing for its annual Louis J. Kuriansky conference, "The Legacy of Justice Louis D. Brandeis and Why He Matters Today." The keynote speaker will be Dr. Jeffrey Rosen of the George Washington University Law School and the National Constitution Center. The lecture will take place on Wednesday, October 18, at 7 pm.

To register for the 2017 Fall Lunch and Learn Series, the annual conference, or for more information about these or other programs of the Center for Judaic and Middle Eastern Studies, contact the Center at stamfordjudaicstudies@uconn.edu or 203-251-9525.

The Center for Judaic and Middle Eastern Studies at UConn is a recipient agency of the United Jewish Federation of Greater Stamford, New Canaan and Darien, and is also supported by donations from the community.

Jewish War Veterans Keep Members Informed

People may be unaware that the Department of Defense has decided to open up the military exchange on-line shopping benefit to all honorably discharged veterans. All members of the Fred Robbins Post #142, Jewish War Veterans, receive information just like this when they attend regular meetings.

In addition to keeping members up to date on current issues that affect veterans, each meeting is highlighted by guest speakers who cover a wide range of topics. Also, as part of its community outreach, the Post sponsors local Boy Scout Troop 15 and the annual Stamford

Citizen of the Year Award and Scholarship Program.

The Post meets monthly from September through June at the Stamford Jewish Community Center, 1035 Newfield Ave., Stamford. Meetings start at 9:30 am and will be held on September 10, October 1, November 5, December 3, January 7, February 4, March 4, April 8, May 6 and June 3. Members are welcome to come early to enjoy bagels and lox.

For more information, contact the Fred Robbins Post at stamfordjvw@gmail.com. The group can also be found on Facebook at Jewish War Veterans - Fred Robbins Post 142.



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Friendship Day and Walk Family Fun with Friendship Circle

BY FAYGIE LEVY

Back to school is right around the corner, which means the annual Friendship Day and Walk isn't far behind. On Sunday, October 1, at 12:30 pm, it will kick off at Westhill High School. Community members are encouraged to gather up their family and friends, lace up their sneakers and join this Fairfield County tradition.

The afternoon event, sponsored by Friendship Circle of Fairfield County, brings together people from throughout the Greater Stamford community to show their support for children and teens with special needs and their families. The walk also raises funds for Friendship Circle's year-round programming for people with special needs.

"One of the things I love most about Friendship Day is that it is something families and friends can do together. There is literally something for every member of the family regardless of their age," says Friendship Circle's Chanie Kamman. "Plus, when you participate in Friendship Day - whether it be through your donation or attendance - you are sending a message that individuals of all ages and abilities are an important part of our community."

There will be myriad events during the afternoon, including crafts, carnival booths and inflatable rides. There will also be music and free food. New for 2017 will be a visit by the Friendship Circle mascot. Nicknamed "The Circle," the mascot will be available for photo ops throughout the day.



Look out for this friendly mascot at Friendship Day 2017.

While Friendship Day and Walk is intended to be a fun, festive communal event, Friendship Circle Director Malya Shmotkin says it also serves a powerful purpose. "When hundreds of people come together to show their support for individuals with special needs, it shines a light for them and their families," Shmotkin says. "It reminds them that they are not alone, and that they have a whole community behind them that wants them to succeed."

To learn more about the event, to donate, or to register, visit www.FriendshipDayCT.com or e-mail Malya@FriendshipCT.com.

The Friendship Circle is a recipient agency of United Jewish Federation of Greater Stamford, New Canaan and Darien.

Mystery.....Continued from page 3

whom he represented for more than two decades. In June 1940, the family fled Paris and relocated to New York. More than 400 works located in Paris and in two other locations in the Southwest of France, as well as the Rosenberg gallery archives, were stolen by the Nazis. The family remains dedicated to the recovery of the Rosenberg looted art.


THE PETSCHKE FAMILY

Alice de Picciotto is a descendant of Czech Jewish industrialist and philanthropist Ignaz Petschek, who died in 1934. His family had large holdings of coal mines and coal companies throughout the former Austro-Hungarian empire, but they lived mainly in Aussig, Czechoslovakia, in the area known as the Sudetenland. In September 1938, when Britain's Prime

Minister Neville Chamberlain signed the Munich Agreement that gave the Sudetenland to Adolf Hitler, the family had to flee, leaving its possessions, both business and personal, behind. Those possessions, including artworks, were confiscated by the Nazis in the days and months following the family's flight. De Picciotto has recently begun her quest to identify, locate and recover the family's confiscated personal possessions.


For additional information, and to guarantee a seat because space is limited, call the Jewish Historical Society at 203-321-1373, ext. 150, or e-mail info@jhsfc-ct.org.

The Jewish Historical Society of Fairfield County is a recipient agency of United Jewish Federation of Greater Stamford, New Canaan and Darien.



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Disadvantaged Elementary Students Enjoy Shopping Spree

BY CHARLESANNA ECKER

Back to School Shop held its third annual event on July 30 at Davenport Ridge Elementary School in Stamford. Nearly 250 children from the Stamford public elementary schools were able to “shop” free of charge for brand new outfits, school supplies and books with the support of more than 175 volunteers from the community.

The day began with a ribbon cutting ceremony to open the 2017 Back to School Shop. Meryl Japha and Jane Levene, who founded and co-chair the event, led the ceremony with area dignitaries and other supporters. Japha welcomed the guests, expressing pride that Back to School Shop has been able to more than double the size of the program in the two short years since the inaugural event. Levene spoke of the importance of the event to the economically disadvantaged children in Stamford, saying, “It is our hope that this program will help to give them the enthusiasm and confidence they need to focus on learning.”

Ricky Arbron, UJF president, expressed pride in UJF’s role in helping Back to School Shop get off the ground, and Earl Kim, superintendent of the Stamford public schools, remarked that “the outpouring of support for this program is incredible!”

At the conclusion of the ribbon cutting ceremony, the Back to School Shop opened its doors to participants. The children checked in, met a “personal shopper” and began to make their way through the shop, stopping to select a winter coat, try on new school clothes, pick out a backpack, and, most exciting for many, choose their new



A shopper showed off his new sneakers. (Photo by Erma Benedetto)

pair of sneakers. “I’m gonna have cool shoes!” enthused a 6-year-old boy.

New this year, Stamford author Meira Rosenberg was on hand to sign copies of her recently published children’s book, “Indiana Bamboo.” “It was a joy to meet so many terrific young readers as well as several budding young authors,” said Rosenberg.

While the children were busy “shopping,” their parents and guardians visited the Japha Family Resource Center where nearly 20 local organizations, including the American Red Cross, Boys and Girls Club of Stamford, Schoke Jewish Family Service, and the city of Stamford’s Departments of Health and Social Services, provided information about access to community services.

After completing their shopping, the children were escorted back to their parents and guardians, and were able to show off their new clothing and school supplies.

Rabbi Jay Tel Rav of Temple Sinai, volunteering as a personal shopper for his third year, said, “Bringing smiles to the faces of these families reminds me of Rabbi Lawrence Kushner’s teaching that every one of us is, from time to time, a messenger of the Almighty in disguise with a mission in front of us. I am grateful to the organizers of the Back to School Shop for making it impossibly easy to fulfill these mitzvahs – they mean as much to us volunteers as to the students.”



A child watched Stamford author Meira Rosenberg autograph a copy of her book. (Photo by Beth Shepherd Peters. Names of children withheld on request.)



Two volunteers helped a shopper find the perfect coat at the third annual Back to School Shop event. (Photo by Elaine Osowski)

► JCC Open House and Family Fun Day

On Sunday, September 17, from 10 am- 2 pm, the community is invited to attend the Jewish Community Center’s Open House and Family Fun Day.

“It’s the perfect opportunity to get to know The J,” said Ilene Madwed, JCC managing director of membership services. “The community is invited to tour our extensive facilities and get the latest information on new offerings for the fall semester. Current members are invited to join in the family fun.” The open house will include a brunch, a variety of activities for children and adults, a bounce house, make-your-own sundaes and more.

There will be incentives for new members who join at the open house, including friends and family discounts. Current JCC members who refer new members will benefit from a rewards program. There is no charge for the event. For more information, contact Ilene Madwed at 203-487-094, or imadwed@stamfordjcc.org. The JCC is located on Newfield Avenue, at the intersection of Vine Road in Stamford.



A happy shopper at the third annual Back to School Shop event. (Photo by Elaine Osowski)



Rabbi Jay TelRav of Temple Sinai helped a shopper check his list. (Photo by Beth Shepherd Peters)

Daniel Benjamin
Alex Troyb
Beth Boyer of
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a happy & healthy New Year.
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BY SANDY GOLOVE

To submit information to Bits and Pieces, call 203-912-9945, or e-mail me at sandy@ujf.org.

MAZEL TOV TO GROWING FAMILIES

Juliann and Grant Allen on the birth of a daughter, Elizabeth May Allen; grandparents are **Meryl Allen**, and **Rae-ann and Scott Allen**.

Deb and Steve DeNardo on the birth of their grandchildren, Kaitlyn Bree Galin and Liev Jax DeNardo.

Heather and Alex Fraser on the birth of a daughter, Coraline Fraser; grandfather is **Dan Levy** and great-grandparents are **Maggie and Bernie Levy**.

Caroline and Benjamin Gruenbaum on the birth of a daughter; grandparents are **Bonnie and Jerry Gruenbaum**, and **Jane and Jerry Hughes**.

Liatte and David Lasher on the birth of a daughter, Abigail Rina Lasher.

Vivian and Irwin Miller on the birth of a great-granddaughter, Sloane Brooke.

Natania and Dmitry Ostrovsky on the birth of a son.

Cheryl and Jonathan Phair on the birth of a daughter, Eleanor Willow Phair.

Roxana and Chris Prieto on the birth of a son.

Arlene and Carl Rosen on the birth of their grandson, Tobias Oz Saunders.

Rebecca and Michael Rubin on the birth of a daughter; grandparents are **Sharon and Burt Rubin**.

Helena and Stormy Scott on the birth of a son, Oliver Charles Scott; grandparents are **Bracha and Jerry Silber**.

Raquel Spilka and Eitan Burstein on the birth of a son, Leon Burstein; grandparents are **Barbara Smith and Ilan Burstein**, and **Linda Spilka and Ed Spilka**.

Rachel and Joshua Troy on the birth of a daughter, Abigail Mae Troy; grandparents are **Lenore and Michael Cooper**, and **Catherine and Alan Troy**.

Stacey and Daniel Warshaw on the birth of a daughter, Dylan Rose Warshaw; grandparents are **Laura Markowitz and Stewart Casper**.

Janette and Dan Woskow on the birth of a son, Xavier Avraham Fanwick; grandparents are **Leslie and Jeff Fanwick**, and **Lee Fanwick**.



MAZEL TOV

Cheryl Frydman and Gloria Green on the engagement of her daughter and her granddaughter, **Marisa Frydman**, to **Scott Forman**.

Jill and Arthur Green on the engagement of their daughter, **Dina Green**, to **Greg Celniker**, son of **Lisa France and Steve Celniker**.

Melissa Klein and Gabe Felder on their marriage.

Richard Redniss on receiving the Citizen of the Year Award from the city of Stamford.

Laura and Michael Schwartz on the engagement of their daughter, **Danielle Schwartz**, to **Jacob Marshall**, son of **Nancy and William Marshall**; grandparents are **Shelly and Harold Schwartz**.

Betsy and Mike Stone on the marriage of their son, **Daniel Stone**, to **Emma Roth**.

Luba and Harry Weinroth on their 65th wedding anniversary.

MAZEL TOV TO B'NAI MITZVAH

Benjamin Isenstein, son of **Rebecca and Lee Isenstein**.

James Schiff, son of **Kara Schiff**.

Tehila Shaindel Adest, daughter of **Abbi and Meir Adest** of Modin, Israel; grandparents are **Lillian and Sandy Shapiro**.

Brent Schwartz, son of **Elizabeth and Clifford Ortiz-Schwartz**.

Tani Smart, son of **Michal and James Smart**.

Temple Sinai Adult B'not Mitzvah Class—**Karen Dern**, **Ronnie Falkenburg**, **Leslie Schoen** and **Shelly Welfeld**.

CONDOLENCES

Family of **Norman Epstein**.

Frieda Fogel and Howard, Joseph and Mark Fogel on the loss of her husband and their father, **Sam Fogel**.

David Kaplowitz, Jan Kaplowitz and Jeff Kaplowitz on the loss of their mother, **Mildred Kaplowitz**.

Marty Michelin on the loss of his wife, **Lynne Michelin**.

Tina Notik on the loss of her grandfather, **Moses V. Habib**.

Gary Okun and Jeffrey Okun on the loss of their father, **Bernard Okun**.

Beverly Peterman and Amy Schneider on the loss of her husband and her father, **Ira Peterman**.

Gail Rudolph and Martin Stern on the loss of their mother, **Ruth Stern**.

Janet Schneider, Bonnie O'Sullivan, Karen Hannigan and Martha Moss on the loss of their mother, **Bernice Shulman**.

Simon Streltsov on the loss of his father, **Joseph Streltsov**.

Susan Swidler on the loss of her mother, **Myra Zolotar**.

David Todrin on the loss of his mother, **Annette Todrin**.

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THE NEW JEWISH VOICE

IT'S OUR STORY!

Our community has its own story to tell us. Our stories shape the way we see ourselves. Where have we been? Where are we going? What is our local personality? What perspective do we offer? How are we different from other places? In order to tell our story, the Jewish Historical Society of Fairfield County is pleased to reintroduce its history column. Irwin Miller, past president, historian and founding member of the Jewish Historical Society, originated the column as a regular feature in The New Jewish Voice. Because of his love of history, especially local Jewish history, Larry Ginsberg, a board member of the Society, is restoring Miller's column. This column will highlight a local Jewish historical figure or event. Stay tuned to see how much you remember and how much more there is to learn about our story.

Lest We Forget

BY LARRY GINSBERG

"I am the only man in the history of the U.S. Navy who, in only three years, rose from the rank of lieutenant to that of admiral." — Paul Nahman Shulman, aka Shaul Ben Tzvi



Meet Stamford born Paul Shulman, the father of Israel's Navy. Born in 1922, the son of a prominent Stamford attorney, Herman Shulman, and a national president of Hadassah, Rebecca Shulman, Paul was both a dedicated American patriot and proud Zionist who supported the establishment of a Jewish state in Palestine as a member of the Mahal (foreign volunteers).

Shulman, a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, served during World War II as the deputy commander of the U.S. destroyer *Hunt* in the Pacific theater. Following World War II, Shulman returned to Stamford and worked for an import-export firm in New York City.

Teddy Kollect, an agent for the Haganah and later mayor of Jerusalem, approached Shulman to help purchase ships to run the British blockade to bring Jewish refugees to Palestine. Shulman ran a fake shipping company that purchased American ships to pick up Holocaust survivors from Europe and attempt to route them to Palestine through the British blockade. Perhaps the most famous ship Shulman outfitted was the *Pan Crescent*, re-christened the *Atzmaut*,

which sailed from Belgium directly to Cyprus for internment of the Jewish refugees by the British.

In May 1948, Shulman arrived in Israel and, due to David Ben Gurion's insistence, took the Hebrew nom de guerre Shaul Ben Tzvi and helped organize the Israeli Navy, becoming its "first" commander. Under Shulman's watch, the Navy was able to protect the coasts of Israel during the War of Independence.

Shulman as commander of the dated corvette (the smallest rated warship) *Wedgewood*, and later as commander of the Israeli Navy, was involved in four major incidents:

1. The sinking of the Irgun munitions ship *Atalena*, possibly preventing a second civil war between the Haganah and the Irgun (Issues continue to this date as the left wing Israeli Labor Movement is descended from the Haganah while the Likud Movement is descended from Menachem Begin and the Irgun.),
2. The sinking of the Egyptian flag ship *Emir Farouk* off Gaza,
3. The capture of Ein Gedi near the Dead Sea, and
4. The blockade of the Gaza Strip.

Following the War of Independence, Shulman remained in Israel and, in October 1948, became a naval and maritime advisor to Ben Gurion.

Following his return to civilian life, Shulman became an engineer working in Israel and abroad, and, in time, a member of the Board of Governors of the Technion, the Israeli science institute located in Haifa. Shulman died of heart disease in Haifa in May 1994.

NEW AROUND TOWN

Winifred Osagie, math and science teacher – Bi-Cultural Day School

Bi-Cultural Day School has announced the appointment of Winifred Osagie to its middle school faculty. A resident of Greenwich, Osagie will teach math and science at the Stamford school beginning this fall.

A graduate of the University of Port Harcourt, Rivers State in Nigeria, with a bachelor's of science degree in zoology, Osagie holds a master's degree from New York University in environmental conservation education. Her areas of expertise include nature education recycling awareness, social-emotional development STEM projects, and curriculum development.

She previously served as a math and science substitute teacher with the Greenwich Board of Education, and as a seventh grade environmental and earth science teacher and student advisor for the Convent of the Sacred Heart in Greenwich.

Osagie is a member of the National Science Teachers Association, USA; the Connecticut Outdoor Environmental Education Association; and the Connecticut Science Teachers Association.

Rabbi Tzachi Posner, Judaic studies teacher – Bi-Cultural Day School



Rabbi Tzachi Posner

Rabbi Tzachi Posner of New York City has been appointed middle school Judaic studies teacher at Bi-Cultural Day School. A graduate of Brooklyn College with a bachelor's degree in Judaic studies, Rabbi Posner received *smicha* – rabbinic ordination – in June from Yeshivat Chovevei Torah Rabbinical School in Riverdale, NY.

He previously taught Judaic studies in the middle school of East Midwood Hebrew Day School and Hebrew language at the Zvi Dov Roth Academy High School, both located in Brooklyn, NY.

"I am honored to join the Bi-Cultural family, and I look forward to learning both with and from my students," says Rabbi Posner.



Winifred Osagie

Bi-Cultural Welcomes Israeli Emissaries

BY JUDIE JACOBSON

As it does every fall, the Bi-Cultural Day School community is once again getting ready to roll out the welcome mat for a group of Israeli emissaries whose mission is to deepen the connection between the Jewish state and students at the Stamford school.

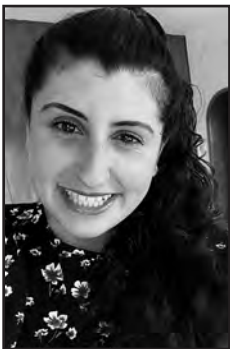
“Even though we’re accustomed to welcoming Israeli emissaries to our campus every year, their imminent arrival is always an exciting time for all of us here at Bi-Cultural,” says the school’s associate principal, Rabbi Yehuda Jeiger, who oversees the BCDS Israeli emissary program. The reason is simple, says Rabbi Jeiger: “The emissaries’ love for Israel is infectious; it envelops the entire campus. They bring the beauty of the Jewish state and a pride in our shared Jewish heritage to the hearts and minds of our students and families.”

Shlichim (emissaries) Adi and Ofir Yarchi have arrived in Stamford from their home in Jerusalem, their three young children in tow. When the school’s doors open in September, Adi will assume her new role as BCDS’ third grade Jewish studies teacher while Ofir will be the middle school Jewish studies teacher. In addition, the couple will be players in planning the school’s many Israel-related and Jewish holiday programs.

The academic and professional backgrounds of both Yarchis suggest they couldn’t be more prepared for what lies ahead. Adi holds a bachelor’s degree in education, special education and arts from Tel Chai College, and a teacher’s certificate in special education from the Lifshitz College of Education. She is currently studying toward her master’s in educational consultancy. She has experience as an elementary and middle school teacher and has worked with children with a broad



Tal Ambar



Sivon Alkobi

spectrum of academic abilities. An educational psychologist with a master’s degree in psychology from Hebrew University, Ofir also holds a bachelor’s degree and teacher’s certificate in oral Torah and Hebrew literature from Yaakov Hertzog College. In addition to his experience as a middle and high school teacher, he served as an intern educational psychologist for the regional council of Gush Etzion and at the Ilan Therapy

Center for Kids and Teens.

Like the Yarchis, Tal Ambar and Sivon Alkobi hope to bring Israeli culture, history and tradition – and Israeli “*ruach*” (spirit) – into the BCDS classroom, and strengthen the connection between students (and their families) and the Jewish state.

Part of a program called “*Banot Sherut*,” Ambar and Alkobi have chosen to complete the second year of their two-year national service by volunteering at the Stamford school. The scope of their responsibilities will include everything from tutoring students in Hebrew language to coordinating the school’s holiday curriculum to accompanying eighth-graders on their month-long trip to Israel.

A resident of Petach-Tikvah, Ambar completed her first year of national service working in a youth village, helping new immigrants and at-risk children and teens.

A native of New Jersey, Alkobi made *aliyah* in 2009, settling with her family in Haifa. She completed her first year of national service in Jerusalem, working in a school and in a youth club for at-risk children.

Rabbi Jeiger stresses the impact the emissaries have on the BCDS family and beyond.

“The *shlichim* and *banot* bring Israel to life both on and off campus,” says Rabbi Jeiger. “And they serve as



Ofir and Adi Yarchi

role models in how they live their lives and how they open their hearts and their homes to the Stamford community. I am inspired and excited to work with so exceptional a cadre of new staff.”

Bi-Cultural Day School is a recipient agency of United Jewish Federation of Greater Stamford, New Canaan and Darien.

► Bi-Cultural hosts end-of-summer “Barnyard Bash”

Bi-Cultural Day School in Stamford will celebrate the end of summer with a “Barnyard Bash” for young Jewish families. The annual outdoor event will be held Sunday, August 27, from 3-5 pm, on the campus of the Stamford school, 2186 High Ridge Rd. Admission is free and activities are geared for children to age 5, though older siblings are welcome.

Runaround Farm will be on hand, bringing with them a petting zoo featuring farm animals for children to meet and touch; there will also be pony rides. Among the other activities are animal-themed arts and crafts, a bounce house and slide, face painting, balloon animals and more.

Families are invited to bring picnic blankets and chairs, and enjoy the live entertainment, an ice cream truck, and kosher snacks and drinks.

To RSVP, contact Denise Rafailov at drafailov@bcds.org or 203-329-2186, ext. 1310.

Hand In Hand



Five-year-old Jacob Anderson took on the low ropes course at Hand In Hand, a program of Day Camps@TheJ. Hand In Hand offers an inclusionary summer experience for rising pre-k and kindergartners, as well as third- through eighth-graders, with special needs. This summer, the camp, run by the Jewish Community Center of Stamford, served expanded age groups and a record number of children.

“The world itself rests upon the breath of the children in our schools.”

–Talmud, Shabbat 119b

May the sounds of the shofar on Rosh Hashanah awaken our hearts to our heritage and bring blessing to our families and our people.



שנה טובה ומתוקה SHANA TOVA

For further information about Bi-Cultural, or to schedule a visit, please contact Denise Rafailov, Director of Admissions, 203.329.2186 ext 1310 or www.bcds.org | Stamford, CT.

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High Tea for Two – and History, Too



Chapter Two, a program of United Jewish Federation of Greater Stamford, New Canaan and Darien, hosted a summer garden party and high tea at the home of Stephe Behrend. Participants were given a tour of Behrend's expertly designed garden, along with tips on how to create a beautiful landscape at their own home, without the need for deer fences. Shown (l-r) Phyllis Osterman, Naomi Hessel and hostess Stephe Behrend.



At left: The group was regaled with a presentation by the Jewish Historical Society of Fairfield County on the historical roots of the Stamford Jewish Community. Jewish Historical Society volunteers dressed up as well-known Jewish historical figures from Stamford, and explained how this community came to be, starting with the earliest Jewish settlers in the 1700s.



Chapter Two, chaired by Sari Jaffe and Sue Frieden, aims to engage women who are retired and empty nesters in the work of Jewish Federation, while at the same time creating friendships and having experiences together. Anyone interested in getting involved in Chapter Two should contact UJF Vice President Rebekah Raz at rebekah@ujf.org or 203-321-1373, ext. 102. Shown (l-r) are Gail Trell, Barbara Brafman, Raz and Carol Brewer.

► JFS Community Lecture

Save the date: The sixth annual Saul Cohen – Schoke Jewish Family Service lecture will take place on Thursday, November 9, at 7:30 pm. The lecture will feature Bruce Feiler, author of six *New York Times* best sellers, whose topic will be “The Family Today: Secrets to Stronger Relationships and Greater Happiness at Any Age.” The lecture is open to the entire community and will take place at the Ferguson Library. Call 203-921-4161 or visit www.ctjfs.org for more information.

Reading Partners Do It “By the Book”

The Herbert and Sarah M. Gibor Reading Partners program is starting its 19th year of service to the Stamford community. The current corps of more than 100 volunteers read in all 13 elementary schools, the YMCA and the Fish Church. The mission is to work with children who are “on the cusp” of reading at grade level and encourage them in their literacy skills.

“You’ve been thinking about it; you’ve been hearing about it for years; you have the time; you just need a push. Here it is – Reading Partners needs you!” said Marlyn Agatstein, Reading Partners director. “Reading Partners is forming its 2017-2018 cohort for the school year and is looking for individuals who 1. Love to read. 2. Derive satisfaction seeing children succeed in reading. 3. Can give an hour each week. Checked all three? Then it’s a match.”

Gene Schwartz, 10-year reading partner at Stillmeadow Elementary School adds, “You’re helping kids become better than they are. It’s fun and very satisfying to know you’re helping them and their future.”

Reading specialists and teachers select the students and each reading partner is assigned two students. On the day a reading partner chooses to read, the reading partner goes to the classroom, picks up the first student and goes to the media center or other quiet space. The teacher may hand the reading partner materials to use, the student may bring a book, or the reading partner might choose a literacy game. After spending one-half hour together, the reading partner returns to the classroom and picks up the second student. The



Reading Partners volunteer Ronny Kaplan hugged a child (name held on request).

process is then repeated. “One-half hour may not seem like a lot, but for many children, this is *the only time* in the week that someone is reading with them alone, talking with them only, asking them questions and showing a personal interest,” said Agatstein. “The children become attached to their partners quickly and there is no stigma attached to having this extra reading time. Quite the contrary – the other students jump at the opportunity to read with reading partners when the regular student is absent.”

Don’t have teaching experience? It’s not necessary. Reading Partners will train its volunteers and a reading specialist can answer questions about the latest strategies. During the course of the year, Reading Partners holds literacy workshops and sends out newsletters. What if a reading partner runs into a problem student or doesn’t feel like they’re making any progress? At each school, there is a team leader, another reading volunteer who is there to guide and support them. In addition, there are reading specialist liaisons at each school who work with the teachers to identify students and assist with brainstorming. Amy Neer, a Westover kindergarten teacher reports, “The volunteers not only help struggling readers build their reading skills, but they serve as role models and boost students’ self-confidence.”

Reading Partners is sponsored by the United Jewish Federation of Greater Stamford, New Canaan and Darien. For more information, contact Marlyn Agatstein, director, at 203-321-1373, ext. 115, or Readingpartners@ujf.org. The organization is waiting to hear from new volunteers.

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THE NEW JEWISH VOICE

Carmel Appoints New Board President

Carmel Academy has announced the selection of a new president by its Board of Trustees. Jonathan Malkin, a Stamford resident and business owner, Carmel parent, board member and a member of the larger Jewish community, took office on July 1.



Jonathan Malkin

Malkin and his wife, Karen, are parents of three Carmel Academy students. He has been a member of Carmel's Board of Trustees since 2011, having served as treasurer, a member of the Board's Executive Committee, and chair of the School's Finance Committee.

"The knowledge and experience Jon gained serving as treasurer and trustee, coupled with his familiarity with our educational program as a long-time Carmel Academy parent, make him an excellent choice to lead

our board in overseeing our educational mission and ensuring our school's financial strength," said Evan Levy, Carmel Academy's immediate past president.

"I have learned an immense amount serving as the finance chair and treasurer under Evan Levy's guidance, and I want to thank him personally and on behalf of the entire board," Malkin said.

"This is an exciting time to be an integral part of Carmel Academy's leadership. We begin this year with one of the largest new early childhood classes in our school's history. Our students continue to win academic awards, and our graduates are attending the finest Jewish and independent high schools in the area. This year, we're poised to raise the bar for our nationally recognized STEAM program. Carmel

Academy's excellent reputation and dedication to professional development attracts the best educators in the field. The future of Carmel Academy is bright and I look forward to the work ahead."

"Jon takes leadership of the board during a milestone year for our school – our 20th anniversary," said Carmel's Head of School Nora Anderson. "Strong board leadership has been a pillar of Carmel Academy – a guiding force that has enabled our founders' forward-thinking vision to become a thriving reality in the world of Jewish education. Like Carmel's past board presidents, Jon holds a deep dedication to our mission and a vision that will continue to drive our school's commitment to educational excellence."

Malkin and his family have deep Stamford roots. They are members of the Stamford Jewish Community Center, where they and their children

spend much of their time playing sports, engaging in programming and volunteering their time. They are also longtime members of Congregation Agudath Sholom.

In 2012, Malkin joined his family to help manage and grow their two businesses – SWC Office Furniture in Stamford, and a growing portfolio of commercial real estate they own and manage. Prior to joining these businesses, Malkin, a graduate of Brandeis University, had a 15-year career in finance. He was formerly senior vice president of Cerberus Capital Management in New York City, where in addition to leveraged lending activities, he also advised the firm's private equity team on financings and assisted the firm in raising capital for its various funds. Before joining Cerberus, Malkin was an executive director in the Leveraged Finance Group of CIBC World Markets.

Carmel Celebrates 12th Commencement Exercises

BY JULIE LAPIN

Carmel Academy graduated its class of 2017 on June 14, celebrating the school's 12th commencement exercises.

The student-designed graduation ceremony centered around the theme "Our Carmel Experience" as the school's 26 graduates reflected upon what they learned at Carmel, both inside the classroom and out, and how the school has shaped and prepared them for their future. Through personal writings and songs, in both Hebrew and English, the graduates shared their memories, as well as their aspirations for the future based on the foundation they received at Carmel Academy.

"The definition of the word journey is 'the act of traveling from one place to another.' Our past experiences have helped form us into the young men and women that we are today. Our future is full of excitement as we move into the next stages of our lives. While we may be moving along on our journey from Carmel to new places, we know that the journey is what makes us who we are," said graduate Chaya Banschick.

Head of School Nora Anderson addressed the graduating class and urged her students to live with optimism and with a growth mindset: "Take what you have learned at Carmel

Academy and change the world for the better. Caring about your Jewish history, heritage, values and community is what should propel you to make a meaningful life. Please question and at times disagree – make a mark in the world! Do what you need to do to make ours a compassionate, God loving place to live. But do it within the context of the values of Torah, your parents and your teachers."

As part of the ceremony, the graduates shared in Hebrew excerpts from their year-long project Shorashim, or Roots. The project was modeled after an Israeli initiative that has become a nationwide tradition, where the students researched their family's history and connection with the Jewish people.

"In essence, it was a journey of self-discovery for each of us," said graduate Sofia Jacobowicz. "The project enabled us to reflect on how we view ourselves within our family's heritage and enhanced our understanding of Jewish peoplehood."

During the ceremony, graduate Hannah MacDonald introduced the song "Matanot Ketanot," or "small gifts," which reflects on the small gifts that people collect as they enter the holy space of Shabbat: "Throughout our years at Carmel, the teachers and

See "Carmel" on page 15



The Carmel Academy class of 2017 posed for a graduation photo prior to their commencement exercises.

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A Summer of Friendship, Fun and Leadership



Back row: Matt McGregor, Sam Essensfeld, Jordan Bellin, Ness Low, Ethan Essensfeld and Etan Gabay. Front Row: Shani Katz and Julia Arowitz.

BY JENNIFER KRUZANSKY

This past summer, three local teens, Etan Gabay, Sam Essensfeld and Ethan Essensfeld, took the opportunity to develop as leaders at the BBYO International Leadership Training Conference in Pennsylvania. For 19 days, they learned alongside peers from all over the globe how to be effective change makers in their communities and in their BBYO chapters.

For Sam Essensfeld, meeting and learning with teens from Hungary, Bulgaria and Russia was a cornerstone moment of his time at ILTC. One fond moment that he had was realizing the teens from those countries were more similar to him than anticipated: "It highlighted how Judaism is a global network and we all have a common thread that links us together."

On the same theme, Etan Gabay enjoyed zooming out and seeing BBYO through the eyes of other regions, and seeing how it operates outside of

Stamford and the Connecticut Valley Region. Etan was particularly struck by the international staff and other leaders he could learn from: "The environment is inspiring because everyone is there for the right reason, everyone is motivated to learn and develop themselves." In between learning how to facilitate, prioritize, lead a crowd and develop public speaking skills, they also enjoyed many Shabbats and fun programming together.

Ethan Essensfeld commented on the social aspect at ILTC, noting "with so many new people, you had to learn how to really put yourself out there and be open to meeting everyone."

All three said they are excited to bring many skills back to Stamford and to Connecticut Valley Region. One thing that Ethan says he is most excited to bring back to his chapter, Leviticus, is better teamwork amongst the chapter board and general members. Going

See "Summer" on page 15

Jewish High School of Connecticut Graduates



Mazal tov to the Jewish High School of Connecticut's Class of 2017. L-r: Leah Voytovich, who will attend the University of Pennsylvania; Alex Frenzel, who will attend the University of Connecticut; Ilana Krebs, who will attend Nativ for a gap year in Israel and then attend Ithaca College; and Daniel Hanna, who will attend Muhlenberg College.



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comes to Greater Stamford area

Building on the success of PJ Library, which gives the gift of Jewish children's books each month to more than 140,000 children, ages six months to eight years old, in North America, PJ Our Way allows program participants to select one of four books every month, giving them more choice on their journey toward being life-long readers while introducing them to Jewish ideas.

Parents can register on the PJ Our Way website (beginning in September), and each child can go on line to view a list of the books available, along with synopses, kid-video reviews and suggestions. The child chooses his or her own book, and the book arrives in the mail. Children who are enrolled in PJ Our Way can contribute their own written or video commentaries, engage in on-line book discussions, and become part of the community of PJ Our Way readers. There is no cost to parents. To sign up, go to: www.pjourway.org.

If you have any questions, please call (203)321-1373



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Director of Congregational Learning
eddir@tbe.org 203-322-6901 x305

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350 Roxbury Rd., Stamford, CT www.tbe.org

Chabad of New Canaan Celebrates Growing Community



More than 150 people attended the Chabad of New Canaan Gala Dinner in May at Waveny House. The event was chaired by Anne and John Liebergall and Chabad of New Canaan Directors Michal and Rabbi Levi Mendelow. Shown is Rabbi Mendelow addressing the gala dinner attendees.



L-r: Talmud Torah Award honorees Jerry and Peggy Fensterstock and Claude Bernstein, with Chairs of the Gala Dinner Anne and Jon Liebergall.

Carmel Students Earn Top Math Honors



Five Carmel Academy students received trophies for earning top scores in the nationwide Math Olympiad competition. Carmel Academy upper school students (l-r) Micah Taffet, Ben Levy, Hannah MacDonald, Sophie Citron and Joshua Ament were honored for being the top scorers at Carmel Academy and placing in the highest percentile nationally. The series of challenging math contests, which take place throughout the school year, gives students a chance to think creatively and apply their problem solving skills to various types of math problems, including algebra, geometry, patterns and number theory. Math Olympiad is one of several STEM programs at Carmel that seeks to stimulate the enthusiasm and a love for mathematics, encourage students to develop mathematical flexibility in solving problems, strengthen their mathematical intuition, foster creativity and ingenuity, and provide students with the excitement of meeting challenges.



L-r: Michal Mendelow, Lamplight Award honorees Melody and Claude Bernstein, and Rabbi Levi Mendelow.

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Jewish Summers. Jewish Future.

UJF is proud to support Jewish summer camp experiences in Greater Stamford and around the globe. A camping experience enables young people to explore their heritage, culture and religion in an informal educational environment. The Pew study sites Jewish camping as one of the most impactful experiences to ensure the Jewish future.

Ukraine



8300 children from 10 cities across Ukraine were provided immersive Jewish summer camp experiences thanks to UJF-supported Jewish Agency for Israel camp programs.



Stamford

UJF provides grants to the JCC for the O-La-Mi Scholarship fund and Hand-in-Hand, the special needs inclusion program, allowing more children to attend Day Camps at the J.



Camp Szarvas, Hungary

This summer, 1500 Jewish campers from over 20 countries around the world attended Camp Szarvas, made possible by UJF's gift to the Joint Distribution Committee. For many campers, this is the only Jewish programming that they will experience throughout the year.



Join Us In Celebrating Israel at 70 April 11-21, 2018

United Jewish Federation
of Greater Stamford, New Canaan and Darien
Invites You To Join The Community on the...

Better Together Community Mission to



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Highlights Include:

- Tour cities of Tel Aviv, Caesarea, Tzvat, Tiberias, Afula/Gilboa & Jerusalem
- Security & geo-political briefings
- Spend time with our friends in Afula/Gilboa
- Impactful visits to UJF-supported program
- Shabbat in Tel Aviv & Jerusalem
- Join 1000's at the Jewish Agency/Masa ceremony for Yom Hazikaron Memorial Day
- Join in festive celebration of Israel at 70

\$3999: Price based on 30 participants & subject to change. A refundable deposit of \$1000 is required to secure your spot. *Airfare is additional.



**Community Chairs:
Rica and Ari Lieberman**



Visit our website at: www.ujf.org or
contact Diane Sloyer at (203)321-1373 ext. 105



United Jewish Federation
OF GREATER STAMFORD, NEW CANAAN AND DARIEN

BETTER TOGETHER

Round and Round We Go

BY RONNIE FEIN

Our yearly Yom Kippur break-the-fast is somewhat untraditional. One of my daughters is allergic to fish, so I can't serve smoked salmon, pickled herring and that sort of stuff. For decades now, ours has been a dairy-vegetarian feast.

Some of my guests bring a dish (it wouldn't be right if we didn't have my friend Susan Blomberg's magnificent noodle kugel!), but mostly it's up to me.

While the menu has varied from year to year, a few staples are expected: mujadarah (lentils with bulgur wheat or brown rice and a mountain of caramelized onions), spinach pie and imam bayeldi (braised leeks, eggplant and tomatoes).

Challah.

Of course.

I make the challah. A really large one, using a recipe based on a list of ingredients left by my grandmother. There were *no* instructions – women back then sort of assumed you just knew how to make a challah. The list also wasn't very specific in terms of how much of anything would be required. She didn't use measuring cups, so she left it as this "8 hands flour; ½ hand sugar." And so on.

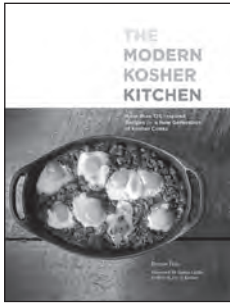
It took a while to figure out, but it was worth it. She and her sisters had won prize money for the family challah recipe!

Here it is, worked out in modern terms, with modern instructions. There is no better challah.

Truly.

CHALLAH

2 packages active dry yeast
½ cup warm water (105-110°F)
½ cup sugar
8 to 8 ½ cups all purpose flour
1 Tbsp. salt
5 large eggs
3 Tbsp. vegetable oil
1½ cups lukewarm water (about 100°F)
1 tsp. water
Poppy seeds or sesame seeds, optional



The cover of Ronnie Fein's newest cookbook, "The Modern Kosher Kitchen"

Preheat the oven to 350°F. In a small bowl, mix the yeast, ½ cup warm water, ½ teaspoon of the sugar and a pinch of flour. Stir, set aside and let rest for 5 minutes or until the mixture is bubbly.

In a bowl of an electric mixer, combine 7½ cups flour with the remaining sugar and salt.

In a small bowl, mix 4 of the eggs, the vegetable oil and the lukewarm water. Add to the flour mixture. Add the yeast mixture. Blend ingredients thoroughly.

Using the kneading hook, knead for 4-5 minutes or until the dough is smooth and elastic, adding more flour as necessary to make sure the dough is not sticky. *Note:* You can make this dough in a food processor (halve the recipe).

Cover the bowl and put it in a warm place to rise for about 1½ hours or until doubled. Punch down the dough, cover the bowl and let rise again for about 30 minutes or until doubled.

Remove the dough to a floured surface. Cut dough in 3 or 6 pieces depending on whether you are making one large or two smaller loaves. Make long strands out of the pieces. Braid the strands (see instructions below).

Place the braided dough on a lightly greased cookie sheet. Beat the remaining egg with the teaspoon of water. Brush over the surface of the bread. Sprinkle with seeds if desired. Let rise again for 30 minutes.

Bake for about 35 minutes for large loaf, 22-25 minutes for smaller ones.

BRAIDING A ROUND CHALLAH

1. Make six long strands of dough.
2. Lay three strands on a floured board parallel to each other
3. Take one of the remaining three strands and weave it into the three parallel strands by placing it over the first strand, under the second strand and under the third strand.
4. Take a second remaining strand and weave it into the three parallel strands by placing it under the first strand, over the second strand and over the third strand.

5. Take the last remaining strand of dough and weave it into the three parallel strands by placing it over the first strand, under the second strand and under the third strand.

6. You should have three strands horizontally and three strands vertically, woven into each other. There will be four open ends, each with three ends of the strands of dough. Braid each of these. Now you have what looks like a basketweave square with short braids at each end.

7. Tuck in each of the four braids under the basketweave.

8. You now have a mounded, woven challah. Brush with beaten egg and bake.

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, like her on Facebook at www.facebook.com/RonnieFeinKitchen, or follow her on Twitter and Instagram at @RonnieVFein.

Loaves of Love Mega Challah Bake for Women

BY TALY FARBER

A tradition in Stamford is the Loaves of Love Mega Challah Bake organized by Chabad of Stamford's Jewish Women Connected. This year's event will take place on Thursday, October 26, at 7 pm, at the Stamford Plaza, 2701 Summer St., and is chaired by Elise Klein, Elian Avraham, Talia Siscovick and Shelby Hollaway. Women from all Jewish communities in Stamford are invited to be a part of reaching the goal of uniting 360 women to make challah together this year. The evening is intended to bring together women of all generations, including mothers, daughters (high school age and older) and grandmothers.

"The craze of mega challah bakes has taken the world by storm, and the birth of this phenomenon, the gathering of a large group of women in one room at one time to bake together, started right here in Stamford in January 2009," said Leah Shemtov, co-director of Chabad of Stamford. On that first occasion, JWC looked to gather 118 women to partake in the mitzvah. The event succeeded beyond their expectations and gathered 215 women. Since then, the Loaves of Love Mega Challah Bake gathered almost 400 women in October 2013 and 500 women in December 2015, when partnered with other Chabad and women's organizations from across Fairfield County.

This year, the Loaves of Love Mega Challah Bake is scheduled to take place in collaboration with the International Shabbos Project, which started in Johannesburg, South Africa. The Shabbos Project encourages Jews from all walks of life "To Keep It

Together" this year on the Shabbat of October 27-28, adding to their typical Shabbat observances. "What better way to do so than preparing homemade challah bread for families to enjoy and enhance their Shabbat celebrations?" asked Shemtov.

The Loaves of Love Mega Challah Bake aims to impact at least 720 families with a gift of challah. The women attending the event will have the opportunity to make a challah for their own family and a challah for a friend.

"The energy of being together with such a large group of local women, partaking in this unique mitzvah and joining together to make, shape and bake together, while offering a special prayer, is very powerful and uplifting," said Tracy Shevell, who has participated in all three Loaves of Love Mega Challah Bakes.

Loaves of Love is a division of Chabad's Jewish Women Connected, where women get together to bake challah and homemade meals to be delivered to new neighbors, new moms, the sick and anyone who could benefit from a taste of Shabbat. Loaves of Love also offers kosher meals for people sitting *shiva* (mourning the loss of a loved one). Through cooking marathons where participants do everything from peeling vegetables to packing up and delivering packages, Loaves of Love seeks to nourish those in need in the Stamford community.

To be part of the Loaves of Love Mega Challah Bake as a captain or participant, or to get more information, contact Taly Farber at 203-3CHABAD, e-mail programs@chabadstamford.org or visit www.StamfordChabad.org.

► JCC Offers Rosh Hashanah Luncheon for Seniors

On Thursday, September 14, from 11:30 am-1 pm, the Jewish Community Center will host its annual Rosh Hashanah luncheon, provided by the Brown, Krinsky and Stern families in memory of Sandra Stern and Irene Krinsky.

The luncheon is free to all seniors. Guests will enjoy a festive kosher holiday meal and hear the blowing of the *shofar*.

RSVPs are required no later than Friday, September 8, and can be made by contact Connie Cirillo Freeman at 203-487-0983 or cfreeman@stamfordjcc.org.



New Year Greetings from these Community Institutions



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Rosh Hashanah Greetings
from THE REPORTER GROUP

JCC's Teaching Students How to Respond to Anti-Israel Sentiment

For high school juniors and seniors, responding to negative sentiment about Israel can be daunting. This year's "Speak Up for Israel" program at the Jewish Community Center of Stamford will once again bring together teens from across the community to help equip them with the tools necessary to engage in an educated dialogue in support of Israel.

Facilitated by Yael Stolarsky, the JCC's Israeli *shlichah* (emissary), Speak Up for Israel seeks to help students who are soon to enter college learn about Israel and acquire the knowledge and confidence to respond to questions.

Experts in the field—from organizations such as AIPAC, CAMERA, Israel Action Network, StandWithUs, ADL and more—will lead educational sessions.

There is no cost to enroll. Students will meet for eight sessions throughout the school year and attend the AIPAC conference in March at no charge. Space is limited. For more information, contact Stolarsky at 203-487-0961 or ystolarsky@stamfordjcc.org.

The Jewish Community Center is a recipient agency of the United Jewish Federation of Greater Stamford, New Canaan and Darien.

At right: Speak Up for Israel participants attended the AIPAC Policy Conference in Washington, DC, in March. The program, offered through the JCC of Stamford, seeks to help high school juniors and seniors learn how to respond to negative sentiment about Israel.



JHSC Welcomes its Largest Ninth Grade Class

BY DAVID GIVER

The Jewish High School of Connecticut will welcome the largest ninth grade class since the school opened. More than 25 students will join the upper-classmen for the fall semester of 2017.

"The community has started to realize the phenomenal opportunities that JHSC offers, and this class is a reflection of the success of our graduates as well as the reputation of our academics," said Rabbi Elisha Paul, head of school.

"We are thrilled with the enthusiasm of our applicant pool, and the character and commitment of our students," remarked Geoffrey Erickson, president of the JHSC Board of Trustees.

"JHSC has a unique approach to education that both inspires and caters to the individual skills, passions and aspirations of each student. The school, located in a science and technology building, creates a 'google-like environment.' It is this environment of collaboration and innovation that inspires and drives our school curriculum and spirit," said Rabbi Paul. "We are forging a new kind of high school, and students are responding enthusiastically."

JHSC is a community Jewish High school, serving students from grade nine-12. Students hail from a large swath of Connecticut and New York.

For more about JHSC, contact the school at 203-957-0850, or www.jhsct.org.

The Jewish High School of Connecticut is a recipient agency of United Jewish Federation of Greater Stamford, New Canaan and Darien.

Carmel. Continued from page 9

administrators have given us these *matanot ketanot*, small gifts, that we cherish today and will carry with us always. As we continue to grow, we will be able to draw from these gifts to become the people we are meant to be."

In what has become a Carmel Academy tradition, after the students received their diplomas, the entire faculty joined the new graduates on stage to bless the class as they embark on the next stage of their lives.

Carmel Academy is a recipient agency of United Jewish Federation of Greater Stamford, New Canaan and Darien.

Summer. Continued from page 10

off on that, Sam says he realized that being a leader means more than standing in the front of the room and that there are many ways to motivate and lead from the middle. Etan says he is excited to bring back his skills in facilitation and to help bring regional Jewish programming from good to great.

For more information on BBYO summer programs, contact cvr@bbyo.org.

Jennifer Kruzansky is the BBYO associate regional director.

New Year Greetings from these Community Institutions

Shanah Tovah

May the year 5778 bring peace and harmony to the community of Stamford and the family of Israel

 JCC Stamford
www.stamfordjcc.org


Risa Raich,
President

Marshall Kurland,
Chief Executive Officer




May you be renewed and fulfilled
www.humanisticjews.org
Your Local Humanistic Congregation

The congregation of Temple Sinai in Stamford wishes its friends, neighbors and the entire community a peaceful & healthy New Year 5778.



458 Lakeside Drive, Stamford, Connecticut
203-322-1649
www.temple sinaistamford.org

L'SHANAH TOVAH from



THE JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF FAIRFIELD COUNTY
www.jhsfc-ct.org

L' Shanah Tovah Have a sweet year!



Joshua J. Hammerman, Rabbi
Magda Fishman, Cantor
Carl R. Weinberg, President
Steven Lander, Executive Director
Lisa Gittleman Udi, Director of Congregational Learning
Liat Kochavi, Young Families Coordinator
Sidney G. Rabinowitz, Hazzan Emeritus

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Jewish Historical Society Announces National History Day Winners

BY JOAN KRANZ

What do Helmuth James von Moltke, a German lawyer during World War II, and Mordechai Anielewicz, the principal leader of the armed Jewish resistance in the Warsaw Ghetto, have in common? Both are considered heroes who paid with their lives and who are the subjects of the winning entries in the 2017 Jewish Historical Society of Fairfield County Connecticut National History Day Contest.

Claire Faulkner, a senior at the Journalism and Media Academy Magnet High School in Hartford, created a documentary about von Moltke, who is a distant relative. Her research helped her gain a perspective on what it was like to be a German citizen

before and during the war, and to understand why von Moltke felt a need to take a stand against Hitler and the Nazi Party.

Faulkner was the first in her school to have ever competed in National History Day. Her efforts earned her not only the JHSFC Special State Prize for the outstanding entry that best incorporates Jewish history, heritage and/or a Jewish personality, but also two national awards at the University of Maryland. One prize was for the Senior Outstanding Entry in World War II History; the other was for the Senior Outstanding Connecticut Entry.

Faulkner's experience enabled her to improve her video production skills while learning more about

her family history and sharing a story that not too many people may have been aware of.

Staples High School junior James Gikas of Westport is the recipient of the JHSFC Fairfield County Special Connecticut National History Day Prize. In his award-winning Senior Individual Performance, "Let Us Not Go Like Sheep to the Slaughter: The Jewish Resistance Movement During the Holocaust," Gikas personified Mordechai Anielewicz, leader of the Jewish Combat Organization, which was considered instrumental in engineering the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. While visiting the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Gikas noted that he was especially captivated by the tragic, largely unheard stories of Jewish resistance to the Nazis during the Holocaust. Using his performance skills and research, Gikas wrote and presented the efforts made by the resistance, "however tragic or ineffective they may have seemed [they] served as a beacon of hope, giving Jews across Nazi-occupied Europe the will to survive."


In addition to his experience performing, Gikas has been called an accomplished violinist. He spent the summer at the Boston University Tanglewood Institute, which is recognized nationally as a premier summer training program for aspiring young musicians.

Both prize winning entries can be viewed at the JHSFC Archives. Complete details are available on the Jewish Historical Society website, jhsfc-ct.org.

The Jewish Historical Society of Fairfield County is a recipient agency of United Jewish Federation of Greater Stamford, New Canaan and Darien.

NEW YEAR GREETINGS

Have a Happy & Healthy New Year!
Diana and Barry Gould




May the new year be the start of only the sweetest things!




Edith Samers & Edward Smith

May this New Year be a time of peace & joy for you and all those you love.



Joan & Howie Breslow

May you be inscribed in the Book of Life for good health, peace, and prosperity.



Marsha Kaiser Shendell & Family

L' Shanah Tovah
Have a sweet year!



Sandy & Fred Golove

May the New Year bring you peace, health, and joy!



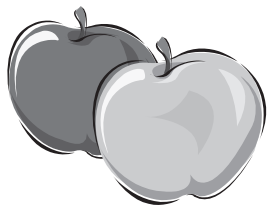
Meryl and David Gordon

May you have a sweet, happy and healthy New Year!




David & Lorraine Kweskin

May the new year be the start of only the sweetest things!




Cheryl Bader, Stephen, Rachel, Daniel and Evan Goldblum

Wishing everyone a happy, healthy and sweet New Year!




Ellen & Richard Weber and Family

May peace, happiness, and good health be with you throughout the New Year.



BARBARA & LARRY MILLER AND FAMILY

May the sound of the shofar bring peace and good health to us all!



Nancy, Gadi, Michael and Bari Mimoun

Wishing everyone a happy, healthy and sweet New Year!



Bonnie Rozen
Advertising Representative

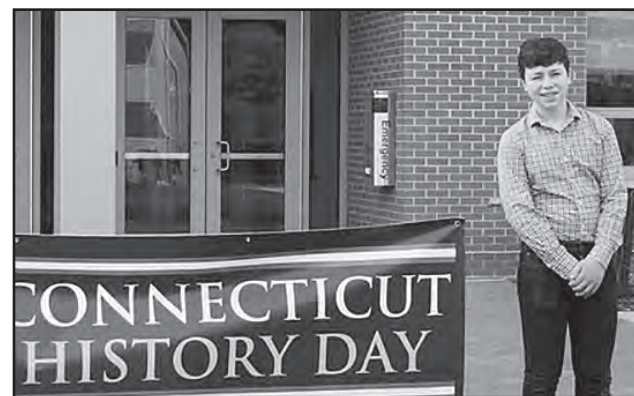
SHANA TOVA



Rabbi Moshe & Leah Tzemach, Mussie, Shternie, Levi, Yisroel, Shaina, Rivka & Gavriel Shemtov



Claire Faulkner



James Gikas

Evidence of Babylonian Destruction of Jerusalem Unearthed

BY JNS STAFF

(JNS.org) – In the week leading up to the Jewish fast of Tisha B'Av, which mourns the destruction of both Jewish Temples in Jerusalem, evidence of the city's destruction by the Babylonians during the First Temple era has been discovered in excavations conducted by the Israel Antiquities Authority.

The excavations, funded by the City of David Foundation (Elad), focused on the City of David's eastern slope and unearthed buildings covered with layers of collapsed stone, believed to be more than 2,600 years old. Archaeologists also found various items in between the collapsed structures, including burned wood, grape seeds, pottery, fish scales, bones and rare artifacts.

The discoveries convey the affluence of Jerusalem thousands of years ago, and serve as proof of the holy city's destruction by Babylonians, the IAA said on July 26.

See *Unearthed*™ on page 23

Schoke JFS and Partners Continue Their Tradition

Kosher Food Provided for Holidays and Year-Round

BY REBEKAH KANEFSKY

Once again, Schoke Jewish Family Service will continue its tradition of coordinating the collection and distribution of kosher food to individuals and families who are in need of assistance during the High Holidays. Under a program chaired by Risa Goldblum, local kosher restaurants and community partners donated food that is used to create gift baskets that include traditional holiday food items. In 2016, the food items and decorative bags were donated from local restaurants, including Soosh, Six Thirteen and Beldotti Bakery, along with local community partners such as Chabad of Stamford. In 2017, individuals and/or families, primarily in the Stamford area, will receive similar gift bags of food for the holidays.



Rosh Hashanah food gift bags

On Tuesday, September 19, Goldblum will organize the donated items, as well as packing the gift bags. A High Holidays bag may include items such as apples and honey, fruits and vegetables, soup, chicken, challah, grape juice and an apple dessert. JFS has gathered the names and addresses of those in need of assistance, and will coordinate the distribution of the kosher food bags.

Keeping a kosher home has been called a challenge for those experiencing financial hardships. During hard times, families who want to keep kosher may require some assistance. The generosity of the Greater Stamford community makes it possible for JFS to reach out to more families and individuals than it has assisted in the past.

See "JFS" on page 21

Wishing the Community a Sweet and Happy New Year!

If you don't already belong to a community synagogue, consider enhancing your experience of the High Holidays by participating in one or more of the following **FREE SERVICES OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY!**

For complete details on times, locations and all other services and programs, please call or visit the web sites of each synagogue directly.

CHABAD OF NEW CANAAN (Orthodox)

203-972-7708

NewCanaanJewish.org

Rosh Hashanah Services held at the New Canaan Nature Center
144 Oenoke Ridge, New Canaan

Thursday, September 21

Friday, September 22

Services: 8:45am

Children's Program: 10:30am

Shofar: 11:15am

Yom Kippur

Services held at New Canaan High School
11 Farm Road, New Canaan

Friday, September 29

Kol Nidrei/Evening Services: 6:30pm

September 30

Saturday, Morning Services: 9:00am

Yizkor Memorial Service: 11:45am

Mincha and Neilah Closing Service: 4:45pm

Shofar Sounding and Break the Fast: 7:18pm

CHABAD STAMFORD (Orthodox)

770 High Ridge Rd.

(203) 3-CHABAD (203) 324-2223

www.chabadstamford.org

Rosh Hashanah

Wednesday, September 20

Mincha and Maariv: 6:30 pm

Thursday, September 21

Shacharit: 9:00 am

Tashlich and Mincha: 6:15 pm

Maariv: 7:30 pm

Friday, September 22

Shacharit: 9:00 am

Mincha and Maariv: 6:30 pm

Yom Kippur

Friday, September 29

Mincha: 3:30 pm

Fast begins: 6:21 pm

Kol Nidrei: 6:30 pm

Saturday, September 30

Shacharit: 9:00 am

Torah reading & Yizkor: 11:00am

Mincha & Neilah: 5:15 pm

Shofar, Maariv and Break Fast: 7:18 pm

CHAVURAT AYTZ CHAYIM (Unaffiliated)

(Services held at Westhill High School)

125 Roxbury Road, Stamford

www.chavurah.org

President: Ed Smith (203) 322-6676

Rosh Hashanah

Wednesday, September 20: Services at 8 pm

Thursday, September 21: Services at 10 am

Yom Kippur

Friday, September 29

Kol Nidre: 8:00 pm

Saturday, September 30

Morning Service: 10:00 am

Afternoon Service: 5:00 pm

Yizkor Service: 5:30 pm

Closing Service; Break the Fast: 7:30 pm

TEMPLE BETH EL

(Conservative Egalitarian)

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www.tbe.org

Selichot

Saturday, September 16 at 9:00 pm

A joint service with Temple Beth El, Stamford; Congregation Beth El, Norwalk; and the Conservative Synagogue of Westport will be held at the Conservative Synagogue of Westport, 30 Hillspoint Road, Westport.

2nd Day Rosh Hashanah - Friday, Sept. 22

Free of charge for those that have not attended 2nd Day Rosh Hashanah in the past.

Special guest ticket required. Must call in advance for ticket 203-322-6901, ext. 300.

Main service: 8:45 am-1:15 pm

Children's and Family programming:

10:30 am- 1:00 pm

Yom Kippur

Saturday, September 30

Mincha: 4:30 pm

Yizkor: 5:45 pm

Neilah: 6:15 pm

Blessing of the babies: 7:20 pm

Shofar: 7:24 pm

CONGREGATION

AGUDATH SHOLOM (Orthodox)

301 Strawberry Hill Ave. | 203-358-2200

www.agudathsholom.org

Rosh Hashanah

Friday, September 22

4:00 pm at Atria (77 Third Street)

with Shofar Blowing. Led by

Rabbi Daniel Cohen of

Congregation Agudath Sholom.

TEMPLE SINAI (Reform)

458 Lakeside Dr. | 203-322-1649

www.templestamford.org

Selichot

Saturday, September 16

A program and service with Sinai's Ruach

Musical Group and the clergy: 7:30 pm

A quiet contemplative evening including

time for changing the Torah mantles and

ending with dessert. All are welcome for

this introduction to the Holy Days.

Thursday, September 21

Children's Services (Pre-K and Younger):

1:00 pm

Tashlich Service - The Stamford Museum

& Nature Center: 2:00 pm

Friday, September 22

Second Day Rosh Hashanah worship ser-

vices: 8:30-10am.

Join us for a creative and contemplative

High Holy Day experience, followed by a

festive luncheon.

Please contact the temple office

203-322-1649 for information regarding

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A Trove of Nazi-era Objects in Argentina

BY JTA STAFF

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (JTA) – A cache of 75 original Nazi objects discovered in June by the Argentine Federal Police has been evaluated as “unprecedented” and “the biggest” discovery of its type. The objects, discovered in a hidden room of a house in the northern part of the city, included equipment used for Nazi medical experiments during the Holocaust. They were analyzed a week ago at Interpol headquarters in Lyon, France, Federal Police Commissioner Marcelo El Haibe told JTA on June 19.

The police found a bust relief of Adolf Hitler, medical devices marked with swastikas used to measure head and body size, Nazi puzzles for children and knives, among other objects. Among the objects discovered was a magnifying glass attached to a photo of Hitler using the magnifying glass.

“We checked some marks and characteristics, and it is the same object that Hitler holds in his hands in the



Some of the Nazi-era objects discovered by Argentine police. (Photo by Leonardo Kremenchuzky/DAIA)

photo,” El Haibe, a member of Interpol who accompanied the pieces to Lyon, told JTA. “Interpol colleagues

from Germany, Israel and United States were surprised by the globally unprecedented discovery. No one has

a record of this magnitude a discovery of original Nazis objects, and we have started a collaborative process to search the route of the objects to Argentina.”

According to El Haibe, who also serves as the chief of the Protection of Cultural Heritage department of the federal police, only a very high level of Nazi officer had access to this quality and quantity of objects, and apparently tried to save the objects when the Nazi regime was failing.

On June 19, the Argentine Jewish political umbrella DAIA displayed some of the objects at its headquarters in the AMIA Jewish center here. The AMIA building was destroyed in a 1994 terrorist bombing and rebuilt in 1999.

DAIA President Ariel Cohen Sabban praised the police for their work in making the discovery. “From this building, we spoke several times about the lack of security in this country, but today it’s time to recognize the good work done by the police and the Security

See “Objects” on page 19

Water.....

for the quality of life and safety of our communities, preparedness and readiness to counter crises is mandatory,” Mayor Oliver Gilbert III said at a City Hall news conference. “Water Gen’s pilot will enable us to measure its use for clean drinking water if needed for hurricane relief and any other emergency water situation that may arise.”

During the last weeks of June, Miami Gardens will use a mid-sized Water-Gen generator to produce drinking water for its residents. Water-Gen officials said they hope the pilot leads to contracts with Miami Gardens and other parts of Florida. The company’s largest generator yields as much as 825 gallons of water per day for only 10 cents a gallon, mostly in energy costs, according to the company.

“Miami Gardens is our first significant pilot program in a U.S. city,” Water-Gen USA President Yehuda Kaploun said Monday. “We are ideally positioned to enable communities to tap into a clean and safe drinking water source with a refreshing taste.”

Florida gets much of its drinking water from the Floridian Aquifer and the Biscayne Aquifer, as well as from surface water from Lake Okeechobee and other lakes, but population in-



Miami Gardens Mayor Oliver Gilbert III, second from left, Water-Gen USA President Yehuda Kaploun and Lior Haiat, consul general to Israel in Miami, toasted Water-Gen in Miami Gardens, FL, on June 20. (Photo courtesy of Mendy Studio)

creases have strained available sources. Because of the drought, Miami-Dade County, where Miami Gardens is located, has put restrictions on water use, including banning residents from watering outdoors between 10 am and 4 pm.

In addition, Florida is bracing for hurricanes, which hit the state harder than any other and can cause water contamination. Hurricane season runs

from June through November.

Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Gimenez said he sees Water-Gen’s potential to help the state. “I congratulate Mayor Gilbert and the City of Miami Gardens for its leadership in allowing for the demonstration of water generation technology that could be a game-changer,” he said June 19.

Water-Gen’s ambitions extend be-

Continued from page 1

yond Florida and the United States. Earlier this year, the company signed deals, together worth \$150 million, to produce drinking water in India and Vietnam, two countries that have long faced shortages. About 1.2 billion people, nearly one-fifth of the world’s population, live in areas of water scarcity, according to the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

Owned by Russian-Israeli entrepreneur and billionaire Michael Mirilashvili, the vice president of the World Jewish Congress, Water-Gen has Jewish friends in high places. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu mentioned it in an interview last December with CBS’s “60 Minutes” about Israel’s high-tech prowess. In March, Harvard Law professor Alan Dershowitz demonstrated the technology on stage at the American Israel Public Affairs Committee’s annual policy conference in Washington, DC.

He touted the technology as a way to counter worldwide water scarcity and the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement against Israel. “There is no weapon more powerful in the fight against BDS than for Israel to develop technologies that the world cannot live without,” he told the crowd. “You cannot boycott products that you can’t live without.”

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The Herbert and Sarah M. Gibor Reading Partners program is a volunteer based reading program sponsored by UJF of Greater Stamford, New Canaan and Darien. Working one-on-one with young children from K-3rd grade in the Stamford Public School system and beyond, each volunteer devotes one hour a week throughout the school year. Our volunteers possess a love of children and the desire to nurture their curious young minds.

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Ethiopian Rosh Hashanah Blends Unique Customs with a Yearning for Jerusalem

BY ADAM ABRAMS
JNS.org

Despite relative isolation from their Jewish brethren around the world for millennia, Ethiopian Jews have coveted the same dream of celebrating Rosh Hashanah “next year in Jerusalem.” Though unique, the Jewish New Year festivities in Ethiopia bear many similarities to the holiday’s observance in the broader Diaspora.

Limor Malessa and five of her siblings were born and raised in a small Ethiopian village near the Jewish community of Gondar. She left the village at age 13 and traveled to Ethiopia’s capital of Addis Ababa, along with her parents and five siblings, in anticipation of emigrating to Israel – the “promised land” that Ethiopian Jews longed to return to for thousands of years, unaware that the holy temple in Jerusalem had long since been destroyed. (Gaps in access to modern technology and their distance from other Jewish communities meant many Ethiopian Jews, up until about 20 years ago, lacked some basic knowledge about major episodes in Jewish history.)

In 1991, at age 15, the *aliyah* for Malessa and her family officially began when Israel’s Mossad intelligence agency privately smuggled the family out of Ethiopia’s capital city to the Jewish homeland by way of Italy.

The family arrived in Israel just a month before



Ethiopian Jews were greeted by family members as they arrived at Israel’s Ben Gurion Airport, as part of an aliyah flight arranged by the Jewish Agency for Israel and sponsored by the International Christian Embassy Jerusalem, in June 2017. (Photo by Miriam Alster/Flash90)

the Mossad conducted a massive clandestine airlift operation, dubbed “Operation Solomon,” which saw some 14,000 Ethiopian Jews secretly airlifted out of Ethiopia aboard 35 non-stop flights to Israel in 36 hours. Malessa has now lived in Israel for more than 30 years, building a family of eight children in the city of Ashdod and becoming thoroughly integrated into Israeli society.

Due to the small size of Malessa’s village in comparison to other Jewish Ethiopian townships, not many “*kessim*” – elder religious leaders with knowledge of oral Jewish law and the equivalent of rabbis – resided in her home village. This “would make my childhood memories of Rosh Hashanah less vivid than of those who grew up with many *kessim* in their villages,” Malessa told JNS.org in Ethiopian-accented Hebrew.

The Ethiopian villagers were entirely dependent on the verbally disseminated wisdom of the elders, who were the only people in the village capable of reading Jewish texts written in the ancient Ge’ez dialect. “The *kessim* would instruct everyone in the villages on how to prepare for the holiday... Villages that had more of the religious leaders would have a much deeper understanding of the holiday and its laws,” Malessa said.

In Amharic, which is rooted in the Ge’ez dialect and is the official language of Ethiopia, Rosh Hashanah is called “Brenha Serkan,” which essentially means “the rising of the dawn,” said Malessa. In keeping with the meaning of holiday’s name, the *kessim* “would rise before dawn on the holy day, to begin the first prayer service of the day before sunrise,” she said.

In Ethiopia, Rosh Hashanah was – and still is – observed during the course of one day, in contrast to the two days observed in the rest of

See “Ethiopia” on page 23

Objects.....

Ministry,” he said. “These objects are an irrefutable testimony to the Nazi horror and that Argentina was a refuge” for the Nazis.

Before receiving an award from DAIA, Security Minister Patricia Bullrich spoke to more than 200 attendees crowded in a small room where a sample of the objects were on display. She said her ministry has asked the judge in charge of investigating the discovery that all of the objects be donated to the Holocaust Museum of Buenos Aires, “so that all Argentinians and also visitors who come to Buenos Aires can see this shocking collection.”

Among the attendees were Germany Embassy officials, judges, intellectuals and businessmen, as well as the Jewish philanthropists Eduardo Elsztain and Marcelo Mindlin, who was named recently the president of the Holocaust Museum of Buenos Aires. “This collection is a great responsibility; we will prepare our site to receive this contribution,” Mindlin told JTA. “There will be a lot of fanatics that will want to enter, there will be people trying to steal objects,” he added, noting that “huge

security issues” must be worked out.

In June 2016, a collector from Argentina paid \$680,000 for a pair of Nazi-owned underpants and other memorabilia. “It’s impossible that one collector would have this invaluable amount of original Nazi objects,” DAIA vice president Alberto Indij told JTA. “These [objects] likely belonged directly to Hitler or Joseph Mengele. Someone escaped with all this objects. There isn’t a person that bought all this. No, these were Nazi officers trying to hide and save these objects.”

The magnifying glass and accompanying photo of Hitler were not put on public display, but Indij saw them at Interpol headquarters and confirmed their existence to JTA.

Mengele, a doctor who performed experiments on Jewish prisoners, lived in Argentina for a decade after the war in the same area of Buenos Aires where the Nazi medical tools were discovered. El Haike said there could be some link between Mengele and the recently discovered tools. “There are strong coincidences of tools, practices, locations; we are investi-

gating this hypothesis right now,” he said. “But for sure this did not belong to a low-level Nazi follower. This belongs to a very high-level Nazi official who brought them to Argentina.”

Argentina was a refuge for Nazis like Mengele after World War II. Adolf Eichmann was captured in the northern area of Buenos Aires in 1960, and another war criminal, Erich Priebke, also lived there. A video about the Interpol evaluation, dubbed Operation Near East since many objects of Asian historical significance also were discovered during the raids, was released on June 19 by the Argentine Federal Police.

The objects were found on June 9 following a nine-month police investigation. They are in the custody of the justice who is tasked with investigating the find, who has put a gag order on most aspects of the case. One suspect identified by the police is not in Argentina. There are Argentine and non-Argentine suspects being investigated, but no further details have been provided. Argentina has had an anti-discrimination law on the books since 1988 that covers the possession and sale of such objects.

Continued from page 18

September 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 Bi-Cultural Family Funday	28	29 CAS Board Meeting	30	31	1	2
For further details, please visit our website at www.ujf.org and click on Calendar. All dates and events were listed as of August 11. Contact individual organizations to confirm.						
3	4 Labor Day Gan Back to School BBQ JCC Center Women Annual Give a Child a JumpStart 5K 10K Run Walk	5	6 UJF Call Night	7 CAS Executive Meeting UJF End of Summer Lion/Pom Event	8	9
10 ADL Presents “Voices” Bi-Cultural Back to School BBQ Hadassah Installation & BBQ	11 Bi-Cultural “Take An Hour” series Rosh Hashanah	12 Bi-Cultural Back to School Night Joseph Macy Memorial Teshuva Lecture with Rabbi Saut Berman Women’s Philanthropy Meeting	13 Bi-Cultural Back to School Night 2 UJF Board Meeting	14 JCC Seniors Rosh Hashanah Luncheon	15 JCC SWNS Family BBQ & Shabbat Tiny Treasures Got Rosh Hashanah	16
17 FC Volunteer Kickoff JCC Family Fun Day & Membership Open House	18 Bi-Cultural Dad’s Kick Off Night Out JCC Board Meeting JWC Rosh Hashanah Ready	19	20 Erev Rosh Hashanah Rosh Hashanah Communal Dinner at Chabad	21 Rosh Hashanah	22 Rosh Hashanah	23
24 JCC Speak Up for Israel Jewish Historical Society “Stolen Nazi Art”	25	26	27 CAS Board Meeting Chabad High for the High Holidays JCC #raisingtodaykids Lecture	28 JGRC Meeting	29 Erev Yom Kippur	30 Yom Kippur

What did Israel's Ancient Kings Wear? Textile Discovery Provides "Hints"

BY ADAM ABRAMS
JNS.org

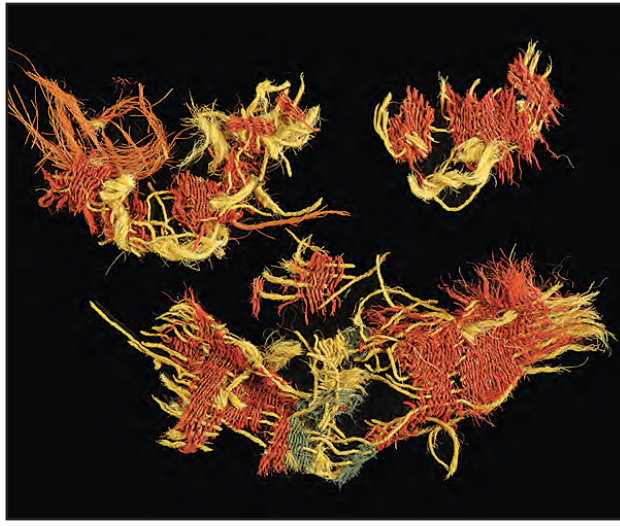
A newly published study may lend unprecedented insights into the wardrobe of Israel's ancient kings. The study – headed by Tel Aviv University's Dr. Erez Ben-Yosef and Dr. Naama Sukenik of the Israel Antiquities Authority, in collaboration with Bar-Ilan University – uncovered textiles colored with ancient plant dyes in Israel's southern Timna Valley. The textiles were used during the time of Kings David and Solomon. "If we want to know what these kings wore, the only hints are in these textiles discovered in Timna," Ben-Yosef told JNS.org.

The findings in the Timna Valley are the earliest evidence of advanced plant-based dyeing technology used in Israel and indicate that a complex biblical society, with an advanced ruling elite, dwelled in the valley some 3,000 years ago – contradicting previous understandings that a simple society dwelled in the area. The study was published recently in the PLOS ONE journal.

The excavations began in 2013 and recovered dozens of pieces of 3,000-year-old textiles, which were well-preserved due to the extremely arid climate in Israel's southern desert region. "I think it should be emphasized that Timna is a very unique case," Ben-Yosef said. "Even in the desert region of Israel, the preservation of organic materials there is unique. Other sites in the Negev like Avdat and Mitzpe Ramon are still not dry enough for this kind of preservation."

He added, "Timna is almost the only place where researchers find organic remains – including textiles, leather, animal skin and thousands of seeds for all of the seven plant species of the Holy Land."

Due to the unique conditions in the Timna Valley, the researchers were able to study the remains in laboratories and acquire additional insights regarding the findings. Materials used to weave the textiles



One of the textiles dyed with a red-and-blue pattern that was discovered in southern Israel's Timna Valley. Israeli researchers say the textiles were used during the time of Kings David and Solomon. (Photo by Dr. Naama Sukenik/Israel Antiquities Authority)

included wool, linen and goat hair, and range from "coarse and rough tent remains to very simple clothing," Ben-Yosef said.

Some of the textiles, which date back to the early Iron Age (12th-10th centuries B.C.E.), are adorned with a red-and-blue band pattern. Two types of Mediterranean plants were used to create this coloration using "a very sophisticated and complex dyeing technology," Ben-Yosef said.

The specially colored textile is the earliest evidence of such dyeing technology in the entire Levant region. Previous samples of dyed textiles had been discovered, but they were dyed using simple techniques that were not resistant to washing, such as smearing pigments on cloth. "They took these plants, which were actually cultivated especially for this industry,

and cooked them in water," Ben-Yosef said. "They added some chemicals to this mixture and then put the fleece into the water and boiled it, sometimes for several days, until there was a chemical bond between the dyestuff of the plants and the wool."

This process resulted in the fibers being dyed with "something that is very strong and resistant to washing," because the dyes are bonded with the wool itself. The strength of the chemical bond enabled the bright colors of the 3,000-year-old samples to be well-preserved.

Further, Ben-Yosef said the findings "are part of the very interesting question about King Solomon's mines – which were operated in the 10th century [B.C.E.] during the time of the united Israelite monarchy – and if Jerusalem really had control of the southern part of the country and the copper mines in the area. This new evidence shows a connection between the area of Jerusalem and the south."

Researchers deduced from the textile discovery that the elites who operated the furnaces in the mines had advanced knowledge about how to turn stone into copper, and "were part of a complex society with a ruling class who wore very fine clothing during the time of Solomon and David," Ben-Yosef said.

The fact that inhabitants of the desert-based Timna Valley had access to these fabrics and dyeing technology proves they had connections to other regions, including Judea and the areas around Jerusalem, during the biblical reign of Kings David and Solomon. "The bible states that, at the time, the region (Timna and the rest of southern Israel) was part of the Kingdom of Edom, but it was controlled by Jerusalem," said Ben-Yosef. "So now we can see physical evidence of connections between this region of Edom, far in the south, to the area around Jerusalem, through the trading of textiles for copper between the two regions."

Adult Volunteer Opportunities

CHABAD STAMFORD

Betsy's Buddies Volunteers

Weekly or bi-monthly commitments available. Betsy's Buddies is a program looking to facilitate one-on-one visitations between volunteers and homebound members in the community. Weekly or bi-monthly commitments available and a great opportunity for retirees and families. For more information, contact programs@chabadstamford.org.

Loaves of Love Deliveries

Every Friday after 10 am. Help distribute Loaves of Love packages to new neighbors, friends, new moms, the sick and ANYONE who could use a "Taste of Shabbat." For more information, contact programs@chabadstamford.org.

UNITED JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER STAMFORD, NEW CANAAN AND DARIEN

3SQUARE - In Connecticut, nearly one child in five is hungry or food insecure and does not get enough food outside of the free meal programs provided by the public schools. Women's Philanthropy of the United Jewish Federation of Greater Stamford, New Canaan and Darien is joining other programs throughout the country to do something about this situation in our own backyards. Help shop and pack bags to be delivered to area schools. Call 203-321-1373 for more information.

BACK TO SCHOOL SHOP

July 30, 2017 -- Many different volunteer opportunities still available! Back to School Shop provides economically disadvantaged elementary school children in the local community with brand new clothing and school supplies that will help build the confidence and enthusiasm they need for a successful start to the school year. Volunteers make Back to School Shop a magical day for children. For more information or to volunteer, go to www.ujf.org/backtoschoolshop and click Register to Volunteer.

SCHOKE JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE (JFS)

Drivers needed to deliver food from the Kosher Food Pantry to individuals in the community. For information: Rebekah Kanefsky at 203-921-4161 or rkanefsky@ctjfs.org.

JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER (JCC or The J)

Kosher Lunch Program for Seniors

Help set up and serve HOT Kosher lunch to seniors. **Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays at the JCC.** For more information or reservation: Connie Cirillo Freeman at 203-487-0983 or cfreeman@stamfordjcc.org.

JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF FAIRFIELD COUNTY (JHS)

Harry Rosenbaum JHS Judaica Library at the JCC

Cover 2-hour slot (or more) once a week. You'll be trained on the computer system and the arrangement of books in the library. Call 203-487-0957.

The Archives at the Jewish Historical Society of Fairfield County

Help protect the pieces of our Jewish history. Do you enjoy finding out about our region's early Jewish settlers? Do you want to help Jewish organizations retain their history and documents? Call 203-359-2196.

UJF's READING PARTNERS

Read one-on-one with Stamford public school children. One hour a week, mornings or afternoons. 13 elementary schools. Training, literacy, focused workshops and support network provided. Contact Marlyn Agatstein 203-321-1373 x115 or Readingpartners@ujf.org.

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE

Adult Circle Program

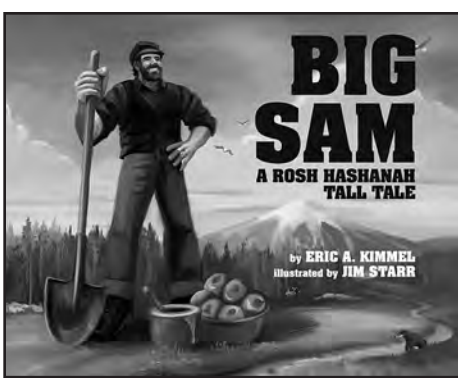
Serving adults with a full range of physical, mental and cognitive needs through one-on-one friendships and social opportunities with other adults in our community. Opportunities this year will include, social events, swim nights, bowling and community integration employment. For more information please contact Sarah Lipsker at Sarah@friendshipct.com.

Five New Kids' Books for the High Holidays

BY PENNY SCHWARTZ

(JTA) – A challah-baking Jewish giant, a young baseball champ and an endearing boy in a pumpkin patch are among the stars of five new books for kids published just in time for the High Holidays. This year's crop includes new stories by two children's book writers, David A. Adler and Eric A. Kimmel, who have entertained and informed decades of young readers. Three of the books are set during the holidays – Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year; Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement; and Sukkot, the seven-day fall harvest festival. Two others are uplifting, kid-centered stories about good deeds and repairing the world – themes that reflect the spirit of the holidays as a time for reflection as well as renewing commitments to do better in the year ahead.

"BIG SAM: A ROSH HASHANAH TALL TALE"
BY ERIC A. KIMMEL; ILLUSTRATED BY JIM STARR (APPLES & HONEY PRESS; AGES 3-8)
Samson the Giant, known as "Big Sam" to his friends, sets out to make a giant round challah in preparation for Rosh Hashanah. Big Sam begins by digging a big hole – the Grand Canyon – to use as a mixing bowl. Step by massive step, Big Sam crisscrosses the U.S., filling his bowl with a mountain of flour, a lake of oil, thousands of eggs and more. For water, he dams up the Colorado River and then whittles a giant California redwood into a spoon for stirring. But before he can celebrate the

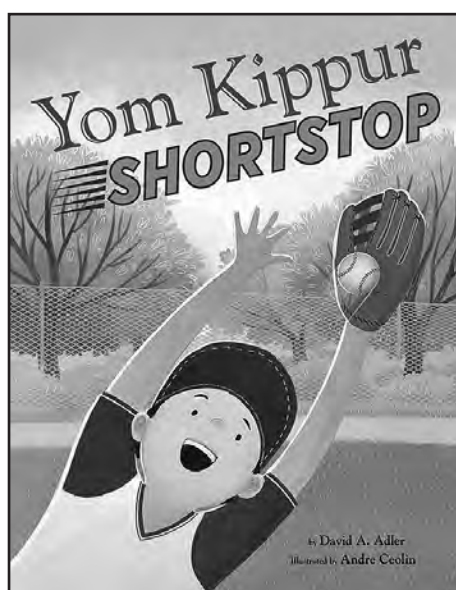


"Big Sam: A Rosh Hashanah Tall Tale" (Photo by Apples and Honey Press)

holiday, two bald eagles caution the giant that he's caused an awful lot of damage to the environment – flattening hills and threatening habitats. In the spirit of the holiday, Big Sam considers his misdeeds and sets about to make things right. When he's finally ready to dig in to the huge challah, Big Sam welcomes in Rosh Hashanah with his American tall-tale pals – Paul Bunyan and Slue Foot Sue among them.

"YOM KIPPUR SHORTSTOP" BY DAVID A. ADLER; ILLUSTRATED BY ANDRE CEOLIN (APPLES & HONEY PRESS; AGES 4-8)

The story opens as a young boy named Jacob makes the winning catch in the last inning of his Little League game. If they win the next game, they'll be the champions – but the final game is on Yom Kippur. After reminding Jacob that Yom Kippur is an important holiday, Jacob's father says, "Think about what you want to do."



"Yom Kippur Short-stop" (Photo by Apples and Honey Press)

Over the course of the next few days, Jacob does just that. Will he go to the game or spend the day at

synagogue with friends and family, observing the holy Jewish day? No spoilers here, but Jacob eventually realizes that he's part of many teams: his family, friends, his people and Little League.

This relatable, deftly told story taps into the reality facing many American Jewish families today – the conflicts between Jewish holidays and the secular calendar of school, sports, recitals and other activities. The story is, of course, inspired by the Jewish baseball legend Sandy Koufax, who sat out the opening game of the 1965 World Series because it was Yom Kippur. In his author's note, Adler introduces the Hall of Fame pitcher to his young readers.

"THE BEST SUKKOT PUMPKIN EVER" BY LAYA STEINBERG; ILLUSTRATIONS BY COLLEEN MADDEN (KAR-BEN; AGES 4-9)

Micah can hardly contain his enthusiasm for picking pumpkins
See "Books" on page 22

JFS. Continued from page 17

Schoke Jewish Family Service operates a Kosher Food Pantry all year-round for those in need. Anyone who knows of families or individuals who might benefit from JFS assistance in the future should contact Rebekah Kanefsky, L.P.C., JFS case management, at 203-921-4161 or rkanefsky@ctjfs.org. All requests and referrals are kept strictly confidential.

Anyone who would like to donate non-perishable kosher food items

such as canned fruits and vegetables, fish, pasta, beans and supermarket and pharmacy gift cards to JFS should contact Kanefsky at 203-921-4161 or e-mail at rkanefsky@ctjfs.org to arrange for drop-off at the Stamford office.

Rebekah Kanefsky, L.P.C., is the Schoke JFS director of case management.

Schoke Jewish Family Service is a recipient agency of United Jewish Federation of Greater Stamford, New Canaan and Darien.

September 2017

SUPPORT FOR THOSE IN NEED

SUPPORT

Schoke JFS Brain Fitness Group Program

Monday, September 11 from 1-2:30 pm and Monday, October 16 from 10:30 am-12 pm at the Stamford JCC. No Fee. Designed for individuals looking to stimulate their brain power with a meaningful experience focusing on insight, reducing stress, inspiring confidence, and providing practical support to help reach personal goals! Come and meet others and participate in some mental exercises to stimulate brain power. Light refreshments will be served. Advance registration by contacting Jami Fener, Brain Fitness Program.

Schoke JFS Kosher Food Pantry

Non-perishable staples for those in need. Donations welcomed. Please contact Rebekah Kanefsky at 203-921-4161 or email rkanefsky@ctjfs.org to arrange drop-off. For more information, contact JFS at 203-921-4161.

EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING

Schoke JFS Computer Training Courses

Variety of courses - all levels, individuals or small groups. Nominal fee. For more information, contact Ilene Locker at 203-921-4161 or iklocker@ctjfs.org.

Schoke JFS Seniors2Work

Job Bank for age 50+. Lower Fairfield employers can list full / part time jobs for dedicated, skilled mature workers. No fees. For more information, contact Ilene Locker or Jodi Maxner at 203-921-4161 or www.seniors2work.org

COUNSELING, MEDIATION & CRISIS

Schoke JFS For Children/Adolescents Diagnosed With ADD/ADHD

Wednesday afternoons. Finding Your Focus with Dr. Lee Combrinck-Graham MD. Service includes psychiatric evaluation, review of previous evaluations, family assessment, on-going support, and medication management. Qualifies for insurance reimbursement. For more information, contact Eve Moskowitz at 203-921-4161 or emoskowitz@ctjfs.org.

Schoke JFS College Ahead

Tuesday, December 5 at 7:30 pm. Deans of Admissions of prominent colleges will form a panel of experts to share information about the college admission process, academics, Jewish life on campus, residential options and other topics of interest. Claire Friedlander, JFS College Consultant, will moderate the discussion at the Stamford JCC, 1035 Newfield Avenue. Open to the community at no cost and registration is not required. Contact Claire Friedlander at 203-921-4161 or email clairef@ctjfs.org for more information

Schoke JFS College Counseling

Need help navigating the college admission and application process? Qualified, experienced assistance provided by Claire D. Friedlander, JFS College Consultant. Competitive fees. For more information, contact Claire Friedlander at 203-921-4161 or clairef@ctjfs.org.

Kuriansky Foundation Counseling Program of Schoke JFS

Qualified, licensed professionals provide counseling and psychotherapy to individuals, children, adolescents, families, couples and groups. For emotional support while unemployed, see Life Transitions below. Affordable fees, based on income; no one is "turned away". Insurance accepted. For more information, contact JFS at 203-921-4161.

Schoke JFS Individuals / Families in Crisis

Comprehensive services. Assistance with basic necessities, housing, medical, social, legal and financial matters. Fees based on ability to pay. For more information, contact: Rebekah Kanefsky at 203-921-4161 #128 or rkanefsky@ctjfs.org.

DIVORCE & BEREAVEMENT

Parent Education Program (PEP)

State-mandated workshop for divorcing parents with children at Schoke JFS Stamford. Fee is \$125 per person. Call for dates and to register at 203-324-3167.

Schoke JFS Focus on K.I.D.S.

For divorced or separated parents experiencing high conflict around parenting decisions. Teaches both parents strategies for communicating in a non-hostile manner. For more information, contact Erika Garcia at 203-921-4161 or erikag@ctjfs.org.

Schoke JFS Spousal Bereavement Groups,

Thursdays at 10:30 am at Congregation B'nai Israel, 2710 Park Avenue, Bridgeport. NEW LOCATION: Wednesdays at 11:00 am at the Schoke JFS Stamford office-733 Summer Street, 6th Floor Gather to share feelings and exchange ideas in a non-judgmental environment that provides emotional, practical, and spiritual support for grieving the loss of a spouse or significant other. Contact Amanda Geffner, Schoke JFS Therapist at 203-921-4161 or ageffner@ctjfs.org.

CARING FOR SENIORS

Need Help Buying Groceries?

Schoke JFS will provide information and eligibility assistance for financial help to purchase food. For a consultation, please contact Rebekah Kanefsky, Schoke JFS Case Manager at 203-921-4161 or email rkanefsky@ctjfs.org.

Schoke JFS Home Companion

A program placing fully trained and vetted home companions and CNAs matched to the needs and specific circumstances of senior clients. Trained aides assist seniors with daily activities, chores, and socialization. Certified Nursing Assistants can provide personal care, toileting, and medication management. Services are provided hourly, daily or up to 24/7 at competitive rates. Full supervision by professional Schoke JFS staff. For more information contact Isrella Knopf, Director of Senior Services at Schoke JFS at 203-921-4161 or email at isrellak@ctjfs.org.

JFS Residential Cleaning

Employ professionally trained individuals to clean your home and at the same time help support Schoke Jewish Family Service. Rates lower or competitive than other service providers. For more information, contact Jodi Maxner at 203-921-4161 or residentialcleaning@ctjfs.org.

Let's Talk - FAIRFIELD

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VOICES AND VIEWS

Responding to Gordis on Israel

Argue for Jewish Pluralism, but Don't Punish Israelis

BY RABBI MARK S. GOLUB

Once again, Daniel Gordis distinguishes himself as one of world Jewry's most thoughtful thinkers with his brilliant article in the *Times of Israel* ("Israelis don't care that you're insulted: An open letter to American Jews" – July 3, 2017).



Rabbi Mark S. Golub

With respect to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, Gordis summarizes the American Jewish responsibility to Israel in succinct words: "Your job, more than anything else, is to help us stay safe and alive..." Gordis differentiates between the limitation on American Jewry's right to try to influence Israeli defense policy and its absolute right to exert influence on Jewish personal status and observance in the Jewish state – a state created for all of the Jewish people.

My only point of disagreement with Gordis' argument concerns his encouraging American Jews to withhold financial support for the state of Israel and Israeli institutions.

Gordis encourages American Jews to punish the prime minister for backing out of the *Kotel* deal by using the power of the purse. But this position limits his stated principle – "Your job, more than anything else, is to help us stay safe and alive" – to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict alone.

Instead, his profound articulation of Jewish responsibility should apply to

every aspect of Israeli life and to every Jewish community in need. Unfortunately, there will be American Jews who will use Gordis' article as a justification for not supporting Jewish Federations and other Jewish agencies that sustain Israeli and Jewish life.

Zionism is a political philosophy; but Israel is not a political abstraction. Israel is flesh and blood.

American Jews must understand they are not in partnership with an abstract "State" of Israel – nor with any particular Israeli government. American Jews are in partnership with the people of Israel – men, women and children.

This does not mean that American Jews should accept Israeli social and religious policy without expressing their strong dissent.

Since my first trip to Israel in 1970, I have argued there should be a third section at the Western Wall. I have been a public supporter of Anat Hoffman and Women of the Wall, and the right of women to pray at the *Kotel*. Non-Orthodox Jews should have a place at the most important Jewish symbol in the world, if not the holiest.

So, of course, American Jewish leaders have every right to join in a larger American Jewish protest of any Israeli policy that delegitimizes non-Orthodox streams of Jewish life.

But there is one line they may not cross.

They may never make Israeli policy a rationale for American Jews to distance themselves from the state of Israel and the Israeli people!

They may never threaten Israel with less support because they feel insulted by a disproportionately small – but powerful – minority that is able to exercise "religious" control.

To the contrary – American Jewish leaders must be sure their members

know that whatever profound disagreements they may have with the way American Jewry is being treated, they would never support American Jews distancing themselves from Israel.

We may fight the Orthodox Rabbinate and its stranglehold on aspects of Israeli life. We may not abandon the Israeli people!

Many Israelis have spoken about the Israeli political system and the fact that small parties wield disproportionate power because they are necessary to maintain the governing coalition.

This political system, however, is what the Israeli people are so far willing to tolerate. Until the Israeli people change it, the Israeli government in power will be forced to make concessions to small parties that sustain their coalition. The Netanyahu government was caught on the horns of this political dilemma. Like all prime ministers before him, Netanyahu's goal is to continue to lead the government just as every American president tries to hold on to the reins of power.

Netanyahu faced one of two realities: to either follow through on his promise on the Sharansky compromise of an egalitarian section of the Western Wall and bring down his government, or to negate his promise and maintain his government. He chose the former – as would most politicians throughout history.

Might we wish that he had made the opposite choice? Whether one likes or dislikes Netanyahu, his decision in this instance is totally understandable in the world of *realpolitik*.

I applaud any American Jewish expression of disappointment and a sense of betrayal by the Cabinet's decision to refrain from implementing the Sharansky compromise. I applaud every Diaspora attempt to argue for the realities of Jewish pluralism and the legitimacy of non-Orthodox streams of Jewish life.

But American Jewish leaders should never suggest to their communities that Israel – and the Israeli people – merit one iota less emotional and financial partnership.

It is ironic that the suggestion that American Jews use the power of the purse to pressure Israel to adopt a given policy is exactly what most of us condemn in the BDS Movement, which also seeks to use financial power (divestments, boycotts and sanctions) to influence Israeli policy. American Jews must not resort to our own form of financial "divestment."

What leverage, then, do American Jews have if they can't use the power of the purse?

The only appropriate leverage American Jewry rightly has is the power of the argument. In the long run, it is the Jewish righteousness of the argument that must persuade the Israeli people to take action.

Finally, the way in which the problem of Orthodox monopoly in Israel is portrayed by Jewish leadership impacts American Jews who have never visited Israel in ways that are neither fair nor honest to Israeli life. Reading Gordis' essay, many non-Orthodox American Jews will imagine Israel as a place where non-Orthodox Jews will feel uncomfortable should they visit.

Every American and Israeli Jewish leader must make clear that when a non-Orthodox Jew goes to Israel, that Jew will enjoy a wonderful experience throughout the Jewish state without ever experiencing a moment of discomfort.

This is the larger reality which must be the context in which this valid philosophical and practical issue must be discussed and confronted.

Rabbi Mark S. Golub is the president and executive producer of Jewish Broadcasting Service, a PBS-style Jewish channel, and rabbi of Chavurat Aytz Chayim in Stamford.

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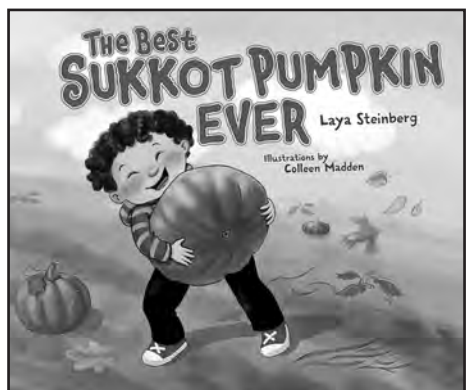
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Books

at Farmer Jared's pumpkin patch. He and his family join others from their synagogue who are helping the farmer pick the last of the season's pumpkins to donate to a soup kitchen. Micah, however, thinks he's searching for the perfect pumpkin to decorate his family's sukkah, the temporary hut Jewish families build to celebrate the fall harvest festival of Sukkot.

In this warm tale, Micah learns about generosity – he picks many more "perfect" pumpkins, turning them over to Farmer Jared to use to help feed the hungry. But what about Micah's own sukkah? As the day at the farm comes to an end, Micah is unexpectedly delighted when he discovers that a pumpkin headed to the compost pile offers up seeds he can plant for next year's "perfect"



"The Best Sukkot Pumpkin Ever" (Photo by Kar-Ben)

Sukkot pumpkin.

"MOTI THE MITZVAH MOUSE" BY VIVIAN NEWMAN; ILLUSTRATED BY INGA KNOPP-KILPERT (KAR-BEN; AGES 2-5)

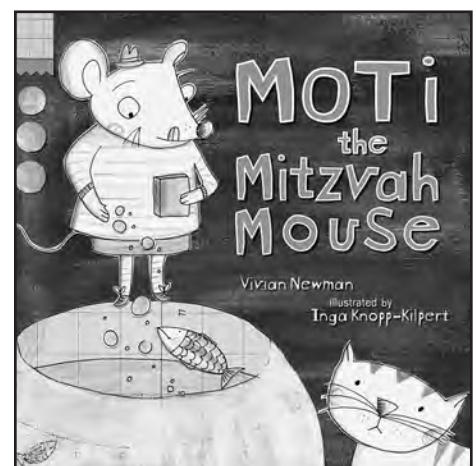
Moti, a busy little mouse with a big heart, lives under the sink at the Berman's house. When the Berman kids – and the family cat – are asleep, Moti secretly wanders the house finding ways to be helpful. Each page finds Moti doing a mitzvah: He feeds the fish, he puts away misplaced toys, he collects loose coins left around and puts them in the *tzedakah* box.

Lively illustrations make this an engaging, interactive read that kids will want to read again and again.

"IT ONLY TAKES A MINUTE" BY BRACHA GOETZ; ILLUSTRATED BY BILL BOLTON (HACHAI PUBLISHING; AGES 2-5)

A young boy in a *haredi* Orthodox family discovers that small acts of kindness can make a big difference – when he remembers to do them, of course. Throughout the book, the boy learns "it only takes a minute" to do good deeds, such as saying "thank you" or to thoughtfully say a *bracha* – a blessing – even when he is rushing for the school bus. At a soccer game, he takes a minute to appreciate the nature around him. While aimed at traditional religious families, the narrative touches a universal chord: that even young kids can, and should, make the effort to do what is right.

Continued from page 21



"Moti the Mitzvah Mouse" (Photo by Kar-Ben)



"It Only Takes A Minute" (Photo by Hachai Publishing)

Unearthed. Continued from page 16

“The excavation’s findings show that Jerusalem had extended beyond the line of the city wall before its destruction,” said IAA excavation directors Ortal Chalaf and Dr. Joe Uziel. “The

row of structures exposed in the excavations is located outside beyond the city wall that would have constituted the eastern border of the city during this period.”

At right: Newly discovered shattered jugs that the Israel Antiquities Authority says attest to the destruction of Jerusalem by the Babylonians. (Photo by Eliyahu Yanai, courtesy of the City of David Archive)



Ethiopian. Continued from page 19

the Jewish Diaspora and in Israel. The Ethiopian Rosh Hashanah is comprised of three prayer services: before dawn, in the afternoon and in the evening. There are four prayer services in the broader Jewish world for Rosh Hashanah and none begin before sunrise. “The holiday also has another name, ‘Zikir,’ which is similar to the Hebrew word for remember, ‘zachor,’” Malessa said.

Similar to the custom in other Diaspora Jewish communities, “everyone in the village wears new clean white clothes” for Zikir, she said, while it is “also customary for affluent people in the village to have very large feasts and invite others in the village to join in the festivities.” The festivities are meant to remind people of the day’s holiness, and to “make sure that during the holiday not a single Jew is left without food and enjoyment,” according to Malessa.

“People serve lamb – the most expensive meat available – and have special meals to observe the mitzvah of feeding their Jewish brothers and sisters,” she said.

Malessa’s mother, Esther Lakau, who lives in the Israeli coastal city of Ashkelon, said she “remembers hearing the *kessim* sound the *shofar* on the holiday.

“Everyone in the village prepared the food for the holiday a day in advance,” Lakau told JNS.org.

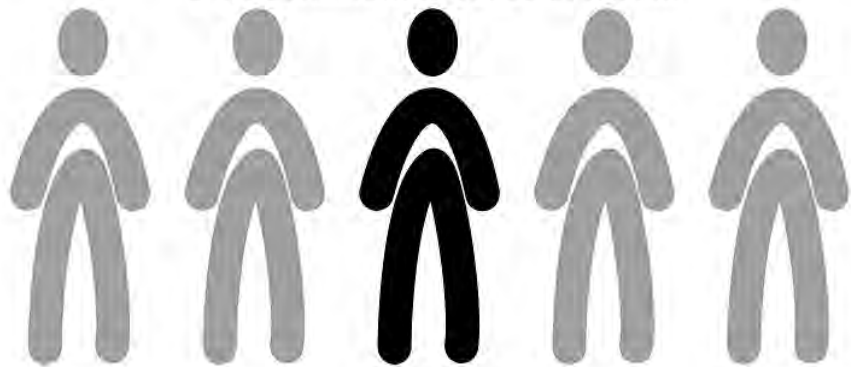
“The *kessim* would read from the holy scripts in Ge’ez and tell the history of the Jewish people,” she said. “They would speak of Abraham, Yitzhak and Yaakov, our great patriarchs and matriarchs, and the lessons we could learn from them in the present... Most importantly, the *kessim* would emphasize our long-held aspiration to celebrate Rosh Hashanah ‘next year in Jerusalem.’”

New immigrants from Ethiopia arrived at the Ibim Absorption Center in Jerusalem in October 2012, as part of aliyah and absorption efforts facilitated and funded by the International Fellowship of Christians and Jews. (Photo by Moshe Shai)



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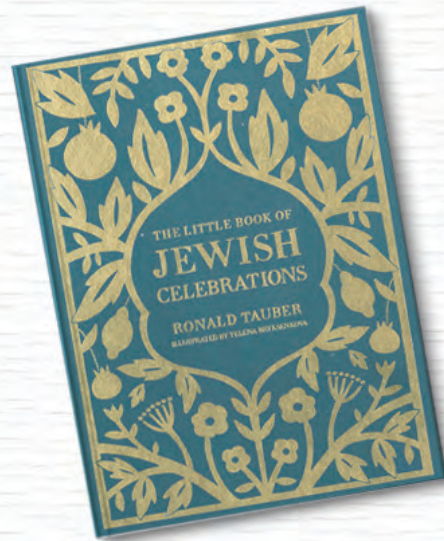
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