

Honoring the Winners of the Weitzman Youth Award— Cynthia Crispino, Strauss Mann, and Rebecca Powell UJA Gala on April 7

The Weitzman Youth Award for Jewish Philanthropy was founded by Jane and Stuart Weitzman. This award was fueled by the Weitzmans' vision that every Jew is responsible, one for the other, and their passion to ensure that the next generation truly be inspired to engage in Jewish philanthropy.

Please join UJA Greenwich Gala co-chairs Pamela & Matthew Chasin and Madeline & Scott Simon on Thursday, April 7 to honor the 2016 Weitzman Youth Award Winners. That evening we are also fortunate to hear from a compelling guest speaker, the moving and inspiring Alina Spaulding making her encore engagement here in Greenwich.



Alina Spaulding

The story of Alina Gerlovin Spaulding is a miracle story in which we each shared a part. The collective efforts of Federations like ours,

have allowed Alina and her family to be part of the American Jewish community. Alina immigrated to this country in 1979; her parents tried to leave the Former Soviet Union for several years, but were granted permission only when the worldwide Jewish community stepped forward. Alina's story is a powerful statement of the impact we have on people's lives, often for generations.

Today, Alina is involved in humanitarian causes in the United States and overseas. Alina has been awarded a number of highly prestigious fellowships including The Brandeis/Bronfman Institute for Informal Jewish Education, the Covenant Fellowship program for Jewish Education, and the Day School Leadership Training Institute at Columbia University. Alina is a motivational speaker and a development consultant. She tells us she can't wait to thank each of you for the difference you have made in her life, over three generations.

UJA Greenwich is proud to announce this year's

Continued on page 6



Thank you to all our generous donors for the 2015 UJA Greenwich Campaign. The 2015 Campaign total is \$2,334,578. Please refer to our Honor Roll insert to see where your money goes and for further acknowledgements.

Women's Philanthropy Education Symposium Welcomes Ethiopian-Israeli Keynoter Zion Uness

"Education is an unfinished symphony," a maxim traced to the late Israeli politician Zalman Aran, neatly captures the spirit of the Annual Education Symposium, which reconvenes on Wednesday, March 2. This celebration of life-long Jewish learning will once again resonate with that philosophy.

The 2016 Symposium brings a lineup of esteemed speakers to the Greenwich community, courtesy of JCC Greenwich and UJA Greenwich Women's Philanthropy. From a personal story of transcending borders and challenges to explorations of Jewish wisdom, art and cuisine, attendees will experience a rich morning of inspiration and enlightenment. At 9:45 am after a buffet breakfast beginning at 9:15 am, African-Israeli activist Zion Uness will spark the teach-in with his keynote entitled *Migration, Minorities and Human Potential: The Journey From Ethiopia to International Spokesman*. Break-out sessions will follow, from 11 am to noon, with signed books on hand for purchase throughout the morning.

Uness was seven years old when he walked from his native Ethiopia to a Sudanese refugee camp and joined 8,000 Ethiopian Jews spirited to Israel in 1984's covert Operation



Zion Uness

Moses. As part of his narrative of survival and transcendence, the acclaimed speaker addresses key ideals and perils of the Jewish State.

The Symposium continues with a choice of three topics presented in intimate group settings. At Beth S. Gersh-Nešić's session, *How Ten Jews Colored Avant-Garde Art*, culture buffs will consider the epochal work of leading Jewish artists and collectors in early 20th-century Paris, including Amedeo Modigliani, Marc Chagall, Chaim Soutine, Sonia Delauney, Man Ray and Gertrude, Leo and Michael Stein. Dr. Gersh-Nešić is the founding director of the education service, New York Arts Exchange, and a professor of Art History at Purchase College.

For foodies there's a cooking demonstration with pastry chef



Continued on page 5



PROUD AS PUNCH!

We send a hearty Mazel Tov! to our PJ Library Intern, **Cynthia Crispino** and fellow awardees, **Strauss Mann** and **Rebecca Powell** for receiving the Weitzman Youth Award this year and for their admirable achievements and commitment to service. Kol Ha-Kavod to these dedicated teens who will receive this Award at the UJA Gala on April 7th.

We Did It!

When it was time to plan the December Hanukkah Party event chairs, **Jamie Kesmodel** and **Lisa Small**, wanted to incorporate Tzedakah in the program. It was easy to pick the project-raising money to provide PJ Library subscriptions for the children who live at Emunah Center in Israel- a respite for children who cannot live at home due to poverty, abuse or neglect. We aimed to sponsor enrollments for each child, which would cost \$1,500. That felt like a lot to raise until **Claudine Cohen** and **David Rabins** stepped up. With their encouragement – and a generous matching gift to insure success – we did it! Emunah Center children will receive their very own PJ Library books for the year ahead. When asked to comment on behalf of herself and David, Claudine offered “PJ Library books are uniquely uplifting and meaningful. Helping to provide them to children who have such challenging circumstances just spoke to our hearts. It is our pleasure to participate in this effort.” PJ Library Chair, **Cori SaNogueira** adds, “My children adore receiving PJ Library books. I am so happy to live in a generous community which embodies giving and teaching our children to do the same.”



BIG THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS HOSTS



PJ Library big siblings gathered at Rosie's to enjoy reading their favorite PJ Library books out loud to family and friends. Readers Mason Davis, Mica Farstrup, Anna Sanders, Maya Zwilling and Stacey Zwilling kept the crowd of almost 20 riveted. Steve & Sindy Steinberg made everyone feel welcome and their Frozen Yogurt sundaes were an extra special treat!

JBabies thoroughly enjoyed the Baby Massage Workshop taught by Ricki Ainbinder of Mother Nurture Massage and Bodywork. With special thanks to our friends at Classic Kids Photography.

Our Tots at Sunday Fundays!



JBABIES Greenwich

Upcoming Speaker Event:
 Speech and Language Milestones and Mysteries
 Monday, March 28, 10:30 am @ JCC Greenwich, One Holly Hill Lane, Greenwich
 Allison Jackson M.S. CCC-SLP

Purim Party with mainstages PJ Library Storybook Theatre

Where books come to life with an interactive performance of *The Mystery Bear: A Purim Story*

Friday, March 18, 3:45 - 5 pm; \$36 per family
 Location to be posted on JCC Greenwich website

A hungry bear, waking from hibernation, finds himself in the home of an elderly woman as she celebrates the holiday of Purim. The bear eats delicious food, dances and even performs in the story of Esther. But what happens when everyone realizes the special guest bear is NOT a well-tailored Purim costume? Teaching artists use puppetry, storytelling and performance to bring Jewish literature to life. Participants create wacky characters, explore their bodies and get in costume to re-enact tales from Jewish folklore. The result is a Purim party unlike any other!

Event Committee: Marissa Cohen, Jill Derikava, Natalie Landres, Jordan Sanders

Register at JCCGreenwich.org or 203-552-1818

Tuesday, April 19 3:45 - 5:00 pm
 (Seder begins at 4:00)
 One Holly Hill Lane, Greenwich

It's the annual Mini-Seder just for kids! We'll exodus from Egypt, experience the plagues and journey together through the story of Passover. Laughter, learning, songs and spirit! Appropriate for young children, great for all ages!

Event Chairs: Lala Addeo & Anne Akyuz
 Free and Open to the Community

Register at JCCGreenwich.org or 203-552-1818

Passover Mini Seder



WHERE YOUR MONEY GOES...

UJA Supports UConn Hillel's Focus on Israel

To Reach Peace, Teach Peace!

On Thursday, October 22nd, about 35 people including students from the Muslim Student Association, and Arab Student Association came to meet in person with two representatives from Beit HaGefen. Beit HaGefen is an Arab-Jewish cultural center based in Haifa, where Jews and Arabs work together to promote coexistence. The two Israeli girls, Mai Ayub (a Christian-Arab), and Ella Chernyak (a Russian-Jew) talked to UConn's student population about diversity in Israel.



Israel Advocacy Seminar

Due to students' requests, and current events in Israel, UConn Hillel invited StandWithUs to come and facilitate a workshop on how to effectively advocate for Israel on campus, and give the students a breakdown on how the situation escalated to where it is now. About 20 students attended the session, which generated positive feedback, with participants saying that now they are fully aware of what's going on in Israel and how they can better respond to other students' questions regarding the issues.



NEPAL: New Skills and New Hope for Mira with Help from JDC

Ten months have passed since twin earthquakes struck Nepal, killing more than 8,800 and injuring 22,300 people, destroying nearly 600,000 homes, and damaging another 280,000. Since then, Nepali survivors have faced tremendous hardships as they cope with the devastating loss of loved ones, homes, livelihoods, and basic community infrastructure.

Mira is one such survivor now working to rebuild her life. Prior to the earthquake, she lived with her husband and two children in Godavari, a slum in Kathmandu valley. She had always worked from home, knitting sweaters to add to the household income. Life was not easy, but Mira and

her husband worked hard to make ends meet, and had recently managed to add a room to their small home. However, when the first earthquake hit, their house was split in two and their lives were turned upside down. The family lost not only the roof over their heads, but also Mira's workplace and income.

Following the earthquake, Mira and her family were forced to move into a tent as they began to repair their home and rebuild their lives. Amid the chaos, Mira learned about an opportunity to attend training classes in sewing and tailoring. The training class, provided by JDC in partnership with the local NGO, Homenet, is already having

a positive impact on Mira's life. It is empowering her to enhance her skills so that she can increase her family's income, and at the same time instilling in her the self-confidence she needs to return to her daily routine. Mira's class is part of a larger effort to assist vulnerable women to build stronger, more resilient realities for themselves and

their families. This includes increasing access to reliable childcare, providing tools lost in the earthquake to regain their livelihoods, training in home-based skills with higher earning potential and psychosocial counseling.

In recent months, Mira and her husband have succeeded in repairing part of their home, and have returned to live there. Mira continues to be a member of her working group, and recently assumed the role of group treasurer. Thanks to your investment, JDC has helped Mira and her family rebuild their lives, and strengthen their resilience for the future.

JDC PARTNERS ON THE GROUND:

JDC's disaster response and recovery efforts in Nepal are made possible thanks to the generous support of the Jewish Federations of North America as well as thousands of individual donors and foundations. JDC's Nepal relief partners include: The Afya Foundation, All India Disaster Mitigation Institute, Heart to Heart International, Homenet, IDF Field Hospital, Integrated Development Society – Nepal, Israel Trauma Coalition, Magen David Adom, Possible Health, Rural Reconstruction Nepal, Teach for Nepal, Tevel b'Tzedek and UNICEF.



COMMUNITY DIRECTORY

- UJA Greenwich
(203) 552-1818
- Anti-Defamation League
(203) 288-6500
- Bi-Cultural Day School
(203) 329-2186
- Carmel Academy
(203) 863-9663
- Chavurat Deevray Torah
(203) 637-9478 or (203) 637-5877
- Chabad Lubavitch of Greenwich,
Camp Gan Israel of Greenwich
(203) 629-9059
- Gan of Greenwich Preschool
(203) 869-1742
- Congregation Shir Ami
(203) 504-2424
- Greenwich Reform Synagogue
(203) 629-0018
- Hebrew Wizards
(203) 249-4036
- JCC Greenwich
(203) 552-1818
- Jewish Family Services of Greenwich
(203) 622-1881
- Jewish High School of Connecticut
(203) 357-0850
- Jewish Senior Services
(203) 365-6400
- Selma Maisel Nursery School at TS
(203) 622-8121
- Temple Sholom
(203) 869-7191

SHABBAT & HOLIDAY CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES

- Fri., Feb. 19 5:14
- Fri., Feb. 26 5:23
- Fri., Mar. 4 5:31
- Fri., Mar. 11 5:39
- Fri., Mar. 18 6:46
- Fri., Mar. 25 6:54
- Fri., Apr. 1 7:01
- Fri., Apr. 8 7:09
- Fri., Apr. 15 7:16

Greenwich Jewish News

Published by
UJA Greenwich
One Holly Hill Lane
Greenwich, CT 06830
(203) 552-1818
www.ujafedgreenwich.org

BRIAN NEILINGER
PRESIDENT, UJA GREENWICH

CAROLYN SURGENT
PRESIDENT,
WOMEN'S PHILANTHROPY

PAMELA EHRENKRANZ
CEO

TRACY DANIELS
WOMEN'S PHILANTHROPY &
PJ LIBRARY DIRECTOR

NANCY ZISSON
EDITORIAL CHAIRMAN

JUDITH MARGOLIN
EDITOR

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

JCC and UJA Greenwich Join with Friends of Yemin Orde to Present a Community Concert

Yemin Orde Youth Village is set atop the Carmel Mountains in Edenic surroundings. Today 440 students call the 77-acre campus home and thrive on its progressive philosophy. But there's more to this than meets the eye. All of the Village's young residents have experienced severe trauma in their lives.

Yemin Orde provides a safe haven for disadvantaged and at-risk youth from Israel and around the world. They come from war-ravaged countries and from families in crisis. The educational community of Yemin Orde, which was founded in 1953 to accommodate Holocaust orphans and immigrant children during the large wave of *aliyah* following WWII, is one place where they are welcome. Among the Village's many innovative initiatives is the Yemin Orde Youth Choir. Now in its 20th year, the Choir gives its young participants a creative tool to cope with their traumas, to build

self-esteem and to repair their lives.

On Thursday, March 31 at 7 pm, the Choir will present a special concert at the White Plains Performing Arts Center (11 City Place, White Plains). Sponsored by JCC Greenwich and UJA Greenwich in collaboration with Friends of Yemin Orde, the performance is part of the Choir's two-week U.S. tour to promote awareness and understanding of the challenges faced by at-risk youth throughout Israel.

Concert-goers will be treated to a repertoire spanning contemporary and traditional Israeli songs as well as original numbers written by the Yemin Orde youth. The Choir's ten touring members, 15 to 18 years of age, are from Ethiopia, France, the former Soviet Union and Brazil as well as from Israel. In addition to performing in the Jewish State, the Choir has brought its uplifting music to global audiences including those



in Auschwitz, Poland, to mark the reopening of the town's sole surviving synagogue. In the U.S. the Choir has performed at the Israeli Embassy in Washington, D.C. and at Jewish day schools, synagogues, community centers and private residences.

For its upcoming tour, the Choir and its adult chaperones will stay with local families along the circuit. With engagements in

Manhattan, New Jersey, Atlanta and Los Angeles – and, of course, in the Greenwich area – the visiting artists and their American hosts will have an opportunity to learn about each

other's culture and lifestyle.

Additional details are available at yeminorde.org.

Tickets for the March 31 concert in White Plains can be purchased at jccgreenwich.org.

JCC Greenwich Fashions Private Meeting with Isaac Mizrahi at the Jewish Museum

by Laura Blum

Few designers have the versatility or sheer chutzpah of Isaac Mizrahi, who rose to fame as a celebrity couturier, and who helped trail-blaze affordable fast-fashion. Fewer still have also hosted a talk show, performed an Off-Broadway cabaret, been the subject of a movie and written several books. And how many fellow fashionistas were schooled at – and repeatedly expelled from – a Yeshiva, for sketching trendy outfits in the Bible? You get the point: Mizrahi's career has not exactly been cut from a pattern.

Loving tribute to his adventurous style and spirit are paid in the Jewish Museum's upcoming retrospective, "Isaac Mizrahi: An Unruly History." On Wednesday, March 23, the fashion icon will share behind-the-scenes stories of his runway inspirations and pursuits, during an exclusive conversation with JCC Greenwich. Following our intimate sit-down with Mizrahi, we'll tour the exhibition under the private guidance of Assistant Curator Kelly Taxter. On display will be highlights of the Brooklyn-born designer's more than 30 years in the fashion industry, from his early apparel and semi-couture confections to his popular line for discount retailer Target. The lookback on Mizrahi's work – which marks a first – will also document his performing arts and other ventures that have made him a household name.

The Museum is located at 1109 Fifth Avenue at 92nd Street, New York City. Tickets can be purchased at jccgreenwich.org. Space is limited; so first come, first served. **Guests are required to pre-register to attend this event.**



Isaac Mizrahi

Carmel Academy's Shorashim Program

A Transitional Kindergarten Where Young Minds Take Root



Give your child the gift of time. Carmel Academy's Transitional Kindergarten Shorashim Program is designed to bridge the year between preschool and kindergarten, providing students with a strong foundation for success in elementary school and beyond.

- Reggio Emilia inspired classroom
- Child-centered, play-based curriculum
- Experienced early childhood educators
- Kindergarten preparedness
- Low student-teacher ratios
- Experiential, integrated Judaic learning
- Access to all specialists and afterschool programs

To learn more, please contact Daneet Brill, Director of Admissions, at 203-983-3503 or daneet.brill@carmelacademy.com



CARMEL ACADEMY

A private school for children of all Jewish affiliations serving students from Transitional Kindergarten through 8th Grade.

Education Symposium, Wednesday March 2

Continued from page 1

and author Paula Shoyer. Her latest opus, *The New Passover Menu*, will furnish recipes for the session and perhaps for holiday tables around town the following month. Co-sponsored with the Jewish Book Council, this salute to culinary freedom promises to be both delicious and entertaining.

Those hungering for a different sort of Jewish immersion may opt for Moulie Vidas, Princeton University's Chair in Talmud. Hailed as a groundbreaking scholar and a witty, vibrant speaker, Dr. Vidas will discuss his critically lauded book *Tradition and the Formation of the Talmud*, giving attendees a ringside seat to the jousts of the ancient sages.



Beth S. Gersh-Nešic

"A strong Jewish community needs strong Jewish enrichment, and the Annual Education Symposium significantly advances that mandate," said co-chair **Andi Fern**. Echoing her sentiment, **Barbara Salop** remarked, "The Symposium is a signature event in the Greenwich Jewish calendar, with this year's program as only the most recent evidence." Like Fern and Salop, **Nancy Zaro** also serves as an event chair.

As a new resident in town, she mentioned that she welcomed the "chance to meet like-minded Greenwichites who seek to deepen their knowledge of Jewish tradition." Honorary chair **Joan Mann** concurred that "the compelling roster of speakers and topics brings together old and new friends in a shared passion for Jewish culture."

The Symposium cover is \$60 if purchased in advance, and \$72 at the door. Sponsorship opportunities are also available, beginning at \$136 (which includes a free book). The deadline for registration is Wednesday, February 24. Newcomers to the Greenwich community within the past 12 months are invited to attend as a guest of UJA/JCC Greenwich. Registration can be secured at jccgreenwich.org or 203.552.1818. For additional details, contact Tracy Daniels at Tracy@ujafedgreenwich.org.



Paula Shoyer



Moulie Vidas

Cultivating Pearls in Greenwich

The Pearl Society will launch in Greenwich on Thursday, March 10th with renowned guest speaker Jeannie Smith. Jeannie is the daughter of Polish rescuer Irene Gut OpDyke, a brave figure who received international recognition for her life-saving actions during the Holocaust, while working for a high ranking German official. Jeannie travels worldwide to tell her mother's inspiring story and encourage all to recognize that "One person can make a difference!"



The Pearl Society, founded by young leaders of Women's Philanthropy in neighboring West Hartford, CT, is for women under age 50 who want to participate in philanthropic giving and join in the support of Jewish welfare. Chaired in Greenwich by **Jaime Eisenberg** with committee members **Jessica Esterkin** and **Jill Derikrava**, the Greenwich Pearl Society is being formulated to provide an avenue for education, personal growth and community-building to women who want to make a difference, model involvement for their families and make a first gift to UJA. A relative newcomer to Greenwich, Jaime Eisenberg says: "I am honored and excited to be Chairing this new program for UJA Greenwich Women's Philanthropy. My mother was a national leader in Women's Philanthropy, and I'm from a home where the UJA was a big part of our lives. There are so many great women here who can do so much together and I love the aspect of spending social time with my friends with the benefit of also doing good works." Women's Philanthropy Vice President **Debbie Daum** will steward the effort on behalf of the Women's Philanthropy board. "Pearls" will be asked to make a gift of \$180 or more to the UJA annual campaign and attend select educational and social events sponsored by UJA Greenwich. Tracy Daniels, Director of Women's Philanthropy and the Greenwich PJ Library adds, "We are delighted that this dynamic trio will spearhead the launch of Pearl Society in Greenwich. This kick-off will also celebrate friends and donors at the \$180 support level who support the UJA mission. It's amazing what we can do with fifty cents a day, and we want to express our gratitude to all who are making a difference through UJA giving."

Women and Leadership: A Visit with Miri Eisin

February 25th • 75 Holly Hill Lane • 10:30 AM

Enjoy an insider's view of the Israeli Defense Forces, and a visit with an extraordinary woman to hear her unique perspectives on how women can navigate the highest levels of influence.



Colonel (Ret), IDF, former Deputy Head of Combat Intelligence, Media Advisor to Israel Prime Minister, Senior Fellow at Bar Ilan University.

Miri will share her personal account as a woman in the Israeli military and explore the questions:

- How are women getting along in Israeli society— Is it a modern Western or Middle Eastern Paternal society?
- Where is the glass ceiling?
- What has been the impact of Israeli women over the last 70 years on the political decision-making arena in this center of world focus?
- What can American women learn from these questions?

Miri Eisin served in the Israeli intelligence community and retired from active duty at the rank of full Colonel in 2004. Over her twenty year career in the military, she served as the Deputy Head of the Combat Intelligence Corps, the personal assistant to the Director of Military Intelligence and as the Intelligence Officer in combat units and research departments. After retiring from the military, Miri was the Israeli Prime Minister's international media advisor from the Second Lebanon War until the end of 2007. Over the last ten years, she has been one of Israel's main presenters, speaking about regional geo-politics and security-related issues in the media worldwide. She teaches at the Interdisciplinary Center in Herzliya, and works extensively with the media, student groups and diplomats. Miri is also a Senior Fellow at the Center for International Communication at Bar Ilan University.

This event is a gift to the community. RSVP required to Tracy@ujafedgreenwich.org.

UJA Women's Philanthropy 2016

Federation's Women's Philanthropy engages Jewish women in the fulfilling work of making the world a better place. In every community, we are building and supporting Jewish life for today and for generations to come. Federation inspires and empowers women to become change-makers. We are sisters and daughters, mothers and friends, compassionate and committed women at every stage of life and career.

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| March 2 | Annual Education Symposium |
| March 30 | Board Meeting with Guest Mitch Chupak, Director, Jaffa Institute & Beit Ruth |
| April 7 | UJA Gala |
| September 11-13 | Lion of Judah Conference, Washington DC |
| November 16 | Year-End Brunch |

Weitzman Youth Award Winners—

Continued from page 1

winners of the prestigious Weitzman Youth Award. Here they are:

Cynthia Crispino has been a dedicated volunteer within the Greenwich Jewish community since before her Bat Mitzvah. She has worked as a volunteer for the Greenwich PJ Library program of UJA Greenwich for four years, devoting more than 160 hours of service to the program. She has supplied numerous brand new, age appropriate toys for children to enjoy at Greenwich PJ Library events. Cynthia is working to help fund subscriptions to PJ Library for children in Greenwich. She also volunteers her time at Greenwich Reform Synagogue, volunteers for JFS's Supermarketing for Seniors program and is a Friendship Circle teen volunteer. Cynthia is a junior at Greenwich High School, a



Cynthia Crispino

member of the Israel Club and received the "Diamond in the Rough" Award last year as a Freshman.

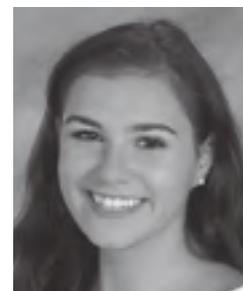
Strauss Mann is the founder and co-chair of Dress to Impress, held at The Jewish Board's Hawthorne Campus. Adolescent boys at this residential treatment center are challenged by severe psychiatric conditions. The program collects formal clothing that enables the young men to own their first suits to wear for job interviews, helping them take the next step in their challenged lives. Strauss is a member of the J-Teen Leadership circle, a partner organization of JCC Greenwich, a co-chair of Brunswick School's Make-A-Wish Foundation Club, and he volunteers at both Ice Hockey in Harlem and Habitat for Humanity. Strauss is a junior at Brunswick School where he is



Strauss Mann

a hockey goalie.

Rebecca Powell has been a member of Hebrew Wizards for the past 11 years. As the Lead Teen Wizard, Rebecca has been working with the congregation on a philanthropy project called, "Think Jewishly: Raising Money for Jewish Causes." This year Rebecca has helped the Wizards raise more than \$1500 for the Emunah Children's Center in Afula, Israel. Rebecca is a member of the JCC Greenwich Teen Action Committee, volunteers at the Pacific House Homeless Shelter in Stamford, and she sings at the Mews Senior Home. Rebecca is a senior at Greenwich High School where she is on the Relay for Life Committee, Student Government, Cancer Awareness Club, and the Gender Equality Club.



Rebecca Powell

Nancie K. Schwarzman
Fine Homes Specialist

136 East Putnam Avenue, Greenwich, CT 06830
 Bus 203.869.0500 Direct 203.637.6225
 Cell 203.233.7572 Fax 203.869.7055
 Email nschwarzman@bhhsne.com

BERKSHIRE | New England
 HATHAWAY | Properties
 HomeServices

© 2013 An independently operated member of BHH Affiliates. Equal Housing Opportunity



Carmel Academy's PALS Program Marks Major Milestone

The ringing in of 2016 marks a major milestone for Carmel Academy's groundbreaking PALS program as it enters the second decade of serving Jewish children with learning disabilities. Carmel recently named veteran special educator Jonathan Holub, a popular, seasoned teacher and administrator, to the helm of the program, and put in place a new leadership structure, as the program marks its 10-year anniversary of becoming the only integrated program for students with learning disabilities within a Jewish day school setting in the tri-state area.



Jonathan Holub has been named to head Carmel Academy's groundbreaking PALS program for students with learning disabilities.

Creating a program for Jewish children with learning disabilities is a natural outgrowth of Carmel's commitment to providing a meaningful Jewish school experience for all children. Prior to PALS (Providing Alternative Learning Strategies), there was no other day school in the region offering a comprehensive program for Jewish students with learning disabilities—a devastating reality for many parents whose wish was to have their children receive a day school education. Carmel created a program rich in Jewish culture that is creative in design, rigorous in curriculum, robust in support services and dedicated to ensuring individual success.

"The school's inclusion and integration model prepares students to be successful as independent learners," Holub said. "Our PALS graduates have moved on to nearly every private Jewish high school in the region, as well as public and independent high schools. Their accomplishments speak to the success of our program."

Joining the leadership team is PALS teacher Roberta Broz, who will assume responsibility of PALS high school coordinator, and Emily Klein, whose strong background in elementary special education and support services will help PALS early childhood students transition into the Lower School PALS program.

FEBRUARY FREEBIE

REGISTER IN FEBRUARY + GET A FREE CAMP POOL PACK: BEACH TOWEL + GOGGLES

ALL CAMPERS REGISTERED BY FEB. 29 WILL BE ENTERED IN A RAFFLE FOR A FITBIT

LEAP OVER TO **CAMPGAN.COM** AND REGISTER NOW!

GREENWICH STAR

CAMP GAN ISRAEL

Welcome to Greenwich!

WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

We are delighted to welcome and introduce you to Greenwich. If you know of newcomers in town who would like to learn more about our vibrant and exciting Jewish community, please contact us at 203-552-1818.

We will extend a hearty "Welcome!"

Bonnie Citron, Chair, UJA Greenwich Newcomer Committee

From the Rabbi

☆ Temple Sholom's Centennial –
A Milestone in the History of Jews in Greenwich ☆

by Rabbi Mitchell M. Hurvitz, Temple Sholom

This year Temple Sholom celebrates its Centennial anniversary. The milestone celebration is not just for the Temple itself, but for our entire local Jewish community. In 1636, when the colony of Connecticut was established, it was a Puritan settlement. The royal charter established the Puritan faith as the official religion. By 1708 Connecticut agreed to “tolerate Anglicans, Quakers, and Baptists.” The charter officially denied Jews “the right to build synagogues, to gather for worship, or to build a cemetery.” It wasn’t until 1850 that Jews could vote or hold public office in Connecticut. Even with Connecticut’s original anti-Semitic stance, Jews still did settle here. In 1916, ten Jewish families established the Greenwich Hebrew Institute. For the first three years the Greenwich Hebrew Institute held High Holiday services in Abrams Hall on Greenwich Avenue. In 1919 a small house of worship was built on East Elm Street, and a formal charter was granted from the State of Connecticut.

Six years later this tiny Jewish community finally was able to begin holding weekly Shabbat Services. In 1931 the local Jewish cemetery was purchased on Riversville Road. In 1934 the first local community Seder was held. During the

1930’s and 40’s the Greenwich Hebrew Institute deepened its spiritual and community ties. They held their first confirmation class, established our local Jewish Welfare Fund, and pulpit exchanges were initiated with the local churches.

With the onset of World War II, the Greenwich Hebrew Institute was immersed in helping support the war efforts. Many of the congregants’ sons went to war. After the war concluded, the Service flag was proudly displayed; 32 blue stars for each local Jewish young man who served and one gold star in loving memory of Aaron Resnick Z’L, who was killed in the Battle of the Bulge.

Over the next thirty-five years the Greenwich Hebrew Institute became our community’s body, heart, and soul for all Jewish activities. By the early 1950’s the East Elm Street facilities were no longer adequate, and in 1953 the building was sold to the Town of Greenwich. The Greenwich YMCA hosted Jewish worship services, and the First Presbyterian Church hosted the Hebrew School. In 1955 the Greenwich Hebrew Institute was renamed Temple Sholom and became the “Putnam Hill” neighbor to Christ Church, just as is the case today.

In 1981, Rabbi Hillel Silverman, Temple Sholom’s Rabbi Emeritus, arrived in our

community. Under his rabbinic leadership, partnering with lay leaders, the soul of the Temple of Greenwich continued to grow rapidly. In 1990 the decision was made to completely rebuild the Temple, and a mere ten years later a new school wing was added.

Temple Sholom grew from the original ten families in 1915, to a membership of 90 families in 1950. From an originally unwelcomed religious group, Temple Sholom is now an intrinsic part of the community we call home. Temple Sholom itself has more than 650 households as part of its congregational family, but just as significant, the local Greenwich Jewish family is much larger as well. Today, besides Temple Sholom, we have regular local worship services and programming with Chabad Lubavitch of Greenwich, Chavurat Aytz Chayim, Greenwich Reform Synagogue, Hebrew Wizards, and Shir Ami. Additionally, we have our local Jewish communal

day school, Carmel Academy, and the Jewish communal institutions of Jewish Family Services of Greenwich, JCC Greenwich and UJA Greenwich.

100 years ago the single Greenwich synagogue barely had enough members for a minyan. Today, thousands of local Jews gather at their respective Greenwich houses of worship so as to celebrate the High Holidays. The Greenwich local Jewish community is a paragon of success. The numbers themselves are amazing, but it’s much more than growth in numbers. Every Greenwich Jew is part of a communal tapestry that has and will continue to significantly influence both Jewish and secular local life.

The previous generations of our local Jewish community wanted to assure that we continue providing Jewish vibrancy and commitment for the generations of local Jews to come. Temple Sholom’s Centennial is a special opportunity for remembering all that came

before us; what has changed; and what’s exactly the same. But even more important than looking back at this milestone anniversary is our opportunity to travel together into the future as we dream about what we can yet become over the next 100 years for our Greenwich Jewish community.

No matter our synagogue or Jewish communal affiliation, we can build together our Jewish future and embrace together our sacred responsibilities. We can continue to create a welcoming Jewish community that honors diversity. Together we communally open our gates, forge bonds, and deepen our spiritual experiences on all levels. Let us continue, as our Hebrew Scriptures proclaim: “Let us go from strength to strength.”

Editor’s Note: The rabbis of Greenwich alternate in providing messages for each issue of the Greenwich Jewish News.



Steve and Hersh Batkin

Personal & Commercial
Insurance



LAMPE-BATKIN ASSOCIATES
LLC

203.302.3880

www.lampebatkin.com

Hebrew Wizards Rocking Ruach Weekends
Join Us for Our
Rocking Share Shabbats & Sundays at Wizards
March 4 & 6 Naomi Less
April 1 & 3 Ellen Allard
May 13 & 15 Doni & Eric
Check Us Out Online www.Hebrewwizards.com

An Acoustic Evening with MATISYAHU
Presented by the Amy Lipton z'l Israel Action Fund
 Temple Sholom
Celebrating 100 Years
Sunday, April 17, 2016 at 4:30 pm
at Temple Sholom 300 E. Putnam Ave., Greenwich CT
Tickets will be open to the public beginning February 29.
GENERAL ADMISSION: \$36 per adult, \$18 for guests under 21.
VIP SEATING: \$100 per person, limited availability.
203-869-7191, www.templesholom.com

JOIN US! Rocking WIZARDS Open House Weekend!

Friday, March 4th and Sunday, March 6th
Rock and Roll with Hebrew Wizards



Friday, March 4:
Rocking Share Shabbat at 6pm
at Rabbi Deb's
Featuring NY City's Naomi Less

Sunday, March 6:
Pre-Party for Purim at 9:30am
at the Greenwich YMCA



HebreWizards.com • 203-249-4036

Enriching Your Passover Experience

With Rabbi Sklarz of GRS

In 2016, Passover begins with the first Seder on Friday evening, April 22 – just two months away! To ensure that you'll be able to enjoy Passover to the fullest, you're invited to join Rabbi Andy Sklarz of Greenwich Reform Synagogue for a lively, eye-opening discussion of the origins of the *Haggadah*, how to choose or create one for your seder, and ideas for spiritually "spicing up" Passover!

Amazon lists literally dozens of *Haggadot* on its website, while many families go beyond that to create their own versions. Rabbi Sklarz will explain the structure of the *Haggadah*, create a basic outline, and show you how to give the *Haggadah* your own personal flavor. A variety of professional and homemade *Haggadot* will be available to share and study.

You'll gain a new understanding of how you can adapt the basic elements of the Seder and make them resonate for your own family – from blessing the wine, washing hands, eating the bitter greens, breaking the matzah, through telling the story of the Exodus from Egypt, to the eating of the *maror*, Hillel sandwich, enjoying the meal, finding the *Afikomen*, and to concluding the seder with pouring wine for Elijah and more singing.

This workshop will be presented on Sunday, April 3 at 9:30 a.m. at the North Street School, giving you ample time to create your own *Haggadah* in time for your seder!

SAVE THE
DATE

PURIM
IN OUTER
SPACE

MARCH 24 / 4PM / YMCA
ChabadGreenwich.org

Celebrate Purim!



Sunday, March 20

10:30 – 11:30 am • North Street School

- Creative megillah reading
- Superhero-themed carnival
- Dress as a superhero and win a prize!

Friday, March 25

6:30 pm • GRS Offices

- Family friendly superhero Purim shpiel
- All those in costume receive a prize!
- Be a superhero by bringing macaroni & cheese to donate to Neighbor to Neighbor

All are welcome!



Greenwich Reform Synagogue

For more information, contact the GRS office at 203-629-0018 or info@grs.org

Chabad Preschool – the Best in Content and Curriculum

Chabad Preschool is now accepting registrations for the 2016/2017 school year. Our preschool is set apart by our incredible and dedicated teachers as well as our team of weekly specialists including art, gardening, soccer, sports, music, nature and dance professionals. In addition, Chabad Preschool partners with a team of therapists from the community who are at the top of their professions. Our developmental professionals come in on a regular and on an as needed basis. All matters are kept confidential. All are truly partners in the education and development of our children. Chabad Preschool offers the very best in content and curriculum, and most importantly, our teachers are second to none. Our Preschool families come from diverse Jewish backgrounds and all are welcome. We are truly a community. Please call 203-869-1742 to learn more and to schedule a private tour. Visit our website: www.ganofgreenwich.org.

Temple Sholom's Learning Center Helps B'nai Mitzvah Families "Put God on the Guest List"

When preparing for a bar or bat mitzvah, it can be challenging to find the right balance between religious and social obligations and expectations. To make this easier on both students and their parents, the Temple Sholom Learning Center has developed a 6th-grade family education program that brings both topics to the forefront in an interactive way.

"I understand that it is very easy to get caught up in the party planning aspect," said Barry Gruber, Director of Congregational Learning. It makes sense to address the upcoming celebration and remind students that there is deep religious and spiritual significance to becoming of age in the Jewish religion."

On January 10, the 6th-grade students and their parents joined together at Temple Sholom for a full day of hands-on learning to support the theme of "Adding Spiritual Meaning to Your Simcha." Three 20-minute workshops were held to educate families about the 613 mitzvot through relevant, experiential activities. While one group learned how to tie the fringes on a tallit, another learned how to wrap tefillin using "fruit by the foot" candy. The third station encouraged families to discuss a variety of good deeds as a starting point for choosing a mitzvah project.



"It's really important to me that students are not just lectured at, but that there is also valuable experience that makes them know what something feels like, instead of having to imagine," said Gruber.

The morning continued with "Putting God on the Guest List," a parent-focused learning session led by Rabbi Mitchell M. Hurvitz, which served as a nice transition for families entering the temple's annual Party Planning Showcase.

Said Gruber: "To walk into a room where you see a photographer, a caterer, a DJ, etc., and suddenly you turn the corner and there's an organization asking if you are interested in volunteering, this packages a bar or bat mitzvah as it should be packaged."



ISRAEL CLUB UPDATE

It's been a busy year for GHS Israel Club thus far. At each meeting club members convene for a range of activities, from spinning Hanukkah dreidels, listening to Israeli music, to discussion of current events and Israeli trivia. Highlights of recent club meetings include a visit from former club president Cassie Bardos who shared her on-campus experience at Tufts University.



Noam Sohn addresses GHS Israel Club members.

Cassie spoke about the various groups on campus, some of the recent BDS and anti-Israel sentiments, and how important it has been for her to find her place among the pro-Israel organizations and advocacy groups.

Another guest visitor to the Israel club was Noam Sohn. He grew up locally, graduated from Carmel Academy, and later chose to serve in the Israel Defense Forces. Noam shared his story of service to Israel and why it was important to him to defend Israel.

Coming up on February 25th, the Israel Club will participate in the annual GHS Diversity Week. With the support of UJA Greenwich, Colonel Miri Eisin, will address more than 100 students. Colonel Eisin served as head of the combat intelligence corps. She also served as the Israeli Prime Minister's international media adviser, and she is a senior fellow at the Center for International Communication at Bar Ilan University. She will speak about the hopes and challenges Israel faces as well as the incredible achievements Israel has made in its first 67 years as a state.



**Advanced
Electronic
Systems, LLC**

Howard Friedman
President

Phone (203) 846-0700

www.aesalarm.com

Fire and Burglar Alarms Serviced Locally Since 1973

Sotheby's

INTERNATIONAL REALTY



Suzanne Shemin Katz

d: 203.618.3161

c: 917.902.4472

suzanne.katz@sothebyshomes.com

GREENWICH BROKERAGE | sothebyshomes.com/greenwich
I PICKWICK PLAZA, GREENWICH, CT

Operated by Sotheby's International Realty, Inc. Sotheby's International Realty® is a registered trademark.

ADULT EDUCATION

Are you considering taking a class or attending a lecture this winter or early spring?

Look no further!

Here is a list of what's going on right here in the greater Greenwich Jewish community.



Chabad of Greenwich

Early Morning Torah Study

Monday-Friday, 6:30-7 am

Sunday Morning Torah Study

9:30-10:30 am, email RabbiFeldman@ChabadGreenwich.org for info.

Parsha with Classic Commentaries

Thursday, 9:45-10:45 am

Chassidic Philosophy Class

Shabbat, 8:45-9:30 am

Fairfield University Carl & Dorothy Bennett Center for Judaic Studies

"Living in the Occupied Territories: A Liberal Academic Wrestles with 'Israeliness,' Jewishness and Nationalism"

Dr. Teddy Weinberger, Tuesday, February 23, 7:30 pm, Dolan School of Business Dining Room

10th Annual Lecture in Jewish-Christian Engagement: "Gospel Dynamics: When the Jewish Jesus Isn't Enough"

Dr. Michael J. Cook, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Cincinnati

Co-sponsored by The Center for Catholic Studies

Wednesday, March 16, 7:30 pm, Dolan School of Business Dining Room

Inaugural Diane Feigenson Lecture in Jewish Literature: "Exotic Exploits and Contentious Chapters in Modern Yiddish Literature"

Dr. Dovid Katz, Wednesday, March 30, 7:30 pm, Quick Center for the Arts

Carl and Dorothy Bennett Lecture in Judaic Studies: "Not in God's Name: Confronting Religious Violence"

Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks, author and former Chief Rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations of the British Commonwealth, Monday, April 18, 7:30 pm, Quick Center for the Arts

Greenwich Reform Synagogue

Advanced Beginner's Hebrew

Thursday evenings at 7:00 pm with Rabbi Andrew R. Sklarz.

Torah Study

Sundays 9:30 am with Rabbi Andrew R. Sklarz.

Jews in the News

Sundays at 10:30 am with Rabbi Robert Rothman.

To register for these free classes, call 203-629-0018 or email info@grs.org

JCC Greenwich

Hebrew Café Conversational Hebrew 101

Mondays, 9:30 am; One Holly Hill Lane, Greenwich. Please register at JCC website.

Davis Film Festival

"Dough" Wednesday, March 9

"Rosenwald" Wednesday, April 20

See p. 11 for details. Both films at: 7:00 pm at Bow-Tie Criterion Cinema, 2 Railroad Ave., Greenwich

Shir Ami

Boomers and Beyond, Sacred Aging

Monthly conversations with Rabbi Vicki L. Axe and Friends; March 2, March 30, May 4, June 1

Temple Sholom

Shabbat Study with Temple Sholom Clergy

Saturdays, 9-10 am

Lunch & Learn

Tuesdays, 12-1pm. Kosher lunch provided

Jewish Meditation

Tuesdays, 7:15-8:30 pm. Contact Cantor Asa Fradkin at cantorasa@templesholom.com.

Adult Learning with Rabbi Mitch

Sunday, March 6, 10:15-11:15 am

Centennial Speaker: Foreign Affairs Columnist Bret Stephens

Thursday, March 10, 7:30 pm

UJA Greenwich Women's Philanthropy

"Women and Leadership": A Visit with Miri Eisin

Thursday, February 25; 75 Holly Hill Lane, 10:30 am

Women's Education Symposium

Wednesday, March 2; 9:15 am-12 noon. At the home of Kim and Marty Sands.

TALMUD LUNCH AND LEARN

INTERACTIVE LEARNING
FROM GREAT TEACHERS

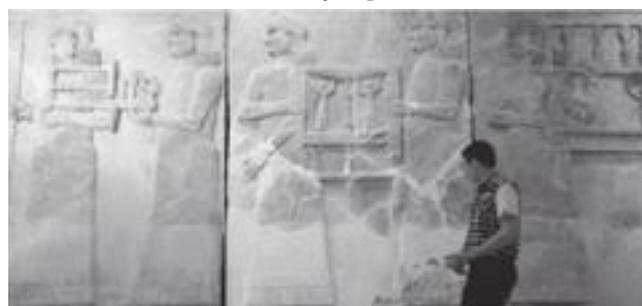
THURSDAYS, 12:30-1:30PM
FREE LUNCH, OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY
ONE HOLLY HILL LANE, GREENWICH

Sponsored by Rita Edelston



- Feb. 18 "The Missing Moses," with Rabbi Shaul Robinson
- Feb. 25 "Seeing God as Refuge in the Psalms," with Dr. Shalom Holtz
- Mar. 3 "The Decrees of Usha," with Rabbi Ysoscher Katz
- Mar. 10 "Monarchy vs. Democracy," with Rabbi Asher Lopatin
- Mar. 17 "Judaism & the Modern Quest for Spirituality," with Rabbi Jonathan Morgenstern
- Mar. 24 "What You Never Knew About the Book of Esther," with Cantor Matt Axelrod
- Mar. 31 "Will the Real Month of Adar Please Stand Up?," with Rabbi Elisha Paul

Check JCC calendar for updated schedule



Seeing God as Refuge in the Psalms

With Dr. Shalom Holtz February 25

Glimpse the connection between God as refuge and the temple as refuge as we explore the Psalms and ancient MidEast artifacts. Enjoy an illustrated talk by the Chair of Yeshiva University's Robert M. Beren Department of Jewish Studies and author of *Neo-Babylonian Trial Records*.



The Decrees of Usha

With Rabbi Ysoscher Katz March 3

How did the Talmudic rabbis use law as a social engineering tool? Back by popular demand, the Chair of the Department of Talmud and Director of the Lindenbaum Center for Halakhic Studies at Yeshivat Chovevei Torah will share his scholarship.



Monarchy vs. Democracy

With Rabbi Asher Lopatin March 10

What kind of state does the Torah advocate?

Glean insights with the President of Yeshivat Chovevei Torah Rabbinical School.

A special invitation to join the **PJ Library**

Grandparents Circle 2016

Bubbies, Books and Beyond:

How we influence the Jewish future of our Grandchildren

Did you know... the gift of award-winning PJ Library books has more impact than you might think and Greenwich is a leader among PJ Library communities

We invite you... to become a part of the Greenwich Grandparents Circle and join with others who are influencing the Jewish future in a significant way by building community and sparking imagination through books and music whether your grandchildren live near or far

Please Join Grandparents Circle Chairs
Rita Edelston, Deborah Simon, Nancy Zisson...

Monday, May 2nd at 9:30 am
For coffee and conversation about grandchildren
with Beth Grafman, Program Office, Harold Grinspoon Foundation

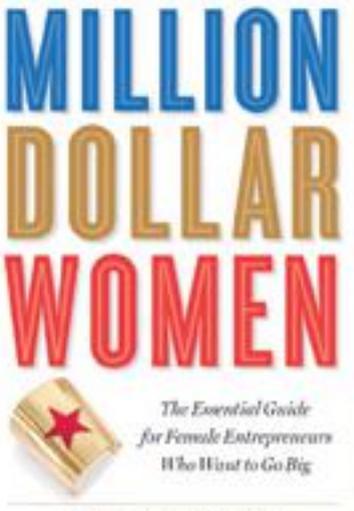
Contact:
Nancy Zisson (nszisson@gmail.com) or Tracy Daniels (Tracy@ujafedgreenwich.org)
"Through PJ Library, Jewish values, goals, traditions and connections are preserved for current and future generations."

"USEFUL AND INSPIRING!" —DIANE KON FURESTENBERG

MILLION DOLLAR WOMEN

The Essential Guide for Female Entrepreneurs Who Want to Go Big

JULIA PIMSLEUR




Tuesday, May 10, 10 - 11:30 am
Location: TBD; \$10

The CEO and Founder of Little Pim, a system for teaching foreign languages to young children, shares her business story and teaches you how to network, when to delegate and how to clear emotional hurdles en route to joining the million-dollar club.
Register at jccgreenwich.org or 203-552-1818

FILM FESTIVAL



Bow-Tie Criterion Cinemas at Greenwich Plaza, 2 Railroad Avenue | 7 pm • \$15; or \$118 for all 10 films

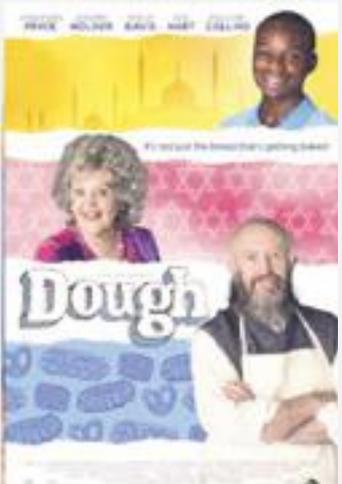
Children helped to provide meals of Israeli food for the clients of the Kosher Food Pantry at Stamford's Jewish Family Service



Dough

John Goldschmidt
Comedy, Drama / U.K. / 94 min.

In this heartwarming British dramedy, Jonathan Pryce stars as an old Jewish baker whose faltering business is inexplicably saved by his young apprentice, a Muslim refugee from Darfur.



MARCH 9

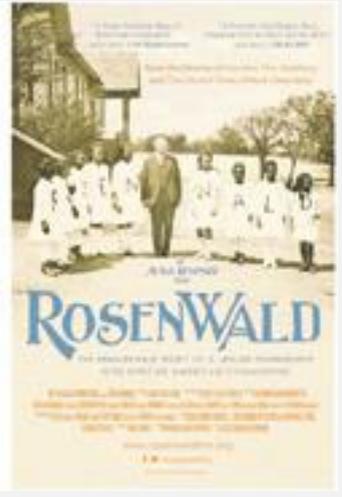
Author GERALYN LUCAS shared her story of survival in collaboration with JCC Greenwich and the Breast Cancer Alliance at VINCE



Rosenwald

Aviva Kempner
Documentary / USA / 90 min.

Gordon Parks, Ralph Ellison and Langston Hughes were among the 660,000 black children across the segregated American South to benefit from the 5,400 schools built by Sears and Roebuck tycoon Julius Rosenwald. Don't miss the important new film from Aviva Kempner (The Life and Times of Hank Greenberg, Yoo-Hoo Mrs. Goldberg).



APRIL 20

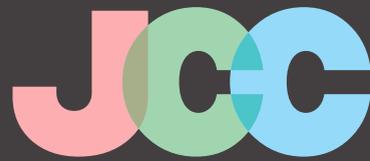
Mission to Argentina November 2015



Big Day Out 2016 - Fun for Everyone!



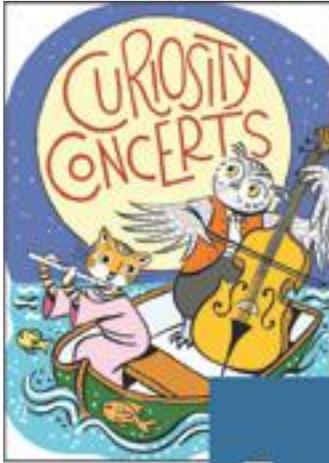
WINTER
2015



GREENWICH

Youth

Educate
Stimulate
Motivate



Sunday, February 21, 2 - 3 pm & 4 - 5 pm

For children and families • A gift to the community
Greenwich Arts Council Meeting Room
299 Greenwich Avenue, 2nd Floor

Sruli and Lisa have been featured on PBS and NPR, and the Family Band has headlined at world festivals from Krakow to Toronto in addition to playing at Citifield. Their mix of traditional music, song, dance and fun will have you clapping, singing and dancing in the aisles.

JCC Greenwich and Curiosity Concerts Present:

Sruli and Lisa's Family Band Klezmer Concert!

Register at JCCGreenwich.org or 203-552-1818



JCC Greenwich/PJ Library's Hanukkah Party



Tots! (18 months to Preschool)

Tots play and learn with pre-school educators. Moms and dads drink coffee and schmooze. Get connected with PJ Library and Jewish Greenwich! Baby siblings welcome!

Sundays 3:45 - 5 pm
Activity begins at 4 pm
75 Holly Hill Lane

In partnership with the Harold Grinspoon Foundation



Little Yogis

Sunday, March 6

Come play yoga with Karma Kids Yoga of NYC. Weave stories with our bodies, minds and souls as we become animals, trees, flowers and warriors -- and honor the ways children learn.



Play-Doh Party Time

Sunday, May 1

Make it! Play with it! Take it! The possibilities are endless!

Sponsored by The Cooper Family in honor of Eliza.

Register at JCCGreenwich.org or 203-552-1818



KIDS! (Grades K-2)

Sundays 3:45 - 5 pm
One Holly Hill Lane
\$20 per child



Purim Hamantaschen Making

Sunday, March 6

What's your favorite filling for these traditional triangle cookies? Try both the traditional and unusual fillings!



Celebrate Israel

Sunday, May 1

Israeli snacks, special community service project, games and activities!



Matzah Factory

Sunday, April 3, Carmel Academy, 210 Lake Ave.
\$36 per family

Session 1: 3 - 4 pm • PJ Library Families
(Recommended for children ages 3-7 with a parent.)

Session 2: 4 - 5 pm • All ages
(Recommended for 3rd graders and up with a parent.)

Why is this matzah different from all other matzahs? Because you and your family are making it from scratch!



Register at JCCGreenwich.org or 203-552-1818

New Home of GRS Under Construction!

After almost three years of planning, budgeting, endless and expensive presentations to a variety of town agencies and planning commissions, plus a Federal lawsuit, Greenwich Reform Synagogue began building its new home at 92 Orchard Street in Cos Cob last November. Blasting and rock crushing were completed in January, 2016.



Projected construction milestones for the coming months include completion of the foundation during March; building the steel supporting structure in April; constructing the walls, windows and roof during the summer;

and finishing the site work, landscaping, and interior finishes during the fall of 2016. Please visit the GRS website (www.grs.org) for updates, webcam photos, and information about hardhat tours.

Carmel Academy Students Witness Engineering History Students Visit New Tappan Zee Bridge Construction Site

Carmel Academy's eighth grade engineering class witnessed history in the making during a visit to the construction site of the New Tappan Zee Bridge Project. The bridge, which connects Westchester and Rockland counties, is being designed and built by a consortium of some of the world's best-known and most highly regarded design, engineering and construction firms. Carmel's students met with one of the project team members, Andrew O'Rourke, and learned firsthand about the rising of the new 3.1-mile bridge over the Hudson River.



Carmel Academy's eighth grade engineering class recently visited the construction site of the new Tappan Zee Bridge project to learn firsthand about one of the country's greatest engineering projects.

O'Rourke spent close to two hours with Carmel Academy's eighth graders on the construction observation deck as he brought to life the intricacies of such an enormous and historic engineering feat. The trip was part of the students' yearlong CIJE Tech STEM Engineering class, which integrates hands-on, project-based engineering

and technology with a full physical science curriculum. Throughout the year, the students are exposed to career engineers to learn about real-world engineering.

"To be able to see this engineering design process brought to life will hopefully resonate as the students start to consider their futures," said Middle School Science Teacher Rhonda Ginsberg. "Engineering is one of the most in-demand professions. At Carmel, we are

giving our students a chance to see if this is something they are interested in at an early age. It's an incredible opportunity. We are laying the groundwork for our students to pursue science and engineering degrees and careers." One thing Ginsberg said she knows for sure is that it will be very exciting for the students when the bridge is complete and they get to drive over it – having witnessed its design and construction.

Bi-Cultural Students Contribute to David's Treasure Tree Closet

A task force of seven Bi-Cultural Day School students recently took ownership of restocking the shelves at David's Treasure Tree Toy Closet, a community service of the Pediatric Unit at Stamford Hospital, which offers new toys for any child admitted to the hospital. As part of Bi-Cultural's Chessed Committee, 8th-grade students spent over a month soliciting donations and collecting more than 130 new toys to ensure that this special service continues to provide treasures for all children in the hospital in need of a gift.



Front row: Shira Cohen, Maya Jubas, Sarah Hanna. Back row: Rabbi Yehuda Jeiger, Sara Gatz, Rebecca Dayan, Rina Marlowe, Ashley Shapiro and Robin Bennett Kanarek, who started David's Treasure Tree Toy Closet in 2003 in memory of her son, David Bennett Kanarek.

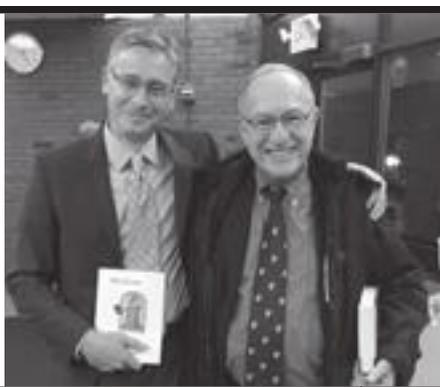
Jewish High School of Connecticut Holds Open House for Prospective Students



During the Open House, prospective JHSC students and parents had the opportunity to visit the school's science labs. In this picture, JHSC senior (in the white lab coat), Greg Feldman, is teaching visitors about the anatomy of a cow heart and how it is similar to and different from a human heart. JHSC is located in the Stamford Technology Center and students have full use of professional grade labs.



**UJA
Annual Meeting
with
Alan Dershowitz
December 2015**



Stay in the know about our Greenwich Jewish Community.

Send your email address to renana@ujafedgreenwich.org. We will keep you up to date on everything you need to know – about kids, teens, young families, travel, PJ Library, newcomers, films, Lunch and Learn, Israeli Emissary Program, Women's Philanthropy, Israel and other Greenwich Jewish organizations.



JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES OF GREENWICH

Online Video Support Group Project Update

Jewish Family Services of Greenwich is proud to be one of the first social services agencies in the U.S. to widen its therapeutic reach via its pioneering **Online Video Support Group Project (OVSGP)**. The online groups are run by experienced social workers and offer the same supportive group dynamic as in-person gatherings. Our groups make it possible for people in similar situations to create a caring community right from their own home.

Naomi Kohl, our **OVSGP** Project Manager, has been working hard to let the community know about this wonderful resource, and 2016 is off to a great start. We are excited that our new Children of Holocaust Survivors (2G-COH) Online Video Conversation has been quite successful and is reaching people all across the country! Interest continues to pick up. We had our second monthly meeting in January. Our partnership with the ALS Association of CT has been productive as well, and they continue to renew the groups being offered to their clients. We also have our regular online video support groups, for those who cannot easily get out of their house due to caregiving responsibilities, and for those who are chronically ill.

The **OVSGP** provides vital emotional support without sacrificing much-needed energy and travel time. Groups are available to those of any religious background, and sliding scale fees are available. The services are provided using secure, state-of-the-art live video conferencing technology. Anyone with a computer and Internet access can join an online video support group.

Our online support groups are ongoing; if you know of anyone who might benefit from one of the groups we offer please have them contact us.

For more information please contact Naomi at nkohl@jfsgreenwich.org, or visit our website.



Supermarketing for Seniors Receives National Attention

Word of Supermarketing for Seniors (SFS) has gotten around. We recently took a call from Nora Kraidman, Director of Senior Services at the Jewish Family Services Agency of Las Vegas. She'd heard JFS Executive Director Lisa-Lorraine Smith discuss the shopping program at the national Association of Jewish Family and Children Services convention, and wanted more information about it with an eye toward starting something similar in Las Vegas.

SFS Program Director Elyse Brown spoke with Ms. Kraidman and with Katie Brase, her Volunteer Coordinator, about how our program is organized: intake and case monitoring; **SFS** partnership with the Greenwich Department of

Social Services and Greenwich Hospital; promoting the program; recruiting and hiring volunteer and stipend shoppers; identifying funding sources and applying for grants; all after first conducting a needs assessment to determine if the program would make sense for Las Vegas. By the end of the call, they were excited to see if they could make it work in their community. And we look forward to the eventual launch of a **Supermarketing for Seniors** program in the desert.

If you are interested in volunteering for **SFS**, or if you know someone who could benefit from this program, please contact Elyse Brown, Program Director, at 203-622-1881 or ebrown@jfsgreenwich.org.



**JFS
Annual Benefit
and Auction
Sunday, March 6th**

For details and to view the Auction site, go to JFSGreenwich.org/tickets

Take a look at our tempting auction items, and click through on the links provided for full details. If you can't attend the JFS Benefit but would like to place a proxy bid, please contact co-chair Lala Addeo at 203-622-1881. You do not have to be present at the benefit to place a winning bid.

Auction items include: sports tickets, restaurants, Town Party and Capitol Theater tickets, jewelry, hair salon service, and summer 7-day stay in Downtown Park City vacation home for up to 16 people.

Thank you for supporting JFS.

Jewish Health and Healing Center *Bikur Cholim* (Friendly Visiting) Winter Jewish Holiday Program Schedule

Please join us for any or all of our upcoming Jewish Holiday programs at Greenwich Senior Facilities.

Also, remember that the community is always invited to our **Shabbat Service** every Friday at 1:00 pm, and our **Renewal of Body, Renewal of Spirit Healing Service** the third Monday of each month at noon. Both of these programs take place in the Greenwich Hospital Chapel.

HOLIDAY/PROGRAM	DATE and TIME	FACILITY	JFS PARTNER
Discussion	Thurs., Feb. 18; 1:15 pm	RH	JFS, GCS
Shabbat w/Cantor Asa	Thurs., Mar. 10; 2 pm	GW	TS, JFS
Shabbat w/Carmel Academy	Fri., Mar. 11; 10:30 am	Mews	CA, JFS
Discussion	Thurs., Mar. 17; 1:15 pm	RH	JFS, GCS
Purim	Tues., Mar. 22; 10:30 am	Greens	TS
Purim	Tues., Mar. 22; 11:15 am	GW	CSA
Purim	Wed., Mar. 23; 11 am	Mews	JFS, GCS
Purim	Thurs., Mar. 24; 11 am	NW	GCS, TS, JFS
Purim	Thurs., Mar. 24; 1:30 pm	RH	JFS, Grwch clergy, Volunteers
Shabbat w/Cantor Asa	Thurs., Apr. 7; 2 pm	GW	TS, JFS
Shabbat w/Carmel Academy	Fri., Apr. 8; 11 am	GW	CA, JFS
Discussion (one week early due to Passover)	Thurs., Apr. 14; 1:15 pm	RH	JFS, GCS

KEY: Carmel Academy – CA, Congregation Shir Ami – CSA, Greenwich Chaplaincy – GCS, Greenwich Woods – GW, Greenwich Reform Synagogue – GRS, Nathaniel Witherell – NW, Jewish Family Services of Greenwich – JFS, The Greens – Greens, Temple Shalom – TS, The Mews – Mews, The River House – RH

SPECIAL DONATIONS to JFS

In Honor of:

Suzanne Katz, by Ruth Schreiber
Michael Krauss, by Lindsay Weinberg

In Memory of:

Ronald Werner, by Phyllis Shapiro and Marty Flashner
Alan Goldstein, by Michael Goldstein

If you would like to honor or memorialize someone special in your life or community, you may do so by making a donation to Jewish Family Services, and we will send a note of acknowledgement to the person or family involved, informing them of your generosity in their honor/memory. You will have the satisfaction of knowing that your gift helps make it possible for us to continue to provide the highest quality programs, resources, and services to all who come to us for assistance.



JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES OF GREENWICH

Spring 2016 Programming

BETTER TOGETHER BOOK CLUB:

A MONTHLY INTERGENERATIONAL EXPERIENCE

This unique initiative spearheaded by Carmel Academy, and in partnership with JFS of Greenwich, offers participants a chance to get to know a different generation – for adults to look at books, concepts, and historical events through the eyes of today's Jewish youth, while the youth get to know generations that came before them. To join, contact Lisa Goldberg at JFS. *See our website for details.*

Wednesdays, 2/24; 3/16; 4/13; 5/8; 6/15. 10:30-11:30 am

BOOK BEAT: A WOMAN'S NIGHT OUT

This is a thought-provoking book club with themes relevant to Jewish women of all ages

Facilitated by Judi Margolin; meets at JFS.

3/2; 4/6; 6/1, 7:30 pm

Our next books are:

Famous All Over Town by Bernie Schein.

March 2

The Nightingale by Kristin Hanna.

April 6

GREENWICH HOSPITAL SHABBAT

Every Friday, JFS leads a Shabbat Service in partnership with the Greenwich Hospital Spiritual Care Department, at 1:00 pm in the hospital's Chapel. The service is broadcast LIVE on Channel 6 in all patient rooms. *Joan Mann, Spiritual Care Counselor at JFS; Lisa-Lorraine Smith, Executive Director of JFS; and Rabbi MJ Newman, Jewish Chaplain of Greenwich Hospital, lead the service.*

INTERFAITH CONVERSATIONS

This series gives people a way to explore the opportunities and challenges associated with interfaith living.

Mondays, 2/29; 4/18; 6/6. Meeting is at 7:00 pm in a private home.

RENEWAL OF BODY, RENEWAL OF SPIRIT

JFS, in partnership with the Greenwich Hospital Spiritual Care Department, conducts a Healing Service for the community in the hospital's Chapel. *Joan Mann, Spiritual Care Counselor at JFS; Lisa Goldberg, Program Director, Jewish Health and Healing Center of JFS; and Rabbi MJ Newman, Jewish Chaplain of Greenwich Hospital, lead the service.*

Mondays, 3/21, 4/18, 5/16, 6/20. 12:00-12:45 pm

Volunteer Opportunities

Bikur Cholim/Friendly Visitors/Grocery Shopper

Do a mitzvah! Get involved! JFS urges you to make a difference in the life of a Greenwich senior. Volunteers are needed to visit and/or grocery shop for home-bound and nursing home residents. The time commitment can be as little as one hour per week. The rewards are immeasurable!

B'nai Mitzvah Resource Center

This unique program provides young people with a carefully selected list of bar/bat mitzvah volunteer ideas and arranges one-on-one meetings with program participants and their parents to design and implement projects that cater to the child's individual interests and personal goals.

All program information is available at www.JFSGreenwich.org
or call 203-622-1881 for more information.

Spring 2016 Counseling and Support Groups

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

For those who have lost a family member or friend within the past five years. *Facilitated by Lisa-Lorraine Smith, LCSW, and by a member of the Greenwich Jewish Clergy.*

Tuesdays, 10:30-11:30 am

SUPPORT GROUP FOR SEPARATING AND DIVORCING INDIVIDUALS

For adults whose lives are impacted by divorce. *Facilitated by Lisa-Lorraine Smith, LCSW.*

Wednesdays, 5:30-6:45 pm

AFTER-THE-DIVORCE SUPPORT GROUP

Now that the practical details of separating are complete, there is emotional work to do. It is time to develop a new identity and a new beginning. This group will provide a confidential space to reflect on the life you are living and the life you would like to live. It will be an opportunity to grow, develop, and learn from others.

Facilitated by Linda Schlapfer, LMFT.

Wednesdays, 5:30-6:45 pm

LIVING WELL IN LATER LIFE

For individuals 70+ to talk with peers about the opportunities and challenges this stage of life presents. Topics covered include how to maintain and manage health; manage independence with family members, including adult children; continue to be involved in meaningful activity; and cope with mourning and loss.

Facilitated by Barbara Lehrman, LCSW.

Thursdays, 2:30-3:45 pm

REVERSAL OF FORTUNE SUPPORT GROUP

Financial challenges bring with them stressors that can affect everything in your life – your relationships, your self-esteem, your outlook, and even your marriage. In these challenging economic times, you are not alone. Come and share your thoughts; get some ideas, tips, and strategies to cope with the practical as well as the emotional issues associated with reversals of fortune. *Facilitated by Mary Karlan, LCSW.*

Mondays, 5:30-6:30 pm – NO CHARGE

ONLINE SUPPORT GROUP FOR THOSE WHO ARE CHRONICALLY ILL

Today, chronic illness affects nearly half of the adult population, according to the Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Connect with others to reduce your isolation, and bond with people who really understand what you are going through. Learn strategies and tips for coping and make new friends at the same time. *Facilitated by Lisa-Lorraine Smith, LCSW.*

Wednesdays, 4:00-5:00 pm

ONLINE SUPPORT GROUP FOR CHILDREN OF HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS

This group discusses issues unique to children of Holocaust Survivors including, increased vulnerability to stressful events and the impact of PTSD on the aging process; transmission of Holocaust trauma; the burden of being “replacements” for lost relatives; unresolved conflicts around anger complicated by guilt; acceptance of parents' mortality; best caregiving practices for Survivors; and resilience. *Facilitated by Lisa-Lorraine Smith, LCSW, and Naomi Kobl, LMSW.*

Third Thursday of each month, 8:00-9:00 pm

ONLINE SUPPORT GROUP FOR CAREGIVERS

Caring for a loved one can be rewarding, challenging, and often, emotionally draining. This group addresses issues in a non-judgmental environment and discusses the opportunities and challenges of caring for a loved one. *Facilitated by Jan Mittleman, LCSW.*

Wednesdays, 10:00-11:00 am

UNDERSTANDING THE D'VAR TORAH:

LEARNING FROM OUR FOREFATHERS AND FOREMOTHERS

The group will study the parsha (weekly Torah reading) to understand how it speaks to us in our complex lives. We will unpack the many profound lessons each portion contains – wisdom about how to make our lives into gardens of joy and shalom. There are many self-help books, which come on and go off The NY Times' best seller list – yet, the Torah remains the greatest of them all. Yet we often do not know how to interpret its wisdom. We will learn together how to open this treasure and hear it speak to us. *Facilitated by Rabbi MJ Newman, Greenwich Hospital Spiritual Care Department; and Lisa-Lorraine Smith, LCSW.*

Five Fridays beginning 1/15; 12:00-1:00 pm

COUNSELING

When you need someone to talk to, talk to someone who understands. JFS offers high quality, confidential counseling for families, couples, and individuals in a welcoming Jewish environment. Day and evening appointments; insurance and Medicare reimbursable; sliding-scale fees.

For more information regarding specific groups, please call 203-622-1881. A JFS social worker will help to determine whether the group is a good fit for you, prior to start date.

Unless otherwise noted, all support groups take place at JFS, and cost \$20 per session.

All individual counseling services are \$150 per session

(Sliding-scale fees are always available)

Bi-Cultural Students Unite to Honor Ezra Schwartz

Bi-Cultural Day School grieved as a community following the tragic news of the murder of Ezra Schwartz, an 18-year-old American student working as a volunteer in Israel where he died in the Palestinian terrorist attacks in Israel on November 19th. In his memory, Bi-Cultural students joined together on December 21st to mark the end of the *Shloshim* period (the 30-day period following burial) by gathering together in prayer, song and service, finding meaning, solace and support for each other in this time of great grief.

Schwartz was known to many Bi-Cultural students through his work as a camp counselor at Camp Yavneh, in New Hampshire. They knew him to be a special person. As a result, a core group of middle-schoolers wanted to honor the loss of their good friend and counselor by performing good deeds and holding a special commemoration in his memory.

The students, with the help of their teacher, Morah Neeley Konak, prepared for this special day by providing each class, in grades 2-4, with their own *Tebillim* (Psalm portion), which were recited in the classrooms. At the same time, the

students in grades 5-8 recited Psalms in their entirety, gathering together to speak about Schwartz and their personal connection to him.

Michal Smart, Associate Principal, Judaic Studies, explained of the service, "The *Shloshim* is such a meaningful time in the mourning process; it provides us with personal and meaningful closure, and gives us the chance to do good in Ezra's memory. A person's influence doesn't stop when they're gone; it's up to us to continue the healing through *Tzedakah*, and *Chesed* in Ezra's memory. In this way, we are helping their *Neshama* (soul) continue to thrive."



Fourth-grade teacher Lior Helman leads her class in reciting a chapter of *Tebillim* (Psalms) during Bi-Cultural's observance of Ezra Schwartz's *Shloshim*.

Temple Sholom Continues Centennial Programming

Temple Sholom is excited to announce an exceptional roster of distinguished speakers and performers in continuation of its 100th anniversary celebration.

This series began with President Bill Clinton's visit to Temple Sholom in November 2015. He spoke to a crowded room of 1,000 congregants and local clergy on the topics of security, conflict and decision-making.

In December, Former House Majority Leader Eric Cantor participated in a moderated discussion and Q & A session, sponsored by the Amy Lipton z'l Israel Action Fund. Cantor, addressed Israeli-U.S. relations, the upcoming presidential election, and how his Jewish values have influenced his work in Congress.

Temple Sholom was also honored to have Bishop Frank J. Caggiano attend a special dinner in January to acknowledge the 50th anniversary of *Nostra Aetate*, the declaration that re-shaped Catholic views toward Judaism. More than 140 members of the community attended to support his message of unity and acceptance.

Following Shabbat Services on Friday, February 26, Temple Sholom will welcome Congressman Lee Zeldin for a casual dinner and discussion at 7:30 pm. Zeldin is the only Jewish Republican serving in Congress since Eric Cantor's resignation.

On Thursday, March 10, at 7:30 pm, Bret Stephens will make his first appearance at the temple since 2012. Stephens serves as the foreign affairs columnist and deputy editorial page editor of *The Wall Street Journal*.

Temple Sholom will host its first performance in the line-up on Sunday, April 17 at 4:30 pm. "An Acoustic Evening with MATISYAHU" will feature the Grammy winning, American reggae rapper and alternative rock musician who is best known for blending Jewish themes with reggae, rock and hip hop beatboxing sounds. See page 7 for details.

Mosab Hassan Yousef, author of *Son of Hamas: A Gripping Account of Terror, Betrayal, Political Intrigue, and Unthinkable Choices* will discuss his *New York Times*' bestseller on Wednesday, May 11 at 6:30 pm.

The series comes to a close on Sunday, May 15 with an extraordinary performance by the temple's teen, youth and junior choirs, led by Cantor Asa Fradkin. This highly anticipated concert will be a celebration of Temple Sholom's 100 years through music and a memorable ending to a "golden" year.

For more information, visit www.templesholom.com or contact Lori Baden at 203-869-7191 or lori.baden@templesholom.com.



Bret Stephens



Matisyahu



Hebrew Wizards Rolling Admission: Join Anytime During the Year for One Complete Year



HEBREW WIZARDS IS MORE THAN JUST SCHOOL... ITS A COMMUNITY!



HEBREW WIZARDS
FROM COLOR WAR TO COMMUNITY SERVICE
FROM HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICES TO SHARE SHABBATS
HEBREW WIZARDS BRINGS FAMILIES TOGETHER IN A
MODERN JEWISH AND SPIRITUAL SETTING! FROM ITS
CAMP-LIKE SCHOOL TO ITS INTIMATE GATHERINGS WE
ENJOY BEING JEWISH TOGETHER. CALL RABBI DEB AT
203-249-4036
WWW.HEBREWWIZARDS.COM

Temple Sholom's Centennial Anniversary Gala



Left: Temple Sholom celebrated its Centennial Anniversary on Saturday, January 30, 2016 with a "Great Gatsby" inspired Gala. Right: Rabbi Mitchell M. Hurvitz stands between Temple Sholom President Dan Green (right) and President Elect Ben Kriegler (left) at the Centennial Gala. Photos courtesy of IJ Studios Photography.



Remaining dates: March 2, March 30, May 4, June 1

Congregation Shir Ami of Greenwich is offering monthly conversations for Boomers and Beyond to discuss “sacred aging” while facing the reality of our own mortality. “How we view our mortality,” notes Rabbi Vicki L. Axe, “impacts the way we live our lives. Human existence has a beginning and an end, and I believe that if we can accept the raw truth that life as we know it is finite, that, at the appointed time, we will die, then we can live more fully.” Rabbi Axe will facilitate all conversations with speakers invited to share their wisdom and expertise on a variety of topics that impact the “third act” of life.

The topic for Rabbi Axe’s doctoral project was Baby Boomers Confront Their Mortality: A comparison of those whose parents are living and those whose parents have died. “The focus groups, which were an integral part of my project,” Rabbi Axe noted, “was the inspiration and impetus for offering these monthly conversations for boomers. The participants in the project were moved by the depth of our conversations and yearned for more.”

In addition to Rabbi Axe, guest speakers have been invited to share their expertise in various areas related to aging. The first speaker was Rabbi Richard F. Address, founder and director of Jewish Sacred Aging. Other guest speakers include Rabbi MJ Newman, palliative care chaplain at Greenwich Hospital, Todd Marschall, financial advisor, Jeff Graham, founder of the Transplant Support Organization, and Nancy Collamer, second act career coach. Nancy is the author of *Second-Act Careers: 50+ Ways to Profit Your Passions During Semi-Retirement*; and a contributor to *Not Your Mother’s Retirement and 65 Things To Do When You Retire*.

All are welcome to these monthly conversations. For information about attending these Boomer Conversations, as well as worship, education, and all Shir Ami events, please visit www.congregationshirami.org or call 203-274-5376.

Sushi and Shabbat

Carmel Academy 7th Graders Experience Cultural Exchange With Japanese Neighbors

Carmel Academy’s seventh graders experienced the tastes of Japan in a cultural exchange program with their peers from the Greenwich Japanese School, which leases space on Carmel’s 17-acre Greenwich campus.

The program kicked off at Carmel Academy, where all students explored Jewish culture through the lens of Shabbat, including the origins of the day of rest, as well as the associated customs and rituals. The program focused on a quote by Ahad Ha’am: “More than the Jews have kept Shabbat, Shabbat has kept the Jewish people.”

Carmel’s students discussed this quotation after delving into the Biblical origins of Shabbat and demonstrated to their new friends the various Shabbat rituals. The students from both schools baked challah together before crossing the campus to visit the Japanese school.

At GJS Carmel Academy’s students took a culinary tour of Japanese food, including learning about regional dishes, and foods for holidays and special occasions. The Japanese students demonstrated how to make rice balls and hand-rolled sushi. Then, together, the students made their own sushi rolls using kosher ingredients and very much enjoyed sampling these common Japanese snacks.



Hebrew Cooking at Jewish High School of Connecticut

Let’s face it, Jews are foodies. There is much truth in the thumbnail description of Judaism: “Someone tried to kill us; we won; let’s eat.” Gastronomic Judaism is one of the most universal ways of “doing Jewish” that we have left as a people.

Many Jews love watching the food channel to see Chopped chefs compete or learn about the latest trends in cooking. Even when other Jewish observances and traditions fade away, holiday meals are still times for many families to get together and connect with their Judaism and each other.

At the Jewish High School of Connecticut the Hebrew language program integrates real food-based learning experiences. Hebrew teacher Morah Chana Stein uses kosher cooking as an opportunity to teach Hebrew as a living language by bringing in a variety of topics and learning styles while tapping into varied student talents. Students create menus,



recipes, and shopping lists in Hebrew, go to the supermarket and shop while conversing in Hebrew. And then they bring it all together in a kosher cooking class conducted in Hebrew. The concluding exam includes a Café Ivrit tasting of the final dish as a class.

Different culinary traditions are explored as a great way to understand a variety of Jewish traditions and cultures. Recently students started with making the popular Middle Eastern dish, *shakshuka*, and concluded with the more standard traditional Ashkenazi fare of *latkes* and *sufganiyot*.

CAMP GAN FAMILY FUN DAY

Free!
Sunday, March 13
2 - 4 PM • at Carmel Academy
270 Lake Avenue, Greenwich

NEW!
Intensive Theater Workshop • 3:30pm
with Janice Steinberg
Free prizes for all kids that participate

Basketball Clinic / Arts & Crafts /
Crittter Caravan / Bonfire with Hot Dogs &
Marshmallow Roast / Camp Tours / Lots of Fun!

Register at Family Fun Day
and get a \$500 discount!

campgan.com

CAMP GAN ISRAEL

The Study of Mussar: How to Become More of a *Mensch* at GRS

Through the study of *Mussar*, learn to become more of a *mensch*, the Yiddish word for a deeply good and decent human being.

Mussar is a centuries-old Jewish body of teachings, providing guidance in identifying your personal path to spiritual growth and offering practices to help achieve it. This disciplined practice provides distinctly Jewish answers to the questions we often ask:

- Why do I keep making the same mistakes over and over?
- Why do I cause pain to myself and others?
- What steps can I take to bring my life closer to my spiritual potential?
- Are there lessons I can learn from the experiences of previous generations?

Under the auspices of the *Mussar Institute*, Rabbi Andy Sklarz of Greenwich Reform Synagogue recently facilitated a month-long course called “A Taste of Mussar.” Participants experienced the tradition of learning and practicing *Mussar* which has engaged and helped people for centuries.

For details on spring adult learning courses, please visit www.grs.org or call 203-629-0018.



Carmel Academy’s Program Reaches 10-Year Milestone

Carmel Academy’s “Together We Can Make a Difference” *chesed* (kindness) program, which brings the school’s students together each month with local senior citizens, has reached a 10-year milestone.

The program, in conjunction with Greenwich Jewish Family Services, gives Carmel students the ability to interact with and bring joy to senior citizens living at two Greenwich-based facilities. On a bi-monthly basis, the school’s 3rd

grade students visit The Mews, an assisted living facility, and the 5th graders visit Greenwich Woods, a rehabilitation center.

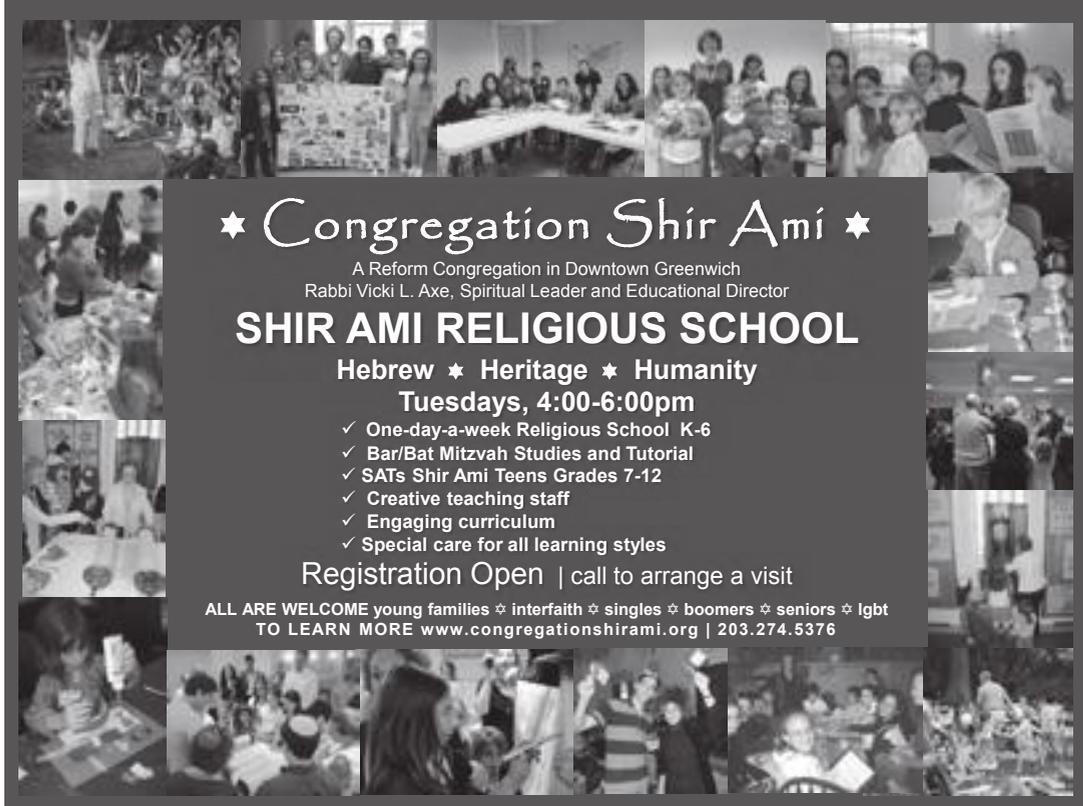
During their visits Carmel’s students engage in projects with the residents, celebrate *Kabbalat Shabbat*, sing songs and make new friends. The program fosters a wonderful intergenerational connection, as well as teaching respect for elders, the art of conversation, and the power of an act of kindness.



Children Explore with Art Projects at Selma Maisel Nursery School



Children in the 3’s program at the Temple Sholom Selma Maisel Nursery School have the opportunity this winter to explore different media, textures and art techniques in an after-school enrichment led by Connecticut’s Green Moon Children’s Art Studio.



★ **Congregation Shir Ami** ★

A Reform Congregation in Downtown Greenwich
Rabbi Vicki L. Axe, Spiritual Leader and Educational Director

SHIR AMI RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Hebrew ★ Heritage ★ Humanity
Tuesdays, 4:00-6:00pm

- ✓ One-day-a-week Religious School K-6
- ✓ Bar/Bat Mitzvah Studies and Tutorial
- ✓ SATs Shir Ami Teens Grades 7-12
- ✓ Creative teaching staff
- ✓ Engaging curriculum
- ✓ Special care for all learning styles

Registration Open | call to arrange a visit

ALL ARE WELCOME young families ★ interfaith ★ singles ★ boomers ★ seniors ★ lgbt
TO LEARN MORE www.congregationshirami.org | 203.274.5376

GILA LEWIS

HOULIHAN LAWRENCE
GREENWICH BROKERAGE



**FOR ALL YOUR
REAL ESTATE NEEDS.**

Contact Gila Lewis:
GilaLewis@gmail.com
Cell: 203.249.0858



HOULIHAN LAWRENCE
HOULIHANLAWRENCE.COM/GREENWICH

Cooking Eggplants Israeli Style with Israeli Emissary Avihu



Eggplant with Tahini

1 eggplant	3/4 cup of water
1 cup tahini	1 tsp each salt & black pepper
juice of one lemon	

- In a deep bowl, add the tahini, lemon juice, water, salt and black pepper and blend it until you get nice texture. You may want to use an immersion blender to get a smooth texture.
- Roast the eggplant until skin is blackened. This can be done directly over the flame of a gas stove or in the oven.
- Once eggplant is cool, scoop out insides and drain liquid into a strainer.
- Spread eggplant on a plate and add tahini on top.

*You can garnish the dish with parsley, paprika, sumac, etc.



Ali Mann Visits with Former Israeli Emissary Hamutal in Israel



Donuts for Dad Day at Chabad of Greenwich



Chabad's Pre-K students and their fathers enjoy a morning together in the classroom on Donuts for Dad Day.

Tu b'Shevat Seder at GRS

According to the Union for Reform Judaism, *Tu b'Shevat* or the "New Year of the Trees" is the Jewish Arbor Day. Observed on the 15th (*tu*) of the Hebrew month of *Shevat*, this holiday was originally an agricultural festival, marking the emergence of spring in Israel. In the 17th century, Kabbalists created a ritual for *Tu b'Shevat*, similar to a Passover seder; today, we celebrate its modern version. The holiday also has become a tree-planting festival in Israel, when Israelis and Jews around the world plant trees in honor or in memory of loved ones and friends.



Cantor Sabrina Lipton leads the congregational seder for Tu b'Shevat.

Greenwich Reform Synagogue enjoyed the holiday with a family-friendly Friday Shabbat service and *Tu b'Shevat* seder, complete with tastings of the traditional fruits and nuts, as well as food donations for Neighbor to Neighbor.

Creating a Space for Learning at JHSC

STEM: Science, Technology, Engineering, Math

For many reasons the field of education typically changes slowly. While STEM programs have gradually been introduced into schools across the country, many 21st century learning environments still look like typical 20th century traditional school buildings rather than real world work settings or research labs. It is relatively easy to upgrade a technology infrastructure with iPads or Chromebooks, but it is much more difficult to retrofit and engineer research grade laboratories into a school building. There are often challenges based on regulations and requirements for space and storage constraints or venting and disposal of chemicals used for experiments. At the Jewish High School of Connecticut, the physical plant is intentionally built as a research center to facilitate an environment conducive to experimentation in a collaborative learning setting. Industrial grade labs with high quality ventilation hoods allow staff and students to create rigorous complex experiments safely in an authentic facility.

Fridays
6:00-6:45pm

November 6

December 4

January 8

February 5

March 4

April 1

May 6

June 3

TORAH
TOTS
at Shir Ami

Congregation Shir Ami
Shabbat Songs and Stories
with Rabbi Axe

To learn more ★ www.congregationshirami.org ★ 203.274.5376

SAVE THE DATES

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

JCC Greenwich and Curiosity Concerts
**SRULI AND LISA'S FAMILY BAND
 KLEZMER CONCERT**
 Greenwich Arts Council Meeting Room
 299 Greenwich Ave., 2-3 pm and 3-4 pm

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

JCC Greenwich
**COUNTDOWN TO THE OSCARS
 WITH A.O. SCOTT**
 Location provided upon registration, 7-8:30 pm

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Temple Sholom
**PROJECT EZRA
 SENIOR LUNCHEON**
 11:30 am-3 pm

SUNDAY, MARCH 6

JFS ANNUAL BENEFIT & AUCTION
 Tomes-Higgins House
 216 E. Putnam Ave., Greenwich, 5-8 pm

FRIDAY, MARCH 18

PJ Library with Mainstages
**PURIM PARTY:
 "THE MYSTERY BEAR"**
 Location to be announced, 3:45-5 pm

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23

JCC Greenwich
**EXCLUSIVE TOUR OF ISAAC
 MIZRAHI EXHIBIT**
 Jewish Museum, New York, 10:15 am

THURSDAY, MARCH 31

JCC and UJA Greenwich
**FRIENDS OF YEMIN ORDE CHOIR
 COMMUNITY CONCERT**
 White Plains Performing Arts Center
 11 City Place, White Plains, NY, 7 pm

SUNDAY, APRIL 3

JCC Greenwich and PJ Library
MATZAH FACTORY
 Carmel Academy, 270 Lake Ave., Greenwich
 3-4 pm PJ Library families, 4-5 pm All ages

SUNDAY, APRIL 17

Temple Sholom
**AN ACOUSTIC EVENING WITH
 AMERICAN REGGAE RAPPER
 MATISYAHU**
 4:30 pm

TUESDAY, APRIL 29

PJ Library
PASSOVER MINI SEDER
 One Holly Hill Lane, Greenwich, 3:45-5 pm

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4

**YOM HASHOAH
 COMMEMMORATION AND FILM
 SHOWING**
 JCC Cinema presents: "Broken Branches"
 Temple Sholom, 300 E Putnam Ave., Greenwich
 6:30 pm

THURSDAY, MAY 5

**YOM HASHOAH
 COMMEMMORATION**
 A Conversation with Barbara Stark-Nemon
 Author of "Even in Darkness"
 Location to be announced, 10-11:30 am

SUNDAY, MAY 8

Jewish High School of Connecticut
ANNUAL GALA
 Location to be announced, 5 pm

SUNDAY, MAY 15

YOM HA'ATZMAUT
 Community-wide celebration of Israel's
 Independence Day
 Greenwich Town Hall, 11:45 am-1:30 pm

Bi-Cultural Students Get Up to Code

In the words of Apple founder and technology visionary Steve Jobs: "I think everyone should learn how to program a computer, because it teaches you how to think. I view computer science as a liberal art, something everyone should learn to do."



Fifth grader Tamar Rosenfeld works on her coding skills while developing characters in Minecraft during the Hour of Code Week. (Photo by Dora Salm)

Students at Bi-Cultural Day School are taking this prophetic quote to heart as the "art of coding" has been integrated in every aspect of the digital literacy curriculum at Bi-Cultural. During the week of December 7th, in celebration of Computer Science Education Week, Bi-Cultural expanded its technology curriculum to participate in the global Hour of Code event, joining this international grassroots campaign to include an additional hour of coding in the curriculum as augmenting our already-robust programming and coding curriculum.

The Hour of Code Week activities were tailored for each grade level. First graders began with basic algorithms using arrows as their coding language. They slowly moved up to looping (repeating) commands. Second graders also started with algorithms, learning how to use left and right turn, moving to loops much sooner and then on to drawing pictures. Third graders began with repeating loops and moved on to functions (calling individual sub-programs within a larger one). "Each grade gets exactly what they need to develop skills, with each child moving at their own pace," said Sarah Hochman, Bi-Cultural's Director of Technology Instruction.

Fifth-grader, Gil Vadel, a fan of Minecraft, was especially enthusiastic about spending extra time in the computer lab learning to code. "I love Minecraft, to be able to learn more about it at school, and to be better at coding was really fun and exciting for me."

EXCELLENCE

in our home and yours

Jewish Senior Services provides care throughout Southern Connecticut.

- Rehabilitation
- Home Care
- Day Services
- Long Term Care
- Hospice
- Advocacy & Education
- Long Term Care Protection



Jewish Senior Services®
excellence in our home and yours



175 Jefferson Street, Fairfield CT • 203-365-6400 • www.jseniors.org

FREE!

Celebrate!
Party Showcase

Bar/Bat Mitzvah Planning Event

**MITZVAH PROJECT
FAIR**

&
CELEBRATE! SAVINGS
Exclusive Event Discounts

Register now at CelebrateShowcase.com
and enter to

Win a FitBit

GREENWICH, CT
February 28th • 12-4pm
Hyatt Regency Greenwich
1800 E Putnam Ave

Visit MitzvahMarket.com for Ideas & Inspiration!



Educate
Stimulate
Motivate

A Focus on JCC Teens

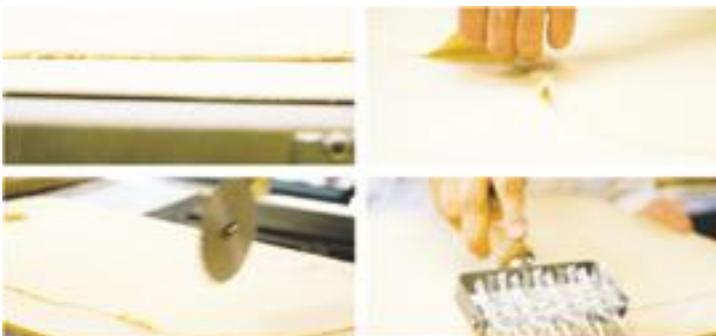


Friendship Circle

Sunday, February 21, 5:30 - 7 pm
\$5 for dinner • One Holly Hill Lane

Hear from director of the Friendship Circle of Fairfield County about how we can get involved and help children and adults who are differently able.

For Middle & High School Students.
Register at JCCGreenwich.org or contact Leah@jccgreenwich.org
203-552-1818



Matzah Factory Mitzvah Project

Sunday, April 3, 4 - 6 pm (in lieu of regular meeting)
\$18 per person includes dinner following Matzah Making Workshop • Carmel Academy, 270 Lake Avenue, Greenwich

Help make Matzah to donate to clients of Jewish Family Services of Greenwich.

Community service project for Middle & High School students.
Register at JCCGreenwich.org or contact Leah@jccgreenwich.org
203-552-1818



733 Summer Street
Stamford, CT 06901
Phone: 203.321.4161
Fax: 203.321.4169

431 Post Road East, Suite 31
Westport, CT 06880
Phone: 203.434.4992
www.cdfx.org

December 24, 2015

Greenwich JCC
c/o Teen Action Committee
One Holly Hill
Greenwich, CT 06830

Dear Families of the Teen Action Committee,

On behalf of the over 5,000 clients in Fairfield County who are the grateful recipients of our services, as well as everyone here at Jewish Family Service, we thank you for donating 20 bags containing freshly-prepared meals to our Fresh Produce event held on December 21, 2015. This event benefits the clients of the JFS Kosher Food Pantry and provides them once monthly with fresh produce, meat and dairy. You made such a difference at our event, enabling us to offer a fresh meal to those clients who cannot afford such luxuries at this time.

The Torah teaches us: "...And when you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap all the way to the edges of your field, or gather the gleanings of your harvest; you shall leave them for the poor and the stranger..." That is the reason we are here. We are taught never to forget those less fortunate.

Thank you once again for being an important member of our JFS family. With your generous help, you offer hope and support to so many and a place to turn when there seems to be nowhere else to go.

For tax purposes, please note that no goods or services were received for this donation.

Sincerely,

Matt Greenberg
CEO



JCC TEEN ACTION COMMITTEE
Teens Doing Good Together

Teen-led Activities & Community Service Projects Every Other Sunday plus service projects dates • Sundays 5:30 - 7 pm

For Middle School and High School Students
\$5 per meeting for dinner

Sign up & more info at JCCGreenwich.org or 203-552-1818

Meeting Dates

2/21/2016 3/6/2016 3/20/2016 5/1/2016

Top photo: Teens helping out at PJ Library/JCC Greenwich Hanukkah Party. Bottom photo: Presentation about Israeli's humanitarian aid efforts from StandWithUs at a Sunday evening Teen Action Committee meeting.

STAND SHOULDER TO SHOULDER WITH JEWS EVERYWHERE



When you support UJA Greenwich, you expand your vision further and you stand shoulder to shoulder with Jews everywhere. You're offering support in places where – even a decade ago – none of us thought it would ever be needed. You're in Europe, where after feeling secure for three generations, Jews are experiencing attacks on schools and businesses.

You're on North American college campuses – places where young people are meant to discover themselves. But today, if a student is Jewish, all too often what they're discovering is a hostile environment.

You're in France and Denmark, England and the former Soviet Union. Through UJA Greenwich, you are anywhere and everywhere in the world where Jewish communities are in need of support, protection, and solidarity.

Please give to UJA Greenwich today.

