

Dr. Rick Hodes to Speak at UJA Annual Meeting

The last time Rick Hodes reached Greenwich, it was through the projected images of *Zemene*, a film about his life-saving work with African children. For his next appearance, the Ethiopian-based JDC medical director will return in the flesh.

On Monday, December 5, at 7 pm, Dr. Hodes will serve as guest speaker at the annual meeting of UJA Greenwich. The meeting, to be held at the Bruce Museum, marks the induction of UJA Board of Directors for the coming year. This includes a formal welcome to its brand new president, and a grateful farewell to outgoing president Brian Neilinger.

"I can think of few better speakers than Dr. Hodes to inspire the Federation community," said UJA Greenwich CEO Pam Ehrenkranz. "He embodies the Jewish tradition of repairing the world that also guides our mission." Known to thousands of Africans as "Dr. Rick," he will discuss his experiences of working in critical conditions while practicing *tikkun olam*.



Beyond his JDC efforts, Dr. Hodes is the senior consultant at a Catholic mission helping impoverished sufferers of heart disease (rheumatic and congenital), spine disease (TB and scoliosis) and cancer. He has also worked with refugees in Rwanda, Zaire, Tanzania, Somalia and Albania.

Dr. Hodes has given more than 20 years to his calling. He first arrived in Ethiopia as a relief worker during the 1984 famine, and later returned on a Fulbright Fellowship to teach internal medicine. In 1990 he joined the JDC as the medical advisor for the country. His initial task was to provide health care for 25,000 potential emigrés to Israel. In 2007, Dr. Hodes was named a finalist for "CNN Heroes," a program that profiles ordinary people for their extraordinary accomplishments.

His work is the subject of the HBO documentary *Making the Crooked Straight* and – as attendees of UJA/JCC Greenwich's 2011 Education Symposium will recall – of Marilyn Berger's book *This Is a Soul: The Mission of Rick Hodes*.

Information and registration for the UJA Annual Meeting are available at www.ujafedgreenwich.org. An \$18 donation to the 2016 Annual Campaign is recommended.

MISTER G

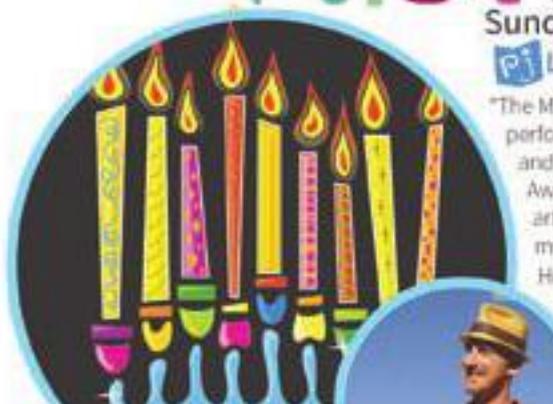
Sunday, December 4th • 3 - 5 pm

PJ Library Hanukkah Party

"The Mitzvah Bus is coming to town!" After headline performances at The MET, Getty Museum, Wolf Trap and Hard Rock Café, winner of the 2016 Latin Grammy Award, Parent's Gold Award, PJ Library featured artist Mister G is coming to Greenwich! It's a funky musical journey in English, Spanish, Yiddish and Hebrew!

Carnel Academy • 270 Lake Ave., Greenwich
Advance Tickets: \$16 per person, \$72 per family of four or more
\$118 to Sponsor; \$25 per person at the door
Special thanks to Event Chairs Natalie Landres and Lisa Small

Register at JCCGreenwich.org or 203.552.1818



WHY

DOES YOUR GIFT TO UJA MATTER?

UJA GREENWICH, your center for philanthropy:

- Supports the most vulnerable Jews around the world, from children to elderly Holocaust survivors.
- Provides food, medical care, social services, and dignity where they are most needed.

JCC GREENWICH, your center for community:

- Provides the resources for a wealth of outstanding programs, for everyone from babies to grandmothers.
- Brings Jewish Greenwich together.

Please be part of our outreach efforts and make a contribution to UJA/JCC before the end of the year.

WE CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU.

Give Thanks This Holiday Season
Happy Thanksgiving &
Happy Hanukkah



Best Wishes
from UJA & JCC Boards and
the Staff of UJA/JCC Greenwich

Story Time with Miss Daisy

Got a young book lover on your hands? PJ Library thought so. That's why the Greenwich chapter has lined up four afternoons of stories, special projects and stimulation that will delight PJ Library participants ages 5 and under. Best of all, the talented Daisy Florin aka "Miss Daisy" will lead the adventure. Story Time with Miss Daisy will feature beloved PJ Library picks accompanied by related crafts to make each read-in better than the next.

"We're thrilled to have Daisy Florin host this year's Story Time series," said Tracy Daniels, director of PJ Library Greenwich. "With her wit, warmth and special way with kids, she's an ideal person to help young children and families discover a love of reading Jewish-themed books and share cross cultural experiences as a community."

"Story Time give families the chance to enjoy hearing stories together," said Florin, adding, "I'm delighted to be a part of its four upcoming editions."

"PJ Library shares Greenwich Library's goals of nurturing lifelong readers," remarked Deirdre Sullivan, head of children's services and children's librarian at Greenwich Library. "We're honored to host this community-wide literary series bringing to life compelling story books." Story Times will take place the the Greenwich Library, main branch.

Generously sponsored by PJ Library and UJA/JCC Greenwich, the series is free and open to the public. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to accompany the PJ child. To register, visit jccgreenwich.org or call Tracy Daniels at 203-552-1818, x17.

Thursdays · 3:30 - 4:30 pm

November 10 · January 10 · February 9 · May 11

Story Time with Miss Daisy

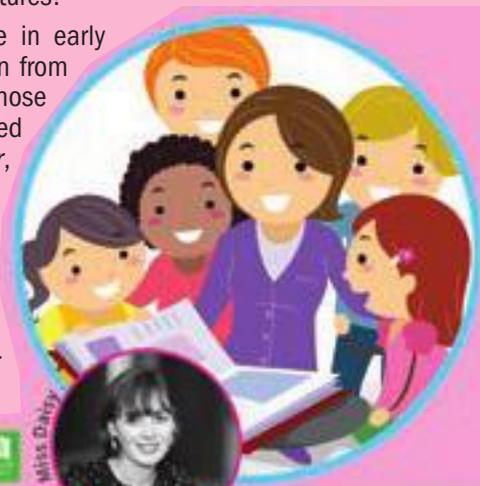
This year's special guest Story Time leader, Miss Daisy, will take children ages 5 and under on PJ Library story adventures!

Daisy Florin has a master's degree in early childhood and elementary education from Bank Street College. She is a writer whose essays about parenting have appeared in *Brain*, *Child Magazine* and *Kveller*, among other publications.

Story Times are a gift to the community from PJ Library and UJA/JCC Greenwich.

Special thanks to **Daisy Florin** (Miss Daisy) and the Greenwich Library for hosting PJ Library Story Time.

Greenwich Library
101 West Putnam Ave.



PJ Library Sukkah Party



PJ Library Families - make sure to save the date and RSVP for the PJ Library/JCC Greenwich **Hanukkah Party** this year! We are bringing in Latin Grammy winner, Mister G, who created a CD - *The Mitzvah Bus* - just for the PJ Library. He sings in four languages (can you guess which ones?) and has original sound, spirit and soul you won't want to miss! Get on board *The Mitzvah Bus* with Mister G, your friends and family on Sunday, December 4th!

Lisa Small & Natalie Landres
Event Chairs

"Is THAT OK?!"

Back by popular demand, our friend and Pediatric Behavior expert, Jennifer Smokler Zigler, will visit with moms to talk about the most common question she gets from worried parents... "When my child does...is THAT OKAY?" This chat is perfect for parents of babies and pre-school age children. Casual environment, straight talk among friends and expert advice...join us!

When: Monday, November 21 @ 11:00 am (JBabies meets again on December 19.)

Where: UJA/JCC Greenwich/One Holly Hill Lane, Greenwich

Jennifer Smokler Zigler, MsEd, is a Behavioral Therapist and Applied Behavioral Analyst as well as a Certified General and Special Education Professor at Hunter College Graduate School of Education. She specializes in feeding, sleeping, potty training, and other behavioral facets of everyday life.



UJA/JCC CEO, Pam Ebrenkranz loves this program!



JBabies welcomes moms Samantha, Helene and the babies!



JBabies Moms enjoy another MOM'S NIGHT OUT at the Old Greenwich Social Club.

Sunday Funday Kicks Off at YWCA with CT Children's Museum



An Evening with Lewis Bernstein

After UJA/JCC Greenwich CEO Pam Ehrenkranz attended a recent Grinspoon Foundation retreat for PJ Library communities, she couldn't get a certain name out of her head. Among the lineup of impossibly inspiring, impressive speakers, Dr. Lewis Bernstein left her with the greatest inspiration, the deepest impression. Not bad for a kiddie TV guy.

On Thursday, January 19, at 7 pm, Greenwichites will have a chance to see for themselves why the former Executive Vice President of Education Research and Outreach for Sesame Street Workshop is such a marvel. According to Ehrenkranz, "After Lewis Bernstein's presentation, it was so clear why the Grinspoon Foundation brought him to Aspen. It doesn't matter if you grew up on Sesame Street, or if your kids did, or if your grandchildren watch it now. Bernstein is articulate on the issues of values and learning and the creative ways in which the Children's Television Workshop tackled issues such as diversity and healthy eating. He is even more impressive when he takes it to the next level helping us understand the many ways the Workshop's approach impacts not only our children, but the adults who care for them and teach them." Sesame Street is the art work in Bernstein's Exhibit A, though PJ Library parents attending "An Evening with Lewis Bernstein" will no doubt be reminded of the multi-generational values communicated through PJ Library books as well.

"Dr. Bernstein has long been a devotee of the PJ Library program

and its knack for bringing together families around Jewish values," said PJ Library Greenwich director Tracy Daniels. "He's sure to warm up this mid-January evening with his beautiful stories and meaningful insights."

The three-time Emmy-winning executive producer will also consider the legacy of Sesame Street (which became Sesame Workshop).

What are the implications of core Sesame themes such as tolerance, kindness and respect on viewers' emotional literacy, attitudes towards diversity and ethical choices later in life? Drawing on his more than four decades of developing and producing the beloved, puppet-fortified American series and the launch of global Sesame programming (including Shalom Sesame and Shara'a Simsim), Dr. Bernstein will engage the Greenwich community in a spirited discussion of issues close to the heart.

"An Evening with Lewis Bernstein" will take place at the Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Drive. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. To register and obtain further details, visit www.jccgreenwich.org or call 203-552-1818.



Lewis Bernstein

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
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- 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., Nov. 18..... 4:16 pm
- Fri., Nov. 25..... 4:11 pm
- Fri., Dec. 2..... 4:09 pm
- Fri., Dec. 9..... 4:08 pm
- Fri., Dec. 16..... 4:09 pm
- Fri., Dec. 23..... 4:12 pm
- Sat., Dec. 24
First night of Hanukkah
- Fri., Dec. 30..... 4:17 pm
- Sat., Jan. 1, 2017
Last night of Hanukkah
- Fri., Jan. 6..... 4:22 pm
- Fri., Jan. 13..... 4:29 pm
- Fri., Jan. 20..... 4:37 pm
- Fri., Jan. 27..... 4:46 pm
- Fri., Feb. 3..... 4:55 pm
- Fri., Feb. 10..... 5:03 pm

Greenwich Jewish News

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

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EDITOR

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

SAVE THE DATE! Annual Education Symposium – March 8

In today's fight to empower pro-Israel students at American colleges and universities, Israel on Campus Coalition is developing innovative solutions that combine US military strategy, political campaign communication and grassroots relationship development. At the upcoming Education Symposium, hear ICC Executive Director Jacob Baime discuss how these tools are being used to push back the anti-Israel tide on campus.

Mark your calendars: the 2017 Symposium will take place on Wednesday, March 8, and opens with a 9:15 am buffet breakfast, followed by Baime's keynote address. Three breakout sessions (11 am-noon) follow. In keeping with



tradition, the annual teach-in will focus on Jewish enlightenment and activities.

"Stay tuned for what's sure to be a great lineup," said event Chair **Christine Toback**. "Every year the Education Symposium nourishes the Greenwich community in body, mind and soul, and this next edition will also be a celebration of learning."

Joining Christine Toback as Chair will be **Joan Mann** as Honorary Chair.

Education Symposium is presented by UJA/JCC Greenwich. Registration and updates are available at www.jccgreenwich.org. For additional details contact Tracy Daniels at 203-552-1818, x17.

Carmel Academy Students Lead Community 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony

Carmel Academy's fifth grade students led a moving community ceremony to honor the memory of all who perished in the terrorist attacks 15 years ago. The ceremony took place the Friday prior to the anniversary at the 9/11 Memorial Garden on the grounds of the UJA Greenwich, which houses a steel beam that was salvaged from the World Trade Center. The poignant ceremony included prayers, poetry, music and student-read reflections.



Carmel Academy fifth grade teacher Daneet Brill speaks to students prior to the start of their 9/11 community ceremony.



SAVE THE DATE

UJA GREENWICH

LION OF JUDAH BREAKFAST

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26TH

at the New York City home of Jane Weitzman

"LOOKING BACK AND CASTING FORWARD:
Celebrating the Past and Envisioning the Future"

Please Mark your calendars for an important
gathering of Greenwich Lions!



Lions of Judah contribute \$5,000 or more to the Annual Campaign

Holiday Smiles for Children in Need

Every year, members of Greenwich Reform Synagogue help bring holiday smiles to children in need by assisting with the Holiday Gift Collection program sponsored by Inspirica, one of the largest providers of services to the homeless. During the holidays, homeless children may have no tree, no menorah, no presents. By helping Inspirica, we can help lift the spirits of both the children and their parents.



The loss is felt not only by the kids, but also by their parents who are unable to provide a normal holiday experience for their family. Now in its 27th year, the Inspirica Holiday Gift Collection provides personalized gifts to more than 3,000 children identified as homeless, living in poverty, or whose lives are affected by HIV/AIDS. Every child on the list selects two gifts, one fun and one educational, and these gifts are personalized to their specific interests. The children's individual "gift wishes" are filled by GRS congregants and hundreds of other sponsors who shop for the children. On December 10, volunteers will gather in a "Toy Workshop" on site at Inspirica in Stamford where gifts are wrapped, sorted and readied to return to the sponsoring agency that will distribute the gifts.

If you would like to purchase gifts for a child, please contact Inspirica at 203-388-0100 or HolidayVolunteer@InspiricaCT.org.

The Connecticut Israel Opportunity Fund

For the past five years, Connecticut has been making a major effort to foster closer economic cooperation with Israel, primarily because after the U.S., Israel is the second most entrepreneurial country in the world, with more than 4,500 start-ups and many companies listed on major U.S. stock exchanges. Israeli companies are interested in addressing the larger market opportunity here with an aim at attracting U.S. venture capital.

Last spring Alan Mendelson, Dave Audibert, and Dr. Leon Pintsov formed the Connecticut-Israel Opportunity Fund to enable effective cooperation between burgeoning Israeli technology companies and our state. Alan Mendelson is the co-founder and managing general partner of the very successful Axiom Venture Fund. Dave Audibert is the founder and principal of Succession Equity Partners. Dr. Leon Pintsov, an internationally recognized expert in information security, cryptography and financial applications, was most recently the Chief Scientist and Vice President at Pitney Bowes. These three partners formed a seven-person advisory board, consisting of world class experts in the areas of cybersecurity, personalized medicine, healthcare, financial-technology, and enterprise software, where the fund expects to make most of its investment.



Dr. Leon Pintsov

The fund will be a \$50 million limited partnership whose investors are expected to be family offices, wealthy individuals, and Connecticut municipalities. The goal of the fund is to produce venture capital returns for its investors as well as to benefit Connecticut's Jewish community and municipalities by generating high-paying jobs and by attracting talented individuals to the state. Its strategy to achieve these goals is to entice Israeli companies to move some of their operations to Connecticut and to act as a catalyst for their development and growth. The fund expects to have a robust flow of potential investment opportunities. Connecticut's Department of Economic Development has hired a full-time Israeli, whose job is to find companies who might be interested in moving to Connecticut.

"Overall, we are quite excited by this opportunity," Dr. Pintsov said. He added, "Israel is a hub of technology and entrepreneurship, and we believe we have the high quality resources and experience to be successful in this space."

The fund is currently accepting investors. For more information contact: Alan Mendelson at 860-548-7799, ext. 4 or amendelson@connecticutisraelopportunityfund.com.



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THE IMPACT OF YOUR GIFT...

Read on to see the many ways young Americans and their Israeli counterparts are forging a better future.



Fanny Fulfills Her Aliyah

Fanny de Geyer Dort, 32, feels as if she's returned home after a very long journey. Fanny was born in Paris, and her parents didn't raise her with Jewish traditions or foster a relationship with Israel. Her father's work brought the family around the world.

Eight years ago, Fanny went on Birthright Israel – a ten-day trip around Israel for Jews ages 18-26. A year later, she joined a Masa Israel Journey program, which offers over 200 immersive Israel experience programs for people ages 18-30. While on Masa she learned Hebrew and the notion of Aliyah was sparked. "I lived in Tel Aviv for an entire year as part of Career Israel Masa and after the program I decided to immigrate to Israel," Fanny says. "For me it was a surprise because I did not come from a family that was involved or interested in Israel, but it was clear to me that Israel is my home."

At first, Fanny's dream of making aliyah was delayed. "I got a good job offer working for the Joint Distribution Committee's Paris branch. Fanny smiles, "but one day my boss told me he was forced to lay me off. I realized it was a voice from the sky calling me back to Israel." Fanny seized the opportunity to fulfill her dream of life in Israel.

Today Fanny lives in Beit Canada, a Jewish Agency run Absorption Center in Jerusalem. She studies at Ulpan Eztion, an intensive Hebrew language program that helps young professional immigrants adapt quickly to the culture and language of their new home.

Carol Kaplan: One Girl, One Desert, One Journey

First person blog posting

After spending a semester in Israel a few years ago, I have made the choice to attain my MA in Conflict Resolution and Coexistence under the Heller School of Social Policy and Management at Brandeis University.

It all began at Kibbutz Maagan Michael, where I was fortunate enough to have a great taste of Kibbutz life... on the beach!

My new life in Israel was simple; as a group, or newly founded family, we walked to the dining hall barefoot, enjoyed a heavy Israeli breakfast of cheeses, fresh salads, and warm bread, then rode bikes to Ulpan and to our separate work assignments.

Being the animal lover I am, I quickly requested to work in the cow shed, and fell in love with newborn baby calves on my first day at work. After herding the cows, I rode my bike to the sea, where the expert Kibbutzim surfers showed off their mad surf skills to us newbies. There, my thoughts dwelled on the simplicity of life in a small but beautiful Israeli community.

Upon completing Ulpan, I then traveled to Kibbutz Lotan, leaving behind the beach and transitioning to the beauty of the silent desert. It was here that I would begin my studies to obtain my Permaculture Design Course Certificate, which I hoped to translate into my degree back at the University of Washington.

While living in a mud geodesic dome, I learned about sustainability and the possibility of not only growing organic food in the desert, but thriving in the desert sun. Of course, my favorite time of the week was harvest day, when my group and I would make full meals out of fresh vegetables we had just harvested. There's nothing quite comparable to harvesting and cooking together after a long day's work building mud structures!

After my time at Kibbutz Lotan, I then joined a group called Walk About Love, traveling, living and sleeping in the Negev, all the way from Eilat to Jerusalem. It was myself and people from Germany, Spain, Sweden, the Americas and Israelis, all coming together. Like our forefathers before us, we used rocks as pillows, stared at the hot hot sun, and cried with happiness upon reaching Jerusalem.

It was at the end of my journey, after such a diverse experience throughout the country, that I realized Israel and I are inextricably tied. It was not just a country I was exploring; it was MY country I was exploring, not out of curiosity but out of devotion.

For how could I help a country I had not touched with my own hands, walked with my own feet and viewed with my own eyes? I now feel truly ready and capable to learn about the creation of peace in a country so disheveled but at the same time vibrant and humane, which takes me back to the beginning of all of this and what's landed me at Brandeis years later to get my MA in Conflict Resolution and Coexistence.

These last few years have been an amazing time of my life, and without Israel I wouldn't be who I am or where I am.



Discovering a Hidden History in Lower Galilee as Part of Project Ten

Shelby Lifshitz was born in California to Israeli parents. After graduating from UC Berkeley, where she studied psychology, Shelby wanted to go abroad to do volunteer work in the human rights arena. "I was offered programs in Nicaragua but I wanted to come to Israel," Shelby says.

Shelby came to Israel with The Jewish Agency's Project TEN Tikkun Olam program. Project TEN brings together young Jewish adults from all over the world, to a program that combines volunteer work with local communities, alongside service-learning in the fields of international development, culture, identity and Jewish activism. Shelby and her fellow Project TEN volunteers were based in Harduf, a kibbutz in the Lower Galilee located near the villages of more than 4,400 members of the Bedouin Ka'abiyye tribe.

Project TEN allows volunteers to study the relationship and conflict between Jews and Arabs. Shelby, however, came to know how these

relationships impacted her directly. "I never knew my mother had lived in a mixed family – both Jewish and Arab. I found out that her father is a Christian Arab, and her mother is Jewish. And my grandfather has a big family in Acre. I didn't expect to come to Israel to learn about Jewish-Arab relations and find out that this issue is directly related to my family and my life! I have a cousin serving in the IDF who

is Arab and converted to Judaism and her sister is not converting. I didn't know my cousins were Arabs until I got here," she says.

The Project TEN volunteers at Kibbutz Harduf and the three Bedouin villages are facilitated by Sha'ar LaAdam, an international ecological Jewish-Arab center established by local residents of the kibbutz and Bedouin villages. On a more personal level, Shelby's changes have been real and profound. "I could have lived my life without knowing what I discovered. I've learned here in five months things I've never learned in my whole life."



Temple Sholom Selma Maisel Nursery School Welcomes New Director

When entering the Temple Sholom Selma Maisel Nursery School (SMNS) each morning, children and parents are now greeted by not one, but two smiling faces, eager for an exciting school day ahead. In September, early childhood educator David Cohen was hired as the school's new director, following Phyllis Lyons' decision to enter her 13th and final academic year with SMNS.

"We will deeply miss Phyllis'

daily presence with us after her retirement and are very grateful for all she has contributed to SMNS during her long tenure," said Eileen Robin, Temple Sholom's Executive Director. "We are excited to have David Cohen on board to uphold our play-based curriculum and to add a new dimension to our school and related programming."

Cohen is no stranger to the Greenwich community, having worked as the Director of Educational Programs at the YMCA of Greenwich. His resume includes more than 25 years of early childhood experience and 15 years of senior management experience. He is also an adjunct college instructor, State-certified consultant and American Red Cross instructor and was previously the Men's Club President of his synagogue.

Lyons, who has taken on the role of Director Emeritus,

has been working closely with Cohen over the past few months to provide insight on the SMNS community and to ensure a smooth transition for all. One of her focuses is to prepare the Pre-K families for Kindergarten, including school applications and evaluations.

"For the past 25 years I have dedicated myself to educating children," said Lyons. "My love and dedication for our SMNS family is absolute. I treasure my many years working with our school community and the Temple at large, and I am extremely committed to

ensuring that all future SMNS generations continue to receive a legacy of excellence."

For more information about the Temple Sholom Selma Maisel Nursery School or to schedule a private tour, please contact 203-622-8121 or visit www.templeholom.com/smns.



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New Temple Sholom Selma Maisel Nursery School Director David Cohen and Director Emeritus Phyllis Lyons join the Pre-K for a picture in front of their classroom sukkah.

Chanukah Party at Congregation Shir Ami

Chanukah is a time of celebration and giving at Congregation Shir Ami. Open to the entire community, Chanukah Live! is a multimedia Shabbat service and candle lighting. Since the first night of Chanukah is December 24, Chanukah Live! will take place a week earlier, on Friday, December 16, 6:00 pm at First Presbyterian Church. A fun party for the whole family, Chanukah Live! merges old-world charm with contemporary pop culture. "All the prayers and songs appear on a large screen," explains Rabbi Vicki L. Axe, spiritual

leader of the congregation, "so everyone's hands are free to join in with clapping and singing and dancing."

Following a gourmet pot luck dinner with latkes donated by Garelick & Herbs, the Shir Ami Rockin' Band and Choirs will lead a foot-stompin' Shabbat service and Chanukah candle lighting with traditional tunes loved by generations world-wide along with contemporary songs like "Light One Candle" by Peter Yarrow of Peter, Paul, and Mary, and "Let it Glow" (to the tune of "Let it Go").

Chanukah fun will continue at Shir Ami Religious School on December 20 from 4:00-6:00 pm. To commemorate the miracle of oil in the ancient temple, the students will deep fry sufganiyot, an Israeli holiday

treat of jelly donuts. Dahni Nisinzweig, Co-President of Shir Ami and a native of Israel will lead the students in Israeli dancing. They will also write holiday letters to Israeli soldiers. UJA Greenwich Israeli Emissary Racheli will play the time-honored game of dreidel with everyone. And the students will act out the ancient story of Chanukah with holiday songs led by world-class entertainers Jonathan Cahr and Rabbi Axe.

For Shir Ami, the Season of Light is a time for community service in keeping with the Chanukah theme of rededication to make the world a better place. With an annual Holiday Giving Project, Shir Ami reaches out to Abilis, a Greenwich agency that provides comprehensive services for people of all ages with developmental disabilities, by underwriting a table at Chanukah Live! for adult Abilis guests to give these very special friends a lift during the holiday season.

Shir Ami will again partner with First Presbyterian Church of Greenwich, their hosts for year-round Shabbat services and religious school, for the annual Interfaith Community Holiday Blood Drive, on Saturday, December 10, 8:00 am-1:15 pm. "This time of year is always a challenge for blood banks," points out Barbara Salop, past president and chair of the annual blood drive, "so our participation has far-reaching impact."

"The name of our Social Action Committee says it all," remarks David Green, past president of Shir Ami. "We call our community service committee the TIKVAH Team, which is the Hebrew word for hope and an acronym for Touching Individuals with Kindness, Vision, and Hope."

Chanukah Live!, chaired by Sara Meiri, is open to the community and all are welcome; adults/\$25, teens 13-18/\$10, children under 13/Free. RSVP is required. Visit congregationshirami.org or call 203-274-5376 to RSVP and learn more about Chanukah Live! as well as all Shir Ami programs and events.

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From the Rabbi

☆ **OPENING the DOORS and OUR HEARTS** ☆

by Rabbi Andrew R. Sklarz, Greenwich Reform Synagogue

May the door of this synagogue be wide enough
to receive all who hunger for love...cares to unburden...
thanks to express...hopes to nurture...
May this synagogue be, for all who enter,
the doorway to a richer and more meaningful life.

- Mishkan T'filah: A Reform Siddur

In late September, members of Greenwich Reform Synagogue and the larger community gathered on Orchard Street, as the final steel beam was put into place in our new congregational home. This structure represents the culmination of a journey that began forty years ago. Akin to the ancient Israelites who held dreams for themselves and their children, encountering many stumbling blocks along the way as they wandered through the Sinai, all who have yearned for an enduring physical presence for Reform Judaism in Greenwich will soon cross the threshold into the Promised Land.

The synagogue has been the bedrock of every Jewish community for 2,000 years, by providing spiritual, educational, communal and social nourishment. While each house of God shares such elements in common, there is always a unique tapestry woven together by the individuals of a particular community. It is the special blend of shared ideology, unique talents and expressed interests that distinguish each congregation.

Our new spiritual dwelling will fulfill many long-sought aspirations. The inherent aesthetic beauty of the building, designed to showcase its peaceful setting, will enhance religious experiences. However a house of God, no matter how magnificent, must be far more than bricks and mortar. Indeed, a house of God must be devoted to welcoming the Divine Presence, while extending such spirit to the world beyond its doors.

Despite the greatness that exists within each human being, and the bounty of resources provided by nature, there is a lack of wholeness in our world. Broken spirits have led to moral and social decay. Created in the Divine Image, we are called to seek the Divine in each and every human being; this is indeed the essence of Judaism. Torah commands us to help others discover their own Divine sparks, and by doing so, we can repair the broken fragments which bring about pain and destruction.

We look forward to welcoming those of all faiths and walks of life into our new home, utilizing the physical space to further the work Greenwich Reform Synagogue has undertaken for the past forty years. We hope that our magnificent new sanctuary will be a true beacon of light to all who seek wholeness, as we further pursue healing in the community and social justice in our world.

Editor's Note: The rabbis of Greenwich alternate in providing messages for each issue of the Greenwich Jewish News. These comments are those of the Rabbi alone and are not meant to reflect the opinions of UJA Greenwich.

Celebrate Chanukah

<p>Sunday, December 18, 9:30AM Gen J Chanukah party</p>	<p>A Chanukah breakfast of sufganiyot followed by a mitzvah project.</p>
<p>Friday, December 16, 6:30PM Chanukah Shabbat service and dinner</p>	<p>Candle lighting, dreidels, dinner, music and fun. Please bring a new, unwrapped gift for Toys for Tots.</p>

For location, details, and to RSVP, contact the GRS office at 203-629-0018 or info@grs.org

Why We Chose Carmel Academy

By Bonnie and Manny Citron

We chose Carmel Academy because we are committed to Jewish education, we live in Greenwich, and we identify with the school's approach to academic and Jewish values.

Carmel Academy focuses on the whole child. We feel so lucky that our four children attend such an excellent, local school that helps enrich them academically, socially, emotionally and spiritually. Carmel Academy has provided our family with a warm, caring and supportive community. The talented faculty and administration are attentive to our needs, and go above and beyond to maximize each of our children's school experience.

As our oldest daughter, Sophie, approaches her bat mitzvah, we feel especially fortunate that Carmel has supported her (and all of our kids), and helped them to make lifelong connections between their identities as Jews within Carmel Academy's diverse Jewish community, the larger Greenwich community and the world.

Carmel Academy is a private school for children of all Jewish affiliations serving students from transitional kindergarten through 8th grade. The Citron children are proud Carmel students in Kindergarten, third, fourth and sixth grades.



2017 Party Planning Showcase

Sunday, January 8
11:00 am-1:00 pm
at Temple Sholom
300 East Putnam Avenue, Greenwich CT 06830

Come meet over 30 vendors specializing in:

■ ENTERTAINMENT	■ VENUES
■ CATERING/DESSERT	■ PHOTOGRAPHY
■ EVENT PLANNING	■ INVITATIONS
■ FLORAL DESIGN	■ CUSTOM GEAR
■ PARTY FAVORS	■ JUDAICA

Also... connect with representatives from different organizations at our mitzvah project fair!

203-869-7191
www.templesholom.com
/TempleSholomCT

Free and open to the public.

Bi-Cultural Introduces Early Childhood Event Series

Bi-Cultural Day School introduced its Early Childhood Program Series entitled, Come Play with Us! for the 2016-2017 academic year. Each event is designed for young Jewish families with children ages birth to 5 to experience the school's full General and Judaic Studies curriculum. Events are free of charge.

The series opened in September with Music and Movement, featuring Rachel Bahar, accompanied by Peretz Cik, engaging children through song, rhyme and storytelling. In October, children created a Sukkot-inspired project with Bi-Cultural's Makerspace Engineering team in a Tinker Tots program. December will feature an exploratory art program called Kids on Canvas, and a Hanukkah-Hullabaloo party scheduled for early in the month.

Events continue into January through the end of the school year. The line-up features a range of dynamic and interactive activities, including mindful yoga, science, Israeli cooking and dancing.

"I'm excited for young children to enjoy these fun activities, while parents mingle with other parents, and engage with our masterful teachers, experiencing first-hand our interdisciplinary, interactive, child-centered approach to early childhood education," said Denise Rafailov, Bi-Cultural's Director of Admissions. "Our series is such a wonderful way for young families to meet each other."

For more information and to register for these events, please contact Denise at drafailov@bcds.org or 203-329-2186, ext. 1310.



Bi-Cultural's Director of Admissions Denise Rafailov greets Maytal Lerner and Adele during a recent Early Childhood Program.

Everyone Has a Seat at the Jewish High School of CT Learning Table

When students first visit JHSC, they are struck by the number of round table discussions in classes. At many prior schools that students attended, a large percentage of classes were lectures with rows of seats. Rabbi Elisha Paul, Head of School of the Jewish High School of Connecticut, is a proponent of round-table discussions. "There is a striking difference in learning when people sit together to discuss topics and issues," said Rabbi Paul. "Students are more engaged,

more willing to take risks with ideas, when their peers and instructor are sitting together with them around a table. Students are also encouraged to continue their discussions after class. We have found that many good ideas for additional courses emerge as a result of inspiring conversations around a learning table."

This method of learning called the Harkness Method of teaching, developed at Phillips Exeter in the 1930s, involves students in a discussion facing

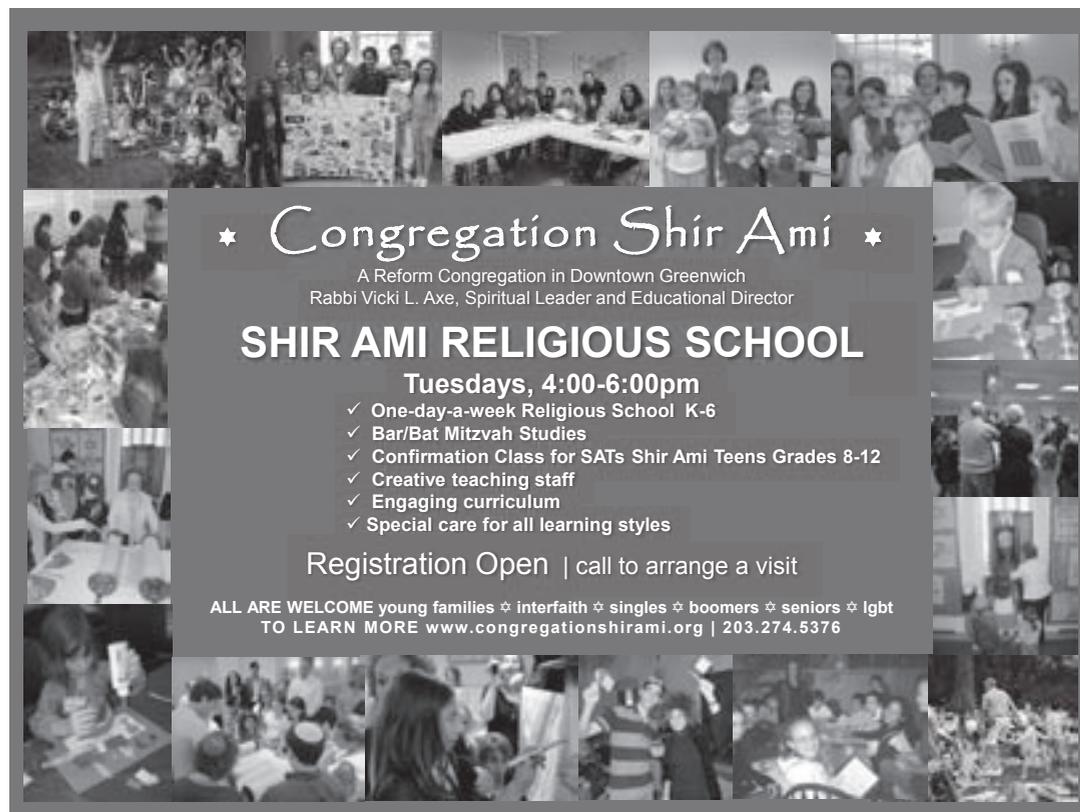
each other around an oval table. While not all tables at JHSC are oval, this methodology is utilized in almost every class at JHSC.

What some people do not know is that the model of facing each other when learning is actually found in the Talmud. In Talmudic times students sometimes sat and sometimes stood, but whether sitting or standing, the students were traditionally organized in a "U" shape format in order to be able to see each other and

their teacher simultaneously to maximize interactive learning. This is the same way the Jewish Supreme Court, the Sanhedrin, was designed as well.

"The student and teacher dialogue creates an intellectual energy that encourages students to express their ideas and get excited about subjects or issues," commented Dr. Seth Reimer. "In fact, as a result of a hearty discussion in one of my Talmud classes a couple of years ago, I ended up teaching a course on Comparative

Religion." Other courses to emerge during discussions have included Power and Society, Scriptwriting and the Military and Jewish Law. "We are serious about foundational courses, but we give our students room to choose and share their ideas. The table is part of that philosophy – it is an intellectual incubator that motivates and inspires our students and faculty, and we want every student to have an equal seat at the learning table," said Rabbi Paul.



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

SHIR AMI RELIGIOUS SCHOOL
 Tuesdays, 4:00-6:00pm

- ✓ One-day-a-week Religious School K-6
- ✓ Bar/Bat Mitzvah Studies
- ✓ Confirmation Class for SATs Shir Ami Teens Grades 8-12
- ✓ 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

Special Guests at Temple Sholom



On Yom Kippur afternoon, Temple Sholom welcomed former NBA star and assistant general manager of the New York Knicks, Allan Houston, and UPenn student activist, Taylor Becker, to share their personal perspectives on Israel. The well-attended program was coordinated by Temple Sholom congregant and AIPAC Board Member, Betsy Korn, and was co-sponsored by AIPAC and the Amy Lipton z'l Israel Action Fund.

UJA/JCC Parent and Child Volunteers Help Out at Masbia Soup Kitchen

It's hard to believe that just 42 miles away, every day, there are hundreds of people for whom having food on their table for dinner is not a given. On Monday, October 10, a day when some schools were closed, a group of kids and parents from UJA/JCC Greenwich visited the Masbia Soup Kitchen. Masbia works to not only feed the hungry, but to provide free, wholesome, and delicious meals for people in a restaurant-style environment, with volunteer waiters serving each person with respect and dignity.

Sasha Simon, age 16, said: "It was fun getting to see and experience what it takes to help and feed hundreds of people a week." More than 500 meals are prepared and served each day. Alongside Masbia's hot-meal program, volunteers also give out bags of much needed groceries every week to those with not enough at home, through their weekend take-home package program.

Tabitha Bodian, age 10, said about her experience "We got to use a special machine to slice pickles and learn how to pack and weigh food. It's important to know what it takes to get food from the farm to your table. Now I know that just because someone isn't homeless and living on the street, they still might not have enough to eat. Sometimes they just need a little help." Kate Friedman, also 10 years old said, "I really enjoyed going to Masbia, not only helping others but being with each other and doing it together. It was hard work, but it was really worth it to know we were helping. I would do it again!"

To learn more about Masbia or to volunteer or support their work contact Leah Schechter at leah@jccgreenwich.org or 203-552-1818.



COMING SOON... THE WIZARDS BUILDING ON RIVER ROAD

THE PERMANENT HOME OF HEBREW WIZARDS. A NEW
LEARNING CENTER FOR MIND, BODY & SPIRIT FOR ALL AGES.

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Boomers and Beyond Sacred Aging

Monthly Conversations for the Third Act of Life

with Rabbi Vicki L. Axe and friends

Wednesdays, 7:00-9:00pm

at Rabbi Axe's Home 151 Guinea Road in Stamford

October 26, November 16, December 14, January 11

February 8, March 8, April 5, May 3

Rabbi Richard F. Address founder Jewish Sacred Aging
Nancy Collamer second act career coach
Jeff Graham founder Transplant Support Organization
Rabbi MJ Newman palliative care chaplain Greenwich Hospital

To learn more ★ www.congregationshirami.org 203.274.5376

Mommy & Me

Children up to 24 months

Tuesdays • 9:15am

LITTLE DRAIDEL
GYMNASTICS
with Anatole

FALL
8 Tuesdays, Nov. 1 - Dec. 20...\$140
(Includes 1 free trial class)

WINTER
7 Tuesdays, Jan. 3 - Feb. 14...\$140

SPRING
11 Tuesdays, Feb. 28 - May 27...\$220

Fridays • 9:15am

MUSICAL
SHABBAT
with Bobby Doowah

FALL
7 Fridays, Oct. 26 - Dec. 23...\$120
(Includes 1 free trial class) or class Nov. 11 & 25

WINTER
7 Fridays, Jan. 6 - Feb. 17...\$140

SPRING
11 Fridays, March 3 - May 26...\$220

Refer a friend
and you will
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credit!

Sign up with
no commitment for
the fall session and
receive 1 FREE
trial class

Chabad, 75 Mason Street

Chairs: Rachel Bressler,
Lindsay Gortalis and Ariel Papp

CHABADGREENWICH.ORG

ADULT EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS



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

Adolph and Ruth Schnurmacher Lecture in Judaic Studies

“Popular Anger or Planned Pogrom?”

What Really Happened During Kristallnacht 78 Years Ago”

Dr. Michael A. Meyer, Adolph S. Ochs Professor Emeritus,

Hebrew-Union College Jewish Institute of Religion

Tuesday, November 29, 7:30 pm

Greenwich Reform Synagogue

Adult Torah Study

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

Jewish Ethical Questions

Sundays, 10:30 am with Rabbi Robert Rothman

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

JCC Greenwich

Painted Ladies Series

“Heroic Education,” Thursday, December 8

“Queen Esther in Art,” Thursday, March 2

UJA Greenwich, One Holly Hill Lane, 10-11:30 am

JCC Cinema

Davis Film Festival

“Mountain,” December 7

“Shtisel,” January 11

“The People vs. Fritz Bauer,” February 8

Bow-Tie Criterion Cinema, 2 Railroad Ave, Greenwich, Wednesday evenings, 7 pm, \$15

Temple Sholom

Shabbat Study

with Temple Sholom Clergy, Saturdays, 9-10 am

Lunch & Learn

Tuesdays, 12-1 pm. Kosher lunch provided

Jewish Meditation

Tuesday, Dec. 6 & 20 and Jan. 10 & 24

Contact Cantor Asa Fradkin at cantorasa@templesholom.com.

Talmud Study with Assistant Rabbi Yoni Nativ

Tuesday, Nov. 29, Dec. 6 & 13, 7-8 pm

“Good Fences Make Good Neighbors” – A Look at property disputes, noise complaints and individual vs. communal rights.

Register with Alice Schoen at alice.schoen@templesholom.com.

Adult Learning with Rabbi Mitch

“Thankfulness and Gratitude”

Sunday, Dec. 4, 9:15am-10:15 am

“Putting God on the Guest List”

Sunday, Jan. 8, 10:15am-11:15 am

“Sacred Stress” 3-Part Series

Explore new ways of managing stress for more healthy and hopeful living, with Rabbi Mitchell M. Hurvitz and the Rev. Dr. Heather P. Wright.

Sundays, Dec. 1, 8 & 15, 7:30-9 pm

Register with Alice Schoen at alice.schoen@templesholom.com.

Are you considering taking a class or attending a lecture this Fall or Early Winter?

Look no further!

Here is a list of what’s going on right here in the Greater Greenwich Jewish Community.

Sponsored by Rita Edelston

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



November 17..... Rabbi Jonathan E. Blake
Will the Real Ten Commandments Please Stand Up?
We examine three textual sources, each vying as authentic Ten Commandments.

November 24..... Thanksgiving, no class

December 1..... Rabbi Jonathan Jaffe
What Did We Hear at Sinai?
Deepen your mystical understanding of Revelation.

December 8..... Rabbi Fred Hyman
Positive Psychology and Judaism
Explore how ancient Jewish wisdom relates to the contemporary field of psychology.

December 15..... Rabbi Jason Rubenstein
Hanukkah and Other Miracles
What does the Talmud say about surviving close calls?

December 22..... Rabbi Daniel Cohen
Greeks vs. Jews
Explore three timeless and timely distinctions between Hellenism and Judaism.

December 29..... Chaim Lauer
Talmudic Women: The Good, the Bad, the Beautiful - Part II
Back for another crack at the Talmud’s take on sex, food and politics, not necessarily in that order.

January 5 Rabbi David Kalb
Is the Killing of the First Born Truly the Worst of the 10 Plagues?
With Martin Luther King Jr. Day on the horizon, let’s revisit the Exodus story and try to answer this question.

January 12 Rabbi Les Bronstein
Opening the Mind, Opening the Heart

January 19 Rabbi Jordan Soffer
Healing Community Rifts
What does Judaism say about the rewards of moral action, and how can its no-pain-no-gain ethos of “Lefum tzaara agra” guide us in reconciling thorny differences in political society and culture?

January 26 Rabbi Menachem Feldman
The Mystery of the Garden of Eden
Explore the many layers of meaning in one of the Bible’s most fascinating stories.

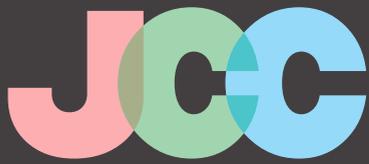
February 2 Dr. Carmella Abraham
Game of Dethrones
From debates to depositions to political derring do, how was dominance asserted in Talmudic times?

February 9 Rabbi Daniel Gropper
Love Is a Jewish Four-Letter Word

February 16 Rabbi Eric Hoffman
What Is “Segula”?
In Parashat Yitro, God calls Israel His “segula,” so this week we will explore Talmud, Midrash and Commentaries for ways of understanding that concept.

February 23 Rabbi Yossi Deren
Curious Tales of the Talmud: Finding Personal Meaning in the Legends of Our Sages

Check JCC calendar for updated schedule



G R E E N W I C H

Youth

Educate
Stimulate
Motivate

JCC TEEN ACTION COMMITTEE

Teens Doing Good Together

Register at JCCGreenwich.org
or 203-552-1818

Teen-led activities & community service projects

for middle school and high school students

Hanukkah Helpers

Sunday, December 4 • 2:30 - 5 pm
Be a Hanukkah Helper at the JCC/WJ Library Annual Hanukkah Party. Carroll Academy, 270 Lake Ave, Greenwich



Sunday, November 20 • 5:30 - 7 pm
SNAP Supermarket Challenge. Stop & Shop, 141 W Putnam Ave. Mix Council

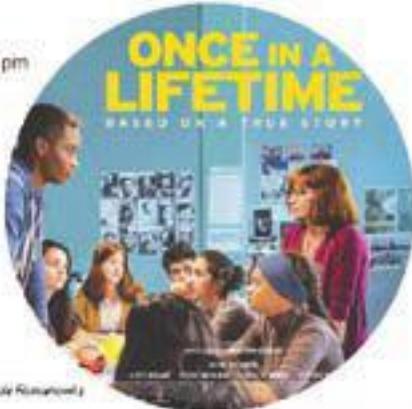
JTAC members are pictured here packing toiletries into Emergency Shelter Bags, following their month-long collection drive for Domestic Abuse Awareness Month. The emergency bags will be given to clients from the Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty and the YWCA Greenwich Domestic Abuse Services. A huge thank you to everyone in the community who donated toiletries to the project!



Sunday, January 22 • 5:30 pm

Once in a Lifetime

A divided history teacher at a Plain high school taps lessons of the Holocaust to motivate her troubled students in this uplifting drama based on a true story.



Box Tie Criterion Cinema, 2 Putnam Ave, Greenwich

A gift to our teens, sponsored by Shaul Rosenfeld

UPCOMING MEETING DATES

Sundays, 5:30 - 7 pm
November 6, November 20*, December 11
January 8, January 22*
at One Holly Hill Lane

* Special time and place, see event info above

\$9 per meeting for dinner, pay in advance \$75/year

Questions? Contact Leah@jccgreenwich.org

PJ Library
Sunday FUN DAY
Sundays 3:45 - 5 pm
YWCA Greenwich
259 E. Putnam Ave.

Register at JCCGreenwich.org
or 203-552-1818



December 4 • 3-5 pm
PJ Library Hanukkah Party



January 19 • 7 pm
An Evening with Lewis Bernstein

January 29
Soup Jars
Do good, have fun! Help make soup jars for the clients of the JFS Kasher Food Pantry.

February 26
The Shabbat Box
Make your own decorative items to help celebrate Shabbat at home.

March 26
Multi-sport Mashup
with Femom Fitness
Stretch, balance, run, jump, throw, catch at this multi-sport mashup to get little bodies moving.
Sponsored by Abby and Zoe Cohen in honor of Abby's 3rd birthday.

Tots Pre-school tots play & learn with pre-school educators & friends. Baby siblings welcome! This program is a gift to the community in partnership with

Kids For K-2nd graders \$15 per session in advance • \$25 at the door

January 29
The Sandwich Brigade
Help make over 100 sandwiches to serve the clients of the Bronx Jewish Community Council.

February 26
Masquerade!!
With Bitty City Players of NYC. We will use our imaginations, bodies & voices at an improv, mask-making, storytelling workshop.

March 26
Chocolate Seder
If God had made milk chocolate, "Doyents," it would have been enough. But we have milk, dark, white chocolate and more at this model Chocolate Seder!



Women's Philanthropy

Mother Can You NOT!

Hosted by Robin Leader and Held on Sept. 29 at the Home of Her Mother, Nancy Zisson



Israel, Zionism and Anti-Zionism – A Presentation by Gil Troy at Carmel Academy on September 15

Co-sponsored by UJA Greenwich and AIPAC



PJ Library Back Together Family Picnic on September 18 at the home of Rebecca and Jonathan Tipermas





Educate
Stimulate
Motivate

December 14 • 10:30 - 11:30 am Private Tour: Judaica and Israeli Art at Sotheby's

With Jennifer Roth and Rivka Saker

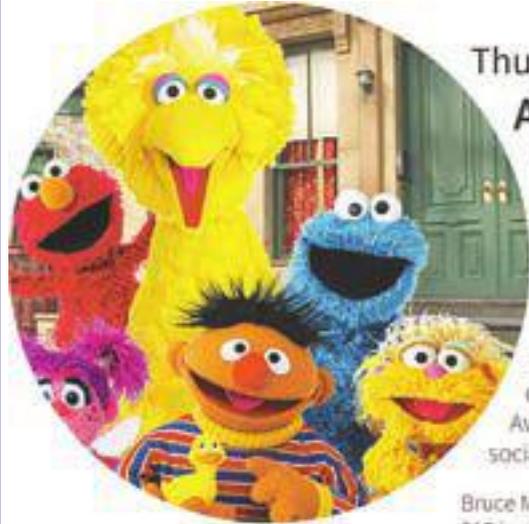
Enjoy an exclusive walk through the annual auction of Judaica and Israeli art, with the Senior Vice President of Sotheby's and Managing Director of Sotheby's Israel.

1334 York Ave., New York City
\$50 in advance, \$60 at the door if space is available

Sotheby's



Steven Rubin, Sotheby's



Thursday, January 19 • 7:30pm An Evening with Lewis Bernstein

Former Executive Vice President of Education Research and Outreach for Sesame Street Workshop

How did Sesame Street shape the values of generations of American children? What can we expect in the near future from this Emmy Award-winning influence on children's intellectual, social, emotional and moral lives?

Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Drive
\$15 in advance, \$20 at the door

Wednesday, January 25 • 10 am Stop the Fight!

With Dr. Michelle Brody

Want to move past the same hurtful tiffs? You know--the difficult relatives fight, the money fight, the parenting differences fight and other familiar bust ups. With her illustrated tool kit, Westchester couples coach and psychologist tackles the 12 Most Common Arguments that inflame relationships and shows how partners can chart a course together to create lasting change.

Location TBD
\$15 in advance, \$18 at the door



Wednesday, February 1 • 10:30 am Golda: The Retrospective

Private Tour with Curator Warren Klein

At this historic exhibition, gain a deeper understanding of the American-born woman who became a founder of the State of Israel and its fourth prime minister.

The Herbert & Eileen Bernard Museum of Judaica, Temple Emanu-El, 1 East 65th Street, NYC
\$36



Wednesdays, 8pm at New Line Criterion Cinema, 2 Railroad Ave. \$15 each film, \$18 series

JCC Davis Film Festival



Wednesday, December 7 Mountain

A powerful drama about an Orthodox woman who becomes involved with

a nocturnal community of prostitutes and drug dealers that congregates in the ancient cemetery atop Jerusalem's Mount of Olives.

Yaelle Kayam / Drama / Israel, Denmark / 83 min.

SAVE THESE DATES:

January 11: Shtisel

February 8: The People vs. Fritz Bauer

Painted Ladies Series

With Art Historian Beth S. Gersch-Nešić, Ph.D.

10-11:30 am • One Holly Hill Lane, Greenwich

\$30 per session in advance; \$36 per session at the door



Thursday, December 8 Heroic Seduction

What's the connection between Judith and Hanukkah? Discover a swashbuckling biblical heroine and why she graces 18th-century Hannukiot.

Thursday, March 2 Queen Esther in Art

Purim celebrates the grit and gumption of a young Jewess tapped to save her co-religionists from annihilation. Savor the Feast of Esther through some of art history's most evocative and haunting images.



To register for any of these events, visit JCCGreenwich.org



Carmel Academy Opens *Gan Chalomot*, Playground of Dreams

When Carmel Academy's youngest students began the school year this September they were in for a wonderful surprise – a brand new playground that puts their imagination, creativity and sense of discovery center stage. "Carmel Academy's *Gan Chalomot*, or Playground of Dreams, is truly a one-of-a-kind play area," said Carmel Academy early childhood specialist Julie Thaler, the brainchild behind the project. "Inquiry-based learning, discovery and approaching the world with a sense of wonder is paramount to Carmel Academy's early childhood program," said Head of School Nora Anderson.

"Our *Gan Chalomot* is a natural and wonderful extension to our school's teaching philosophy, and it is inspiring to watch our youngest students creatively play and learn in this unique outdoor play space."

Thaler, who is the lead teacher for the school's Shorashim Transitional Kindergarten program, uses the Reggio Emilia approach to early childhood education, a philosophy that considers the surrounding environment to be a third teacher for children. And it's this approach that inspired *Gan Chalomot*, she said. "The children just love it," Thaler said. "And as an educator, it is so exciting

to see the type of learning that is taking place during recess as the playground encourages children to think about how to use the materials, and they draw upon their real-life experiences and imagination."

The new playground is just outside the school's Early Learning Center, which houses Carmel Academy's Shorashim class and kindergarten classes. *Gan Chalomot* is built upon natural beauty, authentic materials and toys that spark imagination and play. Specially cut tree trunks, a teepee crafted from tree branches, and play equipment mostly made from wood, give children a nature-themed

slate to explore. Playground equipment include a music wall made up of pots and pans, a maze of tubes where children can use marbles or water to explore the concepts of motion,

a pyramid made from tires, a sandbox, log balance beam and a life-size scale for students to experiment with object weight and measuring.



Carmel Academy transitional kindergarten students Yonab Vamos and Benjamin Guttmann explore in Carmel Academy's new playground.



Antonia Knijnik, Miri Lebwohl and Zeev Schuck play with a music wall in Carmel Academy's new playground.

Physics at Jewish High School of CT

JHSC's honors physics class engaged in a simple activity to demonstrate their understanding of the relationship between velocity, distance and time. Dr. Paul Castle, JHSC's physics teacher, conducts this activity every year on a warm fall day. It gets the students out into the fresh air, and helps build team spirit among them. JHSC focuses on providing their students with an academically rigorous environment and a safe place to grow into adults.

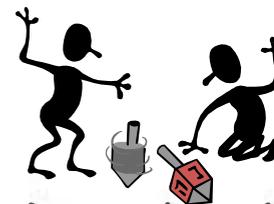


Pictured from left to right in the back row: Gabriella Lieberman, Kovi Bodek, Doug Herman, Noam Haron, Andrew Yakubovich, Danny Goldblum; front row: Sarah Hannah, Nate Herman, Zoe Jaffe-Berkowitz, Jacob Sigman.

Teen Wizards Celebrate High Holidays and Chant Torah



CHANUKAH LIVE! at Congregation Shir Ami



Friday, December 16, 2016 6:00pm



First Presbyterian Church
in Downtown Greenwich
Pot Luck Gourmet Latke Dinner
with Latkes donated by Garelick and Herbs

7:00pm Shabbat Service Chanukah Candle Lighting

SHIR AMI ROCKIN' BAND AND CHOIRS

ALL ARE WELCOME Reservations Required
Adults \$25 | Teens 13-18 \$10 | Children under 13 free

RSVP www.congregationshirami.org Info



JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES OF GREENWICH

JFS Jewish Health and Healing Center Spreads Holiday Cheer, Brings Generations Together

Believe it or not, Chanukah is on its way, and so are the celebrations all around town. We'll be visiting all the "usual" senior residences in Greenwich as well as hosting, in partnership with Greenwich Hospital Chaplaincy, candle lighting at Greenwich Hospital for each of the eight nights. We will also be continuing our Shabbat visits and monthly discussions. See all the great things we're up to at www.jfsgreenwich.org.

Jewish Health and Healing is proud to continue our intergenerational book club and partnership with Carmel Academy. Last year we matched 7th graders with adults 60 and over to share perspectives on books, short stories, and poetry. The "Better Together Book Club" was such a success that the now-8th graders are enjoying another year with the friends they got to know so well last year. If you're interested in joining, it's never too late! Contact Lisa Goldberg at imgoldberg@jfsgreenwich.org.



JFS Volunteer lights the Chanukiah at River House.



Greenwich Reform Synagogue celebrates Chanukah at the Greens.

SPECIAL DONATIONS to Jewish Family Services

In Honor of:

Barbara Salop, by Lucy and Robert Krasnor, Elyse Brown, Naomi Tamerin, Rita Edelston, Helen and Bob Stark, Tatiana Nichiforova, Joan and David Green, Bunny and Stan Rosen, Sandy and Stephen Soule, Yvette and Morley Kahn

Arik Deren, by Susan and Jerome Davis

In Memory of:

Josef Macy, by Susan and Jerry Davis

Faye Genin, by Phyllis Shapiro and Marty Flashner

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 acknowledgment 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 will help make it possible for us to continue to provide the highest quality programs, resources, and services to all who come to us for assistance.

All JFS Supermarketing for Seniors Shoppers are Super Stars!

Last year we created the Supermarketing for Seniors (SFS) Shopper of the Year Award as a way to encourage our shoppers with public recognition based on feedback from our shopping clients. We thought our judges would pick out one outstanding shopper who stood head and shoulders above the rest.

However, what we learned through our clients' testimonies this year was something we'd come to realize from our interactions in the office – we have so many wonderful shoppers we can't single out just one. The judges all agreed that each one nominated is outstanding and deserving of recognition.

Our clients tell us that SFS shoppers look out for them more often than just the one day each week they

do grocery shopping. They bring open hearts and moments of sunshine; they are concerned for their clients' well-being and stay in touch between shopping trips; they make sure their clients are prepared for inclement weather, and don't leave them stranded if there is a problem. Our shoppers call or visit when their shoppes are hospitalized or in rehab; they are generous and thoughtful, and are always willing to go the extra mile. SFS shoppers are the heart of Supermarketing for Seniors, and we could not fulfill our mission without their commitment.

Beginning this month, Supermarketing for Seniors will highlight one of our shoppers each month, because we want their service to be acknowledged and

the community to know just how special they are. We will feature them on the SFS web page at jfsgreenwich.org, and in our SFS client newsletter so our shoppes can get to know more about the people who put their hearts into Supermarketing for Seniors.

We are thankful for our shoppers' collective decades of service to Supermarketing for Seniors and look forward to sharing their stories with the community in the months ahead.

If you or someone you know could benefit from the free Supermarketing for Seniors grocery shopping and case monitoring service, please contact program director Elyse Brown at 203-622-1881 or ebrown@jfsgreenwich.org.



Members of JCC Teen Action Committee volunteer on Grandparents Day to raise awareness and support for the JFS Greenwich Supermarketing for Seniors program.



JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES OF GREENWICH

Fall/Winter 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 60 and over to look at books, concepts, and historical events through the eyes of today's Jewish youth, while the youth get to know the generations that came before them. To join, contact Lisa Goldberg at JFS. See our website for details. *Wednesdays, 11/16; 12/21. 10:30-11:30 am*

JFS BOOKBEAT: FOR THOSE WHO LOVE TO READ

A thought-provoking book club with themes relevant to Jewish women of all ages. Facilitated by Judi Margolin; meets at JFS.

Wednesdays, 1/25; 3/22; 4/26; 6/7. 7:30 pm

Our next book is *The Best Place on Earth*, by Ayelet Tsabari.

JFS MOVIEGOER'S SERIES

An inter-generational, afternoon film series for members of our Jewish community, screening feature films and documentaries with themes relevant to today's Jewish families, and pertaining to important world issues. Movies are shown at the Merry-Go-Round Mews, and refreshments are served. The series is facilitated by Lolly Raphael, an experienced film moderator. *See JFS website for dates.*

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 75 in all patient rooms. *Joan Mann, Spiritual Care Counselor at JFS; Lisa Goldberg, Director Jewish Health and Healing Center of JFS; and Rabbi MJ Newman, Jewish Chaplain of Greenwich Hospital, lead the service.*

INTERFAITH CONVERSATIONS

This Wednesday-evening series gives people a way to explore the opportunities and challenges associated with interfaith living. *11/16; 1/18; 3/1; 5/24; 7 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, 11/14; 12/12. 12-12:45 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!

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

Fall/Winter Counseling and Support Groups

Bereavement Support Group (JFS office)

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 (JFS office)

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 (JFS office)

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 provides a confidential space to reflect on the life you are living and the life you would like to live. It is an opportunity to grow, develop, and learn from others. Facilitated by Barbara Lehrman, LCSW.

Wednesdays, 5:30-6:45 pm

Living Well in Later Life (JFS office)

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 (JFS office)

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 tough 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. *Tuesdays, 5:30-6:30 pm – NO CHARGE*

Children of Holocaust Survivors Support Group (ONLINE)

Participants discuss how the Holocaust, after 70 years, continues to impact their lives today. We explore the behaviors of our families, and its influence on our own behaviors and relationships. We also touch on how the legacy of being a child of a survivor can be a burden or a gift. And lastly we discuss the resilience in our families and ourselves. Facilitated by Dr. Judith Zackson, Ph.D. *Tuesdays, 2-3 pm*

Caregiver Support Group (ONLINE)

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 Lisa-Lorraine Smith, LCSW. *Wednesdays, 2-3 pm*

**For more information or to join a group, please call
Lisa-Lorraine Smith, LCSW, at 203-622-1881 or email
lsmith@jfsgreenwich.org**

**All you need for our ONLINE groups is a computer,
smart phone, or tablet with WiFi access.**

Better Together- Mitzvah Moments Project

Hebrew Wizards proudly received a 2-Year Grant from Legacy Heritage to promote intergenerational friendships and learning with seniors from River House



Carmel Academy Students Create Sukkah City

Carmel Academy's students transformed the school's Lower School courtyard into a Sukkah City. In this hands-on, experiential lesson about the laws that govern building a sukkah, students from transitional kindergarten through grade 4, used creativity, problem solving, team-work, engineering, math and art to create a grade-wide sukkah using everyday materials.



Carmel Academy fourth graders work together to construct their grade's sukkah for Sukkah City.



Carmel Academy second grader Miri Young stands among the decorations in her grade's sukkah.



Carmel Academy kindergartner Emet Mirsky hangs a decoration in his class' sukkah.

Gearing Up for B'nai Mitzvah at Greenwich Reform Synagogue

Time goes by so quickly. Although it may feel like your child just learned to walk, talk, and read, his or her Bar/Bat Mitzvah date will be here before you know it! Making this special day beautiful and memorable for everyone involved – from children to parents, grandparents, friends and family – is a team effort.

Greenwich Reform Synagogue wants to make this process meaningful and enjoyable. The goal is to have all family members, whether Jewish or not, feel included and comfortable with the rituals, language, and celebration. Parents with children in Grades 3-7 meet one evening a month to discuss the path to becoming a Bar or Bat Mitzvah, while learning and sharing together. Topics include discussion of the mechanics surrounding the Bar/Bat Mitzvah process, (overview of Torah/Haftarah portions and crafting a d'var Torah); learning the blessings, and more detailed conversations about such areas of interest as Jewish history and holidays, life cycle traditions, prayer and liturgy, interfaith issues, as well as concerns specific to the B'nai Mitzvah itself.

Karen Beiley, a mother of four, explained: "Parental involvement allows parents to feel that their children are in good hands. So far for me, the whole experience is warm and not forced. At our meetings we talk about the learning part as well as the ideas, experiences, and information that helps prepare for this special day, including such details as venue options, caterers, DJs, etc." Robin Bartholomew, another mother of four, shared her thoughts: "GRS has done an amazing job for our mixed-faith family, making the non-Jewish parent and his family really feel part of the process. We have been active members for 15 years, enjoying three B'nai Mitzvah, with the last one around the corner in June." According to Rabbi Sklarz, "this is a wonderful opportunity for parents to get to know one another and the rabbi in a relaxed setting." For more details on preparing for a Bar or Bat Mitzvah at GRS, please contact Rabbi Sklarz at RabbiSklarz@GRS.org or call 203-629-0018.

International Math at JHSC

One of the biggest challenges of 21st century education in the United States is remaining competitive with international achievement standards of global excellence in mathematics. This is one of the reasons that international baccalaureate programs have steadily gained in popularity in some North American schools.

The Jewish High School of Connecticut has addressed this issue by expanding a U.S. based math curriculum and adding some new international approaches to teaching mathematics.

Ms. Natasha Cohen brings her expertise from the elite Russian mathematics program to her students with a focus on proving and mastering in-depth mathematical concepts. Dr. Yidi Zhang blends the best of his training at

the Stevens Institute of Technology with his mastery of the Chinese mathematics approach of broad mastery of high level mathematical subjects. William Berson holds more than 50 U.S. patents and adds a practical flair to his classes using manipulatives and real world applications of abstract mathematical concepts for his students.

"As technology makes the world a 'flatter' place, it is critical to provide our contemporary students with the most sophisticated approaches and global best practices to education that are available. In this way, they will be prepared to compete successfully on the emerging global playing field of interconnected business and commerce," commented Rabbi Elisha Paul, JHSC Head of School.

GRS Cooking Series

Love to cook? Join us on January 20, when Greenwich Reform Synagogue hosts the first of their Jewish cooking series, open to the community. Perhaps a challah baking lesson, maybe Purim *bamentaschen*, or another favorite Jewish recipe! What we can promise you is that you'll have fun, learn more about making Jewish food, and make some new friends. For more details, please contact Nancy Korobkin at memberservices@grs.org.



Chicken Soup Project, November 2

Members of Pearl Society Cook Up the Broth, While Author Jessica Fechter Shares Her Amazing Story



Bi-Cultural Practices Classroom Mindfulness



Bi-Cultural Day School has been increasingly integrating mindfulness and quiet meditation into all facets of student life, helping students relieve stress and anxiety in a comfortable and relaxed setting. In this photo, Judaic Studies teacher Robert Abrams practices mindfulness during a 5th-grade Tefillah class, combining practiced breathing techniques with interpretation of the well-known work of art, "The Philosopher in Meditation" by Rembrandt.

INSPIRE YOUR CHILDREN IN THE CAMP OF THEIR LIVES!

HAPPY CHANU KAH!

EARLY BIRD

\$500 OFF per camper enrolled 4+ weeks!

Valid through pre-Chanukah Family Fun Day, December 18

\$1000 deposit per child due to secure Early Bird discount.

Camp 2017 dates: June 26 - August 10

- Mini Gan (2 - 3 yr olds)
- Juniors (4 - 5 yr olds)
- Sports Camp (1st - 4th grade)
- All Activity Camp (1st - 6th grade)
- Theatre Arts Camp (1st - 6th grade)
- Intensive Tennis Camp (1st - 4th grade)
- CIT Program (7th - 8th grade)

CAMP GAN ISRAEL

Located at Carmel Academy
370 Lake Ave. Greenwich, CT

Apply online CampGan.com/enroll

Leon Gauthier, Controller for UJA Greenwich for 21 Years, Retired Last Month. We Welcome His Successor, Gracia Fields!



Lydia Fan, Walter Primoff, and Leon Gauthier



Marty Flashner and Leon Gauthier



Brian Neilinger and Gracia Fields



Steve and Hersh Batkin

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203.302.3880
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CALLING ALL TEENS! Community Service Trip to Charleston, SC, January 13-16, 2017



Temple Shalom is teaming up with Westchester's J-Teen Leadership to offer a community service trip for 9th-12th graders to Charleston, SC, over Martin Luther King Jr. weekend.

This location is in need of resources and supplies following the recent devastation of Hurricane Matthew. This service trip will enable teens to make a difference outside of our local community and will provide them with opportunities for reflection, Jewish learning and direct interaction with those affected.

A limited number of spots are available. Teens will travel by plane to Charleston.

For more information, including pricing details, please contact Lori Baden at 203-542-7172 or lori.baden@templesholom.com. Scholarships are available!



Topping Off Ceremony at GRS

Chilling rain did little to dampen the high spirits of a crowd of more than 60 people at the GRS Topping Off ceremony held on September 30, 2016. Brief remarks were made by GRS copresidents Marc Abrams and Wendy Schreiber, Selectman Drew Marzullo, and Rabbi Andy Sklarz. All present signed the beam, then watched and cheered as a giant crane raised the beam high into the sky, before it was set into place in the building.

Next steps include roofing the building, installing the windows and siding, followed by the completion of all interior elements by the spring of 2017.

For a two-minute video of the event, search online for "GRS Topping Off Video" or go to <https://grs.org/events/hardhat-tours/>.

For a personal hard-hat tour of the construction site, please contact the GRS office at 203-629-0018 or info@GRS.org.



**TORAH
TOTs**
at Shir Ami



Shabbat and Holiday
Stories and Songs
with Rabbi Axx



Wed Oct 12
1:00pm

Sat Nov 5
9:00am

Fri Jan 6
6:00pm

Sat Feb 4
9:00am

Sat May 6
9:00am



To learn more | www.congregationshirami.org ★ 203.274.5376

Shalom!

Are you thinking about taking a family trip to Israel?
We're planning a family Israel adventure! Watch your email for an invitation to an information session or email tracy@ujafedgreenwich.org to let us know you are interested.



Creative Writing by Your Israeli Emissary, Racheli Ben Shimol

A Letter From a Young Man To His Future Granddaughter, 1955

My Dear Granddaughter,

I'm writing you this letter without knowing your name or what kind of person you will be. We came here a few months ago, to this wilderness. Our life before wasn't easy; we suffered from poverty and harassment from our neighbors. In the Promised Land we hoped to live a better life. Our friends talk about and we dream about a Jewish homeland that will be a safe home for our children and grandchildren. This was our Zionist dream.



Main intersection in Be'er Sheva in the 60's. Photo by Meir Zurt.

Now we are here in the South and the desert is all around us. I wonder how we will make anything grow? How will we build a life here? We came filled with hope and we see so many challenges ahead.

I try to imagine what your life will look like. What are the things you will hope and dream for? What will you be talking about with your friends? Will our struggles be your struggle too?

I hope the challenges we face will build the future for you we dream about.

Filled with hope for a better future,
Your Grandfather

A Response From a Granddaughter, 2016

Dear Grandpa,

If you were here with us today, you would be proud of our Negev. It has become a wonderful and innovative place. The sandy landscape that was here 60 years ago has been replaced by tall buildings, people walking and children's laughter that fills the streets. I wish you could see how the Negev has evolved. However, it is still hot here because it is the desert after all.

We don't see camels on the streets or large transit camps of temporary housing for new immigrants anymore. Today, the Negev is home to Ben Gurion University, many high-tech businesses and the leading companies in the field of agriculture. There are new towns and communities being developed here. Young people my age still dream and talk about Zionism. They talk about moving to the Negev and making the desert bloom, just like you did, more than 60 years ago. Because of you, we have made so much progress, but there is more to do.

Not far from our home, there is an agriculture research organization called the Gilat Center. In recent years, the Center has become a pilgrimage site for experts from around the world. They have managed to do the unthinkable. They developed a citrus species that can grow in the desert heat. Now, most of the citrus fruit grown and eaten in Israel, are grown in the desert at the Center. Can you believe we grow crops, which need the most water, in the Negev Desert?

After serving in our Israeli Defense Forces, everyone my age thinks about what they will study at university. At Ben Gurion University in Be'er Sheva, a group of three talented students developed the MiniDesktop in 2011. It is a thought-controlled, hands-free computer for the disabled. It enables people to operate a computer without using a keyboard or mouse – only by their "thoughts". We are proud that our university in the Negev is making such a positive impact in the sciences.

Grandpa, when you spoke about Zionism, I am reminded of something David Ben-Gurion said. He believed in settling down the in Negev and said, "It is in the Negev where the Israeli people and state will be tested." You, grandfather were among the first Zionists to settle the Negev. Today, Zionism is alive in the desert, but has evolved. People continue to move here and develop the land, technology and all the possibilities of life here. The people who live and work here believe that the future of Israel will be entwined with the future of the Negev.

Your Granddaughter



Be'er Sheva today. Photo by Ayre Rapoport.

Carmel Academy Teacher Brings the Power of Yoga and Wellness to Students and Faculty

As a group of Carmel Academy Middle School students enter Rachel Mann's classroom on a recent afternoon, she asks them each to describe how they are feeling.

"Tired, sleepy, stressed," some of the students say. Mann then turns on relaxing music as the students roll out yoga mats. She proceeds to take the group through a variety of yoga poses, meditation and breathing exercises as part of a Yoga and Meditation elective class. At the end of the session, Mann reassesses her students.

"Happy, energized, refreshed" are the new words the students use to describe their frame of mind. Mann, Carmel Academy's lead Middle School humanities teacher, said she is not surprised by the immediate benefits that the class offers. In fact, that's exactly what she experienced this past summer as one of 50 educators trained by the "Breathe For Change" program.

"Breathe For Change" is a wellness and yoga teacher-training organization that empowers educators to take care of themselves, their students, and their school communities through wellness practices such as yoga and mindfulness. The 16-day workshop gave Mann 200 intensive hours in training that she is now bringing back to the Carmel community in a variety of ways that she hopes will impact students and teachers alike.

Mann calls her experience with the organization transformative and she is sharing her new skills with Carmel colleagues. Mann trained alongside several other teachers who teach in Jewish day schools. "Naturally we began having conversations about how related this is not only to prayer, but to Judaism as a whole," Mann said. "We talked about the idea that there is a deep and natural connection between the mind, the body, the breath and the soul."

Mann also offers Meditation T'fillah once a week, as part of a new initiative at the school where Middle School students supplement their traditional prayer services with individual prayer. Students choose between a variety of options that include art, singing, discussion, and yoga, to name a few.



Carmel Academy Middle School Teacher Rachel Mann leads a Yoga and Meditation elective class for a group of Carmel students.

UPCOMING ADULT EDUCATION/ BEIT MIDRASH SESSIONS at Temple Sholom



Talmud Study with Assistant Rabbi Yoni Nativ
Tuesdays, November 29 and December 6 & 13, 7:00 pm–8:00 pm
Good Fences Make Good Neighbors—A look at property disputes, noise complaints and individual vs. communal rights.



**“Sacred Stress” Series
with Rabbi Mitchell M. Hurvitz
and The Rev. Dr. Heather P. Wright**

Thursdays, December 1, 8 & 15, 7:30 pm–9:00 pm

Explore new ways of managing stress for more healthy and hopeful living. Citing research in psychology, theology and brain science, along with personal and clinical experiences, material will be taken from Rev. Wright’s book, *Sacred Stress: A Radically Different Approach to Using Life’s Challenges for Positive Change*, co-authored with George Fallor.

For more information or to register for either of these free series, contact Alice Schoen at alice.schoen@templesholom.com.

Temple Sholom
Celebrating 100 Years
300 East Putnam Avenue, Greenwich, CT

203-869-7191
www.templesholom.com
/TempleSholomCT

Women's Torah Study Group
— Cleanings from the Torah on Family and Marriage Relationships with Margalita Dorn
Wednesdays - 9:30 - 10:30 AM
November 2, 2016 - May 10, 2017
at Chabad, 75 Mason Street
Chabad Greenw. Study Group: Miriam Cohen, Miriam Cohen, Jennifer Davis, Allison Gorman, Julia Lurie, Miriam Sengels, Madeline Korman, Corina Winkler
Through this in-depth textual analysis of Women in Jewish History - the Bible of Targum and the Holiday Haggadah - you will learn how to make Torah relevant to daily life. Bringing subject into our hearts, enhancing Shabbat and Holidays in our home and learning lessons in Planning.
Register at ChabadGreenwich.org

Save the date

**CHABAD OF GREENWICH
20TH ANNUAL GALA**

As we head into the 3rd decade of Chabad's presence in this lovely community, join us to celebrate 20 years of Jewish pride in Greenwich!

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 2017
7:00 PM · Hyatt Regency Greenwich,
1800 E Putnam Avenue

CHABADGREENWICH.ORG

SAVE THE DATES

Saturday, November 21

JBabies

Is THAT OK?

Child behavior expert, Jennifer Smokler Zigler
UJA Greenwich, One Holly Hill Lane. 11 am

Sunday, December 4

PJ Library

Hanukkah Party

The Mitzvah Bus is Coming to Town! with Mr. G Carmel Academy, 270 Lake Avenue, Greenwich. 3-5 pm

Tuesday, December 6

UJA Greenwich

Annual Meeting

Bruce Museum, 7 pm

Friday, December 9

Temple Sholom

“Latkes and Pajamas” Shabbat

5:30 pm

RSVP is required to Alice Schoen at 203-542-7165 or alice.schoen@templesholom.com.

Wednesday, December 14

JCC Greenwich

Private Tour:

Judaica and Israeli Art at Sotheby's

with Jennifer Roth

1334 York Avenue, New York City, 10:30-11:30 am

Sunday, January 8

Temple Sholom

Party Planning Showcase

Meet over 30 local vendors specializing in areas like photography, entertainment, catering, décor and floral arrangements.

11 am-1 pm

Thursday, January 19

JCC Greenwich

An Evening with Lewis Bernstein

Former Executive VP of Education, Research & Outreach, Sesame Street Workshop

Bruce Museum, One Museum Drive Greenwich, 7 pm

Wednesday, January 25

JCC Greenwich

Stop the Fight

with Doctor Michelle Brody

Location TBD, 10 am

Wednesday, February 1

JCC Greenwich

Golda: The Retrospective,

Private Tour with Curator Warren Klein

Herbert & Eileen Bernard Museum of Judaica

1 East 65th Street, New York City, 10 am

Private Tour: Judaica and Israeli Art at Sotheby's New York

By Laura Blum

The winter holidays are fast approaching. For Sotheby's New York, that means the annual auction of Judaica and Israeli Art. On Wednesday, December 14th, JCC Greenwich will enjoy an exclusive preview with Jennifer Roth, Senior Vice President of Israeli Art and Judaica, together with Rivka Saker, Managing Director of Sotheby's Israel.

On the block are significant works spanning a century of Israeli art. Among those that have the cognoscenti readying their bids are several canvases by the pioneering Eretz Yisrael legend, Reuven Rubin. Rubin, who died in 1974, has emerged as Israel's most sought-after 20th-century painter. With mounting demand and prices, his works can be expected to generate competitive bidding at the December 15th sale.

For connoisseurs of contemporary photography and video, there's a considerable selection of desirable works from cutting-edge makers. According to Roth, Ori Gersht's photograph *Chasing Good Fortune: Tokyo Imperial Memories, After Dark* is sure to compell attention.

Marc Chagall's *Juif à la Thora* (pictured here) leads the sale of this year's Important Judaica, at an estimated \$1.5 to 2 million. “The painting

evokes his abiding love of the Jewish traditions he grew up with in Vitebsk,” Roth observed.

Other Judaica highlights hail from the Shlomo Moussaieff Collection. Shlomo Moussaieff was a prominent Israeli businessman of Bukharan descent who primarily collected antiquities of the Bible and ancient Near East. At the time of his death last year at the age of 90, he had amassed an estimated 60,000 artifacts, specializing in early manuscripts and personal seals from the First and Second Temple periods.

Standouts include menorahs and candelabras encompassing the history of the Jewish Diaspora. Of Moussaieff's fine art offerings, Simeon Solomon's 1871 painting entitled *Rabbi Carrying the Scrolls of the Law* has its auctioneers especially excited.

Last December's sales of Judaica and Israeli and International Art at the Upper East Side auction house came to \$22.6 million. Just as many of last year's significant

works ultimately exceeded their estimate, Roth and her colleagues are hoping that this year's international contingent of private bidders will once again drive up the price tags. More about art and commerce at Sotheby's when JCC Greenwich goes to York Avenue next month.

For further information see page 14. Registration available at www.jccgreenwich.org.



Juif à la Thora.



The Power of a Jewish Community. MADE POSSIBLE BY **YOU.**

Thousands of Jews of all ages and backgrounds from the Greenwich community are coming together, learning together, and experiencing Judaism, Israel education, arts and ideas and social events together, thanks to JCC Greenwich.

JCC Greenwich is made possible through UJA Greenwich, the funder for all JCC programs in our community, bringing the Jewish community access to top speakers, educators and social opportunities.

Your support of UJA Greenwich means supporting Jewish community, both locally and in Israel.

YOUR **ONE GIFT** SUPPORTS THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY.



UJA GREENWICH

WE CARE. WE LEARN. WE CHANGE LIVES.

A Busy Fall at Greenwich High School Israel Club

The Greenwich High School Israel Club kicked off the year with a fun community service project: tie dying t-shirts for Israeli children at risk. This project was made possible with the help of UJA and JCC Greenwich. Club members each tie-dyed t-shirts, all of which are on their way to the Emunah Sarah Herzog Children's Center in

Afula, Israel. The Center is a residential and day-care intervention program that provides a continuum of therapeutic and educational services to more than 200 children ages 3-18 years old, primarily from Afula and Israel's north. It serves as an oasis of serenity and stability for some of Israel's most needy children. Greenwich and the city of Afula are connected through a partnership program, aiming to strengthen ties between the two communities. Israel club member Juliette Wilder reflects, "I'm so glad I was able to participate in an event that connects me to Israel while making a difference."

Israel Club also welcomed Paul Friedman, tri-state high school coordinator and keynote speaker, of StandWithUs to speak with members about Israeli innovations. StandWithUs is a non-profit Israel education and organization. It is a pro-Israel organization dedicated to educating people of all ages about Israel and to combating the extremism and anti-Semitism, which often distort serious discussion of important issues.

The GHS Israel Club meets every Thursday after school, at 2:15 pm in Clark 210 at GHS. Any student is welcome to come check out the club and learn more about Israel. For more information contact Racheli@jccgreenwich.org.





The Miracle of Hanukkah in Odessa

Your Donation to UJA Greenwich Is Making a Difference!

A brutal winter is coming to Ukraine, and many Jews—including 2,800 displaced by conflict—would be left out in the cold if not for our Federation partner JDC. Through our network of social service centers spread throughout the region, we are providing the food, clothing, shelter, medicine, warmth and hope needed to give vulnerable Jewish children and families a happier Hanukkah.

Please help us help Jews in Ukraine, at home and around the world. Make your contribution now.

One Holly Hill Lane
Greenwich, CT 06830


Our Community, Our Responsibility

203-552-1818
ujafedgreenwich.org