

Greenwich Teens Raise Money to Help End Childhood Hunger

Nearly one in five children in America lives in households that struggle to put food on the table, and JCC's Teen Action Committee did its part to help end childhood hunger, raising \$1,000 for the cause.

At the start of the year, local Greenwich middle and high school students embarked on a philanthropy project at JCC Greenwich to help raise money to end childhood hunger. Through a partnership with Areyvut, a non-profit organization based in New Jersey, a group of teens met every month as part of the JCC's Teen Action Committee and learned about community needs, philanthropy, valuable leadership skills and local agencies. To raise funds for this important cause, they built their own fundraising websites, designed

and sold custom T-shirts, and held a phone-a-thon, through which they raised \$1,000 in donations. Their independent research and due-diligence into organizations that support this cause, led them to allocate these funds to the Kosher Food Pantry of Jewish Family Service (JFS) in Stamford and Leket Israel, Israel's largest food rescue organization.

"By participating in the Teen Action Committee, I learned that teens of any age can work together to take initiative and enact change," says Becca Powell, a rising senior at Greenwich High School.

Rebekah Kanefsky from the JFS Kosher Food Pantry said the funds would be used to purchase a much-needed new freezer, which will allow them to stock frozen vegetables,

bread and other items as they serve approximately 15,000 meals per year to members of the community throughout lower Fairfield County, who are unable to provide food for their families due to financial difficulties.

Learning about food needs around the world helped change the perspective of 14-year-old Reese Ochoa. "As a result of the project, I feel very lucky for where I live and to have food on the table." Reese's thoughts were echoed by 16-year-old Natalie Lilien who said "I want to improve the lives of people in my community... and become more involved with soup kitchens."

Leah Schechter, Assistant Director of JCC Greenwich, said "We are so proud of what the Teen Action Committee has



JCC Greenwich Teen Action Committee members holding a check that will be used to purchase a new freezer for the Kosher Food Pantry of Jewish Family Service in Stamford

achieved this year in doing their part to help create a world where no child goes to bed hungry. The process has been an important learning experience

philanthropy and fundraising for *Tzedakah*." See page 10 for complete list of Teen Action Committee participants.

SAVE THE DATE
FOR THE NEW AUGUST EVENT

PJ Library

Back Together Family Picnic

Back from our summer adventures and can't wait to see "PJ" friends!

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30
3-5 PM

AT THE HOME OF
LISA & MARC ABRAMS

See page 2 for details

Exciting Changes in Israeli Emissary Program

Read all about it and meet Avihu Rachamim on page 10



Explore Jewish Argentina—Sign Up Now!



Silvina Knoll, Mission Chair

- Tour historic Buenos Aires - the "Paris of South America"
- Learn about the unique history of Argentina
- Visit the Agam Memorial in honor of the victims of the 1994 bombing attack on the AMIA (Buenos Aires Jewish Community Center)
- See your Federation dollars at work at ORT school & the JDC's Baby Help Program and more
- Dance the Tango
- Tour museums and art galleries



For info contact pam@ujafedgreenwich.org or call 203-552-1818

Dear Friends:

We are fortunate to have a growing number of talented PJ Parent Planners on board who help “shape and share” PJ Library in the community. These busy parents take a leadership role in defining “PJ” events and spreading the word about PJ Library. They encourage friends to enroll their children to receive award-winning books and to come out for PJ programs so they can connect with other young families. Parents frequently tell me they cannot recycle PJ Library books because the children read and reread them. When you think about how many times each book is read and multiply that by the number of people reading, (children with parents, grandparents and siblings), you can begin to see the impact of PJ Library. With more than 19,700 books shipped to Greenwich families to date, we can estimate conservatively that these books have made at least 236,400 impressions in the minds and hearts of local families.

I recently attended the 2015 National PJ Library Conference where our Greenwich PJ Library was identified as a model for partnering with parent volunteers. Between

September and May, with the help of Parent Planners and our JCC Greenwich programming partners, we held eight signature PJ Library events with over 360 people in attendance. As we continue to measure and evaluate the impact of PJ Library in our community, it is with appreciation and gratitude that we thank our PJ Library Parent Planners for a terrific 2014-2015 season and acknowledge outgoing PJ Library Chair, **Allison Jackson**. Allison led the team through a productive season of record enrollments and program attendance with personal warmth, intelligence, dedication and attention to detail. We also welcome incoming PJ Library Chair, **Cori SaNogueira**.

Finally, we encourage our PJ families to save the date for a very special new PJ Library event—the Back Together Family Picnic—on Sunday, August 30th! Happy Summer Reading!

Tracy Daniels



Outgoing PJ Library Chair, Alison Jackson, and her family.



Incoming PJ Library Chair, Cori SaNogueira, with her daughter.

Photos by Asher Almonacy.

PJ Library® Books Coming Your Way in July

	Age 2 That's a Mitzvah	
	Age 3 The Littlest Pair	
	Age 4 Grandma Rose's Magic	
	Age 5 The Tale of Meshka the Kvetch	
	Age 6 The Kugel Valley Klezmer Band	
	Age 7 Do Unto Otters	
	Age 8 Jean Laffite: The Pirate Who Saved America	

PJ Library Family Picnic at the Abrams House, August 30

It all started with a twinkle of an idea when a local parent expressed appreciation for our PJ Library program and interest in getting involved. When we met for coffee to get acquainted it became clear that Lisa and Marc Abrams, like so many Greenwich parents, are ready to widen their circle of friends and participate in building a wonderful community for their young son, Dashiell. When Lisa joined the PJ Parent Planners



Photo by Mary Kate Gilroy

Families and Friends on Sunday, August 30th from 3:00-5:00 PM. There will be games, healthy snacks, refreshments and a special PJ Library storytime filled with surprises. RSVPs are requested. More information and the event RSVP link will be sent by email and a post card to families. Kudos and BIG THANKS to Lisa and Marc Abrams for creating and hosting this special event in their warm and welcoming home.

at the spring meeting, she did not hesitate to offer her home for the very first “Back Together PJ Family Picnic” – to celebrate the return from summer and transition into the new season with a reunion of old friends and a hearty welcome to newcomers. With much excitement, the Abrams will host PJ

Please don't hesitate to let us know if you are aware of a NEW family in town with children ages eight or younger by emailing Tracy@ujafedgreenwich.org. PJ Library is a gift to the community generously funded by local sponsors through UJA Greenwich in partnership with Harold Grinspoon Foundation.

Everyone is welcome to join PJ Library friends at these community events.

Friday, July 10
PJ Library Story Time @
Camp Gan Family Shabbat

Whether or not your children are at Camp Gan, your family will enjoy the PJ Library story time and entertaining activities at this annual Chabad Greenwich Family Event.

Friday, July 17, 5:30pm
Story Walk through The Peace Book @
Sunset BYO Family Shabbat Picnic

Join Rabbi Axe and Congregation Shir Ami at Tod's Point for Sunset BYO Family Shabbat Picnic and a musical, interactive experience you won't want to miss!

For more information about how to join PJ Library at one of these events contact Tracy Daniels, PJ Library Director at 203-532-3818 or Tracy@ujafedgreenwich.org

Another Great Year!

THE IMPACT OF YOUR 2015 GIFT

Dear Friends,

Working so closely with UJA Greenwich gives me the opportunity to learn in depth and witness its many charitable efforts and activities.

We Feed the hungry – Support the marginalized – Care for seniors and Holocaust survivors – Bring young Jewish families together – Connect Israel with our youth.

You make all of this possible, and for that we are grateful.

UJA Greenwich is among the first to be aware of Jewish needs locally, in Israel and throughout the world. Together we raise money to provide the greatest impact. We appreciate every one of you who participates in our 2015 Annual Campaign, which helps us provide a brighter tomorrow.

Thank you very much.

I wish you all a happy and safe summer,

Brian Neilinger

Board President



Photo by Asher Almonacy

Brian Neilinger reads a PJ Library book to a group of children at Family Fun Day.

COMMUNITY DIRECTORY

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



Sponsored by Rita Edelston

- June 18..... Rabbi Irwin Huberman
- June 25..... Rabbi Simcha Berger
- July 2..... Mr. Chaim Lauer
- July 9..... David Wander
- July 16..... Rabbi Eric Hoffman
- July 23..... Rabbi Shalom Hammer
- July 30..... Rabbi Levi Mendelow
- August 6..... Rabbi Greg Wall
- August 13..... Marty Flashner
- August 20..... Rabbi Mark Dratch

Check JCC calendar for updated schedule

Please make your
2015 Annual Campaign Pledge*
by visiting
www.ujafedgreenwich.org or
call Shelly Katz @ 203-552-1818

*your 2015 campaign gift is payable by December 31, 2015

Welcome to Greenwich!

WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

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



We will extend a hearty
"Welcome!"

**Bonnie Citron, Chair, UJA
Greenwich Newcomer Committee**

SHABBAT & HOLIDAY CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES

- Fri., June 19..... 8:11 pm
- Fri., June 26..... 8:13 pm
- Fri., July 3..... 8:13 pm
- Fri., July 10..... 8:11 pm
- Fri., July 17..... 8:07 pm
- Fri., July 24..... 8:02 pm
- Fri., July 31..... 7:55 pm
- Fri., Aug. 7..... 7:47 pm
- Fri., Aug. 14..... 7:38 pm
- Fri., Aug. 21..... 7:28 pm
- Fri., Aug. 28..... 7:18 pm
- Fri., Sept. 4..... 7:06 pm
- Fri., Sept. 11..... 6:55 pm

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- NANCY ZISSON
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- JUDITH MARGOLIN
EDITOR
- ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

2016 Weitzman Youth Award for Jewish Philanthropy Applications Now Available

The Weitzman Youth Award for Jewish Philanthropy was founded by Jane and Stuart Weitzman, whose hope it is to ensure that the next generation is inspired to become involved with helping their fellow Jews in need. This award will be presented by the Weitzmans at the annual UJA Greenwich Gala 2016.

The award will be given to those who exhibit the most creativity and personal commitment to Jewish philanthropy. UJA Greenwich is available to advise potential applicants on suitable projects. Applicants must be in the fifth through twelfth grades and residents of Greenwich or children of families active with UJA Greenwich. All funds raised from the projects must be donated through UJA Federation. Projects may not be political in nature. The award committee will make all final decisions regarding recipients of the award.

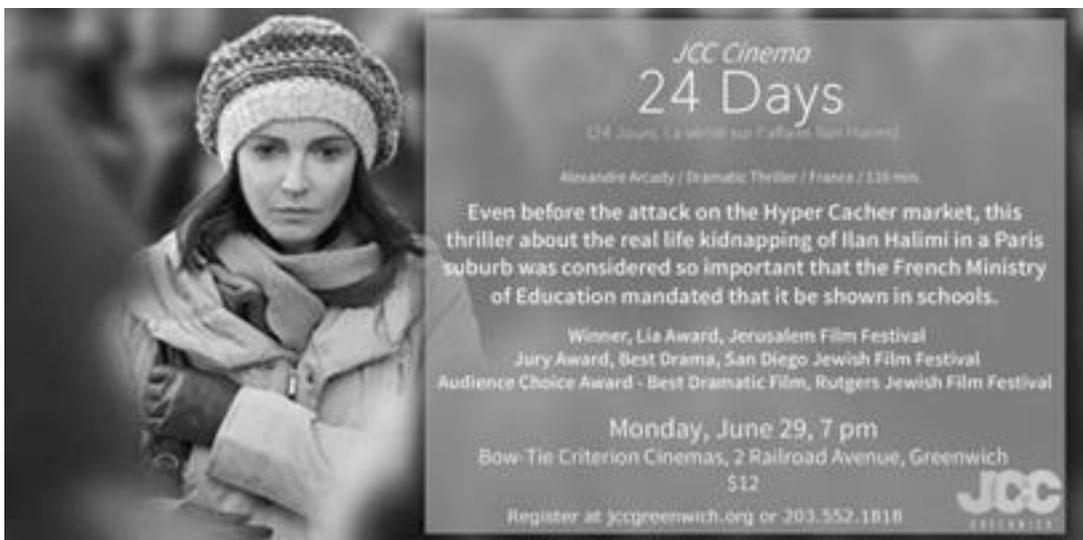
For more information, contact Pam Ehrenkranz at 203-552-1818 or pam@ujafedgreenwich.org.

JCC Cinema Presents a Riveting Thriller Based on a True Story

Now and then a film comes along that's insightful enough to be called prophetic. The French thriller, *24 Days: The Truth of the Ilan Halimi Affair*, is such a film. Mark your calendar for Monday, June 29, 7 pm, when JCC Greenwich screens this must-see dramatization of a chilling milestone in contemporary French anti-Semitism.

Ilan Halimi, a 23-year-old Parisian son of Moroccan-Jewish immigrants, is abducted by a criminal posse known as the "Gang of Barbarians," because of his religious affiliation. *24 Days* chronicles the French police's blow-by-blow manhunt to save Ilan, informed by their conviction that this is purely a crime-for-cash ordeal. Ilan's mother, Ruth, insists otherwise: that the perpetrators are also driven by virulent anti-Semitism. The film debuted in French cinemas nearly a year ago, and the French Ministry of Education mandated that it be shown in public schools.

Join JCC Greenwich's presentation of this timely, award-winning film. Tickets are available at jccgreenwich.org.



CARMEL ACADEMY



The Trustees, Faculty and Families at Carmel Academy Congratulate Our Class of 2015 and Wish Them B'hatzlacha, Much Success in High School!

Our Graduates Were Accepted to the Following Schools:

- Avenues: The World School
- The Frisch School
- The Harvey School
- Jewish High School of Connecticut
- Ramaz Upper School
- SAR High School
- Solomon Schechter School of Westchester
- Torah Academy of Bergen County
- Westchester Hebrew High School

We Also Wish a Mazal Tov to Carmel Academy's Alumni Class of 2011 on its Graduation from High School!

- Our Alumni's post-graduation plans include:
- Barnard College • Cornell University • Drexel University • Eastern Connecticut State University • Hobart William Smith College • Lev HaTorah • Pennsylvania State University • U.S. Marine Corps • University of Delaware • University of Toronto



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Women's Philanthropy

Diana Fiedotin Delivered a Timely Briefing on JDC Challenges and Accomplishments at the Women's Philanthropy June 3 Board Meeting

Members of the Board of UJA Greenwich's Womens Philanthropy were treated to a special opportunity to hear from guest speaker Diane Fiedotin, Director of Strategic Relations of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC). A veteran Washington, DC professional, Ms. Fiedotin has secured support for a variety of JDC projects throughout the world, including the former Soviet Union, Eastern Europe, Argentina, Africa and, of course, Israel. She was instrumental in delivering assistance and relief in the aftermath of disasters such as earthquakes in Haiti and Japan, and the Carmel wildfires in Israel. She is also the founder of Lifeline to Argentina, which, in partnership with the Los Angeles Federation, raised more than \$2 million for the Jewish community during that country's economic crisis of 2001-2004. The insights she shared with Women's Philanthropy Board members about the current status of women and children around the world were highly informative. And her description of the JDC/Federation's successful program in Argentina was inspirational. Her pictographic illustrations of JDC's work on the ground greatly enhanced our understanding of how UJA philanthropy is sustaining and strengthening Jewish life in the far corners of the globe.



Diane Fiedotin

Lion of Judah

More than 50 Lions of Judah and Pomegranates attended a **Thank You Breakfast**, graciously hosted by **Amanda and Seth Miller**. Mazel Tov to Event Chairs, **Debra Fram** and **Randy Kwait** and Women's Philanthropy Vice Presidents, **Debbie Daum** and **Yael Rosen** for presenting a timely educational program and lovely brunch. The guest speaker, **Dr. Mehnaz Afridi**, a Pakistani-born Muslim woman, Director of the Holocaust, Genocide and Interfaith Studies Center at Manhattan College and expert in Holocaust education, presented her unique story and stimulated a lively discussion among the attendees. The Lion of Judah breakfast is an expression of gratitude to the women whose family gifts to UJA Greenwich are at the Pomegranate, \$2500, or Lion of Judah, \$5000, levels and above for the 2015 UJA Annual Campaign. We are deeply grateful to **Amanda Miller**, who opened her home with a warm welcome, our shining Women's Philanthropy Leadership, and generous donors for making this an interesting and enjoyable morning. *(Photos for the event can be found on p. 8.)*

UJA GREENWICH WOMEN'S PHILANTHROPY Remaining 2015 Events

Please note NEW DATE for Year-End Board Meeting

Wednesday, September 30
Year-End BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, October 21
END OF YEAR BRUNCH

Have a Happy, Healthy, Peaceful Summer!

From the Rabbi

☆ Ten Years and Counting ☆

by Rabbi Deborah Salomon, Hebrew Wizards

Its been 10 years since I started Hebrew Wizards. If you had asked me what I would be doing after I lost my younger brother, Marc, 13 years ago, I would have stared at you and shrugged my shoulders. But in my despair, I was inspired to create something meaningful and powerful which could heal my broken heart, and give back to my community.

Hebrew Wizards was born in the fall of 2004. I know each of you may have had your own life-changing moments, the ones that will never leave your mind, even in years to come. The ones that almost broke you but somehow you picked yourself up, and chose to move forward one step at a time toward your recovery.

So what heals a broken heart? One thing is for sure: reaching out and helping others is a great way to channel your hurt feelings. I know you remember those times when your spirit was lifted, when a friend championed you, or your teacher recognized your great work. You can recall the times you stood up for what you believed in and fought hard to achieve your goals.

There is a saying from our Torah in the Book of Leviticus, "As you shine your light on me, I will shine my light on you." This beautiful passage reminds us of our responsibility to spread light, love and peace. By sharing our passion and our gifts, we actually create light. This healthy exchange manifests itself in an even bigger and brighter flame, allowing us all to come together in a common purpose, to make this world, a brighter more compassionate, and loving place.

Time is now flying by at record speed, ironically permitting us more time to reflect on its importance. It allows one the opportunity to remember the inspirational people in our lives whose doctrines are engraved in our hearts. By heroes I mean people like Randy Pauche, who when faced with terminal cancer, delivered his final lecture, warning us that we may each face a brick wall, but we need to figure out how much we truly want something, underscoring the message that we shouldn't let anything stand in our way. Randy showed us that we can choose our own

attitude toward our fate even when we have no power over the outcome.

In his beautiful preaching, Archbishop Desmond Tuto describes how we rely on each other to become our best selves. He points out that people need each other for validation, approval and love. This realization begins at home and in our schools with our family and with our friends.

The individual whom I wish to highlight today, is my new inspirational hero of 2015, someone who has shown the world what kindness is all about. In 2011, Orly Wahba founded Life Vest Inside with one goal in mind: to encourage the spreading of happiness through small acts of kindness. With her Act of Kindness Cards (AOK), that goal became a reality. Each AOK card has a different act of kindness prompting the person who holds it to perform that act and then pass the card along to someone else.

In our launch of the Kindness Crusade in May, we invited Ted Talk Speaker, Orly, to come and share with us how easy it is to spread kindness. She explained

how she overcame hardship and sadness and turned it into a kindness movement from which the world could benefit. She didn't invent kindness, of course, but she made it easy and accessible, as she shared her story and journey with us. We partnered with her and created our own kindness cards so that we could spread kindness to hundreds of people this spring.

We are fortunate to have our Torah as our blueprint, teaching us all about life. The core of our Torah is the portion, *Kedoshim*, which is often referred to as the "beating heart" of the Torah. It links all religions and all faiths together as one. From the first and last words of the Torah forming the word "heart," to this critical passage: "Love your neighbor as yourself" and treat others in the way that you wish to be treated. The Golden Rule, so very simple but yet so complicated, is observed in every school, in all churches, synagogues and temples around the world and is the essence of humanity.

Many of you might not have read this portion. I thought I would translate it for you to

make it easier to understand: And G-d said, "Take what you need to survive, and take what you need to live, and if you should need my guidance as you live your life, always know that you can count on me for the unconditional love and support. May you never feel alone. The more compassion that you give, I will shower you with compassion. The more that you stretch out your hand to help another, I will help you and your family. The more that you love one another, you will be loved by all. I choose YOU. Please join together as one, to make this world a more beautiful and peaceful place to live."

As we go on our way this summer...

May we be blessed to be grateful for what we have,

Be patient and faithful when we forget,

May we be blessed with the ability to love and be loved...

And with that I say Amen.

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

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Jewish American Heritage Month Honorees from Greenwich

Judith Kallman and William Shemin (z"l) were selected as official honorees during this year's Jewish American Heritage Month. Each May, the United States Congress recognizes and celebrates over 350 years of Jewish contributions to our country. An official Congressional Tribute Luncheon commemorating Jewish American Heritage Month and honoring Kallman and Shemin took place on May 20, in Washington, DC.

Judith Kallman survived the Holocaust as a small child, and authored *A Candle in the Heart*, her inspiring story of survival. She has devoted her life to telling her story in the hope that speaking out "makes the world a better place and stops hatred for the strangers or different people in our midst."



Judith Kallman

U.S. Army Sgt. Shemin Receives Nation's Highest Service Medal, Nearly a Century Overdue

President Obama awarded the Medal of Honor to Sgt. William Shemin along with one other soldier, in a June 2 White House ceremony. Since Shemin died in 1973, his daughter, Elsie Shemin-Roth (from St. Louis and now in her mid-80s) accepted the medal in his name. Sargeant Shemin was only 19 in 1918 during a bloody battle in France when he took shrapnel in an heroic effort to save his comrades, leading his platoon to safety over the next three days. Elsie Shemin-Roth had worked for years to gather documents in support of the bid for this medal for her father, which she believed had previously been denied due to discrimination because he was Jewish.



Sgt. William Shemin

William Shemin, the grandfather of Suzanne Shemin Katz, and great uncle of Bruce Brickman, later earned a degree from Syracuse and started his own greenhouse and nursery business.



Our graduating Class of 2015 is heading off to high school!



KOL HAKAVOD TO OUR AMAZING EDUCATORS!

Mrs. Michal Smart **Grinspoon Award** recipient for excellence in Jewish education. This is Bi-Cultural's third recipient of this prestigious award.
AND

Mrs. Michal Smart **Jewish Education Innovation Challenge** finalists for the creation and successful implementation of the innovative Mesora/Matmid middle school Judaic learning pathways.
and Rabbi Yehuda Jeiger



Mrs. Michal Smart
"We're making the life lessons of Torah accessible to our students, right here and now."

Rabbi Yehuda Jeiger

"There is no greater excitement than walking into a class and actively engaging all learners with relevant, accessible and meaningful Torah content every single day!"



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Jacqueline Herman, Head of School
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Joanne Karow,
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Bi-Cultural DAY SCHOOL
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Stamford, CT 06903
www.bcds.org



Rabbi Elisha Paul Named Jewish High School of Connecticut's New Head of School

The Board of Trustees and Head of School Search Committee has announced the appointment of Rabbi Elisha Paul as JHSC's next Head of School, effective July 1, 2015. Currently, he is the Head of School at Sulam, a K-12 Jewish school for diverse learners located on the campus of the Berman Academy in Rockville, MD.



Rabbi Elisha Paul

Rabbi Paul notes that he is thrilled at the opportunity to lead the school: "I am honored and excited to become JHSC's next Head of School. In its relatively short existence, JHSC has already set itself apart as an excellent educational institution, steeped in Jewish values and Jewish life and providing students with all of the skills they will need to succeed as leaders in their chosen fields and, equally, if not more importantly, leaders of our community. I look forward to meeting all of the students, their families and, of course, spending time with the stellar faculty, so that we can all work together to build upon JHSC's successes."

Stay in the know about the happenings in our Greenwich Jewish Community.

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



SPRING/SUMMER
2015



Educate
Stimulate
Motivate

COMEDY NIGHT WITH LENNY MARCUS ~ MAY 28



JCC Cinema Summer Early Bird Series

Early Bird Series: JCC Cinema
Zemene
Wolke Dreyer / Documentary / USA / 98 min.

By chance, a 10-year-old Ethiopian girl with a life-threatening condition crosses paths with Dr. Rick Hodas, an American doctor and Orthodox Jew whose life's work compels him to help those in need.

Winner, Best Documentary, Best Cinematography & Best Editing Awards, Boston Film Festival

Wednesday, July 8, 5:30 pm
One Holly Hill Lane, Greenwich
\$10
Register at JCCGreenwich.org

Early Bird Series: JCC Cinema
A Walk on the Moon
Tony Goldwyn / Romance, Drama / USA, Australia / 127 min.

Vacationing in the Catskills during the summer of love, a young housewife feels the gravitational pull of terra incognita.

"Seductive and beautifully acted" - *The New York Times*

Monday, July 20, 5:30 pm
One Holly Hill Lane, Greenwich
\$10. Register at jccgreenwich.org

Early Bird Series: JCC Cinema
To Take a Wife
(Vekakhta Leisha Isha)
Reut and Shimon Eshet / Drama / Israel / 97 min.

The first of the Viviane Amsalem trilogy culminating in *Gert* is a searing portrait of a marriage on the skids.

Winner, Audience Award, Venice Film Festival

Monday, July 13, 5:30 pm
One Holly Hill Lane, Greenwich
\$10
Register at JCCGreenwich.org

Early Bird Series: JCC Cinema
You Can Thank Me Later
Sharon Stone / Comedy, Drama / Canada / 118 min.

Ellen Burstyn is Shirley Cooperberg, a controlling mother whose three deflated children have each sought therapy for the grief she's put them through.

Monday, July 27, 5:30 pm
One Holly Hill Lane, Greenwich
\$10
Register at JCCGreenwich.org

LIONS OF JUDAH AND POMEGRANATES CELEBRATED



**Why
We Support
UJA
Greenwich**

"We support UJA Greenwich because of their Israel Advocacy and their incredible programming for families and children. We enjoy meeting new friends in the community through our participation."

—Irit and Jonathan Tratt and children



TOURING JEWISH SAVANNAH



*This gratitude comes right from the heart
So much appreciation - where to start?
The stunning art, the scenic views
Exploring the heritage of Southern Jews
Sharon and the local lovely ladies of UJA
Hosting us with graciousness to cap a perfect day
The Savannah delicacies were not to be beat
And I promised - that second biscuit I would not eat!
Our wonderful group in sync with each other
Passionate about the issues that bind us together
Superb planning and execution right down to the letter
Todah - Margie and Pam - no one could have done it better!*

—Joan Mann



UJA Annual Gala

Honoring First Selectman Peter Tesei

Presenting the Hillel Silverman Community Service Award to the Lipton Family in Honor of Amy Lipton (z"l)



Photos by Astor Agency

Exciting Changes in UJA/JCC Greenwich's Israeli Emissary Program

Over the past nine years, our community has been enriched by the energy and enthusiasm for Israel that our Young Israeli Emissaries have brought to our schools, congregations, children and adults. In our efforts to further deepen our engagement with Israel education and programming throughout the community, we are pleased to announce that next year, 2015-2016, UJA/JCC Greenwich will adopt a new model of *sblichbut*, through the JCC Association.

In the fall, with the support of the UJA and JCC Board of Directors, we will welcome Avihu Rachamim to Greenwich. Avihu is eager to work with youth, teens and adults in our community to create and enrich programming through JCC and the community around Israel. He has significant experience guiding and counseling teens. He is a cycling and fitness enthusiast and is a personal trainer at the Wingate Institute. Mostly, he is passionate about Israel and eager to join our community.

We want to give Avihu a warm welcome to Greenwich and hope that community members and families will invite him to come for a meal at their homes or to join them at a community event. If you would like to set up a time to have him over in September when he first arrives, please contact Leah Schechter, leah@jccgreenwich.org or 203-552-1818.

A Letter From Avihu

Dear Greenwich Community,

Hi, my name is Avihu Rachamim. I'm 25 years old, and I was born and raised in a small city called Mevaseret Zion, which is 5 miles from Jerusalem. I studied at a military boarding school, similar to West Point Academy. Shortly after graduation, I entered the IDF and served as a tank commander. After my military service, like many young Israelis, I traveled abroad to clear my head and have fun. Currently I am finishing my B.A. in Education at Tel Hay College in the beautiful north of Israel.

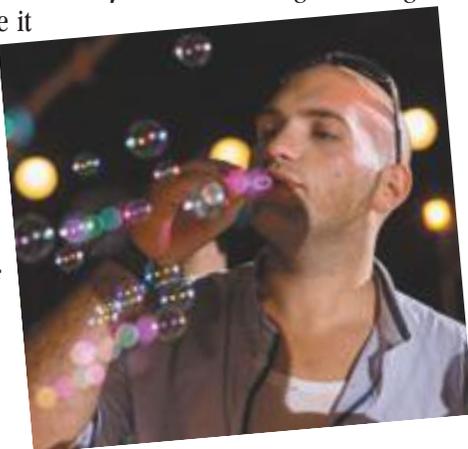
Being an Israeli Emissary is a dream of mine. I am excited to bring my experience, and represent 'my Israel' when I join the Greenwich community. I have heard great things about Greenwich, how special and beautiful a place it is, from friends who have visited the area. I can't wait to arrive and begin meeting everyone.

There is only one thing that I've been told: if I don't like winter, I should be prepared, because in Connecticut, winter is not like winter in Israel. But I am not worried, I adapt quickly.

I always think that it is hard to write about yourself and look forward to getting to know you in person.

Looking forward to a wonderful upcoming year.

Yours,
Avihu



UJA Greenwich's Sister City, Afula, Sends Surgeons to Assist Earthquake Victims

When thousands of unsuspecting lives were snuffed out by that gargantuan earthquake in Nepal, the world shuddered in horror. While many were shaking their heads, Israelis were packing their bags and heading out to set up an Israeli Army field hospital to do whatever they could to save precious lives.

Dr. Asher Pressman, Chief of Pediatric Surgery from Emek Israel's Medical Center in Afula, together with senior surgeon, Dr. Yuri Berlin, answered the call of humanity. They joined the heroic Israeli 260-strong team doing what Israel does best – sanctifying while celebrating life.



Thank You & Congratulations to the JCC Greenwich Teen Action Committee

These students participated and completed 10 or more hours of community service with the JCC Teen Action Committee this year:

Tyler Block	Raena Greenbaum	Rebecca Powell
Colette Cooper	Natalie Lilien	Josh Shapiro
Grant Cooper	Kate Ochoa	Jason Sheppard
	Reese Ochoa	

Additional 2014-2015 Participants

Sam Akrongold	Julia Freedman	Miriam Ojeh
Will Asnes	Sophie Freedman	Trevor Probst
Maya Barak	Sami Hirschberg	Olivia Raynor
Matthew Bier	Ben Jacobs	Lily Rosen
Seth Bier	Grant Kaufman	Mike Sands
Samantha Buchbinder	Max Kilberg	Claire Slocum
Darian Fauser	Cate Lebowits	Adam Sturza
Mitchell Finkelstein	Georgia Mandell	Sasha Telzer
Jessie Freedman	Maddie Mandell	Brooke Zozek



Have Your Cake and Eat it Too! JCC Decorating Challenge



Kids with grown-up teammates learn how to decorate cakes creatively from local authors of *Cake My Day!*, Karen Tack and Alan Richardson.

Bi-Cultural's Director of Jewish Studies Wins National Education Award

Michal Smart, Director of Jewish Studies at Bi-Cultural Day School, recently won an Excellence in Jewish Education award from the Harold Grinspoon Foundation. A panel of leaders in education named six out of 33 as North American Awardees, including Smart. The Foundation chose the candidates from a broad spectrum of ideologies, traditions and educational settings. Each professional educator was evaluated on their skills to meaningfully engage students and families, with proven abilities on combining traditional and creative approaches to teaching, including: integration of Jewish and secular studies, collaboration among generations, and a focus on Jewish values. With this award, Smart will receive many educational opportunities, including a mentorship, attendance at a national conference, and a stipend for professional development and programmatic enhancement.



Michal Smart, Director of Jewish Studies at Bi-Cultural.

"Our educators play a vital role in expanding Jewish identity by promoting Jewish values and inspiring students to grow in their Judaism," said Jackie Herman, Principal and Head of School at Bi-Cultural. "They nurture spirits, enliven minds, and provide a Jewish lens through which to make the most of every day. We couldn't be more proud of Michal for winning this prestigious award."

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- *Shabbat Yeladim*, services for kids ages 2-6

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- Jewish education in action
- Active, flexible learning techniques
- Teaches Jewish values and builds community
- Sunday mornings, 9:30 – 11:30

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- One-on-one Hebrew instruction
- Kids learn at their own pace
- Flexible – works around your family's schedule

Lifelong Learning Opportunities

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- Hebrew and Torah study
- Jewish Yoga
- Introduction to Judaism
- Rothman Lecture Series

Classes through 3rd grade and adult ed are FREE!*



For details contact us at 203-629-0018 or info@grs.org

Greenwich Reform Synagogue

* Fee for Holiday Happenings for non-members

The UJA Greenwich Business Forum with Marc Rowan



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for 2015

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NEW
for 2015

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JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES OF GREENWICH

We are Delighted to Thank Everyone Who Supported Our JFS of Greenwich Spring Soiree

On May 17th, Jewish Family Services of Greenwich celebrated its annual *Spring Soiree* at The Tomes-Higgins House in Greenwich. Co-chairs Lala Addeo and Willow Oberweger, and their hardworking committee of JFS Board members, created a beautifully intimate and lively space in which funds were raised to support the many programs and services to 1800 families and individuals in the Greenwich community who need our help. These programs include *Supermarketing for Seniors*, *The Online Support Group Project*, *Jewish Holiday Programs* at Senior Facilities and Greenwich Hospital, *Acculturation and Immigration Services*, as well as *Emergency Financial Assistance* and *Counseling*. Nearly 90 supporters enjoyed an open bar, hors d'oeuvres, dinner and a silent auction.



Sincere thanks go to our sponsors and silent auction donors:

Lala & Craig Addeo, Terri Afromowitz, Alice Baron & Michael Delikat, Bellmore Wine & Liquor, Carl Bennett, Billy Magnum Salon, Rita Edelston, EXHALE Mind Body Spa, John Freiberg, Peter & Susan Furth, Greenwich Genealogy, Greenwich Hospital, Greenwich Woods Rehabilitation LLC, Steve Gross & Jeanne Simon, Sharon & Kenny Herzog, Congressman Jim Himes, Hopscotch Salon, Rabbi Mitch & Roseanne Hurvitz, Sharon & Edward Jampol, Julia's Facials, Sheila & Laurence Kantor, Le Fat Poodle Restaurant, Tammy & Jay Levine, Mark Liflander, Pamela & Rob Liflander, Lisa & Marvin Lipschutz, Luggage Forward, Massage Mavens, Risë Mattler, Montana for Men, Mark Musayev, Martina Nolan, Willow & Timothy Oberweger, Peak Physique, Nancy & Steven Peters, River House Adult Day Center, Karen Ross & David Rosenzweig, Saks 5th Avenue, Barbara & Evan Salop, Judi Schwarz Interiors, Cyd & Josef Sieghart, Sandy & Steve Soule, Helen & Robert Stark, Stop & Shop, Temple Sholom of Greenwich, The Greens at Greenwich, Arthur & Anne Wichman, Tina & Kurt Woetzel, May Wuthrich & Marc Jaffe, Nancy & William Zisson.

Update from *Supermarketing for Seniors*

by Elyse Brown, Director

Supermarketing for Seniors announces the creation of our first annual Shopper of the Year Award. We want to publically recognize the dedication of our hard-working shoppers, especially those who go "above and beyond" in order to help make their "shoppees'" lives more pleasant. Their names will be inscribed on a plaque in the JFS office.

Some of our shoppers are volunteers, and some are paid for their service; all are eligible for the award. We're asking each of our clients how their shopper has positively impacted their lives. In our next SFS newsletter we'll put out a call for nominations for Shopper of the Year.

The award winner will be decided based on the content of the nominations,

not the quantity, and family members will be invited to write their own letters of support as well, based on their loved ones' experience with the shopper and their impact on the family situation.

The award will be announced and presented on Sunday, September 20, at the Senior Center, as part of our "Supermarketing for Seniors Celebrates Grandparents" Day. Nominations must be received at our office by August 14.

If you know someone who is looking for a volunteer opportunity and might like to become a shopper, or any homebound senior who could benefit from our services, please call Elyse Brown, program director, at 203-622-1881.



JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES OF GREENWICH

Summer 2015 Programming

Mark your calendar NOW!

AN INSIDER'S GUIDE TO GETTING INTO COLLEGE – AND PAYING FOR IT —

Tips for Prospective College Students and Their Parents

Stan Witkow, a Fairfield County-based expert on the college application process, and Joel Peck, a CPA and financial advisor, will share their expertise with students and parents about to enter the college application process. Stan will provide insights into how students can best position themselves for success – in both the selection of the college and in their application. Joel will discuss programs and strategies to pay for college. This program is designed to be of particular interest to high school juniors and seniors as well as their parents. See our website for details and to register. *Thursday, October 8 at 7:00 pm.*

BOOK BEAT: A WOMAN'S NIGHT OUT

A thought-provoking book club with themes relevant to Jewish women of all ages.

Facilitated by Judi Margolin; meets at JFS.

Our next book is The Luminous Heart of Jonah S. by Gina Nabai. June 24 at 7:30 pm. \$25

INTERFAITH CONVERSATIONS

This series meets on Monday evenings and gives people a way to explore the opportunities and challenges associated with interfaith living. *See our website for upcoming 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 Greenwich Hospital Chapel. The service is broadcast LIVE on channel 6 in all the hospital rooms. *Joan Mann, Spiritual Care Counselor at JFS; Lisa-Lorraine Smith, Executive Director of JFS; and Rabbi MJ Newman, Jewish Chaplain of Greenwich Hospital lead the service.*

RENEWAL OF BODY, RENEWAL OF SPIRIT

On the second Monday of each month, JFS, in partnership with the Greenwich Hospital Spiritual Care Department, conducts a Healing Service for the community in the Greenwich Hospital Chapel. *Joan Mann, Spiritual Care Counselor at JFS; Lisa-Lorraine Smith, Executive Director of JFS; and Rabbi MJ Newman, Jewish Chaplain of Greenwich Hospital lead the service. Mondays, 7/13, 8/10, 9/14, from 12:00-12:45 pm*

Volunteer Opportunities

Bikkur Cholim/Friendly Visitors/Grocery Shopper

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

B'nai Mitzvah Resource Center

This unique program provides young people with a carefully selected list of bar/bat mitzvah volunteer ideas and arranges one-on-one meetings with program participants and their parents to design and implement projects that cater to the child's individual interests and personal goals. No charge.

**For Current & Upcoming Programs, please call 203-622-1881 or visit
www.JFSGreenwich.org for more information.**

Summer 2015 Counseling and Support Groups

DIVORCE SUPPORT GROUP

An ongoing weekly support group for adults whose lives are impacted by divorce. Facilitated by Lisa-Lorraine Smith, LCSW.

Wednesdays, 5:30-6:45 pm

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

An ongoing weekly support group for those who have lost a loved one within the past year. Facilitated by Lisa-Lorraine Smith, LCSW, and a member of the Greenwich Jewish Clergy.

Tuesdays, 10:30-11:30 am

ONLINE SUPPORT GROUP FOR SINGLE PARENTS

If you are a single parent, you're probably tired, overwhelmed, and feeling underappreciated. We created this group to share tips and parenting wisdom that will help you find rest, hope, and encouragement. Facilitated by Mary E. Karlan, LMSW.

Six Tuesdays, 7:30-8:30 pm, beginning June 30

ONLINE SUPPORT GROUP – HERE FOR YOU: Caring for the Caregiver

We know it is hard to get away when you are caring for a chronically ill loved one. So we are offering this group to you in your home. Whether close by or far away, many of us are caregivers to those we love. Sharing feelings, concerns, and in some cases frustrations with this role is a key component to effectively coping and managing care for a loved one. Facilitated by Lisa-Lorraine Smith, LCSW.

Wednesdays, 4:00-5:00 pm

ONLINE SUPPORT GROUP FOR THE CHRONICALLY ILL

Today, chronic illness affects nearly half of the adult population, according to the Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Are you tired of not feeling well, while trying to explain to others why you can't do it all? The JFS online support group is a safe refuge. Connect with others to reduce your isolation, and bond with people who relate to what you are going through. Learn strategies and tips for coping, and make new friends at the same time. Since it can be hard for you to leave the house, take advantage of the JFS Online Support Group Project so we can come to you. All you need is a computer with Internet access. Facilitated by Jan Mittleman, LCSW.

Wednesdays, 9:30-10:30 am

COUNSELING

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

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

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

**All individual counseling services are \$150 per session
(Sliding scale fees are always available)**

SPECIAL DONATIONS to JFS of Greenwich

In Honor of:

Dale Atkins and Robert Rosen, by Scott Simon

Lisa-Lorraine Smith, by Richard Schwartz

Rita Edelston, by Richard Schwartz

Selma Maisel and family, by Richard Schwartz

Pam Liflander, by Naomi and Stan Altschul

Helen and Robert Stark, by Kathleen Burgweger

If you would like to honor or memorialize someone special in your life or community, you may do so by making a donation to Jewish Family Services and we will send a note of acknowledgement to the person or family involved, informing them of your generosity in their honor/memory. If you wish, you may request that your donation be used to benefit a specific JFS program, e.g. our "Counseling Services & Support Groups", our "Supermarketing for Seniors" program, our "Acculturation & Case Management" program, our "Scholarship Fund," etc. 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.

In Memory of:

John Bottjer, by Phyllis Shapiro and Marty Flashner

Rose Wolf, by Nancy and William Zisson

Rose Wolf, by Sheila and Laurence Kantor

Rose Wolf, by Rita Edelston

Shir Ami Begins "Bar Mitzvah Year" at the Beach

Shir Ami begins a milestone thirteenth year with its annual summertime family picnic and beach services on the grass overlooking the surf at Tod's Point in Greenwich on two Friday evenings, July 17 and August 14 at 5:30pm. The congregation is celebrating its "Bar Mitzvah Year," since its formation thirteen years ago as a Reform Jewish Congregation serving families in lower Fairfield County and Westchester.

Members of the congregation along with their families and friends come with picnic suppers, lawn chairs and blankets to greet the Sabbath

in the beautiful surroundings of the garden area overlooking the Sound. Rabbi Axe hands out tambourines, hand drums, shakers, and other rhythm instruments for the youngest members to accompany the singing and prayers.

"We love dancing and singing the traditional Shabbat prayers with our children while enjoying the beautiful gardens and sunset," notes Jennifer Stanzl, mother of 8-year-old twins from Old Greenwich. "I love seeing the range of ages from young

families with their toddlers and school age children, to twenty-somethings accompanying their parents, to boomers and empty nesters," added Ronnie Polansky of Riverside, who organized the evening.

This year Shir Ami is partnering with PJ Library of Greenwich in a pre-service "story-walk" to bring *The Peace Book* by Todd Parr to life with activity centers designed to engage our youngest members and their families. Planned by Rabbi Axe and Tracy Daniels, PJ

Library Program Manager, the children will make pipe cleaner hearts to give out as hugs, clean up the picnic area, plant seeds, and write their wishes for peace on a star.

The annual beach services offer a wonderful way to bring us all together for fun and reflection in a beautiful natural setting and all are welcome. Reservations are required. Shir Ami will arrange parking passes for non-residents. Call 203-274-5376 or visit www.congregationshirami.org.

שִׁיר עָמִי
Congregation Shir Ami
* * *

Sunset Family Picnic
and **Shabbat Service 5:30pm**
on the grass at Tod's Point in Greenwich overlooking the surf
July 17 special guest PJ Library and **August 14**

Bring a family picnic dinner
blankets, beach chairs, balls, paddles, jump ropes
We will arrange parking passes for non-residents
RSVP REQUIRED 203.274.5376
www.congregationshirami.com

Shabbat Story Walk to bring *The Peace Book* to life
July 17 with Rabbi Axe and PJ Library



PJ Library of Greenwich is funded by UJA Greenwich in Partnership with Harold Grinspoon Foundation

all are welcome | come join our family at the beach
young families * interfaith * singles * boomers * seniors * lgbt

There is a lot Happening this Summer at Temple Sholom

All are welcome!
Join us and see what Temple Sholom is all about.
For more information visit our website: www.templesholom.com

<p>Weekly Services Fridays, 6:30 pm Saturdays, 10:00 am Sundays, 8:30 am</p>	<p>Mahjongg & Canasta June 8, July 13, August 10, 7:00 pm</p>	<p>Jewish Meditation with Cantor Asa June 2, 16, July 7, 21, August 18 7:15-8:15 pm</p>
<p>Weekly Learning Lunch 'n Learn Tuesdays, 12:00 pm A kosher lunch is provided</p>	<p>Young Children Itsy Bitsy Playgroup (birth-24 mos.) June 3, 10, 17, 24, July 15, August 12 10:30-11:30 am</p>	<p>Family Fun Barbecues June 30, 6:00 pm July 16, 5-6:30 pm August 4, 6:00 pm</p>
<p>Shabbat Study, Saturdays 9-10 am</p>	<p>Erev Tisha B'Av Saturday, July 25, 8:00 pm</p>	<p>Pre-School Playground Playdates July 7, 4:30 pm, August 25, 1:00 pm</p>



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Shalom from your Young Israeli Emissaries



We had a great time motivating the kids IDF style.



Our kids donned flower crowns for Shavuot, like they do in Israel.



We enjoyed the UJA Annual Gala, a wonderful evening with members of the community.



We lit more than 300 candles throughout Greenwich for the 75 Gaza war victims.



Former Young Israeli Emissary, Tav Merom, catches up with Carmel Academy 8th graders during their spring trip to Israel.

Where Are They Now?



Dana Glik, Young Israeli Emissary 2013-2014, just completed her basic training and received her orange beret. Now she will begin serving in the Search and Rescue Unit of the IDF.

We can't believe that a year has passed here in the Greenwich Jewish community. Whoever said that time flies when you are having fun was absolutely correct!

Our year here has gone way beyond our expectations. We had the opportunity to teach kids, teenagers and adults about Israel – the homeland of all of us. We got to know so many wonderful people, and we were lucky to become members of amazing families. We learned so much about ourselves and about our Judaism. We got to see and learn how much Israel matters to this community – something that made us so proud to be part of the best family ever – the Jewish community of Greenwich.

We want to say thanks to the UJA Greenwich for giving us this fantastic opportunity to spend a year in this community. Thank you for the support that we got, thank you for making sure that doors were always open for us, and especially the help we received from numerous people in carrying out all of our projects. We are so happy that we were able to be a part of such a great organization.

To our host families: Thank you for opening your homes to us and for accepting us like any other family member. We love you all so much! We are so lucky we got to know you, and we know you are going to be forever part of our lives.

And to the Greenwich community at large: Thank you for the warm welcome to your homes, schools and synagogues. We were thrilled to share our love of Israel with all of you!

We are both going to start our military service in the IDF in a few more months. We will miss you with all of our hearts. So you better keep in touch!

Looking forward to seeing you in Israel!

Matan and Itamar

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matanb725@gmail.com

Itamar Shoham 
+972 50 8801168 
itamar.shoham@gmail.com



All smiles before Riverside Run.



We were thrilled to celebrate Israel's 67th Independence Day by raising the Israeli flag at Greenwich Town Hall.



Our 6th grade Yom HaZikaron service for fallen Israeli soldiers was an amazing and moving experience.



You might say we're always on call.

Whether it's a Holocaust survivor left without a family, a single mother who's lost her job or an entire community devastated by catastrophe. At home, in Israel and across the globe, UJA Greenwich is there.

We strengthen Jewish life in countless ways – helping thousands to reconnect to their Jewish identity wherever there's a yearning – supporting cultural programs, day schools and summer camps.

Your donation enables UJA Greenwich to achieve all this and more.

[Make your gift at \[ujafedgreenwich.org\]\(http://ujafedgreenwich.org\)](http://ujafedgreenwich.org)