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 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 for this group of teens in philanthropy and fundraising for Tzedakah." See page 10 for complete list of Teen Action Committee participants.
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

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 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 break 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 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. 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.

Another Great Year!

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

Outgoing PJ Library Chair, Allison Jackson, and her family.
Incoming PJ Library Chair, Cori SaNogueira, with her daughter.

Photos by Asher Almonacy.
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

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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

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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.
From the Rabbi

★ Ten Years and Counting ★

by Rabbi Deborah Salomon, Hebrew Wizards

It’s 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 engrained 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 Tutu 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 “healing 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. This realization begins at home and your family. The more that you 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 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.
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.

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.

Sgt. William Shemin

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 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.”

Rabbi Elisha Paul

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

JCC GREENWICH

Educate
Stimulate
Motivate

COMEDY NIGHT WITH LENNY MARCUS ~ MAY 28

JCC Cinema Summer Early Bird Series

*Early Bird Series: JCC Cinema*

**Zemene**

By chance, a 10-year-old Ethiopian girl with a life-threatening condition crosses paths with Dr. Rick Hodes, 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 JCGreenwich.org

**A Walk on the Moon**

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


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

**To Take a Wife**

The first of the Viviane Amsalem trilogy culminating in Gett is a searing portrait of a marriage on the brink.

Winner, Audience Award, Venice Film Festival.

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

**You Can Thank Me Later**

Ellen Burstyn is Shirley Cooperberg, a controlling mother whose three defeated 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 JCGreenwich.org

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)
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 shlichut, 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

Have Your Cake and Eat it Too!
JCC Decorating Challenge

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

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

Additional 2014-2015 Participants

- Sam Akrongold
- Julia Freedman
- Miriam Ojjeh
- Will Asness
- 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
- Gare Lebowits
- Adam Sturza
- Mitchell Finkelstein
- Georgia Mandell
- Sasha Telzer
- Jessi Freedman
- Maddie Mandell
- Brooke Zozek

Thank You & Congratulations to the JCC Greenwich Teen Action Committee

Thank you and congratulations to the JCC Greenwich Teen Action Committee for their hard work and dedication.

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.

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

“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.”

Jewish Education
From 2 to 120!

Holiday Happenings and More!
- Fun and enriching introduction to Judaism
- Drop off program for kids ages 3-4
- Meets two Sundays a month, 9:30 – 11:30
- Shabbat Yeladim, services for kids ages 2-6

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

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

Lifelong Learning Opportunities
- Confirmation Academy
- Hebrew and Torah study
- Jewish Yoga
- Introduction to Judaism
- Rothman Lecture Series

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

The UJA Greenwich Business Forum with Marc Rowan

Camp Gan of Greenwich
MINI GAN TRADITIONAL CAMP
ages 2 - 3 ages 4 - 14

- Sports Academy!
- Intensive Tennis!
- Theatre Camp!
- Circus Camp!

Best camp in town!
CampGan.com

* Fee for Holiday Happenings for non-members
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.

Update from Supermarketing for Seniors
by Elyse Brown, Director

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.

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

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**Tips for Prospective College Students and Their Parents**

From 12:00-12:45 pm

MJ Newman, Jewish Chaplain of Greenwich Hospital lead the service. Mondays, 7/13, 8/10, 9/14.

October 8 at 7:00 pm.

**Department, conducts a Healing Service for the community in the Greenwich Hospital Chapel.**

**Book Beat: A Woman’s Night Out**

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

Our next book is *The Luminous Heart of Jonah S.* by Gina Nahai. 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 interfait interfaith. 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 M. Neumman, 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 M. Neumman, Jewish Chaplain of Greenwich Hospital lead the service. Mondays, 7/13, 8/10, 9/14, from 12:00-12:45 pm

**Volunteer Opportunities**

B’nai Mitzvah Resource Center

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 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 Witok, 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.

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B’nai Mitzvah Resource Center

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, LSW.

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, LSW, 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, LSW.

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, LSW.

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 Burgweier

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

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.
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.congregationsirami.org.

HEBREW WIZARDS CELEBRATES 10 YEARS-
REGISTER FOR OUR 11TH YEAR

FEATURING:
SPEAKERS, MUSICIANS & STORYTELLERS
JOINING US FOR
A YEAR OF KINDNESS & INSPIRATION

A SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS TO
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HEBREW WIZARDS
REGISTRATION IS OPEN
WWW.HEBREWWIZARDS.COM
Shalom from your Young Israeli Emissaries

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

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

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.

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