Get Hooked on “Shtisel”

The Israeli TV hit Shtisel is soon getting a U.S. remake, titled Emmis. Meanwhile you may want to see the original format, which follows a fictional Haredi family living in Jerusalem’s Geula neighborhood. If obstacles are the soul of drama, Shtisel’s strictly regimented world is as dramatic as things get. Not only has the series racked up awards, it has also mesmerized both secular and religious communities alike in Israel.

JCC Greenwich Receives Award for Creative Programming

JCC Greenwich has been honored with the first Jewish Book Council Award. Programs were judged by a national advisory board based on creativity. Together with UJA’s Women’s Philanthropy, JCC Greenwich ran an event in November 2016 to make chicken soup for community members in need. The goal was to restock the Shoke JFS Kosher Food Pantry and the UJA Chicken Soup Project, which provides free soup to sick, convalescing or bereaved people in and around Greenwich. While the broth simmered, participants also took in food for thought, provided by Jessica Fechter in a moving discussion of her book, Stir: My Broken Brain and the Meals That Brought Me Home. It is a great honor to be recognized nationally for the creative and innovative programming happening here.

Newsworthy

35th Annual Yom Hashoah Commemoration
More than 160 people of all ages attended the UJA Greenwich community-wide observance on April 23, where Holocaust survivor Dr. Moshe Avital shared his journey from despair to hope. Preceding the commemoration JCC Cinema screened the Oscar nominated film Joe’s Violin.

Fighting Antisemitism with Dr. Charles Small
On May 2, 30 people attended a UJA Greenwich event with Dr. Charles Small, president of the Institute for the Study of Global Antisemitism and Policy. With Dr. Dale Atkins, Dr. Small explored what is behind the rise of hate in society and recommended community safeguards.

JCC Greenwich Goes to Broadway
On May 3, 36 women went to see “Indecent” on Broadway and met with the producer of this Tony nominated show and its actors for a ‘talkback’.

Master Teacher of Israeli Poetry and Literature at UJA Greenwich
Rachel Korazim met with more than 35 past and present Melton students for a class on biblical motifs in Israeli poetry on May 8.

Taking Action Against Breast Cancer
More than 170 women attended a panel discussion, a collaboration of JCC Greenwich and the Breast Cancer Alliance, on May 15. Physicians from Weill Cornell Medicine, Memorial Sloan Kettering and Greenwich Hospital shared key trends in genetic testing, screening, and prevention.

Melton Graduation
This year’s UJA Greenwich Melton Class graduated six students on June 6: Pat Brecher, Judi Bobman, Barbara Epstein, Bev Magida, Leslie Golschmid, and Judy Rein, with a special program at the home of Debbie Simon.

PJ Library Party in the Park
Bobby Doowah rocked out in Bruce Park on June 12 during this annual PJ Library summer event, generously sponsored by the Penn-Oberlander Family. Fun activities and watermelon guaranteed a great time for PJ Library kids and parents.
We are grateful to Daisy Florin for leading the first ever PJ Library Story Time series at Greenwich Library this year. Story Time was welcoming and informal. We attracted a steady stream of toddlers, siblings, caregivers and moms. Daisy read classic PJ Library titles in a manner that captured everyone's attention, as we shared our Jewish values of friendship, gratitude, visiting the sick (Bikur Cholim) and the celebration of trees (Tu B’ Shevat) in four story-time sessions. BIG THANKS to Miss Daisy and her children Oliver and Ellie, who helped out in the room along with our teen volunteer, Cynthia Crispino. We also thank Children’s Librarian, Deirdre Sullivan, and our friends at Greenwich Library for providing a perfect environment for this program.

Armed with creativity and experience (and little future PJ Planners), PJ Parent Planners help deliver PJ Library programming to Greenwich with support from local family sponsors and our Grandparents Circle partners. We thank all of our Parent Planners for helping to introduce PJ Library to new families and the community! (L-R) Anne Akyuz, Stephanie Otten, Hillary Rosenthal, Jessica Rickert, Cori SaNogueira (Chair), Kelly Wines Freishtat, Stephanie Esquenazi, Rebecca Cooper, Lisa Abrams. Not pictured: Alona Altman, Marissa Cohen, Romy Cohen, Jennifer Davis, Jill Derikrava, Jamie Kesmodel, Natalie Landres, Jody Siegartel Lazlo, Jordan Sanders, Lisa Small, Rebecca Tipermas, and Jen Smokler Zigler.

We are grateful to Daisy Florin for leading the first ever PJ Library Story Time series at Greenwich Library this year. Story Time was welcoming and informal. We attracted a steady stream of toddlers, siblings, caregivers and moms. Daisy read classic PJ Library titles in a manner that captured everyone’s attention, as we shared our Jewish values of friendship, gratitude, visiting the sick (Bikur Cholim) and the celebration of trees (Tu B’ Shevat) in four story-time sessions. BIG THANKS to Miss Daisy and her children Oliver and Ellie, who helped out in the room along with our teen volunteer, Cynthia Crispino. We also thank Children’s Librarian, Deirdre Sullivan, and our friends at Greenwich Library for providing a perfect environment for this program.

Our Mitzvah Volunteer Is Off to Brandeis!

With tearful joy we say “Shalom!” to Cynthia Crispino, a dedicated volunteer for the Greenwich PJ Library. Cynthia began her work with PJ Library as a Bat Mitzvah and has given us more than 200 hours of her time, helping with events and office tasks alike. In five years, assisting with 60 programs, she became a skilled and dependable member of our team. We will miss her cheery presence and hands-on support. Cynthia also raised money to help sponsor “PJ” enrollments and supplied numerous brand new, age appropriate toys for children to enjoy at the UJA office. A recipient of the prestigious Weitzman Award for Teen Philanthropy in 2016, she was also a steady volunteer at Greenwich Reform and the Friendship Circle. We thank Cynthia for her valued service and send a Mazel Tov! on her acceptance to Brandeis University.

SAVE THE DATE

3rd Annual Back Together Family Picnic!
Sunday, September 17th

Please mark your calendars and plan to come.
My Jerusalem – On the Anniversary of the Six-Day War

by Racheli Ben Shimol

“Mountain air as clear as wine and the scent of pine… Imprisoned in her dream, is the city which dwells alone, a wall within her heart.” These words, written by Naomi Shemer in May 1967, just before the start of the Six Day War, the 50th anniversary of which was marked on June 5th, conveys the Jewish people’s lifetime longing to return to Jerusalem, a city which has been the core of our faith and history for centuries but was unreachable for years. Fifty years ago, during the Six Day War, that longing finally became a reality.

Many look at the Six Day War as a turning point in Israeli history, when Jerusalem was reunified in an uplifting atmosphere, with a sense of unlimited pride and strength. In 1968, the Israeli government assigned the 28th of Iyar, this year May 24th, as Yom Yerushalayim (Jerusalem Day), making it a national holiday. Every year, parades are held in Jerusalem and children are taught about the significant part the city plays in our culture and identity as Jews and Israelis.

Growing up in the south of Israel, I didn’t visit Jerusalem much before my year of National Service. During that year I was introduced to parts of the city that I hadn’t known before. I saw not only the historical avenues of the city but also the vibrant life within it. My favorite spot in the city is Machne Yehuda Market (Shuk Machne Yehuda), which represents the diversity and richness of Jerusalem. Jerusalem is a city that integrates many generations, religions, narratives and cultures, while remaining a home to all.

Jerusalem’s beauty comes from deep within, rooted in its people and in every stone. Yom Yerushalayim has a new meaning to me, not only because of its 50th anniversary and its historical importance, but because knowing and discovering the Jerusalem of today has created a new place in my heart for an ancient city.

Covenant Award Winner Rabbi Shai Held Comes to Greenwich

Rabbi Shai Held is considered one of the most important Jewish teachers and leaders in America today. On Thursday, July 20, the UJA/JCC Greenwich community is warmly invited to break bread with him at Lunch and Learn, as he discusses his new book The Heart of Torah: Essays on the Weekly Torah Portion.

Mining Talmud and Midrashim, classic world literature and provocative commentary drawn from other faiths, Rabbi Held will share new meanings in ancient Torah portions while tackling core questions about God, human nature and what it means to practice religion in modern times.

Rabbi Held is President, Dean and Chair in Jewish Thought at Mechon Hadar, and he directs its Center for Jewish Leadership and Mining Talmud and Midrashim, classic world literature and provocative commentary drawn from other faiths, Rabbi Held will share new meanings in ancient Torah portions while tackling core questions about God, human nature and what it means to practice religion in modern times.

Rabbi Held is President, Dean and Chair in Jewish Thought at Mechon Hadar, and he directs its Center for Jewish Leadership and Mining Talmud and Midrashim, classic world literature and provocative commentary drawn from other faiths, Rabbi Held will share new meanings in ancient Torah portions while tackling core questions about God, human nature and what it means to practice religion in modern times.

Rabbi Held is President, Dean and Chair in Jewish Thought at Mechon Hadar, and he directs its Center for Jewish Leadership and Mining Talmud and Midrashim, classic world literature and provocative commentary drawn from other faiths, Rabbi Held will share new meanings in ancient Torah portions while tackling core questions about God, human nature and what it means to practice religion in modern times.

Shabbat & Holiday Candle Lighting Times

Fri., June 16 ............ 8:10 pm
Fri., June 23 ............ 8:12 pm
Fri., June 30 ............ 8:13 pm
Fri., July 7 ............. 8:12 pm
Fri., July 14 .......... 8:09 pm
Fri., July 21 .......... 8:04 pm
Fri., July 28 ........... 7:58 pm
Fri., Aug. 4 ............ 7:51 pm
Fri., Aug. 11 ........... 7:42 pm
Fri., Aug. 18 .......... 7:33 pm
Fri., Aug. 25 .......... 7:22 pm
Fri., Sept. 1 ............ 7:11 pm
Fri., Sept. 8 .......... 7:00 pm
Fri., Sept. 15 ........ 6:48 pm

**Jewish News**

**Community Directory**

- **UJAFed Greenwich** (203) 552-1818
- **Anti-Defamation League** (203) 288-6500
- **Bi Cultural Day School** (203) 239-2186
- **Carmel Academy** (203) 863-9665
- **Chavurat Dor Yisroel** (203) 677-9478 or (203) 637-5877
- **Chabad Lubavitch of Greenwich** (203) 629-8959
- **Congregation Shir Ami** (203) 574-2424
- **Greenwich Reform** (203) 629-0018
- **Hadar** (203) 249-4036
- **JCC Greenwich** (203) 552-1818
- **Jewish Family Services of Greenwich** (203) 622-1981
- **Jewish High School of Connecticut** (203) 577-0850
- **Selma Maisel Nursery School at TS** (203) 622-8121
- **Temple Sholom** (203) 869-7191

**Shabbat & Holiday Candle Lighting Times**

- **Fri., June 16** ........... 8:10 pm
- **Fri., June 23** ........... 8:12 pm
- **Fri., June 30** ........... 8:13 pm
- **Fri., July 7** ............ 8:12 pm
- **Fri., July 14** .......... 8:09 pm
- **Fri., July 21** .......... 8:04 pm
- **Fri., July 28** .......... 7:58 pm
- **Fri., Aug. 4** .......... 7:51 pm
- **Fri., Aug. 11** .......... 7:42 pm
- **Fri., Aug. 18** .......... 7:33 pm
- **Fri., Aug. 25** .......... 7:22 pm
- **Fri., Sept. 1** .......... 7:11 pm
- **Fri., Sept. 8** .......... 7:00 pm
- **Fri., Sept. 15** .......... 6:48 pm
Greenwich Reform Welcomes New Leader—Rabbi Jordie Gerson

Greenwich Reform has announced the appointment of Rabbi Jordie Gerson as of July 10, 2017. Rabbi Gerson was ordained at the Hebrew Union College in New York City. Prior to that, she became a Union College in New York City. was ordained at the Hebrew

July 10, 2017. Rabbi Gerson of Rabbi Jordie Gerson as of

announced the appointment

Greenwich Reform. She has served as a Hillel rabbi at Yale, NYU, and the University of Vermont, and has held rabbinical positions in San Diego, Montreal, and Boulder, Colorado. An avid writer, her work is regularly featured in The Forward, Huffington Post, The Harvard Divinity Bulletin, MyJewishLearning.com, and on the website Jewcy.com.

“I’m thrilled to be coming back to the East Coast, and especially to Reform Jewish life and learning in Greenwich and beyond is truly boundless. In the coming years, GRs will grow in numbers and in scope of programs, bringing transformative, relevant, and above all, meaningful Jewish life to a whole new generation. We’ll make use of the many resources that being so close to New York City affords us, while also taking advantage of the natural beauty we have at our fingertips here in Greenwich. I am excited for our future, and the opportunity to work with this extraordinary community. My door is always open, and I’d love to meet you.” (You can reach Rabbi Gerson at RabbiGerson@GRS.org or 203-629-0018).

Having served as the Rabbi of Greenwich Reform for nine years, Rabbi Andrew Sklarz will be enjoying a well-earned sabbatical.

Teen Leadership at JHSC

By David Giver

As we enter a new period in history, in which leadership is coming from amazing women, the Jewish High School of Connecticut is making a name for itself as a home to many such women. These young women, through the skills they develop now, will go on to become future leaders this world so desperately needs, both within the Jewish community and in the broader world.

While many members of the student body at the Jewish High School of Connecticut find themselves involved with Jewish organizations outside of school, three students have stepped up and taken on leadership roles in their respective organizations. All three of these student leaders, like many of the great Jewish leaders in our history, are women. Gabriella Lieberman (NSY), Julia Arnowitz (BBYO), and Natalie Shclover (Friendship Circle), all juniors at JHSC, are shining examples of the kind of students that are attracted to the school, and once here, the kind of leaders that this school cultivates.

Gabriella Lieberman serves on the board of Stamford NSY. As such, she is responsible for the recruitment of new members, helping with coordinating programming for the group, being present at many local and regional events, and most importantly, being a face of the organization both at home and within the region. Julia Arnowitz is a member of her BBYO chapter board, serving as Shlichah, a role that makes her responsible for the Judaic programming for her chapter. She is also responsible for attendance at regional and chapter events, for the recruitment of new members, and for being a positive role model and face of the chapter and organization. Natalie Shclover was a member of the Friendship Circle Leadership Board for 2015-2016, and as such was responsible for leading by example, coming to many of the organization’s events and by doing so, showing others what can happen with some extra time and effort. She also recruited other teens into the organization and was one of its many public faces, positively representing Friendship Circle in the community.

These young leaders are a reflection of all that the school has to offer to the community. They provide the Jewish High School of Connecticut with living advertisements as to the brilliant, community-minded young people that fill the halls each day. The community is taking notice, and more Jewish teens are finding a home here at JHSC. And with examples such as Gabriella, Julia, and Natalie roaming the halls for yet another year, the growing student body will strive to reach ever higher.

Left to right: Natalie Shclover, Gabriella Lieberman, Julia Arnowitz.
Masa: Destination Israel, One Girl’s Story

Shalom from Israel! My name is Ariella Torv, a Connecticut native, a 24-year-old college grad, ex-commuter to Manhattan, currently living in Tel Aviv, Israel. I have been living in Tel Aviv for five months now, with seven roommates, while interning at a hi-tech startup. My story is a little bit unconventional. I graduated in 2015 from the University of Hartford with a bachelor’s degree in communications, marketing and public relations. Since I have a passion for the advertising world with all of its trends and patterns, I was really excited to dive into my career. I began work at one of the world’s largest agencies and was loving the Manhattan culture. The excitement of the fast-paced industry and work environment, and my first job with health benefits were amazing.

I value and cherish everything I learned there. But then it was time to put in a request for my vacation days. Meanwhile I kept receiving emails about deadlines to sign up for Birthright, since I had to cancel the trip I had originally planned when I was a sophomore. This seemed like too good an opportunity to turn down – to experience Israel with 40 other young Americans. I signed up for the December-January 10-day trip with a friend from college. I was excited about what I was about to expect. For someone who hasn’t done much traveling, venturing to the Middle East was a big step for me and a huge adventure. Well, ten days later, the unsure girl from Connecticut fell in love with Israel. The culture, the community, the nature, the true feeling of connectivity and spirituality; all are hard to find elsewhere and made me understand my heritage, religion, and culture. This is something I knew I wanted to do, but wasn’t ever sure how. This has been the opportunity of a lifetime, and I am forever grateful to UJA Greenwich for helping me get to exactly where I am supposed to be – sitting on my balcony in the heart of Tel Aviv. For more information, call 203-552-1818. Shabbat shalom!

When I’m conversing with Israelis in Hebrew, it is the most rewarding feeling. To be part of Shabbat dinner every Friday, with my roommate leading the Kiddush is also special. We make sure to celebrate Shabbat each week, and it’s something I know I’ll continue to do as time goes on. To be in Israel for Yom Hazikaron and Yom Ha’Atzmaut was a highly emotional experience. I was able to witness firsthand the true pride of Israelis, and even as an American, I felt at home, and overjoyed to be in Israel for its 69th birthday.

Living in Israel has made me understand and realize my deep desire to really learn and embrace my Jewish heritage, religion, and culture. This is something I knew I wanted to do, but wasn’t ever sure how. This has been the opportunity of a lifetime, and I am forever grateful to UJA Greenwich for helping me get to exactly where I am supposed to be – sitting on my balcony in the heart of Tel Aviv. For more information, call 203-552-1818. Shabbat shalom!

As soon as I returned home from my Birthright trip, I went to work finding a program that matched the experience I was looking for and that offered an internship in my field. Masa: Destination Israel was, and is, a perfect fit for me. The first month of the program was intensive with Ulpan, Hebrew immersion classes where you learn to speak, read and write, four hours every day…except weekends of course.

When I’m conversing with Israelis in Hebrew, it is the most rewarding feeling. To be part of Shabbat dinner every Friday, with my roommate leading the Kiddush is also special. We make sure to celebrate Shabbat each week, and it’s something I know I’ll continue to do as time goes on. To be in Israel for Yom Hazikaron and Yom Ha’Atzmaut was a highly emotional experience. I was able to witness firsthand the true pride of Israelis, and even as an American, I felt at home, and overjoyed to be in Israel for its 69th birthday.

Living in Israel has made me understand and realize my deep desire to really learn and embrace my Jewish heritage, religion, and culture. This is something I knew I wanted to do, but wasn’t ever sure how. This has been the opportunity of a lifetime, and I am forever grateful to UJA Greenwich for helping me get to exactly where I am supposed to be – sitting on my balcony in the heart of Tel Aviv. For more information, call 203-552-1818. Shabbat shalom!

The Women’s Philanthropy Board welcomed guest speaker Rabbi Sharon Shalom, Ph.D. to the June board meeting. Rabbi Shalom shared the story of his remarkable journey as a child from a small Ethiopian Village to the Emunah Children’s Center in Israel, a recipient agency of UJA Greenwich. Rabbi Shalom, who just completed a Scholar-in-Residence post at Brandeis University and serves a community of Ashkenzi Holocaust survivors in Israel, demonstrates the profound impact of your gifts to UJA. Women’s Philanthropy is bustling with newly expanded committees and opportunities for involvement and engagement. For more information call the UJA office: 203-552-1818.
From the Rabbi

Conversations, Encounters, and Correspondences with the Rebbe

by Rabbi Yossi Diven, Chabad of Greenwich

On June 27 – the Third day of the Hebrew month Tammuz – we will mark the 23rd yahrtzeit of the Rebbe, of righteous memory. Unlike other Chassidic leaders and rebbes whose circle of influence was mostly the specific ultra-orthodox community that they served, the Rebbe was a spiritual mentor to students, followers, adherents and admirers from across the entire spectrum of the Jewish People, regardless of sect, observance, affiliation or the lack thereof.

It would therefore be appropriate to share with you a few conversations, encounters and correspondences that the Rebbe had with specific individuals, regarding a variety of issues. It is my hope that you glean an insight, a lesson or perhaps even some inspiration that is relevant to your own personal life and purpose as a Jew in the 21st century.

In the winter of 1960, the Rebbe received a group of college students for a private audience, where he offered them the opportunity to speak their mind and ask any questions that may be bothering them. Here are a few snippets from that conversation. 

Question: What is the Jewish attitude toward conversion?

Never were Torah Jews enthused about conversion. A Jew should be a good Jew and a gentile should be a good gentile. There is for us enough to do in just seeing that Jews are good Jews. Every limb of a body has its particular function. Every limb has its activity to which it is fitted. Likewise, every created thing has its particular function. The Jew has his and the gentile has his.

Question: The claim has been made that Chasidism elevates the woman to a state higher than she had before in Judaism. How is this to be understood?

Traditionally, women were not taught Torah except those laws that were directly relevant to herself and her duties. Chassidic philosophy however, teaches and demands of every one, man or woman, that the Mitzvos, all of them, must be done with joy and inspiration, not automatically. But we cannot expect someone to be inspired unless he understands or feels. The woman has a right, more – must know of the individual providence – of the omnipresence of G-d Almighty, which He created not only the heavens but also the home and the kitchen, and then she can be inspired by the Mitzvah to make the home and kitchen a Jewish home and kitchen. We must explain to her in detail the teachings of the Jewish religion and the reasons why of Judaism, especially since the woman has a great effect on her children and her husband.

Question: Can a Jew be a Hasid even though it is necessary for him to work on Shabbos, especially in the case of a physician?

You mean he thinks it is necessary for him to work on Shabbos. Really, it cannot be that it is impossible for a Jew to keep Shabbos. For G-d would not have commanded us to do something and then have put us in a position where it would be impossible to perform. Under ordinary conditions, a physician must not desecrate Shabbos, and his entire life must be as holy and Jewish as of every Jew. However, when an emergency arises and a life is at stake, it is not only not a desecration but it is a Mitzvah. One is commanded to save the person.

Question: Can the Rebbe perform miracles?

A miracle is something that happens which you could not have calculated. When a Jew connects himself through his Divine spark with G-d through fervent prayer, Torah, and Mitzvos, he can affect things in this physical world “from above” – that means by a way which is beyond calculation. This power is not the prerogative of one Jew but of every Jew.

In a letter to an officer of the UJA Federation of North America, the Rebbe addressed an issue that was at the forefront of everything that he did throughout his years – ensuring a strong education for our youth. His concern was not only for Jewish youth, but for ALL youth. In fact, the Rebbe played a major role in the establishment of the United States Department of Education and its designation to Cabinet-level status. At an event in Washington, D.C. in 1998, the then-Secretary of Education Richard Riley remarkedpublicly that “I owe my job to the Rebbe”…

Why Will Conventional Methods Not Work for Jewish Education?

There is an urgent need for a radical change in the approach to the educational needs of the Jewish community. The problem of Jewish education is so vital and urgent in the present day, that conventional methods cannot be applied. If there was a time when programs and projects were determined by available funds, the method must now be reversed: to ascertain, first, the necessary program, and then seek the funding. Even if this would entail a deficit in the first year or two, it is certain that it would eventually be covered. Experience on the American scene has amply borne this out, namely, that where a project was considered vitally important, the financial means for it were not lacking. Indeed, there is a simple answer to the budgetary argument: a deficit can be covered sooner or later without ill effects; but failure to meet educational needs today cannot be rectified tomorrow: Those children who, for lack of facilities, fall prey to the alienating forces of the environment are irrevocably lost. One cannot ignore the fact, if in older days it was possible to fall back upon the good influence of the home, or even grandparents, etc. – these influences are unfortunately minimal or nonexistent in the present day and age in the U.S.A., the young generation receives most of its influence and inspiration outside the home or synagogue.

In April of 1966 the Rebbe took up a correspondence with Mr. Yitzchak Ben-Tzvi, President of the State of Israel. The discussion focused on the attitude of many in the Jewish community, even – and perhaps especially – in the Orthodox community, vis-a-vis Israel being the beginning of the future redemption with the coming of Moshiach; the Redemption that Jews have waited for for thousands of years. The Rebbe often emphasized that although we find ourselves on the cusp of the Messianic era, we must take great caution when ascribing Messianic-like status to any event or person. When the Messiah comes, evil, darkness, pain and suffering will be banished from the world and until that happens, to claim that the Redemption is already here, would be wrong for a variety of reasons. Here is one of them:

The Future Redemption will not only be a relief from pain and suffering, it will also be a relief from the painful question of “why” all the pain and suffering.

From the day I went to school, and even earlier than that, a vision of the future redemption began to form in my imagination - the redemption of the Jewish people from their final exile; a redemption through which all the torments of the exile, the persecutions and the massacres, would be understood…

Ultimate redemption, the Rebbe concluded, will liberate us from the constraints of human perception through the disclosure of inconceivable good.

May that speedily in our time.

Have a healthy summer!

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

Join Temple Sholom for

Shabbat on the Sound
at Tod’s Point, Greenwich, CT

Friday, July 21
5:00 pm
Picnic in the Park
6:00 pm
Shabbat Concert with Special Musical Guest Sheldon Low

Bring your lawn chair and a dairy or vegetarian picnic dinner.
Parking has been arranged in advance. Participants do not need a beach pass.

If you would like to attend, contact Alice Schoen at 203-542-7165, alice.schoen@templesholom.com.

Sotheby’s INTERNATIONAL REALTY

Suzanne Shemin Katz
d: 203.618.3161
c: 917.902.4472
suzanne.katz@sothebyshomes.com

GREENWICH BROKERAGE | sothebyshomes.com/greenwich
1 PICKWICK PLAZA, GREENWICH, CT
Operated by Sotheby’s International Realty, Inc. Sotheby’s International Realty® is a registered trademark.

Parking has been arranged in advance. Participants do not need a beach pass.

If you would like to attend, contact Alice Schoen at 203-542-7165, alice.schoen@templesholom.com.
Greenwich Lions of Judah enjoyed a beautiful luncheon hosted by Jane Weitzman in her Manhattan home. The multi-generational group honored Women’s Philanthropy Past Presidents, including Marlene Gilbert, Eve Goldberg, Suzanne Katz, Randye Kwait, Tammy Levine, Betty Steinberg, Michele Stuart, Carolyn Surgent, Faith Toraby and Holly Brown-Weissman. JDC speaker, Asher Ostrin, gave a moving presentation on the impact of Jewish Philanthropy on past, present and future generations and thanked the Greenwich Lions for their ongoing support. Our deepest thanks to Jane for a most memorable event and her warm, generous hospitality.

Taking Action Against Breast Cancer:
A Panel Discussion on May 15 – a Collaboration of JCC Greenwich and the Breast Cancer Alliance
Benefit for UJA Greenwich on April 6 at the Home of Richard Lipton
The Threat of Radical Islam with Khaled Abu Toameh

Dinner, Drinks & Comedy with Judy Gold, June 8 at the Bruce Museum
UJA Greenwich Annual Gala—May 11
Honoring Brian Neilingar and Youth Award Recipients
Serena Baker and Natalie Lilien

Photos by Moffly Media/Marilyn Rees
Celebrating Yom Ha’Atzmaut–Israel’s 69th Independence Day at Town Hall
Glass Artist Dale Chihuly, Inspired by Israel, Exhibits at the New York Botanical Garden

by Sarah Balcombe Ryb

Amid the landscape and buildings of New York’s Botanical Gardens, the luminescent glass creations of Seattle-based artist Dale Chihuly do not disappoint. Spectacularly sited, more than 20 blown glass installations rise from their impressive surroundings. Befitting an artist who celebrated his 75th birthday last year, his legacy is also presented, in the Botanical Garden’s LuEsther T. Mertz Library Building. One thinks of undulating Pilchuk Native American baskets, opalescent arabesque Puget Sound seafoms, and ornate Venetian palatial rococo, with sketches and sculptures contributing to this unique collective of Chihuly’s definitive career.

Outside the library, new works, including Blue Polyvitreos Crystals (pictured) situated in the Lillian Goldman Fountain of Life and the solitary Blue Sapphire are a delight. As is typical of Chihuly’s work, apparent simplicity belies a high level of complexity, interior support structure and collaboration. While blue and white may not be the dominant theme, it is certainly a recurring one. Chihuly has strong ties to Israel, his earliest visit being a few months at Kibbutz Lahav in the Negev Desert during the 1960s.

“I remember arriving at the kibbutz as a boy of 21 and leaving a man, just a few short months later. Before Lahav my life was more about having fun, and after Lahav, I wanted to make some sort of contribution to society. I discovered there was more to life than having a good time. It’s difficult to explain how this change came about, but it had a lot to do with going out on border patrol during the night with guys my own age who had more responsibility and maturity than adults twice their age in the United States. After the kibbutz experience my life would never be the same.”

Upon entering the Botanical Gardens, one is greeted by Red Reeds on Logs, echoing the crossing diagonal formation, Red Spears, in Chihuly’s Light of Jerusalem 2000 show, at David’s Citadel in the Old City of Jerusalem. More than one million visitors attended the Jerusalem exhibit, dazzled by the juxtaposition with the Citadel’s ancient archaeology. Whether the Bronx’ NYBG spectacular exhibit can generate similar numbers, remains to be seen. Sarah Balcombe Ryb is an architect who recently moved here with her family from Israel.

Their Spirits Soaring, Bi-Cultural Students Return from a Month in Israel

“For all their years at Bi-Cultural, these students have been learning about Israel. Now, just before they graduate and move on to the next phase of their young lives, they get to see all they’ve learned about come to life,” said Bi-Cultural Associate Principal Rabbi Yehuda Jeiger, as he joined the school’s entire student body – plus teachers, parents and staff – in bidding a joyous farewell to the eighth-grade class when they departed for a month-long trip to Israel on April 20.

On Wednesday, May 18, the school community was on hand once again to say “b’ruchim ha-bayim” – welcome back – to the 42 8th-graders and their chaperones, who returned home a bit tired, but more than a little jubilant. During the course of their trip, the group’s jam-packed itinerary included: touring the country from Eilat to the Golan Heights; engaging in acts of chesed – aka ‘loving kindness’ or social service – such as the one they performed at Beit Elazarki, an orphanage in the coastal town of Netanya, where students spent their first Shabbat; and study sessions at various yeshivot.

“Away from home, many for the first time, students reach a new maturity level during the course of this trip,” said Rabbi Jeiger, noting that the school has included the trip as part of its 8th-grade curriculum for more than 45 years. “It helps them next year when they go off to high school. They also have the chance to solidify friendships so that they don’t lose touch as they move on and go their separate ways.” In addition, says Rabbi Jeiger, “The trip gives students the unique opportunity to connect with the land, the people, and the culture of Israel. They’ve been taught that this is their homeland – now they get to feel it.”

UJA Greenwich supports scholarship funding for the BCDS trip to Israel.
NEW! HOME SAFETY: ONE OF THE MOST OVERLOOKED ASPECTS OF AGING AT HOME
Six out of every ten falls happen at home, where we or our loved ones spend much of our time and tend to move about without giving much thought to our safety. Many falls can be prevented by making simple changes to living areas, as well as personal and lifestyle changes. In this interactive workshop, you will learn all the ways you can change your surroundings in order to make your home safer. Ricki Goldstein, RN, JD, and Casey Schack, PT, CSCS, Cert-MDT from Sterling Care, will lead the discussion. Tuesday, 6/27, 7:00 pm
NEW! LEARNING THE FUNDAMENTALS OF CARING FOR SOMEONE WITH DEMENTIA
Dementia is the loss of cognitive functioning (thinking, remembering, and reasoning) and behavioral abilities to such an extent that it interferes with a person’s daily life and activities. Caring for a person with dementia is not easy and can take a severe physical and emotional toll. In this workshop, you will learn new approaches to caring for a person with dementia that have been proven to lower caregiver stress and increase quality of life for all involved. Steven Katz, JD, MBA, LLM, MPH, CPA, CMG, CDP, Sterling Care. Tuesday, 7/18, 7:00 pm
JFS BOOKBEAT: FOR THOSE WHO LOVE TO READ
A thought-provoking book club with themes relevant to Jewish women of all ages. Facilitated by Judi Margolin. The Lilac Girls by Martha Hall Kelly, 6/28; 7:30 pm at JFS.
GREENWICH HOSPITAL SHABBAT
Every Friday, JFS leads a Shabbat Service in partnership with the Greenwich Hospital Spiritual Care Department, at 1:00 pm in the hospital’s Chapel. The service is broadcast LIVE on Channel 75 in all patient rooms. Joan Mann, Spiritual Care Counselor at JFS; and Rabbi MJ Newman, Jewish Chaplin of Greenwich Hospital, lead the service.
RENEWAL OF BODY, RENEWAL OF SPIRIT: HEALING SERVICE
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 Goldberg, Program Director Jewish Health and Healing Center of JFS; and Rabbi MJ Newman, Jewish Chaplin of Greenwich Hospital, lead the service.
Volunteer Opportunities
Bikur Cholim/Friendly Visitors/Grocery Shopper
Do a mitzvah! Get involved! JFS urges you to make a difference in the life of a Greenwich senior. Volunteers are needed to visit and/or grocery shop for home-bound and nursing home residents. The time commitment can be as little as one hour per week. The rewards are immeasurable!

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

SPECIAL DONATIONS to JFS
In Honor of:
Rebecca Levine, by Hillary and Michael Rosenthal
Sharon Herzog, by Jessica and Matt Greenberger
Barbara Smith, by Deborah and Peter Segaloff
In Memory of:
Carol Lichtenfeld, by Ruth Schreiber
Eugene Galton, by Sally and Larry Schneider
Barbara Doll, by Sandy and Steven Soule; Rita Edelson
Rosa Tropp, by Susan and Jerry Davis; Nancy and William Zisson; Yvette and Morley Kahn
Theda “Teddy” Glickman Wels, by Phyllis Shapiro and Marty Flashner

If you would like to honor or memorialize someone special in your life or community, you may do so by making a donation to Jewish Family Services, and we will send a note of acknowledgment to the person of family involved, informing them of your generosity in their honor/memory.

NEW! Parents of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender or Questioning (LGBTQ) Children
This group is for parents who are dealing with any stage of their family member’s coming out process. Together, in a safe and confidential environment, we will explore the tumultuous process of accepting, understanding, and celebrating your children and their LGBTQ identities. Facilitated by Barbara Lehrman, LCSW. Wednesdays, 11:30 am-12:45 pm
NEW TIME! Living Well in Later Life
For individuals 70+ to talk with peers about the opportunities and challenges this stage of life presents. Topics covered include how to maintain and manage health; manage independence with family members, including adult children; continue to be involved in meaningful activity; and cope with mourning and loss. Facilitated by Barbara Lehrman, LCSW. Tuesdays, 10:30-11:45 am
Surviving and Succeeding As a Stepmother
Being a stepmother is a unique role in family life. Adjustment takes a lot of time, and loving and caring for one another develops slowly. This group will help participants with the challenges and opportunities associated with being a stepmother. Facilitated by Mary Karkan, LCSW. Mondays, 11:00 am-noon
Bereavement Support Group EVENING GROUP ADDED
For those who have lost a family member or friend within the past five years. Facilitated by Lisa Smith, LCSW, and a member of the Greenwich Jewish Clergy.
Daytimes Thursdays, 10:30-11:30 am
Evenings Tuesdays, 7:00-8:00 pm
Support Groups for Separating and Divorcing Individuals
For adults whose lives are impacted by divorce. Facilitated by Lisa Smith, LCSW.
Daytimes Tuesdays, 11:30 am-12:45 pm
Evenings Wednesdays, 5:30-6:45 pm
After-the-Divorce Support Group
Now that the practical details of separating are complete, there is emotional work to do. It is time to develop a new identity and a new beginning. This group provides a confidential space to reflect on the life you are living and the life you would like to live. It is an opportunity to grow, develop, and learn from others. Facilitated by Barbara Lehrman, LCSW. Wednesdays, 6:00-7:15 pm
Fractured Families, Healing Hearts
This group gives participants an opportunity to talk about strained family relationships – whether it is with a parent, a sibling, a grandparent, a son, or a daughter. These relationships, when stressed or tense, are so painful to endure because family means so much to us. If you have cut the ties, or someone in your family has cut you off – this group helps you explore your issues of grief, anger, regret, and forgiveness in a safe environment with other people who understand. Facilitated by Lisa Smith, LCSW, and Rabbi Vicki Axe of Congregation Shir Ami. Tuesdays, 1:00-2:00 pm
Caregiver Support Group (ONLINE)
Caring for a loved one can be rewarding, challenging, and often, emotionally draining. This group addresses issues in a non-judgmental environment and discusses the challenges and opportunities of caring for a loved one. Facilitated by Lisa Smith, LCSW. Wednesdays, 2:00-3:00 pm

All you need for our ONLINE groups is a computer, smart phone, or tablet with WiFi access.
JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES OF GREENWICH

JFS Making a Difference in Our Shared Greenwich Community

JFS brings Shabbat services to Greenwich Hospital. JFS and Carmel Academy partner for Better Together Intergenerational Book Club.

JFS delivers food to seniors at Passover. JFS and Carmel Academy partner to bring Jewish Holiday cheer to Senior facilities.

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

Committed To Getting The Results You Deserve

STACY YOUNG
Licensed Real Estate Salesperson CT & NY
917.816.6733 | stacy.young@raveis.com
stacyyoung.raveis.com

Greenwich Brokerage
45 Field Point Rd, Greenwich, CT

Scarsdale Brokerage
1 Palmer Ave, Scarsdale, NY

RAVEIS.COM
Racheli Ben Shimol, our Israeli Emissary, is bringing the smells and tastes of Israel into your home. Last month, Cori Sanoagueira and Adam Farstrup invited her to cook an Israeli Moroccan dinner with their three daughters: Mica, Amital and Jordi. Together they created a traditional Israeli dish called Shakshuka, made of eggs poached in tomato sauce, Israeli couscous salad and Kadurei Shokolad (chocolate balls), for dessert. Amital said “I really liked the chocolate balls,” and asked “Can we make them again? I also liked the little white balls (couscous).” Mica said “I really enjoyed baking with you. I learned a lot. It was the best dinner I had in a while. Thank you so much.”

Interested in bringing Israeli tastes to your family? Sign up at jccgreenwich.org. For more information about the program, email Racheli@jccgreenwich.org or call 203-552-1818.

Tasting Israel

“I really liked the chocolate balls,” and asked “Can we make them again? I also liked the little white balls (couscous).” Mica said “I really enjoyed baking with you. I learned a lot. It was the best dinner I had in a while. Thank you so much.”

Interested in bringing Israeli tastes to your family? Sign up at jccgreenwich.org. For more information about the program, email Racheli@jccgreenwich.org or call 203-552-1818.
**A Recipe with a Memory**

On the eve of Yom HaZikron (Israel’s Memorial Day), which took place on Sunday, April 30th, through a project called *A Recipe with a Memory*, members of the community remembered fallen soldiers who defended the State of Israel. Each participating household made a recipe of one of the favorite foods of a fallen Israeli soldier. Here are some of our Greenwich families enjoying the favorite empanadas of Yaniv Shainbrun Z”l, the lasagna of Lior Ziv Z’l, the burekas of Erez Ashkenzi Z’l and the biscuit cake of Erez Turgeman Z”l. Thank you to all the families that participated in this program: the Akrongolds, Blumbergs, Finkelsteins, Goldschmids, Kramers, Kramer (yes, there were two!), Lilienthal, Nisinzweigs, Salops, Siegertel, Simons, Sobelsohns, Switzers, and Yechielys.

**JCC Teen Action Committee Doing Good Locally This Spring**

In April JTAC teens made Seder plates and kiddish cups for each of the senior facilities where Jewish Family Services of Greenwich leads a model Seder. Each Seder plate was personalized with the name of the facility, so that it can be used every year to celebrate Passover. In May, the teens baked more than 30 challahs for the Schoke JFS Kosher Food Pantry.

**Congratulations to Reese Ochoa on Completing His Eagle Scout Project**

Reese’s project included re-furbishing and securing railings and beautifying our UJA/JCC Greenwich building and 9/11 Memorial Garden. The 9/11 Memorial Garden was originally created as part of Andrew Nitkin’s Eagle Scout Project more than ten years ago. Thank you to all the boy scouts (and Dads) who helped with this renovation: Joe Carriero, Luke Macora, Liam Mitchell, Eric Knorr, Gerry Knorr, Gabe Ochoa, Paul Peters, Will Van Rhyn and Dan Wurst.
OUR PLEDGE

We will support and strengthen Jewish life wherever Jews live around the world.

HOW WE HELP

We deliver critical aid to vulnerable populations – the elderly, at-risk children, impoverished families.

We help Jews connect with their heritage, empowering the next generation of Jewish leadership.

OUR IMPACT

The food, medicine and shelter we provide can be lifesaving for Jews around the globe.

Amid rising anti-Semitism, Jews on our own college campuses know they can rely on our support.

Here in Greenwich, your gift helps us build a thriving Jewish community.

Through education and programming, UJA Greenwich and JCC Greenwich bring us together around critical issues and shared interests.

BECAUSE NO MATTER WHERE WE LIVE, WE ARE ALL PART OF ONE GLOBAL JEWISH FAMILY.