JCC Introduces
Davis Film Festival

by Laura Blum

Cannes Film Festival was originally called International Film Festival; Sundance Film Festival began as Utah/US Film Festival and now JCC Cinema has sprung a name change: Davis Film Festival. The rebooting of JCC Greenwich's popular movie series follows the pledge of a generous gift from Ellen and Gary Davis.

Festival-goers will enjoy more of the high-caliber titles they have come to expect at this curated showcase of Jewish interest, including features, documentaries and television shows from Israel, the US and the world. The series returns with monthly screenings on Wednesdays, starting on September 9 at 7pm.

“The Davis Film Festival builds on the success of JCC Greenwich’s film programming to date and fulfills our dream of enhancing and formalizing it,” noted Gary. “These films provide an important alternative to the typical multiplex fare, and although they reflect the Jewish experience, they are human stories with universal resonance.”

“We’re thrilled to continue bringing our community the best in Jewish themes, narratives and talent from around the globe,” added Ellen. “The Davis Film Festival will make JGC’s salute to cinematic creativity even more accessible to Greenwich filmgoers.”

The Festival opens on a satirical note with Talya Lavie’s dark comedy Zero Motivation. Dubbed an Israeli M*A*S*H, the film tracks a unit of women soldiers at a Negev desert base.

Women’s Philanthropy Fall Brunch
Honor Suzanne Shemin Katz

Guest Speaker Rabbi Sherre Hirsch

Wednesday, October 21

UJA Greenwich will honor Women’s Philanthropy Co-President Suzanne Shemin Katz at the Fall Brunch in October. “It is a pleasure to express our deep appreciation for Suzanne’s time and spirited leadership,” says Co-President Carolyn Surgent. “Suzanne has been an excellent partner and friend. Her complete commitment to UJA’s mission, her thoughtfulness and professionalism has set a high bar for us all.” In addition to co-stewarding the major Women’s Philanthropy annual events, including the Education Symposium, Lion of Judah Breakfast, Year-End Brunch and board meetings, Suzanne travelled widely for a string of family celebrations, including her son Alex’s wedding in May and the posthumous award of the Medal of Honor to her grandfather, Sgt. William Shemin, at the White House in June. Recognition of Suzanne’s long-standing commitment and unique contributions to UJA Greenwich is a fitting honor as we close this special year together. Asked to comment, Suzanne offers “I’m so proud to have been on UJA Greenwich Women’s Philanthropy board for over twenty years. Just love this multi-generational and vital group of women committed to building strong Jewish community.”

continued on page 3
Dear Readers:
Cowabunga! We are off on another adventure with something special for every age. Thanks to the generosity of event hosts, sponsors and PJ Parent Planners, we have a blockbuster season ahead. There is no shortage of opportunity to enjoy holidays with entertainment and enrichment. Mark your calendars for upcoming PJ Library events and check page 14 for the NEW Sunday Funday TOTS series developed for young families in partnership with Harold Grinspoon Foundation. Whether newborn or new to the community, we have new ways to say “welcome!” and “we’re glad you are here” with JBABIES and Shabbat Around Town. Sticking with classic PJ Library Story Times at the Cos Cob Library and adding new entertainment to holiday parties - Sukkot with ShirYale and Bash the Trash for Hanukkah - we are just waiting for your RSVPs! You may wonder how we do all of this with limited resources. We have support from UJA/JCC Greenwich partners, PJ Library Chair, Cori SaNogueira, and PJ Parent Planners who simply ROCK IT!

PJ Library Chair, Cori SaNogueira, is from Newtown, Connecticut. She moved as a teenager with her family to Kobe, Japan and returned to the USA to attend Muhlenberg College. She worked in the Jewish Community at Hillel’s International Center, University of Maryland Hillel and Temple Israel of Westport. She then earned a Masters Degree in Elementary Education at Fairfield University and worked in local public schools. Upon starting a family, Cori moved with her husband Adam Farstrup to London for two years, where she was involved with programming for babies and toddlers at New London Synagogue. Adam and Cori along with their three daughters Mica, Amital and Jordi now call Old Greenwich home. She enjoys volunteering at her children’s schools, serving as Chair of our PJ Library program and running half marathons.

Looking forward to a dynamic year ahead! L’Shanah Tovah! Tracy Daniels, Director, PJ Library Program of Greenwich

MEET THE
PJ LIBRARY PARENT PLANNERS
FOR 2015-2016

Creating delightful events for our children and community
Lisa Abrams • Lala Addeo • Anne Ahkuy • Mariissa Cohen • Rebecca Cooper
Jennifer Davis • Jill Derikra • Stephanie Esquenazi
Penny Goffman-Vazquez • Allison Jackson • Jamie Kesmodel
Natalie Landres • Jessica Maiman Rickert • Kelly Meyers
Cori SaNogueira • PJ Library Chair • Jordan Sanders
Jody Siegertel Lazlo • Lisa Small • Jen Smokler • Stacey Zwilling

PJ LIBRARY is sponsored by UJA Greenwich in partnership with Harold Grinspoon Foundation and generous local donors, including our Grandparent Partners.

“PJ” programs are presented in collaboration with JCC GREENWICH. You’ll find everything posted on www.jccgreenwich.org. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact us. We’d love to hear from you.

Call or email Tracy Daniels 203-552-1818 or Tracy@ujafedgreenwich.org

PJ Library Greenwich invites you to pioneer the launch of a new program to welcome families to the community and bring people together. SHABBAT AROUND TOWN is a celebration of Shabbat with a “PJ Library” twist. We’re encouraging families to have Shabbat dinner together. Volunteer to host a family or be a guest for Friday night dinner. You provide the home and meal, and we’ll make the match (of hosts and guests) and send a special PJ Library Shabbat Box filled with “ruach” (spirit) and the basic things that make this weekly dinner different from the rest. SHABBAT AROUND TOWN will be a wonderful way to welcome never families to the dynamic Jewish community and to share your family traditions—or discover new ones!

Here are the dates for Shabbat Around Town: 9/25, 10/23, 11/13, 12/18, 1/29, 2/26, 3/11 and 5/20. We would love to hear from you and confirm your date.

Thank you for being part of this warm and welcoming experience!

Cori SaNogueira, Chair, PJ Library
C: 203 858 6190/H: 203-438-5336
Bonnie Citron, UJA Women’s Philanthropy, Chair of Newcomer Committee

Welcome Back Family Picnic hosted by Lisa & Marc Abrams (right), here with Lisa Small & David Chass, and their children.

PJ Chair Cori SaNogueira and the girls.
base as they combat boredom, bureaucracy and bad behavior. Zero Motivation was a box office sensation in Israel and winner of the Best Narrative Feature Award at the Tribeca Film Festival.

Next up on October 13 is GETT: The Trial of Viviane Amsalem. The third in the trilogy by siblings Ronit and Shlomi Elbaz, is a must-see for anyone with a social pulse and a handkerking for powerful cinema. Shot through with acid humor, this courtroom drama centers on an Israeli woman who struggles to secure a divorce from her estranged husband only to find herself virtually on trial by the nation’s religious marriage laws. The film took an Israeli Academy Award for Best Picture and was Israel’s submission for the Academy Award for Best Foreign Picture.

On November 18, join us for a film that was a box office sensation in France: Like Boys (Commes de Freres), a very funny and heartfelt comedy that follows a trio of mismatched Frenchmen as they try to honor the dying wishes of the woman they all loved. The three of them, reeling with grief after her funeral – a successful entrepreneur in his forties, a cynical screenwriter in his thirties, and a young man on the cusp of adulthood still living with his parents – embark on a spontaneous trip together to a summer cabin in Corsica. This trip, which she originally planned for all of them, becomes a journey of both tribute and discovery.

The Fall slate culminates with a mesmerizing TV drama guaranteed to get hearts racing. Appropriately called Fauda – which means “chaos” in Arabic – the latest smash hit show from Israel plunges viewers into the rolling cauldron that is army service for a special IDF unit disguised as Arabs. The screening takes place on December 16 and spans the first two episodes.

To ring in 2016, DFF shines the spotlight on Félix & Meira. Maxime Giroux’s intimate romantic drama follows a young Hasidic woman (played by Hadas Yaron of Free Spirit) who struggles to secure a divorce from her estranged husband — but not from her faith. Winner of the Toronto Film Festival’s Narrative Feature Award at the Tribeca Film Festival.

Like Spirit author Joshua Safran will want to save the date of February 17 for Crime After Crime. Selected by popular demand, Yoav Potash’s powerhouse documentary features Safran as a rookie lawyer battling to obtain justice for Debbie Peagler, an incarcerated survivor of brutal domestic violence. The screening coincides with Black History Month.

DFF’s cinema celebration continues on March 9 with Dough. Like Crime After Crime, this British favorite has swept numerous festival awards and drawn cheers from world audiences. Jonathan Pryce plays an old Jewish baker who is hard pressed to make ends meet until his young Muslim apprentice mistakenly tosses cannabis in the dough, and business enjoys a real high. Pauline Collins and Ian Hart costar in this warm-hearted dramedy that illustrates how crowd-pleasing can also mean culturally poignant. Indeed, director John Goldschmidt’s explorations of prejudice, ethics and community honor questions that are fundamental to the spirit of Judaism and the Davis Film Festival.

Screenings are held at the Greenwich Bou-Tie Criterion Cinemas (2 Railroad Avenue). Tickets are $15 per film and $118 for all ten films. Additional festival details and registration available at jccgreenwich.org.
Carmel Academy Offers Transitional Kindergarten Program

Carmel Academy is expanding its early childhood division this September with a transitional kindergarten program. Early childhood educator Julie Thaler is returning to Carmel Academy to spearhead the new program as the lead teacher.

“We are thrilled to welcome back Julie Thaler to our faculty,” said Carmel Academy Head of School Nora Anderson. “Her exceptional creativity, educational philosophy and understanding of how to encourage learning in young children are extraordinary. Julie is one of those teachers whose influence remains with her students for life.”

Thaler has 25 years of early childhood and Jewish education experience, spending five years as a Carmel Academy kindergarten teacher and the program’s coordinator. For the last few years, after moving from the area, she worked at Schechter Day School of Bergen County. Prior to her initial time at Carmel, she taught at Ramaz and Heschel.

“Carmel Academy’s transitional kindergarten program is something we are proud to offer the community,” Anderson said. “Our parents love our kindergarten and first grade programs, and have been asking for a transitional kindergarten to round out our early childhood offerings.” The program’s project-based curriculum follows the standards of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) and incorporates Bank Street and Reggio Emilia approaches to early childhood learning.

For information about limited fall openings, please contact Carmel Academy’s Director of Admissions, Daneet Brill, at 203-983-3503 or daneet.brill@carmelacademy.com.

Shir Ami to Livestream High Holy Day Services

“The High Holy Days offer an opportunity to reflect on our lives,” notes Rabbi Vicki L. Axe. “This year,” she added with great excitement, “we are livestreaming our services for seniors and others who are homebound. Even college students who are away from their families can virtually ‘come home for the holidays’ in what I like to call our ‘21st century shtetl’. ”

“An innovation in our services is the use of modern technology,” notes Co-President and IT Chair Rick Mason of Cos Cob, who is arranging the livestreaming for all services. “During the Torah readings, the open scroll is projected onto a large screen so that all congregants can follow the text directly from the Torah.” Past President Nancy Collamer of Old Greenwich finds the use of technology for the Yom Kippur Yizkor Memorial Service particularly meaningful. “Instead of a Memorial Book, we project the names of our loved ones one at a time on the big screen while the choir offers a medley of moving songs of comfort and memory.”

All are welcome at Shir Ami High Holy Day Services. Visit www.congregationshirami.org for easy online registration. For information about worship, education, and all congregational events and programs or to speak with Rabbi Axe, call 203-274-5376.

NEW THIS YEAR 2015-2016
YEAR OF KINDNESS & INSPIRATION
HEBREW WIZARDS CLASSES & TUITION
(including Membership & High Holidays) • All Grandparents go FREE

Mini Wizards ............... ages 3-4
Wizards I .................... ages 5-7
Wizards II .................... ages 8-12
B Mitzvah .................. ages 12-13
Teen Wizards .............. ages 13+

FAMILY & 1 CHILD ........ $3,000
FAMILY & 2 CHILDREN ... $4,000
FAMILY & 3 CHILDREN ... $5,000
Family Teen Program ....... $500

B MITZVAHYEAR ............ $6,000
(SIBLINGS 12 AND UNDER GO FREE)
www.hebrewwizards.com
Women’s Philanthropy

Fall Brunch—Continued from page 1

Guest speaker Sherre Hirsch will present, Living Fearlessly and Regret-Free, based upon her new book, Thresholds. As with her first book We Plan, God Laughs: What to Do When Life Hits You Over the Head, she once again mentors 21st-century citizens on how build rich and rewarding lives and to recognize the threshold moments of change that take us into uncharted territory as ramps to bigger and better opportunities.

“Women of every age are walking through thresholds as they manage busy lives,” said event Co-chair Silvina Knoll. Co-Chair Christine Toback adds, “We think this program will speak to every woman, at any stage. UJA offers a way to connect with the community at any point in our lives. Connecting makes us feel human and grounds us.” Women’s Philanthropy Vice Presidents Dina Klein Lunder and Yael Rosen are working with Silvina and Christine on this year-end celebration. “The annual brunch is one of the best UJA Women’s Philanthropy events of the year. We always have a dynamic speaker and it’s a great opportunity for people to get together, especially this year as we honor Suzanne Katz,” says Dina. Yadil conurs, “This is one of my favorite events of the year. It provides a great opportunity to connect with old and new friends in an enriching environment and while supporting a great cause.”

The brunch will be held at the Millbrook Club, beginning at 9:30 a.m. We invite all women from the community to join us in honoring Suzanne Katz, while enjoying the day and supporting the work of UJA Greenwich. The cover for the brunch is $118; or you can be a sponsor of the event for $180, which includes a listing in the program. In support of UJA this is a minimum gift event of $500 to the annual UJA Campaign, payable by December 31st. Thank you for your generosity. If you have not received your invitation, wish to donate a raffle prize or would like more information, call Tracy Daniels at 203-552-1818.

For more than 50 years, UJA Greenwich has served as a humanitarian and philanthropic organization for the Greenwich Jewish community, providing funds for food, clothing, counseling and shelter for those in need locally and around the world.
Bi-Cultural Wins National Jewish Education Grant

Bi-Cultural Day School has recently been named as recipient of the 2015 Jewish Education Innovation Challenge (JEIC) for its creative efforts in developing the Masora and Matmid programs. With this award, Bi-Cultural will receive a $50,000 grant from JEIC as an investment in nurturing further development of this program. Sixty-two schools competed in this nation-wide competition, with Bi-Cultural as a standout for its premier programming efforts. The Jewish Education Innovation Challenge (JEIC) is a grant-making initiative designed to disrupt complacency and encourage innovation in Jewish day school education. While already implemented at BCDS, JEIC believes that the program’s ultimate success will be the creation and implementation of revolutionary, practical educational models that are sustainable and scalable nationally. Bi-Cultural’s Rabbi Yehuda Jeiger and Mrs. Michal Smart designed, developed and implemented this program. “We have such a great sense of pride and gratification that the JEIC has recognized the hard work that our faculty has done in creating this award-winning program. This grant can only propel us further into Jewish programming and thought,” said Jackie Herman, Bi-Cultural’s Principal and Head of School.

Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 25, 10:45 – 11:30 AM

Bring your pets to GRS for a special service, presentation and blessing of the animals.

Please note, animals must be properly leashed or contained at all times.

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

Greenwich Reform Synagogue

Generation J at GRS:

Register Now for 2015-16

Generation J is unveiling several exciting new programs this fall. Under the supervision of Director of Education Eliana Hall and in conjunction with Rabbi Shlomo, we will be offering several Family Education programs throughout the year; parents are invited to learn alongside their children. Our first Family Education program will uncover the themes of “Parashat Noach”, the story of Noah and the animals brought onto the ark. Families will be invited to bring their pets to school for a special blessing!

Our 4th-7th grade students will be participating in a particularly exciting Israel program this year, as they partner with students in Israel, via the Internet, to explore what Jewish peoplehood means and what commonalities they share with Jews around the world.

Our youngest students are delighted by the twice-monthly “Holiday Happenings & More” class for 3-5 year-olds. Our teens participate in a robust program for students in grades 8-12, with a variety of options, including a NFTY-affiliated youth group with terrific student officers; a Confirmation Academy, where students from grades 8-10 meet monthly to deepen their connection with Jewish life through study; and a madrichim program, which trains our student aides in leadership skills through hands-on experience in the classroom along with regular reflection with one another.

In addition to our Sunday programing, our students enjoy a variety of creative Shabbat and Holiday activities. Shabbat Yeladim, for students five and under, is a lively, song-filled service for small children and their parents, followed by dinner and a child-centered activity. After a family-oriented service and Shabbat dinner, our young people have fun with a hands-on activity reinforcing the theme of the evening’s service.

For students in 4th-7th grades (3rd grade optional) Hebrew instruction is offered on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons. Students come to the GRS office for 30 minutes of individual instruction with a Hebrew specialist, where each child receives personally tailored instruction. Students prepare for their bar/bat mitzvah by learning Hebrew reading and prayer, as well as theological concepts, vocabulary, and grammar.

For more information, contact Eliana@grs.org or 203-629-0018, ext. 1008.
There is a poem with two stories about its origin. One says it was written in a woman's voice in 1966 by a nurse in Scotland. The other ascribes it more recently to an old man who left nothing else behind when he died in the geriatric ward of a nursing home in Australia. Either way, it cries out with the human need to be heard.

What do you see, nurses, what do you see?
What are you thinking, when you look at me,
A crabby old woman, not very wise,
Uncertain of habit, with far-away eyes,
Who, quite unresisting, lets you do as you will,
With bathing and feeding the long day to fill.
I'll tell you who I am as I sit here so still,
As I move at your bidding, as I eat at your will.
I'm a small child of 10 with a father and mother,
Brothers and sisters, who loved one another.
A bride now at 20 — my heart gives a leap,
Remembering the vows that I promised to keep.
At 25 now I have young of my own,
Who need me to build a secure happy home.
At 50 once more babies play around my knee,
Again we know children, my loved one and me.
Dark days are upon me, my husband is dead,
I look at the future, I shudder with dread.
For my young are all busy with young of their own,
And I think of the years and the love that I've known.
The body it crumbles, grace and vigor depart,
There is now a stone where I once had a heart,
But inside this old carcass, a young girl still dwells,
And now and again my battered heart swells.
I remember the joys, I remember the pain,
And I'm loving and living life over again,
And accept the stark fact that nothing can last.
So open your eyes, nurse, open and see,
Not a crabby old woman, look closer — see ME.

Viktor Frankl, an Australian neurologist and psychiatrist who survived Auschwitz, created a person-centered psychotherapy based on observations as expressed in his book, *Man's Search for Meaning*. He describes a patient who phoned in the middle of the night to say that she was about to commit suicide. For two hours he offered every conceivable reason to live. Eventually the patient changed her mind explaining that just the fact that someone listened to her for two hours in the middle of the night convinced her that life was worth living.

In Kings 9:3 we read that God appeared to Solomon in a dream to ask what he desired. “Leiv shome'a, a listening heart,” he replied. Solomon’s revered wisdom was partly due to his ability to listen, to hear the emotion behind the words, what was unsaid as well as what was spoken. It is rare to find leaders who listen, but listening often makes the difference.

In the encounter at the burning bush when God summoned Moses to lead the Hebrew slaves out of Egypt, Moses responded, “I am not a man of words, I am slow of speech and tongue.” (Exodus 4:10) Perhaps God chose him because those who cannot speak learn to listen, to hear the still small voice of God and the unspoken cry of others. In his farewell address to the Hebrews in Deuteronomy, Moses repeats the word Sh’ma, listen, hear, ninety-two times, including our most sacred text, the central belief of all of Judaism. Sh’ma Yisrael Adonai Eloheinu, Adonai Echad, Hear O Israel, the Lord is our God, the Lord is One! When I wanted to sign the Sh’ma with our religious school students, I consulted a Jewish specialist. She was gifted in American Sign Language and learned in both hands in a forceful parallel motion from her forehead to the space in front of her eyes to convey Sh’ma — focus, pay attention, heed the call.

Simon and Garfunkel taught a whole generation the power of listening. “People hearing without listening,” they sang and could have taken this idea from Isaiah who declared, “Listen, you who are deaf. Your ears are open, but no one hears.” (Isaiah 42:19)

Throughout the Ten Days of Repentance we recite Avinu Malkeinu, sh’ma koleinu, hear our prayer, imploring God to have compassion on us and our children, to make an end to sickness, war, and famine, to all oppression. Hear our voice, we pray, inscribe us in the Book of Life for a good year. If we want God to listen to us, we must listen to God. And by listening to God, we learn to listen to those around us, the silent cry of the lonely, the poor, the weak, the vulnerable, our parents, children, husbands, wives, brothers, sisters, friends, the strangers walking among us. It is my fervent prayer that these High Holy Days will herald in a year when we listen more and speak less, when we open our hearts to hear the still small voice within us and those around us.
**Greenwich Reform Synagogue**

**High Holy Day Services 2015/5776**

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<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Selichot* (call for location) Dinner and Service</td>
<td>Saturday, September 5</td>
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<td>Erev Rosh Hashana</td>
<td>Sunday, September 13</td>
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<td>Rosh Hashana</td>
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<td>Rosh Hashanah Luncheon Reception immediately following morning service</td>
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<td>Yom Kippur Kol Nidhe</td>
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<td>Yom Kippur</td>
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<td>Afternoon, Yizkor/Memorial N-eilah Service*</td>
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<td>Yom Kippur Congregational Break Fast immediately following services</td>
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*No ticket required

**All services held at Catherine of Siena Church, 4 Riverside Avenue, Riverside, CT unless otherwise indicated**

Please bring tickets with you to all services.

Join our community! Complimentary tickets for prospective members

For more information, contact Stephanie Glaser at stephanieglasser@grs.org or (203) 629-0018

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**Hebrew Wizards Family High Holiday Services**

**The First United Methodist Church**

**59 East Putnam Avenue • Greenwich**

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<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Rosh Hashanah</td>
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<td>Rosh Hashanah Day 1</td>
<td>Tuesday, Sept 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yom Kippur</td>
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<td>(Methodist Church)</td>
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**Neillah & Break the Fast**

(Rabbi Deb’s)

Wednesday, Sept 23  6:00-8:30pm

**Sukkot**

Sukkah Building & Decorating

(Rabbi Deb’s)

Tuesday, Sept 29  4:30-6:00pm

**Simchat Torah**

Torah Parade

(YMCA Greenwich)

Sunday, Oct 5  9:30am-12pm

We look forward to sharing these meaningful Holidays with you and your family.

With Love and Gratitude, Rabbi Deb and The Wizards Staff

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Visit the JFS website (jfsgreenwich.org) for a full schedule of High Holiday services offered at local senior residences.
HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE 5776

Rosh Hashanah
Sunday, September 13, 2015
Evening Services – 8:00pm
Monday, September 14, 2015
Morning Services – 10:00am

Yom Kippur Services
Tuesday, September 22, 2015
Kol Nidre Services – 8:00pm
Wednesday, September 23, 2015
10:00am

May the sound of the shofar herald in a year of health and peace for all

Services for Chavurat Deevray Torah
and Chavurat Aytz Chayim
Mark S. Golub, Rabbi

Rosh Hashanah
Sunday, September 13, 2015
Evening Services – 8:00pm
Monday, September 14, 2015
Morning Services – 10:00am

Yom Kippur Services
Tuesday, September 22, 2015
Kol Nidre Services – 8:00pm
Wednesday, September 23, 2015
10:00am

All Services will be held at
West Hill High School Auditorium
125 Roxbury Road, Stamford
There will be ample seating
No tickets are required
All are welcome
Are you considering taking a class or attending a lecture this Fall?

Look no further!
Here is a list of what’s going on right here in the Greater Greenwich Jewish Community.

**JCC Cinema**
Bow Tie Cinema, 2 Railroad Ave, Greenwich

**GETT: The Trial of Viviane Amsalem**
Tuesday, October 13, 7pm, $15

**Like Brothers**
Wednesday, November 18, 7pm, $15
FALL 2015

JCC GREENWICH

Educate
Stimulate
Motivate

Visualizing the Bible: The Works of David Wander

Shalom Japan
With Chefs Sawako Okochi & Aaron Israel

Private Gallery Tour of the Herbert & Eileen Bernard Museum of Judaica at Temple Emanu-EI, NYC.

Learn how to cook "authentically inauthentic Jewish and Japanese food" from the co-chefs of Brooklyn's acclaimed restaurant.

Wednesday, October 28, 11 am - 1 pm
Address given at registration
$90 per person

Krav Maga
With Gus Bottazzi

from Israeli Krav Maga CT

Wednesday, November 4, 9:45 - 11:15 am
Location TBA
$25 per person

Learn how to defend yourself using combat techniques honed in the Israel military and used by powerhouses from the FBI to the Israeli police. Get fit while getting your kick!

The Flavors of Israel

With Leah Garber

from JCC Association

Wednesday, October 14, 10:15 am
One Holly Hill Lane, Greenwich
Coffee and light refreshments served

Get a taste of the sights, sounds and flavors to be savored on our Women's Road, Wine and Art Tour of Israel in Fall 2015.


JCC Kids Grades 3-5

Get Climbing!

At The Rock Club

Sunday, October 4, 2 - 4 pm
The Rock Club, New Rochelle, NY
$36 per person

Grades 3 - 5

Drop off and pick up at One Holly Hill Lane, Greenwich
JCC emergency forms and The Rock Club waivers required for all climbers.

Permission to Parent

How to Raise Your Child with Love and Limits

Robin Berman, MD

Women, Wine and Wisdom

At The Rock Club

Sunday, October 4, 2 - 4 pm
The Rock Club, New Rochelle, NY
$36 per person

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Jewish News

September 2015

Page 11
THE IMPACT OF YOUR 2015 GIFT

The Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI) and The Joint Distribution Committee (JDC)

• Aiding immigrants moving to Israel (26,000 in 2014) to start a new life
• Delivering innovative services to the frail elderly, performed in their homes
• Providing job training programs for Israelis with disabilities
• Establishing a personal connection with Israel, for young Jews all over the world, through programs like Birthright Israel
• Ensuring Holocaust survivors a place to live with dignity
• Providing food, medicine and shelter for those without a safety net, throughout the world
• Enabling displaced Jewish children in Ukraine to enjoy a Jewish summer camp experience
• Working with local disaster teams to assist victims following the Nepal earthquake

Why We Support UJA Greenwich

“We support UJA because we think it’s important to have an active, visible and socially responsible Jewish community in Greenwich, and because we want to support the people of Israel and Jews in need around the world.” – Helen & Dr. Robert Stark

Please help us continue to help those in need by making your contribution to the UJA Greenwich 2015 Annual Campaign.

Thank you for your generosity.

Go to www.ujafedgreenwich.org or call 203-552-1818 or mail to One Holly Hill Lane, Greenwich, CT 06830.
A Focus on JCC Teens

Supermarket for Seniors

Breakfast Run with Midnightrun.org

Come with us to: Jewish Jamaica

A Teen Community Service Travel Experience

For more information about JCC Teen Action Committee Meetings and Events, visit JCCGreenwich.org/TAC or call Leah Schechter at 203-552-1818.

Save the Date

Join us for an Informational Meeting on Thursday, September 17 at 10 a.m.

At One Holly Hill Lane, Greenwich

RSVP to pam@ujfedgreenwich.org or call 203-552-1818

Trip Highlights:

- World War II Museum
- History of Jewish New Orleans
- Garden District Tour
- Tulane Hillview
- Jewish Archives
- Great food, live jazz & fabulous nightlife

Joan Mann and Risa Mattler
Mission Co-Chairs

Hanukkah Party

Sunday, December 13 - 5 p.m.

For more information, visit JCCGreenwich.org/TAC
REGISTER FOR THESE PROGRAMS AND MORE AT JCCGREENWICH.ORG
Daniel Levenson Appointed Executive Director of UCONN Hillel

Most recently Executive Director of the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire and prior to that Director of Public Affairs at the Consulate General of Israel to New England, Daniel is committed to building a vibrant Jewish future. He has worked with Jewish young adults from around the world as an artist-in-residence at the Brandeis Collegiate Institute in southern California and was the founder and publisher of the New Vilna Review, an online journal dedicated to exploring modern Jewish identity from an individual and communal perspective.

Daniel was deeply influenced both personally and professionally by his experiences at Harvard University Hillel where he served as Chair of the Graduate Student Steering Committee, as well as the time he has spent living, studying and volunteering in Israel. As an educator in both college classrooms and synagogues, he believes strongly in the importance of creating an environment that is welcoming for everyone who wants to connect with and explore ancient traditions and new ideas.

He is especially excited to work with students and Hillel staff and supporters, as well as the broader Jewish and university community, to continue to build on the solid foundation that has been created by the professional and lay leadership.

Golf Classic a Hole in One For Carmel Academy

It was a spectacular spring day for Carmel Academy’s Annual Golf Classic on June 8th. The fundraiser for the Greenwich Jewish day school was held at the GlenArbor Golf Club in Bedford Hills and included an Elite 18-Hole Shamble on the magnificent Gary Player signature course. The day of golf was followed by a cocktail reception, awards dinner and raffle. Event chairs were Gilad Kalter, Jon Malkin and renowned golf pros Debbie Doniger and Kevin Sprecher. All proceeds from the event benefit Carmel Academy, a school for children of all Jewish affiliations, that educates students through 8th grade.

Carmel Academy parents Jamie Kesmodel, Alix Eben, Julia Brennan, Bonnie Citron, Lynn Jablowsky and Dana Roth volunteer at the school’s Annual Golf Classic.

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Steve and Hersh Batkin

203.302.3880
www.lampebatkin.com

Daniel Levenson

203.302.3880
www.lampebatkin.com

Fridays
6:00-6:45pm
November 6
December 4
January 8
February 5
March 4
April 1
May 6
June 3

TORAH
TOTs
at Shir Ami

Shabbat Songs and Stories
with Rabbi Axe

To learn more | www.congregationshirami.org  203.274.5376
Shana Tova,

As the summer holiday comes to an end, we are reminded that there is no holiday from depression, family crisis, unemployment, or ill health. Since our founding in 1983, the mission of JFS has been to improve the lives of individuals living in Greenwich while embracing Jewish wisdom, tradition, and compassion. To that end, we have indeed brought hope, healing, and renewal to so many of our community members in need. Whether it be through Jewish holiday programming in senior facilities, spiritual care at Greenwich Hospital, support group counseling both in house and online, individual and marriage counseling, immigration services, financial aid, or gathering information and making referrals…JFS is here for you – the Greenwich Jewish community.

With the High Holidays now approaching, I find myself, once again, looking back over the past year and over the good works of Jewish Family Services of Greenwich. How proud I am to be associated with an organization that does so much good for so many people. In my eleven years here I have seen how invaluable JFS is in helping individuals and families in their time of need, and the commitment and dedication of our volunteers, board, and staff is truly amazing! As Margaret Mead said, “Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

This fall, we are initiating two new programs to help our community. The first is our Bikur Cholim Services at Greenwich Hospital. On average, Greenwich Hospital has between 15 and 25 patients each week who self-identify as Jewish, but due to HIPPA laws are unable to be identified to anyone outside of hospital personnel. This initiative allows us, the Jewish community, to visit, comfort, listen, laugh, and smile with those patients. The second new initiative is our Online Support Group Project, which makes it possible for people to connect with others in similar situations, and to create a caring community from their own homes.

I would like to take this moment to say “thank you” to all of the people who have supported us throughout our 32 years, either through volunteerism or financially. I am well aware of the many non-profit agencies that do wonderful work and are also worthy of your time and financial contributions. That JFS has received your vote of confidence is something we are truly thankful for.

All of us here at Jewish Family Services of Greenwich wish you a very healthy and happy new year.

Lisa-Lorraine Smith, LCSW
Executive Director

JFS Welcomes a Wonderful New Addition to Our Staff!

It is with much pleasure that we introduce you to Naomi Kohl, the new project manager of the Online Support Group Project of JFS (OSGP). The Online Support Group Project is the latest initiative of Jewish Family Services. Working with populations who find it difficult to leave their homes, OSGP provides confidential, secure, and easy-to-use video conferencing to make it possible for people to connect with others in similar situations, and to create a caring community from their own homes.

“I am looking forward to my role as Project Manager for the Online Support Group Project at JFS as I am so excited about the intersection between technology and social services,” said Naomi. “It is the perfect opportunity to bring my passion and creativity to connect to others, in a unique and innovative way.”

Naomi completed her Masters in Social Work from Yeshiva University. She brings a passion for connecting to people and an excitement to grow and strengthen the JFS community. Naomi comes to us after seven years as a program director and Jewish educator at the University of Maryland Hillel, where she was known for her ability to create unique and innovative programming for Jewish women, and for inspiring others to get involved in the community. Naomi and her family recently moved to Stamford, where her husband is the Rabbi of the Young Israel of Stamford, and she looks forward to playing an active role in ensuring the future growth of their community. She recently worked at SAR Academy in Riverdale as the Alumni Relations Coordinator and also taught Judaic Studies at Westchester Hebrew High School. If you are in the area, please stop by to say hello and welcome Naomi!

Supermarket for Seniors Celebrates Grandparents

Supermarket for Seniors (SFS) is the most widely recognized program that JFS of Greenwich offers. A free service, SFS provides grocery shopping and individualized case monitoring for home-bound seniors, regardless of religion or income level. SFS has been praised by local Greenwich agencies, including United Way, and by local government officials.

On Sunday September 20, SFS will once again celebrate grandparents by promoting our successful shopping program throughout town. In partnership with the Generation to Generation (G2G) club at Greenwich High School and the JCC Teen Action Committee (JTAC), we will host events at Greenwich grocery stores and the Greenwich Senior Center. Leah Schechter, Assistant Director of JCC Greenwich, says “We are so excited to be a part of this wonderful project for Grandparent’s Day. I know that having JTAC participate will help bring awareness about Supermarket for Seniors to the Greenwich community!”

Mark your calendars now for this special event, and visit our website at www.jfs-greenwich.org for more details.

If you would like to help us on September 20 or are interested in volunteering for SFS, or if you know someone who could benefit from this program, please contact Elyse Brown, Program Director, at 203-622-1881 or ebrown@jfsgreenwich.org.

SPECIAL DONATIONS to JFS

In Honor of:
Linda Schlaper, by Lynn Schwartz
Steven and Barbara Hindman, by Jane and David Sims

In Memory of:
Irving Grayson, 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 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 “Supermarket for Seniors” program, our Refugee Resettlement program, our college 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.
Fall 2015
Programming

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!
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 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, 7:00 pm.

AGING PARENTS AND YOU: WHAT YOUR NEED TO KNOW
Panel discussion with Q&A on important aspects of caregiving and financial planning, with experts in elder law, long-term care insurance, and geriatrics.
Tuesday, November 10, 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. 10/28; 12/2; 1/27/16; 3/2; 4/6; 6/1
Our next book is “The Inextinguishable Symphony” by Martin Goldsmith on Oct. 28, 7:30 pm.

INTERFAITH CONVERSATIONS
This series meets on Monday evenings and gives people a way to explore the opportunities and challenges associated with interfaith living. 10/19; 12/14; 2/29/16; 4/18; 6/6; 7 pm, in a private home.

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-Loraine Smith, Executive Director of JFS; and Rabbi MJ Newman, Jewish Chaplin 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-Loraine Smith, Executive Director of JFS; and Rabbi MJ Newman, Jewish Chaplin of Greenwich Hospital, lead the service.

Volunteer Opportunities

Rikkur 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!

E’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.

Fall 2015
Counseling and Support Groups

Bereavement Support Group (JFS office)
A weekly support group for those who have lost a family member or friend within the past five years. Facilitated by Lisa-Loraine Smith, LCSW, and by a member of the Greenwich Jewish Clergy.
Thursdays, 10:30-11:30 am.

Support Group for Separating and Divorcing Individuals (JFS office)
A weekly support group for adults whose lives are impacted by divorce. Facilitated by Lisa-Loraine Smith, LCSW.
Wednesdays, 5:30-6:45 pm.

After the Divorce Support Group (JFS office)
Now that the practical details of separating are complete, there is the emotional work to do. It is time to develop a new identity and a new beginning. This group will provide a confidential space to reflect on the life you are living and the life you would like to live. It will be an opportunity to grow, develop, and learn from others! Facilitated by Linda Schlapfer, LMFT.
Wednesdays, 5:30-6:45 pm, beginning Sept. 9.

Living Well in Later Life (JFS office)
A support group for individuals 70+ to talk with peers about the opportunities and challenges this stage of life presents. Topics covered will 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 Lisa Mounts, LCSW. 6 Thursdays, 2:30-3:45 pm, beginning Oct. 1.

Reversal of Fortune Support Group (JFS office)
Financial challenges bring with them stressors that can affect everything in your life – your relationships, your self-esteem, your outlook, and even your marriage. In these tough economic times, you are not alone. Come and share your thoughts; get some ideas, tips, and strategies to cope with the practical as well as the emotional issues associated with reversals of fortune.
Facilitated by Mary Karlan, LMSW. 6 Tuesdays beginning Oct. 13, 5:30-6:30 pm – NO CHARGE!

Support Group for those Who Are Chronically Ill (ONLINE)
Today, chronic illness affects nearly half of the adult population, according the Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Connect with others to reduce your – your relationships, your self-esteem, your outlook, and even your marriage. In these tough economic times, you are not alone. Come and share your thoughts; get some ideas, tips, and strategies to cope with the practical as well as the emotional issues associated with reversals of fortune.
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Counseling and Support Groups

Tips for prospective college students and their parents
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Wednesdays, 4:00-5:00 pm, beginning Sept. 30.

Anxiety 101: Applying to College! (ONLINE)
This online group will help participants build confidence and understand individual strengths. Via live video conferencing we will discuss the myriad issues related to applying to colleges, such as stress, expectations, pressures, and the fear of rejection. Don’t worry – you can do this! Thursdays, 7-8 pm, beginning Oct. 15.

Caregiver Support Group (ONLINE)
Caring for a loved one can be rewarding, challenging, and often, emotionally draining. This group will address all issues in a non-judgmental environment and discuss the opportunities and challenges of caring for a loved one. Facilitated by Jan Mittleman, LCSW.
Wednesdays, 10-11 am, beginning Sept. 30.

For more information, please call Lisa-Loraine Smith, LCSW, at 203-622-1881 or email ilsmith@jfsgreenwich.org

All support groups are $20 per session • (Sliding scale fees always apply.)
All you need for our ONLINE groups is a computer, smart phone, or tablet with WiFi access.
Temple Sholom: Celebrating 100 Years

For the past 100 years, Temple Sholom has served as a spiritual home and major religious influence for the Jewish community in Greenwich and the surrounding Fairfield and Westchester communities. In recognition of its centennial year, the Temple Sholom community plans to honor the past, embrace the present and envision the future with a variety of special projects and events throughout the upcoming year.

History at a glance: In 1916, ten Jewish families established the Greenwich Hebrew Institute. What started out as Shabbat Services held in a small house on East Elm Street escalated to a move to our current location in 1955 with ninety congregant families. Religious school classes had been hosted by First Presbyterian Church and in 1990, a new building was erected to support the need for growth. Additionally, the Hershka Pavilion was constructed in 2000 to accommodate eleven new classrooms as well as other educational facilities.

Present day Temple Sholom: Temple Sholom remains a vibrant, energetic and committed congregation with more than 650 families. The Selma Maisel Nursery School provides rewarding preschool experiences, while the Temple Sholom Learning Center offers an innovative and engaging religious school model, “Jewish Education – Reimagined,” to its students. Temple Sholom is led by Senior Rabbi Mitchell M. Hurvitz, a scholar, teacher and community activist. Local enthusiasm has led to successful member-run groups like Sisterhood, Brotherhood, Jewish Network of Young Couples, Social Action and Judah BBYO chapter for teens.

Upcoming Centennial celebrations: Beginning this month, the Temple Sholom congregation will have the opportunity to participate in the writing of a new sefer Torah. The Torah, which will be used by future b’nai mitzvah children, will be completed before Shavuot, the festival holiday when Moses and the Jewish people were given the Torah on Mount Sinai. An exciting roster of special projects and programming has also been planned in honor of the anniversary. Some highlights include: a centennial video, “Temple Sholom’s Got Talent,” a major guest speaker, an extraordinary Gala, a discussion with Mosab Hassan Yousef, author of “Son of Hamas,” and a special spring concert.

For more information about Temple Sholom or to receive one-time complimentary High Holiday tickets, please contact Lori Baden at 203-542-7175 or lori.baden@templesholom.com.

Temple Sholom: Celebrating 100 Years

Jewish Yoga

Sundays, 9:45 am – 11:00 am

October 11

November 22

December 13

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

Classes are free but donations are appreciated and reservations are required.
Looking for a different type of prayer? On select Tuesday and Wednesday evenings throughout the year, Temple Sholom’s Chapel hosts a dedicated group of adults from Greenwich, Stamford and Rye Brook who are hoping to find calmness, stillness and relaxation through the practice of Jewish Meditation.

“It’s become a popular and interesting way to break up the week,” says Cantor Asa Fradkin, who has a background in Eastern spiritual practice and Jewish chant. “We take time to reflect on the values of community, our relationship with God and God’s presence in the world through short, yet powerful prayers, guided meditation and singing.”

There are many benefits to Jewish Meditation, including creating a deeper connection to the Jewish tradition by addressing the values and belief systems expressed through prayer.

“If you are coming to one of our sessions, you can expect to feel a lot more relaxed leaving than when you arrive. You will be sitting with other people who are introspective. The goal of meditation is to help find something deeper in one’s life than simply going about everyday business and mundane tasks,” explains Cantor Asa. “That’s one of the things that makes it appealing and attractive to people. You only need the experience of having stress and having things go wrong in your life, and to be able to use this practice to deal with the noise of the world.”

Newcomers are invited to join the group at any time, which has only one requirement: a strong desire to quiet the mind and body. This fall, Jewish Meditation will take place at Temple Sholom (300 E. Putnam Avenue) from 7:15 pm to 8:30 pm on September 16, October 6 & 20, and November 3 & 18. A special High Holiday session will take place at 4:00 pm on Wednesday, September 23 (Yom Kippur).

To learn more about Jewish Meditation, visit www.templesholom.com or contact Cantor Asa at cantorasa@templesholom.com. To sample the prayers and music from a typical Jewish Meditation session, search “Cantor Asa” on http://soundcloud.com.

Sukkot at GRS

While all Americans are familiar with our national holiday of Thanksgiving, many don’t realize that its celebration by Pilgrim settlers in the 1600’s was inspired by the harvest holiday of Sukkot, commanded by God in the Torah, in both Leviticus and Deuteronomy.

Sukkot, a Hebrew word meaning “booths” or “huts,” also commemorates the 40 years of Jewish wanderings in the desert, dwelling in frail huts, after the giving of the Torah on Mt. Sinai. We are told to erect a sukkah, and to use it during the seven-day festival for eating, entertaining, celebrating, and even for sleeping. Part of the celebration includes the use of a lulav and etrog, as explained in Leviticus 23:40.

This joyful festival reminds us of the importance of home, the bounty of the Earth, and the mitzvah of hospitality, or hadnasat orchim. Spending time in a sukkah, a temporary structure, reminds us how fortunate we are to have a permanent home. A sukkah typically has three walls, with a temporary roof of reeds or branches that provide shade but don’t block your view of the stars. (Source: http://www.reformjudaism.org/jewish-holidays/sukkot)

This year, Sukkot starts on Sunday, September 27, ending on Sunday, October 4. GRS will be celebrating in the Sukkah all week long, so please check www.grs.org, or call the office at 203-629-0018 for full details.
Carmel Academy Receives Grant For Intergenerational Program

Carmel Academy is excited to announce that it has received a generous grant from the Better Together program that will promote intergenerational relationships between the school's students and Greenwich senior citizens. The grant will be used to establish a monthly book club, where Carmel Academy's 7th grade students, together with seniors, will read, learn, question, discuss and connect through a shared Jewish lens. Carmel is partnering with JFS and UJA of Greenwich on this unique initiative.

“This program offers participants a chance to get to know a different generation, to look at books, concepts and historical events through both the eyes of the Jewish youth of today and the generations that came before them,” said Erica Sokoloff, Carmel Academy's Director of Jewish Life and the program's supervisor.

The book club, which will begin this October, will span a variety of genres ranging from short stories to novels. The club will be guided by the school’s Middle School English Language Arts Department and Dr. Cindy Mann, Carmel's Director of General Studies Curriculum.

“We are thrilled to further enhance our ongoing successful relationship with JFS and UJA of Greenwich as we embark on another project that promotes one of Carmel's core values – chesed (kindness),” said Sokoloff. “This new program will build on our established joint program with Greenwich JFS called 'Together We Can Make a Difference', which has been warmly received by the residents of the local senior living facilities and our students. Our students’ visits to The Mews and Greenwich Woods have become an integral part in their development over the years,” she said.

The new intergenerational book club will take place on the following Wednesdays from 10:30–11:30 a.m. at 1 Holly Hill Lane, Greenwich: October 21, November 18, December 16, January 20, February 24, March 16, April 13, May 18 and June 15.

Attendance is free, but spaces are limited. If you are interested in being part of this groundbreaking intergenerational book club, please contact Lisa Goldberg at 203-622-1881, ext. 12.

Home at Last...
The Jewish High School of Connecticut Celebrates Success!

"It's the last piece of the puzzle," said one local philanthropist, referring to the Jewish High School and its role in our Jewish community. Synagogues, day Schools, kosher establishments, mikvah, JCC, Federation, Senior services and adult education programs are hallmarks of a flourishing, vibrant Jewish community. JHSC helps complete the very well established infrastructure of our local Jewish community. When it arrived on West Main Street just one year ago, it launched its mission to educate Jewish youth in an environment that emphasizes Jewish values, learning and responsible action. Now one year later, with new Head of School Rabbi Elisha Paul at the helm, more local families are hearing about the school's excellence and seeking information about admissions.

Here’s just a taste of what we’re celebrating:

- The JHSC 2012 and 2014 9th grade Toshiba/NSTA ExploraVision teams were the top teams in Connecticut (a competition with more than 30,000 applicants). These teams also received Honorable Mention Awards, placing them in the top 10% among all teams that entered the competition.
- The JHSC Literary Magazine, Echo, received a Certificate of Excellence from the National Council of Teachers of English.
- The school has had one National Merit Finalist and one National Merit Commended Scholar.
- Two students were Advanced Placement (AP) Scholars and two students were named AP scholars with Distinction. One student was named a National Young Arts Foundation Winner for Violin (787 winners selected from a pool of more than 11,000 applications.)
- A JHSC student was accepted to Yale University's Discovery to Cure High School Internship.

Three students were accepted to Brandeis University's Global Youth Summit on the Future of Medicine, and one student was accepted to Dr. Bessie E. Lawrence’s International Summer Science Institute at Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot, Israel 2015 (80 students in the world are accepted, 20 in the US.)
- The Class of 2015 has earned nearly $1 million in scholarship awards.
- Graduates of JHSC have been accepted to superb colleges and universities including, Brandeis, McGill, University of Toronto, Tulane, University of Connecticut, Washington University in St. Louis, and Yale. Many students spend a gap year in Israel.
- The community is invited to visit the Jewish High School of Connecticut, on Tuesday, September 8th at 9 a.m. Please join us for a L’chayim to welcome our new Head of School, Rabbi Elisha Paul, the start of a new academic year, the first anniversary in our home at 1937 West Main Street, and the new year, 5776! Have coffee, dip an apple in honey and take a quick tour of our unique digs! RSVP: 203-357-0850 or srich@jhsct.org.
Carmel Academy graduated its Class of 2015 on June 18th, celebrating the school's 10th commencement exercises. In both Hebrew and English, the school's graduates poignantly reflected on their graduation theme “Unity and Friendship” through personal writings and song. Throughout the ceremony, the graduates shared their memories as well as their aspirations for the future based on the foundation they received at Carmel.

A short video that went viral on social media sparked a big idea at Bi-Cultural Day School, transforming a sixth-grade hallway of lockers into a colorful shelf of giant books.

In July, middle school teacher Adrianne Robinson and third-grade teacher Beth Fritz saw a video that a group of teachers from Biloxi Junior High in Biloxi, Mississippi, posted to Facebook, describing their project of painting school lockers to resemble the spines of books. While many teachers and students were enjoying the restful months of summer, Robinson and her team began a large-scale project, with literacy at the forefront. "As teachers, we are constantly looking for ways to engage our students. Social media has been a great forum for teachers to share ideas and motivate others. We saw the project on Facebook and immediately thought that this would be a great idea for our school."

Robinson then used social media herself as a way to rally her colleagues to assist. "I posted a message to Facebook with a call to action for several of our teachers. In a matter of minutes, we had 23 responses from teachers willing to contribute energy, ideas and a little elbow grease to get the job done."

Not only did teachers respond, but parents also became excited about turning standard lockers into oversized books. Parent and Board and Trustees member, Barbara Friedlander, who purchased much of supplies for the project and also assisted with the painting, saw the posting and wanted to join. "It’s so important to support our students and staff. I felt it would boost morale and show that parents and board members appreciate the thoughts and ideas of our staff."

The project entailed painting the bank of more than 60 lockers bright colors, and then painstakingly reproducing the book cover illustrations onto the metal lockers, showcasing a wide range of middle-school literature, with emphasis on award-winning titles; many of the books selected being part of the school curriculum. The team also integrated Jewish literature, choosing Jewish content books and Hebrew-language translations. Said Robinson: “You can’t help but marvel at the books as you walk down the new Literary Lane. We hope to see students compare the books that they’ve read and provide recommendations to each other along the way.”

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Bi-Cultural Teachers Turn Lockers into Literary Lane

Teachers Beth Fritz and Adrianne Robinson paint standard metal lockers into large book covers at Bi-Cultural. (Photo by Dora Salm)
JEWISH NEWS

SAVE THE DATES

Thursday, October 1
Sukkot Party with Shir Lala
At the home of Irin and Jonathan Tratt, 4-5pm

Saturday, October 10
Temple Sholom
Jewish Network of Young Couples Fall Fling
at the home of Sheri and Noah Prawer, 7-9pm
Contact Sarah Fradkin at JNYCGreenwich@gmail.com

Wednesday, October 14
JCC Greenwich
The Flavors of Israel with Leah Garber
One Holly Hill Lane, Greenwich
Coffee and light breakfast, 10:15am

Thursday, October 15
JCC Greenwich
Women, Wine and Wisdom
How to Raise Your Child with Love and Limits,
with Robin Berman, MD
At the home of Stephanie and Marc Esquenazi, 7pm, $36

Tuesday, October 20
Fairfield University
Carl & Dorothy Bennett Center for Judaic Studies
Galeet Dardashti and Divah – An Evening of
Middle Eastern and Sephardic Music
Regina A. Quick Center for the Arts, 7:30pm

Wednesday, October 21
Women’s Philanthropy
Annual Fall Brunch
Honoring Suzanne Shemin Katz
with Guest Speaker Rabbi Sherre Hirsch
Milbrook Club, 9:30am

Wednesday, October 28
JCC Greenwich
Shalom Japan with Chefs
Sawako Okochi & Aaron Israel
Address supplied at registration, $90
11am-1pm

Wednesday, November 4
JCC Greenwich
Krav Maga with Gus Bottazi
Location tba, 9:45-11:15am, $25

Thursday, November 12
JCC Greenwich
Private Tour of
the Whitney Museum:
Frank Stella a Retrospective
11am, $45

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Want to learn more about Israel?
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Come to the Greenwich High School Israel Club • Meets every Thursday after school in Clarke House Rm 221
Special Thanks to club officers Sophie Bardos, Raena Greenbaum and Cynthia Crispino and club staff adviser Mr. Swidler.
For more information contact Israeli Emissary, Avihu Rachamim, Avihu@jccgreenwich.org or 203-552-1818

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SCHECHTER WESTCHESTER

SCHS Web Site: schechterwestchester.org
PJ Library Back Together Family Picnic on August 30
Big Thanks to Our Hosts—the Abrams Family

Wednesday, November 18
Like Brothers
(Comme des frères)
Hugo Gélin / Drama, Comedy, Adventure / France / 104 min.

A box-office sensation in France, this comedy follows a trio of mismatched Frenchmen as they try to honor the dying wishes of the woman they all love. A successful entrepreneur in his forties, a cynical screenwriter in his thirties, and a young man on the cusp of adulthood still living with his parents, reeling with grief after her funeral, embark on a spontaneous trip together to a summer cabin in Corsica—a trip she originally planned for all of them—that becomes a journey of both tribute and discovery.
It’s Rosh Hashanah. The time when we all need to take a deeper look.

If you’d like to brighten your reflection, here’s an inside tip. Give to UJA Greenwich. You’ll be nurturing and sustaining our people wherever they’re in need and helping thousands to connect to their Jewish identity wherever there’s a longing.

In fact, you’ll be sweetening the new year for our entire global Jewish community. Please give as generously as you can. When you look in the mirror, you’ll definitely like what you see!