JFS NAMES AMY RASHBA AS CEO

Amy G. Rashba, LCSW, has been appointed CEO of Jewish Family Service of Greater New Haven. PAGE 5

JCC OPENS NEW PILATES STUDIO

The JCC’s new Pilates Studio, offers Balanced Body™ Apparatus including the Reformer and Trap Table (AKA the Cadillac). PAGE 10

HONORABLE MENSCHEN

An active volunteer, veteran & founder of the CT Special Olympics, CBSRZ’s Norman Hanenbaum is a true mensch. PAGE 19

Summer Camp ’19
SPECIAL CAMP SECTION, pages 13-17
the bonds that unite us. We search for commonalities that we can build upon so we can be stronger together. And each and every one of us is critical to building our collective Jewish future.

John Ruskay, the former CEO of UJA Federations of New York is often asked how the Federation could help so many in the immediate aftermath of horrible events such as 9-11 and Superstorm Sandy. His answer is always the same—the Federation was able to respond the day after the tragedies because it was strong and vibrant and doing all it needed to do the day before the tragedy. Every day, our Federation is working to strengthen the bonds that unite our Jewish community within the Jewish community of Greater New Haven, within the Greater New Haven community, with Jewish communities across the world and especially with Israel.

We need each and every person to feel a sense of pride and ownership of our community and a responsibility to care for the other. After all, we are taught, Kol arevim zeh b’zeh—that all Jews are responsible for one another.

In the aftermath of the Pittsburgh massacre, we experienced something phenomenal in our community as 1,000 people from all walks of life descended upon the JCC to participate in a community vigil. Speaking at the vigil were faith leaders from across the Jewish community as well as clergy from the Episcopal, Methodist, AME churches and Muslim community. In the ensuing days, we received warm outpourings of support from the Catholic community and the Palestinian community among others.

It is imperative that we work together to strengthen and solidify our Jewish communal institutions but that they do not exist in silos. We can celebrate the delicious diversity within our community and still understand that we are one Jewish community. And while it may sound somewhat self-serving, we must all work to strengthen the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven. The Federation will continue to educate, inform, train, and find better ways to communicate so that we can enhance our preparedness as we pray that we will never have to use our training.

Recently, the Federation brought our community institutions together to collaborate with the FBI.

On November 29, the Federation held an Active Shooter Training with our partners at Secure Community Network. Then we convened a meeting with representatives across our community to discuss security preparedness and the need to be able to push communications across our communal institutions so that heaven forbid something happens at one, all campuses and buildings can immediately respond.

As we saw at the Tree of Life shooting, the rabbi had recently gone through training and while it differed from his usual practice, he had his cell phone with him and on that Shabbat. That alone saved many lives.

But security is not the only area where collaboration is beneficial. Jewish learning is also a major community priority. We will continue to partner with efforts to engage the Jewish community through education, commemoration and celebration.

We can seize this moment to strengthen our community and ensure a future for ourselves, our children and our great-grandchildren, because we are stronger together.
Opening the Door to Welcome People of All Abilities

JCC Forms New Partnership with Chapel Haven Community

The JCC of Greater New Haven is now partnering with Chapel Haven Schleifer Center, an award-winning, nationally accredited school and transition program for adults with disabilities in New Haven, to open up their facilities and programming to people of all abilities in the Greater New Haven community.

JCC Executive Director Scott Cohen said the organization has been thinking of ways to be more welcoming to children and adults with disabilities. Cohen said the staff has always been well intentioned and thoughtful when it comes to making people of all ages and abilities feel welcome when they come to the JCC, but now, he said they are ready to professionalize their practice.

Currently, a small group of adults from Chapel Haven visits the JCC each week to participate in a variety of supervised activities including swimming, basketball and using the Rothberg Family Climbing Wall.

Beginning in January, all Chapel Haven students are becoming JCC memberships so they can use the pool, which they don’t have at Chapel Haven, and participate in the many different activities that the JCC offers. The JCC will also be working to create additional programming for Chapel Haven that utilizes the MakerSpace and the climbing wall.

Another group from Chapel Haven will also begin working with job coaches to explore vocational opportunities at the JCC. Danielle Chiaraluce the leader of the vocational programming at Chapel Haven, will be involved in training the JCC staff. On January 3, Cohen said staff from the JCC and the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven will tour Chapel Haven and meet with staff and residents to learn how to become “the best CONTINUED ON PG. 27

The staff of the Jewish Federation, Foundation and JCC of Greater New Haven was proud to wear blue recently in support of the students of Amity Regional School District No. 5 as they come together in the wake of growing anti-Semitism and bigotry in their community to show the world that they are #StrongerThanHate and that #ItEndsHere.

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Local Student Empowered by IsraAID Experience in Philippines

by Emmy Roday
Special for SNH

This past summer, as a Humanitarian Fellow, I interned with IsraAID – an international, non-governmental organization that provides emergency relief and long-term development to populations affected by disaster.

In 47 countries, IsraAID has provided millions with the vital support to move from destruction to reconstruction, and eventually, to sustainable living. The IsraAID Humanitarian Fellowship offers college students an unparalleled summer field-work experience in one of IsraAID’s international projects. These projects range from supporting Syrian refugees in Greece, to helping victims of Hurricane Maria in Dominica, or working on water sanitation and hygiene programs in Puerto Rico.

As a fellow, I worked with IsraAID Philippines. During my first days, I felt the immense reality of the next two months set in—I would be one of the few Westerners in a small city in the middle of the Philippines. I worried that I wouldn’t be able to navigate the streets of revving motorcycles, connect with the local community, or create a meaningful impact through IsraAID’s projects. But all it took was one week for that fear to dissipate. I discovered that my summer would be colored by two worlds at once. I would be deeply immersing myself in the Filipino culture and traditions, while also gaining a first-hand exposure to NGO work.

The local IsraAID staff members were my steadfast guides. Grace, Leda, Emon, and Maricris taught me the functions of log frames and basic budgetary principles, alongside lively meals of home-cooked chicken adobo and rice.

Every day we grew closer, unraveling stories of our families and hometowns. In the office, we laughed constantly, snacked on “Happy Nuts,” and sang our favorite English and Tagalog songs. When my American friends asked about my summer, I frequently responded that my cheeks hurt from smiling so much. As an IsraAID team we were also united by our shared mission. Together, we worked on the Anti-Human Trafficking and Gender-Based Violence awareness campaign, which we administered in public secondary schools. We created interactive stations aimed at teaching students to appropriately evaluate and respond to situations of Human Trafficking and Gender-Based Violence, by identifying threats and referring to available support systems.

My team trusted me to implement my own ideas too. To supplement this educational

Apply Now To Become An IsraAID Humanitarian Fellow!
GO TO: israaid.org/projects/usa/israaid-humanitarian-fellows
APPLICATION DEADLINE: JAN. 31

CONTINUED ON PG. 27

What will your Jewish Legacy be?

Harold Miller Created a Legacy for his Synagogue, BEKI

“Keser Israel, and now Beth-Ei Keser Israel (‘BEKI), has been my synagogue for my entire life. My grandfather was actually the president of Keser Israel in 1948. I had my Bar Mitzvah at Keser Israel and I was married at BEKI. It is a pleasure for me to make a legacy commitment to this synagogue that has been and continues to be such an important part of my life.”

—Harold

For more info about Create A Jewish Legacy, contact Lisa Stanger, (203) 387-2424 x382, lstanger@jewishnewhaven.org.
www.jewishfoundation.org | www.jewishlegacynewhaven.org
Amy G. Rashba, LCSW, has been appointed Chief Executive Officer of Jewish Family Service of Greater New Haven (JFSGNH). “We are thrilled that Amy has accepted this leadership role,” said Linda Caplan, JFSGNH Board President. “Her energy and devotion to JFS is inspiring.”

Rashba’s career at the agency began in 1986 when she came to JFS as a Master of Social Work (MSW) student. Shortly after joining JFS, Rashba developed the Shalom Group, offering educational enrichment and social interaction to developmentally disabled Jewish adults. During her 30-plus years with the agency, she has created new programs, helped families adopt children and provided counseling services throughout the community to children, families and aging adults and takes great pride in directing both the adoption and mental health programs. “Having spent my entire professional career here, it’s a privilege to lead JFS, an agency I am passionate about,” said Rashba. “I’m grateful to the staff and board for their support and look forward to many years of collaborating on the future of our beloved JFS. I am humbled to have made a difference in the lives of those in our Jewish community.”

“Amy’s ability to develop and cultivate relationships with staff, board and community makes her a natural to lead JFS,” Caplan said. “She has a unique combination of approachability and positivity and is well-respected by clients, peers and community members.” Rashba’s local Jewish roots run deep. A Hamden native, she attended the New Haven Hebrew Day School, and her father owned the renowned Glick’s Delicatessen in New Haven. She and her husband Steve were married at Congregation B’nai Jacob and their children attended local preschools-daughter Ilana at Beverly Levy Early Learning Center, and son Jordan at Temple Beth Sholom. The family has been members of Temple Beth David of Cheshire for more than 20 years.

A summa cum laude graduate of Quinnipiac College, Rashba earned her MSW at Southern Connecticut State University. Upon being named CEO, she said, “It is my honor to be leading the amazing staff at JFS who all work hard every day to provide quality services to our community- protecting children, creating families, feeding the hungry and healing hearts.” Rashba looks forward to bringing more awareness of JFSGNH’s many services to the Greater New Haven region. To contact her: arashba@jfsnh.org.
BEKI Exhibit Features Works of World-Renowned Mask-Maker

Work by Beckie Kravetz, a sculptor and mask-maker, will be on display at Beth El – Keser Israel in New Haven from January 30 to March 31. The exhibit will feature Purim-themed masks as well as other theatrical and art masks.

Kravetz studied at the Yale School of Drama, Taller de Madera in Guatemala, the Instituto Allende in Mexico, and the Centro Maschere e Strutture Gestuali in Italy. In 2001, she was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to study wood carving, ritual masks and puppets in Spain.

Her masks and sculptures have been exhibited at the Jewish Community Museum of San Francisco, Metropolitan Opera Gallery and Lincoln Center Library, Roark Gallery and Dorothy Chandler Pavilion (Los Angeles), Tansey Contemporary, Downey and Shidoni Galleries (Santa Fe), Gallery 10 and Minds Eye Gallery (Scottsdale), Tucson Museum of Art, and the Museo del Títere (puppet museum) in Cádiz, Spain.

In addition to her visual art, Kravetz designs theatrical wigs and makeup. In a career spanning more than 30 years, she has helped transform the faces of scores of opera singers, including Placido Domingo.

She created makeup and masks for opera-themed Nike and Pepsi commercials featuring Charles Barkley and Michael Jackson, and contributed masks to the Disney film The Haunted Mansion and an ad campaign for Max Factor that featured Madonna.

At her studio in Cummington, Massachusetts, www.BKsSculptureStudio.com, Kravetz creates both theater and fine art masks. Her designs include classic Commedia and Greek theater masks, realistic human faces, portrait masks, neutral masks, opera masks, Purim masks, cosplay masks, animal masks and fantasy creatures. Her sculpture includes figures and busts in bronze, ceramic and mixed media.

On Saturday, March 16, Kravetz will be at BEKI for a meet and greet at 12:30 p.m., following services and the weekly luncheon. Sabbath rules will be observed. In time for Purim, Kravetz will also conduct a mask workshop for BEKI children.

Camp Laurelwood Team Is Growing

by Camp Laurelwood Staff for SNH

Jennifer Gelband has joined our team as the Director of Community Outreach and Engagement. Jennifer is originally from New Haven and worked around the country as a journalist, publicist and corporate marketing professional for years before returning to Connecticut and focusing her efforts on nonprofit work in the Greater New Haven area. She is a second-generation Camp Laurelwood alum and attended for five years. Her camp experience also includes high school and college summers teaching swimming and lifeguarding at a Jewish day camp in the area.

Taylor McLeod is our new Director of Development. Taylor has more than 10 years of experience in political campaigns with the majority of those years focused on fundraising. Originally from Charleston, SC, Taylor’s career has allowed her to live all over the country. Before joining Camp Laurelwood, she spent the last year consulting on fundraising efforts for multiple Connecticut races. She moved to the New Haven area two years ago from Columbia, MO.

Contact Jennifer (Jennifer@camplaurelwood.org) and Taylor (taylor@camplaurelwood.org) if you have any questions or just to say hi.
Life-Changing Experience Inspired Skolnick to Create Her LOJE

Over 20 years ago, Judy Skolnick had a life-changing experience and ever since, she has been changing the lives of others through philanthropy. Her most recent act of generosity was to create a Lion of Judah Endowment (LOJE) at the Jewish Foundation. Her LOJE will perpetuate her Lion of Judah level annual gift to the Jewish Federation Annual Campaign. Judy established her LOJE by “gifting” a life insurance policy to the Jewish Foundation. She encourages others to learn about the many opportunities available to make this endowment possible.

The experience that planted the seeds for this endowment was a March of the Living mission. Judy visited Auschwitz-Birkenau in Poland and then traveled on to Israel with over 200 women and 6,000 teenagers from across North America. Emotional to this day when she recalls the trip, Judy returned with vivid images of the horror that occurred in the concentration camps, but also with a greater commitment to Israel, her Jewish identity, and involvement in her local Jewish community.

“I was so impressed by the women I met in Israel, their immense generosity and dedication, that I felt I needed to do more back home. It was both an eye opening and inspiring time for me,” Judy commented. Her inspiration quickly became action. Judy and her husband David moved to New Haven in 1971. They quickly became involved in Congregation B’nai Jacob and Federation’s Young Leadership Program. They soon moved into leadership positions in both organizations.

Judy always finds ways to contribute. She is past president of B’nai Jacob’s Sisterhood and a past board member there. She is a past Campaign Chair and former Chair of Women’s Philanthropy at the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven. Judy currently sits on the boards of the Jewish Federation and Ezra Academy.

Her contributions have not gone unnoticed. In 2012, her daughters, Marci and Deborah (mothers of Judy’s six grandchildren), were present to witness her being honored by the Jewish Federations of North America in New York City with the National Women’s Philanthropy Lion of Judah Endowment honor - the Kipnis Wilson Friedland Award. Established in 2004, this award recognizes “Women of Valor” who have set a high standard for philanthropy, volunteerism and commitment to the Jewish world. Judy credits other New Haven Kipnis Wilson Friedland Award recipients for inspiring and teaching her about philanthropy— Lucille Alderman, Barbara Greenberg z”l, Betsy S. Hoos, Marcia Reiter, Shirley Scholder, Stacey Trachten, and Robyn Teplitzky, all of whom have also established Lion of Judah Endowments at the Jewish Foundation to endow their Lion of Judah gifts to the Jewish Federation Annual Campaign. On February 23, Judy and David will be honored by Ezra Academy.

B’nai Jacob Hosts MLK Events, Prayerful Walk in the Woods

Congregation B’nai Jacob, located at 75 Rimmon Road, Woodbridge, heads into the winter months with a busy and stimulating schedule.

Each Sabbath morning, Rabbi Shapiro leads a bible discussion class for 45 minutes before Shabbat services. The discussion at this Bread and Torah session explores the five Megillot and how they affect our current lives. On Monday evenings, the rabbi teaches a class on Talmud, starting at 7:30 p.m. On Friday evenings prior to services, there is a Shabbat Schmooze from 6-6:30 p.m.

On Jan. 12, Rabbi Shapiro will lead a prayerful walk in the woods starting from behind the church on the Woodbridge town center at 8:30 a.m., to be followed by the Torah service in the synagogue. On January 19 at 10 a.m., there will be a Shir Hadash song fest followed by the customary Torah service.

The synagogue will acknowledge Martin Luther King Day with events on January 18 and 20.

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On Jan. 18, the B’nai Jacob Sweet Singers will join with the Valley Soul Gospel choir for a special Shabbat evening service. On Sunday, Jan. 20, there will be a showing of the film “Marshall” examining the efforts of Thurgood Marshall and a Jewish lawyer to defend an innocent black man in 1940.

For more information, go to bnaijacob.org.
The Bennett Center for Judaic Studies
fairfield.edu/BennettPrograms

LECTURES AND PROGRAMS: SPRING 2019

Samuel and Bettie Roberts Lecture in Jewish Art
“Ghosts: An Artistic Meditation on the Holocaust and Anti-Semitism”
Robert Hirsch
Artist and photographic historian, in conjunction with his exhibition, at the Quick Center, on Jewish Children in France during the Shoah.
Wednesday, February 6 at 7:30 p.m.
Dolan School of Business Dining Room
Co-sponsored with Humanities Institute

2019 Bennett Lecture in Judaic Studies
“U.S. – Israel Relations during the Obama and Trump Administrations: An Inside Look”
Daniel Shapiro
Former U.S. Ambassador to Israel (2011 – 2017), Distinguished Visiting Fellow, Tel Aviv University’s Institute of National Security Studies.
Tuesday, March 26 at 7:30 p.m.
Quick Center for the Arts, Kelley Theatre

13th Annual Lecture in Jewish and Christian Engagement
“Female Faith Leaders in Collaboration: Rabbis, Nuns, and Ministers for (nearly) 50 Years”
Rabbi Carole B. Balin, PhD
Auburn Seminary, Professor Emerita of History HUC-JIR. Response by Dr. Elena Procario-Foley, Iona College.
Thursday, April 4 at 7:30 p.m.
Dolan School of Business Dining Room
Co-sponsored with the Center for Catholic Studies

26th Annual Holocaust Remembrance Service
Featured speaker: Betty Knoop
Survivor of Westerbork and Bergen Belsen concentration camp.
Wednesday, April 24 at 4:30 p.m.
Egan Chapel of St. Ignatius Loyola
Co-sponsored with Campus Ministry

MLK Program Helps Families Celebrate Diversity

“Be grateful for the difference as we learn to accept Why it’s more vital to include than it is to reject People whose background is different from yours And whose story and beliefs you should explore. For when people find love in a world of hate. Loving kindness is the world they create.”
—Soulful Sydney Explores Diversity

Azeez ask these questions and help us explore them with our families on Martin Luther King Day, Monday, Jan. 21, from 10 a.m. to noon at the JCC of Greater New Haven with a community-wide program that celebrates diversity.

The day will offer families with all age children the chance to hear from Terry and her 11-year old co-author, Mariam, as well as celebrate this message of inclusion with a musical performance. In addition, families are invited to create no-sew fleece compassion blankets to be given to those in need.

FREE. RSVP: jccnh.org/soulful-sydney.

The beginning of 2019 is also the kick-off of our Year of Family Volunteerism theme for Greater New Haven PJ Library and the JCC. We encourage you to bring cans for local food pantries. You can also create a project or join efforts toward our annual Mitzvah Day April 7. For more information or to connect with other families interested in family volunteer projects, contact Emily Kurz at (203) 387-2424, x306.
Local Student Conquered Her Fears, Made Lifelong Friends Through Baer Miriam

by Nechama Kaufman
Special for SNH

Hello! My name is Nechama Kaufman, I am 19 years old, and I spent my first time and gap year in Israel. The seminary program I attended was Baer Miriam, located in Har Nof, Jerusalem. This past year has been a whirlwind. Never did I think I would be walking down to the Kotel whenever I wanted, traveling all over Israel with the amazing tiyuls (trips) that Baer Miriam provided, and tasting so many different flavors. Israel has so much to offer.

I gained a lot during my time at Baer Miriam, especially emotional growth more than anything. My goal this year was to challenge myself academically, spiritually and emotionally...all three of which I covered.

Without Baer Miriam, I would not be the woman I am proud to be today. While spending my time in Israel I have been able to conquer my fears (heights and big bodies of water), make friends for life, and overall become happier. If that doesn’t convince you that Israel is the way to go then I don’t know what would. If you’re hesitant about taking a gap year like I was, it does not hurt to look into it.

All in all, it’s been a year full of love, hope, faith and strength. Nothing can compare to this experience. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out!

Chabad of Milford-HCW Hosts Mexican Shabbat, Kosher Deli Night, New Adult Ed Course

Join together with friends at Chabad of Milford-HCW on Jan. 18 after Kabbalat Shabbat services to celebrate Shabbat and enjoy delicious Mexican cuisine. $25/adult, $15/child. RSVP: JewishMilford.com Chabad of Milford-HCW will also host a kosher deli evening on Saturday, Feb. 2, at 7:15 p.m. Delicious menu options. Reserve your spot by January 27 at JewishMilford.com/deli.

“Crime & Consequence” is a six-session weekly new adult education course beginning Wednesday, Feb. 6. A father is wrongfully accused and sentenced to death for the murder of his wife and children. A reformed convict is condemned to life in prison for a crime committed in her youth. Miscarriages of justice can be infuriating, but also beg the question: what is a fair and effective approach?

For more info. and to register, visit JewishMilford.com/AdultEd.

Temple Emanuel Holds Tot Shabbat/Potluck

Temple Emanuel, 150 Derby Ave., Orange, is holding a Tot Shabbat on Friday, Jan. 25, for young children and their families at 5:30 p.m. followed by a dairy Shabbat Potluck Dinner. Come celebrate Shabbat with Rabbi Michael Farbman in the sanctuary with songs and stories. Members and non-members are welcome. Check TEGNH.org for more details and to sign up.

For more information, call (203) 397-3000 or e-mail office@tegnh.org.
by Susan Donovan
JCC Fitness Services Director

Pilates was NEVER a trend. Trends come and go, but this exercise method has endured quite simply because it works!

Our JCC is proud to launch our new addition to our already diverse menu of wellness programs — a semi-private Pilates Studio just off our Fitness Center. Housing Balanced Body™ Apparatus including the Reformer and Trap Table (called the Cadillac) allowing our Certified Pilates Trainers to better accommodate all ages, sizes and fitness levels.

Over the last 20 years, Pilates has experienced the explosion on a global level. Pilates is a method of exercise and physical movement designed to strengthen, lengthen and balance the body in a systematic way using specific exercises coupled with focused breathing patterns.

Pilates exercise starts with the core of your body, with full breaths refreshing your cells; with your heart and circulatory system pumping fresh blood into your tissues; and with training the deep muscles of your abdomen, back and pelvis to support your spine, and provide stability in your pelvis and shoulders as you move. When we strengthen and stabilize the core, we can safely move out from center to increase the flexibility of our spine, stretch our muscles, and improve the range of motion in our joints. After all, your core is your body’s foundation — and you cannot build a strong house on a weak foundation!

This amazing method of exercise was developed by Joseph Pilates in the 1920s (yes there actually was a man named Pilates). Originally used as a rehabilitation program, it was later found to be of great benefit to anyone seeking fitness. Pilates was kept alive over the years by a small group of devoted students until its popularity blossomed in the past few decades. Exercise science caught up with the principles that Pilates had been teaching all along, and now you can enjoy the rich evolution of the work available today. Practiced faithfully, Pilates yields numerous benefits: increased lung capacity and circulation through deep, controlled breathing, strength and flexibility particularly of the abdomen and back muscles, and coordination - both muscular and mental. Many experience positive body awareness for the first time. With improved posture, balance and control of the body, many find Pilates benefits spill over into other areas of one’s life.

So whether you are a new exerciser, wanting to become more active to start off on the right track with a core-focused program (the Reformer is a great tool for you) or are a seasoned athlete wanting to up your game (the Cadillac will give you that challenge), Come check out our new studio at jccnh.org or contact susand@jccnh.org for a free demo session.

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What Do We Do When the Unspeakable Happens? We Stand Together

Eleven people were killed and seven were injured at a mass shooting that occurred during Shabbat morning services at the Tree of Life (L’Simcha) Congregation in Pittsburgh on Oct. 27, 2018. This was the deadliest act of anti-Semitism in North American history. As a show of solidarity with the Jewish community of Pittsburgh, the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven held a community-wide Solidarity Shabbat on Nov. 4 at the JCC.

One-thousand people filled the auditorium, with another 300 spilling out into the hallway, according to Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven CEO Judy Alperin, who emceed and organized the event. Together, with local lay leaders and elected officials, the Federation remembered the 11 Jews who were killed and showed the world that love triumphs over hate. The Federation also asked the community to help honor their memory by filling the area congregations during Solidarity Shabbat that weekend as a proud and unified community.

The Jewish Federation has a special role to play as convener of our Jewish community and we are proud and honored to fill that role in times of happiness, times of memorial and times of great tragedy. Thank you to clergy and community leadership, both from our Jewish community and beyond, who came together at a moment’s notice to stand together at our community’s vigil to mourn those lost in Pittsburgh and to pray for the recovery of the injured. We were reminded in those moments of pain that together, we are one community and that together, we can work for a brighter future.

You are cordially invited to STAY HOME in support of FOOD 4 KIDS NEW HAVEN

We are hosting a Non-Event Fundraiser!

Please do not:
Dress up • Hire a sitter • Leave your couch ...

... and especially, do not forget to donate!

Enjoy your evening. Hope to see you around town!

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COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS
All scholarships are for high school seniors from Jewish households. All applications must be completed online by May 1. All applications are confidential and anonymously reviewed.

Go to www.jewishnewhaven.org/scholarships for more information.

- Mary Taylor Friedler Memorial Scholarship Fund - This scholarship is not needs-based and requires an essay concerning what peace, justice and righteousness mean to you and your Judaism. Awards are based on the strength of the essay and range from $500-$2,000. Applicant must reside in Greater New Haven.

- Stuart J. Drell Scholarship Fund - Awards are $1,000 and applicant must reside in Connecticut. Awards are based on the strength of the application and financial need.

- Emma Kohn Podoloff Scholarship Fund of the National Council of Jewish Women's Greater New Haven Section - The average award is $1,500. The application includes an essay and three recommendations. Awards are based on the strength of the application and financial need.

Israel Experience Scholarships
The Jewish Foundation Israel Experience Scholarship Program enables local Jewish students ages 14-19 the opportunity to participate in an Israel experience to develop and enrich their Jewish education and reinforce their Jewish identity. The Jewish Foundation provides scholarships for both short-term (minimum of three-week program) and long-term organized Israel educational programs. Greater New Haven youth ages 14-19 are eligible. For 2019 summer trips, applications are due by March 9, 2019. For the 2019-2020 gap or academic year programs, applications are due by May 4, 2019. An essay and two recommendations are required. All applications are confidential and anonymously reviewed by the Israel Experience Scholarship committee. Go to www.jewishnewhaven.org/scholarships for more information, a list of qualifying programs, and application requirements.

Hebrew High School of New England Announces First Quarter Honor Roll Greater New Haven Students

West Hartford – Dr. Richard Nabel, Head of General Studies at Hebrew High School of New England, announced the Honor Roll for the First Quarter of the 2018-2019 academic year.

Here are the students from the Greater New Haven area:

HIGH HONORS WERE ACHIEVED BY:
Jacob Hasbani
Batya Koenigsber
Liya Simon

HONORS WERE ACHIEVED BY:
Moshe Koenigsberg

Hebrew High School of New England is a co-educational, college preparatory, Jewish high school that inspires a new generation of Jewish leaders who think critically, behave ethically and embrace learning and Jewish tradition.
Jewish Camp Works!

Did you know that...

As adults, Jewish campers are 21 percent more likely to feel that being Jewish is very important.

As adults, Jewish campers are 26 percent more likely to be members of a synagogue.

1 out of 3 Jewish professionals (rabbis, cantors, teachers) started out as counselors at Jewish camp.

1 out of 5 Jewish educators cited Jewish camp as a key experience that caused them to enter the field.

As adults, Jewish campers are 55 percent more likely to feel very emotionally attached to Israel.

Adapted from: jewishcamp.org/campopedia/camp-works-the-long-term-impact-of-jewish-overnight-camp

The Foundation for Jewish Camp, with support from the Jim Joseph Foundation and the AVI CHAI Foundation, have successfully established new business models for Jewish camps and created a forum to pilot new educational models by integrating Jewish learning with activities that kids are passionate about—the environment, performing arts, science, sports, and outdoor adventure.

To find out about 195 different Jewish overnight camps, including science and technology camps, movement camps, adventure camps, travel camps, special needs camps, and general camps, go to www.onehappycamper.org.
GROW at JCC Day Camps

There is something magical that happens in the summer, as children transition from one phase to the next. Summer is the time for them to experience new things, spread their wings and fly, and, at the same time, collect memories that will last a lifetime.

JCC Day Camps help children expand their horizons, practice their social skills and build cooperation and leadership skills - while having the time of their lives...

Developing Leadership Skills

As our campers grow from children to young adults, they have the opportunity to join the Counselor in Training program.

Our CITs not only get the chance to develop the necessary leadership skills to become excellent counselors for future summers, but they form close bonds with each other as they grow and learn together.

Our program does not simply put our CITs to work; it allows them to learn from each other, overcome obstacles, grow, and create the type of camp environment they hope to work in some day.

With the right mentoring, any camper can learn what it takes to be a successful and effective leader. Our program helps ensure every future counselor is successful.

Doing Good in the World

Developing awareness and empathy for others while doing Tzedakah (charitable giving) and Tikkun Olam (repairing the world) is central to our camp’s values. The community service projects woven throughout the camp experience empower and inspire our campers to help others and make an impact in our community. Our campers select a charity that speaks to them and then roll up their sleeves and get to work...engaging in hands-on fundraising activities like car washes or bake sales, to name a few.

Other community service experiences have included sandwich-making for homeless shelters, card-making for hospitalized children and food collection for the local food pantry. Last summer, our campers raised nearly $1,000, which was split between the Make a Wish Foundation and Send a Kid to Camp scholarship fund.

Shaping the World Around Them

Children earn a special sense of pride and ownership when they build things that get used in the world around them.

Our campers had a blast building a GaGa pit for the entire camp last year – from scratch! For those who are not familiar with GaGa, it’s the Israeli version of dodgeball which became extremely popular with children in the US.

The campers collaborated in teams of four to construct each of the eight sides of the pit and then made sure to sign their names on it when they finished and it was ready to use.

This creation was one of many projects built at our MakerSpace – a new offering at JCC Day Camps. In addition to the GaGa pit, our campers created and built a variety of wooden games for team-building as well as stands to hold water jugs throughout our campsite.
Imagine spending each day with your best friends laughing, playing sports, creating timeless pieces of artwork, participating in an Olympics or just finishing your dinner that turns into a “stand-on-benches” and sing as loud as you can song session. That is just the beginning of the Laurelwood Experience!

At Laurelwood, when you drive through our gates, you become family. You arrive at a place you can call home. A place where traditions and values have meant something for more than 80 years. Laurelwood is a place to find yourself, a place to have new experiences, learn and grow skills, make friendships that last for a lifetime and feel like you’re part of something bigger than yourself.

At the heart of Camp Laurelwood is a compassionate and energetic team of staff ready to give your camper a summer to always remember. Their caring and sensitivity create the foundation for a warm, welcoming home away from home environment. All staff participate in a week-long staff development program geared towards providing campers a fun, safe and engaging summer.

Campers participate in activities ranging from the creative arts to nature, archery, video and photo editing, ropes & lakefront (canoes, kayaks, water inflatables etc.) In addition, Laurelwood offers a vast array of sports program including but not limited to softball, soccer, lacrosse and basketball. Our staff and programs are waiting for you to join the Laurelwood Experience!

New 2019 programming added to the remarkable list of offerings—including sports, water activities, outdoor adventure, and creative arts—are woodworking and gardening. This summer will also feature bunk renovations, an updated archery range, and softball field.

With a day camp for children in Kindergarten and up and overnight camp options for children in grades 2-10, there are endless possibilities.

Those interested in visiting camp can attend our S’mores & Tours open houses—Sundays in the spring, exact dates to be determined. Meet with friendly staff, see our newly renovated campus, and enjoy an afternoon at camp during our S’mores & Tours open house. Our staff works from the Madison office all year, you can schedule an in-person or virtual tour at your convenience. We’d love to show you how Laurelwood is creating an unparalleled camp experience!

For more info or to schedule a tour, email jennifer@camplaurelwood.org or visit camplaurelwood.org.
This summer, Camp Gan Israel will celebrate 70 years of Jewish camping. Founded in 1949, CGI continues to be a pioneer in the camping industry, bringing the best that the Greater New Haven area has to offer. Last year, innovative programs such as Bring the Hoopla, 9 Square in the Air, CGI Avalanche, Kosher Chocolate Factory, and American Ninja Warrior Day debuted at camp.

Camp Gan Israel is located at the Barnard Magnet School in New Haven. Its beautiful, expansive facilities provide the backdrop for the ultimate camp experience. CGI has three divisions: Mini Gan Izzy (ages 3-5), Jr. Division (grades 1-3) and Sr. Division (grades 4-6). Exciting new field trips and activities, all built on the CGI hallmarks of safety, fun, and unconditional love, are in store for summer 2019. Over the past several years, the Camp Gan Israel family has steadily grown. The camper group is very diverse, encompassing families from all types of backgrounds and observances. CGI will work with every family according to their needs, to enable each family to experience a Gan Izzy summer.

Camp Gan Israel builds self-confidence: Campers try their hands at a range of new experiences and work to master new skills. Martial arts, yoga, archery, swimming, baseball, and STEM-based programs are just some of the activities offered to campers on a daily basis. Camp Gan Israel builds character: All staff members are trained in helping children develop the “Seven Critical Character Traits” with a focus on teamwork. Tzedakah/Giving is highlighted through special days and drives, such as the annual Chai-a-thon, where campers raise funds for seriously ill children. Camp Gan Israel builds Jewish pride. CGI is a totally non-judgmental environment, where all children enjoy a shared Jewish spirit through songs and activities. Camp Gan Israel builds friendships and memories that last a lifetime. See why parents choose Gan Israel and why campers keep coming back at www.GanIsraelNH.com. Registration opens Feb. 1. Visit GanIsraelNH.com or call Chanie at (203) 701-9386.

Poconos Overnight Camp Offers Relaxed Atmosphere

Camp Gan Israel in the Pocono’s mission is to provide Jewish children and teens with a challenging and enthralling overnight camping experience in a beautiful woodland setting. We provide an exciting curriculum that allows campers to learn informally about, and to fully experience, Jewish life. We believe that the relaxed atmosphere of camp is the optimal setting in which children and teens can internalize the values they need to transition successfully into adulthood. We minimize social pressures by offering single-gender sessions, and present a truly immersive experience infused with Jewish concepts and values.

To learn more, visit: www.cgipoconos.org, (845) 425-0903

One Happy Camper Program Offers Grants, Financial Aid

The Jewish Foundation’s One Happy Camper New Haven program provides incentive grants for first-time campers as well as financial aid to over 195 different Jewish overnight camps. Campers must reside in the Greater New Haven catchment area.

Up to $1,000 (not needs-based) incentive grant for overnight Jewish camp.
Needs-based aid for overnight Jewish camp.

To learn more or apply, please visit: jewishnewhaven.org/one-happy-camper
**Habonim Dror Camp Galil**

**Dedicated to Youth Leadership, Progressive Vision**

Habonim Dror Camp Galil, located in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, is an overnight camp for Jewish boys and girls dedicated to youth leadership and a progressive vision for a better world.

Founded in 1946, Camp Galil was established to train the kibbutz pioneers building the State of Israel.

Today, that pioneering model translates into our amazing summer programs that incorporates fun and education in an engaging way.

Our partnership with Habonim Dror, an international youth movement, and our commitment to social justice has seen a strong tradition of bringing up amazing, thoughtful Jewish leaders for today and tomorrow.

You send your kids to Camp Galil, we’ll teach them to build a better world.

**To learn more, visit www.campgalil.org today.**

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**Camp Sprout Lake**

Located in upstate New York’s beautiful Hudson River Valley, we offer an elective-based program featuring horseback riding, basketball, cooking, soccer, ceramics, music, softball, swimming, street hockey, archery, nature, drama, field trips, tennis, video production, a climbing tower, a petting zoo, a high ropes course, and so much more. Short sessions available.

To learn more about camp, visit: www.cyjsproutlake.org or contact Assistant Director, Tyler Gorelick at tyler@cyjsproutlake.org or (917) 595-1500.

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**THINK CAMP**

**A One Stop Shop for Jewish Summer Camping.**

**Sunday, February 10 | 1-3 p.m. | JCC of Greater New Haven**

Come for a family fun day at the JCC and learn about some of the best Jewish overnight and day camps.

**FREE ADMISSION OPEN-HOUSE CAMP DISCOUNTS**

**EXPERIENCE**

- Rothberg Family Climbing Wall Challenge
- MakerSpace Crafts
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For more information contact Beth Kupcho | (203) 387-2424 x316
Beckerman Lender Jewish Community Building | 360 Amity Road, Woodbridge, CT | www.jccnh.org
Celebrating Hanukkah on the Shoreline

The Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven hosted Latkes & Vodka at the Guilford Yacht Club during Hanukkah. Clockwise from above, Cecle & Joseph Adler both celebrated their birthdays that night. Colorful menorahs adorned each of the tables. Federation’s Chief Development Officer Amy Holtz & Senior Consultant Robyn Teplitzky. Temple Beth Tikvah’s Rabbi Stacy Offner helped Federation CEO Judy Alperin light the candles. Federation President Jeffrey Hoos and his wife, Betsy, and Jo-Ann Maynard and David & Carol Robbins.

For more information on Bar and Bat Mitzvahs, please contact Libby Rutty.
Honorable Menschen—Norman Hanenbaum

Shalom New Haven seeks to recognize people in our community who give their time and talents to improve our community through their service. Who would you nominate for our Honorable Menschen? Let us know! Send your suggestions, stories and photos to Editor Jeannette Brodeur at jbrodeur@jewishnewhaven.org.

He Always Loves Giving His Time, Energy, Talents to Others
by Jeannette Brodeur
SNH Editor

Always smiling and almost always in motion, Congregation Beth Shalom Rodfe Zedek member Norman Hanenbaum, who is 91 years young, is the very definition of a true mensch.

A veteran, past commander of the Jewish War Veterans of Connecticut, retired special education teacher, one of the original founders of the Connecticut Special Olympics, an accomplished musician and an active volunteer, Hanenbaum counts his blessings each day and loves to give his time, his boundless energy and talents to others, including his fellow CBSRZ members.

Hanenbaum created the CBSRZ choir in 1992 and led the group for nine years. He’s also been the leader of the synagogue’s house band, “A Klez Act,” for the last 25 years. He even writes a history column by hand every month for the CBSRZ newsletter.

CBSRZ Administrator Wendy Bayor said anyone who meets Hanenbaum is guaranteed to leave with a smile. “Norm is bursting with personality and it is contagious,” Bayor said.

“I’ve been very fortunate in my life,” Hanenbaum admitted. “I believe in giving back. The Jewish people have suffered so much. I’m trying to make it a better world. I believe we have more similarities than differences.”

Hanenbaum’s optimism was tested several years ago. In the summer of 2016, he was sitting in the living room of his East Haddam home watching television on a Saturday afternoon when a small plane crashed into his house. The crash shook the tongue and groove boards off the ceiling and several bookshelves toppled over, but miraculously, Hanenbaum walked away unhurt. His home was just recently rebuilt.

“I’ve never been an ultra-religious person, but I became more religious after that,” Hanenbaum conceded. “I always believed in God, but I definitely think someone is looking out for Norman Hanenbaum.”

Born in Baltimore, Hanenbaum graduated from Baltimore Junior College, served two years in the U.S. Marine Corps and then attended and graduated from the Hartt School of University of Hartford. He taught music at Wethersfield High School for eight years.

While teaching at Wethersfield

CONTINUED ON PG. 27

‘Camp Laurelwood: A Positive Force in My Life’

By Nurit Kohl
Special for Shalom New Haven

For more than 80 years, Camp Laurelwood has provided life-changing experiences for countless members of our community. During the 1970s, Laurelwood expanded some program areas including adding an Indoor/Outdoor multi-use building known as the “Chuppah.” Over the last 40 years, the Chuppah has been the site of many programs including weekly Shabbat Services, legendary basketball games, rainy day activities and of course the announcement of countless “Big O” (annual camp Olympics) winners. Over the past several years, the Chuppah roof has started to deteriorate causing it to leak in several locations leading to Laurelwood looking for ways (means) to replace it.

Enter Steven Pite, a Camp Laurelwood alum, who, this year, generously made a gift to replace the original Chuppah roof. “As a camper and then as a waiter, dishwasher and cook, I loved the sense of community at Camp Laurelwood. The camaraderie, the games, the new and returning friends, and the cherished memories have meant so much to me over the years. Since attending camp my family and I have remained very involved and active supporters. The ‘Pite Family Club’ even dedicated a bunk in honor of our great grandparents years ago.”

Steven, who now lives in California and is a Senior Partner at the multi-state law firm Aldridge Pite, LLP, grew up in Milford, in a community with limited exposure to Jewish life outside of home. He did attend Hebrew school, but it “wasn’t too much fun.” At age 9, Steven began attending Laurelwood, where he found a Jewish community of friends and the opportunity to learn new things, to better himself, and to connect with different groups of people.

Steven says, “As you get older and you are fortunate enough to be able to help other people, you’re starting to think, well, who helped me?” For Pite, the answer is Camp Laurelwood. The nine summers he spent at camp - first as a young camper and eventually as a staff member - gave him “great pleasure” and helped him become the man he is today.

Pite gives full credit to his parents, Mickey and Nancy Pite, for making that pivotal decision, which has had such an impact on his life. “Parents should send their kids to camp to help expand their relationships, give kids the chance to be kids, help them meet new people, and get a little bit of the Jewish community in, if they don’t have that opportunity” says Pite. “Camp is a chance to grow, especially for kids who get labeled during the school year,” he said.

Pite’s sense of gratitude to his parents and his formative summers at Camp Laurelwood propelled him to want to give back. When Scott Cooper, a Camp Laurelwood board member and past president, approached him with a pressing need for camp, Steve did not hesitate to help. He recognized the importance of Jewish camping experience, and he and Cooper have been old camp buddies. “We went through camp together all these years, and we were waiters together. I was a power washer” said Pite, “and somehow, Scott got to do nothing and became a third cook,” Pite chuckled. “We’ve had a good time and a good stretch” he said with his eyes sparkling.

Pite made the Chuppah roof a gift in honor of his parents. In appreciation,
Temple Beth Tikvah Vigil Honors Tree of Life Synagogue Victims

Temple Beth Tikvah recently hosted a powerful interfaith service on Tuesday evening, October 30, to honor the memories of those murdered in Squirrel Hill at the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh. The congregation and shoreline community gathered to replace darkness and despair with light, love and hope. Hundreds gathered to listen to interdenominational speakers describe the support and strength we offer each other to move through grief to healing.

Rabbi Stacy Offner said, “It was really for our Jewish community to come together to grieve, but we wanted to open it up because every decent person in the country is in grief. The response was immediate and grateful and the people here are people of all faiths and people of no faith, but people of values.”

Since the murders, the shoreline community has reached out to TBT by sending letters, emails, personal visits and flower deliveries. Rabbi Offner said, “This is an amazing community and you don’t know who your friends are as much as you know when you’re hurting and it’s a beautiful thing to see.”

TBT/JCC Author Event Comes to Shoreline

SAVE THE DATE: “God is in the Crowd: Twenty first Century Judaism,” by author Tal Keinan, will be held on Sunday, March 10, from 12:30-2 p.m., at Temple Beth Tikvah in Madison. Event includes book signing and purchase, Lunch is also included. Suggested donation, Sponsored by Temple Beth Tikvah & the JCC of Greater New Haven.

Congregation Welcomes New Cantor with Service

Temple Beth Tikvah recently celebrated the installation of their new Cantor Mark Stanton. At the music-filled event, the congregation was honored to host installation speaker, Rabbi Peter Grumbacher who partnered with Cantor Stanton at Congregation Beth Emeth in Wilmington, Delaware.

Rabbi Grumbacher called Cantor Stanton, “a man with a deep soul and a beautiful voice.” Rabbi Grumbacher spoke on the subject, “From the Words of Leonard Bernstein.” This special Shabbat service spotlighted many different musical combinations from different parts of the shoreline community including: Cantor Dorothy Goldberg, Rick Calvert, Walter Stutzman, Stu Weinzimer, Jodie Ambrozino, members of the TBT Adult Choir and a young new talent, Natalie Houlton.

Cantor Stanton grew up in Flushing, Queens, and received his Bachelor of Music in 1993 at the University of Hartford’s Hartt School of Music. He was ordained as a cantor in 2004 at the Academy for Jewish Religion.

Stutzman Honored for Many Years of Service

Temple Beth Tikvah recently honored Walter Stutzman, seen with his wife Esther, for his nearly 34 years of volunteer service as their musical accompanist.
BEKI Series Explores History of Jewish Music

“Questions in Jewish Music,” a program of five January sessions, will be held at Beth El – Keser Israel on Wednesday evenings from 7:30 to 9 p.m.

Led by Dr. Rachel Adelstein, an ethnomusicologist who has produced podcasts about music in Jewish life around the world and has presented her research internationally to academic and public audiences, the sessions in the Rosenkrantz Family Library are free of charge and open to the community:

- January 2: The Basics
- January 9: Cantorial Music
- January 16: Jewish Music and Modernity
- January 23: Women’s Voices in Jewish Music
- January 30: Music and the Politics of Memory

The program will explore the history of Jewish music from biblical times to the present, and how Jewish communities have used music to define their sense of who they are in a changing modern world.

Adelstein received her PhD in 2013 from the University of Chicago, where she completed her doctoral dissertation entitled “Braided Voices: Women Cantors in Non-Orthodox Judaism.” She currently is expanding this research into a monograph that examines the relationship between women cantors and an emerging American style of Jewish ritual practice. For more information, call (203) 389-2108 or go to beki.org.

Camp Laurelwood: A Positive Force

Steve Pite Family in Honor of Mickey and Nancy Pite.

In the dedication service, Camp Director Ari Golub said, “Today, I’m proud and honored to welcome back the Pite family. Steve Pite, who spent nine years as a camper and a staff member, has been gracious enough to support our Laurelwood family. We are very honored to have Steve and his family here and appreciate their support for our mission to help campers expand their Jewish identity within a safe, fun, and friendly environment.”

Golub added, “We are very humbled and thankful to have friends like the Pites to continue to support this camp that has meant and continues to mean so much to so many people.”

When asked about why he continues to support camp, Pite said, “As you get older, you reflect on what is important and what was a positive force in your life. As a child, Camp Laurelwood was that positive force.” Because Laurelwood has remained in Steven and Lisa’s (Steven’s wife) hearts for so many years, the heart of Laurelwood will get a much-needed update!

If you are interested in getting involved with Camp Laurelwood, please contact Ari at ari@camplaurelwood.org or (203) 421-3736.

Jewish Historical Society Seeking Treasurer

The Jewish New Haven Historical Society of Greater New Haven is seeking a volunteer to become its Treasurer this year. They are seeking someone who has a background in accounting and who is computer literate. This is an opportunity to become involved with the organization that maintains an archive for the Jewish past and present for the Jewish community. If interested, call the office at (203) 392-6125 or e-mail to jhsgnh@yahoo.com.

CIRCUS
Gravity and other Myths / A Simple Space

Thursday, January 31, 2019 | 8 pm

“Cirque du Soleil with a fistful of grit” – UK Express

Seven acrobats supported by driving live percussion, A Simple Space is simultaneously raw, frantic, delicate, and presented so intimately that you can feel the heat, hear every breath, and be immersed in every moment.

THEATER
Campo Minado / MINEFIELD
Saturday, January 26, 2019 | 8 pm

Told in both Spanish and English, this theatre piece is staged on a film-set-turned-time-machine, where those who fought in the Falklands War are teleported into the past to reconstruct their memories of the war and aftermath.

MUSIC
Sweet Honey in the Rock
Sunday, February 10, 2019 | 7 pm

Kinetic, cultured, and connected, this internationally renowned Grammy award-nominated female a cappella vocal quartet is revered for its live performances.

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JEWISH FEDERATION

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North Branford Intermediate School
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Gordon & Lisa Fain
In honor of GERALD & DEBBIE BARKER’S SON’S ENGAGEMENT
Mark & Amy Holtz
In honor of NORM RAVSKI’S BIRTHDAY
Julie, Ken, Ellen & David Mancher
In honor of STUART ROSENBERG’S 70TH BIRTHDAY
Judy & Steve August
In honor of JUDY ALPERIN
Rachel Waldman
In honor of BETSY & JEFFREY HOOS
Rachel Waldman
In memory of ELLIOTT ALDERMAN
Phyllis & Gary Sochin

In honor of HAP & STACEY PERKINS NEW GRANDDAUGHTER
Judy Alperin
In honor of STUART GRODD’S KINDNESS TO DONALD HALPRIN
Leslie & Joseph Heyison
In honor of THE B’NAI MITZVAH OF BEN & MIA GREEN
Amy & Mark Holtz

JEWISH FOUNDATION

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John, Beth, Ryan, Lindsey and Brittany Kupcho

TROOP 41 BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA FUND
In memory of PETER ZACKIN’S MOTHER
Sydney A. Perry

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In honor of SHELLY & GERRY NATKIN’S NEW GRANDCHILD
Barbara & John Lichtman
In honor of MARIELLE SANCHEZ PASSING THE LAW BAR
Barbara & John Lichtman
In honor of ARI FRIEDLAENDER’S WEDDING
Barbara & John Lichtman

WHY WAIT? Your life story needs telling.

Isn’t it about time to write your life story for family and future generations? Martin Arnold can help!

An experienced memoir writer, with a BA, MA, and MBA, Martin was a communications instructor at UConn and Iona for 15 years and worked as a Corporate Communications Director.

Don’t wait. Contact Martin Arnold today:
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mharold@sbcglobal.net
Memoir samples available upon request.
jan.

Questions in Jewish Music: THE BASICS
Weekly, Jan. 2 Jan. 30, 7:30-9 p.m.
BEKI, 85 Harrison St., New Haven
Contact: Peggy Hackett, (203) 389-2108,
office@beki.org, beki.org

Westville Synagogue University presents
Dr. Sandra Valabreuge
Jan. 9, 7:30-9 p.m., Westville Synagogue,
74 West Prospect Street, New Haven
Contact: Steven Zalesch, (203) 387-9666,
sezphl@aol.com

KIDS: Sticky Fingers, Ages 2-5 with adult.
Jan. 10 & 24, 10-11 a.m.
$5. JCC of Greater New Haven, 360 Amity Rd.,
Woodbridge, Contact: Emily Kurz, (203) 387-2424 x306,
emilyk@jccnh.org

KIDS: Flower Power Kids Cooking Class,
Elementary aged-kids, Jan. 10 & 24,
10-11 a.m. & Feb. 14 & 28, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
$50/M, $40 for JCC Members.
JCC of Greater New Haven, 360 Amity Rd.,
Woodbridge, Contact: Emily Kurz, (203) 387-2424 x306,
emilyk@jccnh.org

FAMILY: MLK Day Special Family Event
Jan. 15, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
Temple Emanuel, 150 Derby Avenue, Orange
Contact: Beth Kupcho, (203) 387-2424 x316,
rteplitzky@jccnh.org

FAMILY: JCC Day Camps Reunion
Jan. 12, 6-9 p.m., FREE, JCC of Greater New Haven,
360 Amity Rd., Woodbridge, Contact: Allison,
(203) 387-2424 x313.

Artist Talk by Rachel Kanter, Fiber Artist
Jan. 12, 12:45-2 p.m.
BEKI, 85 Harrison St., New Haven
Contact: Peggy Hackett, (203) 389-2108,
office@beki.org, beki.org

FAMILY: Family Brunch & Munch, Jan. 13,
10:30 a.m.-12 p.m., Birth-6 years old
and caregivers, $5 per family or $10 per
non-member family, JCC of Greater New Haven,
360 Amity Rd., Woodbridge,
Emily Kurz, (203) 387-2424 x306,
emilyk@jccnh.org

KIDS: Sunday Craftmoons, Jan. 20,
2-4 p.m., $5 (or $15 for 4 sessions), JCC
of Greater New Haven, 360 Amity Rd.,
Woodbridge, Contact: Emily Kurz, (203) 387-2424 x306,
emilyk@jccnh.org

KIDS: Tu B’shevat Pots and Plants, Jan.
20, 2-3:30 p.m., $5, MakerSpace, JCC
of Greater New Haven, 360 Amity Rd.,
Woodbridge, Contact: Emily Kurz, (203) 387-2424 x306,
emilyk@jccnh.org

FAMILY: MLK Day Special Family Event
Celebrating Diversity with Soulful Sydney
Authors, Jan. 21, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., JCC
of Greater New Haven, 360 Amity Rd.,
Woodbridge, Contact: Emily Kurz, (203) 387-2424 x306,
emilyk@jccnh.org.

Westville Synagogue University presents
Prof. Ze’ev Harvey,
Jan. 23, 7:30-9 p.m.
Westville Synagogue, 74 West Prospect Street,
New Haven Contact: Steven Zalesch,
(203) 387-9666, sezphl@aol.com

Tot Shabbat at Temple Emanuel, Jan. 25,
5:30-6 p.m. For Children under 5 with Families.
Temple Emanuel, 150 Derby Avenue, Orange
Contact: Ruth Gross,
(203) 397-3000 x3, school@tegnh.org, tegnh.org

PJ Library at Temple Emanuel
Feb. 10, 9:30-11 a.m. Temple Emanuel,
150 Derby Avenue, Orange Contact:
Olga Markus, (203) 397-3000 x3,
school@tegnh.org, tegnh.org

WOMEN: Sabra Society Night in the Spa
Feb. 13, 7-9 p.m.
Temple Emanuel, 150 Derby Avenue, Orange Contact:
Ruth Gross,
(203) 397-3000 x3, school@tegnh.org, tegnh.org

Feb. 13, 7-9 p.m., Westville Synagogue,
74 West Prospect Street, New Haven
Contact: Steven Zalesch,
(203) 387-9666, sezphl@aol.com

Author Lynda Cohen Loigman: The Wartime Sisters
Feb. 13, 7-9 p.m. RJ Julia Bookellers,
768 Boston Post Road, Madison
Contact: Erica Babjak, (203) 245-3959
ebabjak@rjjulia.com, rjulia.com/event

KIDS: Sticky Fingers, Ages 2-5 with adult.
Feb. 14 & 28, 10-11 a.m.
$5, JCC of Greater New Haven, 360 Amity Rd.,
Woodbridge, Contact: Emily Kurz,
(203) 387-2424 x306,
emilyk@jccnh.org

KIDS: Sunday Craftmoons, Feb. 17,
2-4 p.m., $5 (or $15 for 4 sessions), JCC
of Greater New Haven, 360 Amity Rd.,
Woodbridge, Contact: Emily Kurz,
(203) 387-2424 x306,
emilyk@jccnh.org

KIDS: Family Brunch & Munch, Feb. 17,
10:30 a.m.-12 p.m., Birth-6 years old
and caregivers, $5 per family or $10 per
non-member family, JCC of Greater New Haven,
360 Amity Rd., Woodbridge,
Emily Kurz, (203) 387-2424 x306,
emilyk@jccnh.org

KIDS: Sticky Fingers, Ages 2-5 with adult.
Feb. 18 & 25, 10-11 a.m.
$5, JCC of Greater New Haven, 360 Amity Rd.,
Woodbridge, Contact: Emily Kurz,
(203) 387-2424 x306,
emilyk@jccnh.org

FAMILY: Family Brunch & Munch, Feb. 18,
10:30 a.m.-12 p.m., Birth-6 years old
and caregivers, $5 per family or $10 per
non-member family, JCC of Greater New Haven,
360 Amity Rd., Woodbridge,
Emily Kurz, (203) 387-2424 x306,
emilyk@jccnh.org

KIDS: Family Brunch & Munch, Feb. 25,
10:30 a.m.-12 p.m., Birth-6 years old
and caregivers, $5 per family or $10 per
non-member family, JCC of Greater New Haven,
360 Amity Rd., Woodbridge,
Emily Kurz, (203) 387-2424 x306,
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As part of its popular Jewish Author Series, the JCC welcomed a large crowd to Best Video Film & Cultural Center in Hamden to hear Mike Reiss wax nostalgic on growing up in Bristol, getting his comedic start writing for the National Lampoon, and 30+ years of writing and producing for The Simpsons. An extra special “yasher koach” as well to RJ Julia Booksellers for coming to sell copies of Mike’s new book, “Springfield Confidential: Jokes, Secrets, and Outright Lies from a Lifetime Writing for The Simpsons.”

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CMI Hosts Abraham’s Tent, MLK Interfaith Service & Tot Shabbat

This coming winter marks the 10th year for Abraham’s Tent, an interfaith program in which churches, synagogues and mosques partner to house individuals from Columbus House’s overflow shelter.

This year, Congregation Mishkan Israel will host Abraham’s Tent during the week of January 14-20. During their stay, the stigma of homelessness disappears as the group is welcomed as guests into a friendly and relaxed atmosphere of enjoying dinner, playing cards, watching TV and schmoozing with caring volunteers before going to bed. In the morning, they wake up to a hearty breakfast and then leave for the day with brown bag lunches decorated by children in the CMI’s Religious School.

Interfaith Service Honors Dr. Martin Luther King

Congregation Mishkan Israel’s annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Service will be on Friday evening, January 18, at 7:30 p.m.

Faith leaders from the Jewish, Catholic, Christian, Muslim, Bahai and Unitarian Universalist traditions will join their new rabbi, Rabbi Brian Immerman, in leading services. The event is free and open to the community.

Families Invited to Celebrate Tot Shabbat, Tu B’Shevat

Congregation Mishkan Israel invites families with children six years and under to a Tot Shabbat on Friday, January 4, at 6 p.m., Saturday, January 26, at 10:30 a.m., and Friday, February 1, at 6 p.m.

Congregation Mishkan Israel also invites families with children six years and under to a Tot Tu B’Shevat Program on Sunday, January 13, at 9:30 a.m.

Congregation Mishkan Israel is a reform synagogue located at 785 Ridge Road in Hamden. For more information, call (203) 288-3877.

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Make Your Dreams Come True Day
by Yelena Gerovich
New American Acculturation Coordinator

Do you know that January 13 is Make Your Dreams Come True Day? We do not know who created this day, when it started, or why, but according to Jewish tradition, the number 13 is a very significant one and considered to be a blessed number. When a Jewish boy comes of age at 13 years old, he becomes a Bar Mitzvah and is obligated to observe the commandments. The foundations of Judaism are based on the original 13 Tribes of Israel: the 11 sons of Jacob and the two sons of Joseph.

We would all love a fairy godmother or a magic lamp to make our dreams come true. But in their absence, it is up to us to make it happen ourselves. On January 13, this unofficial holiday honors all those who have had the courage to pursue their dreams and make them a reality.

According to the Research Institute for New Americans (RINA), there is a core Russian-Jewish population of 350,000 in the U.S. The enlarged Russian Jewish population in the U.S. is estimated to be 700,000. Emigration was prohibited in Russia during the Soviet era, but there were Jewish dreamers. They dreamed about freedom and the ability to celebrate Jewish holidays openly, not to be discriminated against and to get a proper education and a job. They created a plan, believed, and decided to take action. It was not easy and it was dangerous. But with the help from Jews all around the world, their dream became true. Those dreamers are around us today.

In November, the New American Acculturation program invited our community to celebrate Thanksgiving. We also organized educational workshops and a Chanukah celebration in December. The New American Acculturation Program is helping with citizenship test preparations and planning educational workshops in January and February. The Russian-speaking community is very thankful to Rabbi Levitin and Rabbi Torenhaim for their help. Émigré families from all over Connecticut gather every year for Chanukah services and dinner. The Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven provides free transportation for low-income families.

On January 13, do something, anything, to move in the direction of achieving your dreams. View today as the perfect time to get started.

For more information about the New American Acculturation Program, including sponsorships of specific programs, contact Yelena Gerovich at (203) 387-2424 x321, or email ygerovich@jewishnewhaven.org.

Work-Ready Clothes to Those in Need

Jewish Family Service of Greater New Haven (JFSGNH) is excited to launch a new program called Ken’s Closet, clothing for men and women.

This program honors the memory of the late Ken Sperling, who had a passion for JFSGNH, as well as a clear understanding of how looking presentable positively affects self-esteem.

Through Ken’s Closet, JFSGNH will supply work-ready clothing to clients who need help navigating the challenges of the job market— with employment as their goal. Prospective Ken’s Closet clients will be screened through the JFSGNH Social Work Outreach Program (SOS). Women’s and Men’s Business Clothes to Corporate Attire" will be collected, sorted and inventoried by Ken’s Closet volunteers. Donation racks are scheduled to be set up at participating area synagogues.

Alternatively, donations of suits, blouses, slacks, skirts, blazers, dresses (cleaned and on hangers), dress shoes and accessories will be accepted by appointment at the JFSGNH office at 1440 Whalley Ave. in New Haven.

For more information, or to schedule an appointment to drop off a donation, contact: kenscloset@jfsnh.org or call Mara Ginsberg at (203) 389-5599 x119.

New Tax Law, Charitable Giving Discussion

Local Student Empowered by IsraAID Experience
FROM PAGE 4

programming, I created and led reflection poetry workshops for 200 students. As a creative writer and editor, I crafted an Erasure Poetry prompt which successfully transcended language differences. This expressive outlet enabled the students to recognize their voice and agency in the face of violence and abuse in their daily lives. Reading their poems, I was floored. Through images of violence and powerful declarations of hope and gratitude, the students’ writing demonstrated a deep understanding of our educational activities.

I also participated in kickstarting ‘HoneyAID,’ one of IsraAID’s worldwide programs, in the Philippines. By teaching women to manage bees, produce honey, and market their products, HoneyAID is designed to economically empower low-income women. This summer, our IsraAID Philippines team conducted intensive beekeeping training for a cooperative of 20 women. To supplement the beekeeping training, I designed and facilitated women’s empowerment workshops. I learned to adapt my concept of Western feminism to the realities of rural Filipino life.

With the help of my co-worker, Grace, I led a combination of activities that allowed the women to reflect on their daily lives as low-income, working mothers. We later engaged in discussions about the application and relevance of feminist principles. Throughout the workshop, I was relieved to hear sighs and laughter of recognition. Together, the women expressed their excitement in becoming beekeepers as a means of gaining more financial and social autonomy.

Now back in America, I am still empowered by the way IsraAID encouraged me to harness what I love and create impacts I could never imagine. I will always remember my exchanges with the beekeeping women and the young student who told me he’d like to be a poet, just like me, when he’s older. Every day, I continue to watch how the IsraAID Humanitarian Fellowship enriches my life. I frequently call upon images of rice fields, pineapple, and palm trees as I walk through my own campus in rural Ohio. And often, I can still hear my Filipino friends laughing.

New Partnership with Chapel Haven Community
FROM PAGE 3

hosts we can be," Cohen said JCC President Scott Hurwitz was instrumental in developing the new partnership between the JCC and Chapel Haven. “He met a Chapel Haven parent at an event,” Cohen explained. “And then he went to Chapel Haven and met with the executive team there and asked what we could do together.”

The JCC has also created a committee of laypeople from the community, including a number of enthusiastic Chapel Haven parents who live outside the area who want a warm and welcoming local Jewish community like the JCC for their children to belong to.

Additionally, the JCC is hiring a consultant to survey the community and create focus groups to determine what’s currently being done to address people of all abilities and where the gaps are and what new programs can be created, Cohen said.

Cohen and Hurwitz both look at the JCC of Manhattan’s inclusive, accepting and innovative programming as inspiration for how the JCC of Greater New Haven’s programs could develop. Cohen said Allison Kleinman, the Director of Special Needs Programming at the JCC of Manhattan, is part of the JCC of Greater New Haven’s new committee. “We want to make sure we get it right and Allison is a tremendous resource who is willing to give of her time,” he stressed.

Cohen sees the new partnership with the Chapel Haven community as just the beginning of the drive toward more inclusive programs at the JCC. “We want to see what we can do together,” he said. “We want the JCC to be open to everyone.”

Thanks a Bunch Brunch!

The Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven recently held a Major Gifts Brunch at the Beckerman Lender Community Building to hear from our agencies about all of the amazing work they have accomplished in the past year thanks to the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven’s Annual Campaign. Below, Jewish Family Service of Greater New Haven Board President Linda Caplan, Federation CEO Judy Alperin and JFSGNH CEO Amy Rashba. At lower left, Betty Levy and Lindy Lee Gold. At lower right, President & CEO of The Towers Gus Keach-Longo and The Towers Board Chair Jackie Koral.

Norman Hanenbaum
FROM PAGE 19

While teaching there, Hanenbaum heard the then-Superintendent of Schools mention a word he had never heard before...autism. “I asked what it was,” Hanenbaum recalled. “I went to the dictionary and looked it up and told him I wanted to get involved in helping these students.” For several months, he worked one-on-one with a five-year-old boy with autism, using drumming to help him vocalize. “I was so intrigued to see how a person learns,” Hanenbaum said. “I called the state’s special education office in Hartford and they said they would love to have me help these students.” He took several classes and taught special education at Mansfield Training School for two years and then taught special education in the Hartford schools for 26 years. Hanenbaum retired from teaching in 1992, but then volunteered full time for 10 years at the Connecticut Special Olympics Warehouse in Hamden and Plainville. He also served as the musical director, driver and benefactor of the Alleluia Players, a special needs group of young people who performed at various World Special Olympics Games in Canada and the U.S., as well as the Kennedy Center for the Arts in Washington, D.C. For 11 years, Hanenbaum played saxophone every Tuesday night at the Westbrook Elks Club. He still plays the keyboard at many veterans’ events. He also serves coffee and Danish each month at the Newington Veterans Hospital. Each year, he sends out close to 100 handwritten Christmas cards for his many friends.

Hanenbaum is also close to his children and grandchildren. He talks to his son on the phone every day. “I’m very fortunate to have such a wonderful family,” he said. “I have a lot to be thankful for.” The walls of his home are covered with the many prestigious awards he’s received over the years for his volunteer work, but that’s not what drives Hanenbaum to help. “I do it from the heart. It’s a good feeling to help others. It stops me from being lonely.”
You make everything we do — possible. You open a child’s eyes to the beauty of our heritage. Revive the Jewish spirit in places where it’s been all but crushed. Arrive with whatever is needed, in the wake of natural or financial disaster.

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