Celebrating Shabbat this Summer in New Ways

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Mikvah Once Again in Use
New Haven Mikvah has finally reopened following months of extensive repairs.

Choose Your Religious School
Hebrew Schools throughout community teach fundamental values of Judaism and instill Jewish pride.

BDS in New Haven
Anti-Israel incidents on campuses quadruple. Israel Action Network, a Federation Partner, responds.

JCARR’s Generosity: A Family’s Story

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Honorable Menschen: Rabbi Reena Judd
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JCARR’s Generosity: A Family’s Story

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The Voice of the Greater New Haven Jewish Community
Memories From Day Camp

Every year, the Jewish Federation makes Jewish summer camp possible for over 1,000 children in our community. Camp Laurelwood, Camp Gan Israel, and JCC Day Camps are all supported through contributions to the Annual Campaign. Summer Jewish camp experiences are an investment that reaches far and beyond summer fun; campers are sowing the seeds for a lifetime of meaningful connection to Judaism. According to the Foundation for Jewish Camp, by the time campers reach adulthood, Jewish campers are 21% more likely to feel that being Jewish is important, 26% more likely to be members of a synagogue, and 25% more likely to feel very emotionally attached to Israel.

During the most recent summer of this program designed to develop more counselors from Akiva-Gilboa, we were excited to welcome back and look forward to Tal, from Hatikva Hatza’im, becoming part of our community.

Israeli emissaries (eshetachot) have enhanced our community for 10 years, and during that time more than 60 families have opened their hearts and homes to them. Many have made life-long connections. It is not unusual to hear stories of New Haven families traveling to Israel for return visits from past emissaries. In fact, Nir, a prior emissary, will accompany this summer’s EITs as a chaperone.

If your family would like to learn more about hosting an Israeli emissary, contact coordinator Amalya Brownstein, amalya@jccnh.org.

In this photo, I am standing at the dock of Camp Hilltop in Medford, NJ (circa 1972), which would grow to become JCC Camps at Medford, the largest Jewish day camp in the country. Many of my best childhood memories took place at JCC Day Camp.

My earliest memory is of Shabbat: sitting on the floor of the pavilion, the cool concrete under me, wearing blue shorts and a crisp white camp t-shirt as a local rabbi led us in prayers and song. I remember the candles flickering with the dense trees behind me. I remember the sweet smell of the fresh challah side as it was handed to each of us. I felt warm and special and part of something bigger than my 3-year-old self.

I was always a day camper. I spent two half summers at the New Jersey Jewish summer camp - Camp Hilltop in Medford, NJ; but falling over a low rock and my stitches on my forehead ended that façade. I loved camp and as a teenager I continued summers there as a counselor. Injured and ultimately a part director. When my friend kidnapped and blindfolded me for my 13th birthday (the same birthday that my lifelong crush sang me happy birthday to), I still knew I was at camp, with that unmistakable scent of the New Jersey pine barrens and the soft sandy soil under my feet. There is no question that camp played a huge roll in determining my Jewish future and in developing my leadership abilities. I will be forever grateful.

SHALOM NEW HAVEN

SHALOM NEW HAVEN is published six times per year and delivered free of charge to the Greater New Haven Jewish community. The Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven and the Afula-Gilboa (SNEC) partnership with the Afula-Gilboa Emissary Program is supported through the Annual Campaign.

COPY EDITING
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• July 20 for September/October issue
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• Nov. 25 for January/February 2020 issue
• Jan. 27 for March/April issue
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DON’T MISS OUR ANNUAL MEETING:
WED., JULY 10 | 7-9 P.M.
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Or contact Jeanette Yurman at (203) 387-2424 x325

SAVE THE DATE!
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Tu B’Av, the Jewish holiday of love, which is named for its date on the Hebrew calendar, the 15th of the month of Av—will be celebrated this year beginning at sundown on August 15, and throughout the day of August 16. This day of romance dates back to ancient times. During the Second Temple period, unmarried women dressed up in white clothing, went out to the vineyards to dance. Single men watched from the side, and then chose a wife for themselves. Though not as commercial a holiday as the popularly celebrated Valentine’s Day, the festive and romantic nature of Tu B’Av is still recognized within modern Israeli society. Music and dance perfor-

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**HONORABLE MENSCHEN: Rabbi Reena Judd Shares her Perspective on Being a “Rabbi-ing Rabbi”**

by Talia Hyman
Shalom New Haven Intern

Those who have spent more than a couple of minutes in the vibrant presence of Rabbi Reena Judd, the Quinnipiac University campus rabbi, know that her rabbinic role is more of a life mission than a job. “You don’t just leave it at the office,” she said. “It’s who you are and how you live your life and what you do and how you spend your time,” she added. “It’s the way you speak to the Torah, the way you teach the Torah, the way you read the Torah, the way you live the Torah, the way you practice Shabbat.”

Rabbi Judd received her undergraduate degrees in art history and social work, but recently received the honorary Doctorate degree of Distinguished site. “Distinguished communal and civic leaders and alumni will be awarded honorary degrees and prizes in recognition of their service to Reform congregations and North American Jewry, and in honor of their humanitarian work.”

“Looking for just the right spot?”

**SHALOM NEW HAVEN**

In Connecticut Remain High

by Talya Hyman
Shalom New Haven Intern

The number of reported anti-Semitic incidents in Connecticut declined slightly in 2018 but remained near-historic levels according to new data released in late April by the ADL (Anti-Defamation League). There were 39 incidents of anti-Jewish harassment, vandalism and assault reported in 2018.

Reena Judd, the Quinnipiac University campus rabbi, knows that her rabbinic role is more of a life mission than a job. “You don’t just leave it at the office,” she said. “It’s who you are and how you live your life and what you do and how you spend your time.”

This is my happy place, where I come for shleimut [completeness].”

Rabbi Judd received her share of the love she has for her garden. (Photo by Matthew Formeaux)

“I bring Jews in. I’ve grown the community; the Jews that are choosing to come year by year are steadily more observant in their own life,” Rabbi Judd said. About 25 students now attend the weekly Friday night Shabbat service she initiated to improve the environment for students from outside the Jewish community.

“My role is to make sure they know that Judaism cares if they’re happy or sad; they matter in the Jewish experience, even if they don’t know me,” she added.

For the past 25 years, Rabbi Judd has been working on a book about the values of hope, kindness, and compassion to all those she encounters. “My personal mission statement is ‘a place should be a part of it’,” she said, “And I’ve done that. Quinnipiac is a hell of a lot more Jewish because I’ve been there.”

“Such a big part of being Jewish is being present, bearing witness. Showing up for yourself- with intention and dignity,” she stressed. “Kavod and Kibud [honor/respect] are really important parts of how to be Jewish— you can’t be disrespectful of another person’s humanity. You can’t hold people against themselves.”

Working with students, she seeks to create an environment where every student can come to breathe in a safe space. “I’m the personification of ‘Jewish’ in your life right now,” she said of how the Quinnipiac students view her position.

“Rabbi Judd also acts as a personal mentor and friend to those who seek her wisdom and guidance: ‘My role is to make sure they know that Judaism cares if they’re happy or sad, they matter in the Jewish experience, even if they don’t know me.’”

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**NEW ADL REPORT: Anti-Semitic Incidents In Connecticut Remain High**

The number of reported anti-Semitic incidents in Connecticut declined slightly in 2018 but remained near-historic levels according to new data released in late April by the ADL (Anti-Defamation League). There were 39 incidents of anti-Jewish harassment, vandalism and assault reported in 2018.

The number of anti-Semitic incidents reported in Connecticut reached a peak in 2017, with 40 incidents, and 38 in 2015. This is the highest it has been in 12 years.

“While the number of incidents reported to our offices declined slightly in 2018, the level of reported anti-Semitic incidents over the last three years is the highest we have seen in over a decade,” said ADL Connecticut Regional Director, Steve Ginsburg. “Here in Connecticut, we are redoubling our efforts to educate students, community, law enforcement and leaders on this pernicious age-old hatred.”

**THE 2018 ADL AUDIT IDENTIFIED:**

- 40 cases of harassment and threats in Connecticut
- 40 cases of vandalism in Connecticut
- 1 assault in Connecticut

**WORKING TOGETHER TO INCREASE SECURITY**

Following the October 27th attack on the Jewish community in Pittsburgh, the ADL and Jewish Federations of North America’s Secure Community Network (SCN) came together to address hate, anti-Semitism and threats as well as violence targeted at the Jewish community in the United States.

Building from the experience and expertise developed within the Jewish community, and inclusive of other faith-based communities, the task force which includes representatives from local, state and federal law enforcement will make recommendations to more effectively address hate crimes while enhancing safety and security for all faith-based institutions.

SCN works closely with the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven

Nationwide, the U.S. Jewish community experienced near-historic levels of anti-Semitism in 2018, including a doubling of anti-Semitic assaults and the single deadliest attack in U.S. history at the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The ADL’s annual audit of Anti-Semitic Incidents recorded a total of 1,879 attacks against Jews and Jewish institutions across the country in 2018, the third-highest year on record since ADL started tracking such data in the 1970s.

A year marked by the white supremacist shooting spree that claimed 11 lives at the Pittsburgh synagogue, 2018 was punctuated by a dramatic surge in white supremacist propaganda activity nationwide. ADL’s Audit identified 598 people from across the country who were victims of anti-Semitic assaults in 2018, up from 21 in 2017, a 286% increase in just one year. While the overall number of incidents represents a five percent decline from the 1,986 incidents reported in 2017, the number still remains at near-historic levels – 48 percent higher than the total for 2015 and 56 percent higher than in 2013.
Alternative Shabbat Experiences this Summer

by Talya Hyman
Shalom New Haven Intern

This summer, experience the enjoyment of Shabbat with congregations throughout Greater New Haven as services are conducted beneath the stars, by a lake, and even on the beach.

Many community members are looking for an environment in which to experience their Judaism, without the formality of belonging to a synagogue. Additionally, traditional religious services within synagogue settings can be daunting and confining for some.

With this in mind, the open-door nature of the scheduled events allow for Jews across all denominations to come together in a pressure-free and fun environment. Those seeking a location away from synagogue experience, Shalom New Haven should look no further than these seasonal, alternative services being offered.

The various Shabbat services are being offered with the goal of ultimately inspiring us all to discover the beauty and depth of our own Jewish experience. Once we each uncover our personal sense of belonging, may we all connect--as one Greater New Haven Jewish community--to the inherent sanctity of Shabbat, together.

**TEMPLE DAVAI**

**Shalom New Haven in Orange** is offering their Shabbat Under the Stars services on July 26, at 7:30 p.m. on the synagogue lawn, so don’t forget your lawn chair! They also scheduled their Shabbat at the beach services at Walnut Beach in Milford on August 2, at 8:30 p.m. and August 30, at 6 p.m. Beginning at 4:30 p.m. on September 6, their annual BBQ plans gets underway with games & activities, followed by outdoor Shabbat services at 6 p.m.

**CONGREGATION SHLOM**

**Of Greater New Haven** is hosting their Outdoor Beach Shabbat on August 16 at 5:15 p.m. The synagogue’s website describes the event as a “Shabbat with a little bit of soul and a whole lot of spirit!” Participants should bring their own dinner, and a dessert to share.

**TEMPLE Emanuel of Greater New Haven** in Orange is offering their Beach Shabbat services on July 26, at 7:30 p.m. on the synagogue lawn, so don’t forget your lawn chair! They also scheduled their Shabbat on the Beach services at Gulf Beach in Milford on August 16 at 7 p.m. Participants are suggested to dress casually to wear a hat (as seagulls may fly away), and to bring a chair or blanket. Beginning at 6:15 p.m., PJ Library will be co-hosting the event, so children are encouraged to attend.

Shabbat stories will be shared and songs will be sung.

**TEMPLE BETH DAVAI**

**Of Cheverly** will be holding their Outdoor Beach Shabbat on August 16 at 5:15 p.m. The synagogue’s website describes the event as a “Shabbat with a little bit of soul and a whole lot of spirit!” Participants should bring their own dinner, and a dessert to share.

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**TEMPLE BETH TIKVAH**

**Of Madison** is hosting two Beach Shabbats, scheduled for July 19 and August 9, both at 6 p.m. at East Wharf Beach Park.

As details of the various events are forthcoming, community members are encouraged to check the synagogue’s websites for updates and more information.

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Lynn Bullard

SHALOM NEW HAVEN

*Tributes listed are up to January 23, 2018.
*Tributes listed are up to June 11, 2019.

In memory of Rivka Schlechter

Judith Alperin

5779 Page 24

In honor of Barnett & Helen Maller for
JEWISH FOUNDATION

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IN HONOR OF PHIL KNAUER

JUDITH ALPERIN CELEBRATING HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

IN MEMORY OF LUCY LEVY

IN HONOR OF NANCY KLINE'S BIRTHDAY

Jean & Jim Silk

IN HONOR OF NANCY ALFRE'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

Joanna Spector

In honor of Peter & Lois Silberman's 50th
Wedding Anniversary

Jean & Jim Silk

Christine & Marc Radner

In honor of Sue Miller

Kurt & Karen Sallath

In honor of Nancy Alfrey's birthday

Joanna Spector

In honor of Adele Altschuler

In memory of Helen Altschuler

In memory of Arthur Greenberg:

In memory of Irit Perkins' father

In honor of Andy Sarkany

In memory of Irit Perkins' father

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In memory of Moshe Schlechter

JUDITH ALPERIN

In memory of Arthur Greenberg:

JUDITH ALPERIN

In memory of Merle Hindehausen

Amy & Mark Holtz

In memory of Myrna Hindehausen

Amy & Mark Holtz

Jewish values of respect for self, others, and the environment are woven
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was born in Brno, Czechoslovakia, in 1930 and was deported to Terezin in 1941. Bass wrote a number of poems about his experiences as a child in Terezin, two of which, “Home” and “The Old House”, were used as lyrics for my musical compositions.

To write contemporary musical compositions influenced by the words of child poets in Terezin, I did extensive research on Holocaust poetry and Jewish music composition. It was important for me to convey the emotions expressed by these children’s words. By using discordant melodies and minor chords, while also retaining the simplicity, my goal was to convey the nostalgia that Franta Bass felt for his happier past. I chose to compose music set for a treble choir.

Like Franta Bass, many victims used art as a way to express their emotions. Judaism has a rich musical tradition spanning thousands of years and many genres. For my compositions, I tried to emanate the emotions that victims of the Holocaust felt, in order to continue its remembrance.

As with many concentration camps, a sign on the front of the gate at Terezin read, “arbeit macht frei,” or, “work will set you free.” This was a lie. In 1944, Bass was transferred to Auschwitz, where he was murdered.

To listen to Sophia’s compositions, visit jewishnewhaven.org/uprooted

Fourteenth Shoreline Jewish Festival on Guilford Green

by Rabbi Yossi Yaffe

Chabad of the Shoreline

The 14th annual Shoreline Jewish Festival will take place Sunday, July 14 from 12-5 p.m. on the Guilford Green. The festival features various styles of Jewish music, traditional and Israeli fair food (all kosher), an art and book sale, and children’s crafts and activities. This year’s musical lineup features Klezmer, Jewish rock and Jazz bands.

Artists and artisans will be selling a variety of Judaica, jewelry, clothing and art work. Books, videos and games of Jewish interest, for both children and adults, will be available for sale. Festival goers can choose from a variety of fair favorites, including hamburgers, hot dogs, falafel (an Israeli fried chickpea specialty), schwarma grilled chicken, potato knishes, homemade doughnuts, cotton candy, sno cones and more.

Admission is free. Food, crafts, and vendor items are for sale. Mr. Boris Mizhen is the primary festival sponsor. Additional Sponsorship provided by Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven, Gladstone Rehabilitation & Health Care in Old Saybrook “Right on the Water”, Sound Symphony Entertainment of Wading River, Guilford Courier, and Cherry Hill Construction. For more information, visit www.shorelinejewishfestival.com. Artists can reserve a booth for the day for a fee of $85. To help sponsor this unique event, or to reserve a booth, please contact Rabbi Yaffe at (203) 533-7495 or at chabad@snet.net.

Jewish Coalition for Literacy (JCL) impacts the lives of 300 children in New Haven public schools

“Being a JCL reading partner is the most rewarding volunteer work I’ve ever done. My sessions with my students are often the highlight of my week. I love being able to pick books that capture their imagination, hope to spark a lifelong love of books. In addition to reading, we talk, play games, and draw pictures. Many of the kids lack significant one-on-one attention, so these sessions are a wonderful opportunity to engage with them and build positive relationships,” Susan Epstein, JCL volunteer and steering committee chair.

Interested volunteers are encouraged to contact Emily Kurz, JCL Group Program Manager at (203) 387-2424 ext. 306 or emilyk@jccnh.org

For more information on Weddings and Events for all seasons, please contact Libby Rutty
African American Educational Law

by Sydney Perry
President, JFACT (Jewish Federation Association of CT)

By Sydney Perry, a gifted black attorney, founded the Equal Justice Initiative in Montgomery, Alabama, to defend the poor and wrongfully condemned. He has said that he wants the U.S. to "face its history," and recently opened the much-looked Legacy Museum and a lynching memorial. Stevenson recalls that when he visited the Montgomery, he was struck by the density of markers, monuments, and dedications to victims of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and the Urban League of Southern Connecticut, sponsored an event for almost 200 attendees who stood in solidarity with forthcoming knowledge of this critically important mandate. In addition to learning about the painful history of slavery, racism, and tacit acceptance of injustices, the curriculum will share the story of survival, resistance, courage, and the contributions of African Americans to our nation. In her new book "Stony the Road," Henry Louis Gates writes, "few American historical periods are more relevant to understanding our contemporary racial policies than Reconstruction." As Dr. B. Wells, a black journalist and co-founder of the NAACP, once opined, "the way to right wrongs is to turn the light of truth upon them.

Additionally, the most widely observed Jewish holidays and days on which most Jewish students and faculty will be absent are clearly indicated with asterisks. Through the usage of the holiday calendar, secular schools will become better equipped in catering to the practices of its Jewish population, thereby creating and ultimately promoting a greater sense of respect, sensitivity, and inclusion.

JCRC's mission is to represent the Jewish community's interests and concerns to public officials and agencies, the media and the community at large. It promotes the preservation and advancement of the State of Israel. Corporate Sponsor!

A conversation with the artist will be held Saturday, August 17 at 12:45 p.m., following the weekly services and luncheon; Sabbath rules will be observed. The exhibition ends August 20.

Increase your business’ name-recognition in the community and make an impact by becoming a corporate sponsor.

Contact: Amy Holtz | Chief Development Officer
(203) 387-2424 | aholtz@jewishnewhaven.org
jewishnewhaven.org/corporate-partnerships

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Left to Right: David Slossberg, President CT ADL; Irene Frank, CT historical museum, COO; Valerie Shultz-Wilson, President, Urban League of Southern CT; Dr. Benjamin Foster, Jr.; Sydney Perry, President, JFACT; Scott X. Eudaly, President, NAACP; CT; Michael Bloom, Executive Director, JFACT; Howard Samuels, CEO, Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford; Betty Gibson, CT State Rep., Bloomfield, Windsor, Steve Ginsburg, Exec Director, CT ADL.

New Jewish Holiday Calendar Bridges Jewish Community and Secular Schools

by Talya Hyman
Shalom New Haven Intern

The Jewish Community Relations Council (JOCR), the public affairs arm of the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven, has created a five-year calendar of major Jewish holidays and observances. This year, Connecticut’s Legislature is poised to rectify this by mandating the teaching of African American and Latino studies in our public high schools and developing an elective for credit within a few years. The seven Jewish Federations in Connecticut (JFACT) were prominently involved last year, along with ADL and Voices for Hope, in the mandate requiring the teaching of Holocaust and Genocide. This year, under the leadership of JFACT Executive Director Michael Bloom, we have supported and advocated for a similar law to be passed for teaching African American and Latino history.

Recently, the Connecticut History museum hosted an exemplary exhibit, “Black Citizenship in the Age of Jim Crow,” curated by Irene Miller. Bloom immediately saw an opportunity to bring together the Jewish and African American communities in support of and advocating for this educational initiative. The Jewish Federations, Anti-Defamation League (ADL), CT, National Association for the Advancement of Colored
Experience the thrill of history and the story of people in this truly amazing part of the world.

Uzbekistan is the proud home to a fascinating architecture and ancient cities, all deeply infused with the history of the Silk Road. According to legend, the First Temple was destroyed by the Babylonian Babylonians. The first documented Jewish presence in the region dates back to the 4th century C.E.

More details at jewishnewhaven.org/excursion
Мозуах на двери Винни-Пуха

В 1925 году Союзный Штат создания День Дружбы в первый воскресенье августа. В 1926 году Винни Пух был изображен после дружбы от Организации Объединенных Наций по предложению Никки Аники, жены тогдашнего Беремального секретаря ООН Кефа Анана. Генерал Кеф Аанин был депозитом, который сидел ООН чугун мемориал погибших. «Я думаю понять, что он был очень важным на международной арене, он боролся с антисемитизмом и обречением Хасидизма, - заявил президент Никки Пеллуни в своем заявлении, направлене соболезнования от имени семьи Аанин, когда он скончался.

Истории Винни-Пуха восхищают поколения уже более 90 лет. Со Винни Пухом, который анимировался полнометражной мультфильмакская версия Винни-Пуха для Диснея в 2004 году, появились серые символы и декорации. В одной из сцен, на двери Винни Пуха он наделся на уборку. И в конце, в началу сцены, расположены взрослые комментарии. И нам, и нам, что обозначает "озел- Диснея". Винни Пух и его друзья, с которым он общается и его эволюция, появилась редакцией принципиальной, помимо его вклада выбрать представители в курс по темам, которые он выбрал. Твоя жизнь, ваши приключения в волшебных приключениях проходят "Адам" в 2014 году. Классические детские истории Винни рассказывают о приключениях мальчика Кристины Робин и его друзей нянь, в том числе история о смерти Винни Пуха, про их виртуальные и дружеское способство в попадае в аниме-институт-истории, которые воры очень трудно выбрать. Нехватка в образовательном поучении дружбе оригинального с дружбой и бьется своим ключом и сильными сторонами, поясняет друг другу их валидных сложных ситуаций. Очень веселой образок могли - помогать друг другу.

In the preceding 40 лет наша община оказалась огромной помогаю дружбе. Крайнего Советского Союза. NewAmericanAcculturation организовала направленное образовательное мероприятие, в том числе выступления интересные собеседники со всего мира и обучение современным технологиям. Россиян и евреев было 30% по нашему мнению. Крайних Советского Союза недостаточно слова, чтобы выражать, как много значит для нас администрации Федерального и курьерского сообщества, поэтому мы просто снабжаем следующие: С Днем Дружбы! И давайте праздновать этот природу 4 августа.

For more information about the New American Acculturation Program, including sponsorships of specific programs, contact Yelena Gerovich at (203) 387-2424 x322, or email ygerovich@jewishnewhaven.org.
JCARR’s Generosity: A Family’s Story

While the rest of the world knows him and his brother Marvin for their bagels, the Shalom New Haven Intern Alliance for Refugee Resettlement (JCARR) has helped resettle four families in search of a better and safer life.

The family has begun paving their own path. After being pushed by community members who loved her food, the mother opened her own catering services. In the past year, she received awards in math, science, and social studies, as well as being named student of the month. She was able to further develop her love for Freshly Baked Bagels, Challah, Breads & Desserts Deli Salads & Side Dishes Gourmet Prepared Foods Freshly-Butchered Meats And Poultry mother’s catering services.

The family’s generosity continues to change their 10-year-old son with special needs a spot at ACES, his first time ever attending school. The boy’s education was the main reason they came to the U.S. The family was able to further develop her love for Freshly Baked Bagels, Challah, Breads & Desserts Deli Salads & Side Dishes Gourmet Prepared Foods Freshly-Butchered Meats And Poultry mother’s catering services.

FATHER sits with his youngest daughter and oldest son. The boy’s special needs played a major role in their decision to come to America. The boy’s special needs played a major role in their decision to come to America.

While the rest of the world knows him and his brother Marvin for their bagels, the family hopes that one day their 10-year-old son with special needs will be able to do them.

But not everyone has the same opportunities that we do. Refugee families escaping war torn countries don’t, and some of those families are right here, living among us as members of our own community. Since 2005, JCARR (Jewish Community Alliance for Refugee Resettlement) has helped resettle four families in search of a better and safer life.

The family arrived in New Haven on January 26, 2017, and JCARR stepped in to make their transition to American life as seamless as possible. JCARR provided them with a car to drive himself. Since arriving, the family has begun paving their own path. After being pushed by community members who loved her food, the mother opened her own catering services. In the past year, she received awards in math, science, and social studies, as well as being named student of the month. She was able to further develop her love for Freshly Baked Bagels, Challah, Breads & Desserts Deli Salads & Side Dishes Gourmet Prepared Foods Freshly-Butchered Meats And Poultry mother’s catering services. We greatly appreciate your generous support.

The Pilates studio, which opened at the JCC of Greater New Haven this past winter, is now expanding. “Pilates is such a beneficial method of strengthening your core and improving overall wellness that we are not surprised to see more and more JCC members adding it to their basic routines,” says Susan Donovon, Director of Health & Wellness Services at the JCC.

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Welcoming Our New Israeli Emmissaries

by Amalya Brownstein
Young Emmissary Coordinator,
Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven

It is with great pleasure that I introduce Tal Azizi (right) and Li-on Avraham (left), our newest Young Emmissaries from Israel. To those unfamiliar with the program, this is a ten-month-long volunteer service experience that is jointly sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven, the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI) and the Southern New England Consortium of Jewish Federations (SNECF). The Young Emmissaries are Israeli high school graduates who choose to offer their army service to serve as young ambassadors for Israel. The program aims to strengthen the ties to Israel by building personal connections between Jewish American and Israeli communities. The emissaries work as Israeli specialists, leading a variety of activities with spirit and creativity. They work with a wide variety of organizations and a diverse array of community members of all ages.

Li-on lives with her mom in Barak, a moshav in northern Israel near Afula. Her majors in high school were psychology, sociology and theater. She likes to read a lot and explore nature. In her free time, you can find her hanging out with friends and her little cousins. Last summer, Li-on was a counselor for a month at the JCC of Greater New Haven summer camp.

Tal lives in Rishon Letzion with his parents, twin sister and younger brother. His major subjects in high school were biology and chemistry, which he chose because he wants to understand the environment better. Tal and his family like to travel the world. In his free time, he loves to listen to music, play guitar and read. He also likes to spend time with friends.

Both Tal and Li-on have experience in leadership through their school, youth movement, and other programs. They look forward to spreading their love of Israel around our community.

As we wish success to the wonderful Ziv Peleg and Noa Saitowitz, our departing Young Emmissaries, we look forward to welcoming our new Young Emmissaries into our community. Li-on and Tal will be hosted by local families from the Greater New Haven area. If you are interested in hosting, please contact Amalya at amalyab@jccnh.org.

Please help us in extending a warm welcome to our new emissaries who will be arriving on August 28!

Thank You Andy

Endre (Andy) Sarkany augments his role as Manager of Donor and Campaign Services at the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven by presenting talks around the state to schools, libraries, senior centers and more. As a Holocaust survivor, Andy has a unique perspective on the role that today’s society can take to prevent bigotry and hate. He has given over 85 presentations during the current scholastic year. Pictured below, the myriad of gifts, letters, plaques, and notes of appreciation Andy gets on a weekly basis. Audiences love him.
**Changing Lives Through the Inclusion Program**

By Miriam Judd

Shalom New Haven Intern

Robbie Marcus is a member of the inclusion program. Twenty-five years old, this is Robbie’s third job, previously having worked at Walgreens and as a camp counselor. When the opportunity arose for him to begin at the JCC, he knew exactly what he wanted to do. “He’s a problem solver,” Kurz said, “so a job in facilities fits perfectly.”

Robbie’s supervisor was Chris Serio, facilities manager at the JCC. “The relationship between Robbie and Chris was indescribable,” Kurz explained. Paul, Robbie’s father, couldn’t agree more. “Chris was spectacular. He had a perfect balance of making sure Robbie delivered on his duties while also understanding how a person with special needs works.”

Robbie’s job was to pioneer a “preventive maintenance” program: instead of waiting for something to go wrong, Robbie performed weekly inspections, trying to catch a problem before it became one. Going around the building with a checklist, he noted when he saw something that wasn’t right.

Soon, the checklist became obsolete. “He asked me, ‘If I find something that’s not on the checklist, can I still tell you it needs fixing?’” Chris said. Kurz noted how much maintenance improved with the inclusion program.“Ceiling tiles were changed more often, expired fire extinguishers replaced, alarm systems fixed, and sagging ceiling tiles removed.”

Chris explained that Robbie didn’t need much more help than anyone else might. “The knowledge was all there,” he said. “The accommodation part was more along the lines of writing and carrying things, so we found ways to make it easier so he wouldn’t get frustrated.” With limited use of his arms, carrying a clipboard was difficult. Chris and Karlin Sandler, Robbie’s and Chris’s son, worked with Robbie on his inspections and wrote notes when he told her to. Chris said that when Robbie comes back to the JCC, he’ll look into getting him an iPad, making him even more independent.

Watching Robbie succeed in the program has been an incredible experience for anyone who’s met him. “You’re only as happy as your least happy kid,” Robbie’s dad said. “If you can hope for your kids to be happy, you should be happy.”

And Robbie? He couldn’t have had more fun if he’d tried. “I loved working with Chris, and I’ve made so many friends at the JCC,” he said, “everyone is so nice to me.” He hopes to come back in the fall and volunteer.

**ROCK TO ROCK: Environmentalism Meets Multifaith**

by Derek Holodak

Program and Development Associate, Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven

On Sunday, April 28, the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven’s NextDor group partnered with students and professionals from the Slifka Center, Muslim Student Association at Yale, and Yale Divinity School, as well as community members from the Moishe Pod, and the “Jews in New Haven” (formerly “Jewish Graduates and Professionals at Yale”) group to host a multifaith hike, bike ride and “picnic” in support of the annual Rock to Rock Earth Day Ride. Initially organized as an unofficial alternative for observant Jews who couldn’t participate in the official ride on Saturday, organizer Josh Weinstein decided to open it up to members of the Muslim and Christian faith communities after the massacre in Christchurch.

The 13 participants, representing seven different religious groups across Greater New Haven, enjoyed a picnic lunch at the Slifka Center after the hike/ride and discussed Jewish, Muslim and Christian approaches to environmentalism and actions that the respective faith communities could take to collectively minimize our environmental impact. Next year, the groups will be partnering with the Rock to Rock organizers to provide an official multifaith component on the Sunday after the main ride.

**JFS Spring Celebration was a Success**

On June 23 at The Towers at Tower Lane, Jewish Family Service (JFS) of Greater New Haven honored past presidents as the agency expands services to ageing adults.

From left to right front row: Charlotte Brenner, Herbert Newman, Carol Robbins, Rosalyn Spertus, Beth Fishman, Ivan Katz; back row: JFS CEO, Amy Raehal, JFS Board president, Linda Kaplan; Mary Lou Winnick, Steve Jacobs, Peter Zuckin, Jack Fast, Cindy Garrow and Rock Epstein

**JCC’s FREE summer music series**

JCC, 360 Amity Road, Woodbridge, CT 06525 (203) 387-2424 x217

Watch for upcoming announcements!

[More information and event details can be found at jccnh.org/give](jccnh.org/give)
New Haven Mikvah Reopens After Extensive Renovations

by Rabbi Fred Hyman, Ed. D
The Westville Synagogue, New Haven

After months of hard work, the New Haven Mikvah has re-opened. As the final preparations were being made, there was great excitement. Tova Emanuel Hyman, principal officer of the mikvah, stated, “We are thrilled that the mikvah is operational once again to serve the community. We are grateful for the determined efforts of the committee to see the project through.”

A mikvah is a bath or pool of water used for ritual immersion to achieve spiritual purity. According to Jewish tradition, ritual immersion is required for certain life-cycle events, is encouraged as preparation for holy days, and promotes the sanctity of marital relations, called Taharat Hamishpachah, or Family Purity. Shoshan Reinstein, a key committee member, explained that community members anticipated the reopening: “I have been receiving many calls asking when the mikvah will be able to use again.”

The New Haven Mikvah, at 80 Hurlbut St., was built in 1976 and has been a source of religious sanctity since its inception. In the 1990s, it was renovated and beautified with new bathrooms and preparation rooms.

Over a year ago, the main immersion pool began to leak. Much effort was expended to locate the problem but a solution was not found. The secondary pool was used exclusively and the regular functioning of the mikvah was maintained. In the winter, however, the secondary pool also began to leak and repair proved too costly. As a result, the mikvah had to be shut down.

In the meantime, a national organization called Mikvah USA was approached. The group assists communities around the world to build mikvahs, provide guidance, and to support the use of mikvahs. Their representatives came to assess the situation and agreed to take on the project. Mikvah USA raised tens of thousands of dollars necessary to make the repair of the primary pool. The project manager and crew worked for months to complete the task.

By the beginning of June 2019, not only was the problem fixed, but a completely new tiled pool was installed. Improvements include new heating and filtration systems, as well as a new gutter system to collect the rainwater needed for the mikvah.

By the beginning of June 2019, not only was the problem fixed, but a completely new tiled pool was installed. Improvements include new heating and filtration systems, as well as a new gutter system to collect the rainwater needed for the mikvah.

An event to celebrate the re-opening will take place on July 7 from 4-5:30 p.m. at the mikvah. Representatives of Mikvah USA and the individuals who donated the funds for the project will be present to share their stories. The mikvah will be open for immersion on July 8.

In the meantime, the New Haven Mikvah Society received a grant from the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven. The mikvah is supported by the New Haven Board of Rabbis. To help the mikvah continue to serve the community, please send your donations to the New Haven Mikvah Society, Inc. at mikvah.org/donate.

Temple Emanuel Recognizes Rabbi Michael Farbman’s 10 Years of Service

Temple Emanuel of Greater New Haven celebrated Rabbi Michael Farbman’s ten years of service to the congregation with a “Sweet as Honey” dinner on June 23.

Rabbi Farbman joined Temple Emanuel as its spiritual leader in 2010, following a year-long search to replace retired Rabbi Jerry Brieger. Born in Vitebsk, Belarus, the absence of organized religion did not deter Rabbi Farbman nor his wife, Olga, who, separately and then together, learned what Judaism was and what it meant to them. Both became interested in becoming rabbis, but decided that one in the family would be enough. Olga studied to become a Jewish educator instead. Rabbi Farbman was ordained at the Leo Baeck Institute in London, the day after he became a Bar Mitzvah, which was not available in the country of his birth.

Following his ordination, Rabbi Farbman served as Assistant Rabbi at the West London Synagogue in the UK, helped build the Shal Shalom Progressive Judaism Community in St. Petersburg, Russia and served as Rabbi-in-Residence at the Washington Hebrew Congregation. Serendipitously, Rabbi Farbman’s mentor in London was Rabbi Mark Wine. Temple Emanuel’s first rabbi, Rabbi Mark Wine has continued the strong musical influence of his predecessor, Rabbi Wine and Rabbi Brieger. He brings a new joy and energy to the congregation with his dynamic graphic style of preaching, accompanied by the Temple Band (made up of congregants from middle school to retirement age, including sons Sam and Robert). In May of this year, Rabbi Farbman received his second Master’s Degree in Sacred Theology from the Yale Divinity School.

Past TE President, Alan Kliger stated: “We have a Rabbi who has been an inspirational leader. He has provided a constant vision of the future, and urges us to discover what TE might become. Every day, our Rabbi shows his concern for each congregant - those in pain, those with confusion, uncertainty - - and also those with joy, with enthusiasm, with wonderful anticipation of new career, new relationships, new life.”

Temple Emanuel is very proud of Rabbi Farbman’s accomplishments and is honored to recognize his ten years of service to the synagogue and the greater New Haven community.
Berman, Director of the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) of the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven. “To answer this tactic of misinformation, JCRC responded with ... look at history and its implication on current life in Israel and the Israeli-Palestine conflict,” said Shifman-Berman.

The Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven and its JCRC work in collaboration with The Israel Action Network (IAN). IAN helps educate and mobilize communities to counter BDS. The JCRC have been working with faculty, and administrators — have the support they need to effectively counter BDS and other anti-Israel efforts.

In the presence of loving JCC members, family, and friends, the JCC unveiled a plaque honoring Arthur Greenberg, who warmly graced families as member for 18 years. Art Greenberg passed away in January at the age of 96. He was a constant and inspiring presence at the JCC as a member, father to the JCC of Greater New Haven’s Director of Art’s memory will be a blessing to all who knew and loved him.

The Jewish community in Greater New Haven has also been a target of some BDS activity, and the environment for Jewish students seems to be getting worse. Anti-Israel organizations maintain a heavy presence on campuses — such as newspaper op-eds, anti-Israel rallies, and city council resolutions.

For years, college campuses have been hotbeds of anti-Israel activity, and the environment for Jewish students seems to be getting worse. Anti-Israel organizations maintain a heavy presence on campuses — such as newspaper op-eds, anti-Israel rallies, and city council resolutions.

Shalom New Haven Intern

Hebrew School Opportunities Offered Throughout Greater New Haven

by Talia Hyman

Shalom New Haven Intern

Education remains a fundamental principle within Jewish tradition. The transmission of Jewish values, practices, and culture through generations ensures the continuity of our people, and beginning at a young age, instills in children an unparalleled sense of Jewish identity.

As the importance and core role of Jewish education is recognized, many parents opt to enroll their children at Hebrew School, a religious curriculum offered once or twice a week within synagogues. These Hebrew School programs teach children the intrinsic values of Judaism such as text, study, Shabbat and the holidays, Hebrew language, the importance of Tzedakah (charity), and chesed (kindness).

With knowledge comes power. When our children are exposed to the beauty of Judaism through learning about our traditions, they become the keepers of their own religious experience. That power, with its diversity and unity, enables them to pass the eternal messages of our faith on to others.

The following list is a guide to the Hebrew/School offerings in our community throughout Greater New Haven for the 2019-2020 academic year. Please contact the synagogues listed for more information, and to determine the program best suited to your child’s religious and spiritual needs.

More information on Hebrew School Opportunities Offered Throughout Greater New Haven: jewishnewhaven.org/hebrew-schools