Yaacov Agam, Designer of the Largest Menorah in the World

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CELEBRATING $76 MILLION AND COMMUNITY IMPACT
As the Jewish Foundation marks $76 million, leaders from the community talk about its impact. PAGE 3

SECURING OUR JEWISH COMMUNITY
Jewish Federation takes the lead on hiring Michael Shanbrom as Regional Security Advisor. PAGE 23

SETTLING REFUGEES IS IMPORTANT NOW MORE THAN EVER
Jewish Community Alliance Celebrates six years, six partners, and six families resettled with the help of the community. PAGE 4
In the spirit of gratitude and appreciation of this holiday season, I want to thank everyone who works tirelessly in support of our Jewish community. Greater New Haven is blessed to have a number of incredibly talented and hard-working professionals and volunteers. Our collective success would not be possible without partnerships between volunteers and professionals and partnerships between the agencies and synagogues.

Thank you to all who roll up their sleeves to propel our community forward. I also offer a most hearty thank you to the generous donors who collectively invested millions of dollars into the Greater New Haven Jewish community every year so that Jewish life continues to thrive. There are many ways to invest your charitable dollars and the Jewish Federation, Foundation and JCC of Greater New Haven is grateful to be your partner in philanthropy as we continue to be here for good.

A Season of Gratitude

When I think back to some of my fondest memories growing up, two holidays always stand out: Thanksgiving and Chanukah. Just a few years ago the two holidays coincided and the term Thanksgivingkah was born. At the time, it didn’t take much thinking to realize there was no way Thanksgivingkah would be celebrated in our house; but this year Chanukah begins just after Thanksgiving, and I thought it strange until I realized proximity that some families will break out their chanukiot early to light the candles and celebrate. And why not? Just being able to be together this year is a miracle worth celebrating after this long and difficult pandemic time.

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SHALOM NEW HAVEN, 2021

While local synagogues have historically assisted with Congregation Or Shalom (Orange) — and the Jewish Temple Emanuel (Orange), Congregation Mishkan Israel area synagogues — Beth-El-Keser Israel (Westville), JCARR was formed in 2015, a coming-together of five and Immigrant Services (IRIS).

Today, Issar’s entire family feels at home in New Haven, thanks to JCARR and its co-sponsor, Integrated Refugee & Immigrant Services.

One JCARR volunteer is Kris Oser, who moved to Connecticut from New York in 2020. A new member of Temple Emanuel, Oser reached out to Rabbi Farbman when she heard of JCARR. He put her in touch with SVA, and she quickly became one of the organization’s most passionate volunteers, assisting with expenses and much more, all with the goal of enabling the family to become self-reliant.

“JCARR” became a Jewish community’s response to the refugee crisis, even if it didn’t start out that way,” said Rabbi Michael Finkelstein, spiritual leader of Temple Emanuel in Orange. “It was looking for community sponsors, and the Jews in the room looked at each other and said, ‘How can we help?’

Since its founding, JCARR has resettled more families than any other co-sponsor in the state, thanks to donations and a cadre of volunteers of all ages who stand ready to jump in and help at a moment’s notice.

For many refugees, the volunteer is their “first point of interaction,” says Rabbi Farbman.

“JCARR allows me to live my Judaism,” explains Sivan Weisz, a refugee from the Republic of Azerbaijan, who has worked with JCARR for five years. “It’s an opportunity to make a real difference in the world and in people’s lives. I really enjoy being able to help.”

To learn more about JCARR, to make a donation or volunteer, visit www.jewishnewhaven/refugee-resettlement.

HIGH-TECH FAMILY, COSMETIC and IMPLANT DENTISTRY

Jeffrey Hoes, DMD, FAGD
Johna Zitlany, DMD
Gemma Kwolek, DDS
Julia Latham, DDS

At Brush & Floss Dental Center, our experienced, knowledgeable doctors and friendly staff are here to make you feel great about your oral health and appearance. Our motto is “love your smile”

OUR SERVICES

- Dental implant placement using X-Nay
- Invisalign and orthodontic treatment
- Sleep apnea treatment with a small dental appliance — no need for a cumbersome CPAP machine!

Happy Thanksgiving and Happy Chanukah!

As we continue to work hard to emerge from the pandemic, I want to express my profound gratitude to the amazing staff of the Federation, JCC and Foundation and all of our agencies and service providers. So much work is being done to insure that the needs in our community are being met. We are now well underway with the 2022 Annual Campaign — “Here for Good.” Our theme reminds us that our fundraising supports so many good activities in our community both locally, nationally and internationally. In addition, it reminds us that our fundraising raises the funds that provide our community with services, help to ensure that our community will be here in perpetuity. To that end, I want to take a moment to share with you the importance of your gift today, but also your commitment to helping us prepare for the future through our endowments.

We are so fortunate to have people committed to giving to our annual campaign year in and year out. In fact, this year we are recognizing over 900 people who have been giving to our annual campaign for over 25 years. How amazing is that? Some have been giving for 25 years and some have been large, but small contributions add up and are the ongoing commitment to our community. These annual gifts allow us to be here for those in need, to provide assistance within our Jewish home and to ensure the safety and security of our community. The annual campaign provides for the good of the community, but it is through planned giving that we build our ability to be here forever. The Jewish Foundation houses funds that have been donated through our PACE program. The Perpetual Annual Campaign Endowment (PACE) funds that you can set up with a gift today, over time or through wise planning, that provides an annual campaign gift in your name in perpetuity. This year, through prior PACE funds, our annual campaign pool started off with over $4,000,000. These are endowments set up through the Foundation that provide a set gift amount each year after you are gone. I know when people think endowments, large numbers pop into their minds, but setting up a fund with our foundation is easy and can be done with a current gift, gifts over time or even with pledges to give in the future as well. We currently have less than 100 PACE funds. For all of you who give year in and year out, please consider establishing a fund to make sure our community continues with your wonderful support forever. I would love our community to have as many PACE funds as we have donors who have given every single year for twenty plus years!

Thank you all for your commitment to our community. We are not out of the woods from this pandemic yet and need all of your support for this year’s Annual Campaign. We are here for good, but we need all of you to make sure that continues as our reality. For those of you who have given to the campaign, thank you! To those who haven’t yet, please make your pledge now. Finally, for those of you who believe that a thriving Jewish community is important for our children and their children, please consider opening a PACE fund and join me in helping create a strong foundation for future campaigns.

Thank you,
Steve

Dr. Steven Palefsky
President, Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven
Barbara Green Orell Receives Prestigious Award

Since 2004, the Kipnis-Wilson/Friedland Award has honored extraordinary women who have set a high standard for philanthropy, voluntarism, and good citizenship. The prestigious award is presented to Lions of Judah who have demonstrated the highest ideals of leadership and involvement. Recipients are selected by their communities as “women of valor” with a lifetime of commitment to the Jewish world. The award was established in recognition of Norma Kipnis and Sally Friedland, co-founders of the Jewish Federation of North America’s Women’s Division (JFNW).

The selection committee is comprised of the 5 most recent recipients of this award, Stacey Teichman, Robin Topper, Shirley Schneider, Judy Sickelson, and Betty Hoss. The group met and unanimously selected Barbara Orell for this prestigious award.

For more than 25 years, Barbara leads through an impact in the Jewish world both locally and globally. Barbara has served as the JW’s Chair of the Women’s Division, Annual Campaign coChair, as a member of the Planning and Information Committee, on the federation Executive Committee and as President of the Southern New England Community (SNEC), partnering with the Abu-Ghita region in Israel. She served on the JORC Steering Committee, is a member of our Jewish Foundation’s Board of Directors, has served as a Board member of the Temple at Tower Lane, New Haven’s Jewish senior housing community, and is a member of the Silver Circle Society, recognizing her 25-years of support of the Lion of Judah. Barbara received the JFNEC President’s award in recognition of her accomplishments and dedication to the Greater New Haven community. Barbara’s engagement in Women’s Philanthropy has paved a path for others to follow. Some of her most memorable accomplishments include Women’s Philanthropy resources to Uzbekistan, Colombia and Israel. Jewish life is so important to Barbara that she recently has established a Lion of Judah Endowment Fund to ensure that her legacy continues for many years to come.

Barbara was presented with a bouquet of flowers and a framed certificate of recognition. After the presentation, Barbara acknowledged the importance of Women’s Philanthropy and her role in helping to build the Jewish Federation of North America’s Women’s Division. Barbara was presented with a framed certificate of recognition. After the presentation, Barbara acknowledged the importance of Women’s Philanthropy and her role in helping to build the Jewish Federation of North America’s Women’s Division.

"Women’s Philanthropy is a vitally important area of support for the Jewish Federation of North America’s Women’s Division, and Barbara Green Orell has made an impact in this area. She has demonstrated leadership and commitment to the Jewish community in local and international ways. To that end, Barbara has also made an impact in the Jewish world by establishing a Lion of Judah Endowment Fund to ensure that her legacy continues for many years to come. Barbara’s recognition is a testament to her dedication and commitment to Women’s Philanthropy, and we are honored to present her with this award," said Stacey Teichman, the 2020 recipient of the Kipnis-Wilson/Friedland Award.

Barbara Green Orell, a recipient of the Kipnis-Wilson/Friedland Award, is a long-time supporter of the Jewish Federation of North America’s Women’s Division. She has been a member of the Women’s Philanthropy Leadership Council and has served on several boards and committees. Barbara has also been a key player in the establishment of the Lion of Judah program.

"Barbara has been a driving force in Women’s Philanthropy, and her contributions to the Jewish Federation of North America’s Women’s Division have been significant. Her leadership and commitment have made a difference, and we are proud to honor her with this award," said Sally Friedland, a co-founder of the Jewish Federation of North America’s Women’s Division.

The Kipnis-Wilson/Friedland Award is the highest honor bestowed by the Jewish Federation of North America’s Women’s Division. It recognizes women who have made a significant impact on the Jewish community through their philanthropic efforts.

CULTURAL ARTS SERIES: Better than Ever!

Welcome to the JCC’s 2021-2022 Beckerman Cultural Arts Series! Last season’s events were introduced to the Beckerman film series, grouping films by category with a single category discussion offered at the end of each group. Based on this success we are excited to introduce additional changes to this year’s program. This season both the film series and the arts series will be coordinated and grouped under category headings. Again, the programs will be introduced to you virtually and there will be a single concluding discussion at the end of each category. When you purchase your ticket or Category Pass you will receive an email with links to the films) and LiveZoom programs. The film tickets will once, afterwards be a full fee.

An unprecedented 2021-2022 season will be offered from September 2021 through May 2022. In chronological order, the following seven categories will be offered: Love and Memory, Perspectives/Biography, Disabilities (for Jewish Disability month), Women Breaking Barriers, Family, Peace, and Hopeful Culture. Generically, three films and two author programs are offered for each category. Through the program, participants will learn about incredible people, some well-known and some ordinary citizens, and their accomplishments. Many of the novels are based on real events that affected the authors. Participants will gain deeper insights into each theme as they are exposed to new literature and media. Tickets will be available for purchase per category, episode, or complete series. This is an exciting new format for the 2021-2022 Beckerman Cultural Arts and we hope you enjoy this stop forward.

To learn more, visit jccnj.org/beckermanCA.

JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE Programming

TEMPLE BETH TIKVAH

On Friday, October 15, 2021, Temple Beth Tikvah celebrated the installation of their new Rabbi, Danny Moss. At the music-filled event, the congregation was welcomed home by Rabbi Benjamin Friedman of Temple Isaiah, Westport, CT.

Rabbi Offner welcomed Rabbi Moss as the congregation enters into this sacred partnership and offered her partnership as he leads us into the future. Rabbi Summer passed the Torah that TBT wrote, on the occasion of its 30th anniversary, and offered a Rabbinic blessing to Rabbi Moss.

Rabbi Friedman gave the installation address, he draw parallels with the week’s parsha, Lech Lecha, and the beginning of the new journey that Rabbi Moss and his wife, Rabbi Susan Landau Moss, have embarked on. Rabbi Friedman introduced Rabbi Moss and Rabbi Susan Landau Moss with gratitude to our rabbis, and with compassion as he brings in his new role. He offered two pieces of advice for Rabbi Moss. The first was to love your people and help them to be more human. The second was to listen, to learn, and to grow.

In response, Rabbi Moss thanked the congregation and discussed why he chose TBT – its pioneer spirit, strong sense of character and deep human connections, and pursuit of tikun olam. He expressed his hope that he will not only be our Rabbi but also our Rebbe.

Rabbi Moss received welcome from the TBT Board President, Sarah Mervine, and the Youth Group President, Maisele Siegel. The congregation entered into a relationship with a congregational blessing.

This special Shabbat service was enhanced by the musical contributions of Cantor Jennifer Boyle, the TBT orchestra, and the TBT choir. Rabbi Moss received welcome from the TBT Board President, Sarah Mervine, and the Youth Group President, Maisele Siegel. The congregation entered into a relationship with a congregational blessing.

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This special program is funded through a generous grant from the Jewish Federations Association of Connecticut (JFACT).

When the question was put to Harry and Dana Schwartz, beloved Jewish community leader and 2021 campaign co-chair, Howard Reiter z"l, who told us to step up when he was no longer able to, we share his passion and his commitment.

Thank you to our incredible leadership for living their values and working tirelessly to help others through their support of the Jewish Federation’s annual campaign.

The exhibit of ancestor photos is a brilliant execution of a brilliant idea,” member Dennis Rader commented. “It was a very special event. The Ancestors exhibit currently on display at Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel (BEKI) in New Haven has captured the attention of both its members and the local press.

The exhibit highlights and celebrates the diversity of our community,“ a member of the community explained. “It shows that we Jews come from four corners of the earth. We are a very diverse group," member Diane Krevolin explained. She added, “In many cases it shows a world that no longer exists.”

This exhibit of ancestor photos is a brilliant execution of a brilliant idea,” member Dennis Rader commented. “It conveys the BJEI spirit of inclusiveness and participation for everyone involved with the synagogue.”

The next exhibit at BEKI will be work by Jennifer Anne Moses, an author and a painter in the Outsider tradition. Moses describes her artwork as “fusing Hebrew prayer with a distinctly Southern sensibility, born of the many years I lived in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.”

Moses explains, “Most of my paintings come to me as flashes of intuition. My inner eye ‘sees’ an image, sometimes accompanied by words, and I jot the image down so I don’t lose it. Eventually, if the image continues to nag me, I paint it. As most of my inner life has been fueled by my search to first meanling and belonging within Judaism while honoring my artistic and creative intuitions…I understand the two branches of my creative output—painting and writing—as two expressions of a single searching, and God-griven, impulse.”

Her eye-catching paintings will be on display at BEKI from December 4 through the end of February, 2022.
The essence of his art is the idea that nothing is constant and change. It’s in his name – YeHeVeh, which in Hebrew can also mean “philosophy, are rooted in the essence of the Hebrew language concepts that influence his spiritual world, as well as his personal Agam’s connection to faith has changed over the years, and he shies tutor for religious studies.

Where there is shadow, problems or sorrow, there is light; there is hope. There is light, said the 93-year-old year old artist, there are important works. “The shadow cannot exist without the light. Wherever there is light, said the 93-year-old year old artist, there are incredible rabbis in our community,” he said. Cohen-Fraade also wants to see the school utilization of the space around us.” More so than anything, he continued, “the beauty of the community that surrounds it. “There are so many incredible rabbis in our community,” he said. “And they want to tell the world to use those relationships utilized.”

Fun fact: According to the 2006 Guinness Book of World Records, the largest man in the world, weighing 6400 lbs., is colored gold and calls the corner of Fifth Avenue and West 50th home.

By Miriam Judah, Shalom New Haven Writer

Toni Cohen-Fraade isn’t new to teaching, and he isn’t new to Ezra Academy, either. He’s always been around Ezra, one way or another,” he said. Cohen-Fraade graduated from Ezra in 2005, after which he attended Chezky Academy and subsequently enrolled in Muhlenberg College in Allentown, Pennsylvania, where he majored in religious studies and history. After finishing his degree in 2009, Cohen-Fraade began substitute teaching for a myriad of Ezra class.

He also worked full-time as a Holm school teacher at Congregation Beth El-Rosi based in Westfield, the synagogue he grew up attending, and at the Conservative Synagogue in Westport. “Traditionally I had really loved working with kids and I really loved teaching,” Cohen-Fraade said.

To further a future in teaching career, Cohen-Fraade enrolled in the Padnos Education Program in Jerusalem. The new year program combines holistic study at the Padnos Institute of Jewish Studies with a Master of Jewish Education from Hebrew College. After a career in teaching and instructional school and mentoring at Luna Academy in Brooklyn, Cohen-Fraade was named the new head of school, following the retirement of Dr. Melanie Weinraub at the end of the year.

But this new position doesn’t mean he’ll be slip- ping away from the classroom. “If I ever consider myself a teacher,” he said. “This is just a further opportunity for me to share my love of Torah with several months in this new role, Cohen-Fraade has big plans that he’d like to help the school actualize. “My classroom at my previous school didn’t even have windows, lots of all this land,” he said, gesturing to the various green spaces on Ezra’s lot. “Jewish environment is something I’d like to focus on. We have all these great outdoor spaces, and we should be using them. It doesn’t all have to be outdoor learning, just better utilization of the space around us.”

Cohen-Fraade also wants to see the school adequately utilize the robust Jewish community that surrounds it. “There are so many incredible rabbis in our community,” he said. “And they want to tell the world to use those relationships utilized.” More so than anything, Cohen-Fraade is excited to learn and grow in this role. “I’m always looking for an opportunity to do something new,” he said. “I’ve already learned so much,” Cohen-Fraade said. When he first visited Ezra, Cohen-Fraade noticed this role. “I’m always looking for an opportunity to do something new,” he said. “I’ve already learned so much,” Cohen-Fraade said. When he first visited Ezra, Cohen-Fraade noticed this role. “I’m always looking for an opportunity to do something new,” he said. “I’ve already learned so much,” Cohen-Fraade said. When he first visited Ezra, Cohen-Fraade noticed this role. “I’m always looking for an opportunity to do something new,” he said. “I’ve already learned so much,” Cohen-Fraade said.

By Being Faithful, a picture from 2002

Shalom New Haven Writer

Toni Cohen-Fraade

CONGRESSION B’NAI JACOB
Sukkot 2021

Yaakov Agam on Faith, Art, and Formation

Jewish Community Commemorates Kristallnacht

Over 600 people were on hand Sunday, Nov. 14, to mark the anniversary of Kristallnacht at a community-wide commemoration, held virtually. The annual event, presented by Congregation Or Shalom of Orange, in partnership with the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven and with support from the American Society for Yad Vashem, honored the heroism of Archbishop Damaskinos of Athens, “whose brave acts defied the darkness of the Holocaust,” said Dr. Shalom’s Rabbi Ardon Wainhaus.

In 1943, as spiritual leader Greece, Archbishop Damaskinos worked hard to protect Jews from German soldiers and their allies. When the Nazi regime began deporting and killing Greek Jews in 1943, Damaskinos openly protested, publishing letters denouncing the Nazis’ actions. Even when the Nazi authorities threatened him with execution by firing squad, he remained defiant. Under his authority, churches were ordered to issue Christian bapt- ismal certificates to Jews, and he advised priests to help Jews for whom they could not issue certificates. He also convinced Archbishop of Athens to issue false baptismal papers to any Jew who asked for one. The commemoration was highlighted by a prayer offered by His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America, and comments from Father Peter Orfanakos of St. Barbara Greek Orthodox Church in Orange. A US Senate resolution was presented by Sen. Richard Blumenthal to the Archbishop’s family. Dr. Martine Yskanson, director of education of the American Society for Yad Vashem, and Lea Micha of the International School for board “Yad Vashem” shared their thoughts, as did descendants of those rescued by Archbishop Damaskinos. The commemoration concluded with a Q&A session led by Judy Alperin, CEO of the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven.

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Shalom New Haven Writer

Toni Cohen-Fraade

CONGRESSION B’NAI JACOB
Sukkot 2021
Charles Is At It Again

Best known as a popular local djay/emin and owner/operater of Club Kosher tours, Rosney has now added author to his list of accomplishments, with publication of his new book, The Book of Top 10 Horror Lists.

The book is a compilation of lists written by 100 celebrities, many of whom are Jewish friends of the author, including the late actors Ed Asner and actors William Shatner, Karen Black and Irwin Keyes, Rock and Roll Hall of Famer Elliott Easton of the band The Cars; comedian and author Laurie Jacobson; and so on. Also contributing lists were a Beatles, a Kartoff, a member of the rock band The Monkees, and a Munster from the popular ‘60s TV show.

Rosney, who is also creator and organizer of the annual “Magical History Tour” to Liverpool for Beatles fans, and the Graula Tour to Transylvania (Romania), a “vampire vacation” that brings fans to the land of Vlad the Impaler, is now ready to share his love of lists with the world.

Visit these Big Y locations for everything you need for Shabbat & the holidays:
830 Boston Post Rd., Guilford
22 Spencer Plain Rd., Old Saybrook
772 North Main St., West Hartford

FROM HOME!

Poem by Anne Schulman

His name is Fadi, a bear of a man no paws or claws hands as gentle as a new mother’s also gifted for healing

His home is in Arab East Jerusalem a fearful, oftentimes perilous neighborhood

His chosen work as a paramedic can be treacherous COVID-19 or not as accidents and terrorism plague those lands.

He has been trained by the Israeli Army in the use of the most advanced medical emergency technology and ways and means of transport to be used in emergencies marked with the symbol of the Magen David Adom, the Red Star of David the Jewish Red Cross. Red Crescent.

His neighbors first questioned the meaning of the bright insignia on the back and sleeves of his jacket and Fadi would begin to explain in his usual quiet and patient tone but then, abruptly his countenance would be altered with a loud exhortation “When you see this Star on a uniform or vehicle, you must NOT throw rocks and stones for they have come to help you.”

When challenged about why he works with the Jews he asserts “I believe in their mission to heal ALL people.”

When enjoined as to why he chose this often dangerous vocation he hesitates as his shirring dark eyes look heavenward, “My father always taught me to save lives, never to take lives. Salam and Shalom!”

A Man’s Choices
Inscribed by Shuly Cawood’s Workshop

Holiday Shopping, Dining & Festive Experiences
In Historic Downtown New Haven

The Shops at Yale

The Shops at Yale
A unique collection of more than 65 local boutiques, national brands, cafes, restaurants & attractions with convenient parking in historic Downtown New Haven. Plan your experience at TheShopsatYale.com.
Rashba's commitment and dedication to the Jewish community of Greater New Haven cannot be understated. In her time at JFS, she has headed a number of initiatives, from the mental health program to the aging adult program. Rashba is best known for her work with adoptions, having run and transformed the infant adoption program during her years with the organization.

"One of my favorite things I did here was start the Stars of David program," Rashba said, referring to the social group for Jewish families brought together through adoption. "It's a really incredible beautiful thing to see. Families who have adopted all coming together to celebrate each other. It means a lot for a child to look around the room and realize, 'I'm not the only one with a family like this.'

Even though Rashba hasn't run the adoption program since her appointment as CEO in 2010, she still receives cards, photographs and updates from families she worked with. "I'm truly looking forward," she said, "to seeing how all those children are growing up." Rashba explained the profound impact Rashba has had on the community and the legacy she leaves as she departs. "Amy identified the need for and started the Shalom Group Program. The positive and emotional impact on these families will continue," Rosalimsky Bronen said. "Her leadership as CEO exemplifies integrity and a work ethic which we are all grateful for. She has been a passionate advocate for JFS clients and our programs, and we will miss her very much.

"When I think about Amy running JFS these past several years," said Henri Schwartz, a social worker at JFS since 1986, "the thing that jumps out at me is the impact the mental health program to the aging adult program. Rashba is best known for her work with adoptions, having run and transformed the infant adoption program during her years with the organization.

"It's not too late to save a life in Israel this year."

For more than 90 years, American donors have provided vehicles, training, and supplies to Israel's national paramedic and Red Cross service, enabling them to treat the sick and injured under the most difficult circumstances and to save lives.

"No matter her role at JFS, leader or not, Amy was always a social worker. She always cared, she was always so dedicated," Perry explained. "She never let ego get in the way of her work. And she brought great people in to help her, that's what great leaders do. Even when she's not a social worker, she's always a social worker at heart.

"It's a tough situation to be in, the switch from being someone's colleague to being their boss," Perry said. "But it wasn't tough for Amy, because people always knew they could trust her. She has so much humility and empathy, and she always wants to listen to what people have to say. She is a natural leader." More than just a leader, Perry explained, Rashba has always been and will always be a social worker at heart. "No matter her role at JFS, leader or not, Amy was always a social worker. She always cared, she was always so dedicated," Perry explained. "She never let ego get in the way of her work. And she brought great people in to help her, because that's what great leaders do. Even when she's not there, they will be.

Irene Rosalimsky Bronen, who serves as president of JFS, explained the profound impact Rashba has had on the community and the legacy she leaves as she departs. "Amy identified the need for and started the Shalom Group Program. The positive and emotional impact on these families will continue," Rosalimsky Bronen said. "Her leadership as CEO exemplifies integrity and a work ethic which we are all grateful for. She has been a passionate advocate for JFS clients and our programs, and we will miss her very much."

As Rashba's time at JFS comes to a close, her gratitude and impact on the Greater New Haven Jewish community continues to grow. "My entire professional career has been spent at JFS," Rashba explained. "I was 27 and unmarried. All sorts of amazing life events have occurred during my time here. When I think about the career I was able to have at JFS, I will be forever thankful. To both JFS and the people who worked with and the people who came to me for help. It's been the privilege of a lifetime."
Establishing a (or adding to an existing) donor-advised fund at the Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven is able to BE HERE FOR GOOD. We are here for our community, and for other communities, in Israel and around the world.

**Talk About GIVING at the Dinner Table**

Giving thanks is a key Jewish value. Whether it’s Thanksgiving, a Chanukah gathering, or an evening family meal, use these opportunities to be grateful, think about what or who have brought you to this moment, and share your values.

By this, we talk into 4,000 years of Jewish wisdom.

**HERE’S HOW:**

- **What are you grateful for?**
  - How can our giving bring more of that to the world?
- **Tell a story about your family (in the year-pass)?**
  - How does that story affect how you give your money?
- **Think about a time when you benefited from someone else’s giving. What did it give you?**
- **How can you pay that forward?**
- **What was your most meaningful giving experience this year? Why?**
- **How are we giving with, and not just giving for?**
  - What is your involvement with the issues look like?

**Responding to crisis.** Last year we distributed $500,000 through EMERGENCY RELIEF EFFORTS, including COVID-related and natural disaster support.

- **What issue keeps you up at night?**
  - What was your most meaningful giving experience this year? Why?
- **At the end of your life, if you could make one change in the world, what would it be?**
  - Making Jewish communal life accessible by enabling programs and events on zoom
- **How do you balance giving to meet immediate needs with giving to mitigate the need altogether?** (Example: Feeding the hungry versus combating hunger)
  - The giving puts us in a “abundance mindset” rather than one of scarcity. How can we hold this mindset year-round?
- **What is your mindset year-round?**
  - Thanksgiving puts us in an abundance mindset year-round.

**End-of-Year Tax-Saving Tips**

As we approach Chanukah and the end of the calendar year, we wanted to make sure that you are aware of some of the tax-saving tips below:

- **Certain tax provisions enacted in 2020 could be beneficial:**
  - The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act enables the current deduction of up to 50% of adjusted gross income for cash gifts to charity (other than to donor-advised funds, supporting organizations, and private foundations). Individuals considering large cash donations may find this one-year expansion of the AGI limitation particularly beneficial.
  - The IRA charitable rollover: The IRA charitable rollover remains an attractive alternative to those over age 70½ who may not otherwise be able to itemize their deductions and claim a tax benefit from a charitable contribution. Please see the details on page 18.
  - **Consider Bunching:** No longer itemizing? If you are no longer itemizing on your 1040 you may not otherwise be able to itemize their deductions and claim a charitable income tax deduction for your gifts. Consider bunching multiple years’ worth of gifts into one year, enough to get you over the standard deduction amount. This can be fairly simple to do with a donor advised fund (which you can do through the Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven)—and this will allow you to claim a deduction in the year you make the gifts, while distributing the monies to your choice of charities over several years.
  - **When possible, use appreciated assets to make a gift:**
  - Donating stock or other appreciated capital assets remains a best practice. Please see the details on page 21.
  - **Other charitable planning strategies might make sense:**
  - In addition to giving long-term appreciated securities, there are several other charitable planning strategies that can be beneficial. For example, consider establishing a (or adding to an existing) donor-advised fund at the Jewish Foundation and take advantage of an immediate charitable tax deduction and the ability to recommend grants from the fund over time.

Other charitable giving vehicles include a Charitable Lead Trust (CLT), especially as interest rates remain low. A CLT is an irrevocable trust that benefits charity as well as non-charitable beneficiaries such as family members.

- **Some wealth transfer strategies may be appropriate, especially as interest rates remain low.** A CLT is an irrevocable trust that benefits charity as well as non-charitable beneficiaries such as family members.
  - A Charitable Lead Trust (CLT) is an irrevocable trust that allows you to give assets to charity while preserving the right to receive income from the assets for a term you specify, and then transfer the assets (and any income generated from the assets) to non-charitable beneficiaries at the end of the term. This can be an attractive option for those who are in a position to give large amounts of money to charity and want to generate income for themselves or their family for a period of time.
  - **As with any significant tax and charitable planning, you should consult with your professional advisor.**

**WHAT TO DO IN ORDER TO ENSURE YOU CAN CLAIM A CHARITABLE DEDUCTION FOR 2021:**

- **For donations of cash (including checks), your donation must be made on or before December 31.**
- **For donations of stock, your stock must be transferred out of your account on or before December 31.**
- **For donations of cash (including checks), your donation must be made on or before December 31.**
  - **For donations of stock, your stock must be transferred out of your account on or before December 31.**
- **For donations via credit card, your credit card donation must be processed on or before December 31.**

**How it works:**

1. **Establish a special charitable fund in your name with the Jewish Foundation.**
2. **Contribute your appreciated securities.**
3. **Foundation will sell the securities and create a fund with the sale proceeds.**
4. **You receive a tax receipt for gifting long-term appreciated securities, there are several other charitable planning strategies that can be beneficial.**
Retirement Plans and Charitable Giving

We are the hub of our region’s many diverse Jewish communities. Our dynamic ecosystem of schools, social services agencies, communal and philanthropic organizations, relies on our ability to see the big picture, facilitate collaboration, and advocate for the needs of the community as a whole. We build and sustain a strong, vibrant Jewish world every day.

We stand up for our values. engage at the local, state, and national levels, representing the Jewish community’s interests and concerns to public officials and agencies, the media, and the community at large. Through our Jewish Community Relations Council (co-chaired by Arthur and Betty Levy), the Jewish Federations Association of Connecticut (JFAC) and the National Jewish Council for Public Affairs, we protect and defend our Jewish values, whether a violation impacts our community or neighboring communities.

We create a safer world for Jews around the world. While most of our resources are invested in our local community, a small portion goes to people we may never know or see. Jewish life is enriched in Latin America, Europe, and the former Soviet Union, connecting Jewish communities around the world as we build Jewish identity, knowledge, and skills—of which can then pass on from one generation to the next.

We inspire Jewish Journeys, from Jewish day schools, celebrating Shabbat with friends, learning about Jewish values or traveling to Israel for the first time, the Jewish Federation helps make as many Jewish experiences as possible through its support of local partners, granting direct program proposals. To ensure the future of the Jewish community, new pathways to connection are paramount.

Your philanthropic dollars helped the Jewish Federation and Jewish Foundation do so much good in 5781. Together, we supported Jews in need, sustained our older adults, and assisted quality Jewish education...

What is the Jewish Federation?

For example, Mr. Cohen passes away (assume Mrs. Cohen predeceased him). Cohen’s passing, the charity would have received the entire IRA, tax-free. Mr. Cohen could then leave his other, tax-free assets to his sons.

A TAX-SMART SOLUTION:

If Mr. Cohen had named a charity as the beneficiary of the IRA, at Mr. Cohen’s passing, the charity would have received the entire IRA, tax-free. Mr. Cohen could then leave his tax-free assets to his sons.

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*Want to take advantage of the charitable IRA rollover but only have a 401K/403B? See if you can roll your 401K/403B into a qualified IRA. Please consult your professional advisor concerning your tax plans.

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Your Annual Campaign Dollars at Work

JEWISH EDUCATION $465,000
- Day Schools
- Bently Long Early Learning Center
- Bicultural Hebrew Academy
- Ezra Academy
- Jewish Teen Education (JTE)
- New England Jewish Academy
- Southern Connecticut Hebrew Academy/Beis Chana Academy for Girls
- Talmud Torah Menachem—Support for Special Education at Religious Schools

CHILDREN ENRICHMENT $230,000
- MainSpace
- New Haven & Shaler Y Bender Swimming Pool
- Rothberg Family Climbing Wall
- Slifka & Recreation programs

ISRAEL & OVERSEAS $370,000
- American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee
- Holocaust Commemoration and Education
- Jewish Historical Society of Greater New Haven
- New Haven Day School
- New Haven Jewish Cemetery Association
- New Haven Mikvah Society
- PJ Library
- Shalom New Haven
- Synagogue & community support
- Women’s Philanthropy

COMMUNITY OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT $225,000
- Center for Jewish Life & Learning Programs & Events
- Hebrew University & Free Loan Association
- Jewish Community Relations Council (JFACT)
- Women’s Philanthropy

SENIOR ADULT SERVICES $53,000
- JCC Day Camps
- Camp Laurelwood

CHILDREN & YOUNG ADULTS $215,000
- DEVE
- Adult Day Services
- Camp Laurelwood
- Jewish Community Alliance for Refugree Resettlement (JCARR)
- Merchant’s Camp
- Quinnipiac Hebrew Academy
- Silver Circle Society
- Women’s Philanthropy
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Total: $2,470,000
Federations to Increase Jewish Security

“I am thrilled to dedicate myself full time to working with the Jewish institutions in our communities to make them more safe, secure, and resilient.”

Michael Shanbrom, Regional Security Advisor

This is becoming a reality for many Jewish adults. Pew Research Center data released last May showed that 52% of surveyed Jewish adults feel less safe as a Jewish person than they did five years ago. Twelve percent of those surveyed say these feelings have led to hesitation in participating in Jewish community events.

To address continuing concerns about anti-Semitic incidents at synagogues and other Jewish institutions, the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven, in collaboration with the Jewish Community Centers of Connecticut, Connecticut Jewish Women’s Foundations, and the Jewish Community Center of Greater New Haven, announced the creation of the Regional Security Advisor (RSA) position.

The full-time RSA, Michael J. Shanbrom, a veteran of both the New Haven Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), will hold multiple national-security leadership roles. A New Haven native with strong ties to the community of Greater New Haven, Shanbrom currently serves as a Westport Police commissioner and has previously served on the Board of Directors and security committees of multiple Jewish organizations.

“I am thrilled to dedicate myself full time to working with the Jewish institutions in our communities to make them more safe, secure, and resilient,” Shanbrom said. “We want to make these communities more active. We want them to be more safe, secure, and resilient.”

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the driving force behind the Foundation’s success. Lisa’s expertise in endowment law, charitable and tax planning, and philanthropic tactics, as well as her passion for our community, have made her an invaluable asset. We are lucky to have her at the Foundation.

The Foundation prioritizes working with donors to help them support causes most important to them. “I view my most important role as that of a philanthropic advisor,” said Stanger.

Barry Vine, a New Haven native, is a prime example of the strong relationships the Foundation has formed with donors throughout the country. “I’ve been giving to the Jewish community since I was nine-years-old and bringing donations in envelopes from my grandmother to local rabbis,” Vine said. As a committed donor who has established multiple funds at the Foundation, he appreciates the Jewish Foundation’s long-standing commitment to the Jewish Community and its stewardship of community resources. “I give to help the Jewish community survive and thrive...the Jewish Foundation helps facilitate this,” he said.

Congregation Beth El Reizer Israel (BEKI) moved all their funds to the care of the Foundation 20 years ago, “We didn’t have the professional means to do this right,” said Donna Levine, who served as the congregation’s treasurer at the time. “We appreciated the initiative and leadership from the Jewish Foundation that helped us raise $1.8 million in legacy commitments.”

Dr. Craig Sklar, who served as Chair of the Jewish Foundation when this achievement was reached, said “as a beginning of a more vibrant future: “I view it as a start...The more we raise, the more we can do to ensure the future of our community. There is still so much work to be done,” Sklar said.

Impaler and Dracula, has acted in many horror films. He wrote the book when the pandemic sideline him on DJ/MB business. The idea for a book of lists from an online newsletter he wrote, called “National Horror Happenings,” which included an occasional Top 10 List written by a celebrity. In most cases the list focused on their favorite monster movies. Others, however, listed scarriest scenes in horror films, funniest scary movies, scariest horror scenes in history, and so on. Within a short time, there were kids from actors, rock stars, athletes, horror icons, directors, producers, scream queens, radio and TV personalities, and other pop culture luminaries.

The book also contains hilarious and sometimes thought-provoking comments explaining the choices made.

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Train Like An Olympian To Get And Stay Fit

by Susan Donovan
Director of Wellness Services

While you may not be training to compete in the Olympics, non-competitors can learn a lot from the world-class athletes. The same process that helps these champions hone their bodies and minds to set world records can actually help us all improve our health, fitness, and overall well-being.

These training secrets of Olympian athletes can help you achieve and sustain lifelong health habits and empower you to become a “super” version of yourself.

1. GET A COACH

Every good athlete will turn to a coach or trainer for help and guidance. In addition to expertise, this mentor can provide accountability and motivation. Everyone can benefit from this help to accomplish sustainable health and wellness goals in the safest most efficient way possible.

2. TRUST THE PROCESS

Success to achieve any goal does not come overnight, but can be accomplished with patience, trust, and consistency in following a strategic plan, if you want to change your habits to improve your fitness, create a plan and stick to it. Establish a long-term goal with small consistent steps. Make modifications when necessary and stay committed to the big picture.

3. RECOVERY IS HUGE

It’s been said in times in the world of competitive fitness, train hard but recover even harder! Olympians know that training intensity and strategically will pay off. And they don’t want to put additional training stress on their bodies than what is necessary. The same holds true for anyone who wants to improve their health and fitness. You can often accomplish more in 30 minutes of a strategic exercise plan than you can in an hour or more of an unorganized workout. Improving the quality of your workout does not mean you have to make your workouts shorter, it could mean paying attention to different aspects of technique or switching up the activities you do. Hiring a professional is a great first step to maximize the quality and efficiency of your fitness plan. Consider how these principles could help you on your journey to lifelong health and fitness.

A Special Trip to Israel

Thanks to the Jewish Foundation’s Israel Experience Scholarship, Zach Liefer had the incredible opportunity to travel to Israel. This summer he and 45 of his peers, all high school seniors from URI’s Eifer Camp, had the trip of a lifetime. “Our journey in Israel started in the Negev desert, just like our ancestors who came to this land escaping slavery,” he recalls. Over the course of the trip, the group also visited Jerusalem and the Western Wall – where thousands of people pray for the very first time – the Dead Sea and Masada. After spending the night in Bedouin tents, they visited the Dead Sea, Masada, and religious sites.

For more details about the event there is no conflict, discussing with Arab-Israelis their situation and visiting a security barrier between the event there is no conflict, discussing with Arab-Israelis their situation and visiting a security barrier between Israel and the West Bank,” he concludes. “This trip was an incredible experience through Israel with all of your friends is an indescribable feeling. The memories which I created on this trip are ones that I will cherish for years to come.”
Freedom of Speech

By Yelena Gerovich
New American Acculturation Program Coordinator

The Nobel Prizes, which this year celebrate their 120th anniversary since the first awards in 1901, announced yesterday in Russian speaking countries, was won by Irina Polykova, Michael Shekman, Yosif Gorenbeyn, Michael Tsechansky, Victor Serebriakov, and Alexander Medovnikov. “It isn’t enough to talk about peace. One must believe in it. And isn’t it enough to believe in it? One must work for it.”

Our Jewish community, helping them learn more about American and Jewish history and traditions.

Our programs and celebrations were recorded and placed on YouTube for those who were unable to connect via Zoom. Many members of our community and their friends benefited from our programs, but we also granted access to those who could not attend in person.

In 1985, while the Soviet government was engaged in the suppression of dissident journalists, the New American Acculturation Program was founded. Its mission was to help new Americans integrate into American society and culture.

As a result of the work of the New American Acculturation Program, our community has been able to learn about American and Jewish history and traditions. We offer assistance with citizenship exam preparation, and help set up the newspaper called Novaya Gazeta, buying the publication its first computers.

This year, its editor-in-chief of Muratov, who wrote revealing articles on the war in Chechnya, was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

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Freedom of Speech
Women’s Philanthropy Why I Give

In this series, Shalom New Haven features women in our community who make a gift in their own name to the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven Annual Campaign. A Lion of Judah is a distinction given to a woman who makes a gift at the level of $5,000 or more. A Pomegranate is a gift of $1,800-$4,999 and a Sabra gift of $365-$1,799.

Dr. Betsy Schulman is a Clinical Research Scientist at the Yale University School of Medicine, where she studies the genetics of neuropathic pain, and rare genetic disorders. In addition, she serves as the Managing Scholar at the Yale Institute for Advanced Study, a member of the Phi Beta Kappa Senate, and a member of the Phi Beta Kappa Senate.

Major Justin Elicker celebrated with community leaders, volunteers, Board of Directors and residents at The Towers at Tower Lane on September 30, the launch of their program, “Fueling Seniors.” The event included the unveiling of a new logo for the program.

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What Is Chanukah All About?

Chanukah is a story about Jewish pride. It began when the Jews were pressured to assimilate, to forget their Jewishness and blend in with those around them. However, the Jews refused to do this, and they fought to keep the Torah and the Jewish traditions. Chanukah celebrates the miracle of that victory and being proud of being Jewish!

Why do we eat fried latkes (aside from them being delicious)? To remind us of one of the main miracles of Chanukah: that after returning to the ransacked Jewish temple after the war, the Jews found only enough oil to light the menorah for one day. However, the light lasted a full eight days - giving strength and hope to the Jewish nation.

5x נוּן גיִמֶל הַיֶּה שִֹנ

That reads: Nes gadol hayah shalom.
It means: A great miracle happened there.

Chanukah Facts

Chanukah Facts

Chanukah Fun!

By Chava Light

GET THE GIMMEL!

Find your way through the dreidel maze and get to the winning letter!

There are 4 letters on the side of the dreidel that mean different things!

They are:

 nun  גיִמֶל  הַיֶּה  שִֹנ

These letters stand for:

טָנוּנָה גיִמֶל הַיֶּה שִֹנ

That reads: Nes gadol hayah shalom.

It means: A great miracle happened there.

ADVERTISE HERE
to support engagement with children and young families in our Jewish Community!

Contact:
Lindsey Barger
at lbarger@jewishnewhaven.org
or call (203) 387-2424 x276

COMMUNITY KIDS

How much Chanukah gelt did the skunk get?
One cent.

What’s the best Chanukah gift for the person who has everything?
A burglar alarm.

What do you call a speck that falls into the latke pan?
An unidentified frying object.

What did the candles say when the menorah complained about getting too hot?
“Whoa, a talking menorah!”

BE IN OUR COMMUNITY KIDS SECTION!
Have your adult send a photo of you to SNH@jewishnewhaven.org!
We would especially love seeing your Menorah activity!
“HERE FOR GOOD” means Federation is here to provide resources, strength and support to help build and sustain flourishing Jewish communities at home and around the world. Whether it’s a response to attacks on synagogues and Jewish life, missiles raining down on Israel’s south, hurricane relief in New Orleans, Houston or Haiti, or the COVID-19 global pandemic, Federation is there to help and rebuild. For us, it means we are, and always will be, the engine for Jewish communal life in Greater New Haven. We are here for good, for the past 100 years and the 100 years to come.

Please give generously. Visit jewishnewhaven.org/give