Jewish Foundation Launches ‘One Happy Camper’ Program

YIDDISH THEATER PERFORMS IN HAMDEN
Tony Award-winning troupe comes to Congregation Mishkan Israel on Feb. 3.
PAGE 9

CHILDCARE CENTER NAMED FOR BEVERLY LEVY
The JCC’s childcare center will be named in honor of Beverly Levy.
PAGE 16

MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME AT JCC’S NEW CAFÉ 360
The JCC’s new food marketplace will offer everything from artisan coffees to salads, sandwiches and pastry.
PAGE 14
Looking Forward to a New Beginning
As if that was not enough, recently, the proclamation of the United land reimagined; at once ancient and modern expression of our Jewish home yearned for while living in exile. The place our people have long enough to clean and rededicate the Temple so that Jewish life could resume in our holy city.

In California, we saw decimating wild- fires wreak havoc, resulting in mass evacuations for Los Angeles synagogues, the multi-day closures of Jewish community institutions and schools, and burning of the lands up to the very edge of Camp Ramah. But a great Chanukah miracle happened, and the camps grounds were spared from the fire. In New Haven, we breathed an extra sigh of relief, as we know a little something about the damage fire can do to beloved community structures.

The Temple so that Jewish life could resume in our holy city. The place our people have

Correction
In the last issue of Shalom New Haven, the founders of the New Haven Holoocaust Museum were listed incorrectly. The original founders of the New Haven Holocaust Museum were: Mayor Frank Logue and his First Lady, Mrs. Doris Zelniker, the two Holocaust survivors – archivist Augustine “Au” Zelniker and his wife, Cora Cohn Zelniker, and Marvin Cohen, as well as Jewish community leaders Herb Setlow and Arthur Spiegel, Dr. Phillip Felig, Bernice Rosa DeLauro and Doris Zelinsky, the two site visionaries - architect Augustus “Gus” Franzoni and expert nursery manager Marvin Cohen, as well as Jewish community leaders Herb Setlow and Arthur Spiegel, Dr. Phillip Felig, Bernice Rosa DeLauro and Doris Zelinsky, the two site visionaries - architect Augustus “Gus” Franzoni and expert nursery manager

The Towers Residence Association Dedicates Foundation Endowment Fund in Honor of Hyla & Barry Vine
By Cynthia Mindell
Special to SNY
In honor of The Towers’ 50th anniversary, their Residents’ Association has dedicated a new endowment fund at the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven, named for Towers supporters Hyla and Barry Vine. Starting with a $1,000 gift, association members will work to grow the fund and will determine how to use the interest to benefit seniors at The Towers.

With a reputation for active senior living, The Towers fosters a workforce engaged, most notably through the Residents’ Association. An independent 501(c)3 organization, the association is guided by its own bylaws and board and boasts more than 200 voting members — including The Towers’ population of residents. As the name suggests, the Residents’ Association is a social- organization, raising money not only for social activities for Towers residents and visitors, but also for local philanthropic efforts and distant humani- nation needs like the devastating hurricanes Harvey and Maria.

To seed the endowment fund, the association raised money through activities like raffles and Bingos, and at the Towers’ Vine Gift Shop, which is overseen by 94-year-old resident Fran Wallnau and staffed by a volunteer force of some 30 fellow residents.

Other News at The Towers
In November, some 200 former residents of the onetime thriving Jewish neighborhood of Oak Street in New Haven gathered at The Towers for a reunion, replete with entertainment and nostalgic tidbits like mile-high deli sandwiches and black-and-white cookies.

Fourteen Towers residents were honored at a Bravest Mitzvah Celebration on Dec. 17, with 13 women culminating in the bat mitzvah — most of them as first time b’nai mitzvah — and 93-year-old Herb Mermelstein delivering the same speech that he presented 80 years ago as a bar mitzvah.

Since its inception, The Towers has seen itself as a community center for all seniors – residents and visitors alike – with programs and activities provided through the fundraising efforts of The Towers development team. For in part, the Greater New Haven community nurtures The Towers by patronizing the Vinv Gift Shop (named for benefactors Hyla and Barry VIne), raffles, Bingo, and other exciting events.

The Towers enters its next half-century, those who ran and support this vibrant hub of senior life continue to inspire Greater New Haven with a simple invitation: help grow the unique community resource that brings hope and engagement to those in their later years. To learn more about how you can help make a difference in the lives of both current and future residents contact Vivian at (203) 772-1816, x 290, Vivian@towers.org.

JUDY ALPERIN
FROM THE DESK OF

Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven
Chief Executive Officer
(203) 387-2424
JewishFederationGNH.org

SHALOM NEW HAVEN STAFF

Judy Alperin
Director of Marketing & Communications
Jeannette Broder Editor
Wendy Woods Senior Graphic Designer
Chenie Hauer Ad/Marketing Assistant
Barry Vine Gift Shop (named for benefactors Hyla and Barry Vine). The community nurtures The Towers by patronizing the VIne Gift Shop (named for benefactors Hyla and Barry VIne), raffles, Bingo, and other exciting events.

“Tired of being snowed into this winter?”
Can’t get out and visit or dine with friends? Can’t get a Bridge, Mah Jong or card game?

Neither rain, nor snow, nor sleet stops Tower One/Tower East residents from having the time of their lives! Enjoy exercise classes, art classes, lectures, movies, dining with friends and family; the list is endless!

Call NOW for a tour!

Tower One/Tower East
505 Huntington Avenue
New Haven, CT 06519
(203) 772-1816
www.towerone.org
Like us on Facebook:
Tower One Tower East

Paid for by a grant from the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven.
SCSU Establishes New Hillel Chapter

The Jewish community has always stressed the value of youth programs. It is key to think that the older generation is more engaged, looking at the younger populations that attend our synagogue services. Yet there is far more to Judaism than worship. Programs like JCC, B’Nai Brith, and Hillel have shown that American adolescents today are still willing to embrace their Jewish roots, even if in a more social setting than the synagogue.

To capitalize on that youth energy, Hillel, the Founda- tion for Jewish Campus Life was founded in 1923. Named after the Jewish sage, Hillel has quickly grown to be a modern and relevant advocate of Jews on more than 550 college campuses across the United States, United Kingdom and Canada.

Now, a seed has been planted to grow another chapter in New Haven at Southern Connecticut State University. An endowment fund has established a position for an advisor of Hillel to start up the club from the ground up.

Benjamin Atwater is the advisor of the new organization, Housing interned for the marketing department at the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven, Atwater has also staffed Birthright as a madrichi twice, while being involved in a plethora of Jewish agencies.

The population at Southern is a unique one, with about 8,000 students, a few students have shown interest already. One such student is Sarah Helfand, a senior, “I always wanted to be a part of a Jewish community on campus, but never knew how to start one up. I hope we can do more and more activities to reach more people.”

Helfand, like many other Jewish students, has yet to go on a Birthright trip, one goal of Hillel in general, and especially a long-term goal of Southern CT Hillel. The first event of the semester was a Hanuk- kah party in December. The party was intended not only give Jews on campus a chance to observe the Hanukkah festivities.

The most exciting partnership the group has is with Yael Adventures, a Birthright Israel trip provider. Atwater is going to be a madrichi for Yaeli Adventures and is currently looking into bringing a Birthright trip in the summer of 2018, certainly with Yaeli Adventures. Given the current and future sponsorships.

For more information about SCSU’s Hillel, visit their Facebook page, email the group at hillel@ctstate.edu, or call 203-392-6615.

New Haven Mom Grateful for Camp Scholarship

Jayvon, 8, is a very happy camper since his experi- ence last summer at the JCC Summer Camp pro- gram. Jayvon, who lives in New Haven, was able to attend camp, thanks to a generous scholarship provided by the Barry Vine Send a Kid to Camp Scholarship Fund.

His mother, Veronica, wrote a heartfelt letter of thanks recently to the JCC Summer Camp Commit- tee. “Unfortunately, many teens these days struggle, living paycheck to paycheck, and currently, that is my reality,” she wrote. “However, I did not want the high cost of camp be a deterrent of the type of high quality camp my son attended.”

Every summer, Veronica wakes up early to attend camp and take part in the many activities offered. This put his mom at ease with having to leave him to go to work. “Jayvon’s excitement and love for the camp and friends he made gave me a sense of comfort, while at work, I knew he was safe and happy at the JCC,” she said. “I felt like Jayvon was in the best hands, and he loved to camp.”

Veronica added that Jayvon also learned about Jew- ish culture and she sees how he respects traditions from other cultures, thanks to his JCC camp experi- ence. “I am a native of New Haven and I have always heard wonderful things about the JCC,” Veronica said. “But now, we consider ourselves a part of a family with a great history. All of the staff was fantasic and willing to work with us and they always had Jayvon’s best interest at heart.”

Veronica said the JCC is “truly a summer camp like no other,” and they are honored to be a part of the JCC family. Mother and son didn’t just come for camp and leave; they stayed at the camp and enjoyed the warm and welcoming family atmosphere at the Jewish Community Center.

“Before the fire, we would spend every Tuesday and Thursday evenings there,” Veronica said. “I would do Zumba, Jayvon would play with his friend, and then we would have dinner in the cafè and complete his homework assignments. I miss that.”

She offered a special thank you to all of the gener- ous donors who made this scholarship possible for her son. “My son would never have been able to at- tend camp if it was not for the assistance I received through these awesome scholarships,” she said.

The words ‘thank you’ do not seem like enough to say to share our gratitude.”

Federated CCI helps Atwater realize the new Hillel chapter at Southern Connecticut State University. Also present, Rabbi Randy Hoch, who serves in the Chasdeas festivities.

JCC Day Camps

Early Bird rates end FEBRUARY 16

Sign up for the Early Bird Special by February 16 to receive 2017 prices.

For more information, registration or the Camp Reunion, contact:
Debra Kirschner (203) 395-3517
debra.kirschner@jchc.org

CAMP DATES & HOURS: June 25 - August 10
6:30AM - 6:30PM

ALL CAMP Locations:
• 360 Amity Road, Woodbridge

MAY 19
Send a Kid to Camp

MAY 26
Make JCC Summer 2018 memorable
Send a Kid to Camp

Donate: jccnh.org/S4K

FEBRUARY 16
Early Bird rates end
Young Emissaries Celebrate 100 Days with Recipe, Thanks

Recently, the new Young Emissaries from Israel, Rotem Linchevski and Talya Machpood celebrated 100 days since they have joined the Greater New Haven community. Rotem is from Moshev B’Nai Zion, near Ra’anana, and Talya hails from Eliot, Israel’s southernmost city.

By Rotem Linchevski & Talya Mastopood
Our Young Emissaries from Israel

To mark this special occasion, we decided to use all that we’ve learned in these first 100 days to write a recipe for a “Perfect Year” as emissaries.

And on a serious note— we wanted to take this opportunity to say thank you. In our journey of trying to help build bridges between Israel and the Jewish community around the world, we learned so many new things about American families, Jewish identity, and about living our life together - as one Jewish nation. All of that happened because of you - you listened to our stories, shared your own personal experiences and made us feel a part of the Jewish nation. All of that happened because of you - you listened to our stories, shared your own personal experiences and made us feel a part of the Jewish high school. We’re proud to be in such a wonderful community that we can now call our second home.

If you didn’t meet us yet, please contact us on our Facebook page! We want to meet and get to know as many people as possible. We encourage you to follow us on our Facebook page “Young Emissaries of Greater New Haven” and see updates from our daily work! We’re looking forward to the next 100 days of this year.

The Young Emissary Program is a 10-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 (SNEC). This is our community’s 17th year of participation in the program. If you are interested in hosting, contact Amalya Brownstein, our Young Emissary Coordinator, at (203) 387-2424, x385, or by email at: amalyab@jccnh.org.

Recipe for a “Perfect Year”

- 1½ teaspoons of reflective moments
- 1 cup of a smile
- 1 cup of meaningful mitzvah projects. A mitzvah is an act of kindness, and collectively we will do our part to improve our community through these acts of kindness.
- 2 cups of a smile
- ¼ cup of a warm and loving community
- 1 teaspoon espresso powder
- 4 teaspoons of teaching- but also be open-minded to learn new things.
- 3½ teaspoons of your personal story
- 3 maps of Israel
- ¼ cup of personal connections and new friends.
- 2 incredible host families

Mix them all together and bake for 100 days.

You are invited to celebrate with us on SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 2018 for the Second Annual Mitzvah Day.

Mitzvah Day allows volunteers of all ages the opportunity to participate in meaningful mitzvah projects. A mitzvah is an act of kindness, and collectively we will do our part to improve our community through these acts of kindness.


SAVE THE DATE:
SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 2018
SHALOM NEW HAVEN
SAVE SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 2018
GREAT HAVEN SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 2018
Mitzvah Day allows volunteers of all ages the opportunity to participate in meaningful mitzvah projects. A mitzvah is an act of kindness, and collectively we will do our part to improve our community through these acts of kindness.

SAVE SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 2018
SOUTHERN CT HEBREW ACADEMY
SYNAGOGUES

DATE:
BEVERLY LEVY EARLY LEARNING CENTER DEDICATION.

PLUS
JOIN US FOR THE JCC’S GRAND RE-OPENING CENTER DEDICATION.

IDF Paratrooper Speaks to JHSC Students

By David Giver
Administrative Associate
Jewish High School of Connecticut

The Jewish High School of Connecticut recently hosted Zach Okun, a new graduate of the IDF’s Paratrooper School. Zach is the older brother of JHSC sophomore, Jakob Okun.

While home on leave from the IDF, Zach came to the school to speak to the students about his love of Israel, the need to not take for granted how easy life is right now, and the experiences he has had as a Lone Soldier.

Zach described what it was like growing up in Stamford, being a student of the Bi-Cultural Day School, and how he was sent to learn Hebrew before he even had the chance to become a soldier.

Zach explained how most IDF recruits in the Hebrew program were from former Soviet republics, so they did not speak English, which made getting to know them the best way for him to practice his Hebrew skills.

Zach told students he had to go through entrance exams first to be able to even go to IDF Paratrooper School, and he wasn’t sure if he would be accepted.

Zach described how excited he felt getting accepted and knowing he would be able to make his dream of becoming a paratrooper a reality. The students listened to his stories of paratrooper training and of the first few jumps he made from a plane.

“The plane was about to take off and printed on the inside wall of the plane was Tefilat HaDerech,” said Zach, who related that he said the prayer as he was getting ready for this first jump. He also described the unique uniform of the paratrooper, which includes a red beret, red boots, and a “skirt” shirt, which is belted around the waist, untucked. Zach told the students about his appreciation for the State of Israel and how he is ready to serve in the IDF.

Before opening the floor to questions, Rabbi Eliehu Paul, JHSC Head of School, thanked Zach for coming to speak with the students and presented him with a JHSC Travel pouch with the Tefilat HaDerech printed inside.”

“I’m an ex-speaker of BDS and anti-Israel sentiment becoming more common, it is important to remind our youth about the heroic IDF soldiers who are volunteer to protect the Jewish people from harm,” commented Rabbi Paul.

Recent IDF Paratrooper graduate Zach Okun, and his brother, Jakob Okun, JHSC sophomore. — By David Giver

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Jewish High School of Connecticut

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SAVE THE DATE:
Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven
October 15-22, 2018
3 OPTIONS on Oct 22:
- Depart for home
- Continue on with the general assembly
- Visit Warsaw/Paris

For additional information please contact Jennifer Bayer, Assistant Director of Jewish Women’s Circle, Food4Kids, Tower One/Tower East, local synagogues, include, Jewish Family Service, Jewish Coalition for Literacy, Ezra Academy, domestic violence. Organizations that have benefitted from the endowment include: Jewish Family Service, Jewish Coalition for Literacy, Ezra Academy, and many others.

Welcome New Women of Vision
New Women of Vision:
Caron Alderman
Colleen Manoles
Emily Raskin-Corn
Loz Edelgas (an additional commitment to the fund)
Linda Greenhouse
Amy Holtz
Susan S. Jacobson,
Nancy Green Jacobson
Ruth Lesser
Faith Miller
Lynn Rudich
Daisy Shastaeb
Marcia Witten

New Haven– Against a backdrop of state budget reductions and federal policy shifts, the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven has awarded $3,007,356 in grants to Greater New Haven nonprofits, including a $30,000 grant to the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven to fund cultural arts, senior, and family programming, as well as the new MakerSpace area in JCC.

CMI Tot Program Celebrates Tu B’Shevat
Congregation Mishkan Israel is a reform synagogue located at 785 Ridge Road in Hamden. Congregation Mishkan Israel is one of the leading congregations in the Greater New Haven area, with over 200 members. Since its founding, the Women of Vision has distributed over $1 million in grants to local organizations, including local synagogues, neighborhood schools, and community service providers. The Women of Vision also provides annual grants for professional development and leadership training to Women’s Philanthropy Groups across the region.

Yiddish Musical Theatre Coming to Hamden
On Saturday, Feb. 9 at 8 p.m., Congregation Mishkan Israel offers a fun and engaging taste of Yiddish musical theatre with the National Yiddish Theatre Folksbiene.

International Holocaust Day Program
In honor of International Holocaust Remembrance Day, the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven will present a program featuring local Holocaust survivors and their families. The event will take place at Congregation Mishkan Israel, located at 785 Ridge Road in Hamden. For more information, call (203) 288-3877.

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On Saturday, Feb. 9 at 8 p.m., Congregation Mishkan Israel offers a fun and engaging taste of Yiddish musical theatre with the National Yiddish Theatre Folksbiene.

Welcome New Women of Vision
The Women of Vision Society was established in 1986 by a group of visionary women eager to join together to enhance and improve the lives of women in the Greater New Haven area. The Women of Vision Society is a permanent, restricted endowment fund that provides grants to organizations that enhance and improve the lives of women and girls in our community.

New Women of Vision: Carol Alderman
Colleen Manoles
Emily Raskin-Corn
Loz Edelgas (an additional commitment to the fund)
Linda Greenhouse
Amy Holtz
Susan S. Jacobson,
Nancy Green Jacobson
Ruth Lesser
Faith Miller
Lynn Rudich
Daisy Shastaeb
Marcia Witten

Food4Kids Event Honors Senator Kennedy
On Nov. 9, JFS and the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven’s Women’s Philanthropy Group were pleased to honor Senator Ted Kennedy, MD, at its annual Kristallnacht commemoration. Senator Kennedy was honored for his leadership in the fight against anti-Semitism and his advocacy for the rights of those who are disenfranchised.

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Annual Kristallnacht Commemoration
On Nov. 9, Congregation Or Shalom in honor of Senator Ted Kennedy, MD, at its annual Kristallnacht commemoration. Senator Kennedy was honored for his leadership in the fight against anti-Semitism and his advocacy for the rights of those who are disenfranchised.

CMI Hosts Community Purim Celebration Feb. 25
The community is invited to join Congregation Mishkan Israel for a fun-filled Purim celebration for all ages.

On Sunday, Feb. 25, the synagogue’s youth group, MYOR, will sponsor the annual Purim Carnaval from 10 a.m. to noon. The event features favorite games and many activities.

On Wednesday, Feb. 28, the community is invited to come in costume to the Erie Purim Service at 7 p.m. to hear the story of Esther in the most hilarious man- ner possible.

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

For additional information please contact Jennifer Bayer, Assistant Director of Development at jbay@shalomnewhaven.org or (203) 387-2442 x203.
CBSRZ Hosts Program, Film to Honor King

As part of the Music & More series, the stage of Congregation Beth Shalom Rodfe Zedek (CBSRZ) will be transformed into a New York comedy club on Sunday, Jan. 27, at 8 p.m. The show will feature comedians Alexan- der McHale and Johnny Lampert, both veterans of Comedy Central, network TV, casinos, and the NYC club circuit. There will be a pre-show reception serving wine, beer and light bites. A light lunch and refreshments will be served. This event is open to the public and will be held at Congregation Beth Shalom Rodfe Zedek, 55 E. Kings Highway, Chester. For more information, visit cbsrz.org or call (860) 526-8920.

Celebrating Hanukkah at Latkes & Vodka Event

It was a beautiful community celebration of Hanukkah at the Latkes & Vodka event in Guilford, with Rabbi Yossi Yaffe and Rabbi Stacy Offner in attendance and live music by the David Chevan Quartet. Above, Deborah Rutty, of CBSRZ, chatted with Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven CEO Judy Alperin and Brian Levy, the Federation’s Director of Outreach, Engagement and Community Relations.

Cultural Exhibit

The art gallery is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at CBSRZ, 55 E. Kings Highway, Chester. To learn more about this exhibit visit cbsrz.org or through email at office@cbsrz.org. For more information, call the CBSRZ office at (860) 526-8920 or through email at office@cbsrz.org. Performances are held at Congregation Beth Shalom Rodfe Zedek, 55 E. Kings Highway, Chester.

CBSRZ Art Gallery. This extraordinary art exhibition brings two very distinctive artists together in one exhibition.

Ashley Carlisle creates sculptural landscapes with an impressionist flair. Rick Silverberg’s landscape paintings have been described as both peaceful and disquieting. The art gallery is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at CBSRZ, 55 E. Kings Highway, Chester. To learn more about this exhibit visit cbsrz.org or call (860) 526-8920.

Shalom New Haven, 2018

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through the Music & More at CBSRZ can be purchased at cbsrz.org or Advance tickets for Comedy Tonight! Two Top NY Comedians Come to CBSRZ Stage

By Stacey Battat PJ Library professional

PJLibrary@jewishnewhaven.org

“As Good as Any,” by Richard Michelson, is an award-winning illustrated book on the PJ Library list of recommended books, geared toward young readers with values we can all embrace as we enter the new year and commemorate Martin Luther King Jr. Day. The book introduces Martin Luther King Jr., a Baptist preacher from Atlanta, together with Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, a rabbi born in Poland. Their names came to stand for the struggle for justice and equality. Martin put out a call for others to join him and Abraham knew he must answer Martin’s call. This story is about how two men formed a remarkable friendship and turned their personal experiences of discrimination into a message of love and equality for all.

Reading books with your children allows you to learn from their questions and opens new doors for inclusion. We foster the opportunity to engage in a dialogue where we can model asking someone about their culture, gender, race, or differences with genuine curiosity. Please join us to hear a diverse Ladino Jewish singer/author Sarah Aroeste who will be reading a picture book and discussing/playing songs from her ancestral roots of Greece and Medieval Spain. Aroeste works to preserve the Ladino (Spain-
On Sept. 20, Hurricane Maria struck Puerto Rico, causing catastrophic damage and a major humanitarian crisis on the island. In the following weeks, many of the most vulnerable hurricane survivors—elderly, people with disabilities, some in need of urgent medical attention—came to Connecticut, where they have friends and family. The city estimates that 4,000 Puerto Ricans will arrive in New Haven in the next year.

The Jewish community has responded with compassion and generosity to relief efforts for survivors of the hurricane. Normally, JCARR (the Jewish Community Alliance for Refugee Resettlement) and IRIS (Integrated Refugee and Immigration Services) work with refugees, but when JCARR Coordinator Jean Silk and Chris George, the Executive Director of IRIS, heard about the influx of hurricane survivors in New Haven, they agreed, “Let’s figure out what we can do to help.”

JCARR has collected loads of warm winter clothing, new socks and underwear, personal care items, and much-needed funding to help JFS for Progressive Action provide food cards, bus passes and transportation for medical care to those in need. The Jewish Federation put a collection box out in the newly reopened JCC in December.

HELP IS STILL URGENTLY NEEDED! Greatest need is for blankets, NEW/UNOPENED socks and underclothes in all sizes, personal care items—toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, feminine hygiene products, bars of soap, toilet paper, adult and child diapers.

Donate online at crowdrise.com/jcarrpr.

For new participants, contact Facilitator Jean Silk and Chris George, 20 Peddlers Drive, Branford CT 06405, or donate online at crowdrise.com/jcarr.

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Welcome to the NEW JCC

Café 360 Creates Diverse Food Marketplace

By Jeannette Broder

SHALOM NEW HAVEN

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The Jewish Community Center of Greater New Haven is not only invested in a new, larger, and cooler space for its indoor cycling area. It is also making room for 30 new Schwinn bikes. JCC Fitness Services Director Susan Donovan is excited to have the new bikes, which can now accommodate 29 participants in classes. Donovan said the upgraded Schwinn frames feature computer consoles with technology that will “allow us to add another layer of fitness coaching to better tailor our workouts and training.”

Indoor cycling classes are free for members. Classes are designed to accommodate all levels, so whether you’re a beginner or an advanced cyclist can sign up for 45-minute and 60-minute classes. There’s also a 30-minute gentle ride class offered.

New Business Center Capitalizes on Coworking Movement

Jeannette Broder

SHALOM NEW HAVEN

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The Jewish Community Center of Greater New Haven has launched a new climbing wall installed for members of all ages to use. There will be Kids' Climb classes on Sunday afternoons for children in grades 2-6 as well as Adult Climb classes on Monday mornings, with Elite, Belt-climb classes on Thursday mornings for adults. In addition to fitness classes, climbing classes and open climb times, the area can also be utilized for birthday parties.

JCC’s Health & Physical Education Associate Director Nicolle Camara is excited about the new climbing wall because it will not only allow the JCC to offer something new and exciting to the community, it will also elevate the center’s fitness and children’s programs. “We will also be able to offer new and exciting birthday party packages,” Camara added.

The wall is a 36 by 20 foot L-shaped structure that will include three custom-built overhangs. It will include a custom-built crack climb feature that enables climbers to follow a crack in the rock and use specialized climbing techniques. It will also feature a 32 foot by 8 foot area with a 32-degree slope that climbers’ traverse wall with two ledge features. The system also includes three perfect descent auto belays and four regular top rope belay systems and safety harnesses.

The wall was created by Corporate Challenge, which has its corporate headquarters in Wimberley, Texas, and its East Coast division, doing business as Adventure More East, located in East Hampton.

The company was founded by a group of hard-core adventure enthusiasts who love building ropes course challenges, canopy zip line tours, aerial adventure parks and military/reaction obstacle courses. Collectively, they have more than 100 years of experience in the industry, which includes building and training internationally.

Imagine a space where you can work for yourself, but not by yourself...That’s the concept behind the Jewish Community Center of Greater New Haven’s brand new Business Center. The JCC envisions it as a gathering space for members who want an alternative to a home office. The Business Center echoes the JCC’s new philosophy that their upgraded campus should offer the community a true home away from home. Use of the Business Center is complimentary to all adult JCC members, adding even more value to a JCC membership.

According to Debbie Brander, JCC Director of Member and Community Engagement, the welcoming space will feature a large communal work table with plenty of places to plug in a laptop or phone charger as well as comfortable chairs in a lounge-type setting. The Business Center is beautifully outfitted with new carpet and walls and high-end finishes. For a small fee, members can use JCC’s commercial copier for black and white as well as color copies, and scanning. A small private room can also be reserved for conference calls or video conferencing.

The space capitalizes on the coworking movement, a rapidly growing trend among entrepreneurs and groups who want the structure or social aspect of an office but value the independence of working for themselves. It also allows people who are self-employed to have a more conducive work place and share ideas and knowledge with other like-minded people.

The added workspace now means members can spend an entire day at the JCC, getting their work done, having lunch at the new Café 360, and also fit in a workout. The space is also perfect for graduate students or academics that need a spot to study and work on papers.

The JCC will also offer members monthly business-focused programs for learning and networking on a variety of topics in the new space.

For more details on the Business Center or upcoming business programs, contact Debbie Brander at debbie@jccnh.org or call (203)587-2424 x276.
Commission, called Beverly Levy a true humanitarian and Executive Director of the Christian Community Center’s childcare Learning Center in New Haven. “To have this learning center named after her is wonderful,” she said. What a great legacy she left. She was always looking to bless someone else.”

According to Rabbi Rona Shapiro, of Congregation Beth El, Beverly’s leadership was a reflection of Beverly’s whole philosophy that “you only a wonderful leader in the community, she was a woman of wisdom, integrity, courage, and most of all, passion. Beverly was passionate about creating a generation to lead us into the future in the fight against prejudice and the stigma of homelessness disappearing. She believed people should be heard and have support offered. She believed people should be given opportunities to visit the museum, with their class, during the school year. Each group will have a maximum of 10 to 12 people. RSVP to Hyla Chasnoff at (203) 288-3877, or brenner@jewishnewhaven.org for further information to participate.

JCL, a proud recipient of a 2015 TAPS award from the New Haven Public Schools, is a project of the Jewish Coalition for Literacy (JCL), a proud recipient of a 2015 TAPS award from the New Haven Public Schools, is a project of the Jewish Coalition for Literacy (JCL) pairs volunteer reading partners with young people every day. The goal is to help struggling local families. “They are so thrilled that friends, staff and volunteers have a home at this wonderful facility. The New Haven Jewish Community is back and better than ever!”

WELCOME HOME JCC OF GREATER NEW HAVEN!

It is with great joy and pride that we welcome you to the JCC of Greater New Haven. We are so thrilled that friends, staff and volunteers are members of the JCC family and we wish you all the best on your future relationships.

CMI Welcomes Guests from Abraham’s Tent

This winter welcomed special guests of Abraham’s Tent, an interfaith, intergenerational, inter-cultural program of churches, synagogues and mosques partner to house individuals, families and young children from Columbus House’s overflow shelter.

This much needed New Haven overflow shelter was founded when it became clear that more than 1,300 homeless, the “stranglers” in the community, was growing and a safe space was needed to provide them for sheltering. To address the problem, members of the religious community, the Columbus House staff, the Board of Directors and volunteers found that resources were needed to provide for them. The group decided that focusing on the resources - synagogues and churches - and the Columbus House volunteers - would be a worthwhile solution to New Haven’s homeless problem. Bev’s gift in memory of her husband, and a loving mother, and a devoted wife

Levy was named after her is wonderful,” she said. What a great legacy she left. She was always looking to bless someone else.”

According to Rabbi Rona Shapiro, of Congregation Beth El, Beverly’s leadership was a reflection of Beverly’s whole philosophy that “you loved and adored a wonderful woman, a mother, and a devoted wife.

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Recognizing the impact of Israel travel/ex- periences, the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven provides scholarships for both short-term (minimum of three-week pro- grams) and long-term organized Israel educa- tion programs for Greater New Haven area- residents.

For 2018 summer trips, applications are due by May 9. For 2018-19 gap or academic year trips, applications are due May 4.

Here are two of a three-part series when a young person who benefitted from a Jewish Federation scholarship shares their experi- ences.

Mia Sandberg, of Woodbridge | Israel Experience Scholarship Recipient

This past summer, I experienced an all-inclusive Israel trip. I was lucky enough to travel to Israel at a young age because of the Sam Cohen Foundation’s Dor L’Chor program. I learned and experienced more than I ever imagined. I would have never been able to take a trip like that on my own.

The trip was organized by a travel agency that operates year-round, but nothing prepared me for the journey I embarked on. It is nearly impossible to describe how special this trip was.

Our amazing and packed day-to-day itinerary helped make sure we didn’t waste a second traveling around Israel. Our first stop was Jerusalem, which helped us get the feel of the city, the place we all learned about throughout the years. I saw a significant number of rabbits, cats, and temples in this city!

As the journey continued, I was able to explore other aspects of Israel including many amazing and inspiring museums and historical sites. I was also able to learn about and dive deeper into many other aspects of the area.

I left Israel feeling like I was part of the Holy Land and recognized all of the sacrifices that were made for me to be here made the experience even more special and life-changing for me. This experience will be a forever experience for me.

The trip was an unforgettable experience for me. I went from bartending at bars, to swimming in the Dead Sea and being covered in mud, to waking up at 3 a.m. to head to the Negev. I saw some of the most different types of Jews. I met Ethiopian Jews who traveled thousands of miles on foot just to reach the Holy Land. I volunteered with children in need of heart surgery and had many conversations and new friends with someone who is an effective leader in my community.

Overall, this indescribable five-week journey helped shape me to become the proud Jew that I am today. With my new knowledge about my culture and history, I am excited to share all of it with the people around me. I can’t thank the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven enough for their generosity and for helping make my dream to visit Israel a reality.

For more information on Federation scholarships, go to jewishnewhaven.org/scholarships.
Jewish Foundation Launches ‘One Happy Camper’

The Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven is pleased to announce the launch of the One Happy Camper program in partnership with the Foundation for Jewish Camp (FJC), the American Jewish community’s leading organization working to make Jewish camp a priority for our community and an important investment for us. We want to enable more children to experience Jewish camp and we are excited we can help our local families to do this,” Stanger added. “We hope to spread the word so that many families take advantage of this opportunity.

First-time campers attending one of the more than 125 non-profit Jewish overnight camps, including Camp Lauladewood (Connecticut’s only overnight Jewish camp) can receive an incentive grant, regardless of need. In addition, campers can apply for needs-based aid for camp regardless of whether they are first-time or returning campers. Families can find camps and apply for first-time camper incentive grants by visiting OneHappyCamp.org. Families can apply for needs-based aid for overnight Jewish camp as well as view the Greater New Haven catchment area at jewishnewhaven.org/scholarships.

“We are thrilled to be able to partner with CAMP WORKS, the 2010 study by the Jewish Community Center of Greater New Haven was filled with the joy of happy children and adults at the Hanukkah party held Dec. 18. The Jewish Community Center of Greater New Haven is a trusted and expert resource for charitable gift planning and endowments and serves as a partner and resource for synagogues, local Jewish agencies, professional advisors and donors.

The Foundation for Jewish Camp (FJC) builds a strong Jewish future through transformative Jewish summers. FJC leads, partnering camp professionals and other camp talent to develop the ways to lead their camps to exceptional outcomes operationally and educationally. They AMPUP(JW) camp, an event and supporting programs that deepen campers’ and counselors’ connection to their Jewish roots and culture. And they EXPAND THE FIELDS, continuously expanding the number and variety of summer experiences to attract more—and more diverse—participants, jcampforall.org.
So how does one become a whiskey expert? Hatton is also Jewish and his sons are being raised in the Jewish faith. "It’s going tremendously well," he said. The Single Cask Nation now boasts more than 3,000 members nationwide and a Facebook page with more than 7,300 followers."Hatton and Johnston-Yellin even do a popular podcast now called “One Nation, Under Whisky” that gets just under 14,000 downloads a month from whiskey aficionados all over the world. If you’re wondering why the company does not use an “e” in whiskey, Hatton explains that most of the spells whiskey without an “e.”

The Jewish Whisky Company offers whiskey from $80 to $240. The company also has a $10 flat-rate for shipping, which Hatton said is the best shipping rate in America. Hatton said the reason the company does not use a pop-up whiskey shop is that most of the Jewish Whisky Company, which purchases single casks of one-of-a-kind whiskies from distilleries all over the world and sells the product to its members, known as the Single Cask Nation, as well as to select retailers and bars in six different states, including Connecticut.

The Jewish Whisky Company is run by Hatton, and Jason Johnston-Yellin, who hails from Scotland but moved to the United States 15 years ago and currently lives in Virginia, Johnston-Yellin’s wife is also Jewish and his sons are being raised in the Jewish faith. Hatton said it’s all about passion. “I think it’s like music or cooking,” he explained. “You have the passion for it, then you want to learn to cook.” After writing his own whiskey review blog online, Hatton had an idea to start a whiskey company in 2011. Now, seven years later, Hatton says business is booming. “It’s going tremendously well,” he said. For shipping, which Hatton said is the best shipping rate in America, Hatton said the reason the company offers whiskey as part of a membership is because it is just like being a member of a synagogue. “When you fall in love with a synagogue, you join the community,” he said. “You belong. It’s just like that with the Single Cask Nation.” Because the company is called the Jewish Whisky Company, Hatton admits the question often comes up whether or not their product is kosher. First of all, he points out that when it comes to the kosher status of whiskey, to most of the United Kingdom, all whiskey is kosher by nature, but here in the United States, if the whiskey is matured in casks that previously held sherry, it can be considered unkosher. Hatton is able to defend his product by using a Talmudic argument. “If you are talking about kosher food and the Talmud component, the Talmud says that less than 1/60 of the total is unkosher, everything is still good. If you can measure the amount of sherry in parts per million and our intent is not to make the whiskey taste like sherry, then that’s okay. The reason we use those casks is because European oak has a certain taste.” If people still argue that their product is not kosher, Hatton is fine with that and respects their decision, but moved to the United States 15 years ago and currently lives in Virginia, Johnston-Yellin’s wife is also Jewish and his sons are being raised in the Jewish faith. Hatton said the reason the company offers whiskey as part of a membership is because it is just like being a member of a synagogue. “When you fall in love with a synagogue, you join the community,” he said. “You belong. It’s just like that with the Single Cask Nation.” Because the company is called the Jewish Whisky Company, Hatton admits the question often comes up whether or not their product is kosher. First of all, he points out that when it comes to the kosher status of whiskey, to most of the United Kingdom, all whiskey is kosher by nature, but here in the United States, if the whiskey is matured in casks that previously held sherry, it can be considered unkosher. Hatton is able to defend his product by using a Talmudic argument. “If you are talking about kosher food and the Talmud component, the Talmud says that less than 1/60 of the total is unkosher, everything is still good. If you can measure the amount of sherry in parts per million and our intent is not to make the whiskey taste like sherry, then that’s okay. The reason we use those casks is because European oak has a certain taste.” If people still argue that their product is not kosher, Hatton is fine with that and respects their decision, although he pointed out that 50 percent of the Jewish Whisky Company products are not matured in casks that once held sherry so they would not pose a hashkafic dilemma. “Believe it or not, most of the Orthodox community is fine with our products,” Hatton said. “They are very knowledgeable and understanding.” "What do we do stay away from is a kosher certification," he admitted. "I keep kosher at home and look for food that has the kosher certification, but two whiskies don’t mature in the same way even if one happens to be kosher, I still have no issue with people who want kosher whiskey, but I’d rather stay away from that.”

"Our first goal is to teach people about whiskey, whether you are Jewish or not,” he emphasizes. “First, we are a whiskey company and second, we are a Jewish company. We bottle whiskey for whiskey lovers with Jewish people in mind. When you go online to join, there is a questionnaire to self-identify and it asks about kosher concerns and only 40 percent of our members identify as Jewish."
Welcome to America

Marash Svobody izmenivshiy судьбы советских евреев

30 лет тому назад, 6 декабря 1987 года, более 250 000 человек собрались в Вашингтоне для того, чтобы призвать Кремль открыть ворота для эмиграции советских евреев. Это Восстание Свободы, как оно стало в той огромной демонстрации в американской истории, организованной евреями. Впервые это массовое митинговое событие. Советский президент Михаил Горбачев должен был встретиться с советским президентом Михаилом Хрущевым, но тогда не было такого уровня политического дефицита для переговоров. В результате, советские евреи не знали, что делать. Это была беспрецедентная волна свободы. Советские евреи открыто, с факелами и звуками, требовали: “Отпусти мой народ!” Что стало результатом этого митинга, было открытие ворот, и Советские евреи были освобождены от религиозных преследований. Советские евреи стали открыто и просто праздновать традиции, которые никогда не были в состоянии открыто праздновать, и праздновать все еврейские праздники. Благодаря образовательным программам для детей религиозного образования, которые стали доступны, евреи в Советском Союзе начали отмечать Хануку в декабре, отмечать Пасху, отмечать Пурим и праздновать другие праздники. Открытость для детей привела к открытию ворот, и Советские евреи стали открыто праздновать все еврейские праздники. Советские евреи начали праздновать все еврейские праздники. Советские евреи стали открыто праздновать все еврейские праздники. Советские евреи стали открыто праздновать все еврейские праздники. Советские евреи стали открыто праздновать все еврейские праздники. Советские евреи стали открыто праздновать все еврейские праздники. Советские евреи стали открыто праздновать все еврейские праздники. Советские евреи стали открыто праздновать все еврейские праздники. Советские евреи стали открыто праздновать все еврейские праздники. Советские евреи стали открыто праздновать все еврейские праздники. Советские евреи стали открыто праздновать все еврейские праздники. Советские евреи стали открыто праздновать все еврейские праздники. Советские евреи стали открыто праздновать все еврейские праздники. Советские евреи стали открыто праздновать все еврейские праздники. Советские евреи стали открыто праздновать все еврейские праздники. Советские евреи стали открыто праздновать все еврейские праздники. Советские евреи стали открыто праздновать все еврейские праздники. Советские евреи стали открыто праздновать все еврейские праздники. Советские евреи стали открыто праздновать все еврейские праздники. Советские евреи стали открыто праздновать все еврейские праздники. Советские евреи стали открыто праздновать все еврейские праздники. Советские евреи стали открыто праздновать все еврейские праздники. Советские евреи стали открыто праздновать все еврейские праздники. Советские евреи стали открыто праздновать все еврейские праздники. Советские евреи стали открыто праздновать все еврейские праздники. Советские евреи стали открыто праздновать все еврейские праздники. Советские евреи стали открыто праздновать все евреи...
To LIFE... to FEDERATION!

3 YEARS OLD
Get a free Jewish children’s book every month thanks to PJ Library’s family engagement program.

10 YEARS OLD
Make new friends at a Federation-funded summer camp.

12 YEARS OLD
Take your first trip overseas on a Federation family mission to Israel and try to barter at the shuk!

14 YEARS OLD
Pick up lots of handy skills, from crafting to martial arts, taking classes at the JCC.

18 YEARS OLD
Revisit Israel with dozens of other teens on a Taglit-Birthright Israel trip.

6 YEARS OLD
Learn your ABCs and Alef-Bet at a Federation-supported Jewish day school.

20 YEARS OLD
Become a member of your campus Hillel and share Shabbat dinner with your friends.

29 YEARS OLD
Join Young Leadership to cultivate your leadership skills, give back and advocate for Israel.

30 YEARS OLD
Join the Federation senior programming.

30 YEARS OLD
Give back to Federation by creating an endowment that provides for the future of your Jewish community.

Our Honor Roll
Our 2018 campaign is in full swing and growing every day. Go to jewishnewhaven.org/honor-roll to view a list of donors who have committed to our campaign to date.

The 2018 campaign is open until July 31, 2018. Contact Amy Holtz, (203) 387-2424 x254 to participate!