The Governor Goes to Israel

BEAUTIFUL COVER UP
Camp Laurelwood gets a beautifully designed Torah cover. PAGE 4

SETTLING INTO THE NEW HAVEN AREA
JCARR helps Afghan refugees begin a new life PAGE 21

CELEBRATING 60 YEARS!
Temple Emanuel in Orange marks a milestone. PAGE 14
On the Road in Israel...and Thinking of Ukraine

As this issue goes to print, Russia has just invaded Ukraine. We are all alarmed by the images coming out of Ukraine of fighter jets flying overhead, tank shells near the shore and tanks rolling through streets with cars driving in opposite directions. A new war has started in Europe and it is wonderful is that! All of this is at risk. It is times like this where my desire to help our community beyond the local geography is greatest. I wish there was more I could do. I find comfort in the fact that our Jewish Federation and our partner organizations, like JDC, the Jewish Agency for Israel and World ORT, are on the ground doing the necessary work to support our Jewish community in Ukraine. For our part, we need to help fund their great work.

I hope by the time this gets published, this invasion is over and Ukraine is able to continue as the wonderful democracy it has become. I have no doubt that whether or this conflict overs, war will be on others. There will always be Jewish communities here and abroad, that need our support. Our contributions to the armorial campaign supports Jews locally, nationally and all around the world.

I love the phrase told to me once about the Annual Campaign: The Campaign is about one Jew asking another Jew how I can help.

Judy Alperin
Chief Executive Officer

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Our visit will begin in Jerusalem and will include a very special and meaningful Shabbat experience in the holy city itself. During our stay there we will journey on the Sabbath to the Galilee, to the heart of the country, on a visit to the Holy Land. We will board the building, cosmopolitan city of Tel Aviv. During my trip I dipped my toe a bit into each of the three stops on my trip—I made pralines at a chocolate factory in Jerusalem, explored the Machane Yehuda market on a food-tasting tour, met with Colonel Robin Romm on the Latvian and Syrian border, met with the leaders of Megalim, an agri-tech food-tech social investment start-up hub, sampled delicious Israeli food, and visited The Museum of History in our partnership region. Each visit was fascinating and at the highest level. One track or choice is sampling of all. I'm totally mission isn't enough, join us for a post mission excursion to Masada, a country that is part of the new Abraham Accords.

While I'm excited to see a bit of Europe as we engaged with our friends, scouting and hugging in life much the same way we did prior to Covid, it was impossible not to keep in mind that all of this was happening amidst (Continued on page 10, with photo gallery)

These images are in stark contrast to the images I experienced first hand in Ukraine just over four years ago on a Federation mission. I can't stop thinking about the image on the wall in Freedom Square in Kiev with chains breaking and the line “Freedom is our Religion.” These images are in stark contrast to the images I experienced first hand in Ukraine just over four years ago on a Federation mission. I can't stop thinking about the image on the wall in Freedom Square in Kiev with chains breaking and the line “Freedom is our Religion.” These images are in stark contrast to the images I experienced first hand in Ukraine just over four years ago on a Federation mission. I can't stop thinking about the image on the wall in Freedom Square in Kiev with chains breaking and the line “Freedom is our Religion.” These images are in stark contrast to the images I experienced first hand in Ukraine just over four years ago on a Federation mission. I can't stop thinking about the image on the wall in Freedom Square in Kiev with chains breaking and the line “Freedom is our Religion.”

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By Vicki Hoffer

In that quintessentially Jewish way, it all started with a question. “What do you think about holding Max’s bar mitzvah at Camp Laurelwood?” my daughter, Suzie, asked in reference to the upcoming bar mitzvah of her son, my grandson.

In that quintessentially Jewish way, it all started with a question. “What do you think?” After all, a bar mitzvah needs a Torah. And, as luck would have it, we did not have to look far because Rabbi James Greene, executive director of Camp Laurelwood, kindly offered to let us use the camp’s Sefer Torah.

“Of course, a bar mitzvah needs a Torah. And, as luck would have it, we did not have to look far because Rabbi James Greene, executive director of Camp Laurelwood, kindly offered to let us use the camp’s Sefer Torah.”

Nineteen Tishrei 5782 (September 25, 2021) was a gorgeous fall day. The Nineteen Tishrei 5782 (September 25, 2021) was a gorgeous fall day.

Shalom New Haven, 2022

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SHALOM NEW HAVEN, 2022

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A Torah, an artist and Camp Laurelwood

Vicki Hoffer on the bimah at Camp Laurelwood with her grandson, Max Alderman, as he reads from the Torah at his bar mitzvah.

“Of all the teaching I have done, no endeavor equaled the thrill of preparing my grandson for his bar mitzvah. Being with him on the bimah as he took the yad (pointer) and began to sing ‘Va’yomer Moshe...’ Well, it was hard not to cry from the thrill and joy of experiencing, enacting his bar mitzvah.”

Vicki Hoffer on the bimah at Camp Laurelwood with her grandson, Max Alderman, as he reads from the Torah at his bar mitzvah. Of all the teaching I have done, no endeavor equaled the thrill of preparing my grandson for his bar mitzvah. Being with him on the bimah as he took the yad (pointer) and began to sing “Va’yomer Moshe...” Well, it was hard not to cry from the thrill and joy of experiencing, enacting his bar mitzvah.

The new Torah cover is even more exquisite than the sketch promised. We who were there, including my son.

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Nothing else is known of its background. Nothing else is known of its background.

This particular scroll, written in B’nai Yosef (Ashkenazi) script, needed only minor cleaning and replacement of patches and strips. Otherwise, though very heavy, it was declared by a sofer (Torah scribe) to be in fine condition.

The mantle of this Torah, however, was notoriously heavy. Such a beautifully written scroll deserved a fine cover, and so, wanting to thank Rabbi Greene for his generosity, I offered to purchase a new cover for the Torah. Asked if he wanted a ten scroll deserves a fine cover, and so, wanting to thank Rabbi Greene for his generosity, I offered to purchase a new cover for the Torah. Asked if he wanted

Rabbi Greene has promised a place for it in the ark at camp as another piece of l’dor va dor.

“Va’yomer Moshe...” Well, it was hard not to cry from the thrill and joy of experiencing, enacting his bar mitzvah. Being with him on the bimah as he took the yad (pointer) and began to sing “Va’yomer Moshe...” Well, it was hard not to cry from the thrill and joy of experiencing, enacting his bar mitzvah. Being with him on the bimah as he took the yad (pointer) and began to sing

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**Security check**

Since he was hired this past fall, the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven’s Regional Security Advisor (RSA) Michael Sharonet has been working hard to develop and administer a comprehensive program to protect Jewish institutions throughout the region.

As one of his first tasks, Sharonet, a public security expert and a 20-year veteran of the FBI, is helping our Jewish community understand how our Federation is deploying security support to assist all Jewish institutions.

That’s just what he was doing recently when, on February 3, Sharonet met with Temple Beth Tikvah representatives to discuss security-related procedures and infrastructure matters at camp with Sharonet (left) and Camp Laurelwood Executive Director Rabbi James Green, and Camp Director Louis Lasko.

The next day, Sharonet met with Camp Laurelwood representatives to discuss security-related procedures and infrastructure matters at camp.

Wet felting on a snowy afternoon! What a wonderful way to spend Tu B’Shvat! Kids and parents can join the Pathways to Jewish Experiences series of opportunities to connect young families with Jewish traditions.

**PATHWAYS TO JEWISH EXPERIENCES**

The American Dream

Meet Elijah

Family Secrets

Family Traditions

Holidays

Jewish Community Traditions

Prelude to the Passovers

Disability

Perspective/Bio/Personal Stories

Barriers

**PATHWAYS TO JEWISH EXPERIENCES**

**POWERED BY Jewish Community Traditions**

**PODCASTS**

**Past, Present, and Future of the American Jewish Community**

**AUTHOR** Judy Bolton-Fasman

**MARCH – APRIL 2022**

**FILMS OFFERED VIRTUALLY:**

- The Last Mensch | Mar. 14-20
- The Art Dealer (L’Antiquaire) | March 21-27
- The Ritchie Boys | Mar 26-April 3

**PJ Library**

Visit, watch trailers, read descriptions and make your reservations at jccnh.org/pjlibrary.

**PASSOVER**

- **PJ Library**
- **March 21-30**
- **Author Nessa Rapoport**
- **Passover Hope**
- **2022 Seder**
- **2022 Seder**
- **Prelude to the Passovers**
- **Meeting Elijah**
- **May program details available online**

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Co-Generation Gives The Towers ‘Meal Sustainability’ a Boost

The Towers has developed an innovative way to enhance its vital Meal Sustainability project—an initiative that addresses food insecurity issues for many senior adults living on fixed incomes or no longer able to shop or cook for themselves.

The Towers has now successfully reimplemented the Meal Sustainability initiative through the addition of the Co-generation project. The new co-generation is already humming right along, providing most of the energy needed to power The Towers. Monies saved have begun to be realized and are being used to provide the community’s elderly population with more meals.

What does success look like? From September through December of 2021, The Towers provided 19,949 meals to those in need through the Meal Sustainability initiative through the addition of the Co-Generation project. This impressive goal could not be reached without community support for our community’s elderly Project. This impressive goal could not be reached without community support for our community’s elderly Project. This impressive goal could not be reached without community support for our community’s elderly Project. This impressive goal could not be reached without community support for our community’s elderly Project. This impressive goal could not be reached without community support for our community’s elderly Project. This impressive goal could not be reached without community support for our community’s elderly Project. This impressive goal could not be reached without community support for our community’s elderly Project. This impressive goal could not be reached without community support for our community’s elderly Project. This impressive goal could not be reached without community support for our community’s elderly Project.

Craig Siler, chair of the Jewish Foundation’s Grants for the Jewish Elderly Initiative and the Jewish Federation through its Planning & Allocation Process, both of which are involved in providing meal subsidies to residents in need at the Towers. “These meals, for many of our residents, were very much a step toward a healthier lifestyle, leaving behind the days of microwave pre-packaged items for freshly cooked balanced and nutritious Kosher meals,” reports Jesse Wescott, associate vice president of The Towers. “This project has allowed our team in the back and front of the house to foster their passion for food and feed more people. With the added number of residents who can receive a meal subsidy and dine with us, we can stretch the amount of hours the dining room can open. Looking into the future, when we can safely open our dining spaces back up for communal dining, a new layer of impact will unfold as we can now welcome many new residents to break bread together.”

“We are excited to continue to aid the essential mission of providing food security to those in need and reducing the isolation of their residents, especially during this difficult pandemic.”

Total Foundation Assets
$80 Million

2021 Charitable Donations
$2,935,595

2021 Charitable Distributions/Grants
$4,205,762

2021 Grant Highlights

$277,000 in security grants
$150,000 in Jewish elderly grants
$551,040 in Jewish Home Building Fund
$474,652 in IPACE Distributions to Federation, Annual Campaign
$30,650 in scholarships for Jewish overnight camps

In addition to the above grants, the Jewish Foundation was fortunate to receive funds from the Arthur Eder Family Fund, in memory of Arthur & Yvette Eder. Since 2020, over $357,000 in security grants has been awarded to Congregation B’nai Jacob, Congregation EBC, Congregation Or Shalom, Chabad of the Shoreline, Hebrew Congregation of Woodstock, the Israeli Jewish Center, Temple Emanuel, Beth Shalom Rodfe Zedek, Congregation Mekor Chai, Woodbridge Synagogue, Beth Israel (Wallingford), Temple Beth David, Temple Beth Shalom, Temple Beth Torah, Ezra Academy & Camp Laurelwood, Southern Connecticut Hebrew Academy and the JCC. 2022 applications are now being accepted on a rolling basis until August 3, 2022.

For more information and applications, visit jewishnewhaven.org/scholarships.

GROWTH:

• Security Grants Initiative: from the Arthur Eder Family Fund, in memory of Arthur and Yvette Eder. Since 2020, over $357,000 in security grants has been awarded to Congregation B’nai Jacob, Congregation EBC, Congregation Or Shalom, Chabad of the Shoreline, Hebrew Congregation of Woodstock, the Israeli Jewish Center, Temple Emanuel, Beth Shalom Rodfe Zedek, Congregation Mekor Chai, Woodbridge Synagogue, Beth Israel (Wallingford), Temple Beth David, Temple Beth Shalom, Temple Beth Torah, Ezra Academy & Camp Laurelwood, Southern Connecticut Hebrew Academy and the JCC. 2022 applications are now being accepted on a rolling basis until August 3, 2022.

• Grants for the Jewish Elderly: These grants are made possible thanks to the former Jewish Home Building Fund and community donors. This initiative provides grants to local Jewish organizations and synagogues to benefit new and innovative programs and projects for Jewish elderly residing in Greater New Haven. Applications due April 30, 2022.

• Jewish Foundation Professional Development Grants for Jewish Educators: These generous grants ensure classroom educators in local Jewish schools have the opportunity to attend workshops and conferences to enhance their teaching skills, and will help local Jewish organizations to provide educational opportunities to instructors and the community. Applications are due either 1. classroom educators employed in Jewish education in a local Jewish school or synagogue and/or 2. A local Jewish school or synagogue. Applications must be hosted by a recognized Jewish institution or reputable educational institution. Application deadline is April 3, 2022. Go to jewishnewhaven.org for all grant information and applications.

Your first time camper may be eligible for up to $1,000 off Jewish Camp!

The Jewish Foundation’s One Happy Camper program provides 1. Needs-blind incentive grants allowing for first-time campers and 2. Needs-based aid for first time and returning campers to 195 Jewish overnight camps.

To learn more or apply, please visit: jewishehdone.org/one-happy-camper

For more information, please visit: jewishnewhaven.org
On The Road in Israel...and Thinking of Ukraine

(Continued from page 2)

The backdrop of events in Ukraine, which we were monitoring closely.

Just a few years ago, I journeyed to Ukraine on a JFNA mission with Jewish Federation President Steven Fleischman and Foundation Executive Director Lisa Stanger. While there, we learned about the realities of Jewish life across a country that is home to 250,000 Jews. We saw first hand the work of our partners, the Jewish Agency for Israel, who are working to build a vibrant Jewish life and support to our community members who hail from the region, and we have opened an emergency funds mailbox so that you too can join in this important mitzvah. As always when there and when crisis happens, whether here or abroad will want to play a key role in building health care in an area where for years, residents traveled long distances to other parts of the country for treatment.

“We are committed to assuring that residents in northeast Israel will have more options for treatment with advanced and comprehensive technology and medical care close to home right here in Afula – and with the patient-centered, family-style care for which EMC is known,” said Rosenberg, who took over the helm at EMC two years ago.

CT Native Joins Team Taking Northern Israeli Hospital to New Heights

Join the JCC with no commitment. The time is NOW. 50% Off your first month*

Take advantage of all the J has to offer. Contact membership today at membership@jccnh.org or call (203) 387-2424 x0

• Fitness Center
• Basketball Courts
• Six Lane Indoor Swimming Pool
• Enrichment Classes For All Ages
• Virtual and In Person Group Ex Classes, Free To Members
• Spin Classes
• Picnic Ball & Racquetball
• Basketball Courts
• Fitness Center
• Childcare and Camp

*Promotional rate is valid for first month only. Normal rates apply in the second month with secured payment plan. Must have not been a member on the past six months. Cannot be combined with other offers.

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An interview with Mel Van Emmenes Jewish Senior Services Coordinator for Chabad of the Shoreline

I am excited about this new project! Rabbi Yossi Neusner and Rochel Baila Yaffe approached me about reaching out to a segment of the Jewish population on the Shoreline that sometimes feels isolated and forgotten–our seniors.

I am looking forward to what lies ahead! I am excited about this new project! Rabbi Yossi Neusner and Rochel Baila Yaffe approached me about reaching out to a segment of the Jewish population on the Shoreline that sometimes feels isolated and forgotten–our seniors. Currently, I am continuing my communication with them and establishing relationships that will benefit both the facilities and their Jewish residents/attendees.

WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST PROGRAM ON THE SHORELINE? Shortly before Chanukah, we visited over 50 facilities and made personal contact. We gifted each facility with a beautiful metal LED Menorah and Chanukah decorations to increase Chanukah spirit and awareness. During Chanukah, we conducted follow-up visits to some of the facilities to deliver Chanukah gift bags–including fresh kosher sufganiyot (Chanukah doughnuts). We made sure to remember the staff, too!

WHAT STEPS HAVE YOU TAKEN TO START THIS AMBITIOUS PROJECT? As the SHORELINE database grew, I reached out to the appropriate staff at each facility to assess the needs of their Jewish population. We plan to provide more opportunities to involve our seniors in Jewish community life. We began by contacting each of the 52 facilities, and I then reached out to the staff of each facility to invite them to participate in our project.

WHAT IS THE NEXT STAGE OF THE PROJECT? Currently, I am continuing my communication with them and establishing relationships that will benefit both the facilities and their Jewish residents/attendees. We are working on developing long-term relationships with seniors. The view is to reduce isolation and to increase socialization for Jewish seniors, whether in their own homes or in assisted living facilities. The volunteers will phone, Zoom and (when able) visit seniors in person on a weekly basis and build meaningful relationships with them. This is just the beginning. I am looking forward to what lies ahead! Our primary immediate goal is to recruit volunteers interested in developing long-term relationships with seniors. The view is to reduce isolation and to increase socialization for Jewish seniors, whether in their own homes or in assisted living centers. The volunteers will phone, Zoom and (when able) visit seniors in person on a weekly basis and build meaningful relationships with them. This is just the beginning. I am looking forward to what lies ahead!

WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS FOR THE FUTURE? Our goal is ambitious but important. And my role is to coordinate a variety of social, learning, cultural and religious activities to move towards that goal. Our goal is ambitious but important. And my role is to coordinate a variety of social, learning, cultural and religious activities to move towards that goal.

Our primary immediate goal is to recruit volunteers interested in developing long-term relationships with seniors. The view is to reduce isolation and to increase socialization for Jewish seniors, whether in their own homes or in assisted living centers. The volunteers will phone, Zoom and (when able) visit seniors in person on a weekly basis and build meaningful relationships with them. This is just the beginning. I am looking forward to what lies ahead!

WHAT IS THE/artwork of Suzanne Neusner and Naomi Safran-Hon are on exhibit at Beth El-Kessar Israel (BEKI) now through June 4. Artists Suzanne Neusner’s Fiber Arts in the upstairs gallery space and Naomi Safran-Hon’s Going Home downstairs. Neusner, whose exhibit Fiber Arts will be on display, has focused on abstract imagery through a variety of weaving and quilting techniques throughout her 35-year career. Her work includes references to landscapes, abstractions, and playful reinventions of traditional Jewish themes. For inspiration, the Rhinebeck, New York, resident draws from her natural surroundings in the Hudson Valley. Many of her creations have appeared as covers for books published by renowned publishers. The paintings in Safran-Hon’s exhibition. Going Home, depict neglected rooms, hallways, and passageways with traces of their former inhabitants and the external forces that brought about their desolation. Through these paintings, the artist reflects on a complicated relationship with her homeland, Israel. In these pieces, Safran-Hon, who was born in Oxford, England and raised in Haifa, combines photographs of abandoned homes in Wall St. Sfardo, a neighborhood in her hometown of Haifa, with ceramic, fabric, lace, and acrylic paint. These structures, which were the homes of Palestinian refugees before the Arab-Israeli War of 1948 and the creation of the State of Israel, stand as ghosts of the past in a neighborhood that was once home to thousands of people. The artwork of Suzanne Neusner and Naomi Safran-Hon are on exhibit at Beth El-Kessar Israel (BEKI) now through June 4. Artists Suzanne Neusner’s Fiber Arts in the upstairs gallery space and Naomi Safran-Hon’s Going Home downstairs. Neusner, whose exhibit Fiber Arts will be on display, has focused on abstract imagery through a variety of weaving and quilting techniques throughout her 35-year career. Her work includes references to landscapes, abstractions, and playful reinventions of traditional Jewish themes. For inspiration, the Rhinebeck, New York, resident draws from her natural surroundings in the Hudson Valley. Many of her creations have appeared as covers for books published by renowned publishers. The paintings in Safran-Hon’s exhibition. Going Home, depict neglected rooms, hallways, and passageways with traces of their former inhabitants and the external forces that brought about their desolation. Through these paintings, the artist reflects on a complicated relationship with her homeland, Israel. In these pieces, Safran-Hon, who was born in Oxford, England and raised in Haifa, combines photographs of abandoned homes in Wall St. Sfardo, a neighborhood in her hometown of Haifa, with ceramic, fabric, lace, and acrylic paint. These structures, which were the homes of Palestinian refugees before the Arab-Israeli War of 1948 and the creation of the State of Israel, stand as ghosts of the past in a neighborhood that has never recovered. Through the process of making her work, Safran-Hon reconstructs these buildings and asks the viewer to reconsider our ideas of home and belonging. Safran-Hon’s work has appeared in solo exhibitions at Bag Gallery, New York, RX Gallery, Paris, Brandt Gallery, Amsterdam, and Marfa Contemporary, Marfa, Texas. To schedule a visit to the galleries, call the BEKI office at 203-230-2506.
In Our Synagogues

Temple Emanuel celebrates 60 years

By Miriam Judd

Founded in 1962 by a group of local Reform Jews seeking a different type of synagogue experience, Temple Emanuel was initially located in the home of founding members Lois and Paul Levine. Today, as the congregation gears up to celebrate its 60th anniversary, the synagogue is nestled in the woods off of Derby Road—a place it has called home since the ’50s.

Rabbi Michael Farbman understood the uniqueness of the Temple Emanuel experience even before he was appointed the congregation’s spiritual leader in 2000. “While I was interviewing, everyone I met would tell me how they ended up at Emanuel. Some came looking for a shul, others weren’t sure about where to go and were invited by a member. Some people came by accident. But no matter what the person’s journey, they all said, ‘we walked in and instantly felt at home,’” Farbman says. “It’s just an amazing community, an incredible environment.”

That sentiment is shared by congregants. Phillip Pivawer moved with his wife, Barbara, to Hamden in early 1964. Looking for a congregation to join, they attended services at a few area synagogues until they found good fit in Temple Emanuel.

“We came from a small town in Indiana, with a very small, friendly congregation, and were looking for something similar,” Pivawer says. “In the summer of 1966, Barbara saw an article about the Reform Jewish Association and their first student rabbi. Lois [Levine] came to our house and invited us to high holiday services. We went, and we were overwhelmed by so many things and so many tasks at hand, communities are profoundly important, and Emanuel had a particular vision of what a community could be.”

The common spirit that Emanuel is known for is not accidental. “Temple Emanuel was created by a group of pioneers who were driven by the idea of a community they wanted to build,” Farbman says. “They wanted to be profoundly different. When the synagogue was first established, they called themselves ‘temple emanuel,’ with lowercase letters. They wanted to deliver home the message that this was not an institution, it was a community. We now spell it with capital letters, but that spirit of communal revolution and experimentation, that’s still there.

“The world is a much different place than it was in 1962 when Temple Emanuel hosted those first meetings. But the sentiment of what it means to belong to the congregation, the community, hasn’t wavered.

“The spirit of Temple Emanuel was instilled by the founding generations,” says Farbman. “We are all hungry for meaning, for engagement, for community. Even if we are overwhelmed by so many things and so many tasks at hand, communities are profoundly important, and Emanuel had a particular vision of what a community could be.”

Rabbi Mark Winer.

Rabbi Michael Farbman (center) at his 2009 installation as spiritual leader of Temple Emanuel, with Rabbi Jerry Brieber z’l (left) and Rabbi Mark Winer.

2022

Passover

5782

Community Rabbi’s share perspectives on Passover in the aftermath of the pandemic

A roundtable discussion with our Greater New Haven rabbis

In March 2020 the COVID virus hit full force, sending the world into turmoil as people were forced to isolate themselves inside their homes, cut off from families and friends. The effect of the pandemic on the global Jewish community was especially profound when, just a few weeks later, the Passover holiday began and families, whose seder tables were usually brimming with beloved guests, were left vacant.

Now, two years later, the pandemic seems to be waning and many people are once again preparing to welcome families and friends to their seders. But what will they find? Has the impact of the pandemic left its permanent imprint on Passover? Has the holiday been forever changed?

For insight into how the COVID pandemic has impacted the Passover holiday—and what lessons we can cul from the holiday’s central themes to help us navigate current world events—Shalom New Haven editor Judy Jacobson sat down with four area rabbis for the newspaper’s first ever roundtable discussion.

(Continued on page 16)
Right now the conversation is surrounding the question of whether or not we eat all of the symbolism. Right now we’re hoping to have people, but we do have to limit the amount of people so as Passover can spread out and be more intimate. Do we have to reserve vaccinations or negative tests? There are a lot of questions and worries and anxieties that I imagine the Israelites escaping to freedom and wandering through the desert were also filled with. There’s still a lot to come as we search for that Promised Land.

Together with friends each one of us really has to take that leap; to jump, to leap up, assess where we are in our lives and where we want ourselves to be, and take that leap to the next level. That’s what Passover is all about and where we want to be. With setting yourself up to jump, to go to the next level, to push yourself and to strive for greater heights, that’s what Passover is all about.

RABBI GREENE: Passover is a core identifying experience in Jewish life. Passover leaders are perhaps the second most widely observed Jewish experience of the year. It’s a critical time of reflection and celebration for families and folks across the country. At Passover, we get together at the seder and we say, “Next year in Jerusalem.” It’s a critical thing for us to do because it’s not just a moment of reflection on the past two years of pandemic; it’s not about the ups and downs of those experiences. That’s been hard for us in the long term which I think is something that Passover is trying to get us towards.

At Passover, we feel lost and hurt and confused, and we’re also in touch with feeling vaccinated and saved and we appreciate the fact that we were once slaves and the other is that our ancestors were idol worshippers. We are all very much in touch with both in the last two years. We are feeling lost and hurt and confused, and we’re also in touch with feeling vaccinated and saved and we appreciate the critical need for preserving life with this very important responsibility to retell this story in a way that passes down that legacy when we come together with family and friends. It’s a sacred responsibility to seek and pursue freedom for everyone everywhere?

There’s a part of me that’s sitting here in February wondering whether these past couple of years’ going to happen in Passover. For me I’m saying the numbers are getting better, so it’s all going to be better...and then there’s another part of me that’s saying that the pandemic may well be with us for a while. But Passover is something that we do not just in our smaller families but, in essence, that we meet each other in the moment of the exodus, that we do that in our larger community.

PASSOVER IS TRYING TO GET US TOWARDS

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RABBI BELLOWS: What's been interesting for those of us who have been able to celebrate at all is how much we can do at home. It was amazing how the technology—especially Zoom. It allowed people from across the world or in another country, and you weren't able to go to someone's house or to your congregational office, what could you do? It's been really special to be able to turn on the computer, as sterile and impersonal as that might be, and feel trapped. There are moments that we feel trapped in our own homes, and the need to create political freedom and emancipation is as strong as anything. I think that's something that we can continue to think about as we get into the pandemic as it relates to Passover. Is that correct?

RABBI BELLOWS: That's a really interesting question of how to get creative in this pandemic. It gives us the opportunity to think about how we can be creative and bring some meaningfulness to this moment, if we can. Once again, The Crown Market is proud to provide the best Kosher-for-Passover foods!

• Quinoa
• Vegetable Lentil Soup
• Oven Roasted Vegetable Medley
• Charoset
• Chicken Soup with Matzo Balls
• Sweet Potatoes with Praline Topping
• Spinach, Mushroom & Onion Kugel
• Broccoli Soufflé

RABBI WOODWARD: And your choice of two:

• Sliced Roast Turkey Breast with Gravy
• Braised Brisket of Beef
• Orange & Honey Roasted Sweet Potatoes
• Honey Dilled Julienned Carrots

DON’T DELAY REGISTER TODAY.

SPACE IS LIMITED.

For more information contact Camp Director, Debra Kirschner, summerscamp@jccnh.org 203-387-2424 x253

PAGE 18
Governor Lamont finds a kindred spirit in the Jewish state

By Judie Jacobson

NEW HAVEN, Connecticut—It was hailed as an “economic development mission … focused on building and strengthening connections between the Connecticut and members of Israel’s innovation ecosystem.”

And so it was.

But, according to Ned Lamont, the Connecticut Governor was on a long trip to the Jewish state — in which he and representatives from Connecticut’s public and private sectors met with entrepreneurs, investors, accelerators and thought leaders — turned to be that…and so much more.

“Israel really rolled out the red carpet for Connecticut, I was so impressed,” said Lamont upon his return to Hartford for Connecticut Governor’s recent week-long trip to the Jewish state — in addition to meeting with business leaders, Governor Lamont met with several Israeli officials, including Prime Minister Naftali Bennett, Foreign Minister Yair Lapid, President Isaac Herzog, and Dr. Salam Zarka, Israel’s chief COVID-19 officer.

In addition to meeting with more than a dozen businesses in Israel, we also met with Google. The trip culminated with a VentureClash event led by Connecticut Innovations, the state’s venture capital arm and featured six pitches from companies looking to expand to the United States.

“With the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Afghanistan last summer, the cris...
VENDORS TO BE PRESENT:

- Gift of Life
- Kelly King, LMT
- Liberty Bank
- Generations OB
- Generations OB P/L
- PJ Library/Salabom Shalom
- JCC Membership
- JCC Fitness/Wellness Spa at J

...and more to be announced!

The JCC of Greater New Haven, The Jewish Federation, and Women’s Philanthropy of Greater New Haven will host a day of wellness, fitness and FUN ways to promote good health.

The statistics tell an unsettling story: One in 40 Ashkenazi Jewish men and women—or more than 30 times that of the general population—carry a mutation in one of the BRCA genes, dramatically increasing their risk for breast, ovarian, prostate, and pancreatic cancer.

One in 14 Jews carry a mutation in the APC gene which doubles their risk for colorectal cancer, reflecting one of the highest colorectal cancer risks of any ethnic group.

One in 10 Jewish women and men carry a mutation in the BRCA1/2 genes that increase the risk for many types of cancer. The panel tests for more than 60 genes, such as BRCA1/2, that are related to hereditary cancer.

Eighty percent of individuals with a hereditary genetic disease are born to parents who have no family history of that disease. The only way to know if a child carries a genetic mutation is to either be tested or the baby is born with a developing cancer. The panel tests for more than 60 genetic diseases that are commonly found in the Jewish population and other populations.

In addition, JScreen offers CancerGen, a cancer screening test designed for individuals who are 25 and older that looks for genetic changes that increase the risk for many types of cancer. The panel tests for more than 60 genes, such as BRCA1/2, that are related to hereditary cancer. In many cases, individuals who test positive have options to reduce the chances of developing cancer or to detect it at an early, treatable stage. Because we share genetic information with our family members, a creative result may also alert other relatives to consider testing. For those who have had a cancer diagnosis, knowing the genetic cause may help identify other cancer risks and help their doctor adjust their medical management.

The Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven wants to help. And so, to ensure that all members of our community have the ability to be screened for Jewish genetic diseases, a fund has been established to help support those who would like to be screened.

Learn more about JScreen and other programs at “Healthy You 2022,” to be held on Sunday, May 15, hosted by the JCC and Women’s Philanthropy of the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven. A collaborative program presented in partnership with Discovery to Cure, JScreen, and Gift of Life, will focus on learning how to gain information about your personal genetic risks as well as on the hands-on monitoring available.

Speakers will include experts in cancer and genetic counseling, including Dr. Gary Altwerger, gynecologic oncologist; Emily Goldberg, MS, CGC, genetic counselor; Dr. Sarah Rosenshein, radiologist; Estee Rose, MS, CGC genetic counselor; and Dr. Harry Schwartz, genetic counselor.

A committee of volunteers, led by Dr. Dana Schwartz and Robyn Teplyz, are encouraging all to participate. The event is free and open to the community. This program is only made possible by the generosity of our community and local sponsors. The Fishman Fund for JCC Healthy Women Lives, and Sound Obstetrics and Gynecology.

For more information on sponsorship and vendor opportunities, contact Lindsay Barger at lbarger@jewishnewhaven.org, or visit the website jccnh.org/healthyyou2022.

Join us for our Health & Wellness Fair

The JCC of Greater New Haven, The Jewish Federation, and Women’s Philanthropy of Greater New Haven will host a day of wellness, fitness and FUN ways to promote good health.

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The Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven has announced the recipients of the inaugural Impact Grant Initiative allocation. A direct result of the community strategic planning process, the new Impact Grant Initiative is designed to inspire creative collaboration, and engagement from every aspect of the Federation’s catchment area. The broad-based initiative is designed to inspire project proposals that create meaningful Jewish experiences to address Federation’s core priorities of education, security, advocacy, and collaboration priorities.

To be eligible for a grant, applicants were required to work in collaboration with another Jewish organization or synagogue. Recipients will receive a maximum of almost $30,000 in funding for up to three years to local Jewish organization synagogues and individuals.

After much consideration and discussion of 14 grant applications, the Impact Grants Task Force — comprised of Linda Caplan, Dr. Dena Schulman Green, Dr. David Hass, Chesky Holtzberg, Sami Meritt, Dr. Norman Reiss, and Shady Perkins — selected the following inaugural grant recipients:

- Iconic Places on the Shoreline
- Camp Laurelwood with Temple Beth Tikvah and PJ Library
- Camp Laurelwood is working in collaboration with Temple Beth Tikvah and PJ Library, to provide engagement opportunities for intergenerational Jewish families living on the Connecticut shoreline, and to maximize resources,

impact creative and impactful programs that nurture and advance Jewish values.

This initiative will expand to other locations in local public spaces — such as, RJ Julia Bookstore, Bishop’s Orchards, Ashley’s Ice Cream, Camp Laurelwood in local public spaces — such as, RJ Julia Bookstore, Bishop’s Orchards, Ashley’s Ice Cream, Camp Laurelwood.

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Tunisia boycotts Gal Gadot’s latest film

(JNS) The Danish toy company Lego has announced that it is an emotional connection. I don’t think it is an important and strategic target,” said 1994 and is a longtime supporter of Tunisia hosted the PLO from 1982-2017. (JNS) Tunisia has pulled from all movie reports, Bennett has offered to mediate Russia for invading Ukraine. According to reports, Egyptian agreements signed and also implement themselves, and private companies from which have helped promote economic for expressing support for Israel during its Lebanon for the same reason.

Gadot’s film “Wonder Woman” in 2017. Bennett holds calls with Putin, Zeïnsky

The name “Lego” is born. The product was invented the global healthcare industry’s first all-in-one modular device and exam platform for A Shoreline, on-demand, remote checkups of lungs, heart, spine, ears, abdomen, skin, blood oxygen level, body temperature and pulse. Patients can use the device independently, enabling doctors to diagnose and monitor conditions remotely. Andrey Suvatskiy, head of UNCEF’s Health Division, said: “With more than 400,000 children living in the conflict-affected areas, almost 20,000 of them reside in locations with difficult access to healthcare ... UNICEF can help us to increase access to essential health services for the most marginalized families, as well as protect the frontline healthcare workers.” In a related development, Shiba Medical Center, Israel’s largest medical center, is readying equipment and supplies to be sent to countries adjacent to Ukraine, and will coordinate its efforts according to conditions permit. The medical center’s virtual health platform, Shiba Beyond, will provide Ukraine and surrounding areas with the resources to remotely consult with Shiba physicians.
The Purim Miracle of 1953

By Yelena Gerovich

New American Acculturation Program Coordinator

Do you believe in miracles? There are Jews in our community from the former Soviet Union who, from generation to generation, pass down the story of the miracle that hap

The story of Purim is a story of miracles. When a moment of truth arrives, it is incumbent upon us to summon our inner strength and courage. The story of Purim reminds us to always be proud of our Jewish identity. The moral of the story is that when we stand up for what we believe in, we can overcome even the most daunting challenges.

At times throughout history, in different places around the world, it has been hard to be Jewish. Even during the Holocaust, when Jews were targeted for mass killings and deportations, there were still moments of heroism and resistance. The story of Purim is a reminder of the strength and courage of our ancestors.

Bravery is central to the Purim story — consider Queen Esther, who exhibited immense courage, at a time when it was dangerous to reveal her Jewish identity. She realized that the survival of her people depended on her speaking up, and she did so with great bravery. Her actions saved thousands of lives.

In 1953, the story of Purim once again came to life. In the Soviet Union, where anti-Semitism had been a constant threat, the story of Purim was used as a symbol of resistance. Jews remembered the Purim story as a reminder that they were not alone, and that they could stand up for their beliefs.

The story of Purim in 1953 is a reminder that even in the darkest of times, there is hope and resilience. It is a story of courage, strength, and perseverance.

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Bravery is central to the Purim story — consider Queen Esther, who exhibited immense courage, at a time when it was dangerous to reveal her Jewish identity. She realized that the survival of her people depended on her speaking up, and she did so with great bravery. Her actions saved thousands of lives.

In 1953, the story of Purim once again came to life. In the Soviet Union, where anti-Semitism had been a constant threat, the story of Purim was used as a symbol of resistance. Jews remembered the Purim story as a reminder that they were not alone, and that they could stand up for their beliefs.

The story of Purim in 1953 is a reminder that even in the darkest of times, there is hope and resilience. It is a story of courage, strength, and perseverance.

The Purim Miracle of 1953

By Yelena Gerovich

New American Acculturation Program Coordinator

Do you believe in miracles? There are Jews in our community from the former Soviet Union who, from generation to generation, pass down the story of the miracle that hap

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Betty Levy is the mother of three grown children and the grandmother of six. She practiced law, specializing in insecurity, domestic violence and personal dignity, we can emphasize the values it is important to me as a woman, mother and grandmother that I be a role model. Philanthropy launched Dignity Grows, a program to provide free menstrual and hygiene supplies on a monthly basis to indigent women and girls in our community. This was most dramatically reinforced by the emergency funding to several vital Jewish community organizations enabling them to continue their services to the elderly, sick, disabled, and indigent. Through special grants and contributions, the Federation distributed over one million masks to the community in areas where they were most needed. Women’s Philanthropy launched Dignity Grows, a program to provide free menstrual and hygiene supplies on a monthly basis to indigent women and girls in our community.

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 Porcupine Designates a gift of $1,800-6,899 and a Saba gift of $360-$6,799.
2. When dry, cut out the or cardstock to make it playing cards.

Show us how YOU celebrated Passover.

Memory Card Game!

By Chava Light

Darkness
Locust
Boils
Hail
Hail
Leviticus
Death of the Firstborn

JEWISH FOUNDATION

Beckerman Family Supporting Foundation Inc. Endowment Fund for the Benefit of Congregation Mishkan Israel

Howard A. Beckerman, Howard Beckerman & Joseph Beckerman

In memory of Mollie Gottlieb, D.S. James Blumen, Mr. Robert Goodman, David & Deborah Bederman

JACQUELINE WILLIAM TOSDICK FUND

In memory of Arlene & Stuart Mayerson

Lauren & Scott Miller

In memory of Barry & JoAnn Tuchman

In memory of Peggy & Paul Ross, Sarah Hayden & Gennette Cooper

Deborah R. Schaller

The JCC’s Barry Vine Send a Kid to Camp Fund

In memory of Mollie Gottlieb, D.S. James Blumen, Mr. Robert Goodman, David & Deborah Bederman

In memory of Marvin Berman, Rawda Eweid, Marion & Lauren Hammon, Daylin Tomlinson, Jane Judd, David Judd & David Lust

In memory of Robert A. Steinschneider, Rabbi Herbert A. Schneider & Debra Kirshner

In memory of Marsha Bernstein, Rawda Eweid, Marion & Lauren Hammon, Daylin Tomlinson, Jane Judd, David Judd & David Lust

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"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 Kentucky, 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