SHAVUOT Celebrating the Giving of the Torah

pages 14-15
Jewish and Proud

“Without a light, how do people walk in the dark? And how do people endure the teaching and the old tradition?” asks a woman whose name I do not capture. The words are very deep, and I believe she is speaking to the Jewish people and the Jewish history of suffering and loss. The woman is standing in a room with a large mirror and a table with a potted plant in the center.

I (Edgar Guest, poet)

When I was a kid growing up in Cherry Hill, New Jersey, I loved baseball. I loved everything about it from the family with three boys next door whose dad would throw us a ball and encourage us to play. Our backyard was a place to play ball, and I remember being there and thinking about how this could happen. I have many memories of playing ball and watching games on TV. It was a time when we could dream about being famous and playing Major League Baseball. I remember watching the Phillies play in the World Series and being excited about the possibility of winning. I continued to dream about playing in a Major League Park.

I (Lisa Stanger, Esq.)

When I was in college, I played softball for my college team. I remember thinking about how much fun it would be to play in a Major League Park. I continued to dream about playing on that field and being a part of the game. I still remember the excitement I felt when I was in college. I played in a couple of games and enjoyed the experience. I remember thinking about how much more it would be to play on that field.

I (JUDY ALPERIN)

Please help us. Our Ukraine fund is a mission to Poland, where Amy Holtz and I delivered medical supplies for Ukraine. We did our best to keep our community updated during witnessing terrible atrocities throughout Ukraine. On the other hand, I cried with pride for what we did and the desire for people to do more. Still, we are heartened by those who came forward to help and responded to this crisis. It is that type of love that is needed in the world.

I (JEWISH FEDERATION PRESIDENT DR. STEPH FLEISCHMAN)

As I, too, I have thought about this question a lot. It was truly overwhelming and filled me with pride in our community’s response. It was something that I never thought would happen. I am grateful for the support and the desire of people to do more. Still, we are heartened by those who came forward to help and responded to this crisis. It is that type of love that is needed in the world.

I (JEWISH NEW HAVEN STAFF)

It was an amazing, but for many different reasons. For one, it led to numerous tears over the 48 hours and beyond. Still, we are heartened by those who came forward to help and responded to this crisis. It is that type of love that is needed in the world.

I (LEADERSHIP)

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I (SHALOM NEW HAVEN STAFF)

As I could not write this column, we are unfortunately still waiting for news about Ukraine. I have the privilege of representing our community on a mission to Poland, where Amy Holtz and I delivered medical supplies for Ukraine. We did our best to keep our community updated during witnessing terrible atrocities throughout Ukraine. On the other hand, I cried with pride for what we did and the desire for people to do more. Still, we are heartened by those who came forward to help and responded to this crisis. It is that type of love that is needed in the world.

I (FOUNDER)

As I could not write this column, we are unfortunately still waiting for news about Ukraine. I have the privilege of representing our community on a mission to Poland, where Amy Holtz and I delivered medical supplies for Ukraine. We did our best to keep our community updated during witnessing terrible atrocities throughout Ukraine. On the other hand, I cried with pride for what we did and the desire for people to do more. Still, we are heartened by those who came forward to help and responded to this crisis. It is that type of love that is needed in the world.
I wholeheartedly including my son. The patient care creating a relaxing experience during your visits.

Blue Orchid New Haven, a pan-Asian restaurant and bar. He and his spouse, Kyu, live in Orange and are owners of resources and non-profit management.

Michael holds a Master’s degree from Quinnipiac University in Organizational Leadership with a concentration on human resources and non-profit management.

He and his spouse, Aya, live in Orange and are owners of Blue Orchid New Haven, a pan-Asian restaurant and bar.

Rabbi Josh Pernick, Jewish Community Relations (JCRC) Director, Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven

Michael Flora, Chief Financial Officer, Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven

Woodbridge. For the past 16 years, he has held a broad range of accounting management positions both in the for-profit and non-profit worlds. He has served as the lead finance professional with human resources, information technology (IT) and administrative responsibilities focusing mainly on budgeting.

Michael recently served as Federation CEO for Marrakech, Inc. in North Carolina; and as curriculum consultant for the Global Day of Learning.

An active community leader, Rabbi Pernick served on the Strategic Planning Subcommittee of the Jewish Federation of Greater New Orleans; as a Board member and JCRC representative of YAD of Jewish Federation in Charleston, South Carolina; and on the Planning Board for the Brandeis University Interfaith Leadership Fellowship in Wellesley, Massachusetts.

Rabbi Pernick received his ordination from Yeshiva University Torah Rabbinical School, in New York. His BA from Brandeis University and his MA in Elementary Education from the Dalkit Program at Brandeis. Previously, he held a fellowship in Jewish Education from Jerusalem’s Pardes Institute for Jewish Studies.

On a postcard arrived a few days after his arrival, with the words, “Hello, this is your father.”

Rabbi Lazowski’s story began when he was 11 years old and separated from his family. “There were thousands of Jews gathered in this marketplace, and I saw a Nazi take a baby from his mother’s arms, piece it with his lantern, and then tie it like a loaf of bread.”

He recalled, detailing the events of April 30, 1942, in the Jewish ghetto of Zhetel, Poland.

Rabbi Lazowski is the former spiritual leader of BethMidrash Synagogue in Bloomfield. He was keynote speaker at the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven’s Holocaust Remembrance Day event, which was hosted by the Federation’s Dr. Steven Fleischman and Rabbi Josh Pernick.

“I’ve never had a bat mitzvah, but as a Holocaust survivor,” he told the packed room after being introduced by Holocaust Memory Committee Co-Chair Bruce Dittman. “What happened to me is a lesson on what can happen.”

Lazowski’s story began when he was 15 years old and separated from his family. “There were thousands of Jews gathered in this marketplace, and I saw a Nazi take a baby from his mother’s arms, piece it with his lantern, and then tie it like a loaf of bread.”

Rabbi Lazowski, Holocaust Survivor

Rabbi Josh Pernick comes to his new posts as director and rabbi in residence of the Jewish Community Relations (JCRC) with over 20 years experience in Jewish education and communal service.

Before joining the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven, he served as Rabbi of Congregation B’nai Israel, Metairie, Louisiana. Previously, he also served as Rabbi at Inter/Pluribahet Entrepreneurship Fellowship at Orthodoxy Kahal in Durham, North Carolina and as curriculm consultant for the Global Day of Learning.

Rabbi Josh Pernick, Jewish Community Relations (JCRC) Director, Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven

The Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven has welcomed two new members of staff, it was announced recently by Federation CEO Judy Alperin.

Michael Flora has joined the Federation as its new Chief Financial Officer (CFO), and Rabbi Joshua Pernick is the organization’s new JCRC Director and Rabbi in Residence.

A corporate accountant with more than 27 years experience in the field, he most recently served as CFO for Massars, Inc. in New Haven.

Rabbi Joshua Pernick, Jewish Community Relations (JCRC) Director, Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven

In Her Footsteps

Laura Kumin

“I’m here not as a rabbi, but as a Holocaust survivor,” he told the packed room after being introduced by Holocaust Memory Committee Co-Chair Bruce Dittman. “What happened to me is a lesson on what can happen.”

Lazowski’s story began when he was 11 years old and separated from his family. “There were thousands of Jews gathered in this marketplace, and I saw a Nazi take a baby from his mother’s arms, piece it with his lantern, and then tie it like a loaf of bread.”

Rabbi Lazowski, Holocaust Survivor

Philip Lazowski, Holocaust Survivor

Lazowski told the audience that he believed he was destined to survive. “I was not a child of the Holocaust, but I was a survivor.”

By Lisa Reisman

As much as remembrance is about thinking back, “it’s about action, and how we take the action we can take through our vote, through demonstrating not just against antisem...”

Lazowski said he has shared his story over the years to honor his mother’s wish. "I'm here not as a rabbi, but as a Holocaust survivor," he told the packed room after being introduced by Holocaust Memory Committee Co-Chair Bruce Dittman. "What happened to me is a lesson on what can happen."

Lazowski’s story began when he was 15 years old and separated from his family. "There were thousands of Jews gathered in this marketplace, and I saw a Nazi take a baby from his mother’s arms, piece it with his lantern, and then tie it like a loaf of bread."

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AT THE JCC
Rev up your rear
By Susan Donovan
Director of Group and Virtual Exercise

Your glutes are much more than just a cushion to sit on, they are one of the most important muscle groups in the body. Think of it this way, if your body were a car, the glutes would be the driver. They act as stabilizers when we stand on one leg, keep our pelvis in alignment, and push us forward whenever we take a step. The glutes play a key role in just about everything we do. Our buttocks are composed of a group of muscles with the glutes maximus being the largest, and recognized as one of the strongest in the body—so keeping this muscle group strong is essential for staying active.

If you lead a sedentary lifestyle with sitting a good portion of the day, your glutes can weaken which in turn may result in some common problems, such as low back pain, knee issues, and even offset your balance. In the language of fitness, we often refer to this as 'glute amnesia'.

So is your butt sleeping on the job? Our brain will call on whichever muscles are needed to perform the function. If one group of muscles doesn’t do its job, another will pick up the slack or compensate. When you bend to pick something up off the floor your brain may shift the brunt of the work to your low back when the glutes don’t. If your hips don’t properly stabilize when walking, this can shift unnecessary stress on the lower back.

Whether you are experiencing any of these issues or simply want to prevent them, try adding these exercises into your weekly routine.

SQUATS: done correctly can give you great for your buck!

HIP EXTENSIONS: these back-leg lifts can also improve balance.

SIDE LYING LEG LIFTS: great for hip stability.
Contact susan@jccnh.org for simple instruction for these exercises that can be performed easily in the comfort of your home and a free fitness consultation. Or visit jccnh.org/fitness for classes and programs designed to keep you healthy and fit.

WORKING THOSE GLUTES:

FAMILY OF THE MONTH: The Rahamims

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Women of Vision: making a difference

Greatest New Haven Jewish women have a wonderful opportunity to become lifelong philanthropists through the Women of Vision Society—a zero-balance endowment fund dedicated to helping and enhancing the lives of women in our community. Created in 2019 by 100 founding members, the endowment has and since more than doubled in my husband's name. To date, over $210,000 has been distributed in grants to a wide variety of Jewish organizations, ranging from employment and literacy to acculturation and health care. Here's a look at Kaleidoscope, a past Women of Vision Grant recipient located in Israel, as well as a list of this year's grant recipients.

SPOTLIGHT ON KALEIDOSCOPE, ISRAEL:
A PAST WOMEN OF VISION GRANT RECIPIENT
Kaleidoscope is an educational approach that aims to foster an appreciation for the values of diversity and respect between Israel's many different constituencies and cultures. Using interactive activities, the project develops in educators, parents and students of all ages and cultures social skills—such as empathy, problem solving and respectful communication—needed to lay a foundation of understanding and acceptance amongst Israel's various populations.

The Kaleidoscope program

Defense Forces (IDF), who are not supported by their families. The Lone Soldier Project provides them with housing and support system during and after their service.

Camp Laurens—CL at the Well Connecticut's only Jewish overnight summer camp is launching a new program centered around young women's development, care, and empowerment. The camp plans to host sessions throughout the summer for female staff and campers, administered by year-round female staff members.

The Towers Horticulture Therapy for Cognitively Impaired Older Adults—Horticulture Therapy at The Towers brings social, emotional, and cognitive value to residents and volunteers. Twice a month, residents and employees alike will gather to enjoy the beauty they then display—and enjoy—in their apartments and throughout the common areas.

BBYO Building Sisterhood BBYO brings Jewish teens together. BBYO's female identifying members join BBYO— bond, celebrate, and grow together through programs rooted in traditions and self-advocacy. As in the popular BBYO regional conventions, which always have gender-inclusive formats for BBYO.

The Israeli Center for Cult Victims—Single-Parent Mothers' Seminar on Personal Empowerment and Culture. Together the two programs, rooted in traditions and self-advocacy, will help strengthen the bonds between them that they lack. The inter-generational experience enhances their connection to Jewish tradition and helps highlight the positive bonds between them that they lack.

JScreen at Emory University—Jewish Federation & JCC of Greater New Haven JScreen Fund. JScreen is a free, online tool that allows you to make an impact in Jewish tradition and helps highlight the positive bonds between them that they lack.

You want to help children struggling with separation anxiety. You want to support children struggling with separation anxiety. You want to make a difference in your community. You want to make a difference in your community. You want to make a difference in your community. You want to make a difference in your community. You want to make a difference in your community. You want to make a difference in your community. You want to make a difference in your community. You want to make a difference in your community. You want to make a difference in your community. You want to make a difference in your community. You want to make a difference in your community.

JScreen is an educational outreach efforts, Women's Philanthropy at the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven, in collaboration with JScreen, is providing FREE genetic screening and counseling. Knowing your genetic risks is imperative.

Visit JewishNewHaven.org for more information and applications. For more information and applications, visit jewishnewhaven.org/scholarships.
Mission Magic—Choose Your Own Israel Experience

In celebration of Israel’s 75th birthday, the Jewish Federations of Greater Hartford and Greater New Haven will host a “Choose Your Own Adventure” community trip to Israel, March 9 – 16, 2023. Between 200-400 local community members are expected to participate in this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, which offers five flexible tracks geared toward different topics and levels of Israel experience.

“This trip will be a top-notch, five-star experience,” says Laura Hasse of Orange, who is co-chairing the trip along with her husband, David, and Juanita and Isaac “Yitz” Moss of West Hartford. “We’re going to stay in the best restaurants, and we’re going to go to the best hotels, we’re going to go to the best sites and we’re going to interact with the best people.”

Yitz and Juanita Moss of West Hartford, co-chairs of the March 2023 Israel mission.

David and Laura Hasse of Orange, co-chairs of the March 2023 Israel mission.

What makes the trip especially unique is the breadth of experiences participants will have to choose from. “With five tracks to choose from, you can customize every day of your trip and someone else will make all the arrangements for you—an opportunity that is not available very often,” explains Yitz Moss.

The tracks include an introductory itinerary for first-time visitors, plus special itineraries focusing on geopolitics of the Middle East, arts and culture, food, wine, and technology and innovation. Travelers are free to switch tracks from one day to the next—and every itinerary provides an insider’s view of Israel with VIP access to sites and experts. At participating hotels will enjoy kosher meals and deluxe accommodations at some of Israel’s finest hotels. Upon arrival, the group will enjoy a festive welcome, highlighted by a celebratory Shabbat experience followed by optional daytime tours followed by an evening of fun.

“We’ve been to Israel twice, and you learn something new every time,” notes David Hass.

All of the sites visits will tell a story of perseverance, ingenuity, and creativity that have built and developed the State of Israel. Participants will also spend time in the Connecticut partnership region of Alufa-Gilboa, in the Northern District of Israel, often known as the “Capital of the Valley” due to its strategic location in the Jezreel Valley. The Jewish Federations of both Greater New Haven and Greater Hartford have partnered with 10 other Federations from our region to form SNEF: the Southern New England Consortium. Together, the consortium invests in Alufa-Gilboa to improve the lives of women and children at-risk.

“Israel 2023: Choose Your Own Adventure” is open to all members of the community 10 years or older.

Registration is now open. An early bird discount is available for Greater Hartford and New Haven families through June 1. For details, visit https://israel-adventure-2023.eventmagix.com or contact Robyn Telpitzky at rtelpitzky@jewishnewhaven.org. To find out more, log onto a Zoom info session on Monday, May 16th at 7 p.m. To register for the info session, visit bit.ly/IsraelTripInfo516.

Mission Co-Chairs

Lauren & David Hass
Juanita & Yitz Moss

Join us for the experience of a lifetime and celebrate Israel’s 75th birthday!

Choose from 5 different tracks, including:
- First-time Visitors to Israel
- Geopolitics of the Middle East
- Arts & Culture
- Food & Wine
- Technology & Innovation

Email Leslie larusso (Greater Hartford) at liarusso@jewishhartford.org or Robyn Telpitzky (Greater New Haven) at rtelpitzky@jewishnewhaven.org

Mission Co-Chairs

Lauren & David Hass
Juanita & Yitz Moss

March 9-16, 2023
Visit our website for details & registration:
israel-adventure-2023.eventmagix.com

EARLY BIRD SPECIALS
$4,500 for Hartford and New Haven families only (ends June 1, 2022)
$4,750 (ends Nov. 1, 2022)
$4,950 (after Nov. 1, 2022)

SPECIAL YOUTH PRICING
$650 (ages 10-17) or triple occupancy
$1,465 (ages 18+)

*SPECIALS*
- $500 non-refundable deposit per person upon registrationorage
- 100% of the balance of the trip is due by registration deadline on November 30, 2022. Not included:
- Flights
- Tips and gratuities
- Travel insurance
- Post-Trip to Morocco

JOIN US FOR THE EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME AND CELEBRATE ISRAEL'S 75TH BIRTHDAY!
FREE MUSIC ON THE NEW HAVEN GREEN

Liraz • K. Dub • The McKains • Karim Nagi
Carrie Ashton • Orquesta Afinke • Alex Cuba
Sirius Coyote • The Split Coils • Gregory Porter
New Haven Symphony Orchestra Young Composer Project
Cool Breeze with Evelyn “Champagne” King, Manny James, DJ Diamond D, DJ Juan Coon • The Sound of Victory Fellowship Choir
Pastor Vincent Bohanan • New Haven Symphony Orchestra
Harolyn Blackwell • Albert V. Lee • Brian Stokes Mitchell
Nachito Herrera & His Havana Jazz Club • Okaidja
Proyecto Cimarron • Las Cafeteras

ARTIDEA.ORG/music

JSSCREEN Changes Lives... One Family at a Time

JScreen New Haven, a public health initiative that provides detection for preventable hereditary cancers and Jewish genetic diseases, is changing lives everyday for providing reproductive genetic screening and cancer genetic screening to Jewish individuals and couples.

Now, the vital home screening spit kits that make it possible for JScreen to change lives have been made even more accessible to all members of the Greater New Haven Jewish community, thanks to the generosity of the B Foundation, Women of Vision and donors who have ensured that fees for screening kits can be waived.

Who is eligible to receive free screening? Screening through JScreen New Haven is available for all individuals and couples living in the Greater New Haven and seeking knowledge about their genetic risks. This includes individuals with a known Jewish background, those who are unsure of their Jewish ancestry, all denominations, interfaith couples, and LGBQT+ individuals and couples. The reproductive screening is for individuals ages 18-45 and the cancer genetic screening is for ages 21 and up.

Prevention is the goal! The JScreen nonprofit initiative, housed at Emory University, created to educate and provide screening to Jewish families to learn about their elevated risk of possible genetic disorders and cancer risks for ovarian, BRCA, or any other hereditary and more. Men and women with a mutation in a cancer gene have a 50% chance of passing down the mutation to each of their children. If you test positive for a mutation, your children, siblings, and other relatives may also be at a higher risk to have a cancer gene mutation.

JScreens offers two types of screening:
ReproGen: assesses a couple's reproductive risk and CancerGen: assess an individual's increased cancer susceptibility.

JScreen is so easy to use. There's no trip to the doctor or needle needed to draw blood. If interested, visit jewishnewhaven.org/jscreen to read about the screening test and request a FREE kit.

JScreen New Haven, 2022

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SHAVUOT: THE KEY TO OUR FUTURE

By Rabbi James Strom

Shavuot is a holiday that celebrates the covenantal relationship with the Creator, bath in our spiritual and physical existence. Our agricultural cycle. Our dedicated 49 days between the Torah and the wilderness are receiving Torah. Later, our ancestors in Israel celebrated Shavuot as the late spring harvest festival. Even today, many Jews recite a daily blessing as they stand at Sinai each day of the holiday. If it’s Nissim Black, you’re bound to hear how this month for Chabad’s Bais Chana Women International, it’s like He’s standing there waiting anew every minute, it’s like He’s standing there waiting for Chabad’s Bais Chana Women International, it’s like He’s standing there waiting for Chabad’s Bais Chana Women International, it’s like He’s standing there waiting for Chabad’s Bais Chana Women International, it’s like He’s standing there waiting for Chabad’s Bais Chana Women International, it’s like He’s standing there waiting for Chabad’s Bais Chana Women International, it’s like He’s standing there waiting for Chabad’s Bais Chana Women International, it’s like He’s standing there waiting for Chabad’s Bais Chana Women International, it’s like He’s standing there waiting for Chabad’s Bais Chana Women International, it’s like He’s standing there waiting for Chabad’s Bais Chana Women International, it’s like He’s standing there waiting for Chabad’s Bais Chana Women International, it’s like 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IN OUR SYNAGOGUES

Synagogue security check

In March and April, Michael Shanbrom, the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven’s regional security director, was at it again—helping our local Jewish synagogues and organizations enhance and improve their security measures.

Michael equipped congregants of Temple Beth Shalom in Hamden with the tools to counter active threats at a special training session held at the Hamden synagogue on April 26.

On March 23, Michael, aided by the Chesire Police Department, conducted a security assessment of Temple Beth David in Chesire. He is pictured here on the steps of the synagogue with Jodi Harris, Temple Beth David director of learning and engagement (center), and Ann Curiale, the synagogue’s security chair.

Visit the Kosher Department at ShopRite of Hamden

Enjoy expanded varieties of Kosher products, including weekly deliveries from AgriStar meats, Flaums, and Beigel’s bakery!

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2 or More Packages of Beigels Bread or Cake Items

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$25.00 or More Kosher Meat

In store only. Subject to change and availability of products. Not valid in combination with another sale. Not valid with other offers.

Visit us online at shopriteofhamden.com

In Our Synagogues

Mishkan Israel’s Popular Cantor’s Concert is back!

ANNUAL FUNDRAISER WILL FEATURE CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED MUSICIAN RABBI JOE BLACK

It’s back! On May 22, Congregation Mishkan Israel will host the highly anticipated return of its annual— and much loved—Cantor’s Concert. Headlining this year’s concert will be Rabbi Joe Black, a pioneer of Jewish contemporary music who has performed for communities around the world and is renowned for hisutar virtuosity, soaring voice, and lyrics that are at the same time funny, inspirational, and thought provoking.

The Cantors Concert will be held Mishkan Israel, located at 785 Ridge Rd in Hamden. The evening will begin with a pre-concert patio reception at 6:30 p.m., followed at 7 p.m. by an indoor concert in OM’s historic sanctuary.

Senior Rabbi of Temple Emanuel in Denver, Rabbi Black is a frequent contributor to anthologies and collections of Jewish writing. He has recorded five critically-acclaimed albums of Jewish music, two children’s books, a songbook and two videos. His books and music have been featured by the PJ library and he has received numerous honors for his performance, including being named by Moment magazine as one of the top ten male performers in American Jewish music as well as one of the top ten children’s performers in American Jewish music.

Congregation Mishkan Israel is the 14th oldest Jewish congregation in the United States and the oldest continuously operating one in New England.

For more information, call the synagogue office at (203) 286-3877 or visit www.cmihanford.org.

Silver Circle Society

Thank You Event

The Silver Circle Society is comprised of over 900 donors who contributed more than $50 million in donations to our Jewish community over 25+ years. The commitment to helping others is remarkable and powerful.

Thursday
July 21 1 pm

Beckerman Lender Jewish Community Building, 360 Amity Road, Woodbridge

All silver circle members are welcome to attend.

PERFORMANCE BY:

THE ELM CITY WINDS

More details to follow

The Elm City Winds is an ensemble of over 25 members dedicated to performing Baroque and Classical music.

The Silver Circle Society Thank You Event will be held on Thursday, July 21 at 1 pm at the Beckerman Lender Jewish Community Building located at 360 Amity Road in Woodbridge. The evening will begin with a social hour and light refreshments at 6:30 pm followed by the performance at 7 pm. Ticket price is $180 for members and $200 for non-members. It is open to the public.

For more information, visit jewishnewhaven.org/silversociety.
BEKI installs Eric Woodward as rabbi

By Allan Appel

I was a young,gift and music-filled gathering Sunday morning; March 20,2022.New Haven’s Beth El-Rabbinic synagogue installed Eric Woodward as their new rabbi.

Woodward,41,a graduate of Williams College and the Jewish Theological Seminary,assumed the pulpit over Woodward,41, a graduate of Williams College and the Jewish Theological Seminary, assumed the pulpit over March 20, 2022.

The installation was an “exciting moment, in the midst of all the grief in the world, for the congregation to come together,” said Maytal Saltiel, an active BEKI member. “He is a person who has a great memory and remembers everyone’s story.”

When Woodward stepped up to the bimah, he beamed out on the new old faces looking up at him. “I’m just taking a minute to take in all your faces,” he said. “From the moment BEKI came into our family’s lives, it felt as if it were meant to be. I think we truly saw each other, the joy and love and being seen.”

Woodward found a proof-text for this message in a medieval Jewish commentator’s question: Why the Jews’ biblical story begins at creation at Genesis (the first humans recorded in the story, after all, weren’t Jewish) as opposed to the central-people narrative at Seder in Exodus from Egypt. Answer: “To give us context, to train us about our place in the world not just as Jews but as humans.”

In addition to formal proclamations offered by Mayor Justin Elicker and State Rep. Pat Dillon, Tilles presented Woodward with a prayer shawl and an old text for a blessing, from when Moses (with God’s help) leads the people of Judea to Joshua: “May the Torah never cease from your lips ... Be strong and resolute, for [God] your God will be with you whenever you go.”

Then, as Woodward struggled a little to put the talis under his prayer shawl, Tilles called up from the seat in the first row to which he had descended: “You know how to use that thing?”

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NEW congregation Rabbi

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...Every time we meet another person we are in... 1638.0x864.0
Jeanette Kuvn Oren Designs Hanukkah Stamp

Her stunning artwork adorns the sanctuaries of a multitude of synagogues, the offices of many Jewish organizations and the walls of private homes all across the country and in Israel. Now, Connecticut Judic artist Jeanette Kuvn Oren has another extraordinary achievement to add to her burgeoning portfolio: Stamp designer and artist.

Jeanette Kuvn Oren is going postal—in a good way.

Recently, the U.S. Postal Service announced the selection of Hanukkah-themed artwork designed by Jeanette to issue as a stamp celebrating that most joyous of Jewish holidays. The stamp features an original watercolor painting of a Hanukkah—the nine-branched candelabra used only at Chanukah. Ethel Rakower served as art director for the project.

Kudos, Jeanette!

Crisis deepens between Arab party and coalition

(JNS) As the Knesset opened its summer session on Monday, May 9, tensions were running high between the governing National Home Front Coalition (SNH) and the opposition Ra'am Party, leading some to suspect the coalition towards collapse.

As SNH went to press, senior coalition officials warned Ra'am that if it does not show up to vote on May 11 on an opposition no-confidence bill, the Arab party would be responsible for pushing the coalition towards collapse.

Crimson announces support for BDS movement

(JNS) In a recent editorial, The Harvard Crimson announced its support for the BDS movement and a “Free Palestine,” ending a 20-year legacy of opposition to the Jewish state. “In the past, our board was skeptical of the movement. But, once we started discussing its goals, arguing that BDS as a whole did not get at the nuances and particulars of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.”

The editorial board, which at one point in the piece said “remains America’s favorite first amendment critic,” noted that it has proven successful: It has forced our campus—and our editorial board—to grapple again with what both Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International have called Israel’s “crimes against humanity” in the region.

Immigration to Israel soars

Some 38,000 new immigrants will celebrate their first Independence Day as Israeli citizens this year, according to figures released by the Aliyah and Integration Ministry housed the immigrants in hotels throughout the country.

Meanwhile, many more immigrants from all corners of the globe flocked to Israel in the shadow of the global pandemic. Between May 2021 and now, about half of the immigrants arrived from Ukraine and Russia, 4,000 came from France, 1,000 from Belarus, 1,000 from Argentina, 700 from Great Britain, 600 from South Africa, 500 from Brazil, 400 from Canada, and others from Australia, Germany, Belgium, Chile, Italy, and other countries. In addition, more immigrants from Ethiopia arrived via “Operation Tour Israel,” which is due to resume soon as per an agreement between the Jewish Agency and the Aliah and Integration Ministry.

Harvard Crimson supports BDS

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The announcement was met with condemnation from Jewish groups and individuals.
The New American Acculturation Program continues to provide educational classes, programs, and other services and events. For more information about the program, including sponsors of specific programs, please contact Yelena Gerovich at 203 387-2424 x321, or email ygerovich@jewishnewhaven.org.

May 16 | The Owl Shop
Greenberg wanted to help. After all, it was hard for any feeling person to witness the people of Ukraine suffering horribly, their country devastated and in ruin as a result of the brutal attack by Russian forces.

“I had been thinking about what I could do, short of getting on a plane and going over there,” explains Glen, who owns the bar called Ordinary around the corner.”

“Why the World Central Kitchen? Since the start of the Russian invasion into Ukraine, the WCK has served more than 15.6 million meals to Ukrainians in need, including those still in Ukraine and those living in shelters at border crossings. Their efforts have been a lifeline for families who have been forced to flee their homes. Donations are needed more now than ever, says Glen.

“The World Central Kitchen had a location in Ukraine and they were on the ground a couple of weeks ago. Their supplies are destroyed,” he reports. “So we put together this fundraiser and we’re hoping to raise somewhere around $10,000—hopefully more. But whatever we can do is more than they had yesterday.”

If you can’t stop by The Owl Shop, says Glen, you can still donate by visiting wck.org/ukraine/donate. Donations should be earmarked for the “WCR Ukrainian Effort.” In-kind donations may be arranged through The Owl Shop, (203) 624-3250.

For more information, contact David Hartman at (203) 623-4517 or dhartman50@comcast.net.
Magen David Adom has been saving lives since 1930, some 18 years before Israel became a state. We take immense pride in being Israel’s national emergency medical service and in supplying the blood and medical care for the soldiers who have ensured Israel’s existence. Join us in celebrating Israel’s independence on Yom HaAtzma’ut.

Save a life in Israel — and now in Ukraine too.

Support Magen David Adom at afmda.org or call 866.632.2763.

Ever since there’s been an IDF protecting Israel, there’s been an MDA ensuring their health.

Holocaust Survivor

“I came penniless, and I worked very hard to learn the language,” Lazowski said. He worked during the day, attending school at night, and eventually earning a degree from Yeshiva University.

There a classmate invited the whole class to his wedding. At the reception, a woman at his table engaged him in conversation. “She asked where I was from, and I told her the town,” he said. “And she said, ‘Oh, my best friend told me she saved a boy from that town.’ How did they save the boy? I asked. She told me the story. I said, That’s me. I am that boy.”

Having learned that she and her family lived in Hartford, he called the operator and asked for the number for Rabinowitz. There were six Rabinowitzes. He asked for the first one. “And who answered the phone, but the lady that saved my life,” he recalled, to the audience’s delight and gasps.

Not long after, he visited them in Hartford. “There were the two girls from the market — place all grown up,” he said. “I fell in love with one of them. Ruth, and we’ve been married for 66 years, three sons, seven grandchildren.”

“There are very few Holocaust survivors,” he said in closing. “Soon there will be none, so it’s important that we understand where we are going.”

That’s why, he said, “I tell my story. So it’s not forgotten. When you forget, you’re vulnerable to the idea that it never happened, and then it can happen again.”

This article is reprinted with permission of New Haven Independent. It has been edited slightly for space considerations.
Shavuot is the festival that celebrates the Jews receiving the Torah on Mount Sinai.

On the second day of Pesach (Passover), we begin counting each day for 9 weeks, 49 days. This counting is in preparation for receiving the Torah. Shavuot is the fifteenth day.

(1) It’s traditional to eat dairy on Shavuot. This is because once the Torah was given, the Jews became obligated to observe the kosher laws. Since the Torah was given on Shabbat, no cattle could be prepared nor could utensils be koshered, and so on that day they ate dairy.

(2) King David was born and died on Shavuot.

(3) The night before the Jews got the Torah, they slept. Some people feel they should have been too excited to sleep! For this reason, there is a custom to stay up all night and learn Torah on Shavuot.

This shows how excited we are to have the Torah.

JEWISH FOUNDATION

In celebration of Marilyn Magdas’s 80th birthday,40 years anniversary of Women’s Philanthropy’s Impact Group. Naomi Cohen

In memory of Moira Cohen, mother of Henry Cohen

In memory of Stanley S. Cohen, Sr. and wife Betty Fishbeyn, for their 50th wedding anniversary. (This is very different than how it’s shown in art!) The Luchot were Tefachim” thick – (about 10 inches). (This is very different than how it’s shown in art!) The Luchot were Tefachim” thick – (about 10 inches). (This is very different than how it’s shown in art!) The Luchot were Tefachim” thick – (about 10 inches). (This is very different than how it’s shown in art!) The Luchot were Tefachim” thick – (about 10 inches). (This is very different than how it’s shown in art!) The Luchot were Tefachim” thick – (about 10 inches). (This is very different than how it’s shown in art!) The Luchot were Tefachim” thick – (about 10 inches). (This is very different than how it’s shown in art!) The Luchot were Tefachim” thick – (about 10 inches).
BIG TICKET RAFFLE

TUESDAY
JUNE 28 2022
6-8PM

JCC
NORMAN HURWITZ TERRACE ROOM

TOP PRIZES:

- $5,000 CASH
- $3,000 Entertainment Package from Liverpool Productions
- 1 YEAR JCC MEMBERSHIP (any category)

Questions? Contact Lindsey Barger at lbarger@jewishnewhaven.org or 203-387-2424 x276