

The Voice of the Greater New Haven Jewish Community

SHALOM



How Will
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Look Post
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PJ Library is Bringing Happiness Home!



INVESTING THROUGH A JEWISH LENS

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UPDATED AND READY FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Renovated from top to bottom, the Vine Family Auditorium will serve our community for many years to come. **PAGE 19**



PEW REPORT REVEALS WHAT IT MEANS TO BE JEWISH IN AMERICA TODAY

Get local perspective on the recent Pew study on American Jews in 2020
PAGE 8



FROM THE DESK OF
JUDY ALPERIN
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER | jalperin@jewishnewhaven.org

Seeing the Light

When my children were young, Eric Carle, who recently passed away, was a favorite author. They loved so many of his brightly illustrated stories but one of their favorites was "The Very Hungry Caterpillar". I've been thinking about that beautiful book recently and (spoiler alert) especially the ending when the caterpillar turns into a beautiful butterfly.

For the past year and a half, we have been the caterpillar as we stuck close to home, hunkering down to weather the worldwide pandemic. But now, we are ready to emerge from our cocoons to fly together again. As I write this column, our community is coming back; to worship, socialize, exercise, play and remember the magic of being with one another. Apologies to any vaccinated friends that I may hug a bit too long. I've missed you all so much!

On Sunday, July 25 at 5:00 p.m., the Jewish Federation is excited to host a very special picnic with special co-sponsors from across the Greater New Haven Jewish community. This celebration

is in honor of you; the ones who made it all possible to navigate the stormy waters, who selflessly helped their neighbors, congregants, strangers, and friends, who donated their time and their treasure to assist those in need, who sewed masks or volunteered to pack and distribute masks, who helped others understand technology, who brought food to the hungry, who battled the virus and lived, who will make sure that Jewish life in Greater New Haven will continue to thrive.

Please join us. Plan to pack your picnic supper. We will supply the drinks and dessert. Come in sensible shoes and ready to enjoy fun and games at our community campus. Do not forget to wear your favorite t-shirt or hat that connects to the agencies, organizations and congregations you care about. We have a wonderfully diverse Jewish community and we hope to see it proudly on display at the picnic!

As the 2020-21 program year draws to a close and we prepare to look back at the Jewish Federation, Foundation,

and JCC Annual Meeting on Sept. 13, we cannot help but marvel at all that has transpired. Yes, our world has been turned upside down, we have suffered tremendous losses—the loss of loved ones, professional losses, and organizational membership losses from which we will need to mourn and heal. But the discoveries and accomplishments are also plentiful. We found our way through the challenges to help one another, to focus on our families, to find the beauty in nature, to remember that which is dearest to us. Let us not forget as we begin anew where we turned for comfort and support during our time of need and let's recommit ourselves to ensuring the bright future ahead for each of those agencies and congregations that make the Greater New Haven Jewish community so dynamic and special.

May we only know good health and prosperity in the days to come.

Judy



SHALOM NEW HAVEN

SHALOM NEW HAVEN is published six times per year and delivered free of charge to the Greater New Haven Jewish community by the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven.

COPY DEADLINES

Copy deadlines for the upcoming Shalom New Haven issues are:

- July 23 for September/October issue
- Sept. 24 for November/December issue
- Nov. 25 for January/February issue
- Jan. 25 for March/April issue
- March 25 for May/June issue
- May 25 for July/August issue

SUBMISSIONS

To submit an article or photo, please email shalomnh@jewishnewhaven.org. Please include your contact information when submitting.

Space is limited; submission does not guarantee publication. All articles are subject to approval by the editorial board.

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SAVE THE DATE

SEPTEMBER 13, 2021 | 1 PM

ANNUAL MEETING



Delivering for the Jewish Community at the Capitol



Jewish Federation Association of Connecticut (JFACT)

The Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven impacts state-level legislation through our membership in the Jewish Federation Association of Connecticut (JFACT). Comprised of all Connecticut Jewish Federations, JFACT is our government and community relations arm, and it lobbies for legislation that is of interest to Connecticut's Jewish community. This important work is funded through your generous support of the Jewish Federation's Annual Campaign.

As the 2021 legislative session came to a close last evening, We are proud to share a list significant JFACT successes that will positively impact our daily lives - be it at synagogue, in school, at home or in the community.

ADVOCACY THAT RESULTED IN FUNDING FOR OUR LOCAL JEWISH COMMUNITIES:

1. An ADDITIONAL \$15 million will be made available for Houses of Worship and other threatened non-profits to increase their security measures.
2. Funding for Citizenship classes that our partners run across Connecticut was doubled from \$50,000 each year to \$100,000 each year.
3. One million dollars in food Insecurity Grants to Food Pantries and Food Banks will benefit several Jewish Family Services across the state.



ADDITIONAL MEANINGFUL LEGISLATION:

- Create a Civil Rights Division within the Office of Attorney General
- Create additional penalties for online harassment
- State that racism is a public health crisis

JFACT Executive Director Michael Bloom continues to be honored by his appointment by Governor Lamont to sit on the Hate Crimes Advisory Council. Rabbi Michael Farbman, Chair of the New Haven Board of Rabbis & Cantors and spiritual leader of Temple Emanuel in Orange, is also appointed to the Hate Crimes Advisory Council.

To learn more about the work of the Jewish Federation Association of Connecticut, visit www.jfact.org.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE CONSULATE GENERAL New Israeli Government Strives for Better Relations

by Ambassador Meron Reuben
Israel Consul General to New England

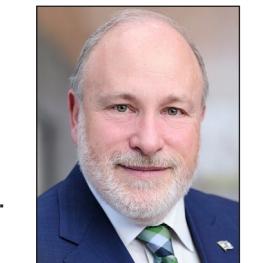
This past spring has been quite a difficult one for both Israel and the Jewish communities in the United States. The eleven-day conflict in May with Hamas and the unfortunate spillover that brought about a rash of anti-Semitic acts around this great country hit us all hard.

This was fast followed by a new eight-party coalition government formed in Jerusalem in June. Naftali Bennett was sworn in as Israel's new Prime Minister with a razor-thin vote of confidence in the Knesset.

Our new Alternate Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yair Lapid, quickly put down the building blocks for our relations with the Jewish Community (of the USA) when he said:

"The Jewish people are more than allies, they are family. Jews from all streams, Reform, Conservative, and Orthodox, are our family, and family is always the most important relationship and the one that needs to be worked on..."

When focusing on the relationship with the new Biden administration, Lapid went on to say "the management of the relationship with the



Democratic Party in the United States was careless... and...the outgoing government took a terrible gamble...to focus exclusively on the Republican Party and abandon Israel's bi-partisan standing...We need to change the way we work with" the Democrats.

The new Foreign Minister also said what we all know is true, and I'm paraphrasing, that Israel has a strong story and that facts are on our side. We are without a doubt a vibrant, multi-cultural, multi-ethnic, and multi-racial peace-seeking democracy fighting for its life against the darkest forces of terror in the world.

Like any other nation, we have every right to defend ourselves when attacked. And Hamas, who bombarded our civilian population with more than 4,350 missiles, needed to know that we wouldn't hesitate to respond with force to any continued rocket fire or terror attack. The terror organizations in the Gaza strip were the only ones responsible for the death of innocent civilians.

"It is not weakness to admit that our hearts break for every child who dies in conflict," he said. "Children don't need to die in the wars of adults".

Reporting on 2021 JCPA Conference

Jewish Federations, through their Jewish Community Relations Councils (JCRCs) and other agencies, work to reach out to their communities, both Jewish and non-Jewish, and to address situations relative to the common good, and work towards Tikkun Olam (repairing the world).

In May, Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven's JCRC Co-Chairs Betty and Arthur Levy attended the 2021 conference of the Jewish Council for Public Affairs which was held virtually for the first time because of the Covid pandemic. The conference featured many prominent speakers and panelists, including Senators Raphael Warnock and Charles Schumer, Urban League President Marc Morial, NAACP President Derrick Johnson, Israel's U.S. Ambassador Gilad Erdan, and many others. Much of the conference focused on Black/Jewish relations, racism and antisemitism, and criminal justice reform.

Resolutions were passed condemning China's persecution of the Uyghurs, a Muslim minority in the country, in support of action to combat climate change, expansion of voter access, support for the Abraham Accords, and in favor of criminal justice reform. There were numerous breakout sessions on these and other topics. "The conference was a very worthwhile educational experience and dealt with many issues that our Federation and Jewish Community can be involved in," said Dr. Arthur Levy, JCRC Co-Chair. "I think these are issues that affect our Jewish Federation community and we need to be educated as to what is involved and as to whether we want to support actively and/or financially," said JCRC Co-Chair Betty Levy.

Both Levys are hoping that by next year the annual conference will be held in person.

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Anti-Semitism Out of Left Field

As I sat down to write this column, the recent increase in anti-Semitism has me deeply saddened. Over the last few years, increased acts led us to blame the rise on the far right. With a new administration, many had hoped we would reign this in. However, it has only increased and is now coming from the left. It made me realize that somehow it makes us feel safer to believe that anti-Semitism exists on only one side of the political spectrum.

Unfortunately, anti-Semitism has been around for so long that it rises above the political parties that have only been around for a few hundred years. For thousands of years, we have found ourselves the target of hate. What upsets me lately is the silence that seems to have followed the rise in anti-Semitism. Somehow the conflict that exists in Israel has made it okay for many to distance themselves from supporting

American Jews. Did we not step forward to #stopAsianhate when acts of violence were plaguing our neighbors of Asian descent? We did so despite the genocide in China against the Uighurs. We do not hold Asian Americans to account for the actions of the country they came here from. Do we not stand up for the



Muslim communities here who have been targeted by hate crimes? We do this without thinking about the Middle Eastern countries where they may have immigrated from that target civilians in Yemen and Syria, or mistreat women and the LGBTQ communities. However, somehow the American Jews are responsible for the actions in Israel. Whether you personally support or do not support the actions of the

current administration in Israel, should not factor into the response of our society to the increase in anti-Semitic acts.

Now more than ever we need to come together as a community. The Federation is here for our community and will work tirelessly to ensure our safety and security. Your support to ensure our continued vitality is critical. I wish you all a wonderful summer and look forward to seeing you all at our community-wide Thank You Picnic on July 25!

All my best, Steve



Dr. Steven Fleischman
President, Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven

Soon after the escalation of violence and the barrage of rockets launched at civilians in Israel in May, Holocaust educator Anne Schulman came across an inspiration. A project led by the Jewish National Fund to paint colorful murals on bomb shelters—to make them appear less frightening to children—caught her attention, inspiring her newest poem.

Beautify a Bomb Shelter

When your home is the frontline, your neighborhood a battlefield, sirens, the screech in your brain, you hug the trembling little hands, and run down, down to hide in your city of gold built bright, high on a hill facing Heaven, your city named for peace.

When this holy land aches with its history of glory turned to ashes, destruction after destruction, foreign conquerors' desecrations,

you fear, yet again, that nothing but blood poured and absorbed into sand can abate the devastating drought, hate's goal of shriveling life-force.

More and more in rockets' range, must race to spaces pocked with concrete squared igloos, shelters frozen into subtropical ground.

(stanza break)

images of pomegranates, rich with juicy red, palm trees breezing, white lambs grazing, golden wheat swaying, comets, stars shooting, sunny days shining, all wonders go on living.

Anne R. Z. Schulman
May 13, 2021



Spread a little sunshine on JCC Day Camps



Funds raised will support improvements at JCC Day Camps.

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www.jccnh.org/sun

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A THANK YOU Picnic A Community-wide Event to Honor all COVID donors and volunteers

SUNDAY JULY 25 5 PM

Bring your own blanket & dinner—we'll supply the beverages, desserts & fun!

Music provided by Liverpool Productions

jewishnewhaven.org/Picnic

Learn About Jewish-Arab Relations

Israel's Arab citizens comprise approximately 20 percent of the population, or 1.8 million people: Muslim, Christian, Druze, and Circassian. As a group, they share national and familial connections to the Palestinian people in the West Bank, Gaza, and elsewhere, but have a unique identity as citizens of Israel alongside the country's Jewish majority. Fear and mistrust between the Jewish and the Arab communities rise with escalations in the wider conflict across the border and the status of political discourse, as we have seen in May of this year when violence and clashes across mixed cities in Israel sparked by events in East Jerusalem. Vast socio-economic gaps render Arab citizens the most disadvantaged group in Israel, and most Arabs and Jews have few opportunities for meaningful interactions and mutual familiarity. In recent years, efforts to address these gaps have accelerated, resulting in ground-breaking developments in employment, higher education, and other areas. The progress and the efforts to overcome barriers are among the most compelling and dynamic developments in Israeli society.

For North American Jewish communities, where discourse about Israel has become polarized, the Inter-Agency Task Force on Israeli Arab Issues raises awareness and offers a more nuanced view into Israel's complex and ever-changing realities.

Join us for a Lunch and Learn series this summer, facilitated by the Inter-Agency task-force and sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Councils of the respective Jewish Federations of Greater New Haven and Greater Hartford.

Details to be announced at www.jewishnewhaven.org.



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P F T I

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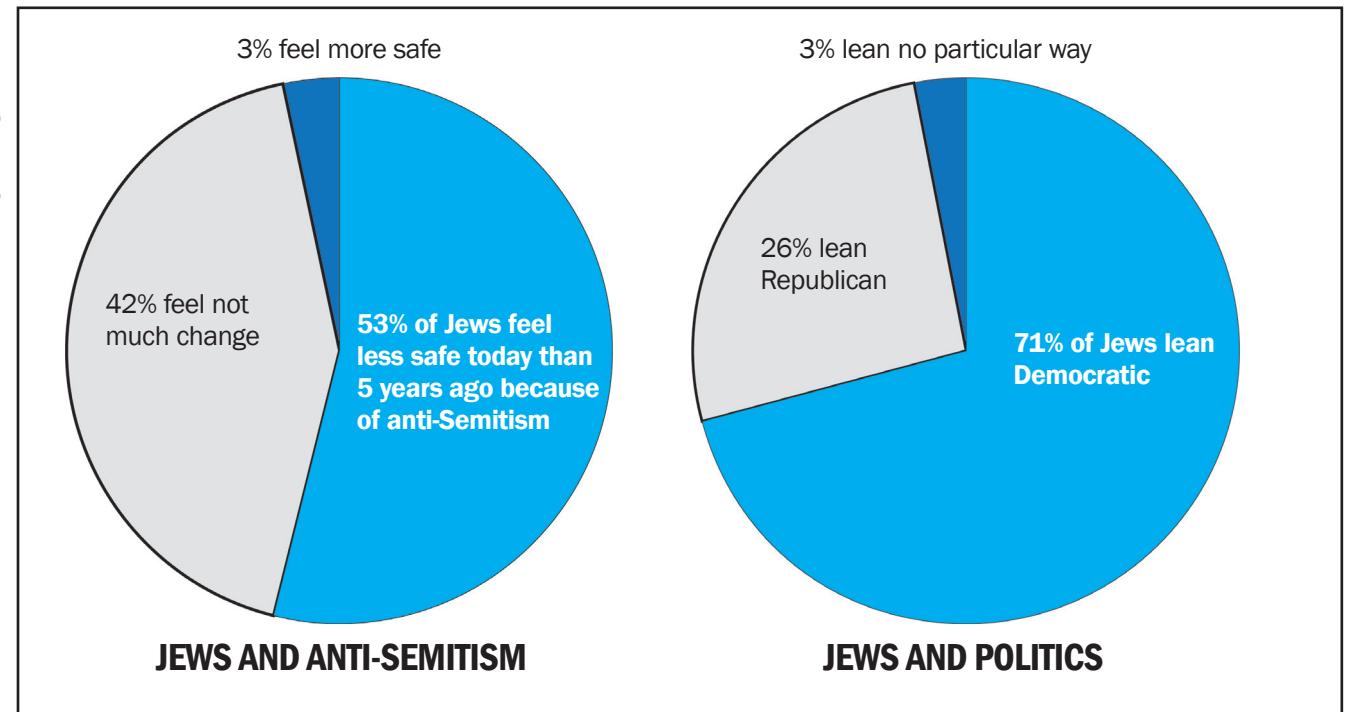
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The JCC is a nonprofit organization that provides a warm, friendly environment for people of all faiths and backgrounds with a mission to facilitate total wellness through programs that stimulate mind, body and spirit. Your participation supports this effort.



Pew Data Paints Picture of Jewish Americans in 2020

A recent Pew Research Center report, released May 11, 2021, looked closely at what it means to be Jewish in America today. The report surveyed nearly 5,000 American adults who identify as Jewish from Nov. 19, 2019, to June 3, 2020, and brought to light the complexity of Jewish Americans; a group increasingly religiously detached, culturally engaged and politically polarized.



The study found that just over one quarter, 27%, of American Jewish adults do not consider themselves religiously Jewish, only ethnically or culturally Jewish, describing themselves as either atheist, agnostic or "nothing in particular." These numbers are similar to local findings in a survey conducted by the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven through the Melior

Group, in which 13% of respondents considered themselves secular or "just Jewish."

Jews were found to be less religious than American adults as a whole; one-in-five Jews said religion is important to them, compared with 41% of U.S. adults who believe the same thing. Just over one-quarter of Jews said they believe in God, once again smaller than the 56% of U.S. adults. While 27% of the general public attended religious services weekly, only 12% of Jewish Americans did.

Why don't American Jews attend services? There are multiple reasons, the most common being that they are not religious. Some expressed lack of interest and others felt they did not know enough to effectively participate. A fear of personal safety and being treated as if they don't belong were among other reasons.

This is an increase in non-religious Jews since the last Pew report was released in October of 2013, in which 22% of survey participants identified as "Jews of no religion," those raised in a Jewish household who do not identify as religiously Jewish but do identify as culturally or ethnically Jewish.

Despite these low levels of religious participation, most Jews, even the least religious, engage in at least some cultural Jewish activity, such as cooking traditionally Jewish foods, visiting Jewish cultural sites or celebrating Shabbat in a way meaningful to them.

The youngest generation of Jews make up the greatest concentration of the non-religious (*Continued on page 25*)

DONOR SPOTLIGHT: Stephen (Steve) Saltzman

by Cindy Gerber

Stephen Saltzman is Greater New Haven's newest member of the Star of David Society. The Society, a national designation through the JFNA (Jewish Federations of North America), includes a distinguished community of donors who have committed at their local Jewish Foundation, \$200,000 or greater to PACE/LOJE (designated funds to endow a donor's Jewish Federation annual campaign gift) or \$500,000 or more in other designated funds.

Saltzman has established five different funds at the Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven: for the benefit of the Jewish Cemetery Association, for the ADL (Holocaust Education) a PACE fund (Perpetual Annual Campaign Endowment) to endow his Federation gift, and a LOJE (Lion of Judah Endowment) fund to endow his late wife Marilyn's Lion gift to the Federation campaign. He also has a donor-advised fund. "The LOJE fund was my first," he shares, "as it was so meaningful to Marilyn that I wanted to make sure it was fully endowed. I set up the PACE fund after to make sure there was an endowment to cover my annual pledges, for the present and into perpetuity."

Saltzman, a principal member of the law firm of Brenner, Saltzman & Wallman, LLP, recalls how he was rapidly drawn into our community after moving here from Providence, Rhode Island fifty-five years ago. "I like to think I've been involved in the beginning of so many things for Jewish New Haven," he says. From "accompanying Murray Lender by airplane from NY to Moscow, Vienna and Israel" as part of a Russian-Jewish resettlement project, to "being at the historic meeting when Tower One was approved", to attending meetings establishing The Jewish Cemetery Association, the local ADL chapter-gave Saltzman a front-row seat to, "pivotal events during my watch that I became very proud of".

From 1987 onward, he served on boards of key organizations dedicated to NH Jewish causes. These include terms as Chair of the Jewish Foundation of GNH, Campaign Chair and later President of the Jewish Federation of GNH, Founder/Director of the Jewish Cemetery Association of GNH, President, Horeb Lodge, B'nai Brith, Director at Congregation B'nai Jacob, Board member/Chair of CT Regional ADL, and member of the ADL's National Commission.

"No one can match Steve for his dedication and service to ADL Connecticut," says Steve Ginsburg, Director of Connecticut ADL. "He has been on the ADL Board over 50 years... the longest-serving leader in CT - and one of the longest nationally. His perspective on today's challenges and opportunities is invaluable. Steve is known by ADL staff and lay leaders for his commitment to standing up against anti-Semitism, interest in building bridges with other communities, support of Holocaust education, keen wit and sense of humor and love of world travel".

Saltzman emphasizes why his Foundation funds, "reinforce the importance of endowing these worthwhile institutions. This stems from being proud of my Jewish heritage and wanting to sustain it in whatever way I can...in this case, for my New Haven Community that I've been in most of my life."

Farewell Rabbi Offner



On July 1, 2021, after nine years of inspired and inspirational leadership, Rabbi Stacy K. Offner will retire from her position as Rabbi of Temple Beth Tikvah in Madison.

Originally from Long Island, Rabbi Offner graduated as a religion major from Kenyon College, magna cum laude. After receiving an M.A. in Hebrew Literature from Hebrew Union College, she completed her rabbinical studies and was ordained in 1984. In so doing, she fulfilled her high school vision of becoming a rabbi and being a responsible citizen, advancing social justice with heartfelt commitment in a position that combined both a spiritual dimension and intellectual rigor.

She then moved to Minnesota and became Assistant, then Associate Rabbi at Mount Zion Temple in St. Paul. After questions arose about her sexual orientation in 1988, she resigned, and a breakaway group formed Shir Tikvah and elected her its Rabbi. That Temple's membership grew tenfold during her twenty-year tenure.

She also served as an active spokesperson on women's issues, medical ethics, and interfaith relations, which she has continued to do at TBT. She served on the Ethics Committee at Minneapolis Children's Hospital and continues to volunteer with Reform Pension Board.

She was tapped to become vice president of the Union for Reform Judaism which brought her to the East Coast. Offner became TBT's Rabbi in 2012. She and her partner, now spouse, Nancy Abramson, moved to Guilford at that time.

As TBT's Rabbi, she has provided her congregation religious, moral, and pragmatic direction. She has involved TBT in the broader community and the interfaith ministries, and she and the congregation have continued to be a voice for social justice. Under Rabbi Offner's oversight, TBT provides all of its congregants, young and old, the benefits of her wisdom, learning, and personal warmth. Everyone who has been in contact with her has been touched by those qualities.

Rabbi Offner has described how she loves the congregation, the shoreline, and the community. To her, the position at TBT has been an invigorating challenge and she experiences TBT as a gem. The congregation reciprocates those feelings.

In her distinguished career, among other milestones, she became Minnesota's first female rabbi in 1984 and the nation's first openly lesbian rabbi to serve a mainstream congregation in 1988.

Following her retirement, she and Nancy will continue to reside in Guilford, travel, spend more time with family, and see what new opportunities life brings their way.

She will be succeeded by Rabbi Danny Moss, currently at Temple Israel in Westport. He was selected because the congregation felt that he would continue to provide the same warm, caring, and intellectually principled leadership that Rabbi Offner has during her nine-year tenure.

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Beth El-Keser Israel's New Rabbi

by Rachel Beshevkin



brought two of them to the congregation for several days of Zoom conversations. "From the moment we first interviewed him, Rabbi Woodward impressed me with his enthusiasm, his learning, and his basic decency," committee member Mark Oppenheimer said. "This is a guy whose passion for Jews and Judaism comes through even over Zoom, which is pretty rare—almost as rare as the kind of consensus we got around his candidacy."

In 2015, Rabbi Woodward was named by the Forward as one of America's Most Inspiring Rabbis. He will be relocating to Westville with his wife, Katharine Baker, the publications director at the Rabbinical Assembly, and their daughters, Ayelet and Tamar.

"Within minutes of meeting Rabbi Woodward," committee member Rachel Greenberg said, "it is clear that he exudes a real warmth."

"Rabbi Woodward connects deeply with the people around him," committee member John Weiser agreed.

Born and raised in an interfaith, mixed-race (Mexican and Ashkenazic Jewish) home in Los Angeles, Rabbi Woodward participated in the 2012 American Jewish World Service clergy delegation to Muchucuxcah, a Mayan village in the Mexican Yucatan, and has continued to be active in interfaith work. While studying at the Jewish Theological Seminary [JTS], he completed an intensive unit of chaplaincy at Bellevue Hospital, where he worked

"What was perhaps most thrilling to us as a committee was the number of congregants urging us to hire Rabbi Woodward," Rachel Light, the search committee co-chair said. "And not just giving him their vote, but speaking with passion and excitement about having him as our new rabbi. We did not go into this process expecting that there would be such an obvious choice. But when we heard this groundswell of passion and eagerness, imploring us to hire Rabbi Woodward, it was absolutely clear that we had found the right rabbi for BEKI."

The committee interviewed eight candidates and

with a diverse, urban, largely uninsured population.

"I enjoy seeing how sensitive Rabbi Eric Woodward is to the diverse needs of our BEKI members," committee member Karel Koenig commented.

Jennifer Myer, her colleague on the committee, agreed. "Rabbi Woodward is warm, energetic, and eager to make a connection. His emphasis on inclusivity and kindness is a great match for BEKI. We are eager for his creative and collaborative leadership."

Rabbi Woodward attended Williams College, where he wrote his undergraduate thesis on the theology of Rav Joseph Soleveitchik. Ordained by JTS in 2013, Rabbi Woodward also studied at the Schechter Institute in Jerusalem and as a fellow at Yeshivat Hadar in New York.

"Rabbi Woodward's love for traditional Judaism and drive to embrace every congregant regardless of background will be, I think, the right combination," committee member David Goldblum added.

"I am so excited to have Eric Woodward as my rabbi," Carole Bass, the committee co-chair, said. "He was the first candidate to apply, just hours after the posting. He told the committee that he feels the match is bashert — meant to be. Based on BEKI members' response, Rabbi Woodward was right."

Find out more about BEKI at beki.org.



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Temple Emanuel's Tikkun Olam Program 'Loosey-Goosey' but Effective

by Kris Oser

Tikkun Olam means "repairing the world" in Hebrew. This program is a big deal at Temple Emanuel (TE), and the turkey drive is one of those many programs.

Each year a few weeks before Thanksgiving, congregant Peter Stolzman arrives at Friday night service wearing a turkey hat (actually a chicken if you look closely). He invites everyone to donate a turkey or write a check to the Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen's annual Thanksgiving dinner.

The shtick works, bringing in up to \$1,000 and 60 birds. Two years ago, a 10-year-old TE member contributed four turkeys. "He had dipped into his savings and took up a collection among neighbors," Mr. Stolzman said. "I was really touched."

This child's initiative and warm heart personified what the TE's Tikkun Olam program is about.

"We are a kind of 'loosey-goosey' congregation where people do what they like to do," Dr. Will Sherman, a Tikkun Olam co-chair said. "We have no committee meetings, but we have a year's worth of activities."

TE's program includes more than a dozen projects, some have been running for decades. This does not include TE's membership in the Jewish Community Alliance for Refugee Resettlement (JCARR) or in Congregations Organized for a New Connecticut (CONECT).

"Tikkun Olam, repairing the world, is a key principle of the modern Reform movement," Rabbi Michael Farbman said.

"Engaging in this holy work through deeds big and small, we articulate our Jewish values, making the world a better place one mitzvah at a time."

Many congregants are involved with charities and nonprofits and they "bring that involvement with them," said Dr. Sherman, a retired psychologist.

Members approach the Tikkun Olam committee to add their projects. The person who suggests a project usually leads it.

"We don't have to create activities and convince people that it is a good thing to do," said Sherman.

Activities include a High Holy Days food collection to benefit both Jewish Family



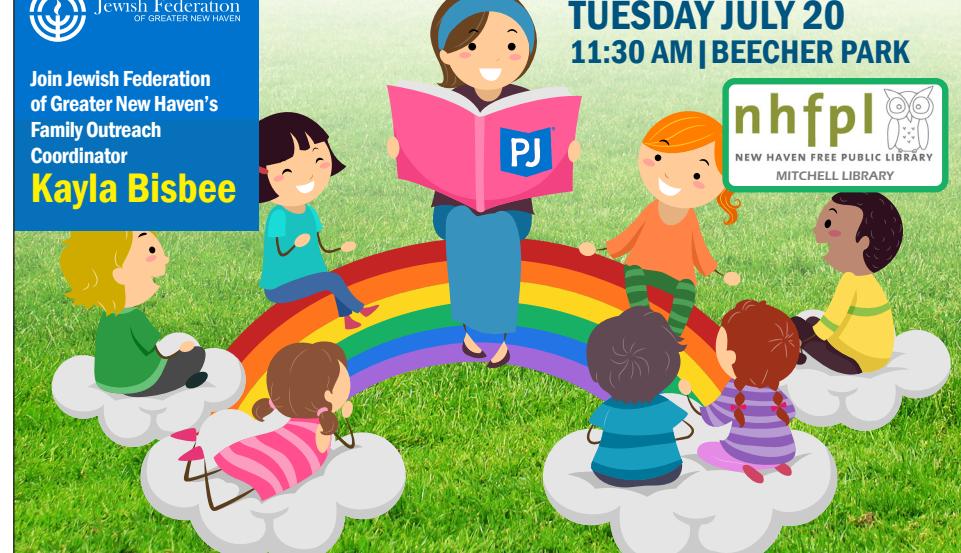
TE kids and parents pose with Hanukkah baskets in 2018



TE's Peter Stolzman in turkey hat

PJ Goes to the Park

TUESDAY JULY 20
11:30 AM | BEECHER PARK



PJ Library
Bring Jewish stories home
Jewish Federation of GREATER NEW HAVEN

Join Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven's Family Outreach Coordinator
Kayla Bisbee

nhfpl
NEW HAVEN FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY
MITCHELL LIBRARY

Join Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven's Family Outreach Coordinator, Kayla Bisbee, for an outdoor story time at the Mitchell Library in New Haven. Kayla will share two of her favorite PJ Library books all about noticing the little things and having an attitude of gratitude. Kids ages four and under will enjoy coloring pictures of things they are thankful for and popping bubbles while we make new friends and enjoy a good story.

Vist us at jewishnewhaven.org/pj-library



SHALOM NEW HAVEN CLUE GAME

Our clue game revolves around famous Jewish people, places and things. Consulting with friends and family or looking up on Google is perfectly 'kosher'! If you can find the answer to the clue, email your response to SNH@jewishnewhaven.org by July 23, 2021. All correct responders will be published in the next edition of Shalom New Haven and a \$50 VISA gift card will be raffled and sent to one lucky winner. Let the game begin!

A Jewish artist of great renown — His Peace, a piece that needs no explanations, is gloriously presented at the United Nations.

Email responses to
SNH@jewishnewhaven.org
by July 25, 2021

The answer to our previous clue:

Marcel Marceau



"Born in France in 1923, he made his mark on the world without having to say a word"

Mazal tov to those who responded correctly:
Shari Switko, Emily Resnik Conn, Joann Maynard

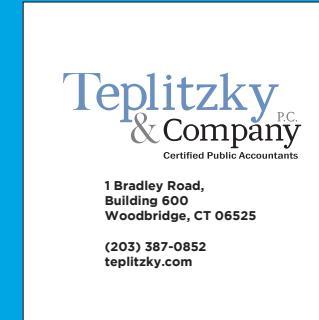
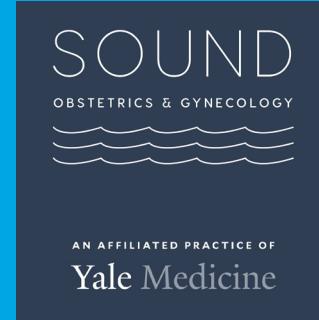
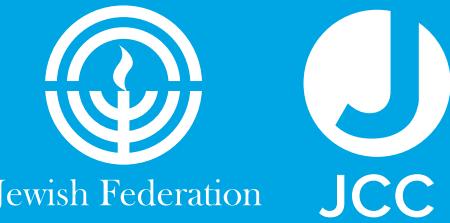
Marcel Mangel was born in France on March 22, 1923. He was in the French Jewish Resistance as a young man. He used his acting skills to teach and lead many young French Jewish children to safety in Switzerland. He had worked with U.S General Patton utilizing his fluency in French, German, and English which helped his efforts in the rescue of the children.

His first performance as "Bip the Clown" was done in front of 3,000 allied troops after the capturing of Paris by the Allies. His first performance in the U.S was on the Ed Sullivan Show in 1956 and was requested to do "Bip the Clown. He called mime, "The art of silence."

He won many awards: French Legion of Honor, French Award of Merit, an Emmy for his U.S TV work, and ironically made a member of the Art Academy of Berlin. He was also declared a "National Treasure" in Japan where mime flourished for centuries earlier.

His biography was turned into a movie in 2020 called "Resistance." Which focuses on his time in the French Jewish Resistance helping children escape the Nazis.

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FITNESS & WELLNESS AT THE J Harness the Sunshine for a Healthier You

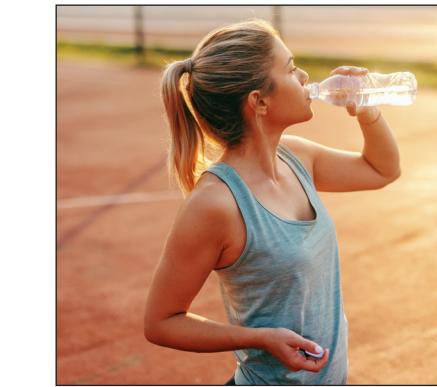
by Susan Donovan
Group and Virtual Exercise Manager
JCC of Greater New Haven

Did you know happy people live longer? So, let us use the summer months to harness the power of positivity and enjoy more outdoor activities, social activities, and fresh food options to keep us healthy, happy, and fit.

Perhaps it is time to change your attitude about exercise as a task on your to-do list and find outdoor activities that you enjoy.

Outdoor family games, water sports and morning walks or runs are great options to stay active and find joy in moving your body.

On those hot summer days keep your activities healthy and fun by staying



hydrated. Give your body time to acclimate to the heat by taking it slower than usual or become an early bird while the weather is still cool. Moving your body is a great way to start the day!

Many fresh fruits and vegetables are available this time of year so be creative! Fire up the grill and try grilling some

fresh fruits and veggies. Replace traditional pasta and potato salads with healthier grains like quinoa or be creative with beans and lentils. There's nothing better than going out for ice cream on a hot summer evening, but consider switching your favorite ice cream treats to frozen sorbets and healthier versions of frozen yogurt.

So, get outside, breathe deep, and move your body in fun ways to feel healthier and stronger. Keep in mind, when the weather does not allow for outdoor activities, come inside to our JCC Fitness Center where the air is cool, the ventilation system has been upgraded, and motivation is always our staff's priority.

Telephonic Bomb Threat at the JCC



On Tuesday, June 22 at 10:06 a.m. the JCC received a telephonic bomb threat. The well-trained staff responded quickly, calmly, and efficiently to evacuate the building. The Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven has invested in security features and training for our community and is currently in the process of hiring a Regional Security Advisor. \$427K in security grants have been distributed by the Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven. "We will continue to do all that we can to ensure the safety and security of our Jewish community," said Judy Alperin, CEO of the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven.



For more information on Weddings and Events,
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MARCH OF THE LIVING NEW HAVEN DELEGATION
The March of the Living is a two-week international experience bringing Jewish teens from around the world together each spring to bear witness in Poland and celebrate the Jewish Homeland in the State of Israel. Organized by BBYO Passport.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
Judy Alperin: jalperin@jewishnewhaven.org
Evan Wyner: evan.wyner@gmail.com
bbyopassport.org/trips/march-of-the-living



Kaplan Wastes No Time Connecting with Our Jewish Community

by Abby Epstein
Staff Writer

Interested in moving closer to her hometown of Madison, Connecticut from Boston, Elizabeth Kaplan recently relocated to New Haven with her husband David. She has only been in town for a few months and is already involved with the Jewish community – and it's all thanks to the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven.

When Elizabeth was pregnant with her first child, she and Kayla Bisbee, Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven's Family Outreach Coordinator, found each other on Facebook. As a result of their messaging exchanges, Elizabeth signed up for PJ Library and Shalom Baby while still in the hospital, having given birth to her new baby boy. A few weeks later, Kayla, Elizabeth, and David enjoyed a virtual coffee to get to know each other better and help connect the Kaplan's with the Jewish community. Shalom Baby co-chair, Nicki Golos, followed up with a porch visit to deliver the Kaplan's Shalom Baby bag.

"I used to work for the JCC in Boston and I worked really close with the staff who ran PJ [Library]. I had seen a lot of the books and co-led some of the PJ programming," said Elizabeth. "We have signed up a lot of our relatives for PJ and now it's our turn to register".

When Kayla heard that she worked in Boston for the JCC and was looking to work part-time for a non-profit organization and knowing of an opening at Camp Laurelwood, Kayla decided to introduce Elizabeth to Rabbi James Greene, Executive Director at Laurelwood.

One thing led to another and Elizabeth started her new job at Camp Laurelwood a few weeks ago as the Family Camp Coordinator. "It's been great so far," said Kaplan. "I'm really lucky to have a job that supports my role as a parent." With having a newborn, she is currently working part-time. Camp Laurelwood received a grant from the Foundation for Jewish Camp to facilitate several weekends per year, over the course of the next five years, welcoming families to get a taste of Camp Laurelwood.

"My role is to program and manage family camp weekends, planning the partnerships, getting families enrolled, and facilitating the weekends," said Elizabeth. "I ran family programming at the JCC in Boston so it's a pretty natural transition for me." Elizabeth did not stop there; she is now also a member of the new Family Engagement Committee at the Jewish Federation due to Kayla's outreach and engagement.

"I've connected with Kayla a number of times from the Federation and I participated in a recent survey of families

and felt this committee would be a good way, both on personal and professional levels, to get connected to other families in the area," said Kaplan.

"Now with working in the Jewish community but having also worked for the Jewish community in the past, I have some expertise in the programming, ideas, resources, and different connections," said Elizabeth "and I just felt I had something to offer from that perspective."

The Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven helps young families find connections to resources and to each other. Jewish journeys are fostered through programs like Shalom Baby and PJ Library that grow and nurture the future generations of our community. Since Shalom Baby's inception earlier this year, 50 babies have received their gift bags and 15 new babies will be welcomed soon! For more info, visit www.jewishnewhaven.org or reach out to Kayla Bisbee, Family Outreach Coordinator, kbisbee@jewishnewhaven.org.



David and Elizabeth Kaplan receive their Shalom Baby gift bag during a porch visit from co-chair, Nicki Golos



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2021 Annual BBQ Picnic at Temple Emanuel

Please join us on Friday, August 27, at 5 p.m. for the Annual Temple Emanuel (TE) BBQ picnic, followed by Shabbat Service Under the Stars at 6 p.m.

Invite your family, friends, and neighbors - spread the word! This event is open to current and prospective members.

This outdoor event will follow all necessary COVID precautions. Kosher BBQ will be provided by our great masked chefs and snacks and sides will be individually packaged. Families should bring blankets and chairs so we can remain socially distanced while eating and unmasked.

This is a family-friendly event and we will have children's games set up.

The Kosher BBQ is FREE if you pre-register in advance or \$5 per person at the door (maximum \$10 per family).

To register please visit our website at <https://tegnh.org/events/> or call us at (203) 397-3000 for more information. Thank you!

Or Shalom at the Beach

Congregation Or Shalom
Friday evening, July 23, 7 p.m.
Gulf Beach, Milford

Join us at our annual Shabbat service on the beach (spoiler alert: The Rabbi will be shoeless!). Please be sure to bring a blanket or a beach chair and don't forget a hat, as yarmulkas tend to fly in the wind! Last but not least, you are encouraged to come early, enjoy the company of new and old friends, and bring have a picnic for supper.



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WE ARE HERE for Our Future Generations

For more than 100 years the Jewish Federation has been taking care of our community, Israel, and Jews around the world. With the support of generous donors, we helped make the desert bloom, and saw to the signing of the declaration of independence; we rescue(d) Jews around the world and resettled them in our historic homeland and right here in New Haven. Locally, we established The Jewish Home, The Towers, Camp Laurelwood, and we have sustained the Jewish Agencies in our community year after year after year.

That is why we say the Jewish Federation was built for this moment. We've been taking care of our community since the earliest days of modern Jewish history, and thanks to the support of more than 2,000 donors, we will continue to meet the vast and growing needs of all who are counting on us. We are here for good.

To participate in the 2021 Annual Campaign, please visit
jewishnewhaven.org/give



Jewish Foundation
OF GREATER NEW HAVEN

Foundation News

JLens: Investing Through A Jewish Lens

The Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven proudly announces that they will be partnering with JLens to invest a portion of the Jewish Foundation's US equity portfolio. In doing so, the Jewish Foundation Board of Trustees unanimously approved the recommendation of the Foundation's investment committee as well as its investment advisor, SCS Financial.

"I am happy that the trustees of the Jewish Foundation recognize the importance of "Jewish socially responsible investing" and have taken the lead by introducing this concept into our portfolio management," states Craig Sklar, Chair of the Jewish Foundation.

"We are so pleased that the Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven has invested in JLens' Jewish Advocacy Strategy. The Foundation is furthering the positive impact of its philanthropic dollars by supporting JLens' investor advocacy efforts with 300 companies on Jewish communal priorities. JLens is thrilled to strengthen our relationship with the New Haven community," states Julie Hammerman, Executive Director and Founder of JLens.

JLens' Jewish Advocacy Strategy is the only Jewish values-based investment option that conducts investor advocacy on Jewish communal concerns. The strategy was launched in 2015 by Jewish institutions seeking a customized mission-aligned market-rate investment that generates a positive impact. The strategy's portfolio of 300 companies is selected through a six-point Jewish values scoring methodology focused on Coexistence, Society, the Worker, Ethical Business, the Environment, and Support for Israel. JLens builds long-term relationships with portfolio companies and engages in investor advocacy within JLens' six issue areas listed above. JLens is the only investor organization countering the Boycott, Divest, Sanction (BDS) campaign's economic warfare against Israel, as well as anti-Semitism, hate speech, discrimination against religious ritual, and other Jewish communal concerns in the values-based investing and corporate social responsibility arenas.

"Temple Emanuel, one of our partner organizations, came to us and said that they were interested in learning more about socially responsible investing," states Lisa Stanger, Executive Director of the Jewish Foundation. "Over the years the Foundation had considered social impact investing but felt the area was not sophisticated enough. We knew the field had evolved and it was time to look again. In addition, in the past there was not a Jewish option in the area—nothing that could screen for anti-Israel corporations and also consider Jewish values—JLens really changed that. We are grateful Temple Emanuel was part of this," continues Stanger.

"The committee looked at several opportunities, we chose JLens because of its Jewish approach, we also found it to have a very holistic approach, and we liked its relationship with Parametric," states Stephen August, Jewish Foundation Investment Committee Chair. Parametric is a highly regarded investment firm with over \$300 billion dollars under management.

To learn more about JLens go to www.jlensnetwork.org

Professional Development Grants Available for Jewish Educators

Thanks to the Judith A. Kaye Fund for Teachers in Jewish Education and the Community Education Funds, the Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven is thrilled to offer professional development grants for Jewish educators. These grants will help ensure that classroom educators in local Jewish schools have the opportunity to attend workshops and conferences in order to develop their teaching skills, and will help local Jewish orga-

nizations to provide educational opportunities to instructors and the community.

Applicants must be either classroom educators employed in Jewish education in a local Jewish school or synagogue and/or local Jewish schools or synagogues. Eligible programs must be hosted by a recognized Jewish institution or reputable educational institution.

Apply by Sept. 20, 2021, at www.jewishnewhaven.org/grants.

Synagogue School Scholarships Available

Through the generosity of a donor in our community, the Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven is able to provide need-based assistance for New Haven area synagogue schools. This program, titled Jewish Scholarship Initiative for Synagogue Schools (JSI) supplements other scholarships. "With three young children, religious school would have been out of reach for our family if it wasn't for JSI. I am thankful to the Jewish Foundation for extending this opportunity for our family. The kids love going and we love being part of the school community" said a mother who requested to stay anonymous.

The deadline for JSI application submission is Thursday, Sept. 23, 2021. Apply at www.jewishnewhaven.org/jsi



The Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven offers needs-based scholarships for synagogue schools. Deadline is September 23, 2021.

For more information or to apply today, go to scholarships.jewishnewhaven.org/form/religious

PJ Library® Upcoming Events...and Recent Fun Times!



Family of the Month



Family of the Month

PHOTOS FROM SHAVUOT WITH TEMPLE EMANUEL...



PHOTOS FROM THE LITTLE FREE PJ LIBRARY DEDICATION...



SAVE THESE DATES!

Tuesday, July 20 | 11:30am - PJ Goes to the Park (Beecher Park)
Thursday, August 5 | 10am - PJ Goes to the Beach (Hammonasset)
Sunday, August 1 - Shoreline Jewish Festival (Guilford Green)
Sunday, September 9 | 10am - PJ Goes to the Farm for Rosh Hashanah (Silverman's Farm)
Sunday, September 19 - PJ Story Walk at the JCC Bagel Run
Check jewishnewhaven.org/pj-library for the latest PJ Library events and information.

The Jewish Foundation's Build a Tzedakah Fund program allows you to create your very own charitable Fund

By contributing \$600 from their Bar or Bat Mitzvah gifts and receiving a match of \$400 from a community donor, young adults can establish their own charitable fund at the Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven. With at least \$1,000 in their named charitable fund, every December (Hanukkah time) they will be given the opportunity to choose the fund to which they want to make a distribution.

The cost to establish a personalized Build a Tzedakah Fund is \$1,000. Your commitment of \$600 (payable over 3 years) is matched by \$400 from an anonymous donor.

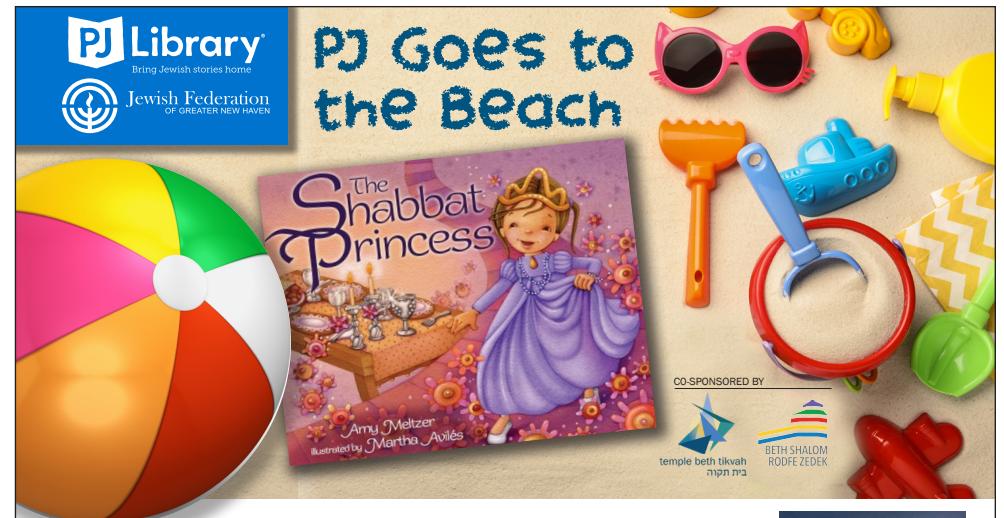
It works like this:
Bar or Bat Mitzvah contributes \$600*
Generous community donor provides \$400
Total in your fund \$1000
*payable at one time or over 3 years

Your fund will have at least \$1,000 from the 'get go'. It can be in your name, e.g. Tali Green Tzedakah Fund or you can name it after or in honor of loved ones, e.g. the Ethan Cohen Tzedakah Fund in memory of his Great Uncle Lev. Your fund will be listed in the Jewish Foundation's Annual Report. At any time, you can add to your fund in honor of special occasions and milestones (like birthdays, college admissions) and you can continue to make annual charitable distributions from your fund.

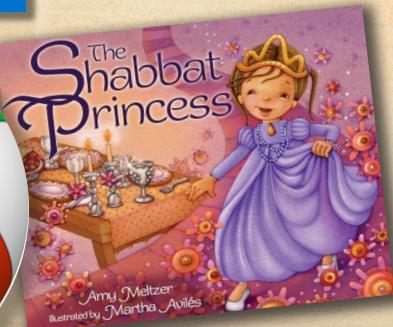


For more information, please contact Beth Kupcho at (203) 387-2424 x316, or visit:

[www.newhavenjewishfoundation.org/youth](http://newhavenjewishfoundation.org/youth)



PJ Goes to the Beach



Join Author/Educator Amy Meltzer
THURSDAY, AUGUST 5 | 10 AM



Join Author Amy Meltzer as she shares her book, The Shabbat Princess, on the beach! Enjoy music and a craft with other PJ Library families and stay to visit the nature center and go for a swim. Location: Hammonasset Beach, Pavilion 1.

Co-sponsored by Temple Beth Tikvah and Congregation Beth Shalom Rodfe Zedek.

VISIT
jewishnewhaven.org/pj-library
FOR MORE INFORMATION

A Look into the Next School Year

by Abby Epstein
Staff writer

Through the struggles of COVID-19, schools were able to find some positives. They found the opportunity to implement new things that have now turned into permanent changes.

Yeshivas Beis Dovid Shlomo, Ezra Academy, Southern Connecticut Hebrew Academy (SCHA) and Beverly Levy Early Learning Center pre-school all said how next school year will look is mostly determined by the CDC and their guidelines.

"Obviously everything is going to depend on what the guidance is going to be come September, obviously hoping that things do change, and it looks like things are on an upward trend," said Hershy Hecht, an administrator at SCHA.

All four schools do tend to keep things that were implemented because of COVID-19. Yeshivas Beis Dovid Shlomo hired a mental health professional for the students and found this to have a positive impact on the students.

"We felt the need for that incase boys were perhaps negatively impacted by that long stay at home without friends and so on," said Rabbi Lustig of Yeshivas Beis Dovid Shlomo, "and it's proven to be very very useful and we do plan to continue with that."

Ezra Academy will keep their students in pods to limit the interactions between the different classes. Each age group had their own entrance and exit. Instead of having the students change classrooms for each class, the students stayed in one classroom and the teachers came to them.

"We will continue with our pods until everyone is vaccinated," said Dr. Melanie Waynik, head of school.

Another positive change Ezra Academy had was new families came to the school this past year.

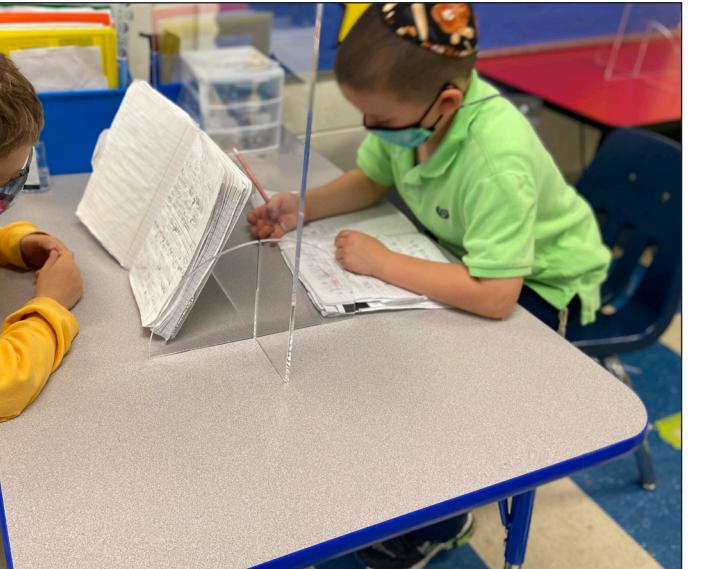
"We actually had an influx of families [this year] who were leaving public schools because they were unhappy with the COVID protocols, and the online learning," said Dr. Waynik, "and I will tell you every single family who came because of COVID is staying."

SCHA started doing outdoor classrooms and will be making this a permanent change, "students were able to learn in a different environment and different setting," said Hecht. Also, when a student is sick, they were able to come to class remotely and the school is looking at keeping this as an option for students in the future.

Beverly Levy Early Learning Center pre-school like the other schools are waiting to hear what the new guidelines will be before making any major changes.

"It's dependent on what the office of early childhood does for that as far as rules and regulations go," said Sarah Schryver, director of Beverly Levy Early Learning Center pre-school.

EZRA Academy



Masks will still be mandated in classrooms and Schryver said they hope to implement having the parents drop their kids off at the classroom doors again. One big change that is happening is the enrollment is doubling from the past school year.

All four schools will be in person this upcoming school year, as they were in person this past school year. Between the four schools not many new changes are being made for this school year.

"We're going to start the school year the way we ran it this year," said Dr. Waynik. "Hopefully at some point during the year the majority of our kids will be vaccinated and then we can think about loosening our protocols."

Southern CT Hebrew Academy



Tu B'Av

Sundown of July 23 to July 24 is the time for celebration, romance and dancing; also known as Tu B'Av. Tu B'Av is the Jewish holiday for love and dates back to ancient times.

The holiday was established during the Second Temple to mark the beginning of the grape harvest. It was also custom for women to dance in the vineyards wearing white dresses and the young men would watch and then choose their wife. Many couples decide to have their weddings on the date of Tu B'Av.

While the holiday is not as commercialized as Valentine's Day it is still greatly celebrated within the Isreal society. Instead of buying chocolate, stuffed animals or going to a fancy dinner, Tu B'Av is celebrated with giving flowers to loved ones and having music and dance festivals.

Tu B'Av is a time to cherish your loved ones and show how much you appreciate them. So, grab your dancing shoes (maybe buy some flowers) and be ready to celebrate the ones you love.

NEW! Café 360 is Powered by THE CROWN MARKET at the JCC in New Haven!

More details to follow... see you in October!
JCC of Greater New Haven 360 Amity Rd, Woodbridge
Just off of the Merritt Parkway, Exit 59

jccnh.org



(203) 387-2424 x360

The Crown Market is coming back to New Haven in its new home at Café 360 with lots of breakfast and lunch grab-and-go items.

A NEW, Renovated Vine Auditorium

Since opening almost 30 years ago, the Vine Family Auditorium has hosted fun and meaningful community gatherings. We are so excited that it has been completely refurbished from top to bottom, insuring that future generations will enjoy the beautiful space. Barry Vine commented on the newly renovated Vine Family Auditorium

"It looks magnificent, even better than it did when it was originally built. I am so thankful to Jewish Federation and JCC staff who helped make this a reality. You know, I grew up two blocks from the JCC when it was on Legion Avenue and it was such a formative force in my life. When the JCC moved to Chapel Street, the beautiful auditorium there was named for Emmanuel Gratenstein who was the single largest contributor to the

fund to build the Chapel Street building. I was always impressed with his dedication to the community and his commitment to ensure the community continues to grow. It stayed with me and when we were campaigning for the JCC at 360 Amity Road, I reached out to my uncle Rubie Vine, to make a family gift that will honor our parents. They came here with nothing and they built a life and enabled their children and grandchildren to build lives. And as it turns out, the family fulfilling their dreams. L'dor V'dor, from one generation to the next. We benefited from their leadership and we pass it on to others."

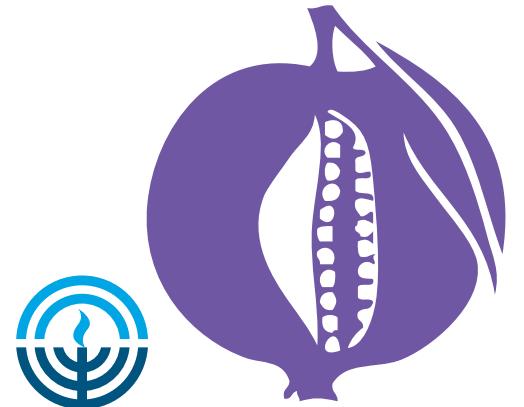


Rabbi Barbara Paris, Southern Connecticut State University Hillel Advisor, received The Celie J. Terry Prize, which is awarded annually to a student who demonstrates a commitment to academic achievement and excellence in interfaith community work. The prize was presented to Rabbi Paris as she graduated from the Doctor of Ministry program at Hartford Seminary.

"Barbara spent her career in service to others," the citation read. "Interfaith work has always been a passion of hers as she seeks to build bridges of understanding." At Hillel, she works closely with the Muslim Student Association and Christian Fellowship, sharing holiday programs, cooking, and social justice initiatives. She has done meaningful work with many other organizations, includ-

ing Choate Rosemary Hall, Jewish Community Center of Harrison, NY, and St. Vincent's Medical Center, to name but a few. "Barbara lives the Jewish principle of reaching out to the stranger, the widow, and the orphan. Through her work at Jewish Family Service of Greater Bridgeport, where she serves as a Vice President, she has helped resettle over 400 refugees from the former Soviet Union and has assisted over 500 couples adopt children," the citation read.

Barbara was very touched, surprised, and honored to have been recognized for this award. In true fashion, she remarked that she did not feel deserving. Barbara said there are so many others out there who do so much more. But she is glad to spread her light to her little corner of the world, hoping to make it a better place.



Women's Philanthropy Why I Give

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



**Here is
Betsy Flaherty
about why she
"Pomegranates"**

The mission of the Jewish Federation states "We honor those who have come before us and pave the way for those who will come after." I feel the goal of learning from where we came in order to progress towards a brighter future is paramount to ensure the future of our Jewish community.

I give because for my whole life my parents have

modeled philanthropy and instilled in me the importance of maintaining the strength of the Jewish community, which I hope to teach my children as well.

As a woman, making a gift in my own name sets the bar high for my children. It shows the importance of what and why I give. Being a Pomegranate allows me to take part in events with like-minded, strong, wonderful women with whom I share a love for Judaism and philanthropy.

Betsy Flaherty is the Chair of the Pomegranate Society of the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven and serves on the Executive Council of Connecticut ADL, Co-Chairing their Education Committee. She was a long-time board member of Ezra Academy and volunteers at the Jewish Family Service Food Pantry, where she was honored in 2020 for her meaningful impact. Flaherty is a member of Congregation B'nai Jacob.

OR SHALOM HEBREW SCHOOL Looking Back with Extra Pride

"Covid-19 posed a huge challenge to Jewish Education this year," said Mara Saccente, Education Chairperson of Congregation Or Shalom's Hebrew School, at the school's closing ceremony. "But Hebrew schools across the country have risen to the challenge with remarkable ingenuity, using Zoom video-conferencing."

And some schools, like our own, went the 'extra mile,' she added. "For even in the midst of the pandemic we found ways of safely offering weekly in-person Jewish education to those families who were interested."

Rachel Steigleder, Synagogue Administrator, explained: "Whenever possible, we added outdoor events - observing CDC protocols, of course - such as Jewish Environmental Education, a Sukkot BBQ, socially distanced Israeli Dance, and even outdoor Tefillah!"

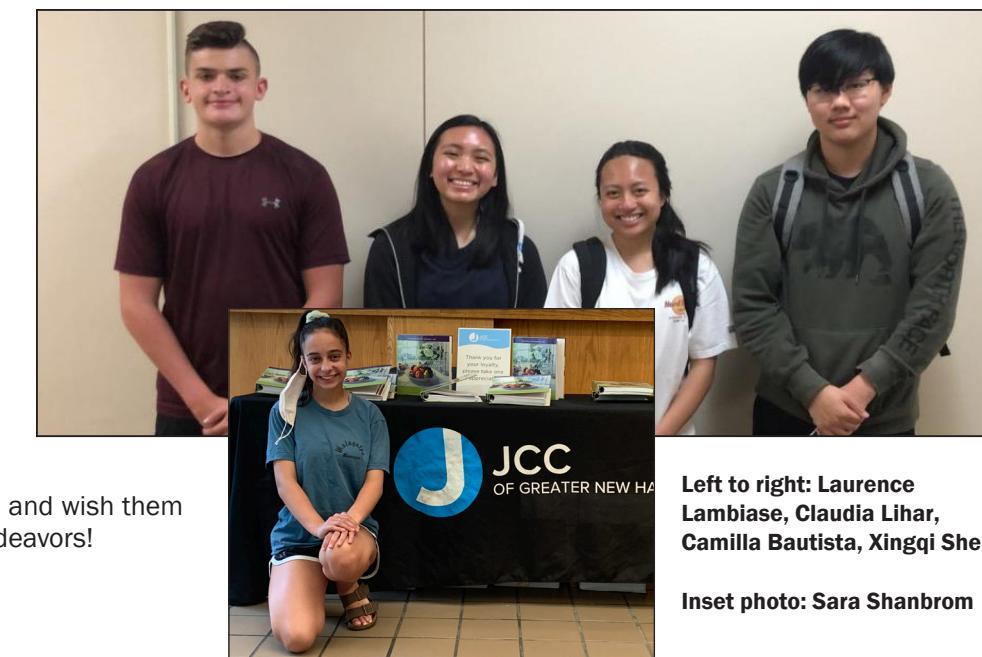
Rabbi Alvin Wainhaus, spiritual leader of Congregation Or Shalom, added: "Ours and Congregation B'nai Jacob's schools merged several years ago as 'YAHAD Religious School'; yet,



Asya Tibi, Israeli Dance teacher,
teaching Or Shalom's children

for those families who felt comfortable with safe in-person instruction, we found ways to make it happen. And after all, isn't that how Judaism has survived? We've always tried to find a way! Next year, naturally, our school year will be a more 'normal' one with the return of our great YAHAD curriculum; yet, we look back at the past year with extra pride!"

AMITY HIGH SCHOOL Thank you to Our Interns!



Left to right: Laurence Lambiase, Claudia Lihar, Camilla Bautista, Xingqi Shen

Inset photo: Sara Shanbrom

HILLEL CLUB: SOUTHERN CT STATE UNIVERSITY Recognized for Excellence

The Hillel Club at Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU) was named the Outstanding Student Organization of the Year during the SCSU awards celebration this spring. "This is a huge honor in the world of our student clubs and organizations," said Dr. Deborah Weiss, President of SCSU Faculty Senate and Co-Director of Judaic Studies.

Two years ago, when the group experienced a gap between advisors, the club was effectively "a non-entity" and needed to be reconstituted from the ground up. With Rabbi Barbara Paris as the advisor and an amazing student Executive Committee, the group has done amazing things this year, despite the restrictions in place due to the pandemic. Between weekly Kabbalat Shabbat services at the Remembrance Garden, regular study with Rabbi Paris, learning Hebrew, social activities centered around the holidays, and more, there have been many ways to connect and experience Judaism on and off-campus.

"We were surprised and honored. Truly a labor of love and a wonderful group of students," said Rabbi Paris.

"We are very appreciative of the support that we have received from the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven, which helped us reach this milestone. You have made a difference," offered Dr. Weiss on behalf of the Hillel Club, and added, "may the group go from strength to strength."

EZRA ACADEMY Passing the Baton

by Rachel Wiseman,
Shalom New Haven Contributor

L'dor v'dor, from generation to generation, is a key concept in the Jewish tradition. Parents and teachers share insights and wisdom with children, and the children, in turn, grow up and impart that knowledge to the next generation. We are incredibly fortunate to see this beautiful mechanism in action this summer as Ezra Academy Head of School Dr. Melanie Waynik steps down to spend more time with her children and grandchildren, and one of Ezra's own, alumnus Tani Cohen-Fraade, steps up to continue Dr. Waynik's work.



The outstanding leadership Dr. Waynik has provided for the past decade was on full display this year. Making it possible for Ezra students to learn and play joyfully together full-time and in-person for the entire 2020-21 school year. Dr. Waynik's many contributions to Ezra Academy also include the acclaimed social justice curriculum and the institution of multi-age classrooms which have enhanced teachers' abilities to meet individual student needs.

Fortunately, Dr. Waynik's successor shares her vision of Ezra Academy as a nurturing community that fosters academic excellence and Jewish values such as tikkun olam. Cohen-Fraade returns to our community from a career of teaching and leadership at Brooklyn's Luria Academy, where he has been described as "the heart of the school."

Over the course of the summer, Cohen-Fraade will be working closely with Dr. Waynik and Ezra faculty and staff to ensure a seamless and productive transition and the continuation of Ezra's strengths in educating and caring for students and families.

In the coming weeks and months, you will be hearing about opportunities to welcome and get to know Cohen-Fraade, as well as to honor the remarkable leadership that Dr. Waynik has provided to Ezra Academy over the past decade (culminating in next spring's Gala celebration!).

Grant for Special Education

The Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven Talmud Torah Meyuchad grant (grant for special education in religious schools), provides supplemental financial assistance to religious school programs serving children with individualized learning and special needs.

The grant is designed to serve as the community's contribution toward supporting these services and is to be part of a total financial and service support system partnership among schools, synagogues, parents/families, and the community.

All applications must be received by close of business on Friday, August 20, 2021. Learn more at www.jewishnewhaven.org/grants



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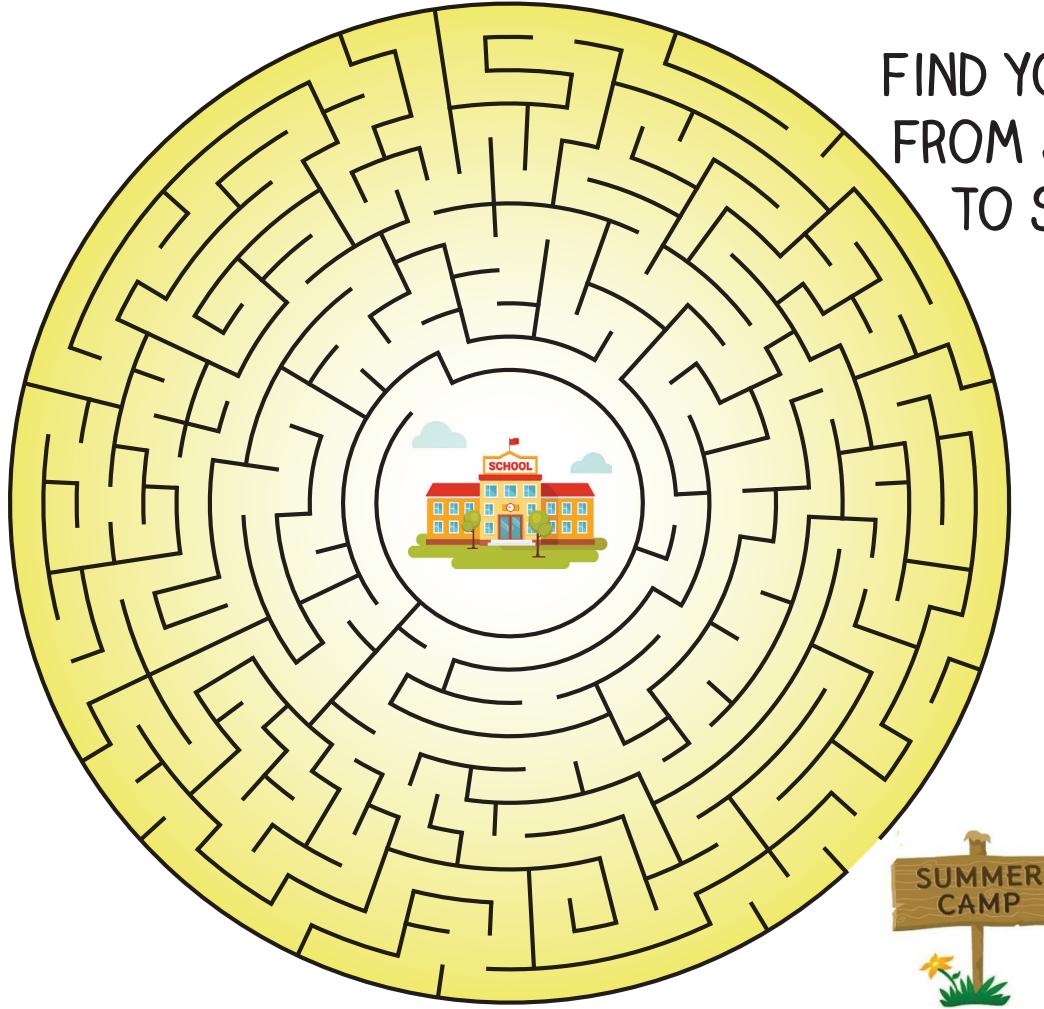
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Shalom **FUN!**

edited by Chava Light

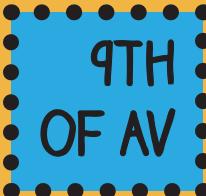


FIND YOUR WAY
FROM SCHOOL
TO SUMMER
CAMP!



This Jewish Month is Av

Av is known for two things: the 9th of Av (Tisha B'Av) and the 15th of Av (Tu B'Av).



The 9th of Av is a sad day that remembers the destruction of the Beit Hamikdash (the Jewish temple) and when the Jewish people were forced out of the land of Israel into exile. Many people fast (don't eat) on this day and listen to the story of Tisha B'Av in order to remember it.



The 15th of Av is a happy day that celebrates love! No one knows exactly when it began, but the Mishnah says that on that day unmarried girls would go out into the field in white dresses and dance and call out to the men to choose a wife. Many people like to use it as a day to get married even today!

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

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

COMMUNITY KIDS



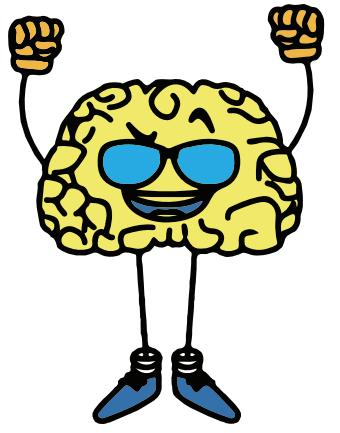
KEEPING COOL! Meny and Yuda Meer playing on their swingset!



SUMMER FUN! Eliana, Menucha, & Naama Borenstein at their lemonade stand!

WANT TO BE IN OUR COMMUNITY KIDS SECTION? Have your adult send a photo of you to [SNH@jewishnewhaven.org!](mailto:SNH@jewishnewhaven.org)

Wordsearch for the Wise



B	G	F	C	F	P	G	L	A	S	U	M	M	E	R
F	W	A	I	C	A	N	D	G	F	Z	G	U	N	U
A	E	W	W	F	I	Q	S	E	C	R	O	G	F	C
S	D	D	R	J	T	Q	R	T	Q	U	L	M	T	A
T	D	H	A	C	K	E	X	P	A	M	D	S	Q	Q
I	I	S	P	N	A	A	E	O	J	J	E	E	H	Z
N	N	K	X	F	C	M	Q	N	L	Q	N	U	R	M
G	G	W	A	O	T	I	P	L	T	Q	C	B	C	R
G	S	B	Q	D	G	Q	N	M	Q	H	A	H	D	J
G	A	I	E	M	T	S	Z	G	H	R	L	Y	Q	M
N	V	V	S	A	C	G	Q	Q	B	D	F	S	M	C
W	M	Y	F	N	G	Z	D	X	S	D	X	P	T	J

Find the following words in the puzzle. Words are hidden → ↓ and ↘ .

1. AV

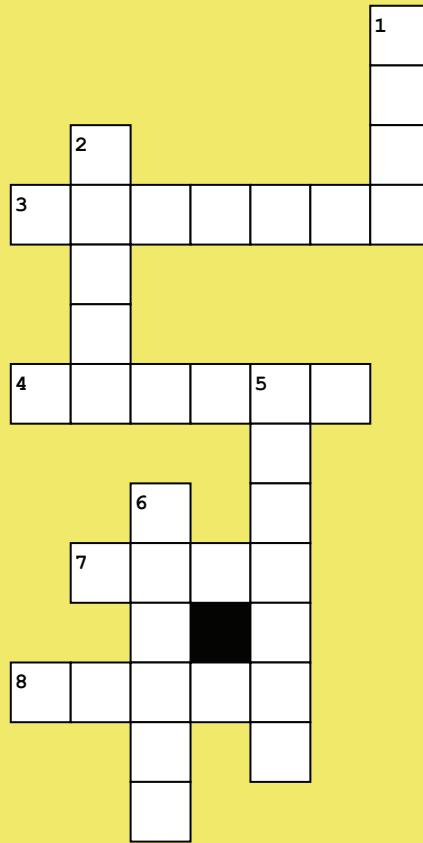
2. CAMP

3. DANCING
4. FASTING

5. FIFTEENTH
6. GOLDEN CALF

7. SUMMER
8. WEDDINGS

Av Crossword



ACROSS

- 3. Tu B'Av, the 15th of Av, is a holiday of love. Many people like to use that day to get m_____.
- 4. On the 9th of Av, we remember the destruction of the t_____.
- 7. On the 9th of Av, we do not eat. We f_____.
- 8. The color of the dresses that girls and women would wear on Tu B'Av.

DOWN

- 1. On the 9th of Av, we do not wear g_____ because it's a reminder of the golden calf.
- 2. On Tu B'Av the women would go out and d_____ together.
- 5. On the 9th of Av, we do not wear l_____ because it's a reminder of the golden calf.
- 6. The Hebrew word for summer.



Independence Day Celebrates More than Freedom

by Yelena Gerovich

New American Acculturation Program Coordinator

Independence Day is considered one of the best holidays, both for what we celebrate and how we celebrate it. It's more than just fireworks, family and friends gathering, and tasty food. The Fourth of July offers an opportunity to reflect on how our founders envisioned our new nation – the "unalienable right" to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

For most Jewish refugees from the former Soviet Union, the definition of "pursuit of happiness" means to think about facilitating the achievement of family happiness, others' happiness, and not being obsessed exclusively with their own. Such a regard for others and their happiness would have certainly resonated with the early founders of America, many of whom were immigrants themselves. They were concerned not simply with their own well-being, but with all those who would come after them to the United States.

Everybody seeks happiness to maintain their good state of mind and to be successful. Everyone has a different definition of success. There are two important anniversaries in July to commemorate two important events that happened a hundred years ago. The first one is the 100th anniversary of the discovery of insulin. It has saved millions of lives, and has transformed the condition from fatal to manageable for millions of people around the world.

In 1921, a young surgeon named Frederick Banting and his assistant Charles Best figured out how to remove insulin from a dog's pancreas. With the help of John Macleod a biochemist at the University of Toronto, insulin was purified and the next year it was used to successfully treat a boy suffering from severe diabetes. Banting and Macleod, shared the 1923 Nobel Prize in Physiology and Medicine for their work. Great success. Millions of lives saved.

The second event is the 100th anniversary of Hitler becoming the leader of the Nazi Party in July 29, 1921. He became the greatest villain in the history of humankind. Hitler was responsible for tens of millions of ruined lives.

The Munich-based National Socialist German Workers' Party experienced the culmination of a sharp power play when it appointed its new chairman, Adolf Hitler. It was a decision that fundamentally changed the course of history. This icon of evil was an astonishingly successful politician. His deeds were so monstrous that other political mass murderers were shoved into the shadows. Unfortunately, open and hidden admirers of Hitler continue to exist all around the world: some of them because of a malign attraction to the efficacy of evil; others because of their admiration of Hitler's achievements, no matter how brutal or transitory.

The New American Acculturation Program has been offering citizenship classes for refugees from the former Soviet Union at the Jewish Center for almost 20 years. Ninety percent of our students passed the citizenship test and became U.S. citizens. Independence Day for them is not only a reminder of what we are striving towards everyday – life, liberty and happiness—but proof that words do not equate reality, and dreams can only be realized through action. Preparation for the test is a very long and difficult process, especially for seniors. Our students spent a lot of time studying American history, culture and traditions and the structure of the US government.

The 2018 poll showed that only a little over a third of Americans pass a basic multiple choice U.S. citizenship test, modeled after the one taken by immigrants in the process of naturalization.

They also read books in English, and one of their favorite authors was Mark Twain. They especially liked the quote, "We are called the nation of inventors. And we are. We could still claim that title and wear its loftiest honors if we had stopped with the first thing we ever invested, which was human liberty."

For more information about the New American Acculturation Program, including sponsorships of specific program, please contact Yelena Gerovich at 203 387-2424 x321, or email ygerovich@jewishnewhaven.org.

Welcome to America

День Независимости празднует не только свободу

День Независимости считается одним из лучших праздников как с точки зрения того, что мы отмечаем, так и того, как мы его отмечаем. Это больше, чем просто фейерверк, сбор семьи, друзей, и вкусная еда. Четвертое июля дает возможность подумать о том, как основатели Америки представляли новую нацию - ее неотъемлемое право на «жизнь, свободу и стремление к счастью».

Для большинства еврейских беженцев из бывшего Советского Союза определение «стремление к счастью» означает думать о счастье своих близких, не быть одержимым исключительно своим собственным благополучием. Такое уважение к другим и их счастью, безусловно, нашло бы отклик у основателей Америки, многие из которых сами были иммигрантами. Их заботило не только собственное благополучие, но и благополучие всех, кто будет жить в Америке после них.

Все ищут счастья, чтобы поддерживать хорошее расположение духа, настроение и быть успешными. У каждого свое определение успеха. В июле отмечаются две важные годовщины, посвященные двум важным событиям, произошедшем сто лет назад. Первая - 100-летие открытия инсулина. Инсулин спас миллионы жизней и поменял статус диабетиков из неизлечимо смертельного в управляемый для миллионов людей во всем мире.

В 1921 году молодой хирург по имени Фредерик Бантинг и его ассистент Чарлз Бест выяснили, как выделить инсулин из поджелудочной железы собаки. С помощью Джона Маклеода, биохимика из Университета Торонто, инсулин был очищен, и в следующем году его использовали для успешного лечения мальчика, страдающего тяжелым диабетом. Бантинг и Маклеод разделили Нобелевскую премию 1923 года по физиологии и медицине за свою работу. Огромный успех. Спасены миллионы жизней.

Второе событие - 100-летие со дня выборов Гитлера главой нацистской партии 29 июля 1921 года. Он стал величайшим злодеем в истории человечества. На его счету десятки миллионов загубленных жизней.

Национал-социалистическая немецкая рабочая партия со штаб-квартирой в Мюнхене пережила кульминацию острой предвыборной игры, и назначила своим новым председателем Адольфа Гитлера. Это решение коренным образом изменило ход истории.

Это исчадие зла стало удивительно успешным политиком. Его действия были настолько чудовищными, что другие политические тираны и убийцы остались в тени. К сожалению, открытые и скрытые поклонники Гитлера продолжают существовать по всему миру: некоторые из них из-за пагубного влечения к действенности зла; другие из-за восхищения достижениями Гитлера, какими бы жестокими они ни были. Наша образовательная программа почти 20 лет предлагает занятия для подготовки к сдаче экзамена на гражданство для беженцев из бывшего Советского Союза в Еврейском общинах центре. Девяносто процентов наших студентов сдали экзамен на гражданство и стали гражданами США.

День независимости для них - не только напоминание о том, к чему мы стремимся каждый день - к жизни, свободе и счастью, - но и доказательство того, что слова не сильно меняют реальность, а мечты могут быть реализованы только через действия. Подготовка к экзамену - очень долгий и сложный процесс, особенно для пожилых людей. Наши студенты потратили много времени на изучение американской истории, культуры и традиций, структуры работы правительства США.

Опрос 2018 года показал, что лишь немногим более трети американцев знают ответы и могут сдать тест на получение гражданства США, который должны сдать иммигранты в процессе натурализации.

Наши студенты читали книги на английском языке, и одним из их любимых авторов был Марк Твен. И особенно его цитата: «Нас называют нации изобретателей. Так оно и есть. И мы могли бы претендовать на это звание и носить его с гордостью, даже если бы мы ограничились своим первым изобретением - правами человека.»

Для получения дополнительной информации о New American Acculturation Program, с вопросами и предложениями звоните Елене Герович по телефону (203) 387-2424 x321 или ygerovich@jewishnewhaven.org.

"Women Rabbis Talk"

Local Rabbi Co-hosts Podcast Which Gives Voice to Generations of Women Rabbis

"I had a sudden thought one day, while walking in the rain, that it should be a podcast about women rabbis, and that Marci would be the perfect co-host," says Rabbi Emma Gottlieb, one of the rabbis at Temple Israel in Cape Town, South Africa. Rabbi Marci Bellows, spiritual leader at Congregation Beth Shalom Rodfe Zedek (CBSRZ) in Chester, was thrilled when Emma asked her to begin a biweekly podcast with her, now in its sec-

ond season, highlighting the stories of a variety of women rabbis from all over the world. Marci and Emma are close friends who share a love for Broadway and pop culture. They also take being rabbis very seriously, while not taking themselves too seriously.

"Rabbi Bellows continually inspires our congregation with her knowledge, wisdom, enthusiasm, and it is such a joy and honor for us that she shares that with the world through her podcast," says current CBSRZ President, Andy Schatz. The podcast has listeners in at least 34 different countries around the world.

Emma brought this idea to Marci: to showcase female and female-identifying rabbis of all kinds, from different streams of Judaism and different parts of the world and on different career paths, not just the rabbis who make the top-10 lists. And they've succeeded! The podcast has broached topics such as Liberal Zionism, Lesbian Rabbinates, Why Women Need a Rabbinic Network of Their Own, Racial Diversity in the



With Rabbi Emma Gottlieb & Rabbi Marci Bellows

Jewish Community, Being a Student Rabbi during the Pandemic, and they even interviewed Rabbi Lauren Holtzblatt, the rabbi who officiated at Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg's funeral.

"As an avid podcast listener, a Jew, and a feminist, I feel proud of our community every time I listen to our Rabbi's podcast. I love that our community's values are reflected out for the world to see, and I love that Rabbi Bellows is helping to break down stereotypes and to promote a new paradigm about spiritual and Jewish leadership," says Izzi Greenberg, Incoming President at CBSRZ in Chester.

"Women Rabbis Talk" can be found on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, or any other podcast streaming service.



In November of 2016, the Jewish Community Alliance for Refugee Resettlement (JCARR) welcomed Issa and his family of then four (now five!). This June Issa proudly received his GED and is preparing for college now! Thank you to all of JCARR's supporters and volunteers. To learn more, visit www.jewishnewhaven.org/jcarr

Pew Data Paints Picture of Jewish Americans in 2020

(Continued from page 8)

denomination, with 40% of Jews aged 18-29 identifying as "Jews of no religion," an 8% increase from 2013.

This age range also possesses the highest percentages of the most religious Jews, with 17% of 18-29 year-old Jews identifying as Orthodox.

What can be made of these numbers? They show two sharp trajectories for the future of Judaism for Jewish Americans – one in which Judaism as a religion is deeply embedded in every aspect of a Jew's life and one that involves little to no religion at all.

Judy Alperin, CEO of the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven in Orange, understands the importance of data such as Pew's while also

emphasizing the importance of taking a holistic approach to address a shifting community's needs.

"We did not need this Pew research to tell us that we cannot expect to continue doing things as usual," Farbman said. "Whatever communal structures, whatever institutions, whatever rituals and communal observances, they're changing. Realities are changing."

Alperin continued by explaining the ways in which Judaism and Jewish identity are increasingly diversifying.

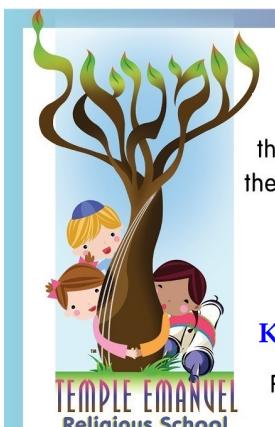
"While the intermarriage rate is very high, that means that more people are exposed to Jewish life and culture. The majority of households are choosing to raise Jewish children and those children are growing up with more multicultural understanding," she said. "One in

seven Jews in North America are Jews of color. These facts create incredible opportunities to engage and grow. We are seeing an explosion of innovation and creativity as non-traditional Jews seek to understand their Jewish identity. All of this creates even more opportunity to strengthen the future of Jewish life in North America if we are open to the possibilities. From my perspective, this is an exciting time to build a strong and sustainable future."

Michael Farbman, rabbi at Temple Emanuel of Greater

But changing realities aren't always bad.

"This community won't die. Is it going to be the same? No. It just means we have to be smart about our resources," he said. "We are going through transformations because our demographics are not what they were 50 years ago. We need to ask, how do we continue to maintain the Jewish community and provide more meaningful opportunities? How can we help Jews live more meaningful lives? We have to challenge the assumptions that come from that data."



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Tributes & Remembrances

JEWISH FEDERATION

In honor of the birth of Romy Evelyn, granddaughter of Dana & Harry Schwartz
Lisa Stanger & Greg Colodner

In honor of the birth of Reese Steinberg, granddaughter of Amy & Mark Holtz
Lisa Stanger & Greg Colodner

In honor or the birth of Miryam Lior Fleischman, granddaughter of Reva & Joe Fleischman, to Shalom Baby
Judy Alperin

In memory of the mother of Miryam Lior Fleischman, granddaughter of Reva & Joe Fleischman, to Shalom Baby
Judy Alperin

In memory of the mother of Rabbi James Greene
Judy Alperin

In memory of the mother of Mary Beth Saltzman to Women's Philanthropy Dignity Grows program
Nancy Cohen

In honor of Ana White's birthday to Women's Philanthropy Dignity Grows program
Nancy Cohen

In honor of Amy Holtz's birthday to Women's Philanthropy Dignity Grows program
Nancy Cohen

In honor of the birth of Reese Steinberg, granddaughter of Amy & Mark Holtz, to Women's Philanthropy Shalom Baby program
Dana & Harry Schwartz

In honor of Max Trachten on his college graduation
Amy & Mark Holtz

In honor of Linda Epstein's birthday to Women's Philanthropy Dignity Grows program
Nancy Cohen

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In honor of the birth of Sara Tova Abramson, granddaughter of Barbara & Steven Zalesch, to Shalom Baby
Judy Alperin

In honor of the birth of Reese Steinberg, granddaughter of Amy & Mark Holtz
Lisa Stanger & Greg Colodner

In memory of Joyce Eagle Henry Granner, mother of Marilyn Henry
Lisa Stanger & Greg Colodner

JCC

In memory of Joyce Eagle Henry Granner, mother of Marilyn Henry
Robyn & Jeffrey Teplitzky
Amy, Mark & Sarah Holtz

In memory of Thea Finkelstein to the Send-a-Kid to Camp Scholarship Fund
Stuart, David, Dan and Ben Warner

In honor of Barry & Hyla Vine to the Send-a-Kid to Camp Scholarship Fund
Glenna & Joe Fried

JCARR

In honor of the work Lee & Peter Stoltzman do with JCARR
Steven & Susan Floman
Janis & Michael Fletcher
Gail Swantek Lamont
Robert Lamont

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In honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Noah Bush
David & Ruthann Beckerman

BECKERMAN FAMILY SUPPORTING FOUNDATION, INC. JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER ENDOWMENT FUND
In memory of Jane Lichtman & Miss Alexis Boyarsky
David & Ruthann Beckerman

FUNDS RAISED:

\$24,300

TOTES DISTRIBUTED:

295

ITEMS INCLUDED IN EACH ZIPPED-TOP TOTE BAG:

a month's supply of soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothbrush, and toothpaste, along with menstrual products

PARTNERS:

Jewish Service of Greater New Haven, Diaper Bank of Connecticut, Mothers of Victims Equality, Inc., Women Family and Life Center, and Columbus House.

For more information, please visit us at
www.jewishnewhaven.org/womens-network/dignity-grows

To purchase a tribute card:

jccnh.org, jewishnewhaven.org, newhavenjewishfoundation.org
*Tributes listed are up to June 17, 2021.

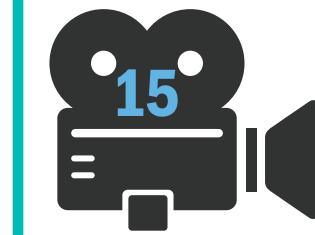
Jewish Film Series Fun Facts



JCC
OF GREATER NEW HAVEN

-10TH-

BECKERMAN JEWISH FILM SERIES



Fun Facts for Women's Philanthropy's 'Dignity Grows'



Jewish Federation
OF GREATER NEW HAVEN

Women's Philanthropy



Dignity Grows provides monthly personal and menstrual hygiene products to women, girls, and individuals who cannot afford them. Each month, recipients receive a full month's supply of soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothbrush, and toothpaste, along with menstrual products in a reusable zipped-top tote bag.

Dignity Grows is a program of Women's Philanthropy of the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven aimed to empower our neighbors and remove obstacles to better self-esteem and health.

FUNDS RAISED:

\$24,300

TOTES PACKAGED:

500

COST PER BAG:

\$10

ITEMS INCLUDED IN EACH ZIPPED-TOP TOTE BAG:

a month's supply of soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothbrush, and toothpaste, along with menstrual products

PARTNERS:

Jewish Service of Greater New Haven, Diaper Bank of Connecticut, Mothers of Victims Equality, Inc., Women Family and Life Center, and Columbus House.

For more information, please visit us at
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JCC
OF GREATER NEW HAVEN

-10TH-

BECKERMAN JEWISH FILM SERIES



OUTSIDE AT
THE JCC

OUTDOOR SUMMER FAMILY MOVIES

Sponsored by



An American Tail Sunday, July 25

Join us at 6:30 to get your spot and snacks.
Movie starts at 7 PM.

JCC Parking Lot

NOTE: This movie will follow our special Community-wide "Thank You" Picnic, which starts at 5.
See picnic details in ad on page 4.

The Samuel Project Sunday, August 22

Join us at 8 PM to get your spot and snacks.
Movie starts at 8:30 PM.

JCC Parking Lot

Sign up today at
jccnh.org/rsvp

CHABAD OF THE SHORELINE JEWISH FESTIVAL

B''H



15TH ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF JEWISH LIFE

AUGUST 1, 2021 | 12-5 PM | GUILFORD GREEN
ADMISSION AND MUSIC FREE
FOOD, CRAFTS AND JUDAICA FOR SALE

CHECK US OUT

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-  [203.533.7495](tel:203.533.7495)  chabad@snet.net

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:

Boris Mizhen, Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven,
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