



# THE NEW JEWISH VOICE

A PUBLICATION OF UNITED JEWISH FEDERATION

## An Evening of Music and History

(Courtesy of UJF) The community is invited to attend a special cultural program featuring Zalmen Mlotek, internationally renowned conductor, pianist, and authority on Yiddish folk and theater music. Mlotek will present “The History of the American Yiddish Theater” on Thursday, November 6, at 7:00 pm at Temple Beth El in Stamford.

Zalmen Mlotek is Artistic Director of the award-winning National Yiddish Theatre Folksbiene, the longest continuously



Zalmen Mlotek

producing Yiddish theater company in the world. A leading figure in Jewish music and theater, he has combined his extensive musical education with a lifelong dedication to Yiddish culture to bring this treasured tradition to new audiences worldwide.

Mlotek has previously performed in Stamford at Temple Beth El and Congregation Agudath Sholom and maintains close personal and family ties with members of the community.

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## The Big Give – Answer the Call!

(Courtesy of UJF) United Jewish Federation of Stamford New Canaan and Darien (UJF) will once again hold “The Big Give” – formerly known as “Super Sunday” – on October 19, beginning at 9:30 am at the UJF office at 2009 Summer Street, Suite 302 in Stamford. Event Co-Chairs Robin Fischel and Toby Lazarus are thrilled to lead this annual event, bringing together the community for a day of fun, philanthropy, and education. The Big Give is a day when volunteers, partner organizations, and staff all unite to build and strengthen the community, while raising essential funds for both local and global Jewish needs.

“I’m honored to work alongside Robin Fischel as Co-Chair of The Big Give,” said Toby Lazarus. “This day is an important opportunity to strengthen our community, and I’m grateful to play a role in making it meaningful and successful for everyone involved.”

“We will have lots of opportunities for volunteers to help with The Big Give phone-a-thon, and there will also be Family Fun time from 1:00 to 3:00 pm, featuring a balloon artist, face-painting, crafts, and PJ Library activities,” said UJF Board member and Big Give Co-Chair Robin Fischel. “We’ll also

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## Schoke JFS Launches ‘Buy One, Give One’ Initiative

(Courtesy of Schoke JFS) Schoke Jewish Family Service (JFS) is launching a year-long food drive initiative called “Buy One, Give One” to combat food insecurity in Fairfield County. In partnership with local synagogues, the campaign encourages individuals to buy an extra food item, one to keep and one to donate. These donations will directly support local families in need. JFS is currently partnering with Temple Sinai,

Congregation Agudath Sholom, Young Israel of Stamford, Chabad of Stamford, Temple Beth El, Chabad of Greenwich, Congregation Shir Ami, Temple Israel of Westport, and The Community Synagogue.

Jen Bernstein, Director of Food Programs at Schoke JFS, emphasized the urgency of the initiative. “With rising food costs, cuts to benefits programs, and more families turning to us for help, the strain on our food pantry

has never been greater. This initiative is a way for the community to step in and ensure that no one has to go without.”

Participating synagogues are each committed to collecting specific pantry staples. Temple Sinai will focus on tuna fish and canned fruit, Congregation Agudath Sholom will collect cereal, and other synagogues such as Young Israel will gather various non-perishable items.

Donations will be collected through Hebrew school programs and general synagogue participation, involving families and children.

Laura Tobin, a Schoke JFS Board Member, helped facilitate the outreach. “The response from clergy and lay leaders has been extremely favorable, and I’m deeply grateful for their support in creating an

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## Honoring the Superheroes Among Us

On September 7, United Jewish Federation celebrated our CommUNITY and the superheroes that keep us strong and connected. John Ondrasik of Five for Fighting, staunch ally and advocate for Israel and the Jewish people, was the featured speaker and performer. (See pages 12-13 and 23 for article and photos)



(l-r) UJF CEO Diane Sloyer, event hosts Jeff & Lisa Manheim, singer/songwriter/ally John Ondrasik, and event hosts Wendy & Jared Siegel and Hannah & Daniel Blonshteyn.



## From UJF's Chief Executive Officer A Season of Reflection, Resolve, and Renewal

BY DIANE SLOYER

As we enter this special time of year, the rhythm of the Jewish calendar centers our lives in a way that is both timeless and deeply grounding. The fall holidays – Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, and Simchat Torah – weave together a tapestry of tradition, ritual, and story that links us to generations past while guiding us toward a brighter future. These moments provide an opportunity to celebrate our heritage but also to strengthen our connection to one another.

In a world where crises challenge us daily – whether close to home or across the globe – we need the lessons of our tradition more than ever. Judaism teaches us the power of resilience, the importance of community, and the enduring belief that light can always emerge from darkness.

As the book of Kohelet teaches:

“עַתָּה לִבְבוֹת וְעַתָּה לְשִׁחוּק, עַתָּה סִפּוּד וְעַתָּה רִקְדָּה”

“A time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance.” (Ecclesiastes 3:4)

Our resolve as a community is being tested, as we go from joyous celebration to mourning from moment to moment. It is precisely during such times that we must choose strength, solidarity, compassion, and generosity. Each of us has a role to play in ensuring that the ties that bind us remain unshakable. Some of you contribute with acts that are visible and large – organizing initiatives, leading services, or helping neighbors in need. Others act quietly but no less powerfully – offering a supportive word, making a phone call to check in on a friend, or contributing your time



Diane Sloyer, UJF CEO

and resources to sustain our communal institutions.

Each act, big or small, makes a difference. Together, these gestures form the fabric of community life: one built of kindness, courage, and an unwavering commitment to care for one another.

The Jewish New Year offers us the sacred invitation to reset. It asks us to pause, to take stock of our lives, and to commit anew to the values that define who we are and who we want to be. It reminds us that while we cannot control the challenges that come our way, we can choose how we respond – with generosity, with resilience, and with love. Let this holiday season be one of renewed commitment!

May we draw strength from our heritage, comfort from one another, and inspiration from the belief that, together, we can create a better future.

Being part of United Jewish Federation's annual campaign will have a lasting impact with every gift making a meaningful difference for the community. It truly is one gift doing a world of good! A successful 2025 campaign will ensure our community agencies and synagogues are supported, and UJF initiatives like this newspaper and our ever-growing security budget are sufficiently funded.

If you would like to connect with me, I can be reached at [dianesloyer@ujf.org](mailto:dianesloyer@ujf.org).

With tremendous gratitude, I wish you and your family continued reason to find joy and connection!

*Chag Sameach!*

## UJF President's Message Sukkat Shalom: A Federation United in Purpose

BY BEVERLY STEIN

As the festival of Sukkot arrives, Jewish communities around the world gather beneath the delicate coverings of the sukkah—temporary structures that invite the elements and open us to the vastness of the sky. These humble dwellings, intentionally fragile and exposed, serve as symbols of vulnerability. Yet within their walls, we find joy, connection, spiritual comfort and strength.

This paradox—strength emerging from fragility—beautifully reflects the heart of our Federation's mission. In a world often shaped by uncertainty and upheaval, our community has become a *sukkat shalom*, a shelter of peace. We have stood together through crises, offered solace in times of need, and built bridges across generations, cultures, and backgrounds.

Though our Federation is not constructed from bricks and mortar, it is held together by something far more enduring: the steadfast commitment of individuals who show up for one another. Sukkot reminds us that resilience is not a solitary pursuit. It is cultivated through shared purpose and mutual care.

When we gather beneath the sukkah's leafy roof and say, “You belong here,” we affirm the power of inclusion. This spirit has guided our efforts to reach those who have felt unseen, to elevate emerging voices in leadership, and to strengthen bonds with Jewish communities across the globe.

This year, as we gather in our sukkah, we are reminded not only of the physical shelter but of the sacred emotional and spiritual space we build for one another. From advancing security efforts to protect our



Beverly Stein,  
UJF President

community amid growing antisemitism, to fostering meaningful connections with Jewish, interfaith, and civic leadership through the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC), and reinforcing our bonds with Israel and the global Jewish family—each action

reflects the enduring power of our shared dedication.

And it's not just in times of crisis that our Federation shines. It's in the everyday acts of kindness: volunteers who pack and deliver UJF Dignity Grows bags for those in need, teens engaging in the Kuriansky Teen Leadership Institute, and donors investing in the future of Jewish life through Life & Legacy. These efforts, often quiet and unseen, form the beams and branches of our communal sukkah.

Sukkot invites us to celebrate what we've built together. It calls us to embrace the beauty of our shared vulnerability and the resilience that blossoms from unity. It challenges us to continue being a shelter—not just for ourselves, but for all who seek belonging, dignity, and hope.

Let this Sukkot be more than a celebration—let it be a commitment. A commitment to show up, to reach out, and to build a shelter of peace for all who seek it. In our shared vulnerability, we find strength. And in our collective strength, we discover the power to uplift, protect, and transform lives. **As One**, we can build a stronger Jewish community.

*Chag Sameach!*

### UPCOMING DEADLINES

November 2025 Edition

Deadline: Monday, September 29, 2025

Email submissions to [sandy@ujf.org](mailto:sandy@ujf.org)

You should receive notification that your submission was received!

### CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES

October 3.....	6:14 pm
October 10.....	6:03 pm
October 17.....	5:52 pm
October 24.....	5:42 pm
October 31.....	5:33 pm

### Women's Philanthropy Salon

October 28<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm

Location TBD

Join Artist + Designer SARA JOY  
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[www.ujf.org/joy](http://www.ujf.org/joy)

For more information contact Jillian Moore at [jillian@ujf.org](mailto:jillian@ujf.org)





# Mozaic Senior Life to Confer Lotstein Award

(Courtesy of Mozaic Senior Life) Mozaic Senior Life has announced that Jon August will be awarded the Louis Lotstein Award for Distinguished Service for long-term service to Mozaic Senior Life. Bradford Perkins will be receiving the Arthur and Gladys Lunin Humanitarian Award, recognizing outstanding public and community service. These awards will be presented at the Women's Auxiliary Fall Gala on Thursday, October 23, at the Inn at Longshore in Westport.

As a nonprofit leader in skilled nursing and senior care, based in Bridgeport for more than 50 years, Mozaic Senior Life is deeply rooted in Jewish values and dedicated to enriching the lives of older adults and their families. Serving as a trusted resource for the Jewish community and beyond, Mozaic Senior Life offers a full continuum of compassionate care, innovative programs, and supportive services that foster dignity, connection, and well-being. With its newest project, Mozaic Concierge Living, a Life Plan Community in Stamford now in construction, the organization continues to honor tradition while meeting the evolving needs of today's seniors. Mozaic

Senior Life is a vital community resource that ensures older adults receive exceptional care in an environment grounded in respect, heritage, and compassion.

The Louis Lotstein Award for Distinguished Service was established to honor leaders whose long-term service mirrors the devotion of the late Mr. Lotstein. This year's recipient, Jon August, has been a dedicated advocate for Mozaic Senior Life for more than a decade. His connection to The Jewish Home is deeply personal, with both his mother and aunt having been residents—an experience that inspired his enduring commitment. Since joining the Board in 2011, Jon has held multiple leadership roles, including Vice Chair and Secretary, and now serves as the 24th Chairperson. Under his leadership, Mozaic Concierge Living advanced from concept to groundbreaking—a transformative milestone that expands Mozaic's impact on senior care in the region.

Andrew H. Banoff, President & CEO of Mozaic Senior Life, shared, "Jon has been a unique leader given his many relationships in the community, having spent his entire

life and career locally. We are all grateful for his leadership in guiding the Board through the development in Stamford, and the parking lot expansion in Bridgeport. Most importantly, he is a sage counsel to all of us, and I am forever thankful for all that he has done for the community."

Bradford Perkins, the Lunin Award recipient, is the Founder and Chairman of Perkins Eastman Architects. He has shaped senior living design worldwide for more than four decades. Brad was among the first to reimagine aging not only as a care challenge but as a design opportunity—creating environments that foster dignity, independence, and quality of life. Brad's connection to Mozaic Senior Life spans more than 20 years, beginning with his role in shaping the vision for The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Campus in Bridgeport and continuing today as he helps guide the development of Mozaic Concierge Living in Stamford.

The Women's Auxiliary is delighted to celebrate these two remarkable honorees at this year's Fall Gala. The evening will feature an elegant dinner, a lively auction, and unforgettable moments of community and celebration. For reservations, invitations, or commemorative journal opportunities, please contact Dayna Hayden, Director of Development, at 203-365-6409, dhayden@mozaicsl.org, or visit mozaicsl.org.

## An Evening of Music and History

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This program will be presented in tribute to Dr. Hesh Romanowitz ז"ל and his parents, Eva and Abe Romanowitz ז"ל, all devoted supporters of Yiddish language and theater.

The evening will also feature a guest performance by Cantor Katie Kaplan of Temple Beth El. A light reception will follow the program.

This event is free of charge and open to the public. The evening will be co-sponsored by The Bennett Center for Judaic Studies at Fairfield University, United Jewish Federation of Stamford, New Canaan and Darien, UJA-JCC Greenwich, Congregation Agudath Sholom, Jewish Historical Society of Fairfield County, Temple Beth El, Temple Sholom, Temple Sinai, and Young Israel of Stamford.

For additional information, please contact Temple Beth El at 203-322-6901 or register online at tinyurl.com/yiddish11-6.

# Women's Philanthropy Salon Series Continues

(Courtesy of UJF) Building on a tradition of meaningful connection and vibrant community, United Jewish Federation's (UJF's) Women's Philanthropy is proud to continue its new Salon series. These smaller, more intimate gatherings are designed to bring women together in meaningful ways, fostering friendship, creativity, and shared purpose while uplifting the values of *chesed* (kindness) and *tikkun olam* (repairing the world).

The first Women's Philanthropy Salon, held this summer, was a tremendous success. Women from across Stamford, New Canaan, and Darien gathered in a welcoming home to hear from inspiring female leaders and engage in thoughtful conversation. The positive energy and conversation that emerged that evening laid the groundwork for an exciting new chapter for Women's Philanthropy.

The next Salon evening will take place on Monday, October 28, at 7:00 pm at a private home. This special program will feature artist Sara Joy, whose work brings Jewish heritage to life through vibrant, meaningful Judaica art. From custom ritual objects to commissioned pieces that honor tradition, her creations transform homes and communities with intentional joy, color, and thoughtful detail. Joy's art not only



Artist Sara Joy

decorates but tells stories, sparks conversation, and celebrates the richness of Jewish life, making each piece a treasured part of the spaces it inhabits. Sara Joy will guide participants in a hands-on craft activity, offering an engaging and joyful way to explore Jewish culture together.

The creation of the Salon series represents a thoughtful effort to innovate Women's Philanthropy programming, offering a fresh format that emphasizes connectedness, and meaningful engagement. By reimagining traditional gatherings, the organization has crafted a space where women can connect deeply, explore their creativity, and be inspired in new ways.

In addition to the artistic experience, the evening will provide women with the opportunity to connect more personally with one another in a relaxed, intimate setting. Like all Women's Philanthropy programs, this Salon is designed not only to inspire but also to strengthen the fabric of the community, encouraging women to share in community, support one another, and create a lasting impact.

Space is limited, and advance registration is required at [www.ujf.org/joy](http://www.ujf.org/joy). For more information contact Jillian Moore at [jillian@UJF.org](mailto:jillian@UJF.org).



## Luxury is Rising IN STAMFORD

Opening in 2027, **Mozaic Concierge Living** is a Life Plan Community meticulously crafted for those who seek luxurious retirement living.

Preview Mozaic Concierge Living with a visit to the Welcome Center and the opportunity to meet the team, see the model kitchen, scale model, floor plans, architectural renderings, and pricing. Construction has begun and residence availability is limited, so act today!

For more information, schedule a personal appointment with one of our Residency Counselors. Contact us at **203-396-1140** or [info@mozaiccl.org](mailto:info@mozaiccl.org).

[mozaicconciergeliving.org](http://mozaicconciergeliving.org)

**MOZAIC** Concierge Living  
Life with Community

Welcome Center located at 260 Long Ridge Road, Suite C-160, Stamford, CT 06902

Mozaic Concierge Living is a Life Plan Community by Mozaic Senior Life, a trusted senior care provider for over 50 years.





## Youth Offerings at Chabad of Stamford

(Courtesy of Chabad of Stamford) At Chabad of Stamford, young people are at the center of community life. From the youngest preschoolers to bar and bat mitzvahs and teenagers preparing for adulthood, a wide range of programs ensures that every child has a place to learn, grow, and feel connected to their Jewish identity.

The Gan Yeladim Preschool sets the foundation by providing a warm, nurturing Reggio-inspired environment where children flourish socially, emotionally, and academically. Families also enjoy a calendar full of engaging holiday celebrations and community events, bringing Jewish traditions to life with hands-on experiences, music,

and creativity.

For the youngest members of the community, ages six weeks to two years, Chabad offers its long-standing “Tiny Treasures – Got Shabbat?” program on Thursday mornings. Each week, little ones and their caregivers are immersed in the warmth of Shabbat through music, stories, baking, crafts, and more. Freshly baked challah adds to the sensory experience, creating a joyful introduction to Jewish traditions.

As children grow, they can take part in JUDA, Hebrew School of the Arts, a program for ages 5 to 13 where learning is lively, creative, and hands-on. Small group settings encourage curiosity and connection, while weekly sessions weave together art, drama, cooking, outdoor adventures, and holiday celebrations to make Judaism come

alive. At JUDA, every child is welcomed and supported as they build friendships and celebrate their heritage with pride.

*Mitzvahs* are at the heart of Chabad’s premier Jewish kids’ club. Designed for grades 3 through 7, this monthly program (5:00–6:30 pm, with dinner) empowers children to make a difference through hands-on service projects, acts of kindness, field trips, and team-building activities. Participants progress through JScouts ranks, earning rewards while building leadership skills and friendships.

For teens, Chabad offers “CTeen,” a dynamic program that combines social events and community service opportunities. It provides a space where Jewish teens can connect with one another, explore their identity, and take on leadership roles that empower them to make a difference in their community and beyond.

Finally, Chabad encourages volunteering

for all ages. From packing Purim *mishloach manot* (food gift baskets) to delivering “Loaves of Love” packages on Shabbat or visiting the elderly, there are countless ways to get involved. Teens can also volunteer at Gan or in the office or take on after-school jobs, gaining both experience and a deeper sense of community.

From toddlers discovering their first songs and stories, to teens developing friendships and leadership skills, Chabad of Stamford offers something for every stage of childhood. With learning and fun woven into each program, Chabad is committed to ensuring that every young person feels included, inspired, and proud of who they are.

For more information about their programs please contact [programs@stamfordchabad.org](mailto:programs@stamfordchabad.org) or call 203 3CHABAD.

### THE NEW JEWISH VOICE

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## Honoring 250 Years of Fairfield County Jewish History

(Courtesy of Jewish Historical Society)

Think of Harry Houdini, Sholem Asch, “the First Jewish Feminist” Ernestine Rose, Gilda Radner, Benny Goodman, labor organizer Matilda Robbins, children’s author Maurice Sendak, Israeli Naval Commander David Schulman, artist Helen Frankenthal, Senator Joe Lieberman, Arthur Szyk and so many others who called Fairfield County home for a while. In these 250 years since the Declaration of Independence was promulgated on July 4, 1776, Jews have thrived in Fairfield County.

The Jewish Historical Society of Fairfield County’s (JHSFC’s) project to honor the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Declaration of Independence will be to “tell the story” of the Jews of Fairfield County.

The ratification of the Bill of Rights to the Constitution of the United States on December 15, 1791 guaranteed certain basic American freedoms for the Jews resident in and traveling through Fairfield County. The First Amendment proclaims Freedom of Religion to wit: “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof ...” These basic American freedoms have enabled Jews to flourish and prosper in Fairfield County.

The major point of emphasis of the project will be to expand upon the Society’s 2005 traveling exhibit entitled “A Slice of Jewish American Life in Fairfield County 1654-1986.” JHSFC plans to research the Jewish history of Fairfield County from 1987 through

next year, the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, and also to expand the Slice of Jewish American Life exhibit to include additional information. The Society will rely on other of its exhibits, including but not limited to: “It Happened Here: From Haven to Home To Community” (2023); “Remembering the Family Store”; “Notable Jewish People From Fairfield County” (2019); and the L’Dor V’Dor Intergenerational Project.

The Society seeks volunteer researchers and designers to help prepare the CT250 exhibit. Anyone wishing to join in this endeavor can contact The Jewish Historical Society at: [Info@jhsfc-ct.org](mailto:Info@jhsfc-ct.org) or 203-359-2196.

### Schoke JFS Launches ‘Buy One, Give One’ Initiative

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ongoing food drive,” she said.

The program also provides a chance to teach younger generations about the value of giving back. Erica Santiago, Religious School Educator at Temple Sinai, noted, “Buy One, Give One benefits individuals and communities. Every purchase our Temple Sinai families make means someone in need receives a meal or essential food item. Our students are learning the importance of caring for others, Jewish and secular alike.”

As food insecurity grows, Buy One, Give One is an opportunity for the Jewish community in Fairfield County to unite in support of their neighbors, embodying the principle of *tikkun olam*, repairing the world. Every donation, big or small, contributes to the greater good.

For more information and to support Schoke JFS Food Programs, visit [www.ctjfs.org/foodprograms](http://www.ctjfs.org/foodprograms).



Volunteers Michal and daughter Nava Rubin restock the Freedberg Family Kosher Food Pantry shelves with food donations.



## Discover the Kabbalah of Meaning

(Courtesy of Chabad of New Canaan) This fall, Rabbi Levi Mendelow, director of Chabad of New Canaan, will offer "The Kabbalah of Meaning," a new six-session course by the acclaimed Rohr Jewish Learning Institute (JLI). The course aims to shed light on one of life's most fundamental questions: What gives our lives meaning?

The six-week course will be offered on Tuesday mornings at 10:00 am at the United Jewish Federation offices, 2009 Summer Street in Stamford and repeated on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm at Chabad of New Canaan, 137 Putnam Road in New Canaan. Both series begin on November 5. Students are welcome to attend at either location each week.

Drawing from the wisdom of Jewish mysticism, The Kabbalah of Meaning provides a refreshing perspective on how to uncover the profound significance hidden in every aspect of daily life. Participants will explore how to weave together the many threads of their busy routines into a unified and purposeful whole.

"We often assume that meaningful moments are rare, reserved for special occasions," said Rabbi Mendelow. "This

course shows us how to discover the deep meaning already present in the ordinary experiences of life."

Each session combines the study of classic Jewish texts with practical applications for modern living. Topics include finding purpose in relationships, work, and personal growth, and how all of life's diverse activities contribute to a greater sense of wholeness.

Like all JLI programs, this course is designed to be accessible and thought-provoking for people at all levels of knowledge, regardless of background or affiliation. "Whether you are well-versed in Jewish learning or entirely new to it, you'll feel right at home," Rabbi Mendelow added.

The Kabbalah of Meaning is accredited for continuing education in a number of professional fields, including medical and mental health. Continuing education credits are available for doctors, psychologists, social workers, LMFTs, and LMHC/LPCs in the state of Connecticut.

For registration and more information, call 203-449-0472 or visit [www.myJLI.com](http://www.myJLI.com).

## Guest Scholars at Agudath Sholom

(Courtesy of Agudath Sholom) Congregation Agudath Sholom will host a series of guest scholars and special programs over the next few months.

On Saturday October 25, former professional basketball player Doron Sheffer will share the story of his career and faith over Shabbat, and will run a basketball clinic on Saturday night.

On Wednesdays this fall - October 29, November 5, 12, and 19 - Rivka Werner, a rising scholar from Yeshiva University's (YU's) Graduate Program in Advanced Talmud/Tanach Studies (GPATS), will present a four-part evening series on contemporary issues.

The shul also looks forward to welcoming Yeshiva University's Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks-Herstein Center for Values and Leadership for a Shabbaton on November 1, with Dr. Erica Brown, Vice Provost for Values and Leadership and Director of the Center; Rabbi Mordechai Schiffman, Assistant Professor at YU's Azrieli Graduate



Doron Sheffer



Rivka Werner

School and Director of Leadership Scholars at the Center; and Aliza Abrams Konig, Senior Program Director of the Leadership Scholars at YU.

Rounding out the fall is a special Chanukah Yom Iyyun on December 14, featuring Rabbi Kalman Laufer, a highly regarded Torah scholar who also serves as the director of the Bioethics and Jewish Law Program at Yeshiva University's Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary (RIETS).

For more information, visit [www.cas-stamford.org](http://www.cas-stamford.org)

All classes are free and open to the entire community.

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## EARLY CHILDHOOD OPEN HOUSE



## Torah Learning Opportunities at Agudath Sholom

(Courtesy of Agudath Sholom) Congregation Agudath Sholom is proud to offer a wide array of classes and programs that make Torah accessible, engaging, and relevant for every member of the community. Whether you are new to Jewish learning or a seasoned participant, there is something here for you. The rabbis, educators, and guest scholars bring wisdom and passion to every class, ensuring that Jewish learning continues to be the heartbeat of the *shul* (synagogue).

Rabbi Daniel Cohen teaches many ongoing classes. On Tuesday mornings, his "Power of the Prophets" class delves into the story of King Saul and Amalek, exploring the tragedy of a monarch and its enduring ripples in Jewish history. Later that day, "Parsha Perspectives" opens the Torah as a guide for contemporary life, highlighting its timeless wisdom in navigating modern challenges. Thursday evenings offer something more informal with "Scotch and Torah," where participants encounter the insights of Chasidic masters on the weekly portion. And every Friday

morning, Rabbi Cohen shares via Zoom a brief "Taste of Torah," a nugget of wisdom to bring to the Shabbat table.

Rabbi Aryeh Roberts, Agudath's new Assistant Rabbi, adds another layer to the *shul's* learning environment. On Sunday mornings, his "Meaning in Mitzvot" class turns to medieval commentaries to uncover how *mitzvot* (commandments) shape values and connect individuals to God. On Thursdays, he leads "The Structure of the Year," an exploration of the legal elements of the Jewish holidays that prepares learners both intellectually and spiritually for each upcoming festival. Later that evening, his Talmud class, "The Posture of Prayer," offers in-depth analysis and broader framing for the meaning of prayer and standing before God. Rounding out the schedule is the Men's Chabura, which meets biweekly for Torah, food, and camaraderie.

The *shul* also benefits from the teaching of Rabbi Bob Abrams, a beloved educator and life coach. His "Bob's Basics" on Shabbat mornings helps learners enter the liturgy more deeply while also touching on the weekly parsha

and haftarah. On Mondays, his Zoom-based "Tanach Club" offers a steady walk through the books of the Bible, emphasizing their themes and ongoing relevance. In addition, community members like Mark Wagshul and Moshe Shapiro also contribute: Mark leads sessions on *Sefer Melachim* (Book of Kings) and *Shmuel* (Samuel), and Moshe runs beginner conversational Hebrew classes designed to get participants speaking more comfortably.

Together, these classes and programs reflect the mission of Agudath Sholom: to be a vibrant center of Torah for all ages and backgrounds. With learning available in-person and online, early in the morning and late at night, the synagogue extends an open invitation to the broader Stamford Jewish community to join in the pursuit of wisdom, growth, and connection.

For more information, visit [www.cas-stamford.org](http://www.cas-stamford.org)

All classes are free and open to the entire community.

## Nonprofit Leaders Breakfast



Schoke JFS President & CEO Matt Greenberg and UJF CEO Diane Sloyer pictured with Mayor Caroline Simmons at her quarterly Nonprofit Leaders Breakfast.

## Café Torah: A Fresh Approach to Jewish Learning

(Courtesy of Chabad of Stamford) Chabad of Stamford is ushering in the new year with the launch of an innovative program called Café Torah, a series of learning opportunities designed to help community members pause from their busy schedules and reconnect with Jewish wisdom.

"The idea is to help us all carve out an hour of the week to reconnect with Torah, with ourselves, and with something deeper," said Chabad of Stamford Co-Director Rabbi Moshe Shemtov. "It's a personal invitation to pause, sip, and nourish your soul."

The concept takes its inspiration from a café "menu," where participants can choose a class that speaks to them and commit to a weekly dose of meaning. "We all make time for yoga, errands, Pilates, and more," added Chabad of Stamford Co-Director Leah Shemtov. "This one is for your soul."

The Café Torah menu offers programs for both men and women, with options spanning mornings, evenings, and weekends.

For women, Torah & Tea on Tuesday mornings (in person and on Zoom), explores the weekly Torah portion, the Jewish calendar, and life lessons. On Wednesday evenings, a weekly *Shaar Habitachon* (Gate of Trust) class focuses on cultivating trust and faith through classic teachings. On Thursday mornings on Zoom, the focus is on Tanya study, delving into the foundational text of Jewish philosophy with

Leah Shemtov, blending mystical insight with practical guidance. Several times a year Rosh Chodesh gatherings occur.

For men, there is an 8:00 am Sunday morning Tefillin Club, a gathering with tefillin-wrapping, prayer, Torah insights, and bagels and lox with Rabbi Moshe. Tanya Study is also offered on Sunday mornings with engaging sessions led by Rabbi Moshe, and Tzemach Shemtov leads a weekly Torah class on Thursday evenings at a private home in Stamford.

Café Torah also extends beyond the classroom. Several times a year, Chabad organizes group trips to the Ohel in Queens, NY, the resting place of the Lubavitcher Rebbe. The first group trip is set for Sunday, October 26, departing Stamford at 9:30 am. Chabad also offers assistance for individuals planning personal visits.

For those seeking personalized study, one-on-one or group sessions can be arranged upon request.

With Café Torah, Chabad of Stamford hopes to make Jewish study accessible, engaging, and meaningful for all. "Our café sells meaning, not lattes, and our goal is to ensure that everyone feels connected, included, and uplifted through it," said Leah Shemtov.

For more information or to participate in any Café Torah program, contact Chabad at [programs@stamfordchabad.org](mailto:programs@stamfordchabad.org) or call 203-3CHABAD. Chabad of Stamford is located at 770 High Ridge Road.



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# JCRC Update

**BY GARY JONES,  
UJF JEWISH COMMUNITY  
RELATIONS COUNCIL DIRECTOR**

Your United Jewish Federation's (UJF's) Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) continues to expand its reach and impact on the Jewish community. I am excited to share an upcoming program that will be held on October 19 from 5:00 to 6:00 pm, as part of UJF's Big Give event.

I am pleased to report that two local State Legislators with strong ties to the Jewish community will provide a "State of the Capitol" report addressing general issues and issues of specific importance to

the Jewish community. State Senator Ryan Fazio and State Representative Matt Blumenthal will each have 15 minutes to discuss the last legislative session which ended in June and the new legislative session that will begin in February of 2026.

The remaining 30 minutes of the meeting will include an opportunity to highlight the priorities of the JCRC and plenty of time for community members to ask questions of the legislative leaders and reinforce the expectations of the Stamford,



**Gary Jones,  
JCRC Director**

New Canaan and Darien Jewish community.

As you may know from reading this column on a regular basis, what happens at the State Capitol has a substantial impact on the Jewish community in UJF's area, especially now as we endeavor to confront the rising tide of antisemitism and protect our community from the consequences of that rising tide. As I write this message, we are still hopeful that our bill to establish a working group to study and recommend changes

to protect Jewish students (and others) from antisemitism in K-12 public schools will be considered in the one-day Special Legislative Session anticipated to be held in early October.

This will be a rare occasion to have candid and intimate conversations about issues that are important to our community with legislators who care about our community. The more we educate our leaders, the better they will be able to fight for us. Please plan to join us on October 19 at 5:00 to thank Senator Fazio and Representative Blumenthal for their support and to help ensure that we send the right messages effectively.

## Building Security Bridges

(Courtesy of UJF) United Jewish Federation's security director Jim Comstock was part of a security delegation to Israel organized by UJF's security vendor, Community Security Initiative, CSI. The group had meetings with law enforcement, government officials, strategists, and met with locals to learn about security related issues as well as better understand the reality

of life on the ground. "What an impactful first visit to Israel, shared Jim. The warmth and spirit of the Israeli people is something I will carry with me forever. I learned a great deal from fellow security professionals that will give me a deeper understanding of the Jewish community and the threats we face", he continued.



Jim Comstock and other mission participants visited Kibbutz Kfar Aza and stood along the fence to Gaza, understanding the close proximity.



Mission participants visited the Jerusalem police station and met with their Israeli counterparts.

## Threat Assessment Training

**BY JIM COMSTOCK,  
CSI REGIONAL SECURITY DIRECTOR**

On August 21, Temple Sinai proudly hosted a "Threat Assessment" training session attended by law enforcement officials from across the State. This training was a partnership between Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) and United Jewish Federation's security vendor, Community Security Initiative (CSI).

The Federal Law Enforcement Training Center is part of the Department of Homeland Security and through strategic

partnerships, prepares the law enforcement community to safeguard America's people, property, and institutions.

With the support of Regional Security Director Jim Comstock, Temple Sinai Director of Operations Shelley Welfeld, and Temple Sinai Security Chair Susan Brown, participants received valuable hands-on training during this half-day seminar.

UJF extends its sincere thanks to Susan, Shelly, and Rabbi Jay TelRav for graciously opening Temple Sinai to the training session and for their warm and generous hospitality.



Federal Law Enforcement Training Center officer leads a threat assessment training session at Temple Sinai.



Regional Security Director Jim Comstock (far left) with law enforcement officials from across Fairfield County.



# Cranberry-Maple-Cashew Pie

BY RONNIE FEIN



It's almost time for Sukkot, a most joyous holiday, one that comes after the introspective and solemn Days of Awe. It's an exciting and busy time in the Jewish world: a time when we build a sukkah in our backyard or a smaller, make-shift version in our apartments. Either way, it's fun to eat in a sukkah and maybe even sleep in one – it's like camping out.

My family never built a sukkah when I was a girl. The closest I ever came was the time my cousin Leslie and I asked her mom if we could set up the bridge table (mostly used for her weekly mah jongg game) and pretend it was a sukkah. Aunt Beck obliged and even threw a chenille bedspread on top to enclose us. She wouldn't let us eat under the table but said it was ok to sleep there if we wanted to. We didn't have sleeping bags and the floor was hard so we only lasted about 2 hours and then went to bed. But we still talk about it years and years later.

When my own children were kids, they wanted a sukkah too, but rather than open up the card table (mostly used for playing Hearts) we bought an outdoor log cabin and that became our sukkah. No one tried sleeping in the cabin; it was too small, but for several years, we did have some holiday snacks and desserts inside.

Sukkot snacks and

desserts are some of the best! In fact, all the traditional foods are absolutely delicious. It's a harvest holiday, so it's time to cook with the fresh fruits and vegetables of the season, like pumpkins, winter squash, nuts, cranberries, apples, pears and so on.

Our family favorites for Sukkot are easy to make, portable (if you will be feasting in your sukkah) and delicious: Baked Apples. Hazelnut Cake. Mandelbread. Pear Crisp. Indian Pudding. And the very festive looking Cranberry-Maple-Cashew Pie.

## CRANBERRY-MAPLE-CASHEW PIE

- 1 cup maple syrup
- 1/3 cup light corn syrup
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 3 large eggs
- 3 tablespoons melted butter or margarine
- 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup halved cashew nuts
- 1 cup fresh cranberries
- 1 unbaked 9-inch pie crust

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. In a large bowl, combine the maple syrup, corn syrup, sugar, eggs and melted butter and blend the ingredients thoroughly using a whisk. Stir in the flour, salt, nuts and cranberries. Blend thoroughly. Pour the mixture into the pie crust. Bake for 45 minutes or until the top is golden brown and crusty.

Makes one 9-inch pie.

Ronnie Fein is a cookbook author, food writer and cooking teacher in Stamford. She is the author of *Kosher Cooking for Beginners*, *The Modern Kosher Kitchen* and *Hip Kosher*. Visit her food blog, *Kitchen Vignettes*, at [www.ronniefein.com](http://www.ronniefein.com), friend on Facebook at [RonnieVailFein](https://www.facebook.com/RonnieVailFein), Twitter at [@RonnieVFein](https://twitter.com/RonnieVFein), Instagram at [@RonnieVFein](https://www.instagram.com/RonnieVFein).



- Daily News Directly From Israel and the JBS News Desk
- *Defending Israel* with David Harris
- *Being Jewish* with Jonah Platt
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- Conferences of major Jewish organizations
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- Jewish Studies
- Shabbat Services from Central and Hampton Synagogues

JBS can be watched 24/7 on Optimum CH 138, DIRECTV CH 388, ROKU, Apple TV, Amazon Fire TV (Amazon Prime) ZipWave TV CH 29 and [www.jbstv.org](http://www.jbstv.org)

# A Sweet Start to the Year

(Courtesy of UJF) PJ Library and NextGen kicked off the new year with a sweet flair as they hosted apple picking on September 14 at Silverman's Farm. Young adults and families alike gathered in the spirit of the holiday to celebrate in community and harvest apples for Rosh Hashanah. Tractor rides, friendly farm animals, and cider donuts rounded out the morning of fall fun.

PJ Library and NextGen made sure that it would be a sweet new year for all as they donated extra apples to Schoke Jewish Family Service to help spread holiday joy to those in need.

Interested in getting involved with NextGen or PJ Library? Reach out to Jillian Moore at [Jillian@UJF.org](mailto:Jillian@UJF.org)





## Schoke JFS Prepares for Rosh Hashanah

(Courtesy of Schoke JFS) Schoke Jewish Family Service (JFS) extends a huge thanks to Met Council (a Jewish non-profit organization dedicated to fighting poverty) for the very generous Rosh Hashanah donation to the Freedberg Family Kosher Food Pantry. Met Council's support enables Schoke JFS to provide everything families across Fairfield County need to celebrate the Jewish High Holidays. From beloved staples like grape juice, challah rolls, chicken, gefilte fish, and chicken noodle soup mix, to festive additions such as tea biscuits, rice, cholent mix, carrots, and fresh eggs, the pantry is stocked and ready.

Schoke JFS is grateful to Met Council for its partnership and for making this 5786 brighter for so many.



Matt Greenberg, Schoke JFS President & CEO, and Jen Bernstein, Director of Food Programs, with the generous food donations from Met Council.

## Sounds of the Shofar at Gan

(Courtesy of Chabad of Stamford) Rabbi Moshe Shemtov fills Gan Yeladim with the joyful sounds of the shofar as they prepare for the High Holidays with *ruach* (spirit), warmth and excitement.



## PJ Library Delivers Rosh Hashanah Treats



UJF Director of Programming and Engagement Jillian Moore delivered 40 PJ Library bags filled with Rosh Hashanah themed treats and crafts to families in Darien and New Canaan.

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# UPPER SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE





## A Night in the Sukkah at The JCC

(Courtesy of JCC) On Thursday, October 9 at 7:00 pm, adults ages 21 and over are invited to gather in the JCC sukkah for "A Night in the Sukkah," a festive evening celebrating the holiday of Sukkot. Guests will enjoy a seasonal dinner, fall-themed cocktails, and live music in a welcoming, communal setting. The evening will also

include Sukkot traditions such as shaking the *lulav* and smelling the *etrog*. Kosher dietary laws will be observed. This event is free for JCC members and open to community guests for \$30 per person.

Attendees can register online at [www.stamfordjcc.org](http://www.stamfordjcc.org) or contact Joy Serata at 203.487.0979 or [jserata@stamfordjcc.org](mailto:jserata@stamfordjcc.org).

## Stamford JCC Hosts Simchat Torah Luncheon

(Courtesy of JCC) On Friday, October 17 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm, The Stamford JCC will host a Simchat Torah Community Luncheon. Enjoy a delicious kosher meal, festive spirit, and meaningful community connection. Whether you've just danced with the scrolls or are simply joining for the joy of the holiday, all are welcome to share in this uplifting celebration of tradition, renewal, and togetherness.

JCC community luncheons (dietary laws

observed) are open to the community and free to those 60+ (suggested \$6 donation) and \$15 for those 59 and below. The luncheons are presented in partnership with Catholic Charities. Reservations are due by Friday, October 10.

Attendees can register online at [www.stamfordjcc.org](http://www.stamfordjcc.org) or contact Catherine Cimbalo at 203.487.0979 or [ccimbalo@stamfordjcc.org](mailto:ccimbalo@stamfordjcc.org).

## Sukkot and Simchat Torah with Chabad of Stamford

(Courtesy of Chabad of Stamford) Chabad of Stamford invites the community to celebrate Sukkot and Simchat Torah with a series of meaningful and joyful events.

The festivities begin on Tuesday, October 7, with the annual "Sukkah Hop." After services, participants will embark on a culinary journey, moving from one family's sukkah for appetizers to another for main courses and more. This year's event will also include a special commemoration of the October 7 massacre in Israel, honoring those who perished and uniting with our brothers and sisters in Israel.

On Thursday, October 9, the day is dedicated to women and teens. The JWC Women's Luncheon in the sukkah at 12:15 pm offers a gourmet meal, an inspiring class, and an opportunity to connect with others. Later that evening, teens in grades 9

through 12 are invited to a fun-filled supper and games in the sukkah starting at 6:30 pm.

The celebrations continue with a family-focused "Supper in the Sukkah" on Sunday, October 12 at 5:00 pm. Families can enjoy delicious food, hands-on crafts, and entertainment led by Gan and JUDA teachers.

On Tuesday, October 14, children and families are invited to the 5th annual "Kids' Hakafot in the Park" at Barrett Park (on the corner of Burdick Street and Newfield Avenue) starting at 4:30 pm. The event features joyful singing and dancing in a lively outdoor setting.

As always, services at Chabad of Stamford are free and open to all. To purchase a *lulav* and *etrog* or for more information, email [programs@stamfordchabad.org](mailto:programs@stamfordchabad.org) or call 203 3CHABAD.

### The Big Give – Answer the Call!

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

have a Dignity Grows packing project and several interesting educational opportunities for folks to broaden their understanding of how our efforts impact our community."

The funds obtained via the Big Give event are part of the overall annual campaign which supports programs and projects that strengthen and unite the Jewish community, As One. Much like a firehouse, on-call round-the-clock and ready to respond when needed, a healthy and robust Federation means that crises can be effectively confronted, and local needs are swiftly addressed whenever they arise.

Each year, the local youth play a BIG role in The Big Give. Children are encouraged to collect *tzedakah* and complete Mitzvah Bingo Cards, which will be distributed at local Jewish schools and are also available at the UJF office. Any child who brings in a completed bingo card or *tzedakah* they have collected will receive a special surprise gift from UJF. Simply bring either or both to the UJF office on Sunday, October 19, or anytime between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm Monday through Friday the week before.

UJF Deputy Director Eric Ross added, "We have three new components to add some

extra excitement to the day for the whole community! During these trying times, action is a powerful way to uplift our spirits. Please, come join us, As One, to participate in The Big Give on October 19." The new additions are:

- 4:00-5:00 pm: Community Read with author Janice Kaplan, discussing her book *What Your Body Knows About Happiness - How to Use Your Body To Change Your Mind*.
- 5:00-6:00 pm: Connecticut Capitol Update with State Senator Ryan Fazzio and State Representative Matt Blumenthal, hosted by UJF's Jewish Community Relations Council.
- UJF's first-ever "BIG Jewish Book GIVEaway" - Stop by throughout the day to add some fantastic new reads to your personal library.

To register for The Big Give, visit [www.ujf.org/bg25](http://www.ujf.org/bg25) or scan the QR code below. For a detailed list of the projects supported by UJF's 2025 Annual Campaign for CommUNITY Impact, please visit [www.ujf.org/Give](http://www.ujf.org/Give).

If you'd like to volunteer or have any questions about The Big Give, contact UJF Deputy Director Eric Ross at [eric@ujf.org](mailto:eric@ujf.org) or (203) 321-1373.



Alex and Gabriel Sroka and friend brought their *tzedakah* to The Big Give last year.



UJF volunteer Julia Linsner participated in The Big Give 2024 phone-a-thon.

# From the Shlich's Kitchen

## Corn Schnitzel

★★★★★

**Ingredients:**

- 3 cans of corn kernels
- 2 eggs
- Breadcrumbs\*
- 1 tablespoon salt
- ½ tablespoon black pepper
- 2 tablespoons chicken consomme powder\* (you can add more to taste)
- Any kind of oil for frying

**How to make:**

1. Blend one can of corn (without the liquid) until smooth.
2. Pour it into a large bowl and add the remaining two cans of corn (not blended and without the liquid).
3. Add the 2 eggs and 1 cup of breadcrumbs.
4. Mix everything together with a spoon, then add the spices and mix again.
5. If it's too runny, add more breadcrumbs until it's thick enough to shape. Don't be shy-add plenty!
6. Let the mixture rest for about 10 minutes.
7. Shape into balls or patties with your hands (They may be a bit fragile but its ok).
8. Gently roll each patty in breadcrumbs until fully coated
9. Fry in hot oil until golden and crispy on both sides.

**TIP**

\*I recommend using Golden Breadcrumbs and Osem Chicken Consommé Powder from the Israeli brand Osem. Both are widely available in kosher sections of many supermarkets, especially Stop & Shop.

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# Celebrating Superheroes!

(Courtesy of UJF) United Jewish Federation's annual campaign launch featured Five for Fighting's singer, songwriter and pianist John Ondraisik, whose song "Superman (It's Not Easy)" was nominated for a Grammy award. The event was chaired by Hannah and Daniel Blonsheyn, Lisa and Jeff Manheim, and Wendy and Jared Siegel.

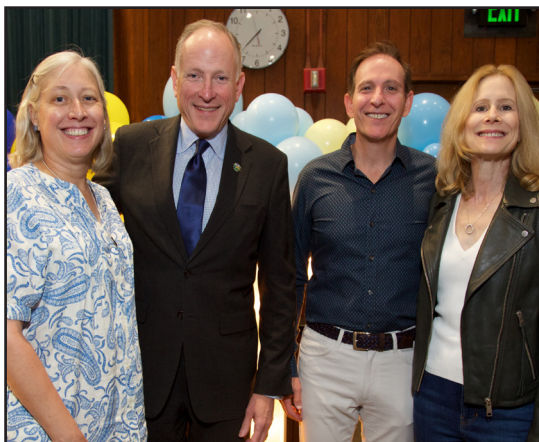
Through stories and music, John shared his passion for causes including Afghanistan, Ukraine, and now Israel, relaying details about his first trip to Israel, shortly after October 7, 2023 and how he has written songs for the hostages and performed in Hostage Square.

Linda Selig, of the White Rose Society, presented John a white rose, given to honor non-Jews who have stood up for the Jewish people in meaningful ways. David Gordon, past UJF President, was honored with offering John the traditional Priestly Blessing.

The evening also honored our local community superheroes who keep our organizations running and continue to keep us connected in a time where this is so desperately needed.







CONTINUED ON PAGE 23



## Bits & Pieces



**BY SANDY GOLOVE**  
To submit information to Bits and Pieces, call (203) 912-9945 or email [sandy@ujf.org](mailto:sandy@ujf.org).

### MAZEL TOV TO GROWING FAMILIES:

**Sandy Golove** Emma & Brian Adler on the birth of a daughter, Margot Rose Adler.  
**Tess Brown & Nathan Morris** on the birth of a son.  
**Naomi & Jonathan Cohen** on the birth of a son.  
**Marissa & Artem Emple** on the birth of a daughter.  
**Nava Jacknis & Natanel Fuchs** on the birth of a son.  
**Randi Katz & Larry Cryer** on the birth of a grandson, Nathan Robert Shapiro.  
**Talia & Jeff Kilstein** on the birth of a daughter.  
**Tamar & Jason Levine** on the birth of a son and to the grandparents, **Deborah & Ira Feigenbaum**.  
**Janet & Marc Schneider** on the birth of a grandson, Benjamin Padraig Schneider, son of Gregory Schneider & Katherine Callahan.  
**Sarah & Noam Skolnick** on the birth of a son.  
**Shternie & David Wayne** on the birth of a daughter, Tova Baila Wayne, and to grandparents **Stephen Wayne & Barbara Orwick** and **Roberta Stiel**.

### MAZEL TOV ON MARRIAGES/ENGAGEMENTS:

**Esperanza (Sarah) Azolulay & Moshe Azoulay** on their marriage.  
**Ellise Sosnow Cohen & Steven Cohen** on the marriage of their son, **Jacob Cohen** to **Shoshana Edelman**.  
**Sharon & Bruce Goldstein** on the marriage of their daughter, **Lauren** to **Joey Most**.  
**Diane Klein & Doug Watson** on their recent marriage.  
**Rhonda Schaffer-Maroon & Jeffrey Maroon** on the engagement of their son, **Max** to **Yael Diamond**, daughter of **David Diamond & Laura Felson**.  
**Rachel Seligson** on the marriage of her son, **Daniel Seligson** to **Bracha Weinberger**.  
**Michelle & Alan Genn** on the marriage of their son, **Adam Genn** to **Jessica Lieberman**.

### MAZEL TOV TO B'NEI MITZVAH:

**Sadie Foster**: daughter of **Claire & Alex Foster**.  
**Ella Sage Jablonka**: granddaughter of **Rachel & Harold Terk** and daughter of **Alyssa Terk & Denis Jablonka**.  
**Noam Jacobovitz**: son of **Liz & Andre Jacobovitz**.  
**Ruby Moskowitz**: daughter of **Arielle & Bennet Moskowitz**.  
**Abby Rubinfeld**: daughter of **Sara & Yonnie Rubinfeld**.  
**Lily Silver**: daughter of **Lisa & Grant Silver**.  
**Sasha Simblist**: daughter of **Lauren & Jonathan Simblist**.  
**Lilah Knopf**: daughter of **Rabbi Michael and Adira Knopf**.

### WE MOURN THE LOSS OF:

**Harriet Tucker Berger**: aunt of **Allison Poskar**.  
**Deena Sue Borzak**: niece of **Helene Zimmerman**. (and in-law of **Diane and Elliot Sloyer**)  
**Estelle Fruchtman**: mother of **Irma Paull, Betty Silvergate, and Ralph Fruchtman**.  
**Lillian Gerstman**: sister of **Joan Kranz**.  
**Paul Edward Hoak**: father of **David Hoak**.  
**Seymour Lapin**, father of **Deborah, Paul, and Brad Lapin**.  
**Amy Markin**: mother of **Rachel Scherban**.  
**Samuel Newman**: husband of **Sidi Newman**; and father of **Bruce, Mitchell and Jeffrey Newman**.  
**Burton Piaser**: father of **Caryn Piaser Shapiro**.  
**Marty Roth**: father of **Josh Roth**.  
**Linda Rubin**: mother of **Jonathan Rubin**.  
**Fran Schaff**: mother of **Glenn Schaff and Ethan Schaff**.  
**Susan Hope Baron Seiler**: mother of **Jonathan, Sam and Michael Seiler**; and partner of **Frank Thomas**.  
**Family of Paula Shulman**.  
**Cynthia Steckel**: wife of **Mark Steckel** and mother of **Jenna Steckel and Carly Steckel**.  
**Norma Stone**: mother of **Mike Stone**.  
**Norman Stone**: husband of **Suzanne Horn Stone** and father of **Jonathan and David Stone**.  
**Gary Paul Teitelman**: son of **Renie Teitelman** and brother of **Dana Weinberg, Jodi Teitelman and Randy Browner**.  
**Judith Yaverbaum**: mother of **Karen Gordon**.  
**Eileen Zuckerberg**: wife of **Leo Zuckerberg**; and mother of **Jodi Boxer, Paul Zuckerberg and Andrea Lawrence**.

## A Message from UJF's Community Shlichah Back to School, Back to Community

### BY UJF COMMUNITY SHLICHAH EDEN REFAELOVICH

Time truly flies. I still remember the first week of summer when I hoped for warm, sunny days like in Israel – and while some days were indeed warm (sometimes I even regret hoping for that), the summer here felt different – calm, peaceful.

I enjoyed my time at the JCC summer camp, quietly preparing myself for the noise and energy that comes with the new school year, and missing our community events – seeing you all at schools, synagogues, and various gatherings.

Wow, it's already September. You can feel the change in the air – the smell of pumpkins, Halloween decorations popping up everywhere, and the arrival of fall (and the cold – and no, I'm not ready for that). But there's a special feeling when you step back into the rhythm of the school year. I can't describe the excitement of meeting familiar faces, and welcoming new students eager to learn more Hebrew and deepen their connection to Israel.

Students who don't know me yet often ask why I flew all the way from the other side of the world to be here. But by the end of the year, I'm sure they'll understand how important our



Eden Refaelovich

connection to Israel is, how important it is that I am here, and how vital our community bond is for all of us – as one.

And after the summer, I find myself running from one

organization to another, synagogue to synagogue – always with a smile and a deep love for our community and for what I'm doing. I'm looking forward to this year and doing even more with all of you.

And with the new year comes the holidays, which you know how much I love – the togetherness, the family feeling, and the joy that we Jews find in everything, no matter how hard the situation is.

Together with the Israel Committee, we have developed programs to bring Israel even closer to you, and I'm looking forward to it.

If your child, family, organization, or school could benefit from more Israeli cultural programming, please reach out to me at [EDEN@UJF.ORG](mailto:EDEN@UJF.ORG). I would love to strengthen our connections and keep Israel close to our hearts here in Stamford.

## Newest Kosher Restaurant in Town Holds Grand Opening

(Courtesy of UJF) On Tuesday, August 26, UJF Deputy Director Eric Ross was honored to be a guest at the grand opening celebration of Ricotta, the newest kosher restaurant in Stamford. Rabbi Eli Raskin of New Haven was on hand to hang a new mezuzah and say the *Shehecheyanu*, a traditional Jewish prayer to celebrate new occasions.

This is owner Yaacov Atia's second Ricotta location, after the original in New Haven. Ricotta is located inside the Armon Hotel at 2701 Summer Street, Stamford, and has an extensive pizza, pasta, and sushi menu.



Eric Ross, Rabbi Eli Raskin, and owner Yaacov Atia during the ribbon cutting.

# MAZEL TOV

Do you know someone who just had a baby, a birthday, a bar/bat mitzvah, a wedding, or special celebration?

Send them a greeting by scanning the QR code below, visit [www.ujf.org/tribute](http://www.ujf.org/tribute), or call 203-321-1373



Thinking of You...

Send your sympathies to someone who fell ill or to the family of someone who recently passed by scanning the QR code below, visit [www.ujf.org/tribute](http://www.ujf.org/tribute), or call 203-321-1373





# SUKKOT, SHEMINI ATZERET AND SIMCHAT TORAH HOLIDAY LISTINGS

The following was shared with UJF for publication. Please call or visit the websites of synagogues directly for additional information.

## TEMPLE BETH EL

(Conservative Egalitarian)

Rabbi Michael Knopf & Cantor Katie Kaplan.

Associate Rabbi, Rabbi Gerry Ginsburg

301 Roxbury Road | 203-322-6901 | www.tbe.org

### Sukkot

**Tuesday, October 7 - Wednesday, October 8**

Sukkot Festival Service: 10:00 am

**Tuesday, October 14**

Shemini Atzeret and

Yizkor Service: 10:00 am

Simchat Torah Service: 6:00 pm

(time is tentative)

### Simchat Torah

**Wednesday, October 15**

Simchat Torah Service: 10:00 am

Join us after each service for Kiddush!

For further information on all services, call the Temple office at 203-322-6901, ext. 300

## TEMPLE SINAI

(Reform)

Rabbi Jay TelRav & Cantor Micah Morgovsky

458 Lakeside Dr. | 203-322-1649

www.templesinaistamford.org

### Pizza in the Hut and Sukkot Service

**Monday, October 6**

Dinner: 6:30 pm

Sukkot Program: 7:30 pm

It's a commandment! This Festival of Sukkot, come sit with us and eat in our Temple Sinai Sukkah, shake the Lulav and Etrog and joyfully bring in Sukkot.

FEE: ADULTS @ \$10 EACH, CHILDREN (UNDER 13) @ \$5.00 EACH

### Simchat Torah

**Monday, October 13, 7:30 pm**

Join us as we dance, change the Torah covers, unroll the WHOLE scroll around the social hall, complete the cycle of annual Torah readings and start over again with the words of Creation. This is a beautiful opportunity for all to participate in the annual celebration of our textual tradition. If you haven't experienced the joy of Torah then Simchat Torah is a must! All are warmly welcomed.

For further information, contact Jayne Vasco at (203) 322-1649.

## CHABAD OF STAMFORD

Rabbi Moshe Shemtov

770 High Ridge Rd. | 203-3-CHABAD | 203-324-2223

www.stamfordchabad.org

### Sukkot

**Monday, October 6 – Erev Sukkot**

Mincha and Maariv: 6:10 pm

**Tuesday, October 7 – Sukkot Day 1**

Shacharit: 10:00 am

Sukkah Hop: 12:00 pm

Mincha and Maariv: 6:00 pm

**Wednesday, October 8 Sukkot Day 2**

Shacharit: 10:00 am

Mincha & Maariv: 6:00 pm

### SHEMNI ATZERET & SIMCHAT TORAH

**Monday, October 13**

Mincha and Maariv: 6:00 pm

Israeli style Kiddush followed by Israeli

Hakafot: 7:00 pm

**Tuesday, October 14**

Shacharit: 10:00 am

Torah Reading & Yizkor: 1:00 am

Community Kids Hakafot in Barrett Park:

4:30 pm

Mincha & Maariv: 6:00 pm

Hakafot: 7:00 pm

**Wednesday, October 15**

Shacharit, Festive Breakfast, Hakafot and

Simchat Torah Kiddush Lunch: 10:00 am

For more information and to RSVP please email [programs@stamfordchabad.org](mailto:programs@stamfordchabad.org) or call 203-3CHABAD

## YOUNG ISRAEL OF STAMFORD

(Orthodox)

Rabbi Eli Kohl

69 Oaklawn Ave. | [www.youngisraelsamford.org](http://www.youngisraelsamford.org)

Outdoor Davening in a Tent

Youth Services (for youth schedule, email [www.marjuivri@gmail.com](mailto:www.marjuivri@gmail.com))

Free and open to the community

### Sukkot

**Erev Sukkot October 6**

Mincha: 6:20 pm

**First day of Sukkot:**

Shacharit: 9:00 am

Mincha: 6:20 pm

**Second day of Sukkot:**

Shacharit: 9:00 am

Mincha: 6:20 pm

### Shmini Atzeret

**Monday, October 13**

Mincha: 6:05 pm

Shacharit Shmini Atzeret: 9:00 am

Mincha: 6:05 pm

### Simchat Torah

Shacharit: 9:00 am

Mincha: 6:05 pm

## CONGREGATION AGUDATH SHOLOM

(Orthodox)

Rabbi Daniel Cohen, Senior Rabbi and

Rabbi Aryeh Roberts, Assistant Rabbi

301 Strawberry Hill Rd | 203-358-2200 | [www.cas-stamford.org](http://www.cas-stamford.org)

### Sukkot

**Monday, October 6**

Candle Lighting: 6:05 pm

Mincha: 6:10 pm

**Tuesday, October 7 - Sukkot, Day 1**

Shacharit: 7:00/8:00/8:45 am

Mincha: 6:05 pm

Candles: Not before 7:07 pm

**Wednesday, October 8 - Sukkot, Day 2**

Shacharit: 7:00/8:00/8:45 am

Mincha: 6:05 pm

Candles: 7:06 pm

**Shabbat, October 11 - Shabbat Chol HaMoed**

Shacharit: 7:00/8:00/8:45 am

Mincha: 5:55 pm

Havdalah: 7:01 pm

**Monday October 13 - Hoshana Rabbah**

Shacharit: 6:00/7:30 am

Candle Lighting: 5:58 pm

Mincha: 6:03 pm

**Tuesday, October 14 - Shemini Atzeret**

Shacharit: 7:00/8:00/8:45 am

Main Sanctuary Yizkor: No earlier than

10:00 am

Mincha: 5:55 pm

Candles After: 6:56 pm

Simchat Torah Hakafot: 7:05 pm

**Wednesday, October 15 - Simchat Torah**

Shacharit: 7:00/8:45 am

Mincha: 5:55 pm

Candle Lighting: 6:55 pm

### Shemini Atzeret

**Shabbat, October 7th**

Shacharit: 7:00/8:00/8:45 am

Main Sanctuary Yizkor: No earlier than 10:00 am

Mincha: 6:05 pm

Candles After: 7:08 pm

Simchat Torah Hakafot: 7:15 pm

### Simchat Torah

**Sunday, October 8th**

Shacharit: 7:00/8:45 am

Mincha: 6:10 pm

Havdalah: 7:07 pm

For further information on all services, call Agudath at 203-358-2200 or email Rabbi Cohen at [rabbicohen@cas-stamford.org](mailto:rabbicohen@cas-stamford.org).

## Honey Tasting for a Sweet New Year

Over 50 people attended a honey tasting for Rosh Hashanah on Friday, September 12, co-hosted by Ariel Bedik, Tova Reich, and Wendy Siegel. Delicious locally-made honey was generously donated by the Burstein and Kevelson families.

Thank you to all who joined in the fun!



Ariel Poser Bedik and daughter



Shira Burstein, Mel Vorm, Tova Reich, Wendy Siegel, and Becky Kevelson



## BBYO's Two Stamford Chapters Build Connections

BY ELISSA TOBIN AND EDEN WEISEL

BBYO, the pluralistic and international Jewish teen movement founded in 1924, aims to unite, engage and empower Jewish teens. BBYO offers flexible opportunities to be and to stay involved. BBYO is the place where every Jewish teen is included and can truly feel that they belong.

Leviticus, the Stamford chapter of AZA (Aleph Zadik Aleph) for boys and Tikvah, the Stamford chapter of BBG (B'nai B'rith Girls), welcome new and current members to a spectacular year of programming, friendship and fun. The chapters meet every other week for teen-led programs that blend a varied assortment of activities such as sports tournaments, skating nights, spa parties, and the celebration of Jewish holidays, which include potluck dinners in a sukkah, white elephant parties for Chanukah, and so much more.

Members attend meetings as often as they can to share honored BBYO traditions such as singing the international youth movement songs and holding business meetings. Rituals connect teens as a community, a chapter, and also link them to BBYO members worldwide. Beyond chapter meetings, there are opportunities to broaden teens' skills and social networks, including regional and international conventions, travel, summer experiences and leadership training.

This year, Leviticus (AZA) and Tikvah (BBG) are advised by: Ryan Murace (former Leviticus member), Mindy Hausman (mother of Steph Hausman, former Tikvah Chapter Member and International Board Member), Rachel Steinmetz (Director of JCC summer camps) and Eden Rafaelovich (UJF's Community Emissary). This past summer, Board

Members traveled to the Connecticut Valley Region's 2025 BBYO Board Member Training Conference (B'Yachad) held at the KenWood and KenMont Camp to bond and kick off the upcoming year with energy. Advisors assisted with planning this year's event calendar and board member training.

If you want to learn more about the BBYO chapters in Stamford, please direct message the Chapter Presidents on Instagram HarrisonTronick (Leviticus President - @leviticusllamas) or Sylvie Rosenberg (Tikvah President - @tikvahbbg1233) Harrison is a senior at Westhill High School and Sylvie Rosenberg is a Junior at Westhill High School.

*Elissa Tobin, a senior at Stamford High School, and Eden Weisel, a sophomore at King School, are Tikvah BBG's Co-Vice Presidents of Membership.*



Leviticus AZA 2025-2026 board (l-r) Elliot Nerenberg, Harrison Tronick, Mark Zoloterevsky, Sagiv Siegel, Eli Himmelstein, Liam Raz, Wesley Levine



Tikvah BBG Board (l-r) Sylvie Rosenberg, Sarah Gilbert, Elissa Tobin, Eden Weisel, Lauren Levenson, Elle Riker, Leah Granskog, Lily Wachsmann

## Professional Development at Gan Yeladim

*(Courtesy of Chabad of Stamford)* While children enjoyed their final week of summer, the *morahs* (teachers) at Gan Yeladim gathered for Professional Development Week, preparing for a year of growth under the theme "Created with Purpose." Training blended spiritual learning with practical tools, highlighting Reggio Emilia's "third teacher", the classroom environment. Teachers explored process art with artist and Gan grandmother Elise Lerner, while safety, CPR, inclusivity, and lesson planning workshops ensured readiness for every child's needs. Esther Hecht returned to guide emotional responsiveness, mindfulness, and calm teaching. Combined with refreshed, painted and redecorated classrooms Gan welcomed back families with vision and purpose for the new school year.



Gan Yeladim teachers get ready to welcome the children for a year of learning and love.

## "Young & Jewish" Volunteers in Israel

*(Courtesy of Chabad of Harbor Point)* A group of Stamford's young Jewish professionals recently traveled to Israel for a meaningful volunteer mission with Rabbi Levi Deren of Chabad of Harbor Point. The Stamford participants are part of Deren's Young & Jewish group, and they joined more than 30 other young professionals to give back and volunteer in Israel. This experience was funded by Birthright Israel and Jewish Federations of North America.

Participants spent their mornings engaged in a variety of volunteer efforts, including packing food for families in need at Pantry Packers, visiting wounded soldiers at Sheba Hospital, and helping to rebuild Kibbutz Ein HaShlosha, among other volunteer activities. All of this work took place amid an intense heat wave, highlighting the group's dedication.

The mission also provided opportunities for reflection and remembrance. Volunteers paid tribute to the lives lost and hostages taken during the October 7 attacks, visiting sites such as Hostage Square, the Nova Festival site, and Kibbutz Be'eri, where barely a building remained intact. They also visited Shura Military Base, a center for the identification of fallen soldiers that drew international attention after October 7. Seeing these sites firsthand was a sobering reminder of the immense challenges Israel continues to face.

For some participants, the trip marked their very first visit to Israel. Jennie Fishman and Ashley Mail described their first-time experience as transformative and expressed their hope to return.



(l-r) Julia Linsner, Jeremy Weingarten, Greg Weill, Jennie Fishman, Gaby Baum, Ashley Mail, Julie Wise, Lev Podelko, and Rabbi Levi Deren volunteering at Pantry Packers.

The combination of volunteering, learning, and firsthand observation offered a deeper connection to Israel's people, history, and resilience.

The true spirit of the Israeli people was felt through joy and celebration which brought the group closer together. They danced at an Omer Adam concert, watched the sunset from the beach in Tel Aviv, and experienced the vibrant energy of partying in the *Shuk*, the Israeli market. A jeep ride through the Gush Etzion Winery, complete with wine tasting, added adventure, while a surprise engagement party for Sasha Troufanov, a freed hostage, celebrating his engagement to Sapir Cohen, created an unforgettable memory. The group experienced Shabbat together at the Kotel where they saw so many people gathered, praying, singing, and celebrating *Shabbos*.

Rabbi Levi Deren noted the impact of involving

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# Reading for a Cause

(Courtesy of UJF) As fall arrives, volunteers with the Herbert and Sarah M. Gibor Reading Partners program are heading back into Stamford public schools to help children in grades K–3 strengthen their reading skills and build confidence. The program provides critical one-on-one reading time, giving students the support they need to succeed academically while fostering a love of learning.

The Herbert and Sarah M. Gibor Reading Partners program, supported by United Jewish Federation (UJF) of Stamford, New Canaan, and Darien, has been a cornerstone of the Stamford community for over 20 years. Since its inception, the program has expanded to include multiple locations across the city, including 13 public schools and afterschool programs.

Volunteers commit just one hour per week during the school year, working under the guidance of Team Leaders who provide training, mentorship, and ongoing support to ensure each student receives individualized attention. No prior tutoring experience is required, just a love of children and a desire

to make a positive impact.

The success of the program would not be possible without the dedication and leadership of the program's Team Leaders, whose guidance, encouragement, and expertise help volunteers make a meaningful difference every week. Thank you to Rhonda Ginsberg, Ena Sarkar, Stephanie Fitzgerald, Barbara Kennedy, Wanda Kowalski, Linda Bova, Gayle Rothman, Anita Katz, Lois Dreyer, Leah Baker, Pam Hirschfeld, Judith Roll, Margaret Mahoney, and Terry Newman.

This October, team leaders and volunteers will meet to learn the latest reading techniques and strategies to support students on their learning journey.

Through these efforts, Reading Partners continues to nurture young minds, foster mentorship, and strengthen community connections across Stamford.

Interested in learning more about Reading Partners or joining the fleet of dedicated volunteers? Contact Jillian Moore, Reading Partners Director, at [Jillian@UJF.org](mailto:Jillian@UJF.org).



The dedicated team leaders of Reading Partners met to discuss the upcoming school year. (Back row l-r) Margaret Mahoney, Barbara Kennedy, Rhonda Ginsberg, Wanda Kowalski, Terry Newman, Linda Bova, Pam Hirschfeld, Leah Baker, and Anita Katz (Front row l-r) Jillian Moore, Lois Dreyer, Barbara Rosenberg, and Stephanie Fitzgerald.

## "Young & Jewish" Volunteers in Israel

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young adults in service-based missions. "By contributing their time and energy, these volunteers experience Israel in a way that goes beyond sightseeing. They see the challenges, the recovery, and the strength of the communities they are helping," he said.

The Stamford group returned home with a deeper connection to their heritage and a greater appreciation for the people and communities of Israel. Through their volunteer work, they experienced the joy and fulfillment of giving back in a meaningful way, and creating memories that will last a lifetime.



Over 45 Chabad Young Professionals volunteering at Kibbutz Ein Hashlosa.

# Hear Them Roar

In mid-September, over 25 UJF Lions of Judah gathered in a private home to enjoy dinner and hear from guest speaker and jewelry designer Freida Rothman. The evening, chaired by Nancy Mimoun, celebrated the impact of women who lead with philanthropy, strength, and purpose.





CAROLINE  
SIMMONS

★★★★★

MAYOR

## Endorsed Democratic and Independent Candidate

I'm running for re-election to continue the progress we've made over these past four years. To keep building a brighter future for you and your families, to continue bringing Stamford together around innovative solutions, and working hard to keep improving the city we love.

**Vote for Caroline Simmons in person on November 4th, or by absentee ballot.**

(Polls will be open from 6AM–8PM)

**Vote early from October 20 - November 2.**

**More information here:**

**<https://tinyurl.com/ct-ev-2025>**

Paid for by Caroline Simmons for Mayor. Stephanie O'Shea Treasurer. Approved by Caroline Simmons.





## Community Calendar at a Glance

[www.ujf.org/calendar](http://www.ujf.org/calendar)

United Jewish Federation encourages all local organizations to use its online community calendar to schedule events and help prevent conflicts, emphasizing collaborative responsibility for maintaining a vibrant, well-coordinated communal calendar.

### Calendar Participation Encouraged

The UJF website hosts a public calendar intended for all community organizations to add their events. This shared resource aims to facilitate transparency and advance planning, enabling groups to schedule thoughtfully and avoid overlapping programs whenever possible.

### Conflict Management Policy

While UJF will not formally police or resolve scheduling conflicts, it will proactively notify organizations of potential overlaps. The expectation is that organizations will communicate directly to ensure mutual respect and minimize competing events.

### Vibrant Community Spirit

This approach reflects UJF's commitment to a dynamic and active community, placing trust in organizations to collaborate for maximum participation and impact. Everyone's involvement in timely calendar entries and communication is essential to sustaining a thriving communal environment.

## October

- October 1** - Erev Yom Kippur
- October 2** - Yom Kippur
- October 5** - October 7 Community Commemoration
- October 6** - Erev Sukkot
- October 7 - 13** - Sukkot
- October 7** - Chabad Sukkah Hop
- October 9** - Chabad JWC Lunch in the Sukkah
- October 9** - CTeen Supper in the Sukkah
- October 12** - Chabad Family Supper - in the Sukkah
- October 14** - Shemini Atzeret
- October 14** - Chabad Kids' Hakafot in the Park
- October 15** - Simchat Torah
- October 16** - CAS Executive Meeting
- October 16** - CAS Board Meeting -
- October 16** - Temple Beth El Board of Trustees Meeting
- October 19** - UJF Big Give
- October 20** - Temple Sinai Board Meeting
- October 21** - Israel Cancer Research Fund Game Night
- October 22** - Gan Yeladim Open House & Tours
- October 22** - BCHA Board Meeting
- October 22** - UJF Board Meeting
- October 23** - BCHA Parent Social
- October 24** - Chabad Community & Gan Shabbat Dinner
- October 26** - Chabad Visit to the Ohel
- October 26** - Temple Sinai: Women of Reform Judaism Event: Building Bridges and Best Practices
- October 26** - Friendship Circle MVP for Bar and Bat Mitzvah Aged Students
- October 28** - Chabad JScouts Mitzvah Club
- October 28** - UJF Women's Philanthropy Salon
- October 30** - Chabad Tiny Treasures - Got Shabbat?

## November

- November 2** - Friendship Circle MVP for Bar and Bat Mitzvah Aged Students
- November 4-9** - BCHA Players Fall Show - Nick Tickle Fairy Tale Detective
- November 5-9** - Stamford JCC's - Shabbat in Color
- November 5** - Temple Beth El - Board of Trustees Meeting
- November 6** - American Yiddish Theater - A musical Overview with Zalmen Mlotek
- November 9** - Bi-Cultural Lower School - Open House
- November 9** - Temple Sinai Annual Mitzvah Day
- November 9** - JCC's 5th Annual Fall Social
- November 9** - Chabad Bat Mitzvah Club
- November 11** - Veterans Day
- November 11** - CAS Executive Meeting
- November 12** - Chabad JWC Creates
- November 12** - UJF Board Meeting
- November 15** - Savta Sheli Chabad Event
- November 15** - Temple Sinai: Steve Taubman Mentalist
- November 16** - Bi-Cultural Hebrew Academy - Upper School Open House
- November 17** - Temple Sinai Board Meeting
- November 18** - Chabad JScouts Mitzvah Club
- November 18** - CAS Board Meeting
- November 19** - BCHA Board Meeting
- November 20** - Chabad New Canaan Gala
- November 20** - Chabad JWC Rosh Chodesh Learning
- November 25** - Chabad CTeen Thanksgiving - Cook-Off Mitzvah Event
- November 27** - Thanksgiving

**If you have any questions regarding the community calendar, contact UJF Director, Office Operations Lara Agatstein at [Lara@ujf.org](mailto:Lara@ujf.org)**

## BCHA Enters Its 70th Year Powered by Gratitude

(Courtesy of BCHA) On the first day of school at Bi-Cultural Hebrew Academy of Connecticut (BCHA) students were greeted by their friends, lively music, and BCHA's traditional red-carpet walk into school. In short, they were welcomed back with *hakarat hatov* (gratitude), a theme that will carry on through BCHA's 70th year.

Students quickly settled in, whether returning to familiar classrooms or entering their very first one. Soon, laughter, prayer, and camaraderie filled the halls.

Throughout the year, the power of gratitude will be a central concept in the everyday lives of students, faculty, and staff. From the classroom to the main office to the *beit midrash* (house of study) the concept of gratitude will be intertwined with the



Second grade students Ariana, Yael, and Dahlia on the first day of school.

work each day.

At the first assembly, Rabbi Tzvi Bernstein, head of school and leader of BCHA's gratitude movement, personally

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## Making Challah Together at Gan



(Courtesy of Chabad of Stamford) Gan Yeladim preschoolers gather each week to make challah, delighting in the joys of hands-on learning and embracing the sweetness of Shabbat and a warm connection to Judaism.

## Schoke JFS Sends 47 Kids to Summer Camp

(Courtesy of Schoke JFS) Schoke Jewish Family Service (JFS) was proud to send 47 children from Fairfield County to summer camp this year through the Joan and Ben Zinbarg Camp Scholarship Program.

The family of Alex, one of the summer scholarship recipients shared, "Without your support, it wouldn't have been possible. We are truly grateful! The joy in his eyes says



Alex at Camp Eisner

it all as he arrived 'home at camp' today! (That, and the fact that he's been wearing his camp t-shirt for three days in anticipation!)"

Schoke JFS gratefully acknowledges the Zinbarg family, United Jewish Federation of Stamford, New Canaan, and Darien, the Jewish Federation of Greater Fairfield County, and camp donors for making camp a reality for so many children.



## Paddle Boat Cruise Unites Young Jews

(Courtesy of UJF) United Jewish Federation of Stamford, New Canaan, and Darien (UJF) and Mem Global (formerly Moshe House), in partnership with Chabad of Harbor Point Young & Jewish, marked the end of summer with Hebrew songs and a true Tel Aviv vibe on the water at Stamford Paddle Pub boat cruise, bringing young Jews together to sing, connect, and celebrate.



## The Expanding Circle Universe

(Courtesy of Temple Sinai) As summer wound down at Temple Sinai, the synagogue began preparing for the High Holy Days, the opening of Religious School, and registration for one of Temple Sinai's most beloved social programs: Circles.

You might be asking yourself, "What are Circles?" Great question.

Circles are small, congregant-led groups, usually comprised of about eight to twelve people (sometimes more, sometimes less) that unite members around a shared interest. They all encompass Jewish values, but they don't necessarily need to be about something explicitly Jewish. In fact, they can pretty much be about anything. If you have a hobby, there's probably a Circle for it.

For example, there are three different Cinema Circles. Three! There's a Grandparents Club Circle, a Grown-Up Game Night Circle, and a Jewish Artists of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries Circle. There's a Ladies Night Out Circle AND a Ladies Night In Circle. There's a Nature's Path Circle, if you like hiking and nature, and a Whiskey Tasting Circle.

As of this writing, there are 26 Circles to choose from. Larry Stoogenke, Director of Member Engagement, notes, "We've worked hard to create a diverse range of experiences, whether you're seeking something contemplative, intellectual, social, physical, nostalgic, religious, or musical." But the best part? Since it's congregant-led, anyone can start one. So if there's a glaring

hole in the Circle universe, congregants are encouraged to raise their hand and bring their ideas to life.

One of the guiding principles at Temple Sinai is "Belonging," and now, in the seventh year of Circles, it is clear that is exactly what has been created. And this year, in the spirit of "Belonging," the registration process was slightly adjusted.

In the past, members could choose to remain in their same Circle year after year. However, with accelerated growth, Circles are now open to the entire congregation. The goal is for everyone to have the chance to not only share in these rich experiences, but also help newcomers feel a sense of belonging to the community. It's a wonderful way to meet people with shared interests and try something fresh as a congregation.

Circles have grown wildly beyond their original scope. Some have evolved into adult education programs, while others continue to meet informally even if the Circle itself has been disbanded. Temple Sinai is deeply proud of the lasting relationships and bonds that Circles have instilled in its membership. Temple Sinai is a place of worship, yes, but Circles represent the perfect microcosm of the sense of community the synagogue hopes to engender.

If you are interested in learning more about Temple Sinai's Circles, please contact Larry Stoogenke at Larry@templesinaistamford.org or 203-322-1649.

## Your Dollars at Work: Leveraging Support Through Partnerships

(Courtesy of UJF) United Jewish Federation of Stamford, New Canaan and Darien (UJF) is a proud partner of the Seed the Dream Foundation.

In 2019 a national initiative was launched to support thousands of Holocaust survivors across the United States. Recognizing the importance of reaching every survivor,

Seed the Dream Foundation partnered with KAVOD (an organization dedicated to helping Holocaust survivors in the U.S. live with dignity) to establish the KAVOD Survivors of the Holocaust Emergency Fund (SHEF).

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**Event Chairs:**  
Robin Fischel  
&  
Toby Lazarus

Join in a day of  
unity, philanthropy,  
and community  
building...  
As One

**Sunday,  
October 19**  
with something for  
everyone!

Speakers and  
educational opportunities  
Volunteer opportunities  
Phone-a-thon  
And more...

### The Big Give Schedule of Events

Volunteer Caller Shifts:  
9:30-11:30am, 11:00-1:30pm, and 5:00-7:30pm

Dignity Grows Pack: 10:30am-11:30am

Family Fun Activities: 1:00-3:00pm

Capitol Update with Senator Ryan Fazio and  
Representative Matt Blumenthal: 4:00 - 5:00pm

Community Read with author Janice Kaplan,  
discussing her book *What Your Body Knows  
About Happiness - How to Use Your Body To  
Change Your Mind*: 5:00pm -6:00pm

The BIG Jewish Book GIVEaway: All Day Long

Tzedakah Challenge Drop Offs: All Day Long

Register for The Big Give Scan Here to Donate

Exciting details  
can be found at  
[www.ujf.org/BG25](http://www.ujf.org/BG25)

For more information contact [Eric@ujf.org](mailto:Eric@ujf.org)



## New Around Town

### Friendship Circle Welcomes New and Seasoned Staffers

*(Courtesy of Friendship Circle)*  
The Friendship Circle of Fairfield County is excited to welcome two new staff members this year. Risha Nemes comes from New Orleans. This past year, she worked at the Friendship Circle of Los Angeles. Risha said, "I knew I wanted to stay a part of the amazing things that happen in Friendship Circle, and I'm so excited to be here this year as a part of the Fairfield Community!"



Risha Nemes



Leah Greenberg

Leah Greenberg joins the Friendship Circle from Solon, Ohio. Growing up there shaped her love for Jewish life and the values of friendship and giving. After spending time learning in New York and Israel she is "looking forward to meeting the amazing community here in Connecticut."

This year Chani Cunin will run Adult Circle at the Stamford JCC on Sunday afternoons, and Chanie Kamman will continue to run Children's Circle at Bi-Cultural Hebrew Academy on Sunday mornings. For more information about the Friendship Circle, please contact Director Malva Shmotkin at [malya@friendshipct.com](mailto:malya@friendshipct.com).

### Eli Schaffer, Schoke JFS Chief Strategy Officer

Eli Schaffer has joined Schoke Jewish Family Service as Chief Strategy Officer, bringing deep experience in nonprofit leadership, education, and Jewish community life. Most recently, he served as Senior Director of Operations at the Stamford JCC and has held leadership roles at the Greenwich Audubon Center and various Jewish organizations. His career has focused on uniting people to create lasting, positive impact for individuals, families, and communities.



Eli Schaffer

supportive communities. Now living in Stamford with his wife, Deena (formerly Glucksman), and their two sons, Jude and Rainen, Eli is deeply committed to *tikkun olam* and helping families thrive across Fairfield County.

In his first weeks, Eli has met with staff, volunteers, and board members to learn how Schoke JFS delivers vital

services like mental health support, elder care, food assistance, and crisis intervention. These conversations have affirmed his belief in the agency's mission.

"I invite supporters, volunteers, and newcomers alike to join us," Eli said. "Above all, I'm committed to ensuring that hope, dignity, and care remain at the heart of everything Schoke JFS does."

### BCHA Enters Its 70th Year Powered by Gratitude

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

thanked each student in the crowd. The newest kindergarteners and the eldest high school seniors smiled alike.

"Thank you, thank you, thank you..." Bernstein said, pointing to each student in the crowd. "Today marks the start of

a wonderful year, filled with gratitude, learning, and friendship." He continued, "It is your energy, commitment to learning, and positivity that make BCHA such a special place and will ensure we have a fulfilling 70th year."

### Jeremy Stein, Temple Sinai Executive Director

*(Courtesy of Temple Sinai)* Temple Sinai is pleased to announce the appointment of Jeremy Stein as its new Executive Director.

Jeremy will oversee temple operations, manage the professional staff, and work closely with Sinai's board to ensure the growing needs and expectations of the congregation are met.



Jeremy Stein

Prior to joining Temple Sinai, Jeremy was the Executive Director and Chairman of States United to Prevent Gun Violence as well as the Executive Director of Connecticut Against Gun Violence. He has a long history of effective advocacy, helping to pass important US gun legislation. Temple Sinai will

undoubtedly flourish under his leadership.

Before dedicating himself to gun violence prevention, Jeremy served as managing director of a law firm, and prior to that as a litigator and a prosecutor in the Attorney General's office in the District of Columbia.

Special thanks to the search committee, chaired

by Allison Lear and consisting of Sharon Goldstein, Carl Rosen, Aaron Lear, and Myrna Sessa, with Susan Kostin, Rabbi Jay TelRav and President Steve Zales serving in ex-officio roles. Each member committed significant time and energy, and the congregation is deeply grateful for their efforts.

### Welcoming New Youth Coordinators at Agudath Sholom



Elana Kavesh



Rivky Kolodny and Aryeh Klein

*(Courtesy of Agudath Sholom)* Congregation Agudath Sholom (CAS) is pleased to welcome back Rivky Kolodny and Aryeh Klein—this time as Shabbat and Holiday Programming Coordinators. Rivky, a pre-med student at Stern College from West Hempstead, NY, and Aryeh, a psychology student at Yeshiva University with aspirations to become a rabbi, bring energy and experience to the synagogue's youth groups. After a successful year of creating engaging and meaningful programming, they are excited to continue building programming for the community's youth.

The synagogue is also delighted to

introduce Elana Kavesh as its new Family and Youth Programming Coordinator. Elana, a student at Stern College for Women from Fair Lawn, NJ, is eager to get to know the community and help the youth department grow and flourish.

With Rivky, Aryeh, and Elana leading the way, CAS looks forward to another year of inspiring programs and vibrant youth engagement.

For more information about Agudath Sholom Youth Programming, please reach out to Rabbi Daniel Cohen ([rabbicohen@cas-stamford.org](mailto:rabbicohen@cas-stamford.org)) or Rabbi Aryeh Roberts ([rabbiroberts@cas-stamford.org](mailto:rabbiroberts@cas-stamford.org)).



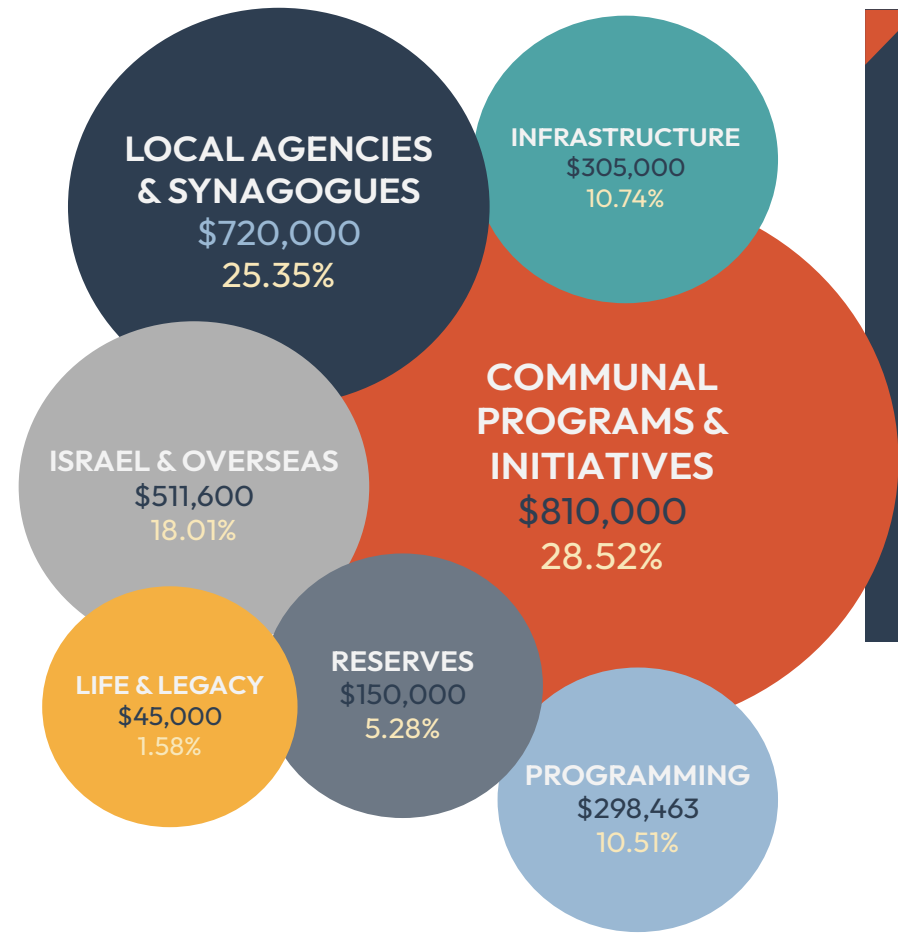
United Jewish Federation  
of Stamford, New Canaan, and Darien

2025 Annual Campaign  
for CommUNITY Impact

Building a Strong, Vibrant, and Connected Jewish Community in Fairfield County & Around the Globe

As *One* We Inspire Jewish Connection • We Stand United Against Hate • We Rebuild Israel

Your 2024 Donations At Work!



**TOTAL \$2,840,063**

ISRAEL & OVERSEAS \$511,600  
COMMUNAL PROGRAMS & INITIATIVES \$810,000  
LOCAL AGENCIES & SYNAGOGUES \$720,000  
INFRASTRUCTURE \$305,000  
RESERVES \$150,000  
PROGRAMMING \$298,463  
LIFE & LEGACY: ENDOWMENT \$45,000

\*includes \$200,000+ directed by donors to Israel  
\*\*Includes tribute gifts, employee matches

As the communal convener and the glue that binds our Jewish community, Federation invests in the collective Jewish community with initiatives like Life & Legacy, communal security, PJ Library, and more. Grants and distribution of funds strengthen and grow our local and global Jewish community.

As One...  
support the Annual Campaign  
by donating to [www.ujf.org/give](http://www.ujf.org/give)



# Life & Legacy Honor Roll

United Jewish Federation is proud to partner with the Harold Grinspoon Foundation to bring the Stamford, New Canaan and Darien community the Harold Grinspoon Life & Legacy Program. Through communal efforts, the following individuals have made a commitment to one or more Jewish communal institutions to secure our Jewish future. The names in blue indicate that formal actions have been taken.

For more information, contact Lenore Fogel at [Lenore@ujf.org](mailto:Lenore@ujf.org), or Diane Sloyer at (203) 321-1373 or [dianesloyer@ujf.org](mailto:dianesloyer@ujf.org).

28 Anonymous  
29 Anonymous  
Craig Adler  
Adrienne & Michael Alexander  
David Amsellem  
Alice & David Andersen  
Jeri Appel  
Mark Appel  
Ricky Snow Arbron  
Mihal & David Ariyeh  
Suellyn Bache  
Monica Becker & Edieal Pinker  
Rachel Tyd & Robert Beldock  
Gayle & Mitchell Bell  
Debra & Michael Berg  
Dina & Paul Berger  
Karen & Ira Berk  
Devra Jaffe- Berkowitz & Parry Berkowitz  
Lynn & Harvey Berman  
Berkun Family  
Darona & Rabbi Tzvi Bernstein  
Jen & Andy Bernstein  
Melody & Claude Bernstein  
Bruce & Nancy Blasnik  
Judith Block  
Ilana Springer Borkenstein & Daniel Borkenstein  
Jodi & Richard Boxer  
Amy Bubel  
Henry Bubel  
Blake & Daniel Bueckman  
Rita & Michael Buttermann  
Judy & Jeff Cahn  
Kate & Peretz Cik  
Roberta & Alan Cohen  
Andrea & David M. Cohen  
Diane & Rabbi Daniel Cohen  
Malerie Yolen-Cohen & Jeff Cohen  
Judy & David S.\* Cohen  
Mimi Cohen  
Rachel & Ephraim Cohen  
Saul Cohen\*  
Marsha Colten  
Kahla & Gordon Cooper  
Randie Katz & Lawrence Cryer  
Tracy & Nahum Daniels  
Janice Steinberg & Stephen Davidson  
Andrea Dener  
Elayne Dener  
Rabbi Yisrael Deren  
Helen & Marty Donner  
Fran & Bob Dorf\*  
Shoshana Dweck  
Heather & Glenn Dynner  
Debra & Dan Faizakoff  
Michelle Fanwick  
Esta & Jay Feinsod  
Sharon & Michael Feldstein  
Peggy & Jerry Fensterstock  
Linda Hurwitz & Richard Fine  
Robin & Jason Fischel  
Gail Berman & David Fogel  
Stephanie & Howard Fogel  
Lenore Fogel  
Ilan Fogel  
Miriam Lavinsky & Morton Folb\*  
Beverly Frank  
Sharon Franklin  
Robin Frederick  
Julia & Eli Freedberg  
Connie & Alan Freeman  
Maxine & Jay Freilich  
Susan Frieden  
Rachel & Keith Friedman  
Marc Friedman  
Donna & Edward Fuhrman  
Nancy & Mark Funt

Heidi & Harrison Ganz  
Lisa & Gadi Gavronsky  
Lesley & Dennis Gehr  
Gary Gepner  
Cynthia Gordon & Doron Ginat  
Carole Gladstone  
Herbert Gladstone\*  
Sylvia & Herb Gladstone\*  
Leslie Glenn  
Michael Gold  
Abby Goldberg  
Cyndy & Eric Goldberg  
Marilyn & Irving Goldblum  
Alicia & Jason Goldstein  
Caryl & Melvin Goldstein\*  
Judy & Howard Goldstein  
Sharon & Bruce Goldstein  
Meryl & David Gordon  
Nan & Paul Gordon  
Linda Gornitsky  
Loralee & Philip Granowitz  
Shira & Ethan Green  
Allison & Frederic Greenbaum  
Sharon & Larry Greenberg  
Susan & Edward Greenberg  
Pam Ehrenkranz & Matt Greenberg  
Rhonda Greif  
Grecia & Ron\* Gross  
Caryn Halbrecht & Tommy Haendler  
Jeremy Hager  
Michael Handel  
Scott Handelman  
Kayla & Leon Hanna  
Wynd Harris  
Jacqueline Herman  
Elissa & James Hyman  
Rebecca Isenstein  
Shara & Rabbi David Israel  
Sari & Alan Jaffe  
Meryl & Ron Japha  
Anne Liss Johnson  
Sadae & Michael Kadish  
Judith & Grant Kallen  
Peggy Kalter  
Helene & Harvey Kaminski  
Chanie Kamman  
Ronny & Ira Kaplan  
Roni & Jan Kaplowitz  
Jason Kaplowitz  
Lisa & Arnold Karp  
Jeannie Kasindorf  
Jessica & Ilan Katz  
Joy Katz  
Larry Katz  
Judith & Sheldon Katz  
Neil Katz  
Mark S. Kaufman  
Betsy & Peter Kempner  
Madelyne Kirch  
Liz & Marc Kitay  
Elissa & Philip Klapper  
Sally Kleinman  
Harris Kligman  
Naomi & Rabbi Eli Kohl  
Susan Kostin  
Arthur Kramer\*  
Claudia Kraut  
Norma Kraut  
Erica Kraypohl  
Jeannie & Brian Kriftcher  
Carol & Allen Krim  
Elizabeth & Scott Krowitz  
Nina Kuch  
Svetlana Kunin  
Jackie & Marshall Kurland  
Lorraine & David Kweskin  
Helen & Ed Kweskin

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Hannah & Ilan Lastoff  
Dallice & Ian Lazarus  
Shelley Leibowitz  
Lois Stark & Gary Lessen  
Helene Levine\*  
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Sharon & Jeffrey Lewis  
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R. & J. Licht  
Ronnie & Gary Lilien  
Carol & Peter Lilienthal  
Vered & Mark Links  
Lisa & Seth Linzer  
Pamela Feldstein & David Loewenberg  
Eleanor & Mort Lowenthal  
Stu Madison  
Lisa & Jeff Manheim  
Norma & Milton Mann\*  
Susan & Len Mark  
Dinah Miller Marlowe  
Seth Marlowe  
Chris Maroc  
Rhonda Schaffer-Maron & Jeffrey Maron  
Melanie Massell  
Sandra Mehl\*  
Michal & Rabbi Levi Mendelow  
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Wendy Goldberg Miles  
Nancy Zinbarg Mimoun  
Cecile E Minkoff  
Bennet Moskowitz  
Marguerite & Kenneth Neuhaus  
Becky & Omer Neumeier  
Rose\* & Bruce Newman  
Judge Stanley Novack\*  
Marsha & Louis Panzer  
Leah & Doni Perl  
Robin Evans & Jeffrey Perry  
Beth Shepherd Peters  
Dr. Shay Pilnik  
Michele & Scott Piskin  
Lev Podelko  
Caryl Ferber Poser & Peter Poser  
Tanya Barton- Radin & David Radin  
Molly Schrag & Adam Rafalowicz  
Enid Randall\*  
Bonita & Stephen Rappoport  
Judith & Robert Raymond  
Lisa & Harry Rich  
Judy & Adam Rin  
Jamie & Toby Ring  
Betty & Dan Roberts\*  
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Linda & David Roitman  
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Lindsay Benjamin Rosen  
Peter B Rosen  
Julie & Remi Rosenberg  
Natalie & Mark Rosovsky  
Irma Ross  
Jaime & Eric Ross  
Sandra Ross  
Sally & Jim Rothkopf  
Ruth Rothseid  
Terry Newman & David Rubin  
Linda & Leonard Russ  
Bonnie Russo  
Edith Samers  
Renee Samson\*  
Sharyn & Richard Sarner  
Sharon L & Charles H Saul  
Edward Schachter  
Leah Schechter  
Hilde Scheraga\*  
Jayne & Bud Schiff  
Judy Schneiderman  
Nancy Schiffman  
Monica Smyth & Michael Schlessinger  
Elayne & James Schoke\*  
Daniel Schwartz  
Chaya & Levi Segal  
Alana and Jed Selkowitz  
Betsey & Arthur Selkowitz  
Myrna & George Sessa  
Diane & Steve Shaby  
Debbie Katz Shapiro  
Leon Shapiro

Tara & Richard Shapiro  
Jessica & Laurence Sheinman  
Leah & Rabbi Moshe Shemtov  
Marsha Kaiser Shendell  
Carol Ruth & Herman Shepherd\*  
Roselyn Mae Sherman  
Stephanie & Bob Sherman  
Malya Shmotkin  
Ronnie Ness Sichel & Steven Sichel  
Jerome and Bracha Silber  
Lisa & Grant Silver  
Miriam Landsberg-Silverman & Eliezer\*  
Silverman  
Paula Simon  
Gloria & Randy Skigen  
Marty Skrelunas  
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Michal Fox Smart  
Brenda & Bruce\* Smith  
Ed Smith  
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Sandy & Moshe Speter  
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Cantor Micah Morgovsky & Rabbi Benjamin Spratt  
Eileen Springer  
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Beverly & David Stein  
Betsy & Michael Stone  
Gladys & Greg Teitel  
Julie & Rabbi Jay TelRav  
The Estate of Judith Bragin\*  
The Estate of Sheila Carmine\*  
The Estate of Thomas Gilmartin\*  
The Estate of Ronald Gross\*  
Rebecca Tipermas  
Hildi and David Todrin  
Gail & Steven Trel  
Janet Trel  
Pamela & Richard Vogel  
Janet Wainright  
Phyllis & Harvey Walzer  
Annie & Jeremy Watman  
Shternie & David Wayne  
Ellen & Richard Weber  
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Marian Weinberg  
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Barbara Kasman & Art Wernicke  
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Robyn & Mark Winarksy  
Howard Wolfe  
Navah & Naftali Wolfe  
Dana Horowitz & Peter Wolly  
Neda Khaghan & Robert Yaghoubian  
Rita & Abe Yellen  
Marcia Gordon & Seth Young  
Sheryl & Dan Young  
Lauren & Joe Zalis  
Joan Zinbarg\*  
Renee Zinn  
Alex Zislis  
Navah & David Zizmor  
Shira & Mitchell Zucker

*\*Of Blessed Memory  
This is the list provided to UJF at time of publishing.  
We apologize for any names that have been omitted.  
Please let us know and the missing names will be added to the next issue of the paper. Names in blue have finalized their commitment at the time of publication.*



# Life & Legacy Testimonial

Each edition of the New Jewish Voice features the testimonials of community members just like you who have declared their intent to leave a legacy gift to a Jewish organization in the Stamford, New Canaan and Darien Jewish community. This program is funded by United Jewish Federation and the Harold Grinspoon Foundation.

Learn why they look to secure our Jewish future and discover your reasons to join them. Together, we can all work to guarantee the future of the Stamford Jewish community we love. For more information, contact Lenore Fogel at (203) 321-1373 or at [lenore@ujf.org](mailto:lenore@ujf.org)

## MICHAEL AND RITA BUTTERMAN TESTIMONIAL

Rita, the daughter of Holocaust survivors, and I came to Stamford more than 50 years ago. We came with the experience of the Six Day War seared into our hearts and minds. We immediately sought out and became active in what was then UJA, the precursor of the Federation.

We were deeply involved in the Stamford effort in support of Israel in the Suez War of 1973, because we understood that Israel's fate was our fate. During that harrowing week, I even walked out of my office more



Rita and Michael Buttermann

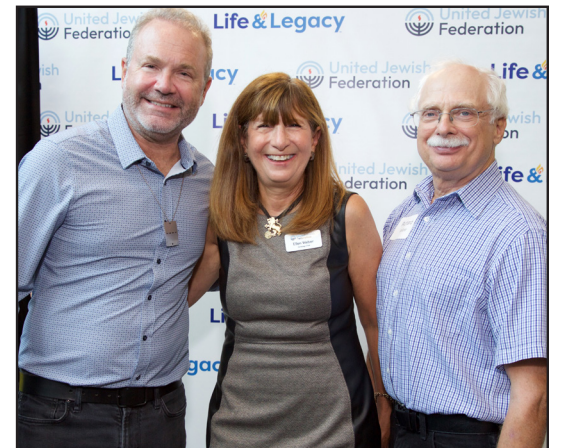
than once to raise money for Israel.

We make our Life & Legacy commitment to United Jewish Federation because we know that we must demonstrate to our children, our grandchildren, and to their respective generations that, as President Kennedy once said, "Each generation must fight for its own liberty." This applies to Israel and to the Jewish people wherever we are, and whatever we can do to continue this sacred obligation into the future and to never forget what has happened in the past.

We believe that's what our Federation's Life & Legacy program is all about.

## Celebrating Superheroes!

CONTINUED FROM PAGES 12-13



## Your Dollars at Work: Leveraging Support Through Partnerships

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19

KAVOD SHEF exponentially multiplies the dollars and vital services directly reaching survivors in need. Leveraging the funds raised through a philanthropic national matching initiative with local Federations, KAVOD SHEF works together with communities across the United States to bring millions of additional dollars to the survivor community.

Since 2020, United Jewish Federation has been a KAVOD SHEF partner. With Schoke Jewish Family Service (Schoke JFS) being the organization to assess the needs and provide the services, UJF raises the necessary funds which are matched one-to-one by KAVOD SHEF.

100% of KAVOD SHEF funds raised are directed toward emergency services for survivors not ordinarily covered by the Claims Conference on Jewish Material

Claims Against Germany or other survivor funding. Urgent and critical emergency services eligible for coverage through KAVOD SHEF include:

- Dental
- Vision
- Food
- Emergency Medical Services
- Emergency Homecare
- Emergency Transportation
- Urgent Home Services (Emergency Utilities, Home Repairs, and Rent Support)

"Schoke JFS is grateful to UJF for raising the necessary funds to leverage this match. With this funding, we have been able to help with the related needs of this aging population. This is a wonderful example of our community working together," shared Matt Greenberg, President and CEO at Schoke JFS.



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The New Jewish Voice  
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UNITED JEWISH FEDERATION PRESENTS:

# Commemorating October 7

Finding Strength and Resilience in our Collective Community

Sunday, October 5th, 7pm  
Temple Beth El, 350 Roxbury Road  
Musical Guest Micha Biton

Micha Biton is ethnic-rock Israeli music, singer, and song writer whose life changed on October 7, 2023. He spent 13 hours in a safe room with his family in Netiv Ha'asara, a Gaza border community. In the heroic evacuation of Micha and his family, he grabbed his beloved guitar. He shares his music while telling a story of light, faith and survival.

This is a free event, but registration is required at [www.ujf.org/oct7](http://www.ujf.org/oct7)



United Jewish  
Federation  
Stamford.New Canaan.Darien

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH  
Stamford Board of Rabbis

UJA★JCC  
greenwich

AJC Westchester/Fairfield