Empowered by Justice
Ruth Bader Ginsburg’s Legacy

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SHALOM BABY LAUNCHES!
Introducing the Shalom Baby outreach initiative to welcome Jewish families with newborns to the Greater New Haven community PAGE 5

COMMUNITY GRANTS SUPPORTING THE MOST VULNERABLE
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Overcoming Adversity is in Our Community’s DNA

Lately we’ve been saying, “we’re built for this,” when referring to the totality of needs and the very nature of our community. But now, unfortunately, we have not reached the conclusion that we can remain strong forever. Fortunately, national Jewish funders and family foundations have stepped forward to provide an incentive to continue our COVID-related work. With the Jewish Federations and the JCRC, we started an ad hoc committee to best understand the challenges, and create viable scenarios and financial models to find a bridge to normalcy. We know that we are capable of meeting this crisis. We did it before and we can do it again.

But we also understand that the fire and the pandemic sit in a few areas. When we had the fire, we had business interruption insurance and a known timeline. With the pandemic, there is no financial stability, no need for the unexpected, no uninsured with regard to the timeline, and what consumer attitudes will be with regard to renovation. When we are able to gather again, will you be willing? We could not reach another crosstown fire that would need financial help to make it through.

I am truly proud to lead this Jewish community. It has been empowering because of each of you and the many people who have stepped up to say that this is our community. They care about its survival and they do what is necessary to ensure its continuity. What a powerful statement. What energy for the professionals who work so selflessly on behalf of us all. It is courageous. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as Chief Executive Officer of the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven.

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When COVID forced the building closing, we were fortunate that the majority of our revenue drivers that are generated through the JCC enterprise. We have incurred significant additional costs to make our building and campus safer, including upgrading our air filtration to MEVP 13, purchasing no-touch faucets, investing in cleaning supplies and personnel, adjusting our office-visit ratio, isolating Paisley banners and new toilet seats with lids, and more. While we have taken extreme measures to cut costs, significantly reduced our staff footprint, hired back staff with the help of the Recovery Program, and then let go staff again, the Federation Board just approved a budget for this fiscal year with a $750,000 deficit.

Our Federation never sits idly by as things happen to us—we take action by bringing smart volunteers together with our top professionals to work on problems. Our COVID-19 steering and task forces have been critical, and Jewish Federations and the JCRC, by Norman Ravski, are looking at the situation for important task force in the Jewish Federation. President Steve Fleischman and JCC President Jeff Silfaro formed an all-staff committee to best understand the challenges, and create viable scenarios and financial models to find a bridge to normalcy. We know that we are capable of meeting this crisis. We did it before and we can do it again.

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...and Engagement Leadership

What counts in life is not the mere fact that we have lived. It is what difference we have made in the lives of others that will determine the significance of the life we lead.

—Nelson Mandela

I am honored and privileged to serve as the President of our Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven. I am often asked why I would want to serve in this role. The short answer is that Dr. Norman Ravski and Dr. Jeffrey Hoos asked me. For those of you who don’t know me, I am an obstetrician/gynecologist at Yale New Haven Hospital. I came to this community to do my training in 1996; Norman became a mentor and friend from the very start of my time here. He became a wonderful role model for community involvement. During my tenure as President of Congregation B’nai Jacob, it was Jeffrey who took me for coffee one day so I could solicit him for a donation; I walked away agreeing to chair the Jewish Foundation.

My engagement in our community is the result of witnessing so many people in our community who have made a difference in the lives of others. So, during a pandemic and the resulting financial struggles we face this year, I am excited to lead our Federation and help make a difference in the lives of our community.

To be successful, we will need all of your support. That does not just mean financial, although that would be helpful too! We need your engagement. Whatever that means to you, we want your engagement. Together we can make a difference.

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Shalom Baby relies on the community to provide names of Jewish families who recently brought a child into their family. Each family receives a gift bag with helpful information, resources and welcome gifts from area synagogues, agencies and community sponsors. Some of the items included in the bags from the program’s generous sponsors are a teddy bear from Gayle and David Slobinner, a silicone bib from the Jewish Federation, a cloth bib from Discume, a PJ Library® Book from Scoundrel, gift cards from Big Smiles Pediatric Dentistry & Miloled Pediatrics, and more. Information is included on how to register for a free monthly PJ Library® book (ages birth to 8 years) as a gift from the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven, local donors and the Harold Grinspoon Foundation.

Shalom Baby is now introducing local families to the Jewish Federation and Jewish Community Center (JCC) of Greater New Haven, area congregations, and other Jewish organizations.

The Women’s Philanthropy’s Shalom Baby Committee is a group of families who have experienced the birth or adoption of a new baby. They have organized an outreach initiative of the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven’s Women’s Philanthropy, welcoming New Babies into the Greater New Haven area’s Jewish community. Through collaborations with area synagogues, vendors and agencies, Shalom Baby will offer Jewish connections and resources to families who have recently experienced the birth or adoption of a new baby.

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**What I Learned During Quarantine**

by Rotem Linczewski

Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven's Young Edmund 2017-18

Most of the people who know me know I love to travel. I love the excitement of finding new places, learning about different cultures and seeing amazing views. One of my dreams is to travel around the world, and one day, after COVID-19 is gone—i-will.

For many Israelis, the holidays are an opportunity to take a vacation and leave Israel for a while. The joke about Israel being half empty on the High Holidays is actually right in some places! Have you ever felt claustrophobic in a country? Well, since COVID-19 came into our lives, many Israelis do. Maybe it’s the consequence of having such a small state.

I decided to make lemonade out of our pretty bitter lemon by starting to re-explore my own area. As I started small, I’ve been so busy lately and got stuck on page 237 of the book I’m reading. So I searched for some new spots in my yard and found a beautiful place under an avocado tree. After the “huge” success of moving from my usual spot on the couch to the outdoors, I’ve decided to go a bit bigger.

I found new observation points just 10-15 minutes from home, supported local businesses and revisited some amazing places in Israel. I’ve traveled to Masada, Ramon and the Kinaret, found new fountains in the desert, and ate the best burger in Ramat HaGolan. I have visited many of these places in the past but now, in this new way of looking at things, they seemed even more exciting.

**I’ve Learned Two Important Lessons:**

First, I took for granted my own local area and missed a bunch of beautiful places! The “been there, done that” attitude is no longer good for me. I can always find new places. I guess I needed a worldwide vacation to remind me to get excited about the small and usual things.

Second, Israel is such a pretty country! I know that is probably what every Young Edmund tells you for years. They weren’t bluffing. The desert and the mountains, the Kinaret and the Mediterranean Sea, the swamps and the towns are just stunning. If you remember how excited I was telling you about those places in my year in Connecticut, promise not to take them for granted again.

So go explore your area, stay healthy and I hope to see you in Israel in the near future.

**Business Banking with your Community Bank**

Young Emissary 2017-18

Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven’s Young Edmund 2017-18

Box Connecticut Ambassadors Jacob Schonberger and Zoe Schulman collected donations of money and supplies to create 25 boxes. They delivered the boxes to Dr. Reginald Mayo Early Childhood School in New Haven to Hyclis Williams. The connection was made with the help of Sandy Hagan, Mary Girgird and Jewish Family Service of Greater New Haven. Schonberger and Schulman prepared these boxes with school supplies so that the preschoolers would be equipped with some supplies for the 2020-21 school year as well as fun projects and new books. They hope to prepare more boxes. Schonberger and Schulman hope to receive more supplies for the 2020-21 school year as well as fun projects and new books. They hope to prepare more boxes. Schonberger and Schulman hope to receive more supplies of gently used materials, or money to purchase snacks and meals. Schonberger and Schulman hope to receive more supplies for the 2020-21 school year as well as fun projects and new books. They hope to prepare more boxes. Schonberger and Schulman hope to receive more supplies for the 2020-21 school year as well as fun projects and new books.

For more information or to donate, contact zoschulman@gmail.com.

*What I Learned During Quarantine*
Hillel, Secure Community Network to Enhance Security on College Campuses

Secure Community Network is the official safety and security organization of the Jewish community in North America, founded under the auspices of The Jewish Federations of North America and the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations. Hillel International and the Secure Community Network (SCN) launched the Hillel Safety Initiative to protect students from violence and to ensure a safe experience at your Hillel. Through this partnership, SCN will embed a full-time Director of Safety and Security within Hillel Global’s International Team to address the security threat posed to Jewish students, professionals, programs and facilities on college campuses across the country and around the world. The partnership between SCN, the official safety and security organization of the organized Jewish community of North America, and Hillel International will provide on-the-ground support for Jewish life on campus as universities face a drastic change in student enrollment. It will also support Hillels as they respond to security concerns related to anti-Semitic activity on campus, including brochures, development and sanctions (BDS) campaigns.

John D. Stemen will serve as the first Hillel Director of Safety and Security. Stemen has nearly 20 years of experience in criminal investigations and management, with expertise in threat assessment, protection and incident response, as well as a long history of supporting campus communities as an organizing lead with the Zeta Beta Tau Jewish fraternity. He is a former supervisory special agent with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service, and previously served with the Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General and the State Department’s Diplomatic Security Service. He also has experience with the University of Florida and Gainesville (Fla.) Police Departments and a J.D. from the University of Florida Levin College of Law.

In this new role, Stemen will provide extensive training for Hillel professionals through individual and small group programs, online workshops, and simulations. He will provide consultation and support for Hillels in need of help with security issues. Stemen will serve as a liaison with law enforcement agencies to share information on trends and best practices.

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Hillel at Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU) is doing quite well in spite of the pandemic—and perhaps because of it! Their welladvertised Passover Seder on Zoom began the momentum for what followed. Students were interested in a week- ly Shabbat service, a Torah study and also beginner Hebrew classes. All three were offered online and the numbers were outrageously high. Students were interested in the group programs, online workshops, and simulations. He will provide consultation and support for Hillels in need of help with security issues. Stemen will serve as a liaison with law enforcement agencies to share information on trends and best practices.

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Are Diets Dead?

by Susan Donovan
Director of Fitness & Wellness Services,
JCC of Greater New Haven

Time and time again, we search for that ideal diet, that magic formula guaranteed to bring us our perfect weight. And, time and time again, we succeed; only to eventually fail. Not only do we usually gain back whatever weight loss has been achieved, but this “yo-yo” cycle eventually affects our metabolism. When you lose by drastically cutting calories, it comes from fat, water and muscle tissue. When you gain it back, those calories get stored as body fat. Since muscle tissue is metabolically active and fat tissue is not, this will eventually affect the rate your body burns calories—plus the psychological effects it has on your confidence and willpower!

So, as we approach the end of 2020, ask yourself this: is it time to get real and stop dieting? We’re here to help you think outside the box, eat less, move more, and believe you can—and you will!

1. Set realistic goals and realistic diets. Finding a diet that you can sustain and that will help you lose weight is key. So, start small! What would it take to simply eat 200 calories less per day? In a month, you would have lost 2 pounds! This can be achieved by teaching yourself to eat more slowly, by losing the “snack before bed,” or by reducing your portion sizes.
2. Learn to read labels. How many calories are in your favorite drink or snack? Do you read the nutrition facts? Make sure you choose low calorie foods for your snacks and meals.
3. Set small steps and realistic goals as you work toward self-improvement. Focus on one new habit at a time, such as tuning into your true hunger and satiety signals, choosing nutrient-dense foods that will support your body, and replacing negative self-talk with kind and positive thoughts.

Close the year of 2020 with a commitment to get real and stop dieting. Remember that the key is consistency. By making small, realistic changes in your behavior, you can create a healthier, happier, and more fulfilling life.

EAT LESS, MOVE MORE AND BELIEVE YOU CAN...AND YOU WILL!

Get the support you need with in-person or virtual personal training, health coach consultations, nutrition guidance at the JCC. For more information, contact susan@jccm.org.

All consultations are complimentary! Call today to schedule yours!
FRIENDS OF THE J
JOIN JCCFACTS: How your support helps

More than 20,000 people are served by the JCC every year. As a mission-driven organization, the JCC counts on donations to deliver services to the community.

We support people with developmental disabilities by offering vocational training to residents and students of Chapel Haven Schleifer Center and the ACES School System.

We offer financial assistance to those in need because the JCC strives to make membership, camp and childcare available to all families in our community.

The JCC is a place of respite to the community at a time of need and it offers free programs and events to families and seniors in our community.

Support YOUR Community

Donate today at jccnh.org/friends

Supporting Refugees Through Uncertain Times
by Jean Silk

JCARR Coordinator

The Jewish Community Alliance for Refugee Resettlement (JCARR) was formed in 2015 as a partnership between Congregation Beth El-Reform Israel, Congregation B’nai Jacobs, Congregation Mishkan Israel, Congregation Or Shalom, Temple Emanuel of Greater New Haven and the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven to further immigration work the congregations had separately engaged in since the 1980s. JCARR’s vision for refugee resettlement is intrinsically connected to our historic Jewish tradition of welcoming the strangers among us, and of tikun olam (repairing the world).

JCARR has successfully resettled four refugee families from the Democratic Republic of Congo, Syria and Iraq. They are currently assisting with support for an asylum-seeking family from Angola as a cosponsor with Integrated Refugee and Immigrant Services (IRIS), the main refugee agency in Connecticut.

JCARR recently received two grants to support refugee families— one from the Jewish Federation and Jewish Foundation’s COVID-19 Maimonides Response Fund and the other from the Gilbert and Eleanor Kraus Foundation.

The Kraus Immigration Justice Mini-Grant of $5,000 is an initiative of the Reform Movement’s Religious Action Center, which was formed in 1961, “to educate, inspire and mobilize the Reform Jewish Movement to advocate for social justice.” The Kraus grants this year are being given “to support and to encourage our congregations’ essential work with immigrant children and young people during the pandemic.”

The COVID-19 Maimonides Response Fund was established by the Jewish Federation and Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven to address critical human needs arising from the pandemic in our community, especially food insecurity, housing and mental health needs.

According to JCARR Coordinator Jean Silk, some of the families had become self-sufficient when the pandemic hit, throwing them off to a downward spiral. The grants from the COVID-19/Maimonides Response Fund and the URI are helping the families with rent payments, car repairs, food and educational needs.

The funds from the Kraus Foundation have helped the families upgrade internet speed in each household so that the children can better participate in remote learning. They have created a “lending library” of print and electronic educational materials that are age-appropriate and proficiency-appropriate for children who are English learners. Training has been provided to the parents and ongoing tutoring for the children to make use of these materials, some of which will be gifted permanently to the families. In addition, a small portion of the funds has been used to cover emergency expenses to allow families to continue to create a stable home environment for their children during the pandemic.

JCARR has committed to matching the family assistance funds for the grant. If you would like to make a donation to support this or JCARR’s ongoing work with immigrant and refugee families, you can send checks, payable to The Jewish Federation with JCARR in the memo line, to: The Jewish Federation, 360 Amity Road, Woodbridge, 06525; Attention Amy Holtz.
In addition to listening to a story, Chanukah or Chanuka, exemplifies how varied are the ways we can celebrate this winter holiday. Parents and grandparents have multiple resources at their fingertips to help make this not-so-traditional Chanukah holiday still feel special. PJ Library offers different ideas in the “Hanukkah Hub” found at pjlibrary.org/hanukkah.

Audio
The Hanukkah Story For Kids (postbeam.com/env/whh-fzby-cbfu2q) is a part of the PJ Library production. Have I Got a Story For You. In addition to listening to a story version about Chanukah and the Maccabees, families will also discover a short Chanukah blessings guide in Hebrew and English.

Surprise your little ones with a special treat with these Star of David chocolate-covered pretzels in their lunchbox. What a creative way to celebrate the holiday!

**CHANUKAH STORY FOR KIDS**

**The Hanukkah Story For Kids**

**Ages: 3 to 4 Years**

Illustrated by Melissa Iwai

Written by Leslie Kimmelman, illustrated by Galia Bernstein

Ages: 3 to 4 Years

Max and Rachel have just moved—and they’re looking forward to celebrating Hanukkah, but the box with their menorah is still in transit. For all eight nights of Hanukkah, they have to figure out other ways to make the holiday special. Can the Eight Knights of Hanukkah set things right?

**NINTH NIGHT OF HANUKkah**

**Written by Erica Perl,** illustrated by Shahar Kober

Ages: 6 to 7 Years

The whole kingdom has gathered to enroll in a community. We need to know what you want to do. Please take a moment to participate at surveymonkey.com/r/ 95W3VNN.

We will also feature a different family each month in the PJ e-Newsletter and the PJ Facebook page to get to know each other better. Email Keiva Blishee, Family Outreach Coordinator, at kbisbee@jewishnewhaven.org for more info.
The Newman brothers—Alfred, Lionel, and Emil—helped to create American movies. From 1930 through the early 1970s, they were composers, conductors, and musical directors for hundreds of Hollywood films. Alfred, the oldest brother, was born in New Haven in 1900 and was a local New Haven piano prodigy. The composer and conductor Ignacy Paderewski became his patron. Paderewski arranged for music lessons. His first complete score was Samuel Newman's The Towers at Tower Lane. The Jewish community of Greater New Haven. Find out more at kbisbee@jewishnewhaven.org.

The Newman brothers are less known, but were successful in Hollywood first as musical directors and then as composers and conductors. He was nominated for an Oscar nomination in 1916 for his score in the 1926 film The Wind. He was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Original Score for his work in the 1941 Sun Valley Serenade. Many of the brothers' children, nieces and nephews continued in music and film. Perhaps the most well-known is their nephew, Randy Newman. Newman's work as a composer includes the theme songs for popular shows like The Simpsons and Shaq's All Star Slam Dunk. Randy Newman is also known for his work as a songwriter and has written for several major films and television shows. His work has been recognized with multiple Grammy Awards and an Oscar nomination. He has also been inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Randy Newman has continued to work in the music industry and has released several albums over the years. He is a frequent collaborator with other artists and has written songs for films, TV shows, and commercials. Overall, the Newman brothers have had a significant impact on the music and film industries, and their contributions continue to be recognized and celebrated today.
In 2019, a Torah scribe visited Temple Emanuel of Greater New Haven to inspect their Torah scrolls, provide necessary repairs, and teach their students and teachers about the scribal art. In the process of his visit, Temple Emanuel discovered that while Holocaust Memorial Scroll #1178 was badly damaged, it was not beyond repair. The synagogue’s first-ever Torah scroll has been part of every bar and bat mitzvah service at the synagogue since 1967 until 2007. It would take time and money, but they could reclaim this Torah scroll to continue to serve the community and share stories of Torah.

Over the last year, the Temple Emanuel community engaged in the sacred task of repairing and restoring the scroll in order to reclaim Temple Emanuel traditions and to renew their commitment to keeping the memory of the Jews of Horazdovice alive.

Weber family—researched the Jewish community of Horazdovice’s history. They presented their findings to the community and shared their stories of Torah. Over the last 50 years,” says Rabbi Michael Farbman. “Our commitment to keeping the memory of the Jews of Horazdovice alive. It would take time and money, but they could reclaim this Torah scroll to continue to serve the community and share the words of Torah.

It would take time and money, but they could reclaim this Torah scroll to continue to serve the community and share the words of Torah. Our community engaged in the sacred task of repairing and restoring the scroll in order to reclaim Temple Emanuel traditions and to renew their commitment to keeping the memory of the Jews of Horazdovice alive.

In the process of his visit, Temple Emanuel discovered that while Holocaust Memorial Scroll #1178 was badly damaged, it was not beyond repair. The synagogue’s first-ever Torah scroll has been part of every bar and bat mitzvah service at the synagogue since 1967 until 2007. It would take time and money, but they could reclaim this Torah scroll to continue to serve the community and share stories of Torah.

Over the last year, the Temple Emanuel community engaged in the sacred task of repairing and restoring the scroll in order to reclaim Temple Emanuel traditions and to renew their commitment to keeping the memory of the Jews of Horazdovice alive.
Retirement plans can present tax-smart charitable giving opportunities both during a donor’s lifetime and in the donor’s estate plans.

1. Charitable Giving Opportunity with an IRA During a Donor’s Lifetime—Available for Those 70½ or Older

The Charitable IRA Rollover is a way for donors age 70½ and older to pay less tax while supporting their favorite charities. The Charitable IRA Rollover adheres to donor limitations ($100,000 or less if they choose) from their traditional IRA to charity, tax-free.

The Charitable IRA Rollover creates an opportunity for donors to establish an endowment or make an outright charitable gift to a charitable organization. Your rollover can be directed for a capital campaign gift, current needs or restricted for endowment purposes. Your gift can be earmarked for your synagogue, a local Jewish agency, Jewish education, or any program or organization that is important to you.

Note: In an IRA, there is a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD). Under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, if you are no longer required to withdraw from your IRA due to marital status or to a charitable organization, you may not take a tax deduction for withdrawals. Please consult your professional advisor concerning your tax plans.

2. Retirement Plans as Part of Your Estate Plan

Retirement plans such as IRA/KG/ROTH/401K are tax-plagued assets when they are left to a minor or a charity. Under the Secure Act, a non-spousal beneficiary of an IRA/RG/401K must withdraw the entire balance over a life expectancy. If you accumulate assets in your retirement plans, consider naming charities as charities as a secondary beneficiary.

Under the Secure Act, a non-spousal beneficiary of an IRA/RG/401K must withdraw the entire balance over a life expectancy. If you accumulate assets in your retirement plans, consider naming charities as charities as a secondary beneficiary.

If you have a secondary named IRA, you may want to consider transferring these assets.

A Charitable IRA Rollover allows donors to direct up to $100,000 in retirement plans to charity at their death. This way, donors avoid taxes on these charitable gifts.

Please consult your professional advisor concerning your tax plans.

Jewish Family Service Steps Up in Many Ways

To keep up to date on this program, visit jfsnh.org or follow the Food4Kids New Haven’s Facebook page. If you are interested in providing backpacks, please contact Hannah Carmichael at jfssnhorg@gmail.com.

FOOD4KIDS NEW HAVEN MARRIES 8TH YEAR OF PROVIDING FOOD

Pandemic or not, the start of the academic year in September 2020 signaled the eighth year for the Food4Kids New Haven Program.

Started back in 2012 as a joint endeavor between Women’s Philanthropy of the Jewish Federation and Jewish Family Service of Greater New Haven (JFS), Food4Kids’ goal is to provide foods to food-insecure children in Connecticut. This is estimated to be one in every five children. Now with children in New Haven learning remotely due to the pandemic, there is an increased stress on parents to provide food and snacks for their children in the home setting in place of the meals they would have received in school.

Prior to the pandemic, the bags were packed by Food4Kids volunteers at the Jewish Family Service of Greater New Haven Pantry. However, with the Pantry not being available to large groups of volunteers due to social distancing protocols, bags are currently packed off-site and distributed to children from East Rock Community Magnet School, Dr. Benjamin Mapple Mapo Early Childhood School and the Dr. Reginald Mayo Early Childhood School and the Dr. Reginald Mayo Early Childhood School in New Haven each week. The bags contain kid-friendly foods that can be easily opened and are ready to eat, such as shelf-stable milk, cereal, pasta or soup, sunflower butter, dried fruit, nut-free granola bars, crackers, and apple slices.

“When schools closed in March due to the pandemic, we quickly worked to find an alternative location to deliver the food so the children would not miss out,” commented Ethel Panco, Director of JFS’s New Haven Program. “Though the means of packing have changed, we are still accomplishing our goal of getting food into the hands of children—most of whom are from low-income households and are chronically hungry.”

Please enjoy our expanded varieties of kosher products, including weekly deliveries from AgriStar meats, Flaums, and Beigel’s bakery!

Visit the kosher department at ShopRite of Hamden. © 2020 Wakefern Food Corp.
司法金斯伯格的生活，她以信仰和恐惧地表达出来，她为她所关心的事情而战斗。她说，她是这样走的，因为女性属于任何地方都是作出的选择。作为一个合作伙伴，她已成为最有影响力的律师，可以站起来，让我的声音被听到，工作，以便其他女性的声音可以被听到。”– 阿尔森·斯汀，Jenner & Block LLP合伙人
It’s Better to Light a Candle than Curse the Darkness

Dina Steinberg
New American Acculturation Program Coordinator
The deaths are getting shorter, the temperatures are dropping, and the days are getting darker. The holiday season is fast approaching, and Hanukkah is one of the most anticipated holidays of the year. Hanukkah is a time to celebrate the miracle of light, which is why candles are lit every night of the holiday. But Hanukkah is not just about lighting candles; it’s about celebrating the freedom of religion and the importance of family and community. It is a time to remember our history and to be grateful for the freedoms we have today.

On December 14, 1948, Eleanor Roosevelt said, “It is Better to Light a Candle than Curse the Darkness.” This phrase is a powerful reminder of the importance of hope and resilience in the face of adversity. It is a reminder to stay strong and to keep moving forward, even when times are tough.

In 1939, Odd Nansen, a Norwegian diplomat, established the Norwegian Refugee Council to help refugees escape the Nazi regime. Nansen was a pioneer in the field of humanitarian aid and played a crucial role in saving thousands of lives during World War II. His work was recognized posthumously with a U.S. Senate Commendation.

On Sunday, morning November 15, at 9 a.m., Congregation Or-Shalom in Orange, in partnership with the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven, will host our area’s 14th annual Kristallnacht commemoration. This year, the commemoration and candle lighting ceremony will be livestreamed to our community’s 14th annual Kristallnacht commemoration. All are invited, by means of Zoom video-conferencing. The event will begin at 9 a.m. with a posthumous U.S. Senate Commemoration. The event will be emceed by Rabbi Abinu Warschaw, spiritual leader of Congregation Or-Shalom, and Judy Ruben, CEO of the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven.

Kristallnacht Commemoration Honors Norwegian Odd Nansen’s Heroic Efforts

Please use our Annual Commemoration-Wide Kristallnacht Commemoration. This year, we will honor the conscience and the courage of Odd Nansen, a Norwegian humanitarian who played a key role in rescuing thousands of Jewish refugees from Nazi Germany during World War II.

On October 15, 1939, Odd Nansen and his wife, Ylva, arrived in Norway with a group of Jewish refugees. Nansen risked his life to help save these people from persecution and forced labor. He established a field office in Europe to reach out to refugees and help them escape to safer countries. This office was called “Nansen-hjelpen” (“Nansen-Relief”). In 1939, Nansen helped rescue thousands of Jews from Nazi-occupied Europe. He did this by establishing safe havens in neutral countries and by secretly transporting them to neighboring Sweden.

Nansen was a hero who risked his life to help others. He was a humanitarian who believed in the power of hope and resilience. He was a man who understood the importance of standing up for what is right, even in the face of great adversity.

On November 8, 1945, Nansen was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his humanitarian work. He was the first non-military person to receive the Nobel Peace Prize. Nansen’s work has inspired countless others to follow in his footsteps and to work towards a better world.

Nansen’s legacy lives on today. His work continues to inspire people to take action and to make a difference in the world. His work is a reminder of the power of hope and resilience, and of the importance of standing up for what is right.

On Sunday, November 15, at 9 a.m., Congregation Or-Shalom in Orange, in partnership with the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven, will host our area’s 14th annual Kristallnacht commemoration. The event will begin with a posthumous U.S. Senate Commendation. The event will be emceed by Rabbi Abinu Warschaw, spiritual leader of Congregation Or-Shalom, and Judy Ruben, CEO of the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven.

HONORABLE MENSCHEN

“Odd Nansen not only saved my life. He also enriched with his philosophy of life.”

Kristallnacht Commemoration Honors Norwegian Odd Nansen’s Heroic Efforts

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The Feinberg Family
In celebration of Rena & Robert Grodd’s 58th leadership of our Federation Annual Campaign
Stephanie Green & Eric Grubman
Jewish Federation President
Stephanie Green & Eric Grubman
award
In honor of Evan Wyner receiving the Kavod Key
In honor of Paul Portnoy receiving the Kavod Key
Stephanie Green & Eric Grubman
Norman & Karyn Ravski
Trachten
Elanna Bernstein
Shem Tov award
Skowronek & Stephen Skowronek
Amy & Mark Holtz
Steven Sosensky
In honor of Sherri Sosensky and her commitment
Dana & Harry Schwartz
Jeannette Brodeur
grandson of Judy Alperin
In honor of the birth of Dylan Diamondstein,
Amy & Mark Holtz
Judy Alperin
In memory of Elliot Stone
Bob Garofalo
town of Woodbridge during the recent hurricane
In honor of Beth Heller, Woodbridge 1st
In memory of Ariye Ginzburg
Fran & David Cohen
Dr. Katherine DeSilva & the Staff of Rosemary Sirico
In memory of Howard Stanley Fiedler
Dr. & Mrs. Harley Stock
In memory of Inez Dailey
Steve & Emily Conn
In memory of Umberto Klajnbart
Schwartz
In honor of Allan & Helaine Alper’s 50th
Dr. & Mrs. Harley Stock
In memory of Judy Kaye
EDUCATION THROUGH TEACHER TRAINING
JOAN EDELSTEIN DAVENNY FUND FOR Mrs. Ruth L. Grossman & Harry Labov and Ralph L. Grossman
In honor of Marjorie & Stanley Jacob’s 70th
FOUNDATION UNRESTRICTED FUND
Steve & Emily Conn
In memory of Inez Dailey
Dr. & Mrs. Harley Stock
In memory of Howard Stanley Fiedler
Dr. & Mrs. Harley Stock
SUNRISE FUND
In memory of Allen & Helaine Albers 50th Anniversary and in memory of Bonnie Karns Stark
STUART, SHELL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
In memory of David Kaplan
Herman Del-Riva
CENSUS 2020 FUND
In memory of Harvey Narkas, sister of Skylark Narkas
Albert & Eric Altinger Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul
IN MEMORIAM
Dr. & Mrs. Harley Stock
DAUGHTERS OF SIG HUNGER
In honor of Norma & Howard Hecht 50th Wedding Anniversary and in memory of Howard Hecht
Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven
In honor of Mordecai & Ruth Alper’s 50th
SCHULMEISTER FAMILY FOUNDATION
In memory of Howard Narkas, sister of Skylark Narkas
Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven
On behalf of the Avi & Lila Mark Foundation
In memory of Harvey Narkas, sister of Skylark Narkas
On behalf of the Avi & Lila Mark Foundation
In memory of Harvey Narkas, sister of Skylark Narkas
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JEWISH FEDERATION
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Shalom Baby

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Shalom Baby

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Visit www.jccnh.org/all-day-at-the-j to sign up today or contact summerscamp@jccnh.org for more info.
We Were Built For This

We are living in a unique and difficult moment in our history. When the pandemic hit we came together to care for the vulnerable, providing kosher meals and delivery services to seniors and others in need, emergency aid to struggling families, vocational training for growing numbers of job seekers and protective gear for frontline workers and schools. We mobilized an army of staff and volunteers to reach out to 10,000 community households and offer a kind word and check on their well-being.

We accomplished great things, but nothing out of the ordinary. For more than 100 years the Jewish Federation has been taking care of our community, Israel, and Jews around the world. With the support of generous donors, we helped make the desert bloom, and saw to the signing of the declaration of independence; we rescue(d) Jews around the world and resettled them in our historic homeland and right here in New Haven. Locally, we helped to establish The Jewish Home, The Towers, Camp Laurelwood, and we have sustained the Jewish Agencies in our community year after year after year.

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

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