

Jewish Life

WESTCHESTER COUNTY'S ONLY MONTHLY JEWISH NEWSPAPER

Introducing Tamid, a New and Innovative Synagogue Community

BY STEPHEN E. LIPKEN

Rabbi Scott Weiner has announced that Tamid is “Westchester’s fastest growing and most innovative synagogue....”

A relatively new congregation located at the Generations Church, 592 Main Street, New Rochelle, Tamid Westchester, (Hebrew, “daily offerings”) founded in June 2021 is not affiliated with any movement but is Reform in style, according to Rabbi Weiner.

The Congregation consists of approximately 70 families.

“As we begin our second year, it is clear that Tamid has the best programming for children, teens, college students, adults, families, empty nesters and seniors. Tamid Westchester is a synagogue for all who seek a warm, open community to celebrate births, Bar/

Bat Mitzvahs and weddings and also honor moments of pain and grief, illness and passing,” Weiner observed.



Rabbi Scott Weiner

The Tamid Worship Team consists of former Woodlands Community Temple, White Plains, Rabbi Billy Dreskin; Cantor Ellen Dreskin; Christina Broussard, Director of Education, plus Rabbi Darren Levine, who launched the first Tamid in New York City in 2012 and is the author of *Positive Judaism: For a Lifetime of Well-being and Positivity*.

“Tamid’s teen program includes weekly class, special events, youth groups and our once-a-month homeless feeding program in NYC, the Downtown Hunger Action Project (DHAP).

The Hebrew School (grades K-7) is fun, creative, and feels like a Jewish day camp that meets one day a week.



“Tamid’s innovative spirit has a clergy, staff and faculty of Jewish professionals who are post-denominational and comfortable in a multi-cultural setting. We strive to accomplish this through learning, community building, pastoral care and life-cycle observances (baby-naming ceremonies, B’nai Mitzvah services, weddings

and funerals). Tamid is also led by Va’ad or Leadership Council, made up of dedicated and talented volunteers.

“Now, what is eternal about Judaism—our faith, traditions and community—burns within us whenever we gather together in Jewish ways, new and old,” Weiner concluded.

ADL Addresses Encountered Bias, Bigotry, Discrimination and Hate on Social Media

BY STEPHEN E. LIPKEN

Anti-Defamation League (ADL) Westchester hosted an online Seminar, “Our Kids and Social Media: Best Practices for Parents” on Thursday, October 27th, featuring panelists Daniel Kelley, Director of Strategy and Operations, ADL Center for Technology and Society, plus Jinnie Spiegler, ADL Director of Curriculum and Training, moderated by Scott Richman, ADL Regional Director, New York/New Jersey.

Spiegler remarked that Cartoon Network partnered with Cyberbullying Research Center in 2020 to conduct a national representative survey of “tweens,” kids ages 9 to 12 years old on social media, to better understand cyberbullying prevalence and behaviors among this age group.

Kelley said that social media and online games are part of our online ecosystem, important spaces where young people explore relationships and build friendships in which the online systems do not have to be shut down, but taking



Jinnie Spiegler

Daniel Kelley

Scott Richman

action regarding hatred.

“Every year we conduct a nationally representative survey, which looks at hate and harassment from the perspective of those being targeted.

We asked young people 13 to 17 about their experience of hate online; 47% said they had experienced hate and harassment on social media; pointing out that LGBTQ experiences are different than Jewish

experiences.

ADL member Larry Bahr said that that there was concern regarding the amount of time kids spend online “and we should focus on how to protect our children.”

On a Shared Screen, the question was asked, “Which of the following controls have you set up for your child? The following suggestions were made:

“Block access to adult content; Block or prevent making purchases; Block the ability to add strangers as ‘friends; Block the ability to text chat with strangers; Limit the amount of hours that are being played; Block the ability to voice chat with strangers; Prevent children from adjusting the settings of their online gaming profile {different for players of different ages in your household}; Block the ability to join multiplayer games.”

Spiegler concluded that much online harassment is identity based, targeting gender, sexual orientation, weight, appearance and disabilities.

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HOW JEW BECAME CITIZENS

Highlights from the
Sid Lapidus Collection

on view
November 8, 2022 to
February 28, 2023

at the
Center for Jewish History
15 West 16th Street, New York, NY 10011

cjh.org

CENTER FOR JEWISH HISTORY

#EndJewHatred Hosts Special Event for Jewish Community



All presenters at the private #EndJewHatred event were speaking in their own organizational/professional capacities which are independent of - and do not necessarily reflect - the views of the Center for Jewish History. Photo credit: End Jew Hatred

On Monday, October 24, the grassroots civil rights movement End Jew Hatred, along with elected officials, community leaders and members of the community, gathered to proclaim April 29th as “#EndJewHatred Day.” The event was held at the Center for Jewish History, 15 W 16th Street, New York.

The proclamation of April 29th as #EndJewHatred Day is significant in the face of ever-increasing hate crimes and vile acts of antisemitism targeting the Jewish community. It serves as a call to action for the country to unite behind End Jew Hatred and stand in solidarity with the Jewish community. Hate crimes have surged in New York State and around the country in the past few years, threatening the tremendous gains made by minority communities to be included equally in society, without discrimination or violence. Hate crimes against Jews have increased dramatically (up almost 50% over the past year alone), showing how dangerous antisemitism is when it is normalized in society. The skyrocketing attacks against Jews inspired the formation of a grassroots End Jew Hatred civil rights movement to alter public discourse and make Jew-hatred unacceptable in contemporary society.

“Two years ago, the #EndJewHatred movement did not exist,” said Brooke Goldstein, Executive Director of The Lawfare Project and a co-founder of the #EndJewHatred movement. “This event is an important step forward in unifying people in our just cause and recognizing the need to end Jew-hatred.”

Ambassador Ronald Lauder, President of the World Jewish Congress, has been extremely supportive of the #EndJewHatred movement and its actions to unite the Jewish community and its allies to fight the world’s oldest hatred.

“Jew-hatred is rising around the world and must be confronted immediately,” said Ambassador Ronald Lauder. “All Jews, from

the most religious to the most secular, must stand as one people in the face of hatred. I am proud of the work being done by grassroots movements like End Jew Hatred and I call on all people of good conscience to stand up against Jew-Hatred in any form.”

This event recognized that the End Jew Hatred movement is incredibly important in changing the narrative and taking action to assure consequences for hate crimes and bigotry.

The event featured speakers including Brooke Goldstein, Executive Director of The Lawfare Project and a co-founder of the #EndJewHatred movement; Yuval David, Emmy Award-winning actor, director, and filmmaker, and Director of Mobilization for the #EndJewHatred movement; and many other community leaders and activists whose tireless work led to this achievement – including representatives from the Holocaust Museum & Center for Tolerance and Education, which has worked tirelessly to achieve these milestone Proclamations. Elected officials that have issued Proclamations were recognized for their leadership in this initiative.

“The Jewish people cannot be left out or left behind,” said Yuval David. “Throughout history, we have learned that if we do not stand up for ourselves and take action, nobody else will. The time is now for us to act and remind social justice warriors that we need their solidarity in the face of ever-increasing Jew-hatred.”

#EndJewHatred is a grassroots movement that unites ordinary people, activists, and organizations from around the world who support the cause that defines the movement: to end Jew-hatred in our lifetime. It does so by altering public discourse to make Jew-hatred unacceptable in society, while empowering Jews with positivity and strength to discover and enjoy their heritage in whichever manner they choose, without fear of attack or persecution.

Applications Open for National \$36k Award Recognizing Jewish Teen Leadership

Nominations and applications are now open for the 2023 cohort of the Diller Teen Tikkun Olam Awards, a signature program of the Helen Diller Family Foundation. Recognizing up to 15 Jewish teens from across the nation, the Awards honor extraordinary young leaders annually with \$36,000 each for their impact and proven leadership to repair the world.

Teens are encouraged to apply at dillerteenawards.org for the 2023 awards or individuals may nominate a remarkable teen who meets the qualifications. Eligible applicants must be residents of the United States, between 13 and 19 years old at the time of the application deadline, serving in a leadership role on a project that is aimed at repairing the world, and self-identify as Jewish. Applications are due by Thursday, January 5, 2023, with finalists selected in April and awardees announced in May. The 2023 Diller Teen Tikkun Olam Awards recipients will be selected by committees of Jewish community leaders and educators located in cities across the country. Candidates will complete detailed applications describing their project's goals, inspirations, challenges, outreach tactics, and measurable impact.

The Diller Teen Tikkun Olam Awards were the vision of Bay Area philanthropist Helen Diller, who sought to recognize the next generation of socially committed leaders whose dedication to volunteerism exemplifies the spirit of tikkun olam, a Jewish value meaning "to repair the world." Since 2007, the Helen Diller Family Foundation has recognized 174 Jewish teen leaders, awarding more than \$6 million as a continuation of Helen Diller's legacy. The Diller Teen Tikkun

Olam Awards is one of many programs funded by the Helen Diller Family Foundation, a supporting foundation of the Jewish Community Federation and Endowment Fund of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin, and Sonoma Counties.

This August, the 2022 Diller Teen Tikkun Olam Awards recognized 15 teen leaders addressing some of society's greatest challenges, from the growing risks of climate change to the need to support veterans, refugees, and senior citizens. Their work includes advocating for LGBTQ+ inclusion in schools, inspiring girls to become entrepreneurs, increasing access to computer science, and providing shoes to those experiencing homelessness. Awardees support community needs by creating networks that mobilize their peers to take collective, meaningful action and inspire others to join them. The 2022 Awardees represented all corners of the country, including the Bay Area, Los Angeles, New York, Texas, Washington state, New England and the D.C. area.

For more information on the 2023 application/nomination process and criteria, or to read bios of past recipients, visit dillerteenawards.org or follow Diller Teen Awards on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

The Diller Teen Tikkun Olam Awards celebrate tikkun olam, or "repairing the world." The Helen Diller Family Foundation knows that supporting Jewish teen leadership today means creating and inspiring future generations of strong Jewish leaders in the global community. The Awards provide \$36,000 for each recipient to use towards their education or to further their impact.

After an Especially Challenging Year, Israeli Youth Desperately Need ELEM

For the last three years, we've all witnessed the world react to the unimaginable impact of COVID-19. One might not realize how greatly youth were affected by everything that COVID brought into our lives.

Youth from dysfunctional families were forced to spend time isolated in abusive homes during "safe" stay at home periods. And this is all before we consider the impact Israel's challenging security situation had on youth, as well as an unstable government, and difficult summer months, during which boredom pushes youth to the streets where they partake in violence and additional concerning behaviors.

An organization with a non-traditional approach founded by a New Yorker, ELEM/Youth in Distress in Israel, addresses the fallout Israeli youth are experiencing.

For nearly 40 years, ELEM's unique, street-savvy outreach has been cultivating trust with youth who have left the mainstream and won't seek help elsewhere. The 12,500 youth it serves annually and the additional 100,000 youth who contact ELEM online come from all religions and backgrounds. They suffer from domestic abuse, sexual violence, homelessness, and the stress of potential security-related attacks. Many have dropped out of school and resort to substance abuse and prostitution. ELEM's staff and thousands of volunteers reach out to these youth on the streets and offer culturally sensitive therapy,



mentoring, school placement, and vocational training. ELEM is recognized by the United Nations as a special consultant in the field of at-risk youth.

On November 3rd, ELEM/Youth in Distress in Israel held its first in-person event since 2019. The New York organization that supports the work of ELEM Israel, has gone above and beyond this year to ensure their return is strong.

The event, dubbed "Finding Refuge," featured Elisha Wiesel, son of the late Elie Wiesel, who discussed safe havens and safe spaces. Consul General of Israel in New York, Ambassador Asaf Zamir, gave remarks about ELEM's unique approach as the largest nonprofit for at-risk youth in Israel.

Funds raised at the event will benefit over 90 programs in more than 40 cities across Israel.

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Antisemitic Banner Drop Over Bronx River Parkway Reported

In recent weeks, the Jewish community has experienced an alarming rise in antisemitism across the country. On October 27, the Westchester County Police reported in a FOIL request that they responded to the Oak Street Bridge over the Bronx River Parkway regarding people hanging a banner over the bridge. “Two white males have a flag displaying a message about Kanye West thrown over the bridge,” the Police wrote. As police watched, one man folded up the sign and left.

Upon hearing this news, Scott Richman, Regional Director of the Anti-Defamation League,

New York and New Jersey, tweeted, “A disgusting copycat banner drop over a highway in Westchester by the same white supremacist group that dropped the antisemitic banner in Los Angeles last weekend. We must stand united against this hate!”

This was all in reference to The Goyim Defense League sign over the 405 Freeway in Los Angeles on October 22, which stated, “Kanye is right about the Jews.”

As always, if you or someone you know experiences an antisemitic incident or are made aware of a threat, report it at adl.org/report-incident.

Campus Report on Anti-Israel Activism

Pro-Israel students are increasingly being targeted with antisemitic vitriol that is deeply unsettling and makes colleges and universities feel less safe and secure for Jewish students.

In the Anti-Defamation League’s {ADL} just-released annual Campus Report of Anti-Israel Activism, they tracked and analyzed hundreds of anti-Israel incidents nationwide in the past academic year, many of which crossed the line into antisemitism. They have seen the outsized impact anti-Israel activity has on Jewish students. ADL is now broadening educational and programmatic investment on campus, including the launch of an expanded online resource to support students and combat antisemitism and anti-Israel bias on campus.

This report from the ADL Center on Extremism identified a range of disturbing anti-Zionist and anti-Israel expressions on campus — from physical assault to vandalism to targeted harassment to anti-Israel events, BDS resolutions and referenda. University leaders must learn how to recognize and adequately respond to antisemitism whenever it arises, including when anti-Israel activities cross the line into antisemitic hatred.

It’s important for Jewish students and their families to know that they aren’t alone. Here’s how ADL is taking action to address the rising tide of anti-Israel activities on campus:

ADL has dramatically expanded Think. Plan. Act., a comprehensive online resource to help students identify and respond to anti-Israel bias and antisemitism. Think. Plan. Act. uses real-life situations as examples and provides tools for Jewish students to use.

ADL is partnering with Hillel International to roll out a digital training module teaching about antisemitism for students and student leaders later this year, adding to ADL’s already robust work on campus, including their partnership with Hillel International for tracking and responding to incidents, as well as Words to Action trainings and Hate Uncycled. ADL’s 25 regional offices across the country provide on-the-ground support and expertise for campus stakeholders — including administrators, students and more.

ADL is gathering signatures on a petition encouraging full funding of the Nonprofit Security Grant Program, which can be used to protect religious spaces on campus.

Museum of Jewish Heritage Issues Statement on Recent Antisemitic Incidents Involving Public Figures

The Museum of Jewish Heritage – A Living Memorial to the Holocaust issued the following statement on November 1 in response to recent incidents in which public figures either expressed support for antisemitic material or made antisemitic comments. The statement comes from Bruce Ratner, Chairman of the Board, and Jack Kliger, CEO and President, at the Museum in Battery Park City.

“We are extremely angered by recent incidents in which public figures have supported or promoted antisemitic views and tropes. History has shown us that silence allows antisemitism to foment, beginning with words and ultimately leading to violence and genocide.

“Public figures must recognize that their words – whether spoken or shared on social media – carry significant influence and can lead to severe harm. They can influence a legion of fans and supporters to embrace similar tropes. And we are already seeing that in projections on a building in Florida and the audacity of someone walking into a SOHO bar dressed as a Nazi at the end of October.

“We all hold the responsibility to ensure that what we share and say publicly must be built on facts, not fear or lies or distortions. The media platforms on which these lies and conspiracy theories are distributed also must be held responsible; they are not just agnostic platforms, as we saw by the increase of hate

speech on Twitter.

“Unfortunately, antisemitism is still very much a part of our world and will not disappear anytime soon. Recognizing that, all of us have an obligation to stand up and speak out against all forms of hate, including antisemitic words and actions, but also all forms of racism, including anti-Asian discrimination.

“The Museum of Jewish Heritage is an institution founded 25 years ago on the premise of educating the public so that we never forget the atrocities of the Holocaust, how unchecked intolerance can fester and lead to unspeakable horrors. Words carry weight; they matter, because when not contested, they can lead to hateful actions. Our new exhibition, The Holocaust: What Hate Can Do, explores just that – how seeds of hate, of antisemitism, can lead to violence and genocide.

“No form of hate should go unchecked; when we stand up for one people, we stand up for all people, and their rights to live freely in a society that accepts and celebrates our differences, that unites instead of divides.

“We need hope at this moment in our history. We must hope for a better world, a better society. But that will not be achieved unless we all do our part. All of us, and particularly those who are in the public eye, bear a responsibility to address prejudice and extremism. We cannot, and should not, remain silent.”

WJL Calendar of Events

On Thursday, November 17, 2022, at 7:00pm - 8:30pm, adults and teens can enjoy Carl Reiner and Mel Brooks: The Grandmasters of American Comedy online. For more than seven decades, Carl Reiner and Mel Brooks made America laugh—either through their remarkable solo careers or their legendary partnership. Whether together or apart, they were giants of American comedy, who basically conquered every field they entered, whether television, movies, Broadway, or records. This presentation will examine their extraordinary achievements, beginning with their work together on Sid Caesar’s Your Show of Shows and their creation of the 2000 Year Old Man, to their individual accomplishments as writers, directors, and performers. Register online for the Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88485763605?pwd=RnQrbDRqRWU5cHhuMGNoZk92eGQ3QT09>. Sponsored by the Dobbs Ferry, Harrison, Mt. Pleasant, New Rochelle, and Town of Pelham Public Libraries.

On November 20, Westchester Jewish Council and Kol Hazzanim The Cantors of Westchester, present an afternoon of Music and Joy at Westchester Reform Temple, 255 Mamaroneck Road, Scarsdale at 4pm. Register at <https://conta.cc/3crQvsN> or at wjccouncil.org. Event is in person or virtual.

On November 30 at 7:30pm, UJA Westchester will host a conversation with Dr. Marjorie Seidenfeld and Rachel Klein MSW about Preparing Your Teen to Thrive in College at The JCC of Mid Westchester, 999 Wilmot Road, Scarsdale. For questions or to register, contact Susan Scharf Glick at glicks@ujafedny.org or 914-385-2120. UJA requests all attendees be vaccinated against Covid-19.

On November 30, Tour Jewish Rome on Zoom with Native Italian Tour Guides at 7pm. This presentation will discuss Jewish symbols present in the frescoes of the Sistine Chapel, the area by the Tiber River where the Jewish community settled around the 2nd century BCE and Roman Jewish cuisine. To register go to Eventbrite.com/e/tour-jewish-rome-on-zoom-with-native-italian-tour-guides-tickets-392674840017. For questions call 212-374-4100.

On December 4, Yeshiva University will host their 98th Annual Hanukkah dinner at the Glasshouse, 660 12th Avenue, NYC at 5pm. Cocktail Attire. To register or for information, contact Michal Kleiman at 646-592-4514 or impactdinner@yu.edu

The Derfner Judaica Museum at the Hebrew Home at Riverdale, 5901 Palisade Avenue, Riverdale, presents Maryna Bilak’s new art exhibit called CARE, the experience of caring for someone. Call 718-581-1596 for details.

On December 12, Westchester Interfaith Clergy are invited to a free event at Beth El Synagogue Center, Northfield Road at North Avenue, New Rochelle, from 10 am to 2pm, to hear Dr. George Bonanno discussing “The New Face of Grief—How Grief Affects Us and How We Get Through It.” For more information contact lori@wjccouncil.org

On December 21 at 6pm, Hadassah Westchester will hold a Hanukkah Party at a home in Mamaroneck {address provided with registration.} Salad, latkes and dessert will be served. Register at WestchesterRegion@Hadassah.org

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Exhibition Casts a Light on the Long Road to Civil Rights for European Jews

An exhibition opening on Election Day (November 8th) at the Center for Jewish History tells the complex story of the Jewish people's path toward citizenship in Europe.

How Jews Became Citizens: Highlights from the Sid Lapidus Collection showcases rare books and historical documents, taking a geographical approach to discussions around European Jewish emancipation—the process through which Jews obtained rights—from the 17th to 19th centuries.

Sid Lapidus of Harrison, serves on the Board of the Directors at the Center and is the former Chair of the American Antiquarian Society, determinedly collected these rare texts which document the many steps in the evolution of Jewish rights across Europe and donated more than 130 rare pamphlets and manuscripts

to the Center in recent years which form the core of the exhibit. The exhibit demonstrates the complexity of negotiations around the economic, political, and social rights of Western and Central European Jews. Rachel Miller, the Center's Chief of Archive and Library Services explains, "every publication on display helped in some way to move the needle of the legal climate and public perception around Jewish communities and the persecution they faced – and points to how the Jewish citizen came to be amidst that European crucible."

This exhibit launches at the Center at an ideal moment to reconsider these dialogues surrounding the disputes and challenges faced by ethno-religious minorities in obtaining their rights. Exhibit curator, Ivy Weingram, stressed this connection, saying, "Even today, in every



Sid Lapidus

corner of the globe, these include rights of settlement, political agency and civil service, economic opportunity, and education. All are up for discussion in the printed pages of the Lapidus collection, and they remain anxiety-inducing conversations within minority communities today."

How Jews Became Citizens makes these documents available to visitors to the Center for the first time, elucidating the debates over Jewish rights that took place at the highest levels of government in England, France, Italy, and in the German States. The collection showcases key conversations about immigration, (re)admission, economic opportunity, and citizenship through the notable thinkers like Moses Mendelssohn and Theodor Herzl, whose writings shaped both law and public opinion on the civil rights of Jews.

In conjunction with this exhibit, the Center for Jewish History is hosting a series of lectures featuring leading historians on Jewish emancipation, religious liberty, and the relevance of these topics today.

The Center for Jewish History is located at 15 W 16th Street, NYC. Call (212) 294-8301 for more information.

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A New Hanukkah Forever Stamp



The U.S. Postal Service continues its tradition of issuing stamps for the Hanukkah season.

This joyous Jewish holiday commemorates the liberation and reconsecration of the Temple in Jerusalem in the second century B.C. Also known as the Festival of Lights, Hanukkah is a time for family and friends to come together to rejoice.

Jeanette Kuvin Oren was the 2022 stamp designer and artist. Ethel Kessler was the art director.

Customers may purchase stamps and other philatelic products through the Postal Store at usps.com/shopstamps, by calling 844-737-7826, by mail through USA Philatelic or at Post Office locations nationwide.

The Hanukkah Forever stamp is sold in panes of 20. Forever stamps will always be equal in value to the current First-Class Mail 1 ounce price.

In 2022, Hanukkah begins at sundown on Dec. 18.

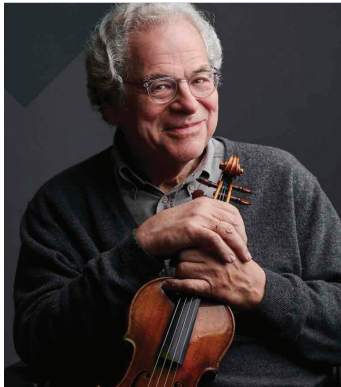
Maestro Itzhak Perlman Performs for AMIT

AMIT presents 'An Evening with Itzhak Perlman' on Nov. 22, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. at Sony Hall in New York City to reveal AMIT Kfar Batya (<http://kfarbatya.org>), a center for educational transformation opening in 2025 in Ra'anana, Israel.

AMIT members and supporters will attend an intimate performance by the reigning virtuoso of the violin, Maestro Itzhak Perlman, where he will capture highlights of his career, share his remarkable artistry, and convey his irrepressible joy for making music. Mr. Perlman will be joined by Rohan De Silva on piano. This event will be co-chaired by AMIT board members Shari and Jacob M. Safra, and Joyce and Daniel Straus, and will recognize the magnificent commitment of donors: Layla and Evan Green, and Ellen and Stanley Wasserman. There will also be a tribute to Marguerite Werrin z"l, a dedicated AMIT board member who recently passed away.

"We are honored to host Itzhak Perlman at this transformative moment in AMIT's history. Mr. Perlman's passion, creativity, and drive for excellence are well known. It is his unwavering commitment to Israel and mentoring young people that speaks to what AMIT is all about," says Audrey Axelrod Trachtman, AMIT President.

'An Evening with Itzhak Perlman' celebrates AMIT's 15-year commitment and \$70 million dollar investment to bring AMIT Kfar Batya campus and



Itzhak Perlman

AMIT Goyga's new headquarters to fruition. The event will include a preview of AMIT Kfar Batya and an unveiling of the AMIT Kfar Batya time capsule.

In 2014, AMIT launched a new methodology called Goyga as a vision to change Israel's education system through a 21st-century lens focused on preparing today's students for tomorrow's economic, technological, and societal shifts. AMIT's new cutting-edge Kfar Batya campus will serve as an incubator for the

development and implementation model of the Goyga academic frameworks and will train thousands of teachers in the Goyga method to be implemented throughout the AMIT network. The facility will focus on academic excellence and be grounded in AMIT's Torah values, with the singular goal of leveling the playing field for all Israeli children regardless of socio-economic background, disability, or personal challenges.

"David Ben-Gurion once said, 'It's not enough to be up to date, you have to be up to tomorrow.' This directly speaks our goal for AMIT Kfar Batya," says Shari Safra, AMIT Vice President, Financial Resource Development. "AMIT Kfar Batya will help establish 'Startup Nation' Israel as the 'Education Nation.'"

To view the AMIT Kfar Batya website, go to <http://kfarbatya.org>.

For more information about this event, visit <https://amitchildren.org/perlman/>.

JCCMW Hosts Fall Fest!

Over a thousand members of the community participated in the JCC of Mid Westchester's [JCCMW] Fall Fest festivities on October 9 enjoying the delicious food, reflecting on the holiday of Sukkot, singing and dancing together, taking scuba classes and swimming in their pool, planting garlic in their garden, creating art and 3D printing in the Friedland MakerSpace, tumbling in the gymnasium, watching elite dancers and gymnasts perform, and packing medical supplies with AFYA during the social action project.

The JCC welcomed people of all ages and stages of life, babies to older adults, teens, families, singles, and people of all backgrounds. "The sun was shining, the day was truly spectacular, and the outpouring of gratitude



for this special program has been tremendous," noted Elise Dowell, JCCMW Chief Executive Officer.

"Events like Fall Fest not only serve as opportunities to come together, they help us reach the wider Westchester community, reflecting our mission of opening our doors as widely as possible to offer participants educational, social, cultural, and recreational activities to inspire joyous lives and strengthen community," Dowell said. "We are so proud that Fall Fest succeeded in helping the JCCMW carry out this mission. With your ongoing dedication and support, we can continue advancing this meaningful work."



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Students Supporting Israel

Students Supporting Israel (SSI) is a rapidly growing Zionist international campus movement that supports the State of Israel as a Jewish, democratic state, within secure borders. SSI's mission is to be a clear and confident pro-Israel voice on college campuses, and to support students in grassroots pro-Israel advocacy.

SSI provides students on college campuses and universities the opportunity to support the position of Israel in the Middle East, and reassures students who oppose the demonization of the State of Israel on campus that they are not alone. SSI is the official name for registered Zionist student clubs on campus, changing the anti-Israel climate many students constantly encounter. By being part of a united, strong and thriving international movement, students are empowered to express their views in support of Israel. Currently, there are 180 chapters.

SSI is the most prominent pro-Israel registered student group across campuses, serving as the primary opposition to the antisemitic Students for Justice in Palestine.

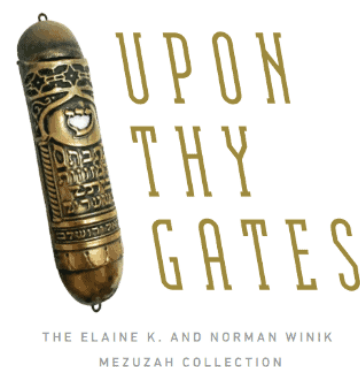


Upon Thy Gates: The Winik Mezuzah Collection Exhibit

The Museum at Eldridge Street is proud to present an exciting new exhibition, *Upon Thy Gates: The Elaine K. and Norman Winik Mezuzah Collection*, from the Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education in Portland.

Curated by Kenneth Helphand, the exhibition presents 73 mezuzahs collected by the Winiks that represent a wide range of styles, materials, and Jewish symbols. The mezuzahs were created in places all over the world, including Israel, the United States, Denmark, England, Ethiopia, Germany, the Netherlands, India, Iran, Italy, Morocco, Poland, and Yemen and date from the late 18th to the 21st century.

A mezuzah (from the Hebrew word for doorpost) is a handwritten scroll containing a prayer which is placed inside a decorative case and affixed to a doorpost in the home. Among the oldest of Jewish traditions, mezuzahs are often associated with the concept of protection, and serve as a constant reminder of G-d and a symbol of one's Jewish identity. This tradition and the title of



the exhibition come from a mandate in the Torah to "love the Lord your G-d with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. Take to heart these instructions...and inscribe them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates."

Upon Thy Gates: The Elaine K. and Norman Winik Mezuzah Collection will be on view through April 23, 2023, in the Michael Weinstein Gallery at The Museum at Eldridge Street, 12 Eldridge Street, New York. For more information, call 212-219-0888.

"Upon Thy Gates" was produced by the Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education with generous support by the Andy Fund, established in loving memory of Andrea M. Bronfman by her children. Mounting of the show and related programs at the Museum at Eldridge Street are made possible, in part, by the City of New York Department of Cultural Affairs in Partnership with the City Council, and New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature.

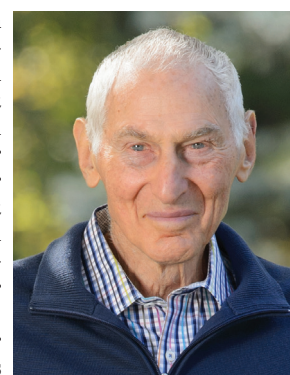
The Harold Grinspoon Foundation's JCamp 180® to invest \$25 million in Jewish Camps

JCamp 180, a core program of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation (HGF), will support more than 100 nonprofit Jewish overnight camps over the next five years with the \$25 million Forward Together matching grant. Forward Together will provide unrestricted support to the camps along with capital investments for the physical improvements that are necessary for camp success.

Harold Grinspoon, benefactor and co-founder of the HGF, believes camps are among the most important assets of the Jewish community, providing impactful experiences for Jewish young people to become enculturated in Jewish traditions, values and identity.

"I never was able to go to a Jewish camp, but I know they are crucial ways for young people to plant the roots of lifelong Jewish connections," says Grinspoon, who has invested more than \$55 million dollars in Jewish camps through JCamp 180 over the past 28 years. "I was overjoyed to have visited multiple camps in person this past summer after two summers away due to the COVID-19 pandemic. I saw camps brimming with life, although continuing to struggle with significant mental health, staffing, and infrastructure challenges after the pandemic. The Forward Together grant renews my commitment to helping position Jewish non-profit overnight camps for long-term sustainability for generations."

Forward Together is a 1:3 matching grant where the HGF disburses \$1 for every \$3 the camp raises. Each camp will receive a base allocation of



Harold Grinspoon

funds; if they raise four times the allocation within the grant period, the camp will receive a \$10,000 bonus.

JCamp 180 Director Sarah Eisinger says the timing of the grant is critical as camps seek to build on past fundraising successes. "The Harold Grinspoon Foundation support for Jewish summer camp is enduring and we are proud to make this commitment over these next five years," says Eisinger. "This support will give the camps the resources and

tools to maintain and steward their current donors and attract new ones. We hope this match gives the camps the confidence to continue sharing the power of Jewish camp so they can be sustainable into the future."

JCamp 180 works with more than 100 nonprofit Jewish overnight camps and nearly 40 nonprofit Jewish day camps across North America, providing them with grants, consulting, training and resources, and providing their professional teams and lay leaders with professional development programs to build their organizational effectiveness. JCamp 180 believes that when Jewish camps are equipped with the knowledge, skills, and resources for long-term organizational excellence they will operate thriving camps that create lifelong Jewish connections.

Inspired by the deep meaning and joy offered by Jewish living, the Harold Grinspoon Foundation helps people connect to Jewish values, faith, traditions, and culture and build vibrant Jewish communities.

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For more information, contact
AJC Westchester/Fairfield at
914.948.5585 or westchester@ajc.org.

What Observation Status Means in New York



BY: BERNARD A. KROOKS, CERTIFIED ELDER LAW ATTORNEY

Currently, there are about 64 million people in the United States who have Medicare. Medicare is a federal health insurance program for seniors and those with disabilities and it is administered by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Medicare is divided into parts A, B, C, and D. Part A covers inpatient hospital and skilled nursing care. Part B covers doctors' visits and outpatient care. Part C, sometimes referred to as Medicare Advantage, is an optional alternative to regular Medicare and combines parts A and B. Often, Medicare Advantage plans include certain benefits you do not get with regular Medicare and may also have differences in doctor networks. Part D covers prescription drugs.

Keep in mind that, in addition to monthly premium charges for certain parts of Medicare, there are significant deductibles, copays and coinsurance. For some, the monthly premiums can increase depending upon how much income you have. The Medicare Income Related Monthly Adjustment Amount (IRMAA) is an

amount you may pay in addition to your regular Medicare premium if your income (which, for this purpose, includes tax-exempt income) exceeds \$91,000. The increased premiums can be significant. For example, the basic Medicare Part B premium for 2022 is \$170.10 per month. However, under the IRMAA, the maximum you could be required to pay each month is \$578.30. These amounts are adjusted annually based on inflation.

While it seems straightforward that Medicare part A should cover hospital and nursing home stays, sometimes things are not what they appear to be.

Typically, when someone enters a hospital, it is through the emergency room. At that point, the emergency room doctor meets with, and examines, the patient and then can either discharge you from the hospital, admit you as an inpatient or put you in "observation status" without being formally admitted to the hospital. Many people do not realize the financial implications for them that are based, in large part, on what the doctor decides.

A patient in observation status usually must undergo both physical and mental assessments, including diagnostic tests, short-term treatments, feedings, drug administration, etc. as bases to determine whether the patient can be discharged, continue to be placed in observation status or needs to be treated more intensively as an inpatient.

Observation services are classified as outpatient services, not covered by Medicare Part A. Thus, a patient will normally have to pay out of pocket for co-payments (a fixed amount you must pay each time you receive a medical service) or co-insurances (the percentage of the

total Medicare allowable amount paid for a service that the patient is responsible for).

These are all costs that the patient might not have to pay if they were admitted and classified as an inpatient, since those costs would be covered by Medicare Part A. Moreover, some individuals are enrolled in Part A but not Part B (for example, someone who is still working and covered under an applicable health insurance plan at work).

For several years now, New York has, consistent with federal law, required hospitals to provide written and oral notice to the patient or the patient's representative within 24 hours of the patient being placed on observation status. The notice must specifically state that the patient is not being admitted to the hospital and is being placed on observation status. The notice must further include a statement that observation status may affect the person's Medicare or insurance coverage for the hospital services, as well as coverage for any subsequent discharge to a skilled nursing home.

Historically, once you were placed on observation status, there was no way to appeal that decision, even if you disagreed with it. However, based on a recent federal court decision, certain Medicare beneficiaries (those who were initially admitted as inpatient but then had

their status switched to observation status) now have the right to appeal that decision to Medicare and argue that they should be covered as inpatients. The court held that the Medicare program violated the due process rights of people by not providing any recourse for patients who were admitted as inpatients, but whose status was then changed to observation status. This decision, however, applies only to people who have regular Medicare and not those who have opted for Medicare Advantage plans.

The federal government is in the process of implementing the court's decision. Many thanks to the Connecticut based Center for Medicare Advocacy (www.medicareadvocacy.org) for litigating this issue and for all the work they do on behalf of Medicare beneficiaries.

Bernard A. Krooks, Esq., is a founding partner of Littman Krooks LLP. He was named 2021 "Lawyer of the Year" by Best Lawyers in America® for excellence in Elder Law and has been honored as one of the "Best Lawyers" in America since 2008. He was elected to the Estate Planning Hall of Fame by the National Association of Estate Planners & Councils (NAEPC). Krooks is past Chair of the Elder Law Committee of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel (ACTEC). Mr. Krooks may be reached at (914-684-2100) or by visiting the firm's website at www.elderlawnewyork.com.

Leo Frank, Kanye West, and Saying No to Hate in Our States



BY MYRA CLARK-SIEGEL,
AJC WESTCHESTER/FAIRFIELD REGIONAL DIRECTOR

The story of Leo Frank is as important today as when it took place in 1913, the day of the Confederate Memorial Day Parade, a popular event in much of the American South. That same day, 13-year-old Mary Phagan went to the Atlanta, GA pencil factory where she worked to collect her paycheck and was brutally murdered in the factory.

Leo Frank, a transplanted Jew from Brooklyn, N.Y., quickly was framed, because the prosecutor was looking for an easy political win – what better way in the South than to convict a Jew and transplanted Northerner.

The antisemitic kangaroo court and the flimsy case, coupled with a fundamentalist newspaper publisher and sensationalist reporter, all saw an easy opportunity to fan the flames of hatred and score easy political points and headlines. The trial, sensationalized by the media, aroused antisemitic tensions in Atlanta and throughout Georgia. Crowds outside the courtroom chanted "Hang the Jew."

Eventually, the Jewish community, and people from other faiths became involved, with university presidents and government officials across the country noting the miscarriage of justice and how Leo Frank was framed as a Jew.

Ultimately, Leo Frank's death sentence was commuted to life in prison by the outgoing governor after careful review of 10,000 pages of testimony and multiple problems with the trial. Frank

was transferred to a countryside work-prison, but a group of community leaders (including two former judges and a preacher) seized and lynched him, while townspeople watched and celebrated.

Fast forward to today. Kanye West, or "Ye" as he is now called, actually experienced a dramatic increase of online media followers after a series of antisemitic posts that referenced common antisemitic tropes.

Just days after, Brooklyn Nets basketball player Kyrie Irving posted a link to a film with hateful claims about Jews. When given the opportunity to correct the situation, Irving demurred, ultimately resulting in suspending by the franchise. The film's false and outlandish claims about Jews include the assertion that the Holocaust never happened.

Unlike during Leo Frank's time, today, the Jewish community is strong, and engaged both publicly and politically. We are "Jewish and Proud", and we call out hatred against all publicly and immediately.

And yet, all too often, others don't see hate against Jews on the same level as other minorities. That is partly because of a notion—exemplified in Kanye's tweet—that Jews are privileged and powerful and not in need of protections afforded other minorities.

But the numbers don't lie: AJC's 2021 State of Antisemitism in America report revealed that 90% of Jewish respondents believe antisemitism is a problem in the U.S. Four in ten American Jews changed their behavior out of fear of antisemitism. When societies cannot protect their Jewish populations, they often fail to protect their democracy as well. AJC has launched a Call to Action Against Antisemitism in America that provides U.S. leadership in all sectors of society with the knowledge and tools to understand, respond to, and prevent antisemitism.

Myra Clark-Siegel is AJC Westchester/Fairfield regional director. Join us to stand against all forms of hate as a Community of Conscience at westchester@ajc.org. Together, we can make our voices heard.

Miracle of Miracles: A Sukkot Story

BY HALINA ROSENKRANZ

On a beautiful fall day, Holocaust Survivors from all over Westchester came together to celebrate the festive holiday of Sukkot. While being escorted to their seats, a 96-year woman, a survivor of five concentration camps stopped me and asked, "Are there any Survivors here from Lodz?" I was so happy to respond, "Yes. I will bring her over to your table once everyone is seated." Staying true to my word, I brought 93-year-old Esther over to meet Fay. As the two women gazed at each other, suddenly Esther, with a look of astonishment and disbelief said, "Oh my G-d. I know you. You had a sister named Lola." The ladies embraced, and Fay, with tearful appreciation said, "Look, she remembers my sister." The Lodz Ghetto was liquidated in 1944 and this meeting was 78 years in the making.

This miracle occurred on Wednesday, October 12, 2022, at a luncheon coordinated by Westchester Jewish Community Services (WJCS) and sponsored by the Claims Conference (Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany) and UJA-Federation of NY. Amidst the lovely setting of Westchester Reform Temple in Scarsdale, there was rejoicing in the air with an avalanche of hugs, warm greetings, endless conversation, and laughter, as nearly 70 Holocaust Survivors made their way to their tables to enjoy a kosher lunch.

No one could imagine that beneath these smiling faces lie the dark and painful memories of the Shoah, of families that were murdered and forever grieved by the Survivors. For this reason, Survivors gravitate toward each other often forming familial bonds. The Holocaust is the bloodline that links them. Nothing reflected this kinship better than the miraculous emotional reunion between Esther and Fay who were teenagers when last imprisoned in the ghetto and were later deported to

several concentration camps, including Auschwitz and Bergen-Belson. Because of the extensive losses suffered by Survivors, these shared Holocaust experiences created a powerful connection which was intensified when they bore witness to the existence of murdered family members, such as Esther remembering Fay's sister. There is an obligation among Survivors to always remember and be the voice for those who have no formal resting place where their existence could be acknowledged and memorialized.

Sukkot is a joyful holiday, a festival of thanksgiving for harvest and bounty, as well as a tribute and remembrance of a time from slavery to freedom. What better time to celebrate with Holocaust Survivors who provide nourishment for our souls and force us to remember that there is a heavy price for complacency to civic unrest and injustice?

These words of gratitude and commitment to provide continued support to Survivors were presented by Allison Danzig, WJCS Coordinator of Holocaust Services, Seth Diamond, Chief Executive Officer of WJCS, New York State Senator Shelley Mayer, and Greg Schneider, Executive Vice President of the Claims Conference. Each speaker reaffirmed their commitment to provide comfort and assistance to Holocaust Survivors through the hardships of old age. Additionally, it is the responsibility of all who were present on this beautiful fall day to remember the victims, bear witness to the Survivors, and to educate future generations about the perils of inaction against prejudice and hate.

Halina Rosenkranz is Case Manager/Group Facilitator of Holocaust Programs at Westchester Jewish Community Services (WJCS). To learn more about these and other programs at WJCS, please go to www.wjcs.com.

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Mazel Tov

HHREC Honors Westchester Business Leader, Features Pulitzer Prize-Winning Speaker at Annual Fall Benefit



David Alpert, Board Member, HHREC, with Honoree Dennis Mehiel

The Holocaust & Human Rights Education Center (HHREC) honored Westchester County Business Executive Dennis Mehiel at their annual Benefit at Westchester Country Club in Rye, on October 27th. HHREC Board of Directors Chairperson President Michael Gyory introduced Mehiel, who spoke about the importance of standing up against antisemitism and expressed his gratitude for the work of HHREC in offering programs that teach the lessons learned from the Holocaust. Mr. Mehiel was the first person not of the Jewish faith elected to the Board of Governors of Yeshiva University's Wurzweiler School of Social Work where he served from 1989 until 1996.

The program also featured a talk and Q&A with Pulitzer-Prize Winning Journalist, Author, and New York Times columnist Bret Stephens, who appeared as the event Keynote Speaker. Stephen's talk centered on drawing parallels between

2022 and 1922 and the dangers of overlooking signs of hatred and discrimination, and the possibility that they could reoccur in the U.S. in the years ahead.

HHREC Executive Director Millie Jasper recognized Holocaust survivors who were in the audience and introduced a film about the HHREC Educator's Study Tour of Germany and Poland. She also thanked the audience for their continued support for HHREC programs and announced a new endowment campaign.

"We are so grateful for the support from our growing community, especially those who came out to be with us for this year's HHREC Benefit," said Jasper. "Our staff, board of directors, and education program partners are reenergized as we continue in our efforts to teach the lessons of the Holocaust, and the right of all people to be treated with dignity and respect."

JCC Mid-Westchester Adds Three New Board Members

The JCC Mid-Westchester (JCCMW) has announced the addition of three new esteemed members to its board of directors and the appointment of a new chair for the Nursery School board.

Marc Gary, Jennifer Klein and Seth Schaffer join the board at a time when the JCCMW is championing several new initiatives, from expanding its Nursery School to offering increasingly robust adult programming to creating more multigenerational opportunities rooted in Jewish traditions and values. The organization named a new board president, Rachel Moseley, in July and a new CEO, Elise Dowell in January.

In addition to these appointments, existing JCCMW board member Alison Singer will be taking on the role of Nursery Board Chair, formerly held by JCCMW board member Jim Lasser.

"Having known Marc, Jen and Seth individually for years, in some cases for decades, I could not be more thrilled by their appointments to the JCCMW board," said Elise Dowell, CEO of JCCMW. "They individually and collectively bring expertise to our community that is highly relevant and will significantly benefit our agency. I am also so



Marc Gary



Jennifer Klein



Seth Schaffer

grateful to board member Alison Singer for taking on the leadership of the Nursery School board, a role that directly influences the essential work we do with the youngest members of our community. And I'd like to thank our board member Jim Lasser for being a wonderful champion of those efforts."

"The JCCMW has long brought together board members deeply committed to community-building within and beyond our walls," said Rachel Moseley, President of the Board of Directors at the JCCMW. "It is my pleasure to be working with these dedicated and talented professionals as our organization embarks on its exciting next chapter."

WJCS Early Childhood Programs Expanding in Tarrytown and Yonkers

Westchester Jewish Community Services (WJCS) has announced the expansion of early childhood programming in Tarrytown and Yonkers. Both initiatives are made possible through generous support from the Westchester Community Foundation.

The WJCS Tarrytown Parent Child Center will be a free early learning program for parents and their young children (newborn-4 years old). The program serves families in need, many of them Spanish speaking recent immigrants, and is focused on giving parents the confidence and competence to support their children's early learning and literacy through joyful play, singing, reading, as well as referrals to community resources and information.

WJCS has also expanded its ParentChild+ home visiting service to Yonkers. This free national early childhood evidence-informed program, previously known as the Parent-Child Home Program, arms parents of children ranging in age from 16 months to 4 years old, with the knowledge, skills, and resources they need to ensure their children start school ready to succeed. The Yonkers program offers two options for families. They can receive two visits each week with an Early Learning Specialist in their home, or they can choose to have one visit at home, and one visit at WJCS's Infant Toddler Learning Center (ITLC).

The Early Learning Specialists and ITLC staff encourage and model reading, language, and play activities to stimulate parent-child interaction and promote the development

of verbal, cognitive, and social-emotional skills critical for children's long-term success. Sessions are conducted with cultural humility, respecting the family's culture and values.

"Many of our Early Learning Specialists are graduates of WJCS Early Childhood programs, speak the home language and live in the same community as the families they serve," said Jessica Piecyk, Director of WJCS Early Childhood Programs. "Books and toys are given to families as gifts to enjoy. They are chosen through a racial equity lens, reflecting the diversity of the communities we serve. All books are either bilingual, or have Spanish labels added."

The Tarrytown Parent Child Center will be open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 am to 12 pm and is located at 105 Wildey Street. The New Rochelle Parent Child Center, housed at the Boys & Girls Club of New Rochelle, Mascaro Club House at 79 Seventh Street, is open Mondays and Wednesdays from 10 am to 12 pm. Both centers are open October through May.

The WJCS Parent Child+ program has served the Westchester County community for over 50 years. Home visits are now available for eligible families in Greenburgh, Mamaroneck, Mount Vernon, New Rochelle, Port Chester, Sleepy Hollow, Tarrytown, White Plains, and Yonkers.

If you are interested in participating in the program or working as an Early Learning Specialist, contact Jessica Piecyk at jpiecyk@wjcs.com; (914) 949-7699 x2407.

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