

JEWISH VOICE

SERVING DELAWARE AND THE BRANDYWINE VALLEY

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2018

VOL. 49 | NO. 8

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DREAMS OF
SUMMER CAMP

SUMMER CAMPS:
a growth industry

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FROM SUMMER CAMP

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CAMP

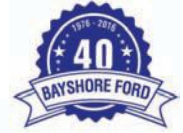


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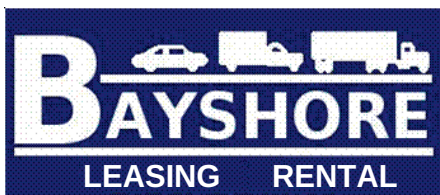


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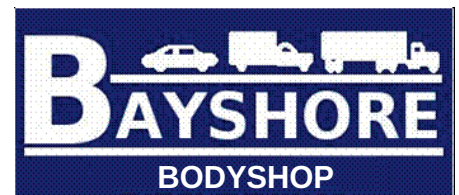


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~ Seth, Kathy, Adam and Rachel Bloom



Create A Jewish Legacy is a program of Jewish Federation of Delaware’s Jewish Fund for the Future and is funded in part by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation.

ShalomDelaware.org/Legacy

For more information about Create A Jewish Legacy, contact the Jewish Federation of Delaware at (302) 427-2100 or email JFDinfo@ShalomDel.org.

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CORRECTION: On page 13 of the January 2018 printed version of the *Jewish VOICE*, both author's of the article, *Revisiting the Garden of the Righteous Gentiles*, were listed as Co-Chairs of the Halina Wind Preston Holocaust Education Committee (HEC). This is incorrect. Steve Gonzer is the sole chair of the HEC.

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ON THE COVER

Harper Hanna.
Photo by Donna Harlev.

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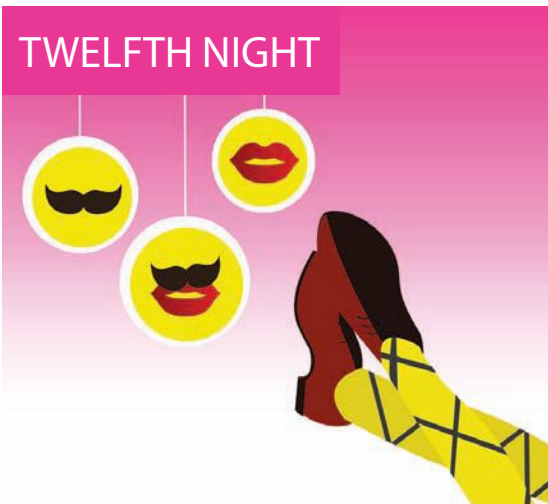
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BUILDING COMMUNITY ...TOGETHER



William Wagner
JFD President

Seth J. Katzen
Chief Executive Officer

We couldn't think of a more appropriate time to write about Comm.Unity than after a memorable Federation Shabbat at Congregation Beth Shalom on January 26th.

Members of our community throughout Delaware and the Brandywine Valley showed their support of Federation and our vibrant community. From an interactive PJ Library program to the festive Shabbat dinner to an engaging service, this year's Federation Shabbat was an evening to remember. Having the support and participation of our rabbis and cantors, synagogue presidents,

beneficiary agency executives and presidents is rarely seen in other communities. Federation Shabbat was a vivid example that We Are Stronger TOGETHER.

Coupled with a successful Federation Shabbat, our Super Sunday was held on January 28th. Our community was invited to make and answer the call for Federation's 2018 Annual Campaign. Thanks to our cadre of volunteers throughout the day, Federation was successful in raising critical dollars to meet the increasing needs of our community.

This month's issue includes a special feature on Jewish Camping experiences. We are privileged to be continuing our seventh consecutive year of One Happy Camper, a program of the Foundation for Jewish Camp, thanks to the generosity of the Gratz Endowment and a private family foundation. To date, we have sent

more than 60 children in our community to first-time Jewish overnight camp experiences.

Camp JCC provides exciting day camp opportunities for all ages with an outstanding variety of programs to meet all campers' needs from early childhood camps to traditional day camps to sports and specialty camps to teen programs. Campers enjoy swimming, arts and crafts, nature, sports, drama, Jewish culture, music, dance and much more.

At camp, kids get the chance to explore who they are and who they want to become in an inspiring, fun-filled environment. Jewish camp creates a community of campers – and young leaders – who feel sure of themselves and proud of their heritage.

**Thank you for your continued support.
We Are Stronger TOGETHER.**

LET MY PEOPLE GO

By Rabbi Ellen Bernhardt
JCRC Director, Jewish Federation of Delaware



JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF GREATER WASHINGTON

Were the kids too young to go?

Was it dangerous to take them to a march on Washington?

How could they possibly sit for those many hours on the bus?

Well, we did it; they went; and it made a lasting impression on them. And, most of all, the march was successful and created a whole new generation of Jewish activists.

December 6, 1987 was the eve of the summit between Mikhail Gorbachev, the Premier of the former Soviet Union, and President Ronald Reagan. The Jewish

community had been trying for years to get the issue of freeing Soviet Jewry on the agenda at the highest level. But first, a little background:

The Russian Revolution of 1917 led to the ascendancy of power of the Communist party and, among many other sweeping cultural changes, was the abolishment of traditional religions in the newly formed U.S.S.R. For the Jewish community, this was devastating. There was forced assimilation and the dangers of firing and imprisonment if someone were caught attending the synagogue or practicing their Judaism. For the next two generations, many Jews went

“underground” and continued to identify and to practice their religion to the best of their ability despite the threats and hostile environment. The result was that the forced assimilation created a group of Jews, most of whom had only vague recollections of being Jewish and had no Jewish education. They couldn’t get out and they couldn’t be part of their people.

In 1965, the Israeli newspaper, *Haaretz*, sent a young journalist, Elie Wiesel, to the USSR to report on the lives of Jews trapped behind the Iron Curtain. He was astonished to find out that Jews were hungry for knowledge of their people, of the State of

MORE ON NEXT PAGE

Israel, and swarmed synagogues to try to gain information and to identify. In 1966, Wiesel published his book, *Jews of Silence*, which was a call to action on the plight of Soviet Jewry. He wrote about the slow, spiritual starvation of Judaism in the Soviet Union and was a rallying cry for free Jews throughout the world to come to the aid of their Soviet Jewish brethren. In 1967, news of the Six Day War trickled into the Soviet Union, and, as world Jewry erupted with pride and declared themselves to be victims no more, so too did the few Jews in the Soviet Union who were able to get some information.

In the coming year, the Soviet Union severely limited emigration and the climate of discrimination against Jews increased. President Nixon and Henry Kissinger were reluctant to broach the subject during meetings, as dealing with the Russians on their own internal political situation was a difficult proposition. In 1973, when the Yom Kippur War broke out and the Israelis were nearly over-run, Nixon did come to Israel's aid by sending convoys of supplies of American military weapons to Israel, something that Golda Meir later said saved the State. Still, Soviet Jews were not allowed to practice their religion or emigrate. World Jewry was enraged and worked to pressure their governments to demand that the Soviets release their Jews.

In 1974, the Jackson-Vanik amendment to the Trade Act of 1974 was passed unanimously in the U. S. House and Senate. This federal law intended to affect U. S. trade relations with countries with non-market economies (originally countries of the Communist bloc) that restrict freedom of emigration and other human rights. President Gerald Ford signed the bill into law in January 1975.

American Jews were mobilizing, pressuring their government representatives and sending small groups of Jews into the Soviet Union to bring hope and information to the Refuseniks, so named because they applied for visas to go to Israel and the Soviet government

“refused” to grant them- often resulting in firings, isolation, imprisonment, and sometimes exile.

JCRCs across the U. S. were recruiting and training individuals to travel to the USSR, to smuggle in items of Jewish interest and to meet with the Refuseniks. I was one such person, recruited and trained by the Philadelphia JCRC, a particularly active and passionate group of people. In 1981-82, I was intensely trained, learned the Cyrillic alphabet so that I could read the subway signs, memorized names, phone numbers and pertinent information, carried in books, *tefillin*, *mezuzot*, and wore a necklace of gold plated stars of David. I left my small children with my parents and flew to Moscow through Frankfurt. I burned all of my notes and flushed them down the toilet in Frankfurt.

At customs in Moscow, they confiscated most of what I had brought. I only begged to keep at least one *siddur*, one *humash*, etc. for my “personal use.” When I was sent from customs, a KGB agent grabbed me and searched me. When I felt myself being grabbed, I tore off the necklace and dropped it to the ground. When I was released, I went back and retrieved that necklace and during my trip, gave out those precious Stars of David to tearful and grateful Refuseniks.

There were too many memorable events to list here. Some of the highlights include an incredibly emotional feeling of

calling Yuli Koshеровsky from a payphone overlooking the Kremlin and speaking to him in Hebrew, traveling down deep, deep subways to small apartments filled with Jews with whom I spoke in Hebrew, sang Hebrew songs, and taught Jewish texts. I remember thinking that here I was, the granddaughter of 4 Russian born Jews, one side of which was almost annihilated by Hitler, now coming back to their birthplace to help in the cause of freeing our brothers and sisters. As it turned out, the KGB “asked” us to leave a day early and I was never so happy to get onto a plane.

In 1986, due to the intense pressure by the U. S. Government and President Reagan, and the indefatigable efforts by his wife, Avital, Anatoly Sharansky was released. We all cried, watching the footage of his release across the Glieneke Bridge.

In 1987, 24 hours before Gorbachev was to arrive in Washington D. C. for a two-day summit with President Reagan, 250,000 people attended “the best organized protest rally in American Jewish History,” according to historian Henry Feingold. My children, my friends, and my fellow Jews heard the words of Sharansky and Elie Wiesel, marking a turning point in the struggle that led to the release of more than 1 million Jews in subsequent years.

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JEWISH FEDERATION WINS 4-STAR RATING FROM CHARITY NAVIGATOR

By JFD Staff



The Jewish Federation of Delaware earned a Four-Star Rating from Charity Navigator, the nation's largest independent charity evaluator. This is the third consecutive time that the Federation has earned this top distinction.

Charity Navigator rates charities by evaluating two broad areas of performance; Financial Health and Accountability & Transparency. These ratings show donors how efficiently a charity uses their support today, how well it has sustained its programs and services over time and their level of commitment to being accountable and transparent. Charity Navigator provides these ratings so that donors can make intelligent giving decisions, and so that the philanthropic community can be more effectively monitored.

"Jewish Federation of Delaware's exceptional 4-star rating sets it apart from its peers and demonstrates its trustworthiness to the public," according to Michael Thatcher, President & CEO of Charity Navigator. "Only a quarter of charities rated by Charity Navigator receive the distinction of our 4-star rating and only 18% of the charities we evaluate have received at least three consecutive 4-star evaluations."

"Receiving Charity Navigator's Four-Star rating for the third consecutive year recognizes our ongoing financial health as well as our commitment to being a trusted and transparent organization," stated Seth J. Katzen, CEO of the Jewish Federation of Delaware. "Being one of only ten Delaware charities to receive this honor is a true testament to our dedicated leadership and staff."

JFD LAUNCHES NEW WEBSITE

By JFD Staff

The Jewish Federation of Delaware launched its new website at ShalomDelaware.org. The website serves as the portal to Jewish Delaware and was evolved to provide and enhance user-friendly experiences. Improvements include a responsive design, site navigation, updated and more robust content, community calendar, event registration, and a secure donation platform.

Online marketing matters. It is increasingly important that nonprofit organizations build an online presence that connects and engages with potential and current constituents through a platform they can easily access anywhere, anytime. Websites have become the most powerful online communications tool with the capability of real-time updating and reporting.

"ShalomDelaware.org serves as Federation's primary online communication vehicle and provides an easy-to-navigate portal that informs, inspires and builds community," stated Seth J. Katzen, Chief Executive Officer of the Jewish Federation of Delaware. "Federation's website is an online extension of our brand positioning that parallels and reinforces that, 'We Are Stronger **TOGETHER**.'"

Federation's website is powered by Firespring, a certified B-Corporation that specializes in building and engaging nonprofit online presence. They provide essential nonprofit tools integrated into a stunning responsive website. For more information, visit Firespring.org



DID YOU KNOW ONE HAPPY CAMPER

By JFD Staff



One Happy Camper (OHC) is offered through a partnership with Jewish Federation of Delaware and the Foundation for Jewish Camp. The program gives funding to children in our community who wish to attend a Jewish overnight camp for the first time. It is not a scholarship fund and is not needs-based. Our goal is to engage families who are considering sending their children to overnight camp to try a Jewish one. Children may be eligible for a grant of up to \$1,000 this summer.

The Jewish Federation of Delaware One Happy Camper grants are awarded to first-time campers who attend a nonprofit Jewish overnight summer camp for at least 12 consecutive days or longer. Eligible campers must be

entering grades 1-12 (after camp) and be attending one of the 150+ non-profit, Jewish, overnight summer camps listed on the Foundation for Jewish Camp's website. Children are eligible just one time for this grant.

DID YOU KNOW?

The incentive grant funds are made possible through donors here in Delaware who believe that Jewish overnight camping is an important part of a child's Jewish education.

One Happy Camper is creating Jewish summers for kids; 6 out of 10 who would have stayed home or attended a non-Jewish summer experience.

There are a variety of traditional and specialty overnight camps that

span different denominations of Judaism, accommodate special needs and interests, and offer unique programming, catering to each family's needs.

OHC is an outreach initiative for children who are not currently receiving an immersive, daily Jewish experience. Children who attend Jewish day school are not eligible for the program. However, if your child is not eligible and/or is interested in learning about financial-needs based grants or other camper funding opportunities please visit www.jewishcamp.org/ scholarships, or contact your camp or rabbi to assist you.



For questions about the OHC program, camps, or to apply for a grant, visit www.onehappycamper.org or contact us at 302-427-2100.

THE REIMAGINING OF YLD

By Dana Berman
Community Shlichah and YLD Coordinator

There aren't many things as exciting as meeting new people. It provides us with a constant interest, an opportunity to expand our horizons, to look at things differently, and to create special moments.

Jewish Federation of Delaware's Young Leadership Division (YLD) connects Jewish singles, couples, and families in their 20's and 30's in social, educational, philanthropic, and social action initiatives. YLD believes that the future of the Jewish community depends on the development of new leaders and on the philanthropic efforts of our generation and those who follow.

goals, interests and experiences. Our members participate in a wide variety of educational, leadership, volunteer, and social activities that allow for meaningful involvement while benefiting the local and global Jewish community.

The great thing about groups like this, is that we are all probably very different from one another, but that we also have at least one common interest – our Judaism. Being Jewish today is an active choice and remains an integral part of our lives. YLD is looking for like-minded young adults for social, educational and networking experiences.

YLD provides young adults an opportunity to expand their circle of friends and space to celebrate who we are, connect with other people, have fun, engage in stimulating events and act as a positive force to enhance our Jewish identity while supporting our Jewish community.

i If you are interested in (re-)connecting with YLD, please contact Dana Berman at 302/427-2100 or Dana@ShalomDel.org

Based around the Jewish values of *kehilla* (community), *tzedakah* (giving with just intention), and *tikkun olam* (repairing the world), YLD serves as an inclusive community for young adults to grow and connect through shared


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Throwback Delaware



AKSE Cornerstone Dedication Kicks Off Centennial Celebration

JUNE 15, 1984
Wilmington, Delaware

By ZEV AMITI

A torrential flood of nostalgia inundated me as I stood on the fringe of a small group of adults and children at the entrance of the Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth synagogue on Washington Street Extension and Torah Drive Sunday, June 3, for the preliminary centennial commemoration of Adas Kodesch.

Rabbi Leonard B. Gewirtz was most impressive as he explained the importance of a *minyan* and a synagogue in Jewish life. The children, under the leadership of Mrs. Gewirtz, were charming as they sang their hymns.

And Harvey Rubenstein was just right as the president of the congregation when he announced the Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth congregation will begin to observe the 100th anniversary of Adas Kodesch Sept. 27 when the Jewish year of 5745 begins.

I thought it made so much sense to ignore the *goyishe* year and stick to the Jewish year for such occasions. I always regarded it as very peculiar for a Jewish organization, and particularly a Jewish religious organization to go by the calendar year that is also known as *Anno Domini*, if you know what I mean.

I listened carefully to Harvey Rubenstein when he made his formal announcement and it was then that an extra flood of nostalgia came over me as I whispered to myself,

“Harvey sounds very important and authoritarian but nothing like the late Louis Topkis, may he rest in peace, who used to run the old Adas Kodesch over at Sixth and French Streets, with an iron hand.”

But then, the times have changed since I was a *yankelle* in the old Adas Kodesch at Sixth and French

Streets back in the days when Louis Topkis was the power, when Hyman Rezits and David Swiren were the rabbis and Julius Cohen, the *hazan*.

Standing there on Sunday, June 3, I looked particularly at the group of children and told myself they don’t know what it was like years and years ago to have attended *cheder* in the basement of the old Adas Kodesch. We had no girls in our classes then. Our teachers were hard and almost ruthless, I thought then. And woe to me whenever I stepped out of line so much as to send the *melamed* squealing on me to my parents. They would take over with the strap where the teacher left off with his switch.

I also remembered how delighted I used to be attending Friday night services so that I could belt out with fervor *Le cho dodi* and later, go up to the *bima* and sip the wine as it was handed to me by the *shamus*, Mr. Shore, after it had been blessed.

The symbol for the forthcoming centennial of Adas Kodesch was the 1907 corner stone of the *schul* at Sixth and French Streets. I shuddered when I realized that I had started my Jewish education in the Adas Kodesch cheder only seven years after the new *schul* was built to replace the building that the congregation had been using since late in the 1890s.

The 1907 cornerstone was dedicated Aug. 18, 1907 with Rabbi Isidore Rosenthal of Lancaster, Pa., as the speaker.

Strangely enough, Rabbi Rosenthal was a Reform rabbi who knew only too well that he was addressing an Orthodox congregation when he said,

The Jewish Historical Society of Delaware is pleased to share these glimpses of life seen through the past issues of the Jewish VOICE.

– Gail Pietrzyk
Jewish Historical
Society of Delaware

“There is only one Judaism and the G-d of that faith has protected you in past ages and protects you today under the stars and stripes of the glorious republic.”

He also referred to what was then considered to be the Zionist flag and said,

“The flag of Zion which you see floating here today, may beckon some of you back to a reunited and happy Zion.”

According to Rubenstein, a wide variety of commemorative programs are being planned, including Delaware Jewish historical reviews, plays, concerts, discussions and special dinners.

The synagogue was the first permanent Jewish house of worship in the state.

The congregation merged with the Chesed Shel Emeth congregation in 1957. That congregation was originally established in 1915 at 229 Shipley St.

The combined congregations built a new synagogue on Washington Street Extension in 1963 and sold the Sixth and French streets building to the Wilmington Housing Authority. The authority demolished the structure as part of an urban renewal project on Wilmington’s East Side.

“As the centennial of the Adas Kodesch was approaching,” Rubenstein explains, “we decided to rededicate the old cornerstone as a symbol of continuity in our history of Jewish worship in Delaware.”

The Adas Kodesch congregation was not the first Jewish group of worshippers in Wilmington, but it was the first to survive to this day. Its first place of worship was on the second floor of William Valentine’s feed store at 309 W. Front St., with Bernhard Wolfson as president.

Later, the congregation moved to other rented quarters at the southwest corner of Third and Shipley streets.

In 1898, the Adas Kodesch congregation collected enough money to buy the old Zion Lutheran Church building at the southwest corner of Sixth and French streets, as its permanent house of worship.

So it was there that the Orthodox Jewish congregation finally settled. In a few years, it raised additional funds for the design and construction of a far more elaborate building on the Sixth and French streets site. The building was dedicated in 1908.



To see this and other articles and images from the June 1984 Jewish VOICE, visit our website at <http://jhsdelaware.org/jewishvoice>



You may also contact us at info@jhsdelaware.org for more information.



AABGU TRIBUTE

PHOTOS BY BRAD GLAZIER PHOTOGRAPHY

The Mid-Atlantic Region of American Associates, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (AABGU) honored Dr. Robin Karol-Eng at its annual tribute event this past November.

- 1 Dr. Barry Kayne, Chair of the AABGU Delaware Chapter, presenting the Science, Innovation, and Discovery award to Dr. Robin Karol-Eng at the ceremony and celebration held at the National Museum of American Jewish History
- 2 Dr. Michael and Connie Sugarman, tribute event co-chairs, Toni Young, President of AABGU, Dr. Robin Karol-Eng, and Dr. Barry Kayne, were among the Delawareans who traveled to the Philadelphia event

JFS PHOTOS BY JFD STAFF



- 1 Artist Paul Simon with his *LET'S FACE IT! Portraits from Volunteering* show at Blue Streak Gallery
- 2 The Brandywine Village Network enjoyed their 4th Annual Holiday Tea for members and volunteers

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OUT AND ABOUT WITH DANA

PHOTOS BY LAURIE HAZEN



1



2

1 Shari Walter, Dana Berman, and Karen Moss
2 CBS Program, Israel Through Commercials

HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS AT LODGE LANE AND THE KUTZ HOME



1



2

PHOTO CREDITS:
JESSICA BANNON, MELISSA CASPERSON,
AND SALLY GOODMAN

1 The Kutz Home lobby proudly displayed Happy Hanukkah greetings made by the children of the Beth Shalom Hebrew School
2 Lodge residents Jackie K. and Miriam G. join in the fun
3 Philip Berger and his band warmed up the residents at their winter celebration party!
4 Mark W. and his mother, Lodge resident Betty help light the menorah
5 Lodge Lane's Annual Holiday Party
6 Lodge resident Marge M. leads one of the Hannukah celebrations



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WINTER AT THE J

PHOTOS BY DONNA HARLEV



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- 1 Sunday Family Funday at Open House
- 2 Campers crafting at Winter Camp
- 3 Board Members Stacy Horowitz and Rachel Werkheiser at Open House
- 4 Sunday Family Funday
- 5 Matt Moran, Adam Cook, and Rebecca Krueger get ready for Camp JCC Early Bird Registration
- 6 Personal training try-it-out in the JFit Studio
- 7 Executive Director Ivy Harlev signs up new members at Open House



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1 Dreidel Fun with Morah Sharon

2 Fun with Friends at our Cookie Exchange and Silent Auction

3 Good Times and Great Gifts at our Cookie Exchange and Silent Auction

FUN WITH FRIENDS AT TEMPLE BETH EL

PHOTO CREDIT: SHARON FULLERTON PHOTOGRAPHY



SEASIDE JEWISH COMMUNITY TOGETHER IN SONG

PHOTOS BY DAVID UDOFF



1 Dr. Joel Simon (Religious School director), Rabbi Beth Cohen and from left to right, Religious School students Rebekah Namrow, Amalia Fruchtmann, and Julia Udoff

2 Dr. Jeff Hawtof, SJC's Religious School music director, leading the Religious School children in song



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AKSE SPREADING GOOD CHEER

PHOTO CREDIT: BRAD GLAZIER PHOTOGRAPHY



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On December 25, 26 volunteers from Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth helped the residents at the Mary Campbell Center open their Christmas gifts. Their presence spread cheer to the residents on their special day, while also enabling many of the staff members to have the day off from work to be with their families. For several of the residents and volunteers, this day was a happy reunion from previous years. Ed Zukoff again coordinated the successful project.



6

- 1 Ella Zukoff poses with resident
- 2 Michelle and Jenna Glazier display new Eagles t-shirt to resident
- 3 Phil Shlossman assists resident in opening a gift
- 4 AKSE President Jonathan Jaffe converses with resident
- 5 Sharon and Jim Marshall and their granddaughter, Sydney Sapp, show resident his new clothes
- 6 Volunteers pose for a group photo before engaging with residents

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Einstein students Gabriel L. and Noam M. show off their science lab work PHOTO COURTESY OF EINSTEIN ACADEMY

A TIME FOR ENROLLING

By Rabbi Jeremy Winaker
Head of School,
Albert Einstein Academy

Now is the time for enrolling in Jewish day school.

Yes, it is the middle of winter, and yes summer camps (and Jewish summer camp, in particular) are the focus of open houses, fairs, internet browsing, and this issue of the *Jewish VOICE*. If we can think about summer now, we can certainly think about next fall. “To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven” (Eccl. 3:1). If now is the time to act on our purpose in sending children to camp, then now is the right time to look seriously at day school.

Summer camp is tradition. American Jews have been sending their children to day camps and sleepaway camps for decades. Sometimes the point was to leave the heat of the city, sometimes it was to be with the right people. Camps varied in their offerings and constituencies by geography, affiliation, or camp culture. What remained the same throughout the generations were the ways in which camps created a special place in time, a kind of Shabbat from the school year, where identities and friendships formed and were built to last a lifetime.

In a 21st Century classroom, the school year is not automatically an experience from which we need a break. School today can be dynamic, immersive, and fun, especially in a Jewish day school. What is more, by steeping the program and atmosphere in Jewish values, Jewish day school grounds students in a culture of tradition, meaning, and depth that empowers them as learners, leaders, and friends. If camp is Shabbat, day school is a sabbatical.

At camp, children get to explore who they are. In day school, children are valued for who they are and nurtured into who they will be. At camp, children are immersed in the

MORE ON NEXT PAGE



Albert Einstein Academy is a
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AGENCY UPDATE

cultural values of the camp's leaders, counselors, and veterans. In day school, children are immersed in Jewish values, rituals, and celebrations that go beyond a leader, faculty, or student body. At camp, children are required to become independent. In day school, children are raised to be independent. At camp, children live intensely for weeks. In day school, children live and learn intensely for months.

I love camp. I helped build a camp and its culture. I am who I am today because of camp. Just as my grandparents sent my mother to camp and she sent me to camp, I send my children to camp. Now that I have sent children to Albert Einstein Academy, I see how Jewish day school achieves the same purpose and more.

Day school students integrate their secular and Jewish learning to become rooted in culture of mutual appreciation. They learn to socialize with students of other ages and to test ideas with students who disagree. They learn to find their voice and that their voice matters. Day school students learn to think and to express themselves with confidence. Day school graduates are ready for every season; they have a deep sense of purpose.

This season, as we think about summer and camp, let us also ponder day school and the rest of the year.

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AGENCY UPDATE

DEAR SARAH

advice and answers to
life's questions



Each month, JFS' skilled team of counselors and therapists offer their expert opinion on your issues, problems, or questions about family, aging, marriage, coping with loss, depression, or children. No question is too large, small, or complex!

Dear Sarah,

My closest friend is suffering from depression, and has My nine-year-old has suddenly developed a fear of fire. This means that at birthday parties she stays far away from the candles until they're blown out. When we lit our Hanukkah menorah, she pitched a fit. She is struggling with general anxiety at the moment so this is clearly part of it, but our life is full of birthdays, holidays, and Shabbat – there are candles EVERYWHERE. How can we help her to move past this fear?

– Distressed Dad

Dear Distressed,

As her parent, you should initiate a conversation about her new fear. Start by asking questions to see if she had an experience related to fire that has made her fearful and more cautious when fire is present. You should also make sure that no one has said or done something, even accidentally, to cause her to be fearful. Your daughter should be reassured that having a fear of something is ok and she won't be forced to be close to fire until she is ready. Make a plan with her ahead of time that gives her options of what she can do if fire is going to be part of an event. Let her give you ideas about what she thinks will make her feel more safe, and incorporate that into the plan. Children will usually outgrow their fears naturally, but if the fear causes your daughter extreme anxiety, making it hard for her to function in everyday activities, it may be helpful to have her talk with a professional.

Sarah

Dear Sarah,

My outgoing, spunky son is struggling in school. He doesn't like sports and is pretty vocal about it. He's become the butt of jokes, and all I can see in my mind is him, standing alone in gym class, looking miserable. He has friends who are not sports driven, but the kids who are into sports seem to dominate the playground. I'm heartbroken for him – how can I help him?

– Social Mom

Dear Social,

There are many kids that do not want to participate in sports and feel uncomfortable when sports are required at school. If there is a concern about how he performs in a gym class, have a discussion with his teacher to find out more about the structure of the class. You may also discuss with the teacher what activities can be brought out to the playground so that your son and his friends have something to do that they like. Physical activity is important for youth, but not every activity has to be competitive. Involving teachers may be helpful in getting the more athletic kids to work with the rest of the class, so that everyone feels included. There might also be an opportunity to have the kids in your son's class play board games, chess, cards or other activities of interest some days. You could also inquire whether, with supervision, your son could be offered a monitored tablet or phone use to play games on some days as an incentive to be more physically active on other days.

Sarah



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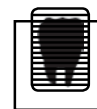
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Adam Cook and Matt Moran PHOTO BY JCC STAFF

THE WHY'S OF SUMMER CAMP

By Matt Moran | Camp & Youth Coordinator

At Camp JCC, we get a lot of questions that fall under one of two umbrellas: WHAT and HOW.

For example: “What should my child bring for lunch?” and “How does the car line work?” These are the standard questions that parents need answered when planning for summer.

However, when things change, we get questions in a third category: WHY?

To share with the community the new and

amazing programs we have coming in 2018, we want to address some of these “WHY” questions.

WHY ARE YOU TWO IN CHARGE?

My name is Matt Moran. I have been involved with camp since I was 13, making this upcoming summer my 17th year . . . which seems kinda crazy. I’ve worked at every level of Camp, and now I’m in charge of programming. Everything I know about fun comes from “Silly Joe” Consiglio, underwear on the head and all. I’m not nearly as good on the guitar, but my Mother Duck impression isn’t half bad.

MORE ON NEXT PAGE



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THE WHY'S OF SUMMER CAMP

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23



Adam Cook is the one who makes camp work. Some say he was a grizzly bear wandering the Adirondacks before taking human form and working at summer camp. Basically, I come up with crazy ideas that would never work, and he helps me make them happen. Sometimes he needs to reel in my madness, but the middle ground is where camp is both safe and fun. (I still think fireworks on the roof would be fun, though).

WHY IS X CHANGING?

Most commonly: because a bunch of people asked for it. When we first implemented "Choice" programming in 2015, it was in response to an overwhelming number of older campers requesting to participate in activities they were most interested. Now, it can be extended with the guidance of the counselors for the 1st-3rd graders. 4th and 5th graders get to choose the bulk of their activities during registration. By extension, our 6th-8th graders

will choose their entire schedules this summer. We continue to be open and responsive to input from parents, campers, and staff.

Sometimes, it is in reaction to the market. We try to think of ways that Camp JCC can distinguish itself from other camps, like introducing weekly field trips to our Chaverim group.

Other times, it's because Adam and I remember fun stuff we did as campers that we'd want to bring to the next group of campers. I remember some of the best times at camp were getting to see first responder vehicles up close and in action, so I've worked to bring a similar experience to our campers this summer.

It's all about fun, any way you look at it. We want to give the maximum fun to the most number of kids.

WHY DO YOU NOW DO Y WHEN YOU USED TO DO Z?

Some of this is the result of regulatory changes at the state or federal level, while other times it is to make the program to work better. For example, we have been continuously improving the program for our rising Kindergartners. We've focused having their day feel like camp, while operating at a level that works for children that may have never been in a classroom before. Now, we

have the opportunity to have our trained ECC staff help formulate the activities much farther in advance, as well as having them join us outside in groups. Overall, it will be a great improvement to the program, and I am very excited.

WHY DID YOU CHANGE THE NAME OF THIS/MOVE THIS DAY AROUND/ STOP DOING THAT THING?

The answer to all of these questions is the same: we want camp to be better. While the perfect camp might only ever live in our heads, we can certainly strive to get closer to that goal every year.

Name changes let our staff and participants know that there is something different and new to look for. We spun out our 6th-8th graders into a new unit: Na'arim. Part of it was because we wanted to recognize that an 8th grader is at a different point developmentally than a 4th grader. It also was to build up in the campers' minds that, as our oldest, they are going to get more freedom to match their maturity.

As for days changing or stopping activities, we want to prevent burnout as much as possible. I have done the long days, both as a camper and as a staff member, and I can tell you that they wear everyone down. By really looking at what these programs achieve, we hope to make the experience better.

WHY DO YOU WORK AT CAMP?

There are few things as rewarding as working at summer camp. Like teachers, we get to instruct children on how to interact with one another and grow into their individuality; but at summer camp, it's like when the teacher brought class outside, only all day, every day. It feels like we are cheating sometimes, like we are getting away with something, because at the end of each day, we see hundreds of smiles packed into cars and buses as campers divulge every aspect of their day.

It has to be something magical, for our work to be this good.

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CARRYING THE FLAME

How Hillel helped me continue my Jewish journey after my mother's death

By Tia Scheff
Student, University of Delaware

Huddled in a dimly lit hospital waiting room in 2010, we sat quietly.

My dad finally broke the silence to my sister and I with these five words: “Mommy went to people heaven.” At 11 years old, I learned I would never see my mom again.

By the time I was 7, I was consumed with doubt and worry over my mom’s health, often wondering why she seemed so different to my young eyes. Meanwhile, my dad tried to keep some level of normalcy in our day to day lives. Despite his efforts, going to Hebrew school and finding a synagogue fell to the back burner.

Growing up, my mom strongly advocated for my sister and I to have a Jewish upbringing. She made sure we went to ‘tot Shabbat’ on Friday nights and that we had a home-cooked dinner every holiday. Whether brisket for Rosh Hashanah or matzah ball soup for Passover, her cooking filled our table, our stomachs and our hearts.

It was important to her that I experience a special Jewish milestone. After speaking

to my dad and finding a new synagogue, I immediately started to work toward becoming a bat mitzvah. I thought this would be a way to make my mom proud. To honor her during the candle lighting ceremony, my family and I lit the last candle in her memory. As the candle flickered, I could feel my mom’s love shining down on me.

Moving to the University of Delaware campus last year was one of the hardest milestones I had to go through without the support of my mom. I continually found myself wishing I could give her a call – the same way the girls around me were updating their moms on their walks to and from classes.

When my dad came to visit, he stressed the importance of joining the Jewish community on campus. Picking me up at my dorm, we went to brunch at Hillel for Parents and Family Weekend. Little did I know, this would serve as the catalyst for my current Jewish journey.

Since my first Shabbat at Hillel, the people there made me feel welcome and at home – whether it was the seniors taking me under their wing and introducing me to others, or student leaders insisting I sit at their table. When walking through

the doors, I was instantly greeted by strangers and introduced to people who I now call friends. It became a safe place and a support system.

When I first started coming to Hillel, I thought about my bat mitzvah many times, wondering if my mom would be proud that her daughter was part of the change within the Hillel community. I started to think about this a lot. Every opportunity and Jewish encounter in college has helped me feel connected to my mom, which is something I have struggled with for so long.

Whether designing flyers after class for my Hillel marketing team internship or playing Jewish geography at Birthright Israel orientations, the Jewish identity I am building through these experiences will have a lasting impact. Many doors have opened for me at Hillel, allowing me to follow my passions. I’ve even started

MORE ON NEXT PAGE



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AGENCY UPDATE

CARRYING THE FLAME

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25

to seek out other opportunities in the Jewish community through the local JCC, and I've applied to be a counselor at Camp Simcha, a summer experience for children with cancer.

The staff at Hillel have made a tremendous effort in creating a community of mentors for students to trust. On the Hillel marketing team, I have developed a close relationship with my supervisor, Rachel. With Rachel as my guide, I have developed a portfolio and passion for graphic design and marketing. Her door is always open for me, whether she's giving me professional advice or just talking to me about my day. She's a female role model who I look up to and count on – something that had been missing from my life for a long time.

As my college career has progressed, I've toyed with ideas that would help me honor my mom and raise awareness about her disease, frontotemporal degeneration. I was waiting for the right place and the right people to partner with to give her a special honor. As I became closer with the Hillel staff and the Jewish community, I knew I'd found that place and those people.

This semester, we are planning an educational Shabbat in my mother's honor. Each Hillel staff member has made this Shabbat their personal mission. The University of Delaware Hillel is more than a building – it's a family and a community that I couldn't be more grateful to be a part of.

It's funny how one place can change your life, how it can help you find yourself, help you overcome something you've struggled with or just make you smile. Hillel helps me to carry on the ripples of Judaism that my mother left behind. If one place was going to change my life, I'm glad that it was Hillel.

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REFLECTIONS ON THE 2017 URJ BIENNIAL

By Sarah Kittinger
Embracing Community Chair of Congregation Beth Emeth



Delaware Delegation: Kim VonWeltin, Alan VonWeltin, Sarah Kittinger, Richard Litwin, HarrietAnn Litwin, Miriam Sandler, Rabbi Elisa Koppel, Rabbi Yair Robinson, Brian Gluck, Jon Yulish, Cantor Mark Stanton, and Jennifer Steinberg PHOTO SUBMITTED BY Y. ROBINSON

December 6th – 10th brought over 5,000 Reform Jews to Boston, MA. The purpose was to gather at the 2017 Union of Reform Judaism (URJ) Biennial; a five-day conference of learning sessions, networking and services, that can simply be described as amazing.

Members of Beth Emeth's congregation, clergy, staff, and lay leaders were among those in attendance. This event is a unique

opportunity to share time and space with other like-minded individuals.

As the only Reform congregation in Delaware, it was important to send a delegation and represent our community, as well as learn best practices of what is happening in the wider Progressive Jewish world. Our 12 delegates heard from politicians like Senator Elizabeth Warren and Governor Charlie Baker, social justice leaders like Rev. William Barber III, and entertainers like Fran Drescher. Every moment was full of opportunity for learning and engagement, and for recommitting ourselves to the work of worship, music, learning, and justice.

MORE ON NEXT PAGE

REFLECTIONS ON THE 2017 URJ BIENNIAL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 27

The following are reflections from the attendees:

“The best parts about Biennial are finding out not only what we’re doing that’s great, but also to get ideas about how we can do better. From Inclusion, finances, commitment models, to our staff, there are always things we can be doing better, and fortunately, going to Biennial offers us the chance to hear what has, or has not, worked for others. Then there is the whole feeling of our huge Jewish community gathering in one place to pray and learn together. It can be overwhelming, but it’s always inspiring.”

– **Kim vonWelti**

“We’re part of a movement — a larger, inspiring movement that calls for community, inclusion, and social justice. Some key take-aways: Keep experimenting at our congregation. Stay curious about Judaism. Focus on our objectives. Respect opposing views and dialogue.”

– **Rich Litwin**

“In Social Action, it is important after explaining the need/method and completing the task, to close the loop by discussing and rejoicing in the accomplishment. Seeing ritual as artistic expression makes me freer to participate. I don’t pray because I believe in God, I believe in God because I pray. Discussion for the sake of heaven allows participants to disagree without destroying the relationship.”

– **HarrietAnn Litwin**

“For me, the biggest takeaways were how important it is for our work as a congregation to be mission driven and really rooted in purpose, and the value of

connection and collaboration. Not new lessons, but they were reinforced for me this biennial, and I’m looking forward to making these lessons a priority.”

– **Rabbi Yair Robinson**

“My big takeaway from Biennial was just how much music there was to hear. In the #CantorBanter sessions, we heard over and over again how much CBE loves music and loves to sing and as we move forward with our cantor search, I am inspired and resolved to expand and grow that love of music with whoever comes to the congregation as our new cantor.”

– **Jennifer Steinberg**

“To have the opportunity to meet, learn, workshop, and sing beside 5,000 people who share the same values as you is beyond inspiring. During Friday night services, I closed my eyes and just listened to thousands of voices praying together. It was beautiful! The sessions I attended, which focused on engaging families with young children were full of helpful and insightful information.”

– **Miriam Sandler**

“After attending Biennial I have learned that Beth Emeth is with and in some cases ahead of the curve on some of the key areas the URJ is focused on; inclusion, LGBTQ rights, refugees. This inspires me to continue and grow the great work we have already done in these areas. Also, ‘Don’t get in the way of my pray’ was my favorite quote from the week, because no matter what a person’s story is everyone has the right to pray in a warm welcoming space.”

– **Sarah Kittinger**

Biennial offered the opportunity for the delegation from Congregation Beth Emeth to learn and bring home lessons that would continue to support not only our purpose and values, but to extend that into the Jewish community of Delaware. This time together strengthened our connection to Judaism, gave insight into the Progressive Jewish world, and made space for the work we still have to do towards justice.

Happy Purim!

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THE POWER OF CAMP EMERGES IN RELIGIOUS SCHOOL AND SERVICES

By Rae Cook
TBE Member

Delaware religious schools and congregations “get it.”

Religious School needs to be as engaging, interactive, immersive, and exciting as camp to grab the attention of children and to stimulate their love of Judaism. What do the schools borrow from camp? The concept of camp is integrated into our religious schools and Jewish experience in four ways:

BY DOING SOMETHING UNUSUAL

Most recently, Temple Beth El (TBE) had a special program just hours before Halloween called *Jewish Magic and Superstition* that attracted both adults and children. Rabbi Jacob at TBE led the group in talking about the evil eye and aspects of Talmud and Kabbalah that are rarely covered in school. Participants then created drawings and ate foods that made Judaism relevant just when American culture was most focused on ghosts and goblins.

Just a few months ago, Congregation Beth Shalom enlivened Shabbat by embracing Harry Potter and his friends for dynamic Shabbat services with Hogwarts worthy props and themes. CBS’s social hall was transformed into the Hogwarts School dining hall. Their use of video inspired students and their families to



Displaying a Homemade Tallit PHOTO BY SHARON FULLERTON PHOTOGRAPHY

attend both Friday and Saturday night Harry Potter Shabbat services.

BY GETTING CRAFTY

Children and adults are wild about crafts. At Temple Beth El, Hai students design and color tallit for their b’nai mitzvah that tell the story of their Torah portions and their personal interests, from the Flyers to ballet. From decorations to murals, it is normal to see children and adults making Judaism visual and colorful.

THROUGH BEING ACTIVE

TBE kids get outdoor time to play on their own GaGa court, a ball game from Israel built as an Eagle Scout project by temple member Cameron Ogden, as a break from religious school. They also bake challah and other meaningful foods

in the synagogue kitchen as part of their religious school experience.

Head of School, Rabbi Jeremy Winaker, at Albert Einstein Academy has written about and leads the school in “bringing a camp spirit to morning prayer and grace over meals.” He also noted that, “In the same way that camp is an immersive environment all the time, Einstein approaches Jewish learning in the same way.” Even their Hebrew instruction has moved from a more passive prayer-based approach to fun language and song activities.

Students with difficulties paying attention are seen playing with fidget toys and doing parallel activities during

MORE ON NEXT PAGE

TZEDAKAH, KEHILLAH, MITZVOT, AND TIKKUN OLAM Reaching out into the Community via REACH

By Cailah Ogden
Member, Temple Beth El

At Temple Beth El, we have a long history of social action.

This past month, we tried something new: we donated funds for Glasgow High School REACH students to give back to the community. (REACH students have special needs and are learning how to enter the workplace.) Spearheaded by our Vice President of Membership (and Social Action) who also teaches REACH students, Cailah Ogden, the students assembled 275 hygiene and nutrition bags for the homeless to be donated to the Newark Empowerment Center. So at the same

time, both TBE and REACH accomplished *mitzvot* for doing good for *kehillah* (community), giving *tzedakah* (charity), and also *tikkun olam*, acts of kindness performed to perfect or repair the world.

Temple Beth El is among a variety of communities that support the Newark Empowerment Center. Here's the link to the Empowerment Center if you want to help: https://udel.edu/~kdemonte/NUMC_EC/

Tzedakah, kehillah, mitzvot, and tikkun olam are what we bring to our own and other communities.

THE POWER OF CAMP EMERGES IN RELIGIOUS SCHOOLS AND SERVICES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29

services making it possible for them to attend and for their parents to focus on services.

THROUGH BEING INTERACTIVE

Gone are the days when students are told what they will study once they reach their teen years and Confirmation class. At Temple Beth El, students discuss with the TBE board co-president what they would like to see happen in their Confirmation class. Feedback sessions with parents show teachers what is important to families.

At Temple Beth El, students participated in a school-wide Shabbaton and shadowed each role on the *bima* during a Shabbat service.

Who knows? The result of greater fun and engagement in religious school and services could be the death of, Do we HAVE TO go? to religious school and services, and instead be the birth of, Do we have to LEAVE?

Hence, creating the Jewish community that we all desire.



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Q ■ How does Jewish education differ today from the past?

A ■ RABBI ELISA F. KOPPEL
Congregation Beth emeth

Education is constantly evolving. Our scientific understanding of how kids learn changes; technology creates new opportunities (and challenges); the lives of children change; and the subject matter itself is never stagnant. Jewish education is no different. Many of its changes have gone hand in hand with general education (project-based learning and responsive classrooms being examples). But Jewish education has also had unique changes, in response to a changing Judaism and a changing Jewish people.

We can no longer expect that both parents in a household grew up in a Jewish home (much less expect that there are two parents, parents' gender, or that children are being raised by parents). Many families do not sit down together for dinner ever, not even for Shabbat. In many families today, there is no adult who is home during the day to drive carpool. Kids have far more homework and more extracurricular activities.

Learning today must be offered in a variety of ways in order to reach all of our children—sometimes including learning experiences outside the synagogue walls.

Religious School looks vastly different than it did just 10 years ago, much less than during my childhood, or when my parents and grandparents attended. Earlier Jewish education looked vastly different, mostly happening in the home or in *cheder* (for some boys).

Gone now are the days of rote reading and memorization. Instead, we have classrooms full of experiential education and active explorations. Xeroxed worksheets have made way for iPads, discussions, and games. Sitting in neat rows in uncomfortable desks has been

“ [Jewish education has] had **unique changes** in response to a **changing Judaism** and a **changing Jewish people.** ”

replaced with sitting in circles or small groups—at tables or even in bean bags.

Religious School serves as the main outlet for Jewish community for many students—it is our task to make sure that kids know each other, the meaning of community, feel valued, and enjoy their experience of Jewish life.

I sometimes hear from adults that they wish that religious school were like this when they were young. I nod in agreement. Interactive, engaging, joyous learning has created schools in which children are happy to be active learners.

I often say that our goal is to create Jewish adults; to do that we need to provide the tools for success, as well as the desire to be active in their Judaism in the future. Our learning environments will continue to evolve in order to continue to be relevant, engaging, and thriving.

RABBI PETER GRUMBACHER
Rabbi Emeritus, Congregation Beth Emeth

Let's start with my personal experiences in the 1950s. I remember a number of my teachers, but I'll never forget Mr. Marx. He taught languages at Brooklyn Tech High School, specifically Latin, Greek, and Hebrew. He was familiar with the Romance languages; actually he was fluent in all of them. The point is that every week we learned words and phrases in Latin and Greek; occasionally we learned Hebrew. In our non-language class our first textbook, *When the Jewish People Was Young*, (and I'm sure some

of you are saying, “Oh, yeah, I used that book, too!”) was part of a series. It had a workbook and every week we had to read the chapter and answer the questions for homework. What we did in class totally escapes me. I do recall we read each book in the series year after year.

Two years before our B'nai Mitzvah, the boys (they didn't have Bat Mitzvah in my home congregation) began to learn to chant their Torah portions, Haftarah, and prayers. We didn't lead the entire worship service. Why did we begin so early? We were a German congregation. We started EVERYTHING early.

I can't say school was anything but boring, and to keep ourselves interested, my friends and I would annoy the heck out of Mr. Marx and the others, but being a German congregation and having parents who expected their children to ask “How high?” when a teacher or doctor ordered, “Jump!” we were careful not to be too obnoxious . . . or at least careful enough not to get caught.

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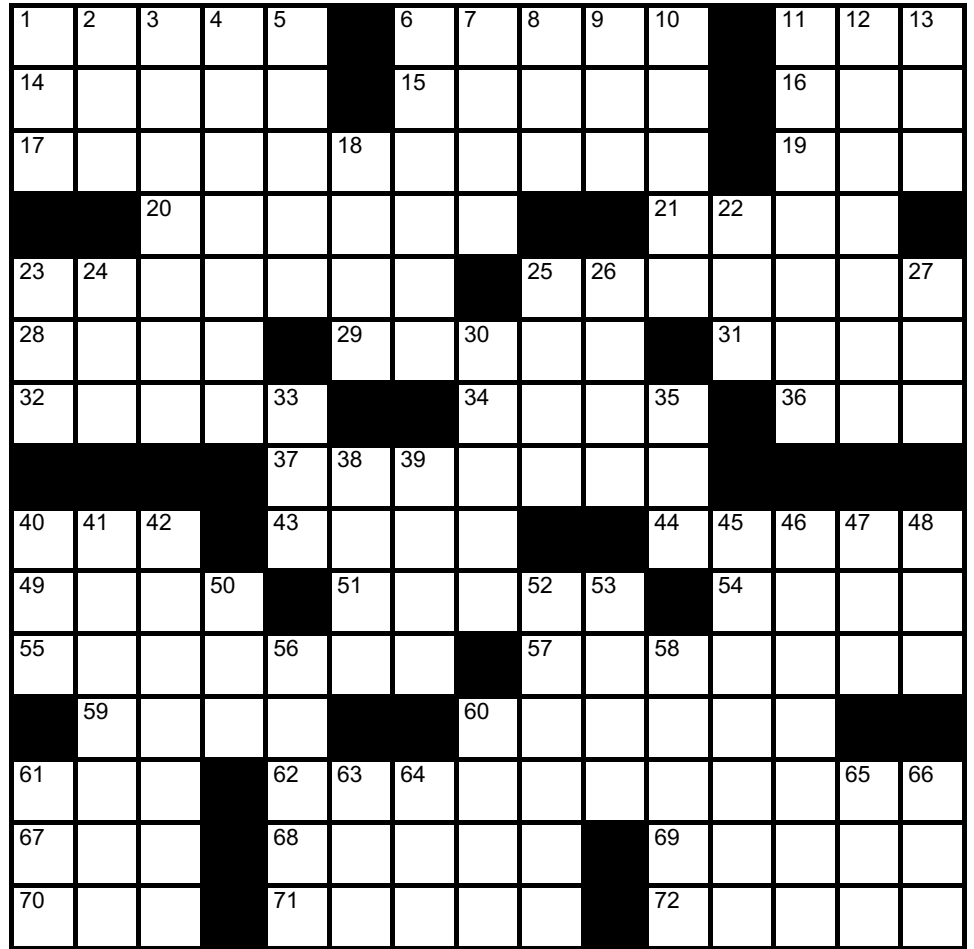
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THE SHABBAT MENU

By Yoni Glatt
koshercrosswords@gmail.com

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: Manageable
SOLUTION APPEARS ON PAGE 47



ACROSS

- 1. Reveals
- 6. Maker of more than 50% of Israel's cell phones, once
- 11. Stereotypical Jewish job, for short
- 14. Eternal light
- 15. Brings home
- 16. Mark Ronson's "Uptown Funk", e.g.
- 17. It's often on a Shabbat menu
- 19. Spanish cheer
- 20. ___ water (stays afloat)
- 21. Fish which can pack a bite
- 23. False "handles"
- 25. "Bewitched" actor Dick
- 28. Lewis Black might go on one
- 29. Jacob's father-in-law, in the Bible
- 31. Draft status of Steve Rogers, eventually
- 32. It's often on a Shabbat menu
- 34. Digging, so to speak
- 36. Carson Daly's old MTV show, for short
- 37. It's often on a Shabbat menu
- 40. Kissinger org., once
- 43. "Kacha kacha"
- 44. It's often on a Shabbat menu
- 49. Sound heard at the Machtsh crater
- 51. One who goes for the gold?
- 54. Hoover and Degania
- 55. Tragedies and betrayals, e.g.
- 57. Bayer who played a Bar Mitzvah boy on "SNL"
- 59. "Anything ___" (2003 Woody Allen film)
- 60. Sabras, in Israel
- 61. Heb ___ .com (Jewish dating site?)
- 62. It's often on a Shabbat menu
- 67. Thurman of "The Avengers"
- 68. Computer collection that's often "cleared"
- 69. Lasso loop
- 70. Word before Tamid or Kodesh
- 71. Regions
- 72. Former U.N. leader Kofi

DOWN

- 1. Recent Spielberg flop, with "The"
- 2. Draft pick?
- 3. Activity down the Jordan
- 4. Arab chieftain's domain
- 5. Tennis champ Monica
- 6. ___ nap (wiped)
- 7. Klutzes
- 8. ___'at Shema
- 9. Org. that causes problems for some "citizens"
- 10. Biblical brother paired with Gad
- 11. It's often on a Shabbat menu
- 12. Light lager
- 13. Had some of this puzzle's theme
- 18. Chinese weight unit
- 22. Freudian issue
- 23. Locale for Shem, Ham, or Japheth
- 24. Former Israeli Chief Rabbi Yisrael Meir
- 25. Went down, like a sub
- 26. Chip you wouldn't make a blessing on?
- 27. Tefillat ___ (Dew Blessing)
- 30. Big kosher animal found in Yellowstone
- 33. In Israel they're kgs.
- 35. Where some won big betting on American Pharoah, for short
- 38. Home of the Tempio Maggiore
- 39. Notable name in terrorism
- 40. It's needed for a swoosh
- 41. Sounds in Eli Roth or Wes Craven flicks
- 42. It's often on a Shabbat menu
- 45. Sheldon who backed Trump
- 46. Big horn
- 47. Distance measures, in Israel (abbr.)
- 48. Cool ___ cucumber
- 50. Symbols that signify OK for some Jews
- 52. Brings back, as memories
- 53. CBS has an Amazing one
- 56. Unlikely city to play dreidel in
- 58. Mom's mom, to some
- 60. Start of a Shabbat song
- 61. Stage signal
- 63. Herzl or Sinai
- 64. Part of the seventh plague
- 65. "Miracle on Ice" team
- 66. "... my tongue is the ___ of a ready writer" (Psalms 45:1)

How does Jewish education differ today from the past?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 31

Ours was the last Confirmation class in my synagogue. I like to think there were reasons other than the charming personalities of my classmates (there were ten of us and coincidentally all of us were boys), but no one could figure out why our rabbi (and we loved him) stopped the program.

The “new” approach when I served as Director of Education was different. “Electives” such as Israeli dance or Jewish cooking or art were an integral part of the curriculum. We taught Hebrew on two mid-week days and the other subjects on Sunday morning. I insisted we add a fifth year of Hebrew so that our kids would be ready for Gratz Hebrew High School if they chose to go that route.

In general, we had an unusually high retention rate for our B’nai Mitzvah students. Our kids enjoyed the journey to Confirmation, and one reason was that the grade eight kids went once-a-month while ninth and tenth graders went every week.

Why once-a-month? We realized that 14 year olds were “hormonally challenged,” and when one Board member objected to so few sessions, I said, “If you demand every week attendance, they’ll drop out.” Sure enough, they stayed and while they weren’t thrilled with the weekly classes thereafter, we had very, very few dropouts through tenth-grade Confirmation. AND most of our confirmands remained to become Cadet Aides (student teachers) for the last two years of high school.

Not being involved with religious education since retirement (except for the congregation I serve part-time in Winchester, Virginia), I don’t know what’s happening today. Looking back on decades of Sunday School as a child and a rabbi, there has been change, some good, some not . . . but that’s the story with life in general.



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2018
 Light candles at 5:05 PM
 Shabbat, February 3, 2018
 Shabbat ends at 6:06 PM

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2018
 Light candles at 5:13 PM
 Shabbat, February 10, 2018
 Shabbat ends at 6:14 PM

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2018
 Light candles at 5:22 PM
 Shabbat, February 17, 2018
 Shabbat ends at 6:22 PM

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2018
 Light candles at 5:30 PM
 Shabbat, February 24, 2018
 Shabbat ends at 6:29 PM

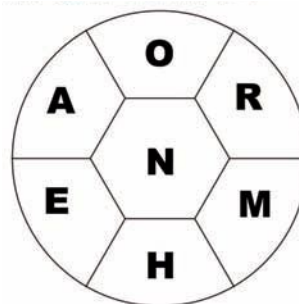


SPELLING BEE By Yoni Glatt

Questions/comments
 Email Yoni at koshercrosswords@gmail.com

How many common words of 5 or more letters can you spell using the letters in the hive?

- Every answer must use the center letter at least once.
- Letters may be reused in a word.
- At least one word will use all 7 letters and have a direct Jewish connection.
- Proper names and hyphenated words are not allowed.



SCORE:
 1 point for each answer
 3 points for Jewish related word that uses all 7 letters.

RATING:
 10 = Good
 17 = Excellent
 22 = Genius

HERE IS A LIST OF SOME COMMON WORDS

(Yes, we know there are more words in the dictionary that can work, but these words are the most common):

JEWISH ANSWER: MENORAH

OTHER ANSWERS: HONORER, HONOREE, EARNER, ENAMOR, HEREON, MAROON, MEANER, MERMAN, MERMEN, MOANER, RENAME, ANEAR, ARENA, ENEMA, HERON, HONER, HONOR, MANNA, NAMER, RERAN, ROMAN



PHOTO COURTESY OF CAMP KIMAMA

ISRAELI SUMMER CAMP OFFERS UNIQUE SERVICES TO JEWISH YOUTH AROUND THE WORLD

By Kathy Montenegro
Camp Kimama

FFor the past 14 years the Camp Kimama team has been making a difference in the lives of thousands of children from all over the world, bringing them to Israel to experience a traditional American summer camp in Israel with campers from over 40 countries. CEO Avishay Nachon and the Kimama team wanted to bring Jewish youth to have life-altering experiences by spending their summer in camp making new friends, learning about new cultures, and ultimately creating a global community of Jewish youth. Realizing its mission of bringing American youth to Israel, Camp Kimama opened a US office in New York City this past November.

“It was a dream for me to provide opportunities for Jewish children around the world to experience Israel,” says Nachon of his homeland. “The only options for our youth were waiting until they were older to take a trip like Birthright or perhaps a family vacation to tour Israel.”

Kimama has been offering Jewish youth, ages 7-17, a transformational experience in Israeli culture by providing them a unique and special time with kids that they would otherwise never meet.

Camp Kimama combines traditional American summer camp activities such as singing, dancing, campfires, arts and crafts, and waterfront sports with Israeli cultural experiences including Shabbat and Israeli food on the beautiful beaches of Israel. The camp is recognized for its exceptional focus on specialty tracks such as surfing, dog training, cooking, scuba diving, SUP-stand up paddle, soccer, basketball, media robotics and technology, taught by track-specific professionals, and include business partnerships with organizations such as The Food Channel, Wingate Institute, professional surfing schools, and more.

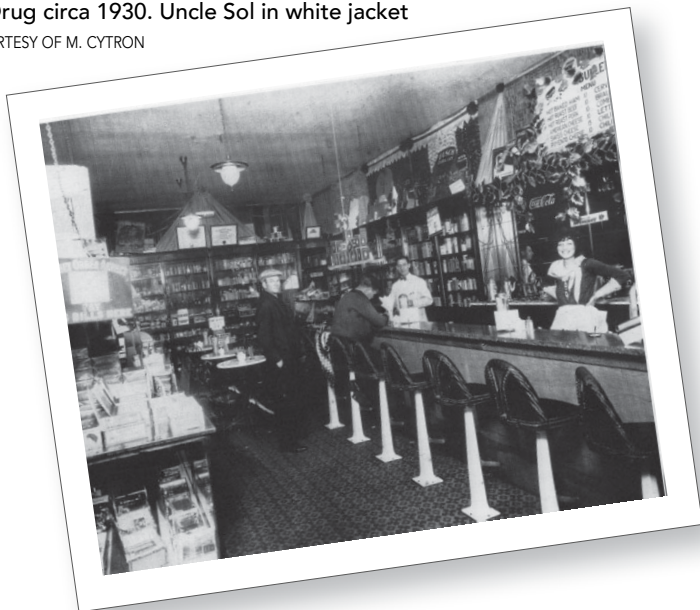
Since its first summer session in 2004, Camp Kimama has grown to become a truly international overnight camp with over 2,000 campers (800 international and 400 from the USA).

Camp Kimama has become a beloved and sought-after summer vacation experience. It has created a lively network of children and youth that is constantly growing, active all year-round, with its heart and core in Israel.

For more information on registration or general questions visit www.campkimama.org, call 877-KIMAMA6, or email Rachel@campkimama.org.

Cytron Drug circa 1930. Uncle Sol in white jacket

PHOTO COURTESY OF M. CYTRON



NOT MY UNCLE SOL'S

A Recollection of the Civil Rights Struggle of the '50s and '60s

By Marvin S. Cytron

Last month we recalled the birthdate of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King. My generation remembers, only too well, the leadership and sacrifices of Dr. King and his associates made during this turbulent era. And a turbulent era it was, most notably the unrest in many cities, including the looting and burning of businesses in African-American neighborhoods. This was in retaliation of shameful business practices, such as usurious interest and price gouging. Often Jewish owned businesses were targets of the looting and fires.

But, not my Uncle Sol's!

My Uncle Sol came to America from Lithuania in 1911 at the age of 7, with his older siblings and mother, and joined his father in St. Louis. In classic immigrant family practice, the older siblings went to work and the youngest child entered formal education to strive for the American dream of "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." Uncle Sol graduated from St. Louis College of Pharmacy in 1923, and in a few short years opened Cytron's Drug in a working class area of the city. By the 1930's the area reflected the "melting pot of America:" Irish Polish, German, Italian,

Jewish, Chinese, immigrant families and African-Americans. My uncle treated his customers with respect and honesty, "Not enough money for your medicine? Pay me when you can," I often heard as I started working in the store as a young lad. He defied the practice of the era of pricing merchandise at "suggested retail" and all merchandise was "cut rate" pricing, i.e., discounted!

If you were an African-American man in this era, a good job was a Pullman porter on the many railroads that came through St. Louis. Uncle Sol extended credit to these porters and never charged interest. Most of the travelers that these porters accommodated were successful businessmen, and the porters soon recognized that to get ahead in America you need a college education. Hence, they strived to send their children to colleges and universities.

One afternoon, I was in high school, a young lad, George, a son of one of these porters, came in and wanted to talk to Doc Cytron. He explained that

his daddy bought him a new bicycle for his birthday; did we need a delivery boy? Uncle Sol hired him to come in after school, three times a week. A couple of years fly by, George is ready to enter high school and tells Uncle Sol he wants to be a druggist. Uncle Sol advises him to attend the academic Black high school and take science and math courses. St. Louis was a segregated city; separate schools, hospitals, restaurants, and movie theaters, separate seating on busses and streetcars. By then I was already attending St. Louis College of Pharmacy; no blacks in our school! George finishes high school, applies to the college and was turned down. "No Negroes," the letter read. Uncle Sol and many neighborhood drugstore owners along with churches and synagogues petition the school, and after a long bitter struggle, George is admitted.

Years go by and Uncle Sol is diagnosed with a terminal illness. I was working in a different field of pharmacy at the time,

MORE ON NEXT PAGE

Marvin Cytron often contributes articles on Jewish Life in America and lives in Wilmington with his wife Sue.

JEWISH VOICE

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JEWISH LIFE

NOT MY UNCLE SOL'S

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 35

but helped out as he decided to sell the business. The day Uncle Sol walked out of his store for the last time, he asked for the charge accounts file; told me to mark every account "paid in full."

Uncle Sol passes away a year later. As we left the funeral chapel for the cemetery, lined on both sides of the street were his former African-American customers chanting the spiritual *goin home!*

Years later I met George at a hospital pharmacist convention in Chicago; he was Director of Pharmacy at a large hospital. He told me he had never forgotten Doc Cytron.

"He was my hero," George related.

Well George... Uncle Sol was also my hero!



THE GOOD NEWS THE BAD NEWS

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THINK CAMP



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WHAT'S iNSiDE

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CUT OUT AND SAVE!

THINK CAMP

ALL YEAR-ROUND, DREAMS OF SUMMER CAMP

By David Udoff
Member, Jewish VOICE Committee

Isn't it strange that it's only February, and we're already talking about summer camp?

Being cooped up inside during the cold winter months is enough to make anyone long for warmer temperatures and summer fun.

Indeed, going off to camp seems to be the event of the year for so many Jewish children; the thing that they look forward to as they count down the days until the end of the school year. This is how it was for me when I was a kid. My parents would get phone calls from my school complaining that I was constantly daydreaming in class (I believe they would now call this sort of thing "Attention Deficit Disorder"), which then prompted my parents to interrogate me on why I wasn't paying attention in class. My response was simple and direct:

"I don't like school. I'd rather be at camp."

Summer camp was something I looked forward to as I spent the rest of the year trying to get good grades. It was the one time of the year when I could be all over the place, in both mind and body. I could swim, run, jump, climb, hike, play sports, and make crafts, sometimes all in the same day. And let's be honest here. No matter

how well-behaved I was at home (and rest assured, I was the good child in my family; my mother always tells me so!), when you know you're going to be away from your parents for a while (in my case it was the entire summer), you tend to lose some inhibitions here and there.

Fast-forward some three decades later, and not much has changed. My 10-year-old daughter Julia is all signed up for her third summer at Camp Louise in the western Maryland mountains, and already she can't wait to get back and see the friends she made last summer and the summer before. And as a parent, now I'm required to think about and prepare Julia for camp for the next summer at pretty much the moment she finishes the previous one, between the parent surveys, medical forms, and all the camp swag, care packages, and other stuff we get from the camp administrators -- bumper stickers, sweatshirts, towels, you name it.

Camp has taught us Jewish kids about a lot more than just how rough around the edges you can be when you're away from your parents. Spending a part of or an entire summer around the same group of people taught me a lot about camaraderie and friendship. And to hear my daughter tell it, she's now experiencing all that, just as I did growing up.

MORE ON NEXT PAGE

Thanks to a no-gadgets policy in the bunks (other than non-internet-connected music players), the girls at Camp Louise actually interact with each other face-to-face and in the process make friendships that could potentially last a lifetime, or at least a few more summers.

Julia told me that among her favorite things at camp were swimming, canoeing, kayaking, and something called Color Games. She also enjoyed the Friday night Shabbat gatherings, when she got to eat *matzo* ball soup and the CITs would sing prayers with them.

But the best times Julia seemed to have were those when she got to spend time in her bunk hanging out with the friends she made. While doing their regular activities they had to follow their counselors' directions, but in their cabin they could freewheel a little and do fun things that she and her friends organized among themselves, like board games. And it was through these impromptu activities that

Julia and her new friends got to know each other better. One friend, she said, loved to tell funny stories.

Julia, for her part, although she is a good student and likes school, likes camp better than school because of that camaraderie. She said that even now, during the winter, she still thinks a lot about camp and the friends she made there. It also doesn't hurt that a few of the children that Julia attends religious school with at our tiny synagogue in Rehoboth Beach also attend Camp Louise.

And after all the packing is done, and the anxiety of sending your child away for so long subsides a bit, the big payoff comes on drop-off day. Sometimes, as we're heading up Interstate 270 in Maryland early that morning, we'll pass by other cars sporting those circular green-colored bumper magnets with the Camp Airy and Louise logo on them (we have one of those as well). And then, after getting off the highway and driving through some of western Maryland's twisting,

winding mountain roads, then trudging up the hill on the campgrounds up to her cabin to help her unpack all of her gear and make up her bed, I'll take a moment to look out over the bunk's front porch, allowing myself a combined moment of both peacefulness and perhaps a bit of envy, knowing that my child gets to use this beautiful mountain landscape as her playground for the next three weeks, all without a care in the world.

Being at camp may not be quite like being at synagogue, but for so many Jewish kids, it is a large, outdoor, open-field sanctuary all its own.






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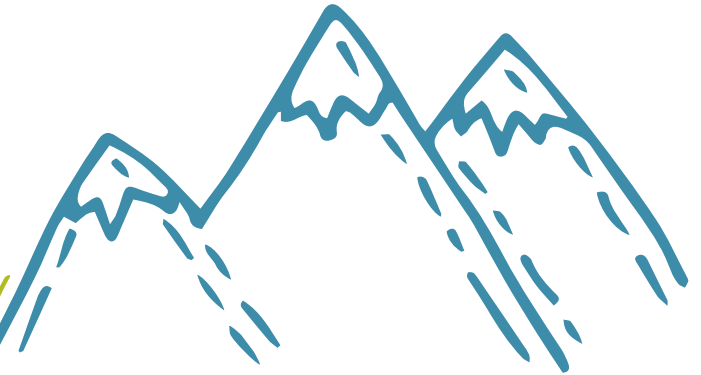


CUT OUT AND SAVE!

THINK
CAMP



JEWISH SUMMER CAMPS — A GROWTH INDUSTRY



By Jeremy J. Fingerman
timesofisrael.com

This piece was originally posted in the September Issue of the North Jersey Jewish Standard.

Each summer, as CEO of Foundation for Jewish Camp, I get to make my yearly pilgrimage across North America to visit Jewish camps.

I feel fortunate to soak in incredible moments — a camper conquering a fear of heights on the zip line for the first time, our Cornerstone fellows running a program exploring Jewish values with campers, and of course, meals ending with song sessions filled with unbridled ruach (spirit) and joy.

One highlight of my visits to camps last summer was witnessing firsthand the robust growth industry Jewish camp has become. The season boasted record-breaking enrollment and innovation at Jewish overnight camps across North America.

Demand is driven in part by the success of Foundation for Jewish Camp's One Happy Camper incentive program. In the last decade, more than 77,000 first-time campers have received an incentive grant to encourage first-time camp attendance. In our most recent survey, campers return for the second year at an astonishing 87 percent rate! These first-time grants are provided in partnership with local communities through Jewish federations, generous foundations, and individual philanthropists. For PJ Library families, we have partnered with the Harold Grinspoon Foundation to provide the "PJ Goes-to-Camp" incentive grants.

Growth also has been generated by the 11 new Jewish specialty camps introduced since 2010, including camps I visited: JCC Maccabi Sports in Atherton, California, Ramah Galim (of the Waves) on the shores in Monterrey, California, and Camp Zeke in Pennsylvania's Pocono Mountains. Developed and nurtured under FJC's Specialty Camps Incubator and Accelerator programs (made possible by the Jim Joseph and AVI CHAI

Foundations), these new camp ventures are led by outstanding young social entrepreneurs. Collectively, these 11 camps already have served more than 6,000 campers, more than half of whom otherwise would not have gone to a Jewish camp that summer. We are working diligently to open six more specialty camps next summer.

Even long-established camps across North America are upgrading and expanding camp facilities to serve their growing populations. Through the FJC Building Loan Program made possible by the generous support of the Maimonides Fund, camps have been able to accelerate their construction projects while donor pledges are paid over several years. These new investments are already paying dividends and over time will produce a profound ROI on the next generation.

New and high-quality program space allows for the expansion of thoughtful, meaningful Jewish educational experiences for all types of weather. Camp Sabra on Lake of the Ozarks in Missouri has opened its beautiful Robert M. Beren Sports Pavilion and an air-conditioned center for arts and crafts. B'nai B'rith Camp in Otis, Oregon, built a community center — the Mercaz — providing much-needed indoor program space in the center of camp. Camp Young Judaea in Wimberley, Texas, opened its experiential learning center, which has transformed the Judaic program development and delivery.

We have also seen a growing trend of investing in space for culinary arts, raising the bar for teaching and enjoying kosher and Israeli cooking to a whole new level.

MORE ON NEXT PAGE



**THINK
CAMP**

The B'nai B'rith camp in Otis, Oregon, built the Mercaz, a center for indoor programs.

For many camps, space constraints in the dining halls and kitchens have inhibited enrollment growth. No more, for Camp Judaea in Hendersonville, North Carolina, Camp Ramah in New England, in Palmer, Massachusetts, and Camp Kaylie in Wurtsboro, New York, as this summer they opened brand new or expanded dining and kitchen facilities allowing them to continue to grow enrollment. Camp Morasha in Lakewood, Pennsylvania, starts construction immediately after its final session concludes.

Over the years, more and more camps have seen an increased demand for their oldest camper divisions — the counselor-in-training or leaders-in-training programs for rising high school juniors. In many cases, these units are housed in older, smaller facilities, and camps are forced to turn away qualified and eager young Jewish leaders due to lack of space. This summer, a number of camps have opened new housing and programming space for these teen leadership programs, including Herzl Camp in Webster, Wisconsin, URJ's Eisner Camp in Great Barrington, Massachusetts, and Camp Ramah in Conover, Wisconsin. Other camps have similar plans for 2018.

By investing in facilities we create opportunities for programming, experiential learning, and community building. When camps invest in new dining halls, the entire community can gather together three times a day for meals, singing, and expressions of appreciation before and after the meal. Camp nurses report healthier and happier campers, citing air-conditioned, comfortable dining facilities as well as fewer instances of dehydration and better eating habits. Whether growing participation, capacity, or creating space for Jewish connections, camps that upgrade their facilities increase their impact.

The final secret to the field's track record of growth comes from the talented, dedicated, and thoughtful camp directors, working tirelessly and under the weight of enormous responsibility each summer. My visits this summer affirmed my admiration and appreciation for the roles these leaders play in enabling joyous Jewish expressions to take hold.

I learn much from my conversations with field veterans and graduates of FJC's leadership development programs,

including the Executive Leadership Institute, made possible by the Marcus Foundation. These camp professionals are on the front lines of our Jewish future, grappling with the myriad of issues confronting today's young people. In their camps, they employ vision and purpose in creating a laboratory for 21st century Jewish living — intentional, joyous, spirited, and meaningful.

I feel fortunate to have had the opportunity this summer to see such growth in action in the Jewish camp industry. We are truly helping to build a more vibrant Jewish future.



TEN TAKE-AWAYS FROM SUMMER CAMP

By Emma Driban

It seems like every article I've ever read about Jewish summer camp is the same; so much that the content is predictable: *Summer camp is so fun! You meet so many new people! It's a way to connect with your Jewish identity!*

Although always helpful and reinforcing, these platitudes rarely ever mention any specifics. Why is camp fun? What do campers do at camp? What do campers learn from their experiences? And what are the little things that contribute to the big picture? With eight years of overnight camp experience under my belt, I'd like to address some of these questions. While of course every camp is slightly different, a lot of the lessons learned will be the same.

The following is a list of ten very specific things I took away from summer camp.

1 COSTUMES MAKE EVERYTHING BETTER

Every camp has different traditions, certain songs to be sung on bus rides or games to be played. At Camp Louise in Cascade, Maryland, there is a tradition called Color Games. A lot of places have similar traditions, but at Louise, Color Games is a two-day competition during which the camp is split into four teams which compete in field and pool activities for points. One year, I wasn't feeling well when they announced the start of the Disney villain themed Games. I was so sad I wouldn't be able to participate in any of the activities, but the instant I put on my all red outfit for the Cruella de Vil team and covered myself in red face paint, I started to feel better. Sometimes it just takes putting on an outfit you like or dressing up to get yourself out of a funk.

2 NO PART IS TOO SMALL

A few summers before that, the camp was putting on *Sleeping Beauty* and I wanted to be involved in some way or another. I went to the audition and subsequently landed the role of Maleficent's raven. The part was small; I maybe had a total of two minutes on the stage. Despite that, being a part of the production was incredibly fun. Just being involved in the show at all was exciting and I had a great time; no part was too small.

3 KEEP YOUR SPACE CLEAN

It doesn't matter if this is your bedroom or your desk at work, keeping your space clean is key. Every morning at camp, a counselor would come around to each cabin and rate it on how orderly it was and at the end of the week, the cabin with the highest scores would win a treat. One person's area could bump the rating down from a ten to an eight and no one wanted to be the one camper to mess up the score. Living in a cabin of up to 15 girls could get messy, doing your part to keep it clean was important.

Emma Driban often interns for JFD. She is a junior at McDaniel College in Westminster, MD where she is pursuing a degree in English.

4

**ALWAYS
FIND
TIME TO
WRITE
OR CALL
HOME**

Being away for four weeks was always so exciting, but it was easy to get a little homesick. The best way to feel connected to home when you're so far away is to write a letter. I would write home to my parents, my sisters, and my friends telling them about all of the cool activities I was doing and what I was up to. It's important to always remember to stay in touch with your roots, no matter how far from home you are.

5

BE ACTIVE

Camp Louise offered a great variety of physical activities, from playing soccer to weight training, but my favorite activities were always done with the Outdoor Living department (ODL). With ODL I went rock climbing and kayaking and spelunking. There were rope courses and white water rafting trips and all other sorts of outdoor activities. Going on those trips made me love being outside. When given the opportunity, take advantage of any of those kinds of activities.

6

**DO THE
THINGS
YOU LIKE**

My last summer at camp was the year I became a CA, or a counselors' assistant. When my unit arrived that year, we had to pick the department in which we wanted to be placed. Most people picked swimming or folk dance, but I was the only one who wanted to be in the music department. At first I was a little worried. It meant I would be the only one in training and that I would spend portions of the day by myself, but after the first few days all of my inhibitions had melted away. I always loved music activities and being a CA in the department meant I got to spend a lot of time playing the instruments there. It no longer mattered that it wasn't the most popular department because I was doing something I loved doing.

7

**TRY NEW
THINGS**

There were a lot of other activities that I thoroughly enjoyed in addition to music. One of my favorite things at camp was the glass fusion workshop. At first, I only chose to go to the workshop because it was something new and exciting, but it ended up being one of the best activities. Every week when sorting out my schedule, I would try to get an activity period in the glass fusion workshop. Not only did I really enjoy spending time there, but the things I made were pretty cool.

8

**CREATIVITY IS
UNDERRATED**

By the end of the session, I always had a ton of arts and crafts projects that I wanted to take home with me: copper enamel necklaces, tie dye shirts, and a variety of other handmade items. The best things I made were from the glass fusion workshop. I gave my sisters personalized earrings and my mom a *mezuzah* to hang in the house. For myself I made a little dish to hold guitar picks. After almost five years, those gifts are all still around and in use.

9

**DISTANCE DOES
NOT DETERMINE
FRIENDSHIP**

Between the people in my cabin and unit, and the people I spent time with during the activity blocks, I had made a lot of friends. I now knew people from Maryland, Virginia, Kansas, Colorado, and all over the country. I even had friends from other countries like France, Israel, and Wales. Because I got to know people from all over, I gained an understanding of other cultures and grew to respect all of those places, which is so important in today's diverse society.

10

**YOU DO
NOT NEED
TECHNOLOGY
TO HAVE A
GOOD TIME**

Going to camp was like taking a nice little vacation from using technology. When I walked up the hill to camp, I left behind my phone, television, even air conditioning, but with all of those great activities and amazing people I never felt like I was missing anything. If I was hot I could swim in the pool, I didn't need to text my friends because they were all around me, and I had no excuse for boredom.

With so many great things about camp, the hardest part is leaving.

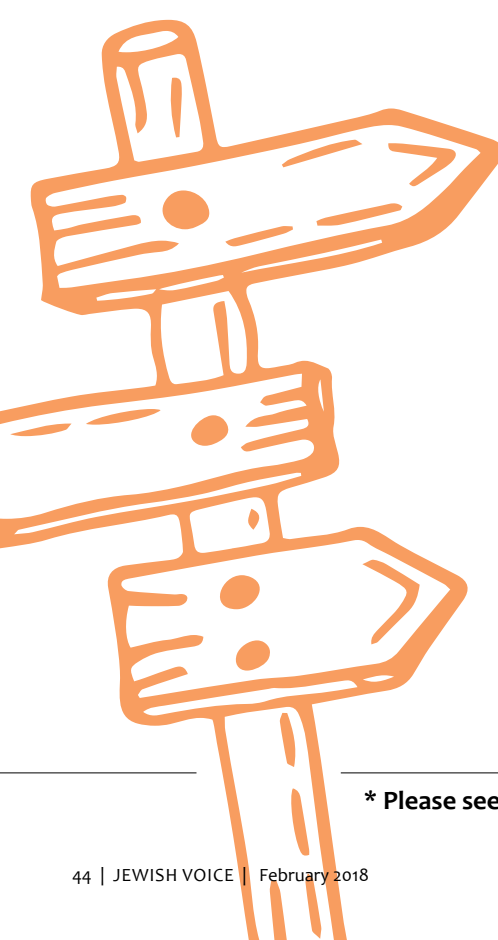
DAY CAMPS

CAMP JCC*

siegeljcc.org
302-478-5660
EMAIL:
adamcook@siegeljcc.org

Camp JCC is the Siegel JCC's Day Camp for children ages 2-14 years old. It offers traditional camps, sports camps, specialty camps, teen sports and specialty camps, and a Leaders-in-Training Program for 8th - 9th graders. Camp JCC has a large outdoor swimming pool, expansive field space, a low and high ropes course, sand volleyball courts, indoor and outdoor facilities, a state-of-the-art early childhood wing, Sharks swim team, J-Cade facility and so much more.

Camp JCC is a community made up of caring and enthusiastic individuals who work together to encourage children to be the best versions of themselves – in a fun and hip environment, of course. A summer at Camp JCC will be one your child never forgets.



DARLINGTON'S SUMMER ARTS CAMP*

darlingtonarts.org
610-358-3632
EMAIL:
info@darlingtonarts.org

Darlington's Summer Arts Camps inspire artists ages 3-14 to think creatively about the world around them and express themselves through the visual and performing arts. Music, Art, Dance, and Drama every week! Full Day, Half Day, and Arts Intensive weeks available. Visit us online for a full brochure.

DELAWARE COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN

Pre-College Art Studio Program
dcad.edu/yap
392-622-8000, ext. 123
EMAIL:
nfo@dcad.edu

The Pre-College Art Studio Program is a one-week program designed to help pre-prepare rising junior and senior high school students for college admission in the fields of art and design. Students create portfolio-building work through figure drawing classes, concentrated electives and open studio time. All students spend half their day in figure drawing class and half their day in a concentrated elective, chosen by the student. Electives include painting, animation, graphic design, illustration, interior design and photography. Participants have the option to live on campus, and field trips as well as evening activities will take place during the week.

THE MUSIC SCHOOL OF DELAWARE SUMMER CAMPS

musicsofdelaware.org
302-762-1132
EMAIL:
info@musicsofdelaware.org

The Music School of Delaware is your place for summer fun! Summer is the perfect time for private study and exploring new instruments, camps or programs. Take advantage of the flexible summer session to expand your child's or your own musical horizons. Whether you live in Delaware, Pennsylvania, Maryland, New Jersey or beyond, we have a program just for you!

SAGINAW DAY CAMP

saginawdaycamp.com
888-477-CAMP (2267)
EMAIL:
askus@saginawdaycamp.com

Conveniently located in Oxford, PA and drawing from 80 years of experience, Saginaw Day Camp (SDC) provides a wide variety of exciting activities for children ages 4-15. In addition, we provide a comprehensive athletics program, instructional and recreational swimming daily, adventure course, ATVs, arts and crafts, Go-Karts and much more. Visit an open house or contact us for a private tour to see why SDC is the region's premiere day camp!

SANFORD CAMPS

sanfordcamps.com
302-239-0744 (for the summer) and 610-565-4850 (for the winter)
EMAIL:
SanfordCamps@gmail.com

Sanford Day Camp is dedicated to offering a safe and fun-filled summer experience for children from the age of 4 to 14 years old. The ultimate goal of the camp is to develop each camper to his or her fullest potential by offering a caring and structured environment supervised by an all teacher counseling staff. With our flexible schedule, beautiful campus (air conditioned classrooms and on site pool), multiple extended care locations (throughout the county) and academic opportunities (with Sanford School) we offer parents an easy option for summer child care.

THE TATNALL SCHOOL

tatnall.org/summer
302-892-4347
EMAIL:
ATatnallSummer@tatnall.org

Our 110-acre campus provides campers room for exploration and discovery from June 15 to August 21. Check out our expanded list camps and enrichment classes for ages 3 to grade 12. Each summer, The Tatnall School opens its beautiful 110-acre campus to the community offering programs designed to provide an enriching and memorable summer while providing a break from the rigors of the school year. Extraordinary facilities, coupled with an **MORE ON NEXT PAGE**

* Please see additional advertisements in this issue of the Jewish VOICE.

experienced staff, provide all the fun and variety kids want. Whether it's swimming in one of the four outdoor pools, learning a new sport, going on a great field trip, designing a video game, or joining the Tatnall Torpedoes swim team, a Tatnall Summer is sure to be the best summer ever!



TOWER HILL SCHOOL*
Summer at Tower Hill

towerhill.org/summer
302-472-7370
EMAIL:

summer@towerhill.org
Sharon Reynolds, Director of Summer Programs

Campers can look forward to weekly enrichment activities that cover a wide variety of subjects, including art, science, technology and sports. Over the course of the week, campers will have the opportunity to go swimming and experience on-site and/or off-site field trips.

WILMINGTON FRIENDS SCHOOL SUMMER CAMPS*

wilmingtonfriends.org
Lower School 302-576-2998
Middle School 302-576-2995
EMAIL:
lscamp@wilmingtonfriends.org and
mscamp@wilmingtonfriends.org

The Wilmington Friends School Day Camp is a summer program dedicated to providing children ages 2-14 with a nurturing, challenging, and fun summer experience. We believe that children's summer experiences are an important part of their growth and development. Here, children participate in a wide variety of programs, including athletic activities, arts & crafts, computers, competitive and non-competitive games, swimming, bowling, and ice-skating.

Specialty camps for 2015 include STEM Design Challengers, Local Adventure Camp, Lego, Scratch, Lacrosse, Tennis and Volleyball, and, NEW this year, Mod and App Design Camps.



Wilmington Friends School Summer Camps

June 18 through August 24

Lower School Camp
lscamp@wilmingtonfriends.org

For children in preschool - 5th grade. Weekly themes, active games, and art; ice skating, swimming, and bowling; optional specialty camps including soccer, tennis, art, STEM Design, cooking, and adventure camps.

Middle School Camp
mscamp@wilmingtonfriends.org

For children entering 5th - 9th grade. Choose Base Camp or Theme Camps: art, adventure, sports, STEM, cooking and 3D printing.



NEW! Creative Writing Elective
for rising 9th - 12th graders.
July 9 - 27, 9am to noon.

For more information and to register,
please contact Rebecca Zug at
rzug@wilmingtonfriends.org.

Quaker matters. Come see why.



Visit us at wilmingtonfriends.org or call 302-576-2998.



ARTS

ACADEMICS

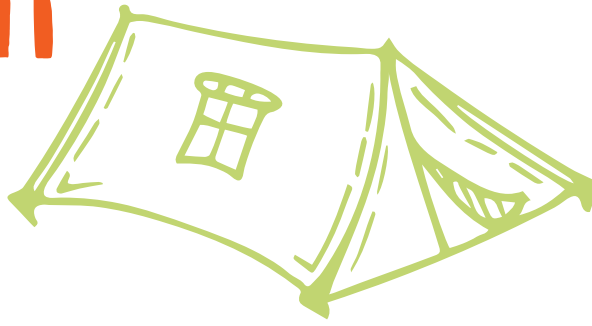
ATHLETICS

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have it all!

TOWER HILL SCHOOL

2813 W. 17th Street, Wilmington, DE 19806
towerhill.org/summer summer@towerhill.org

OVERNIGHT CAMPS



CAMPS AIRY & LOUISE

Camp Airy (for boys)
Camp Louise (for girls)
airylouise.org
410-466-9010
EMAIL:
airlou@airylouise.org

Nestled in the rolling hills of Western Maryland, Camp Airy for boys and Camp Louise for girls have provided fun-filled overnight Jewish camping experiences for over 90 summers. We encourage campers to find their inner awesome by offering endless opportunities to discover new talents. Our dynamic programming includes everything from archery to zip-lining, including skateboarding, sports, culinary arts, robotics, crafts, drama, dance, swimming, and more! Campers span grades 2-12, with a special Rookie camp available.

CAMP GALIL

campgalil.org
610-847-2213
EMAIL:
info@campgalil.org

“The Spirit of Kibbutz Close to Home,” Camp Galil is a Jewish overnight camp for boys and girls ages 8-16. Leadership development, tikkun olam, Shabbat experience, kosher plus sports, out-of-camp trips, ropes course, and more! Camp Galil offers 2, 3, 4 or 7 week sessions plus 4-day “Taste of Galil” program for those currently in 2nd grade.

CAMP HAVAYA

camphavaya.org
833-CAMP-HAV
EMAIL:
hello@camphavaya.org

Camp Havaya is all about the joy of summer camp with the freedom to be who you truly are. With so many activities—from the high-ropes challenge course to learning a new song, from the trampoline in our lake to any number of sports—the biggest challenge at Camp Havaya is figuring out what’s the most fun!

CAMP RAMAH IN THE POCONOS

ramahpoconos.org
215-885-8556/570-798-2504
EMAIL:
info@ramahpoconos.org

Camp Ramah brings 3rd -11th grade children together to expand their own creativity, learn from dynamic instructors and specialists, explore being Jewish in today’s world and experience the beauty of nature. Young people at Ramah develop a great sense of self, lasting relationships and new skills. Camp Ramah offers 1-, 3-, 4- and 7-week options.

CAMP TALL TIMBERS

campalltimbers.com
800-862-2678
EMAIL:
info@campalltimbers.com

Camp Tall Timbers offers programs that help foster a camper’s personal development via participation in a broad range of activities. At Camp Tall Timbers YOU choose your own schedule! Choose from sports, arts, equestrian, outdoor & aquatics activities. There are 1-, 2- and 3-week sessions available for boys and girls in grades 1st -10th, from June 24 - August 18. Accredited by the ACA, located in nearby WV, a beautiful, two-hour drive from DC.

GOLDEN SLIPPER CAMP

goldenslippercamp.org
610-660-0520
EMAIL:
toneill@goldenslipper.org

GSC, operated since 1948, is an overnight camp located in the Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania. Slipper boasts a variety of excellent facilities and top-notch programming. Scholarships are available to families to help pay for this truly unique experience.

NEW JERSEY Y CAMPS

njycamps.com
973-575-3333, ext. 112
EMAIL:
info@njycamps.org

Quality overnight Jewish camping experiences. Nah-Jee-Wah (1st - 6th grades); Cedar Lake (7th - 9th grades); Teen Camp (10th - 11th grades); Camp Neshar (Modern Orthodox Camp); Camp Shoshanim (for Orthodox girls 3rd - 10th grades). Round Lake Camp (for children with special needs); Short Stay (1- and 2-week camp experiences); and innovative Total Specialty Camps specializing in a variety of programs.

darlington
arts center
Summer Arts Camp
June 18 - August 30

www.darlingtonarts.org
977 Shavertown Rd • Garnet Valley, PA
19060 or call (610) 358-3632

MUSIC - ART - DANCE - DRAMA



PINEMERE CAMP*

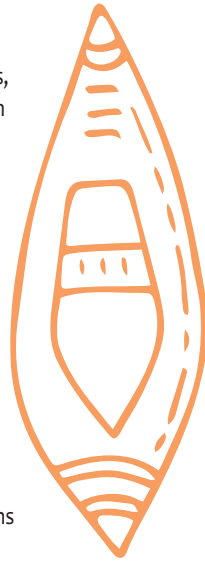
pinemere.com
215-487-2267/570-629-0266
EMAIL:
camp@pinemere.com

Quality Jewish overnight camp for boys and girls ages 6-14. Private lake, adventure course, swimming pool, athletics, arts, and more. Individualized and diverse program combined with traditions built over 70 years. Pinemere Camp offers 3-, 4-, and 7-week sessions, plus 3-day SPARK program and 1-week PIONEERS program for beginner campers. ACA accredited, JCC-affiliated, Kosher.

URJ CAMP HARLAM

CampHarlam.org
Business Office: 610-668-0423
Summer: 570-629-1390
EMAIL:
campharlam@urj.org

Nestled in the foothills of the magnificent Pocono Mountains in rural Pennsylvania, URJ Camp Harlam provides the finest in recreational and educational activities for Reform Jewish youth. Established in 1958, Camp Harlam has developed a strong tradition of success and excellence based on a highly skilled staff dedicated to the spiritual, physical, social and psychological well-being of each child.



THE SHABBAT MENU

PUZZLE LOCATED ON PAGE 32

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ART TO WALK ON: Floorcloths in ArtSpace

By Kerin Hearn
ArtSpace Committee Member

ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE ARTIST

Two artists are featured in the Siegel JCC ArtSpace.

Walking on Realms of Possibility: Painted Floorcloths by Faith Wilson are abstract representations of transitions in her life.

Olga Nielsen's meticulous bronze and stone sculptures are in the Showcase.



At the Siegel JCC ArtSpace

through early April

Walking on Realms of Possibility:

Painted Floorcloths
by Faith Wilson

In the Showcase: Olga Nielsen's Bronze and Stone Sculptures

Reception to Meet the Artists:

SUNDAY, MARCH 4, 2018
2-4 PM

Wine and Refreshments
Free and open to the public

FAITH WILSON

Chestertown, Maryland Artist, Faith Wilson, believes that art is to be used every day, not held to be precious, hung on a wall and roped off. That is why she creates aesthetically beautiful, but nearly indestructible floorcloths to be walked upon, to drop and spill things on—all the while remaining pristine works of art.

After an exotic childhood spent in Bogota and Mexico City, her family moved back to the US. At high school graduation, a rebellious Faith announced that she did not want to go to college. She would become a weaver.

Faith took one workshop on weaving. At age 18 she traveled around the world studying the craft in different countries. On a visit to her sister in Chestertown, she met and married a farmer. Together they raised sheep to supply wool for her weaving.

She began by weaving one-of-a-kind jackets and was immediately accepted into the prestigious American Craft Show

in Baltimore. Comfortable in the crafts world, she wove jackets for several years until she grew tired of making wearable art. With two small children in tow, she divorced her husband and began working with mixed media.

Her second husband was a decorative painter, who created faux finishes and trompe l'oeil paintings on walls and woodwork. From him, she learned new methods of applying paint to large abstract expressionist paintings on unstretched canvases.

A class on floorcloths inspired her to reenter the crafts world—an easy transition to hemming and coating her paintings to be walked upon. Again, she was quickly accepted into the most prestigious national craft shows including the Philadelphia Art Museum, Smithsonian, Baltimore and Boston shows.

To make the floorcloths durable and impenetrable, Faith applies 10 layers of
MORE ON NEXT PAGE



Requiem to Dawn, Floorcloth by Faith Wilson

paint and sealers. She usually starts with two base coats of white, one of yellow, and then washes other colors over them, finishing with several layers of glazes. She makes her own stencils of birds, chairs, windows, trees, leaves, and twigs.

Faith considers herself a feminist artist. At first the subject matter of her floorcloths was political and feminist. Now the very fact she makes art to use refers to women's former consignment to kitchen and housework.

To Faith, the designs evoke transitions in her life and stepping into the unknown, with requiems for past moments. A critic once called her floorcloths little realms of possibility and eccentricity laid on blank, conventional floors.

Now, Faith looks forward to making fewer floorcloths and going into encaustic painting with wax supplied by her third husband's bees!

MORE ON NEXT PAGE



Sunrise in Melitota, Floorcloth by Faith Wilson



Turquoise Ginko 2, Floorcloth by Faith Wilson

ARTSPACE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 49



Julia, Bronze Sculpture by Olga Nielsen



Dancer, Bonded Bronze Sculpture by Olga Nielsen

OLGA NIELSEN

When Russian born artist Olga Nielsen was ready for higher education, her parents suggested textile design, an aspect of art where one could make a living. She was educated in Moscow in the classical realistic traditions and after graduation taught drawing at the college level.

After her husband became discouraged with the restrictions of the Communist world, they decided to leave Russia. Before immigrating to the United States they spent a summer in Italy, where Olga studied art at the great museums. To be in Rome, to spend days at the Villa Borghese, to study the masterpieces for weeks, was an unforgettable experience. Here, she fell in love with sculpture. She wanted to go back to school, but it would not be practical for many years.

Olga's first job in this country was as an assistant designer for world-renowned couturier, Albert Nipon and his wife, Pearl, based in Philadelphia.

Later, she specialized in Christian Dior at a bridal company, draping and creating dramatic sculptural shapes with the gowns. Olga continued to draw and paint, concentrating on pastel figurative work and exhibiting occasionally at local venues. She also did some ceramic figurative sculpture.

Finally, in 2005 she went back to school to study sculpture at PAFA. At first, she created her sculptures from initial clay sculpting to making molds to final bronze casting and finishing at the school's facilities. Now she has the luxury of turning everything over to the foundry, with her approval of important steps.

Olga has won many prestigious national and regional awards with the International Portrait Society, National Sculpture Society, the ARC Salon, PAFA, and more. Her commissions include two sculptures for The Wilmington Montessori School, a life-sized bronze saint for a Parish in Drexel Hill, and a bronze sculpture of a family.

LIFE CYCLES
WEDDING

LITTMAN AND ELDRICH

Jada Littman (daughter of Carrie Wenzler Littman of Wilmington, DE and James A. Littman of Wilmington, DE, sister of Evan P. Littman and granddaughter of Samuel Wenzler and the late Helen Wenzler) married Samuel Eldrich (son of Civia and John Eldrich of Hamden, CT) on November 4, 2017. The ceremony and reception were held at National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia, PA. The bride is a graduate of Concord High School and University of Delaware. The groom is a graduate of University of Michigan and Tulane University School of Medicine. He is currently in his third year of residency at Cooper University Hospital in Camden, NJ specializing in Emergency Medicine. The couple currently lives in Philadelphia, PA with their two cats, Pippy and Pedro.

Share your simcha

**DID YOU KNOW...
Simcha
announcements
are free of charge!**

- Submit a three to six sentence paragraph celebrating your simcha... weddings, engagements, births, bnei mitzvot, awards..
- Send your paragraph along with a high resolution .jpg photo to Jaidy@ShalomDel.org.

JEWISH VOICE

MAY GOD CONSOLE
YOU AMONG THE
OTHER MOURNERS
OF ZION AND
JERUSALEM



*Ha'makom yenahem etkhem betokh
she'ar avelei tziyonvi'Yerushalayim.*

JUDIE A. (BROSTOFF) BAKER

Wilmington - Age 80, of Long Island, NY and Wilmington, DE passed away December 23, 2017.

Judie was there in the best of times and the worst of times for the people who were in her orbit. She taught us all to be brave, and that family is not just the one you are born into it is also the one you choose.

She was a devoted wife to the late Bruce; loving mother to Cathy (Rick), Suzi (Joe), Jeff (Ellen), Jill (David), and Amie (Bob); proud grandma of Nicole, Tamara, Ashley, Marissa, Allison, Jesse, Jake, Eric, and Ethan; beloved daughter to the late Al and Geri; dear sister to Larry (Carol) and Paul (Mina), brother-in-law, David (Donna); fond aunt to many nieces and nephews; and a friend, mother figure, and force of nature.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions to the Cancer Care Foundation (www.cancercare.org) or the Siegel Jewish Community Center, 101 Garden of Eden Road, Wilmington, DE 19803.

MALCA CHUDNOWSKI

Wilmington - Age 85, passed away December 26, 2017.

Born June 22, 1932 in Havana, Cuba, Malca is survived by her daughter, Helena Kostik; sister, Raquel Sinai Cohen (Allen); grandchildren, Karen (Jason) and Ed (Jen); 2 great-grandchildren; niece, Tamara; and nephew, Lee.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions to the American Cancer Society(www.cancer.org).

MARIAN (AXELROD) STEIN

Wilmington - Age 90, passed away Sunday, December 31, 2017.

Marian was born on April 1, 1927 in Denver, CO to the late Harry and Sadie Axelrod. She worked over 25 years for the State of Delaware as a social worker. Marian worked with the Spanish-speaking community aiding them with financial issues. She volunteered for many years at the Grand Opera House and Congregation Beth Emeth.

Preceded in death by her daughter, Susan; Marian is survived by her sons, Paul and Steven.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions to Congregation Beth Emeth, 300 W. Lea Boulevard, Wilmington, DE 19802.

BLANCHE (NEE SHOULSON) ROMIROWSKY

Blanche (nee Shoulson) December 26, 2017. Beloved wife of the late Rabbi J. Harold Romirowsky; loving mother of Rabbi Mitchell (Sheila) Romirowsky, Dr. Sam (Karen Pinsky) Romirowsky and Dr. Reuben (Diane) Romirowsky; dear sister of Rabbi Solomon Shoulson; also survived by 7 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. Mrs. Romirowsky was buried in Israel on December 28, 2017. Contributions in her memory may be made to Camp Ramah in the Poconos, or Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty, or Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy-272 S. Bryn Mawr Ave. Bryn Mawr, PA 19010, or the Alzheimer's Association-399 Market St. Suite 102 Phila, PA 19106.



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or less to
Jaidy@ShalomDel.org





COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Visit the Jewish Federation of Delaware website at ShalomDelaware.org for a full, up-to-date listing of community events.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3

ASK - Alphabet Soup Kids

11:15 AM – 1:30 PM

JFS Delaware – Wilmington

A JFS-sponsored support group for kids ages 12-18 that identify as LGBTQ+. Please contact Sharon at cztwins@hotmail.com to register.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Open Climb

7:30 – 9:30 PM

Siegel JCC Gymnasium

Now introducing Open Climb, every Tuesday 7:30 - 9:30 PM! Open Climb is for those who are ready to learn to belay (or who already have the skill). There will be staff to teach you, not to belay you, so make sure you come with a partner who knows or is willing to learn how to belay as well! For questions, please contact Carrie Kee at carriek@siegeljcc.org.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Youth Social Guide: JCade (Grades K-5)

7 – 9 PM

Siegel JCC Auditorium

We are bringing the JCade to the BIG screen in the Auditorium! Grades K – 5. Cost: \$10/Member, \$18/Non-Member. For more information or to register, please visit siegeljcc.org or contact Becky Stahl at beckystahl@siegeljcc.org.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Jewish Federation of Delaware's YLD Community Day of Service for JFS

11 AM – 1 PM

Siegel JCC - Senior Lounge

101 Garden of Eden Road

Wilmington, DE 19803

Help coordinate personal hygiene kits that will be distributed to Jewish Family Services clients in need. Contact Lauren Danneman to find out how you can get involved – (302) 528-0027 or gdanneman@verizon.net

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2018

Einstein Curriculum Showcase

6:30 – 8:30 PM

Siegel JCC Auditorium

Preview the presentations earlier in the day! Student work across the curriculum including math and art, Hebrew and dance, social studies and science, language arts and song will be on full display as Einstein showcases learning associated with the theme, “Einstein Reaches New Heights.” Free and open to the community. For more information, please contact Rabbi Jeremy Winaker, Head of School at 302-478-5026 or jeremy.winaker@einsteinday.org.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15

CTeen Jr Session: Israel Fest

7 – 8:30 PM

Siegel JCC

CTeen Jr. is exclusive to kids in grades 6-8. Come have a blast in a cool environment with other kids your age. Enjoy this Israel-themed session with delicious Israeli food, a fascinating discussion, community service and more! Contact Rochel@ChabadDE.com for more info!

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Healing Hearts Co-Parenting Seminar for Divorcing Parents

9 AM – 3:30 PM

JFS Delaware – Wilmington

This six-hour certified program, taught by certified instructors and required by Delaware's Family Court, educates parents about the psychosocial and emotional issues of separating and divorcing parents and children. For more information and/or to register, please contact Jody at 302-478-9411 ext. 134 or jgrinberg@jfsdelaware.org.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17

ASK - Alphabet Soup Kids

11:15 AM – 1:30 PM

JFS Delaware – Wilmington

A JFS-sponsored support group for kids ages 12-18 that identify as LGBTQ+. Please contact Sharon at cztwins@hotmail.com to register.

MORE ON NEXT PAGE

COMMUNITY CALENDAR



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17
Youth Social Guide: Trivia Night
(Grades 6-8)

6:30 – 9 PM
Siegel JCC

Test your wits in a night full of challenges and prizes for teams and individuals. Cost: \$10/Member, \$15/Non-Member. For more information or to register, please visit siegeljcc.org or contact Becky Stahl at beckystahl@siegeljcc.org.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18
Hamentashen & Lego-Style Gragger
Craft: Pre-Purim Program Kids!

12:15 PM - Pizza sale
12:45 - 2 PM - Hamentashen & Crafts
Chabad Center for Jewish Life
Join other kids and parents as we get into the Purim spirit! Come make, bake, and EAT many flavors of delicious Hamantashen! Make your very own real Lego-style Gragger out of Legos! \$10/child. To register, go to ChabadDE.com/register or call (302) 529-9900 Ext. 2.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Jewish Great Books Meeting
2 – 3:15 PM
Siegel JCC Board Room

Join us on the 3rd Wednesday of every month for book club! This month, we're discussing *Empire of the Senses* by Alex Landau. For more information, contact Anna Saul at annasaul@siegeljcc.org.

MORE ON NEXT PAGE

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Visit the Jewish Federation of Delaware website at ShalomDelaware.org for a full, up-to-date listing of community events.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25 Life in Judah During the Exile: Literacy and Education.

10 AM

Congregation Beth Shalom of Dover Jewish history class with Burt Brenman on Life in Judah during the Exile: Literacy and Education. Call 302-734-5578 for more information.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25 Rise Against Hunger Meal Packaging Event

11:30 – 5 PM

Siegel JCC

Together, we will package over 10,000 highly nutritious meals to feed the

world's hungry. This event is ideal for people of all ages, from children to the elderly. Please consider donating money or donating time to this worthy cause. Fill their bellies; fill your heart! For more information on how to help or donate, visit siegeljcc.org or contact Katie Glazier at katieglazier@siegeljcc.org.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28 Purim Party Exclusively for Teens!

6 – 8:30 PM

Siegel JCC

Come hear the Megillah and celebrate Purim with other teens from around the community. Wear any costume and get ready for some Purim-themed games,

entertainment and learn about why Purim is relevant to us today! This is open to all teens and is being hosted by BBYO and CTeen. No membership necessary to come. For more information, please contact Oryah Lahijani at Oryah.lahijani@gmail.com or Todd Silberglied at Oryah.lahijani@gmail.com. Please register at TinyURL.com/TeenPurimParty.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28 Megillah Reading and Purim Shpiel

6:20 PM

Chabad Center for Jewish Life

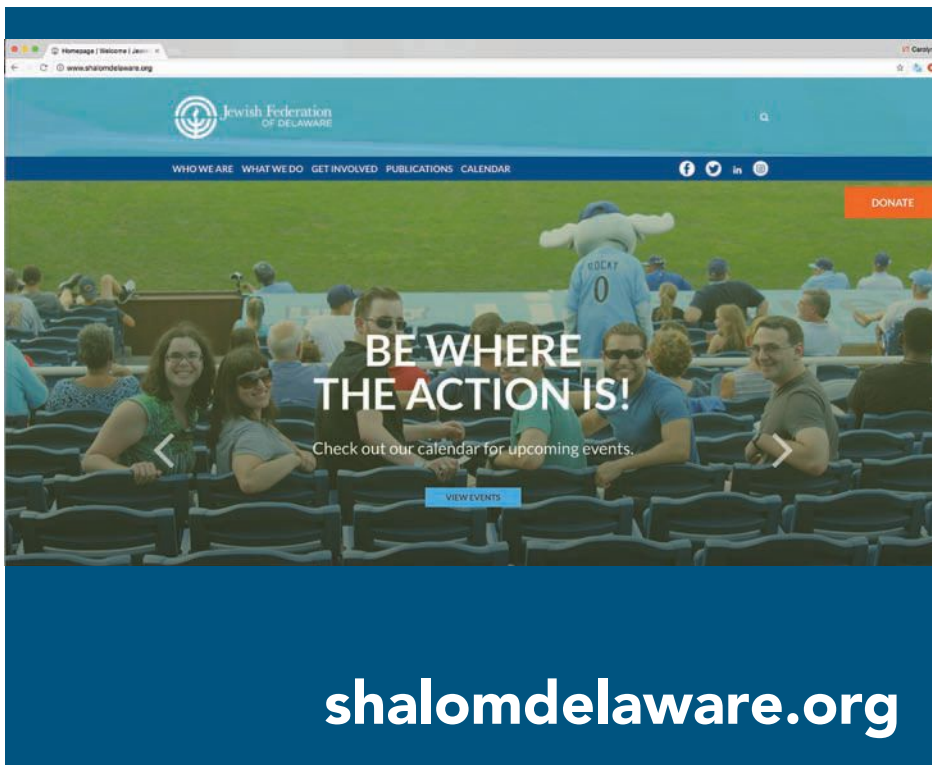
Come hear the Megillah and celebrate Purim with other teens, which is free and open to the public. No registration is required. Feel free to show up and to bring your family and friends as we perform the special Mitzvah of listening to the Megillah!

THURSDAY, MARCH 1 Purim in the Wild West!

5 PM -- Last Call Megillah Reading followed by Purim Dinner & Party

Chabad Center for Jewish Life

Join us as we celebrate this Purim with a Wild West-themed Party! This exciting event includes a delicious gourmet dinner, live festive music, a Masquerade with prizes and live entertainment for adults and kids! Come and experience the party that Delawareans have been raving about for over 30 years! Come as a cowboy, cowgirl, cow, cactus, bandit or get creative with any other type of costume and get ready to have the time of your life! For more information and registration, please visit: ChabadDE.com/register.





CAMP IS HOME

By Abby Schreiber

PHOTOS BY ABBY SCHREIBER

When I was eight-years-old, I considered myself a “mutt” - my mom was Christian, and my dad was Jewish. Neither were religious, and there were no expectations for me to be, either. My cultural upbringing was a *menorah* on Chanukah and a tree on Christmas, but other than that, I lived in limbo.

Camp changed all of that for me.

MORE ON NEXT PAGE

Abby Schreiber is Communications Coordinator at the Siegel JCC. She was an English and Journalism/Media Studies double major at Rutgers University, now living in South Jersey.

Places like camp allow us to be the **most authentic versions of ourselves** before we even know what that means; you become a part of what you're accepted into.



CAMP IS HOME

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 55

My uncle worked at the JCC of Greater Pittsburgh, and from the time I was four, he was gearing me up for Emma Kaufmann Camp.

“Three years ‘til camp!”

“Two years ‘til camp!”

“You’re going to camp next year; are you ready?”

EKC is a sleepaway camp in Morgantown, West Virginia. I was a precocious, only-child who’d never left the tri-state area for more than a weekend, and I was about to leave the nest to be surrounded, for arguably the first time, by Jewish people.

On my first day, I was overwhelmed by the...*everything about it*. The cabins, the trees, the people. I had no idea what a “*Hamotzi*” was, let alone how to say it. I was thrust into a world I knew almost nothing about. So why was it that I suddenly felt so at *home*?

Camp has this magical way of engulfing you in its culture almost instantaneously; I’m not sure if anyone actually knows how. My best guess would be it’s the way in which everyone is unapologetically themselves from the moment you walk in. How could you feel anything but at home with that kind of authenticity? In turn, that “*be-yourself*”-ness that surrounds camp is doubly impactful at a Jewish camp. I wasn’t just Abby, the girl who liked to sing and watch *Harry Potter*. I was someone with Jewish heritage; I was a part of something larger.

Those first foreign culture shocks of the *Hamotzi*, *Birchat Hamazon*, and Shabbat services became second nature, just pieces of the puzzle in the place that I loved. It makes sense, then, that when you find “*home*” in camp, you find it in all that comes with it.

Judaism, for me, became home.

That desire to belong to something pervaded throughout my tween and teen years. It no longer felt like enough to be “*half*” of anything; finding my place felt important. When you’re lost, it’s always best to find your way back to a place where you feel accepted. I realized that being Jewish was much more than a religion. It’s a culture that’s ingrained inside of you. You’re born into it, and no matter your views or lack thereof on religion, it’s a part of you.

Years later, when it came time to be staff, I was made EKC’s song leader. I (the girl with essentially no Jewish upbringing of any kind) became the camp’s cantor. After my first year, our rabbi left, and I took on that job, too.

These safe spaces we create for our children are molds for their future. What we allow them to be while they’re young shapes who they’ll be as they age. Places like camp allow us to be the most authentic versions of ourselves before we even know what that means; you become a part of what you’re accepted into. Camp was instrumental in helping me become the proud Jew that I am today, not by pushing religion on me, but by reminding me that I am part of a bigger picture. Camp is home.

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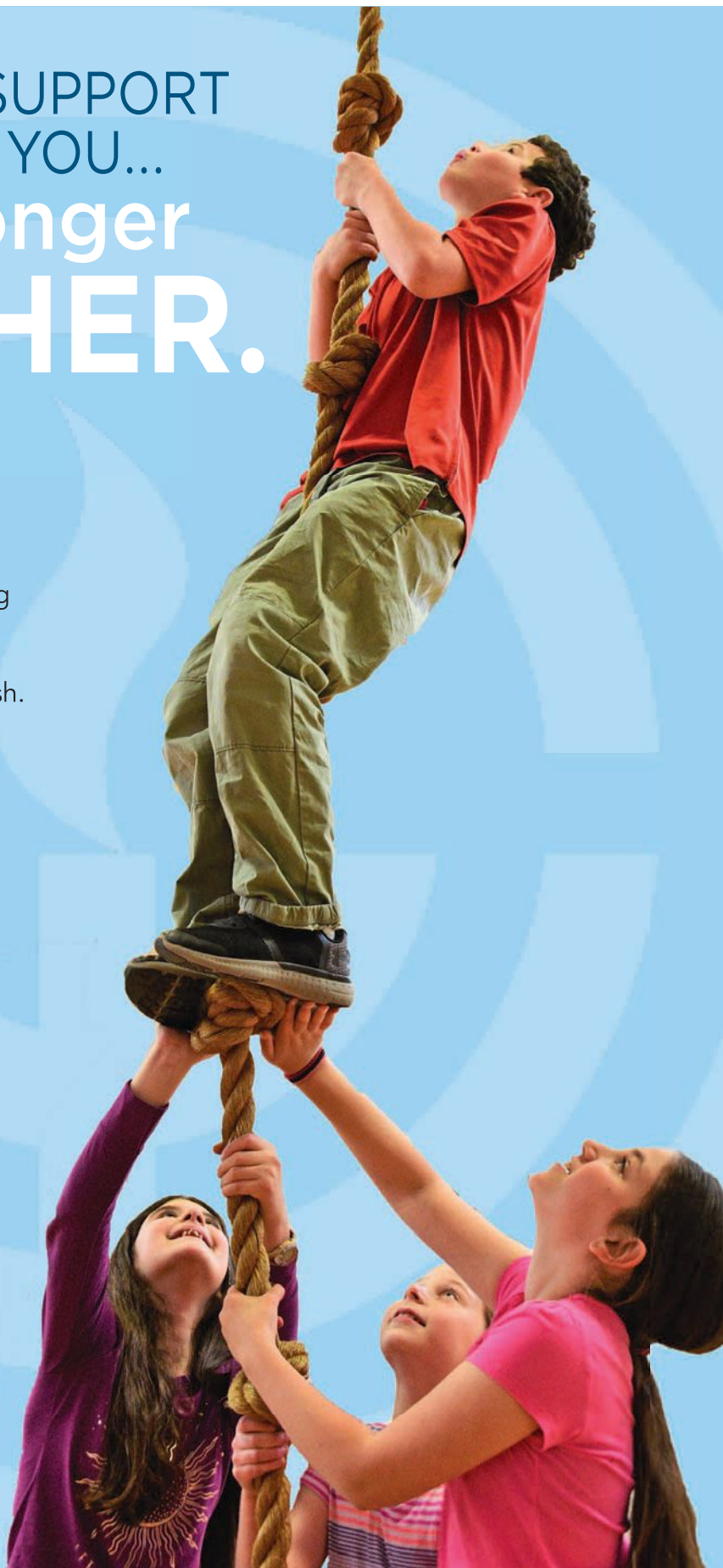
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