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JCFR Annual Meeting Will Be Held on June 6



Steve and Susan Meyers

On Wednesday, June 6 at 5:30 p.m. the community is invited to attend the JCFR Annual Meeting. A new president will be elected as well as the election of the members of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors.

In addition, this year's illustrious honorees will be recognized.

The meeting will be held in the Israel November Auditorium at the Weinstein JCC.

Susan and Steve Meyers will be awarded the JCFR Distinguished Community Service award. Together, in many different capacities, they have been serving the community for many years.

President's Awards will be presented to: Bob Reinhard, Michael Sievers and Mark Sisisky.

This year's William B. Thalhimer Sr. Young Leadership Award will be presented to Brian Greene and the Virginia V. Binswanger Young Leadership Award will be presented to Dena Neuwirth.

Jim Weinberg, chair of JCFR Nominating Committee, said, "The community and Federation is very fortunate that a group of very talented volunteers agreed to join the Federation's Board of



Brian Greene



Dena Neuwirth



Bob Reinhard



Michael Sievers

Directors this year. New members come from varied backgrounds and experiences in our community. The Nominating Committee worked hard to identify and recruit a diverse group, and I am very appreciative of the committee's efforts."

The nominating committee has proposed the following slate of officers for the 2012-2014 term: President: Nathan Shor; Vice President: Stuart Siegel; Vice President: Deane Dubansky;

Secretary / Treasurer: Sara Waskin; Assistant Treasurer: Michael Sievers; Immediate Past President: Ivan Jecklin; Honorary Vice Presidents: Ric Arenstein, Mark Sisisky, Jerry Gumenick & Neil November.



Mark Sisisky

JCFR *More on page 12*

Holocaust Remembrance Day is Observed



Guest speaker Dr. Anna Sommer Schneider addresses community members.

The Annual Yom HaShoah Holocaust Remembrance Day was observed at the Virginia Holocaust Museum on April 18.

The Yom HaShoah program memorialized the events and losses of the Holocaust with a candle-lighting ceremony for the Survivors

and prayers said in memory of the dead.

In addition, there was a candle-lighting in memory of many other victims of Hitler and a number of genocides.

Guest speaker Dr. Anna Sommer Schneider spoke about her own personal journey working as a guide at the Auschwitz-

Birkenau Concentration Camp Museum in Poland.

She described how Poland took many years in the post-war before allowing the publicizing of the Holocaust throughout the country.

She said three key

Remembrance *More on page 10*



RJF Annual Meeting on May 30



Steve Markel

Richmond Jewish Foundation's 33rd annual meeting will be held Wednesday, May 30 at 5:30 p.m. in the Israel November Auditorium at the Weinstein JCC.

The meeting will feature the installation of officers and new directors. Andy Brownstein will succeed Stuart Cantor as

Foundation Chairman. Jim Weinberg will serve as chair-elect. Beth Long will continue as Treasurer and Miriam Davidow as Secretary. Adam Plotkin will continue to serve as assistant treasurer and chair of the investment committee. Joining the board as new directors will be Rhona Arenstein, Steve Biegler, Ron Felmus, David Fratkin, Danny Jackson and Jay Schwartz.

RJF directors include past chairs Stuart Cantor and Debra Gardner, Beryl Ball, Irving Blank, Ruth Greene, Jeff Gumenick, Susan Craven Johnson, Rebecca Kalman-Winston, Evelyn Lampert, Roger Leibowitz, Gail Moskowitz, Walter Rabhan, Richard Samet, Michael

RJF *More on page 11*

Network JCFR Group Takes Part in TribeFest

At the end of March, Network JCFR sent eight young Jewish professionals to Las Vegas for TribeFest.

TribeFest, sponsored by Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA), was a three-day entertaining, interactive, educational conference of more than 1,500 Jewish young professionals. It was filled with passionate and inspiring speakers.

The attendees were thrilled to learn and grow with the collective held at the Palazzo at the Venetian. From breakout sessions, breaks, and meals, there was networking, and the excitement of discovering yet another connection through the famous game of “Jewish Geography.”

Topics varied significantly touching on every facet of a Jewish young professional’s life and interest. Sessions focused on religion, social media, interfaith relationships, professional development, fundraising, generational change, Israel, the environment, politics, Jewish music and much more.

Brooke Goldstein, the founder and director of the Children’s Rights Institute, gave a passion-



(Top row/from left) Aaron Brenner, Zach Brenner, Whitney Frost, M’Lissa Levitt and Matthew Miller (Bottom) Shira Futterman and Danielle Aaronson. Not pictured is Jordan Rothenberg.

ate plea for the inherent rights every child should have, regardless of his or her background or education. Jonny Imerman and Rochelle Shoretz recounted their struggles through cancer, treatment, and survival and shared the way they each began to make a positive difference in this world.

Tears were shed for many of the speakers but when Rachel Dratch, former cast member of Saturday Night Live, took the main stage the room shook with laughter. Her description of a non-Jew observing Pesach for the first time was so on point.

TribeFest Connects, Excites and Bonds Group

By Zach Brenner

When I told people I was going to Las Vegas for four days to attend something called Tribefest, the response was always the same: “Uh, what’s that?” Well, I explained, it’s a Jewish Convention. You know, learning, networking, and socializing with other Jews from around the country, even Canada. And it’s in Vegas? Right, there will be gambling, too.

After going, I realized that, yes, TribeFest was all of those things, but there was something else that every other convention lacks. We were not just members of the same company, we were members of the tribe, connected on a deeper, personal level.

TribeFest blended all of the traditional

elements together in the presence of that special bond, which made each and every relationship that much more powerful. We listened to inspirational speakers and joined in passionate discussions.

We danced in the private suite of the Venetian’s owner and in one of the city’s most exclusive clubs. Through it all, I felt the connection, something that transcended the excitement of meeting such a diverse group of young professionals from eighty different communities.

For just a few days, we were all bigger than ourselves, we were a single community, and I think we all left with a greater awareness of how wonderful it is to be Jewish and how meaningful it feels to get involved and ensure that our people stay strong for the future.

CALENDAR

• **May 6** | 11 a.m.

Mitzvah Day
Congregation Beth Ahabah

• **May 18** | 7:30 p.m.

Shabbat Alive
With Rick Recht
Congregation Or Ami

• **May 22** | 5:30 p.m.

Weinstein JCC Annual Meeting
Weinstein JCC

• **May 22** | 6:30 p.m.

World Affairs Council, JCFR, VHM Sponsor Speaker Stuart Eizenstat,
Weinstein JCC

• **May 30** | 5:30 p.m.

Richmond Jewish Foundation Annual Meeting
Weinstein JCC

• **June 6** | 5:30 p.m.

Jewish Community Federation of Richmond Annual Meeting
Weinstein JCC

Visit jewishrichmond.org for a complete calendar of Jewish community events.

AJ Jacobs, author of many books including “The Year of Living Biblically,” had a Power-Point full of his spiritual and physical journey through our history and around the world. Attendees heard from Hadas Malada-Matsree, a Medical Officer in the Israeli Air Force. She shared her powerful journey that brought her to make Aliyah in 1988. She described walking with her mother to Sudan, spending time in a refugee camp, and being helped by Federation. She discussed the ways she has learned to bring her gift of medicine to children who have lost hope in Israel.

Participating in this incredible adventure from Richmond were: Aaron Brenner, Zach Brenner, Whitney Frost, Shira Futterman, M’Lissa Levitt, Matthew Miller, Jordan Rothenberg and Danielle Aaronson JCFR Young Leadership director. This experience allowed the participants to bond with each other and also with many others across the U.S. and North America. At the TribeFest Follow-Up Meeting, one participant noted that the individuals now feel more comfortable attending Network JCFR events since they have a deeper connection with participants.

Our neighboring cities have invited Richmond to join them for events and Network JCFR is looking at meeting half way for a joint program this summer. Brenner, Frost and Miller are also developing other initiatives to consider for Network JCFR.

The May Network JCFR Calendar is very full to give those who did not travel to Las Vegas an opportunity to experience some of the spirit of TribeFest.

We are looking for individuals to host a group of Jewish young professionals as we continue to create a strong community for each person. If you would like to host an event, recommend a venue, or know anyone, ages 22-45, in the community, please contact Danielle Aaronson at daaronson@jewishrichmond.org.

May Network JCFR Schedule

Tikkun Olam Tuesday, May 1, 5:30 p.m., Byrd Park

Play Group, May 3, 9:30 a.m., Young Family Programming, TBD

Happy Hour & Karaoke, May 9, 8:30 p.m.,

Sine Irish Pub

Shabbat Oneg in Newport News, May 18, 6 p.m., RSVP for Transportation Planning **Book Club**, May 20, 2 p.m. (Book and location TBD)

Trivia Night, May 21, 8 p.m., Gus’ Bar and Pub

Shavuot Learning Experience, May 27, 11:30 a.m., Chabad of Virginia

For information on Network JCFR programs and events, contact daaronson@jewishrichmond.org or 545-8626.

THE REFLECTOR

הנה מה טוב ומה נעים

שבת אחים גם יחד
*How good & pleasant it is
for brethren to dwell in unity.*

The *Reflector* is published monthly by the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond. Copy must be received two and a half weeks prior to the date of publication. The *Reflector* reserves the right to edit or refuse any copy or advertisement submitted. Views expressed by guest writers and reader’s letters do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond.

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Jewish Community Federation
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RJCL is Active This Spring at Swansboro

By Debbie Minden

Spring is always a busy time at Swansboro Elementary and the Richmond Jewish Coalition for Literacy (RJCL). The students and their mentors have much planning to do as the year winds down.

Serious stuff like SOLs draw nearer, but there is still time for learning through play and fun. Recently, two annual important events took place - The Cake Walk and African American Job Fair. These happenings mark the beginning of spring as sure as the sighting of the first robin or crocus.

The Cake Walk is for dancers. Couples and small groups learn a dance then present it to an audience full of teachers, parents and other students. As a reward, each entrant receives a cake. This year, a new group of young dancers entered and showed what hard work by students and their mentors can do.

Alison Linas, Claire Zelmanski and Morgan Brown, second-year law students at the University of Richmond, led a dance troupe, The Swansboro Dolphinettes. Each Friday, a dozen 5th grade girls learned new dances and enjoyed themselves. The girls learned a variety of styles of dance from ballet, jazz, and modern dance to sixties dance crazes.

The goal was to create healthy minds and bodies through dance. All were required to give maximum effort in the classroom as well as respect their teachers and administrators. As part of the mission of healthy minds and bodies, there was a "circle time" every week where topics including



Mentor Phyllis Ellenbogen and Destiny.



Janet Meyers and Emani.



Breonna and Tyzia with Tomomi Rubin.

bullying, good deeds, respect and healthy eating were discussed. Linas is proud of the girls who did such a wonderful job and gave an amazing performance at the Cake Walk.

To learn about volunteering for the RJCL, contact Diane Munsey at the JCFR at 545-8654 or dmunsey@jewishrichmond.org, or Claudia Biegler at claudiabiegler@gmail.com.

MISSIONS

• December 20 -23, 2012
JCFR Mission to Cuba

• January 14-23, 2013
JCFR Interfaith Mission to Israel

There's no better way to see Israel and the work that we do on behalf of Jews in need around the world than on a Federation Mission!

For more information on these and other upcoming missions that are scheduled, please contact Matt Langsam at 545-8652 or e-mail mlangsam@jewishrichmond.org.



By Samuel Asher
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, JCFR

Community Supports the Work of Federation

focus on
FEDERATION

Much has been accomplished in this fiscal year. The campaign closed at \$2.982 million and marks the second year in a row our campaign has increased.

The Fall Mission to Israel was one of our largest with more than 84 participants. We have increased our Young Leadership programs, with the addition of Danielle Aaronson to our staff. The update of the 1994 Community Study was completed and is being utilized in many areas.

So our community has rallied and continues to support our work. No one else builds community like Federation. Members of our community care deeply about Federation and they understand that the needs in Israel, Richmond and around the world continue to increase.

The attempts to delegitimize Israel continue. Most recently a "flytilla" of pro-Palestinian activists attempted to protest and cause disruption at Ben Gurion Airport. Although some

arrests were made, the Israeli government was able to work with foreign authorities and succeeded in stopping many activists before they were allowed to board their flights.

Unfortunately, we will continue to see attempts to delegitimize Israel. We also continue to see violence against Israel. Just recently on April 23,

No one else builds community like Federation. Members of our community care deeply about Federation and they understand that the needs in Israel, Richmond and around the world continue to increase.

rockets were fired from Gaza into Israel. Fortunately, there were no casualties. Tomorrow, who knows?

While other countries around the world continue to commit crimes against humanity, it is Israel that gets the "bad rap."

Although the UN brokered cease fire may be holding in Syria, President Bashir El Assad

continues to murder innocent civilians. According the UN, more than 11,000 have been killed.

Even though the western leaders have called for Assad to step down, this is unlikely. He continues to follow the ways of his father, Hafez El Assad, who was known as "the butcher of Hama." We are now aware that the "hope" of the Arab spring could turn into an even further radicalization in the Arab world.

We need to continue to stand strong and support our local community, Israel and Jews around the world through our support of the JCFR annual campaign. We need to be ever vigilant in our support of Israel as the efforts to delegitimize the Jewish State and the terrorist attacks continue. JCFR and the JCRC will stand watch and we know that you will be there with us.

I look forward to seeing you at the Annual Meeting of the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond on June 6.

With your help we will go from strength to strength in building our community.

Stuart Eizenstat to Visit Richmond on May 22

Stuart Eizenstat to speak at the Weinstein JCC at 6:30 p.m. Open and free to the general public.

The World Affairs Council, the First Freedom Center, the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond, and the Virginia Holocaust Museum are sponsoring a visit to Richmond on May 22 by Stuart E. Eizenstat, former Deputy Secretary of the Treasury, Ambassador to the European Union, and Special Representative of the President and the Secretary of State on Holocaust-Era Issues.

Eizenstat will speak about

his just-published book, *The Future of the Jews: How Global Forces are Impacting the Jewish People, Israel, and its Relationship with the United States*, co-authored with Sir Martin Gilbert, one of the world's foremost historians and an expert on Jewish history and the life of Winston Churchill.

The authors survey the major geo-political, economic, and security challenges facing the world in general and the U. S. in particular. The forces include the shift in power toward Asia and Latin America, globalization and the new information age, the battle for

direction in the Muslim world, non-traditional security threats, and demographic change.

They argue that these forces impact Jews in a unique way, giving rise to a new anti-Semitism which seeks to de-legitimize the Jewish state and to weaken the strategic alliance between Israel and the U. S.



Stuart Eizenstat

Eizenstat More on page 12

Final Production of Jewish Family Theatre Season



Jewish Family Theatre opens the final production of its 2011-2012 season, *And Then They Came For Me: Remembering the World of Anne Frank*, on Wednesday May 2.

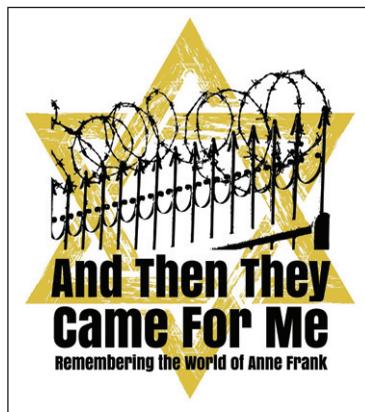
The show features a cast of 6 youth actors aged 12 to 18 and incorporates the true stories of other youth from that time period with similar experiences through

the use of multi-media projections and interviews interspersed with live actors.

The show runs May 2 through May 13, Wednesday and Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m., and Sundays at 2 p.m. at the Weinstein JCC.

This show is recommended for ages 10 and up, and particularly for school groups wishing to explore the Holocaust in a way that is accessible to young people.

For tickets and information, call 285-6500.



in our
AGENCIES

Jewish Community Golf Tournament: June 4

The Weinstein JCC & Beth Sholom Lifecare Community are hosting the 15th Annual Jewish Community Classic Golf Tournament on Monday, June 4 at the newly renovated Donald Ross golf course at the Jefferson-Lakeside Country Club.



(From left) Craziest Outfits - This team at last year's Golf Classic of Steve Biegler, Danny Jackson, Ronnie Adolf and Jay Schwartz.

This event is held to raise money to support the efforts of each association in strengthening Jewish identity and continuity by enriching personal, cultural, social and physical development, by fostering leadership and promoting the welfare of the Jewish community and the community as a whole as well as providing long term care for the Jewish elderly.

The event includes a Captain's choice foursome format of play, lunch, snacks & dinner reception, as well as a putting contest, hole in one prize opportunities and a

variety of awards given for division & overall winners.

Sponsorship opportunities are still available, tax-deductible and a great way to support your local Jewish community.

For information on sponsorship, contact Scott Katz at 545-8644 or Selma Harlow at 421-5142. To play in the tournament, contact Scott Katz or pick up a registration brochure at either location and get your clubs out and ready for a great day on the course.

ReelAbilities Disability Film Festival Opening Night is May 14



On Monday, May 14, at 7 p.m. the ReelAbilities Film Festival will kick off at the Weinstein JCC.

In the opening performance, The School of the Performing Arts in the Richmond Community (SPARC) will share an excerpt from LIVE ART, a program that will culminate in a music concert on June 3, featuring Virginia musicians and children of all abilities performing live acts of art on stage.

A number of award-winning

films will be shown from May 14-21.

The first is *SHOOTING BEAUTY*, which tells the story of fashion photographer Courtney Bent whose career takes an unexpected turn when she discovers a hidden world of beauty at a center for people living with significant disabilities.

Following this film, Jeffrey P. Harris, president of the Saul Schottenstein Foundation B and his son Jason, will tell their personal story of what it is like as a family to live with a child with Aspergers Syndrome. This incredible week



of film and live arts celebrates the abilities of those with disabilities.

For tickets call 285.6500 or visit www.weinsteinjcc.org. The cost is \$8.50 for Weinstein JCC members / \$10 non-members (per movie); \$36 Weinstein JCC members / \$40 non-members (weekly pass)

The festival is sponsored by: VCU Medical Center and *Richmond Magazine*. The Weinstein JCC thanks and acknowledges the following community partners in supporting ReelAbilities: Commonwealth Autism Service • Autism Society of Central Virginia • ARC of Richmond • Jewish Family Services • T/TAC at VCU Special Olympics Virginia • Sportable • Dreamers Theater • SPARC • Visual Art Center of Richmond • The Shop at artspace • the arts help • NAMI • VOCAL • The Faison School • Northstar Academy • Positive Vibe Café • Chesterfield Community Services Board.

Weinstein JCC's Annual Meeting: May 22



Cullen Seltzer

The community is cordially invited to attend the Weinstein JCC Annual Meeting on Tuesday, May 22 at 5:30 p.m. in the Israel November Auditorium.

Hors d'oeuvres will be served and dietary laws will be observed. Please RSVP to Pat Hendrick at 545-8604 or phendrick@weinsteinjcc.org.

Agenda for the evening includes the presentation of the Leroy B. Goldberg Leadership Award to Sara Villalona and the Arenstein Family Excellence in Youth Service Award to be presented to Jessica Kocen. Also on the agenda is the installation of new board members as well as the installation of new President, Cullen Seltzer.



The Weinstein JCC is supported, in part, by a generous contribution from the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond

Celebration of Russian Victory Day on May 6

The community is invited to celebrate the 67th anniversary of WWII Russian Victory Day on Sunday, May 6, at 11 a.m. at the Weinstein JCC.

The program will include special stories, singing, dancing and a pot-luck brunch, along with a special dedication to the

Richmond community's decorated War veterans.

If you are Russian or just interested in Russian culture you will really enjoy this event.

Transportation is available. Please contact Shari Menlowe-Barck at 545-8611 for details and reservations.

5400 Men's Club

Upcoming programs:

May 7 - Dr. John Owen, Woodrow Wilson School of Politics, University of Virginia, "Why Islam is Winning"

May 14 - Richard Conti, executive director, Science Museum of Virginia, "Question Your World."

May 21 - Ward Scull, III, co-founder, Virginians Against Payday Loans and Jay Speer, executive director of the Virginia Poverty Law Center, "The Case Against Predatory Lending in Virginia."

May 28 - No meeting

Camp Ganim Accepting Applications for Summer 2012



Handfuls - (From left) Ellie Dixon, Austen Cohen, Soren Bushnell and Sydney Schwabe.



(From left) Cady Bunce, Camden Layne, Charlotte Phillips and Arie White.



(From left) Asher Wise & Ethan Burda water some plants.



Jacob Katz painting

If you missed the Camp Ganim Open House on May 1 from 7 to 8 p.m. and May 2 from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m., there is still time register for the summer.

Don't let your child miss out on all the fun. Spaces are still available for Camp Ganim - the Weinstein JCC's premier preschool camp for children ages 2 to 5 years old.

- Daily swim lessons for toilet trained children 3 years and up
- Daily water play on the playgrounds for 2 year olds

- New bike paths on the preschool playgrounds
- Music with Ashley, Art with Dawn and plenty of time to play outside
- Vegetable Gardens to tend
- Special Friday Shabbat Celebrations
- Nurturing and trained Counselors
- Licensed by the State of Va.
- Low child to counselor ratios
- Weekly visit with Israeli Scout
- Sand dunes and mud pits

Everything a young child's summer should be - fun, wet and wild and filled with joy.

Come and join the summer celebration at the Weinstein JCC Preschool. Contact



(From left) Lilah Field, Deeya Natarajan (with goggles) and Daneel Olihenco.

Donna Peters Early Childhood Director at 545-8617 or dpeters@weinsteinjcc.org or Lily Ocasio Camp Director at 545-8115.

An Offer for Senior Members of the Weinstein JCC

The 5400 Men's Club of the Weinstein JCC is open for membership and the members urge seniors to join.

Here's why. The Men's Club is a non-sectarian group of mostly retired, as well as some active, gentlemen who meet each Monday in the Israel November Auditorium to hear presentations from prominent members of the media, medical profession, entertainment, journalism, government, academia plus other fields.

Some of the recent speakers have been: Dr. Ed Ayers, president of the University of Virginia; Glenn Winters, spokesman of the Virginia Opera; Tom Silvestri, publisher of the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*; Bruce Fisher, representative of NASA and Dr. George Vetrovec, director of VCU's Pauley Heart Center.

Speakers in April included: Jeff Schapiro, Political Columnist of the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* and Laura Geller, NBC 12 News. Upcoming speakers include: Richard Conti, executive director of the Science Museum of Virginia plus many more.

Each Monday's program runs from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.

Other Reasons. Twice a year, the club sponsors trips for members and guests to the

Riverside Dinner Theater in Fredericksburg to enjoy live performances of great musical productions such as *Cabaret*, *Mame*, *Hello Dolly*, and *Chicago* to name a few. Cost to members, including the show, fine 3-course dinner, deluxe bus transportation and all gratuities is approximately 20% below the normal retail rate.

The Annual CLUB NIGHT OUT in June at the Westwood Club offers members and their spouses or guests an evening of fine dining, plus a live musical performance by some of the top talents in this region. Cost to members and guests is only \$29 each which includes deluxe 3-course dinner with choices of entrees and desserts, all gratuities, taxes and entertainment plus the social activities described above.

Also, a free lavish brunch to all members (with paid up dues) at the annual Installation Ceremonies at the Westwood Club in October.

The total cost of membership in the 5400 Men's Club is only \$25 per year. To join the Club, or for further information, contact any of the following: Marty Janner, 262-8484, Mel Vergales, 740-2532 or Shelly Shapiro: 755-6872

Boogie & Splash

Sunday, June 3 12 -3 p.m.

Free and Open to the Community!

Don't miss out on Family Fun Day at Camp Hilbert. There will be a pool party with music, inflatables, free popcorn, sno cones and cotton candy along with party games and food for sale or bring your own picnic.

Directions to 2240 Maidens Road, Goochland, 23102. Take I-64 west to Oilville, exit 167, and turn left. Turn right onto Rt 250 (Broad St) going west. Turn left onto Rt 632 (Fairgrounds Rd) then make a right onto Rt 634 (Maidens Rd). Camp is on the left.

Weinstein JCC Preschool

Where Learning is a Journey of Discovery

You've heard about it over the years so now come see what all the fuss is about.

- Fully licensed, NAEYC accredited since 1986 • Children ages 2-5 years old engage in a child-centered preschool which is inspired by the Reggio Emilia Approach • Early morning 7:30 am-9 am & extended afternoon childcare (12 pm-6pm) available • Extra Enrichment Classes offered. For information, contact Donna Peters

dpeters@weinsteinjcc.org or 545-8617

Women's Room

May 7 - Dr. John Owen, Woodrow Wilson School Of Politics, University of Virginia, "Islam Is Winning?" (Joint Meeting with Men's Club)

May 14 - Suzie Adolf, Saxon Shoes: Their History Past, Present & Future."

May 21 - Brooke Spieldenner, Library & Community Service Manager, West End Library, "Fashion Of Our Past and Present."

May 28 - Memorial Day: No Program

Cabaret Nouveau

Expect the Unexpected! And that's what everyone got at Beth Sholom's annual fundraiser "Cabaret Nouveau," held at the Westin Hotel on March 17.

The "unexpected" was the burlesque dancers and live entertainment, along with an elaborate buffet, martini bar and silent auction.



Joan Schoenes

Tammy Smith, from Hell on Heels Productions and her entourage danced to show tunes while performing tasteful burlesque routines. The Jeff Decker Band provided great live music while the

girls danced.

Committee members were Danielle Aaronson, Alissa Aronovici, Susan Beller, Len Goldberg, Irving Scherr, Geri Stahl, Stanley Ullman and Sam Wilson. Committee chair was Beth Siegel-Stein.



Scott and Susan Beller, David and Beth Stein and , Gary and Sarah Wallace.

Title sponsor this year was Unidine. Other sponsors included Scott Insurance and Omicare.

Watch for Beth Sholom's "Save the Date" coming soon. You can expect the unexpected again next year!



Beth Sholom Home is supported, in part, by a generous contribution from the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond.

Parkside Celebrates Two Seder Dinners



Residents of Parkside, family members and friends enjoy Passover.



(From left) Lillian Ruck with daughter and son in law Carol and Neil Rose.



Rabbi Koller with Mollie Cohen and her daughter.



(From left) Bernice Steinberg and Belle Olshansky.

The Seder dinner is one of the most important traditions of Passover. It involves the retelling of the story of the liberation of the Israelites from slavery in ancient Egypt, which is performed by a

community or by multiple generations of family. Many family members come from near and far to partake in this holiday, and this was definitely true of the two Seder dinners at Parkside this year.

Seders for Seniors

On March 28 and 29, JFS brought Seders to seniors who otherwise would not be able to celebrate Passover.

The first Seder at Gayton Terrace was a joint gathering of Jewish residents from Gayton Terrace and Imperial Plaza. Students from RTA joined the festivities and presented a wonderful Passover program with songs and a skit.

The second Seder was held at Marywood Senior Apartments. The JFS Outreach Committee held a mock Seder, with a mix of English and Russian programs, to the Jewish Russian community and other interested residents. Marywood is an independent living facility, and the Russian residents went all out by preparing and sharing traditional Russian dishes for the Passover meal.

Thanks to JFS Volunteer Coordinator Sheryl Luebke and the JFS Outreach Committee for planning these Passover events: Debbie Harley, Barbara Gardetz, Renee Sherman, Syral Specter, and Judy Wiener.



JFS teamed with RTA to bring Passover to seniors at Gayton Terrace. (Back/from left) Sruely Paley and Campbell Wharton. (Front, from left) Fred Buncher, Moshe Ackman and, Esther Buncher.



Jewish Family Services is supported, in part, by a generous contribution from the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond.

Swimmers Welcome

Are you looking for a fun and exciting summer activity? The Dolphin Club welcomes all swimmers.

Come to a Dolphin Club open house event on May 3 from 5 to 7 p.m. and May 6 from 4 to 6 p.m. Here you'll learn more about summer swim team (winners of the 2011 Len Everett Sportsmanship Award), meet the coaches (winners of the 2011

Coaching Excellence Award) and have all your questions answered.

This program is for anyone ages 4 to 18 and has daily practices at both the Weinstein JCC and Camp Hilbert from May 14 through July 17.

For more information, contact Kelly Johannsen at 545-8640.

Host an Israeli Youth Emissary This Summer

Do you want to bring Israel into your home? Why not host one of our Summer Shlichim (emissaries) from Israel or Israeli Scouts?

The Caravan will be here June 28 through July 3 and Camp Hilbert will also host a summer Shaliach and one Israeli Scout from June through August.

In exchange for sheltering and feeding these fantastic Israelis for one to two weeks your family will get first-hand exposure to Israeli culture and create a pen pal for life. Sign up to host today.

For Scout Caravan contact Kim Goldstein at kimg710@gmail.com. For Summer Scout, contact Hilary Bender at



The Israeli Scout Caravan a few years ago with Adrienne Winkelmann.

358-4533 or hilred@aol.com. For Summer Shaliach, contact Shoshanna Schechteer-Shaffin at sshaffin@weinsteinjcc.org or 545-8657.

All About Pesach



“Tell your child on that day saying that it is because of what Adonai did for me when I came forth out of Egypt.” –Exodus 13:8

That verse from Exodus has been the focus of most of the activity at the Temple Beth-El Religious School for much of March and April. Students from PreK+ through grade 7 learned about Passover, studied the Hagaddah, and practiced singing holiday songs.

During the weeks leading up to Pesach, the chanting of the four questions could be heard through the halls, as well as the other traditional tunes, like Dayenu. Thanks to Alison Linas, music teacher, the students got to have fun singing silly Passover songs such as “Afikomen!” that was sung with the tune to “Oklahoma!” At one point it seemed that the students were starting up “Take Me Out to the Ball Game,” which wouldn’t have been out of the question since the timing was so close to spring break. Although the tune was the same, the students were actually singing “Take Us Out of Egypt!”

The younger grades participated in a Seder led by Linda Griff, the primary grades coordinator. There were many parent volunteers as well as high school students assisting in making this a great experience. The children listened to the parents and high schoolers read from the Hagaddah as they learned about the order of the Seder, what is on the seder plate, and why they had to search for the afikomen.

Our older students all played a role in preparing the meal for their seder. The third grade made matzah ball soup for the meal. The fifth graders boiled/peeled eggs and washed the vegetables needed for the seder plate and the meal. The sixth and seventh grade made the haroseth. Finally, all the students took a turn in grating horseradish root to be reminded of the experience of the Jews who were enslaved in Egypt. The grating took some muscle, and certainly evoked some tears with its very pungent odor!

Rabbi Gary Creditor led the seder for grades three through seven. The students did a wonderful job participating. They sang, asked questions, answered questions,



Grades 6 and 7 make haroseth.



(From left) Carly Cooper and Samantha Heffron.



(From left) Erika Webne, Jessica Weber, Devin Genderson and Jaymie Cohen.

and prepared themselves for the seders they would be enjoying at home.

The Ruach Youth Group has been busy having fun. The March event was an afternoon of indoor rock climbing at Peak Experience. In the words of one youth group member, the event “really rocked!”

Great teachers Needed at Beth-El!

The Temple Beth-El Religious School is looking for Judaic and Hebrew teachers for the 2012-2013 school year. School hours are Wednesday afternoons from 4:15-6:15 and Sunday mornings from 9 a.m. -12 p.m.

Great pay and a positive, nurturing work environment.

Please contact Bari Cohen, Interim Director of Education at bari.cohen@bethelrichmond.org

KBI Names 2012 Aishes Chayil Honoree

Keneseth Beth Israel has selected Debbie Colby as the 2012 Aishes Chayil honoree.

Join other KBI members and guests at the Aishes Chayil luncheon, June 9.

Colby is a single mother of two daughters, each adopted at birth. Her moral creed of being kind above all else was taught to these girls, whom she provided with Jewish day school education and Jewish camps.

She “is robed in strength and dignity, and she smiles at the future.” Colby is known for her optimism, cheerfulness, and love of family that includes an older sister, twin sister, nephews and nieces, and extended family, with whom she maintains close ties in spite of geographic distances.

She is an active member of KBI, serving on the Board of Directors for many years in addition to holding the offices of vice-president for one year and Sisterhood president for three years. She is a dedicated



Debbie Colby

in our SYNAGOGUES

volunteer, often the first to take on tasks to benefit others. She is a participant in KBI learning classes, as well as learning with a study partner weekly. Her kindness and generosity are exemplified by graciously opening her home to Shabbat and Yom Tov guests.

She “opens her hand to the poor and reaches out her hands to the needy.” Colby has hosted Shaarei Torah female boarders for many years and maintains a relationship with many of these girls. She provides kosher meals for those in need and served as a Jewish Family Services “Friendly Visitor” when that program was initiated.

Her friend Joan Cantor said, “When I think of Debbie Colby, the words that come immediately to mind are giving and generous. Colby considers everyone in the Richmond Jewish community as family. She does not wait to be asked to help but looks for opportunities to do so.”

Colby served on the Rudlin Torah Academy Board of Directors for about 20 years and initiated and led a Jewish Girl Scout troop in Richmond. She has introduced Mah Jongg for and has patiently taught the game to many new players.

Contact the synagogue at 288 -7953 for information and tickets.

Or Ami Plans Shabbat Alive on May 18 With Rick Recht



Save the Date! Friday, May 18.

Come to Shabbat Alive with Rick Recht, a free community worship program presented by Congregation Or Ami and hosted at the Weinstein JCC.

Be prepared to get on your feet and be inspired as this dynamic, Jewish Song Leader/Performer helps all experience Shabbat worship in a whole new way. Please come early since a big crowd is expected at this explosive, rockin’ community worship event.

Worship begins at 7:30 p.m. Following worship, the Or Ami high school youth group, OATY, will host a Jew-bilee overnight lock-in for other Jewish high school teens from around the Virginia area. Reservations are necessary for the lock-in. Programs are being created to hand out before worship.

If you have a business or event you would

like to promote and get in front of hundreds of people, contact Or Ami for advertising opportunities. Contact Or Ami at 272-0017 or office@or-ami.com.

For more info on Shabbat Alive, the overnight lock-in, or for information on advertising in the program. For more information on Rick Recht, look him up on YouTube or at <http://www.rickrecht.com>.

On Sunday, May 20, Congregation Or Ami will be participating in I.O.U.-Interfaith Outreach United - a Mitzvah Day comprised of six congregations of varying faiths.

The Or Ami family will work shoulder to shoulder and side by side as hundreds fan out across Richmond to participate in enriching the lives of the needy and less fortunate. We welcome anyone who would like to participate or contribute to this worthy event.

Contact 272-0017 or go to www.iou-richmond.weebly.com.

Boy Scouts Make Lemonade Out of Lemons



(From left) Jacob Zedd and Charlie Alexander fold the American flag and Scout Master Russ Stein assists.

When Scouts get lemons, they make lemonade. When they get tornado warnings on the night of their planned camping trip, they quickly devise an alternate plan for a new location - this time it was Rudlin Torah Academy.

The day after the storms, Troop 613 endeavored to complete their goals for Tenderfoot, 1st Class and 2nd Class. From morning until early evening, the boys learned how to raise, lower and fold the flag. After each Scout took their turn, the boys were hungry and it

was time for lunch. Assistant Scout Masters Drew Alexander and Ben Melton built a fire, and while Alexander guarded and tended it until the flames died down to only heated coals, Melton slipped away to survey the landscape in preparation for a forthcoming activity.

Scout Master Russ Stein showed the boys how to make Hobo Packs for their lunch - aluminum foil packs containing meat and vegetables.

After a scrumptious and hearty

lunch and a brief respite, Scout Master Stein tested the boys on an array of physical fitness activities: pull-ups, push-ups, broad jump, sit-ups and a quarter-mile run.

Before they called it a day, the boys engaged in a brief refresher lesson in Orienteering - taught by Assistant Scout Master Ben Melton. Orienteering is an activity in which orienteers use an accurate, detailed map and compass to find points in the landscape. Melton mapped out ten points all around RTA's landscape. Split into three groups led by a Scout Leader, each group took off one at a time to navigate their way around the map to meet up at the end back where their journey began.

Before the boys started for home, strictly adhering to the Scout Code "Leave No Trace", they carefully policed the area (cleaning up anything left behind by their day's activities).

As it always seems to go, the day's events ended all too soon!

Congratulations Troop 613 Scouts: Charles Alexander, Jacob Zedd, Asher Ackman and Moshe



(From left) Scout Master Russ Stein, Assistant Scout Master Drew Alexander, Jacob Zedd, Moshe Ackman, Asher Ackman (Bugle Blower in back right), Assistant Scout Master Ben Melton) and raising flag is Charlie Alexander.

Ackman in fulfilling some of your rank requirements for Tenderfoot, 2nd Class and 1st Class!

Or Atid's Religious School Has Exciting and Innovative Year

The Sam and Helen Kornblau Religious School at Congregation Or Atid has experienced an exciting and innovative year under the nurturing hand of Rabbi Royi Shaffin.

The enrollment in the school has doubled this year, and the reason is easy to see upon a visit to the school. The Shalom Yeladim program for preschoolers introduces the children to Judaism through play, discovery, and storytelling.

The Purim parade through the building enchanted the adults meeting in the library. Elementary school students are learning through an eclectic blend of art, drama, and discussion. No rows of desks and silent poring over worksheets can be found.

In the middle school grades, students are challenged to create their own meaning and begin developing their own understanding of Judaism and its meaning in their lives. Students

and teachers use technology to research texts, ideas, and historical information.

A generous donation has been made to further enhance the educational technology at the school so that students can continue to explore their Jewish world in a digital way.

And learning doesn't stop once the B'nai Mitzvah is over. Students at Or Atid continue their educational experience as students in the Machon class and

as madrachim (teaching assistants) in the Sunday School. These talented high schoolers have spent the year analyzing films and their related themes in Judaism.

They have had in-depth conversations over dinner about the notion of superheroes in Judaism, as well as more traditional topics of assimilation, theology, and faith.

Their service to the school as Hebrew tutors and art assistants is a wonderful way to stay connected to their congregational family. The religious school is open to members free of charge and to non-members through tuition.

Rather than holding a formal open house this spring, Rabbi Shaffin invites any parents and students looking for a new religious



Rabbi Royi Shaffin reading Magilla at Purim Palozza.

school experience to spend a Sunday morning going to classes with the students and enjoying all Or Atid has to offer. He promises that the children will greet their parents with a smile and new Israeli martial arts move or two.

Please contact the office at 740-4747 to let Rabbi Shaffin know when to expect you.



Learn to Play the Drums!

Chris Parker, drummer for Susan Greenbaum, is now accepting students. 12 years of teaching in Richmond's West End. Free introductory lesson!

804-301-8032 ChrisParkerDrumTeacher.com

HEBREW FUN IN THE SUMMER SUN



Registration Now Open

Join us for our 2nd summer from

August 13-17, 2012

Held again at the

Beth-El campus on Parham Rd

For more information or to register contact your Synagogue Educational Director or the Federation office at 545-8629

Hebrew Fun in the Summer Sun is sponsored by the Richmond Council for Jewish Education an ad-hoc committee of the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond



Or Ami Upcoming Programs

On May 20 at 6 p.m., Congregation Or Ami presents "The Infidel," a comedy about an English Muslim who discovers that he's adopted - and Jewish.

A potluck will precede the screening;

discussion will be led by Rabbi Ben Romer.

This program at the synagogue is free. For information, call 272-0017, email: Office@Or-Ami.com or visit www.Or-Ami.com.

Classified

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- **Special Events Coordinator (part time).** The Weinstein JCC is seeking a highly-motivated, creative individual to manage the JCC annual Silent Auction, Book Fair Judaica Store, Gift Shop & Art Gallery. Must have strong interpersonal & organizational skills, able to meet deadlines and work under pressure and have knowledge of Jewish culture. Experience working with volunteers and lay committees.
- To advertise, call 545-8620 today.

Beth Ahabah Seeks Cantorial Soloist

Congregation Beth Ahabah is seeking a Cantorial Soloist to lead the congregation in song, approximately 40 weeks annually (Friday night and Saturday morning services).

If you or someone you know has a beautiful voice, please consider applying or sharing this ad with them. Required skills include: knowledge of Reform Jewish services; proficient in Hebrew; ability to read music. Ability to play guitar is a plus. Email letter of interest and/or resume to Katie Roeper at Katie.Roeper@gmail.com.

Beth Ahabah Museum & Archives Exhibit Book Talk By Author Joel Brenner Set for May 20

What would it be like to find, one morning, that there was no Internet access to our financial and other providers? Even worse, suppose that there was no Internet and no way to find out when it might return?

Suppose also that a hacker had been able to break into the computer system that controls our power grid and was causing blackouts that could cripple our local economy?

One of our own can help us understand these risks and tell us ways to protect ourselves.

Mark your calendars for Sunday, May 20. At 2 p.m., there will be an opportunity to gain a factual insight into these problems we all face, but might prefer to ignore.

Dr. Joel Brenner, a man with strong connections to the Richmond Jewish community, has written a book that deals with these topics and more. He will be sharing his knowledge at the Joel House at 1125 Franklin Ave., a few doors west of the Beth Ahabah sanctuary. Brenner is the son of Edith Brenner, and grew up in Richmond. His book is entitled "America the Vulnerable."

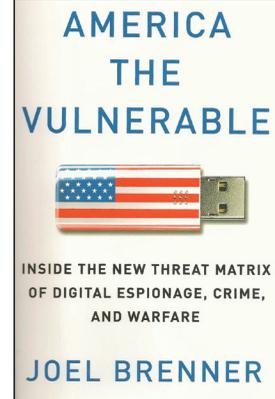
Brenner is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin - Madison (BA), the London School of Economics (PhD), and Harvard Law School (JD). He currently practices law in Washington, D.C., specializing in privacy, data security, and related issues.

He knows his topic well. He entered the inner sanctum of American espionage shortly after 9/11, first as the inspector general of the National Security Agency (NSA), then as the head of counterintelligence for the director of National Intelligence.

He saw at close range the battleground on which our adversaries are now attacking us - cyberspace.

Like the rest of us, our government and corporations inhabit a "glass house," all but transparent to adversaries and criminals, where secrecy as well as privacy are illusions.

In 2008 hackers lifted customer files from the Royal Bank of Scotland and used them to withdraw \$9 million in half an hour from ATMs in the United States, Britain and Canada - one of the biggest bank heists in history. Worldwide, corporations lose on average \$5 million worth of intellectual property apiece



annually, and big companies lose many times that.

The structure and culture of the Internet favor cyberspies over governments and corporations, and hackers over privacy. Brenner draws on his extraordinary background to show what we can and cannot do to right this imbalance and bring to cyberspace the freedom, accountability, and security we expect in our increasingly transparent lives.

Following his talk, Brenner will answer questions and be available to sign copies of his book.

All members of the community are invited to attend this event. All will leave with a better understanding of the threats to our own personal security we face, and with ideas on how we can protect ourselves, our privacy, and our hard-won assets.

Parking is available in the parking deck across from Joel House on Franklin, and in the surface lot adjoining Joel House on the west side.

The entrance to the lecture room is off the driveway between the Sunday school building and Joel House, directly across from the side entrance to the main sanctuary.

For information, for this free program, call 353-2668 or email bama@bethahabah.org.

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Holocaust Remembrance

Continued from page 1

developments led to Poland openly recognizing the Holocaust beginning with the trial of Adolf Eichmann in 1962.

In 1979, President Jimmy Carter announced the formation of the President's Commission on the Holocaust, which led a memorial to the victims of the Holocaust.

She noted that in 1979, the newly elected Polish Pope John Paul II celebrated mass on the grounds of Auschwitz to some 500,000 people.

These all brought the Holocaust into a much more public discussion and remembrance in Poland. "Poland has brought memories back to life," she said.

She praised the Virginia Holocaust Museum for "not only providing information on the Holocaust but for its long standing educational efforts. I am proud to be here. Keeping this memory alive is so important."

At the same time, she raised concerns about the amount of hatred and anti-semitism in the world that continued and pointed to the recent murders of Jews in France. "After 67 years, can Jews find a safe place?"

Federation CEO Samuel Asher welcomed the community members. He noted that the March of the Living had taken place that day in Poland. This was the 25th anniversary of this international, educational program.

This brings Jewish teens and others from all over the world to Poland on Yom Hashoah to march from Auschwitz to Birkenau, the largest concentration camp, and then to Israel to observe Yom HaZikaron, Israel Memorial Day, and Yom Ha'Atzmaut, Israel Independence Day.

This year, Asher said, was the first time students marched not only with Survivors and friends but also with liberators who freed so many from the grips of the Nazi regime.

The Jewish Community Federation and the museum awarded prizes to students whose art work was submitted to the Student Art Competition. Rena Berlin, director of education at the museum, presented the prizes to the students.

All submissions of student art were on display throughout the month of April. More than 200 works of art were submitted, a record number.



Several hundred community members attended the program.



Survivor Henry Maizels lights candle assisted by his nephew and niece.



Simone Schwarz and grandson.



Emmett Hickmann lights candle in memory of the gay and lesbian victims of Hitler.



Rabbi Andrew Goodman, Office of the Chaplaincy, University of Richmond, reads a poem.



Amanda Sam Prak, a survivor of the Cambodian genocide, lights a candle.



VHM Executive Director Jay Ipson lights a candle and later blew the shofar concluding the remembrance.

HADASSAH



Upcoming Hadassah Events

Gardening at the Greenhouse

Great Big Greenhouse, 2051 Huguenot Road on Sunday, May 6 - 10 a.m..

Doug Hensel, of Great Big Greenhouse will be presenting a program for Hadassah.

Hensel has worked in the retail garden center business for over 30 years and has been a Virginia Certified Horticulturist since 1982. In addition, he has served as president of the State Nursery Association in 2005 and honored with the distinguished Virginia Nurseryman of the Year Award in 2006!

Learn about planting for spring, annuals vs perennials, sun versus shade and container gardening. All of your spring and summer garden questions will be answered.

RSVP to Robin Jackson at rocknrobn@comcast.net.

Girls' Nite Out

May 17- 7:30 -10 p.m.

Cafe Caturra, 5811 Grove Avenue

The committee will arrange for a fixed price wine tasting. Leave the husbands, the kids and the dishes for a fun night of food & drinks with the girls.

RSVP to Geri Stahl at germs2076@yahoo.com or April Williams at unamela004@gmail.com.

Final Book Club

Hadassah's final Book Club meeting for the year will be held May 20 at 12:30 p.m. at the Weinstein JCC. The read will be a free for all. Bring a brown bag lunch and your own favorite book to share as we chat and learn. For more information contact Julie Beck Berman at 862-6581 or juliefbb@aol.com.

YVA Debuts in Prestigious Sarachek Tournament

Yeshiva of Virginia made its first appearance in one of the country's biggest expos of Jewish basketball - the prestigious Yeshiva University Sarachek Invitational Tournament in New York. This annual event brings together twenty of the best Yeshiva high school basketball teams from all over the country to compete in a five day tournament.

Led by Coach Doug Lewis, the YVA squad displayed great determination on the court, making a strong debut on their biggest stage ever. More importantly, the entire student body served as outstanding ambassadors of the Richmond Jewish community, impressing observers with their refined character and sportsmanship.

The tournament generated great excitement for the many YVA fans who came far and wide to cheer on their team in person, and the many more who followed the nail-biting games on Yeshiva University's live webcast.



Coach Doug Lewis huddles with the team.



Fans came from far and near to cheer on the YVA squad.

You've Got a Friend With *The Reflector*

You rely on your friends to provide you with information that you can trust. *The Reflector*, which has served Richmond's Jewish Community for more than a half a century, is one of those friends.

The Reflector provides pertinent information about everything from local agency developments, meetings, synagogue news to major events in the area, in Israel and around the world. A true friend, *The Reflector* provides a synopsis of what is happening in the region, deals with critical issues of modern Jewish life and the people who are making things happen in Jewish Richmond.

The Reflector serves as that valuable resource to stay connected with your Jewish community. Ad revenues and an annual allocation only take care of some of the expense to produce the monthly newspaper. So, we rely on our Friends for help.

Please see the enclosed remittance envelope with this issue of *The Reflector*; complete the form on the envelope and return it to us with your contribution.

Thank you for being a Friend.

AIPAC Richmond Renews Pro-Israel Advocacy Efforts

Open to the entire community
Thursday, May 17 at 6:30 p.m.
Sisisky Room at the Weinstein JCC.

Richmond is a bastion of Israel support and that presents the community with a unique opportunity. Due to the proximity to the state Capitol and Washington, D.C., the community is in a position to be advocates of the relationship between the governments of America and of Israel.

All passionate supporters of a strong US-Israel relationship are encouraged to attend an open meeting about new initiatives to do our part in strengthening the bond between these two countries.

Join other community members for a dessert reception and discussion on how Richmond can strengthen itself as a powerful force on current issues in the US-Israel relationship.

Open to the entire community, a meeting will take place Thursday, May 17 at 6:30 p.m. in the Sisisky Room at the Weinstein JCC. Mark Sisisky, longtime community leader, will address the group on his experiences

COMMUNITY news

with AIPAC and why it is so important to get involved. Rabbi Dovid Asher of KBI will moderate the evening and hopes to build a list of new initiatives to begin working on together in our community.

For many years, AIPAC has been the premier Pro-Israel Lobby. It has contact with elected officials in all 50 states. AIPAC is responsible for informing members of congress of the importance of sanctions on Iran. As a group, it educates top aides in the congressional office so that they are aware of why it is in America's best interest to support the Israeli military.

For instance, the U.S. has given Israel the resources it needed to construct the Arrow missile defense system and similar projects. Simply, AIPAC does an exceptional job reminding our leaders who their friends are in the otherwise hostile environment of the Middle East.

"Unfortunately, in today's world the Iranians continue to be a threat, the Palestinian authority is seeking increased legitimacy, and it is crucial for Israel to broaden its support. Let us not take the already strong relationship between Israel and the United States for granted. Let us fortify it," Rabbi Asher said.

This meeting is open to all but you are welcome to RSVP to RabbiAsher@kbirichmond.com.

RJF

Continued from page 1

Schewel, Sy Sibelman, Charles Swartz and Jim Weinberg.

Directors finishing board terms are Vice Chairs Stuart Siegel and Jeff Lacker; Gregory Itskovich, Sam Revenson, Roberta Oster Sachs and Robert Weisberger.

The Anne and S. Sidney Meyers Endowment Achievement Award will be presented to Steve Markel. Steve served as the Foundation's chairman from 1992-1994 where he presided over the modernization of the Foundation's governance structure and operations. The Meyers created the award to honor community members who are outstanding contributors to the field of Jewish endowments, whether on a local, regional or national basis.

Genesis Fund grants will be announced for new collaborative efforts between two or more organizations and chairman's awards will be presented to directors who have exhibited outstanding leadership.

Please let Richmond Jewish Foundation know if you will attend the Annual Meeting so that plans may be made accordingly.



Andy Brownstein

RSVP to Joice Burnette, Foundation Administrator, at jburnette@rjfoundation.net or call 545-8628.

Mitzvah Day is Set for May 6



(From left) Matthew Leibowitz and J.R. Kelley II clean headstones at the Hebrew Cemetery last year during Mitzvah Day.

It's time to roll up your sleeves, get out the trash bags and put on the garden gloves. Mitzvah Day, the annual all-day volunteer project organized by Congregation Beth Ahabah is set for May 6.

Mitzvah Day begins at 11 a.m. and most projects will be completed by 2 p.m.

This is a single-day service project that brings volunteers together in a concentrated effort to make a difference in the lives of others and the environment.

Last year, hundreds of volunteers took part in the project, making it the most successful Mitzvah Day to date.

This year's projects include:

- Feeding the homeless in Monroe Park.
- Creating paper flowers and decorating flower pots to be delivered with meals by Meals on Wheels. (Children 10 and under and their parents are invited to participate in this project.)

- Decorating and stuffing pillows for patients at Massey Care Center. (Children 10 and under and their parents are invited to participate in this project.)

- Preparing meals for Hospital Hospitality House.

- Filling snack bags to be distributed by Richmond Friends of the Homeless.

- Donating hair through Locks of Love for children who have lost theirs through illness.

- Cleaning up Belle Isle and the Hebrew Cemetery.

- Planting a vegetable garden at the William Byrd Community House.

- Donating blood to Virginia Blood Bank.

There are projects available for children and adults of all ages. Register online at www.bethahabah.org or call Congregation Beth Ahabah at 358-6757.

If you can't participate, please consider becoming a Team Mitzvah Sponsor with a contribution to offset the expenses of the project.

Volunteers are asked to bring non-perishable items with them for Central Virginia Food Bank, such as peanut butter, canned tuna, canned vegetables, pasta, and rice.

Volunteers also may donate items that will be sent to U.S. troops overseas, including: boxes of crackers, mouthwash, canned tuna, beef jerky, white or black athletic socks, new CDs and DVDs, comic books, puzzle books, playing cards, AA and AAA batteries, toothpaste, toilet paper and lip balm.

JCFR

Continued from page 1

Nominated to serve as members of the Class of 2015, for a three-year term are: Steve Gillispie, Gary Goldberg, Frances Goldman, Amy Nisenon, Michael Plotkin, Tracy Retchin, Elise Scherr, Nannette Shor, Sara Villalona and Jim Weinberg.

Proposed to serve as a member of the Class of 2014, completing a 2-year unexpired term is: Natalie Guld.

Proposed to serve as a member of the Class of 2013, completing a 1-year unexpired term is: Russ Jennings.

Please join the Federation for its Annual Meeting on Wednesday, June 6 at 5:30 p.m. at the Weinstein JCC. RSVP to Diane Munsey at 545-8654 or dmunsey@jewishrichmond.org.

Eizenstat

Continued from page 3

Eizenstat will also discuss his own experiences and convictions as they developed during his career in government, which also included service as White House Chief of Staff for Domestic Affairs during the Carter Administration, Under Secretary of State for Economic and Business Affairs, and Under Secretary of Commerce for International Affairs.

His lengthy, detailed, and productive negotiations with European governments, bankers, insurers, and many others on

behalf of securing the restitution of communal and individual property to Holocaust survivors and their heirs and to Jewish communities have been widely reported and were the subject of his 2003 book, *Imperfect Justice*.

The event, to be held at the Weinstein JCC, will begin at 6:30 p.m. It is free of charge and open to the general public.

To register, please call the Richmond World Affairs Council at 934 - 9000, or visit www.richmondworldaffairs.org.

Alpha Epsilon Phi Holds Brunch for Local Alumnae

COMMUNITY
news

By Emily Akiyama

*Multa Corda, Una Causa
Many Hearts, One Purpose.*

Throughout its 102-year history, Alpha Epsilon Phi Sorority has strived to seek Jewish women dedicated to service and lifelong friendship.

AEPi was founded in 1909 at Barnard College in New York by seven Jewish women. Since then, the organization has adopted two philanthropies - the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation, which seeks to prevent pediatric AIDS, and Sharsheret, a supporter of young Jewish women with breast cancer.

In 2007, six Jewish women from Virginia Commonwealth University colonized the Beta Theta Chapter of AEPi. Two years later, the chapter was officially chartered. Since then, it has grown to have 23 active sisters and 14 alumnae.

While all undergraduate women are welcomed regardless of religious background, the chapter is culturally Jewish and has educationally Jewish and Israel-related events to learn about and grow their cultural heritage. They also hold sisterhood events, philanthropic fundraisers and social events to bring the active sisters (those who are not alumni) closer together.

Recently, the chapter has also become increasingly more focused on the sisterhood of not only the chapter alumnae, but also the local Richmond alumnae. The Beta Theta chapter held an Alumnae Brunch event on April 15 to celebrate the stories of the sisters - both active and alumnae. It was a chance for the newer members to meet the women who made their chapter - and national organization - what it is.

One alumna said that she appreciated this connection more than she did when she was younger. However, the chapter's newer members are also looking forward to meeting the alumnae. Amanda Radke was a member of the recently added Iota class. The six members pledged in November 2011.

"Even though I've only been in AEPi for a semester and half," Radke said, "I feel deep connection to the organization and my sisters and I can't wait to hear the experiences of women who have been Phi's for much longer than I have."

The chapter hopes that this event brings their



(From left) First Row: Rachel Schneider, Elizabeth Solomon, Judith Nelson, Elise Scherr, Ava Winkler, Francis Lewis, Robyn Ackerman, Jessica Robertson; Second Row: Marsha Hanzel, Amanda Scaplehorn, Melanie Phillips, Stephanie Goldberg, Jessica Stevens, Sarah Horning, Rachel Beck-Berman, Erin Israel, Jessie Gordon, Emily Akiyama, Denver Supinger, Sara Espinoza; Third Row: Olivia Goldstein, Hasni Djouadi, Katie Phillipsen, Rachel Kashey, Marcia November, Jess Lynn, Emily Benfield, Julianne Woehrle, Lani Weiss.



(From left) Julianne Woehrle, Jessica Robertson, Robyn Ackerman, Sara Espinoza, Lani Weiss.



(From left) Two Beta Theta Actives: Sarah Teplitzky and Melanie Phillips.

Richmond sisters closer together.

Sarah Teplitzky is a senior who was initiated with the Epsilon class in November 2009. "As a graduating senior I really look forward to meeting and networking with area alumni," Teplitzky stated. "I'm also really excited to see our Beta Theta alumnae again. They were once the backbone of this organization and I can't wait for them to see how far we've come."