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Joint Annual Meeting set for May 22



Richard Samet



Chris Greenberg



Jim Weinberg

On Thursday, May 22 join the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond, Jewish Family Services, Richmond Jewish Foundation, Rudlin Torah Academy and Weinstein JCC for their joint agency annual meeting.

All of the agencies will be installing officers and board members for the next terms.

At the meeting, Richard Samet will be installed as president of the JCFR, Chris Greenberg will be

installed as president of the Weinstein JCC and Jim Weinberg will become chairman of the Richmond Jewish Foundation.

The community will hear from each agency president and CEO. Awards will be presented to outstanding community volunteers from the agencies.

Please join community members for this event. The reception begins at 5 p.m. followed by the meeting at 5:45.

Rhona Arenstein to receive DCSA

Longtime community volunteer Rhona Arenstein will receive the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond's Distinguished Community Service Award at the joint agency annual meeting on May 22.

Arenstein will be honored for her dedicated and tireless efforts in the Jewish and general community. She is a tireless worker and has volunteered extensively with the JCFR; recognized for her commitment and effectiveness with both the Schwarzschild Award for campaign excellence and the Sam E. & Virginia V. Binswanger Award for outstanding young leadership.

She has served on the



Rhona Arenstein

board of directors of the JCFR and Jewish Family Services, volunteered at Congregation Beth Ahabah Archives and was a Beth Shalom Gardens Volunteer of the Year in 2006.

In service to the Weinstein JCC, Arenstein created the "Weinstein Knitzvah

DCSA More on page 16

VHM Rule of Law program on May 14 to focus on bringing Nazi war criminals to justice

The Virginia Holocaust Museum in conjunction with the Virginia Law Foundation will commemorate Law Day on Wednesday, May 14, beginning at 4 p.m. at the Museum.

In the spring of 2015, the world will pause to note the 70th anniversary of the collapse of Nazi Germany and the end of the Holocaust.

Deep scars and vivid memories from the conflict remain. The unresolved and most bitterly controversial issues to persist since Hitler's suicide and the trials of the major German war criminals at Nuremberg have been the desultory, sporadic, often politically compromised, and many fruitless attempts to pursue and punish the younger generation of Nazi war criminals.

These were the operational mass murderers below the level of Hitler, Himmler and even the desk murderers like Heydrich and Eichmann. They were the mid-level killers in the shooting



Former German Judge Kirsten Goetze will speak and be honored at Rule of Law program.

pits in the Polish countryside, the Baltic States, Belarus and the Ukraine, and the junior SS officers and guards who supervised unloading Jewish victims from the arriving death trains and then herded them into the gas chambers at Auschwitz, Belzec, Chelmno, Sobibor and

Treblinka.

Criminal trials through the decades often appeared travesties of justice. Some defendants were excused from trial on the grounds of ill health while others received ridiculously mild sentences even though the records clearly documented their crimes as perpetrators who ordered or engaged in mass murder. In the U.S. beginning in the early 1980s, the Office of Special Investigations in the Criminal Division of the U.S. Department of Justice began a series of civil trials – denaturalization and deportation proceedings against former SS guards and Nazi collaborators who had been perpetrators during the Holocaust – and had illegally gained entry to the U.S. and often had attained U.S. citizenship.

Though U.S. federal courts held no criminal
Law More on page 16

Federation HAPPENINGS



(From left/ front row) Federation board member Alissa Aronovici, Morgan Howard and Federation Young Leadership Director Melanie Phillips; (back row) Federation board member Matthew Miller, Ashley Noell, Harrison Roday, Richard Freedman and Kevin Fine.

TribeFest inspires, engages 1,500 young professionals

By Alissa Aronovici

Last month, I was selected, along with other Richmonders – Kevin Fine, Richard Freedman, Ashley Noell, Morgan Howard, Matthew Miller and Harrison Roday – to travel to New Orleans to participate in Tribefest 2014.

This was a gathering of more than 1,500 Jewish young professionals from across the country on March 16-18. Federation Young Leadership Director Melanie Phillips staffed our contingent.

The seven of us were thrilled to receive subsidies from the Richmond Jewish Foundation's Sam E. and Virginia Binswanger Young Leadership Award Fund to help cover our registration. We are all extremely appreciative of the

Foundation's support of the development of Richmond's young Jewish leaders and its continued generosity that enables us to participate in events like Tribefest.

TribeFest is a presentation-based conference with the goal of connecting and engaging young Jews. It's hosted by The Jewish Federations of North America's National Young Leadership.

The conference was a mix of main stage events that everyone could attend, smaller and more thematic breakout sessions and social networking occasions. The main stage events were very inspirational and you could literally feel

TribeFest *More on page 4*

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- **May 4 | 5 p.m.**
Hadassah Elinor Bloom Marshall Humanitarian Award Event
Jepson Center, University of Richmond
- **May 6 | 5 p.m.**
Yom Ha' Atzmaut Celebration
Weinstein JCC
- **May 14 | 4 p.m.**
Rule of Law Reception, Ceremony
Virginia Holocaust Museum

- **May 14 | 7:30 p.m.**
JWI's Sofie Stahl Memorial Award
Weinstein JCC
- **May 15 | 10:45 a.m.**
JCFR, RJF Women's Spring Event With Suzanne Handler
Weinstein JCC
- **May 22 | 5 p.m.**
Joint Agency Annual Meeting
Weinstein JCC

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

Network JCFR set for May

Network JCFR May programs.

Home-Hosted Shabbat Dinner, Friday May 2, 6:30 p.m. John and Judith Levy invite Network JCFR participants to join them at their home for a Shabbat dinner. Start your weekend with delicious food, good wine, and great company. RSVP to Melanie Phillips for the address.

Happy Hour, Tuesday, May 20, 6 p.m. Savory Grain, 2043 W. Broad St. Check out one of Richmond's newest farm-to-table restaurants with other Network JCFR participants. Appetizers and networking on us, drinks on you!

Fun at the Food Trucks, Thursday, May 29, 5:30 p.m. Hardywood Park Craft Brewery, 2408 Ownby Lane. Try some of the city's best food trucks and some craft beers. BYO picnic blanket and join your fellow Network JCFR participants for a fun night of conversations, good food and drinks.

Looking ahead to June

Home-Hosted Shabbat Dinner, June 13, 6 p.m.



Network JCFR spent the afternoon helping veterans play bingo at the McGuire VA Hospital April 13. Max Miller enjoyed his time and helps a veteran call out a winning bingo. This was an all around great way to spend an afternoon. Look for more social action Sunday events and don't miss a chance to give back to the community.

Trivia at Strangeways Brewing, June 17, 5:30 p.m.

Social Action Sunday at Homeward, June 29, 2 p.m.

For details and to RSVP, call Melanie Phillips, Federation Young Leadership director at (804) 545-8623 or email mphillips@jewishrichmond.org.

THE REFLECTOR

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

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Members of the P2G Israeli Partnership2gether delegation (from left/standing) Tova Weiner, Dorit Zini, Aviad Sela and Hana Sirkis-Katz visited Sharon Johnson and Debbie Falik's class at the Weinstein JCC preschool where Dawn Kowal, Judaic educator (sitting in center) and the teachers helped the children connect with a class in Hadera with whom they had exchanged packages. They also taught the children about the moon. Kowal said, "when it is day time here, it is night time there - it's the same moon and our 'friends' in Israel (even though they live so far away) see the same moon. And then of course we sang Mah Nishtanah for them!"

Israeli Partnership2gether delegation visits Richmond

The Richmond Jewish community received a special visit from a delegation of volunteer and professional leaders from the Jewish Agency for Israel "P2G" Partnership2gether city of Hadera/Eiron, Israel, April 3.

The delegation included Hadera Partnership chairs Aviad Sela and Dorit Zini, along with community volunteer Tova Weiner, and partnership Director Hana Sirkis-Katz. During their visit, the four guests visited several classrooms at the Weinstein JCC preschool and toured the Rudlin Torah Academy, two schools that are actively participating in the P2G "Pupil to Pupil" classroom twinning program that matches local Richmond classes with school classes in the Hadera/Eiron region.

The Israel visitors also visited with local teachers who participated in the highly successful P2G Hadera Educator's Exchange where Richmond sent 13 local educators to Hadera in December 2012. The delegation toured the full operation of the Weinstein JCC, and received an extensive tour of Jewish history in Richmond.

During their visit to the United States, this delegation also visited other community members of the P2G Southeast Consortium, including Jacksonville, Fla., and Charlotte, N.C. After their visit to local communities,



At Rudlin Torah Academy are Dorit Zini, Aviad Sela, Hana Sirkis-Katz and Tova Weiner who visited and observed several classes at the school.

they attended the annual P2G Southeast Consortium Steering Committee Budget Meetings at the Shalom Park Campus in Charlotte, along with volunteer and professional representatives from all nine communities included in the Southeast Consortium, including Richmond Federation representatives - CEO Samuel Asher and Shoshanna Schechter-Shaffin, director of Women's Division, Israel, and Overseas Programming, and Geri Stahl, Richmond P2G chair.

This coming year, the Richmond Jewish community will have the opportunity to continue in many exciting ongoing Partnership programs including:

- Summer "Tikkun Olam" Teen

P2G More on page 4

1983 and Now



By Samuel Asher

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, JCFR

If there is an answer to this atrocity, it is to continue to build strong and vibrant communities.

In 1983, when I was the Associate Director of the Kansas City Federation, we began working on the development of the Jewish Community Campus, Inc. The idea was simple. We would relocate most of the Jewish recreational, educational and social facilities to one common site. The sports and activities of the Jewish Community Center could interface with the Jewish Day School; using common physical education equipment; a library; and a common kitchen.

Senior adult housing would be nearby providing for intergenerational educational programs - young and old, meeting, greeting, seeing and learning from each other. Various Jewish social service and administrative agencies (including the Federation) would be in close proximity, better able work together and serve the community.

The campus opened in 1989 and has been serving the community beautifully for more than 25 years. All of the planning was worthwhile. The intergenerational programming, the successful day school education, the JCC and Jewish Family & Children Service programming, etc. have continued to inspire and enhance community building.

So, it was surreal when one of my old friends from Kansas City called me on April

13 and told me to turn on the news. There had been a shooting in the JCC parking lot and at Village Shalom. Generations of people, Jewish and non-Jewish, had grown up on the campus and/or had utilized the plethora of services. They had their worlds turned upside down by F. Glenn Cross, a white supremacist. Cross allegedly shot and killed Dr. William Lewis Corporan and his grandson, Reat Griffin Underwood, who was at the JCC to audition for a play.

He then walked across to the Village Shalom parking lot where he allegedly killed Terri LaManno, a Catholic mother of two who was there to visit her mother. The peaceful world on the Jewish Community Campus was shattered.

Cross had founded the Carolina Knights of the Klu Klux Klan in North Carolina. He was known to Virginia authorities and the *Goochland Gazette* reports that he tried to spread his hate in Goochland County some eight years ago. We need to know that the reach of virulent Anti-Semitism is far and wide.

According to the April 17 article in the *Goochland Gazette*, "Goochland County Sheriff James Agnew said he recognized

1983 More on page 4

Proposed new JCFR officers, board members

The JCFR Nominating Committee, chaired by Ivan Jecklin, has proposed the following slate of officers:

President: Richard Samet; Vice President: Stuart Siegel; Vice President: Seth Kaplan; Secretary/Treasurer: Michael Sievers; Assistant Treasurer: Deane Dubansky; Immediate Past President: Nathan Shor; Honorary Vice Presidents: Ric Arenstein, Jerry Gumenick, Neil November and Mark Sisisky; and General Campaign Chair Renee Adams.

Nominated to serve as new members of the board in the class of 2017 are Bill Dinkin, Melanie Binshtok, Rebecca Kalman-Winston and Sara Waskin. Nominated to serve a second term are David Fratkin, Gail Moskowitz, Dan Neuwirth and Cheri Yochelson.

We look forward to seeing you at the joint agency annual meeting on May 22, at 5 p.m. at the Weinstein JCC, when these individuals will have the opportunity to be elected and installed.

To RSVP, call (804) 545-8604.

TribeFest

Continued from page 2



Morgan Howard and Harrison Roday at the Food Bank in New Orleans where the two performed community service at this nonprofit during TribeFest. More than 1,500 young adults volunteered at the Food Bank and several other nonprofits during TribeFest.

the energy and enthusiasm of the crowd. The speakers shared their own personal stories of their faith and what it meant to them to be Jewish.

The speakers were a mix of Jewish celebrities, including Joshua Malina from “Scandal,” Ben Platt from the movie “Pitch Perfect,” Jewish motivational speakers, such as Dr. Yarden Fanta-Vagenshtein, who shared her story of a two-year journey from an Ethiopian village to Israel, and Avital Zeisler, who overcame a sexual assault and created a form of self-defense specifically for women.

Each speaker was dynamic and offered a different perspective on how they connected to their Judaism.

The breakout sessions delved into topics that we were particularly interested in. The themes of the sessions focused on Justice and Inclusion, Faith and Culture, Jewish Life and Innovation. They offered us the chance to ask the speakers questions and reach a deeper level of conversation.

To me, one of the most interesting sessions was “Want to

be a Model? Make it Work!” While the title is taken from the television show “Project Runway,” the presentation was about effective young adult programming. We heard from leaders from three very different communities – Los Angeles, Detroit and Boston.

All three cities face similar challenges when it comes to young adult programming, but each Federation came up with different solutions based on what worked for their young professionals.

So many of us are searching for answers regarding how to engage young Jewish professionals, but each community has to come up with its own blueprint and this session sparked so many ideas about programming possibilities that we could bring back

home to Richmond.

One of the most important aspects of the conference was the opportunity to take part in service projects. For me, this was one of the most important aspects of the entire conference. The idea of Tikkun Olam, or repairing the world, is a Jewish principle that resonates deeply with me.

It meant even more to be able to give back to the city of New Orleans, where the tragedy of Hurricane Katrina is still so apparent. Some of the service options included volunteering at a food bank, working with seniors on a craft project, and reading books to young children, among others. It was a moving sight to see busloads of Jewish young professionals on their way to give back to the city.

Tribefest was an incredible opportunity to meet other Jewish young professionals and to learn about new ways to get involved in our own community.

I’m looking forward to collaborating with my fellow attendees and incorporating what we learned in New Orleans back at home.

(Editor’s Note: A native Richmonder, Alissa Aronovici serves on the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond’s board of directors and is a graduate of the Federation’s Community Leadership Institute Program. She received an undergraduate degree from the College of William and Mary and earned a graduate degree at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. She is director of administration at LEAD VIRGINIA)

1983 *Continued from page 3*

Cross instantly when he saw the initial news reports.” Cross had come to Goochland to try and spread his hate message back in 2006. Agnew “recalls that Cross, whom the Southern Poverty Law Center has called ‘a long-time anti-Semite,’ was furious with him for refusing to allow the leafleting” in Goochland.

Hundreds gathered in Kansas City for an interfaith memorial service for the victims on April 17. U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder spoke and said, “Every alleged hate crime, no matter who the intended target, is an affront to who we are. These acts cannot be ignored. We are united in our condemnation of this heinous attack and our commitment to see that justice is served.”

Our Jewish Community Relations Community (a key arm of the Federation)

is taking action here in Richmond. We are moving to reinforce our security efforts. The JCRC will hold another briefing with the FBI and local police for our agencies and Synagogues soon, so that we can continue to be vigilant.

So, how do we all meet this challenge? We will mourn the victims and be angry that anti-Semitism and hate still exist in this world.

But people need to be free to live their lives and express their culture without fear of terror. We need to continue to build strong and vibrant communities!

May Kansas City go from strength to strength in this endeavor! May we all go from strength to strength in this endeavor!

As always, call (804) 545-8622; email sasher@jewishrichmond.org or text me and let me know if you are interested in joining us.

“Choose Your Own Adventure” Mission to Israel...

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For more details, contact

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P2G

Continued from page 3

Exchange in which Richmond teens will travel to Israel to participate in social action activities with Israeli peers

- A later in the summer trip to Richmond by their Israeli peers to experience the community

- An Educator’s Exchange to Hadera in December where our local educators from different corners of the community will network and engage with educators

from Hadera

- A health care workers Mission to Hadera in January

- Continuing to expand the highly successful “Pupil to Pupil” Classroom Twinning program.

For more information on P2G programs, contact Shoshanna Schechter-Shaffin at sshaffin@jewishrichmond.org or call (804) 545-8626.

Music therapy popular for Beth Sholom residents Community



Music Therapist Christina Strasburg with Healing Sounds Music Therapy, L.L.C., helps Dr. Harold Goodman play a guitar. Beth Sholom has group sessions every Thursday at both the Gardens and Parkside for 45-60 minutes.

Music therapy has become a popular program with the residents at the Beth Sholom Lifecare Community.

Music helps bring back memories, promotes relaxation and increases socialization all leading to a better quality of life. This therapy is focused on making music together rather than watching a performance. During sessions, residents have the opportunity to play many instruments

such as the guitar, maracas, bells, and drums. They also get to test their knowledge with musical trivia, jeopardy and bingo.

Music therapy at Beth Sholom is full of fun, laughter, and of course great music!



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



(From left) Simone Schwarz, Vera Flippen, Barbara Greenberg, Koko Potofsky, Peggy McDonough, and Helen Petrella participate in the music therapy session.



(From left/sitting), residents Joan Finley, Rosemary Hawley, Norma Taylor, Vera Flippen and Barbara Greenberg. (Back) Dr. Harold Goodman observes the other participants while (standing) activity staff member Katie Lee smiles at the efforts by her residents.



(From left) Jeanie Sabine shows resident Barbara Diamond how to string the cheerios on her bird feeder.

Residents make bird feeders

As a part of Wildlife Week, Beth Sholom residents made bird feeders to put outside the facility.

Residents strung Cheerios on a piece of string, covered them with peanut butter and stuck bird seed onto the peanut butter.

Not only was this activity fun, but stringing Cheerios helps improve fine motor skills and finger dexterity. The residents enjoyed the activity and are looking forward to seeing some birds outside eating off of their feeders.

'Art Beyond the Ages'

For the past four months, the Weinstein JCC has been the site for a new program in Richmond that is gaining momentum and popularity in the arts, aging and academic communities.

The PALETTE program – which stands for “Promoting Art for Life Enrichment Through Transgenerational Engagement” – connects older adults with undergraduate and graduate students to participate in visual arts classes and cultural engagement activities.

Beginning in January, the program (funded in part by a grant from the Virginia Center on Aging) has brought together a group of 21 older adults from the Weinstein JCC and 22 students from VCU’s ASPIRE program, School of Nursing and School of Pharmacy. As a group, PALETTE participants meet once a month, working side-by-side with their PALs (Partners in Arts Learning) on silk marbling, collaging, printmaking, pastel drawing and painting classes. These classes, conducted by local organization Art on Wheels, encourage PALS to engage in intergenerational conversation while also providing an outlet for creative expression.

“The program meant so much to me,” said Barbara Rubin, an 81-year-old participant who shows up to every session ready to jump



(From left) PALs Muriel Gordon and Chelsea Cook get their silks set up to marble with ink.

into the day’s art class, “I can honestly say that it’s the highlight of my senior life.”

Having successfully concluded its first semester, PALETTE plans to run again in the fall – the capacity in which it will do so depends on the amount of support and grant funding it receives.

On display now through May 18 in the Sara D. November Gallery at the Weinstein JCC is the PALETTE art exhibit, “Art Beyond the Ages.” To learn more about the program, contact Sadie Rubin, director of PALETTE, at srubin@paletteprogram.org or call (202) 579-9417.

Weinstein JCC HAPPENINGS



Weinstein JCC to install new officers and board members

At the 2nd joint agency annual meeting on Thursday, May 22, the Weinstein JCC will install new officers for the 2014-2015 board.

Chris Greenberg will succeed Cullen Seltzer as board president. Shelley Gouldin will serve as president-elect and Cullen Seltzer will become chairman.

Ric Arenstein and Neil November will serve as honorary vice presidents, and Greg Bishop, David Kalman, Suzanne Peck, Andrew Pegalis and Sara Villalona will serve as vice presidents.

New board members who will be installed for a three-year term are: Avrum Elmakis, Lynn Schwartz and Stacy Struminger.

The Arenstein Family Excellence in Youth Service Award will be presented to Rachel Markoff.

Dena Neuwirth will receive the Leroy B. Goldberg Award and the Esther, Edith

& H.J. Bernstein Volunteer Award will be presented to longtime volunteers Lynn Schwartz and Ric Arenstein.

The Weinstein JCC would like to thank Evelyn Lampert for her time and commitment as she concludes her term serving on the board.

At the meeting, CEO Jay Jacobs and Seltzer will provide an update on the many activities of Weinstein JCC over the past year.

The joint annual meeting reception begins at 5 p.m. The meeting will start at 5:45.

For more details and to RSVP, call (804) 545-8604.



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

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Another successful Patrons of the Arts Season in 2013-2014

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ARTS



"Hello Dolly" was one of three shows that entertained community members from the Jewish Family Theatre this past year as part of Patron of the Arts programming.

It has been a smashing 2013-2014 season for the Weinstein JCC's Patrons of the Arts. The cultural arts program and events celebrated Jewish culture, music, art, dance, literature, with more of the same verve and enthusiasm that has made

the last four POA seasons such a huge success.

The year has seen a return of friends from the Richmond Symphony, Richmond Ballet and The American Youth Harp Ensemble. Exciting new

partnerships with the Richmond Shakespeare/Henley Street Theatre, Richmond Jazz Society and the Carole Weinstein Poetry Prize brought an entirely new level

POA More on page 14

Take a swing for community in June

Whether you prefer a golf club or a tennis racquet, you are invited to, "Take a Swing for our Community!"

Beth Sholom Lifecare Community, Jewish Family Services of Richmond and the Weinstein JCC have teamed up to offer a fun-filled day of friendly competition at the 17th Annual Jewish Community Golf and Tennis Classic. Join community members and friends on the course or on the courts of Jefferson Lakeside Country Club on Monday, June 2.

Check-in for both events will begin at 11:30 a.m. accompanied by a buffet lunch to fuel the players. The golf tournament will have a 1 p.m. shotgun start with prizes at every hole, as well as challenging putting and hole-in-one competitions.

The "round robin" doubles tennis tournament will also begin at 1 p.m. To follow the tournament play, the day will conclude with an awards ceremony and a cocktail/dinner reception for all to enjoy and unwind.

Don't worry if you do not have a golf foursome or doubles partner! Individual players are welcome and will be placed on a team.

Visit www.weinsteinjcc.org to register to play.

Sponsorship opportunities are available. Contact Jay Jacobs at (804) 545-8643 or jjacobs@weinsteinjcc.org for more information.



17th Annual
Jewish Community
Golf & Tennis Classic

Take a Swing for our Community!

at the

17th Annual Jewish Community Golf & Tennis Classic

To benefit Beth Sholom Lifecare Community,
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Weinstein JCC Specialty Camps A variety of 1-week camps this summer

Not made your kid's plans for the summer yet? Why not consider the Weinstein JCC Specialty Camps!

The unique and diverse camps give kids the chance to focus on a topic or skill with the benefits of being in a fun camp environment. Choose from more than 30 camps, such as sports specialties, science discovery, arts exploration, dance, drama, cooking, health and fitness and more.

The trained staff creates a safe and fun environment for kids in kindergarten to 7th grade.

For 8th-9th graders, join the Leadership Training Institute led by LaVenus Harried. These amazing two weeks will provide campers with leadership training, as well as an opportunity to volunteer, participate in team building, adventures activities and overnight trips.



Eliza Yeaker enjoys a ride at Kings Dominion last summer.

Some Center camps are full! To sign up today, contact Nick Pruden at (804) 545-8607 or email npruden@weinsteinjcc.org.

Cabaret event set for May 17

Erin Lessin Mahone, director of Cultural Arts and Jewish Education at the Weinstein JCC will present a Cabaret event on May 17 at 8 p.m., "It Runs in the Family."

This selection of songs and stories chronicle Mahone's life experiences of growing-up among several family members with severe mental health diagnoses and will be presented in the upstairs lobby at the Va. Rep Theatre located in Willow Lawn. A portion of ticket sales will be donated to the NAMI Virginia Family Network – an organization working locally to support the needs of youth and families impacted by mental illness.

Mahone's poignant stories about love,



Erin Lessin Mahone

acceptance, and making the most of life's challenges are woven with songs from across decades and genres to include pop, Broadway, and jazz. She will be joined onstage by Bob Blagg on guitar, Marcy Horwitz on piano, Bruce Gould on drums and Ken Kellner on bass.

"It's important to remember that no one is defined by their diagnosis," Mahone insisted, "We are all whole people with passions, abilities and loved ones. I want the audience to experience the wonderful aspects of these people

because they are, were, and continue to be, so much more than an illness."

Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door. They are available online at www.erinmahone.com.

Hillel at VCU happenings

Hillel at VCU celebrated its annual Israel Week April 7 through April 12. Throughout the week, students celebrated Israel's independence. In addition, Hillel students strived to spread the support of Israel by hosting various educational and social programs.

Hillel kicked off Israel Week by hosting special guest speaker Ben Brownstein from StandWithUs. This is an international nonprofit that supports Israel around the world. StandWithUs staff work with campuses to create pro-Israel groups and inspire pro-Israel student leadership. Brownstein's enlightening lecture discussed the political history of Israel through its maps and borders, as well as the evolution of Israel as a result of the Middle East conflict.

In addition to Brownstein's lecture, students stopped by Harris Hall Lawn and enjoyed Bamba snacks, tie-dye "I love Israel Shirts," wrote their names in Hebrew and read about interesting unknown facts about Israel.

Lastly, Hillel concluded Israel Week by hosting a Havdallah picnic in Monroe Park where students celebrated the closing of Shabbat and looked forward to a new week. Hillel Director Ethan Litvin, said that Israel Week is his favorite program with the students because, "it allows Hillel to spread their love for Israel in a fun and



(From left) Roberta Solomonova, a VCU student; VCU Hillel Director Ethan Litvin and Josh Jeffreys who will become the new Hillel director in May and who also works at the reception desk at the Weinstein JCC.

educational way."

Litvin makes it a priority to increase the support of Israel on campus so that students are educated about the struggles that Israel has gone through to become independent, and so that the recognition of Israel as a free Jewish state is dispersed among VCU and other campuses throughout the world.

For additional information on Hillel at VCU, call (804) 545-8609 or email elitvin@weinsteinjcc.org.

Israeli Caravan coming in June

Mark your calendars for an event the whole family will enjoy. On Thursday, June 26, led by event chairs Gary Weiner and Kim Goldstein, the Weinstein JCC will again welcome a family-favorite, Israeli Friendship Caravan, to the Israel November Auditorium stage.

Let the Katzir Caravan entertain you with their songs and dance and touch your heart with their love for Israel and their message for peace.

Be sure to come hungry! The Israeli Café will be open for dinner and will feature

the food of Yossi Gael. Falafel, Schwarma, and Israeli salads as well as kid-friendly items will be available for purchase.

The Israeli Café opens at 5 p.m. The Israeli Friendship Caravan program begins at 7 p.m. The show is free and donations are welcome.

The visit of the Scouts is funded, in part, by the Eddie Lapkin Israeli Scout Fund of the Richmond Jewish Foundation.

For details on the Scouts, contact Leslie McGuigan at (804) 545-8659 or email lmcguigan@weinsteinjcc.org.

5400 Men's Club events

May 5 - Dr. Eric Yellin, University of Richmond, "Work and Employment at the End of the Twentieth Century."

May 12 - Dr. Harold Fittr, "The Dropout Crisis and Communities in Schools."

May 19 - John Ragosta, "The Virginia Statute for Establishing Religious Freedom."

May 26 - Memorial Day (No Meeting)



JFS Counseling, Weinstein JCC present 'The Secrets They Kept'

May is Mental Health month. To build public recognition about the importance of mental health awareness, JFS Counseling and the Weinstein JCC present an evening with author Suzanne Handler on May 15. Her book, "The Secrets They Kept: The True Story of a Mercy Killing That Shocked a Town and Shamed a Family," documents the tragic impact severe mental illness had on her family for generations.

The evening, chaired by Rhona Arenstein, includes a group discussion moderated by Gail Moskowitz, LCSW, on the importance of removing the social stigma of mental illness for those affected and their families. "So much has changed since Handler's aunt was diagnosed with schizophrenia in the 1930s," says Arenstein. "Today's treatment options, including counseling, enable the majority of mentally ill people to lead successful and productive lives."

JFS has offered counseling services for more than 60 years. Last year, the program served 1,707 children, adults, and seniors.

"JFS employs Jewish and non-Jewish therapists and provides culturally sensitive counseling to the entire community," said therapist and Chief Operating Officer Sydney Fleischer. "We felt it was important

to co-sponsor this event to further the discussion on mental illness, which for many is still a misunderstood topic," she stated. "We've made great strides in treatment, and help is available for anyone who needs it."

If you or a loved one experience difficulty in any aspect of life, JFS Counseling is here for you. Please call (804) 282-5644 or visit www.jfsrichmond.org for more information.

Event: An Evening with Suzanne Handler

Sponsors: Jewish Community Federation of Richmond, Richmond Jewish Foundation, VCU School of Medicine/Department of Psychiatry

Community Partners: NAMI, Fan Free Clinic

Date: Thursday, May 15

Time: Book discussion: 7 p.m., free

Pre-event reception with author and book purchase: 5:30 p.m., \$18

Place: Weinstein JCC

RSVP: by May 10 to Faith Kallman, (804) 282-5644, ext. 277 or email fkallman@jfsrichmond.org



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

Weinstein JCC & JFS Counseling

Present

An Evening with Suzanne Handler
Author of *The Secrets They Kept*

Thursday, May 15th at 7 p.m.

Discussion is **FREE** & open to the community

Pre-event reception + book \$18 ~ 5:30 p.m.

Moderated by Gail Moskowitz, LCSW

November Auditorium at the Weinstein JCC

Book signing to follow presentation

Co-Presenters:



Sponsors:

Jewish Community Federation of Richmond
Richmond Jewish Foundation
VCU School of Medicine
& Department of Psychiatry

Community Partners:

NAMI
Fan Free Clinic

Please RSVP by May 10th to Faith Kallman at 282-5644 ext. 277 or fkallman@jfsrichmond.org



Marmorstein bequest inaugurates RTA music program in fall

Patricia "Tish" Marmorstein, known by her many friends for her thoughtful presents, has bestowed one more gift, this time to Rudlin Torah Academy's music program, a year after she passed.

RTA's Principal Rabbi Yosef Bart announced that the substantial gift will allow the school to re-launch its music program as it moves to a new facility. The estate of Tish Marmorstein, who passed away in April 2013 at the age of 93, is making the gift in her memory, said her cousin, Helen Griffin.

"Tish was never blessed with children, but she always, always loved kids," Griffin said. "And she loved music and theater and all that sort of thing. This is the best way to honor her memory."

The school's new music program will

be launched this fall with a special concert on Sept. 7 by the renowned a capella musical group the "Maccabeats" at the Byrd Theater on Cary Street. Details of the concert will be announced later.

Tish Marmorstein and her husband, the late Milton "Buddy" Marmorstein, were longtime residents of Richmond. Griffin said her cousin was known for her style and sense of humor all her life.

"She was more together than I ever will



"Tish" Marmorstein

Bequest *More on page 15*

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KBI presents 2014 Aishes Chayil Honoree Ann Roberts

Keneseth Beth Israel has selected Ann Roberts as the 2014 Aishes Chayil honoree.

She "...cheerfully does the work of her hands." Roberts worked as a critical care nurse at Virginia Commonwealth University Health System for more than 20 years caring for patients and their families during some of their difficult times. She became an acute care nurse practitioner in 2003.

At the Hunter Holmes McGuire VA Medical Center, she works in the Cardiology department with veterans of all conflicts from World War II to the war in Afghanistan, helping to heal them and deal with cardiovascular issues as well as other traumas of war.

Harris Griff said, "Ann has high morals and is a devoted professional and friend since she came to the Veterans Center."

Beverly Soble added, "With grace and dignity and in a very private manner, Ann, an accomplished and highly regarded nurse practitioner, anonymously and generously contributes to causes and seeks to quietly provide assistance to those who might be in need."

"The teaching of kindness is on her tongue." One

of Ann's hobbies is gardening and sharing various techniques for small space gardening, so anyone who likes "playing in the dirt" can enjoy watching G-d's handiwork blossom. Debbie Colby said, "Many people turn to her for advice and assistance on a wide variety of topics, including medical, cooking, and gardening. Ann gladly helps all who come to her."

"...and reaches out her hands to the needy." Roberts is a true balabusta (queen of the house.) She helps arrange weddings for married couples who have converted and has worked on all Passover Seders at KBI planning menus, food preparation and set-up. A great service is preparing homes of mourning by supervising caterers, setting washing stations outside the home for those returning from internment, and providing solace for families.

She is a regular participant at KBI's Jewish Food Festival, where she helps prepare food as well as working at the festival.

Please join the Congregation and friends in honoring Roberts at the Aishes Chayil luncheon, June 21, by contacting the Synagogue at (804) 288-7953 for information and tickets.

Hoo Rah - helping the Marines



(From left) Daisies Brownies Chaviva and Miri hold some boxes of cookies.

After four cookie booth sales, pounding the pavement, making tons of phone calls, and bravely withstanding cold, rain and even snow, Girl Scout Troop 4613 has exceeded its 2014 Cookie Sales goal. Last year Troop 4613 sold 1,250 boxes of cookies, but this year they will hit 2,170 boxes!

The girls are planning to use some of their Troop money for fun activities like archery, riflery and future camping trips starting in the fall. While the girls ran their sales learning useful business skills and how to deliver

excellent customer service, they were once again working with Linda Delbridge from the Marine Corp League Auxiliary.

Thanks to the generosity and caring of many customers, 297 additional boxes of cookies will be shipped overseas by Delbridge to the Marines in Afghanistan. As the numbers of military decrease in a drawdown in Afghanistan, that absolutely does not mean the end of the Troop helping the Marines.

Under Delbridge's recommendation, attention is turning toward The Richmond Fisher House, a private home for the families of veterans of all branches of military who are receiving care at McGuire VA Medical Center. This fully-equipped home offers these military families a place to stay while their loved ones are receiving treatment.

Earning money for activities can be fun, but the real fun for the girls is in helping others, which Troop 4613 plans to continue in the fall of 2014.

To take advantage of all that Scouting offers, contact KBI, the Scouts' Charter Organization, at (804) 288-7953 or KBI@cvtel.net.

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Now through June 15th

Reel Theology set for May 18 with 'Everything Is Illuminated' at Or Ami

Congregation Or Ami's Adult Learning Committee will show "Everything Is Illuminated" as its Reel Theology movie for May.

"Everything Is Illuminated" is a 2005 comedy-drama film, written and directed by Liev Schreiber and starring Elijah Wood and Eugene Hütz. It was adapted from the novel of the same name by Jonathan Safran Foer, and was the debut film of Schreiber both as a director and as a screenwriter.

Foer, a young American Jew, journeys to Ukraine in search of Augustine, the woman who saved his grandfather's life during the Nazi liquidation of Trachimbrod, his family shtetl. Armed with maps, cigarettes and many copies of an old photograph of Augustine and his grandfather, Foer begins his adventure with Ukrainian native and

soon-to-be good friend, Alexander "Alex" Perchov, who is Foer's age and fond of American pop culture, albeit culture that is already out of date in the United States.

Perchov studied English at his university, and even though his knowledge of the language is not "first-rate," he becomes the translator. Perchov's "blind" grandfather and his "deranged seeing eye dog," Sammy Davis, Jr., accompany them on their journey.

The screening on Sunday, May 18 at 6 p.m. is free and open to the public. There will be an informal potluck before the movie and a group discussion afterwards led by Rabbi Ben Romer.

Ori Ami is located at 9400 Huguenot Road. For details, call (804) 272-0017.

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Moving to end of year



The Beth-El 6th and 7th graders helped repair a megillah with Rabbi Gary Creditor.

Beth-El is moving into May, and the school year is coming to a close. The Temple Beth-El Religious School has had a great year.

The high schoolers have had a year of learning about Jewish Richmond. The 6th and 7th graders helped repair a megillah, and all of the students explored tefillah, had meaningful visits with residents at Beth Sholom Lifecare Community, and deepened friendships at the school.

Beth-El will cap off the school year with an "Adon Olam Sing-Off," where each class will present its favorite version of "Adon Olam" to the school. Students have been working on very creative versions of this prayer, including one to the tune of a Bee

Gees song.

The last Tot Shabbat service of the season will be on Friday, May 23. If you have children from infants-7 years old, the congregation hopes to see you there. At the service, Shabbat will be greeted with singing and dancing at 6:30 p.m. at the Grove Avenue building, with a little nosh afterward. Come enjoy and meet friends both old and new!

As we the congregation looks toward the next school year, there will be pre-registration for the 2014-2015 year at Temple Beth-El Religious School on Sunday, May 4. This is a wonderful opportunity to come see the school and find out about how your child can fit in to our wonderful community. If you have young children, this will also be an opportunity to take advantage of an offer for 2014-2015. The monthly Pre-K program will be free for the first 6 students who register. We hope you'll take advantage of this great opportunity to help your child develop an early love of Jewish holidays and culture.

For more information about Pre-K, pre-registration, or any other Temple Beth-El education programs, contact Hazzan Marian Turk at hazzan.turk@bethelrichmond.org or (804) 740-0820.

Beth Ahabah to partner with Beth Israel in Charlottesville for camp



Beth Ahabah will partner with Congregation Beth Israel in Charlottesville to give rising 7-9 graders the exciting opportunity to participate in a one-week teen traveling adventure camp – Camp Noah.

The camp from June 23-29 will combine fun, adventure, mitzvot and Jewish learning. The week will begin in the Charlottesville area and end in the Richmond area.

Some of the planned activities include:

Massanutten Waterpark, a high ropes course at UVa., Exploring Richmond, Jumpology, Busch Gardens and more. Students will participate in home hospitality.

The camp is limited to 10 Richmond students and the cost is \$350.

This is a great way for the students from each Congregation to bond together in the evening while they spend the night in each other's homes. The parents of the students participating in the camp will serve as hosts during the time that the group is in Richmond.

For additional information, questions or a registration form, contact Ramona Brand at r.brand@bethahabah.org or (804) 358-6757.

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CONGREGATION OR ATID
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Or Atid happenings

Congregation Or Atid is presenting two new approaches to Shabbat services in May. On May 10 from 11 a.m. - noon, Hannah Piracha, an expert song leader and storyteller, will lead a campy alternative to Shabbat morning services. Participants of all ages will sing along to guitar-accompanied Shabbat prayers and songs from camp. Join the Congregation for this spirited worship!

On May 23 at 7:30 p.m., worshippers can go through the motions of the Friday night Shabbat service, quite literally, at a Yoga Shabbat. The peace and serenity of Shabbat will be combined with the wisdom of the Eastern movement tradition as the Torah portion is acted out in yoga movements to the traditional chanting of the service.

On Sunday, March 31, the Women's Group of Congregation Or Atid met for a fun social afternoon. Folks joined together at Sue Geller's house for a pot-luck dinner and Passover recipe exchange. With munchies in hand, the group sat down to watch "The Book Thief," a book that the Or Atid Book Club had read earlier in the



Members of Or Atid Women's Group gather for a photo during a recent program.

year. The movie was excellent, as were the various dishes each person brought. The recipe exchange was fabulous, since many recipes were unfamiliar to most women. The recipes will be posted on the Or Atid website on the Women's Group page and plans are to add recipes throughout the year for different holidays. Visit www.oratid.org.

The next event will take place in May, when the Women's Group plans to visit Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens and have lunch in the Tea Room. Stay tuned for further details. The group is an informal organization open to women of all ages who are members of Congregation Or Atid.

For more Or Atid information, call (804) 740-4747.

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At the National Museum of American Jewish History are (standing from left) Briana Schwam, Megan Miller, Madison McCabe and Maddie Grossman; (kneeling) Hannah Steincamp.



With their new friends from Temple Beth Am at a Bowling Alley are Adam Wolfsheimer, Shane Bishop, Alec Wren, Jacob Andersen, Brent Novey, Jack Troutman, Conner Clark, Sam Buxbaum and Hopper Strauchler.

Learning American Jewish history through a 'phabulous' Philly adventure

By Ramona Brand

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION
CONGREGATION BETH AHABAH

Together with 25 Beth Ahabah 7th-9th graders, parent chaperones and teachers – Harlan Loebman, Christian Holloway – I experienced a fantastic way to learn history up close and personal through a trip to Philadelphia.

This trip was the culmination of the 7th grade study of American Jewish history and took place over the weekend of March 28-30.

The travelers journeyed by bus to Temple Beth Am in Abington, Pa., where we were warmly welcomed by host families, shared dinner and a Kabbalat Shabbat service led by Beth Am's youth song leader.

Saturday was a whirlwind day beginning with a visit to the National Museum of American Jewish history. The interactive exhibits followed Jewish American history from the landing of the first Jews in America in 1654 through present day. Special exhibits on Jews in Baseball, Jewish Camps, interactive video making sessions and passing through the immigration tests at Ellis Island were the favorites.

They also learned about several important contributions from K.K. Beth Shalom (Congregation Beth Ahabah's predecessor) to American Jewish history.

After braving the cold pouring rain for Philly cheesesteaks and a quick visit to the Philadelphia Visitor's Center, the National Constitution Center was the next stop. This highly engaging museum had students and parents making connections between the history of the Jewish people in America and the impact of American history on the



Ramona Brand (front/left), Harlan Loebman (front/right) and Christian Holloway (back/right) and students stand before the impressive array of Torahs at Congregation Mikveh Israel in Philadelphia.

development of American Judaism. The day ended with bowling and camaraderie with our new friends from Beth Am.

We rose very early on Sunday to go to morning Minyan services at Congregation Mikveh Israel, a Sephardic Orthodox synagogue in heart of old Philadelphia, just a few blocks away from Independence Hall.

We participated in a service that Rabbi Gabbai said "was not much different from 1740"! After a wonderful presentation by the Rabbi about the history of Mikveh Israel (and some connections again to our Congregation) we departed Philadelphia for home.

This exciting trip furthered our students' understanding of the growth and development of the Jewish American people and the American Jewish impact on the social, cultural and governmental development of the United States. Next year's trip is already in the works and our new friends from Beth Am are planning a visit to come to Richmond as well.

Funding for this trip was provided for, in part, by a generous grant from the Richmond Jewish Foundation.

Foundation HAPPENINGS



Moses Maimonides Society to receive Meyers Award

By Robert Nomberg
PRESIDENT & CEO, RJF

Recognizing that human resources are vital to the attraction of fiscal resources, Sidney* Meyers and his wife, Anne, created an award to be presented to community members who have made outstanding local and national contributions to the field of Jewish endowments.

The Meyers believed that the award would encourage others to become involved and benefit the community.

The Anne and S. Sidney Meyers* Endowment Achievement Award is a fitting memorial to Sidney's devotion. Each time it is presented, it reminds us all of his dedication and commitment to the Richmond Jewish community.

This year's recipient of the Anne and S. Sidney* Meyers Endowment Achievement Award is the Moses Maimonides Society for its visionary commitment to securing the long-term survival and success of our community.

In 1986 this group of dedicated and generous community members came together to form the Moses Maimonides Society, each family donating \$50,000. S. Sidney Meyers stated, "Concern for the future is what prompted us to create the Moses Maimonides Society.

The Jewish population of Richmond is undergoing dramatic changes – changes that can have a serious impact on our ability to raise funds for local programs and Israel.

Knowing that through the Society thousands and even millions of dollars will be given to the Annual Campaign Fund Drive every year – forever – gives me confidence in our people's future."

Jay Weinberg, JCFR president at the time, praised the members by stating, "Their foresight in creating this mechanism to help insure the success of the Annual Campaign 30 years and more into the future is laudable. Their leadership and commitment to our

generation of Jews has been exemplary. Their commitment to future generations is inspirational."

Originally invested in long-term zero coupon U.S. Treasury bonds, the fund began its first distributions in 2007 to provide an annual gift to the JCFR Annual Campaign Fund. Today, approximately \$500,000 has been granted to JCFR and the fund is valued at more than \$2 million.

"Any successful businessman knows the importance of protecting one's investments. That's the purpose of the Moses Maimonides Society - to protect the investments we have made in Richmond's Jewish community and the State of Israel," noted Sidney Meyers

Richmond Jewish Foundation and our entire community wishes to thank the following generous and thoughtful Moses Maimonides Society Members:

Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Gumenick
Mr.* and Mrs.* Nathan Gumenick
Mr.* and Mrs.* Harry Grandis
Mr.* and Mrs.* Edward Hirschler
Mr.* and Mrs. Nathaniel Krumbein
Mr.* Hyman Meyers
Mr.* and Mrs. S. Sidney Meyers
Mr.* and Mrs.* Larry Sterling
Mr. B. David Peck
Mr. and Mrs.* Charles Thalhimer
Mr.* and Mrs.* William Thalhimer
Mr. and Mrs. Marcus Weinstein
*OBM

Please join the Richmond Jewish Foundation board and staff in congratulating these community leaders and their families on this worthy honor as we celebrate at the May 22 joint Agency annual meeting at the Weinstein JCC beginning at 5 p.m. Please see the article on page 1 for more details about this important meeting.

For additional information, call me at (804) 545-8656 or email robert@rjfoundation.org.



Melinda Gold and Amy Beth Lehman conduct Hadassah's Women's Seder on April 13.

Book Club | May 4

Richmond Hadassah's Book Club will discuss "The Art Forger" by B.A. Shapiro May 4 at the Weinstein JCC in Preschool Room 12 at 1 p.m.

On March 19, 1990, thirteen great works of art worth more than \$500 million were stolen from the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston. It remains the largest unsolved art heist in history.

Claire Roth, a struggling young artist, discovers there is more to this than meets the eye. What is unveiled is a fiction as nearly compelling as the truth.

Also recommended for your reading pleasure is "I Am My Brother's Keeper" by Craig Weiss. If you would like to lead a discussion or host a location or if you have questions, contact Marilyn Trowsell at mtrowsell@aol.com.

Lunch and Learn | May 14

From the Queen of Heaven in the Bible to the exotic Mother Goddesses of the East, come explore God as Mother at Lunch and Learn with Julie Beck-Berman on Wednesday, May 14 at noon at the Weinstein JCC.

Bring along your ideas of topics you would like to learn about or facilitate or If you have an idea for a speaker or topic contact Julie Beck-Berman at julieffb@aol.com or Carolyn Belgrad at cbelgrad@comcast.net or (804) 798-7535.

Lunch is available for purchase at the Café or bring your own "brown" bag lunch.

General Membership Meeting | May 18

Richmond Hadassah will hold a general membership meeting for the purpose of nominating its 2014 Nominating Chair and three members and one alternate on May 18 at the Weinstein JCC from 10:30 a.m. - noon.

Under the bylaws, three members and one alternate are elected by the Executive Board and three members and one alternate by the general membership. Everyone votes for the nominating committee chair.

The Executive Committee has already elected Lynn Schwartz, Elaine Ragone, Phyllis Ellenbogen and Marion Winer as alternates.

There will be a short program and light refreshments will be served.

For more information, contact Lee Bank at JL61167@aol.com or Sally Goldberg at bssme@comcast.net.

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Many of the Hillel students from around the country who volunteered in Oklahoma during an Alternative Spring Break gather together for a photo including Richmonder Ellie Winkelmann.

Touching lives, rebuilding spirit in Oklahoma

By Ellie Winkelmann

This spring break I had the amazing privilege and opportunity to go on an Alternative Spring Break with the Syracuse University Hillel along with nine other students from Syracuse.

I would like to start off by thanking the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond that gave me a grant to be able to attend this trip to Moore, Okla.

Tikun Olam is something that we are taught from a very young age. We learn about fixing the world piece by piece and making it a better place. There is another theory that says that we are the pieces and when we connect on a much larger level we are fixing the world. In my time in Oklahoma I lived Tikun Olam. I met Jewish students from all around the country and experienced that greater connection. There is nothing more powerful than putting aside all your differences and backgrounds and engaging in a project that is bigger than yourself.

Our week was spent building a roof, building a fence and sheet rocking a barn. I learned so much about my own limitations, weaknesses and strengths. I have never been so physically exhausted from a day's work in my entire life. It was one of the most meaningful Jewish experiences I ever had with such a great group of people. The things I experienced were life-changing and the Oklahoma community was so incredibly honored and grateful that we were there to help them. They greeted us with open arms and introduced us to their wonderful city.

The Jewish community in Oklahoma is a lot like Richmond. Everyone is always willing



(Right) Ellie Winkelmann and Arielle Steinberg, who is a junior at Syracuse, take time out while volunteering in Oklahoma.

to help one another out even though this is a small Jewish community. One woman I met told me, "it's not the quantity of the people who come help you but the quality of their character that you really appreciate." This woman was the most optimistic person, and she had been through so much after losing her daughter in the tornado in Moore.

We touched their lives by coming to help them. We did not just rebuild their houses, but we rebuilt their spirit. It takes people showing up to make the difference but it takes lots of money to get there. So, again thank you to the Federation for letting me be a part of this amazing trip.

(Editor's Note: Richmonder Ellie Winkelmann is a theater management major at Syracuse University, Class of 2017, where she is the Winnick Hillel Center for Jewish Life Engagement vice president. She graduated from Rudlin Torah Academy and J.R. Tucker High School.)



Volunteers and their buddies wave at the RTA Run-a-Latke event.

Friendship Circle of VA growing in Richmond, exceeding goals

Only six months ago, a revolutionary program was introduced to the Richmond community that paired local teenagers with children and youth with disabilities. In this short time, Friendship Circle of VA, a project of Chabad, has become an integral part of the community, exceeding expectations.

The initial goal for 2014 was to have 10 members and 20 volunteers for the *Friends@Home* program. The response was overwhelming – in less than 6 months it has tripled to more than 30 members and more than 60 volunteers.

The response from the families and volunteers has been gratifying. Kira Marx, the mother of one member, said, “FCVA has been such a blessing in our lives. We love how excited our daughter is to see her buddies every week, but it’s a unique joy for us to see how excited they are to see her. Watching the sweet bond between our autistic daughter and her buddies touches our hearts every week. Friendship Circle has done so much to expand inclusion in Richmond and that means the world to our family.”

Leigh Martinez, the mother of a teen volunteer said, “the special relationship Mackenzie has formed with her FCVA buddy has given her a sense of self and pride that as a parent I could never have developed on my own. Her involvement with FCVA is keeping her grounded and is giving her perspective on her priorities and values.”

As the year progressed, requests have come from the community to create more programs and some great events were added. At the RTA Run-A-Latke, FCVA provided volunteers to run and walk along with members. And FCVA partnered with Special Olympics of Virginia to host an event at Jumpology where volunteers and members jumped together for a night of fun.

The new *Friends@Services* program

has begun and the volunteers are meeting their buddies at their own Synagogues so they can participate in services with their families, some for the first time.

Some of current partners include: The Faison School, Live Art, Reel Abilities, Special Olympics, Center for Family Involvement at the Partnership for People with Disabilities at VCU, Medical Home Plus and the Weinstein JCC.

FCVA is proud to introduce current board members, who are all involved in the Richmond community: Dr. Peter Heyman, pediatrician; Dr. Harry L. Gewanter, pediatrician specializing youth with disabilities and in rheumatic diseases; Dr. Norman J. Geller, Ph.D. NCED specializing in autism; Rachel Reynolds, principal, Dominion School for Autism; Leigh Martinez, MS, CCC-SLP, BCBA, speech therapist; Dawn Siegel, community volunteer involved in Communities in Schools; of Richmond, Excel to Excellence Foundation and the Faison School for Autism Foundation; Zach Sisisky, founder and director of Richmond Autism Connection; Jill Campbell, LCSW, social worker for children and families; Hana Hecht, high school social studies teacher; Ruth Nathanson Greene, attorney Greene Hurlocker, PLC; and Andrea Costanzo, special ed teacher.

Dr. Sarah Kranz Ciment, PT, DPT – physical therapist – is the founder and director of FCVA and has been a strong advocate for the disability community for many years.

To become part of this free program, visit www.FriendshipCircleVA.org for details and to register. Be on the lookout for the information details on the end-of-year Volunteer Appreciation event on Sunday, June 8. Meanwhile Like us on Facebook and keep up with all that is going on at FCVA.

Jewish Family Theatre's production of “Lebensraum,” opened April 30 and closes on May 11. There is still time to see this show with performances May 1, 3, 4, 7, 8 and 11.



POA

Continued from page 7

of excitement as well as participants to the cultural arts programming at the Weinstein JCC.

This year, hometown “boys” returned to deliver their own brands of entertainment and expertise. Richmonders Jeff Rabhan, Brian Crawford and Slash Coleman, who have made their success in the music, literary, and performance fields, returned to Richmond for a night. They came home to share their stories with a loving audience of friends and family. Further, the Center was visited by musicians from around the world with the kick-off event, The Shuffle Concert and the season finale, “The Shuk,” that brought international performers from Israel and Europe.

The Fife-Davis Family Annual Jewish Book Fair & Gift Shop was a resounding sensation with a diverse selection of beautiful gifts from around the world and a huge variety of books for every kind of reader. Veteran actor and Hollywood staple Stephen Tobolowsky opened the festivities with his special brand of intellect, inspiration and hilarity.

Seven events in ten days brought authors, storytellers, and The Mama Doni Band to celebrate the Chanukah season, Thanksgiving (Thanksgivukkah) and Jewish Book Month all together with so much fun, inspiration, and education.

Jewish Family Theatre entertained the community with three extremely diverse shows “Hello Dolly!” “From Door to Door,” and “Lebensraum (April 30 - May 11). With each season JFT grows in scope and through participation in The Acts of Faith Theatre Festival and the Arts and Culture Expo, more Richmonders are learning about all of the Patrons of the Arts events the Center has to offer.

The Patrons of the Arts season has nearly come to a close, so join community members for the final performances of JFT’s production of “Lebensraum,” which opened April 30 and closes on May 11. The POA Season Finale performance is at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 6, from “The Shuk: Jewish Roots World Music, which will be the culmination of the Yom Ha’Atzmaut Community Celebration (sponsored by the Richmond Council for Jewish Education) beginning at 5:30 p.m. with food provided by Yossi Goel, games, activities, music from Klezm’Or’Ami’m, prizes and more! Following “The Shuk” performance there will be a dessert reception for new and renewing Patrons of the Arts.

Next season is shaping up to be even more exciting as POA celebrates its 5th Birthday! Secure your subscription today by contacting Lisa Looney at (804) 545-8608 or llooney@weinsteinjcc.org.



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RMC Hillel events



(From left) Stephanie Bello from New Jersey and Rebecca Waldman from Northern Virginia make hamantaschen at Hillel Purim event.

Founded in 2011, Randolph-Macon College Hillel is the sole Jewish student organization on campus. This organization is actively becoming a stronger force on campus. This spring semester, Hillel planned and successfully raised almost \$100 during its first ever Purim hamantaschen bake sale. Additionally, as a group they helped the Weinstein JCC for its Purim Carnival and regularly attend Shabbat services in the Richmond area as an organization.

For the rest of the semester, this group of highly motivated students held a campus-wide Chocolate Passover Seder and plans a school-wide trip to the Virginia Holocaust Museum in Richmond in commemoration of Yom HaShoah. Hillel students would like to invite all members of the Richmond Jewish community to Randolph-Macon's first community-wide celebration of Israel! This will be a free catered picnic in honor of Yom Ha'Azmaut on Sunday May 11, between 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., held on the Randolph-Macon College Campus. All are invited to attend. RSVP to President Becca Waldman at RebeccaWaldman@go.rmc.edu to join in its celebration of Israel.

Randolph-Macon Hillel is a small but mighty group of highly determined and dedicated Jewish students. Due to the support of the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond as well as the Masada Hillel Fund of the Richmond Jewish Foundation, RMC Hillel will be able to expand their engagement and programming even further for the coming academic year.

Bequest *Continued from page 9*

be," she said. "She died with orange nail polish on. She loved to go to the theater. And I remember as a kid that when she gave you a birthday gift, it was always well thought out," Griffin noted.

"Once, years ago, Tish gave me a doorstep, a gorgeous green high-heeled shoe. It was very Tish, she knew it was something I would love. And I still have it, and I think of her every time I look at it."

Over the summer, RTA is moving its K-8 program into its new home at 3809 Patterson Ave. Rabbi Bart said, "We are very excited

for this wonderful program to be inaugurated in RTA's new home. The legacy of Tish Marmorstein of blessed memory will enrich the educational experience of our students for years to come.

"The loyal support of our many friends in the community makes the magic of RTA possible, and the Griffin/Fine family are certainly second to none," the Rabbi noted.



Rudlin Torah Academy is supported, in part, by a generous contribution from the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond.

RJCL has fun happenings



Mentor Susan Farris helps serve tea and lemonade to students.



Mentor Cindy Meyer serves up toast and a smile.

Lots of fun things are happening at Swansboro Elementary School and the Richmond Jewish Coalition for Literacy. The group had its annual Book Tasting where good books are read and food is shared. Up next is a Teacher Appreciation Luncheon on May 8 and Lunch in the Garden – the final farewell is set for June 11.

Please come join the RJCL for some fun with meaning. Whether you have an hour a week or an hour a month, you can make a difference in the lives of these students! Contact Diane Munsey at (804) 545-8654 or email dmunsey@jewishrichmond.org for more information.



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Community Yom Ha'Atzmaut Celebration, May 6

Join community members to celebrate Israel's birthday with a joyful celebration of music and culture on Tuesday, May 6, which marks Israel's 66th birthday.

The Weinstein JCC will present the Patrons of the Arts season finale with "The Shuk" beginning at 6:30 p.m., followed by a new and renewing Patrons reception.

Prior to the concert, the Richmond Council for Jewish Education will sponsor a community celebration from 5-6:30 p.m. with

games and family activities. Israeli food will be available for purchase.

For tickets to "The Shuk," contact Lisa Looney at (804) 545-8608 or llooney@weinsteinjcc.org. To purchase tickets online, visit www.weinsteinjcc.org.

For details, call (804) 545-6500.



DCSA

Continued from page 1

Knitters" in collaboration with VCU's Virginia Treatment Center for Children and the JFS Home Care Program. In 2012, she received the Weinstein JCC President's Award and in 2011 she was recognized by the Virginia Holocaust Museum with its Neil November Award, along with husband, Ric.

As a volunteer and advocate for VCU's Department of Psychiatry, she

brought together VCU's Department of Psychiatry and the National Alliance for Mental Illness for NAMI's annual walk in 2012.

At the meeting, Cathy Plotkin and Marvin Daniel will receive President's Awards from JCFR President Nathan Shor for their volunteer efforts for the Federation.

To RSVP for the event, call (804) 545-8604.

Lisa Freiman to speak at Enterprise Circle on June 10

Mark your calendars for the next JCFR Enterprise Circle event on Tuesday, June 10 at 7:30 a.m., at the Weinstein JCC.

The guest speaker will be Lisa Freiman, director, Institute for Contemporary Art, Virginia Commonwealth University.

Freiman is the inaugural director of VCU's new institute that has been designed by world-renowned Steven Holl Architects. She is an internationally recognized curator and leader in the contemporary art field and was the senior curator and chair of the contemporary art department at the Indianapolis Museum of Art between 2002 and 2013.



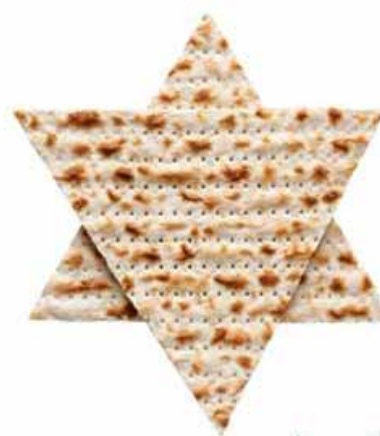
Lisa Freiman

The title of her talk is "Building the ICA: Richmond's New Creative Capital." She will speak about her vision for the newest addition to the Richmond cultural scene. Expected to open in early 2016, the ICA will feature a fresh slate of cutting-edge exhibitions, music, experimental performances, and films by nationally and internationally recognized artists. It will be a non-collecting contemporary art institution designed to accommodate the increasing lack of barriers among different media and practices.

For more information contact Matt Langsam at (804) 545-8652 or mlangsam@jewishrichmond.org.

Happy Pesach!

Wishing our global Partnership family - from all four corners of the Earth - freedom, peace and fulfillment as we work together to build a stronger Israel, a more connected Jewish people and a better world.



Law

Continued from page 1

jurisdiction over acts of persecution committed by perpetrators in Nazi-occupied Europe, the Department of Justice undertook a relentless pursuit of all in the U.S. who had participated in the mass murder and persecution, and succeeded through the years in denaturalizing and/or deporting hundreds of former SS and Nazi war criminals while losing only a handful of cases between 1981-2007.

From 1984-2010, the Ukrainian SS auxiliary John Demjanjuk, who had served as a guard at the Sobibor extermination complex, and at the Flossenbuerg concentration camp, became a symbol for many of the legal complexities and political issues involved in trying to bring war criminals to justice.

In 2009, in an unprecedented effort in legal collaboration, the U.S. Department of Justice and the German federal prosecutors office succeeded in having Demjanjuk deported to Munich to answer to criminal charges of aiding and abetting mass murder when he served as an SS auxiliary and guard at Sobibor.

The 2014 Law Day Honoree and featured speaker will be former German Judge Kirsten Goetze, who prepared the landmark German criminal case against Demjanjuk that resulted in his conviction by a Munich Court in 2011. Demjanjuk died while the case was on appeal.

A panel discussion on May 14 from 4-5:30 p.m. at the Virginia Holocaust Museum during Law Day will feature important figures involved in both the American and German legal proceedings against Nazi war criminals.

Eli M. Rosenbaum, the longtime director of OSI, and a former Law Day honoree, will be joined by Goetze, Dr. Peter Black, senior historian at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, who previously served as chief historian at OSI, and assisted in preparing the Justice Department cases; and Dr. David Rich, staff historian at OSI who assisted in



The personal identity card of Ukrainian collaborator John Demjanjuk from the SS training camp at Trawniki, Poland, signed by SS Captain Karl Streibel, Trawniki Commandant and the senior SS officer training SS auxiliaries for duty as death camp guards. At bottom left is the notation indicating Demjanjuk's assignment as a guard to the Sobibor extermination camp as of March 27, 1943.

developing both the American and German cases against Demjanjuk.

The panel will be moderated by Dr. Charles Sydnor, director of the Museum, who served for 25 years as an expert witness for OSI, and was the Justice Department's expert in the 2001 successful denaturalization case against Demjanjuk in Cleveland. The panel discussion topic is "Bringing Nazi War Criminals to Justice in America and Germany: The Legacy to the History of the Holocaust."

The 4 p.m. program is free and open to the public, as is the reception honoring Goetze, Rosenbaum, Black and Rich, which will follow the panel discussion. At the end of the reception, the program will resume with the presentation of the Law Day Award to Goetze, followed by her remarks on her role in the preparation of the German criminal case against Demjanjuk. Goetze's lecture will be "Preparing the German Criminal Case Against John Demjanjuk."

The museum is located at 2000 E. Cary St., which offers free, ample off-street, lighted parking. For details, on this program and other events, call (804) 257-5400.

www.JewishRichmond.org