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### Schechter School Office Hours:

**Monday-Thursday**  
**8am -4pm**

**Friday**  
**8am- 3:30pm**

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### For Your Calendar:

**October 30**  
**Puerto Rico Day**  
**Soccer-Home game**  
**vs St Mary's**

**November 1**  
**Middle School to**  
**see**  
**Anne Frank**

**Shabbat Shalom**  
**Parashat Lech-Lecha**  
**Candlelighting 5:34 pm**

**October 27, 2017**  
**7 Cheshvan, 5778**

### A Message from Andrea

#### Making Our Contribution

As a Jewish educator I have always been drawn to this text:

**לא עליך המלאכה לגמור, ולא אתה בן חורין להבטל ממנה**

"You are not expected to complete the task, but neither are you free to avoid it."

(Rabbi Tarfon, Pirkei Avot 2:21)

I have studied this text with students, teachers and parents, especially when speaking about what our goals are in Jewish education. It suggests that we can slow down, we can go deeper, work on individual meaning making, because we are setting the groundwork, making way for exploration and curiosity, and whether as a school we have a student for 5, 9 or 13 years we are beginning the task and never finishing it.

This text also stands as a guidepost as we navigate our place in the world today. The past months have been hard, we have continued to witness the incredible pain that surrounds us in this world: the war in Syria, the crisis in Myanmar with the genocide of the Rohingya people, the destruction from Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria, the terrible wildfires in the northwestern United States, and the divisiveness in our country. It can feel overwhelming; it feels like it can swallow us. How do we even begin to comprehend the pain and the destruction? How do we move forward with positive action to help alleviate the extreme suffering we see and hear about everyday?

In times like these, we must come together and identify our shared values, because while we may differ in politics,

**November 3**  
**Last Friday 3:30**  
**Dismissal**

**November 6**  
**Parent Conferences**  
**No Classes**

**November 7**  
**Middle School to**  
**Riverfront Adventure**

**November 8**  
**Soccer at Renbrook**  
**Evening**  
**Conferences**

**November 10**  
**First 2:30 Friday**  
**Dismissal**

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### **Quick Links**

[Solomon Schechter](#)  
[Website](#)

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**Inside the ArtStudio**  
**with...**

**GESHER and**  
**RIMONIM**

**Structures inspired**  
**by Sol Lewitt**



viewpoints, and understandings, if we can hold on to those shared values we can work together and we can begin to have an impact.

I find that Judaism has so much to say and offer, especially in challenging times. I look to our sources for wisdom and guidance when I think we need it most. When we are feeling overwhelmed by the world's grief, Micah 6:8 is a reminder for what we can do.



**כִּי אַם-עֲשׂוֹת מִשְׁפָּט וְאַהֲבַת חֶסֶד, וְהִצַּנֵּעַ לָכֶת, עִם-אֱלֹהֶיךָ**  
Do justly NOW. Love mercy NOW. Walk humbly NOW.

When we are overwhelmed, when we feel it is hard to know what we can do to make a difference, this reminds us that we can start small; in fact, starting small is often the only way we can begin.

When this year's 8th graders worked thoughtfully last year to re-design the student council, they pinpointed two goals: 1. To bring the student voice to the faculty and administration; and 2. To organize and do good in the world. These are the values that we hold dear and the values our oldest students want to maintain - give everyone a voice and act with a Lev Tov - Good Heart.

This year they began with a very successful collection to support those affected by Hurricane Harvey. This coming Monday, Schechter will have a special day of learning about Puerto Rico with Professor Charles Venator-Santiago from UConn, with activities and discussions that will help all of us have a better understanding of the the place, the geopolitical situation, the people and the culture as well as a clearer view of what is happening in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria. He will also share with us various important responses to the crisis, and through one of these agencies, as a school, we will make a commitment to help the residents of Puerto Rico rebuild their lives.



We are committed to acting justly with kindness and mercy, and we will do so humbly, knowing that the work isn't ours to finish but it is ours to begin.

Shabbat Shalom,



Andrea

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## Follow Schechter on Twitter & on Facebook!!!

To keep up with all the happenings at SSDS, Follow us on Twitter [HERE](#) and on Facebook [HERE](#)

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## Our Fabulous Faculty focusing on the best education strategies for our students!

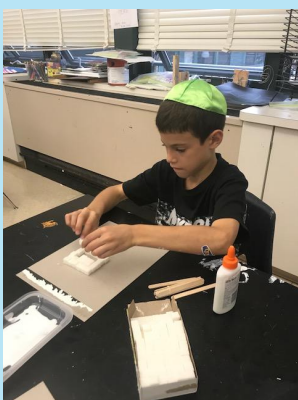
**Nancy Rosen** and **Limor Shefer** attended the Legacy Heritage New Teachers Institute at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York. The three-day workshop focused on the Standards and Benchmarks approach that will be used in building our Chumash curriculum. New to her Judaic Studies position in Geshet, Limor learned and applied the skills and strategies used to create new units. Nancy led a workshop on creating Performance Assessments.



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## EC3 Artists work on Self Portraits



Each month EC 3 participates in a self portrait lesson and activity!



We are so proud of our budding artists, hard at work!

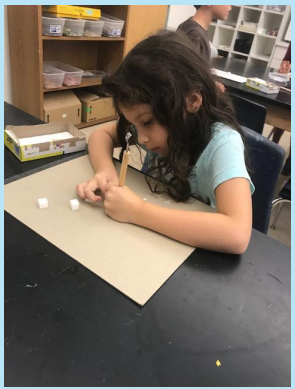
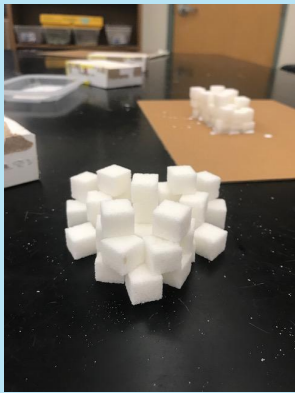


At the end of the year we will put together a book of their work.



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**Inside Gesher's classroom!**



In Language Arts, the Gesher students have been hard at work completing their personal narratives. These personal narratives focus on the skills of showing vs. telling, inclusion of dialogue, engaging leads, and an ending that brings the story full circle. On Wednesday, the students met in groups to revise and edit their work with various checklists. The students also had a chance to independently meet with Mrs. Spector to review their work. **Lily** observed, "I put more detail in my work than I usually would have." Ellie liked learning "how to put a good beginning into my story."



Limor's Hebrew group extension worked on creating a Hebrew game for use in the classroom.

The students are utilizing their learned Hebrew vocabulary to create a learning experience for others. The students will then create directions for the game in Hebrew.



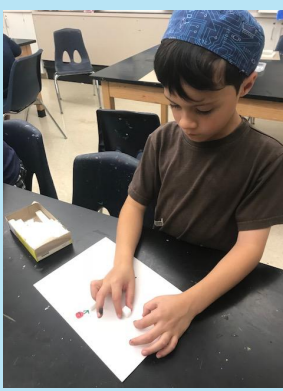
Both **Eliana** and **Raviv** agreed that a favorite part of this project is that "you can show your creativity and work with a friend."

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## 7th Grade Hits the Road to Research their Monumental Year-long Project!

The 7th Grade students met with Dr. Avi Patt this week at University of Hartford to continue their research on Monuments and Memorials.





The students are working in the ArtStudio with Ms. Van this year on a year-long project with *Facing History and Ourselves*. The project's intent is to engage the students in learning about their own Jewish History, the Holocaust, Memorials, and Monuments.



The culmination of the year long study will be in May, with the students presenting a Memorial/Monument of their own at Schechter.



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## A Message from the Schechter Kitchen

November and December menus have been posted on Renweb. Early Childhood menus have been placed in student mailboxes.

Please contact us at [kitchen@ssds-hartford.org](mailto:kitchen@ssds-hartford.org) if you have any questions.



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## 8th Grade POPCORN to Benefit Israel Trip!!!

The 8th Grade class will be raising money for their trip to Israel this year by selling Popcorn for \$1.00 the next few Fridays!!!

Look out for the awesome 8th graders selling their Popcorn both in the front lobby and in the cafeteria at dismissal on Fridays!



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## Tikun Olam from a Schechter Alum

Schechter graduate **Samm** Smith-Rapaport (2015) and his father, Avi Smith-Rapaport, are heading to the Dominican Republic with University High School of Science and Engineering





(UHSSE) and Watkinson School for a week-long community service trip over the week of Thanksgiving.

Part of this experience is raising money and collecting needed items for the members of the community they service. They are collecting shoes and toiletries, and are in dire need of Tums (chewable antacids) and multi-vitamins.



Please drop off any and all donations to the Schechter office or at [WCC HQ](#) (We Care Computers), by NOVEMBER 16, 2017.

If you would prefer to make a financial donation, you can write a check to Watkinson School and mail it/drop it off to the above locations.

Online donations (and to learn more) can be made by clicking [here](#).

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## JTCares & Trick or Canning

Become inspired to take Jewish values to the next level!

For 3 hours on 7 different Sundays from 1pm-





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## Join Our List

Would you like a grandparent, relative, or friend to receive the Schechter newsletter? Email [ASobel@ssds-hartford.org](mailto:ASobel@ssds-hartford.org) and include the name, email address, and relationship to Schechter and we will add them to our list!



4pm (lunch included), teens will come together to create a community of young adults who care about the world around them and who actively take part in the mitzvah of **Tikkun Olam** - Repairing the World.

Open to teens in 7th-12th grade!  
JTCares starts with Trick or Canning on **Oct. 29th**, during which teens will learn about hunger & poverty with guests from Hands on Hartford. Teens will then hit the streets, ring door bells and collect cans for our local pantries.

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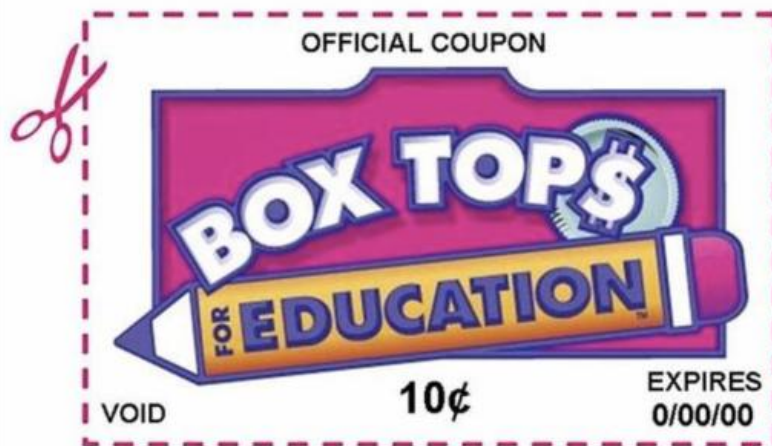
## Teen Leadership & Philanthropy Institute (TLPI)

TLPI is a weekly interactive course for teens to explore philanthropy, social responsibility and community leadership.

Meeting on Monday evenings at Beth El Temple in West Hartford from **7:00-8:40pm** (dinner included), teens will learn about giving from a Jewish perspective, visit community agencies and learn about their work, solicit and evaluate grant proposals, allocate money to community agencies, while adding substance to their resumes.

TLPI starts on **November 6**, is open to teens in 10th-12th grade and is limited to 12 students.

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## Let's get clipping!

Box Tops for Education is free money for our school!  
There are many brands that you may purchase that  
have this coupon on them...

Pillsbury

Kleenex

Ziploc

Betty Crocker

General Mills

Hefty

Box Tops will be collected the **First Friday of each month!** Drop them off in any of the collection bins you see around the school. Be sure to visit [www.btfe.com](http://www.btfe.com) to sign up for additional offers, support Solomon Schechter and even download the easy to use app!

Thanks for your support!

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The Catskills of Connecticut:  
Remembering the Jewish Summer Retreats

**November 9, 2017, 7:00 PM**

**Mandell JCC, 335 Bloomfield Avenue,  
West Hartford, CT 06117**

*Sponsored by the Jewish Historical Society*

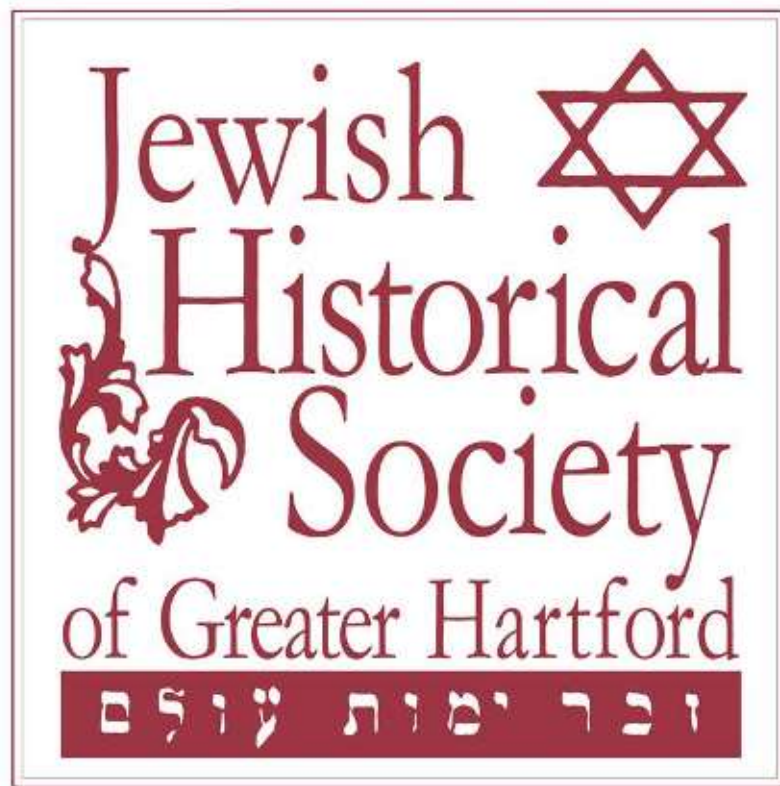


workers and their families came to Connecticut farms as summer boarders looking for rest and relaxation in the countryside. Over time, many Jewish farmers developed thriving resorts in Colchester, Moodus, Lebanon, and East Haddam. In the 1960s, lower airfare and changing vacation habits doomed the country resorts. Most have been demolished; others have found new life. Ken Simon, filmmaker and historian of Connecticut's ethnic resorts, will examine the phenomena that created "The Catskills of Connecticut". Those with memories of the resorts are invited to share stories and photos during a discussion following Simon's lecture. An exhibit featuring these Jewish resorts will be on display at the Society office.

For more information, contact Lynn Newman at [lnewman@jewishhartford.org](mailto:lnewman@jewishhartford.org) or 860-727-6170

[www.jhsgh.org](http://www.jhsgh.org)





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## **Moving to the Suburbs: The Challenges of Fair Housing in Jewish West Hartford**

**November 2, 2017  
7:00 PM**

**Emanuel Synagogue  
160 Mohegan Drive, West Hartford, CT 06117**

*Co-sponsored by the Jewish Historical Society and  
The Emanuel Synagogue*

The Jewish Historical Society and The Emanuel Synagogue invite you to a fascinating panel discussion about certain West Hartford neighborhoods that were shaped by religious discrimination, restrictive



covenants and the real estate market from the 1940s to the 1970s. Like many of their fellow Americans, many Jews living primarily in the North end of Hartford moved to the suburbs in droves after World War II looking for modern single-family homes, but sometimes faced the challenge of being turned away from a number of neighborhoods.

This program is free and open to the community.

**Panelists:**

**Tracey Wilson, West Hartford Town  
Historian**

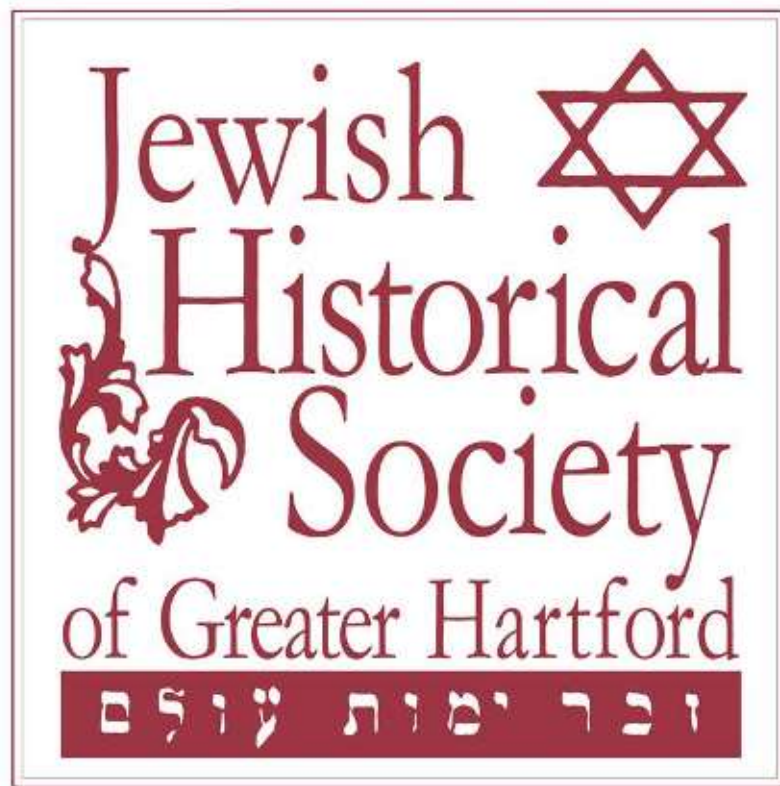
**Dr. Jack Dougherty, Professor of  
Educational Studies, Trinity College**

**Mary Donohue, Assistant Publisher,  
Connecticut Explored**

For more information or to RSVP, contact Lynn at  
**[lnewman@jewishhartford.org](mailto:lnewman@jewishhartford.org)** or 860-727-6170

**[www.jhsggh.org](http://www.jhsggh.org)**





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Each teen's Jewish journey is unique. Through JTConnect, teens have the freedom to reach beyond the familiar to prepare them to become leaders in the Jewish community. JTConnect is a learning and social program for teens from throughout Greater Hartford to live and learn Jewishly in a broader community! There is a place and a program for everyone at JTConnect.

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information about our different programs and how to register!





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## Voices of Hope –Employment Opportunity

HERO Center Program Director  
Voices of Hope HERO (Holocaust Education  
Resource and Outreach) Center at the University  
of Hartford, West Hartford, CT

### Job Type: Part-time (approx. 20 hours)

Lessons learned from the Holocaust and other genocides provide a platform in modern day to promote social justice by confronting bigotry, racism, anti-Semitism and all forms of discrimination. This is an exciting opportunity for a passionate individual to lead the HERO (Holocaust Education Resource and Outreach) Center, a joint initiative between the Greenberg Center at the University of Hartford and Voices of Hope. The HERO center will serve as a community resource both on the University of Hartford campus and in schools and in the community throughout Connecticut, providing resources for educators, students, and community members with a focus on Holocaust and genocide education. The HERO Center will host Holocaust scholars, noted authors and survivors for public programs, educational opportunities for students and teachers around the region, and coordinate school visits to the Hartford Remembers the Holocaust exhibition at the Museum of Jewish Civilization. The HERO Center maintains a library of Holocaust resources including books, original sources, videotapes and testimonials of Holocaust survivors, all of which are available to students, faculty, educators, visiting researchers and community members. The Program Director will be responsible for the below tasks at the HERO Center and will be an employee of Voices of Hope. This flexible, part-time position is a great opportunity to make a difference in the lives of students and the community at-large. Through the HERO Center, we hope to

ensure that the next generation will apply the lessons of the past toward the goal of building a better future of mutual understanding and respect.

Tasks will include:

- Organizing, coordinating and marketing educational field trips for students to Museums and Memorials
- Coordinating speakers in schools and community settings through the Holocaust Survivor Speaker's Bureau
- Organizing and teaching docents and volunteers for Hartford Remembers the Holocaust exhibit at University of Hartford
- Coordinating educational workshops and recognition opportunities for teachers with other organizations, including but not limited to the Anti-Defamation League, University of Hartford, Voices of Hope and Facing History.
- Marketing to and assisting educators with lending library and appropriate resource center materials
- Managing and overseeing budgets and exploring grant opportunities for the HERO Center
- Delegating responsibilities and mentoring a University intern
- Qualified candidates may also have the opportunity to teach university level classes at the University of Hartford

Qualifications: Graduation from an accredited college with a Bachelor's degree and experience in education or other related field. Passion and experience with Holocaust or other genocide studies is preferred. This is a part time position with school-day hours and flexibility. Some night and weekend work may be required from time to time to execute programs and programming. Proficiency in Microsoft Office required.

Salary: Hourly \$18 - \$20/hour based on experience, training and ability.

Position open immediately: Please send cover letter, resume and contact information along with professional references to [info@ctvoicesofhope.org](mailto:info@ctvoicesofhope.org). Please note that the office location will be in Farmington, CT until January 2018 where it will move to the University of Hartford campus.

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Audrey Sobel and Rhiannon Van Bindsbergen, Co-Editors  
Solomon Schechter Day School of Greater Hartford