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**Schechter School
Office Hours
(Winter):**

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

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

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For Your Calendar:

**March 16
First 3:30 dismissal**

**March 19
Parents night out**

**March 21
7th Grade to NYC**

Shabbat Shalom

Parashat Vayikra

Candlelighting 6:41 pm

March 16, 2018

29 Adar, 5778

A Message from Nancy

"Humans were created as unique individuals to teach that anyone who takes a single life, it is as if s/he has destroyed an entire world, and anyone who saves a single life, it is as if s/he has saved an entire world." *Sanhedrin* 4:5

On February 14, 2018, in a matter of minutes, one single person destroyed 17 individual worlds at the Marjory Stoneham Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida. While the text



from *Sanhedrin* refers to future generations that will never be, we are also mindful of the ripples that flow from this single event: families, friends, colleagues, community members and members of our nation who have been hurt by this act of destruction.

On Wednesday, March 14, Schechter Middle School students and faculty joined thousands of students and teachers across the country, remembering those whose lives were cut short by gun violence and reflecting on what we can do - what we must do - to make positive changes in our society. Turning to the wisdom of our texts that have guided our people for well over 2,000 years, we found a powerful way to connect to our national community.

[March 23](#)
**World Dance
Performance**

[March 29](#)
**Passover Vacation
Begins**

[March 30](#)
First Seder

[April 9](#)
School Resumes

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Mazel Tov to...

Steve and
Gayle Temkin and
younger sister
Lily on the bat
mitzvah of their
daughter and sister,
7th grader

Alyssa Temkin

and

Avi and **Ivy Patt** and
younger brothers
Alex (Geshet) and
Micah (Parparim) on
the bat mitzvah of
their daughter and
sister,
Schechter alum

Maya Patt

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From the earliest age, our students are nurtured on the belief that all people are created *b'tzelem Elohim*, in God's image, and deserve to be treated as such. In their Torah studies, our students learn about our own slavery narrative, one that Jews around the world will re-enact at the Pesach seder in just two weeks. Our students learn that having experienced hardship as a people, it is our responsibility to stand up for

those whose freedom, security and safety are threatened.

Schechter students know that our texts, ancient as they may be, continue to speak to us, teach us, and touch us even today.

With our love of text and inspired by a program taking place at the Carmel Academy in Greenwich, our 6th and 7th grade students gathered in the Beit on Wednesday for a *Sh'loshim Shiur*, a special text study marking the end of the 30 days following a death.

Exploring Sanhedrin 4:5, the students discussed the preciousness of life, including that of a person accused of a crime. As students noted, a witness had to be clearly warned that his/her testimony had the power to take a life or to save a life-an extremely weighty responsibility. Further study of the verse from Breishit quoted in the text, "*Kol demai achicha tzo'akim*," the bloods of your brother cries out" the plural "bloods" revealed that not only has one life been cut short, but also any descendants that would come from this line. Thus, it follows, as stated in the text quoted above, that whoever destroys one life has destroyed a whole world, and whoever saves one life has saved an entire world.

After pondering actions that are forbidden and conversely required by American law, the students studied the verse from Vayikra 19, "*Al ta'amod al dam ray'echa*," literally, "Don't stand on the blood of your neighbor." 6th grader, Cooper, commented that often in movies, you see the killer stand over the murdered

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RELISH 3.9.18



body. She interpreted this verse as meaning "Don't hurt someone and then feel proud about it."

Rereading the text using the commonly accepted translation: "Don't stand idly by the blood of your neighbor," a totally different interpretation came to light. While the commandment

appears to be negative, in reality, it offers a very positive, action-filled message. As 6th grader, Talia, emphatically stated, "You can't stand and watch. You have to do something!" Further discussion uncovered that while under US law, we are not commanded to save a person in danger, according to Jewish law, we are FORBIDDEN to stand idly by when others are being harmed. As Jews, we are commanded to act. Doing nothing is never an option.

Having reached this discovery moments before 10:00, the students rose as a group to recite Mourner's Kaddish for the 17 victims and then joined together with students and faculty across the country for 17 minutes of silence.

Following the period of silence, the students took a moment to set a *kavanna*, their intention for the day, thinking about how they could put the lessons of the morning into motion. Sharing her *kavanna*, Lilian, a 7th grader, stated that she would try to think before she spoke: Are the words kind? How will the other person feel? Are the words necessary? 7th grader, Morissa, thought about her actions and how they affect so many more people than just the person with whom she is interacting. While the other students chose to keep their *kavannot* private, they clearly stepped into their day thoughtfully, thankfully and ready to act.



May we see the day when we no longer need to mourn lives cut short by senseless killing. When there are no displays like the 7,000 pairs of shoes, each representing a child killed by gunfire since the shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in 2012, set out on the lawn of the Capitol building. When students no longer need to protest for





the right to a safe school day.

Rather, may we see the day when all people recognize the beautiful, potential worlds within every individual. When we appreciate and celebrate the uniqueness of every soul. When together, we create a world based on kindness, compassion-and action.

Special thanks to Rabbi Steven Chatinover and Dr. Jason Kay, our teachers who brought such meaning and depth to the *Sh'loshim Shiur*.



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Viva La Fiesta Latina!!

The Fifth Annual Fiesta Latina was an exciting showcase of the Spanish language program. Students demonstrated their connection with the Spanish speaking people and language by singing traditional folk songs from Cuba, Mexico and Puerto Rico, as well as performing skits and a dance.



They explored different Latin American musical styles such as mariachi, plena, son jarocho, and Latin rock while building cross-cultural competency.



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Señora Castro said, "Singing songs in Spanish class is a very useful and motivating tool. It helps students build their oral proficiency and improves their concentration and memory because it sticks

with them outside of class. Preparing for the Fiesta created a sense of community and helped students absorb both the culture and content while having fun."



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March Madness in Phys Ed with Mr. G!



With the calendar turning to March, all of Solomon Schechter is ready for March Madness after finishing up their basketball unit in PE.

Each class was given lesson plans tailored specifically towards their range and ability, with everyone still focusing on the importance of fundamentals.



For all classes in lower school, it started with the "elevator dribble," a drill that focuses on the different heights you may dribble a basketball depending on the situation, beginning with 1st floor at the ankles, 2nd floor at the knees, and 3rd floor at the hips. Bounce and chest passes were the next focus, and with the addition of shooting, students put all the skills together.

Blessed with warm February weather, **Rimonim** and **Parparim** were able to go outside to use hoops that could be lowered, making it easier to score. Here, both classes focused on the give and go, showing that it is always important to have the help of teammates in a team sport.



Gesher did a more advanced give and go, using actions to determine when to do a particular movement on the basketball court. Next, the class played 3 on 3 games, rotating through different opponents. Here, they were able

to put all the fundamentals together: dribbling, passing and cutting, and shooting. The 6th and 7th grade class focused more on the importance of spacing throughout its unit, starting with 3 on 3 games and gradually working their way up to full court 5 on 5. Similar to the other classes, students found they were most successful when everyone was involved and it was a total team

effort.

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Rimonim Drops Everything and Reads!

Friday, March 2nd, Rimonim celebrated Dr. Seuss's birthday and Read Across America day!

It was a special day on which we celebrated the magical children's books written by Dr. Seuss. Schools across the country participated by dropping everything and reading (DEAR).



Rimonim celebrated in several ways. They made hats inspired by *The Cat in the Hat* and wore them



throughout the day. Then the students heard a reading of the *The Cat in the Hat* by Kate in English and then by Ziva in Hebrew.

Susan read *One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish*, a big favorite. Inspired by Dr. Seuss and his dream of nurturing readers, the students had DEAR time, curling up with their own special books!

It was a wonderful day filled with reading and laughter.

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8th Grade Israel Experience is in Full Swing!

First day: getting to know their new friends,

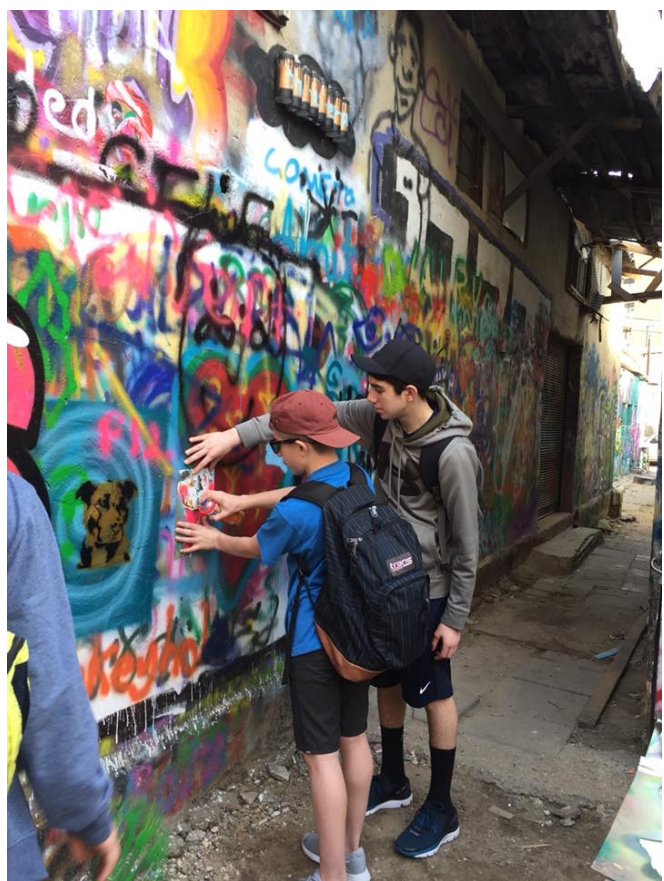
visit to
Independence
Hall and Rabin
Square,



and a
Graffiti tour of southern Tel Aviv with a local artist.



She gave students the opportunity to add their work to her space.

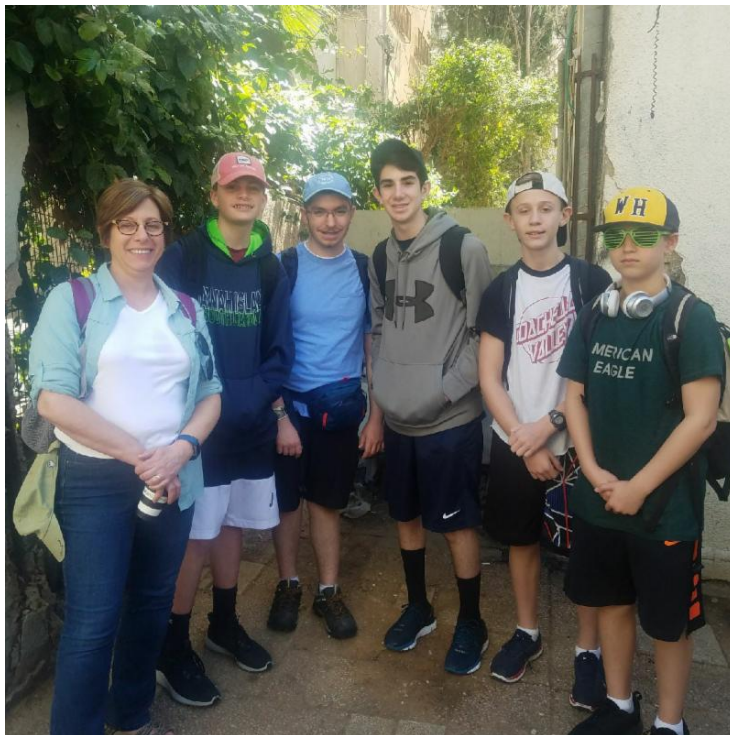


How is the graffiti different from the graffiti they saw in Hartford?
"In Hartford it was mostly words and more quickly drawn," according to **Michael**.



Day 2: Reading torah at Robinson's Arch and

Walking through Jerusalem



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Save the Date for Ner Tamid!

Evening of Sunday, April 29, 2018
at Beth El Temple

Ner Tamid will feature recording artist

MATISYAHU !!



**Matisyahu sings our favorite Friday morning
RELISH song, "One Day."**

**We will be honoring Jessica and Eric Zachs
along with their children
at our annual fundraiser benefiting
Schechter's scholarship fund.**

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PA Updates on Events

**Passover Break Program with CT Science Center on Thursday,
March 29: (ages 6-12)**

We did not get the minimum of 20 students, but there is good news!

We are changing the program and going to the CT Science Center. And more good news, the cost decreased to \$26 per student!! The program will run from 9:30 till 2:30. You can still drop off your children (if you can help chaperon, we need one other parent). The students will have two lab sessions "Washing Away" and "Crash Lab." In "Washing Away", students will learn how water travels on earth and make their own model stream. In "Crash Lab", students will explore forces and motion by crashing cars. After the two lab sessions, we will have a brown bag lunch and then get to enjoy the Science Center! Please let Alan Tuvin know at atuvn@comcast.net if your child is interested and/or with any questions.

Also today is the last day to sign up for

Solomon Schechter Science Camp at Children's Museum for ages 6 - 12

Science Day - Spend the day learning about science at the CT Children's Museum.

Drop-off between 8:45 and 9:00 am, pick-up between 3:45 and 4:00 pm. Cost \$70 per child

Please pack a lunch, water bottle, and snacks.

Need a minimum of 10 people.

Please let Alan Tuvin know at atuvn@comcast.net if you are interested

Muse Paintbar, Monday March 19

Please join us for a Parents Night Out @ Muse Paintbar, Monday March 19.

The Bar opens at 6:30 - Painting Starts at 7:00 PM Cost is \$40/pp

Come out and paint with other Schechter parents. Just like the talent show, no actual "talent" required. They show us and help us how do do everything.

We have the backroom reserved for us, but seating is limited to the first 22 people.

Use the following private link to register:

<https://www.musepaintbar.com/events/55235>

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Follow Schechter on Twitter & Facebook!!!

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

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Do You Shop at Big Y??

Big Y Education Express is a Family Program to help local schools get FREE, much needed supplies & equipment!

Everyone can participate! Do you have children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews or even neighbors? You can support Solomon Schechter by signing up for Education Express. Click [HERE](#) to see more information about how to sign up and the benefits you can earn for Schechter.

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SAVE THE DATE!

Parents Night Out @ Muse Paintbar,
Monday March 19

Bar opens at 6:30 - Painting Starts at 7:00 PM Cost is \$40/pp

Come out and paint with other Schechter parents. We have the backroom reserved for us, but seating is limited to the first 22 people.

So please register as soon as possible.

Use the following private link to register [HERE](#)

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Have you shopped at the Crown Lately?



Stop By the Crown Market TODAY!

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Registration Extended to March 23rd!!!

Celebrate Passover

First Night Community Seder

Friday, March 30th 6:30pm

Reflect on the Passover story as you relax with family, friends, and neighbors and enjoy a catered dinner by The Crown. Price is \$36 per adult, \$25 for college students and children ages 7-18; children 6 and under are free. Register and pay at www.cbict.org, or complete the form in our March/April Bulletin and mail with a check.

Reservations required by **March 16th**; space not guaranteed after, and we cannot take registrations at the door. We will provide grape juice for every table; please feel free to bring wine.

Questions? Call our office at 860-233-8215.



Sign up at www.cbict.org



*A progressive, welcoming
Reform Jewish community*

701 Farmington Ave.
West Hartford, CT 06119
www.cbict.org
860-233-8215



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FVJC-ES PASSEOVER SEDER

Saturday, March 31st

Join us for a Catered dinner
and Passover seder led by Rabbi Bekah.

Begins at 6:00pm

FVJC Social Hall
55 Bushy Hill Rd, Simsbury

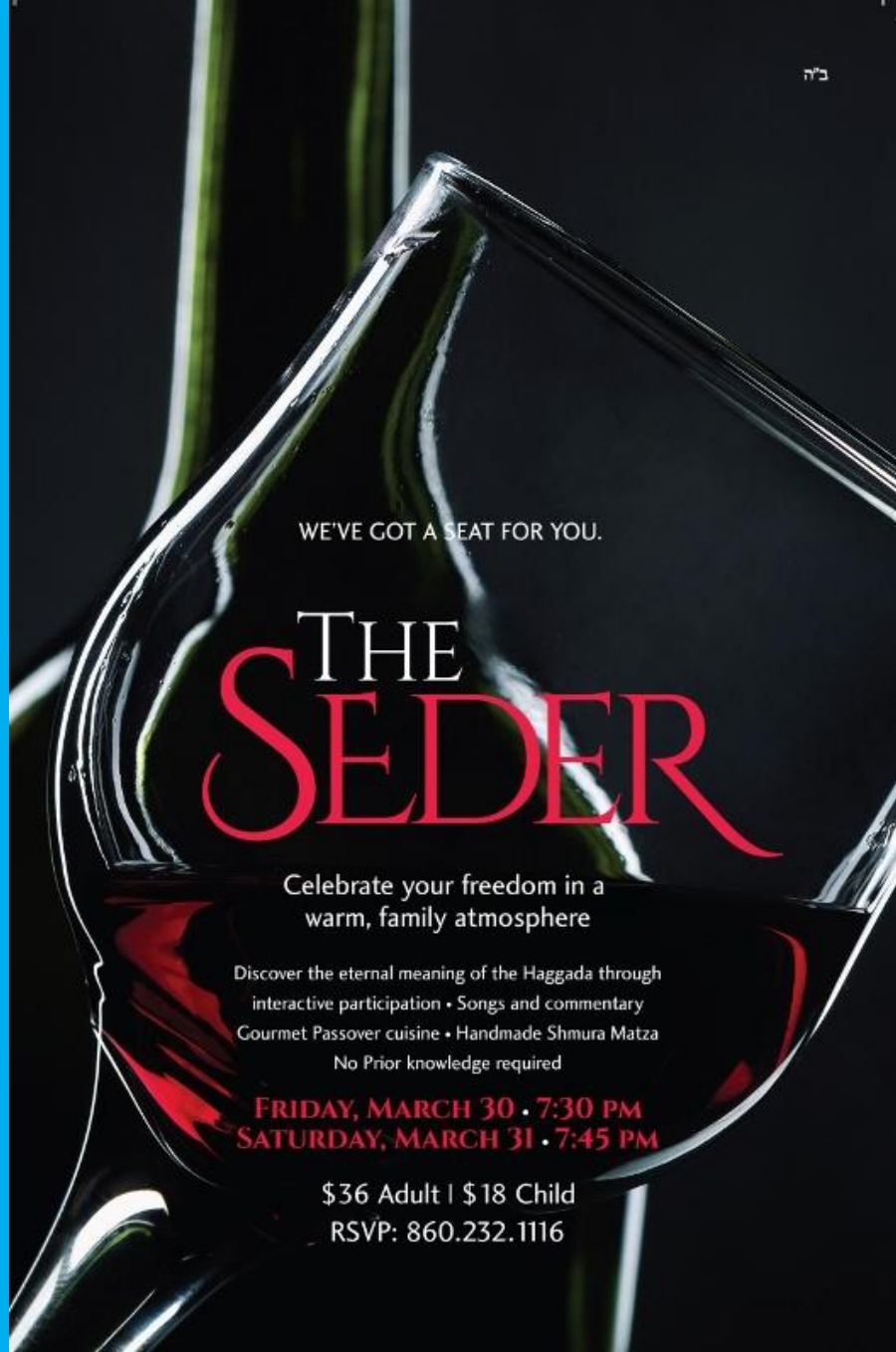
Adults \$24 / Kids \$12
Non-member \$36/ Kids \$18

Checks can be dropped off or
mailed to the office.

RSVP by March 26th
<https://tinyurl.com/yauq9y65>

Any questions?
Mike & Moira Wertheimer
wertheimermichael7@gmail.com

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WE'VE GOT A SEAT FOR YOU.

THE SEDER

Celebrate your freedom in a
warm, family atmosphere

Discover the eternal meaning of the Haggada through
interactive participation • Songs and commentary
Gourmet Passover cuisine • Handmade Shmura Matza
No Prior knowledge required

FRIDAY, MARCH 30 • 7:30 PM
SATURDAY, MARCH 31 • 7:45 PM

\$36 Adult | \$18 Child
RSVP: 860.232.1116

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Passover Food Drive

Help Us Feed
Our Community



**As we fill our cabinets for Pesach,
lets help make sure everyone's
cabinets are filled.**

**Purchase an extra Passover item or
two and drop it into the food drive
box at the Young Israel or the Crown
Market to be donated to Anja
Rosenberg Kosher Food Pantry.**



**Questions? Contact Susan Fried
at sfried@jfshartford.org**

Jewish Family Services
Embracing Possibility.

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WOMEN OF THE WALL

with guest Rabbi Debra Cantor
of B'nai Tikvoh Sholom

**Claiming Sacred Ground
at Judaism's Holy Site**

**Thursday, March 22nd
7:00pm**

Sponsored by FVJC Sisterhood
Farmington Valley Jewish Congregation
55 Bushy Hill Rd, Simsbury



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Tired of Cleaning and Cooking?
Don't want to bring more Chametz into
your home?

Join us for

Shabbat HaGadol Kiddush Luncheon

March 24, 2018

RSVP at YoungIsraelWH.org/ShabbatLuncheon by 3/20
Suggested minimum donation \$18/person and \$36/family

*Question? Contact Juanita Moss
at Juanita.Moss@gmail.com*



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LET'S BOWL!

*Pre-Pesach Bowling with the
Young Israel of West Hartford*

Kidz Club

March 25th, 2018 • 11:00-1:00 PM

Grades 1-8th • \$10 per child

2 hrs of Bowling (incl. shoe rental) and

Pizza & Drinks

Lucky Lanes



1782 Berlin Tpke • Berlin, CT 06037

RSVP to Juanita Moss

Juanita.Moss@gmail.com



YOUNG ISRAEL OF WEST HARTFORD
2240 ALBANY AVE.
WEST HARTFORD, CT 06117
WWW.YOUNGISRAELWH.ORG

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ONE TORAH

Pre-Pesach Hagaddah Night

An Evening of Unity and Learning

Take a break from cooking and cleaning and join your local rabbis and educators from Greater Hartford for a night of learning as we prepare for Pesach. Come hear your rabbi and educator each deliver a brief insight into the Hagaddah. Bring a note book and go home with novel and inspirational ideas for your Seder!

Monday Night, March 26, 2018

7:45 PM at Young Israel of West Hartford

(2240 Albany Ave., West Hartford, CT)

Featuring Community Rabbis and Educators...

(still in formation)

- Rabbi Yosef Wolvovsky (Chabad of Glastonbury)
- Rabbi Zev Silver (Hebrew Academy)
- Rabbi Mendel Samuels (Chabad of the Valley)
- Rabbi David Fried (HHNE)
- Heather Fiedler (Federation)
- Dr. Galya Greenberg (Chai Mitzvah)
- Rabbi Shaya Gopin (Chabad of G.W.)
- Rabbi Jeremy Bruce (HHNE)
- Rabbi Tuvia Brander (Young Israel)



YOUNG ISRAEL OF WEST HARTFORD · 2240 ALBANY AVE, WEST HARTFORD, CT 06117
(860) 233-3084 · WWW.YOUNGISRAELWH.ORG · @YOUNGISRAELWEHA

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THE EMANUEL SYNAGOGUE SISTERHOOD PRESENTS

AN AMERICAN VACATION

DINNER & FASHION SHOW

The Emanuel Synagogue
160 Mohegan Dr., West Hartford

Appetizers at 5:30pm
Dinner & Show to follow 150 pp



Tuesday,
April 24, 2018

To register, contact Reesa at reesa58@comcast.net or Fay at faydehaas@comcast.net

Hair & makeup compliments of
CONTOURS
Spa & Wellness

Dinner catered by
JOY OF FOOD

Invitations by
The Paper Station

Music provided by
POWER TATION
Events

Dinner and Fashion Show

West Hartford - The Emanuel Synagogue Sisterhood invites you to "An American Vacation" Dinner and Fashion Show on Tuesday, April 24, 2018. Fashions for women, men and children will be provided by J.Jill and REI. The evening will begin with appetizers at 5:30, followed by a catered dinner and fashion show. As part of this event, we are giving back to the community by asking attendees to bring new baby and toddler clothing or toiletries as a donation to Jewish Family Service. This event will be held at The Emanuel Synagogue, 160 Mohegan Drive, West Hartford. For more information, contact Reesa Olins at reesa58@comcast.net or Fay Dehaas at faydehaas@comcast.net.

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JOIN OUR CIRCLE

Oh the places
we'll go

When the Me
become
We

Sunday,

MAY 6 - IYAR 21

2:00- 4:00 PM

Emanuel Synagogue

160 Mohegan Drive



TEN years of Friendship Circle
Honor the friendships that have been made and come together to recognize everything our members have done to make our Jewish community the most accommodating and inclusive it can be.

**Celebrate our Children, Teens,
Young Adults, Parents,
Supporters and Staff**

Program Chairs:

Wendy Amblo, Lisa Berman, Louisa Kalsner, Dana Keller, Robin Landau, Michelle Patchen, Sherri Pliskin, Amy Raisner, Laurie Silverman, Lauren Drazen, Hope Bash, Dana Greenberg



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FVJC-ES Sisterhood

Mah Jongg Tournament

CASH PRIZES!!!

Sunday, June 3, 2018
8:45am - 4:30pm

8:45..... Player Arrival, Coffee and...
9:00..... Reading of Rules
9:30..... Round 1
10:30..... Round 2
11:30..... Round 3
12:30-1:15..Catered Kosher-Style Lunch
1:15..... Round 4
2:15..... Round 5
3:15..... Round 6
4:30..... Announcement of Winners

Farmington Valley
Jewish Congregation
55 Bushy Hill Rd,
Simsbury, CT



Cost: \$36

Questions?
Call Terry Cole 860-558-2587
(please also use this number in case of
a problem on event day)

Registration will close on May 29th or at 100 players, whichever comes first.

-----RSVP-----

Name_____ Email_____ Phone Number_____

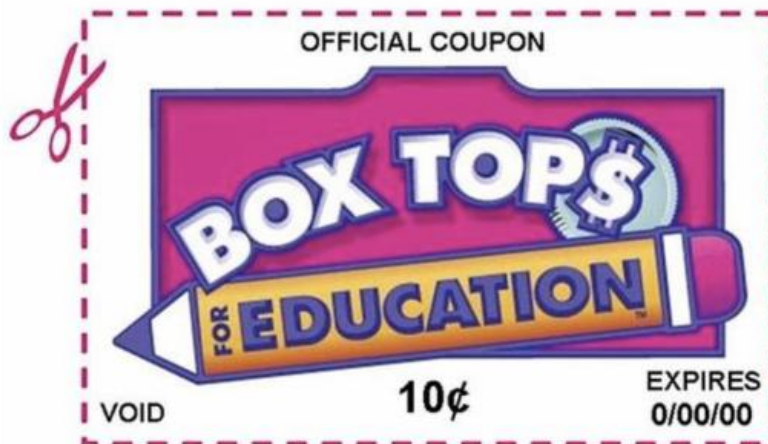
____YES! I have a set and I am happy to be East! *No black or vintage sets, please.

Save time by purchasing your tickets for the Cash Raffle!

___\$5 for 6 ___\$10 for 13 ___\$20 for 30 Yes! I've added \$_____to my check for raffle tickets.

Please make checks payable to FVJC-ES Sisterhood. Please send to:
Terry Cole, 5 Banbury Road, West Simsbury 06092. Your RSVP must be received by May 29th.
No refunds for any reason after this date.

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