Wolloch Holocaust Haggadah on Display

BY STEPHEN E. LIPKEN

In anticipation of Passover, a special hand-crafted Haggadah, commissioned in 1981 by Zygfryd and Helene Wolloch in memory of their parents who perished in the Holocaust, will be displayed at Temple Israel Center, (TIC) White Plains, Reception Hall 1 on Sunday, April 17 at 1:00 p.m., a gift to TIC from the Wolloch family.

“This also honors my parents, my mother’s 90th birthday in January, my father’s passing in 2003 and gives voice to the 6 million who perished in the Holocaust and survivors who are no longer here,” Michael Wolloch stated. A Scarsdale resident, Wolloch has been a TIC member since 2005.

Helene Wolloch and son, Michael Wolloch with two Wolloch Haggadah pages.

The original manuscript is 56 pages long with illuminations by David Wander, Helene [Wander] Wolloch’s first cousin’s son; Torah Scribe Yonah Weinrib did the calligraphy and micrography (micro calligraphy). A total of 290 Haggadot were produced: 250 numbered 1 to 250; and 31 numbered 1 to XXXI. It has been translated into German, published by Humboldt University’s Christian-Jewish Studies Center.

The Haggadah on exhibit, which draws parallels between the Holocaust survivors’ liberation and the exodus from Egypt, will be shown on twenty-five, 15 inch wide by 20 inches long, hand printed original lithographs, signed by the artist.

Its Holocaust-themed illustrations range from a darkly-themed Seder Plate with a yellow Jewish star in the center, inscribed with the Hebrew word “maror” (bitter); “Chad Gadyah” (one kid), depicting a continued on page 4

Rabbi David Fox Sandmel Speaks on “Jews, Christians and Israel”

BY STEPHEN E. LIPKEN

Dr. Elena Procarcio-Foley, Brother John G. Driscoll Professor of Jewish-Catholic Studies, Iona College, New Rochelle, presented Rabbi David Fox Sandmel, Ph.D., Director, Interfaith Affairs, Anti-Defamation League (ADL) who spoke about “Jews, Christians and Israel” as part of the Rabbi Michael A. Signer Memorial Lecture Series in Thomas J. Burke Lounge on Wednesday, March 9. Approximately 50 attended.

“The creation of the modern state of Israel in 1948 coincided with the emergence of post-Holocaust Jewish-Christian dialogue,” Sandmel began. “For example, less than a year earlier, the International Conference of Christians and Jews issued the Ten Points of Seelisberg, [Switzerland] in 1947, leading the way to Nostra Aetate...repudiating the traditional Christian contempt for Jews, calling for friendship and dialogue.

“After 2,000 years of anxiety, Jews returned to sovereignty in their ancestral homeland. Classical Judaism taught that at the End of Days, the Messiah would end the exile. Christianity taught that Jews were eternally exiled as punishment for the crucifixion... ‘Replacement theology’...growth of Anti-Semitism in the 19th Century, culminating in the Holocaust.”

Sandmel described Israeil Arab-Christians as wealthy and well-educated but a “minority within a minority” whose birth rate is less than both Jews and Muslims.

He contrasted Theodore Herzl’s visit to Pope Pius X to get his reluctant blessing to return to the land, because “Jews did not recognize ‘Our Lord’ to the Vatican’s recognition of Israel in 1954 but only as a State under International Law. When Pope Francis visited Israel he placed a wreath at Herzl’s tomb.”

Rabbi David Fox Sandmel, Director of Interfaith Affairs, Anti-Defamation League (left) and Dr. Elena Procarcio-Foley, Ph.D., Chair, Religious Studies/ Brother John G. Driscoll Professor of Jewish-Catholic Studies, Iona College.

Regarding the Evangelical Community emerging as a powerful political force in the continued on page 16

White Plains Ironman Athlete Honored at Leket Gala

A m e r i c a n Friends of Leket Israel, the national food bank, honored Jason Rosen of White Plains and Sam Goldberg of Englewood, New Jersey, at its Third Annual U.S. Gala on March 7th at the Grand Hyatt Hotel, New York City.

Rosen was feted for his 2015 participation in the Ironman Triathlon in Boulder, Colorado through which he raised over $50,000 – more than twice his initial goal—to support Leket. While volunteering with Leket in Israel, Rosen bet his friends that he would complete a challenging Ironman Triathlon. This spurred the moment decision set in motion a long journey of physical training and fundraising. Last August, Rosen completed the Ironman race and made good on his bet. Currently, he is an Equities Trading Business Analyst at continued on page 4

15th Annual Human Rights Institute for High School Student Leaders

More than 400 students and teachers from 29 high schools attended the 15th Annual Human Rights Institute for High School Student Leaders, sponsored by the Holocaust & Human Rights Education Center.

The all-day human rights awareness event was addressed by keynote speaker Judy Altmann, Olivia Shaw, Manhattanville College President Richard A. Berman, and Laura Rodriguez.

HAPPY PASSOVER FROM WESTCHESTER JEWISH LIFE! Visit www.westchesterjewishlife.com
Music and Memory Program Offered at The Ambassador

The Ambassador of Scarsdale announced recently that they have been awarded The Music and Memory Program certification and now offer the program to its residents coping with progressive memory issues. Adding this cutting edge programming at The Ambassador further advances the mission of enhancing the quality of life for elders through personalized music.

The announcement was made by Jean Dunphy, General Manager, of The Ambassador of Scarsdale (www.theambassadorscarsdale.com). In making the announcement, Jean Dunphy stated, “This program is not only person-centered, it meets individuals where they are, regardless of their level of cognition or ambulation and has established a new best practice and gold standard in the care industry. Trained staff will be using logs to measure individualized behavioral objectives shown through residents’ cognitive and social responses to the program in hopes of seeing desirable long-term outcomes in order to make therapeutic music a standard of care.”

While music programs have always been a focus at The Ambassador, the use of the Music and Memory Program’s personalized playlists and interventions have been shown to also offset the use of pharmacologic interventions, reduce behaviors associated with sun downing, and decrease feelings of boredom, isolation, pain and depression. The Ambassador’s hope is to add to the research that is helping the healthcare industry understand how this form of personalized therapeutic music benefits people with cognitive impairment.

The Ambassador is located at 9 Saxon Wood Road, White Plains. For further information, contact Jean Dunphy at 914-428-3782, email jdunphy@theambassadorscarsdale.com or visit at www.theambassadorscarsdale.com.

Beneath the Helmet: From High School to the Home Front Shown in Mamaroneck

Westchester Jewish Center will hold a screening of Jerusalem University’s new film, Beneath the Helmet: From High School to the Home Front at the synagogue, 175 Rockland Avenue, Mamaroneck on Wednesday, April 13, 2016 at 7:30pm.

In the US, turning 18 means going to college or attending a gap-year program in Israel or elsewhere. In Israel, turning 18 means joining the army for three years. Israelis go from being students to soldiers in a matter of months.

Beneath the Helmet provides an intimate glimpse into the transitions, adjustments and challenges of five new recruits as they tell their stories, share their dreams and put their lives on the line to protect their families and their homeland. The 2014 film allows one to experience the awesome responsibility placed on soldiers and young commanders who are tasked with turning a bunch of kids into effective defenders of the Israeli people. Along the way, they learn about brotherhood, sacrifice and many other values that have informed the Jewish People for the last 3,500 years.

Both before and after the movie, Daniel Scopp, the son of Larchmont residents, Iris and Lee Scopp, will share his recent experience in basic training and serving as a paratrooper in the Israel Defense Forces (IDF).

Admission is $10. Proceeds (in excess of costs) will be donated to the Lone Soldier Center in Israel, a nonprofit organization dedicated to meeting the physical and social needs of soldiers serving without families in Israel. Light refreshments will be served. The event is sponsored the Westchester Jewish Center’s Israel Committee.

For more information and to RSVP, contact Linda Alpert Karell: Linda@alpertmediation.com.
Wishing you and your family a HAPPY PASSOVER

For Passover recipes visit stopandshop.com/recipes

Acme Smoked Nova Salmon
Previously Frozen, 4 oz. pkg. $5.99/ea.

Empire Kosher Boneless Skinless Chicken Breast $4.99/lb.

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Kosher for Passover Lilly's Brand Assorted Cookies $6.99/ea.

12 oz. pkg. Available in our Bake Shoppe.

Yehuda or Aviv Matzos 5 lb. pkg. $4.99

Manischewitz or Striet's Matzos 5 lb. pkg. $6.99

Kedem Grape Juice 64 fl. oz. btl. 2/$6

Kedem Apple Juice 64 fl. oz. btl. 2/$4

Mrs. Adler's Gefilte Fish Selected Varieties, 24 oz. cont. $2.99

Manischewitz Matzo Ball Mix or Matzo Ball Soup Mix 4.5 oz. pkg. 5/$5

Manischewitz Potato Pancake Mix All Varieties, 8 oz. pkg. 4/$5

Lieber's Macaroons 10 oz. pkg. 2/$4

Stop & Shop Brand Seltzer 1 Liter 33.8 fl. oz. btl. 2/$1

Manischewitz Tam Tams 8 oz. pkg. 2/$5

Glicks Potato Chips 6 oz bag 5/$5

Tabatchnik Chicken Broth Aseptic 32 oz. pkg. 2/$4

Manischewitz Egg Matzos 12 oz. pkg. 2/$5

Manischewitz Matzo Meal, Cake Meal, Farfel 14-16 oz pkg. 2/$5

Stop & Shop Honey Bear 12 oz. squeeze btl. $3.49

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New Grants Announced for Bringing Communities Together

UJA has announced that it is awarding grants in excess of $10,000 to local synagogues that use Baby Boomer volunteers in local outreach projects for those in the community who are most in need.

These grants are part of a pilot program of UJA-Federation of New York’s Engage Jewish Service Corps, whose mission it is for Boomers and those in the community to pair with organizations who need help with hundreds of projects in Westchester.

The recipients and projects awarded are: Larchmont Temple - Activities focused on arts and crafts, music and the environment with children living at The Coachman in White Plains; Congregation Sons of Israel, Briarcliff Manor; Temple Israel of New Rochelle - Monthly Mishpacha luncheons in which both Engage and CSI volunteers will bake and serve food for the elderly and participate in a June sing-along under the direction of Engage in Song; and project - Soup in a Jar project for the Ossining Food Pantry; Temple Israel of New Rochelle - 1st project - In March, sorting and packing for The Sharing Shelf teen girl clothing event which will be taking place in April; and project - volunteers participate in a June cooking class with New Rochelle restaurant while preparing food for Community Services Associates; and Temple Shaaray Tefila of Westchester, Bedford Corners/Greenburgh Hebrew Center, Dobbs Ferry/Temple Beth Abraham, Tarrytown/ Congregation Emanu-El, Rye-May 22nd Needlecrafts Mitzvah Day of knitting, crocheting and quilting to benefit vulnerable children, teens and adults in Israel.

Judy Bohr, Social Action chair at CSI Briarcliff said upon hearing that her synagogue was one of the recipients, "Receiving this money will make a big difference for two groups of people in need: Our monthly "Hamishpacha" luncheon program for seniors... Our guests look forward to this program as a way of socializing and learning each month. Because of this generous grant, we will also be able to provide "soup in a jar" to families who use the Ossining Food Pantry. Each week needy members of our community come to the Pantry to select groceries. Being able to provide the ingredients for a nutritious pot of soup will definitely help them feed their families. We are happy to be able to add project to our ongoing work with the Pantry. Thank you, Engage."

Deborah Blatt, Social Action Chair at Temple Israel of New Rochelle added, "...we are already working to build opportunities for our empty-nesters. We are excited that this grant will allow us to pair our synagogue’s community service work with these opportunities."

For more information on Engage Service Corp contact engage@rosenthaljcc.org or call Maida Silver at (914)741-0333 ext. 48.

Zygfrid Woloch Holocaust Haggadah Displayed at Temple Israel Center
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Wolloch Holocaust Haggadah Displayed at Temple Israel Center
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Zygfrid Woloch

Wolloch Holocaust Haggadah Displayed at Temple Israel Center
continued from page 1

goat dripping blood standing on the Ten Commandments to a dramatic depiction of the Red Sea, with red and white lightning bolts and Egyptian pyramids tossed around in flaming waters.

The worldwide odyssey of the Woloch Haggadah includes a presentation to President Ronald Reagan at the White House on July 24, 1985; a fundraiser for the International Society of Yad Vashem, exhibited at Yad Vashem and 9and Street Y; Boston, Columbia, Duke, Harvard, Stanford Universities; Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx, NY; Hartford Seminary; Hebrew Union College; Hillel, University of Colorado; University of Pennsylvania; Israel Museum; University of Vermont; Yeshiva University, Washington Heights; West Point and United States Holocaust Museum, Washington, D.C.

"My mother was 13 when the war broke out," Woloch noted. "She lived in Krakow and was a blonde, blue-eyed kid working in the underground and staying out of trouble. It helped that she spoke German. My father was 17. He came from Western Lvov, Ukraine and was taken to Siberia to work in the mines. His father was out of the war zone and sent packages to my father in Russia."

Zygfrid and Helene met in Vienna in 1946, marrying in America in 1947. They have four sons, Norbert, 65; Richard, 62, Michael, 57 and Daniel, 55. The exhibit will run until Thursday, May 5, Yom Ha-Shoah, at Temple Israel Center, 280 Old Mamaroneck Road, White Plains.
Deputy Assistant Secretary in the Department of Education under President Bill Clinton, Johnson is the first African-American honored with the NYS School Superintendent of the Year award.

Students from high schools in Westchester, Fairfield, and Putnam counties participated in 20 workshops that examine current human rights issues including child labor, human trafficking, Islamophobia, economic inequality, Sharia Law: justification of women’s enslavement, educating young women in poor countries, and LGBTQIA. The event was held at Manhattanville College in Purchase on March 17.

“The Human Rights Institute for High School Student Leaders encourages students to speak up and act against all forms of bigotry and prejudice,” says Julie Scallero, co-director of education for the Holocaust & Human Rights Education Center. “Student leaders will develop specific human rights-oriented social action projects for their schools and communities that will be held in conjunction with the annual “Upstanders’ Week” in May,” Scallero adds.

Westchester County Executive Rob Astorino presented Holocaust & Human Rights Education Center executive director Millie Jasper with a proclamation announcing that the County recognizes the week of May 23-27, 2016 as its official “Upstanders’ Week.”

Two awards were presented at the Human Rights Institute recognizing the work of individual students who distinguish themselves in service to their communities. The 2016 Neil Ginsberg Student “Upstander” Award was presented to Emily Schreer of Somers High School. The Richard A. Berman Leadership Award for Human Rights was presented to Laura Rodriguez and Olivia Shaw of Croton Harmon High School.


Transforming the Lives of Children through Music

9th Annual Outreach Benefit Concert
Sunday, April 17, 2016; 6PM  SUNY Purchase Recital Hall
Tickets: www.artscenter.org or 914-723-3540
Help send WJCS Amazing Afternoons students to summer camp.

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9th Annual Outreach Benefit Concert
Sunday, April 17, 2016; 6PM  SUNY Purchase Recital Hall
Tickets: www.artscenter.org or 914-723-3540
Help send WJCS Amazing Afternoons students to summer camp.

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Ongoing

The Spring Term for Westchester Adult Jewish Education, a program of the Westchester Jewish Council has begun. Visit vajc.org to register.

The 4th Annual Jewish River town Cultural Festival April 10-18 features eight events at various locations. The 4th Annual Jewish Cultural Festival takes place April 10-18 featuring eight events at various locations. April 10, 2-3pm, Passover Cooking with Joan Nathan, and 3:30-4:30, the history of Passover foods at 635 South Broadway, Tarrytown. April 17, 2:00-3:00pm, the first Saturday morning of the month, through June at 10:00am for young families. Call 609-9295 X 110 for details.

The JCC of Mid-Westchester, 999 Wilmot Road, Scarsdale is offering College Preparation Programs beginning in April. Contact Director Lisa Itzkowitz, at itzkowitzl@jccmw.org or call 472-7717 to learn more.

The JCC of Mid-Westchester, 999 Wilmot Road, Scarsdale, from 7:30-9pm, a lecture by Professor Buzjans on, “Elections 2016-America at the Polls”. For tickets and information visit www.jccmw.org or call 472-3990.

April

7 At the JCC Mid Westchester, 999 Wilmot Road, Scarsdale, from 7:30-9pm, a lecture by Professor Buzjans on, “Elections 2016-America at the Polls”. For tickets and information visit www.jccmw.org or call 472-3990.

April 20 at 6pm, Join Maccabi USA at the 20th Maccabiah Launch Gala honoring Ron Carner, President at Gotham Hall, 1356 Broadway at 36th Street, NYC, with remarks by Consul General of Israel, Ido Aharoni. Call 215-561-8900 to attend.

WICS is offering a multi-session parent behavior management group for parents of children with autistic spectrum or developmental disabilities, Tuesday mornings at 9:30am at WICS Hartsdale, 141 North Central Avenue, Hartsdale. Call 949-6761, ext. 408 to attend.

AJC Westchester/Fairfield will sponsor the 2016 Westchester Jewish Film Festival, March 30 to April 20 at The Jacob Burns Film Center, 382 Westchester Avenue, Pleasantville. Visit www.wjff.com for film times.

Every Thursday morning at 10:30am, Wendy Segal conducts a class called “A Taste of Talmud” discussing “How Jewish Thinking by our Sages Forms our Lives Today” at The Yorktown Jewish Center, 2666 Crompond Road, Yorktown Heights. For more information call 425-9724.

Every Monday at 9:30am, WICS offers Jewish Mindfulness Meditation at Temple Israel Center, 280 Old Mamaroneck Road, White Plains. Call 761-6060 to learn more.

Bet Torah Nursery School, 80 Smith Avenue, Mt. Kisco will host a Hands on Holidays Program on April 12 and a Gan Shabbat on the first Saturday morning of the month, through June at 10:30am for young families. Call 666-7995 X 110 for details.

At 4:30pm on April 17, Temple Sholom, 300 East Putnam Avenue, Greenwich Ct. will host “An Evening with Matisyahu”. For tickets contact gina.pernicano@templeholom.org or call 203-542-7169.

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The New Jewish Home will pay tribute to 8 New Yorkers over 80 years old at an Eight Over Eighty Benefit Gala on April 11, held at The Mandarin Oriental New York at 6:30pm. For information call 212-245-6570.

On May 19 at 6pm, The Annual AJC Westchester/Fairfield 50th Anniversary Gala will be held at the Ritz Carlton, White Plains, honoring E. Robert Goodkind, former AJC President. Call 948-5585 to RSVP.

On April 10, Famed Comedian Jay Leno will headline a Benefit Concert for United Hatzalah of Israel at the Jazz at Lincoln Center, Rose Hall at 7:30pm. To order tickets call 646-833-7108.

May

4 At 7pm, The Holocaust and Human Rights Education Center will sponsor Dr. Rafael Medoff discussing his book, “FDR and the Holocaust: A Breach of Faith” in the Village of Mamaroneck Court Room, 169 Mount Pleasant Avenue, Mamaroneck. For more information call 696-0791.

5 At the Garden of Remembrance, 148 Martine Avenue, White Plains, The Holocaust & Human Rights Education Center and Westchester Jewish Council holds the Annual Westchester Countywide Yom Hashoah Holocaust Commemoration from 12 noon to 1pm, featuring keynote speaker Stanley Berger, Holocaust survivor and a procession of Westchester’s rescued Holocaust Torahs. For additional information call 696-0783 or visit www.hhrwec.org.

12 The Westchester Business and Professional Division of the UJA Federation of New York will host their annual luncheon at Brue Brue Country Club, Purchase, honoring Ken Fuirst and David Glaser. RSVP to Norns at 396-2122.

16 At 7pm, Jewish History and Heritage Month will be celebrated with The Westchester Jewish Council and The Westchester County Board of Legislators in Chambers at The Michaelian Office Building, 148 Martine Avenue, 8th floor, White Plains. For questions call 948-3901.

Calendar of Events

On May 19 at 6pm, The Annual AJC Westchester/Fairfield 50th Anniversary Gala will be held at the Ritz Carlton, White Plains, honoring E. Robert Goodkind, former AJC President. Call 948-5585 to RSVP.
White Plains Ironman Athlete Honored at Leket Gala
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Barclays where he focuses on risk management for trading and structured products. A member of Hebrew Institute of White Plains, Rosen and his wife, Rena, have three children.

“Jason’s contribution to Leket – first as a volunteer and now through his generous donation – allows us to continue striving for our goal of eliminating food insecurity in Israel,” stated Leket Israel Founder and Chairman Joseph Gitler.

Goldberg, the other extraordinary honoree, teamed up with his schoolmate from the Moriah School of Englewood and parlayed their interest in music to record an album for his Bar Mitzvah (he is now 15) charity project and sold copies to raise money for the non-profit organization. He is currently in the ninth grade at The Frisch School in Paramus, New Jersey.

“Sam successfully collected $45,000 allowing Leket Israel to lease a 15-ton refrigerated truck for the year. Nowadays, 13 may still be considered a ‘young’ age, yet Sam has shown a commitment to Tikkun Olam that is the true sign of maturity,” said Gitler.

“Rosen and Goldberg both show us volunteers and donors in the U.S., all determined to help the needy in Israel and fight against food waste” he added.

Through the help of the American Friends of Leket Israel, in 2015 the organization managed to increase food rescue and distribution by 24 percent through the expansion of Project Leket (agricultural gleaning) and the meal rescue program, specifically from the Israel Defense Forces and the hotel sector. In 2016, Leket is initiating a five-year development plan that will lead to the rescue of 100 million pounds of food a year by 2020, more than tripling the current output.

Leket Israel-The National Food Bank is the leading food rescue non-profit organization that collects fresh, perishable food, which would otherwise be considered waste, from farms, hotels, military bases and catering halls in an effort to aid the quarter of the country’s population that lives below the poverty line. The organization works with 190 NGOs throughout the country to distribute nutritious food to over 140,000 Israelis each week. Last year alone, Leket collected over 25 million pounds of food for the needy.

For more information, visit www.leket.org/English.

When caring for the elderly, the quality of the facility and the staff is critical. That is especially true in nursing homes, where seniors are unable to live independently and tend to be more vulnerable. United Hebrew of New Rochelle has recently been recognized for providing superior care for its residents with two honors that affirm the eldercare center’s reputation as a haven where residents are safer and more comfortable than most other facilities, while enjoying a high quality of life. United Hebrew’s skilled nursing facility, located on its 7.5-acre campus of comprehensive care, received the American College of Healthcare Administrators (ACHCA) Eli Pick Facility Leadership award, while also earning a place in the top tier of New York State’s nursing home rankings.

United Hebrew was chosen for the Eli Pick award – an honor earned by fewer than 9 percent of nursing homes – based on several factors, including the low numbers of residents who report being in pain. Less than 1% of long-stay residents complained of pain in the first three quarters of last year, compared with 8.1% nationwide, for instance.

“Rosen and Goldberg both show us volunteers and donors in the U.S., all determined to help the needy in Israel and fight against food waste” he added.

United Hebrew of New Rochelle Recognized for Superior Care with National Leadership Award

“It is good to have the validation of respected third parties affirming what we have always felt – that the care we deliver is done in the best possible way,” said Rita Mabli, President and CEO of United Hebrew. “Our healthcare professionals provide superior round-the-clock attention so that we are always aware of what our residents need.”

The skilled nursing facility is part of United Hebrew’s campus of care, which includes Burke Rehabilitation at United Hebrew, Willow Towers Assisted Living, memory care, independent senior housing, and home care, was recognized for providing superior care to residents whether they are there for long or short stays.

Ms. Mabli said the honors were earned by the loyal and devoted staff members who put their hearts into caring for residents.

“It’s very important to me that the people who actually deliver the care be recognized for their passion for offering residents the highest quality of life possible,” said Mabli.

For more information, call (914) 632-2804 or visit www.uhgc.org.

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Rivertowns’ 4th Annual Jewish Cultural Festival

The 4th Annual Jewish Cultural Festival is taking place April 10 through April 18 throughout the Rivertowns, with locations from Lyndhurst Castle in Tarrytown to the Greenburgh Hebrew Center, in Dobbs Ferry. The eight events are purposefully diverse in nature.

“We’re showing one film, Dough, which people have been raving about across the country,” said festival co-coordinator Rabbi Lisa Izes, of Irvington, “but we also have Passover cooking with Joan Nathan, who is the doyenne of Jewish cooking. Our festival has music, art, Yiddish, and even a program for preschoolers.”

The Rivertowns’ Jewish Cultural Festival is taking place April 8-18, 2016.

The Festival Schedule includes the Rivertowns’ Jewish Festival at Lyndhurst Historic Trust, Sunday, April 10 from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.

The festival is sponsored by GreenStreet Solar Power, is supported by First Niagara Bank and UJA-Federation’s Westchester Program Services Cabinet. On the event committee, representing the Rivertowns’ Jewish Consortium, are festival coordinators Lisa Izes, and Lois Green of Hartsdale; Melissa Baer of Woodlands Community Temple, in Dobbs Ferry, and Rita Wexler of Tarrytown.

The Festival Schedule includes Joan Nathan on Jewish Cooking at Lyndhurst Historic Trust, Sunday, April 10 from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.

A lucky few will join Nathan for an intimate cooking demonstration focusing on a few recipes from her bestselling book, “Quiches, Kugels and Couscous: My Search for Jewish Cooking in France,” and an informal chat.


Chocolate Almond Souffle Cookies for Passover

Pareve - Yield About 24 Cookies

INGREDIENTS:
6 ounces good quality bittersweet chocolate
3 egg whites
1 Tablespoon vanilla sugar
1/2 cup sugar
3/4 cup chopped roasted almonds

1. Preheat oven to 350F. Line two cookie sheets with parchment paper.


3. Drop batter by teaspoons onto cookie sheets, leaving about 2 inches between cookies.

4. Bake for 10-12 minutes. After cookies cool, remove from cookie sheets with a metal spatula. (If cookies are still hot, they will break.)


$349.99 Complete Holiday Dinner Catered for 10 Guests

APPETIZER
- 10 pieces of Gefilte Fish
- 1 qt. Chopped Liver

SOUP
- 4 qts. Chicken Soup with 12 Matzo Balls (INCLUDES DESSERT!)

ENTREE
CHOOSE ONE
- 4 lbs. Sliced Brisket - Add $10
- 5 Roast Chickens
- Whole Roast Turkey (15 lb. avg.) - Add $10

SIDES
CHOOSE TWO
- Broccoli Amandine
- Matzo Farfel & Mushrooms
- Parsley Red Potatoes
- Sweet Potato Pudding
- Potato Pudding

EXTRAS
ALL INCLUDED
- 1 qt. Cranberry-Pineapple Compote
- 1 qt. Fresh-Cut Cole Slaw
- 1 qt. Carrot Tsimmes
- 1 1/2 lbs. Ben’s Macaroons
- Lg. Fruit Salad Bowl - Add $29.99

DESSERT

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Cookies for Passover

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3/4 cup chopped roasted almonds

1. Preheat oven to 350F. Line two cookie sheets with parchment paper.


3. Drop batter by teaspoons onto cookie sheets, leaving about 2 inches between cookies.

4. Bake for 10-12 minutes. After cookies cool, remove from cookie sheets with a metal spatula. (If cookies are still hot, they will break.)

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Repair the World Partners with HIAS for Passover Initiative

Addressing one of the world’s most urgent issues through its Passover Initiative of 2016, Repair the World in partnership with HIAS launched #SupportForRefugees. From April 15-30, Repair will direct #SupportForRefugees to build awareness, foster dialogue, and inspire action to provide sorely needed support to newly resettled refugees. As part of #SupportForRefugees, Repair the World’s ongoing Turn The Tables initiative also offers resources to facilitate substantive questions and dialogue on this issue within a Jewish framework during a Seder or Shabbat dinner.

“#SupportForRefugees is an opportunity to publicly offer our support and find meaningful opportunities to work with refugees as they finish one part of their difficult journey and begin their transition into local communities,” says David Eisner, President and CEO of Repair the World. “Together with HIAS, we can connect young adults to service opportunities with excellent local organizations that can really use the help in supporting refugees when they arrive. And, we cannot imagine a better time to launch this work than this holiday, as we reflect on the Passover story of liberation and the human struggle for freedom.”

“In a few weeks we will gather to tell—and even re-live—the story of our people’s escape from persecution and our wandering in the desert without a home. The parallels to today’s global refugee crisis are inescapable. We hope that the conversations that begin around the table will echo deeply in our souls and not only raise awareness, but also call today’s emerging Jewish leaders to action,” adds Rabbi Jennie Roseen, Vice President for Community Engagement at HIAS, the global Jewish nonprofit that protects refugees whose lives are in danger or after they are inescapably driven from their homes. “Together with HIAS, we can connect young adults to service opportunities with excellent local organizations that can really use the help in supporting refugees when they arrive. And, we cannot imagine a better time to launch this work than this holiday, as we reflect on the Passover story of liberation and the human struggle for freedom.”

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It seems like zombies and other undead creatures have made a major comeback in Hollywood but nothing is more frightening than waiting for the Angel of Death to pass over your house during Passover. This is especially true today, when most town boards frown on putting lamb's blood on your front door posts. All we have to rely on is a Mezuzah, but so far, we haven't seen any signs of these creatures making a comeback.

Once the threat of the Destroyer passes, you can take a deep breath, and concentrate on the more important aspects of the holiday. It's not the front door, but the kitchen that becomes the focal point at this time. As you prepare the seder, the kitchen takes on a focal point at this time. It's not the front door, but the kitchen that becomes the focal point at this time. As you prepare the seder, the kitchen takes on the role of the holiday. It's not the front door, but the kitchen that becomes the focal point at this time.

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Schechter Westchester Plans Creation of “Junior Inc” Makerspace at Lower School

Over the past few years, Solomon Schechter School of Westchester has taken important steps forward in the area of hands-on, creative STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics) education in all three divisions, as well as two successful robotics teams. Most notably has been the expansion of their High School program in Engineering and Entrepreneurship (E2), and the creation of the Idea Incubator or “INC,” a state-of-the-art makerspace that serves as the laboratory for the program at the Upper School campus in Hartsdale.

Schechter Westchester’s next major advance is the creation of a K-5 counterpart for this program at the Lower School campus in White Plains. Seed funding has been secured from the Center for Initiatives in Jewish Education to construct a “Junior INC,” which will open in September 2016. This facility, to be housed in the kindergarten building, will be the site of innovative engineering and design-thinking education in areas such as robotics, physical computing, and mechanics. As is the case with E2, the focus will be on the cultivation in students of creativity, collaboration, adaptive problem solving, and other crucial twenty-first-century skills. The program will be integrated into the regular school day as an element of the science curriculum across all grades.

The school is excited to announce that Dr. Glenn Simonelli will join the faculty as the Lower School’s coordinator of science and engineering. Presently a middle school science teacher and afterschool robotics instructor at the Dalton School in Manhattan, Dr. Simonelli will design the curriculum for the engineering program at Schechter Westchester and serve as the lead teacher. Dr. Simonelli holds four degrees from Indiana University: a doctorate in science education, an MS in geology, an MS in elementary education, and a BA in telecommunications, as well as teaching licenses in Indiana and New York, with endorsements in science education and gifted and talented education. Dr. Simonelli has also been active in the National Science Olympiad and in several programs run by NASA. He will also partner with the general studies teachers to coordinate curriculum and professional development for the broader science program. During the coming months, Dr. Simonelli will serve as a crucial partner in designing and equipping the Junior INC, joining Lower School Principal Ilanit Hoory, Lower School Director of Teaching and Learning Elise Goldman, and High School STEAM Coordinator and E2 teacher Dr. Danny Aviv. Also of particular note is the exciting fact that the project will be curated by Jacob Richman, a Schechter Westchester senior who has excelled in the E2 program for four years and will be undertaking this work as his twelfth-grade internship.

HAPPY Passover

CONGRESSMAN Eliot Engel

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2016 Westchester Celebration at Capitol Theatre

A record-breaking 550 guests joined UJA-Federation of New York for a performance by The Fab Faux at the historic Capitol Theatre in Port Chester. The event, which took place on Thursday, March 10, 2016, honored longtime leaders Jane and Norman Alpert of Harrison and Sherry and Robert Wiener of Mamaroneck.

Proceeds from this event, Westchester Celebration: All Together Now, benefitted UJA-Federation, which cares for New Yorkers of all backgrounds, and for Jews everywhere, connects people to their Jewish communities, and responds to crises — in New York, in Israel, and around the world.

The evening began with an elaborate buffet and cocktails in the historic venue. Guests then found their seats in the theater, where a screening of the 1978 film, *Rock of Ages*, was shown. After the screening, The Fab Faux took the stage at 8:45 p.m., when they brought the crowd to its feet. After the concert, guests enjoyed a meet and greet with band members at an after-party.

Lois Kohn-Claar and Gary Claar of Scarsdale, Bandi and Dan Kreisler of Pleasantville, and Harriet and Lenny Schleifer of Chappaqua served as event chairs.

Celebration Honors Rivertowns Jewish Consortium Leadership of the Future

The JCC on the Hudson’s 17th Annual Community Celebration, celebrating “Leadership of the Future,” and raising scholarship funds for deserving local families, will be held on May 17th, at Elmwood Country Club in White Plains. The evening will include cocktails, dinner, silent auction, and daytime golf and tennis options.

Being honored are Stacey Rosenkranz of the Greenburgh Presbyterian Church Center; Barry Gold of Rosh Pinah Chavurah of the Rivertowns; Gayle Aaron of Temple Beth Abraham; Rabbi Mara Young of Woodlands Community Temple; and Michael Maron, chair of the JCC on the Westchester Regional Board of Governors. The honorees were selected by their Rivertowns Jewish Consortium synagogues for bringing new energy and vision to their institutions.

“Traditionally, we select honorees who have given a great deal of money to the JCC, but this year we chose people who are leaders in their community — our community, Westchester, and the Jewish people — are better because of what they do.” Jane Alpert and Robert Wiener accepted the honor on behalf of their spouses, thanking the guests for their support of an organization they care about deeply.

“UJA-Federation helped us feel connected to a welcoming community that truly feels like family,” Jane Alpert said. “This is a network of people who share a commitment to a common cause, an understanding of the importance of tzedakah [charity], and a desire to do what they can to help those in need. This community is you.”

After thanking the guests, UJA-Federation’s Westchester Regional Chair Martine Fleishman of Harrison welcomed iconic D.J. Dennis Elsas, who worked with rock legends for 40 years and interviewed John Lennon on September 28, 1974. Elsas introduced The Fab Faux, who Rolling Stone magazine calls “the greatest Beatles cover band without the wigs.”

The Fab Faux took the stage at 8:45 p.m., when they brought the crowd to its feet. After the concert, guests enjoyed a meet and greet with band members at an after-party.

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Rabbi David Fox Sandmel Speaks on “Jews, Christians and Israel”

continued from page 1

United States, Sandmel stated that 10% of Evangelicals believe that Jews should return to prepare for the Second Coming of Christ and many see Israel as the sole Middle East democracy and bulwark against terrorism.

Rabbi Sandmel emphasized that Mainline Protestants have engaged in Jewish-Christian dialogue, especially after World War II but touched briefly on United Methodist Church’s support of Boycott, Divest and Sanctions (BDS), following in the footsteps of Presbyterian Church USA and United Church of Christ.

For more information visit www.JCContheHudson.org or call 366-7898, ext. 104.

Rabbi Mara Young

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Real Estate Matters: Staging Your Home to Sell

BY JOHN BAER, SRES

Do you want to sell your home quickly and for top dollar? Staging can help. Staging is presenting your home in its best and most appealing light to the majority of homebuyers. In theory, staging isn’t hard or costly, but in reality, many homeowners find it difficult because it’s often hard to see something objectively when you love it.

An easy way to see effective staged homes is to visit decorated models. Decorators model a house as if you were building it. Builders are willing to invest the cost because they understand just how well a staged home sells. You too can profit from this knowledge.

Basic Staging Rules
#1 – Clean. Your home must sparkle! To achieve this goal is often only feasible by hiring a cleaning crew. In fact, having a cleaning service return weekly while your house is for sale is probably a pretty good investment. Get your Windows professionally cleaned inside and out too.

#2 – Fix. Do you have a dripping faucet or a cracked tile? These will send the wrong message to potential buyers. Getting them fixed before you put your house on the market is a smart idea.

#3 – Eliminate Clutter. The “50% Rule” requires that you eliminate the clutter in your home by at least half. This may be the hardest rule of all! We love our clutter, it reflects our memories, hobbies, and values. But it doesn’t sell homes!

#4 – Executive Neutral. Neutral colors will sell. Try to convey an image of quality and neutrality.

#5 – Depersonalize. Remove the objects that your potential buyers won’t be able to identify with.

The Test
Wondering if something is acceptable staging? Visit a model home to see if they do it. For example, can you leave your high-end designer toaster out on your kitchen counter? Absolutely not! You won’t find a single toaster in the kitchens of a model home. Can you display an orchid plant on your kitchen counter? Yes. Model homes do!

“Curb appeal.” They say you can only make one first impression, and people usually form their first impression within 30 seconds. What potential buyers see when they drive up to your house will be their first impression. This is a good place to spend a little extra time and money. Plant flowers, trim bushes, weed, pick up leaves, repaint your front door, replace tarnished house numbers or a dented mailbox, get a brand-new neutral doormat, and park your old car somewhere else.

The first glimpse inside your home should give potential buyers positive, uplifting feelings. Kitchens sell homes, so the importance of making your kitchen appealing can’t be underestimated. Clean and de-clutter! Anything taking up counter or floor space must go. Anything displayed on the refrigerator must go. If your cabinets are old, consider re-facing them.

Deductibility of Medical and Long-Term Care Expenses

BY BERNARD A. KROOKS, CERTIFIED ELDER LAW ATTORNEY

As you have likely heard, according to Internal Revenue Service (IRS) rules, certain medical expenses are deductible, but only the unreimbursed amounts can be deducted; however, in this case, there may be no deduction for room and board. Keep in mind, however, that if any of these costs are being reimbursed to you through long-term care insurance or otherwise; only the unreimbursed amounts would qualify for the deduction. Speaking of long-term care insurance, a portion of the premiums you pay may be deductible as a medical expense (subject to the 10% or 7.5% floor). The amount that is deductible depends upon your age at the close of the taxable year. The older you are, the more the IRS allows you to deduct.

Qualified long-term care expenses and premiums for long-term care insurance may also be included in the definition of medical expenses. Qualified long-term care expenses are necessary to prevent or delay the need for institutional (nursing home) care and include the cost of care services that are required by a chronically ill individual and provided pursuant to a plan of care prescribed by a licensed health care practitioner.

To be considered “chronically ill,” a doctor must certify that the individual cannot perform at least two activities of daily living (continence, toileting, eating, bathing, dressing, and transferring) without substantial assistance for at least 90 days or requires supervision due to a cognitive impairment (dementia or Alzheimer’s disease).

Many of our clients or their relatives are in an assisted living facility. One of the most common questions we get from clients is how much of the cost of assisted living can you deduct if you qualify as chronically ill? Typically you cannot deduct the costs of room and board unless the room and board may be considered part of the medical care. For instance, if someone in assisted living as a result of a diagnosis of dementia who needs supervision due to cognitive impairment, room and board are deductible, because they are a necessary part of the medical treatment of the disease. If you are not chronically ill, you can still deduct a portion of your assisted living fee attributable to medical care. Your facility should be able to provide you with information each year as to the portion of the fees you have paid that are attributable to medical care.

What if you are receiving qualified long-term care services at home? If you qualify as chronically ill, the costs of those in-home services can also be deducted; however, in this case, there will be no deduction for room and board. Keep in mind, however, that if any of these costs are being reimbursed to you through long-term care insurance or otherwise; only the unreimbursed amounts would qualify for the deduction. Speaking of long-term care insurance, a portion of the premiums you pay may be deductible as a medical expense (subject to the 10% or 7.5% floor). The amount that is deductible depends upon your age at the close of the taxable year. The older you are, the more the IRS allows you to deduct.

Want more information? Take a look at IRS Publication 502. While we may not be able to do much about our increasingly high medical expenses, it certainly helps to know that some of them may provide a tax benefit.

Bernard A. Krooks, Esq., is a founding partner of Littman Krooks LLP and has been honored as one of the “Best Lawyers” in America for each of the last seven years. He is past President of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys (NAELA) and past President of the New York Chapter of NAELA. Mr. Krooks has also served as chair of the Elder Law Section of the New York State Bar Association. He has been selected as a “New York Super Lawyer” since 2006. Mr. Krooks may be reached at (914) 684-2100 or by visiting the firm’s website at www.littmankrooksny.com.

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John E. Baer, SRES, DPA is a NYS licensed real estate salesperson associated with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Westchester Properties of Scarsdale and Larchmont. He can be reached for questions at 914/860-6086 or at 914/844-2059. His website is www.WestchesterHomes.info.
Transforming the Lives of Children Through Music

On Sunday, April 17th, the Church of St. James the Less with The Children's Aid Society, Westchester Reform Temple (WRT) and The Canadian Chamber Orchestra of New York City (CCO/NY) will present their 9th Annual Children's Benefit Concert entitled “The American Experience”. This concert unites different religious and musical groups to benefit at-risk children from Westchester Jewish Community Services’ (WJCS) Amazing Afternoons Program at the Edward Williams School in Mount Vernon.

The concert will be held at 6:00 p.m. in The Recital Hall of the State University of New York at Purchase.

This unique concert is a joint effort primarily of the Episcopal and Jewish congregations as well as other religious and community groups in Scarsdale. The eight previous concerts have netted over $350,000 and have sent over 450 disadvantaged children from Edward Williams School for seven weeks to the Wagon Road Camp in Chappaqua. 

WJCS is Westchester’s most comprehensive not-for-profit, non-sectarian human services agency. Amazing Afternoons, under the umbrella of WJCS, is an after-school program that serves approximately 125 students from first through fifth grade. The program offers a range of activities to support academic achievement and to promote positive emotional and social development.

Justin Bischof, Artistic Director/Conductor of CCO/NYC and Co-Founder of the Benefit Concert, will conduct such audience favorites as Bernstein's Overture to Candide, Copland's Fanfare for the Common Man, Bischof's The Last Words of David, Barber's Knoxville: Summer of 1915 and Dvorak's sublime Symphony No. 9 “New World”. International soprano Sky Ingram of the Royal Opera House, London will make her CCO/NYC debut in the Barber.

Cantor Jill Abramson, Senior Cantor of WRT, will sing Zion's Wall by Aaron Copland and Avenu Malkenu by Max Janowskis.

The Children's Choir of the Edward Williams School, along with children from St. James the Less and Westchester Reform Temple will join forces (60 children) along with the audience to sing several favorites including The Battle Hymn of the Republic and This Little Light of Mine to close the concert.

"Musically, these concerts are of exceptional quality", added conductor Justin Bischof. "I am honored that we can create a collaborative classical concert while helping those in our larger community who need it so desperately. I am proud of all of the hard work and dedication of everyone involved who make this event such a success every year."

The primary beneficiaries are the children of the WJS' Amazing Afternoons Program in Mount Vernon attending The Children's Aid Society Wagon Road Camp in Chappaqua. During the summer months when the Afternoon Program is not in session, the camp experience provides a desperately needed safe, productive environment that the children's families cannot provide. This benefit enables them to attend this exceptional camp where they can participate in craft programs, nature study, athletic pursuits all while building confidence and self-esteem.

The Children's Aid Society is a private, child welfare nonprofit in New York City, founded in 1833. Their mission is to help children in poverty to succeed and to thrive. To purchase tickets, visit www.artscenter.org (go to Rental Events) or call 914.251.6200. Tickets are $1,000, $500, $250, $150 and $75 and are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

For more information and/or to make a donation, contact Benefit Chair Dorothy E. Yewer at 914.256.2027.

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Temple Sholom Celebrates Centennial Anniversary

Temple Sholom congregants, friends and community members celebrated the Greenwich synagogue's Centennial Anniversary this winter with an extravagant “Great Gatsby” inspired Gala. The event, planned by Temple Sholom members Travis Azous, Alexandra Hochman and Alisa Savitz, welcomed more than 300 guests from a wide variety of generations and featured a special historical documentary and a highly-successful Silent Auction.

“Temple Sholom’s Centennial is a special opportunity for remembering all that came before us, what has changed and what’s exactly the same,” said Rabbi Mitchell M. Hurvitz. “Even more important than looking back at this milestone anniversary, is our opportunity to travel together into the future as we dream about what we can yet become over the next 100 years for our local Jewish Community.”

In 1916, ten Jewish families - made up mostly of shopkeepers and merchants - came together to create a spiritual home of their own. They founded what was then called the Greenwich Hebrew Institute and held Shabbat Services in a small house on East Elm Street. A growing community of ninety congregant families prompted the move in 1935 to “Putnam Hill,” Temple Sholom’s current location. A new building had then erected in 1950 to welcome Religious School classes (which had been previously hosted by First Presbyterian Church) and the Heritage Pavilion was constructed in 2000 to provide the program with its new classrooms and additional educational facilities, now used for the Selma Maisel Nursery School. Today, Temple Sholom serves as a spiritual home to more than 650 families and plays an important role in the greater Jewish community in Greenwich, CT.
The Jewish Board’s 2016 Spring Gala Honors Longtime Supporters

The Jewish Board of Family and Children’s Services (The Jewish Board), New York State’s largest human services nonprofit, will honor longtime supporters Erica Schwartz, Fred and Ann Yerman (seen in photo), and Erica Steinman at the organization’s 2016 Spring Gala on Thursday, April 7, 2016, at The Plaza Hotel. The event is expected to attract more than 350 guests and raise more than $1 million for The Jewish Board.

Nursery School Holds Pajama Drive

Three-year-olds at the Temple Sholom Selma Maisel Nursery School, Greenwich, CT displaying new pajamas collected during the month of March for The Pajama Program, a non-profit organization that provides “Good Nights” to children living in group homes, shelters and temporary housing facilities.

For Chased Project, Local Student Sells Raffle Tickets to Benefit Shaare Zedek Medical Center

In honor of his upcoming bar mitzvah, Gideon Askowitz, 12, of White Plains, and a student at SAR, is collecting $18,000 toward toys and educational materials for children undergoing treatment at the Wilf Children’s Hospital of Shaare Zedek Medical Center in Jerusalem.

Westchester Leaders Attend FIDF National NY Gala

Friends of the Israel Defense Forces (FIDF) supporters from Westchester attended the FIDF National NY Gala Dinner at New York’s landmark Waldorf Astoria on March 15, raising a record-breaking $33.1 million to support educational and well-being programs for the brave soldiers of the Israel Defense Forces (IDF).

The gala featured a keynote address by Israel’s minister of defense and former vice prime minister, Moshe Yaalon, and honored business magnates, philanthropists and steadfast supporters of Israel, Dr. Miriam and Sheldon G. Adelson.

A 37-year veteran of the IDF, Yaalon, known as “Bogie,” began his service in the Paratroopers Brigade and became a commander in Israel’s most elite special operations unit, Sayeret Matkal. Yaalon rose through the ranks, holding high-level command positions including chief of Israel’s military intelligence, head officer in charge of Israel’s Central Command, and chief of the general staff of the IDF.

In the gala’s keynote address, Yaalon said, “Even as Israel has become a global leader in so many fields, we are still embroiled in the battle for our independence. We are surrounded by several nations and entities that have yet to accept the existence of a Jewish homeland—we strive for peace while they strive for war.”

Among the honored guests were Israel’s Ambassador to the U.N., Danny Danon, and Consul General of Israel in New York Ido Aharoni.

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