

AROUND THE FIVE TOWNS

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the library, and Rabbi Dovid Fohrman, recipient of the Scholar Author Award, used it as a springboard for his inspirational talk about the important role of books as bringing communities together.



Levi Yitzchak Library benefit awardees



LY Library volunteer extraordinaire Wendy Boran

The night was an incredible success. Volunteers Wendy Boran and Devorah Taitz served as the welcoming committee and made sure each person left with Rabbi Fohrman's latest book, *The Exodus You Almost Passed Over*. Tziporah Sax did an unbelievable job turning the library into a nightlife hotspot with beautiful floral arrangements from Alla of Jerusalem Florist and lighting from Event Planner NY. Behind the scenes, making sure that the evening would go as smoothly as it did, was the library's dedicated staff—Bracha Margolin has been with the library from its inception, Devorah Drizin and Liba Spalter.

You'll have to wait until next year to enjoy this unique experience again. But no need to wait to make your appreciation for the library felt, both in writing and financially. Visit LYLibrary.org today. ❖

14th Annual Marion & Aaron Gural JCC Gala

Four of the community's most active and dedicated members were recognized for their outstanding support of the Marion & Aaron Gural JCC at the 14th annual fundraising dinner on June 2. The gala, which has become a much anticipated and well-attended event, was held at Temple Israel of Lawrence and catered by Foremost Ram Caterers.

For her steadfast leadership of the Village of Cedarhurst and the JCC, Myrna Zisman was honored with the JCC's esteemed Leadership Award. Myrna has been a village trustee since 2006. She worked on Governor George Pataki's first campaign for governor at the request of former U.S. Senator Alfonse

and many organizations throughout the greater Five Towns.

Mimi Weinerman, who was born and raised in the Five Towns, was recognized with the Volunteer Award. Mimi is a compassionate volunteer at the JCC where she works tirelessly to lend a helping hand, offer a kind word, and put a smile on the faces of so many JCC participants, especially the older adults who participate in a variety of social and recreational programs where Mimi volunteers her time. Mimi is also an integral part of the Rina Shkolnik Kosher Food Pantry where she can often be found greeting clients and helping to organize the pantry's vast inventory.

"We are proud to recognize such wonderful community members like Myrna, Anita, Andrew, and Mimi who give so much of their time and put forth an extra effort in helping make the Marion & Aaron Gural JCC the special place that it is," said Joel A. Block, executive director of the Marion & Aaron Gural JCC. "Every year our gala brings together a cross-section of the Five Towns in an evening of camaraderie and community pride."

The Marion & Aaron Gural JCC is a beneficiary agency of the United Jewish Appeal (UJA) Federation of New York, a member agency of the United Way of Long Island and an affiliate of the Five Towns Community Chest. It serves the communities of Cedarhurst, East Rockaway, Far Rockaway, Hewlett, Inwood, Lawrence, Lynbrook, Malverne, Valley Stream, West Hempstead, and Woodmere. For more information, please contact the JCC at 516-569-6733, or visit www.guraljcc.org. ❖

The Magic Of Memoir Night



Memoir Night at Shulamith

Under the guidance of teachers Mrs. Yaffa Schreier and Mrs. Amy Small, fifth-grade students at Shulamith Middle Division spent the better part of the year writing, revising, and editing a series of narratives about themselves. As they worked on their memoirs, the girls had the opportunity to hone their writing and editing skills.

On Wednesday evening, June 8, the fifth-graders proudly presented their magnificent memoirs to their parents, grandparents, and classmates. Shulamith is so proud of the young authors, who will surely treasure their special scrapbooks for years to come. ❖

Halachah Panel At Shulamith

As a culmination to a year of study of the laws of Shabbat, seventh-grade *halachah* teachers Morah Alisa Schreier and Mrs. Yaffa Schreier organized a panel of three *talmidei chachamim* to answer students' questions about the practical observance of the laws of Shabbat. The rabbis showed incredible erudition and sensitivity and demonstrated to the students the importance of having a local Orthodox rabbi to whom they can pose any questions they may have about *halachah*. Thanks to Rabbi Shay Schachter, Rabbi Aryeh Lebowitz, and Rabbi Yaakov Trump for the time and talent they offered to the students. ❖

Young Gan Chamesh Graduates Earn Their Letters

The children of the Gan Chamesh Early Childhood Center at Chabad of the Five Towns finished off the school year with a beautiful graduation parade along Maple Avenue. Gan Chamesh believes that teaching young children is similar to writing with a quill on a fresh piece of parchment. Children's minds are like blank canvases and the impressions made on them are lasting and permanent. Gan Chamesh has the privilege of introducing young students to the precious letters of the *alef-beis*. Each day, children are immersed in learning the *alef-beis* in a multisensory, hands-on way, and this spectacular parade was a celebration of all their accomplishments.

The graduation parade centered around an elaborate sculpture of three *alef-beis* letters. Each of the children beamed as they displayed a banner of

the *alef-beis* letter with which their own Hebrew names begin. The children marched to the lively music of Mr. Gary Wallin of The Gary Wallin Orchestra. The large crowd filled with parents, grandparents, siblings, friends, and extended family cheered as the proud graduates marched with shining smiles, in brightly colored T-shirts. The parade represented the culmination of a year filled with meaningful *alef-beis* learning. Each child received a special Gan Chamesh *alef-beis* book featuring adorable pictures of the students. It serves as a testament to the *alef-beis* knowledge the children have gained, and it