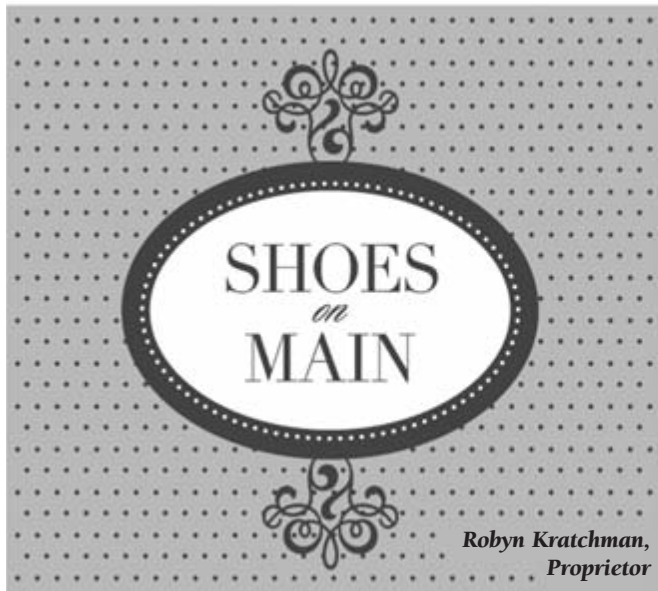


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## Domestic violence a focus of JFCS during October

By SHERRY WOLKOFF

JFCS communications coordinator

In observance of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Samost Jewish Family and Children's Service has expanded its Project S.A.R.A.H. (Stop Abusive Relationships at Home) section of its website to include more details about its services, as well as information and resources for victims and their loved ones.

Lisa Weissbach, coordinator of Project S.A.R.A.H., defines domestic abuse as "a pattern of coercion used to achieve power and control over a partner. It encompasses physical, sexual, emotional, verbal and financial abuse." Domestic abuse cuts across all ethnic, religious, educational and socio-economic levels.

Project S.A.R.A.H. offers counseling, support groups, resource information, and other forms of assistance to victims of domestic abuse and their families. In recent months, JFCS has experienced more than a 200% increase in demand for domestic abuse services, as well as a 250% increase in the number of clients entering the program.

The program also includes a "Building Healthy Relationships" outreach program at area schools, synagogues and parent organizations to promote healthy dating relationships among teens and to raise awareness of abusive teen relationships and sexual harassment. Over the past four years, JFCS has presented workshops to over 5,000 students at area high schools and middle schools.

For more information about either of these programs, call Project S.A.R.A.H. coordinator Lisa Weissbach at 778-7775. For information on the JFCS website, go to [www.jfcssnj.org](http://www.jfcssnj.org), click on Programs and Services, click counseling, then click Project S.A.R.A.H. ▲

## Festival

(From page 12)

considered to be one of the most influential living philosophers. He offers a solution for eradicating world poverty. Paul Krugman, a 2008 Nobel Prize winner who is among the 50 most influential economists in the world today and author of "The Return of the Depression Economics and the Crisis of 2008," will examine the conditions that led up to the current financial crisis and the steps that must be taken to turn around a world economy sliding into a deep recession.

Share some laughs with Michael Wex, whose books "How to be a Mentsh (and Not a Schmuck)" offer a colorful and uncensored guide to the fluent use of Yiddish.

Tickets are now on sale at the Katz JCC or by going to the JCC website at [www.katzjcc.org](http://www.katzjcc.org). ▲

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