Area students attend StandWithUs confabs

By Tori Bergel
Advocate staff

LOS ANGELES — Seven Boston area students flew here to take part in StandWithUs’ High School Internship and Emerson Fellowship training conferences on Aug. 4-8 and Aug. 12-15, respectively.

Beginning in 2007, SWU started the Emerson Fellowship as a way for college students to educate their campuses about Israel and speak out against BDS and other anti-Israel rhetoric. SWU started the high school internship in 2012 to give high school leaders the skills to bring Israel education to their communities.

The summer conferences marked the inaugural event for the new See STANDWITHUS, Page 4

Paige Crane stars as the lead character in the musical “Esther: For Such a Time as This,” making its world debut at the Groton-Dundstable Center for the Performing Arts on Sept. 20. See Page 20.

Hebrew College raises $2 million

NEWTON — Hebrew College here announced 1,450 donors contributed $1.9 million to the college’s annual fund this past year. The money will go toward the college’s operating budget.

“We are very excited about and grateful for the support,” said President Rabbi Sharon Cohen Anisfeld. “It’s what it takes to run a school.”

Rabbi Anisfeld, who took office last year, took on a few major projects, including launching the Strategic Planning Committee to ensure the future of the institution.

She now looks to put the first phase of that process into motion, by “recommitting” to the “two core aspects” of the college’s educational mission: its graduate leadership programs for rabbis, cantors and educators, and its community education programs for youth, adults and professionals.

“One of the things we are working on is greater integration and synergy, both internally and with partners,” said Rabbi Anisfeld.

She gave an example of the college’s new innovation lab, headed by Rabbi Dr. Jeffrey Summit.

“It fits into this broader picture of drawing creativity and energy from our students, alumni, faculty and graduate programs, and bringing that to be of service to the greater community,” Rabbi Anisfeld said.

— Heather Almerio

Joan Nathan is still cookin’

By Judith Manelis
Advocate correspondent

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — Joan Nathan, a native of Providence, R.I., can still do it, even for an interview. She is just too busy living an amazing life that has taken her around the world and resulted in the authorship of nine cookbooks.

“I feel lucky with my life. I am still working and have no plans to stop,” she said recently in a phone interview just before a morning tennis game with friends.

Nathan’s original goal was a career in government, but even as a child she wanted to be a chef.

“Her father was an executive in foreign service and they were constantly moving,” said her mother, who had to learn to cook for the family. Prior to that, the family employed a cook. An aunt who liked to make cookies introduced her to the cuisine of her native Germany.

It wasn’t until Nathan landed in Israel after completing degrees at the University of Michigan and Harvard that she decided to take cooking seriously.

— Judith Manelis

