

THE SHOFAR

Adar B/Nisan, 5771 • April, 2011
Volume 16, Number 7
JEWISH FEDERATION OF GRAND RAPIDS
www.jewishgrandrapids.org



13th Anniversary
Exciting Raffle
prizes Every Night!



JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL OF GRAND RAPIDS

May 1-5,
2011

Sunday, May 1st

LITTLE TRAITOR

DINNER AT THE CINEMA

LA RAFLE (THE ROUNDUP)

Monday, May 2nd

FOR MY FATHER

Tuesday, May 3rd

ANITA

Wednesday, May 4th

MIDDLE EASTERN DINNER

PRECIOUS LIFE

Thursday, May 5th

THE MATCHMAKER

Admission: \$ 6.00 per film

Flex pass tickets (eight admissions): \$ 36.00 available
at the Jewish Federation until April 28th

*This program is sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids, Celebration!
Cinema, the Rosenzweig-Coopersmith Foundation and private donors.*

See information on pages 7, 8, 9 & 10

FEDERATION NEWS . . .



Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids

2727 Michigan NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49506
p. 616-942-5553
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info@jfgr.org
www.jfgr.org

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One Community

Interim Executive Director's Letter April 2011

I would like to talk with you this month about a recent speaker at Calvin College named Mazin Qumsiyeh. While this letter is about the circumstances surrounding this particular event, my hope is to engage you in a broader conversation about a familiar issue, though not necessarily in the Grand Rapids area: the rise of anti-Semitic rhetoric on college campuses in the guise of pro-Palestinian speech.



In late February our office was alerted by the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) of the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit to Mr. Qumsiyeh's planned visit to Grand Rapids as part of a lengthy book tour around the U.S. We were directed to an ADL 'backgrounder' on him (google "ADL" and "Qumsiyeh" to find it), and were immediately concerned not only by his extreme views on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict (e.g. he's a proponent of the so-called "one-state solution" which if implemented would lead directly to the end of Israel as a Jewish state), but also his propensity to use anti-Semitic rhetoric in his speeches. Mr. Qumsiyeh also employs familiar anti-Semitic stereotypes such as Jewish or Zionist control of the media and the U.S.

We decided to reach out to the Calvin representative listed as the book tour contact to share the ADL information and discuss our concerns. After an initial polite exchange and an offer to look at the ADL website, we were turned away without explanation. The Calvin representative said the faculty bringing in this speaker had no interest in discussing this further (although she later offered to discuss it *after* the event), even though we highlighted Mr. Qumsiyeh's track record of comparing Israel to Nazi Germany, anathema to Jews everywhere and in my view, anti-Semitic on its face. We had wanted to ask Calvin why it would give such a speaker a forum at all, and ask it to reconsider its invitation to him.

Now, you may wonder, why not let him talk and then ask Calvin to bring in a pro-Israeli speaker? After all, the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution is near and dear to our hearts, underpins the tradition of free speech on college campuses in America, and is close to sacrosanct. But respected institutions in civilized society *need* not offer all manners of speech a public hearing. Simply put, promoters of hate speech should be told they are not welcome. Imagine if a Calvin professor proposed a speaker on race relations in America who was known to use the 'n-word' and other racial epithets and stereotypes in describing African-Americans. How would Calvin react to that proposal? Another representative at Calvin admitted to me that such a person would never be invited to its campus. Then why not shun a person who has a documented track record of using anti-Semitic language as well?

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**Federation is now on Facebook!
Become a Fan of Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids**

OUR MISSION

Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids supports cultural, social and financial needs of Jews locally, in the State of Israel, and around the world.

This mission is accomplished by providing services to the community and through fundraising and allocation efforts.

FEDERATION NEWS . . .

Make the Most of your Campaign 2010 Dollars **Young Leadership Challenge Grant**

If you are 40 years of age or younger, any new gift or increase over last year's gift will be matched dollar for dollar, up to \$5,000, thanks to the generosity of the Hurwitz and Thodey families through the Hy and Greta Berkowitz Foundation.

The Louis and Helen Padnos Foundation Challenge Grant

Any new gift and any increase up to \$2,500 to last year's gift will be matched, dollar for dollar, up to \$20,000, thanks to the generosity of the Padnos Foundation.

Please help us meet our goals and raise this additional \$25,000 in challenge grants.

**The Jewish Federation now accepts
Discover credit card along with
Master Card and Visa**



ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids
2727 Michigan NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546
(616) 942-5553 email: info@jfgr.org
www.jfgr.org

Live Generously.

Name _____

Address _____

Please consider a 10% increase

**Please make your
gift today!**



Please cut out this pledge card, fill it in and send it to the Federation office.

I HEREBY PLEDGE TO THE FEDERATION ANNUAL CAMPAIGN THE SUM OF: \$ _____

Donor's Signature

Method of Payment: Check Stock
Please charge my: Mastercard Visa Discover

Card Number

Exp. Date

FEDERATION NEWS . . .

Interim Executive Director's Letter continued from page 2 . . .

It is noteworthy that, while our Jewish community has had a warm relationship with Calvin on various cultural programs including literature and music, we have had disagreements previously with college officials on similar matters to the current question. As I write this letter, we have requested a meeting in order to begin a dialogue with senior Calvin officials about anti-Semitic rhetoric. I have suggested that we discuss this issue in the context of the "Healing Racism" program designed for both leaders and interested members of our greater Grand Rapids community. The leaders at Calvin are quite familiar with it, as I am sure some of you are as well. As the title of the program infers, its focus is on black-white relations and considers racism a disease that requires extensive dialogue across racial lines to treat. When I attended the program over ten years ago, we watched a film about Henry Ford. It was not about cars. The anti-Semitic background of Mr. Ford was unknown to every other person in my Healing Racism group, all of whom were not Jewish. This taught me a lesson – we should not assume non-Jewish members of our greater community have an awareness of anti-Semitism as we do. My hope is that, in the spirit of Healing Racism, we will be able to connect with Calvin's leaders about our concerns regarding anti-Semitic hate speech in a manner that we have been unable to accomplish in the past.

This is where we stand with Calvin, and I will keep you informed about its leadership's response to our request for dialogue. Now, I would like to make a request of you, my fellow members of the West Michigan Jewish Community. While temporarily in my current leadership position in our community, I am only one voice, filtered by my own experiences and biases. To address this very serious issue in the right way, I need to be your representative and hear your collective voices on this question. What is your reaction to this situation? Join us on the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids Facebook page where excerpts of this letter are posted or, if you would prefer, call or write to me directly at mike@jfgr.org. As you can tell, I feel passionately about this issue and, no matter whether you agree or disagree with me, your opinion matters.

In sum, my view is this issue boils down to a question of free speech versus hate speech on college campuses. As suggested earlier, I am proposing that anti-Semitic hate speech (and for that matter, anti-Muslim hate speech, too) be shunned voluntarily by colleges and universities. When the Detroit JCRC representative initially contacted us, he mentioned his concern that Mr. Qumsiyeh, as ADL documents, "crosses the line." Admittedly, where the line lies between free speech and hate speech is a difficult judgment

to make. Former U.S. Supreme Court Justice Potter Stewart once famously stated, "I know it when I see it," when discussing another free speech issue (pornography), and perhaps that's how such judgments in the case of free versus hate speech must be made as well. Nonetheless, when Israel is equated to Nazi Germany, "I see it" quite clearly.

This month, as we recall our history from slavery to freedom, I bid you best wishes for a happy and healthy Passover! And I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Mike Presant

P.S. I attended Mr. Qumsiyeh's speech, which proved to be a disappointment. In brief, it was a 130 year history lecture on Palestinian popular resistance presented using the classic propaganda technique of an Alice-in-Wonderland, upside down narrative (e.g. were you aware this resistance has always been nonviolent?). Of note, his anti-Semitic rhetoric was toned down, which was not surprising since he was aware we were watching him, though he did make some noticeable allusions to Jewish noses and one-sided Western media. He was neither inciteful nor insightful.

**On the second Tuesday
of every month,
families depend on food
donations from the
Food Bank at
Temple Emanuel.**

Drop off food donations between
10am - 2pm Monday through Friday
at Temple Emanuel

**or mail checks payable to
Temple Emanuel and specify the
donation is for the Food Bank.**

Temple's Address:
1715 E. Fulton, Grand Rapids, MI 49503

SENIOR PROGRAMMING . . .

LUNCH BUNCH

Monday
April 11

11:30 a.m. at

Rose's
on Reeds Lake

550 Lakeside Dr. SE
Grand Rapids, MI

Cost: \$8.00

Please RSVP to Ann at 942-5553
by Thursday, April 7

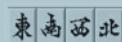
Transportation is available!



Senior Mah Jongg

Anyone interested in learning and/or playing Mah Jongg,
please contact Aleta Katonak, either by email –
alekatsr4u@juno.com (preferable)
or by phone – 281-5917.

These are daytime lessons. Games are at no cost. Then, of course, if there is anyone looking for a game, join the fun!



MahJ into the new year 2011!!!

Transportation is available.

Road Tripping to Detroit

Tuesday, April 5, 2011

Leaving Ahavas Israel's parking lot
at 9:00 a.m.

Returning to Ahavas Israel
at approximately 5:00 p.m.

Cost: \$10.00

First stop will be in West Bloomfield for lunch at Deli Unique (Lunch will be at your own expense.) We will then proceed to Farm Fresh Market in Oak Park for Passover shopping.

Please call 942-5553 ext. 206
to RSVP.

~ Save the Dates ~ Lunch Bunch

Tuesday, May 17, 2011

(Heritage Restaurant)

Monday, June 6, 2011

Location to be announced.

Jewish Theatre Events

Sunday, May 8th

BITTER FRIENDS

Sunday, June 26th

45 SECONDS FROM BROADWAY

Dinner and a Movie

Wednesday, May 4, 2011

Dinner: 6 p.m., Cost \$8.00

Middle Eastern Cuisine

in Wave Room at Celebration! Cinema North

Movie: 7:30 p.m., Cost \$6.00

Precious Life

Transportation Available

Please call Ann to RSVP
942-5553, ext. 206

COMMUNITY NEWS . . .

JEWISH OVERNIGHT SUMMER CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS!

Do you know a child who plans to attend a Jewish summer camp?

They may qualify for a camp scholarship through the David and Susan Samrick Youth Scholarship Fund.

Now is the time to apply for financial assistance!

Applications are available upon request, and are due now.

Please contact the Jewish Federation at 942-5553.

All applications will be reviewed by a Scholarship Committee and held in the strictest confidence

Butterfly Project



The Jewish Federation is partnering with the Grand Rapids Children's Museum in the Butterfly Project. The purpose of this project is to collect 1.5 million handmade butterflies to memorialize the number of Jewish children killed during the Holocaust.

This will become an exhibit in 2013 in The Holocaust Museum in Houston, TX.

Please check the Children's Museum website for information on requirements and ideas at www.grcm.org or the Holocaust Museum www.hmh.org.

There are drop off boxes at JFGR, UJS, Temple, Ahavas Israel, and the Chabad House.

**For additional information contact Sari at 942-5553;
Email: sari@jfgr.org.**

Jewish Community Business Forum

You are invited to network with other Jewish professionals and business owners in the Grand Rapids community.

Location: El Barrio, 545 Michigan NE

Date/Time: Thursday, April 14th, 12 - 1

(Lunch is at your own expense)

This is a great opportunity to tell others in the community what you do! In addition to the normal networking, there will be a book discussion of Keith Ferrazzi's "Never Eat Alone"



GRCC Spectrum Theater
160 Fountain St. NE

BITTER FRIENDS

by Gordon Rayfield



Tickets:
616-234-3946
or WWW.JTGR.ORG
Season Subscribers beginning April 11 – All others beginning April 18

APRIL 28 - MAY 8, 2011
THURSDAYS & SATURDAYS AT 8 P.M.
SUNDAYS AT 3 P.M.

Bitter Friends is a compact, gripping drama that confronts important U.S.-Israeli issues and examines the personal conflict of divided loyalties experienced by modern American Jews. Inspired by the 1987 conviction of Jonathan Pollard, playwright Gordon Rayfield's imaginary geopolitical intrigue centers around David Klein. Rayfield packs his straightforward story with a wealth of political debate showing both sides of the issue. Though a convicted traitor, David Klein is admirable and unflinchingly loyal to his cause. There are no heroes or villains here, but plenty of battle lines. The play is personal, warm, and peppered with wry jokes and interesting spiritual parallels.

*The Theatre needs you!
Have fun, join us and make a difference!*

We are looking for:
Energetic Volunteers
Fundraising Committee Members
A Paid Staff Position
For more information please contact us at jtgr.admin@gmail.com or leave us a message at (616) 234-3595

FILM FESTIVAL . . .



The 2011 Jewish Film Festival is once again bringing special movies to the Grand Rapids community (see next page). The committee has been previewing movies and planning special programs. As in previous years, the Film Festival will be held at Celebration! North Cinemas. Watch for more details about the festival events in our community mailings.

The Film Festival is offering special rates through a **flex pass** (eight admissions); the flex pass is **\$36.00**. Flex pass ticket holders will have seats reserved until **THIRTY MINUTES** prior to the movie beginning. At that time, tickets will be sold for all seats.

PLEASE PLAN TO ARRIVE EARLY. That means even if you are holding a flex pass ticket, seats are not guaranteed later than thirty minutes prior to movie time. **Flex pass tickets are only available until May 1st.**

The Film Festival also offers members of the community an opportunity to become an individual sponsor of the Jewish Film Festival. Please read about the benefits of becoming a financial supporter below.

Individual Sponsors Get Great Benefits!

Director: (\$500.00) receive two flex passes (16 admissions), recognition in all publications, and four admissions to all private receptions, dinners and events.

Producers: (\$250.00) receive two flex passes (16 admissions), recognition in all publications and two admissions to all private receptions, dinners, and events.

Actor: (\$100.00) receive one season punch card (8 admissions) and recognition in the program booklet.

Film Fan: If you would like to financially support the Jewish Film Festival and do not see an amount that interests you, please feel free to send a contribution in any amount to the Federation office. You will be listed in the program booklet.

I would like to be a Film Festival Sponsor

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

Film Festival Director (\$500.00)

Film Festival Fan

Film Festival Producer (\$250.00)

Flex Pass (\$36.00)

Film Festival Actor (\$100.00)

Mail this form and your check to:
Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids
2727 Michigan NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506

13TH ANNUAL JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL . . .



Celebration! Cinema North

Sunday, May 1st 4:30 p.m.

LITTLE TRAITOR (*Family Matinee!*)

English and Hebrew

89 min

The film takes place in 1947 Palestine, just a few months before Israel becomes a state. Proffy, a militant yet sensitive twelve year old, has grown up under British occupation and wants nothing more than for the occupying British to get out of his land. He and his two friends are always plotting ways to terrorize the British until one evening, while he's out after curfew and seized by Sergeant Dunlop. Instead of arresting him, the Sergeant escorts him back home and a friendship begins to develop in the following weeks.



Sunday, May 1 • 6:00 p.m.
DINNER AT THE CINEMA!

Catered by Jimmy John's
Price: \$5.00 • RSVP by April 29
Sunday Films plus Dinner - \$15.00

6:45 p.m.

LA RAFLE (THE ROUNDUP)

French, German & Hungarian
w/subtitles

124 min

Not Rated

Joseph is eleven, and this June morning he must go to school, a yellow star sewn on his chest. He receives the support of a goods dealer and the mockery of a baker. Between such kindness and contempt, Jo, his Jewish friends, and their families, learn of life in an occupied Paris, on the Butte Mont-martre, where they've taken shelter. At least that's what they think, until that morning on July 16th, 1942, when their fragile happiness is toppled over. La Rafle follows the real destinies of the victims and the executioners, of those who orchestrated it all, of those who trusted them, of those who fled, and of those who opposed them. Every character in this film is real.



Monday, May 2nd 7:30 p.m.

FOR MY FATHER

Hebrew w/subtitles

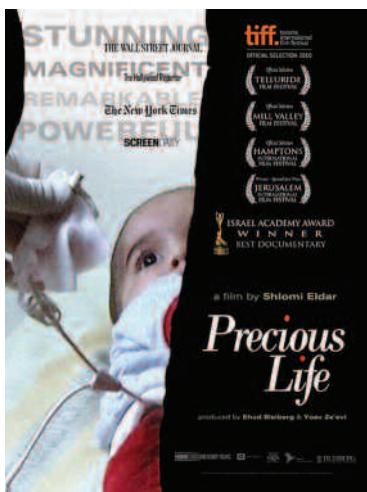
100 min

Tarek, a Palestinian forced on a suicide mission in Tel Aviv to redeem his father's honor, is given a second chance when the fuse on his explosive vest fails to detonate. Forced to spend the weekend in Tel Aviv awaiting its repair, Tarek must live amongst the people he was planning to kill. To his surprise he connects with several Israelis on the outskirts of society, including

FILM FESTIVAL . . .



the beautiful Keren, who has cut off contact with her Orthodox family and upbringing. With nothing to lose, Tarek and Keren open up to one another, and an unlikely love blooms between two isolated and damaged individuals, raised to be enemies.



After Raida is told she may have to bury her newborn child next to her two daughters, who died from a genetic disease in Gaza, Dr. Raz Somech, a young pediatrician at Tel Hashomer Hospital, joins the fight to save the baby's life. He turns to the film director and Arab affairs correspondent, Shlomi Eldar, and asks him to broadcast a story about the "bubble boy".

Tuesday, May 3rd 7:30 p.m.

ANITA

Spanish w/subtitles

104 min



Anita is the story of a young woman with Down Syndrome who gets lost in Buenos Aires after the 1994 bomb attack on the AMIA Jewish Community Center. The film is by renowned filmmaker Marcos Carnevale, director of Elsa and Fred, and stars Norma Aleandro, the "Meryl Streep" of Argentina.

Thursday, May 5th 7:30 p.m.

THE MATCHMAKER

Hebrew w/subtitles

113 min

Not Rated

Avi Nesher's film mixes comedy with drama as it tells a coming-of-age story unlike any you've ever seen before.

Arik, a teenage boy growing up in Haifa in 1968, gets a job working for Yankele, a mysterious Holocaust survivor and matchmaker. He has an office in back of a



movie theater that shows only love stories. Yankele introduces Arik to a new world, built on the ruins of an old one. As Arik begins to learn the mysteries of the human heart through his work with Yankele, he falls in love with Tamara.

Wednesday, May 4th

Festival Dinner 6:00 p.m.

MIDDLE EASTERN DINNER

In the Wave Room at Celebration! Cinema

Adults: \$8.00, Children (12 years old and younger): \$5.00

7:30 p.m.

PRECIOUS LIFE

Documentary - Hebrew, English & Arabic w/subtitles

86 min

Admission is \$6.00 per film
 Flex Pass tickets for 8 admissions are \$36 each,
 and are available until April 29
 at the Jewish Federation
 (616) 942-5553
www.jewishgrandrapids.org

FILM FESTIVAL . . .

Sunday, May 1 - 6:00 p.m.
DINNER AT THE CINEMA!

Catered by Jimmy John's

Price: \$5.00 • RSVP by April 29

Sunday Special Deal!

2 films and a dinner: \$15.00



Wednesday, May 4 - 6:00 p.m.
MIDDLE EASTERN DINNER

IN THE WAVE ROOM

*Enjoy a variety of traditional
Middle Eastern food*



Hummus, Babaganush, Falafel wrap, Mujadara Fattouch,
Salad, Baklava and more

Adults: \$8.00, Children (12 years old and younger): \$5.00
RSVP by April 29

COMMUNITY NEWS . . .

Please mark your calendars

YOM HASHOAH

Community Holocaust Memorial Service
Sunday, May 1 • 11:00 a.m.

Temple Emanuel

Aquinas College Chamber choir performance followed by Holocaust survivor,
Martin Lowenberg, using a PowerPoint presentation telling his story.
Mr. Lowenberg is a German-born Jew who lives in Southfield, Michigan.

No reservation required

COMMUNITY NEWS . . .

COMMUNITY PURIM CARNIVAL WAS A LOT OF FUN FOR EVERYONE!



*Thank you to Congregation Ahavas Israel,
The Chabad House, Jewish Theatre,
Temple Emanuel, UJS and all the volunteers
who helped make this carnival a big success.*

To see some great video of our children at the Purim Carnival, please go to our web page at
www.jewishgrandrapids.org



HADASSAH BOOK CLUB

*The next book club meeting:
Wednesday, April 13, 2011, 7:15 pm*

at Flory Silverstein's home
2930 Bonnell Ave SE, East Grand Rapids
Please call Flory at 949-5766 to inform if
you will be coming (a must)

Book to read: *Wedding Song*
by Farideh Goldin

Facilitator: Susette Tauber

Book Ends by choice...
Flory Silverstein – 949-5766
& Sue Remes – 949-3505



Israeli Scouts Friendship Caravan Show

*Back by Popular Demand!
July 17*

We have the opportunity to host the scouts
for the entire weekend (July 15-17).

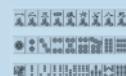
If you would like to host two scouts (two
girls or two boys) age 16, please contact Sari
at the Federation office or Sari@jfgr.org



YAD Mah Jongg

Join us at our next game!

For information about the ongoing Mah Jongg games, please contact
Michele Young at 828-4806 or youngml1967@gmail.com
Beginners welcome! No experience necessary.



COMMUNITY NEWS . . .



*Jewish Cultural Council
Invites you*

AMIR GWIRTZMAN **Jazz Musician – “The Pied Piper of Israel”** **Monday, May 9 • 7:30 p.m.** ***Congregation Ahavas Israel***



Israeli multi-instrumentalist Amir Gwirtzman has performed worldwide as a solo jazz musician and a member of the acclaimed Israeli world music band Esta.

He offers an excellent opportunity to enjoy the sounds of Israel, to share Israeli and Jewish culture and to learn about music from across the globe.

He began his solo project, “Inhale-Exhale,” in November 2009, performing alone on stage surrounded by 20 woodwinds, horns, pipes, flutes, etc. He has presented “Inhale-Exhale” in Tel-Aviv and in Manila as part of the Philippines International Jazz & Arts Festival.

Amir collaborated with European and African musicians at the Euromed Music Festival Hungary, Serbia and Poland in June of 2009.

Dessert Reception to follow

Admission: \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door, \$5 students



Grand Rapids Hadassah

Presents

A Celebration of the Women of Passover

*Join us for dinner and a glance into the lives of our Matriarchs
as we explore*

The Women of Passover

and how much their lives speak to ours.

Tuesday, April 12 • 5:45 p.m. • Temple Emanuel

\$18 per person

RSVP to Sari Cohen: Sari@JFGR.org or 616-942-5553

Rides available All Dietary rules will be followed

Sponsored in part by Jewish Federation Grand Rapids



CONGREGATIONAL NEWS . . .

Temple Emanuel

~ *Save The Date* ~

**Saturday, May 7, 2011
7:30 p.m.**

Silent Auction & Raffle Drawing

*Join us for a casual evening with friends,
food, cash bar, silent auction,
raffle drawing, and more!!!*

\$10 Admission

FREE with raffle ticket purchase

For raffle tickets, please contact the
Temple office at 616-459-5976

If you have questions about the auction or
have an auction item you would like to
donate, please contact Chris Potter at
cpotradio@gmail.com or 616-241-6222

Congregation Ahavas Israel

ART GROUP

Do you draw, paint, whittle, do fiber art (crochet, quilt, appliquéd work, weave, etc.), beadwork, jewelry-making, or any other arts and crafts? We have started an Art Group at Ahavas Israel. Every Wednesday from 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., please join others who just like to have fun with art. Come and be inspired by others as you work on your own projects.

We will provide some material for the first few meetings. After that you will need to provide your own – paints, brushes, paper or canvas, etc. This will be an unstructured group; each person free to work on whatever pleases him or her.

We are pleased that Sue Remes and Deb Mankoff, artists and teachers, have agreed to come in once a month or so to coach/mentor us.

For more information, please contact

Leah Sauer 616-805-3778;

leahsauer@gmail.com or

Barb Christiaans 616-531-1151

Chabad House

~ *Save the date* ~

Gan Israel Day Camp!

**June 20th, 2011 -
July 8th, 2011**

Ages 3 -13

3 weeks of summer fun!

For more info please call
Chayale @ 616-706-8019

An experience of a lifetime!

Chabad Kids Club 'Let's clay together'

**Thursday, April 7, 2011
Time: 4 to 6 p.m.**

Join us as we paint our own
ceramic Seder plate in honor
of Pesach.

Cost \$15

A light dinner will be served!

**To reserve your spot
please call Chayale @
616-706-8019**

Gan Yiladim Preschool

*Gan Yiladim is a Jewish
Preschool where children thrive
in a creative and loving
environment.*

Gan Yiladim has been serving
Grand Rapids and nearby
communities since 1980.

Registration is now open
for the fall of 2011-2012
For Jewish children ages 2-5

**For more info please call
Sarah @ 813-4827**

UNITED JEWISH SCHOOL NEWS . . .



Beit Sefer B'yahad/ United Jewish School

Pam Rush - School Director

pam@templemanuelgr.org www.unitedjewishschool.org

Purim Carnival 2011 was a great success!!!

UJS, along with the rest of our Jewish community, celebrated Purim at Temple Emanuel on Sunday, March 20. This year's carnival was great fun. UJS operated two booths: The Hamantashen Walk and the Wii Station. Thank you to Cindy Kogelschatz, the Berman family and the Earl family for organizing the booths. Thank you to everyone that made goodies for the hamantashen booth.

In March, UJS classes prepared greeting cards that were sent to Israeli soldiers in the IDF in celebration of Purim.

May 1, Sunday 11:00 Please mark your calendars for our community Yom Hashoah service held during Sunday school hours. This year will feature the Aquinas College Chamber choir along with Holocaust survivor, Martin Lowenberg and a PowerPoint presentation telling his story. Mr. Lowenberg is a German born Jew who lives in Southfield, Michigan.

May 8, Sunday 11:30 Special concert celebrating Yom Ha'atzmaut with Marc Rossio and Mark Bloom. These two great musicians have been coming into the school all year and presenting dynamic music programs to UJS classes. More info to come.

PASSOVER CANDY SALE *Barton's Candy - Kosher for Passover*

If you haven't preordered your kosher for Passover candy, you are not out of luck.
We will be selling the candy during Sunday school hours on April 17 and 24.
UJS receives 40% of all candy sales!!

If you have preordered candy, you may pick up your order at UJS:
April 17 during Sunday School

UJS Contributions:
In memory of Emil Bach
By Niels and Jane Bach

School Calendar

Please remember UJS in your contributions. We have a beautiful **Tribute** card that we can send to that special someone.

3-23-11	UJS Board Meeting	7:00pm
3-27-11	UJS Open House	
4-3-11	No Sunday school	Spring Break
4-6-11	No Midweek	Spring Break
4-10-11	No Sunday school	Spring Break
4-13-11	UJS Midweek Passover Service	
4-20-11	No Midweek	2nd Day Passover
4-24-11	UJS Open House	

Please tune in to or check the websites for WZZM 13 and WOOD TV 8 for UJS closings.

ENDOWMENT NEWS . . .

Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids Endowments

Life cycle times, both happy and sad, are traditional times to make donations to Jewish causes. You can make a donation of \$5 or more to the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids in honor or in memory of members of our community. We then will acknowledge that donation with a card to that individual or family. This is a wonderful way to send your good wishes and be able to fulfill the mitzvah of tzedakah.

Please be sure to indicate what the occasion is and who is to receive the card. Please specify which of the following funds you would like your donation to be credited to:

- **The Woman of Valor Fund** - (\$10 minimum contribution). To honor the women in our lives who have made a difference personally, locally, or nationally.

- **The Federation General Endowment/L'Dor Vador Fund** - To help ensure the continued work of the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids for now and the future.

- **The Julian and Judith Joseph Fund** - To provide for local programming and events through the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids.

- **The David and Susan Samrick Youth Scholarship Fund** - To provide scholarships to Jewish sleep away camps and experiences.

- **The Chuck and Maxine Shapiro Fund** - To help ensure long-term aid to Israel and Jews around the world.

- **The Louis and Louise Weiner Fund** - To help ensure local programming for seniors in the Grand Rapids Jewish Community.

- **The Jerry and Judy Subar Fund** - To help ensure funding for overseas Jewish communities' needs.

- **The Leven Family Fund** - To establish and provide Jewish facilities, and support for cooperative programming among the congregations that support Jewish education for our youth.

- **Sam and Jane Kravitz Social Services Fund** - To support Jewish social services in Grand Rapids.

*Thank you for supporting the
Grand Rapids Jewish Community*

The JFGR General Endowment Fund

To honor the engagement of Jeffrey Stein and Kiera Wiatrak

From David and Karen Reifler

The Louis & Louise Weiner Fund

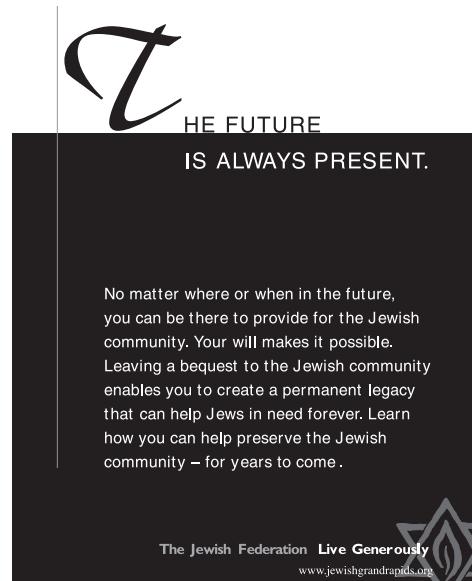
In honor of Ann Berman

From Toby Weiner Dolinka

The Jerry and Judy Subar Endowment Fund

In honor of Noah Elliot Remes

From Susanne Remes



Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids Endowment Fund Donation Form

Donation From: Name _____

Address _____

City/Zip _____

In Honor Of: Name _____

In Memory Of: Name _____

Send Card To: Name _____

Address _____

City/Zip _____

Fund (please pick from list): _____

In Honor Of: Name _____

In Memory Of: Name _____

Send Card To: Name _____

Address _____

City/Zip _____

Fund (please pick from list): _____

Send your donation to:

**The Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids
2727 Michigan NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506**

The Shofar

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Next Issue's Information Deadline: April 12, 2011



One Community



Chag Sameach!



*We Wish You and Your Family
a Joyous and Happy Passover!*

from the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids Board and Staff