



Each One of Us Can Make A Difference

JFGR Executive Director



Nicole Katzman

Many years ago a young Jewish woman living in Grand Rapids needed assistance and called the Federation for help. JFGR provided this person with the care, material items and emotional support necessary for her to gather the strength to move forward and support herself and children. She and the Federation subsequently lost touch. A few weeks ago, the phone rang and it was this same woman. She said that the love and care she received from Federation changed the trajectory of her life. She related that she had moved out of the state and found employment, but never forgot how we made a difference in her life. She asked how she could pay back the Federation in order to make a difference in the life of another person. I was thrilled to learn that the work of this organization impacted someone's life in a positive way. For me, this story is the essence of the mission of the Federation and why we do the social service work in the community.

The Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids is a strong and thriving organization today in no small measure because of each one of you. We, as an organization, benefit from the many rich gifts of heart and mind that you bring to our work. September 15, 2022 was the annual Campaign Kick Off event at Cascade Hills Country Club, where well over a hundred community members attended and supported the mission and vision of this non-profit organization. The event marked the joint effort of our community to raise much needed funds for local Jewish individuals and families in need, to support educational and cultural programs, to assist our local Jewish partner agencies, and to provide relief for overseas programs. It's comforting knowing that the 146 Federations nationally are making a difference in the lives of Jews all over the world.

I feel honored and privileged that, through my service as the Executive Director of the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids, I can put the most important themes of the Jewish New Year into action – including learning from the past in order to shape the future, maintaining a strong sense of community and family, and upholding common values and teachings.

From my home to yours, wishes for a *Shanah Tovah* (Sweet New Year) and *G'mar Chatimah Tovah* (A Good Final Sealing).

L'Shalom,

Like us on Facebook, follow us on Instagram at [jewishgrandrapids](#) and on Twitter @JewishFedGR

Our Mission:

Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids unites the local Jewish community to sustain and strengthen Jews locally, in Israel and around the world.

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

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



I'd like to support my community and make a gift!

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IMAGINE. Campaign 2022 Update



\$110,000

Campaign 2022 "Imagine" is starting off strong. We have gifts and pledges of more than \$110,000 towards our goal of \$510,000. For those of you who have made your gift or pledge, thank you.

Campaign Kickoff at Cascade Hills Country Club was a tremendous success! We honored the Samrick family for their contributions to our community, heard a thought provoking presentation from Carolyn Normandin from the Anti-Defamation League, recognized the Weingartens for their 45 years of service in Grand Rapids, and were entertained by the Shir Shalom Choir and Cantor David Fair. We were also treated to a delicious

vegetarian pasta bar. Thank you to all those responsible for planning and executing the event.

In an effort to meet our aggressive fundraising goals, we are asking that you make your gifts and pledges sooner than later, and consider increasing your gift for 2022. Let's make "Imagine" the most successful Campaign yet!

There are many ways to give, including legacy gifts (endowments and donor-advised funds) that are gifts of permanence that support our annual campaigns, operations, and community programs. Your generosity and foresight will ensure a strong healthy Jewish future. Please contact the JFGR office for more details.



Linda Pestka
Campaign Chair

Linda

Women's Philanthropy: Your place to inspire, help and connect.

WHO WE ARE

Women philanthropists are the change makers and community shapers of the world. We are sisters and daughters, mothers and friends, compassionate and committed women at every stage of life and career. Federation's Women's Philanthropy engages Jewish women in the fulfilling work of making the world a better place. In every community, we are building and supporting Jewish life for today and for generations to come.

WOMEN IN ACTION

Through our donations and our hands-on community service, we fight domestic violence, improve women's health and nutrition, provide shelter to vulnerable children, protect at-risk seniors and so much more. During the COVID crisis, we've helped meet increased needs in our communities. We support Israel with our dollars and our presence. Federation inspires and empowers women to become leaders and decision-makers. Our collective philanthropy enriches our own lives while improving the lives of others.



We welcome you to the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids Women's Philanthropy. There's a place for you here, no matter where life and career have taken you. Add your voice to this amazing community of women. Our collective philanthropy is purposeful and effective.

For more information, contact Evan Rossio, Campaign Director at evan@jfgr.org



Save the Date: 2022 Scholar in Residence **Bodi**



**November
11-13, 2022**

More information
coming soon. Check
out Bodi's work here:
bodimusic.com

Sam Bodenheimer, "Bodi," is a global performer, educator, and music producer. He has produced and curated the music, entertainment and creative direction for thousands of functions over the past 20 years. His diverse compositions are utilized in film, television, commercial advertising and pop artist projects.



Thank you to the Finkelstein and Leven Families for sponsoring the annual JFGR community picnic.

This year was a huge success, children, parents and grandparents attended this fun multi-generational event. Marc Rossio performed live music, the bounce house was a hit, children enjoyed digging in the sensory boxes, PJ crafts and stories. Thank you to Marla Tullet for assisting us with the delicious food!





Join GR area's young Jews for

Sukkot Soiree

Friday, October 14

Spend time in the Sukkah after services with other Jews in their 20s, 30s, 40s and the rest of the Temple Emanuel community. Enjoy a deluxe oneg, play yard games, and drink fall-themed cocktails and mocktails.

6 PM at Temple Emanuel for Services
~7:15 PM in the Temple Emanuel Sukkah (front lawn)

RSVP to Shelby at 616-914-7728
or shelby@grtemple.org

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Preparing for Sukkot

by Cantor David Fair



Cantor David Fair

Do you enjoy the Fulton Street Farmers Market? Corey and I certainly do. During the warmer months, we practically ignore the produce section in grocery stores and become devoted with fierce allegiance to the Farmers Market. Sadly, the main market season ends at the end of October. Why does it end then, you ask? The last harvests occur as the winter nears. Do you realize that there's an entire Jewish holiday about this process? Sukkot is the holiday that commemorates the end of the main season at the Fulton Street Farmers Market!

Just kidding! Sukkot is thousands of years old! But this process of the end of the Harvest is certainly what Sukkot is about. This holiday is mentioned twice in the Torah – the first time, in Exodus, where it's not called Sukkot, but Chag HaAsif, which means "Festival of the Ingathering." The Israelites were commanded at this time of year to take the last of their harvests, make a pilgrimage ("ingather") to the Temple in Jerusalem, and offer these harvests as a sacrifice. Why do we erect a Sukkah during Sukkot? A Sukkah represents a hut that the farmers would live in during the last hectic period of the harvest before the coming of the winter rains.

But like everything in Judaism, there are multiple origins, each with their own beautiful meanings.

The word sukkah can also be translated to "tabernacle" or "booths." These words are likened to the temporary shelters that the Hebrews had erected in the desert during their long, 40-year trek after Egyptian slavery. In Leviticus, we hear the holiday called Chag HaSukkot, meaning "Festival of Booths" or "Feast of Tabernacles." This idea of eating simple fruits and veggies and living in simple shelters focuses our being on the simple things in life and takes our minds off of the material possessions of the modern world that can be such a distraction. Sukkot is a joyful holiday and referred to as Z'man Simchateynu, which means the "season of our joy."

When I moved to Israel in June 2016, I was surprised to realize that not one drop of rain falls during the Jerusalem summer. You've heard the phrase, "There's not a cloud in the sky." Well, I'm serious, there was literally not one cloud in the sky! Every day was dusty and dry. Wearing a hat was a must and sunburn was a

constant threat. I remember thinking, "God, I wish it would just rain!" Well, one day around October, God answered my prayers! It rained. My classmates and I literally walked outside and started dancing. It was such an amazing feeling!

So, in Judaism, we do indeed pray for rain! In fact, the day after Sukkot ends, I'll be chanting T'filat Geshem, which means "The prayer for Rain." The prayer invokes memories over and over again of how meaningful and important mayim (water) has been in Jewish history—that we hope it will continue to bless us. I'll be chanting this on the holiday of Sh'mini Atzeret. What is this holiday? Well, Sukkot is celebrated for seven days. On the eighth day, we call the day Sh'mini Atzeret, which poetically translates to "A solemn gathering on the Eighth Day."

And indeed, it is solemn. This day begins the season of divine judgment for the future year's rainfall, the time when we pray that God's goodwill may afford us the appropriate amount—not too little, and not too much. There is no more shaking of the lulav and etrog. Although we have our meals and recite Kiddush in the sukkah, we no longer say the blessing to sanctify us through the commandment to dwell in it, as we did in the previous seven days. And lastly, after the Torah reading on this day, we hold our memorial service, called Yizkor.

At the end of T'filat Geshem, we recite a prayer called "Livrachá," which is my prayer for us all for this holiday season:

May this year be for blessing, and not as a curse.

May this year be for life, and not for death,

May this year be for abundance, and not for famine.

Amen.

G'mar chatimah tovah,
Cantor David Fair

Cantor David Fair (he/him) has been serving the Grand Rapids Jewish Community since 2021. A native of Baltimore, Maryland, he graduated with his BA in Theater from the University of Maryland College Park, a Professional Studies and Artist Diploma in Music from the Cleveland Institute of Music. He received a Masters in Sacred Music and was ordained from Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion in New York City in 2021 (where he wrote his thesis "Tsiporah's Children: The Music and Lived Experiences of Black Jewish Americans"). Cantor Fair's first love was as an actor and singer, and he's performed in hundreds of musicals and operas across the country. Cantor Fair is also the Educator of Grand Rapids's United Jewish School, as he was a school teacher before entering Cantorial school. Cantor Fair and his partner Corey are honored to be part of the Grand Rapids Jewish community.



THE **STRENGTH** OF A PEOPLE
THE **POWER** OF COMMUNITY.

Help us help others.

In these uncertain times, we're continuing to provide and support programs that:

- ◆ Assist Community Members in Need
- ◆ Educate Children and Foster Jewish Identity
- ◆ Promote a Just Society Through Social Action
- ◆ Provide Jewish Arts & Cultural Programming
- ◆ Offer Aid and Education Overseas

Support Jewish Federation of GR and make your gift today visit

<https://www.jewishgrandrapids.org/> or call 616-942-5553 to make your gift



Download the JFGR App Today!

The Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids is excited to introduce our new app. Now you can stay connected and up-to-date on everything Federation from your iPhone or iPad. Programming, news, social services, and volunteering opportunities are now just a click away.



Download on the App Store



Jewish Federation Grand Rapids

Arad Okanin

OPEN



AGE	CATEGORY	DEVELOPER	LANGUAGE
4+ Years Old	Reference	Arad Okanin	EN English



Bring Jewish stories home

The PJ Library, a program of the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids now has 120 children enrolled with 83 families. To enroll your child, visit www.pjlibrary.org.
FREE JEWISH CHILDREN'S BOOKS



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Judith Joseph's great granddaughter, Beverly, playing with her new Torah toy.



Happy Sukkot

from the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids



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Mark L. Jesin, DDS



A.J. Lytle, DDS

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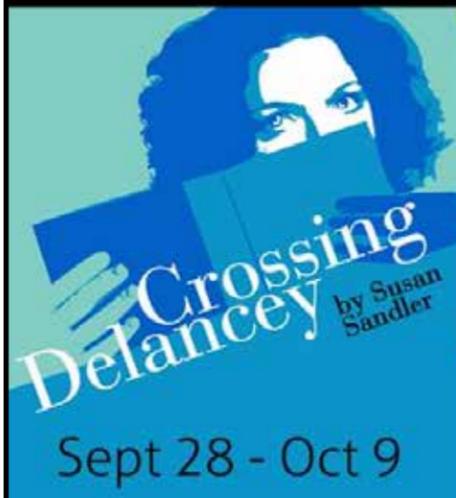
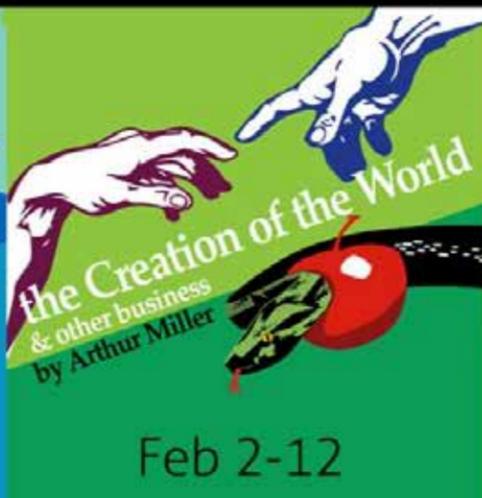
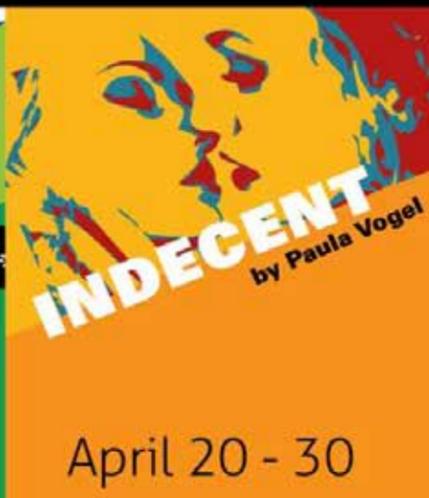


Babka Book Club

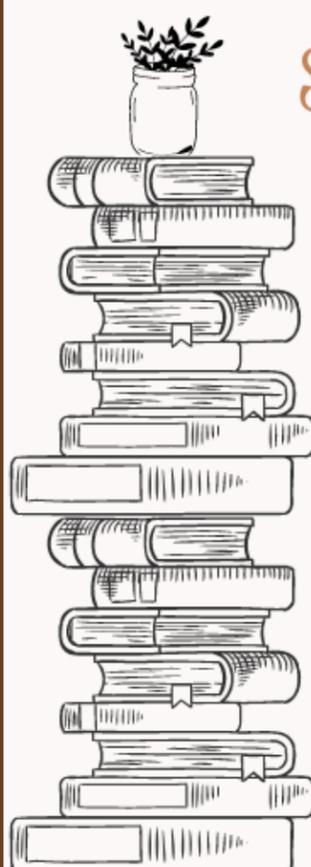
The first Babka Book Club was a huge success with twenty ladies who participated. The first book, a gift of the Federation, is Zabar's A Family Story with Recipes written by Lori Zabar. Book Club participants met at the home of Kris Siegel and celebrated with chocolate and cinnamon babka from Zabar's market in New York! Book club meets every other month and we look forward to convening again on November 16, 20



JEWISH THEATRE GRAND RAPIDS 2022/2023 Season

 <p>Crossing Delancey by Susan Sandler Sept 28 - Oct 9</p>	 <p>the Creation of the World & other business by Arthur Miller Feb 2-12</p>	 <p>INDECENT by Paula Vogel April 20 - 30</p>
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Early-Bird Season Passes Now Available
Save \$24 off regular prices.
Go to jtgr.org to sign up today.



SAVE THE DATE

BABKA BOOK CLUB

New to Federation!
Come for the babka; stay for the book.

NEXT MEETING:
NOVEMBER 16, 2022
5:00 - 6:30PM

RSVP at jfgr.org for address & additional information





Women Unite
Hiking Group

What to bring:
a water bottle and a
good pair of sneakers.

Please RSVP with
Sandi Simms

Email: sandi@
simmselectronics.com
or via text:
(616) 437-5165

All hikes start at 6pm.

**Oct 3 - Peace Park - 8900 Grand River Dr SE,
Ada, MI 49301**

**Oct 10 - Knapp Forest Trail - Dogs are welcome.
Happy Sukkot! (Park at the back of Knapp
Forest Elementary School)**

**Oct 17 - Roselle Park - Happy Simchat Torah! (1010
Grand River Dr NE, Ada, MI 49301)**

**Oct 24 - Possible visit by an Israeli delegation from our
twin community, Ein Dor. More details to
come.**

JFGR Men's Outdoor Group

Get together every Wednesday morning! Meet new people,
hang out with old friends, get fresh air and exercise.

Contact Jim Siegel at
jims@siegeljewelers.com for time and
location of each outing, and for carpool
arrangements and questions.



Financial Focus

What should Alzheimer's caregivers know?

by Chad Zagel, CFP®, AAMS®, JFGR Board Member



Chad Zagel JFGR
Board Member

If you have a family member who has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, or is starting to show symptoms, you will face some real challenges. Navigating the Alzheimer's experience involves a long journey, and there's no easy answer for how you can cope with your emotions. But you can at least address some of the financial issues involved to help give yourself a greater sense of control.

Here are some moves to consider:

- **Plan for care costs and identify insurance coverage.** The list of Alzheimer's-related medical expenses is long and includes ongoing medical treatment, medical equipment, home safety modifications, prescription drugs and personal care supplies. As a caregiver, you'll want to know the extent of your loved one's health insurance: Medicare, supplemental policies, veteran's benefits if applicable, and so on. One big question is how much coverage they might have for adult day care services, in-home care services and full-time residential care services, and other long-term care options. Long-term care is one of the largest health care costs not covered by Medicare, so you'll want to determine if your loved one has a long-term care policy or another insurance policy with a long-term care rider.
- **Identify assets and debts.** You'll need to know your family member's financial position, both what they own — bank accounts, investments, property, etc. — and what they owe, such as credit card debt, a mortgage, lines of credit, and so on. This knowledge will be essential if you're granted power of attorney to take over your loved one's finances.
- **Look for tax breaks available to caregivers.** If you're

a caregiver, you may have to pay for some care costs out of pocket. Consequently, you could receive some tax credits and deductions. These benefits vary by state, so you'll want to consult with your tax advisor to determine your eligibility.

- **Ensure necessary legal documents are in place.** As a caregiver, you may need to ensure some legal documents are in place, such as a durable power of attorney for finances, which lets you make financial decisions for your loved one with Alzheimer's, and a durable power of attorney for health care, which lets you make health care and medical decisions on their behalf. It's important to have these and other necessary documents drawn up before someone is diagnosed with Alzheimer's or when they're just starting to exhibit the earliest signs of the disease, so they can understand what documents they are signing. If you wait until they no longer have this cognitive ability, things will get much more challenging. You could apply to become a conservator, which grants decision-making abilities similar to a power of attorney, but the conservatorship process takes time and could involve court procedures. To avoid this potential difficulty, work with your tax and legal professionals to ensure all the relevant legal documents are in-force and updated.

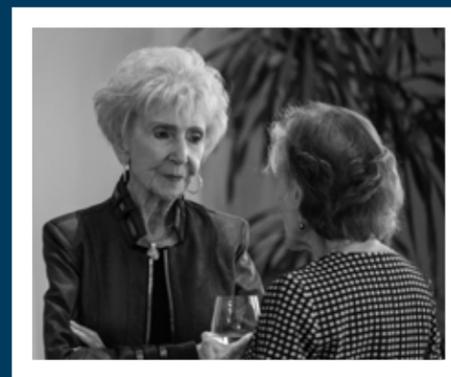
Finally, you don't have to go it alone. To help deal with the emotional challenges of caregiving, you can find local Alzheimer's support groups that can offer practical suggestions for coping. As for the financial issues, consider working with a financial professional who can look at your family's overall situation and recommend appropriate actions.

A diagnosis of Alzheimer's will change the lives of everyone in your family. But as a caregiver, you can help ease the burden.

Chad Zagel, CFP®, AAMS®, is a Financial Advisor with Edward Jones, a University of Michigan graduate, and in his free time, Chad enjoys spending time with his family and volunteering.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Edward Jones, Member SIPC


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I M A G I N E

Campaign 2022, IMAGINE,
Kickoff event was held at
Cascade Hills Country Club on
September 15, 2022.

The keynote speaker was
Carolyn Normandin, Regional
Director of the Michigan ADL.

We celebrated the life and legacy
of David Samrick (71) and honored
Rabbi Yosef and Sarah Weingarten
for 45 years of service to the
Grand Rapids Jewish community.

It was a beautiful evening with over
a hundred people in attendance.







Volunteers Needed!

Interested in Joining us?

Email Julianna@ifgr.org
Or call (616) 942-5553 ext. 206

Looking forward to your help!

We Need Help With:

- Driving community members to appointments.
- Delivering items to those in need.
- Assisting with in-person programs.

VOLUNTEERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE SIGN UP TODAY!



Do You Need a Ride?

Doctors appointment, grocery store or pharmacy? Let us take you where you want to go.

Contact Julianna Schrier, Community Connector at **616.942.5553 x206** or Julianna@JFGR.org to schedule your ride.

All rides need 24 hour advance notice.
Hours of service: 8am to 8pm

Thank you to the generosity of the Ravitz Foundation for this service to the Grand Rapids Jewish community.



Coach John Robinson

The Importance of Fun: Let's Play, Saba!

By Coach John Robinson

I finally have a deeper understanding of what our 5-year-old granddaughter, and our 8-month-old puppy, have been trying to teach me. Having fun is an essential ingredient in life.

It seems every time I've seen our granddaughter since she could talk, I've heard more than once each visit, "Let's play, Saba!" As much as I have been able to muster, I have joined her in play. She is such a joy to be with and times like these are precious. I need to capture them while I can. Little did I know, she's been teaching me all this time to have a better life through having fun.

Our puppy, Flynn, makes a game of almost everything. I get out of bed in the morning and give him a belly rub. When I move to go, he often races ahead of me and plops down in my path for one more belly rub. He races to grab stuff from my wife Sherri. He throws toys around to amuse himself. He looks for a playmate in almost every dog he sees. He has made play his dedicated practice. One of our friends said, "I dare you to not be happy around Flynn." I initially did not realize that Flynn has been teaching me as well.

I have promoted the benefits of play and having fun before. However, lately I have had additional reasons to think more deeply about play and fun. One of the people I support through my coaching and advising practice sent me a video of Shaolin Monk Shi Heng Yi.

In the interview, he said, "It's not important that you become a good fighter in this world. It is not important you become a good spiritual guide in this world. It's important that you find a way to live a pleasant life and in the best case support other people that they also find the same. This is what it's about. No matter in which form you put it, in which from cultural background you put it. The main idea is, if you don't find this way of reducing the suffering of your surrounding, your suffering won't stop."

I take the term pleasant life as encouragement to include play and have fun.

I have been reflecting on other things in my life as well. I do not always hit the goals I want to hit. Rather than focusing on that, I want to focus on the fact I am doing what I love. When life gets hard, I want to focus on things I can enjoy along the way.

I leave you with another quote, this time from Martha Beck (found at azquotes.com). She says, "Having fun is not a diversion from a successful life; it is the pathway to it." How do you, or could you, include more fun in your life?

Leadership Coach John helps warrior leaders take command of their personal and professional lives, and create a life they love including a legacy of service to others. Your dreams absolutely can come true. If you have feedback on this article, or a request for a future article, please reach out at info@CoachJohn.help.

"The warrior in all of us is desperately searching for something heroic, transcendent, or self-sacrificing." cac.org

Challah Braiding with Mandylicious!



When: November 3, 2022
Time: 6:30 pm
Where: Temple Emanuel



Mandy will be demonstrating braiding techniques, stuffing, and topping. Dough will be provided, and attendees will be taking home challahs to bake just in time for Shabbat. The program is free and open to all in our community, but an RSVP is required by 10/26.

RSVP @ www.jfgr.org or email Evan at evan@ifgr.org or call Federation by 10/26.

Check out Mandy at www.mchallah.com or @mandyliciouschallah on Instagram and Facebook!

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Stephanie's clients know that they are her top priority. She has lived in Ada and East Grand Rapids over the past 27 years and is your local expert willing to share her knowledge and expertise about the Greater Grand Rapids area. Her professionalism, attention to detail, and pride in her work ensures each client receives the height of service. Stephanie prides herself on being efficient, knowledgeable, and responsible while going above and beyond any expectations her clients have. She was selected as one of *Grand Rapids Magazine's REAL ESTATE ALL STARS* for 2019 which recognizes the top 5% of real estate agents in the greater Grand Rapids area. Stephanie helps both buyers and sellers achieve their real estate goals and specializes in everything from modest living spaces to luxury homes. Call Stephanie today and let her help you make your real estate goals a reality.



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Rob Franciosi

A History-Haunted Place

by Rob Franciosi

Consecrated in 1914, the synagogue on Levetzowstrasse was then one of Berlin's largest, with seating for over two thousand worshippers. Although damaged by the Nazis during the 1938 November pogrom, it continued to serve the community—until October 1941, when a profane fate was thrust upon the grand building.

The Levetzowstrasse Synagogue was used by the Nazis between October 1941 and October 1942 as an internment camp for Berlin Jews who were to be deported to the East. Up to a thousand people—often mostly women and the elderly—would be crammed into the building, where over a day or two they would be robbed of their last possessions, forced to sign away any remaining property or bank accounts, compelled to surrender their passports, and then marched five miles to the train station in suburban Grunewald.



Bombings during the last years of the war severely damaged the building and it was demolished in 1955. You can still visit the site, however, upon which sits one of Berlin's most powerful Holocaust memorials.

On a warm Wednesday afternoon my wife Jo Ellyn and I traveled to Levetzowstrasse, just above the Tiergarten. I had been there before, but she needed to see it for herself, as during our time in Berlin we would be setting out from there on a commemorative walk to Grunewald.

Most of the footprint of the old building is now devoted to a playground, with the memorial abutting the Levetzowstrasse sidewalk. The impressive central figure of a box car built of marble and rusted steel,



with a ramp leading to the train door, is complemented by two other elements: abstract marble figures—bound together with cable—that march up the ramp, while to their back a twenty-five-foot steel panel looms over the site. Cut through the panel is a list of all the transports that left Berlin: dates, how many Jews were deported, and their final destinations.



This focus on the list of transports is also used at the powerful Gleis 17 ("Track 17") memorial at Grunewald station, which we had visited the day before. By stepping back far enough, I could see the information for the second transport, the one that left on October 24, 1941, and which took Frieda Goldstein, one subject of my sabbatical study, and 895 others to their fate in the Łódz ghetto.

Throughout our time contemplating and photographing the Levetzowstrasse memorial, a pair of toddlers ran up and down the ramp, their young father trying to corral them, though also allowing them the freedom to enjoy their games and the warmth of a soon-to-be-fading summer.

Setting the memorial next to a playground of course invites the kind of behavior on display—young children, not yet burdened by history, living an innocence that the Nazis destroyed for so many other children. Glancing at the lovely mural on the building across the memorial square, with its rendition of the columns which once fronted the splendid synagogue's entrance, I thought for a moment about the children from that lost congregation and felt the rightness of placing this tribute beside such a life-affirming space.

But I must admit that my moment at Levetzowstrasse was also colored by what we had witnessed the day before at Grunewald, which still functions as a suburban train station. The memorial at Gleis 17, with its abandoned track and steel plates commemorating each deportation from Berlin—184 of them, charting over 50,000 victims—was itself mostly abandoned on a Tuesday afternoon.





Only a solitary older man, sitting near the start of the track, interrupted the empty scene.



The power of Gleis 17, however, is reinforced by such solitude, particularly as you walk the length of the track, which is framed for at least two hundred yards by

weather-rusted plates narrating a relentless story of decimation, of how one of the world's most prosperous and assimilated Jewish communities was erased, leaving only the raised steel letters to serve as tokens of remembrance: 18.10.1941 / 1251 Juden / Berlin – Lodz, 24.10.1941 / 896 Juden / Berlin – Lodz, 27.10.194 / 1034 Juden / Berlin – Lodz, all the way to 27.3.1945 / 18 Juden / Berlin – Theresienstadt.

We have visited this site in the past, but this time decided to stroll from the station to the surrounding neighborhood. Those Berlin Jews, whether on foot or in open police trucks, had to have arrived at the station, had to have been witnessed by the forbears of the content Germans sitting at tables in the September sun. There was little sign of the ethnic diversity that is ever-present in Berlin, nor was there the kind of rushing about or feverish bicycle pedaling that gives the city so much of its energy. No, these were upper middle-class people enjoying a coffee or a beer at the end of a glorious late-summer afternoon.



A block from the station, though, was a street of villas that would make residents of Beverly Hills envious. These imposing buildings had been part of a plan, I learned later, to create a community in which each home required a significant plot of land, ensuring that the owners would fill them with opulent homes. Some famous people lived there during the pre-war years, such as Max Planck the physicist and Isadora Duncan, the woman who changed the physics of dance. An online map of stolpersteine, the commemorative blocks that are my reason for traveling across the ocean to this history-scarred land, also tells me there were wealthy Jews who also once lived in Grunewald. Imagine them being assembled at Levetzowstrasse only to be marched back in sight of

their homes. That's the kind of head-shaking moment that often comes when encountering the Nazi era. And sometimes those moments of despair push me toward bitterness. Fifty years of a divided Germany was not enough, I thought. The wall which fell in 1989 needed to stand for at least a century, so that the self-assured Germans enjoying the September sun, the pleasures of life at Grunewald, would have wandered a bit more in their wilderness.



Our encounter the next day with the young family at Levetzowstrasse, though, softened my anger. They were from the Middle East, perhaps refugees from Syria or Iraq, and their play in the ghostly presence of that once-great building seemed the kind of a gesture that we need today. I hope they feel welcome in Berlin--as welcome as I felt during my time spent with Dieter, a middle-aged German who devotes countless volunteer hours to the stolpersteine project. Three decades after reunification this is indeed a new Germany. Even so, on any given afternoon, it's easy to be reminded that Berlin remains a history-haunted place.

Rob Franciosi is a professor of English and Honors at GVSU where he teaches courses on the Holocaust and American Literature. Rob welcomes questions or comments about his article. You may contact him at francior@gvsu.edu

Bethany Christian Services Refugee Resettlement Opportunity

“Foster Care: There are currently not enough refugee and immigrant foster homes to welcome the number of unaccompanied children that were forced to flee their country of origin. When youth have the opportunity to be welcomed into a foster home, they can evolve and prosper with your support. Refugee and immigrant foster homes also provide a space for teens to prepare for an independent future that is rooted in their cultural practices. Bethany's refugee and immigrant foster care programs need folks to take the first step and learn more about becoming licensed by registering for a free, **no-commitment, and virtual** information meeting. We welcome all individuals to learn more, and folks can register for an ENGLISH or SPANISH information meeting. Please reach out to Claire Hopkins (she, her) with any questions or concerns at chopkins@bethany.org or 616-256-2293 (call or text).”



Rugelach

By Evan Rossio, Campaign Director, JFGR

Rugelach is a pastry cookie filled with a variety of ingredients that originated in the Jewish communities of Poland. The word “Rugelach” is Yiddish for “little twists.” One of my favorite recipes is made by a non-Jewish friend of mine from New York. After much cajoling, I got her to share her recipe which, as it turns out, was made by the Jewish mother of her childhood best friend.



Evan Rossio

Rugelach

Pastry Dough

- 8 oz (two sticks) unsalted butter, cubed
- 1 egg yolk
- ½ t salt
- 1 c sour cream
- Fine grated rind of 2 lemons
- 2 c sifted unbleached flour

Melt butter and set aside. Beat egg yolk with salt, sour cream, and lemon rind. Add melted butter. Add flour and beat until combined. Divide into 4 pieces, cover in plastic wrap and refrigerate overnight.

Roll the first quarter on a floured surface to a flat 12” circle. Spread with filling and cut into 16 wedges. Roll up, beginning with the wide end and ending with the narrow end. Place point side down, about 1” apart, on a parchment-lined baking sheet. Glaze with one egg white and sprinkle with sugar. Bake @ 350° for 25- 30 minutes or until lightly golden.

Filling 1

- 8 oz chopped pecans (about 2 ¼ c)
 - ¾ c brown sugar
 - 2 t cinnamon
 - 1 t cocoa powder
 - ¼ t nutmeg
 - ¼ t powdered ginger
 - 1-2 handfuls of raisins (about ⅔ a 15 oz box), soaked in rum
- Process until a grainy mush.

Filling 2

- 1 bag of semi-sweet chocolate chips
 - 2 handfuls of raspberries
- Melt together.



The PJ Library, a program of the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids now has 120 children enrolled with 83 families. To enroll your child, visit www.pjlibrary.org.
FREE JEWISH CHILDREN'S BOOKS



www.jfgr.org
616.942.5553



Judith Joseph's great granddaughter, Beverly, playing with her new Torah toy.



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EMAIL: CHABADWESTERNMICHIGAN@GMAIL.COM

All events are subject to change. Please stay safe and reach out if there is anything we can do for you.

CHECK FACEBOOK @CHABADWM FOR VIRTUAL ZOOM LINKS AND PASSWORDS OR TEXT RIVKA AT 616.206.9654!

WEEKLY VIRTUAL TORAH & TEA

For the connection we all need right now.

A Torah Study for ladies with Nechamy.

MONDAY EVENINGS ON ZOOM AT 8:00PM

Meeting ID: 966 6623 3600 Password: jwc

VIRTUAL TORAH CLASSES

TUESDAY EVENINGS ON ZOOM AT 7:30PM

For more Info or for zoom information, please contact

Rabbi Mordechai at 269.903.7916 or Rabbihaller@chabadwestmichigan.com

chabadwestmichigan.com

CTEEN GRAND RAPIDS UPCOMING EVENTS:

CTeen is a part of the fastest growing teen network in the world! It's the place for ALL Jewish high school teens!

For more information about CTeen or to RSVP, contact Rivka at 616.206.9654 or Rivkahweingarten@gmail.com.

WEEKLY VIRTUAL CTEEN LOUNGE NIGHT:

SUNDAY EVENINGS ON ZOOM AT 8:00PM

Meeting ID: 938 3001 6601 Password: 180 or text Rivka for the link.

CTEEN & CTEEN JUNIOR SUKKOT DINNER

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9TH - 7:30PM

Inviting Jewish families with teens grades 6-12 to our annual "Sukkot Under the Stars" dinner in the Weingarten's Sukkah. Celebrate this beautiful Holiday in style, along with our family and friends!

It all takes place at the largest Sukkah in town! RSVP to Rivka at 616.206.9654

CTEEN FUN DAY

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23RD | 1:00PM



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YOM KIPPUR AT CHABAD

TUESDAY, OCT. 4TH | 7:00PM *Kol Nidrei Service*

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 5TH | 9:30AM *Morning Services, 1:00PM Yizkor Memorial Service, 5:15PM Mincha/Afternoon Service, 6:30PM Neilah Closing Service followed by Havdalah & Break-Fast*

THE GRAND SUKKOT PARTY

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13TH - 5:00-7:00PM

The kosher falafel truck • crafts • moon bounce • soup in the Sukkah • lively music • shake the lulav & etrog • Grand raffle! Fun Sukkot celebration for the whole family!

At the Chabad House | 616.957.0770

SIMCHAT TORAH CELEBRATION

MONDAY, OCTOBER 17TH - 7:45PM

Each week in synagogues throughout the world, a section of the Torah is read, Simchat Torah marks the annual completion of the cycle.

Dance the night away with L'chaim, flags for the children, and a delicious Dinner!

Come join us to receive a free dosage of Jewish Pride and joy that will last you the rest of the year!

NEW SIX-WEEK JLI COURSE COMING THIS NOVEMBER!

"My G-d" - Defining the Divine

Nothing is off-limits as this refreshingly open course asks piercing questions about G-d and delivers profound, insightful answers. An enlightening study into G-d's nature, G-d's goal for creation, human experiences of G-d, the role of religion, and the function of prayer, this course promises to satisfy your questions, including those you didn't know you had.

Virtual: Six Tuesday's, beginning on November 8th, 2022 | In Person: Six Wednesday's, beginning on November 9th, 2022.

For more information contact Rabbi Mordechai at

269.903.7916 or Rabbihaller@chabadwestmichigan.com

JTEXT ~ JEWISH TRIVIA FOR TEENS!

EVERY MONDAY & THURSDAY AT 7:00PM.

Be the 7th to answer correctly and win a \$20 AMAZON GIFT CARD to your email!

Are you a Jewish teen in grades 6-12 that lives in West Michigan and would like to join?!

Text "CTEENGR" to 616-207-1218 to be let in on the fun!

JEWISH TRIVIA GAME FOR ADULTS IN WESTERN MICHIGAN!!

It's fun, it's quick, it will stimulate your mind- and the best part is?

YOU ARE COMPETING TOGETHER WITH OUR COMMUNITY AND FRIENDS! The 7th player to answer correctly will win a FREE bottle of Kosher wine to be picked up at Chabad!

Every SUNDAY & WEDNESDAY AT 7:00PM SHARP you will receive a TRIVIA question via text message! Reply with the number you think is correct. The 7th participant to answer correctly wins!

It is amazing watching our community unite together to play, connect, and learn.

To Join: text "CHABADWM" to 616-207-1218



WEEKLY SERVICE TIMES:

Shabbat mornings, 9:30 a.m. We broadcast our services on our Boxcast, Periscope, and Youtube channels. We send direct links in the weekly eVoice.

- Boxcast channel: <https://boxcast.tv/channel/o8qlfhegb7y2ydx9u1ck>
- Youtube live channel (Search for Congregation Ahavas Israel, Grand Rapids, MI and look under channel content, live): https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIHABW_jZlAgf697Tk30C9A/videos
- Twitter: follow @ahavasisraelgr

WEEKDAY SERVICES

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Fridays, 8:00 a.m., by Zoom

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/280892158>

Meeting ID: 280 892 158

We invite you to engage in 20-25 minutes of morning prayer online. We don't count a minyan, but we do offer a place to prayer with others before beginning your day.

Thursdays, 7:15 a.m., in person (in the chapel)

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE, 5783 (2022)

SUKKOT

Monday and Tuesday, October 10-11

Yom Tov Festival services, 9:30 a.m.

Enjoy a "Chili" Sukkot, Wednesday evening, October 12, 5:30 - 7:00

Congregation Ahavas Israel and Temple Emanuel celebrate Sukkot together in Ahavas Israel's Sukkah. Bring a vegan or vegetarian chili or sides or dessert to share, along with a crockpot or warming tray, if you have one, to keep your dish warm in the social hall. Put yourself into the mitzvah of the Sukkah and celebrate with your Jewish community.

SHEMINI ATZERET/SIMHAT TORAH

Monday, October 17, Shemini Atzeret

Shemini Atzeret Yom Tov Festival service, including Yizkor, 9:30 a.m.

Monday, October 17, 7:30 p.m., Simhat Torah

Simhat Torah evening service with Hakafot (dancing with Torahs), 7:30 p.m.

Please join the congregation on Simhat Torah evening for a Simhat Torah celebration.

Tuesday, October 18, Simhat Torah

Simhat Torah Yom Tov Festival service, 9:30 a.m.



NEWS FROM TEMPLE EMANUEL

The Holiday Season continues. We invite those who are looking for a vibrant Reform congregation in West Michigan to come and be part of our community. Established in 1857, we are the 5th oldest Reform synagogue in the United States. We are warm and inclusive. We look forward to welcoming all those who are seeking a contemporary approach to Jewish life to our beautiful campus.

SHABBAT SERVICES

We welcome the arrival of Shabbat every Friday afternoon at 6:00 PM. Our worship is filled with music and with community. Come wind down from the week and enter the Sabbath with us.

YOM KIPPUR

We invite those who are new to Grand Rapids to join us for services on this holiest day of the year. Kol Nidrei begins at 8:00 pm on Tuesday, October 4. Yom Kippur morning services begin at 10:00 am on Wednesday, October 5. Afternoon services begin at 4:15 pm, followed by Yizkor and Neilah. For the safety and well-being of our entire community tickets are required for entry into our building. Please contact Cathy@grtemple.org for ticket information.

SUKKOT

We invite the community to join us for many events "In the Hut" during the week of Sukkot. Bring a picnic dinner and come sing with us in the Sukkah on Sunday afternoon, October 9, at 5:30 pm, just as the holiday begins. Shake the Etrog and the lulav and get into the spirit of the chag.

Join us for Women's Night "In the Hut" on Monday, October 10 at 6:00 PM for Tacos and Margaritas. Hosted by Davida Dennen and Stephanie Hurwitz.

Join us for Men's Night "In the Hut" on Tuesday, October 11 at 6:00 PM for Burgers and Beer. Hosted by Jordan Newman and John Robinson.

We join with Congregation Ahavas Israel for a "Chili Sukkot" on Wednesday, October 12 from 5:30 to 7:00 pm. Bring a vegan or vegetarian chili or a side to share, in a crock pot or on a warming tray. This event takes place in the sukkah at Congregation Ahavas Israel.

Join us for our Sukkot Soiree following Shabbat Services on Friday, October 14. The event features a deluxe Oneg, yard games, fall themed cocktails and mocktails.

Come for coffee and bagels and Torah study with the Rabbi "In the Hut" on Saturday morning, October 15, at 10:00 am.

(Continued on pg 26)



TEMPLE EMANUEL *(Continued from pg 25)*

SIMCHAT TORAH

We invite the community to join us for our Simchat Torah celebration on Sunday evening, October 16 at 6:00 PM. The amazing Klezmer Band Chutzpah will be in the house to get us dancing with the Torahs. We celebrate too the Consecration of our youngest students.

Join us for Simchat Torah services on Monday, October 17 at 6:00 pm as we end the holiday season. This service will include Yizkor.

SAVE THE DATE

Our Annual Deli Night Fundraiser will take place on Saturday Night November 5 at 6:00 pm. Home-made potato knishes, Kosher-style corned beef and pastrami, vegan meats, rye bread, potato salad and cole slaw, mandel bread and rugelach. This event helps us raise needed funds to balance our budget each year. Tickets are \$54.

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**Stories of Hope & Courage
from the Holocaust**
**Join us on Wednesday,
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for a program featuring stories of hope and courage from the Holocaust, with Cassandra Kroondyk sharing vocal and violin music, accompanied by Dr. Ken Bos.

This interfaith presentation will be led by Cassandra Kroondyk, from Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church. Dessert and coffee will be served following the program.

Please RSVP to Bev Kagan (bevkagan@hotmail.com) so we know how many guests to plan on.



**Thank you for supporting the
Grand Rapids Jewish Community**

- JFGR General Endowment/L'Dor Vador Fund**
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- Louis & Louise Weiner Fund**
- Jerry & Judy Subar Endowment Fund**
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Life cycle times, both happy and sad, are traditional times to make donations to Jewish causes. You can make a donation of \$10 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:

Woman of Valor Fund To honor the women in our lives who have made a difference personally, locally or nationally.

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.

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

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

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

Louis and Louise Weiner Fund To help ensure local programming for seniors in the Grand Rapids Jewish community.

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

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.

Donna G. Boorstein Memorial Fund To help ensure funding for Jewish arts, culture and history in Greater Grand Rapids.

Lois and Sheldon Kahn Health Help Fund To support health services for Jewish community members not covered by other financial resources.

Fox Family Fund To ensure that the PJ Library, a program of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation, for children ages 6 weeks-12 years old, remains in the Western Michigan community and to provide high-quality educational children's programs.

The Finkelstein Brothers Fund Mort, Raleigh and Edward's commitment to educate the residents of Michigan about the Jewish families that settled in West Michigan during the mid 1800s through community events and educational programs.

Henry Pestka Holocaust Memorial Fund To make certain that the Holocaust is an essential part of the human story forever through educational programs and events that teach awareness, compassion and to ensure these inhumane acts against humanity never happen again.

JFGR Endowment Fund Donation Form

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