



**Executive Director's Letter**

Dear Friends,

*Fighting hate.* Imagine a lifetime summed up by those two words. And doing it pretty well.

This sums up the career of Abe Foxman, the legendary leader of the Anti-Defamation League, or ADL. As Mr. Foxman retires this month following nearly 30 years at ADL's helm, unlike an aging athlete, he shows no sign of slowing down.

I was not surprised when, following the sickening shootings in a black South Carolina church, an email came out from ADL, i.e. from Abe. (No Jewish organization has been more singularly identified with its director than ADL and Mr. Foxman). Here are a few excerpts –

*This was the kind of horrific assault we had hoped would never again happen in America, with echoes of the bombing that killed four black schoolgirls at a church in Birmingham, Alabama more than 50 years ago... That tragedy was a wake-up call for all of us, and this one should be, too... We should all be looking in the mirror this morning and asking ourselves how such a tragedy could happen in America in 2015, and what we can do to ensure that it doesn't happen again.*

Passion. Heartfelt anguish and notably, not about a Jewish tragedy, though I've certainly read and heard Abe Foxman many times in similar words describe terrorist attacks on Jews in Israel, Europe and elsewhere. No, what I have found most admirable in him is his consistency in standing up to hate against humanity. It doesn't matter what religion, race, color, ethnicity or sexual orientation in Abe's eyes.

For those of you not familiar with Abe Foxman, go google his name. It's worth your time. Born into hatred during the depths of the Holocaust, he was hidden by a Catholic nanny. Following a custody battle, Abe was returned to his Jewish parents after the ashes had cooled. Yet, a fire emerged in him that led to his remarkable career.

*Continues page 2*



**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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on Facebook!**

**Jewish Federation of**

**Grand Rapids**

2727 Michigan NE  
 Grand Rapids, MI 49506  
 616.942.5553  
 616.942.5780 fax  
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 www.jfgr.org

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Often labeled irascible and other words not so kind, I suspect he would not have been the easiest man to work for or with. Yes, he could ruffle feathers, but look at the results. There is no doubt Abe Foxman was at the forefront of the progress in alleviating prejudice in our country since the civil rights era of the 1960s.

For example, the terrorist tragedy in Charleston differs in one respect, at least, from the Birmingham murders. The reaction in Alabama by George Wallace and others of his ilk long ago was essentially to endorse those who wore KKK hoods. That was the rule in the South half a century ago. Today, it would be unthinkable for the governor of South Carolina to be so overtly racist. That said, the tip-toeing around the Confederate flag as a symbol of racism reminds us the issue is far from over.

Imagine if a flag displaying a swastika was sanctioned by a state or other government entity in Germany, the U.S. or elsewhere. Is the Confederate flag so different? It is noteworthy the alleged killer of nine in Charleston also had anti-Semitic material on his website. This is not surprising.

No, we are not in a post-racist society, as many proclaimed following the election of Barack Obama as President of the United States. A culture of hatred – of blacks, Jews and others - still exists in some sections of America and needs to be fought. However, it is important to recognize we've come a long way. I can't think of a better way to say 'thank you' to the man who deserves as much credit as anyone for leading the way. Abe Foxman, job well done!

Best regards,

Mike  
[mike@jfgr.org](mailto:mike@jfgr.org)

STAFF: | Executive Director: Mike Present, 616.942.5553 ext. 207, [mike@jfgr.org](mailto:mike@jfgr.org)  
 | Social Service Director: Ann Berman, ext. 206, [ann@jfgr.org](mailto:ann@jfgr.org) | Programming Director: Sari Cohen, ext. 205, [sari@jfgr.org](mailto:sari@jfgr.org)  
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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: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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## Helping Someone With Memory Problems: Questions about memory problems.

By Dr. Lori Reineke, Ph.D.

### Isn't forgetfulness just part of aging?

Not if it interferes with doing everyday activities. People who have problems with paying bills, remembering to take medication, recognizing places, or similar problems have some sort of underlying medical condition that *should be evaluated*.

Those are not normal signs of aging, but they usually are not signs of Alzheimer's disease, either. Getting an evaluation gives us more information so the problem can be diagnosed and treated. The memory problem may be due to something as simple as a medication side-effect that can be easily remedied. Without an evaluation, we don't know how to help the problem.

### How can you find out for sure if memory is normal or not?

A neuropsychological evaluation can answer this question. This evaluation does not replace an evaluation by a physician. It provides different, detailed information that both the patient and physician can use. Unlike other types of evaluation, it can even detect very mild memory problems.

The neuropsychological evaluation looks closely at a person's memory, attention, problem-solving and related abilities and compares them to the average for that age group. This tells us whether a person's memory is normal for their age.

### How can the evaluation help?

For most people with memory complaints, the evaluation provides reassurance that their memory is fine for their age and not a cause for concern. Sometimes, the individual finds that their worries about memory reflect some depression or more general worries that can easily be relieved with counseling and helpful information about their situation.

For individuals who are discovered to have (or already known to have) memory problems, the evaluation can provide a great deal of information that can be used to

guide treatment. This information can be used in two ways:

1. To suggest possible medical diagnoses that a physician can further evaluate and treat.
2. To describe an individual's strengths and weaknesses in memory and related abilities, so that plans can be made for rehabilitation, everyday activities can be made easier by focusing on one's strengths, and weakness can be avoided to prevent safety problems and similar concerns.

For more information about memory disorders and or testing, contact Dr. Lori Reineke at 616-940-3331.

## LUNCH BUNCH GOES ON



## A A FAR EAST ADVENTURE

(in Northeast Grand Rapids)

For those of you 55 and older join our summer adventure of an afternoon exploring the new Japanese Garden at Frederick Meijer Gardens. We will start by enjoying a bite to eat at the Taste of Garden Café, followed by a 1 p.m. tram tour and then free time to wander the gardens or shop or both.

**Date: Thursday July 16, 2015**

**Time: 11:30 a.m.**

**Cost: \$15 (includes lunch and tram tour)**

RSVP by Thursday July 9 to Ann - 616-942-5553

## The Richard & Helen DeVos Japanese Garden



### LUNCH BUNCH SAVE THESE DATES:

**August 13 , September 10 (Annual Apples  
and Honey luncheon)**

**TBD - time will be 11:30 a.m.**

Taking suggestions for places to eat: 616-942-5553

## MISSION TO ISRAEL!

**Are you thinking of going on a trip to Israel?**

The Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids is in the process of organizing a mission to Israel. We would like to invite everyone interested to meet and brainstorm possible dates and areas of interest. If you are interested, please contact our office:

616-942-5553 [info@ifgr.org](mailto:info@ifgr.org)

## ATTENTION ALL COLLEGE BOUND STUDENTS AND PARENTS!

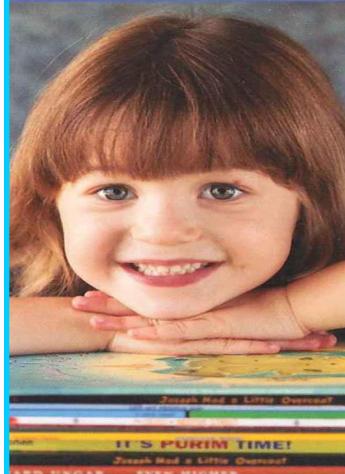
The William Davidson Jewish College Loan Program is dedicated to helping Michigan's Jewish students access higher education to achieve career success. The William Davidson Jewish College Loan Program provides an interest-free loan of up to \$7,500 per student per year for qualifying, Jewish, Michigan residents to help address the rising costs of higher education. If you have questions, please e-mail us at [info@jewishcollegeloansmi.org](mailto:info@jewishcollegeloansmi.org), or call Hebrew Free Loan at 248-723-8184.

The Sara and Max Goldsammler Scholarship Fund is open to any current or collegiate bound Jewish student and will be applied towards tuition costs. Students fill out a simple application and write a short essay in order to apply. Three scholarships are being awarded; \$1,000, \$500 and \$300, based on their essay. The application can be found at [Saramaxfund.com](http://Saramaxfund.com). The deadline for applications is August 2nd.

## PJ Library is here!

**Thank you! To the Ravitz Foundation and Rosenzweig-Coopersmith Foundation.**

A GIFT for  
JEWISH CHILDREN  
and their families.



**PJ Library**

[www.PJLIBRARY.org](http://www.PJLIBRARY.org)



**WHAT?** The PJ Library ("PJ" for "pajamas") program offers the gift of free, high-quality Jewish books and music each month to children ages 6 months through 8 years all across North America. The program is also available to children ages 6 through 8 in some communities.

**WHY?** PJ Library books celebrate important aspects of Jewish culture, values and tradition, and become cherished bedtime stories.

**HOW? Signing up is easy!**  
To sign up for PJ Library visit  
[www.pjlibrary.org](http://www.pjlibrary.org).

*PJ Library is a gift from your Jewish community in partnership with local philanthropists and the Harold Grinspoon Foundation.*

A PROGRAM OF THE  
HAROLD GRINSPOON FOUNDATION



## News from Jewish Women International/(Volunteers needed)

As you may know, I, Eileen Enoch, have chaired the Jewish Community Roster Project for the last many years. This is a project that was begun by B'nai Brith Women in 1965 as a bi-annual event and has continued until today. We are proud to announce that beginning this year, we will join with Jewish Federation Grand Rapids to produce the Roster. We have had a loyal group of volunteers who have worked hard on this project for many years, and a loyal group of advertisers that have been supportive. I would like to thank them all for a job well done! As we move forward, together with the Federation, the Roster can only be more successful! The next Roster should be available early winter. If any of you would like to volunteer to work on this important project, please contact Eileen Enoch (616-949-6444/[Ewillow1@aol.com](mailto:Ewillow1@aol.com)) or Ann Berman at the Federation (616-942-5553/[ann@ifgr.org](mailto:ann@ifgr.org)).

Thank you for your continued support.

Eileen Enoch, Chair Jewish Community Roster (A Project of Jewish Women International)



This book may not be used for any other purpose without the express permission of Jewish Women International \$9.00

## EVENT FOR HIGH SCHOOLERS

GRTY, the Grand Rapids Temple Youth group, is welcoming all community high schoolers to an upcoming event. All 9-12 grade students are invited to a beach day on Sunday, July 5, from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. at Tunnel Park, 66 Lakeshore Drive, in Holland. Games/lunch/swimming/and a discussion about NFTY and GRTY are all included. The cost is \$3. For more information and/or to RSVP, please contact Megan Shibley at [meganshib@gmail.com](mailto:meganshib@gmail.com) or text/phone: 616-334-6074



## Hadassah Book Club

**AUGUST 26th - 7:00 p.m.**

Marilyn Lystad's home, 2647 Cranwood S.W. Wyoming  
[616-531-1616](tel:616-531-1616)

We will car pool from D&W Breton Village to Marilyn's home. Meeting time: 6 p.m.

Please call Marilyn TO LET HER KNOW YOU WILL BE ATTENDING.

BOOK TO READ....."THE ROSIE PROJECT"  
by GRAEME SIMSION

BOOKS CAN BE FOUND AT  
SCHULERS BOOKS ON 28TH ST S. E.

We are as always your grateful book ends,  
SUE REMES... 949- 3505  
FLORY SILVERSTEIN... 949-5766



## South Haven Centers for the Arts 2015 Exhibition

### Talmud: Art of Marc Chagall & Ben Zion

June 6 through July 26

Open free to the public

Tuesday - Friday 10-4pm

Saturday & Sunday 1-4pm

Please join us for this very special exhibition in collaboration with the Ravitz Foundation and First Hebrew Congregation of South Haven.

On loan from a private collection, the exhibition features Biblical imagery from two of the most important Jewish artists for the 20th century.

#### Visit Us!

600 Phoenix Street  
South Haven, MI 49090

#### Contact Us!

(269) 637-1041  
[info.shca@gmail.com](mailto:info.shca@gmail.com)



## Betzalel Art Group

**Thursdays, 2:30 - 4:00 p.m.**

Ahavas Israel ~ Classroom #1

Bring your fiber art project or oil painting or any other art or craft you enjoy doing.

Everyone is welcome. This is an open and flexible group, so come as your schedule allows.

For more information, please contact Barb Christiaans, 616-531-1151 or [barben@iserv.net](mailto:barben@iserv.net)



## Jewish Community Business Forum

**Thursday, July 16, 12:00 -1:00 p.m.**

**El Barrio...545 Michigan NE**

Everyone is Welcome! A good networking opportunity to discuss business principles and to stay aware of resources available in our community.

## Jewish Women's Professional Network

We meet monthly for networking. All women are invited - whether working outside the home, thinking of returning to the workforce, in career transition, or a community volunteer.

The group will be taking the summer off. See you in September!



*Congregation Ahavas Israel***Special Speaker — July 11-** Kenneth Waltzer, Contemporary Anti-Semitism

Dr. Waltzer is a professor emeritus of history in James Madison College at Michigan State University. He will speak briefly during the service and then lead an extended discussion following a light congregational lunch. No charge.

**Learner's Minyan (July 18, and August 15), 10:00 a.m.**

Increase your comfort, participation in, and appreciation of our services. Rabbi Krishef will unlock the secrets to understanding the Shabbat morning service!

**Pre-Shabbat Happy Hour/Kabbalat Shabbat** - The Religious Life committee is hosting Pre-Shabbat Happy Hours (snacks, wine, beer and soft drinks) once a month this summer - July 17 and August 28 at 7:00 p.m., followed by Kabbalat Shabbat at 7:45p.m.. To sponsor a happy hour (\$54), contact synagogue office. 616-942-2840.

**Summer Shabbat Candle Lighting and Havdalah times**

Earliest / Latest		Earliest / Latest	
July 3/4	7:50p.m. 9:07p.m./ 10:07p.m.	July 10/11	7:48p.m. 9:05p.m. /10:04p.m.
July 17/18	7:44p.m. 9:01p.m./10:00p.m.	July 24/25	7:40p.m. 8:55p.m./ 9:54p.m.
July 31/Aug 1	7:34p.m. 8:39p.m./ 9:47p.m.		

*Chabad House*

**Caffeine for the Soul!** Join other women for learning and inspiration and delve into the Torah's timeless wisdom. This class is based on the weekly Torah Portion, studied through the prism of Kabbalah to attain new insights into ourselves and the world around us. Enjoy a coffee, delicious pastries and great discussion! **Thursday mornings at 9:30a.m., 2160 Romence Dr. NE**

A Project of the Jewish Women's Circle. The JWC of Grand Rapids is an ever growing group of women from the Grand Rapids area who come together to socialize, laugh, learn and discover the power of Jewish femininity in today's world. JOIN US!

*Temple Emanuel*

**L'Chaim Loser & Simcha Supporter** What if you could lose weight, benefit Temple and feel good about it? Rabbi Lewis and others are interested in losing weight before the High Holy Days. Rabbi Lewis wants to lose 25 pounds and is looking for a sponsor to pay one or two dollars per pound into a Temple fund of the sponsor's choice. Rabbi will also support two people wishing to lose up to 25 pounds each and will give \$2.00/pound. If you would like to be a L'CHAIM LOSER and/or a SIMCHA SUPPORTER, simply e mail Rabbi Al at [albertmlewis@att.net](mailto:albertmlewis@att.net). Beginning and ending weights are confidential between Rabbi Al and the L'CHAIM LOSER. SIMCHA SUPPORTERS are invited to e-mail Rabbi Al with the amounts they would like to pledge. He will match people up (anonymously) and contact both parties before Rosh Hashannah Please think about the pre Holy Day joy of a healthy Temple family and healthy project budgets. Lose as much as is reasonable and healthy for you—support as much as is reasonable and supportive!

**Thursday Morning Walking Group Starting May 28, 2015** Join Temple members and friends for a 1 mile to 1.25 mile walk on Thursday mornings beginning on May 28. We will meet in the Temple parking lot and stroll through Aquinas College and its beautiful grounds. We will return to Temple for a cool- down walk inside, followed by coffee, breakfast bars and fruit. If the weather is not cooperative, we will walk inside Temple (Three times around is a mile!) and also do "Stretch and K'vetch-Healthy Laughter" exercises. Please call Cathrin at the Temple office (616-459-5976) to sign up. Jokes and quips will be shared along the way!

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.

**Chuck 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.

*Thank you for supporting the  
Grand Rapids Jewish Community*

**JFGR General Endowment Fund**

In memory of Boaz Cohen's mother  
from Karen and Mitchell Padnos

**Julian and Judith Joseph Endowment Fund**

In honor of Judith and Julian Joseph, a special  
anniversary and birthday  
from Roberta and Mike Jacobson

**Louis & Louise Weiner Fund**

In honor of Ann Berman  
from Mimi Sarne

**Donna G. Boorstein Memorial Fund**

In memory of Boaz Cohen's mother  
from Sue Remes

**Sam and Jane Kravitz Social Services Fund**

In honor of Ann Berman  
From Diane Ginsburg and Rick Smith



**JFGR Endowment Fund Donation Form**

Donation from: Name \_\_\_\_\_ Fund (pick from list) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Donor Address \_\_\_\_\_ In honor of \_\_\_\_\_  
 Donor City/St/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ In memory of \_\_\_\_\_  
 Send card to: Name \_\_\_\_\_ Notes: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Send card to address \_\_\_\_\_ **Send your donation and this form to:**  
 Send card to City/St/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ **2727 Michigan NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506**

## The Shofar

Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids  
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Grand Rapids, MI 49506-1240

Send article text to: [Ann@jfgr.org](mailto:Ann@jfgr.org)

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**Next Issue's Information Deadline:  
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Jewish Federation<sup>®</sup>  
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We need help with a special publication project.

See page 4 for more information about volunteering for the Jewish Community Roster

