

Toledo Jewish News

The Monthly Newspaper of Jewish Toledo



Av/Elul 5780 • August 2020

Looking backward and forward

By Stephen Rothschild
Executive Director

So, it is August. I joined Federation as Executive Director last July. I certainly could not have imagined this past year. While I will have a lengthier and more detailed annual report for the community, I did want to give you a brief overview of the past year. The first half of the last year is B.C., Before COVID. Before COVID, I had lots of in-person experiences with so many members of our community: past, present and future community leaders, staff, our clergy, campaign donors, donor advised fund holders, leaders in the non-Jewish community, security consultants, government officials and professional Federation leaders from around the country. I attended programs in Chicago, Washington, D.C., New York, Indianapolis, and Israel. I attended local programs offered by our Federation for seniors, younger adults, and children. We joined together in joy with the Maccabeats and in sadness to remember Kristallnacht and the tragedies in Pittsburgh and Poway. There were board meetings, committee meetings, breakfast, lunch, and dinner meetings—oh so many meetings—and I miss them all. I miss the hustle and bustle, the presence. I miss the three-dimensional experience of sharing space with other human beings to work, to laugh, to joke, to cry, to hug, and to experience joy and sadness. These experiences all seem so long ago...a world away.

In February, I traveled to Israel and then Indianapolis

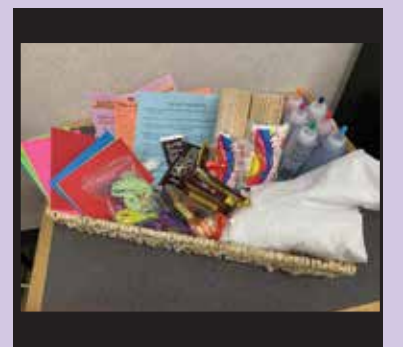
for Federation. About a week after I returned, it was A.C.—After COVID, and our world was turned upside down. No more in-person meetings. No more opportunities for a physical presence with our professional team to collaborate on Federation's important work. It was a strange new world, but we adapted quickly. We made changes and we responded to the challenges and opportunities that confronted us. Federation staff made arrangements to allow almost all of us to continue working from home. The Federation Board made an early commitment to do everything we could to maintain our staff, our programs, and our relationships despite the COVID challenges. We learned how to ZOOM. We made hundreds of calls to members of our community. We made sure that our Family Pantry continued to provide for its clients. We continued to advocate against anti-Semitism and racism. We continued to publish the Toledo Jewish News and deliver the content that our readers desire and expect. We increased our online presence with social media offerings and virtual programs. We continued to operate and maintain our cemeteries to bring dignity for families in their time of solitary grief. We maintained our Gan Yeladim Preschool and offered multiple virtual sessions with our teachers and pupils. We held a social distance appropriate graduation and managed to offer an incredible online art show/auction

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STORIES OF RESILIENCE

and hope for the times
we live in



Sunday, August 16 at 7 p.m.

Via Zoom. Contact Lee at Jewish Family Service at lee@jewishtoledo.org for the event link.

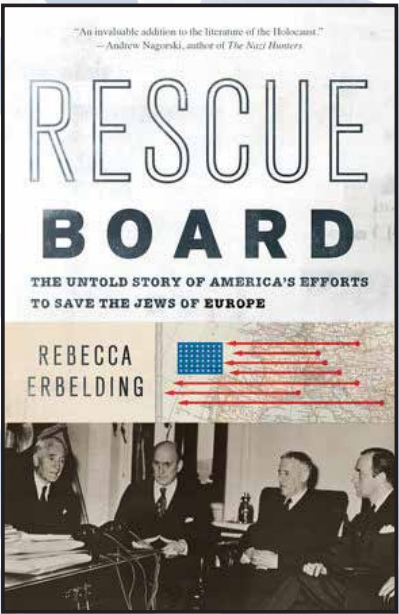
For the first time ever, four clergy members from the Jewish community will share a personal story or one from Jewish tradition that inspires resilience and hope for the times we live in. Please join Rabbi Weinstein, Rabbi Shemtov, Cantor Lichterman, Cantor Roher, and the entire Jewish community from the comfort of your living room. The Jewish Storytelling Project is appropriate for elementary-age children and adults alike. The one hour event will also be recorded for later viewing. Additional storytelling sessions are planned. Together we are strong, resilient, and connected. The Jewish Storytelling Project is sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo and planned by the Jewish Family Service Resiliency Committee, chaired by Dr. Ken Newbury. If you are willing to share your own story of resilience and hope in a future session, please contact Ken at kennewbury@gmail.com

THE NORTHWEST OHIO JEWISH BOOK FESTIVAL PRESENTS:

Northwest Ohio Jewish



Book Festival 2020



Historian
Rebecca Erbelding

author of
*Rescue Board: The Untold Story
of America's Efforts to Save the
Jews of Europe*



Thursday, September 3
7 p.m. Zoom virtual event
Registration by Friday, August 28
To register:
registration@jewishtoledo.org

In *Rescue Board: The Untold Story of America's Efforts to Save the Jews of Europe*, U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum scholar Rebecca Erbelding tells the extraordinary unknown story of the War Refugee Board, President Franklin D. Roosevelt's unpublicized effort late in WWII to save the remaining Jews. *Rescue Board* is based on a decade of research, never-before-seen documents from the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, and interviews with survivors and their families.



JEWISH SENIOR SERVICES
SUPPORTING
ORGANIZATION



Jewish Federation
& Foundation
OF GREATER TOLEDO



Jewish
Book
Council



This year coming to you live through Zoom.



Jewish Federation of
Greater Toledo
Annual Meeting
August 30 at 7:30 p.m.



Attending the community annual meeting helps keep you up to date and informed on the business, dreams and successes of our Jewish Toledo community. RSVP to colette@jewishtoledo.org to receive your link to the meeting.

Toledo Jewish News

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Make your contribution to the Annual Campaign online at www.JewishToledo.org



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Getting started is easy with these steps:

1. Download "Jewish Toledo" from the App Store or Google Play Store.
2. Open the app, select register and fill out your information and click submit.
3. Start exploring the mobile and sign up for an event or class today.

Looking Continued from page 1

of the student's work. We observed Yom Hashoah online with the world and we brought the community together as one in June. Our Foundation leadership, as careful stewards of our community assets, met several times to consider market conditions and evaluate our strategies. We also kept our staff safe and spent hours and hours learning about COVID and the appropriate responses for Jewish nonprofit institutions in order to keep our entire community safe and secure to the maximum extent possible. In the meantime, we kept our board engaged and advised and moved forward with plans for changes to our by-laws that will improve efficiency and the delivery of programs.

Our extraordinary efforts over the last three-and-a-half months were supported, in part, by Federation's participation in the Payroll Protection Program. Announced in early April, the program made Small Business Administration funds available to nonprofit institutions for the first time ever. Participants were given just days to analyze their needs and make application for a limited amount of Federal funding. There were formulas that allowed nonprofits to seek funding in order to protect payroll, rent, interest, and utilities for up to 2.5 times the applicant's average monthly payroll cost. In order to avoid making cuts to our staff, which

would have impacted our ability to deliver our programs and services described above, Federation sought and obtained PPP funding.

Since receiving the funds in early May, we have been carefully applying those funds in accordance with the program's requirements. The receipt of those funds has given us the cushion to protect our staff, allowing us to deliver on the mission of providing our community with programs and services to enhance the health, welfare, education, and cultural awareness of the entire Jewish community and Israel. The pandemic caused a loss of certain program income as well as indications that donors were experiencing economic challenges. We are grateful to our donors who have continued to support us, but we have realistically anticipated that our Annual Campaign could be negatively impacted. We are also grateful to our community's leadership for having the foresight to act quickly to preserve the community's infrastructure in connection with a crisis that is far from over. We are hopeful that the next six months brings us back to our lives as we knew them, but we are confident that regardless of what the future might bring, we are positioned to respond and thrive, despite any challenge. May we always go from strength to strength. *Chazak, chazak veneithazek.*

Toledo Jewish Community Foundation

National Make a Will Month

Right now, before the High Holidays begin, is an ideal time to create or review your will.



Summertime’s slower pace and calmer energy compared to the rest of the year makes August the perfect time to make a will.

Jewish Toledoans can establish endowments through their wills to help their community thrive long into the future. Bequests help to create a “safety net” for the Jewish community by:

- sustaining established programs and encouraging their growth
- providing relief from organizations’ and programs’ overhead costs
- meeting increasing demands for services during economic downturns

Philanthropists seeking to care for the Jewish community years into the future can simply name Foundation or the Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo as a beneficiary when creating or modifying their estate plan.

- Unrestricted gifts enable Foundation's board members to consider the community's circumstances at that time and use a donor's generosity to respond to the day's most pressing needs.
- Restricted gifts, also known as designated funds, specify that a donor's kindness is directed solely to the specific programs or causes that were closest to their heart.

This August, before the new school year starts, work gets busier, and the High Holidays begin, take the opportunity to reflect upon your wishes and plan ahead.

Foundation welcomes all community members to partner in meeting current and future needs through a variety of planned giving and endowment opportunities. For more information, please contact Arleen R. Levine, Director, at Arleen@jewishtoledo.org or 419-724-0355.

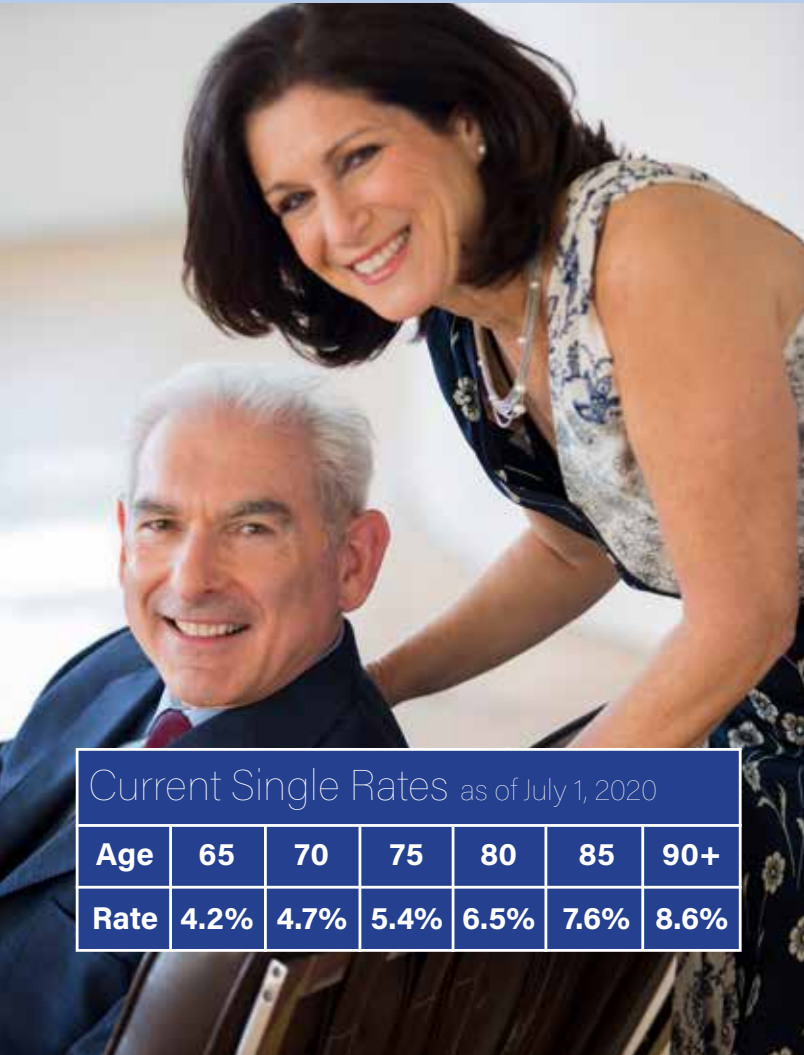
Charitable Gift Annuities

Security for you.
Security for our Jewish future.

Would you like to earn an income AND support your most cherished causes? If so, consider establishing a Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA) with the Toledo Jewish Community Foundation. In exchange for your irrevocable gift of cash or securities, the Foundation will pay you or a loved one a fixed annual income for life. Upon the beneficiary’s passing, any remaining principal will be used to address communal needs that are of deep importance to you.

PLUS:

- A CGA can be established with as little as \$5,000.
- A portion of the gift qualifies for a current income tax charitable deduction, thereby reducing your taxes now, while the full value of the gift is removed from your estate. In addition, part of the annuity payment may be tax free.
- A CGA serves as an attractive alternative to many low-yield investments.



Current Single Rates as of July 1, 2020						
Age	65	70	75	80	85	90+
Rate	4.2%	4.7%	5.4%	6.5%	7.6%	8.6%

Jewish Family Service

We're here for YOU

JFS is here for your emergency needs. We have access to food, emergency funding, and volunteers. Let us know how we can help, or just call us if you want to talk.

419-724-0401



Jewish Family Service
OF GREATER TOLEDO

6505 Sylvania Ave., Sylvania, OH 43560
419-885-2561 | lee@jewishtoledo.org

JFS Staff Contact Information

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419-724-0408 | shariB@jewishtoledo.org

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419-724-0412 | tanya@jewishtoledo.org

Deb Damschroder – Senior Care/Community Outreach Coordinator
419-724-0405 | deb@jewishtoledo.org

Lee Johnson – JFS and Cemetery Office Associate
419-724-0401 | lee@jewishtoledo.org

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419-724-0407 | mckenzie@jewishtoledo.org

Liz Witter – Support Services Coordinator
419-724-0406 | liz@jewishtoledo.org

JFS CAN LOWER YOUR COST OF IN-HOME CARE

- Being discharged from the hospital or rehab?
- Need an extra hand with household chores?

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*Subsidy available for up to 21 hours per week to those who qualify.



JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE IS YOUR CONNECTION TO AFFORDABLE, QUALITY CARE PROVIDERS

Contact Liz Witter, LSW
419-724-0406

Visit us online on Facebook
facebook.com/JewishFamilyServiceToledo

or at our website at
www.jewishtoledo.org/JFS

MIDWEST JEWISH CHAT

We are excited to facilitate a platform to discuss challenges and triumphs, coping skills and tips, and maintain a supportive environment during this challenging time and beyond.



JOIN US ON FACEBOOK!



Jewish Family Service
OF GREATER TOLEDO

Jewish Family Service

How the changing landscape of COVID-19 news increases anxiety levels and what to do about it

By Shari Bernstein, Jewish Family Service Director

The first news about the deadly COVID-19 novel coronavirus was reported in November. It seemed like it took no time at all to spread around the world. Since March, we have all been living in one form or another of sheltering in place. We began to see a plight of pandemic proportions. We watched cities and states shut down, determining levels of quarantine and public health emergency.

There is a growing body of research about the psychological effects the pandemic is having on society. Instances of depression, stress, and trauma have been reported as people are isolated, routines are interrupted, and many are forced to go without their normal creature comforts. Anxiety levels have increased, and people are now faced with the fear of going back outside and or returning to public environments. One of the hardest things about this situation is that no matter how much training or skill you may have in critical thinking, you can't critically think your way through this problem because the information offered is so vast. We have reached "information overload." In addition, misinformation and even conspiracy theories are all over our social media newsfeeds and forwarded in our email inboxes.

As shelter in place orders ease and we begin to open the world back up, we know it makes sense to err on the side of caution by maintaining at least six feet of physical distance from others, wearing a mask in public, and washing our hands regularly. But we also have to determine how we can protect and strengthen our mental health. When the numbers of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations first decreased, we were excited and hopeful. But then they rose again. Many of us are unsure about being near others in public spaces like restaurants and beauty salons. There's a ton of uncertainty about what is safe to do.

Thinking so often about the safety level of activities and places increases anxiety levels. Our minds are hard at work trying to rationalize and find solutions, and often come up with scenarios that assume the worst case. As a licensed counselor, I can only tell you that mixed information from local, state, national, and global news media, politically motivated messages, and

misinformation has only served to increase our anxiety. Those with mental health diagnoses have an increased risk of depression.

Each of us must decide what constitutes a "new normal." We will all have to learn how to live with guidelines that aren't absolute and continue to change our behavior as the information we are given evolves. You and your primary health physician will have to determine what precautions beyond CDC guidelines are appropriate for you in terms of risk assessment and personal comfort.

In the meantime, one way to quell anxiety is by being mindful. Sometimes, it's just about changing the lens through which you see. Perception is everything and our thoughts inform our internal language.

Other ways to calm anxiety:

- Avoid caffeine and the resulting jitters, which affect your brain, too.
- Create a journal. The act of writing is a ritualistic way of releasing thoughts from your brain to paper.
- Find a mantra and/or meditate.
- Go for a walk, or better yet, a hike through the forest. The trees have amazing calming properties. Recent science shows that not only do they have a calming effect, but they have their own energy and they talk to each other.
- Exercise, including yoga or tai chi, which are anxiety reducing.
- Put the smartphone down, turn off the television and other technology, and find some quiet time.
- Think *water* - Drink more, soak more, and look at it more. All are good for the soul.

For those of us who need more support pushing forward, telehealth might be a good choice. Many insurance plans have relaxed their rules regarding in-person therapy and are paying for counseling via online platform. It may feel strange to have virtual appointments, but nothing changes if nothing changes. And that "new normal" I talked about? You might find relief sooner than later. In any case, I wish you all good health, both mental and physical.

Department of Jewish Programs

Kona Ice cools in the summer

On July 26, more than 150 community members stopped by in their cars for a drive-thru icy treat at Jewish Federation's Snowy Summer Hi. Check out page 8 and then plan to attend the Rosh Hashana Roll By on August 23.



Are you happy with your current healthcare?

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Active Life for 60 and Better



For the safety of participants during the pandemic, Jewish Living Center programs and events have moved to a virtual format using the Zoom platform. To RSVP for a JLC event, please email Rene at rene@jewishtoledo.org or Stephanie at stephanie@jewishtoledo.org. You will receive by return email a password protected link to access the Zoom virtual meeting. For more information about Zoom go to Zoom.us or contact Rene or Stephanie.

Musical Monday: Tim Oehlers

Monday, Aug. 3

2 – 2:30 p.m.

Via JLC Facebook group page

The performance will be broadcast utilizing Facebook Live. If you are not already a member, search for Jewish Living Center of Greater Toledo and request to join our private group.

It may be 2 o'clock in Toledo, but it's 5 o'clock somewhere... so take an afternoon break and join us for a musical performance by local musician Tim Oehlers. You may remember Tim from our 2018 Latke Luncheon as our afternoon entertainment. He is a guitarist, composer, and entertainer who presents an eclectic variety of acoustic musical styles. Tim performs various vocal selections along with his original compositions. Relax and grab a cool beverage as we bring Tim live to your screen from the Sekach patio.

Game Day with JLC

Thursday, August 20

2 p.m.

Zoom meeting

Register by Friday, August 14, for password-protected link

Join your friends at the Jewish Living Center as we get creative with Scattergories Online. Can you think of a celebrity whose name starts with an 'S'? An animal whose name starts with a 'J'? Scattergories is the creative thinking, category-based party game first published by Parker Brothers in 1988. RSVP to registration@jewishtoledo.org to receive the password protected link for the event.

Aging Gracefully Behind the Wheel

Friday, August 7 – Memory, Forgetfulness, and Aging: What's Normal & What's Not?

Friday, August 14 - Hearing

Friday, August 21 – Marijuana, CBD, the Brain, and Its Impact on Driving

1 p.m.

Register with Rene or Stephanie by Friday, July 31

We know we need to prepare for aging, but who says we can't do it gracefully? We are partnering with Jamie Blazeovich from the Safe Communities of Lucas County Educational Service Center of Lake Erie West to bring you three events that will discuss the many factors that can play into driving and traffic safety. You can join for us for one session or attend of all them. Each session will begin with yoga exercises then transition into how each topic can impact not only your driving specifically, but your health and well-being all around. To register for the series, email rene@jewishtoledo.org or stephanie@jewishtoledo.org for the link to attend. Only one link is required for all the sessions.



High Holidays Food Order Delivery Thursday, September 10

It's that time of year again - time to get ready for the fall holidays! We are unable to physically take you up north for our annual shopping trip, but that doesn't mean that we can't ensure that you won't have what you need for the holidays. We will pick up your orders that you have placed at Zeman's Kosher Bakery and at Harvard Row and deliver them to your porch on Thursday, Sept. 10.

You will need to do the following:

1. Place your order with Zeman's Bakery no later than Thursday, Sept. 3 by calling 248-967-3905 and ask to speak with Joshua or Shoshana. Tell them that your order will be picked by Rene. Pay for your order at the time you place it.
2. Place your order with Harvard Row no later than Thursday, Sept. 3 by calling 248-539-8806. You will need to tell them that your order will be picked by Rene from Toledo. Pay for your order at the time you place it.
3. Call Rene at 419-531-2119 #1 by Thursday Sept. 3 and let her know the following:
 - Where you placed orders
 - What you ordered at each vendor (please email to rene@jewishtoledo.org)
 - Include in your email your cell phone number and home address

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to call Rene.



JLC is pleased to announce the virtual return of our popular exercise classes starting Monday, August 3.



MONDAYS

- 10 a.m. Get Fit (Facebook Live)
1 p.m. Foundation Fitness (recorded)

WEDNESDAYS

- 10 a.m. Get Fit (Facebook Live)
1 p.m. Ballet Fusion (recorded)

FRIDAYS

- 10 a.m. Zumba (Facebook Live)

Foundation Fitness

Join Eileen for this challenging calisthenics-style workout designed to develop your muscular strength and endurance from the ground up. The class's focus will be on foot and ankle strength and mobility, healthy posture, pelvic floor tone, core strength, and breathing.

nextJGen

Next Jewish Generation

Programs especially for post-college to young families.

Next Jewish Gen Zoom Trivia

Wednesday, August 12 at 8 p.m.


Join us for a night of trivia fun! Win prizes and more. Please email Hallie@jewishtoledo.org for the link.

NJG Ladies Book Club - August

The Color of Water by James McBride
August 6 at 8 p.m.
Please email Hallie@jewishtoledo.org for the link.

Calling all ladies! Join us for our next book club event, where we will discuss The Color of Water by James McBride. Get your copy and start reading. Don't worry if you don't finish in time to discuss it. Come have a glass of wine anyway and help us choose our next book. RSVP to Hallie@Jewishtoledo.org or 419-724-0362.


For more information about Department of Jewish Programs or to register for virtual events, please contact Hallie@Jewishtoledo.org or 419-724-0362.

facebook.com/JewishToledo

Young Jewish Toledo is a staple of Jewish life in the Toledo area, existing to draw wonderful, dynamic, young Jewish people together for the greater benefit of the community.

From Hebrew Happy Hours to date nights to volunteer opportunities, Young Jewish Toledo provides a range of opportunities for young Jewish professionals 21-40. These future leaders of Jewish Toledo are continuously strengthening personal connections while participating in – and perpetuating – Jewish life in Toledo.

To find out more about how you or someone you know can get involved with Young Jewish Toledo, contact Hallie Freed at 419-724-0362 or hallie@JewishToledo.org.



Kindness Kit

By Micki Pittman
Photos taken by Emily Hayman

Bringing kindness to your home, and community! In early- June, over 20 ‘Kindness Kits’ filled with activities were assembled for families to perform mitzvahs at home and in their community. The kits included ingredients and directions to:

- Handwrite thank-you and greeting cards to essential workers, friends, and family
- “Chalk Blast” a neighbor’s driveway with a positive message
- Prepare and deliver brownies to a friend or neighbor and several other fun activities!

We are so happy to offer programs that bring us together through the act of good during times we can’t be physically together.

Next JGen gets crafty

Next JGen picked up all of the supplies needed to create this "My heart and home are in Jewish Toledo" project.

nextJGen
Next Jewish Generation

BBYO Seniors

Congratulations to our BBYO Graduates!
Benny Golding, Harriet Theise, Nina Liebes, Alexa Gudelman, Sam Shafransky, Sam Goldstein and Ellis Meyer

Rosh Hashanah Roll By

Sunday, August 23
1 - 2 p.m.
Federation Campus - Gan Yeladim
Preschool parking lot (please stay in your car and wait to be assisted.)
FREE - Please bring personal hygiene items to be donated to JFS Family Pantry
RSVP required at <https://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/applecake>


Cider, donuts, apple cake - oh my! Roll on by our drive-thru and pick up delicious cider mill donuts, sparkling cider, and a Jewish apple cake kit. Masks and proper safety protocols will be enforced. Any questions? Contact Hallie Freed at 419-724-0362 or hallie@jewishtoledo.org or Stephanie Hinamon at 419-724-0351 or stephanie@jewishtoledo.org

Mitzvah Time!


NJG Socially Distant Hygiene Kit Packing

Thursday, September 3
7 p.m.
Jewish Family Service patio (Outside. Please bring your own mask and a chair or blanket to sit on.)
FREE - please bring toilet paper or paper towel to donate to the JFS Family Pantry
RSVP required. Space is limited to a max of 15 participants to abide by social distance guidelines. RSVP to hallie@jewishtoledo.org or 419-724-0362.


Join us for a socially distanced evening of mitzvot. Help us pack up hygiene kits for teens in the Toledo area while enjoying some safe fun and snacks. Everyone will be socially distanced and receive their own supplies to pack hygiene kits and individually packaged snacks. You will be able to do everything from your assigned space, even have a glass of wine. Bathroom access will be available.



Co-sponsored by
Chabad and Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo
Supported by the Federation's Annual Campaign



SUPPORTED BY
Jewish Federation
& Foundation
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YOUR CAMPAIGN AND LEGACY GIFTS AT WORK



RSVP to any or all events to Hallie@Jewishtoledo.org or 419-724-0362.
Please notify us of any dietary issues at least one week prior to the event.

PJ and Gan Yeladim's Purim to Passover Playdates


11 a.m. - 12 p.m.
For information, please contact hallie@jewishtoledo.org

For children ages 0 – 2 and their parents, grandparents, nannies, and friends to enjoy playtime, crafts, snack, and circle time. Meet and make friends with other PJ parents and their kids. *RSVP to Hallie Freed at 419-724-0362 or Hallie@jewishtoledo.org.*

To learn more about PJ Library® and to ensure your child receives this wonderful gift, please contact Hallie Freed at 419-724-0362 or hallie@JewishToledo.org

PJ Library® is supported in part by The Inspiration Fund and Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo.

WILL YOU READ ME A STORY?



Bring Jewish stories home

FREE books and CDs - *Are you getting YOURS?*


PJ Library® is completely FREE for participating families in the Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo region.

PJ Library® seeks to engage Jewish families with young children. Each participating child in our community from age six months through eight will receive a high-quality Jewish children's book or CD every month.


Each book and CD comes with resources to help families use the selection in their home. The book and music list has been selected by the foremost children's book experts and includes a wide array of themes related to Jewish holidays, folktales and Jewish family life.


To learn more about PJ Library® and to ensure your child receives this wonderful gift, please contact Hallie Freed at 419-724-0362 or hallie@JewishToledo.org.

PJ Library® is supported in part by The Inspiration Fund and Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo.




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YOUR CAMPAIGN AND LEGACY GIFTS AT WORK







SIGN UP at
pjourway.org/enroll



EXPLORE the website




CHOOSE a free book each month




RATE and **REVIEW** your books

FREE Jewish middle-grade books for kids ages 9 through 12


For more information contact Paul Causman at paul@jewishtoledo.org.



Jewish Family Service
OF GREATER TOLEDO



Jewish Federation
& Foundation
OF GREATER TOLEDO




PJ Library® & PJ OUR WAY™

PJ Library® is supported in part by The Inspiration Fund and Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo.

Camp in a bag

This summer, the EMOJI program had 39 campers sign up to attend Jewish summer camp. Summer 2020 had different plans for us. While we in no way could replace a Jewish summer camp experience, we packed up some camp in a bag supplies for these campers to bring a little warmth to their homes. Campers tie-dyed pillow cases, made friendship bracelets, lanyards, s'mores and sent postcards to other camp friends. We are looking forward to sending our campers to Jewish camp in the Summer of 2021.



Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo

Community Opinion Leaders Mission to Israel dispels myths, strengthens American-Israeli ties

By Emily Gordon



When Federation Executive Director Stephen Rothschild asked Julie Hoffman to accompany him on a mission trip to Israel, her stunned silence suggested that she had hung up the phone.

“I remember I paused, and he said ‘Julie? Are you still there?’” the Sylvania Schools Board member and past president recalled with a laugh. “My thoughts were going a thousand miles an hour. I was so happy that he had thought of me for this opportunity and I didn’t want to pass it up, but I have two kids and I thought ‘what if something happened to me?’ In my head, when I thought of Israel, I thought of dangerous borders, sirens, that kind of thing. Your perception of Israel is that it’s not a safe place.”

But the moment Hoffman and Rothschild landed in Israel in February, she had an entirely different impression of the Holy Land – one that lasted long after the pair arrived home.

“It was beautiful and I don’t think there was a moment on the trip that I didn’t feel safe,” she said.

Hoffman and Rothschild were one of 11 pairs of non-Jewish American community opinion leaders – such as academics, politicians, and religious figures – and Jewish American communal leaders on the Partnership2Gether trip to the Western Galilee region in the north of Israel, which is Federation’s Partnership region.

Partnership2Gether is a program of the Jewish Agency for Israel and Jewish Federations of North America that promotes people-to-people relationships through cultural, social, medical, educational, and economic programs. Such mutually beneficial relationships help build Jewish identity and strengthen ties between Israeli and American communities.

The Community Opinion Leaders delegation was a chance for Americans to absorb the complexities of life in Israel and return as first-hand witnesses as to what it is like to

live in Israel.

“Although I had been to Israel before, this trip was significant because I learned more about the perceptions, understandings, and misunderstandings about Israel that are shared by some non-Jewish Americans,” Rothschild said.

Their trip was highly subsidized by an Israeli philanthropist, making it the first time that Israelis have contributed to bringing American

members of the Partnership to the region.

Participants discovered the people and places that create a microcosm of Israel, spending much of their time in the city of Akko and the Matte



Asher region.

There, Jews, Muslims, Christian Arabs, Druze, and Bedouins live side by side, working, worshipping, recreating, and building a community together, Rothschild said.

Up to 35 percent or more of the population is comprised of Israeli-Arabs. While they enjoy full and equal rights of citizenship, the population suffers from discrimination and socio-economic challenges. Partnership sponsors numerous programs and efforts directed at bringing the diverse communities together, he added.

“Local leaders shared with us the tremendous efforts being made by Jews and Arabs to improve the quality of life for all Israelis, regardless of their faith or ethnicity,” he said.

Hoffman and Rothschild forged personal relationships with Israelis of different faiths and cultures as they invited the group of Americans into their homes for meals and discussions.

“The Israelis were so welcoming. They gave us a tour, told us about their lives, and by the end of it all I felt like I’d known them forever,” Hoffman said.

During the trip, participants listened to a guest speaker about the complexity of Israeli society, had lunch with an Arab leader who spoke on the Palestinian narrative, and visited the Galilee Medical Center, where they toured the underground hospital and learned about the treatment of wounded Syrians. They also toured an Arab village community center, Kibbutz Kfar Masarik, and an Ethiopian hut.

Hoffman enjoyed meeting with a group of Jewish and Arab Christian women who lead a dialogue.

“There was such a willingness to talk, to listen, to work together, to address common issues. We’re all humans at the end of the day and we all want the same benefits. We can recognize differences but also work on our common purposes and our love of country,” she said.

Another favorite part of the trip for the Sylvania pair was meeting with leaders of Youth Futures. This program matches mentors with Israeli children, Jewish and Arab, who are considered “at-risk.” A mentor is trained and assigned to help up to 16 children for three to five years, starting when the children are in second grade.

Approximately 300 mentors in Israel are paid by the Youth Future’s program to work full-time with the children and their families. As adult role models, they visit with the children in their schools and homes and help them cope with the challenges they face, providing additional support that busy parents and teachers often cannot.

“Visiting Youth Futures and learning about their program was incredible. I’m not an emotional person at all but hearing about how they help the kids through their difficult experiences really touched me,” Hoffman said.

As an attorney with a focus on family law and experience as a Guardian Ad Litem for abused and neglected children, Hoffman was inspired by the successful work done by Youth Futures. “Here, we have Big Brothers Big Sisters, but Youth Futures is a lot more intensive and involved in every aspect and every level of these kids’ lives. They make it so these kids feel like they really matter and are a priority to someone. I’d love to somehow bring them here to help local kids.”

Since its inception, the program has helped 13,000 children.

Federation makes an annual overseas contribution to help support programs of the Jewish Agency, and Youth Futures is one that Federation has directly supported with a specific allocation from its overseas allocation.

“The program helps children gain confidence and develop their talents and abilities. It gives Israeli children, Arab and Jewish, a future filled with hope. What could be better than that?” Rothschild said.

In addition to their specialized programming, the group enjoyed classic Israel tours such as seeing the Golan Heights, Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, the Western Wall, and a visit to Yad Vashem, the World Holocaust Remembrance Center.

“One of the most moving parts of the trip was our visit to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. I had never visited it before. It was beautiful and the history behind all of it was fascinating, but more than that was the incredible emotional impact that it had on all of us, Jews and Christians,” Rothschild said. “I was grateful to know that Israel’s commitment to pluralism and the protection of all faiths made access to the Church possible and it reminded me how important it is that Israel continue to do so.”

Hoffman said the trip sparked a wish to travel, and she’d like to take her family to Israel one day.

“I like to think of myself as pretty liberal and open minded and I try so hard in my life not to pre-judge things I don’t know firsthand. But this trip made me check my own biases. It gave me more of an education on how Israelis live and work,” she said. “The longer I was there, the more I understood how alike Israel and the US are. Israelis have a similar love and pride for their country. I think there’s a lot both our countries could learn from each other on how to be even better societies and I bet we could make such strides by collaborating with leaders and professionals with other countries in this way, too.”



Local

Simcha



Judi and Marvin Fox would like to announce the birth of their grandson, Liam Henry Jasin. Liam was born on May 11, 2020. He weighed seven pounds and four ounces, and was 20 ¼ inches long. Liam lives in Grove City, Ohio, with his proud parents, Lindsey and Drew Jasin, and his two siblings, Lucas and Everly. His paternal grandparents, Kellie Rowland and Phil Jasin, live in Cincinnati. We are all thrilled to welcome this little bundle of joy into our family.



Ben Becker has been awarded the 2019 Bennett z”l and Donna Yanowitz Leadership Award by the Jewish Federation of Cleveland. The award recognizes and honors outstanding young individuals who have demonstrated commitment, involvement, and leadership within Cleveland’s Jewish community.

Becker, 32, has served the community in a variety of capacities. From 2010 – 2011, Ben was an American Jewish Joint Distribution

Committee Jewish Service Corps Fellow in Izmir, Turkey, and engaged this small Jewish community in cultural and religious events. Upon returning to the United States, he continued to fuel his passion in overseas work by serving on Federation’s Overseas Connections Committee as well as Federation’s Young Leadership Division board and numerous committees that further the Federation’s mission. Becker is a big brother with Bellefaire JCB’s Jewish Big Brothers Big Sisters Association. He previously served on the Mandel JCC board and as an advisor for BBYO.

Becker is the son of Cindy and Danny Becker of Toledo. An alumni of The Ohio State University, Becker and his wife, Jennie, live in Shaker Heights with their son.

Academic Achievement



Alex Liber, son of Lynn and Mark Liber, grandson of Audrey and Ernie Brookfield and the late Charles and Elsie Liber, received his Ph.D. in Public Health Policy from the University of Michigan. Alex will continue his work as a Senior Scientist with the American Cancer Society in Atlanta. Congratulations Alex!

Limited copies of Rabbi Alan Sokobin’s final published work available

By Lynn Jacobs, Toledo Jewish Historical Society

Dear friends in the Toledo Jewish community and congregants of Congregation Shomer Emunim,

On behalf of the Toledo Jewish Historical Society, I would like to inform you of the last project Alan M. Sokobin, z”l, our beloved late rabbi, completed. He and his beloved wife, Mickey Levy Sokobin, z”l, along with Temple leaders in the early 1970s were tasked with acquiring suitable ceremonial objects d’art for the “new Temple” in Sylvania. Rabbi Sokobin said it was a rare joy and honor for a newly hired rabbi to be able to bring his and his wife’s ideas and creativity into making the building into a divinely inspired refuge for the congregation.

The 20-year rabbi of the Temple and 50-year pillar of our Jewish and civic Toledo community, Rabbi Sokobin was a true wordsmith and prolific author who expressed himself as eloquently in his writing as he did in his speech during his blessedly long and productive lifetime. I was delighted with his enthusiastic agreement to leave a written legacy for future generations about the history of the Temple’s most significant acquisitions. Little did I know how fascinating and personal his stories would be. In retrospect, Ceremonial Objects d’Art of Congregation Shomer Emunim could not have been written by anyone but Alan Sokobin. Equally bashert, fated, was our sense of timing. We completed this challenging six-month project just a month before he suddenly and very sadly left us. Forever imprinted in my heart is his 94th birthday lunch in March, when I presented the author, Kleenex included, a copy of what would be his final publication. As if realizing for the first time, he shared his belief that our Temple must own the largest collection of Israeli-made ceremonial artifacts in Ohio, and possibly beyond.

Ceremonial Objects d’Art of Congregation Shomer Emunim is beautifully designed by our own Paul Causman with photographs by Sylvania photographer Kurt Nielsen. One can almost hear Rabbi Sokobin, with his inimitable choice of words and personal style, recall in precise detail adventures he and Mickey took 50 years ago to acquire each object. The Jerusalem stone ark doors in the sanctuary and the outdoor menorah (the Temple’s official logo) are but two of the ten installations described with an inspired heart and passion. His final written legacy to our community, their descendants, and interested scholars everywhere is indeed one for the ages. L’dor V’dor – from generation to generation.

If there is sufficient interest, a limited number of copies will be printed. Those interested in purchasing a copy may contact Colette at colette@jewishtoledo.org.

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Temple Shomer Emunim

August Worship Schedule

Saturday, August 1

Shabbat Service at 10:30AM
Bat Mitzvah of Emily Rusgo

Friday, August 7

Shabbat Service at 6:00PM
Rabbi Weinstein will speak

Friday, August 14

Shabbat Service at 6:00PM
Cantor Roher will officiate

Friday, August 21

Shabbat Service at 6:00PM
Cantor Roher will officiate

Friday, August 28

Shabbat Service at 6:00PM
Rabbi Weinstein will speak



Zoom Summer Concert Series!



Save the dates for these concerts, Sundays at 4:00PM, all on Zoom and streaming to the American Conference of Cantors Facebook page, except for August 30, which will be on the Temple Facebook page

Sunday, August 2

Dr. Samuel Adler
Professor Emeritus, Eastman School of Music & The Julliard School

Sunday, August 9

Cantor Regina Hayut (Temple Beth Emeth, Ann Arbor, MI)
Music For These Times: Liturgical Songs of Peace and Comfort

Sunday, August 16

Cantor Rachel Gottlieb Kalmowitz
(Temple Beth El, Bloomfield Hills, MI)

Sunday, August 23

Cantor Jen Roher

Sunday, August 30

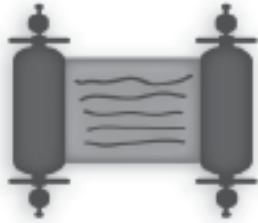
Laurie Akers, Cantorial Soloist & Songwriter, Congregation Or Shalom, Vernon Hills, IL

Join us via Zoom!

Coffee with the Clergy
Wednesdays,
August 5, 12, 19
& 26 at 11:00AM



Torah Time
Fridays, August 7,
14, 21
& 28 at 11:00AM



Congregation B’nai Israel

Please be advised that scheduled religious services and events for the month of Aug. may be cancelled, postponed, or have a format change. Please watch your email for updates.

Weekly Services Schedule
for August 2020

Zoom Services:

Mon. - Thurs. at 7:30 PM, Friday at 5:45 PM

An email link will be sent before the scheduled meeting time.

Live Stream Services:

Saturday, Shabbat Morning at 10:00 AM

A link to the live-streamed service will be e-mailed on the Friday before the Shabbat Service.



Due to the fluctuations in local Coronavirus cases, decisions regarding in-person services in our sanctuary will be made on a week by week basis. Please watch your email for details and guidelines.

ARE YOU RECEIVING
CBI NOTIFICATIONS?

CBI sends out email updates and important information throughout the week. If you are not receiving emails from CBI, please contact the office as soon as possible by calling 419.517.8400 or email Rhoda Miller directly at rmiller@cbitoledo.org.



Join us for “Lunch & Learn”
via Zoom

Wednesdays from 1:00 - 2:00 PM
Dates & topics for August & September are TBD.
Watch for email updates.



WOMEN OF CBI BOOK CLUB

“Spies of No Country: Secret Lives at the Birth of Israel”

by Matti Friedman

Tuesday, August 4, 2020
10:30 AM via Zoom

Those who want to attend will be sent the email link before the scheduled meeting time.

Please RSVP to Sharon Stein at sstein100@gmail.com or Carol Richman at carolrichman@msn.com.

WOMEN OF CBI CELEBRATE

Rosh Chodesh Elul

Join us on Zoom as we prepare
for a Sweet New Year

Tuesday, August 19, 2020
7:00 PM via Zoom

Those who want to attend will be sent the email link before the scheduled meeting time.

Please RSVP to Miriam Beckerman: mesb@bex.net by Monday, August 17, 2020. After you RSVP, details on where to send your \$5.00 registration fee will be provided. These funds will be donated to “Mazon: A Jewish Response to Hunger”, as our Tikkun Olam project for this program. Info about Mazon can be found www.mazon.org.



AUGUST CBI PROGRAMS ARE OPEN TO ALL LOCAL CONGREGATIONS

If you are member of another congregation and would like to attend, please contact the CBI office at 419.517.8400. A link will be emailed before the scheduled meeting time.

Congregation Etz Chayim

*All programs listed are subject to change depending on the opening of the synagogue.
Emails will be sent to congregants notifying them if the following programs and meetings will be postponed.*

UPCOMING SYNAGOGUE PROGRAMS FOR JULY

Sunday, July 5 & 19 at 10:00 a.m. – Join the fun in the Social Hall for our regular bi-monthly poker and mahj games. Refreshments will be served. If the shul has not yet opened, we will continue our popular on-line mahj games.

Wednesday, July 15 at 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. – The Sisterhood Mahj Tournament originally scheduled for this date has been postponed until early Fall. Further information will be provided when the future plans have been finalized.

Saturday, July 18 following services – July Birthday/Anniversary Shabbat Kiddush lunch - Let’s celebrate with our members who are celebrating birthdays and anniversaries in June.

Wednesday, July 22 at 12:00 Noon – The Joint Synagogue Book Club originally scheduled for today has been postponed. The rescheduled date will be announced later.

Sunday, July 26 at 11:00 a.m. – Join us for a Learning Session with Aviva Panush through Zoom.

TISHA B’AV

Tisha B’Av, the Fast of the Ninth of Av, is a day of mourning to commemorate the many trageies that have befallen the Jewish people, many of which have occurred on the ninth of Av. Tisha B’Av means “the ninth (day) of Av”. This year it falls on Wednesday evening/Thursday, July 29/30.

Although this holiday is primarily meant to commemorate the destruction of the Temple, it is appropriate to consider on this day the many other tragedies of the Jewish people, many of which occurred on this day, most notably the expulsion of the Jews from Spain in 1492 and from England in 1290.

Tisha B’Av is the culmination of a three week period of increasing

mourning, beginning with the fast of the 17th of Tammuz, which commemorates the first breach in the walls of Jerusalem, before the First Temple was destroyed. During this three week period, weddings and other parties are not permitted, and people refrain from cutting their hair. From the first to the ninth of Av, it is customary to refrain from eating meat or drinking wine (except on the Shabbat) and from wearing new clothing.

This year, Tisha B’Av will be observed beginning on Wednesday, July 29th at 9:40 p.m. and all day, Thursday, July 30th, ending at 9:30 p.m.

SISTERHOOD NEWS

The Sisterhood Closing Luncheon and Woman of the Year Award has been rescheduled. The Closing/Opening Luncheon is now being planned for September. We are proud to announce that Sharon Ravin has been chosen as this year’s Woman of the Year. Sharon has been an active member of our Etz Chayim Sisterhood for many years and has given generously of her time and energy in so many ways. Mazel tov to Sharon! Please watch for further information about the Luncheon in the August and September Hashomers.

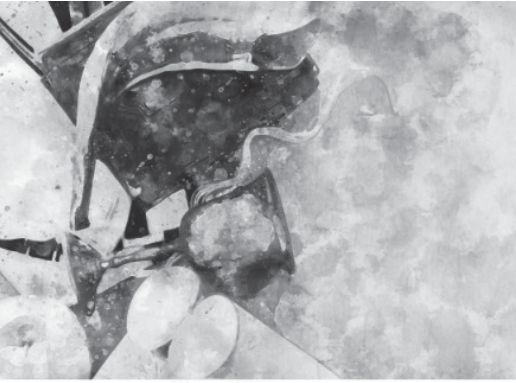
Due to the uncertainty of the coronavirus emergency, Sisterhood’s Annual Mah Jongg Tournament that was scheduled for Wednesday, July 15 has been postponed. We hope to reschedule it for early fall.

SAVE THE DATE!!
ETZ CHAYIM ANNUAL FAMILY PICNIC
Sunday, August 16, 2020
3:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

A special program will be held from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Dinner featuring hotdogs, BBQ Chicken & Brisket as well as the typical picnic sides will be served from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Watch for details in a mailing and in the August Jewish News.


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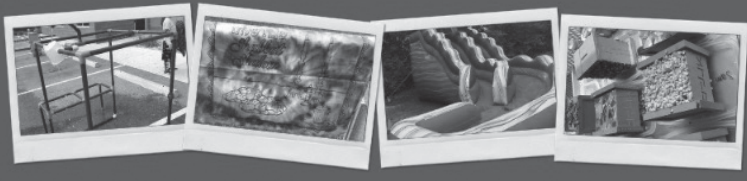
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WEEKLY VIRTUAL CLASSES


MEN'S TEFILLIN CLUB

Sunday: 9:30 -10:15am
Meeting ID: 377 638 2748
Password: 246801




ADULT LECTURE SERIES

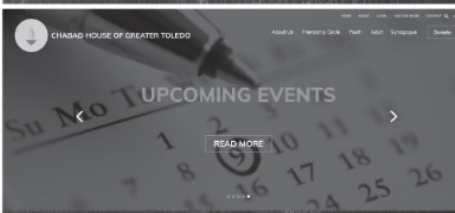
Sunday: 10:15 AM
Meeting ID: 377 638 2748
Password: 246801



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