We stand together in this season of light

By Stephen Rothschild, Executive Director

The late Nobel Prize laureate Isaac Bashevis Singer, a Yiddish author, had a favorite joke that went something like this (as recounted in “Jewish Wisdom” by Joseph Telushkin):

In the 1920s, a Jew travels from his small Polish shtetl to Warsaw. When he returns, he tells his friend of the wonders he has seen.

“I met a Jew who had grown up in a yeshiva and knew large sections of the Talmud by heart. I met a Jew who was an atheist. I met a Jew who owned a large clothing store with hundreds of employees, and I met a Jew who was a progressive socialist.”

“So, what’s so strange?” the friend asks. “There must be a million Jews in Warsaw.”

“You don’t understand,” the man answers. “It was all the same Jew.”

The Jewish people are a complicated lot. We are all shades of the rainbow. We are rich and poor. We are young and not so young. Blessed and cursed. We like ritual and spiritual. We are givers and doers. We are left and we are right. We are different, but we are also the same.

Over the past several years, we have witnessed, experienced, and been reminded that the darkness of antisemitism, in all its ugly forms, can easily bubble out from buried rocks with tragic consequences. It can frighten us and it can drive us apart, or its darkness can be pushed back by the unity of light. Bright white light is the result of a rainbow of light and it can bring clear vision to the darkest of places. In this season of light, our celebration of Hanukkah should remind us that religious freedom to practice our faiths safely and securely in our homes and houses of worship is a fundamental right of all human beings.

In 2019, Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo and Toledo Jewish Community Foundation committed resources and engaged in multiple efforts to create greater understanding between and among members of different faiths, to educate our community about the risks and harms of antisemitism, and to undertake coordinated efforts in securing the safety of all our religious institutions. We will continue these efforts with your ongoing support of our Annual Campaign. If you have not yet made a gift, please consider doing so. It is a tangible way to demonstrate that we stand together and that you stand with us. As always, if you have questions or concerns about our community, please reach out to me at stephen@jewishtoledo.org.

From all of us at Federation and Foundation, may the light of the Hanukkah menorah remind you of the miracle of light and the unity of the Jewish people, and may you all have a very happy Hanukkah.
Campaign 2019

Texting your Campaign 2019 donation is easy, convenient, and fast

Text CAMPAIGN to 44321

The importance of your support

By Stephen Rothschild
Executive Director

Through your support of Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo, you help power and secure communities, inspire generations, and provide meaningful services and programs for seniors, adults, and children. In the face of rising antisemitism, your gift helps staff continue to stand strong and build bridges to our many friends in the non-Jewish community.

At a time when we need it most, you make our Jewish preschool, community center, the Sekach building, and our synagogues safer. Through your gift, Federation's Secure Community Network provides the tools, training, and knowledge for all of us to be more secure as well as vital crisis training in case of an incident.

In addition, your gift backs a broad range of programming and services including our Jewish Family Service Family Pantry, patient advocate program, and Music and Memory program; Gan Yeladim Preschool; PJ Library Playdates for young families; two Hillel chapters for area college students; Next Jewish Generation events for young professionals; Jewish Living Center classes, trips, and programs; and Jewish book, music, food, art, and film festivals.

For tens of thousands of people in 70 countries, your

Simply enter your donation amount, your payment method and you are done!

Easy Convenient Fast and Fun!
Make a gift tax-free with an IRA

You can support the Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo and the Toledo Jewish Community Foundation with a gift from your IRA.

- If you are 70 ½ or older, you can rollover up to $100,000 from your IRA to Federation to support gifts to Federation’s Annual Campaign or to Foundation to support designated gift opportunities, including Perpetual Annual Campaign Endowment (PACE) funds.

- To qualify, the transfer must go directly from your IRA to either Federation or Foundation. Contact your IRA Administrator to facilitate the distribution.

- Gifts made from your IRA (up to $100,000 per year) are not reportable as taxable income.

- The gift will qualify for your required minimum distribution.

We would be pleased to assist you and your advisor in arranging qualifying distributions. Note that IRA gifts may not be used to fund a philanthropic/donor advised fund, charitable remainder trust, supporting foundation, or charitable gift annuity. Please contact Arleen R. Levine, Foundation Director, at 419-724-0355, or Wendy Goldstein, Federation Campaign Director, at 419-724-0360.

This material is presented for informative purposes only and should not be construed as legal, tax, or financial advice. When considering gift planning strategies, you should always consult with your own legal, tax, and financial advisors.

LIFE INSURANCE

Life insurance can be used to fund a charitable gift to the Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo (“JFGT”) or the Toledo Jewish Community Foundation (“TJCF”), with a new policy or policies no longer needed for their original purpose.

How does it work?

1. You name JFGT/TJCF as owner and beneficiary of your existing policy. When you make your gift, you are entitled to a charitable income tax deduction that may be sizeable, and the policy proceeds will be payable to JFGT/TJCF.

2. You purchase a new policy and name JFGT/TJCF as owner and beneficiary. You make deductible contributions to JFGT/TJCF to use to pay the premiums.

3. You may be eligible to avail yourself of a match through the L’Dor V’Dor Matching Life Insurance program which provides a 50 percent match for a specified gift to our Long Term Community Needs Fund or Perpetual Annual Campaign Endowment Fund.

4. You name JFGT/TJCF as beneficiary of your policy and retain ownership. The proceeds are includable in your taxable estate but can be offset with a charitable tax deduction.

What are the benefits?

- The JFGT/TJCF will use the policy proceeds for purposes that you specify.
- A gift of life insurance is easy to arrange and administer.
- You may be able to make a more significant gift than you thought possible.

This material is presented for informational purposes only and should not be construed as legal, tax or financial advice. When considering gift planning strategies, you should always consult with your own legal and tax advisors.

For further information, please contact Arleen R. Levine, Director, Toledo Jewish Community Foundation at 419-724-0355 or email Arleen@jewishtoledo.org.
How to contribute to Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo/Toledo Jewish Community Foundation

- Donate online at www.jewishtoledo.org
- Call Tina Stieben at 419-724-0371 or email her at tina@JewishToledo.org for stock or IRA gifts
- Donate or pay by mail by sending your pledge cards and payments to: Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo, Attention: Kathy Sherion, 6465 Sylvania Avenue, Sylvania, Ohio 43560

Please note that checks need to be post-marked by December 31, 2019 for a 2019 tax deduction.

Gift Policy Statement Regarding Donations of Stock

Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo is happy to accept donations of stock as payment for pledges made to the Annual Campaign. Stock gifts need to be received by 12 p.m. (noon) on December 26, 2019 in order to sell before the market closes. Please note the brokerage firm may charge a transaction fee up to an amount of $100.00.

It should be noted that our procedure is as follows for accepting stock: Whenever a gift of stock is made, the donor receives a confirmation in writing that the gift was made on that date. Normally upon consultation with financial professionals, this is the date used when valuing the gift for IRS tax purposes.

After being notified that a gift of stock has been made, either from the donor or a stockbroker, the stock will then transfer into the Federation’s account and Federation will sell the stock. The net proceeds of the sale of stock will be applied against any outstanding pledges for the individual. The donor will be notified, in writing, what the net proceeds were.

To expedite this process, it is extremely helpful if the donor, his/her stockbroker or financial advisor notifies Federation’s Department of Finance verbally or through email when a gift of stock is made. By following this procedure, the timing between the gift being made and the sale of the stock is greatly reduced.

Please contact Tina Stieben, CFO, at tina@JewishToledo.org or 419-724-0371, or 419-346-5397 (cell) for further assistance.

IRA Charitable Rollover Checks

Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo is also happy to be able to accept IRA Charitable Rollover contributions to the Annual Campaign. Please contact Tina Stieben at 419-724-0371 or Arlene Levine 419-724-0355 if you are making provisions with your financial advisor to donate with an IRA Charitable Rollover check; this way we can ensure that the check is processed timely and that you receive the appropriate tax letter. For further information on the eligibility to contribute using your IRA Charitable Rollover, please consult your financial advisor.

Personal Credit Card & Check Payment Deadlines

Credit card payment information must be received at Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo by 12 Noon Friday, December 28, 2018 for 2018 tax purposes. As stated above, payments by check need only be postmarked December 31, 2018 for 2018 tax purposes, or you can make payments online at www.JewishToledo.org by midnight on December 31, 2018. Please note that our offices will be closed Tuesday, December 25, 2018 in observance of Christmas holiday. Please call the accounting department before 2:00 pm at 419-724-0366 to process a credit card payment over the phone.

2019 Year End Tax Planning

Year-end has always been an advantageous time to review certain strategies to reduce overall income tax liability. And now that it has been almost two years since the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act ("2017 tax act") was enacted, it’s important to review some traditional tax planning strategies as well as to determine whether some new techniques could help cut your federal and state tax bills.

Determine Your Tax Bracket

One step to take is to estimate your 2019 tax bracket. The top bracket this year is 37 percent for married couples filing jointly with adjusted gross incomes greater than $612,350. The other rates for joint filers are 35 percent for incomes over $408,200; 32 percent for incomes over $321,450; 24 percent for incomes over $168,400; 22 percent for incomes over $78,950; 12 percent for incomes over $19,400; and 10 percent for incomes of $19,400 or less. If you expect to be in the same or lower tax bracket in 2020, it may be beneficial to defer taxable income until next year or reduce this year’s taxable income. However, one of the key changes made by the 2017 tax act is the large increase in the standard deduction discussed below, must be factored into any year-end calculations.

Action Item: Shift some of your tax burden to a future year. Tried and true strategies for lowering your tax bill include deferring receipt of a bonus payment to 2020, accelerating remaining deductions into this year by prepaying a deductible expense, maximizing contributions to qualified retirement plans, or making larger charitable gifts. Put those saved tax dollars in your pocket rather than the government’s.

Itemize or Standard Deduction?

One of the most significant changes in the 2017 tax act was the dramatic increase in the standard deduction. For 2019, married couples filing jointly can claim a standard deduction of $24,400 ($25,300 for those over age 65). It is estimated that because of this increase, coupled with the $10,000 limitation to the deduction for state and local taxes and the elimination of other deductibles items, less than 10 percent of all taxpayers will be itemizing their deductions for the 2019 tax year.

If you claimed itemized deductions in the past, you may now want to consider “bunching” those deductions into one year in order to exceed the standard deduction amount and claim the standard deduction in other years. Perhaps the easiest itemized deduction to bunch is that for charitable contributions. One way to accomplish this is to combine tax-deductible contributions that would otherwise be given in two or more years into one.

Action Item: Make charitable contributions in the "bunching" year to a new or existing donor advised fund ("DAF") offered by [name of Jewish federation/Jewish community foundation]. Claim the charitable deduction in the year you make the contributions and spread distributions to charities over several years.

Another 2017 tax act change that increased the annual cap on cash contributions to charity from 50 percent of adjusted gross income to 60 percent makes the “bunching” even more attractive.

Are you Over 70 ½?

If you are at least 70 ½ years old and are considering donating to charity, it may be more beneficial to make the donation from an individual retirement account. Over the past ten years, many individuals have utilized the IRA charitable rollover to transfer up to $100,000 each year directly from their IRAs to public charities such as the Jewish Federation. Qualified charitable distributions can count against the “required minimum distribution” amount but note that transfers to a DAF, supporting organization, or a private foundation do not qualify). An IRA Charitable Rollover is not deductible, but because it is not included in gross income, the net effect may be the same as it would have been had you made a charitable contribution. As a bonus, you do not have to itemize to get the tax benefit of your gift, so you can still claim the higher standard deduction under the 2017 tax act.

Action Item: Use your IRA Charitable Rollover to pay your Annual Campaign pledge, establish a Lion of Judah or Perpetual Annual Campaign Endowment or use it to establish an endowment fund to support a charitable cause of your passion.

Investment Assets

2019 continues to be another go-year for the stock market and other investment assets. As year-end approaches, it is an opportune time to consider "bunching" your tax deductions for charitable contributions.

Continued page 7 Tax Planning
Calling all computer whizzes!
 Become part of the Music & Memory movement

No age requirement, just a desire to help elderly individuals recall pleasant memories by downloading some of their favorite songs onto an iPod Shuffle. Flexible hours. Nice working conditions. If you or a family member, friend, or classmate would like to perform a wonderful mitzvah, please contact Liz Witter at 419-724-0406 or liz@JewishToledo.org.

Your old CDs can help seniors suffering from cognitive and physical impairments…

Research has shown that a personalized playlist of songs can improve the mood of people with neurological diseases, boost the mood and cognitive skills of those suffering from a wide range of cognitive challenges, and more. We are in need of CD donations of Hungarian, Polish, Russian and Yiddish Music for clients who are a part of the JFS Music and Memory program, as these genres of music are difficult to find on iTunes.

Are you a music lover? Are you tech savvy? Your skills are needed. The Music and Memory program is in need of volunteers to download music to iPods.

In addition we appreciate any donation of used (or new) iPods, iPads, Speakers, Headphones, CDs (any genre), and iTunes gift cards.

To donate, to learn more about volunteer opportunities, or to sign up for Music and Memory, contact Liz Witter at 419-724-0406, or liz@jewishtoledo.org.

Give family and friends the gift of home!

B’nai Mitzvahs • Confirmations • Holidays • Birthdays

A History of the Toledo Jewish Community: 1895–2006 by David Noel

Available for $20 a copy at the gift shops of Congregation B’nai Israel, Congregation Etz Chayim, and Temple Shomer Emunim. Additional charge for shipping.
The Toledo Symphony Orchestra will present the Holocaust-era children’s opera Brundibár on Thursday, February 20 at the historic Toledo Museum of Art Peristyle Theater to commemorate the 75th anniversary of World War II. Composed in 1938 by Czech composer Hans Krása with lyrics by Czech librettist Adolf Hoffmeister, Brundibár was an opera written to be performed by children. The story follows siblings Aninka and Pepíček who travel to the market to fetch some milk for their sick mother. Without any money, they adopt the ways of Brundibár, a greedy street musician who cranks a music-making box and decide to sing in hopes of collecting tips. Brundibár runs the children out of the market, and Aninka and Pepíček realize they must gather more singers to overpower him. With the help of a trio of animals—a dog, a cat, and a sparrow—they create a booming chorus of friends. Their combined voices vanquish Brundibár, and the children make enough money to buy milk for their mother.

Originally created as an entry for a children’s opera competition, Brundibár premiered in German-occupied Prague and was performed by the children at the Jewish Orphanage. It received one additional performance before the mass transports of Jews to Theresienstadt concentration camp in Czechoslovakia began in 1942. The piano score was later smuggled into the Theresienstadt in 1943 by Rudolph Freudenfeld, the conductor of the original premiere. Krása later re-orchestrated Brundibár for the instruments available at the camp.

The Nazis arranged a new staging of Brundibár for their propaganda film, The Fuhrer Gives a Village to the Jews. The film was made to create the illusion for the outside world that the camps were benign and the Jews were being treated humanely. The new production premiered in 1944 and would be the last of the 55 performances by the children of Theresienstadt. Two weeks later, Krása and most of the children who performed in the opera were deported to Auschwitz and died in gas chambers. A Greek Jewish survivor, Elsa Weinberg, who played the role of the cat in every performance of Brundibár, was one of few child performers at Theresienstadt who survived. Krása’s daughter, Tamar Grishpon, will speak about her mother’s experiences at the performance.

“This story of triumph over evil is multi-layered,” says Rachel Schultz, Director of Education and Community Outreach at the Toledo Symphony. “For younger students, the children’s story we see on stage will tell a story of bullies, friendship, persistence, and teamwork. Peel back the layers, and older students and adults will uncover how this production fits into the world then and now.”

“In the next few years, there will not be any Holocaust survivors left,” says Hindyke Markowicz, Director of the Ruth Fajerman Markowicz Holocaust Resource Center of Greater Toledo. “It is up to us to remind the world of the atrocities that took place during World War II, and this presentation of Brundibár by the Toledo Symphony and Toledo School for the Arts will certainly move us and help us all remember.”

The one-night-only evening performance of Brundibár will open with But the Giraffe, by Tony-award playwright Tony Kushner and Maurice Sendak. But the Giraffe tells a fictional story behind the extraordinary true events of how Rudolph Freudenfeld was able to smuggle pieces of Krása’s opera into Theresienstadt. In the story, a young girl is determined to bring her stuffed giraffe with her when she learns her family is moving to a new home. Her mother insists there is no room for the giraffe as her uncle needs the space for a pile of papers, the score to a children’s opera that would bring joy to not only one little girl, but lots of little boys and girls.

Tickets for the evening performance open to the public are $20 and can be purchased in-person at the Toledo Alliance for the Performing Arts (TAPA) Box Office (1838 Parkwood Ave.), by calling 419-246-8000 (Monday through Friday, 9-5PM), or by visiting the website at toledosymphony.com. A portion of ticket sales will go to support the Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo.
Active Life for 60 and Better

MONDAY
9 a.m. – 10 a.m. AND 11 a.m. – noon
Get Fit…It’s Never Too Early
Your favorite class kicks off your day with a comprehensive workout featuring cardio, strength, and flexibility. Balls, bands, chairs, and light weights are used in this class. Join us for great moves and great music. All supplies are provided. Free.

1 p.m. – 2 p.m.
Drumming
A full-body workout for any fitness level that anyone can do. Drumsticks are pounded on exercise balls and clinked overhead and side-to-side to upbeat music that will have you moving in step and around the circle. This class keeps you active and gives your core a great workout. All supplies are provided.

WEDNESDAY
9 a.m. – 10 a.m. AND 11 a.m. – noon
Get Fit…It’s Never Too Early (see above for description)

1 p.m. – 2 p.m.
Ballet Ball Fusion
This is a great combination class that brings together basic ballet, Tai Chi, and drumming to give you a complete and fulfilling workout unlike any other with music to guide you. It focuses on your core for balance and strength and offers a full range of motion to help you work on your stretching and breathing.

FRIDAY
9 a.m. – 10 a.m. AND 11 a.m. – noon
Get Fit…It’s Never Too Early (see above for description)

12:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Poker & More...
Big and Little Vegas, Stretch, and Red and Black - those are just a few of the games you can expect to play in this lively get together for all. Nickels and dimes are what you will need to make this an afternoon of fun.

Roadsigns is a beautiful, lyrical new play by Jeff Daniels. The play follows Lance, a young poet, as he embarks on a journey to find the way to himself. This nostalgic tale is filled with rich characters who dwell on the outskirts of life, each following a dream or hoping to bump into one. Original music by Jeff Daniels and Ben Daniels. Contains adult language and content.

OUT AND ABOUT
Roadsigns at Purple Rose Theatre, Chelsea, MI
Wednesday, February 19
12 p.m. - Leave Federation campus (6465 Sylvania Ave.)
1 p.m. - Lunch at Common Grill
3 p.m. - Matinee Show
7 p.m. - Return to Federation (estimated)
$50 per person includes transportation, lunch, and theatre ticket
Registration and payment required by January 31. This outing requires moderate walking and standing and features stairs and uneven terrain. Please share any accessibility and dietary needs at time of registration.

Healthy Living
Our approach to aging includes promoting a healthy lifestyle. By offering a series of wellness programs, the JLC helps those in our community achieve their health goals.

Thursday, Dec. 12
12 p.m.
Congregation B’nai Israel, 6525 Sylvania Ave.
$5 per person, includes lunch and entertainment
Registration and payment requested by December 5.

Celebrate the festival of lights together with a celebratory Hanukkah lunch and wonderful entertainment from local musicians Candice Coleman and Chris Brown. Chris’s musical career began when he joined a local band and performed gigs as a teenager. As an adult, Chris studied classical and jazz performance at the University of Toledo. Fans may recognize Candice from American Idol talent show when she competed during its early seasons. Joining Chris Brown in 2008, Candice has brought her vocal talents to venues across Toledo. Bring your family and friends to join us for a great afternoon of socializing as we kick off the holiday!

To use any of the above services, just fill out a simple and quick Client Registration Form. To learn more about the Jewish Living Center, call 419-531-2119 #1 or visit JewishToledo.org. The Jewish Living Center is supported by the Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo and Jewish Seniors Services Support Organization.

To register for a Jewish Living Center Program, please call Stephanie Hinamon at 419-531-2119 #2 or email registration@jewishtoledo.org. For questions about a program, please call René Rusgo at 419-531-2119 #1 or emailrene@JewishToledo.org. For complete itinerary, check out www.jewishtoledo.org/60andBetter/out-and-about
Jewish Living Center

Whole Body Fusion
Friday, January 10, 17, 24, 31
1 – 2 p.m.
Sekach Building
Class limit is 15 participants
Whole Body Fusion is open to all levels

This class will combine several exercise elements into a unique workout experience. Your body’s foundation will be strengthened with foot/ankle exercises and your posture improved and balance restored with corrective exercises.

Pelvic core exercises will retrain and strengthen the pelvic floor muscles and breathing techniques will be practiced with movement, walking and running (optional) and relaxation.

Drawing and Painting Class
Wednesdays
2 p.m.—4 p.m.
Board room in Sekach Building
All supplies are provided
All skill levels welcome

See art through a new vision: your own. In this class, you can work in pencil, watercolor, pastel, acrylics, or oil to create artwork from your favorite photograph or something you have seen in a magazine. Anjelika helps you create your own masterpiece in a fun and casual environment.

Be a part of the Jewish Living Center:
Pick the event(s) you want to participate in.
Register by the registration deadline to join the fun.
Call us at 419-531-2119 # 2 or email Stephanie@JewishToledo.org with your payment information, as payment is due at the time of registration.
VISA, MasterCard, AMEX, and Discover are accepted.
Personal checks can be mailed to: Jewish Living Center 6505 Sylvania Avenue, Sylvania, OH 43560

“OY! I registered for an event and now I can’t attend.” Please call and let us know so we can open that spot for another community member.

Scent-free space
Jewish Living Center participants are asked not to wear perfume, cologne, or any other strong-smelling fragrances while participating in classes, programs, and trips. Your cooperation in this effort will allow all of our participants to take part in our programming.

For more information about the Jewish Living Center or its programs, please call Director René Rusgo at 419-531-2119 #1 or rene@jewishtoledo.org.

The Jewish Living Center (JLC) is a fresh, holistic approach to how we look at aging and how we view ourselves as we age. We strive to make the JLC the place where you come when you want to learn about something new and exciting. Where you can try out the newest trends in movement and exercise. Where technology is just a touch away. Where adventure takes you places. Where you gather with your old friends and make new ones. Where you can feel comfortable being yourself.

Travel Guidelines

Very leisurely pace, minimal physical activity.
Requires average physical activity. Participants should be in good health, be able to climb stairs, and walk reasonable distances, possibly over uneven terrain.
Requires moderate physical activity with walking and standing. May include a few flights of stairs, uneven terrain, and walking slightly longer distances.
Requires physical activity such as longer walking tours, climbing stairs, and periods of standing. Tour days may be longer, with select activities in the evening.
Very active tour requiring guests to be physically fit. Includes extensive walking, high altitudes, early mornings, late evenings.

To register for a program, contact Stephanie Hinamon at 419-531-2119 #2 or email stephanie@JewishToledo.org.
For more information about programs, contact René Rusgo at 419-531-2119 #1 or rene@jewishtoledo.org
Next Jewish Generation

**NJG Trivia Nights**
It's your favorite night out and you know the drill...free trivia, appetizers on us, and drinks on you! Trivia starts at 7 p.m., make sure to arrive by 6:45 p.m (reservation will be under Hallie Freed). Please RSVP the day prior to each trivia night to Hallie@Jewishtoledo.org or 419-724-0362.

Monday, Dec. 16
The Blarney Irish Pub – 601 Monroe St.
Thursday, February 20
The Casual Pint – 3550 Executive Parkway

**Next Jewish Generation gets crafty**
Saturday, Dec. 7
6:30 p.m.
Pop It Paint It – 1197 Farnsworth Rd. Suite D, Waterville
$20 per person by Friday, Nov. 22/$30 after – Includes creating your own project and snacks
RSVP to Hallie@Jewishtoledo.org or 419-724-0362
Everyone is an artist. There are no rules! Join NextGen for a night of fun and creativity. We will create vibrant, multicolored menorah paintings, just in time for Hanukkah.

**Project Menchify: Community Knitzvah Project**
Calling all knitters and crocheters from beginners to advanced! We need YOU to help us provide warmth to Toledo community members in hospice care. Don’t know how to crochet or knit? Don’t worry! We will match you with an expert knitter or crocheter to teach you. Also, check out our monthly Yarn and Yaks meet-ups: a place to knit or crochet and talk with other likeminded friends.

Square requirements: 8-inch (20-cm) squares
Squares can be mailed or dropped off to:
Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo – Attn. Colette Lundberg
6465 Sylvania Ave., Sylvania, OH 43560

**Next Jewish Generation Walleye Night**
Saturday, Jan. 25
Game starts at 7:15 p.m.
Huntington Center, 500 Jefferson Ave.
$20 per person by Friday, 1/17, $30 after – Includes dinner and one drink ticket
RSVP to Hallie@Jewishtoledo.org or 419-724-0362
Hang out with NextJGen, have a nosh, and cheer on our Toledo Walleye as they take on the Atlanta Gladiators.

**Next Jewish Generation Breaking Bread Project**
Have you been meaning to get together with friends but haven’t found the time? Well, Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo and Toledo Jewish Community Foundation are offering $100 for you to host your own Shabbat dinner!
We want to empower you to host a Shabbat dinner for your friends in your own space, be it an apartment, house, park, or Toledo pub. Our goal is to help you create a warm, intimate Shabbat experience on your own terms. Want to order pizza? Perfect. Feel like having a potluck? Fabulous. You choose how formal or informal this experience will be for your guests.
Visit www.tinyurl.com/breakingbreadtoledo to fill out an application.

If needed, you will be reimbursed up to a maximum of $100 per Shabbat dinner (not including alcohol). To be reimbursed, hosts must complete a brief survey following the event and email up to three photos taken during the event to be shared on our Facebook page.
For more information or if you have any questions, please contact Hallie Freed at 419-724-0362 or hallie@jewishtoledo.org.

**SAVE THE DATE**
**Winter Flicks "Be a Flicknik"**
Sunday, January 26
Sunday, February 9
Lourdes University, Franciscan Center

**Yarn & Yaks**
Thursday, Dec. 19 from 1 – 3 p.m.
Bring your yarn to Federation’s Leonard Lounge and get ready to yak. This meet-up is free and coffee and pastries will be provided. Any questions? Contact Hallie Freed at 419-724-0362 or hallie@jewishtoledo.org.

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.
PJ Library and Gan Yeladim’s Hopping into Hanukkah Playdates

11 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Location upon RSVP
FREE – please bring in diapers, wipes, or baby soap/ shampoo for donation

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 fellow PJ parents and their kids. RSVP to Hallie Freed at 419-724-0362 or Hallie@jewishtoledo.org.

Friday, December 6 –
Make and take Hanukkah gift

Friday, December 13 –
“We Love You a Latke” Hanukkah party

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.

Grocery Store Scavenger Hunt
Benefiting the Jewish Family Service Family Pantry
Sunday, Jan. 12
3:30 p.m. – Meet at Meijer, 7240 Central Ave. (food/grocery entrance)
After shopping, meet at JFS Family Pantry – 6505 Sylvania Ave.

Cost – Donation of shopped items
Dinner is included, please let us know of any dietary issues at least two weeks in advance.

On your marks, get set, SHOP… for JFS! Individuals, families, and children of ALL ages are invited to be a hunger hero and join us for an afternoon of fun, awareness, and community. Receive a scavenger hunt list, race through the aisle in order to stay within budget, get the best deal, and get the most items. Prizes will be awarded in these categories.

After shopping, load up your car and head back to the JFS Family Pantry to unload the donations and have dinner together. RSVP by Friday, Jan. 10, to Hallie Freed at Hallie@jewishtoledo.org or 419-724-0362.

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 Gary and Andrea Delman Family Foundation and Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo.

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.
By any measure, the 2019 Northwest Ohio Jewish Book Festival was a top of the list best-seller. From the action-packed to the awe-inspiring, this year’s Festival offered readers a collection of books that they couldn’t put down and a series of authors so interesting that everyone was left wanting more. Many thanks to our generous sponsors and the dedicated Jewish Book Festival committee. Happy reading!

2019 Jewish Book Festival Committee
Janet Rogolsky, Book Festival Chair
Rene Rusgo, Director, Jewish Living Center
Stephanie Hinamon, Program Associate, Jewish Living Center

Cynthia Bramson  Alix Greenblatt  Ann Rosenberg
Lynda Dolgin Duda  Lois Levison  Suzanne Rosenberg
Judi Fox  Sheila Odesky  Lauren Sachs
Maurine Glasser  Sue Richards  Judy Weinberg

Sponsors:

- Moment Magazine
- James Fox Fund
- fbo UJC
- Long Term Needs Fund

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- Long Term Needs Fund
Friends of the Toledo Jewish Historical Society, you are reading this at the best time of the secular – and Jewish – year. At Thanksgiv- ing, we pause to be ever grateful for the many blessings in our life. Experiencing what history will record as a unique, tectonic change in the very political, economic, and social foundation of the world we have always taken for granted, we Jews also pause to celebrate our Hanukkah-born season of miracles.

To me, TJHS represents a vision transformed into a miraculous reality for which grateful thanks are given. This article marks three years in the young life of TJHS. Therefore, it is appropriate to look back on our progress to date. You may recall the exciting book launch of a hardcover edition of “A History of the Toledo Jewish Community, 1895-2006,” held in June of 2016. Eight years before, in 2008, local author David Noel contracted Federation to write the history of the Jewish community for us, our children, our grandchildren, and generations to come. Where are we now, with most of our record-gathering now complete? I personally invite you to brainstorm with me about possible future activities of our TJHS. Consider the following in addition to any others you may think of:

- Oral histories (Federation owns proper recording equipment)
- Special programs of Jewish historical interest
- Study group (periodic reading/discussion of topics of mutual Jewish historical interest, such as important Jews not well-known)

If any of these ideas appeal to you, please contact me. The TJHS is your opportunity to participate in keeping alive the stories that fascinate us about our unique history of values, courage, and perseverance which have kept us alive and relevant as a peoplehood for over 4,000 years. And we have the luxury of doing so in a warm, cozy, inviting space. What more can shehechey-anu – the Jewish blessing for “firsts” – mean?

For more information about TJHS or if you have any comments or questions, please contact me at ljJacobs82@gmail.com or 419-351-5719.

Reflecting on three years of the Toledo Jewish Historical Society
By Lynn Jacobs, director

The 20th century witnessed the historic emergence and growth of Jewish institutions, local, national, and global. Brought on by the forces of history, Jewish organizations flourished in Toledo under the extraordinary leadership of farsighted and committed Jews, some whose names and legacies are memorialized in marble and stone, as well as many more whose lifetime devotion to Jewish pursuits here also deserve to be formally preserved. In 2016, the need for immediate action was crystal clear, but where and how to begin?

After establishing a Donor Advised Fund to create TJHS through Toledo Jewish Community Foundation, I approached the late Clyde Scoles, at that time the director of Toledo Lucas County Public Library, to make a collaboration between our two entities with the goal of being a permanent collection and digitization of the entire lifetime – past, present, and future – of Jewish Toledo. The financial costs, possibly prohibitive, were overlooked for the moment. As in most successful ventures, timing was everything.

Scoles’ and TLCPL’s generosity in agreeing to our proposal is a gift for which Toledo Jews should always be mindful and grateful. For the foreseeable future, our public library system has committed its professional staff to preserve and archive our materials, both physically in fireproof vaults (upon request) and by undertaking the prodigious project of digitizing each addition to a new link on the library’s own webpage at absolutely no cost to us.

The library’s commitment of financial support, professional staff, and your personal contributions have made our vision a reality. L’Dor V’Dor – from generation to generation – has become the watchword for our loving and now tangible, permanent legacy for those who created and sustained a vibrant Jewish community for us, our children, our grandchildren, and generations to come.

For more information about TJHS or if you have any comments or questions, please contact me at ljJacobs82@gmail.com or 419-351-5719.
Winter Flicks "Be a Flicknik"

Sunday, January 26

Sunday, February 9

Lourdes University, Franciscan Center

It Must Be Schwing

Sunday, Jan. 26
at
4 p.m.
Run time: 115 minutes, English and German with subtitles

In 1939, Alfred Lion and Francis Wolff, two young immigrants from Berlin, founded the legendary jazz label Blue Note Records in New York. The label dedicated itself exclusively to the recording of American jazz music and developed its own unmistakable recording style and sound. Blue note records discovered and produced an impressive roster of international jazz stars. This included Miles Davis, Herbie Hancock, John Coltrane, Sonny Rollins, Wayne Shorter, Thelonious Monk, and Quincy Jones. At a time when Afro-American musicians in the USA were discriminated against and ostracized, Blue Note records respected them as artists and equals. Not only did the label value their talents, it also gave them a much-needed platform. It Must Be Schwing tells the moving story of two friends united by a passionate love for jazz and of their profound belief in equality and freedom for every single human being.

Winter Flick #2

Sunday, Feb. 9
4 p.m.

TBD – Stay tuned for more info in the January TJN

Cost:

General admission is $8 per film, per person.
Pre-purchased tickets will be available the day of each film

Purchase tickets:

By phone: 419-724-0362
By email: Hallie@jewishtoledo.org
At the door on a first come, first served basis. Seating is limited.

Concessions

Popcorn and water will be available at all screenings (unless otherwise noted). This is included in your ticket price.

Parking

Free parking is available outside of the Franciscan Center Theatre.

Questions

Please contact Hallie Freed at Hallie@JewishToledo.org or 419-724-0362.
Grateful for my faith
By Adam Davis

Editor’s note: Adam Davis is president of B’nai Israel Toledo United Synagogue Youth group. He represented Federation’s Jewish Community Relations Council at an area multi-faith program for teens last month. Below are the remarks he made at the program.

Both of my parents are Jewish, both sets of my grandparents are Jewish, and so on. I’m fortunate to have committed relatives, friends, and ancestors who have helped pave the way for future Jewish generations. This has given me a solid foundation on which to live my life and to carry on Jewish traditions to the future generations.

My earliest memory is the opening of the current Congregation B’nai Israel building behind the Sylvania YMCA and JCC, where there was a parade of people and a firetruck. My next early memory is spending my kindergarten year at Sylvania YMCA and JCC, where there was a parade of people and a firetruck. My next early memory is spending my kindergarten year at Sylvania YMCA and JCC, where there was a parade of people and a firetruck. Throughout the years, I have become very attached to our place of worship now that I am leading services both in Hebrew and English. I have felt very “at home” in our place of worship now that I am president of our youth group.

Youth group includes middle schoolers and high schoolers. Sometimes we have events together, sometimes they are separate. Middle schoolers are called Kadimaniks and high schoolers are involved in United Synagogue Youth. USY is a nationwide youth group including Canada that is broken down into regions, then regions are broken down locally. Our region is called Central Region USY, or CRUSY, which includes Pennsylvania, Michigan, Kentucky, and Ohio. Our local chapter is called B’nai Israel Toledo USY, or BITUSY. There are endless opportunities available to all USYers, including rowdy and fun conventions, learning leadership skills, make tons of friends, traveling, and making great memories. I also serve on the regional general board as Freshman Programmer planning to ensure that freshman have lots of fun and great experiences at the start of their USY years.

In addition to daily fun, last year my age group got to take quite a few trips away from camp. Including myself, there are only two other Toledoans from my synagogue who attend as counselors. I appreciate all the close friendships I’ve made and the technology allowing us to remain close, but it’s tough because we can’t hang out since we’re so far from each other. Maybe we’ll end up as college roommates.

A speech on my gratefulness of Judaism is not complete without speaking of food. Jewish food rocks! Some of my favorite foods are kreplach (potstickers in chicken soup), kugel (noodle casserole; there are so many yummy recipes, too, even one with peanut butter and jelly), my granny’s famous Passover chocolate chip cookies (which are totally better than the everyday version), my mom’s matzah ball soup, matzah brei (fried matzah) and I could leave you with two quotes that made me think of this community:

“In our life there is a single color, as on an artist’s palette, which provides the meaning of life and art. It is the color of love.” - Marc Chagall

“Don’t walk in front of me, I may not follow. Don’t walk behind me, I may not lead. Just walk beside me and be my friend.” - Le yihey, a Jewish song
Local

BBYO welcomes new city director
By Hallie Freed
Community Programs Director

We are so excited to welcome Madison Isenberg as the new Toledo BBYO City Director. Madison was born and raised in Toledo. She received her bachelor’s in psychology from University of Toledo in 2017 and is currently working on a master’s degree in clinical mental health counseling. In high school, Madison was a very active participant and leader in Toledo BBYO. Madison believes that BBYO gave her the confidence and opportunities to become a leader, make friends with other Jewish teens, and feel connected to her Judaism.

For the past two years, Madison has been volunteer advisor for Toledo’s BBYO girls chapter B’not Shalom. She is very eager to do more for Toledo BBYO and has plans of aiding in the creation of more meaningful experiences for Jewish teens in Toledo.

The EMOJI program

The EMOJI program was developed in the summer of 2017 to help develop Jewish identity for our children, one camper at a time. This is accomplished by making camp affordable, accessible, and meaningful to families in our community by offering scholarships through the EMOJI program.

In the summer of 2019, 28 campers attended Jewish summer overnight because of the EMOJI program. The Toledo Jewish Community Foundation invested over $60,000 in ensuring future generations’ connections to their Judaism, our Toledo Jewish community, Israel, and beyond.

Check out some of Jewish Toledo campers’ summer experiences and save the date for the 2019 summer camp fair on Sunday, Nov. 3, at 9:30 a.m. at Temple Shomer Emunim. Come meet some camp representatives and learn more about what your child’s Jewish future can look like.

JFS CAN LOWER YOUR COST OF IN-HOME CARE!

Being discharged from the hospital or rehab?
Household chores too much for you to handle?
Don’t want to worry about the liability with hiring a private individual?

In-home care through JFS is your answer!

Jewish Family Service is your connection to affordable, quality care providers.

Contact Liz Witter, LSW 419-724-0406

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

GET YOUR 2020 MAH JONGG CARDS NOW

Please purchase your 2020 Mah Jongg cards through the Toledo Chapter of Hadassah by January 10, 2020.

The standard small print card is $8.
The large print card is $9.

Enclose your name, address, phone number and e-mail with the size and number of each card you are purchasing.

Make your check payable to Lois Levison and mail to:
Lois Levison, 6634 Kingsbridge Dr, Sylvania, OH, 43560.
Join us for the Temple’s Chanukah Bash!
Sunday, December 15th 5-7:30PM

Learn about Chanukah from our Religious School Students!
Chanukah Songs with Kol Zimrah, the Intergenerational Choir & Religious School Students!
Menorah Lighting!
DJ & Dancing by DJ One Tyme!
Larry Hess, Air Brush Artist!

Dinner includes your Chanukah favorites!
Adults $10
Children 10 & Under $5
RSVP by Tuesday, December 10th to mkuehnle@templese.com or 419/885-3341
**ETZ CHAYIM PLANS 45TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

Come celebrate with us! December 7th will be a “Night to Remember.” Everyone will be joining together for an evening of klezmer music, delicious food, dancing, and joyful fun. The festivities begin at 6:30 p.m. with Havdalah, featuring The Klezmer Fusion Band. Festivities will then continue throughout the evening with dinner, music, and dancing. Come share memories and enjoy the evening with family and friends. The cost is $45.00 per couple or $22.50 per person. Reservations may be made by calling the synagogue office.

**CHANUKAH SHOPPING SPREE**

Come, browse and shop for all your Chanukah needs on Sunday, December 8, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. There are exquisite gift items from a variety of artists, including: Jewelry, Shabbat Candelsticks, Kiddush Cups, Apples and Honey Sets, Seder Plates, Tzedakah Boxes, and Mezuahs plus a large Assortment of Chanukah Menorahs, decorations, wrapping paper, dreidels, and much, much more. As always, we offer FREE GIFT WRAPPING.

**SISTERHOOD NEWS**

Many thanks to all the volunteers who helped make the Etz Chayim/B’nai Israel Rummage Sale a great success. The money that we raised during the rummage sale will help support our synagogue programs.

On Sunday, December 29, the Sisterhood will hold its annual Chanukah luncheon at noon with a delicious dairy meal complete with latkes. Look in the mail for details.

The next Sisterhood Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 3, 2019 at 10:15 a.m. in the Etz Chayim Library. The new year begins with a Sisterhood Board Meeting on Tuesday, January 7, 2020 at 10:15 a.m., also in the Etz Chayim Library. All Sisterhood members are welcome to attend.

**POKER/MAH JONG**

The next session of the Poker/Mah Jongg group will meet on Sunday, December 1, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. to noon in the synagogue social hall. Come and play with friends and have some snacks as well.

**KNITZVAH PROJECT**

Come knit, crochet and socialize with your friends while making shawls for “Baskets of Care.” The next session will be on Wednesday, December 4, 2019 at 1:00 p.m.

**DECEMBER BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY LUNCH**

Everyone is invited on Saturday, December 21st following services to help celebrate with our congregants observing birthdays and anniversaries in the month of December. A delicious lunch will be served.

**CHERRY STREET MISSION VOLUNTEER PROJECT**

On Wednesday, December 25th from 11:45 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. Congregation Etz Chayim will again be serving lunch to people at the Cherry Street Mission. Following this mitzvah, everyone is invited back to the synagogue for pizza and games. Please call the synagogue office to volunteer.
Have something to kvell about?

Let Jewish Toledo celebrate your good news with you!

Send us your wedding, engagement, graduation, baby, job or other news for consideration in Toledo Jewish News today! Submit your simcha to Paul Causman at paul@JewishToledo.org.
The Give-A-Gift program provides underprivileged Toledo kids with new gifts for the holidays.

The kids will be referred to the program by the following agencies:
- Jewish Family Service
- Lucas County Juvenile Court’s CASA program

Each donor will be given the name and interests of a specific child which makes shopping not only easier but much more fun. We greatly appreciate all the community support for this program each year and hope to be able to count on you again this year.

For more information call Wendy Payne at 419.885.3341.

All holiday gifts should be dropped off at Temple Shomer Emunim, 6453 Sylvania Ave. by 6 p.m. on December 11

Learning Express
10% off at Learning Express for Give-A-Gift purchases.

With the support of Temple Shomer Emunim, Congregation B’nai Israel and Congregation Etz Chayim

To sign up for Give-A-Gift, please contact Wendy Payne at wpayne@templese.com or 419-885-3341 with the following information: name, address, phone, and specify the number of children you’d like to purchase gifts for. You will be notified of the name(s) of the child(ren).

If you’d like to donate to Give-A-Gift, please call Kathy at 419-724-0366 or mail your donation to Give-A-Gift, JFGT, 6465 Sylvania Ave., Sylvania, OH 43560
Please Join Toledo Sister Cities International in developing a Sister Cities relationship with Akko, Israel, in cooperation with the Western Galilee Partnership and JFGT. All donations are greatly needed and appreciated.

Please Send donations to:
Toledo Sister Cities International
P.O. Box 353004,
Toledo, Ohio 43615
419-245-3334

It is easy to run a classified ad in Toledo Jewish News! First 12 words — $8, $0.10 per additional word. Phone numbers and abbreviations count as separate words. Ads must be received by the 15th of the month.

Simply email your ad and billing information to paul@JewishToledo.org or call 419-724-0318 for more information.

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www.judystoledohomes.com

Please note: Classified ads will run every month (and the purchaser will be billed) until notification of cancellation is received.

Toledo Jewish News and Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo reserves the right to refuse any submissions. The appearance of advertising, in the Toledo Jewish News print and digital media, does not constitute an endorsement of the advertisers or their products and services by Toledo Jewish News, Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo and its affiliated agencies. Product and services information is based solely on material received from suppliers.
You make everything we do — possible.

You open a child's eyes to the beauty of our heritage. Revive the Jewish spirit in places where it's been all but crushed. Arrive with whatever is needed, in the wake of natural or financial disaster.

You — together with Federation — are at the heart of all of these, and countless other efforts that invigorate and sustain our community. You have the power to do it. Give today.

Contact Wendy Goldstein, Campaign Director, at 419-724-0360 or wendy@jewishtoledo.org
Tuesday, December 3rd, is GIVING TUESDAY and your chance to make a bigger impact on Jewish student life than you ever thought possible.

That is because Giving Tuesday allows people like you – who care about the world and believe in solving problems through giving – to join forces and make an enormous difference.

**We hope you will do that for Toledo Hillel.**

By making your Giving Tuesday donation to Toledo Hillel, you will be making a significant difference for new Jewish students arriving on campus every semester at both University of Toledo and Bowling Green State University. From our Tikkun Olam programs to providing Shabbat dinner at no cost to students, your gift will enrich Jewish campus life while helping repair the world.

*Toledo Hillel joins the national Giving Tuesday movement to encourage spending with a purpose.*

Please go to [http://www.toledohillel.org/donate.html](http://www.toledohillel.org/donate.html) and make your gift to Toledo Hillel today. Be part of this massive philanthropic movement while making a real-time, on-the-ground impact for Jewish students.

**SAVE THE DATE**

**December 3**

#GIVINGTUESDAY