Jewish life is stronger than ever

A message from Stephen Rothschild, Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo Executive Director

It may be hard to believe, because of all the challenges that we face, but it is true, Jewish life, with all of its diversity and differences of opinion and practice, is more dynamic, stronger, and influential than at any time in history. Regardless of our politics, our views on the peace process, whether we are Jews by choice or by birth, whether we worship in Hebrew or English, or whether we worship at all, we share a connection and a relationship. We care for and about one another and our relationships, as neighbors, friends and family, and our shared history and fate brings us together to celebrate the warm feelings that come from belonging to a group.

Much has been made of American tribalism. We have drifted away from one another and into echo chambers of people who think and act exactly as we do. But our tent, the tent of the Jewish people, is much larger than the tent of those who might wish us ill. We have a long history of legitimate and deep divisions and disagreements about things that matter to us as Jews going back centuries to the days of Hillel and Shammai. Show me a group of two Jews and I will show you three opinions. But at the end of the debate, we pull up chairs, sit down, and recognize, we need each other. The debate is for the sake of heaven and we will join at the table, pour a cup of coffee, share a rugelach or a bagel and a laugh. That is what we need to remember. We remember and celebrate that we are one Jewish people, diverse in opinion and practice but united in spirit and love for our shared history and destiny. We are stronger together.

Over these next several months, a confluence of events beyond our direct control will make us uncomfortable. As of this writing, in the next days and weeks, Israel may take steps at annexation in the West Bank that could drive wedges between us and between our neighbors. Questions about systemic racism, a scourge on our Nation’s founding principles, and how to fairly address it along with rising anti-Semitism from all sides, and a divisive national election will challenge the good feelings we have for each other that we are striving to protect. Please keep the warm spark of love that we have for one another and store it away in your heart, and if the days ahead become dark and cold, look back into your heart and find that spark. Let it become a warm flame to rekindle your soul because the light of the Jewish people as one cannot be extinguished. Netzach Yisrael lo yishaker.

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Jewish life is stronger than ever
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.

SAVE THE DATE
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.
Friendship Circle of Toledo: Embracing change and celebrating

Chabad House of Toledo is very proud to announce that since the pandemic began, The Friendship Circle of Toledo has stepped up in a big way to continue their mission of extending a helping hand to families who have children with autism and other special needs, and involve them in a full range of Jewish and social experiences. The Circle’s unique formula introduces teenage volunteers to the children and through shared experiences both are enriched.

To continue to provide this programming while keeping everyone safe, The Friendship Circle has been offering virtual activities through their Facebook page @FriendshipCircleOfToledo. From live music classes, to yoga, to making crafts and doing activities with each other from a distance using Zoom and Facebook Live with other area Friendship Circle groups, its members have remained very busy.

Each year, The Friendship Circle of Toledo hosts a celebration in which they honor their volunteers and kids. Keeping in tune with their resolve to adapt with the times, they adjusted their program to maintain social distancing and safety guidelines. This means the celebration was a bit different than previous years, but it doesn’t mean they sacrificed fun and togetherness. On June, 17, in the grassy lot next to Chabad House of Toledo, Friendship Circle families parked in a large circle to ensure proper social distancing while facing each other for the evening’s celebration. A drum circle was led by Dave Gierke, a Friendship Circle sweatshirt was awarded to all of the children, and everyone enjoyed a popsicle to end the celebration. Friendship Circle is co-sponsored by Chabad House of Toledo and Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo.
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

JFS CAN LOWER YOUR
COST OF IN-HOME CARE

• Being discharged from the hospital or rehab?
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JEWSH FAMILY SERVICE CAN HELP!
*Subsidy available for up to 21 hours per week to those who qualify.

Jewish Family Service
OF GREATER TOLEDO
6505 Sylvania Ave., Sylvania, OH 43560
419-885-2561 | lee@jewishtoledo.org

JFS Staff Contact Information
Shari Bernstein - Supervising Manager
419-724-0408 | shariB@jewishtoledo.org
Tanya Borochin – Refugee Services Coordinator
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
McKenzie Pittman - Volunteer Programs Coordinator
419-724-0407 | mckenzie@jewishtoledo.org
Liz Witter – Support Services Coordinator
419-724-0406 | liz@jewishtoledo.org

Visit us online on Facebook www.facebook.com/JewishFamilyServiceToledo or at our website at www.jewishtoledo.org/JFS

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK!

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.
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.

Coffee & Kvetch with JLC

Thursday, July 9
Thursday, July 23
11 a.m.
Zoom Virtual Chat
Password-protected link required: email Rene or Stephanie for the link

No need to fret about missing your friends at the Jewish Living Center … we’re here and bringing the coffee chat to you! We would enjoy seeing all the friendly faces and checking in on what you have been doing over the last several weeks. So grab your favorite morning beverage and join us for a fun, casual coffee chat! On June 4, wear your favorite beach gear … we’ll be looking for those sun hats and Hawaiian shirts! RSVP to rene@jewishtoledo.org or stephanie@jewishtoledo.org to receive the password protected link to access the Zoom virtual meeting.

Trivia Time with JLC

Tuesday, July 28
2 p.m.
Password-protected link required: email Rene or Stephanie for the link by June 21

Join your friends at the Jewish Living Center as we test our skills and match wits in topics from sports to movies to pop culture and history. RSVP to rene@jewishtoledo.org or stephanie@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 Blazevich 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.

Contact the Jewish Living Center

Please contact the Jewish Living Center if we can be of assistance to you during these extraordinary times. The JLC has exercise videos and other resources available to help make your stay at home more enjoyable and productive.

We will all get through this together!

For more information, please contact the Jewish Living Center at 419-531-2119 or email stephanie@jewishtoledo.org.

Jewish Living Center Facebook group

The Jewish Living Center Facebook group is especially for Jewish Toledo members 60 and better. It offers resources to healthy living, cultural events, how-tos of participating in virtual events online and much more.

It’s simple to enjoy the benefits of JLC online. Just search for Jewish Living Center on Facebook. Click the request to join button and in short order you’ll be approved by the staff. Become a member of the group and the fun begins.

Virtual Programs

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.
Next Jewish Generation

Next Jewish Generation
Programs especially for post-college to young families.

Next Jewish Gen Zoom Trivia
Wednesday, July 1 at 8 p.m.
Wednesday, July 22 at 8 p.m.
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.

Challah at Home with Jewish Toledo
Free program (one kit per household)

Sign up before supplies run out:
https://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/challahathome
Any questions?
Contact Hallie Freed at 419-724-0362 or hallie@jewishtoledo.org

We are rolling out something fun for you to do at home! Sign up below to receive a kit with supplies you’ll need to make challah at home. All you will need in addition is eggs and water. After signing up, you will receive an email with instructions, links showing different braiding techniques, and information on kit pick-up (or delivery, if you chose that below). After baking, take pictures of your challah and send them to hallie@jewishtoledo.org. We are going to post the pictures on our Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo Facebook page and host a competition. We will reward prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place, determined by most likes. Get ready to roll!

Kindness Kit
Sheila Painter drops off some acts of loving kindness to unsuspecting neighbors.

Next Gen Gets Crafty
NJG gets crafty with virtual meetings. Everyone comes away with a masterpiece!

Camp in a Bag
Zoey Thaler showing off some of her Camp in a Bag creations.
Remembering Alix Greenblatt – a trailblazer

By Emily Gordon

Alix Greenblatt, z”l, was born a leader. She may not have been conscious of it as a child and waved away well-deserved praise as an adult, but she was “a very giving person” from the start, said her husband of almost a half-century, Dick Greenblatt.

Alix and her family were long-time members of Congregation B’hai Israel. When the congregation’s new Kenwood Boulevard location was being built, Alix was just nine years old.

“The family went to the groundbreaking and Alix gave the rabbi her piggy bank,” he said. “She told me that it was the first time she had made a monetary contribution to anything. It started early for her. It took me a lot longer.”

Alix had always cared about others and wanted to serve her neighbors not just with her philanthropy, but with her time, energy, and ideas.

When she passed away in early March at 74 years young, Alix left behind a legacy of leadership that not only made Jewish and secular Toledo stronger, but inspired others to better the quality of life in the area, too.

“She blazed her own path, stayed true to her values, and made a lasting impact on others. When you think about your legacy in this life, I think most of us just want to know that there are people out there whose lives are better because of the work we did,” said Chrys Peterson, who first met Alix when they worked together for the 2005 Susan G. Komen Northwest Ohio Race for the Cure. Alix served as chair.

“I know Alix leaves behind not only that impact on others, but a legacy of giving that has inspired others to carry on the work. I don’t think there’s a better legacy than perpetual impact and goodness,” Peterson reflected.

From volunteer to chair, small business co-owner to Board of Education president, assistant to the executive director to executive director herself, Alix wore many hats over the years for many organizations – and they were always her style.

“Alix was a force. She had strong opinions and she wasn’t afraid to share them. She said things that needed to be said, but always did so with a heart filled with understanding,” said Stephen Rothschild, executive director of Jewish Federation and Foundation of Greater Toledo. “She didn’t merely talk the talk, either. She was a doer. If there was roll-up-your-sleeves work to be done, she did it.”

Alix worked hard with her various teams over the decades as a lay leader and as a professional.

She was driven by the real, tangible results she knew she would help achieve, not the eventual praise it would garner.

“She knew her work was appreciated, but she never sought the spotlight. Her motivation was to get things done and to have good things happen. When her work was recognized with awards, she’d say ‘I don’t need that,’ and stick it in a drawer, maybe put a couple on a bookcase,” Dick explained.

“I always said ‘You don’t need it. But you earned it. You deserve it.’ And she would say back ‘Thank you, but I don’t need to put it on the wall.’ We’re both kind of the same way in that regard. The accomplishment is far more important than the recognition.”

In addition to the roles she had throughout her long and successful career, Alix’s favorites were the ones she crafted in her personal life.

These roles included being “a wonderful wife to the perfect husband,” as described by colleague and longtime-friend Fagie Benstein, “the best” mother, as defined by her and Dick’s children, Mark (Denise) and Dana Greenblatt, and a beloved “Granzz” to adoring grandsons Cayden and Max Greenblatt.

Alix was “the rock of the Greenblatt family,” said long-time friend Judge Connie Zemmelman.

And yet, she found the time and the drive throughout her life to step up to the plate and help better society.

Dick likes to think that, in any generation, there will always be somebody who will take on a leadership role in their community.

If Alix had not stayed in Toledo as an adult and had gone elsewhere instead, he would hope the torch would have been carried by someone else, he

But Alix was here. And she chose to remain here and join – and oftentimes lead – various endeavors to leave her home a better place than how she found it.

“She cared. She cared very much about people. She’s enriched not just our lives, our family’s lives, but she touched so many people’s lives just with her presence and vision and her willingness to accomplish things,” her husband said. “The community, both Jewish and non-Jewish, is far better for her having been here.”

Something drew her in

Born May 7, 1945, to Rosalind (Greenspoon) and Dave Blumberg in Toledo, Alix grew up on Warren Street, “where every neighbor was Jewish,” she had said in a Jewish Federation and Foundation of Greater Toledo Silver Circle event speech she made with her husband in 2017.

Passover Seders of 50 people were not out of the ordinary for her, as all her immediate and extended family members lived in town.

Alix was involved in United Synagogue Youth locally and regionally, traveled to Israel as a young adult, began volunteering for Women’s American Organization for Rehabilitation through Training, and eventually served as assistant to Federation’s director.

She took advantage of leadership development training opportunities through ORT. These opportunities gave Alix the tools she needed to be the strong leader she ultimately became, said former Federation executive director Steve Edelstein.

Alix was smart, organized, and above all, she was eager to take it all on – but on her own terms.

In the Silver Circle speech, she had recalled how most of the community’s women in the late 1960s and early 1970s belonged to Hadassah, ORT, Council of Jewish Women, and Pioneer Women. “I remember this time well because most of the women in these organizations were married. I was not. When I asked if I might make a gift to the Annual Campaign of the Federation, I was told it wasn’t necessary because I wasn’t married,” she had said. “I was 24. At age 25, I made my first gift to the Annual Campaign. I still wasn’t married.”

Then, bashert (destiny) intervened.

At a Jewish singles party one night in 1970, Alix intended to recruit new members for ORT. She didn’t succeed, but she did meet Dick.

“They were married a year and a day later.”

Alix’s involvement in the Jewish community only increased with time, eventually becoming Federation’s first woman director and executive director of the JCC.

Alix strongly believed in what Federation was doing to help the community with programs and services, so it was easy for her to “walk the walk” of the nonprofit’s mission, said Campaign Director Wendy Goldstein, who described Alix as the start of her career, her mentor, and her friend.

She wasn’t one to shy away from a challenge, either.

“Alix had a strong constitution and she was authentic. I think people really appreciated that she was always straight to the point. What you saw is what you got with her.” Goldstein said. “You were really lucky if you got to know Alix as a friend, too. She was a very loving person.”

Even after the Greenblatts had their children, Alix didn’t slow down.

Their daughter, Dana, remembers her mother working as a secretary at Temple Shomer Emunim, hosting ORT meetings in their home, being by her mother’s side during demonstrations on behalf of Soviet Jews in the 1980s, and having her as one of the parent chaperones when during Panim El Panim in Washington D.C. in the 1990s.

Alix still found the time to get her children to any lessons, practices, or rehearsals, and was always present for their games, performances, and presentations.

In addition to her work in Jewish Toledo, Alix also branched out into the greater-Toledo area, leaving behind a long list of roles and positions at various organizations over the years.

“You name it, Alix was involved in it,” Edelstein said. She was president of the Sylavia Board of Education, the first woman president of Sylvania Rotary Club, served on the Toledo Board of Community Relations, volunteered at ProMedica Flower Hospital, and was a tutor for Ohio Reads.

Additionally, Alix enjoyed photography and turned her passion into a business, co-owning the photography studio Tiny Doubles.
Temple Shomer Emunim

**July Worship Schedule**

**Friday, July 3**
Shabbat Service at 6:00PM
Rabbi Weinstein will speak

**Friday, July 10**
Shabbat Service at 6:00PM
Kabbalat Panim Liturgy
Rabbi Weinstein will speak

**Friday, July 17**
Shabbat Service at 6:00PM
Rabbi Weinstein will speak

**Friday, July 24**
Shabbat Service at 6:00PM
Rabbi Weinstein will speak

**Friday, July 31**
Shabbat Service at 6:00PM
Healing Shabbat
Rabbi Weinstein will speak

**Saturday, August 1**
Shabbat Service at 10:30AM
Bat Mitzvah of Emily Rusgo

**Zoom Summer Concert Series!**

Save the dates for these July concerts, Sundays at 4:00PM, all on Zoom and streaming to the Temple’s Facebook page

**Sunday, July 12**
Temple Talent Show

**Sunday, July 19**
Dr. Andy Pelletier
Professor of Horn, BGSU; President, International Horn Society

**Sunday, July 26**
Dave Saltzman
Professor of Tuba & Euphonium, BGSU;
Principal Tuba, Toledo Symphony

**Sunday, August 2**
Dr. Samuel Adler
Professor Emeritus, Eastman School of Music & The Juilliard School

**Camp Kayitz**
August 10-14
4-9 years old 9:30AM-3:00PM $30 per day Limit of 10 children per day
2-3 years old 9:30AM-12:30PM $18 per day Limit of 8 children per day
Email wpayne@templese.com for more information

Join us via Zoom!

**Coffee with the Clergy**
Wednesdays, July 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 at 11:00AM

**Torah Time**
Fridays, July 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31 at 11:00AM

Congregation B’nai Israel

**Weekly Services Schedule for July**

**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
To access the live stream, go to CBItoledo.org and click on the live stream link.

**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@cbitolledo.org.

**Join us on Erev Tisha B’Av for a special **Zoom Service & Commemoration**

Wednesday, July 29, 2020 at 8:30 PM (Replaces 7:30 PM Evening Service)

We hope that you will join us to commemorate the holiday of Tisha B’Av. This evening service will also include the chanting of Eicha (Book of Lamentations) by Haizan Lichtenman.

*The format of this service is subject to change. Watch your email for updates.*

**WOMEN OF CBI JULY 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.

**UPCOMING AUGUST EVENTS**

**Join us as we prepare for a sweet New Year Women of CBI Celebrate Rosh Chodesh ELIIL**
Wednesday, August 19, 2020 at 7:00 PM via Zoom
More details provided in the CBI August bulletin.

**Women of CBI Book Club August Selection: “Kaddish.com” by Nathan Englander**
Tuesday, August 25, 2020 at 10:30 AM via Zoom
Those who would like to attend should RSVP to Sharon Stein at sstein100@gmail.com or Carol Richman at carolrichman@msn.com by Friday, August 21, 2020. An email link will be sent before the scheduled meeting time.

JULY 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.
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 tragedies that have befell 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 expulsions 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/Openning 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.

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.
“Alix’s leadership roles across a broad spectrum of community organizations as well as the Jewish community were a double success. She always, either as a volunteer or professional within the Jewish community, was an inspirational leader, but she represented the best of Toledo Jewish community leadership through her involvement in the greater community in Toledo and Sylvania,” said former Federation Executive Director Joel Beren.

Alix was a “servant-leader” who used “every platform and all of her skills and moxie to promote the greater good,” said former Sylvania Schools Superintendent Brad Rieger.

“Her community mindedness anchored an effective and straightforward leadership approach. She was able to advance meaningful initiatives through a nice blend of high expectations, collaboration, and compassion.”

Her “keeping-it-real observations” and sense of humor were endearing qualities, too, Rieger added. She was Alix’s “dramedy” Moonlighting.

Just Alix

While she was widely known by northwest Ohioans as a champion for all of the organizations close to her heart, to her children she was “just mom,” and to her colleagues and friends, she was “just Alix.”

She had a “youthful twinkle in her eye,” Peterson said, whether she was talking about charity work, her family, or even a book she had just read, that said to others “Isn’t life grand?”

She had a distinct sense of humor and an amusing way of “sparring” with Federation colleagues.

Edelstein fondly recalls the way they’d “parry” with each other back and forth on different issues, often comparing themselves the leads of the popular 1980s TV “dramedy” Moonlighting.

That was “just Alix.” You couldn’t help but catch her enthusiasm.

Alix was gifted with the ability to walk the line of offering suggestions and advice but could also just be a good listener, Peterson added. She was Alix’s special attention to health care for the physically challenged in western Ohio. She knew everyone and how she fit in, found what needed work in the menu for this past Rosh Hashanah.

“Something drew her in. I don’t think it was ever on her agenda. With her love for them. She knew she was “the one.”

Mark remembered she did her best to help him and his sister to make decisions on their own, instead of telling them how to do something. She wanted them to “get there” themselves.

Alix taught her children to stand up for what’s right, to disarm people with humor, and to be honest, but kind, Dana added. Sylvania Southview High School students who worked on committees with Alix would tell Dana how “cool” her mother was.

Alix enjoyed getting to know her children’s peers and took representing students seriously. Dana recalls joking with her mother that, during her senior year, Alix’s car was at Sylvania Southview High School more often than Dana’s was.

At home, the Greenblatts’ door was always open for Mark and Dana’s friends.

“I remember once in high school I had gone to a UT basketball game, and when I got home, two of my friends were in the kitchen eating pie with Mom,” Dana recalled.

“They had stopped by to see what I was up to and even though I wasn’t there, she invited them in and fed them and kibitzed with them.”

She was never called Mrs. Greenblatt; she was always “just Alix.”

For those who were new to the community or didn’t have family in the area, Alix provided an inclusive, welcoming place to go for Passover and Rosh Hashanah.

She loved the tradition and was a great host and cook, always making sure she was accommodating to everyone’s food allergies or needs with various dishes. Even while she was undergoing radiation, Alix coordinated the menu for this past Rosh Hashanah.

“It was never about her. It was always about everybody else,” Mark said.

His son, Cayden, agreed, adding that Alix was “constantly doing little things” for others, even after she was diagnosed with cancer.

“She thought so much about other people before she thought of herself. Like in OT, instead of making something for herself during a baking activity, she made gluten-free cookies for me,” Cayden said. That was “just Alix.”

Even in her last weeks, she made the effort to watch Max play hockey and Cayden act in theater productions.

She told her husband he could get a dog when she passed away, but “he’d have to move because they just put in new carpet. She told him to have the friends.”

“Something drew her in. I don’t think it was ever on her agenda. With her, it wasn’t the observance of Judaism but the neshama, the soul, of the Jewish community and of living Jewishly that was important to her and sparked things for her,” Mark said. “It moved her to see that there was a need for leadership, and this was the right time, the right place, and the right conditions for her to act. She had the right personality. And the example that both of my parents have set drew me in as well.”

Just Alix continued from page 7

Her “keeping-it-real observations” and sense of humor were endearing qualities, too, Rieger added. She was Alix’s “dramedy” Moonlighting.

Just Alix

While she was widely known by northwest Ohioans as a champion for all of the organizations close to her heart, to her children she was “just mom,” and to her colleagues and friends, she was “just Alix.”

She had a “youthful twinkle in her eye,” Peterson said, whether she was talking about charity work, her family, or even a book she had just read, that said to others “Isn’t life grand?”

She had a distinct sense of humor and an amusing way of “sparring” with Federation colleagues.

Edelstein fondly recalls the way they’d “parry” with each other back and forth on different issues, often comparing themselves the leads of the popular 1980s TV “dramedy” Moonlighting.

That was “just Alix.” You couldn’t help but catch her enthusiasm.

Alix was gifted with the ability to walk the line of offering suggestions and advice but could also just be a good listener, Peterson added. She was nonjudgmental and compassionate but could also “kindly kick you in the pants if you needed it.”

Once, at a Federation senior staff meeting, Alix sprung a pop quiz on attendees. When no one knew any of the answers, she told them that if they had read the Toledo Jewish News, they’d have aced her pop quiz.

“It was her own way of teaching them that they needed to be informed about the community in order to serve it properly,” her daughter said. The way she made her point was “just Alix.”

Mark remembered she did her best to help him and his sister to make decisions on their own, instead of telling them how to do something. She wanted them to “get there” themselves.

Alix taught her children to stand up for what’s right, to disarm people with humor, and to be honest, but kind, Dana added. Sylvania Southview High School students who worked on committees with Alix would tell Dana how “cool” her mother was.

Alix enjoyed getting to know her children’s peers and took representing students seriously. Dana recalls joking with her mother that, during her senior year, Alix’s car was at Sylvania Southview High School more often than Dana’s was.

At home, the Greenblatts’ door was always open for Mark and Dana’s friends.

“I remember once in high school I had gone to a UT basketball game, and when I got home, two of my friends were in the kitchen eating pie with Mom,” Dana recalled.

“They had stopped by to see what I was up to and even though I wasn’t there, she invited them in and fed them and kibitzed with them.”

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**Local Simcha**

**Eagle Scout**

Joshua Steinberg, age 16, is the grandson of long-time Toledo residents Buz and Doris Steinberg. He is the son of Steven and Sheila Steinberg who live in Irvine, California. His uncles include Buz and Doris's other two sons, Neil and Marc Steinberg.

In early June, Josh earned his Eagle Scout award while a member of Troop 36, in Irvine. In order to meet his Eagle Scout requirements, he successfully completed 21 merit badge assignments and he completed a service project for the Santa Ana Zoo whereby he and his crew built a picnic area for the zoo. All funds for this project were raised through community donations secured by Josh.

Josh entered the Boy Scout program when he was 11 years old and he met all of his earlier requirements to move up in rank to Eagle Scout. Josh's father, Steven, and his two uncles, Neil and Marc, all achieved the Eagle Scout rank in the scouting program.

Josh will be a senior at Portola High School this coming fall where he is an honor student and a member of the high school varsity basketball team.

**Birth announcement**


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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.

**www.jewishtoledo.org**

**B’nai Mitzvah**

Emily Rusgo will become a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, August 1 at Temple Shomer Emunim. Emily is the daughter of Julie and Rob Rusgo and younger sister to Adam and Elayna. She is the granddaughter of the late Dr. Harmon J Rusgo and Marjory Rusgo and the late Chris and Joan Hilfer.

In the fall, Emily will be entering the 8th grade at Timberstone Junior High. She has been a member of the dance team for two years and is currently dancing at the Daryl Jarvis dance studio. When she is not dancing, she enjoys spending time playing games with her family and hanging out with her friends. Throughout school year 2019/2020, Emily volunteered as a reading tutor at DeVoeux Elementary School.

**Joyce Moran and Gloria Sheppard organized the Charlecote Party in the Park fund raiser that benefited the Jewish Family Service Family Pantry and the Islamic Food Bank of Toledo. Special thanks to Poco Piatti and Smyles Icy Treats for their donations and involvement at the picnic.**

**Alix Greenblatt continued from previous page**

highest principles,” added Foundation Director Arleen R. Levine. “She embodied the values of virtue, strength, and loyalty with a touch of humor. May her memory be a blessing.”

But her efforts in the Toledo secular and Jewish communities will be felt by all, even those who didn’t know Alix personally.

Dana believes that her mother’s legacy in Jewish Toledo includes foundational lessons, such as the importance of listening to our fellow community members and working together to better the community as time goes on.

“As the community evolves and changes, the ways in which we enhance and enrich and support Jewish life also needs to evolve. Our strength doesn’t have to be in numbers if the members of the community are dedicated to and act as our own best resource for preserving and expanding Jewish life in Toledo,” she explained.

Alix’s endeavors had long been rooted in her desire for Toledo to be “the kind of place where you would want to raise a Jewish family,” Beren said. Additionally, she wanted to make sure that there would still be a Jewish community for her and Dick’s grandchildren and for generations to come.

“She helped shape this community,” Benstein said. “We don’t have her anymore, but what we do have and always will is her legacy as a guide for us going forward. That’s never going to change.”
Over the last decade, you have had a front row seat in the creation of a vibrant Jewish community. WE CANNOT THANK YOU ENOUGH FOR BELIEVING IN US. With your partnership, we are creating the next generation of Jewish Life in Toledo.