



— **SPECIAL INSERT** —

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Summer Program Guide 2025

11th Toledo Jewish film festival

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Monday, June 30	Monday, July 7	Monday, July 14	Monday, July 21	Monday, July 28

Featured Event

FORKED
MONDAY, JULY 28 | 7 P.M.
LOURDES FRANCISCAN CENTER,
6832 CONVENT BLVD., SYLVANIA

POST-FILM DISCUSSION WITH SPECIAL GUESTS:
Susan Feniger and Liz Lachman



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Ha'Atzmaut

ANNUAL MEETING 2025

THU JULY 31, 2025 | FIFTH THIRD FIELD, TOLEDO | 5:30 PM (game 7:05 PM)

Ticket number : 5785

ADMIT ONE : Sec AV Row 6

Full details on page 13

SECURE YOUR TICKETS TODAY!

We Deliver a Jewish Future



A Heartfelt Journey: Raizel Shemtov reflects on 35 years at Gan Yeladim Preschool

For over 35 years, Raizel Shemtov has been the heart and soul of Gan Yeladim Preschool. A steady and loving presence since its inception, she has served as both teacher and director, guiding the school's growth while touching the lives of countless children, families, and educators. Her vision has always been rooted in one simple but profound belief: every child deserves to be seen, understood, and nurtured in their unique way.

Raizel's journey into early childhood education was never just about a career, it was a calling. "From the beginning, I knew this work wasn't about delivering facts," she reflects. "It was about my passion for children and finding a way to reach each child as an individual, helping them grow with confidence, joy, and wonder, and shine as the beautiful gem they were meant to be." That passion became the foundation for what Gan Yeladim would become.

When the preschool opened its doors 35 years ago, Raizel was there, founding, guiding, and building what would grow into a beloved cornerstone of the community. "It started small," she recalls, "but even then, the vision was clear: create a place where children learn through play, connect with nature, and feel

completely safe to be themselves." That vision has remained at the heart of the school ever since.

As a Jewish preschool, Gan Yeladim has always been about more than just education; it's about identity and belonging. "From the beginning, it's been about helping children develop a strong, joyful connection to who they are as Jews," Raizel explains. "Through stories, songs, mitzvot, and Shabbat celebrations, we plant seeds of pride and belonging which build a spiritual, cultural, and personal foundation of self-worth." By weaving Jewish values into everyday experiences, Gan Yeladim fosters a deep sense of purpose and identity from the earliest years.

While her responsibilities have grown, Raizel's connection to the children has remained constant. "Even as director, I've always stayed close to the children," she says. "That connection grounds everything." It's not the accolades or milestones that bring her the most pride, but the quiet, everyday breakthroughs - moments of growth, joy, and connection. "Seeing a shy child find their voice or watching a group of little ones collaborate on a project outdoors, that's what fills my heart."

Central to Gan Yeladim's identity is its commitment to a play-based,

nature-oriented philosophy. These are not passing trends, but core principles that shape every aspect of the school's approach. "Play is how children make sense of the world," says Raizel. "And nature grounds them; it invites curiosity, peace, and freedom. Our backyard becomes a classroom, and every puddle, pinecone, or bug becomes a lesson." This immersive, joyful way of learning continues to distinguish Gan Yeladim as a place where childhood is honored and celebrated.

Looking back, Raizel hopes her legacy is one of compassion and connection. "I want people to

remember Gan Yeladim as a place where children were truly understood. Where learning was joyful. Where kindness and individuality were celebrated every day."

As she reflects on this milestone, her message to the community is one of deep gratitude and enduring love. "To the families who have entrusted us with your precious children, thank you for your faith and partnership. To our staff, your dedication has been the backbone of everything we've built. And to the children, you've been my teachers as much as I've been yours. Never stop exploring, laughing, and being exactly who you are."

"Our extraordinary Raizel is the epitome of love, kindness, generosity, and compassion. Like an exquisite diamond, she is beautiful inside and out, multi-faceted, and extremely precious. To know her is to love, admire, respect, and adore her, while being forever grateful for the blessing of having her in your life."

- Cindy Feldstein,
Gan Yeladim Preschool
teacher



"Raizel, in my book, is synonymous with Gan. She is practically the trademark. Raizel represents all that Gan is: nurturing, encouraging, motivating and supporting. I could go on and on. I wish her the very best in her next adventure and will miss her resourcefulness and love she shared with us daily!"

- Rochelle Barchick,
Gan Yeladim Preschool
teacher



"In 2002, I was offered a position as the secular teacher in Raizel's little preschool program housed in Etz Chayim synagogue. As time went on, I realized that I had gained more than a job, but also a lifelong friend, sister, and mentor enriching me in realms even beyond the field of Early Childhood Education. I am forever thankful and honored to have been led by such a passionate advocate for each individual child and their families who entered through the doors of Gan Yeladim Preschool!"

- Carol Toney, Gan Yeladim
Preschool teacher



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

Gan Yeladim Preschool names new Director

Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo and Chabad of Toledo are thrilled to share that **Mushka Matusof** has been named Director of Gan Yeladim Preschool for the 2025-2026 school year. Mushka brings with her a deep passion for early childhood education, a strong commitment to Jewish values, and a nurturing spirit that aligns beautifully with the Gan Yeladim philosophy.

Looking toward a joyful and meaningful fall, JFGT is excited and optimistic for all that lies ahead under Mushka's leadership. She deeply embraces the guiding principle, "*chanoch l'naar al pi darko*," to educate each child according to their unique path. She brings a thoughtful and intentional approach to learning, honoring the curiosity, creativity, and individu-



ality of every child. JFGT is eager to continue fostering a vibrant, engaging environment where children can explore, learn, and thrive through experiential and meaningful learning and have an inspiring year together.

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Learn more:

www.jewishtoledo.org/about-us/gan-yeladim-preschool



Register:

<https://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/gan2025-2026>



Jewish Community Relations Council

Tabini Baby: A celebration of Israeli flavors

By Mary Bilyeu, Community Relations Programming Specialist.

Eden Grinshpan's latest cookbook, *Tabini Baby*, is a love letter to the "rich, creamy, drizzly perfection" that is the sesame paste we know as tahini, as well as to the Mediterranean and Middle Eastern cuisines that showcase such a simple but stellar product.

The book is also a celebration of her own heritage: "I *am* a Tahini Baby," she writes in the introduction. "[These] flavors and culinary traditions are what I was raised on both in my Toronto home and during my summers in Israel."

The recipes in *Tabini Baby* are beautiful, healthful, delicious, and the perfect light fare for summer, especially with home gardens and local farmers' markets about to burst with bounty.

And oh, by the way ... those recipes also just happen to entirely be vegetarian.

But with all the "fresh produce, grains, and legumes," Eden writes, you'll never feel as though "meat is missing (because it's really not.)"

The cookbook author (*Tabini Baby* is her second publication, just released in April), online personality (edeneats.com), and television host (Top Chef Canada) splits her time between Toronto and New York. But a huge part of her heart is clearly in Israel, as evidenced by a delicious array of dishes that will immediately transport you across 6000 miles and seven time zones.

Safta's Baba (her paternal grandmother's baba ganoush). Lemon Ricotta Sweet Crumb Babka, inspired by a bakery in Jaffa. Cheddar Scallion Matzo Brei with Zhoag and Za'atar, which are signature flavor enhancers beloved by Israelis.



Cardamom Upside-Down Olive Oil Cake

Photo: Chris Bernabeo; Tahini Baby, copyright © 2025 by Eden Grinshpan. Published by Avery, an imprint of Penguin Random House LLC. Reproduced by arrangement with the Publisher. All rights reserved.

And then there are the countless uses for the title ingredient: soft Pull-Apart Tahini Rugelach; luscious Strawberry Rhubarb Rose Tahini Crumble; lemony, honeyed Tahini Vinaigrette; and rich Tahini Fudge Pops among them.

Eden Grinshpan clearly speaks in the love language of food.

I dare you to resist the allure of *Tabini Baby's* gloriously colorful, vibrant fresh fruits and vegetables (huge shout-out to photographer Chris Bernabeo). From salads to noshes to mains to brunch dishes to breads to treats, there is a sweet, savory, or combination dish waiting for you, which will make you "look like a rock

Tabini continued on page 21

Jewish Toledo community members attend March of the Living 2025

By Mary Bilyeu, Community Relations Programming Specialist

"Being there is very sobering, very somber," said Rosemary Chaban, Jewish Toledo lay leader and community member, who recently attended the annual March of the Living (motl.org) in Poland for the first time.

And yet, some young people in her tour group were singing at one

point along the walk, which felt a bit incongruous. But the moment also prompted "a weird sense of celebration," Rosemary noted, because "we're still here" – the Jewish people survived to live, to thrive, and to return to eastern Europe for the purpose of remembering and honoring those who'd been lost

March continued on page 21



(top) Cattle car used to bring prisoners to the camps; these could hold about 100 people; (left) Majdanek concentration camp in Lublin, one of the only crematoriums left; (right) Railroad connecting Auschwitz to Birkenau with over a mile between the two camps

AN EVENING YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS!

TOLEDO – A NIGHT SUPPORTING THE IDF SOLDIERS & THEIR FAMILIES!

THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 2025

**** DUE TO SECURITY REASONS, LOCATION WILL BE DISCLOSED AT A LATER DATE****

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:
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Make your contribution to the Annual Campaign online at www.JewishToledo.org

Jewish Federation and Foundation of Greater Toledo

Tributes and Memorials

received between April 21 - May 19, 2025

We gratefully acknowledge the following Tributes and Memorials to JFGT and TJCF funds. Tributes and Memorials can be made by contacting Barb at 419-724-0357, barb@jewishtoledo.org, or Monique at 419-724-0386, monique@jewishtoledo.org.

Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo

In Memory of Charley Bauer
Dr. and Mrs. Jeff Levin

Alix Greenblatt Memorial Fund for Jewish Leadership

In Memory of Jim and Arleen Rose
In Memory of Norty Kale
Mr. Mark and Mrs. Denise Greenblatt

Hillel419

In Honor of Barbara Treuhaf Special Birthday
In Honor of Beth Silver Special Birthday
In Honor of David Treuhaf Special Birthday
In Honor of Gail Cooper Special Birthday
In Honor of Jon Liebenhal Special Birthday
In Honor of Sharon Kripke Special Birthday
In Memory of James and Arleen Rose
In Memory of Norton Kale
In Memory of Norton Weisberg
Mr. and Mrs. Joel Beren

In Memory of Avram Benjamin Pinalf
Dr. Sonja S. Pinsky

Jewish Senior, Family and Social Services Fund

In Memory of Jim and Arlene Rose
Mrs. Nancy R. Beren and Jeff Fetterman
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Wurtzburger

Long Term Community Needs Fund

In Honor of Chana Matusof Bat Mitzvah
Ms. Robin Isenberg

In Honor of Ann Rosenberg on her Yom HaShoah presentation to the community
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wengrow

In Memory of Jim and Arlene Rose
Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Liber
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Rothschild
Mrs. Jan Steinberg

In Memory of Eric Stelzer
Mr. Robert Stelzer z"l

TJCCA Operations

In Memory of Isadore Allen Shapiro
Mrs. Michele Gitlin

JFGT 2025 Holiday Office Closures:

Date	Day of Week	Holiday	Office Hours
June 2, 2025	Monday	SHAVUOT	Closed
June 3, 2025	Tuesday	SHAVUOT	Closed
June 19, 2025	Thursday	Juneteenth	Closed
July 4, 2025	Friday	Independence Day	Closed
September 1, 2025	Monday	Labor Day	Closed
September 22, 2025	Monday	Erev Rosh Hashanah	Close at 1:00 pm
September 23, 2025	Tuesday	Rosh Hashanah	Closed
September 24, 2025	Wednesday	Rosh Hashanah	Closed

Time Change

- Office closes at 4:30 pm Fridays starting March 14, 2025.
- Office closes at 3:30 pm Fridays starting November 7, 2025.

JFGT financial assistance and cancellation policies for programs

Financial assistance for programs

Discreet financial assistance available for Jewish Toledo activities

We understand that each person's financial situation is different, and cost can be a barrier for participation in various activities. We don't want program fees to be an obstacle for you or your family to attend our events or participate in our programs. Assistance is available and confidential. For more information, please contact Ben at 419-724-0408 or ben@jewishtoledo.org.

Jewish Federation & Foundation of Greater Toledo's Cancellation Policy

The Jewish Federation & Foundation of Greater Toledo (JFGT) cancellation policy is established to ensure a fair and transparent process for participants who need to cancel their registration for JFGT events. Our primary goal is to accommodate all participants while managing the logistical aspects of each event efficiently. This policy will generally apply to JFGT events unless otherwise stated in connection with the registration for the event.

Policy:

Participants who wish to cancel their registration for any events must do so by 48 hours prior to the event. Cancellations made after this date may result in forfeiture of the registration fee.

To cancel your registration for any event, please send an email to sherry@jewishtoledo.org with the subject line "Cancellation: [Your Name]". Include your full name, registration information, and a brief reason for the cancellation in the email.

Make sure to send the cancellation request before the 48-hour deadline. Cancellations made on or before the 48-hour deadline are eligible for a full refund of the registration fee.

Cancellations made after the 48-hour deadline may not be eligible for a refund. However, Jewish Federation & Foundation of Greater Toledo may consider exceptional circumstances on a case-by-case basis.

If you are unable to attend any Federation sponsored event after the cancellation deadline has passed, you may nominate a substitute participant at no additional cost. Please notify Sherry Majewski (sherry@jewishtoledo.org or 419-724-0351) of the substitution at least 24 hours before the event.

Participants who do not attend events without providing prior notice will not be eligible for any refunds or substitutions.

If any event is canceled by the Jewish Federation & Foundation of Greater Toledo due to circumstances beyond our control, such as a natural disaster, pandemic, or other unforeseen events, we will make every effort to reschedule. If rescheduling is not possible, participants will receive a full refund of the registration fee. The Jewish Federation & Foundation of Greater Toledo is not responsible for any additional costs incurred by participants, such as travel or accommodation expenses.

The Jewish Federation & Foundation of Greater Toledo reserves the right to amend this cancellation policy at any time. Participants will be notified of any changes via email or through our official website.

By registering for any events sponsored by the Jewish Federation & Foundation of Greater Toledo, participants acknowledge that they have read and understood this cancellation policy and agree to abide by its terms and conditions.

Local

Happy Tears

By Lauren Sachs

Lauren holds a bachelor's degree in English and Psychology, and a Master's Degree in Social Work, from the University of Michigan. After completing advanced clinical training at Yale University, Lauren worked as a therapist and consultant in a variety of settings. During her time in Jewish Toledo, Lauren has received the Harry Levison Young Leadership Award and the Shining Light Award, and is currently serving as the Chair for the 20th Annual NW Ohio Jewish Book Festival. In addition to her involvement within the local Jewish community, Lauren serves as a volunteer for Hospice of Northwest Ohio. Lauren is also the author of a forthcoming book about her late husband, his joyful approach to life and work as an oncologist, and how examining his life helped her better cope with her grief. To learn more about Lauren's journey and her work on living well after loss, visit www.literally-lauren.com.

Since Brad's birthday is in early June just before the official start of summer, the season now begins with a mixture of gratitude and melancholy. I am grateful for the longer days, the heady scent of fresh flowers, and the warmth of the sun. I am happy to have more time outdoors, taking in the beauty and greenery of the season while appreciating the chance for travel and an extended period of rest and relaxation. At the same time, there is a bit of heartache that lingers in the air, a bittersweet yet dull pain I carry with me. Knowing that Brad would have been 54 this year feels especially hard since he would still be so young. My heart also hurts for my older daughter who shared his birthday month and now must always mix the celebratory with a sense of longing. In some ways, the stress I carry for others in my orbit is my most arduous task as I must simultaneously manage my own emotional needs while also holding and honoring their grief and hurt.

Despite this swirling of emotions, I also know that the best way to honor Brad and his birthday is to lean into the joy of the season. It can be a challenging task at times. Still, when I am struggling to find joy, I play a little mental game with myself to remind me of the many reasons this is the best course of action. Sometimes I think about something Brad said to us: that we made his life better simply by being part of it. I also try to remind myself to be grateful for the time we had together, laughing at his ridiculous antics, traveling and exploring both near and far, and spending time simply enjoying each other's company. I recall his zest for living and imagine how he would want us to practice that perspective and embrace each new day with gusto and purpose. I think about how funny Brad was and remember how much he valued laughter, even at his own expense. I also reflect on his life's work and his sense of compassion, knowing he would want us to continue to help others in need and assuage their pain. It feels important to try and live by his example - to work hard and play



hard - both because it pays tribute to his life, but also because it means embracing our own lives more fully.

I firmly believe that Brad was able to adopt his own exuberant approach to life because of the hardships he witnessed as a specialist physician in the field of hematology and oncology. Seeing the trials and tribulations of life in such a close and personal way, he developed - in stark contrast - a philosophy in which he would savor all the pleasures and good things life could offer. He knew from his profession that life is full of loss. Yet this apparent dissonance between joy and sorrow actually helped him emphasize the positive parts of the human condition.

When we are able to accept the impermanence of life, we can grow through our pain and learn about our ever-evolving selves. Moreover, whenever we take the time to consider our own mortality, we are reminded of how fleeting our time here truly is. In other words, if we begin with the end in mind, we are not only able to stay focused on the present but we are also able to find a sense of peace and contentment. As I remember Brad on his birthday this year, I will continue to try and follow his example. I will also allow the pangs of grief to help me embrace all the delights of life he can no longer experience himself, but that he would surely want for me.



Reel Appeal: Talking shop with Oliver Cooper

Interview by Al Jacobs

BURT (2025) is a film about a musician with Parkinson's surprised to meet a long lost son he didn't know he had. Toledoans, actor Oliver Cooper and director Joe Burke, produced this film for about \$7,000. Since taking it on the film festival circuit, *BURT* has taken home a Jury Award for Best Comedy Feature at Cinequest Film Festival in San Jose, CA, awards for Best Picture and Best Acting Ensemble at the Phoenix Film Festival, and the Florida Film Festival's Special Jury Award for Best Screenplay. It's an affecting movie that the two filmmakers are accompanying on a trip home to the **Maumee Indoor Theatre for a one-time screening, presented by Toledo City Paper, on Saturday, June 14.** We talked with Cooper about making the movie, coaching non-actors and getting to the truth in cinema.

Toledo City Paper: I'm curious about tone. I feel like that's the toughest intangible to get right. What choices did you and Joe make to refine the mood/tone of the film? In other shows and films you've been a part of that you felt succeeded as art products, where do you see the tone primarily being refined?

Oliver Cooper: I think the tone can be a really difficult thing to get right in a film and it is a crucial part of making something good. A cohesive tone comes before a frame of the movie is shot. It's the filmmaker's voice. A lot of times you see a tone shift in a movie and, even if you're not consciously aware, it can throw off your viewing experience. Joe and I have worked together so much over the years we know instinctively what the tone should be. And Joe has a very distinctive voice so that part is never a question. And on films I've made where the director doesn't know what he or she wants, the tone tends to be off and it's generally not going to be a good movie.

TCP: Burt showcases a range

of acting talent. The movie has a voice-over cameo from Academy Award-nominee Brenda Vaccaro (of *Midnight Cowboy* fame), but mostly relies on Burt and Steve, both unknowns discovered by you and Joe. Though Joe was director, you both wrote and produced the movie, in addition to your acting role. What were the challenges of coaching first-time actors through production of a feature-length film?

OC: Working with non-actors presents challenges and it has its benefits as well. Similar to child actors, they may not have the craft or ability to hit their mark. But they tend to have this magic about them, if you cast right. Also they want to be directed versus, perhaps, an experienced actor who doesn't want their role to be managed. Oftentimes with non-actors you're looking for someone who is so interesting that they almost can't be anything other than themselves, even if they tried. They are so purely them, in the most beautiful, interesting way. But the key to getting a good performance out of them is creating an environment where they feel safe, where they feel free to play. But that's true for any actor really. We were lucky with *BURT*. We had such a small crew that (the cast) felt like a family and the line between action and cut was blurred.

TCP: How did the real-life tensions of the non-actors that you and Joe cast inspire or inform the story of the movie that audiences will see on the screen?

OC: Burt and Steve are real roommates who have lived together for a decade plus, there's a lot of love, and also conflict, that is exacerbated when you are making a movie. I think Burt and Steve would drive each other crazy at times which was great for the movie and their dynamic. But also you can tell there is real love there. It comes across in the film, and in real life.

BURT continued on page 10

News

Shoah Foundation widens its mandate to collect testimonies about contemporary antisemitism, too

By Grace Gilson

(JTA) — For decades, the USC Shoah Foundation has amassed testimonies of Holocaust survivors, with the goal of preserving stories before they cannot be told firsthand. Now, with survivors dwindling, the organization founded by Steven Spielberg is expanding its mandate to collect testimonies from Jews about global antisemitism since World War II.

The Holocaust research center is partnering with the American Jewish Committee to collect 10,000 testimonies, the groups announced in April. Their collaboration will form a central component of the foundation's Contemporary Antisemitism Collection, seeking to showcase the various ways antisemitism has manifested since the Holocaust.

"We must clearly show to the world — and preserve for the future — what antisemitism is, what it looks like, and the personal toll it takes on Jews around the world. AJC has seen, firsthand, the way antisemitism has morphed and manifested itself in different ways since the end of the Holocaust," said AJC CEO Ted Deutch in a press release.

The USC Shoah Foundation,



American Jewish Committee CEO Ted Deutch speaks at the organization's Global Forum 2023 in Tel Aviv, Israel, June 14, 2023. (American Jewish Committee)

founded by Steven Spielberg in the wake of the success of his Holocaust drama "Schindler's List," is home to the largest collection of testimonies of victims of genocide, including the Holocaust, in the world. It houses over 61,000 testimonies.

In the immediate aftermath of Hamas' Oct. 7, 2023, attack on Israel, the foundation said it would take testimony from survivors. The new partnership widens the funnel

of new stories.

"Our partnership with AJC will enable us to reach survivors of antisemitic violence from all over the globe," said Robert Williams, CEO of the USC Shoah Foundation. "In turn, this is a powerful statement that bringing the world's attention to antisemitism requires partnerships built on a shared commitment to giving voice to the personal histories of those who have and continue to experience one of humanity's oldest and most enduring forms of hatred."

One testimony that will be included in the new collection is that of Daniel Pomerantz, a survivor of the 1994 bombing of the AMIA Jewish center in Buenos Aires that killed 85 people and has been attributed to the Lebanese terror group Hezbollah.

"The [Hezbollah] terrorists killed 85 and injured 300. These were my friends and colleagues. They were Argentinian Jews and Argentinians of all backgrounds. Thirty-one years later, those responsible for orchestrating that horrible day — for attacking my place of work, my community's gathering place, and for murdering and maiming dozens — have still not been brought to justice or held accountable for their crimes," said

Pomerantz, who is now the executive director of AMIA, in a press release.

Another testimony will come from Antoine Haguenaer, who was attacked in Paris in February while attending a memorial for the Bibas family, who were killed in Hamas captivity.

"I was berated, told I supported genocide. I was threatened — they told me they would follow me home, leak my address, kill me and my family. I was assaulted — punched in the head from behind. When I reported the attack to a police officer, he told me: 'You could press charges, but what would be the point?'" said Haguenaer in a press release.

Once completed, the collection will be the largest archive of firsthand testimonies of postwar antisemitism.

Antisemitism, and discourse surrounding it, has remained a central part of the Jewish experience. Last week, the ADL released a report that found that antisemitic incidents in the United States had set a new record for the fourth year in a row. Part of the trend was spurred by what the organization determined was an over 80% increase in antisemitic incidents on college campuses.

Leo XIV, first American pope, studied under a leader in Jewish-Catholic relations

By Ben Sales

(JTA) — Cardinal Robert Prevost, who was just elected as Pope Leo XIV, studied under a pioneer in Jewish-Catholic relations when he attended seminary in Chicago.

The Rev. John T. Pawlikowski, who taught for nearly half a century at the Catholic Theological Union until his retirement in 2017, served as co-founder and director of the school's Catholic-Jewish Studies Program and also served four terms on the board of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum.

More than 40 years after Leo's ordination as a priest, Pawlikowski remembers the new pope as a good student with an open mind.

"I do remember him as a pretty bright student," Pawlikowski said in an interview shortly after his former student was introduced to the world as the sitting bishop of Rome.

Pawlikowski added later, "My experience of him was he's a very open-minded person who's very much in the context of Vatican II."

Vatican II, or the Second Vatican Council, inaugurated a new era in



Pope Leo XIV addresses the world following his election. (Getty Images)

Jewish-Catholic relations in 1965 when it issued a document, *Nostra Aetate*, repudiating antisemitism and stating that the Jewish people were not responsible for Jesus' death. Ties between the two religious communities were blossoming at the time when Leo was studying for the priesthood in the late 1970s and early '80s.

Under Pawlikowski, Leo studied Catholic social teaching, which focuses on social and economic issues. Pawlikowski says relations with Jews

are relevant to that field. CTU has also had a commitment to Catholic-Jewish relations since its founding and launched its formal program in the field in 1968.

"I've always argued that antisemitism is something that has to be counted as part of the Catholic commitment to social justice and human dignity," he said. "My work on Catholic social teaching did include always the issue of antisemitism."

The pope spent much of his career in Peru and is thought of as a

relative centrist and Vatican insider. He hasn't been a prominent figure in Jewish-Catholic dialogue or fighting antisemitism. Pope Francis, his predecessor, did opine on those issues and had relations with Jewish leaders in his native Argentina.

But Leo's coming of age in the era of Vatican II — plus his roots in Chicago, which has a large Jewish community, also lead Rabbi Noam Marans, the American Jewish Committee's director of interreligious and intergroup relations, to feel optimistic.

"He studied at CTU under John Pawlikowski and in the post-*Nostra Aetate* era, in the country where Catholic-Jewish relations is preeminent," Marans said in an interview. "An American pope bodes well for the future of Catholic-Jewish relations. More than anywhere in the world, the relationship between Catholics and Jews has flourished and set a gold standard in the United States."

While Francis was outspoken in his opposition to antisemitism and his promotion of ties with Jews, he

Pope continued on page 21

Partnership2Gether

Partnership leaders visit Jewish Toledo



Partnership2Gether's (P2G) Tamara Lawson Schuster (Central Area Consortium Director) and Megan Maurer (national P2G chair) recently visited Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo (JFGT) to learn more about the vibrant community and explore new opportunities to strengthen the connection between Jewish Toledo and its partnership region in the Western Galilee. (L to R) Hallie Freed (JFGT VP Innovations, Programs, and Services), Robin Isenberg (JFGT VP of Operations), Tamara Lawson Schuster, Stephen Rothschild (JFGT CEO), Megan Maurer, Amichai Stout (Jewish Community Relations Council Director), and Ben Malczewski (VP, Jewish Senior, Family & Social Services)



Jewish Federation & Foundation
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Making connections, from Toledo to Israel

By Mary Bilyeu, Community Relations Programming Specialist

Partnership2Gether is all about making real connections, person-to-person, from Toledo to Israel, said Stephen Rothschild, CEO of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo.

He spoke about this with great conviction on May 12, while introducing three guests from our Partnership region in the Western Galilee - Shimon Buskila, Meital Beham, and Golan Rosenberg - who'd come to tell their stories of loss, upheaval, and resilience during and after the October 7 massacre.

The audience of two dozen community members listened intently as each speaker shared their experiences. Shimon told of his son who'd been killed while trying to escape the Nova festival, and the garden with mosaics the family is creating as a legacy to Yarden's memory. Golan

discussed the death of his nephew on the fateful day, and the dawning realization that every family in Israel had been touched with equally heartbreaking losses.

Meital talked about the complications of uprooting her family of five - including three teenagers and two dogs - to a hotel for months on end, and the success of efforts to establish some semblance of normalcy and community in this home-away-from-home among others who'd also been displaced indefinitely.

It was an evening of sorrow mixed with inspiration, as our Israeli friends shared about their challenges and their strength in the face of such tremendous adversity. And it was an opportunity to connect, as Stephen had noted initially, with our new friends, reinforcing our bonds with Partnership and our own personal connections to Israel.



(L to R) Stephen Rothschild, Shimon Buskila, Fagie Benstein, Golan Rosenberg, Amichai Stout, and Meital Beham



2025 Cemetery Closings

BETH SHALOM CEMETERY

420 Otter Creek Rd.
Oregon, Ohio 43616

EAGLE POINT CEMETERY

515 Eagle Point Rd.
Rossford, Ohio 43460

Date	Holiday	Close at
Sunday, June 1, 2025	Erev Shavuot	Close at 4 pm
Monday, June 2, 2025	Shavuot I	Closed
Tuesday, June 3, 2025	Shavuot II	Closed
Monday, September 22, 2025	Erev Rosh Hashanah	Close at 4 pm
Tuesday, September 23, 2025	Rosh Hashanah I	Closed
Wednesday, September 24, 2025	Rosh Hashanah II	Closed
Wednesday, October 1, 2025	Erev Yom Kippur	Close at 4 pm
Thursday, October 2, 2025	Yom Kippur	Closed
Monday, October 6, 2025	Erev Sukkot	Close at 4 pm
Tuesday, October 7, 2025	Sukkot I	Closed
Wednesday, October 8, 2025	Sukkot II	Closed
Monday, October 13, 2025	Erev Shemini Atzeret	Close at 4 pm
Tuesday, October 14, 2025	Shemini Atzeret	Closed
Wednesday, October 15, 2025	Simchat Torah	Closed

Regular Cemetery hours:
Sunday through Thursday 8 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Fridays 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Cemeteries close early every Friday at 4 p.m. for Erev Shabbat
Closed Saturdays and on the dates (listed left) for Yom Tov

Toledo Jewish Community Cemetery Association 6465 Sylvania Ave.
Sylvania, Ohio 43560
419-517-8829



Jewish Federation & Foundation
OF GREATER TOLEDO

Jewish Community Relations Council

Second generation survivor shares experience for Yom HaShoah



On April 24, nearly 150 community members came together at Congregation B'nai Israel to commemorate Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day) and hear Ann Rosenberg share her experience as a Second Generation survivor. Ann's telling of her parents' stories – which included readings of their own words and memories – brought many attendees to tears. But at the end, a recent photograph of three generations of the family was a powerful testament to resilience and survival.

Thank you so much to Ann, and also to Hindea Markowicz (Director, Ruth Fajerman Markowicz Holocaust Resource Center), Cyd Gottlieb, Cantor Ivor Lichterman, and Rabbi Lisa Delson for all your contributions to the evening.



Jewish Federation & Foundation
OF GREATER TOLEDO

NOTICE SEEKING NOMINATIONS

Pursuant to Article V, Section 1 of the Fifth Amended Code of Regulations of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo ("JFGT"), the JFGT Community Nominating Committee is accepting nominations for all positions to be filled by the Nominating Committee pursuant to Article V. Nominations may be submitted to Laurie Gross, chair of the Nominating Committee by Members of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo at lgross@grosselectric.com. Nominations must be received July 16, 2025. **The Annual Meeting will be held on July 31, 2025 at 6 p.m. at Fifth Third Field with dinner and a Mud Hens game to follow. See page 13 for more information.**

Community members may nominate proposed officers and directors of JFGT for the following positions: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and three (3) at-large positions. All other positions are either in the middle of existing terms or are selected by a different process under the Code of Regulations.

Board Position	Nominee	Term
1. President		7/31/2025-7/2027
2. Vice President		7/31/2025-7/2027
3. Secretary		7/31/2025-7/2027
4. Treasurer		7/31/2025-7/2027
5. At Large Member—two year term-(1 st term)		7/31/25-7/27
6. At Large Member—two year term-(1 st term)		7/31/25-7/27
7. At Large Member—two year term-(1 st term)		7/31/25-7/27

Community members may also nominate a person nominated to serve as a director above or a current and continuing board member to also serve as chairperson of any of the following Standing Committees: Jewish Community Relations Council, Campaign Cabinet, Jewish Family and Social Services Committee, Jewish Education Committee and the Community Programming Committee. Standing Committee chairs are required to be members of the JFGT Board pursuant to the Code of Regulations.

Standing Committee Chairs

Standing Committee	Nominee	Term
Jewish Community Relations Council		7/31/25-7/2026
Campaign Cabinet		7/31/25-7/2026
Jewish Family and Social Services Committee		7/31/25-7/2026
Jewish Education Committee		7/31/25-7/2026
Community Programming Committee		7/31/25-7/2026

Questions regarding this notice can be directed to Stephen Rothschild, Chief Executive Officer, Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo, at stephen@jewishtoledo.org or 419-724-0372.

Sincerely,
 Tamara Green Secretary, Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo
 Laurie Gross Chair of the Community Nominating Committee

Commentary

Opinions published in the *Commentary* section are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the views or opinions of JFGT, its employees, officers, and directors.

Opinion

By Marjorie Siegel, President,
Congregation Etz Chayim

I commend the Federation for holding the recent meetings throughout the community to explain their vision for a possible move to Five Lakes Church. It seems that most people agree that the Federation needs more space, exactly how much is the question. Because Etz Chayim is considering being an integral part of this plan, it is important for me to state that our discussions are still in committee, not even to the board yet, until we have figures to deal with. Furthermore, as the president of Etz Chayim, I want to share the following President's Message which appeared in our June bulletin:

What is viability?

Many definitions, but essentially, *able to function independently.*

I recently heard, second hand, that a leader in our community indicated that Etz Chayim is not a viable congregation. After my initial flare of anger, I gave it some thought.

I thought about the seventeen challahs that our Sisterhood delivered last month for May birthdays and about our May weekend, with Rabbi Mark, starting with a dinner of 29 and yes, a smaller, but dedicated Saturday minyan. I reflected on our pre-Pesach program with Aviva Panush, a respected scholar and beloved teacher from Ann Arbor, and other Sunday and Wednesday morning programs with films and speakers that bring together people from across our community to explore a variety of topics; of the members and non-members who gather on Sunday mornings to play mahjong and poker; of our dedicated minyanaires, more than twenty of them, who make certain that we have a minyan every Wednesday night.

Does that indicate that we are not viable?

It is true that we are a congregation of seniors, proud and vibrant, energetic and capable. And yes, there are few if any of us who are Shomer Shabbos. Yet we value the presence of Orthodox Judaism in our com-

munity and are dedicated to holding on to that presence as long as we can. We treasure our precious legacy and what it represents. Ultimately, we have made a decision to remain viable as long as we can.

Best of all, we like each other. We enjoy being together, in prayer, in social settings, in learning situations. Yes, we like each other.

In *Genesis 18*, Abraham pleads with G-d to spare the city of Sodom and its neighboring city, Gomorrah, from impending destruction, a plan based on the wickedness in the cities. Abraham intercedes, asking G-d to spare destruction if a certain number of righteous people can be found. G-d agrees to 50, then 45, ultimately to 10, if 10 righteous people can be found, a demonstration that quantity is not valued in and of itself, but quality is what matters.

We are acutely aware that numbers matter, that once we cannot get a minyan, we cannot exist. At the same time, we know that we would like to stay together for as much of our natural lives as possible and are

doing what we can to assure that possibility.

The Board of Etz Chayim and its Future Committee are demonstrating due diligence in exploring what our near future should be, what is best for us, for our perpetuity so long as we deem ourselves viable. We continue to examine the options before us. We were pleased that so many of our congregants attended the community meetings held last month, another demonstration of our viability.

There is a Talmudic adage, "We do not see things as *they* are, we see things as *we* are." We all look through different eyes. If we see ourselves as viable, so we are, regardless of what an outsider's eyes see.

As we celebrate Shavuot, commemorating the giving of the Torah, may we find guidance and inspiration through its teachings, to have the serenity to accept the things we cannot change, the courage to change the things we can, and the wisdom to know the difference.

Chag sameach!

10th Anniversary Update: Toledo's Jewish Historical Project

By Lynn B. Jacobs

As spring finally bursts open in all its glorious scents and colors, I want to thank all of you in our community who have made our Toledo Jewish History Project the success it has become in the past ten years!

The hardcover publication of "The History of the Toledo Jewish Community" in 2015 was the seed of inspiration that launched our collection of Jewish memorabilia, now saved from the dumpsters thanks to the joint efforts of the JFGT and the Toledo Lucas County Public Library system.

In 2016, the Toledo Public Library system and its then CEO, Clyde Scoles (z"l), agreed to accept for permanent preservation through both its digital and physical preservation in fireproof vaults, memorabilia collected by the Toledo area Jewish community.

Critical to this joint effort was the library's willingness to fully support all costs of this project. Once again, our TLCPL has proved itself to be a committed, true community asset, without whose help our project would not exist.

To date, the library has permanently archived and digitized on their website more than 300 photos, videos, and print memorabilia of our ancestors

spanning the entire 20th century. Thanks again to the many community members who have heeded our call and turned over precious family memorabilia!

All our Toledo history, in the form of documents, programs, and personal testimonies, are what comprise this remarkable collection of a vibrant Jewish community in the Toledo area during its 20th century "Golden Age."

To access the collection, visit <https://ohiomemory.org/>, where you can search specific terms, collections, books, photos, testimonials, documents, and videos. You can also call the library at 419-259-5300 and ask to be connected to the "local history department" for help in locating the Toledo Jewish History material on its "Ohio Memories" link.

Records kept in libraries, dating back to the first public library in the United States, established by Benjamin Franklin in 1790 in Franklin MA., are the safest and most professional and enduring records our country possesses.

Your "hand me downs" also ensure immeasurable joy to those they reach (scholars, historians, family genealogists, new contacts, friends, and more. Any physical contributions to the Toledo Lucas County Public Library (TLCPL) should be dated and named as to

Scan the QR code to the right to visit the Toledo Lucas County Public Library's digital collections page featuring regional contributions to the Toledo Jewish History Project.



Scan the QR code to the right to view "A History of the Toledo Jewish Community" digitally through TLCPL.



persons and/or occasion. Without this information, donations may be rejected. Additionally, no newspaper print articles are accepted by the TLCPL if the library already retains microfilm copies of the newsprint from which it came.

Drop off your memorabilia at the Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo (JFGT) offices in the JCC/

YMCA building, labeled to my attention: Lynn Jacobs/Toledo Jewish Historical Project. I will acknowledge.

Don't hesitate to call me at 419-351-5719 with any questions. Thank you again for making our Toledo Jewish History the success it is... for the living, and for the future.

BURT continued from page 6

TCP: You and Joe both have experience blurring the reality of non-actor characters with fictional film stories while making a true-to-life feature like *Four Dogs* (2013). Was there anything you maybe didn't recall that took you by surprise when approaching the production of *BURT*?

OC: I don't know if there is anything that is surprising or that

I forgot about. But it's exhilarating working with non-actors and exploring their real lives. I think the thing that is delicate is to make sure you don't cross a line. This is their life. It's something that always appeals to me — in stuff I watch. It's the closest you get to the truth in cinema.

BURT screens on Saturday, June 14 at the Maumee Indoor Theatre followed by a Q&A. \$17. Tickets at maumeeindoor.com and eventbrite.com



Summer Program Guide 2025

11th Toledo Jewish film festival



Featured Event

FORKED

MONDAY, JULY 28 | 7 P.M.
 LOURDES FRANCISCAN CENTER,
 6832 CONVENT BLVD., SYLVANIA



Post-film discussion with special guests:
 Susan Feniger and Liz Lachman



SUSAN FENIGER is an American chef, restaurateur, cookbook author, radio and TV personality. She is known for starring in the cooking show *Too Hot Tamales* and *Tamales World Tour* on the Food Network, *Iron Chef*, *Top Chef Masters*, *Cooking with the Master Chefs*, and more. She is a co-chair on the board of the Los Angeles LGBTQ Center and on the board of the Scleroderma Research Foundation. In 2018, Feniger and partner Mary Sue Milliken were named the recipients of the Julia Child Award from The Julia Child Foundation for Gastronomy and the Culinary Arts.



LIZ LACHMAN is an Emmy Award winning musician, and a Golden Reel Award winning music editor. She is currently in development on the feature narrative psychological thriller, *Pin-Up*, which she wrote and will direct. As a writer, Liz has twice been a Quarter Finalist and a Top 15% in the Academy Nicholl Screenplay Competition, a semifinalist and quarter finalist in the PAGE Screenplay Awards and a semi finalist in the Final Draft Screenplay Competition.

A verité style documentary following award-winning celebrity chef Susan Feniger on her first solo restaurant and her passionate struggle to bring global street food under one roof in the form of a new LA restaurant: STREET. Shot by her longtime filmmaker partner in Vietnam, Shanghai, and Los Angeles, featuring appearances by Wolfgang Puck, Bobby Flay, and Mary Sue Milliken, it's a personal story of starting over and about not IF one fails... but HOW.
Running time: 93 minutes | English

FORBES.COM - "...wildly entertaining..." "...you need to put this on your essential viewing list."
 CHICAGO READER: "... The documentary is a feast for the eyes and the soul, and reminds us of our most fearless selves going boldly out into the world."

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR THE FULL SCHEDULE OF FILMS AT THE 2025 TOLEDO JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

11th toledo jewish film festival



Jewish Federation & Foundation
OF GREATER TOLEDO

Monday,
June 30

Monday,
July 7

Monday,
July 14

Monday,
July 21

Monday,
July 28

OPENING NIGHT

Bad Shabbos

Monday, June 30 at 7 p.m. | Southview High School

Coffee bar, popcorn, candy, and take-home shabbat sets

Hot on the heels of its Tribeca Audience Award win, this darkly uproarious, star-studded comedy transforms a tense Upper West Side Shabbat dinner into an unhinged circus of chaos and calamity. David (Jon Bass) and his fiancée Meg (Meghan Leathers), who is converting to Judaism, invite her devout Midwestern Catholic parents to meet his outspoken, sharp-tongued Jewish family for the first time. Already fraught, the evening takes a disastrous turn when a guest suffers a suspicious mishap in the bathroom—a seemingly unlucky accident that spirals into a frantic cover-up, pushing the dysfunctional household to its breaking point.

At the center of the chaos is David's neurotic mother, Ellen (Kyra Sedgwick), whose peevish antagonism and relentless kvetching keep everyone on edge. His good-natured father, Richard (David Paymer), struggles to maintain order, but long-simmering sibling rivalries only add more fuel to the tribal fire. When the unsuspecting future in-laws finally arrive, the valiant doorman (Cliff "Method Man" Smith) steps in with ludicrously off-the-wall fixes, escalating the madness to new heights. **Running time: 84 minutes | English**

Welcome to Yiddishland

Monday, July 7 at 7 p.m. | Southview High School

Coffee bar, popcorn, and candy

Welcome to Yiddishland offers an upbeat, witty, and timely exploration of a global community of artists rediscovering and revitalizing the endangered Yiddish language through progressive and provocative creative works. As we journey through Yiddishland—not a homeland, but a heartland without borders—we travel across continents, from Melbourne to Berlin, New York to Haifa, meeting a diverse array of individuals who find solace, identity, and inspiration in Yiddish language and culture. **Running time: 96 minutes | English and Yiddish**

information

Location and time for all films:

First 4 films are at **Southview High School Auditorium, 7225 Sylvania Ave.** The closing night film is at **Lourdes University Franciscan Center, 6832 Convent Blvd.**

All films begin at 7 p.m.

Ticket prices

General admission: \$10 per film, per person

Series package: \$45 all 5 dates, per person

Please check in at our registration table the day of each film for all pre-purchased tickets and passes

How to purchase your tickets

By phone: 419-724-0351

By email: sherry@jewishtoledo.org

Online: form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/films2025

At the door: first come, first serve



Concessions

Snacks and beverages will be available at all screenings (unless otherwise noted). This is included in your ticket price. Bring your reusable water bottle.

Parking

Free parking is available on the west side of the Southview High School building (June 30-July 21 films) and adjacent to Lourdes University Franciscan Center (July 28 film).

Questions:

Please contact Hallie Freed at 419-724-0362 or hallie@jewishtoledo.org.

Midas Man

Monday, July 14 at 7 p.m. | Southview High School

Coffee bar, popcorn, and candy

Set against the kaleidoscopic backdrop of Swinging Sixties London, this stylish musical biopic explores the genius and demons of the trailblazing Jewish manager hailed as the "fifth Beatle." Brian Epstein's visionary efforts propelled The Beatles' meteoric rise to global stardom, from smoky Liverpool clubs to dazzling performances that defined a generation. Amid the heady swirl of fame and ongoing cultural revolution, he navigated societal pressures, solitude, and the hidden struggles of life as a closeted gay man. **Running time: 112 minutes | English**

Everything's Kosher

Monday, July 21 at 7 p.m. | Southview High School

Coffee bar, popcorn, and Bavarian pretzel & mustard bar

In *Everything's Kosher*, Adam, a divorced Jewish father from Chicago, embarks on a heartfelt journey to fulfill a promise to his only daughter: never to abandon her. Settling in a small German town steeped in the shadows of antisemitism and Nazi history, he dreams of opening a Jewish deli to reconnect with his roots and forge new bonds within his community.

As he navigates the challenges of his new life, a painful rift with his estranged father, who abandoned the family decades before, weighs heavily on his soul. Determined to break the cycle of abandonment and heal old wounds, Adam travels from Germany to Chicago and finally to Cape Cod, where he confronts the man he hasn't spoken to in forty years. **Running time: 78 minutes | English**

FEATURING POST-FILM DISCUSSION WITH SPECIAL GUEST,



DIRECTOR AND STAR ADAM FRIED

ADAM FRIED is a filmmaker known for his work on *The Walk* and *Everything's Kosher*. His films often explore themes of identity and culture, blending humor and introspective storytelling. With a keen eye for detail and a unique perspective, Fried's work has resonated with audiences and critics alike.

CLOSING NIGHT

Forked

Monday, July 28 at 7 p.m. |

Lourdes University Franciscan Center

Coffee bar, popcorn, and candy

A verité style documentary following award-winning celebrity chef Susan Feniger on her first solo restaurant and her passionate struggle to bring global street food under one roof in the form of a new LA restaurant: STREET. Shot by her longtime filmmaker partner in Vietnam, Shanghai, and Los Angeles, featuring appearances by Wolfgang Puck, Bobby Flay, and Mary Sue Milliken, it's a personal story of starting over and about not IF one fails... but HOW. **Running time: 93 minutes | English**

FEATURING SPECIAL GUESTS,

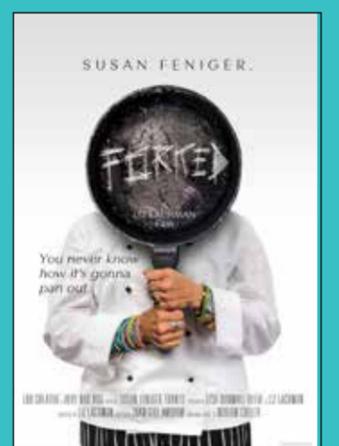
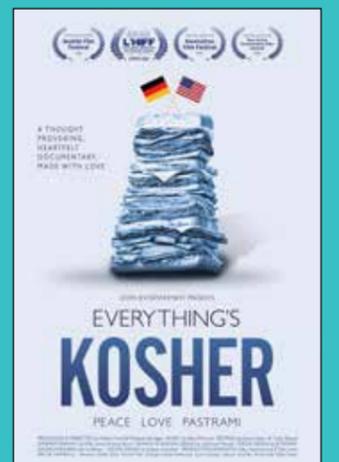
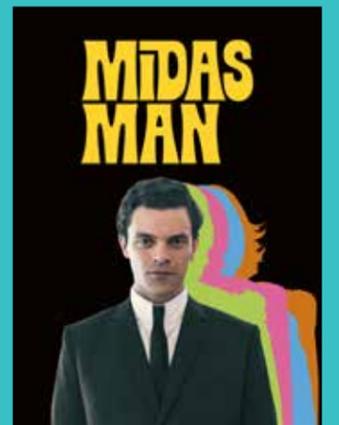
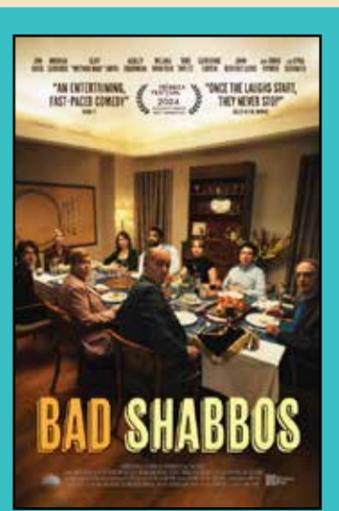
SUSAN FENIGER AND LIZ LACHMAN



SUSAN FENIGER is an American chef, restaurateur, cookbook author, radio and TV personality. She is known for starring in the cooking show *Too Hot Tamales* and *Tamales World Tour* on the Food Network, *Iron Chef*, *Top Chef Masters*, *Cooking with the Master Chefs*, and more. She is a co-chair on the board of the Los Angeles LGBTQ Center and on the board of the Scleroderma Research Foundation. In 2018, Feniger and partner Mary Sue Milliken were named the recipients of the Julia Child Award from The Julia Child Foundation for Gastronomy and the Culinary Arts.



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The Film Festival is generously funded in part by the Stu & JoJo Goldberg Donor Advised Fund at the Toledo Jewish Community Foundation

Summer Program Guide 2025

JEWISH COMMUNITY & FAMILY/YOUTH

JOIN US
at the Park



Jewish Federation
& Foundation
OF GREATER TOLEDO



ANNUAL
MEETING 2025

Thursday, July 31

Doors open at 5 p.m.
Annual Meeting at 5:30 p.m.
Dinner to follow; baseball game at 7:05 p.m.
Fifth Third Field, 406 Washington St.

Open to the entire community, all ages!
Meeting - FREE
Meeting, dinner, and game - \$25 per adult, \$10 per child 3-12 (children 2 and under are free)

We're taking the Annual Meeting out of the boardroom and into the ballpark for a unique event you will not want to miss! Hear highlights from last year, celebrate award winners, and learn all that the Jewish community has accomplished together.

Then, let's play ball! Choose to stay for our Jewish community Mud Hens game as they take on the St. Paul Saints. Bring your Jewish Toledo pride and let's knock this night out of the park.

Pre-registration is required for this event.

RSVP by Monday, July 21 online at:
<https://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/jfgtprograms> or with
Sherry Majewski at sherry@jewishtoledo.org or 419-724-0351.



Custom Jewish Toledo Mud Hens hat (available for advance purchase at the time of registration)- \$18
*design subject to change

* Pursuant to JFGT's Code of Regulations, the Annual Meeting is for Members of JFGT and JFGT's guests. JFGT members are all Jewish persons 18 years or older who reside in Lucas, Wood, Ottawa, or Fulton County in Ohio or Monroe or Lenawee County in Michigan and who make an annual contribution to JFGT. Contributions can be made by contacting Wendy Goldstein at 419-724-0360 or wendy@jewishtoledo.org, or by visiting www.jewishtoledo.org/annualcampaign.



Generously made possible by
The Inspiration Fund

AUGUST 4-8, 2025

9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Open to kids Pre-K (potty trained three and four-year-olds) through fifth grade

Camp Inspiration is a quality, educational, inclusive, and fun Toledo Jewish day camp experience. Each day will be themed and will encompass a Jewish value. There will be entertainment, activities, crafts, mitzvah projects, healthy and delicious lunches and snacks, and so much more!

***Junior CIT and CIT spots available for older kids in grades 6-12

Registration is open now!

Join us for a week of fun!



<https://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/camp-inspiration-2025>

Questions? Contact Marnie at 419-724-0365 or marnie@jewishtoledo.org.

PJ LIBRARY PLAYDATES



Join us this summer for a fun series of PJ Summer of Fun Playdates & Meetups designed for children ages 0-5 and their favorite grown-up(s)! These meetups are a great way to connect, play, and explore Jewish values and traditions through age-appropriate stories, songs, and simple activities. Each meetup will feature simple activities, open playtime, and plenty of opportunities to build community. Older siblings are always welcome to join the fun!

Please note: All meetups are weather permitting, and dates, times, and locations are subject to change. Please check our Facebook page for more information and updates:

www.facebook.com/groups/JFGTfamily.



RSVP by the day prior to each event with Marnie Younker at marnie@jewishtoledo.org or 419-724-0365; walk-ins are always welcome!



Friday, June 13
10 a.m.

Biggby Coffee, 4031 N. McCord Rd.
Positively Portable Preschool

Tuesday, June 17
9:30 – 10 a.m.,

Baby time for 0 to 18 mo.

10:30 – 11 a.m.,

Toddler Storytime for 18-mo.-3 years
King Road Library, 3900 King Rd.

Friday, June 20
10 - 11:30 a.m.

Gan Yeladim Preschool Playground,
6505 Sylvania Ave.

Thursday, June 26
10 – 11:30 a.m.

Wildwood Metropark,
5100 Central Ave.

Stroller walk & playground play

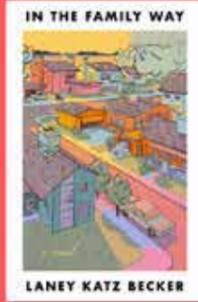
Save the Date for our next round and check Facebook for updates!

Tuesday, July 1
Thursday, July 10
Sunday, July 13
Friday, July 18
Wednesday, July 23
Tuesday, July 29
Thursday, Aug 14
Sunday, Aug 17
Wednesday, Aug 20

In the Family Way



A CONVERSATION WITH AUTHOR & TOLEDO NATIVE **LANEY KATZ BECKER**



Join us for a conversation with Toledo native Laney Katz Becker as she discusses her new book, *In the Family Way*. Set in the 1960s before Roe, *In the Family Way* is a poignant and powerful novel in the vein of *Lessons in Chemistry* and *Big Little Lies*, about the friendship between a group of suburban housewives who help one another navigate through their personal challenges, marriages, and their pregnancies—both wanted and unwanted.

Moving and atmospheric, full of history and heart, *In the Family Way* is a timely novel that captures the experiences of women on the cusp of liberation as they struggle with their own complex feelings about being wives, mothers, and women with their own dreams and ambitions.

Laney Katz Becker is an award-winning author, writer, and a former literary agent. Her books include the debut novel, *Dear Stranger, Dearest Friend*, and the nonfiction anthology, *Three Times Chai*, a collection of rabbis' favorite stories. She currently lives on the east coast of Florida with her husband and their Havanese.



MONDAY, JUNE 9

1 – 3 P.M.

**CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL
6525 W. SYLVANIA AVE.**

AUTHOR CONVERSATION ONLY - FREE

AUTHOR CONVERSATION AND BOOK - \$30

INCLUDES BEVERAGES, LIGHT SNACKS, AND SWEETS



RSVP by Friday, June 6 to form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/jfgtprograms or Sherry Majewski at sherry@jewishtoledo.org or 419-724-0351.

THE ENTIRE JEWISH COMMUNITY IS INVITED



A TALK WITH DAN FEFERMAN

**AFTER OCTOBER 7: THE ABRAHAM ACCORDS,
GAZA, AND THE PATH TO PEACE**

Join us for a timely and thought-provoking conversation with Dan Feferman, a former intelligence officer, expert on Israeli foreign policy, and Co-Chairman of Sharaka, an NGO advancing peace and normalization between Israel and the Arab world.

Feferman will provide insights into:

- The status and future of the Abraham Accords
- The impact of the October 7 Hamas attack on Israeli and regional security
- What lies ahead for Israel, Gaza, and broader Middle East peace efforts

**FREE TO THE
COMMUNITY**

RSVP BY JUNE 6 AT
[HTTPS://FORM.JOTFORM.COM/
JEWISHTOLEDO/JCRC-EVENTS](https://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/jcrc-events)



**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11
7 PM AT THE
FRANCISCAN CENTER AT
LOURDES UNIVERSITY**

FOR QUESTIONS CONTACT MARY BILYEU AT 419-724-0405 OR MARY@JEWISHTOLEDO.ORG

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED BY JUNE 6

SAVE THE DATE

Thursday, August 14

12 – 1:30 p.m.

**Sekach Building,
6505 Sylvania Ave.**

\$10 per person

Open to the Jewish community



**Jewish Federation
& Foundation
OF GREATER TOLEDO**

This year's honey tasting celebration will feature local honey producers. We'll talk about the importance of honey to the upcoming High Holidays (especially Rosh HaShanah) and why Israel is considered the land of milk and honey. A light lunch will be served.

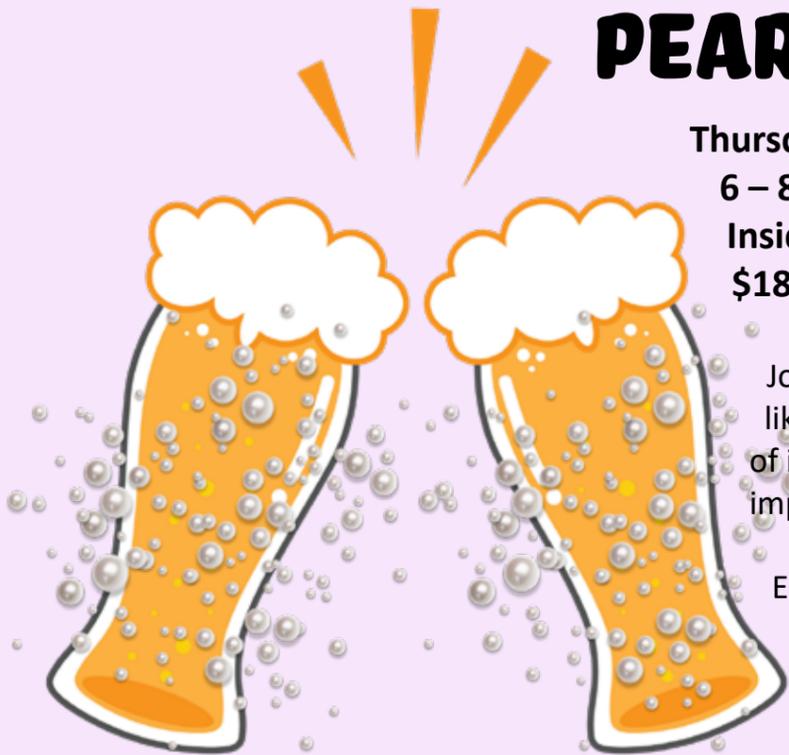


RSVP by Thursday, August 7 to <https://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/JCRC-events> or Mary Bilyeu at mary@jewishtoledo.org or 419-724-0405.



Summer Program Guide 2025 **JEWISH WOMEN & PHILANTHROPY**

PEARLS & PILSNER



Thursday, June 26

6 – 8 p.m.

Inside the Five (upstairs), 5703 Main St.

\$18 per person, includes a delicious dinner



Join us for a fun and inspiring night out with amazing Jewish women like you! Whether you're new to the Pearl Society or have been part of it for years, this is your night to relax, connect, and celebrate the impact we're making—together.

Enjoy great food, local brews, and meaningful conversation as we shmooze, share stories, and talk about the exciting things happening in our community, and the world, thanks to your generosity.

Let's raise a glass to doing good, feeling connected, and growing the power of women's giving.

Open to all women under 60 who give \$180–\$1,799 annually to the Federation. A program for Pearls 60+ is planned for later this year, more information TBA.

RSVP by Monday, June 16 online at form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/womenphil or with Sherry Majewski at sherry@jewishtoledo.org or 419-724-0351.



The **Pearl Society** is for women who give a minimum donation of \$180 to Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo's Annual Campaign.



For only \$15/month you can be a part of a nationally recognized Jewish women's philanthropy society.

Get involved

For more information about Women's Philanthropy, please contact: **Wendy Goldstein, Donor Development and Women's Philanthropy Officer, Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo** 419-724-0360 | wendy@jewishtoledo.org



JEWISH TOLEDO WOMEN

Sunday, July 20, 2025

11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Cooper's Hawk, 4705 Talmadge Rd.

\$20/person - includes lunch & beverages

Take a break from the chaos and join us for a chill Sunday brunch designed especially for Jewish women under 65. No agenda, no pressure—just good food, great coffee, and the chance to connect with the incredible ladies of Jewish Toledo.

LADIES *who* BRUNCH



This lunch is designed for Jewish women ages 65 and under. Limited spots available. RSVP by Monday, July 14 to <http://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/jewishwomen> or with Sherry Majewski: 419-724-0351 or sherry@jewishtoledo.org.



Wednesday, September 10, 2025

5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

The Gather at Graze Station, 3140 Markway Rd. (back side of Cricket West shopping center)

\$20/person - includes make-your-own vegetarian charcuterie

Get ready for a night of creativity, connection, and community designed especially for Jewish women under 65! Join us at The Gather at Graze Station, a local Jewish woman-owned charcuterie-making spot, for a hands-on experience where we'll craft our delicious creations.

This isn't just about cheese and crackers (though there will be plenty of those!). It's about bringing Jewish women together to laugh, connect, and explore how food, tradition, and togetherness go hand in hand.

LADIES *who* GRAZE



This event is designed for Jewish women ages 65 and under. Limited spots available. RSVP by Wednesday, September 3 to <http://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/jewishwomen> or with Sherry Majewski: 419-724-0351 or sherry@jewishtoledo.org.



Summer Program Guide 2025

JEWISH TOLEDO SENIORS



4
CREATE & RELATE
2025

Save the Date
Create & Relate Expo 2025
September 11, 2025

Create & Relate 2025 – Session Four

Thursday, July 10
Noon – 2:30 p.m.
Sekach Building, 6505 Sylvania Ave.
\$5 OR bring a donation of personal care item(s) for the JSFSS Family Food Pantry

 Jewish Federation & Foundation OF GREATER TOLEDO

Sarah Lockyer with American Senior Benefits will cover key topics like understanding Medicare, preparing for long-term care, managing final expenses, and empowering you to be your own advocate when it comes to your medical needs. Her presentation is designed specifically for older adults navigating important aspects of their healthcare and financial planning.

We will be learning a new art technique called Blackout Poetry, which is a unique form of poetry where you take an existing text and “black out” certain words or phrases, leaving only a few words visible. These remaining words form a new poem or piece of writing. It’s an artistic way to manipulate existing text to create something new, often with a surprising or deeper meaning.

 RSVP by Thursday, July 3 to form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/seniors or Sherry Majewski at 419-724-0351 or sherry@jewishtoledo.org.



EXPLORE COLUMBUS!

Thursday, June 12
Board bus 7-7:30 a.m., JCC/YMCA parking lot
Return 5:30-6 p.m.

Annual Campaign donors - \$25
Non-donors to the Annual Campaign - \$40
Includes museum admission, lunch, and transportation




Join us for a delightful day immersing ourselves in art, history, and hidden gems! Our adventure begins at the renowned **Wexner Center for the Arts**, where we’ll explore thought-provoking exhibitions and inspiring contemporary works. Afterward, we’ll enjoy a delicious **lunch at the museum café**, offering a relaxing break with great company. Weather permitting, we’ll take a **scenic stroll through the breathtaking Columbus Park of Roses**, a true hidden oasis in the city. If the weather isn’t in our favor, we’ll swap the walk for a charming visit to the **Clintonville Bookstore and nearby antique shops**, perfect for book lovers and treasure hunters alike!



Note: This trip includes walking and steps on and off the bus.

 RSVP by Friday, May 30 at <https://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/seniors> or with Sherry Majewski at 419-724-0351 or sherry@jewishtoledo.org.

Come Sail Away with Me, Detroit Princess Riverboat Cruise

SOLD OUT



Thursday, July 17
Board bus 9:15-9:45 a.m., JCC/YMCA parking lot
Return 4-4:30 p.m.



NOTHING MUCH, JUST A LUNCH

Thursday, July 24
12 p.m.
My Way Bistro, 5287 Monroe St.
\$20 per person, includes kosher-style lunch of your choice



Come out to lunch with us - no agenda except visiting with friends! If you are a woman, 65 years old or older, this event is for you.

 RSVP by Thursday, July 27 at <https://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/seniors> or with Sherry Majewski at 419-724-0351 or sherry@jewishtoledo.org.

Summer Program Guide 2025

JEWISH TOLEDO SENIORS

Fabric & Friendship: Scrap Fabric Wreath Making

Thursday, July 31

12 – 1:30 p.m.

Sekach Building, 6505 Sylvania Ave.



Annual Campaign Donor - \$15

Non-Donor to the Annual Campaign - \$25

Lunch and all supplies included



Join us for a heartwarming afternoon where we will transform scraps into beautiful, handcrafted wreaths.

Inspired by the Jewish value of *bal tashchit* (do not waste), this eco-friendly project invites participants to reuse and repurpose fabric. Whether your wreath is blue and white for Israel, themed around the Jewish holidays, or filled with fabrics that hold personal meaning, your creation will reflect tradition and your own unique story.

Fabric will be provided, but if you have your own you would like to use, please feel free to bring your own fabric scraps.



RSVP by Thursday, July 24 at <https://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/seniors> or with Sherry Majewski at 419-724-0351 or sherry@jewishtoledo.org.

MATTHAEI BOTANICAL GARDENS, LUNCH, AND SHOPPING

Thursday, August 21

Board bus 9 – 9:30 a.m., JCC/YMCA parking lot

Return around 3:30 p.m.



Jewish Federation & Foundation OF GREATER TOLEDO

Annual Campaign Donor - \$15

Non-Donor to the Annual Campaign - \$30

Explore the beauty of the outdoor gardens and multi-climate conservatory at the Matthaei Botanical Gardens. If the weather doesn't cooperate, we'll shift gears and enjoy a visit to the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Next, we'll head to the JCC of Ann Arbor to enjoy a nosh from Zingerman's! After lunch, we'll wrap up our day with a fun stop at Trader Joe's—because who doesn't love a little shopping adventure with friends? Whether you're hunting for your favorite snack or a new Shabbat treat, it's the perfect way to end a delightful day together.

Note: This trip includes walking and steps on and off the bus.



RSVP by Friday, Thursday, August 4 at <https://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/seniors> or with Sherry Majewski at 419-724-0351 or sherry@jewishtoledo.org.



TECH TIPS

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is an incredibly complex topic that incorporates all kinds of technology, both vast in scale and tiny in scope. It's an ever-growing field that can seem overwhelming.

Not surprisingly, AI has been and continues to be integrated directly and indirectly into our daily lives via such widespread things like apps and software to cars and health trackers.



Device Advice programs are held on Wednesdays 11 a.m.-noon at the Sekach Bldg . 6505 Sylvania Avenue
Upcoming Tech Programs

1. **Wednesday, June 4:** Intro to cloud storage
2. **Wednesday, June 18:** Intro to artificial intelligence
3. **Wednesday, July 9:** Intro to cloud storage
4. **Wednesday, July 16:** Intro to artificial intelligence
5. **Wednesday, August 13:** Ins and outs of mobile device storage
6. **Wednesday, August 20:** Key settings features on mobile devices

RSVP with Sherry Majewski, 419-724-0351 or sherry@jewishtoledo.org



Like algorithms used by social media feeds and by companies to steer us towards certain content and products, AI continues to be baked into consumer tech (think voice assistants Siri and Alexa; think Microsoft Word and Outlook). It's increasingly important to understand what AI is, a technology that many of us already rely upon to do (some of) our work and make (some of) our decisions.

If you're a newcomer to AI and would like to learn more, in coming weeks I'll recommend online resources (and perhaps some actual books, too) in my Friday Facts blurbs. With these AI primers, it's my hope you can become better informed and all the wiser. Until next time! Tim

Tim Hagen

Project Manager and Technology Coordinator Jewish Senior, Family and Social Services
Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo
6505 Sylvania Avenue
Sylvania, OH 43560
[T] 419-724-0412 [E] Tim@jewishtoledo.org

Summer Program Guide 2025

CALENDARS & GEN NEXT

JUNE PROGRAMS & HOLIDAYS

DEVICE ADVICE WITH TIM

Community Wednesday, June 4
Sekach Building Page 17 11 a.m.

A CONVERSATION W/LANEY KATZ BECKER

Community Monday, June 9
Congregation B'nai Israel Page 14 1 p.m.

A TALK WITH DAN FEFERMAN

Community Wednesday, June 11
Lourdes University Page 14 7 p.m.

SENIORS: SPRING ADVENTURE TO COLUMBUS

Seniors Thursday, June 12
Meet at JCC/YMCA Page 16 7 a.m.

PJ PLAYDATES & MEETUPS

Ages 0-5 and their favorite grown-up(s) Fri. June 13, Tues. June 17,
Various locations Page 13 Fri. June 20, Thu. June 26 various times

DEVICE ADVICE WITH TIM

Community Wednesday, June 18
Sekach Building Page 17 11 a.m.

JUNETEENTH

Thursday, June 19
Federation offices closed

WOMEN'S PHILANTHROPY: PEARLS & PILSNER

Pearls (women who donate \$180-\$1799) Thursday, June 26
Inside the Five, Sylvania Page 15 6 p.m.

TOLEDO JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL: BAD SHABBOS

Community Monday, June 30
Southview High School Page 12 7 p.m.



JULY PROGRAMS & HOLIDAYS

PJ PLAYDATES & MEETUPS

Ages 0-5 and their favorite grown-up(s) Tue. July 1, Thu. July 10,
Various locations Page 13 Sun. July 13, Fri. July 18 various times

INDEPENDENCE DAY

Friday, July 4
Federation offices closed

FILM FESTIVAL: WELCOME TO YIDDISHLAND

Community Monday, July 7
Southview High School Page 12 7 p.m.

DEVICE ADVICE WITH TIM

Community Wednesday, July 9
Sekach Building Page 17 11 a.m.

SENIORS: CREATE & RELATE 2025 SESSION 4

Seniors Thursday, July 10
Sekach Building Page 16 Noon

FILM FESTIVAL: MIDAS MAN

Community Monday, July 14
Southview High School Page 12 7 p.m.

DEVICE ADVICE WITH TIM

Community Wednesday, July 16
Sekach Building Page 17 11 a.m.

SENIORS: DETROIT RIVERBOAT CRUISE

Seniors Thursday, July 17
Meet at JCC/YMCA Page 16 Noon

SOLD OUT

WOMEN'S PHILANTHROPY: LADIES WHO BRUNCH

Jewish women under 65 years old Sunday, July 20
Cooper's Hawk Page 15 11:30 a.m.

FILM FESTIVAL: EVERYTHING'S KOSHER

Community Monday, July 21
Southview High School Page 12 7 p.m.

SENIORS: NOTHING MUCH, JUST A LUNCH

Seniors Thursday, July 24
My Way Bistro Page 16 Noon

MAJOR DONOR SIGNATURE EVENT

Major donors to the JFGT Annual Campaign Monday, July 28
Lourdes University 5:30 p.m.

FILM FESTIVAL: FORKED

Community Monday, July 28
Lourdes University Page 12 7 p.m.

SENIORS: SIMPLE FABRIC SCRAP WREATHS

Seniors Thursday, July 31
Sekach Building Page 17 Noon

JFGT ANNUAL MEETING

Community Thursday, July 31
Fifth Third Field, downtown Toledo Page 13 5:30 p.m.

*All information subject to change with updates posted on
www.jewishtoledo.org @jewishtoledo



NACHO AVERAGE NIGHT OUT!

A spirited evening of flavor and fun with Tekiah Tequila

Thursday, August 28 | 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Sekach Building, 6505 Sylvania Ave.
\$18/person - includes vegetarian nacho & taco bar/tequila tasting
21+ | For adults 40ish-65ish looking for a unique and engaging night out

Enjoy a guided tequila tasting with Greg Sobol, drummer-turned-entrepreneur and founder of Tekiah Tequila, the first Jewish-inspired kosher tequila brand in the U.S. Greg will share his incredible journey from music to mezcal, offering insights and stories behind every sip. PLUS! Margarita glass painting and plenty of opportunities to mingle, laugh, and unwind in good company.



RSVP by Thursday, August 21 to:
<https://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/genneXt>
or with Sherry Majewski at sherry@jewishtoledo.org or 419-724-0351.

Jewish Senior, Family and Social Services



Ahava is a program of the Jewish Federation and Foundation of Greater Toledo that is managed by Jewish Family and Social Services and has provided a lifeline since 2016 to Jewish families in Greater Toledo who are raising children with special needs and simply want to be able to access the best care possible for their children.

Through Ahava, Federation awards local Jewish families an annual scholarship of up to \$1,500 for each child, no matter their age, to put toward the cost of therapies such as speech therapy and music therapy, equipment, medical supplies, continuing education for parents on raising children with special needs, and other resources that help positively impact individuals and their families.

For more information about Ahava, please contact Ben Malczewski at ben@jewishtoledo.org or 419-885-2561.

The 36TH ANNUAL INTERFAITH BLOOD DRIVE



This year the drive will take place on Saturday, June 28, from 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM at Grace Lutheran Church, 4441 Monroe Street. Please note that the last time a person can donate blood and be eligible to donate at the Interfaith Blood Drive is May 1, 2025.

Do a mitzvah and help save someone's life!

For questions or clarification contact Devorah Shulamit at 419-356-5280 or shalom1836@bex.net.

IN UNITY AND FRIENDSHIP

JSFSS Family Pantry Wish List

While the Food Pantry appreciates food donations, there is a greater need for personal care and paper products. The Food Pantry depends on financial gifts or donations for personal care items. If you'd like to donate items to the Food Pantry, please consider choosing items from its wish list:

- paper towels
- facial tissues
- diapers
- feminine hygiene products
- disposable razors
- shampoo
- soap (bar soap, dish soap,
- liquid hand soap, and laundry soap)
- toilet paper (preferably individual, pre-wrapped rolls)
- Other personal hygiene items of your choice

Contact Hannah Loeser
(419) 724- 0401



Get Fit Classes

Monday

Prime Movers Early, 9-10am -or- Prime Movers Later, 10:30-11:30am

Join us for this upbeat and energetic dance/exercise program designed to improve your fitness level safely and effectively. This is a comprehensive workout that includes strength, flexibility, balance, posture-improvement, and more. All moves can be modified to meet specific needs.

Cardio Drumming, 12-1pm

A high-energy workout that also includes some dance moves. This can also be done seated.

Wednesday

Prime Movers Early, 9-10am -or- Prime Movers Later, 10:30-11:30am

(see description above)

Ballet Fusion, 12-1pm

A special blend of ballet warm-up, cardio drumming, and a Tai Chi/yoga cool-down. Ballet shoes are not required.

Friday

Zumba, 9-10am

Foundation Fitness, 10am-11am

Designed to improve mobility, core strength, and stability from the ground up. Focus will be on foot and ankle strength, mobility, healthy posture, pelvic floor, and breathing. Exercises can be done in chairs and/or standing.

In-person classes at JSFSS
Sekach Building
6505 Sylvania Ave.
Sylvania



HOW TO CONTACT JSFSS

Perhaps you or a family member are in need of help with senior social services. Maybe you know someone in need of support from a family pantry. Jewish Senior, Family and Social Services offers a range of services to benefit our community. JSFSS has a knowledgeable and caring staff waiting to help you.

Vice President Jewish Senior, Family & Social Services
Ben Malczewski
(419) 724-0408

JSFSS Office Manager and Program Associate
Hannah Loeser
(419) 724- 0401

Support Services Coordinator
Liz Witter, LSW
(419) 724-0406

Project Manager and Technology Coordinator
Tim Hagen
419-724-0412

Food Pantry and Support Services Coordinator
Stacy Willis, LSW, MSW
419-724-0407

jewishtoledo.org/jfs

Can't join us in person?
Tune in on YouTube at
Jewish Toledo



YouTube



SAFETY



Dave Tullis, Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo Security Director, helps us stay protected with valuable safety tips.

Safety Tips: Avoid Distracted Driving in Ohio

Distracted driving is one of the leading causes of crashes on Ohio roads. Every year, hundreds of lives are impacted — and many accidents are entirely preventable. Stay safe by understanding the risks and following these essential safety tips.

Did You Know?

In Ohio, over 20% of crashes involve some form of distracted driving.

Texting while driving increases the risk of a crash 23 times.

In 2022, distracted driving contributed to more than 2,500 crashes in Ohio, resulting in multiple injuries and fatalities.

Statistics highlight how deadly distraction can be:

| Statistic | Details |

| 1 in 4 crashes | In Ohio, a quarter of all crashes involve driver distraction. |

| 23x higher risk | Texting while driving increases crash risk exponentially. |

| Over 2,500 crashes | Distracted driving crashes in Ohio (2022). |

| Fatalities | Distracted driving contributed to 50+ deaths in Ohio in 2022. |

Common Distractions That Can Lead to Accidents

- Using a cellphone (calling, texting, social media)
- Eating or drinking
- Adjusting the radio or GPS
- Talking to passengers
- Looking at something outside the vehicle

Remember: Anything that takes your eyes off the road, hands off the wheel, or mind off driving can be deadly.



Safety Tips to Prevent Distracted Driving

1. Put your phone away. Turn off notifications or keep your phone out of reach while driving.
2. Use hands-free devices wisely. If you must make a call, use Bluetooth or speakerphone, but remember, even hands-free can be distracting.
3. Plan your route before you drive. Set your GPS and adjust your music before starting your trip.
4. Keep your focus on the road. Stay alert and avoid multitasking behind the wheel.
5. Pull over if you need to use your phone. If you must text or make a call, find a safe place to pull over.
6. Educate passengers. Encourage all passengers to help keep the driver focused.

Ohio Law on Distracted Driving

Ohio Revised Code 4511.204 states it is now illegal to use or hold a cell phone or electronic device in your hand, lap, or other parts of your body while driving on Ohio roads.

Texting while driving is illegal for drivers of all ages in Ohio.

Fines for distracted driving can be up to \$150.

Law enforcement can issue citations for unsafe behaviors that distract from driving.

Your Safety is in Your Hands

Distracted driving is a preventable tragedy. Keep your eyes on the road, your hands on the wheel, and your mind focused. Every trip is safer when you drive responsibly.

Spread the Word!

Share these tips with friends and family to help make Ohio's roads safer for everyone.

Toledo Jewish News
The Monthly Newspaper of Jewish Toledo

Get your Toledo Jewish News online
www.jewishtoledo.org

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A Tradition of Caring Since 1939

News

Pope continued from page 7

raised the ire of some Jewish leaders in recent years for his criticism of Israel's war against Hamas in Gaza. One of his last acts as pope was to donate his popemobile to Gaza as a mobile medical unit.

Pawlikowski said he believes "there's a desire to carry on" with Catholic-Jewish relations, though he added, "the situation in Israel and Gaza has had a dramatic effect."

Will his former student begin a new chapter in Catholic-Jewish ties? Pawlikowski said it's too soon to

tell, given that Leo has not thus far focused on the issue.

"He hasn't really been stationed in any area where there was a really pronounced Jewish community," he said. "On the question of interreligious [affairs], he'll have to show us where he is, but I would assume he had an outgoing, positive attitude generally."

In his first address as pope, Leo issued a call to dialogue.

"Help us as well—help one another—to build bridges through dialogue, through encounter, uniting everyone to be one single people always in peace," he said.

Rabbi Joshua Stanton, associate vice president for interfaith and intergroup initiatives at the Jewish Federations of North America, saw that as a sign that the pope is committed to Catholic-Jewish relations. He noted that this year is Nostra Aetate's 60th anniversary, which he hopes Leo commemorates in an active way.

"I'm very hopeful that he referenced the importance of dialogue and reaching out beyond the Catholic Church to other religious communities," Stanton said. Stanton noted that Leo has a reputation for

"quiet efficacy," and as he settles into his position, Stanton said he'll be looking at how the pontiff acts.

"Does he invite Jewish leaders to the Vatican to meet with him?" he said. "Does he invite leaders from other traditions? Does he try to bring multiple groups together at the same time?"

The focus of Leo's address on Thursday was peace. With war raging in Gaza, Marans did not take that as a specific reference to the Middle East.

"All popes want peace," he said. "May I add, all Catholics, Jews, rabbis want peace."

March cont. from page 4

during the Holocaust.

The March of the Living has been held each spring since 1988, and this year's event marked 80 years since the liberation of Auschwitz. More than 300,000 participants from all over the world have taken part since the program's founding, walking the three-kilometer path from Auschwitz to Birkenau on Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day) to learn about the atrocities committed there, as well as the history of ignorance and prejudice

from which the horror sprang.

Rosemary joined her father, Ross Chaban, and stepmother Sarah Taub, whose parents were both Survivors, for this life-changing experience. They worked with Authentic Israel to make the arrangements.

At Auschwitz, the group witnessed shoes and suitcases still remaining from victims who'd been taken there so many decades ago. Rosemary noted that at Birkenau, they then saw "cattle cars [and] a few remaining barracks that are still there. The beds are so small, it hit you a little bit more" to see the reality of the spaces into which so

very many had been crammed with such inhumanity.

"A lot of it had been destroyed," Rosemary mentioned, but it was still "so impactful to see" these critical places.

On the trek from one site to the other, participants walked along the infamous train tracks on which prisoners had been transported. Survivors of both the Holocaust and October 7 were in attendance, making the experience much more poignant.

Rosemary shared that Agam Berger, a surveillance soldier who'd been freed from Hamas captivity in

January, was at the march with an Israeli delegation that included other former hostages and their relatives. She played a 130-year-old violin that had survived the war and been brought to Israel for safekeeping, sharing an unstated message of resilience and of refuge.

At Majdanek (a.k.a., Lublin), which the group also visited, "they still have the gas chambers and the showers that are functioning," Rosemary said. "The crematorium was still functioning."

She noted that "there's a fence around it," before mentioning in

March continued on page 27

Tabini continued from page 4

star in the kitchen," writes Eden, who is a consummate cheerleader.

Personally, I'm completely smitten by the Cardamom Apricot Upside-Down Olive Oil Cake covered in gorgeous, glazed orbs of deep orange that glisten in the sun. I'm practically counting the days 'til I can buy some fresh apricots with their "fuzzy baby-tush softness and also their tart-sweet floral flavor," as Eden describes them, and bake this for my family. (I don't entirely promise to share, truth be told!)

The author's writing style is

reminiscent of Rachael Ray or Molly Yeh in terms of chatty cheerfulness, which includes calling you, the reader, "bubbelah."

"Quite honestly," she writes, "these recipes are all five-star must-makes ... the saucy, hearty, zippy, creamy, crunchy, tasty goodness I'm craving all day, every day."

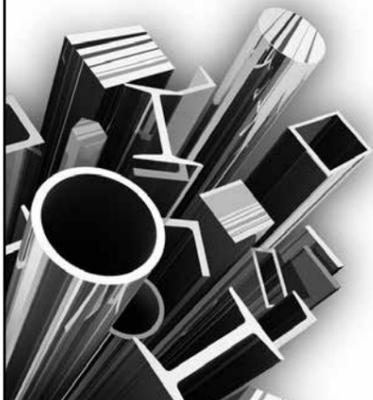
"So go ahead and get in there," Eden encourages.

"Pick something that speaks to you. Then pick another. And another."

No matter which recipe you start with or how many different ones you try, she promises you'll "end up with something delicious."



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with Rabbi Delson
Thursday, June 19 at 2-3pm
Let's talk about the most pressing issues for the Jewish community in our country and around the world.



Toledo Choral Society Concert

June 22 at 3p.m., FREE
With Cantor Jen Roher, Dr. Andrew Pelletier, and Kol Zimrah.
Join us as we welcome Toledo Choral Society in concert performing Chichester Psalms by Leonard Bernstein and other liturgical works.

Sunday, June 1st
5:00pm
Yizkor Service
Join Rabbi Delson and Cantor Roher for a brief service of memory. The names of our loved ones who died in the past year will be read.
7:00 pm
Erev Shavuot Service and Confirmation

Friday, June 6th
at 6:00 pm
Shabbat with Rabbi Delson and Cantor Roher including a blessing for all of our High School graduates

Saturday, June 7th
at 10:30 am
Madelyn Freed Bat Mitzvah

Friday, June 13th
at 6:00 pm
Shabbat with Rabbi Delson and Dr. Andrew Pelletier
Followed by special oneg in memory of Ann and Phil Gaines

Friday, June 20th
at 6:00 pm
Shabbat with Rabbi Delson, Cantor Roher, and Kol Zimrah
Join us for the Annual Meeting at 5pm

Saturday, June 21st
at 10:30 am
Emerson Cochran Bar Mitzvah

Friday, June 27th
at 6:00 pm
Shabbat with Rabbi Delson

Friday, July 4th
at 6:00 pm
Shabbat with Rabbi Delson
Join us for a brief Shabbat service as we celebrate our country's independence

Friday, July 11th
at 6:00 pm
Shabbat with Cantor Roher

Saturday, July 12th
at 10:30am
Shabbat Yoga: Body and Soul

Friday, July 18th
at 6:00 pm
Shabbat with Rabbi Delson and Dr. Andrew Pelletier

Saturday, July 19th at 9:30am
Torah Today with Rabbi Delson
Join Rabbi Delson for an interactive conversation

Friday, July 25th
at 6:00 pm
Shabbat with Rabbi Delson and Cantor Roher

Saturday, July 26th
at 10:30 am
Zoey Levy Bat Mitzvah

Congregation B'nai Israel



CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL
6525 SYLVANIA AVE., SYLVANIA, OHIO 43560 • 419.517.8400 • CBITOLEDO.ORG

All CBI programs and religious services are open to the members of all local congregations with RSVP unless otherwise indicated.

If you are not a CBI member and would like to attend, please contact the office at 419.517.8400.

Shavuot Dairy Dinner

Sunday, June 1, 2025, 7:00 PM at CBI

Cost is \$10 for CBI members and \$15 for guests.
You must RSVP by Tuesday, May 26th to Kim Brody at kbrody@cbitoledo.org to attend.

SHAVUOT TIKKUN with Cantor Ivor Lichterman

"Why Count the Omer If We No Longer Have a Holy Temple? Isn't the Omer an Agricultural Offering?"

Shavuot Services Schedule

Sunday Evening, June 1:

TIKKUN with Cantor Lichterman

- 7:00 PM Mincha
- 7:15 PM Dairy Dinner
- 8:00 PM TIKKUN - In Person
- 8:45 PM Reading of the "Book of Ruth"
- 9:15 PM Maariv
- 9:45 PM Kiddush & Dessert

Monday, June 2: Shavuot Day 1

9:30 AM Morning Service - In Person/Live Stream

Tuesday, June 3: Shavuot Day 2

9:30 AM Morning Service - In Person/Live Stream

10:45 AM YIZKOR

Connecting Kids to Meals Volunteer Event

Thursday at 10:00 AM June 19th & July 20th

Cherry Street Mission Building, 1501 Monroe St.

RSVP Kim Brody at kbrody@cbitoledo.org.

CBI Annual Meeting & Installation of Officers & Board of Trustees

Sunday, June 8, 2025 11:00 AM, at CBI

Refreshments will be served.
RSVP to the office by Tuesday, June 3rd by calling 419.517.8400.

SPECIAL AWARDS TO BE GIVEN

BOARD MEMBER OF THE YEAR - CONGREGANT OF THE YEAR
SAM SCHWARTZ MINYAN AWARD - PRESIDENT'S AWARD

WCBI "COOK" BOOK CLUB:

The Food of Israel: Authentic Recipes from the Land of Milk & Honey
by Sherry Ansky

Tuesday, June 24, 2025 11:00 AM

AT THE HOME OF FRAN WEINBLATT. COOKING DEMONSTRATION BY MIRIAM BECKERMAN.

This will be an off-site program with book club members preparing recipes from the cookbook. **Space is limited to the first people who RSVP.**

OPEN TO THE WOMEN OF ALL LOCAL CONGREGATIONS

RSVP to Jan Kasle at jbkasle@gmail.com to reserve your spot.

CBI Office Closed

Monday, June 2nd	Shavuot Day 1
Tuesday, June 3rd	Shavuot Day 2
Friday, July 4th	Independence Day

36th Interfaith Blood Drive

Saturday, June 28, 2025 12:00 – 2:30 PM
Grace Lutheran Church • 4441 Monroe Street

Please sign up for the Blood Drive and represent CBI by contacting Devorah Shulamit at 419-356-5280 or email shalom1836@bex.net to schedule an appointment.

Parashat Hashavuah: Torah Portion of the Week Discussion
Fridays in June & July at 11 AM at CBI

Join us for Canasta!

Tuesdays at 12:30 PM at CBI

If you are interested in playing, please contact Rhoda Miller at rmiller@cbitoledo.org.

SAVE THE DATE:

WOMEN OF CBI, ETZ CHAYIM, & SHOMER EMUNIM SISTERHOODS JOINT BOOK CLUB:

The Air Raid Book Club
by Annie Lyons

Tuesday, July 22, 2025, 12:00 PM at Shomer
Noon lunch will be served followed by the book discussion. Cost is \$8 per person. See the CBI July bulletin for RSVP info.

OPEN TO THE WOMEN OF ALL LOCAL CONGREGATIONS

WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE

- Monday Morning Minyan: 8:00 AM - In Person/Zoom
- Thursday Morning Minyan: 8:00 AM - In Person/Zoom
- Monday - Thursday Evening Minyan: 5:45 PM - Zoom
- Friday Evening Kabbalat Shabbat: 5:45 PM - Zoom
- Saturday Morning Shabbat: 9:30 AM - In Person/Live Stream
- Sunday Morning Minyan: 9:30 AM - Zoom

Congregation Etz Chayim

MAHJ/POKER

Due to popular demand, two of our favorite Sunday activities, Poker & Mahj, will be held twice during June and July. Everyone is invited to join in the fun on Sunday, June 8 and 22 and Sunday, July 6 and 20 from 10 a.m. to noon. The group of men and women enjoy the time together playing and socializing. Everyone is welcome! Please contact Nancy or Marc Jacobson if you are interested.

TOLEDO BOTANICAL GARDENS PICNIC AND WALK

Let's spend a beautiful June afternoon together at Toledo Botanical Gardens. Bring your vegetarian lunches. We will picnic and then enjoy a walk through the park. We'll meet at 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 18 at the parking lot off Elmer Drive near the picnic tables. It will be a relaxing afternoon. Please let Nancy know if you plan to join in!

SHABBAT SERVICES WITH RABBI JASON MARK

Come and enjoy a musical and spiritual Shabbat weekend with Rabbi Jason Mark on Friday and Saturday, June 27 and 28.

Marc Jacobson and Daniel Gale will be presenting a musical program beginning at 5 p.m. on Friday. Following the music, a delicious pre-Shabbat dinner will be served.

Everyone is welcome to Shabbat services and enjoy a kiddush lunch on Saturday, June 28. Services begin at 9 a.m.

JAZZ IN THE GARDEN

An enjoyable activity is meeting together for "Jazz in the Garden." The Toledo Jazz Orchestra will be performing on July 10 at the Botanical Gardens. Warm summer nights, cool jazz, and friends enjoying music in nature. Bring a chair or blanket. Gates open at 5:30 p.m. and music begins at 6:30 p.m. The cost is \$10 per person/\$5 for Metroparks members. Pay when you arrive. Register with Nancy to confirm the meeting location.

ART MUSEUM TOUR

Come experience *Rachel Ruysch: Nature into Art*, featuring the extraordinary still life work of Rachel Ruysch, where every bloom tells a story, at the Toledo Museum of Art. We have a tour planned for Wednesday, July 16 at 1:30 p.m. with Stacey Kripke as our docent. It will be an extraordinary experience. Let's plan to meet at noon at the museum cafe for lunch before the tour.

Art Museum members- free/Non-members-\$10
Maximum number of participants is 15. A waitlist will be taken. Please register with Nancy Jacobson.

SAVE THE DATE

- Pre-Shabbat Dinner & Shabbat morning services with Rabbi Jason Mark – Friday & Saturday, August 8 and 9
- Etz Chayim Family Picnic and Karaoke Sing A-long – Sunday, August 24. Details to follow.

Chabad House

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JEWISH COMMUNITY CALENDAR

5786 2025/26

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Simply email your ad and billing information to abby@JewishToledo.org or call 419-724-0423 for more information.

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

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B'nai Mitzvah

We Honor Our B'nai Mitzvah



Madelyn Delilah Freed will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, June 7, 2025, at Temple Shomer Emunim. Madelyn is the daughter of David and Hallie Freed and sister to Ellery, Ruby, and Myles. She is the granddaughter of Cindy and the late Allen Kaminsky, and Marc and the late Ellen Freed.

Madelyn is a seventh grader at Timberstone Junior High School where she has received all A's in every class since starting there, is on the yearbook committee, track & field, and will be a wolf pack leader. Madelyn loves playing soccer for Sylvania United and spending her summer at Camp Wise; she is an avid hippo fan, art lover, and an amazing person and friend.

Madelyn is very excited to celebrate her simcha with all of her family and friends.



Oz C. Kalniz will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on Tuesday, June 10, 2025, at Hebrew Congregation of St. Thomas, Charlotte Amalie, US Virgin Islands. Oz is the son of Jeffrey Kalniz and Dr. Anastasia Canacci. He is the grandson of Dr. Thomas and the late Sharon Kalniz, and the late Ronald Canacci and Phyllis Richley. Oz is a rising 8th grader at St. Francis de Sales School, where he is on the football and lacrosse teams. Oz is an avid Ohio State University football fan. Math is his favorite subject. In his free time, Oz enjoys playing video games and spending time with his friends. Oz loves to travel and is looking forward to celebrating his Bar Mitzvah in St. Thomas.



Emerson Mareine Cochran will be called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah on June 21, 2025, at Temple Shomer Emunim. He is the beloved son of Stacy and Steve Cochran, the proud brother of Drew Cochran and the cherished grandson of Jeff and Judy Cohen, Jeff Watts, and Mary Cooke.

A seventh grader at Ottawa Hills Junior High School, Emerson's favorite subject is—without hesitation—lunch. He's a dedicated goalie on the Northstars hockey team, where he's held the net for the past four years. This past fall, he suited up for the Ottawa Hills Junior High football team, and when spring rolls around, you'll likely find him on the tennis court.

Beyond sports, Emerson is a talented baker who loves whipping up all kinds of sweets—especially his brown butter chocolate chip cookies, a specialty that's become a favorite in his household (especially with



his mom!).

For his mitzvah project, Emerson is raising funds and collecting supplies for the Pet Bull Project, the organization that gave him his first furry best friend, Maggie.

Mazel Tov, Emerson! We're so proud of you and can't wait to celebrate this special milestone!

Zoey Levy will take the bima on July 26, 2025 for her Bat Mitzvah. She is so excited to celebrate this special day with her friends and family who will be traveling from coast to coast. Her parents, Jeremy and Sarah, are so proud of her for this accomplishment as well as for the young woman she has become. Zoey enjoys cheerleading, gymnastics, and music. In addition to playing several instruments, Zoey enjoys listening to music. Last year she attended her first rock concert, Journey, Def Leopard, and the Steve Miller Band. She even got to go back stage! Zoey attends school at McCord Junior High as a 7th grader with straight A's. She hopes to someday become a doctor, specifically an anesthesiologist. When Zoey is not in school, she enjoys hanging out with friends, and traveling. She just got back from New York City where she spent her Spring Break. Zoey also enjoys trips to Florida and spending time at Round Lake in Michigan.



Obituaries accepted for print in Toledo Jewish News

Toledo Jewish News accepts obituaries for the Toledo Jewish community, immediate family members, and former residents of the Toledo Jewish community.

There is no charge to submit an obituary, but we encourage donations to Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo (www.jewishtoledo.org).

Preferred maximum obit length is 500 words (*Toledo Jewish News* reserves the right to edit obituaries as necessary).

Email completed obituaries to: abby@jewishtoledo.org
You may include a photo of the deceased if you wish (optional).

NOTE: Only obituaries submitted to abby@jewishtoledo.org will be printed in Toledo Jewish News.

Toledo Jewish News is published the first of every month except July. Obituaries should be emailed by the 15th of the month prior to publication.

Questions: Contact Abby Hoicowitz at abby@jewishtoledo.org or 419-724-0423.

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Simchas

JFGT announces newest hires

Yi Shaw joined Jewish Federation and Foundation of Greater Toledo (JFGT) in July 2024 as Controller. Yi is a graduate of the University of Toledo with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accountancy and a Master of Science Degree. Yi most recently worked for Mastronardi Produce Limited as an Assistant Controller/Project Manager and Sun Communities Inc. as a Senior Corporate Accountant. Yi lives in Temperance, Michigan.

Jodi Heisler joined Jewish Federation and Foundation of Greater Toledo (JFGT) in December 2024 as part-time Human Resources Specialist. She received a Bachelor of Business Administration, Management at the University of Toledo and comes to the organization with experience

working at Velocity, Genesis Health Care, March of Dimes, Eastman & Smith, Ltd., OmniSource Corporation, and more.

Monique Parish joined Jewish Federation and Foundation of Greater Toledo (JFGT) in April as Executive Assistant to Stephen Rothschild, JFGT CEO. In addition, Monique will provide support for the Vice President of Operations, Donor Development and Women's Philanthropy Officer, Jewish Community Relations Council Director, Security Director, and Ruth Fajerman Markowicz Holocaust Resource Center Director. She comes to the organization with experience at the University of Toledo Physician's Group, Conde' Nast, PARS International Corp., and Newsweek Magazine.

Ben Malczewski, Vice President, Jewish Senior, Family & Social Services (JSFSS), was honored in April as Community Leader at the Black & White Masquerade Gala, hosted by Sylvania Area Family Services (SAFS). Ben was one of three individuals celebrated with the Ray of Hope Award for their meaningful impacts on the greater Sylvania community. With a 20-year career in public libraries, Ben has coordinated nationally recognized speaker series, hosted bestselling authors, and helped make Toledo a hub for cultural conversation. As VP of JSFSS and president of the Sylvania Rotary Foundation, he's as committed as ever to building meaningful connections. Ben, his wife Danielle, and daughter Lucie love their walkable, welcoming hometown. "Real change happens when people feel connected," Ben says. "The goal is joy—and we get there by creating it for others first."



Photo: Amanda Hendricks Photography



Mazel Tov, **Jacob Payne**, for being elected Regional Moreh of the Ohio Northern Region (ONR) Regional Board at the Cleveland Regional Convention in April. Regional Morehs serve as Vice President in Charge of Membership in their AZA chapter; they are responsible for education of the entire chapter - as well as the Alephs in Training (AIT), spearheading the recruitment of the chapter, and the retention aspect of current members in the chapter. BBYO ONR is comprised of 13 chapters in northern Ohio representing over 600 Jewish teens. Through youth-led and staff-supported programs, the organization aims to give members opportunities to develop leadership skills and positively affect their communities, the world, and themselves.



In March, the Henry Crown Fellowship honored Ottawa Hills resident **Adam Levine** (Edward Drummond and Florence Scott Libbey President, Director & CEO, Toledo Museum of Art) as part of its 2025 Class of Fellows

The Henry Crown Fellowship is the flagship Fellowship of the Aspen Institute and the founding Fellowship of the Aspen Global Leadership Network. The fellowship mobilizes a new breed of leaders, all between the ages of 30-46, to tackle the world's most intractable problems. All are proven entrepreneurial leaders, mostly from the private business sector, who have reached a point in their lives where, having achieved success, they are ready to apply their creative talents and skill sets to building a better society.

Henry Crown Fellows spend four



weeks over the course of two years in structured retreat – exploring their leadership, their core values, their vision for a Good Society, and their desired legacies. Each Fellow also launches a leadership venture that will stretch them and have a positive impact on their communities, their country, or the world.

Have something to kvell about? Let Jewish Toledo celebrate your good news with you!

Send us your wedding, engagement, graduation, baby, job announcement or other news for consideration in *Toledo Jewish News* today! Submit your simcha to Abby Hoicowitz at abby@jewishtoledo.org.

Welcome to Jewish Toledo!

Whether you are new, new-ish, or returning, we are thrilled you are here! Please complete the form and we will be in touch:

<https://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/welcome-to-jewish-toledo>

Active Life for 60+

Seniors celebrate Yom Ha'Atzmaut at fun Knitz'Maut program



A joyful group of Jewish Toledo seniors joined us to celebrate Yom Ha'Atzmaut, Israel's Independence Day, at Knitz'Maut! Participants enjoyed a relaxing afternoon of hands-on creativity taught by Vod's Here owner, Michelle Atkinson, plus lunch and a discussion about Israel's journey to independence.



Toledo Opera 'on Wheels' performs for local seniors

Toledo Opera's "Opera on Wheels" brought a special intimate performance to Jewish Toledo's seniors, performing their version of *Beauty & the Beast* based on the original French fairytale by Jeanne-Marie Leprince de Beaumont and featuring music inspired by the operas of André Ernest Modeste Grétry. The story underscores the timeless message that true beauty often lies within, challenging our perceptions and encouraging a deeper understanding of others.



March continued from page 21

disbelief that "apartments nearby overlook it. I don't know how people could live there. [But] that's part of their history, I guess, or you just get used to it ...?" – a possibility which obviously echoed the indifference once shown to horrific acts of inhumanity committed nearby. "There are really nice houses next to Auschwitz, too," she added with surprise.

The family traveled to Warsaw, as well, visiting the Warsaw Ghetto in

addition to a cemetery and museums.

"On the other side of Warsaw was Treblinka," Rosemary said, which was "an extermination camp. They didn't even have barracks, [people] were just exterminated." She also talked of an area "where they would just throw the bodies; they didn't have a crematorium there."

One man in the group mentioned that his father had been a Survivor who'd leapt out of a cattle car to escape. "This was the most moving part for me," Rosemary said, as she started to tear up, remembering.

March of the Living hopes participants will be inspired to bring home the impact of their trip, committing themselves to strengthen their Jewish identities and work towards fighting hatred in an effort to never forget what happened during the Holocaust.

"I've been talking about it with all my [dental] patients" since coming home, Rosemary said. "You hear the stories" in history class or from people who survived, but being at these sites personally affects one's soul deeply.

The tour moved quickly, she noted, so it's only been since her return that she's started fully processing her visit to such sacred and tragic locales.

"I learned so much," Rosemary continued. And she now feels even more acutely a need "to speak out, especially with the political climate," and to "be pro-active so it doesn't happen again."

The March of the Living "was really moving," she remarked.

"It's really important! It's part of our history, and I think everybody should do it."



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Hillel419 is generously supported by Jewish Federation and Foundation of Greater Toledo and Hillel International.