

# Toledo Jewish News

The Monthly Newspaper of Jewish Toledo

 Jewish Federation  
& Foundation  
OF GREATER TOLEDO

Iyar/Sivan 5783 • May 2023



## 9th toledo jewish film festival

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## Judicial Reform, Protests, and a New Government: An Overview of What is Happening in Israel

Tuesday, May 16  
6 - 7:30 p.m.

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## GAN YELADIM PRESCHOOL

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# The HeART of Gan

A FAMILY ART SHOW

## SUNDAY, MAY 7

3 P.M. GAN YELADIM PRESCHOOL  
FREE - OPEN TO THE WHOLE COMMUNITY

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# Community



9th

toledo jewish

film festival

Featuring cinema titles exploring Jewish identity, history, and culture.

Monday, June 26

Monday, July 10

Monday, July 17

Monday, July 24

Monday, July 30

**Opening Night!**  
*Our Almost Completely True Story*  
Monday, June 26 at 7 p.m.

Finding true love in Hollywood has always been challenging; it's even more difficult when you're no longer a young starlet, no matter how many movie-star friends you have or how many *Gunsmoke* episodes you did. And if you're a short funnyman with a face for radio, well, you can practically forget it. Still, true love can happen. A statuesque Hollywood icon and a Jewish leprechaun might just fall forever-after in love if the stars align just right (and she laughs at his jokes). 92 minutes, English

*Jews of the Wild West*  
Monday, July 10 at 7 p.m.

Widening the historical lens, this documentary focuses on an under-explored aspect of Jewish history: the role that Jews played in Western American expansion, both in real life and in the movies. Through a tapestry of archival footage, photographs, and interviews, Amanda Kinsey's pioneering film entertainingly excavates the past through the stories of an array of people, from known names like Max Aronson (the real "Bronco Billy Anderson" of early Hollywood) and Levi Strauss, to some you may not have heard about. 83 minutes, English

*Cinema Sabaya*  
Monday, July 17 at 7 p.m.

Israel's official Oscars entry, Orit Fouks Rotem's deft and heartfelt debut brings together disparate Arab and Jewish women who learn self-expression through the power of film. Young Tel Aviv-based filmmaker Rona (Dana Ivgy) teaches a documentary workshop to the residents of Hadera. The women, both secular and religious, film their daily activities and routines. At the outset, tempers flare because of cultural misunderstandings, but the students soon form an empowering bond over shared experiences. Nominated for eight Israeli Academy Awards with wins for Best Film, Best Director, and Best Supporting Actress. 91 minutes, Hebrew with English subtitles

*Israel Swings for Gold*  
Monday, July 24 at 7 p.m.

Continuing the underdog sports saga, Israel's baseball team competes for Olympic gold, facing unexpected bigotry along the way. Comprised of Jews from all over, including Americans, Team Israel's shared sense of identity unifies the blue-and-white squad. Reaching the Olympics in 2021, the players discover a dearth of goodwill the games ostensibly promote. Having overcome Middle East strife on the road to Tokyo, the team gets the cold shoulder from other athletes and death threats from spectators. With no media in the Olympic Village due to COVID restrictions, the athletes are given cameras to record their own experiences. This crowd-pleasing sequel to the 2017 hit *Heading Home: The Tale of Team Israel* inspires pride and cheers from baseball lovers and non-fans alike. 75 minutes, English

*We are the Troopers*  
\*\*\*Featuring SPECIAL GUESTS\*\*\*  
Monday, July 31 at 7 p.m.

*We are the Troopers* tells the story of the Toledo Troopers, the most successful team in the National Women's Football League (NWFL). From 1971 until the league was sold off, these women from all walks of life and ethnicities dominated the sport and made history as the winningest team in professional football history. Ohio is the birthplace of the Women's Professional Football League, and the Toledo Troopers hold the record for the most championship titles in women's football history. A captivating collage of stories from former players and reporters, *We Are the Troopers* looks back on the crew of strong women would beat the odds through hard work, perseverance, and love of the game at a time when there were very few female sports opportunities. 96 minutes, English

**All movies will be shown at:**  
Lourdes University – Franciscan Theatre – 6832 Convent Blvd.  
Sylvania, OH

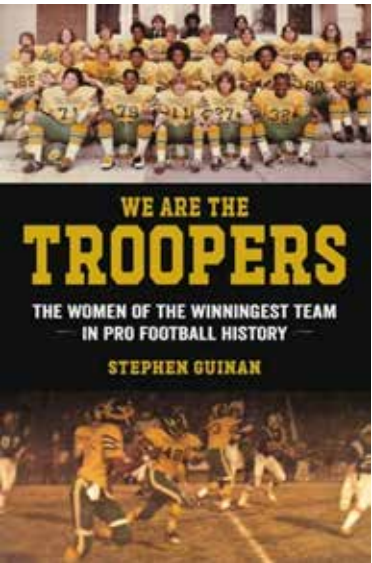
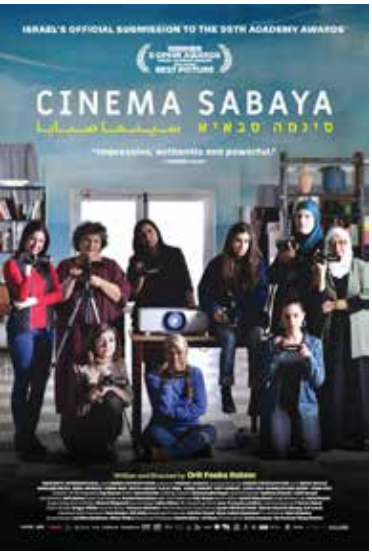
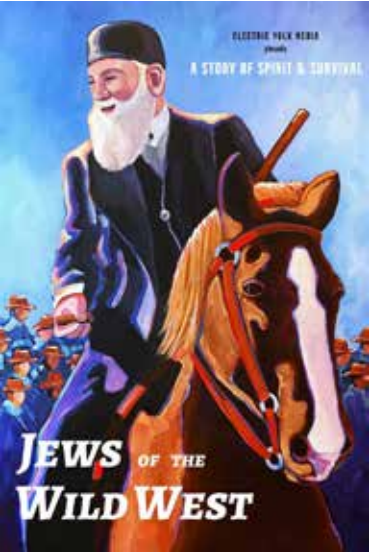
**Cost:**  
**General Admission** - \$10 per film, per person  
**Series Package** - \$45 for all 5 dates (per person)  
\*\*\*\* All pre-purchased tickets and passes will be available the day of each film \*\*\*\*

**How to purchase your tickets:**  
**By phone:** 419-724-0351  
**By email:** sherry@jewishtoledo.org  
**Online:** form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/films  
**At the door:** on a first-come, first-served basis.

**Concessions**  
Snacks and beverages will be available at all screenings (unless otherwise noted). This is included in your ticket price.

**Parking**  
Free parking is available outside of the Franciscan Center.

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





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YOUR GIFTS AT WORK

Do you ever wonder about the impact of your unrestricted JFGT gifts?

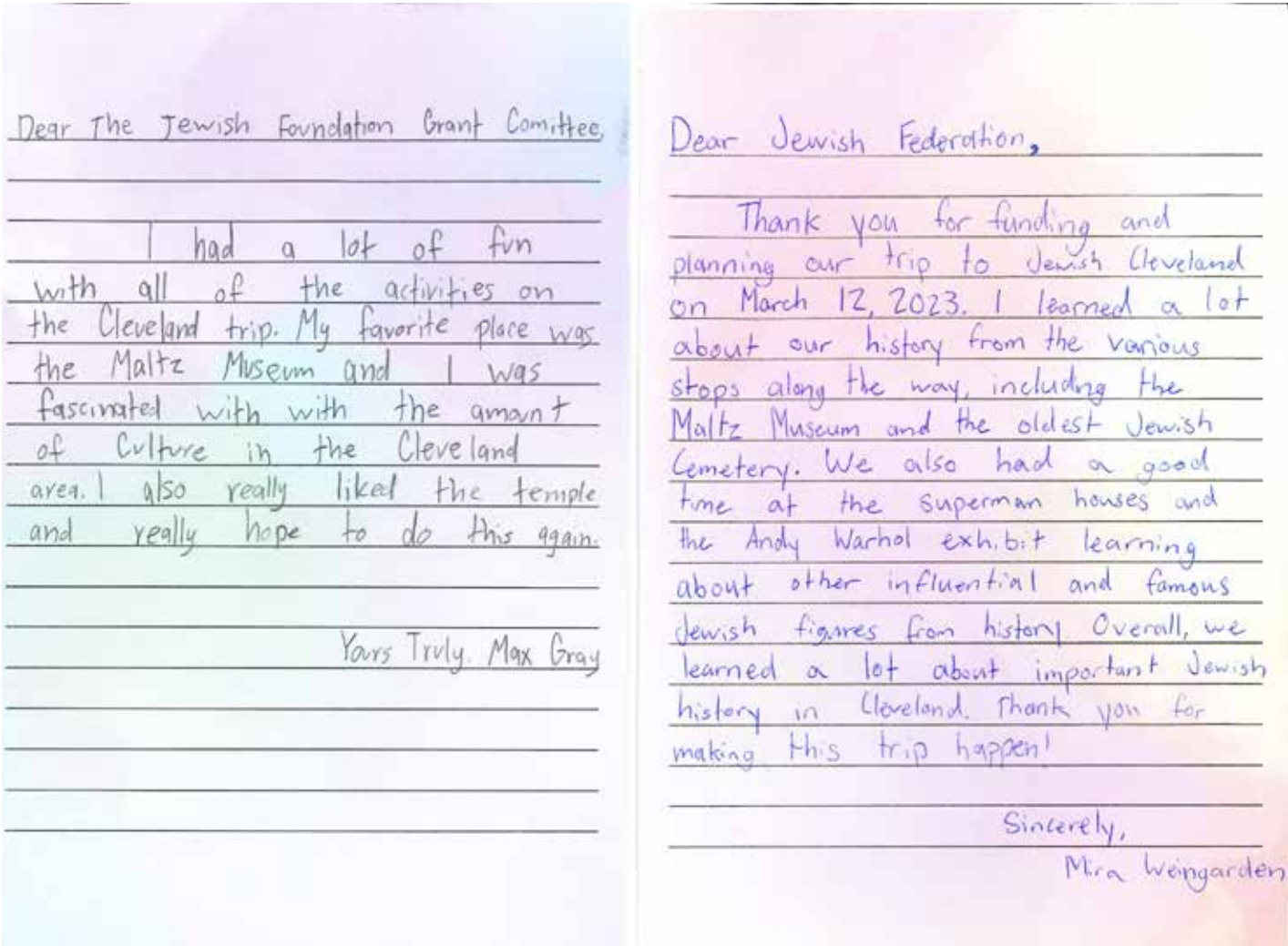
In January and February, the community's Long Term Community Needs Fund made grants that paid for transportation of 27 religious school kids from Temple Shomer Emunim and Congregation B'nai Israel to Cleveland, OH to visit several sites of Jewish importance.

They first toured the Maltz Performing Arts Center (formerly the original Temple-Tifereth Israel), then traveled to the old Jewish neighborhood of Glenville to see former synagogues and the homes of Superman creators Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster.

The group visited the eastern suburbs of Pepper Pike and Beachwood to tour the new Temple-Tifereth Israel synagogue and enjoyed viewing the Andy Warhol painting collection of famous Jews. After lunch, they spent time in the Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage and, in particular, the "This Light of Ours" Civil Rights special exhibit.

Concluding the day, the kids visited the Willett Street Cemetery, the oldest Jewish cemetery in Cleveland.

JFGT received many beautiful thank you notes from the kids. Grants committee Chair, Mickey Rosenberg, observed, "These notes help make the decision wise and fruitful for all." Two of the many notes are shared here.



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



# Jewish Community Relations Council



## Judicial Reform, Protests, and a New Government: An Overview of What is Happening in Israel

**Tuesday, May 16**  
**6 - 7:30 p.m.**  
**Sekach Building, Darlington Hall – 6505 Sylvania Ave.**  
**Free event – vegetarian dinner included**

A lot is happening in Israel these days, and it can be hard to keep up with the news. This program will explain current political and social events in Israel such as the judicial reform, protests, and the new government.

RSVP by Friday, May 12 to  
<https://submit.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/what-is-happening-in-israel>  
or Sherry Majewski at 419-724-0351 or [sherry@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:sherry@jewishtoledo.org).



**Jewish Community Relations Council**  
OF GREATER TOLEDO



## INTERFAITH PASSOVERSEDER

Nearly 150 people attended an interfaith seder sponsored by Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo (JFGT) shortly before the start of Passover last month. JFGT's Jewish Community Relations Council organized a traditional Passover seder specifically geared towards our non-Jewish neighbors and open to all. Led by Dr. Andy Pelletier and featuring songs by Helen Grubb, the mock seder was meant to show how a Passover seder is traditionally held, debunking myths and stereotypes while helping to teach others about the important Jewish holiday.

*This Passover Seder was funded in part by the generosity of the Dr. Howard & Mrs. Ann Rosenberg Philanthropic Fund and the Sydney Mostov Memorial Fund held at the Toledo Jewish Community Foundation.*



**Jewish Community Relations Council**  
OF GREATER TOLEDO



# Jewish Federation and Foundation of Greater Toledo

## JFGT staff participates in emergency training

By Dave Tullis

On Wednesday March 29, 2023, the Jewish Federation & Foundation of Greater Toledo (JFGT) staff participated in mandatory training in topics such as “Active Shooter,” “Stop the Bleed,” and “Crisis Management.” The staff also receives training in CPR/AED every other year.

Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo recognizes the increased active shooter threat and the swiftness with which active shooter incidents unfold and knows that training is vital to our staff to learn what we can do to survive an unprovoked attack. Studies demonstrate significant improvements in employees’

abilities to complete emergency protocols (e.g., success in locking or barricading doors, turning off lights, and escaping) after participating in training. Better awareness equals faster reaction time. Faster reaction time improves chance of survival if it comes down to that.

Active shooter training addresses the threat of an active shooter by providing awareness, preparation, prevention, and response methods. Because active shooter situations are often over within 10 to 15 minutes - before law enforcement arrives on the scene - individuals must be prepared both mentally and physically to deal with an active shooter situation.

An active shooter is an individual

who is engaged in killing, or attempting to kill, people in a confined and populated area. Active shooter incidents are often unpredictable and evolve quickly. Amid the chaos, anyone can play an integral role in mitigating the impacts of an active shooter incident.

Organizations, such as businesses or places of worship or education, choose to sponsor active shooter training considering that, as of 2013, 66.9% of active shooter incidents ended before police arrival in the United States.

As Jewish Federation’s Community Asset Safety and Security Manager (CASSM), I confirm that we remain committed to training for better prevention, response, and recovery practices involving active shooter incidents, and we encourage training our staff to be able to assist in life saving methods with “Stop the Bleed” and CPR/AED training.

Even when law enforcement is present or able to respond within minutes, civilians often have to make life and death decisions and, therefore, should be engaged in training and discussions on decisions they may face.

In many cases, there is no pattern or method to the selection of victims by an active shooter, and these situations are by their very nature unpredictable and evolve quickly.

At the hostage situation at a Texas synagogue about a year ago, the rabbi and others credited their previous training with saving their lives.

JFGT staff training was provided by Kevin Steinman of Sylvania Township Police Department (STPD). Sgt. Steinman has been with the STPD

since June 2009. While at Sylvania Township, he has served as a Field Training Officer and he holds multiple instructor certifications, including Firearms, Active Threat Response, Rescue Task Force, Critical Injury First Aid, and ALICE.

### What Should People Do In Case Of An Active Shooter Attack?


- **Run** to the nearest exits, making use of available concealment while moving away from the source of hazard.
- If unable to safely evacuate, **hide** in a secure area where access can be blocked or entryways can be locked, and, as appropriate, **fight**.
- If no rapid escape is possible, seek cover behind any available natural or artificial objects that eliminate direct line of sight from the source of hazard.
- Call 9-1-1 and remain alert for potential secondary attacks.
- Render first aid when safe to do so.
- Maintain situational awareness while aiding others.
- When help arrives, follow instructions given by law enforcement and first responders.

Stop the Bleed training teaches staff to possibly save lives by using the tools and the training to render first aid to a wounded subject.

CPR/AED training helps staff potentially save the life of a person who is experiencing a heart attack or cardiac arrest.

Training in crisis management gives our staff a guideline on what to do in crisis situations, such as severe weather, bomb threats, and suspicious behavior by an unknown person(s).






## Pearl Society: The health of your skin, inside and out

**Thursday, June 8**  
**6:30 – 8:30 p.m.**  
**Dermatology Associates, 3141 Central Park West**  
**\$10 per person – includes drinks, discussion, and heavy snacks.**  
**\*\*This event is open to all women who give \$180 - \$1799 to the annual campaign.**

Let’s talk about our skin! Hear from Dr. Deborah Thaler and ADA Aesthetics about how to protect yourself from skin cancer, and get the latest updates on the new fads in dermatology and how to keep yourself healthy and fresh.

RSVP required by Friday, June 2  
to [form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/pearls](https://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/pearls) or  
Sherry Majewski at 419-724-0351 or [sherry@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:sherry@jewishtoledo.org)





# News

## Getting to know you:

### Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo Staff Deborah Nolan, Financial Analyst Officer



**Toledo Jewish News:** Can you describe your main responsibilities in your new role?

**Deborah Nolan:** As Financial Analyst Officer, my main responsibilities are to prepare and analyze monthly financial statements, reconcile cash and investment accounts, and work with the auditors on the IRS Form 990's. In addition, I assist the Controller in preparing for the annual audit and budget. Having a variety of responsibilities makes this role very rewarding.

**TJN:** What are some of your biggest

goals or aspirations for your role?

**DN:** One of the things that attracted me to work at the Federation is the longevity of so many employees. Everyone is very knowledgeable on the organization's history and current processes. The Federation has a great work environment where I aspire to learn and grow as a professional and be a resource to other coworkers, as they have supported me in my transition.

**TJN:** What led you to this type of work?

**DN:** Math was always my favorite subject. When it came time to select my major in college, accounting was a natural choice. After graduation, I began my career in public accounting, passed the CPA exam, and gained experience in both audit and tax. Since leaving public accounting, I have spent my career at local nonprofits that provide valuable resources and support to the community. I find working for organizations that make a difference very fulfilling.

**TJN:** What energizes you at work?

**DN:** I am energized by collaborating and problem solving with my coworkers. I am eager to learn and grow and enjoy working with like-minded people.

**TJN:** What energizes you outside of work?

**DN:** Outside of work, I am energized by walking with my husband in one of the Toledo Metroparks. It's such an amazing way to exercise, enjoy nature, and share our day with each other!

**TJN:** What is the most unique part about working for JFGT (so far)?

**DN:** Learning about the value that the organization adds to the lives of persons of all ages in the Jewish community through its many services and activities. There is always something going on!

**TJN:** What is something a *Toledo Jewish News* reader may not know about you?

**DN:** I am a dissectologist. During the pandemic, I became a jigsaw puzzle enthusiast. They are challenging yet help to reduce stress. My favorites are Thomas Kinkadee Disney puzzles!

**TJN:** What is something you saw recently that made you smile?

**DN:** Watching my three-year-old grandson experience something new makes me smile. Recently, Papa and Gigi (my husband and I) took him sledding for the first time. He was so expressive and wanted to show everyone how excited he was to go down the hill by himself!

**TJN:** What is the best compliment you have ever received?

**DN:** I've appreciated when people have told me that I am a good listener and easy to talk to. This makes me feel like I have really connected with them.

**TJN:** What is one of your favorite family traditions?

**DN:** One of my family favorite traditions is spending summer weekends in Michigan at my dad's house. My dad has a pool in his backyard that has hosted our family get-togethers since my children were young. I have many cherished memories of my family with my parents and my sister's family at the pool. Now, we get to watch our grandchildren grow up with the same tradition!

## 'An American Tail,' the classic animated film about Russian-Jewish mice who immigrate to America, is now a musical



Lillian Hochman will play Tanya and Matthew Woody will play Fievel in the first musical adaptation of "An American Tail." (Kaitlin Randolph)

By Shira Li Bartov (JTA) — Itamar Moses was 10 years old when he watched "An American Tail" at his Jewish day school in California. He was struck by the 1986 film, an animated musical about a family of Russian-Jewish mice who immigrate to America. Even though he was surrounded by Jewish classmates and teachers, he had never seen a cartoon with Jewish protagonists.

"Watching this mainstream hit American animated movie where the central character and the central family were specifically Jewish — it was unusual," Moses told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. "I think there was something that felt inclusive to us about that."

Now a Tony Award-winning playwright, Moses has adapted the children's classic for the stage. "An American Tail the Musical" will premiere at the Children's Theatre Company in Minneapolis on April 25 and run through June 18. Along with writing by Moses, who won his Tony for a Broadway adaptation of the Israeli film "The Band's Visit," the new production features familiar songs such as "Somewhere Out There" and new music and lyrics by Michael Mahler and Alan Schmuckler ("Diary of a Wimpy Kid the Musical"). The team hopes to tour the show if it has success in Minneapolis.

The original film created by Don Bluth and Steven Spielberg follows the journey of a young, tenacious mouse named Fievel Mousekewitz. Fievel's family lives below the human Moskowitz family in Shostka, a city in the Russian Empire, in 1885. Spielberg, who had yet to make "Schindler's List" or widely address his Jewish family history, named the character after his maternal grandfather — Phillip or "Fievel" Posner — an immigrant from Russia.

The movie begins with the Mousekewitzes and the Moskowitzes celebrating Hanukkah when Cossacks tear through Shostka in an antisemitic pogrom, to-

gether with their animal counterparts — a battery of evil cats. The Mousekewitzes flee Europe and board a ship to America, where Papa Mousekewitz (voiced by Nehemiah Persoff) promises "there are no cats" and "the streets are paved with cheese." But a thunderstorm at sea washes Fievel overboard, leaving his devastated parents and sister to arrive in New York City without him. Although they believe he did not survive, Fievel floats to shore in a bottle and sets out to find his family.

Of course, he quickly learns there are cats in America — along with corruption and exploitation. Fievel is sold to a sweatshop by Warren T. Rat, a cat disguised as a rat. A crooked mouse politician called Honest John (a caricature of the real Tammany Hall boss John Kelly) wanders Irish wakes, scribbling dead mice's names in his list of "ghost votes." But Fievel finds camaraderie with other immigrant mice rallying for freedom from the cats' attacks and Warren T. Rat's extortion. He befriends Italian mouse Tony and Irish mouse Bridget, who join the quest to reunite his family.

The film's metaphors will be presented similarly in the stage version, which is also set in the 1880s, although Moses has expanded its lens on the immigrant groups that populated New York at the time. The musical will incorporate more "mice" communities, such as Chinese, Caribbean and Scandinavian mice, along with African Americans and former slaves.

"An American Tail" was part of a shift in mainstream media toward Jewish representation, said Jennifer Caplan, an assistant professor of Judaic Studies at the University of Cincinnati who has studied this cultural change.

"It came out in 1986, and then 'Seinfeld' premiered in 1989," Caplan told the JTA. "People point to 1989 as this moment when representations of Jews changed. There was this feeling in

*American Tail* continued on next page



# News

## NBA star Domantas Sabonis' wife says he is converting to Judaism

By Andrew Esensten  
(JTA via J. The Jewish News of Northern California) — When the Sacramento Kings face the Golden State Warriors in the first round of the NBA playoffs starting this weekend, they will be led by their Lithuanian-American — and soon-to-be-Jewish — center, Domantas Sabonis.  
The 26-year-old All-Star is in the process of converting to Judaism, according to his Jewish wife, Shashana Sabonis (née Rosen). “We really haven’t talked about it [publicly],” she said in an interview this week. “He loves [Judaism] and really wants to be a part of it.”  
Sabonis regularly studies on Zoom with Rabbi Erez Sherman of Sinai Temple in Los Angeles. Sherman, a Conservative rabbi who hosts the sports podcast “Rabbi on the Sidelines,” told J. that Sabonis is serious about learning more about Judaism.  
“After [he had] a triple-double against the Houston Rockets, I get a text, like, ‘Hey can we find time to learn?’ I’m like, you’re for real,” Sherman said. “He’s always asking questions. He keeps kosher, and when he’s in Vilnius, he’s going to the kosher butchers to get chicken.”  
While Sabonis is committed to his studies, his wife said, the demands of his job have made it impossible for him to commit to following all of the mitzvot. “He has to fly and he has to do those

things, but he’s continuing his learning,” Shashana said. “We keep Passover, we keep Shabbat. We don’t drive, and we do Shabbat dinner every week.”  
The couple were married by a Reform rabbi in August 2021. They have a year-old son named Tiger, and Shashana is pregnant with their second child.  
They have a close relationship with Rabbi Mendy Cohen of Chabad of Sacramento, Shashana said. He put mezuzahs up at their house and recited the Megillah for them on Purim following the Kings game that night. Sabonis attended Chabad of Sacramento’s Purim party this year and signed autographs. In December, he sponsored a sufganiyot giveaway at a Kings home game.  
Shashana, who grew up in Los Angeles and went to Jewish day schools, said her husband appreciates the support he has received from the Jewish community.  
“People that follow me [on social media] see how we do the holidays and Shabbat, and I think it’s really fun for the Jewish community to see that representation in basketball,” she said.  
There are two active Jewish players in the NBA and its developmental G League, Deni Avdija of the Washington Wizards and Ryan Turell of the Motor City Cruise. Former NBA player Amar’e Stoudemire stepped down last year as a Nets assistant coach after two seasons, citing conflicts with his religious observance. Stoudemire con-

verted to Orthodox Judaism in 2020 after being raised in the Hebrew Israelite elite faith.  
Sabonis, who is listed at 7-foot-1 and is the son of NBA Hall of Famer Arvydas Sabonis, had a breakout season in his second with the Kings, helping propel the team back to the playoffs for the first time in 16 seasons and ending the longest postseason drought in NBA history. He led the league in rebounds with 12.3 per game, while averaging 19.1 points per game, and he made his third All-Star team. He was drafted in 2016 and previously played for the Indiana Pacers and Oklahoma City Thunder.  
Shashana said her husband is busy preparing for the Warriors series, which begins April 15 at Golden 1 Center in Sacramento, and was unavailable for an interview.  
How does she think the Kings will

fare against the defending champion Warriors?  
“[The Kings] are going to win in six games,” she predicted. “We’re a really great team, and everybody is really determined to win.”



Rabbi Mendy Cohen is dwarfed by 7-foot-1 Kings center Domantas Sabonis, who attended Chabad of Sacramento's Purim party on March 7. (Courtesy of Chabad of Sacramento)

*American Tail* continued from previous page  
the late '80s that people were looking for new, different, possibly even more explicit representations of Jews.”  
Yet despite the movie’s resonance with children like Moses, some film critics complained that it wasn’t Jewish enough. Critics Gene Siskel and Roger Ebert gave the film “two thumbs down” on a 1986 episode of their program “At The Movies,” calling it “way too depressing” for children and arguing that it “chickened out” of an explicitly Jewish story. Ebert noted that while most adults would understand the Mousekewitzes were Jewish, the word “Jewish” never appears in the film, potentially leaving young audiences in the dark.  
“This seems to be a Jewish parable that doesn’t want to declare itself,” he said at the time.  
Unlike in Art Spiegelman’s graphic novel “Maus,” where Jews are mice and Nazis are cats, the cat-and-mouse metaphor of “An American Tail” is expansive. The cats represent a universal force of oppression — Cossacks in Russia or capitalists in America — while the mice encompass all persecuted immigrants, regardless of their religion, ethnicity or national origin.  
Caplan admitted that some might not have seen it as a Jewish story at the time.  
“In 1986, we’re right at the birth of the multicultural push in American schools,” said Caplan. “You’ve got kids who are learning about the melting pot. I think if you are not looking for the

coded Jewishness and you’re not familiar with it, then this just seems like a movie about immigrants.”  
But Moses, who said the movie held a “mystical place” in his imagination, did not view the story’s broad allegory as a shortcoming. Instead, he saw an opportunity to pull its continuous thread for a message he hopes will feel relevant today: that while immigrants discover inequality and abuse in America, the forces of injustice are changeable, and that people can overcome life’s harsh realities through “grit and hard work and coming together.”  
“That message is always timely, but definitely coming out of the last few years and the conversations that America is having about immigration,” said Moses. “I wanted to tell this story that’s really a fable, so you can get at these ideas indirectly as opposed to in a dry, didactic way.”  
Jodi Eichler-Levine, a Jewish studies professor at Lehigh University, argued the tale’s success lies in being a “story of Jewish immigration that appeals to non-Jews as well” and called the movie a “fairytale about America.” It premiered 100 years after the Statue of Liberty’s dedication in 1886, amid centennial celebrations of the country’s immigration history. In the film, the statue comes alive, winking at Fievel and his sister once they find each other and look west at the vast expanse of the United States.  
Whether viewers still buy into the optimistic crescendo of “An American Tail” remains to be seen. Do Americans still believe, as Moses hopes, that immi-

grants and oppressed peoples can unite to overthrow the tyrants of unfettered capitalism? A Gallup poll from February showed that Americans’ satisfaction with the country’s level of immigration has dropped to 28%, the lowest point in a decade.  
Moses is betting that children’s theater has a way of refreshing themes adults have exhausted with political discourse. Children want to grapple with the ideas at the core of the show, he said, such as “the needs of the individual and the needs of the collective, the need to go out on your own but still remain connected to your family and your background.”  
“The most successful material for kids tends to engage with real things

that they’re thinking about and worrying about,” he said.  
Today, another wave of families has fled Fievel’s hometown: though Shostka was part of the Russian Empire in the 19th century, it is now in the Sumy region of northeastern Ukraine. The Sumy Oblast was among the first regions stormed by Russian forces in February 2022 and continues to suffer daily shelling. Eichler-Levine expects that global refugee crises will only continue to broaden the appeal of a migration story.  
“The ideas [in *An American Tail*] are sadly relevant for most of the planet right now, given that climate change and devastation from war are leading to another tremendous wave of global migration,” said Eichler-Levine.



Itamar Moses won acclaim for adapting *The Band's Visit* for Broadway. (Courtesy of Moses)



# News

## Evan Gershkovich, Judy Blume among 10 Jews on Time’s 2023 ‘Most Influential’ list

By Philissa Cramer

(JTA) — The journalist who was arrested in Russia last month and the Biden administration’s antisemitism envoy are among the 10 Jewish members of Time magazine’s “100 most influential people of 2023.”

The magazine’s annual list, released Thursday, includes politicians, business titans, artists and innovators from around the world, from President Joe Biden to a YouTube sensation with 145 million subscribers. Each entry is accompanied by a short essay by another prominent figure. Here are the Jews who made the cut.

Sam Altman is the tech entrepreneur who is CEO and co-founder of the OpenAI artificial intelligence laboratory. In 2016, the entrepreneur Peter Thiel told the New Yorker that Altman is “culturally very Jewish — an optimist yet a survivalist, with a sense that things can always go deeply wrong, and that there’s no single place in the world where you’re deeply at home.”

Judy Blume is the children’s author whose books deal frankly with puberty and other challenges of growing up. A film adaptation of her 1970 novel “Are You There God? It’s Me, Margaret” — one of the first mainstream treatments of interfaith families — is opening in theaters this month.

Doja Cat is a rapper and performance artist who burst onto the scene in 2020, when she won MTV’s best new artist award. The daughter of an Ashkenazi Jewish mother and a Black South African father, she is renowned for blending genres.

Nathan Fielder is a comedian and performance artist whose genre-defying 2022 series “The Rehearsal” tackled antisemitism, Holocaust denial and interfaith parenting. It also featured a Portland, Oregon, Hebrew tutor.

Neil Gaiman is a science-fiction writer whose comic book series “The Sandman” was recently made into a Netflix series. Raised by a Jewish family that dabbled in Scientology, he was also an early critic of the Tennessee school district that banned the Holocaust memoir “Maus” last year.

Evan Gershkovich is a Wall Street Journal reporter who was detained in Russia in March on spying charges that the State Department has called

part of Russia’s “ongoing war against the truth.” The American child of Jewish refugees from the Soviet Union, Gershkovich was the subject of an awareness campaign urged during this month’s Passover celebrations.

Bob Iger returned to being the CEO of Disney last year. “His return as CEO in 2022 ushered in a new era of transformation and creative excellence” for the entertainment company, General Motors CEO and Disney board member Mary Barra wrote in Time. He received the 2019 Humanitarian Award from the Simon Wiesenthal Center, warning that “Hitler would have loved social media.”

Deborah Lipstadt was confirmed by the U.S. Senate in March 2022 as the State Department’s Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism. A well-known academic specializing in the history of antisemitism and Holocaust denial, she welcomed Time’s recognition by tweeting, “Receiving this award advances my ongoing fight to stamp out antisemitism and all forms of hate.”

Natasha Lyonne is the writer, director and actress whose popular series on Netflix, “Russian Doll,” used sci-fi conventions to explore identity, trauma and the intergenerational effects of the Holocaust. In his Time essay, actor and director Taika Waititi, who is also Jewish, called Lyonne “the coolest person in the room.”

Janet Yellen is the first woman to hold the role of U.S. treasury secretary. Born to Polish Jewish immigrant parents, she has featured in antisemitic conspiracy theories about “globalist” control of financial institutions.

A handful of other people on the list have Jewish backgrounds. The actor and businesswoman Drew Barrymore, recognized by the comedian Jimmy Fallon for being “a true role model,” is married to a Jewish man, raising a Jewish child and said she has “embraced Judaism,” though she has not announced a conversion. Lea Michele, who last year took over the lead role in “Funny Girl” on Broadway, has a Jewish father but does not identify as Jewish. And the skier Mikaela Shiffrin has a Jewish grandfather but, according to the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Association, is “not connected to the Jewish community.”

## Netflix’s ‘Rough Diamonds’ brings viewers into the drama of Antwerp’s Orthodox diamond district

By Gabe Friedman

(JTA) — A new drama on Netflix centered on a haredi Orthodox family that runs a business in Antwerp’s famed diamond district hit the platform on Friday and is drawing comparisons to the hit Israeli series “Shtisel.”

“Rough Diamonds,” a joint production from Israel’s Keshet International and Belgium’s De Mensen, follows the Wolfson family as it navigates internal tension and business struggles in the wake of a death in the family. The protagonist, who left the haredi world 15 years earlier, returns to Antwerp to look into his relative’s death and help steer the family company back to prominence.

Until the past decade, Antwerp was home to over 80% of the world’s annual uncut diamond trade, and much of it was dominated by haredi Orthodox Jews. The city was home to a large Jewish population for centuries after welcoming many Jews who left Spain and Portugal in the wake of the Inquisition in the 15th century, including many diamond dealers who were barred from working in many other industries. Although the community was decimated by the Holocaust, by 2018 Antwerp was home to at least 20,000 Jews, many of them haredi Orthodox. In recent years, Indian families have assumed control of as much as three-quarters of Antwerp’s diamond industry.

“Rough Diamonds” is mostly filmed in a mix of Flemish and Yiddish, in addition to some French and English. Co-creators Rotem Shamir and Yuval Yefet, who are both Israeli and worked together on the Israeli military thriller “Fauda,” told the Times of Israel that they had to use a “lot of advisers and translators” while working on the show over the course of six years.

“We’re not from an ultra-Orthodox background, and we’re not from Belgian backgrounds. .. You have to kind of submerge yourself in this world to learn about it” Yefet said.

The show’s lead, Noah Wolfson, is played by Kevin Janssens, a popular non-Jewish TV actor in his native Belgium. About half of the Wolfson family are played by Jews, producer Pieter Van Huyck told the London Jewish Chronicle.

“We want to portray a normal Hasidic family in the most authentic way possible but, of course, it is a family which is in trouble so it is not a normal situation they are trying to survive,” he said. “It wasn’t easy finding Jewish actors who knew that specific way of living and so we had a mix of Jewish and local Flemish actors and we had quite a few Jewish coaches.”

Jews in New York City’s Diamond District were given the silver-screen spotlight in “Uncut Gems,” a 2019 drama starring Adam Sandler.

[facebook.com/JewishToledo](https://facebook.com/JewishToledo)

### Text CAMPAIGN to 44321

Text CAMPAIGN to 44321 to make a donation to the Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo Annual Campaign





### fridayFACTS

Weekly news of the Toledo Jewish community

## Where Toledo Jews Get their News



# Local

## “Iconic New York Jewish Food”: So much more than a bagel an’ a schmear

By Mary Bilyeu

*Iconic New York Jewish Food: A History and Guide with Recipes*, was “a happy book to write,” said history and cookbook author June Hersh of her latest work, just published in February, as during a recent telephone interview.

After surviving a significant bout with Covid during the early stages of the pandemic and then, when feeling better, writing about the history of yogurt as she sheltered in place (she joked, “If you can’t sleep at night, grab my book!”), this deep dive into the most memorable Big Apple foods “was fun,” she enthused.

Doing research – including all-important taste testing of her subject matter – enabled June to “sample all the foods [and] explore New York City as it was coming back to life.”

But how did she determine which items to include, parsing out those that qualified for the trifecta of descriptors: “iconic,” “New York,” and “Jewish”?

**Iconic:** “Food that can survive almost three years of not being able to go inside and eat,” June began, “and yet it’s the foods [people] crave ... [Foods that] survive pandemics, they survive vegan diets, they survive low-carb diets.” An item that “survives no matter what is happening around it,” she continued, including neighborhood and demographic changes.

For example, “You’re not gonna be able to get rid of a pastrami sandwich,” she pointed out. Or the babka and black-and-white cookies that were essential elements in some episodes of *Seinfeld*.

**New York:** “Hot dogs are a New

York food,” June asserted. “They’re also a Chicago food,” she clarified, but “its origin was really New York. New York was the center of this commerce that brought these foods from Eastern Europe, from Southern Europe,” she said.

When she “spoke to people on the line at Russ and Daughters [or] at Yonah Schimmel’s” – legendary food purveyors: an appetizing store and a knishery, respectively – she asked what brought those customers there. “Well, this is New York food,” she was told in response: dishes inherent to the city’s culinary scene. Pizza and pretzels are, too, June added; they’re readily identified with the city even though they weren’t created or invented there.

And then there are bagels, of course. Everyone thinks it’s just a legend that the city’s water is integral to the bagels, but “it’s not a myth,” the author insisted. “The Smithsonian verified that the water that runs from the Catskills Mountains picks up minerals that truly infuse our New York City water with that certain something ... to create that chew that everyone really associates with a New York City bagel.”

**Jewish:** “Jewish foods are foods that we identify with Jewish people for a variety of reasons,” June said. (In her book, she refers to a Lenny Bruce commentary reviewing which foods are Jewish – such as pumpernickel bread – and which are goy-ish, i.e.: Kool-Aid.) And they don’t necessarily have to be kosher or follow the dietary laws, she noted, distinguishing between

Jewishness and Judaism.

The dishes may be associated with a holiday, be ones “that Jewish people have prepared for centuries,” or be items tied to a specific place – like New York City’s Lower East Side – with a strong Jewish identity.

“It’s not definable,” June continued. “It’s not in a box – there are so many facets to it.”

But “Jewish food takes you back,” she said. “It’s a thread that runs through the Jewish culture.”

After defining her terms, June’s book then tempts readers with an array of deliciousness that also includes lox and smoked whitefish; corned beef and Reubens, plus tongue and brisket; kasha varnishkes; halvah; chopped liver; matzah ball soup and kreplach; egg creams; and cheesecake.

Many of these foods have traveled across the country and are easy to find in places as far-flung as Los Angeles, Houston, and Toledo despite their origins in New York. Others, though – like bialys – are nearly impossible to get once you’re outside the city.

“Some of the foods,” the author thinks, “just didn’t catch on in the same way. Not every food can translate.”

The biggest surprise June found when researching this book was not, say, that early Dutch settlers had been pickling cucumbers as far back as the 17<sup>th</sup> century or that bagels may be related to Italian taralli: crispy rings of baked dough.

Instead, it was how interrelated the various groups of immigrants in New

York City were.

“I don’t think I realized how the foods ... reached a cross-cultural group of people” even 100 years ago, she said. “Not only did the Jewish people pick up non-Jewish traditions and techniques, but it went both ways: For example, the Irish would buy from kosher butchers,” June explained. “I found that fascinating to learn how much sharing of culture took place.”

And “food was the great equalizer among the different immigrant groups,” she added. “When it came to food, that made everyone a New Yorker.”

She wrote *Iconic New York Jewish Food*, then, to “give the food[s] a time and a place, [to] give an explanation.”

Because ultimately, June said, “Jewishness and food are intertwined. And the intersection of Jewish food and storytelling” offers the “why to the what,” as she refers to it: the reason behind it all.

“Otherwise,” she concluded, a recipe or a particular food is “just a dish. It has very little meaning.”

*In honor of author June Hersh’s personal philosophy to “Eat Well – Do Good,” a portion of the proceeds from sales of ‘Iconic New York Jewish Food’ (suggested retail price \$23.99) will benefit the Met Council in New York City: America’s largest Jewish charity dedicated to fighting poverty while respecting a variety of faith-based dietary needs. “Food is something that is not a privilege, it’s a right,” Ms. Hersh insists. “Anyone who supports this book supports that mission.”*

### Everything Bagel Scallion Dip (slightly adapted)

“You can use full-fat or low-fat ingredients,” June Hersh writes – “it’s your waistline and decision.” This dip is great served with toasted bagel chips.

- 1 cup (8 ounces) cream cheese, room temperature
- 1 cup (8 ounces) sour cream or plain yogurt
- 1 tablespoon chopped scallion (about 2 small scallions, white and light green parts only)
- 2-3 tablespoons everything bagel seasoning

Place the cream cheese, sour cream or yogurt in a small bowl and, using a handheld mixer, beat the two together on low speed until fully incorporated and creamy, about 15 seconds. Spoon in your everything seasoning to taste, adding as much or as little as you like (2-3 tablespoons is about right). Add scallions and chill until ready to use.



### Mini Pistachio Chocolate Halvah Bites

“Typically, to enjoy fresh halvah, you’d have to visit an appetizing store,” June Hersh writes, “but it’s so easy to make at home .... [These] are a sublimely sweet nostalgic bite to have with your morning coffee or evening tea.”

- ½ cup confectioner’s sugar
- ½ cup whole milk powder
- ¼ cup tahini (well stirred)
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- ¼ cup shelled pistachios, rough chopped
- ½ cup semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 24 mini cupcake cups (1.5-inch each)

In a medium bowl, mix together the sugar and milk powder. Pour in the tahini and stir. Add the vanilla and pistachios and stir to combine. It will resemble clumpy sand.

Turn the mixture out on your counter and knead the dough until it comes together, adding a bit more tahini if the mixture is too dry. The dough should resemble Play-Doh when ready.

Melt the chips in the microwave in 20-second intervals, stirring after each until melted, about 60 seconds.

Line a tray with the mini cups and, using a teaspoon, drop the melted chocolate into the bottom of each cup. Tap the tray on the counter to help evenly distribute the melted chocolate.

Roll the halvah dough into 1-inch balls and lightly press into the cups; if the chocolate comes up the side, no worries – it’s a bonus!

Cover and chill 2 hours for soft halvah or 4 hours or overnight for firm. Keep any extra servings in a sealed bag or container in the fridge.



# Jewish Senior, Family and Social Services

## TECH TIPS

As the school year for many students starts to wind down this month, why not choose this time to instead do the opposite and dive headfirst into your own, personal (and, yes, tech-based!) learning regimen?

The importance of digital literacy, otherwise known as having the means and skills to live, work, and communicate within an increasingly online and information-rich society, is only becoming greater with each passing year.


I encourage you to explore at least one of the links, listed to the right, during this month. See where your curiosity and these tech courses, some basic and others advanced, lead you!

The following links are suggested courtesy the National Digital Inclusion Alliance (NDIA), a Columbus, Ohio-based digital literacy organization.

[TechBoomers.com](https://www.techboomers.com)

[DigitalLearn.com](https://www.digitallearn.com)

[www.gfcglobal.org](https://www.gfcglobal.org)



(Tech Time with Tim)

**Upcoming Tech Programs:**

1. Tuesday, May 2: Tech Tuesday
2. Tuesday, May 9: Joint Lag B'Omer/ VR event
3. Tuesday, May 16: Tech Tuesday
4. Tuesday, May 23: VR

**RSVP with Sherry Majewski at 419-724-0351 or [sherry@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:sherry@jewishtoledo.org)**

**\*Please let us know of any dietary restrictions in advance\***

**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](mailto:Tim@jewishtoledo.org)




## CREATE AND RELATE: SESSION TWO!

Attendees of Create and Relate: Session Two made tie pillows that were donated to local shelters/missions as a mitzvah project.





# Jewish Senior, Family and Social Services



**3**

**CREATE & RELATE**

Open to everyone!

## CREATE AND RELATE: SESSION THREE!

Thursday, June 1 | 12 – 2:30 p.m.  
Crosby Center (Toledo Botanical Gardens)  
**FREE EVENT | LUNCH PROVIDED**

*NAMI will lead a Creative Expression Art Activity*

**Learn why support is essential as we create  
our own support trees.**

Brooke Michel-Yussim, Associate Broker, CRS, ABR, GRI  
with Danberry Realtors will present

**“The Upside to Downsizing”**

Come nosh, come mingle, and, most importantly,  
come be together. This event is open to everyone!

RSVP required by May 30 at  
<https://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/seniors>  
or Sherry Majewski at 419-724-0351 or  
[sherry@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:sherry@jewishtoledo.org)



**March 23**

\_\_\_\_\_

**June 1**

\_\_\_\_\_

**July 27**

\_\_\_\_\_

**September 28**

**WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT:**

- Lunch provided
- Creative Expression art activity at every session
- Community member presentation
- Mitzvah project

**SERVICES.  
COMMUNITY.  
TOGETHER.**

Beginning in 2023, Jewish Senior, Family & Social Services will be bringing a new series of FREE events to the Toledo area Jewish community. Welcome to JSFSS’s new event series: Create and Relate! These events will offer the opportunity in five unique sessions for our seniors to connect with different services by bringing in new and exciting community members and activities. Although we hope to gear some services toward our seniors, we also hope to see people of all ages as we will be touching on topics within our society that are all-inclusive. All are welcome to attend. There will be a Creative Expression Art Activity at all sessions.

Come nosh, come mingle and most importantly, come be together.

Stay tuned for more information coming in the Toledo Jewish News. Any questions, please contact Stacy Willis at 419-724-0407.



Israel is celebrating 75 years.  
Magen David Adom has been  
there for all of them.



Magen David Adom has been saving lives since 1930, some 18 years before Israel became a state. We take immense pride in being Israel's national emergency medical service and in supplying the blood and medical care for the soldiers who have ensured Israel's existence. Join us in celebrating Israel's 75th year of independence on Yom HaAtzma'ut.

Support Magen David Adom by donating today at [afmda.org/give](https://afmda.org/give).  
Or for further information about giving opportunities, contact 847-509-9802 or [dcohen@afmda.org](mailto:dcohen@afmda.org).



Saving lives. It's in our blood.



[afmda.org/give](https://afmda.org/give)

# RECYCLE METAL WITH KRIPKE

Kripke Enterprises, Inc. 8201 West Central Ave. Toledo, Ohio 43617 USA  
419-539-2115

## Fairways

**Lunch Specials**  
Starting at **\$7.99**  
11 am - 3 pm

**Happy Hour**  
2-6 Mon-Fri  
11-4 Sat

**Chicken Fajita Salad**  
delicious. fresh. crisp

Mon.-Thu. 11AM-10PM  
Kitchen open till 9:30PM  
Fri. 11AM-11PM | Sat. 11-11PM  
Kitchen open till 10PM Friday and Saturday

**Carryout Available**

**8256 Central Ave.**  
**(419) 517-4653**

**Jigg's Dinner**  
17TH OF EVERY MONTH  
CASH BOON  
CHICKEN  
RED POTATOES  
CASSEROLE  
\$15.99

**Jigg's Dinner (lunch portion) | 11-3PM | \$9.99**

### CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL: Scholar in Residence Weekend 2023

CBI INVITES THE TOLEDO JEWISH COMMUNITY TO JOIN US FOR A  
**"SPECTACULAR SEPHARDIC SHABBAT EXPERIENCE"**



WITH WORLD-RENOWNED SPECIAL GUEST  
**Cantor Ramón Tasat**  
Friday & Saturday, May 12 & 13, 2023

Learn more about Cantor Tasat at [ramontasat.com](https://ramontasat.com)

**Friday, May 12th 5:45 PM: Delicious Fleishig Sephardic-Style Dinner & Shabbat Service**  
*The Shabbat Dinner is \$18 per person.*

**Saturday, May 13th 9:30 AM: Shabbat Morning Services**  
*If you are not a CBI member and would like to attend services, please call the office to be added to the guest list.*

**Saturday, May 13th 5:45 PM: Afternoon Service & Light Meal**  
*The Shabbat Third Meal is FREE for CBI members and \$5 for guests.*

RSVP to the CBI office by calling 419.517.8400 or email [kbrody@cbitoledo.org](mailto:kbrody@cbitoledo.org) by Monday, May 8, 2023.

*This event is supported by a grant from the JSS Fund of the Toledo Jewish Community Foundation*



# Next Jewish Generation



## NextJGen Next Jewish Generation

Programs especially for post-college to young families.

For more information about Department of Jewish Programs or to register for virtual events, please contact Marnie at [marnie@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:marnie@jewishtoledo.org).

Register for all upcoming NJG events at: <https://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/njg2022>  
Any questions? Contact Marnie Younker at [marnie@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:marnie@jewishtoledo.org)

For all NJG programming information, visit [jewishtoledo.org/nextjewishgeneration](https://jewishtoledo.org/nextjewishgeneration).



### Glaze, Gab, & Graze with Next Jewish Generation

Thursday, May 18

6 – 8 p.m.

Peace, Love & Pottery Studio, 6750 Sylvania Ave., Sylvania

\$15 per person – includes private painting party, pottery piece of your choice, snacks, and sips



Happy glaze are here again...it's time for another NJG event! Let's get together at Peace, Love & Pottery, a paint-your-own ceramics studio. You'll select your piece from their large stock of various pre-made items. They supply the paints, glazes, brushes, and we'll supply the snacks & sips; you just bring your creativity!

RSVP to <https://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/njg2023> OR [sherry@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:sherry@jewishtoledo.org) or 419-724-0351 and let us know of any dietary restrictions.

Next JGen is a staple of Jewish life in the Toledo area, existing to draw wonderful, dynamic, young Jewish people together for the greater benefit of the community. From Hebrew Happy Hours to date nights to volunteer opportunities, Young Jewish Toledo provides a range of opportunities for young Jewish professionals 21-40. These future leaders of Jewish Toledo are continuously strengthening personal connections while participating in – and perpetuating – Jewish life in Toledo. To find out more about how you or someone you know can get involved with Young Jewish Toledo, contact Marnie at [marnie@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:marnie@jewishtoledo.org).



Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo's Pranks and Pints event at Inside the Five was lighthearted on the April 1st pranks and heavy on the fun with plenty of pre-Passover hametz to go around.

## Pre-Passover Pranks & Pints





# PJ Library



WILL YOU READ ME A STORY?

# PJ Library

Bring Jewish stories home

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

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


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

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

To learn more about PJ Library® and to ensure your child receives this wonderful gift, please contact *Marnie* at [marnie@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:marnie@jewishtoledo.org).

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

SUPPORTED BY



Jewish Federation & Foundation OF GREATER TOLEDO

YOUR CAMPAIGN AND LEGACY GIFTS AT WORK

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

# PJ Library



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

Open to our preschool-aged friends (0-3) and their parents, grandparents, nannies, siblings, and friends.

**RSVP for all programs by contacting Sherry at [sherry@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:sherry@jewishtoledo.org) or 419-724-0351**

Please let us know of any dietary restrictions when registering.

## PJ & Gan Yeladim Playdates

### Tot Shabbat Playdates

**Friday, May 5**  
9 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.  
Gan Yeladim Preschool - 6505 Sylvania Ave.  
FREE - snacks will be provided.  
Please bring diapers, wipes, or baby soap/shampoo for donation to the Jewish Senior, Family & Social Services (JSFSS) Family Pantry.




Open to our preschool-aged friends (0-3) and their favorite grownup(s).

Join us for a fun morning of crafts, snacks, playing with friends, and a special circle time with Morah Raizel! Meet and make friends with other PJ parents and their kids.

RSVP by the Friday prior to Sherry Majewski at [sherry@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:sherry@jewishtoledo.org) or 419-724-0351. Please let us know of any dietary restrictions.

# PJ Library & PJ OUR WAY



**SIGN UP** at [pjourway.org/enroll](http://pjourway.org/enroll)

**EXPLORE** the website



**CHOOSE** a free book each month

**RATE** and **REVIEW** your books

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

For more information contact Marnie at [marnie@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:marnie@jewishtoledo.org).

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





# Gan Yeladim Celebrates Passover



# HANDMADE HANUKKAH



**Calling all artists!!!** Are you a Jewish artist in the Toledo area? Do you know a Jewish artist? Jewish Federation & Foundation of Greater Toledo is hosting Handmade Hanukkah, a community festival of art, food, and music, on **Sunday, November 19, 2023**, and we want you to participate!

Sign up for a booth at: <https://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/handmadehanukkah>

*Any questions? Contact Hallie Freed at 419-724-0362 or [hallie@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:hallie@jewishtoledo.org).*



**Welcome to Jewish Toledo**  
**free welcome bags**

Are you new to Toledo?  
Contact Marnie Younker at 419-724-0365 or [marnie@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:marnie@jewishtoledo.org) for your free welcome bag!



# Gan Yeladim Preschool



We specialize in happy children!



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

**Fall 2023 Registration  
Open Now!**

Sign up now to receive a free **bento lunch box**  
(while supplies last)

Now accepting children 18 months  
through 5 years old.

Monday through Friday  
**3, 4, and 5-day options**  
8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.  
*Half-day options*



For more information, contact Raizel at  
419-724-0402 or raizel@jewishtoledo.org

[www.jewishtoledo.org/about-us/gan-yeladim-preschool](http://www.jewishtoledo.org/about-us/gan-yeladim-preschool)

## The HeART of Gan A FAMILY ART SHOW

**SUNDAY, MAY 7**  
**3 P.M.**

GAN YELADIM PRESCHOOL  
FREE - OPEN TO THE WHOLE COMMUNITY

CONNECTING, CREATING, AND CELEBRATING THE ARTS AND COMMUNITY

FEATURING: DRUM CIRCLE, GALLERY TOURS, CREATE & TAKE EXPERIENCES, CURATED ART FOR  
SALE, ACTIVITIES FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY, SNACKS, AND MORE!



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

RSVP to Sherry Majewski at 419-724-0351  
or sherry@jewishtoledo.org



# Youth

## Toledo BBYO has done it all



Over the last few months, B’not Shalom BBG #407 and BSN AZA #70 activities have been at an all-time high. From travels to Dallas to Havdalah with the Israeli exchange students and attending a regional convention, Toledo BBYO has done it all.

In February, Toledo BBYO was invited to and attended a Havdalah with Israeli foreign exchange students. Esther Goldstein led the Havdalah with an ice cream service. As the Havdalah ended, the fun didn’t stop, as the group ended the night with laser tag and games at Q-Zar.

At the end of February, girls from B’not Shalom attended BBYO’s 99th International Convention in Dallas, Texas. They interacted with Jewish teens from all around the world and made connections through Judaism. They went sightseeing, listened to amazing speakers, experienced a global Havdalah and Shabbat, and even got to meet some famous people!

In March, six members in Toledo made their way to Cleveland for AIT/MIT, a new member convention. This is the most convention attendance Toledo has had in five years! We’re so proud to represent B’not Shalom and BSN and continue the legacy of alumni and all who came before us.

## B'nai Mitzvah

We Honor Our B'nai Mitzvah



**Max Shacter Greenblatt**, son of Mark and Denise Greenblatt, grandson of Richard and the late Alix Greenblatt of Toledo and Melvin and Diane Ginsberg of Beachwood, will be called to the Torah on Saturday, May 6, 2023. Max currently attends Timberstone Middle School in Sylvania. Max plays hockey, lacrosse, and baseball competitively. While fierce as an athlete, his personality is also extremely compassionate. He is a great friend, loves to volunteer with Gliding Stars, and has chosen to do multiple fundraisers for the Jackson Weis Youth Athletic Achievement Fund as his Bar Mitzvah project. Jackson, Max’s friend and teammate, tragically died when Max was 10 years old. If you want to learn more about the fund, go to [www.jacksonweis.com](http://www.jacksonweis.com).



**Cobin Seymour Katz** will be called to the Torah on Saturday, May 20 at Congregation B’nai Israel. Cobin is the son of Christina and Ian Katz and Rebecca and Rich Feters. He is “Coco” and undisputed brother-of-the-year to his adoring sister, Elle Katz. Cobin has the unwavering love and support of many grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Cobin is a seventh grader at Timberstone Junior High, where in addition to being an excellent student, he really enjoys playing sports with his friends as a two-way starter on the Wolves football team and rebounding specialist on the basketball team, all the while being a top alto saxophone player in the Timberstone band. Cobin is a true mensch and his parents receive many unsolicited compliments relaying stories of Cobin’s maturity, leadership, kindness, and selflessness. He loves

travelling to visit his many grandparents and enjoys video games, reading, and being with his friends. Cobin loves stylish sneakers and is looking forward to celebrating his bar mitzvah with friends and family.

As a mitzvah project, Cobin will be donating dozens of sneakers to Jewish Senior, Family and Social Services as well as contributing tzedakah to various agencies.

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Any questions? Contact Marnie Younker at  
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Sign up now!

<https://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/camp-inspiration-2023>  
or 419-724-0351 / [sherry@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:sherry@jewishtoledo.org)

\*\*\* We are looking for qualified counselors  
(must be over 18) and counselors in training  
(teens entering 10th-12th grade).  
If you are interested, please contact Marnie  
at 419-724-0365 or [marnie@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:marnie@jewishtoledo.org).

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# Active Life for 60 and Better



## Lag BaOmer Potato Party

Tuesday, May 9  
11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
Sekach Building, 6505 Sylvania Ave  
\$5 – includes lunch

Celebrate a widely beloved Israeli holiday with friends and enjoy a delicious potato bar.

Now including a new round of virtual reality tours, videos, and more!

RSVP by Thursday, May 4 to <https://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/Seniors> or Sherry Majewski at [sherry@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:sherry@jewishtoledo.org) or 419-724-0351.



## 60 and Better Getaways are back

Two summer trips!  
Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park in July and Ohio Amish Country in August.  
See page 25 for all the details. Sign up now!



**SERVICES.**  
**COMMUNITY.**  
**TOGETHER.**

See page 11 for information on upcoming Create and Relate Sessions

## Copper Moon and You!

Thursday, May 18  
10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.  
Sekach Building, 6505 Sylvania Avenue  
\$15 – includes snacks and glass mosaic tile creation

Using abstract chips of colored glass, arrange your own unique pattern on a beautiful tile. Enjoy snacks, socializing, and more during your creative journey!

RSVP by Tuesday, May 9 to <https://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/seniors> or to Sherry Majewski at [sherry@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:sherry@jewishtoledo.org) or 419-724-0351.



## Set sail for the start of summer!

Wednesday, June 21  
Pickup at 11:30 a.m. – JCC/YMCA campus parking lot  
Return around 2 p.m.  
\$10 per person – includes lunch, transportation, and more

Hop on the trolley and take a ride with us on The Sandpiper cruise touring downtown Toledo and the Maumee River and enjoy a delicious lunch along the way.

RSVP by Friday, June 16 to <https://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/seniors> or to Sherry Majewski at [sherry@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:sherry@jewishtoledo.org) or 419-724-0351.



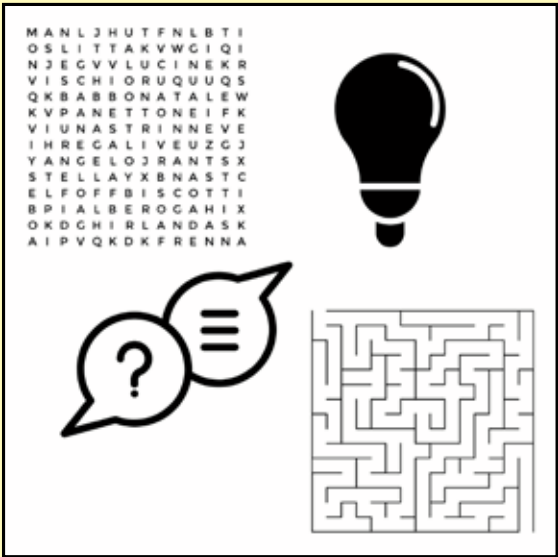


# Active Life for 60 and Better

## Calling all Seniors 60+: FREE Puzzle Books to Play at Home

Enjoy a workout for the brain;  
without the sweat!

Stay mentally active this winter with the help of Jewish Toledo. Any adult 60 or better is welcome to request a FREE puzzle book to pick up at the Federation or receive by mail. The books include a variety of puzzles in LARGE PRINT (such as word searches, Sudoku, word scrambles, and more).



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One per household,  
please.

Claim your book today by  
contacting  
Sherry Majewski at  
sherry@jewishtoledo.org  
or 419-724-0351

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 Senior, Family and 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

# Healthy Living

## Get Fit Classes

### Monday

**Get Fit Early, 9-10am**

-or-

**Get Fit 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

**Get Fit Early, 9-10am**

-or-

**Get Fit Later, 10:30-11:30am**

(see description above)

**Ballet Ball 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-11pm**

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

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YouTube

Healthy  
Living



Fitness

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OF GREATER TOLEDO

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**Wish List\***

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Mon. - Fri. • 11:30 - 11  
Sat. • 5 - 11:30

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## DO YOU KNOW

a young professional or young entrepreneur  
who deserves to be highlighted in an  
upcoming issue of *Toledo Jewish News*?

Contact Paul Causman at 419-724-0318 or [Paul@JewishToledo.org](mailto:Paul@JewishToledo.org)

### 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](http://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:  
[paul@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:paul@jewishtoledo.org)

You may include a photo of the deceased if you wish (optional).

**NOTE: Only obituaries submitted to [paul@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:paul@jewishtoledo.org) (at the Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo offices) 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.

If you have additional questions, please contact [paul@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:paul@jewishtoledo.org) or 419-724-0318.

### 2023 CEMETERY CLOSINGS

**BETH SHALOM CEMETER**  
420 Otter Creek Rd.  
Oregon, Ohio 43616

**EAGLE POINT CEMETERY**  
515 Eagle Point Rd.  
Rossford, Ohio 43460

Cemeteries close early every Friday at 4 p.m. for Erev Shabbat  
Cemeteries are closed every Saturday for Shabbat

Jewish Holiday Closing Schedule for 2023

Thursday, May 25, 2023	Erev Shavuot	Close at 4 P.M.
Friday, May 26, 2023	Shavuot I	Closed
Saturday, May 27, 2023	Shavuot II	Closed
Friday, September 15, 2023	Erev Rosh Hashana	Close @ 4 P.M.
Saturday, September 16, 2023	Rosh Hashana I	Closed
Sunday, September 17, 2023	Rosh Hashana II	Closed
Sunday, September 24, 2023	Erev Yom Kippur	Close @ 4 P.M.
Monday, September 25, 2023	Yom Kippur	Closed
Friday, September 29, 2023	Erev Sukkot	Close at 4 P.M.
Saturday, September 30, 2023	Sukkot I	Closed
Sunday, October 1, 2023	Sukkot II	Closed
Friday, October 6, 2023	Erev Shmini Atzeret	Closed
Saturday, October 7, 2023	Shmini Atzeret Sukkot VIII	Closed
Sunday, October 8, 2023	Simchat Torah	Closed

**Regular Cemetery hours:**  
Sunday through Thursday 6:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Fridays 6:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
Closed Saturdays and on the above dates for Yom Tov

**Toledo Jewish Community Cemetery Association 6465 Sylvania Ave., Sylvania, Ohio 43560  
419.724.0404**


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# Safety Tips



Dave Tullis, Jewish Federation Community Asset, Safety and Security Manager helps us stay protected with valuable safety tips.

## Instructing your children about “Stranger Danger” tips



No doubt, stranger danger tips are an especially important issue that all parents must address – and one that requires ongoing, open communication with their children. You can start talking to your children about strangers as young as two years old. Just remember to keep the conversation *age appropriate*. At age two, the conversation might only be you talking to your child about the word stranger, and what it means. As your child gets older you can incorporate more information and utilize the tips above, as they become appropriate. And then you can rest a little easier, knowing your child is prepared in case a stranger does approach.

*The single most important thing to remember when instructing your children about stranger danger is to instill confidence, rather than fear.*

You want to equip your child with the knowledge and strategies they will need to protect themselves in dangerous situations. Also, keep your child’s age and maturity level in mind and base lessons upon that.

Again, stranger danger lessons should be ongoing – adapt the conversation as your child grows as he/she is likely to encounter several types of situations.

### WHO ARE “STRANGERS”?

- First, children need to understand what you mean by stranger.
- Not all people unknown to them are necessarily dangerous – they need to understand the difference between “good” and “bad” strangers; an overly simplistic dichotomy, but one that puts the issue in terms a child can understand.
- This is important so children understand where and to whom to turn if they are ever lost or feel scared, threatened, or if they think someone may be following them.
- Examples of “good” strangers may include police officers, security guards, teachers, store clerks, etc. These are all examples of people to turn to if when your child needs help.
- On the other hand, in many situations where your child may be approached by a “bad” stranger – the park, residential street, etc. – those easily identifiable people may not be around.
- Your child should know that there really are many more “good” people, than “bad.”
- If they are approached by a “bad” stranger who tries to lure or physically pull them away, the best thing they can do is get the attention of other adults – whether that is by running to the nearest home, or making enough noise to be heard by someone, the vast majority of adults will help a child in danger.
- As a parent, the number one thing you want to do is protect your child. The world can be an uncertain place and you want to give your kids the tools to be safe in any situation. The first step for parents of young children is teaching them about strangers and the dangers they pose.

### BEGINNING STEPS: START A CONVERSATION

- The first thing to do is to start a conversation about strangers with your child when you’re both in good moods–this means everyone is well-rested and calm, and not hungry or cranky. Start by asking your child what he or she knows about strangers and listen to your child’s response.
- Then, define stranger for your child, keeping it simple and non-threatening.

Most of the time it’s enough to say “a stranger is someone you don’t know.” If you’re in public, you can point out a few people that are strangers — people that you don’t know.

- Next, remind your kids that strangers can look scary, but they can also be pretty and kind and happy. Not every stranger is friendly though; sometimes strangers will try to hurt little kids. No matter how a stranger looks, it’s important to be cautious when meeting new people.
- There are “safe strangers.” Even though you may not know them, police officers, firefighters and teachers are considered safe strangers.
- When you’re out with your children at the grocery store or the library, use these teachable moments. Point out strangers and talk to them about suspicious behavior. Remind your children that an adult will never ask a child for help.

### NEXT STEPS: TEACH YOUR CHILDREN HOW TO REACT

- Once your child understands what strangers are and why they can be dangerous, move on to what your child should do if a stranger approaches. Teach your child how to react if they are uncomfortable with a stranger.
- Walk away and find you or another adult they know.
- Yell “No! Go away!” loudly.
- Rehearse possible stranger situations with your kids. Have fun with role playing, as a family, so your kids know exactly what to say and do in the moment.
- Have a code word or phrase with your kids, so that if someone they do not know well approaches them, the adult can use the code word so your children know it is safe. Make sure the code word is unique, but not too hard for them to remember.
- Lastly, create a “safe list” of trusted people your children can call or turn to in the event you are not available. This can include grandparents, aunts and uncles, older cousins, the parents of your kids’ friends, neighbors, and teachers.

### STUDENT SAFETY TIPS:

Considering suspicious activity in neighboring school districts, please review the following safety tips with your children.

- Do not talk to strangers.
- Do not take anything from strangers.
- Do not go anywhere with someone you do not know.
- Stay more than an arm’s reach from strangers. If you are approached by a stranger, seek help immediately.
- Trust your instincts, if you feel you are being followed or something is not right, seek help immediately.
- Use the buddy system, avoid walking anywhere alone.
- Review contact telephone numbers and home safety practices.
- When seeking help, always go to a trusted adult – teacher, coach, police officer, other parent, or older siblings.
- If a stranger grabs you, do everything you can to stop him or her from pulling you away. Drop to the ground, kick, hit, bite, and scream. Do whatever it takes to attract the attention of others who can help you. If someone is dragging you away, scream, “this is not my dad,” or “this is not my mom.”
- Report any suspicious activity to your local school and police department.





# Temple Shomer Emunim .....

<div><b>May Worship Schedule</b> <b>Friday, May 5</b> <i>Family Shabbat Service at 6pm</i> <i>Led by Cantor Jen Roher</i> <b>Saturday, May 6</b> <i>Shabbat Morning Service at 10:30am</i> <i>Bar Mitzvah of Max Greenblatt</i> <b>Friday, May 12</b> <i>Shabbat Service at 6pm</i> <i>Led by Dr. Andrew Pelletier &amp; Dr. Steven Kramer</i> <i>Kol Zimrah will sing</i> <b>Friday, May 19</b> <i>Shabbat Service at 6pm</i> <i>Led by Rabbi Arnie Sleutelberg</i> <b>Thursday, May 25</b> <i>Erev Shavuot &amp; Confirmation Service at 7pm</i> <i>Led by Rabbi Gibson &amp; Cantor Roher</i> <b>Friday, May 26</b> <i>Shavuot Morning Service at 10:30am</i> <i>Led by Rabbi Gibson</i> <i>Shabbat Service at 6pm</i> <i>Led by Rabbi Gibson</i> <b>Friday, May 26</b> <i>Shabbat Morning Service at 10:30am</i> <i>Followed by Kiddush Luncheon</i> <i>please RSVP by May 24</i></div>	<div><b>Jewish Comedy Night with Rabbi Arnie Sleutelberg</b> <b>Saturday, May 20 at 7:30pm</b> <b>From Biblical Sarah to Seinfeld: 4000 Years of Jewish Humor</b> <b>\$18 General Admission</b> <b>\$13 (Mitzvah) students 16-18</b> <b>Sponsorship levels available. Call the Temple for information.</b> <b>RSVP to <a href="mailto:mkuehnle@templese.com">mkuehnle@templese.com</a> or call 419/885-3341 by Monday, May 15</b>  Get ready for a fun evening with lots of laughter. Rabbi Arnie delights audiences with the many genres of Jewish humor while offering insights into the phenomenon, while giving us hundreds of laughs as we peer into the lives of Jews through the ages. Feel free to invite your family, friends and colleagues!</div> <div><b>Confirmation Class</b> <b>Sara Hamilton</b>, daughter of Chris Hamilton &amp; Maara Fink <b>Max Helfman</b>, son of Dr. Todd &amp; Kristal Helfman <b>Cooper Kruse</b>, son of Stacey Rapino &amp; Donald Kruse <b>Ilana Miller</b>, daughter of Chad &amp; Nehama Miller <b>Emma Payne</b>, daughter of John &amp; Wendy Payne</div> <div><b>Temple Book Club</b> Thursday, May 11 at 10:30am <b>Ally</b>, by Israeli Ambassador to the United States, Michael Oren, will be discussed.</div>	<div><b>May Religious/Hebrew School</b> Hebrew School 4:30-6pm Religious School 9:15-11:30am Hebrew School 4:30-6pm Religious School 9:15-11:30am Hebrew School 4:30-6pm Religious School 9:15-11:30am; Hebrew School Graduation 10am; Picnic 11:00am </div> <div><b>Temple Tots "Spring Fling"</b> <b>Sunday, May 21 @ 9:15am</b> </div> <div><b>Hebrew School Graduates</b>  <b>Josh Corman</b>, son of Dr. Scott &amp; Amy Corman <b>Max Gray</b>, son of Justin &amp; Eve Gray <b>Sophie Hamilton</b>, daughter of Chris Hamilton &amp; Maara Fink <b>Estella Kairis</b>, daughter of Mindy Kairis &amp; Shawn Kairis <b>Harlie Kerper</b>, daughter of Kenn &amp; Erica Kerper <b>Josh Kerper</b>, son of Kenn &amp; Erica Kerper <b>Julia Rhodes</b>, daughter of Drs. Andrew (Tiger) &amp; Megan Rhodes <b>Sam Thaler</b>, son of Drs. Russ &amp; Deborah Thaler</div>
<div><b>Men's Chavurah</b> Wednesday, May 24 @ 7pm</div>		

## Congregation B'nai Israel

[cbitoledo.org](http://cbitoledo.org)

CBI follows the Lucas County Health Department regarding its Covid-19 Masking Policy. When levels are YELLOW, mask-wearing is OPTIONAL. When COVID-19 levels are RED, mask-wearing is MANDATORY for EVERYONE. If you are not a CBI member and would like to attend programs or services, please contact the office at 419.517.8400.

<div><b>CBI Scholar in Residence Weekend:</b> <b>"SPECTACULAR SEPHARDIC SHABBAT EXPERIENCE"</b> with world-renown, <b>Cantor Ramón Tasat</b> <b>• Sephardic-Style Dinner &amp; Kabbalat Shabbat Service</b> Friday, May 12, 2023 5:45 PM <i>The Shabbat Dinner is \$18 per person</i> <b>• Shabbat Morning Services</b> Saturday, May 13, 2023 9:30 AM <i>If you are not a CBI member and would like to be added to the guest list, please call the office</i> <b>• Afternoon Service &amp; Light Meal</b> Saturday, May 13, 2023 5:45 PM <i>The Shabbat Third Meal is FREE for CBI members and \$5 for guests - Please include with your RSVP</i> <b>RSVP to the CBI office at 419.517.8400 or email Kim Brody at <a href="mailto:Kbrody@cbitoledo.org">Kbrody@cbitoledo.org</a> by Monday, May 8, 2023.</b></div> <div><b>Weekly Services Schedule</b> <b>Monday &amp; Thursday Morning Minyan</b> 8:00 AM - In Person/Zoom <b>Monday ~ Thursday Evening Minyan &amp; Friday Evening Kabbalat Shabbat</b> 5:45 PM - Zoom <b>Saturday Morning Shabbat</b> 9:30 AM - In Person/Live Stream <b>Sunday Morning Minyan</b> 9:30 AM - In Person/Zoom</div>	<div><b>WCBI Celebrates Rosh Chodesh Sivan</b> <b>Wednesday, May 17, 2023 6:00 PM</b> In-Person at CBI  Join us for dinner and an evening of enlightenment and fun as we explore the Jewish connection to the Zodiac.  Event cost is \$10. Please make your checks payable to "Women of CBI" and mail to: Nancy Goldberg, 4236 Appomattox Dr., Sylvania, OH 43560.  The Tikkun Olam for this program is a monetary donation to benefit the garden at CBI.  <b>RSVP by May 8, 2023 to Sharon Stein at <a href="mailto:sstein100@gmail.com">sstein100@gmail.com</a>.</b>  <b>THIS PROGRAM IS OPEN TO THE WOMEN OF ALL LOCAL CONGREGATIONS</b></div> <div><b>Cooking Class with Rebecca Swett</b> <b>Wednesday, May 24, 2023 10:00 AM</b> In-Person at CBI - <i>This event is only for CBI members</i> <b>MENU: Mushroom Moussaka &amp; Mango, Avocado, and Tomato Salad</b>  These wonderful dishes will be served at the CBI Shavout Dinner on May 25th.  THIS CLASS IS OPEN TO THE FIRST 12 CBI MEMBERS WHO RSVP  <b>RSVP by May 17, 2023 to Fran Weinblatt at <a href="mailto:fweinblatt@gmail.com">fweinblatt@gmail.com</a> or Kim Brody at <a href="mailto:kbrody@cbitoledo.org">kbrody@cbitoledo.org</a>.</b></div>	<div><b>MOST CBI PROGRAMS ARE OPEN TO MEMBERS OF ALL LOCAL CONGREGATIONS UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED</b></div> <div><b>SHAVUOT DAIRY DINNER</b> <b>Thursday, May 25, 2023 7:00 PM</b> In-Person at CBI  <b>Please RSVP for the Shavuot Dinner by Thurs. May 18th. Free for CBI members and \$10 for guests. You must RSVP to attend.</b>  <b>Followed by SHAVUOT TIKKUN WITH YONI MILLER, PH.D.</b> Yoni will discuss "The Canonization of the Jewish Bible: Myth vs. Reality"  <b>Shavuot Services Schedule</b> <b>Thursday Evening, May 25: TIKKUN</b> with Yoni Miller, Ph.D. 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 &amp; Dessert  <b>Friday, May 26: Shavuot Day 1</b> 9:30 AM Morning Service - In Person/Live Stream  <b>Saturday, May 27: Shavuot Day 2</b> 9:30 AM Morning Service - In Person/Live Stream 10:45 AM YIZKOR  <b>CBI Office Closed</b> Friday, May 26th Shavuot Day One</div>
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# Congregation Etz Chayim .....

## SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES & KIDDUSH LUNCHEON

Join us for Shabbat services on Saturday, May 6th at 9:00 a.m. Rabbi Stephen Belsky will be leading services. There will be a special Kiddush luncheon to honor Marcia Grossman, our long time member, board member and former Sisterhood president who will be moving to Cleveland. In addition we will be celebrating with those members who will be celebrating Birthdays and Anniversaries.

## ADULT LEARNING SESSION PLANNED

Everyone is invited to a Sunday morning minyan at 9:00 a.m. on May 7th followed by a delicious breakfast. Rabbi Belsky will be leading an interactive learning session beginning at 10:00 a.m.

## BOOK DISCUSSION AND ART TOUR

Etz Chayim is very fortunate to have our own Naomi Baron and Andrea Delman lead another Book Discussion & Art Tour on Thursday, May 11th at 7:00 p.m. on zoom. The book being discussed is titled People of the Book by Geraldine Brooks. Start reading and join the interactive discussion group in May. Everyone from the community is invited. Please R.S.V.P. to Nancy Jacobson at [jaco824@bex.net](mailto:jaco824@bex.net) or Elsa Leveton at [elsa@etzchayimtoledo.org](mailto:elsa@etzchayimtoledo.org) to receive the link.

## ZOOM PRESENTATION WITH AVIVA PANUSH

Aviva Panush, one of our favorite presenters is scheduled for two zoom sessions. Since this year is the 80th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, Aviva will lead discussions on Sunday, May 21st and June 4th at 10:30 a.m. regarding this topic. The first session is titled "Spiritual/Cultural Resistance in the Warsaw Ghetto" and the second session is titled "Warsaw Ghetto Uprising". Please R.S.V.P. to Nancy Jacobson at [jaco824@bex.net](mailto:jaco824@bex.net) or Elsa Leveton at [elsa@etzchayimtoledo.org](mailto:elsa@etzchayimtoledo.org) to receive the links.

## SISTERHOOD NEWS

This spring Sisterhood is planning another wonderful trip to Hoen's Nursery on Tuesday, May 9th at 10:00 a.m. A presenter will teach everyone how to plant and make container arrangements. Each person may bring their own container or buy one there. Plants will be available to place into containers. The staff will help everyone to develop each container depending on shade and amount of sunlight that the plants will need. The annual Mah Jongg Tournament date has been set for July 12, from 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.. The cost will be \$5.00. Mah Jongg enthusiasts, put this date on your calendar for a fun afternoon.

## JOINT SYNAGOGUE BOOK CLUB

A delightful program featuring the three synagogue book clubs is planned for Thursday, July 20th at 1:30 p.m. at Congregation B'nai Israel. Alice Applebaum, Elsa Leveton, Carol Richman and Sharon Stein will be leading the discussion of the book "The Matchmaker's Gift" by Lynda Cohen Loigman. Please R.S.V.P. to Elsa at [elsa@etzchayimtoledo.org](mailto:elsa@etzchayimtoledo.org).



# Chabad House .....



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# LAG BAOMER CELEBRATION

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[www.ChabadToledo.com/LagBaomer](http://www.ChabadToledo.com/LagBaomer)

Sponsored in honor of, and with many thanks to, Ian & Christina Katz

# CELEBRATE SHAVUOT

**FRIDAY, MAY 26 11:30 AM**  
(SERVICES START AT 10:00 AM)  
**FREE ADMISSION**

HEAR THE TEN COMMANDMENTS & ENJOY A DAIRY LUNCH AND ICE CREAM

**RSVP: [www.ChabadToledo.com/Shavuot](http://www.ChabadToledo.com/Shavuot)**



## Champagne & Cheese Boards

A Ladies Night Out  
Preparing for Shavuot

Sunday, May 14  
6:00 PM  
at Chabad House  
2728 King Rd  
\$18

- Design and take home your own grazing board with delicious Cheese and fruit.
- Learn about Ruth, one of our Jewish Heroines.
- Pamper yourself this Mothers Day!

**RSVP @ [Chabadtoledo.com/cheese](http://Chabadtoledo.com/cheese)**

# CAMP GAN ISRAEL

**June 19 - July 14, 2023**

Field trips • Swimming  
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For boys & girls ages 4-12 • Scholarship available  
Register by May 15th to receive Early Bird Discount.

**[www.ChabadToledo.com/Camp](http://www.ChabadToledo.com/Camp)**  
For more info: call 419-322-2730  
or email [camp@chabadtoledo.com](mailto:camp@chabadtoledo.com)

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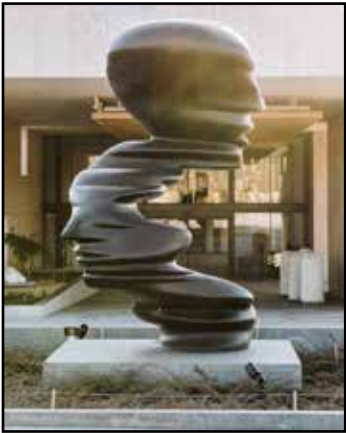
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# Active Life for 60 and Better Getaways



## Trip to Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park

Thursday, July 13

Bus leaves - 7:45 a.m.

Bus returns – 5:30 p.m.

Park in the JCC/YMCA parking lot

**\$35 per person – includes lunch and transportation; minimum campaign gift is required**

Join us for a trip to Frederik Meijer Gardens in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Ranked in the top 45 most-visited art museums worldwide, the sculpture collection features more than 200 works and over 158 acres of trees, plants, and flowers in their striking gardens. This event will include some steps and walking.

RSVP required by Wednesday, July 5  
to <https://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/seniors> or  
Sherry Majewski at 419-724-0351 or [sherry@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:sherry@jewishtoledo.org).

*This event is intended for adults 60 and Better who support the Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo's Annual Campaign. A meaningful gift to the campaign is required to attend. Make your contribution today by contacting Wendy Goldstein at 419-724-0362 or [wendy@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:wendy@jewishtoledo.org) or by visiting: [www.jewishtoledo.org/campaigndepartment](http://www.jewishtoledo.org/campaigndepartment).*



## Bus Trip to Ohio Amish Country

Thursday, August 17

Bus leaves – 7:45 a.m.      Bus returns – 8 p.m.

Park in the JCC/YMCA parking lot

**\$35 per person – includes lunch and transportation; minimum campaign gift is required.**

Summer adventure awaits us as we take a bus ride to Ohio Amish Country in the central part of the state with stops at Hersher's Farm & Bakery followed by a guided bus tour of Amish Country, plus stops at Walnut Creek Cheese (for a box lunch and ice cream), Hillcrest Orchard, and the Walnut Creek Flea Market.

This event will include some steps and walking.

RSVP required by Wednesday, August 8  
to <https://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/seniors> or  
Sherry Majewski at 419-724-0351 or [sherry@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:sherry@jewishtoledo.org).

*This event is intended for adults 60 and Better who support the Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo's Annual Campaign. A meaningful gift to the campaign is required to attend. Make your contribution today by contacting Wendy Goldstein at 419-724-0362 or [wendy@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:wendy@jewishtoledo.org) or by visiting: [www.jewishtoledo.org/campaigndepartment](http://www.jewishtoledo.org/campaigndepartment).*





# EXPERIENCE Israel



## BEAUTIFUL Tel Aviv



## AWE-INSPIRING Jerusalem



## AMAZING Natural Wonders



## VITAL Western Galilee

### An Israel Journey of a Lifetime November 6-14, 2023

**Join us on the first Jewish Toledo community-wide mission to Israel in 17 years!**  
Community and Jewish heritage are the background for an Israel opportunity as you've never experienced before. Experience the rich history, breathtaking scenery and sacred places where ancient civilizations once thrived and where the Jewish future is being written.

**The beginning of the Jewish State and the start of your Israel discovery.**  
From the most upbeat neighborhood of Florentine to the 4,000 year old city of Jaffa, Tel Aviv thrives with world-class arts and culture.

**Your Tel Aviv experience includes:**  
A special Street Art Night tour of some of Tel Aviv's most "hip" neighborhoods; walking tour of the fashionable Neve Tzedek; a visit to Rabin Square to learn about Yitzhak Rabin's life, leadership, and tragic death; a tour of the ANU Museum of the Jewish People at Tel Aviv University

**No other place like it in our world, Jerusalem is a breathtaking focal point for religion, culture and history.**

**Your Jerusalem experience includes:**  
The holiest place in Judaism today, the Western Wall – Kotel and a tour of the subterranean spaces under the Western Wall Tunnels; a walk through the Jewish Quarter of Jerusalem's Old City; a tour through the halls of the new Supreme Court; a stop at the Knesset; a shopping stop at Machane Yehuda Market (Shuk) and a special tasting menu from select stands; a tour of Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial and Museum on the 85th commemoration of Kristallnacht, the Night of Broken Glass; and a Shabbat of a Lifetime experience at the home of a local family where you'll enjoy a home-cooked Friday night dinner.

**When it comes to nature, Israel has it all.** The country itself may be small but what it lacks in area it makes up for in diverse, beautiful scenery.

Visit a winery for a tour and wine tasting; ascend up to Masada by cable car and tour the famous ancient fortress built by King Herod; enjoy floating in the therapeutic waters of the mineral rich Dead Sea; buckle in to a Jeep tour in the mountains of the Golan Heights passed abandoned Syrian military bunkers

**Art to science, medicine to geopolitics, Israel's Western Galilee boasts vital national resources, lifesaving medicine, and cultural treasures.** Beyond our Partnership region, Israel's northern frontier awaits.

Tour the Galilee Medical Center in Nahariya, including the underground hospital; meet with the recipients of life-changing programs fueled by our Federation's Community Campaign dollars; explore the historic alleyways of Akko; celebrate Israel at 75 and our Partnership relationship at 25 with a Partnership2gether Mega Event with local Israelis, including friends who have visited Toledo, such as participants of the Women Leading a Dialogue program; visit the mystical city of Tzfat and stroll the narrow, winding alleys; visit some of the beautiful synagogues and browse through the artists' workshops and galleries; partake in a geopolitical tour at Kunetra Outlook and Mt. Bental to view the Syrian border and learn about the challenges facing Israel with the Syrian Civil War.

### EXPERIENCE ISRAEL

To learn more, please visit  
[www.jewishtoledo.org/mission](http://www.jewishtoledo.org/mission)  
or contact Daniel Pearlman at [daniel@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:daniel@jewishtoledo.org)

Prepare to be awestruck at the old city of Jaffa, the Galilee, Jerusalem and the Old City. You'll visit the holiest site in Judaism, the Western Wall, and tour the Israel Museum and view the Dead Sea Scrolls. You'll get an up-close view of the center of Israeli government – the Knesset. Your trip-of-a-lifetime includes swimming in the therapeutic waters of the Dead Sea, exploring Jerusalem's bustling Machane Yehuda Market, ascending Masada by cable car, and so much more! And when it's time for you to rest and recharge, you'll do it at hotels in the heart of Tel Aviv and Jerusalem and at a "kibbutz experience" boutique hotel in the Western Galilee.





# BLOOMING FOR PASSOVER

A recent senior program was centered on centerpieces with help from downtown Sylvania business, Beautiful Blooms by Jen. Some of our favorite ladies came together in preparation of Passover to create bouquets fit for any type of seder.

## Jewish Toledo spends evening on the town with ‘RBG’

There were no dissents from Jewish Toledo while enjoying dinner and a show. The experience included a delicious meal at Georgio’s Café International followed by an inspirational and uplifting one-woman play at The Valentine featuring Michelle Azar as the incomparable RBG in *All Things Equal - The Life & Trials of Ruth Bader Ginsburg*.





# Hillel Global Giving Week

# MAY 1-5 2023



**From May 1-5, Hillel419 is joining forces with Hillels around the world for the fourth annual #HillelGlobalGivingWeek!**

**Gifts to Hillel419 this week will be tripled thanks to Joel and Linda Beren and Hillel International!**

**We are so excited to be part of this global campaign and to support our students at The University of Toledo and Bowling Green State University with matched gifts all week long! To make a gift, visit - <https://give.hillel.org/Hillel419>**

**For more information about Hillel419 and Global Giving Week, please give us a call at 419-724-0377!**

## Hillel419



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