



STAND UP TO JEWISH HATE

# Toledo Jewish News

The Monthly Newspaper of Jewish Toledo

Iyar/Sivan 5785 • May 2025

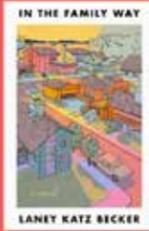
Jewish Federation & Foundation OF GREATER TOLEDO



*In the Family Way*



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



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

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

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



Jewish Federation & Foundation OF GREATER TOLEDO

MONDAY, JUNE 9

1 - 3 P.M.

CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL  
6525 W. SYLVANIA AVE.

AUTHOR CONVERSATION ONLY - FREE

AUTHOR CONVERSATION AND BOOK - \$30

INCLUDES BEVERAGES, LIGHT SNACKS, AND SWEETS



RSVP by Friday, June 6 to [form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/jfgtprograms](http://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/jfgtprograms) or Sherry Majewski at [sherry@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:sherry@jewishtoledo.org) or 419-724-0351.

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Jewish Federation & Foundation OF GREATER TOLEDO

Women's Philanthropy  
Pearls | Pomegranates | Lions | LOJE

### Get involved

For more information about Women's Philanthropy, please contact:

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Women's Philanthropy Officer,  
Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo  
419-724-0360 | [wendy@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:wendy@jewishtoledo.org)

## JEWISH TOLEDO WOMEN

Be part of a movement.

# 11th toledo jewish film festival



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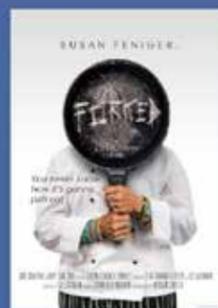
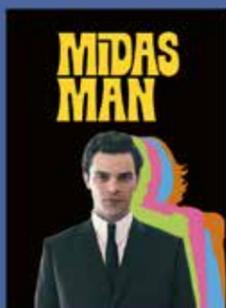
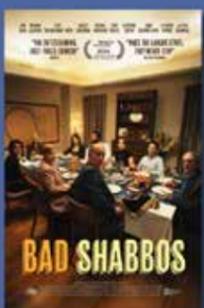
Monday, June 30

Monday, July 7

Monday, July 14

Monday, July 21

Monday, July 28



# We Deliver a Jewish Future



## A focus on: *Jewish Toledo Cemeteries*

### Chesed Shel Emet: Caring for the dead by tending to our cemeteries

By Mary Bilyeu, Community Relations Programming Specialist

We tend to think of *chesed shel emet* – caring for the dead – as the tasks related to guarding a body or preparing an individual for burial.

But it is an equally essential aspect of this mitzvah to also care for the grounds in which the deceased have been laid to rest. For the Toledo Jewish Community Cemetery Association (TJCCA), these sites are Eagle Point Cemetery in Rossford and Beth Shalom Cemetery in Oregon.

The first burial ground for Toledo's Jewish community was a parcel of land acquired in 1867,

which later developed into Eagle Point; two thousand people are buried there. More farmland to use for burials was bought in a different local area in 1892; this grew, with additional property purchases, into Beth Shalom, where about 5000 are lying in rest.

The cemeteries' operations are overseen by TJCCA, under the auspices of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo (JFGT).

Upkeep of our cemeteries is essential to provide the requisite dignity and respect for our late community members. And safety measures are, sadly, increasingly necessary these days in all Jewish spaces.

So, TJCCA has recently been investing in enhancements for the properties, as well as upgrades to their security systems with grant funds.

#### Aesthetic improvements

New six-foot-high black aluminum fencing with spear tops has been installed at both Beth Shalom and Eagle Point Cemeteries.

JFGT Security Director Dave Tullis explained that this "enhances the visual appeal of the cemeter[ies]," which are "sacred" and deserving of such an improvement.

Additionally, three new riding lawn mowers have been acquired for use at the sites, to facilitate keeping the grounds tidy and well

maintained.

Still more work has been done at Beth Shalom in recent years: a new roof was installed on the garage, repairs were made to the driveways, the supervisor's house was painted inside, and the chapel entryway was renovated. More of the property has been opened up for future burials, as well.

At Eagle Point, the tree line was cleared overlooking the Maumee River.

Cemetery Supervisor Jack Fry said that, when Rabbi Alan Sokobin, z"l, passed away in 2020, his family had requested a small clearing to

*Cemeteries* continued on page 7

## Delivering a Jewish future



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



**Jewish Federation & Foundation OF GREATER TOLEDO**

# CAMP Inspiration

Monday-Friday, August 4-8, 2025  
9 a.m.-3 p.m.

pre-K (potty trained 3 and 4-year-olds)-5th graders

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

Registration is open!

[form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/camp-inspiration-2025](http://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/camp-inspiration-2025)

Generously made possible by **The Inspiration Fund**

**PJ Library**

**Jewish Federation & Foundation OF GREATER TOLEDO**

# ANNUAL MEETING 2025

Save the Date

**TOLEDO MUDHENS**

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

Ticket number : 5785

ADMIT ONE : Sec AV | Row 6

ANNUAL MEETING

Save the Date

# Jewish Federation and Foundation of Greater Toledo

## CALLING ALL HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS AND COLLEGE UNDERGRADUATES



**Do you plan on attending college at Bowling Green State University, Owens Community College, or The University of Toledo next year?**

**Are you interested in receiving a college scholarship to help pay for college?**

**Do you have a grade point average of 3.0 or higher?**

**Are you a member of the Toledo Jewish community and live in Northwest Ohio or Southeast Michigan?**

If you answered **YES** to all of these questions, the Toledo Jewish Community Foundation could help **YOU** build your future!

For further information on college scholarships that are available, please contact Ben Malczewski, VP, Jewish Senior, Family & Social Services (JSFSS), at 419-724-0408 or [ben@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:ben@jewishtoledo.org) today!

**Application deadline is May 15, 2025.**

## Disney reportedly hired extra security for Gal Gadot after Rachel Zegler's 'Free Palestine' tweet

By Grace Gilson

(JTA) — When Rachel Zegler tweeted “free palestine” last year after sharing the trailer for her latest movie, the live-action “Snow White,” millions of people saw it — more than 9 million, as of late March.

But until recently, few knew the extent to which Zegler’s one-line tweet caused a firestorm for Disney as well as her co-star, Israeli actress Gal Gadot.

According to an article in Variety, the tweet caused the movie’s Jewish producer, Marc Platt, to fly to New York to meet with Zegler face-to-face.

It was far from Platt’s first encounter with the issue. His wife is Julie Platt, the chair of the Jewish Federations of North America, which has raised hundreds of millions for Israel following Hamas’ Oct. 7 attack, which launched the war in Gaza. (Their son is the actor Ben Platt.)

The content of their conversation is unknown, but the tweet stayed up — and caused more fallout: Zegler’s Israeli costar Gal Gadot received death threats, which led Disney to hire additional security for her, according to Variety.

Months later, after last year’s election, Zegler posted “F—



**Rachel Zegler and Gal Gadot pose at the D23 Expo in 2022**  
(Alberto E. Rodriguez/ Getty Images for Disney)

Donald Trump” and wished that his supporters “never know peace.” That triggered another conversation with Platt; Disney hired a social media advisor who would approve her posts until the movie’s premiere this month.

The controversies surrounding Zegler may be one reason Snow White opened last month to a box office of just \$43 million domestically, which fell far short of expectations. The film had a production budget of \$270 million and a marketing budget of \$100 million.

## Sotheby’s to auction earliest known kiddush cup

By Grace Gilson

(JTA) — A kiddush cup that may have been passed around the Friday night dinner table during the reign of Ghengis Khan will be available for auction this fall.

The rare remnant of the Silk Road, the ancient Asian trading route that was home to vibrant Jewish communities, is the oldest known Jewish artifact from the Middle Ages, according to Sotheby’s, which will put it on the auction block.

It is dated to the 11th or 12th century, a time when the Jews of Europe faced mass expulsion, exile and massacres during the era of the Crusades. Its inscription, which includes both Hebrew and Arabic, names its Jewish owner as “Simcha son of Salman.”

“This cup is an extraordinarily rare record of the existence and importance of Jewish communities in Central Asia in the Middle Ages, and of their cultural and artistic exchanges with the surrounding Islamic world,” said Sharon Liberman Mintz, Sotheby’s international senior Judaica specialist, in a press release.

The Arabic inscriptions on the kiddush cup, which would have been used for the blessing over wine at Shabbat meals, include a series of blessings for Simcha.

“Bearing inscriptions in both Hebrew and Arabic, the cup was



**Sotheby’s is auctioning what it says is the earliest known kiddush cup.**  
(Courtesy of Sotheby’s)

not only used to sanctify Jewish ritual, but also embodied a shared artistic language across faiths, and its survival for nearly a millennium is truly remarkable,” said Liberman Mintz. “No other medieval Judaica artefact of this early date is known to exist.”

The kiddush cup, which has an estimated value of between \$3 million to \$5 million, will be auctioned in New York on October 29. Dubbed the “Cup of Joy,” it will go on display for the public at Sotheby’s in London from April 25 to 29.

Last fall, Sotheby’s also auctioned off a 1,500 year old stone inscription of the Ten Commandments. It sold for more than \$5 million to an anonymous buyer who said they intended to donate it to an Israeli institution, according to The New York Times.

# Jewish Federation and Foundation of Greater Toledo

## Rodi Glass engages 800+ local high school students with story of Holocaust survival



In March, approximately 800 high school students from northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan attended the Annual Toledo-Area High School Diversity Program (sponsored by the Ruth Fajerman Markowicz Holocaust Resource Center of Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo) at the Valentine Theatre in downtown Toledo. Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz addressed the students before Cantor Andrea Rae Markowicz (Am Shalom in Glencoe, Illinois) introduced Rodi Glass, this year's special guest speaker, who discussed her experience as a child in the Nazi-occupied Netherlands.

When Rodi was just 4 years old, Germany invaded the Netherlands, burning Rotterdam to the ground and then marching into other cities, including Amsterdam. Five-year-old Rodi and her family were put on a train from Amsterdam to Westerbork transit camp and later an internment camp in Vittel, France, where they remained until it was liberated in 1944.

Rodi along with her parents and one aunt were the only members of the extended family to survive. After liberation they returned to Amsterdam where her father was able to regain ownership of the family

business. Rodi and her parents immigrated to the U.S. in April 1951, settling in Chicago. She married her husband, Marvin, in 1955 and together they had three children, and multiple grandchildren and great grandchildren. Rodi is now a public speaker and retired party planner.

She said, "Be good to each other and be tolerant... Live the life you want without hurting other people and enjoy your life and try to be good to the world," Rodi said to the crowd of students. "Try to help other people who you see in need. But don't hate. Hate is a terrible, terrible thing."



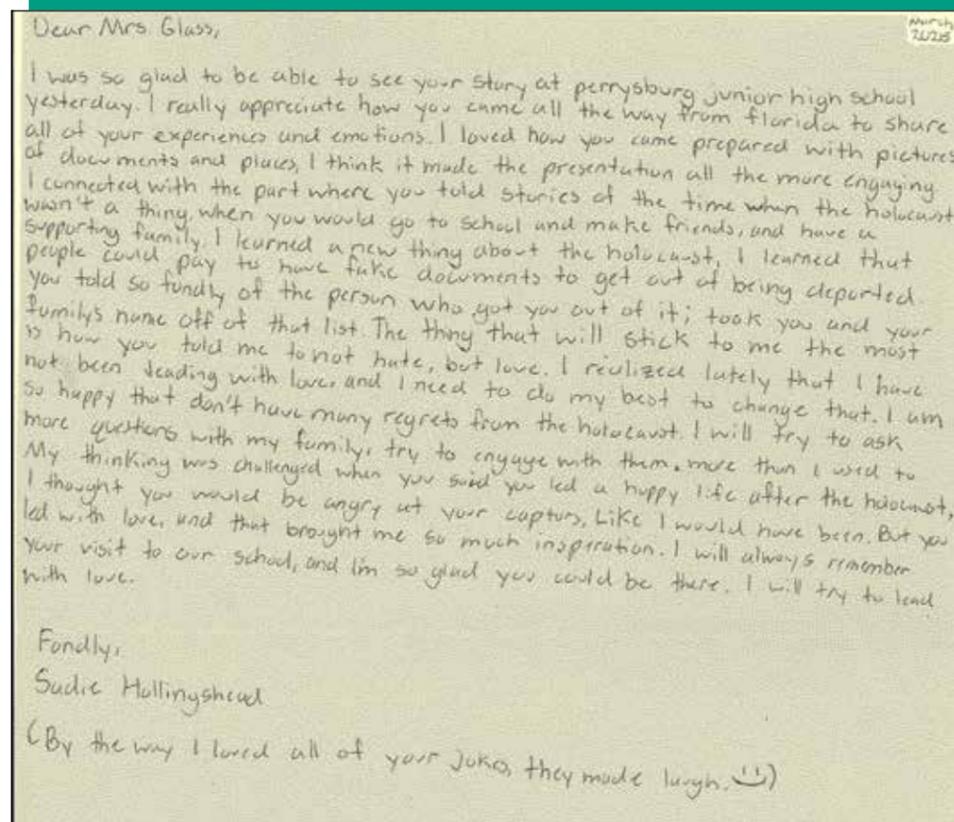
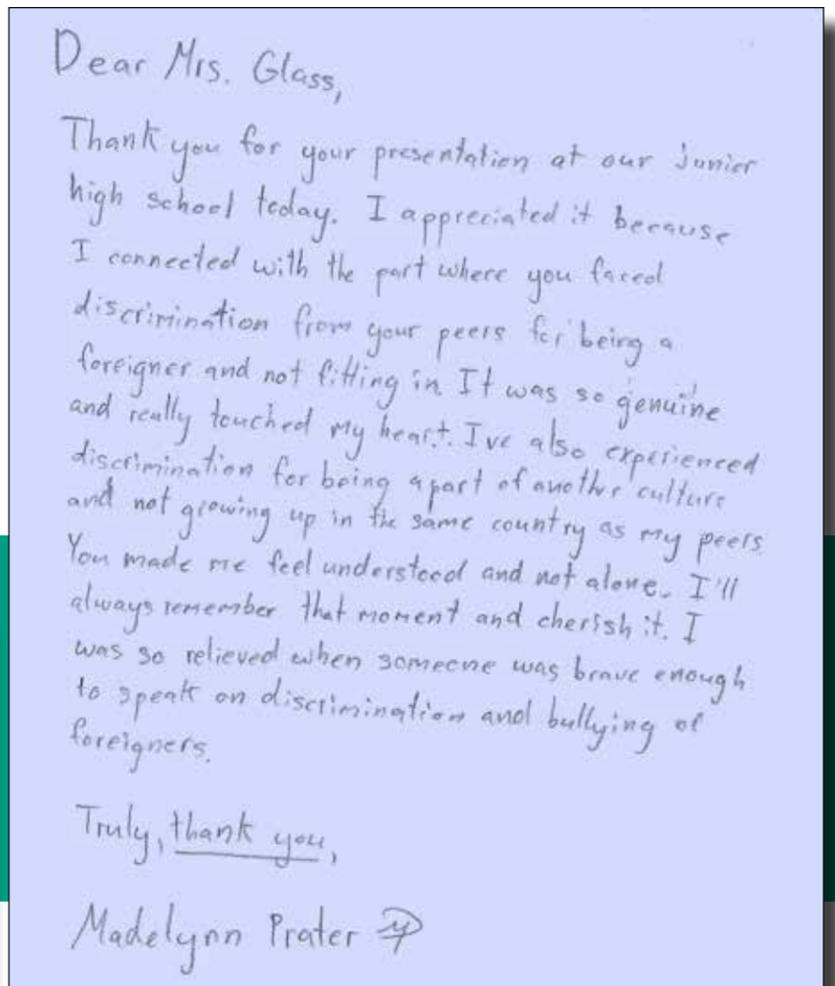
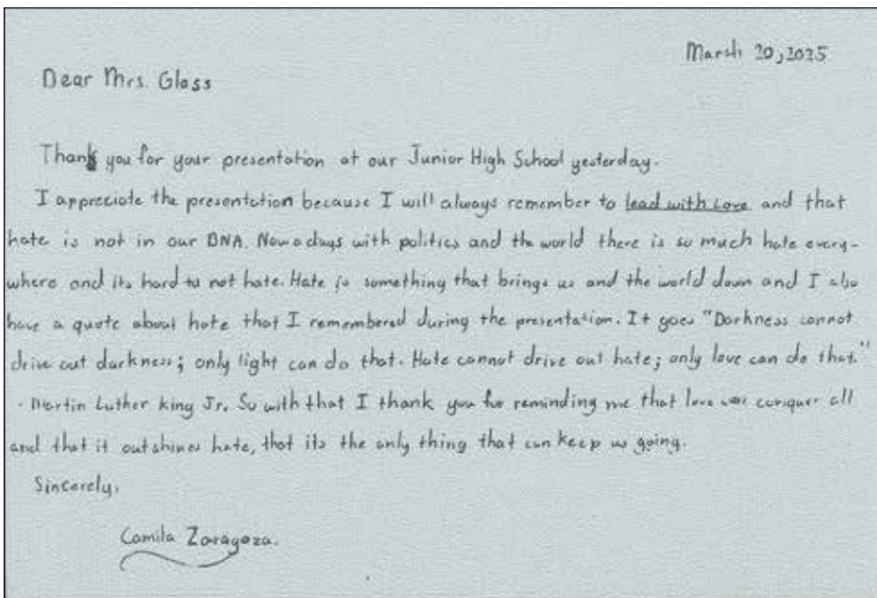
Rodi Glass



(L to R) Andrea Rae Markowicz, Stephen Rothschild (Jewish Federation & Foundation of Greater Toledo CEO), and Rodi Glass



High school students filled the aisle in hopes to ask special guest speaker, Rodi Glass, a question after her inspirational speech



As part of Rodi Glass' visit to Toledo, she also visited Perrysburg Junior High as part of a special presentation wrapping up the school's Holocaust studies unit. Pictured above are a sample of the many letters the 8th grade students wrote after hearing her speak.

# Toledo Jewish News

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May 2025



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Make your contribution to the Annual Campaign online at [www.JewishToledo.org](http://www.JewishToledo.org)

## Jewish Federation and Foundation of Greater Toledo

### Tributes and Memorials

received between March 19 - April 20, 2025

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

#### Arleen R. Levine TJCF Fund for Donor Stewardship

*In Memory of Harriet Goldberg*  
Mr. and Mrs. Jon Levine

#### JSFSS/Meijer Simply Give

*In Celebration of Irina Zaurov Simcha*  
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Lipszyc

#### Hillel419

*In Honor of Steve Edelstein Special Birthday*  
Mr. and Mrs. Joel Beren

#### Long Term Community Needs Fund

*In Honor of Tim Hagen*  
Mr. and Mrs. Lannie Katzman

#### Sherwin & Naomi Kripke SKIP Fund

*In Memory of Bruce Feldman*  
Mr. and Mrs. Harley Kripke

### JFGT Spring/ Summer 2025 Holiday Office Closures:

Date	Day of Week	Holiday	Office Hours
May 26, 2025	Monday	Memorial Day	Closed
June 2, 2025	Monday	SHAVUOT	Closed
June 3, 2025	Tuesday	SHAVUOT	Closed
June 19, 2025	Thursday	Juneteenth	Closed
July 4, 2025	Friday	Independence Day	Closed
September 1, 2025	Monday	Labor Day	Closed
September 22, 2025	Monday	Erev Rosh Hashanah	Close at 1:00 pm
September 23, 2025	Tuesday	Rosh Hashanah	Closed
September 24, 2025	Wednesday	Rosh Hashanah	Closed

#### Time Change

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

## JFGT financial assistance and cancellation policies for programs

### Financial assistance for programs

#### Discreet financial assistance available for Jewish Toledo activities

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

#### Jewish Federation & Foundation of Greater Toledo's Cancellation Policy

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

#### Policy:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

# Jewish Community Relations Council

## Jewish unity: A call to action

By Amichai Stout, JCRC Director

Jewish unity has become a topic of increasing urgency. As the war in Gaza enters its 19th month, our community is grappling with profound questions about what an inclusive, authentic, and self-sustaining global Jewry should look like. Yet in these tense and uncertain times, we must not let these challenges fracture our unity.

The facts are stark: in 2023, Jewish Americans—just 2% of the U.S. population—accounted for 16% of reported hate crime victims. As



of this year, it is estimated that 2.2 billion people—nearly half of the world's adult population—hold deeply entrenched antisemitic views. Even more troubling, 40% of people under the age of 35 believe that Jews are responsible for most of the world's wars.

These trends are not distant abstractions—they're hitting home right here in Toledo. From the

harassment of Jewish students in local schools to the publication of hateful opinion pieces echoing Nazi-era tropes, antisemitism is a persistent and pervasive threat. While we are working tirelessly to combat it and to educate others, the ship feels like it's sinking faster than we can bail out the water. Just this month, I was disinvited from a Multi-Faith Council speaking engagement because my topic—combating antisemitism—was deemed “too controversial.”

If there's one thing our community can agree on, it's that we are at a

critical crossroads in the fight against Jew-hatred and discrimination. In the timeless wisdom of *Pirkei Avot*, Hillel the Elder asks, *Im ein ani li, mi li?*—“If I am not for myself, who will be for me?”

This is not just a personal reflection; it is a collective call to action. Political and theological differences must not distract us from the very real threats we face on all fronts. Now is the time to stand up, speak out, and confront the lies and double standards head-on.

If we don't, who will?

## My Jewish Kitchen: A delicious new venture from Partnership2Gether

By Mary Bilyeu, Community Relations Programming Specialist

What better way is there to build community – and to nurture a Jewish community, at that – than to gather around food?

Especially if that community is like the one that comprises our own Partnership2Gether, which is spread out across the Diaspora from Israel to Budapest to communities throughout the United States?

This was the impetus for Judit Benda, who owns a cooking school in Budapest and works with Partnership, who came up with the original idea for a new online program called My Jewish Kitchen. It's an initiative that brings friends together from Partnership's far-flung regions to talk about food: recipes, memories, ritual items, holidays, travel, questions, and much, much more.

Noemi Nemeth, the manager of My Jewish Kitchen who is also from Budapest, said, “We thought it's a great opportunity to not only focus on senior members, but also involve younger generations to share our conversations.”

Because food, of course, is not a topic that's of interest only to Baby Boomers. And discussions about it offer a way to invite people of all ages to take a seat at the proverbial table.

“After meeting her peers from around the world,” through SlidingDors (Partnership's Second Generation Survivor group), Noemi explained, “[Judit] pointed out how



Idan Ishach Erez  
(Photo by Nir Shaanani)

diverse our kitchens are. What we eat here in the Diaspora, in the middle of Europe, can be completely different [from] how other Jewish households eat on the other side of the world, let alone in Israel.”

She continued: “Here in Hungary, we faced many waves of assimilation, persecution, and flourishment in the Jewish community, so this way some families don't even preserve their roots by the food they eat. This is how the idea came to be, and we are happy to [be hosting] a program that will use the essential part of our celebrations – food – to talk to each other, share beautiful family stories and memories while we share how generations before us prepared dishes and preserved our Jewishness.”

Noemi hopes that My Jewish Kitchen will “grow our Partnership2Gether family even bigger” through meetings held online

four or five times per year. (See the footnote at the end of this story for dates and registration information.) Each program will feature a guest speaker, and there is also a WhatsApp group for continued conversations and sharing of information.

Additionally, she said, there may be “local meetings too, where people can physically get together and cook or taste test or visit local produce or swap recipes with each other.”

The first session of the new program, held on March 2, welcomed guest speaker Idan Ishach Erez, owner of a boutique dried fruit producer in the Western Galilee.

My Jewish Kitchen, she noted, “is not actually a kitchen – it's in the food. The love for the food came because we had so many different kinds of food” grown from the rich farmland of Israel.

“My story starts in the kibbutz,” she continued, as her father had planted more than 60 different kinds of trees where they lived. She later married a man, Nadav, who grows bananas, guavas, oranges, and other fruits.

It was simply *bashert*, then, that the family tradition would continue to grow and flourish with the development of Idan Fruit ([idanfruit.co.il/](http://idanfruit.co.il/)), which produces artisan dried fruits such as all-natural fruit roll-ups and cinnamon-dusted dried banana slices. Idan, for whom the company is named, proudly stated that the produce is harvested in season, when it's most ripe and sweet; dried naturally at low temperatures; and has no added

sugars, colorants, or preservatives.

This work allows her to “combine kitchen and agriculture,” two of her great loves, she said, “from the field to the plate.”

But the war has taken a heavy toll on Idan's business. Rockets hit their factory in March of 2024, and then again just a few months later in June. The second barrage also hit their home, injuring two horses and leaving shrapnel in the house.

They had to rebuild everything, “[start] from scratch, all over again,” she lamented.

But demonstrating true Israeli strength, she quickly added that her family members had not been injured. “Nothing matters but our health.”

Idan and Nadav debated whether to start over again. “You need it,” he told her, and she decided she didn't want to “give in to Hezbollah” by giving up.

It came down to “fight or flight – we decided to fight,” she said proudly.

Once Idan had told her family's story of resilience, My Jewish Kitchen opened to the entire group of two dozen eager participants, who were asked to provide a brief introduction and to tell people about a fondly remembered dish from their childhood homes.

Anita Smulovitz led off, talking about her childhood in Brooklyn, then traveling to Israel at 17 where she met the man she would marry and choosing to stay there with him. “I've always collected recipes,” she said, and

*Kitchen* continued on page 13

## Annual Model Seder brings community together



Approximately 80 community members attended Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo's Annual Model Seder in March, bringing together many Jewish and non-Jewish community guests. It was a meaningful afternoon of listening, singing, questioning, discussion, and learning together.

This program was supported by Temple Shomer Emunim, the Dr. Howard and Mrs. Ann Rosenberg Philanthropic Fund of the Toledo Jewish Community Foundation, and special guests Bethany Community Fellowship.

# Local

## Cemeteries continued from page 2

allow a view of the water.

“You never used to be able to see the river – we never had that before,” Jack noted.

It prompted him to consider expanding the opening. “We should have a better view,” he thought, and mourners “can have a little bit of serenity at the same.”

“We want to get benches,” now, Dave said, “so people can sit and reflect” when they visit their loved ones.

With all the improvements, Jack said that neighbors who live around Eagle Point “are coming up to us and telling us, ‘My, does that look beautiful!’”

## Security reinforcements

The aforementioned fence that was installed for aesthetic reasons also doubles as a security element, Dave noted, because the previous structure was old and damaged, posing potential risks.

Due to rising concerns about antisemitism and incidents of vandalism around the country – including in Ohio, where 176 historic headstones were toppled last summer at the Tifereth Israel Cemetery and the Beth Hamedrash Hagadol Cemetery, both in Cincinnati – the new fencing “will help us control access,” Dave said, and “safeguard our cemeteries.”

In particular, many security measures have been implemented at

Beth Shalom.

Dave and Jack have been overseeing the work, which has included the installation of new cameras to “provide comprehensive coverage throughout the grounds,”

Dave explained.

A thorough assessment of the property identified areas of concern, leading to increased lighting in

Cemeteries continued on page 17



New six-foot-high black aluminum fencing with spear tops has been installed at both Beth Shalom and Eagle Point Cemeteries. Pictured above (left) is Eagle Point Cemetery before and (right) after the installation.

## 2025 Cemetery Closings

### BETH SHALOM CEMETERY

420 Otter Creek Rd.  
Oregon, Ohio 43616

### EAGLE POINT CEMETERY

515 Eagle Point Rd.  
Rossford, Ohio 43460

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

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

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

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





## Partnership2Gether in Jewish Toledo

Real Stories. Real People. Real Connections.



**GOLAN ROSENBERG**  
Director, Matte Asher Community Center



**MEITAL BEHAM**  
Former Evacuee Community Manager, Matte Asher



**SHIMON BUSKILA**  
VP of Marketing, Kfar Masaryk Kibbutz Factory

Join us for a powerful evening of connection and conversation as Jewish Toledo welcomes a visiting delegation from our **Partnership2Gether (P2G) region in the Western Galilee, Israel**. Together, we'll explore how shared values and personal bonds bridge the distance between Israel and Toledo.

**Meet 3 extraordinary Israelis** who will share firsthand stories about life in the Western Galilee—before, during, and after the tragic events of October 7—and reflect on the resilience and challenges their communities have faced over the past 18 months. This is a unique opportunity to engage directly with partners from Israel, hear their experiences, ask questions, and strengthen the living bridge between our communities.

**Monday, May 12 at 6:30 PM**  
Sekach Building, JCC Campus  
**PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED BY MAY 9**  
Light snacks and refreshments served

For questions contact  
**Mary Bilyeu at 419-724-0405 or**  
[mary@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:mary@jewishtoledo.org)

RSVP at <https://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/JCRC-events>







## A TALK WITH DAN FEFERMAN

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

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

**Feferman will provide insights into:**

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

FREE TO THE COMMUNITY

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED BY JUNE 6

[HTTPS://FORM.JOTFORM.COM/JEWISHTOLEDO/JCRC-EVENTS](https://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/JCRC-events)



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11

7 PM AT THE FRANCISCAN CENTER AT LOURDES UNIVERSITY

FOR QUESTIONS CONTACT MARY BILYEU AT 419-724-0405 OR [MARY@JEWISHTOLEDO.ORG](mailto:MARY@JEWISHTOLEDO.ORG)

# Local

## Jewish Men's Club

On April 1, seventy-five men from across the Toledo Jewish community welcomed Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost at the monthly Toledo Jewish Men's Club (TJMC) luncheon at The Beirut.

Attorney General Yost enlightened the group about his role as chief legal officer in Ohio, serving as legal counsel to state government agencies and legislatures, and representing the public interest. Also, as an announced Republican candidate for the 2026 Ohio gubernatorial election, he shared his vision for the future of Ohio.

Following his remarks and a lengthy Q&A session, Mr. Yost was presented with a copy of "The History of Jewish Toledo" and a bound 1957 Ohio



Jerry Russell, Elliot Sells, and Stan Zupnick share a fist-bump with Ohio AG Dave Yost

State Law Journal article titled, "Substantive Due Process in the United States Revisited." The co-authors were two law students completing their final year of studies, John Hoskins and David Katz.

John Hoskins went on to become a career Foreign Service Officer with the U.S. Agency for International Development. Notably he was posted to Saigon (Ho-Chi-Minh City) in 1962 as the legal advisor to the USAID Mission. David Katz continued forward in a successful law practice in Toledo until becoming a United States Federal Judge in 1994.

In his closing remarks thanking Mr. Yost, Joel Beren shared a quote by the first Jewish United States Supreme Court Justice, Louis Brandeis, "If the government becomes a lawbreaker, it breeds contempt for law; it invites every man to become a law unto himself; it invites anarchy."

Beren concluded, "Given the chaos of current events in our country, Justice Brandeis' wise words take on contemporary meaning. I genuinely believe the candidate who best understands the meaning of that quote is the one deserving of our vote for Governor of Ohio."

April's event was the second anniversary of the TJMC and saw the largest attendance to date. The Toledo Jewish Men's Club closes out the year on May 6 with a visit by Canadian Consul General Colin Bird (an expert on international trade) and on June 3 the 180th Tactical Fighter Wing at Toledo Express Airport is hosting the TJMC for the last event of the '24-'25 program year with lunch and tour of the base.

The Toledo Jewish Men's Club is open to all



AG Yost addresses the crowd



Stan Rudy greets the AG while Beryl Ravin stands "on-deck"!

men in the Toledo Jewish Community. There are no dues, no officers, no charter, no solicitations, or sharing of its roster. The "Club" meets ten times a year, from September to June. For additional information please contact Joel Beren at joel@bereneq.com.

## Whitwell Middle School in Chattanooga educates against hatred

By Stephen Rothschild, CEO, Jewish Federation and Foundation of Greater Toledo

During the Jewish Federations of North America Small Federation Executive Conference in Chattanooga, TN recently, I had the profound experience of visiting Whitwell Middle School, home of the Paper Clips project. This initiative, started as a classroom lesson on the Holocaust in 1998, evolved into a powerful memorial and a testament to the impact of education in combating hatred.

### The Paper Clips Project and its Impact

Whitwell students, in their effort to grasp the enormity of six million Jewish lives lost, collected six million paper clips, which are now housed in a Nazi railcar that was once used to transport Jews to the camps and that now stands as a testament to the reality and horrors of the Holocaust. Seeing this memorial firsthand was deeply moving. Principal Linda Hoover, now in her 80s, met us and shared how this project transformed students' understanding of history, fostering empathy and awareness beyond textbooks.

### Personal Reflections

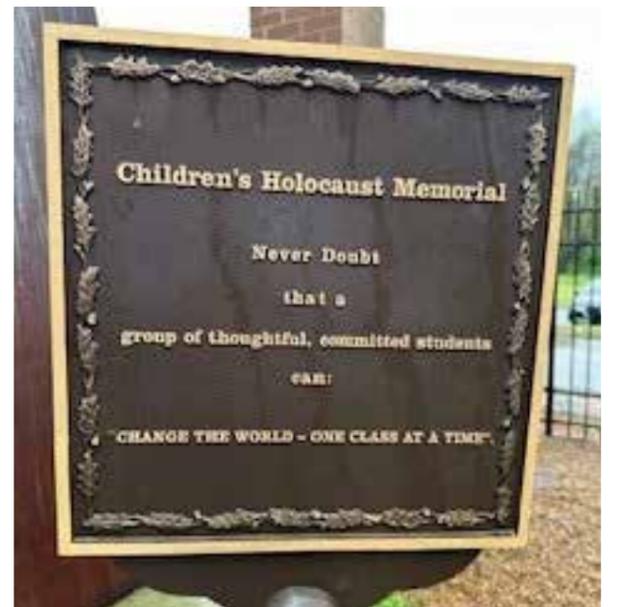
Standing before the railcar, I felt an overwhelming sense of responsibility. The Paper Clips project is a powerful reminder that education can bridge cultural gaps and inspire action. Whitwell is an overwhelmingly Christian community of just over 1,700 people. We were given a tour of the Children's Holocaust Memorial by eighth grade docents who are

continuing to share the Paper Clip project's message nearly 25 years after it began.

### Bringing Holocaust Education Home

Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo, together with the work of Hindea Markowicz, Director

of the Ruth Fajerman Markowicz Holocaust Resource Center, like the Whitwell Middle School, continue working to ensure that future generations remember the Holocaust's lessons and the dangers of intolerance.





**OPENING NIGHT**

**Bad Shabbos**

**Monday, June 30 at 7 p.m. | Southview High School**  
**Coffee bar, popcorn, candy, and take-home shabbat sets**

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

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

**Welcome to Yiddishland**

**Monday, July 7 at 7 p.m. | Southview High School**  
**Coffee bar, popcorn, and candy**

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

**information**

**Location and time for all films:**

First 4 films are at **Southview High School Auditorium, 7225 Sylvania Ave.** The closing night film is at **Lourdes University Franciscan Center, 6832 Convent Blvd.**  
**All films begin at 7 p.m.**

**Ticket prices**

**General admission:** \$10 per film, per person  
**Series package:** \$45 all 5 dates, per person

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

**How to purchase your tickets**

**By phone:** 419-724-0351  
**By email:** sherry@jewishtoledo.org  
**Online:** form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/films2025  
**At the door:** first come, first serve



**Concessions**

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

**Parking**

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

**Questions:**

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

**Midas Man**

**Monday, July 14 at 7 p.m. | Southview High School**  
**Coffee bar, popcorn, and candy**

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

**Everything's Kosher**

**Monday, July 21 at 7 p.m. | Southview High School**  
**Coffee bar, popcorn, and Bavarian pretzel & mustard bar**

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

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



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

**CLOSING NIGHT**

**Forked**

**Monday, July 28 at 7 p.m. | Lourdes University Franciscan Center**  
**Coffee bar, popcorn, and candy**

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

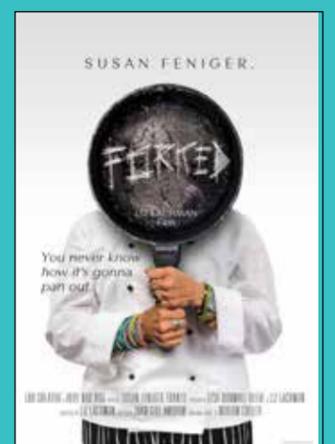
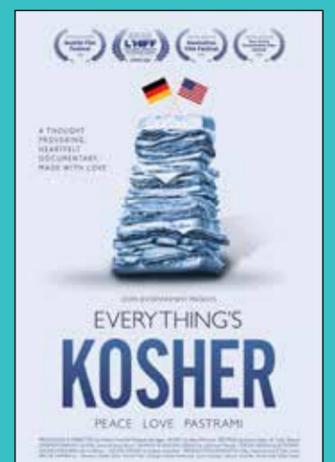
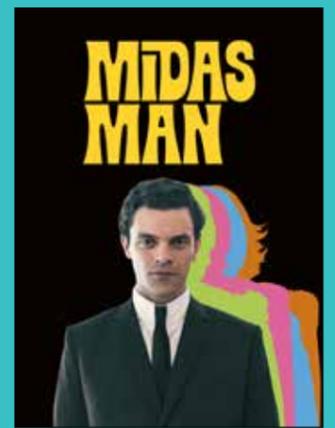
**FEATURING** SPECIAL GUESTS,



SUSAN FENIGER AND LIZ LACHMAN  
**SUSAN FENIGER** is an American chef, restaurateur, cookbook author, radio and TV personality. She is known for starring in the cooking show *Too Hot Tamales* and *Tamales World Tour* on the Food Network, *Iron Chef*, *Top Chef Masters*, *Cooking with the Master Chefs*, and more. She has received a James Beard Award, a Lifetime Achievement Award from the California Restaurant Association, the LA Times Jonathan Gold Award, and, in 2018, Feniger and partner Mary Sue Milliken were named the recipients of the Julia Child Award from The Julia Child Foundation for Gastronomy and the Culinary Arts.



**LIZ LACHMAN** is an Emmy Award winning musician, and a Golden Reel Award winning music editor. *Forked* is Liz's debut feature film. Liz is currently in development on the feature narrative psychological thriller, *Pin-Up*, which she wrote and will direct.



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

## MAY PROGRAMS & HOLIDAYS



### YOM HA'ATZMAUT

Thursday, May 1

### SENIORS: FELT KNITTING

Seniors  
Sekach Building

Thursday, May 1  
Noon - 2 p.m.

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### YOM HA'ATZMAUT CELEBRATION

Community  
Congregation B'nai Israel

Thursday, May 1  
7 p.m.

### PJ PLAYDATE

Young Families  
Gan Yeladim Preschool

Sunday, May 4  
9:30 a.m.

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### LADIES WHO LUNCH

Jewish Toledo Women 60 and Under  
Rosie's Italian Grille

Tuesday, May 6  
Noon - 1 p.m.

### SENIORS: CREATE & RELATE SESSION 3

Seniors  
Sekach Building

Thursday, May 8  
Noon - 2 p.m.

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### PARTNERSHIP2GETHER IN JEWISH TOLEDO

Community  
Sekach Building

Monday, May 12  
6:30 p.m.

Page 7

### LAGB'OMER

Friday, May 16

### SENIORS: TRAVELING OPERA

Seniors  
Temple Shomer Emunim

Tuesday, May 20  
Noon - 1:30 p.m.

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### MEMORIAL DAY

Monday, May 26  
Federation offices closed

\*All information subject to  
change with updates posted on

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



@jewishtoledo

## Happy Tears

By Lauren Sachs

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

Sometimes, when I hear the sound of a plane engine overhead, I am suddenly jolted back to August of 2020 and the day my husband died. Since Brad passed away in the early part of the pandemic, social distancing and time spent outdoors were a regular part of daily life. As we accepted visitors who wanted to pay their respects in our backyard, the engine sounds became a frequent refrain, leading me to associate that particular rumbling with his loss. Early on in my bereavement, the noise had a comforting quality. It helped me feel connected to Brad and somehow bolstered my sense that things might get better someday. As time went on and the pandemic eventually came to a close, my reaction to the sound also changed. Now, depending on the day that I hear it, I may simply have a moment of wistfulness. Alternately, I may feel an intense rush of emotion wash over me. On the latter days, it is as though I am momentarily grieving his loss anew, recollecting not only the pain of his demise but also missing the things that made Brad uniquely himself. Especially at those times, I find myself thinking about Brad's sense of humor, his strong moral compass, his playful demeanor, and his tremendous intellect.

As the chill in the air has lifted and spring has fully declared itself, I am once again spending more time outdoors and regularly hearing that most evocative of sounds. Just as the seasons constantly ebb and flow, I know that I have also gone through several phases of evolution since losing my husband. After Brad died, I wanted nothing more than for change to come. Given the intense loneliness and longing of my early loss, I yearned for a time in the future when I could once again feel settled in my life and anchored by a reassuring and mutual love. At that time, I was also petrified of the unknown before me. Still, I knew I could only hope for renewed happiness by seeking out a new path, allowing the time ahead to unfold with whatever twists and turns lay before me.

In my case, to find healing, I had to learn how to grow into my



future. Beyond simply accepting that change was an inevitable part of life, to truly start feeling better I needed to realize that there was no going back to the past. I obviously took time to grieve my husband's death, but also needed to stop resisting my future. One day in my spousal loss support group, our facilitator handed out a sheet full of positive affirmations for grief. I was particularly struck by the first one on the page. It read, "Today, I choose to heal." It would be a gross oversimplification to suggest that healing from loss is this straightforward. Still, I can honestly say from personal experience I learned to palliate the pain of my loss by making a conscious decision to find a path toward restorative health and wellness.

As I worked towards assuaging the heartache of my grief, I also needed to let go of the guilt I felt about moving forward in my life without my husband. Eventually I realized that choosing to heal is not about forgetting the past. Because I finally understood that the best way to honor his zest for life was to find my own, I could simultaneously stay connected to him while moving forward on my own. And even though the rumbling of a plane's engine can still bring a tear to my eye, most often they are the sort of happy tears that help me feel gratitude for my past, as well as a sense of joy and peace with the present.

# Youth and Young Professionals



Cleveland Shinshinim (service year Israeli emissaries) Ziv and Michelle came to Toledo in early April. They are high school graduates serving the Cleveland Jewish community prior to their mandatory Israeli army service. They spent much of their time in Toledo with local BBYO teens, playing Israel-themed games and engaging in lighthearted team building exercises.

*The ShinShinim program is the "year of service program" that offers Israeli high school graduates an opportunity to delay mandatory service in the Israel Defense Forces and serve Diaspora communities for up to 10 months. The program allows communities to meet young Israeli ambassadors who perform meaningful service prior to entering the army. A growing program, the number of ShinShinim in Jewish communities more than quadrupled over the last decade.*



In 1948, as Israel fought for its independence, the medics of Magen David Adom were there, treating wounded soldiers and civilians alike. Today, as Israel celebrates Yom HaAtzma'ut, MDA is still treating the injured — even under fire. But for MDA to continue being there for Israel, we need to be there for MDA. **Make a donation at [afmda.org/give](http://afmda.org/give).**



Israel's Emergency Services System

## Central Trail Elementary hosts International Night 2025

Families from Central Trail Elementary School in Sylvania came together on April 11 for the bi-annual International Night. Hallways and classrooms were transformed into colorful, interactive displays, each showcasing a different country through music, food, crafts, and visual story boards.

A highlight of the evening was the Israel room, hosted by a dedicated group of local moms – Rabbi Lisa Delson, Hallie Freed, Courtney Levine, and Laurel Weatherford. Guests learned about Israeli culture,

holidays, and geography while sampling delicious Israeli snacks.

Thank you to Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo for the generous donation of Bissli to this event!



**TOLEDO JEWISH YOUNG PROFESSIONALS**  
*Networking Event*  
**Thursday, May 29 | 6 p.m.**

Mix, mingle, and connect with fellow young Jewish professionals (from all fields/sectors and stages of career) and local Jewish business leaders.

Contact [marnie@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:marnie@jewishtoledo.org) for the location, to register, or learn more!

**PJ & GAN PLAYDATES**

FOR LITTLES AGES 0-4 AND THEIR FAVORITE GROWNUP

**PJ Library** | **GAN ELADIM Preschool**

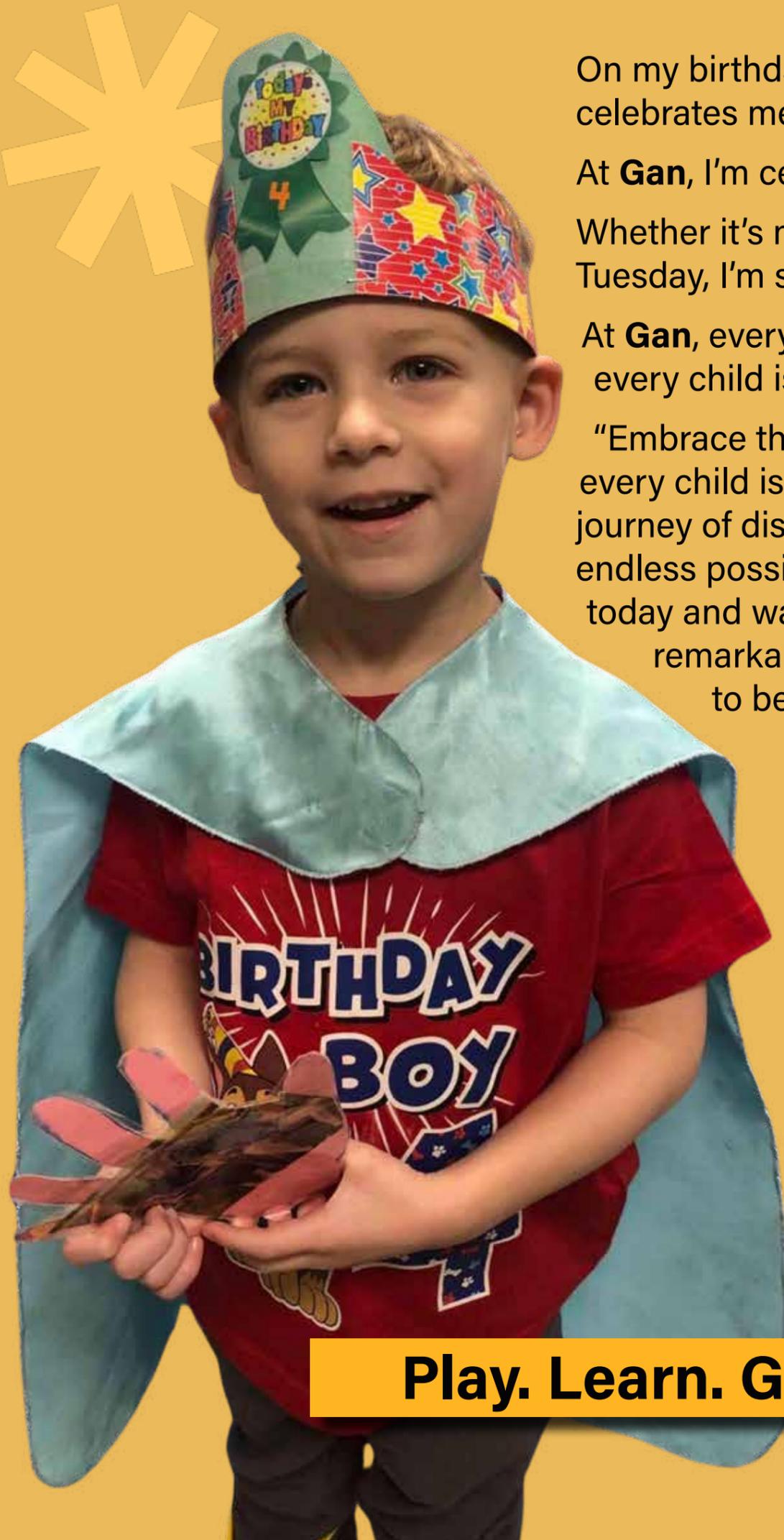
Co-sponsored by Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo and Chabad  
Supported by the Federation's Annual Campaign

**FREE** Please bring personal care item(s) or paper product(s) for donation.

**Sun., May 4**  
**Spring is here**  
9:30 – 10:30 a.m.  
Gan Yeladim Preschool,  
6505 Sylvania Ave.

**Register:**  
Sherry Majewski at  
419-724-0351 or  
[sherry@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:sherry@jewishtoledo.org).  
**Questions?**  
Marnie at  
[marnie@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:marnie@jewishtoledo.org)  
or 419-724-0365.

# I am special!



On my birthday, everyone remembers and celebrates me.

At **Gan**, I'm celebrated every day!

Whether it's my big day or a regular Tuesday, I'm seen, loved, and nurtured.

At **Gan**, every child shines — because every child is a treasure.

"Embrace the magic of childhood, where every child is unique, and each day is a journey of discovery, imagination, and endless possibilities. Enroll your little ones today and watch them blossom into the remarkable individuals they were born to be."

**Enroll today and watch your child grow in strength and mindfulness!**

**We specialize in happy children.**

**Play. Learn. Grow. Celebrate.**



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

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



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

**Kitchen** continued from page 6

ב"ה

*You're Invited*  
to our Year-End Celebration



**VISION BEYOND SIGHT:**  
An Evening with the trailblazing  
**Justice Richard Bernstein**



Joanne Galler Rubin  
**Friendship Circle**  
Co-sponsored by  
Chabad and Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo

Justice Richard Bernstein became the first blind justice on the Michigan Supreme Court in November 2014. Prior to being elected to Michigan's highest court, Justice Bernstein was known as a tireless advocate for disability rights as an attorney. Committed to taking action to help clients who needed him, Justice Bernstein's cases often set national standards protecting the rights and safety of people with and without disabilities. Bernstein is also an avid endurance athlete, having completed over 20 marathons, an Ironman, and a half Ironman. He dedicates his life to advocating for those with special needs and is a dear friend of The Friendship Circle network. We are honored to host him in Toledo.

**MONDAY, MAY 12, 2025 | 6 PM**  
THE FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE - 2728 KING ROAD  
LIGHT DINNER WILL BE SERVED | [RSVP CHABADTOLEDO.COM/FRIENDSHIP](https://www.chabadtoledo.com/friendship)  
COUVERT: \$18 VOLUNTEERS: FREE

*Honoring*  
The Memory of  
**Charley Bauer**

*Celebrating*  
The Teens & Young Adults  
of **The Friendship Circle**

The Friendship Circle of Toledo is generously sponsored by  
**Paul Goldner and Sandy Soifer**

ב"ה

*Celebrating*  
The Teens & Young Adults of **The Friendship Circle**

Jack Bauer	Sophie Hamilton	Jacob Payne
Rafi Berns	Callie Hess	Emma Payne
Drew Cochran	Lila Hippert	Ana Pacheco De Loera
Josh Corman	Estella Kairis	Max Rhodes
Kieran Corwin	Cobin Katz	Julia Rhodes
May Darrow	Harlie Kerper	Sully Riley
Ellery Freed	Josh Kerper	Chloe Rothschild
Gabe Green	Owen Kruse	Rachel Rubin
Ellie Greenberg	Cooper Kruse	Emily Rusgo
Addie Greenberg	Clint Lingan	Isaac Saltzman
Cayden Greenblatt	Ilana Miller	Benji Saltzman
Max Greenblatt	Reagan Miller	Colin Thaler
Reece Hall	Carly Nusbaum	Wyatt Tuschman
Sarah Hamilton	Michael Pasternak	Luke Vincent

Joanne Galler  
**Friendship Circle**  
Co-sponsored by  
Chabad and Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo

asked if perhaps My Jewish Kitchen group members could share some with each other. She volunteered to translate Hebrew dishes into English for those who need assistance.

Like many others who chimed in with fond memories of grandparents or of shared meals with multiple generations, Janet Hodes of Louisville stated that at a family gathering in honor of her mother-in-law's yahrzeit, "most of their memories were about food."

Isn't that so often the case among Jews? Which is, of course, the very heart of My Jewish Kitchen!

Many of Ashkenazi heritage offered remembrances of favorite dishes such as kasha varnishkes, blintzes, and stuffed cabbage. Liraz Tenenbaum, the child of an Iraqi mother, shared a memory of a long-simmered dish of meat with walnuts and cinnamon; someone else noted that it sounded similar to tzimmes, and the group celebrated the commonality of Jewish cuisine along with its delicious variations.

As Judit noted, each home's dietary traditions are unique in their own ways, even with shared history, so My Jewish Kitchen serves as an opportunity for Jews within the Partnership to share their experiences of the culinary Diaspora by remembering, comparing, contrasting, and learning together.

"I'm really very happy to have this program here," Judit said with a bright smile to everyone on the Zoom screen, already enjoying the success that had blossomed from her original glimmer of idea.

Finally, as this first session was held just before Tu B'Shevat, participants were asked to talk about their upcoming holiday celebrations.

Of course, there would be seders featuring dried fruits and the Seven Species of Israel. A kindergarten teacher offered that in her class, "the kids bring in a basket of fruits and share it with each other." Susan Katz of Peoria, who'd helped to establish My Jewish Kitchen, pointed out that it's unfortunately too cold during later winter in the United States for planting – one of the traditional activities for the New Year of the Trees.

In closing, Idan noted that the holiday was providing a new impetus to plant trees again in Israel, creating roots that would let the people continue to thrive.

"This is our land," she said passionately. "No one is going to take us away from it."

*My Jewish Kitchen will continue with Zoom meetings on June 8, September 28, and December 7. For more information, contact Noemi Nemeth at [NoemiN@jafi.org](mailto:NoemiN@jafi.org). To register for upcoming sessions, go to [tinyurl.com/38adw8kk](https://tinyurl.com/38adw8kk).*

# Active Life for 60+



**3**  
**CREATE & RELATE**  
**2025**

**Create & Relate 2025 – Session Three**

Thursday, May 8  
Noon – 2 p.m.  
Sekach Building, 6505 Sylvania Ave.  
\$5 OR bring a donation of personal care item(s) for the JSFSS Family Food Pantry

Includes yoga, light refreshments, and sound bath

Noon – 1 p.m. – Sound Bath with Kim Post  
1:15 – 2 p.m. – Adaptive Yoga

Join us for an afternoon of relaxation and mindfulness.

RSVP by Friday, May 2 to  
form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/seniors  
or Sherry Majewski at 419-724-0351  
or sherry@jewishtoledo.org.

*Save the Date*  
**Create & Relate 2025 – Session Four**  
July 10, 2025





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TOLEDO OPERA'S OPERA ON WHEELS  
**BEAUTY AND THE BEAST**

## Traveling Opera Jewish Federation & Foundation OF GREATER TOLEDO

**Tuesday, May 20**

12 - 1:30 p.m.

Temple Shomer Emunim, 6453 Sylvania Ave.

Annual Campaign Donors: \$15 per person

Non-donors to the Annual Campaign: \$25 per person

Includes lunch and performance

Why travel to the opera when the opera can come to you? Join us for an enjoyable afternoon of world-class entertainment as the Amazing Toledo Traveling Opera presents a breathtaking performance of *Beauty and the Beast*. Enjoy a delicious lunch surrounded by friends, then sit back and be transported by the magic of live opera, performed up close in an intimate setting.



RSVP by Monday, May 12 to [form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/seniors](http://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/seniors) or Sherry Majewski at [sherry@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:sherry@jewishtoledo.org) or 419-724-0351.

# Active Life for 60+

## EXPLORE COLUMBUS!

**Thursday, June 12**

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

Annual Campaign donors - \$25  
Non-donors to the Annual Campaign - \$40

*Includes museum admission, lunch, and transportation*

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



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



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



## Knitz'maut

**Thursday, May 1**

12 – 2 p.m.

Sekach Building, 6505 Sylvania Ave.

Annual Campaign donors - \$10  
Non-donors to the Annual Campaign - \$20

*Includes lunch and supplies*



Join us to celebrate Yom Ha'Atzmaut, Israel's Independence Day, at Knitz'Maut!

Enjoy a relaxing afternoon of hands-on creativity taught by instructors from the 577 Foundation, plus have lunch and learn about Israel's journey to independence. Whether you're an experienced crafter or trying needle felting for the first time, this event is perfect for all skill levels. Let's stitch together memories as we mark this special occasion. We can't wait to celebrate with you.



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



## Get Fit Classes

**Monday**

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

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

**Cardio Drumming, 12-1pm**

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

**Wednesday**

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

(see description above)

**Ballet Fusion, 12-1pm**

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

**Friday**

**Zumba, 9-10am  
Foundation Fitness, 10am-11am**

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

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



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



**YouTube**

## Come Sail Away with Me, Detroit Princess Riverboat Cruise



**Thursday, July 17**

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

Annual Campaign donors - \$20  
Non-donors to the Annual Campaign - \$40

*Includes Detroit Princess boat cruise, lunch, and transportation*



Set sail with us for a spectacular Detroit River cruise, where breathtaking skyline views meet the legendary sounds of Motown! Take in iconic sights of Detroit and Windsor, all while enjoying the smooth, soulful tunes of The Prolifics, a top-tier Motown tribute group.

A delicious buffet meal will be served during our cruise. While kosher options are not available, we are pleased to offer a variety of vegetarian selections to accommodate dietary needs.

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



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

# Active Life for 60+

## Pre-Passover activities a hit for our Jewish Toledo seniors



Jewish Toledo seniors enjoyed a delightful and unique experience with Stephanie Reidy of Dreaming of Pearls, diving into the fascinating world of pearl shucking and creating their very own sterling silver necklace. It was an afternoon filled with laughter, creativity, and a touch of elegance.



Nearly three dozen Jewish Toledo seniors spent a day in the Detroit area in early April, having adventures that were both fun and educational. They started with a delicious kosher lunch at Chef Cari's Ess In Company before heading to the Zekelman Holocaust Center in Farmington Hills for a poignant and sobering tour. A quick stop at Zeman's Bakery offered an opportunity to acquire a last batch of chametz, and then everyone was able to do their Passover shopping at The Grove kosher supermarket. It was a long day, but one very well spent!



With just a little more than two days to the first night of Passover, our local seniors enjoyed a delightful afternoon creating a beautiful centerpiece for their seder tables with Beautiful Blooms by Jen.

# Jewish Senior, Family and Social Services

## TECH TIPS

Privacy and security continue to be of increased importance as more of our daily life finds itself online.

For the sake of this article's length, I've chosen to focus on web browser security.

Please see the following suggestions for guidance when ensuring that your online presence is as secure as it can possibly be.

Periodically, check the settings on your browser, whether on your cell, tablet, or computer. Each browser (Firefox, Chrome, Safari...) lists similar options. Browser settings are usually located in a menu near the top-right of the browser window.

Ideally, your browser security and privacy settings will be balanced: both strong but still flexible so that your browsing experience isn't interrupted or slow by being too restrictive. Many settings allow for options to be adjusted on a sliding scale.

Key terms to zero-in on: cookies, pop-ups, and trusted sites. If need be, google these for additional information as you make decisions.

Until next month – Tim



(Tech Time with Tim)

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

### Upcoming Tech Programs

- Wednesday, May 7: Device Advice** – Exploring privacy and security for home Internet networks
- Wednesday, May 21: Device Advice** – Exploring privacy and security for web browsers

**Tech Tuesday programs are held on Tuesday evening, 6-7:30 p.m.:**  
Upcoming dates TBA

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

### 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)

## Cemeteries continued from page 7

addition to the new visual equipment that's been placed strategically.

"We are deploying a network of high-resolution cameras equipped with night vision capabilities to monitor all areas effectively," Dave continued. "These cameras will ensure 24/7 surveillance and have an alert system that notifies designated personnel in real-time of any trespassing incidents during closed hours."

These essential security upgrades were paid for through the Nonprofit Security Grant Program sponsored by the Ohio Emergency Management Agency.

### Resting in peace

All of these improvements have helped to establish an even more "peaceful environment for all visitors," Dave noted, as Federation and the Cemetery Association are always striving "to enhance the safety and beauty of our beloved [cemeteries]."

The recent aesthetic and security additions, he added, "reflect our

commitment to maintaining the integrity and security of our historic sites."

Jack pointed out that, in May, he'll have been working at the cemeteries for 28 years.

"The thing with this job – if you don't love what you do, you don't belong here," he said. He added that he feels good about what he does, when he goes to sleep at night.

"I feel like I work for G-d," Jack said with gratitude and humility. To do this work, "I think it's a blessing." He was very touched to consider that his conscientious efforts constitute some of the greatest mitzvot: ones that are done with consummate altruism, as they cannot be reciprocated by the beneficiaries.

Jewish Toledo is grateful to Dave and Jack, as well as to groundskeepers Nolan Fisher and David Sartin and the TJCCA Board of Directors, for their dedication to *chesed shel emet*.

Through their efforts, we are ensuring continued respect and dignity for our community members who've been laid to rest – may their memories be for a blessing.



Beth Shalom Cemetery

## The 36TH ANNUAL INTERFAITH BLOOD DRIVE



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

**Do a mitzvah and help save someone's life!**  
**For questions or clarification contact Devorah Shulamit at 419-356-5280 or shalom1836@bex.net.**

### IN UNITY AND FRIENDSHIP

## HOW TO CONTACT JSFSS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

# Temple Shomer Emunim .....

**Shabbat with Cantor Roher**  
Friday, May 2 at 6pm

**Shabbat Yoga: Body and Soul**  
Saturday, May 3 at 10:30am

**Shabbat Unplugged**  
Friday, May 9 at 6pm

**Bar Mitzvah Nolan Greenblatt**  
Saturday, May 10 at 10:30am

**Shabbat with Rabbi Delson and Dr. Andrew Pelletier**  
Friday, May 16 at 6pm  
During this Shabbat service, we will celebrate with three people who have chosen Judaism for themselves.

**Torah Today**  
Saturday, May 17 at 9:30am  
Join Rabbi Delson for an interactive conversation about the weekly Torah portion: Emor. No experience necessary. All are welcome.

**Shabbat with Janet Rogolsky and Dr. Andrew Pelletier**  
Friday, May 23 at 6pm

**Shabbat with Rabbi Delson and Dr. Andrew Pelletier**  
Friday, May 30 at 6pm  
This service is followed by a special oneg, celebrating Pam Jackson on her retirement.



## Camp Kayitz

**June 16-20**  
**SUMMER 2025**

**Temple Shomer Emunim**  
Please register with payment no later than Tuesday, May 20, 2025



**The Gift of Mindfulness**  
**Wednesday, May 7 at 7pm**

Join us for the Temple's mindfulness program. We will explore different dimensions of mindfulness practice - different kinds of meditation, Jewish text study, small group conversations, and real-life practices that you can carry into your everyday life.  
You can join in person OR join on Zoom: contact the office for information to join on Zoom.

### Confirmation Service - Save the date

Our confirmation class will lead services on Sunday, June 1. Dinner is at 5:30PM followed by services at 7PM. The confirmation student and 2 adults are included in the Confirmation fee. Additional guests are \$18 per person. Please RSVP to [wpayne@templese.com](mailto:wpayne@templese.com) no later than Tuesday, May 20.



### Shabbat Unplugged

**Friday, May 9 at 6pm**  
Join us for Shabbat Unplugged, a relaxed musical service for all ages with participation by our talented musical congregants. We will sing our way through the service and have a brief teaching from the Torah. Bring some spirit into your Shabbat!

# Congregation B'nai Israel .....



**CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL**

6525 SYLVANIA AVE., SYLVANIA, OHIO 43560 • 419.517.8400 • CBITOLEDO.ORG

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

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

### CBI Scholar in Residence Weekend: with Rabbi Daniel Z. Stein

Friday & Saturday, May 16-17, 2025

- **Kabbalat Shabbat Service, Delicious Shabbat Dinner, & lecture with Rabbi Stein** Friday Evening, May 16, 2025 5:45 PM at CBI
- **Shabbat Morning Services with Rabbi Stein** Sat., May 17, 2025 9:30 AM In-Person & Livestream
- **Mincha & Third Meal with Rabbi Stein** Sat., May 17, 2025 5:45 PM at CBI

Cost is \$18 per person for the Shabbat dinner. The Third Meal is FREE for CBI members and \$5 for guests.

RSVP to the CBI office at 419.517.8400 or email Kim Brody at [kbrody@cbitoledo.org](mailto:kbrody@cbitoledo.org) by May 9th.

**Parashat Hashavuah: Torah Portion of the Week Discussion**  
Fridays in May at 11 AM at CBI

### Connecting Kids to Meals Volunteer Event

Thu., May 8, 2025 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
Cherry Street Mission Building, 1501 Monroe St.  
RSVP Kim Brody at [kbrody@cbitoledo.org](mailto:kbrody@cbitoledo.org) to by May 7th.

### CBI Office Closed

Monday, May 26th Memorial Day

### ISRAELI INDEPENDENCE DAY

#### Community Yom HaAztmaut Celebration

Thursday, May 1, 2025 7:00 PM at CBI

Join us as special guests will be featured in celebration of 77 years of Jewish Statehood.

Register online: <https://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/JCRC-events> or with Mary Bilyeu at [mary@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:mary@jewishtoledo.org).

### WCBI CELEBRATES: Rosh Chodesh Sivan

Thursday, May 29, 2025 11 AM at CBI

Chef and cheese expert, Liz Donaldson, will share how different cheeses are made. A delicious lunch incorporating many varieties of cheeses discussed in the presentation will be served. The Tikkun Olam for this program is a monetary donation to Connecting Kids to Meals.

A registration fee of \$15 in cash or check (made payable to Women of CBI) will be collected at the door when you arrive.

RSVP to Miriam Beckerman at [mesb@bex.net](mailto:mesb@bex.net) by May 22nd.

**OPEN TO THE WOMEN OF ALL LOCAL CONGREGATIONS**

### Join us for Canasta!

Tuesdays in May at 12:30 - 3:00 PM at CBI

If you are interested in playing, please contact Rhoda Miller at [rmiller@cbitoledo.org](mailto:rmiller@cbitoledo.org).

### SAVE THE DATE:

#### 2025 SHAVUOT TIKKUN & DINNER with Hazzan Lichterman

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

Cost is \$10 per person is \$10 for the dairy dinner. Cost is \$15 for guests (non-members).

You must RSVP to attend the dinner. Contact Kim Brody at [kbrody@cbitoledo.org](mailto:kbrody@cbitoledo.org) by May 26th.

#### Sunday, June 1: Erev Shavuot & Tikkun

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

#### Monday, June 2: Shavuot Day 1

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

#### Tuesday, June 3: Shavuot Day 2

9:30 AM Morning Service - In Person/Live Stream  
10:45 AM YIZKOR

### SAVE THE DATE: CBI Annual Meeting

Sunday, June 8, 2025 11:00 AM, at CBI  
Refreshments will be served.

RSVP to the office by June 2nd by calling 419.517.8400.

### WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE

- Monday Morning Minyan: 8:00 AM - In Person/Zoom
- Thursday Morning Minyan: 8:00 AM - In Person/Zoom
- Monday - Thursday Evening Minyan: 5:45 PM - Zoom
- Friday Evening Kabbalat Shabbat: 5:45 PM - Zoom
- Saturday Morning Shabbat: 9:30 AM - In Person/Live Stream
- Sunday Morning Minyan: 9:30 AM - In-Person/Zoom  
(When Religious School is in session)

# Congregation Etz Chayim .....

## SHABBAT SERVICES WITH RABBI JASON MARK

Come and enjoy a spiritual Shabbat weekend with Rabbi Jason Mark.

A delicious pre-Shabbat dinner will be served on Friday, May 2 at 5:30 p.m. at the home of Ken & Aileen Pargament. Following dinner, Rabbi Mark will lead an interesting D'var Torah and discussion.

Everyone is welcome to Shabbat services and enjoy a kiddush lunch on Saturday, May 3. Services begin at 9 a.m.

## MAHJ/POKER

One of our favorite Sunday activities, Poker & Mahj is planned for Sunday, May 4 from 10 a.m.-noon. The group of men and women enjoy the time together playing and socializing. Everyone is welcome!

## TOLEDO/LUCAS COUNTY LIBRARY TOUR

Come and enjoy a wonderful afternoon at the Main Library downtown on Wednesday, May 28. At 1 p.m. there will be a tour of the building the artwork and observe much local history. Please register with Nancy Jacobson.

## PRE SHAVUOT ZOOM WITH RABBI MARK

Rabbi Mark will be presenting a zoom class and discussion about the holiday of Shavuot on Thursday evening, May 29 at 7 p.m. Please register with Elsa Leveton or Nancy Jacobson to receive the zoom link.



# Chabad House .....

**MAY CALENDAR UPCOMING EVENTS**

<p><b>5</b> MAY 2025   12:00 PM, MONDAY</p> <p><b>LUNCH &amp; LEARN</b></p> <p>START YOUR WEEK OFF RIGHT!</p> <p>Learn about the weekly Torah portion &amp; enjoy delicious lunch with great company!</p> <p>Monday, May 5th at 12:00 pm at the Chabad House</p> <p>Free of charge</p> <p>RSVP: <a href="mailto:info@chabadtoledo.com">info@chabadtoledo.com</a> or 419-322-2730</p>	<p><b>13</b> MAY 2025   10:30 AM, TUESDAY</p> <p>PLEASE JOIN US FOR</p> <p><i>Tea with Rivka</i></p> <p>TUESDAY, MAY 13TH 10:30 AM</p> <p>AT THE CHABAD HOUSE</p> <p>Enjoy a hot tea, time with friends and an intriguing Torah discussion on "Living with Intention."</p>	<p><b>27</b> MAY 2025   1:00 - 3:00 PM, TUESDAY</p> <p>PLEASE JOIN US FOR A</p> <p><i>SIP 'N' Shrooze</i></p> <p>Tuesday, May 27th 1:00-3:00 pm</p> <p>@ The Chabad House</p> <p>Enjoy a coffee, time with friends and meaningful conversations.</p>
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# LAG BAOMER BBQ

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**AFTER MAY 9<sup>TH</sup> - \$12 PER PERSON, \$45 PER FAMILY**

**RSVP TODAY: CHABADTOLEDO.COM/LAGBAOMER**

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Register by May 18th to receive Early Bird Discount.

**www.ChabadToledo.com/Camp**

For more info: call 419-322-2730  
or email [camp@chabadtoledo.com](mailto:camp@chabadtoledo.com)

# Obituaries

**Bruce S. Feldman**, of Sarasota, FL, formerly Toledo, OH and Pittsburgh, PA, passed away on Thursday, March 20, 2025, at the age of 93. Bruce was a graduate of The Ohio State University. After helping the accounting firm of Kleinman, Feldman & Nathanson in Toledo, OH he joined the firm of Ernst & Young as Director of Entrepreneurial Services. Bruce is survived by his beloved wife Eleanor (nee Baker); children Philip (Lisa) Feldman, Rabbi Marla



Feldman, and Pamela (Greg) Feldman-Hill; and step-children Sue (Rick) Baker, Shelley (David) Chamberlain, and David (Sharon) Baker. Bruce was enormously proud of his 11 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren. Bruce was pre-deceased by his cherished wife Phyllis. Funeral services will be held at Congregation Shomer Emunim, Sylvania, Ohio on Friday, March 28 at 11 am, followed by burial at Woodlawn Cemetery. Memorials preferred to the charity of your choice.

## 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: [abby@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:abby@jewishtoledo.org)  
You may include a photo of the deceased if you wish (optional).

**NOTE: Only obituaries submitted to [abby@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:abby@jewishtoledo.org) will be printed in Toledo Jewish News.**

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

Questions: Contact Abby Hoicowitz at [abby@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:abby@jewishtoledo.org) or 419-724-0423.

## For a second straight Passover, Jews mark Festival of Freedom while hostages remain in Gaza

By **Philissa Cramer**

(JTA) — Last Passover, Agam Berger marked the holiday in the small, dim room in Gaza where she was being held hostage. With her fellow soldier Liri Albag, she used a makeshift haggadah to recount the story of the ancient Israelites' exodus from slavery in Egypt.

Yarden Bibas, meanwhile, reminisced from where he was being held captive about the joyful celebration his family had once enjoyed, clinging to hope that he would be reunited with his wife and children by this year's holiday.

All three were released during a two-month

ceasefire earlier this year and are marking Passover's arrival by calling for the dozens of hostages who remain in Gaza to be freed.

"While I will celebrate this holiday with my family, it won't yet be full," Berger wrote in an essay published in the Wall Street Journal. "There are 59 hostages still held in Gaza, 24 of whom are believed to be alive. This is their second Passover in chains of iron. We can't allow a third."

Bibas returned to the devastating news that his wife and young sons had been murdered in captivity. "I am here and so thankful for this but am struggling to celebrate when I still haven't processed

what I have lost and when I know that David is still in a tunnel," he wrote on Instagram, referring to his best friend David Cunio, who remains a hostage.

The holiday arrives amid renewed fighting in Gaza and few signs of an impending deal that might result in the release of the remaining hostages. While President Donald Trump said last month that negotiators were "getting closer" to such a deal, CNN reported that the pace of talks has slowed since Israeli officials retook the lead from U.S. officials.

This Passover, Jews worldwide left seats empty

*Hostages* continued on page 23



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--	--

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Mediterranean

# Local

## B'nai Mitzvah



### We Honor Our B'nai Mitzvah

**Nolan Jacob Greenblatt** will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah Saturday, May 10, 2025, at Temple Shomer Emunim. Nolan is the son of Mark and Stephanie Greenblatt and brother to Mason and Spencer. He is the grandson of Judie and the late Barry Greenblatt and David and Jo Ann Bell.

Nolan is a seventh grader at St. Francis De Sales School where he is a stellar student and social pillar. He enjoys playing on the football team as well as travel lacrosse. He is a lover of dumplings and a huge Michigan Wolverine fan. He loves to play video games and spend his free time with friends. Nolan can't wait to celebrate his special day with family and friends.



## Have something to kvell about?



**Let Jewish Toledo celebrate your good news with you!**

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






### "Did You Know?"

Are you in your 20s, 30s, or 40s and interested in connecting with other Jewish people in Toledo around your age? Be sure to follow our Next Jewish Generation Facebook page for updates on upcoming events, including fun activities, trivia nights, social gatherings, and more: <https://www.facebook.com/nextjgen>.




## Welcome to Jewish Toledo!

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



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

## Crime Prevention Tips for Seniors

**Crime prevention is everyone's responsibility, not just a job for law enforcement. Seniors can learn how to protect themselves from crime by following these simple, common-sense, suggestions. Share these tips with your neighbors and friends, too, and make it tough for criminals to work in your neighborhood.**

### At Home

- Always keep your doors and windows locked. Install dead-bolt locks on all doors.
- Keep your home well-lit at night, inside and out, and keep your curtains closed at night.
- Install a peephole in your front door so you can see callers without opening the door.
- Ask for proper identification from delivery men or strangers. Don't be afraid of asking - if they are legitimate, they won't mind.
- Never give your credit card, phone card, social security, or bank account number to anyone over the phone unless you've placed the call.
- If a stranger asks to use your telephone, offer to place the call for him/her yourself. Never let a stranger into your home.
- Do not leave notes on your door when you are gone, and do not hide your keys under the mat or in other conspicuous places.
- Never give out information over the phone indicating you are alone or that you won't be home at a certain time.
- When you are gone for more than a day, make sure your home looks and

sounds occupied - use automatic timers to turn on lights and a radio or television.

### While You're Out

- Carry your purse very close to you - don't dangle it from your arm. Also, never leave your purse in a shopping cart.
- Don't carry more cash than is necessary. Grocery stores now accept checks, credit cards, and debit cards instead of cash.
- Avoid walking alone at night. Try to have a friend accompany you in high-risk areas - even during the daytime.
- Do not carry weapons - they may be used against you.
- Have your paychecks or government checks sent directly to your bank account - many banks have senior citizens discounts.
- Never withdraw money from your bank accounts for anyone **except yourself**. Be wary of con-artists and get-rich schemes that probably are too-good-to-be-true.

### In Your Car

- Keep your gas tank full and your engine properly maintained to avoid breakdowns.

- Always lock your car doors, even when you're inside and keep your windows rolled up. Driving with the windows closed also improves gas mileage.
- Lock packages and other valuables in the trunk. Do not leave them on the back seat or on the floor of the car where potential thieves can see them.
- When you return to your car, always check the front and back seat before you get in.
- Never pick up hitchhikers.
- If your car breaks down, pull over to the right as far as possible, raise the hood, and wait inside the car for help. Do not get out of the car or roll down the window until the police arrive.

### If You Are a Victim at Home

- If you arrive at home and suspect a stranger may be inside, **don't go in**. Leave quietly and call 911 to report the crime.
- If you are attacked on the street, make as much noise as possible by calling for help or blowing a whistle. Do not pursue your attacker. Call 911 and report the crime as soon as possible.
- If you have been swindled or conned,



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report the crime to your local police or district attorney's office. Con artists count on their victim's reluctance to admit they've been duped, but if you delay, you help them get away. Remember, if you never report the crime, they are free to cheat others again and again and you have no chance of ever getting your money back.

### What You Can Do to Help

- Work to change conditions that hurt your neighborhood - Volunteer as a citizen patroller, tutor for children, office aide in the police or fire department, mentor for teens, or escort for individuals with disabilities.
- Contact your local American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) for more information on how to get involved in other community programs

## Hostages continued from page 20

at their tables to symbolize the hostages' plight, or share, the stories of hostages during their seders, for the second straight year.

"Every abductee has a family that sits around the table on the night of the seder with tears in their eyes and a broken heart," wrote Shir Siegel, whose father Keith was released in January, on Instagram as she encouraged others to set a place for a hostage.

"There are small things that families and friends do that will make them feel that they are not alone. And this is perhaps the greatest thing we can do for them," she wrote, noting that her family would be setting a place for Nimrod Cohen, a soldier captured from his tank.

Cohen's mother Viki is the illustrator behind a new children's haggadah that incorporates symbols of individual hostages — the released, the living, and the dead. It's one of several projects meant to bring the stories of the hostages to the seder table, including a new haggadah produced by the

Hostages and Missing Families Forum, the main advocacy group for hostages and their families.

A haggadah produced annually by the Israeli artists collaborative Asufa, meanwhile, does not focus on the hostages but alludes quietly to them nonetheless, with two images of seder tables showing yellow chairs like those used in Tel Aviv's Hostages Square and beyond to symbolize the hostages.

For dozens of families who learned since last Passover that their loved ones had been killed on Oct. 7 or in captivity, this year was the first to mark the holiday with dashed hopes.

"How can we celebrate such a holiday while 133 people are still without their freedom, still waiting to be liberated?" the grandson of one such hostage, Chaim Peri, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency last year. In June, Peri was revealed to have died in February; he was buried in Israel in August after his body was retrieved.

"There's something perverse about even going through the motions of celebrating a holiday of freedom from captivity when our only son is not

free and is in the worst form of captivity that any of us can imagine. It feels completely inappropriate," Rachel Goldberg-Polin said last year. Her son Hersh was killed in captivity in August.

This year, Goldberg-Polin spoke about Passover on a podcast hosted by Dan Senor. "I think this year there is one question and one question only, which is: Why are they still there?" she said.

She alluded to a tradition practiced by some Jews to flagellate themselves with green onions at the seder to mimic the whipping endured by the ancient Israelites.

"We have actually an obligation this year to really beat ourselves up at the seder, because the whole point of Passover is it is supposed to be a commemoration of leaving the worst form of bondage and slavery that we ever experienced," Goldberg-Polin said. "And how can we do that this year when we know that there are 59 people who are still there, 24 of whom are alive — alive and in the worst, most horrific bondage that we can picture? How?"

# SUPPORT

# TODAY'S STUDENTS



## BUILD TOMORROW'S JEWISH COMMUNITY

From May 5-9, Hillel419 is joining forces with Hillels around the world for the fifth annual #HillelGlobalGivingWeek! With your help, Hillel419 has built a thriving and welcoming Jewish community. Together, we are helping students discover the daily, joyful celebration of Jewish life and guiding them through their most challenging moments - especially as antisemitism rises on campuses worldwide. As we approach the end of the school year, supporters like you have the meaningful opportunity to care for Jewish students at The University of Toledo and Bowling Green State University now, and well into the future. During this time, gifts made to Hillel419 will be matched, dollar-for-dollar! Keep your eyes out for the Friday Facts in May for updates ahead of our campaign kickoff. We hope you will join us! For more information about Hillel419 and Global Giving Week, please give us a call at 419-724-0377!



"During my time at BGSU Hillel, I've made lifelong friends, learned more about Judaism, and taken on meaningful leadership roles that have allowed me to give back and shape our campus community. Hillel has been a safe, supportive space to grow and navigate college life-and for that, I'm forever grateful." -Julia Roffman, class of 2025



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