



TOLEDO Jewish News

JewishToledo.org

SHEVAT/ADAR 5786 | February 2026

Getting to know you: Roy Büchler, JCRC Director

MARY BILYEU

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JFGT's new Jewish Community Relations Council Director, Roy Büchler, said his first encounter with JCRC work dates to 2011, when he was a high school junior working as an intern and helping with New York City's Israel Day Parade.

"That experience showed me firsthand the importance of having an organized voice to represent the American Jewish community," he said, "and to build relationships with the broader community."

Inspired, Roy then pursued an undergraduate dual degree program in Political Science and Near Eastern and Judaic Studies at Brandeis University, graduating in 2016. He spent time afterwards working as a paralegal for a year, before participating in a Masa Israel fellowship with Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs; he then served as a

coordinator for Israel engagement at Clark University Hillel, recruiting students for Birthright Israel. He returned to Brandeis in 2020, earning a dual M.A. and M.B.A. through the Hornstein Jewish Professional Leadership Program.

From there, Roy moved to Israel to engage in intensive Hebrew study followed by work with Beit Issie Shapiro, a leading disabilities organization. He and his wife, Shira, returned to the U.S. early in 2025 to be closer to family, settling in Cleveland as she worked for the Federation there and he served as a consultant with Israel Outdoors.

Roy was already a world citizen even before that venture to Israel, though, as he was born in Paris and lived in France until moving to New York City at the age of nine. (He's trilingual, speaking English, French, and Hebrew fluently.)

Having only arrived in Toledo from Cleveland in December, Roy, Shira,

and their black cat Spruce are still getting acclimated after what has felt like a bit of a whirlwind.

But he is already deeply impressed with how heimish our community is, saying that his family has "felt warmly welcomed."

Additionally, he noted that "it's been incredible to meet such a strong and engaged Jewish community and get to know our friends within it. I'm also inspired by the history of the Jewish community here, how far it goes back and the resilience that comes with that legacy."

Shira and Roy are learning their way around town, and they "love discovering new places," he said, "whether it's a neighborhood, a city, or even a tucked-away café." Recommendations will happily be accepted – you can send suggestions to roy@jewishtoledo.org or chat with him at community events.

Roy is "a huge NBA fan and [has] a passion for all things related to



▲ Roy Büchler | Photo Abby Hoicowitz

basketball," though he has no particular team loyalty. He's been part of a recreational league for fun and admits to having "watched just about every basketball documentary

ROY | CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

The vast majority of Israelis are worried about declining US support for Israel, survey finds

GRACE GILSON | JTA

Four in ten Israelis said they expected support for Israel among younger American Jews to decline.

The vast majority of Israelis — nearly eight in ten — say they are concerned about a decline in support for Israel among the American public, according to a new survey.

The poll of 1,000 Jewish Israeli adults, conducted Dec. 11 by the Ruderman Family Foundation, comes amid a notable decline in support for Israel across the American political spectrum over the course of the war in Gaza.

In September, a poll conducted by The New York Times and Siena University found that, for the first

time, American voters sympathized more with Palestinians than Israelis. While support for Israel has long been a hallmark of the Republican party, a June poll also found that sympathy for Israelis had dropped within the GOP over the previous year.

Among younger Republicans, criticism of U.S. support for Israel has risen in the wake of the Gaza war alongside a growth of antisemitic influence, raising alarm among Jewish GOP leadership.

The June poll also found that sympathy for Israelis among Democrats had dropped to just 12%, while 60% sympathized more with Palestinians.

These changes have left Israelis alarmed, according to the survey. Nearly half of respondents said

they were "very concerned" or "concerned" about declining U.S. support, while another 30% said they were "concerned to some extent." Concern was higher among older and secular Israelis.

But even as the poll found that declining support among Americans overall were a matter of stark concern for Israelis, it focused more on ties between Jewish Americans and Israelis, finding that 44% of Israelis expect support for Israel among younger American Jews to be lower in the future than it is today.

Indeed, an October poll from the Washington Post found that emotional ties to Israel were far lower among younger Jews. While 68% of American Jews over 65 said they were emotionally connected to Israel,

among those aged between 18 to 34, that share dropped to 36%.

When asked how Israel's policies during the Gaza war affected the level of support among American Jews,

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on Netflix.” He’s also an avid reader – “particularly about history and Jewish history” – and is an aficionado of Israeli films and television shows.

While he wasn’t raised Shomer Shabbos (“keeper of Shabbat”), “Shabbat has become one of my favorite traditions at home,” Roy acknowledged. “I didn’t celebrate it much growing up, but now I love taking the time to disconnect and create a peaceful space.” Preparing

a special dinner is something he really enjoys; and, when he has time – even with having just moved across the state and started a new job – he particularly loves to bake challah for the meal.

Community relations work in Toledo is vital at this juncture, with continued rebuilding efforts in Israel, rising antisemitism worldwide, and the need to nurture allyships here in northwest Ohio. And Roy is ready to meet these challenges, recognizing that it’s “incredibly meaningful to see

how collaboration and advocacy can make a real difference.”

Roy’s role as JCRC Director is expansive and involves leading Federation’s community relations and public affairs efforts; addressing antisemitism and anti-Zionism; engaging with interfaith and multicultural organizations; working with government officials at the local, state, and national levels; overseeing educational outreach in area schools; and coordinating Israel-themed programming.

“One of my biggest goals,” he noted, “is to strengthen the bonds between JCRC and the broader community, while also deepening connections within the Jewish community.”

In short, Roy said, “I want JCRC to be a place where people feel informed, connected, and empowered to engage on issues that matter.”

Mary Bilyeu is Senior Community Relations Programming Specialist at Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo.

Israel in Focus: Israel in the Region

Is it about us or them? Changing regimes and evolving Israeli society. A deep dive into the schisms in Israeli society and to the regional alliances.

Thursday, February 5 | 7 PM
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For the safety of our community, the location will be provided to registrants prior to the event.



New JFGT Security Policy

Purpose

To help ensure the safety and security of all attendees while fostering an environment of openness and community engagement, this policy outlines procedures for event registration, attendance, and security.

Registration Procedures

Individual Registration Required:
 All attendees must register individually through our designated online registration form or directly with Jewish Federation and Foundation of Greater Toledo staff registrations.

Complete Data Collection:
 Registrants are required to provide accurate contact information, including full name, phone number, and email address. For guests or additional attendees, the primary registrant must add each guest’s details separately.

Verification & Confirmation:
 Registrants will receive a confirmation email and the location of the event after registration.

Guest Policy:
 Attendees need to register all guests in advance. Same-day or walk-in registrations may be limited or declined based on security considerations.

Prohibited Items

- Weapons of any kind under any circumstance
- Alcohol, illegal drugs, or substances (including drug paraphernalia)
- All glass items
- Bags over 18”x 12”x 8”, camelbacks, Bota bags, and flasks
- Signs, flags, banners, posters, or balloons
- Flammable liquids or aerosol cans
- Other items as deemed inappropriate by the Security Director or event staff



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A magical Hanukkah celebration for local seniors

Our Jewish Toledo seniors added a little extra magic to their Hanukkah celebrations with the incredible Rick Smith Jr. — a world-renowned magician and Guinness World Record–holding card thrower. With eight world records and appearances on “The Tonight Show with Jimmy

Fallon,” “Shark Tank,” “Ellen,” “America’s Got Talent,” and “Penn & Teller: Fool Us” (which he actually fooled!), Rick’s performances are nothing short of spectacular.



Jewish pride on ice at Southview High School

Southview High School’s varsity hockey team included four Jewish players this season: Max Greenblatt (sophomore), Max Helfman (senior), Jonathan Lapitsky (sophomore), and Sam Thaler (freshman). They shared what can be an uncommon connection in a public school hockey program, adding meaning to their time on the ice.

At Southview, where Jewish students make up a small portion of the student body, having teammates with a shared background creates an easy sense of familiarity, including everyday moments such as supporting one another at school, acknowledging Jewish holidays, and understanding shared experiences without explanation. On the ice, they are teammates first, known for their discipline, effort, and commitment to the team.

For Toledo’s Jewish community, seeing Max, Max, Jonathan, and Sam competing together at Southview is a point of pride. In a smaller community, visibility matters, and these athletes help show that Jewish teens belong in every space, including competitive high school sports.



▲ (L to R) Sam Thaler, Max Greenblatt, Jonathan Lapitsky, and Max Helfman

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TOLEDO OPERA

Q & A with new Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo Board Member: Cindy Robertson - At Large

Cindy is one of Jewish Toledo's essential leaders whose role is vital in shaping the future of our community.

Toledo Jewish News: How long have you lived in Toledo?

Cindy Robertson: Pretty much my whole life, with about eight years spent living in Cincinnati during my 20s.

TJN: Are you employed? If so, where?

CR: I'm an Occupational Therapist who specializes in treating Lymphedema, a condition that often affects cancer patients, particularly those with breast cancer. I work at Mercy Health in the St. Luke's outpatient clinic in Maumee.

TJN: Are you a member of a local synagogue? If so, which?

CR: Yes, Congregation B'nai Israel

TJN: What do you like best about Jewish Toledo?

CR: Even though it's a small Jewish community, I feel there's a lot of diversity among us, with different backgrounds, hometowns, professions, and interests, which is wonderful. I haven't been very involved in the community for quite some time, but after October 7th, I felt a strong need to reconnect and contribute in any way I can. As a new board member, I'm still learning a lot,

but I'm excited to be here and hope to make a positive contribution.

TJN: If you were a superhero, what special power would you like to have?

CR: Wow, fun question! While it's not technically a superpower, I'd choose Wonder Woman's Lasso of Truth. With all the lying and cover-ups these days, it would be amazing to really know what's going on and how people truly feel and think. If I had to pick an actual superpower, I'd go with the ability to fly—it just seems like it would be so much fun!



▲ Cindy Robertson | Submitted photo

Strengthening Jewish Toledo through strategic grants

Grantmaking is more than financial support—it is a statement of shared values and collective responsibility. Through grants awarded in the past year and those planned for 2026, Jewish Federation & Foundation of Greater Toledo is helping local organizations do their best work while shaping a stronger, more resilient Jewish community for the future.

Tepper Foundation Grants

In 2025, The Tepper Foundation granted \$8.75 million from its Security Fund to Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA) to protect young Jewish children and promote interfaith bridge-building as incidents of antisemitism reach the highest recorded levels in 46 years.

More than 100 federations across 39 U.S. states and Canada received this funding in 2025, including Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo (JFGT). This funding supported the increased demands of security personnel at early childhood programs such as Gan Yeladim Preschool, Camp Inspiration, and PJ Library family & youth programs while also strengthening local community relations and vital interfaith and intergroup efforts.

Federations receiving 2025 Tepper Fund grants also committed to engaging in a series of bridge-building efforts by leveraging their security expertise to support local faith-based institutions and cultural communities outside the Jewish community. Examples of activities are safety assessments, security training, support accessing federal security grants, and more. JFGT's Security Director, Dave Tullis, provided these required services for organizations such as Planned Parenthood and Hope Lutheran Church.

In 2025, JFGT distributed the following amounts to local Jewish organizations to protect children:

Congregation B'nai Israel (\$775)
Temple Shomer Emunim (\$3,500)
Chabad Toledo (\$3,500)

2026 Getz Fund Grants

Toledo Jewish Community Foundation (TJCF), through the Gerald Getz Impoverished Israeli Children's Fund, will fund three Israeli charities in early 2026. Jerry Getz (z"l) passed away in February 2019, and left a legacy gift to TJCF. Getz was dedicated to helping the Jewish Toledo community as well

as other charitable organizations in Toledo and in Israel that help children. Getz worked at Ohio Plate Glass Co. in sales before starting his 20-year career at Osterman Jewelers. He enjoyed spending time at the YMCA/JCC, dabbling in the stock market, and being a member of Congregation B'nai Israel.

Additionally, through other permanent funds established by Getz, **Congregation Etz Chayim** and **Congregation B'nai Israel** will each receive \$17,528 while **JFGT** will receive \$69,538 in 2026. We are grateful for Jerry's foresight and generosity in providing for Jewish Toledo's future. His memory continues to be a blessing and he will be long remembered.

The three Israeli charities will each receive \$11,649:

Leket Israel, the National Food Bank, is a leading food rescue organization in Israel. Unique among all other organizations that serve the poor in Israel and food banks worldwide, Leket Israel's sole focus is rescuing healthy, surplus food and delivering it to those in need through partner nonprofit organizations.

ELEM/Youth in Distress is Israel's leading nonprofit organization

dedicated to treating and transforming the lives of youth in distress. ELEM serves as an address to youth in various conditions of risk, creating a non-judgmental relationship with them and assisting them in paving their way toward reintegration into the community. ELEM works with secular and religious Jews; Christian and Muslim Arabs, including Bedouins; immigrants, including those from the Former Soviet Union and Ethiopia; and the LGBT community, most of whom live on the streets and will not seek help from traditional social service groups.

Orr Shalom is Israel's leading nonprofit caring for children, youth, and young adults at risk, most of whom have been removed from their biological homes by court order and placed in out-of-home care. The organization works in close collaboration with Israel's Ministry of Welfare, social organizations, and research institutions.

JFGT and TJCF are proud of their stewardship and granting of community assets to improve the safety and quality of Jewish life in northwest Ohio.



▲ Stephen Rothschild, CEO, Jewish Federation & Foundation of Greater Toledo, displays checks for three Israeli organizations who will each receive \$11,649 through the Toledo Jewish Community Foundation Gerald Getz Impoverished Israeli Children's Fund in 2026.

JEWISH FEDERATION AND FOUNDATION OF GREATER TOLEDO TRIBUTES AND MEMORIALS:

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

Received between December 16, 2025 - January 13, 2026

JSFSS Food Pantry

In Memory of Barb Hager's Father, Edwin Jacobs
 • Dr. Eli Abramson and Ms. Nora Romanoff

In Celebration of Bob Wengrow's Special Birthday
 • Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Bauer
 • Dr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Levin
 • Mrs. Susan Weinberg

Jewish Federation Ahava Fund

In Memory of Barb Hager's Father, Edwin Jacobs
 • Mr. and Mrs. Steven Kaufman

Jewish Senior, Family, and Social Services
In Honor of Liz Witter
 • Ms. Ellen Neyn

Long Term Community Needs Fund

In Celebration of Bob Wengrow's Special Birthday
 • Dr. and Mrs. William Garber

In Memory of Barb Hager's Father, Edwin Jacobs
 • Mr. and Mrs. Mark Greenblatt

JFGT financial assistance and cancellation policies for programs

Financial assistance for programs

DISCREET FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE FOR JEWISH TOLEDO ACTIVITIES

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

JEWISH FEDERATION & FOUNDATION OF GREATER TOLEDO'S CANCELLATION POLICY

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

POLICY:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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 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.

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Toledo Jewish News welcomes community submissions, including commentary, articles of interest, and historic photos. **Email materials for consideration to abby@jewishtoledo.org.**

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Bagels, bialys, babka, and more: A renaissance in Polish baking

MARY BILYEU
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[While] all of Polish cuisine, baking included, has given and taken from other European traditions - French, Austro-Hungarian, Italian - I'd posit that there is no greater influence on Poland's bakery culture in the present day than the Jewish bakers of its past."

Dobre Dobre: Baking from Poland and Beyond - the second cookbook from Boston-raised, Paris-trained, and Berlin-based baker Laurel Kratochvila - proves that statement by showcasing the rich heritage of Polish baking, both in Europe and throughout the diaspora.

And that heritage's Jewish soul is palpable.

Given that Laurel's first cookbook was nominated for a prestigious James Beard Foundation award, and that she's of Jewish-Polish heritage herself, she is a well-respected, consummate authority on her chosen subject. So it's a joy to let her take us down a proverbial rabbit hole - one strewn with poppy seeds, walnuts, stone fruits, rose petals, onions, streusel, and cherries - into a world of bagels, bialys, babka, rye breads (yes, that's a plural), knishes, kichel, and hearty yeasted cakes.

Dobre means "good." But even doubled, the term is woefully inadequate for this gorgeous, temptation-filled, and fascinating book.

Named to the New York Times' prestigious "Best Cookbooks of 2025" list (one of only 14 chosen), *Dobre Dobre* is as informative as a reference book. But it's far more entertaining, thanks to Laurel's conversational storytelling style when delving into the history of Poland's baked goods from cultural, historical, linguistic, and geographical perspectives, or a combination thereof. (The tale of her eight-hour drive across Poland in search of Marcinek, "a many-layered

biscuit and sweetened sour cream cake claimed as a regional delicacy by the town of Hajnówka," near Belarus - which includes a conversation with an off-road biker who offered important information about phone rates near the countries' border - gives an indication of Laurel's passion for, and dedication to, her subject matter.)

While poring through the book, as though Laurel and I had been chatting at her bakery over a cup of coffee and a slice of marble cake (which can be found "in just about every Polish cake shop," she notes of its popularity), I learned all sorts of interesting things:

- London has its own beigel style, which Laurel notes is "soft and sweet." And the Kraków variety, despite bagels having originated in Poland before crossing the Atlantic, are unlike the ones we're familiar with; instead, they have a larger whole in the center and are formed into rounds by twisting two ropes. Before the 19th century, only non-Jews could sell them within the city limits.
- In Boston, kaiser rolls are called bulkie rolls - "a regional quirk," Laurel explains. "Turns out the Bostonian word for roll comes from the Yiddish *bulke*, which derives from the Polish *bulka*, which traces back to an old Slavic word meaning *something round*."
- The bread known as Żulik, which the city of Łódź is noted for, was created in the 1960s by a Turkish baker, Mehmet Erol, rather than a Pole. (And it sounds absolutely

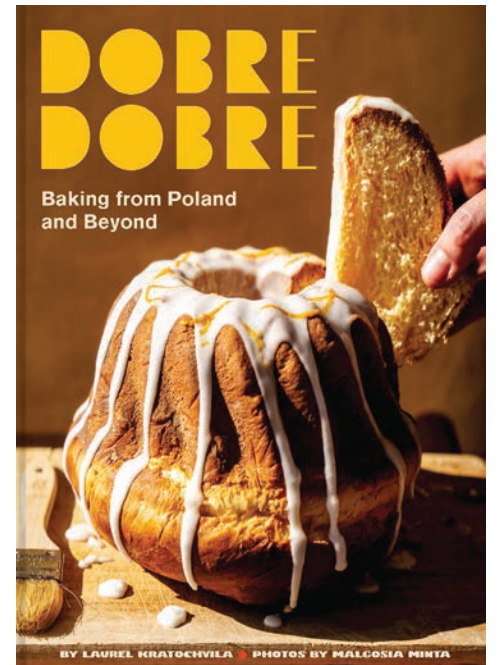
lovely: "dark brown bread heavy on caramel notes made with coffee and molasses, studded with raisins, and enriched with butter and milk.")

- "The origins of Polish yeast baking date back to the nineteenth century, when commercial yeast was first brought to Poland and embraced wholeheartedly." A pre-fermented sponge created with the ingredient is "known around the world as a poolish, from the word *Polish*."

"[S]ome speculate that until the Second World War, up to half of Poland's bakers were Jews. There was almost no city or town without at least one Jewish bakery," Laurel writes, due to policies forcing Jews into selected professions. Thus, over the years, decades, and centuries, Polish and Jewish baking became inevitably intertwined. "The overlap of what is Jewish and what is Polish is so complete that there's no point in trying to disentangle them."

While beloved recipes and traditions have managed to survive - some preserved as classics and others used as inspiration for contemporary creativity - the enormous gap in the timeline of Polish baking due to the profound losses of the Holocaust cannot be ignored. Another dire period came after World War II, with the nearly 40-year Communist regime and its attendant deprivation.

But, "to reduce Polish baking to what it has lost," Laurel notes, "would be unfair. Better to say that it is a cuisine that has transformed and transformed again [Now] contemporary Poland has one of the most robust artisan bakery scenes in Europe, on par with that of Copenhagen and Paris." Better and more plentiful ingredients, coupled with dedicated attention to



▲ *Dobre Dobre: Baking from Poland and Beyond* by Laurel Kratochvila | © 2025. Published by Chronicle Books. Photographs © Malgosia Minta

process and detail, have raised the quality of Poland's baked goods to unprecedented levels.

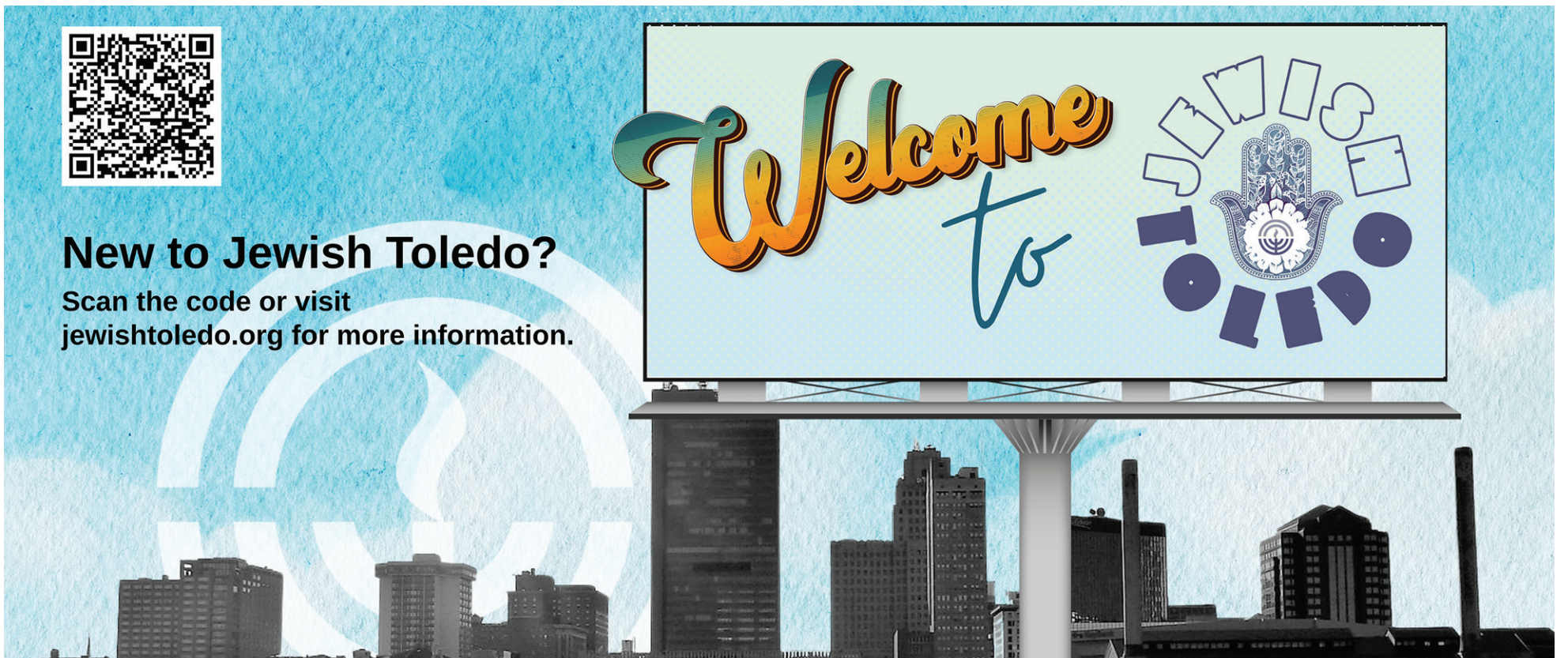
Some of the recipes in *Dobre Dobre* - such as the crusty, rustic Kraków Potato and Bran Flake Loaf which requires a sourdough starter made with rye flour plus multiple steps that include up to 10 hours for proofing - might seem intimidating. Or, if not necessarily intimidating, then at least like a far more significant investment of time than you might want to devote to the project, because the seductive photos by Malgosia Minta will have you wanting all these extraordinary breads and pastries *now*. (When I received my review copy, truly all I wanted to do was take the book home and start baking so I could devour it all.)

However, many other offerings are simple, and thus simply begging for you to make them. Fluffy Fritter-Style Apple Pancakes dusted with powdered sugar, which are - as they

BAKING | CONTINUED ON PAGE 7



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ISRAELIS | CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

43% believed it weakened support while 28% said they believed it strengthened support.

“The data make clear that many Israelis understand something fundamental is changing,” said Jay Ruderman, the president of the Ruderman Family Foundation, which focuses on both mental health and U.S.-Israeli Jewish relations, in a statement. “The growing distance felt among younger generations in the United States did not happen overnight and cannot be dismissed. It reflects a longer-term erosion that requires Israel to pause, listen, and rethink how it engages American Jewry — because this relationship is not symbolic, but a strategic asset for the future of Israel and the Jewish people.”

More than half of respondents said they believed American Jews’ affiliation with the Democratic Party made them less likely to support Israel. And 67% of Israelis said they see President Donald Trump’s impact on Israel as positive.

The survey, which was conducted using an online panel, had a margin of error of ±3.1%.



▲ People walk past a projection depicting Israeli and US flags on the walls of Jerusalem’s Old City on Oct. 22, 2025 | Photo AHMAD GHARABLI / AFP

BAKING | CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

should be – “very heavy on the apples-to-batter ratio.” Seeded Florentynki: drop cookies loaded with an abundance of seeds and studded with jeweled tidbits of dried fruit. Coconut Macaroons, the ubiquitous but rarely well-prepared Passover cookies, all toasty and burnished; they’re kept moist by mixing a sugar syrup into the batter. And the streusel-topped homey, heimish Loaf Crumb Cake with Fruit that’s “thrown together in an hour,” Laurel writes, from start to finish; “cut it in slices for morning coffees, afternoon teas, and after-dinner treats.”

Laurel offers that her book “is not the be-all and end-all of Polish baking” despite how comprehensive it is.

Instead, it is a “curation,” as she calls it, and an “unapologetic” one.

“Some tradition, some modernization. The diasporic and the contemporary. The delicious and the more delicious.”

Loaf Crumb Cake with Fruit (Piaskowe Ciasto z Owocami)

This is an easy fruit crumb cake, thrown together in an hour. Similar to the crumb cakes you’d find in American bakeries or anywhere across central Europe, it’s a great vehicle for any fresh seasonal fruit and berries, or frozen fruit in the winter. It’s the kind of simple, moist, not-too-sweet snacking cake you can leave in your kitchen to cut in slices for morning coffees, afternoon teas, and after-dinner treats. Make in a loaf pan, or double the recipe for a 9 in [23 cm] square baking pan.

MAKES one 9 x 5 in [23 x 13 cm] loaf BATTER

- 1½ cups [165 g] all-purpose flour
- 1½ tsp double-acting baking powder
- ½ tsp kosher salt
- 5 Tbsp [70 g] unsalted butter, at room temperature

- ⅔ cup [130 g] sugar
- 2 eggs, at room temperature
- ½ cup [120 g] thick, full-fat, Greek-style yogurt, or full-fat sour cream
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- ½ cup [60 g] confectioners’ sugar (optional)

TOPPING

- 2 cups [240 g] berries, cherries, or chopped stone fruits, washed and dried
- 1 Tbsp sugar
- 1 batch Streusel (Kruszonka, see below)

Preheat the oven to 350°F [180°C] with the convection setting turned on. Line the bottom of your loaf pan with parchment paper and set aside. Leave the sides of the pan unlined. This will help the batter cling to them as it rises.

Begin by making the batter. Whisk together the flour, baking powder, and salt in a medium mixing bowl. Cream the butter and sugar in your stand mixer fitted with the paddle attachment. Add the eggs one at a time and mix on low speed. Scrape down the sides of the bowl, then add the yogurt and vanilla and mix until even. Add the dry ingredients and mix until you have a smooth batter, about 2 minutes.

Pour the batter into your prepared pan. There should still be a couple empty inches until the top of the pan. Bake for 25 to 30 minutes, until golden brown and a crust has formed but there’s still a bit of wiggle to the cake. As quickly as possible, remove the cake from the oven and top with an even layer of the fruit, then sprinkle with the tablespoon of sugar, and finally add a layer of streusel. Return to the oven and bake for another 20 minutes, or until the streusel starts to turn golden and a cake tester comes out clean. Allow the cake to cool, then dust with confectioners’ sugar (if using) and cut into slices.

Serve immediately or store airtight at room temperature for several days.



▲ Loaf Crumb Cake with Fruit | Photo Piaskowe Ciasto z Owocami

Streusel Kruszonka

Kruszonka is the crumb topping used to sweeten and add crunchy crumble to everything from yeast baking to coffee cakes. Make this up to a week ahead of time and keep airtight in the fridge.

MAKES 13/4 cups [375 g]

- 1¼ cups [150 g] all-purpose flour
- 7 Tbsp [50 g] confectioners’ sugar
- ¼ cup [50 g] granulated sugar
- 9 Tbsp [125 g] unsalted butter, at room temperature

In a medium mixing bowl, whisk together the flour, confectioners’ sugar, and granulated sugar. Use your hands to rub the butter into the dry ingredients until you have a crumbly texture and no visible pockets of butter remain. Chill for at least 20 minutes in the fridge before using in your recipes, or store airtight in the fridge for up to a week.

VARIATION:

Add 1 tsp ground cinnamon or 1 tsp grated lemon zest, or replace the granulated sugar with light brown muscovado sugar.

From Dobre Dobre: Baking from Poland and Beyond by Laurel Kratochvila, © 2025. Published by Chronicle Books. Photographs © Malgosia Minta

Mary Bilyeu is Senior Community Relations Programming Specialist at Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo.

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From Israel to Morocco to an HBCU in New Orleans, these Jewish artists are searching for home

ASAF ELIA-SHALEV | JTA

Neta Elkayam and Amit Hai Cohen teach the most popular elective at Xavier University. At least for now.

The class does not begin with a lecture. Instead, Neta Elkayam stands at the front of the room and sings. Usually in the Moroccan Arabic of her ancestors, rather than her native Hebrew.

The students — most of them Black, most of them American, many of them encountering Jewish culture for the first time — do not ask what the lyrics mean. They listen. They feel something, and it's the feeling that eventually leads to learning.

"Seeing me perform live reveals a common ground, the desire we all share to understand our origins, a search for the lost voices of our ancestors," Elkayam said in an interview. "The fact that I am singing not in English but in an African language resonates with the students and helps propel them on their own quest."

The scene has become familiar at Xavier University of Louisiana, the nation's only Catholic historically Black university, where Elkayam and her partner in life and art, Amit Hai Cohen, have spent the past two years as visiting artists and instructors. Their course, an immersive, multidisciplinary exploration of music, memory, diaspora and interfaith exchange, grew out of an initiative to increase understanding between the Black and Jewish communities. It is now one of the most sought-after electives on campus, recommended by students by word of mouth.

It is an unlikely setting for two Israeli artists whose work has been shaped by Morocco, Jerusalem, Marseille and Paris, and whose creative lives have long resisted fixed categories. Yet Xavier has become a place where their music, pedagogy and personal histories suddenly make sense together.

It is also the place where they now face a crossroads.

After two years of teaching, performing and building cultural bridges in New Orleans, the private funding that brought them to Xavier has ended. The university wants them to stay. But whether they can remains uncertain, a predicament reflecting a wider strain on the institution itself.

Xavier University is facing significant financial uncertainty, underscored by recent layoffs even as it received a major gift from philanthropist MacKenzie Scott that offered partial relief. At the same time, moves by the Trump administration to cut or reshape federal higher-education programs have disrupted key funding streams the university relies on, adding to the instability.

For Elkayam and Cohen, who have spent their careers moving along what they call the "Jerusalem-Morocco axis,"

the question is no longer how to live between places, but whether that in-between can become a home.

Long before New Orleans entered the picture, Elkayam and Cohen were already artists of transit and connection.

Elkayam, 45, rose to prominence in Israel, Europe and Morocco for her reinterpretations of North African Jewish music, not as preservation, but as reinvention. Born in Netivot, on Israel's geographic and social periphery, she grew up acutely aware of the ruptures many Mizrahi Jews feel: the distance from ancestral languages, sounds and stories. Her work has become a way to address that loss, offering a path back to connection beyond nostalgia.

Drawing on Andalusian, Amazigh (Berber) and Jewish liturgical traditions, she folds in elements of jazz, rock and contemporary performance art. Her sensibility is evident in projects like "Hilula," a multidisciplinary opera blending drag, Torah study and live music, and "Arénas," a collaboration built around archival recordings of women from Morocco's Atlas Mountains who passed through a transit camp in Marseille on their way to Israel.

Cohen, 43, has worked in music, cinema and visual installation, often in collaboration with artists from Morocco. He recently explored memory and ritual across Judaism, Christianity and Islam through a ceiling installation for the Tower of David Museum in Jerusalem weaving together the elements from all three faiths.

Together, the couple built ambitious, research-driven projects that blurred the line between scholarship and performance. Their collaborators included towering figures of North African Jewish music — among them the Algerian pianist Maurice El Médioni — as well as Moroccan Muslim artists and Gnawa masters.

"We're not interested in freezing the past," Cohen said. "We're interested in what happens when you improvise inside it."

That ethos drew the attention of scholars such as Chris Silver, a professor at McGill University who studies North African music and Jewish-Muslim history. Silver describes their approach as not merely performing an inherited repertoire, but actively shaping how the past is understood and carried forward.

"As a scholar focused on the relationship of music to history, I marvel at what sometimes feels like their historiographical approach, in which their music builds on a well-known and lesser-known past, is in dialogue with the contemporary, and is future-oriented, contributing to and shaping the sounds of the possible and what may yet be," Silver said.

For Flo Low, the founder of Bamah, the nonprofit that brought the couple to Xavier University two years ago, the



▲ Israeli artists Neta Elkayam and Amit Hai Cohen are partners in life and in music. | Photo Gil Rouvio

future Silver describes crystallized in a single moment.

Low, an American Jew who has lived in Israel, first saw Elkayam perform in Jerusalem in 2018, at an outdoor concert beneath the walls of the Old City. She expected virtuosity. What she did not expect, she said, was what happened next.

"Neta started singing in Moroccan Arabic," Low recalled, "and thousands of people in the audience were singing along with her. Her music is allowing so many people in the Jewish world to reconnect with their Jewish roots through their music."

For Low, who had been working to build cultural exchange programs between Israeli artists and American institutions, the scene was revelatory.

"I knew at that moment that I wanted to bring Neta and her partner Amit to the United States," Low said. "If they could inspire me and thousands of others in a single performance, I could only imagine what they might do with a full semester, or even a full academic year, with students."

Still, it would take several years, and an unexpected chain of events in New Orleans, before the partnership materialized.

The road to Xavier began with Kanye West, the musician who now goes by Ye.

In late 2022, as antisemitic rhetoric surged into mainstream discourse — fueled in part by Ye's public outbursts — students at Xavier were finding themselves caught in a confusing digital and social crossfire.

"My freshman honors students were hearing a lot of people in their lives say that 'Kanye has a point,' and they wanted to know, as students at a historically Black university, 'What is our response?'" recalled Shearon Roberts, a professor and associate dean at Xavier. "They realized: we don't actually know Jewish people. Many students had never met a Jew at all."

Roberts saw an opportunity for a different kind of education. "How about we start there?" she told them.

A small group of Xavier students launched an initiative that set out to address antisemitism and anti-

Black racism together, rather than as separate problems.

They partnered with local Jewish organizations and faculty mentors, built relationships with students at nearby Tulane University, known for its high concentrations of Jewish students, and began hosting dialogues that emphasized shared histories of exclusion and violence — alongside the tensions and misunderstandings between the two communities. The students designed workshops, social media campaigns and campus events focused on media literacy and the warning signs of radicalization.

"We wanted to tackle that problem in our community," said Aarinii Parms-Green, one of the Xavier students, who graduated last month. "We saw it rising with Kanye West, Whoopi Goldberg, Kyrie Irving and other figures saying things like, 'Black people are the real Jews' or 'Jews people control the media.'"

Parms-Green said the students were inspired by the history of Jewish-Black solidarity, from the civil rights movement to the Jewish academics fleeing the Nazis in the 1930s who found refuge at HBCUs.

Their project eventually won a national Department of Homeland Security award for innovative anti-extremism programming. (The federal program behind the award was shut down by the Trump administration earlier this year.)

The win led to a trip to Israel for the students and when they returned they wanted to sustain the connection, especially to Israel's racially and ethnically diverse culture.

"The project started as a way to give back, to bring Black and Jewish students together and counter hate, and it just took off," Parms-Green said.

After the attacks of Oct. 7, the work felt only more urgent.

"Instead of rushing to blame, people on campus asked questions," Parms-Green said. "They wanted context. We didn't see protests — there was more curiosity than anything."

While it's true that Xavier has not been a central hotspot of campus unrest around the war in Gaza, the atmosphere has not been entirely tranquil either.



Happy Tears

LAUREN SACHS

February is a month characterized by love in all its many forms. In my case, it is also a time when I can watch one of my all-time loves on television: college basketball.

My daughters and I became obsessed with our favorite team because of my late husband. As a Michigan State alumnus for both his undergraduate and medical degrees, Brad somehow managed to convert all of us into rabid Spartan basketball devotees. This conversion is particularly remarkable in light of the fact that I attended the University of Michigan and currently have a daughter matriculating at The Ohio State University! Nevertheless, after Brad died, our MSU fandom only increased, as each basketball game gave us a chance to feel connected to Brad and his memory. Still, beyond the obvious connection to my late husband, I have found a multitude of reasons to love all things MSU basketball.

Many of the reasons I adore the MSU basketball team have to do with the philosophy of the program as dictated by their hall-of-fame coach, Tom Izzo. MSU basketball is a program with a very clear culture of tenacity, fierceness, and teamwork. Often referred to as the “Spartan Dawgs” by their fans, they are known for their mental and physical toughness. But even beyond these characteristics, the basketball program is one that emphasizes relationships: between the players, with the staff, and even with the fanbase. In a recent

interview, Izzo emphasized this ideal as unique in the era of NIL and the transfer portal, stating that he wanted “homegrown players”... who are “playing for the name on the front of their jersey.” Indeed, playing for one another and for the school results in a brand of unselfish basketball that benefits both the program and fans. Personally, I relish watching the players develop throughout their time on the team and can see how having a basketball home makes a difference once they move on with their lives post-college.

As odd as it may sound, I find that many of these same MSU basketball traits are applicable to coping with the pain of loss and grief. Though Izzo and his team are known for their toughness, they often exhibit a genuine emotional vulnerability as well. In particular, Tom Izzo is known to wear his emotions on his sleeve, whether it be fuming on the sidelines of a game, tearing up as he describes his connection to his players, or expressing disillusionment about the current state of the NCAA. This predisposition to sensitivity juxtaposed with emotional fortitude reminds me of early grief. In the aftermath of loss, our emotions are often raw and unyielding. At the same time, in order to survive the intensity of this stage, many in grief find they must cull all their emotional

reserves and find an inner strength and tenacity. In my personal experience, having the support of a compassionate community also makes a huge difference in coping with loss. Just as the MSU Spartans focus on relationships, strengthening team bonds to help them play to their potential, finding people to lean on in our most tender moments can help us better manage the heartache of bereavement.

Prior to the start of this basketball season, many observers - myself included - had muted expectations for the current roster’s success. Nevertheless, I have already observed how the same qualities that supported their past accomplishments are helping to bolster their confidence and spur their ascendancy. While I certainly have no idea how this basketball

Lauren Sachs 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, she 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. She 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.

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season will end, the MSU Spartans continue to bring me great joy. Like so many other fans, I will root for my team regardless of their achievements. Still, beyond the dedication of typical disciples, my devotion differs somewhat in that it is rooted in a love for my late husband, as well as a deep admiration for the mensch who has led the MSU basketball program for the past 30 seasons. Through Izzo’s guidance and leadership, the team continues to show its special brand of perseverance, connectedness, and mental fortitude. For me, they also model how to keep going in the face of adversity and against the odds, offering an example for all of us who have faced immense hardship and life-altering strife. Though Izzo and the Spartans only have one national championship at this point, as far as I am concerned, they will always be champions. Go Green!

Josef Veselsky, Holocaust survivor and table tennis master who was Ireland’s oldest man, dies at 107

GRACE GILSON | JTA

Veselsky joined the resistance in Czechoslovakia during World War II; his family was murdered.

Josef “Joe” Veselsky, a Holocaust survivor and table tennis champion who spent more than a year as Ireland’s oldest man, died in early January at 107.

Born Joseph Weiss to a Jewish family in Trnava in what was then Czechoslovakia in 1918, Veselsky was 20 when Hitler invaded the country. He changed his name after his mother, Bertha, urged him to change his name to “something a bit more Slovak,” according to the Irish Times.

Veselsky joined the resistance and survived the war in the Carpathian Mountains, according to Holocaust Education Ireland.

“In the mountains, you know, when they sent us on a difficult mission, they gave us a glass of vodka. But I never drank it. I changed it with the boys for half a loaf of bread, so I was the best fed,” Veselsky told the University Times, the student newspaper of Trinity College Dublin, in 2016.

Veselsky’s older brother and parents were killed in Auschwitz, but he did not learn the details of their fate until later in life, his grandson Nicholas Browne told the Irish public broadcaster RTÉ.

“He was initially very upset to see that in writing: when they were taken, where they were taken and when they were killed. The record-keeping by the Nazis was that good - that they had all this information written down,” said Browne. “He cried then and my father had never seen him cry. For him it was some kind of closure and relief - to know what exactly had happened.”

Following the war, Veselsky served as the captain of the Czechoslovak national table tennis team and was later awarded the Order of the Slovak National Uprising for his actions during the war.

In 1949, he emigrated to Dublin with his wife, Katarina, to escape the Communist takeover in his home country. There, he started a successful Jewelry business importing Swiss watches and other jewelry.

Veselsky also served as the captain of the Irish national table tennis team for

20 years, according to the Irish Times, and became life president of the Irish Table Tennis Association.

“Joe Veselsky’s resilience, integrity, and lifelong dedication to table tennis leave an enduring legacy,” wrote Table Tennis Ireland in a post on Facebook. “On behalf of Table Tennis Ireland, we extend our sincere condolences to his family and friends. He will be remembered with great respect and gratitude.”

Veselsky also earned numerous accolades over his life, including the Slovak Order of the White Double Cross, the country’s highest state decoration, and the European Table Tennis Union’s Badge of Honour.

“Joe Veselsky’s life stands as a testament to the unifying power of sport, the endurance of the human spirit, and the values that table tennis seeks to promote across generations,” wrote the European Table Tennis Union in an obituary.

In October 2024, following the death of Martin McEvelly at the age of 108, Veselsky became the oldest man



▲ Veselsky | Trinity College Dublin/Facebook

in Ireland.

Known as Ireland’s oldest student, Veselsky also took classes at Trinity College Dublin where he was awarded an honorary master in arts degree in 2016.

“He was a true gentleman in every sense of the word, and an inspiration to all who were lucky enough to know him,” wrote the School of Histories and Humanities at Trinity College Dublin in a post on Facebook. “He will be deeply missed.”

Veselsky is survived by his children, Peter and Kate, two grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Eva Schloss, Holocaust survivor who promoted the story of her friend and posthumous stepsister Anne Frank, dies at 96

PHILISSA CRAMER | JTA

Schloss' mother married Frank's father after the war. She became one of England's most prominent survivors.

Eva Schloss, a Holocaust survivor who launched a foundation to advance the legacy of her childhood friend and stepfather's daughter Anne Frank, has died at 96.

Schloss' family said she died in London, where she settled after the Holocaust and became a prominent voice among survivors. In 1990, she founded the Anne Frank Trust UK, which promotes Holocaust education in Britain.

"My wife and I are greatly saddened to hear of the death of Eva Schloss," King Charles III said in a statement posted to social media. "The horrors that she endured as a young woman are impossible to comprehend and yet she devoted the rest of her life to overcoming hatred and prejudice, promoting kindness, courage, understanding and resilience through her tireless work for the Anne Frank Trust UK and for Holocaust education across

the world. We are both privileged and proud to have known her and we admired her deeply. May her memory be a blessing to us all."

Schloss was born in Austria in 1929 and fled with her family in 1938 after it was incorporated into Nazi Germany. They settled in Belgium and later in the Netherlands, where Schloss befriended Anne Frank in Amsterdam. Their families lived on the same block, and she and Anne were only a month apart in age.

Like the Franks, the Schloss family went into hiding in Amsterdam but were later betrayed and arrested by the Nazis in 1944. Schloss and her mother survived Auschwitz, where her father and brother were killed.

Returning to Amsterdam, the mother and daughter reconnected with Otto Frank, Anne Frank's father and the family's sole survivor. Her mother Fritzi and Otto Frank married in 1953.

Schloss moved to London where she married and raised three children. She did not speak publicly about her Holocaust experience until after Otto Frank's death in 1980. But



▲ Eva Schloss MBE, step-sister of Anne Frank and Honorary President of the Anne Frank Trust UK and Camilla, then Duchess of Cornwall, meet during a reception to mark Holocaust Memorial Day, Jan. 20, 2022, in London. | Chris Jackson - Pool/Getty Images

then, having seen the impact of Otto's efforts to share his daughter's story, she embraced the work of Holocaust education, traveling England and beyond to tell her story. In 1990, she cofounded the Anne Frank Trust UK, and in 2012 was made a Member of the Order of the British Empire, one

of England's top honors, by Queen Elizabeth for her work.

"Eva was a beacon of hope and resilience," Dan Green, the trust's executive director, said in a statement. "Her unwavering commitment to challenging prejudice through Holocaust education has left an indelible mark on countless lives."

Schloss' death comes as the last Holocaust survivors old enough to be able to share their personal memories of the genocide are all in their nineties, posing a fresh challenge for Holocaust education. Several prominent survivors have died in recent months.

Schloss at times weighed in on contemporary politics, writing in 2016 that she believed Donald Trump, then running for U.S. president, was "acting like another Hitler by inciting racism." She also likened the failure of countries to accept more refugees from Syria to the conditions faced by Jewish refugees from the Nazis.

In 2021, Schloss reclaimed her Austrian citizenship, saying that it was time for her to reconcile with her native country. "The Austrians are sorry about what has happened. We can't carry on the hatred and discrimination any more. The Nazis are not with us," she said at a ceremony where the Austrian government honored her.

At the time, she reflected on her legacy in an interview with the BBC. "I feel that perhaps I have achieved something in my life, to contribute a little bit to change people's attitudes," she said.

But she added that she was unsatisfied with her impact, saying, "Obviously, I've not done enough as I'm very worried about the way the world is going now."

B"H

The Friendship Circle

CAFÉ

Open to the public
for one night only!

The Friendship Circle Cafe is prepared and run by participants of the Joanne Galler Rubin Friendship Circle. Come show your support for their skills and achievements by reserving your table at our pop-up cafe!

RESERVE ONLINE - PAY AT THE DOOR

Tuesday, February 17 | 5:00 PM

Reserve your table at chabadtoledo.com/fccafe


MENU

MAINS:
CHOICE OF PASTAS:
PENNE, SPAGHETTI
CHOICE OF SAUCES:
MEAT SAUCE, MEATBALLS,
PESTO SAUCE (VEG)

SIDES:
GARLIC BREAD & SALAD

DESSERTS:
BROWNIES & FRUIT

DRINKS:
TBA


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

SUNDAY, MARCH 1

Let's get



WICKED

**2026 COMMUNITY
PURIM CARNIVAL**

**OPEN TO THE WHOLE JEWISH COMMUNITY
REGARDLESS OF AFFILIATION**

For the kids: Games, kosher hot dog lunch, carnival treats, hamantaschen, face painting, games, prizes, costumes, and purim magic! (\$10/child; 4 and under are free!)

Adults-only room includes brunch, Java Sensations coffee bar, mimosas, hamantaschen, bingo, and prizes (\$10/adult)

Cost:

By Friday, February 20: \$10/adult or child 5+
After February 20: \$15/adult or child 5+
(4 and under are free!)

**WEAR YOUR COSTUMES AND DEFY
GRAVITY LIKE NEVER BEFORE**

9:30 a.m. - TSE Purim Spiel in the Sanctuary
10:30 a.m. - Carnival begins
11:45 a.m. - Carnival wraps up

RSVP by Wednesday, February 25 at <https://jftoledo.fcsuite.com/erp/donate/list/ticket> or with Sherry Majewski at 419-724-0351 or sherry@jewishtoledo.org.



This event is held in partnership with:



Jewish Federation and Foundation of Greater Toledo Programs and Events



Jewish Heritage Night at UToledo Women's Basketball Wednesday, February 25

6 p.m.: Dinner

7 p.m.: Game tip off

\$25, includes game ticket, dinner, and exclusive Jewish heritage t-shirt

\$15, includes dinner and exclusive Jewish heritage t-shirt

(for those who already have a ticket)

Meeting location TBA

Celebrate Jewish Heritage Night and watch the Lady Rockets take on Central Michigan at Savage Arena.

All attendees will get a limited-edition Jewish Heritage University of Toledo t-shirt. Purchase tickets by Friday, February 13.



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5

ISRAEL IN FOCUS,

ISRAEL IN THE REGION

7 p.m.

Free event

Location TBA

Is it about us or them? Changing regimes and evolving Israeli society. A deep dive into the schisms in Israeli society and to the regional alliances.

Featuring guest speaker: **Ms. Col.**

(Ret.) Miri Eisin, a senior fellow at the International Institute for Counterterrorism (ICT) at Reichman University in Herzliya, Israel. Miri has a deep background in the intelligence, security, and diplomacy worlds and is a frequent commentator on these issues in world media. During her 20 years in the Israel Defense Forces (IDF), she served in a variety of positions, including the intelligence officer of a regional border brigade, the intel officer of the Israeli airborne division, and the assistant to the Director of Military Intelligence. As a full colonel she served as the Deputy Head of the Combat Intelligence Corps. In all her positions she was the first woman to serve in such a capacity. RSVP by Friday, January 30 at <http://bit.ly/44ZccZ4or> with Mary Bilyeu at 419-724-0405 or mary@jewishtoledo.org.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

MAHJONG & MORE

5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

\$18 per person, includes dinner and drinks

Location TBA

Grab your girlfriends for a fun night out! Sip, nosh, and learn the art (and luck!) of mahjong. Mahjong is more than a game, it's a tradition bringing generations together, and we're excited to pass it on. Whether you're brand new or a little rusty, our Jewish Toledo mahjong mavens will walk you through the basics so you can play with confidence. No experience needed! RSVP by Friday, February 6.

FEBRUARY 13, MARCH 13, APRIL 17

BABY LOVES SHABBAT

9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Free event

Each playdate will feature creative play, light snacks, challah, Shabbat songs, and

more. Register for a chance to receive a special Shabbat Box to use during the playdates and take home afterward. RSVP by the day prior to marnie@jewishtoledo.org.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16

BRIDGE THE GAP -

AN INTERGENERATIONAL JOURNEY

(Bus Day Trip to Cincinnati)

\$18 per child under 18 years old,

\$36 per adult, includes bus transportation,

admission, refreshments, and dinner

Time/location of bus pickup and drop-off TBA

Take part in a meaningful

intergenerational journey to the Cincinnati Museum Center for a guided visit of exhibition: "Auschwitz. Not long ago. Not far away."

This trip is designed for adults and their children or grandchildren (6th grade and up) to experience together. We will have lunch on our own at the museum and dinner together at a Kosher restaurant in Cincinnati.

Find out more about the exhibit at: cincymuseum.org/auschwitz/

Please note: The subject matter is intense

and emotionally challenging. Families are asked to use their discretion in determining whether the content is appropriate for the child they intend to bring.

RSVP by Friday, February 6.

SUNDAY, MARCH 1

COMMUNITY PURIM CARNIVAL -

LET'S GET WICKED!

9:30 a.m.: Temple Shomer Emunim

"Wicked" Purim Spiel (open to all)

10:30 - 11:45 a.m.: Carnival begins

\$10 per person (ages 4 and under are free)

by Friday, February 20

\$15 per person (ages 4 and under are free)

after Friday, February 20

No one mourns the tickets, because all games, prizes, lunch, hamantaschen, drinks, and more are included!

It's time for the most "wicked" Purim Carnival of 5786! Let's "defy gravity" and celebrate Purim like never before. The entire Jewish community is invited for a morning of games, food, prizes, laughter, costumes, and Purim magic. Whether you're Team Esther, Team Vashti, or just

Featured Event

March 8

International Women's Day

3 p.m.

Sylvania-area location

\$18 per person, includes

presentation, grazing table, coffee,

and desserts

\$36 per person, includes copy of book,

presentation, grazing table, coffee,

and desserts

This International Women's Day, we invite women of all ages and backgrounds to gather for an inspiring afternoon with a virtual visit from author Emily Hyman, whose powerful book *The Girl Bandits of the Warsaw Ghetto* brings to life the extraordinary courage of young Jewish women who fought back during one of history's darkest moments.

Hyman's work illuminates the remarkable stories of the resistance fighters who risked everything to smuggle weapons, deliver messages, protect their communities, and ignite hope in

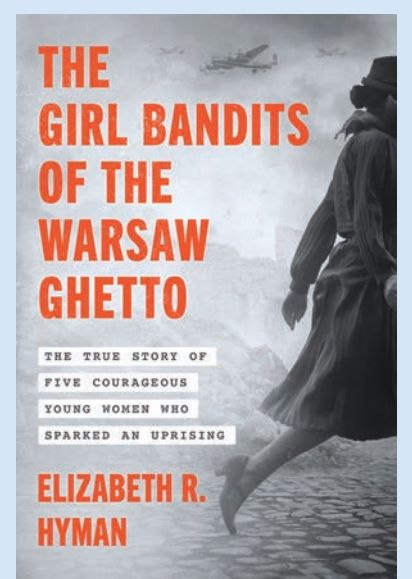
the Warsaw Ghetto.

In sharing these stories, we honor the legacy of women who stood fiercely for justice, and we shine a light on the courage that lives on in women

everywhere. When women share their voices, stories, and support, they create movements that shape the world.

This event is being held in partnership with Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo and the Sisterhood book clubs at Congregation B'nai Israel, Congregation Etz Chayim, and Temple Shomer Emunim.

Expect raffles, giveaways, and special surprises!



For more information and resources, visit jewishtoledo.org.



New for 2026, unless otherwise noted, please register for all programs with Sherry Majewski at 419-724-0351 or sherry@jewishtoledo.org or at <http://bit.ly/44ZccZ4>.



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



To have your community events listed in News You Can Use, send information to abby@jewishtoledo.org at least 45 days prior to event.

here for the hamantaschen, this Purim is going to be “popular.”

Costumes are encouraged! Come as a witch, a wizard, Queen Esther, Mordechai, or something entirely unexplainable.

Adults, we have something special for you too! An adults-only room can be your own Emerald City. Join us for Bingo, card games, prizes, brunch, mimosas, the Java Sensations coffee bar, and more!

The whole Megillah is invited, regardless of affiliation. RSVP before the bubble pops.

This event is held in conjunction with Jewish Federation & Foundation of Greater Toledo, Congregation B'nai Israel, Congregation Etz Chayim, and Temple Shomer Emunim.

SATURDAY, MARCH 14

PJ LIBRARY & TEMPLE SHOMER
EMUNIM TOT SHABBAT
9:30 - 11 a.m.
Free
Location TBA

Tot Shabbat with PJ Library and the Temple! This program is appropriate for children ages 5 and under. Come for a morning of music, prayer, a story, and an art activity.

Bagels and fruit provided. This program is open to all families, regardless of affiliation. RSVP by Friday, March 13.

TUESDAY, MARCH 17

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE JEWS IN IRELAND
6 - 8 p.m.
\$10 for campaign donors
\$20 for non-donors to the campaign

Did you know there have been Jews in Ireland since the 11th century? Come and learn about their fascinating history - we'll do an overview of the past 1000 years and find out about some notable Irish Jews. Kosher-themed dinner will be included. RSVP by Wednesday, March 11.

TUESDAY, MARCH 31

THE GREAT CHAROSET THROWDOWN
6 - 8 p.m.
\$18 per person, includes dinner, drinks, and fun
Location TBA

The Great Charoset Throwdown is intended for Jewish adults ages 40-65ish.

Channel your inner chef and join Jewish Toledo for an evening of friendly competition, creativity, and culinary fun at our version of “Chopped” with a Passover twist! Participants will blindly select a recipe and race against the clock to create their own unique take on charoset using a table of mystery ingredients.

Along the way, learn about the tradition of searching for chametz, enjoy dinner and drinks, and take home a kit to continue your Passover prep at home. Whether you're a seasoned cook or just in it for the fun, this lively night is sure to be one to savor. RSVP by Tuesday, March 24.

SATURDAY, APRIL 11

PJ LIBRARY & CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL TOT SHABBAT
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Free
Location TBA

Open to all families, regardless of affiliation. Join Helen Grubb and other PJ Library families for a Tot Shabbat at Congregation B'nai Israel. We'll start in the chapel where PJ Library and Gan parent Helen Grubb will lead songs, blessings, and a story based on Parshat Shemini. Then we'll join the congregation so the kids can march with the Torah (and their own), followed by playtime and a craft in the playroom. We'll end with a special kid friendly lunch. RSVP by Monday, April 6.

SENIOR PROGRAMMING

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12

SENIOR DIY DOORMATS
1 - 3 p.m.
\$20 for campaign donors
\$50 for non-donors to the campaign; includes all supplies needed, snacks, and beverages
Location TBA (Sylvania-area)
Limited space available

Welcome all future guests with your very own personalized doormat! Enjoy snacks, friends, and great conversations. RSVP by Monday, February 2.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE JEWS IN CHINA - CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION!
5 - 6:30 p.m.
\$18 per person; includes dinner and presentation
Location TBA (local Chinese restaurant)

Join us for an authentic Chinese dinner as we celebrate the vibrant traditions of Chinese New Year! Discover the fascinating story of Jewish migration to China and how these two cultures intertwined throughout history. RSVP by Friday, February 20.

THURSDAY, MARCH 12

PASSOVER SHOPPING TRIP
Bus 9:15 a.m., return approx. 3:30 p.m.
\$20 for campaign donors
\$30 for non-donors to the campaign

We're kicking off our Passover prep with a festive outing! Join us as we shop at The Grove and Zeman's, stock up on all the chametz-free essentials, and enjoy a delicious kosher lunch together. Don't forget to bring your coolers and insulated bags; you'll want a safe spot for all the goodies that need to stay chilled as we gear up for the holiday of freedom! RSVP by Monday, March 2.

THURSDAY, MARCH 26

PASSOVER FLOWERS WITH BEAUTIFUL BLOOMS BY JEN
12 - 1:30 p.m.
\$15 for campaign donors
\$30 for non-donors to the campaign

Join us for a lively pre-Passover lunch and create gorgeous, festive floral arrangements to brighten your seder table! No prior knowledge is required. Come schmooze, snack, and get into the holiday spirit with blooms worthy of parting the sea! RSVP by Thursday, March 19.

For the safety of our community, the location of all events will be shared with registrants prior to each event.

Kelce's former coach meets NFL star, rock star in Kansas City

JIMMY OSWALD

Former Cleveland Heights High School football coach Jeff Rotsky said he is proud of the way that former Tiger Travis Kelce has worked to become a NFL standout. A star at the University of Cincinnati and third-round draft pick of the Kansas City Chiefs, he is an 11-time Pro Bowler and four-time All-Pro over his 13 seasons in the NFL.

But what really has Rotsky beaming with joy is the “tikkun olam (he has) done in the world, in Cleveland and in Kansas City.”

“He’ll be a first-ballot hall of famer and, I know I’m biased, but he’s the best tight end to ever play the game,” Rotsky told the Cleveland Jewish News. “But, what he’s done with his charities and foundations has been unbelievable. Trav went through an incredible maturation process from high school and college. Seeing his growth, and how happy he is, I couldn’t be more proud.”

Rotsky is the head coach at Villa Angela-St. Joseph in Cleveland and has also coached at St. Peter Chanel in Bedford, Maple Heights and Euclid.

For the third-straight year, Rotsky and some of his former players traveled to Kansas City to watch a game. Kelce, a tight end with the Chiefs played quarterback during his senior year for Rotsky. And while the Chiefs dropped a 16-13 decision to the Los Angeles Chargers in Arrowhead Stadium on Dec. 14, he said it was a fun experience.

“Fortunately, we (Villa Angela-St. Joseph) were playing ourselves late in the year (in the playoffs), so this was one of the last home games we’d have the chance to go see him,” Rotsky

said. “Unfortunately, they lost the game, but Travis almost helped lead them back on that last drive with three catches. He played really well, and I’m incredibly proud of him.”

Kelce drew plenty of attention from NFL commentators last season for not putting up his usual higher-tier statistics, and several reporters questioned if it was time to retire. But Rotsky knew better.

“Everybody counted him out,” he said. “I was very angry at a lot of the professional commentary. I suggested that everybody wait because this kid was going to work his tail off. He came back this year and has had some amazing games. Even [in late December], (with the Chiefs starting a third-string quarterback due to injuries), he again almost brought them back on the final drive.”

Rotsky said it was also nice to meet back up with several members of the Kelce family, including Jason Kelce, a retired center who spent 13 seasons with the Philadelphia Eagles. The two brothers host a podcast, “New Heights,” the name a nod to Cleveland Heights, where they discuss sports news and their personal lives while occasionally bringing on athletes and celebrities as special guests. It was the No. 1 podcast on Spotify in 2025.

Entertainment has become a big part of Kelce’s world in recent years. In addition to his podcasting duties, he is the host of “Are You Smarter than a Celebrity?” on Amazon Prime and made a cameo in “Happy Gilmore 2.” In 2023, he began dating Taylor Swift, the highest-grossing live music artist of all time, and his relationship with the star has received much attention across the globe, and the two got engaged in August.



▲ During a visit to Kansas City in 2024 to watch Travis Kelce play, Jeff Rotsky had the chance to meet with both his former player and pop star Taylor Swift, who is engaged to Kelce, following the game. Rotsky’s daughter, Emmie, is also there. | Submitted photo

“I’m excited for him to become a husband,” Rotsky said. “There’s very few people in the world that could handle the limelight the way he does. And Taylor is the kindest young lady. I’ve only met her three times, but she is so humble, nice, wonderful and just an amazing person. Seeing how happy they are together makes me very happy because they each incredibly support the other and what they do.”

Rotsky said the two make a perfect pair because not too many in the world can handle what each does.

“God works in amazing ways putting people together,” he said. “They’re beautiful together and we can only pray that they will have an unbelievable life together and continue to thrive.”

Rumors have swirled throughout the year about if it will be Kelce’s last season in the NFL and if he may retire in the offseason. Rotsky said he doesn’t have any information on that, but said he himself would “love to see him play another year.”

“He obviously proved he can still play,” Rotsky said. “I’d love to see him play another year and make a run with everybody healthy on that team. But if not, he’s going to be an incredibly successful man, he already is. You will see him in movies, in my opinion. Travis will be successful at whatever he chooses to put his mind to.”

This article first appeared in the Cleveland Jewish News. Reprinted with permission.



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JFGT enhancing community safety through proactive security technology

DAVE TULLIS
Security Director
✉ dave@jewishtoledo.org

The safety and security of our Jewish community remain our highest priorities. As we navigate an era in which Jewish institutions face unique and evolving security challenges, it is essential that we continue to strengthen our protective measures while preserving our Jewish spaces and events are places of peace, comfort, and welcome.

To that end, Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo (JFGT) is exploring the implementation of facial recognition technology (FRT) as an additional layer of proactive security for large community events. Through a recently awarded \$125,000 security grant, JFGT has secured funding to evaluate and potentially deploy this technology in a manner that best serves the needs of our local community. The grant, specifically for the facial recognition equipment and technology, was awarded through the Ohio Emergency Management Agency (Ohio EMA). The grant application was submitted by Ohio Jewish Communities (OJC), which serves as the statewide government advocacy, public affairs, and community relations organization for Ohio's eight Jewish Federations. OJC works to secure funding, educate and maintain relationships with government officials, and promote sound public policy.

Having observed facial recognition systems in operation during multiple demonstrations—both at the Jewish Federation of Cleveland and in Israel—I gave careful consideration to how this technology could be responsibly and effectively used in Greater Toledo. Based on our

community's size, infrastructure, and operational realities, I believe the most practical and impactful approach is the use of portable facial recognition cameras housed in transportable cases. These units can be deployed temporarily at Federation-sponsored events or at other locations hosting large public gatherings, offering flexibility without the need for permanent installations.

HOW THIS TECHNOLOGY ENHANCES SAFETY

Traditional security measures are often reactive, responding after an incident has already occurred. Facial recognition technology allows for a more proactive approach to safety:

- **Early Threat Detection:** The system can compare live camera images against a limited database of individuals who have publicly expressed intent to harm Jewish communities or who have engaged in documented antisemitic threats.
- **Immediate Alerts:** If a known threat is detected approaching a secured area, security personnel can be alerted in real time, allowing for early intervention and coordination with local law enforcement when necessary.

- **Flexible Deployment:** Because the cameras are portable, they can be used at different venues and events, enhancing security where and when it is most needed without disrupting the welcoming environment of our communal spaces.

This technology is not a replacement for human awareness or law enforcement partnerships. Rather, it complements existing security practices such as trained staff, access control, situational awareness, strong relationships with local and federal authorities, and evaluation of the system's use by our Community Security Committee that includes representatives from all our local Jewish institutions.

OUR COMMITMENT TO PRIVACY AND ETHICS

We recognize that any use of biometric technology must be carefully balanced with our community's values of privacy, dignity, and trust. Safeguards are central to this initiative:

- **Targeted and Limited Use:** Facial recognition databases are restricted solely to individuals who have demonstrated credible threats or calls to violence. This is not a general surveillance tool.
- **Data Security:** All biometric data is protected using current cybersecurity standards to prevent unauthorized access or misuse.
- **Transparency:** We are committed

to keeping our community informed about how and when this technology is used. Its purpose is not surveillance, but reassurance, providing an added layer of protection so families can feel secure when attending Jewish events.

A LAYERED APPROACH TO SECURITY

This potential investment is one part of a broader, layered security strategy that includes staff and volunteer training, access control measures, physical security improvements, and close coordination with law enforcement partners. By combining human vigilance with responsible technology, we strengthen our ability to protect our institutions while preserving the openness that defines Jewish communal life.

We welcome thoughtful feedback and questions as we continue this conversation. Security is a shared responsibility, and by working together, we can help ensure a safe and vibrant future for Jewish life in Greater Toledo.

DISCLAIMER

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Toledo Jewish Men's Club 2025-2026 Calendar

The Toledo Jewish Men's Club (The "Club") is open to all men in the Toledo Jewish Community. There are no dues or fees other than the couverte for luncheons.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3 (2026):
DAVID BRIGGS, SPORTS COLUMNIST FOR THE TOLEDO BLADE

Veteran observer of sports in Toledo, across Ohio, and nationally, Dave is a voting member of the AP top 25 football rankings. In addition to his role as a lead sports columnist for The Blade, Dave has written for, and appeared in, many national sports media outlets.

TUESDAY, MARCH 3 (2026):
DR. ROMULUS DURANT, CEO/
SUPERINTENDENT-TOLEDO
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Dr. Durant's 11th year as the Superintendent of TPS, he is the youngest educator to hold the position and the first awarded "Urban Educator of the Year" by the Council of Great City Schools.

TUESDAY, APRIL 7; TUESDAY, MAY 5; AND TUESDAY, JUNE 2 (2026):

TO BE ANNOUNCED

Questions?
Call Joel 419-704-5039

Co-Chairs: Mark Greenblatt, Dick Greenblatt, Matt Rubin, and Joel Beren

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	<p><i>Hours</i> Monday-Thursday 11am - 10pm (Kitchen Open Until 9:30pm) Friday & Saturday 11am - 11pm (Kitchen Open Until 10pm)</p>	<p>Friday & Saturday Prime Rib Dinner (10-12 oz cut • \$26.99)</p>
<p><i>Saturday Valentine's Day Dinner Specials</i></p>	<p><i>Happy Hour</i> 1/2 off WELL DRINKS • WINE • DRAFT BEERS Monday-Friday 2 - 6pm • Saturday 11am - 4pm</p>	
<p>*New Lent Menu starts Wednesday, February 18th!</p>		
<p>*Jigg's Dinner Tuesday, February 17th *Jigg's Lunch Portion 11am-3pm • \$12.99 Dinner All Day • \$16.99</p>		
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**Ahava program
For families of individuals
with special needs**

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

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

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

GO PAPER LESS

TOLEDO Jewish News

Want to opt out of the Toledo Jewish News print version? The newspaper is posted online every month (often earlier than the mail) and always FREE to read on your smart phone, computer, or tablet. Stay up-to-date on the latest of Jewish Toledo at www.jewishtoledo.org/about-us/tjnff.

To opt out, mail Abby Hoicowitz at abby@jewishtoledo.org with your name and address, and we'll remove you from the mail list. Thanks for helping us save the planet!



READ TJN ONLINE HERE

JSFSS Family Pantry Wish List

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

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

Contact Hannah Loeser
(419) 724- 0401

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



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 Sylvania-area location. Contact Hannah at 419-724-0401 for exact location.*



* For the safety and security of our community, the location of all events will be shared with registrants prior to the event.

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



YouTube

HBCU | CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

In June 2024, administrators canceled a commencement address by United Nations Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield after students organized a petition and raised objections over her role in U.S. policy backing Israel in the Gaza war.

Still, just as the Xavier students were looking for ways to engage with Israelis, Elkayam and Cohen were searching for a way to stay abroad, wary of returning to a country in turmoil.

They had landed in Morocco two days before Oct. 7, planning on little more than a week of concerts and screenings. The documentary they were showing, directed by a local Muslim filmmaker and titled “In Your Eyes I See My Country,” follows the two as they travel through Morocco, searching for traces of the Jewish world their families left behind, a world that once numbered about a quarter million people and has dwindled to only a few thousand.

On Oct. 6, they gathered to celebrate at Hachkar’s home with a mostly Muslim circle of friends where they recited the Jewish blessing over wine that marks the start of the Sabbath, and sang, and shared stories late into the night. The next morning, they woke to the news.

With two young children and a single suitcase, they faced a choice.

“We quickly understood the insanity that was coming to Israel and decided to stay,” Cohen said.

Their outlook proved to be a premonition of how many Israelis would come to feel over the next two years, as more than 69,000 residents left Israel in 2025 alone, contributing to sustained negative migration and one of the largest modern spikes in emigration from the country.

For Elkayam and Cohen, the decision was about preserving relationships and the ability to think, mourn and speak honestly, especially given how unpopular their left-wing views have become in Israel after Oct. 7.

“It might sound weird but we felt safer in a sense in Morocco, to be among our friends and accepted with our complexities, where we can talk about different narratives at once.” Cohen said. “In Israel, inside the family, you can’t always speak freely. I don’t want to fight with my dad about politics. I am not going to let it happen.”

After three months, living in friends’ homes and watching events unfold from a painful distance, Bamah brought the couple to Xavier University.

At Xavier, Elkayam and Cohen were not treated like visiting artists passing through. They were, as Roberts, their host and champion on campus, put it, “part of the university’s extended family.”

“They are a model for what it looks like to have members of the Jewish diaspora — Israeli citizens, artists, educators — serve, teach and mentor at a historically Black university,” she said. “And they’ve always led with their artistry first. When you connect with people through art, through beauty, everything opens up in a different way.”

Roberts continued, “If I brought someone who was like a Jewish studies expert or political or sociology expert, and they’re lecturing to these students about complex issues connected to Jewish identity, African American identity, Jewish or African diasporic identities, it might get lost in translation. But when Neta and Amit say, ‘All right, grab an instrument. Let’s sing, let’s improvise,’ they’re all speaking one language, even though they don’t speak the same language.”

The warm embrace the couple has found at Xavier, including from Muslim faculty, comes at a moment when many Israeli academics report feeling the opposite: isolated, targeted, and professionally vulnerable on American campuses amid the Gaza war.

For Roberts, it’s no surprise that a historically Black university would be different. HBCUs, she says, know how to practice inclusion because they were founded as an answer to racial exclusion. “By nature, we welcome before we turn away,” she said.

At the same time, Elkayam and Cohen’s particular outlook and style have helped them avoid the kinds of conflicts and tensions Israelis have faced at other universities. By their own account and that of supporters like Roberts, their work is deeply political, but because they communicate through their art, it is harder to flatten them into a caricature or cast them as political adversaries.

Their success at navigating an era prone to strife isn’t confined to Xavier or New Orleans.

In August, Elkayam and Cohen traveled to Flint, Michigan, where they appeared on stage with their New Orleans band alongside musicians from the National Arab Orchestra, in a concert co-presented by Bamah and the Flint Jewish Federation.

Titled “Songs of Our Mothers,” the program represented a rare collaboration in a moment when Israeli artists often face boycotts. The evening unfolded quietly, without protest and without political interference.

At Xavier, each semester culminates in a public showcase of student work, where projects ranging from short films to musical performances and research presentations are shared with classmates, faculty and community members.

“One student told me he would have



▲ Cohen taking a selfie with his students | Courtesy

never been able to voice how I feel on an artistic level with the class,” Parms-Green said. “He left that class feeling more confident, his ability to kind of just put himself out there.”

For all their travel, Elkayam and Cohen have begun to lay down something like roots in New Orleans. They built a band with local musicians, adapting their repertoire of Moroccan Jewish songs to the rhythms of the city, letting brass and jazz sensibilities seep into the arrangements. They were struck by how New Orleans’ second-line parades echoed Morocco’s street rituals, where music spills into public space and celebration becomes something the whole neighborhood moves through together.

“It’s like when I went to Morocco for the first time and was totally shocked,” Elkayam said. “You see music inside people’s homes, art inside people’s homes. Suddenly all the hierarchies in your head collapse — what’s ‘folklore,’ what’s ‘high art,’ what’s ‘low.’ We came back from Morocco as different people, it blew our minds. And it’s the same here, discovering America — the non-stereotypical America, the one they don’t market to you.”

Last year, they brought to New Orleans one of the figures who helped unlock their Moroccan heritage: Reuven Abergel, a founder of Israel’s Black Panthers.

The movement, started by Mizrahi Jews in the 1970s, intentionally borrowed its name and tactics from the American Black Panther Party to protest the systemic discrimination and domination of Israeli society by Ashkenazi elites. A longtime mentor and friend to Elkayam and Cohen, Abergel met with the students at Xavier, creating a bridge between two distinct histories of marginalization and resistance. Cohen filmed the visit for an ongoing documentary about Abergel’s life, capturing the moment where the “Jerusalem-Morocco axis” met the American South.

Cohen also helped create a digital exhibition marking 100 years of The Louisiana Weekly, the city’s historic Black newspaper, helping research its archives and design the site. The work pulled him into the civic memory of the place, into conversations about race, migration and culture that felt familiar and new at once.

At home, the process has been quieter and more complicated. In our

conversation, Elkayam described feeling like an immigrant for the first time, even as her children, almost without noticing, were becoming New Orleanians. They now speak mostly English to their parents. They know the songs, the parades, the small neighborhood rituals. “They’re really from here,” she said. “They grew up inside the parades. For them, this is how you celebrate.”

The couple are also seeing transformation in themselves. The war, the distance, the months in Morocco and now New Orleans have left them feeling untethered from the national identities they had once inhabited. They miss Jerusalem and the community that formed around them there. They also recognize the relief in being in a place where they are not required to perform loyalty, and where it is possible to hold grief and criticism in the same breath.

“We don’t feel Israeli in the rooted sense of the word,” Cohen said. “What matters to us now is not the place, it’s the people.”

They have begun to think of themselves as Jews in the diaspora — not as a temporary condition but as a way of moving through the world.

What happens next is unclear. They are currently in the United States on J-1 visiting scholar visas sponsored by Xavier University, but the university cannot offer enough funding to hire them as full-time instructors. Without outside support to replace the now-expired Bamah grant, they risk losing their visas and their right to stay in the country.

For now, they keep teaching, composing and building relationships, unsure how long New Orleans will remain home.

“I really feel like a Jewish migrant right now, in the most basic sense of the word,” Cohen said.

Elkayam offered a caveat. She has come to see their time abroad as a fragile privilege — a brief chance to heal while others, especially Mizrahim without the means to leave, remain stuck.

Grateful yet uneasy, she misses the heavy responsibility she once carried in Jerusalem: showing up for her community, helping hold its history, telling stories that might otherwise disappear. From New Orleans, she allows herself to rest, even as she knows the future is uncertain.

“Maybe, God willing, we’ll be able to continue here,” she said, “because yeah, I don’t always miss that role.”

“You see music inside people’s homes, art inside people’s homes. Suddenly all the hierarchies in your head collapse — what’s ‘folklore,’ what’s ‘high art,’ what’s ‘low.’ We came back from Morocco as different people, it blew our minds.”

Neta Elkayam

TEMPLE SHOMER EMUNIM

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February Worship Schedule

Friday, February 6 at 6pm
Challah Bake and Shabbat Service
with Rabbi Delson and
Cantor Roher

Friday, February 20 at 5:30pm
Just Because It's Shabbat

Saturday, February 7 at 10:30am
Shabbat of Song and Study

Saturday, February 21 at 10:30am
Shabbat Morning Yoga:
Body and Soul
Babysitting is available with prior
notice.

Friday, February 13 at 6pm
Shabbat service with Rabbi Delson
and Dr. Andrew Pelletier

**Saturday, February 14
at 9:30am**
Torah Today
in the Lounge

Friday, February 27 at 6pm
Shabbat Service
with Rabbi Delson and
Dr. Andrew Pelletier



The Gift of Mindfulness

Wednesday, February 4 at 7pm

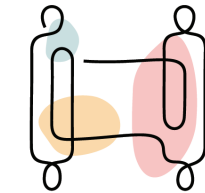
Join us for the Temple's mindfulness program. We will explore different dimensions of mindfulness practice - different kinds of meditation, Jewish text study, small group conversations, and real-life practices that you can carry into your everyday life. You can join in person OR join on Zoom: contact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



Shabbat of Song and Study

Saturday, February 7 at 10:30am

Rabbi Delson and Cantor Roher will lead a Shabbat morning service in song along with a study session in between.



Torah Today

Saturday, February 14 at 9:30 am

An interactive discussion on the Torah portion for the week. Bagels and coffee are served. No experience necessary. Everyone is welcome.



Current Events

Thursday, February 19 at 2pm with Rabbi Delson
Discuss how issues in the world today affect our community



Shabbat Morning Yoga: Body and Soul

with Cantor Roher, Saturday, February 21 at 10:30am

Start your Shabbat morning with a rejuvenating spiritual practice that will give you a renewed sense of peace. The class is for all levels, using a chair or a mat, whichever is most appropriate for you. No experience needed. Call the Temple office for the Zoom link.



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Take a photo that fits one of these Themes-

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WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE *except during holidays

- Monday & Thursday Morning Minyan: 8:00 AM - IP/ZM
- Monday - Thursday Afternoon Minyan: 5:45 PM - ZM
- Friday Kabbalat Shabbat: 5:45 PM - ZM
- Saturday Morning Shabbat: 9:30 AM - IP/LS, Saturday Mincha Service: 12:30 PM - IP/LS
- Sunday Morning Minyan: 9:30 AM - IP/ZM

All CBI programs and religious services are open to the members of all local congregations & guests 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 during office hours.

Ongoing Adult Education Classes

All classes are in-person at CBI & on Zoom. Contact the office if you need the Zoom link and passcode.

- **Parashat Hashavuah: Fridays at 11:00 AM IP Only** (unless otherwise notified)
- **Megillah Reading Class: Mondays at 7:30 PM until Purim**
- **Intro to Judaism: Wednesday Evenings at 8:00-9:00 PM**
- **Judaism & Modernity: New Scientific/Technological Developments: Sundays at 10:30-11:30 AM** (This class will run on Sunday mornings when there is not a monthly Adult Ed Series program)
- **Tefillah Talk - Musaf: Monday Evenings at 8:00-9:00 PM**
- **Basic Hebrew Reading: Wednesday Evenings at 7:30 PM**

RSVP to the office by calling 419-517-8400 if you'd like to join. Contact Rabbi Marsh with any questions at rabbim@cbitoledo.org

Tu biShvat Seder

Sunday, February 1, 2026, 10:30 AM at CBI

In partnership with Cong. Etz Chayim. Enjoy an exciting intergenerational Tu biShvat seder filled with interactive activities, holiday snacks, and a sweet celebration of nature and renewal. **Cost is free, but voluntary donations are greatly appreciated.**

Reservations required. Contact kbrody@cbitoledo.org or call the office at 419.517.8400 by January 26th.

Connecting Kids to Meals Volunteer Event

Thursday, February 12, 2026 10 AM - 12 PM

Cherry Street Mission Building, 1501 Monroe St.
RSVP to Fran Weinblatt at programming@cbitoledo.org by Feb. 11th.

CBI Office Closings

Mon. February 16 Closed President's Day

Superbowl Sunday World Wide Wrap

Sunday, February 8, 2026, 9:00 AM

Tefillin wrapping demo at 9:00 AM, Services at 9:30 AM

Join us at CBI on Superbowl Sunday as we unite with men and women around the world celebrating the mitzvah of wrapping tefillin! This is a unique opportunity to put on tefillin a non-intimidating setting amongst friends. Tefillin will be provided and we will help you wrap. **Women are encouraged to join!**
RSVP to Kim Brody at kbrody@cbitoledo.org or call the office at 419.517.8400 by 2:00 PM, Feb. 5th.

CBI Adult Ed: Jewish American Series

3-Part Series: Wednesdays, at 7:30 AM on Zoom
February 11, March 11, 18, 2026

This Zoom series will examine **American Jewish life in the US from 1924-1945**. The speaker and presenter of the series is Dr. Joellyn Kollman, Professor of Jewish Studies at San Diego State University. **Cost is \$18 for all 3 sessions.**

Contact Dale Levy to RSVP to the series and for direct payment at 614-205-9994 or email dlevy82@gmail.com.
Zoom links will provided near the time of the sessions.

In-Person Kabbalat Shabbat Service

Friday, February 13, 2026, 6:00 PM at CBI

Join us for a meaningful in-person Shabbat Ma-ariv service.
RSVP to Kim Brody at kbrody@cbitoledo.org or call the office at 419.517.8400 by 2:00 PM, Feb. 12th.

Game Day Extravaganza at CBI

Sunday, February 15, 2026, 1 - 4 PM at CBI

Join us for an afternoon of fun and friendly competition. **Cost is free, but voluntary donations are greatly appreciated.**
Reservations required. RSVP to Kim Brody at kbrody@cbitoledo.org or call the office at 419.517.8400 by Feb. 9th.

WOMEN OF CBI CELEBRATE: Rosh Chodesh Adar

Wednesday, February 18, 2026, 11:00 AM at CBI

Join us for a lovely Purim lunch and program. The Tikkun Olam for this program will be a monetary donation to Hillel 419 serving students at the University of Toledo and Bowling Green State University.

A registration fee of \$15 (cash or check payable to "Women of CBI") will be collected at the door.

THIS PROGRAM IS OPEN TO THE WOMEN OF ALL LOCAL CONGREGATIONS. RSVP to Miriam Beckerman at wcbi@cbitoledo.org by Wednesday, Feb. 11th.

WCBI BOOK CLUB: Goyhood by Reuven Fenton

Tuesday, February 24, 2026, 10:30 AM at CBI

THIS PROGRAM IS OPEN TO THE WOMEN OF ALL LOCAL CONGREGATIONS.

RSVP to Ellen Federman at efederman@sbcglobal.net by Feb. 22nd.

SAVE THE DATE:

THE BEACH BOYS BOOK OF ESTHER:

CBI Purim Sing-Along Celebration

Megillah Reading, Purim Shpiel, & Delicious Dinner

Monday, March 2, 2026 5:30 PM at CBI
Ma-ariv at 5:30 PM sharp, followed by megillah reading

- GROUP KARAOKE SING-ALONG TO BEACH BOYS SONGS!
- HOMEMADE HAMANTASCHEN • MISHLOACH MANOT
- DELICIOUS DINNER & YUMMY DESSERT
- HEAR THE MEGILLAH... AND MUCH MORE!

The cost for event & dinner is \$18 per person.

Religious School students and children 12 & under FREE.
Reservations required. RSVP to Kim Brody at kbrody@cbitoledo.org or call the office at 419.517.8400 by Feb. 23rd.

CONGREGATION ETZ CHAYIM

JOINT TU B'SHEVAT PROGRAM PLANNED

February begins with an extra special Tu B'Shevat program in partnership with our friends at Congregation B'nai Israel. Come enjoy an intergenerational seder with interactive, festive activities, holiday snacks, and a sweet celebration of nature and renewal. Join at B'nai Israel on February 1 at 10:30 a.m. The cost is free. Voluntary donations are appreciated.

MAJ/POKER GAMES

Sunday mornings from 10 a.m. – noon are filled with fun, laughter, and friendly competition as we gather to play mahj and poker. It's a wonderful way to connect, unwind, and enjoy time together with great company. We will be playing on February 8 and 22.

WEDNESDAY WITH FRIENDS

Wednesdays with Friends returns on February 11 at 10 a.m. with a delightful movie, "My Favorite Year." Re-live the early days of live TV with this feel-good comedy about a legendary matinee idol and the rookie writer tasked with keeping him on track. This film offers a charming mix of 1950's nostalgia and Jewish humor not to be missed. Snacks will be served.

SHABBAT WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

A wonderful Shabbat weekend begins on Friday evening, February 20 as we gather with Rabbi Jason Mark for a meaningful Shabbat service, welcoming a time of rest, reflection, and community. Following services, we come together for a relaxed and enjoyable Shabbat dinner—sharing conversation, laughter, and the joy of being together. The cost of the dinner is \$18 per person. Please RSVP to the synagogue office by February 16.

On Saturday morning, there will be Shabbat services, continuing the meaningful time to connect and reflect. We then conclude the morning with a festive Kiddush luncheon, offering time to socialize, reconnect with friends, and extend the warmth of Shabbat.

FIRESIDE CHAT

Join us for a relaxed fireside chat beginning with Havdalah, as we welcome our special guest, Cantor Ivor Lichterman. Over stories and conversation, he'll reflect on his childhood growing up in South Africa and share the experiences that shaped his love of Jewish music and community. He'll also talk about the journey that eventually led him to Toledo and to the cantorate. This promises to be a welcoming, heartfelt evening to listen, connect, and enjoy getting to know the person behind the voice. Charles and Fran Weinblatt will host this extra special evening on February 28 at 7:15 p.m. Please RSVP to Elsa Leveton or Nancy Jacobson.

PURIM HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Purim begins the evening of Monday, March 2. Rabbi Jason Mark will read the megillah on zoom at 7:10 p.m. Please let Elsa or Nancy know if you would like to receive the link. Everyone is invited to participate. On Tuesday morning, March 3, Congregation Etz Chayim and Congregation B'nai Israel will join at our synagogue at 9:30 a.m. to hear the megillah being read. Delicious breakfast will follow. RSVP to the synagogue office.

50TH ANNIVERSARY KISHKA DINNER

In honor of the 50th anniversary of Congregation Etz Chayim, the famous Kishka dinner is back. The entire community is invited to share in a synagogue tradition on Sunday, March 15 at 6 p.m., with brisket, kishka stuffing, and all the trimmings (chicken available upon request with reservation). A delightful musical program featuring the steel drum ensemble from Toledo School for the Arts will follow dinner. The cost is \$36 per person. Reservations and payment must be made in advance. RSVP to Elsa Leveton, 419-473-2401 or elsa@etzchayimtoledo.org, or Nancy Jacobson, jaco824@bex.net.

PLEASE NOTE: All Zoom, virtual, and in-person programs require registration. You can contact either Nancy Jacobson at jaco824@bex.net or Elsa Leveton at 419-473-2401 or elsa@etzchayimtoledo.org for further information and registration.

CHABAD HOUSE



The Friendship Circle
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Open to the public
for one night only!

The Friendship Circle Café is prepared and run by participants of the Joanne Galler Rubin Friendship Circle. Come show your support for their skills and achievements by reserving your table at our pop-up cafe!

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Friendship Circle
Tuesday, February 17 | 5:00 PM
Reserve your table at chabadtoledo.com/fccafe



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TUESDAY, MARCH 3

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JUNE 22 - JULY 17, 2026

AGES 4-11 / K- 6TH
9:00 AM - 3:30 PM DAILY

SAVE THE DATE

This Jewish artist fought Nazis with a paintbrush, when art like his still mattered

ANDREW SILOW-CARROLL

I remember being freaked out, and fascinated, by my parents' copy of Hans Christian Andersen fairy tales. It featured these especially lurid illustrations; I can still see a little girl in a red coat, trapped in a spider's web and tormented by lizards, bats and a huge black spider with a skull and crossbones on its head.

I didn't know then that this was the work of Arthur Szyk, a Polish-born Jew who was famous for his vivid and grotesque caricatures of Nazi and Japanese leaders and his heroic depictions of American soldiers and the country's founding fathers. His work appeared in popular magazines, part of a national effort to move hearts and minds in support of the war in Europe and the Pacific.

Szyk's propaganda is at the center of an exhibit at New York's Museum of Jewish Heritage, "Art of Freedom: The Life & Work of Arthur Szyk." It brings together more than 100 works, including cartoons, miniatures, illuminations, and political ephemera.

In its time Szyk's wartime work was recognized as an effective means of stirring public sentiment. First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt praised his contribution to the war effort, saying his art "fights the war against Hitlerism as truly as any of us who cannot actually be on the fighting fronts."

Viewed through today's lens, however, the show raises timely questions about how art functions as a political instrument. Can works of art still rally the masses to fight authoritarianism? Or is propaganda more likely to be used as an instrument of tyranny? Szyk drew mocking caricatures; what happens when politicians lean into their caricatures and call it a brand?

The exhibit also features Szyk's work on Jewish themes, from idealized paintings of shtetl life to plates from his popular haggadah to the propaganda he produced on behalf of the Zionist cause before and after the founding of Israel. Throughout his life, the exhibition emphasizes, Szyk saw his Jewish identity not as a background fact but as a moral mandate: His work linked the fate of Jews to universal ideals of freedom, democracy and resistance to oppression, using his brush to persuade and commemorate.

"He fought passionately against tyranny and oppression directed toward the Jews, and for freedom and justice, and translated these values into democratic ideals for humankind," according to Irving Ungar, an advisor for the exhibition and author of the forthcoming memoir, "Reviving the Artist Who Fought Hitler: My Life With Arthur Szyk."

Szyk (1894-1951) was born in Łódź and trained as an artist in Kraków and Paris, absorbing medieval illumination, caricature and modern political satire. A formative visit to

Palestine in 1914 sharpened his Zionist commitments, and the rise of fascism in Europe transformed his art into an explicit weapon against tyranny.

After spending much of the 1930s in Poland, France and then London, Szyk was deeply alarmed by the rise of Nazism and the threat it posed to Jews across the continent. After Germany invaded Poland in 1939, Szyk and his family fled London for North America, with encouragement from the British government and the Polish government-in-exile to help rally support for the Allied cause against Nazism. He and his wife and daughter arrived in Halifax in July 1940 and by December of that year had reached New York City.

Once in the United States, he threw himself into political caricatures that appeared in magazines, wartime exhibitions and fundraising materials, helping to shape American public sentiment in a crucial period. Szyk remained in the United States after the war and became an American citizen in 1948.

Taken on its own terms, Szyk's work is admirable and even audacious. His heroes are irreproachable; his tyrants grotesque. He believed deeply that art should not be neutral in the face of atrocity.

And yet the exhibit also acknowledges the dark side of propaganda. A typical Szyk illustration features a stereotypical American cowboy being stabbed in the back by an even more stereotypical Japanese soldier, while a buffoonish Goebbels and knock-kneed Hitler look on. The Japanese assassin has a simian, gap-toothed grimace, crossed eyes and pointed ears. The wall label next to the illustration acknowledges that Szyk "seized on long-standing myths of the 'Yellow Peril,' depicting Japanese people as primitive, threatening and even subhuman." Szyk's drawings may indeed have helped boost morale. But as the wall label reminds us, "These kinds of prejudices helped to justify the imprisonment of over 120,000 Japanese Americans" between 1942 and 1945.

Still, the kid in me longs for the moral certainty represented by Szyk's political art, where it is easy to distinguish the good guys from the bad guys and assume that most of your neighbors agree with you about who is which. But the exhibit also reminds you that political consensus is fleeting. Szyk's art champions movements that would later be contested, none more so than Zionism. In a one pro-statehood illustration, he depicts handsome, idealized Jewish soldiers representing the three main factions of Jewish defense — the Irgun, the Haganah and the "Sternist" — in stalwart unity. Even during his lifetime the methods and legacies of the militant Zionists and underground movements would prove controversial. You can only imagine Szyk's surprise were he to have seen the very legitimacy of a Jewish state



▲ A detail from Arthur Szyk's "They Too Have a Right to Live," which first appeared in the May 12, 1943 issue of *The New York Times* and was presumably sponsored by the Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe, an organization founded by Zionist activist Peter Bergson in 1943.

| Photo / The collection of Irvin Ungar, Burlingame, California



▲ Arthur Szyk drew this self-portrait, featuring Hitler and his Axis allies, in 1944. | Photo / Gift of Bruce and Elaine Bosworth

being widely debated 75 years after its founding.

His Israel work is just one of many aspects of the show that underline the difference between his time and ours. In the 1940s, Szyk's imagery moved audiences in a world of print media and propaganda posters — media that still dominated public discourse. His "Four Freedoms" series — medieval knights depicting concepts like free speech and religious freedom — traveled with wartime exhibitions and was widely reproduced, helping to shape American ideas about what Allied victory would mean not just militarily but morally.

In our own times, earnest renderings like "Four Freedoms" seem hopelessly dated. As critics from George Orwell to David Foster Wallace have suggested, the modern habit of irony and media-savvy skepticism has made the kind of earnest, morally unambiguous propaganda that flourished in World War II harder to sustain.

Or has it? Donald Trump, for one, regularly creates caricatures — of immigrants, of his political opponents, of the "demonic" and "evil" Democrats — to dominate American politics in ways that few presidents ever have. Trump seems to realize that by acting himself as a caricature — rarely deviating from his signature look, draping his office in gold, posting on Truth Social almost

exactly what the most gifted satirist would expect him to post — he subverts his critics and reinforces his brand. Similarly, the social media accounts of the Department of Homeland Security have repeatedly posted 19th- and 20th-century paintings, often featuring white pioneers or settlers, with captions like "Remember your Homeland's Heritage" and "A Homeland Worth Defending," co-opting the bluntness of an earlier era's unironic propaganda.

Today, the metrics for influence look very different than they did in Szyk's day, when most people encountered news, images and ideas through a limited number of media. Today's attention economy is hyper-competitive and atomized. X threads, TikTok videos and partisan cable news channels vie for attention in a crowded marketplace of ideas.

The Museum of Jewish Heritage's exhibition is an invitation to compare the certainties of one era with the fractured media and political landscape of our own. Appearing at a time when Americans are debating the limits of freedom and future of democracy, it asks whether art can still carry the moral weight that Szyk hoped it could.

"Art of Freedom: The Life & Work of Arthur Szyk" is on view at at New York's Museum of Jewish Heritage through July 26, 2026.



Tech Time with Tim

TIM HAGEN
 ✉ tim@jewishtoledo.org

Fostering a sense of social connection, whether through family, friends, or both remains ever-so-important for one's well-being. As we're in the middle of winter, I'm finding myself starting or diving deeper into the following habits to nurture my friendships that may already be strong or, perhaps, may need revisiting.

The one 'catch,' if you will, regarding my drive for connectivity is that I'm using tech, in some way, shape, or form, to do this. That said, keeping my use of tech simple and easy has helped me stay motivated... and should you try this, I hope it will help you, too.

Instead of texting someone, try calling them. Initiate a friendly, daily/ weekly competition involving online games (such as Wordle). You may find that comparing results is more fun and funnier than you'd expect... and gives you an excuse to stay in touch with one another

Ditch social media and texting and instead email at least one or two friends or family members with whom you haven't spoken with, or seen, in over a year. Writing in longer form (even if only for a paragraph or two) may offer you a 'new,' more robust way to communicate again.

Until next month! Tim

Tim Hagen
 Project Manager and Technology Coordinator Jewish Senior, Family and Social Services
 Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo
 [T] 419-724-0412



Device Advice programs are held on Wednesdays 11 a.m.-noon

Upcoming Tech Programs

1. **Wednesday, February 11: All About Passkeys**
2. **Wednesday, February 18: Let's Talk About AI**

Please RSVP with Sherry Majewski at:
 419-724-0351 or sherry@jewishtoledo.org

* For the safety and security of our community, the location of all events will be shared with registrants prior to the event.



(Tech Time with Tim)

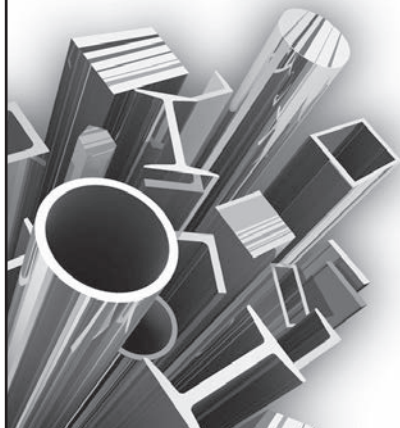
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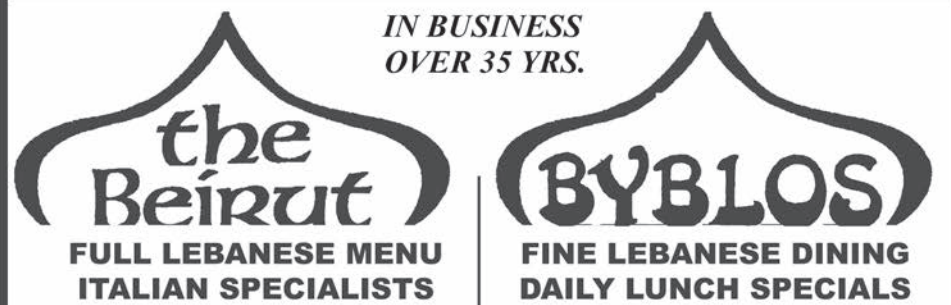
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Simply email your ad and billing information to abby@JewishToledo.org or call 419-724-0423 for more information.

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

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Connection happens here.

February at Hillel419 is proof that Jewish life on campus is having a great time. Between Shabbat dinners, meaningful conversations, and students showing up exactly as they are, Hillel continues to be a place where connection comes first. As winter drags on, Hillel419 remains a warm space filled with friendship, belonging, and plenty of reasons to smile.



Learn more about our students,
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www.hillel419.org.



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