



# TOLEDO Jewish News

JewishToledo.org

TISHREI/CHESHVAN 5786 | October 2025



## Chag Sukkot Sameach

October 23 -  
December 4



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# 21st Annual NW Ohio Jewish Book Festival

The 21st Annual NW Ohio Jewish Book Festival kicks off on Oct. 23, with monthly guest lectures and discussions throughout

the remainder of 2025. For the safety and security of the community, locations of all events will be shared with registrants prior to each event.



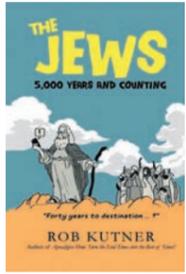
## 7:00 P.M. THURSDAY, OCT. 23

### "THE JEWS: 5,000 YEARS AND COUNTING"

By Rob Kutner



Kutner



"The Jews: 5,000 Years and Counting" is packed with Jew-facts, Jew-figures, and the original, never-before-seen documents from those who lived through Jewish history. Read the transcript of the Biblical Patriarchs' and Matriarchs' Group Therapy Session! Sneak a peek at Moses' Secret Diary or check out the awkward "I'm dumping you" text chain from Spain to the Jews in 1492! Collect and trade Rabbi Action Cards! Covering every major moment in Jewish history from the literal

"Beginning" to Tuesday's rerun of "Seinfeld," this book will make you laugh. It might inadvertently make you learn. If you're Jewish, it will unquestionably give you something to kvetch about.

**Rob Kutner** is an Emmy-winning TV comedy writer who has written for "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart" and "Conan," and the author of the kids' graphic novel "Snot Goblins & Other Tasteless Tales," and two books for Marvel.

**Cost is \$18 per person, includes appetizers and soft drinks or \$30 per person, includes copy of book, appetizers and soft drinks.**

**RSVP deadline is Friday, Oct. 17**  
(Downtown Toledo-area location to be announced prior to the event. Ample parking available)

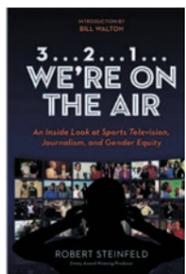
## 6:00 P.M. SUNDAY, NOV. 2

### "3... 2... 1... WE'RE ON THE AIR: A NETWORK PRODUCER'S INSIDE LOOK AT SPORTS TELEVISION, JOURNALISM, AND GENDER EQUITY"

By Robert Steinfeld



Steinfeld



Join Emmy Award-winning producer Robert Steinfeld on his path from eager, ambitious Jewish teenage journalist to ultimately realizing his dream to produce sports' biggest events on national network television. Along the way, he's crossed paths with superstar athletes Cal Ripken, Alex Rodriguez, Nolan Ryan, Nancy Lieberman, Tim Duncan, David Robinson, and Bill Walton plus announcers Bob Costas, Jim Nantz, Robin Roberts, and more. Go inside the world of sports television with stories about the Dream Team I at the 1992

Barcelona Olympics; challenges at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics; partnering with Hall of Fame pitchers Nolan Ryan and Randy Johnson; five decades in the NBA, MLB, WNBA; and being a champion of gender equity.

Foreword by Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Famer Nancy Lieberman and introduction by fellow Hall of Famer Bill Walton who wrote, "Let the countdown begin...."

**Robert Steinfeld** has produced and directed sports television for five decades for the major networks. He's Executive Producer of the WNBA

Dallas Wings. He spent many days participating in events and sports at the JCC in Dallas where he lives now with his wife, children and three grandchildren.

**Cost is \$18 per person, includes dinner and soft drinks or \$40 per person, includes copy of book, dinner and soft drinks.**

**RSVP deadline is Monday, October 27**  
(Sylvania/Toledo-area location to be announced prior to event)

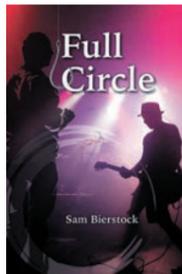
## 12:00 P.M. THURSDAY, NOV. 13

### "FULL CIRCLE"

By Sam Bierstock



Bierstock



"Full Circle" is a laugh-out-loud, "Borscht Belt humor" journey through the ups and downs of the lives of four septuagenarian musicians, while cutting a gut-wrenching depth and eye-opening look into PTSD, Holocaust and WWII heroism, and our ignored or forgotten aging citizens residing in nursing homes. Mick's ingenuity and nostalgia for his band reunites the four aging friends as they brighten the depressive shadow looming over the nursing home while revealing how every life has a story and something to teach us

if we pay attention.

**Sam Bierstock** has never stopped pursuing new adventures. He is a physician and an eye surgeon who became a pioneer of technology in the early years of electronic health records. He is an electrical engineer. He is an award-winning songwriter, a professional musician, and has toured the U.S. since 1995 with his band, Dr. Sam & The Managed Care Blues Band. He is a professional ski instructor, a pilot of powered and fixed-wing glider aircraft, a scuba diver, a motorcycle enthusiast, a horseman, is certified by the American Sailing Association, and is a builder of custom guitars.

**Cost is \$10 per person, includes kosher lunch or \$20 per person, includes copy of book and kosher lunch.**

**RSVP deadline is Friday, November 7**  
(Sylvania-area location to be announced prior to event)

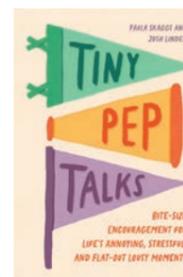
## 7:00 P.M. THURSDAY, DEC. 4

### "TINY PEP TALKS: BITE-SIZE ENCOURAGEMENT FOR LIFE'S ANNOYING, STRESSFUL, AND FLAT-OUT LOUSY MOMENTS"

By Paula Skaggs and Josh Linden



Skaggs and Linden



Need a pep talk? How about "Tiny Pep Talks" from two comedians who offer hilarious encouragement for your most mundane struggles? Anybody can tell you, "You can do it!" before the big job interview, or before you walk down the aisle, or before you head out onto the field to make the game-winning kick at the Super Bowl. But what about the other 99.99% of stuff you do? Comedians Josh Linden and Paula Skaggs are rooting for you, and they're here to cheerlead you through your everyday challenges.

**Josh Linden** is a "USA Today" bestselling author and comedian. He is co-creator of the hit game, "No Wrong Answers: Cards for Better Conversations," and cohost of "Being Earnest (A Very Sincere Podcast)". He has a degree in Medieval History, which comes in handy surprisingly often. Josh lives in Chicago with his wife, daughter, and (very long) dog.

**Paula Skaggs** is a best-selling author, a card game creator and a pretty big fan of frozen food. She is the co-creator, with Josh Linden, of "No Wrong Answers" and the sodium-laden writer behind "Paula Eats," a frozen meal review newsletter. When she's not busy with self-promotion she can be found at the nearest thrift store or drinking a crisp Diet Coke (probably both at the same time).

**Cost is \$18 per person, includes appetizers and drinks or \$30 per person, includes copy of book, appetizers and drinks.**

**RSVP deadline is Monday, December 1**  
(Sylvania-area location to be announced prior to event)

## There are multiple ways to register for each book festival event:

Scan the QR Code on your phone or tablet:

By phone: 419-724-0351

By email: sherry@jewishtoledo.org

Complete the online form: [form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/jfgtprograms](http://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/jfgtprograms).

For more information or questions, visit [jewishtoledo.org/nwojewishbookfestival25](http://jewishtoledo.org/nwojewishbookfestival25) or contact Hallie Freed at 419-724-0362 or [hallie@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:hallie@jewishtoledo.org).

**All featured author books will be available for presale. Limited books will be available for sale at and after all in person events.**

**All programs are subject to change or cancellation without prior notification due to schedules and commitments of our authors. Refunds will be available.**



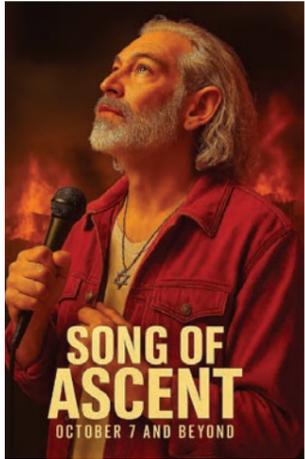
The Northwest Ohio Jewish Book Festival would like to acknowledge the following for their generous support and partnership:



Jack Jr. and Nora Romanoff  
Donor Advised Fund

**Song of Ascent: October 7 and Beyond community commemoration**

In commemoration of the two-year anniversary of the surprise attack by Hamas on Israel on October 7, 2023, through the generous support of JCC Association of America, Ministry for Diaspora Affairs and Combating Antisemitism and MIT-HABRIM Connections, Jewish Federation & Foundation of Greater Toledo will present a free community film screening and community gathering with local clergy to lead a community prayer: “Commemorating October 7: Honoring the fallen, the survivors, and those still in captivity – with hope for return and unity”. Featuring the film, “Song of Ascent: October 7 and Beyond,” the event will take place on Sunday, October 5.



Doors open at 6:30 p.m. with film screening taking place at 7:00 p.m. Following the showing of the 86-minute English language film, local clergy will lead the community in prayer to honor and remember those lost on and since October 7, 2023.

RSVP by Friday, October 3 to [form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/JCRC-events](http://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/JCRC-events) or with Mary Bilyeu at 419-724-0405 or [mary@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:mary@jewishtoledo.org).

For the safety and security of the community, the location of the event will be shared with registrants prior to the event. This event is generously supported by :

**COMMEMORATING OCTOBER 7**  
Honoring the fallen, the survivors, and those still in captivity—  
with hope for return and unity.

**Federation to host ‘Ladies who Give Thanks’ Nov. 16**

Jewish Federation and Foundation of Greater Toledo invites women of all ages to gather for “Ladies Who Give Thanks” on Sunday, Nov. 16, from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. at a Sylvania-area venue, which will be shared with attendees ahead of the event.

Come together to celebrate Friendsgiving, meet new friends, reconnect with old ones, and share the spirit of gratitude. Participants will enjoy a delicious festive meal featuring family recipes, participate in a mitzvah project to support Pilgrim Church’s Project Dignity, and enjoy a warm, festive atmosphere.

Jewish Federation and Foundation of Greater Toledo will provide both traditional and unique side dishes to complement a Thanksgiving dinner. After RSVPing, guests will receive an invitation to share their favorite side dish recipe, and all submissions will be compiled into a special keepsake to be given to everyone in attendance.

The cost is \$18 per person, which includes dinner and drinks.

RSVP by Monday, November 10 to [form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/jewishwomen](http://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/jewishwomen) or with Sherry Majewski at 419-724-0351 or [sherry@jewishtoledo.org](mailto: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.

**28th Annual Give • A • Gift For Kids 2025 on Dec. 3**

Help make a child’s holiday season special this year by donating gifts through the annual Give-A-Gift program. The kids will be referred to the program by the following agencies: Jewish Senior, Family & Social Services and Lucas County Juvenile Court’s CASA program. All holiday gifts should be dropped off, unwrapped, at Temple Shomer Emunim, 6453 Sylvania Ave., by 4pm on Wednesday, December 3.

For more information call Julie Romanoff at 419-297-3029 or email at [sprmom88@aol.com](mailto:sprmom88@aol.com)

Don’t feel like shopping? We have a charity box of gift items at Learning Express. Simply visit the store and purchase an item or two from our box. Staff is ready to assist you in choosing age appropriate gifts. Make a difference. Shop local!

Visit [www.jewishtoledo.org](http://www.jewishtoledo.org) for more events happening throughout the community.

To have your community events listed in News You Can Use, send information to [abby@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:abby@jewishtoledo.org) at least 14 days prior to event.

**TOLEDO Jewish News**

*A reflection of YOU!*

Jewish Federation & Foundation OF GREATER TOLEDO

**TO ADVERTISE OR RECEIVE MORE INFORMATION ON ADVERTISING:** Contact Abby Hoicowitz 419-724-0423 [abby@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:abby@jewishtoledo.org)

TOLEDO OPERA  
**SULTRY. BOLD. DARING CARMEN**  
BY GEORGES BIZET  
OCTOBER 10 & 12, 2025

LISA MARIE ROGALI, CARMEN | BRENDAN BOYLE, DON JOSÉ | JOSHUA JEREMIAH, ESCAMILLO

FOR TICKETS, 419-255-7464 OR [TOLEDOOPERA.ORG](http://TOLEDOOPERA.ORG)

# Ladies at The Gather by Graze Station

Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo hosted a ladies night out for an evening of laughter, good vibes, and gorgeous (and delicious) charcuterie by The Gather by Graze Station. Cheers to friendship (and a perfect snack spread)!



▲ (L to R) Hope Davis, Marnie Younker, and Ashlee Davis



▲ The Gather by Graze Station at Cricket West provided a beautiful setup



▲ Charcuterie bliss



▲ (L to R) Stephanie Judis and Robin Isenberg

**TOLEDO Jewish News**

## Stay Informed. Stay Connected.

Toledo Jewish News, together with the Cleveland Jewish News, Akron Jewish News and Columbus Jewish News, now brings you timely coverage through our exclusive e-newsletters:

- Ohio Breaking News – Get the latest headlines that matter most to our Jewish communities across Ohio.
- Israel at War – Receive urgent updates and in-depth reporting as events unfold in Israel.

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**<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/sl/whQsuZ7/toledo>**

\*By submitting this form, you have opted in to start receiving Ohio Breaking News, Israel at War, and other updates from the Toledo Jewish News.

## Evening of Pearls

In mid-August, Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo's (JFGT) Pearl women's philanthropists gathered for a night celebrating generosity and impact. From the debut of beautiful new statement jewelry to a lively, informative bingo game highlighting the many programs and services JFGT funds, these incredible women remind us what it means to give, lead, and inspire.



▲ Yi Shaw and Megan Rhodes



▲ Marcy Kuehnle



▲ Showing off the new statement jewelry



▲ Wendy Goldstein speaks to the ladies

# 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](mailto:barb@jewishtoledo.org) or Monique at 419-724-0386, [monique@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:monique@jewishtoledo.org).

Received between August 13 - September 10, 2025

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

**In Memory of Susan Berson**  
• Mr. and Mrs. Jon Levine

**Hillel1419**

**In Memory of Bill Barkan**  
**In Honor of Gary Delman's special birthday**  
**In Honor of Bill and Luann Garber's birth of their grandson**

**In Memory of Jan Katz**  
**In Honor of Peter and Marcia Silverman's special anniversary**

• Mr. and Mrs. Joel Beren  
**In Honor of Paul Goldner's Birthday**

• Mr. and Mrs. Steven Dolin  
• Dr. and Mrs. William Garber  
• Mr. Paul Goldner and Ms. Sandy Soifer  
• Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon Goldstein  
• Steven and Cindy Hughey

- Marisa Kaplan
- Mr. David and Mrs. Ellen Kirsch
- Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Posner
- Samantha Saltzman
- Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Rothschild
- Dr. and Mrs. Stephen Shall
- Mr. and Mrs. Fred Treuhafft
- Mr. and Mrs. Alan Wagner

**Jewish, Senior, Family, & Social Services**

**In Memory of Phyllis Bernstein**  
• Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon Goldstein  
**In Memory of Susan Jane Berson**  
• Dr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Levin  
**In Memory of Marcia Malkin**  
• Karen Malkin

**JFGT General**

**In Memory of Bill Barkan**  
• Cynthia Fischel  
• Russell and Heidi Graf

- Ann Lepper
- Mrs. Cathy A. Sheets

**JFSFS Family Food Pantry**

**In Memory of Jerold Alvin Baum**  
• Patricia Baldwin

**Long Term Community Needs Fund**

**In Memory of Phyllis Bernstein**  
• John K. Graham  
**In Memory of Bill Barkan**  
• Dr. Eli Abramson and Ms. Nora Romanoff  
• Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Rothschild  
• Mr. and Mrs. David Treuhafft

**Ross Treuhafft Special Needs Spirituality Fund**

**In Honor of Danny Steinberg & Jen Hall's wedding**  
• Mr. and Mrs. Fred Treuhafft

## JFGT financial assistance and cancellation policies for programs

### Financial assistance for programs

**DISCREET FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE FOR JEWISH TOLEDO ACTIVITIES**

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

**JEWISH FEDERATION & FOUNDATION OF GREATER TOLEDO'S CANCELLATION POLICY**

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

**POLICY:**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## JFGT 2025 Holiday Office Closures:

Date	Day of Week	Holiday	Office Hours
October 1, 2025	Wednesday	Kol Nidre	Close at 1 p.m.
October 2, 2025	Thursday	Yom Kippur	Closed
October 6, 2025	Monday	Erev Sukkot	Close at 1 p.m.
October 7, 2025	Tuesday	Sukkot	Closed
October 8, 2025	Wednesday	Sukkot	Closed
October 13, 2025	Monday	Erev Shemini Atzeret	Close at 1 p.m.
October 14, 2025	Tuesday	Shemini Atzeret	Closed
October 15, 2025	Wednesday	Simchat Torah	Closed
November 27, 2025	Thursday	Thanksgiving	Closed
November 28, 2025	Friday	Day after Thanksgiving	Closed
December 24, 2025	Wednesday	Christmas Eve	Close at 1 p.m.
December 25, 2025	Thursday	Christmas	Closed
December 31, 2025	Wednesday	New Year's Eve	Close at 1 p.m.

Time Change

The office closes at 3:30 p.m. Fridays starting November 7, 2025

## TOLEDO Jewish News

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**Publisher and CEO**  
Stephen Rothschild

**Editor**  
Abby Hoicowitz

**Contributing Writers**

Mary Bilyeu  
Lauren Sachs

**Designer**  
Ricki Urban



Jewish Federation & Foundation  
OF GREATER TOLEDO

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**Phone: 419-724-0423**  
**email: [abby@JewishToledo.org](mailto:abby@JewishToledo.org)**

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The Jewish Federations OF NORTH AMERICA



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**MARY BILYEU**  
✉ mary@jewishtoledo.org

## From generation to generation with Russ & Daughters

**“Appetizing is the food of gatherings, food meant for a spread,” write Niki Russ Federman and Josh Russ Tupper in *Russ & Daughters: 100 Years of Appetizing*, the gorgeous first cookbook produced by New York City’s legendary specialists in this very Jewish food group.**

Just published on September 9, the book celebrates the history of the shop, which is now being run by the authors, the fourth generation to maintain their family legacy.

But, for the uninitiated, just what is appetizing? And how did the name Russ & Daughters come to be synonymous with it?

The authors explain that “[a] delicatessen, which is what we are *not*, serves meat, but not dairy and rarely fish. An appetizing store, meanwhile, begins with smoked and cured fish ... which occupy the pareve or neutral territory. Because fish can be served with dairy, a concomitant flourishing of dairy products also became part of the appetizing tradition.” Add in other nibbles and noshes – dried fruits, nuts, pickles, candies – and you’ve got yourself a store.

That store actually began as a pushcart manned by Joel Russ, “back when, instead of condos and coffeeshops, the [Lower East Side] was thought of as the New York shtetl,” the founder’s great-grandchildren write. A hard-working immigrant from Galicia (now territory split between Poland and Ukraine), he was brought to New York City in 1907 by his sister Channah and began working at her husband’s herring business, schlepping and selling to help support the family.

“By 1909,” as Josh and Niki tell it, “Joel had made enough money to not only

pay Channah back the sponsorship fee but to engage a matchmaker.” He married Bella Spier, another Galician, and they had four children: daughters Hattie, Ida, and Anne, and their son Morris, who sadly died before his second birthday.

Business continued to grow. And after stints at some temporary sites, in 1923 Joel settled his store at 179 East Houston Street, where it continues to thrive today.

This success was due in very large part to the eponymous women of Russ & Daughters, who “were conscripted to work,” according to Niki and Josh. Their father “noticed that his daughters could schmooze, a task he either couldn’t or didn’t want to do.” And he rewarded their contributions in 1935 by formalizing a partnership with Hattie, Anne, and Ida. This served as an inspiration to many, including Supreme Court Justice Ruth Ginsburg (z”l), who was quoted in *The Surgeon Queens* (a 2014 documentary about the famous appetizing store): “Before I knew the word *feminism* ... Seeing a sign for Russ & Daughters taught me that women could matter just like men in an enterprise.”

The daughters got married and had children, then those children had children; and, whether willingly or not, each subsequent generation of the Russ family was also conscripted into the business. Now that legacy – from generation to generation – continues

under the management of two more Russes. The small appetizing store that’s become a legend is, as Niki writes, her “home and legacy.”

And so, the book serves as a way to remember the history of a family, of a shop, and of a way of life, all in one. Its authors hope it “captures some of the Russ & Daughters experience.”

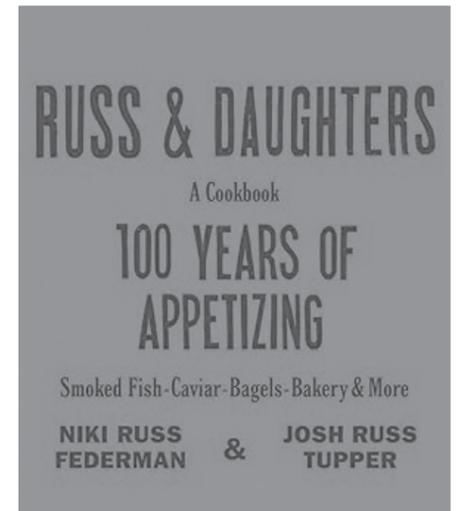
It is divided into three sections, reflecting the family business’ methodical and deliberate trajectory: Store (Original Appetizing for Gatherings), Café (Haimish Meals & Drinks to Comfort); and Bakery (Bagels, Bialys & Other Baked Goods).

The store is “the ancestral heart, our first home,” Niki and Josh write. “In 2014,” they continue, “we made our first major expansion,” taking over a nearby storefront to create a restaurant. And finally, in 2018 they transformed 18,000 square feet of a once-industrial site into “the hub of all of our cooking and baking.”

“It’s not that we don’t change,” they explain, “but we do so deliberately. It took us, for instance, a hundred years to open a restaurant. It took us more than one hundred and ten to write our first cookbook.”

Niki and Josh build the foundation of this book upon the classics, by offering recipes for smoked trout mousse, chopped liver, and mushroom barley soup. (One of the items their great-grandfather sold, early on, was dried mushrooms, which cost less than meat to round out a meal for a poor immigrant family). There are also knishes, kasha varnishkes, bagels and bialys, Old World Shissel Rye, and Sour Cream Coffee Cake, not to mention myriad ways to showcase the heart of it all – the fish: sauces, many a fabulous “herring pairing,” and an array of bagel ‘n’ schmear variations featuring items such as pastrami-cured smoked salmon or wasabi-infused roe.

Then the options expand to include unique Russ & Daughters exclusives: recipes for Kipperd Salmon Mac & Cheese (“Think of it like a less tray-f-y



spin on bacon mac,” the authors write); Lemon Sorbet with Poppy Seeds, which pairs classic flavors in a contemporary fashion; and the Caviar Lover’s Black & White (a crisp potato latke topped half-and-half with caviar and sour cream to mimic the cookie). You can raise a toast to the beloved appetizing store with cocktails ranging from savories like the Smoked Martini that plays on their reputation for smoking (fish, that is) to the Fershnikit Egg Cream that includes a shot of chocolate whiskey.

Appetizing, as you can tell from the too-short list of temptations above, is not only the perfect food for an event, but it could also easily serve as the basis for a solo diner’s “girl dinner” – the snack-based, no-cook, nibbly meals that have been taking the internet by storm. For example, a classic Russ & Daughters spread – say, a dollop each of whitefish salad and egg salad with bagel chips to scoop them up, a smattering of dried fruits and nuts or pickles, and a couple of rugelach – is both as timeless as the 110-year-old shop itself and as timely as a TikTok trend.

May this legendary appetizing store continue *l’dor v’dor*, tended by many more generations of the family. May they continue to do things “the Russ & Daughters way,” as Niki and Josh write – “the haimish way.”

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

**“It’s not that we don’t change, but we do so deliberately. It took us, for instance, a hundred years to open a restaurant. It took us more than one hundred and ten to write our first cookbook.”**

Niki Russ Federman and Josh Russ Tupper

## Argentine police recover looted painting that was spotted in Nazi’s daughter’s real estate ad

BY PHILISSA CRAMER | JTA

After multiple failed attempts, Argentine police have recovered a painting that the Nazis looted from a Dutch Jewish art dealer during the Holocaust.

Dutch journalists first spotted the painting, “Portrait of a Lady” by Giuseppe Ghislandi, last month in an ad for a property being sold by a daughter of

Friedrich Kadgien, a Nazi finance official who fled to Argentina after World War II. But when police entered the home to locate the work, one of more than 1,000 looted from the holdings of Jacques Goodstikker, it had been removed from the wall.

The police placed Patricia Kadgien on house arrest while searching for the painting. And on Wednesday, they announced that the family’s lawyer had

handed over the painting to authorities.

“It’s in good condition for its age, since it dates from 1710,” an art historian, Ariel Bassano, said at a press conference where the painting was displayed, according to the newspaper *La Capital* Mar del Plata. “Its value could be around \$50,000.”

The newspaper reported that authorities had found other paintings in the process of looking for “Portrait of a Lady” and are evaluating whether any

others were looted during the Holocaust. Friedrich Kadgien was instrumental in funding the Nazi regime’s operations by stealing Jewish property, including by forcing owners to sell at depressed prices.

The forced sale of Goodstikker’s collection took place months after the prominent art dealer died while fleeing the Netherlands. Hundreds of the works he owned were recovered decades ago, but far more remain missing.



MARY BILYEU  
mary@jewishtoledo.org

## Rabbi Aaron Marsh - Taking the long way to his new home

**F**or a rabbi, moving to a new city, a new state, and a new synagogue is already tough enough. Taking this leap of faith only a few weeks before the start of the High Holidays?

Oy!

But Rabbi Aaron Marsh, whose tenure at Congregation B'nai Israel began on August 1 after long-time cantor Ivor Lichterman announced his retirement, is excited for the new adventure and opportunity, he said. This despite there being no leisure time, just yet, as he's been unpacking both at home and at work, trying to find his way around town, meeting new people every day (from one to dozens at a time), and busily writing sermons for the best-attended services of the year – a de facto introduction to many of his congregants.

And he's doing all of this while also keeping up with daily life and weekly Shabbat preparations. Whew!

Of course, "everybody has been wonderful so far," Rabbi Marsh said gratefully, which certainly makes the transition easier.

He feels the Midwest is much more welcoming than the New York area that he left. "People are more relaxed and friendly," he noted, "open to different ideas – that was a big thing" in his decision to move here. On his list of desired shul characteristics was a "willingness to adapt and change," as he sought a congregation whose members are "friendly, supportive, wanting to work together as a team .... No dictatorships."

B'nai "seemed like a pretty good fit," Rabbi Marsh felt.

### THE SCENIC ROUTE

The new rabbi in Toledo is a new-ish rabbi who received his smicha in 2018 after switching careers.

He was born in the Boston area, where much of his family still lives; then he spent six years of his childhood in Chicago before moving to Rochester, NY, shortly before becoming a bar mitzvah.

Wanting to be a teacher, Rabbi Marsh earned his bachelor's

degree in math; about one year out of college, he said, he started looking at graduate level education programs. But thanks to a friend he knew through his synagogue, he was offered a computer programming job and took that instead.

"I never liked being a software engineer," though, the rabbi said. "I never really enjoyed it – it was just something to do."

Meanwhile, "on the side, I was doing all this stuff for my synagogue – I was every lay leader position, I was Ritual Chair, I was teaching in the Hebrew school, I was President and Vice President .... I was doing all the things you have to do in a small [60-family] synagogue every day. That's what I enjoyed.

"Somebody finally said to me, 'How come you do what you hate, but there's something else that you love but you don't do that?'"

So, in 2013 Mr. Marsh started taking the necessary steps to becoming Rabbi Marsh.

He didn't want to move to New York City or to Israel; so fortunately, he was able to find a program at the Academy for Jewish Religion in Yonkers, NY, that would allow him to cram seven classes into a two-day period each week. He commuted from his home and continued at his day job, immersed himself in course work and readings, kept up with his synagogue roles, and even did an internship.

"It was a whirlwind for five years, I'll tell ya that!" he exclaimed.

After his ordination, Rabbi Marsh initially worked part-time at a shul near Rochester. He then moved to Long Island and served two different congregations; most recently, he was at East Meadow Beth-El Jewish Center in East Meadow, NY.

"And now, I'm here," he proclaimed from his office at B'nai.

### OFF THE BEATEN PATH

Raised in a mostly secular though still distinctly Jewish home, the rabbi is an Eagle Scout and credits scouting with having had "a big influence on me becoming more observant," he said.

"I was in a Jewish troop in Rochester, one of the oldest Jewish troops in the nation," Rabbi Marsh explained. They kept kosher at all events, with "some degree of observance of Shabbat."

When working at a camp one summer at age 16, he noted that another scout received kosher meals. He started to get them as well, remembering that "some of it was good, some of it was awful – early veggie burgers, they were terrible," he said with a laugh. "But I couldn't complain, because they were spending extra money."

Then, when he returned home at the end of the summer, he was in a quandary: "Am I going to eat non-kosher food?" he wondered. How could he, when the camp had invested so much time, effort, and financial support in helping him to obey the laws of kashrut?

So he started by refusing to eat non-kosher meat, but would eat off the same plates that his family used. "And slowly, slowly, slowly just added a little bit as I went along. Same with Shabbat. Over time, I just said, 'I'm not going to mow the lawn on Shabbat,' or 'I'm not going to cook something on Shabbat.'"

"My mom was kind of okay with it, my dad was more resistant but supportive – he's very non-religious," Rabbi Marsh acknowledged.

And yet, "when I go to Boston for Thanksgiving every year, my dad always makes sure to go to a kosher caterer and get a meal for me that can be heated up, double-wrapped, in the oven. He's very respectful."

The rabbi acknowledges that, "in some things, I tend to be more liberal; in some things, I tend to be more traditional. With any issue, I like to go back to the sources," he said. "What's the real halakha?"

It was by studying Jewish law that he came up with a unique means of transportation to and from shul on Shabbat, despite his desire to not drive.

He rollerblades.

While living in Rochester, he'd bought a house near shul – but not too close, as he wanted to get some exercise on his trips back and forth to services. But then the synagogue relocated and was suddenly six miles away – three times the distance. Rabbi Marsh didn't want to



▲ Rabbi Marsh

move, so he studied his options.

"With rollerblades, you're literally wearing it, you're not carrying it," he explained. "I thought that that was halachically a pretty safe option to do." A bicycle, he said, would be more problematic: What if it breaks? Would you be tempted to tinker with it? Or "you might try and roll the bicycle," he pointed out, "which, without an eruv, is a problem."

Of course, that then meant 12-mile roundtrips on rollerblades every Friday night and again on Saturday morning. "Remember, I said I wanted to get exercise on Shabbat?" the rabbi said with a chuckle. "Be careful what you ask for!"

The home that he's renting here in Toledo is only two miles away from the shul – a 15-minute trip on wheels (rather than behind the wheel).

### FINDING ONE'S OWN WAY

When questioned about his favorite holiday, Rabbi Marsh quickly dismissed the season that we're currently celebrating. "It's not the High Holidays," he noted, "cause it's just so much effort .... You're so focused on making everything go the way it's supposed to go, it's not the time to do the reflection and introspection that you really want everyone to do."

Passover, however, is one the rabbi enjoys. "I do like the Pesach seder – it's very important to have that multigenerational conversation back and forth. That's what it really should be, not just reciting from the [Haggadah]."

And he particularly likes Tu B'Shevat, as it has "important messages to convey," he said. A passionate environmentalist, Rabbi Marsh has led many Tu B'Shevat

**"I think it's important to make lots of different ways that people can be involved in Jewish life... It's not just about the prayer and the study – Judaism has to have more ways into that, whether it's community service projects," fighting antisemitism, or other activities in which one finds meaning.**

Rabbi Aaron Marsh

# At least 5 countries have said they will or could boycott Eurovision if Israel is included

The Dutch broadcaster also alleged interference by the Israeli government in last year's contest.

BY GRACE GILSON | JTA

The public broadcasters of both Ireland and the Netherlands announced this week that they will not participate in next year's Eurovision Song Contest if Israel is allowed to participate.

They join several other countries in pressing the competition's organizer, the European Broadcasting Union, into excluding Israel as an act of protest against Israel's participation because of the war in Gaza.

The EBU has until now resisted entreaties to bar Israel but now faces a crisis as Europe — both through its unified institutions and as individual countries — has sought to ramp up pressure on Israel to end the war,

which began when Hamas attacked on Oct. 7, 2023.

"RTÉ feels that Ireland's participation would be unconscionable given the ongoing and appalling loss of lives in Gaza," the Irish public broadcaster said in a statement on Thursday, adding that it was "deeply concerned by the targeted killing of journalists in Gaza." (The Committee to Protect Journalists says 197 journalists have been killed during the war; Israel has said some of them were Hamas operatives.)

On Friday, the Dutch broadcaster AVROTROS announced that the Netherlands would not participate in the competition if the European

Broadcasting Union admitted Israel into the competition, where it has participated since 1973, winning four times.

"AVROTROS can no longer justify Israel's participation in the current situation, given the ongoing and severe human suffering in Gaza," the broadcaster wrote in a statement.

The broadcasters in Slovenia, Spain and Iceland have also all signaled that they could pull out of Eurovision if the EBU does not exclude Israel.

"I don't think we can normalize Israel's participation in international events as if nothing is happening," Ernest Urtaun, the Spanish culture minister, told La Hora de La 1.

"In Eurovision's case, it is not an individual artist who participates but someone who participates on behalf of that country's citizens."

The contest is meant to be intensely apolitical, but for many Israelis, Eurovision is seen as something of a barometer of their country's status on the international stage. Protests against the Israeli act are closely watched, and in the last two years, during the war, the artists selected to represent Israel have incorporated symbols of resilience into their wardrobes and lyrics.

In announcing its boycott, AVROTROS also cited the "proven evidence of interference" by the Israeli government in the 2025

EUROVISION | CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

## Your IRA Can Change Lives

Make a Tax-Smart Gift with a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)



### What Is a QCD?

A Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)—sometimes called an IRA Charitable Rollover—lets you make a tax-free gift directly from your IRA to Jewish Federation & Foundation of Greater Toledo, while satisfying all or part of your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD).

### Do You Qualify?

- You must be 70½ or older
- Gifts go directly from your IRA to JFGT
- Can create a designated fund (e.g., Perpetual Annual Campaign Endowment Fund / Lion of Judah Endowment Fund or field of use fund)
- Cannot fund a Donor Advised Fund
- Up to \$108,000 per donor, per year

### Why Consider a QCD?

- Satisfies all or part of your RMD without raising taxable income
- Gives you the benefits of a charitable deduction, even if you don't itemize
- Direct your gift to the program or cause you care about most
- Creates an immediate impact for Jewish Toledo

### How to Make a Gift

1. Contact your IRA administrator and request a Qualified Charitable Distribution to:  
Jewish Federation & Foundation of Greater Toledo
2. Or, connect with:  
Stephen Rothschild, CEO Jewish Federation and Foundation of Greater Toledo | 419-724-0372 | stephen@jewishtoledo.org

Jewish Federation and Foundation of Greater Toledo does not provide legal or tax advice. Please consult with your own professional legal and/or tax advisor.

## 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.

### MONDAY, OCTOBER 6:

DR. AMY ACTON-OHIO GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATE

Dr. Acton is a Democratic candidate for the Ohio Governor's seat in 2026. Many remember her as the Director of the Ohio Department of Health during the height of the COVID epidemic. Amy is also an active member of the Columbus Jewish community. **Both men and women are invited.**

### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4:

UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO VISITING PROFESSOR OF LAW, PAUL FINKELMAN

Professor Finkelman is a specialist in American legal history and constitutional law. He has lectured at the United Nations, throughout the United States, and in more than a dozen other countries.

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2:

NATHAN MATTIMOE, DIRECTOR OF ART IN PUBLIC PLACES, THE ARTS COMMISSION OF TOLEDO

Nathan administers the City of Toledo's One Percent for Art ordinance, including managing new public art projects and overseeing the maintenance and conservation of more than 40 public art pieces.

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 6 (2026):

SANDY SPANG, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, TOLEDO METROPOLITAN AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

As TMACOG Executive Director, Sandy is responsible for leading regional economic collaboration across northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan. Sandy previously served as Deputy Director of Economic Development for the City of Toledo and a member of Toledo City Council.

### 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

## HIGH HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Temple B'nai Israel, Monroe, Michigan

LED BY RABBI SHENA JAFFEE POTTER

WEDNESDAY,  
OCTOBER 1, 2025 | 7 P.M.  
Yom Kippur Services

THURSDAY,  
OCTOBER 2, 2025 | 10 A.M.  
Yom Kippur Services

Shabbat Services are held twice monthly, on the second and fourth Fridays of the month at 7 p.m.

To attend any of the above services, you must make arrangements by emailing: harrissacks@comcast.net



## Happy Tears

LAUREN SACHS

**During a recent email exchange with a friend, he offered some insight about his elderly mother's health that struck me as profound. Though his mother was recovering from surgery and experiencing all the myriad challenges of getting older, he stated simply, "I know that aging is a blessing not all get to experience." I found this statement quite moving for a number of reasons. First and foremost, I appreciated him acknowledging the idea that aging is a privilege, especially as my own husband died at the relatively young age of 49. Since Brad was an oncologist who witnessed more than his fair share of suffering and loss, he was highly attuned to quality-of-life issues. Knowing this was his lens, I am certain that he would have wanted to avoid unnecessary suffering and pain; however, I am also sure he would have cherished the opportunity to see his children reach adulthood, would have loved to savor the pleasures of retirement, and would have wanted to spend more time traveling and exploring the world. In summary, I believe he would have relished the chance to do all these things, even if it meant struggling with the common trials of getting older.**

Another reason I valued my friend's comment on aging is that it was a thoughtful and empathic way to address someone like me who knows the alternative to aging all too well. Since my husband died, I cannot count the number of times people have shared about the health and aging issues that either they or their family were facing. At these moments, my interlocutor seemed blissfully unaware that it might cause me pain. I am quite sympathetic to other's struggles and understand that talking about these challenges may provide some small amount of relief. Still, it surprises me that people fail to realize why this might be hard for someone like me to hear. Brad was essentially robbed of all the aspects of getting older, good, bad or indifferent. Occasionally, an

extra thoughtful acquaintance will stop themselves mid-sentence when discussing their aging concerns and share what is plainly obvious: that I may feel triggered in some way by such conversation. I certainly do not believe that everyone should be a starry-eyed idealist when it comes to aging. Yet I do think it is worth taking time to reflect on the good parts of our lives, helping us to foster or maintain a sense of gratitude. Working on developing our gratitude muscle may even help us become more resilient in the face of the most salient hardships of our lives.

A further reason I valued my friend's statement has to do with an attitude shift I experienced after becoming a widow in my mid-forties. Losing my husband compelled me to focus on living well in the face of

my loss. Despite my loss - or perhaps exactly because of my loss - once I started to cope with my grief, I began to see waking up every day as a privilege. Moreover, I realized it was important for me to live fully in my late husband's honor as he was no longer able to do so. Knowing that not everyone gets the chance to live out

their lives, I felt I should not take my own life for granted. Since western society tends to be obsessed with staying young and is hugely grief-phobic, I know that aging with grace is not easy. Nevertheless, I like to think I have adopted my late husband's approach to finding humor in the face of challenging circumstances. Using humor in this way helps me to maintain some perspective when I am faced with the normal issues of getting older, but it also allows me to laugh at myself when I get too bogged down in the minutiae of such matters. Though I have not had to face any significant health challenges of my own, I hope this attitude continues to keep me grounded and grateful if I am presented with such new adversity. No matter what, like my friend, I want to continue to recognize aging as the gift it is, cherishing the time we have and finding a sense of peace and fulfillment along the way.

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](http://www.literally-lauren.com).

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Letters, commentaries, opinions and advertisements appearing in the Toledo Jewish News reflect the views and thoughts of the writer and/or advertiser and do not necessarily represent the opinions or views of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo, its board of directors, officers or employees unless explicitly stated.

### MARSH | CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

seders that offer beautiful readings and symbolic foods related to the New Year of the Trees. He is also committed to performing reverse Tashlich - cleaning of waterways - but not just at Rosh Hashanah; he noted that a similar action can be done in the spring, along the lines of searching for chametz and removing it.

He remarked with a smile that Shavuot is another holiday he likes, because there's "not a lot of prep - no sukkah to build or house to clean. Just some sermons to write."

With regard to his sermons, "Ideally, I want [attendees] to learn one thing they didn't know about, or think about something they hadn't thought about before. And also, to laugh once - if I

can get them to laugh once, that'd be great. I usually incorporate terrible puns," he chuckled, noting that "midrash is all based on wordplay," which he enjoys.

But services and sermons are not the only important aspects of Judaism, Rabbi Marsh insisted.

"I think it's important to make lots of different ways that people can be involved in Jewish life," he said. "It's not just about the prayer and the study - Judaism has to have more ways into that, whether it's community service projects," fighting antisemitism, or other activities in which one finds meaning.

One of these entrées - pun intended - could be cooking.

The new rabbi isn't "too much of a picky eater," he shared, though cooking

is "more of a functional thing for me than something I enjoy," he admitted.

But "I like a lot of [Mom's] recipes for the holidays and for Shabbat, because that's where I learned to cook."

As for other pastimes, Rabbi Marsh has "no pets, no hobbies - no time for hobbies, really. [And] I mostly kill my house plants."

He did follow the Red Sox for some years, "because my whole family's from Boston and they'd kill me if I didn't!" That only lasted until the team broke the Curse of the Bambino by winning the World Series in 2004; after that, the thrill was gone. (Despite not being a devoted baseball fan anymore, Rabbi Marsh did acknowledge that he might be persuaded to watch our own Toledo Mud Hens take on the Rochester Red

Wings some time.)

Mostly, though, "I don't follow sports at all," he said. So, he has no preference among Toledo's split loyalties for professional teams: Tigers or Guardians, Pistons or Cavs, Lions or Browns.

But, what about the most critically important of the loyalty tests: Michigan or Ohio State?

"I didn't even know there was a thing about that, until somebody told me," he said with some surprise.

So to be safe, he declared, "I will remain rabbinically neutral on this topic!"

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

### EUROVISION | CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

competition, referencing complaints by several European broadcasters who raised questions about Israel's victory in the contest's audience poll in May.

Israel's Yuval Raphael came in second after being bolstered by the popular vote and drawing points from the juries in 14 countries.

The EBU had rejected pressure

to exclude Israel but later opened a process to solicit feedback from the contest's 37 participating countries over how it should navigate geopolitical tensions. Martin Green, the contest's director, said in a statement on Friday that the process was ongoing.

"Broadcasters have until mid-December to confirm if they wish to

take part in next year's event in Vienna," he said. "It is up to each member to decide if they want to take part in the contest and we would respect any decision broadcasters make."

The director general of Icelandic broadcaster RÚV signaled that while so far the EBU had resisted entreaties to exclude Israel, he was hoping for

change.

"I think it is likely that if there is no change in EBU's position and it does not respond to these voices of concern coming from us, from Spain and Slovenia and others, then that will call for reactions from these broadcasters," he said. "But let's just wait and see."

# OJC annual meeting connects Jews throughout state

CASEY COUCH

The Ohio Jewish Communities, a statewide government advocacy and public affairs organization, awarded a



Beigelman



Duffey  
| Photo / Spyroll Studios / Adam Reiss



Piccolantonio  
| Photo / Spyroll Studios / Adam Reiss

Policymaking Champion Award to Chancellor Mike Duffey of the Ohio Department of Education at its annual meeting on Aug. 19 at Huntington Bank Headquarters in Columbus. It also featured an additional guest speaker, State Rep. Beryl Brown Piccolantonio, who spoke on the importance of advocacy and support for Jewish students and Israel.

OJC, which represents the voices of Ohio's eight Jewish

Federations and their network of 150 nonprofit agencies, drew a crowd of around 75 people from every corner of the state – including community leaders, OJC members, Hillel leadership from Ohio universities and college students.

Howie Beigelman, president and CEO of OJC, told the Columbus Jewish News the annual meeting is an opportunity to share with the community what the organization is working on, but also to hear from and meet politicians who are actively engaged in working with the Jewish community.

This year, he said, attendees traveled to Columbus from Toledo, Youngstown, Dayton, Oxford and other areas to learn about OJC's initiatives and listen to the guest speakers.

"We always say that we're a statewide organization, so to see people come in from across the state and do this policy work with us, especially in this time, was really rewarding and special," Beigelman said.

This year's guest speakers, Duffey and Piccolantonio, are prominent

statewide leaders and strong allies of Ohio's Jewish community.

"Between the two of them, they cover the very vast majority of the central Ohio Jewish community," Beigelman said. "They've both been really active in our community and have both been to JewishColumbus for board meetings. It was a chance to talk to them and get a sense of what motivates them and hear about what they're seeing and hearing on our priority issues."

Duffey, Beigelman said, was invited to the meeting to speak on antisemitism and ongoing issues on college campuses, which he deals with head-on in the Ohio Department of Higher Education.

"We've had a lot of issues on college campuses since Oct. 7, and he's really been a key ally, so we talked to him about how he approaches those kinds of issues," Beigelman said. "We also talked about some positive practices that we can do to make Ohio campuses more attractive to people."

Due to his efforts, Duffey was awarded the Policymaking Champion Award for his behind the

scenes work in helping make college campuses "safe and welcoming for Jewish students," Beigelman said.

Piccolantonio is the highest ranking Jewish woman in the statehouse in either party, according to Beigelman.

"We talked with her about ways to make everyone feel safe and welcome, and ways that we could do more collaboration with Israel," Beigelman said. "Then we got to ask her about her journey, how she got into politics and why."

Hearing from these community allies and leaders not only allowed for participants to speak with professionals, it also gave OJC the opportunity to determine what issues should be prioritized while visiting with attendees from throughout the state, Beigelman said.

"We really brought together every corner of the state. And it was really special to see."

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

## 2025 Cemetery Closings

### BETH SHALOM CEMETERY

420 Otter Creek Rd.  
Oregon, Ohio 43616

### EAGLE POINT CEMETERY

515 Eagle Point Rd.  
Rossford, Ohio 43460

Wednesday, October 1, 2025	Erev Yom Kippur	Close at 4 pm
Thursday, October 2, 2025	Yom Kippur	Closed
Monday, October 6, 2025	Erev Sukkot	Close at 4 pm
Tuesday, October 7, 2025	Sukkot I	Closed
Wednesday, October 8, 2025	Sukkot II	Closed
Monday, October 13, 2025	Erev Shemini Atzeret	Close at 4 pm
Tuesday, October 14, 2025	Shemini Atzeret	Closed
Wednesday, October 15, 2025	Simchat Torah	Closed

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

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

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



## 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

# Nacho average night out in Jewish Toledo

It was “nacho” average night out last month with Greg Sobol, Tekiah Tequila, and our Toledo Jewish community members, just in time for Rosh Hashanah preparations. At an event sponsored by Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo, guests enjoyed a guided tequila tasting with Greg, drummer-turned-entrepreneur and founder of Tekiah Tequila, the first Jewish-inspired kosher tequila brand in the U.S. Greg shared his incredible journey from music to mezcal, offering insights and stories behind every sip. Margarita glass painting and a vegetarian nacho bar rounded out the spirited and spicy evening.



▲ (L to R) Abby Schwartz, Terri Albert, Brynna Post, and Stephanie Watkins enjoyed their libations as they decorated margarita glasses.



▲ Attendees enjoyed listening to Tekiah Tequila founder Greg Sobol talk about the first Jewish-inspired kosher tequila brand in the U.S. The night out included a guided tequila tasting, margarita glass painting and a vegetarian nacho bar.



▲ Greg Sobol, founder of Tekiah Tequila



▲ (L to R) David Berland and Stephanie Watkins



▲ (L to R) Cindy Liber and Cheryl Rothschild concentrate on their margarita glass designs.



▲ Marnie Younker

# Galilee Medical Center's Dr. Atalla: 'In times of crisis, cohesion saves lives'

Dr. Khaled Atalla, Director of the Emergency Department at the Galilee Medical Center (GMC) in our Partnership2Gether region, spoke to Jewish Toledo in mid-September about GMC and its model of coexistence, acting as a bridge between diverse communities. According to Dr. Atalla, strength lies in embracing diversity while building trust. In times of crisis, cohesion saves lives. Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo (JFGT) was honored to welcome him and his wife, Dr. Jasmine Atalla, and to learn from them. Let us not forget this important point that Dr. Atalla made in his talk, “Living together is not only possible, it’s beautiful.”

Dr. Atalla is an Arab Christian citizen of Israel who attended medical

school at The Technion – Israel Institute of Technology in Haifa, Israel, and completed a residency in Internal Medicine at the Bnai Zion Medical Center in Haifa in 2016. After finishing his training, Dr. Atalla and his family moved to Nes-Ammim, a special village founded in 1964 by European Christians as a sign of solidarity with the Jewish people after the Holocaust.

He has worked as a clinical instructor at the Technion, served as a clinical tutor for rotations of medical students, and performed a residency in the field at Galilee Medical Center from 2016-2019. During this residency, he also worked as an instructor at the Azrieli Faculty of Medicine Bar Ilan University in Safed, Israel.

Following his Emergency Medicine residency, Dr. Atalla completed a year



▲ (L to R) Dr. Khaled Atalla, Director of the Emergency Department at the Galilee Medical Center and Stephen Rothschild, CEO of Jewish Federation & Foundation of Greater Toledo.

of Emergency Medicine Fellowship training and an additional six months of extra fellowship training focused on Emergency Medicine Leadership at Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto,

Canada. In 2021, he returned to Galilee Medical Center as a senior physician and began serving as director of the hospital’s Emergency Department in April 2022.



**We don't just talk about the shofar.**

*We hold it. We paint it. We blow it.*

**We don't just talk about dipping apples in honey.**

*We graph our favorite apples. We taste different honeys. We go apple picking.*

**At Gan Yeladim, Jewish traditions come alive.  
Come join the journey.**

**Because at Gan Yeladim—  
We specialize in happy children.**



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

Learn more: Reach out to Mushka Matusof at [mushka@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:mushka@jewishtoledo.org) or visit [www.jewishtoledo.org/about-us/gan-yeladim-preschool](http://www.jewishtoledo.org/about-us/gan-yeladim-preschool)



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



**EXPERIENCE A MEMORABLE OVERNIGHT JEWISH INITIATIVE**

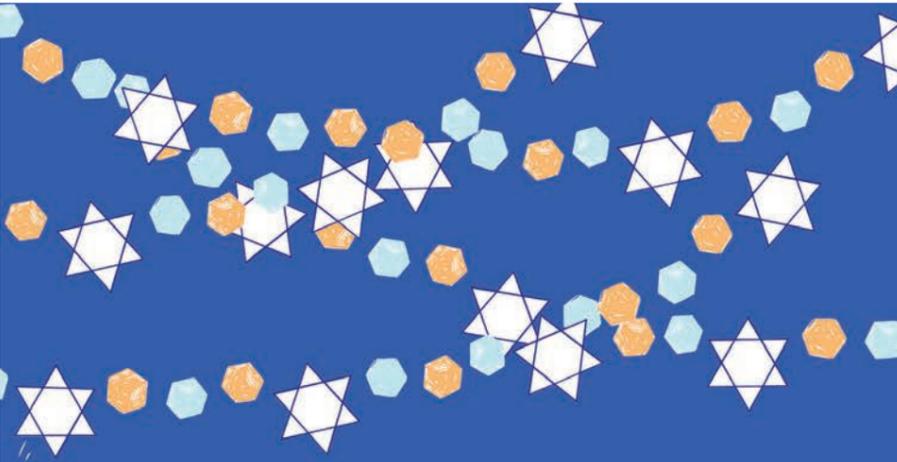
**Jewish Summer Camp Program**



**SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN FOR SUMMER 2026!**  
[form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/emoji2026](http://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/emoji2026)




**More information**  
[jewishtoledo.org/emoji](http://jewishtoledo.org/emoji)

**LATKES & LIGHTS!**



**Save the date** **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7**




**PJ LIBRARY & B'NAI ISRAEL TOT SHABBAT**

**Saturday, October 25**  
**10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**  
**Free Event, RSVP required**  
**Open to all families, regardless of affiliation.**



Join Helen Grubb and other PJ Library families for Tot Shabbat. We'll start in the chapel where PJ Library and Gan parent Helen Grubb will lead songs, blessings and a story based on Parsha Noach. 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 Friday, October 17 to  
<https://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/PJandFamily>  
 or Sherry Majewski at 419-724-0351 or [sherry@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:sherry@jewishtoledo.org)



**PJ LIBRARY KIDS DAY OUT**  
**Hanukkah Edition**

**Sunday, November 23 • 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.**  
**\$10 per child, includes lunch and activities**  
**Location TBA (Sylvania area) - For the safety and security of our community, the location of all events will be shared with registrants prior to the event.**  
**For kids in grades K - 7**

We've got a fun filled Hanukkah themed afternoon planned, now all we need are some amazing kids! Join us to make your own edible dreidel, a Hanukkah gift to give to someone special, some fun games and pizza - which is always delicious and kid-approved!

If your child is already attending Sunday School, don't worry, we'll bring them over so you can enjoy a little extra time on Sunday.




RSVP by Friday, November 21 to  
[form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/PJandFamily](http://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/PJandFamily)  
 or Sherry Majewski at 419-724-0351 or [sherry@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:sherry@jewishtoledo.org).




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

# BABY LOVES SHABBAT

Friday, October 31  
Friday, November 14  
Friday, December 19

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

**All events are from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.**  
**Free events, RSVP required**  
Sign up for all the Playdates and your child will receive a special Shabbat Box to use at the Playdates (and then take home!).

Join us for a pint-sized Shabbat celebration specifically designed for little ones 3 and under and their caregivers. We will enjoy creative play, light snacks, challah, Shabbat songs, and more.

RSVP by the day prior to Marnie Younker at [marnie@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:marnie@jewishtoledo.org).





# MY SUKKAH!

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12**  
**11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.**  
Location TBA\* (Sylvania-area)  
\$5 per person or a family max of \$20, includes lunch

Bring the whole family for a super creative and fun Sukkot celebration! Build a LEGO sukkah, shake the lulav and etrog, enjoy other LEGO-themed crafts, and have a blast with so many hands-on activities!

Join us as we LITERALLY build the spirit and joy of Sukkot one brick at a time!

**RSVP by Friday, October 10** to [form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/PJandFamily](https://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/PJandFamily) or with Sherry Majewski at 419-724-0351 or [sherry@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:sherry@jewishtoledo.org).





# HIBACHI IN THE HUT

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2025**  
**7:30 PM - 9:30 PM**

Location TBA\* (Sylvania-area)  
\$36 per person, includes hibachi dinner (salmon or vegetarian), sushi, sake, and more.

**JOIN US FOR A SIZZLING NIGHT UNDER THE SUKKAH**  
with our very own private hibachi experience. We guarantee a night of flames, food, and fun!

This event is intended for young professionals and young-ish adults (21 - 45ish)

RSVP by Thursday October 2 to:  
<https://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/ToledoJewishYoPros>  
or call 419-724-0351.

Celebrate the High Holidays  with

**SAUTTER'S** market  
Great things to eat since 1927



Kosher meats  
Brisket  
Chicken  
Wines  
...and more

Will take orders ahead

*The High Holidays are close to home at Sautter's.*

5519 South Main St.  
Sylvania, OH 43560

# Mitzvah Day mensches spend a Sunday giving back

Multiple families joined Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo last month for a hands-on, heartwarming Family Mitzvah Day to kick off the season of reflection with acts of kindness and service. In honor of Grandparents Day, and inspired by PJ Library and PJ Our Way books like “How to Be a Mensch,” the group spent the afternoon putting Jewish values into action. Stations included Happy Birthday Kits and Snack Bags (each to benefit the Jewish Senior, Family & Social Services Family Food Pantry), Rosh Hashanah Greetings (to benefit Jewish homebound seniors), Care Packages (to benefit Bethany House), and Comfort Care Kits (to benefit The Victory Center).

▼ Jewish Toledo families gathered in September to perform acts of kindness and service at Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo’s Mitzvah Day.



**meijer** SIMPLY **give**

**You can help fight local hunger!**

The Meijer **Simply Give** campaign runs

**Sunday, September 28 through Saturday, December 27**

at the **Central Avenue store**, which benefits the **Jewish Senior, Family & Social Services Family Food Pantry**

You can help by purchasing a \$10 card (or multiples of \$10) at Meijer during those days.

Make your dollars go ever further!

**Double Match Day**

**Saturday, December 13**

On Double Match Days, purchasing a \$10 card will result in a \$30 donation! Cards are available at Meijer on Central Ave. and the Sekach Building (6505 Sylvania Avenue).

**You can be a hero to those who are hungry. We can serve MORE when you give MORE!**



**meijer** SIMPLY **give**

To participate, take a Meijer Simply Give card along with your \$10 and give to the cashier at the Meijer on Central Avenue



**You can help fight local hunger!**



# Local resources were on display at Create & Relate Expo 2025

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Create & Relate Expo brought together the area community to explore, connect, and discover amazing local resources, wellness activities, and creative fun.

Presented by Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo, the annual event featured vendors and activities including Athletico (physical and occupational therapy services), The Victory Center (support and hope for cancer patients), Area Office on Aging (resources for caregivers), Sylvania

Senior Center (community programs and information), Bethany House (support for mothers and children escaping domestic violence), blood pressure checks with RN Gretchen Hiatt, Shaman & The Bear (healing herbal teas), Lumbrezer Farm (local veggies, jams, and honey), NAMI (kindness rock painting), and UTMC (a beginner Tai Chi class on the Sekach Building patio).

Thank you to all the vendors and attendees!



# Jewish Toledo seniors explore Ann Arbor

Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo hosted Jewish Toledo seniors for a day-trip visit to Ann Arbor to explore the beauty of the outdoor gardens and multi-climate conservatory at the Matthaei Botanical Gardens. Next, they went to the JCC of Ann Arbor to enjoy a nosh from Zingerman's before wrapping up their day with a fun stop at Trader Joe's. It was a delightful day for all!



## Northwestern University's Jewish president resigns amid pressures over handling of campus antisemitism

**Michael Schill had made a deal with protesters, and the Trump administration froze \$790M in grants to the school.**

BY ANDREW LAPIN | JTA

After more than a year of strife over his handling of campus antisemitism, the Jewish president of Northwestern University says he is stepping down weeks before the start of the school's fall semester.

Michael Schill's resignation announcement Thursday comes after the Trump administration has frozen nearly \$800 million in federal grants to the private Evanston, Illinois, university, citing its handling of antisemitism during the Israel-Hamas war in Gaza.

"As I reflect on the progress we have made and what lies ahead, I believe now is the right time for new leadership to guide Northwestern into its next chapter," Schill, who has led the university for three years, wrote in his announcement.

His resignation also comes the day after the school announced a newly endowed \$20 million "Center for Enlightened Disagreement," named after donors Jennifer and Alec Litowitz and intended to help bridge campus divides on contentious topics. Similar programs have been proposed or launched at other schools dealing with contentious post-Oct. 7 climates.

One of the center's faculty directors, Eli Finkel, thanked Schill for his leadership in a university release announcing his resignation.

A free-speech legal scholar, Schill

attracted controversy during the pro-Palestinian encampment movement last year when Northwestern became one of the first schools to enter direct negotiations with protesters. In exchange for dismantling the encampments, Schill told protest leaders the school would review its investment portfolio, fund positions for new Palestinian faculty and renovate a Muslim and North African student center, among other terms.

The deal was lambasted by many in the Jewish community. Jewish members of the school's internal antisemitism committee resigned en masse from their posts, leading to the committee's collapse. Organizations from the Anti-Defamation League to Jewish Federations of North America (both led by Northwestern alums) condemned the deal, with some more hard-line Jewish groups calling for Schill to resign; the ADL's initial "campus antisemitism report card" gave Northwestern an "F."

Schill forcefully defended his approach when called before Congress, sparring with Republicans and some Democrats over the best way to handle the protests.

After Trump returned to office, Northwestern became one of his administration's biggest campus targets. The president froze \$790 million in grants to the school this spring, citing its failure to address antisemitism. The move

**SCHILL** | CONTINUED ON PAGE 25

### SAVE THE DATE!

## SENIOR LATKE LUNCH THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18



## Celebrate Sephardi & Mizrahi heritage with cookie decorating

**Thursday, November 6 | 12 p.m.**

**Location TBA\* (Sylvania-area) | \$10 per person**

(includes lunch from Poco Piatti and cookie decorating supplies)

Get ready to be transported on a journey that celebrates the vibrant traditions of Sephardi and Mizrahi Jews. The afternoon will highlight the beauty and diversity of Jewish life stretching from Spain and North Africa to the Middle East through rich stories, musical connections, food, and more. Come learn about what makes these communities so unique.

Plus, put your own creative spin on tradition by decorating a cookie from the Dollop Shop in the shape of a hamsa, a symbol often seen in many Sephardi and Mizrahi communities. The hamsa, shaped like a hand, is rooted in Jewish tradition as a symbol of protection, blessing, and good fortune.

**RSVP by Friday, October 31 at <https://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/Seniors> or with Sherry Majewski at 419-724-0351 or [sherry@jewishtoledo.org](mailto: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.*



## A Scent-Sational Experience!



### Create Your Own Perfume

**Thursday, October 23**

**12 – 2 p.m.**

**Location TBA\* (Sylvania-area)**

Annual Campaign donors - \$15

Non-donors to the Annual Campaign - \$30

Includes lunch and all supplies



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

Unleash your inner artisan and embark on a fragrant journey of creativity and self-expression! Join **Clinical Aromatherapist and Botanical Perfumer, Margo Hertzfeld**, for a hands-on workshop where you'll craft your very own 1 oz. alcohol-based spray perfume, blended and beautifully decorated by you.

Guided by Margo's expertise, you'll explore a variety of exquisite essential oils and absolutes, like rose, jasmine, and sandalwood, rooted in centuries-old traditions, some with deep connections to Jewish ritual and history. Then personalize your perfume bottle with vibrant paint markers, turning it into a one-of-a-kind gift... or a well-deserved treat for yourself.



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

# Cheers to 45 years!

## Toledo Jewish Community Foundation celebrates milestone

The Toledo Jewish Community Foundation recently marked its 45th anniversary in true historic style. Guests gathered at the storied Angelo's Northwood Villa, once the speakeasy known as Little Harry's, for an immersive program led by the Sylvania Historical Society. Together, the group explored the captivating story of The Purple Gang, the infamous Jewish Mafia group that ruled Detroit (and reached into Toledo!) during Prohibition.

From mafia lore to community legacy, the evening was a reminder that history, both light and dark, shapes who we are today.

Here's to 45 years of building, preserving, and strengthening Jewish Toledo!



▲ Photo of The Purple Gang at Angelo's Northwood Villa.



▲ Matt Kripke, Chairman, Toledo Jewish Community Foundation (L) and Stephen Rothschild, CEO, Jewish Federation and Foundation of Greater Toledo.



▲ Diane Treuhaft and Beverly Markoff



▲ Dan Steinberg and Jen Hall



▲ A representative from the Sylvania Historical Society explains the local history of The Purple Gang.



▲ (L to R) Chad Kripke, Ido Rottem, Rosemary Chaban, Tamara Green, Mindy Kairis, Jeff Green, and Brian Berk



**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](mailto: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](http://www.jewishtoledo.org/about-us/tjnff).

To opt out, mail Abby Hoicowitz at [abby@jewishtoledo.org](mailto: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.

<p><b>Vice President Jewish Senior, Family &amp; Social Services</b> Ben Malczewski (419) 724-0408</p> <p><b>Support Services Coordinator</b> Liz Witter, LSW (419) 724-0406</p> <p><b>Food Pantry and Support Services Coordinator</b> Stacy Willis, LSW, MSW 419-724-0407</p>	<p><b>JSFSS Office Manager and Program Associate</b> Hannah Loeser (419) 724- 0401</p> <p><b>Project Manager and Technology Coordinator</b> Tim Hagen 419-724-0412</p>
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[\*\*jewishtoledo.org/jfs\*\*](http://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**



▲ A poster of a photo of Israeli hostage Ilan Weiss, kidnapped on October 7, 2023 in the Gaza Strip, on a pole in a street in Avignon, France, on April 27, 2025. | Nicolas Guyonnet / Hans Lucas / Hans Lucas via AFP

# Bodies of 2 hostages, including Ilan Weiss, recovered from Gaza, IDF says

Weiss' body was recovered along with the remains of another hostage who has yet to be identified.

BY GRACE GILSON | JTA

The body of Ilan Weiss, who was killed while defending Kibbutz Be'eri on Oct. 7, 2023, has been recovered by the IDF and Shin Bet security service.

"The body of Ilan Weiss, who was held hostage for 693 days in Gaza, has been recovered in a joint IDF and ISA military operation," the IDF said in a post on X Friday. "Ilan was from Kibbutz Be'eri and left his home on the morning of October 7 to join the kibbutz emergency response team."

Weiss, 56, was murdered and kidnapped by Hamas during the massacre. His wife, Shiri, 54, and daughter Noga, 19, were also taken hostage by Hamas during the attacks and were released during a ceasefire in November 2023.

The IDF also recovered the remains of another hostage who could not yet be identified.

There are now 48 remaining hostages held in Gaza, of which 20 are presumed to be alive. Last week, President Donald Trump cast doubt on that figure, telling reporters that some Israeli hostages had died inside Gaza since the last ceasefire.

Israel has not responded to a Hamas offer for a ceasefire deal that would include the release of some of the living hostages. Trump and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu have said they are no longer considering partial deals, even as the vast majority of Israelis support an end to the war in order to release the hostages and have staged multiple mass protests this month to press their case.

The recovery of the hostages' remains comes as Israel instead widens fighting in Gaza City, which it says is one of Hamas' last major redoubts. It also comes on the one-year anniversary of the murder of six hostages who were killed as Israeli troops neared the location in Rafah where they were being held, and as army leaders and advocates for the hostages warn that the Gaza City operation could risk the remaining hostages' lives.

"Ilan, 56, was a family man and a devoted father to his daughters." The Hostages and Missing Families Forum wrote in a post on X. "There are no words to express the depth of this pain. The hostages have no time. We must bring them all home, now!"

**"Ilan, 56, was a family man and a devoted father to his daughters. There are no words to express the depth of this pain. The hostages have no time. We must bring them all home, now!"**

The Hostages and Missing Families Forum

HIGH HOLY DAYS 5786-2025 ISRAEL BOND\$

# INVEST IN A LAND That Endures

The High Holy Days remind us what sustains the Jewish people: our traditions, our unity, our homeland. This year turn your connection with Israel into commitment with an investment in Israel bonds.

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Israel bonds are sovereign debt issued by the State of Israel, backed by its full faith and credit. Proceeds are used when and where they're needed most.
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Israel bonds offer strong rates. They can diversify your portfolio, be purchased in IRAs, gifted, or donated to a not-for-profit of your choice.
- ▶ **Global Reach**  
Over \$54 billion in worldwide sales since 1951.  
Over \$5 billion raised since October 7, 2023.



Investments start at \$36!

For assistance purchasing your bond:  
✉ [Cleveland@israelbonds.com](mailto:Cleveland@israelbonds.com) ☎ 216.454.0180 🌐 [israelbonds.com](http://israelbonds.com)

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## Tech Time with Tim

**TIM HAGEN**  
 ✉ tim@jewishtoledo.org

**While organizing my family's home office, I unearthed an old digital camera. My wife and I had bought it as a then-middle-of-the-road Canon PowerShot; I was pleased to find that, with two new AA batteries, it still worked.**

When new back in 2009 (which, admittedly, isn't all that long ago), it was a competent if unexciting camera. Despite its reliability, neither of us really became attached to it. It seemed to be without any endearing eccentricities that you might find in an older gadget, ones that, despite their limitations, might give it a sense of uniqueness and character. Sure enough, smart phones at that time were becoming mainstream and, with their rise, so too were their built-in cameras which were, for comparable prices, more powerful, better equipped, and infinitely efficient at storing, saving, and sharing. Many digital cameras like ours were quickly stuffed in closets and drawers.

But like film cameras, iPods, and old video game consoles, digital point-and-shoot cameras from the '90s and 2000s are becoming popular again in a big, retro way.

Reasons include:

- They look and feel like an actual camera
- They force the user to be in the moment while taking photos and provide a much different photo-taking experience; after all, you can't multitask on a point-and-shoot
- Their technical specs' 'inferiority' compared to today's smart phone cameras are being lauded instead as charming strengths. Not all photos need to be as crisp, clear, and high-def as possible. Pixelation can be a good thing!

So, all said, I encourage you to fish out your old digital camera and reacquaint yourself. You can easily find tutorials (and inspiring photography projects) for your make and model online. And, yes, I've found that my old Canon is inspiring me to re-engage with photography again. You may find that this happens with other, older tech you unearth at home, too. Until next month - Tim



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

**Upcoming Tech Programs**

1. Wednesday, October 22: Pros and cons of AI and Internet browsing
2. Wednesday, October 29: Exploring

the basics of retro digital cameras

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)

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

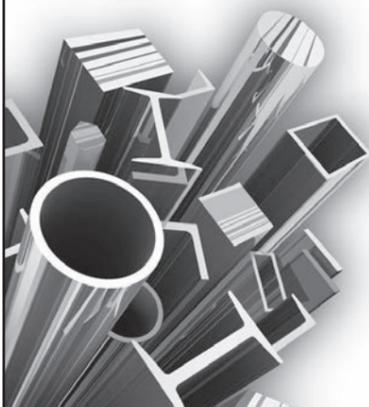
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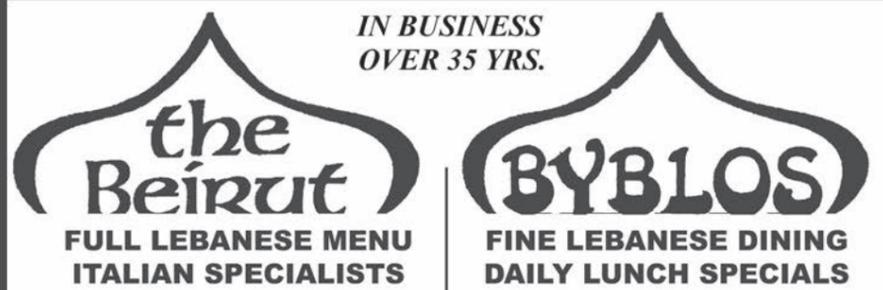


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# TEMPLE SHOMER EMUNIM

## TEMPLE SHOMER EMUNIM

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### October Worship Schedule

**Friday, October 3 at 6 pm** Shabbat with David and Becky Berland

**Friday, October 10 at 6 pm** Family Shabbat and Consecration with Rabbi Delson and Cantor Roher

**Saturday, October 11 at 10:30 am** Women's Sukkot Brunch with Rabbi Delson and Cantor Roher

**Friday, October 17 at 6 pm** Shabbat with Rabbi Delson and Cantor Roher

**Saturday, October 18 at 10:30 am** Madison Corman Bat Mitzvah with Rabbi Delson and Cantor Roher

**Friday, October 24 at 6 pm** Shabbat with Dr. Andrew Pelletier and Janet Rogolsky

**Friday, October 31 at 6 pm** Shabbat with Rabbi Delson and Dr. Andrew Pelletier

### High Holy Day Service Schedule

**Wednesday, October 1 at 7:30 pm**  
Kol Nidrei service with Rabbi Delson and Cantor Roher

**Thursday, October 2**  
Yom Kippur with Rabbi Delson and Cantor Roher  
Family service, 9 am  
Yom Kippur Morning service, 10:30 am  
Afternoon Mindfulness Meditation, 1:30 pm  
Afternoon Service, 3 pm  
Yizkor Service, 4:45 pm  
N'ilah Service, 5:45 pm  
Followed by Break Fast

**Monday, October 6**  
Erev Sukkot in the Sukkah, 6 pm

**Saturday, October 11**  
Women of TSE brunch in the Sukkah with Rabbi Delson and Cantor Roher, 10:30 am

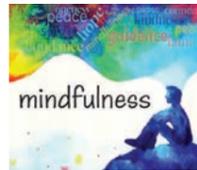
**Monday, October 13**  
Stroll Through the Scroll, 5:30 pm  
Simchat Torah service  
Followed by Brisket Dinner

**Tuesday, October 14**  
Sh'mini Atzeret Festival Morning Service and Yizkor with Rabbi Delson, 10:30 am

## Sangria in the Sukkah Sukkot Celebration

**Monday, October 6**

**5 pm**  
Erev Sukkot Service  
(Outside In Sukkah, weather permitting)  
**6-8 pm**  
Sangria in the Sukkah  
Adults (18 and over): \$15  
Delicious homemade Sangria  
Taco, Fajita, and Enchilada Bar  
**RSVP a must to the Temple office by Thursday, October 2 at noon.**



### The Gift of Mindfulness

**Wednesday, October 2**

(Yom Kippur afternoon session)

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.



**CURRENT EVENTS**

### Current Events

**Thursday, October 9 at 2 pm**

with Rabbi Delson  
Discuss how issues in the world today affect our community

# CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL



## CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL

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

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

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

### CBI High Holiday Services 2025 : 5786

KEY: IP - In Person LS - Live Stream ZM - Zoom

#### OCTOBER

<b>WED 1</b>	<b>EREV YOM KIPPUR</b>	<b>THU 9</b>	<b>CHOL HAMOED SUKKOT</b>
6:45 PM	IP/LS: KOL NIDRE	8:00 AM	IP/ZM: Morning Service (Breakfast in the Sukkah)
<b>THU 2</b>	<b>YOM KIPPUR</b>	5:45 PM	ZM: Afternoon/Evening Service
8:30 AM	IP/LS: Morning Service	<b>FRI 10</b>	<b>EREV SHABBAT/ CHOL HAMOED SUKKOT</b>
10:30 AM	IP: Jr. Congregation	5:45 PM	ZM: Afternoon/Evening Service
10:30 AM	IP/LS: YIZKOR	<b>SAT 11</b>	<b>CHOL HAMOED SUKKOT</b>
5:15 PM	IP/LS: Mincha/N'ilah Service	9:30 AM	IP/LS: Shabbat/Holiday Services (Kiddush in the Sukkah)
8:00 PM	IP: BREAK THE FAST AT CBI	5:00 PM	IP: Shabbat Mincha Service (Third Meal in the Sukkah)
<b>FRI 3</b>	<b>KABBALAT SHABBAT</b>	<b>SUN 12</b>	<b>CHOL HAMOED SUKKOT</b>
5:45 PM	ZM: Afternoon/Evening Service	9:30 AM	IP/ZM: Morning Service
<b>SAT 4</b>	<b>SHABBAT</b>	5:00 PM	IP/LS: SUKKOT SERVICE & DINNER (Service begins at 5:00 PM)
9:30 AM	IP/LS: Shabbat Services	<b>MON 13</b>	<b>HOSHANA RABBAH/ EREV SHEMINI ATZERET</b>
5:00 PM	IP: Shabbat Mincha Service	8:00 AM	IP/ZM: Morning Service
<b>SUN 5</b>	<b>Sukkah Build Rain Date</b>	5:45 PM	IP/LS: Evening Service (Kiddush brachah in the Sukkah)
8:30 AM	IP/ZM: Morning Service	<b>TUE 14</b>	<b>SHEMINI ATZERET</b>
9:30 AM	IP/ZM: Morning Service	9:30 AM	IP/LS: Holiday Morning Service (Kiddush in the Sukkah)
<b>MON 6</b>	<b>EREV SUKKOT</b>	11:00 AM	IP/LS: YIZKOR
8:00 AM	IP/ZM: Morning Service	5:45 PM	IP/LS: SIMCHAT TORAH CELEBRATION & DESSERT (Service begins at 5:45 PM)
5:45 PM	IP/LS: Afternoon/Evening Service (Kiddush brachah in the Sukkah)	<b>WED 15</b>	<b>SIMCHAT TORAH</b>
<b>TUE 7</b>	<b>SUKKOT DAY 1</b>	9:30 AM	IP/LS: Holiday Morning Service (Kiddush in the Social Hall)
9:30 AM	IP/LS: Morning Service (Kiddush in the Sukkah)	5:45 PM	IP/LS: Afternoon Service
5:45 PM	IP/LS: Afternoon/Evening Service (Kiddush brachah in the Sukkah)		
<b>WED 8</b>	<b>SUKKOT DAY 2</b>		
9:30 AM	IP/LS: Morning Service (Kiddush in the Sukkah)		
5:45 PM	IP/LS: Afternoon Service		

**CBI Yom Kippur Break the Fast** Thursday, October 2, 2025, 8:00 PM at CBI  
Dinner will immediately follow the Neilah service and Havdalah \$20 per person - Reservations Required  
To RSVP, email [kbrody@cbitoledo.org](mailto:kbrody@cbitoledo.org) or call the office at 419.517.8400 by Sept. 25th.

**CBI Sukkah Hop** Thursday, October 9, 2025, 5:45 PM  
Join us as we visit the Sukkot of Judy & David Weinberg, Dale & Karen Levy, and Hope & Greg Davis  
RSVP's Required. Email [kbrody@cbitoledo.org](mailto:kbrody@cbitoledo.org) or call the office at 419.517.8400 by Friday, Oct. 3rd.

**CBI Sukkot Dinner** Sunday, October 12, 2025, 5:00 PM at CBI  
Dinner will be in the Sukkah with services to follow \$15 per person - Reservations Required  
To RSVP, email [kbrody@cbitoledo.org](mailto:kbrody@cbitoledo.org) or call the office at 419.517.8400 by Monday, Oct. 6th.

**CBI Simchat Torah Celebration & Dessert** Tue., Oct. 14, 2025, 5:45 PM at CBI  
NO COST for CBI members, however voluntary donations are appreciated - Reservation Required  
To RSVP, email [kbrody@cbitoledo.org](mailto:kbrody@cbitoledo.org) or call the office at 419.517.8400 by Thursday, Oct. 9th.

**CBI Adult Education** Sunday, October 19, 2025, 10:30 AM at CBI  
*Table for None: The Lost Eateries of Toledo* with author, Tedd A. Long  
To RSVP, please email [kbrody@cbitoledo.org](mailto:kbrody@cbitoledo.org) or call the office at 419.517.8400 by Friday, Oct. 17th.

**Connecting Kids to Meals** Monday, October 20, 2025 10 AM - 12 PM  
RSVP Kim Brody at [kbrody@cbitoledo.org](mailto:kbrody@cbitoledo.org) by Oct. 19th.

### CBI Office Holiday Closings

Thu. Oct. 2	Closed	Yom Kippur
Tue. Oct. 7	Closed	Sukkot - Day 1
Wed. Oct. 8	Closed	Sukkot - Day 2
Tue. Oct. 14	Closed	Shemini Atzeret
Wed. Oct. 15	Closed	Simchat Torah

### WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE \*except during holidays

- IP/ZM: Mon, Thu Morning Minyan: 8:00 AM
- ZM: Monday - Thursday Evening Minyan: 5:45 PM
- ZM: Friday Evening Kabbalat Shabbat: 5:45 PM
- IP/LS: Saturday Morning Shabbat: 9:30 AM
- IP: Saturday Mincha: 5:00 PM
- IP/ZM: Sunday Morning Minyan: 9:30 AM (When Religious School is in session)

## CONGREGATION ETZ CHAYIM

### LET'S DECORATE THE SUKKAH

Plan to meet at the synagogue on **Sunday, October 5 at 10 a.m.** and we will begin decorating. Light breakfast refreshments will be served. Help will be appreciated. Please let Nancy Jacobson know if you can attend.



### FALL FOLIAGE WALK

October is the perfect time of year to enjoy the outdoors and the beautiful fall colors. Our **"Fall Foliage Walk"** will meet at Olander Park on **Wednesday, October 22 at 1 p.m.** We will walk around the park and enjoy time together! Be sure to register with Nancy or Elsa.

### SISTERHOOD NEWS

Everyone is invited to have appetizers in the sukkah following minyan on **Wednesday, October 8. Minyan is at 6 p.m.** and appetizers will follow. Come socialize, enjoy some delicious food and shake the lulav and etrog!



**SAVE THE DATE**  
**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2**  
**AT 10:30 A.M.**  
**OUR FRIEND**  
**AVIVA PANUSH**  
**WILL BE LEADING A**  
**LEARNING SESSION.**

### POKER/MAHJ SCHEDULED

Everyone is invited to play Poker & Mahj on **Sunday, October 12 and 26 from 10 a.m.-noon.** If you would like to join the fun, please contact either Nancy or Marc Jacobson.



## CHABAD HOUSE

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**Happy Sukkot!**

SCHEDULE OF SUKKOT TIMES, SERVICES, & EVENTS CELEBRATE WITH CHABAD HOUSE OF TOLEDO!

**Sukkot Eve: Monday, October 6**  
7:00 PM Services followed by Holiday Dinner in the Sukkah

**First Day of Sukkot: Tuesday, October 7**  
10:30 AM Morning Services

**Second Day of Sukkot: Wednesday, October 8**  
10:30 AM Morning Services  
7:45 PM Holiday Ends

**Shabbat: Saturday, October 11**  
10:00 AM Morning Services  
11:00 AM Torah Reading & Sermon  
12:30 PM Kiddush in the Sukkah  
7:41 PM Shabbat Ends

**Shemini Atzeret & Simchat Torah: Monday, October 13**  
8:30 AM Hoshana Rabbah Morning Services  
6:55 PM Evening Services Followed by Kiddush & Hakafot

**Tuesday, October 14**  
10:30 AM Morning Services  
11:45 AM Yizkor Memorial Services & Torah reading  
6:30 PM Evening Services, Kiddush, Hakafot, L'Chaim, hors d'oeuvres, dinner & kid's program

**Wednesday, October 15**  
10:30 AM Morning Services Followed by Kiddush & Hakafot  
7:34 PM Holiday Ends

**Shabbat Bereshit: Saturday, October 18**  
10:00 AM Morning Services  
11:00 AM Torah Reading & Sermon  
12:30 PM Kiddush Lunch  
7:30 PM Shabbat Ends

YOU ARE WELCOME TO STOP BY ANYTIME TO SHAKE THE LULAV IN OUR OPEN SUKKA

celebration Tuesday, Oct 14, 8:30pm

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Thursday, October 9 - Monday, October 13

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- Enjoy a holiday treat
- Shake the Lulav
- Fun kids gift
- Do a Mitzvah!

**HIGH HOLIDAYS**

**EREV YOM KIPPUR**  
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1

Afternoon Services: 4:45pm  
Fast Begins at 7:11pm  
Kol Nidrei Service: 7:00pm

**YOM KIPPUR DAY**  
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2

Morning Services: 10:00am  
Rabbi's Sermon, Torah Reading & Yizkor Memorial Service : 11:30am  
Afternoon Services: 5:30pm  
Neilah Closing Services: 6:30pm  
Fast Ends at 7:55pm  
Followed by a delicious break-fast meal  
Holiday Ends: 7:55pm

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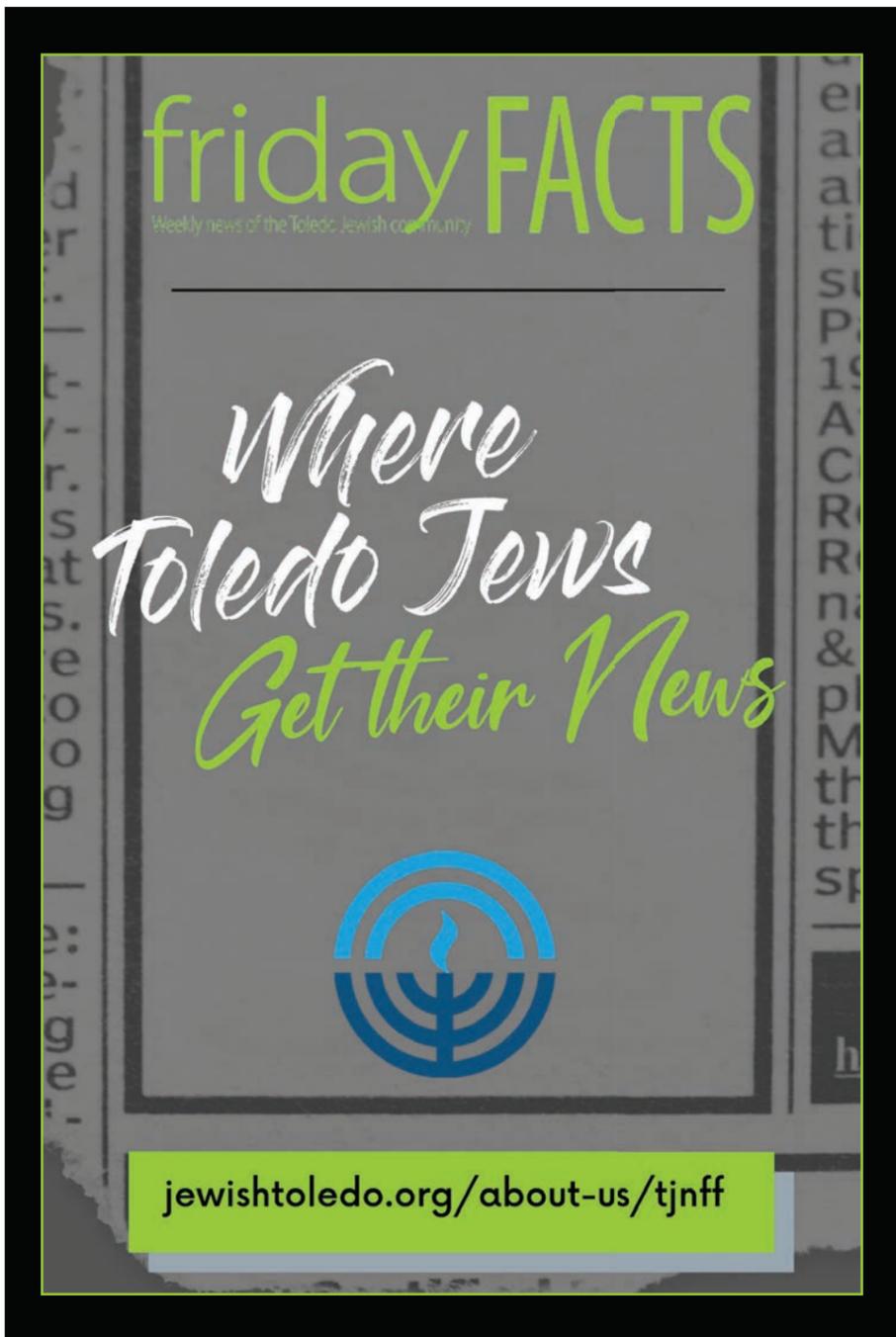
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SCHILL | CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

was condemned by the American Jewish Committee and more than 100 Chicago-area rabbis. This summer, Northwestern announced hundreds of layoffs and other budget reductions.

Even after the encampment deal and funding freeze, some unrest continued at the school: During Passover last spring, several campus buildings were tagged with Hamas signs and messages including “Death to Israel.” Schill condemned the vandalism as antisemitic, and noted it took place hours after his own seder.

Schill’s tenure was marked by other concerns, as well, including a hazing scandal involving Northwestern’s football team. But his resignation makes him the latest in a line

of university presidents to step down following appearances on a Congressional committee about antisemitism — a list that also includes former heads of Harvard, the University of Pennsylvania, Columbia and Rutgers.

New York GOP Rep. Elise Stefanik, whose presence loomed over the hearings, wrote on the social network X that Schill’s resignation was “LONG overdue.” She added that Schill “caved to the demands of the antisemitic, pro-Hamas mob on Northwestern’s campus.” Pro-Israel groups including Alums for Campus Fairness also celebrated his departure.

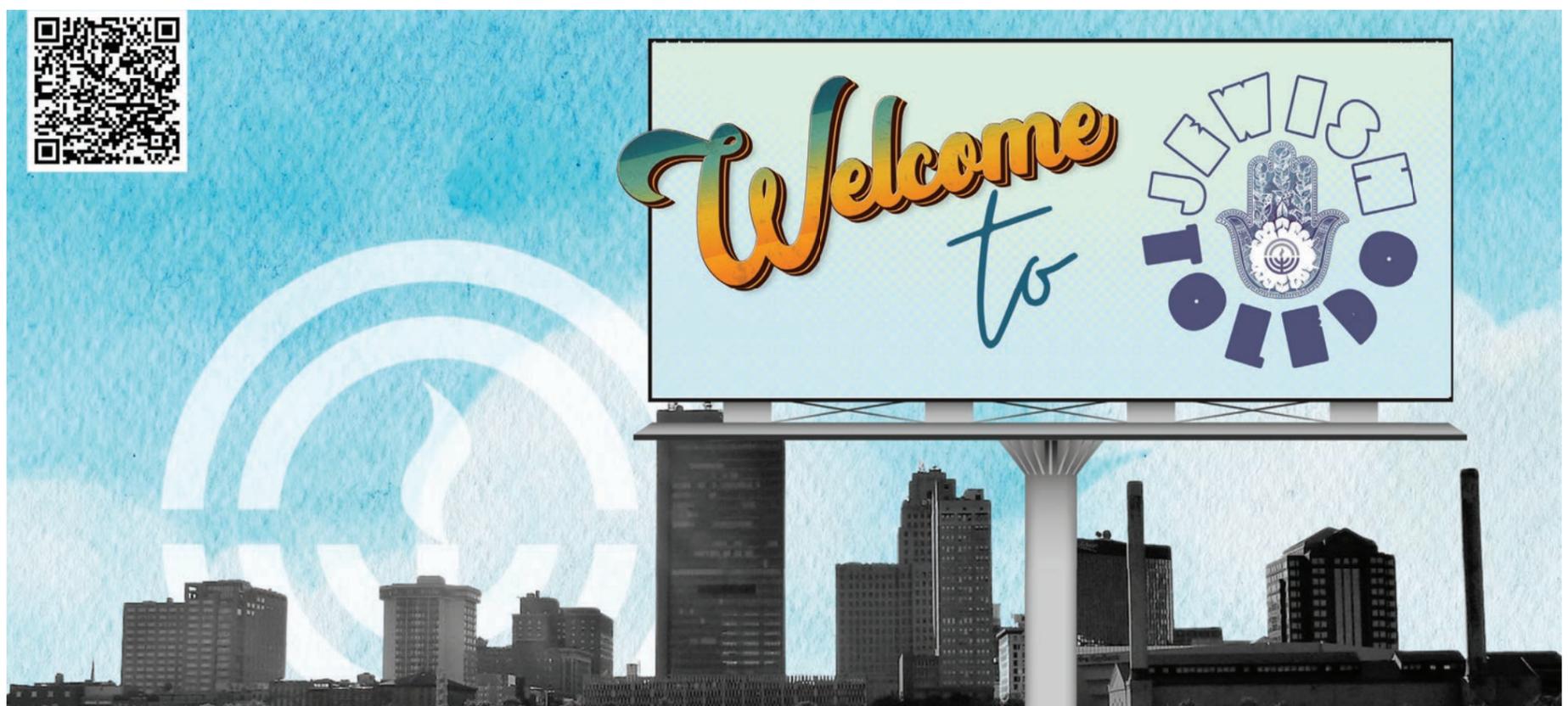
The Chicago Jewish Alliance, an advocacy group, said Schill’s exit was

a consequence of ignoring years of Jewish student concerns.

“The lesson is clear: when universities appease antisemitism instead of confronting it, they lose more than credibility. They lose trust. They lose funding. And, eventually, they lose their leaders,” the group wrote on X. “The Jewish community is watching. We will not be silent.”

Schill will remain at Northwestern as a law professor. He will stay on until the university board can appoint a successor, and noted he would also continue to work with the board in efforts to restore federal funding. His resignation letter continued to defend his stewardship of the university, and warned of “challenges” ahead.

“In the face of those challenges and the hard, but necessary choices that were before us, I was always guided by enduring values of our University: protecting students, fostering academic excellence, and defending faculty, academic freedom, due process and the integrity of the institution,” Schill wrote. “I also recognize that difficult problems remain, particularly at the federal level. It is critical that we continue to protect the University’s research mission and excellence while preserving academic freedom, integrity, and independence.”



# OCTOBER PROGRAMS & HOLIDAYS

## KOL NIDRE

Wednesday, October 1  
Federation offices close at 1 p.m.

## YOM KIPPUR

Thursday, October 2  
Federation offices closed

## OCTOBER 7 COMMEMORATION

Community Sunday, October 5  
7 p.m.

## EREV SUKKOT

Monday, October 6  
Federation offices close at 1 p.m.

## SUKKOT

Tuesday, October 7 - Wednesday, October 8  
Federation offices closed

## HIBACHI IN THE HUT

Young Professionals Saturday, October 11  
7:30 p.m.

## LEGO MY SUKKAH

Community Sunday, October 12  
11:30 a.m.

## EREV SHEMINI ATZERET

Monday, October 13  
Federation offices close at 1 p.m.

## SHEMINI ATZERET/SIMCHAT TORAH

Tuesday, October 14 - Wednesday, October 15  
Federation offices closed

## DEVICE ADVICE WITH TIM

Seniors Wednesday, October 22  
11 a.m.

## SENIORS: CREATE YOUR OWN PERFUME

Seniors Thursday, October 23  
noon

## BOOK FESTIVAL: THE JEWS 5,000 YEARS & COUNTING

Community Thursday, October 23  
7 p.m.

## PJ LIBRARY & B'NAI ISRAEL TOT SHABBAT

Families Saturday, October 25  
10:30 a.m.

## DEVICE ADVICE WITH TIM

Seniors Wednesday, October 29  
11 a.m.

## BABY LOVES SHABBAT

Families Friday, October 31  
9:30 a.m.

\*All information subject to change with updates posted on

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



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Jewish Federation & Foundation OF GREATER TOLEDO



## B'NAI MITZVAH

### Madison Corman

Madison Corman will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, October 18, 2025 at Temple Shomer Emunim. Madison is the daughter of Amy and Scott Corman and the sister of Josh Corman. She is the granddaughter of Gail and Larry Hoicowitz, Carol and Michael Corman, and Sharon and Richard Maddin.

Madison is in 7th grade at Timberstone Junior High where she takes honors courses. She plays tennis and enjoys jazz, hip hop, and tap dance, as well as swimming. In her free time, Madison loves creating art projects, training her new puppy, and spending time with her friends and family. For her Mitzvah Project, Madison is raising money and collecting supplies for the Humane Society to help adoptable pets find loving homes. Madison is very excited to celebrate her Bat Mitzvah!



## Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo Personnel announcement

### Amichai Stout

Amichai Stout left his role as Jewish Community Relations Council Director in mid-September to take a role as the Director of Combating Antisemitism for The Center for Jewish Philanthropy of Greater Phoenix. This is an outstanding opportunity for Amichai. With this change, Amichai, his wife, Debbie, and their baby girl, Eliana, have the chance to move to a larger Jewish community and into a role that is perfect for him. Amichai's selection for this important role will allow him to advance his considerable skills at a time when his abilities are most needed. We

are fortunate that he was a part of Jewish Toledo where he quickly proved himself to be a tremendous asset to our community. Please wish Amichai much success on this professional move.

## Charity Maj Jongg tournament to be held in Toledo

Marilyn Boskind, sister of Elsa Leveton and an avid maj jongg player, is bringing her successful Cincinnati maj jongg tournament to Toledo on Sunday, October 26, 2025. The event will be held at Temple Shomer Emunim from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The cost is \$90 per person and includes lunch, a silent auction, and many mah jongg items for sale plus prize money for high scores.

A player must be able to complete four games in 55 minutes. Players will rotate tables after four games.

This is a charity event. The proceeds from the tournament will benefit the Northwest Ohio ALS association. Elsa's husband Allen died from ALS six years ago. If you are unable to attend but would like to donate, please make checks payable to the Northwest Ohio ALS Assn. and mail to Marilyn Boskind, 9436 Southgate Dr., Cincinnati, Ohio 45241.

For further information and to register, please contact Marilyn Boskind directly at 513-368-7003 or email her at MJCBosk@aol.com.



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# A wartime experience in Israel: "People make plans and G-d laughs"

MARY BILYEU  
mary@jewishtoledo.org

**Howard Friedman, a former longtime Jewish Toledo and Congregation B'nai Israel member, and his wife, Faye Menczer, came to Sylvania on August 10 to tell how their recent trip to Israel was thrown into disarray by the Twelve-Day War that took place in mid-June with Iran.**

A crowd of about 40 friends and community members listened intently as the couple, who'd gone to visit Faye's sister Gloria in Kiryat Ekron, shared the saga.

"This trip to Israel had been on and off for months," Howard began; but by mid-May, they'd selected dates for the venture. As he purchased the necessary e-Visas, he commented that everything should be fine "so long as Bibi doesn't decide to bomb Iran while we are there."

They arrived in Kiryat Ekron on Wednesday, June 11.

Two days later, Israel attacked key Iranian military facilities and Iran retaliated.

Howard and Faye immediately started hearing sirens and headed quickly to the safe room in the home of their hosts, crowding in with several other family members plus Gloria's caregiver. Faye noted that they'd gotten dressed for the first middle-of-the-night trip, but then just schlepped downstairs in their pajamas for subsequent warnings as the alerts started to become more frequent and routine.

Their departure date of June 16 was imminent, but Israeli airspace was closed. "How would we get home?" the couple wondered. Delta Airlines had called off flights for at least another two weeks. They tried to finagle some semblance of a plan through phone calls, websites, apps, and assistance from loved ones in

both Israel and the United States.

That Sunday, June 15, Howard and Faye received notice that the U.S. Embassy was not yet arranging for any evacuations. This failure was later reconsidered and assistance was offered, but not to our stranded friends (despite having been told they were on a priority list).

The couple kept to their intended itinerary as much as possible and went to visit other family members in the south. At this point they needed medication refills, having only packed what they'd thought they'd use. After bringing their pills with them to a pharmacy, getting their stepdaughter in the U.S. to email pictures of the original pill bottles, having an Israeli doctor re-write the prescriptions, and listening as their niece translated between English and Hebrew, Faye and Howard were at least able to get that inconvenience settled.

While still trying day and night to find a way home, Howard and Faye received more bad news: they got an alert that their house in the Detroit area had suffered a power outage. Neighbors kindly checked on the situation and found the ice machine had stopped working and the kitchen floor was flooded. They removed perishable items from the fridge, then "took it and cooked it," Faye said with a chuckle, before the food could spoil and add to the list of stresses the couple faced.



▲ Stephen Rothschild, CEO, Jewish Federation and Foundation of Greater Toledo, speaks to the group.

By Sunday, June 22, Howard and Faye had returned to Kiryat Ekron. A ceasefire was finally announced two days later, after the United States intervened and bombed Iranian nuclear sites.

Having continued to work the channels of communication between two countries and among their vast network of friends and contacts, Howard eventually received a message from the Jewish Federation of Detroit: there were two openings available on a 150-seat chartered flight to Cyprus leaving the next day, June 25.

This assistance came through in partnership with the Jewish Federations of North America, "including the Toledo Federation," he noted appreciatively.

"Thank you to Federation for getting us out!," Faye exclaimed with gratitude.

From the audience, Jewish Federation & Foundation of Greater Toledo (JFGT) CEO Stephen Rothschild commented, "We belong to a very strong system" which worked together to help Howard, Faye, and others who were stranded. "The world Jewish collective responded," he said with great pride.

Connecting flights to Germany and Detroit were coordinated, along with hotel reservations for stopovers (including a four-room executive suite in Frankfurt, which was the only option available and happily accepted). The couple left Israel and headed back to Michigan.

"We made it home," Howard sighed with relief, "none the worse for wear, but 10 days late."

He mentioned that his grandmother's favorite Yiddish saying translates to, "People make plans and G-d laughs."

But Faye didn't want this recent travel fiasco to preclude future visits.

"I would encourage everyone to go to Israel," she told attendees enthusiastically. "Go!"

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

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## JCRC Honey Tasting Event

The Sekach Building was abuzz with nearly two dozen guests at the 2nd Annual JCRC Honey Tasting Event on August 14, sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo. Bowling Green State University conservation and restoration ecologist Dr. Helen Michaels, an expert on flowers and the nectar they produce which nourishes bees, taught about plants that are both beneficial and detrimental to bees, as well as choices people can make to help the habitat via the vegetation they grow. Then Demetrius Dees, owner of Dee's Bees Honey in Temperance, MI, led a sampling of his spring, summer, and buckwheat honeys, which ranged in color from yellow to amber to molasses with striking flavor variations. (A fourth sample was a gift from Dees Bees Apiary of Aberdeen, NC, which had been contacted by mistake via an incorrect email address!) This fun and educational event was a wonderful way to start preparing for the High Holidays.



▲ Dr. Helen Michaels



▲ Demetrius Dees



▲ Mary Bilyeu



▲ Debbie, Eliana, and Amichai Stout

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