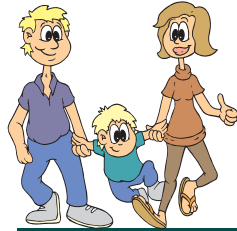


*Come out and enjoy the*

# **Jewish Community Picnic**



**SUNDAY, AUGUST 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2009**

**11:30 AM - 2:00 PM**

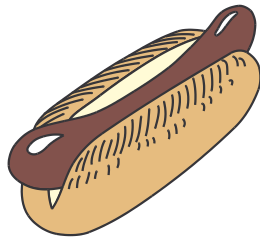
**CASCADE PARK,**

**LOWER PAVILION**

**3810 Thornapple River Drive**

**on Nick Kik Dr., between Thornhills & 36th St.**

**HOT DOG  
LUNCH,  
GAMES AND  
ACTIVITIES  
FOR ALL AGES!!**



**\$3.00 per person /  
\$12.00 per family**

**RSVP by August 3rd  
to 942-5553**

***Rain or Shine***

# GUEST COLUMNIST - MAXINE SHAPIRO . . .



I was honored to be asked to join with Jewish leaders from North America, the Diaspora, and Israel to attend the recent Assembly meeting of the Jewish Agency for Israel in Jerusalem. The Jewish Agency played a central role in establishing a Jewish homeland, and is today the Jewish world's central organ for connecting the

Jewish people with Israel. The Agency is the main recipient of the collective fundraising from United Jewish Communities, the World Zionist Organization and Keren Hayesod (contributions coming from outside of North America). It is the central address for discussion about key issues facing the Jewish people. Its various departments develop projects and activities, and fund them in Israel and throughout the Jewish world. The mission and goals of the Jewish Agency are to bring Jews to Israel; connect the next generation of Jews with Israel; and involve world Jewry in shaping Israeli society. The historic relationship and partnership with the government of Israel is unique. The Agency is not just another "non-profit" doing philanthropic work in Israel. The nomination of Natan Sharansky by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to be Chairman of the Jewish Agency was given a unanimous vote by the Assembly. The author, activist, former member of the Knesset will serve as a great leader of the Agency.

We are all very much aware of the economic conditions throughout the world. Budgets have been slashed! However, the Agency has continued to focus and fund programs directed at youth at risk, and other educational programs especially in frontline communities in the north and communities surrounding Gaza. Some of these programs have been operating for a number of years with great success. Municipalities and private donors partner in funding many of these programs.

During the first 4 months of this year, 3,500 people began a new life in Israel. The rise of anti-Semitism in England and France spiked 45% over last year. I met two French young men serving in the Israeli army. They are in the country without any family. The Israeli army has a unique program for these "lone soldiers" to help them adjust to life in Israel as well as army life. The "lone soldier" program provides seminars to help make the transition into civilian life easier. I asked if they plan to stay

after their tour of duty is over. Both said, "yes". They feel going back to France is not an option ... too much discrimination.

MASA Israel Journey is a project of the government and Jewish communities around the world represented by the Jewish Agency and its partners. Studies made on the impact of an Israel experience on Jewish youth all reflect the tremendous connection that is made with Israel and their Jewish identity. A prolonged period of study and work in Israel strengthens this even more. Post high-school, post college, and young adults are enrolled in over 108 MASA programs. We met a young woman from Australia working with a member of the Knesset; another young man from Gibraltar who majored in psychology in university who was working in a center in the Negev; another young woman from Chicago taking pre-med classes at Hebrew U, who was volunteering in a clinic. For some, this is like a 5th college year. This project's contribution to the Israeli economy (i.e. foreign currency in excess of investment made by the Israeli government and the Jewish Agency in MASA) over the last five years is estimated to be more than 1.5 billion shekels. A friend of ours daughter will be attending MASA in the fall. She is planning to take some business classes at Hebrew U as well as volunteering to teach English!

Just as the priorities of our Federations are changing, the role of the Jewish Agency for Israel is changing. Israel today is an independent country, able, for the most part, to meet its complex security needs. Achievements have been made in economic, educational, social and cultural areas that were just dreams sixty years ago. The Agency wants to focus where our contributions are unique and not just ordinary, from conventional to innovative, and from average to outstanding. With a personality like Natan Sharansky who will be able to engage the Israeli government and Israeli philanthropists, and other lay leadership from around the world, the Agency will continue to contribute to strengthening Israel and the world's Jewry.

I will be returning to Israel in October for the next meeting. If anyone has any questions about the work of the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI), please contact me.

Maxine Shapiro  
sccashapir@aol.com

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## *OUR MISSION*

*Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids supports cultural, social and financial needs of Jews locally, in the State of Israel, and around the world.*

*This mission is accomplished by providing services to the community and through fundraising and allocation efforts.*



## Federation Approves 2009-2010 Slate of Officers and Board of Directors

### Officers

*Chairman*  
Dan Hurwitz

*Vice Chairs*  
Judith Joseph  
Greg Kaufman  
Jeff Rush  
Andrew Samrick

*Treasurer*  
Claude Titcher III

*Past Chair*  
Karen Padnos

*Executive Director*  
Jeff Slotnick

### Board of Directors

David Alfonso  
Glenn Barkan  
Stuart Berman  
Davida Dennen

Mark Finkelstein  
Machelle Hammond  
Norm Kravitz  
Michael Presant  
Larry Selig  
Audrey Sundstrom  
Lanny Thodey  
Chad Zagel

### Ex-Officio Members

*Congregation Ahavas Israel*  
Rabbi David Krishef  
David Reifler

*Temple Emanuel*  
Rabbi Michael Schadick  
Jonathan Golden

*Chabad House of Western Michigan*  
Rabbi Yosef Weingarten

**This month, *The Shofar* was mailed to everyone because it contains our Annual Report.**

## Send us an E-mail

The Jewish Federation needs your e-mail address for future communications that will allow us to send timely emails to our community members regarding upcoming programs and events.

By opting to receive the *Shofar* newsletter electronically, you will save the Federation \$25.00.

**Please call or email Cathy with your e-mail address – [cathy@jfgr.org](mailto:cathy@jfgr.org) or 942-5553**



*Federation salutes outgoing board member Rick Stevens, for completing 18 years of volunteer service with Federation, including a term as Chairman of the board. Thank you Rick!*

## FACT of the week

United Jewish Communities

India is home to an estimated 4,500 Jews in a country of over 1 billion people. UJC/Jewish Federations of North America's support of JDC's Evelyn Peters Jewish Community Center in Mumbai offers a range of Jewish educational programming for all ages. The community's only youth group, the Jewish Youth Pioneers, provides a vital framework for the community's future leaders to network and gather in a Jewish context.

*Live Generously.™ It does a world of good.*

# SENIOR PROGRAMMING . . .

## Tracing Jewish History in America...and Michigan! JFGR Seniors Event -- July 13th



*Pictured from left to right:  
Lew Turetsky, Joe Stevens,  
Beverly Manes, Rabbi Krishef,  
Shirley Kleiman, Gert Turetsky,  
Sharon Carpenter, Judy Joseph,  
Eleanor Rush Kleiman, Buddy  
Joseph, Liz Scheibe,  
Roza Blekham, Laura Rhoda,  
Edith Rashewsky, and  
Karen Reifler.*



*Community members on a guided tour  
of Jewish Detroit--pictured here at the  
Fisher Building.*

### *Frederick Meijer Gardens!*

1000 East Beltline NE

**Thursday, August 6th**

**11:00 a.m. – Lunch at the**

*Taste of the Gardens Café - \$7<sup>00</sup>*

**12:30 p.m. – Guided Tram Tour - \$5<sup>00</sup>**

Please RSVP to Liz at 942-5553 ext. 206

**Free transportation to the Gardens  
is available!**

### **Mitzvah Specialists!**

*Here is your schedule  
through 2009!*

**Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m.**

**August 18**

**September 22**

**October 20**

**November 24**

**December 22**

*Call Liz at 942-5553 with any questions  
or to request transportation*

### **SAVE THESE DATES!**

**Apples & Honey Luncheon**

**Tuesday, September 15<sup>th</sup> • 12 p.m.**

*Location, menu, and entertainment to be determined.*

**Ethel Merman's Broadway**

**Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup>**

*DeVos Performance Hall*

*Lunch location to be determined.*

**"Young at Heart"**

**Musical Performance**

**Tuesday, October 27<sup>th</sup>**

*Forest Hills Fine Arts Center*

**Chanukah Luncheon**

**Wednesday, December 9<sup>th</sup> • 12 p.m.**

*Location, menu, and entertainment to be determined.*

### **LUNCH BUNCH**

**Sayfee's Restaurant**

3555 Lake Eastbrook Blvd., S.E.

**Wednesday, August 26<sup>th</sup>**

11:30 a.m.

**Cost: \$7.00**



*Featuring special guest, Chad Zagel,*

*Edward Jones Financial Advisor*

Chad will briefly discuss financial planning and  
consumer safety precautions.

Please RSVP to Liz at 942-5553 ext. 206

**Free transportation to Sayfee's is available!**

*Please mark your calendars:*

## Women's 2009 Campaign Event



**Tuesday, October 6, 2009 –  
7:00pm Dessert Reception  
at Temple Emanuel**

*Guest Speaker: Sue Fishkoff*

Sue Fishkoff is the West Coast correspondent for the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, covering Jewish identity issues and the Jewish communities of the former Soviet Union. Some of the topics she regularly writes about include conversion and inter-marriage, outreach, Jewish ritual, education, congregational life, the movements, and new forms of Jewish expression.

**On the second Tuesday  
of every month,**  
families depend on food donations  
from the

### **Food Bank at Temple Emanuel.**

Drop off food donations between  
10am - 2pm Monday through Friday  
at Temple Emanuel

**or mail checks payable to  
Temple Emanuel and specify the  
donation is for the Food Bank.**

Temple's Address:  
1715 E. Fulton, Grand Rapids, MI 49503

### *A Patient Advocate Designation...*

allows you to select a Patient Advocate  
who can have access to your medical  
records and represent your wishes for  
medical care in case you are  
too sick to do so.

\*Please note that spouses do not automatically  
become one another's Patient Advocate.

To receive a FREE Patient Advocate  
Designation, please contact Liz Scheibe,  
Director of Social Services,  
at 942-5553.

## EVERYONE IS INVITED TO MEET THE ISRAELI CAMPERS

**Friday, August 14 – 6:15 P.M.  
Shabbat Service & Light Dinner  
at Temple Emanuel**

Israeli campers, spending a summer at Camp Tamarack will be hosted by Grand Rapids families for the weekend of August 14-16. Many thanks to our host families: Davida and Peter Dennen, Ellen and David Fishman and Stephanie and Dan Hurwitz.

The entire community is invited to meet and greet the six campers, aged 13-14 and enjoy a light dinner following Friday night services at Temple Emanuel, on August 14. Services begin at 6:15pm.

## HADASSAH BOOK CLUB

*Thank you to Diane Broomberg for opening her home to the book group and sharing her beautiful garden and delicious refreshments on June 17th!*

**Next Meeting: August 19 • 7:15 p.m.**

Where: Sylvia Krissoff's home  
1916 San Lu Rae S.E., East Grand Rapids

Phone #: 245-7530

Book to read: *"The Invisible Wall"*

by Harry Bernstein

*Please RSVP to Hostess – Thank you!*

**October Meeting:**

**October 14 • 7:15 p.m.**

Book to read: *"Sara's Key"*

by Tatiana De Roseny

*Books are available  
at Schuler's Book Store  
on 28th Street.*

Sue Remes – 949-3505  
Flory Silverstein – 949-5766



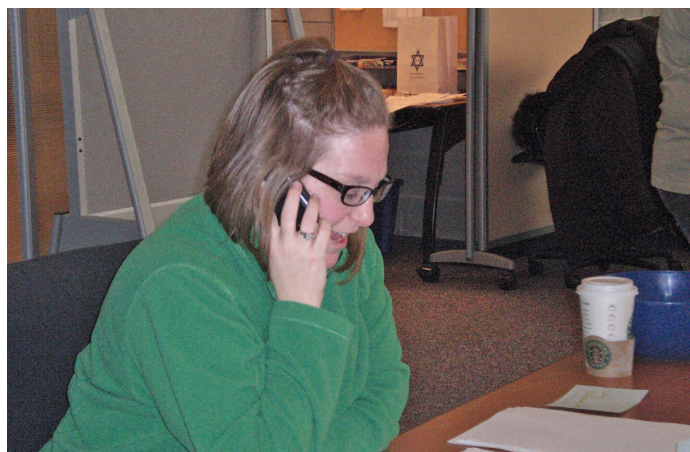
## United Way

Many of us make a workplace donation to the United Way.....

Are you aware that you can designate your United Way gift to the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids?

Your gifts should be considered plus dollars and not in lieu of your annual campaign gift.

In the end, we all benefit by having our Federation better positioned to continue to provide quality programs and services.

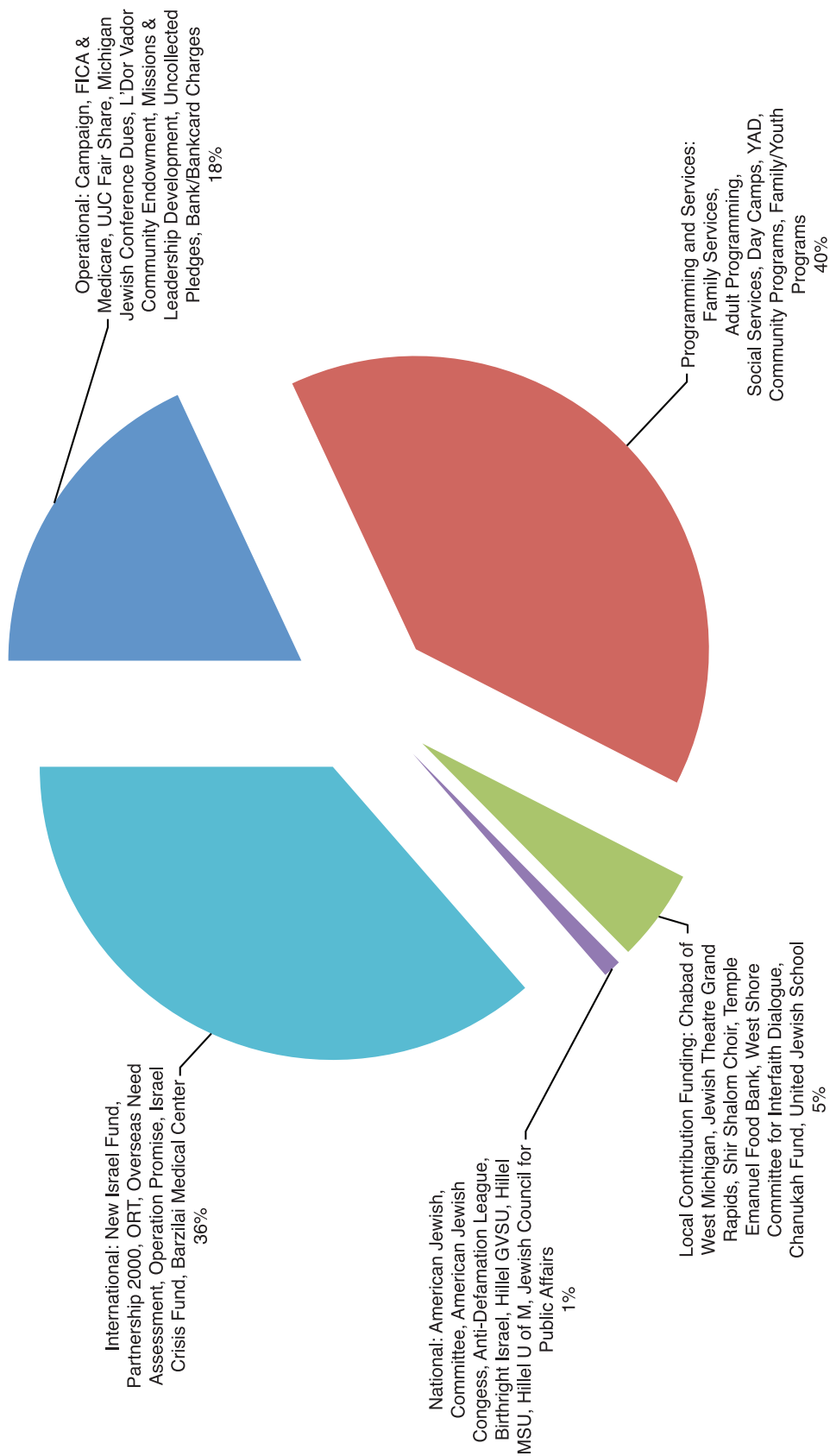


*Jewish Federation wishes to thank Ally Weiskopf, for her four years of service to the community through her program development of YAD activities, Camp Shalom, Shalom Baby and welcoming new families. Ally has made a positive impact in helping to bring our community together, and we wish her great success in her future endeavors.*

# JEWISH FEDERATION 2008 ANNUAL REPORT ...

<b>TOTAL FUNDS RAISED</b>		
General Campaign	\$371,937.00	
Women's Campaign	\$167,208.00	
<b>Total-Regular Campaign</b>		<b>\$539,145.00</b>
Louis and Helen Padnos Challenge Grant	\$20,000.00	
Hy and Greta Berkowitz Young Leadership Challenge Grant	\$2,000.00	
Interest	\$8,500.00	
Car loan repayment	\$3,600.00	
Available for re-allocation	\$20,663.21	
Weiner Fund	\$2,185.68	
General Endowment Fund	\$16,050.45	
Art Fund	\$7,423.35	
Women of Valor	\$1,089.31	
Donor Designated Funds	\$25,000.00	
Chanukah Fund	\$361.00	
Barzilai Medical Center	\$1,479.00	
Operation Promise	\$1,655.00	
Israel Crisis Fund	\$20.00	
<b>Subtotal Additional Income</b>		<b>\$110,027.00</b>
<b>TOTAL AVAILABLE FOR ALLOCATION</b>		<b>\$649,172.00</b>
<b>LOCAL</b>		
<b>JFGR OPERATIONAL EXPENSES</b>		
Campaign	\$39,577.00	
Family Services /Adult Programming/Social Serv	\$111,150.00	
YAD	\$15,000.00	
Community/Family/Youth Programs/Day Camps	\$129,979.00	
FICA & MEDICARE	\$16,000.00	
Uncollected Pledges	\$15,000.00	
Bank and bankcard charges	\$3,500.00	
<b>Subtotal Operational Expenses</b>		<b>\$330,206.00</b>
Missions & Leadership Development	\$6,079.00	
L'Dor Vador Community Endowment	\$12,000.00	
Chanukah Fund	\$500.00	
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>\$18,579.00</b>
<b>LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS</b>		
United Jewish School	\$18,000.00	
Chabad of West Michigan	\$2,937.00	
Jewish Theatre Grand Rapids	\$3,560.00	
Shir Shalom Choir	\$3,293.00	
Temple Emanuel Food Bank	\$2,200.00	
West Shore Committee for Interfaith Dialogue	\$2,500.00	
<b>Subtotal Local Allocations</b>		<b>\$32,490.00</b>
<b>TOTAL LOCAL ALLOCATIONS</b>		<b>\$381,275.00</b>
<b>DUES PAID FOR SUPPORT OF OUR ORGANIZATION</b>		
UJC Fair Share, Michigan Jewish Conference Dues	\$23,501.00	
Michigan Jewish Conference Dues	\$1,602.00	
<b>TOTAL DUES</b>		<b>\$25,103.00</b>
<b>NATIONAL</b>		
American Jewish Committee	\$75.00	
American Jewish Congress	\$75.00	
Anti-Defamation League (ADL)	\$1,500.00	
Birthright Israel	\$3,150.00	
Hillel GVSU	\$445.00	
Hillel - MSU	\$445.00	
Hillel - U of M	\$445.00	
Jewish Council For Public Affairs (JCPA)	\$375.00	
<b>TOTAL NATIONAL ALLOCATIONS</b>		<b>\$6,510.00</b>
<b>INTERNATIONAL</b>		
New Israel Fund	\$25,000.00	
Partnership 2000	\$15,000.00	
ORT	\$4,450.00	
ONAD (Overseas Need Assessment)	\$188,680.00	
Operation Promise	\$1,655.00	
Israel Crisis	\$20.00	
Barzilai Medical Center	\$1,479.00	
<b>TOTAL INTERNATIONAL ALLOCATIONS</b>		<b>\$236,284.00</b>
<b>TOTAL ALLOCATIONS</b>		<b>\$649,172.00</b>

# JEWISH FEDERATION 2008 ANNUAL REPORT ...





## Beit Sefer B'yahad/ United Jewish School

1715 East Fulton  
616-459-5976  
Pam Rush  
[pam@templemanuelgr.org](mailto:pam@templemanuelgr.org)

Grand Rapids, MI 49503  
fax 616-459-6510  
School Director  
[www.unitedjewishschool.org](http://www.unitedjewishschool.org)

**Opening Day  
Sunday  
September 13th, 2009  
Temple Emanuel**

**Accepting ages 2 years through  
12th grade**

**If you would like enrollment  
forms please contact  
[pam@templemanuelgr.org](mailto:pam@templemanuelgr.org)  
459-5976 x3**

The school administration along with the UJS Board is very busy during the summer organizing and developing programs for next religious school year. Please feel free to contact me and share your thoughts on the successes of the past year and improvements that could be made in the future.

In August, the UJS staff will participate with the Alliance for Jewish Education and the Metropolitan Detroit Board of Jewish Educators in the Seminar for Educational Excellence in Detroit (SEED).

If you know of any students who may be interested in joining our UJS community for next year please give me their info so I may contact them.

### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

July 22	UJS Board meeting
August 26	UJS Board meeting

We have a beautiful tribute card that can be sent in memory of someone, in honor of a special occasion or just for a simple "thank you".

### **UJS Contributions**

#### **In Honor:**

The Hamentashen Team

Niels Bach – Sue Remes – Chuck Olender – June Horowitz

Sylvia Herman – Liz Troyer – Mitzi Cohon

Rachel Dennen by Barb Robinson

# YOUNG ADULT DIVISION . . .

## Federation Day at the Ballpark



*Pictured at Federation Day at the Whitecaps are Frank and Elyse Weiss and family, Stacy Beyer and kids, Michelle Benjamin and son, along with Sandy Freed.*



*Pictured at the recent Federation Day at the ballpark are Rabbi Krishef and kids.*

# CONGREGATIONAL NEWS . . .

## Congregation Ahavas Israel

### Family Pre-Shabbat Happy Hour/Kabbalat Shabbat

**6:30, July 31; 7:00, August 28.**  
Followed by Kabbalat Shabbat  
at 7:45 p.m.

### Sanctuary Shabbat

**August 8 (2nd Shabbat) -**

Tim Munger, *"Evangelical Christians and their support for Israel"*

### Tisha B'Av

A day of Lamentations, mourning, and fasting for

the destruction of the Temple and subsequent exiles of the Jewish people. Wednesday night, July 29, at 9:15 p.m., for Ma'ariv and the reading of the Biblical book of Eikha (Lamentations); Thursday morning, July 30, 7:00 a.m., for morning minyan with special inclusions for Tisha B'Av. (Fast ends -- 9:19 p.m.)

**Shabbat morning Learner's service, part 2**  
(you need not have attended part 1)  
**August 15 -- 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.**

Increase your comfort, participation in, and appreciation of our services. Rabbi Krishef will unlock the secrets to understanding the Shabbat morning service!



## Every Step of the Way



June 30, 2009 / 8 Tammuz 5769

Born in Uzbekistan, Kosta (22), was involved in Jewish Agency summer camps from a very early age, first as a participant, and then as an instructor. His growing involvement in Jewish activities strengthened his connection with his Jewish roots and with Israel. "Ever since I was little," Kosta recalls, "I knew I wanted to – and would – come to live in Israel."

Once Kosta turned 18, he immigrated to Israel through the Jewish Agency SELA program, for students arriving in Israel before their parents. Kosta lived at a Jewish Agency Absorption Center in Kfar Saba for nearly a year, where he learned Hebrew and Math and did the psychometric exams for university. "I loved the atmosphere at the absorption center," Kosta says. "I met friends

from around the world, all new to Israel and figuring it out together. At that point, I wasn't sure whether to continue with higher education or join the army."

But he decided shortly thereafter and enlisted to an elite commando unit. "My army service was excellent", Kosta says proudly. "I enjoyed the work I did immensely, and felt like I was contributing to my country."

A month and a half before the end of his service, the IDF referred him to Wings, a joint initiative of the Jewish Agency and the Merage Foundation, that offers soldiers nearing the completion of their service a five-day seminar introducing them to their rights and benefits, including national insurance payments, medical insurance, taxes and college scholarships for new immigrants. Kosta also learned how to write a resume in Hebrew and interview for jobs. "Wings was incredibly helpful. I was able to ask the staff everything I wanted to know about civilian life," Kosta explains. "I left feeling very prepared for my future here in Israel."



Kosta was released from the army in June 2009, and is now living in Haifa. He hopes to start working soon and would like to start his academic studies next year in Economics.

## Do you think that planned giving is only for the very wealthy?

### Think again.

Planned giving can help you take control of your assets AND leave an enduring legacy to your family and your Jewish community. You can establish a planned gift with a more modest amount than you might have imagined.

Through planned giving, you can realize significant financial benefits while making more generous charitable gifts than you ever thought possible.

#### A planned gift can:

- Protect your assets
- Reduce your estate taxes
- Earn immediate tax deductions
- Provide income for you or a loved one

#### Some creative ways of giving:

- Outright gifts of cash
- Gifts of appreciated securities
- Gifts of life insurance
- Bequests made through your will

If you are ready now to help the future of our community, please make your check out to the Endowment Funds of the Grand Rapids Jewish community. You may stipulate that the proceeds from your support go to one or more of the participating organizations.

If you do not specifically direct your donation, proceeds will support the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids.



Chabad House of West Michigan Endowment Fund  
Congregation Ahavas Israel Endowment Fund  
Jewish Cultural Council Endowment Fund  
Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids Endowment Fund  
Jewish Theatre Grand Rapids Endowment Fund  
Temple Emanuel Endowment Fund

Creating the Endowment Funds of the Grand Rapids Jewish Community.

To discuss how Planned Giving can work for you, contact Jeff Slotnick at the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids office at 942-5553

## Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids Endowments

Life cycle times, both happy and sad, are traditional times to make donations to Jewish causes. You can make a donation of \$5 or more to the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids in honor or in memory of members of our community. We then will acknowledge that donation with a card to that individual or family. This is a wonderful way to send your good wishes and be able to fulfill the mitzvah of tzedakah.

Please be sure to indicate what the occasion is and who is to receive the card. Please specify which of the following funds you would like your donation to be credited to:

- **The Woman of Valor Fund** - (\$10 minimum contribution). To honor the women in our lives who have made a difference personally, locally, or nationally.
- **The Federation General Endowment/L'Dor Vador Fund** - To help ensure the continued work of the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids for now and the future.
- **The Julian and Judith Joseph Fund** - To provide for local programming and events through the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids.
- **The David and Susan Samrick Youth Scholarship Fund** - To provide scholarships to Jewish sleep away camps and experiences.
- **The Chuck and Maxine Shapiro Fund** - To help ensure long-term aid to Israel and Jews around the world.
- **The Louis and Louise Weiner Fund** - To help ensure local programming for seniors in the Grand Rapids Jewish Community.
- **The Jerry and Judy Subar Fund** - To help ensure funding for overseas Jewish communities' needs.

*Thank you for supporting the  
Grand Rapids Jewish Community*

### The JFGR General Endowment Fund

In memory of Abe Glaser  
From Gloria Stark

In memory of Abe Glaser  
From Amy Putnam

In memory of Abe Glaser  
From Edith Rashewsky

In memory of Abe Glaser  
From Gloria and Stanley Besbris

In memory of Abe Glaser  
From Barbara Robinson

In memory of Abe Glaser  
From Roger and Marcia Beutner

### The Louis & Louise Weiner Fund

In memory of Fran Weber  
From Toby Weiner Dolinka

In memory of Abe Glaser  
From Toby Weiner Dolinka

In memory of Abe Glaser  
From Mort Zukerman

### The Women of Valor Endowment Fund

In honor of Helen Dolinka's special Birthday  
From Edith Rashewsky

לדור ודור  
L'Dor Vador  
From Generation to Generation

## Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids Endowment Fund Donation Form

**Donation From:** Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**In Honor Of:** Name \_\_\_\_\_

**In Memory Of:** Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Send Card To:** Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Fund** (please pick from list): \_\_\_\_\_

**In Honor Of:** Name \_\_\_\_\_

**In Memory Of:** Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Send Card To:** Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Fund** (please pick from list): \_\_\_\_\_

Send your donation to:

**The Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids**  
4127 Embassy Drive SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546-2418

# Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids Social Services Program

*The Federation is available to support members of the community when the need arises. Families and individuals of any age are eligible for assistance.*

## **Services available:**

### **Assessment and Referral**

Through conversation by phone or in-person, each community member's needs are assessed, and social services to alleviate specific concerns or stressors are identified.

### **Emergency Loans**

Members of our Jewish community in Grand Rapids are eligible for an Emergency Loan when conditions are appropriate. The loan is interest free, and the repayment schedule is very flexible.

### **Advocacy**

Assistance with navigating complicated systems, such as special education programs in schools or the health care industry is available, so that the community member's needs and wishes are addressed.

**Please contact Liz, Director of Social Services, for more information.**

**Liz can be reached by phone at (616) 942-5553 or by email at [liz@jfgr.org](mailto:liz@jfgr.org).**

*\*Communication is always confidential.*

## **The Shofar**

Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids  
4127 Embassy Drive SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49546-2418

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Send articles to: 4127 Embassy Dr., SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546-2418

Phone: (616) 942-5553

Fax: (616) 942-5780

E-Mail: [Info@JFGR.org](mailto:Info@JFGR.org)

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

**Next Issue's Information Deadline: August 5, 2009**

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