



CHESHVAN/KISLEV, 5772
NOVEMBER, 2011
www.jewishgrandrapids.org

JEWISH FEDERATION OF GRAND RAPIDS

The Shofar



November Special Events



November 1

Linda Hurwitz

“Passion and Purpose in the Jewish Community”
(see inside)



November 19

Grand Rapids Symphony

Sacred Dimensions Series

2012 Year of Interfaith Understanding



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.

One Community

Federation is now on Facebook!

Become a fan of Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids

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Federation News

Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids
 2727 Michigan NE
 Grand Rapids, MI 49506
 616.942.5553
 616.942.5780 fax
 www.jfgr.org

Officers

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Vice Chairs
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 Karen Padnos
 Andrew Samrick
Treasurer
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Past Chair
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Interim Executive Director
 Michael L. Presant

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 Rabbi David Krishef
 Marni Vyn, President

 Temple Emanuel
 Rabbi Michael Schadick
 David Fishman, President

Chabad House
 Of Western Michigan
 Rabbi Yosef Weingarten

Interim Executive Director's Letter

Dear Friends,

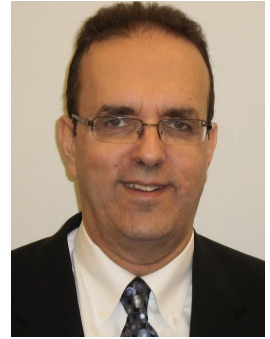
We have a couple of exciting events upcoming this month I'd like to discuss with you. Both programs are unique opportunities for our Jewish community.

The first program is our annual campaign event. It will be held on Tuesday, November 1st at 7:30 pm at the Grand Rapids Hilton (28th Street and Patterson). Our featured speaker is Linda Hurwitz, the president of the Jewish Federation of North America's National Women's Philanthropy Board. A dynamic, inspiring speaker, Linda is a positive force who can energize her listeners about the value of Jewish community and the importance of Federation to the sustenance of our community locally and around the world.

In addition, Linda recently traveled to Greece and Israel on a JFNA leadership mission trip where she had the opportunity to meet with the leadership of both countries, including Prime Minister Netanyahu and other Israeli leaders in Jerusalem. The events in the Middle East are as intriguing as ever, and I'm confident Linda will be able to offer us important insights into this always essential part of the world for the Jewish people.

Of note, Linda is spending the entire day and evening in Grand Rapids with us on November 1st. Therefore, we have scheduled a series of meetings with various groups in our community. If you would like the opportunity to meet with Linda in a smaller setting, please don't hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

The other exciting program in November is our first Cultural Council event of the season on Saturday, November 19 at 8:00 pm at Temple Emanuel. The Grand Rapids Symphony will be performing selected works of Jewish composers as well as Jewish music. This concert is a new addition to the GRS Sacred Dimension Series in which the Symphony travels to area houses of worship to perform pieces of music meaningful to those particular religious groups. It is also part of the City of Grand Rapids **2012 Year of Interfaith Understanding** proclaimed recently by Mayor George Heartwell.



Continued on page 3 ...



ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

Please cut out this pledge card, fill it in and send it to the Federation office.



Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids
 2727 Michigan NE
 Grand Rapids, MI 49506
 (616) 942-5553
 www.jfgr.org

I HEREBY PLEDGE TO THE FEDERATION ANNUAL CAMPAIGN THE SUM OF: \$ _____

Live Generously.

DONOR'S SIGNATURE

Method of Payment: Check Stock

Please Charge my: Mastercard Visa

Discover

Name _____

Address _____

Card Number _____

Exp. Date: _____

Please consider an increase

Federation News

Continued from page 2

Thanks to the generosity of the Rosenzweig-Coopersmith Foundation and many other sponsors, we are able to offer this concert to our Jewish community and our interested neighbors for a ticket price of only \$15. This is a very attractive price for a Symphony concert and, as tickets are being sold on a 'first come, first served' basis, I encourage you to purchase your tickets as soon as possible. They are now available in the Federation office.

I look forward to seeing you at both programs in November!

With Warmest Regards,

Mike Presant
mike@ifgr.org

*Thank you to Marisa Krishef
for her help with Campaign.
Marisa's name was omitted from the list of
solicitors in our Annual Report*

Business Forum with Special Guest Linda Hurwitz

The Jewish Community Business Forum is a good networking opportunity to discuss business principles and to stay aware of resources available within our community.

Tuesday, November 1, 2011

11:30 am

GR Hilton

28th & Patterson

Everyone Welcome



We will be having a

BLOOD DRIVE

Sunday

December 4

Temple Emanuel

10:00 am to 2:00 pm

**Call or email Ann to reserve a time,
Ann@ifgr.org or 616-942-5553**

FLU SHOTS!

Make a date to get your
flu shot

Temple Emanuel

Sunday, November 6



PLEASE sign up with Ann by calling 616-942-5553 ext 206. We need at least 25 participants to pre-register! The clinic will be open from 10:00 am until 1:00 pm. The cost is \$30 per flu shot, and **they also accept the following health insurance: Priority Health, Blue Care Network, Cofinity, ASR or Medicare benefits.**

Senior News

Did You Know?

By Ann Berman

Director of Social Service Resources

Last month, Wayne Dantuma presented a mini seminar on the living options available for members of our aging Jewish community. While most people would like to grow old in their own home, sometimes life circumstances alter this plan. Because I am a believer in the adage "hope for the best and prepare for the worst" I found Wayne's seminar very helpful. He covered the options one may have in the event of a sudden change in health. There are many advantages to planning ahead rather than finding oneself pressured to hastily make these difficult decisions. A summary of what Wayne shared is provided below.

Independent Living Communities: generally include in rent such things as meals, light housekeeping, an emergency call system and organized activities. The apartments generally have kitchens and are either Studio to two bedroom layouts. Prices range from \$1,400 to \$4,000 per month. Individuals needing help to get dressed, bathing assistance or help managing medications may hire a personal care provider at an additional cost.

Assisted Living Communities: rent covers everything the Independent Living offers plus there is help with activities of daily living (bathing, dressing, eating, hygiene, toileting and transferring from chair to bed, etc.) There is a call system for all requests, monitoring as required, medication management and a complete laundry service. Prices range from \$2,500 to \$11,000 per month.

Skilled Nursing Facilities provide everything that assisted living communities provide plus skilled medical care, a nurse on duty at all times and a doctor on-call. Prices range from \$6,500 to \$15,000 per month.

Continuing Care Retirement Community consists of all three care levels on one campus.

Continued on page 5

Lunch Bunch

Thursday, November 10

11:30 am

Fuji Yama Japanese Steak House

1501 East Beltline NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49525

Cost \$8.00

Transportation available

Call Ann, 616-942-5553



Save the Date!

Future Lunch Bunch Dates:

Thursday, December 15

Thursday, January 12



Seniors,

Do you want to attend the Cultural Council Symphony Concert on November 19, but need a ride? Call Ann, 616-942-5553 For Transportation.

Jewish Theatre presents

My name is Asher Lev

Special location for

Sunday November 20, 3:00 pm

Matinee Performance

Meet at Temple Emanuel Parking lot at 2:15 pm to car pool to Loosemoore Auditorium Devos Center
401 W. Fulton St (GVSU Downtown Campus)

Call Ann to reserve transportation 616-942-5553

Senior Mah Jongg: Anyone interested in learning or playing Mah Jongg, please contact Aleta Katonak, by email, alekatsr4u@juno.com (preferable) or by phone 616-281-5917. These are daytime lessons, and games are at no cost. Then, of course, if there is anyone looking for a game, join the fun! MahJ on..

Transportation available.



Senior News

Continued from page 4

Next, he explained financing options which include Long term care insurance, Veterans' aid and attendance benefit, Medicare, Medicaid and private pay.

Whether you should buy a **long-term care insurance** policy will depend on your age, health status, overall retirement goals, income, and assets. If you have a large amount of assets but don't want to use them to pay for long-term care, you may want to buy a long-term care insurance policy.

Veterans' Aid & Attendance Benefits are available to Veterans and their widows. Additionally, an individual must have had active duty for 90 continuous days as well as one day of service during a period of war and must have an honorable or general discharge. Disability requirements, require the aid of another person in order to perform personal function required in the everyday living. One is assumed disabled if residing in Assisted Living or skilled nursing facility. The income and assets cap is approximately \$80k per couple (there is not an exact number) and your home and car do not count. The maximum monthly benefits are: \$1949 for a Veteran with dependent, \$1644 for a single veteran and \$1056 for a surviving spouse. Contact the Kent County Department of Veterans' Affairs at 616-632-5722 for further information.

Medicare pays only for healthcare, not long term care. It will pay for a skilled nursing facility stay after a hospital visit of at least 3 days and it will pay at full benefit for 20 days during rehabilitation if the patient is improving during this time.

Medicaid will pay for long term care only in a skilled nursing facility. You can only have assets totaling a maximum of \$2,000 with a 5 year look back. Medicaid will also supplement SSI payment to Adult Foster Care homes.

If you have more questions, please contact Ann Berman at 616-942-5553 or Ann@jfgr.org

Community News

Jewish Community Roster

It's hard to believe that the latest edition of the Roster is almost a year old! Copies are still available (\$8 each) at Temple Emanuel or Ahavas Israel, or by calling Eileen at 616-949-6444 or Lanny at 616-956-6161.

We are already planning for the next edition due out in early 2013. If you are willing to help, we need assistance to contact advertisers, process billing, track advertisers, complete final layout, and proof-reading.

The Roster is sold only to members of the Jewish Community. All advertisers receive a copy and new members to the Jewish community are given one complimentary book.

If you can help, please call or email:

Eileen Enoch at EWillow1@aol.com or 616-949-6444 or Lanny Thodey at thodey@comcast.net or 616-956-6161



YAD Mah Jongg

*Join us at our
next game!*

For information about the ongoing Mah Jongg games, please contact Michele Young at 616-828-4806 or youngml1967@gmail.com.

Beginners welcome!

No experience necessary.

**Please join us for
The Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids**



CAMPAIGN 2011 COMMUNITY EVENT

**Tuesday, November 1, 2011
7:30 pm
Grand Rapids Hilton
(corner of 28th and Patterson)**

**Special Guest Speaker
Linda Hurwitz**

“Passion and Purpose in the Jewish Community”

Linda is the President of the National Women’s Philanthropy Board of the Jewish Federations of North America. She is a dynamic and engaging speaker, deeply committed to her advocacy for Jewish Federations and the State of Israel. As a graduate of Duke University achieving Phi Beta Kappa in education and The Johns Hopkins University in Administration and Supervisor of Education, Linda employs her background as a teacher and administrator to educate and communicate her life experiences which, in turn, creates a powerful message to inspire her audience.

Linda is the recipient of all three of The Associated Young Leadership Awards. A perpetual student, Linda is a graduate of The Wexner Foundation and the ACHARAI: Shoshana S. Cardin Leadership Development Institute. We are excited to welcome Linda to our Grand Rapids Jewish community!

This event is free to the entire Jewish community

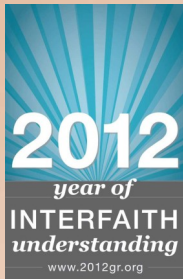
Refreshments to follow
Please RSVP by October 26
Call 616-942-5553 or
email cathy@jfrg.org

Jewish Cultural Council

Join us for an evening with the

GRAND RAPIDS SYMPHONY

Sacred Dimensions Series



David Lockington,
conductor



Saturday, November 19 • 8:00 p.m.

Temple Emanuel

1715 East Fulton Street, Grand Rapids, Michigan



The Symphony will perform pieces with Jewish flavor as well as works by well known Jewish composers. This unique concert will include music by Prokofiev, Bloch, Copland, and contemporary composers Jozsef Balogh and Dalit Warshaw.

Tickets available at the Jewish Federation office (2727 Michigan N.E. – 942-5553)

\$15.00 each

This program is sponsored by the Rosenzweig-Coopersmith Foundation and private donors.

Community News

*The Cultural Council of the
Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids
2011-2012 Spectrum series*
Performers Required



“The Art of Being Jewish 4”

6:30 pm - 8:00 pm Sunday, January 15, 2012

Venue will be either at Ahavas or Temple

First show was produced in 2001, and all 3 to date have played to full houses.

We are looking for performers of all ages who would like the opportunity of working in a fun and professionally produced variety show.

The only criteria is that either the performer is Jewish or the material performed is that of Jewish writers and/or composers.

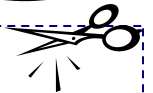
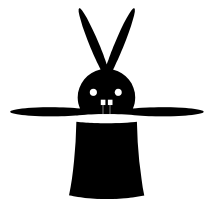
Professional or Amateur, instrumental, singers, dancers, comedians, jugglers, magicians, solo or group acts, bands of all genres, whatever you do please come and try out.

We need 10 acts and so far we have selected 2. So eight to go. CD or live audition.

Contact:

Larry Broomberg:

Phone: 616-949-6084 or Email: lolondi@egl.net



Cultural Council of the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids

Spectrum Series 2011—2012 Membership Form

Please send me season tickets for Spectrum 2011-2012:

- I/We would like to be an Underwriter: \$500+ (up to 5 tickets per event)
- I/We would like to be a Patron: \$250 - \$499 (4 tickets per event)
- I/We would like to be a Sponsor: \$125 - \$249 (3 tickets per event)
- I/We would like a Family membership: \$100 (2 tickers per event)
- I would like a Single membership: \$50 (1 ticket per event)
- I would like to be a Cultural Council Volunteer, please contact me.

First Name _____

Last Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone (____) _____

Enclosed is my Check for \$ _____

Payable to **The Jewish Cultural Council**

Please mail this form with your check to: The Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids

2727 Michigan NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506

Community News

Hadassah Book Club

Wednesday, December 14, 7:15 pm

at Karen Haight's home:

130 Maryland NE

RSVP to 616-454-9910

Book to read:

Arc of Justice by Kevin Boyle

Facilitator: Sue Remes

Book available for purchase at

Shulers Books at 28th Street



Book ends by choice...
 Flory Silverstein, 616-949-5766
 Sue Remes, 616-949-3505



SUPPORT OUR ANNUAL ADOPT-A-FAMILY PROGRAM!

by purchasing scrip from Temple Emanuel, Ahavas Israel or by making a donation to the JFGR office earmarked with "Adopt-A-Family".

We also need to identify members of our community who could benefit from this extra support.

Please call or email Ann to make a donation or suggest a family for adoption.
 616-942-5553 or Ann@jfgr.org

Community Book and Art Fair planned Sunday, November 13

HAS BEEN POSTPONED



2011-12

our 19th season

Watch your mailbox for our 2011-12 Season Brochure.

My Name is

Asher Lev

November 9-20, 2011

adapted by Aaron Posner
 based on the novel by
 Chaim Potok

**Early Bird
 Season Pass**

\$40 when purchased
 by October 12, 2011
 Save \$5!

YENTL

April 19-29, 2012

adapted by Leah Napolin &
 Isaac Bashevis Singer

**Checking
 Out**

June 14-24, 2012
 by Allen Swift

www.jtgr.org

JEWISH

Theatre
 GRAND RAPIDS

Season info: www.jtgr.org or 616.234.3595

Book Fair for Jewish Theatre Grand Rapids

Jewish Theatre will be the beneficiary of a Book Fair at Barnes & Noble at Woodland Mall on Thursday, November 3, 2011. This is an All Day Event, and we will have a little "show" at 7:00 pm with some words from Len Robinson, a preview of our upcoming show *My Name is Asher Lev* and a special musical performance. See www.jtgr.org for further information.

JFNA's General Assembly is November 6-8, 2011 in Denver, Colorado

Call the Federation office for information or
 Find details at www.generalassembly.org



The Jewish Federations®
 OF NORTH AMERICA

Congregation News

Congregation Ahavas Israel

Community Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

Monday, November 21, 2011 7:00 pm

Cathedral of St. Andrew, 215 Sheldon Ave SE

EVERYONE WELCOME!

Graced with unity and diversity, we come together to give thanks and praise for the blessings we've received. Prayers, Sacred readings, music and a message will be woven together in an offering of gratitude from many faith traditions.

Jewish Meditation

Led by Paula Bojsen, Monday evenings, 8:00 - 9:00 pm, starting November 7, Cost is free however, a donation to cover shul operating costs would be appreciated.

Jewish meditation has been practiced since the time of Abraham. Extensive literature dealing with Jewish meditation was written during Talmudic times, which included every general method of meditation, as well as some that are exclusively Jewish. It's only during the last 170 years or so that Jewish meditation has not been taught and considered a regular Jewish spiritual practice

In this interactive class we will explore the various methods of Jewish meditation, using Aryah Kaplan's *Jewish Meditation, A Practical Guide* as the text which is available at most bookstores. We will practice the various techniques and forms of meditation, including chants, visualizations, mantras, etc. Please contact Paula with any questions at pabojsen@att.net.

Chabad House of West Michigan

What is the "evil eye"?
How does it work?

Do Jews believe in Satan?

WHETHER YOU'RE A MAVERICK, A TRIVIA BUFF, OR JUST LOOKING TO BUILD A BASIC KNOWLEDGE OF YOUR JUDAISM, **WE'VE GOT THE COURSE FOR YOU.**

What kind of tree was the "tree of knowledge"?

Who wrote "the handwriting on the wall"?

Did Moses have horns?

Do angels have wings?

Is "an eye for an eye" meant to be taken literally?

What does "chabad" mean?

Join us for a six-week course in **JEWISH CULTURAL LITERACY**

Guaranteed to enlighten even the most seasoned connoisseur of knowledge, this treasure trove of "Who knew?" Jewish factoids spans a wide range of intriguing subjects, including:

- JEWISH MYTHS
- THE HEBREW LANGUAGE
- BIBLICAL STORIES
- JEWISH LIFE CYCLE EVENTS
- JEWISH FOODS
- MYSTERIES OF THE OCCULT

Location: CHABAD HOUSE
2615 Michigan St.
Grand Rapids, MI 49506
Fee: \$99; Early Bird (Nov. 2) \$79

For more information, call 616-957-0770 or email jewishlearningwm@gmail.com

Register today, visit www.myJLI.com

Temple Emanuel

Temple Invites the Community for a special Night at the Temple

Saturday, November 5, 6:30 to 10:00 pm

\$8 Adults, \$5 Children, \$25 Family Maximum

Come for the whole evening or just drop by for a while

Activities for all ages throughout the building include:

Kosher-Style delicatessen dinner 6:30-9:00 pm

Sell unwanted gold to Thomas S. Fox Jewelers 7:00-9:00 pm

Melt under the hands of a massage therapist

Embark on a Treasure Hunt

Play in a Maj Jongg Tournament

Taste wine from Leelanau Wine Cellars

Celebrate Havdalah

Jump around in our Bounce House

Bring your instrument and Jam in a Jazz and Blues Session

Dance with your favorite partner

Watch an Israeli flick

Challenge your friends to a Board Game

Shop early for Chanukah at our well-stocked Gift Shop

Drop your children off at Childcare

Test your skills at Wii

RSVP to the Temple office by Wednesday, November 2

We thank the Tom and Mickie Fox Family Endowment Fund for helping to underwrite this program

Chanukah is Coming

Our Temple gift shop is filled with the largest selection of Chanukah items in West Michigan. Lots of new decorations, gift ideas, dreidels, gelt, gift wraps, candles and menorah lines fill our shop. The gift shop will be open from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm on Sunday, November 6, 13, and 20 for holiday shopping.

Temple Emanuel Goes to Israel

We are excited to be traveling to Israel with Ayelet Tours during Chanukah 2012. We are scheduled to depart on Wednesday, December 12 and to return on Monday, December 24. There will be an informational meeting on Sunday, November 13 at 7:00 pm at Rabbi and Susan's home, 3121 Hayward Drive SE, for those who have interest in traveling with the Temple or learning more about the trip. Israeli snacks will be served.

Call the Temple office at 459-5976 to RSVP.

Jewish Federation 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 Charles 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.

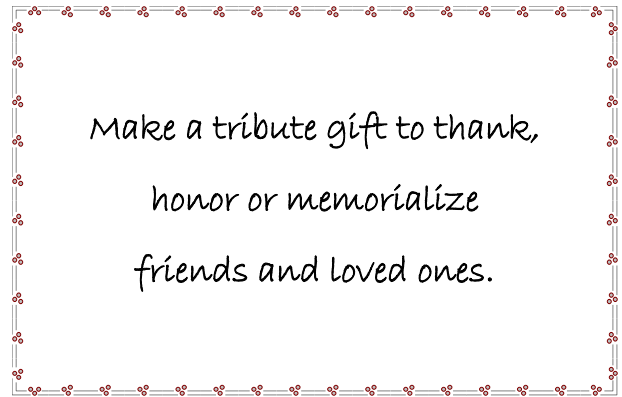
The Leven Family Fund. To establish and provide Jewish facilities, and support for cooperative programming among the congregations that support Jewish education for our youth.

The Sam and Jane Kravitz Social Services Fund. To support Jewish social services in Grand Rapids.

***Thank you for supporting the
Grand Rapids Jewish Community***

The Women of Valor Endowment Fund

**To Bill Boorstein in memory of Donna Boorstein
From Susanne Remes**



לדור ודור
L'Dor Vador
From Generation to Generation



JFGR Endowment Fund Donation Form

Donation from: Name _____

Fund (choose from list) _____

Donor Address _____

In honor of _____

Donor City/St/Zip _____

In memory of _____

Send card to: Name _____

Notes: _____

Send card to address _____

Send your donation and this form to:

Send card to City/St/Zip _____

2727 Michigan NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506

The Shofar

Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids
2727 Michigan NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49506-1240

Send article text to: Ann@ifgr.org

Phone: 616.942.5553

Fax: 616.942.5780

www.jewishgrandrapids.org

Email: info@ifgr.org

Next Issue's Information Deadline: November 15, 2011



One Community

Linda Hurwitz, Campaign Event Speaker, November 1

Grand Rapids Symphony, November 19

See inside for details