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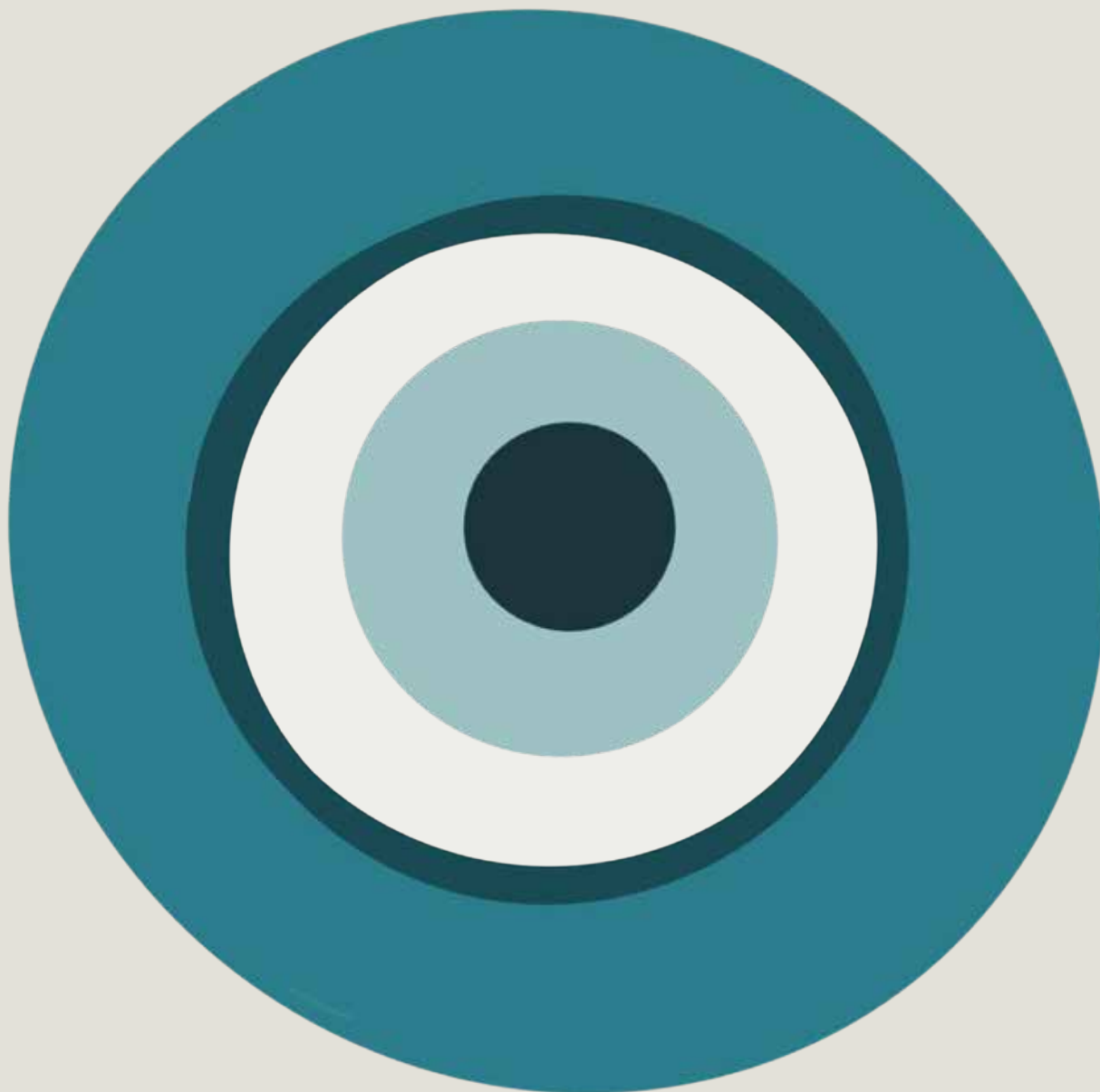
STARK JEWISH NEWS

A Publication of Canton Jewish Community Federation



SUMMER CAMP MEMORIES

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SUBMIT YOUR STORY TO THE SJN

Have a favorite family recipe, a story to share, or lifecycle announcements? We'd love to feature voices from our community! Your contributions help make our newspaper a reflection of the people we serve.

Submit your ideas to Chris Lange at:
Christine@jewishcanton.org

COVER ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

Sam Lilenfield is a multidisciplinary artist and designer based in Canton, Ohio. Her practice explores the quiet significance of everyday objects and living beings, transforming familiar subjects through a vivid, color-driven visual language. Rooted in optimism and play, her work invites moments of pause, offering an antidote to the heaviness of daily life and celebrating the beauty found in the ordinary. Lilenfield also serves as the Gallery and Marketing Manager at Strauss Studios, where she works to champion contemporary artists and cultivate meaningful connections through exhibition programming.

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Sometimes we Jewish people are not particularly good at finishing things. The Torah, for instance. We read all the way to the end of Deuteronomy, we celebrate Simchat Torah. And then we start over. *Bereishit*...in the beginning...here we go again.

I like that about Judaism. We don't finish the Torah, put it back on the shelf (or in the ark) and say, "Well, we've done that." We assume there is something we missed the first time, or the tenth time, or the fiftieth time. The Torah hasn't changed, but we have.

By the end of the first week of October this year we have been through the entire fall holiday marathon. Rosh Hashanah. Yom Kippur. Sukkot. Shemini Atzeret. Simchat Torah. Apples and honey. Fasting. Sukkot. Torah scrolls. More services than anyone should reasonably be expected to attend in a three-week period. And then, suddenly, it is just... the rest of October. Regular life re-

turns, which is when all those promises we made during the High Holy Days become considerably more difficult.

It is relatively easy to think about becoming a better person while sitting in synagogue on Yom Kippur. It is harder on a Tuesday afternoon when someone sends you an email that annoys you. That is where Judaism gets interesting. The goal of the High Holy Days

was never to turn us into different people. We are still going to be ourselves. The people who irritated us last year will probably find new and creative ways to irritate us this year. We will make some of the same mistakes. We will say things we wish we hadn't said. We will have very good intentions and occasionally terrible follow-through. Judaism says: start again.

We do the same thing with Torah. We know Adam and Eve are going to eat the forbidden fruit. We know Cain is going to kill Abel. We know Noah's generation is going to be a disaster. We know Abraham and Sarah will make mistakes, and we know Jacob's family will eventually require several generations of therapy. We read it again anyway. We understand something this year that we didn't understand last year, and next year we will know something that we cannot yet imagine.

The same thing is true of Jewish communities. Jewish life in Stark County has changed significantly over the generations. Synagogues have opened and closed. Organizations have changed. Buildings have changed. Entities have consolidated. Families have come and gone. The Jewish population is smaller than it once was, and the ways people connect to Jewish life are different. We can spend a great deal of time wishing things were the way they used to be. Or we can ask a more Jewish question: What do we do next?

That does not mean forgetting what came before us. Quite the opposite, in fact. We are here because generations of Jews in Stark County built congregations, taught children, raised money, served on boards, cooked meals, attended services, argued at meetings, reconciled after meetings, and made sure there would be a Jewish community here for the next generation. Now we're the next generation.

At the end of the Torah, Moses stands on a mountain and looks toward a future he will not enter. Then we roll the Torah back and begin creating the world. That is a good image for Jewish life right now. We don't know exactly what comes next. We never have. Instead, we take what we have inherited, add what we have learned, and start again.

Bereishit. Here we go.



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THE 61 SEAT GAME

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW TO FOLLOW ISRAEL'S 2026 ELECTION

WRITTEN BY: ORI AKRISH, CEO

A few people in our community have asked me lately to break down the upcoming Israeli election, and I'll admit, I agreed a little reluctantly. Not for lack of opinions, I've got plenty of those. It's more that there's already excellent, serious journalism out there from people whose actual job is explaining Israeli politics.

So, consider this a primer, not a prediction, and not my thoughts. Israeli politics can change by the day, and anyone who tells you they know exactly what is going to happen next is probably about to be proven wrong.

You've heard the joke that two Jews will give you three opinions? Ask two Israelis about this election and you'll get four opinions, five arguments and probably a new political party before they're done talking.

A lot of people are calling this one of the most important Israeli elections in decades, and it's easy to understand why. Israel is at a real crossroads over military service, security, Gaza, Lebanon, its relationship with the United States and the rest of the world, and what kind of country it wants to be when the current wars finally wind down.

In true Canton fashion, I figured the best way to explain this election is in football terms, since I know we all speak that language.

FIRST, HOW DOES THE GAME WORK?

Forget most of what you know about American elections, because Israeli elections work very differently.

Israel has 120 seats in its Knesset, and voters don't directly elect a president or choose between two major parties. Instead, they vote for political parties, which receive seats roughly in proportion to their share of the national vote. A party has to receive at least 3.25% of the vote just to make the roster.

Here's where it gets interesting. No party has ever won a majority of the Knesset by itself, so the party with the most seats doesn't automatically get to run the country. A government needs the support of at least 61 members, which means parties have to negotiate with one another to build a coalition big enough to govern.

Think of it this way: the election determines who makes the roster. The real game starts afterward, when

those players have to figure out who can actually play together.

And that's where the football analogy gets a little messy. Imagine a team scrambling to get the right 11 players on the field, with people coming in, going out, changing positions and arguing over who belongs where. You can almost picture the referee throwing a flag for too many men on the field. That's Israeli coalition politics after an election. Parties negotiate, form alliances, split apart and reshuffle their parliamentary factions as they try to put together a government that can command 61 seats.

Israelis vote for parties. Those parties then have to figure out who they can actually play with.

SO WHO ARE THE MAJOR PLAYERS?

The biggest name, of course, is Benjamin Netanyahu and his Likud party. Netanyahu has been the dominant figure in Israeli politics for years, and this will be the first national election since October 7, 2023, which happened while he was prime minister.

Then there is Naftali Bennett, the former prime minister, running on a joint electoral list with Yair Lapid's Yesh Atid called Together, or B'Yachad. Yes, two people who have been political rivals are now on the same roster. That is pretty standard for Israeli politics.

And then there is Gadi Eisenkot, the former IDF chief of staff, who leads the newer Yashar party. Eisenkot has emerged as another major challenger to Netanyahu, particularly among voters looking for a security-focused alternative. Recent polling has put Yashar and Likud in close competition, although the numbers can shift quickly.

There isn't one obvious challenger everyone assumes will replace Netanyahu. Instead, several major players are competing for position, and the bigger question may be less about who finishes first than who can put together a roster of 61.

AND THEN THERE ARE THE OTHER TEAMS

This is where things get even more complicated.

The Haredi parties, particularly Shas and United To-

rah Judaism, have traditionally been important coalition partners for Netanyahu and other right-wing governments. Haredi, or ultra-Orthodox, Jews make up a significant part of Israel's population, and these parties generally focus heavily on religious issues, funding for religious institutions and preserving the Haredi way of life.

Then there are Israel's Arab political parties. Arab citizens make up roughly 20% of Israel's population, and their parties can become extremely important when the Knesset is closely divided.

Several Arab parties are competing in different configurations, and depending on the final numbers, they could become important to the coalition math. In an unusual development this campaign, former Yesh Atid MK Yoav Segalovitz is running on the Arab party Ra'am's slate, becoming the first Jewish candidate ever to appear on that party's list.

The same is true on the right. Several smaller parties are fighting to stay above the 3.25% threshold, and that can have an enormous impact. A party that gets 3.2% gets cut. A party that gets just over the line can end up with several seats that suddenly become very important to the coalition math.

SO WHAT ARE ISRAELIS ACTUALLY VOTING ABOUT?

There are obviously dozens of issues, but a few stand out.

- **Haredi military service.** For decades, ultra-Orthodox men have largely been exempt from Israel's mandatory draft. Many Israelis see that as unfair, particularly after years of war in which hundreds of thousands of reservists have been called up. The Haredi community sees full-time Torah study as its own form of service and has strongly resisted efforts to dramatically change the system. It is one of the biggest political fights in Israel and could directly affect which coalitions are possible.
- **Security.** Israel is still dealing with the consequences of October 7 and the wars and conflicts that followed, including Gaza, Hezbollah in the north and Iran. Basically everyone agrees that security matters. The argument is over how much force to use, how long military operations should continue, and what kind of security strategy Israel should pursue going forward.
- **What happens after the war.** This is really the question underneath many of the others. Who controls Gaza? What happens with Hamas and with Lebanon and Hezbollah? Is there a diplomatic path forward with the Palestinians? Israelis have very different answers, but there's no avoiding the questions.
- **Israel's relationship with the United States and the rest of the world.** The Abraham Accords opened relationships with countries including the UAE, Bahrain and Morocco, with hopes of expanding further. At the same time, the war has put real pressure on Israel's relationships with the United States and other countries. How Israel balances security, diplomacy and international pressure will be another major part of the debate.

AND FINALLY, THE SCOREBOARD

This is where I'd resist the temptation to look at one poll and decide you know where things are headed.

Recent polling has shown Yashar and Likud competing closely for the lead, with the Bennett-Lapid Together alliance also an important part of the picture. At the same time, several smaller parties are hovering around the 3.25% cutoff. That makes the coalition math at least as important as the headline about who finishes first.

That's why you'll probably see headlines this fall that sound like one team is winning, only to have the picture change a week later. A party can gain or lose seats in the polls, fall below the threshold, merge with another list before the election, or become part of, or walk away from, a coalition afterward.

And remember, the team with the best record doesn't automatically hoist the trophy. After the election, the president consults with the elected parties and gives someone the chance to build a government. That candidate then has to actually field a roster that can command the support of at least 61 members of the Knesset.

That's the 61-seat game. Kickoff isn't until October 27, and there's plenty of season left to watch.



SUMMER CAMP



This year was my fifth summer at Camp Louise, a Jewish girls camp in Cascade, Md. I thought about something this year that really stood out to me, and it's not something that's usually talked about when people think about summer camp.

Not only do we have counselors at Camp Louise who are home-grown – which means they have been going to camp since they were young – but we have counselors from all around the world. This summer in my bunk, there were counselors from the U.S., England and Slovakia. In other years I have had counselors from Spain, Scotland, Mexico and Ireland.

I have learned so much about their cultures. From my English counselor this year, I learned that in England, lunch is called dinner, and dinner is tea. Sometimes my Slovakian counselor would teach us words in her language.

I feel that this diversity is important because it gives campers the experience of learning about different cultures. For example, one of our evening activities every summer is the International Show. At this event, counselors can make a presentation or a performance about their country. This is very exciting for all the campers. We have fun cheering on our counselors, dressing up and face-painting the flags of their countries on our cheeks, and we learn so much. One summer, our color games theme was international, and each team represented a different country. I was on the Mexico team.

Camp does a great job of doing other things to recognize the international counselors. When international counselors have birthdays, the other counselors from that person's country sing "Happy Birthday" in their language. It was really fun this year to see our counselors cheer for the World Cup teams from their country. Camp would set up the games on a big projector in the dining hall so we could watch, and the counselors wore flags and painted their faces to get us all excited.

Camp Louise is known for having many Israeli counselors and we even have special activities dedicated to learning about living in Israel. Each Friday night, when the whole camp does folk dance, the Israeli counselors lead a special dance.

A lot of the international counselors are not Jewish, so working at camp is a learning experience for them too. My Slovakian counselor really grew to love Shabbat, and even learned the Shema.

My third year of camp not only did we have international counselors, but we had an international camper. She was from Israel and she told us so many stories about living there.

I'm so grateful that our Canton Jewish community supports my summer at camp so I can have experiences like these.

Sincerely,
Sadie Whitehill



"I love Camp JCC because I got to practice my soccer and basketball. And, also I loved Gaga Ball!"
Micah Budge



This was year 3 for me. I arrived on my birthday and got to have a pool party the second week. I liked the Macabiah games because my team won this year. I liked seeing friends I had made the last 2 years and making new friends. My most favorite part was going to Waldameer! Thank you for the scholarship!
Submitted by Carlene Prince



Our boys Ben and Nate Eppy had a wonderful summer at camp supported by the scholarship! Nathan did a 12-day Rishon program, and Ben went for the full 3.5 weeks second session at Camp Wise. Ropes course and Art Shack were Nate's favorite chugim (activities). Ben loved Teva/Outdoor Cooking and Lake.
Submitted by Sam Eppy



Dear Canton Jewish Federation:

Thank you so much for giving me a \$1,000 scholarship to go to Camp Wise this summer. I was so excited to go to camp, and your support helped make it possible for me to have an AMAZING summer.

My favorite part of Camp Wise was making new Jewish friends. It was fun getting to know different cities and communities. Even though we didn't know each other before camp, we became friends really quickly. I loved spending time with them, playing games, singing songs, and sharing Jewish traditions together.

Camp Wise helped me learn new things, try activities I had never done before, and feel proud to be a part of the Jewish community. I made lots of happy memories that I will always remember.

Thank you again for the scholarship. I am VERY grateful for the opportunity to attend Camp Wise and make so many wonderful friends and memories, from sleeping in tents, then to making inside jokes with my cabin mates. Camp Wise is really the home of happiness. Thank you.

Submitted by Emmy Wernow

Dear Canton Jewish Federation,

Thank you so much for awarding me a \$1,000 scholarship to attend Camp Wise this past summer. Your generosity made it possible for me to have an amazing camp experience that I will never forget.

One of the best parts of Camp Wise was meeting so many Jewish kids from all over Northeast Ohio. I made new friends from different communities, and it was really special to connect with people who share my Jewish values and traditions. Even though we came from different schools and towns, camp brought us together and helped us build friendships that I hope will last for a long time.

Camp Wise helped me grow more confident, independent, and proud of being Jewish. I enjoyed participating in activities, spending time outdoors, and celebrating Jewish life with my friends. The memories I made this summer are truly priceless.

Thank you again for investing in my Jewish future and for giving me the opportunity to be part of such a meaningful experience. I am very grateful for your support.

Submitted by Yaelle Wernow



We are creating programs for you that provide education, entertainment and overall bring our community together. All are welcomed. Email Leanne at llehn@jewishcanton.org or call (330) 445-2850.

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JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES EVENTS

OCTOBER

To RSVP to events, please email
Leanne at llehn@jewishcanton.org
or call (330) 445-2850

**Keep an eye out for our autumn
program listings in the next issue
of the Stark Jewish News and in
the Canton Federation's weekly
E-newsletter!**

Bringing Light and Joy to Hanukkah

WRITTEN BY: HEATHER HERSHEY-TOMPKINS

For more than 30 years, Jewish Family Services has had the privilege of helping bring the joy of Hanukkah to individuals and families in our community through our annual Hanukkah Mitzvah Project.

Hanukkah is a time of light, family, tradition, and celebration. It is a time to gather together, light the menorah, share special meals, exchange gifts, and create meaningful memories with the people we love. But for individuals and families who are struggling financially, celebrating Hanukkah can sometimes feel out of reach. Not everyone has the ability to purchase gifts or provide the extras that can make the holiday feel special. This can be especially difficult during a season when we are surrounded by reminders of giving and celebration.

That is where our community has the opportunity to make a difference. The Hanukkah Mitzvah Project is for people of all ages—from children to adults. Jewish Family Services works quietly and confidentially with individuals and families in our community to identify their needs and wishes. Whether it is a child hoping for a special gift, a parent who would appreciate something for themselves, or an older adult who may otherwise have very little to celebrate, every request matters.

Those requests become dreidels placed on a menorah at Beit Ha'am.

Then something beautiful happens. Members of our community choose a dreidel, purchase a requested gift, and return it to us. What may seem like a simple gift to one person can mean so much more to the person receiving it. It can bring excitement to a child, comfort to a parent, or joy and a sense of connection to an older adult. Most importantly, it reminds people that they are not alone and that their community cares about them.

The Hanukkah Mitzvah Project is truly a community effort. It is people coming together to bring light into the lives of others. And it is a beautiful expression of what it means to perform a mitzvah.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

From October 19 through November 20, or until all dreidels have been taken, gift-request dreidels will be displayed on a menorah at Beit Ha'am. You can participate by taking a dreidel and purchasing the requested gift or by making a cash donation to the Jewish Family Services Mitzvah Project. If you choose a dreidel, please leave the gift unwrapped with the dreidel attached, and return it to Beit Ha'am by November 23. Gifts will be distributed to individuals and

families in our community during the week of Hanukkah.

For more than three decades, the generosity of our community has helped make Hanukkah brighter for people of all ages who may be going through a difficult time. This year, we hope you will help us continue that tradition. Because everyone deserves to experience the joy of Hanukkah, and every individual and family deserves to feel the warmth and love of their community. Together, we can make sure the lights of Hanukkah shine a little brighter for everyone.

For questions or additional information, please contact Leanne Lehn at 330-445-2850 or llehn@jewishcanton.org.





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CELEBRATING JEWISH LIFE TOGETHER

at the Canton Federation's 2026 Annual Meeting

Music, dancing, food, and inspirational presentations gave this year's Annual Meeting a celebratory vibe. Special Guest speakers included Ed Finkel, Jewish Federations of North America Managing Director, Network Communities; Josh Kramer, Ohio Jewish Communities President and CEO; William V. Sherer, II, Canton City Mayor; and Todd Gillilan, Canton City Police Officer.

We also heard from our very own Laura Goldman, Canton Federation Board President; Ori Akrish, Canton Federation CEO; Heather Hershey-Tompkins, Jewish Family Services Director; and Bryan Hecht and Susan Wilkof, 2027 Campaign co-chairs.

Rabbi David Komerofsky (Temple Israel) offered the invocation; Rabbi A.J. Kushner (Agudus Achim) presented the D'Var Torah, and Hazzan Bruce Braun (Shaaray Torah) gave the benediction.

Our delicious Jewish deli-style meal was catered by Mary Donna and Jimmy Rubin.

We were also thrilled to welcome the Tischler-Klezmer Orchestra, who entertained the crowd with a lively performance of traditional Eastern-European Jewish music, courtesy of your donations to the L'Chaim 47 Fund.

We would like to thank everyone who helped make this year's event a memorable experience and all of our community members who joined us in this celebration.



*Find CJCF Board President Laura Goldman's
remarks on pages 12-13*



Remarks made by Susan Wilkof

2027 Campaign Co-Chair

Canton is the only Jewish home I've known.

From the beginning, 47 years ago, I was welcomed, included, and asked to work on behalf of the greater Jewish Community. I was, and still am, grateful to belong here.

Rabbi Jonathan Sacks said, "Judaism is not only about believing. It's also about belonging; about being there for other people when they need us, knowing that they'll be there for us when we need them."

We're here to strengthen each other. And the Federation's Annual Campaign is an essential way to do just that.



Remarks made by Bryan Hecht

2027 Campaign Co-Chair

I grew up on the East side of Cleveland in the 60's and 70's. In my public school system in University Heights, the percentage of Jewish kids was so high that our schools officially closed on all the major Jewish holidays. Everyone in my family at the time was Jewish. I didn't have to struggle to find Jewish friends or Jewish culture. It was all around me. *And I took Jewish life for granted.*

In Canton in 2026, Jews are of course a small minority and getting smaller all the time. If we want to live Jewishly, if we want our children or grandchildren to experience Jewish culture here, we have to work at it. That takes effort, that takes individuals committed to the process and that takes money to support the efforts of those individuals.

The Jewish Federation Annual Campaign is the major fundraiser for our Federation. No one likes receiving letter or calls soliciting support for the Annual Campaign. And no one likes making those calls either! But this process is essential to generate the money needed to sustain the Federation and all the Federation efforts that allow us to live a Jewish life in Canton.

When you receive that letter in the mail this year, please remember that the future of Jewish life in our community rests in your hands. If you didn't care about Jewish life, you wouldn't be here. Unlike University Heights in the 60's and 70's, we cannot take Jewish life for granted here in Canton. When you make your pledge, be mindful, be generous and be grateful to all those who came before you and gave you the Jewish life you have been able to live in Canton.

Thank you.



2027 ANNUAL MEETING REMARKS

WRITTEN BY: LAURA GOLDMAN, CJCF BOARD PRESIDENT

Good evening, everyone. It is wonderful to see you all.

I've officially survived my first full year as your president, which, as a computer science person, I view as a massive data success. When I stood here last year, I felt like a brand-new piece of software running on a system I was still trying to understand. Lately, everyone is talking about Artificial Intelligence and how algorithms can predict human behavior, but I can tell you firsthand, there is no AI program on earth that could accurately map out the sheer energy, unpredictability, and resilience of the Canton Jewish community. You simply cannot automate the kind of dedication I've seen this past year. Thanks to your patience, your tech support, and a lot of coffee, we didn't just keep the program running—we actually upgraded the whole system. This past year, we took our theme of "IT"—Involved Together—and proved that real human connection beats an algorithm every single time. We truly operationalized it.

Our first and most vital mission this past year was ensuring our community remains a safe, secure, and well-managed home for everyone. With the invaluable teamwork of the LLC, we aggressively pursued and successfully secured massive federal and state non-profit security grants to fortify our local institutions. These funds, along with some generous community donations, directly allowed us to upgrade physical security, install advanced surveillance, and implement strict access controls both inside and outside our building. We also formalized security protocols and training with local law enforcement, ensuring a coordinated, rapid-response network that watches over our families daily. Furthermore, following the transitions of the previous year, we completely overhauled our internal financial tracking and operational systems, bringing absolute stability back to our core office.

We proved that a community of 600 people can punch well above its weight class when it comes to Jewish joy, vital education, and basic human dignity. Through his efforts and connections our CEO Ori Akrish has built, our programming, and broke attendance records. This year, the Federation presented an unforgettable calendar of events tailored directly to our Canton community. Through our Partnership2Gether connection, Ori brought premier Israeli Chef Uri Arnold to Canton for an incredible live cooking demonstration, tasting, and community dinner for our highest donors that packed the house. Of course, none of that could have happened without Bryan Hecht chairing out P2G committee. Right here in the home of football, we hosted a phenomenal, record-breaking "Faith and Football" evening featuring NFL Hall of Famer Andre Tippett, whose moving personal story of his conversion to Judaism brought multiple generations together. The Federation also stepped up to directly present our first Passover Pop-Up, building a physical hub ensuring local families had seamless access to holiday supplies and traditional food items right here in Beit Ha'am. Finally, we brought the entire community together for our Yom Hashoah observation and Yom Ha'Atzmaut Celebration.

But the real heartbeat of our resilience this year was the quiet, profound impact of Jewish Family Services working directly in the trenches with our people. JFS designed and delivered an incredible, robust lineup of social and supportive services that met our community's needs with absolute dignity. To combat isolation, they hosted regular Group Lunches, dynamic Cultural Outings, and their signature Community Breakfasts with Guest Speakers—including the highly practical "Peace of Mind" Family Guide Workshop. Just this past August, they featured a powerful workshop on "Judaism, Positive Psychology, and The Quest for Happiness and Well-being," led by our very own Peggy Stabholz alongside Rabbi David Komerofsky that was a standing room only event. For our most vulnerable members, JFS served as an absolute lifeline. Director Heather Hershey-Tomp-





kins has guided her team to step up to provide expertise to those who need help managing their daily affairs, while offering hands-on assistance through direct family consultations. Finally, Heather kept us all deeply connected by writing articles for the Stark Jewish News every month. Thank you also to Chris Lange who has ensured our community's voices and vital resources remain front and center in every Canton household as she has published the Stark Jewish News and our weekly emails.

Now, I know that you can have the absolute best software in the world, but it doesn't mean a thing without an incredible system administrator keeping the servers up and running. I wanted to take a moment to pull back the curtain and share a bit about what our CEO, Ori Akrish, actually does behind the scenes—and more importantly, what his staff has to say about him. I recently checked in with the team, and I wanted to share what our CEO does through their eyes.

First, they share that Ori is always available and approachable, answering emails with lightning speed even on his official days out of the office. Every single meeting he runs is well-prepared and done with a clear purpose, yet he always ensures he gives his staff a powerful voice in the room. The team emphasizes that Ori acts as their ultimate operational firewall because he is fair, consistent, and always thinking about safety. He is also their creative architect; the holiday and festival programs, the innovative Passover Pop-Up, and the thoughtful strategy behind the new SJN format were his ideas. Most importantly, Ori has a massive heart for our people—he is deeply, personally interested in our JFS clients, and he advocates tirelessly every single day for the entire

Canton community. Ori isn't just managing our system; he is actively upgrading it, and we are incredibly lucky to have him at the helm.

Like any good music teacher will tell you, a beautiful harmony doesn't come from one loud voice—it comes from everyone singing their part on cue. Last year, I stood here and asked you to say Hineini—Here I am. And you did. You showed up, you protected our spaces, and you kept the lights on.

But a song can't just be one note held forever. This year, we are moving from the individual "Here I am" to the collective power of "We Are", Anachnu.

When the wider world looks at Canton, they see a small data point. But when we look at each other, We Are Your Canton Federation. Anachnu the shield that protects, the heartbeat that builds, and the living bridge that connects. We cannot afford the luxury of "flat-out NOs" or "it's not a good time." Our numbers mean that every single person in this room is a vital organ in this community. If you don't step up to lead a committee, volunteer for an event, or increase your annual campaign pledge by at least 10%, there is no backup IT department to fix it.

Thank you for an incredible first year of keeping our system running smoothly. Let's make this next year even stronger, safer, and more connected. Anachnu the Canton Jewish Community Federation, Anachnu the Canton Jewish Community.

From my family to yours, L'shanah Tovah Tikatevu—may you all be inscribed for a happy, healthy, and safe New Year.

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COZY UP

WITH WARM AND HEARTY SOUPS FOR THIS AUTUMN

Hi Everyone. I hope all of you had a Happy Rosh Hashanah and easy Yom Kippur fast! In this food issue, we are featuring mouth-watering soup recipes submitted by our Federation staff and members of our Jewish Community. Enjoy! Mary Donna Rubin

STUFFED PEPPER SOUP

SUBMITTED BY MARY DONNA RUBIN

INGREDIENTS

- 2 pounds of beef ground steak or hamburger
- 6 green peppers chopped in bite size pieces
- 1 large white onion chopped
- 1 tsp. parsley flakes or 2-3 sprigs of fresh parsley
- 1 29-ounce can tomato sauce
- 1 29-ounce can diced tomatoes
- 5 Tbs. olive oil
- Salt to season (to taste)
- 1-2 cups of brown or white cooked rice

COOK Brown the ground beef in olive oil

ADD the chopped onion and continue browning until meat and onions are cooked. Then, add the thinly sliced green peppers and continue browning until lightly cooked. Add the parsley and rice to mixture. Add the diced tomatoes and tomato sauce

NOTE If this is not enough liquid, add an additional can of tomato sauce

COVER and cook about 1 ½ to 2 hours until the beef, onions, and peppers are completely cooked.

SERVE with bread of your choice



GREEN CHILI CHICKEN & LIME SOUP

SUBMITTED BY LEANNE LEHN

INGREDIENTS

- 2T extra virgin olive oil
- 1 onion, chopped
- 4 cloves fresh or roasted garlic, minced (or jarred roasted garlic)
- 80 oz. chicken broth
- 10 oz. can of Rotel Tomatoes, mild
- 7 oz. can diced green chilis
- 4 medium boneless skinless chicken breasts, cooked, shredded and lightly seasoned with salt & pepper. (You may use a rotisserie chicken.)
- 2 ½ C. cooked rice
- ¼ C. fresh lime juice
- 1 ½ tsp. ground cumin
- Pinches of kosher salt, fresh pepper and Lawry's Garlic Salt with parsley, to taste
- 1 bunch fresh cilantro, chopped
- Fresh diced avocados, drizzled with lime juice
- Tortilla Chips

HEAT oil in a large Dutch oven over medium heat. Sauté onion for 5 minutes then add garlic: cook for 1 minutes. Stir in chicken broth, tomatoes, green chilies, chicken breast, rice, lime juice and seasonings. Cook for 5 minutes, taste and season accordingly to your liking.

SERVE add fresh cilantro. Add fresh avocado and crushed tortilla chips. If you can handle the heat add some Siracha over the top.





EASY PUMPKIN SOUP

SUBMITTED BY CHRIS LANGE

INGREDIENTS

- 2 Tbs. olive oil
- 1 yellow onion, chopped
- 1 apple, peeled, seeded, and chopped
- 4 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 bay leaf
- 29 oz. pure pumpkin purée
- 1 tsp. grated fresh ginger (or ginger paste)
- 1 tsp. kosher salt
- 1/2 tsp. ground cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp. ground nutmeg
- 1/2 tsp. paprika
- 1/8 tsp. ground cloves
- Freshly ground black pepper, to taste
- 4 C vegetable or chicken broth
- 2 Tbs. pure maple syrup
- 1/2 c. heavy cream
- Garnish: drizzle of coconut milk or heavy cream and toasted pepitas

HEAT the olive oil in a large pot over medium-high heat. Add the onion and apple; cook until soft, about 5 minutes. Add the garlic and bay leaf and cook for one more minute.

ADD the pumpkin, ginger, salt, cinnamon, nutmeg, paprika, cloves, pepper, and broth. Stir until well combined. Simmer on low for 10 minutes. Remove the bay leaf.

BLEND the soup in the pot with an immersion blender until smooth. Stir in the heavy cream and maple syrup. Taste and season with additional salt and pepper, if necessary.

LADLE the soup into bowls and top with a splash of coconut milk (or cream) and pepitas, if using. Serve warm.

GINGER CARROT SOUP

SUBMITTED BY LINDA SKLAR

INGREDIENTS

- 1–2 pounds of carrots, peeled and chopped
- 1 medium onion, diced
- 3–4 garlic cloves, minced
- 1–2 tablespoons fresh grated ginger
- 3–5 cups vegetable or chicken stock
- 1–2 tablespoons olive oil or butter
- Salt and pepper to taste
- Optional: ½–1 cup coconut milk, or cream. Maple syrup or orange juice for sweetness. Parsley, chives, or thyme for garnish

PREPARE heat olive oil or butter in a large pot over medium heat. Sauté the onion for 5–7 minutes until soft and translucent. Add garlic and ginger, cooking for 1–2 minutes until fragrant.

COOK add chopped carrots to the pot and stir for a few minutes. Pour in the vegetable or chicken stock, season with salt and pepper, and bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer for 20–30 minutes until carrots are tender.

BLEND remove from heat and use an immersion blender or transfer in batches to a high-powered blender. Blend until smooth and creamy. Adjust consistency with extra stock or water if needed.

FINISH stir in coconut milk, cream, or a splash of orange juice for brightness. Taste and adjust seasoning. Optionally, add a teaspoon of maple syrup for a subtle sweetness.

SERVE with warm with crusty bread, croutons, or a side salad.



MOROCCAN SPICY SOUP

SUBMITTED BY ORI AKRISH

INGREDIENTS

- 1 Tbs. olive oil
- 1 medium yellow onion, chopped
- 2 large carrots, chopped
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tsp. ground cumin
- 1 tsp. turmeric
- 1/4 tsp. cayenne pepper (more if you like it hot)
- 1 C. dried brown or green lentils, rinsed
- 1 can (15 oz) chickpeas, drained and rinsed
- 6 C. vegetable broth
- Juice of half a lemon
- Salt and black pepper to taste

HEAT olive oil in a large pot over medium heat. Toss in the onion and carrots and let them soften for about 5 minutes.

ADD garlic, cumin, turmeric, and cayenne. Give it a minute to get fragrant. Then add the lentils, chickpeas, and broth. Let it simmer for 25 minutes, until the lentils are soft. Taste as you go, same spoon, we're family.

FINISH with the lemon juice, then salt and pepper to taste.

WHITE CHICKEN CHILI SOUP

SUBMITTED BY LINDA ALPERIN

INGREDIENTS

- 1 Tbs. olive oil
- 1 1/2 lbs. chicken breast cut into cubes
- 1 1/2 tsp. kosher salt & 1/2 tsp. black pepper
- 1 C. diced yellow onion & 1 peeled, sliced carrot
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 tsp. ground cumin
- 1 tsp. dried oregano
- 2 cans Great Northern beans 15 oz. each, drained
- 1 (14 oz.) can of corn, drained
- 1 can diced green chiles 4 oz.
- 3 C. low-sodium chicken broth
- 2 Tbs. fresh lime juice (optional)

HEAT oil in a Dutch oven over medium-high heat and cook the chicken breast cubes; browning on all sides. Remove to a dish.

SAUTÉ the onion and carrot for 5 minutes, then stir in the garlic, cumin and oregano for 30 seconds.

MASH 1 can of beans with 1/2 cup broth until coarse and add it to the pot with the whole beans, green chiles, corn and remaining broth, pepper and salt.

SIMMER uncovered for 18 minutes, stirring occasionally, until the broth lightly coats a spoon.

Return the chicken for 3 minutes, remove the pot from the heat and stir in the lime juice.

** Very tasty with Cornbread and side salad

THROUGH THE YEARS

Looking back to 1993

VOLUME 73 NUMBER 2

OCTOBER 1993

Video and Voices Kickoff JWF Campaign

The 1994 Jewish Welfare Fund Campaign kicked off this week at the Joint Annual Meeting of the Canton Jewish Community Federation and Canton Jewish Community Center.

Dr. Todd Fladen, General Chair, set the tone for the annual fundraising campaign with his discussion of the needs of the local, national and international community. "One by one, we make a difference in the quality of life that all Jews enjoy," Fladen declared. "This year the needs are greater at home and in Israel. Everyone must look into their hearts to give more."

The opening event included a locally produced video "One by One." Filled with photos of local residents and agencies, and Jews from all over the world, the video focuses on the faces of human needs in our community and around the world. "We hope this vehicle will bring home the real needs as we see our children and neighbors using the agencies and services available to the community through the funds raised by the Jewish Welfare Fund campaign."

The highlight of the evening was the Community Choir, led by Dr. P.J. Wells

and Terri Katz. Using the music of the video production, the choir voiced the theme of the campaign with their rendition of "One by One." "P.J. and Terry did a tremendous job piecing together the music, words and choreography," Fladen declared. "I know everyone there was thrilled with the music—a true symbol of what each of us can accomplish when we work together."

Parlor meetings are the order of the day for the next few weeks. Hosts for the meetings include: Charlotte and Stanley Greenwald, Elaine and Dr. Jerry Fladen, JuDeane and Drew Luntz, Chelle and Dr. Larry Cohen, Kathy and Dr. Ken Nazinitsky, Linda and Dr. Arnold Rosenblatt, Susan and Sam Wilkof. Participants in the meetings will have the opportunity to meet in small groups with Neil Berro, Executive Director of the Federation and Center, and voice their ideas and concerns about the community.

A Pacesetter's Dessert is scheduled for Sunday, October 24.



Dr. Todd Fladen, Jewish Welfare Fund Campaign Chair and Parlor Meeting Hosts: Susan and Sam Wilkof, Elaine and Dr. Jerry Fladen, Dr. Arnold and Linda Rosenblatt, Drew and JuDeane Luntz, Dr. Larry M. Cohen. (Not pictured Chelle Cohen, Kathy and Dr. Ken Nazinitsky, Charlotte and Stanley Greenwald)

Canton Federation Wins National Award

New Americans Enjoy Freedom to Make a Jewish Home



Rabbi Yaacov Rone, Cantor Bruce Braun and Patti Becker at the Fridman Family Mezzuzah Ceremony



Lto R Abe Priskulnik, Yuriy, Alex and Natalya Fridman and Eugene Fridman at their Mezzuzah Ceremony



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OCTOBER

SERVICE SCHEDULES

SHAARAY TORAH

SHABBAT SERVICES

Saturdays at 10:00 a.m.

MORNING SERVICES

Mondays and Thursdays, 8:00 a.m.
on Zoom

EVENING SERVICES

Monday through Friday weekly,
5:30 p.m. on Zoom

CANDLES

Friday, October 2, 6:50 p.m.
Saturday, October 3, 7:52 p.m.
Friday, October 9, 6:39 p.m.
Friday, October 16, 6:28 p.m.
Friday, October 23, 6:18 p.m.
Friday, October 30, 6:08 p.m.

SPECIAL SERVICES

Thursday, October 1

Hol Hamoed Sukkot IV
Morning Service 8:00 a.m. (Zoom with Lulav and Etrog)
Evening Service 5:30 p.m.

Friday, October 2

Hoshanah Rabbah (Zoom)
Morning Service 8:00 a.m. (with Lulav, Etrog and Special Willow Ceremony)
Evening Services 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, October 3

Shemini Atzeret (In-person, live stream, Zoom)
Shabbat and Festival Morning Service 10:00 a.m.
Yizkor 11:25 a.m.
No Evening Service

Sunday, October 4

Simchat Torah (Zoom)
Festival Service 10:00 a.m.
Hakafot 10:45 a.m.
No Evening Service
Festival concludes by 7:50 p.m.

TEMPLE ISRAEL

All services are in-person. Friday night livestreams via YouTube and the Temple Israel website. Stollen Moments Torah Study is in-person and via Zoom. See more information at TempleIsraelCanton.org/shabbat

SHABBAT SERVICES

Fridays: 5:30 p.m. Oneg Shabbat,
6:15 p.m. Shabbat Service

SPECIAL SHABBAT SERVICES

Friday, October 2, 6:15 p.m.

Shabbat Service – Kid-dish Shabbat and Simchat Torah

Friday, October 9, 6:15 p.m.

Shabbat Service – Monthly Birthday and Anniversary Blessings

Saturday, October 17

Max Spera Bar Mitzvah

Friday, October 23, 6:15 p.m.

Shabbat Service: Monthly Torah Reading

TORAH STUDY

Saturday, October 3 at 10:00 a.m.
Saturday, October 10 at 10:00 a.m.
Saturday, October 24 at 10:00 a.m.
Saturday, October 31 at 10:00 a.m.

AGUDAS ACHIM

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1

Torah class (Isaiah) via Zoom 4:30 p.m.
Fourth Day Chol Hamoed

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2

Fifth Day Chol Hamoed
Hoshana Rabbah
Shacharis & Hallel TBD
Mussaf & Hoshanot TBD
Erev Shemini Atzeres
Mincha & Maariv 6:40 p.m.
Candle lighting 6:48 p.m.
Sunset 7:06 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

Shemini Atzeres
Shacharis & Hallel 9:15 a.m.
Yizkor 11:00 a.m.
Geshem (Prayer for rain) 11:30 a.m.
Earliest Mincha 1:46 p.m.
Shalosh Seudos 2:15 p.m.
Final goodbye to the Sukkah 6:50 p.m.
Sunset 7:05 p.m.
Simchas Torah
Maariv 7:50 p.m.
The Seven Hakafof & Torah reading 8:30 p.m.
Candle lighting after 8:18 p.m.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

Simchas Torah
Shacharis & Hallel 9:00 a.m.
The Seven Hakafof and Torah reading 9:45 a.m.
Mussaf 11:00 a.m.
Mincha 6:45 p.m.
Sunset 7:03 p.m.
Yom Tov Ends 7:45 p.m.
Maariv 8:00 p.m.
Havdalah 8:16 p.m.
MONDAY, OCTOBER 5
Eisru Chag

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6

Mishnah class via Zoom 4:45 p.m.
Shacharis 7:30 a.m.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8

Torah class (Isaiah) via Zoom 4:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9

Mincha & Kabbalas Shabbos 6:35 p.m.
Candle lighting 6:37 p.m.
Sunset 6:55 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10

Shabbos Parshas Bereishis
Shacharis & Mussaf 9:30 a.m.
The Molad (new moon) for the month of Mar-Cheshvan: Sunday (October 11) 9:43 a.m. + 2 chalakim
Earliest Mincha 1:44 p.m.
Shabbos ends 7:35 p.m.
Maariv 7:50 p.m.
Havdalah 8:06 p.m.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11

Rabbi Scheinbaum's class via Zoom 11:00 a.m.
First Day Rosh Chodesh Mar-Cheshvan
MONDAY, OCTOBER 12
Second Day Rosh Chodesh Mar-Cheshvan

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13

Mishnah class via Zoom 4:45 p.m.
Shacharis 7:30 a.m.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15

Torah class (Isaiah) via Zoom 4:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16

Mincha & Kabbalas Shabbos 6:20 p.m.
Candle lighting 6:25 p.m.
Sunset 6:43 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17

Shabbos Parshas Noach
Shacharis & Mussaf 9:30 a.m.
Earliest Mincha 1:42 p.m.

Shabbos ends 7:24 p.m.

Maariv 7:40 p.m.

Havdalah 7:55 p.m.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

Rabbi Scheinbaum's class via Zoom 11:00 a.m.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22

Torah class (Isaiah) via Zoom 4:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23

Mincha & Kabbalas Shabbos 6:10 p.m.
Candle lighting 6:15 p.m.
Sunset 6:33 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24

Shabbos Parshas Lech-Lecha
Shacharis & Mussaf 9:30 a.m.
Earliest Mincha 1:40 p.m.
Shabbos ends 7:14 p.m.
Maariv 7:30 p.m.
Havdalah 7:44 p.m.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

Rabbi Scheinbaum's class via Zoom 11:00 a.m.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27

Mishnah class via Zoom 4:45 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28

Mincha & Maariv 6:10 p.m.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29

No Torah class
Shacharis 7:30 a.m.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30

Mincha & Kabbalas Shabbos 6:00 p.m.
Candle lighting 6:05 p.m.
Sunset 6:23 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31

Shabbos Parshas Vayeira
Shacharis & Mussaf 9:30 a.m.
Earliest Mincha 1:39 p.m.
Shabbos ends 7:05 p.m.
Maariv 7:20 p.m.
Havdalah 7:35 p.m.

LIFE CYCLES

DEATHS

- **Eugene Sinopoli** passed away on August 12, 2026. He is survived by his brothers, Vito (Debbie) Sinopoli and Joe Sinopoli, and several nieces, nephews, and cousins.
- **Beth Adelman** passed away on September 2, 2026. She is survived by her brother, Barry (Michelle) Adelman, and several nephews and nieces.

BAR MITZVAH

- **Liam Akrish**, son of Ori and Karen Akrish, will celebrate his Bar Mitzvah on October 17, 2026.

DONATIONS

FOOD BANK

- Jeff and Dale Sklar, In Memory of Eugene Sinopoli
- Jeff and Dale Sklar, In Honor of the 80th Birthday of Jim Rubin
- Jeff and Dale Sklar, In Honor of the Birth of Shirley Lockshin's Great-Grandson, Calvin Martinson
- Jeff and Dale Sklar, In Honor of the Birth of Barbara and Bob Ferne's Grandson, Calvin Martinson

JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES

- Ellen and Steve Miller, In Memory of Vivian Rosengard
- Tina and Brian Edwards, In Memory of Vivian Rosengard
- PJ and Fran Wells, In Honor of the Birthday of Shirley Lockshin

JANIE ZOLDAN COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT FUND

- Randi and Bill Smuckler, In Memory of Robert Johns
- Randi and Bill Smuckler, In Memory of Frank Spetich
- Randi and Bill Smuckler, In Honor of the Birthday of Shirley Lockshin
- Randi and Bill Smuckler, In Appreciation of Ruthie Altman
- Jerry and Joyce Ortman, In Honor of Ruth and Bob Altman's Anniversary

LEE KARELITZ FAMILY PHILANTHROPIC FUND

- Ann Laaff, In Memory of Lee Karelitz

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

OCTOBER

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

Shimini Atzeret

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

Simchat Torah

9:30 A.M. - 12 P.M. Chadash Simchat Torah
12 P.M. Hebrew school
1 P.M. Intro to Judaism

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7

7 P.M. Strangers in The Palace

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11

9:30 A.M. - 12 P.M. Chadash
12 P.M. Hebrew school

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14

7:00 P.M. Strangers in The Palace

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16-SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17

Max Spera Bar Mitzvah

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

9:30 A.M. - Noon Chadash
12 P.M. - 12:45 P.M. Hebrew School
1 P.M. Intro to Judaism

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20

7 P.M. TI Board meeting

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21

7 P.M. Strangers in The Palace

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

9:30 A.M. - 12 P.M. Chadash
9:30 A.M. TI Sisterhood Meeting
12 P.M. - 12:45 P.M. Hebrew school
1 P.M. Intro to Judaism

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29

2:30 P.M. Yiddish Club

NOVEMBER

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1

9:30 A.M. - 12 P.M. Chadash
12 P.M. Hebrew school
1 P.M. Intro to Judaism

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8

9:30 A.M. - 12 P.M. Chadash
12 P.M. Hebrew school

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Veteran's Day

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14

6 P.M. TI Sisterhood Bingo/Donor Event

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15

9:30 A.M. - 12 P.M. Chadash
12 P.M. Hebrew school
1 P.M. Intro to Judaism

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17

7 P.M. TI Board meeting

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19

7 P.M. Federation Board Meeting

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22

9:30 - 12 P.M. Chadash
Noon - 12:45 P.M. Hebrew school
1 P.M. Intro to Judaism

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26

Thanksgiving administrative offices closed



Max Spera will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on October 17, 2026 at Temple Israel. Max is a seventh grader at Green Middle School who loves sports, spending time with friends, fishing, playing video games, and like any young teenager, calling just about everyone "Bro." He is a dedicated student who works hard, takes his responsibilities seriously, and has a way of quietly leading by example.

Max can be a little reserved when you first meet him, but once he gets talking, his personality—and his sense of humor—quickly come through. He is known for hilarious one-liners that can keep his family laughing for days. He has always been mature beyond his years and has shown tremendous determination, especially after knee surgery sidelined him from sports for more than a year. Since returning, Max has continued competing in soccer and has been part of teams that have found success at the local, state, and national levels.

Now Max is taking his love of sports in a new direction by working as a referee. He plans on donating the money he earns towards a fund that helps people in need at hospitals, combining something he enjoys with an opportunity to give back.

Want to support Max's project? Family and friends who would like to match all or part of Max's referee earnings can reach out to his family for more information.

Max is the son of Andrew Spera and Erin Spera, and the older brother of Sam. Grandparents are Barbara and John Spera.



A free service provided by



Do you have a temporary or long-term need for a wheelchair, walker, or other medical equipment? Do you have gently-used, non-invasive medical equipment that you would like to donate?

Please contact Heather at
HHTompkins@JewishCanton.org.

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DONOR EVENT**

**SAT., NOV. 14, 2026
AT BEIT HA'AM
DOORS OPEN AT 6 PM**



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