

Yom HaShoah Reflection



ORI AKRISH
Executive Director

On April 13, over 60 members of the Canton Jewish community gathered to observe Yom HaShoah, the Day of Holocaust Remembrance. I have been coming to these ceremonies since I was a child, and they have always followed a familiar pattern that was solemn, real, and for me marked by sadness. This year felt different, though it took me some time to understand why.

Part of that difference came from helping organize the evening. Being involved changes how you experience it. You are thinking about the program, but also about the people in the room, the stories they carry, and how to make space for all of it. You hope the evening feels honest, not rushed, and that people have room to feel what they need to feel.

As the program unfolded, there was a clear sense that we were in it together. Community members read poems slowly, each voice carrying its own emotion, with pauses that allowed the words to land. You could feel people listening with real attention. Clergy from across congregations and denominations in Canton stood together in prayer, side by side, which felt like a quiet reminder of shared purpose.

When our speaker began, he told the story of his mother's survival during the Holocaust with calm steadiness. It was a story of resilience, told with sincerity. The room felt fully present with him, as if everyone understood this was not just a story being told, but something being entrusted to all of us. He ended by showing pictures of his children and grandchildren, a defiant reminder of what survived and what was built after everything that was meant to destroy it.

But what stayed with me most was not something spoken. It was the silence. During the candle lighting, when Rabbi Spitzer invited any Holocaust survivors

Cont'd / See **REFLECTION** Page 11

From Passive Symbols to Active Change: Why I Stopped Staying Silent



LAURA GOLDMAN
CJCF President

Recently, while getting my hair cut, I overheard the hairdresser at the next station—let's call her "Sadie"—saying, "He always takes his own so he doesn't have to pay; he is such a Jew." She continued to regale her client with stories about how this non-Jewish person was being a "Jew" in the most stereotypical sense.

Normally, I am someone who minds my own business. I don't like to cause waves. But this time, I asked Sadie to please stop. She seemed confused, claiming her Jewish relatives "think it's funny." I explained to her that she doesn't know who she is speaking to, and that she is fueling stereotypes and hatred we should all work to eliminate." To her credit, Sadie apologized; she simply hadn't thought about it that way.

I could have ignored it, as I have many times before. But as President of your local Jewish Federation, I've decided it is time to stand up to "negative Jewish speak." During the Holocaust, so many non-Jews were incredibly brave and selfless in standing up for us. If I have the opportunity to stand up for my own people, why wouldn't I? Some might say I was being too sensitive, but I see it as a vital "baby step" in speaking up. I don't regret it for a second.

Lately, I have started wearing a Blue Square pin—the "Stop Jewish Hate" symbol representing the 2.4% of the U.S. population that is Jewish. I am aware of the criticisms: that it has no deep historical connection to Judaism, that it "sanitizes" the violent reality of antisemitism, or that it encourages "performative allyship" where people post a square but do nothing else.

My husband, Adam, often tells me I can't always look at things through "rose-colored glasses." But I prefer to look at the good a symbol can do. The #BlueSquare is a powerful visual shorthand, but its impact depends entirely on

Cont'd / See **CHANGE** Page 13

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432 30th Street N.W. • Canton, OH 44709

Phone: Editorial 330-445-2405

Phone: Advertising 330-445-2410

email: snads@yahoo.com • www.jewishcanton.org

Ori Akrish, *Executive Director*

Chris Lange, *Editor*

Heather Hershey-Tompkins, *Advertising Manager*

Amanda Mason, *Art Director*

Fran Wells, *Proof Reader*

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COMMUNITY MEMBERS CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE FISHEL AND ALLAN RUDNER MATZO FUND

Jewish Family Services would like to thank those in the community that contributed to the Fishel and Allan Rudner Matzo Fund. We are very grateful to Marilyn Feldman and the members of the Jewish community who have continued this mitzvah and provided kosher for Passover items for those in need in our community to celebrate Passover.



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JFS Client Success Story



HEATHER HERSHEY-TOMPKINS
JFS Director

Robert’s story is one of complexity, resilience, and the quiet power of consistent care. (Name changed to protect confidentiality.)

He first came to Jewish Family Services alongside his father, at a time when additional support had become necessary. Robert was receiving Social Security benefits, and his father had been his primary source of financial and emotional support. Together, they sought help in putting structured services in place to better support Robert’s daily life and long-term stability.

From the beginning, building a relationship with Robert was not easy. He was understandably guarded and unsure about trusting new people in his life. Establishing rapport took time, patience, and persistence. Staff worked steadily to show up for him in reliable and meaningful ways, even when he remained uncertain about engaging. Over time, those efforts made a difference. Robert gradually began to accept support, and eventually, he came to trust Jewish Family Services completely.

Once that trust was built, the relationship deepened. Robert utilized multiple supports, including case management, representative payee services, and access

to the food bank. Beyond formal services, staff became a consistent presence in his everyday life. They helped him with practical skills—ironing clothes, learning how to use his cell phone, cooking simple meals, maintaining a clean living space, and managing appointments. These seemingly small tasks added up to something much larger: increased independence, dignity, and confidence.

Jewish Family Services was present not only for Robert’s daily routines, but also for life’s meaningful milestones. Staff attended his wedding, celebrating alongside him during one of his happiest moments. They also stood by him during his most difficult times. Robert struggled with significant mental health challenges, including anxiety and depression, which at times required hospitalization. Through each setback, support remained steady and compassionate.

Robert was a deeply caring and compassionate individual. He often expressed appreciation for the help he received, even though there were moments when boundaries had to be set for his well-being. These were not always easy for him to accept, but they were necessary. His journey reminded those around him that doing what is right is not always the same as doing what is easy.

As time went on, Jewish Family Services became more than a provider—they became part of Robert’s extended family. With most of his relatives living out

[Cont'd / See JFS Page 12](#)

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JFS Staff

Heather Hershey-Tompkins, *Executive Director*
330-445-2402 | Hhtompkins@jewishcanton.org

Peggy Stabholz, *Case Manager*
330-445-2859 | Pstabholz@jewishcanton.org

Leanne Lehn, *Administrative Assistant*
330-445-2850 | Llehn@jewishcanton.org



We are creating programs for you that provide education, entertainment and overall bring our community together. If you have any suggestions or would like to present a topic, please let us know. We look forward to having you join us! All are welcomed. Email Leanne at llehn@jewishcanton.org or call (330) 445-2850.

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Give and Grow: The Powerful Impact of Supporting the Friends Campaign for Jewish Family Services



HEATHER HERSHEY-TOMPKINS
JFS Director

Our annual Friends Campaign for Jewish Family Services (JFS) kicks off in May with a simple powerful promise: 100% of every donation goes directly to helping Jewish individuals in our community. Every dollar stays local. Every dollar makes a difference.

It's understandable to hesitate when considering a charitable gift. You may be paying college tuition, saving for a long-awaited vacation, managing household expenses, or simply wondering if you can afford to give right now. Life is busy, and financial obligations are real.

But what many people don't realize is that charitable giving doesn't just benefit those in need – it can also bring meaningful rewards to the giver. Supporting the JFS Friends Campaign is not only an act of generosity; it's an investment in community, connection, and even personal well-being.

Here are some of the powerful benefits of giving:

Experience More Joy

Scientific research shows that donating activates the brain's pleasure centers. Simply put, giving feels good. In a world filled with stress and uncertainty, contributing to a cause that directly helps others can provide an immediate emotional lift and lasting sense of fulfillment.

Help Those Who Need It Most

There may never be a "perfect" time to give – but there are always people who need help. When you donate to JFS, you are supporting individuals and families facing real challenges. Your gift provides tangible assistance and hope to members of our own community.

Bring Greater Meaning to Your Life

Giving connects you with others who share your values and commitment to making a difference. Whether you meet fellow supporters or simply know you are contributing to positive change, charitable giving can add purpose and meaning to your daily life. If you've felt stuck in a rut – personally or professionally – sometimes the simple act of generosity can be incredibly renewing.

Teach Generosity to the Next Generation

Children learn by example. When they see parents and grandparents giving, they are more likely to grow

Cont'd / See **GIVING** Page 13

ADULT PROGRAMS

RSVP to Leanne at llehn@jewishcanton.org, 330-445-2850,
or online at jewishcanton.org/community-calendar

MAY

FLAVORS AND TRADITIONS: A SEPHARDIC JEWISH BRUNCH WITH EDNA AKRISH

Thursday, May 14 | 10:30 A.M. at Beit Ha'Ham

Join us for a Sephardic Jewish brunch with award-winning educator Edna Akrish, featuring a traditional Israeli breakfast and an engaging conversation about how Sephardic Jewish holidays and lifecycle traditions differ from the more familiar European Jewish customs. Come taste, learn, and celebrate the richness of Sephardic Jewish culture with us. How do Jewish communities remain strong when engagement takes many forms?

RSVP by May 12



RABBI KUSHNER

We have been at it for 3,338 years

This year, on Thursday evening, May 21, we will begin celebrating the holiday of Shavuot, marking an event that took place over 3,338 years ago.

According to the Hebrew calendar, the giving of the Torah occurred in the year 2448 after creation, which corresponds to the year 1312 BCE. This moment stands as one of the most defining experiences in Jewish history.

More than just a historical event, the revelation at Mount Sinai became the foundation of Jewish identity and continuity. It was there that the Jewish

people didn't simply receive a set of laws—they entered into a covenant with Hashem. That relationship was built on responsibility, purpose, and a shared moral vision that continues to shape Jewish life to this day.

The Torah introduced a way of living that touches every part of life, from ethical behavior and social responsibility to spiritual growth and community values. It transformed the Jewish people into a nation guided not only by shared ancestry, but by a common mission and set of principles.

One of the Torah's most powerful ideas is ethical monotheism—the belief in one G-d who expects justice, compassion, and righteousness. Concepts like caring for the vulnerable, welcoming the stranger, and actively pursuing justice became central obligations. These values have carried the Jewish people

through generations and have also had a broader impact on the world.

The Torah has also played a central role in shaping a culture of learning. Studying its teachings has always been seen as something sacred, and over the centuries it has inspired deep thinking, discussion, and even debate. This ongoing engagement has kept the tradition alive and dynamic, while still firmly rooted in its origins.

Throughout times of exile and hardship, the Torah has been a unifying force. Even when Jewish communities were scattered across different countries, they remained connected through shared practices and beliefs. Observances like Shabbos, festivals, and dietary laws all trace back to that original moment at Sinai, helping preserve a strong sense of identity and continuity.

On a deeper level, the Torah gives meaning and direction to life. It speaks to fundamental questions about purpose, relationships, and values, guiding how a person connects with G-d and with others. Its teachings continue to inspire growth, reflection, and a sense of belonging.

In that sense, the giving of the Torah is not just something that happened long ago—it's an ongoing source of strength and inspiration. It helped shape a people with a clear moral compass, a commitment to learning, and a strong sense of purpose. Through all the changes and challenges of history, the Torah remains at the heart of Jewish life.

Wishing our community a meaningful and uplifting Yom Tov of Shavuot. Amen.



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YOM HASHOAH 2026



YOM HA'ATZMAUT 2026



The Triumph of Edmont Dantès

CHRIS LANGE

When I met my dear friend and colleague, Peggy Stabholz, we bonded instantly over our shared love of British drama and mystery series. Our latest obsession is the PBS mini-series, *The Count of Monte Cristo*, based on the 1846 novel by French Writer Alexandre Dumas.

The tale of betrayal and revenge centers around Edmund Dantès, an upright young sailor whose jealous rivals falsely accused him of treason. They enlist the help of a corrupt prosecutor who manufactures evidence of Dantès' alleged crime, and our protagonist is convicted and sentenced to spend the rest of his natural life in the grim dungeons of the Château d'If.

Dantès eventually escapes, becomes extraordinarily wealthy, adopts a new persona as the fictitious Count of Monte Cristo, and embarks on a quest for revenge against those who betrayed him so cruelly.

Along the way, he uses his wealth and influence to help the weary and downtrodden, though there are strings attached to these acts of kindness: his beneficiaries are enlisted to help him exact retribution on his nemeses.

Dear Peggy, who always looks for good in everyone, speaks admirably of Dantès' altruism. He rescues a former employer from bankruptcy, buys a slave's freedom, and secures the happiness of the daughter of one of his rivals by uniting her with her true love.

That is all well and good, of course, but I am secretly all about the revenge. I have been watching gleefully as Dantès methodically and skillfully brings ruin upon his unsuspecting malefactors.

'The Law of Human Nature'

It is not surprising Dumas' tale of vengeance continues to appeal to broad audiences around the world. There is something embedded in our DNA that gives us supreme satisfaction when wrongdoers get their comeuppance.

Famed Christian theologian and author C.S. Lewis calls this inherent sense of right and wrong "The Law of Human Nature" and posits that it points to the Divine. When we quarrel with someone, for instance, we are essentially asserting that there is a standard of right and wrong behavior that has been breached. Our sparring partner in this act of verbal pugilism will, in turn, either deny the offense or provide justification for his or her actions.

Lewis argues that we would not feel this compulsion to quarrel and defend unless both parties shared a mutual understanding of what is right and wrong. Arguments, he suggests, offer tantalizing evidence that there is an objective standard of fairness that exists beyond our own personal desires, meaning that there must be a higher authority to whom we are appealing.

As we grow older and crankier, my husband Ray and I find ourselves increasingly grouching about rude and reckless drivers. There is seldom a car ride conversation between us that does not include a lament that there is "never a cop around when you need one" as drivers ride our tail, fail to obey yield signs, and speed through our quiet neighborhood with hopped up subwoofers that shake the rafters.

Some weeks ago, Ray triumphantly informed me that he enjoyed the distinct pleasure of witnessing a speeding motorist who rudely cut him off getting pulled over by a patrol car.

In truth, we seldom experience such moments of instant gratification when we feel we have been wronged. Our innate sense of justice in an unjust world tends to leave us in a perpetual state of frustration as we witness behavior we deem to be unacceptable and see the offender go unpunished.

We take umbrage when someone cuts the line in front of us, takes our parking spot, or fails to yield when we clearly have the right-of-way. Conversely, our souls delight when the wicked are made to pay for their crimes.

Hillel's Wisdom

However much we might yearn for vengeance, something usually keeps us from acting out on this base desire. The Torah explicitly prohibits revenge in Leviticus. The Sage Hillel said, "What is hateful to you, do not do to your fellow."

I am certain that I am not alone in my cynical assessment that the desire for personal justice is often unrequited. I can grumble, argue, or appeal to a third party to take action to right a wrong, but in reality - and to my immense frustration - these various forms of protest typically do little to change outcomes.

Many of us have concluded that it is foolish to spend time and energy on nursing old grievances. I accept the fact that I will likely never know if the elementary school bully who mercilessly teased me, the rival who stole my high school sweetheart, or the former colleague who took credit for my projects will ever experience the cosmic comeuppance that I thought they deserved.

You know what? I'm okay with that. That proverbial dish best served cold is perhaps better not served at all.

It is unlikely that I will ever stop griping about lousy drivers or refrain from rolling my eyes in disgust when someone cuts the line. I will, however, endeavor to emulate sweet Peggy's penchant for recognizing the good in everyone, hoping that they afford me the same grace. I will strive to heed Hillel's admonition, appeal to Lewis's Divine, and content myself with reveling in the triumph of Edmund Dantès.

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Sorry Ladies - I Hit the Jackpot



LAURA GOLDMAN
CJCF President

Watching girls be mean to each other starts at such a young age. I've been teaching middle schoolers for 34 years, and wow—the meanness between girls can be unbelievable!

Because of this, I've always worried about building strong, meaningful relationships with my own daughters. I know they sometimes wanted the “nice” mom they met at their friends' homes, but I couldn't always be “nice.” I had to raise them and teach them to be respectful, respectable women. I learned the hard way that showing disappointment doesn't help

build those bonds, even when girls go through phases where those qualities seem to disappear. (Sigh.) I've tried to learn to listen more, guide only when needed, and just be there. It is a joy to finally be both “Friend” and “Mom.”

Then there's the mother-in-law relationship I had to build. We've all heard the “Monster-In-Law” stories, and I think every young woman fears that will be her reality. I remember coming to Canton for the first time to meet Adam's parents and worrying about what they would think of me. Was I dressed appropriately? Would I say the right things? Was I good enough for their son?

I was greeted with a smile and a hug.

We sat and talked for a long time, sharing stories and laughs. I never had the opportunity to witness a mother-in-law/daughter-in-law relationship growing up, but I quickly learned they can be wonderful. Adam's paternal grandmother lived with them, and his mom had a great relationship with her. It was the exact model of a relationship I hoped to have.

Sorry, ladies—I hit the jackpot. Gail Goldman is the mother-in-law we all dream of having. She never had a daughter of her own until I came around.

We bonded while creating a special homemade chuppah for my wedding, incorporating fabric from generations of wedding and bridesmaid dresses. I don't think either of us will ever forget the moment the bronze pole fell straight across the glass living room table—and it didn't break. Oy vey! Mom looked at me and said, “Let's keep this our little secret. Nobody needs to know.” We still laugh about it today.

Before I married her son, she told me: “You are my daughter now, and I am always here for you. Don't ever forget that.” Trust me, she meant it.

Through the years, it became clear that Mom understood I still had my own mother; she respected that bond and never intruded upon it. She also respected my relationship with Adam and encouraged us to set our own boundaries. Then there was her role as a grandmother. While her opinions are always welcome, she has always respected the fact that she is the grandparent, not the parent.

Proverbs 31—The Woman of Valor (Eshet Chayil)—celebrates the strength, wisdom, and dignity of women. It depicts mothers as builders of homes and transmitters of values. Similarly, the story of Ruth and Naomi provides a beautiful model of love and mutual loyalty between a mother-in-law and daughter-in-law. It shows how women support each other across generations; Naomi guides Ruth with wisdom, and Ruth honors Naomi with devotion. Their relationship resulted in redemption and the continuity of the line of David.

This Mother's Day, I want to give a huge shout-out to my mother-in-law, Gail Goldman: “Thanks for being the jackpot. You are my Eshet Chayil; you have created a relationship between us like the one Ruth had with Naomi. I love you.”

To all the mothers and mothers-in-law out there, I wish you a Happy Mother's Day. Enjoy your families—your children, children-in-law, and grandchildren. (And if you have more than that—Mazel Tov to you!)



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Through The Years

Looking back to the year 1978

MICHAEL MAGIL

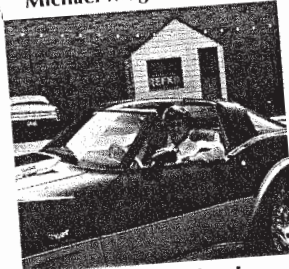
In a 1957 story which appeared in the Stark Jewish News two-year old Michael Magil was posed at the steering wheel of a brand new 1957 Chevy at his grandfather's (Ben Eppy Chevrolet Dealership). It stated in the last paragraph that in 18 or 20 years hence, he was going to be a star salesman at the agency. Well, guess what, it came true, Michael is now a salesman at

Eppy Chevrolet working for his Uncle Jerry Eppy who now owns the agency. He is pictured in an updated new Corvette Convertible nineteen years later.

Michael graduated from the General Motors Institute in Flint, Michigan last year. He is the son of Judy (nee Eppy) Magil, and the late Allen Magil now residing in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Michael is also the grandson of the fore mentioned Ben and Ruthy Eppy of Canton and Florida.



Michael Magil — age 2



Michael Magil today

Hadassah Education Day November 8 WOMAN SPIRIT — "SELF-FULFILLMENT THROUGH SELF- UNDERSTANDING"



June Gold (left); Marilyn Slesnick (center); and Gail Goldman (right); discuss plans for Hadassah's Education Seminar.

Hadassah Education Day will be held on Wednesday, November 8, at the Jewish Community Center.

WOMAN SPIRIT — "SELF-FULFILLMENT THROUGH SELF-UNDERSTANDING" is the theme of the day, and will feature three workshops directed by personnel of the Institute of Identity Development of Hartland, Michigan. The workshops will begin at 10:00 A.M. on the topics of Leadership, Volunteerism, and The Empty Nest Syndrome. Members will select two of the three workshops, each of which is one hour. Registration and coffee hour Begins at 9:15 A.M. followed by an introduction, after which the workshops will be conducted. Lunch will be served at 12 noon.

The Institute of Identity Development is a national training and consulting corporation, women-owned

and women-oriented. Activities are directed toward helping individual women and organizations realize and utilize their strengths.

Mrs. Fred Gold, Mrs. Irvin Rudick, and Mrs. Robert Slesnick are co-chairmen and Mrs. Ted Goldman is Hadassah Education Vice President. Assisting the co-chairmen are Mrs. Douglas Blocker and Mrs. Howard Zecher, arrangements; Mrs. Sheldon Akrow, decor; Mrs. Eldy Gross and Mrs. David Livingston, Jr., luncheon; Mrs. Jeffrey Orenstein, coffee hour; and Mrs. Herman Emerman, publicity. Mrs. Livingston, past president, will give the Invocation.

Members are encouraged to invite friends and neighbors to attend. Reservations may be made with Mrs. Robert Slesnick.

Florence Emerman

Blooming Minds: Springtime in Chadash



BOBI BERRINGER
Temple Israel
Chadash Coordinator

As spring arrives, bringing longer days and new growth, our classrooms reflect this same sense of renewal. This season holds special meaning in the Jewish calendar, beginning with Passover and leading toward Shavuot, a journey from freedom to purpose.

In Chadash, we use this time of year to help students connect these ideas to their own lives. In our classrooms, we cultivate the understanding that these are not just stories, they are our history.

They help shape who we are as individuals and as

a community, tying us together across generations. We encourage students to see themselves within these narratives, while also stepping back to understand the bigger picture of who they are and what that means as they navigate the world around them.

As the weeks progress, we hope that students begin to see that growth happens step by step, much like the counting of the Omer that leads us toward Shavuot. We want them to reflect on how far they've come and consider the ways they continue to learn and change.

Spring reminds us that growth is always possible. We are proud to guide our students on that journey, helping them connect the rhythms of the Jewish year to their own lives in meaningful and lasting ways.



REFLECTION continued from Front Page

to come forward, the room seemed to understand what that meant, and no one moved.

After a pause, she stood.

She is someone many of us know, not only as a survivor but as a steady presence in this community for years. She rose slowly with her walker, and the room stayed completely still as she made her way forward. It felt as if everyone was holding the moment together, without needing to say anything.

The silence did not feel empty. It felt full, almost protective, as though it was making space for her.

When she reached the candles and began naming her family members, her voice was steady but carried weight, and you could still hear the pain underneath it, held back but not gone. Each name landed with a kind of gravity, as if it filled the room for a moment before settling. When she finished and returned to her seat, no one moved, and the silence stayed until she was seated again.

Right after she sat down, members of the second generation were invited forward, and about ten people stood together. It was striking to see them there. These are people who have spent their lives carrying stories that were not fully theirs but were never separate from them either. In that moment they felt like a bridge between what was and what will be.

It made something clear without needing many words. This is not only happening here. It is happening in Jewish communities everywhere. The Holocaust is moving from lived memory into something we now receive and are responsible for carrying forward.

In that moment, the silence felt different than in past years. It felt present, like something being held in the room and passed along without words. Long after voices fade, something remains: a story, a feeling, an echo that stays with you.

Rabbi Spitzer later shared a story about a forest where Jews once gathered to pray and sing. Over time, the path was forgotten, then the place itself was lost. The prayers remained, then even the words disappeared. But the melodies endured. Something essential was still carried forward.

In a way, these gatherings have become not only acts of remembrance, but acts of responsibility, making sure that even as memory changes, it is not lost.

I left feeling grateful for a community that shows up, listens, and understands without everything needing to be said out loud. What it means to be there for one another in moments like this. In Canton, as in so many places, remembrance is no longer only about hearing these stories. It is about holding them together and making sure they continue to be carried forward.



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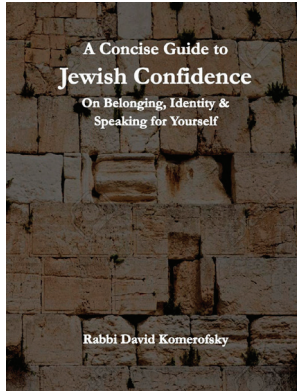


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Temple Israel Programming

RABBI KOMEROFSKY'S NEW BOOK AVAILABLE IN THE TEMPLE OFFICE



Complimentary copies of *A Short Guide to Jewish Confidence: On Belonging, Identity & Speaking for Yourself* are now available in the Temple Israel office.

In this brief and practical guide, Rabbi David Komerofsky explores what it means to claim Jewish identity with confidence, without needing to know everything, believe everything, or do everything perfectly.

Stop by the Temple Office to pick up a copy. A free digital version is also available at templeisraelcanton.org/confidence.

2026 COMMUNITY-WIDE TIKKUN LEIL SHAVUOT

Join hundreds of other Jewish learners to commemorate the giving of the Torah as we study, pray and rejoice. The full program is Thursday evening, May 21 through Friday morning, May 22, 2026, at B'nai Jeshurun Congregation in Pepper Pike.

This premier event is presented by B'nai Jeshurun Congregation in collaboration with co-sponsoring synagogues and organizations across Northeast Ohio. This event is free for attendants and welcomes the community to study, pray and celebrate together.

There will be multiple Sessions featuring 30+ Presenters from Northeast Ohio. Come for one session or the entire evening. Rabbi David Komerofsky will teach a class titled "Stand-Up at Sinai: Anxiety, Identity, and Punchlines."

Registration will be available at templeisraelcanton.org/shavuot

TEMPLE ISRAEL ADULT EDUCATION SERIES – JEWISH SITCOM THEMES

What do classic sitcoms have to do with Jewish identity, values, and life? Why does Jewish tradition take ordinary life so seriously, and why does comedy understand that so well?

In a three-week Zoom series, Rabbi David Komerofsky will explore how themes from popular sitcoms mirror Jewish ideas found in Torah and rabbinic tradition.

The series will be online only, Tuesdays June 9, 16 and 23 at 7:00 p.m. EDT. No prior knowledge required, and all are welcome. Just bring your sense of humor. Register at templeisraelcanton.org/sitcom

June 2026 Temple Israel Adult Education Series

Jewish Sitcom Themes

Tuesdays June 9, 16 and 23 at 7:00 p.m. EDT

This series will be via Zoom

Register at www.templeisraelcanton.org/sitcom

JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES
FRIENDS CAMPAIGN

100% of your donations directly support the services we provide to the Canton Jewish Community.

SCAN TO DONATE TODAY! →

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PROVIDING COMPASSIONATE CARE FOR THOSE IN NEED FOR MORE THAN 40 YEARS.

Jewish Family Services (JFS) is a non-profit agency funded by the Friends Campaign and the Canton Jewish Community Federation Jewish Welfare Campaign.

JFS continued from Page 3

of town, staff filled an essential role in his support system. This was especially evident toward the end of his life. When Robert was hospitalized for the final time, the organization remained closely involved in his care. They also ensured that his elderly father could be transported to the hospital, giving him the opportunity to say goodbye to his son.

Robert's passing was a profound loss. Yet his life left a lasting impact on those who knew and supported him. His story is a testament to the importance of patience, trust, and human connection in social services work. It highlights how meaningful relationships—built over time through consistency and care—can truly transform lives.

Jewish Family Services considers it a privilege to have walked alongside Robert in his journey. His life serves as a reminder of why this work matters: not just to provide services, but to be present, to care deeply, and to stand beside individuals through every chapter of their lives.

CHANGE continued from Front Page

the action behind it. It is a conversation starter—but it's what you say when that conversation starts that actually moves the needle.

Here is how we can move the square from a passive icon to an active tool for change:

1. Contextualize the Symbol Symbols become invisible if people don't know what they represent. Have a "15-second pitch" ready for when someone asks about your pin.
 - Example: "It represents the 2.4% of the U.S. population that is Jewish, yet we are the targets of over 50% of all religiously motivated hate crimes. It's a stand against antisemitism."
2. Education Over Performance Wearing the square is a commitment to doing the homework. Learn to identify modern antisemitism, which often hides in coded language or centuries-old tropes. Follow Jewish educators and historians; the more we understand the nuances of our identity, the more meaningful our advocacy becomes.
3. Be an Upstander, Not a Bystander The square is a promise to intervene. When you hear a "joke" based on a stereotype or see misinformation in a group chat, speak up. If you see the blue square being attacked in social media comments, report the content and actively support the person being targeted.
4. Support Jewish Life and Joy Advocacy isn't just about fighting "the bad stuff"; it's about celebrating who we are. Support Jewish-owned businesses and artists. Share our stories, our food, and our achievements. Advocacy is much more sustainable when it's rooted in an appreciation for our culture, rather than just a reaction to persecution.

As we wear these pins or post these squares, let us remember that they are not the finish line—they are the starting blocks. Speaking up to 'Sadie' at the hair salon didn't require a political campaign; it just required a moment of courage. Our voices are the most powerful tools we own. Let's use them

CJCF Endowments

*(Contributions received as of publication deadline.)
Endowment donations are a minimum of \$10 for each person
or event you wish to recognize.*

FEDERATION GENERAL FUND

In Memory of Pat Sherman, Beloved Wife of Stan Sherman from Laura and Adam Goldman

In Memory of Bernice Friedman, Beloved Mother of Barb Spera from Laura and Adam Goldman

For a Very Speedy & Complete Recovery of John Strauss from Laura and Adam Goldman

JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES

In Memory of Judith Nusbaum, Beloved Mother of Amy Nusbaum from Carolyn Greene

LEE KARELITZ FAMILY PHILANTHROPIC FUND

In Memory of Bernice Friedman, Beloved Mother of Barb Spera from Paulette Karelitz

In Honor of Marty Ortman's 70th Birthday from Greg and Janet Luntz

Life Cycle Events**DEATHS**

Linda Kohn passed away on March 27, 2026. She is survived by her husband, Joseph Kohn; daughter, Michelle (Russ) Kisner; and granddaughter, Sophia Kisner.

BIRTHS

Alexander Kenneth Curtis was born on April 15, 2026. Proud Parents are Heather & Lance Curtis. Proud Grandparents are Denise & Steve Nielsen.

GIVING continued from Page 4

into compassionate, community-minded adults. Your donation does more than help today — it shapes tomorrow.

Inspire Others to Give

Generosity is contagious. When friends and family learn about your support of the Friends Campaign, they may feel inspired to contribute as well. It truly takes a village to support our community through life's pressures and challenges. Your leadership can create a ripple effect of kindness.

Increase Life Satisfaction and Happiness

Studies consistently show that people who give — both time and resources — report higher levels of life satisfaction. Beyond that, they often experience greater feelings of joy and contentment. Giving shifts focus outward and reinforces our connection to something larger than ourselves.

Strengthen Your Financial Awareness

Committing to regular charitable giving can also encourage stronger personal money management. When you prioritize philanthropy, you often become more attentive to budgeting and financial planning. Paying closer attention to your finances is always a positive step — especially when it also benefits others.

Improve Your Health

Generosity has been linked to measurable health benefits, including lower stress levels, reduced blood pressure, and increased resilience. Giving isn't just good for the soul — it can be good for the body as well.

Give — Even If You Can't Volunteer

Not everyone has the time to volunteer, but everyone can make an impact. If your schedule is full, a financial contribution is a meaningful and efficient way to help. Writing a check or making an online donation is a simple yet powerful statement: I care, and I want to help.

The Friends Campaign is about neighbors helping neighbors. It's about strengthening our community and ensuring that no one has to face hardship alone.

Please consider making a donation today. It's easy — visit www.jewishcanton.org, click on Jewish Family Services, and select Donate, or simply scan the QR code.

If you have any questions, please contact Heather Hershey-Tompkins at 330-445-2402.

Your gift makes a difference — not only in the lives of those you help, but in your own life as well.

MAY		
Friday, May 1	5:30 P.M. – 6:15 P.M.	TI Oneg Shabbat
	6:15 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.	TI Shabbat Service
Saturday, May 2	9:30 A.M.	Stollen Moments
	10:00 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.	ST Shabbat Service
Sunday, May 3	6:00 P.M. – 11:00 P.M.	TI Reverse Raffle and Dinner
	9:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.	Chadash
Tuesday, May 5	7:00 P.M.	Intro to Judaism
		Lag BaOmer
Wednesday, May 6	5:00 P.M.	Jewish Wisdom for Grief and Healing
	5:45 P.M.	TI Men's Torah Study
Friday, May 8	5:30 P.M. – 6:15 P.M.	TI Oneg Shabbat
	6:15 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.	TI Shabbat Service
Saturday, May 9	10:00 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.	ST Shabbat Service
Sunday, May 10	7:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.	Intro to Judaism
Wednesday, May 13	5:00 P.M.	Jewish Wisdom for Grief and Healing
Thursday, May 14	10:30 A.M.	Sephardic Jewish Brunch with Edna Akrish
Friday, May 15		Yom Yerushalayim
	5:30 P.M. – 6:15 P.M.	TI Oneg Shabbat
	6:15 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.	TI Shabbat Service
Saturday, May 16	10:00 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.	ST Shabbat Service
Sunday, May 17	9:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.	Chadash
	7:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.	Intro to Judaism
Tuesday, May 19	5:45 P.M.	TI Men's Torah Study
Wednesday, May 20	5:00 P.M.	Jewish Wisdom for Grief and Healin
Thursday, May 21	7:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M.	Federation Board Meeting
Friday, May 22		Shavuout
	5:30 P.M. – 6:15 P.M.	TI Oneg Shabbat
	6:15 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.	TI Shabbat Service
Saturday, May 23	10:00 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.	ST Shabbat Service
Monday, May 25	Administrative office closed in observance of Memorial Day	
Wednesday, May 27	5:00 P.M.	Jewish Wisdom for Grief and Healin
Thursday, May 28	2:30 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.	Yiddish Club
Friday, May 29	5:30 P.M. – 6:15 P.M.	TI Oneg Shabbat
	6:15 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.	TI Shabbat Service
Saturday, May 30	10:00 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.	ST Shabbat Service

JUNE		
Friday, June 5	5:30 P.M. – 6:15 P.M.	TI Oneg Shabbat
	6:15 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.	TI Shabbat Service
Saturday, June 6	10:00 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.	ST Shabbat Service
Friday, June 12	5:00 P.M.	TI Annual Meeting
Saturday, June 13	10:00 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.	ST Shabbat Service
		Cantor Braun's 50th Anniversary Celebration
Friday, June 19	5:30 P.M. – 6:15 P.M.	TI Oneg Shabbat
	6:15 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.	TI Shabbat Service
Saturday, June 20	10:00 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.	ST Shabbat Service
Thursday, June 25	2:30 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.	Yiddish Club
Friday, June 26	5:30 P.M. – 6:15 P.M.	TI Oneg Shabbat
	6:15 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.	TI Shabbat Service
Saturday, June 27	10:00 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.	ST Shabbat Service

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AGUDAS ACHIM

Orthodox

Friday, May 1

Mincha & Kabolos Shabbos
7:30 p.m.

Candle lighting 8:03 p.m.

Sunset 9:08 p.m.

Count the Thirtieth Day of
the Omer after 9:07 p.m.

Saturday, May 2

Shabbos Parshas Emor
Shacharis & Mussaf 9:45
a.m.

Earliest Mincha 1:58 p.m.

Class on the Talmud
8:30pm

Shabbos ends 9:08 p.m.

Maariv 9:20 p.m.

Havdalah 9:34p.m.

Sunday, May 3

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

The Thirty-first Day of the
Omer

Tuesday, May 5

No Mishnah class via
Zoom

Thursday, May 7

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

Friday, May 8

Mincha & Kabolos Shabbos
7:30 p.m.

Candle lighting 8:11 p.m.

Sunset 8:29 p.m.

Count the Thirty-seventh
Day of the Omer after 9:16
p.m.

Saturday, May 9

Shabbos Parshas Behar-
Bechukosai

Shabbos Chazak

Shacharis & Mussaf 9:45
a.m.

Earliest Mincha 1:58 p.m.

Class on the Talmud 8:40
p.m.

Shabbos ends 9:17 p.m.

Maariv 9:30 p.m.

Havdalah 9:43 p.m.

Sunday, May 10

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

Tuesday, May 12

Mishnah class via Zoom
4:45 p.m.

Thursday, May 14

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

Friday, May 15

Mincha & Kabolos Shabbos
7:30 p.m.

Candle lighting 8:18 p.m.

Sunset 8:36 p.m.

Count the Forty-fourth Day
of the Omer after 9:24 p.m.

Saturday, May 16

Shabbos Parshas

Bamidbar

Shabbos Mevorchim

Chodesh

Shacharis & Mussaf 9:45
a.m.

The Molad (new moon)
for the month of Sivan:

Saturday (May 16) 6:02

p.m. + 15 chalakim

Earliest Mincha 1:59 p.m.

Class on the Talmud 8:45
p.m.

Shabbos ends 9:25 p.m.

Maariv 9:35 p.m.

Havdalah 9:50 p.m.

Sunday, May 17

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

Tuesday, May 19

Mishnah class via Zoom
4:45 p.m.

Thursday, May 21

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

Erev Shavuot

Eruv Tavshilin refers

to a ritual in which one
prepares a cooked food
prior to Yom Tov that will
be followed by Shabbos

Mincha 8:20 p.m.

Candle lighting 8:23 p.m.

Sunset 8:41 p.m.

Shavuot

Maariv 9:15 p.m.

All night study

Friday, May 22

Dawn 4:49 a.m.

Shacharis 5:25 a.m.

Sunrise 6:02 a.m.

Early Shabbos 7:00 p.m.

Plag Hamincha 7:19 p.m.

Abbreviated Kabolos

Shabbos and Maariv 7:20
p.m.

Shabbos & Yom Tov

Candle Lighting 8:24 p.m.

Sunset 8:51 p.m.

Saturday, May 23

Shacharis 9:15 a.m.

The Book of Rus (Ruth)

10:15 a.m.

Yizkor 11:15 a.m.

Earliest Mincha 2:00 p.m.

Sunset 8:52 p.m.

Class on the Talmud 9:00
p.m.

Shabbos & Yom Tov ends
9:32 p.m.

Maariv 9:40 p.m.

Havdalah 9:56 p.m.

Sunday, May 24

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

Esrú Chag Shavuot

Tuesday, May 26

Mishnah class via Zoom
4:45 p.m.

Thursday, May 28

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

Friday, May 29

Mincha & Kabolos Shabbos
7:30 p.m.

Candle lighting 8:30 p.m.

Sunset 8:49 p.m.

Saturday, May 30

Shabbos Parshas Nasso
Shacharis & Mussaf 9:45
a.m.

Earliest Mincha 2:01 p.m.

Sunset 8:49 p.m.

Class on the Talmud 9:00
p.m.

Shabbos ends 9:39 p.m.

Maariv 9:50 p.m.

Havdalah 10:03 p.m.

Sunday, May 31

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



SHAARAY TORAH

Conservative

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* = Zoom

Friday, May 1

Evening Service 5:00 p.m.*
Candles 8:05 p.m.

Saturday, May 2

Shabbat Morning Service
10:00 a.m. in Large Prayer

Space due to

Brotherhood Raffle

(In-Person; Live Stream;
Zoom)

Monday, May 4

Morning Service 8:00 a.m.*

Evening Services 5:30

p.m.*

Tuesday, May 5

Evening Services 5:30

p.m.*

Wednesday, May 6

Evening Services 5:30

p.m.*

Thursday, May 7

Morning Service 8:00 a.m.*

Evening Service 5:30 p.m.*

Friday, May 8

Evening Services 5:30

p.m.*

Candles 8:13 p.m.

Saturday, May 9

Shabbat Services 10:00
a.m. (In-Person; Live

Stream; Zoom)

Monday, May 11

Morning Service 8:00 a.m.*

Evening Services 5:30

p.m.*

Tuesday, May 12

Evening Services 5:30
p.m.*

Wednesday, May 13

Evening Services 5:30

p.m.*

Thursday, May 14

Morning Service 8:00 a.m.*

Evening Services 5:30

p.m.*

Friday, May 15

Evening Services 5:30

p.m.*

Candles 8:20 p.m.

Saturday, May 16

Shabbat Services 10:00

a.m. (In-Person; Live

Stream; Zoom)

Monday, May 18

Morning Service 8:00 a.m.*

Evening Services 5:30

p.m.*

Tuesday, May 19

Evening Services 5:30

p.m.*

Wednesday, May 20

Evening Services 5:30

p.m.*

Thursday, May 21

Morning Service 8:00 a.m.*

Mincha Service 5:30 p.m.*

Erev Shavuot

Friday, May 22

Shavuot – 1st Day

Festival Morning Service

10:00 a.m.* featuring

the reading of the Ten
Commandments

Evening Services 5:30
p.m.*

Candles 8:26 p.m.

Saturday, May 23

Shavuot – 2nd Day

Shabbat & Festival

Services 10:00 a.m.

(In-Person; Live Stream;
Zoom)

Yizkor Prayers 11:20 a.m.

No Evening Services.

Monday, May 25

No Services

Tuesday, May 26

Evening Services 5:30

p.m.*

Wednesday, May 27

Evening Services 5:30

p.m.*

Thursday, May 28

Morning Service 8:00 a.m.*

Evening Services 5:30

p.m.*

Friday, May 29

Evening Services 5:30 p.m.

(Zoom)

Candles 8:32 p.m.

Saturday, May 30

Shabbat Morning Services

10:00 a.m. (In-Person; Live

Stream; Zoom)



TEMPLE ISRAEL

Reform

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Friday, May 1

5:30 p.m. Oneg Shabbat

6:15 p.m. Kid-dish Shabbat

Service

Saturday, May 2

10:00 a.m. Stollen

Moments Torah Study

Friday, May 8

5:30 p.m. Oneg Shabbat

6:15 p.m. Shabbat Service

Birthdays & Anniversary

Blessings

Friday, May 15

5:30 p.m. Oneg Shabbat

6:15 p.m. **Shabbat Service**

Torah Reading

Friday, May 22

5:30 p.m. Oneg Shabbat

6:15 p.m. Shabbat Service

Friday, May 29

5:30 p.m. Oneg Shabbat

6:15 p.m. Shabbat Service



MARY DONNA
RUBIN

“I Don’t Like Patience!”

Hi everyone, I hope you all had a wonderful Passover filled with family time and good food. My husband, Jim, and I feel very blessed to celebrate with our two beautiful grandsons, who always make our Seders unique and memorable. Each year, they have one special request: their own Seder plate along with the family Seder plate, and of course, we happily say yes.

One moment from a past holiday inspired me to write this. Patience can be hard for all of us, but especially for children. One year, when our youngest grandson was about six or seven, he was working on a project, maybe building something or painting, and he was getting frustrated. He wanted to finish quickly

but was having trouble slowing down.

Our son stepped in and told him to take his time and “be patient.” Right away, our grandson said, “I don’t like patience!”

We all laughed, and really, who can blame him? In the end, he did calm down, and he finished what he started.

That moment stayed with me, because I think many of us feel the same way. We may not like patience, but sometimes we need it.

One place where patience really matters is in the kitchen, especially when baking challah. When you make challah, the dough needs time to rise until it doubles in size. That part cannot be rushed. If you try to bake it too soon, before it has fully risen, it will not turn into the beautiful loaf you were hoping for.

The same is true with any recipe. If something needs to bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes, we cannot just turn up the heat to finish faster. It will not come out the same. Even simple steps, like browning or searing, take time and should not be rushed.

Recipes are written step by step for a reason. If we skip steps or try to hurry through them, the final result may not be what we want.

So even if we do not like patience, cooking teaches us that it is important. I will admit, patience does not always come easily to me, but I have learned that it really does make a difference.

So the next time you are in the kitchen, take your time and be patient. It will be worth it in the end, and everyone will enjoy the results.

SHAVUOT RECIPE

Shavuot, the Feast of Weeks, comes seven weeks after the second day of Passover. Shavuot celebrates Moses’ receiving the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai, thus, the Birthday of Judaism!!! It is customary to eat Dairy foods such as Blintzes, Noodle Cottage Cheese Kugel, Potato Kugel, Cheese Cake, etc. on Shavuot!

Therefore, I have chosen to share my recipe for Cottage Cheese Kugel, flavored with Apples and Cinnamon.

NOODLE COTTAGE CHEESE KUGEL

Ingredients

- One 12 Ounce bag of egg noodles (Wide, Flat egg noodles work best)
- ½ cup, plus one Tablespoon unsalted butter
- 2 large cooking apples
- One cup cottage cheese
- 3 eggs, slightly beaten
- 2 Teaspoons ground cinnamon
- 1 ¼ cups of white sugar
- 2-3 handfuls of raisins, (black or golden)
- ½ teaspoons baking soda

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees
2. Cook the noodles in salted, boiling water until just tender.
3. Drain the noodles thoroughly.
4. Put in large mixing bowl.
5. Melt the butter. Then, toss it with the noodles.
6. Coarsely grate the apples, and add the noodles to them.
7. Stir in the cottage cheese, eggs, sugar, cinnamon, raisins, and baking soda.
8. Place the noodle mixture into a deep, rectangular (15x8 inch) dish.
9. Bake for 1-1 ¼ hours, until completely browned and crisp.
10. Please serve immediately!!! Enjoy!!

CANTON
JEWISH COMMUNITY FEDERATION

YIDDISH CLUB

LED BY RABBI A.J. KUSHNER

Thursday, May 28, 2026
Thursday, June 25, 2026
2:30 PM - 3:30 PM | Beit Ha’am Library

Cost is FREE. All are welcome.

Flavors and Traditions:
A Sephardic Jewish BRUNCH
with Edna Akrish

THURSDAY, MAY 14 AT 10:30 A.M. AT BEIT HA’AM

Join us for a Sephardic Jewish brunch with award-winning educator Edna Akrish, featuring a traditional Israeli breakfast and an engaging conversation about how Sephardic Jewish holidays and lifecycle traditions differ from the more familiar European Jewish customs. Come taste, learn, and celebrate the richness of Sephardic Jewish culture with us.

RVSP by May 12
to LLehn@jewishcanton.org