

Stand Together, Stand Strong: Canton Jewish Community Federation's Call to Action for 2025



ORI AKRISH
Executive Director

As we witness a troubling rise in anti-Semitic and anti-Israel incidents around the world and within our own community, the Canton Jewish Community Federation (CJCF) launches its 2025 Annual Campaign with a renewed sense of urgency and determination. This campaign is not just a call for donations but a clarion call for unity, resilience, and proactive engagement.

In recent times, we have seen how the dark shadows of intolerance and hate can creep into our lives, threatening our sense of safety and belonging.

However, amidst these challenges, one thing remains

clear: we should never fear celebrating our culture, heritage, and religion. Our strength lies in our unity and our unwavering commitment to each other. The CJCF is dedicated to ensuring that we stand strong together, taking care of ourselves and each other within our community.

The Federation impacts the community in many ways, but three of the most important are communication, connection, and community care.

1. Communication:

Through various channels, the CJCF keeps you informed and connected, mobilizing our community to respond to challenges and celebrate successes.

- **Weekly Emails:** Our weekly emails provide timely updates on upcoming programs sponsored by the Federation, Jewish institutions in Canton, and

collaborative efforts with our neighbors to foster a stronger community. These emails ensure you are always in the loop and can participate in events and initiatives that matter to you.

- **Website:** Our recently updated website is a hub of information, offering daily updates on events, programs, and crucial Jewish news from around the globe. It is designed to be your go-to resource for everything happening in Jewish Canton and beyond, with easy access to vital information and opportunities to get involved.
- **Stark Jewish News:** The Stark Jewish News, our community newspaper, celebrates the achievements of our community members, shares important lifecycle events, and supports local businesses, fostering a sense of unity and pride. It serves as a platform to amplify the voices of our community and keep everyone connected.

2. Connection:

The Federation provides a vital connection among community members, regardless of their temple affiliation, political beliefs, background, or whether they are lifelong Cantonians or new to town. We are all Jewish Canton, and every voice matters. Our past has proven that even a small community like ours can have a significant and lasting impact. We are at our best when we come together.

The CJCF also maintains a strong connection to Israel through our partnership with P2G. Along with other Jewish communities in the US, we have a direct

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STARK JEWISH NEWS

A publication of the Canton Jewish Community Federation

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The SJN attempts to publish materials received and reserves the right to edit all submissions.

The SJN is published 10 times a year.

Subscription rate: \$18.00 per year.

Deadline for each month's issue is the 10th.

Materials must be received in our office by that date.

Federation Annual Meeting

Thursday, September 26 at 7:00 pm

Join us on Thursday, September 26 at Beit Ha'am for the Canton Jewish Community Federation's Annual Meeting at 7:00 pm.

John Strauss, President of the CJCF will update the community on the Federation's goals and accomplishments and new Board members Lori Magill and Eileen Saltarelli will be introduced.

We will kickoff the 2025 Jewish Welfare Fund Campaign with our chairs Fran Wells and Bryan Hecht. This is our annual appeal which supports the work of Federation in our community, including Jewish Family Services, Chadash, educational and entertaining programs as well as the Stark Jewish News.

Our guest speaker will be from "StandWithUs" discussing the rise of antisemitism and how to approach these conversations. You don't want to miss this event.

StandWithUs is an international, non-partisan education organization that supports Israel and fights antisemitism. StandWithUs empowers and energizes students and communities with leadership training and educational programs on hundreds of college campuses, high schools, and middle schools. StandWithUs informs through social media, print and digital materials, films, weekly newsletters, and missions to Israel. StandWithUs is not politically aligned in any country. The organization does not and has never advocated specific policies for Israel. Our work and respect for Israel's democratically elected government are not contingent on which parties are in power. Our goal is to counter antisemitism, educate the public about Israel, empower others to educate their communities, and make it possible to have reasonable, informed conversations about Israel's history, policies, and humanitarian aid on campuses and in communities around the world.

Meet our 2025 Campaign Chairs, Fran Wells and Bryan Hecht



FRAN WELLS

Fran Wells serves on the Federation board and on the Jewish Family Services committee. She is a past Hadassah president and past Shaaray Torah Sunday school teacher. She is currently membership chair for the Canton Area League of Women Voters and a volunteer

at Beechcreek Garden & Nature Preserve.

Now retired, Fran capped her years as an elementary school educator (both out of state and at Canton Country Day School) with 15 years as director of Leadership Stark County. While at Leadership, she grew the program to offer multiple programs for business professionals and community leaders, including an annual boardsmanship seminar and board matching program which continue to this day. With her husband, PJ, Fran enjoys spending time with their 4 grandchildren in DC and NYC.



BRYAN HECHT

Bryan Hecht has served as both member and Secretary of the Temple Israel Board of Trustees and taught in Chadash. He also previously served on the Stark County Planned Parenthood Board as well as the Board of Planned Parenthood of Northeast Ohio.

Originally from Cleveland, Bryan and his family have been members of Temple Israel since moving to Canton in 1992. A fertility specialist and teacher, Bryan has recently retired from clinical practice but happily continues to teach Reproductive Medicine to medical students and residents. Bryan and Marcie currently have 3.5 grandchildren, living in Hudson, Ohio, Columbus and Indianapolis. Bryan recalls the warmth and welcome he and Marcie received from the Canton Jewish Community and hopes to pay it forward in service to the Federation.



JOHN STRAUSS
CJCF President

Where Your Federation Dollars Go

It is Summer and there are lots of outdoor activities that I am sure you are enjoying, but it is never too soon to be thinking about the Fall, and with that also comes not only the “chagim” (holidays) but also the Federation Campaign. I have a few thoughts about the Campaign, since we are on the topic! First let me thank Fran Wells for returning to co-chair the campaign and to Dr. Bryan Hecht for joining as co-chair. The two leaders have some great ideas that you will be learning about soon.

The biggest questions that people have about Campaign, I believe, is where is my money going and what am I getting for it? The answer to the first part is very simple: Jewish Family Services, our Partnership Together (with Israel), local programming, and staff, rent and expenses, which includes the Stark Jewish News. In addition, a small percentage of our budget goes to local and national Jewish agencies. I will talk a little bit about the Partnership Together further along in this piece. The answer to the second part, depends to some extent on how much you put into Federation. Do you come to hear speakers and guests? Do you have a relative or acquaintance that leans on Jewish Family Services? Or might you someday require JFS in your or a relative's life?

Giving to Federation also supports our children's education in Chadash. Giving to Federation also supports our voice in Columbus and the legislature with Ohio Jewish Communities. Your dollars are very well spent and targeted through the OJC lobbying.

Many people give the same amount every year. In looking through the giving history of the community members, some pledges have not changed for over ten years. Aside from the issue of our shrinking community, where everyone has to step up to keep our programs intact, inflation has never slept. Pledges that were made ten years ago are not the same value today if the dollar amount has not changed. If you gave \$100 in 2014 for example, that pledge is worth about \$68 today. Please keep this in mind when you receive a phone call or letter later this year. But to me the biggest motivator for giving is that I cannot but help think “what I would want if I was in the shoes of an elderly person needing JFS support, or in the shoes of an Israeli under rocket barrage needing international support, or in the shoes of a child needing education and community support?”

I am writing from the Partnership Together meetings in Austin, Texas. The Partnership with Israel (P2G) meets at least once a year with all of the communities and the Israeli side to discuss budgets and plans for the coming year. Canton is one of the smallest communities in the Partnership. We contribute \$20K to the budget currently. Larger communities like Omaha, Nebraska contribute \$75K. One of the topics so far, as the Israeli delegation brings the obvious to the table,

is the repercussions from 10/7 on Israel and the region where we are partners: “The North”, mainly including the state of Mate Asher. (Bordering Lebanon to the North, the Mediterranean to the West, the City of Akko to the South and incorporating many Moshavim and Kibbutzim to the East.) Our Partnership includes Budapest, Hungary and 17 US Jewish Communities. (Austin, Fort Worth and San Antonio, TX; Buffalo, NY., Canton, Dayton, Toledo, and Youngstown OH., Des Moines, IA., Ft Wayne, NW Indiana, South Bend, and Indianapolis, IN., Louisville, KY., Omaha, NE., Peoria and Springfield, IL. There is so much yet to unfold. When will this war end and what will be the terms? Will the North of Israel residents be able to return to their homes and be able to live in peace for the near future? How will the experience of nearly the last year affect Israel's attention and energy moving forward? Will Israel have the security situation that it needs in order to grow as an economy and provide a safe environment in order to flourish? Hezbollah has been systematically destroying homes in the Northern communities that have been evacuated through a bombing and missile campaign. Those homes will need to be rebuilt and who will pay for that? Not to mention the Gaza envelope communities in the South which are also not yet safe to return to.

However, there is much that the Partnership does even as the war carries on. The meetings are an opportunity for the 17 communities, including Canton, to have a voice in deciding the Partnership opportunities and the budget for the coming year. Your Executive Director, Ori Akrish and myself are closely listening to these opportunities and voicing our thoughts and questions. We are also connecting with Israelis and Hungarians and other Americans from the consortium to further strengthen our bonds and common ground.

About 50 people representing their communities either as volunteers or as professionals have attended and have a voice in the direction that will unfold. Roughly 20% of the attendees are from Israel and two are from Budapest.

Highlights so far? There is still time for participation in a Young Adult group that has begun with Zoom meetings and will culminate in a trip to Budapest. If you are a young adult (say under the age of 50) or feel like one and would like to participate, please contact myself or Ori. The purpose of the group is to expand connections in this age demographic across communities and form friendships and connections that could last a lifetime. Participants can return to their community and be better prepared for leadership roles or just have the experience inform their lives. The life on campus and the tide of anti-Semitism that has racked the University world was also a focus as Austin is the home to the University of Texas. We heard from two eloquent students who had stories to tell about how they have dealt with the contentious environment and attempted to continue their focus on studies amidst strong feelings of connection to Israel. I hope to have more detailed stories for you in next month's edition. Enjoy the remnants of your Summer and behold the coming Chagim!

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RABBI KUSHNER

Tu B'Av

Tu B'Av (fifteenth of the month Av) begins Sunday, August 18th in the evening, through Monday August 19th:

It is a minor Jewish holiday.

It is both an ancient and modern holiday. Originally a post-biblical day of joy, it served as a matchmaking day for unmarried women in the Second Temple period, slightly resembling Valentine's Day in English-speaking countries.

Six other events occurred on Tu B'Av, making it a festive day in the Jewish calendar.

** The Mishnah tells us that: "No days were as festive for the Jewish nation like the 15th of Av and Yom Kippur." (Tractate Ta'anis) What is Tu B'Av, the 15th of the Hebrew month of Av? In which way is it compared to Yom Kippur?

Our Sages explain: Yom Kippur symbolizes Hashem forgiving the Jewish nation for the sin of the Golden Calf in the desert, for it was on that day that He finally accepted Moshe's plea for forgiveness of the nation, and on that same day Moshe came down from the mountain with the new set of tablets.

Just as Yom Kippur symbolizes the atonement for the sin of the Golden Calf, Tu B'Av signifies the atonement for the sin of the 10 Spies, where they came bearing such negative reports which reduced the entire nation to panic. As a result of that sin, it was decreed by Hashem that the nation would remain in the desert for 40 years, and that no one that was 20 or older would be allowed to enter in land of Israel. On each Tisha B'Av of those 40 years, those who had reached the age of 60 that year died – 15,000 each Tisha B'Av. This plague finally ended on Tu B'Av. **

Six positive events happened on Tu B'Av:

1) the plague that had accompanied the Jews in the desert for 40 years ended. That last year, the last 15,000 people got ready to die. Hashem, in His mercy, decided not to have that last group die, considering all the troubles they had gone through. Now, when the ninth of Av approached, all the members of the group got ready to die, but nothing happened. They then decided that they might have been wrong about the date, so they waited another day, and another...

Finally on the 15th of Av, when the full moon appeared, they realized definitely

that the ninth of Av had come and gone, and that they were still alive. Then it was clear to them that the decree was over, and that Hashem had forgiven the people for the sin of the Spies.

This is what was meant by our Sages when they said: "No days were as festive for the Jewish people as the 15th of Av and Yom Kippur," for there is no greater joy than having one's sins forgiven – on Yom Kippur for the sin of the Golden Calf and on Tu B'Av for the sin of the spies. In the Book of Judges, Tu B'Av is referred to as a holiday (Shoftim 21:19).

2) Following the case of the daughters of Zelophehad (Bamidbar, chapter 36), daughters who inherited from their father when there were no sons were forbidden to marry someone from a different tribe, so that land would not pass from one tribe to another.

3) Generations later, after the story of the "Concubine of Giv'ah" (Shoftim, chapters 19-21), the Children of Israel swore not to allow their daughters to marry anyone from the tribe of Benjamin. This posed a threat of annihilation to the tribe of Benjamin.

Each of these prohibitions were lifted on Tu B'Av. The people realized that if they kept to their prohibition, one of the 12 tribes might totally disappear. As to the oath that had been sworn, they pointed out that it only affected the generation that had taken the oath, and not subsequent generations. The same was applied to the prohibition of heiresses marrying outside their own tribe: this rule was applied only to the generation that had conquered and divided up the land under Joshua, but not future generations. This was the first expression of the merging of all the tribes, and was a cause for rejoicing. In the Book of Judges it is referred to as "a festival to the Lord."


Over the generations, this day was described in Tractate Tannis as a day devoted to betrothals, so that new Jewish families would emerge.

4) After Jeroboam split off the kingdom of Israel with its ten tribes from the kingdom of Judea, he posted guards along all the roads leading to Jerusalem, to prevent his people from going up to the Holy City for the pilgrimage festivals, for he feared that such pilgrimages might undermine his authority. As a "substitute," he set up places of worship which were purely idolatrous, in Dan and Beth-el. Thus the division between the two kingdoms became a fait accompli and lasted for generations.

The last king of the kingdom of Israel, Hosea ben Elah, wished to heal the breach, and removed all the guards from the roads leading to Jerusalem, thus

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

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Thank you Friends

Jewish Family Services wishes to thank everyone who has contributed to the Friends Campaign.

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The J-Shuttle, which is wheel chair accessible, is available for appointments on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Rates are \$8.00 one way/\$15.00 round trip, \$30.00 single rider round trip. For reservations, call 330-445-2850.

The actual recipients of this generosity are the members of our community who utilize Jewish Family Services. The funds raised will enable staff to provide outreach to those who are isolated; transportation to those unable to drive; case management to those who must negotiate roads no longer easily traveled alone.

Anyone wishing to become a "Friend" to Jewish Family Services who has not yet donated to the campaign may do so in several ways. A donation envelope is available at the front desk at the Canton Jewish Community Federation. Lacking an envelope, a check made payable to Jewish Family Services can be sent to Heather Hershey-Tompkins attention.

STARK COUNTY INVESTS IN ISRAEL BONDS

County Treasurer announces \$1.3 million purchase in Israel Bonds to diversify investment portfolio.

Stark County Treasurer Alexander Zumbar has announced a significant investment in Israel Bonds, with a recent purchase of \$1.3 million in April, maintaining the county's total holdings to \$3.3 million. The Ohio Treasurer of State and 15 counties in Ohio, including Stark County, invest in Israel bonds as part of their diversified investment strategy.

"Our partnership with Israel Bonds has been beneficial to Stark County," said Treasurer Zumbar. "Israel Bonds provide a reliable investment option at a strong rate and add diversity to our portfolio. Since 2009, Israel Bonds have been an asset to our overall investment portfolio."

Israel bonds are debt securities issued by the State of Israel and are considered a dependable investment option due to their strong performance and favorable rates. In addition to financial returns, the investment in Israel bonds also holds symbolic significance, fostering a connection between Stark County and the State of Israel.

"Stark County was among the first in Ohio to invest in Israel Bonds," said Thomas Lockshin, Executive Director of Israel Bonds for Ohio and Kentucky. "Thanks to investors like Stark County, U.S. Israel bond sales have topped \$1 billion for the eleventh consecutive year."

Development Corporation for Israel (known as Israel Bonds) and its affiliates around the world have generated over \$52 billion in investments since it was founded 73 years ago. Israel Bonds are a smart investment with strong rates and are meaningful investments, serving as a symbolic connection with Israel and the people of Israel for Jews worldwide. For more information, visit www.israelbonds.com.



Stark County Treasurer Alexander Zumbar with Israel Bonds Executive Director for Ohio and Kentucky Thomas Lockshin.
Photo credit: Deana M. Stafford

					
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Jewish Family Services Programs

A division of the Canton Jewish Community Federation



As we look to a new program year, Jewish Family Services would like to invite all members of our community to participate in our programming. In addition to our outings and breakfasts, we will offer days of service to the Canton community on behalf of the Jewish community.

Our first volunteer opportunity is Friday, September 27 at Refuge of Hope mission. Please see the information below and contact Leanne to volunteer. Let's come together and give back, in our Jewish community and in our Canton community. Look for more diverse programming in upcoming issues of the Stark Jewish News.

Reach Leanne at 330-445-2850 or llehn@jewishcanton.org and visit our website at www.jewishcanton.org





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ADULT PROGRAMS

Upcoming programs through Jewish Family Services.
RSVP to Leanne at llehn@jewishcanton.org, 330-445-2850

SEPTEMBER

DRAGON FLY TEA ROOM

Tuesday, September 10 | 11:30 AM

215 Market St W. Canal Fulton, OH 44614

This is a favorite!

The Dragonfly Tea Room is a fun and relaxing destination for everything from a High Tea to a relaxing lunch with friends. Choose from their unique menu of soups, salads, quiches, paninis, wraps, and decadent desserts and enjoy your meal in the English-inspired dining room or the whimsical themed children's room.

The Dragon Fly Tea Room is a place where you can truly relax with an excellent cup of tea and a wholesome meal. They pride themselves on serving only the highest quality teas alongside their menu offerings all made from their very own recipes.

You deserve this!

Van will be available if we have a minimum of three riders.
Call Leanne to reserve a van spot.

Please RSVP by September 4 to Leanne or scan the QR code below:



Volunteer With Us! REFUGE OF HOPE Friday September 27

Serve Lunch at Refuge of Hope, 10:00 am – 12:30 pm
715 Second Street NE, Canton, OH 44704

Refuge of Hope serves lunch in Canton Monday through Friday and we are volunteering on Friday September 27 to assist them. They provide much-needed food assistance for people who are struggling with food insecurity. We will serve lunch and assist in the community room.

We're looking for fifteen volunteers to help out.

RSVP By September 12 to Leanne or scan the QR code below:



STAND

TOGETHER

STAND

STRONG

WHAT WE DO

The mission of the Canton Jewish Community Federation is to advance the quality of Jewish life through planning, coordinating and allocating financial and human resources.

- We care for people in need
- We respect our elders by caring for them
- We enrich and celebrate Jewish life here in Canton
- We educate the Jewish community and the community-at-large
- We strengthen Jewish connection.
- We promote Jewish life in Canton and overseas
- We support Beit Ha'am

WHY WE'RE NEEDED

The funds generously donated to our campaign play a crucial role in nurturing Canton's future leaders, fostering a sense of connectivity and activity among our elderly community, educating both adults and children about Judaism and Israel, and enriching every dimension of Jewish life in Canton. Your support fuels these vital initiatives, ensuring a thriving and vibrant community for generations to come.

WHERE TO FIND US

The Canton Jewish Community Federation is located in Beit Ha'am. 432 30th St NW, Canton.
Find us online at www.jewishcanton.org and on Facebook or call 330-452-6444.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

All of us play a vital role in the Federation's mission. Whether your passion lies in youth empowerment, senior care, education, or social services, there is a meaningful role awaiting your involvement.

By volunteering your time, engaging in our committees, or exploring joining our board, you have the power to shape the future of our community directly.

Our annual campaign is pivotal. Your donations aren't just money—they are opportunities to greatly impact lives locally and globally. It's worth noting that 94% of the funds raised remain local, supporting essential programs here in Canton, while also extending its impact to initiatives across the US, Israel, and beyond.

Together, we are fortifying the bonds of the Canton Jewish Community. Your active participation and generous support are the cornerstones of our continued success. Let's stand together, stand strong, and make a lasting impact.

Your involvement matters more than ever. Join us today in building a brighter tomorrow for everyone in our community. Thank you for your commitment and support.

2025 CAMPAIGN CHAIRS



FRAN WELLS



BRIAN HECHT

OUR ANNUAL CAMPAIGN SUPPORTS

Jewish Family Services

- Nursing home placement
- Shuttle rides to doctor
- Home visits
- Guardianship
- Representative Payee
- Emergency Services
- Assist with Forms and Bills

Food Pantry

- Groceries for those in need

Mitzvah Program

- JFS Chanukah Mitzvah Program
- Matzoh Project

Religious Services

- Shabbat services and holiday celebrations at nursing homes
- Counseling
- Referrals

Senior Adults Organization

- Social, cultural and educational programming for seniors
- Holiday Meals
- Holiday Celebrations at Beit Ha'am

Education

- Joint Programs with Religious Community Organizations
- Adult Education Programs
- Israel Connections
- Chadash Religious School
- Holocaust Education
- Partnership 2Gether

Communication

- Stark Jewish News
- Directory
- Website
- Facebook
- Weekly E-Newsletter

Social Programming

- Jewish Films
- Holiday Celebrations
- Special Events

Scholarships

- Camps
- Israel Programs

Connections

- Hillel
- Birthright
- Ohio Jewish Communities
- ADL
- AIPAC
- JFNA

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Summer with Peace for Packs



JULIE ZORN
Director of
Lifelong Learning

It has just been a little over a year since the inception of Temple Israel's outreach initiative, Peace for Packs. During this year, we have shared the program, and more importantly, the steps to report a hate crime or incident with youth and adults all around Stark County at various libraries, churches and community events.

This summer, we have created new "peace partners" and have been so impressed with the Canton community's desire to engage with us and help spread our message of peace.

We began the summer with an end of school year bash with Canton City School's Bulldog Virtual Academy. The Bulldog Virtual Academy meets both in person and online utilizing the downtown Timken campus as their physical meeting space. The end of summer bash was an impressive outdoor festival with representatives from all around Stark County, and the students particularly

enjoyed making our peace signs.

In July, we spent two days with the Boys and Girls Club of Massillon in their new beautiful building that has only been open since January. We spent two days with a group of about 30 5th graders who not only enjoyed making peace signs but who were also so invested in the PowerPoint presentation that we share which includes statistics from the U.S. Department of Justice and the Anti-Defamation League about the state of hate in the United States.

Also in July was the first annual Festival of Nonviolence and Peacemaking, a three-day event with programs taking place in Akron, Cleveland and Canton. The festival was organized by the Akron Leadership Foundation, and Temple Israel was a sponsor of the festival taking place in Canton. Rabbi Spitzer participated in all three days distributing and talking about the Silhouette Project, and Peace for Packs was set up making peace signs at the program in Canton.

Finally, at the end of the summer, Peace for Packs will lead a staff in service training for the United Way of Stark County, and we are so overcome with gratitude for their commitment to engaging their staff in peaceful leadership for the greater Canton community.

If you know of any organizations, schools or local Stark County businesses who would like to host a Peace for Packs event, please have them reach out to outreach and education director, Julie Zorn, at educator@templeisraelcanton.org.



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CJCF continued from Front Page

connection to the Jewish community in Budapest, Hungary, and the Matte Asher region in Israel. This partnership allows us to provide support and love to our family and friends in Israel during difficult times, plan solidarity missions, host representatives and entertainers, and engage in positive exchanges that benefit both communities. This friendship offers opportunities for travel, cultural exchange, and building meaningful connections.

Our community programs, from film screenings and self-defense classes to performances by singers and artists, ensure that everyone feels welcomed and involved.

3. Community Care:

Community care is at the heart of our mission, particularly through Jewish Family Services (JFS). JFS provides comprehensive support, addressing a wide range of needs. We assist with energy assistance programs, Medicaid applications and renewals, and Social Security Disability services for parents of adult children. We offer emergency funds for essential needs, guide clients to food and clothing banks, and help find suitable living arrangements for elderly parents.

We also support individuals dealing with loss and mental health issues, implement safety plans for clients with suicidal thoughts, and teach daily living skills such as laundry and cooking. Our guardianship services include cleaning

and organizing client homes, while we assist others in emergencies like fires or health crises. We also provide legal and financial planning, including wills, trusts, and burial pre-planning, and offer holiday gifts and coordinate food drives.

JFS recently assisted a client who had a fire in their apartment, helping them receive new teeth, navigate amputation recovery, and manage growing credit card debt. Additionally, our Rudner Matzo Fund ensures that everyone in our community can celebrate Passover with kosher food, resources, and dignity. This level of personalized care makes a profound difference in the lives of our community members.

The Importance of Your Donation:

As we embark on the 2025 Annual Campaign, we invite every member of our community to join us in this crucial endeavor. Your donations are essential to sustaining these vital programs and services. Every contribution, no matter the size, makes a significant impact. When we come together, pooling our resources and efforts, we can create a safe, vibrant, and thriving Jewish community in Canton. Your generosity enables us to continue providing support, fostering connections, and celebrating our shared heritage with pride.

Let us stand together, stand strong, and make a difference. Join us in our mission to protect, support, and celebrate our community. Together, we can overcome any challenge and build a brighter future for all.



SAVE THE DATE

JULY 31, 2024



Jane Altman Zoldan Blood Drive
Beit Ha'am
3:30 pm - 7:15 pm
More information to follow

RABBI continued from Page 4

allowing his people to make the pilgrimage again. This act took place on Tu B'Av.

5) At the beginning of the Second Temple period, the Land of Israel lay almost totally waste, and the wood needed to burn the sacrifices and for the eternal flame that had to burn on the altar was almost impossible to obtain. Each year a number of brave people volunteered to bring the wood needed from afar – a trip which was dangerous in the extreme.

Now, not just every wood could be brought. Wood which was wormy was not permitted. And dampness and cold are ideal conditions for the breeding of worms in wood. As a result, all the wood that would be needed until the following summer had to be collected before the cold set in. The last day that wood was brought in for storage over the winter months was Tu B'Av, and it was a festive occasion each year when the quota needed was filled by that day.

6) Long after the event, the Romans finally permitted the bodies of those who had been killed in the defense of Betar (in the Bar Kochba revolt) to be buried. This was a double miracle, in that, first, the Romans finally gave permission for the burial, and, second, in spite of the long period of time that had elapsed, the bodies had not decomposed. The permission was granted on Tu B'Av.

In gratitude for this double miracle, the fourth and last blessing of Birchas Hamozon (Grace After Meals) was added, which thanks G-d as "He Who is good and does good." "He is good" – in that the bodies had not decomposed, "and does good" – in that permission was given for the burial.

Jewish Emmy nominees include Larry David and 'Curb Your Enthusiasm' in a last hurrah

Andrew Lapin



(JTA) – TV's most Jewish comedy has one more chance to grab some statues on its way out the door.

The 12th and final season of "Curb Your Enthusiasm," Larry David's long-running HBO sitcom, was nominated for four Emmy awards, including best comedy and best actor for David.

Since premiering in 2000 the show has received a total of 55 Emmy nominations, but only two competitive wins (for directing and editing). David finally wrapped "Curb" in April with an appearance from his buddy Jerry Seinfeld (whose Netflix movie "Unfrosted" was also nominated, in the television movie category). But "Curb" will have an uphill battle against the comedy category's

current favorite programs, "The Bear" and "Abbott Elementary."

An unusually small crop of shows were nominated this year, after dual Hollywood strikes dried up the TV pipeline – and few others were Jewish, even as the Israel-Hamas war loomed over the entertainment industry. Besides David, a handful of other acting nominees had Jewish connections.

Maya Rudolph was nominated for lead actress in a comedy series for the Apple TV+ series "Loot," and received three other nominations too – two for guest-hosting "Saturday Night Live" and one for her voiceover work in Netflix's "Big Mouth." Hannah Einbinder received a supporting actress in a comedy series nomination for HBO's "Hacks."

Tom Hollander, who was nominated for lead actor in a TV anthology or movie for FX's "Feud: Capote vs. The Swans," has an unusual Jewish background: His father's side of the family were Czech Jews who escaped the Nazis, and his father converted to Catholicism in the United Kingdom. Earlier this year Hollander's sister, an opera director, cited their family's Jewish history when she canceled a planned talk with a Chabad-Lubavitch center, saying she felt uncomfortable addressing an audience of Jews when she felt "extremely troubled" by Israel's prosecution of the war in Gaza.

Ebon Moss-Bachrach (FX's "The Bear") and Paul Rudd (Hulu's "Only Murders in the Building") were both nominated for supporting actor in a comedy series.

Jon Bernthal and Jamie Lee Curtis, who both have Jewish ancestry, were also nominated for their guest work on "The Bear," while Matthew Broderick was nominated in the guest actor in a comedy category for playing himself on "Only Murders in the Building."

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Introduction to Judaism—Fall 2024



Temple Israel is offering in-person/Zoom Introduction to Judaism class beginning Sunday, August 18, 2024. The class will meet eight Sundays from 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Taught by Rabbi David Komerofsky, this course introduces the basics of Jewish thought and practice. Interfaith couples, non-Jews considering conversion, and Jews looking for adult-level basics will find it meaningful. A mix of study, discussion and practical experiences, the course is designed for those interested in exploring a Jewish life. Topics include Jewish holidays, life-cycle events, theology, prayer, Israel, and history.

The course is open to all, no prerequisites, just your curiosity. This course can count towards the classwork component for the conversion process with Temple Israel for those taking the class locally.

More information is available at www.templeisraelcanton.org/intro.

Wisdom from Jewish Movie Scenes

Wisdom from Jewish Movie Scenes - Adult Education Fall 2024 with Rabbi David Komerofsky

The Frisco Kid (1979) - Wednesday, September 18, 2024 @ 7:00 p.m.

Fiddler on the Roof (1971) - Wednesday, September 25, 2024 @ 7:00 p.m.

A Serious Man (2009) - Wednesday, October 9, 2024 @ 7:00 p.m.

The Chosen (1981) - Wednesday, October 30, 2024 @ 7:00 p.m.

The Jazz Singer (1980) - Wednesday, November 6, 2024 @ 7:00 p.m.

All classes are via Zoom, free of charge, and open to everyone. Register at www.templeisraelcanton.org/adult-education.

Chavurah Learning with Temple Israel

Temple Israel will host a 4-session series in which Rabbi David Komerofsky will present the subject of his doctoral work at Ashland Theological Seminary. The topic is "The Integration of Jews by Birth and Jews by Choice in a Reform Congregation."

This series is presented by a long-standing Temple Israel chavurah, and is open to all. Those who would like are welcome to gather for dinner after each session.

The sessions are Sundays at 4:00 p.m. at Beit Ha'am with a Zoom option.

Sunday, August 25 – Jewish Identity

Sunday, September 29 – Jewish Ritual

Sunday, October 27 – Jewish Theology

Sunday, November 24 – Jewish Peoplehood

Register at www.templeisraelcanton.org/chavurah.

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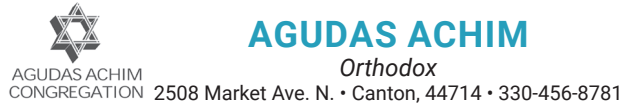
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AGUDAS ACHIM

Orthodox

Thursday, August 1
Torah class (Isaiah) via Zoom 4:30 p.m.

Friday, August 2
Mincha & Kabolos Shabbos 7:30 p.m.
Candle lighting 8:21 p.m.
Sunset 8:39 p.m.

Saturday, August 3
Shabbos Parshas Matot-Massei
Shabbos Chavak
Shabbos Mevochim Chodesh
Shacharis & Mussaf 9:30 a.m.
Molad (new moon) for the month of Av: Monday
(August 5) 1:53 a.m. + 11 chalakim
Earliest Mincha 2:07 p.m.
Shabbos ends 9:24 p.m.
Maariv 9:35 p.m.
Havdalah 9:51 p.m.

Sunday, August 4
Rabbi Scheinbaum's class via Zoom 11:00 a.m.

Monday, August 5
Rosh Chodesh Av

Tuesday, August 6
Mishnah class via Zoom 4:45 p.m.

Thursday, August 8
Torah class (Isaiah) via Zoom 4:30 p.m.

Friday, August 9
Mincha & Kabolos Shabbos 7:30 p.m.
Candle lighting 8:12 p.m.
Sunset 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, August 10
Shabbos Parshas Devarim
Shabbos Chazon
Shacharis & Mussaf 9:30 a.m.
Earliest Mincha 2:06 p.m.
Shabbos ends 9:15 p.m.
Maariv 9:30 p.m.
Havdalah 9:42 p.m.

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

Monday, August 12
EREV TISHA B'AV (FAST OF TISHA B'AV)
Mincha 8:05 p.m.
Sunset & Maariv 8:26 p.m.
Kinos/Eicha (The Book of Lamentations) 8:45 p.m.

Tuesday, August 13
TISHA B'AV – FAST OF AV
Shacharis 8:00 a.m.
Tallis and Tefilin are not put on in the morning
Midday 1:29 p.m.
Micha 2:05 p.m.
Fast ends 9:10 p.m.

Thursday, August 15
Torah class (Isaiah) via Zoom 4:30 p.m.

Friday, August 16
Mincha & Kabolos Shabbos 7:30 p.m.
Candle lighting 8:03 p.m.
Sunset 8:21 p.m.

Saturday, August 17
Shabbos Parshas Va'etchanan
Shabbos Nachamu
Shacharis & Mussaf 9:30 a.m.
Earliest Mincha 2:04 p.m.
Shabbos ends 9:04 p.m.
Maariv 9:15 p.m.
Havdalah 9:32 p.m.

Sunday, August 18
Rabbi Scheinbaum's class via Zoom 11:00 a.m.

Monday, August 19
TU B'AV

Tuesday, August 20
Mishnah class via Zoom 4:45 p.m.

Thursday, August 22
Torah class (Isaiah) via Zoom 4:30 p.m.

Friday, August 23
Mincha & Kabolos Shabbos 7:30 p.m.
Candle lighting 7:52 p.m.
Sunset 8:10 p.m.

Saturday, August 24
Shabbos Parshas Eikev
Shacharis & Mussaf 9:30 a.m.
Earliest Mincha 2:01 p.m.
Shabbos ends 8:53 p.m.
Maariv 9:15 p.m.
Havdalah 9:32 p.m.

Sunday, August 25
Rabbi Scheinbaum's class via Zoom 11:00 a.m.

Tuesday, August 27
Mishnah class via Zoom 4:45 p.m.

Thursday, August 29
Torah class (Isaiah) via Zoom 4:30 p.m.

Friday, August 30
Mincha & Kabolos Shabbos 7:30 p.m.
Candle lighting 7:42 p.m.
Sunset 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, August 31
Shabbos Parshas Re'eh
Shabbos Mevochim Chodesh
Shacharis & Mussaf 9:30 a.m.
Molad (new moon) for the month of Elul: Tuesday
(September 3) 2:37 p.m. + 12 chalakim
Earliest Mincha 1:58 p.m.
Shabbos ends 8:41 p.m.
Maariv 8:55 p.m.
Havdalah 9:11 p.m.



SHAARAY TORAH

Conservative

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Thursday, August 1
Morning Service 8:00 a.m. (Zoom)
Evening Service 5:30 p.m. (Zoom)

Friday, August 2
Services 5:30 p.m. (Zoom)
Candles 8:25 p.m.

Saturday, August 3
Shabbat Service 10:00 a.m.
(In-Person, Live Stream or Zoom)

Monday, August 5
Morning Service 8:00 a.m. (Zoom)
Evening Service 5:30 p.m. (Zoom)

Tuesday, August 6
Services 5:30 p.m. (Zoom)

Wednesday, August 7
Services 5:30 p.m. (Zoom)

Thursday, August 8
Morning Service 8:00 a.m. (Zoom)
Evening Service 5:30 p.m. (Zoom)

Friday, August 9
Services 5:30 p.m. (Zoom)
Candles 8:17 p.m.

Saturday, August 10
Shabbat Service 10:00 a.m.
(In-Person, Live Stream or Zoom)

Monday, August 12
Morning Service 8:00 a.m. (Zoom)
Erev Tisha B'Av
Please Note: Evening Service 8:00 p.m. followed by
The Reading of the Book of Eicha (Zoom)

Tuesday, August 13
Tisha B'Av
Services 5:30 p.m. (Zoom)

Wednesday, August 14
Services 5:30 p.m. (Zoom)

Thursday, August 15
Morning Service 8:00 a.m. (Zoom)
Evening Service 5:30 p.m. (Zoom)

Friday, August 16
Services 5:30 p.m. (Zoom)
Candles 8:07 p.m.

Saturday, August 17
Shabbat Service 10:00 a.m.
(In-Person, Live Stream or Zoom)

Monday, August 19
Morning Service 8:00 a.m. (Zoom)
Evening Service 5:30 p.m. (Zoom)

Tuesday, August 20
Services 5:30 p.m. (Zoom)

Wednesday, August 21
Services 5:30 p.m. (Zoom)

Thursday, August 22
Morning Service 8:00 a.m. (Zoom)
Evening Service 5:30 p.m. (Zoom)

Friday, August 23
Services 5:30 p.m. (Zoom)
Candles 7:57 p.m.

Saturday, August 24
Shabbat Service 10:00 a.m.
(In-Person; Live Stream or Zoom)

Monday, August 26
Morning Service 8:00 a.m. (Zoom)
Evening Service 5:30 p.m. (Zoom)

Tuesday, August 27
Services 5:30 p.m. (Zoom)

Wednesday, August 28
Services 5:30 p.m. (Zoom)

Thursday, August 29
Morning Service 8:00 a.m. (Zoom)
Evening Service 5:30 p.m. (Zoom)

Friday, August 30
Services 5:30 p.m. (Zoom)
Candles 7:46 p.m.

Saturday, August 31
Shabbat Service 10:00 a.m.
(In-Person; Live Stream; Zoom)



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Reform

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Friday, August 2
5:30 p.m. Oneg Shabbat
6:15 p.m. Kid-dish Shabbat Service – www.
templeisraelcanton.org/kid-dish

Friday, August 9
5:30 p.m. Oneg Shabbat
6:15 p.m. Shabbat Service
with Birthday and Anniversary Blessings

Friday, August 16
5:30 p.m. Oneg Shabbat
6:15 p.m. Shabbat Service

Friday, August 23
5:30 p.m. Oneg Shabbat
6:15 p.m. Shabbat Service

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

August Community Calendar

Tuesday, August 6	5:45 PM	TI Men's Study
		Tish'a B'Av
Wednesday, August 14	5:30 PM	LLC Board Meeting
Sunday, August 18	1:00 PM	TI Intro to Judaism
		Tu B'av
Tuesday, August 20	5:45 PM	TI Men's Study
	7:00 PM	TI Board Meeting
Sunday, August 25	1:00 PM	TI Intro to Judaism
	4:00 PM	TI Chavurah Learning

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In Memory of Judy Eppy from David Jay
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Life Cycle Events

DEATHS

Susan Caghan, sister of Linda Crescimano, Jeff (Penny) Caghan, aunt of David (Wendy) Crescimano, Alex (Erin) Caghan, and Lauren (Ryan) Johns passed away June 5.

Shirley Baum Rubinstein, mother of Jodi (Steven) Zimelman, Jeff (Andrea) Rubinstein, sister of Deverah Routman, grandmother of Carli and Taylor Zimelman and Lexi and Micah Rubinstein, passed away June 8.

Judith (Judy) Eppy, mother of Marci (Steve) Schwartz, Joe (Fran) Eppy, grandmother of Sam and Kelly Eppy, Craig Eppy, Jeffrey Schwartz and Brad Schwartz. Great-grandmother of Ben and Nathan Eppy and Emma Schwartz, sister of Ruth (Bob) Altman and Joan (George) Harwin, aunt of Michael (Lori) Magill, Rick (Bobbi) Altman, Lou (Christy) Altman and Michael Zoldan.

As MLB veteran Kevin Pillar enjoys a late-career resurgence in LA, he's come to appreciate his place as a Jewish baseball star

Jacob Gurvis



(JTA) — ANAHEIM, Calif. — In a home game against the Houston Astros on Friday, Kevin Pillar crushed the first pitch he saw 411 feet into the left-field stands — giving the L.A. Angels their first and only run in a 7-1 loss.

But for Jewish fans, the most memorable plays of the game may have come in the first and fifth innings, when Pillar fielded two balls in center field off the bat of Astros third baseman Alex Bregman. Both ballplayers are Jewish.

Pillar, 35, says moments like that have begun meaning more to him, too. Now in his 12th season in a journeyman career that has seen him play for nine teams, Pillar has gradually realized, in his words, that he has “become a little bit more of an idol, a folk hero for the Jewish community” eager to see Jews on the field.

“Being a Jewish baseball player, I never really thought anything about it,” Pillar told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. But now, he said, “You just understand there hasn’t really been a lot of Jewish baseball players to play in the major leagues, and it’s just been a cool thing to be able to tap into a different part of me that I didn’t really understand the importance and the value of.”

He said he appreciates “being able to give a Jewish kid that’s either from Southern California, Israel or another country, Canada, wherever, someone to look up to.”

Since he arrived at Angel Stadium at the beginning of May, he’s been setting quite an example. Pillar, who grew up in Los Angeles and played college baseball at nearby California State University, Dominguez Hills, was brought on to replace superstar Mike Trout, who is injured. In 25 games with the Angels, he’s sported a .381 batting average with six home runs and 22 RBI.

For Angels fans, Pillar’s offensive outburst has been a bright spot in a so-far losing season. Phil Cooper, a longtime fan, said he was at an Angels game against the San Diego Padres last week when he pointed Pillar out to his mother and bragged that the outfielder was Jewish.

“It’s pretty cool to have a Jewish player on the Angels right now, especially with everything going on in the world,” said Cooper, a 31-year-old L.A. native who works in advertising. “He’s one of the only Jewish players in the league, and it’s nice to be able to say he’s on my favorite team.”

Growing up, Pillar said, religion was not a focus for his family. His mother, Wendy, is Jewish, and his father, Mike, is Catholic. The Pillars celebrated both Hanukkah and Christmas, he said, and he had a bar mitzvah largely out of respect for his grandparents, who were observant.

“As a 13-year-old, you think it’s kind of cool that you have this insane party and people are here to celebrate,” Pillar said. “You don’t really understand the meaning and purpose behind it, unless you really grew up Jewish, going to temple and all that stuff. But for me, it was just another thing I did.”

One Jewish connection from his childhood has endured: Pillar played in the same Little League as retired Jewish MLB catcher Ryan Lavarney, and though the two never played together professionally, they’ve stayed in touch. Lavarney said Pillar’s dedication speaks to his strength of character.

“For him to be so loud and proud about it now, it just speaks volumes,” Lavarney told JTA about Pillar’s Jewish identity. “The way that he’s done it has been exactly how you would want it. If you are a parent, and you want your kid to have a role model, Kevin Pillar is exactly who you would want it be.”

Lavarney added, “He’s someone that I have been proud to know, someone I’m proud to have come from the same area, and someone that I’m proud is another Jewish player in the league.”

As a student at a Catholic high school with required religion courses, Pillar said he latched onto the ways in which religions are alike.

“I started to gain an appreciation for what other religions think and how they believe, and understanding that a lot of them aren’t too far off from each other,”

Pillar said. “Even to this day, people ask me, what’s my religion? I say I’m half Jewish, I’m half Catholic. But at the end of the day, religion is a choice, and I just choose to believe in what I believe in.”

In practice that means Pillar has maintained the tradition he grew up with — celebrating both Christmas and Hanukkah. He also said he believes “in a lot of the core beliefs that all religions believe in — treating people how you want to be treated. Don’t lie. Marriage is a sacred thing.”

With two children of his own — a 6-year-old daughter and 4-year-old son — Pillar said he and his wife Amanda stay up at night talking about how to approach religion in their home. His daughter has started to ask questions, he said.

“She wants to know about God and what that means,” Pillar said. “It challenges me to take a little bit more time for myself to understand both sides and understand how to best explain that to a child, and how to get them to believe there’s something bigger than us in this world, the reason that we’re all here. I look forward to those difficult conversations as she grows up.”

Pillar said religion is not a common topic of conversation in the MLB clubhouses he’s been in, but that he never shies away from his Jewish identity. In Toronto, where he played his first several seasons, Pillar said he was involved in the local Jewish community.

Toronto is the only team Pillar stayed on for more than one season, and the path his career has since taken has made local connections harder. “It’s been more of a challenge, going from city to city, it’s hard to fully invest in that stuff,” he said.

Pillar said he wasn’t able to go on a Birthright trip to Israel because of the demanding schedule that came with pursuing a career in professional baseball in his youth. He hopes to visit one day soon and said, amid the Israel-Hamas war, that it is in his prayers.

In the meantime, he’s donated to the country. In 2016 he established the Pillar-Lambert Scholarship in Accounting at Tel Aviv University, in honor of his late grandfather Ed Lambert.

“I’m hoping and I’m praying that sometime soon, that that part of the world, Israel especially, comes back to the safe place that it once was,” Pillar said. “I think it’s a powerful thing to be able to go there, for me, to see that plaque that was put up at Tel Aviv University, but also just going to the holiest place, and just feel that energy there.”

Another way Pillar hopes to connect with Israel is by representing it in international competition. Ballplayers who are eligible for Israeli citizenship are allowed to play for Team Israel, and he had committed to joining the team for last year’s World Baseball Classic. He ultimately bowed out so he could focus on competing for a roster spot with the Atlanta Braves.

Israel has already secured a spot in the 2026 tournament, and Pillar said whether he’s still playing in the majors or not, he plans to be a part of that team — where he would finally be part of the same organization as Lavarney.

“I’ll be the young age of 37 years old at that point,” Pillar said. “I will find a way to stay in baseball shape and go play those qualifying games, prove that I can still play, and hopefully earn a spot on that team.”

For now, Pillar is leaning into the baseball cliché of taking things one game and one at-bat at a time. He ranks among the best Jewish hitters in a number of categories, and has surpassed notable MLB career thresholds including 1,000 hits, 100 home runs, 100 stolen bases and 500 runs scored. But Pillar said he hopes his legacy is about more than just statistics.

“No one’s going to, say, ‘Oh, that guy was part of this 1,000 hit, 100 homer’ — nobody’s going to give a s— about that,” Pillar said. “People are going to talk about that I was a good dude, I was down to earth, I was a good teammate, played the game hard. That’s how I want to be remembered.”

He added, “And if part of it is being remembered as one of the greatest Jewish hitters of all time, I will gladly wear that badge of honor. I will celebrate that. I will embrace it.”