



Philanthropists Marilyn and Norm Leven give a major gift to the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids

by Nicole Katzman, JFGR Executive Director

Marilyn and Norm Leven have made a most generous gift to the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids that ensures the survival of our Grand Rapids Jewish Community for future



Norm and Marilyn Leven

generations. Inspired to give this new gift by philanthropists and friends, Mickie and Tom Fox, the Levens believe that this is the right time to invest in the future of our community. It is the shared vision of both Tom Fox and Norm Leven that their gifts will inspire others to do the same. “With a decline in both the Jewish population and in giving,” Norm said, “we have to dig deeper, work harder and get more people involved.”

Marilyn and Norm share their time in California and Grand Rapids. The couple returns to Grand Rapids for the summer months. But with strong ties to

Grand Rapids, they are committed to the success and future of our community.

Marilyn and Norm were childhood sweethearts and married in 1953. They each earned their Bachelor degrees at the University of Michigan. They raised three beautiful children, Marc, Dan and Cindy. They are proud grandparents of five grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

Philanthropy is not new to Marilyn and Norm Leven. They have been active supporters of Temple Emanuel, Ahavas Israel, the Jewish Federation, University of Michigan, Grand Valley State University, and Michigan State University. They endowed the “Challenge Scholars Fund” at the Grand Rapids Community Foundation and provided special

(Continued on page 6)

Like Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids on Facebook!

Our Mission:

Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids unites the local Jewish community to sustain and strengthen Jews locally, in Israel, and around the world.

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

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Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids

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GOAL: \$500,000.00
368 Donors
\$426,000.00

**Campaign 2019 Ends March 31, 2020
There is still time to make a gift!**

Campaign 2019 has raised just over \$426,000. We have received donations from 368 donors. "In addition, any increased amount and any new pledges will be matched by a generous grant from the Louis and Helen Padnos Foundation up to \$30,000, and for donors age 50 and younger, that amount will also be matched by a generous grant from the Hy and Greta Berkowitz Foundation, up to \$5,000

Our goal for this year's campaign is \$500,000. We hope you will consider making a pledge, or increasing your donation before our annual campaign closes on March 31, 2020. At that time, our Board of Directors will begin the allocation process to provide funds that make a difference for Jews right here in West Michigan and around the world.

Please complete and return the pledge card in the Shofar, you can make a donation on our website: www.JFGR.org. We accept all credit cards. If you prefer to make a pledge now and set up a payment plan, please email us: info@JFGR.org.

Thank you for your support.

Nicole Katzman, Executive Director, Nicole@JFGR.org ext. 207

Marisa Krishef, Director of Programming, Markay@JFGR.org ext. 205 | Arad Okanin, Campaign Coordinator, Arad@JFGR.org ext. 204

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ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids
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Grand Rapids, MI 49506
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www.jfgr.org

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

I HEREBY PLEDGE TO THE FEDERATION ANNUAL

CAMPAIGN THE SUM OF: \$ _____

Donor's Signature

Method of Payment: Check Stock (Please Identify)

Please charge my: Mastercard Visa

Discover American Express

Card Number

Exp. Date

Live Generously.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____



The Importance of Slowing the Virus

At the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids, the health and safety of our employees and community are our number one priority. With cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) now emerging in West Michigan, we remain committed to playing our part in slowing the spread of this virus.

As a result, we have closed our office, and all employees are working remotely. We're confident in our ability to continue our operations without interruption. Please continue to call and email, we are here to serve the community.


The Jewish Federation has a responsibility to help our community minimize the spread of the virus, we are canceling all programs and meetings through May 7, 2020. This includes:

- April 19: ADL Words to Action Workshop
- April 19: Shira Kline, ShirLaLa concert
- April 23: Retirees Lunch Bunch
- May 3: Jewish Genetics & Your Health event
- May 3-7: Film Festival

While we are being encouraged to practice social distancing - staying six or more feet away from each other to minimize the spread of germs - we can choose to stay close to each other through phone calls, emails, texts, and video calls. Please reach out to those who are ill or who may feel particularly isolated during this time. Let's work to stay in contact with each other as much as possible until it is safe to gather as a community.

We encourage everyone to follow the [CDC guidelines](#) to protect yourself and others. Please be in touch with your doctor if you are sick and do not be around others if you are not feeling well; we each have a role to play to help minimize the spread of COVID-19.

We look forward to the time we will resume normal activity. In the meantime, be safe and let us know how we can help. Check the Federation website for updates and new information at <https://www.jewishgrandrapids.org/>



The 22nd Annual Grand Rapids Jewish Film Festival set to take place from Sunday, May 3 - Thursday, May 7, 2020, has been canceled due to concerns regarding COVID-19.

We are deeply appreciative of our staff and the Film Festival Committee for their tireless work in organizing this incredible festival. We look forward to Film Festival 2021.

If you agreed to be a Film Festival Sponsor, we can apply your gift to Film Festival 2021 or give you a refund. Please contact the Federation office at 616-942-5553 with any questions. If we don't hear from you we will follow up with a phone call.

Thank You



Kashaesque

by Rob Franciosi, Professor of English, GVSU



Rob Franciosi

My mother would have been eighty-seven in March and I cooked a batch of kasha varnishkes in her honor. More than any other dish, this Jewish comfort food reminds me of Zalie and of my New York youth.

When I first moved to Grand Rapids in the late 1980s, the coming of the Passover season was a crucial marker, as D&W would then install temporary kosher displays and I could get my kasha fix. Sometimes I would despair when only the granulated variety was available. And sometimes I might buy three or four boxes of Wolff's so my supply would last more than a week.

As West Michigan grew more open to ethnic foods, kasha started being stocked at local grocers throughout the year. On one trip to Meijer in search of my go-to grain, I discovered the store's Polish section and a package of toasted buckwheat--kasza in Polish. It was less pricey than Wolff's, a pound package rather than the odd 13oz box. But like Aunt Thelma, who only drank Hoffman's soda, a popular New York brand, I was rather dubious regarding kasha that did not come

from a box with "Wolff's" on it, a name as synonymous with the item as Kleenex or Coke. After cooking a batch, I could not tell the difference.

Probably my peak kasha experience was in Krakow, that beautiful Polish city, at a restaurant devoted to the grain—as appetizer, side dish, even entrée. No desserts that I recall, though Google just brought up a Betty Crocker recipe for Double Chocolate-Kasha Torte.

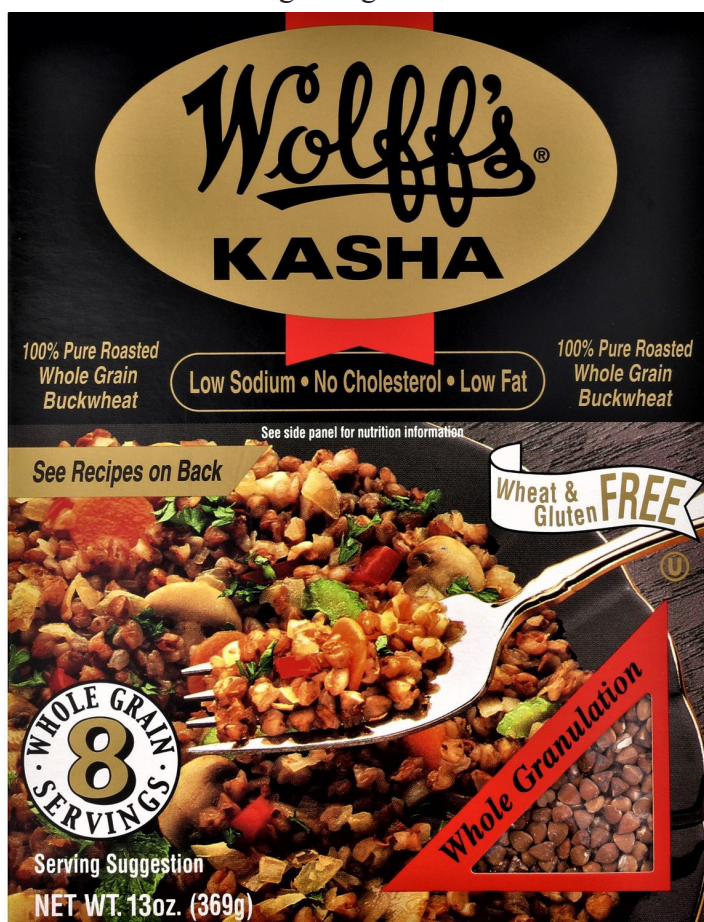
Last March I visited Meijer's and discovered the Polish brand was no longer available. Nor did they have Wolff's. No problem, I thought, I'll head to D&W—only to come up empty there as well. Fresh Thyme offered only a small bag of overpriced and untoasted buckwheat. To find this old-world food, I had to venture into cyberspace.

My eyes must have soon looked like those of an addict contemplating a severe shortage. A box of Wolff's cost almost \$10. The granulated—which I would not feed to my cat, if I had one—was \$20!

And then in the least Jewish of places, the Wal-Mart web site, I found the promised land. For a little more than \$25, shipping included, an aptly named firm in Brooklyn, Food to Live, sent me ten pounds of toasted organic kasha. It took all my resistance not to spring for the twenty-pound bag.

In *Tablet* magazine's marvelous "100 Most Jewish Foods" feature (<https://100jewishfoods.tabletmag.com/>) authors wax eloquent on everything from babka to seltzer, from white fish to Chinese food, and humble kasha gets its due. Mitchell Davis, author of *The Mensch Chef*, proclaims that he wants his family's recipe for kasha varnishkes served as his last meal. That sounds right to me. Kasha may have been "the staple grain of peasants in and around the Pale," may in fact evoke poverty for many Jews, but for Davis, and for Zalie's son, it still "tastes of riches."

Rob Franciosi is a professor of English and Honors at GVSU where he teaches courses on the Holocaust and American Literature. Rob welcomes questions or comments about his article. You may contact him at francior@gvsu.edu





JFGR Women's Philanthropy

Heather Alfonso becomes a Lion of Judah

The Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids is thrilled to announce that Heather Alfonso has become a Lion of Judah level donor. Heather and her husband, David, a dermatologist, are natives of Akron, Ohio, and began dating when both were lifeguards at the JCC there. Heather is not new to philanthropy and giving back to the Jewish community. She and David and their three children, Eva, Will and Vivi, are active and involved in all Jewish organizations in our Grand Rapids community.

Heather learned about the importance of volunteering and giving back to the community from her parents and in-laws. She served on the United Jewish School Board and is always there to volunteer at religious school. It is important to Heather that her children develop a strong sense of Jewish identity. In November 2019, Heather went on the MOMentum trip to Israel. After the trip, Heather said, "I am even more excited to get more involved in volunteering and giving back to our Jewish community."



Heather and David Alfonso

Sandi Simms becomes a Pomegranate

JFGR is excited to announce that Sandi Simms has become a Pomegranate level donor. Sandi and her husband Matt work together at their electrical engineering firm in Grand Rapids. They have two children, Gabriel and Jeremy. Sandi grew up in South Africa and immigrated to the United States in 1987. Sandi earned her Bachelor's degree in education from Michigan State University and worked with at-risk preschoolers, later joining Meijer Gardens as a fundraiser and corporate communications team member.

Throughout her career, Sandi has been committed to philanthropy and volunteering. She served as President of the Grand Rapids chapter of Hadassah, strengthening her commitment to serving the community and creating strong bonds between Grand Rapids and Israel. Recently, Sandi has worked with Federation on Partnership2Gether, a program that matches Jewish communities with communities in Israel. Sandi hopes, " My story will resonate with other women in our community so we continue to build a legacy that connects the Grand Rapids Jewish community to Israel and vice versa. It is my dream that our children will understand Israel so they can keep the torch of love, tolerance, and peace alight for the next generation."



Sandi Simms

For more information on Jewish Women's Philanthropy visit <https://jewishgrandrapids.org/womens-philanthropy>



Philanthropists Marilyn and Norm Leven *(cont'd from pg.1)*

funding to the Ahavas Israel Cemetery.

Both Marilyn and Norm have participated in community and charitable activities. Marilyn was the first female president of Temple Emanuel. They have been in leadership roles at the American Cancer Society, United Way, American Heart Association, University of Michigan, Goodwill Industries, Jewish Federation, Temple Emanuel, The Grand Rapids Community Foundation, the Grand Valley State University Foundation and the PGA West Education Fund. In 1985 they established the Marilyn and Norman J. Leven Family Charitable Foundation.

As philanthropists who give simply for the greater good of our Grand Rapids Jewish community, and who possess sterling values

and wisdom, Marilyn and Norm inspire me – and should inspire us all. Our community is blessed to have them in our corner. “This gift is for everyone – the young and old, the abled and the disabled, mothers and fathers,” Marilyn added. “Everyone benefits from a strong Jewish community.”



Leven Family

JFGR Welcomes Arad Okanin: Campaign Coordinator



*Arad Okanin
Campaign Coordinator*

Arad Okanin has accepted the position of Campaign Coordinator at the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids.

Arad and his family moved to the United States from Israel when he was thirteen years old. He graduated from East Grand Rapids High School in May of 2019. He plans to pursue a bachelor’s degree in computer science at Grand Valley State University in August.

Arad is a computer whiz and skilled in Information Technology. He has earned his CompTIA A+, CompTIA Network+ and other various Microsoft technical associate certifications. He is a Wordpress developer and iOS Publisher. During his free time, he enjoys basketball, graphic design, producing music and hanging out with friends.

Prior to accepting the position of Campaign Coordinator, Arad worked as a consultant and updated and improved Federation’s website. In addition to the website, he created a unified Community Calendar for Federation, Temple Emanuel, Congregation Ahavas Israel and Chabad. Arad also updated Federation’s SEO and Google/Yelp presence online. Arad’s most recent project is creating a mobile app that will allow easier access to Federation’s website on iOS and Android devices. Arad will also be in charge of any technical needs in the office. Arad says, “I hope to continue supporting Federation’s technical and administrative needs and help make an impact on the greater Grand Rapids Jewish community.”

We wish Arad much success as Campaign Coordinator at Federation.

Visit Federation’s new and improved website: www.jewishgrandrapids.org

Financial Focus

Can You Improve Your Relationship with Money?

By Chad Zagel, JFGR Board Member



Chad Zagel
JFGR Board Member

In your life, you will have all sorts of relationships – with your family, your friends, your co-workers, and even with civic groups and charitable organizations you support. But have you ever considered another key relationship – the one you have with money?

Of course, this type of relationship has several aspects, such as saving, spending and investing. And your fellow Americans clearly face some challenges in these areas. For example, in a recent survey by financial services firm Edward Jones, only 21% of respondents reported that they feel happy when thinking about saving money, while 92% said they see room for improvement in their financial health. Yet only one in four plan to improve their spending habits. Furthermore, just 26% said retirement was a top savings priority.

If you share some of these concerns, what should you do? Here are a few suggestions:

- Identify your money-related emotions. Try to recognize the emotions you feel in connection with saving and investing. Do you get nervous about spending? Does putting away money for the future give you satisfaction or not? Do you worry that you don't know how much you should be investing, or whether you're investing in the right way? Clearly, these types of questions can cause some anxiety – and, even more importantly, they may lead you to make poor decisions. Emotions are obviously closely tied to money – but they really should not play a big role in your spending, saving and investing choices.
- Develop a financial strategy. By developing a sound financial strategy, you can reduce money-related stress and help yourself feel empowered as you look to the future. A comprehensive strategy can help you identify your goals – a down payment on a new home, college for your children,

a comfortable retirement, and so on – and identify a path toward reaching them. Your financial strategy should incorporate a variety of factors, including your age, risk tolerance, income level, family situation and more. Here's the key point: By creating a long-term strategy and sticking to it, you'll be far less likely to overreact to events such as market downturns and less inclined to give in to impulses such as “spur of the moment” costly purchases. And without such a strategy, you will almost certainly have less chance of achieving your important goals.

- Get an “accountability partner.” Your relationship with money doesn't have to be monogamous – you can get help from an “accountability partner.” Too many people keep their financial concerns and plans to themselves, not even sharing them with their partners or other family members. But by being open about your finances to your loved ones, you can not only avoid misplaced expectations but also enlist the help of someone who may be able to help keep you on track toward your short- and long-term goals. But you may also benefit from the help of a financial professional – someone with the perspective, experience and skills necessary to help you make the right moves.

Like all successful relationships, the one you have with money requires work. But you'll find it's worth the effort.

Chad Zagel, AAMS, is a financial advisor with Edward Jones, a University of Michigan graduate, and in his free time, Chad enjoys spending time with his family and volunteering.





Building Bridges Between Israeli and American Jews:

by Yoni Alon, *Israel at Your Doorstep*

My name is Yoni Alon and I work for Israel at Your Doorstep program. I had the pleasure of visiting Grand Rapids, February, 2020. I would like to share some innovative programs that are bringing Jewish people across the globe together.

The Israel at Your Doorstep

This project brings Israeli education to small and medium-size Jewish communities in the Midwest area (free of charge). We do it through short visits (2-3 days) of two Israeli educators (former Israeli *Shlichim*-Emissaries of the Jewish Agency for Israel, in their late 20s \ early 30s) who visit the same community several times a year for a series of informal educational programs. This project, which started in 2018, is funded by the Government of Israel (Ministry of Diaspora Affairs) and the Jewish Agency for Israel.

Birthright,

Since 2000, more than 100,000 Israelis joined a Birthright group in Israel for 5 to 10 days and had a unique opportunity to have a meaningful experience with a non-Israeli Jew. For many of them, this was their first encounter with a Jewish person not from Israel. Various studies have shown that participants of Birthright has led them to take a renewed look at Jewish identity and explore new ways of being Jewish.

Jewish Agency Shlichim/ Emissaries

There are around 600 young Israeli men and women who are doing a long term Shlichut (1 to 4 years) in Jewish communities around the world. This number is steadily rising. There are approximately 1,400 young Israeli men and women who are participating in a Jewish

summer camp Shlichut every summer, in different locations around the globe. These young Israelis, more than 40,000 are the ambassadors of World Jewry in Israel. They bring back the story of the Jewish people they met abroad and are the “bridge builders” of the Jewish people.



Yoni Alon
Israel at Your Doorstep

American Jews and Israel Ministry of Education

In the last two years, through a collaboration between the Ministry, the UJA Federation of New York and the Jewish Agency for Israel- a group of 44 Israeli primary school principals and 18 high-level officials took part in an educational trip to New York to learn about American Jews. These principals who interact with about 20,000 Israeli students, bring back their knowledge they gain to the teachers and students. The goal of the ministry is to have 50 percent of all Israelie primary school principals go through the experience in the next ten years. The funding for this project is split between the Israeli government and the UJA Federation.

Yoni Alon, Retired Major, was an Israeli Shaliach/ Emissary with the Jewish Agency for Israel at the Robert E. Loup JCC in Denver from 2013-2015. Prior to that, he served in the Israel Defense Force for seven and a half years. Throughout his military service, he acted in various roles in Israel's Southern Command, including as a liaison officer, in the International

Cooperation Unit of the IDF connecting the U.S military with the IDF. Yoni currently works on several projects that bring Israeli Jews and American Jews together.





Community Purim Program Update

The Purim Carnival on Sunday, March 8, 2020, at Temple Emanuel was a great success. A huge THANK YOU to our outstanding volunteers: Avi Forstein, for coordinating the carnival and being the MC extraordinaire, Odin Belleveau, Jim Charbauski, Kenna Charbauski, Rebecca Charbauski, Marissa Clark, Claire Fisher, Leslie Forstein, Jessica Gillespie, Rabbi David Krishef, Harry Krishef, Sarah Krishef, Debbie Kuhn, Hasia Monselise, Sarah Morin, Tim Morin, Shira Schadick, Susan Schadick, Sharon Spungen, Shoshana Stoll, Menucha Weingarten, Nechamy Weingarten and Manes Weingarten, Rivka Weingarten, Sarah Weingarten, Sheina Weingarten, Rabbi Yosef Weingarten, Melissa Weinhaus, Susan Wolfsen, Lily Yost, Megan Yost, Judy Zuppke, and the UJS 8th grade class. If you were left off the list, please know your help was most appreciated.

A special THANK YOU to the staff and security team at Temple Emanuel.

THANK YOU to our amazing JFGR staff: Marisa Krishef, Arad Okanin, Cathy Winick and our outstanding GVSU interns, Julianna Schrier and Carly Fleck.

'Yasher Koach', Good Job to everyone!





CHABAD OF WESTERN MICHIGAN

FACEBOOK: @CHABADWM | **PHONE:** 616-957-0770
EMAIL: CHABADWESTERNMICHIGAN@GMAIL.COM

All events are subject to change. Please stay safe and reach out if you need anything.

Community Passover Seder

Chabad invites you to join us for a warm interactive Passover Seder.

Relive the exodus, discover the eternal meaning of the Haggadah, enjoy a community Seder complete with hand-baked Matzah, wine, and a wonderful dinner spiced with unique traditional customs.

First Seder Night: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8TH, 9:00PM

Second Seder Night: THURSDAY, APRIL 9TH, 9:30PM

At the Chabad House. Open to the entire Jewish community regardless of background or affiliation.

CTeen Grand Rapids Upcoming Events:

The place for ALL Jewish high school teens!

Part of the Fastest Growing Teen Network in the World!

SUNDAY, APRIL 12TH • 5:00PM

CTeen Trip Day – “Escape from Egypt” Embark on a live, interactive escape room adventure!

SUNDAY, MAY 17TH • 1:00-3:00PM

CTeen Day - “Loaves of Love” Braid a Challah for a Senior

JTEXT ~ JEWISH TRIVIA

EVERY MONDAY & THURSDAY AT 7:00PM.

Be the 7th to answer correctly and win a \$20 AMAZON GIFT CARD straight to your phone!

Are you a Jewish teen (grades 6-12) in West Michigan and would like to join?

Text “CTEENGR” to 616-207-1218 to be let in on the fun!

CKids Club/Mini Chefs: (for Jewish boys & girls, ages 5-11)

TUESDAY, APRIL 28TH ~ “JAPAN” Sushi Making 4:30-6:00PM | \$5 Donation per session (includes light dinner)

Lag B’omer Bonfire & BBQ

TUESDAY, MAY 12TH | 5:00PM

Join us for a Lag B’omer Celebration. Celebrate Jewish Pride and Unity!

Fun for the whole family! For more info call 616.957.0770

The Jewish Women’s Circle invites you to an evening featuring

The Five Love Languages of Marriage

Gain insights and tips into enhancing your most important relationship by learning about the different love languages featuring renowned speaker **Goldie Plotkin** from Toronto For Men and Women **MONDAY, MAY 18TH | 7:30 PM** At Chabad House for more information or to RSVP Nechamy at nechamy8@gmail.com

Gan Israel Day Camp -Register Today!!

Camp Gan Israel is designed to make your child’s summer vacation fun, stimulating and entertaining!

The Camp Gan Israel experience is a unique combination of Jewish pride and fun!

DATES: JUNE 22ND- JULY 10TH 2020 | 9:00AM - 3:30PM

Kiddy Camp: Ages 3–5 | **Main Division:** Ages 6–10 | **Pre - Teen Division:** Ages 11-12

Gan Yiladim Preschool – Kindergarten

New!! This upcoming 2020/2021 school year - We will be offering full day program option!!

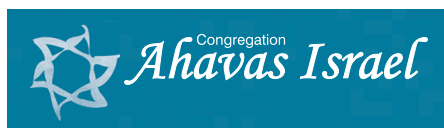
Gan Yiladim is a licensed preschool for Jewish children ages 2-6 open to the entire Jewish community, regardless of background or affiliation.

For over 40 years, Gan Yiladim has been serving the Grand Rapids and nearby Jewish communities, offering a joyful and enriching educational experience to our students while fostering a love for their Jewish heritage.

Gan Yiladim takes the best of both worlds – secular and Judaic – and blends them into a program that is at once rich, fulfilling, and stimulating.

The Gan believes in nurturing children with the SPICES of life - focusing on their Social, Physical, Intellectual, Creative, Emotional and Spiritual development.

Our students are given tools to find expression in art, music, dance and drama. Through teamwork and friendship-building, the children learn skills for life as they explore and play in a loving and nurturing environment, guided by experienced and dedicated staff.



Shabbat Lunch and Pirke Avot

April 18 - May 23

Please join us for a light lunch following Shabbat services along with study and conversation about Pirke Avot. Pirke Avot is a tractate of Mishnah presenting a variety of ethical teachings from the first two centuries of the common era. There are six chapters in most editions and this prompted a tradition to study one chapter a week between Passover and Shavuot.

Note: If COVID-19 is still a threat, some of the lunches will be cancelled. There will be no early Torah study and abbreviated service in April and May.

Mekhirat Hametz - Selling Hametz

If possible, all *hametz* -- leavened products, foods not acceptable during Pesah, or materials containing such unacceptable food -- should be destroyed or given away before the holiday begins. Should this be impossible, the hametz may be stored in such a way that we are sure not to use it during the holiday and its actual ownership is transferred to a non-Jew until the holiday ends. Please return the mekhirat hametz form for the sale of leavened products (which can be downloaded from AhavasIsraelGR.org) to Congregation Ahavas Israel NO LATER THAN 12:00 noon on Wednesday, April 8. It is customary to make a donation to a Ma'ot Hittim fund at the time of mekhirat hametz to help others fulfill the mitzvah of Pesah.

Guide to Passover

You can find a link to the 2020 Rabbinical Assembly Pesah Guide on our website under "Religious Life" or here - <http://ahavasisraelgr.org/religious-life/1496-passover-guide>. If you would like it emailed or mailed to you, please contact the synagogue office.

Ahavas Israel Book Group

Our next meeting of the Ahavas Israel Book group will be Monday, May 18, 7:00 p.m. We'll be discussing, "The Last Watchman of Old Cairo" by Michael David Lukas.

Also mark your calendars for Monday, August 24, 7:00 p.m. for our discussion of "The Book of Israel" by Rena Blumenthal.

Please contact Sandy Freed for more information at 616-540-2030, sandyfreed2@gmail.com.

All Events at Temple Emanuel through April 30th have been cancelled. We will re-evaluate activities starting on May 1st in accordance with direction from the CDC, and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

Our Food Bank Distribution on April 22nd will be held from 9:00 to 11:00 AM. Clients will be asked to drive up to the front doors of the building where our volunteers will load their groceries and other essentials into their cars. Those clients who use the city bus will walk up to the front doors where our volunteers will help them load up their carts. We do not know how long this epidemic will go on. Our shelves need to be refilled with basic foods such as peanut butter, hearty soups, spaghetti and sauce, boxed mac & cheese, tuna fish, cooked cereals. If donors can help with these items, it will allow us to buy more fresh produce and meat. Food bank donations can be dropped off at the Temple during regular office hours. Please ring the doorbell and we will buzz you in to drop off your donations on the table by the door. On March 18th we served 45 clients who picked up food for 137 family members, 49 of whom are children and 38 of whom are seniors. Thank you to all our donors and volunteers.

Our weekly Erev Shabbat Services will be streamed online at 6:15 PM on Fridays. Until a more permanent solution can be established, please go to the Temple Emanuel Grand Rapids Facebook page (which is available to those who are not on Facebook) and select VIDEOS from the menu on the left.

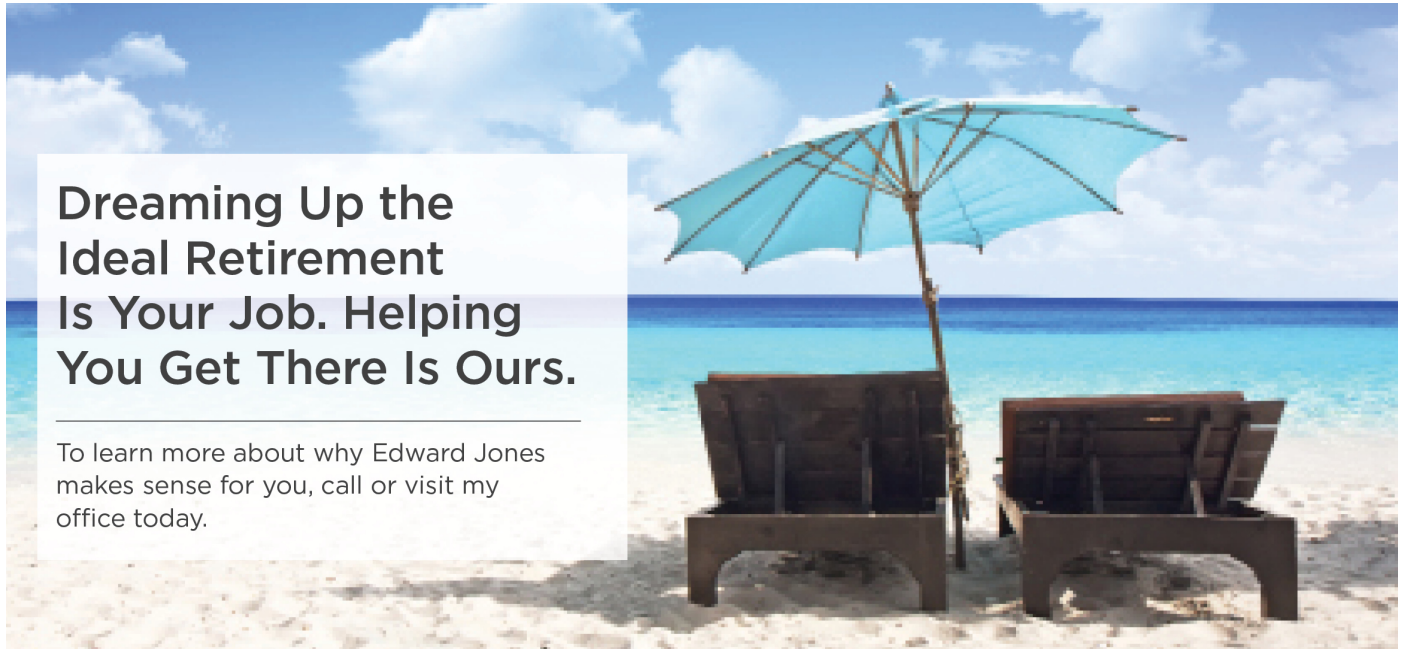
Shabbat Morning Torah Study will be held at 9:30 AM in our new virtual classroom! Join our Zoom Meeting at:

<https://zoom.us/j/465348161?pwd=Z3o5aDNtaGRqbEpTV0VMZWWhuVjhzZz09>

Meeting ID: 465 348 161

Password: 029887

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Stephanie's clients know that they are her top priority. She has lived in Ada and East Grand Rapids over the past 27 years and is your local expert willing to share her knowledge and expertise about the Greater Grand Rapids area. Her professionalism, attention to detail, and pride in her work ensures each client receives the height of service. Stephanie prides herself on being efficient, knowledgeable, and responsible while going above and beyond any expectations her clients have. She was selected as one of *Grand Rapids Magazine's* **REAL ESTATE ALL STARS** for 2019 which recognizes the top 5% of real estate agents in the greater Grand Rapids area. Stephanie helps both buyers and sellers achieve their real estate goals and specializes in everything from modest living spaces to luxury homes. Call Stephanie today and let her help you make your real estate goals a reality.



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Woman of Valor Endowment Fund

In honor of Cathy Winick for her dedication to JFGR
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Leven Family Endowment Fund

In honor of Cathy Winick
From Marilyn and Norm Leven

David & Susan Samrick Youth Scholarship Fund

Lois and Sheldon Kahn Health Help Fund

Donna G. Boorstein Memorial Fund

Sam and Jane Kravitz Social Services Fund

Life cycle times, both happy and sad, are traditional times to make donations to Jewish causes. You can make a donation of \$10 or more to the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids in honor or in memory of members of our community.

We then will acknowledge that donation with a card to that individual or family. This is a wonderful way to send your good wishes and be able to fulfill the mitzvah of tzedakah.

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

Woman of Valor Fund To honor the women in our lives who have made a difference personally, locally or nationally.

Federation General Endowment/L'Dor Vador Fund To help ensure the continued work of the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids for now and the future.

Julian and Judith Joseph Fund To provide for local programming and events through the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids.

David and Susan Samrick Youth Scholarship Fund To provide scholarships to Jewish sleep away camps and experiences.

Charles and Maxine Shapiro Fund To help ensure long-term aid to Israel and Jews around the world.

Louis and Louise Weiner Fund To help ensure local programming for seniors in the Grand Rapids Jewish community.

Jerry and Judy Subar Fund To help ensure funding for overseas Jewish communities' needs.

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

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

Donna G. Boorstein Memorial Fund To help ensure funding for Jewish arts, culture and history in Greater Grand Rapids.

Lois and Sheldon Kahn Health Help Fund To support health services for Jewish community members not covered by other financial resources.

JFGR Endowment Fund Donation Form

Donation from: Name _____

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In honor of _____

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In memory of _____

Send card to: Name _____

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2727 Michigan NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506

The Shofar

A monthly publication issued 12 times a year.

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

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Phone: 616.942.5553
Fax: 616.942.5780
www.jewishgrandrapids.org
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Next Issue's Information Deadline:
April 15, 2020

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At the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids, the health and safety of our employees and community are our number one priority. With cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) now emerging in West Michigan, we remain committed to playing our part in slowing the spread of this virus.

As a result, we have closed our office, and all employees are working remotely. We're confident in our ability to continue our operations without interruption. Please continue to call and email, we are here to serve the community.

Kol Yisrael arevim zeh b'zeh— each of us is responsible for one another. We appreciate your ongoing patience and understanding.

For more information visit www.jewishgrandrapids.org.