



Rosh Hashanah Greetings

David Alfonso, JFGR Board Chair



David Alfonso, MD

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of the members of our community a early Happy and Healthy New Year! Rosh Hashanah begins at sundown on Sunday, September 25 and I hope that this high holiday season allows you to reflect on the last year, as well as, have a meaningful Yom Kippur and Sukkot. This is one of my favorite times of the year, as we wind down summer and begin the fall season. With this transition, our Campaign season begins and we are excited to have our Campaign Kickoff event on Thursday, September 15, 2022, at Cascade Hills Country Club. Carolyn Normandin, Regional Director, of the Michigan Anti-Defamation League (ADL) will be our featured speaker and we will also honor David Samrick (of blessed memory) and Susan Samrick for their philanthropic contributions to our community.

Our Campaign this year is entitled IMAGINE and our goal is to Imagine all that we can accomplish as we build on the successes of last year and hit our goal of \$510,000 raised. This, of course, can't happen without your continued involvement and support of the Federation. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Linda Pestka for agreeing to be our Campaign Chairwoman again this year. Her leadership and generosity helped us reach our goal last year and I am confident we will reach our milestone again this year.

We accomplished so many great things last year as we navigated challenges and the lingering constraints of Covid. I hope all of you have been able to witness the powerful sculpture *Ways to Say Goodbye*, by Ariel Schlesinger, that we dedicated in June at Meijer Gardens. This event was the result of the generosity of Linda and Steve Pestka as well as the countless hours of time our staff, and board members, devoted to making the event a success. I am very proud of what we were able to accomplish and I am excited as we head into a new campaign season. I am looking forward to having more in person programming this upcoming year as well. Thank you for being such a passionate and dedicated community. It is an honor and a pleasure to serve as the Board Chair.

Shana Tova U'Metuka!
Have a good & sweet year!

David

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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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I M A G I N E

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



I M A G I N E

I'd like to support my community and make a gift!

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Method of Payment: Check Stock (Please Identify)

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IMAGINE. Campaign 2022 Update

Campaign 2022 “Imagine” is off to a great start! We have an aggressive goal of \$510,000, and to date we’ve already raised in pledges and gifts more than \$35,000. The more money we raise, the more resources we have to assist members in need and our Jewish partner agencies.

We are excited to announce that Campaign Kickoff 2022 will be held at Cascade Country Club at 3725 Cascade Rd SE on September 15, 2022 at 6:30 PM. We will be honoring Susan & David (z”l) Samrick, and will feature as our Keynote Speaker Carolyn Normandin, Michigan Regional Director of ADL.

Our mission is to offer emergency assistance to those in the Grand Rapids Jewish community and refer them to resources who can help them on a more permanent basis, as well as providing assistance to Jews around the world. In addition to helping those in need, Federation’s role includes providing education and cultural programming. We are a 501(c)(3)

non-profit organization whose primary purpose is to raise funds and allocate resources to those individuals and organizations that can benefit from our help.

We cannot meet our goal without your help! You’ll be receiving a Campaign mailing shortly with a pledge card. Let’s keep the momentum going and make Campaign 2022 “Imagine” a success. For information about other ways to give, including legacy gifts (endowments), please contact the JFGR office. We look forward to receiving your gifts and pledges, and hope to see you at Campaign Kickoff on September 15th.



Linda Pestka
Campaign Chair

Holocaust Project Summary *by Stephen G. Chappell, WGVU Public Media*

THE U.S. AND THE HOLOCAUST, a new Documentary

THE U.S. AND THE HOLOCAUST, a new three-part documentary directed and produced by Ken Burns, Lynn Novick and Sarah Botstein, explores America’s response to one of the greatest humanitarian crises in history.

The series will air September 18, 19 and 20, at 8:00-10:00 p.m. ET. Inspired in part by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum’s “Americans and the Holocaust” exhibition and supported by its historical resources, the film examines the rise of Hitler and Nazism in Germany in the context of global antisemitism and racism, the eugenics movement in the United States and race laws in the American south. The series, written by Geoffrey Ward, sheds light on what the U.S. government and American people knew and did as the catastrophe unfolded in Europe.



WGVU and a diverse coalition of partners will offer a variety of activities to engage local communities around this Ken Burns PBS series. These events will include screening & panel discussions, educational resources for area schools and the Michigan Learning

Channel, the creation of a virtual fieldtrip of this area’s first ever Holocaust memorial,

Ways to Say Goodbye located at

Frederick Meijer Gardens & Sculpture

Park, and an exhibit at the Art Center

of Battle Creek featuring The Holocaust

Unfolds: Reports from Detroit Jewish

News and From Darkness to Light:

Mosaics Inspired by Tragedy – a response

to the deadly Pittsburgh shooting at Tree

of Life Synagogue. Local project partners

include the ADL of Michigan, Art Center

of Battle Creek, Celebration Cinema,

the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids,

Grand Valley State University, Frederick

Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park, and Michigan

Learning Channel.



Save the Date

Campaign Kickoff 2022

September 15, 2022 at 6:30 PM



Honoring

Susan & David (77) Samrick



*Featuring Keynote Speaker: Carolyn Normandin,
Michigan Regional Director of ADL*

Cascade Country Club

3725 Cascade Rd SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546

To RSVP visit JFGR.org or call (616) 942-5553



The Jewish Federation®
OF GRAND RAPIDS



Campaign Kickoff 2022: Honoring David Samrick

by Susan Samrick

This year, the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids, will be honoring the life and legacy of David Samrick (1944-2021). Join us on September 15, 2022 at Cascade Country Club as we kick off IMAGINE, Campaign 2022, and celebrate the life of a visionary and leader.

There is so much to say about David that it is difficult to know where to begin. He was bigger than life and could walk into a room of 800 people and still, fill it up all by himself. Everyone wanted to say “hello” to David!

We were both born here in Grand Rapids, even in the same hospital but three years apart. I became aware of David when I was a child, perhaps ten or eleven years old, then got to know him as a girl of eighteen years old. We lived several blocks from one another and our parents were great friends. We were thrown together in various family situations and we grew to love one another. Who could have known that in spite of some curves in the road I would end up loving him forever?

We finally became a family later, he adopted my children from a previous marriage and made them his own. He became “Daddy” and loved them with his whole heart.

David loved his family, our dogs, his many friends and his Jewish communities both here in Grand Rapids as well as in Key West, Florida where we lived for 13 years and then in Fort Lauderdale/Broward County where we eventually landed and where I live. And of course, his love of Israel filled his heart. We have always been supportive, be it Jewish Federation, Hillel, Chabad or AIPAC where David was a distinguished member of the National Board. I was his working partner in this and had the honor of sitting at the Board table next to him and the other Board members once a month in Washington for the many years that David was on the Board.

In addition, 26 years ago David had a vision, the need to help children who cannot help themselves. Mill Steel Company then partnered with D.A. Blodgett-St. John’s, holding a golf outing then known as “Golf for Kids” every summer to raise money for this much needed cause. David, along with all of the executive team, employees, business partners, suppliers and

friends spent (and still spend) the day playing golf and having fun while raising more than 1.5 million dollars since the inception and this past summer raising \$326,000.00 on that day, the most ever. He would be so proud! This



Susan and David Samrick

fundraiser has now been re-named “David Samrick Golf for Kids.” As a couple we, too, have invested in this very special cause. I could not be more proud!

David made friends along the way everywhere with people of all ages, be it a student or other community members, people in Israel, guys on the golf course, members of Congress or the Senate. Many of these lawmakers have remained friends. He was extraordinarily bright, talented, funny and had a smile that lit up his surroundings. Many friends remember “that smile,” as they think of him today. If you were not lucky enough to have known him and live in his orbit, I will share with you a thought written in a beautiful tribute to David following his passing by a great friend and mentee of David’s, Evan Nierman: “He changed our lives and for the better.”

As a younger man David worked exhaustively, building a business begun by his father, turning it into an industry -dominating juggernaut. When he had a vision or a path ahead he was not to be deterred and, a bit like a bull in a china shop, moved forward. In his business at Mill Steel Company, he cultivated a culture that lifted people up and made them feel supported

(Cont’d on page 6)



Campaign Kickoff 2022: Honoring David Samrick

(Cont'd from page 5)

and happy to show up every day. He reveled not only in his own success, but also in the success of others, especially those whom he had helped along the way and given opportunities to better themselves and support their households. In the Jewish world he made it a mission to help the Jewish people in our communities who needed help in a variety of ways, those not as fortunate as the rest of us and above all, to help to keep the Israel/America relationship strong and vibrant and to always keep The State of Israel safe.

We were partners in life for forty-five years and partners in our work as well later in life. We were (and I remain) an honorary Board member of HILLEL, Broward and Palm Beach counties, a member of the AIPAC Board, Broward County. I served on the Board of the Women's Division of the Federation, Broward County for one term and am among the founding members of The Jewish Women's Foundation of Broward County. I have been a "Ruby Lion" for more years than I can remember and began my journey in Federation by proudly becoming a "Pomegranate"

member so many, many years ago here in Grand Rapids. I also give my time to The Nova Southeastern University Fort Lauderdale Museum of Art Board of Governors and am in my third term. I am proud to say that our museum is a world class institution!



Susan and David Samrick

To our children David was "Daddy, Dad or Pops," to our grandchildren he was "Papa." To me he was "my guy" and will forever be the love of my life. He was the definition of a life well-lived.

Women's Philanthropy: Your place to inspire, help and connect.

WHO WE ARE

Women philanthropists are the change makers and community shapers of the world. We are sisters and daughters, mothers and friends, compassionate and committed women at every stage of life and career. Federation's Women's Philanthropy engages Jewish women in the fulfilling work of making the world a better place. In every community, we are building and supporting Jewish life for today and for generations to come.

WOMEN IN ACTION

Through our donations and our hands-on community service, we fight domestic violence, improve women's health and nutrition, provide shelter to vulnerable children, protect at-risk seniors and so much more. During the COVID crisis, **we've helped meet increased needs in our communities.** We support Israel with our dollars and our presence. Federation inspires and empowers women to become leaders and decision-makers. Our collective philanthropy enriches our own lives while improving the lives of others.



We welcome you to the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids Women's Philanthropy. There's a place for you here, no matter where life and career have taken you. Add your voice to this amazing community of women. Our collective philanthropy is purposeful and effective.

For more information, contact Evan Rossio, Campaign Director at evan@jfgr.org



Carolyn Normandin – Keynote Speaker at Campaign Kickoff 2022

ADL Michigan Regional Director Carolyn Normandin will address the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids on Thursday, September 15 as a keynote speaker for the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids Campaign Kickoff 2022.

Ms. Normandin will talk about the newly dedicated sculpture at the Meijer Gardens and why it is important to not only the Grand Rapids area, but to the state at large. She will also explain the role of holocaust vs general education as a way to ameliorate hatred toward the Jewish Community and why that doesn't always happen naturally. In addition, Ms. Normandin will discuss ADL's partnerships in the community and

why the Grand Rapids Federation is playing a key role in convening important players.

As the director of the Michigan office, Normandin leads the ADL Michigan team in its efforts to review and mitigate antisemitic or hateful incidents around the state, to advocate on behalf of those targeted for bias and to provide important educational training and resources to combat antisemitism and other forms of hatred.



Carolyn Normandin

Carolyn Grant Normandin is the Regional Director of the Michigan ADL (Anti-Defamation League). Normandin is responsible for leading ADL's Michigan Regional Office, which focuses on combating anti-Semitism and bigotry of all kinds through advocacy, community service and anti-bias education.

Prior to joining ADL, Normandin was Senior Vice President leading Operations, Marketing and Sales at The Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History. Normandin also worked for General Motors in a variety of areas, including the GM Foundation, Public Policy, Brand Communications and Diversity & Inclusion.

Born in Detroit and raised in Southeastern Michigan, Normandin earned her Bachelor's Degree in Communications from Michigan State University and she is a graduate of Leadership Detroit Cohort XXXVI. Normandin is on the Board of Directors for Alternatives For Girls and serves on the Executive Committee of the Coalition for Black and Jewish Unity. Normandin also serves as a Shiva Leader for Temple Israel in West Bloomfield.



Michigan September 18, 2022

WALK AGAINST HATE
ADL

RUN. ROLL. WALK. STROLL. MOVE!

ADL

We're on the move to fight hate in our community!
Join us September 18 at the Southfield City Centre.
Check in: 9 am Walk begins: 10 am



It's not just a walk - it's an opportunity to move as an individual, family or community toward a future without antisemitism, racism and all forms of bigotry.

Let's get moving, Michigan!

Visit walkagainsthate.org/michigan to register.

Holocaust Project Summary *by Stephen G. Chappell, WGVU Public Media*

Facts from Margaret about the Exhibits Coming to the Art Center of Battle Creek

Coming to The Art Center of Battle Creek September 8 through October 31 two special exhibits - The Holocaust Unfolds: Reports from Detroit Jewish News and From Darkness to Light: Mosaics Inspired by Tragedy – a response to the deadly Pittsburgh shooting at Tree of Life Synagogue. Opening reception to be held September 18 coinciding with the premier of the PBS Ken Burns documentary, The U.S. and the Holocaust. For more information visit ArtCenterofBattleCreek.org

- Signup information for the after school September 12 professional development workshop led by ADL on the premises of the Art Center, giving attendees the opportunity to view both exhibits
 - Program information for a September 15 livestream evening event titled "Peeks Into the Past" to be conducted by Willard Library and featuring Detroit Jewish News Foundation archivist Mike Smith who curated "The Holocaust Unfolds."
 - A Google Site that will bring together the various events of our "Remembrance in Action: Responding to the Holocaust in Today's World."





Mazel Tov to Rabbi Yosef & Sarah Weingarten: Celebrating 45 Years in Grand Rapids

Written by Rivka Weingarten

This Rosh Hashanah will mark 45 years since Rabbi Yosef and Sarah Weingarten moved to Grand Rapids



Yosef & Sarah Weingarten

and started Chabad of Western Michigan.

Rabbi Yosef is the oldest of six children. Rabbi Yosef was born in New Haven, Connecticut, to Rabbi Avraham

and Terry Weingarten. His father escaped the War via Austria, while his mother managed to leave Germany at the start of the war. Their respective families each settled in New York, where they met and were later married.

At the age of five, Yosef moved with his family to Brooklyn, NY, where he completed elementary school, yeshiva and eventually received his Rabbinic ordination. As a young rabbinical student, Rabbi Yosef spent several summers as a 'Roving Rabbi', where he visited Jews in rural communities throughout Alabama, Arkansas and Mississippi.

Sarah is the second of eleven children. She was born to Rabbi Shmuel and Dobruscha Liberow. Her parents, both Russian natives, met and married while in Paris, following the war. They later moved to London, England, where Sarah was born.

Sarah completed elementary and high school, and later graduated from Bais Yakov Teachers Seminary in Manchester, England. She taught in London for two years before continuing her teaching career in Brooklyn.

After their wedding in 1976, the Weingartens settled in Brooklyn, NY. Together they shared the dream of becoming emissaries of the Lubavitcher Rebbe with the sole purpose of reaching out and helping fellow Jews wherever they may be.

The Chabad movement reached Michigan in 1929

when the previous Chabad Lubavitcher Rebbe visited Detroit during his trip to the United States and almost immediately established a presence.

In the year 1977, the need for a Chabad in West Michigan became evident. Their dream came true in less than a year after the birth of their eldest son, Hendel. Rabbi Yosef Weingarten and his wife, Sarah, were appointed by the Lubavitcher Rebbe to establish Chabad in Grand Rapids.

Upon arriving in Grand Rapids, the Weingarten's were warmly greeted by a small group from the Jewish community, who were eager to start a Chabad House. They began in a small rented home on Michigan street, where the living room was transformed into a makeshift synagogue, and the coat closet serving as an ark. They arrived right before the onset of the High Holidays.

In just a few years, Chabad introduced many innovative and exciting programs in West Michigan. Programs such as educational workshops, Gan Yiladim Preschool, Gan Israel Day Camp, Shabbat Services, Friday night dinners and much more. Chabad also arranged for a one of a kind Menorah-lighting ceremony on the Calder plaza.

They quickly outgrew their humble home on Michigan Street. It was a short ten years later that the formal Chabad House of Grand Rapids had a groundbreaking for their very own building.

Today, Rabbi Yosef and Sarah Weingarten are the proud parents of fifteen children, many grandchildren and a very large Grand Rapids extended family! Their team now includes two additional Chabad Centers and dozens of partners and volunteers who have joined their mission. →



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Wishing you a sweet New Year

L'Shana Tova,

*The Jewish Federation
of Grand Rapids*



The Chabad House is founded on the principle that, while Jews embrace many levels of observance in their personal lives, there should be a place for all Jews - no labels, no affiliations - to develop a sense of community, to enhance the experience of being Jewish, to learn and have fun.

The Chabad House appeals to all segments of the Jewish community by focusing on the individual's relationship to Judaism. By offering a wide range of activities for adults, teens, children and the whole family, The Chabad House follows many paths to enrich Jewish life in our community by bringing many different ideas together. Rabbi Yosef and Sarah take much pride in partnering together with our unique Jewish community, together enhancing Jewish life in Grand Rapids.

Rabbi Yosef and Sarah are dedicated to serving Jews of all ages with ahavat yisrael, regardless of religious background or affiliation. Providing the education and means to promote Jewish awareness, knowledge and practice through outreach, education and social services, ensuring Jewish continuity.

Rather than look back at successes and accomplishments, the Weingarten's continue to work day and night to serve our community and increase the services and programs that Chabad of Western Michigan provides.



Arriving at the Gerald R. Ford Airport in September 1977.



Stephanie Hurwitz Realtor®

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1555 Arboretum Dr. SE,
Grand Rapids, MI 49546



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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*Evan & Julie Rossio hosted the annual
Women's Lion and Pomgranate Garden Party Luncheon
on Wednesday, August 10, 2022.*



Rochelle Najmy with her favors

*Lisa Rose, pomgranate, gave a
presentation titled:
**My Garden as Teacher:
10 Lessons from Nature that Help Me
be a Better Human.**
Thank you to Rochelle Najmy and Ellen
Fishman for creating spectacular favors.*



Lisa Rose, Presenter



*Kelly Meiser, Linda Pestka, Lisa Rose, Roberta Jacobson, Peg Padnos, Mary Stevens, Karen Padnos,
Judith Joseph, Marilyn Leven, Rochelle Najmy, Marni Vyn, Nicole Katzman, Sandi Simms, & Marisa Reed*



Bring Jewish stories home

The PJ Library, a program of the
Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids
now has 120 children enrolled with 83 families.
To enroll your child, visit www.pjlibrary.org.

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*Judith Joseph's great granddaughter,
Beverly, playing with her new Torah toy.*



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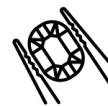
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Watches



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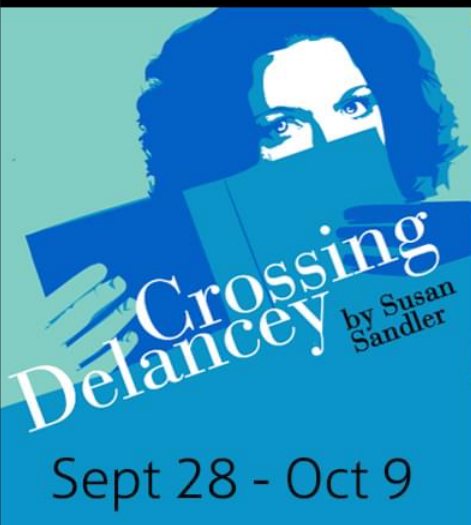
Repair & Appraise



SIEGEL

— JEWELERS —

JEWISH THEATRE GRAND RAPIDS 2022/2023 Season



Crossing Delancey
by Susan Sandler
Sept 28 - Oct 9



the Creation of the World
& other business
by Arthur Miller
Feb 2-12



INDECENT
by Paula Vogel
April 20 - 30

Early-Bird Season Passes Now Available
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Financial Focus

Estate Plans Let You Control Your Legacy

by Chad Zagel, CFP®, AAMS®, JFGR Board Member



Chad Zagel JFGR
Board Member

When you hear “estate planning,” what do you think of? For many people, these words evoke images of immense wealth. But estate planning isn’t just for the wealthy – it’s for everyone. And it’s about more than preserving wealth – it’s about putting you in control of your own legacy. But how can you achieve this worthy goal?

You can start by identifying your estate planning objectives. Here are some of the most common ones:

- **Controlling movement of assets to beneficiaries** – During and after your lifetime, you will want to ensure your loved ones receive what you want them to have, and when. Through documents such as a will and a living trust, and techniques involving life insurance and using proper beneficiary designations, you – not the courts – will control the movement of your assets to the desired recipients.
- **Naming someone to make decisions for you if you become incapacitated** – Naturally, you hope to stay in good physical and mental shape throughout your life and remain capable of making your own financial and health care decisions. But the future is not ours to see, so, to protect your interests and those of your loved ones, you may want to consider creating arrangements such as a power of attorney, health care directive and a living will. In this way, you’ll still be able to control the key choices that may lie ahead.
- **Providing for minor children or dependents** – If you have young children or other dependents, you’ll want to be sure they’ll be looked after if

you aren’t around. In your estate plans, you can name a guardian for them. You can also use various estate planning tools, such as life insurance, beneficiary designations and the establishment of a trust to provide the necessary financial resources for your loved ones.

- **Supporting charitable organizations** – Leaving something behind for your family is obviously an enormous part of your legacy – but it may also be important to you to provide support for charitable groups whose work you’ve admired. Of course, you can contribute to these organizations while you’re alive, but through strategies such as donor-advised funds and charitable remainder trusts, you can include these groups in your estate plans.
- **Managing taxes efficiently** – If you’re likely to have a large estate, your heirs may need to be concerned with income and estate taxes. To help control these taxes, you can take a number of steps, such as making outright gifts to your family during your lifetime, establishing an irrevocable life insurance trust, creating a family limited partnership and making charitable donations.

All the estate-planning strategies and techniques mentioned here can be complex – so, to implement them, you’ll need to work with an estate planning attorney and a tax professional. You may also want to include your financial advisor, who can help ensure your estate planning objectives align with your important financial goals, such as living comfortably in retirement and providing for your children’s or grandchildren’s education.

By identifying your objectives and working with your professional team, you can create an effective estate plan – and help yourself maintain control of your legacy.

Chad Zagel, CFP®, 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.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Edward Jones, Member SIPC

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Babka Book Club: Coming Fall 2022!

Are you interested in discovering new books and meeting new people? The Babka Book Club seeks to bring together those who enjoy discussions and building community. Like the layers of a delicious babka, we hope to delve into the richness of our favorite reads.

Kris Siegel will serve as the book guide to facilitate conversation and provide an assortment of books for future reads. Rochelle Najmy and Beverly Niedelson will serve as administrators and co-facilitators.

As a gift from Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids, a copy of our first read will be distributed at our first gathering on Wednesday, September 21st at 4:30-6:00 pm. Along with handing out the book, we will vote on future reads and of course, share some babka.

After the first gathering, we will continue to meet every other month. RSVP at www.jewishgrandrapids.org

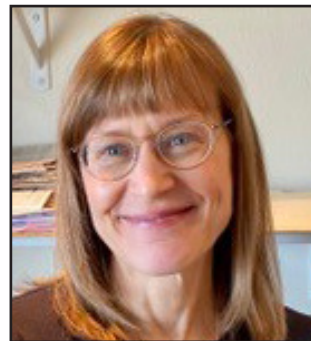
Book Club Founders:



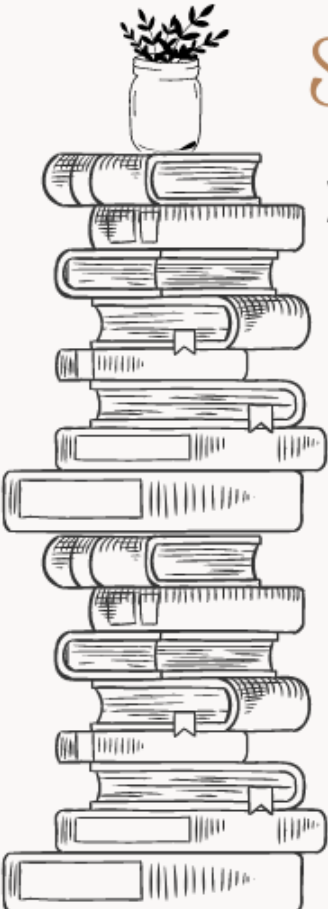
Rochelle Najmy



Beverly Niedelson



Kris Siegel


SAVE THE DATE

BABKA BOOK CLUB

New to Federation!
Come for the babka; stay for the book.

FIRST MEETING:
SEPTEMBER 21, 2022
4:30 - 6:00PM

RSVP at jfgr.org for address
& additional information



Rochelle Najmy is a New York native, mother of three daughters, and avid reader. She has lived in Grand Rapids for seven years and loves strolling through Frederick Meijer Gardens and Peace Park. She has extended experience as a performance consultant, facilitating groups to build inter-workplace community and engagement. Rochelle enjoys delivering challah to members of the community and is passionate about baking, though she has never made babka.

Beverly Niedelson was raised in Grand Rapids since early childhood. She is the mother of one son and three amazing grandsons. She is a semi-retired special education teacher at Lincoln Developmental Center and substitute teaches there every day. She has 67 books on her "want to read" list and always has an audio book and hardcover book on hand. She loves travel and yoga and practices daily along with other fitness activities.

Kris Siegel was a youth librarian at Kent District Library. She has been the caretaker of the Temple Emanuel library since 2000. When she's not reading, she's probably studying conversational Hebrew, walking her two standard poodles, doing hot yoga, or cooking yummy vegan food.



UJS Update

by Cantor David Fair

Shalom Chaverim,

Starting August 1st, the United Jewish School (UJS) is open for registration! We are looking forward for another exciting year of Jewish learning, growing, and fun! In addition to an engaging curriculum that examines prayers, holidays, Jewish art, Hebrew, Jewish culture, Israel, and Jewish philosophy, this year will also feature Israeli dancing, Jewish cooking, Jewish Mindfulness, Jewish meditation, Jewish Yoga, and much more! UJS believes in creating an interactive and participatory environment where children are not being lectured “at,” but are “in conversation” with teachers about how they personally learn and how they can be best engaged. UJS is focused on creating a learning environment where every child is seen, loved, and celebrated. We are eager to learn what your children’s needs are. Our wonderful faculty is up the task of giving every child the Jewish education style that works for them. We are proud to be creating the next generation of Jews in Grand Rapids and we take that job seriously! Please join us in this exciting educational journey, beginning on September 11th! Please go to UnitedJewishSchool.org and click on the “2022-2023 Registration” button to register your child. Families who register during the month of August get a free gift!

Shelby Denhof (UJS teacher and the coordinator) of the Madrichim program, and I took 10 teenagers to lunch last month at a local restaurant. We asked them, “What are you looking for in a Jewish educational experience?” “How can we best serve you?” “How have we not been living up to your expectations?” “What excites you?” As I expected, the teenagers were incredibly articulate. They knew exactly what they wanted and how we could give that to them. Out of this excellent feedback session, we are excited to announce an entirely new approach to our teen education. We are also delighted to introduce an exciting new program for our 9th-12th graders called “*Mitzvah Core*.” Expanding our education now to grade



12, *Mitzvah Core* is an untraditional and interactive program for Jewish teenagers of Grand Rapids. We will do

as little sitting as possible. These teens will explore Jewish education through charitable service projects, leadership opportunities, community building, exploring creative ways to experience Jewish life, and deep conversation in Jewish values and philosophy. We will also be eating a large lunch together – sometimes, even cooking it ourselves! A major change is that grades 9th-12th will no longer meet during the normal school hours, but will be meeting from 12:00-2:00. This will give teens an opportunity to have their own space, as well as take advantage of our *Madrichim* program during the normal hours from 9:00am-11:30am.

Our Madrichim program is also getting a makeover! We are expanding our Madrichim so that teenagers can employ their skills as specialists in certain areas. Some teens will continue to be assistant teachers and partner with a classroom teacher for the school day, but we are now also looking for something else. We are now looking for a teen to be a “Music Madrich,” an “Art Madrich,” an “Office Madrich,” and a “Hebrew Madrichim.” The music, art, and office madrich work with their adult teachers so they can be supportive and helpful by doing special projects or working with kids one-on-one or in small groups. The Hebrew Madrichim will pop into Hebrew classrooms and play Hebrew games with children that will allow kids to learn Hebrew in an active and high-energy way. Supervised by Shelby Denhof, this program will offer excellent leadership opportunities and an experience for those looking to make their college application more well-rounded.

B'Shalom,
Cantor David Fair
He/Him
cantor@unitedjewishschool.org

David Fair holds three big hats in Grand Rapids: being the Cantor of Temple Emanuel and Congregation Ahavas Israel and being the Educator of the United Jewish School. As the Cantor-Educator of the United Jewish School, Cantor Fair guides and supports teachers in bringing modern and innovative ideas to the classroom. He was ordained from Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion in 2021, where he also received a Masters of Sacred Music in 2020.



Cantor David Fair



Women Unite Hiking Group

What to bring:
a water bottle and a
good pair of sneakers.

Please RSVP with
Sandi Simms

Email: sandi@
simmselectronics.com
or via text:
(616) 437-5165

All hikes begin at 6pm

Sept 12 - Provin Trail - 2900 4 Mile Rd NE,
Grand Rapids, MI 49525. Dogs are welcome.

Sept 19 - Reeds Lake - Sidewalk outside Roses

Oct 3 - Peace Park - 8900 Grand River Dr SE,
Ada, MI 49301

Oct 10 - Knapp Forest Trail - Dogs are welcome.
Happy Sukkot! (Park at the back of Knapp
Forest Elementary School)

Oct 17 - Roselle Park - Happy Simchat Torah! (1010
Grand River Dr NE, Ada, MI 49301)

Oct 24 - Possible visit by an Israeli delegation from our
twin community, Ein Dor. More details to
come.

JFGR Men's Outdoor Group

Get together every Wednesday morning! Meet new people,
hang out with old friends, get fresh air and exercise.

Contact Jim Siegel at
jims@siegeljewelers.com for time and
location of each outing, and for carpool
arrangements and questions.



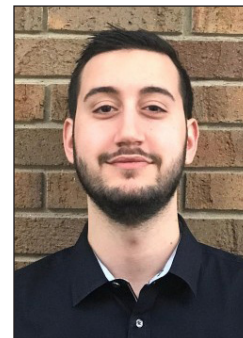
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Decisiveness & Why it's Critical for Success

by Arad Okanin

JFGR IT Director, Software Developer & student at Grand Valley State University



Arad Okanin

Opportunities present themselves in unexpected ways throughout our lives. Whether it's at a new job we've just started or a new social environment we've just entered into, opportunities to make a difference in our lives are presented to us in indirect formats. We often find ourselves wondering what would happen if we decided to embark on that new career path we've always wanted to begin, start that new business for which we've always had a passion, or begin a new relationship with someone. Doors that reveal uncertain decisions for life-changing opportunities open up, but we are not sure if we should step through them. Our mind begins to think about all of the possibilities that could happen from that uncertainty and sometimes, we feel too overwhelmed to make a decision.

All of us may be guilty of this phenomenon, even if we understand the concept of decisiveness or not. In moments of absolute uncertainty, we find ourselves entering into a mode of analysis-paralysis which, according to Investopedia (Chen), is an inability to decide due to overthinking a problem. We begin to think of all of the positive and the negative outcomes; we over-analyze the situation and give certain elements within it more attention than they require. The issue that arises as a result of making too many assumptions about a certain decision is that we end up clogging our brain with too much information, and it usually plays a vital role in why we usually don't take that chance to try that new idea. We overthink & overanalyze why we should or shouldn't take the next step, and that stops us from the most important part of the decision-making process; taking initiative and making a choice for what comes next.

A wise man once explained to me how this shift had drastically changed his level of success in his business. He told me that in the past, he curated his thoughts

based on assumptions from what has already happened and did not do much research about what he could do differently in the future. He elaborated that no matter the amount of confusion a certain action may cause, there will always be more you could think about and analyze about any scenario and outcome. He finished by saying that to make great strides in life, we must detach ourselves from the continued overthinking and overanalyzing of every possible outcome, and allow ourselves to flow through decisions freely when we believe we have analyzed it enough. It's hard to find how much is enough, and it will be different in every scenario. We must master what is enough thought, and tell our brains that when that arrives, we must either take the decision or pass on it. Writing all of the outcomes on a piece of paper (or, a fan favorite, the Smartphone Notes app) may help in the efforts of gaining an absolute understanding of a particular decision, but you must stop yourself when you realize you've been thinking about it for enough time. Once we have evaluated and completely understood the possible outcomes, we must make this choice. When we make the choice, we don't look back, and we live with the consequences of that particular action, whether good or bad.

Making decisions in the fast-paced world we live in today can be challenging and a bit nerve-racking. With the power of decisiveness, we can make sure that we evaluate our options carefully and take action, instead of waiting and thinking about what could or couldn't happen. The only way to move up in life is to take calculated risks, and we will only be able to dare to take those risks & succeed in moving ourselves forward once we have mastered the art of decisiveness.

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**Doctors appointment, grocery store or pharmacy?
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Contact Julianna Schrier, Community Connector at **616.942.5553 x206**
or Julianna@JFGR.org to schedule your ride.
All rides need 24 hour advance notice. Hours of service: 8am to 8pm

Thank you to the generosity of
the Ravitz Foundation for this
service to the Grand Rapids
Jewish community.





Congregation Ahavas Israel Rosh Hashanah Services

by Ed Miller

Following up on an idea initiated at the end of last year by Religious Life Committee (RLC) member Ed Miller and supported by the Ahavas Israel Board of Trustees early this year, the RLC worked to hire a Shaliach Tzibur (cantor) to lead our upcoming High Holiday services. An RLC subcommittee reviewed 12 candidates' resumes and sound files which led to Ed Miller and Rabbi Krishef interviewing our top candidate, Rabbi Shlomo Atzil-Zachorow and offering him the position which he accepted in March.



Rabbi Shlomo Atzil-Zachorow

This coming September/October, Rabbi Zachorow will be traveling from his home in Jerusalem, Israel to lead our High Holiday services. Rabbi Zacharow has led High Holiday services as Cantor or Rabbi all over the world and

has been a Lecturer in Rabbinics at the Conservative Yeshiva, Jerusalem since 2003. He was graduated from University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia with a B.A., Cum Laude in International Relations in 1990 and received his Rabbinical ordination and M.A. in Jewish Studies from The Schechter Rabbinical Seminary, Jerusalem in 2000.



Ed Miller

Rabbi Zacharow has a very warm personality, a great voice, and lots of ruach. We are excited and really looking forward to Rabbi Zacharow and Rabbi Krishef leading Congregation Ahavas Israel for the upcoming High Holidays.

Ed Miller, dedicated lifetime member of the Grand Rapids Jewish community. Past President (2 terms) and Board member of congregation Ahavas Israel for over 30 years. Currently serves as chairperson of CAI Cemeteries and the Chevra Kadisha. Ed loves spending time with the love of his life, wife Paula, his adult children and 6 wonderful Grandchildren.

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Women Hike United, 2022

by Sandi Simms, Group Facilitator and JFGR Board Member

The Grand Rapids Federation Women's Hiking Group is enjoying a second successful season. This summer, the group has been meeting every Monday evening at various parks in the greater Grand Rapids area. Each week we check in with each other, share a bit about our lives, walk, talk, and rejuvenate together. It is such a simple but powerful act.

We have hiked forest trails, paved trails and just recently added a walk through the quaint urban area of East Hills, and it was so much fun that we are adding it to our hiking roster! We also agreed we needed to return during business hours so we can "hike" from shop to adorable shop.

The group has expressed an interest in hiking further afield and we are currently examining the possibility of a hiking trip to Israel next year. The idea is to visit Tel Aviv and Jerusalem but spend most of our time in the Galilee or northern region. This region includes three Israeli cities that are in partnership with the Detroit, Ann Arbor and Grand Rapids Jewish Federations. We will have guided hikes through living history including the Friendship Trail that connects small Jewish and Arab towns in the region. The hiking and biking trail was built by Israeli and Arab youth to connect towns in the Galilee as an expression of a shared society. We will meet with Israeli and Arab women and learn about each other, our histories and families, and

how we are creating better worlds through understanding, tolerance, and camaraderie. And the food, did I mention the food? The food alone will be worth the trip!

I hope to see some new faces at upcoming hikes. We will be meeting at 6pm most Mondays until November. See the community calendar for the roster of hikes through September and October. We will then start up again next May. (<https://www.jewishgrandrapids.org/community-calendar>)

Please contact me, Sandi Simms at sandi@simmselectronics.com or 616 437-5165 if you are interested in joining for a Monday hike OR if you would like to get updates about the Israel trip.



Sandi Simms

Sandi Simms; I am a member of the Grand Rapids Jewish community and have served in various roles through the years including my current role as a Federation board member. My husband and I own an electronic engineering firm in Grand Rapids, Simms Electronics and we have two beautiful sons, Gabriel who is 22 and finishing his biomedical degree at GVSU, and Jeremy who is 19 and a sophomore at MSU studying environmental science. We work hard, play hard, and try to balance the challenges of life with good food, doggy snuggles, quality downtime, and humor!

Women on the Move





Still Haunted by the Past

by Rob Franciosi

Next April will mark the thirtieth anniversary of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. Its presence in our nation's capitol is so firmly established that nearly two million visitors pass through its doors each year.



Their journey through the Permanent Exhibition begins on elevators which take them to the fourth floor. Steel doors

close and black and white images flicker on a small screen. Then an American voice fills the car as it begins to move:

The patrol leader called in by radio and said that we have come across something. . . . It's a big prison of some kind, and there are people running all over. Sick, dying, starved people . . . to an American, uh, such a sight as that, you . . . you can't imagine it. You, you just . . . things like that don't happen.

Then the doors open onto a wall-sized photomural

confirming that such unimaginable "things" did indeed happen.

The passengers emerge toward a corner wall that could be mistaken for a massive open book. On the right, letters cut into a steel-gray panel form just two words--THE HOLOCAUST.

On the left, language surrenders to image in an enormous black and white photograph. Some twenty American soldiers do not face the camera, but instead stare at the remnants of a large fire: ash, burnt logs, twisted railroad tracks--and sandwiched between charred metal and wood, a layer of blackened corpses. Museum visitors share in the shock of the April 1945 liberators of Ohrdruf concentration camp. "Americans



Rob Franciosi



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- ◆ Provide Jewish Arts & Cultural Programming
- ◆ Offer Aid and Education Overseas

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<https://www.jewishgrandrapids.org/> or call 616-942-5553 to make your gift



encounter the camps,” a small title declares.

Although set in Washington, D.C., the USHMM only addresses this American encounter via images from the

camp liberations and by means of three small exhibition display: how the U.S. press covered the rise of Nazism; how the refugee-packed *S.S. St. Louis* was turned away from our shores in 1939; and how government and military leaders decided against bombing Auschwitz in the summer of 1944.

The absence of an American narrative within the Permanent Exhibit caused the museum to create a temporary one, “Americans and the Holocaust” and to sponsor the History Unfolded initiative to chart how the war against the Jews was covered by local U.S. newspapers. These two efforts, as well as years of scholarship on our nation’s actions and inactions during the Hitler years, will now culminate in a six-hour Ken Burns PBS documentary, *The U.S. and the Holocaust*, to be aired on September 18th.

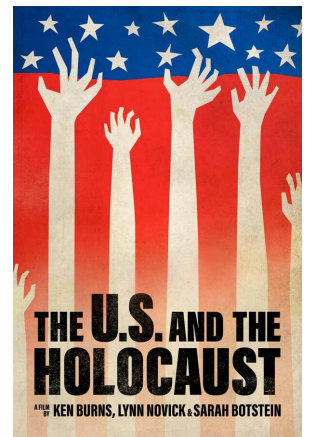
I will set aside my own ambivalence about the Ken Burns factory, which produces films at a rate reminiscent of Ford’s assembly line, each of them—no matter the subject—about America with a capital A. Having spent many years studying and teaching the history of our nation’s encounter with the Holocaust, I do not expect much new information.

Yet I value how the Burnsian imprimatur may help Americans to have a more complicated and nuanced view of that history. We know so much more today than when the USHMM opened in April 1993, not only about the Holocaust itself, but about how the subject

has haunted our own culture since 1945. Our local PBS affiliate, WGUV, has secured a grant to sponsor programming connected to the Burns film, and there are plans to do a live event in November which will allow community members to watch sections of the film and to discuss its implications.

I do hope the Burns film avoids a presentism which too easily filters the past through the issues and concerns of today. Vaccination cards are not the same as passports stamped with a bright red J. Nor are economic refugees, however desperate, the same as Jews who had been stripped of their citizenship and were fleeing for their lives. We can learn much from the lessons of the Nazi era, and of our nation’s conduct during that period, but a too facile equivalency to the battles of 2022 is both a disservice to that past and to our own times.

For this American the airing of the Burns documentary will happen when I am in Europe, returning to the scenes of the crimes in Germany and Poland. There I will seek to understand what was perpetrated upon the two ordinary people who are the subject of my sabbatical project. Watching “The U.S. and the Holocaust” so far from our shores will also allow me the distance to reflect upon my own relationship as an American with this history, why it continues to haunt me, and why I feel compelled, like those stunned soldiers, to face its consequences.



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



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The Jewish Federation OF GRAND RAPIDS



Jewish Federation Grand Rapids

Arad Okanin

OPEN



AGE

4+

Years Old

CATEGORY



Reference

DEVELOPER



Arad Okanin

LANGUAGE

EN

English



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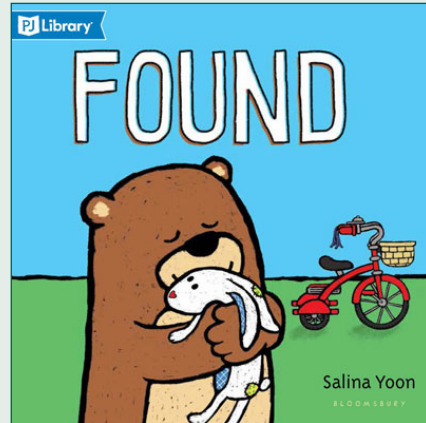
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We Need Help With:

- Driving community members to appointments.
- Delivering items to those in need.
- Assisting with in-person programs.

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Thank you to everyone who came to the PJ Library program Popsicles in the Park, on July 27. We played with bubbles, read *Found* by Salina Yoon, and ate tasty popsicles!

Join us again for a Rosh Hashanah-themed playdate on September 20. More information coming soon. Want to enroll your child or grandchild in PJ Library? Email julianna@ifgr.org with any questions.

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Challah Making Extravaganza

By Evan Rossio, Campaign Director, JFGR

To celebrate the official rollout of our website “The Nosh” this fall, it is with great pleasure that I announce a Challah Making Extravaganza on Thursday November 3, 2022 with special guest instructor and social media superstar Mandy Silverman, aka “Mandylicious.”



Mandy Silverman founded Mandylicious in 2013 in Sharon, MA. Since then, she has created over 350 unique challah and babka recipes and has developed a global following, including all 50 states in the US, and over 70 countries around the world. In addition to selling challah and teaching

classes, she loves sharing her recipes and tips, and supporting others who want to make their own challah. Check out Mandy at <http://www.mchallah.com/> and on Instagram and Facebook: @mandyliciouschallah.

Mandy will be demonstrating



braiding techniques, stuffing, and topping. Dough will be provided, and attendees will be taking home challahs to bake just in time for Shabbat. The program is free and open to all in our community. Mark your calendars and stay tuned for details!



Evan Rossio

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All events are subject to change. Please stay safe and reach out if there is anything we can do for you.

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WEEKLY VIRTUAL TORAH & TEA

For the connection we all need right now.

A Torah Study for ladies with Nechamy.

MONDAY EVENINGS ON ZOOM AT 8:00PM

Meeting ID: 966 6623 3600 Password: jwc

VIRTUAL TORAH CLASSES

TUESDAY EVENINGS ON ZOOM AT 7:30PM

For more Info or for zoom information, please contact Rabbi Mordechai at 269.903.7916 or Rabbihaller@chabadwestmichigan.com

FALAFEL TUESDAY'S

TUESDAY EVENINGS | 5:00-7:00PM

Throughout the Summer the Kosher Falafel Truck is at Chabad on Tuesday evenings!

CTEEN KICKOFF EVENT

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11TH - 5:00-7:00PM

Video Game Truck! | BBQ Dinner | Raffle | Activities and more!!

Come get involved & meet new Jewish friends at the CTeen Kickoff party!!

For all Jewish Teens, Grades 6-12 in West Michigan! | Follow us on Instagram @CTEENGR

RSVP at www.chabadwm.com/cteengr or text Rivka @ 616.206.9654

SHOFAR FACTORY & HIGH HOLIDAY HANDS ON EXPERIENCE

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH - 12:00PM

Come have a BLAST at the Shofer Factory!

Craft your very own Shofer to take home!

Gain new insights into the significance of the shofar in celebration of Rosh Hashanah.

At the Chabad House | \$8 per person | RSVP at www.chabadwm.com/shofar

ROSH HASHANAH DINNER & SHOFER BLOWING SERVICE

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH - 6:30PM

Chabad House of Western Michigan warmly invites the entire Jewish community to join us for *Shofer Blowing Service and Rosh Hashanah Dinner*

Enjoy the tastes and traditions with family and friends. Our delicious Rosh Hashanah dinner is spiced with great food, song and meaningful holiday insights.

At Chabad | No charge | Sponsorship opportunities available
Kindly RSVP by September 20th | www.chabadwm.com/rhdinner
| 616-206-9654 or chabadwesternmichigan@gmail.com

CTEEN & CTEEN JUNIOR SUKKOT DINNER

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9TH - 7:30PM

Inviting Jewish families with teens grades 6-12 to our annual "Sukkot Under the Stars" dinner in the Weingarten's Sukkah. Celebrate this beautiful Holiday in style, along with our family and friends!

It all takes place at the largest Sukkah in town! RSVP to Rivka at 616.206.9654

THE GRAND SUKKOT PARTY

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13TH - 5:00-7:00PM

The kosher falafel truck • crafts • moon bounce • soup in the Sukkah • lively music • shake the lulav & etrog • Grand raffle!

Fun Sukkot celebration for the whole family!

At the Chabad House | 616.957.0770

SIMCHAT TORAH CELEBRATION

MONDAY, OCTOBER 17TH - 7:45PM

Each week in synagogues throughout the world, a section of the Torah is read, Simchat Torah marks the annual completion of the cycle.

Dance the night away with L'chaim, flags for the children, and a delicious Dinner!

Come join us to receive a free dosage of Jewish Pride and joy that will last you the rest of the year!

GAN YILADIM PRESCHOOL – KINDERGARTEN 2022-23

Gan Yiladim is a licensed preschool for Jewish children ages 2-5 open to the entire Jewish community, regardless of background or affiliation.

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.

We take the best of both worlds – secular and Judaic – and blend 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.

For more information or to schedule a tour call Sarah at 616.375.9404

NEW SIX-WEEK JLI COURSE COMING THIS NOVEMBER!

"My G-d" - Defining the Divine

Nothing is off-limits as this refreshingly open course asks piercing questions about G-d and delivers profound, insightful answers.

An enlightening study into G-d's nature, G-d's goal for creation, human experiences of G-d, the role of religion, and the function of prayer, this course promises to satisfy your questions, including those you didn't know you had.

Virtual: Six Tuesday's, beginning on November 8th, 2022 | In

Person: Six Wednesday's, beginning on November 9th, 2022.

For more information contact Rabbi Mordechai at 269.903.7916 or Rabbihaller@chabadwestmichigan.com



ORDER YOUR LULAV AND ETROG

Blessing and shaking the Lulav and Etrog are the Jewish way to thank God for the blessings of the earth and its bountiful harvest. It is a mitzvah to own a lulav and etrog, and shake it each day of Sukkot (except for Shabbat) in all six directions around us to remind us that God's presence encompasses our entire lives. This mitzvah is an integral part of the celebration of Sukkot, which begins this year on Sunday night, October 9.

Standard set \$35.00
Superior set \$58.00

Order through the Synagogue office. Payment must accompany order, and be received by noon on Monday, September 5. -- No exceptions.

HIGH HOLIDAY SCHEDULE, 5783 (2022)

Rosh Hashanah is all about the decisions we make, the decisions we don't make, and the decisions we regret. Join us for a movie that explores alternative realities and how choosing to take a different path might impact us.

Selihot, Saturday, September 17, 9:00 p.m.

Everything, Everywhere, All at Once (2022)

With her laundromat teetering on the brink of failure and her marriage to wimpy husband Waymond on the rocks, overworked Evelyn Wang struggles to cope with everything, including a tattered relationship with her judgmental father Gong Gong and Joy, her daughter. And, as if facing a gloomy midlife crisis weren't enough, Evelyn must brace herself for an unpleasant meeting with an impersonal bureaucrat: Deirdre, the shabbily dressed IRS auditor. However, as the stern agent loses patience, an inexplicable multiverse rift becomes an eye-opening exploration of parallel realities. Will Evelyn jump down the rabbit hole? How many stars are there in the universe? Can weary Evelyn fathom the irrepressible force of possibilities, tap into newfound powers, and prevent an evil entity from destroying the thin, countless layers of the unseen world? —Nick Riganas

The movie will be followed by a Selihot service, beginning at approximately 11:30 p.m.

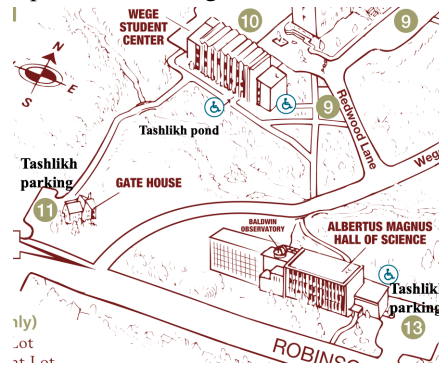
We welcome a guest Shaliah Tzibur, Rabbi Shlomo Zacharow to help lead our High Holiday services this year. Rabbi Zacharow is a Lecturer in Rabbinics at the Conservative Yeshiva, lives in Jerusalem, and has led High Holiday services as Cantor or Rabbi all over the world. He'll be leading our Rosh Hashanah evening service, the Torah service and Musaf service on the first day of Rosh Hashanah, Musaf on the Second day of Rosh Hashanah, and Kol Nidre, Musaf, and the concluding services of Yom Kippur. Cantor Fair will be joining us to lead Shaharit and Torah service on the second day of Rosh Hashanah.

Rosh Hashanah

Sunday night, September 25, Erev Rosh Hashanah
Ma'ariv 7:15 p.m.

Monday, September 26, Rosh Hashanah, 1st day
Shaharit 9:00 a.m.

Tashlikh service 4:15 p.m. (With Temple Emanuel) Either meet at Temple Emanuel at 4:00 to walk to Aquinas, or park in the designated lot off of Robinson near the pond, as indicated on the map.



Minha 7:30 p.m.
Ma'ariv 8:15 p.m.

Tuesday, September 27, Rosh Hashanah, 2nd day
Shaharit 9:00 a.m.
Minha 7:30 p.m.
Ma'ariv 8:15 p.m.



The High Holiday season will soon be upon us. We invite those who are looking for a vibrant Reform congregation in West Michigan to come and be a part of our community. Established in 1857, we are the 5th oldest Reform synagogue in the United States. We are warm and inclusive. We look forward to welcoming all who are seeking a contemporary approach to Jewish life to our beautiful campus.

UPCOMING EVENTS

As we begin the month of Elul we invite the community to join us every Tuesday and Thursday at 12 Noon, for an hour of study and reflection. Using Jeff Bernhardt's book, "For Every Season: An Introspective Guide to Renewing Ourselves During the High Holidays", we will read and share our thoughts on how to grow during these weeks of preparation. The text is available on Amazon. The first meeting is August 30. The final meeting is September 22. Bring a lunch and come for Elul (Eat, Learn, Understand, and Listen). Come once or come to every gathering. All are welcome.

SHABBAT SERVICES

We welcome the arrival of Shabbat every Friday afternoon at 6:00 PM. Our worship is filled with music and with community. Come wind down from the week and enter the Sabbath with us.

(Continued on pg 26)



TEMPLE EMANUEL *(Continued from pg 25)*

SHABBAT MORNING STUDY

Join us for three special Shabbat morning study sessions in preparation for the High Holy Days. Using the Hadar Institute's 5783 Holiday Reader, "Anu Kehalekha: Community and Relationship" as our guide, we will engage with articles from the text and learn from each other. The class meets at 10:00 AM on September 10, 17, and 24. Come once or come to them all. All materials provided. Sign up with Cathy@grtemple.org.

STUDY WITH OUR RABBI EMERITUS

Join Rabbi Albert Lewis on Tuesday evening, September 13 at 7:00 PM via Zoom for his thoughtful presentation and discussion on "Jonah: It's Not About the Fish". Contact Cathy@grtemple.org to register and to receive the appropriate link.

AN EXTRAORDINARY SELICHOT

Join us on Saturday evening, September 17 at 6:00 PM as we kick off the High Holiday season with a beautiful and meaningful service featuring the voices of Cantor David Fair and Soloist David Ronis. David Ronis was our soloist for many years before the arrival of our Cantor. We will honor David Ronis at the service. Asian-inspired cuisine will follow. We ask that all those who would like to attend to RSVP to Cathy@grtemple.org.

ROSH HASHANAH SERVICES

Our joyous services for the New Year begin on Sunday evening, September 25 at 7:00 PM. A festive holiday Oneq follows.

Morning Services for Rosh Hashanah begin at 10:00 AM on September 26. Lunch follows. Family Services for children of all ages and their parents/grandparents begin at 3:00 PM. Congregation Ahavas Israel joins us for Tashlich following. Participants are asked to bring small pebbles to toss. We will walk over to Aquinas College at 4:00 PM. The service will begin at 4:15 PM.

HELP US BUILD A GAGA BALL PIT

Michael Young is working on his Eagle Scout Project and is trying to raise funds to build a Gaga Pit for Temple Emanuel and the United Jewish School community. Gaga is an Israeli ball game that is played all over the world. Anyone interested in helping us please contact Cathy@grtemple.org.

MEMBERSHIP?

We would be delighted to speak with you about joining our synagogue. Contact Cathy@grtemple.org and a member of our Board will connect with you.

We wish the entire Jewish Community a very happy and healthy 5783.

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- Leven Family Endowment Fund**
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 - Stephanie & Mark Jesin
- In Honor of Linda Pestka, Happy Birthday*
 - Sharon Sikkema
- In Memory of Laura Paletta*
 - Linda Pestka

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.

Fox Family Fund To ensure that the PJ Library, a program of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation, for children ages 6 weeks- 12 years old, remains in the Western Michigan community and to provide high-quality educational children's programs.

The Finkelstein Brothers Fund Mort, Raleigh and Edward's commitment to educate the residents of Michigan about the Jewish families that settled in West Michigan during the mid 1800s through community events and educational programs.

Henry Pestka Holocaust Memorial Fund To make certain that the Holocaust is an essential part of the human story forever through educational programs and events that teach awareness, compassion and to ensure these inhumane acts against humanity never happen again.

*Make a tribute gift to
Thank, Honor, Memorialize
friends and loved ones.*

JFGR Endowment Fund Donation Form

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Donor Address _____

In honor of _____

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In memory of _____

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Notes: _____

Send card to address _____

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