



As you read this edition of the Shofar, the summer season will be in full swing! One highlight of the summer will be the upcoming JFGR Community Picnic on Sunday, August 25, from 2:00-5:00pm at Ahavas Israel. This family-friendly event will have something for everyone, and all ages are welcome!



Marni Vyn

Join us for an afternoon of Kosher food, sno cones, live music, carnival rides, bounce slides, information booths on various Jewish organizations in our community, carnival performer, and many more activities for all ages and we'll see you then!

This summer, we also welcome our new Executive Director, Nicole Katzman, to the Jewish Federation. Nicole will be relocating to Grand Rapids from Rhode Island later this month and will begin in her new role on July 22. Nicole brings extensive experience in organizational leadership, fundraising, and Jewish programming. We look forward to her joining our team and building upon our successes. You'll have the chance to learn more about Nicole in a future Shofar newsletter and to meet her in person at the Community Picnic!

Happy Summer,

Marni

Summer Hebrew Enrichment

United Jewish School is offering a two-week intensive Hebrew session this summer for rising 3rd through 7th graders. With the goal of keeping up the momentum of Hebrew learning, this session is an opportunity for students to brush up on their skills prior to the start of the new school year. Instruction will be customized to meet the needs of each student. Each 1 ½ hour class period will include reading practice, conversational Hebrew, and skill building games.

Dates: T-W-Th August 6-7-8 | T-W August 13-14th | Time: 5:00-6:30pm

(Snack will be provided.) | Th August 15 3:30-5:00pm

Location: Temple Emanuel **Price:** \$120

For more information or to register, please email Hasia

ujshasiamonselise@gmail.com

or Melissa ujsmelissaweinhaus@gmail.com



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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of Western Michigan
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New Twist on Lunch

Time to Test your Jewish Knowledge

By playing JEWPARDY

Join a team to play or just watch your friends.

Temple Emanuel

Thursday, July 18

Time: 11:30am

Cost: \$10

We will have a buffet of salad and sandwiches from Panera Bread.

RSVP no later than Wednesday, July 16 to Ann at 616-942-5553 or ann@jfgr.org
rides available upon request when you RSVP.

Hadassah Book Club

Date: Wednesday, July 10, 2019

Time: 4:00pm

Place: Judy Zuppke,
4494 Burton Forest Court SE
RSVP is essential - 616-949-8185

Book: *The Lost Girls of Paris*
by Pam Jenoff

Happy Reading!

As always your loyal Bookends,

Sue Remes & Flory Silverstein



STAFF: Executive Director: Marisa Reed, ext. 207, marisa@jfgr.org | Director of Social Service Resources: Ann Berman, ext. 206, ann@jfgr.org | Director of Donor Relations: Cathy Winick, ext. 204, cathy@jfgr.org | Director of Programming: Marisa Krishef, ext 205, markay@jfgr.org



ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids
2727 Michigan NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49506
(616) 942-5553 info@jfgr.org
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: \$ _____

Live Generously.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

DONOR'S SIGNATURE

Method of Payment: Check Stock (Please Identify)

Please Charge my: MasterCard Visa

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Card Number

Exp. Date: _____

Security (CVS) code: _____

JFGR is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization

Second Place Raffle Winner Gives Winnings to Restaurant Hostess

on June 20, 2019

By Allison Schuster

(reprinted with permission from the *Town Crier*, a weekly newspaper serving the Mackinac Island community, www.mackinacislandnews.com)

“We all just have to help each other out” is a motto that Steve Horowitz lives by. Driven by random acts of kindness, he chooses to share joy, and whatever else he can, everywhere he goes.

Sunday at the raffle drawing following the Lilac Festival’s Grand Parade, Mr. Horowitz won the second place prize of \$3,000, and he split the money with the hostess who seated him at Mary’s Bistro Draught House, Hannah McKeen, who resembles a girl he once had in a class he taught. Before he entered the raffle, he asked for her name and wrote it on the ticket, thinking the kindness of sharing would bring them luck. Once his name was announced, he told Miss McKeen she won \$1,500, and the surprised and overjoyed Ferris State sophomore burst into tears. This, in turn, brought Mr. Horowitz to tears.

“The big thing was her crying,” he said. “Just to see someone so happy, I’ve never seen such a thing. This girl is really happy and really deserves this.”

After going back to St. Ignace where he stayed for the night, Mr. Horowitz thought it over and determined he did not need the money as much as Miss McKeen. He asked Mackinac Island Tourism Bureau Executive Director Tim Hygh to give her the other \$1,500. He didn’t want to do it himself because he knew he would get too emotional. Even telling the story of Miss McKeen to his friends, Mr. Horowitz said, might get him choked up remembering how happy she was.

He went to Western Michigan University, but school was much less expensive at that time, and he wanted Miss McKeen to have the chance to pay off her schooling.

Steve Horowitz’s love of Mackinac Island goes back to 1987 when he first sailed here and met Tom Walker, who worked at the marina. After going to the Island on vacation as a child, he determined that if he ever got a sailboat, he would sail to the Island. Mr. Walker helped him get his boat and the two became good friends. Because of this positive experience, Mr. Horowitz brought his entire 4th grade class, and their parents, from Cedar Springs Public Elementary School to the Island for field trips each year for seven years, until 1996. He retired the following year.

Now, he visits the Island for three days every month, and he credits all his trips to Mr. Walker. He keeps



Steve Horowitz gave his \$3,000 second place raffle prize to Mary’s Bistro hostess Hannah McKeen. (Photograph by Tim Hygh)

photographs in his house to honor his friend.

“As humans, we don’t know how we influence others,” he said,” but that man did a great thing.”

Beginning around 1993, Mr. Horowitz would take his inflatable boat and go camping on Round Island for 15 days. He said not enough people know about it and they should see how beautiful it is, so he took an ad out in the *Town Crier* to let people know. Back then, he said, Great Turtle Kayak Tours was not around to take people there.

He came up once a week during the summers of 1995 and 1996 and stayed at McNally Cottage, where the innkeeper also gave tours of the Michigan Governor’s Summer Residence. So Mr. Horowitz wanted to help her out and gave tours as well. Tours were only two hours, so he also volunteered his time at Fort Mackinac helping the archaeologist.

Since meeting Mr. Walker, he has met many wonderful people on the Island, he said. One of the memories he has is from one Fourth of July when he had the *Town Crier* interns on his sailboat to see the fireworks. They spotted a boat with no lights, went over, and helped the people with their dead battery. Afterward, the man on the boat offered to give Mr. Horowitz money, but he declined. He told the man, “we all just have to help each other out.”

“You have such a good feeling in your heart,” he says, “and if more people would do that, it would be a nicer place.”

On his most recent trip to the Island last weekend, Mr. Horowitz wrote down the names of all the people whose help he appreciated – the taxi driver, the ferry boat employees – so he would never forget them. He wrote the names on his hand and later transferred them to his phone. When he makes his monthly

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trips here, he likes to call them all by their name.

Mr. Horowitz recalled a show from the late 1950s, "The Millionaire," in which a wealthy man had his butler seek out people who looked in need and gave those people money. Then the show would examine whether they were good or bad with the money. The show inspired Mr. Horowitz. He wants to have that ability to give to people who deserve money and will use it to better themselves.

One way he achieves this is through buying lottery tickets. Every week he buys lottery tickets and has the cashier or whoever else he thinks looks worthy sign it with him, as he did with Miss McKeen, and it brings him joy to pass money onto people who need it. The joy he receives, he said, is all he could ask for.

In part, he says, his philosophy springs from his upbringing. His parents adopted him as a child and exposed him to family and friends who he would not have met otherwise, and he said they are all giving people. Kindness is the hardest thing to give away because it always returns, Mr. Horowitz's grandmother taught him. He found this to be true throughout his lifetime, and it drives him to do more good deeds.

His parents were Jewish and had connections through an agency to help refugees escape Nazi-occupied Austria during World War II by sponsoring them to come to the United States. They didn't know any of the families before they arrived here, and part of the sponsorship involved helping the family find new lives here, so, at first, some of them lived with the Horowitz family. Mr. Horowitz later visited many of them and became family friends.

Years later, when the father of one of his students died, he discovered that her grandmother, grandfather, and parents were among those refugees from Austria that were sponsored by Mr. Horowitz's parents.

It was acts like those of his parents that inspired him to lead a life of giving.

Other random acts of kindness Mr. Horowitz employs include leaving extra bridge tokens for the cars behind him when crossing the Mackinac Bridge and driving his Amish friends around, since they don't drive cars.

"If more people would be kind, they could help a lot of people," he said.

(Steve Horowitz is a Grand Rapids native and the son of the late Sam and June Horowitz)

AHAVAS ISRAEL'S CORNERS OF THE FIELD GARDEN

No experience is needed to work in the garden. You bring some gloves and your energy.

Please email Allyson Cole-Strauss at garden@AhavasIsraelGR.org, or Mary Kaneti at mcubed4300@gmail.com for information about helping to feed the hungry.



Thank you!

Allyson and Mary



**Join the Jewish Community at
a concert with Violinist
Itzhak Perlman
and the Grand Rapids Symphony
on Thursday evening,
November 7, 2019!**

Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids has a block of tickets reserved at a discounted price of \$50.40 per ticket!

**Tickets must be purchased through
Federation before October 1, 2019!**

Please contact Marisa K. at 616-942-5553, ext. 205 or at Markay@ifgr.org to purchase tickets or for more information.



Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids

Annual Community Picnic



SUNDAY, AUGUST 25, 2019
2:00 PM to 5:00 PM

LIVE MUSIC | CARNIVAL RIDES | KOSHER BBQ
JEWISH INFO FAIR | CARNIVAL PERFORMER
AND MANY MORE ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES

FREE FOOD | NO ADMISSION

AHAVAS ISRAEL | 2727 MICHGAN NE

CONTACT: 616-942-5553 | INFO@JFGR.ORG

WWW.JEWISHGRANDRAPIDS.ORG

GENEROUSLY UNDERWRITTEN BY NORM AND MARILYN LEVEN



Cultural Council Spectrum Series News:

We are in the process of planning for our upcoming 2019-20 Cultural Council Series! We hope you will consider joining the Cultural Council as a Member whether you are renewing your Membership from last year or would like to become a new Member! So far we have booked in our upcoming Spectrum Series, Dr. Alon Tal and Nadine Epstein.

On September 22, 2019, We will welcome **Dr. Alon Tal, Ph.D** leading Israeli environmental activist and academic. Dr. Tal is Chair of the Tel Aviv University Department of Public Policy and a Serling Israeli Visiting Scholar at MSU. Among other things, he will speak to us about his creation of The Arava Institute For Environmental Studies, a graduate studies center in which students join Israeli, Palestinian, and Jordanian environmentalists to study common environmental challenges and solutions.

On March 22, 2020, we will be treated to the unique perspective of **Nadine Epstein, Editor-in-Chief and CEO of Moment Magazine**. Join Nadine for a multimedia production about her mentor, Nobel Prize winner, author, and Holocaust survivor **Elie Wiesel**. She will draw from her new book *Elie Wiesel, An Extraordinary Life and Legacy: Writings, Photographs, and Reflections*.

Membership Categories are as follows:

Underwriter : \$500 and up: Free admission to all programs for five adults, admission to all private receptions and special events for two adults, and a copy of Nadine Epstein's book.

Patron : \$250-\$499: Free admission to all programs for four adults, admission to all private receptions and special events for two adults, and a copy of Nadine Epstein's book.

Sponsor : \$125-\$249: Free admission to all programs for three adults, admission to all private receptions and special events for two adults, and a copy of Nadine Epstein's book.

Individual : \$60: Free admission to all programs for one adult and a copy of Nadine Epstein's book.

*Also, as an added bonus for this upcoming season, the first 15 households to become Members will receive a free gift subscription of *Moment Magazine* for one year. To become a Cultural Council Spectrum Series Member or for more information please contact Marisa at markay@jfg.org or 616-952-5553, ext. 205.

Chabad House

Gan Israel Day Camp

Sign your child up for A Jewish summer experience of a lifetime! 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 24TH - JULY 12TH 2019 | 9:00AM - 3:30PM**

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

For more info, please contact Rivka at (616)206.9654 or email us at campganisraelqr@gmail.com

Caffeine for the Soul!

Join other Jewish women for learning and inspiration and delve into the Torah's timeless wisdom. This class is based on the weekly Torah Portion, studied through the prism of Kabbalah to attain new insights into ourselves, and the world around us. Enjoy a coffee, delicious pastries and great discussion!

WEDNESDAY MORNINGS AT 9:30A.M

2160 Romence Dr. NE

Caffeine for the Soul is a project of the Jewish Women's Circle.

The JWC of Grand Rapids is an ever-growing group of women from the Grand Rapids area who come together to socialize, laugh, learn and discover the power of Jewish femininity in today's world. JOIN US!

Gan Yiladim Preschool - Kindergarten

Registration is now open for the fall of 2019! Our children learn the "specialness" of being Jewish. Through stories and discussions, the precious legacy of their uniqueness as Jews is transmitted. Gan Yiladim School takes the best of both worlds – secular and Judaic – and blends them into a program that is at once rich, fulfilling, and stimulating environment. For children ages 2-6

Temple Emanuel

Your Opinion Matters & Brunch

Every month Chef and Moderator Jim Siegel serves up a healthy meal and a healthy debate. The next Your Opinion Matters & Brunch will be Sunday, July 14th at 10:00 AM. The topic is: the upcoming Israeli Elections. Security, corruption, and the economy have dominated the headlines in Israel. What you're your thoughts? RSVP to Jim at Jims@SiegelJewelers.com so he knows how many to cook for.

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 sleepaway camps and experiences.

Chuck 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.

*Thank you for supporting the
Grand Rapids Jewish Community*

Woman of Valor Endowment Fund

In honor of Marisa Reed, Cathy Winick, Ann Berman and Marisa Krishef

From Karen Padnos

Louis and Louise Weiner Fund

In honor of Suzette Tauber on her special birthday.

From The Birthday Club

In honor of Elaine Lipshutz on her special birthday.

From The Birthday Club

In honor of Elaine Lipshutz special birthday

From her Mahjong Group: Jean Barkin, Gloria Dennen Jackie Dennen, Shirley Kleiman, Amy Landman and Edith Rashewsky

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

JFGR Endowment Fund Donation Form

Donation from: Name _____

Fund (pick from list) _____

Donor Address _____

In honor of _____

Donor City/St/Zip _____

In memory of _____

Send card to: Name _____

Notes: _____

Send card to address _____

Send your donation and this form to:

Send card to City/St/Zip _____

2727 Michigan NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506

The Shofar

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Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids
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www.jewishgrandrapids.org
Email: info@jfgr.org

**Next Issue's Information Deadline:
July 15, 2019**



Jewish Federation[®]
OF GRAND RAPIDS

THE **STRENGTH** OF A PEOPLE.
THE **POWER** OF COMMUNITY.

What's Happening July 2019

6/24-7/12	Gan Israel Day Camp At Chabad House
7/4	4TH OF July JFGR offices are closed
7/14	Your Opinion Matters At Temple Emanuel 10:00am
7/18	Retirees Lunch Bunch plays Jewpardy At Temple Emanuel 11:30am

Jewish Federation of GR wishes everyone a fun and safe summer.

We are looking forward to seeing the West Michigan Jewish community members at our Annual Community Picnic on August 25th from 2-5pm! See page 5 for more information