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ANNUAL JFGR COMMUNITY PICNIC

SUNDAY, JUNE 10, 2018 2:00pm to 5:00pm

Ahavas Israel front lawn (in the event of rain, we will move in to the social hall)
2727 Michigan NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49506

RAIN OR SHINE

Cost: \$5 each or \$25 max per family

Enjoy a relaxing afternoon on the lawn of
Congregation Ahavas Israel with your family and friends



**Join us for kosher hotdogs
Bounce House fun
Human Hamster Ball races and other
activities**

Michigan Blood Bus will also be onsite

(Attempt to donate and be entered to a One Night Stay Golf Giveaway in Traverse City! Compliments of West Bay Beach and LochenHealth Golf Club. For questions or to make an appointment contact, 1-866-MIBLOOD (642-5663) or miblood.org)

**For additional information
call the Federation office:
616-942-5553 or
email: info@jfgr.org**



Sponsored by Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids and Ravitz Foundation

The Shofar

SIVAN / TAMMUZ - 5778 - JUNE 2018 - WWW.JEWISHGRANDRAPIDS.ORG

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.

**Like Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids
on Facebook!**

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Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids
2727 Michigan NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49506
616.942.5553
616.942.5780 fax
info@jfgr.org
www.jfgr.org

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of Western Michigan
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Campaign 2017 Goal:
\$425,000

We surpassed our Goal!
THANK YOU

\$428,487

from 374 donors/gifts

With matching grants of \$30,000 the total is

\$458,487

\$25,000 from Louis and Helen Padnos Foundation

\$5,000 from Hy and Greta Berkowitz Foundation

Our campaign would not have been a success without our Campaign Volunteers: Daren Shavell, Campaign Chair

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STAFF: Executive Director: Marisa Reed, ext. 207, marisa@jfgr.org | Director of Social Service Resources: Ann Berman, ext. 206, ann@jfgr.org | Financial Administrator: Jennifer Stanton, ext. 203, jennifer@jfgr.org | Director of Donor Relations: Cathy Winick, ext. 204, cathy@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: \$ _____

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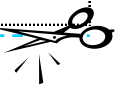
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The Traveling Trunks by Ann Berman

If objects could speak what would they say? I'm sure these two trunks would have quite the story.

These trunks belonged to a young teenager by the name of Margit. During the Holocaust she and her father, Hugo, packed their entire lives into two trunks and left Germany.

The trunks and their human companions traveled through Poland, Moscow and then continued via Trans-Siberian railroad, through Manchuria and landed in Kobe, Japan.



Trunks on the docks in Shanghai

In Kobe, a Jewish refugee committee stalled the travelers and their trunks due to an irregularity on their visa. So Margit and her father Hugo were advised to head for Shanghai, which they reluctantly did in January 1941.

The trunks and the owners would spend the next 7 to 8 years living in the Hongkew Ghetto. Sometimes Hugo had to sell the possessions stowed away in these trunks to stay afloat.

When it was time to leave Shanghai after the war, the trunks (and their owners) tried to go to Brazil, but that plan didn't work out. So in June 1948, the trunks and Margit sailed to San Francisco, then onto Cleveland, Ohio where Margit found work at University Hospital as a nurse's aid.

Fred Sarne was also on that ship from Shanghai to San Francisco and had worked with Margit at the hospital in Shanghai. However, Fred was destined for Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Fred and Margit kept in touch once they landed in America and married in April 1949. Thus, the trunks and Margit were



on the move again.

The trunks would spend the next 69 years in the closet on Lovett Street, as both a vessel to store family books for son David and a playtime hiding place for daughter Mimi.

In October of 2017, the last owner of the trunks passed away. And it is here where one would think the story of the traveling trunks ends. But that is not to be. These trunks will be making one more journey to become part of a collection at the United States Holocaust Museum in Washington DC.

These trunks may be a bit travel worn yet they are strong and beautiful.... much like the lady who owned them.

*More about Margit's story can be found in the book: *Shanghai Remembered...*

By Berl Falbaum



Margit with granddaughters Ellie and Sarah

Cultural Council/Community

June 2018



Cultural Council is assembling another inspiring year of programming for our 50th! We welcome new members who would be interested in joining this committee which plans and carries out events during the year.

Our mission statement: The Jewish Cultural Council of Grand Rapids aims to foster greater awareness of Jewish culture in West Michigan by providing a vast range of quality programs with Jewish content. These programs highlight the arts, learning, current events, Jewish traditions and ideas and their impact on universal values. The programs are intended to appeal to Jews and non-Jews alike.

2017-2018 Season brought us:

- Genealogist, Jennifer Alford, helped us research our roots.
- Educator, Orly Wahba brought her *Kindness Boomerang* to Grand Rapids.
- Comedian, filmmaker Avi Liberman had us laughing in downtown Grand Rapids.
- Journalist, Political Analyst, Micah Halpern shared insight about current Middle East politics.

We would like to thank the committee members:

Mario and Talia Atias, Burt Bach, Julian Joseph, Mort Zukerman

Please let us know if you would like more information: info@ifgr.org.



Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State/Zip _____

Email _____

Membership Benefits and Privileges

- _____ Underwriter, \$500 or more: Free admission to all programs for five adults
- _____ Patron, \$250 - \$499: Free admission to all programs for four adults
- _____ Sponsor, \$125 - \$249: Free admission to all programs for three adults
- _____ Family membership, \$100: Free admission to all programs for one two adults
- _____ Individual, \$50: Free admission to all programs for one adult

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____

Payable to **The Jewish Cultural Council**

Please mail this form with your check to:

The Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids

Cultural Council - Spectrum Series

2727 Michigan St. NE

Grand Rapids, MI 49506

Tickets will be mailed to you upon receipt of your

check. For questions regarding your tickets,

please call The Jewish Federation office at **616.942.5553**

***Tickets to individual events are \$15 for adults,**

\$5 for college students and children up to 18 are free.

**Ticket prices may vary for some events*

Learn Conversational Hebrew this summer with an expert Israeli instructor!

Level 1:

A ten week course, once a week, ninety minute (with 5 min break) at \$150 per student (text book not included) class size: 6 – 10 students. Starting Monday, June 18 at 7:30 pm. We will study from the following book: **Hebrew: A Language Course Primer** (available on Amazon).

Level 2:

Students proficient in reading and writing Hebrew (Print and Cursive, knowledgeable with singular and plural, muscular and feminine, pronouns, verbs, preposition), can attend this level.

A fifteen week course, once a week, ninety minute (with 5 min. break) at \$250 per student (text books not included), class size: 6 – 10 students. Starting Tuesday, June 19 at 7:30 pm. We will study from the following books: **Hebrew: A Language Course Level One** (English and Hebrew Edition) **Hebrew: A Language Course Level 2** (available on Amazon).

For more information, contact: Michal Ravid at benibu@aol.com or call: 832-641-5926

JEWISH FEDERATION OF GRAND RAPIDS • COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP MISSION TO ISRAEL

JEWISH FEDERATION OF GRAND RAPIDS
JANUARY 13-20, 2019

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- 6 days of touring in a luxury, air-conditioned bus with licensed, English speaking tour educator
- 1 group transfer and assistance to and from the airport
- All site entrance fees and program fees as per itinerary
- Meals: daily breakfast, 2 lunches, and 4 dinners
- Portage at the airport and hotels



JUST GO.

telling the story of Israel and the Jewish World.

For more information, please contact Marisa Reed, marisa@jfg.org tel. 616-942-5553



THANK YOU!

The 20th Annual Jewish Film Festival took place April 29 through May 3. An estimated 600 people attended the films and events that week. The Film Festival Committee is to be congratulated for putting on another successful festival. The sponsors (listed here) are to be thanked along with the nightly volunteers, including Jon Subar, emcee of the Festival Dinner.

Film Festival Sponsors 2018

OSCAR

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DIRECTOR

Sandra Last, Judith H. Subar

PRODUCER

David & Heather Alfonso, Bill Boorstein, Sheila & Jeff Frank, Edie Landman,
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Mary Kaneti, Linda Pestka, Marisa & Adam Reed, Sue Remes, Jim & Sheryl Siegel,
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Dorothy Armstrong, Mort Zukerman, Cathy Winick

Film Festival Committee Members 2018

Jeff Bootzin, Cary Fleischer, Sheila Frank, Karen Haight, Sylvia Herman, Julian Joseph, Michele Kanig,
Beverly Niedelson, Michal Ravid, David Reifler, Sue Remes, Daniel Rosen, Nancy Rosen, Sheryl Siegel,
Judy Subar, Mort Zukerman

Event Volunteers

Heather Aalderink, Burt Bach, Nancy Benedetti, Judy Clowney, Sandi Hiestand, Colleen Hillard, Sherri Faler, Jeff Frank,
Sandy Freed, Sue Kopperl, Shel Kopperl, Leigh Rapaport, Sophie Reed, Jon Subar, Annie Young

Staff

Ann Berman, Marisa Reed, Jennifer Stanton, Cathy Winick



Shir Shalom at Festival



12:30p
June 3, 2018, Grand Rapids Art Museum.

Shir Shalom, our Jewish community outreach chorus, will once again perform at the Arts Festival. There are many Grand Rapidians who don't have the opportunity to interact with our Jewish Community. So, our performances are a source of contact for them.

We sing at various venues with Festival being the year's finale. We hope you will come and enjoy our musical voices as we sing for you and our fellow Grand Rapids citizens.



Senior Lunch Bunch Thai Chef

1971 East Beltline
Thursday, June 21
Cost: \$10

Time: 11:30am
RSVP's a must to (616)942-5553
Rides available by calling Ann (616)942-5553 x206

Seniors Group to Jewish Theater Matinee

Showing of *Olive & The Bitter Herbs*

Sunday, June 24, 2018

RSVP or to request a ride call Ann at 616-942-5553 by June 21.

We can car pool from Temple Emanuel (if requested) at 2:15pm.

Also call Ann if you need or want a ride by June 21.

Play starts at 3:00pm.

Jewish Business Network

The Jewish Business Network is going on hiatus until fall. We welcome your suggestions or comments over the summer. Would you like to help plan these monthly networking lunches, assist securing speakers? Please let us know: Cathy@JFGR.org.



Olive & the Bitter Herbs

by Charles Busch

A comedic portrait of an over-the-hill actress—a classic New York curmudgeon, at war with the world. Shaken by the sight of a ghost and a series of outrageous coincidences, she learns that it's never too late to change one's life.

GRCC's Spectrum Theater - 160 Fountain NE
Thurs & Sat. June 14, 16, 21 & 23 @ 8 p.m.
Sun. June 17 & 24 @ 3 p.m.

Tickets: 616-234-3946 or Online: jtgr.org



Hadassah Book Club

Hadassah Book Club met on Wednesday April 11th at 4:00pm, a new time, to discuss our Read of the month. *The Marriage of Opposites* by Alice Hoffman. Flory Silverstein led our book discussion and all in attendance participated in an interesting discussion.

Next Book club meeting is;
Date.....June 13th, 2018
Time.....4:00pm
Where.....Judy Zuppke's
4494 Burton Forest Ct. SE
Phone.....616-949 -8185

"Please" call Judy and let her know you are attending.

Book to read, *Waking Lion* by Ayelet Gunder-Goshen. Shulers is the Bookstore to get your next Book Club Book or your local Library. We are looking forward to seeing you all on June 13th in the afternoon.

Your Loyal Book-Ends
Sue Remes- 616-949 3505
Flory Silverstein- 949-5766



**WE'RE
HIRING!**

Job Openings at Federation and UJS

Part-time Bookkeeper

Seeking applicants to work in a collaborative and flexible work environment. Familiarity with database management in a nonprofit environment is a plus.

The bookkeeper job duties include:

- Accounts payable and receivable
- Journal entries
- Budgets and other financial reports
- Preparing and updating QuickBooks for nonprofit
- Reconciling monthly bank statements
- Payroll Administration
- Insurance renewals
- Tracking Budget progress
- General office duties and special projects as needed

Qualifications:

- Proven proficiency in QuickBooks for nonprofit , MS Word & Excel
- Bookkeeping experience required
- Nonprofit experience and accounting education preferred
- Donor Perfect database management experience a plus
- Endowment account experience preferred

Resumes may be emailed to
marisa@jfgr.org.

Questions may be directed to Marisa Reed
at marisa@jfgr.org or by calling (616) 942-5553.

Part-time Program Director

Interested applicants send resume to Marisa@jfgr.org

Primary Responsibilities

- Strategize, develop and implement community and special event programming
- Assist in mission trips pre and post programming
- Manage PJ Library and PJ our Way administration tasks including new subscription applications and renewals as well as develop and staff PJ Library programming
- Develop and maintain programs with community partners
- Cultivate effective relationships with board members, committee members, volunteers, donors, PJ Library families and colleagues
- Assist in all programs as needed
- Act as welcome ambassador for new community members and maintain Ambassador program
- Post and update social media content
- Assignments may include support to or collaboration with other departments as needed

Required Skills and Abilities

- Bachelor's Degree in Social Work, Business, Jewish Studies, Human Behavior, Communications or equivalent preferred.
- Strong team player
- Passionate about supporting and strengthening Jewish identity and connection to Grand Rapids Jewish life, Federation, and Israel.
- Event programming experience
- Familiarity with Jewish culture and the Jewish community
- An ability to handle multiple projects in an efficient and effective manner.
- Must be able to work some evenings and some weekends as program schedule requires.
- Strong interpersonal, communication and organizational skills.
- Strong working knowledge of Microsoft Office, and social media tools. Knowledge of Excel preferred.

United Jewish School: Assistant Director

Position summary: The Assistant Director at Beit Sefer B'yahad/United Jewish School is a year-round, part-time position, requiring approximately 20 hours per week effort. The Assistant Director is primarily an administrative role in support of the Director. A full job description can be found here: <https://goo.gl/s9d5MB>
Interested applicants should submit resumes to Hasia Monselise, the UJS Director, ujshasiamonselise@gmail.com

INTERFAITH AND INTERWOVEN

Wednesday mornings 10:00am at Temple Emanuel,
1715 Fulton St. E. For more information please contact Deet
at deetnewman@gmail.com.

Betzalel Art Group

Thursdays, 2:30pm - 4:00pm at Ahavas Israel,
2727 Michigan NE. For further information contact Pat Weller:
616-453-2954 or patandfred@tds.net

Ahavas Israel

Ahavas Israel reading group

Our first meeting will be **Monday, June 11** at the synagogue from **6:30pm** to approximately 8:00pm. The book we have chosen is *The Secret Book of Kings: a novel* by Yochi Brandes.

"This volume, by biblical scholar Yochi Brandes, is a riveting novel based on the textual sources about the experiences of David and Solomon. It's lessons are also relevant for our turbulent times" Elie Wiesel, #1 New York Times and internationally best-selling author of *Night*.

Subsequent dates will be Monday, October 10 and Monday, February 11 at the same times. Future book titles under consideration are *People of the Book* by Geraldine Brooks and *Walking Lions* by Ayelet Gundar-Goshen. These are tentative suggestions - the book group participants will make the final choice. Please contact Leah Sauer if you are interested. 616-805-3778, Leahsauer@live.com.

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!

A Start-Up Wants to Grow Kosher Meat in a Lab ([The Atlantic](#), 9/16/16)

Is lab-grown meat kosher? From the point of view of kashrut, is it really meat? Can one eat a lab-grown meat cheeseburger? Is lab-grown pork kosher?

Explore these and other questions in a home learning program on **Sunday, July 8, at 7:00 p.m., hosted by Buddy and Judy Joseph, 2609 Berwyck SE**. RSVP to Rabbi Krishef to let him know that you are coming.

Chabad House

CTeen & CTTeen Junior Jewish teens and their families are cordially invited to **The CTTeen End of the Year Banquet**. As we celebrate the past and build our future. An evening of tribute to our graduating teens, and a warm welcome to our new teens joining. Join us on **MONDAY, JUNE 18TH 7:30pm** at the Chabad House. To RSVP or for more information, please contact Rivka @616-206-9654

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 25TH - JULY 13TH 2018 9:00am - 3:30pm

Kiddy Camp: Ages 3-5 | **Main Division:** Ages 6-10 |

Pre - Teen Division: Ages 11-12

To registration or for more info, please contact Rivka at 616-206-9654 or email us at

campganisraelgr@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 9:30am** 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!

Temple Emanuel

Temple Emanuel Co-Sponsors Movie *Little White Lie* for Loving Day.

Loving Day is the observance of the 1967 Supreme Court decision that struck down laws prohibiting interracial marriage.

On **Monday, June 11 at 7:00pm** at Celebration North Cinema a remarkable documentary will be shown, entitled, *Little White Lie*. It tells the story of Lacey Schwartz, who grew up in a middle class Jewish household in Woodstock, NY, with loving parents and a strong sense of her Jewish identity, wondering how she could have such dark skin.



Lacey believed her family's explanation that her looks were inherited from her dark skinned Sicilian grandfather. But when her parents split up her gut tells her something different. At the age of 18 she confronts her mother and learns the truth. Her biological father was not the man who raised her, but a black man named Rodney with whom her mother had had an affair.

Afraid of losing her relationship with her parents, Lacey doesn't openly acknowledge her newly discovered black identity with her white family. When her biological father dies shortly before Lacey's 30th birthday, the family secret can stay hidden no longer. Following the funeral, Lacey begins a quest to reconcile the hidden pieces of her life and heal her relationship with the only father she has ever known.

Lacey Schwartz, director, producer, and writer of the film will be in Grand Rapids and will speak about her story. The entire community is invited to attend. This is a free event - pre-order your tickets here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ebony-road-players-loving-day-film-premiere-of-little-white-lie-tickets-45670680234>

Your Opinion Matters: Sunday June 3rd at 10:00 AM

the topic is: What are limits society should go to, to appease minorities? (Jews, Muslims, Blacks, Gays & Lesbians, Immigrants) Where is the line between accommodating a group and changing the fabric of our society? Brunch and debates are free of charge, but Jim does need to know how many places to set at the table. RSVP to Jim at jims@siegeljewelers.com.

Endowment

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 Ms. Elisa Joseph Anders

From Julian & Judith Joseph

In honor of Dr. Mary Njegovan

From Julian & Judith Joseph

In honor of Dr. Polly Panitz

From Julian & Judith Joseph

In honor of Nancy Palmer

From Sylvia Belfer

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Access is also available online at Jewishgrandrapids.org. Send all inquiries and advertising files to marisa@ifgr.org

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

A monthly publication issued 12 times a year.

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

Send article text to: Ann@jfgr.org
Phone: 616.942.5553
Fax: 616.942.5780
www.jewishgrandrapids.org
Email: info@jfgr.org

**Next Issue's Information Deadline:
June 15, 2018**



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What's Happening Jewish Grand Rapids June 2018 Calendar of Events

3	Your Opinion Matters 10:00am at Temple Emanuel	16	Jewish Theatre - <i>Olive & the Bitter Herb</i> 8:00pm at GRCC Spectrum Theater
	Shir Shalom Choir performs at Festival of the Arts. 12:30pm at Grand Rapids Art Museum	17	Jewish Theatre - <i>Olive & the Bitter Herb</i> 3:00pm at GRCC Spectrum Theater
10	Annual JFGR Community Picnic 2:00pm on lawn of Ahavas Israel	18	CTeen End of the Year Banquet 7:30pm at Chabad House
11	Ahavas Israel Reading Group 6:30pm Free Movie night - <i>Little White Lie</i> 7:00pm at Celebratin Cinema North	21	Senior Lunch Bunch at Thai Chef 11:30am Jewish Theatre - <i>Olive & the Bitter Herb</i> 8:00pm at GRCC Spectrum Theater
13	Hadassah Book Club 4:00pm	24	Senior Group to Matinee of Jewish Theatre - <i>Olive & the Bitter Herb</i> 3:00pm at GRCC Spectrum Theater
14	Jewish Theatre - <i>Olive & the Bitter Herb</i> 8:00pm		