

TOLEDO Jewish News

JewishToledo.org

AV/ELUL 5786 | AUGUST 2026

Jewish Toledo celebrates its own with Annual Awards

Each year, Jewish Federation & Foundation of Greater Toledo proudly recognizes the individuals, volunteers, organizations, and young leaders whose dedication strengthens Jewish life in our community. The 2026 Annual Awards celebrate those who generously give their time, talents, and compassion to others. Their leadership, service, and commitment embody the values that make Jewish Toledo a close knit, caring, and resilient community. This year's honorees remind us that every act of service, whether quiet or widely recognized, helps ensure our community continues to grow and thrive for generations to come.

As One

Shining Light Awards

TOM AND JAN KASLE

Created in 2019 to recognize outstanding community volunteers who find meaning and reward in giving of their time and energy for the greater good of Jewish Federation and Foundation of Greater Toledo (JFGT).



Bob Wick Community Service Award

ERIKA BURI AND OLANDER

Established in 1998 to recognize Robert Wick, a great friend and supporter of the Jewish community, the award recognizes businesses, corporations, and companies that provide exemplary support to Jewish Toledo. Past recipients include Huntington Bank, the Sylvania Township Police, Meijer, Sautter's Market, Trust Company Family Offices, An Affair to Remember, and Guardian Angels Home Health Care, Inc.



Marjorie Siegel Jewish Communal Service Award of Excellence

DEVORAH SHULAMIT

Established to recognize an outstanding Jewish communal employee or volunteer for their leadership in promoting Jewish values and improving Jewish life, the award acknowledges valuable contributions of the recipient and the deep appreciation of the Board of Directors and staff of JFGT. Margie was the long-time principal of the David S. Stone Hebrew Academy and a passionate supporter of Jewish education. She exemplified community service.



Toledo Jewish Community Foundation Endowment Achievement Award

JOEL EPSTEIN

The Toledo Jewish Community Foundation Endowment Achievement Award recognizes outstanding efforts that help to grow and support our Foundation Endowment.



Nancy Newbury Spirit of Jewish Family Service Award

FRAN WEINBLATT

Each year, in its role as the social services and safety net for Toledo's Jewish community, Jewish Senior, Family and Social Services recognizes a volunteer who embodies the spirit and compassion of the JFS mission with the Nancy Newbury Spirit of Jewish Family Service Award. Nancy was the outstanding Executive Director of Jewish Family Service for 3 decades.



See full bios and quotes from our award winners in the Jewish Federation & Foundation of Greater Toledo Annual Report, exclusively digital this year. The link will be published online at the end of August at www.jewishtoledo.org and debut at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, August 30.



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Young Volunteer Awards

Established in 1999, the High School Leadership Award recognizes exceptional high school students from each local synagogue, the local BBYO chapter, and Friendship Circle.

See full bios and quotes from our award winners in the Jewish Federation & Foundation of Greater Toledo Annual Report, exclusively digital this year. The link will be published online at the end of August at www.jewishtoledo.org and debut at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, August 30.

SOPHIA CHERNOW
(CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL)

"Being part of a congregation so central to my family feels incredibly meaningful... [B'nai Israel] has truly become a second home."

Sophia Chernow

GABRIEL GREEN
(TEMPLE SHOMER EMUNIM)

"I hope to keep the youth close to one another in order to make them want to continue being a part of Jewish Toledo."

Gabriel Green

COBIN KATZ
(BBYO)

"I want Jewish Toledo to be a place where everyone can come together to have fun and create strong relationships. I hope our local BBYO chapter can become a place for all Jewish teens in Toledo to develop connections while expressing their Judaism."

Cobin Katz

CLINT LINGAN
(FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE)

"I hope that Jewish Toledo remains a safe and accepting place for all people that wish to experience it."

Clint Lingan

As One

Jewish Federation
& Foundation
OF GREATER TOLEDO

Annual Meeting of Members*
Sunday, August 30, 2026

Free Event
Vegetarian dinner included

RSVP Required by Monday, August 24 online at <https://jftoledo.fcsuite.com/erp/donate/list/ticket> or with Sherry Majewski at 419-724-0351.
The location will be emailed to registered participants 72 hours in advance of the event.

5:45 - Doors Open/Registration
6:15 - 6:45 p.m. - Dinner
6:45 - 7:15 p.m. - Remarks/Business Meeting
7:15 p.m. - Main Event featuring Sarah Hurwitz

Featuring
Sarah Hurwitz, Author,
As a Jew: Reclaiming our Story from Those Who Blame, Shame Us, and Try to Erase Us

Books will be available for purchase at the event, and Sarah Hurwitz will be signing copies.

For nearly 15 years, Sarah Hurwitz built a career finding just the right words. She served as a White House speechwriter from 2009 to 2017, first as a senior speechwriter for President Barack Obama and then as head speechwriter for First Lady Michelle Obama. Sarah worked with Mrs. Obama to craft widely acclaimed addresses and traveled with her across America and to five continents. Prior to working in the White House, Sarah was in the thick of political campaigns – serving as the chief speechwriter for Hillary Clinton on her 2008 presidential campaign and deputy chief speechwriter for Senator John Kerry in 2004 and General Wesley Clark in 2003. *As a Jew: Reclaiming Our Story from Those Who Blame, Shame, and Try to Erase Us* is a New York Times bestseller and winner of a National Jewish Book Award and the Natan Notable Book Award. It is an urgent exploration of how antisemitism has shaped Jewish identity and how Jews can reclaim their tradition.

* Members eligible to vote must make an annual contribution to Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo.

JFGT's Annual Meeting is generously sponsored by: Lead Sponsor: Paul D. Goldner Family Philanthropic Fund of the Toledo Jewish Community Foundation; Supporting Sponsors: Jill & Matthew Kripke Philanthropic Fund of the Toledo Jewish Community Foundation and Gary and Andrea Delman; and Community Sponsor: Stu & JoJo Goldberg Donor Advised Fund of the Toledo Jewish Community Foundation

12th Toledo Jewish Film Festival concludes

The 12th Toledo Jewish Film Festival once again brought our community together through the power of storytelling, welcoming audiences for five memorable evenings of acclaimed films that explored Jewish history, identity, resilience, humor, and family. From June 15 through July 13, attendees gathered each Monday evening to experience thought-provoking documentaries, heartwarming dramas, and engaging comedies that sparked meaningful conversations long after the credits rolled.



This year’s festival offered special guest appearances, including filmmaker Sherise Dorf following *The Everything Pot* and a live Zoom Q&A with Mitchell Etes after *We Met at Grossinger’s*, giving audiences the opportunity to hear firsthand from the creative voices and individuals connected to the stories on screen. The festival’s welcoming atmosphere, themed concessions, and fascinating post-film discussions created a shared experience that celebrated both Jewish culture and the universal themes that connect us all. The Toledo Jewish Film Festival continues to fulfill its mission of bringing high-quality Jewish cinema to northwest Ohio with films that are often only available in larger metropolitan areas. By presenting

stories from around the world that entertain, educate, and inspire, the festival strengthens connections within our community while fostering greater understanding of the richness and diversity of Jewish life. We are grateful to our sponsors, volunteers, and everyone who joined us in making another successful festival possible, and we look forward to welcoming audiences back next year. *The 12th Toledo Jewish Film Festival was generously sponsored in part by the Stu & Jojo Goldberg Donor Advised Fund, the Jack, Jr. and Nora Romanoff Donor Advised Fund, and the Dr. Michael A. & Catherine Gordon Philanthropic Fund, all held at the Toledo Jewish Community Foundation.*



MONDAY
OCTOBER 26

SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 7

SUNDAY
OCTOBER 25

THURSDAY
NOVEMBER 12

22nd Annual
NW Ohio Jewish
Book Festival

Jewish Federation
& Foundation
OF GREATER TOLEDO

Jewish
Book
Council

More information coming soon

Mary Elizabeth Williams
AIDA

Brendan Boyle
RADAMES

Lauren Decker
AMNERIS

GIUSEPPE VERDI'S
AIDA
OCTOBER 16 & 18, 2026

For Tickets
419-255-7464 or
toledoopera.org

The iconic crest worn by Messi and Argentina's soccer team was designed by a Jewish superfan 50 years ago

JUAN MELAMED | JTA

BUENOS AIRES — Soccer fans around the world are familiar with the crest worn by Argentina and its star Lionel Messi: a vertical shield with laurel branches symbolizing victory and glory at the bottom and three stars at the top representing the team's three World Cup titles.

But few are aware that the crest has its roots in Argentina's close-knit world of Jewish sports clubs, where its designer developed his affinity for soccer.

Norberto "Toto" Rud was in his late 20s and a member of Club Náutico Hacoaj, a Jewish club, when he proposed the crest in 1976, drawing on the branding acumen and graphic design skills he would use throughout his career as a businessman and soccer aficionado in Buenos Aires.

Rud has long been credited with developing the crest after observing that while many European soccer teams wore distinctive emblems, his own beloved Argentina's jerseys were notable only for their sky blue-and-white colors.

Watching international soccer in the era of black-and-white television, Rud noticed that supporters could instantly recognize teams such as West Germany by its eagle or the Soviet Union by its CCCP lettering, but Argentina could easily be confused with clubs wearing similar striped shirts. He concluded that the national team needed a visual identity equal to its footballing tradition.

Rud prepared approximately 20 design proposals and submitted them to the Argentine Football Association, in a proposal that reached its president and executive committee. The crest made its debut on Nov. 28, 1976, just days after it was approved, in a 0-0 friendly against the Soviet Union in Buenos Aires.

Fifty years later, the crest is basically unchanged and is one of the most widely worn team logos in the world, as Messi jerseys are popular across the globe.

"As a son and a member of the Jewish community and as an Argentinean, it's a source of pride," Toto Rud's son Oliver Rud told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. He added, "Every time I see Argentina's national team crest, it still amazes me."

Toto Rud got to see Argentina wear his crest to two World Cup championships, in 1978 and 1986. But he did not live to see the third in 2022. He died in 2010 at age 61 and is buried in Buenos Aires' La Tablada, Latin America's largest Jewish cemetery.

Oliver Rud said his father's mother came to Argentina from Ukraine, a common pathway for Jewish migrants in the first half of the 20th century. Toto Rud was born in March 1948 and was a longtime member of Hacoaj, where he played club soccer himself.

Founded in 1935 by Jewish immigrants to Buenos Aires, Club

Náutico Hacoaj is a sports and cultural club with around 10,000 members and five facilities, one in Buenos Aires city and four in Tigre, a city in the north of the Buenos Aires province. Hacoaj, which means "strength" in Hebrew, has been the launch pad for a number of prominent Jewish athletes, including tennis star Diego Schwartzmann. Oliver Rud said a tree dedicated to his father is planted on Hacoaj's sprawling campus.

"For Hacoaj, it is a tremendous source of pride that one of our members was the creator of the Argentine Football Association's crest," the club's president, Osvaldo Ofman, told JTA. "His design not only represents the jersey of the Argentina national team, the [2022] World Cup champions, but also gives us the feeling that a small part of Hacoaj and the Jewish community lives on in an emblem recognized around the world."

Argentina faced off in the Round of 16 against Egypt, whose coach Hossam Hassan waved a Palestinian flag after previously defeating Australia in a 4-2 shootout. Footage of him walking across the field with the flag while chants of "Free, free Palestine" were heard quickly went viral. In a post-match interview, Hassan said his "heart and soul" were with the Palestinian people and dedicated the win to both Egyptians and Palestinians.

The match represented something of a de facto Israeli-Palestinian showdown in a tournament in which neither the Israelis nor the Palestinians are playing. In addition to the show of support for the Palestinians from Egypt, the Argentine government staunchly supports Israel, which Messi, a Catholic, has visited. And a recent poll by an Israeli magazine found that Argentina was the clear favorite among Israeli World Cup viewers, named by 38% of respondents as the team they hope wins the tournament.

The knockout game came a decade after Messi ignited a backlash in Egypt after announcing on an Egyptian television program that he was donating his shoes to a charity in Cairo. Presenters on the TV show accused Messi of being Jewish and aligned with Israel, which he had visited three years earlier.

"I know he's Jewish, he donated to Israel and visited the Wailing Wall and whatever," then-Egyptian Football Federation spokesman Azmi Mogahed phoned in to say. "We don't need his shoes and Egypt's poor don't need help from someone with Jewish or Zionist citizenship." Mogahed died in 2020.

Messi, who plays for Inter Miami during the regular season, is 39 and is widely expected not to play in another World Cup after this one, meaning that Argentina's loss might have been his last game in international



▲ The crest worn by members of Argentina's national soccer team, including #10 Lionel Messi, was designed by a Jewish soccer fan named Norberto "Toto" Rud in 1976. Messi is seen here during a World Cup game on June 22, 2026. | Paul Ellis / AFP via Getty Images

competition (Editor's note: Argentina lost to Spain 1-0 in the World Cup final on Sunday, July 19).

For Oliver Rud, the game was an opportunity to reflect not only on Messi's contributions but on his father's, as well.

"Every time I see Argentina's national team crest, it still amazes me," he said. "In fact, my brother Guido and I were just talking about it the other day — how incredible it is to think that Toto designed the crest for the national team some 50 years ago. It's really extraordinary. Every time I see the crest, I feel a little piece of him in my heart. It's a beautiful way to remember him."



New JFGT Security Policy Purpose

To help ensure the safety and security of all attendees while fostering an environment of openness and community engagement, this policy outlines procedures for event registration, attendance, and security.

Registration Procedures

Individual Registration Required:

All attendees must register individually through our designated online registration form or directly with Jewish Federation and Foundation of Greater Toledo staff registrations.

Complete Data Collection:

Registrants are required to provide accurate contact information, including full name, phone number, and email address. For guests or additional attendees, the primary registrant must add each guest's details separately.

Verification & Confirmation:

Registrants will receive a confirmation email and the location of the event after registration.

Guest Policy:

Attendees need to register all guests in advance. Same-day or walk-in registrations may be limited or declined based on security considerations.

Prohibited Items

Weapons of any kind under any circumstance

Alcohol, illegal drugs, or substances (including drug paraphernalia)

All glass items

Bags over 18"x 12"x 8", camelbacks, Bota bags, and flasks

Signs, flags, banners, posters, or balloons

Flammable liquids or aerosol cans

Other items as deemed inappropriate by the Security Director or event staff

JEWISH FEDERATION AND FOUNDATION OF GREATER TOLEDO TRIBUTES AND MEMORIALS:

We gratefully acknowledge the following Tributes and Memorials to JFGT and TJCF funds. Tributes and Memorials can be made by contacting Barb at 419-724-0357, barb@jewishtoledo.org or Monique at 419-724-0386, monique@jewishtoledo.org.
Received between May 14, 2026 - July 13, 2026

Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo
In Honor of Julie Romanoff's Bat Mitzvah

- Ms. Terri Albert and Mr. Thomas Meyers +
- Ms. Susan Richards #

In Honor of Chuck Pokross' Special Birthday
• Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Kasle #

In Honor of Cathy Sperling's Special Birthday
• Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Kasle #

Arleen R. Levine TJCF Fund for Donor Stewardship
In Memory of Marvin and Marilyn Jacobs
• Mr. and Mrs. Jon Levine ^

Jewish Senior, Family, & Social Services - Food Pantry
In Memory of Marvin and Marilyn Jacobs
• Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Newbury ^
• Mr. and Mrs. Beryl Ravin +

In Honor of Sheryl Levin
• Dr. and Mrs. Howard Rosenberg ++

Jewish Community LiveSecure Fund
In Memory of Irma Sheon
• Sheon-Fishman Charitable Fund +++++

Jewish Senior, Family & Social Services Fund
In Honor of Jewish Senior, Family & Social Services
• Ms. Robin Hayward Stone ++

Marvin and Marilyn Jacobs JFS Pantry & Welfare Fund
In Memory of Marvin and Marilyn Jacobs
• The Becker and Barrett Families, Susan, Betsy, Jody, Steve, Dani and Jamie +++++
• Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Klumb ++
• Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Rothschild +

Meijer Simply Give
In Honor of Sheryl Levin
• Anonymous +++++

Ross Treuhaft Special Needs Spirituality Fund
In Memory of Barbara Treuhaft
• Dr. Eli Abramson and Ms. Nora Romanoff ^
• Charles and Janice Antal ++
• Mrs. Nancy Beren #
• David and Wilma DiManna +++
• Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Kasle #
• Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Klumb +
• Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Meridieth +
• Mr. Alan Newell and Ms. Heidi Schultz ++
• The Rosen Family ++

- Rothlisberger Family Charitable Fund +++++
- Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Rothschild #
- Jay Sepanski and Becky Irvine +++
- Ms. Catherine Sheets ++
- Peter and Marcia Silverman Philanthropic Fund +++
- Sally Skutch Bloom +
- Mr. Daniel Steinberg +++
- Terry and Joanne M. Stiger +++++
- Beth Treuhaft +++++
- Rick and Tina Zdrada +++
- Mr. Mark Zyndorf ++

Toledo Jewish Community Cemetery Association Fund
In Memory of Isadore A. Shapiro
• Michele Gitlin +++

Contribution Category Key	
General *	\$10-\$17
Chai #	\$18-\$24
Silver ^	\$25-\$35
Double Chai +	\$36-\$49
Gold ++	\$50-\$99
Platinum +++	\$100-\$249
Diamond +++++	\$250+

JFGT financial assistance and cancellation policies for programs

Financial assistance for programs

DISCREET FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE FOR JEWISH TOLEDO ACTIVITIES

We understand that each person’s financial situation is different, and cost can be a barrier for participation in various activities. We don’t want program fees to be an obstacle for you or your family to attend our events or participate in our programs. Assistance is available and confidential. For more information, please contact Ben at 419-724-0408 or ben@jewishtoledo.org.

JEWISH FEDERATION & FOUNDATION OF GREATER TOLEDO'S CANCELLATION POLICY

The Jewish Federation & Foundation of Greater Toledo (JFGT) cancellation policy is established to ensure a fair and transparent process for participants who need to cancel their registration for JFGT events. Our primary goal is to accommodate all participants while managing the logistical aspects of each event efficiently. This policy will generally apply to JFGT events unless otherwise stated in connection with the registration for the event.

POLICY:

Participants who wish to cancel their registration for any events must do so by 48 hours prior to the event. Cancellations made after this date may result in forfeiture of the registration fee.

To cancel your registration for any event, please send an email to sherry@jewishtoledo.org with the subject line "Cancellation: [Your Name]". Include your full name, registration information, and a brief reason for the cancellation in the email.

Make sure to send the cancellation request before the 48-hour deadline. Cancellations made on or before the 48-hour deadline are eligible for a full refund of the registration fee.

Cancellations made after the 48-hour deadline may not be eligible for a refund. However, Jewish Federation & Foundation of Greater Toledo may consider exceptional circumstances on a case-by-case basis.

If you are unable to attend any Federation-sponsored event after the cancellation deadline has passed, you may nominate a substitute participant at no additional cost. Please notify Sherry Majewski (sherry@jewishtoledo.org or 419-724-0351) of the substitution at least 24 hours before the event.

Participants who do not attend events without providing prior notice will not be eligible for any refunds or substitutions.

If any event is canceled by the Jewish Federation & Foundation of Greater Toledo due to circumstances beyond our control, such as a natural disaster, pandemic, or other unforeseen events, we will make every effort to reschedule. If rescheduling is not possible, participants will receive a full refund of the registration fee. Jewish Federation & Foundation of Greater Toledo is not responsible for any additional costs incurred by participants, such as travel or accommodation expenses.

Jewish Federation & Foundation of Greater Toledo reserves the right to amend this cancellation policy at any time. Participants will be notified of any changes via email or through our official website.

By registering for any events sponsored by Jewish Federation & Foundation of Greater Toledo, participants acknowledge that they have read and understood this cancellation policy and agree to abide by its terms and conditions.

BE PART OF THE STORY!

Toledo Jewish News welcomes community submissions, including commentary, articles of interest, and historic photos. **Email materials for consideration to abby@jewishtoledo.org.**

TOLEDO Jewish News

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6465 Sylvania Avenue, Sylvania, Ohio 43560

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6465 Sylvania Avenue, Sylvania, Ohio 43560
419-724-0363



Jewish Federation
& Foundation
OF GREATER TOLEDO

Toledo Jewish News accepts ads, artwork and all editorial copy by disc or email only, at abby@JewishToledo.org. Photographs and discs may also be dropped off at the *Toledo Jewish News* office. Thank you for your cooperation.

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The Jewish Federations
OF NORTH AMERICA



Make your contribution to the Annual Campaign online at www.JewishToledo.org

A memorable evening of reflection with Adam Nimoy

JFGT recently honored its Silver Circle members, an extraordinary group of supporters who have contributed to the Annual Campaign for 25 consecutive years or more. The evening featured special guest Adam Nimoy, who joined attendees for dinner before sharing insights from his memoir, *The Most Human: Reconciling with My Father, Leonard Nimoy*.

In a candid and moving presentation, Adam reflected on growing up with a distant father, and spoke about family relationships, addiction, recovery, forgiveness, and reconciliation. The program concluded with a thoughtful Q&A and a dessert reception featuring themed, and always delicious, treats from Cookiecutterie.



JFGT Fall/Winter 2026 Holiday Office Closures



Date	Day of Week	Holiday	Office Hours
September 7, 2026	Monday	Labor Day	Closed
September 11, 2026	Friday	Erev Rosh Hashanah	Close at 12:00 pm
September 21, 2026	Monday	Yom Kippur	Closed
November 26, 2026	Thursday	Thanksgiving	Closed
November 27, 2026	Friday	Day After Thanksgiving	Closed
December 24, 2026	Thursday	Christmas Eve	Close at 12:00 pm
December 25, 2026	Friday	Christmas Day	Closed
December 31, 2026	Thursday	New Year's Eve	Close at 12:00 pm
January 1, 2027	Friday	New Year's Day	Closed

Offices close at 3:30 p.m. on Fridays beginning November 13.

Jewish Holiday Cemetery Closing Schedule for Yom Tov 2026

BETH SHALOM CEMETERY
420 Otter Creek Rd., Oregon, Ohio 43616

EAGLE POINT CEMETERY
515 Eagle Point Rd. Rossford, Ohio 43460

Friday, September 11, 2026	Erev Rosh Hashanah	Close at 4 pm
Saturday, September 12, 2026	Rosh Hashanah I/Shabbat	Closed
Sunday, September 13, 2026	Rosh Hashanah II	Closed
Sunday, September 20, 2026	Erev Yom Kippur	Close at 4 pm
Monday, September 21, 2026	Yom Kippur	Closed
Friday, September 25, 2026	Erev Sukkot	Close at 4 pm
Saturday, September 26, 2026	Sukkot I/Shabbat	Closed
Sunday, September 27, 2026	Sukkot II	Closed
Friday, October 2, 2026	Erev Shemini Atzeret	Close at 4 pm
Saturday, October 3, 2026	Shemini Atzeret/Shabbat	Closed
Sunday, October 4, 2026	Simchat Torah	Closed

Regular Cemetery hours:
Sunday through Thursday 8 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Fridays 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Cemeteries close early every Friday at 4 p.m. for Erev Shabbat
Cemeteries are closed every Saturday for Shabbat

Toledo Jewish Community Cemetery Association
6465 Sylvania Ave.
Sylvania, Ohio 43560
419-724-0404



Happy Tears

LAUREN SACHS

Do you have thoughts or a question for Lauren? Email her at literallylaurensachs@gmail.com, and she may respond (anonymously) in a future “Happy Tears” column.

When Brad died in August of 2020, I wanted to find a meaningful way to express my gratitude for those who supported our grieving family. It felt essential to send a thank you card that represented both who he was and how he thought about the world.

With the help of my gifted brother-in-law, I designed a card with a quote from Albert Einstein, a lifelong hero of Brad’s. The quotation read, “Only a life lived for others is a life worthwhile.” For the image to accompany this sentiment, I quickly landed on the symbol of a tree in full bloom, with roots extending deep into the ground. The tree felt exactly right: an image connected with Brad’s Jewish heritage, a reminder of his love for nature, and a symbol of so many traits he valued. With the beauty of summer all around us and this month marking six years since Brad’s death, trees have been at the forefront of my mind.

A few months back as I started teaching yoga classes, I began to consider the meaning behind each pose, referred to as asana in Sanskrit. Vrksasana or Tree Pose in yoga is a one-legged balancing posture, which requires anchoring the standing leg into the ground while lifting the rest of the torso upward like a tree trunk with the arms sometimes acting as branches. In real life, trees prompt

us to consider our connection to the earth and to each other. Trees must grow roots deep into the soil for stability just as we rely on a sense of grounding to feel steady in our lives. It is not surprising that trees are often used to depict ancestry as our families typically provide us a sense of home and security, with the limbs offering an ideal metaphor for how families extend and evolve through time. Moreover, since trees act as the Earth’s lungs, they quite literally sustain our lives through the process of photosynthesis, absorbing sunlight and carbon dioxide while releasing the oxygen we need to breathe.

Aside from the way that trees symbolize our ties to the land and one another, plus help to clean the air we breathe, trees have other ways of nourishing us. Just like the metaphor of the tree in Shel Silverstein’s classic children’s book The Giving Tree, there are myriad ways that trees offer us support. On a basic level, trees can offer shade, a place to climb, a trunk on which to lean and relax, and sometimes even food through the fruit

some varieties bear. Moreover, we often use trees to build or create items we use in our daily lives, including furniture, paper, works of art, and even our very homes. Ultimately, trees offer us - and many animal species - a seemingly endless array of gifts.

Thinking about trees as they relate to my yoga practice, it also dawned on me that trees portray the life cycle of growth, decline, and renewal. The further I walk along my path of bereavement, the more comfort I find in this sort of analogy as it suggests that loss need not necessarily feel like

an end point. Though we are unable to recapture time with the departed, those of us who are bereaved need not suffer forever. Indeed, following a loved one’s demise, we may initially feel as though we are like a tree that has lost its leaves and is entering a dormant period. In time, if we learn to express our pain and accept the altered reality of our lives, we may discover a new opportunity to grow and blossom as trees do every spring. Just like the Tree of Life in Judaism offers us spiritual renewal, by connecting to our roots and with the support of loved ones, we may find ways to flourish once more, reaching upward towards the sun and beginning again and again.

Lauren Sachs holds a bachelor’s degree in English and Psychology, and a Master’s Degree in Social Work, from the University of Michigan. After completing advanced clinical training at Yale University, she worked as a therapist and consultant in a variety of settings. During her time in Jewish Toledo, Lauren has received the Harry Levison Young Leadership Award and the Shining Light Award, and is currently serving as the Chair for the 20th Annual NW Ohio Jewish Book Festival. In addition to her involvement within the local Jewish community, Lauren serves as a volunteer for Hospice of Northwest Ohio. She is also the author of a forthcoming book about her late husband, his joyful approach to life and work as an oncologist, and how examining his life helped her better cope with her grief. To learn more about Lauren’s journey and her work on living well after loss, visit www.literally-lauren.com.

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CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL
THURSDAYS • 12:30 P.M. • FREE
Register by the Wednesday prior to each session with wcbi@cbitoledo.org

CONGREGATION ETZ CHAYIM
SUNDAYS • AUGUST 16, AUGUST 30, SEPTEMBER 6 • 10 A.M. - 12 P.M., FREE
Register by the Friday prior to each session with jaco824@bex.net

TEMPLE SHOMER EMUNIM
WEDNESDAYS • AUGUST 16, AUGUST 26 • 6 - 8:30 P.M. • \$5 PER PERSON, PER SESSION (INCLUDES A LIGHT DINNER, SNACKS, AND DRINKS)
RSVP by the Tuesday prior to each session with office@templese.com or 419-885-3341.

Mahj cards will be available for purchase at The Temple. Please email office@templese.com to reserve your card. If you have a table of 4, please indicate the names at your table when reserving.

COMMUNITY MAHJ HAPPENING

All locations are open to everyone in the Jewish community, regardless of affiliation. All skill levels are welcome.

CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL
SYLVANIA, OHIO
157 Years of Consecrated Service to God, Torah & Israel

CONGREGATION
ETZ CHAYIM

Jewish Federation & Foundation
OF GREATER TOLEDO

טוֹלְדוֹ יִשְׂרָאֵל

CHARITY MAH JONGG TOURNAMENT TO BE HELD IN TOLEDO
Marilyn Boskind, sister of Elsa Leveton and an avid mah jongg player, is bringing her successful Cincinnati mah jongg tournament to Toledo on Sunday, October 11, 2026. The event will be held at Temple Shomer Emunim from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The cost is \$100 per person and includes lunch, a silent auction, and many mah jongg items for sale plus prize money for high scores.
A player must be able to complete four games in 55 minutes. Players will rotate tables after four games.
This is a charity event. The proceeds from the tournament will benefit the new Toledo Neuroscience Center ALS Clinic which helps local people navigate this horrific disease. Elsa’s husband Allen died from ALS seven years ago. If you are unable to attend but would like to donate, please make checks payable to the Toledo Neuroscience Center and mail to Marilyn Boskind, 9436 Southgate Dr., Cincinnati, Ohio 45241.
For further information and to register, please contact Marilyn Boskind directly at 513-368-7003.

From Toledo to Israel: Strengthening Jewish Community through Partnership

What does the Jewish community in Toledo have in common with Jewish communities in Budapest, Akko, and Israel's Western Galilee? More than you might think. In June, Stephen Rothschild, Robin Isenberg, and Roy Büchler joined Jewish leaders from 17 North American communities, Hungary, and Israel at the Partnership2Gether Western Galilee Council of Communities (CoC) Conference in Indianapolis. Throughout the conference, participants explored both the challenges and opportunities facing Jewish communities around the world. One conversation that especially resonated focused on Israeli youth. Educators and mental health professionals described a generation growing up amid the lasting effects of COVID, war, rocket

attacks, and ongoing uncertainty. Many children have never experienced a truly normal school year. The delegation also learned about Jewish life in Budapest, home to nearly 100,000 Jews and one of Europe's largest Jewish communities. Despite unique political and social challenges, Jewish life continues to flourish through strong institutions, dedicated leadership, and deep communal commitment. Although every community faces its own realities, participants discovered they share many of the same questions: How do we strengthen Jewish identity? Support the next generation? Combat antisemitism? Build resilient communities? The answer begins with partnership. The conference reinforced the importance of the relationships Jewish Toledo has built through



▲ Roy Büchler, Jewish Federation & Foundation of Greater Toledo JCRC Director (left), speaks at a CoC panel

Partnership2Gether. Those same connections continue to inspire meaningful opportunities for engagement here at home.

Whether strengthening relationships with our partners in Israel and around the world or bringing people together here in Northwest Ohio, JCRC and JFGT remain committed to creating meaningful opportunities for connection, understanding, and community. Thank you to everyone who helped make these experiences possible.

Interfaith Civic Gathering: Renewing Hope and Commitment for America's 250th

JCRC and Temple Shomer Emunim hosted an interfaith civic conversation made possible through a grant from the Jewish Partnership for Democracy. More than 55 participants representing a variety of faiths and community organizations gathered to reflect on the values that continue to shape our nation as America approaches its 250th anniversary. Guided discussions centered on foundational American texts, including the Declaration of Independence and *The New Colossus*, with conversations exploring liberty, equality, civic responsibility, and hope. Thank you to Temple Shomer Emunim for hosting the event, Rabbi Lisa Delson for facilitating the discussion, the clergy and community leaders who participated, and the Jewish Partnership for Democracy for making this meaningful gathering possible.



▲ Participants representing a variety of faiths and community organizations gathered to reflect on America's values at 250



▲ (L to R) JFGT staff with Israeli visitors

Conversation with Maya Shoham

JFGT staff and lay leaders recently welcomed Maya Shoham, Regional Director of Partnership2Gether Western Galilee for the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI), for a discussion about life in Israel's northern region and the important role Partnership2Gether plays in connecting Jewish communities around the world. Shoham shared both professional expertise and personal perspective, speaking about the realities facing Israeli families today and the value of sustaining strong global Jewish partnerships. Chef Uri Arnold, Marketing Director for Partnership2Gether, and his wife, Hila, also joined the conversation.

Cooking with Chef Uri

Later that evening, Chef Uri and Hila led a hands-on cooking workshop for community members and young professionals. Participants prepared arayes while sharing stories, Israeli culture, and conversation. Due to demand, Chef Uri also returned the following day to lead a second workshop. Chef Uri is the chef and co-owner of Roots in Akko's Old City and Arnold's in Moshav Netiv HaShayara. He is also a founder of the Western Galilee Tourism Association and recently launched Umami, a consulting, marketing, and branding company.



▲ (L to R) Jewish Toledo YoPros cooking with Chef Uri



▲ Jewish Toledo and our guests from Israel attended a very special Mud Hens game

Community Night at the Mud Hens

Community members gathered for an evening at the Toledo Mud Hens, enjoying time together outside the usual setting. The evening included the chance to watch Detroit Tigers pitcher Justin Verlander make a rehabilitation start before returning to the major leagues.

Faith Build with Habitat for Humanity

JFGT recently joined Maumee Valley Habitat for Humanity's Faith Build, helping construct a home for a local mother and her children. Volunteers from five faith communities—Baha'is of Sylvania, Congregation B'nai Israel, Jewish Federation & Foundation of Greater Toledo, St. Lucas Lutheran Church, and Temple Shomer Emunim—worked side by side to support affordable housing in our community. For the Jewish community, participating in Faith Build reflects our values of caring for those in need and working together to strengthen our neighborhoods. We are grateful to Maumee Valley Habitat for Humanity for bringing people of different faiths together in service of a shared purpose.



▲ Maumee Valley Habitat for Humanity's Faith Build helped construct a home for a local mother and her children

Survey: Jews in smaller communities feel less heard when raising concerns about antisemitism

GRACE GILSON | JTA

Jews living in smaller communities are less likely than those in large communities to feel their concerns about antisemitism are taken seriously by law enforcement and would-be allies, a new survey from the Jewish Federations of North America has found.

Jews in smaller communities were “lacking a sense of allyship in the communities around them,” said Mimi Kravetz, the chief impact and growth officer for JFNA.

“Jews in small communities tell us that they feel deeply concerned that they’re looking for support, that their leadership is looking for network and resources, because it can feel like they’re on their own,” Kravetz told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

The JFNA survey, which was compiled from its March 2025 study of Jewish Life in North America, found that 22% of Jews live in small communities. Defined as Jewish communities with fewer than 5,000 Jews living within five miles of their zip code, small Jewish communities are also more likely to be found in the South or in rural or suburban areas.

Although the survey found no statistically significant difference in the antisemitism experienced by Jews in smaller and larger

communities, it found that Jews in small communities are more likely to feel that antisemitism is invalidated or dismissed.

Among respondents, 58% of Jews in small communities reported feeling more likely to be invalidated, compared with 48% of Jews overall.

Jews in small communities were also less likely to express confidence in local law enforcement’s responses to antisemitism. Just 39% of Jews in small communities say local law enforcement takes antisemitism seriously, compared with 47% of Jews in larger communities.

Leaders of small Jewish communities also feel less physically safe in Jewish spaces than their big city counterparts: 60% of those small-community leaders said they feel safe, compared to 86% of community leaders overall.

While the survey found that 50% of Jews in smaller communities report being unengaged in Jewish life, compared to 36% of Jewish respondents overall, they were just as likely to say they wanted greater connection to Jewish life.

The survey suggested that geographic constraints and limited availability of Jewish life likely caused the disparity in engagement, even as Jews sought out Jewish connections in the wake of the Oct. 7 attacks in

Israel.

Kravetz said Jews in small communities were just as likely as Jews in big communities to crave those connections.

“What’s needed in small Jewish communities is more leadership infrastructure and support for Jewish life,” Kravetz said.

The survey was conducted before the January arson attack on Beth Israel Congregation, the only synagogue in Jackson, Mississippi, which drew renewed attention to the security challenges facing smaller Jewish communities.

Michele Schipper, the CEO of the Goldring/Woldenberg Institute of Southern Jewish Life, a nonprofit that supports Jewish communities across the South and was housed inside Beth Israel Congregation prior to the arson attack, said security remains a challenge for some smaller congregations.

“For some of those smaller communities, they may not be able to have personnel on site every time they’re open,” Schipper said. “It may be an older building. Not everyone is able to get one of the secure community grants,” she said, referring to federal and state government grants to nonprofits seen as vulnerable to attack.

Earlier this month leaders from

Jewish communities across the South convened at the ISJL’s annual conference in Charlotte, North Carolina, where Schipper said they discussed strategies for keeping smaller communities safe.

“One of the things we really did share is how important it is not to isolate ourselves in these communities, but to continually build relationships with the local community, with local law enforcement, so that when, God forbid, something happens, you’re not starting to reach out or wait for somebody to contact you,” Schipper said.

Looking ahead, Schipper said her message to Jews in small communities was to “continue to build relationships in your own local community, and just continue to participate in the Jewish community and stay strong and positive.”

The study, which was conducted online by JFNA from March 5-25, 2025, surveyed 5,798 total U.S. adults, of which 1,877 identified as Jewish. The margin of error for Jewish adults was ± 2.26%, and samples were weighted to be representative of the U.S. population and Jewish community.

Echoes of Vilna at the Glass Pavilion

There are moments when theater becomes more than performance. It becomes witness.

On **Sunday, August 9 at 2 p.m.**, the Toledo Jewish community and allies will gather for one of those rare moments as *Echoes of Vilna* comes to the **Glass Pavilion at the Toledo Museum of Art**.

Presented as a staged reading with a remarkable all-star cast drawn in part from the Jewish community itself, *Echoes of Vilna* is not simply a Holocaust drama. It is a sacred journey into courage, memory, family, identity, and the enduring resilience of the human spirit.

Recently honored by inclusion in the archives of Yad Vashem in Jerusalem, the play has already moved audiences at the Illinois Holocaust Museum and the Interlochen Academy for the Arts. Now, this extraordinary work arrives in Toledo for what promises to be a deeply emotional and unforgettable afternoon.

The production features acclaimed director Irina Zaurov and playwright Ken Newbury, alongside a distinguished cast including Hazzan Ivor Lichterman, Paul Causman, Colin Thaler, Russ Thaler, Fagie Benstein, Julia Grossman, Yaffa Segal, Jill Reinstein, and many more. This is one

of the largest Jewish casts outside of a Purim spiel in memory.

At the heart of the story is the real diary of Yitskhok Rudashevski, a brilliant Jewish teenager trapped inside the Vilna Ghetto during the Holocaust and the historical account of his cousin, Sore Voloshin. Through poetry, humor, music, family bonds, resistance, and hope, the play reminds audiences that Jewish history is not solely a story of tragedy—it is a story of spiritual endurance.

One reviewer described the work as:

“A haunting and emotionally powerful experience that evokes the intimacy and humanity of Anne Frank while giving voice to the Jewish soul of Vilna.”

Audience members should expect far more than historical retelling. *Echoes of Vilna* invites each person present into an act of remembrance and action. In a world increasingly fractured by hatred, division, and silence, this production asks a timeless question:

What does it mean to remember—and what responsibility comes with memory?

This is not merely theater. It is testimony. It is resilience. It is a story that must be told.

Seating at the Glass Pavilion is limited, and early registration

is strongly encouraged to avoid missing this opportunity. Attendees are required to pre-register for seats early online at <https://jftoledo.fcsuite.com/erp/donate/list/ticket> or with Mary Bilyeu at 419-724-0405 or mary@jewishtoledo.org. Contact Mary with any questions.

This presentation is made possible with a grant from the Toledo Jewish Community Foundation.



A STORY THAT MUST BE TOLD.
A RESILIENCE THAT WILL NEVER BE SILENCED.

ECHOES of VILNA

A SACRED JOURNEY. A TIMELESS LEGACY.

A STAGED READING

AUGUST 9, 2026 | 2:00 PM
THE GLASS PAVILION
TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART

FEATURING AN ALL-STAR CAST

HAZZAN IVOR LICHTERMAN | PAUL CAUSMAN | COLIN THALER
RUSS THALER | FAGIE BENSTEIN | JULIA GROSSMAN | YAFFA SEGAL
JILL REINSTEIN | AND MORE MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY

DIRECTED BY
IRINA ZAUROV

WRITTEN BY
KEN NEWBURY

“Echoes of Vilna is to our generation what *The Diary of Anne Frank* was to the last. Every soul should witness it.”
— Theater Reviewer

INCLUDED IN THE
YAD VASHEM
ARCHIVE
JERUSALEM

LIMITED SEATING.
RESERVE YOUR SEAT TODAY.
Honor our past. Strengthen our future.

Presentation made possible with a grant from the Toledo Jewish Community Foundation.

REMEMBER. HONOR. INSPIRE. ENDURE. TOGETHER.



Summer fun with 60 & Better

Our 60 & Better group enjoyed a season full of learning, laughter, and adventure. Members gathered to celebrate Shavuot with a delicious dairy dinner before enjoying an engaging presentation by Kim Post, RN,

Certified Sound Healer, Certified Aromatherapist, and Herbalist, who shared the many benefits and practical uses of essential oils for health and wellness. The fun continued as 18 members traveled to Chicago for a week filled

with culture, history, and friendship. The group began with a visit to the iconic Art Institute of Chicago before enjoying dinner at Russian Tea Time Restaurant. Throughout the trip, participants explored the city's rich Jewish heritage with visits

to historic synagogues, including Temple Shalom, as well as the Jewish People's Institute, Marks Nathan Jewish Orphan Home, and Douglas Park Auditorium. The itinerary also included a scenic Chicago River architecture cruise and a memorable dinner at Milt's BBQ. From meaningful learning experiences to unforgettable sightseeing and plenty of laughter along the way, the trip was a wonderful opportunity to connect, explore, and create lasting memories together.



Celebrating the women who make a difference

More than 65 of Jewish Toledo's dedicated women philanthropists gathered recently for Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo's annual Women's Philanthropy celebration, an evening filled with connection, inspiration, and gratitude.

The featured guest was Risa Cohen, a local educator, speaker, storyteller, and singer-songwriter, who captivated attendees with her presentation, "Overcoming Obstacles with Humor and Hope." Through heartfelt stories, music, and humor, Cohen encouraged guests to embrace resilience, find joy in life's challenges, and recognize the strength that comes from community.

The evening also celebrated the extraordinary commitment of JFGT's Pearls, Pomegranates, Lions, and LOJE members, whose generosity and leadership help sustain and strengthen Jewish Toledo year after year.

Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo is so grateful to our women philanthropists for their consistent dedication to keeping our community strong. For more information on women's philanthropy divisions, visit www.jewishtoledo.org/ways-to-give/womens-philanthropy.



Former Israeli hostages Sasha Trufanov and Sapir Cohen wed in emotional ceremony

PHILISSA CRAMER | JTA

Two former Israeli hostages have wed, in the first marriage of hostages taken when Hamas attacked Israel on Oct. 7, 2023.

Sasha Trufanov and Sapir Cohen were visiting Trufanov’s family on Kibbutz Nir Oz on Oct. 7 when they were attacked and abducted to Gaza. Trufanov’s father was murdered. Cohen was freed during a temporary ceasefire after 55 days, while Trufanov was held for nearly 500 days.

They married in a ceremony attended by multiple former hostages as well as Israeli President Isaac Herzog, who posted a picture of himself under the chuppah, or wedding canopy, with Trufanov and Cohen.

“We prayed for your return, we were moved to tears when you came back home, and this evening we were privileged to rejoice together with you and to bless you under the chuppah on your joyous day,” Herzog wrote.

While other freed hostages have celebrated births and engagements, the wedding was the first for a former hostage. It came just days after Israel marked the 1,000th day since Oct. 7, and as the government’s handling of the hostage crisis continues to roil Israeli politics ahead of a looming election. Nitzan Alon, an Israeli army major general who was part of a small hostage negotiation team, said at a conference that more hostages could have been returned alive had the Israeli government made different decisions, strengthening a widespread belief within Israel.

Alon, too, was present at Trufanov and Cohen’s wedding.

After Trufanov stepped on a glass, the traditional signal for the execution of the marriage, Eyal Golan’s “Am Yisrael Chai,” an



▲ Sapir Cohen and Sasha Troufanov share their experiences of being kidnapped by Hamas and held hostage in Gaza at the Jewish Community Center of Houston on May 29, 2025. | Elizabeth Conley/Houston Chronicle via Getty Images

anthem of Jewish and Israeli solidarity during the Gaza war, began playing.

Rom Braslavski, another hostage who was briefly held with Trufanov in Gaza, posted pictures of himself with his friend at the wedding, as well as a video of him and the newly married couple being hoisted to dance.

“Today, we are together, not in Rafah, not stuffed in a trunk, but free and you are in a beautiful groom’s suit marrying Sapir. How much you talked about her, my brother,” he wrote on Instagram. “There is nothing happier for me than accompanying you on this day, and I hope both of you will bring into the world happy little children and that they won’t know evil. May they not know war, with God’s help.”

“We prayed for your return, we were moved to tears when you came back home, and this evening we were privileged to rejoice together with you and to bless you under the chuppah on your joyous day.”

Israeli President Isaac Herzog

Another wedding featuring a former hostage is scheduled for August. Eliya Cohen, who was held for 505 days, marked his engagement to Ziv Abud in a party that took place last week. He wore a jacket that read “Bring them Home” when other grooms wore it during the hostage crisis. With all hostages out of Gaza since January, Cohen altered it to

read “Dad, thank you,” a mantra that he said sustained him during his captivity.

Cohen did not know that Abud had survived the attack on the Nova music festival until after his release. While he was held hostage, she drew attention to his plight by setting a romantic table with an unfilled place on the boardwalk in Tel Aviv.



New to Jewish Toledo?
Scan the code or visit
jewishtoledo.org for more information.





Jewish Federation and Foundation of Greater Toledo Programs and Events



Featured Events

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4

Israel Mission Community Listening Session

5:30-7 p.m. | Location TBA

Join JFGT for a community listening session to help shape a future Israel Mission. This mission is being planned to coincide with the 30th anniversary of our partnership in the Western Galilee, taking place in fall 2027. Whether you’ve never been to Israel or have visited many times, your ideas, interests, and perspectives are important. Together, we’ll explore what meaningful Israel experiences should look like for our community and gather input that will help guide future planning. Register by Monday, August 3. Contact Mary Bilyeu at 419-724-0405 or mary@jewishtoledo.org for more information.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16

LADIES WHO GET THEIR HANDS DIRTY
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
\$54 per person - includes charcuterie board making supplies and lunch
Location TBA

We’re digging into the creative world of hand-building ceramics, a simple, hands-on technique using clay. This workshop will guide you from the ground up as you create your very own ceramic charcuterie board. You’ll hand-build your piece, which will then be fired in a kiln, bringing your creation to life. No prior ceramic experience is necessary, just come ready to get a little messy and have fun! RSVP by Monday, August 10.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30

JFGT ANNUAL MEETING FEATURING SARAH HURWITZ
See page 2 for more information.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

SHANAH TOVA... TO GO!
4 - 6 p.m.
\$18 per bag

Celebrate the sweetness of the Jewish New Year with a bag filled with all the Rosh Hashanah essentials. Each bag includes a one-pound Kosher challah along with a curated selection of apple, honey, and pomegranate-inspired treats to help welcome 5787 in the sweetest way. Kits are for the entire community and available by pickup only. All food items are certified Kosher. RSVP by Friday, September 4.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7

SAVE THE DATE - COMMUNITY OCTOBER 7 COMMEMORATION
More details to follow.

SAVE THE DATES: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25 - THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12

2026 TOLEDO JEWISH BOOK FESTIVAL
See page 3 for more information.

SUNDAYS, AUGUST 9 & AUGUST 23

LET’S PLAY! PJ EXPLORES TOLEDO
9:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Locations TBA
Cost varies, depending on location (ranging FREE to \$10 per child)
Ages 0-5 and their favorite grown-up(s) (older siblings are always welcome!)

Play, snacks, and beverages included

Join Jewish Toledo and other PJ Library families as we check out all the area has to offer for little kids! Each time we’ll meet at a different location around town - parks, playgrounds, indoor play spaces for littles, coffee shops, libraries and more! Most events/locations will be open to the public, but we’ll do our best to reserve a room or our own spot.

Locations will be shared the week prior to each event. RSVP by the Friday prior to marnie@jewishtoledo.org.

See our Facebook page (facebook.com/groups/JFGTfamily) for dates as they are available.

Let’s Play

PJ Explores Toledo

For more information and resources, visit jewishtoledo.org.



New for 2026, unless otherwise noted,
please register for all programs with
Sherry Majewski at 419-724-0351
or at <https://jftoledo.fcsuite.com/erp/donate/list/ticket>.

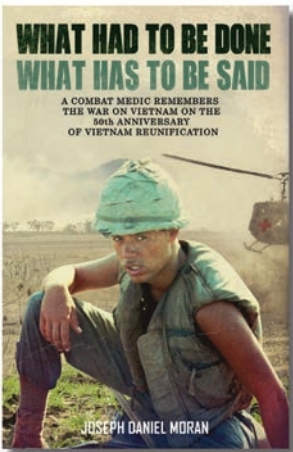


All information subject to
change with updates posted on
jewishtoledo.org



To submit an event for consideration,
send information to
abby@jewishtoledo.org at
least 45 days prior to event.

SENIOR PROGRAMMING:



THURSDAY, AUGUST 27
WHAT HAD TO BE DONE/WHAT HAS TO BE SAID: AN EVENING OF REMEMBRANCE
FOR 60 & BETTER MEN ONLY
6 - 7:30 p.m.
\$18 per campaign donor
\$36 for non-donors to the campaign
Includes vegetarian dinner, book, and book talk

Join us for an unforgettable evening with Vietnam veteran and local Jewish Toledo author, Joseph Moran. Over dinner, hear the powerful firsthand story behind his book, *What Had to Be Done, What Has to Be Said/A Combat Medic Remembers the War in Vietnam*. Stay for an engaging Q&A and the opportunity to connect with the author and his remarkable journey. RSVP by Thursday, August 20.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3
60 & BETTER - HONEY, WE'VE GOT YOU!
12 - 1:30 p.m.
\$15 for campaign donors
\$25 for non-donors to the campaign
Cost includes lunch, honey tasting, and more
Enjoy a delicious lunch, followed by a sweet honey tasting to welcome the New Year, and a special, engaging program presented by our very own Rachel Chernow! RSVP by Wednesday, August 26.



TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8
YOPROS T-TOWN MEET UP
6 p.m.
Location to be emailed once registered
Let's meet the second Tuesday of every month at a different local spot around Toledo. We'll cover vegetarian shareable snacks, and you'll purchase your own drinks. Whether you're looking to reconnect with old friends, meet new people, or simply unwind after work, this casual monthly meetup is for you. Come as you are. Stay as long as you'd like. We can't wait to see you! RSVP by the day prior.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20
YOPROS LIVE THE SUITE LIFE
6 p.m.
\$36 per person, includes suite, game ticket, ballpark eats, and drinks
Join us as we cheer on the Toledo Mud Hens AND Toledo Jewish YoPros' own Katie Cassell who is singing the National Anthem. Let's live the suite life! Don't miss out on this unique baseball experience. Grab your tickets today. RSVP by Friday, August 14.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15
SHINE ON: A YOPROS JEWELRY EXPERIENCE
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
\$18 per person, Includes wine, cocktails, mocktails, and light bites.
Location details will be shared with registered attendees.
Join Toledo Jewish YoPros for an exclusive after-hours evening of sparkle, conversation, and community at a premier local jewelry store. Our host, a fellow YoPro, will share her personal Jewish journey, what it's like working in her family's jewelry business, and an insider's guide to fine jewelry, from understanding what to look for to shopping with confidence. No pressure to buy. RSVP by Wednesday, October 12.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15
4TH ANNUAL CREATE & RELATE SENIOR EXPO
12 - 2:30 p.m.
FREE to attend, light lunch included
You're invited to a fun, interactive come-and-go community event for all ages! Drop in anytime that works for you and stay as long (or as little) as you'd like. Explore, connect, and discover amazing local resources, wellness activities, and creative fun — all in one place!
Featured vendors and activities:
• Sylvania Senior Center – Community programs and info
• Blood Pressure Checks – With RN Gretchen Hiatt
• Shaman & The Bear – Sip on healing herbal teas
• Lumbrezer Farm – Shop local veggies, jams, and honey
• UTMCI – Try a beginner Tai Chi class outdoors
• Area Office on Aging – Browse through the variety of offered programs and feel free to ask questions
• Tim Hagen, JFGT – Technology assistance
• HERO Program – Learn about Sylvania Township Fire Department's new offering of voluntary, non-emergency community paramedicine
• Capabilities – Helping those with disabilities and other barriers reach their career and education goals
Pop in, say hi, and explore what speaks to you!
Questions? Contact Stacy Willis at stacy@jewishtoledo.org.

For the safety of our community, the location of all events will be shared with registrants prior to each event.



Shalom, Summer! Celebrating Our Gan Yeladim Graduates

What a joyful way to celebrate the end of an incredible year at Gan Yeladim Preschool! Earlier this summer, families, friends, and teachers gathered to cheer on our graduates as we celebrated graduation day and

welcomed the start of summer. The morning was filled with smiles as our students sang and danced to their favorite Jewish songs, shared plenty of hugs with their teachers and classmates, and celebrated with colorful rainbow popsicles

to mark the occasion. It was a beautiful reminder of the friendships, memories, and love that make Gan Yeladim such a special place. While we're sad to say goodbye and will miss seeing these smiling faces every day, we're so proud

of everything our students have accomplished. Mazel tov to our graduates. We can't wait to see all the amazing things you'll do next. Shalom, summer!



Blue & White Soirée brings YoPros together

Jewish Toledo's YoPros, joined by several community leaders, gathered for a beautiful summer evening in June at Matt Rubin's The Beer Garden at Huron Yards. Located just beyond the third-base side of the Toledo Mud Hens stadium, Huron Yards has quickly become one of downtown Toledo's newest gathering spots as the city continues to revitalize and expand its urban core. The Blue & White-themed soirée brought together young professionals for an evening of great conversation, new connections,

and community. Guests enjoyed refreshing drinks and a delicious kosher dinner catered from Detroit while taking in the relaxed outdoor atmosphere. Whether reconnecting with familiar faces or meeting someone new, the event was a wonderful opportunity to strengthen relationships and celebrate Jewish Toledo in a fun, welcoming setting. Interested in joining us at a future YoPro event? Contact marnie@jewishtoledo.org to learn more about upcoming gatherings and ways to get involved.



Camp Wise debuts new amphitheater as first phase of campus renovation

CASEY COUCH

Chattering campers at Camp Wise in Clarion Township celebrated the official opening of the campus’ new amphitheater on July 5 with a talent show. This milestone marked the first phase of a complete transformation that will update and renovate the camp over the course of two off-seasons.

According to Rabbi Dan Utley, director of Camp Wise, the amphitheater sits at the heart of the camp’s 325-acre campus, adjacent to the Chadar Ochel, and has quickly become the gathering place for the camp community.

“Camp Wise has always been known for high-energy skits, talent shows, performances and all-camp events, and this beautiful new space has elevated those experiences,” Utley told the Cleveland Jewish News. “It gives campers of every age the chance to step onto the stage, lead songs and cheers, perform and build confidence. Even in its first days, it has already become one of the most joyful places at camp.”

According to Utley, the talent show featured everything from card tricks, lip syncing, comedy skits, songs and Taekwondo demonstrations to the legendary “Bean Skit.”

“More than the performances themselves, what makes the evening so special is seeing campers of all ages enthusiastically cheer each other on,” he said. “It’s a wonderful celebration of creativity, courage and community.”

Designed to create a central gathering place for performances and Shabbat celebrations, the amphitheater’s covered design allows campers and staff to gather comfortably in a variety of weather conditions while serving as the home of performing arts at Camp Wise.

The space will host camp productions, concerts, song sessions, talent shows and other community events. According to Utley, this summer consists of camper performances of “Mamma Mia!” and “The Lorax.”



Rosen



Utley

“Looking ahead, we hope to continue growing our theater, music and visual arts programs,” Utley said. “The Mandel JCC of Cleveland has a wonderful foundation through the Playmakers program, and the amphitheater gives young performers a place to continue developing those talents at Camp Wise. Most importantly, it provides a place where campers and staff can celebrate one another and strengthen the Camp Wise community.”

Jesse Rosen, president and CEO of the Mandel Jewish Community Center of Cleveland in Beachwood, told the CJN the overall transformation of Camp Wise is a “marathon, not a sprint.” Still, he said he hoped to deliver something both tangible and impactful right from the start.

“The new amphitheater is exactly that,” Rosen said. “It was completed just a day before our campers arrived, and seeing them utilize it immediately – hearing that energy and community during the talent show – signifies that the future of Camp Wise is officially here. It sets a thrilling tone for the rest of the summer and the years of thoughtful innovation ahead.”

A “model home,” Rosen said that the amphitheater serves as a tangible preview of the high-caliber improvements Camp Wise will see over the next two off-seasons.

“It proves that we can modernize our infrastructure while maintaining the rustic charm camp is known for,” Rosen said. “We are already finalizing design plans and are on track to break ground on the next major phase of development this fall.”

The transformation was made possible by a \$60 million grant from



▲ Campers watch as their peers perform in the “Wild Wise West” talent show, kicking off the opening of the new amphitheater on July 5. | Submitted photos / Mandel Jewish Community Center



▲ The covered amphitheater offers protection against inclement weather.

The Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Supporting Foundation to the Mandel JCC that will go towards both Camp Wise renovations and the creation of a year-round Jewish Youth Hub at the center’s Beachwood campus.

According to previous CJN reporting, the grant is the largest gift ever made to a Jewish community center in North America and is the cornerstone of a \$75 million capital initiative.

“Every JCC and camp leadership team in the country dreams of the opportunities we are blessed with here in Cleveland,” Rosen told the CJN. “The extraordinary \$60

million matching grant from the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Supporting Foundation, combined with the incredible generosity we are already seeing in our Welcome Home: Summers of Happiness Capital Campaign, is completely rewriting the future of Jewish day and overnight camping in Northeast Ohio. Our team is inspired every day to build the absolute finest rustic camp experiences found anywhere.”

This article first appeared in the Cleveland Jewish News and cjn.org. Reprinted with permission.

Bnai Mitzvahs



Micah Samuel Delson Pliskow

Micah Samuel Delson Pliskow, son of Rabbi Lisa Delson and Brent Pliskow, grandson of Marci and Larry Delson and Rhonda (z”l) and Robert Pliskow, is a rising 7th grader at Timberstone Junior High. He is an avid sports fan who loves to play basketball and baseball. He also enjoys competing on the Timberstone Quiz Bowl team, playing percussion in the band, and will be joining the yearbook staff at school. He spent his third summer at URJ Camp GUCI in Zionsville, Indiana. Micah’s younger brothers, Asher and Noam, are excited for their big brother to become a bar mitzvah. For his mitzvah project, Micah has been volunteering with and supporting Burrito Blessings in downtown Toledo.



Lola Newell

Lola Newell is a rising seventh grader at Ottawa Hills Junior High. She has one brother, Carter, 10, and a Bernedoodle named Ruger. Lola loves acting in the school musicals and playing volleyball and looks forward to seventh grade cheerleading. For her mitzvah Project, Lola will be creating 200 greeting cards for children with cancer at Children’s Nationwide Hospital.

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Ahava program
For families of individuals
with special needs

Ahava is a program of the Jewish Federation and Foundation of Greater Toledo that is managed by Jewish Senior, Family and Social Services and has provided a lifeline since 2016 to Jewish families in Greater Toledo who are raising children with special needs and simply want to be able to access the best care possible for their children.

Through Ahava, Federation awards local Jewish families an annual scholarship of up to \$1,500 for each child, no matter their age, to put toward the cost of therapies such as speech therapy and music therapy, equipment, medical supplies, continuing education for parents on raising children with special needs, and other resources that help positively impact individuals and their families.

For more information about Ahava, please contact Ben Malczewski at ben@jewishtoledo.org or 419-885-2561.

GO PAPER LESS

TOLEDO Jewish News

Want to opt out of the Toledo Jewish News print version? The newspaper is posted online every month (often earlier than the mail) and always FREE to read on your smart phone, computer, or tablet. Stay up-to-date on the latest of Jewish Toledo at www.jewishtoledo.org/about-us/tjnff.

To opt out, mail Abby Hoicowitz at abby@jewishtoledo.org with your name and address, and we'll remove you from the mail list. Thanks for helping us save the planet!



 **READ TJN ONLINE HERE**

JSFSS Family Pantry

Wish List

While the Food Pantry appreciates food donations, there is a greater need for personal care and paper products. The Food Pantry depends on financial gifts or donations for personal care items. If you'd like to donate items to the Food Pantry, please consider choosing items from its wish list:

- paper towels
- facial tissues
- diapers
- feminine hygiene products
- disposable razors
- shampoo
- soap (bar soap, dish soap,
- liquid hand soap, and laundry soap)
- toilet paper (preferably individual, pre-wrapped rolls)
- Other personal hygiene items of your choice

Contact Hannah Loeser
(419) 724- 0401

HOW TO CONTACT JSFSS

Perhaps you or a family member are in need of help with senior social services. Maybe you know someone in need of support from a family pantry. Jewish Senior, Family and Social Services offers a range of services to benefit our community. JSFSS has a knowledgeable and caring staff waiting to help you.

Vice President Jewish Senior, Family & Social Services Ben Malczewski (419) 724-0408	JSFSS Office Manager and Program Associate Hannah Loeser (419) 724- 0401
Support Services Coordinator Liz Witter, LSW (419) 724-0406	Project Manager and Technology Coordinator Tim Hagen 419-724-0412
Food Pantry and Support Services Coordinator Stacy Willis, LSW, MSW 419-724-0407	

jewishtoledo.org/jfs



Get Fit Classes

Monday
Prime Movers Early, 9-10am -or- Prime Movers Later, 10:30-11:30am
Join us for this upbeat and energetic dance/exercise program designed to improve your fitness level safely and effectively. This is a comprehensive workout that includes strength, flexibility, balance, posture-improvement, and more. All moves can be modified to meet specific needs.
Cardio Drumming, 12-1pm
A high-energy workout that also includes some dance moves. This can also be done seated.

Wednesday
Prime Movers Early, 9-10am -or- Prime Movers Later, 10:30-11:30am
(see description above)
Ballet Fusion, 12-1pm
A special blend of ballet warm-up, cardio drumming, and a Tai Chi/yoga cool-down. Ballet shoes are not required.

Friday
Zumba, 9-10am
Foundation Fitness, 10am-11am
Designed to improve mobility, core strength, and stability from the ground up. Focus will be on foot and ankle strength, mobility, healthy posture, pelvic floor, and breathing. Exercises can be done in chairs and/or standing.

In-person classes at Sylvania-area location. Contact Hannah at 419-724-0401 for exact location.*

* For the safety and security of our community, the location of all events will be shared with registrants prior to the event.

Can't join us in person? Tune in on YouTube at Jewish Toledo

**YouTube**

Jewish Toledo orthopaedic resident helps perform surgeries in Guatemala

This spring, UToledo Health orthopaedic resident and Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo Young Professional (YoPro) Dr. Jacob Alexander traveled to Guatemala as part of a medical mission that provided 105 life-changing surgeries for 100 patients. Alexander spent a week in Antigua, Guatemala, serving with Team Hope in Motion, a surgical missions initiative partnered with the nonprofit Faith in Practice. The team worked out of Obras Sociales, a church-turned-hospital that provides care to underserved populations. According to Alexander, he was one of approximately 60 medical professionals from across the United States participating in the mission. The multidisciplinary team included surgeons, nurses, anesthesiologists, pharmacists, Certified Registered

Nurse Anesthetists, sterile processing technicians, physical therapists, physician assistants, and attending physicians. Together, they performed orthopaedic procedures including total hip replacements, knee replacements, and foot and ankle surgeries, particularly for patients with neglected clubfoot conditions who might otherwise have limited access to specialized care. “I was the only resident on the trip,” Alexander said. “It was a fantastic experience. The patients don’t have the means we do, and they live in a very different world than what I see every day at UToledo Medical Center.” In addition to his medical work, Alexander found opportunities to connect with his Jewish faith while abroad. Before departing for Guatemala, he visited Chabad and



▲ Jacob Alexander (center) helps treat a patient in Antigua, Guatemala, during his mission with non-profit Faith in Practice (Team Hope in Motion).

wrapped tefillin. The implants used during the mission were donated by global medical technology company Zimmer Biomet, helping make the surgeries possible.

Wexler recognized by Scouting America

MARY BILYEU | SENIOR COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND PROGRAM SPECIALIST

The past 12 months have been a continual awards season for Jewish Toledo’s Mark Wexler. In that time, Scouting America (formerly known as the Boy Scouts of America) honored him with: the Veteran Award for Service to Youth, in recognition of 60 years of scouting service; the Art Mroz Spirit of Scouting Award, in recognition of exemplary display of the Scout Oath, Scout Law, and scouting spirit to the members of Northwest District; and The American Legion Square Knot Award in recognition of dedication and work to assist in furthering the Scouting program in The American Legion.

Most recently, at a celebratory dinner at The Pinnacle on June 4, Mark was given the Silver Beaver Award by the National Court of Honor on behalf of the Erie Shores Council, to recognize noteworthy service of exceptional character to youth within a five-county region. This is the most prestigious national acknowledgement that can be bestowed upon an adult who volunteers with Scouting America. “I am so happy for him,” Mark’s brother Kevin said of the extra special honor of the Silver Beaver Award. “He volunteers constantly,” a living embodiment of the Scout Oath, in which one promises “to help other people at all times.” Just a few of Mark’s activities include delivery of Temple Shomer Emunim’s Mitzvah Meals, chauffeuring Veterans Administration patients to Ann Arbor for treatment, assisting with stock and packing for Connecting Kids to Meals, and providing companionship for



patients at Hospice of Northwest Ohio. Mark also continues to serve with Scouting America; he is the Unit Commissioner for Cub Pack and Scout Troop 154 sponsored by the American Legion’s Joseph W. Diehn Post 468 in Sylvania and Cub Pack and Scout Troop 87 sponsored by St. Joseph Church in Sylvania. During the summer he has helped at Camp Miakonda’s day camp, including working as a cook. “It’s heartwarming. It’s fulfilling,” Mark said of his efforts at the same site where he completed his Eagle Scout service project, helping to prevent erosion. “We cook, we clean up, we serve, we eat with the kids,” and the adults help to supervise the youthful staff as they develop maturity and skills. “Scouting is built on young adult leadership.” Mark started as a Cub Scout and worked his way up through Webelos, Boy Scouts, and Eagle Scouts. “I wanted to do it because my friends were getting into it,” he explained. He

was glad that “it just happened to be the Jewish pack” he got involved with (though it unfortunately no longer exists), and that he was able to learn from such good scoutmasters as Ernie Solomon, Leo Scheible, Bud Jaffee, and Leon Williams. “They were all very important to me in my life,” Mark shared. Goal-oriented from the very beginning, he acknowledged that there were three areas of achievement in which he wanted to excel. First, education. Mark has earned two associate’s degrees, two bachelor’s degrees, and a master’s. Second, bowling. “I wanted to have a 300 game in bowling,” he said. Having achieved that, he wanted to do it again. Then he made himself “the ultimate goal” – an 800 series, which involves bowling three games totaling 800 points. With that crossed off his list, Mark then started throwing the ball left-handed for a challenge. Some health issues led to his giving up the sport 10

or so years ago. But, “I’ve satisfied the 300, so that’s good enough for me,” he said with a smile. And third, scouting. “If I’m going to be in scouting, I want to get to Eagle Scout,” he said as he worked his way through to the top level. Mark’s face lit up as he talked about scouting memories, from the annual Pine Car Derby and Rain Gutter Regatta to a camping trip that nearly ended in disaster when a bear slashed its way into his tent in search of food (spoiler alert: he survived). When he joined the U.S. Air Force in 1975, Mark’s first assignment even involved working with scouts at RAF Bentwaters UK, an American military installation. “Scouting allowed me to travel the world and go as high as I wanted to go,” he said. As he’s humbly accepted his numerous recent awards, Mark noted that, as the son of a Raggedy-Ass Cadet – a self-named group of scrappy, industrious sons of poor but hard-working immigrants, who were raised in the north end of Toledo during the early 20th century – one prize he hasn’t received is Mensch of the Year, which used to be bestowed annually at the Raggedies’ reunions of members and their families. The group stopped meeting during the pandemic, and descendants have mostly joined the Toledo Jewish Men’s Club rather than getting the proverbial band back together. But Scouting America has more than made up for this by extending its award season for a 12-month period to keep recognizing Mark for his dedication to the organization and to volunteerism. “He’s like a shining light,” Kevin said lovingly of his brother. “Wherever he goes, he has a smile on his face. Mark is always there for everybody and anybody.”

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Shabbat Service with Rabbi Lisa Delson & Cayden Greenblatt
August 7, 2026
6:00 PM

Shabbat Service with Rabbi Lisa Delson & Cantor Jen Roher
August 14, 2026
6:00 PM

Bar Mitzvah of Micah Pliskow
August 15, 2026
10:30 AM
Congregational Kiddush Lunch to Follow

Shabbat Service with Rabbi Lisa Delson & Cantor Jen Roher
August 21, 2026
6:00 PM

Bat Mitzvah of Lola Newell
August 22, 2026
10:30 AM

Camp Shabbat with Rabbi Lisa Delson & Cantor Jen Roher
August 28, 2026
6:00 PM

Outdoor service in the amphitheater
Torah Today
August 29, 2026
9:30 AM





The Gift of Mindfulness
Wednesday, August 19 at 7pm
Join us for the Temple’s mindfulness program. We will explore different dimensions of mindfulness practice - different kinds of meditation, Jewish text study, small group conversations, and real-life practices that you can carry into your everyday life. You can join in person OR join on Zoom: contact the office for information to join on Zoom.

CURRENT EVENTS

Current Events
Thursday, Aug. 27 at 2 PM

Join Rabbi Delson for a discussion of world events and how it affects the Jewish community. Everyone is welcome.

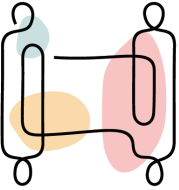
Social Action Meeting
Sunday, August 9 at Noon

The work of justice doesn’t stop and is open to all. We will discuss our Voter Engagement campaign, postcarding, and gear up for the High Holy Day Food Drive. Questions: contact Jeanine Huttner at jeaninehutt1@gmail.com

Shabbat Morning Yoga
Body & Soul

Shabbat Morning Yoga: Body and Soul

with Cantor Roher
Saturday, September 5 at 10:30 AM
Start your Shabbat morning with a rejuvenating spiritual practice that will give you a renewed sense of peace. The class is for all levels, using a chair or a mat, whichever is most appropriate for you. No experience needed. Call the Temple office for the Zoom link.



Torah Today

Saturday, August 29 at 9:30 AM An interactive discussion on the Torah portion for the week. Bagels and coffee are served. No experience necessary. Everyone is welcome.



Pride Parade with Better Together
Saturday, August 15
Love is love! For the second year, members of the Temple will join with the Better Together Pride Parade delegation at Toledo Pride. To register contact Katie Phillips at kphillips92545@gmail.com.

Multifaith Pride Event: For Such A Time As This
Thursday, August 20 at 6 PM
Zoar Lutheran Church 314 E. Indiana Ave, Perrysburg, Ohio
Join Rabbi Delson and others as we rise, resist, and restore at a multi faith event celebrating Pride with other faith groups. Carpools will be available from temple. Registration required, use QR code on flyer. For questions, contact Rabbi Delson.

CONGREGATION B’NAI ISRAEL



CONGREGATION B’NAI ISRAEL
6525 SYLVANIA AVE., SYLVANIA, OHIO 43560 • 419.517.8400 • CBITOLEDO.ORG

- WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE *except during holidays
- Monday & Thursday Morning Minyan: 8:00 AM - IP/ZM
 - Monday - Thursday Afternoon Minyan & Friday Kabbalat Shabbat: 5:45 PM - ZM
 - Saturday Morning Shabbat: 9:30 AM - IP/LS
 - Saturday Mincha Service: 12:45 PM (after Kiddush Luncheon) - IP/LS
 - Sunday Morning Minyan: 9:30 AM - *IP/ZM (*In-person when Rel School is in session)

All CBI programs and religious services are open to the members of all local congregations & guests with RSVP unless otherwise indicated.
If you are not a CBI member and would like to attend, please contact the office at 419.517.8400 during office hours.

In-Person Kabbalat Shabbat Service
Friday, August 7, 2026, 6:00 PM at CBI
Join us for a meaningful in-person Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat services.
RSVP to Kim Brody & Shira Hartman at kbrody@cbitoledo.org or call the office at 419.517.8400 by 2:00 PM, Friday, August 6th.

Connecting Kids to Meals
Thursday, August 13, 2026 3:00-5:00 PM
Cherry Street Mission Building, 1501 Monroe St.
We need 8-12 volunteers to put together packages of food for children that live in the Toledo area.
RSVP to programming@cbitoledo.org by Aug. 12th.

Parashat Hashavuah:
Torah Portion of the Week Discussion
Fridays at 11:00 AM at CBI
Except on Jewish holidays or otherwise notified.

Canasta & Mahjong at CBI
Canasta: Tuesdays at 12:30 PM
Mahjong: Thursdays at 12:30 PM
RSVP for Canasta to Rhoda Miller at rmiller@cbitoledo.org.
RSVP for Mahjong to Miriam Beckerman at wcbi@cbitoledo.org.

CBI Office Closings
Mon. Sept 7th Closed Labor Day

Light Apps and Pizza Dinner & In-Person Kabbalat Shabbat Services
Friday, August 21, 2026, 6:00 PM at CBI
Join us at 6 PM for a light dinner of appetizers for adults and pizza for the kids, followed by the Kabbalat Shabbat service at 7:15 PM.
RSVP to Kim Brody & Shira Hartman at kbrody@cbitoledo.org or call the office at 419.517.8400 by Tuesday, August 18th.

REGISTER NOW:
David S. Stone Religious School
First Day is Sunday, August 23, 2026
To register your child, contact Kim Brody and Shira Hartman at kbrody@cbitoledo.org or call the office.

WOMEN OF CBI CELEBRATE:
Rosh Chodesh Elul
Thursday, August 27, 2026,
5:00 PM at Vine to Wine
7105 W. Central Avenue, Toledo (near Panera Bread)
Join us as we toast the Jewish New Year with your own personally bottled bottle of wine.
Dairy Appetizers will be served.
A registration fee of \$15 (cash or check payable to "Women of CBI") will be collected at the door.
The Tikkun Olam for this program will be a monetary donation benefit the kitchens at CBI.
THIS PROGRAM IS OPEN TO THE WOMEN OF ALL LOCAL CONGREGATIONS. RSVP to Miriam Beckerman at wcbi@cbitoledo.org by Monday, August 24th.

Erev Rosh Hashanah begins on Friday, September 11th
Visit the CBI Gift Shop for all of your High Holiday needs.

Kiddush Cups

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Rosh Hashanah Items

Kippot for Men & Women

Tzedakah Boxes

Holiday Serveware

Check out our new merchandise!
Call for an appointment at 419-882-2111

Lulav & Etrog Set with Hashanot
If you wish to purchase a set for Sukkot, please call the CBI office at (419) 517-8400 or email gmallin@cbitoledo.org no later than Thursday, September 3, 2026.
ORDER YOURS NOW Price: \$65 per set

SAVE THE DATE:
WCBI Women's Day of Learning
Thursday, November 5, 2026
THIS PROGRAM IS OPEN TO THE WOMEN OF ALL LOCAL CONGREGATIONS.
Details to follow in upcoming bulletins.

CONGREGATION ETZ CHAYIM

SYLVANIA SUMMER MARKET AT OLANDER

Park to shop local farm-fresh produce and handmade floral arrangements and enjoy family-friendly entertainment. We'll meet on August 11 at 5:00.

SUNDAY POKER & MAHJ

Mahj and Poker will take place on Sunday August 16 & 30 from 10 a.m.-noon. Everyone is invited to join. We have so much fun!

2ND ANNUAL COMMUNITY FAMILY PICNIC & KARAOKE DAY

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 2026, AT 5 P.M.

Last year's event was a tremendous success, bringing together friends for an evening filled with wonderful music, delicious food, laughter, and community. We're excited to do it again as Lawrence Ice, our popular karaoke host, returns to lead an evening of singing, dancing, and entertainment. Following the musical program, enjoy a delicious picnic dinner featuring BBQ chicken, hotdogs, sweet corn, baked beans, coleslaw, pickles, chips, soft drinks, watermelon, and dessert.

The cost is \$18 per person. Whether you enjoy singing, dancing, or simply spending time with friends old and new, this is a wonderful opportunity to come together in fellowship and celebrate our shared community. Mark your calendars—we look forward to seeing everyone on August 23! Please R.S.V.P. to Nancy Jacobson at jaco824@bex.net or Elsa Leveton at elsa@etzchayimtoledo.org by August 19.

NATURE WALK AT TOLEDO BOTANICAL GARDENS

Join us on Wednesday, August 26, for a relaxing and engaging Nature Walk at Toledo Botanical Gardens. We'll meet at noon for a one-hour guided walk as we tune into the seasonal rhythms of nature and discover the one-of-a-kind natural attributes along the trails of Toledo Botanical Gardens. Enjoy the beauty of late summer while learning about the unique plants, flowers, and natural features that make this special place so inviting. After our walk, bring a packed lunch and stay to enjoy a picnic together as we relax, visit with friends, and enjoy an afternoon in nature. Please wear comfortable walking shoes and dress for the weather. We hope you'll join us! Please register with Nancy.

SAVE THE DATES:

A Toledo librarian will lead a session on genealogy Wednesday, September 16 at 10 a.m. in our shul library. She will bring each person family history folders and discuss using databases to help with research.

Our third Book Club Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, October 25 at 10 a.m. The book that will be reviewed is *Hannah Coulter* by Wendell Berry.

Please register for all programs with Nancy or Elsa.

PLEASE NOTE: All Zoom, virtual, and in-person programs require registration. You can contact either Nancy Jacobson at jaco824@bex.net or Elsa Leveton at 419-473-2401 or elsa@etzchayimtoledo.org for further information and registration.

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For complete
Holiday Schedule,
see September page
of the calendar.



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Gary & Andrea Delman

ROSH HASHANA KOSHER CATERING

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Pick-Up:
September 10
at Chabad

****Please select Toledo as a pickup option.****

We have arranged with Chef Cari in West Bloomfield, MI to offer you a fully catered Rosh Hashana menu for order. Orders will be available for pickup at Chabad House. To confirm pickup times, call 419.322.2730.

To view the full menu visit www.chefcari.com

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Joanne Gatter
FriendshipCircle
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Tech Time with Tim

TIM HAGEN
✉ tim@jewishtoledo.org

Should you, or someone you care about, need accessibility-related tech help, please see the following Big Tech sites for guidance.

If you simply google the listed keywords (“Apple Accessibility” or “Microsoft Accessibility”, etc.), you’ll find the correct resource and a ton of helpful information about products, research, and practical tips.
Stay cool and happy exploring!

- Until next month - Tim
- Apple Accessibility
 - Android Accessibility
 - Microsoft Accessibility
 - Google Accessibility
 - Amazon Accessibility



Upcoming Device Advice Tech Programs:
Wednesdays 11 a.m.-noon

Upcoming Tech Programs

1. August 5: Weighing the pros and cons of cable TV and streaming services

2. August 19: Exploring the how-tos of saving/transferring information from old, external drives

Please RSVP with Sherry Majewski at:
419-724-0351 or sherry@jewishtoledo.org

* For the safety and security of our community, the location of all events will be shared with registrants prior to the event.



(Tech Time with Tim)

Tim Hagen
Project Manager and Technology Coordinator Senior, Family and Social Services
Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo
6505 Sylvania Avenue
Sylvania, OH 43560
[T] 419-724-0412 [E] Tim@jewishtoledo.org

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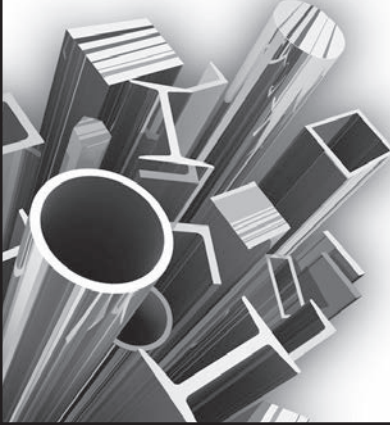
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Increase Your Level of Vigilance During the High Holidays

DAVE TULLIS
Security Director, Jewish Federation & Foundation of Greater Toledo
✉ dave@jewishtoledo.org

As we approach the High Holiday season, it is important for our Jewish community to remain vigilant and aware of our surroundings. Across the United States—including here in Ohio—law enforcement agencies and organizations that monitor antisemitism continue to report an increase in antisemitic incidents directed at Jewish individuals, institutions, and places of worship.

While there are **no known credible or specific threats** directed at Jewish institutions or individuals in the Greater Toledo area at this time, Jewish Federation & Foundation of Greater Toledo (JFGT) encourages all community members to increase their level of awareness during the High Holidays. These sacred days are times when our synagogues and Jewish institutions experience increased attendance and visibility, making security awareness especially important.

JFGT maintains strong partnerships with our local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. We greatly appreciate their continued commitment to the safety of our community. Prior to the High Holidays, I will notify our law enforcement partners of the upcoming holiday schedule and request increased patrols and visibility around our synagogues and Jewish institutions. These communications help ensure that our public safety partners remain informed and prepared to support our community.

However, security is not solely the

responsibility of law enforcement, it is everyone’s responsibility. Every member of our community can play an important role in keeping our families, friends, and neighbors safe. You are often the first person to notice when something doesn’t look right. Trust your instincts. If you observe suspicious or threatening behavior, report it immediately to law enforcement and notify the Federation’s Security Director (dave@jewishtoledo.org) so that appropriate follow-up can occur. Prompt reporting can prevent incidents and help protect our community.

Safety Recommendations

The following recommendations, developed in partnership with the Secure Community Network (SCN), the Ohio Regional Intelligence Center (ORIC), and JFGT, can help improve your personal safety and the security of our community:

- **Call 911 immediately** for any emergency. Do not hesitate to report suspicious or threatening activity. Be sure to tell the dispatcher if the incident is occurring at or near a Jewish facility.

- **Provide as much information as possible.** Stay on the phone with the dispatcher and report the exact location, time, descriptions of individuals or vehicles, license plate numbers, and direction of travel. If it is safe to do so, take photographs or video to assist responding officers.
- **Trust your instincts.** If you see something or someone that concerns you, report it immediately. Quick reporting can prevent an incident from escalating.
- **Maintain situational awareness.** Stay alert to your surroundings, particularly when arriving at or leaving synagogues, community events, or other Jewish facilities.
- **Whenever possible, avoid walking alone, especially after dark.**
- **Know how to respond during an emergency.** Familiarize yourself with emergency procedures at your synagogue, workplace, or school.
- **Be alert for unusual behavior.** Pay attention to individuals acting suspiciously or vehicles that appear out of place or are repeatedly driving or parking near Jewish facilities.
- **Talk with your children and grandchildren about personal safety.** Encourage them to trust their instincts.

If someone or something makes them uncomfortable, even if they cannot explain why, they should leave the area immediately and notify a trusted adult.

- **See Something, Say Something®.** Reporting suspicious activity is one of the most effective ways to help prevent crime and protect our community.

Antisemitism has no place in our society. Threats, intimidation, harassment, vandalism, and violence directed at individuals because they are Jewish are serious crimes and should always be reported. By working together, remaining vigilant, and maintaining strong partnerships with law enforcement, we can continue to provide a safe, secure, and welcoming environment for everyone who lives, learns, worships, and gathers within our Jewish community.

I wish everyone a safe, meaningful, and peaceful High Holiday season.

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Clive Davis, influential Jewish rock-and-roll executive, dies at 94

ANDREW LAPIN | JTA

During his run as the head of CBS Records, Clive Davis signed some of the biggest and most influential acts in rock-and-roll history, including Janis Joplin, Bruce Springsteen and Billy Joel.

But it nearly all came crashing down in 1973, after Davis allegedly siphoned some money from his label to pay for his son’s bar mitzvah.

The incident cost Davis, who died in June at age 94, his job as a leading tastemaker of the music industry at the height of a transformative moment. To make sure he got the message, CBS filed a civil suit against Davis for misappropriation of funds — in which they specified he’d skimmed “at least” \$20,000 for the simcha celebration for his son Fred. (Other misuses of funds, including renovating his apartment, were also alleged.)

Davis three years later pleaded guilty to failing to pay \$2,700 on the expenses. Then he bounced back.

In his second act, he founded Arista Records, named after the New York City public school system honor society to which the Brooklyn native and Harvard Law graduate had belonged.

There he continued his talent for talent spotting, signing Aretha Franklin, bringing in the Grateful Dead and discovering a 19-year-old Whitney Houston. And CBS bought into the new label, setting aside years of bitterness.

Davis remained active in music for decades, helping to launch the career of the first “American Idol” breakout star, Kelly Clarkson, and helping launch Bad Boy Records, which shepherded acts like The Notorious B.I.G.

He was known for his unerring ear, frequently more in tune with the times than the artists he promoted. Paul Simon and Art Garfunkel, the Jewish folk rock duo, wanted to release the jaunty, sexy and concise “Cecilia” as the first single off their 1970 album, “Bridge Over Troubled Water.” Davis

insisted on the title track, defying the pair’s claims that it was too long, too sentimental and too slow in building up to a climax. The single sold an astonishing 8 million copies, and won the best song and best record Grammys, an anxiety-imbued paean that became an emblem of the era.

He also pressed Barry Manilow, the Jewish balladeer, to record “I Write the Songs” in 1975; Manilow, a prolific songwriter, resisted because this was one song he did not write. (Beach Boy Bruce Johnston had written the song.) Manilow’s soaring, sappy take reached the top spot on the Billboard charts.

“It is so important to have people smart,” Davis told Billboard in one of his final interviews. Quoting advice he said he received from his mother, he continued, “You’ve got to get out there with people. You’ve got to learn from all walks of life, all races, all colors.”

Davis, twice married and divorced, came out as bisexual in 2013 in his well received autobiography, “The Soundtrack of my Life.”

“On this night, after imbibing

enough alcohol, I was open to responding to his sexual overtures,” he wrote about a sexual encounter with a man during the what he called “era of Studio 54,” the late 1970s, a time known for its promiscuity. “After my second marriage failed, I met a man who was also grounded in music. Having only had loving relationships and sexual intimacy with women, I opened myself up to the possibility that I could have that with a male, and found that I could.”

Davis, who didn’t often speak about his Judaism publicly, was moved to speak out after the Oct. 7, 2023, deadly Hamas attacks on Israel. He noted that many of the victims had been attending a music festival.

“I have made it my mission in life to fight for equality and human rights — advocating for those who do not have a voice in music and elsewhere,” he said. “You cannot be silent about antisemitism, or hate or discrimination of any kind.”

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Weekly news of the Toledo Jewish community

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