



## TOLEDO JEWISH WINTER FLICKS

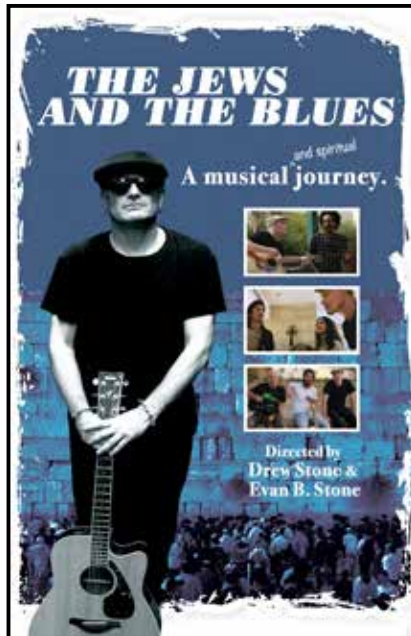
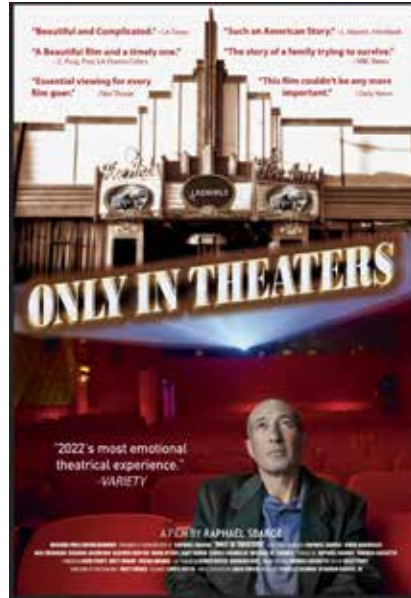
NOW SHOWING

ONLY IN THEATERS

JANUARY 26

THE JEWS AND THE BLUES

FEBRUARY 2



See page 2 for details about this year's Winter Flicks

## INSIDE This Issue



Page 4 Book Festival

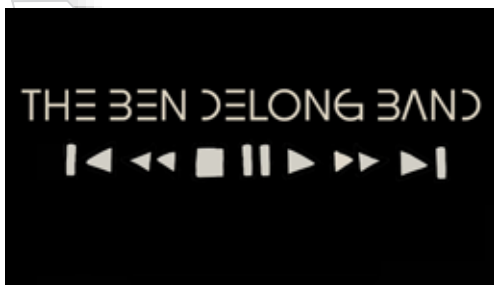


Page 17 Young professionals unite



Page 18 Jewish Men's Club

## Active Life programs kick-off the new season



## L'Chaim - A Musical Celebration

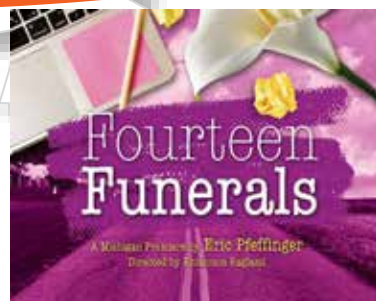


## Peace, Love, & Pottery Painting Day!



See pages 14-15

## Fourteen Funerals at the Purple Rose Theater



←-----LABEL GOES HERE----->

## JANUARY PROGRAMS & HOLIDAYS



### SENIORS: 2025 NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

Seniors  
Temple Shomer Emunim  
Wednesday, 1/8  
Noon - 1:30 p.m.  
**Page 14**

### CREATE & RELATE 2025 SESSION ONE

Seniors  
Sekach Building  
Thursday, 1/9  
Noon - 2:30 p.m.  
**Page 11**



Jewish Federation  
& Foundation  
OF GREATER TOLEDO

### SENIORS: MEET THE GOLDEN GIRLS

Seniors  
Sekach Building  
Sunday, 1/19  
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
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### MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY

JFGT offices closed  
Monday, 1/20

### SENIORS: PEACE, LOVE & POTTERY

Seniors  
Sekach Building  
Thursday, 1/23  
Noon - 2 p.m.  
**Page 14**

### TOLEDO JEWISH WINTER FLICKS #1

Community  
Sekach Building  
Sunday, 1/26  
3 - 6 p.m.  
**Page 2**

### FIRESIDE CHAT #4: INCOMING ADMIN.

JCRC/Community  
Sekach Building  
Wednesday, 1/29  
6 - 7:30 p.m.  
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\*All information subject to change with updates posted on

[www.jewishtoledo.org](http://www.jewishtoledo.org)



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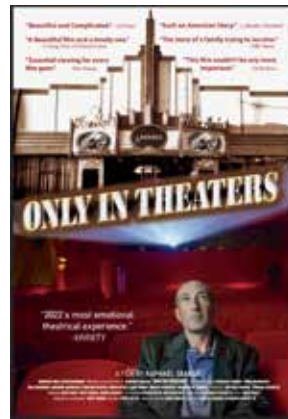


Jewish Federation  
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OF GREATER TOLEDO

# TOLEDO JEWISH WINTER FLICKS

**NOW SHOWING**

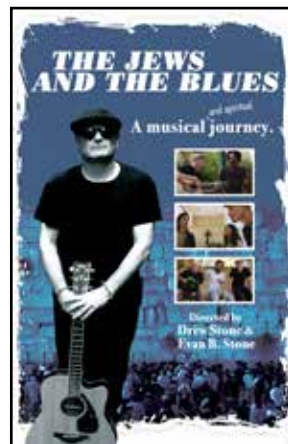
**ONLY IN THEATERS**  
**JANUARY 26**  
**THE JEWS AND THE BLUES**  
**FEBRUARY 2**



### *Only in Theaters*

Sunday, January 26 at 3 p.m.  
Sekach Building, 6505 Sylvania Ave.  
\$5 per person – includes film and snacks

There has been a Laemmle in the movie business since there's been a movie business. This film is the story of a beloved arthouse cinema chain in Los Angeles with an astounding legacy. Over four generations, Laemmles have dedicated themselves to supporting, innovating, and elevating the art of filmmaking. Popularizing independent films, documentary films, and their filmmakers, the Laemmle Theatre's impact on Hollywood and world cinema cannot be overstated. Filmed over more than two years, *Only in Theaters* chronicles the Laemmle family, their business, and their determination to survive. But in a changing world, this is also a story about the future of cinema. **English, 94 minutes**



### *The Jews and the Blues*

Sunday, February 2 at 4 p.m.  
Sekach Building, 6505 Sylvania Ave.  
\$15 per person - includes vegetarian dinner and wine (after the film), movie, and snacks

*The Jews and the Blues* is a musical journey that along the way becomes something much more. Drew Stone, documentary filmmaker, musician, and talk show host born and raised in New York City, follows his passion for music and adventure as he travels to Israel and discovers how the blues ties into an incredible mix of cultures - Arab, Ethiopian, Moroccan, Jewish, Israeli - united through the universal tie that binds us together, music. Experience the sights, sounds, and the unexpected on this expedition into uncharted territory - a musical AND spiritual Journey. **English, 67 minutes**



### **RSVP by the day prior to each film**

at [form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/jfgtprograms](http://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/jfgtprograms) or with Sherry Majewski at 419-724-0351 or [sherry@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:sherry@jewishtoledo.org).



Jewish Federation  
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# LIVSECURE



Jewish Federation  
& Foundation  
OF GREATER TOLEDO

## ENSURING THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF OUR JEWISH COMMUNITY

### A message from Dave Tullis, JFGT Security Director



Dear Community Members,

As the Security Director of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo, I am deeply committed to the safety and security of our Jewish community. My journey began years ago keeping our Jewish community safe by working as a lifeguard at the JCC, and it evolved through my time as a police officer in Maumee, where I dedicated myself to protecting our citizens. Even while serving as Chief of Police, I maintained ties to our Jewish community, playing basketball with community members for over 40 years.

Now, I have returned to my roots, focusing solely on the safety and security of our Toledo Jewish community. Working as a law enforcement leader, I have been able to establish solid relationships with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies and their leaders. I collaborate daily with our security partners, Secure Community Network (SCN) and the Ohio Regional Intelligence Center (ORIC), alongside federal and local law enforcement leaders, to implement strategic measures that protect our institutions to ensure that every member of our community can live, learn, and practice their faith without fear.

But we can't do this alone. We need your support.

Your donations to our LiveSecure campaign will directly fund essential security measures, training, and resources that will help us protect our community. The funds raised through the LiveSecure campaign will enable us to develop innovative security solutions and enhance our collaborative efforts with law enforcement agencies, ensuring that our community remains vigilant and secure. Every contribution, no matter the size, makes a significant impact on our ability to ensure a safe environment for all.

Together, we can create a secure space for our families, friends, and future generations.

**Please donate today to help us continue our vital work. Let's stand united in our commitment to safety and security.**

Thank you for your support.

## ENSURING THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF OUR JEWISH COMMUNITY

Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo  
LiveSecure Initiative

### How to Donate

Donating is easy:

1. Online: Visit our secure donation page at the QR code or <https://tinyurl.com/svxjpa2h>
2. Mail: Send your check to:  
LiveSecure Matching Security Campaign  
JFGT, 6465 Sylvania Ave., Sylvania OH 43560
3. Phone: Call us at 419-885-4461 to make a secure donation over the phone.
4. Commitment: 3 year commitments are preferred but annual contributions can also be made.

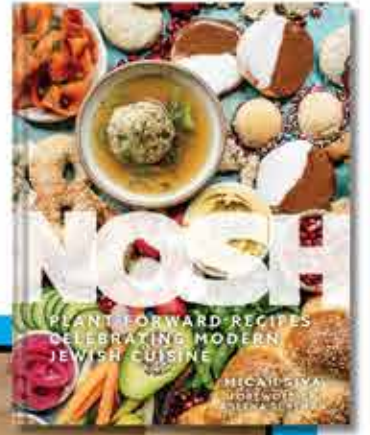
\*\*Please note that this gift is NOT in lieu of an Annual Campaign contribution.

**Join Us in Protecting Our Future**



To meet the match requirement, our community is launching the **LiveSecure Matching Security Campaign**. Every dollar you **designate and donate for security up to \$85,000 will be matched dollar-for-dollar** by the generous grant, effectively doubling the impact of your contribution. **Gifts to LiveSecure must be in addition to a donor's Annual Campaign gift to count toward the match.**

# NW OHIO JEWISH BOOK FESTIVAL



The NW Ohio Jewish Book Festival is sponsored by:  
Stu & Jojo Goldberg Donor Advised Fund and  
Jack, Jr. & Nora Romanoff Donor Advised Fund.



# Toledo Jewish News

Volume 73 No. 4 • 28 pages  
January 2025



(ISSN 0040-9081)

*Toledo Jewish News* is published 11 times per year, by Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo, 6465 Sylvania Avenue, Sylvania, Ohio 43560. *Toledo Jewish News* invites correspondence on subjects of interest to the Jewish community, but disclaims responsibility for any endorsement of the views or opinions expressed by contributing writers. All submissions become the property of *Toledo Jewish News*. Submissions will be edited for accuracy, brevity and clarity and are subject to verification. *Toledo Jewish News* reserves the right to refuse any submissions. *Toledo Jewish News* does not guarantee the kashrut of any of its advertisers. The appearance of advertising, in the *Toledo Jewish News* print or digital media, does not constitute an endorsement of the advertisers or their products and services by Toledo Jewish News, Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo and its affiliated agencies. Product and services information is based solely on material received from suppliers. Opinions published in the *Commentary* section are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the views or opinions of JFGT, its employees, officers, and directors.

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EDITORIAL DEADLINE  
10th of each month  
Editorial copy by email to  
paul@JewishToledo.org or on disc to  
6465 Sylvania Avenue, Sylvania, Ohio 43560

ADVERTISING DEADLINE:  
15th of each month  
Advertising inquiries should be addressed to:  
6465 Sylvania Avenue, Sylvania, Ohio 43560  
419-724-0363

POSTMASTER:  
Please send address corrections to:  
6465 Sylvania Avenue, Sylvania, Ohio 43560  
Entered as Periodicals at the post office at  
Toledo, Ohio,  
under act of March 3, 1987.  
Periodicals U.S. Postage Paid  
at Sylvania, Ohio.

SUBSCRIPTION RATE: \$36 PER YEAR

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

Make your contribution to  
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at [www.JewishToledo.org](http://www.JewishToledo.org)

## Jewish Federation and Foundation of Greater Toledo Tributes and Memorials

received between November 21 – December 20, 2024

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 Anna at 419-724-0386, anna@jewishtoledo.org.

**Alix Greenblatt Memorial Fund for  
Jewish Leadership**  
*In Memory of Mike Blumberg*  
Beverly & Joe Joseph

**Hillel Supporting**  
*In Memory of Marvin Cohen*  
Mr. & Mrs. Joel Beren

*In Celebration of Abby Suckow's Special Birthday*  
Mr. & Mrs. Joel Beren

**JFS Friends**  
*In Memory of Betty Benjamin*  
David M. Perlmutter

*In Celebration of Marilyn & Alex Groth's  
63rd Wedding Anniversary*  
Joyce Moran

**Jewish Living Center**  
*In Memory of Mary Lou Wittaker*  
Irina Zaurov

**Long Term Community Needs Fund**  
*In Memory of Betty Benjamin*  
Loren & Cindy Sengstock  
Dr. Martha Birnbaum

**Ross Treuhaft Special Needs Spirituality Fund**  
*In Memory of Ross Treuhaft*  
Mrs. Pam Skinner

**Sydney Mostov Memorial Fund**  
*In Memory of Bruce Miller*  
*In Memory of Paul Faulkner*  
Mr. Michael Mostov

## 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. The Jewish Federation & Foundation of Greater Toledo is not responsible for any additional costs incurred by participants, such as travel or accommodation expenses.

The 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 the 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.



Recipient of the 2023 Toledo Community Foundation Northwest Ohio Nonprofit Excellence Award

# Glass Children: JSFSS sees their strength

By Mary Bilyeu

Glass Children.

If you hear that term and think of fragility – perhaps youngsters who are perceived to be overly sensitive, easily shattered emotionally – guess again.

Rather, Glass Children are the typically-developing siblings of people who have special needs, such as a disability or a chronic illness.

Their parents are “so consumed with the needs of our brothers and sisters that, when they look at us, they look right through us as though we’re made of glass,” explained Alicia Maples in her ground-breaking 2010 TEDx San Antonio Talk, “Recognizing Glass Children.” ([youtube.com/watch?v=MSwqo-g2Tbk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MSwqo-g2Tbk))

While she did not coin the term “Glass Child,” Alicia is credited with bringing it into the mainstream. She grew up as the eldest of three kids: The older of her two brothers, Mario, was diagnosed with autism; the younger, David, passed away in childhood from severe combined immunodeficiency.

Needless to say, her parents were overwhelmed with caring for the boys and their multitude of needs. At a very early age, then, Alicia learned to be self-reliant, resilient, helpful, and unobtrusive – common traits among Glass Children, who are incredibly strong even at a young age, she said, “because we have to be.”

They quickly begin to internalize the importance of being well-behaved, cooperative, and trouble-free, and thus self-impose strict behavioral expectations so as not to cause their parents any further stress.

Well-meaning people have also been known to offer unsolicited advice to Glass Children.

Alicia reported during her TED talk that she was once told, “You need to be a good girl for Mommy and Daddy ... so you do whatever you can to make [them] happy.”

She was only 6 or 7 years old. And she took those words to heart, while also taking on responsibilities and self-sacrifice well beyond her years, such that she never really got to be a child during her childhood.

And so, Alicia’s presentation included a special plea for adults whose families are facing this unique situation: “You cannot take for granted the emotional health of your [Glass Children].” The entire mishmash of emotions – concern, fear, resentment, worry, sadness, anger, disappointment, frustration – that parents experience while caring for children with special needs, “your healthy child feels all of it, too. But with the coping skills of a child.”

## Planting a seed

Jewish Toledo community member Abby Heurman is keenly aware of Glass Children, and is working to ensure that they are seen and supported.

That’s because the term describes her two daughters: Leni, 8, and Layken, 11.

Abby’s third child, Harrison, is Layken’s twin; he’s been diagnosed with autism, and “he’s very much an open book; he’s proud of who he is,” his mom said with her own admiration for

## The Sibling Support Project

In an effort to provide resources for Glass Children, the Seattle-based Sibling Support Project (SSP) was founded in 1990 by Don Meyer. It was the first national program to address the concerns and needs of a unique and neglected population.

Because Glass Children will likely have the longest relationships with their siblings, continuing even after their parents are gone, the SSP offers a range of programs for multiple demographics. There are SibShops nationwide for children, providing opportunities for fun in a supportive environment along with a safe space to meet and share with others in similar situations.

There are also private online forums for teenagers (SibTeen), 20-somethings (Sib20), and adults (SibNet), allowing them to share stories, questions, frustrations, “this could only happen to us” moments, medical and housing information, and other issues relevant to their special families at different stages of life.

For more information, go to [siblingssupport.org](https://siblingssupport.org).

him.

But her son’s behaviors – and the myriad emotional, financial, and other consequences that result from having a child with significant special needs in the family – have caused Abby to be greatly concerned for her girls.

“I always worry about them,” she said. “I’ve always felt, ‘What are the long-term effects for the girls?’ And am I failing them?”

After all, if she and her husband Jeff struggle as adults – even with maturity, wisdom, knowledge, life experience, professional supports, and physical strength to rely upon – “can you imagine,” she asked, “how the girls feel?”

And so, Abby is not content to dismiss Leni’s and Layken’s own special needs, or to look right through them. Just as she ensures that Harrison receives the care and interventions he requires, she has been seeking something that helps her daughters and other area Glass Children, as well.

Layken had previously been part of a local program for children whose siblings have autism, but it “always focus[ed] on home,” Abby said. It became “just another situation where the focus was still on her brother,” and she stopped attending. There are also a number of organizations that do the important work of welcoming and encouraging those with disabilities – Special Olympics, for example, or Chabad’s Friendship Circle, supported by JFGT, among them.

But the devoted mom “felt there was a gap” in services for her daughters and other Glass Children, she said, who really need something that prioritizes them alone.

In 2023, Abby was part of the Jewish Federation and Foundation of Greater Toledo’s Young Leadership Program, which is designed to mentor and develop future lay leaders. After completing the training, it was time to consider board or committee positions – to “get involved in meaningful ways,” she explained.

Abby approached her fellow Leadership Program participants as the group was discussing end-goals, when they’d been given an opportunity to dedicate some funds toward projects they felt were worthwhile. They decided to allocate a share towards creating a local program for Glass Children through the Federation’s Jewish Senior, Family and Social Services Department (JSFSS).

“A seed was planted,” Abby reported with gratitude for the support of her Young Leadership colleagues, that “came from a need that I recognized, a need in our own home.”

## Sprouting

She envisions something that will “start organically,” with the opportunity to grow. There might be a buddy program, where the kids can get together with Hillel students. Abby also thought about perhaps going for mani/pedis or bowling; she wants the activities to be “time that’s just dedicated to the kids to enjoy themselves, without the concern of a sibling ruining it – for lack of a better word – with a meltdown or behavior.”

The plan is to let the kids have a great time engaging with their peers, while also having fun during activities that parents who are caring for a child with special needs – who are themselves stressed, tired, and frazzled – aren’t always available to do with their Glass Children.

As it grows, this new project might split off to accommodate different age groups and varying needs, or there might be an aspect that allows for discussion of common sibling-related interests along with an entertaining program.

But for now, it’s all still a work in progress.

Additionally, if you are an adult Glass Child who feels that your personal experiences could benefit this effort, we welcome your suggestions; please reach out to Ben Malczewski, Vice President of JSFSS, at 419-724-0408 or [ben@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:ben@jewishtoledo.org). Several Federation staff members are Glass Children, and they may also be involved in this endeavor.

## Nurturing

Note that Glass Children’s situations can vary greatly, depending on many factors: Is their sibling’s disability intellectual, physical, behavioral, psychiatric, or a combination? How severe is the condition, and when did it become apparent – at birth or later in life? Does the child with special needs have a permanent disability, or is it an illness that’s chronic or short-term? Is the condition stable or does it fluctuate? What are the siblings’ ages, and how many children are there? Are there cultural or religious influences affecting the situation? What impact does the family’s financial situation have? Is safety a concern for the family? Are brothers and sisters expected to provide care for

their special needs siblings? Is there an ability to have a sibling relationship?

But despite all the variables, there is significant commonality among Glass Children.

According to the Seattle-based Sibling Support Project (see the information box on this page?), decades of research has found that they “are typically emotionally neglected, experience severe pressure to be problem-free and perfect, take on parental responsibilities within the family at a young age, and have an overwhelming need to make others happy. All this while receiving little nurturing and support in their development years.”

Kate Eschelman, Psy.D., of the Cleveland Clinic’s Center for Pediatric Behavioral Health, notes that a range of behaviors is typical for these kids: anxiety and/or panic disorders, clinical depression, and possibly even post-traumatic stress disorder if the home situation is particularly chaotic. Other issues include codependency, perfectionism, an inability to discern their own needs or seek to have them met in healthy ways, and low self-esteem.

Thus, any supportive nurturing that can be provided to Glass Children – especially at a younger age, though the needs change and evolve as the kids grow up – is hugely critical.

## Growing and thriving

Please know that not everything about being a Glass Child is negative or detrimental.

Maturity, problem-solving, a sense of responsibility, and the ability to be self-directed are skills that will serve these kids well throughout their lives; they tend to be very high achievers in any venture they pursue.

There’s also often a great deal of love and encouragement among special needs and typically-developing siblings, who still engage in normal rivalries, pranks, and teasing. Such instances can make even a unique family feel oh, so very ordinary at times.

Abby said that Layken “is one of the most inclusive children they’ve ever seen” at her school, deeply empathetic in making sure that people are not left out or other-ed.

But she’s also “so much stronger emotionally than a typical 11-year-old should have to be,” her mom says.

“She’s always super-aware” of situations, and strives to make sure that her brother “won’t feel ‘less than’ or bad,” Abby said. She’s “very protective of him.” When a schoolmate made fun of Harrison in front of her, Layken walked away from the friendship entirely.

Trying to be the best sister she can be in a complicated situation, coupled with just trying to get through her tween years as a regular 11-year-old girl, contributes to “an emotional struggle” for her daughter, Abby stated – just as it does for so many others, with their own brothers and sisters who have special needs.

She’s sharing her family’s personal story because “the more it’s out there,” Abby said, “it’s therapeutic. [We] can all help each other.”

And in working together, Jewish Toledo’s Glass Children will finally be seen and supported, with help from JSFSS.

# Jewish Community Relations Council

## Ellie Williams leaves lasting legacy for Jewish Toledo with Planned Gifts

By Abby Hoicowitz

Through the thoughtful planned giving of Ellen “Ellie” Williams (z”l), she has enabled the creation of a new fund—the **Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo (JFGT) Fund for Recruiting and Supporting Jews**. Ellie has also made additional planned gifts to the Long Term Community Needs Fund, the Jewish Senior Services Supporting Organization, and the **Leon & Ellen Williams Family Philanthropic Fund** all maintained by the Toledo Jewish Community Foundation (TJCF). These new gifts were made following Ellie’s death in October 2024.

Ellie attended Scott High School and graduated from DeVilbiss High School then attended Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, transferring to Ohio University to be with her fiancé, Leon Michael Williams, to whom she was married for nearly 55 years. Her husband Leon (z”l) passed away in March 2019.

Ellie and Leon, both Toledo natives, attended Fulton Elementary School and were married at Congregation B’nai Israel in 1964. They as well as both sets of their parents, were married at the synagogue by Rabbi Morton Goldberg. Ellie and Leon both credit their parents and strong Jewish upbringings for giving them the desire to help others at every available opportunity.

“We are both very fortunate,” Ellie said in 2014. “My parents worked long hours to provide for us.”

Arleen Levine, TJCF Director Emeritus, said, “Ellie was a dedicated leader, a Woman of Valor, who cared deeply about our Toledo Jewish community. Through our conversations, I learned of her desire to create philanthropic gifts which would reflect the values shared by her and Leon. The establishment of a Donor Advised Fund gave their extended family the opportunity to discuss the importance of *tzedakah* (charitable giving), conversations which she relished with great pride. Ellie’s commitment to the future of our community led to the establishment of the JFGT Fund for Recruiting and Supporting Jews as she wanted the generations to follow



Ellie Williams (fourth from right) with family at a 2023 JFGT event in her honor.

to experience the vibrant Jewish life of our Toledo community. I was honored to share a special friendship with Ellie and know that her lasting legacy will be forever treasured.”

Ellie’s children and seven grandchildren (Rozzie, Sam, Avi, Jared, Emily, Maya and Caleb) and two children-in-law (Nathan and Ruth) have fond memories of talking with her each year about recommending charities that they had researched and found to be worthy of funding. Since 2008, they identified dozens of charities that they felt were worthy of a minimum \$100 donation annually. The charities were located internationally and were not limited to Jewish causes.

“Being active in and supporting the Jewish community was important to our parents. They set a good example for us in this and many other ways,” said the Williams’ children, Loren and Rachel.

After having her own two children, Ellie worked with children as a teacher at the Hebrew Academy of Toledo and Jewish Community Center preschools, and mentored children as director to Young Judaea Toledo for many years. She was involved with advising and supporting many Jewish causes including Hadassah, Jewish Family Service, Toledo Jewish Federation, Hillel419, Toledo Jewish News, Congregation B’nai Israel, and the Interfaith Blood Drive.

She served as Administrative Assistant at Temple B’nai Israel for many years, improving the synagogue’s bulletin and creating the website. Her extensive skills in computer graphics led her to finish her formal working career as a writer and editor of the National Exchange Club magazine and helping with the Child Abuse Prevention Foundation. In retirement, Ellie lent her talents to helping many

non-profits develop and publish websites, including Congregation B’nai Israel, Women Blessing Women, and Sun City Lecture series in Tucson.

Leon worked at Midwest Stamping Co. in Bowling Green, OH (co-founded by his father, Wilfred Williams in 1952) for 27 years. Leon was active in Jewish Boy Scouts (as troop leader in Toledo), Toastmasters, Congregation B’nai Israel, Mobile Meals, and Toledo Botanical Gardens.

Stephen Rothschild, Jewish Federation and Foundation of Greater Toledo CEO observed, “Ellie was a treasure and shared the treasures of her time and resources to improve the lives of Jews and others here in Toledo and around the world. She was a frequent participant in JFGT programming and an important philanthropist. She is going to be missed but has left the riches of a very good name. Her memory will forever be a blessing to Jewish Toledo.”

## The top 10 Jewish sports moments of 2024, from Jessica Fox’s Olympic dominance to Sam Salz’s historic college football debut

By Jacob Gurvis

December 23, 2024 (JTA) — From the baseball diamond to the soccer pitch, from Vancouver to Paris, 2024 was a historic year for Jews in sports.

Jewish athletes distinguished themselves across events, venues and tiers of competition — from the Olympics to the major leagues to college ball. This year also saw notable sports moments off the field, be they in the front office or during the commercial breaks.

Some of the year’s top moments featured familiar stars in the Jewish sports world, like ace pitcher Max Fried, Olympian Jessica Fox and New England Patriots owner Robert Kraft. Fans

also met some up-and-coming Jewish athletes, like college football player Sam Salz, or watched familiar faces like BYU quarterback Jake Retzlaff and USC basketball coach Lindsay Gottlieb reach new heights.

Here are our top Jewish sports moments of 2024, presented chronologically — including two on the same day!

**The fight against antisemitism gets the spotlight in a Super Bowl ad**

As more than 100 million people tuned in to watch Super Bowl LVIII on Feb. 11, they saw what is believed to be the first-ever Super Bowl ad focused on antisemitism.

The New England Patriots weren’t in the big game, but their owner, Robert Kraft, paid an estimated \$7 million for the 30-second spot by his charity, the Foundation to Combat Antisemitism. The ad featured Clarence B. Jones, the former lawyer and advisor to Martin Luther King Jr. who drafted King’s famous 1963 “I Have A Dream” speech. It drew mixed reviews.

The ad was one of a series by FCAS, which is known for its “#StandUpToJewishHate” campaign, that sought to promote the fight against antisemitism by connecting it to other forms of discrimination.

The group placed a number of TV

ads during popular televised events this year, including one spot depicting a real-life synagogue bomb threat, which aired during the Oscars. Another, about antisemitism at campus protests, aired during the NBA playoffs. And a recent ad calling for a “timeout against hate” featured sports icons including Shaquille O’Neal and Billie Jean King.

**Jessica Fox, with two more golds, steals the show in Paris**

Jewish and Israeli athletes won a slew of medals in Paris this summer — 18 at the Olympics and 13 more at the Paralympics. Jews took home medals in rugby, fencing, track, swimming and

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L-R, top row: Jake Retzlaff, Quinn Hughes and Lindsay Gottlieb. Bottom row: Sam Salz, Jessica Fox and Max Fried. (Getty Images; Design by Grace Yagel)

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numerous other competitions, while Israel returned to Olympic soccer for the first time since 1976.

One of the brightest Jewish stars of the Games was Australian paddling legend Jessica Fox, who won two gold medals in three days, bringing her career total to six, half of them golds. She won gold in both the canoe single and the kayak slalom.

Fox is the most decorated Olympic canoe slalom competitor ever, and the only Australian Olympian in history with six individual medals. She had served as one of Australia's flag bearers at the Paris opening ceremony.

And the magic didn't stop there. Fox's younger sister, Noemie Fox, earned a gold medal of her own in the inaugural kayak cross event. The win put the Fox sisters in rare company among Jewish siblings to medal at the same Olympics.

### Amit Elor wrestles her way to Olympic history

A Jewish Olympian dominated on the wrestling mat as well as the water: Amit Elor, a California native with Israeli parents, entered Paris as the youngest U.S. Olympic wrestler in history, and left as its youngest medalist in the sport.

Elor, an eight-time world champion, made quick work of her opponents, extending her undefeated streak of five years with a gold medal win.

Elor, the granddaughter of Holocaust survivors who moved to Israel, experienced both online antisemitism and the sudden deaths of both her father and a brother during the years when she broke into the elite ranks of U.S. women's wrestling. She wrestles at the 68-kilogram weight class and in October 2023 became the youngest American wrestler — male or female — ever to win a senior world title.

After her win, Elor spoke out against antisemitism — something she had largely avoided in the lead-up to Paris.

"Eighty years ago my grandparents survived the Holocaust, but antisemitism is still all around us," Elor said in a video posted on social media. The clip showed

a comment directed against her saying "you belong in the gas chamber."

### 3 Jewish players appear in one MLB at-bat

Pitcher Max Lazar's first career strikeout on Aug. 10 was special for more than one reason.

Lazar, a Jewish Philadelphia Phillies rookie, was pitching to Jewish catcher Garrett Stubbs and struck out Diamondbacks designated hitter Joc Pederson, who is also Jewish. The moment marked a rare trifecta — in which the pitcher, catcher and batter were all Jewish. (Stubbs and Pederson both played for Team Israel at the 2023 World Baseball Classic.)

According to the Jewish Baseball Museum, it was only the third instance of a Jewish pitcher-catcher-batter combination in MLB's more than 100-year history. And Stubbs and Lazar made up only the eighth-ever Jewish pitcher-catcher pairing, known as a battery.

It wasn't Stubbs' first historic moment of the season. In July, with the Phillies trailing the Oakland Athletics, Stubbs took the mound, faced fellow Team Israel alum Zack Gelof — and gave up a grand slam. It was the first-ever grand slam hit by a Jewish batter off a Jewish pitcher.

### USC coach Lindsay Gottlieb notches her 300th career basketball win

University of Southern California women's basketball coach Lindsay Gottlieb has established herself as one of the sport's best.

Gottlieb, who in 2019 became the first women's collegiate head coach to join an NBA staff, led USC to the No. 1 seed in the NCAA March Madness tournament this year after winning the Pac-12 Conference's last-ever women's championship (the conference since dissolved). USC made it to the Elite Eight in the Big Dance before losing to the University of Connecticut.

In April, Gottlieb signed a contract extension with USC that will keep her at the helm through the 2029-2030 season. And this season, USC is off to another strong start, now in the Big Ten.

On Nov. 12, Gottlieb reached another milestone: her 300th career coaching

win, a 124-39 rout over Cal State Northridge. The victory set USC records for points scored in a single game and widest margin of victory.

Gottlieb is a member of the Jewish Sports Hall of Fame of Northern California. Following WNBA legend Sue Bird's retirement in 2022, some fans turned to Gottlieb as the new face of Jewish basketball.

"I wondered if there would be someone to assume [Bird's] place as basketball's Jewish role model," Sophie Bravo wrote for JTA's partner site Hey Alma in April. "Lindsay seems to have stepped into the role seamlessly, balancing success, humility and determination, using her actions to guide and inspire."

### Sam Salz blazes a trail for Orthodox Division I athletes

Speaking of Jewish firsts, Texas A&M's Sam Salz became likely the first-ever Orthodox Jew to appear in a Division I college football game when he took the field Nov. 16 with the Aggies.

Salz's debut marked the culmination of a years-long journey, one that took him from Kohelet Yeshiva High School — a Modern Orthodox school in Philadelphia with roughly 100 students and no football team — to a legendary college football program that peaked at No. 15 in the national rankings this season and plays in the vaunted Southeastern Conference.

Salz, who had never played a snap of organized football in his life, let alone DI college ball, had walked onto the team in 2022 but had yet to appear in a game — in part because most college football games take place on Shabbat, when Salz doesn't play.

But on the school's senior night, with 42 seconds left in the game, he heard his name called and ran out on the gridiron.

"There's probably a Jewish kid, and maybe even especially an Orthodox kid, who wants to play football, or wants to play sports, and is sitting somewhere confused about what he should do, or who's told that he'll never be able to do it," Salz said in an interview. "Even getting to see me run down on that field, successful play or not, could have given him all the hope that he wanted."

### Jake Retzlaff enjoys a breakout season — and celebrates with some matzah

It sounds almost like the opening of a comedy routine: A proudly Jewish player at the flagship university of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints becomes a household name for college football fans.

But it's no joke. For Brigham Young University quarterback Jake Retzlaff, this was a breakout season. Retzlaff goes by "BY-Jew" and made national headlines both for his on-field play and for how he publicly embraced his Jewish identity.

Retzlaff, who grew up attending a Reform synagogue in Pomona, California, is BYU's first Jewish starting quarterback and one of only three Jewish students at the Utah school. He threw 20 touchdowns this season as he led BYU to a 10-2 record in the Big-12 Conference and a top-25 national ranking — peaking at No. 9 on Nov. 5, a program record.

And earlier this month, Retzlaff inked a sponsorship deal with Manischewitz, the Jewish food company's first-ever sports deal. The package is set to include special-edition boxes of Manischewitz matzah emblazoned with Retzlaff's likeness.

### Max Fried signs the largest contract in Jewish baseball history

Retzlaff isn't the only Jewish athlete with a landmark deal. Pitcher Max Fried entered the MLB offseason as one of the most coveted free agents on the market. And on Dec. 10, he got his payday.

Fried signed an eight-year, \$218 million contract with the New York Yankees, the largest contract ever for a Jewish player as well as for a left-handed pitcher (topping David Price's 2015 deal by \$1 million in raw terms).

Fried, who turns 31 in January, has a 3.07 ERA in 151 career starts, all with the Atlanta Braves, and is a two-time All-Star, a three-time Gold Glove winner, a Silver Slugger winner and a 2021 World Series champion. In 2024, Fried posted an 11-10 record with a 3.25 ERA and 166 strikeouts in 174.1 innings.

Now, the Los Angeles native, who

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# Local

## Happy Tears

By Lauren Sachs

*Lauren 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, Lauren 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. Lauren 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](http://www.literally-lauren.com).*



For those who still use an old-school paper calendar, I imagine that - like me - you may feel some sense of hope and optimism when starting a new one. Personally, a clean calendar with its empty pages and straightforward design feels, in and of itself - refreshing. Though the weather in the Midwest may be anything but spry in early January, the notion of beginning again calls to us with a seductive siren song. Whether setting New Year's Resolutions to improve our

mental health or physical well-being, trying to reach a goal, or simply making plans to quit a bad habit, it is a time tinged with possibility. For those who have lost a loved one, the New Year may even bring a surprising sense of relief, knowing that the added strain of coping with grief during the holiday season is over - at least for the time being. Still, like so many aspects of loss, new beginnings are never experienced without complex and conflicting emotions.

I have come to understand that loss is a constant exercise in holding opposing truths. Sometimes the opposition is quite straight-forward, such as looking ahead to rebuilding one's life without a loved one while simultaneously honoring the past and the beloved's role in one's circle of friends and family. At other times, the conflicting states are harder to reconcile: like when we feel a sense of healing and peace only to have that calm broken by a strong wave of grief. Another closely related opposition that is seemingly impossible to juggle comes from attempts to maintain a sense of control over our feelings, versus the times when our emotions wash over us. With all these paradoxes, I firmly believe there

is no right or wrong way to address them. Grief is an idiosyncratic experience where each person must walk their own path in their own time.

During my spousal loss support group, we often discuss the concept of starting over, prompting a series of questions for which there are no ready answers. Searching for guidance and support, the fellow widows and widowers in my group often ask: Am I ready to look to the future? Should I accept this new reality or try to maintain my former life in some way? Even if, and when, I want to move forward, will others in my life accept the changes? Why are some of my friends and family pushing me to make changes when I do not feel prepared to do so? How would my late spouse want me to live my life in his/her absence? What do I even want for myself at this stage of my life? Why is the concept of change so incredibly scary? How can I manage this new path when I feel so alone?

In the face of such uncertainty, I suggest that my fellow mourners try to relieve the self-imposed pressure we may feel by changing our perspective. Instead of putting such high expectations on ourselves to find the "right" answers,

perhaps we can play a mental game and pretend that we are advising a good friend. After all, we are often much kinder and less judgmental with others than we are with ourselves. Maybe we could simply accept the cognitive dissonance of our reality instead of trying to reconcile it, realizing that we are capable of holding these opposite states. Could we allow ourselves time and space to know the new person we are becoming, and even give ourselves permission to embrace the change? Would it help to find a quiet and contemplative time to ponder these questions so that we are able to tune in to our own thoughts? Might we benefit from discussing these matters with others in grief?

Though we so often feel that we should know how to navigate our future, one of the greatest lessons of grief is coming to understand how very unpredictable our future truly is. This New Year, I hope that this uncertainty does not cause you angst and, instead, you will open your real or metaphorical calendar with a sense of fresh optimism. I also wish you a sense of peace, with the reassurance that the universe is there to guide you along the way.

## Sports continued from page 8

grew up worshipping Hall of Famer Sandy Koufax, will likely spend the rest of his career playing in the city with the most Jews in the world. Fried joins fellow Jewish pitcher Scott Effross, who was traded to the Yankees in 2022 but missed all of 2023 and most of 2024 with multiple injuries. Jewish Yankees pitching prospect Eric Reyzelman is working his way through the minor leagues. Brad Ausmus, the team's bench coach, is also Jewish.

### Aerin Frankel and Quinn Hughes headline a banner year for Jewish hockey

On the same day Fried signed his massive deal with the Yankees, the Vancouver Canucks became the first team in NHL history to feature three Jewish players in the same game.

Defensemen Quinn Hughes and Mark Friedman and forward Max Sasson all played for the Canucks as they lost to the St. Louis Blues 4-3 in overtime.

The Jewish hat trick capped a banner year for Jews in hockey.

Jews featured prominently in the inaugural season of the Professional Women's Hockey League, which dropped the puck on New Year's Day, led by Boston Fleet goalie Aerin Frankel, who is arguably the best Jewish player in the league.

Frankel posted a .929 save percentage in 18 games last season, but her breakout came in the playoffs, when

the Northeastern alum saved over 95% of shots and earned the moniker "Green Monster" — an homage to another formidable Boston sports presence — for her clutch performances. Boston lost to Minnesota in the finals in May despite Frankel's brick wall.

In the NHL, Edmonton Oilers star Zach Hyman put on a career performance last season, tallying 54 goals, the third-most in the NHL, plus 16 more in the playoffs. And Hughes finished with 75 assists, the third-most in the league, and won the James Norris Memorial Trophy, which is awarded to the NHL's best defender.

During the offseason this summer, Ryan Warsofsky became the first Jewish NHL head coach in three decades, University of Denver star Zeev Buium was selected 12th overall in the NHL Entry Draft and Jack, Luke and Quinn Hughes became the first brothers to grace the cover of the flagship NHL video game.

### Israeli Yaniv Bazini leads UVM to its first-ever NCAA soccer championship

Before this month, the University of Vermont had won six national championships in the school's history — all in skiing. On Dec. 16, the Catamounts captured the NCAA Division I soccer championship, thanks in large part to Israeli star Yaniv Bazini.

Bazini, a senior from Ness Ziona in central Israel, joined UVM in 2022 and became an anchor of Vermont's

offense. This season, Bazini led the team with 14 goals — including six scored in postseason games — which is the second-most in a single season in program history. His 30 points were third-best in the UVM record books.

Beyond his offensive prowess, Bazini was also known for his proud embrace of his Israeli and Jewish identity. Last October, Bazini draped himself in an Israeli flag after scoring his first goal following Hamas' Oct. 7 attack. He brought the flag back out to celebrate the national title.

Bazini told JTA he cherishes the opportunity to represent Jews on the pitch — which he hopes to do professionally, either in the MLS or abroad.

"It means everything," he said. "I got so many messages in the past couple days of kids that are impacted, and not only my soccer, but how I show that I'm Jewish and not afraid of it. By doing 'Shema Yisrael' at every beginning of the game or halftime, or every time I score, every time to thank God."

### Honorable mentions

Here are a few other Jewish sports stories from the past year that are worth noting:

**Assaf Lowengart** made history as the first Israeli-born position player to sign a professional baseball contract in the U.S. when he joined the Frontier League's New York Boulders in February.

**Hapoel Jerusalem** honored slain

hostage Hersh Goldberg-Polin, whom they called "our friend in the stands."

Orthodox MLB prospect **Jacob Steinmetz** continued his ascent through the minor leagues, joining the Hillsboro Hops, the Arizona Diamondbacks' High-A affiliate.

MLB veteran **Kevin Pillar** enjoyed a late-career resurgence with the Los Angeles Angels — and embraced his role as a Jewish ballplayer.

**Team Israel** launched an American organization to strengthen its national team pipeline and support baseball's growth in Israel.

**Náutico Hacoaj** became the first Jewish soccer club to compete in Argentina's Amateur Promotional Tournament since 1967.

Israeli fencer **Yuval Freilich** won a gold medal at the 2024 Qatar Grand Prix on Jan. 31, while wearing a uniform with an Israeli flag and the message "Am Israel Chai," Hebrew for "the people of Israel lives," written on his shoulder. Qatar, which does not have diplomatic ties with Israel, has played home to Hamas' leadership.

And last but not least, Jewish wrestling promoter **Paul Heyman** and boxing publicist **Fred Sternburg** were each inducted into their sport's respective halls of fame. And the **Jewish world mourned the deaths of Ken Holtzman, the winningest Jewish pitcher in MLB history, and Hall-of-Fame jockey Walter Blum**, who rode to victory in the Belmont Stakes.

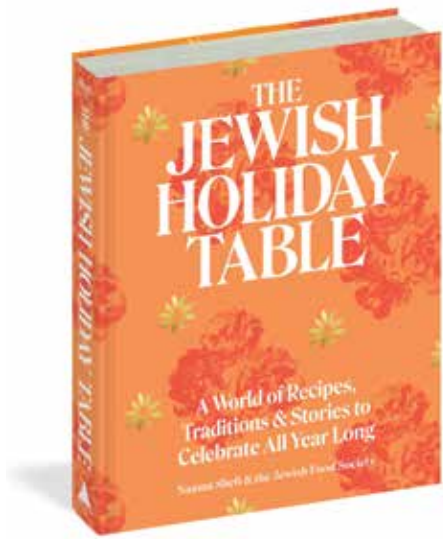
# Jewish Food Society: Dining through the Diaspora

By Mary Bilyeu

“[Food] can enable those who identify as Jewish to feel proud of their roots and find a place for themselves within the community,” writes Naama Shefi, founder of the Jewish Food Society ([jewishfoodsociety.org](http://jewishfoodsociety.org)) and co-author of its first cookbook: *The Jewish Holiday Table: A World of Recipes, Traditions & Stories to Celebrate All Year Long*.

It sets a place at the table, both literally and figuratively.

The Jewish Food Society (JFS), which Naama created in 2017, is a digital archive of recipes and stories from throughout the Diaspora – including communities you may likely have never thought of as having much Jewish presence.



Calcutta. Uzbekistan. Northern Italy. Denmark. Zimbabwe. Mexico City. Brazil.

Of course, Israel, the United States, North Africa, Western Europe, Iran/Persia, the former Soviet Union, Turkey, and other more familiar regions get to show off their cuisines, too, all through family recipes and stories.

And now, many of the most exquisitely special of these recipes – those which are reserved for just once-a-year showcase appearances, those which are often the most priceless family heirlooms – have been gleaned from the Jewish Food Society’s treasure chest and collected in *The Jewish Holiday Table*.

And they certainly have some fascinating tales to tell.

“If you look at a Jewish table,” co-author Devra Ferst, JFS’s Editorial Director, wrote in an email exchange, “it can tell you so much about a person and their family .... When you look at a whole collection of Jewish tables, like those in our cookbook and on the archive, we hope that they help tell the story of the Jewish people.”

For example, she continued, recipes “often tell us stories of migration – Eastern European cooks who moved from Ukraine to Mexico, like [chef] Fany Gerson’s great-grandmother, added chiles to their gefilte fish. These tables can also tell us stories of wars and survival – both of the Jewish people, and of our food and traditions.”

That’s because foodways are a delicious means of elucidating history, anthropology, sociology, and faith traditions, all at once.

“Growing up deep in the liberal Ashkenazi Jewish community in Philly,” Devra continued, “I knew Jewish food as matzah ball soup, gefilte fish, and brisket. The only time I remember being exposed to other Jewish culinary traditions was through various charosets at Seder. But Jewish food reflects the entire Diaspora, which is extraordinarily vast. There are communities that moved from Iraq to India, ones that migrated from Morocco to Brazil, and many others.”

She’s grateful that, through the diligent and critical work of the Jewish Food Society, “we can help shine a light on these communities. And, for those who are part of those communities, I hope our work helps them feel seen.”

In particular, it was important to the Jewish Food Society to see and recognize the women who’ve kept these beautifully diverse recipes and traditions alive. The cookbook is dedicated, “To the cooks of our tradition – most often women – who have built the Jewish kitchen and tended to its flame, making sure its light never goes out.”

It “is so often women,” Devra explained, “who have maintained our culinary traditions and helped push them forward .... [We] wanted to honor their work.”

That preservation of tradition has continued despite the Jewish people having been cast out across the planet to resettle and rebuild.

Those who live in the Diaspora “have had to adapt their recipes to new ingredients, equipment, etc.,” Devra explained. Different types of grains were found in new countries, for example; certain favorite spices were no longer readily available to flavor meals, which then necessarily remained a memory of home.

“And yet,” she added, “these dishes have still retained their inherent Jewishness and serve to essentially write yet another chapter in the food-centric stories of a people, without being assimilated.”

Her work with JFS, and especially on this first cookbook, “has helped me better understand the breadth and diversity of [that] Jewish experience,” Devra wrote. “That’s been really meaningful to me.”

Because where else might you learn about dabo – the Ethiopian Shabbat bread shared here – which has traveled from Ethiopia to Sudan, to several locations in Israel, and to Harlem, and tells of its adventures along the way at each place it is served? (Every recipe comes with a “family journey” diagram, noting each of its stops through migration. “For a time, we called this the ‘recipe

roots,” Devra said, “but over the years, we realized ‘family journey’ was a better fit – it captures wherever the family has lived, and that almost always influences the food they make.”)

Beejhy Barhany, who offered her legacy recipe, writes in the book that she is descended from an ancient Ethiopian-Jewish community. She remembers the women in her family starting to prepare the bread on Thursdays for baking on Fridays and that before sunset the loaves of dabo would be taken to the synagogue to

be blessed by a religious leader known as a kes.

Her family left home to begin its treacherous journey through the desert to Israel when she was only four, and yet she still remembers that even “in the middle of the desert, we stopped to make dabo in a pot over a fire, bless it, and observe Shabbat. The dabo has been traveling with us throughout all our journeys and our lives.”

Devra is deeply grateful to all the families like Beejhy’s who’ve shared

*Dining* continued on page 21

## Dabo (Ethiopian Bread)



Shared by Beejhy Barhany, chef/owner of Tsion Café in Harlem and founder of the Beta Israel of North America Cultural Foundation.

*Family journey: Tigray, Ethiopia → Khartoum, Sudan → Pardes Hana, Israel → Ashkelon, Israel → Kibbutz Alumim, Israel → New York City*

In Amharic, the word *dabo* means bread, but in the Ethiopian Jewish community, it typically refers to lightly sweet loaves like this one, which are served on Shabbat and holidays, explains Leah Koenig in *The Jewish Cookbook*. When Beejhy was little, she remembers

the women in her family starting to prepare dabo on Thursdays so it would be ready for Shabbat.

### MAKES 1 loaf

- 1 to 1¼ cups (240 to 300 ml) warm water
- 1 packet (2¼ teaspoons/7 g) active dry yeast
- 4 cups (520 g) all-purpose flour
- ¼ cup (50 g) sugar
- 1 tablespoon kosher salt
- 1½ teaspoons vegetable oil
- 1 large egg

Put ½ cup (120 ml) of the warm water in a small bowl, add the yeast, and stir. Set aside.

Put the flour, sugar, and salt in the bowl of a stand mixer fitted with the dough hook and mix on low speed for a few seconds to blend. Add the yeast-water mixture, 1 teaspoon of the oil, and the egg and mix on medium-low speed until blended.

Gradually add another ½ cup (120 ml) warmwater to the flour mixture, and then continue mixing until the dough is well blended, smooth, and soft, about 3 minutes, adding up to ¼ cup (60 ml) more water if needed to bring the dough together. Knead on medium speed until the dough springs back after you poke it with your finger, another 6 minutes or so.

Grease your hands with the remaining ½ teaspoon oil and shape the dough into a ball. Put the dough in a large bowl and cover it with a towel. Let rise for 1 hour.

Line a baking sheet with parchment paper. Pull the dough away from the sides of the bowl to release it, gently pressing on it to push out excess air but keeping the ball intact. Transfer the dough to the parchment-lined baking sheet and cover loosely with a towel. Let it rise until doubled in size, 40 minutes or so.

Preheat the oven to 400°F (205°C).

Bake the bread until it is golden brown and sounds hollow when you tap the bottom, 25 to 30 minutes.

Remove from the oven and let cool on the baking sheet. Serve at room temperature.

*Excerpted from The Jewish Holiday Table by Naama Shefi and the Jewish Food Society (Artisan Books). Copyright © 2024.*

# Fireside Chats



6 -7:30 p.m.  
 Sekach Building, 6505 Sylvania Ave.  
 Free event, registration required

## Fireside Chat #4

Wednesday, January 29

A discussion about the incoming administration and how its policies, cabinet members, etc., might affect our relationship with Israel.



RSVP the Monday prior to each chat at <https://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/JCRC-events> or Sherry Majewski at 419-724-0351 or [sherry@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:sherry@jewishtoledo.org).


Dinner will not be served at the Fireside Chats, but there will be treats to enjoy.





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# 1

## CREATE & RELATE 2024

**SAVE THE DATES**  
 for the next Create and Relate sessions:  
 Session 2 – March 13 | Session 3 – July 10



## Create & Relate 2025 – Session One

Thursday, January 9  
 Noon – 2:30 p.m.  
 Sekach Building, 6505 Sylvania Ave.  
 \$5 OR bring a donation of personal care item(s) for the JSFSS Family Food Pantry

Dr. Breanna Barney, Doctor of Physical Therapy will introduce her company VIP THERAPY, your elite provider for concierge physical therapy, stretching and wellness.

Following the presentation NAMI will help participants tap into their creativity and craft a personalized vision board! Whether you're dreaming of travel, trying new hobbies, or spending more time with family, this is the perfect opportunity to bring your aspirations to life. We'll provide all the basics, but if you have any special supplies you'd like to use, feel free to bring them along!

Let's create something meaningful together!



RSVP by Friday, January 3 to [form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/seniors](https://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/seniors) or Sherry Majewski at 419-724-0351 or [sherry@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:sherry@jewishtoledo.org).



# Jewish Senior, Family and Social Services

## TECH TIPS

Why wait for spring when winter affords us chances, when stuck indoors, to organize and cleanse our homes... whether that be dusting, vacuuming, rearranging, or de-cluttering! Regarding personal tech, winter may also grant time for you to revisit and reevaluate which tech you own, which you want to keep, and which you may want to re-purpose.

Should you take the plunge and perform a tech inventory at home, please consider these basic points when sorting and considering:

- Can the item be repurposed? If so, how?
- What software updates, if any, might it need?

- What data might be stored on it? If any, ensure it's saved and/or deleted before gifting, donating, or recycling.
- Could the item be repurposed? Consider donating it to a local, charitable organization that re-uses tech devices.

Lastly, on a completely different note, I'd like to close this entry by highlighting a new, monthly tech series, listed below, that will begin in late January: Tech Tuesday. Please join me for an evening program during which we'll explore the world of online scams: what they are, how to better identify them, and how to best protect your privacy and personal data.

Keep warm! Until next month – Tim



(Tech Time with Tim)

**Device Advice programs are held on Wednesdays 11 a.m.-noon at the Sekach Bldg . 6505 Sylvania Avenue**

### Upcoming Tech Programs

1. **Wednesday, January 22: Device Advice** – Exploring how to access, save to, and manage cloud storage
2. **Wednesday, January 29: Device Advice** – Exploring Bluesky and Threads apps

**Tech Tuesday programs are held on Tuesday evening, 6-7:30 p.m.:**

1. **January 21: Tech Tuesday** - Identifying Online Scams

### Tim Hagen

Project Manager and Technology Coordinator Jewish Senior, Family and Social Services  
Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo  
6505 Sylvania Avenue  
Sylvania, OH 43560  
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## JFGT donates Hanukkah basket for auction to benefit Alzheimer's Association

Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo was excited to join in the fun and festivity at The Crescent's second annual Festival of Trees reception on Friday, December 6, while staying true to our own faith traditions. Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) and Jewish Senior, Family and Social Services (JSFSS) worked together to create a lovely and informative Hanukkah table display for the senior residence's lobby, rather than decorating a Christmas tree like the 18 other area organizations. To complement the event theme, a Tree of Life placard was also included.

Ian Davis, Senior Living Advisor, who had invited Federation to participate, and Activity Director Rebekah Borton were extraordinarily helpful and welcoming in working with us to represent on behalf of Jewish community members who live at The Crescent.

At the Friday afternoon event, all of the decorated trees were sold

in a silent auction to benefit the Alzheimer's Association. Federation offered a gift basket instead, filled with items that bring the light, warmth, and joy associated with Hanukkah: a cocoa-scented candle, potato pancake and matzah ball soup mixes, a gift certificate to Café Donuts, hot chocolate and cookies, Federation swag, gelt, and other cozy goodies. Our contribution brought \$50 for the very good cause, which we were glad to support.



## 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](http://jewishtoledo.org/jfs)

## 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**

# From 'A Real Pain' to 'The Brutalist' and beyond, Jewish movies were everywhere in 2024. What does it mean?

By Andrew Lapin

December 24, 2024 (JTA) — Hollywood tore itself apart after this year's Oscars ceremony following a Jewish director's acceptance speech for a Holocaust film, in which he criticized Israel months into its war in Gaza.

The spat over Jonathan Glazer's "The Zone of Interest" came alongside Jewish backlash to new diversity and inclusion standards from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, which had neglected to include Jews as an underrepresented Hollywood group. Taken together, it might have portended a difficult Jewish year in Hollywood. Would the world of prestige cinema — with its top prize awarded by a body that recently had faced controversy for downplaying the role of Jews in the film industry's founding — fail Jews in their time of need, like so many other cultural organizations had?

But there was a surprise at the multiplex this year. As antisemitism has spiked, debates about Israel have consumed cultural spaces and anxiety over inclusion has simmered, Jewish movies are actually having a moment.

"The Brutalist," a historical epic about a Hungarian Jewish architect trying to succeed in postwar America, and "A Real Pain," a modern-day dramedy about two Jewish cousins on a Holocaust tour through Poland, are two heavy favorites in this year's Oscar race after racking up big festival prizes. The new Bob Dylan biopic "A Complete Unknown" — which includes a brief glimpse of a photo album showing the boy once known as Robert Zimmerman becoming a bar mitzvah — has earned raves for the performance of Jewish lead actor Timothee Chalamet, and is expected to land well with mainstream audiences when it opens over Christmas.

Works focusing on Jewish clergy and religious life have also found success. This fall, "Between the Temples," a low-budget neurotic comedy about a depressed cantor and his adult bat mitzvah student, was an indie box office hit, and Jewish supporting actress Carol Kane has become a dark-horse awards contender after a win at the New York Film Critics Circle. (Meanwhile, the small-screen romantic comedy "Nobody Wants This," starring Adam Brody as a meme-worthy "hot rabbi" dating a non-Jewish woman, was one of the year's most popular and buzzy TV shows.)

There's a simple reason for these successes, entertainment industry professionals say: They're good movies that people — both Jewish and not — want to see.

"I don't think it's exclusively because they are quote, unquote 'Jewish stories,'" said Eric Kohn, a Jewish longtime film critic who currently works for a movie production company and as a programmer for a film center on Long Island. "I think it's because they have other access points."

And any echoes of the post-Oct. 7, 2023, Jewish experience are largely unintentional. With the exception of "A Complete Unknown," all of this year's big Jewish films — including "September 5," a historical drama about the Israeli athlete hostage crisis at the 1972 Munich



Major Jewish movies of 2024 included (clockwise from top left) "Between the Temples," "September 5," "A Complete Unknown," "The Brutalist" and "A Real Pain." (Photo illustration: Grace Yagel/70 Faces Media)

Olympics games — were shot before the Hamas attack and subsequent war.

In addition, not every filmmaker explicitly set out to make a project dealing with Jewish identity. While "A Real Pain" writer-director-star Jesse Eisenberg and "Between the Temples" director Nathan Silver have been up front about their interest in Judaism as a subject, "The Brutalist" director Brady Corbet and "September 5" director Tim Fehlbaum have said their films just happen to deal with Jews or Israelis, and that their central thematic interests lay elsewhere.

The movies bear that out: Kohn noted that they have additional draws beyond the fact of their Judaism. "The Brutalist" is as much the story of an uncompromising artist, and of the broader immigrant experience, as it is about Holocaust survivors. "A Real Pain," starring Eisenberg and Kieran Culkin, is more explicitly about Holocaust trauma. But, Kohn noted, "It's also a buddy movie with the guy from 'The Social Network' and the guy from 'Succession.'"

And a Bob Dylan movie has broad cultural resonance, particularly since the figure at its center doesn't publicly embrace his Judaism as much as many other Jewish celebrities. Still, in a year like 2024, any Jewish inclusion — no matter how incidental — was welcomed by many.

"I liked the fact that they were movies about American Jews," the Jewish film critic J. Hoberman, who writes frequently about Jews and cinema, said about most of the year's Jewish offerings. "It was like a release, in a sense, to deal with the Diaspora rather than Israel." Hoberman added that he was also a big admirer of "The Goldman Case," a French courtroom drama based on the real-life trial of a 1970s-era Jewish radical but found a relatively smaller audience.

(The attraction beyond Judaism also links this year's big Jewish movies to last year's Jewish awards darlings "Oppenheimer," "The Zone of Interest" and "Maestro," which similarly held

non-Jewish appeal: famous-person biopics, big-budget effects spectacles and cerebral, innovative arthouse filmmaking.)

Another crucial element linking "The Brutalist," "A Real Pain" and "Between the Temples": They were all independent productions, financed and filmed outside of the major studios before being acquired by mid-sized to large distributors after festival premieres. Hip indie distributor A24, Disney-owned label Searchlight Pictures, and megastudio Sony wound up releasing those films, in that order; "September 5," too, was independently financed before being acquired by Paramount. (Partially to save costs, "The Brutalist" and "A Real Pain" were respectively filmed in Hungary and Poland — the countries where their characters encountered the horrors of the Holocaust.)

As the Oscar campaigns for the Holocaust-themed selections ramp up,

their distributors appear to be leaning into the movies' universal themes, rather than their Jewish ones — a shift away from many successful Oscar campaigns for Holocaust movies of the last few decades, ranging from "Schindler's List" to "The Pianist" and beyond, which often placed the horrors of the Holocaust in the center of their pitch to Oscar voters as an important part of bearing witness.

"The films that we're talking about in the best picture conversation, they're not presenting anything related to Jewish identity that might make a non-Jewish audience uncomfortable," Kohn said.

In addition, few of the above films tackle the subject of Israel directly ("The Brutalist" includes some late-in-the-film discussions of Zionism, but it's not the movie's focus). Even "September 5," which dramatizes the Munich hostage crisis at which 11 Israeli athletes and coaches were murdered by Palestinian

*Movies continued on page 18*

**2025 Mahjongg Cards**

Thanks to your generous support, Hillel will receive \$690 from the sale of 2024 Mahjongg cards. Please continue supporting our local organization.

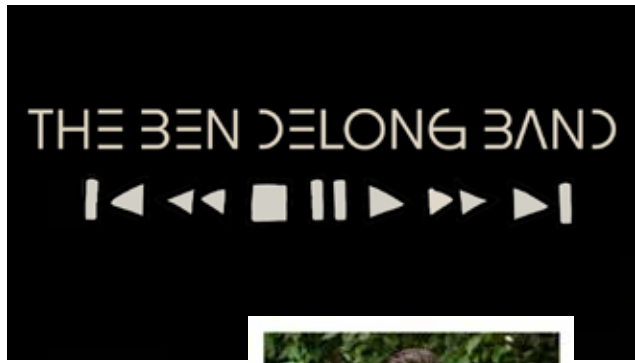
The standard card is \$14.00. | The large card is \$15.00.  
The National Mahjongg League gives us \$5 for each card you purchase.

Make your check payable to Lois Levison and send it along with your name, address, phone number, and email with the size and number of each card you are purchasing by January 24, 2025

Lois Levison, 6634 Kingsbridge Dr, Sylvania, OH, 43560

Thank You,  
Lois Levison 419-885-1919 loisz111@aol.com

# Active Life for 60+



## L'Chaim - A Musical Celebration

Wednesday, January 8

12 - 1:30 p.m.

Temple Shomer Emunim, 6453 Sylvania Ave.

Annual Campaign donors - \$10 per person

Non-donors to the Annual Campaign - \$15 per person

Includes lunch and music



Join us for a delicious lunch accompanied by the inspiring sounds of the Ben Delong Band. Renowned for breaking cultural and generational barriers, the Ben Delong Band captivates audiences with their powerful, moving performances, creating deep and lasting connections among listeners.

Let's come together to strengthen our bonds, share in the joy of music, and build meaningful relationships. Together, we'll create lasting memories and celebrate the vibrant spirit of community!



RSVP by Friday, January 3 at <https://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/seniors> or with Sherry Majewski at 419-724-0351 or [sherry@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:sherry@jewishtoledo.org).



## Trip to the Theater

### Golden Girls: The Laughs Continue

Sunday, January 19

10 a.m. - Brunch at Sekach Building, 6505 Sylvania Ave.

11 a.m. - Local bus

1 p.m. - Showtime at the Fisher Theatre

5 p.m. - Estimated return time

Annual Campaign donors - \$20 per person

Non-donors to the Annual Campaign - \$35 per person

# SOLD OUT



Start the day out with brunch in Toledo then board the bus to see *Golden Girls: The Laughs Continue* at the Fisher Theatre in Detroit.

Picture it. United States, 2024. *Golden Girls: The Laughs Continue* is a parody that brings Miami's sassiest seniors to stages around the country for one more hurrah. We find Sophia out on bail after being busted by the DEA for running a drug ring for retirees. Blanche and Rose have founded CreakN, a thriving sex app for seniors. And Dorothy is trying to hold it all together with help from a new (much) younger sex-crazed lover. *Golden Girls: The Laughs Continue* allows audiences to relive the heartfelt hilarity of the four ladies who never stopped being best friends.

*Golden Girls: The Laughs Continue* is a professional stage show unlike any other Golden Girls tribute that you might have experienced. The play is written by Robert Leleux, author of *The Memoirs of a Beautiful Boy* and *The Living End*. The show is directed by Eric Swanson, co-founder and Executive Director of The Detroit Actors' Theatre Company. The cast includes Ryan Bernier as Dorothy, Vince Kelley as Blanche, Adam Graber as Rose, Christopher Kamm as Sophia, and Tommy Favorite as Stanley/Burt. The tour is produced by Murray & Peter Present and Innovation Arts & Entertainment.



Limited spaces available. RSVP by Monday, December 9 at <https://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/seniors> or with Sherry Majewski at 419-724-0351 or [sherry@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:sherry@jewishtoledo.org).



## Peace, Love, & Pottery

### Painting Day!

# GET GLAZED

Thursday, January 23

12 - 1:30 p.m.

Sekach Building, 6505 Sylvania Ave.

Annual Campaign donors - \$15 per person

Non-donors to the Annual Campaign - \$25 per person

Includes lunch and pottery painting supplies


Join us for a creative and relaxing afternoon as we gather to paint a piece of pottery. This hands-on activity is open to artists of all abilities. We will supply all the materials and supplies needed - you bring the creativity!



RSVP by Friday, January 17 to <https://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/seniors> or with Sherry Majewski at 419-724-0351 or [sherry@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:sherry@jewishtoledo.org).



# Active Life for 60+





## Senior Foodology Fun Day!

**Thursday, February 6**  
**10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**  
 2051 W. LaSalle St.  
 Annual Campaign Donors: \$15 per person  
 Non-donors: \$20 per person  
**Includes cooking lesson and lunch**

**SOLD OUT**

Join us at Foodology for an exclusive, hands-on culinary experience! This intimate class invites seniors to explore the flavors and techniques of vegetarian Asian cuisine. Guided by our skilled instructor, you'll learn to prepare a delicious, healthy Asian-inspired lunch from scratch. After cooking, everyone will gather around to savor the fruits of their labor and enjoy a shared meal. Reserve your spot soon—this is one you won't want to miss!

\*\*\*LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE\*\*\* RSVP by Thursday January 30 to [form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/seniors](http://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/seniors) or Sherry Majewski at [sherry@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:sherry@jewishtoledo.org) or 419-724-0351.

## Celebrate Tu B'Shevat with Mini Tree Gardens

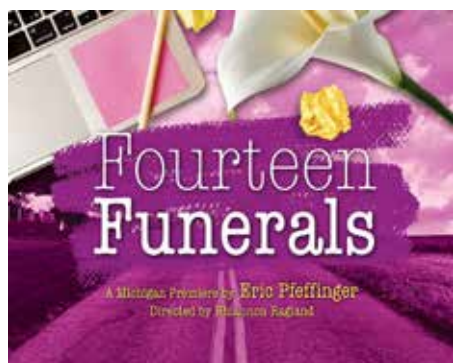
**Thursday, February 13**  
**10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.**  
**Hoehn Garden Center, 1710 Holland Perrysburg Rd.**  
 Annual Campaign Donors: \$10 per person  
 Non-donors to the Annual Campaign: \$20 per person



Come join us at the beautiful Hoehn Garden Center as we celebrate Tu B'Shevat, the Jewish New Year for trees. This special holiday marks the start of a new season of growth and renewal, honoring nature's gifts. Together, we'll create our own miniature tree gardens to take home—a fun and creative way to connect with the holiday's spirit. As we craft, we'll enjoy refreshing beverages from Queen Bee & Honey Coffee. Don't miss out on this delightful afternoon of nature, creativity, and community.



RSVP by Wednesday, February 5 to [form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/seniors](http://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/seniors) or Sherry Majewski at [sherry@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:sherry@jewishtoledo.org) or 419-724-0351.



## Fourteen Funerals at the Purple Rose Theater

**Thursday, March 6**  
**Board Bus at 11 a.m., JFGT campus parking lot, 6465 Sylvania Ave.**  
**Return around 6:30 p.m.**

Annual Campaign Donors: \$10 per person  
 Non-donors to the Annual Campaign: \$20 per person  
 Includes lunch and theater ticket

Join us for a trip to visit the Purple Rose Theater in Chelsea, Michigan to see *Fourteen Funerals* by Eric Pfeffinger.

When city girl Sienna receives a mysterious call about the untimely deaths of distant family members in tiny Blissfield, Indiana, things get... weird. She's been asked to deliver eulogies for relatives she's never even met. What might have been just an excuse to escape her dead-end life in Chicago quickly turns into something entirely unexpected. As Sienna tries to navigate small-town quirks, she forms an unlikely bond with Millie, the ever-cheerful employee at the local funeral home. Together, they uncover secrets, share laughs, and forge a surprising friendship that might just change both their lives.

Join us for this fresh, funny, and heartwarming tale of family, self-discovery, and the most unusual ways we find connection.

Note: Adult language and themes included, so expect a bit of sass!

RSVP by Wednesday, February 12 to [form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/seniors](http://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/seniors) or Sherry Majewski at [sherry@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:sherry@jewishtoledo.org) or 419-724-0351.



## Get Fit Classes

**Monday**

**Get Fit Early, 9-10am -or-  
 Get Fit 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**

**Get Fit Early, 9-10am -or-  
 Get Fit Later, 10:30-11:30am**

(see description above)

**Ballet Ball 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-11pm**

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 JSFSS**  
**Sekach Building**  
**6505 Sylvania Ave.**  
**Sylvania**



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



**YouTube**

# Youth and Family Programs



## PJ & GAN PLAYDATES

FOR LITTLES AGES 0-4 AND THEIR FAVORITE GROWNUP.

9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Gan Yeladim Preschool,  
6505 Sylvania Ave.

**FREE**

Please bring personal care item(s) or paper product(s) for donation.



**Sun., January 12**  
Winter Fun  
**Sun., February 2**  
Tu B'Shevat  
**Sun., March 2**  
Purim  
**Sun., May 4**  
Spring is here

**Register:**  
Sherry Majewski at 419-724-0351 or  
sherry@jewishtoledo.org.  
**Questions?**  
Marnie at [marnie@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:marnie@jewishtoledo.org)  
or 419-724-0365.



## Have you heard of PJ Library?

PJ Library sends free, award-winning books that celebrate Jewish values and culture to families with children from birth through 12 years old.



Scan here to register your child for their books!



**Questions:** Contact PJ Library Program Professional, Marnie Younker, at [marnie@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:marnie@jewishtoledo.org) or 419-724-0365

JFGT PJ Library & Youth Programming

[jewishtoledo.org/pjlibrary](http://jewishtoledo.org/pjlibrary)



PJ Library is supported by The Inspiration Fund.

Jewish Federation  
& Foundation  
OF GREATER TOLEDO

Today and for our future

Donate at  
[www.jewishtoledo.org](http://www.jewishtoledo.org)



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& Foundation  
OF GREATER TOLEDO

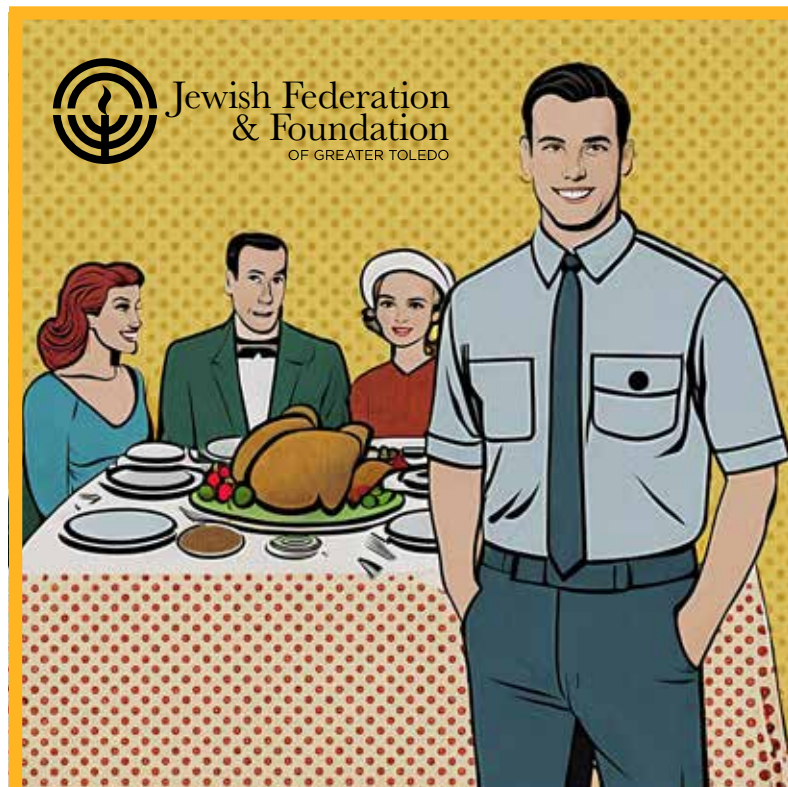
# Families of all ages

## Young professionals unite for social gathering

Approximately 20 young professionals got together recently at a community member's house to enjoy an intimate evening of dinner and togetherness.



For information on future gatherings, contact Marnie Younker at 419-724-0365 or [marnie@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:marnie@jewishtoledo.org).



## Are your kids visiting?

Don't turn them into tech support - let us help instead!

Spend time with your family over dinner instead of watching them work on your computer. Schedule a one-on-one Device Advice or Tech Support appointment today and let your family gathering be all about family!

Contact **Tim Hagen**, Technology Coordinator at Jewish Senior, Family and Social Services, at 419-724-0412 or [Tim@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:Tim@jewishtoledo.org)



## “DID YOU KNOW?”

Are you in your 20s, 30s, or 40s and interested in connecting with other Jewish people in Toledo around your age? Be sure to follow our Next Jewish Generation Facebook page for updates on upcoming events, including fun activities, trivia nights, social gatherings, and more: <https://www.facebook.com/nextjgen>.



## Welcome to Jewish Toledo!

Whether you are new, new-ish, or returning, we are thrilled you are here! Please complete the form and we will be in touch:

<https://form.jotform.com/jewishtoledo/welcome-to-jewish-toledo>



**Movies** continued from page 13

terrorists, does not center the Jewish or Israeli perspective, instead focusing on the TV sports journalists tasked with covering the tragedy — though the historical parallels to today’s Israeli hostage crisis and the ensuing war in Gaza still resonate.

The film won’t be released widely until January, but it hasn’t yet broken through the cultural landscape as much as Paramount had hoped. The studio was positioning it as a potential best picture contender at the Oscars, perhaps inspired by Steven Spielberg’s 2005 drama “Munich,” which covered the same subject and received five Oscar nominations including the top one. But it’s failed to generate much buzz in limited release, harming its chances, and Oscar predictors like Variety and Vulture have knocked its odds down; Kohn called the film “a complete dud at the box office.” (It did receive a lone Golden Globe nomination for best drama.)

Whether that’s due to its focus on Israel or to general disinterest amid a crowded film marketplace isn’t clear. On the film-reviewing social network Letterboxd, some of the most popular reviews of “September 5” ding it for supposedly being “Israeli propaganda.”

The war has certainly affected at least one Jewish film this year: the documentary “No Other Land,” which was directed by a collective of Israeli and Palestinian filmmakers and chronicles

the Israeli military’s efforts to demolish the Palestinian West Bank village collective of Masafer Yatta. Like the other films mentioned in this article, it was made before Oct. 7 (with a small coda that takes place afterwards). But the movie’s supporters frequently cite the ongoing war — and accompanying rise in settler violence in the West Bank — in arguing for wider exposure.

Despite widespread critical acclaim and awards, including recently being shortlisted for best documentary at the Oscars, “No Other Land” has yet to find an official U.S. distributor. It will receive a limited New York release in January. The filmmakers declined an interview with JTA, saying they would wait until January to do further publicity for the movie.

Another controversial Israel-focused documentary, “The Bibi Files,” was also shortlisted for the Oscar and will soon be distributed as part of a nontraditional new-media model; it is backed by the Israeli activist group UnXeptable, which protests Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his government, and has a large U.S. presence. (Notably, the Oscar shortlist for best international feature included the Palestinian submission — “From Ground Zero,” an omnibus of short films shot in Gaza after Oct. 7 — but not the Israeli one, a drama about sibling grief called “Come Closer” that did not address the war.)

“I thought it was more than a film,” Hoberman, who named “No Other Land” the best movie of the year, told JTA. “I was really glad to have a movie that was so outspoken about what I perceive as a terrible injustice. And at the same time, the fact that it could be made was hopeful in itself, if only in a theoretical sense.” His best-of list appeared in Artforum magazine, which itself underwent an Oct. 7-prompted leadership crisis shortly after the Hamas attack.

The failure of “No Other Land” to find distribution might say more about Hollywood’s post-Oct. 7 mood than the success of other Jewish-themed movies: films addressing the conflict are still seen as too risky for the bottom line. “No company feels like they can take the risk of the baggage that that film might bring, whether or not they agree with the perspective in it,” Kohn said.

Not every Jew is pleased with how this year’s crop of Jewish movies depicts actual Jewish life. Allison Josephs, an advocate for Jewish onscreen representation who runs the blog Jew in the City and recently undertook a survey of Jewish TV characters in collaboration with the University of Southern California’s Norman Lear Center, told JTA she believed the selections “follow the patterns of problematic Jewish films we’ve seen before” in both their casting and subject matter.

“We want to see Jews cast to play Jews, diverse casting for what Jews look like, as many of us are not white-passing. We want to see Jews taking pleasure in their heritage, being proud of their identity,” Josephs wrote. “We want to see stories beyond the Holocaust.”

For Josephs, who was also active in opposing Jewish exclusion from the Academy’s new diversity rules this year, how the makers of Jewish-related films feel about Israel is also an important factor in judging their success. “I’m googling the stars of these films and I don’t see any public support of Israel,” she wrote. “And that just adds insult to injury.” (Eisenberg has avoided discussing Israel in interviews; Guy Pearce, who plays a subtly antisemitic benefactor to Adrien Brody’s Jewish architect in “The Brutalist,” is a vocal pro-Palestinian activist who recently told Vanity Fair, “I’ve had someone say to me, ‘Let’s not forget what Hollywood is made up of. Be careful.’”)

At the end of the day, Kohn said, Jewish movies remain a niche in Hollywood. But it’s a niche that can reliably bring audiences — and one in particular — to the theater.

“My parents are liberal Zionists who went to go see ‘Between the Temples.’ And I didn’t have anything to do with that,” he said. “When they see a film that has Jewish themes, they go see it.”

## Jewish Men’s Club

On December 3, 2024, the Toledo Jewish Men’s Club luncheon was held at Temple Shomer Emunim. The guest speaker was Howard Gudell, President of the Ohio-Israel Chamber of Commerce. The Ohio Israel CofC has been responsible for over \$30 million in economic development in Ohio and has successfully developed partnership with numerous Ohio businesses, medical and education institutions.



A large and engaged turnout representing more than 30 representatives of area businesses, educational institutions, government agencies



Pictured l-r, Joel Beren, Fred Treuhaft, Howard Gudell, and Stephen Rtothschild



Joel Beren



Howard Gudell



Our happy sunshine friends at Gan Yeladim Preschool are busy preparing to celebrate Hanukkah, filling our days with their warmth and joy!

## Hanukkah at Gan Yeladim



# Intergenerational programming at West Park Place



Stacy Willis, Jewish Senior, Family & Social Services (JSFSS) social worker; Wendy Payne, Temple Shomer Emunim; and with Carol Nadaud, West Park Place activity director recently developed an intergenerational programming initiative at the assisted living facility in November. Approximately 15 religious school students visited and played Human Bingo with the residents. During the game, the children asked the older adults questions. “Do you have any younger brothers?” “Did you have brown hair before it turned white?” “Have you played the piano?” They played until someone had filled their entire Bingo board. During the game, both the children and the older adults lit up through conversation while having fun with one another. Intergenerational Programming will continue through the remainder of the school year as well.



**meijer**

**SIMPLY give**

**You can help fight local hunger!**

The Meijer **Simply Give** campaign runs

**Sunday, December 29, 2024** through

**Saturday, March 29, 2025.**

at the Central Avenue store which benefits the Jewish Family Service Food Pantry!

You can help by purchasing a \$10 card (or multiples of \$10) at Meijer during those days.

Make your dollars go ever further!

**Double Match Days**

**Saturday, March 1, 2025**

**Saturday, March 22, 2025**

On Double Match Days, purchasing a \$10 card will result in a \$30 donation! Cards are available at Meijer on Central Ave. and the Sekach Building (6505 Sylvania Avenue).

**You can be a hero to those who are hungry. We can serve MORE when you give MORE!**



**meijer** **SIMPLY give**

To participate, take a Meijer Simply Give card along with your \$10 and give to the cashier at the Meijer on Central Avenue



**You can help fight local hunger!**



# BBYO

## BBYO 2024 inductions



Thank you, Jodie Goldstein

More than three years ago, Jodie Goldstein stepped into the role of BBYO City Director with a simple, yet meaningful goal: to help Toledo BBYO grow into a thriving community where teens could connect, learn, and build lasting friendships. At the time, BBYO membership was at a low, and now, thanks to the dedication of our teens, parents, and community, Toledo BBYO has blossomed

into a chapter of 23 members strong!

Jodie has accomplished so much in her time as the BBYO City Director. Toledo Jewish teens have formed connections with peers across the globe, many of which will be lifelong friendships. A supportive network of alumni and community partners are invested in the success of this program. This growth has been an incredible journey.

Jodie's contributions to Toledo BBYO have been invaluable. Her time, energy, and tireless efforts have been instrumental in shaping the chapter's success. From organizing impactful programs to fostering a warm and welcoming environment, Jodie's dedication has made a lasting impact on our teens and community.

As of January 1, 2025, the new Toledo BBYO City Director will be Madison McQueen. Madison brings tremendous energy and a passion for working with teens, and she will continue to lead Toledo BBYO to even greater heights.

Thank you for your ongoing support of Toledo BBYO, Jodie! We look forward to seeing what you do next! Kol HaKavod!

## Meet BBYO's New City Director – Maddie McQueen



Madison "Maddie" McQueen is a Toledo native who grew up very involved in the city's Jewish community. While attending Miami University, she worked at their Hillel as an intern and chef. Madison graduated from Miami with degrees in History and Social Studies Education. She is currently working in her second year at Bowsler High School as a history teacher. Madison looks forward to her new role as the BBYO City Director where she will be fostering Toledo teens' Jewish identities.




**You can use Venmo to make a donation to Federation and pay for programs, classes, and events!**

**Just send to**

**@Toledo-Federation**

**in your app or on the Venmo website at [venmo.com](https://venmo.com) and please make sure to state the purpose of the payment before submitting.**



# Jewish Federation and Foundation of Greater Toledo



## Kathryn Linver Memorials

*serving the Jewish Community for more than 30 years*

Gabrielle Mallin, Memorial Associate

- Distinctive & Personally Designed Memorials
- Finest Materials & Craftsmanship
- Competitive Prices

Contact Kathryn Linver at 419-882-0607 or 419-283-6853 days or evenings or Gabrielle Mallin at 440-785-0408

### Obituaries accepted for print in Toledo Jewish News

Toledo Jewish News accepts obituaries for the Toledo Jewish community, immediate family members, and former residents of the Toledo Jewish community.

You may include a photo of the deceased if you wish (optional).

**NOTE: Only obituaries submitted to paul@jewishtoledo.org (at the Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo offices) will be printed in Toledo Jewish News.**

There is no charge to submit an obituary, but we encourage donations to Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo (www.jewishtoledo.org).

Preferred maximum obit length is 500 words (*Toledo Jewish News* reserves the right to edit obituaries as necessary).

Email completed obituaries to: paul@jewishtoledo.org

*Toledo Jewish News* is published the first of every month except July. Obituaries should be emailed by the 15th of the month prior to publication.

If you have additional questions, please contact paul@jewishtoledo.org or 419-724-0318.



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## Dining continued from page 10

their food, their stories, and their lives with JFS.

“As a writer and someone who wants to preserve and learn from traditions, I am always hoping that people will entrust someone – whether it’s us or a family member – with their recipes and stories.”

At the same time, she notes that, “if a grandparent said, ‘This is mine and I’m not so keen on sharing it,’ I would respect their decision. Recipes are deeply personal – at times, it can feel like being asked to share a diary entry. As a journalist, I try really hard to make people feel comfortable and safe when I ask them to share something treasured like this.”

*The Jewish Holiday Table’s* collected recipes and personal accounts have been organized according to the Hebrew calendar, so the celebrations begin with Rosh Hashanah. However, there are no rules stating that you can’t cook Matzah Ball Soup a la Mexicana with Chiles and Cilantro, found in the springtime Passover chapter, right now for a bit of winter warmth.

Devra encourages readers to “use the cookbook however you like! We want cooks and families to make this book their own. I know folks who love a themed dinner party or holiday celebration. For them, I would say ‘pick a table and a time to celebrate and cook that menu all the way through.’ For cooks who want to keep to their own tradition for holidays, but try out something new as well, I’d encourage them to add one recipe to their typical Passover line up.”

She notes that many of the dishes can even be made for busy weeknights: “Try the walnut cookies from the Mimouna table or the cherry salad from the Shavuot chapter. Both are simple, but incredibly delicious.”

Or here’s another idea: Simply begin your perusal of all the bounty with the chapter covering Shabbat.

After all, as JFS founder Naama writes in introducing that chapter, “Shabbat reminds me that celebrations are always in season.”

# Temple Shomer Emunim .....

**Shabbat Service with Rabbi Delson and Cantor Roher**  
Friday, January 3 at 6 pm

**Bar Mitzvah of TJ Riley**  
Saturday, January 4 at 10:30am

**Shabbat Service with Rabbi Delson and Andrew Pelletier**  
Friday, January 10 at 6pm

**Torah Today**  
Saturday, January 11 at 9:30am

**MLK Jr. Shabbat and Concert**  
Friday, January 17 at 6pm  
After a brief Shabbat service, we will be joined by Bishop Chester B Trail from Grace Temple Church, the Toledo Choral Society, and Toledo School for the Arts Choir in a celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's life and legacy.

**MLK Jr. Day of Service**  
Sunday, January 19 at 9:30-11am  
All ages, hands-on projects to support local organizations. Temple Shomer Emunim and the Multifaith Council of Northwest Ohio. Seeking volunteers, in-kind, and monetary donations. Sign-Up Genius link here

**Shabbat Song Session**  
Friday, January 24 at 5-5:30pm  
Join Cantor Roher in a lively song session for a multi-generational way to begin Shabbat. This is open to all ages, babies to adults.

**Healing Shabbat with Rabbi Delson and Cantor Roher**  
Friday, January 24 at 6pm  
During these long winter months, let's join together in prayers of support and healing. We will also be celebrating with Dr. Michael and Cathy Gordon on their 50th wedding anniversary, followed by an oneg.

**Shabbat Yoga: Body and Soul**  
Saturday, January 25 at 10:30am

**Shabbat Service with Rabbi Delson and Andrew Pelletier**  
Friday, January 31 at 6pm

**Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Delson**  
Thursday, January 31 at 12-1:30  
This month Rabbi Delson will be teaching about the importance of water in Jewish tradition as well as innovative uses of mikvah in today's Judaism. RSVP to Victoria Simms vsimms@templese.com



## Shabbat Service

Friday, January 17 at 6pm

A brief service followed words from Bishop Chester B Trail from Grace Temple Church and by performances by the Toledo Choral Society and the TSA choir. All are welcome.

## Day of Service

Sunday, January 19 | 9:30-11am

All ages, hands-on projects to support local organizations. Temple Shomer Emunim and the Multifaith Council of Northwest Ohio. Seeking volunteers, in-kind, and monetary donations. Sign-Up Genius link here (which will get you in the next few days).

Sign up at [forms.gle/ESIWpA8ThnwLvPdY7](https://forms.gle/ESIWpA8ThnwLvPdY7)



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All CBI programs and religious services are open to the members of all local congregations 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.

### CBI Movie Festival:

**"FIDDLER: A MIRACLE OF MIRACLES"**  
Wednesday, January 22, 2025 1:00 PM at CBI  
Monday, January 27, 2025 7:00 PM at CBI

*Fiddler: A Miracle of Miracles* is a 2019 American documentary film about the creation and significance of the 1964 musical *Fiddler on the Roof*. It features interviews with Fiddler creators such as Jerry Bock, Sheldon Harnick, Joseph Stein, and Harold Prince, as well as scholars, actors, and other musical theatre figures such as Stephen Sondheim and Lin-Manuel Miranda.

Cost is \$5 per movie. Snacks will be provided.  
RSVP to Kim Brody at [kbrody@cbitoledo.org](mailto:kbrody@cbitoledo.org) by Jan. 17.

**Parashat Hashavuah:**  
**Torah Portion of the Week Discussion**  
Fridays in January at 11:00 AM at CBI

**Join us for Canasta!**  
Tuesdays in January at 12:15 PM at CBI  
RSVP to Rhoda Miller at [rmiller@cbitoledo.org](mailto:rmiller@cbitoledo.org).

**CBI Office Closings**  
Wed. January 1 Closed New Year's Day  
Mon. January 20 Closed MLK Day

### CBI Tours the Main Branch of the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library

Friday, January 24, 2025  
**Lunch with the Group & Tour:** Meet at the SAME Café at 12:45 PM (attendees are responsible for their own lunch expenses)  
**Tour Only:** Meet at the Café at 1:45 PM

Our group will learn about the Toledo-Lucas County Library System, winner of the prestigious National Medal for Museum and Library Service, which was recently presented at the White House. Our tour of the Main Library will include the computer and media area, fact and fiction, local history and genealogy, the Saloff children's library and more. If you are interested in anything special please let our guide know.

There is NO COST for this program.  
RSVP to Kim Brody at [kbrody@cbitoledo.org](mailto:kbrody@cbitoledo.org) by Jan. 22.

### Connecting Kids to Meals Volunteer Event

Thursday, January 9, 2025 10 AM - 12 PM  
Cherry Street Mission Building, 1501 Monroe St.  
RSVP Kim Brody at [kbrody@cbitoledo.org](mailto:kbrody@cbitoledo.org) by Jan. 6.

**NOSH & KNOWLEDGE - CBI ADULT ED BOOK CLUB:**  
***Uncomfortable Conversations with a Jew*** by Emmanuel Acho & Noa Tishby  
Sunday, January 26, 2025 10:30 AM at CBI

This New York Times bestseller offers a timely, disarmingly honest, and thought-provoking investigation into antisemitism that connects the dots between the tropes and hatred of the past to our current complicated moment. For Emmanuel Acho and Noa Tishby, no question about Jews is off-limits.

Jan Kasle will be the discussion leader for this book club adult education event.  
RSVP to Kim Brody at [kbrody@cbitoledo.org](mailto:kbrody@cbitoledo.org) by Jan. 24.

**NOSH & KNOWLEDGE - CBI ADULT ED:**  
**"Defining Terms in the Context of the War in Gaza"** with Amichai Stout, Dir. JCRC  
Sunday, February 2, 2025 10:30 AM at CBI

145 sovereign nations recognize an entity known as "the State of Palestine" - but what exactly does that refer to? Come learn more about the importance of being intentional and informed in our language on these important issues.

RSVP to Kim Brody at [kbrody@cbitoledo.org](mailto:kbrody@cbitoledo.org) by Jan. 31.

### WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE

- Monday Morning Minyan: 8:00 AM - In Person/Zoom
- Thursday Morning Minyan: 8:00 AM - In Person/Zoom
- Monday - Thursday Evening Minyan: 5:45 PM - Zoom
- Friday Evening Kabbalat Shabbat: 5:45 PM - Zoom
- Saturday Morning Shabbat: 9:30 AM - In Person/Live Stream
- Sunday Morning Minyan: 9:30 AM - In-Person/Zoom (When Religious School is in session)

# Congregation Etz Chayim .....

## POKER/MAHJ

Everyone is invited to the monthly Poker and mahj games on Sunday, January 5th from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Please let Marc or Nancy Jacobson know if you will be attending.

## CANDLEMAKING CLASS SCHEDULED

The first “Wednesdays with Friends” of the year is scheduled for January 8th. There will have a candle making class after the Sisterhood meeting at 10:30. a.m. We are fortunate to have an instructor from “Callisto Terra Candle Making” come to us for this class. It will be a delightful, creative experience!! Please register with Nancy Jacobson with a \$10 deposit to Etz Chayim. This will go towards your final cost of a \$20-\$30 candle.

## FIRESIDE CHAT

We are honored to have Rivka Fridman lead our Fireside Chat on Saturday, January 18th at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Mel & Margie Siegel. Come and enjoy an interesting and enjoyable evening. Please register with either Nancy or Elsa.

## FAMILY SHABBAT DINNER PLANNED

Rabbi Jason Mark will be joining our family for our annual Family Shabbat services & dinner on Friday, January 24th. Services begin at 5:20 p.m. with a delicious kosher Chinese dinner following. Please respond to Elsa if you plan on attending. Rabbi Mark will be leading Shabbat services on January 25th and everyone is invited to a scrumptious kiddush following services.



# Chabad House .....



**B"H**  
**January**

**Mon Jan 20th**

*January Monthly Spotlight*  
**Learn N' Lunch**

11:00 AM: Torah Class  
11:45 AM: Delicious Lunch  
12:15 P.M. Presentation by Attorney Joe Wittenberg:  
**"Don't die without a Will"**

Lenny Cares Monthly Spotlight Member: Free	Introduce a 55+ friend to Lenny Cares, and you'll both attend for half price	Admission: Before Jan 15th: \$18 Jan 15th and later: \$24
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**Mon Jan 13th**

**LCMC**

Lenny Cares Men's Birthday Club celebration  
3:30-4:30 pm

**Tue Jan 14th**

**Tea with Rivka**

Tea, Friends and Torah conversation with Rivka Fridman  
10:30 a.m  
For women

**Tue Jan 28th**

**Sip' N' Shmooze with Rivka**

Come with friends and make new ones over coffee between the hours of 1:00-3:00 pm

All programs are at the Chabad House 2728 King Rd. Toledo

RSVP appreciated at [lennycares@chabadtoledo.com](mailto:lennycares@chabadtoledo.com) or call: 917-742-9803

Programs are free of charge unless otherwise indicated

**B"H**

**THANK YOU TO OUR 2024 MATCHERS!**

MATCHER 1	MATCHER 2	MATCHER 3
Jerel Hess & Daughter, Callie Mike & Sharon Tipping Andrew R. Schuman, Esq. Sheldon Wittenberg Ian & Christina Katz	Stu & Jo-Jo Goldberg Dr. Mark & Esther Vishnepolsky In Memory of Prof. Goldman Fred & Julie Treuhaft	In Memory of Joanne Galler Rubin Dr. Blair & Dena Grubb Matthew & Breanne Rubin Steven Gale, MD - Shmuel ben Yitzchak HaKohen z"l

AND THANK YOU TO OUR SHAREHOLDERS FOR YOUR CONTINUOUS SUPPORT!


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To our visionary matchers, our 180 donors and all of our supporters, thank you for making this campaign a success! We are deeply grateful for every dollar donated and your unwavering support.



We'll all be here for you!

Thank you



**LIGHT of SHABBAT**

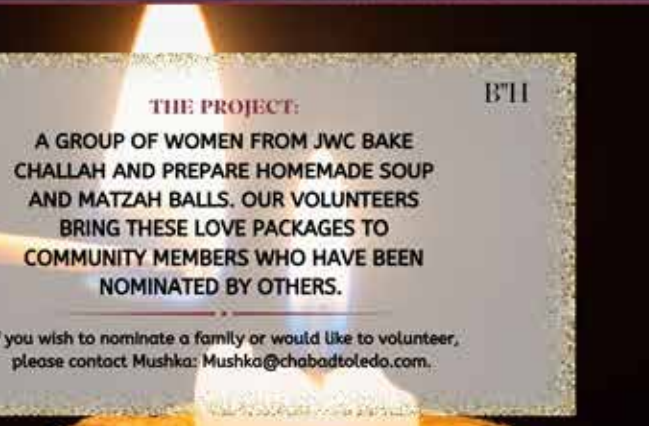
The Light of Shabbat program is sponsored by Robert and Stephanie Gersten

IN TIMES OF JOY AND MOMENTS OF CHALLENGE, THE ESSENCE OF SHABBAT BRINGS LIGHT, WARMTH, AND A SENSE OF BELONGING. FROM OUR HEARTS TO YOURS, WE WISH YOU A SHABBAT FILLED WITH PEACE, JOY, AND CHERISHED MOMENTS. MAY THE TRADITIONS AND BLESSINGS OF SHABBAT BRING YOU COMFORT AND INSPIRATION THROUGHOUT THE WEEK.

**THE PROJECT:**

A GROUP OF WOMEN FROM JWC BAKE CHALLAH AND PREPARE HOMEMADE SOUP AND MATZAH BALLS. OUR VOLUNTEERS BRING THESE LOVE PACKAGES TO COMMUNITY MEMBERS WHO HAVE BEEN NOMINATED BY OTHERS.

If you wish to nominate a family or would like to volunteer, please contact Mushka: [Mushka@chabadtoledo.com](mailto:Mushka@chabadtoledo.com).



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*Joel Weatherford*

"We cannot express how much the EMOJI program played such an integral role in making this summer life changing for our son Joel Weatherford. Camp Wise provided Joel with the confidence he needed so he could grow independence skills and develop a positive sense of self. The connections he made with other Jewish children and teens from all over the world made an imprint on Joel's heart and he cannot wait to return next summer to see his all his friends."

*Mike and Laurel Weatherford*



"I loved our first time at GUCI this summer. Shabbat song session was one of the highlights of the week for me. I made a ton of friends and I can't wait to go back next summer."

*Asher Pliskow*



"This was my first summer at sleep away camp. It was great. I loved climbing the 'Migdal' climbing tower."

*Micah Pliskow*



*Julia Rhodes (L) & Harlie Kerper*

"The EMOJI scholarship makes it possible for me to attend Camp Wise year after year. Camp has brought me closer to my religion and new friends, which is why I come back. Every year when I step off the camp bus, I feel like I've arrived at my home away from home and am greeted by friends I only get to see at camp... I've met so many new people from all over the world who have become my close friends because of Camp Wise."

*Julia Rhodes*

Jewish Federation and Foundation of Greater Toledo's Experience a Memorable Overnight Jewish Initiative (EMOJI) offers children between the ages of 7 and 16 the opportunity to experience a life changing Jewish overnight camping experience. Funding is possible through the long-term community needs fund and the Jewish experience fund; first-time participants can attend camp for just \$250 and children returning to a Jewish camp can attend at a very reduced cost. EMOJI seeks to help as many Jewish youth as possible connect to their own Jewish identity and the larger community. The benefits of Jewish camp are beyond measure; over \$70,000 was invested in sending 37 campers to camp in summer 2023.

Questions? Visit [www.jewishtoledo.org/emoji](http://www.jewishtoledo.org/emoji) or contact Hallie Freed at [hallie@jewishtoledo.org](mailto:hallie@jewishtoledo.org) or 419-724-0362.

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# SAFETY



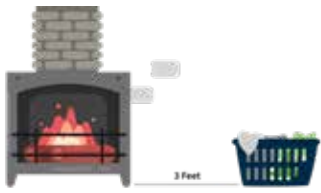
Dave Tullis, Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo Security Director, helps us stay protected with valuable safety tips.

## Why We Should Be Winter Ready!

Being Winter Ready means understanding winter risks you face and taking steps to prepare.

- **Sixty-three percent** of temperature-related deaths are attributable to cold exposure.
- Home heating is the **second leading cause of home fires**, and winter is when most home fires happen.
- Travel during the winter has unique risks, especially if you travel by car.

### Preventing House Heating Fires



Although trending downward since the early 1980s, heating fires remained the second leading cause of home fires in 2023. An estimated 32,200 home heating fires were reported to fire departments within the United States. These fires caused an estimated 190 deaths, 625 injuries and \$442 million in property loss.

- Keep anything that can burn at least three feet from all heat sources including fireplaces, wood stoves, radiators, portable heaters or candles.
- Always plug space heaters directly into an outlet, and make sure its cord isn't damaged or frayed.
- Never use an oven to heat your home.
- Maintain heating equipment and chimneys by having them cleaned and inspected each year by a professional.

### Tips on keeping an older adult safe during the winter months.

- Engage your support network if you need help clearing ice and snow from your property so you can keep outside walkways and steps clear of snow and ice.
- Low lighting is a major cause of falls, so make sure there is enough lighting outdoors, especially near walkways and stairs.
- Have the name and contact information of a nearby family member or friend who can regularly check in on you.
- Make sure your steps are sturdy and have textured grip to reduce falls if the weather is icy or wet.
- If you use walking aids such as a cane, walker, or a wheelchair, dry the wheels or tips of each before entering your home.
- Keep a small table or shelf near the entry door to put items while unlocking the door. This reduces distractions and dangers of slipping or tripping while trying to enter your home.
- If your home's main entrance is often icy during the winter months, use a different entrance if you can. Stay warm by dressing warmly, and remember to eat enough food to keep yourself at a healthy weight.



- Make sure your vehicle is in good working condition before you travel.
- Keep your gas tank as full as you can. A full tank will also keep the fuel line from freezing.
- Install good winter tires and make sure they have enough tread, or any chains or studs required in your local area.
- When driving, increase your following distance from 3-4 seconds to 5-6 seconds. It takes longer to slow down and stop on icy roads.
- Every vehicle should have an emergency supply kit in the trunk. Kits should be checked every six months and expired items should be replaced regularly.
- Keep family and emergency phone numbers, including your auto insurance provider and a towing company, in your phone.
- Consider keeping a power bank for your phone in your car in case your car loses power.
- If stranded, run the engine for about 10 minutes per hour to run the heater and charge your cellphone. Open a window slightly to let fresh air in and avoid carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning.

### Power Outages

Winter storms may bring power outages that can disrupt things like communications, utilities, transportation, stores, gas stations and ATMs, and prevent your ability to use electrically powered medical devices. It's important to be prepared for power outages.



### During Outages

- Keep freezers and refrigerators closed. Throw away any food that has been exposed to temperatures 40 degrees or higher for two hours or more, or that has an unusual odor, color or texture.
- If you use a generator, **ONLY** use it outdoors and away from windows.
- Do not use a gas stove or oven to heat your home.
- Disconnect appliances and electronics to avoid damage from electrical surges.
- Have alternate plans for refrigerating medicines or using power-dependent medical devices.
- Go to a community location with power if the cold is extreme and you can't heat your home.

Winter is a beautiful time of year, filled with opportunities for fun activities like skiing, ice skating, and cozy nights by the fire. However, it's essential to prioritize safety during the cold months to fully enjoy the season. Make sure to dress in layers to keep warm and protect yourself from frostbite, especially when spending extended periods outdoors. Stay hydrated and maintain a balanced diet to support your immune system, as colder weather can make you more susceptible to illness. Additionally, be cautious of icy sidewalks and roads to prevent slips and falls. By following all these safety tips, you can embrace the joys of winter while ensuring your well-being throughout the season.

### Stay Safe During Winter Travel

Travel during the winter has unique risks, especially if you travel by car. Being prepared can help you "expect the unexpected" so your trip isn't ruined by common problems travelers face in the winter.



### Know before you go

- From blizzards, to avalanches, to ice storms, be aware of the winter risks in places you visit. Check the local weather forecasts and warnings before heading out. Visit National Weather Service for up to date forecasts.
- Check your local weather and traffic reports before heading out.
- If your roads are not in good shape, consider postponing non-essential travel until the roads are cleared. If you do have to go out, make sure you are prepared in case you become delayed while traveling.
- Tell others your route and anticipated arrival time.





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# 52

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# 51

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Supporting the Jewish leaders of tomorrow - today - with our new young professionals group!

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Creating programming with a goal of serving the community.



# Hillel419

a look back at 2024

By investing in Jewish young adults we have played a key role in shaping the start of a vibrant, kind and inclusive Jewish community in Toledo. These young adults will carry our community spirit, compassion, and Jewish values into the future.



Jewish Federation & Foundation OF GREATER TOLEDO

Hillel419 is generously supported by Jewish Federation and Foundation of Greater Toledo and Hillel International.