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Musings with Mary Lou: Read a Good Book

By Mary Lou Finesilver

I am in the middle of reading a very interesting book. It is titled "Going Back" and is compiled by Andrea von Treuenfeld. Sixteen Jewish women who lived through the Holocaust each tell their stories. The stories are similar in that they lived during the time of the Holocaust and survived to tell about it. All of the women wrote their own story. They all suffered greatly and made it through this terrible time and then moved back to Germany, the country that tried to kill them.

It is very interesting to read their stories, all diverse and frightening. Some actually left Germany at such a young age that they really did not understand what happened during that time until they returned. Some went to concentration camps or watched how family members just seemed to disappear from their lives. They are very amazing stories.

What I find hard to believe is that I lived during those years, and outside of knowing we were at war with Germany, Italy, and Japan, I never heard a whisper about the Holocaust. I don’t believe my parents knew either. They thought that President Franklin Delano Roosevelt could do no wrong. We have since learned that he not only did not help the Jews or those suffering during this time, but those in power denied that anything like this was happening. If ever there was something in the news, it was relegated to the back of the newspapers.

My first experience in learning about the horrors that went on in Germany was a four- or six-part television drama. I don’t remember the name or the year, but I do remember sitting and gripping the arms on the chair as if it could keep me from jumping up and leaving the room. Since then, I have seen many such movies and TV programs, and it is hard to believe that it all took place.

It all began with one man with some kind of personality deficiency that made him want to rule the world. He came close. It all started when he was made Chancellor of Germany and slowly insinuated that the newspapers and the news were not to be trusted. He said that they were filled with lies and that the Jews were the cause of everything wrong in Germany. They started slowly and systematically instituting laws that Jews could not receive payment for legal services, medical services, etc. Then Jewish children could not go to certain schools because they smelled and were bug-ridden and must be ostracized. Little by little, people would disappear in the middle of the night, never to be seen again. Families were made to move out of their homes and all made to live together in ghettos. Families lived in one room together. Eventually, food became scarce and so on. You know how it all evolved. Human beings were treated as non-human and given a number, very little to eat, some clothing, and maybe a blanket. Prisoners slept on shelves with no heat, and no plumbing. Children were torn from their families and were made to work with no relief or human warmth.

I think I am getting out of my depth, and I think I have to talk about something else. What that will be, I don’t know. I really was just going to talk about reading, and what I read, and how sometimes reading helps me to relax. A good book can be a refuge from all the stressful things we all have to deal with from time to time, but this book has brought all of these feelings to the forefront. I love to read a good book even if it brings out feelings that I usually keep hidden. Have a great month, read a good book, and we will talk again soon.

Israeli Musician Excited to Meet Youngstown Community

By Elise Skolnick

It’s no surprise Eleanor Tallie has made music her career. Her mother is a classical pianist and a piano teacher, her two sisters are both viola players in multiple orchestras, and her brother-in-law plays viola in the world-renowned Israeli Philharmonic.

But, she says, “we are a classical music family, and I’ve always been the different one, the one who wanted to write songs and sing.”

She and her band will perform a combination of Hebrew and English songs when they are at Jewish Community Center of Youngstown March 23. The show will be comprised of middle-eastern inspired Jewish melodies along with soul, jazz, and R&B songs.

“My current band is the best group of musicians I’ve ever played with and I feel very grateful to have them by my side,” she said.

Tallie first got involved with music at the age of 6, starting with classical music on the cello. She started writing songs and singing when she 11, began playing piano at 12, and picked up the acoustic guitar at age 14.

She particularly enjoys writing and touring.

Writing is “one of the best feelings in the world, creating something from nothing,” she said.

About touring she says, “the shows, the people, the togetherness, the places... I am a road life junkie and anytime I’m not on the road I miss it.”

Though Tallie has traveled throughout the United States, this will be her first time in Youngstown.

“I’m excited to meet the community and have my band play with me there,” she said. “Over the past few years the musicians in the band have enjoyed our Jewish community performances very much because they get to play music for Hebrew songs in addition to English songs. They’ve been having a great time discovering new music through our show.”

Tallie has traveled to 43 states and performed in 38.

“I feel so very thankful for the incredible experience of being a traveling musician in this beautiful country,” she said.

Right now she’s traveling less, as she works on recording her next album.

“But nothing beats road life,” she added. “It’s a powerful and spiritual experience.”

She misses her family in Israel, however. They try to limit their time apart to no more than six months at a time.

Tallie and her band will perform at 6:30 p.m. March 23 at the JCC. Tickets are $6 for JCC members and $8 for non members. Tickets are available at jccyoungstown.org or by calling 330.746.3250, ext. 195.
Gallery Exhibit Will Showcase Work of Gary Taneri

The work of local artist Gary Taneri will be shown from March 11 to April 8 in the Thomases Family Endowment Art Gallery located in Jewish Community Center of Youngstown. The opening reception will be from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Thursday, March 12.

“Efficiency” will include about nine mixed media paintings. Taneri used acrylic, rustoleum, and oil paint on canvas.

“They are done from old family photographs that should recall a memory, but the details of the memory are not all there and are not always clear or complete,” he said.

In creating these paintings, Taneri intentionally left out the details and used the minimum amount of marks needed to convey the image. The paintings are created using techniques of drawing as accurately as possible, then painting in and around the drawing, and then drawing on top of the painting. Color fields emerge and are drawn on top of, grids are redrawn, and drawing marks are placed using the grid as a guide. The palette is mostly bright colors alternating between warm and cool.

“I would be happy if people viewing the show have an experience that includes an emotional response which leads to recognition of their own memories,” he said.

Taneri has been an artist all his life. He attended The Ohio State University as a fine art major then switched to architecture. He then obtained a Bachelor of Engineering in Civil Engineering from Youngstown State University. In 2011, he obtained a Master of Fine Arts in painting from the Academy of Art University in San Francisco, and in 2015 he attended a six-week painting intensive at Columbia University in New York City. Taneri lives in downtown Youngstown and paints at the Ward Bakery building.

The artwork of Gary Taneri will be shown in the Thomases Family Endowment Art Gallery beginning March 11. Pictured is White Shirt & Tie No. 1, an oil on canvas piece that will be part of the show.

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The Jewish Journal Monthly Magazine
Purim

By Neil Yutkin
Ohev Tzedek President

Purim, if not the most joyous of our holidays, is certainly in the top three. But, to some Jews, that has not always been the case. Until just recently, when the Ethiopian Jews reached Israel, their tradition for Purim had been to fast.

Why? It seems that living so far from the centers of Judaism, while they got the message of what was going to happen, and the request for a fast day before the day that Haman had planned for the Jews to be destroyed, they never received the message of what happened afterward. The Jews of Ethiopia, in fact, never were really introduced into Rabbinical Judaism but were familiar only with Biblical Judaism.

About 20 years ago, one of my cousins from Cleveland spent a year in Israel teaching Ethiopian immigrants English. She spoke on a Shabbat morning imparting some fascinating information about her experiences, and this was one of the things she related to us. Another item that was interesting was that, for Pesach, the Ethiopian tradition was to eat only lamb and matzah for the entire seven days.

Today, like the rest of Judaism, they enjoy the festivities of Purim, which has evolved into a truly joyous day: costumes, hamentashen, and if you have a designated driver, following the ancient custom of drinking until you can't tell the difference between the name Haman and the name Mordechai.

And in Youngstown we have added our own tradition to increase the pleasure of the holiday. Instead of just following the mitzvah of hearing the Megillah reading at our own shuls, we have included this as one of the holidays that we celebrate jointly with the other synagogues in town.

This year we will once again be attending the Megillah reading at El Emeth. It will take place at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, March 10, and be followed with a meal. They are asking that reservations be made by March 5 at your own temple and they will forward them to El Emeth.

And that, my friend, is the whole Megillah, another traditional thing (the word) that evolved from Purim.

JOIN US
IN CELEBRATING THE SECOND NIGHT
APRIL 9, 2020

We will begin the Seder at 6:30 PM in our Social Hall with Mark Zeidenstein once again leading.

The Menu will include (beside the traditional food) Matzo Ball Soup, Gefilte Fish on a bed of marinated peppers, Art Einzig's famous award-winning Brisket, Chicken, Vegan Kishka, Potato Kugel, Roasted vegetables, and apple crisp with parve ice-cream for dessert. Salmon will be offered as an alternative to the meat.

Cost: $30.00 per person. Reservations must be made by March 27th.
Members of Search Committee Announce Hiring of Interim Rabbi

We are pleased to announce Rabbi Paula Jayne Winnig has been hired to serve as interim rabbi and spiritual leader of Congregation Rodef Sholom beginning July 1, 2020, on a one-year contract, with a possible second year extension.

The purpose of engaging an interim rabbi is to ease the transition from our retiring Rabbi Muller and to allow time for our congregation to heal while refocusing our attention on who we are and how we proceed into the next years as a Reform congregation.

The Interim Rabbi Search Committee worked with the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR) in seeking names/resumes of qualified candidates. They began the interview process, culminating in an invitation to two candidates to visit Congregation Rodef Sholom and the Youngstown area.

The candidates visited separately during the week of Jan. 19. The congregation was invited to attend Torah teachings by both rabbis. The board of trustees, the executive committee, and the Interim Rabbi Search Committee individually met with both. Following input from congregants, board members, and the search committee, the decision was made to offer the position to Rabbi Winnig.

Rabbi Winnig has a wealth of experience serving Jewish communities, most recently as the interim rabbi of Achduth Veshalom in Fort Wayne, Ind., where she has served their community in their transition to finding a settled rabbi to lead “One Congregation; Two Traditions” – the merger of Conservative and Reform congregations.

Rabbi Winnig earned her Bachelor of Arts at the University of Wisconsin and a Master of Arts from SUNY, New York. She was ordained and received her Doctor of Divinity at Hebrew Union University in New York. She served as senior rabbi for 16 years at Temple Sinai in Long Island, N.Y., until that synagogue closed.

Rabbi Winnig’s international experience includes Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel, Department of Talmud; Hebrew lecturer in Auckland, New Zealand; and as High Holy Days rabbi in Guatemala City, Guatemala. She also has served as the executive director of the Jewish Federation of Madison, Wis., and as executive director of the Bureau of Jewish Education in Indianapolis, Ind. She has been a lecturer of Biblical Hebrew, a prison chaplain, and a religious school principal.

These experiences and accomplishments and her interactions with members of Rodef Sholom resulted in our decision. We are eager to welcome her to Congregation Rodef Sholom, and we believe she will serve our congregation and our members very well during her stay in Youngstown.

Members of the Interim Rabbi Search Committee - Nancy Burnett and Elliot Legow; Co-chairs - Inez Heal, Rachel Kay, Hilari Lipkin, Bob Rawl, Dick Shapiro, and Kim Trachtman.

Celebrating Rabbi Muller Throughout the Years

Throughout the upcoming months, we will be celebrating 25 years with Rabbi Frank Muller at Congregation Rodef Sholom. Please send your photos and stories of rabbi to the office or via email at office@congregationrodefsholom.org.
El Emeth

Temple El Emeth Hosted PJ Library

Temple El Emeth hosted PJ Library in February. The children celebrated the birthday of trees and the holiday of Tu Bishvat. Above left Asher Goldberg enjoys his piece of birthday cake. Above right Nuria Erez decorates a flower pot while her mother, Shay Kahani-Erez, looks on.

Temple El Emeth Events

**March 3**
The Temple El Emeth Board of Directors will have its monthly meeting at 7:30 p.m. The Executive Committee will meet at 6:30 p.m.

**March 4**
Jewish Christian Dialogue meets for its monthly session. Refreshments will be at 12:30 p.m. with the program starting at 1 p.m. This year’s theme is “Civilization and the Jews: The Roots of Monotheistic Religion” and is based on the PBS Documentary. All are welcome to attend.

**March 5**
Liberty Food Pantry will have its setup on Thursday, March 5, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Food distribution will take place on Friday, March 6 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Call the Temple office at 330.759.1429 to sign up to volunteer.

**March 9**
The Community Wide Purim Celebration will take place at Temple El Emeth. The Megillah reading will begin at 5:30 p.m. and will be followed by a complimentary dinner featuring a deluxe salad bar and hot dog dinner (vegetarian hot dogs will be available). There will also be entertainment by the community Purim Band; prizes for all children; a Purim photo booth; and Joe Sullivan, balloon artist. RSVP to your own synagogue by March 6. Everyone is invited to come in costume. See ad in this issue for more information.

**March 14**
A Birthday Kiddush Luncheon will be held following Shabbat morning services. March birthdays will be celebrated. Please call the Temple office to RSVP.

**March 16**
Shmoozing with Shmulik will be at 10:30 a.m. in the chapel. Join Sam Kooperman and friends for some fun in Yiddish. All are welcome to attend.

**March 26**
Sisterhood will have a get-together at 4:30 p.m. Tirtza Kohan will give a Women’s Rosh Chodesh presentation for the coming month of Nisan. Refreshments will be served.

**April 9**
El Emeth’s Annual Second Seder begins at 6:15 p.m. Minyan is at 5:45 p.m. Come enjoy an interactive seder and catered kosher for Passover dinner. Reservation forms have been mailed to members’ homes and are available in the Temple office or at templeelemeth.org.

Daily minyans are held at 5:45 p.m. each day, including Shabbat. Shabbat morning services are at 9:30 a.m. Rabbi holds a class following Shabbat morning services called “The Prayer Book and Synagogue Skills.” Following the afternoon minyan on Shabbat is “Psalm Day with Rabbi.” All are welcome to attend. Visit our website at templeelemeth.org.
Levy Gardens Nurse Shares Heart Attack Experience

By Elise Skolnick

Each year in February, staff and tenants of Levy Gardens Assisted Living Facility “Go Red for Women” – they wear red to show their support for women’s heart health. “Go Red for Women” is the American Heart Association’s national movement to end heart disease and strokes in women. And it’s a cause that’s near and dear to Levy’s Suzanne Illencik, LPN.

In September of 2016, Illencik and her husband traveled to Indiana for a wedding. After arriving and having lunch, she started feeling unwell.

She was achy, and her chest, arms, and shoulders hurt. So she sat in her hotel room for a while, until her husband told her she didn’t look well.

“I told him I couldn’t move my arms,” she said. “They hurt so bad. And I just had this real heaviness on my chest.”

They found the nearest hospital. There, staff helped Illencik while her husband parked the car.

“As he was walking in they told me I was having a heart attack,” Illencik said.

Illencik wasn’t quite 52.

“I think Illencik’s case is interesting because, first of all her age, she’s young, and she’s very active,” said Sara Miller, Levy’s director. “She’s just not the person you picture having a heart attack.”

Illencik had no risk factors for a heart attack. She exercised, watched what she ate, didn’t smoke, and didn’t have high cholesterol.

According to the American Heart Association Go Red for Women website, risk factors for heart disease and strokes that can be managed include high blood pressure, smoking, high blood cholesterol, lack of regular activity, obesity or being overweight, and diabetes. Risk factors that an individual can’t control include age, gender, heredity (family health history), race, and previous stroke or heart attack.

Doctors still don’t know what caused Illencik’s heart attack.

Illencik cautions others, especially women, to pay attention to symptoms.

When her symptoms started, she thought she was tired from getting up early and the long drive after working several days in a row. She attributed the pain in her arms to a vigorous workout a couple days before.

Then she started to sweat, and pain radiated up her neck and into her jaw behind her ears. She could not take a deep breath.

The American Heart Association Go Red for Women website says heart attack symptoms include chest discomfort in the center of the chest that lasts more than a few minutes, or that goes away and comes back; discomfort in other areas of the upper body including pain or discomfort in one or both arms, the back, neck, jaw, or stomach; and shortness of breath with or without chest discomfort. Other signs may include breaking out in a cold sweat, nausea, or lightheadedness.

“A lot of times, women especially just blow it off and you’re like ‘Eh, I’ll be OK,’” she notes. “If you don’t feel right, you should always err on the side of caution and get checked. If it’s not going away in five to 10 minutes, I say go.”

Following her heart attack, Illencik experienced some anxiety, fearing a second heart attack. She sought out support from others going through a similar experience.

Sue found a “sister match” at womenheart.org. SisterMatch is a peer to peer support opportunity for women living with heart disease. She suggests others seek support, as well.

Staff and tenants of Levy Gardens Assisted Living Facility wore red to show their support for women’s heart health.
Human Services

Making Window Decorations

Adult Day Services’ participants made window cling decorations at the end of January. They used two colors of puffy paint to color ladybugs, baseballs, dragonflies, flowers, and footballs. Pictured from left are Helen Elder; Illana Council, STNA; and Adella Fitz.

JFS Represented at Senior Event

Cathy Nehlen, social worker (left), and Shay Erez, outreach coordinator, attended an event at the Austintown Senior Center to promote Jewish Family Services.

Tu Bishvat at Levy Gardens

Ronna Marlin, Levy Gardens Assisted Living program coordinator, presented a brief Tu Bishvat program for tenants before their regular bingo game. Following the game, some participants donated a portion of their winnings to plant a tree. Pictured from left are Caroline Charles, Marlin, and Sophia Kappon.

Mardi Gras Fun at Heritage Manor

Heritage Manor Rehabilitation & Retirement Community celebrated Mardi Gras with music, beads, and masks. Pictured is Beverly Shapiro.

JOIN US FOR A PERFORMANCE BY ISRAELI MUSICIAN

ELEANOR TALLIE

Date: Monday, March 23
Time: 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Cost: $6/Member
     $8/Non Member

Register by Tuesday, March 17 online at jccyoungstown.org or contact the Membership Office at 330.746.3250 ext. 195.
Jewish Family Services Hosts Discussion About Older Adults and Mental Health Services

Liron David from Enosh, the Israeli Mental Health Association, discussed mental health issues among older adults in Israel and the global changes toward the rights of the elderly at two events Feb. 25 at the Jewish Community Center of Youngstown.

She met with representatives from Trumbull and Mahoning Mental Health & Recovery Boards, Adult Protective Services of Mahoning County, and Help Network at a luncheon. They discussed seniors and mental health services, barriers, and services that are and are not working in the community.

At an evening event open to the public, she discussed mental health issues among older adults in Israel and the global changes towards the rights of the elderly. Jewish Family Services invited professionals from the mental health and the elderly field in the community to attend.

Liron David is an Israeli lawyer and social worker (BSW, LL.M), director of International Relations & Development in Enosh – The Israeli Mental Health Association. She is advocating for the rights of people with psychosocial disabilities in Israel and involved in global mental health work to promote community-based mental health services.
Pat Delino discovered that life can be a little boring after retirement if you don’t have something to do. So, not long after retiring from the United States Postal Service, he accepted a position as driver for Jewish Family Service’s mobile meal program.

Delino, who started driving for JFS in October, delivers meals two mornings a week.

“I’ve always liked driving and delivering as long as the weather’s good,” he said. “It’s just nice to get out and be outside.”

JFS provides kosher meals throughout the Mahoning Valley, mostly to the elderly population. Most of the individuals served are homebound, alone, and unable to leave their residence independently. Deliveries are Mondays and Tuesdays with the exception of Jewish holidays. Many clients receive one to two weeks of meals in each delivery.

Delino and Jimmy Tricomi pack the frozen meals that are cooked at Heritage Manor Rehabilitation & Retirement Community. Tricomi works with JFS through a partnership with Trumbull County Board of Developmental Disabilities. Delino and Tricomi have lists of the client’s favorite foods and those they dislike. After packing the meals, Delino spends the morning delivering them. He makes between six and nine deliveries each day.

“Pat easily engages in conversation with our JFS staff and meal clients,” said Ken Bielecki, JFS director. “He’s very polite, soft spoken, and really enjoys being able to assist JFS in helping our community. We really appreciate him being a part of our team.”

On his route, Delino takes time to chat with the clients. He enjoys being outside when the weather is nice.

“It’s nice to be active,” he said.

Delino retired from the postal service after a 25 year career. He’s originally from Struthers but has lived in Poland most of his life. He and his wife Lori have three cats. His stepdaughter, Kelsey Demart, also lives in the Youngstown area.

Shay Kahani–Erez, outreach coordinator of JFS and JCC, is being honored by the League of Women Voters of Greater Youngstown.

The League of Women Voters of Greater Youngstown will honor Shay Kahani–Erez, outreach coordinator for Jewish Family Services and Jewish Community Center of Youngstown, at an event March 19 at the YWCA Mahoning Valley, 25 W. Rayen Ave.

The event is meant to celebrate women impacting lives and making a difference in the valley.

“I’m so honored to be recognized by a phenomenal women’s group that works hard to improve the quality of life in the Youngstown community,” said Kahani–Erez. “I couldn’t do what I do without Jewish Family Services Director Ken Bielecki and Jewish Community Center of Youngstown Program Director Gon Erez, along with the Mahoning County Mental Health and Recovery Board who gave a generous grant for outreach services in the community. I truly appreciate the opportunity to work at the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation and be a part the Jewish Community for almost five years.”

Others to be honored that day include Susie Beiersdorfer, Sophia Buggs, Deborah Cunningham, Stephanie Gilchrist, Becky Keck, Shannon Lehn, Sarah Lowry, Leah Merritt, Lisa Ramsey, Denise Rising, Leah Sakacs, and Patricia Sweeney.

Three of the honorees will be chosen as inductees into the League’s Women’s Hall of Fame.

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan citizens’ organization that has fought since 1920 to improve the government and engage all citizens in the decisions that impact their lives.
Learn to Swim Program at JCC Updated

The Learn to Swim program at Jewish Community Center of Youngstown was updated to include new levels to allow students to develop advanced swimming skills. At the first session, swimmers will be assessed and placed in the appropriate level. Swimmers will advance through the levels as they master the swimming skills.

Learn-to-Swim for ages 3 and over is from 4:00 to 4:30 p.m. Wednesdays and from 9:00 to 9:30 a.m. or 10:10 to 10:40 a.m. Saturdays.

Registration is required for Learn to Swim lessons prior to each monthly session. The cost is $30 for JCC members and $40 for non members. Visit jccyoungstown.org to register.

PURIM CARNIVAL

DATE: SUNDAY, MARCH 8 | TIME: 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
COSTUME CONTEST AT 12:00 p.m.

For more information about the Purim Carnival or to learn about similar programs visit jccyoungstown.org.

This fun family event is free and open to everyone!

PAUL & YETTA GLUCK
SCHOOL OF VISUAL ARTS

SCRAPBOOKING FOR BEGINNERS

A local artist will guide participants through the basic methods of scrapbooking. Bring a few of your favorite photos to design a page to take home.

Adults: Date: Wednesday, March 11
Age 14+: Date: Wednesday, March 11
Time: 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Time: 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.
Cost: $15/Members | $20/Non Members
Register online at jccyoungstown.org or contact the Membership Office at 330.746.3250 ext. 195.

YOUNGSTOWN AREA JEWISH FEDERATION

JOB AND VOLUNTEER FAIR

We are hiring quality candidates of all ages and experience levels for a wide variety of positions across all of our Agencies. This event is free and open to everyone.

TWO SESSIONS:

Wednesday, April 1
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Jewish Community Center of Youngstown

SEEKING:

STNAs
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS
LIFEGUARDS
CAMP COUNSELORS
& MORE
**Wellness**

For more information on Wellness Programs contact Jaron Howell, Wellness Coordinator, at 330.746.3250 ext. 153 or jhowell@jewishyoungstown.org.

**Monthly Health Club Services**
- Full Size Locker | $10/month
- Towel Service | $10/month
- Locker & Towel Service | $15/month
- 30 Minute Massage | $15/month

**Reach Your Goals with InBody**
The InBody 570 is one of the most advanced body composition analyzers on the market. In less than a minute, you will see a total analysis of your body fat, muscle distribution, and body weight balance. The first scan is free for members and those in personal training programs.

**Monthly Unlimited Scans: $10/month (Includes 15 minutes with a personal trainer.)**
- $15 per test/Member | $25 per test/Non Member

**InBody 570 Corporate Challenge**
Raise the bar and bring the InBody 570 to your business or organization. It is perfect for fitness challenges, encourages employee wellness, and is quick and easy to use!

**InBody Rental Fee: $125/Hour**
(2 hour minimum - includes an InBody specialist for support and pre and post body composition measurements for all participants.)

**2020 JCC Winter Pickleball Shootout**
Any doubles combination (Men’s, Women’s, Mixed Combined) with skill levels of 3.0, 3.5, 4.0 and 4.5. The tournament coordinator may limit or combine skill levels based upon registration numbers.

**Date: Saturday, March 28 | Time: 9:00 a.m.**
**Location: Gymnasium**

**Cost: $30/person | $45/team**
Register by Friday, March 20 online at jccyoungstown.org or contact the Membership Office at 300.746.3250 ext. 195.

**Pickleball**
A cross between tennis, badminton, and ping-pong, this fast-paced game is fun for players of all skill levels. Equipment is provided.

**Date: Tuesdays & Thursdays**
**Time: 5:00 – 7:30 p.m.**
**Date: Sundays**
**Time: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**
**Location: Gymnasium**

**Know Your Numbers Two Part Program: Screening and Presentation**
Find out your risk for high blood pressure, heart disease, and diabetes.

**Part One: Screening**
Bridget Lackey, RD, LD, and Community Health Educator from Mercy Health, will draw a hemoglobin A1C and measure total cholesterol and blood pressure. Results will be mailed.

**Date: Monday, March 9**
**Time: 8:30 – 10:30 a.m.**
**Location: Adult Lounge**

**Part Two: Presentation**
Bring your screening test results and learn what your numbers mean. Included will be a presentation and question and answer sessions about blood pressure, cholesterol, heart disease, and diabetes.

**Date: Thursday, March 26**
**Time: 12:00 p.m.**
**Location: Adult Lounge**

**Cell Wars: The Cancer Immunotherapy Revolution**
Our immune system successfully eliminates thousands of viruses and bacteria so why is it struggling to destroy cancer cells? During this talk, Polina Weitzenfeld, Ph.D will address this and other questions such as: Why is it so challenging to find a cure for cancer? What is immunotherapy and why is it considered revolutionary? Will immunotherapy become the ultimate cure for cancer?

**Date: Friday, March 20 | Time: 11:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. | Location: Adult Lounge**

**Catchball**
Join other women in a modified version of volleyball. Catchball promotes exercise and is a great way to make friends. Open gyms are free and open to all women.

**Date: Mondays**
**Time: 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.**
**Location: LYRIC**
( Liberty Youth Recreation & Impact Center)
317 Churchill Hubbard Rd, Youngstown

**Open Play Basketball**
This time is reserved for basketball only. Shoot hoops with friends or join a pick up game.

**Date: Tuesdays and Thursdays | Time: 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.**
**Date: Fridays | Time: 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.**
**Location: Gymnasium**

**Youth Basketball**
Children ages 5 and up can enjoy kid friendly basketball time in our gym. Equipment is provided.

**Date: Fridays | Time: 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.**
**Location: Gymnasium**

**Personal Training**
Check out our new personal training options!

**One-on-One Personal Training**
We will design a personalized exercise program to help you reach your goals.

**Jumpstart Your Weight Loss**
Work with a personal health coach for a workout and eating plan to get you closer to your goal.

**Next Steps**
JCC Next Steps is a post-rehabilitation exercise program that will help you transition from physical therapy to long-term fitness and wellness.

**Healthy Living Foundations for Older Adults**
The Healthy Living Foundations package is designed to promote healthy living awareness and to improve stability, increase stamina, and gain self confidence.

**Youth Personal Training**
A private workout session with a certified professional trainer. Sports specific training is also available.

To begin your personal training journey contact the Membership Office at 330.746.3250 ext. 195 or register online at jccyoungstown.org.

**Aquatics**

For more information on Aquatics Programs contact Tara Bishop, Aquatic Coordinator, at 330.746.3250 ext. 112 or tbishop@jewishyoungstown.org.

**Private Swim Lessons**
Swimmers of any age or level can benefit from private swim lessons. Learn to swim or improve your skills with one of our trained swim instructors. Private lessons are also great for triathletes!

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The Jewish Journal Monthly Magazine  March 2020
Group Aquatic Classes
You & Me Baby
This is a monthly class where parents assist their children in the water. Children will learn how to float and improve their water skills. Swim pants or swim diapers are required.
Recommended ages: 6 - 36 months.
Date: Saturdays
Time: 9:35 – 10:05 a.m.
Cost: $30/Member | $40/Non Member

Learn to Swim: Ages 3+
Children will be placed into the appropriate level by the trained swim instructors.
Date: Saturdays
Time: 9:00 – 9:30 a.m. or 10:10 – 10:40 a.m.
$30/Member | $40/Non Member

P.A.L.S.+ Private Swimming Lessons
JCC offers free one on one swim lessons for persons who are on the autism spectrum or who have developmental disabilities. This program is funded by the Thomases Family Endowment of the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation and Autism Speaks.
To apply for the P.A.L.S.+ program visit jccyoungstown.org/pals.

SwimSafe 500
This program provides free swim safety lessons. Scholarships are provided by The United Way of Youngstown and the Mahoning Valley, and The Thomases Family Endowment of the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation.
To apply for the SwimSafe 500 program visit jccyoungstown.org/swimsafe500.

Lifeguarding Classes & Recertifications
These classes provide entry level participants with the knowledge and skills to prevent, recognize, and respond to aquatic emergencies and to provide care for breathing and cardiac emergencies, injuries, and sudden illnesses until EMS personnel can take over. Participants who successfully complete the lifeguarding course receive an American Red Cross certificate for Lifeguarding/First Aid/CPR/AED, valid for two years.
Dates: Saturday & Sunday, May 2 & 3 or Saturday & Sunday, May 16 & 17
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. | Cost: $187/Member | $250/Non Member

First Aid /CPR/AED Class
Dates: Saturday, March 14 or Saturday, April 18 Time: 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. | Cost: $75/Member | $100/Non Member

Register online at jccyoungstown.org or contact the Membership Office at 330.746.3250 ext. 195.

PAUL & YETTA GLUCK
SCHOOL OF VISUAL ARTS
For more information on Paul & Yetta Gluck School of Visual Arts contact Erianne Raib-Pitchkin, Program Coordinator, at 330.746.3250 ext. 106 or epitchkin@jewishyoungstown.org.

8 Week Course: Drawing 101
Students develop and practice drawing skills while experimenting with various tools, pencils, pastels, etc. over an eight week course. The first few sessions cover the basic elements of art such as line, value, and texture. Any skill level is welcome. Experienced students will be challenged to improve and learn new techniques. Point of view and perspective principles are discussed with students who are at the appropriate skill level.
Age 14+:
Dates: Mondays, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, April 6, 13, & 20
Time: 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.
Location: Lower Level Multi-Purpose Room
Cost: $56/Member | $75/Non Member
Register by Friday, February 28.

8 Week Course: Experience Art!
Students will explore a variety of art techniques including drawing, painting, collage, and more. Each week will focus on a different medium. Subjects will vary throughout the year, making each course a unique experience.
Grades 1 – 4:
Dates: Mondays, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, April 6, 13, & 20
Time: 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.
Location: Lower Level Multi-Purpose Room

Grades 5 – 8:
Dates: Mondays, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, April 6, 13, & 20
Time: 6:15 – 7:15 p.m.
Location: Lower Level Multi-Purpose Room
Cost: $56/Member | $75/Non Member
Register by Friday, February 28 online at jccyoungstown.org/visualarts or contact the Membership Office at 330.746.3250 ext. 195.

Craft & Kvell
Gather with friends and work on your latest craft project! Come socialize with us, show off your latest project, or try your hand at a new craft. Bring your own supplies for this monthly event. This event is free and open to everyone.
Dates: Wednesday, March 25 & Wednesday, April 29 | Time: 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. | Location: Adult Lounge
School of Music Classes
Price per month includes four weekly 30 minute lessons. Tuition is due by the first lesson of each month. Register online at jccyoungstown.org or contact the Membership Office at 330.746.3250 ext. 195.

Piano
Learn to play the piano with Anita Powell. Anita was classically trained at the Dana School of Music and Chautauqua Institution and has over 30 years of experience.
Monthly Cost: $88/Member | $112/Non Member

Percussion
Join seasoned percussionist Evan McCreary to learn the foundations of rhythm and study basic beats and fills on our drum kit. Bring your own drumsticks, or borrow a pair of ours.
Monthly Cost: $60/Member | $80/Non Member

Violin
Join Master Suzuki violin teacher Gina Bagnoli as she provides private and group violin instruction in the Suzuki Method. Students must bring their own instruments. All lessons are 30 minutes each.
Private Lessons: $17/Member | $22/Non Member
Group Lessons: $7/Member | $8/Non Member

Guitar
Learn to play the guitar with instructor Gina Love, who has been playing privately for several years and studied at YSU. Bring your own guitar, or borrow one of ours.
Monthly Cost: $60/Member | $80/Non Member

Voice
Improve breathing, posture, tone quality, and more while studying with our experienced vocal instructor.
Monthly Cost: $60/Member | $80/Non Member

P2G: Partnership Teacher’s Delegation
Join us as we host a panel of three teachers from the Western Galilee Partnership region in Israel.
Date: Tuesday, March 31 | Time: 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Location: Adult Lounge

JCC Journeys: The Band’s Visit
Lost, a band of musicians arrive in a desert town and bring it town to life in unexpected and tantalizing ways. Price includes orchestra seat, transportation, and tip for the driver. Time is allotted for an early dinner. Light walking will be required.
Date: Sunday, March 15
Location: Benedum Center, Pittsburgh, PA

JCC Before and After School Care
Before School Care: 6:00 – 8:00 a.m.
After School Care: 3:00 – 6:00 p.m.
Daily before school and after school care is available for students in kindergarten through eighth grade. Transportation is available for Liberty Local School students in kindergarten through sixth grade.
All day care is also available to all local school districts during breaks and school closures. For a full calendar of when all day care is offered, visit jccyoungstown.org/aftercare.

Purim Carnival at the JCC
Join us for this fun family event! We will have carnival food, games, prizes, a bounce house, a costume contest, and more! Tickets for games and food will be available for purchase. This event is free and open to everyone.
Date: March 8 | Time: 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Costume Contest at 12:00 p.m.
Location: Gymnasium & Multi-Purpose Room
AGING WELL

All programs are free of charge unless otherwise noted. Light refreshments will be served. For more information on Aging Well Programs contact Shay Kahani-Erez, Outreach Coordinator, at 330.746.3250 ext. 159 or serez@jewishyoungstown.org.

Thursdays at the Cinema: The Blind Side
The story of Michael Oher, a homeless and traumatized boy who became an All-American football player with the help of a caring woman and her family.
Date: Thursday, March 5 | Time: 11:00 a.m.
Location: Adult Lounge
Cost: $5/Members | $10/Non Members
Register online at jccyoungstown.org or contact the Membership Office at 330.746.3250 ext.195.

Grief Support Group at the JCC
If you are grieving a death and would like to connect with others, join us to share your experience in a group setting. Shay Kahani-Erez will facilitate the group.
Dates: Tuesday, March 3 & Tuesday, April 7 | Time: 11:00 – 12:00 p.m. | Location: Adult Lounge

Ask a Social Worker
Shay Kahani-Erez, LSW & MSW, will offer assistance on different topics such as health insurance, social security, and medication management and referrals to other agencies.
Dates: Monday, March 9 & Monday, April 13 | Time: 11:00 a.m. | Location: Adult Lounge

Mindful Monday
This mindfulness group will practice relaxing and recharging the mind.
Dates: Monday, March 16 & Monday, April 20 | Time: 11:00 a.m. | Location: Adult Lounge

Living with Alzheimer’s
Family Caregiver Support Group
This group provides an opportunity to share your experiences and learn from other families. Light refreshments will be served.
Dates: Wednesday, March 18 | Time: 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. | Location: Adult Lounge

Under the Sea Splish Splash Mermaid Bash
Experience swimming and storytelling in our pool with the JCC mermaid.

Campus Rentals
Multi-Purpose Room
Equipped with an overhead motorized projection theater screen, state-of-the-art audio visual system, movable module stage, and commercial kitchen. Catering packages are available for up to 250 guests.
Meeting Rooms
Our small conference room seats up to eight guests, while our boardroom seats 35 and is equipped with a built-in projector and screen.
Gymnasium
Our full-size gymnasium is equipped with six regulation height basketball hoops, bleacher seating, and a dividing curtain.
Lower Level Multi-Purpose Room
This multi-purpose room is located on the ground floor and can accommodate up to 36 people. In-house catering is available.
Adult Lounge
Accommodates 50 guests. An in-house kosher caterer is available.
Outdoor Pavilion
Our outdoor pavilion is centrally located between Noah’s Park and the new outdoor Pickleball complex. The pavilion has picnic table seating for 200+, along with bathrooms and a kitchenette.

FEDERATION VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Churchill United Methodist Food Pantry
The CHUM Food Pantry aims to feed families in Liberty Township that are in need of extra assistance. Started in 2016, the pantry now feeds over 70 families. Volunteers will help distribute food and make guests feel welcome during their visit.
Dates: March 6, April 3, & May 1
Time: 9:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Location: 189 Churchill Road, Youngstown

Diaper Packing with Making Kids Count
Making Kids Count Diaper Bank volunteers repack diapers to be distributed to local families in need. Volunteers wrap 10,000 diapers into 400 packs a month.
Dates: March 6, April 3, & May 8
Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Location: 6961 Southern Blvd, Ste. A, Youngstown

RENTALS

For more information or to book a rental contact Kelli McCormick at 330.746.3250 ext. 284 or kmccormick@jewishyoungstown.org

Specialty Parties
All parties include time in our party room. Custom invitations are available!

Pool Party
Enjoy swim time in our full-size indoor heated pool.

All Star Celebration
Play basketball, volleyball, kickball, soccer, or wiffleball in our gymnasium.

Glow & Dance Hip-Hop Party
Enjoy your next celebration with glow accessories and a mini hip-hop lesson.

Ninja Games Celebration
Tackle our ninja obstacle course and participate in coordination activities.

Noah’s Park Party
Play the day away at Noah’s Park or our new Infant and Toddler Playground.

Prince & Princess Royal Bash
Don your crowns and tiaras and take a mini ballet lesson.

Superhero Celebration
Dress up and participate in superhero activities in our secret lair.

Noah’s Park Party
Play the day away at Noah’s Park or our new Infant and Toddler Playground.

Prince & Princess Royal Bash
Don your crowns and tiaras and take a mini ballet lesson.

Superhero Celebration
Dress up and participate in superhero activities in our secret lair.
Condolences

Dr. William J. Lurie

Dr. William J. Lurie, 94, of Hubbard, passed away Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2020.

Dr. Lurie was born Nov. 13, 1925, in Fort Dodge, Iowa, a son of Nathan and Tillie Lurie.

He graduated from West Technical High School in Des Moines, Iowa in 1943. He enlisted in the Army in 1943 and was deployed to Europe as an Infantry Rifleman to Company B, 110th Regiment, 28th Division. He received three battle stars, serving in General Patton’s Army in the Battle of the Bulge, the Battle of Colmar, and the Battle of the Rhine. He received the Combat Infantry’s Badge and was awarded the Bronze Star for valor.

After his honorable discharge in 1946, he attended Youngstown College for pre-med. He received his Doctor of Osteopathy in 1952 from Des Moines Still College of Osteopathy. He was inducted into the Psi Sigma Alpha Honorary Society. He then interned at Doctor’s Hospital in Columbus.

He practiced medicine in Hubbard for 35 years. After 17 years of general practice, he traveled extensively in the Orient to study and learn acupuncture. He then introduced acupuncture to this area.

He was chief of staff at the Youngstown Osteopathic Hospital and also served on their board of directors.

His favorite activities included spending time and doing activities with his family; racquetball; traveling; vegetable gardening; breeding; training and showing Arabian and race horses; and painting. He was a docent at the Butler Museum of American Art after he retired.

Dr. Lurie is survived by his wife, Merabeth Lurie, whom he married in 1984; three children, Jack M. (Kathi) Lurie of Cullowhee, N.C., Sam L. Lurie of Fort Myers Beach, Fla., and Susan H. Lurie of Los Angeles; two stepchildren, William M. (Debi) Roth of Naples, Fla., and Dr. Jennifer R. (Jeff) Forche of Troy, Mich.; and six step-grandchildren, Isaac, Alia, and Elliott Roth, and Danny, Rachel, and Katie Forche.

Besides his parents, he was preceded in death by his first wife, Jeanne H. Lurie, who died in 1982; a brother, Abraham M. Lurie; and a sister, Bertha L. Friedman.

Respecting his wishes, there were no calling hours or service.

Friends and family may view this obituary and give their condolences at www.shriverallisoncourtleyfuneralhome.com.

Hilda Mirkin

Services were held for Hilda Mirkin, who passed away on February 10, 2020 in Madison, Wis., at the age of 93.

Hilda was born in 1926 in Youngstown, the youngest of three children born to Leah and Nathan Weber.

She was preceded in death by her parents and brothers, Saul and Morris.

Hilda was happily married to her husband Morris Mirkin for 54 years, until his passing in 2008.

Hilda was a proud graduate of The Ohio State University. She moved back to Youngstown where she began her long teaching career, interrupted briefly after she had her children. When her children began elementary school, she resumed teaching first and second grade until her retirement in 1984.

Once retired, she was active in the Youngstown Jewish community, running the Jewish Day School library and volunteering for the Temple El Emeth sisterhood. In 2009, she moved to Madison, to be nearer to her daughter Irene, son-in-law Barry, and grandson Sam. She became an active participant in her Madison independent living Capitol Lakes community, where she made many dear friends and enjoyed playing and teaching Mah Jongg.

She is survived by her daughter Dr. Irene Mirkin (Barry) and son Dr. Gary Mirkin (Felicia), and grandsons Sam Mirkin and Dr. Joshua Mirkin (Jenny).

The family requests that, if so desired, donations be made to Temple El Emeth, 3970 Logan Way, Youngstown, Ohio 44505.

Anita Weinerman

Anita Weinerman, 92, passed away peacefully Feb. 11, 2020, at Heritage Manor in Youngstown.

Mrs. Weinerman was born Sept. 15, 1927, in Lisbon, Portugal.

She lived her early years in Brussels, Belgium, immigrating to the United States after the war.

Anita Weinerman was married to Morris, who predeceased her, for 49 years. She was a homemaker and a member of Children of Israel Congregation.

She leaves two daughters, Adeline and Miriam of Cleveland; a son, Leon of Florida; a sister, Sarah of Israel; four grandchildren, one who predeceased her, Deborah; and one great-grandchild, Seth, born three weeks ago.

Services were held at Children of Israel Cemetery. Contributions may be made to the congregation.

Friends and family may view this obituary and give their condolences at shriverallisoncourtleyfuneralhome.com.
MSJS Students Visit Hindu Temple

MSJS students in ninth and tenth grades, and their families, visited the local Hindu Temple on Feb. 2. The students are studying world religions with Rabbi Joseph Schonberger. At the Temple, the students learned about Hindu practices and tasted vegetarian Hindu food. “It was a great learning experience,” said Tirtza Kohan, Hebrew and Judaic coordinator.

JCC Early Learning Center Students Enjoy Swim Lessons

Preschool students in the Early Learning Center at Jewish Community Center of Youngstown enjoy swim lessons each week. Pictured from left are Cheri Picken, swim instructor, and Isabella Mshar.

4TH ANNUAL COMMUNITY MITZVAH DAY

SUNDAY, MARCH 29 | 12:00 - 2:00 P.M.
JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER OF YOUNGSTOWN

Join JCRC in helping the Second Harvest Food Bank, Project MKC (for foster children), and The Red Cross. For the first time, we will host a “Souper Bowl.” Help choose the area’s best soup!

Please check in at the JCC Welcome Desk by 12:00 p.m.
For more information visit jewishyoungstown.org.

P2G: Partnership Teacher’s Delegation

Join us as we host a panel of three teachers from the Western Galilee Partnership region in Israel. Our guests will discuss topics regarding the educational system in Israel, personal challenges, and other relevant issues.

Date: Tuesday, March 31 | Time: 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Location: Adult Lounge

This event is free and open to everyone.

Edward J. Lewis, Inc.
Realtors • Consultants

27 South Hazel Street
Youngstown, Ohio 44503
(330) 746-6581
Center for Judaic and Holocaust Studies, Youngstown State University

Events and Information

March 4
Film Screening and Discussion: “93Queen” (USA, 2018)
Dir. Paula Eiselt
6 p.m., YSU, Moser Hall 2000 “Schwebel Auditorium”
The story of how Hasidic women founded the first all-female volunteer ambulance corps in NYC. Co-sponsored by the Club for Jewish Culture, the Department of Nursing, and the Department of Health Professions in commemoration of Women’s History Month. A co-production of the Youngstown Area Jewish Film Festival

March 25
Jewish Muslim Forum featuring rabbinical student Armin Langer
7 p.m., YSU, Kilcawley Center, President’s Suite
Armin Langer will speak about his experiences as a founder of the Salaam-Shalom Initiative in Berlin, which brings Muslims, Jews, and others together.

April 2
Book Reception and Lecture by Dr. Adam Fuller (YSU): “Is Neoconservatism Jewish?”
5:30 p.m., Youngstown Historical Center of Industry and Labor (Steel Museum)
Dr. Adam Fuller’s new book is titled “Israel and the Neocons: Zionism and American Interests.”

April 20
Lecture by Louis Schmidt in commemoration of the anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising
5 p.m., YSU, Kilcawley Center,

President’s Suite
An Emmy-Award winning TV producer and writer, Louis Schmidt will talk about his experiences interviewing Holocaust survivors for the USC Shoah Foundation.

The above events are free and open to the public. Parking for on-campus events will be made available.

May 20 to 24
The 25th annual conference of the Working-Class Studies Association will be held at YSU. The Center for Judaic and Holocaust Studies will be sponsoring a Jewish-studies panel.

Hebrew Instruction at YSU
Beginning in fall 2020, YSU will offer Hebrew-language courses, which students may take to fulfill their language requirements.

Scholarships
Jewish students and students interested in pursuing Jewish studies at YSU should contact the Office of Financial Aid. There are a number of scholarships available.

CJHS Information
Contact Dr. Jacob Ari Labenz, director of YSU’s Center for Judaic and Holocaust Studies, at 330.941.1603 or jlabenz@ysu.edu with any questions or to be placed on an electronic mailing list.
Liptalk: Continuously Improving

A Message from Andy Lipkin
Federation Executive Vice-President

Youngstown Area Jewish Federation is the umbrella organization overseeing our local agencies, namely the Jewish Community Center, Heritage Manor, Levy Gardens, the Jewish Community Relations Council, and Jewish Family Services. Together we’ve created a vibrant community that offers much. But we’re continuously looking for ways to improve.

Professional staff development is critical for that to happen. To that end, four Federation staff members recently traveled to Washington, D.C. to learn alongside fellow Federation professionals. Lisa Long, financial resource development director; Elise Skolnick, director of communications; Leann Rich, marketing manager; and I spent three days with other Federation professionals at FedPro, Jewish Federation of North America’s annual conference. We immersed ourselves in learning more about integrated philanthropy. Integrated philanthropy is an approach that places a person at the center of Federation’s work.

At the conference, we learned from the professional presenters, professionals from other Federations, and each other.

Eric Fingerhut, new JFNA president and CEO, and former U.S. congressman from Ohio, closed the conference with a speech that resonated with me. He talked about the critical issues we all face as an organization:

Teamwork: The work is, of course, too much for one person. Trying to do it all yourself wears you out and frustrates others.

Innovate: There may be a better way to do something.

Talent: Hire good, honest, learned people, and provide them with the proper training.

Strategy: We need to plan for what needs to be accomplished.

Impact: We need to know if what we’re doing is working and adjust accordingly.

This conference helped us to look more deeply at these issues. We do this work every day, but sometimes we need to step back and take a more global look at what we’re doing.

At the same time the four of us were in Washington, Bonnie Deutsch Burdman, Federation director of community relations/government affairs, was also in Washington at the JCPA (Jewish Council for Public Affairs) conference. That group delved into such important topics as antisemitism, gun violence, Israel, and more.

As Eric pointed out, our story is so rich and so powerful. We’ve built a flourishing Jewish community, one that’s safe, healthy, inclusive, and caring. We didn’t do it alone, of course. Other Jewish organizations and community partners helped and will continue to help.

But there is more work to be done. Federation is constantly evolving to fit Agency and community needs. The recent hiring of Leann Rich as our Federation-wide marketing manager and our most recent hiring of Nicholas (Nic) Bush as development & community relations manager is part of that effort. And a deeper dive into integrated philanthropy is part of that, too. Donors and community members matter, and so do their stories. We want to be sure their legacies are built upon.

Federation staff participated in two professional development conferences in February. From left (bottom) are Elise Skolnick, Leann Rich, (top) Bonnie Deutsch Burdman, Andrew Lipkin, and Lisa Long.

93 Queen
(USA, 2018) / Dir. Paula Eiselt

FILM SCREENING AND DISCUSSION FOR WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH

The story of how Hasidic women founded first all-female volunteer ambulance corps in New York City

Wednesday, March 4 at 6:00 pm
Moser Hall, Room 2000 (Schwebel Auditorium), YSU
FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
The Jewish Community Relations Council of the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation hosted a census meeting held by Mayor Jamael Tito Brown at Jewish Community Center of Youngstown. The mayor discussed the importance of the census and how the community can work together to ensure everyone is counted in 2020.

A representative from Dror Israel, Akko Educators Kibbutz visited the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation to share information about their programs. She also presented a plaque to thank the Thomases Family Endowment of the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation for its support. To date, the endowment has granted $40,000 to the organization. The most recent grant was a three year commitment for the establishment of a unique, ground-breaking, and first of its kind Urban Educators’ Kibbutz building in Akko, with both residential and educational program space. Pictured from left are Lisa Long, Federation financial resource development director; Andrew Lipkin, Federation executive vice-president; Sam Shapiro, Thomases Family Endowment committee member; Mirit Sulema, coordinator of the Akko Educators’ Kibbutz; Sam Kooperman, Thomases Family Endowment advisor; and Gon Erez, Jewish Community Center of Youngstown program director.
JCC of Youngstown Secure After Receiving Emails Indicating Potential Bomb Threats

Statement from Rick Marlin, Youngstown Area Jewish Federation president, and Andrew Lipkin, Youngstown Area Jewish Federation executive vice-president

In late February, the Jewish Community Center of Youngstown received an email to an outdated address which indicated a possible bomb threat. This was similar to emails sent to more than 50 JCCs and Jewish institutions across North America.

Upon discovering receipt of this email, our campus security director immediately alerted local law enforcement, the FBI, and the Secure Community Network (SCN), the national non-profit organization exclusively dedicated to homeland security initiatives on behalf of the American Jewish community.

Following an investigation, law enforcement agencies locally and nationally determined that the email threats were not credible and that our JCC members, guests, and community were not at any point in danger.

As always, our first priority is the safety and security of any person who comes to our campus and participates in our programming. Having faced similar threats in the past, we have developed and implemented detailed protocols to respond to such scenarios. We are grateful for the immediate and ongoing response from local law enforcement, and we will continue to work with SCN and other national law enforcement partners to ensure the security of our entire Federation campus and to support their efforts to bring the responsible parties to justice.

Suzi Kooperman Youth Leadership Award Nominations Due March 31

Nominations for the Suzi Kooperman Youth Leadership Award are being accepted. The Suzi Kooperman award is given annually to a high school senior who exhibits an interest in service to the Jewish community, whose actions motivate other youth, and who has displayed continuity in service to the community. Along with the award, the recipient will receive a savings bond.

Nominations are due by March 31. The award will be presented at the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation’s Annual Meeting May 18. For more information, or for an application, contact Gon Erez at 330.746.3250 ext. 159 or gerez@jewishyoungstown.org.

Nominations Sought for Esther Marks Memorial Volunteer Award

The Youngstown Area Jewish Federation is seeking nominations for the Esther Marks Memorial Volunteer Award.

Esther Marks was a prodigious volunteer within the Federation and its agencies, at her synagogue, and in the general community. The Esther Marks Memorial Volunteer Award is meant to encourage volunteerism at all levels and to honor her memory.

Nominations must be submitted in writing and be one page and double spaced. The nomination should detail why the nominee is deserving of the award. Individuals may be nominated by any individual or organization of the Jewish community. Nominees should be involved in Federation and/or any of its agencies or affiliated organizations and in the general Jewish community including involvement in Jewish organizations or synagogues.

Nominees should also be involved in organizations in the general community. Nominees need not be a volunteer in a purely leadership role. Rather this award will give priority to those who volunteer for direct services to people or agencies. Consideration will be given to, but not limited to, direct volunteer activities, membership on boards or committees, leadership positions, length of time of service, and quality of volunteerism.

Nominations are due by March 31. The award will be presented at the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation Annual Meeting May 18. Send nominations to Lisa Long, financial resource development director, Youngstown Area Jewish Federation, 505 Gypsy Lane, Youngstown, Ohio, 44504.
News You Can Use

Rep. Weinstein Calls for Increases to Security Funding for Non-Profits

COLUMBUS - State Representative Casey Weinstein (D-Hudson) is calling for an increase in state security funding for non-profits after more than 50 Jewish Community Centers, including the Jewish Community Centers of Akron and Youngstown, received bomb threats in late February.

“My heart is heavy knowing that we are once again under threat,” said Weinstein. “We have been fortunate that the violence threatened against us here in Ohio has not resulted in bloodshed, but we must stay vigilant.”

Antisemitism has been on the rise over the past several years, with a dramatic increase in physical attacks occurring in 2018, including the mass shooting at the Tree of Life Building Shooting in Pittsburgh. A planned attack on a Toledo-area synagogue was thwarted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation later that same year. A man who threatened a similar attack on the Jewish Community Center of Youngstown was arrested by local police in August of 2019.

“I am grateful that we were able to get my amendment increasing the amount of money available to non-profits for target hardening added to the 2020-2021 state budget,” added Weinstein. “But we must do even more in the face of rising threats here in Ohio and across the country.”

“Our community is grateful for the support of our local, state and federal government agencies and elected officials for their leadership on funding needs for non-profits at risk of attack,” said Todd Polikoff, CEO of the Jewish Community Board of Akron. “This latest threat showcases, once again, that the need for this support is active, pressing and ever increasing.”

Jewish Organizations Express Solidarity With Chinese American and Chinese Communities

More than 70 Jewish organizations from the across the U.S., including the rabbinical bodies of the four major branches of Judaism, signed a letter of support for Chinese American and Chinese communities. In recent weeks, since public reports of the virus in January, social media has been filled with malicious allegations and misinformation against Chinese people over fears of the COVID-19 “coronavirus.” Chinese businesses have also been affected, even though the National Institute of Allergies and Infectious Diseases says that the danger of the disease is miniscule.

“The Jewish community has strong and abiding ties to the Chinese community in the U.S. and abroad,” said Michael Fromm, chair of the Jewish Council for Public Affairs (JCPA). “When our friends are targeted, we act and let them know they can count on us.”

“We want to thank our partners in the Jewish community for their solidarity and friendship,” said Fred Teng, president of America China Public Affairs Institute (ACPAI). “We stand together for truth and fairness, and against the spread of false and damaging information.”

David Bernstein, JCPA’s president and CEO, added that “We were so proud of the broad and diverse response from national organizations and local Jewish community relations councils, many of which are in active contact with their local Chinese counterparts.”

“It is truly appreciated when other groups stand with you especially when we face challenging times,” stated Sharon Wong, president of the OCA – Asian Pacific American Advocates. “Many in the community have been devastated, not just by the virus itself but the xenophobia, harassment, bullying, and fear that has been directed to our community.”

JCPA, national organizations and JCRCs sent the letter with all the signatories in both English and Chinese to scores of Chinese American leaders and organizations.

The letter can be read in its entirety, in both English and Chinese, on the JCPA website: jewishpublicaffairs.org.

Consul General of Israel in New York Meets With Ohio Leaders

The Consulate General of Israel in New York reinforced its ties with Ohio by visiting the state’s capital and meeting with government, business, and community leaders. Ambassador Dani Dayan, the Consul General, discussed Israel’s partnership with Ohio and what can be done to further grow relations.

Dayan met with Ohio Governor Mike DeWine, who said, “Israel is an important partner for Ohio, and I want to thank Ambassador Dayan for meeting with us to discuss our shared goals. I look forward to our continued partnership and the opportunities we have to expand economic growth and jobs for the people of Ohio and the people of Israel.”

The TIME conference, an international metals/additive manufacturing event that Youngstown State University will host in June in conjunction with the Technion in Israel, was discussed.

The Consul General also met with Ohio Secretary of State Frank LaRose, as well as members of Congress. The visit concluded with a Jewish leadership dinner attended by leaders of the Ohio Jewish community.

Dayan said, “The State of Israel is proud to call Ohio one of its best supporters in the United States. This staunch relationship between our states is not in name only. It is manifested through our shared cooperation in a wide range of sectors: cyber, agriculture, energy, economy, and a multitude of other crucial industries. We look forward to strengthening these already strong ties.”

Ohio passed anti-BDS legislation in 2016, and it invests more in Israel bonds than any other state in the United States. Ohio is one of the five states that the Consulate General of Israel in New York represents, including New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware.
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JCC Journeys
Date: Sunday, March 15
Location: Benedum Center, Pittsburgh, PA
Leave JCC: 11:00 a.m. | Showtime: 1:00 p.m.
Cost: $71/Member | $95/Non Member
Register by Monday, March 9 online at jccyoungstown.org or contact the Membership Office at 330.746.3250 ext. 195.

2020 Mitzvah Day “Souper Bowl”

We are seeking participants for our Mitzvah Day “Souper Bowl” cook-off benefitting the Second Harvest Food Bank.

Date: Sunday, March 29
Time: 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.
Location: JCC of Youngstown
505 Gypsy Lane, Youngstown, OH

Rules and registration are available online at jewishyoungstown.org/souperbowl.
Please register by Monday, March 16.