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Jewish Federation
Youngstown Area

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2016 Inaugural Event
Thursday, September 08, 2016
7:00 p.m. | Event & Exhibition

Youngstown Area
Jewish Federation

Above left, Melissa Bateman-Hively and Atty Bradley A. Sherman at a Federation Fellows event. See story on p. 5.

Lower left, Soccer player and Maccabi Games competitor Sophie Alper take time out from sports to create a flower for senior citizens. See story on pages 16-17.
Hamas, natural gas and other good reasons why Israel and Turkey should stick together

By Andrew Tobin

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Israel and Turkey ought to be friends, geopolitically speaking.

As Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan put it in January: “Israel needs a country like Turkey in this region. We, too, should admit that we need a country like Israel.”

But the regional powers often can’t seem to make it work.

In 2010, Turkey cut ties with Israel over its deadly military raid of the Gaza-bound Mavi Marmara flotilla. And this week, days after the Turkish parliament ratified a reconciliation agreement to restore bilateral relations with Israel, the states traded recriminations over Israel’s bombardment Sunday of Hamas targets in Gaza.

Yet if Israel and Turkey can keep from quarreling, they each have much to gain.

“The situation for the past six years wasn’t good for either of us, Turkey or Israel, and eventually everyone realized we should repair the damage. So that’s what happened,” David Kushner, professor emeritus of Middle Eastern history at the University of Haifa, told JTA. “I think most people actually welcome this new phase. It may not bring back the intimacy of the past, but both countries realize their interests are common, and that’s what counts in international relations.”

Israel and Turkey are to exchange ambassadors in the coming days, as per the reconciliation deal. Here are three good reasons they shouldn’t bring them home and return to their standoff anytime soon.

Gaza needs rebuilding

The main source of tension between Israel and Turkey is also perhaps their best opportunity for collaboration: Gaza. Under the reconciliation deal, Israel didn’t lift its naval blockade of the territory, as Turkey had demanded, but it did promise Turkey would be allowed to provide overland support to the coastal strip.

Israel met Turkey’s two other long-standing demands as well. The state paid $20 million to compensate the families of the nine Turks killed by Israeli soldiers aboard the Mavi Marmara. And Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu apologized to Erdogan in 2013, under pressure from President Barack Obama.

In return, Turkey pledged under the deal not to allow Hamas to conduct terrorist attacks from its territory, to do what it can toward the return of the bodies of Israeli soldiers and civilians held by the Islamist terrorist group, and to pass a law ensuring Israeli soldiers are not sued for their role in the Mavi Marmara raid.

Erdogan has long been a prominent champion of Hamas and critic of Israel’s policy toward the Palestinians. He was to visit Gaza in 2013 until Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi’s seizure of power derailed the plan. Hamas, which vows Israel’s destruction, has headquarters in Istanbul and receives funding from Turkey. Erdogan called Israel a “terror state” in a 2009 CNN interview.

“The Turkish public’s empathy for the Palestinians, Erdogan’s Muslim identity, the fact that he sees Hamas as legitimate, the almost inevitably harming of civilians in conflicts in Gaza: All these are puzzle pieces that come together to make it hard for Erdogan to resist criticizing Israel on this issue,” Galia Lindenstrauss, a Turkey researcher at Israel’s Institute for National Security Studies think tank, told JTA.

With Israel on guard against Hamas — not to mention its control of the West Bank — there wouldn’t seem to be much basis for Israeli-Turkish cooperation on the Palestinian issue.

But Israel apparently has determined not to seek Hamas’ overthrow, fearing its government would be replaced by something worse. Instead, Israel has fought to blunt the military threat from Hamas while trying to provide the group with enough incentives to stave off the next conflict. Even hawkish Defense Minister Avigdor Liberman voiced support for rebuilding Gaza’s economy and infrastructure.

Both sides have an interest, then, in provisions of the reconciliation deal that allow Turkey to provide humanitarian aid, as long as it goes through Israel’s Ashdod port, and to help build infrastructure in Gaza -- including water and desalination plants and a hospital.

“Last year, war broke out partly because Hamas had nothing to lose,” Dror Zeevi, professor of Middle Eastern studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, told JTA. “It’s believed that’s why Hamas opened hostilities against Israel or allowed things to deteriorate. Turkey might be a solution to that problem.”

At the same time, Gaza remains a potential flashpoint between Israel and Turkey. Another major incident like the Mavi Marmara raid could blow up rapprochement.

Gas, naturally

Israel is sitting on hundreds of billions of dollars worth of natural gas reserves, according to officials. And Turkey is in the market for the fossil fuel. Although the reconciliation deal did not deal with gas, it was in the air during negotiations.

Netanyahu has said restoring relations with Ankara is key to unlocking his country’s recently discovered gas bounty, and bolstering its political and economic position. A pipeline through Turkey could open up an export market for Israel there as well as in Europe.

This is a strategic matter for the State of Israel,” Netanyahu said in announcing the signing of the reconciliation deal last month. “This matter could not have been advanced without this agreement, and now we will take action to advance it.”

Turkey has been more circumspect.

“Firstly, let normalization begin, and after that, the level to which we cooperate on whatever subject will be tied to the efforts of the two countries,” Turk-

(Continued on p. 18)

How Aly Raisman helped my daughter get what being Jewish means

By Melissa Henriquez

JTA — My 5-year-old daughter is obsessed with all things Aly Raisman right now. Since the Olympics began, she has been begging to watch YouTube videos of performances, interviews with the much-decorated gymnast, and even watched some re-runs from when Aly was on “Dancing with the Stars.” Aly is on par with Queen Elsa right now—which, in 5-year-old-world, is a tremendous honor.

“If I keep practicing my gymnastics, can I be like Aly?” she asked.

“If you put your mind to it, you sure can!” (Who am I to dash the dreams of my budding gymnast?)

This morning after we watched a few more videos over breakfast, I said, “Do you know Aly is Jewish?”

“What’s Jewish?” she asked, putting her spoon down and turning to me.

Oh #$$. Naturally, Jewish guilt washed over me and my stomach sank. What kind of Jewish mother am I that she doesn’t know what “Jewish” means?! I’ve written here that we are one of the few Jewish families in Kalamazoo, but that we will be joining a local synagogue this fall and she’ll enter Hebrew School—where we will surely meet other families like ours.

Sure, she loves matzah and always asks for seconds of my great-grandmother’s brisket recipe I prepare each Passover and Rosh Hashanah; she lights the menorah and hums along with my Hebrew; she plays dreidel with her 2-year-old brother year-round (with Hershey’s kisses instead of gelt); she enjoys reading children’s books about the Jewish holidays as we celebrate them; she even belted out “Dayenu” on the checkout line in Target recently (not something you hear every day in Kalamazoo). But for now, she doesn’t grasp what religion really is.

As quickly as the guilt came, I told myself to snap out of it and gave myself

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About the *Jewish Journal Monthly Magazine*

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**JJMM Mission Statement**

✧ The *Youngstown Jewish Journal Monthly Magazine*, a publication of the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation, strives to —
✧ Provide a major tool of community communication for the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation and its affiliated agencies;
✧ Present current local, national and world news of Jewish interest;
✧ Offer timely commentary, interpretation, analysis and authentic background on events of the day for the purpose of encouraging the concern and response vital to our responsibilities as Americans and Jews;
✧ Enrich the cultural interest of individuals and the community through articles, features, reviews and other material of both local and national Jewish content and interest;
✧ Provide a communication tool to enable all members of the Jewish community to express their viewpoints on issues of Jewish importance and interest;
✧ Demonstrate commitment to the progress and continuity of Jewish life in the U.S., especially our local area, Israel and around the world.

*The JJMM does not assume the responsibility for the Kashruth of any product or service advertised on its pages.*

August 15 is the deadline for articles and ads for the September 2016 issue.
Inaugural Event at DeYor Center

This year’s Inaugural Event on behalf of the Combined Jewish Appeal promises to be an evening celebrating the Jewish community, featuring an art exhibition highlighting the work of the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation and its community partners.

The program will take place on Thursday, Sept. 8, at 7 p.m. at the DeYor Performing Arts Center, 260 W. Federal Street, in Youngstown.

General campaign co-chairs are Sam Shapiro and Jeff Simon. Inaugural event co-chairs are Irina and Dr. Mark Perlman. The members of the Art Exhibition Committee are Laurel Chevlen, Rachel Kay, and Jodi Nudell.

Speaking will be Dr. William Recant, assistant executive vice president, of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee-International Development Program. Among his responsibilities is the development and coordination of projects relating to the rescue, relief, and renewal of Jewish communities worldwide.

Before joining JDC, Dr. Recant served as the executive director of the American Association for Ethiopian Jews, where he established the Congressional Caucus for Ethiopian Jews and advocated on behalf of the Ethiopian Jewry movement.

The end result of his efforts was Operation Solomon, one of the largest resettlement operations of the 20th century. Once the airlift of Ethiopian Jews to Israel was complete, AAEJ closed its doors, but Dr. Recant was the natural choice to represent JDC in Washington, DC. During his tenure there, Cuba’s government began the process of revising its constitution, paving the way for JDC to secure a license to initiate community development and renewal within the country’s Jewish communities.

As JDC desk director for Latin America, he played a key role in the international effort to shore up the Argentinian Jewish community during that country’s economic crisis.

Dr. Recant was a catalyst in forming twinning programs between North American Jewish Federations and communities in the Baltics, where the Jewish communities have long suffered from economic deprivation. There, the JDC's work focuses mainly on social service programs, employment assistance, and support for the elderly poor.

Dr. Recant holds both a Master’s Degree and Ph.D. in political science from George Washington University. Joining JDC will be Alla Magas, Active Jewish Teens (AJT) Network Director, Ukraine.

Ms. Magas, 30, was born in Poltava and until the age of 13 did not know she had any connection to the Jewish people. When this news came, she plunged into Jewish community life and hasn’t left it since.

A member of the Jewish youth club, later a madricha, and then a student of the Jewish University in Moscow, Alla determinedly set on her Jewish journey and every day learned something new about her people, tradition and culture – everything she was deprived of as a child.

Having returned from her studies in Moscow “Mahon” to her native town of Poltava in 2005, Alla became the leader of the Progressive Judaism movement there. In her position, Alla devoted herself to developing youth and volunteer programs in her home community.

In 2007, she completed JDC’s Mestuda Jewish Young Leadership program, which she says changed her life and gave it a new direction. Soon after this, Alla moved to Kharkov — a city with a Jewish community of 40,000 — to head the Jewish Youth Association there.

In this position, she developed youth leadership, volunteerism and taught Jewish tradition, and she also became one of the initiators of the Teen Movement in the FSU.

Ms. Magas developed teen activities in Ukraine, and took Ukrainian teens to BBYO conferences. Last year at the BBYO symposium, she was awarded the David Bitker Unsung Hero International Advisor of the Year Award.

Today, Alla Magas heads the Active Jewish Teens network in the FSU with over 1,200 participants in 40 cities.

A dessert reception will follow the program. R.S.V.P by Sept. 1, to Nancy Sentelik, (330) 746-3250 x 108 or NSentelik@jewishYoungstown.org.

Complimentary valet parking will be available.

Campaign training boosts support

At this year’s Campaign Education Workshop, guest speaker Abby Levin, Vice President of Development for the Cleveland Jewish Federation, complimented the vitality of the Youngstown area Jewish community. “To say I was impressed,” she said “would be a total understatement.”

She contrasted the relative comfort of local Jews to the thousands of French Jews leaving their country in fear of the growing anti-Semitism that is growing in France. “They know their families’ lives will change forever as they leave everything they know behind,” she said.

Ms. Levin discussed the growing isolation experienced by Ukrainian Jewish seniors and the efforts being made to ensure they at least have warm meals on the table.

“Storytelling,” she explained, “is what makes worldwide Jewish needs feel more real.” She said, “When we ac-
Federation plans for new leaders

A goal of a good organization is to be sure that leadership is in place for the future. So the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation has formed its first group of “Federation Fellows,” who, it is hoped, will bring a new outlook and different perspectives while maintaining the same passions for family and community that are the hallmark of the Federation.

The group is chaired by Dr. Randy Goldberg and Atty. Melissa Bateman-Hively.

At the first session of the fellows, the men and women worked to develop a sense of “Jewish visioning.”

Bradley A. Sherman, president of the Cleveland Hillel Foundation conducted the discussion. Atty. Sherman has extensive local and national Jewish volunteer experience, serving on the Jewish Federation of Cleveland Board of Trustees since 2007, receiving the Federation’s Yanowitz Leadership Award in 2008.

He has also been a member of the Jewish Federations of North America board since 2007.

(Continued on page 22)

Campaign training (Continued from previous page)

cept our collective responsibility — first as individuals — we are better able to ask others to join us in carrying our legacy into the future.”

A goal of this year’s campaign is to increase giving so that this community can feed the hungry, comfort the sick, care for the elderly, educate youth, ensure a Jewish future, speak out for what’s right, bridge cultural divides, and support Israel.

Jeff Simon, co-chair of the campaign, said he spoke for himself and co-chair Sam Shapiro, because, “We have learned what it means to live generously.” He said, “We believe in helping this noble cause of helping our Jewish brothers and sisters around the world and locally.”

A true Partnership: (From left) Rewad Adris, Mentor; Debbi Grinstein, Andi Baroff, Avital Ben Dror, Partnership staff; Miri Krowe-Rot, Akko Youth Futures Director; Montaha Hamed-Kandi, Mentor; Bracha Zuriel, Partnership staff.

Just when you think you know everything, you learn something new. We can learn that although our cultures are quite different, and even our problems may be disparate, the method of fixing the issue just might be the answer.

Akko and Matte Asher, Israel, is a demographically mixed region of Arabs and Jews. A high percentage of its residents receive welfare services and many families have four or more children. Unemployment rates are higher than in the metropolitan areas of Tel Aviv and Jerusalem. For about 237 public school students at risk, and their families, there is hope through Youth Futures, a Jewish Agency flagship program.

Each Youth Futures “Mentor” is assigned to work with 16 at-risk children over a course of three academic years, teaching skills for academic improvement and social integration that last a lifetime. They work as trusted guides to help students improve school performance, strengthen social integration, and inspire engagement with the community. The mentors also connect youth, families, and communities with the services and local resources that help them overcome barriers to success.

The program’s goal is to instill in each child the belief that he or she possesses distinctive strengths and abilities that can be developed to empower a brighter future.

As we are learning in the United States and in our community, a student’s problem does not end at the end of a school day. Home life may be a major factor in the child’s ability to cope and learn. Youth Futures addresses this problem by going into homes, identifying the problems, assisting the family as a whole and ensuring new found stability over three years.

On this Purim morning, we heard about the mentors challenges successes. In years past, we visited the program in Jewish schools. On this bright March day, even the Arab children enjoyed wearing Purim costumes emulating their favorite superheroes. This photo was taken at the entrance to the elementary school near the ancient walled city of Akko.

We heard heartwarming stories from the two mentors at the school.

These women are the faces of Israel. Their personal stories connect them to you. The Jewish community of the Mahoning and Shenango Valleys is connected as well.
JCC Library offers books on Rosh Hashanah

The High Holidays are quickly approaching, and the JCC library has many books available to check out for your family that will enrich your celebration of Rosh Hashanah. Stop by the library between 9 a.m. and noon on Monday, Wednesday and Friday to choose materials. Here are two of those books:

**Apple Days: A Rosh Hashanah Story** by Allison S. Soffer. This is a PJ library selection for children ages 4-5.

**Even Higher! A Rosh Hashanah Story** by I.L. Peretz (and adapted by Eric A. Kimmek with illustrations by Jill Weber) is a classic for ages 7-8 about a skeptical visitor who visits the village of Nemirov just before the Jewish New Year.

**Featured books at the JCC Library**

September’s featured library acquisitions are two books by Nehemia Gordon: *A Prayer to Our Father: Hebrew Origins of the Lord’s Prayer*, co-authored by Keith Johnson, and *Shattering the Conspiracy of Silence: The Hebrew Power of the Priestly Blessing*.

Nehemia Gordon is a Karaite Jew, biblical scholar, archaeologist, and translator of the Dead Sea Scrolls. A native of Chicago, he now resides in Jerusalem where he continues his research on biblical manuscripts and leads educational tours of Israel. He recently lectured at Ohave Tzedek in Boardman.

His books provide compelling insight into the origins and meaning of both the Priestly Blessing and the Avinu Prayer while leading the reader on a spiritual journey. Appealing to both Christians and Jews, the books emphasize the importance of the original Hebrew translations, citing references to the Aleppo Codex. Weaving together both ancient mysteries and modern travelogue, the books transport the reader on a journey of introspection and discovery. (Book reviews by Nancy Burnett.)

**Library Book Club meeting for September**

The next meeting of the JCC Library Book Club will be on Thursday, Sept. 15 at 1:30 p.m. in the library. The group will discuss *Lilac Girls* by Martha Hall Kelly. One copy is available at the JCC library and other copies can be obtained through the public libraries, Search Ohio, and also on Kindle. Call Mary Lou Henneman at 330-746-3251 and leave a message if you have questions or wish to join.

**YSO opens 90th season**

The Youngstown Symphony Orchestra opens its 90th anniversary season on Saturday, Sept. 17, at 8 p.m. with Music Director Randall Craig Fleischer conducting.

During the Classic Concert Series, Maestro Fleischer will explore ethnic populations who settled in the Mahoning Valley from around the world.

The Sept. 17 program will highlight Eastern European groups who came to this area, by featuring Russian composers Tchaikovsky — his Suite #4 “Mozartiana” and Borodin — the Polovtsian Dances from *Prince Igor*.

Polish composer Frederic Chopin will be recognized by his “Polonaise” (orchestral transcription by Alexander Glazunov), and Bohemian composer Antonin Dvorak by his “Slavonic Dances.”

Other musical selections include the Hungarian Liszt’s “Les Preludes” and Smetana’s “The Moldau.”

Tickets are available at the DeYor Box office or online at youngstownsymphony.com. Call 330 744-0264 for more information.

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**AMERICA’S FUNNIEST SHOW**

Join the National Touring Cast: Morty, Bunny, Nathan, Debbie and Reuben in over 90 minutes of non-stop fall out of your seat laughter!

1 NIGHT ONLY

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7:30 pm

Humor for ages 18+

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Record Breaking performances in New York and throughout North America!

Most “Old Jews Telling Jokes” shows SELL-OUT!!!
Our mission is to take viewers on a cinematic cultural journey that depicts a broad spectrum of Jewish life. The films shown at the come from all over the world, providing diverse audiences with a glimpse into the Jewish experience.

The Youngstown Area Jewish Film Festival is being co-presented by the Jewish Community Center and the YSU Center for Judaic and Holocaust Studies. Since its inception in 2003, the AJFF has grown and flourished through this partnership, reaching a steadily growing and diverse audience.

We want to extend a sincere thank you to the members of our screening committee for their time and talent in choosing this year’s films. Also, thank you to our sponsors for their continued support and to our venues for their cooperation. Most importantly, thanks to you, our audience, whose enthusiasm makes it a joy to bring this film festival to Youngstown.

We are very excited to bring you four outstanding films this festival season. Grab a friend, a bucket of popcorn and treat yourself to the richness of Jewish experience projected through the lens of modern filmmakers.

See you at the movies!

Michael Rawl
Jewish Community Center
Interim Executive Director

Helene Sinnreich, Ph.D.
Director of YSU Center for Judaic and Holocaust Studies

Leah Ifft
Graduate Assistant, Department of History, Youngstown State University

The Green Prince
2014 Documentary
Directed by Nadav Schirman
Sundance Film Festival 2014 Audience Award, Best Documentary, World Cinema

A Palestinian in Ramallah, Mosab Hassan Yousef grows up angry and ready to fight Israel. Arrested for smuggling guns at the age of 17, he’s interrogated by the Shin Bet, Israel’s security service, and sent to prison. But shocked by Hamas’s ruthless tactics in the prison and the organization’s escalating campaign of suicide bombings outside, Mosab agrees to spy for Israel. For him, there is no greater shame. For his Shin Bet handler, Gonen, there is no greater prize: “operating” the oldest son of a founding member of Hamas.

Little White Lie
2014 Documentary
Directed by Lacey Schwartz

“Little White Lie” tells Lacey Schwartz’s story of growing up in a typical upper-middle-class Jewish household in Woodstock, NY, with loving parents and a strong sense of her Jewish identity — despite the open questions from those around her about how a white girl could have such dark skin. She believes her family’s explanation that her looks were inherited from her dark-skinned Sicilian grandfather. But when her parents abruptly split, her gut starts to tell her something different.

At age 18, she finally confronts her mother and learns the truth: her biological father was not the man who raised her, but a black man named Rodney with whom her mother had had an affair. Afraid of losing her relationship with her parents, Lacey doesn’t openly acknowledge her newly discovered black identity with her white family. When her biological father dies shortly before Lacey’s 30th birthday, the family secret can stay hidden no longer. Following the funeral, Lacey begins a quest to reconcile the hidden pieces of her life and heal her relationship with the only father she ever knew.

The film festival is being presented by the Jewish Community Center of Youngstown, the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation, the YSU Center for Judaic and Holocaust Studies.

Members of the screening committee include Myra Benedikt, Sally Blau, Brian Bonhomme, Yelena Bonhomme, Lynda Bumback, Laurel Chevlen, Gon Erez, Shay Erez, Mary Lou Finesilver, Mary Lou Hennemen, Leah Ifft, Sandy Kessler, Jesse McClain, Ruth Ann Mendel, Darlene Muller, Rabbi Frankin Muller, Rabbi Saul Oresky, Linda Palumbo, Stan Palumbo, Pam Palumbo, Helene Sinnreich, and Mike Shepherd.

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For more information contact: Darlene Muller
330.746.3250 x 106 | dmuller@jccyoungstown.org

September 2016

The Jewish Journal Monthly Magazine
Ohev Tzedek High Holiday services

**Rosh Hashanah**

Oct. 2  7:30 p.m.
Erev Rosh Hashanah
Let us join together as a community to usher in the new year.

Oct. 3  8:30 a.m.
First Day of Rosh Hashanah
Junior Congregation  11 a.m.
(led by Leigh Zircher).
Tashlich immediately following services.

Oct. 4  8:30 a.m.
Second Day of Rosh Hashanah
Junior Congregation  11 a.m.
(Led by Leigh Zircher).

**Shabbat Shuvah**

Oct. 8  9:45 a.m.
Start the new year right by attending the first Shabbat service of the year. Shabbat Shuvah is, after all, the Sabbath of Return!

Oct. 9
Kever Avot (cemetery visitations)  9 a.m.
Meet Rabbi Oresky at the Ohev Tzedek cemetery on Tippecanoe Rd. for the traditional honoring of our departed loved ones with the recitation of El Maleh Rachamim.

Sukkah Building  10 a.m.
Join us in erecting Ohev Tzedek's sukkah.

Oct. 11  6:30 p.m.
Kol Nidre
The first service of Yom Kippur.

Oct. 12,  9:30 a.m.
Yom Kippur
Junior Congregation  11 a.m.
Sermon and Yizkor  12 noon
Break — study sessions TBA

**Sukkot**

First Day  9:45 am
Kiddush and lunch in the sukkah (weather permitting).

Psalms for Sukkot  7 p.m.
Short Maariv service followed by culmination of Rabbi Oresky's Psalms class)

Oct. 16  10 a.m.
Sukkah Decorating/Erev Sukkot
Join us in decorating our sukkah for the holiday!
Vegetarian dinner in the sukkah  6 p.m.

Maariv service  7:15 p.m.
Followed by a jam session/sing-along. Bring instruments, song sheets, and your voice! R.S.V.P. to office by Oct. 15.

October 17
Sukkot
First Day  9:45 am
Kiddush and lunch in the sukkah (weather permitting).

Psalms for Sukkot  7 p.m.
Short Maariv service followed by culmination of Rabbi Oresky's Psalms class)

Oct. 22  9:45 a.m.
Shabbat Chol HaMoed Sukkot
The Congregation is invited to to the home of Rabbi Saul and Phyllis for lunch in the sukkah—R.S.V.P. to the temple office by Oct. 19.

October 24,  9:45 a.m.
Shemini Atzeret/Erev Simchat Torah
Yizkor  11 a.m.
Join the festivities  6 p.m.
as we celebrate the never-ending cycle of Torah with special aliyyot, singing, dancing, and food!
R.S.V.P. to the temple office by Oct. 19.

**OT plans dinner, lecture**

Geraldine Brooks, author of *The People of the Book*, a story about the history of the Sarajevo Haggadah, will be speaking at Westminster College in New Wilmington, PA at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 28.

Temple Ohev Tzedek is planning a program around her visit, which will include dinner off the menu at a New Wilmington restaurant, the lecture, and a book signing immediately following.

For more information, call the Ohev Tzedek office at 330.758.2321.
The survivors of such indiscriminate and inhuman attacks—suddenly become the innocent victims of indiscriminate terrorists attacks in Israel and elsewhere.

She will relate the remarkable life journeys of Survivor’s and their relatives — from terrorism to hope and optimism and from grief to meaning and healing. She writes, “They speak not just of moving on with life as usual, but of moving forward with new purpose, contributing to society, and turning tragedy into action. These powerful stories are testimony to their inner strength and determination — a victory of the human spirit — and inspire each of us as we meet the challenges of our lives.”

Dr. Konvisser earned a Ph.D. and an M.A. from Fielding Graduate University, in Human Development; an M.S. from The Ohio State University, in pharmaceutical chemistry, and an A.B. in chemistry from Douglass College of Rutgers University.

The Selichot service will follow Dr. Konvisser’s presentation. Reservations would be appreciated to the El Emeth office by Sept. 22 at 330-759-1429.

Community-wide Selichot service

Dr. Zieva Dauber Konvisser

The community wide Selichot service and program will be hosted by Temple El Emeth on Saturday evening, Sept. 24. Mincha, Maariv and Havdalah will begin at 7:20 p.m. with refreshments served at 8 p.m.

Guest speaker Dr. Zieva Dauber Konvisser, will discuss her book, Living Beyond Terrorism: Israeli Stories of Hope and Healing. Dr. Konvisser writes, “No one can forget the devastating aftermath of a suicide bomber detonating in a crowded bus. But what happens to the survivors of such indiscriminate and horrific attacks? Will the physical and emotional scars overwhelm them, or will they be able to transcend the traumatic experience and lead healthy and fulfilling lives? Many of those who survive are able to grow and thrive.”

Dr. Konvisser will share compelling stories of hope and healing, as told by ordinary people, who, while riding buses, dining in restaurants, shopping in markets—suddenly become the innocent victims of indiscriminate terrorists attacks in Israel and elsewhere.

She will relate the remarkable life journeys of Survivor’s and their relatives — from terrorism to hope and optimism and from grief to meaning and healing. She writes, “They speak not just of moving on with life as usual, but of moving forward with new purpose, contributing to society, and turning tragedy into action. These powerful stories are testimony to their inner strength and determination — a victory of the human spirit — and inspire each of us as we meet the challenges of our lives.”

Dr. Konvisser earned a Ph.D. and an M.A. from Fielding Graduate University, in Human Development; an M.S. from The Ohio State University, in pharmaceutical chemistry, and an A.B. in chemistry from Douglass College of Rutgers University.

The Selichot service will follow Dr. Konvisser’s presentation. Reservations would be appreciated to the El Emeth office by Sept. 22 at 330-759-1429.

Confronting the Holocaust

My real first real awareness of the Holocaust was in 1978 with the airing of the six-part “Holocaust” series. I can’t tell you a lot about what I saw, but I remember sitting in my chair in my bedroom gripping its wooden arms and feeling as if I couldn’t breathe.

Somewhere around that time, I think, I went the University to hear Robert Clary speak. I believe Dr. Saul Friedman brought him to speak to some of his classes. Clary was a French survivor. He also was an actor — you might remember him from Hogan’s Heroes. I remember him, also, from the movie “New Faces of 1952.” Oy, am I old!

Anyway, before that time, I really don’t remember hearing anything of the Holocaust. Don’t forget, I was seven when the war began and 11 when the war ended. I don’t know if my parents were aware of what was happening in Europe. They all thought that FDR was a wonderful man, and it is only in later years that we found out he was no help at all to the Jews.

The newspapers carried almost nothing about what was happening overseas with the Jews, the Gypsies, the homosexuals, and anyone who didn’t fit into the image Hitler and the Nazis wanted to populate the world, or if they put anything into the paper, it was buried somewhere in the back pages.

As far as I know, which may be flawed, no one in my family was part of the devastation and the genocide perpetrated by the Nazis. Both sets of grandparents arrived in the States in the late 1800s and early 1900s. I do remember that when we were young, our parents never spoke of bad things, I remember hearing conversations about “the big C.” Our tender ears were never to hear anything that might be upsetting to our tender minds.

Then later in life, when I became more involved in Temple and in the Jewish Community Center, I finally really became aware of that terrible time for the Jews in Europe. Then, Bill Vegh began speaking at schools regarding his experiences as a survivor. Looking back, I do remember hearing that Dr. Kurt Wegner was a survivor. At one time he showed us the tattoo on his arm, though he never really talked about it. Bill was the real turning point for us. He brought home the whole scenario. I know that everywhere he spoke he made friends and admirers and an interest in learning more about that time.

Jesse McClain has been so instrumental in bringing more of this information to the public. I credit Jesse with what is happening now with more people ready to tell their stories. Henry Kinast is a case in point, with the video he has made, and now his story is being told more often. For years, people were afraid or were just unable to talk about their horrific experiences during the Holocaust. It is important that these survivors talk about what they went through in order for it not to happen again, at least that is what we pray.

We need more survivors to come forward to tell their stories. They are all different and will keep alive a terrible time in history that people are trying to bury. I know there are others who will share what was happening during the Second World War when Hitler was trying to create his idea of the Master Race. Bonnie Deutsch Burdman, JCRC Director, has been instrumental in getting these stories to the schools. Between Bonnie and Jesse, I know that the words of Bill Vegh and Henry Kinast will not be lost, but given to the world so that we all can say “Never Again.”
A gut, gezunt, gebentsht yor!
Wishes for a good, healthy, blessed year.

By Rabbi Joseph P. Schonberger, Temple El Emeth

There was a time when most Jews and in some cities even most non-Jews understood those words. These days, Jewish words still bring many Jews a sense of reassurance, in spite of growing anti-Semitism.

Why do such words convey powerful influences?
I believe Jewish words and actions, as Mitzvot, still carry transformative power. For some they are associated with loved ones, family and friends who were powerful forces inculcating appreciation of Jewish life. Sometimes it took the passage of time and life experience to realize the profundity of wisdom and insight such relatives left with us as a legacy.

Let’s consider mothers and bubbes who lit candles every Friday night; family who took younger members and friends to Shabbat services; sharing Purim nishtikhe; Passover over food and fun with family and friends; special Kiddushes and at the end of Shabbat Havdalah; food to dream about every holiday and Shabbat; emptying pockets of change to fill the Tzedakah box at least weekly. Do you have memories of special Jewish people and experiences associated with them?

For Yom Kippur Kol Nidrei, most people used to go to the Synagogue early with money for Tzedakah. It was traditionally a time to donate to worthy causes with Tzedakah boxes prearranged in the Synagogue. Going early also provided indispensable opportunities to make amends to the best of human ability with everyone with whom there were differences or issues that needed some resolution or thoughtful attention. Yom Kippur began with serious personal commitments that made the values we pray about tangible components of active life.

When multiple generations lived near each other, or even in the same home, role models were real people who provided the best examples of success and healthy adjustment in life.

Role models were not the artificial personalities of Hollywood and sports whose images often have no relation to real character and standards.

We looked up to real people who provided ongoing daily examples of the meaning of life with perseverance and integrity. Those role models ranging from secular to religious applied the biblical dictum: Kedoshim tehiyu, ki kadosh ani Adonai Eloheichem — You shall be holy, for I, Adonai your God, am holy. Holiness was felt by Jews being together on Shabbat and Holidays, eating together on Pesach and caring about each other even with personal religious differences.

Our Sages taught: לאו אמת הולך דע מתי孀ת Da Me’ayin bata ul’ta holech – Know from whence you came and where you are going.

Gain strength from remembering “where we came from” with the influences, sacrifices and teachings our loved ones sought to impart to us. Set our internal moral and spiritual GPS to help fashion the kind of world our patriarchs and matriarchs wanted us to have.

This 21st Century brings us many changes that strongly challenge everyone regarding the kind of world we want. What kind of world do we want for our children? What our Zaydes and Bubbes did for us now rests upon our shoulders.

Like them, I implore everyone to find moorings and guidelines in our sacred and cherished texts and traditions. They have proven themselves for millenia. Politics and politicians come and go, but Torah, humanity and extended family motivated by the universal laws of Torah help move humanity forward.

Instead of arguments and debates tai-glach, stuffed cabbage, paprikash, challah, cholent and other Jewish comfort foods originating from wherever Jews lived, can reinvigorate life.

Rosh HaShanah challah is usually round to emphasize that life is cyclical. We can never recoup time spent, but we can make the rest of our time count. Rosh HaShanah challah also contains raisins as both encouragement and a prayer for a sweet year.

Whatever our age and our place in life’s journey, the Sacred Days of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur urge our healthy adjustment and mutual support. It is in a sense, a Holy human pitstop, to maximize our journey here. So consider “from whence you came” and do the best to render where we are going better for us and those with whom we share our lives.

With love for those we miss and for those with whom we embrace life, let’s cultivate life to the best of our abilities so that we can say with full hearts: A gut, gezunt, gebentsht yor! Wishes for a good, healthy, blessed year 5777.

El Emeth Sisterhood

El Emeth Sisterhood Board has been given a big boost by a lovely get-together called by Co-Presidents, Debbi Grinstein and Paula Ferguson. It was a good opportunity for all of us to learn more about each other and what we do for Sisterhood.

Sisterhood’s opening meeting will be Sept. 13, Liberty Police Chief Richard Tisone will speak on preventing identity theft and fraud.

The board meeting will be at 10:45 a.m. with the lunch at noon. The cost will be $12 for members and reservations are a must no later than Friday Sept. 9.

Those who are interested in giving a donation to Sisterhood in honor or in memory of someone may choose the Children’s Nachas fund that helps give kids treats on Simchas Torah and other holidays and also helps to keep up the game room for children that Elyse Silberman has started.

Our goal at mvi HospiceCare is to ensure quality of life to those facing life-limiting illness

Pain & Symptom Management • Volunteers • Skilled Nursing • Social Services • Spiritual Support

mvi HospiceCare

Youngstown Regional Office
4891 Belmont Ave
Youngstown, Ohio 44505
330-759-9487 • 888-449-4(mvi)

Columbiana Regional Office
2350 E. State St., Suite H
Salem, Ohio 44460
330-332-1272 • 866-849-4(mvi)

www.mvihomecare.com
On El Emeth's calendar

St. John's Soup Kitchen
Sunday, Sept. 4
Volunteers from El Emeth will prepare and serve lunch at the St. John's Soup Kitchen on Wick Ave. Those who would like to help please contact the office at 330-759-1429.

Women's Rosh Chodesh
Tuesday, Sept. 6
Join the women of El Emeth from 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. for a brunch and study session on the new month of Elul. Carol Gottesman will share an interesting and thought provoking presentation. R.S.V.P. to the office by Sept. 2.

Shabbat Service And Kiddush luncheon
Sept. 17
Services begin at 9:30 a.m. with a Kiddush luncheon following at noon. September birthdays will be celebrated. R.S.V.P. for lunch by Sept. 15.

Shmoozing With Shmulik
Monday, Sept. 26
Join Sam Kooperman and friends in the Chapel at 10:30 a.m. for some fun in Yiddish. Coffee and pastry are provided. Everyone is welcome to attend.

High Holiday babysitting
Babysitting will once again be available in El Emeth's fully toy-stocked babysitting room the first and second days of Rosh Hashanah morning, and on Yom Kippur. Fees are $6 for the first child and $3 for each additional child per family, per day. Paid reservations are appreciated for planning purposes.

Erev Rosh Hashanah
Service and Dinner
Sunday, Oct. 2
Join El Emeth for an Erev Rosh Hashanah musical service on Oct. 2 at 6:15 p.m. Dr. Randy Goldberg, Daniel Shapiro, and Joseph Kronholz will accompany Cantor Summer Greenwal-Gonella during the service. Then stay for a catered traditional holiday dinner beginning at 7 p.m. Reservation forms are in the Temple Bulletin or can be found in the Temple office.

Rosh Hashanah Children's Program
Monday, Oct. 3
Children ages 5 to 11 are invited to a special program from 10:45 a.m. until noon in the board room. Yougesters will enjoy a Rosh Hashanah Seder, a Tashlich service, crafts and games. A snack will also be provided. R.S.V.P. to the office so the Temple can plan for children and grandchildren.

Jewish Christian Dialogue
The Dialogues first session of the year takes place on Wednesday, Nov. 9. This year’s theme will be “Our most important values and connection to Sinai.” More information to follow.

Daily Minyans
5:45 p.m. including Saturdays. Shabbat morning services begin at 9:30 a.m. in the Chapel.

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Temple El Emeth Schedule for the High Holidays

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Erev Rosh Hashanah-Yom Kippur</td>
<td>Saturday, Sept. 24</td>
<td>Morning Service 9:30 a.m.</td>
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<td>No 5:45 p.m.  minyan</td>
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<td>Community Wide Selichot at El Emeth</td>
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<td>Mincha, Ma’ariv &amp; Havdallah 7:20 p.m.</td>
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<td>Refreshments 8:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Selichot Service 8:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rosh Hashanah</td>
<td>Erev Rosh Hashanah, Sunday, Oct. 2</td>
<td>Morning Service 8:30 a.m.</td>
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<td>Children’s Program 10:45 a.m.</td>
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<td>Tashlich at Rabbi Sconberger's 4:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Evening Services 5:45 p.m.</td>
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<td>Candle Lighting 7:43 p.m.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>First Day, Monday, Oct. 3</td>
<td>Morning Service 8:30 a.m.</td>
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<td>Children’s Program 10:45 a.m.</td>
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<td>Evening Service 5:45 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shabbat Shuvah</td>
<td>Saturday, Oct. 8</td>
<td>Friday Evening Candle Lighting 6:35 p.m.</td>
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<td>Morning Service 9:30 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sukkot Second Day, Tuesday, Oct. 18</td>
<td>Morning Service 9:30 a.m.</td>
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<td>Evening Service 5:45 p.m.</td>
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<td>Chol HaMoed Sukkot: Wednesday – Saturday</td>
<td>Morning Service 9:30 a.m.</td>
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<td>Evening Service 5:45 p.m.</td>
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<td>Sunday, Oct. 22</td>
<td>Morning Service 9:30 a.m.</td>
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<td>Kiddush Luncheon following services</td>
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<td>Evening Service 5:45 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hoshana Rabba</td>
<td>Sunday, Oct. 23</td>
<td>Morning Service 9:30 a.m.</td>
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<td>Yizkor 11:15 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shmini Atzeret</td>
<td>Monday, Oct. 24</td>
<td>Morning Service 9:30 a.m.</td>
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Simchat Torah
All adults and children are called to the Torah culminating in the special celebration and services. There will be music and dancing with Klezmer musicians Steven Greenman and Walt Mahovlich. Refreshments following

Erev Simchat Torah
Monday, Oct. 24
Mincha, Maariv 6:45 p.m.
Torah Parade 7:00 p.m.
Candle Lighting 7:11 p.m.

Shabbat Shdrat
Mincha 9:30 a.m.
Neila 11:15 a.m.
Maariv 7:15 p.m.
Blessing of the Children 7:25 p.m.
Shofar Sounds 7:40 p.m.
Temple breaks the fast — refreshments

Sukkot
Temple Family Sukkah decorating and pizza lunch
Sunday, Oct. 16
Morning Service 9:30 a.m.
Erev Sukkot Service, Sunday Oct. 16
Evening Service 5:45 p.m.
Candle Lighting 6:21 p.m.

Sukkot First Day, Monday Oct. 17
Morning Service 9:30 a.m.
Evening Service 5:45 p.m.
Candle Lighting 7:21 p.m.
umph. Don’t miss this classic movie! Price includes movie and light lunch.

**AL JOLSON—The Jazz Singer**

$10 after Sept. 12

**Movie and Lunch Bunch Brooklyn**

Based on the best-selling novel, “Brooklyn” is a warm and wonderful story about falling in love and finding your way home. Oscar Nominee Saoirse Ronan lights up the screen as Ellis Lacey, a young Irish immigrant navigating through 1950s Brooklyn. Although her initial homesickness soon gives way to romance, when Ellis’s life is disrupted by news from her hometown, she is forced to choose between two countries and two men on opposite sides of the world. Price includes movie and light lunch.

**Date:** Wednesday, Oct. 19  
**Time:** Noon–2:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Multi-Purpose Room  
**$5/Member $7/Non Member**  
**$10 after Oct. 14**

**Book Review with Alyce Gross**

Please welcome us in bringing former resident and author Alyce Gross back to Youngstown. Alyce will speak about her latest book Widow-Wise. Widow-Wise is a series of stories that begins with three nice Jewish girls as freshmen, sharing a dormitory room on the campus of The Ohio State University in 1956. Fifty-three years later, they sat together and shared the stories of their lives. Widow-Wise is vivid and full of promise as the author poses thoughts and observations about men and women with savvy insight into today’s world. Price includes lecture and lunch.

**Date:** Thursday, Oct. 6  
**Time:** Noon–1:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Multi-Purpose Room  
**$8/Member $10/Non Member**  
**$12 after Sept. 30**

**Sip and Paint**

“You are a sip away from a Masterpiece!” Once you walk in the door the party will begin. An easel, paint, canvas, aprons, snacks, wine and an instructor will be provided. No experience is required. Our local experienced and enthusiastic artist will give easy step-by-step instructions for everyone to follow. You’ll leave with a one-of-a-kind piece of art ready to display. Price includes art supplies, wine, cheese and snacks.

**Date:** Thursday, Nov. 3  
**Time:** 5:30–8:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Multi-Purpose Room  
**$30/Member $35/Non Member**

**SHLICHIM**

For more on Shlichim programming, or to make reservations for any of the programs, contact Gon Erez: 330-746-3250 ext. 195 or gerez@jewishyoungstown.org

**A Taste of Israel — An in-home cooking lesson**

Want to learn how to make traditional Israeli food in your own home? Gon and Shay, our Israeli Shlichim will teach you how to make a delicious Israeli meal in your own kitchen. They will provide all the ingredients needed and even wash the dishes!

**Cost:** $15 per person

Minimum number of participants: 4 Adults

**Lunch & Learn**

**The Western Wall**

The holiest place for Jewish people to pray has changed many times over the last century. Israeli Shlichim Gon and Shay Erez will talk about the history of Jerusalem and the complexity of the Western Wall as it relates to Jewish and Israeli society. They’ll also discuss the recent change in law for men and women praying at the Wall.

**Date:** Friday, Sept. 30  
**Time:** 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Multi-Purpose Room  
**The event is free and open to the public. Lunch will be served**

R.S.V.P. is required | Deadline is Sept. 23

**Israel-A Startup Nation**

Eran Arden, Co-founder and CEO of Israeli based startup-TIMOCCO will discuss Israel’s high-tech industry. The country has the highest number of entrepreneurs per capita, second only to the Silicon Valley and is home to global research and development centers such as Google, Apple and IBM.

**Date:** Thursday, Oct. 27  
**Time:** 6:00-Dinner | 6:30-Lecture
Walt Disney World, and more

well as nationwide performances in New York City,

over two semesters with opportunities for local as

and dance both privately and in a group atmosphere

for ages 10-21. Studio students study voice, drama

and composer. He graduated

from the “Thelma Yellin” High School of the Arts in

Israel, majoring in theatre. Immediately after gradu-

ation, he was chosen to perform the role of “Rolf” in

the production of “The Sound of Music.” His per-

formance, “The Great Israeli-American Songbook” is a collection of new arrangements of classic songs

from the Holy Land and original music.

Date: Thursday, Nov. 10,

Time: 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Location: Multi-Purpose Room

Wine and refreshments will be served

R.S.V.P. is required

Free until Nov. 3 | $5 at the door

Join us for a wonderful perfor-

mance by Gon Halevi, Israeli singer, pianist, actor

and composer. He graduated

from the “Thelma Yellin” High School of the Arts in

Israel, majoring in theatre. Immediately after gradu-

ation, he was chosen to perform the role of “Rolf” in

the production of “The Sound of Music.” His per-

formance, “The Great Israeli-American Songbook” is a collection of new arrangements of classic songs

from the Holy Land and original music.

For more information on Aquatics, contact Shawn Chrsyal, 330-746-3250 ext. 112 or

aquatics@jccyoungstown.org.

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. Recommended ages: 6-36 months. Swim pants or swim diapers are

required.

Date: Saturdays, 9:30-10:00 a.m.

$25/Member $40/Non Member

Learn-to-Swim ages 3 & up

Children will be placed into the appropriate level by the

swim instructors.

Level 1: Children are taught basic swimming skills

such as floating, blowing bubbles and the correct

body positions for freestyle and backstroke.

Level 2: Children are taught the arm motions for

freestyle and backstroke as well as the correct

breathing patterns for both strokes.

Level 3: Children are taught the basics of breast-

stroke, butterfly, and diving as well as refining free-

style and backstroke techniques.

Level 4/5: Children will continue to refine the four

swim strokes and diving.

Date: Saturdays, 8:50-9:30 a.m. or 10:00-10:35 am

$25/Member $40/Non Member

Private Swim Lessons

Private swim lessons provide the greatest flexibility

among lesson options. The one-on-one attention

provided through these lessons creates a personal-

ized setting for learning. Private lessons are great

for swimmers of any age from the rookie swimmer

trying to learn the basics to the seasoned swimmer

looking to improve their skills. Private lessons are

great for adults who want to learn-to-swim or even

triahtletes looking to improve their skills.

1:1 student/teacher ratio

4 lessons @ 30 minutes

$99/Member $110/Non Member

F.Y.I-Family and Youth Initiative

At the JCC we believe in providing a quality, family

friendly environment. We strive to make the pool

one of the many places within our facility that is es-

pecially welcoming to families and children. Every

month we will be hosting an event at the pool that

is specifically targeted towards families and youth.

We hope to see everyone there.

Sept. 23

Dive-In Movie

Kung Fu Panda 3

4:00-6:00 p.m.
Rodef Sisterhood anticipates new year

I hope all of you had a wonderful and restful summer filled with relaxation.

Mazel tov! We are so happy you have joined us.

Let me offer a warm and audacious welcome from Sisterhood to our new members who are joining our sisterhood for the first time. The concept of “audacious hospitality” is not new; it goes all the way back to the Torah. Welcoming visitors, feeding them, making them feel at home. Each one of us has this opportunity to reach out to women in our own community. That one invitation “Come join with me at a sisterhood gathering” can change a life.

To all women in my community, this is your invitation. Come in. Come in. We will be stronger together and will go from strength to strength. The strength of our Sisterhood is dependent upon all of us reaching out to one another.

Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are right around the corner. Erev holiday dinners will be here at Congregation Rodef Sholom. Rosh Hashanah is Sunday, Oct. 2, at 6 p.m. and Yom Kippur is Tuesday, Oct. 11 at 6 p.m. Catering by Art Einzig of “Fire Grill” in Girard, OH. Erev- Holidays begin at sundown on the evening before the date specified.

Rosh Hashanah — literally “the head (of) the year” is the Jewish New Year. The biblical name for this holiday is Yom Teruah, literally “day (of) shouting/blasting.” Translated as the Feast of Trumpets.

Observations:

Sounding of the shofar (ram’s horn trumpet).

Customs:

Dipping apples in honey; wishes for a sweet year. Casting off “sins” into a river.

Greeting:

L’shanah tovah! (For a good year!) Rosh Hashanah is a time to begin introspection, looking back at the mistakes of the past and making changes in the new year. This holiday is a Day of Judgement, making amends for sins and seeking forgiveness. This holiday includes many elements of joy and celebration, but we must always remember it is a deeply religious occasion. The sounds of the shofar and all of the meaningful prayers remind us of all the things we cannot control, but remembering we can control our own conduct.

Wishing everyone L’shanah tovah! For a Good Year. May you be inscribed and sealed for a good year. May the New Year find you and your family healthy, happy and at peace!

Save The Dates

Sisterhood 12th Annual Card Party
Thursday, Sept. 1
Congregation Rodef Sholom Strouss Hall at 11:30 a.m.
Cost: $15 per person (includes luncheon)
Payment for the event will be accepted at the door

Regular Sisterhood meeting
Sunday, Sept. 18, 10 a.m.
Jewish Community Center Adult Lounge
R.S.V.P. Temple Office (330) 744-5001

Cake Fundraiser:
Sisterhood is having a fundraiser to help everyone get ready for the holidays. We are baking apple nut bundt cakes (can be available without nuts). Pre-orders and payment due at the Temple by Tuesday, Sept. 20. Cost will be $10 each. Orders can be picked up on Sept. 28 at the Temple Office. We are offering home delivery with a surcharge $3.00.
Respond to the call for help in baking for Rosh Hashanah.
I look forward to seeing everyone at our next event.
Yours in Sisterhood,
Sally Blau, President

Upcoming events at Congregation Rodef Sholom

September is a busy month at Congregation Rodef Sholom as we inch closer to the High Holidays and continue our official Sesquicentennial 150th year of celebration.

The Speaker Series continues on Friday, Sept. 9, at 6 p.m., in the Sanctuary, with Sam Salkin speaking on “Yenem Velt: Small-town Life in Western Pennsylvania and Connections to Youngstown, Ohio.” Born and raised in Greenville, PA, Mr. Salkin became a Bar Mitzvah at Temple Beth Israel in Sharon, PA.

A graduate of Cornell University, he has vast experience in both the business world and as a manager/leader in non-profit organizations. He is currently the executive director of Sinai Memorial Chapel Chevra Kadisha, a non-profit organization serving the Jewish communities of Northern California. He also serves on the boards of the Jewish Religious Equality Coalition and the Jewish Film Institute.

The 150th Anniversary Celebration speaker on Friday, Sept. 16, at 6 p.m., in the Sanctuary, will be Rabbi Jonathan Kendall, whose topic will be “The Precious Legacy of This Temple.” Rabbi Kendall has a unique understanding of Congregation Rodef Sholom because his grandmother was the rebbetzin and his grandfather, Rabbi I. E. Philo, was the spiritual leader of the congregation for 30 years, from 1912 to 1942.

Rabbi Kendall has served congregations in both California and Florida. As a champion of Zionist causes and progressive ideals, he has served as chair of the West Coast Rabbinic Cabinet of the United Jewish Appeal and as Rabbi-in-Residence for more than a dozen missions to Poland and Israel for young Jewish professionals.

Rabbi Kendall has authored three books and wrote bi-weekly columns for the Scripps Howard Newspapers. As a Rabbi Emeritus, he has been active in the political world, campaigning with Michelle Obama and Debbie Wasserman Schultz, and serving as a delegate to the DNC in 2012. He currently is

(Continued on p. 18)
Rodef Sholom group discovers Israel on special trip

By Rabbi Franklin Muller

The famous Greek philosopher Heraclitus once said, “You can’t step into the same river twice,” meaning that every experience we have, even ones that are repeated, are never exactly the same. Nothing truer could be said about taking a trip to Israel. In the last dozen years, Darlene and I have led four groups of congregants on trips to Israel, and each experience has been totally different, despite seeing many of the same historical sites. Our most recent excursion was an 11-day adventure in July, with a small but energetic group of 12 people, four of them first-timers.

Our itinerary included the port city of Old Yaffa, where the biblical Jonah set sail on his way to Tarshish some 3000 years ago. We visited Independence Hall in Tel Aviv and relived David Ben Gurion’s moving proclamation of the modern state of Israel on May 14, 1948. We saw the underground, pre-state bullet factory built by the Palmach under the noses of the British at the Ayalon Institute.

We drove north from Tel Aviv and toured the former detention camp known as Atlit, where the British held Holocaust refugees who tried to enter the country “illegally.” We went inside an actual immigration ship that had been made into a museum complete with a multimedia presentation about the heroic Jews who risked their lives to enter Palestine before it became the state of Israel, haven for persecuted Jews everywhere.

We walked through an underground Roman water system at Alona Park, glided down the Jordan River in a kayak, and took a fascinating agricultural biotour at Kibbutz Sde Elyahu, pioneer in organic farming.

We toured the ancient synagogues, courtyards and shops of the mystical city of Tzefat. From there we traveled to the Golan Heights to gaze down over the vulnerable Galilee region as the enemy Syrians once did.

On Erev Shabbat, instead of going to a local synagogue in Jerusalem, we went to the greatest outdoor synagogue in the world, namely, the Western Wall. Thousands of Jews poured into the large square to usher in the Sabbath with prayer, singing, and dancing. It was quite a sight to behold. On Shabbat we took a walking tour to the Tower of David Museum for a wonderful presentation on the history of Jerusalem and a stunning panoramic view of the city from its roof. This was followed by a walking tour of the Christian quarter of the Old City, including the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, to take in the city’s interreligious and multicultural character.

We explored the famous Kotel Tunnels, walking underground alongside the Western Wall’s massive foundation stones, and the Southern Wall excavations to learn more about the history of Jerusalem at the time of the second Temple. In the evening we saw a fabulous new sound and light show at the Tower of David called “The Night Spectacular.”

The next day we set out across the Judean desert and ascended Masada by cable car to tour the ruins of Herod’s palace, the last outpost of Jewish independence in the first century CE. Clearly

(Continued on page 24)
Maccabi Games unite teens from around the U.S., Canada, Israel

By Emily Collins
Youth and Family Program Coordinator

From July 24-29, more than 800 Jewish teens, ages 12 – 16 descended upon Columbus, OH for one of the largest organized sports programs for Jewish teens in the world.

Local Maccabi participants Sophie Alper, Abigail Scharf and Caroline Scharf, joined with Akron teens to form the Akron/Youngstown Delegation.

The games are for Jewish teens include soccer, basketball, tennis, swimming, volleyball, baseball, golf, table tennis, and star reporter — where kids act as journalists and report what’s happening at the games through video and writing.

All athletes stay with host families from the local community. The host family offers the athlete a “home away from home” and a unique way to experience the Games and all the Columbus Jewish community has to offer. In turn, host families experience the Games on a personal level, connecting with their friends and neighbors, and building a bond with their visiting athletes that extends well beyond the Closing Party.

The Akron/Youngstown team participated in the parade of athletes where each delegation was introduced while walking through the convention center with their delegation banner.

The games started with an elaborate opening ceremony at the Convention Center in Columbus. Delegations included teams from Akron, Youngstown, Atlanta, Bensonhurst, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Israel, Las Vegas, Louisville, Mexico, Nashville, Peninsula/Palo Alto, San Francisco, San Jose, Tucson, Los Angeles, Windsor and Winnipeg.

The parade was followed by a tribute to the 12 Jewish athletes who were killed at the 1972 Munich Olympics.

A Cirque de Soleil-style performance made especially for the Maccabi games by the company, Cirque Dreams, was next on the program. Finally, the ceremonial torch was lit to start the games.

All teens can play the sport they want whether or not their delegation has enough athletes to make up a full team. Athletes from the smaller delegations — such as Akron and Youngstown — are placed on a mixed team comprising athletes from different delegations to form one single team.

Sophie Alper played soccer with a team of girls from Windsor, Canada; Palo Alto, CA; Akron, and San Jose and San Francisco, in California.

Caroline Scharf played volleyball on a mixed team with girls from Las Vegas, San Jose, Palo Alto, and Winnipeg.

Abigail Scharf competed individually in swimming.

The games started Monday, July 25, taking place in various locations in the neighborhood including the Columbus JCC, and a local high school and local university that were both close by. Buses were available every 10 minutes at each venue, so the athletes and families could easily get from one place to another.

During the first two days, the teens did not play their specific sports for competition or medals. This way all the teens got to play and participate in their sport just for fun.

Starting Wednesday, the teams and athletes in individual sports like tennis and golf, were split up into seeds and started playing competitively in medal rounds. Sophie’s soccer team won the silver medal, but they fell just short of beating the Atlanta team.

Abigail Scharf won various gold, silver and bronze medals for different swimming heats.

Caroline’s volleyball team did not medal but they had fun playing together.

(Continued from p. 6)
Abigail Scharf with her swimming medals.

24th annual Kosher rib burn-off = family fun

Tired of Canfield Fair chazerei?
Supporters of the Gross Schechter Jewish Day School are offering an alternative — and it’s kosher, too.

Each year on Labor Day, the parking lot of the school at 27601 Fairmount Boulevard, Pepper Pike, is transformed into a dynamic fairground featuring delicious kosher foods, family-friendly attractions, festival games and activities, entertainment, vendors, and more.

The 24th Annual Kosher Rib Burn-Off presented by Pirhl, LLC promises to be bigger and better than ever. Friends of all ages are invited to this free event Monday, Sept. 5 from noon until 4 p.m.

Food prices range from $7 for a healthy serving of Kosher beef ribs, to $3 for wings. A variety of other food will be available — ears of corn, chicken burgers, water, and soft drinks.

Preparation of the ribs will take place at Gross Schechter Day School the week leading up to the event with Mashgiach Rabbi Aryeh Spero overseeing the process.

Proceeds from the raffle and the RBO will allow Gross Schechter Day School to offer financial assistance to any family requiring aid, subsidize tuition to keep tuition rates low for all families, as well as pay for technology and other resources that keep the school’s curriculum at the cutting edge of education.

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ish Prime Minister Binali Yildirim said last month. “There is no point in talking about these details now.”

But Turkey has long sought to reduce its energy dependence on Russia, from which it gets most of its natural gas. Turkey and Russia's falling-out over the Turkish downing of a Russian warplane in November likely provided additional motivation. Russia retaliated to that incident by canceling plans to build a gas pipeline through Turkey, though relations between the countries quickly improved.

“Both leaderships [Israel and Turkey] have put the gas as an important issue on the agenda. Turkey doesn’t like that it’s so dependent on Russia,” Lindenstrauss said. “There is an interest [in the pipeline for Israeli gas], but will it translate into reality? This I’m less certain of.”

Even without a pipeline, reconciliation should help promote trade between Israel and Turkey, which despite tensions more than doubled in the past six years to $5.6 billion.

**Cooperation against the chaos**

The Arab Spring of several years ago upended the Middle East and North Africa, leaving Turkey with few friends and Israel with ever-more unpredictable enemies. The states are better off confronting the myriad challenges of the region in collaboration than at cross purposes. Awareness of this fact likely helped drive reconciliation.

“There isn’t much reason to be optimistic about a settlement in Syria anytime soon,” the University of Haifa’s Kushner said. “In the meantime, Turkey does what she thinks is right for her, and we in Israel do what we think is right for us. But there is a common interest between Turkey and Israel to be able to coordinate things when we need to, which I think was a reason we got reconciled.”

Israel has seen some benefits from the Arab Spring. The threat from the Syrian army was eliminated, and Sunni Muslims proved more open to cooperation against the rise of the Islamic State and Iran.

But new potential threats have emerged, too. Hezbollah fighters, busy propping up Syrian President Bashar Assad for now, have become battle hardened, and the Shiite terrorist group has stockpiled some 120,000 missiles, compared to 7,000 some 10 years ago, according to Israel. No one knows what could emerge from the free-for-alls in Syria and the Sinai.

After initially seeming to benefit from the Arab Spring, Turkey soon began sustaining loss after loss. Former Turkish allies Assad and ex-Egyptian President Mohammed Morsi lost control of their respective countries. At least 2.7 million refugees are estimated to have poured into Turkey since the start of the Syrian civil war. And waves of Islamic State members and Kurdish terrorists have launched devastating attacks on Turkish soil.

Perhaps Turkey’s biggest worry is the growing power of Kurdish militias in Syria, which appears to have helped motivate Erdogan on Wednesday to send tanks, warplanes and special forces across the border.

A potential shared concern for Israel and Turkey is Iran’s growing regional clout, particularly in Syria, though Israel is focused on the south and Turkey the north.

“Israel doesn’t want Iran to have as much influence in Syria as it did before the civil war. Turkey doesn’t want Iran to dominate Syria and Iraq. This looks like basis for cooperation,” said Lindenstrauss.

Short of military collaboration — a hallmark of the Israel-Turkey relationship prior to the last decade — the two countries’ restored diplomatic relations should at least help them avoid miscalculations, which both sides have learned can quickly turn deadly and contentious in the Middle East.

**Events at Rodef Sholom**

(continued from p. 14)

**2016 High Holy Day Schedule**

**Congregation Rodef Sholom**

**Rosh Hashanah**

**Sunday, Oct. 2**

- Holiday Dinner 6:00 p.m.
- Evening Service 8:00 p.m.
- Reception 9:30 p.m.

**Monday, Oct. 3**

- Morning Service 10:00 a.m.
- Tashlich Service at Crandall Park 12:30 p.m.

**Children's Service**

**2:00 p.m.**

**Memorial Services**

**Sunday, Oct. 9**

- Rodef Sholom Cemetery Chapel 1:30 p.m.

- Beth Israel Cemetery, Hermitage, PA 3:00 p.m.

**Yom Kippur**

**Tuesday, Oct. 11**

- Holiday Dinner 6:00 p.m.
- Kol Nidre Service 8:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, Oct. 12**

- Morning Service 10:00 a.m.
- Study Session 12:30 p.m.
- Children's Service 2:00 p.m.
- Afternoon, Yizkor & Ne'ilah Services 3:00 p.m.
- Havdalah and Conclusion 5:45 p.m.
- Break-fast 6:00 p.m.

Babysitting will be available at the morning services for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. If you need babysitting, please call the Temple office at (330) 744-5001 to make your reservations by Monday, Sept 26,

**Break-fast**

Working with the Clinton Campaign.

A light supper will follow the service which is free to all members of the community.

Reservations are required for both of these events; please call the Temple office, 330-744-5001.

The Congregation Rodef Sholom annual Big Ticket Raffle will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 28, at 6 p.m. Sponsored by the Brotherhood, the evening will feature appetizers, wine, dinner, and music followed by the raffle ticket drawing:

- First Prize, $3000
- Second Prize, $2000
- Third Prize, $1000

Tickets are $100 per couple. Contact the Temple office for further information or to purchase tickets.

Join Rabbi Muller’s “Chai” Holiday Book Club.

This year’s selection is *Nine Essential Things I’ve Learned About Life* by Rabbi Harold Kushner. The book will serve as a basis for an interactive dialogue with the congregation on Rosh Hashanah morning and Yom Kippur afternoon. Copies of the book are available in the Temple office or at local book stores.
As I write this column in mid-August, I have been marveling for the last couple of weeks, along with countless billions of people worldwide, at the feats of the extraordinary athletes showcased in the Summer Olympics. These games are designed to display not only the supreme physical prowess and focus of the athletes but also the highest values of sportsmanship and cooperation. They are supposed to show us how unified we can be even as we compete, and perhaps prove that our world is not in such terrible shape after all.

Sadly, that has not happened consistently this year, particularly in the treatment of Israeli athletes by those of some Muslim countries. From the Lebanese team’s blocking the Israeli team boarding one of the Olympic buses to the snubbing of an Israeli judo winner by his losing Egyptian opponent, who refused at first to bow and then afterward to even shake his hand, as judo protocol demands, this anti-Israeli hatred has marred the purity of the competition.

So far, there have been no dire consequences for the offenders. It seems that harm, either verbal or physical, done to Israeli Jews is universally tolerated. These incidents, sadly, revive memories of the tragic murder of 11 Israeli athletes and one West German policeman by Palestinian terrorists at the 1972 Summer Olympics in Munich. While the “Rio Snubbing” cannot be compared to the Munich Massacre, we can nevertheless wonder how little the universal view of Israel has improved in the past 44 years.

**Attacks**

This summer has also seen unconscionable attacks on Israel in the list of demands comprising the Black Lives Matter platform, using the words apartheid and genocide against her (neither of which even remotely apply, especially in light of the daily abuses that minorities suffer in a large number of other countries across the globe).

What makes this even more tragic is that the majority of Jews endorses the movement’s basic goals and has supported its efforts in every way imaginable, but now sadly question that support.

I’m not advocating that we hold a huge pity party and dwell complacently in the role of the world’s eternal victim – we are hardly the people in the most precarious position in today’s dangerous world. Rather, I believe that this hostility is an invitation to show ourselves and the world who we really are. If others do not (or more accurately, will not) understand us, then at least we have done all that we can to take the high road.

Yet how do we prove our mettle? Despite everything, we must live and act according to the wisest teachings, the most elevated values, and the noblest ideals that our civilization has to offer. We must live according to the demands dictated by the prophet Micah in the haftarah that we read only a few weeks ago: to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk modestly with G-d.

**Choosing patience**

This is not easy to do even in the best of times, but when under attack, it is particularly challenging. It is, however, what is required. When we eschew anger and choose patience, we are doing G-d’s will. When we seek understanding rather than give in to righteous indignation, we actualize our desire for peace.

It is not only as a community that we need to do this work; as individuals, we must try to live more honestly, loyally, and compassionately. One way to do this is through the study of mussar, a discipline that helps us explore and improve our most basic, personal middot (spiritual traits or characteristics). Many paths, of course, are available to lead us to become better people; consciously seeking self-improvement is not selfish because it helps us to better bear the burden of the other.

**Turning toward**

When we turn toward our ancient yet-new teachings, when we observe our holidays as a unified community, and when we take every opportunity to support each other in sad times as well as to celebrate with each other in the best times, we strengthen our Jewish community and help to ensure its existence long into the future.

Let us all try this year, as we enter this season of self-examination and spiritual housecleaning, to train ourselves and our team — our larger Jewish community — to go for the “gold,” as our Torah and tradition demand of us. We “medal” when we thus show our mettle. L’shaana tova tikatevu — may you and yours be inscribed for good!
University of Haifa study

Sea temperature and lunar cycle predict jellyfish arrival in Israel

When should we most beware of jellyfish? Large swarms of these jellyfish reach the coast when the sea temperature ranges between 28.2 and 30 degrees Celsius and during the full moon, according to a new study from the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Management at the University of Haifa.

The study reveals, for the first time, the link between sea temperature and the lunar cycle and the arrival of swarms of jellyfish along the coast of Israel. “It is possible that individual jellyfish will also reach the coast during other conditions, but we discovered that the most significant swarms arrive under the above conditions, the proof being that in such periods the number of blockages of the Electricity Company’s cooling facilities due to Jellyfish s have been incomparably greater than during other periods of the year,” said Avi Algazi, who works in the system management unit of the Israel Electric Corporation (IEC) and who conducted the research.

Although jellyfish have become frequent guests along the shores of Israel – as well as elsewhere throughout the world – and despite their obvious and immediate impact on humans – because swarms of jellyfish can cause an abandoning of public beaches until they disappear – until now researchers didn’t know for sure what factors cause the massive arrival of swarms of jellyfish s one summer while during another summer the quantity can be far less.

Algazi conducted the present study under the guidance of Prof. Abraham Haim, acting head of the Leon H. Charney School of Marine Sciences and professor emeritus at the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental management, Dr. Keren Or-Chen of the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental management, and Dr. Anat Geffen Glazer from the IEC.

For his study, Algazi sought to examine a link between the arrival of Jellyfish swarms, as determined by operational events that have occurred at the Eshkol Power Station in Ashdod, and environmental factors such as wind direction and speed, seawater temperature and the like.

The results showed that while the wind was not related to the appearance of giant swarms, 94 percent of the arrival of jellyfish swarms occurred after the middle of the year (approximately 176 days from the beginning of the year), during the second and third weeks of the Hebrew month — when the moon ranges between being almost full to full, and when sea water temperature ranges between 28.2 to 30.0 degrees Celsius.

According to Algazi, jellyfish also appeared when the moon was in other stages, or when the sea temperature was different from range cited above. But such occurrences were infrequent, and were usually characterized by a small number of Jellyfish.

The research also revealed that though the blockage of the cooling system filters led to only a small decline in the generation of electricity, they did constitute a significant part of the cooling system’s operational costs.

“The high cost is due to a number of factors: one is that the Jellyfish swarms arrive during June and July when demand for electricity is high. Throughout those months, due to the high temperature of the sea, both available pumps are operated to achieve maximum use of the production unit. In addition, jellyfish, unlike other large objects that get sucked into the cooling system, are not controllable. Thus some block the moving filter after penetrating it, and prevent seawater from being pumped in. This causes the cooling pump to stop immediately,” he explained.

The five power stations of the IEC located along the coast of the Mediterranean Sea use seawater to cool the steam condensers which turn gaseous steam back to liquid water for reuse in the production of electricity. The role of the condensers is very significant in the production of electricity, as is the continuous cooling of water.

(Continued on p. 22)
The Jewish Community Relations Council's 25th annual High Holiday Food Drive to benefit the Second Harvest Food Bank of the Mahoning Valley will be held from Thursday, Sept. 29 through Wednesday, Oct. 26. Once again, all members of the Jewish Community have been asked to donate items to the food bank by bringing non-perishable foods and toiletry items to area synagogues, Akiva Academy, or the Jewish Community Center.

All Jewish families are urged to bring one or more grocery bags full of food to any of the drop-off sites listed above. A detailed listing of needed items and drop-off sites was included in a flyer sent to all households.

According to Bonnie Deutsch Burdman, director of Community Relations/Government Affairs for the Jewish Federation, the Jewish High Holy Days provides the Jewish community with the perfect opportunity to think about the challenges many face in the Valley and to devote attention to transforming the region for the better.

Ms. Burdman said, “This is our opportunity to reflect upon the past year, with an eye toward making meaningful changes as we contemplate our futures. Our reflection may be inwardly focused as individuals, but also as a greater community where we can engage in tikkun olam, and tzedakah, Jewish obligations to repair the world and help those in need,” she said.

The Second Harvest Food Bank is a private charity serving as a redistribution center for donated food and related items to more than 100 pantries, meal sites, and institutions in the tri-county area.

Since its inception in 1983, the food bank has distributed millions of pounds of donated food, and believes that no one should go hungry, and that the local community is one where good food is accessible to all. More than 30,000 people are fed monthly through the agencies supported by the food bank and its partners.

For further information, contact Bonnie Deutsch Burdman at the JCRC at (330) 746-3251 or at 330-770-8702 (mobile).

All donations benefit the Second Harvest Food Bank of the Mahoning Valley.

Thursday, September 29 through Wednesday, October 26

For further information, call the Jewish Community Relations Council at (330) 746.3250, Ext. 108.

Understanding Israel’s jellyfish migration (Continued from preceding page)

Cooling water originating in the sea held in a storage pool (an artificial pond connected to the sea through a narrow channel) which is protected by a breakwater and from there is pumped through the entrance channel to the condenser. Inside the entrance channel are three levels of filtration in order to prevent the penetration of foreign bodies into the condensers, which is where Jellyfish are also captured,” concluded Algazi.
Federation Fellows (continued from page 5)

Working in groups, Federation Fellows discuss the best future for the Jewish community. Pictured (from left to right) are Laura Silverman, Dr. Randy Goldberg, Lisa Long, Katie Kinast, and David Wilschek.

Fellows (from left) Jared Kirby, Megan Vickers, Atty. Aaron Hively, and Ian Anderson work together to address the specific problems faced by the local Jewish community.

Welcome to the world precious babies. Wishing you and your families much joy and happiness.

Hadassah Donor

Tri-County Hadassah Chapter United Giving (HUG) donor event will be held Tuesday, Sept. 20, at 11:30 a.m. at Congregation Rodef Sholom.

Honorees will be the long-time donor co-chairs Marlene Epstein and Jeannette Mandel.

Author Eric Chevlen will present insights into his new book Triple Crown, the only triple heroic crown of sonnets ever written.


Bar Mitzvah (cont’d from p. 21)

Lopatin from the United States to officiate at the ceremony. The couple also had to arrange for a Torah scroll to be used in the service, as the one on hand was too aged and damaged to be considered fit according to religious laws.

“Many of these United Synagogue Youth brought it over in a golf bag in June, and it will be used by Prague’s Masorti community,” said Newberger about the Torah scroll. United Synagogue Youth is the youth group of the Conservative movement, and Masorti is the Conservative movement’s overseas arm.

More than 200 guests attended Alex Schapiro’s bar mitzvah ceremony, including some 150 who made the trip from the United States. The party – a non-themed one, his parents said – took place in the ambassador’s residence.

“Audacious Hospitality (from page 14)

of the Union for Reform Judaism: As part of the URJ’s 2020 vision, Audacious Hospitality is the focused effort to embrace our diversity and reach out to those currently not engaged in Jewish life. The URJ believes that everyone can feel at home in Jewish community – and that Judaism must meet people where they are today to thrive tomorrow. As a movement, we stand for a Judaism that is inclusive and open – we believe that there is more than one authentic way to be Jewish. Audacious Hospitality is a transformative spiritual practice rooted in the belief that we will be a stronger, more vibrant Jewish community when we fully welcome and incorporate the diversity that is the reality of modern Jewish life.
Denise Sandra Wilderman Altman

Denise Sandra Wilderman Altman passed away at home on the morning of Aug. 25.

Denise was born on June 6, 1950, in Philadelphia, to Max Wilderman and Frances Segall Wilderman.

She attended Philadelphia High School for Girls before graduating from Temple University in 1970, with a B.A. in Psychology.

On June 6, 1971, Denise married Neil H. Altman of Youngstown, whom she had met while attending Temple. After living and working in North Carolina for several years, the couple returned to Youngstown in 1978.

Denise was employed by Anzelotti, Sperling, Pazol, & Small as executive assistant to Atty. James Pazol, and served as the human resources director for the Jewish Community Center, before moving to Youngstown State University's Reading and Study Skills Center as the office manager.

Denise had a long history of community involvement in Youngstown. She was a life member of Hadassah and B’nai B’rith Women, coordinator of the BBW Christmas gift wrap booth, an originator of Youngstown’s Toy Lending Library, co-coordinator with her husband, Neil, of Operation Snowflake, an avid volunteer for Relay for Life for many years, a season-ticket holder at the Youngstown Playhouse, and an active member of Temple Rodef Sholom, where she served as a board member and executive board member. She was also a very proud member of the International Association of Administrative Professionals, Yo-Mah-O Chapter, through which she earned CAP (Certified Administrative Professional) certification in 2013.

In 1987, Denise and Neil became the happy parents of Max Adam Altman, the pride and joy of their lives. Their joy became twofold when Max married Katherine Steiner of Maumee in 2011.

Left to mourn her memory are her husband, Neil; her son, Max (Katherine); her brother, Lee (Helene) Wilderman; her sister, Joan (Alan) Non; nieces Melissa (Jon) Sherman, Amy Non (Jorge Roman), and Pauline Altman; nephews Matthew (Abby) Wilderman and Todd Wilderman; her brother-in-law, Steven Altman; her sister-in-law, Margaret Altman and Brenda (Dan) Tarr; Neil’s and her beloved cat, Shaney; and innumerable loved ones, family, and friends.

Calling hours were held at Temple Rodef Sholom on Sunday, Aug. 28, with the funeral service following. Burial was at Rodef Sholom Cemetery after the service.

The family would like to thank MV1 Hospice Care for their loving attention during her final days.

Arrangements by the Shriver-Alison-Courtley-Weller-King Funeral Home.

Fyvush Finkel

(JTA) — Fyvush Finkel, an Emmy Award-winning actor who began his career performing in the Yiddish theater, has died at 93.

Finkel, who played in the 1990s CBS drama series “Picket Fences” and Fox’s “Boston Public,” died Aug. 14 in his Manhattan home of heart failure. He was 93.

Born Philip Finkel Oct. 9, 1922, in Brooklyn, NY, he was the son of Jewish immigrants, a Polish father and Belarusian mother. He began acting as a child, working onstage in New York’s Yiddish theaters. But in high school, he considered breaking out of the business and began studying to become a furrier instead. The call of the stage proved too strong, however, and Finkel was back at it after he graduated, performing stand-up comedy on the Catskills’ borscht circuit as well as continuing his stage acting. He made the move to Broadway in the 1960s, appearing in “Fiddler on the Roof” and “Little Shop of Horrors.”

Finkel, who spent most of his early career on the Lower East Side of New York City performing in the Yiddish theater, was popular in his niche stage community when he broke into the mainstream in 1964 with the national production of “Fiddler on the Roof,” playing Mordcha the innkeeper.

In 1981 he took on the lead “Fiddler” role of Teyve the Milkman in a national touring production. Soon thereafter he landed a part in “Little Shop of Horrors” off-Broadway and won an Obie Award for his work in the New York Shakespeare Festival revival of “Cafe Crown.”

On the big screen, Finkel had a breakout performance in the 1990 Sidney Lumet pic “Q&A” as a corrupt attorney. He also appeared in “Brighton Beach Memoirs,” “For Love or Money” and “Nixon.”

In 2009 Finkel appeared in the opening scene of Academy Award best picture nominee “A Serious Man” playing a Tretile Groshkover, known as a “dybbuk” in Jewish lore — the wandering soul of a dead person that enters the body of a living person and controls his or her behavior.

Two years later he starred in Philip R. Garrett’s film “The Other Men in Black,” playing a grandfather who recounts stories of Hasidic life.

On television, Finkel played public defender Douglas Wambaugh in “Picket Fences,” for which he was twice Emmy nominated, winning in 1994. Elliot. He was preceded in death by his wife, Trudi Lieberman, in 2008 after a marriage that lasted more than 60 years.

Sonia Rykiel

(JTA) — Prominent French fashion designer Sonia Rykiel, who was known for her knitwear designs, died Thursday at 86.

Rykiel, dubbed the “Queen of Knitwear,” had been suffering from Parkinson’s disease since the late 1990s.

She was known for celebrating women’s bodies with knitted striped clothes that clung to the body.

Rykiel often broke unspoken fashion rules, such as by designing clothes for women of all ages rather than catering to a younger audience.

The Paris native was the daughter of a Jewish Polish mother and Romanian father.

She married Paris boutique owner Sam Rykiel in 1953. The couple had two children, Jean-Philippe and Nathalie, but divorced in 1968. Nathalie currently serves as the managing and artistic director of her mother’s fashion label.

“It is a sad day but Sonia Rykiel leaves behind her an extraordinary legacy,” said Jean-Marc Loubier, chairman and chief executive of First Heritage Brands, the parent company of Rykiel’s label.

The office of French President Francois Hollande said: “She had invented not only a style but an attitude, a way of life, and gave women freedom of movement.”
Let us help you make this New Year extra sweet!

Dodi Li BBG’s Annual Rosh Hashanah Basket Sale!!!!

Basket includes: Apples, Honey, Challah, Wine, Candles, Cinnamon Sticks and a special Recipe Card

Cost: $25 per basket for pickup at the JCC.

ALL pickups will be at the Jewish Community Center on Friday, Sept. 30 from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Limited delivery option available upon request for an extra $5 charge

All money raised will support our local B’nai Brith Girls chapter, Dodi Li BBG #69, and involvement in regional BBYO events!

Please fill out the order form below and return with your check by Friday, September 16

Name:__________________________________________
Phone: ____________________________
Email (for pickup reminder): _______________________
Number of baskets: _______
Amount enclosed: ____________
Donation? Yes______No______
Is this a gift? Yes______ No______
If yes, gift card to read: ________________________________
____________________________________________________
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Jewish Community Center
Attn: Emily Collins
505 Gypsy Lane, Youngstown, OH 44504

For more information, contact Emily Collins, City Director, at (330) 746-3251.

Marc Rubin elected president of YAJF Human Services Board

Marc Rubin

Marc Rubin was elected president of the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation’s Human Services Board on July 19.

Human Services includes Heritage Manor Jewish Home for the Aged, Levy Gardens, the YAJF’s assisted living, and Jewish Family Services.

Marc Rubin succeeds Attorney Robert G. Lev, who served as president of the board from 2013 to 2016. Other officers elected include Dr. Nancy Wagner, vice president, Dr. Mark Perlman, treasurer, and Dr. Lisa Weiss, secretary.

Mr. Rubin became involved with Heritage Manor in the late 1990s when he joined the board. He served in various capacities including the Heritage Manor Renovations Committee in 2007, and Levy Gardens in 2010. He has been an active member of the of the Human Services Board House Committee for a number of years.

Mr. Rubin was born in Boston, MA and came to Youngstown to attend Youngstown State University. He graduated in 1968 with a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering.

Currently the vice president of electrical engineering for Compass System and Sales or Barberton, OH, he is a member of the national and Ohio state societies of Professional Engineers, and past president of the Mahoning Valley Society of Professional Engineers and the Mahoning Valley Technical Society.

He serves on the board of Rodef Shalom Temple and is a past president of the temple. He has been married to Karen Rubin for 49 years and they have four children: Brigitt (Rob Berk), Jason, Judd (Adrienne), and Brady (Holly), along with 12 grandchildren.

Redef’s trip to Israel (continued from page 15)

a highlight of the trip was officiating at the Bar Mitzvah of Josh Newman with his family and our group. Relatives in the states witnessed the event through Skype on an iPad (3 a.m. their time). It was almost surreal, as though we were on the surface of the moon projecting images back to earth, like Neil Armstrong did nearly 50 years ago.

We then went down the mountain to swim in the Dead Sea, the lowest place on earth, at a local resort. It was quite hot, 115°F to be exact. The day concluded with a camel ride and a biblical dinner in “Abraham’s Tent.”

On our last day we took a guided tour of the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial and Museum including the incredibly powerful Children’s Memorial which is comprised of thousands of candles reflecting off the glass in the dark to represent the 1 million innocent lives of children that were brutally extinguished by the Nazis. We also saw the beautiful Chagall Windows at the Hadassah Hospital on the outskirts of Jerusalem.

We concluded our trip with a wonderful tasting tour in the colorful, bustling open-air market called Machaneh Yehudah.

All told, it was an unforgettable experience. For so many reasons, the memories will last a lifetime. I can’t think of a more fundamental experience that builds a sense of pride in, and one’s connection to, the Jewish people, the Jewish faith, and our historical past.

This wasn’t just a trip. It was a true pilgrimage. If you’ve never been to Israel, put it number one on your bucket list of places to visit. It is the homeland of every Jew.