Elliot Legow and Hilari Lipkin thanked all those involved for a great sesquicentennial year. Everyone is looking forward to another 150 years for Congregation Rodef Sholom. For more, see pages 5 and 15.

Lots to celebrate this month: Graduations, engagements, a wedding, a new baby, and more. Read all the good news on pages 16, 17, 20, and 21.

El Emeth Sisterhood’s Donor Luncheon on April 27. Shown in photo are left to right: Rabbi Joseph Schonberger, Co-President Paula Ferguson, honoree Bobbie Berkowitz, Co-President Debbi Grinstein, and Donor chairs Lori Szoke, Rochelle Miller, and Phyllis Perlman, Bobbie Berkowitz was honored for her many years of compiling Leagram books as a fundraiser for Sisterhood. According to records she has typed over 14,000 Leagrams over the years for Sisterhood members’ happy occasions. More El Emeth news on page 8.
Review: A History of Jewish Youngstown and the Steel Valley

By Thomas G. Welsh, Joshua Foster, and Gordon F. Morgan with the Mahoning Valley Historical Society

As a newcomer to the Mahoning Valley — only 25 years ago — and despite my involvement in Congregation Ohev Tzedek and The Jewish Journal, I had no idea the extent of the region’s Jewish history. This wonderfully researched and written book changed all that for me.

And what should make the book of historical value beyond Jewish interest in the region or in Ohio are the connections the authors establish between the late-19th century Jewish arrivals and the principal industrial and business concerns that were to drive growth in the Mahoning Valley until the collapse of the steel industry.

The authors conducted more than 30 interviews — transcripts and videos of which are on file at the Historical Society — and pored through the archives of the Public Library of Youngstown and Mahoning County, and Cincinnati’s Hebrew Union College — Jewish Institute of Religion. They consulted the staff of Mercer County Historical Society and the Warren-Trumbull Public Library’s Local History and Genealogy Center to emerge with a comprehensive history of the area’s Jewish community.

What is remarkable about this history — while it is certainly a detailed portrayal of the lives of the Jews who lived here — is its contextualization within world history, American history, and Ohio history.

Recognizing that Jews didn’t just wander into the Mahoning Valley, the authors address the seismic populations shifts occasioned by the American Civil War, the rampant anti-Semitism in — particularly — Eastern Europe, the Russian Revolution, the World Wars.

Thus, while Ohio’s first Jews tended to be more religiously liberal Germans, the more observant immigrants from Russia, Poland, and Hungary wanted the community to reflect their beliefs as well.

So the authors explain the expansion of the Youngstown, Warren, and western Pennsylvania Jewish communities through the lenses of those who wanted synagogues of their own, with people who spoke their languages, and lived much as they had in the old country notwithstanding their happiness to be in a new country.

The book is carefully illustrated with historical photos from important collections in the state and in the Valley, some of which emerged from the base-ments of those who helped the authors.

For local readers, understanding the development and construction of each of the synagogues and the development of the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation should fill the gaps between what they thought they knew and perhaps, what their parents or grandparents never told them.

The richness of the narrative brings to life the people who lived in the area and laid the foundation for what became a Jewish community that thrived long after its numbers diminished by more than three-quarters. It’s in the telling of these stories that readers can marvel at how a relatively tiny Jewish population sustains a model of service unknown in the rest of the country.

The book is extraordinarily well annotated, with a complete bibliography, and lists of the many publications and people who were consulted.

A History of Jewish Youngstown and the Steel Valley is available for purchase at the Mahoning Valley Historical Center at 325 W. Federal Street in Youngstown or from the publisher, The History Press, at www.historypress.net.

Happy Father’s Day

Dear Father, Daddy, Pops, Papa, Abba, Dad, etc.

Thank you for everything you did to raise us so that we could become the people we are today.

Whether you were stern or lenient, affectionate or reserved, intellectual or sports minded, cheerful or grumpy (especially when the Buckeyes, Cavs, Penguins, Indians, Browns, or ... did not live up to your expectations), or some combination of these traits, we

hope that we lived up to your hopes and dreams for us — and perhaps exceeded them.

With very much love,

Your Daughter
Your Son

World Jewish Congress President Lauder condemns Egypt attack

NEW YORK - World Jewish Congress President Ronald S. Lauder on Friday harshly condemned the deadly attack on a bus of Coptic Christians in Egypt, which claimed the lives of more than two dozen people, and called on Muslim leaders to speak out on their behalf and work together to curb sectarian violence.

"Jews around the world stand in solidarity with the embattled Coptic community in Egypt as it mourns at this difficult time, and our hearts and prayers are with the victims and their families.

"This is the third major terrorist attack against Christians in Egypt in recent months. It is another shocking and devastating reminder of the sectarian violence that has been ripping the Middle East apart. Islamist fanatics and terrorists are leaving an entire region in constant fear, robbing people of their lives or driving them from their homes.

"It is heartbreaking that Christians in the Middle East, living in peril and uncertainty, do not receive the international attention or concern they deserve.

"I urge Muslim leaders to speak on their behalf and do everything possible to protect them against this terror and curb the sectarian violence.

"Muslims around the world today are beginning to celebrate the holy month of Ramadan, a time of prayer and charity. I hope that this Ramadan will be a month of peace for Muslims and non-Muslims alike."
What’s in this month’s Jewish Journal?

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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.

June 15 is the deadline for articles and ads for the July 2017 issue.

Candle-Lighting Times

June 2   8:31 p.m.
June 9   8:36 p.m.
June 16  8:39 p.m.
June 23  8:41 p.m.
June 30  8:41 p.m.
Esther Marks Memorial Volunteer Service Award to Marlene Epstein

Her passion for her community moved her family to create the Esther Marks Volunteer Service Award, both to encourage others to follow in her footsteps, and to honor those who have done so.

Tikun Olam and Tzedakah, Jewish concepts of making the world a better place and righteous deeds, make up the character of Marlene Epstein. Today, we are pleased to honor Marlene.

Marlene’s roots are deep in the Sharon Jewish Community. Her mother was born in Europe, but arrived in Pennsylvania as a six-year-old and her dad was a native. She grew up observing her parents’ belonging to Jewish organizations. Yet, it was Eleanor Roosevelt whose wisdom said, “It is better to light one candle, than to curse the darkness,” which guided Marlene.

Marlene lit a lot of candles! Understanding that arts and culture have no boundaries, she along with Franz Bibo, conductor of the Youngstown Symphony Orchestra, founded the Children’s Concerts in the Shenango Valley Public Schools. She secured a Pennsylvania state grant to form the Shenango Valley Performing Arts Council (now the Shenango Valley Performing Arts Council), and was its first President.

She founded the “Summer Friends” Program for disadvantaged youth. She is a past president of the Shenango Valley Women’s Committee for the Blossom Family Endowment Committee of the YAJF.

(Continued on page 14)

Andi Baroff selected for Abe Harshman Leadership Award

Bruce Sherman presented the Abe Harshman Award for Community Service to Andi Baroff at the YAJF Annual Meeting on May 15.

This year’s recipient of the 2017 Abe Harshman leadership award is Andi Baroff. Andi received a Torah representing her service to the Jewish community and up to $1,000 to be used as a subsidy for a federation-related conference up to the end of the 2018.

If the subsidy is not used to attend a conference, the balance of the annual income of the Abe Harshman Leadership Endowment fund (5% of the principal balance as of January 1 annually) will be distributed to the annual campaign in memory of Abe Harshman.

Andi has been, and remains, involved in activities in both the Jewish and general community.

Andi has a true passion for service and ensuring the future of our community. She currently serves as a member of the Federation Board of Directors, was an active participant on the Federation’s Strategic Planning Task Force, holds a position on the Art Gallery Committee, is an asset to the Redecorating Committee, and a leader on the Thomas Family Endowment Committee of the YAJF.

Andi has also held roles for the Golf Outing, on the Fitness Committee, Aleph Bet Committee, was a member of the JCC Board for over 18 years, and was integral in planning the volunteer services during the Noah’s Park build. Andi is also a member and participates in Congregation Rodef Sholom’s sisterhood.

Beyond Jewish communal service, Andi is heavily involved in the greater community. She is a leader, and mentor on the YWCA Board, focusing on the Bright Future Program and Women’s Art Gallery Exhibit.

Andi is responsible for bringing the Fabric of Survival exhibit to Youngstown as a joint exhibition between the Federation and the Butler Art Gallery, and is also very engaged in the Rose Mary Flanagan Ovarian Cancer Foundation-planning community education and fundraising events.

When asked what keeps Andi motivated to give back to our community, she shared that she is motivated by “Giving back to our community as the people before her did when she was growing up.”

Andi shows that her dedication to our community continues to grow and adapt to needs that are presented.

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Spectacular Sesquicentennial

By Hilary Lipkin and Elliot Legow

What an amazing Sesquicentennial weekend. You could feel the energy buzzing around, the energy from days of yesteryear to the energy of today. You could begin to feel the anticipation of times yet to come. We as a congregation came together with the community to culminate an awesome year. You have all been a part of that and we thank you. Without our community, we would not be celebrating 150 years strong.

There were many people who went above and beyond to help make our year special and memorable.

Thank you to our editors, Marilyn and Stephen Sniderman. The number of hours spent on creating our history, the research and organization - thank you.

Kandy Rawl is an incredible woman. The festive Oneg meals were fabulous. They say the way to a man’s heart is through his stomach - your cooking was the way to our Jewish soul’s heart — thank you.

Tod Newman and Mike Rawl were there every minute of the day. Every time something was needed you could be counted on to help. You both are truly appreciated.

Marsha Levy’s love of history provided a monthly gift to our congregation. She researched and developed a poster for each speaker, allowing us a look into the past of these wonderful speakers.

Please be sure to stop by and see our living history museum. Zahava and her committee did a fantastic job providing us with a look into our past.

Our community is truly blessed with an amazingly creative artist. Thank you Jodi Nudell for designing our logo. Your work will continue to be a part of our soul.

(Continued on page 11)

Rodef’s 150th a joyous celebration

By Rabbi Frank Muller

Congregation Rodef Sholom

What a fantastic gala weekend it was celebrating the Temple’s sesquicentennial anniversary. May 12 marked 150 years, to the day, since Congregation Rodef Sholom’s humble beginnings in a modest room above Federal Street in downtown Youngstown.

Rabbi Rick Jacobs was a phenomenal speaker who inspired the congregation at the Friday evening Shabbat service, while Neshama Carlebach’s gorgeous melodies lifted us all to a higher plane of spirituality and connection to God. Jewish singer, songwriter and performer Mark Rossio entertained the children on Saturday morning, and Saturday evening capped our year-long celebration with a fabulous dinner and program, then a wonderful concert in the sanctuary by Neshama and her band, who rocked the house.

It was like a dream come true; everything went so beautifully. To-dah Rabbah and Yashir Koach to 150th co-chairs, Hilari Lipkin and Elliot Legow, for planning such an extraordinary weekend that will be fondly remembered for years to come. Besides our co-chairs, there are many people who put in a tremendous amount of time and energy in making our sesquicentennial the incredible success it was. They are being acknowledged and thanked in a separate column in this bulletin.

(Continued on page 11)

SPECTACULAR SESQUICENTENNIAL

DISTINGUISHED CELEBRATION

(Continued on page 11)

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April tourism to Israel breaks all-time record

(JNS.org) In April 2017, a record-breaking 349,000 tourists entered Israel, a 38-percent increase from April 2016 and the highest-ever figure for any month since Israel’s establishment in 1948.

Additionally, between January and April 2017, 1.1 million tourists entered the Jewish state, an increase of 26 percent from the same period in 2016 and 22 percent more than those months in 2015.

"When there is clear policy, we see results. Every month, we are witnessing exceptional statistics that illustrate the progress we are spearheading in the tourism industry and its tremendous contribution to the Israeli economy and workforce," Israeli Tourism Minister Yariv Levin said Tuesday.

"This important and exciting milestone is part of a positive trend that has been taking place over the last half year or more. I hope and believe that, with hard work, we will continue to reap the benefits of this investment," Levin added.

The significant rise in tourism to Israel comes despite higher costs for travelers, due to the substantial strengthening of the shekel currency in recent months. Incoming tourism during the first four months of the year accounted for an estimated 6 billion shekels ($1.7 billion) being infused into Israel’s economy.

Adam Hirsh new executive director of Kent State Hillel

Adam Hirsh has been appointed to the position of executive director of Hillel at Kent State University. Previously, Mr. Hirsh had served as assistant director since joining the organization in July 2014. His will assume his new position on June 1.

Kerry Chelm, Hillel board president, said “Adam has been a strong contributor to the success of Hillel at Kent State over the last three years, and we are excited to have him lead our professional team. He will have a deep impact on our students, professional staff and board leadership.”

Mr. Hirsh said he looks forward to meaningful work as he embarks on a new phase of his career. “Hillel has the duty and privilege of being a transformative organization in the lives of Jewish students on campus,” he said. “Working for Hillel at Kent State for the past three years has been an inspiring and defining part of my career in Northeast Ohio. I am ecstatic to continue working with our incredible staff, board, and student leaders to enrich the lives of Jewish students at Kent State University and the University of Akron.”

Prior to joining Hillel at Kent State, Mr. Hirsh spent five years at the Jewish Community Center of Youngstown, including three years as assistant director. A graduate of Leadership Mahoning Valley, he is also a member of the board of the Young Leadership Division of the Jewish Federation of Cleveland and is a Marcus Fellow at Bnai Jeshurun Congregation in Pepper Pike.

He graduated from Ohio University in 2009 and lives in Solon with his wife Erica and their daughter Lena.

Mr. Hirsh succeeds Harvey Sass who served as Interim Executive Director since August 2015.
Liberation to graduation to revelation

Rabbi Saul Oresky, Ohev Tzedek – Shaarei Torah

The beginning of June has always been a time of joy and anticipation, especially for school children, who, after Memorial Day, can practically taste the end of the school year. Certainly, for them, this is also often a time of trembling, as they take their year-end final exams. Even that fear is tempered with the knowledge that the freedom that only summer can bring is right around the corner.

June this year begins with the second day of Shavuot, known as the Feast of Weeks, because of its connection with Pesach, seven weeks earlier. Just as there is no graduation without first having attended school and completing the work requisite to making that happen, so too is there no true celebration of Shavuot without the experience of Pesach. The liberation brought on by the Exodus was only fully realized with the Revelation on Sinai, for that is what Shavuot commemorates, at least according to the rabbis of old.

It matters little whether we literally believe that Moses received the Torah from G-d directly on Mount Sinai some 3500 years ago; the fact is that now, however we received it, we have Torah.

It is Torah (defined broadly) that has enabled our survival through our attachment to, learning of, and love for it. I believe we are far more the Choosing People than the Chosen People; if we don’t personally choose to sign onto the Jewish people’s ongoing engagement with Torah, then our proud history and the struggles and accomplishments of our ancestors matter little.

Graduation from school is, of course, not a movement away, but rather a movement up — that is how “graduation” is defined. Liberation from Egypt enabled the Israelites to “graduate” from the rigors of slavery, but they were not simply set loose — they were then forever enrolled in the College of Perpetual Torah Study. From that school, G-d willing, may we never graduate!

Graduation, however, is not the only or perhaps even the most powerful of June images — there is also that of weddings, bringing their blossoming of brides, grooms, and any combination thereof. Here we find a parallel with Shavuot as well, for the Torah is described as the *ketubah* (marriage contract) between G-d and His/Her people. As we accept the Torah, we annually renew our vows with G-d. And, maybe not inconsequentially, the Hebrew word Shavuot can be defined not only as “weeks,” but also as “vows.”

This year, then, let us again renew our vows with G-d by re-engaging in the active, passionate study of Torah and thus reconnect to the proud saga of the Jewish people.

On Ohev Tzedek’s calendar

Potluck and Kabbalat Shabbat service

Join us for a potluck and Kabbalat Shabbat service at Boardman Park’s Chester Long Pavilion at 6 p.m. on Friday, June 16. Bring your favorite vegetarian/dairy dish to share. R.S.V.P. to the Ohev Tzedek office (330 758-2321) by June 9 to let us know what you will be bringing. All are welcome!

The June meeting of the women’s Rosh Chodesh group will be held at Phyllis Oresky’s house at 6 p.m. on Sunday, June 25. R.S.V.P. to the Ohev Tzedek office (330 758-2321 by Thursday, June 22, if you plan to attend.

Services

Morning Minyan services are held each Thursday at 7:30 a.m.

Shabbat services are held every Saturday at 9:45 a.m. Rabbi Saul leads a Torah study session after each service.

Shavuot

Services will be held at Ohev Tzedek on the second day of Shavuot, Thursday, June 1, at 9:45 am. Yizkor will be recited.

(Continued on page 8)
In the good, old summertime . . .

By Mary Lou Finesilver

I don’t know about you, but when I think summer, I think flowers, beautiful trees, sunshine, swimming, picnics and sitting in the sun reading a good book. I always feel a little liberated when summer comes. When I was younger it was because we were out of school. I remember swimming in Ligonier, PA, when we lived in Johnstown. That is where I learned how to swim.

My father was my teacher, and it wasn’t until years later I found out he could not swim. He always had to have one foot on the bottom of the pool. Ligonier had a fun pool. There was a huge diving board with three levels, but for me. Never got near it. There was a small patch where kids could play in the sand, and the big attraction was a sloped wheel where the girls could show off and sun tan while the boys ran on it to make it rotate. A great spot for picnicking was available in the small forest, and we did picnic at least once a week.

Mom worked very hard at packing a great lunch for us to take. I believe it is still a lovely spot for picnics, swimming and camping.

Then I can remember walking to the Marland Heights swimming pool in Weirton, WV, with friends. We did walk a lot in those days. I’ll bet we could have clocked 10,000 steps with no problem. I also remember sitting in the sun and using baby oil with iodine to get that great tan. We moved to Weirton when I was 13 and I lived there until I was 18 and left for secretarial school in New York City.

Then my parents moved to Youngstown when I was about 22. I followed them and met Al and married him about a year and a half later. Best thing I ever did: Had three great kids, moved to Liberty and joined the Logan Swim club.

Shamrocking was available in the small forest, and camping. I don’t believe any of them that I think about it, at Ligonier one estimate board and hit the bottom one. I do believe he was badly injured and since that I keep my back to the diving board because I drove me crazy to watch. Now that I think about it, at Ligonier one day, I watched a kid dive from the tallest board and hit the bottom one. I do believe he was badly injured and since then, I keep my back to the diving board.

June happenings at El Emeth

Shavuot Services will take place at Temple El Emeth on Wednesday morning, May 31 and Thursday morning, June 1 at 9:30 am. Yizkor will be on Thursday at approximately 11:15 a.m.

A Jewelry Making Workshop with Lori Szoke will be held on Tuesday evening, June 13 at 7 p.m. Lori will guide participants through the process of stringing a beautiful beaded necklace. There are three choices of colors and styles and the fee is $25 per person which includes all supplies and refreshments. Samples of the necklaces can be seen in the Synagogue office. Reservations are due in by June 9th.

Shmoozing with Shmulik will meet on Monday, June 19 at 10:30 am in the Chapel. The group, led by Sam Kooperman, enjoys stories, jokes, music and videos in Yiddish. All our welcome to attend. Refreshments are served.

El Emeth will host a Shabbat morning service on Saturday, June 24, at 9:30 am, with members of the Partnership2GETHER as our guests. Speakers that morning will include Michael Aronson, Israel Chair for Partnership2GETHER and David Ravitch, U.S. Chair for Partnership2GETHER. A Kiddush luncheon sponsored by the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation will follow services and the community is invited to attend. Reservations for lunch are requested by June 22 to 330-759-1429.

Volunteers are needed at the Church Hill United Methodist Church Community Food Pantry this summer. Help is needed on food distribution days, the first Friday of the month from 9:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. The dates are June 2, July 7 and Aug. 4. A variety of jobs need to be done those mornings and most do not involve heavy lifting. If you are able to help on any of these dates or would like more information, please call the Temple office.

Reservations for these programs or luncheons may be called into the Synagogue at 330-759-1429 or emailed to te- meth@sbcglobal.net.

Daily Minyans are at 5:45 p.m. including Saturday afternoon. Shabbat morning services begin at 9:30 a.m. Before I started to work at the JCC I swam a lot. At one time I could do about 15 to 18 laps. Then when I started to work, I would go Sunday morning while Al walked the pool and I would go into the deep with Dodo Harris. We would talk like crazy. Then, for some reason, I have never been able to combine swimming and working.

Now, the JCC has taken over Logan Swim club, and it is now known as the Logan Campus of the JCC. I’m hoping that maybe you can “go home again” and I will take advantage of the pool and the sun. I’m sure going to try. Maybe I can find a new group with whom I can sit and talk. That would be great.
JCRC to host lunch and learn on Israel academic/business mission

**YSU President Jim Tressel and Youngstown Business Incubator CEO Barb Ewing to update community on ongoing YSU, YBI Partnerships**

To provide an update on the continuing and robust partnership activities between Youngstown State University, the Youngstown Business Incubator, and entities in Israel The Jewish Community Relations Council of the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation is hosting a community lunch and learn event on Thursday, June 15 at noon at Temple El Emeth, 3970 Logan Way. The cost for the event, which is open to all, is $5 per person.

Guest speakers include mission participants, Jim Tressel, YSU president, Barb Ewing, YBI CEO, and Dr. Brett Conner, YSU director of advanced manufacturing and workforce initiatives/associate professor of mechanical and industrial engineering.

In January, the Federation led an economic development mission to Israel to explore strategic partnerships between universities and companies doing groundbreaking manufacturing work in Israel. Student internships, faculty exchanges, joint research, industry partnerships and business connections were among the opportunities explored by the delegation.

Since returning from the trip, YBI is creating a new initiative, the Israel-Youngstown Business Incubator Collaborative to create market opportunities through enhanced U.S./Israel relationships. The plan for I-YBI is to develop a soft landings program to ensure that Israeli additive manufacturing companies seeking to do business in the region have easy access to the necessary resources to ensure success.

In addition, the YSU administration and faculty are planning for a number of projects with Israeli institutions including a major additive manufacturing academic conference in Youngstown next year with the Technion, known as the MIT of Israel, partnership opportunities for YSU business students at Tel Aviv University, and faculty-led study-abroad programs in the areas of criminal justice and nursing.

Further, Dr. Nancy Wagner, YSU professor and chair of nursing, is planning a faculty-led study abroad program to the Western Galilee Medical College over winter break, 2017-18.

In addition, the president of Western Galilee College will visit the YSU campus on Monday, July 17, to continue discussing partnership opportunities with President Tressel. The two will be renewing an official Friendship Agreement between the two universities at that time.

The January mission was underwritten in part by the Thomases Family Endowment of the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation.

For additional information about the luncheon, contact Bonnie Burdman at 330-770-8702, or to R.S.V.P., contact Sarah Wilshek at sarahwilshek@jewishyoungstown.org.

Pope, Reform leader share concerns over Trump policies

(JTA) — Pope Francis told the president of the Union for Reform Judaism that he has “concerns” about the approach to immigration by the Trump administration, the group said.

Rabbi Rick Jacobs met with the pope privately for 20 minutes on Friday at the Vatican as part of Jacobs’ involvement in helping immigrants and refugees in the framework of the Religions for Peace interfaith organization, the Union for Reform Judaism wrote in a statement.

“We shared our respective concerns about the US Administration’s approach to immigration in particular,” the statement read. “Pope Francis is one of humanity’s most compelling moral voices. I told him that I hoped that his meeting with President Trump would have an impact on that and other issues.”

Ohev Tzedek (continued from p. 7)

Please come to assure the presence of a minyan so that kaddish can be said.

**Adult Education – Summer 2017**

The following classes have begun but are still open to new students. Each is designed to be approximately 10 sessions. The $50 registration fee includes the text. Unless otherwise noted, all sessions will be held at Ohev Tzedek.

**The Amidah** – Using Rabbi Lawrence Hoffman’s excellent volume in the My People’s Prayer Book series as a guide, we will explore this core prayer to discuss tefilla, Jewish prayer, as a whole, and how Jews have ever understood our ongoing, evolving relationship with G-d. This class meets Monday nights at 7 p.m.

**Star Shlep: The Next Generation** – Using Jewish science fiction/fantasy as the starship, we are exploring the farthest reaches of the galaxy of issues of Jewish identity, survival, and development. While we are currently finishing a novel, there’s still time to join the class if you’re not already a Star Shlepper; the next novel is scheduled to begin in June. This class will continue to meet Thursday nights at 7 p.m.
Federation Fellows

By Francine Yarwood
Fellow and Co-President
Congregation Ohev Tzedek

One day, Sarah Wilschek called me to ask if I want to take part in some young Jewish leaders group. My initial thought was that between work, my children’s schedules, being co-president of Ohev Tzedek, and my already busy life, I didn’t need one more commitment on my calendar.

But she made it sound really interesting and fun. I liked the idea of meeting other young Jewish families, and, truth be known, I have a hard time saying no to Sarah — so I joined the Federation Fellows.

The program has 28 active Federation Fellows ranging in ages from 25-50. When she said young, she meant young. The Fellows program is for the entire family, for the first time.

(Continued on page 14)

On becoming a Federation Fellow

By Francine Yarwood
Fellow and Co-President
Congregation Ohev Tzedek

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Mayana Branigan
Walking In Their Shoes
The Story of ISRAELI WOMEN
Thursday, June 8

Walking In Their Shoes- The Story of Israeli Women
Come and listen to Mayana Branigan talk about three phenomenal Israeli women whose stories have made a significant impact on the country’s history. Mayana is an American-Israeli Black-Jewish woman who was a former Israeli emissary in Akron. Youngstown will be the last stop of her national lecture series. This event is free and open to the public. A light dinner will be served.
R.S.V.P. is required to Gon by June 2.
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New Vatican document affirms Jewish roots of Christianity

By Jesse McClain
YAJF Holocaust Educator

A new document, “The Gifts and Calling of God Are Irrevocable,” has been issued by the Vatican to mark the 50th anniversary of Nostra Aetate. Cardinal Kurt Koch, of Switzerland who currently serves as president of the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity, and Rabbi David Rosen, the International Director of Interreligious Affairs for the American Jewish Committee, released this document at a press conference on the reflection of theological questions pertaining to Catholic-Jewish relations.

This document continues from where Nostra Aetate stopped 50 years ago and goes deeper into the difficult theological questions at the heart of Jewish-Catholic relations. The seven sections of the document explain that Christianity cannot be properly understood outside the Jewish context and culture in which Jesus, his family, and his disciples were living.

Pope Francis recently stated that Christians and Jews need to move from “enemies and strangers to friends and brothers.”

The document it not official Church teaching, but instead is a teaching document developed over many years with input from Jewish colleagues and the Vatican’s Congregation for the Doctrine of Faith. Its basic core examines the way Jews and Christians understand the revealed Word of God - through texts of the Torah for Jews and the person of Christ for Christians. It reafirms that the original covenant of God with the Jewish people can never be revoked.

In the past, many Christians believed that the life of Christ in the New Testament substitutes and replaces the Torah of God’s chosen people. This document urges people of faith to continue to explore what it calls this “unfathomable divine mystery.”

What I found most interesting is the statement that the Church cannot support any institution or mission aimed at converting Jews and that Christians should bear witness to their faith in Christ in a humble and sensitive manner.

The document also encourages an ongoing dialogue to deepen a shared interpretation of Scripture as well as to work for justice and peace and to work to combat racial discrimination and anti-Semitism. What I like the most is that the door and window of the Catholic Church have been opened and the possibilities for mutual understanding are endless.

In our local community, the doors and windows have been open for decades thanks to local rabbis such as Rabbi Meyer, Rabbi Kornspan, and Rabbi Schonberger and priests such as Father Belasco. I feel truly blessed to be a part of a community with such a past and bright future. If you’d like to read the entire text of “The Gifts and Calling of God Are Irrevocable” you can use the Internet or better yet, stop by the JCC Library and I’ll give you a copy.

Rabbi Muller (cont’d from p. 5)

We have much to be proud of as members of one of the oldest religious congregations in Youngstown. Our Temple’s involvement in the community over the last 15 decades is a source of great civic pride, more than adequately reflected in the dozen or so proclamations we received, from Mayor McNally locally to former President Obama nationally.

We are part of a large congregational family, a sacred community really, going back five generations. The life cycle events in our magnificent sanctuary, holidays celebrated together, all contribute to the sense of closeness and connection we feel to each other.

Let us move forward with confidence and a sense of purpose as we begin the next chapter in our temple’s illustrious history. May we go from strength to strength.

June Services at Rodef Sholom

Shabbat Service
Friday, June 2 at 6 p.m.

Bar Mitzvah of Joshua Greenbaum
Saturday, June 10 at 10 a.m.

Shabbat Service
Friday, June 16 at 6 p.m,

Shabbat Service
Friday, June 23 at 6 p.m.

Shabbat Service led by Aleksandr Walton
Friday, June 30 at 6 p.m.

Sesquicentennial (cont’d from p. 5)

Carol and Bruce Sherman designed t-shirts to commemorate our year. Thank you.

Our Friday night committee did a great job picking out the menu with Inspired Catering, designing the centerpieces, and providing a special beginning to our weekend. Sue Weiss designed the table arrangements for our Gala, and Bonnie Lehman helped organize our committee to set the tables for our Saturday dinner catered by Art Einzig. Thank you.

Finally, we thank Rabbi Muller, Bob, and the office staff for helping to design and choreograph a phenomenal year.

Our committees contain the soul of our Temple and help make it what it is — a great community, 150 years strong.

Rodef night at the Races

Presented by Rodef Sholom Brotherhood as a fundraiser for Congregation Rodef Sholom; Rodef Sholom Strouss Hall. Gates open at 6:30 p.m. Post time for first race is 7:15 p.m.

Admission:
Sponsor: $20 per person includes deli sandwiches, wine, beer, and soft drinks, and you get to sponsor a horse that will run that night.
Sponsors will get the right to name their horse and will be listed as a sponsor in the event program.
General admission: $15 per person includes deli sandwiches, wine, beer, and soft drinks.
Horse sponsorship may be limited, so R.S.V.P. by Tuesday, June 13 by mailing in your reservation form to the Temple office at 1119 Elm Street, Youngstown, OH 44505.
Federation thrives as challenges are met

By Atty. Alan R. Kretzer
President

This past fall, the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation approved a Strategic Plan that will address community needs, desires, and priorities for the next decade. Over the coming months, we will be working again with our many dedicated volunteers and professionals in an approach to Jewish life that meets community needs and establishes meaningful partnerships.

As an ancillary benefit of these partnerships, the Federation will work on initiatives that can attract more Jews to the region. As part of this revival, a group of approximately 35 young men and women have just concluded our Federation’s nine-month program on topics of Jewish interest. The Federation has a strong commitment to this “Federation Fellows” program, including hopes for future participation and leadership.

In the short time since the Plan was approved, changes have developed and are being implemented to overhaul the Federation’s governance and operating structures. These changes address needs discussed within the Plan, provide for more innovative governmental structures, and list concerns for excessive risks from possible liability.

Further, the Federation will continue to enhance its effectiveness as the primary convener for the regional Jewish community.

Following a recently performed comprehensive security assessment a year ago of the Jewish Community Center, Akiva, Heritage Manor, Levy Gardens, and Jewish Family Services, as well as the temples and cemeteries, we are pleased to announce the appointment of Rob Elston as Federation’s new security coordinator. Rob has been busy since mid-February working to revise emergency protocols for the Federation and its agencies, assisting synagogues with some of their security needs, in addition to submitting three separate security grants to the State of Ohio.

To highlight some of the programs and services Federation offers the community, the JCC’s Beyachad Youth and Family Initiative has shown promising results thus far, with record-breaking membership numbers for the first quarter of 2017, including Silver Sneakers members, and strong participation in two of its newest programs, the JCC School of Music and JCC School of Dance. Most of these results were achieved before the JCC’s new Logan partnership, through which the Center will be operating and managing the former Logan Swim and Tennis Club, which will be available to all JCC members.

The JCRC continues to closely monitor and respond to numerous inquiries regarding international issues and local concerns. Anti-Semitism continues to rise globally, as well as here and throughout the United States, and the JCRC will represent our community as the point agency.

JFS continues to offer counseling, guardianships, and has an ongoing program, “Our Gang”, which provides monthly and annual programs for developmentally disabled adults. Its “Meals on Wheels” program is growing to over 600 meals per month, meeting the needs of people who receive Passport services. Meals are also available to others in the Jewish community who may benefit from good and healthy meals brought to them when standing and cooking may be too difficult after an illness or accident.

To better serve the needs of JFS clients, and with Alvin Weisberg retiring in February 2018, Ken Bielecki has been hired as the new JFS Guardianship and Program Director for clients who have medical, psychiatric, and will help JFS in planning and development.

The census at Heritage Manor and Levy Gardens has approached almost 100 percent, with ongoing referrals for two of the best facilities in our region. Heritage Manor has recently completed implementation of its electronic health records to better serve residents and improve documentation requirements mandated by state and federal governments.

At the end of 2017, Gary Weiss will retire after more than 41 years in Youngstown. Our personnel and organizational needs are considered top priority by Federation and our Human Services Board for these agencies.
Our Shlichim, Gon and Shai Erez, have added much to Jewish programming and education as ambassadors of Israel at the JCC, Federation, synagogues, area schools, churches, and civic groups, in addition to their responsibilities at Akiva and MSJS.

The Federation continues to seek new endowment funds to supplement its programs and services. Income for endowment funds are used for such programming as “Our Gang,” JCC transportation, nursing scholarships, Israeli teachers at the Commission for Jewish Education, to name just a few examples.

Some of our endowment funds enhance our Annual Campaign. The Thomases Family Endowment further enhances our collective Jewish experience. Grants allow the Federation to bring extraordinary programming such as speakers for the Inaugural Event and our Shlichim. The TFE supports our partnership in Akko, Israel, and with Jews around the world, above and beyond the Federation’s allocation. The TFE has put the Federation on the map as an integral partner of many initiatives throughout the Mahoning and Shenango Valleys. The TFE sponsored a YSU/YBI Mission to Israel this past January which will could lead to real collaborations between YSU and universities in Israel, as well as connections with interested businesses and individuals through the Youngstown Business Incubator.

Our annual Campaign remains strong, raising approximately $1.3 million, making it possible for the Federation to provide for meeting needs here in our regional Jewish community, and throughout the world.
On Monday, June 12, the Jewish Community Center of Youngstown will once again host the Suzi Solomon Golf Classic. This is the 19th year for the event in memory of one of the JCC’s many generous friends.

For more than 60 years, the JCC has served a vital role in the Valley and is recognized as a leader in quality programming and services for people of all ages and backgrounds. As we are a United Way agency, our board and staff recognize the great responsibility we have to maintain a high level of excellence in all we do to fulfill our mission. There’s something for everyone at our facility, including a state-of-the-art fitness center, full size swimming pool, day care, summer day camp, cultural programs, and much more.

The upcoming Golf Classic serves as the primary fundraiser for the JCC. We hope you’ll save the date and join us for a fantastic day of golf at the Avalon Golf and Country Club — Squaw Creek Golf Course. The Classic serves as a wonderful community event, bringing together top corporate and business leaders with other friends of the JCC for a fun-filled day that begins with lunch before the games, and ends with an enjoyable evening of cocktails, dinner, prizes, and an auction of fabulous items, including vacations, tickets to exciting sporting events, signed sports memorabilia, and much more.

Federation Fellows (continued from p. 10)

engaging non-Jewish spouses too. Over nine months we had seven educational meetings with community and international speakers. We were treated to a tour of all of our agencies with the director and leaders for each program who were willing to answer all our questions. We also had a social Hannukah Party — Latkes and Vodkas, which more than 60 people attended.

This program has helped me meet other Jewish families with children whom I do not think I would have met otherwise. It was nice for me to hear how other families have blended two different religions into one happy family.

It was also nice for me to know that my children are not the only ones who go to school and have teachers and classmates that have never met a Jewish person before.

Most important, we all want to see our Jewish community thrive.

The fellows had the opportunity to choose a capstone project. We had developed three different options to vote on, and after a great discussion, I am happy to say that we decided on building an infant/toddler playground on our campus within Noah’s Park.

I know every time I drove my kids to MSJS and saw the little kids play on an old basketball court it broke my heart. We, as a group, understand the importance of getting kids outside to play. Every child deserves access to a safe, fun, and engaging place to go and play. We also believe in investing in our Jewish community’s future in Youngstown.

Marks Award (continued from p. 4)

som Music Festival. She has served on the Women’s Board of the Mercer County United Way and served on the Shenango Valley Community Concert Association. She is a member of Sharon Rotary and League of Women Voters. Please remember that Marlene ran her own business, Plaza Travel, throughout these years.

When you talk about Marlene, one usually says Marlene and Louis. They are a loving and supportive team. Louis, who has been honored, relies on Marlene. Marlene relies on Louis. Among other traits, he is strong, loving, and selfless.

They both were mentored by Samuel Epstein, Louis’ father. Samuel was a leader in the Reform Judaism Movement. He was a quiet, but confident leader who led by example. Marlene has a relentless drive and passion to help others and make the world a better place. She does not take no for an answer and perseveres through adversity, with a respect for others and a smile.

These attributes are evident in her success as a decades-long solicitor for the Annual Campaign, chairing the Women’s Division in the Shenango Valley. She was a member of the Amalgamation Committee when the Federations were joined. She was actively involved in National Council of Jewish Women and is currently fundraising chair for our local chapter of Hadassah.

Marlene is particularly proud of her role in the efforts to merge Temple Beth Israel with Congregation Rodef Shalom.

As we look at Marlene’s lifetime of volunteerism, there is a pattern which weaves her family life and sets the example of living a life of Tikun olam, making the world a better place. Giving to others is the most satisfying part of life - for it is through giving that the world gives back and only by working together can great things be accomplished.

She is grateful to the Federation which instills these values throughout the community, and to the family of Esther Marks for highlighting these principals to both to encourage others to follow in Esther’s footsteps, and to honor those who have done so.

I am very pleased to award Marlene Epstein with the Esther Marks Memorial Volunteer Service Award.
Donor Fundraiser Fashion Show Brunch

Rodef Sholom Sisterhood held its annual Donor Fundraiser Fashion Show Brunch on Sunday, April 23, in Strouss Hall at Congregation Rodef Sholom and it was fabulous!

Sisterhood members who make a difference

This donor event has to be credited once again with having an outstanding chairperson — Laurel Chevlen. Laurel can just about accomplish everything and anything that has to do with a very successful Donor outcome. Adding to that, Laurel makes it all seem so easy! She has a beautiful smile (that’s very contagious) at all times and a true belief that “we can do this.” It was more than fun to work with Laurel. I have gained a new friendship. Thank you Laurel.

Kandy Rawl, Vice President of Sisterhood, once again provided us with a delicious brunch and delectable desserts. Kandy was not able to be with us on the day of the Donor event, but she made sure everything was taken care of before she had to leave on an eight hour drive. Kandy arranged with Nancy Burnett to step in and add the finishing touches. Everything was wonderful! Kudos to our Kandy and Nancy.

Strategies for Sisterhood Success: Engage, Motivate and Inspire.

Our Sisterhood plays an important role in our Congregation Rodef Sholom. We have built a successful partnership with the Temple board. It is critical that we are team players in striving for the best for our Congregation and Jewish life in our community. We will constantly strive to make Sisterhood stronger, together.

“Love your neighbor as yourself” (Leviticus 19:18)

With Love & Sisterhood,
Your Sisterhood President, Sally Blau
Celebrations

Congregation Rodef Sholom 2017 Graduates

Ben Cario
Ben graduated from The Ohio State University on May 7 with a major in environmental engineering. He has a full fellowship for his Master’s work at Penn State in environmental engineering. He is the grandson of Karen O’Malia.

Max Fish
This spring, Max graduated from the College of Charleston, SC, with an undergraduate degree in exercise science. In June he begins studies toward a doctorate of physical therapy at the University of Pittsburgh. Max is the son of Tamara Dreyfus and David Fish.

Sam Linder
Sam graduated from the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine in May with a degree in Doctor of Medicine. He is the son of Debbie Dreyfus and Bob Linder and the grandson of Fran Dreyfus and the late Aland Dreyfus.

Sam is starting a residency in psychiatry at The University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill this June.

Michael Robert Moamis
After graduating from Liberty High School in 2013, Michael enrolled at Youngstown State University where he earned a Bachelor of Science in business administration as an accounting major and marketing minor in May.

While at YSU, Michael interned in the Athletic Marketing Department all four years. He was a board member of the YSU Penguin Pack Student Fan Club, and a member of the YSU Advertising Club, the Ohio Society of CPAs and Institute of Management Accountants.

Upon graduation from YSU, he will be completing another internship in the field of athletics to pursue an MBA/MSA dual-degree in the fall of 2018. Michael is the son of George and Melissa Moamis, grandson of Harvey and Nancy Kayne and Don and Phyllis Goldberg.

Brandon Stevens
Brandon graduated from Kent State University on May 13 with a Bachelor’s of Science degree in education. Brandon is the grandson of Helen Sacherman and son of Michael Stevens.

Thomas Henry Taylor
Thomas is graduating from Wilmington Area High School. He is planning to attend Edinboro University, in Pennsylvania, this fall to major in film studies. He is the son of Tom Taylor & Mandy Medvin-Taylor and brother to Bonnie Taylor.

Celebrating 50 years since Jerusalem re-unified

Dr. Itzhak Brook, currently a professor of pediatrics and medicine at Georgetown University in Washington, DC, who served as a medic during the Six Day War, shared his memories at a JCRC program, of caring for the wounded during the battles. He said, “First we took care of the Jerusalem Brigade, then the paratroopers, and then the Jordanian soldiers, who couldn’t believe they were being treated like human beings.” “They had been told we were monsters, he said.”
Mazel Tov to Dr. and Mrs. Blau

Emily Lauren Collins and Dr. Lance Nicholas Blau were married on May 6 at The Houstonian Hotel in Houston, TX. Rabbi Steven Gross officiated.

The bride’s parents are Sam and Andrea Collins, and the groom’s parents are Rhonda and Marc Blau, all of Houston.

The new Mrs. Blau is the JCC Programming Manager/Camp Director of the Jewish Community Center of Youngstown.

Her husband is a surgical resident at a local hospital in Youngstown, OH. She is a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin, and he is a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin and the University of Texas at San Antonio Medical School.

The matron of honor was Melissa Wolfson. Bridesmaids were Courtney Lockshaw, Cory Feldman Yasbin, Ali Tisser, Alyssa Spiegel, Shannon Sander-son, and Elizabeth Cleveland. Best man was Adam Blau.

Groomsmen were Jordan Collins, Paul Tilton, John Carey, Dennis Chen, and Uy Ngo.

The bride wore a wedding gown of ivory lace and tulle was embellished with a jeweled belt, designed by Hayley Paige.

The newlyweds honeymooned in Aruba.

New campus security coordinator

Rob Elston, a former Air Force police officer with more than 20 years of electronic security experience, has been named campus security coordinator for the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation.

Mr. Elston said the biggest security challenge he sees is “trying to keep the openness of the JCC and Federation. “I think we need to allow the community to come and go freely,” he said, “while keeping the traditional sense of the place without building a wall or locking everything down.”

He said, “Since my first day, I’ve been surprised how enjoyable it is to work here and how helpful people are to each other.”

Further, the Niles native said, “I’m looking forward to learning more about Judaism and about the Federation’s many services.”

Robert Lev is honored at Annual Meeting

Attorney Robert Lev was given special honors at the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation's Annual Meeting on May 15.

During the award ceremony, Mr. Lev was described as having served with great distinction and honor as the president of the Human Services Board from (Continued on page 23)
**ADULT PROGRAMMING**

For more information, contact: Emily Blau 330-746-3250 Ext. 152 or Eblau@jewishyoungstown.org

**JCC Journeys**

*An American In Paris*

This new Tony® Award-winning musical tells the story of an American soldier, a mysterious French girl and an indomitable European city, each yearning for a new beginning in the aftermath of war. Acclaimed director/choreographer and 2015 Tony® Award winner Christopher Wheeldon brings the magic and romance of Paris into perfect harmony with unforgettable songs from George and Ira Gershwin.

**Date:** Sunday, July 9  
**Location:** Cleveland, OH  
**Leave JCC:** 11:00 a.m.  
**Return:** 7:30 p.m.  
**$65/Member | $85/Non Member**  
**Register by June 23 online at jccyoungstown.org or with the JCC Bursar: 330 746-3250 Ext. 195**

**Adult Cookie Decorating**

Join us as we learn the basics of sugar cookie decorating from Cindy Velt of Cindy’s Canfield Cookies! Learn the beginning techniques of decorating with royal icing that ends in delicious and colorful cookie creations to take home and enjoy! Price includes instruction of different icing and painting techniques as well as a starter kit that contains a dozen sugar cookies, royal icing mix, piping bags, and icing tips – all for you to take home and keep! Space is limited.

**Date:** Thursday, June 22  
**Time:** 5:30 -7:30 p.m.  
**Location:** JCC Multi-Purpose Room  
**$40/Member | $55/Non Member**  
**Register by June 15 at jccyoungstown.org or the Bursar's Office at 330.746-3250 ext. 195.**

**Camp JCC 2017**

**Join us for a spectacular summer!**

**June 5 - August 11**  
**8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

Camp JCC provides quality care and experiences to the greater Youngstown community and 2017 is set to be another stellar summer. We provide our campers with a safe, fun environment to build lifelong friendships through unforgettable adventures. Camp JCC is designed for campers of all ages and interests, regardless of ethnic and religious background. Register at jccyoungstown.org. For more information contact Emily Blau, Camp Director, at 330 746-3250 Ext. 152.

**Specialty Camp: Playmakers Theater Program with Youngstown State University (Ages 8-14)**

**June 12 - June 23 (Special two-week camp)**

Camp JCC Playmakers Theater returns for its fifth year. This specialty camp runs in collaboration with YSU’s Department of Theater and Dance. Our two-week program will give campers an exciting taste of the theatrical world with a focus on acting, set construction and costume design. The culmination of the program will be a performance staged by the participants. Campers will also take part in afternoon swimming.

**$265/Member | $355/Non Member**  
**Register online at jccyoungstown.org**

**Advanced Specialty Camp: Advanced Web Development (campers entering grades 5-8)**

**June 12-16**

Learn how login systems work, how to submit forms, store people’s passwords, and more! Build a store web application that lists products, prices, categories and more. This will all be possible by learning the fundamentals of the PHP programming language and how to utilize it.

**$200/Member | $265/Non Member**  
**Register online at jccyoungstown.org**

**PERFORMING ARTS**

**Liz Rubino Studios**

For more information on the studio offerings contact Liz Rubino at 330 509-0891 or coaching@lizrubino.com

**Private Sessions**

Liz Rubino offers private sessions in voice, acting, drama therapy, junior voice, and junior acting. All sessions are 55 minutes long with the exception of junior lessons which are 30 minutes long.

**Triple Threat**

An elite training and national performance troupe for ages 10-21. Studio students study voice, drama and dance both privately and in a group atmosphere over two semesters with opportunities for local as well as nationwide performances in NYC, Walt Disney World and more.

**Liz Rubino’s Broadway 360!**

Back by popular demand this summer at Camp JCC, July 3-14!

This advanced 2-week camp will feature the musical *Beauty & The Beast*. It takes students through a full-circle view of auditions, casting, rehearsals, and performance! Bookended by loads of technique and specialty topics in theatre, this specialty camp has been a huge success and we hope to see your campers there! Register online at jccyoungstown.org.

**$300/Member | $400/Non Member**

**JCC School of Dance**

Erianne Raib-Ptichkin is a well-trained and experienced local dance teacher collaborating with the JCC as the Artistic Director of the new School of Dance. This program teaches children the technique, artistry and discipline of dance in a cheerful and positive learning environment. Children develop a variety of transferable listening and learning skills in a classroom setting, while being physically healthy and having fun! Visit jccyoungstown.org to learn more.

**New this Summer: Adult Ballet, Tap, and Hip Hop**

**Summer Session II: July 14 - August 21**

**Acrobatics Mini Specialty Camp**

**July 17-July 20**

A concentrated 4-day fun camp where students will learn and perfect acrobatic and tumbling basics. A guest instructor trained in the acrobatic arts will be joining us for this camp. Camp is filled with flips, crafts, games, and treats! Tight fitting active wear and bare feet required.

**$45/Member | $60/Non Member**

**JCC School of Music**

The Jewish Community Center of Youngstown School of Music! This exciting program will featuring piano, violin, guitar, percussion, and voice lessons housed at the JCC! Visit jccyoungstown.org to learn more and to register for JCC School of Music lessons contact the JCC Bursar's Office: 330 746-3250 ext. 195.
**FITNESS**

For more information on fitness programs, contact Shelia Cornell at 330-746-3250 Ext. 182 or Scornell@jewishyoungstown.org

**Get fit fast with Personal Training at the JCC!**

**Personal Training Benefits**
- Personalized safe and effective fitness programs
- Achievement of goals in a short time period
- Improved muscle coordination, strength, endurance, and flexibility

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**Health and Wellness Program**

**The Importance of Sleep**
Stacy Hunter, Respiratory Therapist and Sleep Technologist from Northside Hospital, will speak about the importance of sleep, how it affects health (mental and physical), barriers to good sleep, sleep testing, sleep disorders, and treatments and recommendations for good sleep.

**Date:** Friday, June 30  
**Time:** 12:00-1:00 p.m.  
**Location:** JCC Multi-Purpose Room  
**R.S.V.P. to Shelia Cornell at 330.746.3250 ext. 182 is required by June 28.**

**GROUP EXERCISE**

**Total Body Fitness**
This all-over strength workout will utilize barbells, dumbbells, risers, and your own body weight. Build long, lean muscle while burning calories.

**Date:** Tuesdays  
**Time:** 4:30-5:25 p.m.

**Total Body Strength And Endurance**
A mixture of cardio and strength exercises utilizing your own body weight. Various modes of training such as pyramids, circuits and AMRAPS (as many reps as possible) will be used for a high calorie burn! All fitness levels welcome.

June 2017

The Jewish Journal Monthly Magazine

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For bookings and more information on rentals, contact Kelli McCormick, 330.746.3250 ext. 284 or kmccormick@jewishyoungstown.org

The JCC is the perfect place to host your next party, meeting or corporate event. With several venues to choose from, the JCC can accommodate most function large or small throughout the year. Our Multi-Purpose Room seats up to 250 people and has an adjoining commercial kitchen, state-of-the-art audio visual system, overhead motorized theater screen, and more. A number of convenient and well-appointed break rooms are also available throughout our building.

(For Logan Campus activities, see p. 22)
Bar Mitzvah Joshua Greenbaum
Saturday, June 10, Rodef Sholom

Joshua is a 7th grade honor roll student at Canfield Village Middle School where he has participated in the school play for the past three years. At school he enjoys history, science, and has enjoyed participating in the STEM programs.

Outside school he has been excelling at classical piano since he was five years old while enrolled in the annual YSU and Musical Arts Festival and the Music Teacher’s Guild, where he has received unanimous superior ratings from the judges every year.

He was recently invited to perform in an honors recital for the Ohio Federation Music Club, and he played the ballad "Jerusalem of Gold" at the JCC Independence Day celebration.

Additionally, Josh loves playing tennis and has been involved with the junior tennis league and clinics at the Boardman Tennis Club. In his spare time, he enjoys Minecraft, playing video games with friends, watching movies, educational programs, and antique shopping.

Josh also participates in the American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life cancer fundraising event.

Josh’s parents are Toni and Dr. Arthur Greenbaum, and he is the grandson of Ruth Greenbaum originally from Marblehead, MA.

You are invited to celebrate with us as Josh is called to the Torah for his Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, June 10 at 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary, followed by a brief piano recital and a Kiddush luncheon in Strouss Hall. R.S.V.P. to the temple at 330 744-5001 by Friday, June 2 for the luncheon.

Graduation — Matthew Miller

Matthew Miller, son of Greg and Bryna Miller, of Cincinnati, OH, grandson of Bruce and Carol Sherman, and great-grandson of Ethel Sherman, graduated from Sycamore High School May 22 Cum Laude with High Honors.

He served as Varsity Basketball Manager for four years.

Matthew was a member of student council and class treasurer. He was Sycamore High School representative to the Tristate Regional Youth Leadership Program, DECA Marketing program and earned 2nd place in Sports Marketing at the DECA District Competition. He was a member of National Honor Society, Shining Star AAU Sports Marketing Intern, and Isaac Wise Temple Madrich teaching assistant.

Matthew will be attending Indiana University, majoring in marketing with a minor in sports marketing and management. At the university, he will serve as student manager for the Indiana Hoosiers Basketball team.

Bar Mitzvah Aleksandr Walton
Saturday, July 8, Rodef Sholom

Aleksandr Walton is the son of Stephanie Walton, grandson of Dr. Robert and Beth Walton and great-grandson of Jeanette Mandel. He has one sister, Sofia Walton.

Aleksandr attends Howland Middle School, where he will be entering the eighth grade in the fall of 2017. This past year he was an honor student and participated in the Power of the Pen writing competition. His seventh grade team placed fourth in the district competition. He also is a percussionist in the Howland Middle School band on drums and mallet instruments.

Aleksandr is a member of Boy Scout Troop 122 with a First Class rank. In scouting, Aleksandr enjoys foraging, archery, wilderness survival and performing his various service projects. He also plays soccer for the Howland Athletic Club.

His hobbies include gaming, Dungeons & Dragons with his friends, and creating stop motion animation. Aleksandr is an avid reader with an interest in history and science and enjoys sharing his thoughts, opinions and comments.

We invite you to celebrate with us as Aleksandr is called to the Torah for his Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, July 8, 2017 at 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary and a Kiddush luncheon in Strouss Hall. R.S.V.P. to the temple at 330 744-5001 by Friday, June 30, for the luncheon.

Graduation — Sarah Sherman

Sarah Sherman, daughter of Rachel Sherman and great-granddaughter of Ethel Sherman, graduated from Boca Raton High School on May 20.

Sarah was a member of the student government for three years. She chaired the Health and Safety Division and led four successful blood drives.

She led their senior project and won first place at state competition in the Health and Safety category.

Sarah played varsity basketball and lacrosse competing at district, regional and state levels.

She was a member of the National Honor Society and started her own club to provide freshmen an easy transition from middle school to high school.

She will be attending the University of Florida in Gainsville to study business.
Congratulations to Andrea Chessin and Michael Harris on their engagement. The bride’s parents are Neil and the late Sherry Chessin of New Castle, PA. The groom’s parents are Jeffrey and Laura Harris of Ft. Lauderdale, FL. Ms. Chessin graduated from The Ohio State University and earned an M.B.A. at Capital University. She is a buyer for DSW. Mr. Harris graduated from Florida State University. He is a pilot for Republic Airways. Their wedding ceremony and reception will be held in Columbus, OH, at the Well’s Barn at Franklin Park Conservatory. Dayna Chessin will serve as maid of honor with Brian Harris as best man.

WELCOME TO THE WORLD Zev Eli Goldman, son of Lauren and Brian Goldman of Pittsburgh, PA, and baby brother of Miles Goldman. Debbi and Jeff Grinstein are Zev’s maternal grandparents. Paternal grandparents are Jay and Vicki Gottlich Goldman. Great-grandparents are Peter and Bobbi Grinstein and David and Bernice Cohen.

BEST WISHES TO SHAI EREZ on her acceptance to the Youngstown State University master’s program in social work. If anyone can handle the triple challenge of new motherhood, graduate school, and her continuing efforts as a Shaliach in the Youngstown area Jewish community, it’s Mrs. Erez.

CONGRATULATIONS!
JCC Logan Campus Pavilion Rental
The JCC Logan Pavilion is a large, covered, outdoor pavilion that sits next to our tennis courts and a short walk from the full size heated pool. Round tables outfit the pavilion and you can decorate to suit your theme. Swim in our heated pool or take time out of the pool and shoot hoops on the basketball court, play volleyball, tennis, shuffleboard, bocce, or whatever you would like on our spacious grounds. Invited guests who are non members must pay price of admission. Maximum capacity is 50. Lifeguards will staff the pool at all times.
Pavilion Time: 12:00 – 3:00 p.m. or 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.
$75/Member | $100/Non Member
$150/Member | $200/Non Member – all-day rental

JCC – Pool Party at Logan Campus
You and your party guests can swim in our full-size heated pool and enjoy time celebrating at our on-site pavilion. If you and your party guests want to take time out of the pool, you can shoot hoops on the basketball court, play volleyball, tennis, shuffleboard, bocce, or whatever you would like on our spacious grounds. Maximum party size is 50. Lifeguards will staff the pool at all times.
Party Size up to 25 Guests – Party time: 12:00 – 3:00 p.m. or 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.
$165/Member | $220/Non Member
$255/Member | $340/Non Member – all-day rental
Party Size from 25 to 50 Guests – Party time: 12:00 – 3:00 p.m. or 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.
$285/Member | $380/Non Member
$375/Member | $500/Non Member – all-day rental

Logan Campus Hours
Monday — Saturday: 11:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Sunday: 12:00 – 8 p.m.

Summer Swim Team (Logan Campus) part of Youngstown Swim League!
We are now offering summer swim team. Participants must be between the ages of 4 – 18. They must also be able to swim one length of the pool independently. Practices will be held at our new Logan Campus outdoor pool.
Swim Team Season: June 1-July 29
9:00 – 10:30 a.m. – Advanced swimmers
10:30 – 11:30 a.m. – Swimmers under 10 and new swimmers
$98/Member | $130/Non Member
Swim meets will be held on Wednesdays during June and July. Children must arrive at meet location at 4:30 p.m. Meets will start promptly at 5:45 p.m.

Logan Campus: Men’s Night Tennis
Beginning in June
Date: Tuesdays
Time: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Logan Campus: Women’s Night Tennis
Beginning in June
Date: Thursdays
Time: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Logan Campus Kick-Off Party!
Date: Sunday, July 2
Time: Starting at 1:00 p.m.
Join us for an Logan Campus opening celebration. We’ll have food, music, games, prizes, contests, kids entertainment and more!

Churchill Commons
Make every day taste better
Locally owned and operated
Great Food
Fruit Trays
Rolls, Cakes & Pastries
Meat, Vegetable & Relish Trays .
Wing-Dings
Fried Chicken
Beverages
Tableware
Cards
Decorations
Thank Yous
Manischewitz & Mogen David
Kosher Wines
Manischewitz, Mother’s, Streitz, Rokeach, Joyva Kosher Products
See our expanded Kosher section
4700 BELMONT AVENUE
(330) 759-9502
Allan J. Sandel, D.D.S., M.D.


Allan was born on Sept. 17, 1935, in Youngstown.

He was a graduate of Youngstown College, now Youngstown State University, The Ohio State University School of Dentistry, and Albany Medical College.

Allan was an accomplished plastic surgeon in Akron, where he had his own practice for more than 20 years.

Allan leaves behind his sons, Kevin (Lori, his favorite daughter-in-law) and Todd; his four grandchildren, Bailey, Colton, Kaya and Jack; his brother, Fred; his niece, Amy; and his cousin, Sandy Gallucci, and her sons, Paul and Ray.

Allan was preceded in death by his parents, Isadore “Jack” and Jennie Sandel, of blessed memory.

The family would like to thank the entire staff at Concordia at Summer and the Visiting Nurse Service Hospice Care team for their care of Allan.

The funeral was held at the Gordon Flury Funeral Home, 1260 Collier Road in Akron, on Thursday, May 18, with Rabbi Stephen Grundfast presiding.

The burial was held the same day, at the Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery, 10175 Rawiga Road in Seville.

Shiva services were held at the home of Kevin and Lori Sandel, 753 Kensington Way in Copley.

Please direct any donations to Beth El Congregation or Visiting Nurse Service Hospice.

Ruth Elaine Axelson

CANFIELD - Funeral services were held on Saturday, May 20, 2017, at the First Covenant Church for Ruth Elaine Axelson, 86, who passed away Tuesday evening, May 16, 2017, at St. Elizabeth Boardman Health Center.

Ruth was born July 8, 1930, in Youngstown, the daughter of Bruno and Clara (Carlson) Hoganson.

She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

Ruth was very active in her church, and was an active member of many book clubs and bridge clubs in the area.

She was a graduate of Boardman High School, class of 1948.

Ruth leaves her husband of 66 years, William Axelson, whom she married April 21, 1951. Ruth also leaves three children, Wendy (Jeff) Taylor of Boardman, William (Leslie) Axelson and Eric (Claudia) Axelson, both of Canfield; two granddaughters, Allison Levak and Lindsay Taylor; four grandsons, Hunter, Alex, Chase and Jason Axelson; as well as one great-granddaughter, Ashley Levak.

Besides her parents, Ruth was preceded in death by her sister, Joan Neumann.

May their memories be only for a blessing.

New Social Action Committee encourages Jewish service

With a goal of re-invigorating the Jewish approach to service within the greater-Youngstown community, a Social Action Committee has been formed within the Jewish Community Relations Council of the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation.

Under the leadership of Chair Samie Winick, the group has selected children and hunger as the target issues it will address in the coming year.

The programming for the new committee is ambitious. Ms. Winick explained that among the planned activities are service at the Food Pantry once a month; providing diaper-packing service and preparing “comfort kits” for children going into foster care; “adopting” a school as part of a Youngstown City Schools program; and providing cultural programs to the United Way “Success after 6” program for students who attend tennis and Swim Safe 500 swim courses at the Jewish Community Center.

Further, the committee will be giving a face-lift to the child therapy room of the Compass Family and Community Services on Youngstown’s South Side.

In addition, committee members will be recruiting volunteers to staff a JCRC booth at the Canfield Fair.

The new SAC will be “re-imagining” Mitzvah Day to expand on the concept of Jewish service, focusing on Judaism and social justice and Tikkun Olam — repairing the world. It will take place on Oct. 22.

Currently serving on the committee in addition to Ms. Winick are Nancy Burnett, Shari DellaPenna, Talia Hagler, Kandy Rawl, Stephanie Shapiro, and Neil Yutkin.

Others members of the Jewish community who are interested in serving on the SAC or who know of projects that fit within the committee’s target issues are encouraged to contact Federation Program Coordinator Sarah Wilschek at 330 746-3251 or via email to sarah.wilschek@jewishyoungstown.org.

Robert Lev (continued from page 17)

2013 to 2016.

Under his leadership, many physical improvements took place at the Home, Levy Gardens, and Jewish Family Services. These included replacing the dry sprinkler system at Levy Gardens and adding another vehicle to the transportation program at Levy Gardens, Heritage Manor, and Jewish Family Services.

Physical plant changes at the Home included the renovations of the men’s and women’s bathrooms and locker rooms designated for employees. Under Bob’s watch, we were able to secure a five-year contract with the Veterans Administration at the Home.

This was no easy feat to achieve, but in the end we were successful for a win-win for both the Veterans and Heritage Manor.

Under Mr. Lev’s presidency, the Home celebrated its milestone 50th anniversary with events that included parties for residents, families, staff, and the community on March 8, 2015 and on May 31, 2015. During that time, he was able to produce for distribution a USB drive containing a slideshow showcasing the 50-year history of Heritage Manor, which was made available to the public.

His commendation read, “Bob Lev is a kind and humble advocate for the Home, Levy Gardens, and Jewish Family Services. He always made a special point of emphasizing the importance of marketing our programs to ensure that the community is aware of the quality of services that we offer and provide on our campus.”
What’s going on?
At the Partnership2GETHER summit, participants will be celebrating Israel, creating meaningful person-to-person connections, and building a program that affects more than 16 different communities. Meetings will be held at the Jewish Community Center and around our community.

Summary of Partnership:
Our Partnership is between the U.S. Central Area Consortium consisting of 14 U.S. Jewish Federation communities (see graphic), Budapest, Hungary, and Israel’s Western Galilee. It comprises an inclusive and active network of people focused on the mutual exchange of ideas and programs with the goal of developing relationships to strengthen our global Jewish Identity.

Registration Information: www.JewishYoungstown.org/2017summit
Contact Sarah Wilschek for more information 330 746.3250 x 123, SarahWilschek@JewishYoungstown.org

Saturday, June 24
Community Shabbat
10 a.m. Temple El Emeth —
A community Saturday morning service will be hosted at Temple El Emeth. A luncheon will follow. Guest speakers include Israeli leadership from Partnership2GETHER.

Butler Institute of American Art
5 p.m. Butler Institute of American Art —
A guided tour of the Butler Art Museum will be hosted by Director Lou Zona. Mr. Zona will be sharing the Jewish influence on American art. This is event is free and open to the public.

Summit welcome and kick-off party at the MVR
7 p.m. MVR Restaurant —
A welcome party will be held at the MVR in Youngstown. Guests will be exposed to Youngstown-style food and live music. Join us for a wonderful night, meeting guests from around the world, and enjoying the atmosphere. You can register for this event on the Partnership Summit Registration Page, or by calling the Federation (330) 746-3520 x 123. This event is $35/ guest.

Sunday, June 25
Summit
9 a.m. – 5 p.m. at the JCC —
The Partnership2GETHER Summit continues.

A Night to Honor P2G, Israel, and the Thomases Family Endowment of the YAJF
6 p.m. at the JCC —
Partnership2GETHER invites the community to dinner and to learn about our Partnership program, the local relationships we have with Israel, the work Israel is doing to help the victims of war in Syria, and to honor the Thomases Family Endowment for everything they have done for our communities — locally and in Israel.

Monday, June 26
Summit
9 a.m. – 5 p.m. JCC —
The Summit continues.

Barbecue in the Park
7 - 9 p.m. Pioneer Pavilion —
Partnership2GETHER will be hosting a BBQ at Pioneer Pavilion in Mill Creek Park. This party will include live entertainment by Yiddish Cup, picnic games, kosher catering, and a truly American picnic experience.

Tuesday, June 27
Summit
10 a.m. – 12 noon JCC —
The Summit concludes at noon.