The hot new restaurant in Philadelphia is Michael Solomonov's Zahav, featuring a world of Israeli cooking. His incredible mezza platter was part of WPSU's "Jewels of the Night" dinner. And the Jewish Journal was there. See story, page 10.

Fun for all at the JCC's Purim carnival on Sunday, March 20. Area synagogues also have Purim celebrations planned. See pages 21 and 23.

A dream come true for Rachel Zatcoff Kessler, making her Broadway debut in Phantom of the Opera. Read about her blossoming career on page 5. Rachel is the wife of Seth Kessler and daughter-in-law of Linda and Ron Kessler of Girard.
U.K. issues new guidelines against boycotts of Israel

(JNS.org) The British government on Wednesday announced new guidelines against boycotts of Israel by local governments within the United Kingdom.

The guidelines set forth by the British government make clear “that procurement boycotts by public authorities are inappropriate, outside where formal legal sanctions, embargoes and restrictions have been put in place by the government.”

“Town hall boycotts undermine good community relations, poisoning and polarizing debate, weakening integration and fueling anti-Semitism,” the British government said.

The guidelines also cite the World Trade Organization Government Procurement Agreement, which requires all of the accord’s signing countries to be treated fairly. Israel is included among those nations.

“Any public body found to be in breach of the regulations could be subject to severe penalties,” stated the British directive.

In December 2014, the local government in Leicester voted to boycott goods produced by Jewish communities located beyond the 1967 lines, in response to Israel’s actions in Gaza.

U.K. Cabinet Office Minister Matthew Hancock, who was in Israel recently, said that “we need to challenge and prevent these divisive town hall boycotts.”

“The new guidance on procurement combined with changes we are making to how pension pots can be invested will help prevent damaging and counter-productive local foreign policies undermining our national security,” he said.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu praised the U.K.'s move during a meeting with Hancock and a delegation of British officials in Jerusalem.

“I want to commend the British government for refusing to discriminate against Israel and Israelis, and I commend you for standing up for the one and only true democracy in the Middle East,” Netanyahu said.

Canada formally opposes BDS

Ottawa (JTA) An anti-BDS motion was passed by the Canadian Parliament in a 229-51 vote on Feb. 22. Introduced last week by members of the opposition Conservative Party, the motion won support from the ruling Liberal Party as well.

It calls on the Canadian government to "condemn any and all attempts by Canadian organizations, groups or individuals to promote the BDS movement, both here at home and abroad."

In addition, the motion notes Canada and Israel's "long history of friendship as well as economic and diplomatic relations." The motion says the BDS movement "promotes the demonization and delegitimization of the State of Israel."

Speaking in favour of the motion last week, Foreign Affairs Minister Stéphane Dion said "the world will win nothing for boycotting Israel but depriving itself of the talents of its inventiveness."

Canadian Jewish groups have praised the motion. In a statement last week to The CJN, Shimon Fogel, CEO of the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs, said, "The boycott movement does not contribute to peace and is not pro-Palestinian. It is discrimination based on nationality, and it harms both Israelis and Palestinians alike by driving the two sides further apart. The BDS movement is a fringe movement and is outside genuine peace efforts."

No sunshine for BDS: Florida passes anti-boycott bill

By Joshua Sharf/JNS.org

In a near-unanimous 112-2 vote, the Florida House of Representatives on Feb. 24 passed “Senate Bill 86: Scrutinized Companies,” legislation designed to prevent Florida from investing in or doing business with companies participating in boycotts of Israel.

If signed into law by Florida Governor Rick Scott, the bill would require the state to maintain a list of “scrutinized companies” participating in boycotts of Israel, or boycotts against companies and individuals doing business in Israel. Even a statement by a company that it planned to participate in such a boycott could be held against the company.

The bill also makes no distinction between undisputed Israeli territory and the communities located beyond Israel’s 1967 lines. Florida’s state government would be required to divest from companies on the “scrutinized” list, while municipal governments within the state would also be prohibited from contracting with companies on the list above a threshold amount.

In a growing trend of individual U.S. states taking legislative action against the anti-Israel Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement, Tennessee, New York, and Pennsylvania have all passed resolutions condemning BDS, while Illinois, Indiana, and South Carolina have gone even further. Illinois passed a bill that prohibits state pension funds from including in their portfolios companies that participate in the BDS movement.

South Carolina passed legislation that bars state agencies from contracting with any business that boycotts others “based on race, color, religion, gender, or national origin.”

Most recently, a measure passed unanimously in January by the Indiana House of Representatives requires “the public retirement system to divest from businesses that engage in action or inaction to boycott, divest from, or sanction Israel.” The Florida legislation, too, goes beyond condemnation of BDS.

“The [BDS] movement, while being anti-Israel, is not pro-peace or even pro-Palestinian. Its goals, if achieved, would leave Palestinians impoverished. We welcome the fact that Florida is joining Illinois and South Carolina in rejecting the boycott campaign,” said Roz Rothstein, CEO of the pro-Israel education and advocacy group StandWithUs.

The bill had passed unanimously in the Florida Senate, 38-0, before the 112-2 House vote. During both the floor debate and committee testimony in the House, Rep. Jared Moskowitz (D-Broward) noted that the BDS movement is becoming “cool” on even state-funded college campuses. He cited a recent vote by the University of South Florida Student Senate to request that the university divest from Israel. That vote was eventually vetoed by the student body’s president and vice president. Moskowitz also referenced the European Union’s recent removal of “Made in Israel” labels from Israeli products originating beyond the 1967 lines.

Other supporters of the Florida bill noted the close trade, military, and political ties between Israel and the United States, and the fact that Israel is the Middle East’s only functioning democracy.

At a Feb. 4 hearing of the Florida House State Affairs Committee, almost all of the citizen testimony against the bill came from college students, who argued that BDS was a “peaceful” way of pressuring Israel with respect to the settlements and its relations with the Palestinians. Attendees of the same hearing who support the bill pointed out that punishing Israel was less likely to result in a lasting two-state solution.

While most of the debate about the Florida bill focused on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and broader Arab-Israeli conflict, the matter is also one of pure politics further apart. The BDS movement is a fringe movement and is outside genuine peace efforts."

Roseanne Barr to speak in Jerusalem

(JTA) — American Jewish comedian Roseanne Barr will participate in a March 28 conference in Jerusalem about fighting the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions, or BDS, movement.

Barr was invited to the conference, which is sponsored by Israeli newspaper Yedioth Ahronoth, because of her involvement with the pro-Israel group StandWithUs, according to Ynet.

"I am proud to stand with Israel during the week of Purim," Barr said Thursday, according to Ynet. "This is the holiday where Esther mobilized the Jewish community, and because of her strong and unifying stance, she succeeded in..."
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April 1   7:30 p.m.

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.

March 15 is the deadline for articles and ads for the April 2015 issue.
On Sept. 2 last year, when Rachel Zatcoff debuted the role of Christine in the Broadway production of Phantom of the Opera, 70 members of her family were in the audience to welcome her. She says even now that she’s been performing on Mondays and Saturdays, a friend or family member is there for her every weekend. She said, “I’ve seen more of my parents in the last five months than in the previous five years.

For the little girl who started singing when she was 4 — as her father played the piano — to the teen who did lots of theater and musicals in middle school and high school — Upper Dublin High School in suburban Philadelphia — to a bachelor’s degree in vocal performance at Rutgers, and a master’s in opera, singing on Broadway was a dream come true.

Her first voice teacher played Phantom in the car, and then she saw the musical when she was 11 or 12. She soon knew almost every song in the musical theater repertoire, though she says Sondheim is her favorite.

The role of Christine is so demanding that two women share the role. Ms. Zatcoff said that on Broadway, only the Genie in Aladdin is played by two different men.

With her performance schedule, she says she has time for a normal life.

Rachel and now-husband Seth Kessler were set up by two close friends when she was at Rutgers and Seth was working in New York City, where he’s in commercial real estate.

She recalls that in 2013 when she and Seth were engaged, “I found out that I had been cast as Maria in an international tour of West Side Story, performing in 1313 different countries including in Israel.”

She says that was her first big step into the musical theater world.

The, last June, she had an audition for Phantom. First, there was a series of callbacks, then an hour of video, and then two weeks of waiting.

When her agent called to tell her the status of the audition, she said, “What if I told you, you were going to be making your Broadway debut in a month?”

When she began the auditioning process from Phantom, father-in-law Ron Kessler said, “When — not if — you start performing, I will come to New York every month to see you.” Rachel says he held to that promise.

There are many Kessler cousins in the New York area: Ari, Oren and his wife Jessica, Henry, Chloe, Gabby, and Sam.

This photograph of Rachel and co-star Jeremy Hays as Raoul and the cover photo were provided to the Journal by the Phantom production office.

(Continued on p. 23)
More than 30 people attended the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation’s first snowbird event in Phoenix, AZ., held at the home of Marsha Burdman, on Jan. 27.

Andy Lipkin, executive vice-president of the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation, spoke on the programs and services provided by the Federation and its agencies. Endowment Director Debbi Grinstein explained that “our programs are successful because of the compassion and perseverance of our staff and volunteers.”

Micah Halpern, a columnist and a social and political commentator, spoke at the event. Halpern specializes in analyzing world events and evaluating their relevance for and impact upon Jewish communities at home and in Israel. He lectures frequently, both in the United States and Israel, on issues relating to terror, foreign affairs, Israel and the Middle East.

He is the author of Thugs: How History’s Most Notorious Despots Transformed the World through Terror, Tyranny, and Mass Murder

During the successful event, people socialized with old friends and were enthusiastic about the Federation making the effort to visit Phoenix. This summer, the trip will be further evaluated to plan for a future program.

Among the attendees: (Upper right, left to right) Speaker Micah Halpern, Paul Gluck, and Eunice Feldman Robbins. (Below, left) Marsha Burdman. (Below center from left to right) Penny Lieberman Lutsi, Murray Malin, Louis and Marlene Epstein, and Bobbi Malin. (Below right), Yetta Gluck and Beverly Nathan.

### Purim Books at the JCC Library

Come to the JCC library to find a wonderful selection of Purim books. Listed below are some of what we have to offer.

**Books for Children**
- The Better-Than-Best Purim by Naomi Howland
- The Queen Who Saved Her People by Tilda Balsley
- Purim Play by Roni Schotter
- Cakes and Miracles: A Purim Tale by Barbara Diamond Goldin

**Books for Adults**
- The Purim Anthology by Philip Goodman
- The Jewish Holiday Kitchen by Joan Nathan
- Jewish Holiday Feasts by Louise Fiszer & Jeanette Ferrary
- The Children’s Jewish Holiday Kitchen by Joan Nathan

**Library Hours**
9-noon Monday, Wednesday and Friday

### JCC Library book club meets March 17

The next meeting of the JCC Library Book Club will be on Thursday, March 17 at 1:30 p.m. in the library. The group will discuss The Marriage of Opposites by Alice Hoffman.

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.

### Roseanne Barr (continued from p. 2)

overturning the brutal decree to destroy us.

Barr, who starred in the long-running sitcom “Roseanne,” will tour the country for two weeks prior to the conference and will be accompanied by her mother.

The comedian is an outspoken critic of the pro-Palestinian left and BDS. She has even called Jews who support BDS “anti-Semites.”

Others expected at the conference include Israeli President Reuven Rivlin, several government ministers and Knesset members and Sodastream CEO Daniel Birnbaum.
KAIFENG, China – For the first time in nearly seven years, five 20-something women from the ancient Chinese Jewish community of Kaifeng were set to arrive in Israel on Feb. 29 to fulfill their dreams of making Aliyah, thanks to the Jerusalem-based nonprofit Shavei Israel.

The women — Gao Yichen (“Weiwei”), Yue Ting, Li Jing, Li Yuan, and Li Chengjin (“Lulu”) have been studying Hebrew and Judaism intensively for several years in Kaifeng. Upon arrival in Israel, they will be greeted by Shavei Israel Chairman Michael Freund, who will take them straight from Ben Gurion Airport to the Western Wall (the Kotel) so they can thank God for helping them return to the land of their ancestors.

“Kaifeng’s Jewish descendants are a living link between China and the Jewish people,” said Freund, who succeeded in obtaining the requisite permission to bring the Chinese Jews on Aliyah after several years of struggling with the Israeli bureaucracy.

“After centuries of assimilation, a growing number of the Kaifeng Jews in recent years have begun seeking to return to their roots and embrace their Jewish identity,” Freund said, adding that, “These five young women are determined to rejoin the Jewish people and become proud citizens of the Jewish state, and we are delighted to help them realize their dreams.”

“Being part of the Jewish people is an honor, because of the heritage and wisdom,” said Li Jing, who on a brief previous visit to Israel put a note of prayer in the Kotel asking to return and live in Israel. “Now, my prayer has been answered,” she said.

The last time Shavei Israel was able to bring a group of Chinese Jews from Kaifeng on Aliyah was in October 2009, when seven young men from the community arrived in the Jewish state.

The five women plan to continue their Jewish studies at Jerusalem’s Midreshet Nishmat — The Jeanie Schottenstein Center For Advanced Torah Study For Women, with the support of Shavei Israel, which will also cover their living expenses and support them as they prepare to undergo formal conversion by Israel’s Chief Rabbinate. Upon completion of the conversion process, they will receive Israeli citizenship.

The Chinese Jews of Kaifeng are believed to have been founded by Iraqi or Persian Jewish merchants in the 8th or 9th century. Kaifeng’s Jewish community built a large and beautiful synagogue in 1163, which was renovated throughout the years.

At its peak, during the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644), the Kaifeng Jewish community may have numbered up to 5,000 people. But widespread intermarriage and assimilation, and the death of the community’s last rabbi, brought about its demise by the early 19th century. Today the community claims between 500 to 1,000 members.

Despite the pressure to assimilate, many of the Kaifeng Jews sought to preserve their Jewish identity and pass it down to their descendants, who continue to observe Jewish customs. Today the community is experiencing a revived interest in its roots, and Shavei Israel has been providing support while helping some immigrate to Israel.

About Shavei Israel:
Shavei Israel is a non-profit organization founded by Michael Freund, who immigrated to Israel from the United States, with the aim of strengthening the ties between the Jewish people, the State of Israel and the descendants of Jews around the world. The organization is currently active in nine countries and provides assistance to a variety of different communities such as the Bnei Menashe of India, the Bnei Anousim (referred to as the derogatory “Maranos” by historians) in Spain, Portugal and South America, the Subbotnik Jews of Russia, the Jewish community of Kaifeng in China, descendants of Jews living in Poland, and others. For more information visit: www.shavei.org.
ASSISTED LIVING

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Samuel Willenberg, the last survivor of the Treblinka camp revolt, has died.

Willenberg, who escaped the Nazi death camp in 1943, died on Friday, Feb. 21, at his home in Tel Aviv. He was 93.

He was born in 1923 in Częstochowa, Poland, to a Jewish father and a mother who converted to Judaism from Orthodox Christianity, and was taken to the Treblinka death camp in Nazi-occupied Poland in 1942, when he was 19 years old.

At the advice of an acquaintance, Willenberg told Nazi guards when he entered Treblinka that he was a bricklayer, which saved his life; the rest of his transport was killed in the gas chambers.

Willenberg was a leader of the August 1943 revolt at the camp, in which 300 prisoners escaped. About 100 of the escaped inmates survived, according to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial and Museum in Washington, D.C.

Over 800,000 Jews from Poland and Greece were killed at Treblinka.

Willenberg later joined the Polish partisans and took part in the Warsaw Uprising in 1944.

He moved to Israel in 1950 and spent the rest of his life teaching about the Holocaust, including visiting Poland and Treblinka with high school students.

Willenberg wrote a memoir about his experiences called “Revolt in Treblinka.” He had hoped to establish a museum at Treblinka, which had mostly been leveled by the Nazis at the end of the war.

“Samuel Willenberg was a hero who defied the odds and risked his life during the darkest time in modern history,” World Jewish Congress CEO Robert Singer said in a statement. “He dedicated his life’s work to the memory of those who perished in the Holocaust and to honoring the Jewish people.

“As the number of living Holocaust survivors dwindles, it is our duty to continue their legacy and ensure that future generations remember their sacrifices and never forget the horrors that the Jewish people were forced to endure.”
Bringing evil out of the shadows

CLEVELAND, OH  Operation Finale: The Capture & Trial of Adolf Eichmann, on view now at the Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage, reveals the heretofore secret history behind one of the 20th century’s most sensational events.

From a conversation with a top prosecutor of Nazi war criminals to a look at modern-day secret intelligence, public programs at the Beachwood museum explore the legacy of the clandestine capture and globally broadcast trial of a high profile Nazi war criminal. “These exhibition-related events look at how the Eichmann case changed the world's understanding of the Holocaust,” says Jeffery Allen, director of education and public programs. “We'll also explore the nature of evil as well as the concepts justice and responsibility.”

Operation Finale: The Capture & Trial of Adolf Eichmann is the first exhibition in the U.S. to fully document the daring capture and globally broadcast trial of a principal perpetrator of The Final Solution.

The artifacts in Operation Finale were only recently declassified by the Mossad and their appearance in this exhibition marks the first time the national intelligence service has allowed archival materials related a clandestine operation to leave Israel.

The 4,000-square-foot multimedia exhibition produced by the Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage in collaboration with The Mossad — Israeli Secret Intelligence Service and Beit Hatfutsot — The Museum of the Jewish People, Tel Aviv, will travel to other museums across the country after its debut in Cleveland.

The head of the Nazis' homicidal "Jewish Department" who zealously managed the transport of millions of innocent people to death camps disappeared after World War II.

Photographs, film and recently declassified espionage artifacts never before seen outside of Israel reveal the dramatic secret history behind the pursuit, capture, extradition and 1961 trial of a notorious Nazi war criminal.

Space is limited and advance reservations are always recommended. Programs with an asterisk (*) include admission to Operation Finale. For more information on these and other Maltz Museum events and exhibitions, call 216 593-0575 or visit maltzmuseum.org.

The Eichmann Show*
Wed., March 9, 7 p.m.
Free with Museum admission ($12 adults, $10 seniors)

Ground-breaking producer Milton Fruchtman and blacklisted TV director Leo Hurwitz's amazing efforts to televise the 1961 trial of Adolf Eichmann are dramatized in this BBC film starring Martin Freeman and Anthony Lapaglia.

The impact of Eichmann on Catholic-Jewish relations*
Wed., March 23, 7 p.m.
$12 general, $6 Maltz Museum members

Dr. Richard Steigmann-Gall, author of The Holy Reich: Nazi Conceptions of Christianity, 1919-1945 and associate professor of history at Kent State University, explores the impact of the Eichmann trial on Catholic-Jewish relations.

The power of music and the human spirit
Wed., March 30, 7 p.m.  - Free
Cuyahoga Community College East Campus (4250 Richmond Road, Highland Hills, OH 44122)

(Continued on p . 9)
Ph.D. candidate finishing her dissertation and the sustaining power of hope. A Holocaust. In conjunction with Books@professional women artists during the Holocaust. Baker invites conversation and reflection on narratives produced by professional women artists during the Holocaust. In conjunction with Books@work, Baker explores memory, image, and the sustaining power of hope. A Ph.D. candidate finishing her dissertation on women’s Holocaust narratives, Baker has written a chapter in the forthcoming Food, Feminisms, and Rhetoric from Southern Illinois University Press.

Playreading 101*
3-part series: Thurs., April 7, May 5 & June 2, 1-3 p.m.
$35 general, $25 Maltz Museum Members

Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage
Local playwright and Interplay Jewish Theatre founder Faye Sholiton leads discussions around play scripts that relate compelling stories of the Holocaust in this three-part series. Arthur Miller’s Incident at Vichy looks at the guilt, fear and complicity of individuals facing judgment; Tadeusz Slobodzianek’s Our Class examines small-town Polish childhood friendships destroyed by anti-Semitism, violence and lawlessness; and Juan Mayorga’s Way to Heaven observes Nazi propaganda in action.

Looking Back at Eichmann in Jerusalem*
Wed., April 13, 7 p.m.
$12 general, $6 Maltz Museum members

Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage
Fifty-five years ago the State of Israel placed Nazi war criminal Adolf Eichmann on trial. Dr. Jay Geller explores reactions to this landmark moment in Israeli and modern Jewish history and how the globally broadcast event and Hannah Arendt’s controversial reporting changed public understanding of the Holocaust across the world.

Post-9/11 FBI*
Wed., April 27, 7 p.m.
$12 general, $6 Maltz Museum members

Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage
In a post-9/11 world, the FBI shifted its mandate from “white collar crime” to “counterterrorism, counterintelligence, and cyber security.” Join Assistant Special Agent in Charge-Cleveland FBI Ken Keppler for this exclusive look into the world of the modern spy.

Spring ahead: daylight saving time begins on March 13.
From Squirrel Hill to Israel and then to fame in Philadelphia

Story and photographs by Patricia R. Kelvin, Journal Editor

The Jewish community of State College, PA, is not large, but the fame of Michael Solomonov’s modern Israeli restaurant, Zahav, in Philadelphia as well as his Federal Donut chain and Percy Street Barbecue, means his cuisine draws a clientele far beyond some perceived ethnic border.

So when WPSU, Penn State’s PBS/NPR station, started planning its 24th annual Connoisseur’s Dinner and Auction, Chef Solomonov seemed an ideal choice.

A 2011 James Beard award winner for “Best Chef, Mid-Atlantic,” he has also been recognized by The New York Times, Bon Appetit, Food and Wine, Condé Nast Traveler, and Travel + Leisure for his culinary accomplishments.

All the food was prepared in the kitchen of the Nittany Lion Inn, except (Continued on p. 22)
International delegations converge on Friends of Zion Museum

JERUSALEM/PRNewswire/—The Friends of Zion Museum hosted two major international delegations to its Jerusalem campus two weeks ago. The Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations brought more than 100 leaders from the Conference’s 53 member organizations along with a distinguished group from the diplomatic corps that included numerous ambassadors serving in Israel to attend private events at the museum.

The museum is dedicated to telling the stories of Christian “Heroes of Faith,” many of whom risked their own reputations, livelihoods, and some their lives.

The Conference of Presidents, in Israel for its 42nd consecutive annual leadership mission to Israel, met with three heads of state and high-level Israeli leaders, academics, diplomats and opinion makers across the political spectrum during their mission.

South Africa’s Ambassador Ngombe expressed the feelings of the diplomatic delegation when he said, “This was a very good experience which captured history in a very precise way.”

Attending were representatives from the diplomatic community from Angola, Belize, Cameroon, Canada, Cyprus, France, Georgia, Ghana, Hungary, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Mexico, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Panama, Poland, Romania, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Spain, Taiwan, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States and Uruguay.

The museum presented the John Patterson Leadership Award to Malcolm Hoenlein, the executive vice chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations. The award is an exact replica of the flag of the Jewish Legion, the first Jewish fighting force in over 2000 years.

Jewish Legion, was a unit of five battalions of Jewish volunteers created within the British Army to fight the Ottoman Empire during World War I. It brought a greater breadth and depth to the understanding of biological species and their adaptation to changing environmental conditions, as well as for his ground-breaking research that has opened up new and exciting directions, which could lead to breakthroughs in human diseases including cancer.

A member of the Faculty of Natural Sciences at the Department of Evolutionary and Environmental Biology, he established in a number of locations in Israel, has become a classic model for studying evolutionary origin of species and their adaptation to changing environmental conditions, as well as for his ground-breaking research that has opened up new and exciting directions, which could lead to breakthroughs in human diseases including cancer.

A member of the Faculty of Natural Sciences at the Department of Evolutionary and Environmental Biology, he joined the University of Haifa in 1972, founded the Institute of Evolution and the International Centre for Advanced Studies in Evolution. Prof. Nevo has published over 1,000 peer-reviewed articles and more than 20 books on a wide variety of topics in the biology and evolution of many species, including bacteria, fungi, plants, animals and humans.

Over the years, Prof. Nevo, in collaboration with his colleagues, studied hundreds of species, and the “Evolution Canyon” scientific model which he established in a number of locations in Israel, has become a classic model for studying evolutionary origin of species in contrasting climates.

Prof. Nevo participated in the discovery of 77 species of fungi in the Dead Sea, as well as in sequencing the complete genome of some of them, and in identification of genes responsible for the survival of fungi in saline environment, a discovery that could contribute to world food security.

Other rationales for the win cited by the Israel Prize committee include: Nevo’s studies of blind mole rats as a unique evolutionary model that provides an understanding of the resilience of the mole rat to oxygen-poor environment which could lead to breakthroughs in cancer research and the establishment of one of the largest gene banks of wild cereals at the Institute of Evolution at the University of Haifa.
Beautiful – The Carole King Musical

It tells the inspiring true story of King’s remarkable rise to stardom, from being part of a hit song writing team with her husband Gerry Goffin to her relationship with fellow writers and best friends Cynthia Weil and Barry Mann, to becoming one of the most successful solo acts in popular music history. Along the way, Carole King made more than beautiful music, she wrote the soundtrack to a generation. Beautiful features a stunning array of beloved songs including “I Feel the Earth Move,” “One Fine Day,” “(You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman,” and “You’ve Got A Friend” The price includes orchestra seat and transportation. Dinner is on your own.

Date: Sunday, April 10
Leave JCC: 2:00 p.m.
Return JCC: 8:00 p.m.
Cost: $97/ Member $107/Non Member

Dancing in the Streets

Join the original celebration of Motown’s Greatest Hits with the spectacular, critically acclaimed “Dancing in the Streets.” Experience the energy and electricity of the motor city in a stunning production packed with hit after hit. Expect your favorite songs made famous by The Four Tops, The Temptations, Stevie Wonder and many more. Price includes orchestra seat, transportation and tip for the bus driver. Dinner is on your own.

Date: Sunday, April 17
Location: Pittsburgh, PA
Leave JCC: 1:00 p.m.
Return: 8:00 p.m.
$60/Member $70/Non Member

MATILDA

Winner of 50 international awards, including four Tony Awards, “Matilda” the Musical is the story of an extraordinary girl who dares to take a stand and change her own destiny. Based on the beloved novel by Roald Dahl, “Matilda” continues to thrill sold out audiences of all ages on Broadway and in London’s West End. The Wall Street Journal says, “The Makers of “Matilda” have done the impossible triumphantly!” Price includes orchestra seat, transportation and tip for the bus driver. Dinner on your own.

Date: Sunday, May 22
Location: Cleveland, OH
Leave JCC: 11:00 a.m.
Return: 7:00 p.m.
Orchestra: $100/Member $115/Non Member
Dress Circle: $110/Member $130/Non Member

Sarah Key

Julia Jarmond is an American journalist living in Paris with her French husband, assigned to cover the anniversary of France’s notorious 1942 Vel’ d’Hiv Roundup of Jews in World War II. She’s stunned to discover that her husband’s family apartment was the scene of an unspeakable incident committed during the war; and a young French girl holds the key to unlock the devastating truth. Price includes light lunch.

Date: Thursday, April 28
Time: Noon – 2:00 p.m.
Location: Multi-Purpose Room
$5/Member $7/Non Member
$10 after April 12

Mah Jong

The game of Mah Jong has been experiencing a resurgence in popularity. Don’t miss the opportunity to learn this great game for all generations. We are so fortunate to have Shirley Arnold, who has been playing and teaching for numerous years to be your instructor. Each participant must have a current 2016 Mah Jong card that may be purchased at the JCC Bursar office for $9.00.

Date: Tuesdays: May 3, 10, 17, 24,
Time: 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.
Location: Adult Lounge
$45/Member $55/Non Member

Let’s Make Music Guitar Program

Join us twice a week for this three week program as we learn the basics of playing guitar from a music instructor. Participants will be provided with their own guitar for this three week period and they will be able to take it home to practice! You must be able to participate in all three weeks to register. Guitars must be returned upon completion of this program.

Date: Mondays and Wednesdays, April 4, 6, 11, 13, 18, 20
Time: 4:30 – 6:00 p.m.
Location: JCC
$40 Member $50/Non Member
Maximum number of participants: 10

Bravery in the battlefield: the courageous story of an Israeli hero

Hear the inspiring story of Major Nimrod Erez, a former captain in the Israeli Navy, who fought in the Yom-Kippur War. As a young officer, Nimrod and his soldiers were caught in a fire fight at an Egypt harbor. His courageous actions during battle saved many lives and he was awarded the Medal of Honor.

Date: Monday, April 18
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: Multi-Purpose Room
This event is free and open to the public

SHLICHIM

For more on Shlichim programming, contact Gon Erez: 330-746-3250 ext. 195 or gerez@jewishyoungstown.org

Peruvian Art & Culture Night

(See p. 24)

For more on Youth Programming, contact Emily Collins 330-746-3250 Ext. 152 or Ecollins@jccyoungstown.org

PJ Library

PJ Library is a Jewish family engagement program implemented on a local level throughout North America. Through the program, we mail free, high-quality Jewish children’s literature and music to families across the greater Youngstown area on a monthly basis. All families raising Jewish children from age six months through eight years are welcome to enroll. The books are also available at the JCC Library for checkout. All PJ Library programming and events are open to members of the greater Youngstown community, and are not limited to the Jewish community.
**A Complex Identity: Arab Women in Israeli Society**

Why Arab women in Israel are increasingly seen as key to social and economic development of Arab communities and the country as a whole. A stimulating discussion with Dr. Dalia Fadila, president of Al-Qasemi Academy, an Arab college of education in Israel and Founder of Q Schools, private schools for teaching English in Israel.

**Date:** Monday, April 4

**Time:** 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Light refreshments will be served.

R.S.V.P. to Gon Erez: 330-746-3250 ext. 195 or gerez@jewishyoungstown.org

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**FITNESS**

For more information on Fitness and Personal Training, contact Keith Harry 330-746-3250 ext. 182 or kharry@jccyoungstown.org.

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

**Personal Training Benefits**

- Personalized safe and effective fitness programs
- Achieve goals in a short time period
- Improve muscle coordination, strength, endurance, and flexibility

Personal Training sessions now include weighted rope training, suspension training and battle rope training.

**Youth Personal Training (ages 8-13)**

- A package of three, 30-minute personal training sessions, $66.00 (member)
- Upper body, Lower body, Cardio, and Abdominal training specific
- Proper gym etiquette and fitness center behavior emphasized
- At the conclusion of the three sessions, the attendee will receive a special name tag which will allow them to utilize the center and its offerings with adult supervision if between the ages of 8-13

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**GROUP EXERCISE**

For more information on Group Fitness, contact Shelia Cornell, groupx@jccyoungstown.org or 330-746-3250 ext. 184

**Group Exercise Certification**

Potential and current fitness instructors will learn basic academic and practical application of teaching group exercise. Workshop includes a full-day review, written exam and 2-year certification.

**Saturday, April 16**

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**Jewish Community Center**

**Workshop Fee:** $299

**Early bird fee if registered before March 17, $249**

**Body Weight Training**

Develop workouts that improve cardiovascular fitness, total body strength, and core stability simply using your own body weight.

**Sunday, April 17**

8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

**Jewish Community Center**

**Workshop Fee:** $119

**Play Pickleball at the JCC!**

It's a fun sport that combines elements of tennis, badminton and ping-pong played in the JCC gymnasium.

**Dates:** Monday & Wednesday 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Tuesday & Thursday 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Friday 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Sunday 11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

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**AQUATICS**

For more information on Aquatics, contact Caroline McDermott, aquatics@jccyoungstown.org or 330-746-3250 ext. 112

**Learn-to-Swim**

Classes are taught by trained Learn-to-Swim Instructors. The JCC Aquatics department offers swim lessons throughout the year in private and small group settings.

**Small Group Lessons**

All Small Group Learn-to-Swim classes start on the first Saturday of each month. Classes run monthly.

**You & Me Baby**

This is a monthly class where parents assist their children in the water. Children will learn how to float on their backs and stomachs and will improve their motor skills.

**Swim Team**

The recreational swim team will have a 7-week sessions for the first part of the year.

**Spring:** March 28 – May 20

Register online. The deadline to register is the Sunday before practice starts for the session.

**Recreational Groups**

**Discovery 1**

Choose **ONE** of the following practice times:

- Tuesday 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.
- Thursday 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.
- Friday 5:00-6:00 p.m.

**$80/session**

**Discovery 2**

Choose **TWO** of the following practice times:

- Tuesday 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.
- Thursday 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.
- Friday 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

**$160/session**

**Swim Team**

The upcoming session will run for seven weeks from March 28 – May 20

Register online. The deadline to register is the Sunday before the first day of practice.

**F.Y.I.-Family and Youth Initiative**

**Dive-In Movie**

Relax in our pool while watching *Avengers: Age of Ultron* (PG-13)

**Date:** Monday, March 21

**Time:** 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.
Priceless 1700-year-old Lod Mosaic from Israel on display in Miami

Visitors to Miami this winter travel season have a chance to meet a true “Roman Rock Star” up close in the magnificent Lod Mosaic, a 3rd-century CE Roman Mosaic from the Eastern Roman Empire in modern-day Israel.

The exhibition in Miami (opened February 10, closes May 15) has been generously underwritten by the museum’s patrons Patricia and Phillip Frost and provides a rare opportunity to see one of the world’s finest, largest and most well-preserved ancient mosaics up close.

The Israel Antiquities Authority is shipping to Miami an additional never-before-seen portion of the mosaic from the excavation that has not traveled outside of Israel. The Miami version of this world tour will be the first time this additional panel has been exhibited.

This spectacular discovery is lauded for its remarkable state of preservation. Because Miami’s peak tourism season coincides with the exhibition, travelers from all over the world who flock to the sunshine capital during the winter will also be able to witness the 1,700-year-old masterpiece.

Critics and reviewers have heralded the artist who created this masterwork as one of the world’s greatest mosaic artists ever, and have called this mosaic superstar “The Roman Rock Star.”

The museum is located on the campus of Florida International University, located at 10975 S.W. 17 Street, Miami, FL 33199

Especially during today’s troubled times with heritage sites in danger in war-torn areas, the Lod Mosaic provides a spectacular example of rescue archaeology and conservation.

The Israel Antiquities Authority saved the Lod Mosaic after it was discovered by a construction crew during a 1996 excavation to widen a roadway.

The Lod Mosaic dates back to the 3rd century CE when the town of Lod was a part of the Roman Empire. The exquisitely detailed mosaic is believed to be the floor of a large audience room, in a grand villa owned by a wealthy Roman merchant whose trade route crossed between Jerusalem and the Mediterranean.

The exhibition’s title, “Predators and Prey,” references the marvelous menagerie of exotic animals portrayed. The mosaic is of no religious affiliation, residents at the time were mostly Pagans, Christians and Jews.

The Lod Mosaic is one of the most-viewed Israeli touring exhibitions in history. When the Israel Antiquities Authority originally excavated the mosaic and opened it to the public for only one weekend, more than 30,000 people traveled to Lod to see the ancient marvel during the two-day period.

“We are absolutely delighted and honored to have been afforded this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to exhibit a significant work from Roman antiquity at the Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum” says Dr. Jordana Pomeroy, the museum’s director. “The Lod Mosaic’s excellent state of preservation and the IAA’s superior conservation allow us to appreciate how the finest mosaic work can bring alive the ancient world. The mosaic captured the interest of Patricia and Phillip Frost who wanted to share their enthusiasm with the Miami community through this exhibition.”

Historical Background

The Israeli town of Lod stands on the site of the ancient city of Lydda, which developed in a fertile plain on an important trade route, the Via Maris, from Egypt to Syria and Mesopotamia. A center of culture and craft production, after being destroyed by the Romans in 66 CE during the first Jewish-Roman War, the city was rebuilt with the name Diospolis, the “city of Zeus.”

Around 200 CE, Septimius Severus made it a Roman colony. Archaeologists have calculated that more than two million tesserae (ancient tiles) were used to create the 1,700-year-old masterwork.

Three central panels were chosen from the excavation for the traveling exhibition, two rectangular end panels surrounding a large square central medallion. Featured are indigenous animals coexisting with ferocious wild creatures such as lions and tigers, an elephant and a giraffe, and Asian water buffalo, plus marine life, a sea monster and merchant ships.

The mosaic holds unresolved mysteries, adding to its allure. Why are there no deities or human beings portrayed, something highly unusual for such a grand floor mosaic from this time period?

Mosaic pavements were integral to ancient architecture, and the traveling exhibition is uniquely displayed on the floor as it was meant to be seen.

The Past Has a Future

Flash-forward 1,700 years and the current municipality of Lod and the Israel Antiquities Authority have recognized this opportunity to create a tourism center focusing on its newly-recovered ancient mosaics. After its exhibition, (Continued on p. 17)
What if we just boosted our reach and had the stats to prove it?

All figures refer to the the final quarter of 2015. Data compiled January 4, 2016.

**WEBSITE**  businessjournaldaily.com

- **QUARTERLY WEB VISITORS**: 170,530
  - individual visitors to the site October through December 2015

- **QUARTERLY PAGE VIEWS**: 272,000
  - amount of times visitors arrive on individual pages

**EMAIL**

- **EMAIL SUBSCRIBERS**: 6,234
  - AM & PM email each business day

- **OPEN RATE**: 27%
  - Open Rate is a measure of how many people on an email list open/view an email campaign.
  - National Industry Average = 19%

**facebook**

- **LIKES**: 2,941
  - quarterly impressions: 6,575,000

**twitter**

- **FOLLOWERS**: 2,167
  - quarterly impressions: 221,800

**linkedin**

- **FOLLOWERS**: 11,877
  - quarterly impressions: 328,000

**Total Digital Impressions**

*Delivered 4th Quarter 2015*

7.4 million

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An active March for Congregation Ohev Tzedek

Shabbat Across America
Friday, March 4 5:30-8 p.m.
Ohev Tzedek will be having a service and vegetarian/dairy potluck in collaboration with Shabbat Across America on at the Boardman Park Georganna Parker Center. Bring your favorite vegetarian dish to share. R.S.V.P. to the office.

Hamantaschen baking
Sunday, March 6, beginning at 10 a.m.
In preparation for Purim, Phyllis Oresky will be leading a hamentashen bake session at Ohev Tzedek on Sunday, March 6, beginning at 10 a.m. All are welcome.

Kreplach and Dim Sum
Sunday, March 13, 5-8 p.m.
Robyn Helzner will be presenting “Kreplach and Dim Sum: Yes, There Are Jews in China” on Sunday, March 13 from 5-8 p.m.. The $15 cost will include a Chinese-inspired dinner, along with a lively multimedia presentation about the extraordinary history of Jewish communities in China.

Torah study for Christians
Wednesday, March 16, 1-2:30 pm.
Rabbi Saul Oresky and Father George Balasko will be leading a Torah Study for Christians class at Villa Maria on This month’s topic will be Purim.

MSJS/Akiva community Friday night service and dinner
Friday, April 8, 6 p.m.
Temple Ohev Tzedek
Please join us for a Friday Night dinner followed by Kabbalat Shabbat Service, led by MSJS/Akiva Students, families, and staff.

Adults $10. Children up to 10th grade are free of charge.
Please make reservation with payment by Wed. March 30 to “CJE,” and mail it with your reservation form to Akiva Academy,

Adult Ed
Current classes are running as follows:

Kashrut: The Hows and Whys:
How would I keep kosher? Why would I keep kosher? Is there more to kashrut than knowing which animals are eaten and how they are killed? What do the kashrut symbols mean? How is kashrut related to the rest of Jewish identity and observance?
The class meets Wednesdays at 2 p.m. at Ohev Tzedek.

An Introduction to Process Theology:
Using Rabbi Bradley Artson’s God of Becoming and Relationship - The Dynamic Nature of Process Theology, we will explore a unique approach to theology. All our lives, we are involved in a relationship with G-d that grows and changes. Process Theology attempts to explain that dynamic. Our world is ever-changing. Process Theology gives us a way to cope with that change. People say that G-d no longer communicates with us. But he does, in many ways. Process Theology shows us how.
The class meets Mondays at 7 p.m. at Ohev Tzedek.

News, Booze, Chews, and Shmooze:
Weekly discussion of Jewishly relevant current events followed by a l’chaim to our continued existence and dinner and socializing! Members of the class will be assigned a session to introduce the topic and provide printed articles for discussion.
The first class will meet on Monday, March 7 at Fire Grill in Girard and run from 11:15 a.m.-1 p.m.

Services
Shabbat morning, 9:45 a.m.
Minyan - Thursday, 7:45 a.m.
the chairman and CEO of Advanced Bionics Corporation, which developed neurostimulation devices for various neural deficits, beginning with cochlear stimulators and moving on to various other neurostimulation applications.

Another of his companies, Second Sight, has developed and now has approval in the U.S. and Europe for a system to restore sight to the blind. Bioness and AMF are both developing systems to enable the lame to walk. Mr. Mann also created Quallion, which develops, manufactures and markets advanced lithium batteries and Stellar Microelectronics, which manufactures advanced electronic assemblies under contract. Both companies were sold in 2013.

The prolific Mr. Mann also founded and was chairman and CEO of Pacesetter Systems, Inc., which developed, manufactured and distributed cardiac pacemakers, from 1972 until 1985 when it was acquired by Siemens, AG. Mr. Mann founded and endowed, and from 1985 until 2006 served as chairman of the board of trustees of The Alfred Mann Foundation, a nonprofit research organization devoted to development of advanced medical products in a variety of fields.

At the time of his death, Mr. Mann was chairman of the board of trustees of the Alfred Mann Institutes at the University of Southern California and The Technion Institute (Israel), medical research foundations founded and endowed principally by Mr. Mann. He also served as a trustee for the University of Southern California, and as a member of the Board of Overseers of the Keck USC School of Medicine.

Mr. Mann holds B.A. and M.S. degrees in physics from UCLA and honorary doctorate degrees from the University of Southern California, The Johns Hopkins University, Western University and the Technion Institute (Israel). Mr. Mann is a member of the National Academy of Engineering and has received numerous honors and awards from the private and public sectors.

Notable among them, Mr. Mann received the Elie Wiesel Humanism in Healing Award, the Distinguished Humanitarian Award, B’nai Brith International, the Albert Einstein Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Life Sciences and was named Business Leader and Humanitarian of the Year Award (Jewish Vocational Service).

Mr. Mann, whose fortune was estimated at $1.5 billion, is involved in Israeli industry having invested $100m in the Alfred Mann Institute at the Technion (AMIT), which commercializes medical technologies developed at the Technion Israel Institute of Technology.

Throughout his distinguished career, Mann dedicated himself to developing technologies that dramatically improve patients’ lives.

Lod Mosaic (continued from p. 14)

The Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum FIU, the mosaic will return to Lod where the Shelby White and Leon Levy Lod Mosaic Center is currently under construction.

The Lod Mosaic is on loan from the Israel Antiquities Authority and the Shelby White and Leon Levy Lod Mosaic Center.

The Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum FIU, the Smithsonian Affiliate in Miami, opened its current 46,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art building in November 2008. Admission to the Museum is always free. The Frost is an American Alliance of Museums accredited museum, and is located at 10975 SW 17 Street, across from the Blue Garage and adjacent to the Wertheim Performing Arts Center. The museum is open to the public Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Sunday noon-5 p.m. Closed on Mondays and most legal holidays.

Roman Mosaic from Lod, Israel (detail)

Roman, ca. A.D. 300, excavated at Lod, Israel, stone tesserae. Image courtesy of the Israel Antiquities Authority (From the exhibition “Predators and Prey: A Roman Mosaic from Lod, Israel”)
From Jan. 24-26 during Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price’s Week of Compassionate Service in Fort Worth, TX, the Fort Worth Area Jewish Federation met with its Israeli counterparts and friends from other Partnership2Gether U.S. communities.

Members of the Fort Worth Jewish community were invited to meet the Partnership2Gether guests from the Western Galilee; Budapest, Hungary; and more than 10 U.S. communities; 24-26th January

As a participant in the conference, Nancy Burnett reflected on her experience:

Partnership2Gether is a thriving program under the umbrella of Jewish Federations internationally. Having attended this recent conference in Fort Worth, I learned the importance and beauty of a shared cultural heritage.

I learned that although we came from vastly different walks of life, our mission in life is the same — making the world a better place through connections and partnerships. I learned that although we spoke different languages and came from different parts of the globe, we share a bond of humanity that began thousands of years ago in a tiny place called Israel.

Just as the very first human beings faced daily struggles for survival, sometimes we, too, face seemingly insurmountable issues. But just as the 600,000 Israelites followed Moses through the desert, when we gathered together — at Mt. Sinai or Fort Worth, TX, — with a common purpose and a shared heritage, we find ways to better all humanity.

The mission statement of P2G contains key phrases that summarize my individual commitment: “forging relationships” and “Jewish identity.” Jewish identity is the common thread of the tapestry that binds us all together. That identity includes all who accept the laws of Judaism — whether by birth or choice. When we recite the Sh’mi every day, we reaffirm the commitment to teach God’s laws to our children, thus instilling our history, heritage, and identity to all generations, past and future.

Partnership2Gether allows individuals from all backgrounds, localities, and age groups to share in the rich cultural heritage afforded to us at birth. By knowing and understanding each other on a personal level, we come closer to the words of the Torah and to the peaceful coexistence of all the world’s inhabitants. Through art, music, literature, education and conversation, we find the commonalities that bind us together. We partner together or a better world.

Visiting sofer repairs OT Torahs

Rabbi Levi Selwyn, the sofer who repaired three Torahs at Ohev Tzedek in February, says, “Besides writing the letters that I love, working with people, Torah, and Hashem all in one job — how bad can your day be?”

A Sofer ST”M [scribe], Rabbi Selwyn travels throughout the United States working on Torahs, tefillin, and mezuzot. Originally from England, Rabbi Selwyn studied at the Rabbinical College of America in New Jersey. Subsequently, he immigrated to Australia where he was ordained and became chief rabbi of the Newtown Synagogue in Sydney.

Rabbi Selwyn returned to the United States to serve as director of the Hebrew School and Youth Programing for the Shul by the Shore in Long Beach, CA. He became a naturalized American citizen last year.

Now living in Miami, Rabbi Selwyn is a member of Sofer On Site where he serves as the educational director of many of the outreach and educational program activities.

During Rabbi Selwyn’s visit to Ohev Tzedek, Neil Yutkin observed, “It is easily apparent to see the love that Rabbi Selwyn has for his work. He not only enjoys working on Torahs, but also teaching those who have an interest in the procedures that must be followed to accomplish his work.

“His eyes shine while he describes why he is sharpening the turkey feather that is one of the main tools of his trade. “They seem to get even brighter when he describes some of the prayers that he has to recite when he reaches certain passages and words that he is repairing.”

In an interview with the Jewish Book Council, Rabbi Selwyn said, “I know that before I leave a Torah, it has to be in the best shape possible and that all my repairs must be done according to the laws of Safrut. It takes many hours of concentrated work. When I’m back on the plane I go through my head many times to be sure that I did not leave anything out.

While Rabbi Selwyn has completed his work on three of the Ohev Tzedek’s Torah scrolls, he may be back in the area to work on scrolls again in the future, as he returns many times to the same locations when the need arises.

Editor’s note: In establishing Partnership2Gether, the Jewish Agency for Israel and the Jewish Federations of North America have developed the most successful and effective model for creating enduring and meaningful partnerships between global Jewish communities and communities in Israel.
March activities at the synagogue

Jewish Christian Dialogue
Wednesday, March 2
At the Synagogue.

Cake and coffee are served at 12:30 p.m. with the program beginning at 1 p.m. Dr. Kong T. Oh will present the Baha’i traditions of Mysticism. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Sisterhood meeting and lunch
Tuesday, March 8.

An Open Board meeting will begin at 10:45 a.m. followed by lunch and the program at noon. Bonnie Deutsch Burdman will speak on “Current Events in Politics.” R.S.V.P. to the office for lunch.

Women’s Rosh Chodesh
Wednesday, March 9, 11:30 a.m.

(please note change of date) Brunch will be served, and Carol Gottesman will lead the group marking the new month of Adar II. All women are invited to attend. No charge for brunch, but reservations are appreciated. R.S.V.P. by March 7.

PJ Library at El Emeth
March 16, 6 - 7:30 p.m.

All children 8 and under are invited to wear their favorite costumes to El Emeth’s Purim celebration. There will be hamantashen to make, Purim crafts and fun. R.S.V.P. to Temple 330-759-1429 or Emily Collins at the JCC 330-746-3251.

El Emeth Sisterhood Bake Sale at the Purim Carnival
Sunday, March 20
Front Lobby of the JCC.

Delicious baked goods made by our members including El Emeth Sisterhood’s wonderful hamantashen.

El Emeth/Ohev Tzedek Purim Celebration
Wednesday, March 23
El Emeth.

Minyan 5:30 p.m.
Megillah reading beginning at 5:45.

Everyone is invited to come in costume. Music, balloon artist Joe Sullivan, prizes for all children and our Purim Band. A hot dog and super-sized salad bar supper will follow the Megillah reading, with a special surprise planned for adults and children. R.S.V.P. to El Emeth or Ohev Tzedeck by March 21.

Shabbat service and Birthday Luncheon
Saturday, March 26.
Services at 9:30 a.m.

Followed by a Kiddush luncheon celebrating March birthdays. R.S.V.P. to the Temple office for lunch.

Brunch with the Rabbi
Sunday, March 27.
Minyan at 10 a.m.

Brunch and the program at 10:30 a.m.

Rabbi’s topic this month will be “A History of Jewish Humor.” No charge for brunch but reservations will be appreciated.

Shmoozing with Shmulik
Monday, March 28
10:30 a.m.

Sam Kooperman leads the group with stories, jokes, and music in Yiddish. All are welcome to attend — speaking Yiddish is not mandatory.

Daily Minyans (including Saturdays)
5:45 p.m.

Shabbat morning services
9:30 am.

Continued on p. 23
Sally Blau elected to serve on Women of Reform Judaism’s international board

Sally Blau, president of Rodef Sholom’s Sisterhood has been elected as a member of the international board of directors of Women of Reform Judaism, an organization that has promoted Reform women’s issues and leadership for more than 100 years.

Mrs. Blau was elected and installed during RWJ’s 50th Assembly.

“We are thrilled to welcome a diverse group of talented, experienced women to our international leadership,” said WRJ President Blair C. Marks. “These women represent the best of WRJ and have extensive backgrounds and experience in leadership both within and outside the Reform Movement. They, along with our sisterhoods and members, will ensure that WRJ continues to thrive and grow during its 2nd century as the oldest religiously-based Jewish women’s organization.”

Since 1913, the WRJ Board of Directors has taken a principal role in carving out a place for women in Reform Jewish life, beginning at a time when women could not serve as rabbis or congregational boards.

Dreaming of Israel?

Congregation Rodef Sholom’s Israel Discovery Tour with Rabbi Franklin and Darlene Muller is scheduled for July 10-21, 2016. The tour, with multi-generations in mind, gives L’Dor V’Dor a whole new meaning.

Israel’s many wonders will be explored with activities planned for youth, adults, and grandparents. Highlights will include Jerusalem, Cesarea, Lake Kinneret, Masada, the Dead Sea, Tel Aviv, the Galilee, and the Mediterranean Coast.

The life, sounds, tastes, and texture of modern Israel will be combined with Biblical history and time to explore your Jewish heritage. The trip promises meaningful experiences and bonding relationships.

For information and applications, please contact Rabbi Muller at 330-744-5001 or email to Rabbifmuller@aol.com.

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The Jewish Journal Monthly Magazine  March 2016
Rodef Sholom Purim Celebration

Friday, March 25, 6 p.m.
Strouss Hall
Featuring a performance of:
“A Star Wars Purim”

Starring
Rabbi Muller as Darth Haman
Jeff Simon as Ham Solo
Sasha Lamb as C3POy & Narrator
Marina Levy as Jewbacca
Josh Greenbaum as Luke Bagelent
Harvey Kayne as Ahashuerus The Hut
Alexandra Levy as Queen Vicki
Vocky Vashti
Arthur Lamb as Obi Wan Mordechai
Hannah Kunke as Princess Leah Sara
Rivka v’Rachel
Tres, Blythe & Ezra Hively as the Hebwoks

Complimentary dinner beginning at 6 p.m. Hot dogs, beans, chips, salad and drinks are on the menu.
A short Purim service and megillah reading by the children will follow the meal, then the play.
Delicious Hamantaschen will top off the evening. Come in Star Wars costumes; twirl the grogger, shout and stomp your feet to drown out Darth Haman’s name.

There is no cost but a reservation is required by Tuesday, March 22 at 4 p.m. by calling the Temple office at (330) 744-5001.

Shabbat Services
Saturday, March 5, 10 a.m.
Berkowitz Lecture Series with
Carole Weimer
Saturday, March 12, 10 a.m.
Bar Mitzvah of Jordan Sperling

Friday, March 18, 6 p.m.
Lay-led Shabbat Service
Friday, March 25, 6 p.m.
Purim Dinner and Service
See above for full details.

Rodef Sholom Sisterhood News

In January, WRJ celebrated its 103rd birthday! “Stronger together” WRJ continues to focus on advocacy for three major areas. These areas include pay equity, paid family and medical leave, and distracted driving. Women of the Wall (Women of the Wall) is another area of major activity for WRJ members.

After 27 years, the Israeli cabinet voted to authorize the establishment of a new egalitarian and pluralistic prayer space at the Kotel in Jerusalem. These negotiations have been going on for many years. It had been considered a crime for a woman to wear a tallit or carry a Torah scroll, even in the women’s section.

Division of the new section of the Kotel is a physical and conceptual space open to all forms of Jewish prayer. This is a wonderful development, not only for women, but for Reform and Conservative Judaism as well. WOW’s efforts have not gone unnoticed. As women, we need to carry this momentum into our own sisterhood to fan the flames of our strength — stronger together.

Sisters, we have an obligation to provide wonderful hospitality to our sisterhood and congregation. How many of us have taken someone by the hand and invited them to join us in prayer and learning? We need to listen, communicate and speak out to improve our world and community. If not us, then who?
What if we did this? What if we each took some responsibility to make our congregation better and stronger? We can do this together as one Sisterhood made up of loving sisters. Please take the time and help make a difference today and every day!

Dates to remember:
Sunday, March 13, 10 a.m. to 12 noon
“Cooking with Kandy” in the Handler Hall kitchen
Monday, March 14, 9 a.m.
Making Hamantaschen at Congregation Rodef Sholom. We need your help in the kitchen.
Monday, April 11, 6 - 8 p.m.
JCC Adult Lounge
Congregation Rodef Sholom Sisterhood Sip & Paint Party — “Wild Hearts”
Cost: $30 includes everything

So, you don’t consider yourself an artist, but you have a spark of creativity that’s just waiting to get out. Come join artist, children’s author, and illustrator Dar Hosta James from New Hope, PA to paint your very own “Wild Heart. The class fee includes instruction, all materials, wine, and a light supper. Dar James’ art will be available for sale at a 15% discount.

Seating is limited to the first 35 participants. Please wear old clothes, or bring a smock or apron to protect your clothes.
R.S.V.P. by April 1 to the Temple office at (330) 744-5001 or by email to rodefsholom@sbcglobal.net.
I look forward to holding your hand at our next service!
With love and Sisterhood
Your President – Sally Blau
Sunday, Jan. 24 marked the 32nd year that the Aaron Grossman B’nai B’rith Lodge #339 has sponsored a brunch for the residents at Heritage Manor as part of their community service efforts. Twelve lodge members helped serve the meal to residents. Dan Shapira provided music for the afternoon event.

Lodge President Neil Schor addressed the group, explaining the continuing commitment of the lodge to Heritage Manor and its residents. Everyone enjoyed the opportunity to socialize and reconnect with each other at the brunch. As one Heritage resident said, “This was a wonderful brunch. It meant so much to me to see members I have not seen.”

B’nai B’rith brunch

Na’Amat USA Youngstown Council will hold its 79th annual donor luncheon on Sunday April 3 at 11:45 in the Jewish Community Center.

Lunch is $10. Please make reservations by Friday, March 25, to Bertha Froomkin at 330 759-1781.

This celebration will also mark the 90th birthday of Na’Amat, formerly Pioneer Women.

Golda Meir came to Youngstown in 1932 or 1933 to organize its first chapter, a Yiddish-speaking group. Many mothers and grandmothers of present members were in that group, which evolved into four chapters at its height in the 1960s and ’70s.

Paul Farbman will perform a “Musical Mix of Songs.” Between 2000 and 2013, Paul performed monthly in shows for the developmentally disabled. As a student at Austintown Fitch, he appeared in eight productions including “Pippin” and “The Music Man.”

Now at Youngstown State University where he is majoring in early childhood education, Paul has performed with the University Chorus and the Dana Chorale. In addition, he mentors first-year students at the Marion Resch Center for Student Progress.

Kathy Farbman is program vice-president. Lucille Vegh is social chairwoman, and Bertha Froomkin is donor chairwoman.

Shari Della Penna is toastmistress and will conduct the afternoon’s activities.

Na’Amat donor luncheon

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Redef Sholom compiling history

Celebrating 150 years of an institution is quite an undertaking. Both the 100-year and the 125-year anniversary books give us a fascinating look at our past. Now it’s your turn to be a part of this tradition. We are trying to get a cross-section of every generation’s experiences at Redef Sholom and would love to have every Temple family represented in the book. If you need help with writing your article, please call Marilyn and Stephen Sniderman at 330-759-7151 or email us at MSnide1444@aol.com. The deadline is fast approaching. The success of this book depends on you.

Marilyn and Stephen Sniderman, Anniversary Book Editors

Here are suggestions for writing your Family History for the Redef Sholom 150th Anniversary Book

The following questions are intended to spark your memory. Please feel free to answer some or all of them in any order. (or make up your own).

Who is in your family and when did you all join the Temple?

• What life cycle events have you participated in at the Temple?
• What changes in Reform Judaism at our Temple have you noticed over the years (attire, head covering, prayer books, music, liturgy, community service, etc.)?
• What do you remember about our rabbis and/or Cantors?
• What memories do you have about your experience as a Sunday School student, Bar/Bat Mitzvah or a confirmation?
• What roles have you played in Brotherhood or Sisterhood?
• What offices or committees have been important to you and why?
• What physical changes in the Temple stand out in your memory?
• What changes in Temple life have surprised you the most?
• What aspects of Temple life have given you the most satisfaction?
• What experiences with Temple have you had in the past 25 years that others would enjoy reading about?

El Emeth – Ohev Tzedek Purim

The joint Temple El Emeth/Ohev Tzedek Purim Extravaganza and Megilla reading is set for Wednesday, March 23, at Temple El Emeth. Minyan 5:30 p.m. and Megilla beginning at 5:45.

Everyone is invited to come in costume. Music, balloon artist Joe Sullivan, prizes for all children and our Purim Band.

A hot dog and super-sized salad bar supper will follow, with a special surprise planned for adults and children. R.S.V.P. to El Emeth or Ohev Tzedek by March 21. There is no charge for dinner, but reservations are a must.

Join your friends for an evening of music, singing, fun, food (featuring world-famous El Emeth Sisterhood hamantashen) If anyone is interested in singing or playing an instrument in the Purim band at the celebration, please call and let the office know.

 Phantom (cont’d from p. 5)

mantha.

She also has the "Phantom" family to be a part of. "She says, "Some of the original people are still working on the show." On her opening night there was a big bottle of champagne with everyone toasting her.

Rachel is contracted to perform through the end of May. She says contracts are renewed on a three-month or six-month basis. She added, "the hardest thing is not knowing how long you’ll be working. "But" she says, "I’ll ride that wave as long as I can."

The musical continues at the Majestic Theatre on Mon, Weds-Sat @ 8, Tues @ 7, Thurs & Sat @ 2. Tickets: $29-$145. Call Telecharge (212) 239-6200 or visit www.telecharge.com.
The great Mitzvah of Purim (and life) is to be happy always

By Gon Erez

As Purim approaches, we must remember the most famous statement of Rabbi Nachman of Bratslav: “A great mitzvah is to be happy.”

Assuming that joy is good and important, we must ask, what makes joy so important and central in our lives in general and particularly in our Jewish lives?

What is the nature of that joy? And how do we achieve it?

It seems as if reality could not be grimmer, and only a miracle could save the current situation.

The Jewish people have experienced divine decrees, plagues, and threats of all kinds, but always at the last moment we were saved by a miracle. This time, the arrival of a long-awaited miracle is delayed.

Every day Iran lies in wait for the right opportunity for a nuclear experiment.

The endless war in Syria claims the lives of thousands and occasionally trickles into Israel while the main terrorist groups are preparing for the next round of escalation.

The waves of terror against Israeli citizens continue to rise, and in Europe anti-Semitism is growing.

So what should we do? I believe that the Book of Esther can provide an answer.

Kabbalists explain that this is one of the most important encrypted texts in the Holy Scriptures. Thus, we can see that the story of Esther is taking place here and now, and describes the huge conflict between two approaches to life: “Haman” and “Mordecai.”

“Haman” represents the current approach — competition, hatred, division, “I” as my only concern. Haman is ego, the force that tries to separate us. Mordecai, on the other hand, represents the approach on which we were founded as a nation in the days of Abraham — the grace and love of others.

The struggle between Haman and Mordecai symbolizes the eternal struggle taking place in our nation: from the days of Abraham when the people of Israel gathered around the love of others, to giving us the Torah which united the Children of Israel “as one man with one heart,” to the establishment of the First Temple by the United Kingdom of Israel.

When love and altruism existed between us, we prospered physically and spiritually. But when ego ripped us apart, we experienced the most difficult times.

The story of Purim occurred a little after the destruction of the first Temple and the great Babylonian Exile. The ego (Haman) erupted at a time when the people of Israel were dispersed among 127 provinces of Ahasuerus’s kingdom and unable to decide in favor of love and altruism, Haman saw the opportunity and the fate of the people of Israel seemed doomed.

The order to annihilate the Jews was underway, and the situation seemed hopeless. But then Mordecai went to the town square, tore his clothes and called on his brothers to reunite. With Esther’s help, he “receives all the Jews in Shushan” and connects them. So at the last moment, our heroes managed to avert the decree.

This is not just good historical drama. Then as now, we are torn into camps. As a result, an existential threat hangs over our heads. The strengthening of our enemies from all sides reminds us of what it seems that we have forgotten — only connections among us, as the Jews in Shushan achieved, can change the decree.

So far, we have used the way of Haman. We have tried to be like the rest of the nations, fighting our enemies by force. But we are losing the internal battle for our unity.

Still, Mordecai’s way allows us to change the decree as in the past. If we set aside the ego that separates us and strive for the love of others, we will live up to our inner essence and bring joy and happiness at every turn in our lives. Then even our biggest enemies will turn into our greatest supporters.