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ON THE COVER

A new traveling Holocaust Survivor exhibit was unveiled at this year's Shoah Memorial Ceremony.

For this and more Yom Hashoah coverage see page 16

INSIDE

May is National Water Safety Month. Learn how to stay safe around water.

see page 20

Get to know the new director of Levy Gardens and interim executive director of Heritage Manor.

see pages 8 and 10



WE STAND



WITH ISRAEL

CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES

May 15 8:16 p.m.	June 12 8:38 p.m.
May 22 *8:23 p.m.	June 19 8:40 p.m.
May 29 8:29 p.m.	June 26 8:41 p.m.
June 5 8:34 p.m.	<i>*from a pre-existing flame</i>

MAILING LABEL



LISA'S LONG VIEW

The boundary of presence

A Message From Lisa Long
Federation Chief Executive Officer

I recently read about the Swedish tradition of *fredagsmys*, literally “cozy Friday.” Every Friday night, families intentionally slow down. They dim the lights. They eat simple comfort food. They put away work. They gather. The goal isn’t perfection, it’s presence.

The article connected it to the Scandinavian idea of *hygge* (for those “Frozen” fans there’s a song all about this in the stage version)...candlelight, warmth, softness, togetherness. Creating a pocket of calm at the end of the week.

As I read it, I laughed a little. Because in theory, this is Shabbat.

I recently explored my ancestry and learned I’m 93 percent Northwestern European (80 percent Irish and 12 percent Scandinavian). When I told my

husband, he started calling me “The Viking Jew.”

By day, I’m this community’s CEO. My weeks are full of budgets, personnel issues, security concerns, donor meetings, crises that don’t politely wrap up by sundown Friday. Add to that being a mom of two busy teenagers with their own full plates and Friday often turns into “Fall Down Friday” with little intention of what that “fall down” looks like.

If I’m honest, the hardest part of Shabbat isn’t theology. It’s logistics. It’s the emails still coming in. It’s the one last thing that needs approval. It’s the practice or game that runs late. It’s the mental list that doesn’t quiet just because the sun is setting. And yet, as I read about *hygge* or *fredagsmys*, I’m reminded the world is

discovering what Judaism has insisted upon for thousands of years: that human beings cannot run endlessly.

I’m sure that, like many of you, I need to be reminded of this boundary, about needing a signal to exhale. *Hygge* may look soft in its blankets, candles, and warm food. I have to remember that stopping isn’t weak; there is strength in deciding to stop.

Shabbat is the ultimate act of resistance in a productivity-obsessed world. As a CEO, I solve, respond, anticipate, fix. As a mom, I manage, coordinate, show up, drive, remind, organize. Shabbat asks me to do something countercultural... stop. Not because everything is done. Not because the inbox is empty. Not because there’s nothing on the kids’ schedules. But because the sun has set and time itself has shifted.

I need to remember that this is not weakness, it’s discipline.

So, I embrace being called “The Viking Jew,” thinking about how my European ancestors likely gathered around fires on long winter nights. Families circling close. My Jewish ancestors did the same. Candlelight pushing back darkness. The intention of *fredagsmys* elevated to holiness. Maybe blending my cultures means recognizing that while many societies value cozy Friday nights, Judaism turned

that instinct into sacred architecture.

But *hygge* reminds me that the sensory experience matters. The softness matters. The warmth matters. The table matters. The teenagers rolling their eyes but still sitting down matter.

I will not pretend that we observe Shabbat perfectly in my house. There are sports schedules and community obligations that lead me to fail at keeping this boundary.

In a role where people rely on me constantly, maybe I need to use Shabbat as the one time each week when I am reminded that the world will spin without my email reply. The Federation will survive until Saturday night. This time belongs to something bigger than my to-do list. And, as time continues to speed up with college on the horizon for my kids, they need my presence more than my productivity.

Maybe that’s what both *hygge* and *fredagsmys* are trying to teach in their own cultural language: that warmth and rhythm and togetherness are not luxuries. They are survival tools. Judaism simply went one step further and made it holy.

So this Viking Jew will keep trying. To shut the laptop. To silence the phone. To gather with my people. To protect the boundary. To let candlelight win.



NANCY'S NOTES

Uncertainty

By Nancy Burnett

When things are going well in our lives, we allow ourselves to become complacent and unprepared, but life is not predictable. We carefully map out plans for the near and distant future knowing that the unpredictable may force us to re-evaluate our priorities. What was

once not even considered becomes our new reality. On what do we rely for comfort and security?

My comfort comes from family, friends, and faith. When looking ahead to the future becomes too uncertain, I try to think of all the positive things in my life.

Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks defined faith “not as absolute certainty, but as the courage to live with uncertainty, risk, and doubt.” But uncertainty is hard to live with. In a world where we can predict the sunrise and sunset, the weather, and the cycle of holidays, not knowing what the future holds fills us with anxiety. He interprets the Torah passage in Ecclesiastes as a meditation on finding meaning through the appropriate timing of life’s experiences—that time itself is a precious non-renewable resource—that finding meaning means embracing each day and finding joy in daily experiences.

Although we cannot predict what tomorrow holds, we can control our reactions. Sadness fades; memories remain and give us hope. The rain is ultimately replaced by sunshine.

It is faith that encourages us to seek a path forward, painful as it may be. It is faith that shows us that better days lie ahead. Ecclesiastes reminds us that “for everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven.” There is no GPS for life, but like GPS, a wrong turn can be corrected. We are on our own relying on our moral compass.

May we always look ahead at the divergent path before us as an opportunity to choose not the path of least resistance, but that of greatest communal reward. The gift of choice has been given to us; it is up to us to choose wisely even in times of uncertainty. And so we set our moral compass on true north—true honesty and true faith knowing our individual choices make a difference in our own lives and in the world.

ABOUT THE JOURNAL

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June 8 is the deadline for articles and ads for the Summer Issue. Submissions may be edited for length and/or clarity. The Jewish Journal does not assume the responsibility for the Kashruth of any product or service advertised on its pages.

The Jewish Journal is now accepting opinion columns. Send submissions to journal@jewishyoungstown.org as a Word document. Include name and contact information. Acceptance is at the discretion of the editor and may be edited for clarity.

Heritage Manor receives deficiency-free annual survey



Heritage Manor Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation received a deficiency-free health survey from the Ohio Department of Health.

There are approximately 960 nursing homes in Ohio. For the past four years, the average number of deficiency-free surveys a year is eight. On average, most surveys have 10 citations.

Healthcare facilities, primarily nursing homes, assisted living communities, and home health agencies, are surveyed every nine to 15 months to ensure they meet every state and federal standard during their annual inspection.

The deficiency-free rating means Heritage Manor was found to be in total compliance with regulations regarding resident care, safety, staffing, and environmental standards, and that no deficiencies (failings to meet requirements of the Social Security Act or federal regulations) were cited during the survey. In the senior living industry, this

is considered the equivalent of a “five-star rating” and reflects a high dedication to quality of life for residents.

“We are honored to have achieved a deficiency-free annual health survey from the Ohio Department of Health,” said Shane Baldwin, interim executive director. “This marks our second deficiency-free health survey of the past three. It shows our dedication to excellence in care delivery, regulatory compliance, and resident satisfaction. This distinction reflects the hard work and compassion of our team and reinforces our mission to provide a safe, supportive, and home-like environment for our residents.”

Heritage Manor Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation is a 72-bed facility on the north side of Youngstown that offers long-term and respite care, adult day services, outpatient therapy, and rehabilitation. It’s part of the continuum of care offered by Senior Living by Youngstown Area Jewish Federation.

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Jewish learning is happening at OBS



**Rabbi Educator
Jessie Locketz**
Ohev Beth Sholom

*For our teachers and their students
And the students of their students:
And for all who study Torah
In this place and in every other place:
May there be abundant peace for them and for you,
Grace, compassion and mercy,
Long life and ample sustenance,
And salvation from their God in heaven and earth
And let us say, Amen.*

These words are from a prayer called “Kaddish D’rabanan.” If we were to look at the prayer in its entirety and not just at the section I quoted here, there would be much that is similar to the Mourner’s Kaddish, the prayer that we say to honor and remember those who have died. But the “Kaddish D’rabanan” is different; it is a prayer that celebrates that special and unique relationship between a teacher and their students. Known as the “Scholar’s Kaddish,” traditionally the “Kaddish D’rabanan” is recited at the conclusion of the reading of a Talmudic or midrashic passage. However, today, we also use it as a sort of finale, saying it as we finish a course of study. It is a thank you of sorts, acknowledging the teaching and learning that has occurred by teacher and student alike.

As we reach the end of the school year, I am grateful for the commitment, dedication, and hard work of our religious school teachers. They show up on Sunday mornings and Wednesday afternoons with

smiles on their faces, ready to embrace our youngest students. Todah Rabbah to Emily Fitzpatrick, Talia Hagler, Laura Silverman, Taylor Kundel-Gower, Miriam Apalsch, Maayan Sigler, Atara Karabelo and of course Rabbi Courtney Berman for giving so much of themselves to our community. Mazel tov on the completion of another great year of learning!

In-person religious school classes may be on hiatus, but Jewish learning never ends. Stay tuned for more information regarding opportunities to “brush up on our Hebrew” and to celebrate summer in uniquely Jewish ways.

And for the rest of us non-religious school aged learners? Adult learning is still on the docket—with so much more on the way! This month, please continue to join us at Online Torah Study (every other Thursday at 10 a.m.), Regular Adult Learning Classes (every Tuesday at noon), the Tikkun Leil Shavuot on the first night of Shavuot when we honor the tradition of engaging in Jewish Learning.

Truly, Jewish learning is happening at Ohev Beth Sholom! I look forward to continuing to learn and grow together.

Confirmation & Shabbat

FRIDAY, MAY 15 | 6PM

JOIN OBS FOR A FRIDAY EVENING SHABBAT AND CONFIRMATION. THE DINNER FOLLOWING THE EVENT WILL BE SPONSORED BY THE PARENTS OF THE CONFIRMATION CLASS.

2026 CONFIRMATION CLASS:

Eli Hagler
Madeline Long
Addison Silverman
Cameron Silverman

PLEASE RSVP TO THE OFFICE
OFFICE@OHEVBETHSHOLOM.ORG

Join Ohev Beth Sholom for

TIKKUN LEIL SHAVUOT

Thursday, May 21, 2026 | 7pm

A Tikkun Leil Shavuot is a cherished Jewish tradition of gathering on the first night of Shavuot for study, reflection, and community, as we remember standing together at Sinai to receive Torah. Each year, we return to that moment through learning and connection. This year at OBS, we will gather for two engaging study sessions and dessert as we celebrate and contemplate revelation together.

Schedule:

7pm to 8pm: “Radical Rest in a 24/7 Economy” with Rabbi Educator Jessie Locketz
Forget the “grind”—this session uses Jewish texts to help us reclaim rest as a bold move in a digital world that never hits the pause button. We’ll explore how ancient wisdom can help us unlearn the idea that our worth is tied to our output, giving us the tools to finally unplug and just be.

8pm to 8:30pm: Cheesecake and Coffee

8:30pm to 9:30pm: “Manh hu? Rethinking Sustenance at Sinai” with Rabbi Courtney Berman
“Mahn hu?” – “what is it?” – the Israelites ask when confronted with manna, a mysterious form of sustenance that both nourishes and unsettles. Drawing on text and lived experience, this session explores how moments that disrupt our assumptions about food can become sites of revelation about what truly sustains us.

office@ohevbethsholom.org | 330.744.5001

SAM KOOPERMAN ENDOWMENT



Applications for camp scholarships and study in Israel are being accepted.

The deadline to apply for camp scholarships is December 31.

The deadlines to apply for study in Israel scholarships are December 31 and June 30.



For more information contact
Courtney Campesi at 330.746.3250 ext. 152
or ccampesi@jewishyoungstown.org.

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OBS Chocolate Seder



OBS Passover Seder



Sunday, June 6

LOGAN CAMPUS OPEN HOUSE

1:00–4:00 p.m. Be OUR Guest
Open–Close Bring YOUR Guest



Invite your friends and family for a free day of activities, giveaways, entertainment, and more at our Logan Campus!

Shavuot 5786 and world politics



Rabbi Seth Sternstein
Temple El Emeth

One can hardly keep up with the news about the Middle East. What will happen with the current regime in Iran? How will the Gulf States respond to the closing of the Strait of Hormuz? How far will Israel go to fight

Hezbollah terrorists who still threaten to destroy it? What action will President Trump actually take tomorrow, after announcing a planned action today? Could a U.S. government ever become hostile to its resident Jews? These represent only a fraction of the questions that people who pay attention to the Middle East are asking.

With as unstable a situation as ever there was, assessing the current situation is fraught with uncertainty, and predicting the future is impossible. One listens to an interview of a respected political analyst, then another, and a third or fourth, then reads political commentary from this journal or that publication, and comes away from the process convinced of one thing only: The “talking heads” and political analysts are themselves unsure of what to say or write. We, the exasperated news consumers, might eventually blurt out, “Only God knows what to make of this mess.”

We often stop trying to make sense of the situation at this point. Indeed, more than one person has told me that he or she has stopped watching the news, or reading about current events, because they feel confused, drained, and hopeless about these matters. But, I suggest that there is a different way we can look at this situation; a way that gives us hope rather than despair, clarity rather than confusion.

First, let us remember that the holiday of Shavuot is at hand. Shavuot is the starting point of the chain of Jewish

religious literature that spans 3,300 years. The literature reflects the fact that over and over again, Jews have faced and overcome daunting obstacles to our existence. Indeed, the former slaves who left Egypt at the first Passover were the very people who—as a free people—experienced, on Shavuot, God’s revelation of the 10 commandments. Those few commandments revolutionized the world, and placed Jews at the forefront of religious, spiritual, and moral growth. Could those slaves—in their last years of servitude—have imagined that they would soon be standing at Mount Sinai; the vanguard of a religious event that would reshape the future of humanity?

Further, our prophets all understood that Israel would be the locus of morality and spirituality for all time to come. Over and over again, the prophets worked to accomplish two goals: one on behalf of the Jewish people, and one on behalf of the rest of the world.

First, they transmitted God’s message that we, the Jewish people, should not abandon our sacred mission to be God’s representatives of truth and light to the world. We are God’s first born among His children, and therefore held to the highest standard of moral and spiritual responsibility. If we did abandon that mission, they warned, we would pay the price. But, if we remained loyal to God, we would reap the benefits of God’s love and protection. That was the first message they wanted us to absorb.

The second was directed to the rest of the world. The prophets repeatedly predicted that despite the temporary successes of other nations and empires, their successes would be just that: temporary. Their might and accomplishments would be in the physical world; and everything in the physical world has its time and place. But, in the spiritual world—in the realm of morality and truth and enlightenment—the Jewish people would be eternal. The Jewish nation would rise from every defeat; would succeed after every failure. And, ultimately, the Jewish people would lead the world to a Messianic age in which all

nations would ultimately recognize that the Jewish people were right, all along. Hashem is the God of truth, and there is no way of life superior to that which follows the path of His Torah. On that Messianic day, peace and harmony will bless the entire world, and the Jewish people will have been redeemed. That second message must be taught to and absorbed by all the nations on earth.

For Jews, the holiday of Shavuot is much more than the holiday celebrating God’s giving His Torah to us. It is a holiday which celebrates our receiving that Torah—each man, woman, and child according to his or her own capacity. It is a holiday which should inspire all Jewish people to dedicate a part of each day and each week to learn more about the eternity of the Jewish people, our vital role in bringing about world peace, our mission to keep Israel the religious and spiritual center of the world, and our unbreakable commitment to make

Torah the illuminated path for all people to follow, Jews and non-Jews alike.

The political machinations that occur today are part of the process by which God works out His plan to bring the Jewish people forward in our Divinely ordained mission. Sometimes the way forward seems politically complicated, but, Shavuot reminds us, we have a Torah, and prophetic preachings and divinely inspired Scripture that assures us that this situation is only temporary. We will succeed, ultimately in bringing to the world the knowledge of the One, True God, and the world will be better off for it.

Our job, the holiday reminds us, is to understand these two messages in depth, and apply them every day of our lives. Political issues may be confusing, but our mission is crystal clear. We have the incomparable honor to hasten the coming of the Mashiach.

A happy Shavuot to everyone.

TEMPLE EL EMETH PROGRAMS

Please call the Synagogue for more details on these upcoming programs.

Torah Tuesdays: Rabbi Sternstein explores a topic found in the week’s Torah portion. This class is hybrid.

Shavuot dinner and study: Enjoy a dairy Shavuot dinner and lecture on “Stories of Mt. Sinai.” Reservation forms were mailed to members’ homes or can be found in the office.

Sisterhood’s annual Donor Luncheon, catered by Jeffrey Chrystal Catering: We will be honoring Lisa Mirman for her many years of volunteer work with Sisterhood.

Sisterhood Shabbat: Sisterhood members will lead services and a luncheon will follow.

Shabbat service and Luncheon: We will honor Nancy Sanders, our office manager, for her 30 years of dedication to Temple El Emeth.

An evening with Mayor Derrick McDowell: Dinner and program with Mayor Derrick McDowell, who will discuss his first months as Youngtown’s Mayor, and his challenges and vision for the future. Paid reservations required.

Shabbat evening services are at 5:45 p.m.; Shabbat morning services begin at 10:00 a.m. All guests are asked to please call the Temple office to register in advance. Guests’ names will be put on a list for Security.



TEMPLE EL EMETH

PRESENTS

*An evening with
Mayor
Derrick McDowell*

WEDNESDAY,
JUNE 24, 2026

Dinner at 6 p.m.
Program following

Temple El Emeth is pleased to welcome Youngstown Mayor Derrick McDowell for a dinner and program on June 24. Mayor McDowell is a native son of Youngstown, a passionate community advocate, small business owner, and entrepreneur. He understands what's needed most for the future of the City of Youngstown and knows the hard work it's going to take to accomplish that. Mayor McDowell will discuss his first months in office, the challenges he faces, and his vision for the future. Paid reservations due into the Temple office by June 19.

J. NEWMAN LEVY SPEAKER SERIES



WOMEN IN HISTORY: DOROTHY FULDHEIM

Wednesday, May 27 | 5:30–7:30 p.m.

Register by May 21.

In honor of Jewish History Month, living history performer Anne McEvoy portrays Ohio journalist Dorothy Fuldheim, the first woman in the U.S. to anchor a television newscast and host her own TV show.



LET'S GO TO THE MOVIES

Monday, June 22 | 5:30–7:30 p.m.

Register by June 19.

Local historian Marcia Levy explores the stories behind iconic films and their music, highlighting the influence of Jewish directors, screenwriters, and composers who helped make these movies memorable.



COMEDIAN ROBIN FOX

Tuesday, July 21 | 5:30–7:30 p.m.

Register by July 17.

Comedian Robin Fox brings sharp, relatable humor inspired by family life and everyday moments. A Gilda's Club Laugh-Off grand prize winner, she performs regularly at New York area comedy clubs.



THE KLEZMER ORCHESTRA: KLEZMER'S GREATEST HITS

Monday, August 3 | 5:30–7:30 p.m.

Register by July 30.

Put on your dancing shoes and enjoy an evening of lively Klezmer music with TKO. The ensemble features traditional and contemporary songs in Yiddish, English, Russian, and Hebrew.

All J. Newman Levy Speaker Series events are free and open to participants ages 18 and older and will take place in the JCC Multi-Purpose Room. A meal precedes each event. Registration is required online at jccyoungstown.org or by calling Director of Cultural Arts & Jewish Engagement Barb Wilson at 330.746.3250 ext. 106.



GRAND RE-OPENING

PAUL AND YETTA GLUCK SCHOOL OF VISUAL ARTS

In celebration of the Paul and Yetta Gluck School of Visual Arts Studio winter renovations, tour the updated space in a grand reopening event! Meet our department team, make and take some art, and enjoy light refreshments.

June 10 | 5:00–8:00 p.m. | Free to everyone



Doug Love joins Federation



The new director of Levy Gardens Assisted Living says his favorite part of working in senior care is making a tenant smile.

Doug Love joined the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation in March.

Love has worked in the assisted living industry for 27 years, and managed chiropractor offices for seven years. In his role at Levy he is responsible for day to day

operations, which includes hiring and training staff, tenant satisfaction, and making sure all Levy Garden apartments remain full.

His goal is “to increase tenant satisfaction and improve communication with tenants, their families, and staff.”

Love was born and raised in Leavittsburg. After high school he studied communications at Youngstown State University, which led him to working at WQKK as a radio DJ for many years.

He later moved into the chiropractic and senior living fields. He and his wife Judy moved to Florida from 2010 to 2025 to further their careers in healthcare.

“I was director of assisted living through seven hurricanes and a tornado that destroyed a lot of Vero Beach where I was working at the time,” he noted.

He and his wife Judy have been married for 18 years and have five grandchildren, all living in the Youngstown area. When he’s not working, he and Judy enjoy riding their Harley and spending time with family.

Passover Seder at Heritage Manor



A Passover Seder was held at Heritage Manor Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation for Heritage Manor residents and Levy Gardens Assisted Living tenants. Pictured from left are Jim Stone, Levy tenant, and his guest.



Making charoset for Passover



Tenants of Levy Gardens Assisted Living facility made charoset from three different nations for Passover. Pictured from left are Sophia Kapon and Barb Wilson, JCC director of cultural arts & Jewish engagement.

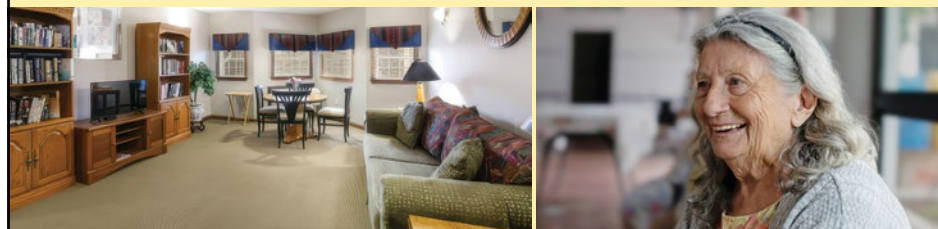


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For more information visit yajf.org/levygardens.



Farewell party held for Eric Murray



Eric Murray and his family listen to farewell speeches at his farewell party.

Staff and residents of Heritage Manor Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation said farewell and good luck to Eric Murray in March. Murray, who, as executive director of Youngstown Area Jewish Federation senior services since 2020, oversaw Heritage Manor Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation, Levy Gardens Assisted Living, and Adult Day Services at Heritage Manor, moved on to a new opportunity.

“I’ve had the privilege of working alongside Eric for six years and I can say without hesitation he is one

of the steadiest, most thoughtful leaders I’ve ever worked with. He leads with a level head. He brings calm into the room. He listens, he processes, and then he responds with intention,” said Lisa Long, Federation CEO. “So, while we are sad to see you go, we are also incredibly grateful for your leadership, for your partnership, and for the care you’ve given to every single person in this community.”

Shane Baldwin, formerly Heritage Manor director of operations, is now interim executive director of the facility.



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Israel’s Emergency Services System

Baldwin named Heritage Manor interim executive director



A familiar face has taken on the role of interim executive director of Heritage Manor Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation, following Eric Murray's resignation. Shane Baldwin, director of operations, will now handle both roles.

"My new role includes continuing to oversee day to day operations while also positioning Heritage Manor to succeed now and in the future," Baldwin said. "I will be the liaison to the human services board and with their guidance execute the mission of the Federation."

Heritage Manor has a reputation for being a great place to live and work, he notes, and he plans to uphold that reputation as well as maintaining the facility's five star rating from the Ohio Department of Health. In his new position, Baldwin will also look for ways to improve the lives of Heritage Manor residents and staff members while also increasing the number of people who benefit from the facility. The building has undergone renovations in

recent years, and he will continue that progress.

"We will provide quality care in a fiscally responsible manner while upholding the mission of the Federation," he said.

Baldwin began working at Heritage Manor in 2017 as assistant administrator. His focus was on learning about the residents and staff, as well as learning Jewish traditions. He was promoted to director of operations in 2020, a more hands on role of shaping day to day operations of the building. He graduated from the University of Akron with a bachelor's degree in business administration and minor in entrepreneurship. He obtained his Nursing Home Administrator license in 2017.

"I am excited to start this next chapter in my career," he said. "I want to thank the board and Lisa Long [CEO] for putting their trust in me to be the interim executive director of Heritage Manor."

He enjoys working in senior care, especially interacting with and helping the residents and staff members.

"Another one of my favorite parts of the job is hearing from a family member that they were glad to be able to have their loved one here," he said. "There is no better compliment."

Baldwin has a large supportive family, most still residing locally. He grew up in Champion and graduated from Champion High School. Many of his family members have been in the nursing or long term care fields. He has a dog named Zela who he brings to work often.

"She loves to visit the staff and residents," he said.

When he's not working, Baldwin enjoys watching sports, working out, attending live concerts, and spending time with family and friends.

ADS clients try Israeli foods



Adult Day Services at Heritage Manor clients sampled Israeli foods with Liron Daniel, Youngstown Area Jewish Federation Israel engagement/program coordinator.

'Our Gang' attends Globetrotters game



The Harlem Globetrotters game was snowed out in January, but Our Gang members were able to see them at a recent rescheduled date. Our Gang is a program of Jewish Family & Community Services. Pictured from left are Jenny Chaney, Jose Morris, Trever Heck, and Ben Moody.

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Men's Mental Health Month: rethinking strength



Ken Bielecki
JFCS Executive
Director

June is Men's Mental Health Month, and it offers a meaningful opportunity to ask a simple but important question: Why is it still so difficult for many men to ask for help?

In my years of practice, I've often thought about the difference between a single pillar and a bridge. A pillar stands alone, bearing weight in isolation until it eventually cracks under the pressure. A bridge, however, relies on connected segments tied together to span distances and carry heavy loads. For many men, we are taught to be pillars. But true resilience, the kind that lasts a lifetime, is built like a bridge: It requires human connection.

As a counselor with more than 25 years in the field and nearly two decades of clinical practice, I've seen what I often think of as an "invisible wall." It's the space many men create between what they experience internally and what they allow others to see. Stigma often mislabels the courage it takes to speak up as weakness. In reality, acknowledging struggle and taking steps to address it is a form of strength. When mental health needs go unaddressed, the impact often shows up elsewhere—in work, relationships, and daily functioning.

The data tells part of the story. In the United States, nearly 1 in 10 men experience depression or anxiety, yet fewer than half receive treatment. Men are also significantly more likely to die by suicide than women. These numbers reflect more than access. They reflect stigma, expectations, and long-standing beliefs about what it means to be "strong."

For many of us, strength has been defined as handling things on our own. Staying steady. Not letting others see when something feels off. Those messages can be subtle, but they add up over time, especially if left

unchecked.

I've experienced that pressure myself. Even as I trained to become a therapist, there was an internal expectation to be the one who had it together. Over the years, I've come to recognize the value of seeking support during difficult periods in my own life. Counseling offered perspective, clarity, and, at times, simply a place to sort things out during challenging times.

I've also seen what happens when support isn't part of the equation. Growing up, there were people close to me who carried more than they needed to on their own. Looking back, I believe they could have benefited from having a space to talk, reflect, and be supported.

One professional experience in particular has stayed with me.

In my earlier career, while I was working at an outpatient counseling clinic, I received a counseling referral for an 85-year-old man who happened to be a former Navy Veteran, a police officer of 33 years, and who had competed in the World Masters weightlifting championship numerous times. For most of his life, he was the person others would have described as strong both physically and mentally. But after the very sudden loss of his wife, he found himself facing a kind of weight he hadn't encountered before.

We met regularly, and over time he began to process the grief he was carrying. Toward the end of our counseling relationship, he told me I must have "broad shoulders" to be able to sit with him in that pain on a weekly basis.

What stood out to me wasn't the comment itself, but what it represented. Here was someone who understood strength in a very real, physical way, recognizing that emotional challenges require a different kind of support. He wasn't giving something up by coming to counseling. He was adapting. He was allowing himself to approach a difficult situation in a new way. Through his tears, reflections, and our conversations, he arrived at a place of peace and acceptance.

That perspective has stayed with me.

Counseling isn't about being broken. It's

Mental Health continued on page 23

Thomases Family Endowment grants \$1,000 to Summit FM



The Thomases Family Endowment of the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation granted \$1,000 to Summit FM for the 9th Annual 330 Day Celebration, a small series of events held March 30 honoring Northeast Ohio's music, creativity, and community. This year's celebration expanded beyond the concert stage with three walkable events in downtown Warren, culminating in a night of live

music at the historic Robins Theatre. The concert featured The Labra Brothers, Demos Papadimas, Black Wolf & the Thief, and more. "It was an energetic and engaging event for our community," said Courtney Campesi, Federation financial resource development director. "We were proud to take part and show our support for Summit FM and all the local talent that performed."



SHARE THE JOY!

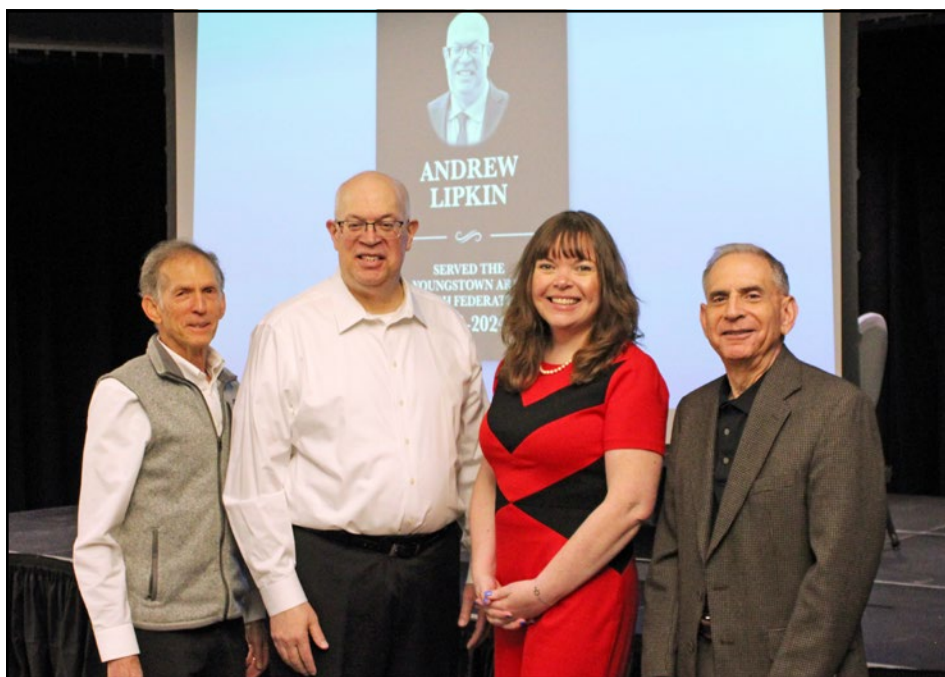
New baby? Engagement? Wedding?
High School or College Graduation?

Jewish Journal readers want to read about your simchas! Families are invited to submit information and photographs to the Jewish Journal. Please be sure to include parents' and grandparents' names (if appropriate); names of schools or colleges, majors or degrees, any honors awarded, and future plans; and positions held by brides- and grooms-to-be. We will feature them in the Summer issue.

Please submit photos and information by June 8 to eskolnick@jewishyoungstown.org.

High resolution photos provided digitally offer the best reproduction.

Lipkin honored for years of service at plaque unveiling



A plaque honoring Andrew Lipkin, retired Youngstown Area Jewish Federation CEO, was unveiled in April. Pictured from left are Mark Huberman, board president; Lipkin; Lisa Long, current CEO; and Michael Barr, president-elect.

Youngstown Area Jewish Federation staff and board members were joined by Andrew Lipkin's friends and family in April to unveil a plaque honoring the former Federation CEO. Lipkin retired at the end of 2024.

"Serving as CEO of the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation has been one of the greatest honors of my life," Lipkin said at the event. "This community helped shape me as a 27-year-old young Jewish professional back in 1985. Over the next 39 plus years the Federation challenged me, inspired me, and trusted me, and that trust is something I have never taken lightly. The work we all do together, whether as volunteers or professionals, is not about any one person. It's about strengthening Jewish life, caring for those who need us, and building a future rooted in resilience, compassion, and hope."

He also noted that he had the good fortune to work alongside extraordinary colleagues, dedicated lay leaders, and a community that shows up for one another in ways that are "nothing short of remarkable."

Though he retired to Columbus to be

closer to his children and grandchildren, he continues to call Youngstown "the best small Jewish community in north America, not just the United States."

Lisa Long, current CEO, said, "Andy didn't just bring people into this community. He built a community that people could find their way into. A place where people like me could walk in and feel like they belonged."

She continued, "It's not just about the big things, the capital campaigns, the crises, the wars, the agencies built and strengthened... It's about consistency. Showing up. Day after day. Year after year. Making thousands of decisions no one ever sees... so that a community can continue to exist, grow and thrive. That's what this plaque represents. Yes, it has your face on it... and yes, it lists your years of service... But what it represents is a career where you chose this community, the Jewish people, and wake up every morning with that weight on your shoulders saying 'This matters...and I will carry it.'"

The plaque hangs in the entryway of the Jewish Community Center, 505 Gypsy Lane.

Bright Futures scholarship winners named



Ellie Falb of Newton Falls High School and Emma Hagman of Champion High School earned scholarships from the Thomases Family Endowment of the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation through the YWCA Mahoning Valley Young Women With Futures program. Falb received a \$12,000 scholarship and Hagman

an \$8,000 scholarship. The scholarships are awarded to two young women attending college or university in northeast Ohio or western Pennsylvania. The Bright Futures program recognizes senior high school women for their leadership skills, academic achievement, creativity, and volunteerism. Pictured from left are Hagman and Falb.

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Yom Ha'atzmaut celebrated



Community members celebrated Israel's Independence Day with a full Israeli experience, including dancing.

More than 100 community members from across the area gathered to celebrate Israel's 78th Independence Day at a festive and meaningful community event held at the JCC. Attendees enjoyed a full Israeli experience featuring fresh authentic cuisine, multiple food stations, children's activities and games, music, dancing, and a warm, united community atmosphere.

The event was a tremendous success and left a lasting impression on all who attended," said Liron Daniel, Youngstown Area Jewish Federation Israel engagement/program coordinator. "And a special thanks to ZOA and Jewish National Fund for their generous contributions, which helped make the event possible, and to the wonderful volunteers from Akiva Academy and the broader community who led the activity stations and played an essential role in the success of the celebration."

SAVE THE DATE

YOUNGSTOWN AREA JEWISH FEDERATION

2026

ANNUAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19 | JCC LOGAN CAMPUS | 6:00 P.M.

JFCS
JEWISH FAMILY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

DONATE TODAY



Mental health can't wait and neither can those who need help!

Each May, we shine a spotlight on mental health awareness and work to break the stigma surrounding treatment.

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Please consider supporting this critical work that helps many individuals a year.

To make a donation, scan the QR code above or send a check made out to JFCS to 505 Gypsy Lane, Youngstown, OH 44504.

From the archives *Editor's note: Over the past few semesters, students in the Honor's College at Youngstown State University have been scanning old copies of the Jewish Journal. There are hard copies going back to 1987 and soon we'll be able to share them with you digitally. This is a taste of what's to come. This piece by Yale Levy, son of Marcia and the late J. Newman Levy, of blessed memory, ran in the May 20, 1988 Jewish Journal for Israel's 40th anniversary.*

2

THE JEWISH JOURNAL

EDITORIAL

Israel's Fortieth Anniversary: When The Impossible Becomes Possible

by Yale Levy

Ed. Note: It is my pleasure to give my column space this issue to Yale Levy's award winning essay. Read, enjoy and learn. S.W.

Israel will turn 40 this year, and great celebrating will be enjoyed all over the world. It is an especially joyous time, since Israel has beaten all of the odds, even the most optimistic Zionist would have never believed the greatness that this fledgling nation has achieved. Israel has gone through forty years of ongoing opposition to its existence. All of Israel's neighbors oppose Israel, and it has been an impossible climb; but the settlers of Israel, not knowing the word 'impossible', made the 'impossibility' a 'possibility'.

Many years before Israel became a state, Jews were immigrating to British controlled Palestine. In November, 1940 1,771 Jewish fugitives from the German Concentration Camps sought asylum in Palestine. They were refused by British officials, and were sent to Mauritius, an internment camp for Jews seeking immigration to Israel. Again in February 1942, 769 men, women and children made the trip from a Rumanian Port to Palestine, again they were denied permission, but unfortunately this time, instead of being led to an internment camp, the ship blew up, and only one passenger survived. These great travesties showed the people of the world the need for a Jewish homeland, and this was the start of Israel.

Israel finally became a state on Friday May 14, the 5th day of Iyar, 5708. It took a great deal of time and effort by Jews all around, but they put their minds to it and accomplished their dream of a Jewish Homeland. On that very same day, when the British withdrew from Palestine, and handed over their authority to the new provisional Government, five Arab armies poised themselves, ready to attack, the instant that Israel became a state. They boasted how easily and quickly they would drive the Jews into the Mediterranean Sea, and claim the land for themselves. In Israel, the army was almost nonexistent, but many courageous men, women, and children stepped forward and pledged their allegiance to the Israeli commanders, and fought off the Arab attackers. On June 18th, the five attacking Arab nations withdrew from their position, and agreed on a truce. This was a great victory for Israel and the Jews, since it showed the nations of the world that they were there to stay and would become a power to reckon with in the years to come.

Between the years of 1948-1950, Israel, the nation of the Jews, was trying to save its brothers and sisters in Yemen, by airlifting 50,000 persecuted Yemen Jews to Israel. The project was called Operation Magic Carpet, and was a great success. Operation Magic Carpet was seen by people all over the world, and they saw that Israel would do anything to save, protect or defend the wandering Jew. Many other operations were put into action such as Operation Ali Baba, which saved 130,000 Iraqi Jews.

On May 1960, Israel astonished the world by kidnapping Adolf Eichmann. Eichmann was brought to Israel from Argentina, and put on trial on the charges of exterminating one and a half million Eastern European Jews from 1942-1945. Eichmann did his duty with disgusting efficiency and after the Nazis were defeated, Eichmann, like many other high-ranking Nazi officers fled Germany and went into hiding in such places as Argentina, Syria, and Brazil. One hundred and twelve witnesses were called to testify against Eichmann, and in December 1961 he was charged guilty and in May 1962, Eichmann was hanged. This trial helped to reveal to the world, the gross injustices done to the Jewish people, and the right that they had for a Jewish Homeland. This court case was a very important time in Israel's history, for it was a one of a kind case and set a precedent for times to come.

ESSAY see page 15



Levy Won Sharansky Freedom Essay

Yale Levy, a senior at Liberty High School, was awarded the Natan Sharansky Freedom Essay Award. Mark Belinky, representing The Belinky Foundation who sponsors the annual essay contest, presented the award. Yale was presented \$500 and a plaque at the April 24th Israel 40th Birthday Bash at the JCC.

Yale will be attending either University Of Miami (Ohio) or Indiana University in the fall. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Newman Levy of Liberty. Yale's winning essay is reprinted under My Serve on page 2.



ESSAY from page 2

Again in 1967, Israel was viciously attacked by its Arab neighbors, Egypt, Syria, and Jordan. It was started when the Arab nations signed a military pact, declaring that they would destroy Israel. Egypt took action first by closing the Gulf of Eilat to all Israeli ships. Then on Monday June 5, the Israeli Air Force bombed the Egyptian airfields, destroying several hundred aircraft on the ground. Simultaneously, Israel's army moved into the Gaza Strip and the Sinai. When Jordan attacked Israel, the army moved on the West Bank, and took control of Jerusalem. Israel also captured the Golan Heights, when the Syrians also tried to invade Israel. Israel again came out as the victor and again Israel beat all of the odds and won. On June 11th, the United Nations arranged a cease fire and Israel held on to the lands that it had captured (Gaza Strip, Golan Heights, West Bank, and Sinai). The Six Day War was a major turning point for Israel, since it had acquired many new territories, and again it taught the narrow-minded Arab nations that peace might be more beneficial than warring with her. Unfortunately, the Arab nations are unable to see the light, and continue to plot the destruction of Israel, by pushing them into the sea and by funding anti-Israel terrorists and organizations.

The year 1979 was a historical date for Israel, Egypt and the United States. For the first time, an Arab nation and Israel were able to sit down and talk about their differences. Prime Minister Begin and President Anwar Sadat sat down with President

Jimmy Carter to try to work out a peace treaty between Egypt and Israel. The treaty was supposed to be signed on December 1978, but was postponed until President Carter came back from a fact-finding mission in the Middle East. On March 26, 1979 the first peace treaty was signed between the Jewish State and an Arab nation. Because of signing a peace treaty with Israel, Egypt was disowned by the other Arab Nations, and just recently was Egypt allowed to participate in the Arab Conference.

For Jews all around the world, Israel is not just another country that you hear about in the news, but it a Jewish Homeland to be proud of. How Israel acts, does not only affect how people see Israelis, but how they see all Jews in general. And when Israel wins a war, convicts a Nazi, or saves persecuted Jews from their oppressors, all Jews feel proud to be a Jew and are proud of what action their state, the State of Israel, has done. Being a Jew is not just a religion, it is a way of life with a common language and heritage, and that heritage began in Israel thousands of years ago, and astonishingly, it still exists today. Jews have been captured and enslaved by many empires that have crumbled to the ground under their own weight, but Jews have survived the best of them, for example - the Romans. Israel is a great nation and it will continue to be so for many years to come. We have done too much already to give up now, as long as we forget the impossible and think of it as a possibility. Reprinted by permission of the Belinky Foundation.

Final call for Esther Marks Memorial Volunteer Award nominations

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

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

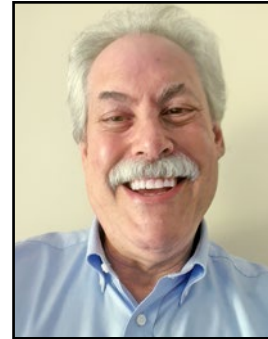
Nominations must be submitted in writing, and be one page and double spaced. The nomination should detail why the nominee is deserving of the award. Individuals may be nominated by any individual or organization of the Jewish community. Nominees should be involved in Federation and/or any of its agencies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

involvement in Jewish organizations or synagogues.

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

Nominations are due by May 21. The award will be presented at the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation annual meeting. Send nominations to Lisa Long, CEO, Youngstown Area Jewish Federation, 505 Gypsy Lane, Youngstown, Ohio, 44504.

3 new initiatives for our YAJCA cemeteries



Art Einzig
YAJCA Director

The approximately 4,000 headstones we care for in our six cemeteries range in age from a few months old to well over 100 years old. Imagine: Our oldest stones were erected before the Spanish Flu epidemic, before World War One, and well before televisions found their way into American homes. Veterans of the Civil War were alive and well, and there were many more horse-drawn carriages on our streets than motorized vehicles. Times have changed over the last 120 years, but much in our cemeteries have not.

Soft Scrubbing a Century of Grime From our Memorial Stones

The Youngstown, Warren, and Sharon areas were filled with steel mills up and down the Mahoning River Valley—mills that were polluting the air with smoke, soot, and grime of all sorts until the end of the 1970s. For the most part, rain and snow were the only elements washing that grime from our headstones for the last century. Some stones weathered these conditions better than others, but many were less fortunate and were marked with unsightly stains or discolorations because of the type and porosity of the stone itself.

It is now time to clean and protect our headstones. For the first time ever, we are providing families the opportunity to clean and protect their loved ones' headstones with a professional, environmentally safe, and gentle cleaning with a clear coating to bring back the beauty and character of our cemeteries' stained and soiled memorial stones. The ravages of time caused by dirt penetrating a stone's surface can now be addressed, restoring both the beauty and (in some cases) the readability of the words and

images carved decades earlier. The cost will be \$135 for cleaning a single stone and \$155 for cleaning a standard-size double stone. One of the kindest mitzvahs any one of us can do is to provide a donation toward this effort of cleaning and restoring a stone where there are no family members left to do so. Please contact the YAJCA or Art Einzig with your questions and input.

Creating Two New Areas for Green Burial Options

A subcommittee of the YAJCA has been formed to consider green (or natural) burials on open, unused cemetery land at Congregation Ohev Tzedek (Canfield), and Congregation Beth Israel (Sharon) cemeteries. The plots of land would be laid out with random patterns of graves, ground cover instead of grass, and a scattering of small trees to help create a natural park-like setting. Special rules would be created for these sections regarding such items as headstones, vaults, and caskets. As we consider this new venture, we will welcome input from our synagogues, interested families, and individuals in our community. Please contact the YAJCA or Art Einzig with your input and questions.

Placing New Headstones Where None Exist

Finally, our last news is about select graves of loved ones where headstones were never placed. We're compiling a list of graves with missing headstones, some recent and some remaining unmarked for several years. Our staff and board will do our best to find and contact family members before printing a list of graves without. Once the list is published, we'll ask for assistance to find any out-of-town family members who can help the YAJCA with the cost of headstones on these graves. We feel a responsibility to properly mark all of our graves, and your help will be much appreciated as we place these last missing headstones on these last few graves.

For more information about any of these initiatives visit jewishyoungstown.org/yajca.



OUR SERVICES

COUNSELING

Licensed, experienced professionals provide therapy for individuals, groups, families, and children. We are here to assist you with mental health challenges and life transitions.

EDUCATIONAL AND SOCIAL SUPPORT GROUPS

Our professional staff offers educational support on a variety of topics to meet client needs. We provide assistance to those facing difficult life decisions, members of the aging community, those living with mental health disorders, and those that need developmental support.

OUTREACH SERVICES

Our outreach coordinator and social workers welcome the opportunity to talk with elders and their families.

JCRC holds Shoah Memorial Ceremony



The JCRC held its annual Shoah Memorial Ceremony in April at the JCC. Pictured is Rabbi Seth Sternstein.

The Jewish Community Relations Council of the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation hosted the community's annual Shoah Memorial Ceremony April 19, bringing together Survivors' families, students, clergy, and community members to remember the six million Jews murdered during the Holocaust and reaffirm the importance of remembrance and education.

The program began with a video tribute to Holocaust Survivors from the Youngstown area, accompanied by classical music performed by Brady Snyder, followed by a musical selection by Liron Daniels.

Teen leaders involved in the Jewish Community Relations Council's Student

Shoah continued on page 23

Our community's first Zikaron BaSalon



Chaya Kessler hosted the community's first Zikaron BaSalon—"Memories in the Living Room."

By Melissa Bateman

How do we commemorate Yom Hashoah in ways that feel both meaningful and personal? For many, the community-wide commemoration at the JCC provides a powerful opportunity to gather, reflect, and remember. For others, there is also a desire to mark the day in more intimate ways—by honoring family members who survived the

Holocaust, remembering loved ones who were murdered, and ensuring their stories continue to be told.

This year, our community was fortunate to have several meaningful opportunities to observe Yom Hashoah. The Jewish Community Relations Council's annual Courthouse program

Zikaron BaSalon continued on page 24

JCRC holds Annual Community Holocaust Commemoration event

The Jewish Community Relations Council of the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation held its Annual Community Holocaust Commemoration event in the Rotunda of the Mahoning County Courthouse April 14.

"Today we gather for Yom Hashoah—Holocaust Remembrance Day—a time set aside around the world to remember the six million Jews murdered during the Holocaust, along with the millions of other victims of Nazi persecution," said Rabbi Joseph Schonberger at the start of the program. "In Israel, this day is marked with profound national mourning. Sirens sound across the country, and for two minutes,

life comes to a complete standstill. People step out of their cars, stand in silence, and remember. Here in Youngstown, we mark this day by gathering as a community to bear witness."

Winners of the JCRC's student Holocaust writing and multimedia contest were recognized at the ceremony.

This year's local theme was "When Time Stood Still: The Fate of Jewish Families and Communities During the Holocaust." It's inspired by an 18-panel exhibit from Yad Vashem.

"This year's theme reminds us that the Holocaust was not only about numbers—it was about families, relationships, and

communities torn apart. Behind every statistic was a person: a mother, a father, a child, a sibling, a friend. This year, students were asked to reflect on local Survivor stories—to ensure that these voices from our own community continue to be heard," said Suzyn Schwebel Epstein, former chair of the JCRC and former board president of the Federation.

Also included in the event were poetry readings by the winners and a candle lighting ceremony. Candle lighters were Teri Anderson, Jack Anderson and Arlo Anderson Rachel Kay, Ethan Kay, Molly Kay and Henry Kay; Robert Rawl; Rabbi Joseph Schonberger; Barry Wagner; Jenny Lloyd and Brian

Froomkin, and family of Sid Jacobson, a liberator. Kobi Sigler lit a seventh candle for Israel. Mayor Derrick McDowell presented a proclamation recognizing that from April 12, 2026 through April 19, 2026 are the Days of Remembrance in memory of the Holocaust and in honor of the Survivors as well as the rescuers and liberators.

The Holocaust Commemoration and Education Task Force, a committee of the JCRC, is chaired by Rabbi Joseph Schonberger and Rochelle Miller, children of Holocaust Survivors, and is composed of numerous children and grandchildren of Survivors, and other interested volunteers from the community.

JCRC announces winners of annual student contest

As part of its Annual Community Holocaust Commemoration for Yom Hashoah (Holocaust Remembrance), the Jewish Community Relations Council of the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation held a student Holocaust writing, art, and multimedia contest.

Winners were recognized at the annual Community Yom Hashoah Commemoration Ceremony held at the Mahoning County Courthouse April 14. Yom Hashoah is an internationally recognized day set aside for remembering all victims of the Holocaust and for reminding society what can happen to civilized people when bigotry, hatred, and indifference reign.

Students in grades seven to 12 were invited to submit an original piece of poetry, narrative composition, art, or multimedia piece.

The theme for this year's contest was "When Time Stood Still: The Fate of Jewish Families and Communities During the Holocaust." It's inspired by the 18-panel exhibit from Yad Vashem that highlights how each of the six million victims was more than just a number. Every individual had a unique identity—a life filled with hopes, fears, dreams, ambitions, and most importantly, family. The Holocaust devastated Jewish families and communities across Europe. Synagogues, cemeteries, and cultural institutions were destroyed. In many cases, Holocaust Survivors returned to their hometowns after liberation to find no one from their families alive.

This year's winners in the Student Holocaust Writing, Art, and Multimedia contest are:

London Cowan
First Place – Poetry
Grade 7–8, Akiva Academy

Eli Lipinsky
Second Place – Poetry
Grade 7–8, Austintown Middle School

Lillian Agnone
Third Place – Poetry
Grade 7–8, Lowellville High School

Noah Johnson
Fourth Place – Poetry
Grade 7–8, Akiva Academy

Rebecca Sakelaris
First Place – Essay
Grade 7–8, Akiva Academy

James Perrin
Second Place – Essay
Grade 7–8, Austintown Middle School

Roei Sigler
Third Place – Essay
Grade 7–8, Akiva Academy

Joshua Martin
Fourth Place – Essay
Grade 7–8, Akiva Academy

Phoenix Patterson
First Place – Multimedia
Grade 7–8, Austintown Middle School

Sarah Baquero
Second Place – Multimedia
Grade 7–8, Akiva Academy

Annabelle Holbrook
Third Place – Multimedia
Grade 7–8, Austintown Middle School

Alaina Jackson
First Place – Poetry
Grade 9–10, West Middlesex High School

Cameron Kenney
Second Place – Poetry
Grade 9–10, Boardman High School

Ta'Lea Feliciano
Third Place – Poetry
Grade 9–10, Boardman High School

Madison Khoury
First Place – Essay
Grade 9–10, Boardman High School

Chloe Smith
Second Place – Essay
Grade 9–10, Boardman High School

Audrey Lorenzi
Third Place – Essay
Grade 9–10, Boardman High School

Stella Mitchell
First Place – Multimedia
Grade 9–10, Boardman High School



Grade 7 and 8 Winners



Grade 9 and 10 Winners



Grade 11 and 12 Winners

Winners continued on page 23

Holocaust Survivor exhibit travels to Central Ohio for bat mitzvah project



Isla Shapiro, with her family, brought the JCRC's Kinast exhibit to Temple Beth Shalom in central Ohio as part of her bat mitzvah project. Isla is Kinast's great-granddaughter. Pictured from left are Lindsey Shapiro, Jerry Kinast, and Shapiro.

About 100 people were able to see an exhibit detailing the life of Holocaust Survivor Henry Kinast at a recent bat mitzvah project in Columbus.

The exhibit, created by the Jewish Community Relations Council of the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation, shares Kinast's story of survival, resilience, and rebuilding after the Holocaust. It is one of two traveling exhibits that tell the life story of two Youngstown-area Holocaust Survivors. A third exhibit that tells the life and love story of Frances and Abe Honigman was completed in April. The exhibits are available, at no cost, to schools, religious institutions, and civic organizations.

Isla Shapiro, of New Albany, brought the Kinast exhibit to Temple Beth Shalom—marking its first time on display in central Ohio—as part of her bat mitzvah project. Shapiro is Kinast's great-granddaughter.

As part of her project, Shapiro and her family coordinated the exhibit's transport and installation and invited guests to spend time engaging with her great-grandfather's story. The display served as both an educational experience and a personal tribute, connecting generations through history.

Shapiro's inspiration came from both her

family's story and her classroom learning. A student at New Albany Middle School, she and her classmates have been studying the Holocaust, including reading "Night" by Elie Wiesel and visiting the Nancy & David Wolf Holocaust & Humanity Center this year.

"Having my Bat Mitzvah means a lot to me, especially knowing my great-grandfather didn't get to have one at my age because of the Holocaust," said Shapiro. "That's why I wanted my project to focus on Holocaust education, so people never forget."

Henry Kinast, 1929–2019, was a Holocaust Survivor who as a young boy defied the odds of slave labor and the concentration camps and became the patriarch of a large family rooted in a family business. After the war, Henry reunited with his father and brother. They relocated to Sweden, where he married Inga Jonsson. Together, Henry and Inga immigrated to the United States in 1954. Eventually they settled in Youngstown, where they raised their four children.

By bringing the exhibit to central Ohio, Shapiro helped ensure her great-grandfather's story continues to educate and inspire others—demonstrating the enduring importance of remembering the Holocaust and sharing its lessons with future generations.

Liron Daniel participates in annual International Women's Day celebration



Liron Daniel, Youngstown Area Jewish Federation Israel engagement/program coordinator participated in the YWCA Mahoning Valley's annual International Women's Day celebration.

Liron Daniel, Youngstown Area Jewish Federation Israel engagement/program coordinator participated in the YWCA Mahoning Valley's annual International Women's Day celebration, held this year at Penguin City Brewing Company.

Daniel, originally from Israel, performed the song "Chaya Li MiYom LeYom," which can be translated into English as "Live My Life Day by Day."

The song speaks about the struggles women sometimes face with themselves and with the search for love. It reminds listeners that every woman deserves to be loved, appreciated, and

to feel that someone truly sees her.

The song was originally performed by Rita Kleinstein, a Jewish singer born in Iran. In recent years, the song has also become a symbol of hope and strength for Iranian women in their fight for freedom and rights against the regime in Iran.

"For me," Daniel said. "it was a great honor to sing it at an event dedicated to celebrating and empowering women."

International Women's Day showcases the dancing, music, dress, and food of cultures represented in the Mahoning Valley. The event follows the international theme of Give to Gain.

JCRC ISRAELI SPIRITS NIGHT

YOUNG ADULT PROGRAM

Raise a glass at Israeli Spirits Night! Enjoy a lively evening sampling Israeli beer, wine, and spirits. Babysitting is available.

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MAZEL TOV

PreK Graduates



Mazel tov to Early Learning Center of the JCC PreK graduates! Pictured from left are Arlo Anderson, son of Hannah and Ian Anderson; Alice Kozberg, daughter of Maggie Henderson and Zak Kozberg; Libi Wolyniec, daughter of Liron and Uriel Wolyniec; Or'Meir Karabelo, son of Atara and Shlomo Karabelo; and Kinsey Sabo, daughter of Caitlyn and Dan Sabo.

Jewish Heritage Day

With the

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June 14

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Souvenir
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12:30 p.m. Kosher-Style Cookout | 2:00 p.m. Game

**Cookout includes: Hot dog or Veggie Burger
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yajf.org/seniorliving

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- Structured Socialization
- VA Approved

Make water safety a priority



Tara Bishop
JCC Wellness &
Aquatics Director

May marks the beginning of swim season as pools begin to open and people start to spend more time outdoors. With that, we also kick off National Water Safety Month. Water safety professionals encourage

families to make water safety a priority to build confidence in and around water, for life. The following things are key factors in keeping your family water safe:

- Supervise children around water - Never leave children unattended around water. When you're in a group around water, always have one adult assigned to be the "Water Watcher." That person will be responsible for remaining free from

distractions, such as their phone, conversations, and group activities. If you rotate, everyone can have fun while keeping your kids safe! This is even important when you're at a pool with a lifeguard, because you have a smaller group and a smaller space to concentrate on, ensuring your kids always have a set of eyes on them.

- Learn to swim - Everyone should know how to swim! There are swim lessons available for everyone ages six months and up, so you have a lot of options. This is the number one way to prevent accidental drownings.
- Install safety devices - If you have a home pool, make sure the proper safety devices are in place. Every home pool should have a gate or fence of some sort, as well as a secure pool cover and alarms on the doors and windows that lead to the pool.
- Get certified - Knowing how to perform CPR on children and adults can turn a bad situation around. Find a class and sign up so you can potentially save a life!

'Empire Spikes Back' big volleyball winner



"Empire Spikes Back" is the winning team of Indoor Co-ed Winter Volleyball 2026 at the JCC. Pictured from left are Tim Timco, Jeff Swain, Rebecca Soldan, Dan Miller, Veronica Miller, and Captain Nathan Moffit.

BBYO teens meet funders

The Youngstown BBYO teens held a Meet the Funder Ice Cream Social in March where they had the opportunity to tell the community about the

experiences they have had so far, and their plans for the future. It was followed by a Matzah Making program for the teens.



BBYO teens shared their experiences with funders. Pictured from left, front row, Cari Immerman, B'nai B'rith Aaron Grossman Lodge 339; Tamar Sigler; Maddie Long; Cameron Silverman; Antonio McNutt; Ronna Marlin, ZOA president; Lisa Long, Federation CEO; back row, Sidney Braslawsce; Tres Hively; Blythe Hively; Zach Bostocky; and Rick Marlin ZOA secretary.



BBYO teens participated in a Matzah Making program. Pictured from left are Tres Hively, Cameron Silverman, Ethan McNutt, Tamar Sigler, Blythe Hively, Maddie Long, Sidney Braslawsce, Zach Bostocky, and Antonio McNutt.

David Alan Goldberg

David passed away peacefully on March 28, 2026.

If you ever met Dave Goldberg, “Hooch,” “Dirty Dave,” “Bougie,” “Uncle Boogie,” you have a story about him. That’s just how it was.

David was born on Nov. 24, 1940, to Jack and Elaine Goldberg, and grew up in Youngstown, Ohio. From an early age, he showed the personality that would define him, tough, resourceful, and full of life. He began in sales as a young boy, selling flowers and cherries he picked in neighborhood yards

to local families, an early glimpse of the hustle, charm, and instinct for connection that would stay with him his entire life.

He proudly served in the United States Marine Corps, where he developed the discipline, and resilience that became core to who he was. During his time overseas in the Philippines, he developed a lasting appreciation for a wide variety of fruits and cultures.

After his military service, he spent much of his career in the produce business. He began working with his father at the Youngstown Produce Company where he learned the trade and built relationships that would last a lifetime. He later started his own company, J & D Quality Produce, which he ran alongside his brother-in-law, Jay Gelbaum. He became known for his deep knowledge and love of produce - especially fruit. He almost always came home with a pallet of something incredible: the best, most perfectly ripe fruit or vegetables. He had a way of making food feel like connection. He gave fruit to people constantly, showed up with pockets full of cherries, and built friendships with restaurant owners all over town, people who knew him, trusted him, and were always happy



to see him walk through the door.

In 1998, he started his own window business and invited his son Kevin to join him. Together, they built the business the way he believed things should be done, with trust, integrity, and a handshake in true gentleman fashion. He owned and operated the business from 1998 to 2008, when he decided it was time, at least in his words, “to retire.” In reality, he simply shifted roles with Kevin so he could spend more time on the road, doing what he loved most: connecting with people. For the next 12 years,

he continued working with customers, enjoying the conversations as much as the work itself. Anyone who had Dave in their home knows that at some point, they may have forgotten he was there to sell them windows. He loved talking about gardening and cars, and if there was a dog nearby, it likely received a treat from his pocket.

He was never just selling something, he was building relationships, leaving impressions, and making people feel like they had known him forever. To know him was to have a story about him. He was one of the craziest, funniest, most unforgettable characters most people ever met. Whether you knew him briefly or for a lifetime, you remembered him. He had a presence, tough, bold, and a little bit legendary. In Youngstown, his name carried weight. He had a reputation, and no one dared mess with him.

He was a true character, quick-witted, sharp, and always able to talk his way into or out of just about anything. Around town, he was also known for his dancing, and it wasn’t out of the ordinary for a place to clear a floor and ask him to dance for them. Known to some as “Bougie,” a

Goldberg continued on page 24

Linda Shapiro

Linda M. Shapiro, 82, of Hilliard, Ohio, passed away unexpectedly April 9, 2026, at Riverside Methodist Hospital in Columbus.

She was born on April 21, 1943, in Beaver Falls, Pa., the daughter of the late Fenwick and Helen (Wood) Broberg.

Linda was a 1961 graduate of Warren G. Harding High School. On Nov. 29, 1969, she married William L. Shapiro, with whom she shared 50 years of loving marriage and countless cherished memories. Together, they enjoyed traveling to many beautiful destinations, including Switzerland, Alaska, England, and a memorable cruise through the Panama Canal.

Linda is survived by her two children, Jennifer (Jason) McDowell of Hilliard and Brian (Amanda) Shapiro of Warren; her brother, Peter (Laura) Broberg of Berlin Center; and her beloved grandchildren, Ian and Alyssa McDowell.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Bill, and her brother, Stephen.

Linda was a loving and devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and sister. She found great joy in being a stay-at-home

mother and raising her children. She had a deep love for reading and music, especially the sounds of Eric Clapton and The Beatles. Her grandchildren meant the world to her. Whether she was attending their sporting events, playing games like Rummikub or Bingo, or sharing in special adventures such as trips to Niagara Falls, Linda cherished every moment spent with them. Perhaps what she loved most was attending their band concerts and proudly watching them perform in the marching band.

She will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her.

In accordance with Linda’s wishes, no services will be held. The family requests that memorial contributions be made to the American Diabetes Association.

Professional arrangements are being handled by Shriver-Allison-Courtley-Weller-King Funeral Home.



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Akiva Academy students recognized



Several Akiva Academy middle school students who were recognized in the Jewish Community Relations Council of the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation's annual Holocaust Writing, Art, and Multimedia Contest.

This year's contest included submissions from students across the Mahoning and Shenango Valleys, with a highly competitive pool of entries spanning multiple schools and districts. Akiva Academy students were well represented among the top selections, earning multiple placements across divisions.

The following students were recognized:

- **London Cowan** – First Place, Grade 7–8 Poetry Division
- **Noah Johnson** – Fourth Place, Grade 7–8 Poetry Division
- **Rebecca Sakelaris** – First Place, Grade 7–8 Essay Division
- **Roei Sigler** – Third Place, Grade 7–8 Essay Division
- **Joshua Martin** – Fourth Place, Grade 7–8 Essay Division
- **Sarah Baquero** – Second Place, Grade 7–8 Multimedia Division

These results reflect both the strength of student work and the effectiveness of

instruction in fostering critical thinking, historical understanding, and written expression. Students engaged deeply with complex historical content, demonstrating the ability to analyze, reflect, and communicate ideas with clarity and purpose.

Participation in this contest also supports Akiva Academy's broader mission of Holocaust education by encouraging students to connect personally with historical narratives while developing their academic and creative skills.

Akiva leadership commends these students for their effort and achievement, and recognizes the continued importance of providing opportunities for meaningful, interdisciplinary learning experiences



Akiva Academy students celebrate Israeli Independence Day

Akiva Academy students celebrated Israel's 78th Independence Day April 22. Students enjoyed a variety of engaging activities all centered around Israel including learning about its history, culture, innovation,

and spirit through hands-on experiences and meaningful discussions. They wrapped up the celebration with a delicious Israeli-style lunch featuring falafel, adding even more flavor and joy to the day.



Akiva Academy students celebrate Passover with Model Seder



LWVGW Women Hall of Fame event honors 9



The League of Women Voters of Greater Youngstown's Hall of Fame honors women of the Mahoning Valley who make significant impact in any of the following categories: empowering and educating voters, protecting democracy, encouraging civic engagement, creating opportunities so all can reach their potential, ensuring community safety, and promoting community

health. They honored this year's recipients at the LWVGW Women Hall of Fame Event in March at the Jewish Community Center. Over 170 people were in attendance. Pictured from left are honorees (seated) Amanda Fehlbaum, Jorine Stone, Cheryl Saffold, Marie Dockry, (standing) Brandi Shamara Parker, Lisa Lee Kohler, Jessica Lev, Sarah Lown, and Julie Green.

Mental Health continued from page 11

not a last resort. At its best, it's a place to think clearly, to process what's happening, and to find ways to move forward with intention. Many men find that once they step into that space, it feels less unfamiliar than they expected.

This month is a reminder that paying attention to mental health is part of overall well-being. That might mean checking in with yourself, having an honest conversation with someone you trust, or considering professional support when it feels appropriate.

It can also mean paying attention to the people around you. Sometimes the men in our lives, such as friends, family members, and colleagues, don't say when something is weighing on them. A simple, genuine question can open the door more than we realize. Even saying "I've noticed you've been a bit quiet lately; how are things really going?" can lessen the weight and show genuine concern

and care for the other person.

Seeking help is not a weakness. It's part of being human. After many years in this field, I've come to believe that strength isn't about being a solitary pillar carrying everything alone. It's about recognizing when something matters enough to address and being willing to reach out. That's not a weakness; it's a strategy for endurance. Just like a bridge, we are only as strong as the connections we maintain. Healing happens through those bonds, not isolation. It is in those ties that we find the strength to carry on.

Be well and be kind to yourself.

If you are in immediate need of assistance due to a crisis situation, call 988 which is the Suicide & Crisis Hotline which provides free and confidential 24/7 support. If you or someone you know is in need of mental health counseling call Jewish Family & Community Services at 330.746.7929.

Shoah continued from page 16

to Student program, BBYO, and Maccabi guided the ceremony. Tres Hively, Blythe Hively, Henry Long, and Ezra Hively reflected on the responsibility of the next generation to preserve Survivor testimony and confront antisemitism through education and dialogue.

They spoke about the impact of Survivor testimony, the Student to Student program, and the Classrooms Without Borders Poland Seminar, which this year will send six local teens and three local teachers to Poland to study Jewish life before the Holocaust and visit concentration camp sites, continuing the mission of bearing witness.

A central part of the ceremony was the lighting of six memorial candles by descendants of Holocaust Survivors, symbolizing the six million Jewish lives lost. The candle lighters were Polly Stein, Mike Rawl, Terri Anderson and Jerry Kinast, Ben Honigman and family, Margie Meyer and family, and Howard Honigman and family. A seventh candle, representing the State of Israel, was lit by Tamar Sigler, an Israeli teen and local BBYO leader, in recognition of Israel's resilience and hope for peace.

A special presentation unveiled a new traveling exhibit honoring Abe and Frances Honigman, Holocaust Survivors whose story of love and perseverance was shared through a video narrated by their children,

Ben, Margie, and Howard. The siblings were present at the ceremony with approximately 30 family members to honor their parents' legacy.

Abe and Frances were born in Poland in the early 1900s. When Germany invaded Poland in 1939, both of their families were uprooted and eventually relocated to the Kielce Ghetto. Later, when many others in the ghetto were sent to the Treblinka death camp, Abe and Frances were married in a secret ceremony, a union that became a sustaining force throughout the Holocaust. Both were ultimately sent to death camps. After liberation, each believed the other had been killed. Abe eventually learned Frances was alive, and the two were reunited.

They immigrated to the United States in 1953 and settled in Youngstown. Abe purchased and expanded a corner grocery store, and Frances worked alongside him to build the family business. Together, they raised three children and created a legacy that now continues through future generations.

As the ceremony concluded, participants were reminded that Yom Hashoah is not only a day of mourning, but also a call to action—to preserve memory, stand against hatred, and ensure that the lessons of the Holocaust continue to guide future generations.

Winners continued from page 17

Olivia Cuevas

Second Place – Multimedia
Grade 9–10, Boardman High School

Lainey Powell

Third Place – Multimedia
Grade 9–10, Boardman High School

Annabella Smiley

First Place – Poetry
Grade 11–12, West Middlesex High School

Meredith Massey

First Place – Poetry
Grade 11–12, West Middlesex High School

Zachary Sodeman

Second Place – Poetry
Grade 11–12, Boardman High School

Avary Stover

Third Place – Poetry
Grade 11–12, West Middlesex High School

Kylah Helscel

Fourth Place – Poetry
Grade 11–12, Boardman High School

Rogen Lewis

First Place – Essay
Grade 11–12, West Middlesex High School

Jasmine Kortez

Second Place – Essay
Grade 11–12, Boardman High School

Lucy Briggs

Third Place – Essay
Grade 11–12, West Middlesex High School

Remington Fish

Fourth Place – Essay
Grade 11–12, Boardman High School

Allyson Farley

First Place – Multimedia
Grade 11–12, Crestview High School

JCC OF YOUNGSTOWN

UPCOMING EVENTS

MEMBERSHIP

LOGAN CAMPUS OPEN HOUSE

Come see (or show) all the fun at our Logan Campus! Members may bring their guests for free from open until close. Anyone in the community is welcome to be our guest from 1–4 p.m. when we will also have some raffles along with some Plinko prize fun.

June 6

1:00–4:00 p.m. Be OUR Guest!

Open–Close Bring YOUR Guest!

Logan Campus

Free/Member | Free/Non Member

LOGAN

FAMILY NIGHTS

Relax in the pool and enjoy a movie on the big screen. Crafts and themed activities will begin at 6:00 p.m. Movie begins at 8:30 p.m.

May 30: Heroes on the High Seas

June 27: Wild West

Cost: Free/Member | \$5/Non Member

KARAOKE NIGHT

June 20 | 6:00–8:00 p.m.

Free/Member | \$5/Non Member

DOLLAR DOG DAY

Enjoy hot dogs from the Logan Campus Snack Shack for just \$1 all day!

June 14

YARD GAME OLYMPICS

Join your friends for some cornhole, Can-Jam, and more.

July 5

LOGAN DUCKS SWIM TEAM

Take your swimming to the next level with the Logan Ducks Swim Team.

Starts June 1

Ducklings Swim Team starts June 8.

YOUTH TENNIS CLINIC

June 22–25 | Ages 7-13

SAND VOLLEYBALL OPEN PLAY

June 23 & 30 | Ages 18+

CAMP JCC

June 1–August 7

8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

WELLNESS

LIFEGUARD TRAINING (AGES 15+)

Various Dates and Times Available

LIFEGUARD RECERTIFICATION (AGES 15+)

Various Dates and Times Available

COOKING DEMONSTRATIONS

June 9: California Avocados

J-WELL, HEALTH & WELLNESS CHALLENGE

Summer edition: June 1–July 25

100 MILE SWIM CHALLENGE

All Year Long

TRIPLE CROWN SWIM CHALLENGE

May 3–June 7

Lake Erie Swim Challenge starts July 1

ARTS & CULTURE

WOMEN IN HISTORY:

RUTH BADER GINSBURG (RGB)

May 20 | 12:00–2:00 p.m.

VETERANS BREAKFAST CLUB (AGES 18+)

The History & Meaning of Memorial Day

May 27 | 6:00–8:00 p.m.

CRAFT & KVELL (AGES 18+)

May 15 - No-Sew Quilted Star

June 19 - Bandana Charm Bracelet

11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

SUSAN KANTERMAN BOOK CLUB

May 18: Choose your own Jewish book

June 17: “This Is How It Always Is”

by Laurie Frankel

JEWISH FILM SERIES

May 14: “Charles Grodin: Rebel with a Cause”

AGING WELL

TECH TUESDAYS (AGES 60+)

May 5 & 19, June 2 & 16 | 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

CAREGIVER CAFE (AGES 18+)

May 4 & 18, June 1 & 15 | 10:30–11:30 a.m.

GRIEF GROUP (AGES 18+)

May 20 & June 17 | 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

LUNCH BUNCH (AGES 60+)

May 21 & June 18 | 11:45 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

KINSHIP PROGRAM (AGES 60+)

May 13 & 27, June 10 & 24 | 11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

THRIVE WITH FIRST LIGHT (AGES 60+)

May 26 | 1:00–2:30 p.m.

Zikaron BaSalon continued from page 16

honored student winners of the Holocaust Writing, Art, and Multimedia Contest, while the JCC commemoration featured the unveiling of the Honigman exhibit and film that tell the story of Abe and Frances Honigman, Holocaust Survivors. Both programs were moving tributes to memory, resilience, and education.

In addition, this year brought something new: our community’s first Zikaron BaSalon—“Memories in the Living Room.” Hosted by Chaya Kessler in her home, the gathering welcomed students,

Goldberg continued from page 21

nickname that captured both his larger-than-life personality and his gift for storytelling, he had a way of making every interaction memorable. In the produce world, he was known as “Dirty Dave,” a name that stuck and became part of his reputation, one more layer of a man who was impossible to define in just one way. Nothing intimidated him, nothing rattled him, and no situation ever seemed too big for him to handle.

He lived life in his own way, loud, stylish, and full of personality. He took pride in his appearance, especially his sharp, fancy shoes. You could always hear him coming down the road, R&B blasting out the sunroof, Pall Mall in hand, warm coffee in an old Styrofoam cup, shiny gold necklace sparkling in the sun, and engines rumbling. When he arrived home he was usually excited to share some sort of sweet treat or candy that he’d picked up during his travels.

He was also an incredible cook. People would randomly show up at the house around dinnertime just to see what he had made that night. His fettuccine was unforgettable, and his legendary blackened potatoes remain a mystery no one has ever been able to recreate, no matter how many times they’ve tried. Like everything he did, he made it special.

He loved dogs and always had one waiting for him at home and they usually were greeted with lots of affection and a treat of their own, most often doughnuts. He loved fishing too and through summer trips to Canada passed that love on to his

professors, and members of both the Jewish and broader community. The evening created a warm and thoughtful space for conversation, reflection, and shared remembrance. One of the highlights was the presence of students, whose participation underscored the importance of passing these stories to the next generation.

Our community has a rich history of Holocaust remembrance, and this new gathering added another meaningful dimension to that tradition.

children. And boy there are some good stories!

He shared much of his life with his beloved wife, Wendy Goldberg, affectionately known as “Sweetie,” a name he lovingly called her. Together, they built a life and raised four children all of whom followed in their father’s footsteps and are entrepreneurs: Amy Goldberg (Kim Koenig), stepchildren Grant and Brooke; Heidi Goldberg (Justin Graham), child Madison Graham; Kevin Goldberg (Rena Goldberg); and Troy Goldberg (Jaimie Madeline), child Max. From a previous marriage, he also had two sons: Cory Friedman (Mindy Friedman), children Drew and Ben; and Greg Friedman (Hannah), children Tyler and Rachel. He is also survived by his brothers, Richard Goldberg and Renwick Goldberg, countless cousins, as well as many nieces and nephews and his grandson, Taylor Youtsas. He was preceded in death by his parents, Jack and Elaine Goldberg; his sister, Ava “Shelly” Gelbaum; and his beloved wife, Wendy “Sweetie” Goldberg. After her passing, he was never quite the same, a reflection of the deep love they shared. He leaves behind not just a family, but countless stories, laughter, and moments that will be told and retold for years to come.

There will never be another like him.

Funeral service was at Shriver Allison Courtley Weller King Funeral Home. In memory of David, contributions may be made to The Healthy Hearts and Paw Project, 909 Martin Luther King Blvd SW, Warren, OH 44485.