



Art Makes It Home

Interview with Lisa Stone, chair of Jewish Federation of Springfield's Jewish Community Relations Council's New Initiatives Task Force, about the new project, "Art Makes It Home."

What is the "Art Makes it Home" project?

"This project is an opportunity for members of the Jewish Federation community to give lovely art that they are no longer enjoying to individuals who are moving into new residences. The recipients are Springfield residents who, with the assistance of Helping Hands and Heartland HOUSED, are transitioning from being unhoused."

Who will benefit from this?

"Donors will benefit by clearing their homes and knowing that they are helping others in the Springfield community. They will also get a tax deduction, to the extent allowed by law. Recipients will benefit by being able to personalize their new residences. We anticipate that 55 people will be able to make their new spaces home."

People starting out and living in transitional housing have so many needs. Why do you think providing art will be helpful?

"I know this project will not solve Springfield's unhoused issue. But it is something we can do now, while we continue to look for other ways to be effective and participate. Offering a selection of beautiful art from which to choose will provide people who are starting out in a new space the opportunity to make that space their own."

This project will also draw attention to the plight of unhoused individuals in Springfield and provide us with an opportunity to do something about it."

How can anyone who is interested participate?

We will be accepting donations of ready-to-hang, non-religious art in good condition, such as lithographs, prints, watercolors, metals, and oils, between July 1 and July 31, 2023. Call the Jewish Federation at 217-787-7223, ext. 18, to make arrangements for donating your art.

Message From the President



Karen Westbrook

Traditionally, Presidents have used this space to impart words of wisdom related to a Jewish event, holiday and/or concern. As many of you know, my highest hope is to ensure the Jewish Federation in Springfield continues to be the Jewish secular organization bringing the young and old, affiliated and unaffiliated, donors and doers together to celebrate and support our community. I believe, for us to endure, we should all consider how we can be involved in the Federation.

Everyone has skills and passions. Some of us are planners, implementers, and doers. There are those of us who relish being behind the scenes. We have members interested in social services, the arts, lifelong learning, education, socializing, lending a creative hand and/or helping with public relations. I am asking each of you to reach inside and identify as least one way you can be involved in the Federation this year,

The Newsletter will be changing. Instead of my report each month, I will be celebrating our community successes as well as “advertising” up-and-coming efforts that we are planning and or implementing that depend upon our membership involvement in some capacity to make them successful. Please scour the Newsletter to find out who, what, when, where and how you can be involved. We are a very small Federation; however, I am learning quickly, we provide a great deal more programming and support services than many larger than we are. We need your help.

Please consider joining this journey with me. I am listing the Federation committees and some special projects below. There will be more information throughout the Newsletter. Please contact Nancy or me to get more details or let us know how you can help. See you soon!

Campaign
PJ Library Playdate
Wine Tasting
Violins of Hope

Education and Culture
Public Relations
JCRC Projects

Partnership2GETHER
Seniors
Lighting the Path

The mission of the Jewish Federation of Springfield, Illinois, is to serve the Jewish people locally, in Israel and throughout the world through coordinated fund raising, community-wide programming, social services and educational activities.

Violins of Hope

A Celebration of Survival



September 7 – 13, 2023

The Jewish Federation of Springfield is partnering with a variety of local educational and community groups to bring these beautiful instruments to life in a meaningful way - to honor their past and celebrate their future, but we need your help to get this done.

Please consider volunteering for one of these committees:
Public Relations or Event Coordination.
Your help will make this a special event for Springfield.

To volunteer, email sjf@shalomspringfield.org
or call 217.787.7223 ext. 18.

Springfield's recurring social and educational series for active retirees .

Knosh & Knowledge

July 26, 2023

Special Time - 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Tour of Woodlawn Farm, Jacksonville IL

Woodlawn Farm is the showcase homestead of Jacksonville's extensive Underground Railroad network.



**RSVP by Mon., July 24,
to (217) 787-7223 x 18
or rsvp@shalomspringfield.org**



Springfield's recurring social and educational series for active retirees .

Knosh & Knowledge

August 30, 2023 9:30-10:30 AM

**Current Dining Trends -
The post covid restaurant scene.**



**RSVP by Mon., August 28,
to (217) 787-7223 x 18
or rsvp@shalomspringfield.org**

JULY 2023

						1
						9:30 am TI Service 10:30 am Chabad Service
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9:30 am Chabad Tefillin Club	7 pm Hadassah Book Club	Independence Day Fed Office Closed			5:30 pm TBS Shabbat 6 pm TI Shabbat Service	9:30 am TI Service 10:30 am Chabad Service
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
10 am Fed PJ Play Date 2 pm TBS Exec. Bd. Mtg		1 pm TI S'Hd Book Club 2 pm TI S'Hd Exec Mtg		7 pm TI Bd Mtg	5:30 pm TBS Shabbat 6 pm TI Shabbat	9:30 am TI Service 10:30 am Chabad Service
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
		7 pm SBJE Bd Mtg	7 pm Hadassah Bd Mtg	7:30 pm Fed JCRC Mtg	6 pm TI Shabbat (Outdoors) 6 pm TBS Shabbat	9:30 am TI Service 10:30 am Chabad Service
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	5:30 pm Fed Exec Comm Mtg	7 pm TBS Bd Mtg	10 am Fed Knosh & Knowledge in Jacksonville		6 pm TI Shabbat 6 pm TBS Shabbat	9:30 am TI Service 10:30 am Chabad Service
30	31					

AUGUST 2023

		1	2	3	4	5
			7:30 pm Fed Board Mtg		5:30 pm TBS Shabbat 6 pm TI Shabbat	9:30 am TI Service 10:30 am Chabad Service
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
10 am TI Blessing of Pets @ Southwind Park	7 pm Hadassah Book Club	1 pm TI S'Hd Book Club 2 pm TI S'Hd Exec Mtg	7 pm Hadassah Bd Mtg	7 pm TI Bd Mtg	5:30 pm TBS Shabbat 6 pm TI Shabbat (Outside)	9:30 am TI Service 10:30 am Chabad Service
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
9:30 am Chabad Tefillin Club 10 am Fed PJ Play Date 2 pm TBS Exec. Bd. Mtg		7 pm SBJE Bd Mtg			6 pm TI Shabbat 6 pm TBS Shabbat	9:30 am TI Service 10:30 am Chabad Service
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
12 pm TBS S'Hd Gen Mtg 4 pm Chabad BBQ		7 pm TBS Bd Mtg	7 pm Hadassah Gen Mtg		6 pm TI Shabbat 6 pm TBS Shabbat	9:30 am TI Service 10:30 am Chabad Service
27	28	29	30	31		
4 pm Chabad BBQ	5:30 pm Fed Exec Comm Mtg		9:30 am Fed Knosh & Knowledge			

Celebrating Julius Rosenwald

On May 3rd Jewish Federation of Springfield, IL and Lincoln Presidential Foundation hosted a celebration honoring the completion of the Rosenwald Mural and the Julius Rosenwald Exhibit Project Launch in partnership with Lincoln National Home Historic Site, Looking for Lincoln, Jewish United Fund and the Rosenwald Initiative and event sponsor Illinois Realtors.

The Rosenwald Mural is a project of the Rosenwald Initiative, a collective of local Jewish and Black organizations and interested individuals, convened by Jewish Federation of Springfield. The Rosenwald Initiative seeks to honor the legacy of the first Jewish social philanthropist, Julius Rosenwald who built 5000 schools for Black Americans, and increase awareness of his philanthropic work. The mural is located at the corner of Seventh and Capitol on the back wall of the parking ramp.

Carolyn Blackwell spoke on behalf of the Rosenwald Initiative. She described her experience as a Rosenwald School student as follows:

Thank You Mr. Rosenwald By Carolyn Blackwell



I began my first four years of formal education in Providence, Kentucky at a Rosenwald School. These schools were built at the initiative of and with support from Julius Rosenwald who provided 1/3 of the resources from his philanthropy (usually the building). The local white school district provided another 1/3 (usually books), and the other 1/3 came from the African American community.

The four years that I attended school there were four of the happiest years of my life! I have fond recollections of my teachers: Miss Woolfolk in the first and second grades, who taught me how to read, write, and do arithmetic; Miss Reese in the third and fourth grades, where I learned division, multiplication, and how to read chapter books and write essays.

I didn't give much thought about who my school was named after or how it was operated. I just knew that it was one of the best places to be. Some ten years later when I was in an American History class, I learned that after the Civil War, African American children had to go to separate schools from white children and that a Philanthropist named Julius Rosenwald built over 5,000 schools for US to attend.

I had no idea that I would end up living and teaching in the city where Julius Rosenwald began his life, that I would become a member of the Rosenwald Initiative, and that I would be here celebrating the Julius Rosenwald Mural and Exhibit Project Launch in 2023.

This occasion is just as much of a happy feeling as the first four years of my education at the Rosenwald School in Providence, KY in 1951! Thank you, Mr. Rosenwald, for all you did for us...for me.



The Rosenwald Initiative Mural completion was made possible with generous support from:

Hanson Family Fund

Lisa & Stephen Stone Family Fund

Morse/Morgan Family Fund

Velma L Carey Family Fund of the Community Foundation
for the Land of Lincoln

Anonymous
Bank of Springfield

Rich Bowen

Dorothy Canter

Steve & Shannon DeWith-McCormack

Mike Jackson

Arden Lang & Jim Lewis

James Johnson Study Guild

Jewish Federation of Springfield, IL
Over 50 Club

Natalie and Robert Silverman

Springfield Equal Justice Project

Rabbi Arthur Stern

Rosenwald Park Campaign

Family of Stanley Stern



Partnership2GETHER

Plans are well underway for the Partnership 25th Anniversary Celebration in November. The program will run from Tuesday, November 7, through Thursday, November 9, and will be held in the Western Galilee region. The program includes visits to Partnership beneficiary organizations in the Western Galilee, as well as programming tracks in art, multiculturalism, history, and Partnership connections. The Sliding Dors group of second generation holocaust survivors will have a mini-seminar. A gala for all participants will be held on Wednesday, November 8.

It would certainly be possible to participate just in the three-day celebration, but many people will want to take advantage of the opportunity of being in Israel to extend their visit before and after the scheduled Partnership events. Several communities have organized missions that include participation in the Partnership activities but also involve visits to sites outside of the Western Galilee. Two communities, Toledo and Ft. Worth, have opened their trips to others who would be interested. Contact Nancy Sage or me for details.

By the time you read this, Nancy Sage and I will have attended the Partnership's Council of Communities (CoC) meeting in Ft. Worth. This year's CoC meeting will include extensive discussions of the Partnership's Strategic Plan for the next five years, as well as tentative approval of the 2024 work plan. An update will be provided in a future newsletter.

Finally, the 12th P2G Book Club zoom session was held on May 7. The book was *The Beauty Queen of Jerusalem* by Sarit Yishai-Levi. Once again, the discussion added considerable depth to the participants' appreciation of the book, in this case through an informative and revealing presentation by the author. The next book is *Who By Fire* by Matti Friedman. The discussion is scheduled for September 10.

Reading *The Beauty Queen of Jerusalem* inspired me to dig into a book I had on my shelf for quite a while: Karen Armstrong's *Jerusalem*. The book covers a huge time span, from the earliest known settlement around 1800 BCE through to contemporary times. Armstrong's incorporation of references from the Jewish, Christian, and Islamic texts is nothing short of remarkable. I'd had no idea of how often over the centuries the city had been destroyed and then re-built and how control of the city passed back and forth among whoever was the dominant power in a given century. The book deepens appreciation for the city we visit today.

Harry Berman, Chair



**November 7-11, 2023
in Israel's Western Galilee**

Celebrate and Experience our Partnership's Involvement in the Arts,
History Multiculturalism, Connections, and more!

Partnership communities Toledo and Fort Worth-Tarrant and
our Partnership2Gether Western Galilee are sponsoring tours of Israel.

If you are interested, please contact Nancy Sage
nsage@shalomspringfield.org or 217-787-7223 #12

SAGE NOTES



Nancy Sage
Executive Director

A few weeks ago, Barry Seidman and I attended JFNA's (Jewish Federations of North America) Board of Trustees annual meeting. Barry will rotate off the Board as he has served for two terms, covering the last seven years. As Springfield is one of the ten smallest of the 146 Federations, Barry gave us a large presence. He served on the Israel and Overseas Committee, and in his second term, he chaired the ten trustees representing 66 Small Federations. I add our Federation's thanks for Barry's dedication and leadership to those of JFNA President Julie Platt, who expressed her appreciation to each trustee rotating off the Board.

At each Board of Trustees meeting that I attend, I have a greater appreciation that we are part of a larger collective. While we benefit directly from the opportunities and expertise JFNA offers, it is through the collective that we change lives and save lives in 70 countries throughout the world.

Typical of an annual meeting, the agenda highlighted the year's achievements and set the stage for the upcoming year. JFNA's overall mission is to support Federations, so that our Federation communities are safe, caring, welcoming, educated and engaged, involved in the broader community, and deeply connected to the global Jewish people. To that end, JFNA provides professional, lay leadership, and financial resource development (fundraising) training; consulting services; campaign and marketing materials; advocacy for JFNA priorities from fighting antisemitism and funding for the non-profit security grant program to services for Holocaust survivors; responding to local and international crises; and, so much more.

As community security and fighting antisemitism are high on the priority list, we heard a presentation by Michael Masters, CEO of SCN (Secure Community Network), and a panel discussion with Federation CEOs from Buffalo, Los Angeles, and West Palm Beach. Michael Masters thanked JFNA for raising \$62 million from private donors and foundations for the LiveSecure program. With the goal to enhance security initiatives in Jewish communities, LiveSecure offers Federations a matching grant for two years to support hiring a community security director and provides funding to SCN to expand their capacity to conduct on-site training, security assessments, and technical assistance. The Jewish Federation of Springfield is working with SCN, JFNA and neighboring small Federations to explore hiring a shared security director through the LiveSecure grant program. The power of the collective makes all of this possible.

The panel of CEOs from larger Federations discussed antisemitism in their communities. They emphasized that how they handle an incident is determined by the specifics of the situation, and they stressed the importance of community relations and community education in combatting antisemitism. I hope this sounds familiar as this mirrors our actions against antisemitism in Springfield, including: how we respond to reports of antisemitism, the partnerships Federation and JCRC forge, and the educational endeavor, "Lighting the Path, Celebrating Similarities and Understanding Differences."

SAGE NOTES (cont.)



The Ukraine Emergency Committee briefed us on the Emergency Fundraising campaign, which raised \$85 million, and provided urgently needed on the ground and lifesaving assistance. The war continues, the need continues, the assistance continues. Through our overseas partners, those who remain in Ukraine, including elderly not able to leave, receive food, medicine, and shelter. Refugees waiting to return or starting a new life in a new land receive help finding employment and needed services. The longer the war goes on, the greater the needs will be. We are proud that emergency support from Springfield surpassed expectations. We deeply appreciate your overwhelming generosity which resonates with the mission and purpose of the Federation.

If the Federation can assist you in any way, if you have questions or concerns, or are in need of financial or social service assistance, please contact Nancy Sage, Executive Director, at (217)787-7223, ext. 12. All calls are confidential, and your privacy will be respected.

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LOCAL ADVANTAGE.



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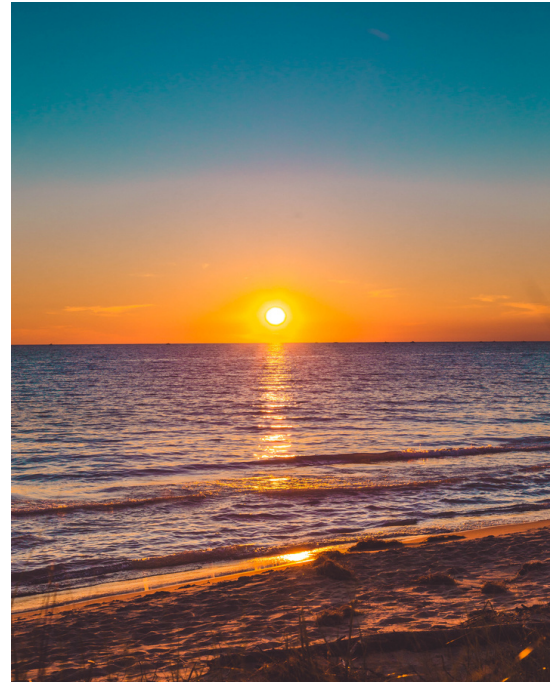
PJ Library: Regan Marks & Kayla Morrison

Jewish Film Series: Josh Grant, Jay Mogerman,
Bob Silverman, and Richard Zuraski

CONDOLENCES WE MOURN THE PASSING OF:

Assa Mayersdorf, MD, husband of Nira Mayersdorf

May his memory endure as a blessing.



Legacy Fund

Mogerman Fund

In Memory of:

Michael Falk, from Barry & Barbara Seidman

Klein Fund

In Memory of:

Sam & Peggy Klein, from Jerry & Paula
Jennings

Chodash-Bernsen Fund

In Honor of:

Howard Chodash, on his birthday, from Jay
& Carol Kitterman

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(217) 529-5555

Bisch & Sons Funeral Home, www.dignitymemorial.com (217)544-5424

Feuer-Brozgold Legacy Fund



1045 Outer Park Drive, Suite 320
Springfield, IL 62704

Phone: 217.787-7223
Website: www.shalomspringfield.org
Email: sjf@shalomspringfield.org

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