

## 2023 ANNUAL CAMPAIGN DINNER



JOIN US AS WE KICK-OFF OUR  
2023 ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

\$35 PER PERSON

CHOICE OF SALMON OR BEEF

CASH BAR

ILLINI COUNTRY CLUB

1601 ILLINI ROAD

SPRINGFIELD, IL

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2023

6 PM

WITH SPEAKER

JEFFREY SCHOENFELD, JFNA ISRAEL AND OVERSEAS CHAIR

RSVP TO [RSVP@SHALOMSPRINGFIELD.ORG](mailto:RSVP@SHALOMSPRINGFIELD.ORG) OR 217.787.7223 EXT. 18

Solicitations will be held.



<https://jewishfederations.org/2023israel-emergency#donate>

We mourn the loss of innocent people murdered by Hamas terrorists. And, we pray for the safety of those who have been injured and the safe return of those who have been kidnapped.

Jewish Federations across North America stand in solidarity with Israel.

Jewish Federations are responding, working with our core partners to support victims of terror, helping rebuild damaged infrastructure, and addressing the unprecedented levels of trauma caused by this horrific attack. Now, more than ever, they need your support.

Israel will prevail and the Jewish people will stand together as we always do.

Am Yisrael Chai.

# Message From the President



**Karen Westbrook**

Last night, I found myself smiling as a proud Mom. When our kids were young, we were concerned about raising them in a predominantly non-Jewish community. There was/is antisemitism, few Jewish friends and smaller religious experience. But it all worked out.

Grey (Tyler) has always been Captain America, championing causes and defending those less fortunate. He has a true sense of Tzedakah. He has helped me with editing and artwork on several Federation projects with great insight. Brett was just asked to be the President of the Jewish Student Union at Carthage College after being there 1 month. There are 35 members, and their monthly event is a matzo ball soup dinner open to a campus. Who knew?

The boys went kicking and screaming to Sunday school and Hebrew. They made paper airplanes at Temple and flew them. They packed Thanksgiving baskets, did service projects for joint Temples Religious Sunday, projects and cleaned tables for the Christmas breakfast. They attended Federation summer camp and participated in community celebrations. They learned there was a bigger Jewish world. Grey learned through sports. We put Brett on a bus to OSRUI crying knowing Raya was at the other end. He went on to swim at the Maccabi games joining the Chicago JCC swim team, an experience he will never forget.

Why is this all important to anyone other than me? As you consider your annual pledge to Federation, I would like you to consider it as an investment in the future, as well as an opportunity to honor our past through the services provided in our community. My children, your children and their children are the future of the Jewish people. While they may not end up in Springfield, they will represent our core values wherever they live. A pledge to the Federation means programs and services for your parent(s), grandparent(s), child(ren), grandchild(ren) and even great grandchild(ren). It is an opportunity to provide exposure to the values that make us who we are as a people, community and individuals, And hopefully, the result of your participation in Federation will bring a smile to your face.

Shalom Springfield is generously underwritten with support from  
the following community partners:

**GOLD SPONSOR**

Bank of Springfield, [www.bankofspringfield.com](http://www.bankofspringfield.com)

(217) 529-5555

Bisch & Sons Funeral Home, [www.dignitymemorial.com](http://www.dignitymemorial.com) (217) 544-5424

Feuer-Brozgold Legacy Fund



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

# Knosh & Knowledge

**November 29, 2023**

**10 am (Note Special Time)**

## **"Get to Know The Sangamon Valley Collection" with Stephanie Martin**

**What resources are available and how to use them. At Lincoln Library.**



**RSVP by Mon., Nov. 27,  
to (217) 787-7223 x 18  
or [rsvp@shalomspringfield.org](mailto:rsvp@shalomspringfield.org)**

Please let us know if you would like to be added to the list of people receiving electronic updates regarding the war against Hamas, notices of our upcoming programs, and other communications from the Jewish Federation of Springfield, IL. Also, if you would prefer to receive the Jewish Federation's monthly newsletter electronically, let us know.

Send us an email to:  
[sjf@shalomspringfield.org](mailto:sjf@shalomspringfield.org) or call 217-787-7223.

*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.*

# NOVEMBER 2023

			1	2	3	4
			7 pm Fed. Bd Mtg		5:30 pm TBS Shabbat 6 pm TI Shabbat	9:30 am TI Service 10:30 am Chabad Service
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9:30 am Religious School 10:30 am Chabad Service	7 pm Hadassah Book Club	6 pm Fed Campaign Dinner Kickoff	7 pm Hadassah Bd Mtg	7 pm TI Bd Mtg	5:30 pm TBS Shabbat 6 pm TI Shabbat	9:30 am TI Service 10:30 am Chabad 6 pm TI Feuer Faingold Dinner Concert <b>Veterans Day</b>
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:30 am Religious School <b>10 am Fed PJ Play Date</b> 12 pm TBS S'Hd Gen Mtg 2 pm TBS Exec. Bd Mtg		1 pm TI S'Hd Book Club 2 pm TI S'Hd Exec Mtg	T/TI S'Hd Activity	7:30 pm Fed JCRC Mtg	6 pm TI Service 6 pm TBS Service	9:30 am TI Service 10:30 am Chabad Service
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9:30 am Religious School		7 pm SBJE Bd Mtg		Thanksgiving Federation Closed	5:30 pm TI Shabbat w/Friends Dinner 6 pm TBS Shabbat	9:30 am TI Service 10:30 am Chabad Service
26	27	28	29	30		
	7 pm Fed Exec Comm Mtg	7 pm TBS Bd Mtg	10 am Fed Knosh & Knowledge 7 pm Hadassah Gen Mtg			



## Our Friends in the Western Galilee

Note: This column was written in mid-October. Events may have changed by the time you read it.

The Jewish Federation of Springfield is one of 17 midwestern Jewish communities in a partnership with the Western Galilee region of Israel and Budapest, Hungary. Because of our involvement with the Partnership and our participation in activities such as the Book Club, the Sliding Dors Second Generation Holocaust Families, the Global Days of Learning, the delegation to Budapest and Israel, and the Women Leading Dialogue program, we have developed friendships with the Israeli staff and volunteers who manage the Partnership2Gether from day to day.

Somehow these friendships make our anxiety about the situation in Israel even more real, more particular, more tangible even than the pain and revulsion we experience from watching the horrific videos, listening to the news stories, and learning about the daily tabulation of deaths and casualties.

Fortunately, at this time the fighting has not spread to the Western Galilee area, although the danger that it will is very real. Nonetheless, everyone in the region is affected in one way or another by the war. Some of our Partnership friends including the Israel Partnership Co-Chair, Moti Yeger, have been called up to active duty. Others have sent their children off to serve in the IDF. One young man who has been living in the US and active in a US Partnership community had served in the IDF, following which he had been in the Reserves. He is now back in Israel serving with his unit. We fervently hope that all these members of our extended family will be safe in the weeks to come.

This video highlights what was happening in the Western Galilee in the early days of the war effort.

[CLICK HERE](https://tinyurl.com/3vj99jv4)<https://tinyurl.com/3vj99jv4>

Harry Berman, Chair



Sun, Dec 03, 2023 | 12 pm Online-zoom

## P2G Book Club

Join us in a discussion about the book  
***Red Sea Spies*** by Raffi Berg

RSVP to

[CLICK HERE](#)

[https://www.westerngalilee.org.il/event-  
details/book-club-3/form](https://www.westerngalilee.org.il/event-details/book-club-3/form)

## Playing with a Purpose

About a year ago, the Jewish Federation initiated monthly PJ Play Date, to enhance our PJ Library Program\*. The gatherings for families with preschoolers have been well received. So far, we have had 16 kids from 10 families participate in one or more play dates.

Once a month, on a Sunday morning, the pre-school kids, with one or more parent (and yes, we have lots of “Dad” participation) meet at a Springfield Park, or when the weather does not permit, at the Federation office, for play, crafts, stories, songs and snacks.



With the help of Supermoms Kayla Morrison and Regan Marks, we have planned age-appropriate activities that bring PJ Library stories to life and explore Jewish themes. Sometimes, we explore a Jewish holiday, other times we focus on a Jewish value, but always we emphasize fun. For example, when we talked about Shabbat, the kids decorated their own “Kiddush Cups” and then said blessings (over a wooden toy challah, candles and Kiddush cup). After everyone had a chance to “slice” the toy challah, we enjoyed a snack of real Challah and grape juice in our very personal Kiddush cups. During the summer, one play date explored the concept of caring for the sick and injured. We read the story “How to Heal a Broken Wing” and then the kids painted birdhouses as they learned about the importance of empathy. Recently, the kids made artwork to send with love and good wishes to PJ kids in Israel. They made Stars of David and colored Israeli flags with lots of rainbows, hearts and butterflies. And, of course, each play date, includes time for games and, weather permitting, climbing structures.

With craft supplies, stories, songs, snacks and love, the children and their families are building friendships that we hope will last a lifetime. And the common thread is that the families are all connected through the Jewish Federation.



*\*The PJ Library Program, which is generously underwritten by the Jewish Federation and Neal J. Feldman Legacy Fund, provides families of young children Jewish books at no cost to the families. Currently, 30 children, ages 6 months through 8 years, receive a new book delivered to their home each month (siblings receive different books). For more information about the PJ Library and how to enroll, email [sjf@shalomspringfield.org](mailto:sjf@shalomspringfield.org) or call 217-787-7223, ext. 11.*

## THE JEWISH COMMUNITY REJECTS BIGOTRY AND HATE

Since Hamas' terror attacks in Israel on October 7th, we've seen bigots and extremists exploit the crisis to spread hate, disinformation, and extremism.

This is a moment of deep Jewish pain, mourning the lives taken and praying for the safe release of the hostages in Gaza – and this pain and fear is compounded by a horrific rise in antisemitism here in the United States and around the globe.

We also know that we are not the only ones being targeted in this moment. Our Muslim, Arab, and Palestinian American neighbors are facing bigotry, threats, and violence – including the despicable murder of a six-year-old child this weekend outside Chicago, by a man who reportedly espoused anti-Muslim hate.

Let us be unequivocally clear: The Jewish community rejects Islamophobia, anti-Arab hate, antisemitism, and all forms of bigotry. Particularly as extremists continue to exploit this moment, we are reminded that all of our communities' safety and futures are inextricably linked — and recommit ourselves to fighting hate in all its forms.

We stand in solidarity with all our neighbors under threat, and urge our elected and civic leaders, law enforcement, schools and universities, and employers to make clear there will be zero tolerance for any act of hate.

### Jewish Council for Public Affairs

Ameinu  
American Jewish Committee  
Americans for Peace Now  
Anti-Defamation League  
Bend the Arc: Jewish Action  
Hadar  
Hadassah, The Women's Zionist Org. of America  
HIAS  
Israel Policy Forum  
J Street  
Jewish Democratic Council of America  
Jewish Labor Committee  
Jewish on Campus  
Jewish War Veterans (JWW)  
Jewish Women International (JWI)  
Jewtina y Co.  
Keshet  
L'chaim! Jews Against the Death Penalty  
MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger  
Moving Traditions  
National Association of Jewish Legislators  
National Council of Jewish Women  
National Education Association's Jewish Affairs Caucus  
National Ladies Auxiliary of the Jewish War Veterans  
National Museum of American Jewish Military History  
Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies  
New Israel Fund (NIF)  
Rabbinical Assembly  
Reconstructing Judaism  
Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association  
The Haberman Institute for Jewish Studies  
The Jewish Partnership for Democracy  
The Workers Circle  
Tree of Life Center  
T'ruah  
Union for Reform Judaism  
United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

Association of Jewish Administrators of the  
Council of School Supervisors and Administrators  
Atlanta Jews of Color Council  
Baltimore Jewish Council  
Bnai Keshet  
Charleston Jewish Federation  
Chicago JCRC  
Chicago Jewish Labor Committee  
Cincinnati Jewish Community Relations Council  
Coastal Roots Farm  
Congregation Bet Haverim  
Congregation Rodeph Shalom, Philadelphia  
the Den Collective  
Detroit JCRC/AJC  
Educator's Chapter of the Jewish Labor Committee

Greensboro Jewish Federation  
Indianapolis JCRC  
JCRC Bay Area  
JCRC for Tucson & Southern Arizona and the  
Tucson Jewish Museum & Holocaust Center  
JCRC of Greater Charleston  
JCRC of Greater Mercer County, NJ  
JCRC of Greater Washington  
JCRC of Jewish Silicon Valley  
JCRC of the Greater Miami Jewish Federation  
JCRC of the Jewish Federation of San Antonio  
Jewish Alliance for Law and Social Action  
Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island  
Jewish Committee, NY State Public Employees Fed.  
Jewish Community Action  
Jewish Community Center and Fed. of Augusta  
JCRC of Northern New Jersey  
JCRC of the Jewish Community Fed. of Richmond  
JCRC of the Jewish Fed. of Northern New Jersey  
JCRC of Atlanta  
JCRC of Broward County  
JCRC of Greater Boston  
JCRC of Greater Hartford  
JCRC of Greater New Haven  
JCRC of Greater Phoenix  
JCRC of Jewish Fed. of Gr. MetroWest, NJ  
JCRC of Jewish Fed. of Springfield, IL  
JCRC of Louisville  
JCRC of Milwaukee Jewish Federation  
JCRC of Minnesota and the Dakotas  
JCRC of New York  
JCRC of St. Louis  
JCRC of the Birmingham Jewish Federation  
JCRC of the Jewish Fed. of Gr. Philadelphia  
JCRC of the Jewish Federation of Gr. Seattle  
JCRC of the Sacramento Region  
JCRC of the United Jewish Fed. of Tidewater  
Jewish Council on Urban Affairs  
Jewish Federation of Cincinnati  
Jewish Federation of Delaware/JCRC  
Jewish Federation of Detroit  
Jewish Federation of Dutchess County  
Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne  
Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor  
Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta  
Jewish Federation of Greater Dayton

Jewish Federation of Greater Harrisburg  
Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford  
Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles  
Jewish Federation of Greater Nashville  
Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh  
Jewish Federation of Greater Portland  
Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo  
Jewish Federation of Lane County  
Jewish Federation of Reading/Berks  
Jewish Federation of Southern New Jersey  
Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass  
Jewish Federation of the Sacramento Region  
Jewish Federation of Tulsa  
Jewish Federation of Western Massachusetts  
Jewish Heritage Committee, District Council 37,  
AFSCME  
Jews for Racial & Economic Justice (JFREJ)  
Jews United for Justice  
jGirls+ Magazine  
Keshet Pittsburgh  
Levine Center to End Hate, Jewish Federation  
of Greater Rochester  
Memphis Jewish Federation  
Mid-Kansas Jewish Federation  
Milwaukee Jewish Federation  
Mishkan Chicago  
Mitsui Collective  
Mt. Sinai Health Foundation, Cleveland  
New England Jewish Labor Committee  
New Jersey Jewish Labor Committee  
New York Jewish Agenda  
Philadelphia Jewish Labor Committee  
SAJ – Judaism that Stands for All  
Springfield Jewish Community Center  
Tampa JCCs & Federation  
Tikkun Chant Circle  
Tzedek Georgia  
United Hebrew Trades – NY Jewish Labor  
Committee  
United Jewish Community of the Virginia  
Peninsula  
Westchester Jewish Council  
Youngstown Area Jewish Federation



# SAGE NOTES



Nancy Sage  
Executive Director

Since we are kicking off our annual Federation campaign in November, I had intended to use this column to “tell our story”, to talk about what Federation does here in our community, in Israel, and around the world, and that all we accomplish is because of your support, care, and concerns. Now, however, the “story” is the horrific events that occurred on the Shabbat and holiday morning of October 7th – the attack by Hamas on Israeli communities bordering Gaza, the barbaric, cruel and sadistic murder of 1,400 Israelis, and the abduction of more than 200

hostages. Our attention is now focused on the ensuing war between Israel and the Hamas rulers of Gaza. Because events develop over the course of time and the situation in Gaza and in Israel is constantly changing, anything I write about the war would no longer be timely when it arrives in your mailbox. The current situation is a dire one that has left Israel mourning its losses, anxious about the fate of those held captive, pondering its alternative courses of action, and feeling threatened and vulnerable. All I can do is hope for the best – a victory for Israel, a safe return of the hostages, the delivery of a strong blow to Hamas that will deter it from future attacks on Israel, and the end of hostilities.

I do know that the attack and the war have brought Israelis together, and I have been pleased to see the same spirit of community prevail here in Springfield. Federation will continue to keep our community informed, to respond to requests for comments from the media, and to advocate for Israel. We will also be holding an Emergency Campaign to address the needs in Israel and to give expression to our support.

I have loved Israel since my first trip there with my mother and with Nancy Chesley and her mother. That love has only increased during the almost nine years of my service at Federation. I have had the opportunity to visit Israel several times and to witness first-hand the humanitarian work that your Federation contributions make possible. I mourn for the horrors that were inflicted on Israel on October 7th and pray that Israel will emerge from this ordeal safe, secure and at peace.

**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.**



## GOLD SPONSOR

OUR LOCAL EXPERTS ARE YOUR  
LOCAL ADVANTAGE.



Member  
FDIC

**BOS**  
bankwithBOS.com

## Thanksgiving Baskets 2023

Thirty-seven Years in the Making!



Dear Friends,

Another year has quickly gone by and it is once again time for our annual Thanksgiving Basket program. This is the thirty-seventh year that our congregations will combine resources, funds, and people power to provide food to approximately 1500 individuals who live in Springfield and the surrounding areas. Food insecurity continues to grow and social service programs have faced increased demand, making this project even more important to our communities.

We will be assembling baskets that allow our social service agency partners to deliver to each family. This process will provide food to additional families. We are planning to assist 280 families this year! We will need a group of volunteers early Tuesday morning, November 21st to assist loading agency vehicles. This process will begin at 7 am. There may also be occasional volunteer opportunities after mid-October to carry food into our staging area on the first floor of the Chabad building at 1045 Outer Park Drive.

Your generosity comes through each year despite uncertain economic times and we are truly grateful for your generosity. Increasing costs have led to an increase in the suggested donation to \$50 per basket, and we are thankful that many of you donate baskets for several families. We also welcome donations for half baskets (\$25.00). The entire amount of your donation goes to food and supplies. We have no overhead costs. If you would like to support this project, please send your check as soon as possible so that we may plan accordingly.

Please make checks payable to Temple B'rith Sholom, First Congregational Church, or Temple Israel, mark Thanksgiving Baskets on the memo line, and return your check with the bottom of this letter. Each congregation administrative office will collect the checks. 100% of your donation is deductible.

Your contribution gives members of our community an extra reason to be thankful at this season.

Warmly,

Your Thanksgiving Basket Coordinator representing First Congregational Church, Temple Israel,  
and Temple B'rith Sholom

---

Please complete and return this portion to:

First Congregational Church  
2100 Bates Ave., Springfield, IL 62704

Temple B'rith Sholom  
1004 S. 4th Street, Springfield, IL 62703

Temple Israel  
1140 Governor St., Springfield, IL 62704

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_


Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my/our check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ baskets.

I would like to volunteer early Tuesday morning the 21st \_\_\_\_\_

Please contact me for occasional assistance carrying food into the Outer Park building. \_\_\_\_\_





# Notes



## THANK YOU

### **The View from Israel Zoom:**

Leika Myers & Raya Seidman

**PJ Library:** Kayla Morrison and Regan Marks

## CONDOLENCES

### **WE MOURN THE PASSING OF:**

Ralph Hurwitz, husband of Betty Hurwitz,  
father of Joe Hurwitz & the entire Hurwitz Family

Dr. Gary Horowitz, husband of Kari Horowitz

Sylvia Gon, mother of Josephine Gon

May their memories endure as a blessing.

# Legacy Fund

## **Hexter Fund**

### **In Memory of:**

**Joan Loeb**, from Cathy Nachman

**Joan Loeb**, from Ralph & Carol Loewenstein

**Joan Loeb**, from Lanny & Diana Odin

**Joan Loeb**, from Cary & Mary Lang

**Joan Loeb**, from Pat & Nancy Chesley

**Ralph Hurwitz**, from Ted & Pam LeBlang

**Betty Dudleson**, from Ralph & Carol

Loewenstein

## **Chodash-Bernsen Fund**

### **In Memory of:**

**Ralph Hurwitz**, from Howard Chodash

## **Lenore Loeb Fund**

### **In Memory of:**

**Sylvia Gon**, from Pat & Nancy Chesley

## **Special Projects**

### **In Honor of:**

**Karen Westbrook**, thank you for Violins of  
Hope, from Ralph & Carol Loewenstein



1045 Outer Park Drive, Suite 320  
Springfield, IL 62704

Phone: 217.787-7223  
Website: [www.shalomspringfield.org](http://www.shalomspringfield.org)  
Email: [sjf@shalomspringfield.org](mailto:sjf@shalomspringfield.org)

Non-Profit

U.S. Postage

Springfield

Permit No. 800