



Jewish Federation®  
OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS



# SHALOM SPRINGFIELD

JEWISH FEDERATION OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

NOVEMBER 2021    Kislev 5782    Issue #221

FEDERATION EDUCATION & CULTURE COMMITTEE PROGRAM

*An Evening with Howard Reich*

AUTHOR AND FILM PRODUCER OF  
"PRISONER OF HER PAST"  
INTERVIEWED BY BERNIE SCHOENBURG



Prisoner of Her Past is Howard Reich's account of his journey to discover why his mother's secret childhood trauma resurfaced 60 years later and unraveled Holocaust survivor Sonia Reich's life .

Howard Reich is the retired Chicago Tribune music critic and journalist. Bernie Schoenburg is the retired State Journal-Register political reporter and columnist.

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8 AT 7:00 P.M. CT VIA ZOOM**  
**WATCH THE FILM AT HOME OCTOBER 30 - NOVEMBER 30**

**RSVP BY FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5 TO RECEIVE LINKS TO THIS PROGRAM**  
**RSVP@SHALOMSPRINGFIELD.ORG OR CALL 217-787-7223, EXT. 18**



Arden Lang

## MESSAGE

### FROM THE PRESIDENT

Recent headlines warn of supply chain shortages that may bring dire consequences. At first blush, shortages appear to be one of a myriad of what we may think of as First World problems caused by the Pandemic. Last March 2020, when our supermarket shelves were missing essential items, our first impulse was to blame shortages of toilet paper or sanitizers on hoarders, that American ingenuity would soon solve transportation issues, that American labor would soon produce what we needed when we wanted it, and that American minds would figure out how to quell the coronavirus that we were just beginning to pronounce. Soon, those of us who had the means could escape to places the virus was finding inhospitable, or to places where quarantining was tolerable. We learned we could both work and play at home. We could ask others to risk their health to bring us our groceries. For the very lucky few, Amazon was there to help.

But eighteen months into the Pandemic, the lessons learned are not necessarily to our liking. We now see the world in its complexity. We learn “soon” is a fluid concept. It has taken scientists much longer than expected to come up with delivering foolproof vaccines and having adequate testing. Health care workers still do not have adequate supplies to keep themselves safe. Our workforce has not returned to its prior strength. And now we learn that the supply chain is broken. We may run out of wine bottles—that’s a First World problem again.

But, if the Pandemic has taught us anything, it is that The First, Second, and Third Worlds are in this together. In our own country, alone, Covid-19 came to New York first, with a vengeance. But, over time, no region of our country has been spared. Nor have countries been able to secure their borders from the influx of the virus. The breakdown in the supply chain demonstrates that if China, Vietnam, and South Korea cannot ship goods to the rest of the world, the repercussions are felt everywhere. What will American farmers do if they cannot transport crops to Asia? We are one world.

We are also one Jewish World. Recently, Jews around the world have celebrated our harvest festival of Sukkot. Yet not all Jews have been able to reap the bounty of this year’s harvest. In a few weeks, most American Jews will celebrate the secular harvest festival of Thanksgiving. Whether our tables will be as full as they were last month remains to be seen. We think of the Jews of Eastern Europe and Israel and wonder how worldwide supply chain shortages will affect them. We do not know how our own community will fare. But as the supply chain temporarily weakens, our resolve to help those in need strengthens as well. Meanwhile, we are heartened that our Jewish community is bound by chains of caring and concern. Let our Federation know how we can help you and how you can help others.

***If the Federation can assist you in any way, if you are 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.***

## CAMPAIGN

If you haven't already done so please make your pledge today to the  
**2021 Jewish Federation of Springfield Annual Campaign.**



### 2021 Annual Campaign

I hereby pledge to support the Annual Campaign with a gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail (please print clearly) \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Solicitor \_\_\_\_\_

I will pay my pledge by December 31, 2021.

- Monthly     Quarterly     Semi-Annually     Annually
- by Check     Charge Card or Online at [www.shalomspringfield.org](http://www.shalomspringfield.org)

Gift 1 year ago	Gift 2 years ago	Gift 3 years ago
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**Thank you for your commitment.**

\_\_\_\_ I am interested in helping to strengthen the future of our Jewish community through legacy giving.

Your gift will be published in our Annual Report

**Joshua Society**

- \$10,000 +

**President's Circle**

- \$7,500 - \$9,999
- \$3,600 - \$7,499

**Pacesetters**

- \$2,800 - \$3,599
- \$2,000 - \$2,799
- \$1,200 - \$1,999

**Friends**

- \$750-\$1,199
- \$500-\$749
- \$175-\$499
- Up to \$174

You can also make your pledge electronically at

<https://form.jotform.com/210525556922152>

## KNOSH & KNOWLEDGE

### *Knosh & Knowledge*

*A monthly hour of relaxed learning and discussion on topics of interest*

**JOIN US FOR THE KNOSH & KNOWLEDGE  
 PLANNING MEETING for 2022  
 DECEMBER 15, 2021 9:30 am**

**(Due to Thanksgiving, Knosh & Knowledge will not meet in November)**



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 7 pm Hadassah Book Club	2	3 7:30 pm Fed. Bd Mtg	4 7 pm TI Bd. Mtg.	5 5:30 pm TBS Family Shabbat 6 pm TI Shabbat	6 9:30 am TI Service 10 am TBS Torah Study 10:30 am Chabad Service
7 9:15 am Hebrew 10:15 am Religious School 12 pm P2G Global Day of Jewish Learning	8 7 pm Fed. Educ & Culture Howard Reich	9 1 pm TI S'Hd Book Club Kristallnacht	10 7 pm Hadassah Bd Mtg	11 12 pm TBS Lunch & Learn 7 pm TI Adult Ed Veterans Day Federation Closed	12 5:30 pm TBS Shabbat 6 pm TI Shabbat	13 9:30 am TI Service 10 am TBS Torah Study 10:30 am Chabad Service
14 9:15 am Hebrew 10:15 am Religious School 2 pm TBS Exec. Bd. Mtg	15 6:15 pm TBS Adult Ed	16 6:30 pm SBJE Bd Mtg	17	18 12 pm TBS Lunch & Learn 7 pm JCRC Mtg	19 12 pm JUF—Conspiracy U Program 1 pm Fed P2G Pre-Book Club Discussion 5:30 pm TBS Shabbat 6 pm TI Shabbat	20 9:30 am TI Service 10 am TBS Torah Study 10:30 am Chabad Service
21 9:15 am Hebrew 10:15 am Religious School 12 pm Fed P2G Book Club	22 6:15 pm TBS Adult Ed	23 7 pm TBS Bd Mtg	24 12:10 pm Fed Exec. Committee Mtg	25 Thanksgiving Federation Closed	26 5:30 pm TBS Shabbat 6 pm TI Shabbat	27 9:30 am TI Service 10 am TBS Torah Study 10:30 am Chabad Service
28 9:15 am Hebrew 10:15 am Religious School Chanukah	29 6:15 TBS Adult Ed Chanukah Begins	30 TI Chanukah Dinner				

# PARTNERSHIP2GETHER

## Partnership2Gether Report

As I wrote in the Partnership column several months ago, when May 10 arrived and with it the barrage of rockets into Israel over 11 days – 4500 in total – and the IDF’s response, as well as the riots in the streets by Arab youth involving the destruction of Jewish houses and shops, we feared for the safety of all Israelis and were especially concerned about our partners in the Western Galilee, who have become our zoom friends these past months.

The rioting by Arab youths in Akko was traumatic for our Western Galilee partners and deeply wounded their sense that they had created a ‘shared society’ – a ‘hevrah mishutefet.’

What to do?

Despite the trauma, our Israeli friends have doubled down on their efforts to create such a shared society. The Min HaBeerot program is a multicultural program, which is a joint initiative of the four community centers in the Western Galilee, both Jewish and Arabs, Partnership2Gether and the Israeli Shalom Hartmann Institute, to promote shared society in Israel.

Additionally, this year the concept of dialogue across religions is being carried to the 16 U.S. Partnership communities. The American group will meet with the Israeli group virtually 2-3 times a year and hopefully will meet in person in the future. Every community will be able to engage one Jewish and one non-Jewish participant in the virtual US program, with an eye toward a mix of clergy and lay leaders. Rabbi Marks, along with Nancy Sage, is continuing his career-long involvement with interfaith initiatives through his participation in the Min HaBeerot program. We are grateful to have such an experienced leader representing us.

Harry Berman, *Partnership2GETHER* Chair

THE JEWISH FEDERATION OF SPRINGFIELD ILLINOIS  
FOR ISRAEL THE 1st  
Every one of us, together.

THE BONDS BETWEEN US

Partnership2Gether Western Galilee  
Invites you to the

**GLOBAL DAY OF JEWISH LEARNING**

Special Online Theater Workshop  
on Jewish Peoplehood

**Sunday, Nov 7, 2021**  
**12:00 PM CT**  
RSVP to get Zoom link

REGISTER NOW

**Friday, Nov. 19, 1 pm CT**  
**Springfield Community—Pre-Book Club Discussion**

**Sunday, November 21, 12 pm CT**  
**Book Club**

8th Book Club Gathering  
**THE SLAVE**  
BY Isaac Bashevis Singer

**RSVP**

THE JEWISH FEDERATION OF SPRINGFIELD ILLINOIS  
FOR ISRAEL THE 1st  
Every one of us, together.

## CAMPAIGN

### SOME OF THE WAYS YOUR DOLLARS ARE PUT TO USE LOCALLY

*While our offices were closed due to COVID, our programs and services continued*

- **Fighting Antisemitism:** Federation is vigilant against antisemitism. If incidents occur within Springfield, the Community Response Team (Federation President, JCRC Chair, Congregational Rabbis, and Federation Executive Director) determines how best to address and respond to it. The most effective weapon against antisemitism is the relationships forged within the greater Springfield community which are the heart of our Jewish Community Relations Council.
- **Birthright Israel:** A worldwide initiative to provide a first Israel Experience for every Jewish person between the ages of 18-26, FREE. Research shows it can be an experience of overwhelming significance. To date, more than 85 kids from Springfield have traveled to Israel on a Birthright trip.
- **Camperships:** Jewish Federation of Springfield offers scholarships to Jewish camps and the Maccabi games. Both help kids create Jewish memories and build connections with Jewish children.
- **Culture and Education:** This committee sponsors community-wide Jewish cultural programs led by notable guest speakers and artists. The programs reflect varied interests of the community and take advantage of collaborations with Federations across the country: *What is Jewish Music* with Yona Stamatis; *The Art of Inventing Hope* with Howard Reich; *The Legacy of Jewish Architects* with Julia Bachrach; A chat with Fauda's Boaz Konforty and Yakove Zada Daniel, and more.
- **Financial Assistance and Social Services:** Financial assistance is provided confidentially to local families in financial need to pay for basic needs such as rent, food and utilities. Social services, referral services and counseling are provided on an as needed basis and through our on-call social worker. We provided assistance in scheduling COVID vaccination appointments at a time when making appointments was challenging.

OUR LOCAL EXPERTS ARE YOUR LOCAL ADVANTAGE.



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## SAGE NOTES



Nancy Sage  
Federation Executive

As the saying goes, “there is an exception to every rule.” Throughout the challenges of Covid, Federation and Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) have not yet hosted programs nor conducted meetings in person. Our programs and meetings continue through zoom, and we reach out to our community by telephone, newsletter, email and mail.

The exception to the rule, sponsoring drive-thru healthy foods distribution, is driven by our community’s values. From Sukkot to Thanksgiving, we are taught to be grateful for our blessings and to express gratitude through our concern for and sharing with those who lack the necessities of life. Especially, at this time of Thanksgiving, we think of those who, in a land of plenty, lack adequate nutrition or suffer food insecurity. Gratitude, sharing, and responsibility for others has always been fundamental to the Jewish Federation movement and to what we do every day year round.

Over the past several years, Federation has been engaged with the issue of food insecurity. It all began with co-sponsoring an inter-faith educational program to acquaint ourselves and others in the community with the scope and nature of the need. The program inspired our relationship with the Central Illinois Food Bank (CIFB) to find a way for the Jewish community to become involved. For five years, we sponsored the JCRC Mitzvah Mobile Food Truck on an annual basis. Last year due to Covid restrictions, we partnered with the Boys and Girls Clubs of Central Illinois to conduct a drive-thru distribution. This year, Federation-JCRC in partnership with CIFB has sponsored four drive-thru healthy food distributions.

I am grateful to our Board for this exception to the rule, to JCRC, and to the chairs and volunteers whose dedication and effort over the years has made it possible for us to fulfill our commitment to the well-being of our community and to perform such an important mitzvah. I also congratulate and thank Temple B’rith Sholom, Temple Israel, and First Congregational Church on the 35-year Thanksgiving basket tradition which this year will provide 1000 meals. We are a community that cares and does.

Chanukah occurs unusually early this year; we light the first candle on the Sunday following Thanksgiving. Chanukah reminds us of the miracle of Jewish survival over the centuries and of the courage of those who fought to preserve our heritage. For the miracle of our survival and perseverance and for the blessings of community, I am grateful.



## JCRC—FOOD INSECURITY

In October, we held our 4th Food Distribution of the year. Patrons began lining up by 9:30 to receive food for themselves and their families. As you all now know from first hand experience, there were also people who came not for themselves, but to collect food for church members and community people who lacked the transportation and ability to come on their own.

We gave away over 10,000 pounds of food to help our neighbors, and every one of them was thankful and appreciative of our efforts. A project like this is only possible because you are all willing to give up some of your time to help others. A great deal of credit also goes to Rick Griminger, who goes out of his way to encourage people to come out to help, and to Nancy Sage, without whom none of this would be possible.

Ralph Loewenstein



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Feuer-Brozgold Legacy Fund

# IN THE COMMUNITY

## CONDOLENCES

Condolences to the family and friends of:

Diane Chodash, mother of Dr. Howard Chodash  
 &  
 Gloria Cohen, mother of Mary Beth Cohen

Z"l

## MAZEL TOV

**To:**  
**Ralph & Carol Loewenstein**, on the birth of granddaughter, Laila Christine. Parents are Jimmie Deeb & Kate Loewenstein.  
**Barry & Sandy Weiss**, on the birth of grandson, Luca Jakob Weiss, born 5/21/2021. Parents are Danny and Lizelle Weiss.  
**Joel & Joni Abramowitz**, on the birth of grandson Ari Jacob Abramowitz. Parents are Isaac & Taylor Abramowitz.  
**Perry & Rita Singer**, on the birth of granddaughter Elowen Jane.

### Thanksgiving Baskets 2021—Our Thirty-fifth Year!



Dear Friends,

If Fall is approaching, it must be time for our annual Thanksgiving Basket program. This is our milestone thirty-fifth year that our congregations will combine resources, funds, and people power to provide food to more than **1000** individuals who live in Springfield and the surrounding areas. During the past 18 months, food insecurity has grown and social service programs have faced increased demand, making this project even more important to our community.

Our new circumstances have led to new opportunity. By allowing our social agency partners to assemble deliveries to each family, we have space to provide food to twenty-five additional families! We will only need volunteers early Tuesday morning, November 23<sup>rd</sup> to assist loading agency vehicles. There may also be occasional volunteer opportunities after mid-October to carry food into Temple Israel, our staging area this year.

Last year your generosity came through despite uncertain economic times. We are keeping our suggested donation at **\$35 per basket**, and we are grateful that many of you donate for several baskets. We also welcome donations for **half baskets (\$20.00)**. 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 accurately.

**Please make checks payable to Temple B'rith Sholom or Temple Israel, mark Thanksgiving Baskets on the memo line, and return your check with the bottom of this letter.**

Thanks so much,

**Thanksgiving Basket Committee representing First Congregational Church, Congregation Temple Israel, and Temple B'rith Sholom**

Please complete and return this portion to:

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, Nov 23.

\_\_\_\_\_ Please contact me for occasional assistance carrying food into Temple Israel.



**Jewish Federation**  
OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS



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Website: [www.shalomspringfield.org](http://www.shalomspringfield.org)

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## LEGACY FUND

### **Chodash-Bernsen Health Education & Promotion Fund**

***In Memory of:***

**Diane Chodash**, from Ted & Pam LeBlang  
**Diane Chodash**, from Lanny & Diana Odin  
**Diana Chodash**, from Stephen & Lisa Stone  
**Diane Chodash**, from Jim Lewis & Arden Lang  
**Diane Chodash**, from Barry & Barbara Seidman  
**Diane Chodash**, from Edward S. Pierson  
**Diane Chodash**, from Paul & Linda Lopata  
**Diane Chodash**, from Deborah Harless  
**Diane Chodash**, from LifeSpeak, Inc.  
**Diane Chodash**, from The Mosaic Construction Co.  
**Diane Bernsen Chodash**, from Julie Bernsen Brook  
**Diane Bernsen Chodash**, from Jody, Paige & Haley Weinberg  
**Gloria Cohen**, from Barry & Barbara Seidman

### **Knosh & Knowledge**

***In Memory of:***

**Gloria Cohen**, from the Westbrook Family

### **Mogerman Family Fund**

***In Memory of:***

**Susan Mogerman**, from Barry & Sandy Weiss  
**Susan Mogerman**, from Harry & Deborah Berman  
**Susan Mogerman**, from George & Jori Sisk

### **Hexter Fund**

***In Memory of:***

**Gloria Cohen**, from Ted & Pam LeBlang  
**Gloria Cohen**, from Lanny & Diana Odin  
**Gloria Cohen**, from Jim Lewis & Arden Lang  
**Gloria Cohen**, from Keith Timko  
**Gloria Cohen**, from the Timbers Condominium Assn.  
**Gloria Cohen**, from Les & Sara Eastep

### **Chaverim Fund**

***In Memory of:***

**Gloria Cohen**, from Beverly Collins