

Illiana News

The Jewish Community Newsletter of Northwest Indiana

Shvat-Adar 5780
Feb-March 2020
 Volume 4, Issue 1

Jewish Federation of
 Northwest Indiana
 585 Progress Avenue
 Munster, IN 46321



The 7 participants in our December 2019 Momentum trip, bringing mothers of Jewish children under 18 to Israel. Top row: Miriam Marcus, Cheryl Brody, Susan Tepperman, Jessie Jury; bottom row: Naomi Triumph, Wendy Hensley, Dana Graves. For more photos and trip details, see page 12! #ItStartsWithWomen



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

You're Invited to Join Me!

by JUDY KATZ

I would like to officially welcome all of our community to join me at our Jewish Federation of Northwest Indiana's many programs. Our Education Committee Chair, Carol Culberg, with the help of Federation staff has planned many interesting programs for the monthly Sunday Brunch Food for Thought series. On February 23, starting at 10:30am, you won't want to miss Dr. Michael Gideon's discussion, "Discovering My Jewish Roots in Germany."

I'm also excited to attend "Keeping Faith: Sisters of Story" to be held

Thursday, February 6, at 7pm. The women will tell stories inspired by their personal faith journeys and be accompanied by a musician performing on violin, oud, and guitar. Please invite your friends to join you.

Our Federation co-sponsors speakers at all of our area congregations. On Friday, February 7, the community is encouraged to attend Temple Israel Valpo services and hear Amit Matityahu, who is currently the shaliach in Chattanooga, discuss "Resilience Under Rocket Attacks:

—CONTINUED ON P. 23

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 FederationOnline
  JewishNWIndiana

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"To enrich Jewish life in Northwest Indiana, Israel, and around the world through service, programming, advocacy, and fundraising."

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Simchas

Please send any Simchas you would like included in the next issue to Erica Yakovetz, (219) 301-0960 or erica@federationonline.org by February 21, 2020. Text and photos must be provided in accordance with all Illiana News Policies and Procedures.

MAZEL TOV...



▲ To **Cullen Ben-Daniel & David Arfa** on the Jan. 3 birth of their son, Nathan Samuel Arfa! He is 6 pounds, 8.4 ounces, and his parents are over the moon.

To **Carol & Jack Fink** on the Jan. 8 birth of grandson Nash James. Proud parents are **Gina & Andy Pike**.

► To **Sue Galanis** on the Dec. 5 birth of her granddaughter Sophie. Proud parents are **Becca & Kyle Kleist**, along with big brother Asher.



To **Camille Goldman & Michael Manolios** on their recent marriage.

To **Zahara Schara** for winning the grand prize in Beit Hatfutsot's My Jewish Lens photo competition with her photograph entitled "Passing on the Tradition" (right). Zahara won the grand prize of a flight to Israel and a visit to The Museum of the Jewish People at Beit Hatfutsot in Tel Aviv. Beit Hatfutsot (The Museum of the Jewish People, www.bh.org.il) is a vibrant, dynamic, and interactive educational and cultural institution, strengthening Jewish identity and perpetuating Jewish Peoplehood worldwide.

To **Jean Jacobson** on the Nov. 25 birth of her newest great-granddaughter, Blake Elizabeth Matthews. Proud parents are **Teddi & Bryan Matthews**.

► To **Tiferet & Brian Mayer** and big brother Mason on the Jan. 4 birth of Nathan Benjamin. Proud grandparents are **Rabbi Raphael & Cynthia Ostrovsky**, Robert and Shari Cohen-Mayer, Pamela Margolis, and great-grandmother, Barbara Margolis. Nathan holds the distinction of being Kansas City's First Jewish Baby of 2020!

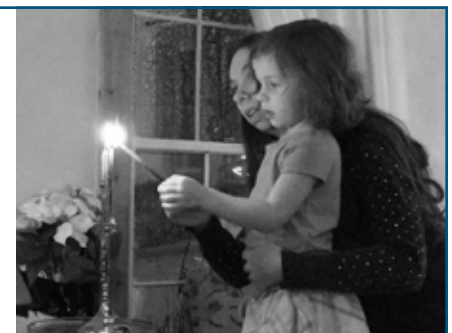


To **Myrna & Sy Sarowitz** on celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary Jan. 24.

To **Michael & Julie Steinberg** on the Jan. 12 wedding of their son **Josh** to **Shani Bocian** in Los Angeles.

To **Carla & Daniel Suson** on the Dec. 14 wedding of their son **Jacob** to **Hannah Lilly Kline** in Indianapolis.

To **Ceil & Michael Tristano** on the marriage of their daughter **Sarah** to **Ernesto Martinez**, and on the recent birth of baby girl **Beth**, daughter of Sarah and Ernesto. 🌍



▲ **Schara's winning photo (detail):** "Teaching my niece to light the candles. She is so eager but so tiny she needs a hand. Makes me happy that she will one day do this for the next generation."

Keeping Faith: Sisters of Story

Thursday, February 6 • 7:00pm • FREE

With the recent uptick of hateful and vitriolic language in this country, Rohina Malik, a Muslim woman and storyteller, wanted to create a project to demonstrate peace and commonalities between us all. She approached Susan Stone (a Jewish woman and storyteller) and Kim Schultz (a Christian woman and storyteller) with an idea: what if we all told stories from our faiths with the goal of bringing people together and showing peace, curiosity and similarities amongst the faiths. Kim and Susan jumped at this opportunity, and KEEPING FAITH: SISTERS OF STORY was born.

Each storyteller will tell 3 stories inspired by their personal faith journey. They will be joined by a cultural musical storyteller, Lucia Thomas, on violin, oud and guitar. Please join us for this inspirational, multi-faith evening. We hope you agree that now more than ever, we need to come together and decide who we are going to be as a community and as a nation and how we are going to allow *our* story to be told.

More about the group: sistersofstory.weebly.com



RSVP to (219) 301-0960 or online at federationonline.org/upcoming-events#KeepingFaith

Food for Thought

2019–2020 **BRUNCH SERIES**
SUNDAYS • **\$10** INCLUDES BRUNCH
NOTE NEW TIME! **10:30AM-12:30PM**



Dr. Michael Gideon • **Discovering My Jewish Roots in Germany**

Sunday, February 23 • 10:30am • \$10 per person

In the summer of 2019, Michael Gideon and his mother, brother, and two sisters visited Germany with Michael's father, Vern, who was born there and managed to leave from Italy at the age of three. Michael's feelings about Germany heading into the trip were overwhelmingly negative, and he approached the trip with trepidation. What he discovered was a deep and prominent family history, and the people he met could not have been more kind, with an amazing amount of information and interest in a family history he knew very little about.

RSVP to (219) 301-0960 or online at federationonline.org/upcoming-events#Gideon



Chair Yoga

Fridays

11:15am–12:15pm

February 7, 14, 21, 28

March 6, 13, 20, 27

Instructor Joanna Syputd has been teaching yoga for 18 years.

Cost: \$5 per session at the door.

Your RSVP helps us keep you informed of changes or cancellations. RSVP to (219) 301-0960 or online at:

federationonline.org/upcoming-events#Yoga

R.O.M.E.O.

Retired Old Men Eating Out

Fridays at 11:30am

Location:

Cheers Food and Drink
(1942 45th St, Munster)

Questions?

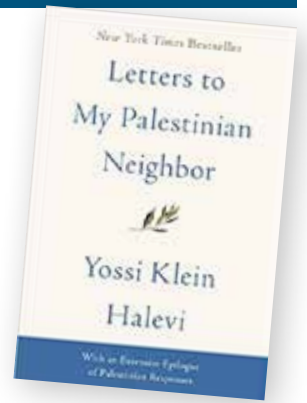
Contact Lou Kaplan
at (219) 922-6757



2020 FEDERATION BOOK CLUB: SESSION 2:

Letters to My Palestinian Neighbor by Yossi Klein Halevi

Wednesday, March 4 • 7:00pm



Letters to My Palestinian Neighbor is one Israeli's powerful attempt to reach beyond the wall that separates Israelis and Palestinians. In a series of letters, Yossi Klein Halevi explains what motivated him to leave his native New York in his twenties and move to Israel to participate in the renewal of a Jewish homeland—which he is committed to see succeed as a morally responsible, democratic state in the Middle East.

This is the first attempt by an Israeli author to directly address his Palestinian neighbors and describe how the conflict appears through Israeli eyes. Halevi untangles the ideological and emotional knot that has defined the conflict for nearly a century. In lyrical, evocative language, he unravels the complex strands of faith, pride, anger and anguish he feels as a Jew living in Israel, using history and personal experience as his guide.

Please read the book in advance and come prepared for lively discussion facilitated by Carol Culberg. Paperback copies are now available to borrow or purchase (\$12) through the Federation office. Call for availability.

RSVP to (219) 301-0960 or online at

federationonline.org/upcoming-events#Halevi

SAVE THE DATE FOR SESSION 3:

The House at Tyneford by Natasha Solomons
Wednesday, April 1 • 7:00pm



Several Northwest Indiana community members traveled into Chicago to see Israeli superstar David Broza (and friends) perform at City Winery on January 14. The 64-year-old rock star put on a dynamic 2.5-hour show and still had the energy to greet his adoring fans afterwards! *Photos courtesy of Leah Herszberg.*



Don't miss our first Partnership Summit in Budapest!

U.S. CENTRAL AREA CONSORTIUM | WESTERN GALILEE | BUDAPEST

2020 PARTNERSHIP2GETHER Summit June 22-25 in Budapest, Hungary

~ June 21-22—Optional Pre-Tour of Budapest ~

Join us in beautiful Budapest to learn about their process of Jewish community renewal and acquaint yourself with this fascinating city. Meet the emerging local Jewish community members and hear stories of Budapest's past and current happenings. Discover new Partnership opportunities as you get to know staff and lay leaders from the 16 US Central Area Consortium Communities, Budapest and the Western Galilee. We'll share Partnership experiences, brainstorm new ideas and discover new ways to engage our communities.

COSTS

PRE-TOUR: Jewish Budapest & Beyond

\$300 (double) / **+\$70** (single supplement)

~ **Appropriate for First Timers** ~

Includes: hotel, breakfasts, bus, guide, two lunches (dinner on your own)

Sun. June 21 at 10 am to Mon. June 22 at 4 pm

Pre-Tour Includes: Heroes' Square, Jewish Quarter (Dohanev Synagogue and the Jewish Museum), House of Parliament, Shoes on the Danube Memorial, Old Buda, and more!

PARTNERSHIP2GETHER SUMMIT

\$675 (double) / **+\$180** (single supplement)

Includes: hotel, breakfasts, bus, program costs, three lunches, three dinners, coffee and snacks

The Summit starts on Mon. June 22 at 6 pm with dinner and concludes on Thurs. June 25 at 1 pm.

There will be an Early Bird Discount (\$100) for those who register for the Summit by March 1, 2020.

Register Today: www.jewishyoungstown.org/summit2020



QUESTIONS? CONTACT:

Judy Katz, judyakatz@gmail.com or 219-776-0147

Bracha Zuriel, P2G Consortium Director, brachazuriel@gmail.com



The Jewish Federation
OF NORTHWEST INDIANA

Helping Young Children Feel Safe in an Unsafe World



It often feels that every time we turn around, the news is unsettling. If we as adults find it hard to understand, imagine what it must feel like to our young children. Luckily, there are some things we can do to help children process and help us protect them—whether the news is fighting overseas, devastating wildfires, or shootings.

First and foremost, it is incredibly important to limit young children's exposure to the news. When children are awake, be aware of what is on the television in the background. It only takes a few seconds' exposure to create fear and insecurity. When riding in the car, be conscious of any news that may come on the radio and turn the volume down. Save adult conversations for when the children are not around or are already in bed. Young children's brains are not developmentally ready to understand adult concepts, so keeping the news from them is crucial.

As children get older, or when they have heard something on the news, start by asking what they already know. Listen to what they're saying and have an honest conversation with them. Allow your children to ask any questions they may have; give them a safe space to reflect and share. Give your child context and facts. For young children, it may help to pull out a map to show just how far away the things happening are. Acknowledge their feelings, and most importantly, reassure them that they are safe.

Try to avoid using phrases like "bad guys" or "evil" which can only increase fear. Instead, talk about people being angry and making bad choices, or being in pain. Explain that people aren't well and need help, which often leads them to making choices that hurt themselves or others. Don't be afraid to say "I don't know." Sometimes we don't have all the answers, and that's okay.

Encourage your child to process their feelings through play and art.

Having an outlet for their thoughts is incredibly important.

Mr. Rogers is often quoted as sharing this advice from his mother, "When something scary is happening, look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping." Talking about helpers shifts the focus to the good that is in the world. There is research showing that it also makes a difference in how children see the world. Instead of the world being a scary place, a world full of helpers suddenly feels much safer.

If your children are old enough, don't just look for the helpers, but also become the helpers. Collect donations together, write a letter to an elected official, make something for someone. Creating something positive can drastically reduce children's anxiety.

As we navigate a world full of unsettling news on a regular basis, the most important thing we can give our children is a sense of peace and safety in our own homes. 🌍



▲ We had a blast at our Hanukkah party on December 19, dancing and singing with musician Joel Frankel and trying some latkes!

Prime Timers is Federation's group for active adults, ages 55 and over, Together they take day trips to regional attractions, restaurants, and other special events. More info: federationonline.org/prime-timers

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Challenger Learning Center of Northwest Indiana

Time: 10:00am

Cost: Free for Prime Timers members. *Not a member? Join today!*

Location: 2300 173rd St., Hammond
(on the Purdue Northwest campus)

Lunch to follow at 11:30am (*separate checks*):

Tzatziki Restaurant (7231 Indianapolis Blvd, Hammond)

Space is limited! **RSVP by February 3.**



THURSDAY, MARCH 12

Chicago Botanic Garden

Time: Bus departs from Federation at 8:00am; return approx. 3:00pm

Cost: \$75 (non-members \$80). *Subsidized by Prime Timers.*

Includes "Morning Music with Orchids" chamber music concert, admission to the Orchid Show, gourmet lunch buffet, & roundtrip coach bus transportation from Federation.

BUFFET MENU: Baby Spinach Salad • Herb Crusted Salmon • Cavatappi Pasta in Wild Mushroom Cream Sauce • Wild Rice Pilaf • Glazed Baby Carrots • Blueberry Shortcake

Space is limited! **RSVP by February 24.**

Please let Rachel know of any food allergies with your reservation.



SAVE THE DATE! WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29 Oriental Institute Museum of the University of Chicago

Time: Depart from Federation 9:00am; return approx. 4:00pm

Cost: \$55 members / \$60 non-members

The Oriental Institute showcases the history, art and archaeology of the Ancient Near East. Includes docent-led tour and 1-hour film screening, followed by a buffet-style lunch at the University of Chicago.



ALL RETURN TIMES ARE APPROXIMATE. **Your payment is your reservation. No refunds.* Make checks payable to **Prime Timers** and mail or bring to: Jewish Federation of Northwest Indiana, 585 Progress Ave., Munster, IN 46321.

Adult Friendship Club



▲AFC's 2019 Hanukkah party at Briar Ridge Country Club on December 11. Food, friends, fun, festivity... and gifts!

MONDAY LUNCHES ARE BACK!

By popular demand, AFC is now meeting again each Monday for lunch plus an entertaining program.

AFC FEBRUARY 2020 EVENTS

Mon. 2/3 12pm Chicken Caesar Salad, Lemon Rice Soup, Brownies • 1pm "Page Turners" Book Club: Discussion of *The Rosie Project* & begin distribution of *Where'd You Go, Bernadette?*

Wed. 2/5 12pm Sloppy Joes, Chips, Coleslaw, Birthday Cake • 1pm Israel Talk: "December Teen Trip Highlights" by Rachel Saller

Mon. 2/10 12pm Maghmour (Lebanese Eggplant Stew), Rice, Hummus & Pita, Cookies • 1pm *Strictly Kosher: A Jewish Culture Documentary* (Episode 2).

Wed. 2/12 11:15am (NOTE TIME CHANGE): "Torah & Tea" with Chanie Zalmanov • 12pm Vegetable Lasagna, Salad, Garlic Bread, Peach Cobbler

Mon. 2/17 12pm Hot Dogs, Baked Beans, Chips, Coleslaw, Jello • 1pm Social Hour

Wed. 2/19 12pm Lunch & 2pm Play: *Almost Heaven: John Denver's America*. Theatre At The Center (1040 Ridge

Road, Munster). SOLD OUT! Contact Rachel to get on the waiting list.

Mon. 2/24 12pm Lunch Out: Riviera Restaurant (615 Ridge Road, Munster; separate checks). RSVP by 2/20.

Wed. 2/26 12pm Potato Bar with Toppings, Tuna Salad, Egg Salad, Cottage Cheese & Peaches, Dump Cake • 1pm *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*, Season 3 Episode 3

Members, watch your mail for AFC's March calendar.

COMING IN 2020: PERFORMING ARTS PROGRAMS

Wed. 3/18 10:30am Brunch Out: Suzie's Café (1050 Southpoint Cir, Valparaiso; separate checks) • 1pm Lunchtime Cabaret: "Broadway Backwards": Memorial Opera House, 104 Indiana Ave, Valparaiso. \$10 for AFC members / \$12 non-members Very limited space! RSVP by March 4 (your payment is your reservation).

Wed. 5/6 12pm Lunch & 2pm Play: *Talley's Folly* by Lanford Wilson. Theatre at the Center (1040 Ridge Rd., Munster). \$40 for AFC members; \$45 non-members.

Wed. 9/16 1pm Trio from the Maxwell Street Klezmer Band—save the date!

Questions? Please contact Rachel at (219) 301-0960. 📞

"Page Turners" Book Club

Led by Debby Walker

March Selection:

***Where'd You Go, Bernadette?* by Maria Semple**—

When her daughter Bee claims a family trip to Antarctica as a reward for perfect grades, Bernadette Fox, a fiercely intelligent shut-in, throws herself into preparations for the trip. But worn down by years of trying to live the Seattle life she never wanted, Ms. Fox disappears, leaving her family to pick up the pieces—which Bee does, weaving together an elaborate web of emails, invoices, and school memos that reveals a secret past Bernadette has been hiding for decades. An ingenious and unabashedly entertaining novel about a family coming to terms with who they are and the power of a daughter's love for her mother. *Pickup starting Monday, Feb. 3; Discussion Monday, Mar. 2, 1pm.*



▲AFC members enjoyed Schmoozin' with Susan [Tepperman, LCSW] on January 22.

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Visiting Partnership's new headquarters just outside Nahariya



Fixing bicycles for the needy in Akko



The Mediterranean view from Rosh Hanikra



Touring Caesarea's ancient amphitheater



Celebrating Chanukah in Jerusalem



"Dig for a Day" archaeological exploration at Beit Guvrin National Park



Yad Lashiryon (Armored Corps) Museum

NWI Teens Get Their First Taste of Israel

by RACHEL SALLER, Youth Programming Advisor

Our winter break tour in December 2019 provided 12 Northwest Indiana teens a great opportunity to visit many cities and sites in Israel. For the first phase of the trip, they were hosted by families in our Partnership region and got to celebrate Chanukah with Israeli teens and their families. In Akko, they got to volunteer with the Urban Kibbutz, fixing

bicycles for the needy and planting a garden.

The teens got to see the Atlit Detention Center, where Holocaust survivors were detained after the war before they could be free in Israel. Save a Child's Heart still holds a place in the teens' hearts after an afternoon volunteering with this organization, which provides lifesaving medical care to children from many different developing countries. In Jerusalem, Jarod Vaughn led a Shabbat service for our group at the Kotel. We couldn't tear the teens away from the Israel Museum where the Dead Sea Scrolls are held. Another favorite museum was Yad

Vashem, because it was so moving and a big learning experience for them. They also enjoyed shopping in Jerusalem.

The teens were able to talk to two Israeli soldiers at Yad Lashiryon. It was interesting to hear about their livelihoods compared to the teens. Our seniors are thinking only about college, whereas the soldiers are only a year or two older and have to think about their positions in the IDF. Their last day was filled with multiple unforgettable experiences: hiking Masada, floating in the Dead Sea, riding camels, and sleeping and eating like the Bedouins do at Kfar Hanokdim. 🌍

NOAR is a youth group for grades 9-12. ATID is a youth group for grades 6-8. For information, contact Rachel Saller, Youth Programming Advisor, at rachel@federationonline.org or (219) 301-0960. 🌍

Reflections: Save a Child's Heart

by JOE WEBSTER

When our NOAR group first learned about the proposed December 2019 Israel trip, we had many things to look forward to: visiting the Western Wall, bartering in the markets of Akko, Tel Aviv, and Jerusalem, and scaling Masada. Any of these adventures would have been highlights in any ordinary trip, but the activity that left the greatest impact on me and many others was visiting Save a Child's Heart.

The work done by this organization is simply wonderful. They take children born with congenital heart defects, from across the world, and give them access to surgery and care to save their lives. The care that goes into making sure the children are made comfortable outside of the operating room is

commendable; they bring in a group of mothers for each group of children who will be able to speak their language and look after them in the meantime. Seeing all of the efforts made to make sure the children were taken care of was truly moving for me, especially considering the tough circumstances they were facing.

We sat in and watched a brief video and discussion over what the basic tasks the organization carried out were, and then were given some free time to spend with the children from Ethiopia and Zanzibar. They placed out some coloring materials and reusable stickers for the kids to play with while we were interacting with them. It was pleasant and challenging to sit around with them and



Noar co-presidents Emma Stricker and Joe Webster with two new friends at Save a Child's Heart.

draw little pictures while trying to communicate through a language barrier. I think this event was particularly moving for me because it showed just how fortunate we are that, when the resources are available, we can lead healthy lives. This is why when we got back on the bus to leave, we unanimously decided to donate money to this worthy organization. 🌍

Upcoming Noar & Atid Events

Noar/Atid: Ice Skating

Date: Saturday, February 8, 2020

- Carpool* from Federation at 6pm
- Event time: 6:30pm
- Return to Federation by 9pm

Where: Bulldog Park (183 S West St, Crown Point)

Cost: Free (bring ice skates if you have them!)

RSVP by Wednesday, February 5 to Rachel Saller

**Please let Rachel know if your child needs a ride.*



Atid: Challah Baking and Board Games

Date: Sunday, February 9, 2020, 12pm

Where: Aaron Brody's house (RSVP to get the address)

Cost: FREE

Pizza & soft drinks will be provided

RSVP by Wednesday, February 5 to Rachel Saller



Bowling at Stardust Bowl in Dyer on December 8.



Chen Nissan, the shlichah to South Bend, visited our teens at Federation on December 10 to give them an introduction to Israeli culture before their trip.

Momentum Women's Trip (Dec. 7–17, 2019)



Oded Fromovitz, Northwest Indiana's 2008-2010 shaliach, met our 7 participants as they arrived at Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv. The women spent 2 days in the Western Galilee before heading out to see more of Israel.

The Momentum Year-Long Journey includes eight life-changing days in Israel for Jewish mothers with children at home under the age of 18. Since 2009, over 15,000 individuals from 26 different countries have experienced this life-changing journey, returning home with a connection to Jewish values, ties to Israel and the tools to take action in their homes and communities. Seven women from Northwest Indiana, including staff leader Susan Tepperman, took part in this amazing opportunity. 🌍



At the beautiful caves of Rosh Hanikra.



Packing food boxes at Orot Hesed in Akko.



Touring a beautiful 16th-century Kabbalistic shul in Tsfat (Safed).



Visiting a school in Naharia, including a joint art project with the children.



Our group of Momentum "sisters" on Masada.

2020 Board Committees & Responsibilities

Did you know? The Federation's Board of Directors doesn't operate alone. The day-to-day goals are carried out by work done by volunteers in Federation's many committees.

We need your help! Do you see a committee below that speaks to your interests or experience? Contact the Federation office to let us know!

BUILDING COMMITTEE

Co-Chairs: John Doherty and Janine Rothschild

Oversee the maintenance, repair, safety, security, improvement, and decor of Federation facilities.

CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

Chair: Dana Kaplan-Graves

Work with Federation staff to create and implement a financial resource

plan to help guide staff in seeking and securing funding from diverse sources. Work with board members to explore the best way that each can participate in the fundraising effort, from soliciting pledges to working on special campaign events.

HONORS/AWARDS COMMITTEE

Evaluate existing honors and awards categories and create possible new ones to fit current needs. Appoint a chair for the Annual Meeting and identify volunteers to be honored.

PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

Co-Chairs: Carol Culberg and Judy Katz

Plan, coordinate and execute educational and social programs for the Federation: our Sunday brunch speaker series, Book Club, films, Israel Solidarity Day, and much more.

JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE (JCRC)

Co-Chairs: Don and Rosalie Levinson

Promote racial and religious understanding and endeavor to eliminate anti-Semitism and other forms of bigotry through advocacy and educational programming.

JEWISH COMMUNITY SERVICES (JCS) COMMITTEE

Chair: Nancy Gross

Serve as the coordinating body for Federation's various JCS programs and services (including casework assistance, food pantry, etc.). Identify opportunities to assist those in need. Make contact with new community members to welcome them to our community. 🌍

AIDA NOZICK • CONTINUED FROM BACK COVER

we're in our congregations and Jewish organizations.

The first step will take place soon (watch for details) with SCN professionals who will lead communal engagement discussions at the Federation. Our local police departments will also be included in these discussions, along with community members. I encourage all of you to attend one or more of these meetings, either to voice your concerns or to learn from security professionals.

The second step will be a physical building and grounds assessment, to be completed by SCN's security team, of all of our congregations as well as the Jewish Federation. SCN will present their findings to each congregation. Lastly, SCN will conduct a customized training session for each congregation, incorporating

their building's schematics into the training.

Maintaining our buildings' security is an absolute necessity. However, we can also combat anti-Semitism through education. Creating these educational opportunities is an important part of Federation's work and mission. Addressing anti-Semitism through education is both an immediate security imperative and a long-term investment to promote human rights.

Our JCRC (Jewish Community Relations Council) plans programs to promote multi-faith dialogue and educational opportunities. This committee is tasked with not only combating acts of anti-Semitism in our community, but reaching out and building bridges with our non-Jewish friends and neighbors. On Thursday,

February 6 at 7:00pm, Federation will host a free interfaith program. "Keeping Faith: Sisters of Story" is a performance by three very talented women storytellers—one Jewish, one Christian, and one Muslim—created to demonstrate peace and commonalities between all of us.

Other JCRC programs are also in the works. This fall, Federation will once again host a professional development workshop for area teachers to develop their skills and learn about available resources for teaching about the Holocaust. Through our partnership with the Holocaust Museum of Skokie, professional educators will hold a day-long continuing education workshop for teachers, free of charge. If you know a teacher who could benefit from this opportunity, please contact the Federation office to get them on the mailing list for forthcoming details. 🌍

THANK YOU To Our 2019 Donors!

Your generosity supported every aspect of our mission in 2019.

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Community Calendar: February-March 2020 / Shvat-Adar 5780

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	שבת
FEB 2 7 Shvat	3 8 Shvat	4 9 Shvat	5 10 Shvat	6 11 Shvat	7 12 Shvat	8 13 Shvat	
Super Bowl Sunday 9-11:30am Community Mitzvah Day 11am Rabbi Levin's Class: "Understanding the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict"	12-2pm AFC	1-2pm Heart to Heart Group with Susan	8am-12pm K'Ton Ton Family Day Celebration 12-2pm AFC 1-4pm Mah Jongg	1-4pm Mah Jongg 7-8:30pm Keeping Faith: Sisters of Story	11:15am Chair Yoga "First Friday" Kabbalat Shabbat & Dinner 6pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service & Dinner 7pm Shabbat Services with Guest Speaker Amit Matityahu 7:30pm Shabbat Svcs 7:30pm Shabbat Svcs	9:45am Shabbat Svcs 10am Shabbat Svcs 6-9pm Noar/Atid Ice Skating 6:30-9:30pm "Red, White & You" Gala	
FEB 9 14 Shvat	10 15 Shvat	11 16 Shvat	12 17 Shvat	13 18 Shvat	14 19 Shvat	15 20 Shvat	
9am "Second Sunday" Tefillin Club & Breakfast 12pm Atid Games & Challah Baking	Tu BiShvat 12-2pm AFC	11am-2pm Hot Dog & Salami Sale Pickup (at Federation) 1-2pm Heart to Heart Group with Susan 7-9pm Sisterhood Board Meeting	12-2pm AFC 1-4pm Mah Jongg	10am-2pm Prime Timers: Challenger Center & Tzatziki 1-4pm Mah Jongg 7pm Sisterhood Business Meeting	Valentine's Day 11:15am Chair Yoga 7:30pm Shabbat Svcs 7:30pm Shabbat Svcs	9:45am Shabbat Svcs 10am Shabbat Svcs 7:30pm A Night of Opera	
FEB 16 21 Shvat	17 22 Shvat	18 23 Shvat	19 24 Shvat	20 25 Shvat	21 26 Shvat	22 27 Shvat	
	PRESIDENTS' DAY 12-2pm AFC	1-2pm Heart to Heart Group with Susan 7:30pm Board Meeting	12-2pm AFC 1-4pm Mah Jongg 7:30pm Board Meeting	1-4pm Mah Jongg	11:15am Chair Yoga 6:30-8:30pm Family Worship Svc & Dinner (Masa B'Yachad) 7:30pm Shabbat Svcs	9:45am Shabbat Svcs 10am Shabbat Svcs 10am Torah Study	
FEB 23 28 Shvat	24 29 Shvat	25 30 Shvat	26 1 Adar	27 2 Adar	28 3 Adar	29 4 Adar	
10:30am Food for Thought Brunch: Dr. Michael Gideon	Illiana News: Mar/April Issue Content Deadline 12-2pm AFC	Rosh Chodesh Adar 1-2pm Heart to Heart Group with Susan	Rosh Chodesh Adar 12-2pm AFC 1-4pm Mah Jongg 7pm Board Meeting	1-4pm Mah Jongg 5-8pm K'Ton Ton Family Fundraiser 7-9pm Sisterhood Scrapbooking	11:15am Chair Yoga 7:30pm Shabbat Svcs (Sisterhood Shabbat) 7:30pm Shabbat Svcs	9:45am Shabbat Svcs 10am Shabbat Svcs	
MAR 1 5 Adar	2 6 Adar	3 7 Adar	4 8 Adar	5 9 Adar	6 10 Adar	7 11 Adar	
11am Rabbi Levin's Class: "Roosevelt, Wise, and the Holocaust"	12-2pm AFC	1-2pm Heart to Heart Group with Susan	12-2pm AFC 1-4pm Mah Jongg 7pm Federation Book Club: <i>Letters to My Palestinian Neighbor</i>	1-4pm Mah Jongg	11:15am Chair Yoga 7:30pm Shabbat Svcs 7:30pm Shabbat Svcs	9:45am Shabbat Svcs 10am Shabbat Svcs	
MAR 8 12 Adar	9 13 Adar	10 14 Adar	11 15 Adar	12 16 Adar	13 17 Adar	14 18 Adar	
9am "Second Sunday" Tefillin Club & Breakfast 9:30-11:30am Purim Carnival (Masa B'Yachad)	Fast of Esther 12-2pm AFC 6pm Purim Celebration (Masa B'Yachad)	PURIM 1-2pm Heart to Heart Group with Susan 5-8pm Purim Celebration	12-2pm AFC 1-4pm Mah Jongg	8am-3pm Prime Timers: Chicago Botanic Garden 1-4pm Mah Jongg 7-8pm Sisterhood Business Meeting	11:15am Chair Yoga 7:30pm Shabbat Svcs 7:30pm Shabbat Svcs	9:45am Shabbat Svcs 10am Shabbat Svcs	
MAR 15 19 Adar	16 20 Adar	17 21 Adar	18 22 Adar	19 23 Adar	20 24 Adar	21 25 Adar	
10:30am Sisterhood Women's Right To Vote Centennial Program	12-2pm AFC	1-2pm Heart to Heart Group (no Susan) 7:30pm Board Meeting	12-2pm AFC 1-4pm Mah Jongg 7:30pm Board Meeting	1-4pm Mah Jongg	11:15am Chair Yoga 7:30pm Shabbat Svcs (Alden Solovy Visit) 7:30pm Shabbat Svcs	9:30am Shabbat Svcs 9:45am Shabbat Svcs 6-10pm Jerry Rothenberg's Birthday Celebration	

Jewish Holiday Civil Holiday Federation Shlichim Chabad Hadassah Cong. Beth Israel Temple Beth-El Temple Israel-Miller Temple Israel-Valpo Sinai Temple



The Jewish Federation
OF NORTHWEST INDIANA

The Jewish Federation of Northwest Indiana and Temple Israel of Valparaiso are happy to host **Amit Matityahu, the Israeli shaliach from Chattanooga, Tennessee.**

RESILIENCE UNDER ROCKET ATTACKS: GROWING UP IN THE ISRAELI BORDER TOWN OF SDEROT.

Amit will share with us his story of growing up in the Israeli town of Sderot on the Gaza border, that has been the target of thousands of rockets and mortar rounds over the past 19 years.
A story of big challenges, courage and strength.

Friday, February 7th at 7:00 PM following Erev Shabbat services at Temple Israel of Valparaiso, 1405 East Evans, Valparaiso, Indiana
See you there!





◀ Francie Gerson, Linda Dunn, Larry Gill, and Rabbi Len & Karen Zukrow at the URJ National Biennial Convention, held December 11-15, 2019, at Chicago's McCormick Place.

▶ The Masa B'Yachad Junior Choir performing at Hartsfield Village for Chanukah.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, February 2, 9:00-11:30am: Community Mitzvah Morning sponsored by Temple Beth El. Volunteers are needed to provide Mitzvah Support to Habitat for Humanity, Dyer Nursing Home, and in-house projects such as crocheting, knitting, and cards for military personnel. Call the office at 219-934-9600 to register. We look forward to having you join us.

Saturday, February 8, 6:30pm: Red, White and YOU Gala. Join TBE for a heart-filled fun evening! Dinner is a delicious buffet catered by our favorite chef, David Lerner. Be sure to bid on items from the silent auction. Dinner, Spirits & Entertainment—with a Performance by the unPROFESSIONALS! Tickets \$36/person, available through the Temple office. Please call 219-936-9600 to order.

THE RedWhite& YOU! GALA
WHEN: SATURDAY FEBRUARY 8th @ 6:30PM
WHERE: Temple Beth-El of Munster, Indiana
10001 Columbia Avenue Munster, IN 46321
Admission: \$36 per person
Join us for a heart-filled fun evening!
Dinner & Spirits & Entertainment!
With a Performance by The Unprofessionals!

Saturday, February 15, 7:30pm: A Night of Opera featuring Celeste Siciliano, Soprano, & Cantor Ted Labow of Temple Anshe Sholom, Olympia Fields, IL. Performance will take place at Congregation

Beth Israel in Munster. Tickets \$20/person. Call 708-748-6010 for tickets and more information.

Friday, March 20, 7:30pm: Poet & Liturgist Alden Solovy of Jerusalem, will join us for services at Temple Beth El. The Liturgist-in-Residence for the Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies, Alden's teaching spans from Hebrew Union College and the Conservative Yeshiva in Jerusalem to synagogues throughout North America, as well as Leo Baeck College in London and Limmud Conferences in the U.S., Canada and the UK. He is the author of four books, including the newly-released *This Joyous Soul: A New Voice for Ancient Yearnings* from CCAR Press and *This Grateful Heart: Psalms and Prayers for a New Day*, widely used in North American congregations. See the next *Illiana News* in mid-March for more details. 🕍



The official Chanukah Sweater Photo from the 2019 Chanukah Dinner on December 20.



Rabbi Len Zukrow participating in the annual Emancipation Proclamation Service with the Interfaith Clergy Council of Gary.

We Fight Darkness With Light

by RABBI ELIEZER ZALMANOV

This article was previously published online by the Forward (forward.com) on December 30, 2019. Reproduced with permission.—Ed.

Last week brought a slew of new anti-Semitic attacks against Jews in the most visibly Jewish part of the country—in and around New York City. Jews that look the most Jewish have been targeted in the streets and where they live and work, most recently Saturday night at a Chanukah celebration in Monsey, where five people were stabbed by a machete wielding attacker.

The reactions throughout the community have been varied. Some are demanding accountability from elected officials, some want more police presence in their neighborhoods. Some feel that there should be more support from the non-Orthodox Jewish communities, some claim that more Jews should be armed, and some feel that this is another reason for American Jews to make Aliyah to Israel en masse.

One thing we are not hearing at all—particularly from the community being targeted, the most visibly Orthodox Jews—is that we should stop or at least tamp down on displaying our Jewishness so openly. Not a single leader will tell his followers that they should stop wearing yarmulkes or their Chassidic garb in public, and in general to stop looking as Jewish as they do. That reaction simply does not enter the equation.

For while it is true that visible Jews are easier targets, to conceal who we are, even if only externally, would defeat the purpose of our existence. To no longer be openly, proudly Jewish would be giving the anti-Semites what they want—an end to Jews and Judaism.

No doubt, there is a need today to take safety precautions seriously, to coordinate with law enforcement regarding security protocols, and of course to hold our elected officials accountable. But those are all band-aids on an unfortunate situation that has spiraled out of control; they aren't actual solutions to the larger issue.

As the old adage goes, the only way to fight darkness is with light. Jews have been doing this for as long as we have been a people, and the holiday of Chanukah embodies this point. The central observance of Chanukah is lighting candles and displaying them for all to see.

Even in times of great danger, Jews have kindled the menorah in one public form or another. Today, Chabad's ubiquitous public menorahs have become symbolic of the holiday around the world, and young Chabad boys and girls spend their time off of school for Chanukah handing out menorah kits to Jews in the streets, and visiting nursing homes, hospitals, and the homebound.

When the Lubavitcher Rebbe began promoting public menorahs, he wrote, "The Chanukah menorah displayed publicly during the eight

Shabbat services at Chabad are held on Saturday morning, starting at 10:00am, always followed by a full kiddush lunch.

days of Chanukah has been an inspiration to many, many Jews, and evoked in them a spirit of identity with their Jewish people and the Jewish way of life. To many others, it has brought a sense of pride in their Yiddishkeit and the realization that there is no reason really in this free country to hide one's Jewishness, as if it were contrary or inimical to American life and culture."

The Rebbe taught that you don't save Jews by being less Jewish. The survival of the Jewish people depends on Jews consistently being proud of their heritage and being comfortable putting it on display for all to see.

This applies to the general survival of the Jewish people as well as to fighting anti-Semitism in particular. In a world plagued with darkness, with hate and bigotry, we need to be more Jewish, not less.

The sobering reality is that the violent anti-Semitism that has come roaring back is in fact a return to the "normal" of being a Jew in western civilization. by the Forward

For most Orthodox Jews this isn't a new concept, but as these attacks sadly become more common, it is time for everyone—all types of Jews—to remember that hiding our Jewishness will not help. That doesn't mean you need to suddenly start dressing like Chassidim, but don't be ashamed of who you are. If you are a Jew, flaunt it!

—CONTINUED ON P. 23

Purim is coming! Visit chabadnwind.com/upcoming-events to see what's in store!



► In the cycle “Contemporary Jewish Issues”, we watched and discussed two presentations. December 1: “Jewish-Catholic Relations in the Francis Era” with Rabbi David Rosen, International Director of Inter-religious Affairs, American Jewish Committee and Cardinal Kurt Koch, President, Vatican Commission for Religious Relations with the Jews. January 5: “American Jews and Israel: Can the Relationship Be Saved?” with Daniel Gordis (the author of the new book *We Stand Divided: The Rift Between American Jews and Israel*), and Thomas Friedman (Pulitzer-winning columnist for *The New York Times*).



UNDERSTANDING THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT

Sunday, February 2, 11:00am–12:15pm:

Join Rabbi Levin to watch and discuss Dr. Mordechai Kedar in an eye-opening review of the claim that Israel expelled people from their historic homeland in 1948, and now allegedly illegally occupy the land that has belonged to others for thousands of years. Dr. Kedar is a scholar of Arabic literature and senior lecturer in the Department of Arabic Studies at Bar-Ilan University.



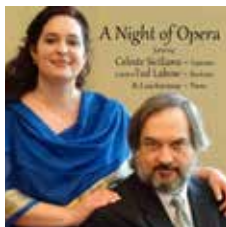
Join Rabbi Levin to watch and discuss Thane Rosenbaum in conversation with Holocaust scholar Rafael Medoff, whose new book, *The Jews Should Keep Quiet: Franklin D. Roosevelt, Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, and the Holocaust*, chronicles the motivations underlying FDR’s continued reluctance to help save European Jewry from the jaws of death of the Final Solution, as well as the complicated relationship he shared with Wise, the leading American Jewish figure of the era.

KABBALAT SHABBAT & DINNER

Friday, February 7, 6:00pm: Come enjoy our service and delicious dinner! \$10.00 per person. Children 12 and under \$5.00. Reservations required by Tuesday, February 4.

A NIGHT OF OPERA

Saturday, February 15, 7:30pm: Join us at CBI for an enchanting evening featuring Celeste Siciliano, soprano; Cantor Ted Labow, baritone; Lisa Kristina, piano. Tickets \$20. Reservations: (708) 748-6010 or tasoffice@templeanshesholom.org. Co-sponsors: Temple Anshe Sholom,



Temple Shir Tikvah, Temple Beth El, Congregation Beth Israel, National Council of Jewish Women South Cook Section.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, RABBI STEPHEN S. WISE, AND THE HOLOCAUST

Sunday, March 1, 11:00am–12:15pm: Join Rabbi Levin to watch and discuss Thane Rosenbaum in conversation with Holocaust scholar Rafael Medoff, whose new book, *The Jews Should Keep Quiet: Franklin D. Roosevelt, Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, and the Holocaust*, chronicles the motivations underlying FDR’s continued reluctance to help save European Jewry from the jaws of death of the Final Solution, as well as the complicated relationship he shared with Wise, the leading American Jewish figure of the era.



Be one of the readers! Please contact Rabbi Levin if you are interested in participating in the reading.

DO YOU KNOW HOW TO READ THE MEGILLAH?

Be one of the readers! Please contact Rabbi Levin if you are interested in participating in the reading.

PURIM CELEBRATION

Monday, March 9, 6:00pm: Our Masa B’Yachad Religious School students will present a short and enjoyable play depicting the story of Purim, followed by a Megillah reading,

WEEKLY SERVICES
Monday & Thursday at 8:00am
Saturday at 9:45am
Sunday at 9:00am

PURIM SERVICES
Monday, March 9, 6:00pm

Purim songs, and then a delicious dinner at 7:00pm. Wear your best costume! Make reservations for the Purim dinner by calling our office by Wednesday, March 4. \$5 per person, \$15 maximum per family.



WOMEN'S RIGHTS CENTENNIAL

Sunday, March 15, 10:30am: CBI Sisterhood presents “The 19th Amendment Turns 100! A Musical Celebration of Votes for Women” featuring performers Anita Kallen & Catherine Thomson. Stay tuned for details and RSVP information! 🎵



▲ Sisterhood organized a fun and delicious ice cream social on December 1 to benefit the Torah Fund of Women’s League for Conservative Judaism. This fund supports Jewish seminaries around the world.



My View Onto Montgomery Street

by MARK B. SPERLING, Ed.D.

The end of 2019 and the beginning of 2020 bring about so many thoughts about what has been accomplished in the past secular year and what will be accomplished between this time and our High Holidays, the next new Jewish year.

We have accomplished a great deal during 2019. Our Social Action Committee (coordinating with the Social Justice Committee of St. Mary's of the Lake), the Interfaith work and Thanksgiving Service, Sisterhood, Adult and Youth Religious Education, and Ritual Committees have been hard at work providing great programming for all of our members. We have continued to attract some new members who have added talent and presence to our Temple family. Sadly, we have also mourned the loss of important persons in our Temple family, whose presence we cherished.

In 2020, we will complete the Chai Mitzvah series of Community Learning Sessions, coordinated by Vice President Robin Rich and presented by Rabbi Robin Damsky. These sessions will again lead our Adult Education series for the New Year great topics for the next session. We are looking at a Chai Mitzvah 2 series of Adult Education sessions to continue throughout 2020.

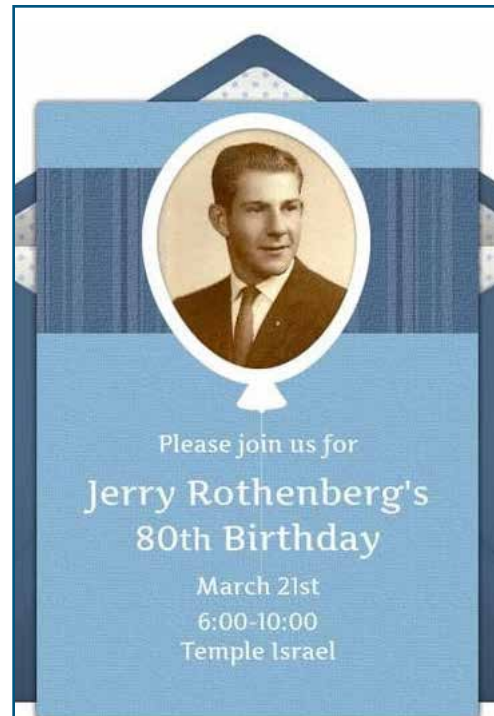
Chanukah 2019 was celebrated with a special Sisterhood program and dinner, and of course the Sisterhood gift tables at Temple, with all of the foods that we love during this happy time of the year.

Trivia Night returned on January 25th, 2020—co-chaired by Sean Egan, Robin Rich, and Becky Hanscom. We had a wonderful and very crowded evening with excellent food and drink, and of course great questions! Thanks too to all of the wonderful volunteers that made this evening so special for the entire community.

We invite everyone to attend Friday evening services at 7:30pm. Each of the lay leaders and Rabbi present a slightly different service with a Dvar Torah and some music to end the service. We are most appreciative of the coordination of Lisa Giglio for our Service Leaders and Wendy Roman for our Oneg Hosts.

I am grateful to those who are the backbone of the Temple providing leadership and service in many areas that most are unaware of: Gary Simon (Building and Grounds), Amy Clites (our Virtual Assistant and Temple Topics Editor), Michael Giglio (Building and Grounds Repairs, Sisterhood members (diners, celebrations, programs), our board members, Gan Shalom (Becky Hanscom), Officers and the many volunteers who support our temple through providing service. I apologize if I missed your name somewhere in this article, but know that you are recognized as a valued member of the temple family.

Please stay warm and drive carefully during our winter weather. L'Shalom with best wishes for a wonderful New Year! 🌍



Jerry Rothenberg's 80th Birthday Celebration

Saturday, March 21
6:00–10:00pm

Please join us at Temple Israel to celebrate Jerry Rothenberg, a man who makes people laugh and feel welcome. A man who enjoys life and telling jokes (the same ones), who is a friend to many and someone we all LOVE.

No gifts please, however, honors may be made to The Julie Fund at Temple Israel (TempleIsraelMiller.org) and/or the National MS Society (NationalMSSociety.org).

RSVP to Lisa Giglio at LSG@calumet.net or 708-774-1317.

Help Hadassah Make the World a Better Place

by MARLENE KAPLAN

Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, Inc., was started in 1912 to help improve the living conditions of the people in the pre-state land of Israel. The organization is committed to the land, the people and the future of Israel.

Hadassah's world-renowned medical centers in Israel treat more than one million patients annually without regard to race, religion or nationality. For bringing advanced medical care to all, Hadassah earned a nomination for a Nobel Peace Prize in 2005. Hadassah is internationally recognized for its research leadership in stem cell and immunity as well as in diabetes.

By nurturing and educating at-risk children in Israel, Hadassah enables these children to become productive members of Israeli society.

For the Greening of the Negev Project, Hadassah is partnered with JNF and planting trees.

Yet Hadassah is and does so much more. There have been chapters of Hadassah in the Calumet Region for decades. Thousands and thousands of dollars have been raised and put to work. The Illiana chapter is now the last local chapter in existence. We need you to get involved.

Purchase Trees for \$18 or cards or certificates of various designs and amounts to honor or memorialize someone for any or no occasion by calling Judie S. at 219-227-9880. Judie will take care of the rest.

There is a place for you in Hadassah, whether you have lots of time or just a little. Men can become

Associate Members. We want your input: ideas for meetings, programs, and fundraisers; ways to share the amazing things happening in Israel; and ways to keep us together and moving forward.

Call Marlene K. at 219-922-6757 or alkmlk2018@gmail.com. Please join us as we plan and learn and work to make the world a better place. 🌱

Time is almost up for ordering kosher hot dogs and salamis through Illiana Hadassah's annual sale! Please call Marlene immediately at 219-922-6757 to get your order in. Deadline is January 31. Pick up your order at Federation on Tuesday, February 11, 11am-2pm.

JUDY KATZ • CONTINUED FROM P. 1

Growing Up in the Israeli Border Town of Sderot." The Israeli city of Sderot on the Gaza border has been the target of thousands of rocket and mortar rounds over the past 19 years.

If you enjoy reading, be sure to check out Federation's book club. Lively discussions are led by community member, Carol Culberg. The next book to be discussed will be *Letters to My Palestinian Neighbor* by Yossi Klein Halevi, on Wednesday, March 4, at 7:00pm.

In addition to these interesting programs, our AFC (Adult Friendship Club) offers many interesting programs and discussions, and Prime Timers plans fun and educational outings including the Challenger Learning Center on Thursday, February 13, and a visit to the Chicago Botanic Garden on March 12. See details on page 7-8.

If you want to travel, join me at the Partnership Summit in Budapest in June 2020. See flyer on page 5.

I'm too old to attend our Noar and Atid teen programs, but they have a lot of fun together. Their board is currently planning their activities for the next few months. See p. 11 for information.

No matter what your age, there is plenty to do at Federation! Please see more details in this and upcoming issues of the *Illiana News*. Federation sends out a weekly email blast to keep our community informed of upcoming programs. If you're not on the list, visit federationonline.org/signup or text JFNWI to 22828 to subscribe. Our Community Calendar can be accessed at federationonline.org/calendar. Please make sure to RSVP for all programs by calling Federation at 219-301-0960 or registering online. Hope to see you soon! 🌱

CHABAD • CONTINUED FROM P. 20

We must focus on doing good, on bringing more light to the world. Visit someone who otherwise has no one in their lives. Reach out to someone you haven't spoken to in a while and perhaps need to make amends with. Find a community to pray with. There is no limit to the amount of good we can do to dispel the darkness.

We must be proud of who we are. We must be the light. 🌱



WEEKLY FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Our music-filled Shabbat Services are conducted every Friday at 7:00pm, with Rabbi Suzanne Griffel here twice a month, and our lay leaders who volunteer on the other Friday nights. An Oneg Shabbat follows every service in the community room after Kiddush and Hamotzi. Our dedicated Sisterhood members host the Oneg, with 2-3 women taking turns each month. Annual contributions from our temple membership help to cover the cost.

SATURDAY MORNING CLASSES

Shabbat morning classes with Rabbi Suzanne Griffel take place on Saturday when Rabbi is here. The class focuses on many interesting subjects, holidays, current events, and/or the Torah portion of the week. The class is open to everyone who wishes to learn more about Judaism and Jewish life. There is a brief Shabbat service before the class, at 9am, and the class follows from 10-11:30am.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Sinai Temple's Joint Religious School with Temple Israel in Valparaiso has started the second semester at Temple Israel, where classes will take place till the end of this school year. 🌟

► December highlights at Sinai Temple: We observed Chanukah together—this year in combination with our annual Chinese Dinner and Movie Night.



Erin Doherty

SENIOR DESIGN ASSOCIATE

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ROBERT C. ATLAS

LONG GROVE, IL—Robert C. Atlas, age 84, passed away on January 6, 2020. Beloved husband of Judith (nee Goldenson), happily married for 61 years; loving father of Howard (Jessica) Atlas and Karen (Jeffrey) Vervoort; cherished Grandpa of Sarah, Taylor, Sam, Michael, Mariele and Julia; treasured uncle of many nieces and nephews; adored by his four-legged daughter Gracie. He was preceded in death by his sister Claire (the late Irv) Greenspon.

Funeral services were held Thursday, January 9, at Shalom Memorial Funeral Home in Arlington Heights, IL. Interment followed at Shalom Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the National Kidney Foundation (www.kidney.org).

SHELDON "SHELLY" BLOCK

BUFFALO GROVE, IL—Sheldon "Shelly" Block, age 91, passed away on January 13, 2020. Beloved husband of the late Shirley (nee Roth), son of the late Norman and Rachel Block, brother of the late Sylvia (Sidney) Gottesmann, and brother-in-law of the late Leo (Janet) Roth and the late Melvin (Lenore) Roth. Shelly was a loving father to Barbara (Mitch) Bryan, Jeff (Sharon) Block, Steve Block, and Susan (Bruce) Hinshaw; devoted grandfather to Becca (Teddy) Ogilvie, Nina Bryan, Max, Eli, Sam and Annie Gabovitch, and "bonus" grandchildren David and Richard Gardiner and Clare and Kate Hinshaw; and adoring great-grandfather to Coraline and Clementine Ogilvie; as well as a loving and generous uncle, cousin and friend to many.

A Chicago native and graduate of DePaul University, Shelly was a

long-time resident of Northwest Indiana.

Funeral services were held Thursday, January 16, at Kish Funeral Home in Munster. Interment followed at Beth-El Cemetery in Portage. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions are appreciated to the Jewish Federation of Northwest Indiana or a charity of your choice.

GERALD "JERRY" FISHER

GLENVIEW, IL—Gerald "Jerry" Fisher, 89, passed away on December 10, 2019. Most beloved husband of Toby Fisher, nee Greenberg, married 67 years. Loving father of Aaron (Katherine), Steven, and Larry (Ana) Fisher. Adored grandfather of Adrienne, Arielle and Joel Fisher. Former Captain, United States Marine Corps, graduate of Illinois Institute of Technology (Mechanical Engineering), and Loyola University (MBA). Former President of Marin Engineering.

Funeral services were held Thursday, December 12, at Shalom Memorial Funeral Home in Arlington Heights, IL. Interment followed at Shalom Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to B'nai Jehoshua Beth Elohim (BJBE), 1201 Lake Cook Road, Deerfield, IL 60015 (www.bjbe.org).

JERRY FROMM

MUNSTER—Jerome "Jerry" Fromm was born on January 3, 1927 in New York, NY, and died on December 23, 2019. Married to Eileen (Barton) Fromm, she was his beloved best friend and companion for 73 years. He was the devoted father of Barbara (Tom) Quinlan and Gayle Alderson, the cherished grandfather to Matthew (Cyndi), Michael (Lanie), Daniel (Jillian), Sarah (fiancé Jason), and Max (Siri), and three

great-grandchildren, Tyler, Zachary, and Jack. Jerry was a friend to many—most noteworthy his group of childhood friends since third grade, 'The Boys from the Bronx'. Predeceased by his parents, Irving and Gela, and brother, Isidore (Izzy).

After serving in the US Navy, Jerry became a savvy businessman, first as a partner in Nu-Method Cleaners in East Chicago and later the owner-operator of Fifth Avenue Supply in Gary. He was a member of SCORE, a mentoring program to assist new business owners, a tutor/mentor to underprivileged children, and a Community Hospital Volunteer. He was a dedicated member of Congregation Beth Israel and belonged to the Jewish Federation, B'nai B'rith, and Jewish War Veterans.

Jerry was an outstanding role model to everyone he encountered. His family will deeply miss his wisdom, his kind-hearted, easygoing spirit, and his inspiring optimism.

Funeral services were held Thursday, December 26, at Kish Funeral Home in Munster. Interment followed at Beth El Cemetery in Portage. In lieu of flowers, please consider sending a contribution to the Jewish Federation of Northwest Indiana, Hospice of the Calumet Area, or a charity of your choice.

RUTHE TOBIAS

MICHIGAN CITY—Ruthe Tobias, age 88, passed away on Friday, December 27, 2019. Daughter of Ella and Charlie Davis (z"l), Ruthe was born in Michigan City at St. Anthony's Hospital, but grew up in Chicago.

Survived by her sister, Marilyn Ziff, Northbrook, IL; her three children,



—CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

CONTINUED FROM PREV. PAGE

Scott Tobias (Deb), Shawnee, KS; Barb Tobias Chappell (Jim), Los Gatos, CA; and Gail Tobias, Crown Point, IN; and four grandchildren: Aaron Tobias, Kansas City, MO, and Matthew Tobias (Azia), of North Kansas City, MO; Becky Chappell Harris (Andrew), Washington, DC; and Jacob Chappell, Sunnyvale, CA; step-grandchild, Leigh Manson, and step-great-grandchild, Linnea Brown, both of Lee's Summit, MO.

Ruthe attended the University of Wisconsin and the University of Miami, and worked as a secretary first at the Anti-Defamation League in Miami, then at Panelit in Chicago, prior to her marriage to Howard Tobias (z"l), to whom she was married for 65 years prior to his death, almost exactly one year ago.

Ruthe was an active member of Sinai Temple, where she volunteered in the Sisterhood. Many posters, programs and "Uniongrams" bear the mark of her artistic talents. She also served as co-chair of the temple gift shop and taught first grade in the Sunday school for 10 years.

Ruthe worked various part-time jobs while her children were small, serving as a substitute teacher in the local elementary schools and as a tax preparer. She later worked for Jaymar Ruby, where she helped

computerize the allocations department, retiring after a tenure of 23 years.

Funeral services were held Sunday, December 29, 2019, at Sinai Temple, with Rabbi Reni Dickman officiating. Burial followed at Sinai Temple Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to Sinai Temple or to NAMI, the National Alliance on Mental Illness..

LIONEL WEBSTER

SCHERERVILLE—Lionel "Bill" Webster, 92, died peacefully at his home on December 20, 2019. He was born in Chicago on June 29, 1927 to Mark Rivken Webster and Rose Wolfson Webster. He graduated from Farragut High School in Chicago in 1945. He served in the U.S. Army as radio repairman with the Signal Corps in Japan from 1946 to 1949.

On November 5, 1951 he married Miriam M. Studniberg, who survives along with their son, Donald (Nancy); daughter-in-law, Hollis Webster; and grandchildren Michael, Benjamin and Rachel (Bill) Finn, Mark (Keith), Sarah and Joe. He was preceded in death by his beloved son, David J.; grandson, Kurt; brother, Richard and parents.

He was a skilled electronics technician who enjoyed repairing radios and televisions. He had a small TV

repair business while working full-time at U.S. Steel South Works in the electronics department. In retirement, he maintained an extensive home workshop with tools, meters and tubes to fix most any TV or radio. He also loved music. He played the baritone horn and enjoyed attending community concerts. He was a strong athlete with a priority for health and fitness and a good corned beef sandwich. He played tennis until he was 80 years old, competing in local tournaments and senior competitions. He shared his interests with his children and grandchildren.

Lionel was a member of Congregation Beth Israel in Munster. He was an active member of the Jewish War Veterans Pvt. Sam Neivelt Post 407 and took pride in attending veteran events.

Funeral services took place Tuesday, December 24, at Kish Funeral Home in Munster. Burial with military honors followed at Shalom Memorial Park, Arlington Heights, IL. Memorial donations may be made to the Jewish Federation of Northwest Indiana.

LOUIS "DOC" WOLFSON

PORT ST. LUCIE, FL—Louis "Doc" Wolfson passed away suddenly on December 12, 2019, at the age of 101. He was preceded in death by his amazing wife, Helen, and wonderful son Sam. He is survived by his son Marty and daughter-in-law, Mindy, who reside in Port St. Lucie, FL. Doc was a chiropractor, an educator, and swimming coach. He continued playing tennis and working out until his death. He leaves behind memories for hundreds of people whose lives he affected. Services were held on Thursday, December 19, in Florida. 🕊️

Help Us Help Them

Have you or a loved one recently entered a hospital, rehab center, or nursing home? **Please let us know so we can make sure to visit.** Contact Susan Tepperman, Jewish Community Services Coordinator, at 219-301-0960 or susan@federationonline.org with information or updates. Thank you!



Tribute Cards

Received through January 17, 2020.

BARBARA WAXMAN JEWISH
COMMUNITY SERVICES FUND

In memory of Robert Atlas.

Richard & Barbara Waxman

In memory of Sheldon Block.

Richard & Barbara Waxman

In memory of Jerry Fisher.

Richard & Barbara Waxman

In memory of Fred Frisch.

Richard & Barbara Waxman

In memory of Jerry Fromm.

Richard & Barbara Waxman

**In honor of Nancy Handler's special
birthday.**

Richard & Barbara Waxman

In memory of Lionel Webster.

Richard & Barbara Waxman

CHUCK ELIAS JCY SCHOLARSHIP
FUND

In memory of Jerry Fisher.

Helene Elias

In memory of Jerry Fromm.

Helene Elias

In memory of Susan Kohen.

Helene Elias

In memory of Lionel Webster.

Helene Elias

FOOD PANTRY ENDOWMENT

In memory of Sheldon Block.

Michael & Bari Block

Carol Hoffman and Family

In memory of Jerry Fromm.

Bruce Bohrer

In memory of Susan Kohen.

Rick & Judy Katz

Ginger Levitan

In memory of Lionel Webster.

Debbie and Hank Feinberg

FRUEHAUF FAMILY HONORARY
ENDOWMENT

**Wishing Sherry Conway a speedy
recovery.**

Ernest & Ursula Fruehauf

In memory of Jerry Fromm.

Ernest & Ursula Fruehauf

In memory of Lionel Webster.

Ernest & Ursula Fruehauf

PACE (PERPETUAL ANNUAL
CAMPAIGN ENDOWMENT)

In memory of Robert Atlas.

Lawrence Weiss

In memory of Sheldon Block.

Judy & Rick Katz

In memory of Jerry Fromm.

Marcella Gierman

Mardi & David Katz

Beth and Tamas Kutas

Nicolette Lindinger

Tula Lunsford

Ruth & Marvin Mass

Debra Shelby

Marcy Gierman

Alan & Debby Walker

Lawrence Weiss

Carol Weiss and David Peal

In memory of Lionel Webster.

Rona & David Lasser

Jeanette & John Rottersman

Lawrence Weiss

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In memory of Sheldon Block.

Dr. Bruce Cable

STAN GOLDBERG AFC
ENDOWMENT

In memory of Jerry Fromm.

Rick & Judy Katz and Family

In memory of Areta Galateanu.

Judy Katz and Family

**In honor of Nancy Handler's special
birthday.**

Diane Falcon

Michael & Lisa Giglio

Janet Lotz

Jerry Rothenberg

In memory of Lionel Webster.

Rick & Judy Katz and Family

Rory & Ginger Levitan and Family

Illiana News

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POLICIES & PROCEDURES

**ARTICLE/ADVERTISING DEADLINE
AND POLICY:** The deadline for Illiana
News articles, announcements, photos
and advertising is **February 21, 2020**
for the next issue. Articles must
contain a byline that will be printed.
Articles may be edited for length
and are selected at the discretion
of the editor. Submit articles via
email to Erica Yakovetz at erica@federationonline.org.

CALENDAR: The Federation maintains
an online calendar for the community
that includes congregational events,
social activities, special services and
celebrations. We encourage all our
member organizations to consult
federationonline.org/calendar as
new events are planned, in order
to minimize conflicts. Contact Erica
Yakovetz at the Federation, (219) 301-
0960 or erica@federationonline.org
before scheduling your event and/or
to add your date to the calendar.

CORRECTIONS: Please contact the
Federation at (219) 301-0960 or Erica
Yakovetz at erica@federationonline.org.
org with any errors found in the Illiana
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NAMING CONTEST

**New Year,
New Newsletter!**

Our community has changed, the Illiana News has changed... now we're holding a contest to find just the right name for our popular print newsletter. Any Jewish resident of Northwest Indiana may enter. The grand prize: bragging rights! Visit federationonline.org/news for full details, or email erica@federationonline.org by June 1, 2020, to submit your entry. The winning name will be revealed in August 2020.

From the Executive Director



**A Comprehensive Approach
to Combating Anti-Semitism**

by AIDA NOZICK

Happy 2020 to the Jewish Community of Northwest Indiana! On page 13 of this issue, you will see that Federation is asking for community members to get involved with the various committees. Serving on committees of your interest is one of the best ways for community members to voice their opinions, make meaningful contributions to the Jewish community, and get involved in ways that work best for them. You can be involved as much or as little as you wish—you set the terms. I encourage everyone to call the Federation office and ask to speak with me for more information.

I wanted to alert you to some of things I will personally be working on for this coming year. Not to say this

is the only focus, but maintaining the safety and security of our congregations and community members is certainly at the top of the agenda.

Our Jewish community continues to grieve the horrific actions of hate/anti-Semitism attacks from across the country. We struggle to process a new reality following so many tragedies, the Pittsburgh Tree of Life shooting, and more recent attacks in New York and New Jersey. Anti-Semitic incidents are reaching historic levels according to reports from the ADL (Anti-Defamation League). In 2018 there were 1,879 incidents recorded against Jews and Jewish institutions. That was the third highest year on record since the 1970s, when the ADL started tracking anti-Semitic attacks.

These issues have led our local congregations and the Federation to reevaluate our buildings' security to ensure we are as safe as possible, while remaining welcoming. Adequately addressing security measures requires continuous attention, knowledge and funding. In the next several months, Federation will help address some of these issues through a comprehensive approach of physical safety assessment/training and educational opportunities for all. Meetings and logistical planning have already begun with our partners at SCN (Secure Community Network). SCN has been at the forefront of an innovative, collaborative and cooperative national Homeland Security initiative, educating and working with the Jewish community across the country. Through our initial meeting with SCN, we have developed a series of steps we need to take within our community to ensure our physical safety while

—CONTINUED ON P. 13