

Illiana News

The Jewish Community Newsletter of Northwest Indiana

Adar I-II–Nisan 5779
March–April 2019
 Volume 3, Issue 2

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



The budding young architects of our Atid youth group built candy houses in January. For more photos, see page 6!

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Volunteering: Tikkun Olam in Action

by AIDA NOZICK

Hello Jewish Community of Northwest Indiana. The weather is cold—understatement of the year—but it's nice and toasty at the Federation. As John Steinbeck says "what good is the warmth of summer, without the cold of winter?"

As I sit here to write this article, I think of all the ways Federation is helping warm up our community members.

One important way is by creating an opportunity to volunteer.

Volunteers are the only people on the face of the earth who reflect an organizations' compassion, altruism, patience, and love. With that said, our Federation is here to serve our community in whatever way is required. Following the national trend, our community is aging, and

—CONTINUED ON P. 14



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Be Happy: It's Adar!

Purim starts Wednesday night, March 20. See our community calendar on p. 20 for Purim festivities around the region!

JEWISH FEDERATION OF NORTHWEST INDIANA

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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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Upcoming Events

ANNOUNCING THE 2019 FEDERATION BOOK CLUB

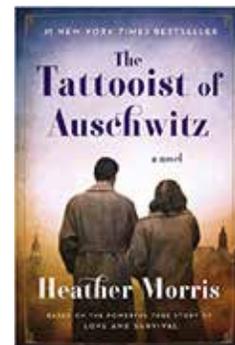
FIRST SELECTION:

The Tattooist of Auschwitz by Heather Morris

RESCHEDULED FIRST MEETING!

Tuesday, March 5 • 7:00pm

This beautiful, illuminating tale of hope and courage is based on interviews that were conducted with Holocaust survivor and Auschwitz-Birkenau tattooist Ludwig (Lale) Sokolov—an unforgettable love story in the midst of atrocity.



SECOND SELECTION:

The Only Woman In the Room by Marie Benedict

Tuesday, April 9 • 7:00pm

The New York Times and USA Today Bestseller! Hedy Lamarr possessed a stunning beauty. She also possessed a stunning mind. Could the world handle both? A powerful novel based on the incredible true story of the glamour icon and scientist whose groundbreaking invention revolutionized modern communication.

Please read the books in advance and come prepared for lively discussion facilitated by Carol Culberg. For more information, please call (219) 301-0960 or contact Carol at cculberg@gmail.com.

Low Impact Chair Yoga

Fridays 11:00am–12:00pm

Continuing through April!

March 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29; April 5, 12, 19 (no April 26)

Instructor Joanna Sypudt has been teaching yoga for 18 years. **Cost: \$18** for 4 sessions in advance; **\$5 per session** at the door.

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



Upcoming Events



Joyously Jewish

SONG & SPIRITS

Saturday, March 16, 2019 • 8–11pm

When Adar enters, joy increases. Join the Federation community for a pre-Purim celebration of song and spirits! Enjoy hors d'oeuvres, a dessert buffet, beer & wine.

THE SONG

Featuring an all-star cabaret of musical performers from our member congregations!

Congregation Beth Israel (Munster)
The *Kabbalat Shabbat House Band* ft. Barry Rooth, Gus Galante, Eric Stiener, Ed Feldman & Erica Yakovetz

Sinai Temple (Michigan City) The *Sinai Singers* ft. Adina Sutlin, Rachel Stern Bruell & Charlie Marks

Temple Beth-El (Munster) Kristin Stern & Terri Hendrickson

Temple Israel (Miller) The *Chai-Lites* ft. Rabbi Robin Damsky, Sean Egan & Michael Greenwald

Temple Israel (Valparaiso) Michael Miller, Debbie Miller, Sue Galanis, Camille Goldman & Elisabeth Maria

THE SPIRITS

Israeli distiller **Yuval Hargil** from our Partnership region will present a tasting flight of his specialty native liquors, including Grappa, Gin, and Slivovitz.



Julius Distillery is located in Kibbutz Hanita, Western Galilee. Established in 2008, it is the first artisan distillery in Israel specializing in production of the finest quality Eaux de Vie (fruit brandies). All the materials used in their distilling process are regional; the grape pomace, honey and fruit come from the Galilee Mountains.

\$18 per person. RSVP to (219) 301-0960 or online at federationonline.org/upcoming-events#Joyously

If we get enough interest, we will arrange FREE bus transportation from the area synagogues (Miller, Valpo, and Michigan City). Exact departure/return times TBD. Please note with your RSVP if you would like to take advantage of this service!

Film Screening and Q&A

The Gate: Dawn of the Bahá'í Faith

Sunday, March 3
3:00–5:00pm

The Jewish Federation of Northwest Indiana is pleased to invite you to a special screening of this one-hour documentary film, followed by a Q&A with

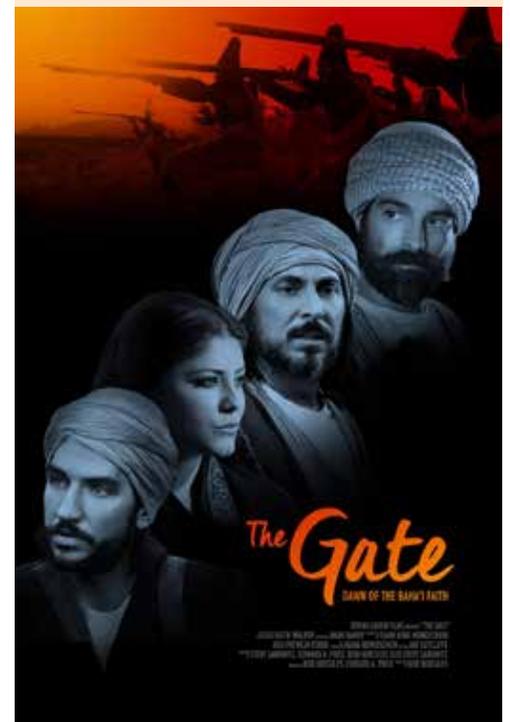
Executive Producer

Steve Sarowitz.



This event is free and open to the community, but registration for the screening is recommended as limited seating is available.

To RSVP or learn more about the film, please visit federationonline.org/the-gate-screening or call (219) 301-0960.



Please send any Simchas you would like included in the next issue to Erica Yakovetz, (219) 301-0960 or erica@federationonline.org by March 25. Text and photos must be provided in accordance with all Illiana News Policies and Procedures.

MAZEL TOV...

► To **Ron Primack** on the engagement of his daughter **Ilana** to Joe Quinlan.



To **Susan Kaplan** on the engagement of her son **David** to Dana Gerette.



► To **Eli Nirenberg** on being named King of the Munster High School Turnabout Dance on February 16.

► To **Helene Elias** on the birth of a great-granddaughter. Proud parents are Brad & Gloria Elias. Proud grandparents are Mark & Carol Elias. 🌍



WOMEN'S SERVICE PROJECT:

Bra Benefit Packing Party

Tuesday, March 12 • 7:00–8:30pm

Did you know that bras are among the most needed and least donated clothing items in women's shelters? Women of all ages, please join us at the Federation on Tuesday evening, March 12 to help package bras in pretty individual bags for donation.

Invite a friend! Wine and cheese will be served. You may bring additional gently used, freshly laundered bras (new ones welcome too!) to donate.

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

SAVE THE DATE

Film Screening: "Who Will Write Our History?"

Thursday, May 2
7:00–8:30pm

In honor of Yom HaShoah, the Federation is pleased to host a special screening of this important documentary.

For more information about the film, please visit: whowillwriteourhistory.com



Ma'aseh: Tikkun Olam in Action

Thursday, April 4 • 7:00–8:30pm

Please join us to hear how the Israeli organization **Ma'aseh** is making a difference in the lives of Arab, Druze, and Jewish youth from disadvantaged backgrounds and making Israel a better place.

Our guests for this event will be Yossi Malka, CEO of Ma'aseh; Dana Shaked, Development Director; and two alumni: Aaia Fares, who is Druze, and Rachel Yaskias, an Ethiopian Jew.

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



It's been cold outside, but we've been warm and busy inside at K'Ton Ton!

We've learned about winter, snow, ice, and arctic animals. We've talked about children around the world, the things we love, and the books we love. We're learning about how to take care of ourselves and our teeth! Our pre-kindergarteners have enjoyed dancing to music and beading with the Adult Friendship Club. It has been a fun-filled couple of months! 🌍

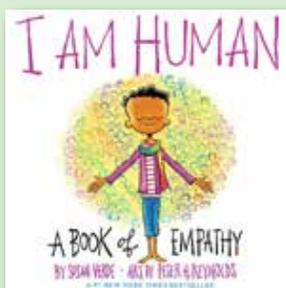


MS. ERIN RECOMMENDS:

I Am Human: A Book of Empathy

by Susan Verde; illustrated by Peter H. Reynolds

A hopeful meditation on all the great (and challenging) parts of being human, *I Am Human* shows that it's okay to make mistakes while also emphasizing the power of good choices by offering a kind word or smile or by saying "I'm sorry." At its heart, this picture book is a celebration of empathy and compassion that lifts up the flawed fullness of humanity and encourages children to see themselves as part of one big imperfect family—millions strong. 🌍



Registration is now open for the 2019-2020 school year.

Limited space remains, so if you know someone who should join us at K'Ton Ton, please have them call Erin at (219) 301-0961.

UPCOMING EVENTS: NOAR

Eating Blind

Tuesday, March 19
6:00-8:00pm

In honor of Disability Awareness Month, Eitan, our community shaliach, will put on a dinner where each participant will experience what it is like to eat without being able to see. Food (dairy/vegetarian) and drinks will be served.

Location: Federation. Cost: FREE!

RSVP by March 16 to
shaliach_nwi@federationonline.org
or (219) 301-0960.

Join our youth groups! For information, please contact Rachel Saller, Jewish Youth Advisor, at (219) 301-0960 or rachel@federationonline.org. 🌐



▲ ◀ Noar: Cooking With Eitan (January 2019)

▼ ▼ Atid: Making Candy Houses (January 2019)



Erin Doherty
SALES/DESIGN CONSULTANT
Ask me about the Federation discount!

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JCY Day Camp



Our 16th Summer: June 17–July 26, 2019

New for 2019: Choose your weeks!

You asked, we listened. Register for as few as 2 weeks, up to a full 6-week session. For pricing, see the website: federationonline.org/jcy

Online registration is now open!

Reserve this summer's spots now for your campers ages 5–12 by registering online at federationonline.org/jcy. You may also request a mail-in registration form by calling (219) 301-0960. A nonrefundable \$100 deposit per camper is required at registration.

Scholarships are available. For information and eligibility, please email susan@federationonline.org.

JCY Camp Reunion!

Sunday, April 14 • 1:00pm

Stardust Bowl, Dyer

Come see friends, counselors, and some good old-fashioned JCY fun.

\$10 per camper includes bowling, shoe rental and pizza.

RSVP to (219) 301-0960 or online: federationonline.org/jcyreunion

JewEL (Jewish Emerging Leaders)



Bar Trivia Night!

Wednesday, March 6

7:30–9:30pm

Location: Bridges' Scoreboard Restaurant & Sports Bar
(121 N. Griffith Blvd., Griffith)

FREE—no cover, free to play, and complimentary appetizers sponsored by Federation (cash bar)

Team up with your JewEL pals new and old while you enjoy great food, drinks, and a general stumping good time. Anyone is welcome, including those under 21, so bring your kids and feel free to share and invite!

FORMAT: The game is four rounds, four questions each with a bonus question after the first 3 rounds and a Final Qopardy Wager question after round 4. The winning team wins a \$25 Bridges' Gift Card!

RSVP by March 5 to Erica Yakovetz:

(219) 301-0960 or erica@federationonline.org

or online at federationonline.org/upcoming-events#JewEL

JewEL brings together young Jewish adults in their 20s-40s from across Northwest Indiana. Don't miss out on upcoming events... join our group on Facebook! facebook.com/groups/jewelnwi

Advertise with Us!

Could your business or organization use a boost? Would you like to support the Federation at the same time?

Illiana News, the Jewish community newsletter of Northwest Indiana, is published 7–8 times per year with an audience reach of over 900 households.

All ads are published in FULL COLOR. We offer size options for every budget, with one-time placements or multi-issue (discounted) packages.

| Size | Dimensions (approx) | Single Issue Rate |
|---------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Business Card | 3.5" x 2" | \$36 |
| 1/6 Page | 2.5" x 5" Vertical | \$45 |
| 1/4 Page | 5" x 4" Horizontal | \$54 |
| 1/3 Page | 2.5" x 10" Vertical | \$72 |
| 1/2 Page | 8" x 5" Horizontal | \$100 |
| Full Page | 8" x 10" Vertical | \$180 |
| Back Cover | 8" x 6.5" Horizontal | \$180 |

Three Issues: 15% Discount
Full Year: 25% Discount

Camera-ready graphics may be supplied as PDF or JPEG.

Don't have an ad prepared? Send your text and logo and let our professional designer create something for you!

To reserve your ad space for the next issue, contact Erica Yakovetz at (219) 301-0960 or erica@federationonline.org.

Deadline for the Passover issue is March 25, 2019!

Private Cooking Event: Artisan Pizza Workshop

Monday, March 25

Location: Cooking Fools in Chicago (1916 W North Ave.)

Cost: \$55/non-members \$60
(includes workshop, meal, & transportation)

Time: 10am-3:30pm
(Depart Federation promptly at 10am)

Transportation: Coach Bus

We must have 30 participants for the trip to take place!

This class is a great experience normally offered at \$120.

RSVP by March 7 to Rachel Saller (219) 301-0960.

Your payment is your reservation.

Make checks payable to Prime Timers and mail to the Jewish Federation, 585 Progress Ave., Munster, IN 46321.



Menu for the Pizza Workshop

Napoletana Pizza Dough

Sauces: Classic Tomato Pizza Sauce, Ancho Honey BBQ Pizza Sauce, Arugula Pumpkin Seed Pesto (nut free), Garlic Oil for White Pizza

Toppings: Roasted Chicken, Spiced Ground Beef, Poblanos, Caramelized Onions, Roasted Red Pepper, Basil Pesto, Oven Roasted Tomatoes, Olives, Sautéed Mushrooms, Fresh Tomatoes, Artichokes, Goat Cheese, Parmesan, Mozzarella, Bleu Cheese and more!

Garden Salad with Balsamic Vinaigrette

Dessert: Banana Rum Fritters

Drinks: Iced Tea & Water

SAVE THE DATES

Brunch Out

Tuesday, April 16

11:00am • Location TBA

Northside Chicago Tour

Thursday, May 30

9:00am-3:00pm
\$40 (non-members \$45)



Prime Timers enjoyed a tour and delicious lunch at our neighboring 3 Floyds Brewery on Thursday, January 17!



Adult Friendship Club



January 9: AFC decorated hamsas (a traditional Middle Eastern good luck charm) with Eitan.



January 14: The first AFC Music Monday featured a Yiddish Singalong with Mrs. Y, a.k.a. Erica Yakovetz (right). *Ze! gezunt!*



February 4: AFC's "Page Turners" book club, facilitated by Debby Walker (right), discussed *People of the Book* by Geraldine Brooks.

Are you 55+ years young and looking for fun, food, & friends?

Well, we have the answer! Join our Adult Friendship Club, held at the Jewish Federation of NWI every Monday and Wednesday.

Monday programs are FREE and include a social hour with coffee & nosh starting at 10am, with a program from 11am-12pm. Wednesday programs include a hot kosher lunch (lovingly prepared by our own Chef Luis) at noon, plus an entertaining program at 1pm, all for \$7 (guests and non-members \$8).

We even offer rides if you need transportation! Just call the office at 219-301-0960 (24 hours notice requested) for this free service.

AFC membership is only \$10 per year and includes monthly mailings. Contact Rachel Saller at 219-301-0960 to join AFC for 2019.

| The Jewish Federation of Northwest Indiana | | | | | | |
|--|--|-----|---|-----|-----|-----|
| Adult Friendship Club | | | March 2019 | | | |
| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 10am Social Hour / Coffee & Nosh 11am "Page Turners" Book Club: <i>The Story of Beautiful Girl</i> | 5 | 6 12pm Salmon Patties, Mac & Cheese, Green Beans Almondine, Birthday Cake 1pm IUN Dental Hygiene Education Students Present: "Maintaining Your Oral Health" | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 11 10am Social Hour / Coffee & Nosh 11am Music Monday: Singalong Musicals with Jordy Novak | 12 | 13 12pm Lunch & 2pm Play: <i>Million Dollar Quartet</i> at Theater@theCenter JUST 2 TICKETS LEFT! RSVP TODAY! | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 10am Social Hour / Coffee & Nosh 11am <i>Downton Abbey</i> , Season 1 Episode 2 | 19 | 20 12pm Beef Chili, Cornbread, Salad, Mystery Bars 1pm Hamantashen Baking with Eitan (Israeli Shaliach) | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 10am Outing with Prime Timers: Artisan Pizza Making in Chicago (return to Federation by 3:30pm) | 26 | 27 12pm Mushroom Barley Soup, Potato Bar, Rolls, Cookies 1pm <i>The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel</i> , Season 2 Episode 3 | 28 | 29 | 30 |

Menus and programming are subject to change. Please call the Federation office at (219) 301-0960 for updated information or to request a FREE ride (24 hours advance notice please)

How I Spent My Winter Vacation

Partnership2Gether Educators' Delegation

by SEAN EGAN

In the last *Illiana News*, you got a look at the places and people that I was fortunate to visit during my December trip to Israel. Our Partnership2Gether Western Galilee Educators' Delegation afforded me and a dozen others from our Partnership regions in the US and Budapest a glimpse into a myriad of educational settings currently operating in the Western Galilee. Nearly all of the delegates worked either in a Jewish day school or religious school programs; only 2 of us were from the public school sector.

We all arrived by mid-afternoon on Sunday, December 23, at our hotel in Nahariya. Right on time, our wonderful host, Carmit Gilad, met us in the lobby to walk us to a banquet hall down the street. At this banquet hall, we learned a little bit about each other. We learned about the role and the work of the Partnership office in the Western Galilee. We viewed a video about our Partnership; I was amazed to recognize so many people in this video, both from Indiana (especially NWI, largely thanks to the boundless energy and involvement of Judy Katz) and Israel.

Following the formal presentations, we had our first meal together. The word *meal* is an understatement. The dishes from the kitchen kept coming for nearly 2 hours. The appetizers were a meal in themselves. By

the time the platters of grilled meats arrived, we were all stuffed beyond belief. Of course, nobody turned down dessert when that arrived. The bounty of food and hospitality this first evening of our stay set the tone for the days to follow.

In the next four days, we visited 8 schools—no two of them alike. Some were located on a kibbutz or on a moshav. Some were in the middle of urban residential areas. One was a military boarding school on the Mediterranean. Each offered special programs for youth, such as bilingual Arab/Hebrew preschool, a high school program for students with emotional difficulties, another high school for 'marginalized teenagers' including equestrian therapy, a high school with a focus on biology and ecology (located in a beautiful rural setting), and technology innovation and inventions at the military academy (where students also learned to sail... on the Mediterranean!).

In each school, our delegation was treated like visiting dignitaries. The typical format included an introduction (by key staff and sometimes students), a tour of the facility, and time to observe and interact with the students. Hands down, the time with students was the favorite part of all delegation participants. And our ultimate favorite school, no question, was the high school for the students who felt they didn't fit anywhere else. These students offered the most honest and personal reflection on their school environment. We had face to face speed interviews with a group of a dozen of these students. To a one, they made a point of telling us that their teachers 'see' them and 'look' at them. This was their way of saying that they finally felt as though somebody really cared about them. Powerful!



Sean with students & staff at the Ktzinei Yam naval academy preparatory school, Akko.

Sprinkled into our experience were also presentations and tours to teach us more about Israeli culture and society. The funniest of these was an evening of viewing Israel through commercials. Hilarious! We learned Israeli history through dances representative of the various waves of immigrants spanning the decades. We visited Tzfat and Akko, both times accompanied by incredibly learned and fascinating local guides. We traveled to Rosh HaNikra and the Lebanese border, enjoying a brief walk along the beautiful beach nearby. And, of course, we ate and ate and ate some more.

This event was masterfully designed and implemented by our Partnership region. These same individuals then visited us here in NWI just a few weeks ago, as they hosted a conference at our Federation for our Partnership regions. (If you haven't already heard or seen, it was a huge success, despite the polar vortex.) The world of Partnership just keeps getting smaller.

I would be remiss if I did not add that, in addition to all the above, I also got to have lunch with our wonderful former shaliach Roi Yair,

—CONTINUED ON P. 27

Hate Crimes Legislation: Our Time to Act

by BARBARA WAXMAN

Indiana is one of five states (Arkansas, Georgia, South Carolina and Wyoming) that doesn't have hate/bias crimes legislation. Such legislation would allow judges to enhance criminal sentences when the crime was motivated by bias toward a victim's characteristics, such as: race, ethnicity, religion, national origin, sex, disability, gender identity, and sexual orientation. Similar legislation failed to gain passage in the Indiana General Assembly in 2016, 2017 and 2018.

This year, Indiana Forward, a broad and bipartisan statewide lobbying and marketing campaign, has been established to advocate for passage of this legislation. Members of the

coalition include major state employers, nonprofits, faith-based groups, chambers of commerce, trade groups, colleges, universities and the Indianapolis Jewish Community Relations Council. Governor Eric Holcomb has said that a hate crimes law is one of his top priorities for this legislative session.

At its January meeting, Federation's Board of Directors unanimously voted to join the Indiana Forward coalition and communicate strong support for this legislation to legislators.

As this issue of the Illiana News goes to press, Senate Bill 12 has advanced from the Public Policy Committee (on a 9-1 vote) to the

full Senate. On first reading in the Senate, by a vote of 33-16, the bill was gutted and no longer provides a clear definition and sentence enhancement for hate/bias motivated crimes.

The Indiana General Assembly will adjourn on or before April 29, and much can happen to this proposal along the way. Please consider contacting your legislators to express support for the passage of hate crimes legislation that includes a comprehensive list of victim's characteristics to include race, ethnicity, religion, national origin, sex, disability, gender identity and sexual orientation. You can follow the General Assembly's actions at iga.in.gov. 🌐

Partnership in the Western Galilee



2019 Council of Communities

The impending polar vortex didn't deter our Partnership2Gether delegates from 14 US communities, Budapest, and the Western Galilee who visited us in Munster January 27-29. 🌐



Speakers at Sunday night's opening dinner included Moran Birman, Consul for Public Diplomacy, from the Consulate General of Israel in Chicago.



For two days, the Federation building played host to group discussions and presentations regarding Partnership activities and best practices.



Monday night's Community Meet & Greet dinner took place at the brand-new Mascot Hall of Fame in Whiting. A stellar time was had by all!

My Volunteer Story

by EITAN TORZ



Back in high school, when we got to sophomore year, we had to choose a place to volunteer. It was very clear—you have to volunteer a total of 60 hours to graduate. I found this idea a little bit peculiar since, arguably, volunteering is done voluntarily, not assigned like homework.

That summer, I also joined a youth group organization named “Scientific Leadership” combining instruction

and mentoring with science. The idea was to make science accessible to people in the suburbs of Israel, where data shows us that fewer students choose to take the equivalent of AP math and science classes than in more urban regions like Tel Aviv.

After the summer camp, where we were trained to instruct, mentor and teach, I was offered the opportunity to volunteer in a shelter for kids who had experienced domestic violence. I was uneasy. The Scientific Leadership program had many other placements to offer, and usually you will not go to those kinds of shelters unless you are a second-year instructor. Yet I took the opportunity, thinking that working with kids who

had other challenges besides math or science are the ones who can use our help the most.

Every Thursday, the kids and I would meet. We would try to do many science experiments, explain them, and apply them to our daily lives. We made connections between volcanoes erupting and anger management, between chocolate melting at Valentine’s and phase transition from solid to liquid. Every once in a while a family would leave the shelter, changing the whole situation in class.

By my third year there, I managed a team of instructors, creating an extra training curriculum with social workers to help us learn how to deal

—CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Past Shlichim: Where Are They Now?

ODED FROMOWITZ

Dear NWI Community,

It has been 10 years since I first arrived to NWI for my Shlichut and 8 years since I left. A lot has happened since then...

Shortly after I returned to Israel, I started my BA in Government, Diplomacy and Strategy in the Argov Program at IDC Herzliya. Adi started her second year of a BA in Psychology from IDC as well, and we decided to move in together into a cute small apartment in Hod Hasharon.

We got married in 2013, and after our honeymoon in Thailand I started working for Masa, a joint program of JAFI and the Israeli government, as the director of public relations, while Adi worked as a counselor in Naa’le program in the Mosinon boarding school in Hod Hasharon. At the end of 2014 I got accepted to the Cadets for Local Government program and started my MA in Urban Planning



The Fromowitz family: (left to right) Oded, Mika, Leah, and Adi, with bunny friends.

from the Technion, and Adi started her MA in educational psychology. In 2016 I started working in the Israeli-Arab city of Baqa Al Garbiya, and Adi started her internship in the Educational City Center of Ra’anana.

In January 2019, I got appointed as the CEO of a non-profit organization called Ore to Excellence (www.ore.ngo). Ore is a platform for social

mobility for kids and youth from the Israeli’s social and geographic periphery. Currently, we work in Ashdod, Be’er Sheva and Arad. I aim to expand Ore’s impact to the Western Galilee region.

But... the most important piece of news is that we expanded our family. Leah, our oldest, will be four this upcoming March and Mika, our youngest, will turn two, also in March. They are the true joy of our lives! (Although it is nice sometimes when they are sleeping overnight with their grandparents.)

There is no doubt that I will carry my experience as a Shaliach in NWI for my entire life. Many of you became a family and NWI is my home away from home. Even Leah is always talking about her American grandmothers... and enjoy her Beef Jerky and Garry’s popcorn from time to time. Next time you are coming to visit Israel, don’t forget to give me a call! 🇮🇱

with the kids' experiences and some "dos and don'ts". Yet after my third year there, the shelter did not continue with the program.

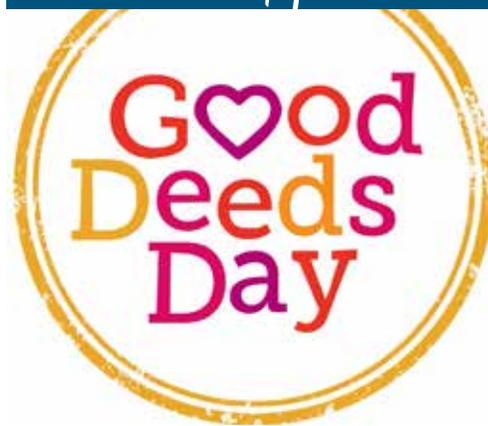
Looking back at this experience that started somewhat as a homework assignment, I believe that I learned more than I taught. It became part of my personality. There is a saying that I like, "Come in to strengthen and come out stronger". I think this is the essence of volunteerism. Of course we all volunteer for many different reasons, not necessarily for our own benefit, but when we give our time and selves to something, we almost always get something back.

Good Deeds Day (יום מעשים טובים) started in Israel in 2007, and became global by 2011. The idea of this day is to make a good deed, together or alone, from a smile to a massive community project. This year, on April 7, our community will also take part in Good Deeds Day! See details at right. 🌍

The Israeli Elections: Who's Who and Why? Sunday, March 10 2:00-3:30pm

Israel's elections for the 21st Knesset are coming up on April 9. Join Eitan for an inside look at the parties, the players, and the issues.

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



April 7, 2019

Good Deeds Day is an international day of volunteering and community service that was launched in Israel in 2007. In Israel, local municipalities, companies, and nonprofit organizations all around the country participate in Good Deeds Day by organizing special activities in their communities, renovating or painting buildings, building community gardens, and volunteering in many other ways for populations in need. Since 2007, millions of people from thousands of businesses and organizations around the globe have joined together every year to volunteer and do good.

MITZVAH FAIR

On Sunday morning, April 7, we will hold a Mitzvah Fair for our community members and students from our Hebrew schools. Please join us at the Federation from 10am to noon to participate in 3 projects:

(1) Assembling **toiletry bags** for donation to our nearby men's mission for the homeless, Hammond City Rescue Mission. We will also write or draw notes and cards to include in the bags.

(2) A **Volunteer Match** that will pair community members who can use various kinds of assistance with others who can help. Turn to p. 15

Good Deeds Day Toiletry Donations

Please bring one or more of the following:

- Bars of soap (full size)
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste (travel sizes)
- Combs
- Shampoo (travel sizes)
- Disposable razors
- Shaving cream (any size)
- Gallon size Ziploc bags

New or gently used:

- Men's socks
- Men's undershirts

for our 2019 Volunteering Survey; please submit and return the form to the Federation by April 7. You can also complete the survey online at federationonline.org/volunteer.

(3) A sneak preview of our plans for a **Community Garden**, to be launched in Summer 2019. We hope to have information about the proposed garden, and offer some initial activities for interested gardeners. See p. 14 for more information on the Community Garden.

As always, we will also be collecting donations for the Federation's Food Pantry, which is open to all residents of Lake and Porter Counties.

The first 50 participants will get a **free Good Deeds Day t-shirt** courtesy of Good-Deeds-Day.org! For more information, and to complete the 2019 Volunteering Survey, please visit federationonline.org/volunteer under "Get Involved" on the Federation website. 🌍

AIDA NOZICK • CONTINUED FROM P. 1

with that aging comes diverse needs. Although we know about some of those needs, such as needing rides to doctor appointments and grocery shopping, there are undoubtedly a lot more unmet needs we don't know about. On the next page is a short survey we are asking you to complete and return to Federation to help us identify those needs and better aid our community.

I believe we can all make a difference, and I really believe the best way to help that happen is to connect good people with good causes that need them. The goal of this survey is twofold: to identify those within our community that can **offer** their time and skills; and those that can **benefit** from those skills. Just to give some examples, we may have seniors that would like light bulbs changed in their homes, need rides

to the grocery store, or are facing computer issues. We may also have those that can give up their time to change those light bulbs, take someone to the store, or answer technology questions. Help us pair you up!

Volunteers should ask themselves some questions. How much time do you have? Are you up for a long-term gig? Or do you want something short and infrequent? Could you donate a certain amount of time each week or month? We have opportunities at all levels; don't feel that you have to commit a lot of time if something small and less demanding suits you better.

Lastly—even if you think you don't have “skills” to share, don't underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word or a listening ear. We all have the power to help others with our presence. 🌍

Food Pantry Needs

Our “Manna Cabana” Federation Food Pantry is always in need of donations.

The items needed most this month are: dry pasta, pasta sauce, and canned tuna.

Monetary donations are also always appreciated and can be made online at: federationonline.org/donate

The Food Pantry at the Jewish Federation is accessible to anyone in the community that is in need. Hours of operation are every Thursday from 1pm-3pm, no appointment required.



SAVE THE DATE
Gardening Make
& Take Class
with Master
Gardener Miki Katz
Sunday, April 28
1:00–4:00pm
Watch for details next issue!

A Community Garden for Federation

by LILY YALOWITZ

As spring approaches and the ground starts to thaw, our thoughts start to turn to fresh fruits and vegetables. This spring, the Jewish Federation of Northwest Indiana has decided to create a community garden. Our idea is to not only provide fresh produce, but to also offer a peaceful and fulfilling retreat for the public. The garden will also give educational opportunities to our JCY campers and KTon Ton students as well as providing fresh produce to the food pantry.

Our garden will require community support in order to eventually

become sustainable. Initial tasks to our garden will include building the raised beds, planting the gardens, and any other additional maintenance that is necessary.

With your help, we hope to raise enough funds and participation to successfully build the garden. We are looking for anyone who is willing to contribute his or her time to the effort. If you are interested in lending a helping hand, either financially or physically, please contact the Federation at (219) 301-0960 or visit federationonline.org/garden for more information. 🌍



2019 Volunteering Survey

Please complete and drop off or mail to: Jewish Federation of Northwest Indiana, 585 Progress Ave., Munster, IN 46321
 You may also fill out this survey online at federationonline.org/volunteer

The goal of this survey is twofold: to identify those within our community who can **offer** their time and skills; and those who can **benefit** from those skills. Just to give some examples:

Maybe you're a senior who needs help around the house with tasks like changing lightbulbs... but could host another person or family for dinner one evening.

Maybe you're a student who needs tutoring in biology, but could visit a lonely senior once a month... or help them update their smartphone.

Maybe you're a professional who could use an occasional babysitter, but can drive someone to Target on your lunch hour.

Maybe you'd like to fulfill the mitzvah of visiting the sick, but don't know how to help or what to say when you get there. (We'll give some basic orientation so you can proceed with confidence.)

Or, maybe you'd like to spend some time behind the scenes at Federation, helping staff members restock the food pantry or get ready for community events.

Help us pair you up with someone who has what you need! We foresee opportunities at all levels of commitment, from long-term gigs to short and infrequent. Please note how often you would be able to offer or use each kind of assistance.

NAME _____ AGE _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY, STATE, ZIP _____
 HOME PHONE _____ CELL PHONE _____
 EMAIL _____

Federation Volunteering: I could help out at Federation...

- once a month twice a month on an occasional basis
 with... Friday office help (answer phone/door) 9-11am 11am-1pm
 Mailings (stuff envelopes, address labels)
 Food pantry restocking Ironing tablecloths
 Other: _____

| Community Volunteering: | I could PROVIDE this help | I could USE this help | How often? | | |
|--|---------------------------|-----------------------|------------|---------|-----------------|
| | | | Weekly | Monthly | Once in a while |
| <i>Please check all that apply!</i> | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| Driving errands (shopping, appointments) | | | | | |
| Hosting/being hosted for a meal | | | | | |
| Cooking and delivering a meal | | | | | |
| Hospital/rehab center visits | | | | | |
| Home visits for seniors/shut-ins | | | | | |
| Tutoring (subject/s: _____) | | | | | |
| Household help, indoor (e.g., change lightbulbs) | | | | | |
| Household help, outdoor (e.g., shoveling) | | | | | |
| Computer/smartphone help | | | | | |
| Babysitting | | | | | |
| <i>Other suggestions we haven't listed?</i> | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |



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The Jewish History of the Indiana Dunes Country, 1830-1950

by TRENT D. PENDLEY

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FOREWORD

This paper was originally intended to be the first of a two-part series on the history of the Jewish community in Hammond, Indiana. The paper covers much of the Jewish presence throughout northwestern Indiana during the pioneer as well as the later nineteenth century period and concludes with the post-WWII era.

The period covered from 1830 through 1950 is one that notes the arrival of the earliest Hoosier settlers arriving into the dunes country south of Lake Michigan, and through the arrival of the railroads that ended the frontier period and a new age that saw the emergence of this area becoming one of the world's most industrialized centers, known as the Calumet Region.

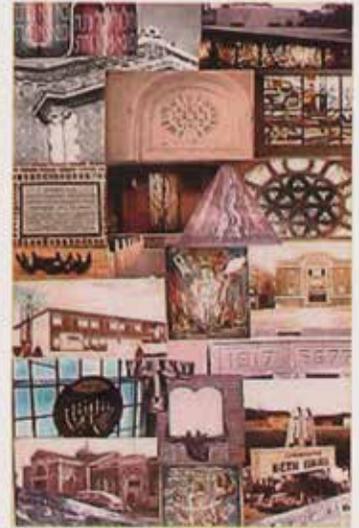
The four burgeoning Calumet Region cities, Hammond, East Chicago, Whiting and Gary, which emerged between the years 1869 and 1906, became the new home for thousands of Eastern European-born Jews who had fled their native lands because of pogroms and other repressions against their well being. The Jews of the shtetl¹ followed the freedom trek of their Sephardic cousins, who literally arrived in America with Columbus to evade the anti-Semitic Spanish and Portuguese expulsions and Inquisitions, and also the second wave

1 Shtetls were the impoverished agricultural hamlets of Eastern Europe that perished in the Holocaust, the Shoah.

and that of the German Jews who gave up on their fatherland when the liberal revolution of 1848 had failed. In America these European Jews found a haven with heretofore-unknown religious and political freedoms as well as educational, communal and other opportunities, and for some there was prosperity as well.

The dunes country of Indiana before 1763 was claimed by New France and off limits to Jews. The polyglot Americans who claimed the land after 1794 were not as xenophobic of Jews as were the French Catholic colonials, but they did evict the Potawatomie who had settled in the area beginning around 1680, and during the 1830s Federal troops destroyed all traces of the natives' civilization. The new American government included their radical Bill of Rights within their new Constitution—a document that set legal precedents for the later Civil Rights Act of 1866 and much later the fair housing laws of 1948 and Fair Housing Act of 1968 that made it illegal to discriminate with real estate, banking and employment based on race, color, religion, or national origin. The Fair Housing Amendment Act of 1988 expanded coverage to include disability and familial status. The Equal Credit Opportunity Act of 1974 protected the most classes in lending including religion. Juxtaposed to the progressive civic laws of the late 20th century, the Roman Catholic Church resolutions from Vatican II launched a new policy towards Jews, forbidding anti-Semitism as of 1966. Yet some Lutheran synods, as late as the writing of this paper, forbid interaction with Jews at formal services; the Missouri Synod forbid interdenominational services with any non-Lutheran. In spite of the evolutions of tolerance and enforcement of legislation (most of the legal climate coming towards the end of

The Jewish History of the
Indiana Dunes Country
1830-1950
By Trent D. Pendley



the period studied for this paper), there have been segments of the contemporary community, which disliked Jews and have barred them from their organizations, clubs and neighborhoods. But generally Jews have been respected like any other citizen, and many local Jews have become elected community leaders.

At the beginning of the twentieth century, only a few of the Calumet Region's Jews owned enough capital to invest in major developments, and some peddled until they could secure sufficient funds to open a "Mom and Pop" establishment. Some already had enough capital to open small shops and also succeeded in building large department stores, and their enterprises helped put their towns on the map. The stores, H. Alschuler Co., Lowenstein's, Rothschild's, Gordon's, Goldblatt's; Kaufman and Wolf; Hirsch, and Levine's were all named after early Jewish merchant princes, and their establishments remained household words for generations. The Block brothers were the most prominent among the small group of entrepreneurs who were instrumental in the Calumet Region's industrialization, because they

—CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

built the Inland Steel Company, a major complex on Lake Michigan's shoreline at Indiana Harbor. On a smaller scale, other industrial employers were the Fox Woolen Mills; Standard Manufacturing; Winer (Stratojac) Manufacturing; JaMar Ruby, Ltd.; Albert Given Company; Arthur Winer Corporation; and the Landmoor Company, all nationally known textile manufacturers. The Metz Furniture Company of Hammond was internationally known for its important line of fine wood furniture. The cinemas that developed in the early years of the 20th century were predominantly owned by Jewish entrepreneurs, and movie palaces were built in each community. Jewish architects such as Walter Ahlschlager from nearby Chicago often designed these movie houses, and some like Henry L. Newhouse² and Alexander L. Levy had also designed important synagogues too, as well as some of the big department stores that would define the urbanscapes of Indiana. Other Jews took less glamorous but sustaining occupations as scrap dealers, and these businessmen fueled the steel mills with their recycled metals. Some of these scrap entrepreneurs managed quite profitably.

Despite the few Jewish merchant princes and the even fewer Jewish Industrial barons, the majority of the turn-of-the 20th century's Jews of the Calumet Region were "greenhorns" from Eastern Europe with a humble social economic status. However, in spite of the communities' modest masses, they did from their early settlement boast a roster of medical doctors, attorneys, and various professionals, and artists too. Although these turn-of-the-century Jewish professionals tended to be of German origins or those whose parents

2 Henry Leopold Newhouse (1874-1929) designed four thousand structures in his lifetime. In northwest Indiana alone he designed stores in Gary for A.J. Kahans, Gordon Brothers as early as 1907, for Kaufman and Wolf in Hammond in 1916 and 1927; The Premier Theatre in Valparaiso in 1920; The Cosmopolitan Theatre in Indiana Harbor in 1920; The Columbia Theatre in Indiana Harbor in 1920; The Tivoli Theater in Michigan City in 1921 and both the Princess Theatre in 1921 and The LaPorte Theatre & Hotel in 1923 in LaPorte.

One of two Merchant Vessels in the fleet of the Inland Steel Company named in honor of family members who were company directors. The *Joseph L. Block* was launched in 1975, joining the Merchant Vessel *Philip D. Block*. (Photo courtesy of Inland Steel.)



had arrived in America a generation or two prior to the coming of the shtetl Jews, and their families had the luxury of time to become 'established.' Both groups had their passion for education and success, and this advancing culture meant that few Jewish families retained a manual working class status beyond the first generation in America. Calumet Jewry was no exception.

The largest concentration of Calumet Jews today, who are, for the most part, third or fourth generation residents, live in Munster, Indiana, an upper middle class bedroom community of Hammond, and also one of the wealthiest suburbs in the greater Chicago metropolitan area. So many Jews converged on Munster during the turbulent and prosperous 1960s and early 1970s that only remnants were left of what Jewry had existed at the older industrial centers. Hammond's Jewish community institutions were re-invigorated with the blossoming of its bedroom suburb on the ancient Glenwood lake ridge along its southern border; although the resident population continued to decline. Today, it is not surprising to find the grandchildren of Jewish pioneers of Hammond, East Chicago, Whiting and Gary, now living along the same streets in Munster, or even more likely finding them married to one another and further integrating the greater community into a more homogeneous one. Alas, most of their well-educated children wandered out

of the state with the continuing Hoosier brain drain exodus.³

The concept for this paper began in 1978 as a class assignment for Ronald D. Cohen, Ph.D., at Indiana University Northwest. A classmate in our seminar on the Calumet Region was assigned to write a report on the Jewish community in Gary. I was to focus on Hammond's Jewry, the latter which has generally been a smaller community with not more than two congregations, one originally Eastern European and Orthodox (eventually Conservative) and the other German and Reform. However, with the drastic change of the Calumet Region's Jewish demography within the last two decades (the majorities moving from Gary to Munster), Hammond's smallness has changed. More ironic still is that even today after the demographic change, only a minority of the local Jewish population resides within the city limits of Hammond.⁴ A majority of

3 The late Hoosier born fashion designer Bill Blass (1922-2002) described his exodus as "ineluctably joining a conga line of Hoosiers escaping for New York or Hollywood; ahead of me was Norman Norell, behind me would be Halston, and somewhere up the line were Cole Porter and Carole Lombard." (*Bare Blass*; New York: Harper Collins; 2002; page 10) Many of the Jewish graduates would only move as far away as Chicago, the city skyline very visible from atop the Indianapolis Boulevard bridges, although others would spread far and wide across the country. Scores have also relocated to the Sunbelt communities.

4 This irony was quite telling in two American Bicentennial Histories published by the Hammond and Munster communities simultaneously and

the greater community, though, holds membership with the two Hammond congregations.⁵

This article being the first comprehensive history of the local Jewish community made it impossible to study only Hammond and disregard the close interdependent ties that this Jewry had with its neighbors, and especially since the new demographics have now integrated the once fragmented Calumet Region Jewries into one: The Hammond-Munster community.⁶ Hence this article became the Jewish history of the Indiana Dunes Country with a special focus on Hammond.

Part One of this paper will give the reader a general history of the late settlement in Indiana's most extreme northwest corner, and details when the pioneer towns developed, as well as why the industrial cities emerged

both excluded any mention of Jewish institutions and/or populations.

5 Temple Beth El sold its Hohman Avenue Synagogue built mid-century and rebuilt another in Munster in 1999. Congregation Beth Israel was also building a new Synagogue in Munster, and the long awaited JCC [sic] opened in 2003 there.

6 This paper was compiled between 1978 and 1982. By this printing in 2003, several articles have appeared on some of the communities within the Calumet Region and the Greater Dunes Country area. Remnants of the older hubs are quite viable especially in Gary's Miller Beach area, and the frontier communities of Valparaiso and Michigan City. The remaining Hammond congregation was also leaving the city for Munster where Temple Beth El had built a new building and the Jewish Federation had built a Jewish Community Center opened in 2003. By 2004 no Jewish institution remained in Hammond other than the cemetery associations.



Details of two maps of northwest Indiana. Lance Trusty's (on the left) illustrates early indigenous trails: the Lake Shore Trail, the Calumet Beach Trail and the Sauk Trail. The contemporary tourist map by Dave Sander of the "Dunes Country" (on the right) illustrates the three upper northwest counties of Indiana (west to east: Lake, Porter and LaPorte), which had all originally been LaPorte County, and maps the modern highways and municipalities.

along the shores of Lake Michigan. Parts Two and Three detail the Jewish origins in the Dunes Country, pioneer settlers and their early mercantile and communal institutions in LaPorte, Michigan City, Valparaiso, Crown Point, and Lowell, as well as at East Chicago, Whiting and Gary. Part Four profiles the Jewish history of Hammond, this town's early Jewish settlers, merchants, and the commercial institutions they built. Part Five outlines the growth of Jewish organizations at Hammond, and Part Six illustrates the biographical sketches of three WWI veterans of Hammond. Part Seven describes Hammond's Jewish growth during the depression and WWII, the local anti-Semitism, the community's war activities, and the Holocaust.

This paper concludes with the post WW II era. There began the 'American Generation,' a period of new growth, consolidation, and a renaissance of Jewish spirit that evolved juxtaposed and because of the emergence of a third Jewish commonwealth in the land of Israel, a period-building boom of several new synagogues in the Calumet Region and a community pride heretofore unknown. 🌍

Trent D. Pendley is a fine jeweler, writer, historian and an advocate for social justice. He is also a gardener, avid reader and collector of fine arts. He is responsible for an Indiana Historical Marker for Pulitzer-winning author Edwin Way Teale in Furnessville.

Nominations Open for 2019 Hoosier Jewish Legend Award

The Indiana Jewish Historical Society (IJHS) invites you to submit nominations for the 2019 Hoosier Jewish Legend Award! Kindly nominate Hoosiers who have created a significant and lasting impact to their profession, faith-based and/or secular community, and the legacy of the role of the Jewish community in Indiana's continuing story. Nominations are due by May 1, and the awards ceremony will take place on Sunday, August 25, 2019 at noon in Carmel, Indiana.

For more information and to download an application form, please visit:

www.ijhs.org/hoosier-legends/

Community Calendar: March-April 2019 / Adar I-II-Nisan 5779

| | SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | שבת |
|---------------|--|---|--|---|---|--|---|
| MAR 3 | 26 Adar I | 4 27 Adar I | 5 28 Adar I | 6 29 Adar I | 7 30 Adar I | 8 1 Adar I | 9 2 Adar I |
| | 10-11am Torah Studies 3-5pm Film Screening & Q+A: <i>The Gate: Dawn of the Bahá'í Faith</i> | 10am Mussar Class (daytime) 10am AFC Social Hour 11am AFC "Page Turners" Book Club: <i>The Story of Beautiful Girl</i> | 10-11am Women's Class 1-2pm Heart to Heart Group with Susan 7-8:30pm Federation Book Club: <i>The Tattooist of Auschwitz</i> | 12-2pm AFC 12-4pm Mah Jongg 7pm Adult B'nei Mitzvah Class 7:30pm JewEL Bar Trivia @ Bridges | ROSH CHODESH ADAR II 1-5pm Mah Jongg 4-8pm Canasta 7pm Mussar Class 8-9:30pm History of the Jews in Turkey | 7:30-9:30pm Shabbat Services | 9:30am-12:30pm Shabbat Services 9:45am-12pm Shabbat Services 10am Bat Mitzvah of Landri Drude |
| MAR 10 | 3 Adar I | 11 4 Adar I | 12 5 Adar I | 13 6 Adar I | 14 7 Adar I | 15 8 Adar I | 16 9 Adar I |
| | Daylight Savings Time Begins: Spring Forward 10-11am Torah Studies 11am-12pm Great Jewish Minds: Joseph Telushkin 1-3pm Sisterhood Wine & Canvas Event 2pm Israeli Elections | 10am AFC Social Hour 11am AFC Music Monday: Musicals Singalong with Jordy Novak | 10-11am Women's Class 1-2pm Heart to Heart Group with Susan 7-8:30pm Women's Service Project: Bra Benefit Packing Party | 12-4:30pm Adult Friendship Club: <i>Million Dollar Quartet</i> , Theater@theCenter 12-4pm Mah Jongg 7pm Adult B'nei Mitzvah Class | 1-5pm Mah Jongg 4-8pm Canasta | 7:30-9:30pm Shabbat Services | 9:30am-12:30pm Shabbat Services 9:45am-12pm Shabbat Services 8-11pm Joyously Jewish: Song & Spirits |
| MAR 17 | 10 Adar I | 18 11 Adar I | 19 12 Adar I | 20 13 Adar I | 21 14 Adar I | 22 15 Adar I | 23 16 Adar I |
| | 10-11am Torah Studies 10am-12pm Community Purim Carnival | 10am Mussar Class (daytime) 10am AFC Social Hour 11am AFC - Downton Abbey, S1 Episode 2 | 10-11am Women's Class 1-2pm Heart to Heart Group with Susan 6-8pm Noar Disability Awareness Activity: "Eating Blind" | 12-2pm AFC 12-4pm Mah Jongg 6-8pm Megillah Reading/Purim Dinner 7pm Adult B'nei Mitzvah Class 7:15-10:15pm Megillah | PURIM 1-5pm Mah Jongg 4-8pm Canasta 5:30-8:30pm Purim Celebration 7pm Mussar Class 9pm Purim After-Party | SHUSHAN PURIM 6-8pm "Purimish" Family Worship Service 6-7:30pm Purim Potluck 7:30-9:30pm Shabbat Services | 9:30am-12:30pm Shabbat Services 9:45am-12pm Shabbat Services & Fruehauf Kiddush 10am Bat Mitzvah of Madeline Evans |
| MAR 24 | 17 Adar I | 25 18 Adar I | 26 19 Adar I | 27 20 Adar II | 28 21 Adar II | 29 22 Adar II | 30 23 Adar II |
| | 10-11am Torah Studies 10am Healing Service | Illiana News: Pesach Issue Content Deadline 10am AFC Social Hour 10am Prime Timers/ AFC Artisan Pizza Making Class, Chicago | 10-11am Women's Class 1-2pm Heart to Heart Group with Susan | 12-2pm Adult Friendship Club 12-4pm Mah Jongg 7pm Adult B'nei Mitzvah Class 7pm Board Meeting | 1-5pm Mah Jongg 4-8pm Canasta | 7:30pm-9:30pm Shabbat Services | 9:30am-12:30pm Shabbat Services 9:45am-12pm Shabbat Services |
| MAR 31 | 24 Adar II | APR 1 25 Adar II | 2 26 Adar II | 3 27 Adar II | 4 28 Adar II | 5 29 Adar II | 6 1 Nisan |
| | 10-11am Torah Studies | 10am Mussar Class (daytime) 10am AFC Social Hour 11am AFC "Page Turners" Book Club: <i>The Paris Architect</i> | 10-11am Women's Class 1-2pm Heart to Heart Group with Susan | 12-2pm Adult Friendship Club 12-4pm Mah Jongg 7pm Adult B'nei Mitzvah Class | 1-5pm Mah Jongg 4-8pm Canasta 7pm Mussar Class 7pm Ma'aseh: Tikun Olam in Action | 6-7:30pm Sisterhood Penny Harvest Potluck 7:30-9:30pm Shabbat Services | 9:30am-12:30pm Shabbat Services 9:45am-12pm Shabbat Services (Sisterhood Shabbat) 10am Bat Mitzvah of Katelyn Marks |
| APR 7 | 2 Nisan | 8 3 Nisan | 9 4 Nisan | 10 5 Nisan | 11 6 Nisan | 12 7 Nisan | 13 8 Nisan |
| | Good Deeds Day 10am GDD Mitzvah Fair 10-11am Torah Studies 11am-12pm Great Jewish Minds: Donniel Hartman 12pm Women's Seder 1-5pm Michigan City Jewish Film Festival | 10am AFC Social Hour 11am AFC Music Monday: Seder Songs Singalong with Mrs. Y | 10-11am Women's Class 1-2pm Heart to Heart Group with Susan 7-8:30pm Federation Book Club: <i>The Only Woman in the Room</i> | 12-2pm Adult Friendship Club 12-4pm Mah Jongg 7pm Adult B'nei Mitzvah Class | 1-5pm Mah Jongg 4-8pm Canasta | 6:30-7:30pm Family Worship Service 7:30-9:30pm Shabbat Services | 9:30am-12:30pm Shabbat Services 9:45am-12pm Shabbat Services 7-10pm Comedy Night: Caryn Bark |
| APR 14 | 9 Nisan | 15 10 Nisan | 16 11 Nisan | 17 12 Nisan | 18 13 Nisan | 19 14 Nisan | 20 15 Nisan |
| | 10-11am Torah Studies 1-4pm JCY Camp Reunion (Stardust Bowl, Dyer) 2pm Interfaith/ Interracial Seder | 10am Mussar Class (daytime) 10am AFC Social Hour 11am AFC - Downton Abbey, S1 Episode 3 | 10-11am Women's Class 11am-2pm Prime Timers Brunch Out 1-2pm Heart to Heart Group with Susan | 12-2pm AFC 12-4pm Mah Jongg 7pm Board Meeting 7pm Adult B'nei Mitzvah Class 7:30pm Board Meeting | 1-5pm Mah Jongg 4-8pm Canasta 7pm Mussar Class | EREV PESACH 7-10pm First Night Seder 7:30-9:30pm Shabbat Services | PESACH I 9:30am-12:30pm Shabbat Services 9:45am-12pm Shabbat Services 5:30pm Community 2nd Night Seder |

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

The Greatest Party Ever

by RABBI ELIEZER ZALMANOV

A typical Purim column usually consists of heralding the heroism of Esther and Mordechai, the role they played in standing up for their people and saving the Jews from impending annihilation. It is often about the lessons we can learn today from these Jewish leaders, and how we should strive to be like them.

But what would Purim be without turning convention on its head and focusing on a different character from the Purim story, the Persian monarch Achashveirosh. The Megillah describes the king as being corrupt and self-absorbed, looking out for his own best interests rather than his subjects'. He was a canny

survivor, knowing when to shift his positions as the tide turned to place himself on the side of the winner.

So while it seems that there isn't much to learn from this unprincipled narcissist, what stands out about him is that he didn't do things half way.

At the beginning of the story we read about a lavish party that he hosted for—get this—180 days! Not a day or even a week or a month, a half a year! And then there is the description of the opulent displays at the party and the high end wines and food he served, and many other luxuries that were literally fit for a king. He did not hold back; he was celebrating his survival and he put it all out there.

In other words, Achashveirosh was all about committing to something and doing it right. Don't settle for second best; always strive to be number one.

Sure, that sounds cliché. But how often in life do we slink back and say, "You know, I think I'll just take it easy today, I won't exert too much effort, I'm good with lesser accomplishments this time around." Even if it's not in those exact words, we sometimes can't help but feel like slowing down.

The fact that the description of this party is included in the Megillah—and right at the beginning no less—must be telling us something. If you're

PURIM LIVE
 MEGILLAH READING FOLLOWED
 BY LIVE MUSIC FROM
 THE 60s AND 70s
 WITH BRUCE (BENYAMIN) HERST

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20
 EVENING SERVICE: 7:15 PM
 MEGILLAH READING: 7:30
 MUSIC AND REFRESHMENTS: 8:15
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going to do something good, you might as well do it right and do it all the way. Let's utilize the time that G-d has given us in this world and make the most out of it, every single day!

And of course, don't forget to RSVP for Chabad's annual Purim celebration, where you can be sure to have a party fit for a king!

Happy Purim! 🌟

The
Jews of Turkey
 TALES OF YORE
 STORIES OF NEW

THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 8:00 PM
 RSVP info@chabadnwind.com

A fascinating talk by
RABBI MENDY CHITRIK
 Rabbi of the Ashkenazi
 community of Turkey

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



GREAT JEWISH MINDS: RABBI JOSEPH TELUSHKIN & THE HISTORY OF HUMOR IN JUDAISM

**Sunday, March 10,
11:00am–12:00pm:** Join
Rabbi Levin to watch
and discuss a lecture
of Rabbi Telushkin.



Telushkin is an American rabbi,
lecturer, and bestselling author of
more than 15 books, including vol-
umes about Jewish ethics, and Jewish
literacy.

DO YOU KNOW HOW TO READ THE MEGILLAH?

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

PURIM CARNIVAL

Sunday, March 17, 10:00 am: Joint
school program with area syna-
gogues. Children are invited to our
super fun celebration! Come in
costume!

PURIM CELEBRATION

Wednesday, March 20, 6:00pm: First,
our Religious School students will
present a short and enjoyable play

depicting the story of Purim, followed
by a Megillah reading, Purim songs,
and a delicious dinner. Wear your
best costume!

Make reservations for the Purim
Celebration by calling the CBI office
by Monday, March 18. Although
there is no charge for this event, we
need to know our numbers so we
can order the food.

PURIM MORNING SERVICE

Thursday, March 21, 8:00 am: Join us
for the Purim morning service and
Megillah reading.

SISTERHOOD SHABBAT

Saturday, April 6, 9:45am: Join us
for a lovely service conducted by
Sisterhood members and stay for
the delicious luncheon afterward. All
members of the congregation and
community are welcome.

GREAT JEWISH MINDS: RABBI DONNIEL HARTMAN

**Sunday, April 7,
11:00am–12:00pm:** Join
Rabbi Levin to watch
and discuss an inter-
view of Rabbi Donniel
Hartman, President



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

PURIM SERVICES
Wednesday, March 20, 6:00pm
Thursday, March 21, 8:00am

of the Shalom Hartman Institute in
Jerusalem. He will discuss his highly
regarded 2016 book, *Putting God
Second: How to Save Religion from
Itself*. He is a prominent essayist,
blogger and lecturer on issues of
Israeli politics, policy, Judaism, and
the Jewish community. He has a
Ph.D. in Jewish philosophy from
Hebrew University, an M.A. in politi-
cal philosophy from NYU, an M.A. in
religion from Temple University, and
Rabbinic ordination from the Shalom
Hartman Institute. 🕍



In the series Great Jewish Minds, we watched and discussed a fascinating interview of Viktor Frankl, author of *Man's Search for Meaning*. Frankl argues that we cannot avoid suffering but we can choose how to cope with it, find meaning in it, and move forward with renewed purpose.



CBI Hebrew school students learn with Mrs. Cynthia Ostrovsky.



The View Onto Montgomery Street

by **MARK B. SPERLING, Ed.D.**

The Winds of Winter sure have been blowing down the streets of Miller Beach and everywhere else in recent weeks. The Polar Vortex, icy road conditions, snow, and high winds have made this winter season a bit more challenging than we've seen in recent years. I'm so glad to report that no one from our Temple has reporting falling or getting stuck in their driveway. For those of us who regularly drive, it certainly has been a challenge to get everywhere we needed to go.

During the past month, Rabbi Damsky began the Chai Mitzvah Education Series discussion with the winter background. The first session focused in upon Rites of Passage for

adults. Those that were present had the opportunity to look at the many events that shape their lives and times. I hope that more members of our Temple family will be able to attend the upcoming sessions of Chai Mitzvah on those weeks when our Rabbi is in town

Trivia Light turned out to be a terrific event. The band, the food, the people, and of course the Trivia were all outstanding. Kudos to Lisa Giglio and Sean Egan for spearheading this wonderful occasion where everyone had fun! Thanks too to all of the many helpers in the kitchen, the bar, the cleanup crew, the technology guru, the judges, and everyone who came out in the wintery weather to warm up. So many were out on the

dance floor that there wasn't much room left.

Following this was an outstanding Shabbat Club morning where participants played Jewish Pictionary, and shared some old Yiddish jokes. Thanks to David Arfa and Cullen Ben-Daniel for providing the main dishes. Our ever popular Andrew Tallackson provided an insight journey to the movies. He made some very interesting observation about movies that are recently out at the theatres. Always an enjoyable evening with Andrew.

Look forward to having you join us at weekly Shabbat Services on Fridays at 7:30 pm and all of our other activities moving forward.

Even though it's a few months from now, I wanted to remind everyone that Temple Israel will once again be hosting the Interfaith Peace & Justice Seder on Sunday, April 28, at 4pm. Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more information! 🌍

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, March 22: Please join Temple Israel for our Purim Potluck! The potluck begins at 6pm, followed by service and reading of the Megillah at 7:30pm. Sisterhood will provide the entree, participants are requested to bring a side dish.

Costumes are suggested but optional. Prizes will be awarded for best costumes! Come hear the entire Megillah, make some noise, and nosh some hamantaschen. Yum!

Questions? Please contact Kelly Farkas at 219-670-1043.

Friday, April 5: Temple Israel Sisterhood invites you to our 2019 Penny Harvest to benefit Sisterhood's events and projects.

Bring your change and enjoy the fun of watching the coin counting and the matches. The soup & chili potluck begins at 6pm, followed by service at 7:30. At 8:30pm join us for the Oneg and the Counting of the Change!

Please RSVP to Wendy Roman at 219-923-5414 or wendyjosh67@yahoo.com to let her know what soup, chili, or side dish you will bring. All are welcome!

Sunday, April 28, 4:00pm: Temple Israel invites you to our annual Interfaith Peace & Justice Seder. The event will feature Rabbi Robin Damsky, musicians from several community congregations, a participatory Seder, and a Passover meal designed to teach, explore, and find

shared meaning in the Exodus from Egypt.

Cost is \$20 for adults, \$10 for students. Children 6 and under are free.

Please RSVP by Wednesday, April 24, to templeisraelmiller@gmail.com or 219-938-5232. Please specify choice of chicken, brisket or vegetarian entree when making your reservation. Cash, check or credit are accepted. Tables of 8 and 10 are available. 🌍





▲ On a cold, snowy weekend in February, ten 5th, 6th, and 7th graders from TBE's religious school traveled north to Wisconsin to attend the annual URJ Small Cities Retreat at Olin Sang Ruby Union Institute ("OSRUI"). They were excited to be joined by our Shaliach Eitan Torz, and Rabbi and Mrs. Zukrow, for a fun-filled and spiritually uplifting weekend. A big Todah Rabah to Federation for "lending" Eitan to us for the weekend. As you can see from the photos above, the kids really enjoyed having him with them and he planned some fun activities for the group.

Sisterhood Wine & Canvas Sunday, March 10 1:00pm

Come paint a dunes scene with an instructor from South Shore Arts. No talent required, but an apron is recommended! Cost: \$25 per person includes all materials and refreshments. RSVP and pre-payment required by March 1, 2019. Make checks payable to Temple Beth-El Sisterhood and bring to the TBE office. Call the office or contact Doris Kennedy with questions: 219-838-3334 or hutchins67@gmail.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS: MARCH

Tuesday, March 5: TBE book discussion at 1:30 pm, in the Bertha and Dan Rabin Library. At that time we will review *News of the World* by Paulette Jiles. Copies of the book are available in the Temple office.

Saturday, March 9:

Landri Drude Bat Mitzvah, 10:00 am

Sunday, March 10:

Sisterhood Wine & Paint event—details below left.

Saturday, March 16: Torah Study 10:00am

Thursday, March 21: Chag Purim Sameach!

Friday, March 22: TBE's renowned annual "Purimish Shabbat" service at 7:30pm—where we get wild and crazy and the choir sings Purimish parodies! Join in on the fun!

Saturday, March 23:

Madeline Evans Bat Mitzvah, 10:00 am



UPCOMING EVENTS: APRIL

Saturday, April 6:

Katelyn Marks Bat Mitzvah, 10:00am

Sunday, April 7:

Sisterhood Seder—formerly known as the "Women's Seder," this is a special celebration of women's role in the Torah and the celebration of Passover. Call the office to reserve your spot and make your payment.

Saturday, April 13: Comedy Night—Mark your calendars and join us to hear local legendary Jewish comedian and creator of "Diary of a Skokie Girl" Caryn Bark. Cocktail hour 7:00pm. Show at 8:00pm. Call the office to reserve your spot and make your payment.

Saturday, April 20: Congregational 2nd Night Seder—celebrate Passover with your TBE friends and family while staying out of the kitchen! Our annual congregational Seder allows you to enjoy a full Pesach meal, Haggadah reading and more. Join us by calling the office to reserve your spot and make your payment. This event often sells out, so make your plans now. 🌟

◀ Miss Shelley's class caters to TBE's youngest students.

▼ Rabbi Zukrow and Jay Gerson discuss tefillin with the 7th and 8th grade class.





WEEKLY FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICES

All are welcome to join us in prayer. Every Friday evening we conduct services welcoming Shabbat. Sinai Temple has been known as the "musical congregation" with 2 guitars and much singing. Rabbi Suzanne Griffel leads services twice a month, with lay-led services the alternative weeks. Friday evening services start at 7:00pm, followed by a social Oneg of wine, challah and home-baked treats.

SATURDAY MORNING CLASSES

When Rabbi Griffel is in town she schedules 2 Saturday morning classes. All are welcome:

9:00am: Short Shabbat Morning Service & Discussion

10:00am: Shabbat Study Group with attendees reviewing the current Torah portion and contributing to topical selections, investigating wide areas of interest. Enjoy informal religious exploration with other curious adults.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOLS

Sinai Temple and Valpo's Temple Israel have joined their religious schools this year. Jill Edwards of Temple Israel heads up the joint program, along with Rabbis Shoshana Feferman & Suzanne Griffel. Students met in Valpo for the first half of the school year and are meeting in Michigan City for the second half of the school year.

ADULT BAR & BAT MITZVAH TRAINING

Rabbi Griffel offers training for adults interested in "finally" celebrating their Bar or Bat Mitzvah. Contact the temple office for details.



▲ The Beautification Committee teams up to clean storage areas



▲ Eitan Torz, community shaliach, presents to the Shabbat Study Group



MARCH SPECIAL EVENTS

Several Wednesdays in March: For its 3rd year, the popular "Up-Beat Off-Beat Film Club" wraps up its winter season by making up for "snow cancellation dates." Future film showings are offered as Pop-Ups. These evenings are specially offered to the "not-snowbirds" in the area. Films are chosen for their eclectic themes, educational topics & ability to elicit a "who knew?" from attendees. Contact the temple office for specifics.

Friday, March 1: A musical Havdalah celebration for members & the community.

Sunday, March 3: The temple's Sisterhood offers a delicious meal & special event.

Friday, March 15: Religious schoolers lead Shabbat evening services.

Saturday, March 16: Guest speaker Judy Shroyer, President of the Michiana Jewish Historical Society, joins the Shabbat Study Group to discuss the area's history.

APRIL SPECIAL EVENTS

Sunday, April 7: The Michigan City Library celebrates its Jewish Film Festival, open to the whole city. This favorite arts and culture gathering has been honoring Jewish heritage for more than 20 years. Two films are shown, with breaks for discussion and cake. The Irving Levin Jewish Cultural Fund of Sinai Temple, the Purdue Northwest Odyssey Arts Series, and the Michigan City Public Library jointly sponsor the festival. Visit mclib.org/events for more information. 🌍

◀ Rabbi Suzanne Griffel (right) with Aida Nozick & Eitan Torz from the Jewish Federation.



Volunteers packed and delivered with smiles at the annual Hot Dog & Salami Sale pickup day on February 5, 2019.

Welcome to 2019!

by JILL EDWARDS

Our combined Sunday School is now meeting at Sinai Temple in Michigan City for the 2nd semester of the school year. We celebrated the move with lots of bright faces on a snowy morning!

The 'littles', as I like to call them, spent time in their new room with their teacher Sue Galanis and new

aide, Anna Lavalley, planting seeds for the spring.

The 'big ones' enjoyed a wonderful Tu B'shvat seder with both Rabbis. They learned about the different fruits and nuts that make this holiday so special.

We look forward to this Spring semester! 🌱



MAXINE ESTHER HYMAN

VALPARAISO—Maxine Esther (Rosenthal) Hyman wove herself a storied life. She was born July 10, 1929 in Chicago and passed away January 2, 2019



in Northwest Indiana at the age of 89. She was preceded in death by her husband, Irving Hyman, parents Ignatz "Louis" Rosenthal and Fannie (Lefkowitz) Rosenthal, and her sister Belle (Rosenthal) Goldfarb.

Maxine will be forever cherished by a tightly-knit family. She is survived by four sons: Richard (Cathy) Hyman, Dennis (Kandi) Hyman, Steven (Marjy) Hyman, and Martyn (Kim) Hyman; and seven grandchildren: Jon (Tiffany) Hyman, Cari (Roger) Clousing, Kassy (Scott) Golden, Diandra (John) Asbaty, Lauren (Mark) Tetrick, Ian (Jen) Hyman, and David (Ally) Hyman. She leaves behind 15 great-grandchildren: Joshua, Jacob, Jessica, Hanna, Kaitlyn, Blaize, Khyler, Madden, Jersey, Henry, William, Fiona, Hailey, Kelsey, and Marshall; and countless other extended family members and friends.

Maxine grew up in Chicago, and graduated from South Shore High School. She was a resident of Dolton, IL and resided for the past 28 years in Valparaiso, IN. She was a business owner of Hyman's Auto Supply & Company. Maxine was an active textile artist: completing a myriad of beautiful knitting and needle-point projects over the course of her lifetime. She also loved reading, traveling, enjoying her koi pond and visiting with family.

Private funeral services were held at Westlawn Cemetery. Memorial contributions in her honor may be made to the American Heart Association or the Jewish Federation of Northwest Indiana. 🕯

Received through February 18, 2018.

BARBARA WAXMAN JEWISH COMMUNITY SERVICES FUND

In memory of Maxine Hyman
Anita Lanagan

In memory of Robert K. Schoon
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In honor of the birth of Helene Elias' great-granddaughter

Barbara Bard
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FOOD PANTRY ENDOWMENT

In memory of Maxine Hyman
Dick & Judie Murawski and Family

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In memory of Claire Rothnagel
Simonne & Alex Kott

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Tribute Card online!
federationonline.org/tributes

SEAN EGAN • PARTNERSHIP CONTINUED FROM P. 10

celebrated Shabbat in the Old City at the Western Wall, took a day trip to Bethlehem, and had a very informative time as a tourist in Tel Aviv. Getting around Israel was so easy and insanely affordable, with trains, buses, and cars as my options. Accommodations were always centrally located and very comfortable. And can I just say once again, that I ate and I ate and I ate some more.

And with that, and the approaching Passover holiday, I can say with all joy and honesty: Next year in Jerusalem. 🕯

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ARTICLE/ADVERTISING DEADLINE AND POLICY: The deadline for Illiana News articles, announcements, photos and advertising is **March 25, 2019** 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 with any errors found in the Illiana News. We aim for accuracy.

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Mishloach Manot for IDF Soldiers

Help us put a smile on the faces of hundreds of IDF soldiers. This year, JFNWI is partnering with the IDF Purim Project and Chayal El Chayal to donate mishloach manot to lone soldiers in the Israeli Defense Force.

The IDF Purim Project is an initiative of Chayal el Chayal to unite children, teens and adults from around the world by sending Mishloach Manot (traditional Purim gift baskets) to soldiers on base across Israel.

Make your donation by completing the form at right. You may also visit www.federationonline.org/IDF to make your donation online. 🌐

Purim 2019: IDF Soldier Mishloach Manot

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