

You and Your Friends are Cordially Invited to the Jewish Federation of Springfield, Illinois

18th Annual Gala Wine Tasting

Saturday, April 29, 2023

6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Maldaner's Restaurant

222 S. 6th Street (upstairs)

\$30 per person

*Sample a wide selection of wines
from around the world while
enjoying gourmet hors d'oeuvres*

*RSVP by Monday, April 24
to the Federation at (217) 787-7223*

ext. 18 or e-mail

rsup@shalomspringfield.org

*Wines provided by
The Corkscrew Wine Emporium*

Sponsors:

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Capitol Blue Print

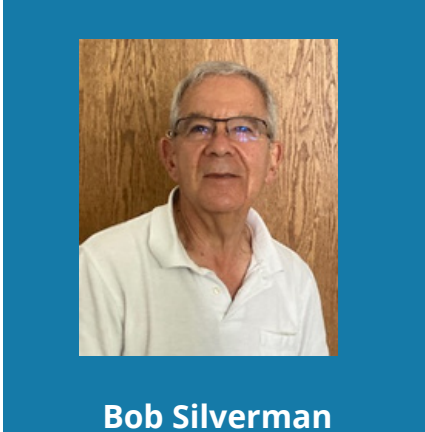
Hanson Professional Services Inc.

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Proceeds to Benefit the Jewish Federation of Springfield, Illinois

MESSAGE

From the President



Bob Silverman

If you're old enough, and many of us are, to remember the Cecil B. DeMille epic, "The Ten Commandments," you'll recall the eerie scene which depicts the 10th Plague, the death of Egypt's first born. The Angel of Death going thru the land, passing over the homes of the Hebrews.

Fact or fiction, myth/legend or reality. Unfortunately, we don't have time travel to go back 3,500 years or more to that time and place. I read somewhere that of all the civilizations comparable in age to the Jews, we are the only people who begin our collective history with stories of slavery and degradation. So perhaps there may be a kernel of truth in the Exodus story.

Like so much else the origins of the Seder are unknown. According to Google, we know that the oldest surviving Haggadah was written in the 10th century CE, over 1,000 years ago. And, Rabbi Yehuda HaNasi who was born in 135 CE, may have created the final order of the Haggadah and the Seder. From the first Haggadah down to the Maxwell House version we grew up with, the story of Passover is the most celebrated of all Jewish Holidays, even among those with little else to connect them to Judaism. Perhaps this is because of all the themes of the holiday, the overriding one is Freedom. The fights to be free from oppression are ancient and modern. It's Hanukkah and Masada. It's Harriet Tubman and Rosa Parks, Dr. King and Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel. Today it's marching against voter suppression and for reproductive rights. It's the citizens of Israel marching to protect their democracy or, perhaps it's President Zelensky and the people of Ukraine fighting against the invaders. Or maybe, it's memories that keep this Holiday so important. Maybe it's the carp swimming in the bathtub, destined to be a plate of gefilta fish, or, maybe, it's that elderly relative who leads the Seder, reading every word on every page. Or, in our lives, scattered across the country, it's a time to reconnect.

Whatever themes are important to you, freedom, memories, or both, Natalie and the Federation Staff, join me in wishing you all the happiest of the Passover season.

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



Community Yom HaShoah Commemoration THROUGH THE GENERATIONS



Monday, April 17, 2023 - 7 pm
Hoogland Center for the Arts
(420 S. Sixth St.)

Presentation by Max Libman
Music by Kamen Petkov

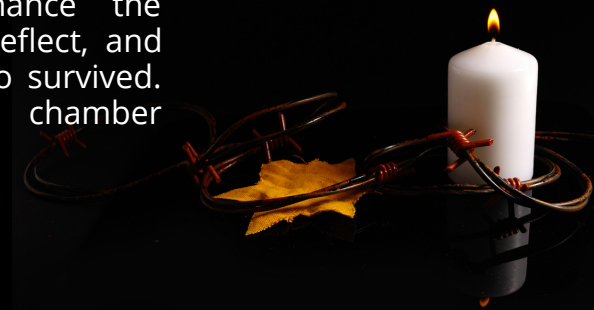


Max Libman

Using the power of film, award-winning young filmmaker, Max Libman, is determined to share his great-grandmother's experiences in Poland during the holocaust. Inspired by his great-grandmother's story, Max hopes to keep Ann's story in our collective memory, and increase awareness and understanding so that we may all strive for a brighter tomorrow. Max Libman's film *Holocaust Documentary: Ann's Story* was honored in a national competition.

Kamen Petkov

Using the language of music, Kamen Petkov, will enhance the commemoration and allow us the opportunity to remember, reflect, and honor those who perished during the Holocaust and those who survived. Kamen Petkov has performed with many orchestras and chamber ensembles in Illinois and throughout the world.



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

Knosh & Knowledge

April 26, 2023 9:30-10:30 AM

The Bird Banding Station at Lincoln Land Community College

With Professor Tony Rothering

*Meet at Bird Banding Station
located behind the baseball fields.
Parking is behind Cass Gym*



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

Happy PASSOVER


May you be blessed with
peace and happiness



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

You save lives and change lives.

If you haven't already, please make your pledge today to the 2022 Jewish Federation of Springfield Annual Campaign. If you have already pledged, thank you.

 **Jewish Federation**
OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

2022 Annual Campaign

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

Signature E-mail (please print clearly)

Date Cell phone # Solicitor

I will pay by check ___ by credit card ___
Online at www.shalomspringfield.org ___
Monthly ___ Quarterly ___ Semi-Annually ___ Annually ___

Gift 1 year ago Gift 2 years ago Gift 3 years ago

Jewish Federation of Springfield, IL

Annual Meeting

Monday, May 15 at 5:30 pm

Save the Date

APRIL 2023

							1 9:30 am TI Service TBS Rabin B'nai Mitzvah 10:30 am Chabad Service
9:30 am Religious School 9:30 am Chabad Tefillin Club 10 am Fed PJ Library Get Together 2 pm Chabad Women's Torah Class 7 pm Joint Temples Learn Together	2	3 12 pm Fed P2G Passover Holiday Toast 7 pm Hadassah Book Club	4	5 12 pm TBS Lunch 'N Learn 8 pm Chabad Seder Erev Passover	6 10:30 am Chabad Service TBS Community Seder Passover Federation Closed	7 5:30 pm TBS Shabbat 6 pm TI Shabbat Service Passover Federation Closed	8 9:30 am TI Service 10 am TBS Torah Study 10:30 am Chabad Service
9:30 am Religious School 2 pm TBS Exec Bd Mtg	9	10 7:30 pm Fed Bd Mtg	11 1 pm TI S'Hd Book Club 2 pm TI S'Hd Exec Mtg	12 12 pm TBS Lunch 'N Learn 7 pm Hadassah Bd Meeting Passover Federation Closed	13 5:30 pm TBS Intro to Judaism 6 pm Chabad Moshiah Meal 7 pm TI Bd Mtg Passover Federation Closed	14 5:30 pm TBS Shabbat 6 pm TI Shabbat	15 9:30 am TI Service 10 am TBS Torah Study 10:30 am Chabad Service
9:30 am Religious School 10:30 am Chabad Service 1 pm TI Annual Mtg 2 pm Chabad Women's Torah Study	16	17 7 pm Fed Yom Hashoah Memorial @ Hoogland	18 6:30 pm SBJE Bd Mtg Yom Hashoah	19 12 pm TBS Lunch 'N Learn 5:30 pm TI S'Hd Taste & Tell	20 5:30 pm TBS Intro to Judaism 7:30 pm Joint Fed/ JCRC Mtg	21 6 pm TI Shabbat 6 pm TBS Shabbat	22 9:30 am TI Service 10 am TBS Torah Study 10:30 am Chabad Service
9:30 am Religious School 2 pm Chabad Women's Torah Study 9:30 am Religious School 2 pm Chabad Women's Torah Study T/joint Temples Trip to STL	23	24	25 7:30 pm TBS Bd Mtg Yom Hazikaron	26 9:30 am Fed Knosh & Knowledge 12 pm TBS Lunch 'N Learn 12:10 pm Fed Exec. Committee Mtg. 6:30 pm Hadassah Donor Yom Ha'atzmaut	27 5:30 pm TBS Intro to Judaism 6 pm Chabad Speaker Event	28 11:30 am Fed JCRC Healthy Foods Dist. 6 pm TI Shabbat 6 pm TBS Shabbat 8 pm Chabad Community Shabbat Dinner	29 9:30 am TI Service 10 am TBS Torah Study 10:30 am Chabad Service 12:30 pm Chabad Community Shabbat Lunch 6 pm Fed Wine Tasting
							30

Partnership2GETHER

One thing leads to another.

Last year one of the books we read in the P2G Book Club was *The Orchard* by the Israeli Writer Yochi Brandes. The book is a drama-infused novelistic rendition of the transition from Temple Judaism to Rabbinic Judaism after the destruction of the Second Temple in 70 CE. The story revolves around the life of Rabbi Akiva. The book was translated into English by Dan Libenson, who served as a guest at the Partnership2Gether Book Club zoom meeting where we discussed that book. Libenson was a lively and informative zoom guest.

Along the way I learned that Libenson, along with Rabbi Lex Rofeberg, hosts a podcast called *Judaism Unbound* and thought I would check it out. I'm glad I did. Each week the podcasters host one or another guest who is involved in an effort to explore alternative, creative approaches to what it means to be Jewish and to engage with Jewish tradition. The range of these explorations is impressive. Recent interviews have included discussions of progressive Hasidism, re-making Jewish weddings, Bob Dylan's Jewishness, and, appropriately enough for this season, confronting carbon "Pharaohs," that is, the petroleum industry.

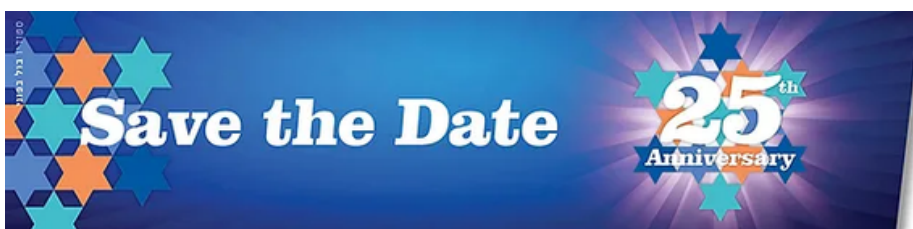
I have learned a great deal from listening to these episodes. One overarching lesson is being reminded that, despite our devotion to core texts, what we consider to be Jewish practice has undergone extensive changes over the centuries. The experiments in Jewishness presented in the podcast are no more radical than, for example, the emergence of Hasidism in the 17th century, the emergence of Kabbalah in the 11th and 12th centuries, or, for that matter, the emergence of rabbinic Judaism in the 1st century CE.

So, in terms of one thing leading to another, had it not been for the discussion of *The Orchard* with its English translator, I would not have learned about the *Judaism Unbound* podcast and in all likelihood I would not have become aware of the rich experimentation and exploration going on right now around the country to create a Judaism for the 21st century.

As much as I admire the way that *Judaism Unbound* has opened my eyes to the varied ways that people are "doing" their Jewishness, I have not heard Libenson and Rofeberg take on the idea of Jewish peoplehood, which is the very heart of our involvement with Partnership2Gether. As I've written in this column previously, the sense of Jewish peoplehood emerges strongly from involvement in Partnership2Gether activities — our ties to people in other Midwest Jewish communities, but especially our ties to the citizens of Israel. Libenson and Rofeberg's website (judaismunbound.com) present their aspiration to foster an "entirely new era of Judaism" and asserts that "we are all artists and Judaism is our medium."

Do you think that following the creative path that Libenson and Rofeberg advise, the Judaism you create would include the idea of Jewish peoplehood?

Harry Berman, *Partnership2GETHER* Chair



November 6-9, 2023

Partnership2GETHER is celebrating our 25th anniversary in the Western Galilee. Contact Nancy Sage for Partnership Missions (travel) information.



**Please Join us - Volunteer to Help
Jewish Community Relations Council
Healthy Foods Distributions**

Interested? Please email sjf@shalomspringfield.org

JCRC sponsors several distributions throughout the year. Volunteer hours generally run from 10:30 am to 1:30 pm on Fridays.

**Friday, April 28, at 11:30 am at
Boys & Girls Club of Central IL
300 South 15th St.**

GOLD SPONSOR

**OUR LOCAL EXPERTS ARE YOUR
LOCAL ADVANTAGE.**



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SAGE NOTES



Nancy Sage
Executive Director

There's something about the spring season that is special. Of course, the weather gets warmer, plants start to grow, the NCAA basketball season ends, the baseball season begins, and the days are longer. I've always smiled when I'm reminded that our clocks "spring forward" at this time of year. This is especially true for Federation this year, as we end our winter hibernation and come together again to partake in a variety of opportunities, programs, and activities. I hope you will join us.

Providing food for people in Springfield who are confronted with food insecurity is nearly synonymous with Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC). This year's first of several Drive-thru Healthy Foods Distributions in partnership with the Central Illinois Food Bank takes place on Friday, March 31st at Temple Israel. On April 28th, JCRC is working with and at Boys & Girls Club of Central Illinois to co-host the Drive-thru Health Foods Distribution. JCRC will sponsor additional distributions in the months to come. We thank Committee Chair Ralph Loewenstein, Volunteer Chair Rick Grimminger, and all who volunteer and help make these distributions possible. If you'd like to add your name to our core of volunteers, please let us know.

We have come together each year for Holocaust Remembrance Day, whether at the Old State Capitol, via Zoom during the Pandemic, or as guests of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum and Library in conjunction with their Stories of Survival exhibit. We commemorate the Holocaust to remember the six million Jews and the millions who suffered persecution and death at the hands of the Nazis; to honor those who lived through the Holocaust and who bore witness to its horrors; and, to acknowledge the indelible imprint the Holocaust left on their children and the next generations. This year, we will see the Holocaust through the eyes of Max Libman, a high school sophomore, who since seventh grade, took on the responsibility for sharing his great grandmother's Holocaust story, and we will listen to violin music played by Kamen Petrov. The commemoration will take place on Monday, April 17th at 7:00 pm at Hoogland Center for the Arts.

At April's end, we are bringing back Federation's Gala Wine Tasting, scheduled for Saturday, April 29th at 6:00 pm at Maldaner's. Thanks to Ted LeBlang, the event chair, and to Pam LeBlang, who are planning a fun evening with delicious hors d'oeuvres, and a big variety of wines to taste. When you order the bottles of wine that please your palate, The Corkscrew generously gives five percent of the proceeds from your purchase to the Federation.

As I write, details are falling into place for the following, so please save the dates:

- We will celebrate the installation of the Rosenwald Mural and the National Park Foundation's grant awarded to the Lincoln Presidential Foundation to design a Julius Rosenwald exhibit in the Rosenwald Home on the Abraham Lincoln Historic Park on Wednesday, May 3 at 5:30 p.m.
- SCN District Security Director Bevan Stauffer and, SCN National Training and Exercise Advisor Stuart Frisch will be featured speakers on community security and LiveSecure program at Federation's Annual Meeting on Monday, May 15th at 5:30 pm and on Tuesday, May 16th, they will conduct a security training session for the community.
- Four Thursdays in June Federation's Film Series returns featuring movies of Jewish interest not readily available in Springfield or from a streaming service.

SAGE NOTES

CONTINUED



The phrase “all of these and more” comes to mind, as I would be remiss if I failed to write about Federation’s monthly programs: PJ Playdate for preschoolers and their families to share a story, a snack and reading a PJ Library book together and Knosh & Knowledge a program designed for and by active retirees according to their interests from field trips to featured speakers on a variety of topics.

Bottom line, serving you is what Federation is and what Federation does. Programs with purpose that connect us (including having fun) are part of how we serve. We are looking forward to seeing you.

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We are grateful to Eli Goodman, MD for fulfilling his LIFE & LEGACY™ 2017 promise with his most generous gift to the Federation’s Legacy (endowment) fund. Eli fondly remembers when Len Lieberman, of blessed memory, first talked with him about making a LIFE & LEGACY™ commitment. Len impressed upon him the importance of legacy giving as a way to benefit generations to come. It’s with that intention that Eli has dedicated his legacy gift in Len’s memory to the Hexter Fund.

The LIFE & LEGACY™ program and partnership with the Harold Grinspoon Foundation lasted only two years, its impact on this community continues as does the importance of legacy giving. Legacy giving helps ensure the future of Jewish traditions and organizations in Springfield.

Notes 

MAZEL TOV

TO:
Greg & Lelsie Sgro, on the marriage of
their son Nicholas & Alisa Sgro.

THANK YOU

PJ Library: Regan Marks & Kayla Morrison
Knosh & Knowledge: Mark Rabin, for
arranging the March event.

CONDOLENCES

WE MOURN THE PASSING OF:

James (Jim) Skube
Brother of Mary Jo Wasser

May his memory endure as a blessing.



Save the Date

Wednesday., May 3rd at 5:30 pm

**The Mural, the Grant & Julius Rosenwald
Rosenwald Initiative
Lincoln Presidential Foundation
Jewish Federation of Springfield, IL
Details to Follow**

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

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

Feuer-Brozgold Legacy Fund



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LEGACY GIFTS



Hexter Fund

In Memory of:

Opal & Barbara, from Nathan Foulks

Community Yom HaShoah
Commemoration
THROUGH THE GENERATIONS

Monday, April 17, 2023
7:00 pm

Hoogland Center for the Arts
420 S. Sixth St.

RSVP to rsvp@shalomspringfield.org
or 217.787.7223

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