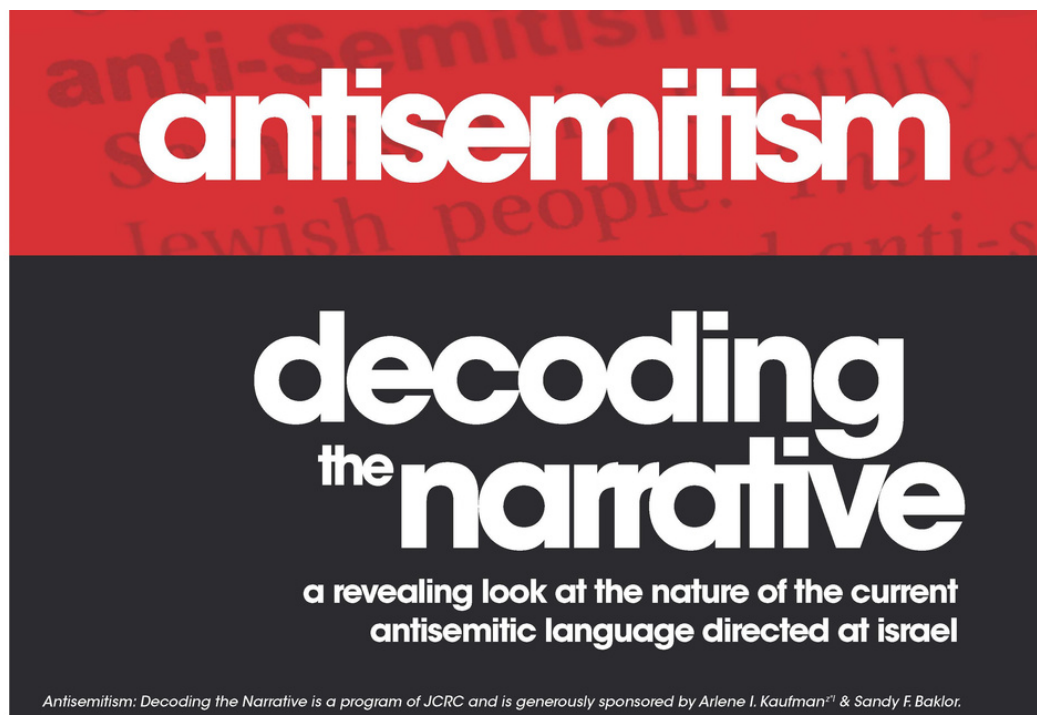




A New Zoom presentation by Josephine Gon, Vice President Jewish Community Relations Council, Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2023

7 PM via Zoom



Antisemitism: Decoding the Narrative is a program of JCRC and is generously sponsored by Arlene I. KaufmanTM & Sandy F. Baklor.

Antisemitism: Decoding the Narrative exposes the empty rhetoric and false arguments being used to demonize and delegitimize the state of Israel and, by extension, Jews worldwide.

Decoding the Narrative will help you:

- Understand the nature of the antisemitic narrative directed at Israel
- Identify the strategies behind the narrative and the true intentions of those who spread it
- Know how to respond to this rhetoric

jewishpb.org/jcrcblog



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[http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?
llr=l56u4yjab&oeidk=a07ejmca97pebd
a47d6](http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=l56u4yjab&oeidk=a07ejmca97pebd a47d6)

or call 217-787-7223 ext. 18

MESSAGE

From the President



From a Jewish perspective not much happens in February, (at least this year). It's kind of a blah month; it's cold, gray, snowy; except for Tu B'shvat, there are no holidays or special days or foods to enjoy.

Of course, there is Ground Hog Day, (I can never remember if we want him to see his shadow or not). There's that St. Valentine's Day thing, (my son calls it a Hallmark Holiday), and many people consider Super Bowl Sunday to be an extremely spiritual event. O, yes, it's also Natalie's Birthday.

But Jewishly not so much. That doesn't mean that February slipped by without some impact on the Jewish world. So, I googled Jewish History, February, and found some interesting tidbits. Here are a few, the good, bad, and ugly:

- 02/01/2003 – Shuttle Columbia Disaster, Israeli Ilan Ramon killed – sad;
- 02/02/1925 – 1st professional fight of Jewish Boxer Jackie Fields;
- 02/04/1938 – Hitler assumes command of German Army – bad;
- 02/05/1840 – Suspicious death leads to Damascus Affair, Blood Libel – really bad;
- 02/06/1943 – Jews of Salonika, Greece forced to wear Yellow Star – bad;
- 02/07/1569 - King Phillip II decrees Jewish Inquisition in Peru – bad;
- 02/08/1940 – Nazis announce order establishing Lodz Ghetto – really bad;
- 02/10/1950 – Birthday of Olympian Mark Spitz;
- 02/11/1986 – Refusenik Natan Sharansky arrives in Israel – good;
- 02/13/1945 – Soviets liberate Gross-Rosen Concentration Camp – good;
- 02/14/1949 – Israeli Knesset convenes for Inaugural Session;
- 02/15/1905 – Birthday of composer Harold Arlen;
- 02/17/1965 – Birthday of movie director Michael Bay;
- 02/19/2009 – Secret mission brings Yemenite Jews to Israel – really good;
- 02/20/1799 – Napoleon's Army begins conquest of Palestine;
- 02/21/1980 – Egypt opens Embassy in Tel Aviv – good;
- 02/23/1913 – Solomon Schechter raises call for United Synagogue – good;
- 02/24/1920 – Nazi Parry holds first public rally in Germany – really bad;
- 02/25/1976 – Birthday of actress Rashida Jones;
- 02/27/1928 – Birthday of Israeli soldier and politician Ariel Sharon;
- 02/28/1942 – Birthday of Dorit Beinisch, 1st female Israeli Supreme Court President.

Regardless of how you're going to spend the month, relaxing in Florida, Scottsdale or Palm Springs; waiting for Spring Training; watching for the Ground Hog; buying roses for your sweetheart; or congregating for Super Bowl Sunday, remember that Spring is coming, with Purim and Pesach in sight.

Stay healthy and safe, and, if you're in need, Federation is here for you, and for good.

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

Knosh & Knowledge

February 22, 2023 10 AM

Curator Tour

Growing Up Gen X Illinois State Museum

***NOTE SPECIAL START
TIME 10 am**



RSVP by Monday, Feb. 20,
to (217) 787-7223 x 18
or rsvp@shalomspringfield.org

Save the Date

GALA WINE TASTING

APRIL 29, 2023

6 pm

MALDANER'S



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.



2022 Annual Campaign

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

Signature

E-mail (please print clearly)

Date

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I will pay by check ___ by credit card ___

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FEBRUARY 2023

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|---|----|--|---|---|---|--|--|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |
| | | | 7:30 pm Fed Bd Mtg | 5:30 pm TBS Intro to Judaism | 1:30 pm Fed P2G Book Club Pre-Discussion 5:30 pm TBS Shabbat Service 6 pm TI Zoom Shabbat Service | 9:30 am TI Service In Person 10 am TBS Torah Study 10:30 am Chabad Service | |
| 9:30 am Religious School 9:30 am Chabad Tefillin Club 12 pm Fed P2G Book Club 2 pm Chabad Women's Torah Class | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| | | 12 pm Chabad Women's Lunch & Learn 7 pm Hadassah Book Club Tu B'Shvat | | 7 pm Hadassah Bd Mtg | 5:30 pm TBS Intro to Judaism 7 pm TI Bd Mtg | 5:30 pm TBS Shabbat Service & Dinner 6 pm TI Zoom Shabbat Service | 9:30 am TI Zoom Service 10 am TBS Torah Study 10:30 am Chabad Service |
| | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 9:30 am Religious School 10 am Fed PJ Library Get Together 12 pm TBS S'Hd Mtg 2 pm TBS Exec Bd Mtg | | | 1 pm TI S'Hd Book Club 2 pm TI S'Hd Exec Mtg | 11 am JDAD Kickoff 12 pm TBS Lunch 'N Learn T/TI S'Hd Activity | 5:30 pm TBS Intro to Judaism 6 pm TBS Hey You Ladies Group | 6 pm TI Zoom Shabbat Service 6 pm TBS Shabbat Service | 9:30 am TI Service In Person 10 am TBS Torah Study 10:30 am Chabad Service |
| | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 9:30 am Religious School 2 pm Chabad Women's Torah Study | | 7 pm JCRC/Hadassah Zoom Program | 6:30 pm SBJE Bd Mtg | 10 am Fed Knosh & Knowledge 12 pm TBS Lunch 'N Learn 12:10 pm Fed Exec. Committee Mtg. | 5:30 pm TBS Intro to Judaism | 6 pm TI Zoom Shabbat Service 6pm TBS Shabbat Service | 9:30 am TI Zoom Service 10 am TBS Torah Study 10:30 am Chabad Service |
| | 26 | 27 | 28 | | | | |
| 9:30 am Religious School 2 pm Chabad Women's Torah Study 7 pm Joint Temples Learn Together | | | 7 pm TBS Bd Mtg | | | | |



Partnership2GETHER

relationships among 17 Midwestern Jewish communities, the Jewish community of Budapest, and the Western Galilee region of Israel. It is one of 43 Partnerships organized by the Jewish Agency for Israel. I have written previously about the high quality programming offered by the Partnership committees - - programs in the arts, education, medicine, literature, personal history and so on -- all under the overarching theme of Jewish peoplehood.

Our involvement with Partnership is supported the Federation Board and underwritten by your contributions to the Jewish Federation of Springfield.

What I realized in reviewing my 2022 diary was what you might call a bonus benefit of our affiliation with Partnership2Gether. The Partnership not only creates closer relationships with our friends in the Western Galilee, it also enables us to take advantage -- typically via zoom -- of programming sponsored by the other Midwestern partnership communities. Some examples:

Back in February 2022, under the auspices of the Schwalb Center, the Omaha Jewish community arranged for a lecture by Northwestern University professor Eugene Kontrovich. Entitled "3 Blood Libels" Professor Kontrovich made a compelling case for the continuity between the medieval accusations about Jews using the blood of Christians in the preparation of matzah and contemporary anti-Semitic accusations against Israel.

In November 2022, our Partnership friends in Buffalo invited us to listen in on a most informative and timely presentation by Buffalo JCC staff member Gon Erez on the Israeli political system. This lecture was exceedingly helpful in clarifying how the small ultra- orthodox parties could be able to exercise so much power in the new government.

In December 2022, Miriam Marcus, who is active in the Northwest Indiana Federation let those of us in the P2G Book Club know about a lecture at Columbia University's Institute for Israel and Jewish Studies being delivered by novelist Dara Horn. In the book club we had read Horn's powerful novel "A Guide for the Perplexed." Her lecture on Yiddish storytelling was insightful and entertaining.

In January 2023, the Northwest Indiana Federation invited us to participate in a zoom session with two survivors of the 1976 Entebbe hostage-taking. Their experience was harrowing but, thanks to the heroic IDF rescue operation, they escaped unharmed.

These opportunities and others publicized by Partnership member communities are above and beyond those developed by the Partnership per se and are an indication of the way that Partnership fosters ties among Jewish communities within the United States, as well as internationally.

Harry Berman, *Partnership@GETHER Chair*

SAGE NOTES



Nancy Sage
Executive Director

I am pleased on so many levels that Hadassah and JCRC (Jewish Community Relations Council) are co-sponsoring "Antisemitism: Decoding the Narrative" with Josephine (aka "Jo") Gon on Monday, February 20th at 7:00 pm via zoom. This is a new presentation, different from Jo's presentation last year that received excellent reviews. I thank Hadassah and JCRC for honoring what has evolved so nicely into an annual tradition, presenting a joint program on a timely topic.

Antisemitism has always been a concern for Jews. The recent rise of antisemitism heightens our awareness and presents the question: How do we combat antisemitism? Last year's two very public local incidents of antisemitism have brought this to the forefront in Springfield. One involved a high school student who was prosecuted for a hate crime and the other involved a now former Springfield police officer who posted hateful antisemitic, racist, and anti-LGBTQ comments on twitter.

Springfield's JCRC is said to have been founded to fight antisemitism that prevented local Jews from employment at the local Illinois Bell Telephone Company office. This legacy and responsibility are taken very seriously and pursued in our continuing efforts to build alliances and connections within the greater Springfield community and develop initiatives that foster understanding and trust. Fighting antisemitism is something we do organizationally as we represent our Jewish community in meetings, on task forces, and in interfaith, multi-racial and multi-ethnic gatherings. It is also what we do as individuals on a day-to-day basis by forging relationships that build understanding, whether bringing friends to services, discussing the Holocaust, explaining Judaism, or calling out and reporting antisemitism.

As a result of our efforts to forge friendships and alliances in the community, organizations including NAACP and Greater Springfield Interfaith Association (GSIA) and their members have stood with us in solidarity condemning antisemitism and hate. I would be remiss if I failed to acknowledge Chief Ken Scarlette of the Springfield Police Department, States Attorney Dan Wright, and District 186 Superintendent Jennifer Gill, all of whom, as swiftly and as transparently as possible, addressed the incidents of antisemitism that confronted Springfield this past year. The fight against antisemitism and hate is a continuing effort and an ongoing commitment on the part of Federation, JCRC and our allies, partners, and you.

Springfield Police Department Investigation and Independent Assessment of Sangamon County State's Attorney reports of the former police officer can be found here:

[Springfield Police Department - 584: Final Report](#)

[Independent Assessment of Sangamon County State's Attorney](#)

PJ LIBRARY PLAY DATE



The Jewish Agency for Israel has signed an agreement with the Israeli government to expand Amigour, their groundbreaking Social Housing Initiative, to build an additional 3,000 apartments for Israel's most vulnerable populations, including the elderly (many of whom are Holocaust survivors), new immigrants, and single-parent families. This expansion builds on the first stage of the initiative, which was launched in 2016, to construct 2,650 apartments. The new apartments will be located on properties owned by The Jewish Agency and its partners throughout Israel, including the Jewish Federations of North America. For more, <https://www.jewishagency.org/amigour/>



MAZEL TOV

TO:

Pat & Nancy Chesley, on the birth of their grandson, Max Dylan Carroll. He is the son of Karen Chesley and Jason Carroll.

Bob Roth & Sharon Star, on the engagement of daughter, Sammy Roth, to Brad Defreitas.

THANK YOU

PJ Library: Regan Marks & Kayla Morrison

LEGACY GIFTS



Hexter Fund

In Memory of:

Pearl Davis, from Harry & Deborah Berman

In Honor of:

Harry Berman, from Ted & Pam LeBlang

Jewish Disability Advocacy Day
Raise Your Voice.
February 15, 2023 • Noon ET

Join us on **February 15th** for **Jewish Disability Advocacy Day** | Jewish Together

www.jewishtogether.org

<https://www.jewishtogether.org/jdad-2023>



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