

VOL. 250 KISLEV 5785 | FEBRUARY 2025

# SHALOM SPRINGFIELD

JEWISH FEDERATION OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS



**Jewish Federation**  
of Springfield, IL

Wendy Evans-Terry - Editor

WE'RE STILL HERE...



WITH SOME ADJUSTMENTS



**Karen Westbrook**

# Message From the President

On behalf of the Board, I am informing you that we have accepted Cassidy Oody's resignation. Due to an unfortunate set of circumstances, Cassidy resigned due to health and family-related concerns that required her to return to Florida. In the few days I worked with Cassidy, I saw so much possibility for the Federation.

I have agreed to continue as the volunteer in the "Acting" position to provide the Federation with the time to resume the search for a new executive director and a training period. You have fantastic support from the Board. Each person and every member are stepping up to help keep our organization operating smoothly. Wendy and Betsy are continuing in their roles.

Please be assured that the Federation is in good hands. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns at 217.787.7223.

Respectfully,

Karen Westbrook  
President

---

Happy and Healthy New Year to all. I know this greeting is a little late, however it is still very heartfelt. Several of you have mentioned that you missed the newsletters in December and January. No, you didn't. Frankly, I couldn't get my act together with the dual role of president and acting executive director. We are back rolling in the right direction.

I am saddened to announce that Cassidy Oody has resigned from her position as Executive Director. Unfortunately, she has had to return to Florida due to family and health issues. We wish her all the best. During our few days working together, I saw a talented person with a bright future. I am sorry we will not get to see her blossom in an executive position. The Board will immediately begin the search to fill the position. Thank you to the people who have reached out to help fill any voids as we move forward.

February is typically a slow month at Federation. As much as we try to plan, weather is always an issue. JCRC and Hadassah are hosting a zoom presentation on March 12th. Jo Gon is the featured presenter. You will be receiving registration information via email. Please be sure to register so you are not stuck in the waiting room.

April will follow with a number of holidays and our annual Yom Hashoah Remembrance Program. Lisa GoldbergBelle will be assuming the chairmanship of the Wine Tasting event, scheduled for May 3rd. Please mark it on your calendar. Lisa has great ideas for the evening. The annual meeting will also be scheduled in May. And of course, the film festival will follow in June.

Be on the lookout for more details about all of these activities.

Stay warm! See you soon.

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

# Knosh & Knowledge

**Wednesday, February 26, 2025**  
**9:30 am**



## **International Diplomacy - What It Is, How It Is Done, and Why It Matters.**

**A conversation with retired Foreign Service Officer  
Kathy Johnson**

**At the  
Federation Office 9:30 - 10:30**

**RSVP by Mon., February 24,  
to (217) 787-7223 ext. 4  
or [rsvp@shalomspringfield.org](mailto:rsvp@shalomspringfield.org)**



## **MISHLOACH MANOT for IDF SOLDIERS**

**Purim is coming!** Send *mishloach manot* (gifts of food) to IDF soldiers through Western Galilee. Deadline: March 1.

Send soldiers in reserves a Mishloach Manot package for Purim, and support Galilee small businesses. We will put together a loving Mishloach Manot package with treats and goodies, according to the Jewish custom. All products are handmade, Kosher, and produced by local small businesses in the Galilee and beautifully packaged and will be delivered by Purim Eve to IDF soldiers. A greeting for a Chag Purim Sameach! and thank you for your service, will be added to the package.

### **Each package includes:**

- 3 Hamantaschen of mixed flavors.
- 1 Package of Grissini crispy breadsticks.
- 1 Can of Malka Beer (assorted flavors)
- 1 Lip balm stick.

Deadline of March 1st to purchase. Click [here](https://united.westgalil.org.il/en/product/mishloach-manot-for-a-soldier/) to purchase or go to <https://united.westgalil.org.il/en/product/mishloach-manot-for-a-soldier/>

**\$20**



# FEBRUARY 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
						1  9:30 am TI Service 10:30 am Chabad Service
2  9:30 am SBJE Religious School	3  7 pm Hadassah Book Club	4	5  7 pm Fed. Bd Mtg 7 pm Chabad Class	6  12:30 pm Chabad Lunch & Learn	7  5:30 pm TBS Service 6 pm TI Zoom Service	8  9:30 am TI Service 10:30 am Chabad Service
9  9:30 am SBJE Religious School 12 pm Fed PJ Playdate 2 pm TBS Exec. Bd. Meeting	10	11  1 pm TI S'Hd Book Club 2 pm TI S'Hd Exec. Bd Mtg	12  7 pm Hadassah Gen Mtg 7 pm Chabad Class	13  12:30 pm Chabad Lunch & Learn 7 pm TI Bd Mtg	14  5:30 pm TBS Service 6 pm TI Zoom Service	15  9:30 am TI Service 10:30 am Chabad Service
16	17	18  7 pm SBJE Bd Mtg	19  7 pm Chabad Class	20  12:30 pm Chabad Lunch & Learn 7 pm Fed JCRC Mtg	21  6 pm TI Zoom Service 6 pm TBS Service	22  9:30 am TI Service 10:30 am Chabad Service
23  9:30 am SBJE Religious School	24  7 pm Fed Exec Comm. Mtg	25  7 pm TBS Bd Mtg	26  9:30 am Fed Knosh & Knowledge 7 Chabad Class 7 pm Hadassah Bd Mtg	27  12:30 pm Chabad Lunch & Learn	28  6 pm TI Service 6 pm TBS Service	

# PROPAGANDA WAR AGAINST ISRAEL: 21ST CENTURY BLOOD LIBELS

Wednesday, March 12, 2025

7 p.m. CT VIA Zoom

To Register, [CLICK HERE](#)

or email [rsvp@shalomspringfield.org](mailto:rsvp@shalomspringfield.org) or call  
217.787.7223 ext. 4

paideuein, to teach  
**prop·a·gan·da** (prɒp'ə  
tion of a doctrine or caus  
and interests of its prop  
or opponents  
propa

This presentation will explore the post October 7 global antisemitism and explain why this assault on Israel is the latest blood libels directed at the Jewish people. Join together for this virtual event aimed at equipping you to identify today's antisemitism.

---

**JOSEPHINE GON**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, PALM BEACH CENTER TO COMBAT  
ANTISEMITISM & HATRED AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS



# GOLD SPONSOR



Member  
FDIC

**MAKE THE  
BOLD MOVE**  
to a local bank  
*invested* in our  
community.

# BOS

bankwithBOS.com

## Wildfire Crisis Relief - Jewish Federation Los Angeles



In response to the devastating fires impacting Los Angeles, the Jewish community has mobilized to provide essential resources, including mental health support, warm meals, shelter, and space for displaced individuals, families, and institutions.

[https://www.jewishla.org/wildfire-crisis-relief/#donation\\_form](https://www.jewishla.org/wildfire-crisis-relief/#donation_form)

**AS ONE, WE SECURE, SUPPORT, RESPOND, ENGAGE.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby pledge to support the Annual Campaign with the above gift. I will pay my pledge by  
by \_\_\_ Check \_\_\_ by Credit Card  
or online at [www.shalomspringfield.org](http://www.shalomspringfield.org).

**Pledge Amount** \_\_\_\_\_

Monthly\_\_\_ Quarterly\_\_\_ Semi-Annually\_\_\_  
Annually\_\_\_



Call Our  
Number  
217-787-7223

1999 Wabash Ave., Suite 206  
Springfield, IL 62704

## Campaign Report

By Barry Seidman

My Campaign Co-Chair, Rémi Benichou, and I are very happy to report on the progress of our 2024 Campaign. As you may remember, we kicked off the Campaign with a wonderful evening in late October with a tribute to Nancy Sage, and very relevant remarks from Jo Gon on the state of the Jewish people around the world. Because of the immediate response from attendees that evening, along with many other Federation members who have come forward with pledges, we can report that as we near the end of Campaign, we have already surpassed last year's total amount pledged. This success speaks to the commitment and resolve of our community, and we thank each and every one of you.

While we soon will be wrapping up this Campaign, there is always time to pledge if you haven't done so already. Please know that every dollar given is going towards vital needs both here at home and around the world. Once again, thank you.

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

GOLD SPONSOR

Bank of Springfield, [www.bankofspringfield.com](http://www.bankofspringfield.com)

(217) 529-5555

Feuer-Brozgold Legacy Fund

*Save the Date*

20th Annual

**Wine Tasting  
Event**

**MAY 3, 2025  
MALDANER'S  
6 P.M.**

Welcoming  
your new host

*Lisa Goldberg Belle*

# Time to Think About Summer Camp!



## CAMP BEN FRANKEL

Since 1949, our overnight camp has been the perfect place for children looking for a Jewish experience that is welcoming and fun. Campers rave about the high-quality counselors and the variety and quality of activities. Parents trust the professional leadership and love seeing the joy and growth that their children experience after a summer at CBF.

**We Live Jewishly.** We celebrate being Jewish and help every camper, from any Jewish background, to discover joy and meaning in their Jewish identity.

**We Are Kind and Inclusive.** When our community members feel truly safe, accepted, and loved – regardless of background – lifelong friendships can blossom.

**We Develop Leaders.** We believe that the quality of our counselors is the single most important element to ensure that our campers thrive. We go to great lengths to recruit, train, and support counselors who can lead their campers to build lifelong friendships.

<https://campbenfrankel.org>

## CAMP OSRUI

Camp is fun! Located in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin, our campers enjoy engaging activities and programs, develop life-long friendships, and live with a super-star staff that acts as role models, living Jewish values-not just teaching them. We know they'll take



these values home with them at summer's end. Our open and accepting environment allows each of our individual campers to form incredible bonds together and to be the best versions of themselves. Our programs and camp traditions create an outstanding environment for our camp community to immerse themselves in Reform Jewish traditions.

We are committed to building a vibrant community rooted in Jewish values and bringing the transformative power of Jewish summer camp to every child and family who come through our gates. From our policies to our programs and camp norms, we strive to reflect the URJ's and our camp's core values.

<https://osrui.org>



## JCC CAMP CHI

**WE PUT A LOT OF THOUGHT INTO WHAT WE DO.** With so many summer programs for kids available nowadays, we are committed to ensuring that Camp Chi is always exceptional. This starts with a strong foundation that distinguishes the Chi experience and is mindful about how to provide the best possible summer filled with outrageous fun and measurable growth for kids.

**IT'S ALL ABOUT CAMPER CARE.** We believe everything that happens at Camp Chi, whether it is a big success or a seemingly small moment in time, presents an opportunity to provide exceptional care for campers. It's this philosophy that propels us to create an environment where each child can thrive socially and benefit from individualized support and attention. Our entire staff is committed to ensuring the physical safety, emotional stability and social well-being of all campers. This approach to Camper Care truly sets Camp Chi apart from other camps and children's programs.

<https://campchi.jccchicago.org>



## CAMPERSHIPS AVAILABLE

Camperships are now available for Jewish overnight camps through the Joni A. Wolfson Campership Fund. Please contact the Federation office at [executivedirector@shalomspringfield.org](mailto:executivedirector@shalomspringfield.org) to request an application today!

*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.*



## MAZEL TOV

### To:

**Jason and Adrienne Worker**, on their marriage.  
Parents are Wayne & Cherrie Worker.

**Rabbi Mendy & Sara Turen**, on the birth of their daughter, Zelda.

### Thank You To Our Volunteers

*Senior Packages:* Rabbi Datz, Elizabeth Mendeloff, Anne Morgan, Mark Rabin, Gloria Schwartz Schwartz, Mark Stern, Grace Wenz, & Brett Westbrook

*PJ Library:* Kayla Morrison & Regan Marks

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS TO THE LEGACY FUND

### Linda & Les Eastep Fund

#### In Memory of:

**Les Eastep**, from Howard Chodash

**Les Eastep**, from Steve & Lisa Stone

**Les Eastep**, from Greg & Paula Seifert

**Les Eastep**, from Carol Herzog

### Nancy Sage Security Fund

#### In Memory of:

**Greg Evans**, from Pat & Nancy Chesley

#### In Honor of:

**Nancy Sage**, on her retirement, from Ted & Pam LeBlang

**Nancy Sage**, on her retirement, from Ken & Laurie Barnum

**Nancy Sage**, on her retirement, from Carol Herzog

**Nancy Sage**, from Fred & Terri Benson

### Sam & Peggy Klein Fund

#### In Memory of:

**Jerry & Lee Routman**, love now & always, from Carol & Edye

## CONDOLENCES TO

Rhonda Baer on the passing of

**Steven Baer**

&

Sam Gorden

on the recent passing of his former wife

**Renee' Gorden**

&

Melissa Cohen and family on the passing of

**Alvin Cohen**

&

Marilyn Schmitz, Janet Behrens, Alene Breitmeyer, and Julie Granda on the passing of their mother

**Adeline "Lee" Behrens**

&

Annie, Julie, Lauren and JW on the passing of

**Joseph Victor**

&

Jay Mogerman on the passing of his sister

**Sarijane Freiman**

May their memories endure as a blessing.

z"l

## Chodash-Bernsen Health & Education Promotion Fund

#### In Memory of:

**William (Billy) Cohen**, from Howard Chodash

### Hexter Fund

#### In Honor of:

**Nancy Sage**, on her retirement, from Howard & Lori Hammel



1999 Wabash Ave., Suite 206  
Springfield, IL 62704

Phone: 217.787-7223  
Website: [www.shalomspringfield.org](http://www.shalomspringfield.org)  
Email: [sjf@shalomspringfield.org](mailto:sjf@shalomspringfield.org)

Non-Profit  
U.S. Postage  
Springfield  
Permit No. 800