

JEWISH FEDERATION OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

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Jewish Federation[®]
OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

Jewish Community
Relations Council

CHILDHOOD FOOD INSECURITY

No child should go to school hungry or go to bed hungry. Yet, hunger is the reality for too many children.



Together we can
SOolve
hunger.

Bob Bartolazzi, *Manager of Program Services for Central Illinois Foodbank*, will share with us information regarding childhood food insecurity in our city, and discuss different ways our community can help conquer food insecurity.

Thursday, March 26, 2020

5:45 p.m.

Jewish Federation Office

1045 Outer Park Drive, First Floor

Please RSVP by Monday, March 23, to
rsvp@shalomspringfield.org
or (217) 787-7223, ext.18.

At this event we will be collecting new, full-sized toiletries which we will distribute in conjunction with the JCRC Healthy Foods Distribution on Saturday, May 16. Patrons most appreciate shampoo, conditioner, soap, bodywash, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, and shaving supplies.



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

18th Annual

Gala **WINE TASTING**

When: **Saturday, April 18, 2020**
6 pm to 9 pm

Where: **Maldaner's Restaurant**
222 S. 6th Street
(Upstairs) Springfield, IL

Cost: **\$25 per person**

Reservations: **By Monday, April 13.**
By phone at 787-7223, ext. 18
or email
rsvp@shalomspringfield.org

Featuring wines from
The Corkscrew Wine
Emporium



This fundraiser benefits programs of the Jewish Federation of Springfield, IL.

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

Bank of Springfield, www.bankofspringfield.com (217) 529-5555

Bisch and Sons Funeral Home, www.bischandsonfuneralhome.com, (217) 544-5424

Feuer-Brozgold Legacy Fund

Chaverim Purim

Tuesday, March 10 10:00 a.m.

TUESDAY, March 10, 2020, 10:00-11:00 am.

Join your Chaverim friends as we gather together to celebrate Purim. We will revisit the Book of Esther & also learn about important Jewish women activists.

Donation \$3.00 per person. Snacks provided.

Parking is available on the east side of the building where there is a ramp. If you need assistance when you arrive, call 787-7223 ext. 10. Please let us know if you need a ride.

RSVP by Friday, March 6, to Betsy Salus, 787-7223 ext. 18 or rsvp@shalomspringfield.org.

Knosh & Knowledge

Wednesday, March 25
9:30 a.m.

Illinois State Museum

Knosh & Knowledge invites you to a special "Fashioning Illinois: 1820-1900," with Erika Holst, Curator, on **Wednesday, March 25,**



9:30 a.m. at the Illinois State Museum, 502 S. Spring Street, Springfield.

Erika will be our guide as we explore stunning examples of historic costumes, textiles, and accessories from the Illinois State Museum's Legacy Collection.

RSVP by Friday, March 20, to 787-7223 ext. 18 or rsvp@shalomspringfield.org.

CAMPERSHIPS AVAILABLE

Thinking about sending your children to a Jewish overnight summer camp?



The Federation
has campership
scholarships available!

For more information, contact Nancy Sage at 787-7223 ext. 12 or email nsage@shalomspringfield.org.

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

February Chaverim—Rabbi Datz, Arden Lang, Rabbi Marks, Linda Morrison, Barb Rabin, Mark Wancket.

MARCH 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>1</p> <p>9 am Hebrew 10:15 am Religious School</p>	<p>2</p> <p>12 pm TI Ethics @ TI 6:15 pm Hadassah Book Club</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>7:30 pm Fed. Bd. Mtg</p>	<p>5</p> <p>P2G Visitors from Budapest 7 pm Fed. Film "Tales of Teleki Square"</p>	<p>6</p> <p>5:30 pm TBS Family Shabbat 6 pm TI Shabbat</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9 am TI Service</p>
<p>8</p> <p>No Hebrew 10:15 am Purim Carnival w/lunch @ TBS 4 pm TBS Exec. Bd. Meeting</p>	<p>9</p> <p>12 pm Jewish Ethics @ TI 6 pm TI Elton John Purim Spiel & Dinner</p>	<p>10</p> <p>10 am Fed. Chaverim 5:30 pm Chabad Purim Party</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7 pm Hadassah Bd Mtg</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7 pm TI Bd. Mtg.</p>	<p>13</p> <p>5:30 pm TBS Shabbat & Dinner 6 pm TI Shabbat</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9 am TI Service</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9 am Hebrew 10:15 am Religious School</p>	<p>16</p> <p>12 pm Jewish Ethics @ TI</p>	<p>17</p> <p>1 pm TI S'Hd Book Club 6:30 pm SBJE Bd Meeting</p>	<p>18</p> <p>T/6:30 pm Hadassah Gen. Mtg</p>	<p>19</p> <p>TI S'Hd w/Muslim women potluck dinner</p>	<p>20</p> <p>5:30 pm TBS Shabbat 6 pm TI Shabbat</p>	<p>21</p> <p>10 am TI Service</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9 am Hebrew 10 am Fed. PJ Library 10:15 am Religious School</p>	<p>23</p> <p>12 pm Jewish Ethics @ TI</p>	<p>24</p> <p>7:30 pm TBS Bd Meeting</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9:30 am Fed. Knosh & Knowledge 12:10 pm Fed Exec Committee Mtg</p>	<p>26</p> <p>7 pm Fed. JCRC Food Insecurity Presentation</p>	<p>27</p> <p>5:30 pm TBS Shabbat 6 pm TI Shabbat</p>	<p>28</p> <p>9 am TI Service 11 am Chabad Shabbat</p>
<p>29</p> <p>No Hebrew or Religious School</p>	<p>30</p> <p>12 pm Jewish Ethics @ TI</p>	<p>31</p> <p>12:30 pm TBS S'Hd Social Lunch</p>				

PJ LIBRARY



PJ LIBRARY LIVE

Let's Get Together

The Jewish Federation of Springfield invites you and your preschoolers to get together with other PJ Library readers for an hour of reading, snacks, fun, and play. This month we will start getting ready to celebrate Passover.



Sunday, March 22, 2020

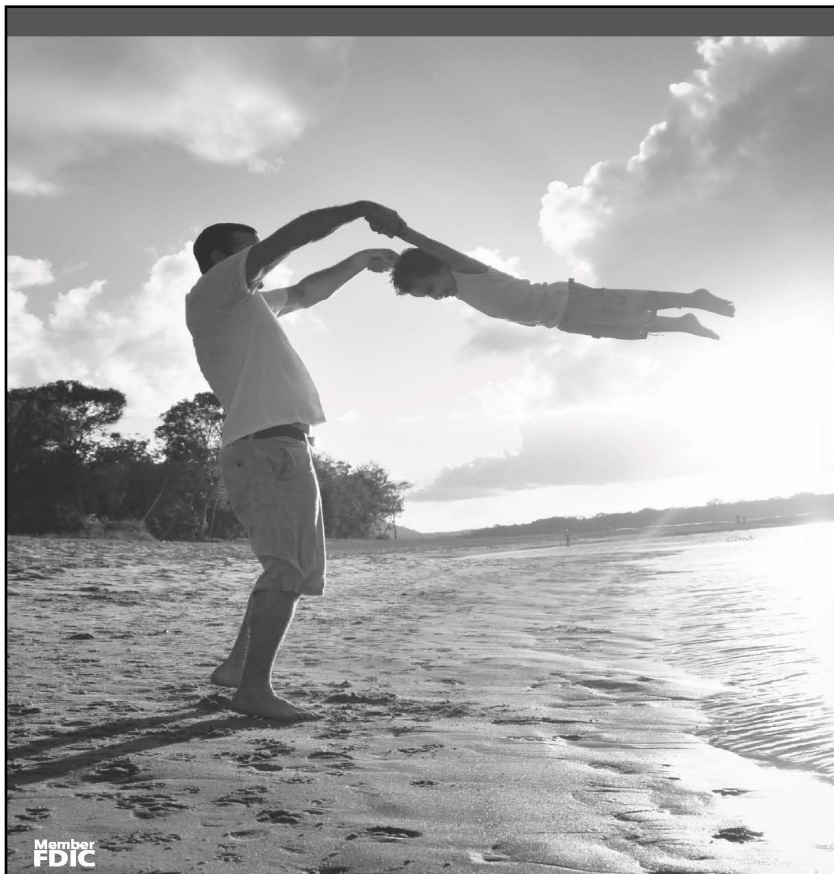
10:00 am – 11:00 am

Jewish Federation of Springfield

1045 Outer Park Drive, Suite 320 (Third Floor)

RSVP by Wednesday, March 18 to

rsvp@shalomspringfield.org or (217) 787-7223 x 18



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529-5555**

JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATION COUNCIL

ADDRESSING FOOD INSECURITY

Food insecurity is defined as when a household has difficulty providing enough food for all household members due to lack of resources. In the United States in 2018, 1 in 9 people suffered from food insecurity. Of these, 11 million were children.

The issue of food insecurity is not just a national issue. It affects our neighbors, co-workers and the friends of our children and grandchildren right here at home. In 2017, 12.6% of people in Sangamon County and 17.3% of our children (7,790) faced the issue of not knowing where their next meal might come from. These numbers are even higher than the national averages.

Five years ago, the Jewish Federation of Springfield, in partnership with the Central Illinois Foodbank, both Temple Congregations and all of the other local Jewish organizations began our efforts to address this important issue. For the past five years we have held a Healthy Food Distribution where fresh fruit and produce is distributed to our community members. During this time approximately 80,000 pounds of food has been given away.

We are proud to sponsor JCRC Healthy Food Distribution, previously known as the Mitzvah Mobile Food Pantry; yet, we realize that this is just one day each year and there is so much more that we can do to contribute to the solution.

Any effort to address this important issue must first begin with educating ourselves to better understand the scope, causes and effects of food insecurity. On Thursday, March 26th at 5:45 pm, the Federation and JCRC will be sponsoring a program to help us learn more about food insecurity and its impact on children in the greater Springfield area. We hope that all of you will mark your calendars and attend this program.

But understanding a problem in and of itself, doesn't help solve it. For the last 6 months, JCRC has been exploring specific ways that we can expand our efforts to address it.

We are now at the point where we want to survey our community to see who among us might be willing to devote time to volunteer in different ways to help our neighbors better conquer food insufficiency. After the presentation we will send out the survey. We urge you to read it, fill it out and return it to the Federation. Depending on the level of interest and support for various options we will then attempt to pursue the option(s) which best suit the interests of our members.

Even if you cannot personally volunteer for a particular option, you can still play a role in helping. You can advocate with your elected officials and support agencies such as the Central Illinois Foodbank which are on the front lines every day in helping our neighbors conquer hunger.

Thank you for your support and thank you for caring.

HEALTHY FOODS DISTRIBUTION 2020

On May 16, 2020 Jewish Federation of Springfield's Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC), in partnership with the Central Illinois Food Bank, will be holding its sixth annual Healthy Foods Distribution at the parking lot at Temple B'rith Sholom.

The purpose of the Healthy Foods Distribution is to not only provide food, but to provide healthy food, which is often out of the price range of those in need. Last year we gave away over 11,000 pounds of food to approximately 125 patrons representing over 500 household members. In addition, we distributed much needed toiletries as a part of the event. We hope to reach even more patrons this year.

An event like this can only be successful through the participation of our entire Jewish community. Rick Griminger has once again agreed to serve as the volunteer coordinator. Please contact him at rgriminger@comcast.net to volunteer to work at the event. If you have an assignment preference or any limitation regarding the times that you can work or physical restriction please indicate this as well so that he can make an assignment that meets your needs.

Mary Beth Cohen will be chairing the toiletry distribution. We are asking for in-kind contributions of full size, unopened shampoo, conditioner, toothbrushes, tooth paste, and soap (liquid or bar). These products can be dropped off at either Temple or the Federation office.

We want to thank those of you who have participated in the past for your support and urge all to take part in any way possible. Healthy Foods Distribution is a way that we can put into action one of the most important Jewish values, to share with and assist our neighbor. We hope that you will join with us on Saturday, May 16th.

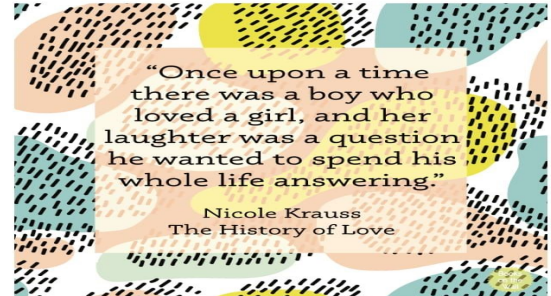
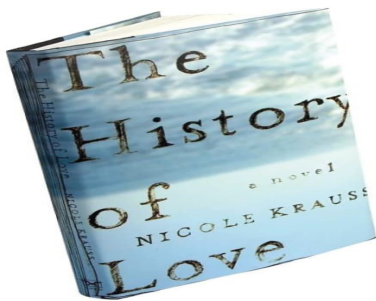
Ralph Loewenstein, *Chair, JCRC Healthy Foods Distribution Committee*

PARTNERSHIP2GETHER (P2G)

THE PARTNERSHIP2GETHER (P2G) WESTERN GALILEE | CENTRAL AREA CONSORTIUM
COMMUNITY COMMITTEE PRESENTS

THE GLOBAL P2G VIRTUAL BOOK CLUB

The next book we'll read together is
The History of Love
by Nicole Krauss



RSVP@shalomspringfield.org or 787-7223 ext. 18

ZOOM : VIRTUAL BOOK CLUB GATHERING

CONNECT FROM YOUR HOME

Sunday, May 3 - 10 am

2020 Partnership2Gether Summit in Budapest, Hungary June 22 to June 25, 2020

This annual summit is an opportunity to connect with people from Budapest, Western Galilee and 16 U.S. Partnership communities to celebrate, to learn with each other, to brainstorm ideas for partnership and enjoy Budapest sights and hospitality and more.

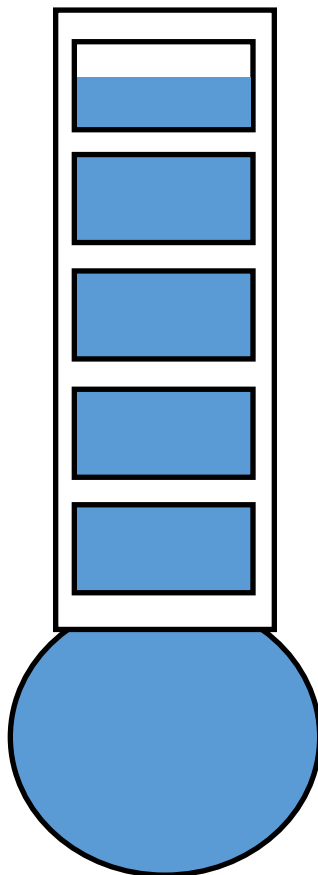
&

Jewish Federation of Louisville has arranged a special tour to Prague, Vienna and Budapest through Da'at prior to the Summit. You do not have to attend the Summit to be part of the tour.

If you are interested in the Summit or the special tour, contact Nancy Sage 217-787-7223 #12 or nsage@shalomspringfield.org for more information.



ANNUAL CAMPAIGN



2020 ANNUAL CAMPAIGN GOAL:

\$270,000

Current Total:

\$235,593.50

**Thank you to all who have
pledged your support to our
2020 Campaign**

**I want to help Federation change lives in our community and around the world.
Here's my gift to support the Jewish Federation of Springfield, Illinois'
2020 Annual Campaign.**



Jewish Federation
OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

THE STRENGTH OF A PEOPLE.
THE POWER OF COMMUNITY.

2020 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 my pledge by December 31, 2020.

- Monthly Quarterly Semi-Annually Annually
- by Check Charge Card or Online at www.shalomspringfield.org

Gift 1 year ago	Gift 2 years ago	Gift 3 years ago
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Thank you for your commitment.

____ I am interested in helping to strengthen the future of our Jewish community through legacy giving.

Your gift will be published in our Annual Report

Joshua Society

- \$10,000 +

President's Circle

- \$7,500 - \$9,999
- \$3,600 - \$7,499

Pacesetters

- \$2,800 - \$3,599
- \$2,000 - \$2,799
- \$1,200 - \$1,999

Friends

- \$750-\$1,199
- \$500-\$749
- \$175-\$499
- Up to \$174

YOUR DOLLARS AT WORK



“OH, YOU’RE A JEW”

Growing up in Ukraine, Tamara didn’t realize she was Jewish. Her friends used to joke that her last name sounded like a Jewish one. But her parents never really spoke about it, and she says, she never really thought about it. When she turned 18, her father revealed her Jewish roots to her.

“I asked myself, what happens now? What does this obligate me to do?” It didn’t take long for her to figure out that in Ukraine, being Jewish came with challenges. “After I found out I was Jewish, I told some of my friends. And they said ‘oh, you’re a Jew? But you’re good...’”

She soon decided it would be best to avoid talking about her new-found identity. A billboard advertising a new local synagogue was vandalized with swastikas. And some of the people she thought were her friends turned out to be skinheads, who started calling her “dirty Jew.”

Anti-Semitism wasn’t the only issue she faced. The economy in her town, Kryvyi Rih, had collapsed in the wake of the Ukrainian conflict with Russia. “I couldn’t even get a job as a waitress,” recalled Tamara.

But around the same time, she started learning more about her Judaism. “The Jewish Agency started inviting us for Shabbat and holidays.” She visited Israel on a Taglit-Birthright trip, and knew that she wanted to come back.

BIRTHRIGHT ISRAEL: FINDING LOVE

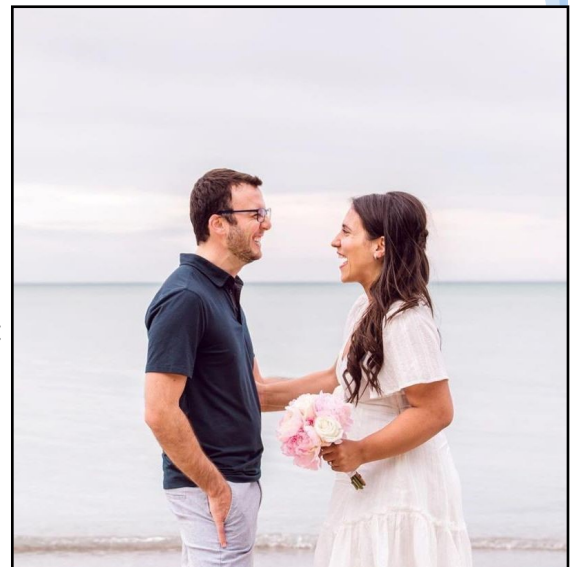
Alissa met Yarin while in Israel on Birthright. At first, she wasn’t sure whether she was really in love or just in love with the romance of the situation. Once she returned to Chicago after the 10-day trip, it was clear to her: she really did love Yarin and needed to get back to him.

“I sensed that what Yarin and I shared together during those ten days in Israel was real; yet, I was at a point in my life where I was still jumpstarting my career. It wouldn’t have been reasonable to just move across the world and chase a possible love interest instead of chasing after and developing my career,” explained Alissa.

“Masa’s Destination Israel internship program provided me the opportunity to do both; I was able to develop professionally while having another chance to see Yarin, who was a university student pursuing his MBA in Tel Aviv at the time. It couldn’t have been more perfect. Masa afforded me the ability to not have to choose.”

Being a part of a Masa program in Israel gave her the opportunity to spend time with Yarin and the months flew by. After living together in Israel for two years, Alissa and Yarin moved back to the US in June 2019 to get married.

“Israel brought us together, and even now, years after that original Birthright trip, it continues to nourish the love that Yarin and I share for one another. We speak Hebrew to each other at home, named our dog Gali, and regularly listen to Israeli music,” shared Alissa. “I work in Israel advocacy, and so long as I’m married to Yarin, the prospect of moving back to the country is always on the table. Israel isn’t just a place to us. It’s a feeling, one of affection and belonging, that Yarin and I look forward to sharing with our future children.”



SAGE NOTES

By Nancy Sage, Executive Director



Nancy Sage
Federation Executive
Director

I had the privilege to attend the Jewish Community Public Affairs (JCPA) Plenum, the national conference, along with Bob Roth, Bob Silverman, and Springfield's two national JCPA Board members, Natalie Silverman and Steve Stone. JCPA is comprised of 17 national organizations including Jewish Federations of North America, B'nai B'rith, Hadassah, and representatives from the four main denominations of American Judaism, and 125 local Jewish Community Relations Councils (JCRCs). With such a broad membership, JCPA is well positioned to address complex issues through the lens of varied points of view, and find consensus. Bottom line: nothing is simple.

While there are many different aspects and issues involved with community relations, this year the conference focused mainly on how to address the rise of anti-Semitism and criminal justice reform. The opening panel included author and Emory Professor Deborah Lipstadt. She explained that anti-Semitism has become more emboldened, noting that political correctness has given way to permission for people to say whatever they want. The result is that the language and symbols of hate are becoming normalized, so their usage may or may not be intentional. She emphasized the importance of "see something, say something."

The message that echoed throughout each workshop and general session was the importance of the "work on the ground." Relationships matter especially when confronting negative situations of any sort, including anti-Semitism. Our JCRC and Federation has a long history of forging relationships and building understanding, whether it be through something like the Rosenwald Initiative or partnering with Great Rivers Presbytery to sponsor Professor Amy Jill Levine.

At the start of the Plenum, I noticed a woman participating in all the sessions who was carrying a small support dog. Later that day, the woman with the dog told her story, not about her 20-month incarceration for tax evasion, but about leaving prison. She left prison, homeless, as her mother had died leaving her no place to live, no job or supportive community. Most of her friends abandoned her when she was arrested. No one met her when she was released. She had little money for rent, food, and much less toiletries. She was homeless. Eventually, she reconnected with a woman sympathetic to her story who helped her "re-enter," find employment, and receive mental health services for dire depression. Her road after prison was not easy, and she vowed to help others through her suitcase project that provides women similarly situated with a suitcase filled with toiletries, food, and cash card.

For the past several years, JCPA has dedicated sessions at the Plenum or annual meeting to the many issues related to criminal justice reform. They include improvements in the areas of prevention, investigations, prosecution, wrongful conviction, sentencing, drug court, mental health, corrections, education, training, and re-entry. The Bureau of Prisons reports that from 1972 to 2017, the number of people in prison rose from 200,000 to 2.2 million. Bi-partisan Federal legislation passed in 2018 included changes to Federal sentencing guidelines such as shortening the mandatory minimums for non-violent drug offenses.

JCRC's New Initiatives Committee has been at work looking into various possibilities to address criminal justice reform, including the challenges faced after leaving prison and "re-entering" or returning to Springfield to live. This is similar to our efforts relating to food insecurity, when several years ago, the New Initiatives Committee researched the issue. That led to presenting a program that described the issue via a movie, and, finally, to taking action by starting what was then called the JCRC Mobile Mitzvah Food Pantry, now known as Healthy Foods Distribution. JCRC looks forward to following the same framework, learning more about criminal justice reform, presenting a community-wide program, and determining what we can do to address this issue.



THE STRENGTH OF A PEOPLE.
THE POWER OF COMMUNITY.

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.

IN THE COMMUNITY



A celebration of a lifetime
BEGINS HERE.

Each one of us is unique with our own life story to tell. We understand this, and that's why you can depend on Bisch Funeral Homes to capture a person's essence with a service that's both a fitting reflection and a memorable tribute.



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TEMPLE ISRAEL CHOIR presents

Monday, March 9, 2020
Dinner - 6:00 pm
Megillah - 7:00 pm

I Guess That's Why They Call It A Spiel

**RSVP for dinner
before March 5**

217-546-2841 or

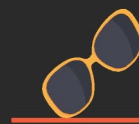
asnaleah@sbcglobal.net

ozma.rahman@sbcglobal.net

Adults: \$20

Kids: \$10

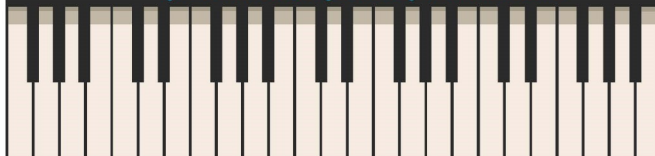
BYOB



Featuring the music of

ELTON JOHN

If you are unable to join us for dinner, please come join us for the performance at 7:00 pm and stay for hamantaschen



SAVE THE DATE:

April 30, 2020 at 5:30 pm.

Art History Happy Hour featuring a lecture on Cold War Era Graphic Designer, Boris Brodsky.

The lecture will be presented by Rosina Neginsky, Associate Professor of Art History at UIS, and will feature examples of Mr. Brodsky's work.

The presentation will take place at M. G. Nelson Gallery on the Springfield Art Association campus at 700 N. Fourth St.

Light Refreshments will be served.



Jewish Federation
OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

1045 Outer Park Drive, Suite 320

Springfield, IL 62704

Phone: 217-787-7223

Fax: 217-787-7470

Email: sjf@shalomspringfield.org

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LEGACY FUND

Hexter Fund

In Memory of:

Eugene Odin, from Sharon Snyder

Eugene Odin, from Howard & Lori Hammel

Eugene Odin, from Saul Morse & Anne Morgan

CONDOLENCES

Condolences to the family and friends of:

Eugene Odin, husband of Shirley Odin

Father of Lanny Odin

Z"l

MAZEL TOV

TO:

Brett Westbrook, son of Bob and Karen Westbrook, on being chosen by the coach as the Swim Team Captain for the Chicago JCC Maccabi Swim Team this summer.

Sherry Flynn and Steve Flynn, on the marriage of their son, Noah Flynn, to Astha Saxena in Bhopal, India.

Barry and Barbara Seidman, on their daughter Raya's making Aliyah and living in Israel; and on their son, Jake, receiving the Outstanding Actor Award from the Los Angeles Michaux Film Festival for the film *Fall to Fame*, which he also wrote and produced.