

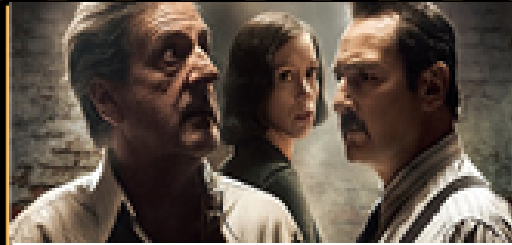


# 8TH ANNUAL JEWISH FEDERATION FILM SERIES

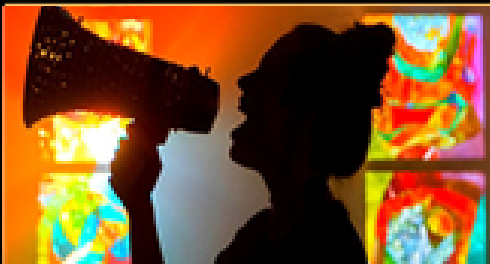
Presented by the Jewish Federation of Springfield, Illinois  
Four Thursdays in June 2024 (June 6, 13, 20, 27) at 7:00 pm



Thursday, June 6  
**All About the Levkoviches**



Thursday, June 13  
**Farewell, Mr. Haffmann**



Thursday, June 20  
**Less Than Kosher**



Thursday, June 27  
**Where Life Begins**

## SHOWING AT

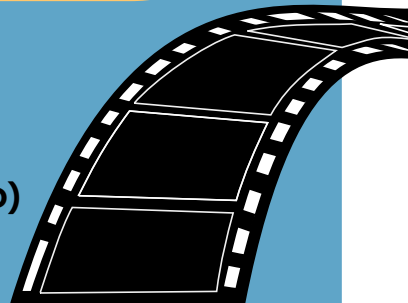
AMC Classic Springfield 12

3141 Mercantile Dr Springfield IL 62711

TICKETS: \$36 series pass OR \$10 per film (\$5 with student ID)

Contact: 787-7223 ext. 4

or [rsvp@shalomspringfield.org](mailto:rsvp@shalomspringfield.org)



CHERRY, FRAZIER & SABIN, LLP

HOLLEY ROSEN & BEARD  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW



**Karen Westbrook**

# Message From the President

Volunteerism – It is generally accepted that volunteerism is the act of contributing free labor to conduct community service to support a nonprofit organization. The Jewish Federation of Springfield has had a committed volunteer core for years. While programs and services have come and gone, the spirit of volunteerism has remained. The commitment to serve our own community as well as all residents of greater Springfield by providing programming and services continues through Federation sponsored initiatives as well as those under the auspices of the JCRC. It is wonderful to be a part of a vibrant, active organization.

I find myself in a conundrum. We need to face the facts. The Federation does so much for so many with a small staff and a dwindling volunteer base. I find myself wanting to suggest we do more but realizing we can't with less.

As Federations go, we are stars. It has been amazing to learn how much our small Federation does compared to the larger ones with three times the staff and unbelievably large budgets. However, our organization is no different than any other nonprofits, secular or religious. Lifestyle changes have affected the amount of "volunteer labor" people are willing to commit to a nonprofit. And, as the "volunteer labor" ages, there are limits to the time and scope of the efforts our organization can commit to. Houston, we have a problem.

Our volunteers are our most valuable asset. You are special people who willingly give your time to help others. I thank each one of you from the bottom of my heart. Volunteering can be a thankless task. Please know that your efforts do not go unnoticed.

As an organization, we need to address the conundrum. We cannot do more without expanding the volunteer base. We need to make some hard decisions. Do we invest time and energy in invigorating our volunteer base? Should we bid adieu to programs that have run their course? Do we change how we deliver our information, programs, and activities? How do we get the 30 and 40 somethings involved? How do we find and attract new membership? You get the idea.

The Board has set up a "Futures Committee" chaired by Bob Silverman with members representing the diversity of age and interest in the community. You will be receiving a very short survey which is the start of our initiative to plan for the future. Please take the time to respond. This is your Federation. Please offer your ideas. Thank you for your past, current and future commitment to the Federation. As trite as it sounds, working together, we make a difference.



*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.*

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

# Knosh & Knowledge

Wednesday, May 29, 2024

9:30 am



**Pillsbury:  
What We've Learned,  
What We're Doing,  
& Where We're Going**

RSVP by Mon., May 27,  
to (217) 787-7223 x 18  
or [rsvp@shalomspringfield.org](mailto:rsvp@shalomspringfield.org)

## HEALTHY FOODS DISTRIBUTION



# MAY 2024

			1	2	3	4
			7 pm Fed. Annual Mtg @ TBS		5:30 pm TBS Service 6 pm TI Service	9:30 am TI Service 10:30 am Chabad Service
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9:30 am Religious School <b>4 pm Fed Yom Hashoah Commemoration @ TI</b>	7 pm Hadassah Book Club <b>Yom Hashoah</b>		7 pm Hadassah Bd Mtg	7 pm TI Bd Mtg	5:30 pm TBS Service 6 pm TI Service	9:30 am TI Service 10:30 am Chabad Service
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<b>10 am Fed PJ Play Date</b> 2 pm TBS Exec. Bd Mtg <b>Mother's Day</b>		1 pm TI S'Hd Book Club 2 pm TI S'Hd Exec Mtg		<b>7:30 pm Fed JCRC Mtg</b>	5:30 pm TI Service FFwF Dinner 6 pm TBS Service	9:30 am TI Service 10:30 am Chabad Service
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
12 pm TBS Annual Mtg		7 pm SBJE Bd Mtg			5:30 pm TI Service 6 pm TBS Service & S'Hd Shabbat/ Installation	9:30 am TI Service 10:30 am Chabad Service
26	27	28	29	30	31	
	<b>Memorial Day Federation Closed</b>	7 pm TBS Bd Mtg 7 pm Active Shooter Training @ TBS	<b>9:30 am Fed Knosh &amp; Knowledge</b> <b>12pm Fed Exec Comm Mtg</b>		6 pm TI Service 6 pm TBS Service	

# 8TH ANNUAL JEWISH FEDERATION FILM SERIES

Thursday, June 6

Winner of 19 U.S. Film Festival  
Audience Awards!

## ALL ABOUT THE LEVKOVICHES

Hungary (2024) Drama

Directed by Elise Otzenberger  
Hungarian—English subtitles



The generous but stubborn boxing coach, Tamás gets along well with everyone but his own son. They have not spoken since the boy, Iván moved to Israel and became religious in an orthodox community. When Tamás' beloved wife dies, Tamas agrees with his son that he can come and sit the Shiva in his house as long as he brings his grandson, Ariel with him. As past conflicts resurface, they embark on an unexpected journey of self- reflection and reconciliation.

Thursday, June 13

## FAREWELL, MR. HAFFMANN

France Belgium (2024) Drama

Directed by Fred Cavaye  
French—English subtitles



Occupied Paris, 1941: all members of the Jewish community are instructed to come forward and identify themselves to authorities. Dedicated jeweler Joseph Haffmann, fearing the worst, arranges for his family to flee the city and offers his employee the chance to take over his store until the conflict subsides. But his own attempts to escape are thwarted, and Haffmann is forced to seek his assistant's protection.

Thursday, June 20

Winner:  
Best Film—Toronto Jewish Film  
Festival (2023)

## LESS THAN KOSHER

Canada (2023) Musical Comedy

Directed by Daniel M. Rosenberg  
English



At 20, Viv was a promising young singer. At 30, her failing music career has forced her back into her mother's basement. But when this self proclaimed Bad Jew lands ass-backwards into a job as a Cantor at her family's synagogue, she's thrown into a wild ride of illicit affairs, drug trips, tense family drama, self discovery and some serious Jewish bops.

Thursday, June 27

Best Narrative Film—Jewish  
International Film Festival Australia  
(2022)

## WHERE LIFE BEGINS

Italy (2022) Drama

Directed Stephanie Freiss  
Italian/Franch— English subtitles



An ultra-orthodox Jewish family from Aix-les-Bains comes to a farm in Calabria for a brief stay every year to carry out a sacred mission: harvesting citrons. Here Elio, the farm owner, meets Esther, the rabbi's daughter, who is tired of the constraints imposed by her religion. Through this relationship, Esther will understand the importance of freedom and find her path, and, in the same way, Elio will find the peace he had lost for a long time.

# PJ LIBRARY ZOO PLAYDATE



# GALA WINETASTING



# SAGE NOTES



Nancy Sage  
Executive Director

As is often the case, I am writing my column as the deadline looms. Usually, I am baffled about what to write and spend more hours than I want to admit just figuring out the content. This month is a bit different. Yes, the deadline looms but the last four days are filled with stories to be told.

Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) volunteers placed 10,000 pounds of food in 94 cars for more than 200 families on Thursday, April 11th at the Boys and Girls Club of Central Illinois. JCRC once again partnered with the Boys and Girls Club of Central Illinois and the Central Illinois Food Bank for this distribution. It is the volunteers who make it happen as we could not do this without them and I am grateful. The food insecure population in Sangamon County

is estimated to be 11%, 22,000 people. The need is great. Cary Israel, JCRC Food Insecurity Chair and Rick Griminger, Volunteer Chair, are already gearing up for another Healthy Foods Distribution this summer.

While it might seem a bit incongruous to write about the 19th Annual Wine Tasting on Saturday, April 13, in the same column as food insecurity, what happens at the wine tasting should not stay at the wine tasting. Yes, the Federation receives 10 percent of each bottle sold and it is a fundraiser. More than that, however, the wine tasting gets us together over wine and food where we see people who are apt to attend and meet old friends and new people. Chair Ted LeBlang ensures that every moving part runs smoothly from the wines to the appetizers, nearly a meal of their own. The bottom line is that the people in the room make the event a success. It is not because they buy lots of wine, but because of the conversation, the mingling, and the laughs we hear while comparing the wines we have sampled.

Hours after Iran attacked Israel with 333 missiles and drones, Sue Katz, Jewish Federation of Peoria Executive Director reached out via text to several of us and through Partnership that she was stranded in Israel. Her flight home was canceled as were all flights. I can only imagine how she felt. Within a very short time, the JFNA (Jewish Federations of North America) Israel office contacted Sue and people in Israel who were associated with the Federations to help them return to the US safely.

Sunday, April 14th PJ Playdate preschoolers and their families celebrated PJ Library's Birthday at Henson Robinson Zoo. It was a beautiful, warm and sunny day in the neighborhood for fun, cake, candles, and train rides. Regan Marks and Kayla Morrison collaborate to create the activities for each month's gathering. PJ Library is a program of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation that provides the

**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.**

# SAGE NOTES

(Continued)

opportunity for children from 3 months to eight years of age to receive a book each month which is underwritten by the Neal Feldman Legacy Fund and the Federation. This year, the book count is 432 books which are sent to 36 children.

All in all, it has been an event-filled four days, four days that brought many of us together for different reasons. I hope you will join us at the Federation Annual Meeting on May 1st and for the Yom Hashoah commemoration on May 5th .



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



## LEGACY FUND

### Hexter Fund

#### In Honor of:

**Julie Seidman**, on her special birthday, from Pam & Ted LeBlang

**Harvey Rothschild**, on his special birthday, from Pam & Ted LeBlang

#### In Memory of:

**Betty Hurwitz**, from Jay & Carol Kitterman

**Ralph Hurwitz**, from Tom & Natalie Marantz

### Mogerman Family Fund

#### In Memory of:

**Hazel Holley**, from Bob & Arlene Barewin

### Loeb Fund

#### In Honor of:

**David Loeb & Diane Ransdell**, on their marriage, from Pat & Nancy Chesley

**David Loeb & Diane Ransdell**, on their marriage, from Stephen & Lisa Stone

## CONDOLENCES

Condolences to the families of

### Shirley Dunas

**Stanley Fishman**, formerly of Springfield

### Daniel Rappaport

May their memories endure as a blessing.

## MAZEL TOV

**Barry and Sandy Weiss**, on the birth of their new granddaughter, Ella Harlow Weiss, born on March 13, 2024. Proud parents are Danny and Lizelle Weiss.

**Zoe Blitstein**, on Bat Mitzvah. Proud parents are Mike and Marissa Blitstein, and grandparents Alan and Marcia Blitstein.

## Thank You To Our Volunteers

**Passover packages:** Denise Arjmand, Mary Beth Cohen, Rabbi Michael Datz, Barry Mendeloff, Elizabeth Mendeloff, Annette Schwartz, Jerry Schwartz, Barry Weiss, Sandy Weiss, Grace Wenz

**PJ Library:** Regan Marks and Kayla Morrison

**Wine Tasting:** Ted LeBlang, Gloria Schwartz

**Healthy Foods Distribution:** Denise Arjmand, Pat Chesley, Rick Griminger, Cary Israel, Rabbi Barry Marks, Elizabeth & Barry Mendeloff, Jay Mogerman, Mark Rabin, Barbara Seidman, Leslie Sgro, Sharon Star, Bob Westbrook, Barb Wolfson



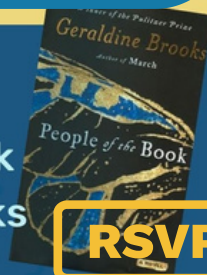
Jewish Federation  
OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

# BOOKCLUB

June 9, 2024  
12 pm

Join us for a discussion  
about the book

**People of the Book**  
By Geraldine Brooks



**RSVP**



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)

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