

March/April 2019

JEWISH FEDERATION NEWS

A publication of the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis
The strength of a people. The power of community.

תודה רבה

Today Rabah

n. [Hebrew] An expression of gratitude meaning "thank you very much"

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Jewish Federation News

Exec. Vice President/CEO

Debra Barton Grant

President

Michael J. Rubin

Art Director

Sam Deddens

Editor

Hanna Fogel

Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis, Inc.
6705 Hoover Road, Indianapolis, IN 46260-4120
Phone: **317-726-5450** • Fax: **317-205-0307**
www.jewishindianapolis.org

The mission of the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis is to promote the vision of a vibrant, engaged, inclusive, and sustainable Jewish community by serving as its central philanthropic, planning, community engagement, and unifying partner.



Jewish Federation®
OF GREATER INDIANAPOLIS

THE **STRENGTH** OF A PEOPLE.
THE **POWER** OF COMMUNITY.

Inclusion is Inclusion is Inclusion



"You shall not oppress a stranger, for you know the feelings of the stranger, having yourselves been strangers in the land of Egypt." This verse from Exodus recalls the story of the upcoming Pesach (Passover) holiday and is still relevant today, even (or perhaps especially) within our own Jewish community.

In January, we were privileged to host Rabbi Reni Dickman of InterfaithFamily (more on her visit on page 8). The sessions she facilitated were incredibly powerful, particularly the panel discussion featuring members of our community who belong to interfaith families. The journey that these spouses, parents, grandparents, and children navigate is already complex, so it is incumbent upon us to be as open and welcoming as we can. There should be no "us" and "them," just one big "us."

As Rabbi Reni reminded us, "inclusion is inclusion is inclusion." Instead of focusing on one segment of the community at a time, being inclusive means being open to everyone all at once, regardless of identification or affiliation (or lack thereof). Jewish tradition invites us to not only welcome the "stranger," but we also recognize those who have been with us the entire time whose intersections we may have overlooked. I encourage members of our community who identify as LGBTQ+, for example, to check out the upcoming mission to Israel on page 10, and young families in Indy's northern suburbs are invited to any and all of our PJ Baby Connect events (page 13).

I appreciate gathering with old friends. And I love seeing new faces. Throughout this issue, you'll find listings for events that are open to everyone, and we would love to see you there. From Israel in the Park (page 10) to Purimpalooza (page 23) and "The Choices We Make" with Jeannie Opdyke Smith to *The Soap Myth* with Ed Asner (pages 14-15), you are welcome.

Do you have a great idea for our community? Let us know! JFGI's Education department is now accepting applications for 2019-2020 Innovation and Collaboration Grants, which you can learn more about on page 9.

In our spaces, we strive to let people be human Jewishly. We believe that allowing people to be exactly who they are is good for all involved. No matter where you came from, you found your way to our community, and we're glad you're here.

Debra Barton Grant,
Executive Vice President and CEO

Snowbird Gatherings

JFGI welcomed 2019 with gatherings of Florida and Arizona snowbirds. A special thanks to Anne and Larry Schuchman and Phyllis Vernick for hosting this year.

Florida



(Pictured L-R) Bob Garelick, Dave Regenstrief, Susan Garelick, and Pearl Regenstrief enjoyed each other's company at the Florida snowbirds event.



(Pictured L-R) Jerry, Beth, and Beverly Klapper spent some quality time together.



(Pictured L-R) Larry and Anne Schuchman hosted Indianapolis snowbirds at their home in Naples, FL.

Arizona



(Pictured L-R) JFGI Senior Director of Development, Michael Skolnick, Phyllis Vernick, and Franci Fealk Skolnick enjoy a February evening at Phyllis' home in Scottsdale, AZ.



(Pictured L-R) JFGI CEO Debby Barton Grant caught up with Elliott Nelson, Sandy Levinson, and David Kleiman.



(Pictured L-R) Gayle Ancel, Sharon Wallace, Susan Mitchell, and Caryl Shideler mingling together.

Send In Your Nominations

Do you know someone who would be a good fit for JFGI's Board of Directors or a committee within it? Or, do you know someone who deserves one of JFGI's annual awards (see a list at jewishindianapolis.org/awards)? Email Lizzie Ketzenberger at lketzenberger@jfgi.org by **Friday, April 12!**

Jewish Holidays: Purim and Pesach

There's a running joke that says, "**They tried to kill us, we survived, let's eat!**" could summarize most Jewish holidays. Purim and Pesach (Hebrew for Passover) are no exception.

Purim

Purim celebrates the overthrow of a plot by Haman, advisor to King Achashverosh, to kill all the Jews in the Persian empire after a Jewish man named Mordechai refused to bow down to him. The holiday's name means "lots," because Haman drew lots to determine which date to commence the slaughter. When Mordechai's niece Esther heard about Haman's plan, she infiltrated the palace through a beauty contest the king held to replace the previous queen, and once she became close enough with Achashverosh, she was able to convince him of the error of Haman's ways.

Purim is celebrated according to four "M"s:

- *Megillah*: The story of Purim is retold each year through the reading of Megillat Esther, the Scroll of Esther.
- *Mesibah* (party): Raucous celebrations and festive meals are held, often in costume.
- *Mishloach manot*: Gifts containing ready-to-eat food items are sent to friends.
- *Matanot l'evyonim*: Donations of food or money equal to the cost of a meal are given to charity, so that all may celebrate.

Pesach (Passover)

Pesach celebrates the exodus from Egypt, where the Jewish people were slaves. The holiday centers around a festive meal called a *seder*, or "order," because the evening follows a particular pattern, during which various foods are eaten at certain times:

- The evening begins, as most Jewish holidays do, with a *kiddush*, or blessing over wine. Four cups of wine (total) are drunk at specific points throughout the meal.
- A raw vegetable (often parsley or celery) or a hard-boiled egg is dipped into salt water. The former signifies the season of spring (during which the holiday falls), and the latter symbolizes the slaves' tears.
- *Matza* is an unleavened cracker reminiscent of the dough that wasn't allowed to rise as the Jews hurried to leave Egypt.
- *Maror* is a bitter herb, often horseradish, which symbolizes the pain of slavery.
- *Charoset* is a pasty mixture of fruit, nuts, and wine that resembles mortar used by the slaves to make bricks. At one point in the seder, a sandwich is made of *matza*, *maror*, and *charoset*.



Costumed JCC Early Childhood children, teachers, and families celebrate Purim.



Groggers, or noisemakers, are shaken to drown out the sound of the villainous Haman's name during the reading of the *Megillah*, or Book of Esther. This one belongs to Reuben and Leona Shevitz.



The seder plate is the centerpiece of the Pesach (Passover) meal.



Marlene (Klapper) Wohlfeld's grandmother Minnie Roth embroidered this matza cover by hand about 100 years ago.

Hamantaschen / Ornei Haman

Depending on the location of origin, these sweet treats are meant to look like Purim villain Haman's hat, pockets, or ears. The recipe below was given to Israeli emissary Lian Bar Zohar by her mother.

Dough

2 ½ sticks of butter
4 tbsp powdered sugar
2 eggs
A scrape of orange or lemon peel
4 cups white flour
2 tbsp corn flour
1 tsp baking powder
½ cup orange juice
Combine all ingredients and place in mixer to create a ball of dough. Wrap and put in refrigerator for 30 minutes.

Poppy Seed Filling

2 cups crushed fresh poppy seeds
1 cup sugar
Scrape of lemon peel
1 tbsp honey
½ cup milk or water
Crushed nuts (optional)
Biscoff cookie crumbs (optional)
Combine all ingredients. If the mixture is too soft, add Biscoff cookie crumbs.

Nutella/Chocolate Filling

4 tbsp Nutella/chocolate spread
Halvah crumbs (optional)
Nuts (optional)
Biscoff cookie crumbs (optional)
Combine all ingredients. If the mixture is too thick, add water to thin it out.

Preheat oven to 350°. Roll out dough to ¼ inch thickness, then use a cup to cut out circles. Put a scoop of your choice of filling (not too much, or it will overflow) in the middle of each circle, then fold into a triangle. Pinch the corners closed.

Place onto a tray lined with baking paper. Bake for 15 minutes or until golden brown.

Let cool, then optionally dust with powdered sugar. Enjoy!



Poppy seed hamantaschen are the most traditional kind, but everyone has a favorite — what's yours?

This year, Purim is celebrated on **Thursday, March 21** (beginning the evening prior), and the first Pesach seder will be held **Friday evening, April 19**.

You can find ways to celebrate Purim and Pesach throughout this issue! See page 11 for a young adults' Purim party hosted in part by Israeli emissary Lian Bar Zohar, page 16 for a Passover Food Drive run by Jewish Family Services, and page 23 for local synagogue holiday events, including the multigenerational Purimpalooza made possible thanks to a JFGI Collaboration Grant (more on these grants on page 9.)

Thank You for Believing IN THE FUTURE



*As my parents planted for me before I was born,
so do I plant for those who will come after me.
- Talmud*

Learn how to create your own legacy by contacting Paula Glanzman Goldberg, Director of Legacy Development, at **317-715-6980** or pgoldberg@jfgi.org.

J-Serve

Sun., March 24 | 10:30 am–1:30 pm

Join other 6th–12th graders from around Indy for this annual teen service mega-event! J-Serve is open to all Jewish teens in Greater Indianapolis.

This year's J-Serve is expanding to include a service expo featuring local organizations, multiple service projects, and educational opportunities. Register and choose service activity preferences by **Friday, March 15**. Day-of-event registration will be available, but service activity choices may be limited. Registration and more information available at jservice.org/2019projectregistration/Indianapolis.

YoPhl Service Learning Launch

Kickoff: Sun., March 24 | 10 am–11:30 am

YoPhl (Youth Philanthropy Indy) Service Learning strives to provide hands-on community service opportunities for youth in grades 3–8, with a focus on understanding and enacting shared Jewish values and sensibilities.

Children in grades 3–5 can attend the YoPhl Service Learning Kickoff to explore Jewish values and do some good in the world. Full details and registration at jewishindianapolis.org/yophi-service-learning.

The next YoPhl Service Learning event will take place on **Sunday, June 2**.

YoPhl Teen Board at IUPUI

The YoPhl Teen Board recently completed their first fundraising campaign to support their grantmaking efforts to invest in local education experiences. As of February 1, the teens had added over \$3,500 toward their grantmaking pool!

In the spring, YoPhl Teen Board members will be meeting with grant applicants for site visits and working toward allocation decisions. Be on the lookout for this group of changemakers out and about in the community!



Band together with Jewish youth participating in J-Serve around the world to engage in community service and bring to life the values of *gemilut chasadim* (acts of loving kindness), *tzedakah* (just and charitable giving), and *tikkun olam* (repairing the world).



YoPhl Teen Board members furthered their collaboration with the Lake Institute on Faith & Giving at the IU Lilly School of Philanthropy at their January 27 board meeting, held downtown on the IUPUI campus. The teens, pictured here with Danielle Segal of Jewish Teen Funders Network, worked with Lake Institute faculty and staff in preparation for proposal review and site visits with local nonprofits.

Community Youth Events (grades 3–12) — Open to All Jewish Youth

Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation (IHC)

Sun., Mar. 17: Purim Carnival run by IFTY (high school youth group)

BBYO

Want to learn about upcoming local events? Sign up for each chapter's Remind! For Indy AZA (boys) or B'yachad (girls), text @indyaza or @byachad to **81010**.

Congregation Beth-El Zedeck (BEZ)

Sun., Mar. 17, 12:30 pm: Post-Purim Carnival pizza party. All community teens invited.

Learn more about BEZ's youth programs at bez613.org/groups/youth-groups.

Opening Books and Making Connections



Twice a month, a dedicated group of volunteers like Shelley Kahn (pictured) reads stories to JCC Early Childhood classes at the BJE Maurer Jewish Community Library. These storytimes have been fun for the little ones and a great way to bring new life into the library. Community members can visit the library on Mondays and Thursdays, 10 am-2 pm, or on Tuesdays, 1-4 pm.

JEdI (Jewish Educators of Indy) Council Day of Learning

On January 20, over 50 educators who work in Jewish settings statewide gathered for the inaugural JEdI Council Day of Learning, a day-long professional development conference organized by local Jewish educational leaders. The conference theme was **Opening the Tent: Making Jewish Learning Accessible.**

The morning started with educators working in teams to literally unlock barriers that block access to Jewish learning as part of a modified escape room exercise. Over the course of the day, participants chose among eight workshops that focused on multiple dimensions to making Judaism accessible to all, including meeting diverse learning needs, mobility needs, acceptance of cultural diversity, and awareness of varied levels of prior Jewish knowledge.



At the JEdI Council Day of Learning, educators connected with colleagues, invested in their own learning, and developed strategies for fostering inclusive learning environments.



Embracing Interfaith Families

JFGI hosted Rabbi Reni Dickman from InterfaithFamily for a series of workshops focused on making the greater Indianapolis Jewish community accessible and welcoming to all families interested in Jewish life.

At the JEdI (Jewish Educators of Indy) Council Day of Learning, Rabbi Reni facilitated two workshops for educators, and the following day she ran a workshop for Jewish communal professionals that focused on the language used to speak with and about interfaith families. Rabbi Reni's visit provided the community with many provocative questions and a readiness to more deeply explore how doors and tents can be opened further.



Rabbi Reni Dickman also facilitated a community-wide conversation about engaging with interfaith families sensitively. A panel of local interfaith families shared their stories. Pictured L-R: Cindy Ginsberg, Cyle Ginsberg, Jared Schaffer, Stefani Schaffer, Becca Christensen, Renny Silver, Mary Gorden, Rabbi Reni Dickman

Generation to Generation: Sharing Jewish Tradition with Your Interfaith Grandchildren

Tuesdays in March | 7-8:30 pm

Grandparents with interfaith grandchildren can gather to prepare for Passover and more broadly explore ways that they can share their Jewish traditions. For more information and to register, please email interfaithfamily@jfgi.org.

This program is made possible through a grant from the National Center to Encourage Judaism.

Sharing History Through the Story of Anne Frank

The Indiana Repertory Theatre's production of *The Diary of Anne Frank* reached nearly 10,000 students at weekday matinee performances. Thanks to the incredible generosity of Glick Philanthropies, the Indianapolis Jewish community was able to provide an educational component to the play's run: In addition to seeing a magnificent performance, students had the opportunity to learn more about the life of Anne Frank through the exhibit *Anne Frank: A History for Today*, on loan from The Anne Frank Center for Mutual Respect. Thank you to the Alberta and Sherman Weinstein Cultural Arts Fund at the Jewish Community Center for supporting this exhibit.

It was inspiring to see the students take an interest in learning more about the historical events surrounding the performance and knowing that the volunteers who helped run the exhibit made a positive contribution to their education of the Holocaust. The Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis (JFGI) will be able to follow up with schools for continued Holocaust education through the work of its new Holocaust Education and Program Coordinator, Amber Maze.



Community volunteers like Andrea Burnett (right) led students through the *Anne Frank: A History for Today* exhibit.



(L-R): Teens Cyle Ginsberg, Chloe Meinert, Vincentia Sandy, and Rachel Morrison spoke at a post-show panel discussion.

JFGI's Commitment to Educational Innovation

One of the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis (JFGI)'s primary strategic focus areas is Jewish Learning and Experience. Some of the ways that JFGI is investing in this space include JFGI Education Grants and support for the Grinspoon Award for Excellence in Jewish Education. Special thanks to JFGI's Jewish Learning Committee and the BJE Endowment Committee for taking a leadership role in these initiatives.

JFGI Education Grants

JFGI's Jewish Learning Committee is excited to announce that the JFGI Education Innovation and Collaboration Grants for 2019-2020 are now receiving applications!

- JFGI Education Innovation Grants focus on geographic innovation and programming that reaches beyond the buildings in which educational programming has traditionally taken place.
- JFGI Collaboration Grants encourage community members and Jewish organizations to partner to develop new programming ideas that engage the unaffiliated and enrich Jewish learning throughout the community.

To learn more about the JFGI Education Grants, which are due on **Friday, April 12**, visit jewishindianapolis.org/education-grants.

Grinspoon Award for Excellence in Jewish Education

Under the leadership of the BJE Endowment Committee, the community will again honor an excellent Jewish educator with the Grinspoon Award for Excellence in Jewish Education. This national program recognizes outstanding individuals making a difference through their work in Jewish education.

This year's award will go to a stellar local educator who excels in innovative ways of bringing Torah and Jewish stories to life. Information about how organizations can submit an award nomination, due by **Friday, March 29**, can be found at jewishindianaapolis.org/education/grinspoon-award.

Partnership2Gether Council of Communities



Before and after the conference, Israeli lay leaders Noa Tene (bottom row, second from right) and Idan Zaccai (top row, second from left) visited Indianapolis to connect with the local Jewish community and reunite with friends made on previous Partnership delegations. Come back soon, Noa and Idan!

The Partnership2Gether Central Area Consortium is comprised of 14 U.S. Federation communities (including Indianapolis), Israel's Western Galilee, and Budapest, Hungary. At the end of January, representatives from all of these communities convened in northwest Indiana. Indy's own Michelle Korin (bottom row, third from left) is the current U.S. Partnership Co-Chair.

Israel in the Park!

Save the date for this year's Yom HaAtzmaut (Israel Independence Day) celebration!

Sun., May 19 | 4 pm | Coxhall Gardens (11677 Towne Rd., Carmel)

Activities, artists from the Western Galilee, music, Israeli dancing, food, and more!

JFNA LGBTQ Mission to Israel

June 6-13, 2019

From Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA): "Like in America, the LGBTQ community in Israel is actively seeking equality and acceptance. Experience Israel's thriving, vibrant LGBTQ community against the complex cultural backdrop of the country."

Price: \$4,199 (land-only, based on double occupancy; \$1,368 single supplement)

All participants will take part in Jerusalem's March for Pride and Tolerance on June 6, and participants also have the option of extending their trip through Friday, June 14 to march in the world-renowned Tel Aviv Pride Parade!

For more information, contact JFGI Israel & Overseas Director Michèle Boukai at mboukai@jfgi.org.



Partnership Discovery Program

Oct. 27-Nov. 4, 2019 (not including travel time)

Empty nesters, retirees, and lifelong learners: Experience the Partnership2Gether communities of the Western Galilee and Budapest! Spend Oct. 27-Nov. 1 in Israel and Nov. 1-4 in Hungary, meeting with local leaders and experts in security, multiculturalism, arts, sustainability, and tolerance.

Registration Fee: \$500 each for Western Galilee and Budapest portions (\$1,000 total), not including flights. The Partnership covers program costs, accommodations, and most meals. Deadline to register is **June 1**.

For more information, contact JFGI Israel & Overseas Director Michèle Boukai at mboukai@jfgi.org.

Tu B'Shvat Seder



Israeli Emissary Lian Bar Zohar held a Tu B'Shvat seder to celebrate the festival of the trees.



Israeli Emissary Lian Bar Zohar dressed up as Rosie the Riveter!

International Women's Day Celebration

Thurs., March 7 | 7 pm | Shaliach House
(address provided upon RSVP)

Celebrate International Women's Day (March 8) and Rosh Chodesh, the beginning of a new Hebrew month (traditionally a women's holiday) with a *hafrashat challah* ceremony and a special guest lecture from influential women in the Indianapolis community! *Hafrashat challah*, traditionally a women's *mitzvah* (good deed or commandment), takes place while baking challah bread and involves separating out a piece of dough from the batch that then serves as a gift to G-d.

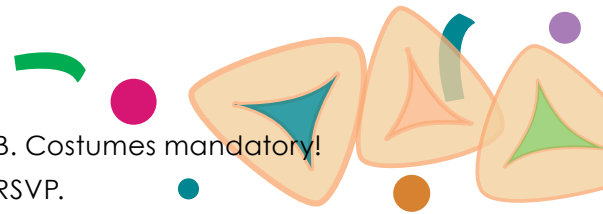
Call or text Israeli Emissary Lian Bar Zohar at **317-800-9350** to RSVP for this powerful women's event.

Purim Party

Sat., March 23 | 9:15 pm | Address provided upon RSVP

Celebrate Purim with music, good food, and good friends! BYOB. Costumes mandatory!

Call or text Israeli Emissary Lian Bar Zohar at **317-800-9350** to RSVP.



Lian's Proudest Moment

In this and upcoming issues, Israeli Emissary Lian Bar Zohar will share an important moment she experienced as a *shlichah* in Indianapolis.

"Last fall, I had the privilege of watching the Hasten Hebrew Academy of Indianapolis (HHAI) 5th/6th grade girls' volleyball team win their league championship! These girls were underdogs, like David vs. Goliath, but they pulled through like the winners they are. Special shout-out to Michael Voskoboynik, HHA technology teacher and volunteer volleyball coach, for helping the girls reach this milestone!"



To celebrate their league victory, the Hasten Hebrew Academy girls' volleyball team held a medal ceremony during the pre-game for the Indiana Pacers' season opener. Consul General of Israel to the Midwest Aviv Ezra even came down from Chicago for the occasion!

Looking for another of Lian's recipes?

See page 5 to learn how to make delicious *hamantaschen* pastries, and check out the "Israel board" in the JCC's east lobby!



(Pictured L-R): PJ Baby Connect Zionsville and West Carmel organizer Lauren Kerswick, daughters Paige and Callie, and husband Kevin.

Organizer Spotlight: Lauren Kerswick (Zionsville and West Carmel)

Lauren Kerswick and her family are a classic PJ Library success story. After moving to the Indianapolis area in 2009, Lauren signed up to receive PJ Library books in the mail when her oldest daughter, Callie, was a baby. Lauren and her husband Kevin are an interfaith couple, so the books are a wonderful way for Kevin to connect and share Jewish holidays and culture with Callie and the couple's other daughter, Paige.

The Kerswicks are originally from different parts of the Midwest (Kevin grew up in Evansville, IN, and Lauren is from Dayton, OH), so local PJ Library events have helped them meet new people and make new friends in the Greater Indianapolis Jewish community. When Lauren was given the opportunity to "pay it forward" as PJ Baby Connect's Zionsville and West Carmel organizer, she jumped at the chance.

Forming Friendships for Children and Parents

"It is easy to meet people when your children begin preschool, but before then, it is difficult," Lauren said. "I love that PJ Baby Connect provides programming for families specifically with young children."

Lauren had previously been an event coordinator for the Zionsville Moms Group and has loved making similar connections within the Jewish community. Even informal meetups have allowed new introductions to be made: At a playdate with one PJ Baby Connect family at the Zionsville library, Lauren ran into another member of the group and loved being able to bring the families together.

"That is exactly what [PJ Baby Connect] is about—forming friendships," she said. "Not only for the child, but also for the parents. I enjoy playdates just as much as my daughters do because I am a stay-at-home mom, and I love getting out and socializing with other moms and building relationships."

Sharing Joys and Traditions

PJ Baby Connect provides a way into the Jewish community with little to no barrier to entry. As a product of a long heritage of Jewish families, Lauren is proud to be able to carry forward and share with her family and community all the joys and traditions of being Jewish, including lighting candles on Shabbat and celebrating holidays with extended family—daughters Callie and Paige especially enjoy baking homemade *hamantaschen* and dressing up for Purim carnivals every year (learn more about Purim on pages 4-5).

For Lauren, Judaism is a way of life that provides structure, comfort, happiness, and a foundation for living via "The Golden Rule," and she is grateful to be in a position to help others feel welcome and in turn become more active members of the Greater Indianapolis Jewish community through PJ Baby Connect.



NEXTGen Wants Your Input

Do you have ideas for NEXTGen programming or suggestions on how NEXTGen can improve? Share them! Visit jewishindianapolis.org/nextgen to fill out a survey and give your feedback.

The Lunch Program

Are you looking to meet new people in the Indianapolis Jewish community? Join the Lunch Program! Each month, you will be paired with a new match. The two of you then arrange to meet for lunch (or whatever meal you wish) at a time convenient for you both. Easy, right?

Visit jewishindianapolis.org/lunch-program to learn more and sign up!



OneTable

Are you interested in hosting or attending a Friday night Shabbat dinner with other NEXTGen-ers?

Check out onetable.org or reach out to Matt (mkmorning@jfgi.org) for more information!

PJ Baby Connect

Over the past few months, PJ Baby Connect has helped build community and friendships among families with children ages 0-2 through accessible, neighborhood-based programming.

Visit jewishindianapolis.org/pj-library to sign up for PJ Baby Connect, and find **PJ Library in Greater Indianapolis** on Facebook to join the "Zionsville and West Carmel" or "Fishers, Noblesville, Westfield" parent groups!



Enjoying a Bagels and Babies Brunch at the Urban Chalkboard last fall

BYOB (Bring Your Own Baby)

Each month, enjoy a fun and interactive class featuring parent/child yoga, a storytime, singing, and movement that is perfect for children ages 2 and under and their caregivers. Kid-friendly snacks and adult-friendly coffee will be provided. This informal and FREE program is thanks to a generous grant from the Harold Grinspoon Foundation.



The next BYOB class will be on Sun., March 24 at 10:30 am at Congregation Shaarey Tefilla (3085 W. 116th St., Carmel).

Upcoming PJ Baby Connect—Zionsville and West Carmel Meetups

Thurs., March 7 | 3 pm | Indoor Playground at Eagle Church (5801 S. Main St., Whitestown)

Mon., April 22 | 11 am | West Park (2700 W. 116th St., Carmel) Come play and pack a picnic lunch!

Annual Campaign/Women's Philanthropy

JFGI's Annual Campaign Supports...

Unscramble each of the clue words, then unscramble the highlighted boxes for the final answer, the 2019 Annual Campaign theme! Email the final answer to campaign@jfgi.org for a chance to win a \$50 gift card to Mimi Blue Meatballs!

Interested in showcasing your business by donating a prize? Email campaign@jfgi.org.

SEEVJR

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PIRMU

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ELRAIS

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XEETNGN

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ADY

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Clues

1. Teen community service event (page 7)
2. _____ Palooza, made possible by a JFGI Collaboration Grant (page 23)
3. _____ in the Park (page 10)
4. The Jewish Federation's young adults program (page 13)
5. Hooverwood's Adult _____ Center (page 19)

Final Answer

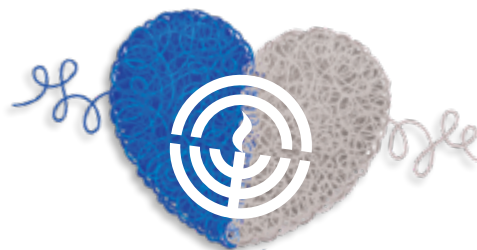
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Upcoming Women's Philanthropy Events

Common Threads: "The Choices We Make"

Mon., April 15 | 7 pm | The home of Jennifer Schwartz and Jonathan Fridell | \$18 couvert

Common Threads is a series of programs that bring women together to discuss current topics of interest in the community. This event features guest speaker Jeannie Opdyke Smith (see description below). Attendees will have the opportunity to support the 2019 Annual Campaign. Sponsored by JFGI Women's Philanthropy: Women of Action, Leading Community and Inspiring Change. Learn more and RSVP at jewishindianapolis.org/common-threads.



Lion of Judah and Pomegranate Luncheon: "The Power of One" | Tues., April 16 Indianapolis Art Center (820 E. 67th St.)

Gather 10:30 am | Program 11 am | Lunch noon

Guest speaker Jeannie Opdyke Smith is part of the Oregon & Washington Holocaust Speakers Bureau, a regular speaker for the Anti-Defamation League, and an honorary member of the North American Jewish Federation. She travels full time, sharing her mother Irene's story of acting as a rescuer during the Holocaust with various groups across the U.S., Canada, and the U.K. The story she shares speaks to the horrors and hate of the Holocaust, but it also brings a message of faith, love, and the hope that good can triumph over evil. It proclaims the conviction that one by one, the world can say no to hatred, persecution and prejudice.

For more information on JFGI Women's Philanthropy, contact Margo Fox at mfox@jfgi.org.



2019 Community Campaign Kickoff

The Soap Myth, a play featuring actor Ed Asner

Tues., April 30 | 7:30 pm | The Palladium (1 Center Green, Carmel) | Ticket price TBA

Did the Nazis really make soap from human flesh? Who deserves to write history: those who lived and remember it, those who study and protect the physical documentation of it, or those attempting to deny and distort it? How does one separate fact from fiction? These are the questions a journalist attempts to answer in *The Soap Myth*, a play starring actor Ed Asner, who played Lou Grant on *The Mary Tyler Moore Show* and narrated *EVA*, the recent documentary on Holocaust survivor Eva Kor.

Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Memorial Day), which marks the anniversary of the Warsaw ghetto uprising, is observed this year on May 2, so this is a timely performance. There will be a dessert reception after the show, during which attendees can meet and mingle with the cast. Learn more and purchase your tickets at jewishindianapolis.org/campaign-kickoff.

2018 Annual Campaign Report

Thanks to all who helped contribute to a successful 2018 Annual Campaign! Together, the community raised approximately **\$3.9 million**. These vital funds will help the Jewish Federation, its agencies — the Jewish Community Center (JCC), Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC), Jewish Family Services (JFS), and Hooverwood — and other community organizations to continue to provide needed programs and services to all facets of the community.

From the JCC's Early Childhood Education program and the JCRC's Student to Student sessions in local high schools to Popsie's Pantry at JFS and caring for seniors at Hooverwood, your gift impacts countless lives here at home, in Israel, and around the world. Thank you for your support!

The 2019 Annual Campaign officially kicks off at the end of April (see the *The Soap Myth* event listing above), but you don't have to wait until then or the end of the year to make your gift; you can do it right now! Visit jewishindianapolis.org/donate or call the Jewish Federation at **317-726-5450**.

*Thanks
to all who
made a gift
in 2018!*

See pages 24-27 for a list of 2018 Annual Campaign donors.



Volunteer Spotlight: Katherine Schwartz

Katherine Schwartz worked with Russian-speaking Holocaust survivors in Jewish Family Services (JFS)' KAVOD group in preparation for and at JFS' 2018 Legal Aid Clinic. As an Associate Attorney and a fluent Russian speaker, Katherine was able to help Russian-speaking seniors understand the opportunities that would be available to them at the Legal Aid Clinic by facilitating an info session in Russian. She then continued her volunteering at the clinic as a translator. As a result, 22 Russian-speaking seniors (compared to six in 2017) received help with creating a will, appointing a power of attorney, and creating a living will and/or other advance directives.

What inspired you to volunteer at JFS?

My family and I immigrated to the United States from the former USSR almost 27 years ago, and Jewish Family Services (or the equivalent at that time) as well as the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis played a crucial role in welcoming us and helping us establish ourselves in a new country. This organization assisted countless other families in similar situations, and its widespread impact endures to this day. JFS' continued dedication to serving vulnerable populations inspires me to give back to an organization that has enriched my life and that of so many others, and I am thankful for the opportunity to do so.

What have you learned about JFS?

JFS provides an incredibly diverse array of services, ranging from nutritional support (Popsie's Pantry) to estate planning (Legal Aid Clinic). I was especially pleased to learn about KAVOD, as a great need exists for such a program and the essential services it offers. It's imperative that Holocaust survivors receive maximum care and support from our community, and I applaud JFS for offering this program.

One of the magical aspects of JFS and programs like KAVOD is the sense of community it generates. Whether it entails volunteering for Adopt-A-Family or participating in a KAVOD outing to BRICS, each event creates a feeling of purpose and belonging to those in attendance.

Visit jewishindianapolis.org/jfs to read more about Katherine's JFS experience!

Please drop off donations by Friday, April 12

Passover Food Drive

Fill a bag to support an individual, elderly couple, or a large family! Drop off donated items to Popsie's Pantry (6905 Hoover Rd.) or one of the alternate locations listed at right by **Friday, April 12**.

Visit bit.ly/passover19 or call **317-259-6822** for the shopping list or more information.

Thank you!



Earth Day Community Celebration at the תיקון עולם

Sun., April 28 | Noon-6 pm

Join about 6,000 people for environmentally friendly, hands-on activities, music and more at the JCC Indianapolis for the 8th Annual Earth Day at the J co-sponsored by Indianapolis Power & Light Company and Citizens Energy Group.

More than 65 organizations offer demonstrations and activities for all ages in the Kids Zone. Great music and entertainment on the J Stage sponsored by WTTS, a Farmers Market presented by Market Wagon and food trucks make this one of the best events in the spring for the entire family!

Earth Day at the J attracts a wide range of attendees, from those who seek out green products and services regularly to those who are just learning about them. Earth Day at the J shines a spotlight on companies who put sustainability front and center.

New this year

Litter Bug and Bagel Fun Run | 10 am

This 5k fun run/walk and 1-mile walk kick off the day. In keeping with the theme, participants are encouraged to bring their own water bottles. The run is topped off with everyone's favorite nosh, the bagel! Come for the run. Stay for the fun.

Green Car Show

This year the J will have demonstrations of all-things green in transportation. There'll be an Owner's Forum (meet and talk with neighbors who have already made the jump to driving green). There will also be a Drive & Ride to test out all the latest in green technology for yourself!

Beer and Wine Stations

Grab lunch at one of the food trucks on-site or some fresh fare from the Farmers Market and head over to the Beer and Wine Station. For ages 21 and older only.

Grand Raffle

Take your chance for some great prizes for the young and young at heart. All proceeds benefit the J, a registered non-profit organization that is an affiliated agency of the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis, Inc.

Graphic by
Hannah Fogle

JCRC Teen Programs

Israel Engagement Fellows

Are you a Jewish teen, or do you have one in your household? Are you (or they) interested in learning more about Israel and its nuances? Learn more about the JCRC's Israel Engagement Fellowship at indyjcrc.org/ief, and keep an eye out for the next round of applications, available in Summer 2019!

Student to Student

Teens are encouraged to apply to participate in the JCRC's Student to Student program. Participants visit schools that lack a Jewish presence and talk about what it's like to be Jewish in Indianapolis.



Israel Engagement Fellowship students with their Certificates of Completion.



Those interested in the Israel Engagement Fellowship or Student to Student can contact JCRC Israel and Antisemitism Education Coordinator Marla Topiol at mtopiol@indyjcrc.org. To stay up to date on Israel, subscribe to the JCRC's Israel In-Depth newsletter and follow **IndyJCRC** on Facebook.

Indiana Jewish Community Lobby Day at the Indiana General Assembly

Tues., March 5 | 7:45 am-2 pm

Are you curious about:

- What policy issues are unfolding at the Statehouse?
- How to engage directly on the issues?
- What Jewish community advocacy looks like?

Join JCRC to discuss issues like bias crimes, education, public health and safety, and immigration. After a legislative briefing and discussion of strategy and advocacy tips, the group will meet with legislators at the Indiana Statehouse.

For more information, contact JCRC Communications Coordinator Aaron Welcher at **317-926-2935** or awelcher@indyjcrc.org.



Hooverwood's Adult Day Center can be an option for those who wish to retain their independence but require a little extra help.

Hooverwood Adult Day Center

Mon.–Fri. | 7:30 am–5:30 pm

Hooverwood offers individualized programming and activities and hands-on care and monitoring. Plus, meals are included. Personal hygiene care, therapy, and other nursing services are also available. Transportation is offered within a 5-mile radius.

Contact Brittany at **317-607-1730** for more information.

New Bus Made Possible by Hooverwood Guild

Thanks to the generosity of the Hooverwood Guild, there is a new set of wheels in the Hooverwood parking lot! Residents will use this upgraded wheelchair-accessible van to attend social outings in the community, and it will also be used to transport residents to and from appointments when needed.



Hooverwood Guild Spring Lunch and Card Party

Wed., May 8 | 11 am | Broadmoor Country Club (2155 Kessler Blvd. W. Dr., Indianapolis)

\$25 (your check made payable to Hooverwood Guild is your reservation)

Call the Guild at **317-251-2261** (and ask for Karen Stern) with any questions.

Butler University Hillel

Butler Hillel's Chanukah Celebrations

Students danced the night away on the first night of Chanukah during Butler Hillel's annual Chanukah party. They ate delicious latkes and a full dinner, participated in Israeli dancing, decorated dreidels, and played holiday-inspired and Chanukah-themed bingo and Kahoot games created by Butler Hillel's Education VP. Students also had the opportunity to give gifts to others that night by signing up to be registered in the Gift of Life bone marrow registry.

The celebration continued on the second night of Chanukah when a number of students went to the home of Indianapolis' *shlichah* (Israeli emissary) to bake Moroccan doughnuts, which they then brought back to Hillel for all the students to enjoy, along with second-night candle lighting, a dreidel spinning competition, music, and more latkes! The second night celebration also marked the transition to Butler Hillel's newly elected student board, with the new leaders lighting the Chanukah candles. These two Chanukah celebrations served as the culmination of a vibrant semester.



(Pictured L-R) Julianna Neuger, Molly Stern and Mina Shirazi



Lighting the menorah with JFGI *shlichah* Lian Bar Zohar



(Pictured L-R) Rachael Apter and Jared Winter



Playing dreidel with Butler Hillel



(Pictured L-R) Tessa Roth and Hannah Silverman



(Pictured L-R) Sidney Garner, Dori Chandler, Brittany Parker and Melissa Johnson



(Pictured L-R) Samantha Keenan and Chuck Levine celebrating Chanukah.

IU Borns Jewish Studies Program (JSP): Upcoming Events

This spring, the Indiana University Borns Jewish Studies Program welcomes as guest lecturers Katharina von Schnurbein, the European Commission Coordinator on Combating Antisemitism; Professor Dariusz Stola, Director of the Polin Museum of the History of Polish Jews; Professor Simone Lässig, Director of the German Historical Institute; and more! Visit indiana.edu/~jsp for more details about these and other events open to the public.

Looking Back...

Other fall Butler Hillel events included:

- **Tacos in the Sukkah**
- Friday night **Shabbat in the Sukkah**
- A **blood drive** in partnership with the Black Student Union
- A “Doing Well and Doing Good” **roundtable discussion on business ethics**
- Two **Challah for Hunger challah bakes and sales** to raise money for local and national hunger relief organizations
- **Homecoming and Family Weekend Shabbats** that filled up the house—literally—prompting a move from the “Blue House” to larger accommodations on Butler’s campus.

...and Moving Forward

Butler Hillel looks forward to continuing its **ten-week educational series**, this year entitled **Drugs, Demons, and Dungeons: Addictions, Mental Illness, and Incarceration**. Students will have the opportunity to learn from key experts in the Jewish community on these topics, interspersed with lighter programs including a pet therapy session and kayaking in Eagle Creek.

Also upcoming are Butler Hillel’s monthly Shabbat experiences, its annual Passover seder, social justice programming, and various social events. It is bound to be a memorable year!



Ellie Hersh, Ben Kessler, and Michael Uretsky in the Butler Hillel sukkah



Celebrating Shabbat in the Butler Hillel sukkah



Butler Hillel's Challah for Hunger student group

Women of Valor: “Live Inspired”

Wed., March 6 | 7 pm

The Hasten Hebrew Academy of Indianapolis (HHAI)'s annual Women of Valor program features dance, drama, and song choreographed by the Middle School girls. The program highlights student research of Jewish women from Biblical to modern times who have a unique, personalized significance to each student. This year's program will include service learning passion projects synthesized into each group performance.



Collaborating in Virtual Worlds.



HHAI students speak with their Israeli counterparts.



Celebrating Chanukah in virtual reality.

Indy-Israel Technology Collaboration

After a successful year of collaborative projects with Israeli schools, which ended with a group of students being invited to visit Haifa and Indianapolis' Partnership region in the Western Galilee last May, the Hasten Hebrew Academy of Indianapolis (HHAI) continues to work with schools in Israel on an even larger scale. This year, HHAi is collaborating with three different Israeli schools.

“Traveling” to Jewish Communities Around the World

HHAI 7th and 8th graders are working with students from the Sulam Tsur School (near Nahariya) on a special project using virtual reality platform Virtual Worlds. Six groups were created, and each will “travel” to a different Jewish community in Lithuania, Belarus, Ukraine, or North Africa. Students from both schools will work together to discover the pre-Holocaust history and rich culture of those communities, research what happened to the Jews there during the Holocaust, and reach out to current representatives of those communities.

The results of the project will be displayed on Virtual Worlds and on shared Google Sites, so that students and teachers from other schools around the world can learn from the findings.

Transatlantic Teaching

HHAI 6th graders are very excited to teach their friends from the Rambam School in Akko how to use another 360-degree virtual reality program, CoSpaces. They are in the middle of a “family tree” project, and will try to “translate” it into virtual reality and engage their Israeli counterparts in the process.

Fourth and fifth graders at HHAi have been invited to collaborate on a Virtual Worlds project with their peers at the Brenner School in Givatayim, near Tel Aviv. Brenner is one of the most technologically advanced schools in Israel, and students are looking forward to learning from each other.

Sharing EdTech Knowledge

In June, students will accompany technology teacher Michael Voskoboynik to Philadelphia for ISTE, the International Society for Technology in Education's annual conference, where they will present the fruits of their collaboration.

Purimpalooza

Sun., March 17 | 1:30 pm | University High School (2825 W. 116th St., Carmel)

Thanks to a Collaboration Grant from the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis (JFGI), Congregations **Beth Shalom** and **Shaarey Tefilla** are joining forces along with **PJ Library** for a FREE, multigenerational Purim celebration! Enjoy a traditional Purim carnival complete with games, food, and a bounce house, a *hamantaschen* contest, and the adults-only "Esther on Trial: Heroine or Coward" featuring real-life attorneys and judges. All are welcome!

*Learn more about this joyous holiday on pages 4-5 and more about JFGI Collaboration Grants on page 9.

Congregation Beth-El Zedeck

Friday Night Live!: Fri., March 1 and April 5, 6 pm. Features spiritually uplifting music to welcome Shabbat.

Introduction to Judaism:

Sun., March 3, 10; April 14, 28; 9 am. All are welcome to this course with Rabbi Shelley Goldman. Topics are Jewish history's contemporary period; G-d, Torah, and Israel; Shabbat and Kashrut; and a final wrapup respectively.

Cocktail Judaism: first Monday of the month, 7:30 pm.

Conversation, humor, and spirits with Rabbi Dennis Sasso.

- **March 4, Another Broken Egg Café** (9435 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis): **"Demography and Destiny: A Portrait of the Indianapolis Jewish Community"** with Debra Barton Grant (Executive Vice President and CEO of the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis), Elizabeth Klapper, and Gigi Marks Felsher
- **April 1, location TBA: "The Art of the Haggadah"** with Julia Muney-Moore

Purim Shpiel and Carnival:
Sun., March 17, 9:30 am

Adults-Only Megillah Reading:
Wed., March 20, time TBA

Cellist Maya Beiser: Wed., April 3 at the Jewish Community Center (JCC). Beiser will perform excerpts from her cello opera *Elsewhere*. Co-sponsored by Beth-El Zedeck, Center for Interfaith Cooperation, Indiana Humanities, and JCC Indianapolis.

"Give Our Regards to Jewish Broadway": Sun., April 7, 2 pm at Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation (IHC). See the IHC listing for more.

Tot Shabbat: Sat., April 27, 9:30 am. For newborns to 3-year-olds and their families, with Rabbi Shelley Goldman. RSVP to sgoldman@bez613.org.

Visit bez613.org or @CongregationBEZ on Facebook for more information.

Congregation Beth Shalom

Hamantaschen Making:

Sun., March 3, 10 am. Join the Beth Shalom Sisterhood to learn how to make this holiday favorite.

Maj-a-thon: Sun., March 31, 1 pm. Bring your maj set and your friends for prizes, snacks, and just plain fun. Sponsored by the Beth Shalom Sisterhood. Contact Isabel Atlas at ieatlas@aol.com.

Children's Passover Seder: Sun., April 14, 10 am. All youngsters from preschool through age 11 are invited to participate with their parents in this annual seder held in conjunction with Beth Shalom's Talmud Torah program. To learn more about this program and other youth offerings, contact Diane Gaul at dwgraul@gmail.com

Road Trip to Terre Haute: Sun., April 28, 10 am-4 pm. Visit the CANDLES Holocaust Museum and historic temple, and have lunch at the Terre Haute Country Club.

Visit bethshalomindy.org or @BethShalomIndy on Facebook for more information.

Congregation Shaarey Tefilla

"Parent and Me" Infant Directed Music Class: Thurs., March 7, 11 am. Dana Goot leads this monthly session for children ages 0-2 and their caregivers.

Potluck Dinner: Fri., March 8. Congregants and friends are welcome to participate in a potluck dinner after Friday night services. Sign up at shaareytefilla.org by Wed., March 6.

Interfaith Community Seder: Mon., April 1, 6:30 pm. Explore the origins of the Passover seder ritual and share a traditional Passover meal together. \$18/adult, \$12/school-aged children ages 12 and under. Register at signupgenius.com/go/5080A43A9AB2FA46-interfaith by March 21.

Tot Shabbat: Sat., April 13, 10:30 am. For toddlers—first graders and their adults, with Clara Sharon.

Davin, Dinner, and Drinks:

Wed., April 17, 7 pm. At the end of minyan on the third Wednesday of each month, a group will be organized to go out to a local restaurant to eat, drink, and socialize. Open to all (no need to be a CST member). Each person is responsible for their own purchases.

Visit shaareytefilla.org or @ShaareyTefilla on Facebook for more information.

Etz Chaim Sephardic Congregation

Stories of Freedom Speaker Series

Lecture 2: Sun., March 3. Rakhel Farahan and her granddaughter Jordan Mintz tell their story that spans from Iran to the U.S.

Purim Megillah Reading and Carnival: Wed., March 20. Fun for all ages! There will be another megillah reading the following day (Thurs., March 21) as well.

Mimuna Celebration: Sun., April 28. This North African Jewish tradition marks the end of Pesach (Passover) with live music and sweet treats laden with chametz!

Visit etzchaimindy.org or @EtzChaimIndy on Facebook for more information.

Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation

"Give Our Regards to Jewish Broadway": Sun., April 7, 2 pm. Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation (IHC)'s Life After Fifty group joins Beth Elders and Youngers for a FREE afternoon of wonderful music by Beth-El Zedeck's Cantor Melissa Cohen and IHC's Cantor Aviva Marer. Dessert reception to follow. All are welcome.

Visit ihcindy.org or @IHCIndy on Facebook for more information.

Thank you to all of JFGI's generous donors and Campaign volunteers!

Your gift to the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis (JFGI) provides much-needed support here at home, in Israel, and to struggling Jewish communities in over 70 countries around the world. JFGI hopes to add your name to this list in 2019!

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