

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2020

JEWISH FEDERATION NEWS

A PUBLICATION OF THE JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER INDIANAPOLIS.
THE STRENGTH OF A PEOPLE. THE POWER OF COMMUNITY.



ANNUAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

PAGE 4

NEXTGEN WELCOMES NEW CO-CHAIRS

PAGE 10

ADOPT-A-FAMILY COMMUNITY DAY

PAGE 13

IN THIS ISSUE

Planned Giving & Endowment	3
Annual Campaign	4
Engagement & Education	6
NEXTGen	10
PJ Library	11
Jewish Family Services	12
Adopt-A-Family	13
Security	14
Israel & Overseas	15
Retro Federation	16
Jewish Community Relations Council	17
Hasten Hebrew Academy of Indianapolis	18
Jewish Community Center	20
Purdue Hillel/Hooverwood	21
Synagogues/GUCI	22
Community Chanukah Candle Lighting	BC



Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis
JFGI NEXTGen
JFGI Israel Connections
IndyJFS



@JFGIndy
@JFGINEXTGen



@JFGIndy
@JFGINEXTGen
@IndyJFS



JewishFederationof GreaterIndianapolis

JEWISH FEDERATION NEWS

CEO/EXEC. VICE PRESIDENT

Debra Barton Grant

PRESIDENT

Beth Klapper

EDITOR

Andrea Hirsch

DESIGN/LAYOUT

Joel Bustamante

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Naomi Farahan

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.

We are now in the beginning days of the year 5781. I hope the High Holidays were meaningful for you and your families. I am sure you all join me in acknowledging how impressive our clergy and synagogues have been throughout these challenging times; they are our partners in building a strong and vibrant Jewish community here in Indianapolis. We are so lucky to live in a community that works collaboratively across our organizations. Thank you to our partners for sharing essential information about the wonderful programs, services and events happening throughout our community. It is our joy to be able to share with all of you this great work through our Connect with Purpose page; check out our one stop destination for ways to get connected. You can view what's coming up by visiting www.jewishindianapolis.org/connect-with-purpose.



Debra Barton Grant

DEBRA BARTON GRANT
CEO and Executive Vice President

Freedom Sunday, December 1987

In my last Jewish Federation News article, I spoke about the struggle that many of us are feeling as we move through this pivotal moment in our community. I share with you a personal pivotal moment for me that set me on my professional career trajectory. On Dec. 6, 1987, 33 years ago, I had the incredible experience of joining an estimated 250,000 participants who gathered on the National Mall, calling for the General Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, Mikhail Gorbachev, to extend his policy of Glasnost to Soviet Jews by putting an end to their forced assimilation and allowing their emigration from the Soviet Union. This rally was organized by a broad-based coalition of Jewish organizations including our national Jewish Federation system. At the time, I was a freshman at Indiana University (IU), and I was thrilled by the opportunity to join so many from Indianapolis, Bloomington, and around the State of Indiana including my father Dr. Doug Barton (see the photo on p. 27), from South Bend, for this life-changing event.

As a Bat-Mitzvah, I wore a bracelet with the name of a young 13-year-old Russian girl who was not able to celebrate publicly. A few years later as a college student, I marched for her and her family to be able to celebrate their Judaism as they wished. As fate would have it, a few years later during the summer before my Senior year at IU, I applied and was accepted to the Kroot Internship program at our very own Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis. That summer, like these other pivotal moments, I had the unique opportunity to work for a very young Lori Moss at our Jewish Family Services (then called JFCS) with our newest community members in our Russian resettlement team. Our senior Russians were at the time living at Park Regency Apartments and my job was to help them navigate this new community. The rally, coupled with my profound internship experience, has led me on a beautiful Jewish organizational career that I wouldn't change for the world.

New Global Change

Like the late 80s and early 90s marked the end of the Soviet Union and a paradigmatic shift in not only the world but also our own local Jewish community, COVID has now emerged as a new moment of worldwide change, affecting us at every level – global, national, regional, and local. And just as the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis and our national partners addressed the needs of our changing community then, we are doing the same now.

We are at our final push for our Annual Campaign and we need your help to get us to our goal. There has never been a greater need for the support of our community's 2020 Annual Campaign that there is right now. **CONTINUED ON PAGE 27**

WINNIE GOLDBLATT

Reflects on Her Life and Legacy

Community member Winnie Goldblatt is making history by participating in the LIFE & LEGACY program. Her after-lifetime gift will help sustain the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis' (JFGI) endowment for generations to come.

Goldblatt already had an enduring influence on the JFGI and its endowment programs, as she served as the JFGI Endowment Director for 28 years. Joining a tradition of passionate, influential female leaders in Jewish communities across North America was Goldblatt's reason for gifting a Lion of Judah Endowment. She says she wants her gift to help JFGI and its partner agencies to continue to meet the needs of the community, whatever they may be.

"When I think of the Lion of Judah, I think of the strength of the community, and the endurance of the community," Goldblatt said. "For such a long time, the Jewish community worldwide has been able to endure through thick and thin, through good and bad times, because they have been strong. And part of that strength is having financial resources... when there are crises, there are resources to help out."

Goldblatt has seen firsthand how important JFGI is to the community, and she acknowledges that no one can predict exactly what challenges the future will pose.

"I don't think that I ever envisioned the COVID-19 virus, or anything as dramatic

as that," she said. "But right now, we are living through a time that demonstrates and emphasizes the importance of having those resources."

Philanthropy is important to Goldblatt -- she comes from a long line of people who did what they could to make the world a better place.

Women's Philanthropy is especially meaningful to her. She says Jewish women have led their communities through the ages. Her mother served in leadership roles at Hadassah and the United Jewish Appeal. Just as her mother led by example, Goldblatt says she is doing the same for her descendants.

"I wanted my gift to be an example to my children and grandchildren, that I cared to allocate some of my financial resources for the community, and that the Jewish community is important to me," she said.

She also said it makes good financial sense to leave an after-lifetime gift.

"It's your money, you work long and hard for it, why shouldn't that help shape the future of the community you want for your children and your grandchildren and those that follow? There's an old saying: 'you can't take it with you.' That's true. You can't take it with you. But what you can do is create a philanthropic legacy that will endure long after you're gone," Goldblatt concluded.



"I wanted my gift to be an example to my children and grandchildren, that I cared to allocate some of my financial resources for the community, and that the Jewish community is important to me"

- Winnie Goldblatt

Did you know JFGI administers a donor advised fund (DAF) program comprised of more than 100 individual funds?

A DAF is a named fund at JFGI that allows you to recommend grants to qualified charitable organizations of your choice, take advantage of the highest charitable tax deduction available and make your charitable giving simple, effective and satisfying. It's an easy and satisfying way to better manage and organize your philanthropy.

The fund can be established with a minimum gift of \$2,500 and the opportunity to make additions at any time. The Federation invests and administers the fund's assets, processes recommendations, mails checks to recipient organizations and sends out regular reports.

Interested in learning more about JFGI's DAF program? Contact Josh Lodolo, Senior Director of Planned Giving & Endowment at jlodolo@jfgi.org or (317) 715-9266.

2020 Virtual Super Sunday SUCCESS

Thank you to the many volunteers, donors, and professionals who helped make the first-ever virtual Super Sunday a success! Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, this year's dedicated volunteers came together virtually and raised \$160,000 from more than 250 donors.

In addition to the critical funds raised on Super Sunday for the 2020 Annual Campaign, gifts received for Super Sunday represent a 13 percent increase over what these same donors contributed last year. And 82 new donors showed their support for the community with new gifts for Super Sunday this year. Volunteers also reached hundreds of other donors through hand-written thank you notes.

Thanks to the special Human Services Relief Matching Fund established by Jewish Federations of North America, all new and increased gift amounts received from Super Sunday will be matched by this national matching



fund at 50 percent. That means the nearly \$25,000 in new and increased gifts will be matched with more than \$12,000 from the Human Services Relief Matching Fund. Thank you to all those who helped get these additional funds for the community. The Human Services Relief Matching Fund will continue through the 2020 calendar year, so if you would like to increase your Annual Campaign gift, even more dollars will be matched for the community.

Special thanks to 2020 Super Sunday co-chairs Reva Weiss and Jon Shapiro, immediate past NEXTGen Director Matt Kramer-Morning, and to all of the volunteers, donors, professionals, and participants who adapted to the circumstances to support Super Sunday and the life-changing work of the Jewish Federation, community agencies, and many partner organizations. The outpouring of generosity inspired by this one day makes a difference all year long.

LAST CALL! 2020 ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

Building on the success from Super Sunday, volunteers and donors continue to raise much-needed funds for the community's 2020 Annual Campaign. To date, more than \$3 million has been contributed to the 2020 Annual Campaign. But there is still a way to go to surpass \$4 million again this year to provide for critical community needs, and this won't happen without your help!

It is not too late to help and make a difference for so many. In Indianapolis alone, before the pandemic, more than 3,700 individuals—including many children and seniors—needed help with the basic necessities that so many take for granted. In the past six months, these needs have increased considerably and many more in the community need assistance. They need your help.

To make a difference in the lives of others who need your help, please contribute to the 2020 Annual Campaign online at www.jewishindianapolis.org/donate, by calling Michael Skolnick at (317) 715-9274, or mail your check to the Jewish Federation at 6705 Hoover Road, Indianapolis, IN 46260.

The 2020 Annual Campaign officially closes on Dec. 31, so make your gift today.

CHANUKAH VIRTUAL COOKING DEMONSTRATION

with James Beard Foundation
Award-winning Chef
Michael Solomonov

Wednesday, December 2nd
8pm EST



Register at
<http://bit.ly/SolomonovDec>

Also look out for his Passover
demonstration coming March 16!

Human Services Relief Matching Fund

Due to the pandemic and the resulting economic crisis, an estimated 1.2 million Jewish adults across North America are worrying about paying their next month's housing costs. More than 500,000 are facing food insecurity, wondering how they will afford to feed their families. And countless others are making the painful choice between food, medicine, or their utility bills.

To address these increasing needs, Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA) created the Human Services Relief Matching Fund to raise tens of millions of dollars to support human service needs

for communities across the country. The additional funds raised will go exclusively to meet the critical needs of Jewish community members most affected by the current crisis.

Here's how it works—from Sept. 1 until Dec. 31, 2020, every eligible dollar donated to the Jewish Federation will be matched by the JFNA Human Services Relief Matching Fund at 50 percent. Gifts are eligible if a donor's intent is to support human services, and donors must be either increasing their existing gift (only the increase in the amount will be matched), be a first-time donor,

or not have made a gift in at least 18 months. A gift of \$10 becomes \$15...\$100 become \$150...\$1,000 become \$1,500... and so on. And the impact of all these gifts will touch those who need it most.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis is currently eligible to receive up to \$60,000 in matching funds through this national program. In order to do so, JFGI needs your help to raise \$120,000 in new and increased gifts, adding \$180,000 to the community's efforts to support much-needed human services in the Greater Indianapolis Jewish Community.

Celebrating Sukkot and Harvest Festival with Newfields

On Monday, Oct. 5, volunteers and major donors to the community's Annual Campaign enjoyed exclusive behind-the-scenes access to Newfields' Harvest Festival and a discussion with curator Anna Stein of the *Edward Hopper and the American Hotel* exhibition, sponsored by Schahet Hotels. Participants in this virtual experience also learned a fall harvest recipe from Newfields chefs to celebrate the Jewish holiday of Sukkot.

Thank you to everyone who supports the Annual Campaign and for making a difference in the lives of so many all year long!

Thank you to Newfields for this exciting partnership opportunity and thank you to The National Bank of Indianapolis for supporting this program.

UPCOMING PROGRAM:

"Latkes and Lights" event at Newfields - coming this December! Stay tuned for more exciting opportunities for the entire community in the coming months!



Made possible with support from

THE NATIONAL
BANK OF INDIANAPOLIS

APPLY TODAY FOR A COVID SCHOLARSHIP

When a crisis occurs, the Indianapolis community and faith-based nonprofits are the first to step forward to complement the work of government and emergency management teams and help lead long-term recovery efforts. When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, the Federation launched a Community Relief Fund to help combat the hardship the community is currently facing. Since the Fund was launched in April, the Jewish community has come together to raise more than \$850,000 to help those in need.

So far, this fund has helped several Jewish community

organizations and individuals. The Federation offered a community scholarship program to help families affected by COVID pay for the costs of Jewish life in the community. So far, the Federation has helped more than 20 families with Jewish needs through this scholarship.

Funds are still available for religious schools, Early Childhood Education, camp and more. Visit <https://www.jewishindianapolis.org/connect-with-purpose> and download a COVID Scholarship Application. Contact Han Jacobs Meadway at hmeadway@jfgi.org for more information.



Contribute to the 2020 Annual Campaign online at www.jewishindianapolis.org/donate, by phone at (317) 715-9274, or mail your check to the Jewish Federation at 6705 Hoover Road, Indianapolis, IN 46260. The 2020 Annual Campaign officially closes on Dec. 31, so make your gift today.

YoPhl Teen Board Kicks Off New Slate, Starts New Program for Returning Members

The 20 teens of this year's YoPhl Teen Board kicked off their year with orientations and group meetings throughout September and October as they started their philanthropy journey. In its third year of existence, the Teen Board program is excited to host its first YoPhl Alumni Board made up of returning Teen Board members who, after going through their initial year-long grantmaking process, have returned for a deeper dive into philanthropy and another allocations round.

The Teen Board members are working hard to clarify their group values and create a mission statement that represents the change they want to see in the world. Next up for the teens is sending out their Request for Proposals (RFP). Be on the lookout for the RFP coming in early December and as the Teen Board members kick off fundraising in January 2021.



**YOUTH
PHILANTHROPY**
INDY | Teen Board

For more information on
Teen programs, visit
[www.jewishindianapolis.org/
get-involved/teens](http://www.jewishindianapolis.org/get-involved/teens).

YOUTH GROUP HAPPENINGS

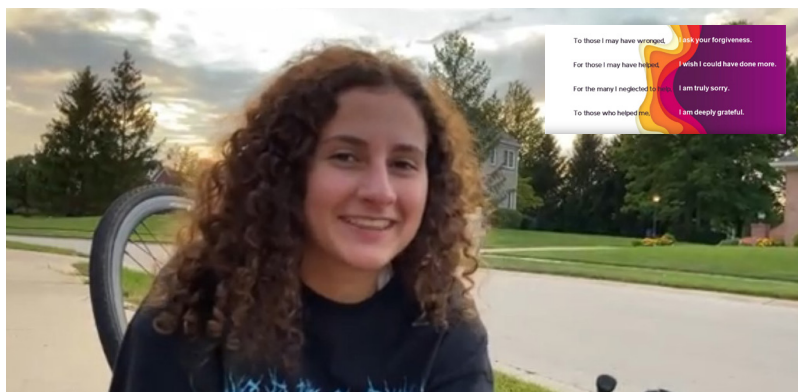


CTeensers pose during an outdoor honey cake bake in preparation for Rosh Hashanah. Chabad has been making use of their outdoor space for Sukkot and other events as well.



Local BBYO chapters are kicking off an exciting term. BBG gathered for an outdoor havdallah ceremony and scavenger hunt to reconnect as the year gets underway.

**IFTY
5781
Yom Kippur
Experience**



IFTY is off and running with virtual programming. The youth group members created a virtual reflective experience for Yom Kippur.



Chanukah Virtual Scavenger Hunt

As the weather turns colder, local youth groups are coming together to support the community by spreading a little light during Chanukah and Winter Break. Join teens for this virtual competition full of fun and exciting challenges, which will take place Dec. 13 - 27. More information coming soon but be sure to register at www.jewishindianapolis.org/chanukahhunt.

Educator Highlight: Kelly Watson

Kelly Watson has been teaching eighth grade English at Fishers Jr. High School for the past 22 years. The course of Kelly's career and life dramatically shifted after meeting local Holocaust survivor Michael Vogel. She became inspired to not only personally learn more about the Holocaust but to educate students about its lessons in a pedagogically sound, yet meaningful way. Amber Maze, Holocaust Education & Program Coordinator, had the unique opportunity to speak with Kelly about the incredible work she does locally and around the world.

QUESTION: You credit meeting Michael Vogel and attending the Belfer National Conference for Educators at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM) with changing your life. How did these experiences lead you to become involved in furthering Holocaust and contemporary genocide education? Why is it important?

Those experiences led me to apply for and receive a fellowship with USHMM in 2001, which brought me to working with educators across the globe on best practices to teach about the Holocaust and other genocides. I have been honored to work with the USC Shoah Foundation as a Master Teacher, telling the stories of Rwandan survivors and in Berlin, Germany with Centropa, whose organization preserves the family stories and photographs of 20th century European Jews. In 2010, I was also honored to be invited by the Polish embassy to participate in an educational exchange program in

Poland. Currently, I am an International Coordinator and Curriculum Designer with the Educators' Institute for Human Rights. I have done work with teachers in Cambodia about how to teach about genocide by using the Holocaust and the Cambodian genocide together. This work is important because we see today what happens when we don't recognize the pain and inequities in others. We must teach about the misuse of power and how not to remain silent when others are unable to use their voices. The past allows us to see points of intersection in what we can see throughout other genocides and simply our world today.

QUESTION: This December marks the 72nd anniversary of the United Nations Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. As a genocide educator, what does the Convention mean to you?

There are obvious reasons internationally why the Convention was one of the most important pieces of legislation that has been put forth. We can see its power when both protecting the rights of minority groups being targeted, such as the Rohingya in Myanmar, and prosecuting those who commit the acts of atrocities, such as the Extraordinary the Khmer Rouge Tribunal in Cambodia. In the classroom, I think its study lets students understand the definition of genocide and the how and why genocide occurs, with each step being choices that individuals made by either participating, remaining



Local educator Kelly Watson presents to a group of 100 teachers in Battambang, Cambodia in 2016.

silent, or by choosing to help those in need. It also helps students understand how countries and individuals are held accountable for their actions when looking at international court trials.

QUESTION: In your opinion, how can education be utilized to better uphold the ideals and charges mandated in the current Convention?

This is a complex question and, as a junior high English teacher, I may not have a definitive answer. However, if there is one way to stop genocide from occurring it is through education. Through understanding the Convention, we begin to understand warning signs as well as the importance of human rights for all.



20-somethings from Moishe Pod Indy and Federation Staff build the Jewish Community Sukkah just in time for Sukkot.

OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO TIKKUN OLAM

BY AMBER MAZE, HOLOCAUST EDUCATION & PROGRAM COORDINATOR



An eternal flame honors the roughly 1.2 million Armenians who were murdered by the Ottoman Turks between 1915-1923.

“...at all periods of history, genocide has inflicted great losses on humanity, and being convinced that, in order to liberate mankind from such an odious scourge, international co-operation is required...”

— CONVENTION ON THE PREVENTION AND PUNISHMENT OF THE CRIME OF GENOCIDE, 1948

In 1944, as the wholesale slaughter of Jews raged unabated in Europe, a Polish-Jewish refugee and lawyer named Raphael Lemkin coined a new term to define what the world was witnessing: genocide. Over the next four years, Lemkin worked tirelessly to develop a resolution to protect civilians from identity-based violence and punish those responsible for this newly named -- yet

historically-old -- crime. He desperately tried to convince world leaders at the fledgling United Nations of the necessity of international human rights law and implored them to adopt his resolution. On December 9, 1948, his hard work paid off. The Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide became the first human rights treaty adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations.



During the Cambodian genocide, S-21 prison was used as a torture and execution center for those considered disloyal to the Khmer Rouge regime. Photo by Marcin Czerniawski.

Lemkin's research into historical accounts of genocide coupled with the knowledge of Nazi extermination policies during the Holocaust greatly informed the elements of genocide outlined in the law. According to the Convention, acts of genocide include the following actions when taken with the intent to destroy a group in whole or in part: (a) killing members of the group; (b) causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group; (c) deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part; (d) imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group; (e) forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.

For the past 72 years, the international community has looked to the Convention to inform its decisions around mass atrocities with the understanding that, should an act of genocide occur, it is the responsibility of nations to prevent its continuance. However, time and time again, the international community has failed in its responsibility to protect. Politicians argue over technicalities and weigh the amount of money that might be spent against the amount of lives that would be saved. We see this inability to act within our own government today. While some incremental measures have been taken, such as sanctions and denouncements, very little has been done to mitigate the ongoing violence against the Rohingya in Myanmar and the Uyghur in China. While we debate, they die.

The Jewish community has the unique responsibility of *tikkun olam* ("repair the world") set out in the classical rabbinic teachings of the Mishnah. How can we -- our own community -- further the goal of *tikkun olam* and take action to effect real, lasting, and positive change around these issues? We can educate ourselves on human rights issues occurring around the world today and put pressure on our local government representatives. We can support the work the Indianapolis Jewish Community Relations Council is doing surrounding these issues and become involved in programs and advocacy campaigns they



Raphael Lemkin at the United Nations in September 1948. Photo courtesy of the United Nations News & Media Archives



Grave markers honor those who lost their lives at the hands of the Serb forces in Sarajevo, Bosnia. Photo by Nancy Hann.

set forth. We can volunteer with local organizations who are dedicated to preventing mass atrocities and mitigating identity-based violence, such as the Crane Center for Mass Atrocity Prevention, OBAT Helpers and

Darfur Women Network. When we come together as a unified community committed to raising our voices on behalf of those who have lost theirs, we can generate change and positively impact the world.

Changing Hands:

NEXTGen welcomes new Co-Chairs

The NEXTGen program, an initiative for young Jews in their 20s, 30s and 40s, will soon undergo a transition in leadership. Outgoing co-chairs Reva Weiss and Eric Ratner will hand over the reins to incomers Erica Abrams and Yaniv Shmukler.

Ratner, a Sales Account Executive at NBC-affiliate WTHR and Weiss, a Complaint Investigator/ IIEP Specialist at the Indiana Department of Education, have led NEXTGen members to engage in diverse programming for the past 2 years. Some events, like monthly happy hours, were opportunities for young Jews to build relationships with their peers. Others, like Nice Jewish Brunches, were opportunities to engage with intersecting groups like the LGBTQ+ community.

"To me what is important and what has been important is to foster that next generation of leaders, to bring a new voice," Ratner said about his time as a Co-Chair.

Ratner and Weiss helped found LEADS, the first program of its kind in Indianapolis. Participants learn the information and skills necessary to grow into leadership positions within the Federation and the greater Indianapolis Jewish community. The duo hosted many successful, wide-ranging events and programs, such as JSwipe founder David Yarus, and partner programs with PJ Library like fruit picking at Spencer Farms. Some of the events, including the annual Light it Up holiday party, engaged as many as 150 attendees.

"I have had so many unique

interactions as a result of being co-chair, both in terms of meeting new people and getting exposure to things I otherwise wouldn't have," Weiss said.

Ratner and Weiss give special thanks to NEXTGen Director Matt Kramer-Morning and the JFGI staff for all of the support during their time as co-chairs.

"Certainly, without their support in advertising, sending email blasts, and helping coordinate so many wonderful programs, we would not have the NEXTGen community we have today," Ratner and Weiss said. "We also want to thank our families for their support."

They added "Being Jewish makes us both proud. We were happy to help serve the Jewish community and look forward to continuing to give back."

Now, two new co-chairs take their positions, hoping to build upon the legacy of past co-chairs.

Immigration attorney Yaniv Shmukler served as the Israel Director at the Indiana University Hillel for the past year, but recently returned to the Indianapolis area. He was heavily involved in the Indianapolis Jewish community before he moved to Bloomington, serving on the board at the Congregation Beth-El Zedeck, and a Kroot intern with the Indianapolis Jewish Community Relations Council.

He said the NEXTGen co-chair position is an opportunity to make positive change in the community.

"My biggest hope is definitely to reach those young Jews



Eric Ratner, Reva Weiss, Yaniv Shmukler, and Erica Abrams

Thank you to Co-Chairs Eric and Reva, and the entire NEXTGen committee for your continued commitment to NEXTGen during leadership changes!

who aren't really a part of the NEXTGen community, who aren't really a part of the organized Jewish community and who come from different backgrounds," he said.

Shmukler wants to diversify the NEXTGen community: he plans to engage young Jews who have not yet been invited to participate in programming.

His says his experience as a Jewish professional will inform his work as a co-chair, while his experiences as an Israeli and as a Russian speaker inform his goals to promote the diversity within the global Jewish community.

Teacher Erica Abrams has been involved in NEXTGen since she moved to Indianapolis several years ago. Her involvement on other boards and committees for JFGI and Jewish Family Services (JFS), and through JFS' Parent's Night Out program, will enhance her role as a NEXTGen

co-chair. She is excited to engage NEXTGen members in opportunities for service.

"I think we've got a lot of growing to do, and a lot of opportunities for improvement, and I'm really excited to be a part of that change," Abrams said.

Abrams says she wants to see an increase in thoughtful, creative, and regularly scheduled programming.

By tapping into community members' diverse skill sets and backgrounds, co-chairs Abrams and Shmukler say they plan to design "programming with a purpose," by engaging NEXTGen members to attend programs more regularly.

"I'm looking forward to building a stronger community for NEXTGen, better programming, and helping people find a safe space and social space for themselves," Abrams said.

Be on the lookout for upcoming virtual events and more by following @JFGInextgen on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Sign up for the NEXTGen e-blast and learn more about the department at www.jewishindianapolis.org/departments/nextgen.

PJ Provides Jewish Activity Boxes



Even without in-person programming, PJ Library of Greater Indianapolis is still making an impact. In August, PJ Library made and distributed 13 Shabbat boxes with all the elements needed for Kabbalat Shabbat and Havdalah as well as fun items for the little ones. In September, they teamed up with Congregation Beth Shalom and Congregation Shaarey Tefilla and passed out 40 Rosh Hashanah boxes with apples, honey, books, crafts, and activities for kids of all ages to get ready for the New Year.



Julius, son of Jerry and Jessie Wise



Bella Tobe, daughter of Leslie and Matthew Tobe

SIGN UP for PJ Library's Jewish Child Book Club

PJ Library sends free, award-winning books that celebrate Jewish values and culture to families with children from birth through 8 years old.



PJ Our Way is the next chapter of PJ Library, for kids ages 8½-11. With PJ Our Way, rather than receiving a specific book in the mail, kids can choose the book they want to receive every month.

Sign up for each of these book programs at www.jewishindianapolis.org/pj-library. For more information about programming, email Robbie Adler at radler@jfgi.org.

PJ Teams Up With Adopt-a-Family Program

During Adopt-a-Family donation drop off hours on Dec. 6, from 1-3 p.m., PJ Library is hosting a socially distanced StoryWalk/Drive Through. Participants will follow a path on foot or in their vehicle where pages of a book are transformed into signs and activities. All are welcome!

All participants in Adopt-A-Family will also receive a Chanukah Box with candles, gelt, and crafts to get ready for the holiday.

The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, Vermont, and developed in collaboration with the Vermont Bicycle & Pedestrian Coalition and the Kellogg Hubbard Library.

Serving the Community During the COVID-19 Pandemic

By Rachel Katz,
Assistant Director of Jewish Family Services

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact our city, Jewish Family Services (JFS) meets the challenge to adjust programs and implement new services to address the urgent and emerging needs of our local community.

Back in March, JFS halted all in-person programming and prioritized social services that focused on urgent needs with new COVID-related protocols in place. Popsie's Pantry is a great example of this. Starting March 12, the JFS office was closed to the community to reduce the risk of exposing our staff, clients, and volunteers to the virus. Therefore, Popsie's Pantry became a contact-free, curbside, grocery-pickup program. From then and continuing today, clients call with their grocery requests and our team fills their orders. For older adults who are considered higher risk, we offer grocery delivery, particularly to those with limited mobility and transportation. **Today, we are serving nearly double the households than pre-pandemic times and we are distributing four times the amount of food per household on average.** Furthermore, Popsie's Pantry is now able to provide perishable foods such as eggs, meat, chicken, turkey, and additional fresh produce.

Case Management with JFS Social Workers is another service area that looks drastically different today yet continues to serve the community in such an impactful way. The ability to forge and maintain connection with clients becomes much more challenging when done by phone or through virtual platforms but finding new ways to accomplish this was, and continues to be, imperative. The requests through Case Management for food support, assistance with applying for benefits, emotional and mental health support, and emergency financial relief continues to grow each month as we aid clients through new challenges they are facing amidst the pandemic.

Our Kavod initiative, which serves the local Holocaust Survivor population,



If you'd like to get involved, here are some ways you can help!

- **Organize a food-drive amongst your friends and colleagues to collect donations for Popsie's Pantry.**
- **Make a financial donation.**
- **Participate in Adopt-a-Family (see next page for all the info).**
- **Spread awareness on social**

media. Follow JFS on Facebook and Instagram @indyjfs.

- **Collect quarters to donate! There's a current shortage and many need them to access laundry.**
- **Sign up to volunteer your time at <https://jfgi.regfox.com/connect-with-purpose-volunteering>.**

has also shifted drastically. While we are not currently able to offer programs that reduce social isolation, our staff have spent considerably more time engaging with survivors through individual outreach. **As a result, we have seen a 300 percent increase in our Kavod Case Management initiative since the start of the pandemic.**

Changes have also been made to our medical transportation program, the Libby & David Fogle Lunch Bunch, Parents' Night Out, and the Birthday Club.

To help support these new efforts, the Jewish Federation launched the Community Relief Fund and initially granted \$150,000 to Jewish Family Services. **Additionally, our colleague**

Anna Price worked tirelessly with our staff to quickly apply for 7 new grants that awarded us a total of \$92,837 in COVID-relief funding.

While many of these services are sustained for the time being, we anticipate that the community's needs will grow and shift over the next few years. We remain committed to serving our clients in the most meaningful way possible, therefore we evaluate our programs and services on an ongoing basis to ensure success with the limited resources we have. We look forward to sharing more updates as we continue to adjust and meet the emerging needs of our community, and we thank you for strengthening the work we do through your support and through your kindness.

ADOPT-A-FAMILY



Drive-By Community Day

Sunday, Dec. 6 | 1 – 3 p.m.

**At Celebration Plaza
(JCC Campus near Door 3)**

Register at

jewishindianapolis.org/adoptafamily

Adopt-a-Family is an annual community-wide program that helps Jewish households in the Indianapolis area during the Chanukah holiday.

Due to Covid-19, the community is asked to shop for items, wrap them at home, and drop them off to Jewish Family Services during a drive-by. Gifts can also be shipped or dropped off prior to Community Day at the JFS office.

PJ Library Activity!

PJ Library is hosting a socially distanced StoryWalk. Participants will follow a path on foot or in their vehicle where pages of a book are transformed into signs and activities.

Contact Rachel Katz at rkatz@jfgi.org with questions.



Jewish Federation
OF GREATER INDIANAPOLIS

The Safe Indy Security Initiative: *Looking Forward*

The Jewish Federation (JFGI), partner agencies, local Jewish organizations, and Greater Indianapolis synagogues continue to support the Safe Indy Security Initiative, which was launched in Spring 2020. With the rise in antisemitic hate crimes, and the unique security threats posed by COVID-19, leaders within the Indianapolis Jewish community have banded together to take a proactive approach to security.

One of the first steps in founding the initiative was hiring Community Security Director Grant Mendenhall, in partnership with the Secure Community Network (SCN), the official safety and security organization of the Jewish community in North America. SCN, through its network of security professionals working in Federations around the US, and its 24/7 Duty Desk, provides the community with valuable, national-level resources in support of the Safe Indy Initiative's mission to continuously improve safety and security posture and readiness. Mendenhall previously served in the FBI, most recently as the Special Agent in Charge of the Indianapolis Division.

According to Mendenhall, "security" is a complex, multi-faceted concept that covers diverse threats to our community. He joined JFGI in April, when the COVID-19 pandemic was at an early peak: his holistic approach to security played an integral role in the JFGI's handling of the pandemic.

Mendenhall's goals include hardening facilities, training personnel, and helping organizations build plans to guide their response to critical incidents across the spectrum, from weather emergencies to active threat

scenarios. In furtherance of these goals, he provides hands-on support to community agencies.

Miriam Gettinger, Hasten Hebrew Academy of Indianapolis (HHA) Principal, said the physical and emotional safety of staff and students predicated the school's award-winning education.

"Grant conducted a comprehensive on-site safety review and vulnerability study of our school facility, helping us to identify areas of potential concern and prioritizing our next steps for security upgrades," she said. "We have since explored lighting, physical limestone barriers along the perimeter to combat vehicular assault and other target hardening suggestions.

Significantly, after a walkthrough with administration, Gettinger says Mendenhall is returning to conduct a two-hour active shooter presentation for the entire staff empowering each staff member to proactively plan for a myriad of emergency scenarios.

A Co-Chair of the HHA Security Committee, Megan Maurer said she looks forward to the transformation taking place thanks to an increasingly proactive approach to security.

"Our vision for the Indianapolis Jewish community and HHA is one in which we quickly adopt and implement the most current and recommended security practices and protocols... We need to harden our sites and address vulnerabilities, yet at the same time we need to maintain the welcoming feeling that has always pervaded our communal institutions," she said.



Shari Lipp-Levine, Executive Director of Congregation Beth-El Zedeck, said the synagogue has benefited from the collaborative nature of the initiative.

"By working together with other synagogues, JFGI and their agencies, we have been better able to review, develop and create protocols in this ever-changing landscape," she said.

The CEO of JCC Indianapolis, Eric H. Koehler, pointed to the initiative's role in ensuring timely and accurate information-sharing between organizations.

"Sharing knowledge of situations a sister agency is experiencing can help guide and inform our policies and procedures and ensure improved safety. Our security risks are evolving, and our shared experiences can help us remain cognizant of new types of threats," he said.

To learn more about the Initiative, visit www.jewishindianapolis.org/safeindy. To contribute to the fund that makes the Initiative possible, visit jfgi.givingfuel.com/security-fund.

"I am grateful to JFGI and SCN for partnering to bring Grant Mendenhall to Indianapolis. It is important for our community to have a coordinated response to security, and Grant has been a huge asset. Congregation Beth-El Zedeck takes emergency preparedness seriously, and we have benefited from the collaboration of the Safe Indy Initiative. By working together with other synagogues, JFGI and their agencies, we have been better able to review, develop and create protocols in this ever-changing landscape."

- Shari Lipp-Levine, Executive Director of Congregation Beth-El Zedeck



Sliding 'Dors': New Partnership2Gether Cohort of Second Generation Holocaust Survivors

The alarming results of the recent national Holocaust survey done by the Claims Conference reveals how little Millennials and Gen Z know about the Holocaust. A few shocking results show that -

- 63 percent of respondents do not know that 6 million Jews were murdered in the Holocaust.
- 23 percent said that the Holocaust didn't happen, or that it took place but the number of Jews who died 'has been greatly exaggerated', or they were unsure.
- 19 percent of respondents in New York believe that the Holocaust was caused by Jews.
- 12 percent of respondents said that they had never heard of, or don't think they've heard of the word 'Holocaust.'

These disturbing results, together with increasing incidents of Holocaust Denial and acts of antisemitism, highlight the urgent need to increase education about the Holocaust. About 67 percent of the respondents said that they first learned about the Holocaust in school. What better way to tell youth about the events than survivors giving their own testimonies? Sadly it has been 75 years post Holocaust and there are few survivors who still have the ability to talk publicly about their personal testimonies and describe first-hand accounts of the atrocities.

Who, then, can take the lead? Second and third generation of Holocaust survivors. Specifically, those who grew up hearing their parents and grandparents' stories, have conducted research, and/or are a part of the Holocaust Speakers Bureau taught to present publicly in schools.

With that in mind, Partnership2Gether has initiated a new program for second

generation Holocaust survivors called Sliding Dors (Dor means generation in Hebrew). The program has two components - creation of a local group of second Gens in Indianapolis, whom also attends monthly virtual gatherings with similar groups in the Western Galilee, Budapest and 11 U.S. Jewish communities in the Partnership region.

The local group is meeting (virtually) once a month with the goal of sharing and hearing from each other about the impact on their lives growing up as a second gen. It is an opportunity to tell their parents' stories as they know them. The group is a safe place to look at the effect it had on these individuals and the opportunity to learn from one another, with the added benefit from sharing with others who have grown up under similar circumstances.

The larger international group will also meet virtually once a month for a year, starting in December.

Any of the participants who want to join the Holocaust Speakers Bureau afterwards will get all the support they need from Amber Maze, Holocaust Education & Program Coordinator, to develop their story and public speaking skills.

"Personally, I am very excited about this program because I am a second generation, and as the Federation's Israel & Overseas Director, I am always looking for ways to help Hoosiers connect with Jewish communities around the world," said Michele Boukai. "I think it will be very interesting to hear from second Gen's who grew up in Israel and Budapest, to compare and learn from one another."

Are you a second or third Gen interested in joining this group? Contact Michele Boukai at mboukai@jfgi.org or (317) 475-4274 for more information.

Western Galilee Partnership2Gether Upcoming Programs

- **Global Day of Jewish Learning:** 1 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 8, held virtually. Topic is Human Dignity.



- **Virtual Tour of the Galilee Medical Center in Nahariya:** 12 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 22. Get to know the largest medical institution in the region. Walk the corridors and speak with doctors and nurses of all backgrounds.

Visit www.westerngalilee.org.il or [@p2gwgaliil](https://www.facebook.com/p2gwgaliil) on Facebook for Zoom links to these programs and to find out about more upcoming programs.

Ethiopian Jews, Their History and Lives

Zoom Webinar Featuring Naftali Akum

Check the JFGI website and social media for date and time.

The story of the exodus of Ethiopian Jews to Israel is one of the most moving historical events of the Jewish people. In this webinar, Naftali Akum will give a personalized account of the dramatic exodus of Ethiopian Jews from Ethiopia, through Sudan, to Israel, fleshing out the unknown details of this amazing adventure.

Naftali was among the first group of Ethiopian Jews to make Aliyah via Sudan. He works as an advocate for Ethiopian-Israelis and raising awareness about Jewish-Ethiopian history. Naftali will discuss Ethiopian Jewish history, culture, and the unique challenges faced by the Ethiopian-Israeli community. Although it happened recently, most Israelis and worldwide Jewry are not aware of the difficulties and challenges encountered by Ethiopian Jews in their trek to reach Israel.

Naftali also served as a consultant for the recent Netflix film, 'The Red Sea Diving Resort', which is based on the true story of his brother, Ferede (Z'l), whose bravery and determination helped bring thousands of Ethiopian Jews to Israel in a daring Mossad mission.



RETRO FEDERATION 130 THURSDAY'S

By Claudette Einhorn

Rome was not built in a day and neither is a Jewish Community Campus. For 130 Thursdays or roughly 2 ½ years beginning at 7:30 a.m. and running for 3 ½ hours, Ira Jaffee, Executive Director of the JCC, Harry Nadler, Executive Director of the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis, and I, as chairwoman of the Construction Committee, met with a representative of the architectural firm and the construction managers to review the progress of what was to be the new Simon Jewish Community Campus.

Of course, before construction could begin, there was planning. A consultant was hired to determine how much the Indianapolis Jewish Community could raise to construct our vision. He determined we could only raise \$2 Million. With that in mind, we ignored the advice and under the more than able leadership of David Kleiman and a host of volunteers, the community raised more than \$15 Million.

Optimistically, we began plans well before we had raised all the money. Hooverwood went through a major renovation even before the campus construction began.

The next big step was hiring an architect. In 1994, three firms were interviewed and Ratio Architects with Bill Browne as its principal was selected. Ratio's sensitivity to the Jewish identity of the campus was one of the deciding factors in their selection. The firm suggested the Jewish Timeline which runs along the back parking lot. If you have not seen it, start at Entrance 5 and stroll to Entrance 6 for a brief review of Jewish history. They placed a Star of David in each of the towers and they gave Hebrew names to each of the buildings entrances that expressed

the five themes of our campus.

Over Door 1 at the former BJE (now CJEL): Chinuch, Hebrew for education

Over Door 3 at the Federation and auditorium entrance: Kehila, Hebrew for community

Over Door 4 at the main Front entrance: Merkaz, Hebrew for Center

Over Door 5 back entrance to the Fitness areas: Chaim, Hebrew for life

Over Door 6 entrance to the Early Childhood wing: Limud, Hebrew for learning

Long before construction began, a strategic planning committee determined that a name change from the Jewish Welfare Federation was needed. That old name focused only on the campaign. We needed more focus on inclusion, which led to more focus on our agencies, which then led to the capital construction. We became the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis.

Long before the actual construction began, a vision for the campus was developed through the hard work of the pre-construction committee composed of representatives of all the agencies and the Federation. Many may not realize that the Federation was not always on Hoover Road. Along with many other non-profits, the Federation had Downtown offices in the English Foundation Building. Bringing the Federation near the agencies really conceptualized the existence of THE Jewish Community Campus. Federation's presence on Campus could only improve services to the general community.

To add to the complexity of construction and continuing the operations of

the agencies during this period, we had another goal. Indianapolis had accepted the challenge of hosting the General Assembly of the Jewish Federations of North America. At that time, we were the city with the smallest Jewish population to take on that task. We envisioned tours of our new campus to be the highlight of the convention. With 4,000 people convening in Indianapolis in November of 1997, we had a huge task.

There is a truism in construction—the project will run over budget and it will not finish on time. Each time something needs to be changed from the original construction bid, it results in a change order and each change order results in increased cost and often in increased time. We had at least 50 change orders knowing this might happen, we had a 5 percent contingency in our contract to accommodate this increased cost.

Did we finish on time for the General Assembly? Not quite, but almost. Toward the end, construction proceeded 24/7. Did we construct everything we hoped? Not quite. Cost overruns demanded some last-minute changes, but we did get a bright and shiny new campus with many new features at the JCC like the indoor tennis courts, a state-of-the-art fitness center and infant care facilities. Our campus now had a Holocaust Memorial and a plaza with a bigger than life Menorah for community celebrations. We commemorated the Grand Opening in late September of 1997 with a gala dinner.

And where are we today? Ready to begin the entire process again as we look forward to renovating and refreshing the Jewish Community Campus.



Have a past event story? Share it in the magazine.
Contact Andrea Hirsch at ahirsch@jfgi.org

Combating Antisemitism Through Partnerships with Educators & Community Members

By Marla Topiol,
Israel & Antisemitism Education Coordinator

The Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) is a local organization that combats anti-Jewish bigotry through education & advocacy. Currently, we continue to see an increase in people experiencing antisemitism in Indiana, with many of the incidents impacting the Jewish community's school-aged children.

Part of the work I do at the JCRC is being a resource for educators and educational institutions across Indiana. In this role, I serve as a sounding board, provide reliable programming, and teacher trainings to build understanding of the Jewish community, antisemitism, the Holocaust, and Israel.

Through directly working with educators and serving as a resource to the at-large community, I believe we will have a critical impact on the next generation. A study released on Sept. 16, titled, U.S. Millennial Holocaust Knowledge and Awareness Survey, found that 66 percent of Gen Zers do not know how many Jewish people were killed in the

Holocaust among other concerning reports. To highlight the seriousness of the report and the need for reliable education on the topic, the JCRC connected Holocaust Survivor and Educator Frank Grunwald for an interview with WTHR about his experience in the Holocaust and his thoughts on the report. This work becomes more important each day as survivors are aging, the increase need for reliable educational resources and the persistence of antisemitism.

I am calling on you community members reading this article to help connect the JCRC to educators and other institutions to help garner these relationships with educators and institutions. Personal connections strengthen our ability to bring programs and resources on the Jewish community, antisemitism, the Holocaust and Israel to people far beyond our reach as a trusted resource.

One of the most unique programs we offer is Student to Student, a peer to peer educational program, where we train Jewish teens to go into classrooms/

**Educate.
Build Relationships.
Initiate Change.**



youth groups/etc. to talk about what it is like to be a Jewish teen. This program has been extremely successful because it fosters relationships early on between the teens.

We offer many resources beyond the few I have mentioned. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me directly at mtopiol@indyjcrc.org



22nd Annual State of Indiana Holocaust Remembrance Program

NOW VIRTUAL!

In partnership with the Indiana Civil Rights Commission

**12 – 1 p.m.
Tuesday, Nov. 10**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the event is completely pre-recorded featuring state dignitaries, award recipients (new for 2020!), a local survivor, and a candle-lighting ceremony.

Register at

<https://indyjcrc.org/holocaustremembrance2020/>

How I Chose the Hasten Hebrew Academy of Indianapolis: A Story of Acceptance

By Marisa Zukerman

As a graduate of the Hasten Hebrew Academy of Indianapolis (HHAI), I have a unique perspective, both as a student from the school's early days and as a present day parent, observing the school as it broadens its reach within our Jewish community.

As I drafted this article, we were preparing for Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, which is often considered a time of reflection. The tragic events of 2020 have given us all pause as we reflect on what's important in our lives. We are redefining how we stay connected with family and friends and examining the importance of acceptance of others. For me, acceptance is part of the reason I selected HHAH for my son's education.

During my early years, the Hebrew Academy of Indianapolis was housed in the classroom wing of B'nai Torah. The current school was not built until 1976. As the only non-orthodox student in my class, I sometimes questioned whether I belonged as I learned laws, customs, and traditions, some of which were not practiced in our home. Despite this difference, I formed deep connections and lasting friendships with classmates that were genuine, supportive and continue to this day.

The Jewish values and character traits that I hold dear as the foundation of my Jewish identity are no doubt connected to my years attending HHAH. Throughout my life as I lived

and travelled outside of Indianapolis, seeking out the local Jewish community was always important to me. I connected with Jews in faraway places to observe holidays, maintain traditions, and find spiritual peace.

I always dreamed of sending my child to HHAH but when it came time to enroll, I was concerned our interfaith family may not be welcome. I was pleasantly surprised to learn there were all different types of families who had found their way to HHAH who were fully accepted and embraced as part of the HHAH family.

For my son Harrison, who is now in third grade, I have found that HHAH has balanced academic excellence and Jewish education, with individualized attention from faculty that truly care about his academic and spiritual journey. I believe this foundation, like mine formed so many years ago at HHAH, will make a lasting impression that impacts his growth and Jewish identity for years to come.

When my parents selected HHAH for our family, the concept of a Hebrew day school in Indianapolis was unpopular and had limited support from the community. Nearly 50 years later, the value to a strong Jewish identity and connection to a thriving Jewish community are beyond measure. I am proud to be able to pass this gift of a Jewish education on to my son just as my parents did for me.



Marisa Zukerman and her son, Harrison

As we consider our roles in creating harmony and balance in our community, may we all give acceptance to those around us and to ourselves in the coming year and beyond.

For more information about our experience, feel free to contact me at Mzukerman@zmarketingpartners.com.

Coding with Harry Potter

As part of Mr. Voskoboynik's Virtual Reality coding enrichment class, students used Firestorm with a Harry Potter theme creating their own broomsticks, decorating them and learned how to "fly" on them. They then played a virtual Quidditch game with the goal to push the snitch toward the goal line and be the last player to push it across the line using the collision script in order to move the snitch.

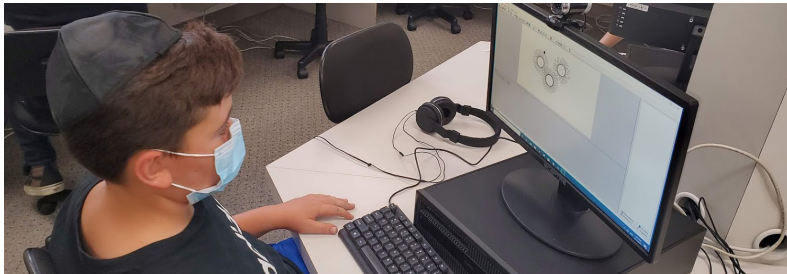
Additionally, they engaged in an interactive Treasure Hunt game with Dobby, one of the Harry Potter characters who was "kidnapped" and "petrified." Students were challenged to find him by going through six stations with clues and "bring him back to life."



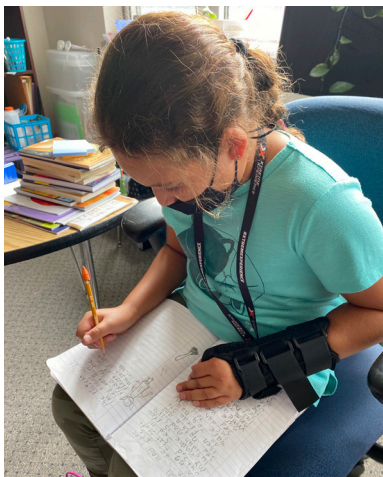
Students created broomsticks and learned how to fly on them.

Options and Electives Available at HHAI

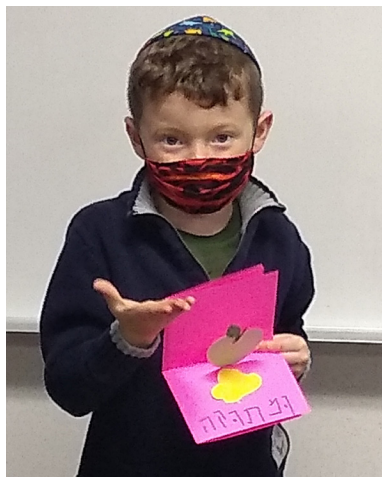
Expanding upon elementary elective offerings, Hasten Hebrew Academy of Indianapolis (HHAI) affords an options track for families to choose additional Math, Logic, Robotics, and Computer Coding (STEM), languages, or Judaic instruction. Elementary electives in the fall semester include a very popular computer coding class, along with Spanish, Hebrew language enrichment, Math games and logic, Judaics with a twist as well as two robotics clubs.



Daniel Glazier enthralled with the Mixamo coding program creating and manipulating avatars in his elective led by Michael Voskoboynik.



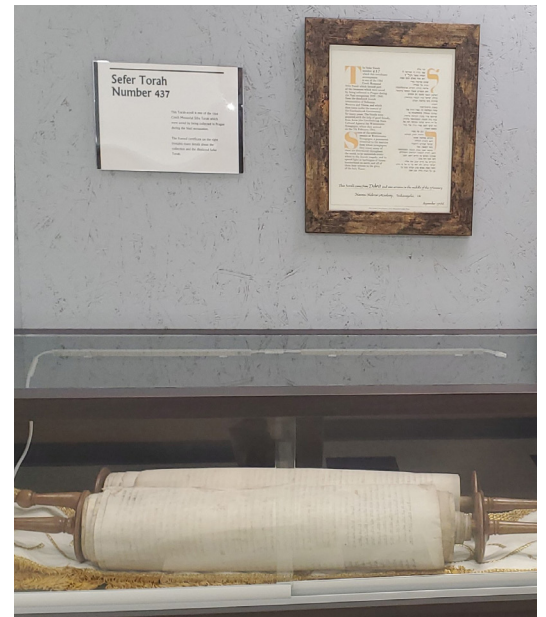
Ariel Shuqrun focuses on her personal narrative in the creative writing club led by new third grade teacher Natalie Hines.



Benji Mamaeyek is all smiles about his 3D creation in Judaics with a Twist elective led by Rabbi Gluck.

Eighth Graders Create New History Web Tool

In an integrated technology, Jewish history and Holocaust studies project, eighth graders are creating a webpage for HHAI's Holocaust Museum website through LOOM, an embedded narration video presentation tool, on the history and origin of the 17th century Dobris/Czech Torah Scroll in their interactive museum. Students are currently researching the Dobris locale outside of Prague, Jewish life pre and post Holocaust utilizing authentic music and pictorial backgrounds, as well as the Torah scroll's rescue and relocation to the school through the efforts of Shirley Cohen and Memorial Scrolls Trust.



The Torah Dobris scroll in the student-designed interactive Holocaust Museum coming to life through an exciting integrative eighth grade project.

HHAI PTO Fall CleanUP

9 a.m. – 12 p.m. | Sunday, Nov. 8



Hasten Hebrew Academy
of Indianapolis

Bring your shovels, rakes and buckets and join PTO for the final campus outdoor cleanup of 2020!

JCC to Host Israeli High School Grads



Adi Keltz and May Oizerovich

Thanks to grants from the JCC Association, the Jewish Agency for Israel, and the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis' Annual Campaign, the community will have an opportunity to engage with young emissaries from Israel who are here as part of the Shinshinim Young Ambassadors program to bring Israeli culture to the community.

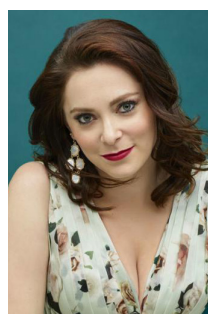
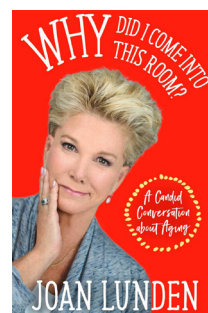
Shinshinim, a Hebrew acronym for *Shnat Sherut* or "year of service," are the best and the brightest of Israel's recent high school graduates who have deferred army service to spend a year in a diaspora community. They serve the community through volunteering in synagogues, the local JCC, Hebrew schools and youth groups. One of their first volunteer efforts is with JCRC's Stand Up! Speak Out! program. The JCC is seeking host families and items for the girls. For those interested in getting involved, contact Jordan Byrd at jbyrd@JCCindy.org.

Outstanding Stay-at-Home Entertainment for November

The J's all-virtual Ann Katz Festival of Books & Arts is in full swing. Included in this year's line-up are acclaimed broadcast journalist Joan Lunden, actor and comedian Michael Ian Black, Rachel Bloom of TV's *Crazy Ex-Girlfriend* and food writer and frequent guest host of NPR's *The Splendid Table*, Melissa Clark. For the full line-up, visit JCCindy.org/festival-books-arts.

The festival is made possible with funding from the Irwin and Ann Katz Cultural Arts and Education Endowment Fund and major festival sponsors The Herbert Simon Family Foundation, Lilly Endowment Inc., The National Bank of Indianapolis, Katz Sapper & Miller and Christel DeHaan Family Foundation.

From left: Rachel Bloom penned a collection of hilarious, smart and infinitely relatable personal essays, poems and even amusement park maps on the subjects of insecurity, fame and anxiety. Melissa Clark's latest cookbook, *Kid in the Kitchen*, is a collection of 100 all-new recipes like Brown Butter French Toast for a new audience of home



From left: Rachel Bloom, Melissa Clark, Joan Lunden, and Michael Ian Black

chefs: kids ages 8-14. Joan Lunden goes where others fear, openly talking about the phases of aging - wrinkles, age spots, expanding waistlines and

more. Michael Ian Black's book *A Better Man*, is written as a letter to his college-bound son.



THE ANN KATZ
FESTIVAL OF BOOKS & ARTS

Purdue Hillel Gears Up for New School Year with Large Student Participation



Purdue Hillel's first socially distanced Shabbat service of the school year.

More than 70 incoming students have signed up for Purdue Hillel and more than 40 have stopped by to say hi or attend a program. Prior to classes starting, 28 Freshmen joined together for Shabbat Kiddush and Motzie

in Hillel's backyard. Weekly bagel break was a welcome pause in the day. There were 38 people at the first outside Shabbat service of the year and Hillel was able to safely serve Shabbat Dinner to 28 students inside

the building (spaced out at 2 per 8 foot table). Additionally, this year, Hillel is providing To-Go Shabbat dinners, and 18 students served. Learn more about Purdue Hillel by visiting www.purduehillel.org.

Hooverwood Living at Home



Senior Technology Assistance

Do you or your loved one need assistance with Video Chatting, Social Media, Email, Amazon Alexa, or anything technology related? Hooverwood Living's tech experts can help. House call visits are available free of charge. Call (317) 956-5661 to set up an appointment.

Meal & Grocery Delivery

NOSH: Nutritious Options for Seniors at Home from Hooverwood Living

Groceries, meals and household items are available for

delivery or curbside pick-up. Pick from a variety of grocery items and easy to cook meal kits. Try different "Jack & Olive" options including breakfast, parfaits, fruit cups, artisan salads and sandwiches, hand-crafted wraps, snack boxes and desserts. Visit <https://hooverwoodmarket.square.site/> or call to order.

Shabbat in a Box Catering

Hooverwood Living is now offering pre-orders for Shabbat dinner catering. Orders must be submitted by 3 p.m. on Wednesdays. Pick-up or FREE delivery is available from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Fridays. Call for a menu and to place an order, or order online at <https://hooverwoodmarket.square.site/>.

Legacy of Love: Brick Paver Campaign

Support the Legacy of Love Brick Paver Campaign for Hooverwood Living!

The Memorial Garden at Hooverwood will build a legacy of love at Hooverwood Living for generations to come. The purchase of a commemorative brick can make a lasting tribute by:

- Memorializing a loved one
- Honoring someone special
- Acknowledging a loved one's milestone
- Recognizing a Hooverwood Living team member
- Demonstrating support or family or company's support for Hooverwood Living. Company logos can also be engraved.

Contact Caitlin Lubline at CLubline@hooverwood.org or (317) 450-0911 to order or for more information.

Congregation Beth-El Zedeck

EREV SHABBAT CELEBRATION: 6 P.M.

FRIDAYS via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/399892776>. Join the spiritual leaders and members of Congregation Beth-El Zedeck (BEZ) for a virtual Shabbat candle lighting and Friday night service.

TORAH TALK: 9 A.M. SATURDAYS

via Facebook Live: www.facebook.com/CongregationBEZ/. Rabbi Jenni Greenspan will discuss the week's Torah portion, through the magic of Facebook Live. No Facebook, no problem. The video will be uploaded on to the YouTube Channel: www.youtube.com/congregationbethelzedeck after the live broadcast.

SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE: 10 A.M.

SATURDAYS via Livestream: <https://bez613.org/watch-live/>. Join the spiritual leaders of BEZ for the week's Livestream service, including d'var Torah. Visit www.bez613.org and click "Virtual Shabbat and More" under the "Worship" tab for access to the week's resources to help follow along.

HEBREW I: MORE THAN ALEF: 9 A.M., SUNDAYS, NOV. 1, 8, 15, 22 AND DEC. 6 AND 13

via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/93829185163>. Join BEZ to learn or relearn Hebrew letters and grow closer to reading our prayers and to understand the meaning behind them. For questions, contact Dina David at ddavid@bez613.org.

REFRESHING JUDAISM: 10 A.M., SUNDAYS, NOV. 1, 8, 15, 22 AND DEC. 6 AND 13

via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/93829185163>.

- **NOV. 1: GREAT AGES AND IDEAS OF JUDAISM III** The Modern Period – The Birth of Democracy and Jewish Religious Movements: Orthodox, Reform, Conservative and Reconstructionist
- **NOV. 8: THE WAY WE PRAY** Words and rituals that give meaning to home and synagogue spirituality
- **NOV. 15: THE ORDINARY AND THE HOLY** Encountering God and Meeting One Another – Sexuality, speech, food, work and rest...How Judaism sanctifies the everyday
- **NOV. 22: JEWISH TIME-TABLES** Seasons and festivals of the Jewish calendar.
- **DEC. 6: RHYTHMS OF OUR LIVES** From Birth to Death and Beyond – Judea Pearl
- **DEC. 13: ISSUES IN CONTEMPORARY**

JEWISH LIFE AND COMMUNITY

COCKTAIL JUDAISM: 7:30 P.M.,

MONDAYS NOV. 2 AND DEC. 7 via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/96415122645>. Join Rabbi Dennis Sasso and guests for a virtual conversation, humor and spirits. Stay tuned for more details about these events.

VIRTUAL TOT SHABBAT: 9:30 A.M.,

SATURDAYS, NOV. 14 AND DEC. 5 via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/93267044403>. Join Rabbi Jenni Greenspan and Ms. Juliette Nehring for singing, movement and rhythm fun during this virtual Shabbat service for children, parents, grandparents, and friends. Older siblings are welcome, too! Contact Rabbi Jenni for questions at jgreenspan@bez613.org.

ORIGINS OF CREATIVITY: CHANNELING CREATIVITY UNDER CONSTRAINTS: 7 P.M. MONDAY, NOV. 9

via Zoom: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/117323737457>. A Spirit & Place Festival Event, presented by Congregation Beth-El Zedeck, Harrison Center and Indianapolis Public Library. Inspired by the work of E.O. Wilson, a gathering of panelists (Dr. Lawrence Einhorn, Joanna Taft and Rabbi Dennis Sasso, moderated by Rabbi Sandy Sasso) representing science, the arts and religion will discuss how their respective communities have innovated under the constraints of the current pandemic as well as other challenging moments. Local artists and poets (Dr. Kathryn Nevel, Dr. Adam Henze and George Kelley) will also guide and encourage at-home participants in their own creative endeavors (Zoom)! RSVP by Nov. 8 at spiritandplace.org.

BETH-EL ZEDECK & THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR VIRTUAL HANUKAH CELEBRATION: 6 P.M. FRIDAY, DEC. 11

via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/99177670709>. A musical Shabbat service and Siddur Celebration, as we welcome the second night of Hanukkah virtually, with friends and loved ones from the comfort of our homes.

All zoom and livestream videos will be uploaded to the YouTube Channel: www.youtube.com/congregationbethelzedeck after the live broadcast.

Visit www.bez613.org or [@CongregationBEZ](https://www.facebook.com/CongregationBEZ/) on Facebook for more information.

Congregation Beth Shalom

All online services and programming are open to guests. Check the CBS website at www.bethshalomindy.org for up-to-date information and details on how to participate in any or all of

the below-described events.

FRIDAY NIGHT SHABBAT SERVICES: 6:30 P.M., SECOND, THIRD AND FOURTH

FRIDAYS OF EACH MONTH via Zoom. Links and access codes will be provided on the CBS website.

CBS MURDER MYSTERY NIGHT: 7 – 9

P.M. SATURDAY, NOV. 14. This will be an exciting evening as everyone tuning in has the chance to actively participate in solving this Western-themed murder mystery. Check the CBS website for information on how to access it. For further details, contact Rachel Nolan-Johnson at rachel.nolan.johnson@alumni.iu.edu.

CBS BOOK CLUB: 1 P.M. SUNDAY, NOV.

15. CBS joins the Partnership Western Galilee P2G Book Club to discuss *The Book of Fathers* by Miklós Vámos. All are welcome to join in by Zoom. Check the website for link information.

CONGREGATIONAL CHANUKAH

CELEBRATION: FRIDAY, DEC. 11. Check website for details.

JEWISH MUSIC FROM AROUND THE WORLD. CHECK THE CBS WEBSITE FOR DATES AND TIMES. Led by Juliette Nehring.

SERIES OF SESSIONS ON THE HISTORY OF REFORM JUDAISM. CHECK THE CBS WEBSITE FOR DATES AND TIMES. Led by Rabbi Justin Kerber.

TORAH STUDY: 10 – 11:30 A.M. ON THE FIRST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH; AND 7 – 8:30 P.M. ON THE SECOND WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH. Held virtually. Check the website for link information.

TALMUD TORAH (RELIGIOUS SCHOOL): 10 – 11:30 A.M., SUNDAYS, NOV. 1

AND 15, DEC. 6 AND 13. Held virtually. Check the website for link information. Contact Diane Graul at dwgraul@gmail.com with questions.

Visit bethshalomindy.org or [@BethShalomIndy](https://www.facebook.com/BethShalomIndy) on Facebook for more information.

Congregation B'Nai Torah

Visit www.btorahindy.org or [@BnaiTorahIndy](https://www.facebook.com/BnaiTorahIndy) on Facebook for upcoming events and programs.

Chabad Lubavitch of Indiana

Chabad Center for Jewish Life Weekly Services – 10 a.m. Shabbat Services every Saturday; 9 a.m. Sunday Services every Sunday. Visit www.chabadindiana.org or

@chabadindiana on Facebook for upcoming events, classes and programs.

Congregation Shaarey Tefilla

Services, Havdalah, Chanukah events, and other programs will be announced on their website and Facebook pages.

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

Etz Chaim Sephardic Congregation

SHAHARIT: 7:30 A.M. (RETURNING 7 A.M. IN THE SPRING) MONDAY-FRIDAYS.

SHABBAT SHAHARIT SERVICE: 9 A.M.

SATURDAYS

SUNDAY SHAHARIT SERVICE: 10 A.M. at Chabad.

WEEKLY ARVIT + COMMUNITY HOUR:

8 P.M. WEDNESDAYS online. Email office@etzchaimindy.org for the link or subscribe to receive emails at etzchaimindy.org.

Contact the office at (317) 251-6220 or office [@etzchaimindy.org](mailto:office@etzchaimindy.org), visit etzchaimindy.org to subscribe/donate/ research or visit @EtzChaimIndy and @EtzChaimtheSisterhood on Facebook for more information.

Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation

Visit ihcindy.org/online for links to all Zoom services, classes and programs.

VIRTUAL SHABBAT: 6:15 P.M. FRIDAYS.

Join IHC for our weekly online service bringing the peace of Shabbat into our homes. Nefesh Shabbat, a musical Shabbat is always the third Friday of each month.

TORAH STUDY ONLINE: 9 A.M.

SATURDAYS. Study the Torah portion of the week, led by IHC Clergy. No experience necessary.

VIRTUAL TORAH TALK WITH RABBI BRETT:

9:30 A.M. WEDNESDAYS. Study text in a casual, non-intimidating way.

Visit ihcindy.org/online or www.facebook.com/ihcindy for information on the annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service and Hanukkah Palooza events.

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

New Teen Israel Experience Grants Now Available

New grant funding is now available for high school students who would like to attend a teen Israel trip in summer 2021.

Each year, the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis offers Israel Experience grants made available through the Joe and Sylvia Rothbard Family Israel Youth Experience Scholarship and Israel Youth Experience grants for up to \$1,000 so they can connect with their Jewish identity in Israel.

Now, a new incentive program called

RootOne offers youth group participants the opportunity to apply for an additional \$3,000 in vouchers to offset out-of-pocket expenses for summer programs.

New York City-based RootOne is an ambitious new national initiative that aims to bring tens of thousands of Jewish teens from the U.S. to Israel on immersive summer teen trips. Seeded by a generous gift from The Marcus Foundation and powered by The Jewish Education Project, RootOne will provide major subsidies for trip participants, invest in elevating trip

curricula and experiences, and work with its partners to create deeper pre- and post-trip engagement opportunities to help strengthen participants' Jewish identities and connections to Israel before they begin college.

Visit www.jewishindianapolis.org/endowment-planned-giving/israel-camp-scholarships for more information on the Federation's Israel Youth Experience grants. Visit www.rootone.org/ for more information and to apply for their grant program.

GUCl Camp Enrollment NOW OPEN

Goldman Union Camp Institute (GUCl), Indy's residential Reform Jewish summer camp, is now accepting registrations for Summer 2021!

There is a sense of magic that is created at GUCl and is handed down from generation to generation. It is a community where campers and staff create and live in an atmosphere not only where it is cool to be Jewish, but where it is celebrated. With everything from rock climbing and swimming to dance and glass blowing, there is truly something for everyone. The social and Jewish impact of camp lasts a lifetime with campers returning summer after summer and go on to form their fantastic team of summer staff.

Find more information at www.guci.org or by emailing gucl@urj.org.



Women's Philanthropy

GIVING SOCIETIES



Lion of Judah

The Lion of Judah is a symbol of today's Jewish Woman's strength, a symbol of her caring about the organized Jewish world and a symbol of her financial commitment of \$5,000 or more to the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis' Annual Campaign.

Created in 1972 in Miami by Norma Kipnis-Wilson and Toby Friedland, the Lion of Judah program has brought together women of all ages and from many walks of life in order to play an essential role in creating social justice, healing the sick, feeding the hungry, preserving human dignity and building Jewish identity.

Diane Abrams	Janis Gershman	Joan Larman	Leslie Rubin
Lynn Abrams	Jessica Gershman	Wendy Larman	Livia Russell
Lois Ackerman*	Rachel Gershman	Lois Letzter*	Lisa Sablosky
Barbara Alpert	Susannah Gershman	Barbara Leventhal	Carol Satz
Gayle Ancel	Linda A. Glanzman	Ilana Levin	Phyllis Schahet
Shirley Backer	Marianne Glick	Elaine Levinson*	Ruby Schahet*
Jackie Barrett	Marilyn Glick*	Louise Litwack*	Alice Schloss
Nancy J. Bate	Janie Goldberg	Diane Lutz	Anne Schuchman
Nancy Bell	Winnie Goldblatt	Jane Lyon	Jennifer Schuchman
Wilma Borinstein	Helen Kurlander Goldstein	Sandi Marks	Jennifer Schwartz
Betty Calderon	Leslie Gould	Sophia Marks*	Stacy Segal
Kathryn J. Cantor	Angela Grabovsky	Janie Maurer	Ellen Shevitz
Karen J. Cohen	Marina Grabovsky	Linda G. Maurer	Leona J. Shevitz
Linda Cohen	Arlene Grande	Megan Maurer	Bui Simon
Tina Cohen	Debra B. Grant	Leigh Meltzer	Catherine Simon
Mary Cook	Ellen F. Greenspan	Sheryl Mervis	Deborah Simon
Sally A. Cook	Simona Hasten	Sybil Mervis	Jennifer Simon
Roberta Dakich	Janie Herman	Debbie Milkey	Rachel Simon
Myra Echt	Lynne Himmelstein	Susan Mitchell	Cindy Simon-Skjodt
Lori Efroymsen-Aguilera	Judy Hodes	Sandra Nachlis	Mari Skrovronsky
Shirley Efroymsen-Kahn	Louisa Hollander	Ellen Nadler	Ilene Smith
Claudette Einhorn	Susan M. Jacobs	Estelle Nelson	Heather H. Smulyan
Lois Eskenazi	Lucile Kahn*	Christi Neutzling	Marilyn Spitzberg*
Sandra Eskenazi	Marlo Katz	Helen Newmark	Betty Tavel
Shereen Farber	Anne Kelvin	Judy Newton	Kit Tavel*
Phyllis Feigenbaum	Beth B. Klapper	Dorit Paul	Sandra Tavel
Gigi Marks Felsher	Betty Klapper	Debra E. Pelletiere-Blatt	Carly Turow
Betty Fleck*	Susan Kleinman	Bonnie Prystowsky	Phyllis Vernick
Libby Fogle*	Mimi Kochman*	Leah Redish*	Nonie Vonnegut-Gabovitch
Margo H. Fox	Michelle Korin	Miriam Resnick	Myrna Weinberger
Linda Frank	Adele Kraft	Helen Robins-Nahmias	Carol Weiss
Karen Fried	Sherri L. Kraft	Jill Rose	Robin Weiss
Linda Friedlander	Jane Kroot	Marya Rose	Joan Wolf
Elizabeth B. Friedmann*	Natalie Kroot	Jane Rothbaum*	Sara Zeckel
Shelley Frisch	Shirley Kurlander	Karen Rothbaum	Joan Zipes
Phyllis S. Gabovitch	Judy Laikin	Sandra Rothbaum	

• * Of Blessed Memory

• Bold = Established or intend to establish a Lion of Judah Endowment (LOJE) or Perpetual Annual Campaign Endowment (PACE)

Every effort was made for accuracy, but if you feel you were inadvertently omitted or have any other issue, please email info@jfgi.org.

Pomegranate

The Pomegranate is a symbol of a woman's commitment to the Jewish people, based on the 613 seeds in a pomegranate fruit which symbolize the Torah's 613 mitzvot, and a symbol of her financial commitment of \$1,500 or more to the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis' Annual Campaign.

The Pomegranate pin was introduced in Lehigh Valley in 1981 by Sybil Baiman and Jeanette Eichenwald. A proven aspirational tool, a woman's pin shines a little brighter each time she increases her pledge. Each step up brings her closer to becoming a Lion of Judah and motivates her to stay with the Federation and complete that journey.

Anonymous	Susan Falender	Robin Gurin	Jane Linderman
Linda Abels	Lynn Farber	Jaime Harper	Ellen Lorch*
Nicole Abraham	Franci Fealk	Anita Harris	Debra Luffer-Atlas
Anne M. Adams	Jessica E. Feigenbaum	Diane Healey	Gloria Lutz*
Rosanne Ammirati	Ruth Feinberg	Jodi Hirst	Shirley Mansbach*
Shelby Anderson	Barrie Fisch	Francine Hurwitz	Lisa Mark
Shirley R. Aprison	Myra Fisher	Amy Isaacs	Janis Maurer
Toni R. Bader	Christine Fogel	Claire Jacobson	Linda Melrose
Jill R. Batler	Adrienne Fogle	Carol H. Joseph	Julie Mervis
Kimberly Berebitsky	Esther G. Fogle	Janet Juster	Amy Micon
Eden S. Bernstein	Bonnie Foster	Linda Kammen	Joan Miller
Suzanne Blank	Laurie Freeman	Sonja Kantor	Judith S. Mishkin
Serane Blatt Dunitz	Andrea Freidman	Dana P. Katz	Eliana Mordoh
Barbara Blickman	Etelka Froymovich	Judy Kaufman	Linda Mordoh
Deborah Bluestein	Ellen Gabovitch	Wendy Keller	Jane Morrison
Elizabeth Bodner	Susan Garelick	Beverly Klapper	Tamila Nelson
Abby Borris	Rhonda E. Gerson-Hurwitz	Louise Klatch*	Deborah D. Paul
Jill Burnett		Heidi Klausner	Cara Payner
Elizabeth A. Cannon	Rebecca Geyer	Elaine Klineman	Sally Perlstein
Darla Cohen	Rebecca Glazier	Esther Kramer	Rebecca Pfeiffer
Isabelle Cohen-Gadol	Linda Gold	Caroline Kroot	Rita Pitzele
Sally Collar	Paula S. Goldberg	Heather Kulwin	Jamie Ratner Rich
Miriam Dant	Caron Goldstein	Shirley Kulwin	Jennifer B. Rosenberg
Judie Doehrman	Irena Goloschokin	Beth R. Kurlander	Monica Rosenfeld
Sandy Eisenberg-Sasso	Rene Goodman	Claudia Labin	Karina Rosenthal
Marcy Ekhaus	Mary Gorden	Jenny Levitin	Sylvia F. Rothbard
Julie Eskenazi	Ellen Gray	Barbara Levy	Joani Rothenberg
Robin B. Ettinger	Jamie H. Gray	Judy Libby	Sue Russell

• * Of Blessed Memory

• Bold = Established or intend to establish a Lion of Judah Endowment (LOJE) or Perpetual Annual Campaign Endowment (PACE)

Every effort was made for accuracy, but if you feel you were inadvertently omitted or have any other issue, please email info@fgi.org.

Sema Sapper	Jennifer Vigran
Karen Schankerman	Nancy Wachter
Lori Schankerman	Cheryl G. Waldman
Ellen Schwartz	Sharon Wallack
Sandra Schwarz	Sara Weinberger
Colleen Shapiro	Bebe Weinstein
Mindy Shapiro	Rita Weinstein
Caryl Shideler	Reva Weiss
Denise Silbert	Judy Weitzman
Judi Silverman-Lewis	Maria A. Wiener
Ellen Simon	Missy Wise
Marcia Sklare	Jane Yolles
Marcella Slabosky	Gabrielle Youran
Stacy Smith	Anita Yudes
Brenda Soshnick	Jennifer Zinn
Leslie Tobe	

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

As the young Bat-Mitzvah girl with hopes for Jews around the world to be able to celebrate in freedom; As the participant who marched on Washington and was motivated by the power of the collective Jewish Community to create transformational change in the lives of hundreds of thousands of Jews in the former Soviet Union with our voices and actions; And as the Kroot Intern who just wanted to give back to the community that means so much to her: I thank you for your support of the Annual Campaign then and every year since.



This year, so many in our Jewish community are suffering from COVID and the economic downturn, scared because of the significant rise in antisemitism, and feeling isolated and alone in their homes. Now more than ever, we need your support. Every gift, no matter the size, makes a big difference for so many. Thank you for your support to the Jewish Federation and the Jewish community. I am hopeful for the next year ahead. With your help, we will remain Stronger Together.

Dr. Ruth Headlines Annual Lion of Judah and Pomegranate Event

On Sept. 2, about 70 people gathered virtually to hear Dr. Ruth Westheimer share her amazing life story.

Moderated by Rabbi Sandy Sasso, the conversation with Dr. Ruth covered many topics, beginning with their shared experience as children's book authors. At age 10, Dr. Ruth was sent to Switzerland by her parents and because of their decision, she survived the Holocaust while they did not. In the orphanage she lived, she often found herself taking care of the younger children around her. She talked about how in difficult situations, she would sing the Jewish tunes that she learned as a younger child to help support the other kids and get herself through difficult times.



Dr. Ruth felt that the solid Jewish upbringing during her early years allowed her to have a base through which to understand the world. For this reason, she shared that it is important to support the Indianapolis Jewish community and is not shy about her love for Israel and the Jewish people. She did not hesitate to point out that generosity is sexy.

Her message was also one of optimism. When asked about how one might manage the current COVID-19 situation in the world, she shared that the country will definitely get through this, and that an optimistic nature is a helpful way to manage these days. She also spoke about the revisions to her book, *Heavenly Sex and the Jewish Tradition* and shared that one thing she learned during the revision process is that one cannot be an expert on everything, and it is important to ask for help and support when needed.

The program closed with Annual Campaign Co-Chair Dr. Jennifer Schwartz sharing information about the Federation's Annual Campaign, echoing Dr. Ruth's message to not lose hope, and to look to Jewish culture and tradition for ways to make a difference in the world.

"Many thanks to our Lion of Judah and Pomegranate level donors," said Mago Fox, Senior Director of Engagement. "Year after year, they help strengthen our community and we could not do the important work of Federation without them."

She added "also thank you to the Women's Philanthropy Co-Chairs, Gigi Marks Felsner and Karen Rothbaum, and the committee members, who are listed below."

- Barbara Leventhal
- Debbie Pelletiere Blatt
- Jackie Barrett
- Lori Schankerman
- Marina Grabovsky
- Marlo Katz
- Mary Gorden
- Megan Maurer

Community Menorah Candle Lighting Schedule

Join the Jewish Community to light the candles!

FIRST NIGHT | 5 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 10:

*Chabad Center for Jewish Life and the
Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis*

SECOND NIGHT | 7 p.m., Friday, Dec. 11:

*Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation and
Indianapolis Jewish Community Relations Council*

THIRD NIGHT | 7 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 12:

*Congregation Beth Shalom and
Congregation Shaarey Tefilla*

FOURTH NIGHT | 5 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 13:

Etz Chaim Sephardic Congregation

FIFTH NIGHT | 5 p.m., Monday, Dec. 14:

*Hooverwood Living & Jewish Community Center
Early Childhood Education*

SIXTH NIGHT | 5 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 15:

Hasten Hebrew Academy of Indianapolis

SEVENTH NIGHT | 5 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 16:

Congregation Beth-El Zedeck

EIGHTH NIGHT | 5 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 17:

*Indiana Jewish Discovery Center and the
Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis*

The Max and Mae Simon Jewish Community Campus has implemented protocols and procedures to mitigate the risk of contracting COVID-19 while visiting the campus. Community candle lightings will align with the campus plan while also respecting the individual protocols and procedures of the sponsoring organizations. Visit the Community Reopening Plan at www.jewishindianapolis.org/covid-19 for more information.