

# OUR COMMUNITY Newsletter

November 2022 | Cheshvan + Kislev 5783



Jewish Federation  
OF ST. JOSEPH VALLEY



Just before Sukkot, your Federation team had the opportunity to help build a sukkah on the campus of the University of Notre Dame, just outside Bond Hall! A hearty Kol Hakavod to all the volunteers who came out to help, and special thanks to Father Francis Murphy of Campus Ministries, Professor Karen Richman, coordinator of the Jewish Faculty Group, and Blake Zeigler, President of the UND Jewish Student Club.



## Minute With Moshe Into the Wind

As a child, I wondered how could it be. Sailboats move forward into the wind – a seemingly impossible obstacle.

Eventually I learned that if you embrace the headwind for power and use a rudder to steer, you can go just about anywhere. The ‘impossible obstacles’ are actually a source of energy.

For me, it was a great lesson. I now see headwinds as energy waiting to be harnessed. In fact, the Jewish people have always embraced headwinds to move forward. We’ve done it for thousands of years. And it’s our values that work like a rudder to keep us on course.

It’s no different today. We embrace the headwinds of change so we can move forward. But as a community, where are we going? And how will we get there?

## The Twin Challenges of Impact and Sustainability

Last month, I spoke of our need to collaborate. I spoke of reimagining the future of our Jewish community – and finding practical and creative ways of coming together to find common ground.

It’s only here, at the intersection of common ground, where our hopes and dreams come meet. It’s here where we find fertile ground to plant seeds for our future.

Today I speak with excitement about our religious and lay leaders who are asking questions and exploring options as to what lies around the bend with regard to our Jewish future.

In my many conversations about the future, community members have expressed a heartfelt desire that we as a diverse Jewish community come closer together – that we meet on our common ground and leverage the collective resources, experience, and wisdom as we plan the future. Here, where

we have so much in common, is where we will engage each other and make exciting plans for Jewish life in Michiana.

But the questions are many:

What do we want our future to be, and why is this important?

What communal goals will move us toward this destination?

How will we realize the full investment of our time, effort, and funding?

What areas of priorities should we put on the front burner?

And how will the Federation stay relevant with programs that have real impact?

## One People – One Community

Defining a consensus-building process mitigates the many tests we’ll face. Yes, there will be tests. But that’s why we talk of our common ground.

One framework for building consensus is what I’m calling Vision 2025, a 3-Year Community Plan; a plan rooted in Jewish values. Values like K’lal Yisrael give voice to our collective responsibility for one another, and our community. Inclusiveness and meaningful involvement must be the hallmarks of working together towards a renewed community.

## A Strong House

Vision 2025 sees a future where the Federation is on the path towards sustainability. Sustainability goes to the heart of defining what we must do in building a viable community and must therefore be the starting point for the energy and resources we put into the planning process. As such, we will be a community defined by our conversations and activities.

My hope is that our core values and common agenda for the construction of our community’s renaissance will bind us together. The ability to share power and

resources and to bring ideas together in new ways are the building blocks to create a Bayit Chazek, a strong Federation house. The goal of Bayit Chazek requires a bedrock belief that change is possible. Our success will be measured in our ability to recalibrate our organizational planning and operations to meet head-on the persistent twin challenges of impact and sustainability.

One tool is mapping core activities according to their impact and financial profitability – mapping represents the dual bottom-line analysis – a process that brings critical decisions about mission impact and financial sustainability into sharp focus and allows the Federation to make sound decisions about how we deploy precious resources.

Organizations are not unlike sailboats in the wind. They either embrace headwinds as a way to move forward, or the same wind will lash at them and eventually crash them on the rocks. There are no exceptions. We either harness the wind or allow it to push you where it wants.

Like other organizations across the country and around the world, we use the energy of change to move forward. And that’s what Vision 2025 is all about.

With the input we’ve received from the community, the Federation board and professional staff will be meeting in November and December to form our plan and focus on our goals to make our community a better place, now and always, as we’ve done throughout history using our Jewish values to keep us on course.

If you want to offer a community-building idea, please reach out!



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## Thinking of What's New to Come

Turning leaves, one of the few things you don't see on a fall trip to Israel. It is good to be home after a three-week mission to our Partnership regions of Budapest and Acco/Matei Asher. The goal of this trip for us was to make personal connections with communities within our partnership and especially those in Hungary. What we got from the trip was so much more.

Our partnership will be celebrating 25 years this year, a nice number to go along with Israel's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. This first meet up since the beginning of the pandemic meant a lot of new faces, but plenty of familiar faces as well. I have been a part of the partnership family ever since I moved to Israel, and through these connections, I have always had a second home in Israel if I needed it. However, now the same can finally be said about Budapest as well. Shirlee and I had so much we wanted to share with you but had to choose just a few details for this format, though I encourage you to reach out to us if you would like to hear more.

The skeletons of Jewish life one expects to find in Eastern Europe have been resurrected through a renewal of spirit and body in Budapest. A place where few know its unique Jewish background, and I for one was astonished at how inclusive the city is when it comes to Jewish culture. It was hard to find a street in the center of town that didn't have a kosher market, a Jewish art store, or Hebrew for that matter. Even the wifi password was "Mazal Tov" at the first restaurant we ate at with my family before the delegation.

We toured one of five Jewish schools in the city and were guided by two Juniors in high school who were proficient in Hebrew and Jewish canon. One even was awarded top in the country at the annual Tanakh knowledge competition and flew to Jerusalem to make it in the top 30 worldwide! Budapest also has a Jewish Library that survived the war and a rabbinical assembly that is an accredited

university. After this trip, we continued with what was named "The Kramer Council Extension," so named after Lisa Kramer, who passed rather recently after a fight with cancer. We got to hear much about her work with Partnership as we raised a glass to her one evening with many of the participants who knew her.

We traveled for three days around the Partnership community and were privileged enough to see what our communities funding and support go toward. We visited with members of the Sliding Dor program for Second Generation Holocaust Survivors, who have been meeting online with members of our community for years now. We also toured the art high school of Kabri and spoke about potential opportunities to work together in the future. One extremely important meeting we had was with Russian and Ukrainian refugees who had been living in Kibbutz Yechiam for the past six months, many of whom still had family trapped in their home countries. What was most important for us to learn was how many Russians had been displaced by the current war, and that it wasn't only Ukrainian Jews who were in need of support.

Two of our close friends, Hédi, who until recently was "the" Hungarian staff member through Partnership, and Ishtivan, who volunteers primarily with the young adult programs in the Jewish community, took extra time to visit with us after the delegation. Shirlee's father, Yacov, came back with us to Budapest before flying back to South Bend, and was truly touched by the change. You see, he had visited the city in the 80's, back when it was still under Soviet control, and described to us the ruined synagogues

## November Programs

### Women's Challah Bake

Tuesday, November 8 at 7:00 PM

### NEXTGen: Schmooze by the Fire

Thursday, November 10 at 7:00 PM

### Coexistence Café with Women Leading a Dialogue

Sunday, November 13 at 10:30 AM

### Lunch N' Learn: Israeli Politics

Wednesday, November 16 at 12:00 PM

### Learn the Secrets of Havdalah

Sunday, November 20 at 4:30 PM

### Mahjong

Mondays & Wednesdays, 1:00 – 4:00 PM

Visit [TheJewishFed.org/Events](https://TheJewishFed.org/Events) to learn more or RSVP!

and derelict Jewish plots. Since then, the country has taken a new stance, helping to reclaim Jewish land lost during the war and communism, and supporting their reconstruction.

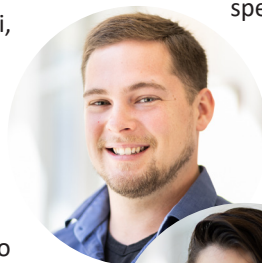
We have much work to do in our community, to ensure our Jewish heritage is not forgotten. I encourage you to join us at one of our many events coming up this month, and as always, my door is open to speak about programs you would like to see at the Federation.

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# CALLING ALL FILM FEST FANS WE ARE IN SEARCH OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS!

Sign up at [TheJewishFed.org/Volunteer](https://TheJewishFed.org/Volunteer)  
or call 574-233-1164 today!





## B'TZELEM Jewish Family Services

### WHAT WE DO

We serve Jewish individuals and their families within the larger community by providing social services, referrals and educational programming.

### WHAT WE CAN HELP WITH JFS FOOD PANTRY

Assistance through providing food and gas cards.

### FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Limited funds for unexpected financial needs in the form of interest-free loans or gifts, following an application process.

### ASSESSMENT & REFERRAL SERVICES

Jewish Family Service provides case management services to individuals experiencing life transitions, emergency situations, and more.

### WELLNESS CHECKS & SENIOR SERVICES

To connect with older adults and assess basic needs as well as provide a friendly point of contact and assistance with necessities.

### TRANSPORTATION

Individual rides to medical and social service appointments.

### SHIP NAVIGATION FOR MEDICARE

Trained staff provide state health insurance program advice.

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Volunteer to give back and help others in the community.

### CONFIDENTIALITY WITHIN JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES

The trust between our clients and JFS is the basis for our success. All transactions and discussions are protected by the highest professional ethical standards of client confidentiality.

### COACHING

## Community Connections

### Sukkah - The Hidden Message

The Jewish month of Marcheshvan has begun, which means this last cycle of Jewish holidays has ended. In the entire month there are no holidays or fast days, just the Shabbat, our perpetual island in time. The High Holy Days provided us with a spiritual energy burst that we can carry over into our normal lives in the coming month.

In Pirkei Avot- Ethics of our Fathers, the Mishna (rabbinic teaching) states, "Rabbi Tarfon said, 'The day is short, the task is abundant, the laborers are lazy, the wage is great, and the Master of the house (Hashem) is insistent.' He continued to say, 'You are not required to complete the task, yet you are not free to withdraw from it...'" Rabbi Tarfon was referring to our study and involvement in Torah. And how right he was! No matter how much we learn, we will never reach the end, yet we must not use that reality as an excuse and decide, "What's the use? Since I can never finish and have mastery, why even bother starting?" We must begin and never stop.

Although the Mishna is speaking about Torah study, we can derive life lessons from this. I've often heard people tell me that they are overwhelmed with what they have to do and as a result, nothing gets done. They've made lists, but that has not helped either. If we take the first part of the Mishnah at face value, we are told "the day is short," which means we should make the goals reachable. If one makes a list that is extensive, it becomes overwhelming.

Rather, make a list of 2-3 items and get it done. When you finish the list, celebrate your accomplishment. The next day, repeat the procedure. The important thing is to make the task doable. Otherwise, it

is self-sabotage. If you follow this advice, you'll be amazed at how much you can accomplish and how you feel good about the progress.

When my wife and I used to help our children prepare for a test, we explained that if they want to really learn the subject, the best way to study would be to break up the material into small pieces so that by the time of the test, they will have a real handle on it and even remember it post-test. This method took away much of the anxiety of the test and gave them a life skill of breaking down the task into doable parts.

The biggest reason most people will not start something new is that they feel that they won't finish. That's when you implement the last part of the Mishna which states, "You are not required to complete the task, yet you are not free to withdraw from it..." Many Jews have felt that to learn the entire Talmud was impossible; enter the "Daf Hayomi" project, in which one learns a page of Talmud daily, completing the entire Talmud in 7 1/2 years. Reading the weekly Torah section with commentaries can be overwhelming- but learning an aliyah (section) a day makes it easier.

The bottom line is to start the process, enjoy the adventure, and celebrate your ongoing accomplishments. If you need help starting this plan, let's talk and decide on a plan of action!



### Rabbi Fred Nebel

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Kurt & Tessye Simon Fund  
for Holocaust Remembrance

**Kristallnacht Commemoration  
Film Screening & Discussion**

Sunday, November 6 @ 3PM  
at Temple Beth El & via Zoom

Email [temple@tbe-sb.org](mailto:temple@tbe-sb.org) to register for this event.

## A QUARTER-CENTURY AFTER THE MAKING OF THE PEOPLE NEXT DOOR

Join us as we share again the viewing of this powerful, locally produced, survivor testimony film, honor the people who created it, and listen to the stories of its impact and how it came to be.



# LEARN THE SECRETS OF HAVDALAH

Join the Jewish community for Havdalah, bonfire & refreshments Sunday, November 20 at 4:30 PM at The Jewish Federation

RSVP at [TheJewishFed.org](http://TheJewishFed.org)



FOR A YOUNG, VIBRANT JEWISH MICHIANA

# schmooze by the fire

Spark a conversation with fellow Jews over hot dogs, s'mores & drinks.

Thursday, Nov. 10 from 7:00-9:30 PM

\$10 - Food & Alcohol

\$5 - Food Only

Free to Attend

Visit [TheJewishFed.org](http://TheJewishFed.org) to register

# WOMEN'S CHALLAH

## BAKE TUESDAY, NOV. 8TH FROM 7:00-9:00 PM AT THE JEWISH FED



This event is being organized by Shani Kramer, on behalf of the Jewish community.

\$15 early registration or \$18 at the door for a set of ingredients to make 2 challot. Registration fee can be paid digitally via Zelle to Shani at **718-483-1300**, or with a check made out to the Federation with "Challah Bake" in the memo.

Featuring music & talk by **Rivki Silver**, of the Deep Meaningful Conversations podcast. For more info about Rivki, visit [TheJewishFed.org/ChallahBake](http://TheJewishFed.org/ChallahBake).



Questions, or to sponsor the event in memory of a loved one, please email [kramershani@gmail.com](mailto:kramershani@gmail.com).

## Reflections on the PBS Documentary, "The U.S. and the Holocaust"

### From Joe Bauer

Ken Burns documents the worldwide presence of racism, antisemitism, anti-immigrant sentiment and nativism in the decades before Hitler took over Germany, which contributed significantly to the ability of the Nazis to murder six million Jews during the Holocaust. These sentiments were most starkly evidenced at the Evian Conference in 1938, when diplomats from 32 countries met; they decried the persecution of the Jews in Germany, but then refused to open their borders to the hundreds of thousands of Jews trapped in Germany and Austria.

The role played by American inactivity is clearly portrayed. America's inhospitality to immigrants can be traced at least back to the Know-Nothing Party's opposition to Irish and Catholic immigration in the 1840s. This sentiment continued with the Chinese Exclusion Acts in the 1880s, and the imposition of quotas for immigrants – which severely limited immigration from southern and eastern Europe – in the

1920s. By 1933, when the United States was in the midst of the Great Depression and Hitler was increasingly making life intolerable for German Jews, the ability of Jews to come to the US was severely curtailed.

The documentary identifies so many other obstacles to protection of European Jews, including the America First movement led by Charles Lindbergh; the turning away of the ship St. Louis from Miami harbor; and the presence of virulent antisemites and opponents of immigration in the State Department. At the end, one reflects on how little was done by too many individuals and countries, and what might instead have been done to rescue at least some of the millions of murdered Jews.

*Joe Bauer is President of the Kurt and Tessye Simon Fund for Holocaust Remembrance*

### From Ina Rosenberg

I thought when I began to watch the Ken Burns Documentary that I already knew what I would be seeing. After all, for many years I spoke to local high school classes about the Holocaust and felt that I researched the subject well. I was wrong. It was a very painful experience for me because in a sense I was reliving my parent's pain. It was painful not only as a Jew but as an American. I knew what happened to the Jews of Europe under the Nazi regime but never realized the extent of American indifference in not saving the Jews.

I am the child of immigrants. My mother survived a pogrom in Russia, now Belarus. As a result she lived with fears her entire life. She always wanted to be sure that we were safe. As she aged, she had flashbacks of the trauma. I remember saying to her when she had these flashbacks, "Ma, this is the United States, it can't happen here." She would look at me, hold up her hand, and say "Wait."



Women Leading a Dialogue return for...

# Coexistence CAFE



A lively in-person discussion with Arab & Jewish women who make coexistence a reality in Israel  
**Sunday, Nov. 13, 10:30 AM to 12 PM**  
at the Jewish Federation



RSVP by Monday, November 7 at [TheJewishFed.org/CoexistenceCafe](https://TheJewishFed.org/CoexistenceCafe)

My father came from Poland. He was a victim of the 1924 Johnson-Reed Immigration Act which was a legislative expression of the then prevalent xenophobia. As a result he could not immigrate to the United States. He went to Cuba, worked to save money, bribed a freighter ship's captain, jumped ship in Philadelphia and swam ashore. He made his way to South Bend where his brother lived. He changed his last name hoping that the immigration authorities wouldn't find him.

My aunts, their husbands and my cousins didn't leave. They had established their lives and didn't realize what lay ahead. By the time they did it was too late and they couldn't. They were in the Zambrow Ghetto and transported to Birkenau. Dad's youngest brother fled east to Russia and disappeared.

This documentary brought back memories of Dad's pain. On Yom Kippur he would light Yartzeit candles for each one of his family. As young kids we were fascinated by them not fully realizing their meaning. Ma would say, "Be good today and don't bother Daddy because he lost his family." I remember thinking: how could he lose his family; we are all here.

Another memory was the Alien registration form. I remember seeing that form on the table in our kitchen and asking what it was. After a brief explanation he quickly put it away. I asked, "Why are you called an alien, aliens are from outer space." I was probably 11 or 12 at the time. I now know the word alien has many different meanings: foreigner, stranger, other, not like us, illegal, does not belong here.

In today's America we are seeing the same hate and intolerance that was prevalent in the 1930s and it is frightening. My one consolation is that my parents are not alive to see once again the resurgence of the nightmares of their past.

*Ina Rosenberg, The Okon Family  
Endowment Fund for Holocaust Education*

### From Terry Tulchinsky

The US and the Holocaust: "From Man was Made to Mourn"

Many and sharp the numerous ills

Inwoven with our frame  
More pointed still we make ourselves  
Regret, remorse, and shame  
And Man, his heaven erected face  
The smiles of love adorn  
Man's inhumanity to man  
Makes countless thousands mourn.

— Robert Burns

The 20th Century was humanity's bloodiest example of our inhumanity. We ponder how could such inhumanity take place? We pray that it never happens again.

In Ken Burns' film, "The US and the Holocaust," the film reveals the history leading to the fascist takeover of Germany. How science (eugenics) and ancient hatreds (Anti-Semitism) led to such monstrous inhumanity.

America's attitudes helped set the foundation for racial and religious intolerance. American values tend to reinforce the notion that we are 'exceptional' in our vision of "Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness." The documentary vividly depicts the contradiction between that romantic notion of American infallibility and our nativist yearning to exclude.

Antisemitism was a real attitude in America. The idea of protecting Americans from the Jewish hordes has been a strong political force. It shaped America's nativist policies on immigration and immigrants. That inclination has existed with every group that has sought refuge on American soil. It was easy to reject Jews because that's what we do with perceived threats to "the American way."

The world was at war in 1914-18. And the peace that followed was tenuous. Economic failure was worldwide and political solutions leaned toward fascism. Man's inhumanity engenders political unrest. Economic chaos, social fragmentation and political turmoil led the world to military conquest as solutions to the disorder.

By 1933, Hitler, Mussolini, Tojo, and Franco all had the formula for fascist control. Inhumanity loves war and war loves inhumanity. Our American tradition had been wary of foreign involvement. Pearl Harbor ended our isolationist moorings.

Neutrality no longer was possible. Our way of life was threatened. Fascism was at our doorsteps. To survive, Americans were forced to abandon our nativism or we would succumb. We rallied, we endured. Victory was secured thanks to the economic might of our resources; but at a human cost. Japanese Americans were rounded up. Black Americans fought and lived in a segregated land. We dropped the atomic bomb. And the world was left to witness the mass slaughter of 6 million Jews.

The film "The US and the Holocaust", depicts how American government and society were slow to thwart the German policies of genocide. Undoubtedly most of the madness was unleashed by the policies of an unhinged Nazi dictatorship. But in the final analysis Burns, not Ken but Robert, may have had the best analysis of all.

*Terry Tulchinsky is past president of  
Temple Beth-El's Kurt and Tessye Simon  
Fund for Holocaust Remembrance*

### From Sid Shroyer

The Holocaust incubated in the environment of a sophisticated society that passively watched racist and nationalist ideological irrationality evolve from the fringe to the mainstream.

Was eugenics not rational?  
Were/are racism/nationalism not  
mainstream?

Might some see Ken Burns' The U.S. and the Holocaust as an example of "blame America" and object to this movie being used in schools?

Not every perpetrator is driven by demonic hatred. For some, it is the path of least resistance.

**THE U.S. AND THE  
HOLOCAUST**  
A FILM BY KEN BURNS, LYNN NOVICK & SARAH BOTSTEIN

Resistance is choosing hope. Frankl: Everything can be taken from a person but the choosing.

The choosing to neither see nor hear is cynicism.

Cynicism is collaboration.

Is the Holocaust the most significant event in human history?

What are the drawbacks of objectifying "the Holocaust" as one event?

The story of the Holocaust is the story of what "we" do to "us."

My knowledge of the Holocaust is extensive.

How many know that prior to the war Josef Mengele studied twins for a "respectable" German hereditary science institute funded partially by the American Rockefeller Foundation?

I need to say more to my class about the specifics of American immigration policy.

My ignorance of the Holocaust is boundless.

For the Holocaust to be meaningful beyond

the transitory anger and sorrow of our personal loss we simply must do everything we can so that "Never Again" means something.

How?

Lipstadt: "Before it happens."

**Sid Shroyer is past president of Temple Beth-El's Kurt and Tessye Simon Fund for Holocaust Remembrance**

### From Bob Feferman

The PBS Documentary, "The U.S. and the Holocaust" was a major achievement on many levels. As a student of history, I see one of its many accomplishments as providing a historical perspective on the situation of the Jewish people before, during, and after World War II.

The tragic results of the closed door policy of America – and the world – to Jewish immigration in the 1930s were encapsulated by the words of Chaim Weizmann, the leader of the Zionist movement. In the series, Ken Burns quoted Weizmann who said: "The world seems to be divided into two parts—those places where the Jews could not live and those

places where they could not enter."

The words of Weizmann also brought to mind another story shared by Shoshana in her Rosh Hashanah sermon at Temple Israel in Valparaiso.

President Joe Biden likes to tell the story of his trip to Israel in 1973 as a young Senator. It was just after the 1973 Yom Kippur War, a war for the survival of Israel that Israel had barely survived. Biden went to tour Israel and met with Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir. He describes his meeting with Golda Meir as follows:

Golda showed him various maps and explained to him why Israel's military situation was not good. Biden said the meeting was very depressing. Then Golda said to him, 'Senator, you look so worried. She said, "Don't worry, we have a secret weapon in our conflict with the Arabs". Golda paused for a moment and said: "You see, we have no place else to go."

**Bob Feferman, Community Relations Director, The Jewish Federation of St. Joseph Valley**







# BEEF & BARLEY SOUP

## From Our Community Table

Like it or not, we are getting closer to the cold winter weather. One of the best things about winter is a snowy day when you don't have to go anywhere and can look out the window at big snowflakes falling. That scenario is even better if you are drinking a hot beverage or eating soup. And, if you have a fireplace it should definitely be in use. The scene I just described is one of my favorite parts of winter. (Driving on icy roads is my least favorite part, but let's not go there.)

Hot soup is something I make all year round. Even in the summer, we enjoy soup on a regular basis. But during the winter we really enjoy the nourishing qualities of a good bowl of hot soup. I've found that many children enjoy soup and will eat it even if it contains (unbeknownst to them) vegetables that they would not touch in any recognizable form. I was never one to sneak spinach into brownies to get my children to eat their vegetables. Why taint a chocolate dessert when soup would do the trick? (Anyway, my kids

always liked spinach. That's not to say that they enjoyed every vegetable. But spinach was never an issue.)

The soup recipe that I am sharing with you this month is hearty but not too heavy. If you like a brothy soup, you can reduce the amount of barley in the recipe. Personally, I've always liked barley in soup. One of the main changes that I made in the original recipe upon which this is based is increasing the amount of barley.

The liquid used in this soup is water. If you usually use broth, I would consider using part broth and part water. I like the low sodium vegetable broth sold at Trader Joe's. One container has four cups of broth. When making a soup like the one below, you may use four cups of broth and six cups of water for some additional flavor.

**Deena Abraham**  
Community Contributor

### INGREDIENTS

oil, for browning the meat  
1 lb. stew meat, cut in small pieces  
1 Tbsp. kosher salt, divided  
½ tsp. pepper, divided  
1 med. onion, chopped  
4 cloves garlic, minced  
4 Tbsp. tomato paste  
4 carrots, diced  
2 stalks celery, diced  
1 small parsnip, diced  
½ tsp. thyme  
1 bay leaf  
10 c. water  
¾ - 1 c. barley

### INSTRUCTIONS

Pour oil in a pot to just cover the bottom. Heat until the oil is hot. Put the meat in the pot with half of the salt and pepper. Brown the meat in oil until it is no longer pink on any side. This should take a few minutes per side. If the pan is dry, stir in a little bit more oil. Stir in the onion and cook for five minutes. Stir in the garlic and cook for one minute. Add all remaining ingredients and bring to a boil. Lower the heat and simmer covered for 1 – 1 ½ hours. Remove the bay leaf before serving.


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## A Severed Wasp, by Madeleine L'Engle

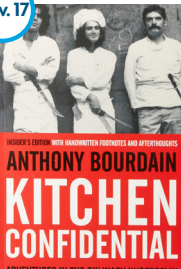
The novel is full of broken people harboring devastating secrets. Our main admirer of the book praised its authenticity. "If you love and know New York City in the 80s, it's like being there again." However, another described it as, "a slow-developing soap opera while the last ten pages wrap up its big 'hatred' mystery way too fast." The main character is a wise 70-year-old woman thrust into the role of confidante to everyone she encounters. She and her deceased mentor husband were Christian Holocaust survivors, heightening the tension of how their severe damages contributed to her empathetic nature. She's an endearing character.

We skipped our session in October this year, but met at a member's home for a viewing of the 1945 film, "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn." Although the movie ended earlier than the book, the film was a delight.

**Beth Buechler**  
Community Contributor

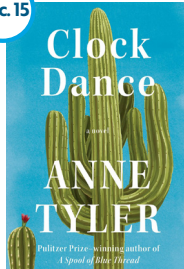
### Upcoming Books:

Nov. 17



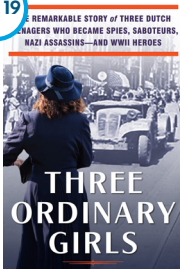
**ANTHONY BOURDAIN**  
**KITCHEN CONFIDENTIAL**  
ADVENTURES IN THE CULINARY UNDERBELLY

Dec. 15



**Clock Dance**  
ANNE TYLER  
Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *A Spool of Blue Thread*

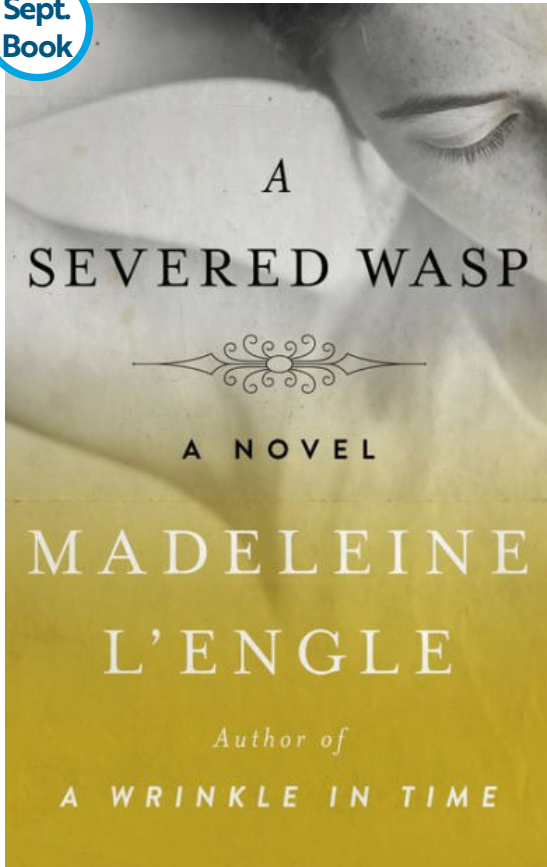
Jan. 19



REMARKABLE STORY OF THREE DUTCH NAGERS WHO BECAME SPIES, SABOTEURS, NAZI ASSASSINS—AND WWII HEROES

**THREE ORDINARY GIRLS**  
TIM BRADY

Sept. Book



A  
**SEVERED WASP**  
A NOVEL  
MADELEINE L'ENGLE  
Author of  
A WRINKLE IN TIME

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Lisa Lerman Community Bridge Fund  
Rosh Hashanah Appeal

## In Honor of:

Dr. Cat  
Irv Rosenberg's birthday  
Peri Arnold's birthday  
Steve Lotter

## In Memory of:

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WINTER CAMP  
IS COMING  
DECEMBER 26-30

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