

OUR COMMUNITY Newsletter

June-July 2023 | Sivan-Tammuz-Av 5783



Jewish Federation
OF ST. JOSEPH VALLEY

The Summer Issue

This edition of Our Community Newsletter covers the months of June & July with all of the programs & events we have planned for the summer!

On the cover: Sandy Hall & her granddaughter from our recent Mother's Day Brunch & Concert (recap inside)

Minute With Moshe

Renewing our commitments

Here's some news I'm happy to share. Last month, with the support of my board, I renewed my term as Executive Director of the Federation for another three years.

I've learned a great deal during the past three years. And I can't wait to create the future and to see what we can accomplish together in the next three years.

Since my arrival in 2020, we've focused on revitalizing the Federation and strengthening our commitment to you. To accomplish this goal, it has required reconditioning the core muscular strength of the Federation. We all know that exercise promotes health and that building up the core strengthens the body and improves overall balance and stability. The same is true to an even greater degree for organizations. Through the board's work, the Fed is also using core development to strengthen our commitment to you. Collectively, we can call them our core commitments.

Our Four Core Commitments (that align with the 2015 Strategic Plan)

- Expand and strengthen an engaged, vibrant, and flourishing Michiana Jewish community
- Secure the well-being and safety of individuals within the Jewish community

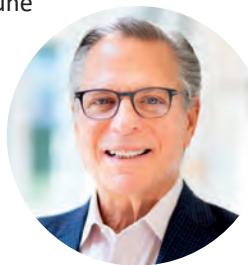
- Develop the financial, human resources and infrastructure needed by our community
- Strengthen our Partnership2Gether connection to Israel and to the Jewish people worldwide

These core areas focus our attention, guide our work, and bring greater clarity to our mission.

Our Core Commitments connect with Jewish values and strategic priorities that build on the successes of the past and strive for a better future. These commitments form the basis for continuous needs assessment, planning and evaluation to inform how we build connectivity and inform funding priorities.

In the last Minute with Moshe, I said, "good connectivity stimulates community dialogue and belonging to the place we call home." But how do we create connectivity? Here at the Fed, we do this by defining a vision for our future through community input and conversations.

Mark your calendar for Sunday, June 4 at 10:30 am for our next FED Talk, a program designed to promote conversations, foster unity without uniformity, and elevate our sense of community. The theme for FED Talk 3 is **A NEW VISION FOR ENDURING VALUES.**



Moshe Kruger

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In looking to stimulate a vision for our future and begin the process of renewal, we'll be best served by coming to it not with what we think are the correct answers but with the right questions: What would we see in a vibrant and growing Michiana Jewish community three years from now? In five years? In ten? Where and how would Jewish life be unfolding? Who would be here, and what will attract, engage, and retain the participants in that Jewish future?

If asked and responded to effectively, these questions will provide us with a strategic framework, a kind of roadmap, for the realization of our vision for a strong, growing, and flourishing Michiana Jewish community where individuals live with meaning, dignity, and purpose, with a sense of belonging to the Jewish people.

Looking forward to seeing you at FED Talk 3 on June 4. And while your calendars are out, please save the date for Wednesday, June 28 for Federation's 78th Annual Meeting.



History of the Jewish Federation of St. Joseph Valley

Excerpted from *Organizing a Jewish Community Council, Volume 1* by Roger Birdsell

"As World War II drew to a close, South Bend and Mishawaka Jewish leaders organized to address various common concerns. The Jewish Community Council was born at a time of death and rebirth for world Jewry. The murder of 6 million European Jews by Nazi Germany during WWII and the imminent birth of the State of Israel as the Jewish National Home.

The Jewish Community Council of St. Joseph County was reorganized in 1978 as the Jewish Federation. Under the Articles of Incorporation dated February 1945, the council was "to consist of all

representatives of Jewish organizations" in the county to crystalize Jewish opinion and unify actions on any matter promotive of the community's welfare.

The first council meeting was in September 1946. This new organization was part of an emerging network of local Jewish federations in the United States and Canada (today, we are one of 146 Federations in the Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA) network.

Representatives of local Jewish groups serving on the council would articulate the points of view of their organizations. The founding communal leaders thought that this way, the council would be able to act in the name of and on behalf of the Jewish

community.

A community survey was conducted in the summer of 1945. The survey identified 446 Jewish households and 1,600 individuals living in South Bend and Mishawaka, estimating a total Jewish population of 1,800 to 2,000. The questionnaire covered various issues relevant to the community, including the "merger" of existing congregations."

In reading this organizational snapshot, it's instructive to see the roots of our interconnected, interrelated, interdependent Jewish ecosystem were established from the very inception of our Community Council.



Happy Birthday: Israel at 75 and my Ima, Sylvia Kruger at 95

Reflections from Moshe Kruger's recent trip to Israel

As many of you know, I recently attended the Israel at 75 General Assembly (GA). I also visited my mom and four siblings in Israel. There were many memorable highlights of my visit, including the precious family time I had celebrating a joint birthday with my mom, who is 95 years young.

My time in Israel exceeded my expectations. Being in Israel to experience the dramatic shift between Yom HaZikaron (honoring the fallen soldiers and victims of terror) and Yom HaAtzmaut (celebrating Israel's independence) was powerful, raw, and emotional. To go from sorrow, grief, and memories to jubilation was unbelievable.

The GA brought together more than 3,000 North American Jews. The General Assembly, which takes place annually in North America and once every five years in Israel, was timed to coincide with Yom HaZikaron and Yom HaAtzmaut.

The gathering occurred during heightened tensions in Israel as regular demonstrations have rocked the country for the past four



months over the government's proposed judicial overhaul.

Those protests spilled over into the General Assembly, with hundreds of demonstrators chanting and holding signs and flags outside the opening gala in Tel Aviv's expo center – and in some cases, inside as well.

At the opening session of the Jewish Federations of North America's General Assembly in Tel Aviv on Sunday night,

Israeli President Isaac Herzog announced the launch of a new initiative, "Kol Ha'am — Voice of the People" aimed at improving dialogue within the Jewish people and identifying new young Jewish leaders.

These sessions will be held in major Jewish communities worldwide, including Chicago. Bob Feferman and I will be attending the session in Chicago in June.

Herzog noted these current contentions in his remarks and fraying ties between Israel and Diaspora Jewry, stating, "I am convinced that there is no greater existential threat to our people than the one that comes from within our own polarization and alienation from one another."

JFNA sees this recent strife over the proposed judicial overhaul as threatening Israeli-American relations. Jewish Federations understand that only if Israel remains a strong democracy can we be confident that it will remain a homeland open to the entire Jewish people.



An Ideal way to spend the summer!

Camp Ideal runs from June 12- July 28, and we have so many amazing things in store for our campers! But, to make it even more special, we need your help. Part of our daily programming is often “workshop” hours, where we invite community members to come in to share a skill or hobby with our campers. This may include art projects, pottery, blacksmithing, woodworking...you name it, we try it! If you have something you could offer the youth in our community, we want to hear from you!

Don't forget that Camp Ideal and summer also mean Shi'Shuk Market is back! With our new cart freshly painted, and a long list of items we plan on making with our campers, we hope to see you every Friday this summer! Each week of Camp (except July 7), we will be out in the circle drive from 3:30 to 4:30 PM with our campers selling kosher baked goods, desserts, honey, hand creams and other items made from ingredients found in our garden! We sell everything at a low price, and any profit is donated to a local organization that the campers are passionate about.

In addition, Gan Ideal, our Federation Unity Garden, is planted and looking great! Campers will learn about sustainability, where our food comes from, and how to take care of nature. But little hands can only accomplish so much with the time we have, and any other hands, green thumbs or not, are invited to stop by to help any day of the week (9 AM-5 PM) or on Sundays, if arranged in advance. If you haven't seen the garden yet, you may be surprised at how great it looks! We aren't looking for help with weeding, as we shouldn't have hardly any this time around after the work we put in!

Unity Gardens is a local project we are proud to be a part of. In fact, the Jewish Federation was one of the first “satellite gardens” to join! Last year, the central Unity Garden provided 200,000 tons of produce for free to the community. They help families with food insecurity learn how to grow their own food, provide free seeds and plants for all of their community gardens (like ours), and this year, we were the first to get help from Unity Garden volunteers who put in our new “lasagna” style garden. Yup, you read that right. A group of strangers came out to the Federation and built our garden, donated all of the plants, and taught hours of free lessons. I hope we can repay the help soon by providing fruits and veggies to our community, but for that, we will need a bit of help.

For me, Camp has always been about getting outdoors, away from the screens, and learning about what we can accomplish together with friends. We have multiple camp sites set up on our hiking trails, including the new Achari trail put in by South Bend Mishawaka Youth Leadership! *Achari* means follow me in hebrew, a saying most commonly connected to the method in which commanders lead in the IDF: “follow me, I will lead you.” The trails are ready to be explored and I invite you to come with your family or on a lunch break from work to walk the trails, listen to the wildlife, smell the aromas of the wildflowers and experience the serenity that is right in our backyard! Want to go camping? The Federation also has tents and camping gear you could borrow! Think about getting a group of friends or family together for a basketball game, softball game,

soccer, cornhole, ultimate frisbee, shoe golf, bocce...I really could go on, but you get the idea. We have the equipment and want to see you here! The Federation has been like a second home for me these past two years, and I hope everyone reading this knows that our doors are always open. That is, if you call ahead to make sure we're open. But if you know me, I'm usually around if there's daylight.

It's strange, just a few years ago this was the time of year we were preparing for the mango harvest in the Moshav I lived on while learning Hebrew, prior to my IDF service. Once, while riding back on a nine ton crate full of mangos, the pack house operator looked up and laughed at me. He called out “what in the world is an American doing working on a farm out here?! You should be back in Miami!” Which, I responded, “I'm from Michigan, very different from Miami.” I loved being outdoors in Israel, playing with my nephews from my adopted family, and learning Hebrew with them. I thought there would never be a place I would feel as comfortable and happy. Even if there are days I wish I was back in Israel, I can say that being in South Bend, getting to know and be welcomed into the community, and directing Camp Ideal for the third summer in a row has been another dream.

I hope I can help you find the adventure, the peace and the activity you would like to have in your community, and that you think of our Federation as your second home like I do. Have a great summer, and please stop by for a visit soon!



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SBSO's Symphony-to-Go simply amazing!

Recapping our Mother's Day Brunch & Concert

Diane Sarnat (Temple Beth-El):

Many things as individuals keep us from seeing each other. However, on Sunday, May 14, community members gathered together at the Jewish Federation of St. Joseph Valley to celebrate Mother's Day and to share the beautiful spring day as a community. The South Bend Symphony Orchestra String Quartet provided a wonderful performance of music of Jewish Composers. Some of the composers included Aaron Copland, Barbara Streisand, Leonard Bernstein, George Gershwin and Fanny Mendelssohn, among others. Attendees of all ages also enjoyed an elegant luncheon. The diverse menu was presented beautifully with a variety of tastes for all ages.

A "Mother's Day Brunch and Concert" was supported by the Craig and Carol Kapson Cultural and Performing Arts Fund. It was also supported by the Kurt and Tessye Simon Foundation of Temple Beth-El.

The Jewish Federation Community Room was filled completely with many generations of families including small children, parents and grandparents. Laughter, conversation and overall feelings of warmth, filled the room. Everyone enjoyed the feelings of coming together to share the day. This was a special event

that brought together members of the community in a caring celebration.

Barbara Lerman (Hebrew Orthodox Congregation):

The program Sunday was a tremendous success. The food, presentation and music were outstanding. It was a wonderful vehicle for getting our diverse community to come together and just have fun.

Most important, I want you to know that the Federation's genuine enthusiasm, sensitivity and energy is a great gift to this community.

Sarah Lotter (Sinai Synagogue):

What an incredible experience we had at this year's Mother's Day brunch and concert! For so many different reasons, this holiday can bring a lot of emotions and for some, feelings of dread. Having this event on our calendar was the perfect way to honor and celebrate the women we know and love.

The food was incredible, thank you for making everything so special! My son, Morrie, even suggested the cake looked too pretty to eat! I can hardly put into words what we felt when the music started! The South Bend Symphony String Quintet absolutely captivated us, and we thoroughly enjoyed learning about the Jewish composers in between songs.

June Programs

Crash Course in Basic Judaism

Every Thursday in June at 12 PM

FED Talk 3

Sunday, June 4 at 10:30 AM

The Creation of West Side Story

Thursday, June 8 at 7:00 PM

In Search of Authenticity w/ Dan Feferman

Sunday, June 11 at 10:30 AM

Camp Ideal's Shi'Shuk Market

Friday, June 16, 23 & 30 at 3:30 PM

Intergenerational lunch with Camp Ideal

Wednesday, June 21 at 11:30 AM

Jewish Federation Annual Meeting

Wednesday, June 28 at 7:00 PM

July Programs

Community Blood Drive

Friday, July 7 from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Camp Ideal's Shi'Shuk Market

Friday, July 14, 21 & 28 at 3:30 PM

NEXTGen South Bend Cubs game

Tuesday, July 18 at 7 PM

Intergenerational lunch with Camp Ideal

Wednesday, July 19 at 11:30 AM

Visit TheJewishFed.org/Events to learn more or RSVP!





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

Is it in the budget?

Pirkei Avot teaches that one should “calculate the cost of a mitzvah (commandment) against its reward, and the reward of a sin and its cost.” Buying matzah for Pesach or a lulav for Sukkot will cost me extra money but will bring me closer to Hashem. In today’s language this calculation is termed a “cost-benefit analysis.”

This principle not only applies to religious life, but to all aspects of life. For example, if one is trying to lose weight, one must consider the types of food and mode of exercise that will reap the greatest benefit. When bored, depressed, or out with friends/colleagues, one must decide as to whether the food that is about to be consumed is really in consonance with one’s goal. And, if not, is the immediate reward going to outweigh the long-term loss?

When it comes to finances, we should use the same cost-benefit analysis. Do I really need this product? Will the purchase put me into the negative? Is there a less expensive brand that will be the same quality? If I buy on credit, will I have enough money to pay the bill when it comes due? If not, how much money is really being spent on this purchase?

In the larger picture, this is creating a budget. One needs to learn how to budget their time, resources, etc. and know how to determine whether one’s costs fit into the budget.

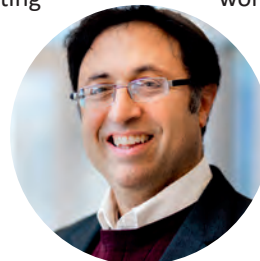
Budgeting time, money, food intake, etc. is an ongoing

pursuit. The problem is when one hears the words “budget” or “diet,” one sighs a groan meaning, “something else to limit my life.” What happened to living free and easy?

In truth, a budget shows where every cent is going. It does not dictate lifestyle or limit choices. It merely identifies where a possible “hole in the pocket” is. Part of the budget should be creating an emergency fund for the unforeseen expenses and a savings program to end the concept of living from paycheck to paycheck.

Whether a person is bringing in \$12k or \$100k, one needs to budget their money to ensure that it is not being spent just because it’s available. One’s expenditures should be viewed through the lens of the greater goal, namely, financial independence, rather than through the lens of “I’m broke, I’m broke, so it’s off to work I go.” The best thing about making a budget is that it can change over time. It is not a stricture on one’s life, but rather a way to create financial freedom and reduce the stress of life.

Hopefully, this article will entice you to check out budgeting and achieving financial freedom. Let’s make some time to sit down and help create a budget that works for you.



Rabbi Fred Nebel

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LUNCH & LEARN

Crash Course in Basic Judaism

WITH RABBI FRED NEBEL

12 PM, EVERY THURSDAY IN JUNE AT THE FEDERATION
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SPAGHETTI LUNCH SERVED | REGISTER AT THEJEWISHFED.ORG





Israel's Iron Dome rocket defense systems intercepts hostile fire.



Apartment in Rehovot, Israel that was hit by recent rocket fire.

A Profile in Resilience

Living a normal life in an abnormal situation

On Thursday evening May 11th, our son, daughter-in-law and three grandchildren who live in Rehovot, Israel were trying to navigate one of the dilemmas of life in Israel: how to find normalcy in an often-abnormal situation.

Between May 9th and May 13th, the terrorist organization Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ), based in Gaza and supported by Iran, fired more than 1,400 rockets at Israeli civilians.

The initial cause of this round of fighting was PIJ rocket fire from Gaza into southern Israel. The Israel Air Force responded by carrying out targeted strikes that killed three senior PIJ leaders. Then PIJ let loose barrages of rockets over a five-day period that sent millions of Israelis into shelter when their sirens went off.

For our son Dan and his family who live in central Israel, this experience repeats itself about once every eighteen months. Yet, for those living in southern Israel near the Gaza border, rocket attacks occur much more frequently.

The first time our grandchildren had to run to seek shelter from rocket fire was in August 2014 during Operation Protective Edge. During that operation, Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad fired more than 4,500 rockets at Israeli civilians.

After things calmed down, our son and his family came to visit us in America. During a trip to a shopping mall, our granddaughter Moriyah, then three years old, asked her mother, "Mommy, where will we go if the sirens go off?"

There is no doubt that these experiences take a psychological toll on Israeli children.

Although Israel's amazing rocket defense system, Iron Dome, has saved thousands of Israeli lives with a 95% success rate, it is not perfect. It is not hermetic.

When sirens go off, Israelis need to seek shelter. Even when Iron Dome successfully intercepts a rocket over an Israeli city, shrapnel falls out of the air. And you don't want to be in the streets with metal fragments falling out of the sky.

At 6:00 PM on May 11th, a Burak 85 rocket was launched from Gaza toward the city of Rehovot where our son and his family live.

For whatever reason, Iron Dome did not intercept. The rocket hit an apartment building less than a mile from where they live and killed an elderly lady who was trying to get her wheelchair-bound husband into the safe room.

At the same time, when the sirens went off, our grandchildren instinctively knew the drill.

Our now twelve-year-old granddaughter, Moriyah, grabbed her eight-year-old brother Eliav, went into the stairwell and down two flights to a safer space. She sent a text to her mother that she and Eliav were ok.

Our fourteen-year-old grandson Gideon, who was in the shower, had to grab a towel and run down the stairs. Whitney, our daughter-in-law, made sure the kids were ok, grabbed the family dog and did the same.

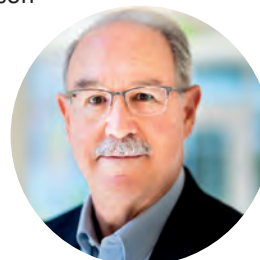
In the meantime, our son Dan was out doing errands. As he wrote on Facebook, "That was close, very close.... I was driving home and pulled over - and took cover (and prayed) by the side of the road. The boom was incredibly loud and very nearby. There's not really anywhere to take cover on a sidewalk. I don't know if it helped - but I was next to a father and his two young boys."

Less than an hour later, we called them on WhatsApp to see if everyone was ok.

Our granddaughter Moriyah was already trying on a new dress. That night, the whole family went to a Bar Mitzvah party. And that same night in Tel Aviv, which had been targeted earlier that day, there was a rock concert with some 30,000 people attending.

In the bigger picture, since Israel withdrew unilaterally from Gaza in 2005, Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad have fired more than 19,000 rockets at Israeli civilians. And that's in addition to the 4,000 rockets fired by Hezbollah from Lebanon into northern Israel during the Second Lebanon War of 2006.

May 11th was a profile in resilience. Surrounded by terrorist organizations backed by Iran, the people of Israel simply try to live a normal life in an abnormal situation.



Bob Feferman

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Strangers in a Strange, New and Wondrous Land

The Berman-Brenner Family Sculpture Garden Comes to the Jewish Federation of St. Joseph Valley

When Temple Beth-El recently sold its 73-year-old cherished home, it felt like one more bittersweet chapter of Diaspora in the history of the Jewish people: the 118-year-old Temple congregation had to leave behind yet another *Anatevka* and find its next shtetl “somewhere else.” At least for the sculptures, that somewhere else is now firmly planted in the warm and welcoming embrace of the Jewish Federation.

Temple was beloved by my family, who contributed not only their resources but gave of themselves endlessly to help the congregation thrive. When Janet Berman died in 2018 at 99, she had been its longest-serving member; I, too, grew up at Temple, and though I have lived away for decades, my membership continues our legacy for over 100 years. And our former building always felt like a second home to me, in large part because my mother, as longtime house co-chair (among my parents’ many capacities) – along with so many other devoted members – took care of Temple as if it *were* everyone’s second home. Not to mention that my mother was one of Temple’s most prolific decorators! She brought to the building and landscaping her (I am biased, of

course) elegant taste – and meaningful art. And I, immodestly, take credit for helping with some of that.

The Berman-Brenner Family Sculpture Garden was born because my mother wanted to close out a fund at Temple she had established in 1969 in her mother’s memory, and asked me to create something special by which to remember Florine Brenner.

I almost immediately conceived the idea of the Sculpture Garden – not only to pay tribute to my grandmother (and grandfather, Herman Brenner, who died in 1949), but because my father, Bernard Berman, had recently passed away (in 1998), and my mother and I were already thinking about something to commemorate his life, as well. Mom was thrilled that a sculpture garden would not only honor our loved ones, but serve the congregation as a peaceful refuge and beautiful public focal point for the greater community.

My parents also had a very special love for the work of the Federation and contributed to its programs – so where better for the sculptures to have their new home? Where better to preserve the

meaning, the continuity, the heart, the soul of my family’s bequest than in the heart of the verdant, sweeping campus of this important institution – an oasis where all Jews, and all peoples, can visit and reflect and take part in its soulful, and joyful, programming and activities?

My artistic inspiration for the Sculpture Garden came from one line in *Gates of Prayer*: “Can a people disappear and be annihilated so long as a child remembers its parents?”

I hope all who visit these sculptures will think of their own parents – and think of the heart that is the Jewish people: *We remember* – and, somehow, we continue – *from generation to generation*.

My thanks to Temple Beth-El, and to the Jewish Federation, for giving The Berman-Brenner Family Sculpture Garden its new home, and its new heart.



Pamela L. Berman
Community Contributor



Top row, left to right: Janet Berman with *Two Open Triangles Up Gytratory IV* by George Rickey; Painting of The Berman-Brenner Family Sculpture Garden by Jack Appleton; Back of Grandmother & Granddaughter by Kirk Newman; Tree of Life by Sharron Gale & Marilyn Simon; Pamela Berman with Grandmother & Granddaughter by Kirk Newman;



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Contact Dan Cossman for more info.

Call (574) 234-1164 ext. 1801.

Security & facility improvements at the Jewish Federation

Those who have been to the Federation in the last year or two will surely have noticed our effort to revitalize and beautify our campus. Clean, fresh landscaping and fighting back the overgrowth and weeds have brought beauty back to our campus. We now have turned our attention to the Federation building. Our building has had some substantial mechanical and security improvements in the past few months. Most of the work wouldn't be visible unless you were here while the work was being done.

During the winter, work began for the security grant that we received in 2021. Windows were reinforced with shatter-resistant film. Additional cameras and lighting were installed inside and around our building and surrounding campus. We've also improved our system that allows access to the building. Perhaps, the most visible security upgrade (and most exciting to me) is an entirely new front security gate. By the time you read this, we should have or will soon have a new security gate. This new gate will be more secure and more reliable than the original. Please be patient as we

create new security protocols for the Federation campus. Our goal is to make the Federation a safe place for all that come here.

Regarding mechanical improvements, our building has reached an age where its original equipment has started to fail. We've been discussing our roof and HVAC for a couple of years, knowing we were on borrowed time with them. With leaks becoming more prevalent and sections of the building not being able to be heated or cooled properly, the decision was made to make some capital improvements.

We used a younger company out of Goshen, Southwest Commercial Roofing, for the roof. They provided good work, good customer service, and a reasonable price. All of our roofs were redone. With additional insulation and a different type of coating, our roof should give us better results and a longer lifespan than the original.

If you were in the building during May, you may have noticed work being done in our hallways. The

Federation's heating and air conditioning system is comprised of 12 separate units. Two of those units were replaced a few years ago. Out of the remaining ten units, a couple didn't work at all, a few only worked for heat, and all were past their life expectancy. Those ten units have been replaced. We now have a reliable, energy-efficient HVAC system, just in time for our hot and humid Midwest summer.

We again also have an active facilities committee focusing on maintaining and improving our campus. All of these updates and repairs are to keep our facility and campus a solid, beautiful, and safe place for our community to gather. Please come and share in our community center.



Dan Cossman

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CAMP IDEAL PRESENTS

Shi Shuk Market



FRESH CHALLAH | HERBS & FLOWERS | SOAPS & SCRUBS

Every Friday while Camp Ideal is in session, our campers will sell handmade goods & perishables with profits donated to a charity of their choice at the end of the summer.

STARTING FRIDAY, JUNE 16 AT 3:30 PM
JEWISH FEDERATION OF ST. JOSEPH VALLEY

June 21 + July 19 CAMP IDEAL'S INTERGENERATIONAL LUNCH

A CHANCE FOR SENIORS IN OUR COMMUNITY TO BE WITH KIDS



Wednesdays, June 21 & July 19
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Register at TheJewishFed.org

\$7 per person

SB KOSHER

South Bend's The Liberal Jewish Fellowship partners with The Ark Synagogue in the UK

We are beyond excited to announce that The Liberal Jewish Fellowship will be forging a partnership with The Ark Synagogue in Northwood, UK, one of the largest, most vibrant, and most influential Progressive congregations in England. This will give us access to an extraordinary array of virtual programming.

THE ARK SYNAGOGUE



Please email rabbi@ljfellowship.org to be added to our mailing list, which will now include updates on programming from The Ark, as well as links to join. Though the five-hour time difference can make attendance a bit tricky, the ability to engage with one of Judaism's leading voices in the UK is well worth the effort.



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IN SEARCH OF AUTHENTICITY

NEW EXPRESSIONS OF JEWISH LIFE IN NORTH AMERICA WITH DAN FEFERMAN

SUNDAY, JUNE 11, 10:30 AM
IN-PERSON AT THE JEWISH FEDERATION
WITH ZOOM OPTION AVAILABLE

Presented by the Kurt & Tessye Simon Foundation of Temple Beth-El

RSVP to temple@tbe-sb.org



You're invited to help kick-off BBYO's 100th anniversary

BBYO is celebrating its 100th anniversary! In anticipation of the celebration, the Michiana Jewish Historical Society and the Jewish Federation are planning a kick-off on Sunday, August 20, 2023 from 3-5 at Jewish Federation with snacks and a discussion of how we can plan for a full-blown reunion in Summer 2024! Slideshow? Singing? Softball?

This is open to anybody who was involved in any way with BBG or AZA – from those involved in the 1950s to those involved in the 2000s. Come ready to share stories and ideas of how to make our reunion a success. Please invite others to join our group, and let us know if you can make it on August 20th!

Email MichianaJewishHistorical@gmail.com if you're interested, or scan the QR code below to find our "South Bend BBYO Reunion" group on Facebook.



Use your smartphone camera to scan the QR code.



NEXTGen

FOR A YOUNG, VIBRANT JEWISH MICHIANA

JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OUT AT FOUR WINDS FIELD

TUESDAY, JULY 18 AT 7 PM
REGISTRATION DUE JULY 4



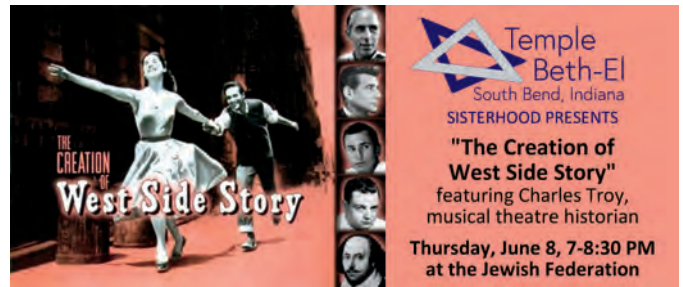
Family friendly group seating,
plus bring your dog to the game!

\$15/person (ticket only) or \$20 w/meal options -
hot dogs or falafel sandwich, supplied by **Kramer's Kosher Cuisine**



June

Sivan - Tammuz 5783


















SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 12:00 PM Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Nebel	2 8:55 PM Candles	3 Parshat Naso 9:56 PM Havdalah
4 10:30 AM FED Talk 3	5 9:15-10:00 AM Women's Zumba 1:00-4:00 PM Mahjong	6 9:15-10:00 AM Women's Zumba 7:00-8:30 PM Ethics of Our Fathers Class	7 1:00-4:00 PM Mahjong	8 12:00 PM Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Nebel 7:00 PM Creation of West Side Story	9 9:00 PM Candles	10 Parshat Beha'lotcha 10:01 PM Havdalah
11 10:30 AM In Search of Authenticity w/ Dan Feferman	12 9:15-10:00 AM Women's Zumba 1:00-4:00 PM Mahjong	13 9:15-10:00 AM Women's Zumba 7:00-8:30 PM Ethics of Our Fathers Class	14 1:00-4:00 PM Mahjong	15 12:00 PM Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Nebel	16 3:30 PM Shi'Shuk Market 9:03 PM Candles	17 Parshat Sh'lach 10:04 PM Havdalah
	CAMP IDEAL					
18	19 Rosh Chodesh 9:15-10:00 AM Women's Zumba 1:00-4:00 PM Mahjong	20 Rosh Chodesh 9:15-10:00 AM Women's Zumba 7:00-8:30 PM Ethics of Our Fathers Class	21 11:30 AM Intergenerational Lunch 1:00-4:00 PM Mahjong	22 12:00 PM Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Nebel	23 3:30 PM Shi'Shuk Market 9:05 PM Candles	24 Parshat Korach 10:05 PM Havdalah
	CAMP IDEAL					
25	26 9:15-10:00 AM Women's Zumba 1:00-4:00 PM Mahjong	27 9:15-10:00 AM Women's Zumba	28 1:00-4:00 PM Mahjong 6:30 PM Campfire Treats 7:00-8:30 PM Annual Meeting	29 12:00 PM Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Nebel	30 3:30 PM Shi'Shuk Market 9:05 PM Candles	1 Parshat Chukat-Balak 10:05 PM Havdalah
	CAMP IDEAL					

July

Tammuz - Av 5783

Community Blood Drive

FRIDAY, JULY 7 FROM 10 AM - 2 PM
AT THE JEWISH FEDERATION

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2	3 1:00–4:00 PM Mahjong	4 Independence Day - Closed	5 1:00–4:00 PM Mahjong	6 Fast of Tammuz 4:27 AM to 10:04 PM	7 10 AM to 2 PM Community Blood Drive 9:03 PM Candles	8 Parshat Pinchas 10:04 PM Havdalah
9	10 9:15–10:00 AM Women's Zumba 1:00–4:00 PM Mahjong	11 9:15–10:00 AM Women's Zumba	12 1:00–4:00 PM Mahjong	13	14 3:30 PM Shi'Shuk Market 9:00 PM Candles	15 Parshat Matot-Ma'asei 10:00 PM Havdalah
	 CAMP IDEAL	 CAMP IDEAL	 CAMP IDEAL	 CAMP IDEAL	 CAMP IDEAL	
16	17 9:15–10:00 AM Women's Zumba 1:00–4:00 PM Mahjong	18 9:15–10:00 AM Women's Zumba 7:00 PM NEXTGen South Bend Cubs	19 11:30 AM Intergenerational Lunch 1:00–4:00 PM Mahjong	20	21 3:30 PM Shi'Shuk Market 8:55 PM Candles	22 Parshat Devarim Shabbat Chazon 9:55 PM Havdalah
	 CAMP IDEAL	 CAMP IDEAL	 CAMP IDEAL	 CAMP IDEAL	 CAMP IDEAL	
23 Rosh Chodesh Sivan	24 9:15–10:00 AM Women's Zumba 1:00–4:00 PM Mahjong	25 9:15–10:00 AM Women's Zumba	26 Erev Tisha B'av 9:09 PM Fast Begins 1:00–4:00 PM Mahjong	27 Tisha B'Av 9:50 PM Fast Ends	28 3:30 PM Shi'Shuk Market 8:49 PM Candles	29 Parshat V'etchanan Shabbat Nachamu 9:48 PM Havdalah
	 CAMP IDEAL	 CAMP IDEAL	 CAMP IDEAL	 CAMP IDEAL	 CAMP IDEAL	
30	31 9:15–10:00 AM Women's Zumba 1:00–4:00 PM Mahjong					

TEEN'S FAVORITE BLUEBERRY MUFFINS

From Our Community Table

Greetings Our Community Table readers!

One berry, two berries, pick me a blueberry! Blueberry season is almost upon us here, in Michiana, and I would be remiss as a food columnist if I didn't share at least one recipe that enthusiastically bursts with their sweet, juicy, blueberry deliciousness!

I don't know about all of you, but I love blueberry muffins. Yet alas, finding a great blueberry muffin, now that is not as easy as one might think. You know exactly what I'm talking about--the one that checks all the boxes for appearance, density, sweetness (but not too sweet!), topping, the berry to cake ratio, and just all together wonderfulness.

Growing up, the gold standard in my town was the Sara Lee blueberry muffin. Deerfield was home to the Sara Lee headquarters, and we all loved just about

everything that company had to offer. Their blueberry muffins in particular appealed to my 10-year-old self, and I must admit, I still measure the scrumptiousness of a blueberry muffins on that rosy childhood memory—glasses on!

For years, I tried different recipes, always searching for the recipe of my dreams...and then, one day, I found it! It's not exactly the version Sara Lee makes, but it is very, very close. And you are in luck, dear readers, because I am sharing this glorious recipe with you today!

I hope you will enjoy these as much as I do...and if you think you have a better version, please, please, do share it with me. I am always open to an even better version...if that's even possible!

Cristyne Porile
Community Contributor

Federation Book Club reads "The Clockmaker's Daughter" by Kate Morton

We added a few books to the list, unable to resist Spare, by Prince Harry, even though we all know it's ghostwritten. Speaking of ghosts, The Clockmaker's Daughter is a novel mostly told by a ghost's point of view. While that part of it is enjoyable, the group agreed that it's a complicated story, "too much work" to read, and full of too many characters that probably should have been condensed. I did the audiobook and told the group I thought it would work best as spooky campfire storytelling.

The Federation Book Club meets via Zoom at 4:00 PM on the first Thursdays of every month.



Upcoming Books (subject to change)

Beth Buechler
Community Contributor

Teen's Favorite Blueberry Muffins

Makes 12 standard or 6 giant muffins

INGREDIENTS

- 8 Tablespoons unsalted butter (113g) (1 stick), at room temperature
- 1 cup (198 g) granulated sugar
- 2 large eggs
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 cups (240 g) all-purpose flour
- ½ cup milk (I use 2/3 buttermilk and 1/3 heavy cream)
- 2 ½ generous cups blueberries (fresh or frozen)
- Coarse Sparkling Sugar for topping before baking (or regular—either is fine)

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees Fahrenheit
2. Lightly grease or put paper muffin cups into the tins you will be using
3. Cream butter and sugar in a mix master until well blended and light/fluffy
4. Add eggs, one at a time and beating well after each addition
5. Add vanilla and beat to blend
6. Beat in baking powder and salt
7. Add the flour alternately with the milk, beating gently and beginning and ending with flour, being very careful not to over mix
8. Add the blueberries and gently fold in by hand until distributed throughout batter
9. Scoop batter into muffin tins (somewhere between 2/3's & 3/4ths full). I like to use a very large cookie scoop.
10. Sprinkle generously with sparkling sugar (or regular sugar)
11. If using standard muffin tin, bake for approximately 30 minutes, until muffins are a light golden brown on top and a toothpick inserted into the middle of one of the center muffins comes out clean. If using a Giant Muffin Tin, bake for 35-45 minutes, until baked to same degree of doneness as regular muffins.
12. Remove from oven. After 10-15 minutes, turn out onto counter to cool on cooling rack.
13. This recipe doubles and triples perfectly. I usually triple it and make about 18 Giant muffins.

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In Memory of:

Jerry Slein
Charles Rosenbaum's granddaughter

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Thank you for reading our summer edition of Our Community Newsletter. The OCN will return in August, but until then we encourage you to subscribe to our weekly emails to stay updated on everything the Jewish Federation has going on this summer.

Give me a call at (574) 233-1164 x1805 or email Steve@TheJewishFed.org with any questions, comments or concerns. Hope to see you soon!

Steve Lotter

Director of Community Engagement

Michiana Jewish Film Festival was enjoyed by many!

Special thank you to our sponsors and supporters for making the 13th edition of our Film Fest a success. We're already thinking of ways to improve next year. Email SheriA@TheJewishFed.org to get involved!



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How do we grow **Jewish** South Bend?

Did you miss FED Talk 3?

Watch the video replay & take the follow-up survey at TheJewishFed.org/FEDTalks to help us understand our community's needs.