

OUR COMMUNITY Newsletter

August 2023 | Av-Elul 5783



Jewish Federation
OF ST. JOSEPH VALLEY

Camp Ideal - every day a celebration!

Take a peek at what our campers are calling their "best summer ever," with a recap from Camp Director Dan Ravitch and a 3-page photo spread!



Camp Ideal - every day a celebration!

Where do I begin with so much to tell?! This summer of Camp Ideal has been the best summer ever. Six weeks of nonstop fun with the highest attendance we have seen in decades! We brought in new counselors, made many new friends, and extended our Camp Ideal family. This summer, each day was a new Jewish holiday, and campers learned all about Jewish traditions and values, even though a majority of our campers are not Jewish. Every day was a celebration!

Some highlights include blacksmithing on campus, taekwondo training and discipline with Hong USA Academy, and some amazing Maccabiah Games competitions! Everyone had a chance to try something new, and with our new chugim program, campers got to focus on a specialty of their choice each week, such as sports, art, Dungeons & Dragons, or creating homemade products for Shi'Shuk. Speaking of our Friday market, we put out a whopping 29 products made with the help of our campers and shared how to create homemade foods like challah, jams and syrups, labaneh (cheese), bath bombs, body scrubs, and so much more! In the end, over \$3,000 was raised through the community purchases, and the profit was donated to a charity chosen by the campers.

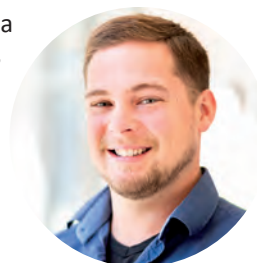
This summer has taught us at the Federation a lot. We have learned to work with a variety of new personalities with their likes and dislikes, both in staff and campers. We worked together to discover the best ways to instill a sense of Jewish pride for some, and an understanding of and compassion towards the Jewish faith for others. Campers made friends from many different backgrounds, and it is always amazing to hear about their playdates outside of camp.

Shirlee and I have had an amazing third summer working with our community. We arrived the first summer after the pandemic and can hardly believe how fast time has flown. Most of you know by now that this will be our last summer running Camp Ideal and working at the Federation, for the foreseeable future. Connecting with the youth in this community has given me hope that small town Jewish communities like ours are not going anywhere. As long as the families that make up this community care about fostering a Jewish identity in their children's lives, there is hope.

It reminds me of growing up in Benton Harbor, a small town with a rich history that had little left to offer to Jewish youth. Sure, we had a

Sunday school program, studied for our B'nai Mitzvah, and family services once a month or so, but without further Jewish education, or connection to Jewish people my age, there was little chance I would find my place within the faith. My Jewish summer camp experience gave me the chance to meet other Jewish kids in other small towns that had the same struggles, assimilate or find pride in being different, to blend in with what is easy or learn that being unique is more than ok. I will forever be grateful to my parents who sent me to camp each summer, and my synagogue who saw the importance in camp and funded my summer experience.

Thank you Camp Ideal families, and all of our community, for continuing to support Jewish youth, giving them a chance to explore their identities and grow stronger together. I am eternally thankful for the honor of leading Camp Ideal, and will take what I have learned with me wherever I go.



Dan Ravitch

Programming Director
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Shi Shuk

Labanah—\$6 Candles (2)—\$2
Burekas—\$4 Shakshuka—\$6
Chocolate Balls—\$2
Challah—\$6 Rugalach—\$3
Bait La' Zeit—\$3
Jam—\$6
Honey—\$2
Sauces—\$1
Cherry Syrup—\$10



Minute With Moshe

A Community of Collaboration

Some community members advised, “Moshe, don’t do it.” They were referring to my interest in putting a consultant’s proposal on the table in the first in a series of leadership meetings to map our community’s future more intentionally.

Despite this bona fide advice, I felt compelled to engage community leaders in conversation to assess action plans beyond what any organization could do on its own. To usher into the mix of solutions, a community-wide enterprise plan to uniquely address the needs of what we call home in Jewish Michiana.

My thinking was that through a collective forum, the Town Halls last year, FED Talks this year, and now drilling down into Community Leadership meetings, we could tackle big-picture growth and sustainability challenges and begin to prioritize actions, evaluate options, and consider possible investments.

To this end, I introduced a community engagement consultant who presented a proposal at the Community Leaders’ meeting. The thrust of the proposal: attract and retain young Jewish people in and to our area (akin to the enFocus model for those who attended FED Talk 3).

To my delight, two dozen community members showed up on a Thursday evening. We heard a story about Jewish belonging. We shared our own stories of Jewish belonging. A proposal was presented, and a robust Q&A followed.

The post-meeting feedback was constructive in that many people thought the proposal was not the right approach for one reason or another. Knowing what we don’t want is equally important to understand what we do want. What do we want? We have a consensus to begin a collaborative process of drawing a larger circle around our own organizational and individual objectives.

Successful community planning is both imaginative and implementation focused. It requires teamwork based on shared values and goals. An image that comes to mind is interlinking gears in differing sizes, moving at different speeds, each continually informing the other.

Community planning is an iterative process that is about people. And people are at

the heart of the Federation’s three-year community development plan. The community plan answers the question, “where do we want to go?”

Feedback from the meeting highlighted that working together to develop solutions to fulfill our infinite community potential is not a “present one proposal and done” proposition. More creative and analytical efforts are required – as is a deeper understanding of why and how young Jewish people engage “Jewishly.” While humans are hardwired to cling to what we know, it will be imperative to move beyond the old model of synagogue affiliation as the only measure of engagement in our faith.

According to recent surveys, an organization’s best planning efforts for organizational transformations have a one in three chance of succeeding. This low success rate has yet to budge in over a decade.

What separates successful transformations from the rest? Research confirms there is no silver bullet. The single most significant differentiator is the amount of effort put into the transformation.

Yes, effort will be required. And this endeavor must include a clear-eyed financial assessment of what we as a community can support. Infrastructure is expensive. Buildings are expensive. Professional staff are costly. Security is expensive. Our Community Master Plan should address each of these issues and much more.

If we fail to plan collaboratively, we are planning to fail. If we make a half-hearted attempt, we will fail. That is why I did what I did at the Community Leaders meeting. Was it a mistake? I do not think so. But if it was, I hope in the coming year, I’ll make more mistakes in service to community development, because if you’re making mistakes, then you are making new things, trying new things, learning, and pushing yourself to create change.

My goal as an effective leader is not to avoid making mistakes; it’s that when I do,

I’m humble enough to admit it and learn from them. Organizations that take a holistic approach to transformative actions are over twice as likely to succeed in moving closer to their goals.

And we will move closer to our goals because our Jewish Federation is truly built on the cause of community building, and every other objective is subservient to it. Working with our community partners, our unique ability is to gather meaningful information about our community because we deal with people at our core. The Federation’s quest for transformative change is to relate to people as to where they are or want to be. How we relate to people – this is our superpower.

In the final analysis, Jewish community involvement is essential in order to build the foundation and framework for creating our Community Master Plan. We would be wise to consider the following:

- What is our Jewish community doing well?
- When you think about a vibrant Jewish community, what do you imagine it to look like?
- What do you think gets in the way of us creating a more vibrant Jewish community in the future?
- In what ways, if any, do you feel connected to Judaism, Jewish practice, Jewish institutions, and the Jewish community?
- When you think about the future of the Jewish community, what gives you hope? What concerns you?

I look forward to continuing this conversation, which is absolutely vital for our future, with the entire Jewish community and our valued community partners. Together, and only together, will we be able to successfully secure our collective vision for a vibrant Jewish community here in Michiana.



Moshe Kruger

Executive Director

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FALL ART EXHIBIT - SAVE THE DATES



The Last Resort film screening at the Leighton Auditorium in South Bend's Main Library Tuesday, August 29 @ 7:00 PM



Presented by the Fine Arts Committee of the Jewish Federation

Special guest speaker Ed Christin, Sweet's archivist, both nights!



Andy Sweet's South Beach Photos Exhibition Opening & Reception at the Jewish Federation Wednesday, August 30 @ 7:00 PM

Fine Arts Committee invites you to Andy Sweet's South Beach

Following the success of our Spring art exhibition, *Out of the Narrows: The Art of the Passover Seder*, the Fine Arts Committee of the Jewish Federation cordially invites you to Andy Sweet's South Beach photo exhibition, opening Wednesday, August 30th and running up to Thanksgiving.

A gifted Jewish photographer, Andy Sweet captured the once-thriving and now-diminished Jewish community in Miami Beach, Florida during the 1970s. He was a pioneer in color photography and his stunning photos document the lives of older Jewish immigrants, many of them Holocaust survivors, as they joyously lived out their last days over a ten-year period which also proved to be the end of an era in post-war American Jewish history. Andy's life was tragically cut short when he was murdered at the age of 28. After his death, his original photos mysteriously disappeared. His work prints were eventually found and were painstakingly restored to the large format prints we see today.

The Fine Arts Committee (Marsha Brook, Natalie Klein, Diane Sarnat and Lynda Simon) thought that exhibiting the

photos at the Jewish Federation would be important on a number of levels – documenting a part of history that is



relevant to the future of our shrinking Jewish community here in South Bend; showing that aging can be a joyful process – one to be celebrated, not avoided; depicting Holocaust survivors who were resilient and able to rejoice, even after suffering unspeakable trauma, and showing how the power of art – in this case a photo – can become more than a single image and can portray an entire era, an entire

culture, and even a collective experience.

Ed Christin, the archivist of Andy's work, happens to be a South Bend native living in Miami. Ed is very excited to have Andy's photos exhibited at the Federation and has enthusiastically agreed to loan us the photos and come to South Bend to speak at the opening of the exhibition. The presence of Ed to discuss not only the photos, but the life of the photographer as well, will make this a truly unique exhibit of Andy's work.

Ed will also speak at the screening of the award-winning documentary, "The Last Resort," which tells the story of Sweet and fellow photographer Gary Monroe and the Miami Beach community they photographed. The screening will be presented free of charge at the Leighton Auditorium at the Main library in downtown South Bend on Tuesday, August 29th at 7:00 PM.

We are excited about the potential impact of this exhibition and the opportunity to bring a unique cultural experience to not only the Jewish community of South Bend, but also to the South Bend community at-large.

WE ARE HIRING

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

For more information email Moshe Kruger at mkruger@thejewishfed.org





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

The Dream of Jewish Family Services

Before summer began, students sat in class (as well as a few teachers) and indulged in dreams about summer. 10 weeks to relax and recharge. Wonderful days of waking up without an alarm clock. Being able to eat a relaxing breakfast. Going on a nature walk, swimming, sitting in the sun, and reading. And then the school bell rings and on to the next period.

Dreaming is fun. Dreams are what makes life interesting. It allows us to imagine what could be. But even more fun is dreaming about something that can come true. The pleasure in daydreaming about summer while still in school is knowing that reality is just around the corner.

From the 17th of Tammuz until Tisha b'Av, (both fast days) we remind ourselves of what time was like when the Temple in Jerusalem was in existence. We remember the tragedies that led up to its destruction, namely sinat chinam-having hatred for each other for no real reason, and we dream about the day that it will be rebuilt and all of the Jewish people will finally return, en masse, home.

We even know what steps need to be taken to make this dream a reality, namely, loving our fellow Jew unconditionally. This means judging people to the side of merit, not speaking or listening to slander, helping each person become the best one can be, helping to make each person self-sufficient. Once we accomplish this, our Rabbis say, Hashem will bring us back home and we will once again be able to fulfill the Torah the way it was meant to be observed. This, too, is a dream that is achievable through dedication and hard work.

At Jewish Family Services, I have a dream that I believe is also achievable: I dream of the day that I no longer need to solicit funds for the Virtual Food Pantry, due to your generous ongoing support. As you know, the Pantry is giving approximately \$1900 a month in various gift cards. The Pantry, as well as all of JFS in its entirety, is only able to operate due to your magnanimous donations.

I'm always amazed by the generosity of our community in supporting our mission of helping out the most vulnerable. May it be our young families who hit a financial/spiritual "speed bump" or our seniors at home or in residences, JFS is here to help.

So, with Rosh Hashanah around the corner, I, once again, ask for your help. Our goal for this Rosh Hashanah appeal is \$6000. This will allow us to continue our important work and provide people with the assistance that they need.

If you would like to help make my dream of not having to run appeals come to fruition, please consider setting up an automatic monthly donation to the Pantry. Dreams can become a reality, if we really want it. So dream high!

On behalf of Jewish Family Services, may we all be inscribed and sealed for a happy and healthy New Year.



Rabbi Fred Nebel

Jewish Family Services Director
574-233-1164 x1806
RabbiNebel@TheJewishFed.org



Sept. 9th – 10th
 10am – 9pm Saturday
 12pm – 5pm Sunday

at **Howard Park**
 & Surrounding Streets

South Bend's Ethnic Festival, one of the region's most loved and well-attended events, is being re-imagined this September! Fusion Fest will be filled with food, music, artisans, and demonstrations that represent cultures all over the world.

Learn more at
sbfusionfest.com

Historic Image Credit: The History Museum, South Bend, IN

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Federation Book Club reads “The Hotel Neversink” by Adam O’Fallon Price

Since only two of us (me included) loved this book, I want to start by explaining why. We both felt the point of the story was to depict the rise and fall of an opulent hotel during a period of grandeur in the Catskills. The other four felt the story had no main point.

Their complaints included, “Disappointing,” “Too many characters lacking development,” “Plot holes,” “Explanation of the mystery was too fast and too short at the end,” “Too many tangents,” “Lack of tension,” “Not suspenseful enough,” and—my favorite—“Not ready for prime time.”

“At least it was a fast read,” said one member, reminding me of the old Catskills joke about one hotel’s food not being good enough, but “At least there was a lot of it.” Speaking of the Catskills again, it’s probably no coincidence that our Hotel Neversink’s two fans spent time there. We agreed that Adam O’Fallon Price did a great job depicting the hotel era of the “Jewish Alps,” AKA the “Borscht Belt.” While being excluded from country clubs, Jewish entrepreneurs created a vacationland of their own, packing Jewish-owned resorts. Countless singers and comedians made their names there, but if you’re looking for another version of “Dirty

Dancing,” this book isn’t it.

This is a decade-by-decade evolution to devolution of a particular hotel, most probably based on one as extensive as Grossingers. A string of murders of young children in the area was related to the great Sikorsky family who owned and ran the fictitious Hotel Neversink. For readers of literary fiction where not every loose end is spelled out, who don’t mind certain plotlines laced with ambiguity, and character sketches

that give you only enough to understand the over-arching essence, I’d say this “quick read” is well worth your time.

Beth Buechler
 Community Contributor

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

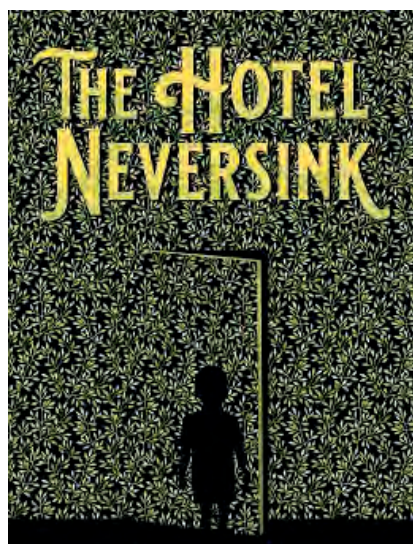
Upcoming Books (subject to change)

Aug. 3

The Book of Lost Names
 by Kristin Harmel

Sep. 7

Spare
 by Prince Harry



Partnership2Gether gathers momentum for the year ahead

Moshe and I spent some time last month in Fort Worth, Texas helping to plan for next year's Partnership2Gether programs. What an amazing trip! For those who may not know, Partnership (P2G) is a platform of the Jewish Agency that connects the people of Israel to Jewish communities throughout the world. For nearly twenty years, our Federation has been part of a consortium of Federations that have partnered with the Western Galilee region of northern Israel. This includes the ancient city of Akko, and the kibbutzim, moshavim, and small communities around it up to the Lebanese border. During this time, our P2G consortium has grown to 18 US communities and includes Budapest, Hungary.

This was our first in person gathering since Covid began. It was great to reconnect with friends from our sister communities here and abroad. For me personally, P2G has

helped to create a personal connection to Israel through the friendships I've made over the years. Many of us have traveled to Jerusalem, Masada, Tel Aviv, and other cities over the years. The places are amazing and full of our people's spirit and history, but P2G is about People-to-People connections. For me, this is what makes Israel real.

Just as in the past, the activities that are coming our way in the next year will make an impact in our community as well. The keystone of the coming year is the Israel at 75 and P2G at 25 trip coming up in November 2023. There are two ways to experience it, a short trip just for the P2G Celebration, or a longer experience that includes some travel to the amazing sites and experiences the North has to offer.

Besides the work of strategic planning, we also took the time to experience the fun that Fort Worth has to offer. Our evenings out helped to cement the lasting relationships that make our Partnership so great.

Since Debby Barton Grant invited me to my first event in Toledo 17 years ago, Partnership has been a big part of my life and my family. I'm grateful for the opportunity to represent our community again in this important endeavor. If you'd like to get involved, please contact the Federation, myself, or my co-chair Cristyne Porile for more information.



David Ravitch
Partnership2Gether Co-Chair



David Ravitch pictured here with members of Partnership2Gether.



Moshe & David learn their lesson the hard way.



**Experience P2G
Western Galilee**
Monday, November 6 -
Saturday, November 11, 2023

Experience P2G Western Galilee Trip

Trip to Israel, November 6-11, 2023

5 nights & 6 days at the Sea Life Hotel, in the Western Galilee region of Israel! Celebrate 25 years of our Partnership2Gether with exciting programs, tours, workshop, and incredible experiences such as:

- Partnership2Gether Anniversary Celebration & Dinner
- Old Akko & Dinner at Roots Restaurant
- Carmela's Suka, Yemenite Moshav Amka
- Arab al-Aramshe Bedouin Village, Tour & Lunch
- Chateau Winery, Kibbutz Yechaim, Tasting & Dinner
- Moshav Shtula - The Talking Walls of Shtula tour

Registration is now open. Cost is \$2200 per person based on double occupancy or \$2700 per person based on single occupancy. Must make a deposit of \$550 to hold your spot - final full payment due September 1st.

Interested in joining? Contact Marcy Paul at marcyp2g@outlook.com.



August Programs

A Twist of Fate w/ Karen Zubkoff Perna

Sunday, August 6 at 10:30 AM

A Conversation w/ Letty Cottin Pogrebin

Sunday, August 20 at 10:30 AM

BBYO Reunion Kick-off

Sunday, August 20 at 3:00 PM

Temple Beth-El's Rockin' Shabbat Service

Friday, August 25 at 5:30 PM

Jews & Canoes

Sunday, August 27 at 10:00 AM

**The Last Resort film screening
at the Main Library, South Bend**

Tuesday, August 29 at 7:00 PM

**Andy Sweet's South Beach Photo Exhibit
Opening Reception & Speaker**

Wednesday, August 30 at 7:00 PM

Welcoming Omer Karavani to Michiana

Omer joins the Federation team in September as our new shaliach

Hello everybody! My name is Omer Karavani. I am going to be the new shaliach in South Bend, Indiana. I'll be arriving in September. I am 23 years old, and I was born and raised in Ashkelon, a coastal city, about an hour drive south of Tel Aviv.

In my free time, I love to travel. I enjoy workouts and all kinds of sports, such as football, basketball and table tennis. I LOVE to cook all sorts of things, from pasta to fish and meat. I also love art. I love to draw and sculpt. I love going to museums and places where I can find someone else's creativity. I also love spending time with my family and friends.

I was born in an orthodox family and went to a boy's yeshiva for 6 years. Now I am not orthodox, but because my family allowed me to be myself and to explore my own Judaism, I would say I am really connected to Judaism both in knowledge and the love for our traditions and holidays.

My father is an architect, and my mom is a teacher. I have two big brothers, one little sister and four nephews. All of my siblings have done things that related to the relationship of Israel and the US, or Israel and Jewish people around the world. My older brother lived in Washington D.C. while he did advanced training with the U.S. Army.

My other big brother participated in the Diller Teen Fellowship, a program that takes

young students and teaches them about Jewish people in other cities around the globe. My little sister also participated in the Diller Teen Fellowship and did a full year of volunteering in Baltimore, Maryland as a shlichah.

My first experience with the Jewish people around the world was in the ninth grade. I went to a camp in Szarvas, Hungary. This camp brings together Jewish kids from 25 countries around the world. As an Israeli camper, I felt like an ambassador for my little country, and knew that I needed to represent Israel in the best way possible.

After the camp I knew I wanted to continue doing things, so I also took part in the Diller Teen Fellowship. I met friends who until today I am still in touch with.

Before my army service I knew I wanted to give more to my country as a civilian, so I decided to go for a gap year of volunteer service in our lovely capital city Jerusalem.

I decided that I wanted to go to a program called "Hayerushalmit," for a few reasons. You have the ability to volunteer four times a week in a place that you choose at the beginning of the year, so you make progress with people. Those people may be little kids from the age of 3-5, elderly people, disabled kids, or at-risk youth.

I chose to volunteer three times a week with little kids in a kindergarten, and once a week with elderly people.

The second reason is that the gap year teaches that all of us should be equal, and there is no chance that someone from one background couldn't get in the gap year because of money. So, all of us worked together so we could fund each other.

The third reason is the city. We stayed in the most beautiful city in Israel, so I got the chance to live there for a year, explore the city secrets, people, food and culture.

In August 2019, I joined the Israel Defense Forces to be a combat soldier in the Artillery Corps. It was a difficult 2.8 years, but for sure it was worth it. I felt that I gave my country my thanks for providing a safe home for me. It also gave me a lot of confidence in myself, the ability to work through pain, both physical and emotional.

In the army, I made friends for life, other kids like me who decided to leave a nice warm home for something bigger than themselves. Things weren't easy, but I don't regret anything for a moment. I felt that I protected my home.

To the community in Michiana, please know I will be there for you. If you want to know more about Israel or discover your Judaism, or just have some fun, I will be there.

If you'd like to host Omer for a meal on Shabbat when he arrives, please contact Bob Feferman, Community Relations Director at rfeferman@thejewishfed.org.

A TWIST OF FATE

Sunday, August 6, 10:30 AM
at the Jewish Federation

Karen Zubkoff Perna on her family's experience during the Holocaust



Karen is the daughter of beloved community member & Holocaust survivor, Birgit Metzger, of blessed memory.

The Kurt & Tessye Simon Foundation of Temple Beth-El
in collaboration with the Jewish Federation present

A conversation with LETTY COTTIN POGREBIN

(appearing via Zoom)



Sunday, August 20,
10:30 AM (EST)
at the Jewish Federation
with brunch to follow
(Zoom option available)

Letty Cottin Pogrebin, co-founder of Ms. magazine, is a nationally acclaimed writer, activist, & speaker. Her book, *Shanda*, tells the story of three generations of complicated, intense 20th-century Jews for whom the desire to fit in and the fear of public humiliation either drove their aspirations or crushed their spirit.



SHANDA
A Memoir of
SHAME AND SECRECY

RSVP at TheJewishFed.org/Letty by August 15



SOUTH BEND'S
BBYO
REUNION
KICK-OFF

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20 FROM 3:00-5:00 PM
OPEN TO ANYONE INVOLVED WITH BBG OR AZA
Join us for South Bend's BBYO Reunion Kick-Off. This will be a discussion of how we can plan for a full-blown reunion in Summer 2024. Come ready to share stories and ideas of how to make our reunion a success.



JEWES & Canoes

SUNDAY, AUGUST 27

Come one, come all as we canoe and enjoy the summer sun on Baugo Creek.

\$15 Standard Ticket - reserves a single seat on one canoe that seats 2 adults with room for up to 2 additional kids

\$8 Child Ticket (age 5-13) - must be accompanied by parent or guardian

Register at TheJewishFed.org/Canoes by Aug. 15

Renewing our Life & Legacy Program

When Moshe asked me to write up an article about our community's Life & Legacy program, I was more than happy to oblige. As a refresher for those familiar, and a quick introduction for those who are not, the Life & Legacy program is a partnership of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation (HGF), the Jewish Federation of St. Joseph Valley, Sinai Synagogue, Temple Beth-El and South Bend Hebrew Day School that began in 2016. The program promotes after-lifetime giving to benefit all of Jewish Michiana. Through training, support and past monetary incentives, Life & Legacy's job is to motivate Jewish organizations to integrate legacy giving into their philanthropic culture to assure Jewish tomorrows.

Nationally, philanthropic advisors back in 2016, observed that for Jewish organizations like the Federation and Synagogues, if at least 20% of your operating budget is not coming from your endowment by 2025, then your organization will be in fiscal crisis. With the more recent Pew Research Center study on Jewish Americans in 2020, we have learned that those estimates from 2016 were very conservative to say the least. The importance of initiatives, like Life & Legacy, has only increased.

So, what are the goals of Life & Legacy? In simplest terms those goals are to

cultivate a culture of legacy giving, to foster camaraderie and respect among our Jewish organizations, and to give generous and forward-thinking members of our community an opportunity to express their passion, purpose, and commitment to the future of the community's most valued Jewish organizations.

If you are reading this, one way or another your life is rooted in Jewish experiences connecting you to our Jewish community. Chances are you already support the Federation and/or your synagogue, in addition to your support of other Jewish and secular charitable organizations like the Michiana Jewish Historical Society or our local Jewish cemeteries. But have you included all these organizations in your will or estate plan? By leaving a legacy, you can be assured that the traditions and institutions that mean so much to you today will exist for future generations.

By making a legacy commitment you can convey your commitment to being Jewish, express values instilled in you by your parents and grandparents, perpetuate the Jewish traditions you cherish and preserve the programs and organizations that support Jewish life. Please look at who has already joined Life & Legacy and join me in thanking all of them for already making a legacy



commitment.

In previous generations, making legacy gifts was thought of as something done if you were older and extremely wealthy, but the truth is all of us, regardless of age, wealth, or affiliation, can leave a legacy. Your legacy gift of any size can be customized and structured to fit your dreams, lifestyle, family, and financial needs. You can provide support for a particular organization or area of interest. Leaving a legacy is simple and there are many options that can fit anyone. Please contact Moshe Kruger for more information.

"Wealth may last a lifetime. A legacy of good deeds lasts forever."



Ben Davis
Community Contributor

Thank You to Our Community's Life & Legacy Donors

Anonymous (10)
Roni & Iga Aizigov
Mary Sue Austin
Billie & David Bankoff
Doug & Sandy Barton
Janet Berman (z"l)
Marzy & Joe Bauer
Susan Blum & Lionel Jensen
Mara Boettcher
Marsha Brook
Alan Brown &
Tammie Blackman Brown
Rabbi Meira Chmiel (z"l)
Ron & Nancy Cohen
David Cohn
Rabbi Karen Compane &
Howard Steinberger
Francie & Ben Davis
Alan Dowty
Karen Dwyer
Judy Falzon

Alan & Terry Feldbaum
Bob & Loretta Frank
Rabbi Michael &
Lizzie Fagen Friedland
Marilyn & David Gardner
Carey Gaudern & Dan Gezelter
Neil Gilbert & Marianne Surges
Leslie & Bill Gitlin
Janina & Abraham (z"l) Goetz
Margie & Paul Goldwin
Bonny Hoover
Annabelle Horwitz
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ZA'ATAR ROASTED GREEN BEANS

From Our Community Table

I'd like to write about green beans. It's a bit of a daunting choice since there are so many great recipes. In truth, green beans are great raw. You don't even have to do anything to them. But, just about any method of preparation can yield amazing results.

If you have a garden and grow green beans, this recipe will prove to be another worthy way to prepare the bounty from your garden. If you do not grow your own produce, fresh and in season summer items abound in markets and stores. It's always a good idea to take advantage of the opportunity to purchase fresh and locally grown fruits and vegetables while we can.

One of the ways that I determine if a recipe is great is the reaction I get from my children. Granted, my kids are old enough that they eat their vegetables quite nicely (for the most part). But if they give a vegetable recipe rave reviews then I know I found a keeper. Do you remember the Tunisian carrots recipe I shared a

couple of years ago? Case in point. Even my kids who don't particularly like carrots happily eat those. Win! By the way, if you want to try a recipe that Cristyne or I shared but you can't find it, go to OurCommunityNewsletter.org and find the section "Our Community Table."

The recipe below comes from Miriam Pascal's cookbook *Real Life Kosher Cooking*. Some of you will remember Miriam from the demonstration she gave right here in South Bend during a challah bake a few years ago. She has some really great recipes! The flavor in this recipe comes from the za'atar. Za'atar is an herb, but it is sold together with other items as a spice blend used often in Israeli and other Mediterranean recipes. The spice blend contains za'atar, other herbs, sesame seeds, sumac, and various seasoning. A store that carries Israeli or Mediterranean spices will likely have it.

Deena Abraham
Community Contributor

Za'atar Roasted Green Beans

Real Life Kosher Cooking
Miriam Pascal

INGREDIENTS

- 1 lg. onion, sliced into half-moons
- 1 lb. green beans, ends trimmed
- 2 Tbsp. olive oil
- 1/2 tsp. red wine vinegar
- 1 tsp. kosher salt
- 1 tsp. garlic powder
- 2-4 tsp. za'atar, divided

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 425 degrees.
2. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper; set aside.
3. Toss onion, green beans, oil, vinegar, salt, garlic powder, and two teaspoons of za'atar together on the parchment paper-lined baking sheet.
4. Spread in a single layer.
5. Roast for 40-45 minutes, stirring after 20 minutes.
6. Just before serving, sprinkle remaining two teaspoons of za'atar over the green beans, if a stronger za'atar flavor is preferred.



 Temple
Beth-El
South Bend, Indiana

**ROCKIN'
SHABBAT
AUGUST 25,
5:30 PM**

**EVERYONE
WELCOME**



Save the Date

Goodbye Party for
DAN & SHIRLEE
Thursday, September 7th at 7:00 PM

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EDITOR'S NOTE

I hope you enjoyed this jam-packed issue of Our Community Newsletter!

Here at OCN we are always on the hunt for creative members in our community who'd like to collaborate with us on special articles, whether it be telling a story from their personal history, writing about their synagogue or a Jewish organization they are particularly passionate about, sharing a special or significant simcha in their life...the possibilities are endless!

After all, this is YOUR Community Newsletter, just as much as it is ours. Please be in touch if you have something in mind you'd like to see featured in a future issue!

Steve Lotter

Director of Community Engagement



Thank you to the friends and families who joined us for our NEXTGen Night Out at Four Winds Field with the South Bend Cubs!

NEXTGen will return with more programs & events this fall, aimed at engaging with Jewish young adults ages 21-45.

Would you like to get involved?

Email NEXTGen@TheJewishFed.org to find out how you can play a part!





AUGUST 2023 AV-ELUL 5783

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 14 AV	2 15 AV TU B'AV MAHJONG 1:00 PM	3 16 AV	4 17 AV 8:41 PM	5 18 AV PARSHAT EKEV 9:40 PM
6 19 AV A TWIST OF FATE 10:30 AM	7 20 AV MAHJONG 1:00 PM	8 21 AV	9 22 AV MAHJONG 1:00 PM	10 23 AV	11 24 AV 8:32 PM	12 25 AV PARSHAT RE'EH 9:31 PM
13 26 AV	14 27 AV MAHJONG 1:00 PM	15 28 AV	16 29 AV MAHJONG 1:00 PM	17 30 AV ROSH CHODESH ELUL	18 1 ELUL ROSH CHODESH ELUL 8:22 PM	19 2 ELUL PARSHAT SHOFTIM 9:21 PM
20 3 ELUL LETTY POGREBIN 10:30 AM BBYO KICK-OFF 3:00 PM	21 4 ELUL ZUMBA 9:15 AM MAHJONG 1:00 PM	22 5 ELUL ZUMBA 9:15 AM	23 6 ELUL MAHJONG 1:00 PM	24 7 ELUL	25 8 ELUL TEMPLE'S ROCKIN' SHABBAT 5:30 PM 8:11 PM	26 9 ELUL PARSHAT KI TEITZEI 9:10 PM
27 10 ELUL JEWS & CANOES 10:00AM	28 11 ELUL ZUMBA 9:15 AM MAHJONG 1:00 PM	29 12 ELUL ZUMBA 9:15 AM THE LAST RESORT FILM 7:00 PM	30 13 ELUL MAHJONG 1:00 PM ANDY SWEET PHOTO EXHIBIT 7:00 PM	31 14 ELUL	<p>Interested in renting our community room or picnic facility for your event?</p> <p>Contact Dan Cossman!</p>	