

# The difference between predicting the future and planning the future, is called a harvest."

#### **Minute With Moshe**

#### Your presence is requested at our **Annual Meeting**

At the lightning-like pace of a world in constant flux, the past two years have assured us of one thing - the future is hard to predict.

Even with deliberate and informed community input, knowing what's on the horizon and being prepared for it, is tricky work. But, as farmers will tell you, there are things we can do.

Farmers plan for the future by planting seeds. The harvest? It's for all of us – everyone reaps the reward of a bountiful harvest.

Please join us for the Federation's Annual Meeting on Thursday evening, June 16 so that we too can plant seeds. The harvest of our work will be a healthy, vibrant and more connected Jewish ecosystem.

More connected? Yes, we can be more connected.

Like the much talked about digital divide in our country, there can also be a religious divide – a divide even amongst ourselves in this modest midwestern community.

But here, there is so much promise. Here, we can hold fast to our shared traditions and practices – our beliefs and our values, and build a stronger, more connected Jewish community at the same time.

The work of building community is more than a preference. It's a plan. A plan that makes us stronger, keeps us safer and ensures a bright future for everyone who lives and works here.

Planning for a more connected Jewish ecosystem, plants seeds of resilience against the headwinds of an uncertain future. And in our Annual Meeting on the 16th, I will talk about resilience. I will talk about agility.

And I will talk of planting seeds for the future.

Today. we're all witness to alarming

global trends. Violence and exodus appear to be normalized. And the impact of changing demographics in our own community poses great challenge going forward.

But "When the solution is simple, G-d is answering," said Albert Einstein. Today, we plant seeds. We plan.

At our Annual Meeting I will ask you to talk about a careful but deliberate three-year plan. Together, we will advance our priorities. We will seize opportunities. We will plan for a more connected, a more compelling and a more member-focused Jewish ecosystem.

Yes, we will also share food and wine. And we will report on our progress over the past year. But, we will also plan.

In our world, a sacred community is formed when relationships are deemed to be paramount, where

Prediction is difficult
– particularly when
it involves the future.

worship is engaging, where everyone is learning and no one is left behind. So, your presence at the Annual Meeting on the 16th is important. We want to talk with you.

I look forward to seeing you then.

**Moshe Kruger Executive Director** 

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#### INGREDIENTS

Kosher salt

1/2 teaspoon (4g) baking soda (per 8 cups water)

4 pounds (about 2 kg) russet or Yukon Gold potatoes, peeled and cut into large chunks

5 tablespoons (75ml) extra-virgin olive oil, or duck fat if you like

Small handful picked fresh rosemary leaves, finely chopped (optional)

3 medium cloves garlic, minced (optional)

Freshly ground black pepper

Small handful fresh parsley leaves, minced (optional)

#### INSTRUCTIONS

**Serves: 4 - 6** 

Adjust oven rack to center position and preheat oven to 450°F (or 400°F if using convection).

Heat 2 quarts (8 cups) water in a large pot over high heat until boiling. Add 2 tablespoons kosher salt, 1/2 teaspoon of baking soda, and the potatoes. Stir to blend in the baking soda and return to a boil. Reduce to a simmer and cook until a knife meets little resistance when inserted into a potato chunk, about 8-10 minutes after returning to a boil.

Meanwhile, if you decide to go all out and add flavor, combine the olive oil (or duck fat) with the optional rosemary, garlic, and a few grinds of black pepper in a small saucepan and heat over medium heat. Cook, stirring and shaking pan constantly, until garlic just begins to turn golden, about 3 minutes. Immediately strain oil through a fine-mesh strainer set in a large bowl, reserving the oil. Set strained garlic/rosemary mixture and flavored oil aside and reserve separately. If you don't want to do this, just skip this section, and add plain olive oil or duck fat and a bit of black pepper to the potatoes before roasting.

When potatoes are cooked, drain, and let them rest in the pot for about 30 seconds to allow excess moisture to evaporate. Transfer to bowl with infused oil, (or plain oil), season to taste with a little more salt and pepper, and toss to coat, shaking bowl roughly, until a thick layer of mashed potato-like paste has built up on the potato chunks.

Transfer potatoes to a large, rimmed baking sheet spreading them out evenly. Place into oven and roast, without moving, for 20 minutes. Using a thin, flexible metal spatula to release any stuck potatoes, shake pan and turn potatoes. Continue roasting until potatoes are deep brown and crisp all over, turning and shaking them a few times during cooking, 30 to 40 minutes longer.

If you have made the garlic and rosemary version, transfer potatoes to a large bowl and add garlic/rosemary mixture along with the minced parsley. Toss to coat and season with additional salt and pepper to taste.



Springtime greetings, OCN readers. Have your wands at the ready, for what I bring to share with you today is pure magic...kitchen magic! In truth, it's basic chemistry...but why let all those dull dreary details get in our way?

Now, I haven't made industrial size quantities of oven roasted potatoes for a very long time, so when I considered making them this year, as a side for a Passover buffet, I wanted to do a little research to make sure I still remembered how to successfully bring them from oven to table in a way that would make my family's and friend's eyes pop open... in a good way! Kenji Lopez Alt, author of several excellent cookbooks, used to be a frequent contributor to the Serious Eats food blog. I always enjoy reading Kenji's articles, and it was in one of these that I found what I was looking for. A trick that led to the best oven-roasted potatoes I've ever made. It seems that adding a little baking soda to the water before boiling the potatoes makes a significant difference in the crispy texture of the finished product. How I'd not heard of this before... I've no

idea, but the result of this simple addition was deliciously (and audibly) significant.

Alas, the dull, dreary, chemistry side of this is that the baking soda causes the water to become more alkaline, helping the exteriors of the potato break down a little bit faster than the interiors can cook and creating a sort of starchy slurry that contributes to creating that extra-crisp exterior. Ho-Hum, so basic! But the magical side is that during the cooking process, the potatoes, with their newly alkaline induced durable, craggy, rough exteriors, crisped magnificently and were visibly different and so much better than any potato I had roasted before.

So, there you have it, dear readers. A portal to producing the crispy, oven roasted potatoes of your dreams. You may even wish to theatrically offer a few magic words as you sprinkle the baking soda into your brew...you know, to impress the kids... but it really isn't necessary!

#### **Cristyne Porile**

Community Contributor



#### WHAT WE DO

Jewish Family Services (JFS) is a human services agency operating within the Jewish Federation that provides crucial aid and support to the Jewish community. Our mission is to strengthen and preserve life in the Jewish community through every stage of the life cycle. JFS provides referrals for services we cannot provide for services we cannot provide, with the goal of helping people in difficult times get back on their own feet.

#### 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 (STATE HEALTH INSURANCE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM) 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.

# **Caring Connections**

My Chaplaincy internship took place in a local Nursing/Rehabilitation Home. While it wasn't the first nursing home that I entered in my Rabbinical career, I learned a great deal about people during my internship, among them, that every person needs to feel independent. That drive to be independent in how we care and think for ourselves is vital to our lives. It's what makes us individuals, it's what makes us who we are.

I remember entering a resident's room for the first time. She had suffered a stroke and was confined to a wheelchair. After introducing myself and asking if she would like a visit, to which she acquiesced, I noticed that she was trying to get something from her bed. When I offered to help, she kindly refused, saying that she has to learn how to do things for herself.

She took her extended handle grabber and proceeded to procure the object. Granted, if I would have given it to her, it would have been much faster, but the sense of accomplishment she had from doing it herself was worth much more than the few minutes "lost" by doing it by herself. It was then that I began to see the indomitable spirit that resides in all of us.

People's independence comes in many forms. Some people exhibited their control by saying "I don't want visitors" or would end the time by saying, "I'm tired right now, but please come back another time," etc. Some will act to their detriment, doing things that they know they shouldn't be doing, but don't want to give up their sense of independence. Even though they may suffer a little bit, they feel that it's worth it. The only time that this desire for independence becomes a sticky issue is when it potentially endangers others. Those are the times that we need to appeal to the person to recognize their new limits and to make changes to their life, may it be giving up a driver's license or some other activities

license or some other activities that they were so used to doing. If the person resists, they will either continue to act to their detriment or if forced

to change, will possibly become depressed.

Independence is a mark of maturity. It is the moment when one realizes that one has the ability to do something alone. At the same time, another equally important yardstick of growth is the recognition of knowing when one needs help and actively seeks it out. One recognizes that seeking another's assistance is not a sign of weakness, to the contrary, it is the ultimate demonstration of strength. The Talmud



Ta'anit states "Either companionship or death," showing how important it is to work and learn with others. We are not meant to live a solitary life; it is supposed to be one filled with connections to others. One of the pillars of the world (as per Ethics of our Fathers) is **gemilut chasadim**- acts of loving kindness. Sometimes one is the giver, other times the receiver. Both are necessary and both grow from each other.

One of the guiding principles of JFS is the **mitzvah** (commandment) of gemilut chasadim. We offer the virtual food pantry, lifestyle coaching, SHIP (Medicare help) referral services, etc. (*Please see the side panel for all services offered.*) As a chaplain in the nursing home, I grew to recognize the indomitable spirit that residents have and appreciate how strong people can truly be. And the residents hopefully felt I gave them the companionship and friendship that they needed. It was truly a win-win situation.

If you would like to participate in this wonderful mitzvah, please contact me.

#### Rabbi Fred Nebel

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

#### **INGREDIENTS**

#### For Filling

250 ml heavy cream (every measuring cup you own has ml on the other side, I promise)

400 grams of biscuits (Preferred Kedem from the World aisle in Meijer)

1/2 cup milk

1 teaspoon vanilla extract

1/2 cup milk

500 g of sour cream

2 tablespoons sugar

1 box vanilla instant pudding

#### For Coating

100 grams of dark chocolate chips

1/2 cup heavy cream

#### INSTRUCTIONS

Whisk together all the filling ingredients until you form cream.

Mix 1/2 cup milk and vanilla extract. Dip a biscuit in milk (quickly, so it won't break) and place in a rectangular pan. It creates a layer of biscuits.

Gently spread half of the cream on the biscuits.

Cover with another layer of dipped biscuits.

Spread the rest of the cream and cover with a third layer of biscuits.

Melt the chocolate and cream, and mix together until all the chocolate has melted and the mixture is smooth and glossy. Pour over the cake. Refrigerate for at least three hours.



#### Israeli Biscuit Cake - A Piece of Cake!

When I had to set the menu for Yom Ha'Atzmaut this year, I had no doubt this cake would be on the menu. Not only is it delicious and easy to make - it sums up the Israeli essence - The 'Chafif' culture. The Chafif culture is everything from the "relax! it will be fine" to the lack of thinking things through, rounding of corners and leaving loose ends.

We Israelis pay a heavy price for the Chafif culture, at both personal and at the national levels. That being said, the Chafif culture is also the key to unlock Israeli innovation, from the establishment of the state in record time, to the insanely flourishing Israeli startups. The improvisational ability and creativity of the Israeli people, seems like an evolution of a messy, innovative people! This cake is a perfect example of that: a little bit cream, a little bit chocolate and biscuits, Chafif-no-bake, and it is absolutely delicious!

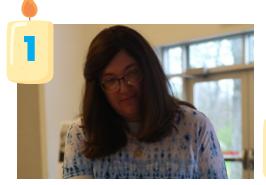
Shirlee Greenwald
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# Y HAATZMAUT

# Celebrating Together as a Community

Each year the official Independence Day ceremony of the State of Israel takes place on Mount Herzl in Jerusalem. Invited guests include the President of Israel, cabinet ministers and members of Knesset. The ceremony is broadcast live on Israeli television. One of the regular features of the ceremony is the lighting of 12 torches symbolizing the 12 tribes of Israel. Twelve citizens are chosen each year to honor them for their contributions to Israeli society. Today, we replicate the spirit of this ceremony by honoring members of our community for their contributions as volunteers to the Jewish life of Michiana. Although we are a small Jewish community, our strength comes from the many volunteers who give of themselves in so many ways.







#### **Deena Abraham**

- Teacher at Hebrew Day School
- Federation Board Member
- MJHS Family Tree GroupbMember
- HOC Sisterhood Past President
- · Assisting with Chevra Kadisha
- Member of Holocaust Speaker's Bureau

#### **Marzy & Joe Bauer**

- Kurt & Tessye Simon Fund for Holocaust Remembrance Board President (Joe)
- Temple Beth-El Past President (Marzy)
- Member of North American Board of the Union of Reform Judaism (Marzy)
- Community Relations Committee Member (Joe & Marzy)

#### Jody Freid, Jill Ross and Cheri Schuster (Berman Sisters)

- Past Annual Campaign Chair (Jill)
- Sinai Sisterhood Past-President (Jill)
- Past Federation Board Member (Cheri)
- South Bend's Hall of Fame (Jody)
- · Annual community menorah lighting organizer (Jody)







#### Barbara & Elisheva Lerman

- Community Relations Committee Chair (Barbara)
- Jewish Federation Board Member (Elisheva)
- Founder of Lisa Lerman Mitzvah Mavens (Elisheva)
- Community Relations Committee Member Elisheva)

#### **Ruth Kremer**

- Jewish Federation Board Member
- President of Temple B'nai Shalom
- Temple B'Nai Shalom Endowment Committee Member
- Volunteer for Temple B'Nai Shalom Sunday school

#### Rabbi Kuppel & Bekki Lindow

- The Lindows have been instrumental in the growth of Midwest Torah center.
- Torah Center President (Kuppel)
- Hebrew Day School Teacher (Bekki)
- Assisting with chevra kadisha (Bekki)





#### **Mona Medow**

- Federation Vice President & Board Member
- Past Annual Campaign Chair
- Women's Endowment Fund Member



#### Julie & Dave Ravitch

- Federation Past President (David)
- Temple B'Nai Shalom Past President (David)
- Challah Baker at Camp Ideal (Julie)
- Active Volunteer (Julie & David)
- Past North American Chair for Partnership Together (David)



#### **Judy & Sid Shroyer**

- President of Michiana Jewish Historical Society (Judy)
- Past Temple Beth-El Past President and Board Member (Judy)
- Kurt & Tessye Fund for Holocaust Remembrance Past President (Sid)
- Local Holocaust Expert & Educator (Sid)
- Member of Holocaust Speaker's Bureau (Sid)



#### **Bella Nifaratos & Blake Ziegler**

- Co-Presidents of the Notre Dame Jewish Club
- Jewish Advocacy on UND Campus
- Organized Antisemitism Awareness Week
- Organized Campus Holiday Programs



#### Mike Kirsch & Alon Shemesh

- Federation President (Mike)
- Federation President-Elect (Alon)
- Sinai Synagogue Past-President (Mike)
- Shlichim Host Family (Alon)



Of course this is only a small handful of volunteers that make our community so special. We thank each and everyone of you for the contributions you make to the Jewish community every day.



# **Between Auschwitz and Quds Day**

The last week of this April provided examples of two alternative directions for the future of the Middle East. This year, the Muslim holy month of Ramadan happened to coincide with Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day. According to their tradition, we saw the leadership of Iran hold their Quds Day event on the last Friday of Ramadan with their traditional calls for the destruction of Israel. By stark contrast, on the occasion of the "March of the Living" in Poland, delegations of Arabs from both Israel and across the Middle East marched in solidarity with over 2,500 Jews from around the world to commemorate the Holocaust at Auschwitz.

These events represent two wildly divergent possibilities for the future of the Middle East: one provides great hope and the other will provide only more war and suffering. The challenge for the west is to strengthen the forces of hope while confronting the forces of evil.

The declarations by Iranian leaders on Quds Day that call for the destruction of Israel are not empty threats. In fact, what has been missing from the public conversation in the western media about the conflict between Israelis and

Palestinians is the destructive role of Iran as an obstacle to peace.

In both 2000 and 2008, Israel agreed to two generous offers for peace through the two-state solution. Unfortunately, Palestinian leaders rejected both offers. It was also during this period that the government of Iran did everything possible to literally blow up the hopes for peace.

Between 1993 and 2008, there were 168 Palestinian suicide bombings on Israeli buses, in restaurants and shopping malls. These suicide bombings, and other terror attacks, killed more than 1,000 Israeli civilians and wounded many thousands more.

Although Palestinian terror groups provided the hateful ideology and the suicide bombers, it was Iran that provided the financial means and technical support to commit mass murder and destroy the hopes for peace.

Specifically, it is Iran's support for Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad that poses a major obstacle to peace. These are the same terror organizations that fired more than 4,000 rockets from Gaza at Israeli civilians last summer during Operation

Guardian of the Walls.

In addition to Iran's support for Palestinian terrorism is its rejection of any attempts for peace and normalization between Israel and the Arab world. At this year's Quds Day event, Iran's Supreme Leader the Ayatollah Khamenei said in his speech, "The Islamic Republic of Iran advocates and supports the camp of Resistance... We condemn the policy of normalization in relations."

By contrast, in this Yom Hashoah, we saw a new and promising trend from the Arab world. Attending this year's "March of the Living" in Poland were delegations of Arabs from both Israel and the wider Middle East.

The Israeli NGO Atidna brought a delegation of 100 Israeli-Arab teens to Poland. They are promoting a new model of positive integration into Israeli society which begins by recognizing the Holocaust as the biggest tragedy of their Jewish brothers and sisters.

Another delegation was organized by the organization Sharaka, an NGO created to build people-to-people relationships between Israel and the Arab world following the Abraham Accords. The delegation included fifteen Arabs from

both Israel and the wider Middle East. (Full disclosure: the delegation was headed by my son Dan Feferman, Director of Communications and Global Affairs for Sharaka).

Dan Feferman told one reporter, "For too long because of the conflict, the Arab world has either minimized, downplayed, ignored, or denied the Holocaust, claiming it's a conspiracy, that it's something used by the Jews to justify things related to Israel. This is really meant to be an eye-opening trip."

In order to strengthen the forces of peace in the region, two things need to happen.

As the United States and its western partners negotiate the renewal of the Iran nuclear deal, negotiators must not ignore Iran's destructive role in the conflict between Israelis and Palestinians. The key factor will be to reject Iran's demand to remove economic sanctions on Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC).

It is through the elite Quds Force of the IRGC that Iran has been instrumental in supporting Palestinian terrorism.

The second factor in promoting peace in the Middle East should come from the American academic community. For too long, academics have ignored the destructive role of Iran in the Israel-Palestine conflict while focusing the attention of students on blaming Israel. The result is the BDS movement that calls for the boycott, divestment and sanctions on Israel.

It's time for American college students to ask the question: What has the BDS movement accomplished?

Instead, American academic institutions should begin to focus attention and support for positive developments in the Middle East. The Arabs who came to Auschwitz on Yom Hashoah

to learn about the Holocaust, and show solidarity with their Jewish brothers and sisters, are showing us a new path forward.

The parallel events of Yom Hashoah at Auschwitz and Quds Day in Iran provide us with important choices. If we want to see a better future for the Middle East, we must confront Iran and its forces of evil while supporting the forces of peace and reconciliation.





The Co-Chairs for this event are Cheri Schuster and Allen Stenberg

Brunch will be served.



# New to our Campus

We are adding a low ropes course! Through the Low Rope learning experience, young children working together will leverage their individual strengths to achieve a shared goal – a process that is now integral when it comes to essential life skills. Positive formative experiences in childhood will help our local children grow as future leaders – which is essential to the ongoing success of our entire region.





# A Fun Packed Summer

We're racing and pacing and plotting the course, fighting and biting and riding on our horse...

So maybe this "Cake" song doesn't exactly fit here, but it does describe how we are 'Going the Distance' to prepare for Camp Ideal this summer! Camp is on the brain for all of the JFed staff, and I couldn't be more excited for summer to begin! A few updates about what's going on at the

Federation before I cover some great programs we have coming up.

If you haven't taken a stroll through the Federation trails this past year, you have been missing out! After completing the new trail and

building two Machanot (camps) for Camp Ideal, we extended the trails and built a third benched location. Take the time to visit and hear the sounds of the forest, and if you are lucky, you may catch a glimpse of one of our red foxes who play among the fallen trees.

By the time you are reading this, we should also have completed work on our Low Ropes course, a project in the works

since last summer! These challenge courses can be enjoyed by children and adults alike by organizing a time with the Federation. If you haven't heard of a Low Ropes course before, be sure to ask a staff member or come see them for yourselves!

The Ideal Garden is also planted and waiting for families to come and enjoy. There is room to plant your own vegetables or flowers, or help keep the garden growing by volunteering an hour to weed and prune what is already planted! Come July, we hope to have plenty of produce to offer in our Shi'Shuk market on Fridays run

by the campers.

Another program to look forward to this month are the NEXTGen hike at Potato Creek. Last year we had a great turnout and explored together in perfect weather.

This year, we hope to invite a local forager to show our hikers what wild plants to be on the lookout for that are edible! We also invite the community back for our annual Inter-Generation lunch at Camp Ideal. It's a chance to see the campers in action and enjoy a beautiful served picnic outside at the Federation. We will also invite guests to learn some traditional Israeli dances with the kids! With

## **June Programs**

Camp Ideal
Starts June 13!

**NEXTGen Hike: Potato Creek** June 26, 10:00 - 12:00 PM

Intergenerational Lunch June 29, 12:00 - 2:00 PM

Women's Weekly Zumba 9:15 - 10:00 AM

**Mahjong** 

Monday & Wednesday 1:00 - 4:00 PM

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

so much to look forward to, I can hardly wait to see your smiling faces back at the Federation this Summer. As always, I am happy to talk with anyone about programming ideas or suggestions. My door is always open!



Dan Ravitch
Programming Director
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# Two Weeks of Jewish Cinema

As I write this, the first week of the 12th Annual Michiana Jewish Film Festival has just ended –the first time we've been back in person at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center since 2019. For those who attended,

it was quite special to be back. Monday night's opening film, "The Automat," was a big crowd pleaser and we were fortunate to have had a live Zoom Q&A with the film's director, Lisa Hurwitz (pictured here). Tuesday night's film was the powerful "Persian Lessons" (sponsored by the Kurt & Tessye Simon Fund for Holocaust Remembrance) about one man's means of survival in a Nazi transit camp in German occupied France. "Wet Dog" played on Wednesday, about an Iranian Jewish teen coming of

age in Berlin and in the process, finding his future to be in Israel. The final night of the in-person festival featured a documentary called "A Tree of Life" about the 2018 lethal attack at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh. I had seen the film on my 42"



TV screen. It was so much more impactful on the big screen. Finally I want to thank the film selection committee, our sponsors, and the Federation team for making our gradual return to normalcy such a success.

#### **Sheri Alpert**

Administrative Associate & Film Fest Director



# **Farewell to Rabbi Lazarus & Family!**

Dear South Bend Jewish Community,

It is with mixed emotions that we inform you that we have decided to step down as the Rabbi and Rebbetzin of MTC this summer and we will be departing South Bend in August. This has been one of the hardest decisions we have ever had to make and it's very sad to leave the beloved South Bend community in which we call home.

We have tremendous gratitude for having the opportunity to have been part of such a warm and welcoming community. It was an incredible 2 years seeing the community grow in leaps and bounds. From keeping

the ship afloat during covid to seeing it come back to life in full force, we bless the community that it should continue to

develop and blossom in all of its endeavors.

We wanted to thank all of the staff and volunteers at the Jewish Federation for always making us feel so included and working tirelessly on behalf of the entire Michiana Jewish population. We also thank all of the other community leaders, staff

and volunteers that give their heart and soul to make South Bend so special.

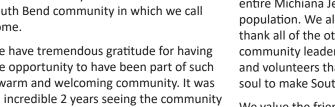
We value the friendships that we have made and the relationships that we have forged. It has been a privilege to have been allowed to be a part of your lives, and you and your families will always hold a special

place in our hearts.

We thank Hashem for the knowledge and experience we have gained over the last 2 years in serving the South Bend community, and look forward to utilizing it in this exciting new chapter in our lives. We hope you will

always keep in touch and look forward to sharing future successes and simchas iy"H.

Rabbi Doron and Trudy Lazarus



## The Guncle, by Steven Rowley

Our group made some changes to the upcoming book list and schedule. We will continue meeting on Zoom, but now every third, rather than first, Thursday of the month. Our discussion of The Guncle began with how the accurate depiction of Palm Springs gave authenticity to the novel. We all enjoyed the main character, the "big kid," Patrick, aka "Gup," (Gay Uncle Patrick), and how he handled his niece and nephew over the fateful summer of their grief. One member said she wished the novel hadn't ended. Like Gup's brother, Greg, she felt she hadn't had enough time with Patrick.

We're all hoping the movie-in-the-works will be true to this very visual novel. It's a book complete with levity, plays-on-words, career decisions, the need for both public and private personas, immaturity, surprising maturity, addiction, acceptance, warmth, love, and tragedy. Author Steven Rowley narrates the audiobook, and has described his story as a modern day "Auntie Mame."

The only requirement for attending a session is to read (or listen to) the book listed for that date.

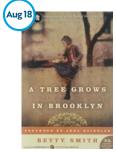
The Federation Book Club meets via Zoom at 4 PM for 1-2 hours on the third Thursdays of every month. We choose books of global and/or page-turning interest. We do not meet to promote books written by ourselves or friends.

#### **Upcoming Books:**

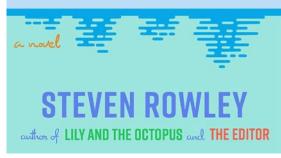












**Beth Buechler Community Contributor** 

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Ravitron is a proud supporter of the Jewish Federation and invites you to join us in supporting the Jewish Community with the following offer:



#### **Family Dental Health Corporation**

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FamilyDentalHealthCorp.com



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The Federation is Pleased to Welcome This New Shul to Our Community!



# The Liberal Jewish Fellowship

Serious Progressive Judaism for Serious Progressive Jews

Saturday, June 4, 7:15 p.m.:

LJF Lehrhaus: "Mah Nishtanah? What Makes Liberal Judaism Different from All Others?" Sunday, June 5, 5:15 p.m.

Shavuot afternoon service with Torah reading and Yizkor

Saturdays, June 11 and 25, 10:45 a.m.: Shabat Morning Services Saturdays, July 9 and 23, 10:45 a.m.: Shabat Morning Services

The LJF aspires to hold space for all people. All who would join us in peace are most welcome.

425 Cushing Street, South Bend, IN 46616 | 574-227-4464 | lifellowship.org

# 2022 CAMPAIGN PROGRESS RAISED:\$300,466 | GOAL:\$380,000

VISIT THEJEWISHFED.ORG/HEREFORGOOD TO MAKE YOUR DONATION!



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