

chailights

MAY 2022



Invitations have been sent!

We are excited to share our 100th Anniversary Commemoration with our Jewish community and friends! Please join us **Saturday, May 21, 2022** at the **Rifkin Campus** (5200 Old Mill Road) at 7 p.m. for

**Havdalah
Music
Food and wine
Entertainment by
Stand-Up Comedian Rabbi Bob Alper**

We will also preview our "Sizzle Reel", a sneak peek at the Documentary we have been working on highlighting our past 100 years!

Please remember to send in your **RSVP** card no later than **May 10**. You may email your response to office@fwjf.org or call (260) 456 – 0400 as well.

We could not have planned this very special evening without the amazing 100th Anniversary Commemoration committee (Ben Eisbart, Sharon Eisbart, Bob Walters, Irene Walters, Donna Tourkow, Stan Levine and Al Zacher) and Executive Director Jaki Schreier. None of this would be possible without the continued support from the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation. Thank you. Here's to the next 100 years!



LET'S LEARN ABOUT JEWISH BURIAL PRACTICES AT LINDENWOOD CEMETERY

Please join Rosh Chodesh as we take the opportunity to learn about the importance of Jewish Cemetery and burial practices. While rituals are ever evolving, many practices remain similar to those of our ancestors of yesteryear. We are fortunate to have both Rabbi Meir and Dan Zweig (President of the Jewish Cemetery on Decatur Road) share in their knowledge of the subject both in religious context and in a local historical context. We are pleased as well to have the former general manager of Lindenwood, Thomas Pehlke, discuss a short history of the cemetery itself. There will also be a scavenger hunt! We hope to see you on **Sunday, May 15** at **4 p.m.** in the **Bohn Chapel at Lindenwood Cemetery** (2324 Main Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46808). This event is free and open to the public. Thank you to the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation for its continued support.

Our mission is to support the well-being and continuity of the Jewish people in greater Fort Wayne, in Israel, and throughout the world.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - JAKI SCHREIER

COME AND CELEBRATE WITH US....101 YEARS IN THE MAKING!

You might know the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne from a variety of names...The Hebrew Aid Society, United Jewish Appeal, or the Fort Wayne Jewish Federation. But, no matter what you call it, the JFFW has been a vital part of the Northeast Indiana community for 101 years!



In 1921, we, the Jewish people of Fort Wayne came together to help resettle immigrants from Europe who were moving here to escape persecution and seeking to rebuild their lives, thus changing their futures and those of their descendants. We were there to help during the Depression of the 1930s, when members of our community were suffering financial hardships. We were there to help resettle survivors of the Holocaust. We worked together to raise funds for the establishment of the Jewish Homeland, Israel. We came together in 1967 and 1973 to assist Israel when her very existence was under threat. We worked together to help Russian Jews resettle in Fort Wayne. We continue to come to the aid of those in need whenever we are called upon in our own community, in Israel and around

the world. We were there then and will be here in the future.

And this is just a fraction of the many services, educational programming and pursuit for Social Justice that the JFFW has been up to since 1921.

On May 21, 2022, we will come together to celebrate our 100th anniversary. We encourage you to share in this special Simcha with us. We will begin the evening with Havdalah, share delicious food, Israeli wine, entertainment, music, schmoozing, and premier a 12-minute "Sizzle Reel" taken from the feature length documentary of our history that is currently being edited for later showing.

Please plan to join us for a party that is 101 years in the making, and thank you for your generosity in supporting the Federation.



Simchat Torah



Purim



Breaking ground



2021 Hoosier Legends Larry Adelman and Ben Eisbart



Violins of Hope



Joseph Levine

Your Direct Connection to Israel

[Partnership2Gether \(P2G\)](#) is a program of the [Jewish Agency](#) and the [Jewish Federations of North America](#). The vision of P2G is to build a global and united Jewish people made up of a tapestry of strong, lively, flourishing and interconnected Jewish individuals, families and communities working together to enrich Jewish continuity, identity and cultural understanding between Jews in Israel and their peers around the world. [Read more here.](#)

From Our Friends at [Partnership2Gether](#)!

Along with 13 other U.S. cities and Budapest, Hungary, our Federation belongs to the Central Area Consortium, partnered with the Western Galilee area of Israel. Our members have benefited from programs we've offered with guests who've come from the Western Galilee to Fort Wayne, as well as opportunities to travel in our Partnership area. We are excited to share with you a diverse list of a la carte programs from our [Partnership2Gether](#). We invite you to sign up for the programs that spark your interest! These programs are a great way to engage with Jewish communities throughout our [Partnership2Gether](#) Consortium without needing to leave your home.



Film Club

~

May 22

1:00 p.m. ET | 8:00 p.m. in Israel

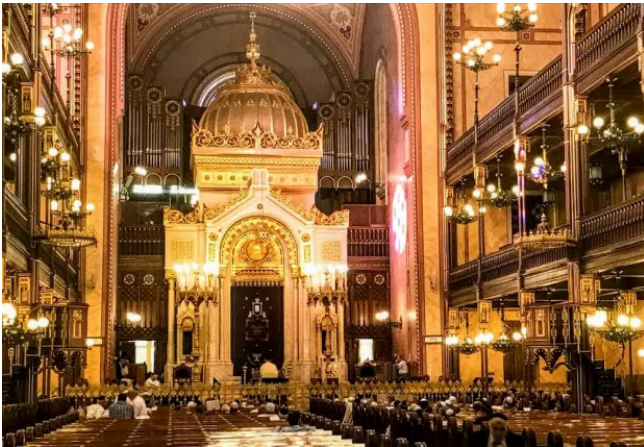
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This time, join us for a discussion of a Hungarian film, providing a unique prism to Jewish life.

~

[RSVP and get your watch instructions and Zoom link](#)

We hope you will be able to join us in September when we travel to beautiful Budapest



Dohány Street Synagogue



Kazinczy Street Orthodox Synagogue



Rumbach Street Synagogue



Salgótarjáni Street Jewish Cemetery



Dessewffy Street Orthodox Synagogue



Kazinczy Street Mikveh

2022 SUMMIT *in* BUDAPEST

SEPTEMBER 10 - 15

**Our first international gathering in almost three years
AND our first Partnership Summit in Budapest!**

Let's celebrate being together again. Reconnect with old friends and meet new friends from our U.S. communities, the Western Galilee, and Budapest.

Enjoy the Partnership Experience:

- 1** Tour the current Jewish Renaissance while immersed in Budapest's history
- 2** Meet with Jewish community leaders in fascinating locations
- 3** Immerse in conversations with members of Budapest's Partnership
- 4** Enjoy Jewish Budapest hospitality
- 5** Hear about current and future Partnership programs

COST **\$900pp** (double), **\$1400** (single occupancy)
Subsidized cost includes 5 nights in the 4* Budapest Mercure Budapest City Center hotel, kosher meals, guided tours, program fees, and transportation during the Summit. Flights, transport to and from airport are not included in the cost of the Summit.

Registration fee

\$500 due by May 1, 2022

Remaining amount

due by July 1, 2022

Fully refundable

up to July 31, 2022.

*Due to the unknowable future pandemic situation, we strongly advise participants to book fully refundable flights.

Full itinerary coming soon.

Registration at:

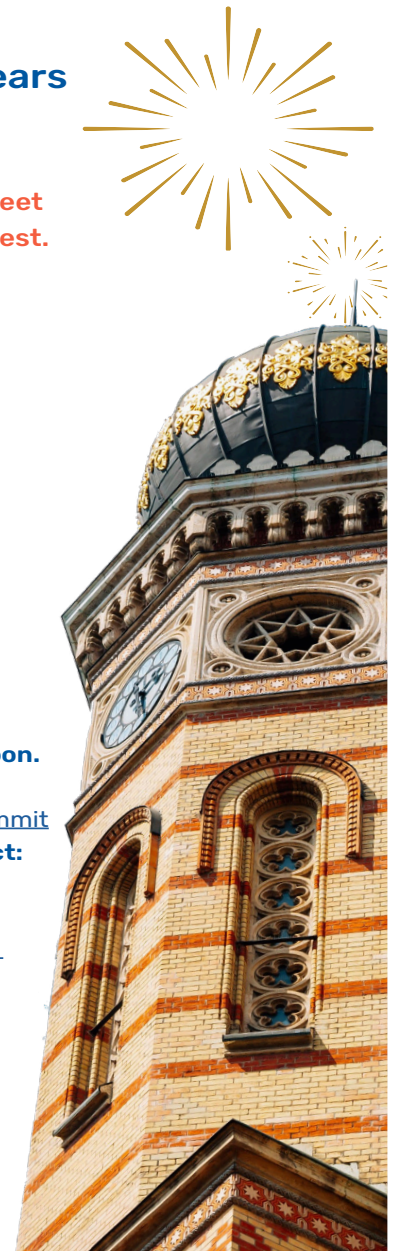
westerngalilee.org.il/summit

For more details contact:

Marcy L. Paul, U.S.

Consortium Director at

marcyp2g@outlook.com



campjoelevine



It is yet another cold and gloomy day in late April. Invigorated by the wintry mix during my daily walk, I sat down to work on some plans for this summer's camp and the thoughts of warm sunny days at Fox Island seemed especially attractive...

We are happy to announce that plans for Camp Joe 2022 are well underway as we are working to create the most wonderful experience for our campers. Last year, the COVID situation compelled us to redesign certain aspects of our days. We spent a lot more time

outdoors and, as a result, discovered parts of Fox Island we had not seen before. This experience was one of the most rewarding both for campers and staff. With so much of this beautiful park still to be explored, we are excited to incorporate more outdoor adventures into this year's program.

While we expect to enjoy the outdoors a great deal this summer, we are happy to bring one activity back indoors. With the new sewage system in place, we will be saying goodbye to the porta potties!

As always, our campers will have many opportunities to learn about Israel and Judaism, to play their favorite sports and games, to try themselves at new skills and, of course, to hang out with friends.

It is our goal to make sure that all children are able to attend camp. Camper scholarships are available. If you are interested in a scholarship for your child, please mark "yes" at the bottom of the application or contact the Jewish Federation directly at 260-456-0400.

Take advantage of our new referral program: receive 10% off of your payment when a new family registers based on your recommendation.

Camp runs Monday-Friday, July 4-22, 2022. To register, submit your application to the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne at 5200 Old Mill Rd, Fort Wayne, IN 46807. An application can also be submitted online at fwjf.org

We look forward to seeing all of you at [Fox Island County Park](#) this summer.

Larisa and Samantha



CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE

Summer Camp SCHOLARSHIPS

It is our goal to make sure that all children are able to participate in camp this summer! Camper scholarships are available on a first-come, first-served needs basis. If you are interested in a scholarship for your child, please submit a [scholarship form](#). For additional information, contact the office at 260 456-0400, office@fwjf.org or www.fwjf.org.

What are we talking about this month:

The Lag B'Omer Lowdown: History & Activities

In Jewish tradition, we count the 49 days between the second night of Passover and the beginning of [Shavuot](#). This is called *S'firat Ha'Omer* ("The Counting of the Omer"). On the 33rd day of counting, we celebrate the holiday of *Lag B'Omer*, which begins at sundown on May 18.



"Lag" is an abbreviated combination of two Hebrew letters that, according to Hebrew numerology, add up to the number 33.

ABOUT LAG B'OMER

Lag B'Omer is traditionally celebrated with great joy. Jewish sources offer a range of opinions as to the origins of this joy.

The Talmud says *Lag B'Omer* celebrates the halt of a plague that took the lives of thousands of students of the great teacher Rabbi Akiva. Other sources say *Lag B'Omer* celebrates a victory for the armies of the Jewish

leader Bar Kochba. Some associate Lag B'Omer with stories about Rabbi Shimon Bar Yochai, a student of Rabbi Akiva and writer of an important Jewish text.

Want a deep dive into the history of Lag B'Omer? Visit [MyJewishLearning](#)

CELEBRATING THE 33rd DAY

A number of traditions and customs have developed around the holiday of *Lag B'Omer*. In Israel and beyond, for example, many families light bonfires to brighten up cities and countryside alike. In addition, many Jewish couples schedule weddings and parties on Lag B'Omer.

Interested in celebrating *Lag B'Omer* this year? Try one of these fun activities:

Build a Campfire

Lag B'Omer falls in mid-to-late spring, making it a great time to break out the camping gear — or at least light a fire in a fire pit. Don't forget to make some [delicious s'mores](#)!

Pull Out the Bows & Arrows

Israeli children typically play with bows and (suction-cup-tipped) arrows on *Lag B'Omer*, imitating students of Rabbis Akiva and Shimon who fooled the Romans by pretending they were hunting. Relay races are another fun holiday activity.

Put on a Parade

Some communities stage parades for *Lag B'Omer*. Your family can organize a parade of its own. March around the block or just around the house and yard.

Get a Haircut

Yes, a haircut! The Counting of the *Omer* is treated as a semi-mourning period, and observant Jews refrain from haircutting during such a time. Because *Lag B'Omer* suspends that restriction, it is a traditional time for young children to get their first haircuts.

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HOPE, RESILIENCE, AND REVELATION

Expand your Jewish knowledge by joining us for [lifelong learning classes](#) that include a variety of Jewish study topics with Rabbi Meir Barger and guest teachers. Please join us for:

Jewish Hope & Resilience
With Rabbi Meir
Tuesday, May 10
7 p.m. on Zoom

With a pandemic, war in Ukraine, and social discord in America, we are living at a watershed moment in history. We will look at how the Jewish creative sensibilities that have guided our people through history can continue to guide us today. Together, we will explore a collection of texts, metaphors, and simple practices that can help us adjust to our "new normal" world.

Please RSVP to office@templecav.org by Thursday, May 5 to receive materials.

Experiencing Revelation
With Rabbi Meir
Tuesday, May 24
7 p.m. on Zoom

On Shavuot we remember the revelation at Mount Sinai. But what was revealed and how was revelation experienced? We will study a number of texts from the classical Midrash literature to gain insight about the Israelites' experience at Sinai.
Please RSVP to office@templecav.org by Thursday, May 19 to receive materials.

Links for classes are provided in the weekly email to members of our Temple family. Guests may contact the office for access information.

Ongoing Programs:
Hebrew Liturgy Study Group with John Planer
Mondays at 7 p.m. on Zoom

Five Books of Moses Study Group with Rabbi Mitchell Kornspan
Sundays at 7 p.m. on Zoom

CELEBRATE SHABBAT, CONFIRMATION & A SIMCHA AT THE TEMPLE
Begin your weekend with Shabbat and share the warmth of Jewish community in May at Congregation Achduth Vesholom in person or via livestream on Zoom or [YouTube](#).

Please join us for two special events on Friday, May 20 at 6 p.m. during our Shabbat service when we celebrate:

- The Confirmation of Jacob Cohen, son of Leslie Cohen and Joe Cohen, and Grace Gephart, daughter of Betsy & Geoff Gephart.
- The naming of Ari Hochberg, daughter of Adam & Libby Hochberg. The Hochbergs, including their 2-year-old son, Evan, are new members of our Temple family.

During the coming month, Rabbi Meir Barger will lead services most Fridays at 6 p.m. Ron Friedman will lead worship most Saturdays at 9:45 a.m., with Rabbi Meir offering a D'var Torah. Please note that our summertime Shabbat evening services will move to 6:30 p.m., beginning June 3.

Masks are optional in the building. Find our [COVID safety protocols](#). Visit our website at www.templecav.org for the latest information on our schedule.

We warmly welcome guests to join us at the Temple or online. Please contact the Temple office at (260) 744-4245 or office@templecav.org for links to access services on Zoom.

BAMS, CRACKS, AND DOTS RETURN - IT'S TIME FOR MAH JONGG!

Get ready for the clack of tiles when mah jongg resumes this month at the Temple! Beginning the week of May 2, we will resume open play in the Madge Rothschild Resource Center.

Bring your 2022 card and join us on Monday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and on Thursday afternoons from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. [Sign up here](#) for these informal sessions. Players of all levels are welcome! We ask for a \$2 donation each time you play to help support mahj and other programs. (We will not meet on Monday, May 30 due to Memorial Day.)

Don't have the new card yet? Order yours at www.nationalmahjonggleague.org. Need a refresher? [Real Mah Jongg](#) is a popular app. And the [Rabbi Richard B. Safran Library](#) has several [mah jongg titles](#), including two different guides that might come in handy.

If you'd like to be added to our occasional mah jongg e-newsletter, please contact the Temple at office@templecav.org.

We welcome newer players and gladly will assist as you learn the rules. (If you know anyone who would like to be contacted when we again offer lessons for beginners, please contact the Temple office at office@templecav.org.)

Masks are optional in the Temple. (Find our [COVID protocols](#).) Out of respect for others, please stay home if you are not feeling well, have a fever or cold symptoms, loss of taste or smell, or have been exposed to COVID.

HELP THOUGHTFUL THURSDAYS REACH "25 x 25 = 25" GOAL
As the Brightpoint Head Start school year comes to a close, the distribution in May of food and toiletries will be the last for this year. To help our [Thoughtful Thursdays](#) families through the summer months, the bags will have a little extra.

We also ask for your help with an additional need. I mentioned last month that Brooke Hartman, Brightpoint's site director, has shared a need they have for booster seats for the children. Thus, our new campaign goal is "25 X 25 = 25." Translation: If 25 people each donate \$25, then we can purchase 25 booster seats.

Thank you to those of you who have already donated! I encourage those of you who have not to please consider doing so. Your donation can be made by cash, check, credit card or on the Temple website. Just be sure to designate your contribution for the TT booster seat project. It is important to keep these children safe as well as fed!

Thank you to our volunteers who continue to be so engaged and supportive. We could not provide this program without you! We also appreciate the continued generosity of the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation and the members of our Jewish community for making Thoughtful Thursdays possible.

Thoughtful Thursdays is a project of [Congregation Achduth Vesholom](#) and the [Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne](#). If you are interested in volunteering for Thoughtful Thursdays, please contact me at sartrotter@gmail.com.

Remember, hunger doesn't stop just because there is a supply chain issue or inflation!

Sally Trotter, Thoughtful Thursdays chairperson



LEARN ABOUT FAMILYSEARCH ON MAY 1st

The Northeast Indiana Jewish Genealogy Society hosted over 130 guests from around the world for a virtual presentation in April about historical maps by genealogist Ed Mitukiewicz. He provided an excellent seminar on the use of maps in genealogical research, particularly in determining locations of ancestral towns in Eastern Europe. NEIJGS members attended an additional workshop with Mr. Mitukiewicz following the public session.

On May 1st, the NEIJGS is thrilled to host genealogist Todd Knowles, from the Family History Center in Salt Lake City, for a presentation in-person at the ACPL Genealogy Center. FamilySearch is an amazing source of original records for Jewish genealogical research. At 2:00, he will begin with “How to Use FamilySearch,” an introduction to the website, how to use it and how records are obtained for the site. At 3:30, he’ll focus on “Using FamilySearch for Jewish Research.” In addition to presenting what’s currently available, he’ll touch on what’s new and what’s coming soon to the website.



Todd Knowles, AG® is an Accredited Genealogist who currently serves as a Deputy Chief Genealogical Officer for the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. Todd has lectured all over the world and his articles have been widely published. His own genealogical search began at the age of twelve with the desire to find more about his family. His quest to find more about his great-great-grandfather, a Polish Jew, has led to the creation of the Knowles Collection, six databases that contain the records of the Jewish people. It currently contains the records of over 1.5 million people.

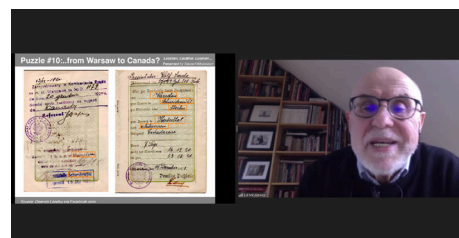
We are thrilled to be presenting our first in-person program in more than two years! However, we’ll still be offering a virtual option for those unable to join us in-person. Registration is required to attend the virtual option and recommended for those joining us at the Genealogy Center. Both registration links can be found at the NEIJGS website at www.NEIndianaJGS.org/upcoming-events/.

Thanks to the Harry W. Salon Foundation, the Louis and Anne B. Schneider Foundation, and the Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center for their support.

Additional information about the NEIJGS can be found on our website at www.NEIndianaJGS.org, or our Facebook Page, <https://www.facebook.com/NEIndianaJGS/>. Contact Betsy Gephart at vp@NEIndianaJGS.org for more information.



April 3 attendees
Zooming with
Ed Mitukiewicz



WE ARE HERE TO HELP



Help is Available

We are very fortunate to have a social worker who is able and willing to assist any member of the Fort Wayne Jewish community in need of services.

She works for us as a volunteer, on an as-needed basis.

If you become aware of someone in the Jewish community who may need assistance at some point, please let us know. Obviously, this would be kept in the strictest of confidence. Contact us at (260) 456 - 0400 or office@fwj.org.



Help is Available

We know that during these trying times, we can all use a little help once in a while. For those in need, we do offer food vouchers and gas cards. Please call the [Federation](#) office at (260) 456 - 0400. All calls are confidential.

We are also accepting donations of gas cards. If you would like to make a donation, please send in a check with "gas card" in the memo or call the office.



Charitable Adult Rides and Services (CARS)

Do you have a car, truck, van, SUV, boat, motorcycle, ATV, RV, trailer or airplane that you no longer need or use?



Donating them has never been easier! Simply choose [CARS](#) and their trained staff will guide you through the donation process.

Audrey and Joe Gerson Free Loan Fund



This Fund was set up to offer an interest-free loan up to \$2,000 to members of the Jewish community who are undergoing financial hardships. Please call the Federation office at (260) 456-0400 to speak to someone confidentially.

“ Kindness is realizing that we’re all in this together. ”
– RAKtivist



COVID-19 UPDATE FROM THE JEWISH FEDERATION

The staff and leadership of the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne are continuing to prioritize the health of our community as we move forward. Taking into consideration the constant number of confirmed COVID-19 cases, and upon the recommendations of the Center for Disease Control, we will remain closed to the public until further notice.

We continue to work on various programs and engagement opportunities in an effort to keep connected with our community. Our staff continues to work remotely and are available via email. We check our voice messages regularly in the event you prefer to call us. We will return your phone calls as soon as we are able.

FUNDS AND DONATIONS

JEWISH FEDERATION FUNDS

ENDOWMENT

- **100th Commemoration Fund**
- **Audrey and Joe Gerson Free Loan Fund**
- **Baum/Goldenberg Scholarship**
- **Emergency Cash Assistance Fund**
- **Holocaust Education Fund**
- **Jewish Experience Fund**
- **JNF - Plant a tree in Israel**
- **Prejudice Reduction Elimination Fund**
- **Community Relations Committee (CRC):**
To provide for local programming and events through the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne.
- **Goldenberg Camp Joe Fund:**
Every year we get a number of requests for assistance with the registration for our three-week Camp Joe Levine Day Camp.



- **Janet Finkel Campership Fund:**
In April 2008, Audrey Gerson established the Janet Finkel Campership Fund in honor of Janet Finkel. This fund makes it possible to help youngsters go to a Jewish Camp or to a Music Camp.
- **PJ Library:**
Supports reading anytime of the day, but we know that many families sit down to read books at bedtime, in their pajamas. PJ Library books can be enjoyed any time you want a good story.
- **The Martha Rothenberg Replane Theater & Creative Arts Fund:**
This fund was created in Memory of Martha Rothenberg Replane to honor her memory and her love for theater and creative arts. The fund will be used to encourage theater and creative arts presentations and knowledge in our community.

DONATIONS

Audrey & Joe Gerson Free Loan Fund

- Donations were received in memory of Norman Philip Prady from Doris Gottlieb, Susie Miller, Marcia & Denny Reynolds, Jo Ellen & Mike Rush

JNF - Plant a tree in Israel

- Donations were received from an anonymous donor

Ukraine Relief Fund

- Donations were received from Anonymous, Carol & Larry Adelman,

every contribution is
hugely valued

thank
you!

Hannah & Jack Copeland, Ron Cousino, Shara & Harry Cunningham, Robert Elliott, Pam & Ken Feldman, Janet Finkel, Audrey Gerson, Doris Gottlieb, Ronnie & Norm Greenberg, Marilyn & Jeffrey Herman, Amy & Sam Krouse, Suzi & Jim King, Joanne & Elliott McCrory, Harriet Miller & Monica Wehrle, Susie Miller, Marcia & Denny Reynolds, Jo Ellen & Mike Rush, Cheryl Schorey, Jaki & Eric Schreier, Kathy & Todd Sider, Donna & Josh Tourkow, Tamara & Thomas Wheeler and Mimi & Don Zelman

Online Donations Accepted!

The [Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne](#) now accepts [online donations](#). You may contribute to our General Fund, or select a specific fund that you want to support. In addition, you may elect to have a donation made in Honor of or In Memory of an individual, and a card will be sent letting them or their families know the donation has been made.

It's secure, fast, and easy to support the work the Federation does to support the well-being and continuity of the Jewish people in greater Fort Wayne, in Israel, and throughout the world.

Thank you for your support. It is sincerely appreciated!

R.O.M.E.O.s
(Retired Old Men Eating Out)

May 5 – China Palace
5810 Bluffton Road

May 19 – West Coast Grille
2310 S. Calhoun Street

Anyone interested in joining the ROMEOS for lunch can contact Denny Reynolds at 260-637-0507 or dennisreynolds@me.com

2021 - 2022 Board of Directors

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Secretary: Amy Krouse
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Leah Zimmerman

Rabbi Meir Bargerone

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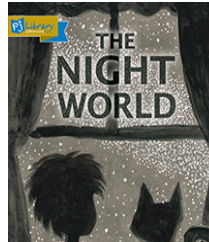
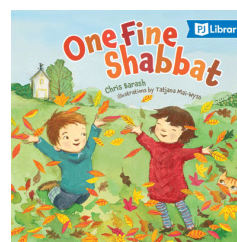
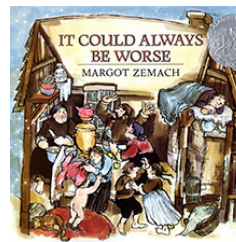
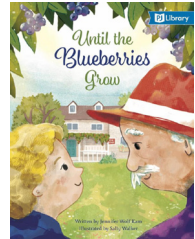
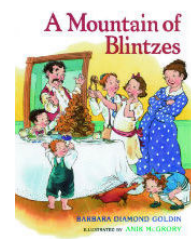
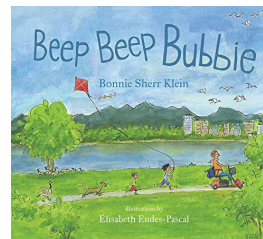
Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne
5200 Old Mill Road
Fort Wayne, IN 46807

(260) 456-0400 phone
(260) 456-0500 fax
www.fwjf.org



Which books did you receive this month?

A program of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation, PJ Library is made possible through partnerships with philanthropists and local Jewish organizations. Families with kids ages 6 months through 8 years old with Judaism as part of their lives are welcome to sign up.



PJ Our Way is for kids ages 9-11. It is kid-driven - they choose their own books, creating a totally tailored experience based on their own interests and reading level. To make the choice easier, our website includes summaries and author bios, along with ratings, reviews, and video trailers created by members themselves. Kids can also take polls and quizzes, participate in monthly interviews and challenges, post their own reviews, and comment on blog posts.

