

# JFED CONNECTS

AN UPDATE OF WHAT'S HAPPENING AT JEWISH FEDERATION OF ST. LOUIS

JULY/AUGUST 2016

JFedSTL.org

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## FROM OUR CHAIR, Harvey N. Wallace



During July and August, many of us take time off from work or school or our normal routines for vacation or just "rest and relaxation." Hopefully, you will be enjoying some time away, or spending more time with friends and family, and, with good sunscreen, getting some important Vitamin D on one of our beautiful St. Louis summer days.

In our community, of course, although individuals take time off, the work of the Jewish Federation of St. Louis and all our community organizations continues.

Our Jewish Federation of St. Louis Board recently approved the recommendation of our Planning and Allocations Committee to allocate more than \$8.5 million to our community agencies as well as programs we support in Israel, and other areas of the world where Jewish people need our help. Many thanks to Sue Schlichter, our Vice Chair of Planning and Allocations, and a dedicated group of lay leaders who devoted countless hours to this process.

The first building in the new Covenant Place was dedicated on June 21, and the residents began moving in early in July. Congratulations to the Covenant Place Board, and CEO Joan Dennison. The capital campaign had broad support from our community, and the Jewish Federation of St. Louis played an important role with many donors to share the importance of this residential development for our seniors.

Beginning July 31, our community will host approximately 1,300 Jewish teenage athletes from across the globe for the JCC Maccabi Games. The Games are a celebration of our entire community where we come together to strengthen our identity, engage all of Jewish St. Louis, and build a foundation for continued partnership and sustainability. I encourage you to get involved by volunteering, if possible, or attending opening ceremonies and cheering on the athletes.

On September 1, the Jewish Federation of St. Louis' Annual Meeting will take place at a venue many of you have visited over the years – Busch Stadium in downtown St. Louis. Beginning at 5:00 pm, there will be elections, presentation of awards, and a guest speaker, former major leaguer Adam Greenberg. And the 2016 Annual Campaign will kick off after the Annual Meeting. If you desire, you will have a chance to make your pledge to the campaign. Following the success of last year's Annual Meeting and Get in the Olive Groove, we welcome families to join us this year at Busch Stadium. Additionally, September 6 marks the deadline for early-bird pricing on our community-wide Show Me Israel mission. My wife, Madeleine, and I are looking forward to this one-of-a-kind trip and invite you to join us on what is sure to be an unforgettable Israel experience. See page 3 for more details.

In closing, I would like to congratulate Michael and Carol Staenberg on the birth of their first granddaughter, Rosalind Jane Brightfield. Baby Rosalind, as well as the parents and the grandparents, are all doing well.

We welcome you to get involved in our Jewish community. There are so many opportunities to participate, and your efforts will certainly make a difference. I hope to see you soon.

## FROM OUR CEO, Andrew Rehfeld, Ph.D.



I have just returned from Paris where I attended the Board of Governor's meeting of the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI). JAFI is one of three overseas agencies the Jewish Federation of St. Louis funds. Thanks to giving from you and our community to the Annual Campaign, this year our community will be providing about \$2 million in both unrestricted and program specific grants to our overseas partners.

JAFI's mission has traditionally been to facilitate immigration and absorption of new immigrants into Israel. In this role, it has been working closely with the Jewish community of Paris as the number of Jews from the city who are immigrating has recently increased due to the significant rise of anti-Semitism in Paris and throughout

Europe. Because of JAFI's close working relationship with local communities, they, along with the Joint Distribution Committee (JDC), are often our "boots on the ground" to help us assess the needs of distressed communities.

Prior to the meeting, I also attended a small three day pre-conference with other Federation executives from around North America. We met with high level community leaders and government officials to assess the state of the Jewish communities in Paris and throughout Europe. This is a very sensitive time for European Jews and there is a great deal of concern. JAFI continues to be an important partner of the St. Louis Jewish community and their work in assessing and meeting needs is inspiring.

Continued on page 2

But times are changing. With over 85 percent of Jews now living in Israel or the United States, and another 500,000 or so in France—a relatively affluent community—JAFI's challenges are different today than what they once were. With decades of experience in resettlement in Israel, the agency has become a driver of Jewish educational programs even as they retain and use the knowledge they have gained from their rescue and relief efforts to be ready in case of a crisis.

During this trip, we joined the JAFI staff on site visits around Paris to see the work they are doing here first hand. This included visits to a Jewish day school, and another visit with the Reform community, work JAFI is doing to promote pluralism in the Jewish community.

The work that JAFI is doing must be supported so long as there are any communities in harm's way. At the same time, our community in St. Louis is facing greater needs to invest in education and community support to promote Jewish continuity and access to Jewish camping, education and experiences in Israel. We are thus exploring ways to partner with JAFI in less traditional ways so that we can continue their support, but in a manner that will align with our own needs at home. I am optimistic we will find ways of doing so very soon.

I do want to thank former Jewish Federation of St. Louis Board Chair Heschel Raskas, who was also at the JAFI meetings where he serves on its Board of Governors.

Thank you for your continued interest, investment and involvement in the Jewish Federation of St. Louis.



This year, the Steenberg Family Foundation, a supporting foundation of the Jewish Federation of St. Louis, is celebrating its 10th year of giving back, and we need your help in showing the Steenbergs how much we all appreciate their generosity.

We have launched the 10 Gifts Challenge to spread the spirit of Michael and Carol Steenberg and family throughout the St. Louis region and around the globe. The Steenbergs and the Foundation have gone above and beyond over the past 10 years to make sure local and global organizations receive the financial support and pro bono services necessary to stay vibrant and functional.

Now, we are challenging YOU to do something inspired by the Steenbergs.

Over the course of the year, challenge 10 people to do something inspired by the Steenbergs.

#### Step 1. Accept the Challenge

- Mentor someone in the community who needs your help.
- Volunteer your time at the food pantry, with seniors or at an upcoming event.
- Make a donation to an organization that impacts a cause you care about.
- Celebrate your successes to stay motivated in the future.
- Inspire a friend to take on the 10 Gifts Challenge, too!

#### Step 2. Share your success

- Post a photo of whatever you accomplished with the hashtag #10GiftsChallenge on Facebook and Twitter. Be sure to tag us, @Jewish Federation of St. Louis on Facebook or @JewishFedSTL on Twitter.
- Challenge your friends and family to also complete the 10 Gifts Challenge. Tag them in your post!

#### Step 3. Continue your good work

- Now that you've completed the challenge, it doesn't have to end!
- Read the Steenberg Stories for inspiration from St. Louis community leaders.
- Get involved in the Jewish Federation of St. Louis by visiting [BuildJewishSTL.org](http://BuildJewishSTL.org).
- Continue to spread the word to family and friends.

The Steenbergs have inspired you. Now it is your turn to inspire someone new. Learn more at

[JFedSTL.org/Steenberg-Family-Foundation](http://JFedSTL.org/Steenberg-Family-Foundation)

## JEWISH COMMUNITY SUMMER READING CLUB

Full STEAM Ahead: Where STEAM\* and Literacy Come Together is the theme of a collaborative effort this summer between the Brodsky Library and PJ Library. More than 150 parents and kids, ranging in age from babies through 11 years, gathered on June 16 for the first of two educational summer literacy programs. Jewish Federation of St. Louis' Kopolow building was filled with the sounds of budding engineers, artists, chemists and architects as they constructed catapults and zip lines, built skyscrapers out of recycled materials, planted terrariums, created lava lamps, transported themselves into a story, and, in what was possibly the most challenging activity of the afternoon, tried to eat their ice cream before it melted in the hot sun. Each week, new at-home activities related to PJ Library books and other favorites are released for families to work on together and post their results to the PJ Library and Brodsky Library Facebook pages, with hashtags #BuildDesignRead, #JSTEAM and #FullSTEAMAhead. Keep an eye out for our next program on July 27, when our STEAM activities will be focused on Israeli inventions. Activities ranging from water conservation to creating a new kind of Jerusalem street art will again bring together families from across the St. Louis Jewish community. To RSVP, contact Jen Baer Lotsoff at 314-442-3867 or email [JLotsoff@JFedSTL.org](mailto:JLotsoff@JFedSTL.org). Visit [JFedSTL.org/BrodskySummerReading](http://JFedSTL.org/BrodskySummerReading) for more information.



\*STEAM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math

## ARTIFACT SPOTLIGHT

Highlights from the archives of the Holocaust Museum & Learning Center

When the HMLC opened in 1995, archival holdings had already been accumulated and recorded. Survivors, veterans and other community members have been donating artifacts, documents and other memorabilia, creating a repository of memories connected with the Holocaust/WWII years. Some artifacts have been integrated into the Museum's permanent exhibit, others have been used as the focus of temporary exhibits as well as historical research and publications. Professionally inventoried, preserved and made accessible, the contents of the HMLC archives are handled with the honor and respect these artifacts, documents and material culture deserve.

Through our monthly Artifact Spotlight, we want to share some rarely seen objects from our archival holdings. Visit [HMLC.org/Artifact-Spotlight](http://HMLC.org/Artifact-Spotlight) to view this month's feature. For more information about the HMLC archives, or if you are considering a donation, please contact Diane Everman at 314-442-3722 or email [DEverman@JFedSTL.org](mailto:DEverman@JFedSTL.org).



**Jewish Federation of St. Louis'**

**Grant Workshop**

**Your Key to Unlock Jewish Funding Opportunities**

Jewish Federation of St. Louis, Kopolow Building  
12 Millstone Campus Drive, St. Louis, MO 63146

**Thursday, August 11**

**11:45 am-1:15 pm**

**RSVP by August 8 to Mary Brown at [MBrown@JFedSTL.org](mailto:MBrown@JFedSTL.org)**





JOIN US FOR THE  
**JEWISH FEDERATION  
 OF ST. LOUIS**  
**2016 ANNUAL MEETING**  
 IN HONOR OF BERNARD A. EDELSTEIN

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2016**

**5:00 PM** Hors D'oeuvre Reception\*

**5:30 PM** Meeting

**Busch Stadium Redbird Club**  
 700 Clark Ave, St. Louis, MO 63102

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS, AT-LARGE DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES**

**PRESENTATION OF THE:**

David N. and Roselin Grosberg Young Leadership Awards  
 Fred A. Goldstein Professional Leadership Award  
 RubinBrown Corporate Leadership Award

\$18 per person includes admission to Annual Meeting and Annual Campaign Kick-Off. Children under 16 are free.

RSVP by August 29 at [BuildJewishSTL.org/Heroes](http://BuildJewishSTL.org/Heroes) or call  
 Barbara Levin at 314-442-3752.

\*Dietary laws observed.

AFTER THE ANNUAL MEETING,  
**ANNUAL CAMPAIGN KICK-OFF**

**Takes the field at 6:30 pm**  
 Ballpark food and cash bar\*

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION BY ADAM GREENBERG**



If there was ever a person that epitomized perseverance, it is Adam Greenberg. This former Major League Baseball Player is famous for one pitch that changed his life forever. A 94 mph fastball to the back of the head gave Adam the MLB record for being one of only two players to have an at bat in the big leagues without ever taking the field. However, Adam did not give up on baseball and went on to play with several Minor League organizations, including Team Israel in the World Baseball Classic. Hear this hero's inspiring story and learn how you can make an impact on our Jewish community.

Enjoy batting cages, pitching in the bullpen, a special photo booth, visit from Fredbird, walks through both dugouts and a chance to make your 2016 Annual Campaign pledge.

**SAVE THE DATE FOR THE  
 ANNUAL ARTHUR GALE  
 LECTURE**

This year's Arthur Gale Lecture will discuss "The Christian Churches' Complicity in the Holocaust." Dr. Robert Ericksen will explore the question of Christian complicity in the Holocaust, with attention to "changing views" over time regarding the role of German churches and their support of the Nazi state.

**Thursday, September 15 at 7:00 pm**

Jewish Federation of St. Louis Kopolow Building

Dr. Robert P. Ericksen is the Kurt Mayer Chair, Emeritus, in the department of History at Pacific Lutheran University. In 2003-2004, Dr. Ericksen was the Charles H. Revson Foundation Fellow at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. His numerous publications include *Complicity in the Holocaust: Churches and Universities in Nazi Germany*, published by Cambridge University Press in 2012.



The presentation is open to the public and free of charge. Seating is limited, reservations required.

For further information, or to RSVP, please contact Andrew Goldfeder at 314-442-3711 or [AGoldfeder@JFedSTL.org](mailto:AGoldfeder@JFedSTL.org).

This program is generously sponsored by Doctor Arthur Gale and Family in loving memory of Marilyn Gale.



Join the Jewish Community of St. Louis in Israel for a one-of-a-kind journey. Jewish Federation of St. Louis is planning "Show Me Israel," with four ways to see the country February 26-March 6, 2017. The specialized tracks include:

- The Flavors of Israel: Immerse yourself in the Israeli food scene through Israeli Cooking Classes, Milk and Honey's Whiskey tasting, Zichron Yaacov Winery, a Hummus tour, Kurdish food exploration and more.
- Business & Innovation: Visit Israel's Google offices and numerous companies excelling in Digital Media Software, Semiconductors, Storage and Cyber Security from start-ups to investment firms to NRGene, the leading genomic big data company in Israel.
- Travel through Arts & Culture: Dive into Israeli fashion, photography, art and film and more seen through Urban Culture Tours of Tel Aviv, Um El Fahem Art Gallery, the Design Museum Holon and other local hot spots.
- Traveling with Text in Context: Explore topics such as Women in Judaism, the Niggun, David and Goliath, the challenges of Jews as a minority in Roman times and study with scholars throughout Israel.

**Learn more about  
 the mission!**

- Tuesday, July 26, 7:00 pm
  - Monday, August 8, 7:00 pm
- Jewish Federation of St. Louis  
 Kopolow Building

RSVP is requested but not required.

**Early Bird Pricing is available through September 6, 2016.**

For more information and to view trip highlights and post trip touring extension, visit [JFedSTL.org/ShowMeIsrael](http://JFedSTL.org/ShowMeIsrael) or contact Karen Rader at [ShowMeIsrael@JFedSTL.org](mailto:ShowMeIsrael@JFedSTL.org) or 314-442-3756.

## DEBORAH GRAYSON RIEGEL RETURNS TO ST. LOUIS FOR COMMUNITY TRAINING PROGRAMS



Deborah Grayson Riegel, MSW, PCC, returns to St. Louis September 11-13 to lead training programs targeted to different leaders in the Jewish community and St. Louis region. Riegel is an internationally

recognized expert in communication skills and professional coaching.

On Tuesday, September 13, nonprofit leaders are invited to participate in a full-day of Leadership Coaching Skills Training supported by Maryville University. The program is designed to introduce participants from throughout the St. Louis region to core coaching skills that deepen listening, highlight powerful questions to unlock new thinking, increase empowerment and accountability and boost successful work relationships. Deborah will be facilitating the same session for Millstone Fellows and Millstone Fellows alumni on Sunday, September 11.

On Monday, September 12, professionals from the St. Louis Jewish community are invited to professional development programs. Each program is designed for staff based on roles and experience. All day-time programs take place at the Jewish Federation of St. Louis Kopelow Building.

**Creating a Culture of Feedback** for Executives, Senior Managers and Clergy will take place from 8:00-10:00 am. With real-time practice and coaching, managers/clergy learn how to give feedback in a way that leads to increased trust, motivation and accountability.

**Making Time for Living a Whole (and Happy) Life** is planned for support staff from 11:00 am-1:00 pm and includes a light lunch. Participants will explore how to balance work and personal priorities with the expectations of others.

**Powerful Conversations** is open to all staff from 1:30-4:00 pm. Practical, interactive exercises teach participants how to manage different perspectives, reduce resistance, and create shared solutions.

The twice-yearly Millstone Institute **Presidents' Circle** will take place Monday, September 12 from 5:30-7:00 pm at The J on the Staenberg Family Campus and is open to all board presidents, presidents-elect, clergy and Executives/CEOs. Deborah will present on How to Be a Chief Engagement Officer.

For more information and to RSVP for all programs, contact Marci Mayer Eisen at 314-442-3810 or [MEisen@JFedSTL.org](mailto:MEisen@JFedSTL.org).

JProStl and the Millstone Institute are supported by the Lubin-Green Foundation, a supporting foundation of the Jewish Federation of St. Louis, Karen & Mont Levy and Bill Solomon & Family.

Jewish Federation of St. Louis' Professional Societies Present:

## The White House Vice Presidency Featuring Author Joel K. Goldstein, Vincent C. Immel Professor of Law



**Monday, August 22, 2016**

**6:30 pm** Cocktails and appetizers (dietary laws observed)  
**7:00-8:00 pm** Program and book signing

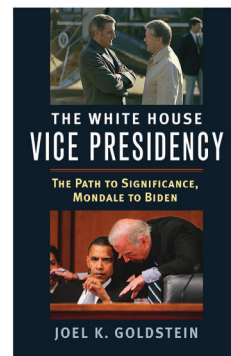
### Central Library

1301 Olive Street Rd.  
Complimentary valet parking at the Locust Street entrance (street parking available). Books will be available for purchase.

Joel K. Goldstein of St. Louis University School of Law is a highly respected scholar of the Vice Presidency, Presidency and Constitutional Law, having written widely in all three areas. He is continually sought by national and international media outlets to provide commentary and insight during the presidential campaigns.

**RSVP by August 17 to Karen Sher at [KSher@JFedSTL.org](mailto:KSher@JFedSTL.org) or 314-442-3824.**

\*Jewish Federation of St. Louis' Professional Societies are open to donors representing all industries, trades and professions who make a minimum commitment of \$1,800 to the Unrestricted Annual Campaign. Ben-Gurion Society members (\$1,000 minimum gift for donors under 45) are welcome at all Professional Society programs.



## ST. LOUIS WOMEN'S MISSION TO ISRAEL: LEARNING ... LEADING ... COMMUNITY

Jewish Federation of St. Louis and AISH HaTorah of St. Louis are traveling to Israel as part of the Jewish Women's Renaissance Project (JWRP) St. Louis Women's Mission. JWRP was established in 2008 by eight diverse women in the Washington D.C. area who saw a deep need to create an inspiring values driven trip to Israel that will empower women to change the world.

This is AISH's seventh year bringing women on this trip and the first year for the Jewish Federation of St. Louis, thanks to the generosity of the Staenberg Family Foundation. This inaugural partnership trip allows the Jewish Federation of St. Louis and AISH the opportunity to bring women together to experience Israel with a focus on learning, leading and community. Through the JWRP Israel curriculum, they will learn Jewish values that elevate their leadership.

The St. Louis participants will arrive in Israel early to spend their first day visiting sites and learning about programs that the Jewish Federation of St. Louis helps support. They will visit Orr Shalom, a foster and group home care for Israel's most vulnerable children, they will hear from a director at Hand in Hand, a center for Jewish-Arab Education in Israel and will visit Leket Israel, the country's largest food bank where the participants will have the opportunity to package and prepare much needed food parcels. Before meeting up with the rest of the JWRP group, the St. Louis women will make a stop in our Partnership city of Yokneam to join with Israeli participants.

Jewish Federation of St. Louis and AISH St. Louis will be bringing the following women to Israel July 11-20, 2016:

Denise Apprill  
Gina Bernstein  
Laurie Berwald  
Marcie Brook  
Julie Flom  
Robin Fox  
Abby Goldstein  
Lisa Goodman  
Debbi Grebler  
Mindy Grossman  
Beth Higdon  
Allison Izsak (madricha)  
Amy Kanfer  
Debra Klevens  
Jill Mannis (madricha)  
Sherri Meyers

Carolyn Morris  
Michelle Nobbe  
Joyce Opinsky  
Jennifer Pines  
Debbie Polinsky  
Lynne Prywitch  
Michelle Rubin

Caryn Rudman  
Debora Sartori  
Pearl Serota  
Lori Sheinbein  
MaryAnne Smyly Sabin  
Tracy Speller (madricha)  
Pam Super

Stacey Wallach  
Lisa Weiss  
Jenny Wolkowitz  
Julie Gibbs and  
Karen Sher (staff)  
Mimi David and  
Pirchie Greenspon (staff)

JEWISH FEDERATION OF ST. LOUIS  
**Women's**  
PHILANTHROPY