

# JFED CONNECTS

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

May/June 2016

JFedSTL.org

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## FROM OUR CHAIR, Harvey N. Wallace



As Board Chair, I am honored to receive invitations to many of the events that our community agencies and religious institutions sponsor. It is truly exciting to see what is happening in our St. Louis Jewish community and hopefully you have the opportunity to

participate with the organizations that are most meaningful to you.

Bais Abraham recently had its annual fundraiser and celebration, honoring its leaders and emphasizing "Bais Abe's" goals of inclusion and accessibility for everyone in our community. Guest speaker, David Newburger, spoke of the challenges faced by individuals with disabilities.

The Saul Mirowitz Jewish Community School had their annual gala with attendance of about 350 individuals. The evening was a wonderful success as the guests honored the faculty, received an update on what is happening at Mirowitz and generously supported several targeted projects that were high priorities for the school.

"Cheers! Where Good People Meet" was the theme of a recent Jewish Family & Children's Service evening. Whiskey and wine tasting along with tasty appetizers and decadent desserts made for a fun event, but the message was clear – the work JF&CS is doing requires community support.

And, of course, the Jewish Federation of St. Louis' calendar is quite busy. Recently, under the leadership of Janie Weiss, Sheri Sherman, Kara Newmark and Stephanie Gross, all of the past presidents and board chairs of the Jewish Federation of St. Louis, going back to 1901, were honored at a special evening, "L'Dor V'Dor," which recognized their legacy and leadership.

At its April meeting, the Jewish Federation of St. Louis' Board of Trustees heard from David Bernstein, the new leader of the Jewish Council for Public Affairs, Joan Denison, Executive Director of Covenant Place, and a panel consisting of the leaders of our three Jewish Day Schools – Rabbi Tzvi Freedman, Rabbi Yaakov Green and Cheryl Maayan.

In May, members of the Jewish Federation of St. Louis Professional Societies attended an event at Cortex where Travis Sheridan, founding Executive Director of Venture Café Foundation-St. Louis, spoke. Later in the month, the Kehillah Society members will have the opportunity to see The Munny Troupe in a special performance focused on the musical history of the Jewish contribution to theater.

Is there a better time to get involved in the Jewish community in St. Louis? I think not. I look forward to visiting with you at an upcoming event.

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



This year, the Staenberg Family Foundation, a supporting foundation of the Jewish Federation of St. Louis, is celebrating its 10th year of giving back to the St. Louis region. Guided by Jewish values, the Staenberg Family Foundation was founded in 2005 by Michael and Carol Staenberg. As such, it supports projects and programs that meet the mission of the Jewish

Federation of St. Louis, which is to mobilize resources needed to preserve and enhance Jewish life in St. Louis, Israel and around the world. The Staenbergs chose to establish the Foundation in this manner because they believe that the Jewish Federation of St. Louis' mission is consistent with their family values as Jews. *Tzedakah* (righteousness) and *Tikkun Olam* (repair of the world) are values that have guided the Jewish people and the Staenberg family. The Foundation's other significant areas of interest include arts and culture, children, education and medical research which work toward the betterment of the St. Louis Metropolitan area.

To celebrate 10 years as a supporting foundation, the Staenberg Family Foundation is embarking on a campaign to inspire others to get involved in our local nonprofit community, share stories of

impact and ask YOU to be part of their 10 Gifts Challenge.

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

This can include but is not limited to:

- 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!

As you complete the 10 Gifts Challenge, share your journey on social media with the hashtag #10GiftsChallenge and don't forget to tag your family and friends. Follow along to see what other members of the community are doing to honor the Staenberg Family Foundation and follow in their footsteps. Together, we can accomplish the Staenbergs' goal to "inspire others to give back to the community."

Throughout the year, the Staenberg Family Foundation is also

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going to tell the greatest stories from their 10 years of giving. These compelling stories tell how the Staenberg's giving has personally touched local organizations and made St. Louis and the world a better place. Check back each month for a new story at

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

We congratulate Michael and Carol on starting this celebratory year by receiving the Philanthropic Legacy Award from Gateway Center for Giving. The entire Staenberg Family, Michael, Carol, Rachel, Leah & Hannah and their Foundation have been recognized for granting more than \$70 million in financial support to nearly 500 organizations, in addition to pro bono contributions and cost-saving measures valued at over \$15 million, over the past decade, creating a significant legacy of philanthropy that now extends to a second generation of givers.

Let's continue this important work and join the Staenbergs in leading lives of philanthropy.



## MISSOURI EXTREMISM: HATE ON DISPLAY

One of the Anti-Defamation League's (ADL) most significant challenges is identifying and tracking extremists of all types. Cardozo Society\* members are invited to join us for an important briefing that will provide background on who are the haters, how do they hate and why they hate, with a special concentration on anti-government groups.

Tuesday, June 28  
11:45 am-1:15 pm

Law Firm of Capes Sokol  
7701 Forsyth Blvd., 12th Floor  
St. Louis, MO 63105

Guest speakers include Jessica Reaves, ADL's Midwest Investigative Researcher, and Karen Aroesty, Regional Director, Missouri/Southern Illinois. CLE credits available.

**Space is limited; please RSVP to Karen Sher at [KSher@JFedSTL.org](mailto:KSher@JFedSTL.org) or 314-442-3824.**

*The Cardozo Society is a division of the Jewish Federation of St. Louis' Professional Societies for legal professionals. All Professional Society members are welcome to attend.*

*\*Cardozo Society is open to all legal professionals, including attorneys, judges, paralegals and law students who give a minimum gift of \$1,800 to the Jewish Federation of St. Louis Unrestricted Annual Campaign.*

Contact Karen Sher for more information.



## GRANT RECIPIENTS FROM WOMEN'S AUXILIARY FOUNDATION FOR JEWISH AGED

Women's Auxiliary Foundation for Jewish Aged, a supporting Foundation of the Jewish Federation of St. Louis, has announced recipients of their second grant cycle. The Foundation is focused on providing financial support for programs and organizations that ensure the dignity and honor of Jewish elderly in the St. Louis community. The following were awarded grants:

- Covenant Place: Covenant Place Redevelopment Project-Phase II Community Senior Resource & Service Center
- Crown Center for Senior Living: Kosher Food Project
- Jewish Community Center: Home Delivered Meals for Seniors
- National Council of Jewish Women, St. Louis Section: Wife Widow Woman Support Group
- St. Louis NORC: "Dancing Under the Stars"

Visit [JFedSTL.org/About-Us/Womens-Auxiliary-Foundation](http://JFedSTL.org/About-Us/Womens-Auxiliary-Foundation) for more information contact Mindee Fredman at [MFredman@JFedSTL.org](mailto:MFredman@JFedSTL.org) or 314-442-3734.

## ST. LOUIS NORC RECEIVES INAUGURAL OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY PARTNER AWARD



The Washington University School of Medicine's Program in Occupational Therapy has chosen the St. Louis Nationally Occurring Retirement Community (NORC), a program of the Jewish Federation of St. Louis, as the inaugural recipient of its Outstanding Community Partner Award. The

award recognizes organizations that have developed and sustained a collaborative relationship with the Program, and share its vision, values and goals.

"St. Louis NORC gives our Program unprecedented access to a group of well-characterized older adults who are engaged in the research process and willing to participate in community studies," says Christine Berg, Ph.D., OTR/L, FAOTA, Associate Professor of Occupational Therapy and Neurology. "They share our commitment to developing and delivering innovative, evidence-based interventions and building strong community programs. The leadership and staff recognize the importance of education and always enthusiastically welcome our students."

"Agency partnerships that offer this level of access and commitment are rare. Because of that, St. Louis NORC has made a tremendous impact on our program. Their leadership, staff and residents support multiple faculty labs and classes, offer students customized experiences (outreach, teaching and research), generously share their resources, fund and implement programs developed within their agency, write countless letters of support, attend classes, and say 'yes – what can we do' when we call," shares Susy Stark, Ph.D., OTR/L, FAOTA, Assistant Professor of Occupational Therapy, Neurology and Social Work.

Karen Berry-Elbert accepted the award on April 29 during the Program's 8th Annual Occupational Therapy Scholarship Day.

## TAP INTO YPD

The Young Professionals Division of the Jewish Federation of St. Louis is bringing back their popular Happy Hour series, "Tap into YPD." The free Happy Hours, which give Jewish adults in their 20s and 30s the chance to meet, network and engage in the Jewish community, will take place monthly at various hot spots around town.



This is YPD's most anticipated series of the year. The next Happy Hour will take place on June 15. Locations will be announced with clues on Facebook about 10 days before each event.

No cover to participate and there are often great Happy Hour specials. For information on the Happy Hour series, email Becca at [BNear@JFedSTL.org](mailto:BNear@JFedSTL.org) or visit [YPDSTL.org/TapIntoYPD](http://YPDSTL.org/TapIntoYPD).



## FOOD BLOGGER AMY KRITZER VISITED ST. LOUIS ON APRIL 19

The Community Development department was proud to partner with Jewish Food Experience and Next Dor STL to bring in Amy Kritzer, food blogger from What Jew Wanna Eat, on April 19. Amy created a special day centered around Jewish food and helped community members discover new Passover recipes, answer food-related questions and learn great cooking tips and tricks. Amy started the day with an engaging cooking demo and lunch with women from our partner organization, Nishmah. In the afternoon, she hosted a hands-on cooking class for young adults. Finally, Amy took to the big stage to host a "TV-style" cooking demo for the greater St. Louis community. We hope that many of the great recipes made it to your Seder table this year!



## JPROSTL ANNOUNCES NEW BOARD FOR 2016-18



Julie Gibbs, Director of Women's Philanthropy at the Jewish Federation of St. Louis, has been selected as the President of JProStl for 2016-18. Julie becomes the seventh JProStl president, succeeding Rabbi Levi Landa of Chabad. JProStl is an initiative of the Jewish Federation of St. Louis and has been recognized as the model for Jewish professional associations in the

country. JProStl provides training, shares resources and promotes networking for staff at 50 organizations in order to strengthen staff members, their organizations and the community as a whole.

Incoming JProStl Vice Presidents are Randi Schenberg (Crown Center) and Tabari Asim Coleman (ADL's A World of Difference).

Committee chairs are Marianne Chervitz (Crown Center), Marian Gordon (Traditional Congregation), Erin Schreiber (Maryville Hillel), Rabbi Micah Buck-Yael (JF&CS) and Lory Cooper (The J) for Young Pros.

New and returning at-large board members for 2016-17 are Leah Frankel (JF&CS), Miriam Ross-Hirsch (Hillel at Washington University), Kelly Richter (Jewish Light), Rabbi Naftali Rothstein (Yeshiva Kadimah), Heather Silverman (NCJW) and Leslie Wolf (Deutsch Early Childhood, Temple Israel).

Recently rotating off of the 2015-16 JProStl board were Shannon Rohlman (Mirowitz), Amy Stone (United Hebrew), Rabbi Ari Kaiman (B'nai Amoona), Shirley Wise (Jewish Federation of St. Louis), Rabbi Yitz Staum (JSU), Rachel Lubchansky (Epstein Hebrew Academy) and Jean Cavender (Holocaust Museum & Learning Center). Maharat Rori Picker Neiss (JCRC) also previously served.



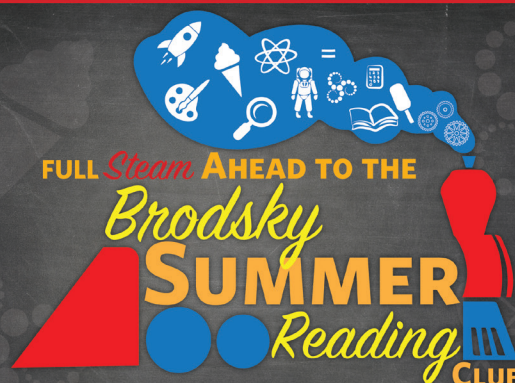
## JEWISH FEDERATION OF ST. LOUIS HOSTING EXCITING EVENTS FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS THIS SUMMER

"Vibe with the Tribe," free inspiring dinners for Jewish college students (ages 17 to 23 years) who are in St. Louis, is back for 2016. The events will give young adults the chance to have inspiring conversation over memorable dinners with some of St. Louis' most influential leaders.

Vibe with the Tribe events include:

- **June 9:** Kibitz with Karen Kalish, Founder of Home Works, Books & Badges and Cultural Leadership
- **June 22:** (Shark) Tank Talk with Talia Goldfarb, Founder of Myself Belts, featured on Shark Tank
- **July 7:** Mingle with Maxine Clark, Founder of Build-A-Bear and Community Philanthropist
- **July 19:** Join with Jill Schupp, Missouri State Senator

All dinners are complimentary; kosher meals with Karen Kalish and Talia Goldfarb. All others are kosher-style meals; vegetarian options provided. RSVP required. To register, visit [JFedSTL.org/Tribe](http://JFedSTL.org/Tribe), or contact Nate Rosenblum at [NRosenblum@JFedSTL.org](mailto:NRosenblum@JFedSTL.org) or 314-442-3726 for more information.



*Thursday, June 16*

**4:00-5:30 PM**

FOR KIDS ENTERING PRE-K THROUGH 5TH GRADE.

THERE WILL BE AGE APPROPRIATE STATIONS.

CONSTRUCT YOUR OWN CATAPULT | BUILD A HOUSE OR A SKYSCRAPER  
DESIGN A BUG AND MAKE IT MOVE  
...AND VISIT THE ICE CREAM TRUCK!

REGISTER AT [JFedSTL.org/BRODSKYSUMMERREADINGCLUB](http://JFedSTL.org/BRODSKYSUMMERREADINGCLUB)

FOR A CHANCE TO BE ENTERED INTO A RAFFLE

BOTH EVENTS HELD AT THE JEWISH FEDERATION OF ST. LOUIS KOPOLOW BUILDING.  
DIETARY LAWS OBSERVED.

*Wednesday, July 27*

**4:00-5:30 PM**

SAVE THE DATE FOR STEAM ACTIVITIES FOCUSED ON ISRAELI INVENTIONS.

EXPERIMENT WITH ICE | CREATE YOUR OWN SNOW CONE  
HEAR STORIES OF INCREDIBLE ISRAELIS  
...AND MORE!





# The Rubin Israel Experience

## TEN COMMUNITY LEADERS SELECTED FOR THE RUBIN ISRAEL EXPERIENCE

Jewish Federation of St. Louis has announced the next cohort of "Rubinites" who will embark on The Rubin Israel Experience, an all-expense-paid trip for St. Louisans 27 to 45 years old who have never been to Israel. The 10-day trip brings together a diverse group of young adults for a life-changing journey, packing in activities that help them experience Israeli culture, food, nightlife, innovation, nature and history. The following community leaders will take the trip of a lifetime September 11-21, 2016:

Matt Berman	Steven Myers	Paul Sorenson	Lisa Greening	Neshama Roash
Jodi Glassman	Katie Rice-Guter	Lauren Gelber	Sharon Remis	David Sweeney

This unique trip was created to bring the Jewish experience full circle, inspiring a deeper connection to the St. Louis community and cultivating leadership. Now in its ninth year, philanthropists Ron and Pam Rubin believe this incredible Israel experience ignites a passion for a strong Jewish community within the potential leaders who participate. More than 80 young adults have been on this trip since its inception, and most of them are currently involved in meaningful and substantial leadership positions in our Jewish community.

The trip is offered and staffed by the Jewish Federation of St. Louis and underwritten by philanthropists Pam and Ron Rubin and The Rubin Family Foundation. For additional information, contact Mindee Fredman at [MFredman@JFedSTL.org](mailto:MFredman@JFedSTL.org).

## L'DOR V'DOR: HONORING 115 YEARS OF LEGACY AND LEADERSHIP



Jewish Federation of St. Louis would not be the organization it is today without the hundreds of community members who give their time and money to better our mission. Among these volunteers are a special group of people who have dedicated themselves to the Jewish Federation of St. Louis and our broader Jewish community by becoming Presidents or Board Chairs. It is because of these individuals that the mission and goals of the Jewish Federation of St. Louis continue to be carried out in a manner benefiting thousands of Jews around the world.

On April 18, the Jewish Federation of St. Louis honored its past Presidents and Board Chairs for their years of service to Federation and our community at large. This special event celebrated these leaders and recognized their greatly valued efforts. Each President carried out the Jewish tradition of *L'Dor V'Dor*, from generation to generation, by creating change in our world and imparting their wisdom on their successors. Their family and friends were invited to learn about the tremendous impact the Presidents and Board Chairs have made in our Jewish community for the past 115 years.

## Community Family

# Shabbat

*in the Park*

Friday, June 10, 2016

5:30-7:30 pm | **Shaw Park**

(North Shelter at the Treetop Playground)

27 S. Brentwood Blvd., Clayton

**For families with children  
5 and younger** (siblings welcome).

**Bring your own picnic dinner and blanket.  
Light the candles and celebrate  
Shabbat together.**

Have a treat from the ice cream truck; dietary laws observed.  
Play on a wonderful enclosed playground.

*Goodie bag for each family.*

**This event is free of charge.**

**RSVP by June 6 at**

**[JFedSTL.org/ShabbatFamilyPicnic](http://JFedSTL.org/ShabbatFamilyPicnic).**

