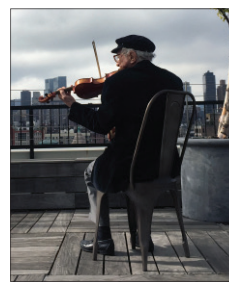


# JEWISH LOUISVILLE COMMUNITY



**INSIDE:**  
Selections made  
'Fiddler' to open  
2020 Film Festival  
STORY ON PG 11

**FRIDAY** Vol. 45, No. 11 | November 22, 2019 | 24 Cheshvan 5780

## Building trust

### Settler rabbi, Palestinian, talk Roots at Temple

By Lee Chottiner  
Community Editor

Rabbi Hanan Schlesinger, a West Bank settler, lives less than a mile from his Palestinian neighbors, but they might as well be a world apart.

Despite the close proximity, their two communities share virtually nothing.

They drive cars with different license plates (blue for Israel, green for Palestine).

They have different garbage collectors.

Different schools.

Different holidays.

Different media.

They even live in different time zones. They switch to and from daylight savings time on their own schedules, meaning Jews and Arabs could be on the same street and have different times on their watches.

"We're so close together, but so far apart," Schlesinger said. "There's no connection, and that means there's going to be bigotry; there's going to be



Rabbi David Ariel-Joel of The Temple (left) calls for questions for Shadi Abu Awwad and Rabbi Hanan Schlesinger, spokesmen for Roots, a grassroots effort on the West Bank (Judea-Samaria) dedicated to building trust between Arabs and Jews and laying the groundwork for an eventual political settlement. Awwad and Schlesinger visited Louisville Nov 10-11, speaking about their experiences, at The Temple, St. Francis School downtown and the Muhammad Ali Center. (Community photos by Jessica Budnick)

stereotypes; there's going to be racism, and there's going to be hate."

He said there's "no piece of earth" that is common to both sides. "Every piece is either theirs or ours. There's no place to meet." Yet for two hours on Sunday,

Nov. 10, at The Temple, Schlesinger, an Orthodox rabbi from Gush Etzion, and Shadi Abu Awwad, a 27-year-old Palestinian educator from Beit Ummar, both on the West Bank, *did* meet, sharing a

See **ROOTS** on page 23

## Spring groundbreaking possible

### Neighbors get peek at campus plans for future J at public meeting

By Lisa Hornung  
For Community

City permit permitting, the groundbreaking for the campus of the future J could be just a few months off.

That was the big news that came out of a Nov. 14 public meeting for neighbors of the campus, construction on which is slated to begin by early spring.

Work on the campus – parking, drainage, landscaping, outdoor facilities – is separate from the building itself.

The meeting complied with city rules to obtain a conditional use permit, which is required to begin construction. The site is zoned residential and office residential, so the permit is needed to build parking and camp structures there. If the Board of Zoning Adjustment approves the permit by February, construction could begin in March.

There are more steps before groundbreaking can take place, so the

timeline could still change.

Kelli Jones, of architectural firm Sabak, Wilson and Lingo, which was hired to design the new campus, outlined The J's proposed campus for the neighbors, detailing the positioning of various structures on the property, including roads, pools, buildings and parking lots. She also showed her audience how the project would be environmentally friendly, adding a detention basin behind the building and a "bioswale" (channel) in the new parking lot to clean and reroute stormwater runoff. The design phase is still going on, so changes to the plans are still possible. "We don't have finished construction plans," said Jewish Community of Louisville Board Chair Jon Fleischaker.

See **GROUND BREAKING** on page 23



Kelli Jones describes a zoning map of The J campus during a Nov. 14 public meeting. (Community photo by Lisa Hornung)

## Federation joins 'relaunch' of Compassionate Louisville

By Lee Chottiner  
Community Editor

In 2011, Mayor Greg Fischer declared Louisville a "Compassionate City."

This month, he and other leaders of the city's faith, education and business communities, went a step further.

Fischer formally rolled out Compassionate Louisville as a 501.c3 organization during a Nov. 7 press conference at Semple Elementary School.

"Compassion is one of our core city values and is part of our legacy in Louisville," Fischer said, "from the life and work of compassion champions like Justice Louis Brandeis, Thomas Merton, Muhammad Ali, Anne Braden and others, the creation of Compassionate Louisville will champion our cause of compassion, make it sustainable and ensure it lives on beyond any administration."

Dr. Muhammad Babar will chair the new organization and Matt Goldberg, director of the Jewish Community Relations Council, will serve on its board.

"The idea is there are so many acts of compassion going on around the city," Goldberg said. "We wanted an organization to keep tabs on all the wonderful things going on in the city."

Other organizations represented on the board are the Mayor's Office, Global Game Changers, the University of Louisville, the Muhammad Ali Center, Community Foundation of Louisville, Spalding University, Norton Healthcare, Center for Interfaith Relations, WE Day Kentucky, Charter for Compassion, Greater Louisville Inc. and the Jefferson County Public Schools.

Eventually, Compassionate Louisville will go live with a website, where acts of compassion can be showcased. Faith-based and civic groups will be able to contribute their compassionate acts to the database.

"All the good deeds the Jewish community is doing will be highlighted," Goldberg said.

He described the Nov. 7 press conference as a "relaunch" of the Compassionate Louisville drive, something that began with a Texas-based organi-

See **COMPASSIONATE** on page 23

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# THE DASHBOARD

## D'var Torah

### Stopping anti-Semitism takes lots of light



Rabbi  
Avrohom Litvin

At the recent National Jewish Retreat, Prof. Deborah Lipstadt, author of the new book *Anti-Semitism: Here and Now*, told the old joke about the Jew and Chinese man who were drinking together in a pub. After a few drinks, the Jew shoved the Chinese man, knocking him off his bar stool.

"What was that for?" asked the Chinese man.

"That was for Pearl Harbor," the Jew said. "Pearl Harbor? That was the Japanese, not the Chinese!"

"Japanese, Chinese, what's the difference?"

A few drinks later, the Chinese man shoved the Jew, and knocking him off his bar stool.

"What was that for?" asked the Jew.

"That was for the Titanic," said the Chinese man.

"The Titanic? The Titanic was hit by an iceberg!"

"Iceberg, Goldberg, what's the difference?"

Lipstadt explained that this joke demonstrates the absurdity of anti-Semitism. "Iceberg, Goldberg." It's cute, but it makes no sense. Because anti-Semitism makes no sense.

There is no rational explanation for anti-Semitism. And, since there is no rational reason for it, there can be no rational solution either. What do you think about this assumption? I have thought it over quite a bit, and I agree.

Historically, there have been two classical responses to anti-Semitism: The first was assimilation.

In the 1930s, being Jewish in Europe was a death sentence. Assimilation was thought to be a simple solution. If there are no Jews, there will be no anti-Semitism.

The other historic response to anti-Semitism was embracing Jewishness, including its historical uniqueness and place in the family of nations. It was called Zionism. Theodore Herzl, the founder of modern Zionism, had a dream of a Jewish state. His dream was not religious, nor was it spiritual.

He simply wanted a place to escape from European anti-Semitism.

Working as a journalist, Herzl covered the infamous trial of Capt. Alfred Dreyfus, and was horrified by the anti-Semitism on display. He made the following calculation: "You don't like Jews in Europe, OK, we will go somewhere else and create our own country. You'll be happy and we'll be happy."

If Herzl could see the miracle of Israel today, and witness with great pride, the amazing manifestation of his life's dream, would he now be able to say that Israel has achieved his stated purpose of stopping anti-Semitism? Of course, the answer is a resounding no!

So what should be our response? The Lubavitcher Rebbe addressed anti-Semitism as follows: "At a time of added darkness, we need to each be ambassadors of light. The only antidote to the darkness of anti-Semitism is to create more light. For even a small light can dispel much darkness." Most of our complaining of anti-Semitism just causes frustration. Let's focus instead on being proud Jews. Let's focus less on the evils of the world and work together more to spread goodness and kindness.

Of course, we need to lobby governments to outlaw expressions of anti-Semitism. We need organizations such as the Anti-Defamation League to defend our civil rights. For the average person, though, the best way to fight the darkness is to shine a light. The most effective way to combat evil is by spreading goodness.

Rabbi Abaham Isaac Kook, the chief rabbi of British Mandate Palestine, once said: "The righteous do not complain of the dark; rather, they work to increase the light; they do not complain of evil, but they increase justice; and they do not complain of ignorance, rather, they increase wisdom."

Let's add one more light, one more good deed, one more hour of Torah study and one more act of goodness and kindness. Together, we will end the hate, spread the light and usher in the age of *moshiach* when goodness and G-dliness will reign supreme.

*Rabbi Avrohom Litvin is regional director of Chabad of Kentucky.*

## Snapshots: Foam Fight



Kids (and rabbis) pelted each other with foam squares at the Nov. 3 Temple/Temple Shalom Family Fun Night at Louisville Gymnastics. Kids and adults also used the tramps and other equipment.

## Candles

Here are the candle lighting times for Shabbat in December:

- Dec. 6 @ 5:04
- Dec. 20 @ 5:07
- Dec. 13 @ 5:05
- Dec. 27 @ 5:12

## Contacts

Got a story idea? A letter? A gripe? A kudo?

Send it along to *Community Editor* Lee Chottiner at [lechottiner@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:lechottiner@jewishlouisville.org). You can also call Lee at 502-238-2783.

Not getting your paper? Want to subscribe? Putting your subscrip-

tion on hold? Development Associate Kristy Benefield can handle all circulation questions. She can be reached at [kbenefield@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:kbenefield@jewishlouisville.org) or 502-238-2770.

Got an item for the Community eblast? Send it to [weeklyupdate@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:weeklyupdate@jewishlouisville.org).

## Deadlines

Deadlines matter, especially for newspapers. Got a news item for *Community*? Send it in by Wednesday, Dec. 11 (though sooner is better). The paper should be in your mailbox by Fri-

day, Dec. 20.

Submitting an item for *Community's* weekly eblast? Please submit it by Monday. The eblast is sent out every Monday afternoon.

## Corrections

Have a correction? Send it to [lechottiner@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:lechottiner@jewishlouisville.org).



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# NEWS

## UofL play 'Fires in the Mirror' examines Crown Heights Riots from black, Jewish viewpoints

By Lee Chottiner  
Community Editor

It's been 28 years since the Crown Heights Riots scarred relations between blacks and Jews. For many, that wound has not healed.

But some healing just took place as the University of Louisville Department of Theatre Arts presented *Fires in the Mirror*, a play about the riots, and their fallout, by Anna Deavere Smith.

The production, which closed on Nov. 17 at the Thurst Theatre, explored the 1991 riots in the Crown Heights section of Brooklyn from several perspectives – black and Jewish. The purpose being, according to director Ariadne Calvano, that different people see events in different ways.

"There's more than a African American or a Jewish perspective," Calvano said. "That's the thing about this play; it's challenging us to see beyond the perspective we were raised in." The play also looks at identities and how people "negotiate" them to fit their community and circumstances.

One actress, playing a Chasidic woman, described covering her head with a wig. In some ways, she said, she felt "eager" to do it and "in some ways, it's fake, it's not me."

The Nov. 14 performance was followed by a panel discussion of local leaders – black, white and Jewish – on issues raised by the play.

The riots, which lasted from Aug. 19 to 21, 1991, were sparked by an incident in Crown Heights when a car driven by Yosef Lifsh, a Chasidic man, jumped a curb, killing Gavin Cato, a 7-year-old black Guyanese boy riding his bike.

The car was part of a motorcade for Rebbe Menachem Mendel Schneerson, the spiritual leader of Chabad-Lubavitch Judaism.



Dress rehearsal scenes from "Fires in the Mirror," which played in November at the Thrust Theatre on the UofL campus. (photos courtesy of the University of Louisville)

In the ensuing three days of violence, Yankel Rosenbaum, a Hasidic rabbinical student, was stabbed to death in an apparent act of retaliation. In all, more than 600 people took part in the rioting, which exposed long-simmering tensions between the two communities.

Performing on a sparse stage (a park bench, a streetlamp, a trash can, a brick wall), the cast of eight – black and white – assumed roles beyond their own races and genders. Blacks played whites; Christians played Jews; men played women; women played men.

But all spoke lines from actual witnesses, bystanders and religious leaders who were affected by the riots.

The performers addressed the audience, never each other. Some of the lines were disturbing, even anti-Semitic and racist.

For instance, actor Manuel Francis Viveros, who played Nation of Islam Minister Conrad Mohammed, downplayed



the tragedy of the Holocaust when compared to slavery. (After the performance, Rabbi David Ariel-Joel, who joined the panel discussion, said he was offended by those words.)

But the lines reflected the tone of the time. This was not a sanitized performance. The actors gave voice to all the hatred, fear, sadness and accusations that rushed from the riots.

Drawing the audience into performance, questions related to the monologues were flashed on the brick wall throughout the performance, inviting theatergoers to text replies. The answers appeared in real time on the walls getting larger or smaller as more people texted the same responses or added new ones.

Among the questions were, "In what space are you most yourself?" "In what community do you feel most anchored?" "Describe New York City in one word?"

That brick wall proved a provocative

touchstone throughout the play. Solid at the opening, sections of brick were taken out as the sound of car crash filled the theater, revealing a children's bicycle – symbolic of the one 7-year Gaven rode when the car struck him. At the play's end, though, two actors – one portraying a black person, the other a Jew – helped each other put the bricks back.

Janna Segal, assistant professor of theatre arts at UofL who moderated the panel discussion, said the play prompted her to consider different perspectives within her own identity.

"I learned about the Lubavitch faith and culture doing research for the show, but I wasn't raised in the community itself, even though I am Jewish," Segal said. "I still have to learn and cross the bridge to understand, even though I'm under that larger [Jewish] umbrella."

Asked how Louisville shapes people's identities, panelist Marian Vasser, UofL director of diversity education, said no spaces in this city were designed with black values and customs in mind.

"Every single space I have to go into, I have to change," said Vasser, who is black.

Cathy Hinko, executive director of the Metropolitan Housing Coalition, reflected on Louisville's segregated past, its history of "redlining" black neighborhoods and their effects on black identity.

Ariel-Joel said he sees Louisville through as a Jew, an American and an Israeli.

Jews have been negotiating our identity since the beginning of our story," he said, "always being influenced by the cultures who surrounded us, almost all our history we were a minority."

"But that's a good thing," he added. "If you're segregated and live only in your community, then you wind up where everyone has their own truth."

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# NEWS

## 'SNL' trip raffled

### NCJW to raise money for family recovery courts; lobbying legislature for support

By Lisa Hornung  
For Community

When the National Council of Jewish Women, Louisville Chapter, wanted to start a family recovery court in Jefferson County, they learned they would have to raise the money themselves to do it.

So they did.

NCJW-Louisville raised \$561,000 to cover three years of operation for the new Jefferson County Family Recovery Court, which gives substance abusers the chance to enter treatment, straighten out their lives and keep custody of their kids.

That was two years ago. Now that the court has been in session for nearly a year, NCJW-Louisville wants to take the concept to three other counties in Kentucky: Kenton, Clay and Daviess.

Money remains a problem, though, so one way they are raising it is through a raffle.

NCJW-Louisville is giving away two tickets to a taping of *Saturday Night Live*, a two-night stay at the New York Hilton in Midtown, a tour of the NBC studios at Rockefeller Center and airfare.

So far, the raffle has raised \$22,000 ahead of the Jan. 6 drawing at the Nearly New Shop. If all the tickets are sold, it will net \$100,000.

The main objective of the project is to convince the legislature to budget \$1,122,000 for the new courts, minus whatever NCJW-Louisville raises through its fundraising effort.

"These courts do not exist today in Kentucky – anywhere, except in Jefferson County," said Jane Emke, past president of NCJW-Louisville. "We are working with volunteers in Clay, Kenton and Daviess counties to make three new Family Recovery Courts a reality in the 2020 state budget."

The fundraising effort, which Emke co-chairs with retired *Courier-Journal* Editor David Hawpe, will show lawmakers "that people are behind it," she said.

Substance abuse, and the toll it takes on families, is a major problem in Kentucky.

Citing studies by Child Protective Services and Kentucky Youth Advocates, a



Now that Family Recovery Court is operating in Jefferson County, the National Council of Jewish Women, Louisville Section, wants to introduce the concept to other parts of the state.

2014 report by NCJW-Louisville stated that 16,533 children were abused or neglected statewide in 2012, with household substance abuse accounting for 64.4 percent of them.

In Jefferson County, between 2010 and 2012, 7,500 cases of child abuse or neglect were documented, and 2,946 children were placed in out-of-home care as a result. More than 70 percent of those cases involved substance abuse.

Without the family recovery court, many parents battling substance abuse would lose custody of their children permanently, Emke said.

The family recovery court addresses those problems. Working within the family court system, two judges meet weekly with parents who have lost custody of their children due to abuse or neglect, monitoring their progress in recovery programs.

Centerstone is the organization that provides services to the parents. Cindy Kamer, its clinical supervisor and court liaison, said her clients are receptive to the program.

"Somebody's talking to them daily," she said. "The support has been really just astronomical for them."

Centerstone helps participants get

clean, develop coping and parenting skills and see how their own trauma has affected their substance abuse and parenting.

"It's not a punitive program," Kamer said. "We've had several participants who have relapsed throughout this process. What I have found most unique about it is that they have continued to come and tell us that they've relapsed and to request help versus trying to lie...."

They feel supported and they know that we recognize that relapse is part of this process."

There are 25 participants in the recovery court, Kamer said, with the first four "graduates" set to finish the program in December.

Several lawmakers have visited the court, as well as representatives from other counties, observing its process, Emke said.

The hope is that state funding will eventually be provided to take over the court and make it more widespread throughout the state.

"As we continue dealing with the opiate epidemic and other forms of addiction, we must provide more funding for Family Recovery Courts," state Sen. Morgan McGarvey said in a prepared statement. "This will strengthen rehabilitation efforts, decrease incarceration and give individuals more time to focus on family by breaking the cycle of addiction."

#### Want to help?

Tickets for the Saturday Night Live raffle are \$100 apiece. For more information, or to buy a raffle ticket, visit [ncjwlou.org/events/raffle/](http://ncjwlou.org/events/raffle/).

## Drew Corson Youth Athletic SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Established in the memory of Drew Corson, this endowment fund focuses on youth athletics. In 2017, the [Drew Corson Youth Athletic Scholarship Fund](#) assisted Louisville in hosting more than 100 Jewish teens from the KIO BBYO region to participate in the Drew Corson Basketball Tournament.



You too can create an endowment to preserve Jewish Louisville's programs and organizations that matter to you. Contact Jennifer Tuvlin at **502-238-2719** or [jtuvlin@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:jtuvlin@jewishlouisville.org) to endow your Jewish values.



# LETTER

## Story stirs memory of poem

While I was reading yet again the September issue of the *Jewish Louisville Community*, your article on Violins of Hope ("Instruments that survived Shoah to make music during Louisville visit") jarred my memory of a poem I had written while taking a college class under the then-Poet Laureate of Kentucky, Lee Pennington. Your sentence: "The violin has a special place in Jewish history. Why is sometimes difficult to put into words." Probably, I viewed a picture in an old issue of *Hadassah* magazine, and

it became imprinted in my mind's eye and committed me to put words I was feeling to paper.

I have enclosed a copy of the poem I speak of....

I so enjoy all of the articles in the Jewish Louisville Community and look forward to the quality therein.

**Delores Brown**  
Shepherdsville

*Editor's note: Delores Brown's poem can be read at [jewishlouisville.org/community](http://jewishlouisville.org/community).*



## COMMUNITY

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### COMMUNITY DEADLINES

Deadlines for the next two issues of **Community** for copy and ads are: Dec. 11 for publication on Dec. 20 and Jan. 22 for publication on Jan. 31.

**Community** publishes Newsmakers and Around Town items at no charge. Items must be submitted in writing. Please include your name and a daytime telephone number where you can be contacted in the event that questions arise. **Community** reserves the right to edit all submissions to conform to style and length requirements.

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The appearance of advertising in **Community** does not represent a kashruth endorsement.

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**Community** accepts letters to the editor for publication. All letters must be of interest to the Jewish community or in response to an item published in the paper. They must be no longer than 300 words in length and signed. Name, address and daytime phone number must be included for verification purposes only.

**Community** reserves the right to refuse to publish any letter, to edit for brevity while preserving the meaning, and to limit the number of letters published in any edition.

Email your comments to: **Community**, Letters to the editor, Lee Chottiner, at [lchottiner@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:lchottiner@jewishlouisville.org).

To submit items to Newsmakers, Around Town or Lifecycle, please email them to [newspapercolumns@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:newspapercolumns@jewishlouisville.org).

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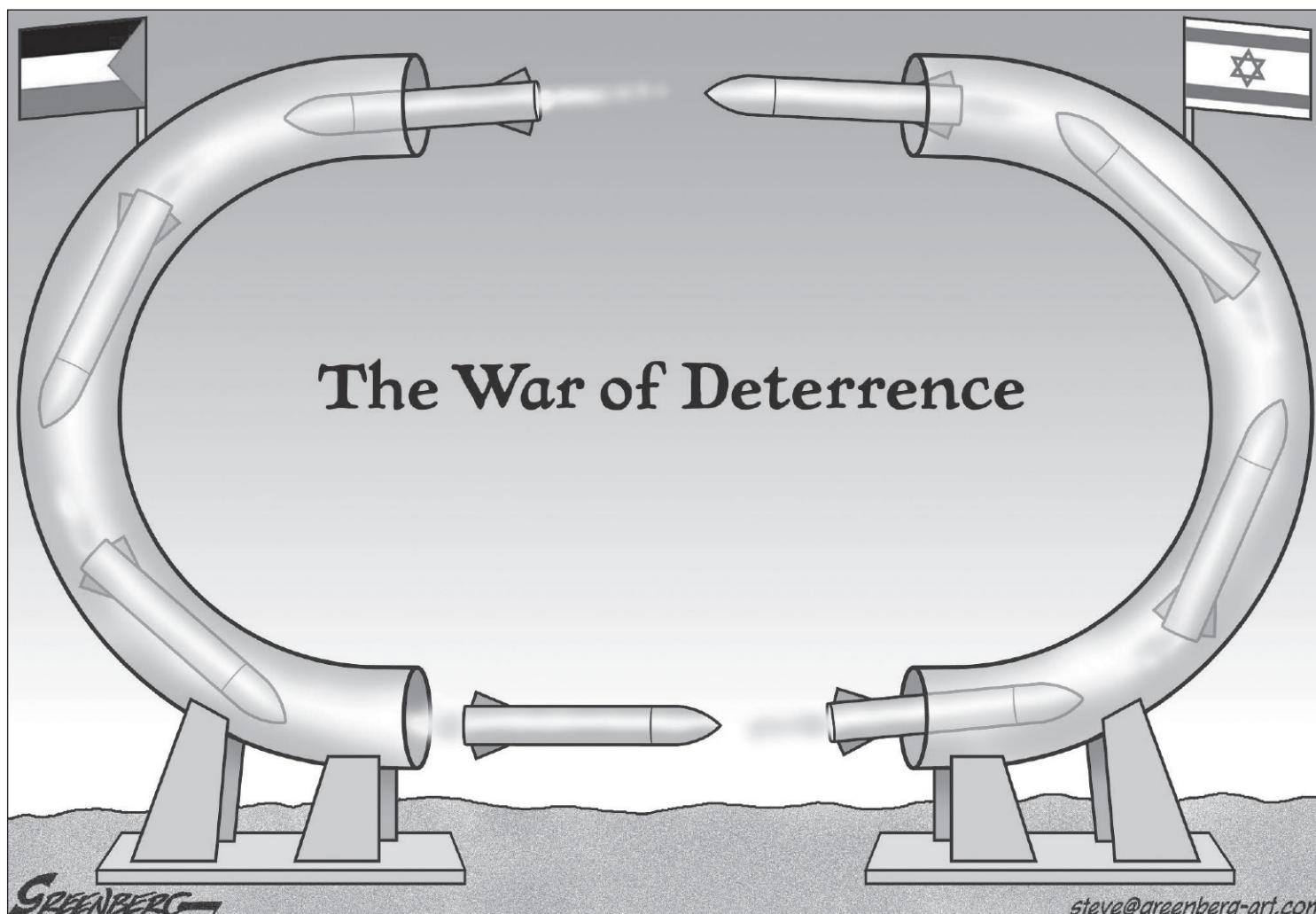
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## FORUM



## ‘Three-state solution’ could be key to peace



### Human Resources

Lee Chottiner

When Rabbi Hanan Schlesinger, a co-founder of Roots, spoke to a capacity crowd at a Nov. 10 Temple program, he was careful not to stake out a political position for his organization.

After all, Roots, a West Bank group of Israeli settlers and Palestinians, is about building trust between sides – a necessary component if a political settlement is ever to be achieved.

“Roots is pre-political,” said Schlesinger, a West Bank resident. “Roots has a political vision, but not a political plan. By vision, I mean a general outline, but not nuts and bolts.”

And what is that outline?

“We believe in a new political and social reality that recognizes both sides’ historical connectedness to the whole land, from the Jordan to the Mediterranean, and provides a framework for both sides to live in that land with dignity, equality and human rights.”

As for how that vision is achieved, Roots takes no position.

Having said that, Schlesinger, noted that many individual Roots members have signed on to a peace plan – one that gets very little ink or airtime in the

United States.

It’s called Two States, One Homeland or a “three-state solution,” as Schlesinger described it. It’s an idea that rejects the one- and two-state solutions as unworkable for different reasons.

The two-state solution won’t work, the thinking goes, because each side gets only part of the land when they feel they have historical rights to all. And the one-state proposal won’t work because each side wants its own state. They are not interested in the melting pot models of the United States or Belgium.

But the three-state solution is different, working on three principles:

- Open borders (freedom of movement),
- Open residency (anyone can live anywhere in the land while maintaining citizenship in their particular country);
- Confederation of Israel-Palestine, also known as an “Abrahamic Union,” yet two sovereign states with their own flags and United Nations representation.

“You create two states, but not two separate states – two intertwined and connective states,” Schlesinger said.

“When you bring the two sides together in this union, with its own parliament, its own prime minister, you create a situation, with these three levels of intertwining, that both sides get their own piece of the cake,” the rabbi continued.

The three-state solution is a real thing. A political movement in Israel, called A Land for All, advocates for it. (see **alandforall.org** for details)

Sounds great, but there’s a catch.

“This plan is beautiful; it’s really, really

powerful,” Schlesinger said. “Unfortunately, presently, it’s impossible, because it requires trust ... and empathy and recognition. The truth is, I believe, any political plan will require trust and recognition and empathy.”

That’s where Roots comes in, it’s main work is building that trust, empathy and recognition, so that a political plan – whatever it is – can work.

Right now, both sides, on the West Bank at least, don’t trust each other.

Speaking just for the Jews, Schlesinger described them as a “scarred people,”

“Many, many of us feel that the whole world is against us,” he said. “We feel that we are an island of sanity in a world of insanity, that we have to defend ourselves. We’re traumatized. Many, many Israelis see the Palestinians as just the next version of the Nazis, and the Nazis were just the next version of the Inquisition, and Inquisition was just the next version of the Crusades, and they’re all out to get us. That mindset is the mindset of a wounded people, and the psychologists tell us that wounded people wound.”

What Jews in Israel and the Diaspora must understand, he said, is that the Palestinians feel the exact same way.

“We have to begin this process of human healing,” he said. “We first have to do the people-to-people work” that will create trust and empathy and recognition.

*Lee Chottiner is the editor of The Jewish Louisville Community.*



# FORUM

## Israel battles Gaza, own politics, with no end in sight



JCRC Scene

Matt Goldberg

There has been a never-ending cycle of violence between Israel and terrorists in Gaza. It is not a vague déjà vu; we know exactly when these mini-wars have happened, and they are certain to continue happening without a fundamental change in power structures.

The most recent round of violence started when Israel killed one of the heads of Islamic Jihad in Gaza, a smaller, more radical terror group than Hamas – the leadership of Gaza.

Hamas has been moderating recently (at least, to a small extent), and understandably so; they need Israel to allow in badly needed cash from Qatar and to increase options for electricity. In return, Hamas has refrained from

missile attacks.

But Islamic Jihad, which does not rule and is free from any responsibility to the population, has launched missiles into Israel, attempting to break up any détente with Israel and do the bidding of Iran – its primary financial backer. The Islamic Jihad leader who was killed was the main actor behind the fight to break up the non-aggression between Israel and Hamas.

This mini war is different than previous ones. Israel only attacked Islamic Jihad targets, not Hamas. Previously, it would attack Hamas regardless of who launched the missiles, reasoning that Hamas rules Gaza, so it is ultimately responsible for anything coming out of there.

If it were retaliated against, Israel's thinking went, Hamas would be more inclined to stop the smaller more radical groups from disrupting the calm.

But Israel, despite successfully taking out its target this time, learned some harsh truths during the fighting that ensued. Islamic Jihad has powerful missiles that can hit Tel Aviv. As a result,

all of southern Israel shut down.

Islamic Jihad did not use its longer range missiles, but the mere fact that they have them and could use them was enough to bring the heartland – the financial engine of the country – to a standstill. That is a sobering thought for Israelis, portending serious issues should a much larger conflict break out. If Tel Aviv could shut down for a mere threat, could the airport be shut down in a future conflict?

Israelis are a resilient people, but this is a serious problem for future battles. Gaza is a tinderbox and battles such as the one we just saw are certain to happen again.

All of this comes as Israel's grueling political deadlock continues. As of this writing, there is still no prospect for a new government, and it is increasingly likely that a third election will be held, despite opinion polls showing that another vote would produce roughly the same results. Without a functioning government, major decisions regarding budgets, economics, social issues and military expenditures must be

postponed, and the end does not seem in sight. Neither conservative nor liberal parties have enough support to form a government on their own, and the gulf between the two is too great to bridge. Although a unity government (consisting of the two biggest parties from right and left) is most likely and polls best among electorate, the Netanyahu-led Likud insists on keeping right wing and ultra-Orthodox parties in its coalition, something the center-left Blue and White party views as a non-starter. Most politicians in Israel would consider a third election a disaster. And yet, that seems to be where the country is headed.

Things are unpredictable at best. By next month, there could either be a new government, a new election or a new round of fighting. This geopolitical game of Russian Roulette is taking its toll on the country, and no one seems to have a solution.

*Matt Goldberg is the director of the Jewish Community Relations Council*

### Join the Movement; Commit to LIFE & LEGACY

Remember the snack bar in the basement of The J that kids would buy snacks from before Hebrew school? A popular treat was the candy “Now and Later.” It took a long time to chew, so lots of us bought them for class. Now and Later is also how Jewish Louisville is currently raising money; we all have annual campaigns for the “now,” and, we have joined together through LIFE & LEGACY for the “later.”

The Federation's annual campaign began in October and raises money to be distributed across the entire Jewish community. Likewise, our synagogues and Jewish agencies also have annual campaigns to pay for current needs. As non-profits, there is always more demand than what is raised. And, a changing philanthropic landscape from traditional campaigns, to GoFundMe and volunteer projects (as opposed to monetary gifts) makes it harder and harder to raise annual funds. The Louisville Jewish Community must find creative ways to raise more funds.

LIFE & LEGACY is a national movement that promotes after-lifetime giving to benefit synagogues, social service organizations and other Jewish agencies. All gifts made through LIFE & LEGACY are endowed, meaning the gift gets deposited and the annual income is available for the synagogues or organizations to use every year, forever. LIFE & LEGACY provides a pathway for donors to endow

their annual gifts so that they can always support Jewish Louisville.

The idea to grow endowments to supplement annual giving was deemed so critical that the Federation applied for both a national and local partner to help fund the programs infrastructure. The Federation, JHFE and the Harold Grinspoon Foundation pay for LIFE & LEGACY with no fee for participating agencies. That means that 100% of all legacy gifts are donated to the intended Jewish agency or synagogue. There is no cut or fee given to the three funders.

So, won't you join the movement? It's never too early to commit to leave a legacy gift. Take care of your family but take care of Jewish Louisville too. Leave a gift to those synagogues and Jewish agencies in Louisville that have impacted your life. When the Federation and other Jewish agencies and synagogues ask for your donation, remember to give Now and Later.

**If you are interested in leaving a legacy gift contact Jennifer Tuvlin at 502-238-2735 or [jtuvlin@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:jtuvlin@jewishlouisville.org).**

Partner agencies are: Adath Jeshurun, the Jewish Community Center, Jewish Family & Career Services, Jewish Federation of Louisville, Jewish Learning Center—Chabad, Keneseth Israel, Louisville Beit Sefer Yachad (Community Hebrew School), The Temple and Temple Shalom.



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## FORUM

# My son's Orthodox Jewish school is 85 percent Muslim

By Karen E. Skinazi  
Distributed by JTA

BIRMINGHAM, England – My heart jumped when I saw the phone number of my oldest son's school on the screen.

"Hello?"

"Is this Dr. Skinazi?"

"Yes."

"Don't worry, Lucas is fine. Only — I just wanted to let you know that there was a little anti-Semitic incident at school today."

Breathe in, breathe out.

"What happened this time?" I asked.

The last time there had been a "little anti-Semitic incident" was when Lucas mentioned being Jewish in a religious education class during the first year of secondary school, and one of his classmates teased, "Hope you don't get gassed!" That time I had to bring it to the school's attention.

My husband and I grew up in insular Canadian Jewish communities. We attended Jewish day schools through high school, Jewish sleepaway camps and Shabbatons. We met on our year abroad in Israel. When we had kids, I wanted them to have the same strong sense and love of Yiddishkeit that I had. So we sent them to Jewish preschools and Jewish day schools.

When my husband was offered a job at the University of Warwick, in Coventry, England, a place with a negligible Jewish population, I realized our children would have upbringings very different



Children of differing faiths going to school together can often yield surprising results.

from our own. But in many ways I was excited about what that meant: friends from all kinds of backgrounds, worldliness, empathy across ethnic and religious lines. Also, who doesn't love a British accent?

We moved to Birmingham so that we could send our children — who were then all elementary school age — to

King David Primary, the only Jewish school between London and Manchester. Small and heimish, academically solid in both secular and religious studies and located in a lovely, leafy area of this city, it was a no-brainer. My children would not only get a Jewish education, but they would also get the diversity I treasured and lacked in my own youth:

the KD students and their families come from Britain, Israel, America, Canada and France — as well as Pakistan, India, Malaysia and Bosnia.

About 85 percent of the student body of King David Primary is Muslim. If you enter the schoolyard, you'll see most mothers wearing headscarves; many wear a full niqab. Some of the girls wear headscarves, too, and the boys, who are required to cover their heads (it is an Orthodox Jewish school, after all), wear the Muslim white knit caps that seem barely distinguishable from kippahs. The kids all participate in daily prayers, covering their eyes and reciting the Shema. They do weekly school kiddushes, eat in a sukkah on Sukkot and perform a mock seder before Passover.

In England, where there is no separation of church and state, a "collective act of daily worship" is required by all primary schools according to the School Standards and Framework Act of 1998. Unless the school is a specific faith school, that worship must be "wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character." In other words, as we and many other religious minority groups see it, all schools in England are faith schools — some are just more honest about it.

Religious schools here are state-funded and require that applicants fill out a nominal Declaration of Practice

See **JEWISH SCHOOL** on page 23



**PJ Library**  
Bring Jewish stories home

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## HANUKKAH CELEBRATION

**Sunday, December 8 | 10 A.M.**  
**The J Auditorium | \$10 per family**

Please join Shalom Baby and PJ Library for a musical Hanukkah celebration! We will have a latke bar, music and crafts.

Register online at [JewishLouisville.org/PJHanukkah](http://JewishLouisville.org/PJHanukkah)

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## CAMP J HANUKKAH FAMILY FESTIVAL

**Friday, December 27 | 5:30 - 7:30 P.M.**

**Fee:** \$7, \$5 The J Members (kids 2 and under are free)

Everyone is invited to come play dreidel, eat latkes and make some holiday crafts! Food served will be kosher and vegetarian! You'll even learn about the festival of lights at The J.

Register online at [JewishLouisville.org/Family-Hanukkah](http://JewishLouisville.org/Family-Hanukkah)



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# FEDERATION

## J, Federation staff learns from Israel's teens on visit



Sara's View

Sara Klein  
Wagner

I traveled to Israel for the first time in 1981 as part of BBYO's Israel Summer Institute. I felt an instant connection and knew it would not be my last visit.

Over the years, I stopped counting how many times I passed through Ben Gurion Airport, preferring to focus on each unique experience of traveling with different people, exploring a dynamic, ever-changing Israel.

Two weeks ago, a group of eight staffers from The J and Federation traveled to Israel, joining colleagues from Charlotte and Salt Lake City for a JCCA educational seminar. The group included staff from diverse backgrounds; almost all were first-time visitors.

The lessons of the mission were immeasurable. Everyone felt fortunate to learn together and bring back new ideas, insight and goals, infusing their own work with what we learned in Israel.

I was struck by Tour Educator Abraham Silver's introduction to Tel Aviv, the first modern Jewish city (founded in 1909) and the history of British Mandate Palestine prior to statehood. Abraham's description of the teens/young adults who were at the forefront of the creation of Israel resonated so strongly on a personal level and with the commitment we make to our teens at home.

These young adults were instrumental in building Israel. They left Europe, journeying to the homeland of the



Louisville J and Federation staff were inspired by the teens and young adults they met on their recent trip to Israel. (photo provided by Sara Klein Wagner)

Jewish people to create a state based on social justice and equality.

Abraham described the optimistic, energetic teens, including Zionist youth groups who labored through as *Chalutzim* (pioneers). He shared the effect of prior summer camp experiences on these young immigrants; they brought a sense of equality and a camp-like spirit.

To this day, Israeli soldiers refer to their commanders by their first names, rather than using titles or rank, and are encouraged to speak up when they disagree. Israel has always honored and respected its teens as they grow up, preparing to serve in the army. The

draw many teens/young adults feel today as they experience Israel carries the idealism and connection to the Jewish people that teens have experienced for 100 years.

We met with teens accepted to *Mechina Rabin*, a pre-army course focused on leadership. The group included recent high school graduates from North America, who shared why they are considering joining the army over going home to attend college. They are making their choices with maturity, self-awareness and a desire to be part of something bigger than themselves.

We also met with current and former lone soldiers, young adults who made

*aliyah* and joined the army. Their experiences form their transition into Israeli society. They described the army experience as the great equalizer, where people of all backgrounds and religions serve side by side.

On Shabbat, we visited the *Kotel* (Western Wall) and another group of teenagers captured our attention: high school girls dancing in a circle and singing Israeli songs at the top of their lungs. Their joy and energy were palpable and contagious. As they danced and sang *Am Yisrael Chai* (The People of Israel Live), I thought of the generations of teens who shared the same passion. They, too, sang and danced, including my own peers at camp, BBYO and Israel teen experiences.

As professionals committed to transforming our Jewish future, we have much to learn from the teens who built and fought for Israel, and from those who serve today. It is our responsibility to share our relationship with *klal yisrael* (the community of Israel) and help the next generation learn from this experience. Like their predecessors in the pre-state days, these teens are playing the most critical role in Israel's future as the next members of the military and the next leaders of this young state.

The bravery and spirit of teens in 1919 who arrived in a barren land with hope for a strong future are tied to our children and teens in Louisville who will have their turn in the years to come to experience Israel for the first time and build the global Jewish community.

*Sara Klein Wagner is the president and CEO of the Jewish Community of Louisville.*



## OVERNIGHT CAMP & ISRAEL GRANTS

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### A Jewish Pilgrimage: from Wisconsin to Israel

This past summer I had the opportunity to travel with my fellow campers from Beber Camp in Mukwonago, Wisconsin to Poland and Israel for three weeks.

Though we were in Poland for only three and a half days, they were some of the most powerful days of my life. During my Sophomore year at Atherton high school, I had taken an elective about the Holocaust, so I was prepared and well educated about the history of the event. However, nothing can prepare you for seeing a room full of hair that was ripped off of victims, seeing a book that was four feet tall and fifteen feet long of all the

victims' names that were murdered. And when we finally made our way to Auschwitz Birkenau, the one with the famous front gate, it was horrifying. Standing in the middle of a place where I knew some of the worst moments in history happened, was too much to handle for most, and some of us got very teary-eyed. When we walked into the gas chamber, I was trembling and didn't know what to think except thousands of people's lives were ended right there. I was feeling sick, mad, sad and confused. How could someone kill all these people?

The trip lightened up from there though.

We made our way to Israel and had the greatest three weeks of our lives. We toured the Western Wall, Yad Vashem, David's Castle and many other historically significant sights. We also did fun activities like rafting down the Jordan River, climbing a mountain to watch the sunrise and floating in the Dead Sea. Overall, I learned how cool it was to be a Jew and how awesome and interesting our Holy Land is. I will always remember this experience and look forward to returning in the future.

-David Bornstein

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# NEWS

## Passover in a Mosque

### Jewish interfaith leader talks ways to build bridges with Muslims at local event

By Lee Chottiner  
Community Editor

One by one, the panelists were asked what they would do to counter Islamophobia. Finally, it was Michelle Koch's turn.

She proposed an interesting idea: Passover in a Mosque.

Actually, it wasn't a new idea. Koch, the co-founder and executive director of the Muslim-Jewish Solidarity Committee (MJSC) in New York, has held a seder at a Midtown Manhattan mosque every year for the past five years.

It's a hit, she said, drawing diverse, sellout crowds.

"We try to make it engaging and get people to participate, Koch said. "We try to create opportunities for people to ask questions."

They even incorporate a bit of Islamic culture in the seder, adding a few lines from the koranic version of the Exodus.

Koch was in Louisville on Monday, Nov. 11, for Faith over Fear, a daylong program at the First Christian Church to equip faith leaders with strategies for dealing with anti-Muslim bigotry.

Koch, who grew up in Israel, joined an afternoon panel with Evangelical and Muslim experts to focus on strategies for engagement and change. They addressed ideas such as bringing Jewish, Christian



Michelle Koch describes the work of the Muslim-Jewish Solidarity Committee during a panel discussion at the Nov. 11 Faith Over Fear program at the First Christian Church of Louisville. (Community photo by Lee Chottiner)

and Muslim children together to learn about each other through poetry, visiting each other's houses of worship and holding "selfie moments" with people who previously found meeting one another uncomfortable or challenging.

Muhammad Babar, president of Muslim Americans for Compassion, said Muslims have felt more threatened in recent years than they did after 9-11.

But to diffuse Islamophobia requires

more than the 1 million or so Muslims who live in the United States can do by themselves, Babar said.

"Our voice cannot go out across the nation," he said. "That's why we need allies."

The day of the program being Veterans Day, Babar suggested recalling the "millions" of Muslims and Hindus who fought for the allies during World Wars I and II – a fact not widely known, he said.

A former music teacher, Koch said MJSC began "organically" in 2014 with a handful of people getting together in offices, synagogues and mosques.

Its breakthrough moment came in 2015 when they organized an *iftar*, the feast Muslims gather for at the end of a day of fasting during Ramadan. The event, which was held at Emanu-El Temple near Central Park, drew 150 people.

"It was enlightening and amazing to see all these people into what we were doing," she said. Since then, MJSC has held many iftars each year, the "big one" always being at Emanu-El.

MSJC also holds an annual "Shalom-Salaam Creative Retreat," a daylong event of poetry, music workshops and activities designed to build bridges. Koch said the event will branch out next year to Philadelphia and Washington.

The long-range plan for MJSC, which has a 3,000-name mailing list, is to have its own interfaith community center and to establish chapters around the country.

"We have to learn about our neighbors and what they are about," Koch said. "It makes a lot more happier world rather than 'othering' people."

#### Want to know more?

For more information about the Muslim-Jewish Solidarity Committee, visit [nyc.muslimjewishsolidarity.org](http://nyc.muslimjewishsolidarity.org).

## Could Beshear's election be game changer for Bernheim?

By Lee Chottiner  
Community Editor

Over the summer, Andrew Berry went on a "road show," hitting the brewpubs and building support for the fight to save the Bernheim Arboretum and Research Forest from proposed highway bypass and utility projects have that threatened to cut through the preserve, disturbing delicate habitats.

Much has changed since then. Gov. Matt Bevin announced in October that the bypass will not cross the Bernheim, and Kentucky elected a new governor, Andy Beshear.

But Berry, director of conservation at the Bernheim, is taking nothing for granted.

"We're waiting to see a final report on that before we let our guard down," he said of the highway announcement.

As for Beshear, "I can't say whether or not the election and transition going on in Frankfort will have any effect, but for Bernheim, it doesn't change the way we look at issues; it doesn't change the way we fight them."

He said Bernheim continues to fight the proposed gas pipeline in Bullitt County Court, where Louisville Gas & Electric is suing the forest to obtain a corridor by eminent domain.

The state, which holds the conservation easement to property targeted for the corridor, also is being sued. Berry couldn't say how Beshear's election might affect that legal action.

Berry was the guest speaker at JOFEE



Andrew Berry talks about the Bernheim's work with diners during the Nov. 19 JOFEE Restaurant Night at the Monnik Beer Company. (Community photo Will Beasley)

Restaurant Night, Tuesday, Nov. 19, at the Monnik Beer Company. Twenty-seven guests were on hand to hear Berry talk about the work done at the forest, and the threats to it.

The Bernheim matters to Jewish Louisville. JOFEE Director Alayna Altman, who grew up here, recalled exploring the woods, saying it was one of the first places where she felt connected to nature.

She said she was inspired by how the threats to the forest are engaging the

community.

"The roots of Bernheim are Jewish," Altman said.

Founded in 1929 when Isaac W. Bernheim bought the first 13,300 acres of land as a gift to Kentucky, the Bernheim is 90 years old this year.

Even while the Bernheim fights LG&E in court, Berry said the forest administration remains interested in acquiring more acreage before it is developed.

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For more information contact Alayna Altman at (502) 238-2704, [aaltman@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:aaltman@jewishlouisville.org) or Joanie Lustig at (502) 238-2705, [jlustig@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:jlustig@jewishlouisville.org).



# THE J CENTERPIECE



## You'll cry AND laugh Louisville Jewish Film Festival releases 2020 lineup

By Lee Chottiner  
Community Editor

Marsha Bornstein wants you to know two things about the 2020 lineup for the Louisville Jewish Film Festival: It has lots of English and lots of laughs.

Those are two things, her audience always asks for, she said.

At least five films in this year's festival are in English, said Bornstein, its director. Many of them have plenty of humor, even if they can't be described solely as comedies.

"We have lighter films," Bornstein said.

They also have more films. Period.

This year, the festival will screen 13 films – it generally presents 10 – from Israel, the United States, Canada, Mexico, Spain, Italy and the United Kingdom.

Bornstein chalked the increase up to opportunities.

For instance, when her committee voted on this year's selections, they weren't even aware of *Born in Jerusalem and Still Alive*, a big winner at this year's Jerusalem Film Festival. "It wasn't available," Bornstein said. "Then, when we saw it, we decided to stretch because we wanted people to see it."

They also added *Anne Frank Parallel Stories*, a documentary with Helen Mirren, because it presented a chance to work with the Baxter Cinema, which was screening it.

The title of one film in the festival still has not been released. Other than that, here is the 2020 film lineup:

**SHOELACES** (Israel) – A "dramedy" about the complicated relationship between an aging, irascible mechanic and the exuberant special-needs son he abandoned when young. When his ex-wife dies, Reuven begins caring for his now-grown son. The transition is difficult for both, as Reuven wrestles with parenting a child with disabilities, while Gadi grieves the loss of his loving mother. *Hebrew with English subtitles, nominated for eight Israeli Academy Awards, including Best Film, 100 minutes.*

*nated for eight Israeli Academy Awards, including Best Film, 100 minutes.*

**LEONA** (Mexico) – An intimate film about a young Jewish woman from Mexico City who finds herself torn between her family and a forbidden love, dividing generations and leading to difficult choices and a journey of self-discovery and empowerment. *Spanish with English subtitles, contains sexual content and nudity, winner for Best Feature and Best Actress Morelia at the International Film Festival, 95 minutes.*

**THE LIGHT OF HOPE** (Spain) – The story of a young Red Cross nurse, Elisabeth Eidenbenz, who in the 1940s, aided hundreds of Jewish refugees suffering from disease and malnutrition at the French-Spanish border. Appalled by the dire conditions facing pregnant women and children, she converts an abandoned villa into a maternity home. When demands are made for her to turn over the Jews, she must make a decision that could endanger everyone. *Spanish, Catalan, French with English subtitles, winner of the Gaudi award for Best Film, 96 minutes.*

**FIDDLER: A MIRACLE OF MIRACLES** (United States) – This year's opening night film is a documentary about how this musical became so beloved against all odds. Hal Prince, Sheldon Harnick, Harvey Fierstein, Danny Burstein, Joel Grey and Lin-Manuel Miranda all make appearances. *English, 92 minutes.*

**CARL LAEMMLE** (United States) – A documentary of a German-born immigrant who founded Universal Pictures. Unafraid to tackle social issues, he produced the Oscar-winning anti-war drama *All Quiet on the Western Front*. A humanitarian, Laemmle saved over 300 Jewish families from the Holocaust, sponsoring their immigration to the United States. *English, 90 minutes.*

**PROSECUTING EVIL: THE EXTRAORDINARY WORLD OF BEN FERENCZ** (Canada) – A profile of an unsung hero who put Nazis on trial at Nuremberg.

Ferencz grew up in a tough, New York City neighborhood to become a gifted law student. At 27, he became the world chief prosecutor in the Nuremberg Trials. His crusade for a new justice system based on tolerance and compassion led to the International Criminal Court in The Hague. *English, nominated for Best Canadian Feature Film and Audience Award for Best Documentary at the Atlanta Jewish Film Festival, 83 minutes.*

**TEL AVIV ON FIRE** (Israel) – A hilarious satire about Salam, who is failing at his job on a Palestinian TV soap opera popular with Israelis and Palestinians. His daily commute through an Israeli checkpoint from his home in Jerusalem to his job in Ramallah leads to regular encounters with the IDF officer, who demands Salam change the show's story line to make his wife happy. Salam struggles with concocting plot twists to suit viewers on both sides. (Hebrew with English subtitles, 97 minutes)

**THE UNORTHODOX** (Israel) – A fast-paced documentary about Yakov Cohen, who, when his daughter is expelled from school simply for being Sephardic, galvanizes his friends to form the Shas Party, dedicated to Sephardic ultra-Orthodox Jews. His efforts reshape Israeli society in ways that still resonate today. *Hebrew English with French subtitles, 92 minutes.*

**PICTURE OF HIS LIFE** (Israel, the United States) – A documentary of Israeli underwater wild-life photographer Amos Nachoum, who swam with crocodiles, killer whales, anacondas and great white sharks, but always dreamed of swimming underwater with a polar bear. Nachoum had tried it before and barely escaped. As the journey unfolds for the

65-year-old photographer, so does the story of his past; his difficult childhood, his service in an elite unit during the 1973 Yom Kippur War and other experiences that led to this quest. (English, 72 minutes)

**THE KEEPER** (United Kingdom) – The true story of Bert Trautmann, a German prisoner of war who, amid much protest and prejudice, secures the position of goalkeeper at Manchester City and becomes a soccer icon. His signing causes outrage among thousands of fans, many of them Jewish. until Manchester's communal rabbi intervenes on his behalf. Trautmann's love for Margaret, an Englishwoman, sustains him, but fate will soon add a twistputting their love and loyalty to the ultimate test. *English, Winner of the Audience Award at the San Francisco Jewish Film Festival 120 minutes.*

**BORN IN JERUSALEM AND STILL ALIVE** (Israel) – In this black comedy and romance film, Ronen is a 20-something schlemiel, leading tours of terror attack sites in his native Jerusalem. He doesn't charge for the tours. Rather, it is his way to heal from the trauma of coming of age in late 1990s-early 2000s, when Israeli-Palestinians violence has shaped the fabric of life. *Jerusalem Film Festival winner for Israeli First Film, Hebrew, English, with Hebrew subtitles, 83 minutes.*

**ANNE FRANK PARALLEL STORIES** (Italy) – As a dedication to what would have been Anne Frank's 90th birthday, Academy Award-winning actress Helen Mirren retraces her life through the pages of her diary, and through the lives of five women who, as teenage girls, were also deported to concentration camps, but survived. This unusual documentary takes audiences into Anne's room within the secret annex of her family's hiding place before being deported in 1942. *English, 92 minutes.*



Fiddler: A Miracle of Miracles



Anne Frank Parallel Stories



Tel Aviv on Fire



Born in Jerusalem and Still Alive



Shoelaces



# PICTURE THIS: CHALLAH BAKE

More than 170 women, ages 12 and up, took part in the 2019 Great Pink Challah Bake, Thursday, Nov. 14, at The Temple. In addition to baking challah, the women paid tribute to survivors of breast cancer, who were invited to the stage for a special blessing, each holding a piece of dough, which were symbolically balled into one piece. The Women's Philanthropy Division of the Jewish Federation of Louisville sponsored the event. (Community photos by Jessica Budnick)



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# PICTURE THIS: CHALLAH BAKE



## GLOBE

### What to know about Israeli settlements, Trump's announcement

By Laura E. Adkins and Ben Sales  
JTA

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo announced this week that the United States will no longer consider Israeli Jewish settlements in the West Bank to be illegal.

Here's an explainer about what the settlements are, how they are viewed in Israel and around the world, and what this announcement might mean.

#### What are the settlements?

In the 1967 Six-Day War, Israel captured large swaths of territory from neighboring countries. Israel took the Sinai Peninsula and the Gaza Strip from Egypt, the West Bank and eastern Jerusalem from Jordan, and the Golan Heights from Syria.

Israel later withdrew from the Sinai and Gaza, and annexed eastern Jerusalem and the Golan. It still controls the West Bank, a territory between

Israel and Jordan, but has not annexed it. This means that the West Bank is not legally considered a full part of the country under Israeli law, though many Israelis believe it is.

Israelis began establishing civilian settlements in these areas soon after the war, mostly in the West Bank and eastern Jerusalem. Eastern Jerusalem contains the Old City, which is home to the city's holiest sites for Jews, Christians and Muslims, including the Western Wall

and the Al-Aqsa mosque. Approximately 200,000 Israelis and 370,000 Arabs now live in eastern Jerusalem.

Some 405,000 Jewish Israelis live in the West Bank, which Israel's government refers to as Judea and Samaria, alongside 1.9 million Palestinians, who are not citizens of Israel.

There are approximately 130 West Bank settlements, ranging from small villages of 100 people near Arab towns, to the college town of Ariel with a population of 19,000, to the haredi Orthodox enclave of Modiin Illit, located just across the boundary from Israel proper, which has 70,000 inhabitants.

#### What does international law say about settlements?

Eastern Jerusalem, the West Bank and the Golan Heights are all widely considered to be illegally occupied under international law.

In 2004, the International Court of Justice issued an advisory position that Israeli settlements were established in breach of international law. Israeli settlements are also widely considered to be a violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention, which prohibits an occupier from "transfer[ing] parts of its own civilian population into the territory it

See **SETTLEMENTS** on page 22

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## EVENTS & PROGRAMS

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## We're Open!

Jewish Family & Career Services and Kentucky Refugee Ministries

### Artisan Shop

After months of planning, the Artisan Shop finally opened for business along with the grand opening of Logan Street Market on October 3. The shop currently features products from six different artisans from around the world. Based on a cooperative model of shared retail space and staffing hours, the goal of the shop is to give artisan micro-entrepreneurs the space and experience to develop their retail products and knowledge. Cynthia Brown, Director of JFCS's Navigate Enterprise Center, says: "The market has been an ideal space to launch a program helping underserved entrepreneurs gain entry into a highly competitive retail market." The shop is looking forward to the upcoming holiday shopping season.

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P R E S E N T S



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**JFCS**



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Senior Director of Programs

Just as CPR helps you assist an individual having a heart attack, Mental Health First Aid helps you assist someone experiencing a mental health or substance use-related crisis. You will learn risk factors and warning signs for mental health and addiction concerns, strategies for how to help someone in both crisis and non-crisis situations, and where to turn for help.

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**[2019jfcsmhfa.eventbrite.com](http://2019jfcsmhfa.eventbrite.com)**

For information contact:  
Jessica Holloway, 502-452-6341



# PICTURE THIS: LION OF JUDAH

Twenty-seven members of the Lion of Judah gathered at Spring Run Farm on Sunday, Nov. 17, for their annual members appreciation program – a catered event. Lion of Judah is a giving society for women who have contributed \$5,000 or more to the Jewish Federation of Louisville. As a highlight to the event, the women held a video conference with a Joint Distribution Committee representative in Budapest, who spoke about the challenges facing Jewish identity in Eastern Europe. (Community photos by Jessica Budnick)



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# EVENTS CALENDAR

## Chavurat Shalom for December

**THURSDAY, DEC. 5**

Matt Goldberg will speak about the work of the Jewish Community Relations Council. Lunch will include baked salmon, potato pancakes, broccoli with roasted red peppers, mixed green salad, fresh fruit and assorted desserts.

**THURSDAY, DEC. 12**

Jeff Springer will play piano at the Waller Chapel. Birthdays and anniversaries for November and December will be celebrated.

Lunch in the Heideman Auditorium will include beef brisket, roasted root vegetables, pasta salad, green beans, fresh fruit and celebratory cake.

**THURSDAY, DEC. 19**

Two of Diamonds (Ann Waterman and Beth Olliges) will present a Chanukah cabaret -- music, skits and parodies. Lunch will include beef stew, green beans, chopped green salad, fresh fruit and chocolate trifle.

Chavurat Shalom will be off for winter break from Dec. 26 to Jan. 2.

Chavurat Shalom is an opportunity for Jewish senior adults to meet socially and share ideas. Lunch is \$5 and reservations are due by the Tuesday before the program. RSVP to **502-423-1818** or **sarahharlan86@gmail.com**. A vegetarian option is available if requested in advance. All programs will be held in the Levy Great Hall of the Klein Center at The Temple

unless otherwise noted in the listing. Lunch starts at noon, followed by the program at 1 p.m. Transportation can be scheduled by calling Jewish Family & Career Services at **502-452-6341**. Transportation is \$5 round-trip. Chavurat Shalom is funded through the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence, The Temple, The Temple Brotherhood and Sisterhood, NCJW, the Jewish Federation of Louisville, and many other donors.

## The J Senior Center for December

**MONDAY, NOV. 25, 11 A.M.**

The J Book Club will discuss the book, *My Own Words* by Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

**TUESDAY, NOV. 26, 12:45 P.M.**

Pianist Nada Loufti will return to perform classical musical selections. Refreshments will be served.

**TUESDAY, DEC. 3, 12:45 P.M.**

Bingo sponsored by Twinbrook Apartments

**TUESDAY, DEC. 10, NOON**

Diane Sadle's retirement party will be held in the Patio Gallery. Call Natalie at 502-238-2743 for reservations.

**SUNDAY, DEC. 15, NOON TO 2:30 P.M.**

The Annual Holiday-New Year's Party, catered by Helen, will be held. Musical entertainment, by the Whittings will follow. Door prizes will be given out. Cost is \$20 for members, \$30 for nonmembers. Transportation is available for an additional \$3. Reservation & Payment must be

in by Friday, Dec. 6.

**TUESDAY, DEC. 17, NOON  
HANUKKAH CELEBRATION-SPONSORED  
BY THE J & MEALS ON WHEELS/SUBARU  
"SHARE THE LOVE EVENT."**

Join us for a special luncheon with Cantor Sharon Hordes as our special guest. Please bring a canned food item for JFCS Food Bank and/or a toiletry item for Home Delivered Meal Clients. RSVP by Dec. 13 by calling Natalie at 238-2743.

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# FEATURE

## Sarah Tasman returns home, talks creativity at AJ, Spirit of Sophia

By Lee Chottiner  
Community Editor



Rabbi Sarah Tasman

For Rabbi Sarah Tasman, Judaism is all about creativity.

"When I use the word creativity, I'm using it as an umbrella term for creative expression, creative prayer," the Louisville native said. "To me, creativity is a

really expansive way to think about the abundance in Judaism; there is an abundance of ways we can connect with Judaism and express ourselves."

Tasman, who now lives in Washington, D.C., has made creative expression the thrust of her rabbinate. She has even founded an organization that promotes the idea – The Tasman Center for Jewish Creativity.

Tasman will expound on her work when she speaks during Adath Jeshurun's Shabbat service on Saturday, Nov. 23, addressing the subject, "Take Your Time: Marking Life Transitions." Afterwards, she will be the lunchtime Shabbat Scholar, discussing "Creativity on Trends in Jewish Engagement: Responding to New Needs of Jewish Community."

Tasman also will appear on Sunday, Nov. 24, from 2 to 5 p.m., at Spirit of So-

phia, at St. Matthews Episcopal Church, 330 N. Hubbards Lane. Her subject will be "Living in Alignment with Cycles."

Ordained By Hebrew College in Newton Centre, Massachusetts, in 2012, Tasman, who describes herself as a "trans-denominational" rabbi, said creativity is at the core of the school's curriculum.

Hebrew College, which is not affiliated with any denomination, encourages its students "to engage, to think deeply and creatively, to find their own Jewish practices," according to its online mission statement.

"Judaism has always been a creative religion," Tasman said. "It's not anything to replace traditional Judaism or traditional Jewish life, but is a way of seeing Judaism as a creative endeavor."

At her center, she works with people to create ritual, marking periods in their lives they have come through or are about to enter.

"A number of people I have worked with may be in the last third of their lives," she said. "Maybe they're getting ready for retirement, downsizing moving out the home they have lived in for much of their lives."

"I work with them to create a ritual to mark that trend," she continued, "because it's not a trend that we have a big communal lifecycle event for."

For example, she worked with one

woman, who loved gardening and poetry, to mark a transition from her home. Tasman created a ritual for using water in her garden, pouring water over the woman's hands, on to the ground. The woman then read poems she had written for the occasion.

"And I wrote a blessing for her to honor all the emotions she was experiencing," the rabbi said, "to savor anything she wanted to savor, but also to let go of anything she needed to let go of so she would be ready to move into this phase of her life."

She also works with younger families.

"I work with a lot of wedding couples and families for baby-namings. Most don't belong to a synagogue and are in the stage of their lives where they're not ready to join a synagogue yet, but they want the connection and support of a rabbi."

Calling herself a "community rabbi," she conducts workshops, retreats, spiritual coaching and private spiritual support. Her work includes many modes of Jewish expression, including writing, visual art, mixed-media art, meditation, yoga, poetry, rabbinic and modern texts and participant offerings.

She sees herself as a "resource" for people helping them to connect to synagogues, Js, classes or organizations –

whatever they are ready for.

The daughter of Dr. Allan and Cathy Tasman, Tasman, who decided at age 12 to become a rabbi, grew up at The Temple, and was active in summer camp and regional youth groups.

"I've always loved Judaism," she said, "and the myriad of ways to connect to Jewish life."

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Register at [JewishLouisville.org/FederationNight](http://JewishLouisville.org/FederationNight)

For more information, contact Joanie Lustig 502-238-2705 or [jlustig@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:jlustig@jewishlouisville.org)



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# NEWS & NEWSMAKERS

## Shema Theater

### Husband starts new Jewish theater group at AJ; opens with 'Jest a Second!'

By Lisa Hornung  
For Community

Yehuda Jai Husband is an animator and self-described "drama freak," who decided to create a theater group to celebrate Jewish theater in Louisville.

When he approached the leadership at Adath Jeshurun, they liked the idea but were too busy to take it on. So they gave him the reins, and he ran with it. The Shema Theater Group was born.

The name, Shema, means to hear, and Husband thought it was the perfect fit.

"It just struck me as something that, you know, we want to be heard, that there's so many, so many, stories, Jewish stories, and really getting them heard, and being a platform for Jewish stories and for even just the presence of Jewish theater," he said.

He recalled a scene from *Jest a Second!*, the group's first production: "The mother tells the son that you're Jewish and there are people who will hate you because you are Jewish, and the anti-Semitism that's rising in our country, in Europe, just across the world, and this is so concerning, and just, you know, being a being a voice crying out and then being heard and dealing with those subjects."

Husband is excited to explore the different voices of Judaism.

"I was at the Alliance for Jewish Theatre conference, and there's so many people who are looking for a venue for their work, and then also there's so much out there, I mean, I had no idea when I first took on this project."

Husband wanted to provide an outlet for indie Jewish plays. "I just really want to make sure that the focus is not only

Judaism but showing Judaism in its diversity, really doing work by Jewish women, and just really providing a platform for Jewish theater in general."

*Jest a Second!*, by James Sherman, a comedy about a gathering of the Goldman family, and the issues the children deal with, coming together for the birthday of the family matriarch, played for three shows in November.

The group's next production, *A Satisfied Mind*, which Husband wrote, will be performed this spring. He had been working on it for Shema, but he submitted it last summer to the Alliance for Jewish Theatre, which performed it at the Victory Gardens Theatre in Chicago.

"I'm even more excited now about bringing that piece to Shema," he said.

*Jest a Second!* will feature Harrison



Yehuda Jai Husband: "We want to be heard."

Alexander Coffman as Joel, Rachel Vidal as Sarah, Yehuda Jai Husband as Bob, Rita Hight as Miriam, Steve Berger as Abe and William Nickles as Dr. Rosen.

## Tasman, Kahn named to Seneca High School HOF



Two leading figures in the field of medicine have been inducted into the Seneca High School Hall of Fame

Drs. Allan Tasman and C. Ronald Kahn, were honored for their accomplishments,

along with the rest of the 2019 induction class, during a ceremony on Nov. 2.

**Tasman** was professor and chairman of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at the University of Louisville for a quarter century. As chairman, he expanded the education, clinical and community engagement programs and increased funded research to the highest level in the department's history.

He also was the Schwab Endowed Chair in Social and Community Psychiatry, an internationally known educator, psychoanalyst, neuroscience researcher and advocate for innovation in psychiatric education and delivery of clinical services.

His cognitive neuroscience laboratory at the University of Connecticut in the 1980's was one of the first to link neurophysiologic abnormalities with genetic alcoholism risk.

At UofL, he was part of nationally recognized research into innovative neuromodulation treatments for drug addiction and for autism.

In 1993, he conceptualized and catalyzed implementation of Louisville's Passport Health Plan, a non-profit Medicaid managed care organization focused primarily on quality of health outcomes over constraining costs.

He was president of five national and international organizations. At the American Psychiatric Association, he founded the *Journal of Psychotherapy Practice and Research* in 1990 and initiated the American Psychiatric Institute for Research and Education in 1999. At the Pacific Rim College of Psychiatrists, he founded *Asia Pacific Psychiatry*, the first international psychiatry journal focused on that part of the world. As World Psychiatric

Association Secretary for Education, he led development of its official training and education guidelines.

He is the only person to be president of all three major U.S. academic psychiatry organizations, including two terms as president of the Association of Chairs of Departments of Psychiatry.

He has written over 300 other publications. His 37 psychiatric books include, as founding editor, all five editions of an internationally acclaimed comprehensive textbook now called *Tasman's Psychiatry*.

He has twice earned the University of Louisville President's Distinguished Faculty Award; became a Fellow of the Royal College of Psychiatrists of the United Kingdom; and is an Honorary Fellow of the World Psychiatric Association. He received the distinguished alumnus award from Franklin and Marshall College and University of Kentucky College of Medicine.



**Kahn** is the chief academic officer and head of the Section on Integrative Physiology and Metabolism at Joslin Diabetes Center and the Mary K. Iacocca Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School. Prior to that, he served as research director of the Joslin Diabetes Center from 1981 to 2000, and President/CEO of Joslin from 2001 to 2007.

A recognized expert in diabetes and obesity research, Kahn is an investigator of insulin signal transduction and mechanisms of altered signaling in metabolic disease. He also has contributed to understanding how adipose tissue contributes to insulin resistance and the role of the microbiome in these processes.

Kahn has written more than 600 original articles and 200 reviews and chapters. He also served as chair of the Congressionally established Diabetes

Research Working Group, which developed the strategic plan for federally funded diabetes research in the United States. As a result of his work, Kahn has received more than 70 awards and honors, including election to the

National Academy of Science and Institute of Medicine, the Wolf Prize in Medicine, Rolf Luft Award, Allyn Taylor International Prize in Medicine, Manpei Suzuki and Hamm International Awards, the Kober Medal of the American Association of Physicians, and the highest honors of the American Diabetes Association, European Association for the Study of Diabetes, Endocrine Society and the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists.

## JWRP's Momentum group bound for Israel

Jewish Louisville will send 15 women on its third Momentum trip to Israel next month. The group departs on Dec. 7 and returns on Dec. 18.

This year's group, led by Amy Fouts and Jennifer Jacobson, also includes Amy Shir, Amy Conner, Anna Katz, Beth Salamon, Danielle (Dani) Krinsky, Julia Richerson, Julie Ciriano, Lisa Goldberg, Margarita Shevchenko, Shannon Rothschild, Sharon Salvatore, Stacy Von Roenn and Stephanie Phillips

The group will visit Louisville's Partnership2Gether region of the Western Galilee.

The women also will visit Tel Aviv, Tsfat, Masada and the Dead Sea

Momentum, part of the Jewish Women's Renaissance Project (JWRP), inspires women to transform themselves, their families and their communities. Its flagship program, the Momentum Year-Long Journey, empowers women to connect to Jewish values, engage with Israel, take action, and foster unity, without uniformity.

This year, Momentum participants are taking to Israel messages written by LBSY students, which they will insert in the Western Wall.

## J staffer pursues Jewish professional degree

Katelyn Graves, youth program manager at The J, is working toward a Master of Arts degree in the Jewish Professional Studies Program at Spertus Institute of Jewish Learning and Leadership.

Graves, who began the program last year, has taken courses in Jewish studies for the communal professional, American



Jewish life, the role of Israel in Jewish life and the aesthetics of Jewish life. "These courses have given me knowledge and background to better the Jewish programming that I do

with the Youth Department at The J," she said.

Graves is part of the Midwest Cohort at Spertus, which is based in Chicago. The cohorts consist of students who also are full-time Jewish career professionals. Other members of her cohort are a synagogue president, Hillel professionals and Jewish Federation employees from different communities.

"Our cohort comes from different Midwest cities and towns that all have a specific perspective on the curriculum," she said. "Apart from the curriculum, the most impactful experience from this program so far has been the connections and between professionals from different places."

## Federation to take part in Share the Love 2019

The Jewish Federation of Louisville will participate in the 2019 Subaru Share the Love Event as a member of Meals on Wheels America – one of four national Share the Love charitable partners supported through the campaign.

From Nov. 14 through Jan. 2, 2020, Subaru of America will donate \$250 for every new Subaru vehicle purchased or leased to the customer's choice of participating charities.

Participating Meals on Wheels America members will receive a share of the donation raised by Subaru in their state.

Since 2008, the Subaru Share the Love Event has helped deliver more than 2.2 million meals and friendly visits to vulnerable seniors nationwide.

Over the last 11 years, Subaru of America and its participating retailers have donated more than \$145 million to its charity partners. This year's event is on track exceed \$170 million.

Visit [mealsonwheelsamerica.org/sharethelove](http://mealsonwheelsamerica.org/sharethelove) for more information.



# AROUND TOWN

**Immigration Justice Vigil & Luncheon**  
Jews for Justice in Immigration (JJI) and Temple Shalom will hold a joint program on Saturday, Nov. 30. JJI's weekly Saturday morning "Immigrants & Refugees Welcome" vigil will be held at 9:30 a.m. in front of the Hikes Point Kroger, followed by Shabbat morning services at Temple Shalom at 10:30 a.m. A noon luncheon, including a presentation by Jewish Community Relations Council Chair Beth Salamon, will follow. Visit [bit.ly/2Kj4r78](http://bit.ly/2Kj4r78) for details. RSVPs for lunch are appreciated.

## Homeless Outreach

Keneseth Israel will make sandwiches and care packages for the homeless from 4 to 4:45 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 3. Bring your own supplies (bread, peanut butter and jelly, blankets, underwear, socks, flashlights) Around 4:45 p.m., the group will caravan downtown to give out food and supplies. RSVP to [rsvp@kenesethisrael.com](mailto:rsvp@kenesethisrael.com) or 502-459-2780.

## Recycling in Louisville

Karen Maynard, public education supervisor for the Louisville Metro Department of Public Works, Waste Management District, will speak at the next Temple Shalom Men's Club Breakfast at 10 a.m., Sunday, Dec. 8. She will address the challenges facing recycling in Louisville and ways for synagogues to become greener facilities. A \$5 donation to cover the cost of breakfast, which will include reusable plates and utensils, is requested. RSVP to Temple Shalom at [information@templeshalomky.org](mailto:information@templeshalomky.org).

## Fill the Freezer

Families of The Temple are encouraged to come help fill its freezer with cookies and other items that will be taken to Temple members who are in the hospital or recovering at home. The event will take place at noon, Sunday, Dec. 8, after religious school in the Heideman Auditorium and kitchen.

## Catholic-Jewish Dialogue

Rabbi Rabbi Joe Rooks Rapport and Father Joe Graffis will hold their next Catholic-Jewish Dialogue at 2:30 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 8, at The Temple, talking about common issues between Catholics and Jews. RSVP to [benji@thetemplelouky.org](mailto:benji@thetemplelouky.org).

## Bourbon barrel painting

The Temple Young Adult Group, ages 22-36, will make artwork for Chanukah with Hue Louisville at 6 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 14. RSVP [benji@thetemplelouky.org](mailto:benji@thetemplelouky.org).

## Chailands Chavurah

Dr. Ian Mutchnick will be the guest speaker at the next Chailands Chavurah at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 18, at Baxter's 942 Bar & Grill, 942 Bardstown Road. He will discuss his recent medical humanitarian mission to Gaza. The Chailands is Temple Shalom's discussion group that meets once a month somewhere in the Highlands. RSVP to [chailands@templeshalomky.org](mailto:chailands@templeshalomky.org).

## Chinese Dinner and Movie

*The Other Story*, will be screened at The Temple's Chinese Dinner and Movie, Tuesday, Dec. 24. Dinner will start at 6 p.m.; the movie – a story about a troubled father-daughter relationship that weaves in the conflicts between secular

and ultra-Orthodox Israelis – at 7 p.m. RSVP by Wednesday, Dec. 18, at 502-423-1818.

## Men's Club Pasta & Bingo

Keneseth Israel's Men's Club will hold a pasta and bingo event on Dec. 25. Dinner will start at 5 p.m. The first game begins after services. RSVP to 502-459-2780 or [MensClub@KenesethIsrael.com](mailto:MensClub@KenesethIsrael.com). Cost is \$15 for Men's Club member, \$20 for non-members; \$5 for children 6-12, free for kids 5 and under. Sends check to KI by Friday, Dec. 21.

## Sandwich Making Mitzvah

The Temple will make sandwiches for the St. Vincent de Paul homeless shelter at 2 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 25. Call Becky King at 502-212-2028 to RSVP.

## SNL raffle

The NCJW is hosting a raffle for two tickets to a 2020 taping of NBC's *Saturday Night Live*. The NCJW is selling 1,000 tickets at \$100 apiece. The drawing will be held at 12:30 p.m., Monday, Jan. 6, 2020 at the Nearly New Shop. Ticket holders need not be present to win. The prize package includes two nights at the New York Hilton, two round-trip flights up to \$700, and two tickets to the NBC studio tour. Proceeds benefit recovery courts in Kentucky. To enter, Contact NCJW at 502-458-5566, [ncjwlouisville@gmail.com](mailto:ncjwlouisville@gmail.com) or [ncjw-lou.org/events/raffle/](http://ncjw-lou.org/events/raffle/).

## KI Bridge Club

Keneseth Israel's bridge club meets Mondays from 1 to 3 p.m. in the small chapel. RSVP to [gwishnia@gmail.com](mailto:gwishnia@gmail.com).

## Worship

### No Shush Shabbat

Temple Shalom's next No Shush Shabbat will be held at 6:30 p.m., Friday, Dec. 6. Rabbi Beth Jacowitz Chottiner and Benji Berlow will lead the interactive service. Afterwards, kids will stay for pizza and a movie while adults go out to dinner. RSVP to [information@templeshalomky.org](mailto:information@templeshalomky.org).

### Tot Shabbat

Keneseth Israel's Children's Shabbat service will be held from 10:45 to 11:45 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 7. The service is intended for children up to Kindergarten age, and includes stories and singing, followed by a Kiddush lunch. Miriam Bird and Rabbi Michael Wolk will lead. The regular service will begin at 9:30 a.m.

### 'Mini Minyan'

Adath Jeshurun will offer "Mini Minyan," a Shabbat program for children ages 2-6 and their parents, from 11 to 11:30 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 7. John Gage from *Kentucky Homefront* will lead the music and storytelling.

### Shabbat Scholars

Professor Marcia Segal will serve as Adath Jeshurun's Shabbat Scholar on Saturday, December 7, at 12:15 p.m., following the kiddush lunch. Her topic will be "Social Justice: The Heart of Judaism in Theory & Practice." Her talk will introduce a new 10-week Melton course, which will be held Tuesday evenings starting Jan. 7.

### Service & Dinner

Chabad will celebrate Shabbat on Friday,

Dec. 13, at the Chabad House, 1654 Almaria Circle. Kabbalat Service is at 5:30 pm. A three-course traditional Shabbat dinner will follow. The Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence is a sponsor. Call 502-459-1770 for details.

### Shabbat-Luck Dinner

Adath Jeshurun will host Shabbat-Luck, a vegetarian/dairy potluck dinner, around 6:30 p.m., Friday, Dec. 13 after the Kabbalat Shabbat service. No meat nor meat by-products may be brought into the building. Contact Cybil Flora at [flora1cl@gmail.com](mailto:flora1cl@gmail.com) for details or sign up at [adathjeshurun.com/potluck](http://adathjeshurun.com/potluck).

### Torah yoga service

Rabbi Diane Tracht will lead a 45-minute session of meditation and yoga connected to *mussar*, the Jewish practice of developing ethical qualities in body and spirit, from 11 to 11:45 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 14. The service is for grades K-7. Students will join the main service following Torah Yoga. Wear comfortable clothing. Contact Tracht at [diane-tracht@gmail.com](mailto:diane-tracht@gmail.com) for details.

### Family Shabbat

Keneseth Israel will hold its next Family Shabbat at 6 p.m., Friday, Dec. 20. The musical service will be followed by a meal. Cost is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children (\$20 maximum/family). Send a check to KI or visit [kenesethisrael.com/payment](http://kenesethisrael.com/payment).

### Founder's Day Shabbat

The Temple's Annual Founder's Day Shabbat, celebrating its 177th anniversary, will be held at 7 p.m., Friday, Dec. 20. The choir will sing music from Classical Reform Judaism, and the service will be led from the Sinai Edition of the Union Prayer Book.

### Short and Sweet Family Service

Rabbi Robert Slosberg will lead the Short and Sweet family service for grades K-7 at 11 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 11, at Adath Jeshurun. The informal service includes a story. Students will join the main service afterwards.

## Adult Education

### Lunch and Learn

Rabbi Michael Wolk will lead his next Lunch and Learn class at noon, Thursday, Dec. 5, at The Bristol on Main Street. RSVP to [mwolk@kenesethisrael.com](mailto:mwolk@kenesethisrael.com).

### Kabbalah Month by Month

Cantor Sharon Hordes teaches a kabbalah class through the prism of each Hebrew month's holidays, Torah portions, healing areas and astrological connections. The class meets next at 6:15 p.m., Thursday, Dec 12. RSVP to 502-459-2780 or [rsvp@kenesethisrael.com](mailto:rsvp@kenesethisrael.com).

### Adult education series

Jewish Learning Institute will present a three-part class on taking control of one's feelings, "Worrier to Warrior Part 2," on Dec. 2, 9 and 16. Call 502-459-1770 or visit [myJLI.com](http://myJLI.com) to register. Classes are held from 7 to 8:30 pm on Mondays, beginning Dec. 2 at JLI, 1110 Dupont Circle. The fee is \$80. The Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence is a sponsor.

### Torah Yoga

Cantor Sharon Hordes and Lisa Flan-

nery's next Torah yoga class will begin at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 19, at Keneseth Israel. Temple Shalom and Louisville Hadassah are co-sponsors. RSVP to [rsvp@kenesethisrael.com](mailto:rsvp@kenesethisrael.com) or 502-459-2780.

### Monday classes

The Temple offers a series of adult education classes on Mondays: Advanced Hebrew from 6 to 7 p.m. (The class will not meet Dec. 23 or 30); Text Study with Rabbi David Ariel-Joel from 7 to 8 p.m. (The class does not meet Dec. 16, 23 or 30; and

Beginning Hebrew, Part 2, with Mark Goldstein from 7 to 8 p.m. Register at [mdgoldstein01@gmail.com](mailto:mdgoldstein01@gmail.com). (The class does not meet Dec. 23 or 30.

### Wednesday classes

The Temple offers a series of adult education classes on Wednesdays: Temple Scholars: Nationalism and Tribalism in a Global Era with Rabbi David Ariel-Joel, from 9:30 to 10:35 a.m. The class does not meet Dec. 18 and 25, and Jan. 1; American Jewish History with Rabbi Joe Rooks Rapport, 10:45 to noon. (The class does not meet Dec. 25 or Jan. 1.

### Jews and Brews

Rabbi Michael Wolk leads Torah study session over coffee Wednesdays at 11 a.m. in The J library.

### Brown Bag Torah Study

Rabbi Beth Jacowitz Chottiner leads Torah study Tuesdays at noon at Temple Shalom, 4615 Lowe Road. Participants should bring their own lunch.

### Saturday Torah study

Rabbi David Ariel-Joel leads Torah study Saturdays from 9 to 10 a.m. in the Fishman Library of The Temple. Coffee, bagels and cream cheese are served.

## Chanukah

### Temple Chanukah Dinner

The annual Temple Brotherhood Chanukah Latke Dinner and Party will be held at 5 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 15. Troop 30 and Troop 30GT Scouts will provide the service. Including games for kids. Cost is \$10 per person, free for children 12 and under; \$5 for reservations made by Tuesday, Dec. 10. Bring your own menorah.

### Light-up Night

Chabad will hold its Annual Light-up Night for Chanukah at 5 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 22, at 4th Street Live. There will be latkes, doughnuts, hot chocolate, bounce house, bowling and music. Mayor Greg Fischer will light the giant chanukiah at 6 p.m. Contact [chabad@chabadky.com](mailto:chabad@chabadky.com) for details.

### Family Chanukah Bash

Adath Jeshurun's Family Chanukah Bash will be held at 6:15 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 22. A Chanukah meal is included with songs led by Cantor David Lipp. Bring your own menorah for a community candle-lighting. Cost is \$5 for adults, free for children 12 and under. Reservations are required by Dec. 16 at [adathjeshurun.com/chanukahdinner](http://adathjeshurun.com/chanukahdinner).

### Chanukah at Peerless Distillery

Chabad will tour the Peerless Distilling

*continues on page 20*



# AROUND TOWN / LIFECYCLE

continued from page 19

Company on 10th and Main Street at 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 23, followed by a tasting and Chanukah treats. The event is for young Jewish professionals. RSVP to [rabbishmully@jewishlearning.center](mailto:rabbishmully@jewishlearning.center). You must be at least 21 to attend.

## Dinner and a show

Chabad will hold a dinner and show at 5:45 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 25, at the Chabad House, 1654 Almara Circle. For more information, contact [chabad@chabadky.com](mailto:chabad@chabadky.com).

## Grand menorah lighting

Chabad will light its giant chanukiah at the Paddock Shops on Thursday, Dec. 26, at 7 p.m. Warm drinks and latkes will be served. contact [chabad@chabadky.com](mailto:chabad@chabadky.com).

## Shabbat kiddush, luncheon

Chabad will hold a kiddush and kosher deli luncheon following its 10 a.m. Shabbat service on Saturday, Dec. 28. The Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence is a sponsor. call 502-459-1770.

## Wine and cheese tasting

The Neshi/Women of Valor Club will hold a wine and cheese tasting at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 28. Special crafts, delicious food and good conversation await. The program is for women ages 21 and up. Contact [chabad@chabadky.com](mailto:chabad@chabadky.com) for details.

## Family Chanukah Festival

Keneseth Israel will hold a Chanukah family festival at 6 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 29. The festival will include bounce houses, game booths, arts and crafts, and latkes. Candle lighting and singing will be held. To RSVP, email [rsvp@kenesethisrael.com](mailto:rsvp@kenesethisrael.com) or call 502-459-2780.

## Family skate

Chabad will hold a family skate from 5 to 7 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 29, at the Alpine Ice Arena. A Chanukah menorah Lighting will be held on the ice. Latkes will be served, and Judah Maccabee will be there. Contact [chabad@chabadky.com](mailto:chabad@chabadky.com).

## Births

### Gabriel Maxwell Blue

Justin and Bonnie Blue welcome the birth of a son, Gabriel Maxwell Blue, who was born on Friday, Nov. 1, in New York City.

Gabriel is the grandson of Bruce E. Blue and Diana Schmied of Louisville, and Helene and Lanny Harris of Long Island, New York.

## B'nai Mitzvah

### Tobias Joseph Crowdus



Tobias Joseph Crowdus will be called to the Torah as bar mitzvah during Chanukah Shacharit services on the 28 Kislev, Dec. 26, at the Chabad Jewish Center in Hannover,

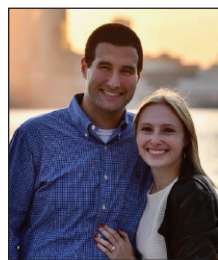
Germany.

Tobias is the son of Shaun and Miranda Polzer Crowdus. (Miranda will celebrate her 40th birthday the day of the bar mitzvah), and the grandson of Natalie Polzer of Louisville and Jerry and Karen Crowdus of New Bern, North

Carolina; the brother of Gabriel and Talia Crowdus; and the nephew of Tony and Cindy of Raleigh, North Carolina. This will be the first bar mitzvah in the Polzer family in over 100 years. The family thanks Rabbi and Shternie Wolff of Hannover and Rabbi Shmully Litvin of Louisville for helping Tobias grow intellectually and spiritually to reach this season.

## Engagements

### Lustig-Spellberg



Joanie and Craig Lustig of Louisville are pleased to announce the engagement of their son, Jonathan Lustig to Claire Spellberg, daughter of Dianne and Phil Spellberg of Chevy Chase, Maryland.

Lustig is the grandson of Bob and Margie Kohn and Gary and Arlene Lustig. Spellberg is the granddaughter of the late William and Susanne Spellberg and the late Ruth and Gerald Leland. A graduate of Indiana University, Kelley School of Business, Lustig is a credit risk analyst for Goldman Sachs in New York. Spellberg is a graduate of Clemson University and is a reporter with the Decider/NY Post. An October 2020 wedding is planned.

## Obituaries

### Dr. Stuart W. Fine



Dr. Stuart W. Fine, died Friday, Nov. 1, 2019, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He was 81.

Born in Louisville on June 28, 1938, Fine was the younger son of Ruth (nee Wasserman) and Emanuel Fine.

He was educated at Vanderbilt University and The University of Louisville School of Medicine.

Fine practiced in Milwaukee until 2009, was a founding partner in the Clinic of Urology, and started the Maimonides Society at the Milwaukee Jewish Federation.

He helped establish and continued to see patients at the Walkers Point Community Clinic, where he worked recently.

After his retirement, he split his time between Milwaukee and Scottsdale, Arizona. He was a visiting professor at the Mayo Clinic and volunteered at Hospice of the Valley.

Fine was among the most beloved people in his community. His professional accomplishments and successes earned him widespread respect.

He was voted among the best urologists in the city by Milwaukee Magazine for many years. He was active in many organizations and activities, but family and friends were his true passion.

He loved to tell stories and jokes and could carry on a meaningful conversation on many subjects – an ability that gave him pleasure and satisfaction.

More important, he made every per-

son he talked to feel special. He loved all people and earnestly found them interesting and worth getting to know. Whether you were family, friend, or someone he just met, you felt fortunate to know him.

Fine is survived by his wife, Roberta "Bobbe" (nee Blumenfeld) Fine; a son, Scott (Nina) Fine; two daughters, Debbie (Bill) Lewin and Laura (Eric) Bluman; six grandchildren, David Lewin, Andrea Lewin, Leo Fine, Ruby Fine, Benjamin Bluman and Liza Bluman; a brother, Jerry Fine; and many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Funeral services were held Sunday, Nov. 3, at Congregation Shalom. Burial followed at Greenwood Cemetery, Milwaukee. In lieu of gifts, memorial donations to Walker's Point Community Clinic or Congregation Shalom are appreciated.

### Irvin Goldstein



Irvin Goldstein passed away peacefully on Monday, Nov. 4, 2019. He was 90.

A well-known Louisville area educator, Irvin taught 10 years in Louisville before his 35 years in New Albany Public Schools, at Slate Run Elementary from 1962 to 1995. He was the Floyd County Teacher of the Year in 1990 as well as a finalist for the State Educator of the Year.

A professional on the cutting edge of student environmental education, he began taking his sixth-grade students to Otter Creek Park in 1965, exposing them to a rigorous curriculum of outdoor education. His program was adopted and adapted in school districts across Indiana.

He was respected and beloved by his elementary students, many of whom invited him to their weddings. Several of his former students said he was the best teacher they ever had.

His legacy can be found in his friends from Finland to Australia to British Columbia and everywhere in-between.

Irvin served as Sunday school administrator for The Temple from 1958 to 1998. He was active in the local Jewish community, directing the Jewish Community Center summer camp and serving on religious school committees.

Irvin is survived by his wife of 64 years, Daisy Baker Goldstein; his sons, Steven (Sheila) and Alan (Debbie) Goldstein; his daughters Sara (David) Weinstein and Lynne (Steve) Yudewitz; eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; his sisters, Riva Drutz (98) and Miriam Godhelf (96).

The family thanks Drs. Marianne Cowley, Bart Olash and Jane Cornett; and the staff at Magnolia Springs for years of devoted care and for adding years to his life and life to his years.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, Nov. 6, at Herman Meyer and Sons Funeral Home. Interment followed in the Adath Jeshurun Cemetery.

Expressions of sympathy may be made to the Dorothy & Henry Goldstein Gemilut Hasadim Fund at Adath Jeshu-

run or The Temple Endowment Fund.

### Barbara Ross Grossman

Barbara Ross Grossman of Sarasota, Florida, and Highlands, North Carolina, died Sept. 28, 2019 with dignity, surrounded by friends and family.

Juggling many hats, Barbara had a stint as a weather girl for a TV station in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, as a model in New York and France and as a fashion coordinator for department stores in southwest Florida.

She also ran a bridal shop, a real estate business and owned her own modeling agency in Sarasota.

An artist, Barbara painted and sculpted in alabaster stone and clay. Her work was shown in several galleries.

She was a member of Bath and Racquet Sarasota, Highland Fall Country Club and Old Edwards Inn.

Barbara also was active on the Bascomb Art Center's fundraising committee and with the League of Women Voters and Florida's Master Gardener program.

Together with her husband, Arthur, they traveled extensively in North America, Europe, the Baltics, South America and the Far East.

She was an avid swimmer and hiker, and she enjoyed cooking and entertaining.

Barbara was outwardly beautiful, exciting, bright, warm, fun and giving. Because of these traits, she was like a magnet to people who were lucky enough to be in her company.

Barbara and Arthur merged two families with eight grandchildren. Kai Hinkaty, Mekayle Houghton, Tami Penner of Louisville, Tim Grossman, Tod Grossman and their families felt the warm embrace of the love Barbara and Arthur created. She will be missed.

### Gail Mann Herman



Gail Mann Herman, 78, passed away Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2019.

Born on May 21, 1941, a daughter of the late E.H. and Harry Mann, Gail grew up in Louisville, graduated from Atherton High School and the University of Miami. She married her long-time sweetheart, Harold, in 1963.

Gail had a lifelong commitment to community service. She served as both a city councilwoman and the police commissioner of Taylor Lake Village, Texas.

She also active in the Women of Reform Judaism (WRJ) Sisterhood at The Temple. On Friday nights, she could be found setting up the oneg.

Gail was loved by her family and even larger number of friends, who will deeply miss her.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her in-laws, Deborah and George Herman.

Gail is survived by her beloved husband, Harold, and her golden retriever, Molly; her, children Harold (Charyse) Herman Jr., of Orlando, Florida, Harriet (Erik) Hayes of Houston, Texas,



# LIFECYCLE

## Dr. David Neustadt passes; was chief of medicine at Jewish Hospital

Dr. David Harold Neustadt, a prominent Louisville physician and founding chief of the University of Louisville School of Medicine's Division of Rheumatology, as well as Jewish Hospital's past chief of medicine and medical staff president, died Monday, Nov. 11, 2019, at Norton Brownsboro Hospital.

The Evansville native and retired medical school professor succumbed to complications of Parkinson's disease weeks before his 94th birthday on Dec. 2. He and Carolyn Jacobson Neustadt, his wife of 67 years, moved to Treyton Oak Towers in 2016.

Neustadt was a Fellow of the American College of Physicians and the American College of Rheumatology (ACR), which named him Master of the ACR in 1992. In 1997, the ACR presented him its Distinguished Rheumatologist Award, in recognition of outstanding achievements in the field.

Neustadt spent his professional life treating and studying rheumatic diseases, including osteo and rheumatoid arthritis, retiring at 87. After completing one of the first National Institutes of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases Fellowships, he served as chief of the Arthritis Clinic at Louisville General Hospital from 1960 to 1976.

During that time, he also held clinics in eastern Kentucky for the United Mine Workers.

Neustadt served as president and chairman of the Medical Science Committee with the Arthritis Foundation's Kentucky chapter, and on the Spondyli-

tis Association of America board.

UofL, where Neustadt was clinical professor in medicine from 1974 to 2013, honored him with the Dr. David H. Neustadt Library and the David H. Neustadt, M.D. Fund for Rheumatology, an endowment that benefits the Division of Rheumatology, which supports fellowships and training, research opportunities, lectures, and visiting professorships.

He lectured worldwide, authored dozens of scientific publications, most notably *Aspiration and Injection Therapy in Arthritis and Musculoskeletal Disorders*, in 1972, numerous chapters in rheumatologic texts, and three medical textbooks.

"His research included the use of intraarticular corticosteroid therapy for the treatment of osteoarthritis," said son Dr. Jeffrey B. Neustadt, a Tampa Bay pediatric orthopedic surgeon. "It was groundbreaking and avant garde when he started doing it. Now it is routinely performed in rheumatology and orthopedic offices."

An Army veteran of World War II, Neustadt graduated from DePauw University, then medical school at Uof L in 1950. He trained at what was then Morrisania City Hospital – now Albert Einstein Montefiore Medical Center – and Lenox Hill Hospital in New York, where he met his future wife, Carolyn.

With his Lenox Hill mentor, Dr. Otto Steinbrocker, he published the first description of "shoulder-hand syndrome," now known as complex regional pain syndrome.

He eschewed the chance to join a prominent New York practice, opting instead to establish the Division of Rheumatology at the UofL's Department of Medicine, and his private practice.

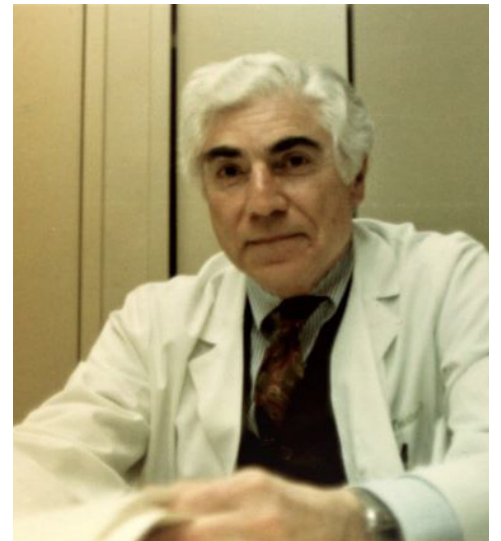
Elegantly dressed, whether at the office or on the tennis court, Neustadt enjoyed Cuban cigars, UofL basketball, a day at Churchill Downs, the peanut-butter-and-jelly sandwiches that his wife packed daily and any opportunity to don cowboy boots and a Western hat.

His license plate read JOINTS, reflecting both his profession and sense of humor. He often burst into song, in an exaggerated, theatrical baritone.

His son Jeffrey said his father was optimistic about life, particularly his specialty.

"He treated people with impossibly incurable, chronic diseases that wreaked havoc on their joints. And yet he knew that he could provide them significant relief with drugs he helped develop, and injections he perfected," Jeffrey said. "There are those who can't maintain equanimity without being able to immediately fix what is broken. For Dad, the belief that gentle treatment, combined with the optimism that time would heal or at least provide relief, was profound."

In addition to Carolyn and Jeffrey (Susan Harris), Neustadt is survived by his daughter, Susan Neustadt Deflorian (Fritz) of Tucson, Arizona, and another son, Prof. Robert A. Neustadt (Erika Hess) of Flagstaff, Arizona; grandchildren Nicholas Deflorian (Yan Ling), Adam Deflorian (Danielle Skornik), Gabriel Neustadt, Sydney Neustadt, Tasha



Dr. David Harold Neustadt

Hess-Neustadt, and Camila Hess-Neustadt; and great-grandchildren, Emily Deflorian and Eli Deflorian, with a third expected in January.

His parents, Mose and Leah Neustadt, and a brother, Dr. Jerome E. Neustadt, preceded him in death.

Funeral services were held Thursday, Nov. 14 at Herman Meyer & Son.

The family suggests donations to The David H. Neustadt Rheumatology Foundation, UofL's Department of Medicine, 550 Jackson St., 5th floor, Louisville, KY 40202; and to the Kentucky Chapter of the Arthritis Foundation, 9462 Brownsboro Rd, #189, Louisville, KY 40241.

and Larry (Jenny) Herman of Memphis, Tennessee; grandchildren Emily Hayes, Daniel Hayes, Zachary Herman and Eliza Herman; brother-in-law Irvin (Sylvia) Herman; and nieces Sherri (Jan) Stein and Gail Green.

Funeral services were held Sunday, Nov. 10, at Herman Meyer & Son, Inc. Burial followed in The Temple Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Gail's memory may be made to the Kosair Charities, the WRJ Oneg Shabbat Fund at The Temple, 5101 US Hwy 42, Louisville, KY 40241 or a charity of the donor's choice.

### Shirley Ann Jacobs



Shirley Ann Jacobs, 98, formerly of Louisville, died Wednesday, Oct. 30, 2019 at Cedar Village in Mason, Ohio.

She was a member of The Temple, St. George Lodge #503 Order of Eastern Star and Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE).

Funeral services were held Thursday, Oct. 31, at Herman Meyer & Son, Inc. Burial followed in The Temple Cemetery. Expressions of sympathy may be made to The Temple or the donor's favorite charity.

### Miriam Pollock Sherman

Miriam Pollock Sherman, 100, passed away on Thursday Oct. 31, 2019.

Born on Sept. 15, 1919, Miriam was



a member of Keneseth Israel Congregation, Keneseth Israel Sisterhood, Jewish Community Center Senior Program, Hadassah and an associate member of Congregation Anshei

Sfard.

She was a volunteer for the American Red Cross and The Kentucky Chapter of the Arthritis Foundation for many years.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Mike. Sherman.

Miriam was a beloved mother and grandmother. She is survived by her children, Rosalind Sherman Shaffer and Barry Sherman (Lisa); her grandchildren, Iris Shaffer Bergal (Mark), Seth Shaffer (Wynne), Hope Shaffer Levin (Doug), Dr. Gwen Shaffer Chesnin (Ken), Phoebe Sherman and Sylvie Sherman; her great-grandchildren, Jake Bergal, Ryan Bergal, Cole Shaffer, Reed Shaffer, Erin Shaffer, Dane Shaffer, Drew Levin, Raya Levin and Sawyer Chesnin.

Miriam was interred at Keneseth Israel Cemetery during a private family service. Contributions in her memory may be made to Keneseth Israel Congregation.

### Shirley Klein Stein

Shirley Klein Stein, formerly of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, died peacefully on Friday, Oct. 25, 2019, in Louisville,



where she resided for the past 25 years.

Born in 1923, Shirley worked at Mellon Bank in Squirrel Hill for many years and was loved and adored by customers.

She was preceded in death by her husband, David Harry Stein, and grandson, Justin Gregory Mark.

She survived by her daughters, Gail Darling (William), Ronna Mark (Martin), and Michelle Einstein (Sylvan); her grandchildren: Brooke Caplen (Neil), Daniel Mark (Mallory), and Joshua Mark (Jessi).

A graveside service was held at Shaare Torah Cemetery in Pittsburgh on Wednesday, Oct. 30.

Donations in her memory may be made to Hosparus Health of Louisville, 3532 Ephraim McDowell Drive, Louisville, KY 40205, or to the Justin Gregory Mark Memorial Lounge and Library, Jewish Community Center of Pittsburgh, 5738 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15217.

### Brent Thomas Teichman

Brent Thomas Teichman, 29, of Louisville died unexpectedly on Sunday, Nov. 3, 2019 due to influenza complications.

Brent was a Male High School Class of 2008 graduate. He learned to play drums and was a self-taught guitarist. With his musical talent, he, his twin



brother, Joshua, and their friends created the band, Action Man, which performed throughout Louisville, including Kentucky Kingdom.

Brent attended the University of Kentucky. Realizing, though, that his true calling was in culinary arts, he committed to it whole-heartedly.

He was an avid UK fan and a private man, but his passion for life was palpable as well as his love for his family and friends.

Brent was predeceased by his grandparents, Dr. Joe W. and Josephine Green and Milton and Evelyn Teichman.

In addition to Joshua, he is survived by his parents, Dr. Jeb and Grace Teichman; his adoring niece, Ella, and nephew, Alder; and his large extended family.

In lieu of flowers, and in honor of Brent, the family would like all to receive the flu vaccine or make contributions to their favorite charities.

The Teichman Family will receive visitors at their Prospect home, Wednesday, November 6, 2019 from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. For directions, please call the funeral home, 502-458-9569.

Funeral services were private. Online condolences welcomed at Herman Meyer & Son Facebook page.



## SCHOOL'S OUT DAYS

### WHEN SCHOOLS ARE CLOSED CAMP J IS IN!

Schools Out Days are 9am - 4pm with optional extended care. All days include sports, arts and crafts, swimming and more.

Schools Out Days are for children in Kindergarten through 5th grade.

REGISTER ONLINE AT  
JEWISHLouisville.org/SOD  
OR CALL 502-238-2718.

#### UPCOMING DATES

**WINTER CAMP:**  
**DEC. 23-JAN. 6**  
(NO CAMP DECEMBER 25)

**JAN. 16, 17, 20**  
**FEB. 3, 14, 17-21, 24**

**SPRING CAMP:**  
**MAR. 30-APR. 3**

## KIDS NIGHT OUT

Enjoy a night out while your kids have fun here at The J! The night starts with dinner and games, then kids in K-6th will go swimming while the preschoolers get to hang out in our play room. We end the night together with a movie and snacks!

Kids Night Outs are for children 2 years through 6th grade.

#### UPCOMING DATES

**DECEMBER 7, DECEMBER 21**

INFO AND REGISTRATION  
WWW.JEWISHLouisville.org/KNO



**JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER OF LOUISVILLE**  
3600 Dutchmans Lane • Louisville, KY 40205  
502-459-0660 • www.jewishlouisville.org

## SETTLEMENTS

Continued from page 13

occupies." Both Israel and the United States ratified this convention.

Israel's Foreign Ministry contends that settlements do not violate international law because they sit "on legitimately acquired land which did not belong to a previous lawful sovereign" and are in many cases modern incarnations of historical Jewish villages.

### What does Israeli law say about the settlements?

It's complicated. Legally, Israeli settlements are treated differently than cities and towns in Israel proper. Israel's government must approve additional construction in the settlements before new homes can be built.

But in practice, settlements look and operate much like any other small town in Israel – down to identical street signs and public transit.

Settlements that are not authorized by the Defense Ministry are known as "outposts" and generally are smaller and located farther from the border between the West Bank and Israel. Many have been built on private Palestinian land, and the Israeli Supreme Court has occasionally issued rulings requiring that they be demolished. A 2017 law aimed to retroactively legalize some of these settlements, though its implementation was blocked in court.

Pompeo said in his announcement that the U.S. recognition would not extend to settlements that Israel's courts deem illegal. He also said the new position does not prejudice the status of the West Bank in any final peace agreement that Israelis and Palestinians might someday reach.

### What is the significance of the settlements for the peace process?

Israeli-Palestinian negotiations have been moribund for more than five years, so at this point, Pompeo's announcement has only a theoretical impact.

In the past, peace talks have largely

been predicated on the understanding that a Palestinian state would eventually be established in the West Bank. Because there are settlements in that territory, many peace proposals have called for the large settlement blocs on the Israeli border to become part of Israel and for the rest to be evacuated.

Palestinians view the settlements as a violation of international law and as both physical and ideological obstacles to peace. Besides taking up the territory of a would-be Palestinian state, they see settlement expansion as a signal that Israelis are not sincere about withdrawing from the territory. Palestinians have also protested violence on the part of settlers.

Israeli opinion on the settlements is split. According to a 2018 poll from the Israel Democracy Institute, 47 percent of Jewish Israelis support a two-state solution, which would presumably require the dismantling of at least some settlements. Another poll this year from the American Jewish Committee found that half of Jewish Israelis believe no settlements at all should be dismantled as part of a peace agreement.

Settlers consider the West Bank the geographical center of the historical Land of Israel, and many religious Jews value it as the place where many of the Bible's events are thought to have occurred. Some Israelis also believe that control of the territory enhances Israel's security.

Other Israelis believe Israel's presence in the West Bank is unjust, or that controlling a large population of the Palestinians harms the country's security, moral standing or Jewish demographic majority.

How have Israeli and Palestinian leaders reacted to Pompeo's announcement?

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Blue and White leader Benny Gantz applauded the move. Saeb Erekat, a longtime Palestinian diplomat and negotiator with Israel, said in a statement that the Trump administration is "demonstrating the extent to which it's threatening the international system with its unceasing attempts to replace international law with the 'law of the jungle.'"

Though the announcement came from the Trump administration, so did a note of caution about the policy change. The U.S. Embassy in Jerusalem issued a travel warning for Americans, saying they could be targeted by "individuals and groups opposed to the Secretary of State's recent announcement." U.S. government employees are prohibited from visiting the West Bank and the Old City of Jerusalem.

Marcy Oster contributed to this report.

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## ROOTS

*Continued from page 1*

pulpit as they described how they are trying to bring Jews and Arabs together on “one piece of earth” to share their stories, build trust and lay the foundation for an eventual peace.

Schlesinger and Awwad are members of Roots, a grassroots organization (no pun intended) consisting of West Bank settlers and Palestinians who have agreed to come together and seek the common ground they can’t find in their daily lives.

The Temple, Temple Shalom, the Jewish Community Relations Council, Interfaith Paths to Peace and the Middletown Christian Church sponsored their visit, which included programs at St. Francis School downtown and the Muhammad Ali Center.

Founded in 2014, Roots uses workshops, summer camps and youth programs to promote its message. It also engages media and leaders – activists, city officials, soldiers.

Speaking before a crowd of 200 or more in The Temple chapel, the word “roots” in English, Hebrew and Arabic projected on a screen behind them, Schlesinger and Awwad described how Roots participants meet regularly on land provided by Awwad’s family. They’re nervous at first, even fearful. Yet they manage to strike up conversations with people who had previously been their enemies.

And they learn hard truths.

“There’s violence in the West Bank,” said Schlesinger, an ardent Zionist. “The thing is that Israelis – my people – we only know the violence that they (the Palestinians) do to us. We don’t know the violence that we Israelis do to them; it’s not in the newspapers. And the Palestinians, they know the violence Israelis do to them, but they have very little knowledge of the violence that their people, the Palestinians, do to us Israelis.

“Each side is certain that the other side is bad, and we’re good. Their side is violent and aggressive – they’re terrorists – our side is peace-loving,” continued Schlesinger, a New York-born co-found-

er of Roots. He said Roots seeks to “humanize the enemy – at least a little bit.”

Awwad described how a simple act of driving a car can be a life-or-death experience for a Palestinian.

He recalled coming through an Israeli army checkpoint. As the soldiers waved him through, and he started pulling forward, an Israeli woman crossed the road in front of him.

Immediately, Awwad slammed on his brakes to avoid hitting her, which triggered an Israeli soldier to train his weapon on him, thinking he might be a terrorist poised to attack.

It was a Catch-22 situation, Awwad said. Either hit the brakes or risk hitting the woman. Either way, he could have been shot.

The status quo, or “normalization” as he called it, is not the way to a lasting peace.

“Respect and dignity is one of the most important things for us,” Awwad said. “You have to stick to your identity and your rights, and all of that, which is against normalization. We just believe you cannot give up part of your identity and

call for peace from a point of weakness.”

Neither should Palestinians resort to violence, he added. “I am a human being before being a Palestinian.”

Schlesinger and Awwad are touring America, visiting synagogues and churches to talk up Roots’ mission. Not so many mosques, Schlesinger lamented (only one on this trip). “We have real difficulties speaking in mosques. There’s sociological reasons; there’s economic reasons; there’s political reasons.”

They also speak at universities, where Awwad is “shocked and mad” about the degree to which students are “moving the conflict to the campuses,” fighting instead of talking.

“We should also have Roots here for the students so they can really talk to each other,” Awwad said to a round of applause.

### Want to help?

Roots has a mailing list of about 3,000 supporters. To support them, visit **friendsofroots.net**. See the column on page 6 for more details.

## GROUNDBREAKING

*Continued from page 1*

Among the neighbors’ questions was what would happen to the two houses formerly owned by Anshei Sfar. JCL President and CEO Sara Klein Wagner said they will eventually be demolished and replaced by green space.

Wagner also said the Anshei Sfar

building will continue to be used for Camp J and other J programming, at least through next summer. Beyond that, there are no plans yet for the facility. Other neighbors inquired about a possible barrier at the back of the property between the surrounding neighborhood and the campus. Jones said a screen of trees, bushes or other vegetation would be planted.

Wagner said she appreciated the neighbors’ interest in the project.

“We’ve been here for over 60 years,” she said. “The people who live in the neighborhood have been part of our extended family. I would not be surprised that they have questions about what’s happening next door.

“We certainly want our neighbors, above all else, to be comfortable and

know what’s going on.”

Fleischaker said the neighbors are entitled to answers about the project. “This is just another step,” he said. “We are definitely moving, and it’s moving forward, and it’s going to continue to move forward.”

## COMPASSIONATE

*Continued from page 1*

zation. Louisville applied in 2011 to the International Campaign for Compassionate Cities, receiving its Com-

passionate City designation.

The city is part of the ICC. See its website at **charterforcompassion.org/communities**.

The Compassionate Louisville board has yet to meet, but according to Babar, the organization will support

and empower existing local organizations that are doing year-round compassion work.

It also will create connections and partnerships to support the needs of the community.

“Our vision is to create a place where

all people in our community have the opportunity, desire and support to engage in year-round service and compassion,” said, Babar, who chairs Muslim Americans for Compassion. “Our purpose is simple: to empower all people to flourish.”

## JEWISH SCHOOL

*Continued from page 8*

of Faith to receive priority admission (this practice-based determination emerged as a result of a 2009 landmark case in which a child was not granted admission to a London Jewish state school because his mother’s conversion was not recognized by the chief rabbi). Answering only one question in the affirmative (i.e., “Do you perform the Mitzvah of Mezuzah by ensuring one is affixed to the front door of your home?”) is sufficient to be considered Jewish by the state’s standards.

So, Jewish children are given priority, but with a limited number of Jewish kids to fill the classrooms of King David, the doors are opened wide to children of the neighborhood — and neighboring faiths.

Some Muslim families choose King David because it offers a good education. Others appreciate its kosher food, which many Muslims consider halal. And it is thought that a school intended for a religious minority is likely to be more sensitive to religious minorities.

One Muslim friend of mine, whose sons are classmates of my children, told me about her family escaping the Bosnian genocide. I told her that my grandparents were Holocaust survivors. She said that our tragic history and

sense of community – similar to her own – was part of what drew her to the school.

At its core, Islam has very close ties to Judaism, and grassroots organizations are popping up around the globe to remind us of our connections. So why should I be surprised that our Muslim friends make up some of our greatest allies?

Let me return to the call from my oldest son’s school. Lucas is in secondary school, having graduated from King David a number of years ago. The secondary school has a diverse student body and tries to be sensitive to the different needs of the students, but we have our grievances. Every year we have to argue with the school to let Lucas take the Jewish High Holidays off (we’ve involved our rabbi and a religious education advisory committee).

Still, things go smoothly for the most part. Lucas likes his school.

The recent incident involved a boy who was new to the school. Every period, he was asked the same question by the teacher: “What brought you to our school?” and every period he gave the same answer: “My teacher at my last school was Jewish! And I hate Jews!”

When he got to Lucas’ class, he repeated this behavior — and the person who stood up for my son was a Muslim student named Omar.

“Hey, that’s rude,” Omar said. “And also kinda racist!”

Omar and Lucas are not really “mates,” as they say here. I don’t think that’s why Omar stepped up when the situation arose. I think that in addition to having parents with good values, Omar is sensitive to racism, and particularly anti-Jewish racism, because he is a graduate of the King David Primary School.

Maybe it’s a “funny thing” that Muslims say the Shema, as observers to the school have noted, and maybe

the Jewish education does not have the depth it would have if all the students were Jewish. But it does seem to have a profound effect on the children who go there, and these children carry with them a respect for Jews that they spread far and wide

*Karen E. Skinazi is a senior lecturer and director of liberal arts at the University of Bristol in the United Kingdom. The views expressed here are her own, not necessarily those of JTA or its parent company, 70 Faces Media.*



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