

JEWISH LOUISVILLE COMMUNITY



INSIDE:

Going Greener

Trager Family JCC installs charging station for EVs

STORY ON PG. 14

FRIDAY Vol. 48, No. 7 | July 29, 2022 | 1 Av 5782

Israel Day Shabbat at Camp J



Benji Berlow leads J campers in Shabbat songs outside the Anshei Sfard building. Camp J will conclude in August after a successful summer, with over 600 children, that included many first-time campers from other countries. (Community photo by Robyn Kaufman)

Jewish demographics study to be shared in September

By staff and releases

After months of research, the first demographics study of Jewish Louisville in 13 years, will soon be released.

The study, which was done by the Maurice & Marilyn Cohen Center for Modern Jewish Studies at Brandeis University, will be introduced through two community town hall sessions: the first at 6 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 7; the second at 11:30 a.m., Thursday, Sept. 8 – both at the Trager Family JCC.

Staff members of the Cohen Center who participated in the project will go over the findings and take questions from the audiences. *Community* will cover both sessions.

“Our hope is that the community takes time to reflect on the findings contained in the study and how it can be used in the years ahead to inform decision making and new programming options,” Jeff Polson, president/CEO of the Jewish Heritage Fund (JHF), said in a statement. “These community meetings are the first step in that process.”

JHF, together with the Jewish Federation of Louisville, commissioned the survey.

While the findings provide an up-to-date look at the state of the community, Sara Klein Wagner, president and CEO of the Jewish Community of Louisville, said time is needed to absorb the data before mapping out how to use it.

“This data is a gift that points to opportunities,” Wagner said in a statement. “We look forward to sharing the report with the community, taking a

pause to digest and make meaning of the results, and partnering together to create our future community vision.”

The 100-plus page report includes results that will inform JHF’s and the Federation’s funding initiatives, according to JHF Program Officer Jaime Jorrisch.

“As we seek to support an accessible, inclusive and flourishing Jewish community,” Jorrisch said in a prepared statement, “the data will help organizations broaden their constituent base, better serve the community, and plan for the future.”

The study is the third community assessment of Jewish Louisville over the past two decades. Two others were made in 2006 and in 2009 – both of which were limited in scope and are now considered out of date.

This latest survey, which was conducted from Oct. 18, 2021, to Jan. 24, 2022, randomly selected households in Greater Louisville, including parts of Indiana, from a list developed from those provided by local community organizations and purchased lists of likely Jewish households. Jewish households were defined as ones in which at least one Jewish member resides.

The survey asked questions in three main categories:

- Social and demographic characteristics (age, geography, gender, presence of children, educational level and income).
- Jewish connections (organizational membership, attitudes towards the

See **STUDY** on page 19

Trager gift pays way

Children from refugee families in Camp J this summer

By Lee Chottiner
Managing Editor

You do not see campers like the Syrian-born Algeghl girls at Camp J every summer, but this year is not like every summer.

The two oldest girls, Seedra, 13, and Sali, 10, come to camp every day covered from head to toe and wearing the hijab, the traditional scarf worn by Muslim women.

But when pool time comes, they are in the water like all the others they

just remain fully clothed in swimming uniforms.

Curious, the other kids plied them with questions.

“I told them the answers like why I swim with my clothes on and swim with my scarf on,” Seedra said. “They asked me a ton of questions, but I really didn’t mind it because they didn’t really know where I was from and why I was wearing it, so of course they had to ask questions.”

Seedra, Sali, their brother Ahmed,

9, and youngest sister, Reem, 8, who is too young to wear the hijab, according to her parents, are among 12 children of six refugee families – Syria, Cuba, Afghanistan, Congo and Ukraine – who have now found a new home in Louisville are in camp this summer thanks to the Tragers’ generosity.

The children started on opening day, June 6, and will remain for all



Sali and Ahmad Algeghl on an ice skating outing with fellow campers. (Photo by Community)

See **REFUGEES** on page 19

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THE DASHBOARD

Word of the Month

Get closer to God through music, prayer



D'var Torah

Rabbi
David Ariel-Joel

express what I want to say to God, my personality and me as an individual.

However, *safa* also means border or boundaries. *Safa* is the edge or bank of a river that stops the water from flooding the land.

So, we can understand this prayer as asking God to open our boundaries and our limitations, so we can truly pray from the depth of our souls, from our innermost being.

Through our open lips, boundaries, words and limitations we are yearning to get closer to the sacred, to the divine.

The best way to achieve all three goals of praying and getting closer to the sacred is not through words but through music, the melodies that make the meaning of the words so profound.

Music is the most sublime form of praying, and our community is so fortunate to have such great cantors leading us in prayer, helping us in our journey to the sacred. These three amazing cantors help us through Jewish liturgy, Jewish music, and Jewish spirituality to get closer to the sacred, to get closer to the divine. And through our prayer experience to find ways to express who we truly are.

(Rabbi David Ariel-Joel is a spiritual leader at The Temple.)

“Oh God (Adonai) open up my lips, that my mouth may declare Your praise.”

This is what we sing or say at the beginning of the central part of every prayer service, the part we refer to as *t'filah*, which means “the prayer.”

This is the most important part of the service. Before we get to say the blessings and praises to God, we ask God to open our lips so we can speak and praise God.

This is the simple meaning of this prayer, but it gets deeper. This prayer, like all our prayers, is in Hebrew. The Hebrew word for lips is *s'fatai*, which is the plural of *safa* (one lip). *Safa* also means language.

So, the prayer can be understood as “Adonai open up my language so I can find the right words to praise you,” meaning the words of the prayerbook that were written by others are not enough for me; I need your help, God, to find my own words – words that

Snapshots



Temple Shalom members participated in a Repair Affair project on Saturday, June 25, in Newburg. The team did yardwork, cleared away debris and painted a hand-capped access ramp at the home of disabled senior citizen. Repair Affair is a service of New Directions Housing Corporation, a Louisville nonprofit organization that helps families overcome obstacles to affordable, safe, sustainable housing. (photos provided by Temple Shalom)

Candles

Here are the candle-lighting times for Shabbat in August:

- Aug 5 @ 8:30 p.m.
- Aug 12 @ 8:22 p.m.
- Aug 19 @ 8:13 p.m.
- Aug 26 @ 8:03 p.m.

Contacts

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

Send it along to *Community* Editor Lee Chottiner at Ichottiner@jewishlouisville.org. You can also call Lee at 502-238-2783.

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hold? Development Associate Kristy Benefield can handle all circulation questions. She can be reached at kbenefield@jewishlouisville.org or 502-238-2770.

Got an item for the *Community* eblast? Send it to weeklyupdate@jewishlouisville.org.

Deadlines

Got a news item for *Community*? Deadlines matter, especially for newspapers. Send in your news by **Wednesday, August 17** (though sooner is better).

The paper should be in your mailbox

by **Friday, August 26.**

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

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We have you covered, Louisville – online. *Community* stories are posted regularly at jewishlouisville.org/community/. That also is where you can find breaking news ahead of our print deadline.

Maybe you like the look of a real paper without the, er ... paper. Then check out *Digital Community* at jewishlouisville.org.

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*As of July 10, 2022

NEWS

‘We arrived here’ JCL Annual Meeting marks year of ‘transformation’

By Lisa Hornung
For Community

A year of amazing change was the subject of the Jewish Community of Louisville's 2022 Annual Meeting on July 14 in the Shapira Foundation Auditorium. Speakers highlighted the pandemic recovery and the new Trager Family Jewish Community Center as the pride of Jewish Louisville.

David Kaplan was formally elected chair of the JCL Board of Directors, replacing the outgoing chair, Dr. Ralph Green.

"I'd like to recognize David Kaplan for chairing our annual campaign the last few years," Green said. "It's not the easiest job in the world, [but] he's done a terrific job and stepped up where we needed him."

Green also announced that Josh Judah, retired assistant chief of the Louisville Metro Police Department, has been named Secure Community Network's regional security advisor for Jewish Louisville. Judah will be an advisor to all Jewish organizations in the city, including the JCC, synagogues and community organizations.

"With his guidance and experience," Green said, "our goal is to make all of our Jewish institutions to be as safe as possible so that they all take full advantage of all the things there are to offer for us."

Green also recognized Lawrence Nibur for his volunteer work in the construction of the new JCC, as well as the JCL staff.

"So, now the dream is realized at last," Green said. "The doors are open; the place is hopping – that you can see – membership is booming, including many Jewish members returning from a long absence."

The success of past year came despite tragedies at home and abroad, JCL President & CEO Sara Klein Wagner said. She specifically noted Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the tornadoes that destroyed several communities in western Kentucky.

The Federation responded to the tornadoes by organizing a drive that called on Jewish communities around the country, raising \$300,000 to help families that lost their homes.

Wagner also said there are 12 children from refugee families are at Camp J this summer, thanks to a gift from Trager

family, "which is incredible."

Before any of this happened, there was a closing ceremony for the old JCC the night of Sunday April 10, followed by a candlelight walk to the new building, the two events marking the ceremonial moment of transition for the community.

"We gathered together outside with people, friends and neighbors and past presidents and past leaders of our JCC," Wagner said, "and we walked through the parking lot. We walked from one back door to one front door."

Exactly 250 steps, she said.

Before the closing ceremony, people gathered in the Patio Gallery, where they were offered the chance to write love letters to the old building on its walls. One person wrote, "This is what transformations looks like."

"So, 250 steps later," Wagner added, "I think we've done that as we arrived here today."

See page 11 for photos of
the Annual Meeting

JCL awards

Also at the meeting, annual awards were presented, honoring the community leaders and staff for outstanding service:

- **The Blanche B. Ottenheimer Award**, which is the highest honor the Jewish community of Louisville can give, is presented annually to a leader (or leaders) who have made a real difference in improving the quality of life in Louisville, in Kentucky and beyond. The award went to historian and author Emily Bingham and her husband, attorney and entrepreneur Stephen Reily.

- **The Arthur S. Kling Award**, which recognizes outstanding performance by JCL staff was awarded to Kristy Benefield, philanthropy database senior manager, and Susan Kwasny, senior director of health and wellness.

- **The Ronald and Marie Abrams Volunteer of the Year Award** was presented to Leon Wahba.

- **The Elsie P. Judah Memorial Award** was given to Emily Podgursky, longtime volunteer for the JCC's Meals on Wheels program.

- **The Lewis W. Cole Memorial**

Young Leadership Award went to Michael and Mollie Weisberg.

- **The Joseph J. Kaplan Young Leadership Award** was presented to Andrew and Helene Trager-Kusman.

- **The Julie E. Linker Community Relations Young Leadership Award** was presented to Farrah Alexander.

- **The Corporate Friend Award** went to Northwestern Mutual.

BBYO awards presented at JCL Annual Meeting

Teen Director Abigail Goldberg presented this year's BBYO awards at the Annual Meeting on Thursday, July 14.

Most of the recipients were unable to attend the event because they were away at sleep-away camp or traveling in Israel and Eastern Europe, but their dedication was recognized by the JCL in their absence.

Here is a wrap-up of this year's awards recipients:

- **The Joseph Fink BBYO Community Service Scholarship** is a four-year scholarship presented to a senior who's an active member of the

BBYO chapter during all four years of high school and performed a significant amount of community service during that time. This year's recipients were **Jenna Shaps** and **Katy Roemer**. Awardees will receive up to \$300 per year over four years, up to \$1,200.

- **The Stacey Marks Nisenbaum Award** is presented to an incoming high school junior or senior who's a leader in BBYO strengthening and growing the program while staying active in school and in the community at large. The winners were **Nila Rothman** and **Ada Weiss**.

- **The Ellen Faye Garmon Award** goes to an incoming high school junior or senior who is involved in their BBYO chapter and community working to strengthen and grow them. **Alex Schwartz** was the recipient.

- **The Stewart Pressma Student Leadership Development Award** is presented to an incoming high school junior or senior who is involved in their BBYO chapter while keeping up devoted community service. The award winner was **Nicole Scaiewicz**.

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NEWS

After Roe's repeal: Kentucky's Jews seek ways to fight for women's reproductive rights

By Lee Chottiner
Managing Editor

When the U.S. Supreme Court struck down *Roe v. Wade* – taking away the right of women to choose an abortion – Sharon Hordes knew she had to do something.

So, the Keneseth Israel hazzan decided to raise money.

She set up a crowdfunding page on Facebook for the National Network of Abortion Funds, an NPO that helps remove financial and logistical barriers to abortion. She set \$500 as her initial goal, which she quickly exceeded, then raised it to \$800. So far, she has raised \$660.

"You can see how impassioned people are about this," Hordes said.

Jews and Judaism are at the center of the abortion debate now that Supreme Court has ruled 6-3 in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* that there is no constitutional right to end a pregnancy, leaving the question up to each state.

National Jewish organizations forcefully argue that the *Dobbs* ruling infringes on Jewish women's First Amendment right to freedom of religion, a point made by Reform, Conservative and several Orthodox religious leaders, including most members of the Louisville Council of Jewish Congregations (LCJC).

"If states choose to restrict reproductive rights," the LCJC says in a lengthy statement to *Community*, "Jewish women may not be able to get the healthcare that their religion would say is necessary." (For the complete LCJC statement, see page 8.)

Many Jews, like Hordes, are acting, raising money, campaigning against statewide a abortion ban or partnering with grassroots groups who help women obtain reproductive care.

Several rabbis are using the court ruling to teach the Jewish perspective on abortion, which differs from the Christian view. Among them, Rabbi Ben Freed of KI taught at his summer class, "Big Questions, Jewish Answers," and Rabbi Beth Jacowitz Chottiner of Temple Shalom, led a discussion on the Shabbat following the ruling.

In addition to her fundraising, Hordes, who serves on the board of the Kentucky Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice (KRCRC), is recruiting volunteers to work the organization's booth at the Kentucky State Fair.

Corey Shapiro, legal director of the ACLU-KY, is openly calling on voters to reject a proposed state constitutional amendment on the November ballot that would "preclude" any state right to an abortion.

"We are urging people to vote no, to not amend the constitution, so that the state Supreme Court, and courts, can interpret the constitution the way we would urge them to, which is that there is a right to privacy, and it encompasses a right to access abortion," said Shapiro, who is also a member of the Jewish Community Relations Council.

Asked if the amendment, were it to pass, could effectively remove the courts as a means to fight for abortion access, Shapiro said, "I think that's a fair statement."

Leaders from Kentucky's three organized Jewish communities – Louisville, Lexington and Paducah – have all responded the ruling.

"Our community, specifically through the work of the JCRC, has supported women's reproductive rights and will continue to advocate for a woman's right and decision to access safe health care and legal reproductive choice," said Sara Klein Wagner, President & CEO of the Jewish Federation of Louisville and Trager Family JCC.

Mindy Haas, executive director of the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass, said her organization is working with Lexington congregations, the KRCRC, the Kentucky Council of Churches and the Religious Action Center "to maintain safe and appropriate healthcare for those in need." She did not elaborate.

Fred Allen, president of Temple Israel in Paducah, said his members are "concerned that politics are infringing on religious freedom."

He lamented "certain Supreme Court justices and U.S. legislators [who] are driven to overturn precedent law and deny a woman who happens to follow Reform [or Conservative] Judaism her right, on religious grounds, to decide for herself to terminate a pregnancy."

Raising money for women who must now travel for abortions, especially who cannot afford the costs, is an immediate way to help women who choose an abortion, Hordes said.

"What they really need is money. It costs money to get women over state lines – legally – there are waiting lists

(at abortion clinics), there are hotel stays and there is loss of income if they have to take time off from work."

But there are other ways rabbis and cantors can help with expenses.

"It's OK to use discretionary funds if they have women come to them asking for help," said Rabbi Hara Person, president of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, which represents the Reform rabbinate. "They can use their discretionary funds for this."

Discretionary funds are individual bank accounts in the names of pulpit rabbis and cantors from which they may – at their own discretion – contribute to causes, people in need, social and religious programs. The funds are not for personal use.

Rabbi Steve Rabinowitz, chief executive officer of The Rabbinical Assembly, the umbrella group of the Conservative rabbinate urged his members to stay informed of changing state laws as they decide how to act.

"The Rabbinical Assembly is advising individual rabbis to seek legal guidance specific to their respective states, Rabinowitz said. "The laws are changing quickly and are different in each state and individuals need that specific guidance."

The *Dobbs* ruling is not just a First Amendment infringement, according to Hordes, it will pose severe hardships for entire families, many of which simply cannot afford another child.

"This decision is going to harm a lot of people," she said, "a lot of families and a lot of children whose families cannot feed another child. It's a mess."



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USPS #020-068 at Louisville, KY.

The Jewish Community of Louisville is a nonprofit organization. \$26 of your pledge is for a subscription for **Community**.

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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.

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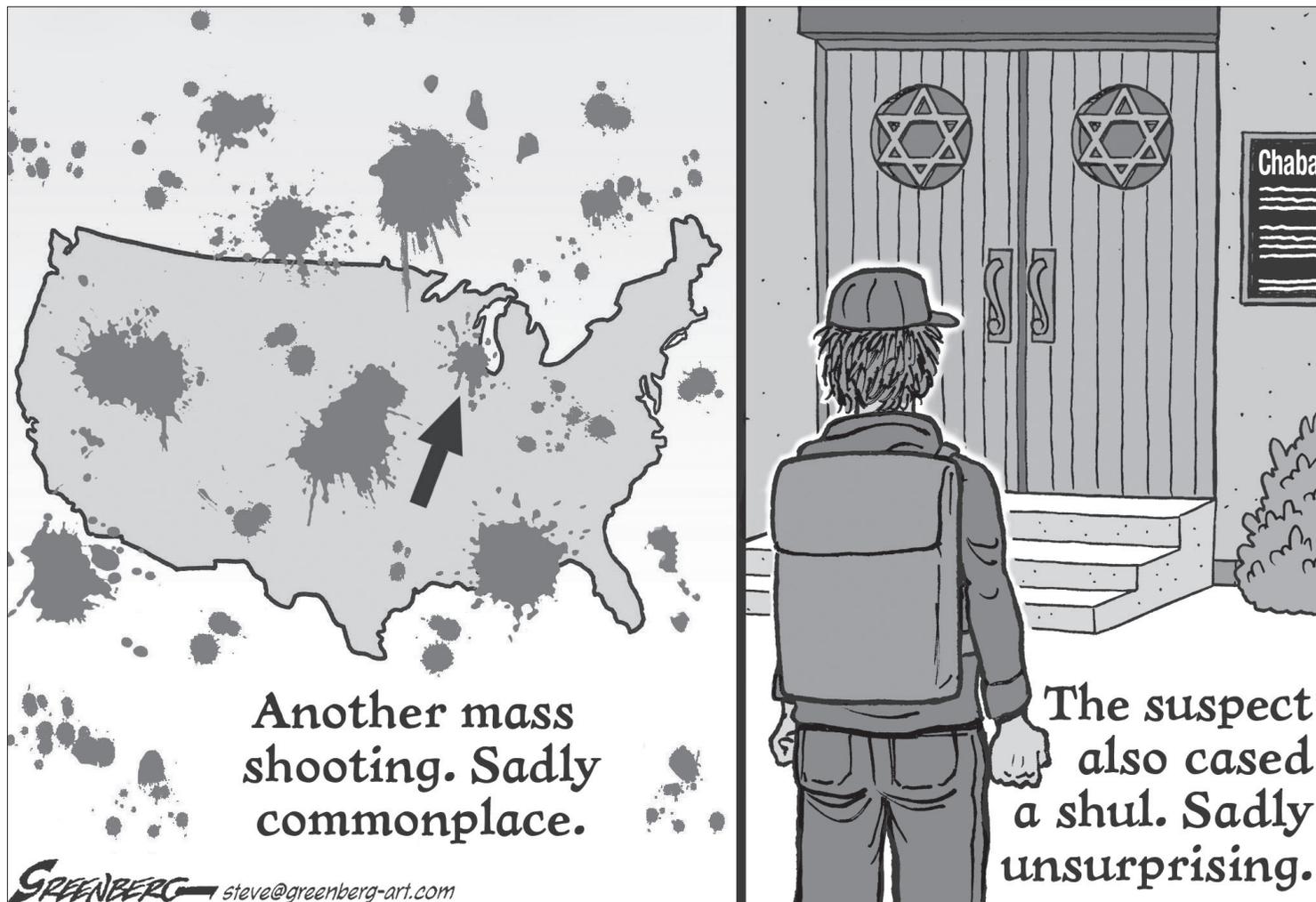
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FORUM



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I am on Team Soros; are you?



Human Resources

Lee Chottiner

I am a defender of George Soros, the Hungarian-American-Jewish billionaire and well-known patron of progressive causes.

But not *because* of his causes. I defend him because this 91-year-old man has become a trope of choice for conspiracy theorists and Jew-haters across America, and even the world.

It happened again in Frankfort on Thursday, July 7, during a legislative meeting of the Interim Joint Committee on Judiciary. One member, Sen. Philip Wheeler, R-Pike, was grilling representatives of the Louisville-based Bail Project about its criteria for posting bail for people accused of violent crimes. That is when he dropped a Soros bomb.

“When you have prosecutors and judges in these large metropolitan areas being funded by George Soros and other folks that have a goal of putting people back out on the streets,” Wheeler said, “I mean this is a concern for the safety of these communities.”

Sounded like he was saying Soros, who happens to be a wealthy Jew, was buying judges and prosecutors.

An irate Sen. Karen Berg, D-Jefferson, the only Jewish lawmaker in the Kentucky General Assembly, was not having it.

“There is a very strong antisemitic meme associated with the name George Soros

that I do not appreciate being brought up in this room,” she said. “I am to the point where I am willing to call it out when I see and call it out when I hear it. This was not done in the house when it should have been, and I am speaking up. I am offended – *offended*.”

The chairman tried to smooth things out, saying he did not think any harm was intended by the reference.

I’m not so sure.

Too often, Soros is a favorite fuel of antisemites. They persistently use his name to stoke hatred of the Jews, hardening old canards that we have so much money and control the levers of power.

He was the subject of a tweet storm in 2020, accusing him of organizing “the political careers of Jewish politicians and liberal protests to create a ‘Jewish supremacy’ in the United States, according to *Forbes Magazine*.”

He has been smeared as an architect of world domination and “plotting the slaughter of Christian children,” according to the *Los Angeles Times*.

The Hungarian government has vilified its native son with a multi-million-dollar poster campaign and anti-migration legislation styled the “Stop Soros” Law.

And he has been falsely accused of being a Nazi collaborator during World War II. (He was 13 at the time.)

Soros does have strong, sometimes controversial, beliefs, which he supports through his Open Society Foundation. Those beliefs are fair game.

“Criticizing Soros or his politics and actions is not antisemitic,” the American Jewish Committee says in a statement on its website. “Indeed, those who have suggested that any criticism is antisemitic do real disservice to the cause of fighting Jew

hatred.

“However,” the AJC statement continues, “when Soros is used as a symbol for Jewish control, wealth, and power, the criticism may be an updated version of traditional antisemitic tropes.”

These smears are not about Soros alone; they are about us. They constitute a veiled demonization of Jews without ever using the word antisemitism. *Oh, we’re not antisemites, we just don’t like Soros.*

Sounds a lot like, *Oh we’re not antisemites, we just don’t like Zionism.*

Same attack, different pretext.

This demonization campaign is far from harmless. In October 2018, a far-right agitator sent a bomb to Soros’ house as part of a string of bomb threats against prominent Democrats.

Is it such a leap of logic to envision somebody in Kentucky hearing a disparaging comment about Soros, how he and his kind are putting bad guys on the streets, concluding that all Jews feel that way and reaching for his AR-15?

I am from Pittsburgh. My late uncle was the rabbi at Tree of Life synagogue. *I know* it is not such a leap.

That’s why I am grateful that Jewish Louisville finally has a regional security advisor, helping the community harden its facilities and train its people to detect threats.

It is also why I am telling all my fellow Jews – Republican, Democrat, independent – that I am on Team Soros, and you should be, too. Not because you like his politics; you do not have to. But you must understand what game is really being played here – and how dangerous it is.

(Lee Chottiner is the managing editor of the Jewish Louisville)

FORUM

New federal law will help to holster U.S. gun violence



JCRC
Scene

Beth
Salamon

With more than 390 million guns in civilian hands, the United States has more firearms than people.

More than 300 mass shootings were reported as of July 5, including the tragic killings of 19 children and two adults at a school in Uvalde, Texas; of 10 Black people at a Buffalo, New York, supermarket, and seven people shot to death during a Fourth of July celebration in Highland Park, Illinois.

In all, over 19,000 people have lost their lives to gun violence so far this year.

According to Bloomberg News, no other developed nation comes close to the United States in gun-related deaths per capita.

So, what, if anything, can be done to prevent this untenable loss of life? Statistics can make solutions to gun violence seem insurmountable.

And yet, there are solutions that could work if enacted.

After each mass shooting, we hear the same myths that make tackling the problem seem impossible: Mass shootings are a mental health issue; most perpetrators don't know their victims; more guns will make us safer (we would be the safest country in the world if that were true); people do not agree on what policies to enact.

"Increasingly, we are seeing people who are frustrated, angry and hateful, and using firearms take that out on a particular group," said Cassandra Crifasi, deputy director of the Center for Gun Violence Prevention and Policy at Johns Hopkins University. "But there is a distinction between this and a diagnosable mental health issue."

It is also dangerous and irresponsible to link gun violence and mental health. Mental health issues are far more common than mass shootings: More than 50 percent of Americans will be diagnosed with a mental illness or disorder at some point in their lives, according to the Centers for Disease Control.

"Fixating on motives and the mental health of those who perpetuate violence distracts from more

actionable approaches to reducing gun violence," Crifasi said.

Most mass shootings are not random acts of violence against strangers. Shockingly, nearly 70 percent involve domestic violence, and in 68 percent of the cases, the shooter killed at least one partner or family member and had a history of domestic violence.

Fortunately, Congress has just passed the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, which prohibits firearms ownership or possession for people convicted of abusing their current or recent dating partners – an attempt to close the so-called "boyfriend loophole." This simple act alone will save lives.

The new law will also:

- Expand the background checks on firearms purchases by people ages 18 to 20;
 - Subject more gun transactions to background checks by clarifying the existing rules on when gun sellers need a federal license; and
 - Add specific language outlawing straw purchases and gun trafficking – both of which were not explicitly illegal under previous federal law.
- Background checks prevent individuals with past criminal activity, outstanding warrants, or

mental health or substance abuse issues from purchasing a gun. Additionally, licensing laws require purchasers to submit applications prior to gun purchases. A study that examined these laws found that they reduced firearm homicides by almost 30 percent.

While Americans are divided on nearly everything else, that is not the case with gun control. More than two-thirds of Americans back stricter gun control laws, according to recent polling – the highest level since 2015, including 62 percent of independents. Republican voters strongly support background checks, waiting periods, raising the purchasing age to 21 and banning high-capacity magazines.

Unfortunately, the law does not ban assault weapons or high-capacity magazines; nor does it contain universal background checks.

Still, it is a significant piece of legislation. Firearm deaths do not have to be inevitable. Hopefully, these common-sense policies will prevent senseless loss of life.

(Beth Salamon chairs the Jewish Community Relations Council.)

Letter to the Editor

Women's right to decide supported

Thanks so much for your thoughtful discussion of L'Dor Va-Dor Congregation's suit against Florida's new restrictive abortion law. ("Jews' freedom of religion rights threatened, synagogue claims," June 24) Faith in action!

As a Catholic, I have become increasingly enraged by my church's efforts to impose its beliefs on those of others or no faith tradition. At the personal level, this disrespect for varied religious teachings violates the Catholic Church's own moral theology about the primacy of a well-formed conscience. At an institutional level, the apparent merger between a good part of the Catholic hierarchy, evangelical

churches, and the Republican Party, violates not only the First Amendment but the wisdom of our country's founders.

As a Catholic I have never had an abortion, but I stand with all women, especially those who are poor and marginalized, in their rights to decide when to have children, how to raise them in safe and sustainable communities, and when not to have children.

Thanks for your community-building work.

Helen Deines
Louisville

(The author is an emerita professor of social work at Spalding University.)

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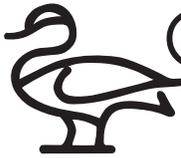


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FORUM

LCJC: Supreme Court's Dobbs ruling means 'more death, not more life'

(Editor's note: The following is a statement by Louisville Council of Jewish Congregations in response to the recent U.S. Supreme Court decision that struck down Roe v. Wade. It is printed here in its entirety.)

As clergy, professional and lay leaders of Louisville's synagogues and temples, we feel a need to express our grave concern with the ruling issued recently by the Supreme Court of the United States in the case Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health.

We are concerned with the impact this decision will have on religious freedom in our country. There are a broad range of contemporary Reform, Conservative and Orthodox rabbis who have ruled that when a pregnancy threatens the wellbeing of the mother that it is not only permissible but required by Jewish law to terminate the pregnancy. These rulings are consistent with Jewish tradition and law as passed down in the Torah, the Talmud and through millennia of commentary, which teach that the life and wellbeing of a pregnant person is paramount. We believe this stance to be both pro-life and pro-

choice. This is especially true in cases of dangerous ectopic pregnancies and other instances where the fetus is not viable.

The recent ruling by the Supreme Court will enable states to embrace a view of when life begins based on one specific religion to the exclusion of others. We believe this to be in direct conflict with the First Amendment to the United States Constitution, which prevents the government from establishing a state religion and prohibits it from favoring the view of one faith over another. If states choose to restrict reproductive rights, Jewish women may not be able to get the healthcare that their religion would say is necessary. By contrast, we are inspired by the recent expansion of reproductive healthcare access in the State of Israel, where all citizens have been empowered to make their own decisions in these matters.

In light of the laws already passed in Kentucky and the constitutional amendment on the ballot this fall, we are extremely concerned that our own congregants, and citizens across Louisville and the Commonwealth of Kentucky, will not have access to

the reproductive healthcare they may need. Denying life-saving procedures to pregnant people will lead to more death, not more life.

We are also concerned about what this Supreme Court decision will mean for people who struggle with infertility and want to utilize IVF as a means to grow their families. This process requires the fertilization of eggs, which may be outlawed by states around the country.

We encourage all Jews who have been galvanized by these events to speak with clergy or lay leadership, even if your reaction to the decision is not the same as our own. We hope you will learn more about Jewish teachings about fertility, pregnancy and abortion, and what is being done in our own community to protect the sanctity of life and access to healthcare.

Sadly, we fear becoming pregnant in the commonwealth of Kentucky has become more dangerous this past month. We pray that the vision of the book of Leviticus will soon come to pass when G-d promises, "I will bring peace to the land, and you shall lie down, and no one will terrify you." We yearn for a day when no one is terrified by being

denied a medical procedure based on the religious beliefs of other United States citizens.

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FORUM

So much to celebrate this past year, so much to anticipate



Sara's View

Sara Klein Wagner
with
Dr. Ralph Green

"To be a Jew is to keep faith with the past by building a Jewish future."

- Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks

Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, z'l, was an inspiring and insightful teacher. This quote resonates with this special moment in time for our Jewish Community of Louisville. While the world around us may feel overwhelming and fractious, our Jewish community provides a connection to keep us grounded together by our past and our future. We have much to be proud of as we continue to nurture our Jewish future serving the community.

Our vision statement was truly our guiding light this past year, Inspiring meaningful lives while transforming our Jewish future. Every day, we are engaging with people of all ages and backgrounds at our new Trager Family Jewish Community Center. Our Jewish Federation continues to ensure the viability and sustainability of the core

needs of the community.

We are so grateful to our generous donors who supported the Federation this year, stepping forward to care for Jews in Ukraine and Israel, as well as refugees from Afghanistan who relocated to Louisville in late 2021. We also saw our mission work in action when our global Jewish community supported our neighbors here in western Kentucky following the devastating tornados that tore through nearby communities.

The Federation's continued support of Jewish Community Relations Council has allowed us to fight against antisemitism and advocate for anti-hate legislation at the local and state levels. This support has also ensured our community can care for the most vulnerable and those who are still in need because of the long-term effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

We celebrate the many successes of the past year, and our donors and volunteers of the Jewish Community of Louisville who work passionately to change lives. We celebrate the once-in-a-lifetime opening of the Trager Family JCC and the walk across the parking lot that we took together from the last JCC to our new home.

Jewish life and history teach us many lessons. As Rabbi Sacks taught, and as we aspire to do each day, it is our time



Sara Klein Wagner and Dr. Ralph Green at this year's annual meeting.

and moment to use all we have learned to build the Jewish future we envision. We are extremely proud that we keep the Jewish values of *Tikkun Olam* (repair the world), *Torah* (learning), *Areyvut* (community responsibility) and *Klal Yisrael* (the Jewish people) at the forefront of our work.

(Sara Klein Wagner is the president & CEO of the Jewish Federation of Louisville and the Trager Family JCC. Dr. Ralph Green is the immediate past president of JCL Board of Trustees. This column originally appeared as a letter to the community at the 2022 JCL Annual Report and has been reformatted for newspaper publication.)

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PICTURE THIS: MATT GOLDBERG'S FAREWELL



Jewish Louisville said farewell to Matt Goldberg during a June 29 going-away party at the Trager Family Jewish Community Center. Goldberg, who served 12 years as director of community relations, and his family have moved to San Diego, where he has accepted a position with the Jewish Federation there. Pictured clockwise from top left: Goldberg addressing the gathering; with his wife, Lisa, his mother and brother; with Kevin Trager, the Goldbergs with gift bags presented at the party, part of the crowd listening to farewell speeches, Goldberg with Tricia Kling Siegwald and Stan Siegwald (Community photos by Robyn Kaufman)



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PICTURE THIS: ANNUAL MEETING



The first JCL Annual Meeting held at the Trager Family Jewish Community Center happened Tuesday, July 14. David Kaplan was formally elected chair of the Board of Directors, succeeding Dr. Ralph Green; highlights of the past year were recalled, and the annual awards were presented. Pictured clockwise from top left: Green, Kristy Benefield and Susan Kwasny; Kaplan, Steve Reily, Emily Bingham and Green; Kaplan addresses the meeting, Green with his granddaughter; Reily and Bingham accept the Blanche B. Ottenheimer Award; Cantor Lauren Adesnik, The Temple; Northwestern Mutual's Shane Wohlschlegel with Stacy Gordon-Funk; Lost Tribe performs in the lobby during cocktails; Green with Judah award winner, Emily Podgursky; Pressma Student Leadership Award Winner, Nicole Scaiewicz and Abigail Goldberg; Green presents the Lewis W. Cole Memorial Young Leadership Award to Michael and Mollie Weisberg; Sara Klein Wagner addresses the meeting; This year's prizes on display before the ceremony. (Community photos by Kathryn Harrington)



HISTORY

100 years of building

Joseph & Joseph has shaped Jewish Louisville, city

By Lisa Hornung
For Community

Few architectural firms have shaped the city of Louisville as much as Joseph & Joseph Architects.

To honor this legacy, the Filson Historical Society will host a lecture in August about the firm, its Jewish founders Alfred and Oscar Joseph, and the mark that its architectural designs have left on Louisville's neighborhoods and business districts since 1908.

The program, "Joseph & Joseph: Over 100 Years of Landmark Architecture," will feature architect, historian and author Steve Wiser, who will speak about the history of the firm, which has designed many homes and businesses in the Louisville area.

"What I love about learning the history of Joseph & Joseph is the way the story flows between generations and communities," said Abby Glogower, curator of Jewish Collections and Jewish Community Archives at the Filson.

One of Louisville's oldest continuously operated architectural firms, Joseph & Joseph, under the direction of its founders, designed many famous and historic buildings around town,

including the second YMHA building in 1915 to replace the original, which had been outgrown.

The Filson now has a temporary exhibit about the YMHA building and the history of the Jewish community buildings in its lobby, just outside the exhibit Forgotten Foundations, which is a look at historical Louisville architecture that has since been demolished.

Joseph & Joseph also designed the Louisville JCC on Dutchmans Lane, Anshei Sfar, the first Keneseth Israel and Adath Israel synagogues and the Frankel Chapel at The Temple Cemetery (though Adath Israel and the chapel predate the actual establishment of the firm).

But Joseph & Joseph's impact was not limited to Jewish Louisville. The firm also designed the Commodore apartment building on Bonnycastle Avenue in the Highlands in 1928, which is now on the National Register of Historic Places. It also designed Willow Terrace at Cherokee Triangle in 1922.

The firm has worked in the bourbon industry, too, designing the new Heaven Hill distillery in Bardstown, which will replace the facilities destroyed in a 1996 fire, and the restored Angel's

Envy Distillery and Tourist Center (what used to be the Vermont American complex).

"Joseph & Joseph are the region's, probably Kentucky's, longest continuously operating architecture firm under the same name," Wiser said.

More notable than the work itself, though, was the ability of the Joseph brothers to build a successful firm under difficult circumstances.

"Alfred and Oscar Joseph's career is even more remarkable due to their father's early death at age 32," Wiser said. "Their mother raised them along with two other brothers, and all had successful careers."

One of the Joseph brothers' best known – and grandest – buildings was the Rialto Theater, at 616 S. Fourth St., which operated from 1921 to 1968.

A far cry from today's cinemas, the \$1 million Rialto was called "the finest and most costly theater in the city, by oldlouisville.com.

"The Rialto could seat 3,500 people, had chandeliers of Bohemian crystal, a great marble staircase, walls of expensive Rookwood tiles and a \$30,000 pipe organ, according to the website. "It opened in 1921 as Louisville's first

grand movie palace," Even Elvis Presley performed there.

Glogower said the story of Joseph & Joseph is multifaceted. Not only does it play a major role in history of 20th century Louisville architecture, but it also reflects the history of Jews in Louisville and across Kentucky.

"Architectural needs and styles change over time, which is interesting," Glogower said, "but also, the reality of Jewish businesses and professions, especially in places like Kentucky. The clientele and employee base are almost always a mix of Jews and non-Jews.

That history is still posing questions for historians today, she added. "How have these dynamics been managed in the past? How do they function today?"

Want to go?

"Joseph & Joseph: Over 100 Years of Landmark Architecture" will begin at 6 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 23, at the Filson Historical Society, 1310 S. Third St. Tickets are free for Filson members and \$15 for non-members. A Zoom option is available for free but requires registration at filsonhistorical.org.

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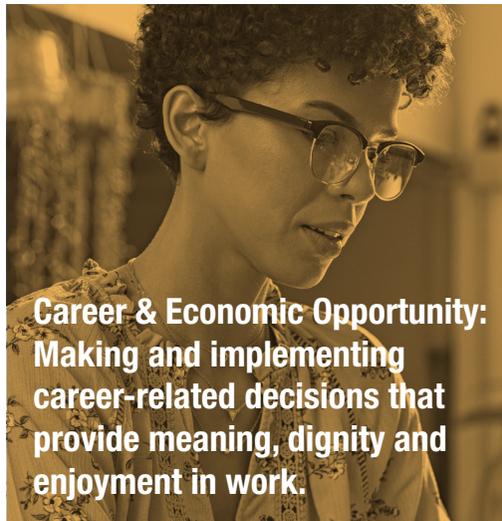


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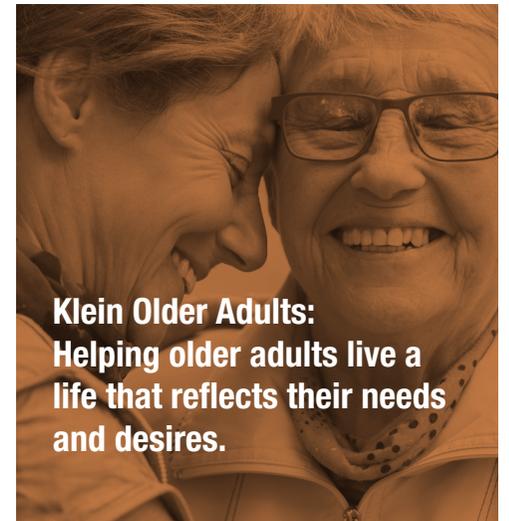
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NEWS

EV charging stations open at Trager Family JCC

By Lee Chottiner
Managing Editor

As Stuart Ungar plugged his electric car into one of four new charger ports at the Trager Family Jewish Community Center, something he has come to expect happened.

People just stopped to ask him questions about them.

"I literally had two conversations at the chargers with people asking questions and saying this a wonderful idea," said Ungar, cofounder of Evolve KY, a nonprofit organization that promotes electric vehicle (EV) use in the Bluegrass State, "so it does that."

The very existence of the chargers generates (yes, pun intended) interest in EVs.

The JCC charging station was installed in June close to the main entrance with Evolve KY providing logistical support for the project.

Stacy Gordon-Funk, senior vice president of philanthropy and chief development officer of the Jewish Federation of Louisville, said the charging stations were part of the master plan for green infrastructure at the new center.

"We were just waiting as we got the building completed to so some of additional things we committed to."

Indeed, when it opened, the conduits for the charging station, connecting the electric panel to the site itself, were al-

ready in the ground.

"It's part of our philosophy and values of repairing and taking care of the world," Gordon-Funk said. "The car chargers are getting a lot of attention on campus. Our members have expressed so much gratitude for taking this important step to promote a more sustainable environment."

The level 2 chargers, which are free for use and provide about 25 miles of range per hour, give members the electric equivalent to topping off a gas tank.

"People work out for an hour or two, benefit themselves and their bodies, and get a few miles on their cars," Ungar said. "It probably gives them an incentive to work out."

The initial costs of the JCC station here were underwritten by Frank and Barbara, and Ron and Elaine Weisberg.

Since its founding about seven years ago, Evolve KY has, with the help of its contractor, developed a network of 56 charging stations with 128 individual chargers in Kentucky, southern Indiana and soon Ohio.

They can be found in Bernheim Forest, Yew Dell Gardens, Jefferson Memorial Forest, a farmers market in Bardstown, at coffee shops, churches, schools and hotels.

And JCCs. In addition to Louisville, JCCs in Indianapolis, Kansas City, Tampa, Palo Alto, California; Cherry Hill,

New Jersey, among others, have installed charging stations. Even some synagogues are adding them.

Nationally, according to the U.S. Department of Energy, there are nearly 43,000 public EV charging stations and around 120,000 charging ports.

And more are expected. Bloomberg News has reported that fully electric vehicles new account for 5 percent of new car sales in this country, a proven tipping point in other countries when EV sales have skyrocketed.

The charging station is not the only way the JCC is going green. Tom Wissing, vice president and chief operating officer of the Jewish Community of Louisville, said several steps have been taken to make the new building environmentally friendly:

- It was designed with Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) principles – a green building certification program, kept in mind;
- The Yarmuth Family Aquatics Center utilizes mechanical systems to significantly reduce water waste;
- More efficient and longer-lasting LED lighting was installed throughout the building;
- Natural light was "strategically utilized" to assist in the lighting of the center;
- The heating system is more efficient than in the old JCC, cutting down on the use of natural gas.



The new charging station at the Trager Family JCC opened in June.

When Ungar and others started Evolve KY, charging stations were hard to find and fewer EV drivers were on the road. Members had to knock on doors selling the idea of charger installations.

Much has changed since then. "Now folks are contacting us," he said, "which is nice."

NEWS & NEWSMAKERS

Musikgarten to return this September

Musikgarten, an early childhood music education class, was introduced to the Trager Family JCC in June. The six-week session was open to children ages 2-5.

The class met every Sunday from 10-10:45a.m. Musikgarten, a national organization, is considered a leader in early childhood music education.

Cathy Deszer taught music and movement through the Musikgarten curriculum.

A second Musikgarten session will start Sunday, Sept. 18. This time, there will be two classes – one for children up to 18 months old and another for ages 2 and over. Watch *Community* and its eblast for more details.



Parents and children parade about at a recent Musikgarten session at the Trager Family JCC (photo provided by Alison Roemer)

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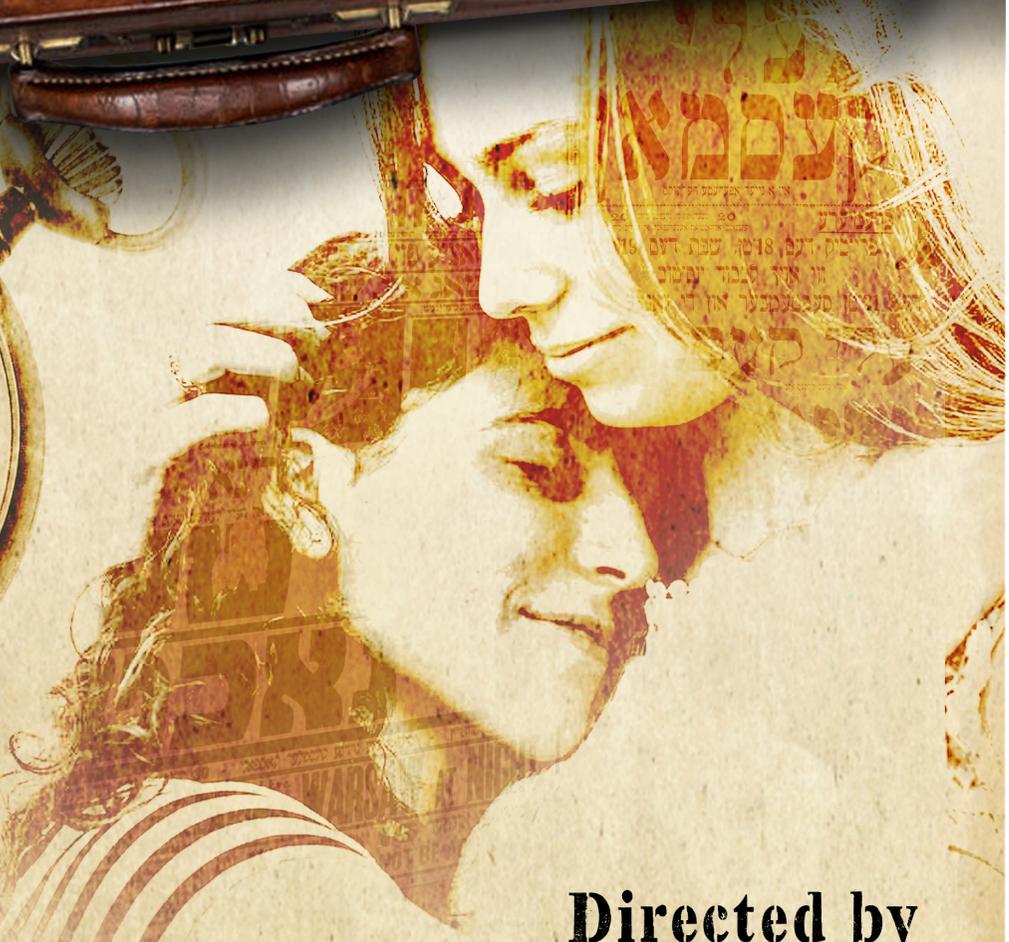


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Running Thursday - Sunday
until August 14



AROUND TOWN

(Unless otherwise noted, all events are free and open to the community.)

Adath Jeshurun

In preparation for Rabbi Slosberg's June 2023 retirement, Rabbi Joshua Corber has officially joined the AJ staff as its new senior rabbi. The community can meet Rabbi Corber and his family during Kabbalat Shabbat services, 5:45 p.m. Fridays, or at Shabbat morning services, 10 a.m. Saturdays.

Adath Jeshurun will co-host three shared-synagogue Tisha B'Av observances with Keneseth Israel at 9:30 a.m. Aug. 6, 8:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Aug. 7. This year, all services will take place at KI. Additional information may be found on the AJ homepage at adathjeshurun.com.

A Selichot program and service will be 8:20 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 17. The program will include a film, *The Lost Supper* by Cantor Steven Stoehr, which explores an imagined Passover seder hosted by Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel and attended by Martin Luther King, Jr. A panel discussion will follow the screening. A learning opportunity about Louisville's Roots 101 Museum also will be held. The Selichot service will follow a dessert reception.

AJ's annual cemetery service will be 11 a.m., Sunday, Sept. 18, in the Adath Jeshurun Cemetery, 2926 Preston Highway.

Anshei Sfard

Shabbat services are held at 9 a.m. Saturdays at 2904 Bardstown Road.

Classes held weekly are Talmud Trek II, 9:30 a.m. Sundays; and Spice of Life, 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays.

Chavurat Shalom

The group meets Thursdays at noon. Lunch is in the Heideman Auditorium, followed by the program at 1 p.m. All programs also are livestreamed via [ChavuratShalomZoom](https://www.facebook.com/ChavuratShalomZoom). Masks are optional for fully vaccinated participants. To attend in person, RSVP by 5 p.m. Tuesday on the week of the program by contacting Sarah at 502-212-2038 or sarahharlan86@gmail.com.

Aug. 4 – Jason Parroco, hospital specialist and business development and community outreach leader for Hospirus Health, will speak (lunch: chicken fajitas, Mexican-style rice, black bean and corn salad, fresh fruit and Mexican-style chocolate mousse).

Aug. 11 – Beth Olliges will join us to lead us in a fun summer sing along. Lunch will include salmon cakes, mashed potatoes, green peas and carrots, cole slaw, fresh fruit and lemon blueberry trifle.

Aug. 18 – No Chavurat Shalom.

Aug. 25 – Benji Berlow will lead a sing-along on guitar (lunch: pasta and meatballs, Caesar salad, fresh fruit, and cookies and brownies).

Filson Historical Society

"Joseph & Joseph: Over 100 Years of Landmark Architecture," a presentation by architect and historian Steve

Wiser, will be 6 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 23. The presentation will review the past, present and future of Joseph & Joseph, which was founded in 1908 by Alfred and Oscar Joseph. Several iconic structures have been designed by the firm in Louisville and Kentucky, including the old Anshei Sfard and JCC buildings, the Commodore and Dartmouth high-rises and the Angel's Envy Distillery. Go to bit.ly/3okveDM for tickets.

Digitizing Your Family Treasures, a program with Danielle Spalenka, digital initiatives and preservation archivist at the Filson, will be in person or virtually at noon, Friday, July 29. Lunch will be followed by a one-hour discussion on starting a family digitization project and what is involved. Go to filsonhistorical.org/events/upcoming-events/ to register.

Keneseh Israel

Daily Minyan services are offered in person and on Zoom. Shabbat and holiday services are offered in person and on [YoutubeLive](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...). Go to the website or Facebook page for details on classes, programs, upcoming events and COVID policies.

Intermediate level Hebrew class meets at 5 p.m. Sundays in person and on Zoom. The class addresses reading and translating Hebrew texts with a focus on liturgy. A learner's minyan – an abbreviated service – follows at 6 p.m.

Keneseh Israel and Adath Jeshurun will observe Tisha B'Av together. Services begin with evening prayer and the chanting of the book of *Eicha* at 9:30 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 6, at KI or on Zoom. Services will continue at 8:30 a.m., Sunday, Aug. 7, with morning prayer and a second chanting of *Eicha*, followed by a 2 p.m. "KI Day" matinee showing of *Indecent* at the Henry Clay Theatre. Tickets will be discounted to \$18, and the showing will feature a talk back from Artist-in-Residence Ariane Barrie-Stern and Rabbi Ben Freed.

Jews and Brews with Rabbi Freed is 11 a.m. Wednesdays on Zoom and in person at the Trager Family JCC; the weekly Torah portion is studied. Rabbi Freed will also lead Jews and Brews: After Hours at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 11, at a brewery to be determined.

Kabbalat Shabbat in the Park will be Friday, Aug. 12, at the Stegner Pavilion next to Hogan's Fountain. The program can also be livestreamed at tinyurl.com/KICYoutubelive. Bring a dairy picnic; dessert is on KI.

Torah Yoga with Cantor Hordes is every third Thursday at 6:30 p.m. The next class is Aug. 18. Some yoga mats are available but bring your own if you have one.

Shabbat treats will be given out at 6 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 20, at Graeter's on Bardstown Road. RSVP to rsvp@kenesehisrael.com or call 502-459-2780.

Family Shabbat, a musical Kabbalat Shabbat service followed by a meal starting at 6 p.m., Friday, Aug. 26. RSVP to rsvp@kenesehisrael.com or call 502-459-2780.

Kentucky Institute for Torah Education

The Light of Torah class is now in person at the new JCC in the Barbara Brick reading room on Mondays from 7:30 to 8 p.m. Light refreshments will be served. There is also a Zoom option. Contact Rabbi Zack Blaustein at rab-bizb@kentuckytorah.org to RSVP or for the zoom link.

Kol Israel Congregation of Kentucky

The next Bloomington Jewish Renewal Shabbos morning service will be 10:15 a.m., Saturday, Aug. 6 via Zoom. Bruce Solomon and Sue Swartz are orchestrating and will lead. Contact Kol Israel KolIsraelky@gmail.com or 502-341-1595 to sign up.

Inner Peace for Challenging Times, a community-wide Jewish meditation, will be 9 p.m., Monday, Aug. 8. Register at KolIsraelky@gmail.com or 502-341-1595.

Louisville High School for Jewish Studies

Registrations for the 2022-23 school year are being accepted. Classes begin on Sunday, Sept. 11, at The Temple and will be roughly twice per month. The first day will include an "elective speed dating" session. Students will learn about course offerings and rank them, enabling the faculty to "custom-craft" the curriculum. The possible courses are Jews and Science Fiction, Jewish Cooking, The Abrahamic Faiths, The Periodic Table, *Midot*, LGBTQ Judaism and Torah Yoga. Go to louisvillehjs.org/register/ to register or contact Principal Sarah Harlan at hsjssarah@gmail.com for details.

NCJW, Louisville Section

The NCJW Shopping Spree Card Program is back for 2022 and '23. Purchase a Shopping Spree card to receive a 20-percent discount at local retail stores from Aug. 8 to 22, 2022, and Feb. 20 to March 6, 2023. Some stores also offer year-round discounts. To order \$30 cards, go to ncjwlou.org or call the NCJW Office at 502-458-5566.

The Nearly New Shop is hiring a full-time manager and a part-time cashier. Go to bit.ly/3uWtMLi for details or contact Executive Director Nancy Chazen at 502-458-5566 or nancychazen@ncjwlou.org to apply.

Temple Shalom

The next Men's Club Breakfast will be 10 a.m., Sunday, Aug. 14. Roz Shaffer will speak about her collection of presidential election campaign pins. A \$5 donation to cover the cost of breakfast is appreciated.

The next No-Shush Shabbat, an interactive family service with guitarist Benji Berlow, will be 6:30 p.m., Friday, Aug. 19. Dinner will follow.

The WhoDunnit? Murder Mystery Theater will be 5:30 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 21. Email information@templeshalom.org for details.

Volunteer Appreciation Shabbat will be at 7:15 p.m., Friday, Aug. 26. An oneg will follow services.

The Tikkun Olam Team is raising funds to purchase book packs for needy children in the Jefferson County Public Schools. Email chailands@templeshalomky.org for details.

Senior Lunch Bunch programs are every third Wednesday at 1 p.m. at an area restaurant. Email information@templeshalomky.org for details.

Torah study with Rabbi Beth Jacowitz Chottiner is Tuesdays at 1 p.m. on Zoom. Email information@templeshalomky.org for details.

The Temple

The WRJ/Sisterhood Gift Shop is open 2 to 5 p.m. Tuesdays, 12:30 to 3 p.m. Thursdays and 1 to 4 p.m. Fridays. Visit its Facebook page at [facebook.com/wrjtemplegiftshop](https://www.facebook.com/wrjtemplegiftshop) or call Sheila Lynch, 502-896-9736; Marlene Ornstein, 502-329-3376; or Karen Waldman, 502-425-4360 to make an appointment.

Torah Study at 9 a.m. with Rabbi David Ariel-Joel starts at 9 a.m. on Zoom and in person. For the full schedule and to sign up for 2022-23 adult education classes, go to thetemplelouky.org/adult-education.

Indoor Shabbat services are Friday nights and Saturday mornings. Go to thetemplelouky.org for details.

The No Rehearsal Brotherhood Choir will sing at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 6. The oneg Shabbat to follow will feature homemade matzah and gravlax.

Rabbi Ariel-Joel will lead a hike in Bernheim Forest at 8:45 a.m., Sunday, Aug. 14. His monthly hikes are open to all ages, though strollers are not recommended. During the summer, the hiking group will meet in the morning; during the winter, in the afternoon. The Temple will provide water bottles to keep. Sign up at thetemplelouky.org/hiking-with-rabbi-david.

Mitzvah Makers will meet at 12:30 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 14, to make sandwiches for the homeless. RSVP at thetemplelouky.org/sandwich-making. Please bring donations for bags to be handed out. Items needed are bottled water, individual bags of chips, loaves of bread, sandwich bags and hotel/sample-size toiletries (shampoo, bars of soap, lotion, mouthwash, toothbrushes, and toothpaste).

A sofer (scribe) will be at The Temple Aug. 23-24 to repair Torah scrolls. The process will be livestreamed, and members can speak to the sofer in person. More details will be available in the weekly newsletter.

The annual, end-of-summer Blue Jean Shabbat will be Friday, Aug. 26. The casual, family-friendly dinner will start at 5:30 p.m.; the service will follow at 7 p.m. Dinner costs \$10 per person and is free for children ages 12 and under; also free for RSVPs made before Tuesday, Aug. 23. Call 502-423-1818 or go to thetemplelouky.org/blue-jean-shabbat to register.

LIFECYCLE

B'nai Mitzvah



Lewis Mather, son of Martha and Adam Mather, and **Jada Auslander-Price**, daughter of Jon Auslander-Price and the late Alana Auslander-Price, were called to the Torah as b'nai mitzvah on Saturday, July 2, at Keneseth Israel.

Lewis is the grandson of the late Gail "Gigi" Zemon, Tommy Mather of Atlanta, Rita Strickland of Lakeland, Florida, and the late Jay Strickland. Jada is the granddaughter of Lee Ann and Dr. Michael Auslander and Jackie and Larry Price.

An eighth grader at Meyzeek Middle School, Lewis plays varsity baseball and is a member of the Beta Club. He loves pickleball, basketball and spending time with family and friends.

An eighth grader at Western Middle School for the Arts, Jada is a musical theater major and vocal minor. She also studied dance at the Diane Moore Dance Academy and is active in other arts. When not performing, she loves to travel and enjoys Broadway musicals.

Obituaries



Philip Greenberg, 88, died Saturday, July 9, in his Louisville home surrounded by his loving family after a lengthy battle with cancer.

Born in New Castle, Pennsylvania, in 1933 to Joseph and Marian Greenberg, Philip was the older of their two sons. He and his brother, Alan, grew up among a gaggle of Greenbergs. More than two dozen aunts, uncles and first cousins lived in the area, and his childhood was full of picnics, get-togethers, and family dinners. Athletic and well-spoken, Philip was a natural leader. He was active in his local AZA chapter and the captain of the New Castle High School AZA basketball team.

Philip attended Penn State University in State College, an institution that remained close to his heart for life. He graduated with honors and moved to Pittsburgh to study for his MBA at the University of Pittsburgh. Out of a sense of duty to his country, Philip chose to attend Officer Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island, becoming a commissioned officer in the Navy. He served for over three years on the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Bon Homme Richard, mostly in the Pacific Ocean.

Philip left the Navy as a lieutenant (junior grade) when his first son, David, was born. He spent the following eight years in New York City, learning about the family business, coal mining. After his sons Jeffrey and Peter were born, Philip returned to New Castle to be closer to family. A serial entrepreneur, he founded the Oakleaf Coal Company, developed metallurgical coal

mines for the Energy Development Corporation, and played a critical role in the founding of Key Pharmaceutical Corporation.

Throughout his life, Philip loved animals, particularly horses. When he retired in 1970, he went all in on saddlebred horses, moving his stable from Pennsylvania to Simpsonville, Kentucky. Over the next decade, Kentucky drew nearer to his heart and he eventually relocated to Shelby County, New Estate, the farm he purchased in 1980, housed his champion saddlebreds and eventually his family. Alongside his wife, Susie, and daughter, Gina, he raised seven World Grand Champion saddlebreds. Retirement suited Philip. He relished the opportunity to travel each summer to Capri and to see his horses compete nationally. Whenever he could, he visited family at home and abroad, taking care to make regular trips to Israel to see his cousins, the Zilbers.

A generous man and tireless community booster, he gave freely to good causes large and small. The YMCA, Mount Sinai Medical Center of Miami, the Fund for the Arts, Jewish Hospital of Louisville, Congregation Adath Jeshurun, and the Kentucky Opera all counted him as a patron and friend. Above all, he loved his Nittany Lions. In 1982, he gave Penn State the indoor sports complex that bears his name.

Philip is survived by his wife of 30 years, Susie; his sons, David (Michelle), Jeffrey (Stacia), and Peter (Edy); his daughter, Gina (Paul); brother Alan (Valerie); his grandchildren, Andrew (Melissa), Gregory (Keiysha), Elliot (Sheyna), Amanda (Travis), Ryan, Jake, and Ava; and his great-grandchildren, Aerin, Eddi and Miller, along with countless cousins, friends, colleagues, and acquaintances, all of whom have their own stories of Philip to tell.

Services were held Monday, July 11. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his name to Congregation Adath Jeshurun, 2401 Woodbourne Ave, Louisville, KY 40205 (adathjeshurun.com) or the Colon Cancer Prevention Project, P.O. Box 4039, Louisville, KY (coloncancerpreventionproject.org/help-kick-butt/donate/), a charity Philip was proud to support.



Annora Sue Karr (nee Kirsch)

Annora Sue Karr, passed away quietly Wednesday, July 20, 2022, after a brief illness, surrounded by her loved ones.

A truly precious soul, Sue, as she was known to many, was a happy, social person with a ready smile. Her entire family dearly loved her. Born in New York City on Nov. 28, 1931, Sue was raised in Washington Heights, Upper Manhattan. Her parents were childhood immigrants escaping the pogroms of Eastern Europe at the turn of the 20th century.

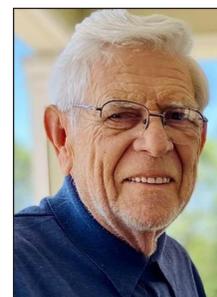
Sue attended the New York High School of Music and Art and went on to graduate from Oberlin College in 1953 with a degree in art history. Her years at Oberlin were marked by the love of

her singing and theatrical endeavors. She was known for her beautiful soprano voice, and her flaming red hair. She enjoyed performing in many musicals. After graduation, Sue returned to New York and took a position as an aide at the Guggenheim Museum. She met her beloved husband, Sam, in Philadelphia on a blind date, when he literally "swept her off her feet" in his light plane, with a day trip to Atlantic City. That began their lifetime love of travel. Sue and Sam lived in New York, Camp LeJeune, North Carolina; and Philadelphia before settling in Toledo, Ohio, where they raised their family.

Sue became an active member of the Toledo arts community. She worked or volunteered as a classical DJ for WGTE, a docent at The Toledo Museum of Art, a teacher of English as a second language and was an active vocalist.

In 2014, Sue and Sam relocated to Louisville, where she continued her passions for the arts and other pursuits.

Sue is survived by her three sons, Matthew (Kathy Karr), Joel (Kenneth Fong), and Robert (Sabrina Haber); her grandchildren Laura (Matthew Duncan), Daniel (Kassi Karr), Gabriel, and Sophia; and four great-grandchildren, Noah, Harper, Sadee and Calum. A funeral was held Monday, July 25, at Herman Meyer & Son, Inc. Burial followed in Cave Hill Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Speed Museum, Louisville Orchestra, The Toledo Museum of Art, or MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger.



Barry Allen Lerner

Barry Allen Lerner, 85, of Prospect, died Monday, July 4, at Norton Brownsboro Hospital.

Born in Louisville on July 19, 1936, to the late Morris and Rose Lyon Lerner, Barry was an Army veteran, president of Lerner Furniture and a sales associate for Brown Brother's Cadillac, where he worked for over 25 years.

An avid golfer, he belonged to the Standard Country Club. He also was a member of Congregation Ashei Sfarid.

Besides his parents, Barry was preceded in death by his son, Harvey J. Lerner; and his daughter, Gretchen Crews.

He is survived by his loving wife, Patricia Burkett Lerner; his son, Bruce Lerner (Kim); his daughters, Lynn Federico (Bob), Jill Hulbert (Lawrence), Diane Walz and Lori Sternberg (Billy); his brother, Jerome Lerner; and 10 grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Thursday, July 7, at Herman Meyer & Son, Inc. Burial followed in Anshei Sfarid Cemetery. Memorial gifts in memory of Barry, may be made to the donor's favorite charity.

Lori Linker

Lori Linker passed away on Sunday, June 26, 2022. She was 63.

After a successful career in entertainment marketing in New York City, Lori returned to Louisville, bringing her knowledge of marketing, sports and internet savvy to various local busi-



nesses.

She most recently worked at Caption Call, helping those with hearing loss stay in touch with their loved ones.

But throughout her career, yoga was her constant.

Teaching yoga at Hot Yoga Louisville for over 20 years, her Sunday 10 a.m. class was a much-needed option for the 50-plus regular students who embraced her poses and her well-thought-out playlists.

Lori spent the last many years caring for her mother, Marjorie, who passed away on Nov. 3, 2021.

Her spirit, love, light and the type of deep kindness for others, that nobody could ever emulate will all be missed. The family hopes she is wearing that perfect little black dress women search to find.

Lori is survived by her sisters, Jan Youtie (Bill) of Atlanta, and Shari Linker (Rob Commando) of Sea Cliff, New York; and her nieces and nephew, Alana, 26, Jamie, 24, and Kyle Commando, 21.

Donations are requested for the local chapter of Make-A-Wish at www.wish.org/oki.



Liza Lipsky

Liza Lipsky of Louisville, passed away on Sunday, July 10, 2022, at the age of 100.

Born Aug. 11, 1921, in White Church, Ukraine. She completed nursing school in

1940 and worked at a hospital.

In 1941, during World War II, she and her family were evacuated to Stalingrad, where she worked at a daycare and then transitioned to Stalingrad Hospital in 1942. Due to the fighting, Liza and her family were again evacuated, this time to Uzbekistan, where she worked as a nurse. There, she met Abram, whom she would marry one year later.

In 1944, she was drafted into the Russian army. She served as a nurse on the First Baltic Front, taking care of wounded soldiers on the front lines

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LIFECYCLE

until 1946. She served bravely, was well respected and earned numerous medals for exceptional service. Upon her honorable discharge, she returned to Belarus to be with her husband and continue her nursing career.

A lifelong learner, Liza took pride in learning to speak and write English. While living at Shalom Towers, she became known as a caretaker to those in need of help. She volunteered to take residents to synagogue, to cook and help in any way they needed.

Liza loved to read, go for walks, grow beautiful plants and spend time with her children and grandchildren.

She will be missed, but her service and care for others will live on through her family and those whom she helped.

Liza was preceded in death by her husband, Abram; and her son, Michael.

She is survived by her children, Sofia Tsozik (Yefim) and Yakov Lipsky; her grandchildren, Alex, Eugene (Misha), Slava and Michael; and her great-grandchildren, Oliver and Torah.

A graveside service was held on Wednesday, July 13, in The Temple Cemetery.

Terry Mitzman

Terry Mitzman passed away on Saturday, July 2, 2022. She was 65.

Born and raised in Louisville, Terry graduated from Waggener High School.

She was mostly a stay-at-home mom, but her love of people led her into many years of part-time work in retail sales.

She could also be found several times per week playing Mahjong with friends. Much of the beautiful artwork in her home came from her needlepoint hobby.

Terry is survived by husband, Mark Mitzman; her daughters, Jennifer (Bri-

an Rosichan) Mitzman and Melanie (Scott) Morales; her parents, Julius and Betty Loeser; her sister, Frances (Steve) Balf; her grandchildren, Naomi, Yoni, Rayna, and Cecelia; and many nieces, cousins and friends.

Funeral services were held on Monday, July 4, at Epstein Memorial Chapel, Columbus, Ohio. Interment followed in New Agudas Achim Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Terry's memory may be made to Lifeline of Ohio at lifelineofohio.org or a charity of donor's choice.

Arkadiy Mikhaylovich Ocheretner

Arkadiy Mikhaylovich Ocheretner, 83, died Tuesday, July 19, 2022, in Louisville.

Born in Luhansk, Ukraine, on Jan. 7, 1939, before World War II, Arkadiy was the youngest of three sons born to Rebekah and Motel. His family soon moved to Belarus.

Arkadiy was a strong, independent and dependable boy. He excelled in gymnastics and wrestling and would win competitions for his age and weight bracket. He continued to excel in his sports during the four years he served in the Russian army.

Arkadiy is remembered as a hard-working, dedicated family man. A devoted father, he taught his children to swim, play chess and ride bicycles.

As a resident of Shalom Towers, Arkadiy was known for his generosity of time and his willingness and patience to teach new drivers the rules of the road.

Arkadiy is survived by his sons, Nikolai, Igor and Yakov (Larisa); his daughter, Larissa; and his four grandchildren.

A funeral service was held Friday, July 22, at Herman Meyer & Son, Inc.

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NEWS

REFUGEES

Continued from page 1

nine weeks of camp.

Michael Trager-Kusman, a spokesman for the family that made the gift, said it was having a significant impact on campers.

“We feel as if this has been a great success and we look forward to seeing it grow over time,” Trager-Kusman said. “It is amazing to see how the JCC staff and community has embraced the program.”

He said the gift was intended to cover two years of camp, though the work is underway to make it “sustainable.”

Camp Director David Siskin said the

new campers have created a “fantastic bridge” for the others to learn about different cultures.

“A lot of our campers have never spent time with families and individuals from the Middle East,” he said. “Some have been coming in their traditional attire, and that’s a new experience for all of our campers.”

For the refugee children, camp isn’t always what they expected.

“I felt surprised that we got to go on field trips and stuff,” Sali said. “We thought it was only swimming and activities. We did not know we had to go on field trips. It was fun.”

When the Algeghls, a Muslim family, met with *Community* to discuss

their experiences, the two older girls, and their mother, Aisha, were wearing the hijab – the traditional head scarf worn by Muslim women. And they do not wear swimsuits, remaining fully covered during pool time.

The families covered by the Trager gift, all of whom have been in the country for at least three years, were selected by Maha Kolko, co-sponsorship developer for the Kentucky Refugees Ministries.

“I know them,” Kolko said. “I didn’t want to select newly arrived families because they have trouble with the language and transportation.”

Indeed, all four of the Algeghl chil-

dren speak excellent English.

“The language barrier was a concern that we thought we would have, but there is no real language barrier; they all speak ... strong English. They understand us; they can speak their minds.” Siskin said.

He said the other campers, and their families have welcomed the newcomers, and help when they can.

For instance, the child of one family had trouble getting to camp, so another family that lives nearby offered to give them a ride.

“It’s been great to see the families connect on so many levels,” Siskin said.

STUDY

Continued from page 1

Jewish community, donations to Jewish causes, travel to Israel).

- Social and human service needs (mental health, employment training, transportation and financial assistance).

The Cohen Center met the targeted number of surveys by January. Since then, it has been working to analyze the data, construct tables and figures, and draft the report.

The final report includes the researchers’ perspective on the data, including recommendations for using it

to enhance Jewish life here.

The Cohen Center, and the Steinhart Social Research Institute, both at Brandeis, have deep expertise in research methods, theory, policy and practice regarding U.S. Jewish identity and engagement, according to its website. Its work uses “cutting-edge application” of social science methods and keen attention to the needs of the community.

They also utilize validated methods to collect, analyze, and report accurate and actionable data that informs community planning.

Demographics studies are in great demand by Jewish communities nationwide. As of April, the Cohen Center

was working on surveys for 10 communities, according to the national Jewish news entity eJewishPhilanthropy – doubling its workload over just a few years.

Louisville is one of the smaller cities the Cohen Center has surveyed. Still, there are some comparable communities, one being The Jewish Federation of Greater Kansas City.

Derek Gale, vice president & chief operating officer of the Kansas City Federation, said there is an “appetite” in his community to act on the findings right away but that his Federation is taking time to parse the report before moving forward. He predicted some “concrete

steps” by fall.

“Our approach from the Federation side is to go about this collaboratively,” Gale said. “We see a lot of opportunities for collaboration, so our process is probably slower than some people would probably like in the community.”

He said his Federation is “in dialogue” with community leaders about the report. “We’re just now getting into the meat of the dialogue, the heart of the dialogue, and we’ll see how this goes.”

Want to go?

Information about attending the town halls, including how to RSVP, will be sent out closer to the events.

64% OF JEWISH ADULTS IN LOUISVILLE ARE VERY CONCERNED ABOUT...

What does it mean to be Jewish in Louisville? Come learn the results of a comprehensive demographic study on our community and reflect on the possible implications.

▶ **SAVE A DATE:** TWO COMMUNITY TOWN HALLS

“To be Jewish in Louisville”

WHEN: September 7, 2022 - 6:00pm-7:30pm
(in-person or via Zoom)

September 8, 2022 - 11:30am-1:00pm
(in-person)

WHERE: Trager Family Jewish Community Center



RSVP details coming soon. Results presented by the Cohen Center for Modern Jewish Studies at Brandeis University.

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