

COMMUNITY

FRIDAY VOL. 39, NO. 10 ■ 29 SIVAN 5774 ■ JUNE 27, 2014

INSIDE

After March of the Living, Natania Lipp Works to Help Others Make the Trip; Establishes Endowment for Scholarships
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Partnership 2Gether Louisville photographer Robert Klein recently participated in the Artist-in-Residence program in the Western Galilee. He and Rebecca Roberts, a potter from Austin, TX, toured a museum in the Old City of Akko. See story and photos, pages 20 and 21.

JCL Board Approves Allocations for 2015 Fiscal Year

by Shiela Steinman Wallace
Editor

Each year, at the close of the annual Federation Campaign, the Jewish Community of Louisville's (JCL) Planning and Allocations (P&A) Committee, composed of dedicated lay leaders from across Louisville's Jewish community, must decide how to allocate the funding provided to the Campaign by generous donors, including many readers of *Community*.

This year, as in recent years, due to reduced funding available from our community's unrestricted giving, the needs of the local agencies outweigh the money available, and that doesn't take into account the community's desire to provide funding for Jewish agencies nationally, and internationally, especially in Israel. The decision making process last month was very challenging.

For allocations to support fiscal year

2015 budgets, the committee was given the amount of \$1,855,000 available for allocation. This amount is determined by reserving a portion of pledged funds to account for pledges promised but never paid, and an expectation of a portion of pledges not received by the deadline that are anticipated with high confidence based on prior giving levels. Any funding available from collections in excess of the prior year's holdback is also included, as every dollar received for the annual campaign is included in the allocations process.

"If the Campaign does well, everybody benefits," P&A Committee Chair Jay Klempner said. "If the Campaign see **ALLOCATIONS** page 10



Ranen Omer-Sherman

UofL Selects Omer-Sherman to Fill Judaic Studies Chair

by Phyllis Shaikun
Special to Community

Following an extensive search, the University of Louisville has named Ranen Omer-Sherman, Ph.D., the first Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence Chair of Judaic Studies. In this capacity, he will raise awareness of Judaism's religious and cultural heritage through the creation of an annual lecture series and other related programs, in addition to teaching classes in the Judaic Studies program.

University of Louisville President James Ramsey believes this endowed chair will "fill an important need in the university's religious studies program by offering students the opportunity to learn about Jewish culture, history and accomplishments – including those unique to Louisville – as they work toward a degree."

The JHFE Endowed Chair will be see **JUDAIC STUDIES** page 19

Yachad Program Helps Special Needs Children Be Successful JCC Campers

by Shiela Steinman Wallace
Editor

JCC Summer Camp is a great for children to make friends, swim, play games and participate in a variety of activities that are so much fun that they don't even realize they're learning. Often summer camp experiences can be transformative.

JCC Summer Camp is also a real opportunity for children with special needs to be integrated fully into camp through the Yachad program, which the JCC provides advocates who operate with the core belief that everyone can make a friend and everyone can succeed.

With 21 campers enrolled for over 100

camper weeks, Yachad serves children with a wide variety of issues including OCD (obsessive-compulsive disorder), autism, Down Syndrome, Fragile X, sensory processing disorders, cerebral palsy and more. There are children who display atypical behaviors or delayed speech, physical disabilities and more. Yet every effort is made to help these children succeed. There are a few places left later this summer.

Early Childhood Assistant Director Angie Hiland, who directs Yachad, gave an example of how the program works. During the first week, one camper was having trouble integrating.

"He and his advocate spent the day see **YACHAD** page 18

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PERIODICALS
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COMMUNITY

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COMMUNITY DEADLINES

Deadlines for the next two issues of **Community** for copy and ads are: July 18 for publication on July 25 and August 15 for publication on August 22.

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.

Mail your comments to: **Community**, Letters to the Editor, 3600 Dutchmans Lane, Louisville, KY 40205-3216.



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JCRC UPDATE

by Matt Goldberg, Director
Jewish Community Relations Council

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion

This opening line of the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution is very well known, and it is extremely important to us in the Jewish community. It is no secret that we live in a country where the vast majority shares a particular religion (in various denominations and forms), and we top out at roughly two percent of the population.

Our founding fathers wanted to divorce our country from an established religion and at the same time wanted to respect the rights of the minority, and our laws and decisions of the U.S. Supreme Court (mostly) pay testament to their wishes.

Louisville is a very religiously diverse and tolerant community. In addition to the many different denominations of Christianity we have here, there are also significant numbers of Jews (of course), Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists, Sikhs, Baha'is, just to name a few of the faiths that make up the diverse fabric of our religious community. The numbers for these different non-Christian groups are growing as well, and it is something of which we should be proud.

However, rare incidents still occur that remind us that we need to defend our freedom of religion and freedom from religion. I occasionally receive phone calls from Jewish parents of students in public schools asking for assistance because their children were exposed to something religious in nature at school, something that made them feel very uncomfortable and hyper-aware that they are members of a religious minority.

Some recent incidents involved coaches who invited the Fellowship of Christian Athletes to a sports camp or after school practice and encouraged them to proselytize. Thankfully we have a very good relationship with JCPS, Oldham County Schools, and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. At a recent meeting with JCPS leadership and FCA representatives, I explained in detail some of the complaints that I received, and they were quite receptive and agreeable to the recommendations that I made. That would show respect for students who adhere to minority religions while allowing FCA to serve Christian athletes.

If you are aware of any situation in school or elsewhere, requiring an advocate to intercept and prevent incidents like this, please feel free to contact me. As we look ahead towards the fall and a new school year, we will continue to monitor and work with our schools to ensure they are welcoming to a diverse student body, many of whom have very different beliefs.

Bring Back our Boys

We are all familiar with the "Bring Back our Girls" social media campaign to free hundreds of girls kidnapped by the extremist Islamist group Boko Haram in Northern Nigeria. Now comes the "Bring Back our Boys" Campaign to secure the release of three Israeli boys kidnapped by Hamas in the West Bank.

Israel is still conducting a massive military operation to both find these young men and also to curtail significantly Hamas' capabilities in the West Bank. For example, Israel has rearrested over 50 Hamas terrorists who were released in exchange for kidnapped soldier Gilad Shalit. They are also targeting Hamas businesses and banks throughout the

see **JCRC** page 4

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Heart Disease in Women Conference

Hosted by KentuckyOne Health

Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death for women in the United States and actually kills more women than men annually. Whether you are a health care professional who would like to learn more about heart disease treatment or someone wanting to learn about warning signs and prevention, join KentuckyOne Health and the University of Louisville for a one-day educational conference on heart disease in women. Many of the region's most knowledgeable physicians in cardiovascular care will speak on this important topic, including Kendra J. Grubb, M.D., M.H.A., Program Director and one of the few female cardiovascular surgeons in the United States.

All are welcome to attend, but registration is required. Register at LouisvilleHeartDiseaseWomen.com or call 502.561.2180.

Saturday, June 28
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Registration and continental breakfast at 7:00 a.m.

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Program Director
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- Assistant Professor, Department of Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery
- Director of Minimally Invasive Cardiac Surgery
- University of Louisville and Jewish Hospital – KentuckyOne Health, Louisville, KY

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- Emma Birks, PhD, FRCP, BSc, MBBS
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- Atul Chugh, MD, MPH
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Visit LouisvilleHeartDiseaseWomen.com for a list of topics.



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Donors who contributed prior to May 21, 2014 were acknowledged in the May 23, 2014 paper.

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At Presbyterian Assembly, Divestment Advocates Get Narrow, Limited, Victory

by Ron Kampeas

WASHINGTON (JTA) – There were amendments and amendments to amendments in a debate lasting for more than four hours. There were dueling T-shirts. There was a last-minute appeal for a joint pilgrimage to speak hard truths to Benjamin Netanyahu. And there was a plea to emulate Jesus and speak hard truths to Jews.

After it all, there was the Presbyterian General Assembly’s vote, 310-303, to divest from three American companies that do business with Israeli security services in the West Bank.

In the immediate aftermath, Heath Rada, the moderator of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), appealed to the media present to “affirm” the love Presbyterians have for Jews.

“In no way is this a reflection for our lack of love for our Jewish sisters and brothers,” Rada said following the June 20 vote.

Their Jewish sisters and brothers were, for the most part, not buying. “It signals a real separation from the Jewish community, which was unfortunate,” said Rabbi Rick Jacobs, the president of the Union for Reform Judaism, who flew in at the last minute to deliver an impassioned appeal to the mainline Protestant denomination to vote against divestment.

In his address, Jacobs said his Reform movement opposed West Bank settlements and was concerned with the “pain and hardship” that the Israeli occupation causes Palestinians.

And he made an offer: If the assembly rejected divestment, Jacobs said, church leaders could join him in presenting their shared concerns about Israeli policies in a joint meeting with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. But his appeal ultimately was rebuffed.

“We simply cannot work with the Presbyterian Church on issues related to the Middle East,” Jacobs said in an interview from Israel, where he headed immediately after his June 19 appearance at the assembly.

The resolution divests from Caterpillar, Motorola Solutions and Hewlett-Packard. A similar resolution was defeated narrowly at the 2012 biennial.

Netanyahu, addressing a colloquy of Jewish journalists in Jerusalem, criticized the vote.

“The only place where you have freedom, tolerance, protection of minorities, protection of gays, of Christians and all other faiths is Israel,” he said Sunday at the Jewish Media Summit in Jerusalem.

Netanyahu suggested that American Presbyterian leaders “take a plane, come here and let’s arrange a bus tour in the region. Let them go to Libya, Syria, Lebanon, Iraq.”

Jewish communal officials who attended **PRESBYTERIANS** page 18

JCRC

Continued from page 2

West Bank. They have even gone so far as to toughen conditions for Hamas prisoners in Israeli jails, such as not allowing them to watch the World Cup.

Israel is making it clear to Hamas that being in the kidnapping business is not worth it. The families of these three boys (Eyal, Gil-Ad, and Naftali) are extremely appreciative of the solidarity and support of many around the world.

We can show our support through the “Bring Back our Boys” Facebook campaign (Bring Back Our Boys Facebook Page), twitter campaign (#bringbackourboys), and Instagram campaign (Bring Back our Boys). We hope and pray that these young men will be home safe with their families as soon as possible.

COMMUNITY

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Comments or suggestions for *Community*?

Please write to the address below ATTN: Shiela Wallace, Editor, or e-mail her at: jcl@jewishlouisville.org

Trager to Receive Kipnis-Wilson/Friedland Award



Jean Trager

by Shiela Steinman Wallace
Editor

The Jewish Federation has announced that Jean Trager is Louisville's recipient of the 2014 Kipnis-Wilson/Friedland Award, the Jewish Federations of North America's preeminent national Women's Philanthropy award. The award will be presented at the national Lion of Judah conference in the fall.

The Kipnis-Wilson/Friedland Award recognizes leadership in Women's Philanthropy, particularly in the area of endowment. A long-time supporter of the annual Federation Campaign as a Lion of Judah, Trager is committed to the Louisville Jewish community. In the mid-1990's, she decided it was time to ensure that the next generation followed her example, so she made her "girls" – daughter Shelley Trager Kusman and daughter-in-law Amy Trager – Lions as well, and in 2004, endowed all three gifts to ensure her support in perpetuity.

Trager and her late husband, Bernard, z"l, always worked as a team when it came to charitable giving. "The community has been good to us," she said, "and we always felt like we have to give back to the community."

When they first got married, Trager shared, they, like many young fami-

lies, had limited resources. Their budget did not include a lot of extras.

Recognizing importance of the help they received when they were young, the Tragers have been generous to the Jewish Federation and the Jewish Community Center for many years. Today, Jean Trager continues her support so help will always be available to those who need it. "There are plenty of Jewish families that need help," she noted.

Trager is a native Louisvillian, and during her early teen years, the YMHA (Young Men's Hebrew Association (now the Jewish Community Center) was the focus of her life.

She attended Ohio State University and the University of Missouri, where she graduated with a degree in elementary education. When she returned to Louisville, she taught first and second grade at the old Ballard Elementary School until her children were born.

She helped organize an evening group of Hadassah for younger women who could not attend meetings during the day. She was also active in the Adath Jeshurun Sisterhood. For a short time, she volunteered at the Jewish Hospital Information Desk, and she often took classes at the JCC. She's also a life member of National Council of Jewish Women.

In 1955, she and Bernard were married, and they enjoyed more than 50 years together.

The Tragers were partners in business, too, and in 1977, they bought a small bank in Shelbyville, KY, that became the cornerstone of the corporation that today is Republic Bancorp, Inc., the largest Kentucky-owned financial institution in the area. Today, their son, Steve Trager, serves as Republic's chairman and CEO.

In 1999, both received the Weisberg Brotherhood Award from NCCJ (the National Conference of Community and Justice); and they also were named the 2003 Caritas Foundation Community Leaders of the Year. In 2004, they were honored with the University of Louisville Hickman-Camp Award recognizing their support of the Athletic Department.

In 2004, the Tragers brought the movie, "Gloomy Sunday," to the com-

munity as a successful fund-raiser for the Jewish Community Federation's March of the Living program, and for many years, Republic Bank has been the title sponsor of the Jewish Family and Vocational Service/Jewish Community Center Players Challenge (golf, tennis, bridge, canasta and maj jongg event).

The Jewish values of tzedakah and tikkun olam are the Tragers' legacy. Over the years, they donated generously to community causes in their names. In 1999, for example, they gave generous gifts to U of L for the Trager field hockey stadium. Since then, the family has given sizable donations to Jewish Hospital for the Trager Pavilion at the Rudd Heart and Lung Center, to Frazier Rehabilitation Center for the Trager Pavilion, to Baptist East for the Trager Pediatric Emergency Care Center, to U of L Athletics to build the Trager Center indoor football practice facility and to The Temple for the Trager Pre-School Education Center, as well as many other sizable donations.

They also established endowments for a number of Jewish and non-Jewish agencies throughout the community. Most recently, the Tragers made the lead gift of \$1 million to The Temple's "Secure our Future" Campaign.

In 2006, Jean and Bernard Trager received the Jewish Community Center's prestigious Blanche B. Ottenheimer Award in recognition of their leadership in Louisville and the difference for good their efforts have made.

Trager has a daughter, Shelley T. Kusman, who has three boys, Michael, Andrew and Brett; and a son, Steve, and his wife, Amy, who have two children, Kevin and Emily.

She is proud that her children and grandchildren carry on the family tradition of tzedakah.

Major League Baseball Agent Marc Kligman to Speak at Chabad Taste of Shabbos Program

On July 5, Chabad will kick off its summer "A Taste of Shabbos" program with guest speaker Marc Kligman. There will be a one-hour introductory Sabbath service from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. (Regular morning services begin at 10 a.m.).



Marc Kligman

The introductory service is filled with song and explanation and will be followed by a Kiddush luncheon from 12:30-2.

The event will be held at the Chabad House, 1654 Almar Circle.

Kligman was born in Philadelphia and grew up in a relatively secular family in Stamford, CT. Today, Kligman is an observant Jew, an attorney, and a baseball agent to numerous major and minor league baseball players. His notable clients include Phillies all-star catcher Carlos Ruiz of the Phillies, pitcher Rob Scahill of the Rockies, first baseman Justin Bour, pitcher Mike Zagurski of the Blue Jays among others.

Kligman sees no contradiction between being a proud, observant Jew and working in a highly competitive business of athlete representation. He will

share stories and anecdotes during the sit down Kiddush luncheon

All are welcome. To ensure proper seating, reservations are appreciated. Call 235-5770.

This program is sponsored by Chabad of Kentucky and is open, free of charge, to the entire community.

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Women's Thank You Event is July 27

The Jewish Federation of Louisville's Women's Philanthropy Division presents an "Herb Inspired Brunch" on Sunday, July 27, at 10:30 a.m. at the home of Jewish Community of Louisville Board Chair Dr. Karen Abrams. This event honors women who have contributed \$500 or more to the 2014 Federation Campaign, and they are invited as guests to this event.

At the brunch, there will be a presentation on how to plant, grow and cook with a variety of herbs.

A Vaad approved option is available if requested by July 14.

RSVP online at <https://jewishlouisville.org/herb-inspired-brunch-registration/> or to Kristy Benefield, kbenefield@jewishlouisville.org or 238-2739, by July 22.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TODAY

JCC Summer Camp

JCC Summer Camp is underway and it is a transformative experience for children. There are still a few spaces left in sessions that run through August 8. Choose traditional camp, fine arts, science, sports, crafts or aquatics. Children swim all summer and many receive instruction. Information and forms at www.jewishlouisville.org/camp, or contact Mary Dooley, mdooley@jewishlouisville.org or 238-2718.

NOW-SEPTEMBER 1 Summer Membership

This summer, enjoy swimming and access to the JCC's fitness center, including hundreds of group fitness classes. Contact Alicia Springer at 238-2721 or membership@jewishlouisville.org for details.

NOW-JULY 15

Patio Gallery Exhibit, Sacred Familiar by Wendi Smith.

JULY 4

4th of July Celebration and Membership Appreciation Day, 9:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m., at the JCC. Raft races, big splash contest, family pool, music with a DJ and dancing, get a free sno-cone and popcorn, meals and drinks available for purchase from the Dive-In Diner.

JULY 7

Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning, early registration discount deadline for the 2014-15 classes. For information or to register, go to <https://jewishlouisville.org/jcc/adults-cultural-arts/melton-school-of-adult-jewish-learning/>.

JULY 20-AUGUST 26

Patio Gallery Exhibit, Louisville Watercolor Society juried show. Opening reception Sunday, July 20, 2-4 p.m.

JULY 27

Women's Philanthropy Thank You Event, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., at a private home, Learning How to Garden with Herbs. For women who made a gift of \$500 or more to the 2014 Federation Campaign. Details to come.

JULY 30

CenterStage 100th Season Launch Party Celebration, 7 p.m. Featuring live performances of previews from the upcoming CenterStage season plus birthday cake and drinks. Free. Limited space available. Reservations required, <https://jewishlouisville.org/centerstage-100-celebration/>

AUGUST 8

YAD Picnic and Poolside Shabbat, 6 p.m. Hold the date. Details to come.

JFCS Celebrates Volunteers, Service and Innovation



JFCS Board member Bill Ryan announces the Mary Gunther Award to Bob Tiell and Lauren Kehr



Bob Tiell, director of Career Services & Workforce Development and Judy Freundlich Tiell receive length of service recognitions for 45 and 35 years respectively from Debbie Friedman.



Frank Weisberg stands in front of the newly installed "gallery" of his paintings donated by Bonnie Bizer



President-Elect Stephanie Mutchnick, JFCS CFO Stephanie Reese and Family Services Director Mauri Malka



Volunteers receive recognition

by Niki King

Public Relations Specialist

Jewish Family and Career Services celebrated 106 years of service to the Jewish community and to Louisville at its Annual Meeting on Tuesday, May 27, at the Louis and Lee Roth Family Center. With the theme of "Continuing a Tradition of Service," volunteers, staff and board members were recognized and new board members elected.

"It's been a very productive year at JFCS, we've served over 9,000 people throughout our region," said Judy Freundlich Tiell, executive director. "It's not been without challenges for our clients and for our agency. We continue to see large numbers of people who have fewer resources and need more services. But we have a huge level of creativity, commitment and passion and compassion that's exhibited by our board, staff and volunteers."

JFCS President Debbie Friedman began the meeting with the presentation of a special gift from avid supporter and former board member Bonnie Bizer, who passed away in November. Bizer bequeathed several paintings she owned by artist Frank Weisberg, who was chair of the art committee for the building. Weisberg, who was in attendance, donated a painting as well. The paintings hang in a group just outside the JFCS board room.

"We are very honored by Bonnie's wishes and by being the owners of several of Frank's paintings," Friedman said.

With fewer than 40 staff members, JFCS relies heavily on volunteers to expand services and this year about 400 volunteers contributed nearly 24,000 hours of service.

"No job is too large or too small for JFCS volunteers who have gathered to bag food for less privileged clients, make bows for centerpieces, put together mailings, shop, drive and more," said Friedman. "There is a real sense of belonging in the JFCS volunteer community which encourages involvement wherever needed."

To showcase some of JFCS' services, Mauri Malka, director of Family Services, "interviewed" Margaret Battcher and Patricia Reynolds, who started as trainees before they were hired into the Senior Concierge Homecare program, which provides services to seniors so

that they can live independently. Battcher and Reynolds both said that JFCS has changed their lives by giving them a career they love that helps them do good work and also supports them and their family. They both said they loved the variety of each day and how good it feels to help others.

Each year, JFCS honors employees who create the best new program with the Mary Gunther Award. This year, Board Member Bill Ryan presented the award to Robert Tiell and Lauren Kehr for Long-term Unemployment Job Search Turnaround. The program, started in 2011, augments traditional job search support with behavioral health management techniques. More than two-thirds of the people in the program have found a cycle of employment within three months.

"What this program was designed to address was the fact that when you lose your job, and when you lose it for a long time, you start to lose part of you, and that means part of our community," Ryan said.

Drawing large applause, Friedman recognized Robert Tiell, Director of Career Services and Workforce Development who has worked at JFCS for 45 years and Judy Freundlich Tiell who has been there for 35 years.

"I want to tell you about two people who have really led this agency and really taken it to where it is today," she said. "It's (their) leadership that's brought us where we are."

Mark Ament, chair of the board's Nominating Committee, conducted the election. Doug Sharps, Carole Snyder and Robin Stratton were elected for three years. Ayala Golding and Bruce Belman were re-elected for three-year terms. Debbie Friedman was elected president; Stephanie Mutchnick, president-elect; Sandi Friedson, vice-president; and Marty Margulis, treasurer. Marc Charnas, Jay Klemphor and Peter Resnik will serve as at large Executive Committee members.

JFCS thanked Sheila Abramson-Miles, Shellie Benovitz and Janet Meyer who completed their terms and are leaving the board.

In addition to Ament, the Nominating Committee includes Billy Altman, Debbie Friedman, Sandi Friedson, Jay Klemphor, Marty Margulis, Janet Meyer, Peter Resnik and Diane Tobin.

Can You Identify These People?



On Sunday, June 8, the Jewish Louisville History Project had its first meeting. Committee Chairman Frank Weisberg said, "It was a huge success. We broke into groups and had a ball looking at and identifying old photos taken at the JCC, various Federation events, clubs, meetings, etc."

"The photos were dated from back in the 1930's through the 1960's and even the early 2000's," he said. "Some people were excited to find old pictures of their mothers and fathers, sisters and brothers, of old friends and even of themselves, taken years ago."

"Everyone had a smile on their faces," he added. "Some people also recorded their memories of the event being celebrated in the photo and the people who were there."

By identifying photos now, the project is taking steps to ensure some pieces of the history of this community are pre-

served for future generations and may be the first step toward creating a more permanent repository for these and other community artifacts.

Weisberg continued, "Shiela Wallace came up with the idea of starting a Jewish Louisville Archive, a resource that is greatly needed to preserve our deep, rich Jewish heritage in Louisville and our memories."

"Our meetings are easy and fun," he continued. "They are held once a month on the second Sunday of each month, starting at 2 p.m. Each meeting lasts about one hour and is held at the JCC in the Senior Adult Lounge. The next scheduled meeting is July 13. Please join us (and many of your friends)."

Please RSVP to Wallace, 238-2703 or swallace@jewishlouisville.org., or let her know if you can identify the people in the photo above. A larger version of the photo is available at jewishlouisville.org.

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Mike Nash, Joe Nash and Nick Gardiner took first place in the 2014 Republic Bank Golf Challenge. The Nash's company, Duplicator Sales and Service is a sponsor.

PHOTOS BY TED WIRTH



Sun Shone Brightly on the 2014 Republic Bank Players Challenge

by Rivka Golding
Community Intern

The sun was shining, and everyone was smiling at the 2014 Republic Bank Players Challenge. Temperatures were high on Monday, June 23, but that did not stop players from enjoying the day at Standard Country Club. This year's event included golf, tennis, bridge, canasta, maj jongg and a silent auction.

The annual Players Challenge benefits the Jewish Community Center and the Jewish Family and Career Services.

First place in golf went to the team of Nick Gardner, Mike Nash and Joe Nash. Second place went to James Gibson, J. R. Hage, Mike Porro and Doug Vierhale. Third place went to David Gatti, Stephanie Young, Chad Dailey and Donald Young. Winners received gift cards to Golf Headquarters.

Many of the holes had additional challenges, in which prizes including a Rolex watch and the use of a Porsche for the weekend, were up for grabs.

Jay Klempner and Elise Brown had the straightest drive on holes 2 and 16, respectively. John Clark hit the longest drive on hole 4. Gail Pohn won longest putt on hole 18.

In the closest to the pin contest, Darby Smith won on hole 7, Kenny Creech on hole 12, and Angela Hornung on hole 15. Richard Schultz was on his game, taking home both longest putt on hole 14 and longest drive on hole 17. Sandy Linker won the putting contest.

Alison Roemer and Mandy Masterson came in first place in the tennis challenge, and Keren Benabou and Mallie Nagel came in second place.

Carol Wishnia and Phyllis Wertheim won first place in the bridge competition, and Ann Zimmerman and Vivian Moorin won second place.

Canasta and maj jongg players just played for fun.

The JCC and JFCS give a special thanks to the event's Title Sponsor, Republic Bank.

They also thank their other sponsors. Kindred Healthcare was the event's Eagle Sponsor and Ernst & Young, LLP and Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence were both Links Sponsors.

Contest Sponsors were Almost Family, Altman Insurance Services, Crowe Horwath, Goldberg and Simpson, Mutual of America, Papercone Corporation, Sam Swope Auto Group and tw telecom. Sweet Spot Sponsors were Duplicator

Sales and Service, Nancy and Sheldon Gilman and Welenken CPAs. Par Sponsors were Gus Goldsmith, Hertzman Foundation, Dr. Elliot Rosengarten, Jay Klempner, Metro Dental Group, PayLogic, Porcini's Children Foundation, Schwartz Insurance Group and UBS Private Wealth Management.

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The JCC and JFCS also thank all of the businesses and individuals who donated gifts for the silent auction.



Mandy Masterson, above and Alison Roemer, below, took first place in tennis.



Donald Young, Stephanie Young, David Gatti and Chad Dailey finished third.



J.R. Hage, James Gibson, Mike Porro and Doug Vierhale took second place in golf.

REPUBLIC BANK Players Challenge June 23, 2014

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MOSAIC Awards Showcase Immigrants' Achievement, Passion and Hope

by Shiela Steinman Wallace
Editor

When an individual is honored with one of Jewish Family & Career Service's MOSAIC Awards, it is a clear signal that that individual is a refugee or immigrant who has come to Louisville and achieved great things. It is also clear that the Louisville community appreciates their contributions, because this year's awards ceremony, held on Thursday, May 22, drew more than 350 people, a crowd so large that the agency had to find a larger venue, the Louisville Marriott Downtown.

The focus of the evening was the 2014 class of honorees, Muhammad Babar, Johanna van Wijk Bos, Marta Miranda, Bruce Simpson and Joseph Twagilimana.

Dr. Muhammad Babar

Dr. Babar, the medical director of Oaklawn, Jefferson Place and Summerfield Nursing and Rehabilitation

Centers; is past president of the medical staff at Jewish Hospital and St. Mary's HealthCare (KentuckyOne Health); immediate past president of the Association of Pakistani Physicians of Kentucky and Indiana; and a board member of Interfaith Paths to Peace, Fund for the Arts and Center for Interfaith Relations.

With APPKI, he worked with Temple Shalom on earthquake relief for Haiti, and when Pakistan suffered devastating floods, he helped provide water purification systems.

Motivated by compassion and committed to religious and cultural diversity, Dr. Babar can be found mentoring children at the Americana Center, delivering toys and diapers to the Home of Innocents and helping out at the Center for Women and Families, Habitat for Humanity, St. Joseph's Free Clinic, the Community Hunger Walk and more.

Dr. Babar accepted the award saying that he was happy and grateful to receive the award and to be part of the compassionate community of Louisville, and for the blessings of his family, but sad because of the disparities he sees around him.

He pointed out that 215 million children, age 5-17, are working difficult jobs and being robbed of their childhood because they were born to poor families who struggle to put food on the table, while 150 billion pounds of food are wasted every year in the U.S. The U.N., he said, would need only 35 billion pounds to feed all these children for a year.

He also decried the loss of life around the world to senseless violence committed in the name of a variety of causes, the kidnapping of 200 Nigerian girls and the attack on Malala Yousufzai, the young girl who was shot because she was pursuing her education.

Dr. Babar called on those present to light a candle and fight the darkness. He identified JFCS and many of the agencies where he volunteers as candles and dedicated his award to the kidnapped Nigerian girls.

Johanna van Wijk Bos

The Louisville Presbyterian Theolog-



JFCS Board President Debbie Friedman and Vice-President Stephanie Mutchnick lead the processional of honorees into the Marriott ballroom.

ical Seminary Dora Pierce Professor of Bible and Old Testament, specialist in Biblical and feminist studies and former director and now faculty liaison of the Seminary's Women's Center, van Wijk Bos, originally from the Netherlands, is an advocate for issues of justice for women and the LGBTQ community. She helps groups that experience housing and employment discrimination. She is also active in the interfaith community.

JFCS is an organization that should make us all proud, she said. The MOSAIC Awards celebrate difference and ethnicity. While she said she is not a refugee, she brought an orange shawl to the event for the House of Orange.

Born during the first months of the Nazi occupation of the Netherlands, she remembers the people were not allowed to wear orange. On liberation day, she said, there was a sea of orange clothing. It is a symbol of liberty for all people, she added.

Marta Miranda

The president and CEO of the Center for Women and Families, Marta Miranda is an activist for social and economic justice, and author and poet and an entrepreneur. She was honored as a Daughter of Greatness speaker at the Mohammad Ali Center, is a key organizer for the Kentucky Fairness Alliance and is a member of the Kentucky Commission on Women.

She describes herself as Cubalachian – as she was born in Cuba and worked in Appalachia. She's been a pioneer of literacy. She worked in non-profits in the fields of mental health and post traumatic stress disorder and taught social work at Eastern Kentucky University. She's an activist and community organizer with a focus on domestic violence and fairness.

Although she's only been in Louisville for three and a half years, Miranda says she never felt like a stranger here because the service and justice community is so strong here. She also expressed gratitude for the partnership between JFCS and the Center for Women and Families.

Her parents, she said, gave up everything to give her and her brother a life of freedom. She was the first in her family to graduate from college, which she did even though her father equated a high school diploma with a college degree and thought any education beyond high school was a waste of time.

Today, she speaks out against the injustice she sees, like the double standard that allows illegal immigrants from Cuba to get green cards while those from Haiti get sent back.

For inspiration, she has the same Martin Neimoller quote that can be found in the United States Holocaust Museum

hanging on her wall reminding her that we cannot stand idly by and watch while others are persecuted because if we do, when we are persecuted, there will be no one left to speak out for us.

Bruce Simpson

Originally from Scotland, Bruce Simpson is the artistic director and interim executive director of the Louisville Ballet. He is a master teacher and coach for 34 years and an accomplished performer. A storyteller through movement, Simpson is about to retire after bringing the company into the national spotlight.

Under his leadership, the company, which is marking its 60th anniversary commissioned 15 new productions, sponsors educational outreach programs and demonstrations, and runs a school with 450 students ranging from 18 months to seniors.

Before arriving in Louisville, Simpson described himself as the eternal tourist, trying to learn the culture and integrate into the communities where he worked, but he never fit in and often felt isolated. In Louisville, he said, he stopped being a tourist and found community for the first time.

Dancers, he said, dream with their feet. The minute you move and walk to your own heartbeat, you are dancing and dance can connect to the universality of the human soul without respect to background.

It is hard to learn and demanding, he added, but it seeks freedom and provides an opportunity to be with people without prejudice. Dance, he said, is the great peacemaker of the world.

Joseph Twagilimana

After fleeing the genocide of Rwanda, Joseph Twagilimana went on to earn his Ph.D. in mathematics and today is a data mining analyst with Wellpoint Inc, and a published scholar in the field of statistical analysis.

A volunteer leader in the African refugee community, he views it as his responsibility to ease the resettlement of new arrivals. He often provides transportation and translation assistance to the newcomers and other assistance.

He helped the Archdiocese of Louisville establish its annual African Memorial Service for Victims of War and Genocide and helped found United African Countries. He's also a volunteer with JFCS.

Twagilimana said when he first received the letter informing him that he was to receive a MOSAIC Award, he hid it from his wife because he didn't think he deserved it. "I didn't have one big thing I did," he said, although he does many small things.

see MOSAIC AWARDS page 9



Louis Waterman, Chair of the title sponsor Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence



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2014 MOSAIC Honorees Joseph Twagilimana, Marta Maranda, Bruce Simpson, Dr. Johanna Bos, Dr. Muhammad Babar with event honorary chairs, Alexandra Gerassimides and Mayor Greg Fischer

MOSAIC AWARDS

Continued from page 8

Two days later, when he told his wife, she said other people understand that he has done a lot and helped a lot of people, and she convinced him to accept the award.

A francophone, when he first came to Louisville in 1998, he answered an ad for bilingual individuals, and when the prospective employer found out he didn't speak Spanish, he was told he wasn't bilingual.

His French can be helpful. Twagilimana told the story of a diabetic man who went to the doctor every Tuesday, and every Wednesday, he was admitted to the hospital in a coma. It turned out the man had collected a lot of different medications. Every time the doctors changed his prescriptions, the man thought he was supposed to add the new medication to the old one when he was really supposed to replace the old one with the new. Twagilimana now helps him manage his medications appropriately.

Refugees need a lot of help, he said, especially older people who risk losing their benefits if they don't learn English and become citizens. He called on others in the room to step up and help.

The Osbourn Scholarship Award

Each year at the MOSAIC Awards ceremony, KentuckyOne Health presents the Jeff and Phyllis Osbourn Scholarship to an immigrant who is pursuing a degree in nursing or another high-demand field in health care. This year, KentuckyOne Vice President Shari Craig presented the scholarship to Kofi Afuakwa, a student at Spalding University who plans to become a nurse anesthetist.

Afuakwa expressed his gratitude and said the scholarship would help him pursue his dreams and become a re-

sponsible citizen of the country.

Navigate Enterprise Center and Entrepreneur of the Year

Prior to the formal dinner and presentation, those in attendance gathered in the lobby where they had the opportunity to meet some of the budding entrepreneurs who are participating in JFCS' Navigate Enterprise Center.

Through this program, low-income people, many of whom are immigrants, have started over 300 businesses in Louisville after completing classes that provide them with the skills they need to succeed. Many also receive small start-up loans. Several of them set up tables that night to promote their businesses – from lawn services to coffee shops and much more – and hand out business cards and flyers.

This year, JFCS also honored Muayad Alhashimi as the Entrepreneur of the Year. As Navigate Enterprise Center Director Dan Heffernan presented the award, he explained that Alhashimi's American dream was to open a coffee shop in the United States. With Assistance from the Navigate Enterprise Center, the Marcel Coffee Shop is now open in the Iroquois Shopping Center.

With his strong management and marketing skills, personality and innovation, he is now helping other Iraqis in Louisville achieve their dreams.

Presenters

Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer and his wife, Dr. Alexandra Gerassimides, were the honorary co-chairs of this year's MOSAIC Awards. Mayor Fischer spoke briefly about the importance of the international community to Louisville and praised JFCS' entrepreneurship program which works in conjunction with the city's RISE program in the Office for Globalization, directed by Suhas

Kulkarni. He asked those present to step up to be coaches and mentors to help bring entrepreneurs along.

Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence Chair Louis Waterman said many of the founders of Jewish Hospital were immigrants who dreamed of a better world and translated their dreams into reality through hard work, perseverance and a refusal to take no as an answer.

Today, he continued, JHFE continues Jewish Hospital's groundbreaking work. He pointed out that the organization has approved nearly \$6 million in grant requests and research for programs for Jewish education and seniors.

JHFE was the title sponsor of the MOSAIC Awards.

JFCS Executive Director Judy Freundlich Tiell and Board President Debbie Friedman presented the MOSAIC Awards to the winners.

Rick Van Hoose of WLKY TV served as emcee for the evening, and Rabbi Laura Metzger, chair of the Louisville Board of Rabbis and Cantors, delivered the invocation.

The MOSAIC Awards

The MOSAIC Awards themselves are unique works of art created each year by different artists. This year's awards were created by Kim Eubank and Will Armstrong.



JFCS Executive Director Judy Freundlich Tiell and Navigate Manager Dan Heffernan award Muayad Alhashimi as the Navigate Entrepreneur of the Year

Eubank's original idea to make a Metal Quilt came from a combination of influences including classes at Virginia Commonwealth University, the work of the painter Piet Mondrian and architects Frank Lloyd Wright and Friedensreich Hundertwasser, and Alice Walker's short story, "Everyday Use."

Eubank and Armstrong created Metal Quilt pieces as wall hangings in 2002. This year's awards are intricate copper pieces that were enameled with powdered glass and fired in a kiln before they were mounted and framed.

The Committee and Sponsors

Drs. Diane Tobin and Laura Klein were the MOSAIC Event Committee chairs. Committee members were Sheila Abramson Miles, Jeani Bryant, Lynn Cooper, Helane Cooper, Jane Emke, Debbie Friedman, Jan Glaubinger, Janet Hodes, Micahel Iacovazzi-Pau, Khalid Kahloon, Jay Klempner, Melissa Mershon, Stephanie Mutchnick, Djenita Pasic, Vidya Ravichandran, Marsha Roth, Beth Salamon, Lori Scott, Leon Wahba and Stephi Wolff.

In addition to Title Sponsor JHFE, the MOSAIC sponsors included WLKY32, Papercone Corporation, PharMerica; and the patron sponsors were KentuckyOne Health, Brown-Forman and Heaven Hill Distilleries.



Sherri Craig, Vice-President, Kentucky One Health, awards a healthcare scholarship to Kofi Afuakwa



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MOSAIC Awards crafted by Virginia artists Kim Eubank and Will Armstrong



JCL UPDATE

by Stu Silberman
President and CEO
Jewish Community of Louisville

Thank you. Two words I can't say enough.

- Thank you:
- for reading this issue of *Community*, so you can be informed about what's taking place throughout Jewish Louisville
 - to our JCC Members, for supporting our facility with your membership
 - to our donors, for another \$2+ Million Annual Campaign that benefits so many people locally, nationally and in Israel and around the world
 - to our volunteers, for your support of our staff, making possible the work that we could never do without your help
 - to our board of directors, who lead us, connect us with other individuals and agencies in the community, and spread the word of our successes
 - to our congregations and agencies, and their leaders, who work with us to build and sustain our Jewish community
 - to our advertisers, benefactors, vendors, and all who help us in our efforts to complete our mission.



Stu Silberman

Thank you to the hundreds of individuals who responded to our recent survey, that showed us our communications have clearly explained that the JCC and Federation comprise the JCL, and that our mission and vision are understood by the majority of those who took the time to get back to us.

- Thank you participating in our activities. Whether you:
- attended one of our many sold out CenterStage performances
 - celebrated the formation of the State of Israel at Yom Ha'atzmaut
 - viewed a Jewish Film Festival screen-

- ing
- enrolled a child in our Early Learning Center or sent them to summer camp
 - took an aquatics or fitness class
 - attended a fundraising event and made a contribution to the Federation Annual Campaign
 - celebrated yet another successful year at our Annual Meeting
 - or one of the so many other programs or events we offer
- Thank you. Thank you for our fourth straight year of increasingly positive financial performance (results from the fiscal year ending June 30 to be published and celebrated this fall.)
- Thank you for connecting with us.
- At the Republic Bank Players Challenge benefitting JFCS and the JCC, I ran into a community member I hadn't seen since last year's outing, and he commented how appreciative he was of having this newspaper, so he can stay in touch with what happens in our community.
 - Others at a recent Jewish Community Relations Council meeting, led by our new JCRC Chair, Becky Ruby Swansburg, tackled extremely important matters such as the Presbyterian Church's condemning decision last week to divest from certain companies that do business in Israel, and how our agency can have a role in addressing that unfair and uncalled-for decision.
 - We welcome new directors Seth Gladstein and Jake Wishnia to our board.
 - We are preparing to welcome new Jewish students enrolled at U of L to our Hillel program.
 - We have new JCC members, new families in Summer Camp, newcomers to Louisville
- Are you connecting with us? If not, please look through this issue and find something of interest. As Hillel said, "Do not separate yourself from the community." We each belong to many communities – our congregation, our friends, our colleagues – and the Jewish Community of Louisville to which all are welcome. Do not separate yourself from us – join us, and help us build and sustain a vibrant, caring community rooted in Jewish values. Thank you.

ALLOCATIONS

Continued from page 1

is down, there will be cuts – maybe not across the board – but by the priority and effectiveness of the programs and services. ... Our committee looks hard at every entity, especially the Jewish Community of Louisville (JCL) itself."



Jay Klempner



Leon Wahba

Jewish Women or some other Jewish entity. We all leave our preferences at the door and try to make decisions that will make our community a better place for every Jew."

Committee members invest many hours in reviewing requests, listening to presentations, asking questions that enable them to be responsible stewards of community funds, evaluating submitted materials, holding every agency to account and debating the issues.

"They looked at what was going to be in the best interest of the community," Klempner said. "We have a process that is fair – it will not always be equal, but it is fair." Each allocation request is considered carefully. All committee members ask questions and engage in substantive dialogue. "In the end, we have always had a unanimous yes vote for each allocation."

Klempner, who has chaired the committee for the past three years, said the

committee has consistently been pushing all recipient agencies to be transparent in their operations, to engage in their own fundraising initiatives enabling them to become less dependent upon the Campaign and to collaborate more with each other.

The committee's allocation recommendations are then reviewed by both the JCL Executive Committee and Board of Directors. Following extensive discussion, the JCL Board accepted the Planning and Allocations Committee's recommendations at its May 27 meeting.

Jewish Education

The committee's goal, Klempner explained, "is to ensure that all children get the opportunity for Jewish education," not to subsidize the individual schools.

In fact, he pointed out, Louisville is almost unique. The Jewish Federation of Louisville provides funding to synagogue-run schools. "Very few similarly-sized Federations give any significant funding for congregation-run schools, and of the ones that do, Louisville gives more."

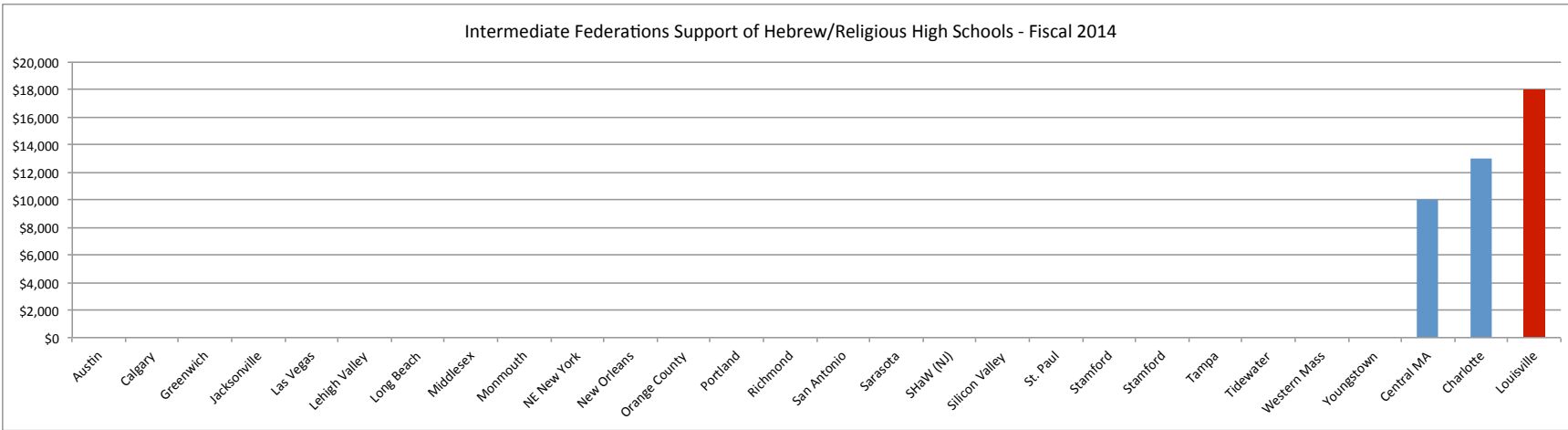
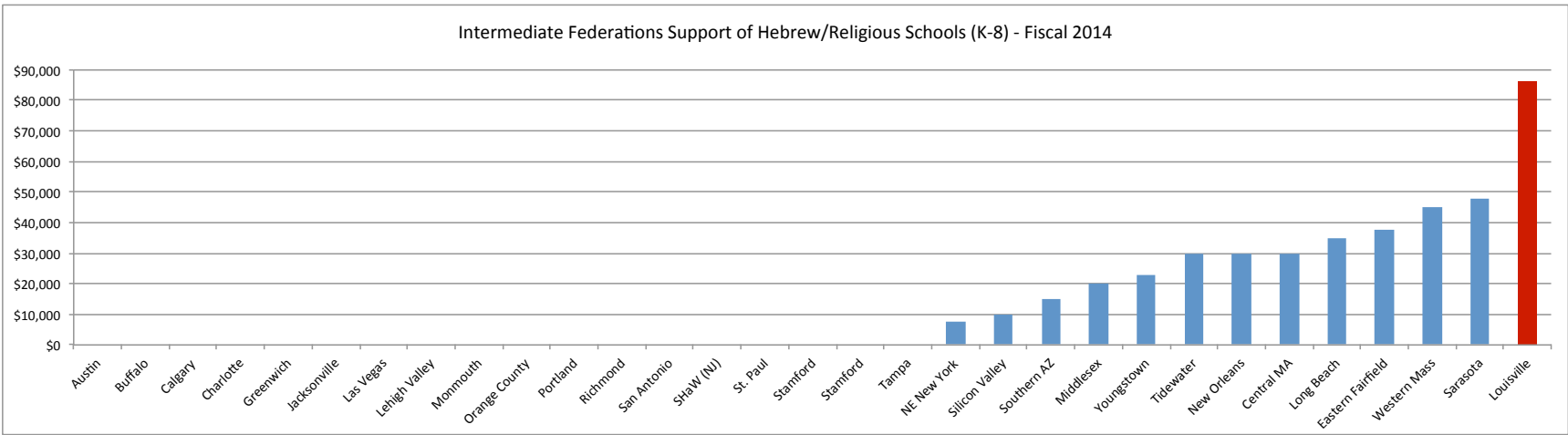
Of 32 intermediate-size Federations affiliated with Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA), only five communities provide any financing to Jewish high school programs; and 13 provide funding for kindergarten through eighth grade programs. For Fiscal Year 2015, the Louisville Federation will provide \$250 per student – \$78,000 to lower school programs and \$15,000 for high school education. The same formula, \$250 per student, was used in Fiscal Year 2014. The chart below uses Fiscal Year 2014 information. The difference in the total allocation is a result of lower projected enrollment in Fiscal Year 2015.

Last year, the committee put in place a financial aid component of its allocation and encouraged schools to follow a procedure similar to the one the JCC uses to award scholarships, using Jewish Family & Career Services' confidential procedures to establish need.

The committee encouraged schools to charge tuition high enough to cover the costs of running their programs and to provide scholarships to students whose families needed help with the tuition.

Mid-year, in response to the schools' see **ALLOCATIONS** page 11

The Jewish Federations of North America, JFNA, compiled information on how much Federations allocate to Hebrew and Religious Schools. These charts show how much Louisville and other communities in the same size category allocated in Fiscal Year 2014.



Buffalo, Eastern Fairfield and Southern Arizona fund and operate their own Hebrew High Schools and are therefore not comparable to Louisville's congregation-run High School of Jewish Studies. Buffalo, the highest funded of the three, at over \$200,000, is open to 8th through 12th graders.

ALLOCATIONS

Continued from page 10

concerns, the allocation was restructured to return to the committee's earlier practice of providing a \$250 per student subsidy. This year, the committee allocated \$15,000 to the High School of Jewish Studies for its 60 students, \$41,250 to The Temple Hebrew School for its 165 students and \$37,500 to Louisville Beit Sefer Yachad for its 150 students.

"This allocation demonstrates a strong commitment to education in our community," Wahba said, adding that he believes it is sad that community support for Jewish education is decreasing as is shown by decreasing attendance at all the schools.

The committee also praised Louisville Beit Sefer Yachad for taking the initiative to create a major fundraiser, which enabled them to be more self-sufficient.

Jewish Family & Career Services

Jewish Family & Career Services provides services and programs that reach people across Kentuckiana, serving all who are in need. "It is a very well run agency with a strong board," said Wahba. "And a strong leader," added Klempner.

The agency is dedicated to *tikkun olam*, the repair of the world. In addition to strong leadership, it has a skilled, committed staff and a devoted cadre of volunteers. It has taken the initiative to expand its programs and runs several fundraisers each year, including its signature MOSAIC Awards Dinner and, in conjunction with the JCC, the Republic Bank Players Challenge.

While the Planning and Allocations Committee was unable to fund JFCS' full request, the committee allocated \$309,000 to the agency, \$14,000 more than it received last year and continuing the pattern of the last several years.

Jewish Community of Louisville

The Planning and Allocations Committee recognizes that its largest allocation goes to the Jewish Community of Louisville because of the scope and nature of its offerings and its role in the community. Klempner and Wahba made very clear that they hold the JCL to the same standards they apply to all other agencies that request allocations, and the committee carefully examined the JCL's programs, services, administration, operations and finances before making its recommendation.

"Year after year, the JCL's allocation has been reduced, primarily because we don't have enough resources to distribute," Wahba pointed out. And year after year, the agency has absorbed losses from unpaid pledges that have exceeded the reserve without passing any share of the shortfall on to other agencies.

Despite these financial challenges, the JCL has added programs, enhanced the quality of its offerings and reduced the agency's annual deficit while "the administration and staff are struggling with an old building in need of a lot of repairs," Wahba added.

The two had words of praise for the staff as well.

Following the JCL's initial presentation, the Planning and Allocations Committee followed up with a dozen questions covering many aspects of the agency's budget, requesting comparisons of revenues and expenses over the years and changes in the Federation Campaign, the endowment, the agency's long- and short-term debt and more.

The JCL administration provided detailed answers and analyses of agency performance from 2008, the year before the JCC/Federation merger, through 2013, along with year-to-date information for fiscal 2014.

"There is clear information that the JCL is doing better in many areas," Klempner said.

The analysis showed that the JCL allocation corroborates Wahba's observation about the JCL's allocation. In fiscal year 2008, the allocation (total of JCC and Federation before merger) was \$1,348,464. It declined each year thereafter and in fiscal year 2014, it was \$1,152,743 – a drop of nearly \$200,000.

For fiscal year 2015, the committee allocated \$1,194,955 to the JCL, an increase of \$42,212 or 3.7 percent.

Klempner and Wahba went on to praise the JCL administration and staff for reducing the agency's annual deficit over the past three years from \$1.5 million a year to \$300,000, and they noted the administration has committed to continue to work toward eliminating the shortfall completely. The Planning and Allocation Committee, the JCL Executive Committee and the JCL Board have all made it clear that their expectation is that the JCL will eliminate the deficit completely as quickly as possible.

Another big concern, Klempner said, is the issue of people who make pledges and don't pay them. While this year's Campaign closed around \$2.1 million, "we only allocated \$1.8 million because of uncollected pledges. It is unfair for the JCL to absorb bad debt each year, yet continue to distribute the funds that were approved for allocation.

One of the major reasons the JCL faces cash flow issues and deficits is that people make pledges to the Campaign and then fail to pay them. "If you make a pledge," he continued, "pay it. ... A successful Campaign means you get paid and it is paid on time."

Wahba, who is also working on collecting past-due pledges, agreed, noting that the JCL just wrote off \$750,000 worth of unpaid pledges that date back five to six years. This impacts what the community can do.

"Remember," Klempner added, "over the years, these dollars were allocated and the funds were paid out to the agencies even though the pledges remained unpaid. The JCL absorbed the shortfall."

Together, Klempner and Wahba pointed out that the JCL touches everyone from the youngest members of the community to seniors with more programs and services than ever. It offers preschool, summer camp, BBYO, Hillel, the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC), subsidized meals for seniors to email updates and *Community*.

"Bottom line," Klempner summed up, "The physical property on Dutchmans Lane is the place where Jews can go and feel welcome, to get help, to enjoy themselves and to be exposed to Jewish culture. It's up to the JCL to provide a venue for the Jews of Louisville, and it's up to all the Jews in Louisville, whether or not you use the JCC facility, attend JCC- or Federation-sponsored programs or use their services, to recognize the need, value and culture of having our own place."

Israel and Overseas

While most of the money raised by the annual Federation Campaign stays in Louisville to support local agencies, programs and services, a portion also goes to fulfill our obligation to the Jewish community nationally and in Israel and to help Jews at risk around the world.

"What pains me the most, as an ardent Zionist," Wahba said, "is we had to significantly reduce our allocation to Israel [and overseas]. In 2012, we allocated about \$490,000, this year, we were only able to allocate \$190,000.

"Yes, it is true that Israel is much stronger financially than it used to be," he said, "however, there are still a lot of poor Jews throughout Eastern Europe and Russia that rely on our support. And, JAFI (the Jewish Agency for Israel) and JDC (the Joint Distribution Committee) are busier than they have been in a couple of decades helping Jews from places as disparate as France and the Ukraine escape anti-Semitism by making Aliyah."

That \$190,000 goes to support Louisville's Partnership 2Gether programming with the Western Galilee, to help JDC (the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee), which provides assistance to Jewish communities at risk around the world, and JAFI (the Jewish Agency for Israel), which helps Jews in places like Ukraine who want to make aliyah to Israel.

It also covers the JCL's fair share dues to JFNA (the Jewish Federations of North America), which comes back to the community in the form of support services in a variety of areas.

An additional \$51,000 is allocated to a variety of organizations covering Birthright Israel, the Hillel Consortium, the Foundation for Jewish Camp and other national groups.

See chart, this page, for the full list of allocations.

The Committee

In addition to Klempner and Wahba,

members of the Planning and Allocations Committee are Jon Fleischaker, Harry Geller, Lance Gilbert, Jane Goldstein, Ralph Green, Dennis Hummel, Elizabeth Kaplan, Paul Margulis, Ellen Rosenbloom and Jacob Wishnia.

Wahba will chair the Planning and Allocations Committee next year. Klempner will remain on the committee as past chair.

"I also note with appreciation and regret that our good friends Jane Goldstein and Judy Sharp, after many years of invaluable service are stepping off the committee," Wahba said. "We will miss their wisdom."

Wahba is now looking for committee members who are willing to and can fulfill the obligations of the Planning and Allocations Committee as detailed in a formal document of expectations. Wahba asks interested parties to contact him by leaving a message with Paula DeWeese at the JCC, pdeweese@jewishlouisville.org or 238-2764.

Jewish Community of Louisville Planning and Allocations Committee

Allocations Recommendations for Fiscal Year 2015

Approved by the JCL Board May 27, 2014

Israel and Overseas (incl. Partnership)

JFNA - Fair Share (Dues).....	\$ 80,000
JFNA - Israel and Overseas Programs *.....	110,000

Total - Israel and Overseas..... \$ 190,000

Local--Education

High School of Jewish Studies (60 students).....	\$ 15,000
The Temple Religious School (165 students).....	41,250
LBSY (150 students).....	37,500

Subtotal - Local Education \$ 93,750

Local - Community

Chavurat Shalom	\$ 10,000
Jewish Community of Louisville.....	1,194,955
Jewish Family & Career Services.....	309,000
National Council of Jewish Women.....	500
Hadassah.....	500
Melton.....	5,000

Subtotal - Local Community\$1,519,955

Total - Education and Community\$1,613,705

National Organizations

Agency Alliance Allocations**	\$ 12,500
Agency Alliance Dues 4%.....	770
Birthright Israel	10,000
Center for Learning Leadership	500
Hillel Consortium	10,000
Israel Action Network.....	500
Jewish Communal Services Association.....	525
Foundation for Jewish Camp ***	16,500

Total - National Organizations \$ 51,295

Totals\$1,855,000

Memos

* 10% of allocable amount to Israel and Overseas is required for JFNA Membership, though exceptions are granted

**The Agency Alliance includes: the Association of Jewish Family & Children's Agencies (AJFCA), American Jewish World Service (AJWS), BBYO, Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS), Hillel, Jewish Community Centers Association (JCCA), Jewish Council for Public Affairs (JCPA), the Jewish Telegraphic Agency (JTA) and National Council Supporting Eurasian Jewry (NCSJ).

*** JCL Commitment is \$16,500 in FY15 and \$22,000 annually thereafter.

Many Honored and Progress Noted at JCL Annual Meeting

The Jewish Community of Louisville's 2014 Annual Meeting on Sunday, June 1, at the Jewish Community Center, was a celebration of volunteers and their service to the community, an overview of the JCL's achievements over the past year and the election of Board members and officers for the coming fiscal year.



Becky Ruby Swamsburg and Rabbi Joe Rooks Rapport

Julie E. Linker Community Relations Young Leadership Award

Rabbi Joe Rooks Rapport presented the Julie E. Linker Community Relations Young Leadership Award to Becky Ruby Swamsburg. Rabbi Rapport, who received the Linker Award 25 years ago, watched Swamsburg grow up at The Temple, where, as a member of NFTY (the North American Federation of Temple Youth), she quickly got involved in social justice issues.

At Middlebury College, she was active in Hillel while earning degrees in political science and communications. After working in the offices of two different congressmen in Washington, DC, she returned to Louisville and has fully reengaged with the community serving on the Boards of The Temple and the

Rauch Planetarium, chairing the Jewish Community Relations Council and serving on the national Board of the Jewish Council for Public Affairs – all while raising two children.



Diane Sadle and Margaret Mazanec

Elsie P. Judah Memorial Award

JCC Senior Adult Director Diane Sadle presented the Elsie P. Judah Memorial Award to Margaret Mazanec, an active participant in the Senior program and its "official paparazzi." She earned the title because she documents all the Senior Adult activities with photos, labels them and puts them in albums.

Along with her friend, Mag Davis, she also organized the community gardens, which thanks to Karen Abrams, now have raised beds with a variety of plants. Children in the JCC Summer Camp help tend the garden and the bounty goes to the JFCS Food Pantry and the JCC Senior Nutrition Program.

Mazanec expressed appreciation to the JCC for providing a home for seniors and for the devotion and hard work of the staff, particularly Diane Sadle and Slava Nelson. "Because of your work," she said, "my life has changed forever." She considers the Senior Club her family.

Lewis W. Cole Memorial Young Leadership Award

Ben Vaughan, a past Cole Award recipient, presented the Lewis W. Cole Memorial young Leadership Award to Keren Benabou. He pointed out that Benabou came to Louisville seven years ago and has two small children. She is a member of the Ben Gurion Society and has shown exceptional leadership in the Federation Campaign's Young Adult Division (YAD).

Benabou joined the meeting via Skype as she was in Israel for a wedding. She humbly said she loves her community, is proud to be Jewish and is appreciative of the opportunity to work with the community and help it thrive for her children's benefit.



Beth Salamon, Tracy Geller and Ben Vaughan

Joseph J. Kaplan Young Leadership Award

Beth Salamon, a past Kaplan Award recipient, presented the Joseph J. Kaplan Young Leadership Award to Tracy Geller. Salamon pointed out that Geller has recently taken on a lot of programming responsibility with YAD, including co-chairing the annual YAD Campaign event. At the same time, she is a member of the Adath Jeshurun Preschool Board, works as an attorney and is raising two children and two stepchildren with her husband, Mark.

Geller recalled that when she was growing up, her father was often away volunteering at community agency meetings, and while she didn't understand what he was doing or why, she knew "he must have been doing something important and special to be away from us."

Now, as a parent, she understands and is ready to do her part to help the community thrive and to set an example for her children. While it's a lot of work, she finds it rewarding. She also expressed appreciation from her mentors, including her father-in-law Harry Geller, Frankye Gordon and Bruce Blue.

Arthur S. Kling Award

JCL President and CEO Stu Silberman presented the Arthur S. Kling Award to

Assistant Director of Membership and Wellness Tara Stone. Silberman said that throughout her time with the JCL, Stone has continually striven to go the extra mile and make things better, and as she has, her position and responsibilities have changed and grown.

She built staff values, stressing service and efficiency and continually took on more responsibility with a positive attitude and passion. Through her efforts she helped change the culture at the agency.

Stone, visibly moved, said it is a true honor to be chosen to receive this award "among so many amazing peers." She loves what she does and the organization.



Tara Stone

Teen Awards

Teen Director Mike Steklof presented the Stuart Pressma Leadership Awards, which include college scholarships to Rachel Bass, Eli Gould, Ben Koby, Deborah Levin and Maggie Rosen. All of them were active in BBYO throughout their high school years and held many leadership positions.

Steklof also presented the Stacy Marks Nisenbaum Award to Jacob Finke, the Ellen Faye Garmon Award to Audrey Nussbaum, and the Joseph Fink Award to Natania Lipp.

Finke is currently the godol (president) of Drew Corson AZA and has been an excellent recruiter. He helped the chapter win the Henry Monsky Chapter Excellence Award, earned the Mazkir of the Year Award (secretary) in the region, and more.

Nussbaum is the n'siah (president) of Jay Levine BBG and helped her chapter win the Chapter Excellence Award on the international level, chaired several regional events, earned the Mazkira of the Year Award (secretary) and more.

Lipp held offices locally and regionally, including n'siah of Jay Levine BBG and regional sh'lichah, vice president of Jewish heritage, community service and social action. As sh'lichah, she helped bring in Unified for Uganda as a regional project.

Ronald and Marie Abrams Volunteer of the Year Award

John Leffert presented the Ronald and Marie Abrams Volunteer of the Year Award to Angie Aronoff.

Leffert said that for 27 years, Aronoff

see JCL page 13



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Audrey Nussbaum, Eli Gould, Jacob Finke, Ben Koby, Mike Steklof, Deborah Levin, Maggie Rosen, Rachel Bass and Natania Lipp

JCL

Continued from page 12



Angie Aronoff and John Leffert

has "gone beyond what is asked or expected," taking on whatever needed to be done to make CenterStage a success and he shared a letter from her children, Michelle and Joel, who were unable to be with her that night. They said she was a role model who was never too busy or important for any volunteer opportunity who taught them how to give of themselves.

For Leffert, it was a bittersweet moment, as soon after the JCL Annual Meeting the Aronoffs moved to Denver to be closer to their children.

Aronoff thanked many people, but especially John Leffert and the "amazing" staff and volunteers of CenterStage who have made the theater program a "cornerstone of the JCC."



David A. Jones, Jr. and his mother, Betty Jones

Blanche B. Ottenheimer Award

The presentation of the Blanche B. Ottenheimer Award was the highlight of the evening. The prestigious award recognizes the contributions of a person who has made a significant difference for good in Louisville and beyond. Betty Jones presented the 2014 Ottenheimer Award to her son, David A. Jones, Jr.

Betty Jones said many things helped prepare her son to make the significant contributions he has made to the city and beyond. His love of reading made him an avid scholar, historian, linguist, enthusiastic and effective teacher and advocate for education.

His study of languages gave him opportunities in China, Germany and Hong Kong; and his time in China taught him the loneliness of living in a culture other than his own, which led him to the Americana Community Center, where he works with immigrants.

He learned to swim and the importance of physical exercise at the JCC, and credits his self discipline to years of swimming, football and soccer.

He is also blessed with a wife, Mary Gwen, who shares his commitment to education, being loving parents and positive role models.

For David A. Jones, Jr., receiving the Ottenheimer Award gave him the opportunity to talk about the importance of education. He acknowledged the many

blessings he has had and spoke of his parents and grandparents' influence on his own education.

Another mentor, he said, spent 19 years in a labor camp, during which time he was not allowed to speak and was starved. This mentor told Jones he survived by reading. "I didn't have access to books," Jones reported his friend said, "but I had memorized long poems and essays, so I read in my head."

Education matters to society, he said, and the Jefferson County Public Schools need improvement. About half the students do not leave school ready for the future, he said, and most of them are concentrated in areas of high poverty.

He sees poverty and the social divide as big challenges, but not as insurmountable obstacles. None of those students, Jones said, is as poor as the students he had in China, and those students were able to learn.

Jones believes the building blocks are in place to better serve children in poverty, and he blames the failure on the fact that voters are complacent because the system works pretty well for them.

He said he ran for the School Board to effect change and change is hard. He called on those in attendance to demand better from the schools and to push him to get it done.

Special Presentations

Jay Levine BBG presented a short video to honor the man for whom their chapter is named. They remembered that he was a person teens could always count on. They also talked about the Discover CATCH (Coordinated Approach to Child Health) program started by Diane Levine and Shannon Levine Benovitz with the help of the Jay Levine Fund.

The Discover CATCH program engages children and teens in a healthy lifestyle program, the BBGers said, and it is being incorporated into all programming. It helps participants understand "go," "slow" and "whoa" foods and encourages movement activities.

Natania Lipp, who recently participated in the March of the Living, a trip to the death camps and ghettos of Poland, then to Israel, (see story, page 16) was so moved by her experience that she feels it is critical that more teens have the opportunity she had. To begin working toward that goal, she established the March of the Living fund, which will provide scholarships to enable more teens to go on the March.

Louis Waterman, chair of the Jewish Hospital Fund for Excellence spoke briefly about how the histories of the JCL and JHFE are intertwined, from the founding of Jewish Hospital in 1903 to the present.

The JCL, he pointed out, is the largest recipient of JHFE funds. Since JHFE began giving grants, it has invested nearly \$4 million in Jewish initiatives for education, senior adults and health and wellness, and the JCL has received \$1.5 million of that. JHFE is also investing in health care and medical research.

Waterman also reported that JHFE is working on its strategic plan, which is nearing completion. It is excited about its acquisition of the Standard Club and is working with a committee with representation from every Jewish organization, including the JCL, to determine the best use of the property to benefit the

Jewish community.

JHFE's Board is looking for transformational opportunities, he said, and it is seeking to ensure a thriving Jewish community.

Program Cabinet Chair's Report

Jennifer Leibson, who co-chairs the Program Cabinet with Amy Ryan, expressed pride in "the way we connect with the Jewish community in this building." She praised the staff as talented and dedicated and said the JCC is a unique gathering place and the center for Jewish life.

She listed many of the programs from Shalom Baby and PJ Library for the youngest constituents and Teen Connection and BBYO, to arts and education events and programs, to programs for seniors. She asked all JCC staff members to stand and be recognized.

Federation Campaign Report

2014 Federation Campaign Chair Doug Gordon described the Campaign as the central collection system that raises the money that the whole Jewish community comes together to allocate to meet the needs of the Jewish agencies.

This year, he reported, the Campaign raised just under \$2.1 million to-date. He thanked the donors for their support and the community for allowing him to chair the Campaign.



Jennifer Leibson



Doug Gordon

He also announced he will chair the Campaign again next year.

Board Chair's Report

JCL Board Chair Karen Abrams focused on the JCL's Strategic Plan in her remarks. It starts with the JCL's vision: fulfilling the needs of the Jewish community; and its mission: to build and sustain a vibrant, caring, inclusive community rooted in Jewish values.

"We do this," she explained, "through maintaining health and wellness, advocating for justice and compassion, fostering interfaith relations, fundraising for Jewish needs, promoting and celebrating Jewish culture and heritage, educating the young, supporting Israel, caring for the elderly, and by being welcoming and diverse."

The plan also includes six strategic goals in the areas of communication, philanthropy, leadership, the JCC building, programs and addressing financial anchors.

She appealed for community support to achieve these goals.

For the coming year, Abrams said her goals are to determine the agency's ideal footprint and analyze where potential program and service users live; to re-energize Women's philanthropy and to have a successful young leadership program up and running.

President and CEO's Report

JCL President and CEO Stu Silberman expressed pride in the Strategic Plan and appreciation for the leadership that created it. He singled out Abrams for her community leadership through

see JCL page 14



Karen Abrams

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How Does Passion Influence Your Life and Your Future

by Stew Bromberg
Vice President and CDO
Jewish Federation of Louisville

PASSION: a strong affection or enthusiasm for an object, concept, etc.

We all feel passion for something or someone. Generally this is not something we decide to do or work hard to develop. It just happens. Maybe it started when we attended an event, witnessed an occurrence, or, over time, we have been drawn to certain beliefs and have developed a dedication to have an impact on the future. Passions can take many forms and cause us to follow different paths throughout our lives.

I have a deep passion for my family. I also have a very deep passion for the survival of Judaism, here in Louisville, across North America and, yes, globally. I can trace this passion to my first Jewish overnight camp experience at Camp Kingswood in Bridgeton, ME. Here I was spending time with 200 other Jewish campers and 50 Jewish staffers, all making this the most Jewish experience I had ever had. I was a camper for three years and a counselor for two.

My children attended Camp Kingswood and I chaired the camp's 50th anniversary reunion weekend. Clearly this started me on my personal path to defining my passion for Judaism.

We all have passions. We all want our passions to continue in perpetuity. There are programs that will help us all secure the future of our passions for genera-

tions to come, and the Jewish Foundation of Louisville and the other Jewish organizations in our community can help make this happen. There are two programs we are currently working on at the Jewish Federation of Louisville.

The first is the *Create Jewish Legacy* program in partnership with the Jewish Federations of North America. We can

provide information about the many vehicles available, such as Charitable Trusts, Bequests, Gifts of Insurance, and others that will provide you the opportunity for you to ensure the continuation of programs and/or services that address your personal passions.

The second is a program of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation known as "Life

& Legacy – Assuring JEWISH TOMORROWS." The Grinspoon Foundation is the same organization that has spread PJ Library across North America by providing Jewish children with free Jewish books and music delivered to their home each month.

We have been invited to apply for a see **PASSION** page 15

JCL

Continued from page 13

the years and the partnership they have built.

He also shared words of praise for the staff members who made the Annual Meeting happen.

Silberman expressed pride in the JCL staff and introduced new staff members and those who were recently promoted: Senior Director of Camping and Youth Services Betsy Schwartz; Director of the Early Learning Center Melissa Youngblood; Membership Director Alicia Springer and Aquatics Director Johnny Kimberlin.

Also, Jen Tuvlin in PJ Library and outreach; Brian Hardesty and Linda Amaranant in accounting; and Raven Dunn, Niki King and Jennifer Hardage in marketing. "I am very proud of this team. In just a few years we have attracted so many talented, passionate, and committed professionals. It is our truly wonderful staff that has enabled the great advances we have achieved," Silberman commented.

Silberman also thanked the Board of



Stu Silberman

directors, committee members and volunteers for their help.

He commented that five year ago, on May 1, 2009, the JCL was created from the merger of the JCC and the Federation. He listed a few key accomplishments as they align with the strategy goals Abrams outlined earlier including communications with increased emphasis on the major brands of JCC and Federation; the Uniquely Jewish Event series that "puts the fun back in fundraising;" increased leadership opportunities through committees; prudent investment in the current building; and programming that scores higher in Jewish impact in the Jewish Community Centers Association Benchmarking than the average of comparable JCCs.

On the financial side, Silberman reported that income generating programming increased net contribution from \$800,000 to \$1,200,000 and contributions to endowment funds increased by over \$1,000,000.

Also, the JCL's dependence on use of unrestricted endowment earnings to support operations has been reduced from \$492,000 in fiscal year 2010 to \$126,000 this year.

Silberman summarized that the cumulative improvement to JCL operations since the agency was formed, excluding the revenue from Campaign and other philanthropic activities, is over \$1,500,000.

Board Elections

David Kaplan, chair of the JCL Governance Committee conducted Board elections.

Those elected or re-elected for three-year terms on the Board were Bruce Blue, Lance Gilbert, Seth Gladstein, Doug Gordon and Jacob Wishnia.

Those elected or re-elected as officers were chair, Karen Abrams; vice chairs, Jay Klempner and Leon Wahba; treasurer, Laurence Nibur; and secretary, Jeff Tuvlin.

Directors who completed their terms, Shannon Benovitz, Myrle Davis, Harry Geller, Nathan Goldman, Rabbi Laura Metzger and Michael Shaikun, were recognized and thanked.

In addition to Kaplan, members of the Governance Committee are Bruce Blue, Bob Bornstein, Lance Gilbert, Dennis Hummel, Steve Linker, Susan Rudy and Mark Weiss.

Editor's note: full profiles of all the award winners ran in the May 23 issue of Community.



David Kaplan

YAD

Annual Picnic and Poolside



August 8, 6-8:45 p.m.

At the JCC Pool

Crafts, Shabbat Dinner & Swimming!

ISRAELI SCOUTS

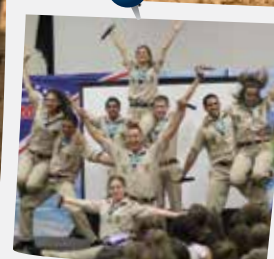
community performance



Tuesday, July 29

2 p.m. in the

JCC Auditorium



Free for the whole community!

Federation Invited to Apply for Grinspoon Life and Legacy Grant

by Shiela Steinman Wallace
Editor

If you are part of a Jewish family and have a young child or grandchild or if you read *Community* regularly, you have probably heard of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation. It's the organization that underwrites the popular PJ Library program that provides free, high quality books and music to young Jewish children.

PJ Library has transformed the way Jewish Community Centers and Jewish Federations connect with young children and their families by allowing local organizations to provide free gifts and quality, low-cost programs to constituents and an effective, low barrier way to reach out to unaffiliated and marginally-affiliated families.

Now, the Grinspoon Foundation has developed a program, Life and Legacy, to assist Jewish Federations and Foundations across North America promote after-lifetime giving that will benefit Jewish day schools, congregations, service organizations and other entities.

The Jewish Foundation of Louisville knows the future security of the Jewish community here depends upon a strong endowment program, and is taking steps to ensure that happens. The Foundation has been invited to submit a grant proposal to the Grinspoon Foundation to enable the community to participate in this exciting program and join other communities across North America in securing the future and ensuring the impact of Judaism.

The Life and Legacy program provides training, support and monetary incentives designed to help the Jewish Foundation secure meaningful after-lifetime legacy gifts and encourages all Jewish communal agencies and institutions work in close partnership to ensure the entire community will have the resources it needs to move forward.

Life and Legacy's guiding principles are implemented through programs and services designed to help Foundation professionals build trust and strong relationships with the other community organizations to work collaboratively for the future of the community.

"If we are fortunate enough to receive this generous grant," said Jewish Federation of Louisville Chief Development Officer, "we will work with the Grinspoon Foundation to create programs and to engage potential donors to ensure the future of the programs and services they value and to enable them to perpetuate their values in the community."

A key component of this program involves the awarding of incentive grants to the organizations who participate

to help offset administrative and other costs associated with starting this type of legacy building program for the entire Jewish community.

Those principles also give communities guidance on showing appreciation through professionally implemented stewardship and serve as a means to engage local Jewish organizations in partnership.

For more information, contact Jewish Foundation of Louisville Chief Development Officer Stew Bromberg, sbromberg@jewishlouisville.org or 238-2739.

Lions of Judah Hold Women's Philanthropy Planning Lunch

In Louisville, as in many communities across North America, passionate Jewish women step up as leaders. They want

- to ensure that there is a Jewish community for their children;
- to engage in doing mitzvot and working for tikkun olam, the repair of the world; and
- to encourage other women who share their values to support women's philanthropy by making meaningful contributions to the annual Federation Campaign.

Jane Goldstein, Dale Hyman, Carolyn Neustadt and Denise Schiller organized a meeting for their fellow Lions of Judah on May 20 at 211 Clover Lane to consider the role of their division in the Annual Federation Campaign and how they can encourage more women to share their commitment to the Jewish community. Members of the Lion of Judah Division make annual gifts to the Campaign of at least \$5,000.

Fellow Lions Karen Abrams, Nancy Abrams, Shellie Branson, Debbie Friedman, Barbara Goldberg, Linda Goldberg, Toni Goldman, Janet Hodes, Cheryl Karp and Amy Trager answered their call. They were joined by Federation Development Director Tziviva Levin Kalmes and JCL Senior Vice President and Chief Operations Officer Sara Wagner.

They discussed new ways to engage women in Jewish philanthropy and ideas for meaningful women's events in the community. Among the ideas they are considering are service projects and educational programs that will strengthen the Jewish community through tzedakah, volunteerism and events that will bring Jewish women together.

not guaranteed to receive this grant and I will keep you posted as the process of review continues.

But since I am talking about grants I would like to update you on our efforts to enhance our revenues through grants from the outside community. Last year we raised \$547,000 in grant revenues to benefit the programs and services we provide directly to the community. So far this year, we have raised \$622,000 in grant revenues. This represents an increase of 13.7 percent. I am very proud of this increase and want to make sure you understand that all grant submissions require great teamwork with staff from all departments providing input and ideas. Together we do extraordinary things.

Next month I will be announcing the many changes we have planned for the 2015 Federation Campaign and some of the events we have planned for the community.

The Jewish Community of Louisville gratefully acknowledges donations to the following

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PASSION

Continued from page 14

grant from that foundation to become one of their next Life & Legacy communities. If we receive the award the foundation will provide funding, training and ongoing support for us to help all the Jewish agencies in Louisville start or enhance their own Legacy programs.

We will provide training, marketing materials, regular meetings as well as incentive grants to the organizations that choose to participate to offset their administrative and implementation costs. The funds raised by each organization through this amazing and successful program will help build *their* legacy programs from *their* donors.

Our role is to help the community achieve the goal of becoming more self-sustainable and move forward as a strong and vibrant community. We are

Establishes Endowment with Federation with Goal of Funding Scholarships

After the March of the Living, Lipp Works to Help Others Make the Trip

by Natania Lipp
Teen Topics Editor

“The Egyptian, Babylonian, and the Persian rose, filled the planet with sound and splendor, then faded to dream-stuff and passed away. The Greek and Roman followed, made a vast noise and they are gone. Other peoples have sprung up, and held their torch high for a time, but it burned out and they sit in twilight now or have vanished.

“The Jew saw them all, beat them all, and is now what he always was, exhibiting no decadence, no infirmities of age, no weakening of his parts, no slowing of his energies, no dulling of his alert and aggressive mind. All things are mortal, but the Jew. All other forces pass, but he remains. What is the secret of his immortality?”

Mark Twain asked this question over a hundred years ago, and now, after going on the March of the Living, I think I know the secret.

Aaron, the brother of Moses, is commanded by G-d to light seven lamps of the menorah in the sanctuary – intending for it to be a permanent tradition. Sure enough, here today we still have

the eternal light hanging above the ark. Why? You may allude to the Chanukah story to explain the lamps, but the eternal light started long before that, in the Torah, in Parshat Behaalotecha.

In fact, the eternal light has been shining for a pretty long time! It gives us kavannah (intention or direction) lighting the way on our path.

But also, the light reminds us of how important it is to remember. G-d commands us, time after time, litzkor: to remember. G-d says, “Remember the day you went out of Egypt” and “Remember the Sabbath.” G-d doesn’t just ask us to observe holidays, G-d asks us to remember our history. Which is important for a number of reasons. The biggest of which, in my opinion, is to remind us of how we got to where we are today.

These thoughts weren’t in my mind yet in December, 2013 when I signed up for a trip called the March of the Living – a two week trip to Poland and Israel from late April to early May.

As the event crept closer, I began preparing for the March. I talked to my teachers, did makeup assignments, listened in on our required conference calls.

I wrote my name on the March of the Living luggage tags, packed everything on the packing list and soon enough, the day came when it was time to say goodbye to the homework and friends of my simple high school life, put on my March of the Living T-shirt and board the plane to New York. I met my soon-to-be good friends and stepped on the plane to the experience of a lifetime.

The next day, we wake up in Poland, grab our matching backpacks, and load onto the bus. Then we get off and remember this isn’t just any tour bus taking us to any museum to learn about just

any history. This is Auschwitz.

Even though we know we signed up for a Holocaust remembrance trip, this isn’t what we expected. The sun shines, the grass grows, and suddenly we realize that the Holocaust wasn’t actually black and white like it was in Schindler’s List.

Auschwitz is a museum now – flowers are planted along the hedges of the walkways, there are tour guides with microphones and listening devices through which they tell you stories of the thousands killed on this very land.

This is no longer a fun escape from school for two weeks.

They show us gigantic piles of shoes – then eyeglasses, clothing. The worst is the pile of hair, braids on top of braids taking up half of a large room and you picture little girls getting their hair taken away from them. You picture your neighbor, or your child, or even yourself as a little kid who wore her hair in a braid sometimes.

Many of the statistics that we learn aren’t new to us, but hit harder as they’re brought to life with real stories and images.

And then we sit in the grass and eat our bagged lunches and act like teenagers, forgetting that we have to do it all over again tomorrow, but mindful of the fact that we feel trapped after a few hours and some people were trapped here for years.

That afternoon, we see Birkenau, a death camp. We gather around the Holocaust survivor accompanying us, and she tells us her story.

Eighty-five-year-old Trudy has been going on the March of the Living for six years. She says each time she goes through the camps it gets a little easier. It is always hard, but always worth it to be enlightening the youth with her experiences.

She ends by telling us she has hope for our generation and faith in us to pass down what we learned. That’s when I realized that it wasn’t just about passing down her stories, it was about making sure that everyone my age could go on this trip. If Holocaust survivors are brave, strong and heart-full enough to take us on this journey, we all HAVE to accept their outstretched arms.

We had the honor of being with Trudy for the entire trip, and she never went without a hand to hold, or a person to talk to. We all treated her like a precious gem – getting to talk to her was an honor and a treasured moment every time; she’s one of the mascots of the Jewish people and the source of our strength.

Every day in Poland, we toured camps and ghettos and we kept Trudy’s words in the backs of our minds at all times, knowing we had to soak up as much information as possible to fulfill her wishes of passing it on.

Usually when we recall the Holocaust, the most horrendous part of our history, we simply say, “never forget.” But that’s not enough. G-d doesn’t say “never forget the Sabbath.” He COMMANDS us to REMEMBER it.

This year, I got to remember actively. On Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day), I was marching, with thousands of others – teens and adults, friends and strangers, Jews and non-Jews – from Auschwitz to Birkenau – in the footsteps our people took to death. But this time, as we walked, we sang, wearing matching blue jackets and proudly waving Israeli flags in the air.

The second half of our trip was in Israel, and as soon as the plane landed, our emotions flipped and everyone cheered.

We climbed Masada and talked about how the Jewish people killed themselves see **MARCH** page 17



Natania Lipp, second from left, with her friends at Auschwitz

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MARCH

Continued from page 16

before the Romans could get to them years ago. In Poland we were walking skeletons, exploring camps in shock and horror. But here, we were alive and full of celebration because we could rejoice in knowing that we will never again have to decide between being killed by ourselves or by others. A place where so many died was now filled with so much life and gratitude for where we are now.

In the days following we got a glimpse of the magical beauty in Tsfat, and felt the pride running through the veins of each Israeli citizen on Yom Ha'atzmaut, Israel Independence Day. To remember where we came from and how we got this far, once again on Yom Ha'atzmaut, I was marching with thousands of teens and adults, friends and strangers, Jews and non-Jews, through the streets of Jerusalem towards the Kotel (the Wall) in the steps that our people never got the chance to take. And this time, as we walked, we sang, wearing our matching blue jackets and proudly waving Israeli flags in the air.

The March of the Living is an emblem of our strength and values. Our eternal light still shines because we don't just sit back and say, "never forget". We stand up and we march. And we remember.

"The Egyptian, Babylonian, and the Persian rose, filled the planet with sound and splendor, then faded to dream-stuff and passed away. The Greek and Roman followed, made a vast noise and they are gone. Other peoples have sprung up, and held their torch high for a time, but it burned out and they sit in twilight now or have vanished.

"The Jew saw them all, beat them all, and is now what he always was, exhibiting no decadence, no infirmities of age, no weakening of his parts, no slowing of his energies, no dulling of his alert and aggressive mind. All things are mortal, but the Jew. All other forces pass, but he remains. What is the secret of his immortality?"

Here's the secret: struggle.

We as Jewish people are destined to struggle. Look back at our history – Abraham struggled to communicate with G-d, Jacob wrestled with angels, Joseph fought with his brothers ... we had to get through slavery and wandering in a desert before reaching the holy

land. We're programmed to struggle – it's in our blood. But we also accept it, by instinct, and use it to fuel our success.

The only problem is... ARE we struggling? In comparison to famine, slavery, flood, wandering hopelessly through desert? In comparison to the struggles of the Holocaust, when the whole world tried to demolish us from this earth?

No... we're not. We're living our lives, with maybe the occasional eye-roll at an anti-Semitic joke or a glance into current events that show discrimination elsewhere. But how can we be passing down this huge chunk of history if, really, we can't relate?

We say WE. But really, WE didn't escape from the land of Egypt and WE didn't experience the Holocaust firsthand. It's hard to remember something you didn't do yourself, and scary to think about the firsthand witnesses dying off and the future of our people being left in the hands of those who have to recall our past journeys and carve out the new ones.

The best we can be is secondhand witnesses, and as we pass stories down from one generation to the next, the tales will begin to get hazy and we fear that the eternal light is slowly dimming as our recollections get more vague.

Luckily, it's not the details of our experiences that brighten the eternal light, but our passion, strength, and our will to remember that rekindle it year after year.

We say WE because we're the same people standing here today that were in the sanctuary when Aaron first lit the menorah; the same people with the same kavanah.

In order to maintain our immortality, we have to actively remember our past. We can't ignore our struggle – we can only embrace it and move forward with preparation for more to come.

We cannot improve if we don't know what we've overcome, and we cannot build up without knowledge of our lowest points. I'm asking you to send more teens on this journey to struggle, to feel sadness, anger, fear, and to help them build strength from those emotions. Force our younger generation to face reality head on and to do the mitzvah of remembering as we are commanded to do so often.

By creating the March of the Living Fund, a way to send high school students on a life-changing journey regardless of

their ability to pay, I'm giving us all kavanah: direction and intention. It's the "clouds of glory" that led us through the wilderness, the eternal light that shines in our synagogues, and the insight into both our past and future that we need to keep getting stronger.

Never forget to remember.

Editor's note: Natania Lipp first presented this essay during a Shabbat service at Congregation shortly after her March of the Living experience. It takes a minimum of \$5,000 to begin a designated endowment fund at the Jewish Foundation of Louisville. Lipp has

raised more than \$5800 to date and is in the process of formally establishing the March of the Living Fund that will provide scholarship assistance to help other teens go on the March of the Living.

It is her dream that the fund will continue to grow so that one day it will be able to provide substantial help to many teens every year. To donate to the fund and help Lipp realize her dream, send your check to the Jewish Foundation of Louisville, 3600 Dutchmans Lane, Louisville, KY 40205; or contact the Development Department, 238-2739 or kbene-field@jewishlouisville.org.

CHAVURAT SHALOM



Chavurat Shalom meets at The Temple, 5101 U.S. Highway 42. It is a community-wide program. All synagogue members and Jewish residents welcome.

July 3

A Farewell Party for Elsie Ballew

July 10

"Bernson's Corner" Barry Bernson, Louisville's TV personality shares his new book and will be book signing his best seller.

July 17

Israeli Short Films

July 24

Bingo Games with great prizes

July 31

Violin Concert with Blaise Poth's violin students (meet in the Heideman Auditorium for lunch on this day only)

A healthy and nutritious lunch is available at noon for a cost of \$5, followed by the program at 1 p.m. Kosher meals and transportation available for

\$5 upon request in advance. Call Cindy at 423-1818 for lunch reservations or information.

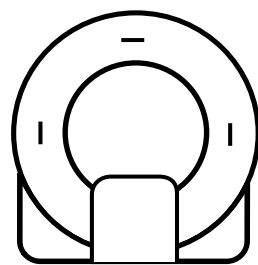
Funding for Chavurat Shalom is provided by the Jewish Community of Louisville, National Council of Jewish Women, a Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence grant, The Temple's Men of Reform Judaism and Women of Reform Judaism and many other generous donors.

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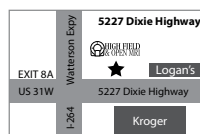
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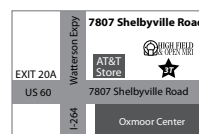
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Friedson Honored, FitzGerald Spoke at NCJW Closing Meeting

by Phyllis Shaikun
Special to Community

The National Council of Jewish Women, Louisville Section, held its closing meeting of the year and installation on Thursday, May 28, at Majid's Restaurant. A highlight of the afternoon luncheon was the presentation of the Henrietta Herzfeld Award to Sandi Friedson.

Prior to the formal presentation of the Herzfeld Award, Susan H. Glazer, Henrietta's granddaughter, spoke lovingly about her grandmother's devotion to the ideals of NCJW and the betterment of the community.

Madeline Abramson offered a moving tribute to Friedson, a valued friend with whom she has worked side-by-side on numerous projects. A profile of Friedson, including many of her NCJW and community accomplishments, can be

found on page 19.

Keynote speaker, Judge Patricia Walker FitzGerald, pointed out that we are fortunate in this community to have a unified family court system where one judge handles all interactions involved in a specific case. "Most cases," she said, "involve drama and unhappiness," she said, "and some 85-90 percent involve issues of substance abuse."

She feels it is important to have knowledgeable people in the community take the time to look at court proceedings as a check on accountability. With one-third of family court cases concerning whether a child should be removed from the home, she believes those involved need to feel they are being dealt with fairly. That's where NCJW's Court Watch program comes into play.

The Louisville Section has been called upon by the local courts to play an important role in the re-examination of

the court system's handling of child abuse and neglect cases. Although family courts in Jefferson County are closed courts, Court Watch-trained volunteers will be allowed to monitor cases and record statements, behaviors and attitudes for the specific purpose of providing feedback. Data will be compiled and NCJW will prepare a report for the judges advising them of the findings.

The Section conducted a similar program several years ago about cases involving domestic violence and sexual assault that provided invaluable information and helped to implement change. If you would like to be a Court Watch volunteer, please call the NCJW office at 458-5566.

Judy Shapira announced that Camp Gilda will be held again this year at the end of June and Karen Kohn announced the 26th annual Shopping Spree fundraiser will run from August 15, 2014-Au-

gust 13, 2015.

President Sue Paul's year-end report was replete with successes from securing grants to help underwrite various programs to raising needed dollars from Nearly New Shop revenues. Community service endeavors continue to help families and individuals at various organizations such as the California Area Family Development Center and Maryhurst, and Public Affairs and State Policy Advocacy endeavors keep section members enlightened and up-to-date on matters of import.

Phyllis Shaikun inducted six new board members for 2014-2016. They included Bari Calderon, Phyllis Fine, Sarah Harlan, Amy Lapinski, Joslyn Marksbury, Renee Reynolds and Christon Segal. Sharon Hordes will fill a one year unexpired term.

PRESBYTERIANS

Continued from page 4

tended the assembly said the tight vote suggested that the church's rank and file did not buy into the church leadership's hypercritical posture on Israel.

"If you take a look at the closeness of the vote and realize how stacked the decks were going in, reading between the lines, this is not a church that in its general membership is strongly anti-Israel," said Rabbi David Sandmel, the Anti-Defamation League's director of interfaith affairs.

The resolution, or "overture," as it is called in Presbyterian parlance, was subject to a barrage of amendments – even amendments to amendments – when it reached the floor of the assembly in Detroit on Friday afternoon.

Many of the modifications sought to make clear that the divestment did not signal a split with Israel. One amendment that passed made explicit that the resolution "is not to be construed or represented by any organization of the PC(USA) as divestment from the State of Israel, or an alignment with or endorsement of the global BDS (Boycott, Divest and Sanctions) movement."

The language of the divestment resolution as it passed also reaffirmed "Israel's right to exist as a sovereign nation within secure and internationally recognized borders in accordance with the United Nations resolutions."

Rachel Lerner, J Street's senior vice president for community relations, said she was heartened by the amendment. Lerner had delivered a speech at the assembly pleading with the delegates to reject divestment.

"There were a lot of people who backed the divestment resolution who weren't voting against Israel but Israeli policy," she said. "There is a way forward to dialogue. I don't think cutting off discussion helps."

Other Jewish leaders who for years have engaged in interfaith dialogue with the Presbyterians said the last-minute qualifications could not mitigate a season of bitterness triggered by the publication in January of an anti-Zionist study guide, "Zionism Unsettled," by the Presbyterian Church's Israel/Palestine Missionary Network.

Ethan Felson, the vice president of the Jewish Council for Public Affairs, said other mainline Protestant churches had engaged in pro-Palestinian advocacy "without trafficking in anti-Jewish tropes as that document did," referring to the Presbyterian study guide.

"Several other mainline denominations have passionate pro-Palestinian programs that are not informed by the same kind of animus," he said. "Does anyone believe the Presbyterians are more committed to Palestinians than Episcopalians or Lutherans – or could it be something else?"

The General Assembly passed a resolution declaring that the study guide "does not represent the views of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), and directs all Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) entities to express this statement in all future cata-

logs, print or online resources."

But participants from mainstream Jewish groups also felt offended by what they said was, at the very least, tone deafness to Jewish sensibilities displayed by church leaders.

They cited an incident earlier in the week when Virginia Sheets, the moderator of the assembly's Middle East committee, opened proceedings to consider divestment with a prayer in which she said that "Jesus had many Jewish friends, and he wasn't afraid to speak difficult truths to Jews in his time."

"We thought that this was a conversation of a bygone era in which Christian leaders were not careful in using the age-old tropes that demonized," said Rabbi Noam Marans, the American Jewish Committee's director of interreligious Jewish relations. "And now they are back masquerading as anti-Israel sentiment."

Divestment opponents said they felt the leadership stacked the odds against them, granting greater access to committee hearings to pro-divestment activists such as representatives of Jewish Voice for Peace.

Pro-Israel activists wore T-shirts that read "Divestment leaves me out" and

"Love us and don't leave us," which at least one speaker during the debate decried as "manipulative." Jewish Voice for Peace activists wore T-shirts declaring "Another Jew supporting divestment."

Some were unsettled by the intensity of the lobbying. One woman during the debate remarked, "Even going to the bathroom there was someone lobbying for divestment."

Pro-Israel activists accused the leadership of allowing Jewish Voice for Peace to create the false impression that it spoke for a substantial portion of the Jewish community. "The Jewish Voice for Peace people were lobbying people all the time," said Roberta Seid, the education director for the pro-Israel group StandWithUs. "They were saying, 'You won't offend Jews if you pass divestment. We represent a growing segment of the Jewish community.'"

Sydney Levy, the director for advocacy at Jewish Voice for Peace, denied making claims that his group's views were necessarily representative of the Jewish community. Instead, he said, its activists argued that the Jewish community's resistance to debating divestment

see **PRESBYTERIANS** page 19

YACHAD

Continued from page 1

getting to know each other," Hiland said. On the second day, the child and his advocate set a goal of attending regular camp activities just to watch and they could leave if the child wanted to. By the time the pair got to the third activity, he decided to participate. By the end of the week, he had made a maraca and he had gotten into the pool. "It was a huge success."

After that, the advocate helped the child increase his participation, make a friend and gradually reduced the amount of assistance he needed.

This year, the JCC's Yachad program is partnered with the National Inclusion Project (NIP), which provided a grant that covers the cost of the advocates so participating families pay only normal camp fees.

NIP also provided training for staff in simple ways to approach inclusion to ensure every child succeeds. Their suggestions include dividing children into small groups to collaborate on projects and adapting the rules of common games to allow a child to participate. For example, if the group is playing kickball and one child has a problem kicking the ball, the counselor can have one child kick while the other child runs. If the child needs help running, another camper can run with him or her.

Hiland has a background working with special needs children, and when she was hired at the JCC three years ago, she began the Yachad program on a small scale. "That is exactly what I was

looking to do," she said. Last year, she grew the program a little, and this year, with help from grant writer Amy Gandel Fouts, she was able to partner with NIP.

Through NIP, Hiland was also able to bring Zach Goble on board. Goble, a child psychologist works with families and groups, giving them a "toolbox" of techniques to use to help children succeed.

"We have five kids a week or so, who have disabilities," he said. "A lot of them are related to communications, and when they can't communicate they sometimes have behavior issues. That can mean kicking or screaming or refusal to do activities." The staff have learned how to deal with them.

Not every child needs an advocate full time. Goble continued, "We have two young men who started camp with advocates but they soon reached the point that they are so ingrained in camp and their counselors are so effective that they don't even need to have advocates with them."

In fact, he explained, their integration is so complete that "the other campers in the group are starting to include them." The campers are "being successful and making friends which is what being in camp is all about."

Goble shared another story. "We have one young man who has autism and his mother was very concerned that he would need a lot of support here in camp. After the first day or two, we saw he just needed prompting or reminding. Since he can advocate for himself, he doesn't need an advocate with him and

his mother has been so happy that he's been so successful here. It was very unexpected for her."

"From my standpoint," he added, "I work as a school psychologist in the public schools and this has been one of the most rewarding experiences I have ever had. I'm seeing young counselors include our campers no matter what their difficulties may be. They want to learn more about these children and want to see them be successful, which makes me want to help them even more."

While the program is successful for many special needs children, Hiland cautions that Yachad cannot accommodate every issue. "I'm very up front and honest," she said. "We are a new program and not perfect." She lets families know if she doesn't think the JCC can work with their child, but she and her staff do as much as we can.

They try to work with family schedules, too. "We welcome behavior, speech and language, occupational and physical therapists to come during the day to see their patients so families don't have to do it after camp or at home," she added.

In addition to the grant from NIP, funding for Yachad comes from the Hannah Marks Fund and the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence. Funding for Yachad for Winter Camp comes from Kosair Charities; and funding for the program for Spring Camp comes from the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation.

For more information about the Yachad program, contact Hiland at 238-2716 or ahiland@jewishlouisville.org.

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Friedson Receives NCJW's Henrietta Herzfeld Award

by Phyllis Shaikun
Special to Community

It is hard to believe that Sandi Friedson has been able to accomplish so much to benefit the National Council of Jewish Women, Louisville Section and the community at large in a relatively short period of time. Since moving here in 1996, she has gladly and efficiently taken on numerous section-related duties and responsibilities, including the group's presidency, with diligence, determination and ultimate success.

In recognition of her many accomplishments, NCJW awarded Friedson their Henrietta Herzfeld Award at the section's closing meeting on Wednesday, May 28, at Majid's. Created in 1976, the award is presented to a member of the Louisville Section who, by her service to NCJW, has been a model to all.

Friedson grew up in Indianapolis and earned both a B.S. and an M.S. in education from Indiana University. She taught school for 33 years before coming to Louisville. Both she and her first husband, Joe, were active in the community. At one point, they were directors of the 500 Festival and acted as host and hostess of the Celebrity Committee. She recalls meeting famous personalities of the day including Merv Griffin, Edie Adams, astronauts and even the Lone Ranger.

Sometime after Joe passed away, she

was introduced to her husband, Barry, through mutual friends. The two have been married 27 years and relocated to Louisville 18 years ago.

A life member of NCJW, her involvement with Louisville Section began when her friend, Marilyn Spitzberg, encouraged her to join. She met Betty Pohn, who became her mentor, and began working at the Nearly New Shop (NNS). Since then, she has chaired the section's Education Committee, served on the Planning and Development Committee, was vice president of the NNS for six years and was the section's president from 2003-2005.

During her term in office, the NCJW Run/Walk program began and she was a member of that committee. She just recently stepped down as the section's Kentucky State Public Affairs chair.

Despite her busy schedule, she was active in the greater community as well. One of the founders of the ROAR literacy program sponsored by the Jewish Community Federation (now the Jewish Community of Louisville), she also sat on the board of CenterStage at the Jewish Community Center. A former vice president of Jewish Family and Career Services (JFCS), she served on the organization's Marketing and Development and Finance Committees and was a member of the Executive Committee.

In addition, Friedson chaired the board of the Louisville Visual Art Association and was responsible for their

DinnerWorks event, art auction and children's free art classes. She also served on the Family Place board, chaired the program committee and clinical program for Family & Children's Place and was involved with Visually Impaired Preschool Services and Community Coordinated Child Care (4C). She continues to serve on the boards of the 4C and JFCS.

In 2009, Friedson received the WLKY Bell Award from the Spirit of Louisville Foundation and was invited to be a member of its board. The program recognizes individuals who have demonstrated the true "spirit of Louisville" through selfless volunteer service to our community. That same year, she was diagnosed with breast cancer and continues to deal with the disease.

She philosophizes: "You either adjust to life or you waste away. When things happen, you just have to deal with them. You acknowledge that things are what they are and move on."

She truly believes in tikkun olam – you help where you see the need. "Volunteerism teaches you to do and see things you wouldn't do ordinarily," she says. "It forces you to step out of your comfort zone – and you grow from the experience."

Her husband concurs. "Sandi has and will always give her all and very best to any project she is associated with," he says. "I am very proud of her!"

The Friedsons are members of The Temple. They have three children, Jeff



Barry and Sandi Friedson

Friedson, Ilene Currier and David Friedson; and one grandson, Jason Friedson.

PRESBYTERIANS

Continued from page 18

obscured the degree to which the community was divided on the issue.

"We never say we represent all Jews, we say the Jews are divided, that there are red lines because the mainstream Jewish institutions are not interested in finding out," he said.

The Rev. Katharine Rhodes Henderson, president of the Auburn Theological Seminary in New York, spoke on the floor in favor of accepting the appeal from Jacobs, the Reform movement leader.

She told JTA that it was important for the Jewish community to maintain its partnerships with Presbyterians, and that those Presbyterians who had lobbied against divestment will stay active in espousing their position on the issue within the church.

"The body of Christ needs all voices represented," Henderson said. "Change will only happen if we can keep people at the table."

JUDAIC STUDIES

Continued from page 1

housed in the Division of Humanities, chaired by Prof. Elaine Wise, whose vision for this achievement goes back many years.

In October 2013, JHFE announced a \$1.15 million bequest to establish an endowed chair in Judaic studies in the University's College of Arts and Sciences' Division of Humanities, the local Jewish community's long-time goal became a reality. The funding was added to a 2005 gift of \$500,000 from the Jewish Community Federation of Louisville (now the Jewish Community of Louisville) that was matched by Kentucky's Research Challenge Trust Fund "Bucks for Brains" initiative. The university added another \$350,000 from a gift from the late Owsley Brown Frazier, and additional funding from local donors raised the total endowment to in excess of \$2.5 million.

A Jewish Studies minor has been part of the university's College of Arts and Sciences religious studies program since 2005 thanks to the energy and persistence of Dr. Natalie Polzer, long-term chair of the Jewish Studies Committee. The Jewish Studies Committee is currently chaired by Dr. Shelley Salamensky, who also served as chair of the search committee.

Dr. Omer-Sherman earned a bachelor's degree, summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa, from California's Humboldt State University and masters and doctoral degrees from the University of Notre Dame, where he lectured from 1997-1999. He taught at Saint Louis University in Madrid and has been a professor at the University of Miami since 2002.

The author and/or editor of five books (three monographs, two edited collections), he also has contributed countless essays and book chapters to numerous publications.

Often recognized for his excellence in academic pursuits, Dr. Omer-Sherman has been the recipient of at least 40 awards and honors including the prestigious Frankel Institute for Advanced Judaic Studies Fellowship at the University of Michigan in 2012. In addition, he has contributed many hours of time serving

on university committees as well as on projects in the greater Miami community.

"Professor Omer-Sherman is extremely well-regarded as a scholar and teacher in the field of Jewish Studies and stands to greatly enrich and bring further renown to the university and the community," said Jewish Studies Committee Chair Shelley Salamensky, Ph.D.

"It is very appropriate that our first major grant announcement supports both the Jewish community and the University of Louisville," said Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence Board Chair Louis Waterman. "This new chair will ensure students a focused study of Jewish tradition and thought with scholarly expertise in Jewish religious traditions."

In addition to his considerable academic credits, Dr. Omer-Sherman has many real-life experiences that have helped him relate with students. A California native, he made aliyah to Israel, on his own, as an idealistic 17-year-old in 1975. He served with the military in the Nahal Paratrooper Unit and helped found Kibbutz Yahel in the Arava Desert, where he worked as a farmer and wilderness guide leading teens through Israel's deserts. After 13 years, he returned to the United States to attend college and graduate school.

He sees the value in combining text and illustration in the classroom and helped spearhead a movement by Jewish artists and writers to address how Jews are adapting to this environment.

The Jewish Graphic Novel, which he co-edited with Samantha Baskind, is a collection of scholarly essays that address major developments in the Jewish graphic narrative and memoir in Israel, Europe, and North America. His current work explores the construction of identities of Israeli writers such as A.B. Yehoshua and Sayed Kashua and addresses a range of writers' works including Tony Kushner, Philip Roth and Amos Oz.

"I look forward to building excitement for Jewish Studies at the University of Louisville," says Dr. Omer-Sherman, "and I hope to bring in people to develop courses that will elicit an enthusiastic response."

His first course will highlight com-

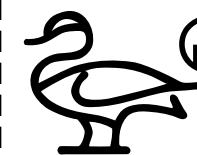
ing of age stories in Jewish literature. "I want students to understand what it means to come from a tradition and to become questioning people – a collective experience that began with Abraham."

Other courses will focus on contemporary issues about Israel, Middle-East narratives concerning Arabs and Israelis, as well as studies about the Holocaust. Music and movies will also contribute to an interdisciplinary approach to learning.

Contemporary issues about Israel and Middle-East narratives concerning Arabs and Israelis will be included in the curriculum as well as studies about the Holocaust. Music and movies will also contribute to an interdisciplinary approach to learning.

"I am extremely accessible," says Dr. Omer-Sherman. "The community wants and deserves a representative and a resource at the university. I want members of the Jewish and broader community to feel free to communicate with me and I will listen."

"I plan to visit the various congregations and Jewish organizations and become a part of the community," he added. "My wife, Michal Kofman, Ph.D., and I have received a warm welcome here and we are eager to make our home in Louisville."



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Klein Was Artist-in-Residence in Western Galilee



Robert Klein, Yochanan Kishon and Glenn Lesnick –Klein took most of the photos on these two pages, but Lesnick took the rest.



Robert Klein in action



An old man in Tzfat



Demonstration of etching printing at the Gottesman Etching Center at Kibbutz Cabri



At the Akko Glass Studio, Partnership glass artists help the locals (and other Partnership artists) fashion their glass projects.

by Shiela Steinman Wallace
Editor

Robert Klein's passion is photography and his photography is art. So when he had the opportunity to participate in Partnership 2Gether's Artist-in-Residence program in the Western Galilee last month, he took it.

Klein was one of eight artists from communities in Partnership's Central Area Consortium who participated in this program. The group also included a glass blower, a glass artist, a potter, a sculptor, a painter and a dancer.

"I was fortunate to be the photographer," Klein said, "so part of my obligation and the fun was going around to other participants' projects and documenting the trip," including their tours. Most of the time, the group stayed in the Western Galilee, concentrating on Nahariya and Akko.

"The painter taught a class to other painters from the area that I documented," Klein noted. "He's a really good teacher. I didn't want to leave because I wanted to be in the class myself."

Klein was moved by another experience he had with the painter, who had a group of six or seven Israeli women who paint as an active hobby. In the course of the class, some of them shared parts of their personal stories. The instructor worked with them to help them "loosen up and get more emotion into their paintings. It was amazing to see how their paintings changed over a few days."

"I made some great friends," he said, which fulfilled the main object of the trip: to make personal connections with artists in the Western Galilee. He also connected with his fellow artists-in residence. "It was a good experience," he said.

The trip also gave him the opportunity to participate in other artists' projects. Klein had the opportunity to work with glass and paint.

Earlier this year, Israeli photographer Yochanan Kishon visited Louisville and connected with Klein. On this trip, Klein said, "I spent the most time with Yochanan, and we became good friends. He took me up near the Lebanese border and on the beach, where we took some really nice photos at night."

Kishon is also a high school teacher, and Klein was with him when he made a presentation to his students. "He showed some of my photography and discussed what was good and bad about each. The students were fun to be with." In addition, Kishon mentors a group of parents of fallen soldiers, and Klein accompanied him to one of the experiences.

Kishon also hosted Klein in his home for a Shabbat dinner, so the Louisvillian had the opportunity to meet his colleague's wife and children.

Klein was also moved by the dancers at Kibbutz Gatot, where the dance artist from his group worked with young people whom Klein described as "really amazing." He heard some great music, too.

"Besides having the benefit of many new friends," Klein said, "it opened my eyes with respect to other art forms – what goes into them and their personal and emotional dimensions."

"Getting to know people on a personal level as opposed to being a tourist makes a difference in how I view Israel," he continued. "I feel a more personal connection" and he wants to return.

While Klein paid for his own travel, Partnership covered most of his expenses while he was in the Western Galilee.

"Everybody on the trip had good success in making personal relationships," he added. "We got to see the results of what we did as well as sharing the whole experience as a group. I highly recommend this program to any artist in the future."

Klein learned about the program from Louisville's Partnership chairs, Jon and Laura Klein.

The Artist-in Residence program is one of many Partnership 2Gether activities that connect people to people in the fields of medicine, arts, education, twinning, co-existence, leadership development, culture, business development, economics, tourism and more.

Louisville has been active in Partnership since its establishment in 1997, and today is part of the Central Area Consortium of Communities that also includes Akron, Canton, Dayton, Toledo and Youngstown, OH; Indianapolis, Northwest Indiana and South Bend, IN; Louisville; Des Moines, IA; Omaha, NE; and Austin, Dallas and San Antonio TX.

These consortium cities partner with Israel's Western Galilee area that includes the city of Akko, the Western Galilee Hospital and the rural communities of the Matte Asher Regional Council along the Mediterranean Sea.

Partnership is supported by the Jewish Federation of Louisville Campaign.

For more information on Partnership 2Gether, contact JCC Senior Vice President COO Sara Wagner at 238-2779 or swagner@jewishlouisville.org.



The grottoes at Rosh Hanikra



The ark in a synagogue in Tzfat



In Tzfat, top, kippot for sale; bottom, making a tallis.

KLEIN

Continued from page 20



Klein, left, and his group of artists in Akko



In Tzfat



Above One project was to paint a mural at a school in an Arab village. Here is John Domont with one of his students. Klein did some of the painting, too.

At left, Moshav Amka



Evening at dinner prepared by the residents at Kivunim (Bustan Ha'galil), an enlightening and wonderful experience with young people with some disabilities that are counseled and taught by a loving staff.



An evening at the Yemeni kibbutz of Moshav Amka for basket weaving, dinner and dancing.



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JFCS Food Pantry

Suggestions for July

Toilet paper, small boxes of raisins, canned potatoes, fruit and spinach, shelf-stable milk

All donated food must be in its original packaging. Please do not donate expired items. Monetary donations may be made to the Sonny & Janet Meyer Family Food Pantry Fund. Contact Kim Toebe, ext. 103

Career & Education Services

ACT Preparation Workshop
 Mondays and Tuesdays, July 7 - July 29
 7 - 9 p.m.

\$170 fee includes two textbooks.
 Contact Janet Poole, ext. 222.

Employment Search Jumpstart
 Mondays, July 28 - Aug. 18
 5:45 - 7:45 p.m.

For unemployed and under-employed job seekers. Four-week cycle with a one-time materials fee of \$10. Contact Janet Poole, ext. 222.

Job Seekers Resource Group
 Mondays, Aug. 4 - Sept. 15
 10:30 a.m. - noon

Learn basic job search skills from an experienced career advisor. Six-week cycle with a one-time materials fee of \$10. Contact Andrea Brown, ext. 334.



Many thanks to the sponsors, players and organizers of the 2014 Republic Bank Players Challenge. Our congratulations to the winning teams. What a great day!

Buy tickets now for Pizza for the Pantry

JFCS will be serving pizza and fun at Wick's on Goose Creek on Sunday, August 17, from noon to 2 p.m. This lunch event will include cheese and veggie pizza and soft drinks (dine in only).

This event supports hungry individuals and families through the JFCS Food Pantry and the Sonny & Janet Meyer Family Food Pantry Fund, which are both vital services working hand-in-hand to help our community.

One in seven Kentuckians rely on a food bank to provide or supplement the food in their households. Of those who visit food pantries, more than a third have had to choose between buying food and paying utility bills. The JFCS Food Pantry helps the agency's clients to eliminate those hard decisions and focus on what is best for their families.

Tickets for adults are \$7 in advance or



Food Pantry Committee Co-Chairs Janet Meyer and Linda Goodman serve up smiles at Pizza for the Pantry.

\$8 at the door. Children ages 4 to 12 are only \$5. Ages 3 and under eat free.

To increase your impact, please bring a canned or nonperishable item for the JFCS Food Pantry.

For more information or to purchase tickets, contact Kim Toebe, ext. 103.

Couples and families find affordable counseling

"Paul" and "Amber" were a young couple on the verge of divorce when they came to JFCS. Because of the Relationship Solutions Clinic at JFCS, their marriage is now back on track.

The couple had been together for two years and had recently separated. They loved each other and shared common values and goals, but the forces tearing them apart seemed unsurmountable.

Paul counted on Amber to help out with his 13-year-old daughter "Sophie" on the weekends he had to work. Amber felt ill equipped as a parent and felt that Paul did not take her distress seriously. The two also argued about the

customary private practice fees of \$80 to \$100 per session. They called JFCS and were accepted for the Relationship Solutions Clinic. The clinic is staffed by graduate students in clinical training who are supervised by an experienced clinician. At only \$20 per session, it fit within the couple's budget.

With their therapist's help, the two learned to listen to each other's concerns, and found that simply hearing how the other partner felt helped create an atmosphere of trust and cooperation. Paul and Amber learned conflict management skills and they learned about common challenges in blended families. Paul adjusted his work schedule to be home more when his daughter was there, and with new problem-solving strategies for dividing chores and keeping track of expenses, they found arrangements that worked for them.

Paul and Amber learned to accept that all couples have ongoing issues to work on. Now that counseling has concluded, they have moved back in together feeling hopeful that they have the skills to manage and thrive.

Many relationships begin full of love and hope and promises; unfortunately, they may lack the tools to weather the challenges that inevitably come after the passion cools.

Relationship Solutions is held at JFCS on Tuesdays between 5 and 7 p.m. Availability is limited; participants must meet income guidelines to qualify for the reduced rate of \$20 per session. Appointments are required. For details, Contact Kathryn Bentley at ext. 240.



Graduate students work closely with JFCS counselors in the Relationship Solutions Clinic.

division of household chores, finances and spending time with their respective families. Their relationship, once warm and affectionate, grew distant and cold. Their explosive arguments left them feeling battered and considering divorce.

As a last-ditch effort, Paul and Amber looked for couple counseling. With limited finances, they could not afford the

Support Groups at JFCS

JFCS offers a variety of free support groups. Learn about community resources and bring balance to your life.

All meetings are held at JFCS Louis & Lee Roth Family Center unless specified.

Adult Children of Aging Parents
 Fourth Thursday of the month, 7 p.m.
 Contact Mauri Malka, ext. 250.

Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group
 Second Friday of the month, 2 p.m.
 Contact Kim Toebe, ext. 103.

Caregiver Support Group
 First Tuesday of the month, 4 p.m.
 Thomas Jefferson Unitarian Church,
 4936 Brownsboro Rd.
 Contact Connie Austin, ext. 305, or
 Naomi Malka, ext. 249.

Diabetes Support Group
 On hiatus until September 2014
 Contact Mauri Malka, ext. 250.

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Support Groups

Third Monday of the month
 12:45 p.m. at JFCS
 Third Wednesday of the month
 10 a.m. at Kenwood Elementary
 Family Resource Center
 7420 Justan Ave.
 Contact Jo Ann Kalb, ext. 335.

Parkinson's Caregiver Support Group
 Second Thursday of the Month, 1 p.m.
 Contact Connie Austin, ext. 305.

Support groups are facilitated by JFCS and funded by KIPDA Area Agency on Aging through the Older Americans Act and the Cabinet for Health Services.

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DINING & ENTERTAINMENT

Vaad Reports on Activities, Mikvah Updates, Staff Changes

by Jacob Wishnia
President of the Vaad

The Vaad Hakashruth thanks the community for all of their support this past year during our hiring of a new Kashruth Administrator, Rabbi Evan Rubin and working through the many changes that occurred with overseeing kashruth in this area.

The agency also wants to thank those individuals that contributed to the Vaad without any solicitation. This shows the community is very supportive of the Vaad's mission. The mission of the Louisville Vaad Hakashruth is to promote and provide kosher supervision within the community.

The Vaad just recently sponsored an elegant kosher dinner at the Hyatt Regency that 65 members of our community attended. There were only positive responses from the attendees. The chef and the Hyatt went out of their way to provide a delicious meal. The agency is pleased to be able to work with the Hyatt and use the kosher dishes that the Hyatt stores for the Vaad's use. Fathers were recognized and given roses in recognition of Father's Day.

Through Rabbi Rubin's efforts and hard work, The Vaad has accomplished the following over the last six months:

- Worked with the JCC and supervising all foods prepared in the JCC kitchen for the Senior Adult Program and the

many other functions at the JCC. The JCC has maintained kosher food for the outdoor café this summer at the pool area. Rabbi Rubin has helped make this happen by working with the staff at the Outdoor Café.

- Maintained contact with the Kroger management at the McMahan Center during all of their remodeling and helped them with promoting and providing kosher foods for the community.
- Communicated with the Jewish Hospital, with the help of Rabbi Laura Metzger. With only a few Jewish patients requesting kosher meals at Jewish Hospital, the Vaad has only provided service upon request.
- Communicated with Signature Four Courts in helping to provide kosher meals for their facility. Signature Four Courts has only one patient requiring kosher meals at this time, and the Vaad will continue to help facilitate this to happen as part of our mission.

The Vaad regrets to report that Rabbi Rubin and his wife, Kerry, will be leaving Louisville to become a Rabbi and Rebbetzin at their new shul in Toledo, OH. Rabbi Rubin has helped the Vaad with its many needs throughout this year. The Vaad wishes Rabbi Rubin much success in his new position.

It is the Louisville Vaad Hakashruth's utmost desire to have a kosher bakery, butcher, restaurant or any other eating

facility for our community. Only with your help and suggestions will this be possible. As many individuals that pass through the community looking for kosher food, the Vaad tries its best to guide them to what is available.

As of now, Graeters Ice Cream stores in our area are only approved by Star D out of Baltimore for the ice cream only. The Vaad is approaching the individual stores about oversight to help the managers ensure that they maintain kosher ingredients to be served with the ice cream.

The Vaad owns and maintains the community Mikvah, which has been professionally cleaned and many improvements have been made.

- The air conditioning and heating units have been upgraded.
- Improvements were made to keep insects and grass from entering the building.
- A new cover has replaced the old one over the Mikvah pool itself.
- A fan was replaced in the bathroom area and all new light bulbs were installed.
- A new bathtub has been installed for use before entering the Mikvah pool.
- A new programmable thermostat has been installed.
- New shower curtains and soap dispensers have been installed.
- Welcome mats have been upgraded.
- A new Mikvah Policy and Guidelines have been produced and published

in *Community* with the help of Rabbi Michael Wolk and Rabbi Joshua Golding.

The Mikvah is used daily for religious bathing and also is used for conversions and immersion of utensils for use in preparing foods. The Mikvah is cleaned weekly and Mikvah pool is drained weekly.

The Vaad would like to thank everyone for their support all year long. Your financial help at this time will benefit the Vaad's continued effort to maintain its mission of promoting and providing kashruth in the community. Please send contributions to the Louisville Vaad Hakashruth, P.O. Box 5362, Louisville, KY 40255-0362.

Ament's Book, *Jewish Daughter Diaries: True Stories About Being Loved Too Much by Our Moms* Is Available

by Phyllis Shaikun
Special to Community

I remember Rachel Ament, now a 30-year-old writer and editor living in Washington, D.C., as the sweet, somewhat shy daughter of Sue and Mark Ament. Both are native Louisvillians who raised Rachel and her brother, Aaron, who also lives in D.C. with a job "on the hill," by setting an example and encouraging them to become involved



Rachel Ament

in the community – especially in the tight-knit local Jewish community. As a result, Rachel Ament often found herself with lots of Jewish mothers who also exhibited her own mother's tendency to over-worry, over-protect and over-love.

Does this sound familiar to anyone?

In her recently published book, *The Jewish Daughter Diaries: True Stories of Being Loved Too Much By Our Moms*, Ament has compiled 27 funny, warm and poignant stories about Jewish mothers told through the voices of their daughters including *Blossom* and *Big Bang Theory* star Mayim Bialik, along with writers Jenna Friedman, Iliza Shlesinger, Anna Breslaw, Kerry Cohen and Lauren.

Greenberg's story about her mother impersonating her on JDate was a classic and Bialik's tale of her mother assuring her she was "perfect" and anyone who didn't share that view was simply a jealous wannabe was easily relatable. Any Jewish mother – or the daughter of one – is sure to find something wonderfully familiar in this collection of vignettes.

"The idea for the book came," Ament

recalls, "when I was hanging out with some Jewish friends one night and they were telling me these amazing stories about their moms. The stories were so funny and charming and almost scarily familiar."

"I decided there was this awesome universality about Jewish moms that Jewish women should be embracing and celebrating," she continued. "The Jewish mom archetype has endured a kind of brutal beating by the media over the years, and I wanted to find a way to tell stories about them that were funny, but were still related in a loving and affectionate tone."

From concept to fruition, her book took about three years to produce. In the preface, she touchingly echoed my own feelings about my Jewish mother. "No one loves me as much and no one else's love can exert such a hold over me," Ament wrote.

"My mom might overwhelm, overstep, and overbear, but she still bears the torch," she continued. "She still has the power to guide the course of my life to give it an added spark of meaning. My mom has a way of making me feel like even the most insignificant moment matters. No situation is too inconsequential. If it happened to me, then it matters to her."

Ament readily admits learning many valuable lessons from her mother (and father) that sustained her over the years. A Ballard High School graduate, she spent her years there playing field hockey, and running cross-country and track and still made time to be an active participant in BBYO activities at the Jewish Community Center. She went on to earn a bachelor's degree from Tulane, where she studied English and psychology and a master's in special education from the University of Virginia.

Her work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Jerusalem Post*, *Oxygen*,

AOL, *Hello Giggles* and other publications. She also has served on the editorial staffs of *Moment*, *Quick and Simple* and *Nickelodeon* magazines. She was the head writer for the New Orleans-based film *Nola*, and her writing will be included in the anthology *The Truth About Memoir: How to Write About Yourself and Others with Honesty, Emotion and Integrity*, to be published in November.

Currently, Ament is employed as a social media writer for Capital One and is working on a novel that is loosely based on her experiences as a college student in New Orleans. In her spare time, she enjoys exploring D.C.'s music scene and is an avid karaoke bar enthusiast.

Ament is expected to speak at Congregation Adath Jeshurun at Thanksgiving time. Check *Community* for updated information. In the meantime, her book is available at local synagogue gift shops, at Barnes & Noble and online on amazon.com.



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NEWSMAKERS

Alyce Goodman Abraham, APRN, was awarded the Ellen Bailey Nurse Practitioner Award for the state of Kentucky for 2014. This award was for outstanding advanced clinical practice, service to the profession, strong clinical competence, leadership, and community involvement. Abraham is the Nurse Practitioner of the Pelvic Pain Regional Specialty Center at Jewish Hospital Medical Center East, and she currently serves as the Louisville Director for the Kentucky Coalition of Nurse Practitioners.

On May 27, *Business First* reported that **Kindred Healthcare Inc.** is continuing its attempt to acquire Gentiva Health Services Inc. in spite of Gentiva's board's actions to prevent the acquisition. Kindred CEO Paul **Diaz** said that Gentiva's limited duration shareholder rights plan was intended to dilute the vote of shareholders, who Diaz says see the value of Kindred's offer.

Siera Hanks was named to the First Honors list in the May 16 edition of *Business First*. Siera is a senior at Atherton High School; she plans to attend Centre College and major in International Studies. Among her many activities and achievements are participation in the Chinese Club and related programs, and she plans a career in international relations.

Cathy Hinko was profiled in the May 30 *Business First* InPerson feature, focusing on her direct and personal approach to advocating for affordable housing. Hinko is the director of the Metropolitan Housing Coalition. For more, visit bizjournals.com/louisville/print-edition/2014/05/30/change-agent-works-to-shift-views.html.



Dr. Melvyn Koby

Dr. Melvyn Koby received the Charles T. Moran Teaching Award from the Department of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences at the University of Louisville Ophthalmology Residents' Graduation reception on Saturday, June 14.

Dr. Koby retired from private practice after 41 years; he served as a gratis faculty member for the Department of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences throughout his years of private practice.

In 2013, Dr. Koby accepted a part-time faculty appointment and was named an Associate Clinical Professor of Ophthalmology at the University of Louisville, where he provides educational oversight and teaches ophthalmology residents weekly in a clinic venue.

UofL's 12 ophthalmology residents selected Dr. Koby for this prestigious award.

Contributions to the Residents' Education Fund in honor of Dr. Koby should be made payable to the University of Louisville - Ophthalmology (Kentucky Lions Eye Center, 301 East Muhammad Ali Blvd., Louisville, KY 40202 - Attention: Mr. Mark Spanyer, Business Manager).

Keith Look, a longtime principal and administrator with Jefferson County Public Schools, has been named superintendent of Danville Schools in Danville, KY. Look was selected from 34 applicants by a unanimous vote of the Danville school board. He will assume his new position July 1.

Eric Reskin received the Financial Executives Institute Award from Indiana University Southeast School of Business. He was honored by Mayor Greg Fischer and their local chapter at the Financial Executives Institute luncheon. He just graduated from Indiana University Southeast School of Business with "highest distinction" and was on the Dean's List every semester. Reskin has accepted a job with Monroe Shine & Co., Inc.

The Kentucky PTA Reflections Award of Merit (Fourth Place) was presented to **Hillary Reskin**, a sophomore at Ballard High School for the Senior High Film Production division. She received an Award of Excellence (Second Place) for the Jefferson County Public Schools Senior Division.

Matthew Schulman graduated third in his class with honors from St. Francis DeSales Catholic High School. In April, Matt won the WLKY-Penn Station Student Athlete of the Month award (Basketball).



Matthew Schulman

Matt received a full Navy ROTC Scholarship and has been assigned by the U.S. Navy to the University of Mississippi. He plans to major in Geological Engineering at "Ole Miss" this fall.

Matt is the son of Butch and Robin Schulman and brother to Benjamin, Halle, and Emily Schulman. He is the grandson of Howard and Dorothy Schulman and Rudell Franck and the late Dolly Franck.

Michael Simon, director of sales for California and Hawaii for Altria, Inc. recently graduated with High Distinction from the University of Michigan M.B.A. program in the first Los Angeles EMBA cohort, which was referenced in the *Wall Street Journal*. At the time of his graduation, he also was named General Manager of Altria Duty Free/Phillip Morris International Sales.

Michael is the son of Steve and Mickie Simon and the grandson of the late Faye and Ray Tanenhaus and Mark and Selma Simon.

Steve Trager, chairman and CEO of Republic Bank & Trust, was one of the bankers interviewed for a June 6 *Business First* article on lending to homebuilders in the current economy. Trager said his bank "will lend money to the right builder with the right risk profile" - good credit and liquidity, a history of success and a good income - but also judges builders' applications on a case-by-case basis.

KentuckyOne Health is opening a Healthy Lifestyle Center at Medical Center Jewish Northeast, 2401 Terra Crossing Blvd., Louisville. The center provides medically supervised exercise, nutrition counseling, stress management, and more to help people get and stay healthy.

Reed Weinberg was the listing broker for the recent sales of two bank-owned properties to developers. Corcoran Homes LLC has purchased the undeveloped portion of the Woods of Farnsley Moorman Condominiums in south-west Jefferson County, and Underhill Associates Inc. bought Kingston Park Apartments on East Southland Blvd. Corcoran has plans to build new homes on the undeveloped Farnsley Moorman lots, and Underhill Associates intends to complete extensive renovations of the Kingston Park complex, formerly known as the Americana Apartments.

The cover story of the May 16 edition of *Business First* focused on stress, both in and outside the workplace. **Dr. Divya Cantor** was among the medical professionals offering insights into the costs of

workplace stress and related issues such as depression. Dr. Cantor's research indicates that depressed people average spending \$4,000 a year on medical expenses, compared to \$1,000 by non-depressed people. Dr. Cantor is the senior clinical director and medical director for Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kentucky.

The story also related that **KentuckyOne Health Inc.** found a few years ago that employees' prescriptions for antidepressants were a driver of high prescription expenses for the system; their analysis led them to focus on reducing employee stress by offering therapeutic massage, meditation, seminars, and other stress-relieving and coping activities.

Paula Kommor, president and founder of Dynamic Wellness, said that stress can be positive in that it keeps people attentive and engaged, but that it becomes damaging when it gets out of control. Dynamic Wellness helps people manage stress by envisioning what they consider to be a perfect life, and then setting realistic, structured goals for working toward their top priorities.

Rudd Equipment Co. was featured in a related story in the same issue, focusing on the many ways it helps its approximately 75 employees manage stress and enjoy their workplace. Among other things, the company encourages outdoor lunch breaks and relaxation on the employee patio; has "Friday Free Play," a few minutes of dancing and singing along to music on the intercom on Friday afternoons; and a policy that requires five consecutive days of vacation each year and awards an extra three personal days to employees who take those five days off. They also have organized recreation and leisure activities for employees.

Matt Schwartz, president of Schwartz Insurance Group, discussed the Mayor's Healthy Hometown Worksite Wellness Conference that was held on May 21. Schwartz is the chairman of the Mayor's Healthy Hometown Worksite Wellness Council, which organized the event. The conference included an awards program that recognized companies with successful wellness programs; Schwartz said the awards demonstrate that it's not hard, nor does it have to be complicated, to implement an effective workplace wellness program.

Correction

Stacy Marks Nisenbaum Award Winner Jacob Finke's brother, Cole, will attend Cornell University in the fall, not Colgate University as was reported in the May 23 edition of *Community*.

Also, the Stacy Marks Nisenbaum Award was misspelled.

We apologize for the errors.

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B'nai Tzedek Teens Award Two Grants

A group of teens at the Jewish Community Center participated in a group process of learning about giving to non-profit organizations and how non-profit organizations function. Teens acted as a foundation board, reviewed proposals submitted in response to RFPs (requests for proposals), and awarded two grants to their selected non-profit organizations.

The group awarded \$600 to the Jerusalem Hills Therapeutic Centers for their Sponsor-A-Child Program to sponsor a child for six months. Jerusalem Hills is, "Israel's foremost residential treatment facility for emotionally disturbed and abused children" said Esti Keller, grants coordinator. They provide a warm and safe home and therapeutic framework for nearly 100 boys and girls from the ages of 7-18, all of whom are children-at-risk with severe emotional, behavioral and learning disorders.

Joey Schuster, one of the B'nai Tzedek

participants, felt strongly about supporting the Jerusalem Hills Therapeutic Center because he believes that, to help children in bad situations such as abuse and divorce is a very good cause to support.

The group also awarded \$364.47 to Jewish Family & Career Services to improve their Child Therapy room. Carly Schwartz felt strongly about supporting JFCS because, "they are providing therapy for children. They should be able to have the equipment needed to do this."

The group had a great time learning about all of the non-profits that applied for the grant and are hoping to be able to participate in a similar program in the future.

The participants in this year's B'nai Tzedek Program were Andrew Tuvlin, Jacob Latts, Bennett Schramko, Carly Schwartz, Benjamin Berdichevsky, Joseph Schuster, Samuel Feinstein, Adam Rudy, and Zachary Ellis. The program director was Rachel Lipkin.

AROUND TOWN

Torah Study at The Temple Continues Through the Summer

Torah Study at The Temple with Rabbi Joe Rooks Rapport will continue throughout the summer on Wednesdays, 10:45 a.m.-noon. The theme will be "The Many Faces of the Holocaust," a conversation about the causes, costs, and ongoing conflicts embedded within this most challenging moment in the modern age.

Each session stands alone on its own merit and the class is open to the community. No registration is required.

Jews and Brews with Rabbi Wolk

Join Rabbi Michael Wolk for "Jews and Brews," a one-hour class where participants study the weekly Torah portion through the prisms of both ancient and modern commentary while enjoying a cup (or cups?) of coffee. All are welcome to attend; free and open to the public.

Jews and Brews meets weekly on Wednesdays at 11 a.m. at the JCC Coffee Shop.

Hebrew Language/Hebrew Prayer at Congregation Anshei Sfard

Congregation Anshei Sfard is offering a class that combines a study of spoken Hebrew with a study of the traditional Hebrew prayers. Time will be divided among formal Hebrew grammar, the prayers, and "immersion style" learning.

If you're looking to "upgrade" your prayer service or to improve your conversational Hebrew, this class is a must.

Rabbi Dr. Joshua Golding will teach this 10-part class in the Congregation Anshei Sfard library on Wednesdays, 7:30-8:45 p.m. June 18-August 20. The class is free and open to all.

Tree Dedication at The Temple

A tree has been planted at The Temple in memory of the three Temple architects, Alfred S. Joseph, Arnold M. Judd, and John M. Chovan. On Thursday, June 26, at 2 p.m., the community is invited to a short dedication and remembrance of these three architects who created the plans for The Temple 40 years ago.

The Temple's Saturday Morning Torah Study

Meet in The Temple's Fishman Library from 9-10 a.m. before Shabbat morning service to read and discuss the Torah portion of the week over good coffee, bagels and other treats. This class is taught by Rabbi David Ariel-Joel.

Special Kabbalat Shabbat to Honor Scott Nussbaum

The community is invited to join Keneseth Israel on Friday, June 27, at 5:45 p.m. for a special Kabbalat Shabbat. In addition to welcoming Shabbat, the congregation will honor KI member Scott Nussbaum for his service to the Louisville Metro Police Department (LMPD). Scott was recently named the Kitty Ransdel LMPD Volunteer of the Year, and he received the Gold Level of the President's Volunteer Service Award for the second consecutive year.

Enjoy noshes courtesy of the Faye and Simmy Davis Kabbalat Shabbat Fund, spirited Kabbalat Shabbat services, and the good company of family and friends.

Chamber Music Concert Postponed

The June 29 concert of works by Louis Moseson has been postponed, due to an illness in the family of one musician. A rescheduled date will be announced.

MiniMinyan at Anshei Sfard

Elementary-age children are invited to attend a MiniMinyan at Anshei Sfard each Shabbos beginning at 10 a.m. Children are invited to the "little shul" for davening, parsha fun, and a snack.

Family Gaming at Anshei Sfard

Each Shabbos through August 9, the community is invited to participate in Family Gaming, 4-6 p.m. at Congregation Anshei Sfard. Ages 5 and up are encouraged to play board and card games with friends to help the long Shabbos afternoon pass quickly. Game donations are appreciated.

AJ Free Movies and More

Bring your friends to AJ and enjoy free movies and more. On July 1, watch a double feature: *Winning Team* – Ronald Reagan and Doris Day fall in love and catch baseball fever in this true-life story of the big leagues – and *Alexander the Great* – Alexander's triumph and comeback.

On July 15, the show is *The Greatest Interviews*. It's "Larry King Live" with television stars, broadcast news icons, comedians, and unforgettable moments. All shows begin at 3 p.m. at Adath Jeshurun, and are open to the community.

Pizza and a Movie at Anshei Sfard

Come join in the fun at Congregation Anshei Sfard on Thursday, July 3, for kosher pizza and a movie beginning at 6 p.m. To RSVP, call 451-3122 x 0 by Tuesday, July 1.

Big Rock Shabbat

KI will have a potluck Kabbalat Shabbat at Big Rock in Seneca Park beginning at 6 p.m. on Friday, July 11. This family-friendly event includes an outdoor service along with a potluck picnic in the park. Free and open to the public.

Potluck Nosh and Discussion in the Patio Gallery

Hadassah invites the community to a potluck nosh and dessert event on Tuesday, July 15, at 7 p.m. in the JCC Patio Gallery. The program will be about the Boycott, Divest and Sanction (BDS) movement against Israel. Matt Goldberg from the Jewish Community Relations Council will lead a discussion. Spouses and significant others are encouraged to attend. To RSVP or for questions, email Michelle Elisburg at meehadasah@gmail.com.

Heaven Hill to Participate in Forecastle Hospitality Area

Heaven Hill is one of several bourbon distillers that will participate in the Bourbon Lodge, a hospitality area at the Forecastle Festival, July 18-20 at Louisville's Waterfront Park.

Forecastle is a locally-sponsored, nationally-known annual music festival held in Louisville each July since 2002.

The Bourbon Lodge will feature bourbon education and bourbon-inspired cuisine. Bourbon Lodge events will raise funds for environmental and other causes.

Adath Jeshurun Shabbat Scholars

Adath Jeshurun's Shabbat Scholars program brings interesting speakers to the synagogue for informal presentations following the Kiddush luncheons. The community is invited to the next program on Saturday, July 19. Murray Toborowsky will speak on "The Puritans of Early America and the Jews" at approximately 12 noon.

Shabbat and Sundaes with KI

Join Keneseth Israel at Graeter's on Bardstown Road for a deliciously sweet get-together on Saturday, July 19, at 6 p.m. Get a treat up to \$5 and spend time with friends or meeting new people. All in the community are welcome to attend; free and open to the public.

Find Treasures at WOTS Annual Indoor Yard Sale

The Women of Temple Shalom (WOTS) invites the community to its annual indoor yard sale at Temple Shalom, 4615 Lowe Rd., on Friday, July 25, and Sunday, July 27. Find great deals and special treasures from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. on both dates.

Adath Jeshurun Book Club

The next Adath Jeshurun Book Club will meet Sunday, July 27, at 2 p.m. at the synagogue to discuss *Life After Life* by Kate Atkinson. New participants are always welcome at AJ Book Club meetings. All meetings are open to the community. For information about the current book or the meeting, email Deborah Slosberg at dslosberg@adathjeshurun.com or call 458-5359.

Boots & BBQ Bash Will Benefit Children's Peace Center

Get out your western wear and shine your boots for the Boots & BBQ Bash, a fundraiser benefitting the Kosair Charities Children's Peace Center at Our Lady of Peace, part of KentuckyOne Health.

This inaugural fundraiser will be held on Saturday, August 16, 7-11 p.m. at the Gheens Foundation Lodge at Beckley Creek Park in the Parklands of Floyds Fork, 1421 Beckley Creek Prkwy.

The evening will include a silent auc-

tion, dinner, and entertainment. Drinks and hors d'oeuvres begin at 7 p.m. with dinner served at 8 p.m. A silent auction, DJ, and live music will be part of the entertainment. Attire is "country chic."

All funds raised from the event will go toward kid-friendly amenities at Our Lady of Peace. For information about individual tickets and corporate sponsorships, visit kentuckyonehealth.com/bootsandbbq or call 587-4543.

The American Red Cross Needs Your Help

Summer is a challenging time to collect enough blood and platelet donations to meet patient needs. The American Red Cross encourages eligible blood donors of all blood types, especially those with type O negative, B negative, and A negative blood, to make and keep donation appointments to help maintain the blood supply and prevent a shortage.

With your help, the agency can ensure blood is available now and all summer long to help save lives in our community and across the country. This summer, there are 100 chances in greater Louisville and southern Indiana to give hope with the Red Cross by giving blood. Visit redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) to find out more and make an appointment.

Enroll in Fall Melton Classes before July 7 to Get an Early Bird Discount

Summer may still be in full swing, but it is time to start thinking about fall classes at the Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning. Registration is now open, and those who sign up by July 7 receive an early bird discount.

Louisville's Melton School offers adults the opportunity to study and discuss Jewish texts dealing with a variety of issues, in an open, egalitarian environment.

All are invited to register for the Melton courses, and no prior knowledge of Judaism or Hebrew is required.

The course is a two-year program, and meets once a week throughout the academic year (30 weeks).

The first year covers "Rhythms of Jewish Living" and "Purposes of Jewish Living," and second year addresses "Ethics of Jewish Living" and "Dramas of Jewish Living throughout the Ages."

In addition, Louisville's Melton School offers the Rachel Wasserman Scholars Curriculum that is designed for graduates of the two-year program who want to continue their education. Students can register for courses on Kabbalah, the Challenges of Modernity, and more.

Students can choose from Tuesday evening or Thursday morning classes to fit into their schedule.

Louisville's Melton School also announced a new class geared toward parents. This learning experience provides an opportunity for adult students to bring the conversation home to share with their children and families. The class will take place at the JCC Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. Tuition is \$45.

The first- and second-year courses are \$200 – \$225 if you register after July 7. All of the Scholars courses are \$150 –

\$175 after July 7.

Register online at www.jewishlouisville.org/melton or by phone at 459-0660. Scholarships are available for all classes. For scholarships and all course information, contact Louisville Melton Director Deborah Slosberg, dslosberg@adathjeshurun.com or 458-5359.

The Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning is sponsored by Congregation Adath Jeshurun in collaboration with the Jewish Community Center and with support from Congregation Anshei Sfard, Keneseth Israel Congregation, Temple Shalom and The Temple. This program is made possible by a generous grant from the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence.

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LIFECYCLE

Bar Mitzvah



Aaron Gabriel Figa

Aaron Gabriel Figa, son of Tanner and Barry Figa and brother of Elliot, was called to the Torah for his bar mitzvah on Saturday, March 10, at Congregation Dor Tamid in Johns Creek (Atlanta), GA. Aaron's proud grandparents are Sidney and Evelyn Figa, Marilyn and Robert Bergner, and Lee and Jeff Richardson (Midland, MI).

Aaron has many hobbies. He is very musically inclined and likes all percussion instruments. His favorites are the marimbas and snare drum, and he is proficient on an electric keyboard. Aaron plays soccer and likes mountain bike riding. He is a car enthusiast and can give you in-depth details on every automobile ever made!

For his mitzvah project, Aaron started a monthly food drive for the Rainbow Village in Duluth, GA. The Rainbow Village's mission is to break the cycles of homelessness, poverty and domestic violence. Aaron hopes to offer much needed food relief to these families who often rely upon the public school system for free breakfast and lunch for their children during the week. He plans to collect food each month throughout 2014, and perhaps beyond.

Wedding

Tanner-Horwitz

Jamie Lynn Horwitz and Wesley B. Tanner were married by Rabbi David Ariel-Joel on May 31.

Jamie is the daughter of Marjory Horwitz and the late Adolph Horwitz. She is currently a tenured professor of Industrial Design at Iowa State University. In 2009, she was the Frederick Lindley Morgan Visiting Professor of Architecture at the University of Louisville Hite Institute of Fine Arts.

Shalom Tower Waiting List Now Has 9-12 Month Wait for Vacancy

For further information, please call Diane Reece or Sue Claypoole at 454-7795.

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Wesley B. Tanner is the son of the late Anne Rosenfield Tanner and the late John Tanner of Los Angeles. Wesley is an internationally recognized designer of books, printmaker, and publisher of Passim Editions. Before moving to Ann Arbor, MI in 1994, Wesley taught Book Arts and the History of the Book at the University of California at Berkeley. Wesley was awarded the Koret Foundation Fellowship for his contributions to the Jewish Community of the Bay Area.

Jamie and Wesley will be relocating to Louisville within the year.

Obituaries



Linda Davis

Linda (Norton) Davis, 66, of North Brunswick, NJ, died Tuesday, May 20, at the St. Peter's University Hospital, New Brunswick.

Born in Louisville, she has been a resident of North Brunswick for the past 42 years.

Davis was an elementary school teacher for the North Brunswick Township School District for over 22 years. She was assigned by the district to the John Adams School, where she was a grade level leader for kindergarten and first grade.

She was a graduate of Indiana University with a BA in Education and was working towards getting her Master's Degree.

Before her retirement in 2012, she received a proclamation commending her for her many years of service from the North Brunswick Township Council, and she also received a proclamation thanking her for her many years of service from the North Brunswick Board of Education.

Davis was a longtime soccer mom, Pop Warner Football mom, room mother and a former PTA president at Lincoln Park School. She was also a member of Dr. Leppert's Superintendents Council.

She was a longtime member of the Anshe Emeth Memorial Temple and the New Jersey Education Association, as well as the National Education Association. She adored doing all types of word puzzles, enjoyed texting family and friends and traveling with her husband.

Daughter of the late Kurt and Edith (Maibaum) Norton, she is survived by her husband, Robert I. Davis; sons and daughters-in-law, Adam and Carly Davis of Berkeley Heights, NJ, and Brett Davis and Amy Lewis of Salt Lake City, UT; her brother and sister-in-law, Glenn and Christy Norton of Newburgh, IN; sister and brother-in-law, Barbara and Arnold

Cohen of Delray Beach, FL; grandson, Parker Davis, and two granddaughters, Dylan and Tovah Davis; many nieces, nephews, cousins and grand-nieces and nephews.

Burial was at Beth Israel Cemetery, Woodbridge, NJ. Memorial contributions may be made to any charity of your choice.

Allan H. Marx

Allan H. Marx, 82, of Louisville, passed away June 11.

Born on January 17, 1932, in Granite City, IL to the late Leo and Cora Lobred Marx, Allan Marx was an animal lover, and loved to read, do puzzles, and travel.

He is survived by his wife, Joan Marx; his sister, Betty Arbeitman, and brother, Hilbert "Hill" Marx; nephews, Ken Arbeitman, Lee (Cheryl) Marx, and Scott Marx; niece, Laurie Marx, and great-niece, Elizabeth (David) Bowen; stepchildren, Mary Kirchner, David (Jan) Kirchner, and Mark Kirchner; and six step-grandchildren, April (Aaron) Mullen, Jason Whitlock, Kyle Whitlock, Brent Whitlock, Casey Kirchner, and Julia Kirchner.

Hannah R. Herzberg Napper

Hannah R. Herzberg Napper, 84, died Thursday, June 12, at Golden Living Center - St. Matthews. She was born June 4, 1930 in Ferriday, LA. Hannah was a retired, lifelong LPN, a former secretary for the Old Louisville Hebrew School and Congregation Anshei Sfar, and a member of The Temple.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Donald Napper, and her son, Steven L. Fox.

She is survived by her son, Daniel J. Napper; daughter-in-law, Melissa Fox; sister, Tylene R. Robinson; and grandchildren, Benjamin and Courtney.

Burial was at The Temple Cemetery. Herman Meyer & Son took care of arrangements.

Expressions of sympathy may be made to the American Heart Association.

Sharon Cole

Sharon Cole, nee Romen, born July 12, 1942, died Wednesday, June 18.

Beloved wife of Joel Cole; loving mother of Brian (Ari) Cole and Tracy Raben; cherished grandmother of Samantha and Caitlin Cole; fond aunt of Andrew Cole; devoted cousin and dear friend to many.

Remembrances to your preferred charity would be appreciated.

Estelle Lillian Garmon

Estelle Lillian Garmon, 88, died Thursday, June 19, at The Nazareth Home.

She was a native of Boston, MA, born May 12, 1926. She was a member of Keneseth Israel Congregation and its Sisterhood, a former teaching assistant for many years at Keneseth Israel preschool, a past member and Board of Trustees of the Jewish Community Center, a past chairperson of the Senior Adult Club of the Jewish Community Center, and past advisor of Gamma Kappa BBG.

Garmon was an extremely active volunteer in both the Louisville Community and the Louisville Jewish Community, especially in working with senior adults.

The family expresses their sincere gratitude to the Nazareth Home and the Charity Court for all of the outstanding care and love they gave Garmon.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Jacob and Shifra Blaustein; her husband, Selwyn Garmon; and her daughter, Ellen Faye Garmon.

She is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, Dr. Joel and Lori Garmon;

and her granddaughters, Allison Goldhammer (Aaron), Sara Garmon, and Emily Garmon.

Burial was at Keneseth Israel Cemetery. Herman Meyer & Son handled the arrangements.

Expressions of sympathy may be made to the Ellen Faye Garmon Youth Award Fund, c/o the Jewish Community Center, 3600 Dutchman's Lane, Louisville, KY 40205 or Keneseth Israel Congregation, 2531 Taylorsville Road, Louisville, KY 40205.

Rosa Matselman

Rosa Matselmam, 92, died Sunday, June 22, at Norton Hosparus Inpatient Care Center.

She was born in Khmelnytskyi, Ukraine to Ellya and Haya Mihalovich. Rosa was a housewife and a member of Anshei Sfar Congregation.

She is survived by her daughter, Yevgeniya Labunskaya (Yokov); her granddaughter, Larisa Labunskaya; and two grandsons, Alex and Arthur Greenberg.

Burial was at Anshei Sfar Cemetery. Herman Meyer & Son handled the arrangements.

Alan Moss Bornstein, M.D.

Alan Moss Bornstein, M.D., of Louisville, born March 28, 1934, son of Sarah and Maurice (Barney) Bornstein, died on June 23.

Bornstein graduated from Male High School (valedictorian class of 1950-1/2) and Indiana University, where he was a member of Sigma Alpha Mu fraternity, before earning his medical degree from the University of Louisville, graduating at the top of his class.

He trained at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Massachusetts General Hospital, University of Louisville, and the University of Michigan, while also serving briefly as a physician and captain in the U.S. Army in Columbia, SC.

Bornstein practiced as an internist in Louisville for over 30 years and had close and rewarding relationships in the local medical community. He was unfailingly dedicated to taking care of patients, and his patients appreciated and admired him greatly.

After retiring from private practice, he was on the faculty of the University of Louisville Department of Medicine, worked for Passport Healthcare, and at Baptist East and Jewish Hospitals. He also gave generously of his time in volunteering for The Fairness Campaign.

Bornstein enjoyed traveling with his wife Marilyn, gardening, working crossword puzzles, and sharing off-color jokes with his brother Ed, who could make him laugh like no one else. The family also extends a special thank you to Dr. Jane Cornett for her professionalism, care and service.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 56 years, Marilyn G. Bornstein. He is survived by his brother, Ed Bornstein (Marsha); children Susan Bornstein (David Fox), Brian Bornstein (Christie Emler), and Joan Bornstein; and grandchildren Lillian and Melissa Bornstein and Hannah and Brandon Woempner.

Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Friday, June 27, at Herman Meyer & Son, 1338 Ellison Avenue, with burial to follow in Adath Jeshurun Cemetery. Visitation will begin at 10 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Marilyn and Alan Bornstein Fund for Family Therapy at Jewish Family and Career Services, 2821 Klempner Way, Louisville, KY 40205 or the donor's favorite charity.



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D'VAR TORAH

by Rabbi David Feder
Special to Community

Over the last several years, I've become much more interested in family genealogy, trying to track down European ancestors, as well as both distant relatives and relatives from whom we've been distant in this country.

I was recently surprised when my 90-year-old father asked me if I knew whether his 93-year-old first cousin was still alive. Now, my father has a number of first cousins and this is the first time that I can ever remember him mentioning her. I spent a day looking into it and then told him that as far as I could tell, she was still alive.

When I asked him about her, he told me that when he was 8 or 9 and waiting to go to Sunday School with her, she hit him or was mean to him and he let his parents know that he wouldn't go to Sunday School with her again. The half-forgotten petty childhood argument led to them just drifting apart.

Petty and more significant arguments about food, water, travel, sex and leadership characterize *Sefer B'midbar* or the Book of Numbers and are among the reasons why it's my favorite book in the Torah.

The characters and situations we encounter in *B'midbar* are real and familiar. The complaints around the dining room table about what's for dinner, the squabbling in the back seat of the car during a long (or not-so-long trip) or the debates about the route in the front seat, the pontificating, bloviating or the speaker simply enthralled with the

sound of his or her own voice at a meeting, whether it's the PTA, neighborhood association, synagogue or elsewhere within the Jewish community, all seem to have their antecedents in Numbers.

Loving your neighbor as yourself is easy in the abstract and makes a nice bumper sticker or t-shirt, but it's a lot harder when you're trying to live in a community with real people and real conflicts. The Book of Numbers shows us that our ancestors weren't saints or one-dimensional characters, but were like us, complex characters dealing with messy and complex situations.

Sometimes they rose to the situation and triumphed as in the battles against Sihon and Og. Other times they succumbed to baser desires and fears when they denigrated the land we were prom-

ised and their ability to conquer it, supported the demagoguery of Korach, gave in to the enticements of the Midianite women or simply complained about the never-ending diet of manna. Our ancestors behaved not as we would have liked them to behave, but as we expect imperfect people to behave.

Our tradition teaches us, "*maasei avot siman l'vanim*" – the actions of our ancestors are a sign to their descendants. The examples of both success and falling short that we have in *Sefer B'midbar* should serve as both guide and cautionary tale for the situations in which we find ourselves today as individuals and within the various communities in which we find ourselves.

We can see that when our baser desires dominate and we capitulate to hu-

man folly and foible or just take the path of least resistance, there will be long-term consequences. We can also see that communal cohesion and genuine faith in ourselves yield positive results. Even the simplest of acts and decisions can set us along a path of unimagined consequences. May we have the wisdom to weigh those decisions in the light of our ancestors' experiences.

• • •

Shabbat candles should be lit Fridays, June 27, at 8:52 p.m.; July 4 at 8:52 p.m.; July 11 at 8:50 p.m.; July 18 at 8:46 p.m. and July 25 at 8 p.m.

Editor's note: Rabbi David Feder, the principal of Louisville Beit Sefer Yachad, has volunteered to provide Torah commentaries for Community.



Rabbi David Feder

TEEN TOPICS

Jay Levine BBG Chapter Convention

by Laina Meyerowitz
Special to Community

Once upon a time ... Jay Levine pulled off yet another superb event! All 40 plus girls in attendance enjoyed an MIT program with spirit wear, steering programs involving Israel activities (dead sea masks, games, etc.) and BBG collages, lots of jumping at SKyzone, dinner and a scavenger hunt at the Summit, and meaningful Havdallah (the service to separate Shabbat from the rest of the week), inductions (for incoming members), separates (discussions about sen-

sitive issues) and lives (seniors talk about their time in BBYO). We will miss all our seniors so much but we are also so happy to have inducted the newest class of JLBGG

Drew Corson AZA Chapter Convention

Drew Corson AZA had their chapter convention on May 25 to 26 at the JCC. They enjoyed making a campfire, meaningful programming and hearing the lives of Ben Koby, Eli Gould, and Alex Geller. We will miss all of the seniors so much but are excited to see what the new class of freshman have in store.

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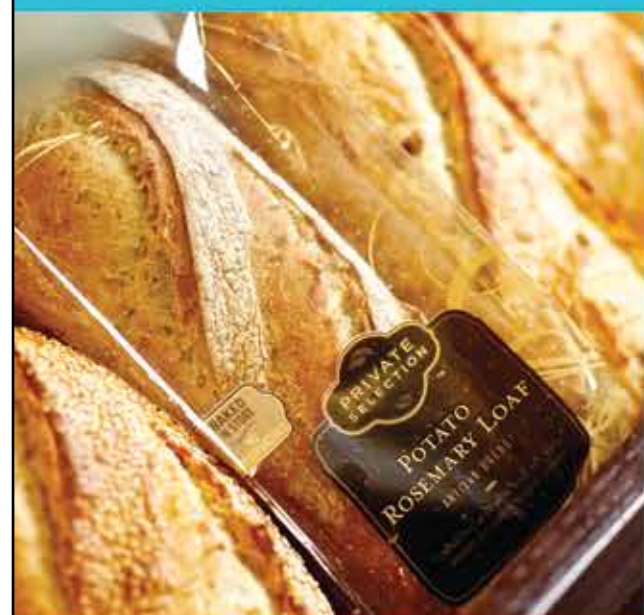
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