

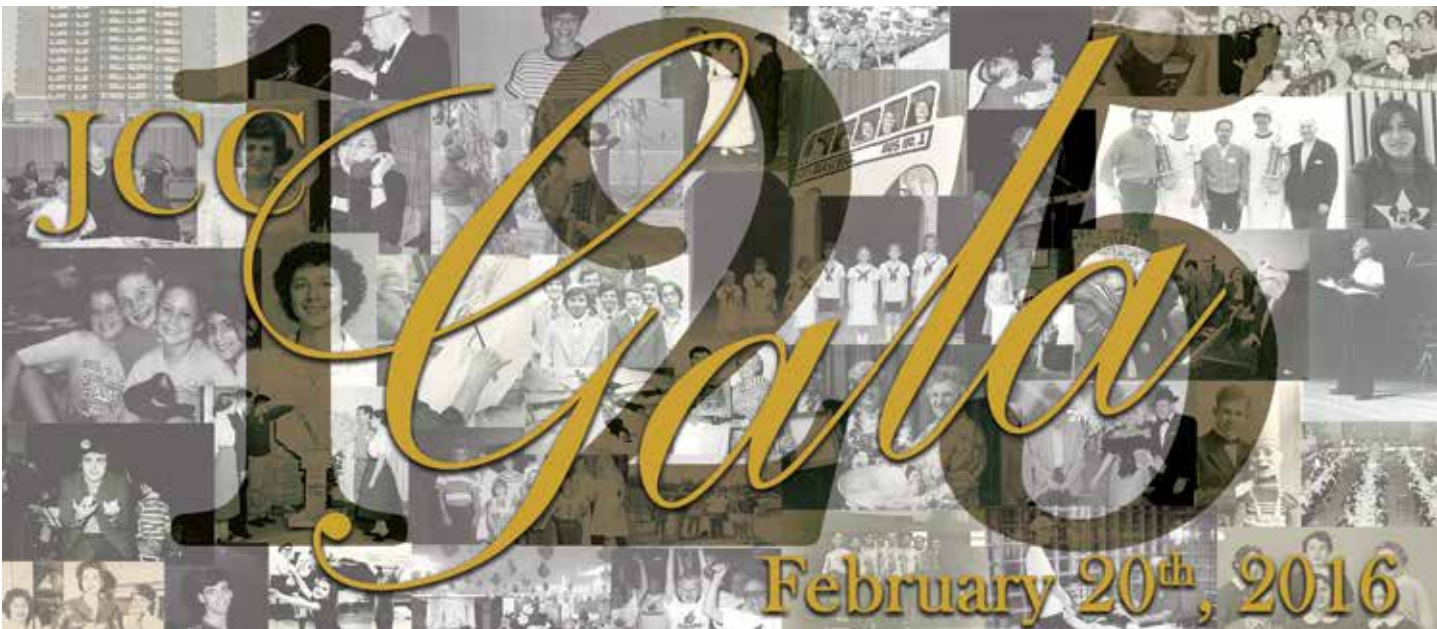


COMMUNITY

INSIDE

Stacy Gordon-
Funk Named JCL
Vice President of
Philanthropy
STORY, PG. 7

FRIDAY VOL. 41, NO. 03 ■ 6 KISLEV 5776 ■ NOVEMBER 20, 2015



Celebration of JCC@125 Wraps Up with February Bash

Whether you have memories of growing up at the JCC, attending camp, learning to swim, going to Hebrew School or being part of a teen club where you made lifelong friends or you are new to Louisville's Jewish community and have found the JCC a great place to work out, meet people and bring your children, you know the JCC is a great place to be.

Throughout this year, the JCC has been celebrating its 125th anniversary with events for one and all. Now it's time for the grand finale – a huge blowout gala on Saturday, February 20, at the Hyatt Regency Downtown. So put on your cocktail attire and dancing shoes. The evening will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m. and will include dinner, specialty cocktails and dancing with The Sly Band.

If you've ever participated in a JCC program, attended a CenterStage show, swam in the pool, played a game of pick-up basketball or on the softball fields, read a book from the library, taken a

fitness class or come to the JCC for any reason, this party is for you. We are celebrating all of the incredible people who have made our JCC what it is today and we'll take this opportunity to share with you some of the exciting things on the

horizon for the JCC tomorrow.

"We're looking forward to this being an event for all members of the community, whether you are currently a member of the JCC or you are a past member see **125 GALA** page 14

It's Time to Light Up CenterStage and Party

by Tamara Ikenberg
Public Relations Specialist

Tickets to Light Up CenterStage at 7 p.m. on Saturday, December 5, are as hot as the flaming bananas foster that will be served at the JCC's most glamorous event of the year.

The fabulous fundraiser is almost sold out. If you don't snag your tickets quick, you'll be left out in the cold while lucky gala-goers feast on hors d'oeuvres and

see **LIGHT UP** page 11

JHFE Designates \$200,000 Double Your Impact Challenge for 2016 Campaign

by Shiela Steinman Wallace
Editor

The Jewish Community Center's Senior Adult Lounge was packed with eager volunteers at the 2016 Federation Campaign Kickoff on Sunday, November 1, when Campaign Chair Leon Wahba called David Kaplan forward to make an exciting announcement.

The Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence has renewed its generous \$100,000 support of the Federation Campaign for 2016, Kaplan said. Because JHFE understands the importance of growing the Annual Federation Campaign, this year, they have partnered with the Jewish Federation to do so. JHFE has designated \$200,000 for the JHFE Double Your Impact Challenge.

see **CHALLENGE** page 6

Amb. Ross Headlines Major Gifts Dinner

by Shiela Steinman Wallace
Editor



Ambassador Dennis Ross

Campaign Chair Leon Wahba has announced that Ambassador Dennis Ross will be the featured speaker at the Stronger Together 2016 Federation Campaign Major Gifts Dinner on Sunday, December 13, at the Jewish Hospital Rudd Heart & Lung Conference Center.

"This is a time for us to bring our community to the next level by increasing our fundraising," Wahba said. "It is our time to step up and ensure that we are raising sufficient funds to support all the services and programs that make us strong – youth and senior programming, the Jewish Community Relations Council, Hillel, Jewish Family & Career Services, our religious schools and so much more."

"Dennis Ross is an exceptional speaker," Wahba see **MAJOR GIFTS** page 7

JCC Community Remembers Annette Sagerman Fondly

Annette Simon Sagerman passed away on Tuesday, October 27, at the age of 91.

"The Louisville JCC is a better place because of Annette Sagerman," said Jewish Community of Louisville President and CEO Sara Klein Wagner. "She was a role model to several generations of professionals and her words of wisdom have not only touched countless Louisvillians, but have spread to Jewish communities throughout North America.

"Annette was a mentor, a leader and a champion of every person who walked through our doors," Wagner continued. "She believed with her whole heart the JCC should be open to everyone."

A proud Louisvillian who attended Louisville Girls High School and the University of Louisville, Sagerman began a part-time job at the Jewish Community Center (formerly the YMHA)

see **SAGERMAN** page 27



Annette Sagerman

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PERIODICALS
POSTAGE
LOUISVILLE
KENTUCKY

COMMUNITY

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COMMUNITY DEADLINES

Deadlines for the next two issues of **Community** for copy and ads are: December 16 for publication on December 25 and January 15 for publication on January 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.

ADVERTISING INFORMATION

To advertise, please contact our sales representative at 502-418-5845 or e-mail communityadvertising@jewishlouisville.org.

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

EDITORIAL POLICY

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

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

Email your comments to: **Community**, Letters to the Editor, swallace@jewishlouisville.org.



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JCRC UPDATE

by Matt Goldberg, Director
Jewish Community Relations Council

Paris Revisited

It seems like such a short time ago that we were remembering Paris, honoring Paris, saluting Paris for the vicious attacks on Charlie Hebdo and the Kosher supermarket. Je Suis Charlie, Je Suis Ahmed, Je Suis Juif, were everywhere. We paid our respects to the victims and we, as a community and a country, attempted to give strength to all of Paris. .

We talked tough about vengeance and justice, we swore we would not let the terrorists win, and we uttered the words that are so meaningful for the Jewish community, "Never Again!" And yet here we are, 10 months later, mourning again for France. All of us in the Louisville Jewish community once again are standing with the people of France.

Violent Islamist extremism is a scourge on decent people everywhere. Just since the beginning of this year, it has touched Beirut, a Russian plane, Kenya, Nigeria, Iraq, Syria, Paris – twice, and, of course, Israel, which is no stranger to being a victim. Countless other locations have been victimized.

As I watch and read the news there is no shortage of experts pontificating on what caused this attack, and the two things I hear most often are that there was an intelligence failure and that this was not totally unexpected.

I don't pretend to be an expert, but from a layman's perspective, it is extremely sad that countries need to be investing so much money and effort in the security of restaurants and concert halls.

I also hear pundits talking about the change that needs to come in France, like metal detectors everywhere, a visible

military presence in the streets, increasing intelligence gathering on their own citizens. All this might be necessary, but it is so sad that it has come to this.

But one thing I am hearing in the news coming from the political leadership in Europe is particularly disturbing and we cannot accept it. There are now serious questions as to whether it is wise to open our collective doors to the hundreds of thousands of refugees from Syria in desperate need of assistance.

What separates us from the extremists is our humanity and it is now in our hands to act humanely. Due diligence is required in vetting anybody trying to enter our country, but we must open the door and welcome them in and treat them with warmth, not suspicion.

We cannot give the terrorists a victory by treating our new Arab and Muslim neighbors with anything but genuine hospitality. Let us not forget the horrible scenes we see of desperate people forced to leave Syria to save their lives and their families, and let us not forget that the violent Islamist extremists represent a small minority of a great people ... people who will for the most part make great Frenchmen, great Germans, and great Americans.

New Initiatives with the Muslim Community

Here in Louisville our Jewish community can set an example for coexistence and friendship with the Muslim community. Last month, in response to a deadly earthquake in Pakistan that killed over 400 people and injured thousands more, our community started a campaign to raise money for the victims. Not only is it the right thing to do for the survivors of this tragedy who are still suffering, it is a further step for-

ward as an example of cooperation of our local Muslim and Jewish communities. If you are interested in donating to this worth cause, please visit www.jewishlouisville.org/federation/south-asia-earthquake-relief/.

We will also be repairing the world with our Muslim friends, and our first step will be on December 6, when our communities will come together for the JCRC's second annual Project Warm Blitz. Several teams from our two communities will join Project Warm in insulating the homes of those less fortunate, ensuring that they do not freeze this winter and that their utility bills are more manageable.

We will start at noon for a brief training and we will be working all afternoon. If you have questions and/or are interested in participating, please contact me at mgoldberg@jewishlouisville.org or 502-238-2707.

These will be the first steps in a long march arm in arm with our friends and neighbors in the Muslim community, so stay tuned for more opportunities and friendships to be solidified.

Let's all pray that we prevail over the terrorists in every possible way, with strength of arms, and strength of spirit.

Partnership Trip to Israel

Please join us and our 13 other Partnership2Gether Consortium communities in a trip to Israel this spring. This is the 20th anniversary of our partnership and we are celebrating with a once-in-a-lifetime trip. Travelers will get to spend a few days in the Western Galilee, Golan Heights, Upper Galilee and other beautiful parts of Israel.

Louisville has always been an active participant in Partnership, and we have developed close relationships with our friends in Israel. The trip is March 28-April 4, 2016. For more information please contact me at mgoldberg@jewishlouisville.org.

Interfaith Chanukah Party

Come join us on Sunday, December 13, at 2 p.m. in the JCC's Linker Auditorium as we celebrate Chanukah with our greater Louisville community. There will be music, candle lighting and, of course, lots of delicious food!!

We will honor Fred Whittaker, local Holocaust educator, at that time.

We are also collecting winter hats, gloves and mittens for needy JCPS students, grades K-12. Open to all; invite your non-Jewish friends.

For more information please contact me at mgoldberg@jewishlouisville.org.

Muslim Community Issues Statement on Paris Attacks

Louisville's Muslim community issued this statement following the terrorist attacks in Paris:

The Muslim community of the greater Louisville area strongly condemns the atrocious attacks committed by the cowardly ISIS in Paris. If there is one thing that connects us to those affected by the Paris attacks, it is the condition of our hearts, as ours have been hijacked, beaten, and bruised by the same vicious, unstable and insane impostors.

We pray for the victims, hoping that they may find themselves surrounded by the most blessed in the highest of heavens, the sort of place where sacrifice is compensated with reward beyond imagination. We pray for their parents, as no mother or father should ever have their child stolen from them. We pray for their spouses, because it is unjust to have a partner, one who is bound for life, lost in the blink of an eye. We pray for their friends, each one having lost a piece of

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Expanded Mazin Juried Art Show Opens This Sunday

by Tamara Ikenberg
Public Relations Specialist

The JCC's Annual Mazin Art Exhibit is extending its reach.

This will be the first year the multimedia juried art show displayed in the JCC Patio Gallery will be open to artists within 200 miles of Louisville, instead of just local artists.

The opening reception for the show is Sunday, November 22, from 2-4 p.m. Mazin will remain in the Patio Gallery through Tuesday, December 29.

"We wanted to make it a more competitive show," said JCC Patio Gallery Di-

rector and Visual Arts Chair Bette Levy. "When you have a local show there's a good likelihood you're going to get the same artists entering each year. We wanted to broaden the pool of entrants so that we could get some artists who were unknown in this area...it has really become a show that people are clamoring to be juried into."

Artists can submit pieces in any media or style to the show. The result is customarily a visual smorgasbord of painting, sculpture, textiles, assemblages, ceramics, stone carvings and more.

This year, the first place winner will receive \$1,000, second place will get

\$500 and third place receives \$300.

Mazin is pretty much a creative free-for-all. The only rules are that the artist must be 18 or older, the submitted pieces must have been completed after January 1, 2013, artwork must not exceed three feet in any dimension, and sculptures can't weigh more than 50 lbs.

With such loose rules and so many entries, the selected juror has a major task choosing which pieces to include.

This year, Levy entrusted that responsibility to St. Louis-based textile artist Luanne Rimel, who is also Senior Director of Education at Craft Alliance Center of Art + Design in St.

Louis. Levy said she's been an admirer of Rimel's work and taste for years.

"I know she has an exquisite eye for identifying wonderful artwork," Levy said. "The show is going to be quite diverse and quite beautiful."

Rimel has plenty of experience curating and judging art shows. She has been the sole juror or part of a jury for shows including the Laumeier Art Fair in St. Louis, Fantastic Fibers in Paducah, KY and the Kentucky Festival of the Arts in Northport, AL.

For Mazin, Rimel had to narrow nearly 150 submitted pieces from nearly 60 artists down to 29.

She said most of the artists who applied submitted digital images of two or three pieces for consideration. No artist can have more than one piece in the exhibit. It's a blind selection process, meaning Rimel doesn't know which artist created which piece when she makes her choices.

Rimel said it's common these days for jurors to select from digital images instead of seeing the actual work. She adds

see **MAZIN** page 5



2016 FEDERATION ANNUAL CAMPAIGN WEEK OF GIVING DEC. 6-11, 2015

Having a viable, vibrant Jewish community in Louisville is very important. To ensure that we raise enough money to provide vital services to our children, our teens, our college students and our seniors we encourage you to make your pledge during the Week of Giving, December 6-11, and make this another successful Annual Campaign.

DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT PLEDGE TODAY. ANY NEW DOLLARS WILL BE DOUBLED.

This year, you can help grow the Campaign and the funds available to support critical programs dramatically. Your donation to the 2016 Federation Campaign will be matched by a generous Double Your Impact Challenge Grant from the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence.

To make your pledge for the 2016 Federation Campaign visit www.jewishlouisville.org/donate or contact Kristy Benefield, 502-238-2739 or kbenefield@jewishlouisville.org.



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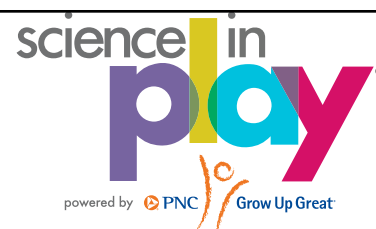
STATEMENT

Continued from page 2

their life's puzzle.

We pray for the survivors as they learn how to live again, trying to make sense of a thing that makes no sense at all. We mourn the loss of the innocent lives, people who did great things, who could have done more great things, if only given the time on this earth.

We stand with our fellow Louisvillians, regardless of faith. We stand with our fellow Americans, regardless of background. We stand with our fellow Muslims, regardless of creed. We stand with our fellow Parisians, hoping that this tragedy only brings us closer together, as we are your brothers and sisters and we pray you consider us the same.



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Beit Tefilah Israeli Returns to Louisville Dec. 18-19

Last year, Beit Tefilah Israeli packed the house at The Temple, entertaining all ages at their music-filled Shabbat services. If you missed this incredible, spiritual and musical worship event you will have another opportunity on Friday, December 18, at 7 p.m., and Saturday, December 19, at morning services at 10:30 a.m. at The Temple.

Beit Tefilah Israeli brings the spirit from the beautiful Israeli shores to touch our souls.

Have you ever found yourself smiling, singing, clapping, and dancing during a Shabbat service led by a Hispanic Rabbi, and accompanied by young professional Israelis musicians playing original compositions? Ever been drawn into the chant of an ancient Hebrew prayer only

to recognize a familiar Beatles tune?

Imagine the sun setting on the water, families sitting on the beach, and the music enveloping you in song and prayer. What you may be thinking is a perfect California setting is actually a Tel Aviv experience of a lifetime.

The Temple will present an encore performance of Beit Tefilah Israeli – A Special Kabbalat Shabbat Prayer Service in collaboration with Temple Shalom. This cheerful yet emotional experience is returning to The Temple thanks to a generous grant from The Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence.

Experience what thousands and thousands of people experience on Tel Aviv Port. This worship service will have you dancing in your seat and around the sanctuary before the night ends. The

evening begins with a family Shabbat dinner at 6 p.m. in the Heideman Auditorium and continues with an unforgettable worship service that will leave your heart soaring. The family dinner is \$5 for adults and kids 13 and under eat free.

RSVP for the dinner by Tuesday, December 15. Call The Temple office at 502-423-1818 for dinner details, reservations and to make payment. Or you can pay online at www.thetemplelouky.org.

The Temple also welcomes items for the Friday evening Oneg Shabbat. Please bring your baked goods marked Beit Tefilah Israeli to The Temple Office. Please do not include any nut products.

To learn more about this wonderful group, check out a YouTube video for a brief news broadcast and sample one

of its Kabbalat services at <http://bit.do/beit-tefilah>. Videos, including one of last year's performances, also are on The Temple's website at www.thetemplelouky.org

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER 21 & 22

JCC Snowflake Shop

Preview Party, November 21, 7-9 p.m.; One Stop Holiday Shop, \$10; November 22, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., free admission. Shop for all your holiday gifts and benefit the JCC's Early Learning Center.

NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 29

Mazin Art Exhibition

Patio Gallery – juried art show. Opening reception Sunday, November 22, 2 p.m. Announcement of winners, 3 p.m.

DECEMBER 5

Light Up CenterStage

\$108 per person. JCC. 7 p.m. This exciting gala includes cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, desserts, auctions and a Broadway-style revue. Purchase tickets at jewishlouisville.org/lightup or RSVP to Joanna Bleiden, 502-238-2763.

DECEMBER 6

PJ Library Chanukah Book Reading

Free. Barnes & Noble at the Paddock Shops. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Meet in the children's area for Chanukah stories, dreidels and gelt. Special Hebrew Book reading at 10:30. 10 percent of your purchase from December 22-26 will go to PJ Library if you use the code 11735792 when checking out.

DECEMBER 6

Project Warm Blitz

Free. 12 p.m. Teams from the Jewish and Muslim communities will work as teams to insulate the homes of some less fortunate individuals in Louisville. There will be a brief training session before work begins. For more information, contact Matt Goldberg, mgoldberg@jewishlouisville.org or 502-238-2707.

DECEMBER 6

Dreidel Dash

\$25 prior to November 27; \$35 late registration. 5K race will start and finish at the JCC at 1:15 p.m. 1-mile Family Fun Run, approximately 2:15. Music, vendors, snacks, etc. Sign up at jewishlouisville.org/dreieldash. See story, CenterPiece, pg. 1.

DECEMBER 6

J-Forty Fivers Chanukah Party

\$5; free for JCC Members. 12:30-2:30 p.m. at the JCC. For more information, contact Mike Steklof, msteklof@jewishlouisville.org or 238-2774.

DECEMBER 6-13

Federation Campaign Week of Giving

Double Your Impact. All increases and new gifts to the 2016 Federation Campaign up to a total of \$200,000 will be matched by a generous **Double Your Impact Challenge Grant** from the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence. When you give during the Week of Giving you will not be called later in the Campaign. Go to jewishfederation.org/federation/donate today to make your donation.

DECEMBER 13

2016 Federation Campaign Major Gifts Event with Amb. Dennis Ross

6 p.m. cocktails, 6:45 p.m. dinner. Rudd Heart and Lung Center. Minimum individual or couples gift \$5,000 or for Ben Gurion Society members \$1,000. See story, page 1. See story, page 1.

DECEMBER 18 & 19

Beit Tefilah Israeli

Free, 7 p.m. Friday, 10:30 a.m. Saturday, at The Temple. The Temple and Temple Shalom are hosting Beit Tefilah Israeli: A multi-generational Israeli Musical Experience. Open to all. See story, this page.

FEBRUARY 20

JCC's 125th Anniversary Gala

\$125 per person; \$1,100 per table of 10; \$75 Next Generation (under age 30). 6:30 p.m. Hyatt Regency Downtown, Cocktail attire, dinner, specialty cocktails, dancing with The Sly Band. RSVP to Paula DeWeese at 502-238-2764. See story, page 1.

MAZIN

Continued from page 4

ed that using such a method always adds an element of surprise once the juror is physically in front of the work.

"I will be going to Kentucky this coming weekend to judge the work in person," she said. "You never know exactly how it's going to look in person and I'm excited to see it."

Rimel really immersed herself in the selection process

"It's several days of work. It's involved," she said. "The artists have taken a lot of time to make their work, and as a jurist I feel obligated to take enough time to really look at it."

She said she was impressed by the breadth and quality of the submitted work, and paring the pieces down to 29 and finding the right balance of media and styles was a big challenge.

"There are some very expressionistic pastels that give you a sense of depth, some beautiful landscape paintings, some very abstract pieces, 3D sculptures, quilts..." she said. "It's all over the place and very colorful."

Rimel said one of the most unique pieces submitted was a clay rendering of a smashed oil can so detailed that it even includes a clay-crafted sales tag.

She always gets a thrill from being bombarded with such a rich collection of imaginative work.

"It's a beautiful way to see what people are inspired to make," Rimel said. "It fascinates me; what people want to make into reality."

The Mazin Art Exhibit was created ten years ago by Bernice and Benjamin Mazin, and is funded by the Mazin Visual Arts Fund

"The Mazins were on the JCC's visual arts committee and wanted to have a



Fusion by Russië Wright-Waltman

show that would celebrate local artists, so they set up a fund to underwrite the cost of having it on an ongoing basis," Levy said. "We are so grateful to Bernice and Benjamin and their family."

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Joanie Lustig and Karen Abrams



Denise Schiller

PHOTOS BY TED WIRTH



David Kaplan



Alan and Debbie Friedman



Leni Sweet and Helen Wahba

CHALLENGE

Continued from page 1

Through this Double Your Impact Challenge, JHFE will match every new gift and every increase on a Campaign gift up to \$200,000, creating a unique opportunity to add \$400,000 to the Campaign. (Kaplan serves on both the JHFE and the Jewish Community of Louisville Boards.)

"Two hundred thousand new dollars is an aggressive goal for our Campaign," said JCL President and CEO Sara Klein Wagner, "but it is essential to provide for the needs of our Jewish community. We need everyone to come together to make this a reality."

"I am very appreciative of JHFE for their confidence in us," Wahba said. "It is important for us to reach this goal so we can fulfill more of our community's needs."

How will this impact the community?

YAD Co-Chair Laurence Nibur explained, this year's theme is *Stronger Together*, and JHFE's challenge demonstrates just what that means. The Campaign has three pillars – caring for the vulnerable, inspiring and ensuring Jewish futures, and safeguarding, enhancing and strengthening Jewish communities and peoplehood around the world.

Looking around the room and noting that at that time more than 80 people had volunteered to help make the 2016 Federation Campaign a success, Nibur pointed out that the JCC cares for the vulnerable in the room in which the Kickoff was taking place. "This is the room where seniors get their meals that keep them young and living independently," he said.

"Look around the building," he continued. "We ensure and inspire Jewish futures" with programs like BBYO and Hillel, training the leaders of tomorrow.

When it comes to changing the world, Nibur highlighted the work of the Jewish Community Relations Council. Not long before the Kickoff, Louisville's River Road Mosque had been vandalized. Since JCRC Director Matt Goldberg had developed a strong relationship over the

years with Dr. Muhammad Babar, Dr. Babar texted Goldberg when the vandalism occurred and the JCRC director was one of the first people on the scene.

Jewish Family & Career Services makes a real difference, helping families cope with life's challenges.

For all these reasons and many more, Nibur called on the volunteers to get excited about the Campaign, because we really are *Stronger Together*.

To inject some fun into this year's Campaign, JCL Board Member Jeff Tuvlin announced the leadership team has devised a friendly competition. Designated as #fantasyfundraising, members of the JCL Board recruited teams to work together on the Campaign. As teams raise money for the Campaign, they earn points toward the opportunity to designate a special gift for the agency or program of their choice.

JCL Board Member Becky Ruby Swansburg spoke about the important role our volunteers have in reaching out to our donors.

More volunteers are needed. The Campaign team will make it fun and easy while you get the satisfaction of knowing that you are making a difference. To get in on the action, help grow the Campaign to provide for community needs and meet the JHFE Double Your Impact Challenge, contact Matt Goldberg, 502-238-2707 or mgoldberg@jewishlouisville.org and he'll connect you with a team so you can help earn an extra allocation for the agency or program of your team's choosing.

Campaign efforts are underway. Volunteers are calling donors, initiating conversations and holding parlor meetings. There will be a Week for Giving starting December 6, during which volunteers will make a concerted effort to contact donors to ask for their help in meeting the Double Your Impact Challenge. (See ad, page 4.) That effort will culminate in the Major Gifts Dinner with featured speaker Dennis Ross on December 6. (See story, page 1.)

Please give generously to the 2016 Federation Campaign, because we are *Stronger Together*.



Leon Wahba, Fred Joseph and Lance Gilbert



Robin Miller and Sara Klein Wagner



Ben Vaughan



Becky Swansburg, Kim Hales and Tracy Geller



Jane Goldstein



Peter Resnik and Glenn Levine

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contact Kristy Benefield
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Gordon-Funk Named JCL Vice President of Philanthropy

by Shiela Steinman Wallace
Editor

Stacy Gordon-Funk will be joining the Jewish Federation of Louisville as vice president of philanthropy. Jewish Communi-



Stacy Gordon-Funk

ty of Louisville President and CEO Sara Klein Wagner announced that in this capacity, Gordon-Funk will be leading the Annual Federation Campaign, the Jewish Foundation of Louisville and directing fundraising efforts of the Jewish Community Center.

"Stacy grew up in our community and at our JCC," Wagner said. "We are pleased to welcome her to the JCL team. She brings over 30 years of fundraising expertise and will be a real asset for our local community."

Professionally, Gordon-Funk has been involved with fundraising for many years. She served as president of the Kentucky/Southeast Indiana Chapter of the National MS Society for the last seven years and previously as director of development and marketing for the Girl Scouts of Kentuckiana and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Kentuckiana.

In each position, she led successful fundraising efforts that included special events, annual campaigns and capital projects. Gordon-Funk is strongly committed to volunteer engagement and is driven to enhance organizational mission. She's eager to put her talents to work for the JCL and her Jewish community.

"I was born and raised here," Gordon-Funk said. "My parents are Marsha and Don Gordon, and my aunt and uncle are Janet and Sonny Meyer. Many in the community know us"

She grew up participating in Jewish activities that included a lot of time spent at the JCC. When she came to the JCC to talk about a potential position, she told Wagner, "I feel like I came home. It just seemed like those were the halls I just walked yesterday." When she talked with *Community* for this interview, she noted that she had probably sat in a Hebrew School class in that same second floor classroom in which we were talking."

"I loved the activities here as a young person," she added. She was a member of Amitie, attended socials, played tennis, swam, was an assistant camp counselor and in general just hung out at the JCC for many years.

Gordon-Funk earned a BA in psychology with a minor in communications from Stephens College in Columbia, MO. She lived in Yuma, AZ, for a short while, which she described as "the hottest place in the United States." There she worked for a community-based nonprofit organization that served abused and neglected children. She married her high school sweetheart, Don Funk, who has been in management at UPS's World Port for close to thirty years.

The couple moved back to Louisville and married in the late 1980's. Their daughter, Brittany, was born in the early 1990's, is now 24 and is an assistant brand manager at Thornton's. Brittany recently married her college beau Daniel Wenig. Daniel is a second year law student at University of Louisville.

She and her husband are members of Keneseth Israel and the JCC.

Gordon-Funk has lots of plans for her new position. "With the help of many volunteers I have raised millions of dollars for other organizations," she said. "I'm certain when our community comes together the same will happen here." She expects to "have a high impact meeting the expanding needs of our Jewish community, the Center and the Federation."

"I'm looking forward to high level involvement in the Jewish community and our Jewish culture," she said.

"Today, when I was walking in ... it felt very uplifting walking through the playground area," she observed. "The children were outside playing and I saw elderly people sitting on the bench talking to each other and ... it had a good community feel. ... I feel like I'm coming home."

Jewish heritage is important to Gordon-Funk, and the mission of the JCL resonates with her. "My grandfather, Abe Lyon was a very pious man. He would be so proud that I am carrying on his belief in tzedakah and our traditions. It's going to be very rewarding that my work will ensure a Jewish future for my daughter and other young adults."

For many years Gordon-Funk has been providing support for BBYO through the Stacy Marks Nisenbaum Camp Fund. This fund was created for Nisenbaum after her passing by Stacy Gordon-Funk and her friends, Wendy Snow and Sally Weinberg, who established a scholarship fund in her name. Scholarship recipients often attend BBYO leadership training institutes where they acquire skills that benefit their chapters.

When she's not working, Gordon-Funk enjoys hot yoga, clocking her steps and time with family and friends.

MAJOR GIFTS

Continued from page 1

said. "He's been and advisor to presidents, a special envoy to the Middle East and has shaped several accords between Israel and its neighbors. It will be very interesting to hear his insights and answers to our questions."

The dinner is open to those who make an individual or couples gift of \$5,000 or more to the Federation Campaign, and to members of the Ben Gurion Society – young adults who give a minimum of \$1,000.

In addition to being an accomplished diplomat, Amb. Ross is an author, and in his latest book, *Doomed to Succeed: The US-Israeli Relationship from Truman to Obama*, he explores the attitudes and approaches of every U.S. president toward Israel and the Middle East since the Jewish State was established, including each president's key assumptions, the unity or division of the presidents' advisors, the key events of each administration and how the overall relationship has evolved.

Today, Amb. Ross is counselor and William Davidson Distinguished Fellow at The Washington Institute for Near East Policy, an agency with the mission of advancing a balanced and realistic understanding of American interests in the Middle East and promoting the policies that secure them.

Prior to returning to the Institute in 2011, he served two years as special assistant to President Barack Obama, National Security Council senior director for the Central Region, and a year as special advisor to Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton.

For more than 12 years, Ambassador Ross played a leading role in shaping U.S. involvement in the Middle East peace process and dealing directly with the parties in negotiations.

A highly skilled diplomat, Ambassador Ross was U.S. point man on the peace process in both the George H. W. Bush and Bill Clinton administrations. He was instrumental in assisting Israelis and Palestinians to reach the 1995 Interim Agreement; he also successfully brokered the 1997 Hebron Accord, facilitated the 1994 Israel-Jordan peace treaty, and intensively worked to bring Israel and Syria together.

A scholar and diplomat with more than two decades of experience in Soviet and Middle East policy, Ambassador Ross worked closely with Secretaries of

State James Baker, Warren Christopher, and Madeleine Albright. Prior to his service as special Middle East coordinator under President Clinton, Ambassador Ross served as director of the State Department's Policy Planning Staff in the first Bush administration. In that capacity, he played a prominent role in U.S. policy toward the former Soviet Union, the unification of Germany and its integration into NATO, arms control negotiations, and the 1991 Gulf War coalition.

During the Reagan administration, he served as director of Near East and South Asian affairs on the National Security Council staff and deputy director of the Pentagon's Office of Net Assessment. Ambassador Ross was awarded the Presidential Medal for Distinguished Federal Civilian Service by President Clinton, and Secretaries Baker and Albright presented him with the State Department's highest award.

All donors are encouraged to consider an increased gift to help the 2016 Federation Campaign meet the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence Double Your Impact Challenge. JHFE has graciously offered to match all increases to the Campaign and all new gifts up to \$200,000. For more information on the challenge, see story, page 1.

Cocktails will be served at 6 p.m. and dinner at 6:45. There is also a \$40 per person covert. The fair market value of this event is \$40 per person and is not tax-deductible. Valet parking is available.

For more information or to reserve your place, contact Kristy Benefield, 502-238-2739.

Leon Wahba is the 2016 Federation Campaign Chair; Karen Abrams, Victoria Diaz, Debbie Friedman, Jane Goldstein and Denise Schiller comprise the Lion of Judah Committee; and Keren Benabou and Laurence Nibur are the YAD chairs.

Editor's note: Amb. Ross' biographical material came from The Washington Institute's website.

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GA Inspires, Educates, Connects and Energizes Louisville Leaders

by Shiela Steinman Wallace
Editor

The General Assembly of the Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA) is one of the largest annual gatherings of Jewish leaders focused on the future of Jewish philanthropy, identity and education as well as topics like rising anti-Semitism, Israel and global needs.

This year, Jewish Community of Lou-

isville Board Chair Jay Klempner, past Young Leadership Award Winner Amy Ryan, JCL President and CEO Sara Klein Wagner and Vice President of Philanthropy Stacy Gordon-Funk attended the GA from November 8-10 in Washington, D.C.

"I've never been around so many young Jewish people," Klempner said, "and I'm amazed at all the things JFNA does domestically and world-wide."

This was Ryan's first GA, and she

agreed that "it was wonderful to see so many people there."

"The keynote speakers were very interesting," she added. "I got a lot out of the sessions." Ryan went to several sessions on developing leaders. One presented ideas to invigorate young leadership programs and another focused on using demographic and affinity groups to get people involved.

One idea that particularly appealed to her came from the Miami Federation. "They let their young leaders co-create their program," she explained. For example, new Latino immigrants offered a program to explain to newcomers how the American Jewish community works. Ryan would like to share that concept and consider implementing it in Louisville.

There was a special Young Leadership Awards presentation at which Ryan was recognized along with leaders from communities across North America.

"I loved the camaraderie and spirit of the GA," Gordon-Funk said. "The speakers were amazing, and I learned a lot on the training side" and about the organizational culture. She was particularly impressed by JFNA's diversity.

People come to Jewish life through many different doors, she explained. "We heard speakers who were inspirational and I learned so much on the training side about our philanthropic culture."

She was particularly impressed by JFNA's diversity. "I saw firsthand how individuals come to Jewish life through many different doors," she explained. "We heard speakers from interfaith backgrounds, from multicultural backgrounds and all were embraced because the common thread that binds us is our Jewish heritage."

Gordon-Funk found it interesting to learn about the scope of JFNA's work, "not only what we do for the Jewish community, but also for others in need, and the pride we have in our mission." For her, the conference's theme, "Think Forward," and the message she took away from it, "Sense of Community, Sense of Tradition, Sense of Philanthropy and Sense of Global Community," are exactly what we have in Louisville.

For Klempner, the overriding message of the GA was that the common denominator we all share is that we're Jews. We might disagree on issues or perhaps hold differing opinion of Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, but what really matters is "we're still Jews and we have to look out for one another."

"The programs and speakers were phenomenal," he continued. In one session, he recounted, the speaker talked about being adopted as a child in Germany. Seven years ago, she found a book with a picture that looked familiar. Then she saw a photo of her mother and grandmother. She soon discovered that

her father was the officer in the Nazi work camp who is depicted in *Schindler's List* as "the commandant who was shooting people indiscriminately from his house."

Author Jennifer Teege talked about how this knowledge affected her life and what she is doing for the Jewish community today.

Klempner also attended interesting and helpful workshops on the Jewish identity crisis, the role of a community organization – convener and/or advocate – and leadership. Another session addressed how to support Israel when one cannot support its current administration.

There was an all-star lineup of speakers, including Prime Minister Netanyahu and Isaac Herzog, who is chairman of the Labor Party and the leader of the opposition in the Israeli Knesset, President Barack Obama's chief of staff and several Canadian officials. Gordon-Funk called Netanyahu's address a high note.

Klempner learned about a JFNA bond program that helps local federations and might enable the JCL to lower its financing charges for capital expenditures. He plans to look into it further.

"Sara and I also met with other combined organizations," Klempner said, "and with an individual from Orlando whose Federation and JCC are considering merger." They also met with leadership from Austin's integrated Jewish community, "and had good discussions on what they found to be positive moves in their transition."

The Louisville delegation usually attended different sessions so they could bring home as much information and inspiration as possible. They heard about programs and services offered by other Federations that could be used as models for Louisville, including "different ways of connecting Jews through programs and services and building philanthropy within the Jewish community."

The delegates had the opportunity to meet and talk with Harold Grinspoon and other individuals from the Grinspoon Foundation, which created PJ Library and provides financial support to the program across the country, including in Louisville, as well as the JCcamp 180 program for which Louisville was chosen earlier this year. "They all seem to be happy with the PJ Library program we have in Louisville," Klempner observed. "While we were there, the 300th child was signed up for PJ Library in Louisville," and the delegation shared the news with the Harold Grinspoon Foundation Representatives.

"Overall, the GA uplifts you," he noted. Through networking, our Louisville leaders came to realize that our community is dealing with the same kinds of issues other communities are dealing with – finding ways to engage and reengage people, encouraging young people to return after college as well as financial, social and demographic issues.

"Next year," Klempner concluded, "I would like to see more of our young people attend. ... They can learn so much and get energized so much by going" as he has been about "the opportunities we have here at the JCL."

"It was great to be back at the GA after several years away," said Wagner. "The biggest difference I noticed were how significantly the tent has widened as JFNA has acknowledged and embraced the Federations' role as a true convener. The second was the energy from the Hill students, their desire to help build a vibrant Jewish community and their willingness to step up and take responsibility for the future."

Gordon-Funk noted that she enjoyed getting acquainted with local leadership volunteers, Jay Klempner and Amy Ryan, as well as spending time with JCL President and CEO Sara Wagner.

Anshei Sfard Addresses Issues

by Shiela Steinman Wallace
Editor

It has been widely reported in local media that Congregation Anshei Sfard is facing some serious challenges; however, some of the information that has been reported is misleading and incomplete.

Roy Hyman, Anshei Sfard's president, reported that the congregation's membership has dwindled significantly and it cannot survive if it continues operating as it has in the past. At this point, the congregation is looking into its options and has made no decisions about what path to take.

At a recent congregational meeting, members put forth a number of options, including looking at ways to attract additional Orthodox Jewish people to the community.

Hyman and Jewish Community of Louisville Board Chair Jay Klempner confirmed that two meetings have occurred between those organizations.

"We think it is very important to have an Orthodox presence in Louisville," Klempner said. The first thing that has to happen is for the congregation to determine the path it wants to follow.

Then, the JCL will do what it can to help.

Business First had reported that selling the Anshei Sfard building might be an option. Hyman again stressed that the congregation has not made any decisions on what to do.

Klempner reiterated that it is the congregation's decision what to do, but indicated to Hyman that the property, which is contiguous to the Jewish Community Center, is an important part of the Jewish campus.

Currently, Louisville Beit Sefer Yachad holds classes there and the JCC Summer Camp also uses the facility for some activities. Both groups need the space and pay rent.

Whatever the congregation does decide what to do, Klempner plans on working closely with Hyman and if the decision is made to sell the property, Klempner hopes that something can be worked out to keep it as part of the Jewish campus.

Klempner and JCL President and CEO Sara Klein Wagner are keeping the JCL leadership apprised of their discussions. They recognize the difficult situation Anshei Sfard's members are facing and will help in any way they can.

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LBSY Fundraiser Was an Evening of Fun with Jonathan Wolff

by Shiela Steinman Wallace
Editor

Consummate entertainer Jonathan Wolff, who was "raised by this village" made the Louisville Beit Sefer Yachad fundraiser on Sunday, November 8, at the Kentucky Science Center, a truly memorable event.

The musician said he had a "wonderful youth that many of you shared with me" and he recalled "being raised at the JCC." However, unlike those with whom he grew up, Wolff's world really centered around music, starting with "The Pink Panther" when he was age 5.

He recalled his first piano teacher, Jo Anne Abraham, going on to study at

Gardencourt and later at the University of Louisville School of Music. Along the way, Wolff shared memories of the songs that influenced him and how he evolved into an accomplished accompanist and a composer in high demand.

With piano and tambourine, he tantalized the audience with a presentation laced with spirited performances interspersed with personal stories. In one he recounted receiving an urgent call. Diana Ross's keyboard player had a family tragedy and Wolff was needed immediately. Without even time to change clothes, he hurried to the airport where a private jet was waiting.

When he arrived at the concert hall, Ross's people told him, "This is not what you wear to play with Miss Ross." They found something for him to wear and rushed him onto the stage.

Where was the music? There is no book, he was told. The regular accompanist didn't need one. It turned out that "the kid who ingested Motown music" found that it was still inside him. He was able to tap into that and call on his strong jazz training to deliver a solid performance.

After the show, Wolff recalled, Diana

came to the dressing room, something she almost never did, thanked him and apologized for not introducing him when she introduced the band. It was not an oversight. She just didn't know his name. When he told her, she asked him, "Can I call you Johnny?" He quickly assented.

When she turned to leave, Wolff said, "Thank you, Diana," and immediately her minions corrected him, "It's Miss Ross."

While his story was peppered with music – songs that influence him, songs he admired, songs he wrote – there was one song missing from his performance, but he couldn't get away without it. When Wolff called for questions, LBSY Board member and the evening's emcee Craig Lustig requested that he play his most famous score, the theme song for *Seinfeld*.

A short video showcasing LBSY students and their activities was shown prior to Wolff's presentation. Cantors David Lipp and Sharon Hordes sang Wolff's "Hinei Ma Tov" to accompany it.

The evening also included time to explore the museum, a silent auction, cocktails and dinner.



Jonathan Wolff kept the audience entertained at the LBSY fundraiser.

PHOTO BY DRAKE HATFIELD

National Council of Jewish Women Honors Yetter

by Phyllis Shaikun
Special to community

National Council of Jewish Women, Louisville Section, honored Courier-Journal (C-J) reporter Deborah Yetter with the David Richart Pathway to Justice for Children Award at a program held on Wednesday, October 28, at The Temple.

Section President Joyce Bridge began the proceedings by recognizing Courier-Journal Editor Wes Jackson, former judge Jerry Bowles, State Representative Tom Burch and others who have assisted NCJW in its efforts to help better the lives of women, children and families for over 125 years.

Beth Salamon, state policy advocate for NCJW in Kentucky, reiterated the section's core belief that progressive ideals put into action can improve the world. In 1975, NCJW and the late David Richart co-sponsored creation of Kentucky Youth Advocates (KYA), to be the independent voice of Kentucky's children. Richart became KYA's founding executive director, and when he died in 2011, NCJW established a committee in his name to advocate for the state's children and recognize those who have worked on their behalf.

In 2014, the Richart Committee hosted a three-part educational series on the Kentucky's Child Welfare System and reported that transparency is critical to overseeing the child welfare system and holding those involved accountable.

The committee has been advocating for several bills and recently filed an Amicus Curiae (Friend of the Court) brief in a lawsuit filed by the C-J and the Lexington Herald against the Cabinet for Health and Human Services seeking records of cases where abuse and neglect resulted in child fatality or near fatality. The case had been argued earlier in the day by C-J attorney Jon Fleischaker and a decision is expected in 30-60 days.

Former C-J editor Pam Platt, presented the Richart Award to Yetter. "Debbie never stops," Platt noted. "She documents, studies, researches, interviews and uses that information to write editorials. Her work has saved lives and her dedication to craft reflects glorious and heroic work."

Yetter began her remarks by thanking NCJW for its longtime efforts to make life better for Kentucky's children. She recalled sitting in the audience in 2012 when Representative Burch received

the inaugural Pathways Award and was humbled to be the second recipient.

She traced her involvement with the state welfare system to a single case involving a youth in state custody who became a juvenile offender for continually running away. His public defender, the late Harry Rothgerber, who also was a KYA founder and served on its board for many years, asked her to research the case and she found the organization an invaluable resource for her work on that report and for others as well.

"That led me to David," she said, "who understood the state's child welfare system and could speak as an independent advocate." She went on to write what became an ongoing series of stories about the state's troubled child protection system – issues that continue to this day. A reporter for more than 30 years, Yetter has spent much of that time covering child abuse, neglect, social services and juvenile justice.

"In thinking about David," she said, "the Council and this award, it struck me how events and people in our lives intertwine, in this case for the common good. Here I am some 20 years later accepting an award named after David from NCJW, which helped found Kentucky Youth Advocates along with Harry and many others.

"In the interim," she continued, "Kentucky Youth Advocates has grown into a highly respected, independent research, policy and advocacy group for Kentucky's children and the Council deserves credit for its vision in helping to organize it nearly 40 years ago.

"This morning," she added, "I joined with others in Lexington to hear The Courier-Journal, Herald Leader and Todd County Standard argue before the state Court of Appeals over whether the state Cabinet for Health and Family Services can withhold certain information in the cases of children who die or are nearly killed from abuse or neglect. Both gubernatorial candidates promise change by dividing the Cabinet into several parts."

"I would like to say the system today is better and in many ways it is," Yetter observed. "But all of you involved in this field know of the acute shortage of resources for children and families and the near-crisis conditions of the state social service system that spill into family courts every day. The only real way to force officials and the public to acknowledge this, I believe, is to force them to look at it. And the best way to do that is through access to courts and records of cases."

The Richart Committee is co-chaired by Jane Emke and Sonia Levine.



Deborah Yetter, Pam Platt, Beth Salamon and Joyce Bridge.

Gilman Lecture Covered Many Aspects of Circumcision

When Dr. Sander L. Gilman came to the University of Louisville to deliver the Second Annual Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence Lecture on Sunday, November 8, approximately 50 people turned out to hear his talk, "Circumcision: An Index of Difference and/or the Health Exception?"

Dr. Gilman provided a history of the practice of circumcision and how it was viewed by different cultures and, including the sometimes-unintended consequences of the practice, health ramifications and law regulating it. He also addressed the issue of female circumcision.

Dr. Gilman is currently distinguished professor of the Liberal Arts and Sciences as well as professor of psychiatry at Emory University. For 25 years, he was a member of the humanities and medical faculties at Cornell University where he held the Goldwin Smith Professorship of Humane Studies. For six years, he held the Henry R. Luce Distinguished Service Professorship of the Liberal



Sander Gilman and Lee Shai Weissbach

Arts in Human Biology at the University of Chicago and for four years was a distinguished professor of the Liberal Arts and Medicine and creator of the Humanities Laboratory at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

His numerous groundbreaking books (80 in total) have widely influenced Jewish scholars working in the fields of history, sociology, cultural studies, literature, psychology, philosophy, and beyond. Perhaps his most famous book to date is the classic 1986 study, *Jewish Self Hatred*.



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Former Louisvillian Peter Anik Reports

What's Happening on the Ground in Israel Today

by Shiela Steinman Wallace
Editor

Peter and Dalia Anik are former Louisvillians who live in Lotem, a kibbutz in Northern Israel. Prior to moving to Israel, Peter Anik worked for Louisville's Jewish Federation. One of his roles was director of the Jewish Community Relations Council, and in the capacity, he was an active advocate for Israel.

With almost daily reports in the news about the rise in violence in Israel, *Community* contacted Anik and he agreed to answer a series of questions to provide some perspective for those of us in Louisville.



Peter Anik

Q: From the news reports we get in the United States, it sounds like this is a very dangerous time to be in Israel. Can you give us a realistic assessment of the danger?

A: The perception of danger is from the fear these stabbings

and car accidents (driving cars into pedestrians and bus stops) create in their apparent randomness. Twelve Israelis and approximately 70 Palestinians have been killed since mid September (many of those killed are the stabbers themselves).

Israeli victims of stabbings and intentional car accidents include pre-teen children, the elderly, policemen and soldiers. Especially targeted seem to be

religiously garbed Jews.

Most of these incidents occur in Jerusalem and the surrounding areas. Almost all of the perpetrators of stabbings (a number of them being pre-teen children themselves) come from across the Green line, especially East Jerusalem.

Only a few Israeli Arabs with strong connections to Gaza or the West Bank have been involved with these extremely violent incidents. The frequency of these incidents seems to also have peaked and now occur far less often. That being said, it is still far more dangerous to drive on the roads in Israel because of the car accidents. The West Bank might be a different story

Q: Does this situation affect you and Dalia and are you taking any special precautions?

A: According to recent statistics for the Northern District, 44 percent of the population is Jewish, 38 percent Muslim and the remainder divided almost equally between Christians (mostly Arab but not all) and Druze. Most towns and villages are divided by ethnicity and religion.

Our community of approximately 500 people is located on a hilltop next to a Bedouin town and across the valley from a number of other Arab and Jewish towns. The main road runs through Saknin and Arrabe; a fairly large Arab Muslim metro area of about 30,000 people.

The two local Bedouin towns, Salame and Hosnia, are very friendly. A number of their residents serve in the IDF. Now, and even during the last two recent wars in Gaza they were both quiet.

Saknin and Arrabe, however, are a different story. Although both are quiet when things are calm and we all do much of our shopping in both towns, when there are tensions the situation becomes problematic. Saknin especially is a center for Arab Israeli Islamist activity.

The Islamic movement in Israel is extremely anti-Zionist and the city often hosts massive (20-50,000 participants) anti-government rallies. During times of tension there are frequent incidents of people throwing rocks at traffic and burning tires at intersections throughout the north. Last month we were warned to stay out of the local Arab towns during the most tense period.

I drive to work in Karmiel through the Bedouin towns, as does Dalia when she takes the bus, so neither of us experienced any problems, but I know people from other towns who did have issues with rocks being thrown at them. Last month, for a few nights following a huge anti-government Islamist rally, I did see

police roadblocks at the intersection at Arrabe stopping people and talking to them before they allowed them to pass.

Dalia had an issue a few years ago on the bus in Bedouin Salame when a group of men started banging on the bus, but that wasn't during a period of Jewish-Arab tension. It was during a period of local Arab on Arab tensions and we think it was related to that.

Being in the North we both work with many Israeli Arabs.

Dalia teaches English in an after school program in Karmiel (50,000 people and 90 percent Jewish) and she estimates half of her students are Arabs. Parents appear to relax and continue talking with each other waiting for their children to finish their lessons.

About one third of my workplace consists of Arabs. Some of the Arab women on the kitchen staff wear religious garb and I will admit to random thoughts while working next to them while they were cutting vegetables.

What I have experienced though, is that whenever tensions increase on the "street," we all go out of our way to be more polite with each other in the workplace. In the six years I have been working in my present position, I have never seen or known of any issues between Jewish and non-Jewish staff.

Karmiel is the commercial hub in this area. Businesses here are both Arab and Jewish-owned. When shopping in any of our three malls, stores and restaurants, Jews – Ashkenazi, Sephardi and Ethiopian, secular and ultra Orthodox – and Druze, Christian and Muslim Arabs, all freely mix together. The scene on the street is a mish-mash of the diversity of Israel.

Security has, until recently, been tighter. Before entering the mall parking garage they returned to the practice of making us open up our rear trunks for inspection. They stopped doing that this past week.

So, all in all, things locally appear to have returned to what they were before the latest outburst.

Q: From your perspective, why is this happening now?

A: Every year or so the Islamist Movement in Israel promotes the narrative that Jews are about to take over the Temple Mount and action must be taken to prevent this from happening. I was actually pleased that last year's call for a mass rally to protect the Mosque was met with mostly apathy as, notwithstanding the occasional appearance of a nationalist Jewish political figure participating in a tour on the mount, I think their claims are nonsense and a deliberate provocation.

What appears to have made this year different was the eruption of the "knife" intifada in Jerusalem. Depending on what you read and whom you talk to, you get a different explanation.

Personally, I think there was some behind the scenes provocation orchestrated probably by Hamas and their backers (Iran too) to stir things up, not only against Israel, but against Abbas and the Palestinian Authority (PA) as well.

The media report that Arabic social media also worked to promote violence and celebrated each attack as an act of heroic resistance. Abbas and his PA always seem to follow the leader (not to be outdone by Hamas) in their actions and statements, and this time, it appears to be more of the same as momentum builds.

Israeli police and bystanders shooting Arab assailants was then portrayed as Jewish lynch mobs randomly victimizing Arabs on the streets and then planting knives next to the bodies.

We are living in a region that is aflame and Israel is surrounded by intense turmoil on all sides. Information and calls for action flow freely across all borders. I don't believe there is one primary cause, but combinations of interacting issues that inflame the situation.

Settlements and occupation as primary cause? I don't buy it.

A significant portion of the Arab public inside and outside of this country believes that all of Israel is occupied territory and must be liberated from the Zionists. The Palestinian Liberation Organization, riots and civil unrest predate the 1967 war, settlements and the occupation of the West Bank and Gaza (the latter of which is now completely free of all Jews).

Civil unrest within the Arab community and world because of the fear that Jews are about to destroy the Al Aqsa mosque is not new and reappears every few years. This too will quiet down, but guaranteed – especially with the current regional climate – something new will cause a flare up within the next year or two.

Given all the constant turmoil, a recent poll revealed that over 80 percent of Israeli Arabs and 80 percent of Israeli Jews would not want to live anywhere else but Israel, even if offered passports to any other country. Go figure.


Things get to a boil here, but before they go too far, everyone seems to work to cool things off – at least that's how it appears to me.

Q: Do you have any other comments you'd like to add?

A: When I was in my 20's, I taught in a boarding school for emotionally disturbed youths in Florida, and each summer, I co-staffed backpacking trips with our students throughout the American Northwest. Being a New Jersey/Metro New York City boy, this was all a new experience for me. I had traded the subway for the forest.

I especially remembered the thrill of camping in grizzly country, the need for caution and keen awareness of your surroundings. Living in Israel kind of feels like that – never a dull moment and the need to be constantly aware. Just as a grizzly might enter camp looking for a scent of food on some unsuspecting camper, at any time Hezbollah rockets from Lebanon might rain on our heads.



But time flies by here and my life is always meaningful and rich no matter what I am doing. Although I would like to get back to the States more often, especially to visit our daughter and her family, I would not trade this lifestyle for anything else and I love this country dearly.



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Merrin Israel Trip Was Hands-On Learning Experience for Steklof

by Shiela Steinman Wallace
Editor

Assistant Director of Camping and Youth Services Mike Steklof traveled to Israel for 10 days in October as part of his Merrin Teen Professional Fellows Program for some intensive programming.

One of just 15 professionals working with teens chosen from across North America for this prestigious program, Steklof explained that the fellows focused on three pillars: Jewish literacy,

teen engagement and networking.

"The number one focus was on how to engage teens," he explained. "We met with people who work with teens like the leadership of the Tzofim." Louisvillians are familiar with one part of The Tzofim or Israeli Scouts program, because a group of Tzofim performers stop in Louisville most summers to put on a show for JCC summer campers and community members that tells Israel's story and shares pride in the Jewish State.

The fellows learned how the Tzofim build their curriculum and how they put together their plan for the year. Since Steklof develops the yearly plan for Louisville's BBYO program, he said, "It was interesting to see how they do things differently and the same and how I can incorporate some of their ideas."

"Teens in Israel are more engaged than the ones I lead," he observed, "but in Israel, teen organizations have fewer full-time employees, so teens drive the programming" more than they do here. With all the other things teens here are involved in, Steklof was not sure how that would translate to Louisville.

The fellows also met with the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI) program leader for gap year programs who "challenged us on how much we can give the teens to do and how much we do," he said.

Steklof is currently working with BBYO and Pact in Action, a program designed to address dating violence in the Parkhill, Algonquin and California Neighborhoods. As a Merrin Fellow, he is looking at ways to form connections between members of BBYO and Pact in Action as well as between JCC teen pro-



The Merrin Fellows in Israel - Mike Steklof is standing behind the group.

grams and inner city teen programs in other communities.

A highlight of the trip for Steklof was the opportunity to spend time with Avraham Infeld, the consummate teacher who has invested his lifetime building Jewish identity and strengthening the State of Israel. Steklof found Infeld inspiring.

The group spent a day at an Israeli high school where they learned about the Israeli education system, "which is very different than American education," he said. And another day was spent with Mechina, a gap-year program for Israeli teens between high school and their mandatory Army service.

"We looked at growing up as a teen in Israel," he explained, "to get a better sense of understanding Israeli culture." The group also looked at a program for underprivileged children and juve-

nile delinquents where they spend time working on a farm in rural Israel. "It was interesting to learn how they built the program and how they deal with Jewish pluralism as well as mental health issues."

Immediately upon his return, Steklof put his new understanding of Israeli culture to work. There was a BBYO sleepover with the theme, "From Holocaust to Israel." Holocaust survivor Fred Gross spoke to the group and Steklof "shared what I just learned."

The Merrin Teen Professional Fellows Program was started in 1999, with the support of Seth Merrin and Anne Heyman. Their partnership with JCC Association initiated this exceptional program to give those working with teens the skills to better serve a critical sector of the Jewish community.

LIGHT UP

Continued from page 1

decadent desserts, sip cocktails from the open bar, bid on lavish items and experiences at the silent and live auctions, and take in a full Broadway revue performed by the stars of CenterStage.

You also won't be privy to the announcement of CenterStage's 2016-17 season or get to see the JCC transformed into a magical hidden forest.

"You won't recognize the place," said CenterStage Artistic Director John Lefert.

This year's Light Up theme is "An Enchanted Evening." There will be lanterns hanging from the ceiling, moss and wood-accented centerpieces, actors posing as statues, and even a few trees scattered throughout the venue.

This year's auction items are simply dazzling.

Devotees of the Queen of Pop can bid on an awesome Madonna Package, which includes floor seating at her upcoming sold-out KFC Yum! Center concert, VIP booth rental at drag and dance club PLAY Louisville, a one-night stay at Courtyard Marriott Louisville Downtown, brunch for two at The Oakroom at The Seelbach Hilton, and a \$50 gift certificate to Mesh restaurant on Brownsboro Road.

Other auction items include a French Lick vacation package with a one-night stay at West Baden Springs Hotel and two tickets to Big Splash Adventure, a 14k yellow gold ring with pave-set diamonds and an oval cut natural sapphire from Cherokee Coins & Jewelry, a hair-cut and color every 4 weeks for a year from J. Michael's Spa & Salon, and 140 units of line and wrinkle-removing Dysport and two syringes of Restylane Dermal Filler from Physician's Center for Beauty.

This year, the way Light Up attendees bid on silent auction items has been revolutionized.

Instead of stalking their coveted auction items and repeatedly writing bids on paper, gala-goers will be using ClickBid, mobile software that allows guests to bid via smartphone, iPad or Tablet, from anywhere in the venue.

"Any time you've been outbid, you get a text," and are shown the current high bid, said event chair Sarah Harlan. "You could be standing in the hallway and be furiously trying to outbid people."

If digital bidding seems daunting, don't fret.

Harlan said ClickBid and JCC staff will be on hand to guide guests through the process, and an assortment of iPads and iPhones will be available for folks who don't have their own digital devices.

If ClickBid is a success at Light Up, it will translate into more money for Acting Out, the CenterStage program that is the main beneficiary of the evening.

Acting Out brings full professional theatre productions and corresponding educational exercises to area schools. The latest Acting Out show is *And Then They Came for Me: Remembering the World of Anne Frank*, a moving and revelatory piece that adds dimension the story of Frank, and also tells the stories of her German Jewish friends and Holocaust survivors Eva Geiringer and Ed Silverberg. (See story, page 20.)

Bidders who log on to ClickBid prior to the event will be able to see auction items, read descriptions, and plan their strategy ahead of time.

JCC Development and Special Events Director Lenae Price said attendees will get directions for joining the Light Up auction on ClickBid when they purchase tickets. Item pictures and descriptions will be accessible a week or two before the event.

Admission to Light Up CenterStage is \$900 for a table of 10, and single tickets are \$108. To purchase tickets, visit <https://jewishlouisville.org/jc/centerstage/light-up-centerstage/> or call Joanna Blieden at 502-238-2763.

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Partnership Bikers Go from Rosh Hanikra to Eilat in 4 Days

by Shiela Steinman Wallace
Editor

Partnership2Gether is truly an opportunity for people in Louisville to design their own projects and bring them into reality with col-



Jon Klein

leagues in Israel's Western Galilee Region and friends from the Central Area Consortium in the U.S.

Jon Klein, Louisville's Partnership2Gether co-chair, can tell you all about it. Three years ago, the avid bicyclist dreamed of creating a bike trip in Israel that would take a group of riders from Rosh Hanikra, on Israel's northern border with Lebanon on the Mediterranean Sea through the country to Eilat, Israel's southernmost point.

That trip became a reality in October when six riders from the States packed up their bikes and flew to Israel. Klein was joined by Louisvillians Colyn Joffe and Bill Altman as well as Steven Klappper from Indianapolis, Richard Katz from Crown Point, IN, and Klein's cousin, Morris Rosenzweig from Salt Lake City, UT.

"It took Jon [Klein] over three years to put this trip together," Joffe said, and he mentioned it often, so when everything

came together, Joffe, who rides his bike a lot, decided it was something he wanted to do.

It was Joffe's second trip to Israel. The first time, when he was 21, "was when I was backpacking through Europe. This was a very different opportunity," he continued. It enabled him to "see Israel from a different point of view – not as a tourist."

"I went because I love biking and I love Israel," Altman said. "I've been to Israel four times previously and I thought this would be a unique opportunity to combine two things that are very central to my life," and to experience Israel in a different way.

The group spent their first two nights in Tel Aviv to acclimate to the time change. On the third day, they traveled to Nahariya and reassembled their bikes.

Since Louisville partners with the Western Galilee, the group spent a day



visiting Partnership projects and learning about the region. Joffe was glad of the opportunity to see how American dollars are used in the Partnership region.

The group also engaged in a trust-building exercise, riding tandem bikes while the back rider was blindfolded, learned more about the Western Galilee Partnership Region from Resource Development Coordinator Heidi Benish and JAFI Partnership Director for the Western Galilee/Central Consortium Judy Yuda, and enjoyed a night of home hospitality with the Israeli riders.

Altman observed that "the trip was organized under the auspices of the Partnership and was a really important extension of what we've done previously with the Partnership. My family and I have been active in Partnership2Gether through hosting kids who work in the summer at the JCC, through visiting Israel with a Federation mission with the whole family."

The day before the cross-country trip, Klein explained, "we did a warm up ride from Nahariya to Rosh Hanikra to make sure the bikes were in working order." That ride took them up the cliffs and gave them a small taste of the climbing they would undertake later in the trip.

When the day finally arrived, a large bus with about 50 other riders was waiting for them. These riders included a group of 15 diabetics who belong to a group that draws attention to the disease and participates in programs demonstrating what diabetics can do.

These riders were in their 20's and 30's, and some were serious competitive riders. Some of them made the entire trip and others just part of it.

"We started around 10 a.m.," Klein recounted, "went east along the Lebanese border and up to Tzfah. It was a climb of about 5,000 feet with switchbacks and 180-degree turns."

After a brief stop for a ceremony for the diabetic riders at the hospital, "we rode completely downhill to the Kinneret [the Sea of Galilee] – a six- or seven-mile descent at 35 miles per hour with the lake in front of you." They circled the lake and spent the night at Kibbutz Ashdot Yaakov Ichud.

The original route for the second day was to have taken the riders through part of the West Bank. For security reasons, that was changed. To keep the mileage the same as the original plan, "we ascended Mt. Gilboa, where Saul died battling the Philistines. It was a steep mountain, then a very long, fast descent," Klein said.

Then the group took a bus through the West Bank. "We were there for 40 minutes and never felt unsafe or insecure," he added.

Once back in Israel proper, they continued riding. "To the left was the Dead Sea. We could smell the sulfur salts and potash – sights and smells you can't appreciate in a tour bus," he said.

After a night in Kalya Kibbutz, they faced the third and hardest day of the trip, Klein recalled. "We cycled 38 miles to Masada with the Dead Sea on the left, and beyond that, the hills of Edom."

The riders took the gondola to the top of the ancient fortress, went to the far side and carried their bikes on their

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Paulus Piece Pays Tribute to Nostra Aetate and Holocaust Victims

by Shiela Steinman Wallace
Editor

The Louisville Master Chorale, now celebrating its fifth season, came to Congregation Adath Jeshurun on Sunday, October 25, to present two major works with strong Jewish connections.

The first was selections from Georg Friedrich Handel's *Israel in Egypt*, and the second, Stephen Paulus' *To Be Certain of the Dawn*.

The Handel piece was a straightforward recounting of the Biblical story of Jewish slavery in Egypt.

The Paulus piece, however, captured the imagination and dominated the performance. The piece was commissioned in 2005 by the Basilica of St. Mary in Minneapolis as a gift to Temple Israel in commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the 1945 liberation of the Nazi death camps and the 40th anniversary of Nostra Aetate, the Vatican paper that reversed earlier church teachings and stated that the Jews did not kill Jesus, opening the door for interfaith dialogue.

The idea for the piece began with Fr. Michael O'Connell, the then rector of the Basilica. He recognized that it is important for Christians to own and teach about the Holocaust, and he decided to use the oratorio as the vehicle to teach people that children are key to preventing genocide.

Beginning with the call of the shofar, *To Be Certain of the Dawn* mixes Hebrew prayer with images of childhood innocence and suggestions of the harsh realities of the Holocaust. The interplay of the full adult chorus, a small children's chorus and a 24-piece orchestra sharpens the focus more. The performance is augmented with solos, duets and occasional projected images.

Written as a triptych, the work's three

sections are "Renewal," "Remembrance" and "Visions." Librettist Michael Dennis Browne, who was there for the performance, wrote in 2008 program notes that "*To Be Certain of the Dawn* commemorates the Jewish children, almost a million and a half of them, who were murdered during the Shoah" and "intends a message of hope for the children of today's world."

The text is a tapestry of images that

includes the Shema, the traditional opening of many Hebrew blessings and Hebrew and German recitations of "love your neighbor as yourself" juxtaposed against calls for teshuva (repentance), innocent childhood musings and statements of the restrictions the Nazis imposed on the Jews.

The soloists for this performance were soprano Mary Wilson-Redden, mezzo-soprano Cantor Sharon Hordes,

cantor and tenor Cantor David Lipp and baritone Alexander Redden. Members of the Louisville Youth Choir were the children's chorus.

The composite of all these pieces created a dramatic and moving production. It was a challenging work to pull together, and the Louisville Master Chorale and their colleagues did a remarkable job.

REVIEW

Oliver!

by David Wallace
Special to Community

Oliver! The musical has just completed its run at CenterStage at the Jewish Community Center. One question that arises is how can you make a musical out of a book that is focused on poverty in the lower class in England that is 415 pages long? (Oxford Illustrated Dickens) You do it by producing vignettes that highlight key events and persons in the novel.

Flash! You begin with the workhouse scene where *Oliver Twist*, played adorably by Charlie Norman, wants more gruel. The stage is set.

Flash! You go from the Workhouse Parlour to the Undertaker's Workshop where we meet Mr. and Mrs. Sowerberry played in heartless fashion by Sam Manning and Barbara Myerson Katz, who have just purchased Oliver.

Flash! You're in Paddington Green where the escaped Oliver is welcomed into Fagin's ring of pickpockets with "Consider Yourself."

Flash! Into the Thieves Kitchen we go

where Oliver is trained to be a thief by the Artful Dodger, played with bravado by Riley McNerny. Later we will return there where Fagin, played campy-style with a touch of Teyve from *Fiddler on the Roof*, by Michael J. Drury is "Reviewing the Situation."

Flash! To the Three Cripples bar where arch-villain Bill Sikes, played in menacing fashion by Brian Bowles, is introduced and Nancy, played by Jessica Adamson, who loves him in spite of herself, sings "As Long as He Needs Me."

Finally, Flash! London Bridge becomes the scene for the denouement where Bill Sikes is dispatched and Oliver is rescued from a life of crime.

Each flash illuminates part of the



whole, the music is fine and the sets reflect the seedy side of early Victorian England. Especially noteworthy is the singing and acting of Adamson. She is the heart of the production as her character, Nancy, is the heart of the novel. The musical reflects the heartbreaking poverty of England's lower class and its unbreakable spirit.

Next up is *Big Fish*, January 28-February 14. And don't miss *Light Up CenterStage* on December 5. See story, page 1.

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BIKE TRIP

Continued from page 12

shoulders down the Roman ramp. "At the bottom," he said, "the organizers greeted us with popsicles" because it was very hot.

"The next 40 miles were the hardest of the trip. Klein explained. "The first six miles there were inclines of 10-14 percent, then it got a little easier - inclines of only six percent."

The group climbed through the city of Arad and then traversed the Judean desert. "There is nothing there," Klein stated, "just sandstone and desolation."

After a night at a bike hotel in Mitzpe Ramon, where they enjoyed great food, they set off on the final 100 miles from the Judean desert through the Negev to Eilat. "At dawn," he recounted, we went to the Ramon Crater, a natural formation that was an ancient sea, and as it subsided, the land sank. It's about 25 miles across and very deep. It looks like the Grand Canyon."

The group of 50-60 riders watched the sun come up over the crater and families of ibex, wild mountain goats, fearlessly came up to the group. "It was a stunning experience," Klein said.

The final day of the trip was Shabbat, so there were almost no cars on the road. It traveled straight through the desert hills. Everything was brown and desolate.

Israel comes to a point at Eilat, and Klein said as they approached the city, "we could see the Western security fence to keep illegal immigrants out. We could see the Jordanian border and we could see Egypt."

There was one last climb in the Eilat Mountains and then they went down to the Red Sea.

"We got a feel for the land, the terrain and the smells of Israel," Joffe added. "Every day was a new experience. There was a lot of climbing - hills and mountains. "When you get on your bike, you find out what made of," he continued. "Five hours into the day, you want to give up. It's 98 degrees and you still have to do a 12-13 mile climb. It helps you find what you're all about."

One of the things that truly set this trip apart was the camaraderie that developed among the riders. Living together for four days, a number of close friendships developed. "We were immersed with Israelis," Klein said, "and we got to know them well. It was the most unique trip I ever had."

"Getting together with the Israelis and hearing their stories and where they came from" was an important part of the journey, Joffe said. "It was some of the hardest biking I've ever done."

He came to appreciate how difficult it was to put the cycling trip together, and he "realized how fortunate I was to be part of it."

"I would encourage anyone who has an interest in Israel to find ways to experience the country through the activities that they love and through sharing those activities with Israelis," Altman said. "By doing this, people can gain a deeper insight into the unique aspects of Israeli society and the challenges that Israeli society faces. Ultimately it results in a deeper connection with Israel."

Klein hopes to put together another trip next year.

A Partnership2Gether trip to Israel to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Western Galilee/Central Consortium Partnership is planned for March 28-April 4, 2016. For more information please contact me at mgoldberg@jewish-louisville.org or 502-238-2707.

Help ensure that CenterStage Acting Out can visit the neediest children in Louisville; donate to the CenterStage Acting Out Match Campaign.

CenterStageJCC.org/Acting-Out



Temple Shalom Founders Garden Dedicated

On Sunday, October 25, Temple Shalom celebrated a significant milestone. Phase One of its beautiful Founders' Garden was dedicated.

Developed to honor the 74 farsighted and determined original founders of Temple Shalom, the garden is the result of two years of intensive work, planning and fundraising. The plan has two more phases.

With approximately 70 guests in attendance, Rabbi Stanley Miles lead a poignant tribute to founders who have passed and to the seven living founders who were in attendance.

Guests included founders and their family members, Temple Shalom members and friends. Of the 11 surviving founders, the seven in attendance included Margot and David Kling, Seymour Krinsky, Fay and Fred Levin and Joyce and Joe Wolf.

Expressions of gratitude and admiration were shared with the honored guests and all in attendance. A reception followed with a presentation of pictures of the founders and memories of the past.

Brenda Bush, representing the Founders' Garden Committee, which includes Barbara Sanders (chair), Sandy Diamond, Roz Shaffer, Fran Kratzok, Dafna Schurr, Connie Moser and Karen Abraham, explained the plans for completing the garden.

The plans include pathways in the garden, additional trees and bushes in the area, benches and artistic sculptures. This project will be a permanent tribute to the cherished founders who courageously made a dream into a reality 40 years ago.

Upon completion the garden will provide exquisite space for lifecycle events, teaching, meditation and other uses. Fundraising for the remaining phases and for garden maintenance is ongoing.

Engraved garden bricks to commemorate and memorialize loved ones, friends and lifecycle events are available for \$54 each installed. For more information about the garden and donation opportunities contact any committee member or Sofiya Pergam in the Temple Shalom office, 502-458-4739.

125 GALA

Continued from page 1

of if the JCC has ever touched you or your family's life in any way," said 125 Gala Chair Robin Miller. "We want you to celebrate with us.

"We're looking forward to honoring all past presidents of the JCC, the Federation and the JCL," she added, "and we have some exciting announcements to be followed by a fabulous party."

"I am honored and excited to chair this hard-working committee," Miller said.

So, gather your friends from camp, club, BBYO, sport teams and maj group and reserve your table today. Tickets are \$125 each and a table of 10 is \$1,100. Next generation tickets will be available at a discounted rate for those under 30 years old.

Do you have photos and memorabilia from any JCC program that you'd like to share? A commemorative program sharing highlights and memories from the JCC during last 125 years is being created. Tribute ads are available for \$36 to all community members who wish to share a favorite photo and a one-line memory or tribute to someone special. All proceeds from ad sales in the com-

memorative program will support the JCC's camp and membership scholarship funds.

Sponsorship opportunities are also available. This is a great opportunity for both the JCC and its many business partners to honor each other's roles in the community over the past 125 years.

To reserve your space or become a sponsor, please contact Lenae Price at 502-238-2768 or go to www.jewishlouisville.org/125Gala.

RSVP for the 125 Gala by calling Paula DeWeese at 502-238-2764.

The 125 Gala Committee includes Chair Robin Miller, Dr. Karen Abrams, Dr. Shellie Branson, Logan Buren, Mark Eichengreen, Dr. Julie Ellis, Julie Ensign, Tracy Geller, Abby Green, Dr. Ralph Green, Abby Green, Meredith Gregory, Kim Hales, Abby Kamen, Dr. Laura Klein, Dr. Lisa R. Klein, Marjorie Kohn, Tina List, Joan Lustig, Marcy Rosengarten, Stephanie Rosenthal, Maxine Ruben, Jill E. Simon, Julie Strull, Aaron Tasman, Michelle Cohen Tasman, Dr. Jeffrey Tuvlin, Hunter Weinberg and Frank Weisberg.

JCC Development & Special Events Director Lenae Price is coordinating the event.



Concert Benefits Water Step

Bruce Cohen of BC plumbing company stands with artist David Sanborn. Cohen sponsored Sanborn's concert at the Kentucky Center November 18. Attended by 800 jazz fans, a portion of the proceeds went to benefit Water Step, an organization that provides mechanisms for clean water around the world. The concert was produced by Kol Israel.



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Marta Fuchs Recounts Flight from Romanian Revolution and How She Learned of the Righteous Gentile Who Saved Her Father from the Nazis

by Shiela Steinman Wallace
Editor

When we think of Holocaust survivors, we tend to think of those who left Europe to settle in the United States or Israel. But there is also a group of survivors who chose to remain in Europe and begin again in their hometowns.

On November 4, the World Affairs Council brought Marta Fuchs to Louisville to share her family's story of survival, not only of the Holocaust, but of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution.

"Of all the Jews in Europe," she said, "Hungarian Jews could have survived. They weren't picked up until the eve of liberation."

In the end, though, of the 1400 Jews in Tokaj, Hungary, only 80 survived. Fuchs' family was lucky. Her parents survived and returned to Tokaj after the war to rebuild their lives and reinvigorate the family grocery store.

Fuchs described her childhood as lovely. She studied piano and her brother, violin. Everything seemed good and normal.

On October 23, the family was listening to a concert in which a cousin was playing the viola when the radio went dead. The next day, they learned the revolution was underway. By December, Fuchs' family knew they had to leave Hungary. Dressed in several layers of clothing with party clothes on top, the family traveled all night to reach a train station in Budapest then made it to the Austrian border. There, they told the guards they were going to a wedding.

They said goodbye to their relatives and walked across the Austrian border. Once there, they were taken, with many

other Hungarians, to a refugee camp.

There was a problem in that camp. Jews and former Nazis were mixed in together, and the old hatreds were still strong. Fuchs said her uncle was beaten by an ex-Nazi in the camp, one of many such victims.

The family managed to secure passage to America, and Fuchs reported that she was seasick for the entire 19-day journey. They arrived in Linden, NJ in 1957 and earned their citizenship in 1962. "We just got American," her father declared.

When she and her brother were children, their parents refused to tell them about what they endured during the Holocaust. It was only 30 years later, in 1987, that she learned the details of their parents' ordeal.

At that time, Fuchs was asked by an Iraqi Jewish filmmaker to do an interview for a film he wanted to make on the multigenerational impact of the Holocaust. She told him that her family had never talked about it, but she would ask her father. "I think you're old enough," her father said when she asked.

Her father had been in a labor camp in the Bryansk forests under a brutal commander who forced them to do crushing physical labor under difficult conditions. Then a new commander, Zoltan Kubinyi, took over.

Kubinyi refused to carry a gun and treated the Jews under his command with humanity. Toward the end of the war, when he was told to march the Jews to an extermination camp, he defied orders and marched them to Hungary instead, saving 140 lives.

After hearing her father's story, Fuchs convinced him to document his story for Yad Vashem. While Zoltan Kubinyi,

was no longer alive, Yad Vashem presented a righteous gentile medal to his son Marton in 1994.

Professionally, Fuchs is a psychotherapist, and she credits her parents for withholding their stories until she was old enough to cope with them with her own happiness and well being. She has written two books about her family's experiences.

Following the formal presentation, Jewish Community of Louisville President and CEO Sara Klein Wagner and Women Who Write Board Member Susan Lindsey served as panelists for a brief discussion.

World Affairs Council Board Chair Ingrid Johnson emceed the event, which was held at the University of Louisville's University Club and Alumni Center.

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Chanukah and Thanksgiving Are Times to Be Thankful for Families and Think of Issues Others Face

by Rabbi Dr. Nadia Siritsky
Vice President of Mission
KentuckyOne Health

With Thanksgiving just around the corner and Chanukah following quickly upon its heels, it is time for families to come together with gratitude for their blessings. In the midst of our hectic schedules, we sometimes fail to make time for those closest to us. This can be a time for us to stop, and reconnect with family and friends.

Unfortunately, for too many families, Thanksgiving can be a difficult time. We are encouraged to gather together with families around a table, overloaded with delicious food and give thanks for our blessings. But for those amongst us whose lives do not match up to this idealized image, this season can be very painful or even terrifying.

One issue that sadly affects too many of us is domestic violence. Gathering on Thanksgiving with family can be particularly challenging for those whose families have been torn apart by violence and abuse. According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), one in four women and one in nine men experience domestic violence during their lives. Research further shows that the Jewish community experiences the same rates of domestic violence.

The CDC recognizes this as a public

health problem, noting that domestic violence is the gateway to a whole host of other health issues. Tragically, not only are victims at risk of death by the escalating nature of the violence they experience, they also have an 80 percent higher chance of stroke, a 70 percent higher chance of heart disease and a 60 percent higher risk for asthma. Alarmingly, in the last two years, domestic violence murders have more than tripled in Louisville.

For KentuckyOne Health, whose mission it is to bring wellness, healing and hope to the broader community, we feel called to do something to make a difference. We are proud to launch a new and evidence-based initiative: "Arise to Safety," specifically for our downtown campus of Jewish Hospital and the University of Louisville Hospital, to impact these numbers in a profound way.

We are grateful for the generous support that we have received from the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence in order to help us actualize this vision. In partnership with the Center for Women and Families and the Mary Byron Project, we now have an effective way to reduce the number of domestic-violence related homicides in our community through a scientifically validated lethality screening tool, also used by the Louisville Police Department.

We are launching increased training
see **ISSUES** page 17

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Chanukah Section



For Chanukah, Consider Breakfast Latkes Two Ways

by Shannon Sarna

November 8, 2015 (JTA) – I first tasted latkes for brunch at a trendy eatery on New York's Lower East Side about six years ago. Since then, I've seen them across the country on brunch menus everywhere from diners to Michelin Star restaurants.

Latkes – or potato pancakes, as they're known to non-Jews – are comfort food that provide the perfect base to any number of savory toppings, but especially a runny egg or salty, fatty smoked salmon. After all, a latke is very similar to hash browns, a quintessential breakfast food.

It's traditional to eat fried foods like latkes during Chanukah, celebrating the miracle of the oil lasting for eight nights. And who doesn't love a holiday that encourages enjoyment of a little extra oil?

These breakfast latkes take the best of a classic and add a fun, American twist that screams brunch party.

Here I offer two options: one dairy and one meat. If you keep kosher but want to serve both at a single meal, you could leave out the corned beef from the second latke and just top classic latkes with some fried or poached eggs. If you want to be really indulgent, you could whip up some buttery Hollandaise sauce – you'll have your guests raving for months.

EVERYTHING BAGEL LATKES WITH DILL CREAM CHEESE AND SMOKED SALMON

Yield: 12-15 latkes

These latkes are both creamy and savory. Making latkes bite-size makes the experience a little more fun – guests can easily eat the latkes with their fingers, and also feel like they can indulge a little more since the portions are small.

Ingredients:

For the latkes:

4 Idaho (Russet) potatoes

1 small-medium onion
3 large garlic cloves
2 eggs
2 to 3 tablespoons flour
2 teaspoons salt
2 ounces goat cheese, left at room temperature

For the cream cheese:

6 ounces cream cheese, left at room temperature
2 tablespoons chopped fresh dill
1 teaspoon fresh lemon juice
Salt and pepper to taste

For the everything bagel topping:

1 tablespoon sesame seeds
1 tablespoon poppy seeds
1 tablespoon dried minced garlic
1 tablespoon dried onion
2 teaspoons thick sea salt
Thinly sliced smoked salmon
Vegetable oil for frying

Directions:

Before getting started on the latkes, I advise making the everything bagel topping and the dill cream cheese.

Add softened cream cheese to a bowl and combine with fresh dill, lemon juice and salt and pepper to taste. Place back in the fridge until ready to serve.

To make the everything bagel topping, mix together the sesame seeds, poppy seeds, dried garlic, dried onion and thick sea salt. Set aside.

Peel and cut potatoes and onions in half. Peel garlic cloves. Put potatoes, onion and garlic through food processor for a coarse grate (you can also grate coarsely by hand).

Place potato mixture in a large bowl. Add eggs, flour, salt, goat cheese and 2 tablespoons everything bagel topping mix.

Heat vegetable oil in a large sauté pan over medium heat. Form bite-sized mounds of latkes, taking care not to squeeze too much liquid out of the latkes. Fry until golden brown on each side, then place on a wire rack on top of

a baking sheet to cool.

Immediately sprinkle with a pinch of salt.

When ready to serve, spread thin layer of dill cream cheese on top of each latke. Add smoked salmon on each latke and top with sprinkle of everything bagel topping. Serve while still warm.

CORNEBEEF HASH LATKES WITH FRIED EGGS

Yield: 12-15 latkes

These corned beef hash-inspired latkes work best with thinly shredded corned beef. If you can purchase a hunk of corned beef, as opposed to sliced, that would be ideal. If not, make sure to heat up the corned beef before shredding it or dicing into very, very tiny cubes.

But don't skimp on the salt in these latkes just because you think the meat will be salty – the potatoes still need salt to make these latkes most flavorful.

Ingredients:

4 Idaho (Russet) potatoes
1 small-medium onion
2 eggs
2 to 3 tablespoons flour
2 teaspoons salt

Shredded corned beef
Additional salt
Additional eggs
Fresh parsley
Vegetable oil for frying

Directions:

Peel and cut potatoes and onions in half. Peel garlic cloves. Place potatoes, onion and garlic through food processor for a coarse grate (you can also grate coarsely by hand).

Place potato mixture in a large bowl. Add eggs, flour, salt and shredded (or diced) corned beef.

Heat vegetable oil in a large sauté pan over medium heat. Form large, fist-sized mounds of latkes, taking care not to squeeze too much liquid out of the latkes. Fry until golden brown on each side, then place on a wire rack on top of a baking sheet to cool.

Immediately sprinkle with a pinch of salt.

Fry or poach eggs to your liking. When ready to serve, place latkes on platter and top with fried or poached eggs. Top with chopped fresh parsley.



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ISSUES

Continued from page 16

and able to offer the resources necessary to not only intervene, but to help support victims escape to safety. We have also partnered with the University of Louisville School of Public Health to help us track our success in trying to reduce these statistics for our community.

There are many reasons to be proud of the work that we do, and this is definitely one of them! This is just one of

our many KentuckyOne Health projects that helps us to live out our mission, or as Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel once put it, "to pray with our feet."

As Thanksgiving and Chanukah approach, I am so grateful for the generosity, creativity and capacity to partner and collaborate, so that we can work together to create miracles. May the day soon come when violence will end, and all those in pain can feel hope for a brighter and safer future.

Happy Chanukah!

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Chanukah Section



At Chanukah, How Do We Kindle the Lights within Ourselves?

by Dasee Berkowitz

JERUSALEM, November 8, 2015 (JTA) – There is nothing cuter than my 5-year-old daughter coming home from kindergarten with an overly decorated menorah in hand singing “*Ner li Ner li, ner li dakik*,” the Israeli

version of “This Little Light of Mine.” The song speaks about the little candle, so thin, small and all hers to light.

Personalizing the holiday for kids is just good pedagogy. Through song, play and creative arts, early childhood educators get these little Maccabees to em-

body the holiday and feel they have the power to create and even embody the light of Chanukah.

And then they grow up.

They learn more details about the Chanukah story. They study the Maccabees and the civil war between the Jews. They analyze the military battles that the Hasmoneans conducted to achieve victory over the Assyrian Greeks. And they also learn about the ultimate corruption and failure of the Hasmonean dynasty itself. As they grow, they move further away from the simple message of Chanukah that they had claimed as children – to bring light to dark places.

The contrast between the narrative about light that children learn in elementary school and the parallel one about the story of the Maccabean revolt that they learn more about as they get older is not just a developmental one – it’s a profound statement about how we view the world. Stories about war that can provide a sense of unity and purpose are ultimately draining, whereas ones about light and miracles are constantly renewing.

Experiencing an ongoing war is grueling. Living in Jerusalem right now, I know that feeling intimately. Waves of terrorism, fear, uncertainty and distrust rise and then (eventually) fall. And citizens, Jews and Arabs alike, are left wondering what the future will hold, without any clarity that the once-touted promise to live with “peace and security” will return. It’s hard to dream big or even to believe in miracles at a time of ongoing war. You live for the day, and then the day after. That is the mentality of war.

A story of light and oil that lasted only for eight days is one of vision and hope.

The rabbis of the Talmud picked up on the distinction. They spent so many more pages expounding upon the miracle of the oil, recounting the details of when and how to light the Chanukah menorah and only a few lines about the military victory achieved by the Maccabees.

Focusing on the light was tactical. The rabbis didn’t want the legacy of Chanukah to be about a victory won by human hands in which God was absent. They wanted to elevate the victory of Chanukah to the heavenly realm. This is a celebration of miracles and God’s hand in history, not the brute force of the determined few, the rabbis would have said.

The rabbinic approach is most telling in the haftarah they selected for the Shabbat of Chanukah, which include the words from Zechariah, “Not by might, and not by power, but by my spirit, says the Lord.”

And now, living where I do, I understand the importance and wisdom of the rabbinic emphasis. Focusing on the miracle of the oil helps us put our faith in something bigger than ourselves. It gives us hope to look beyond the political machinations of the day to what the future could look like. It helps us break free of the never-ending cycle of violence and cynicism and can enable us to look forward to the possibilities that the “light driven” narrative can offer to our children and beyond.

The rabbis wanted to ensure that a political victory, however needed at the time, wasn’t the end of the story. They wanted to ensure that we didn’t worship our own political might and are guided by a greater power.

see **LIGHTS** page 19

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As we celebrate Chanukah, please give the gift of life, and make your year-end tax-deductible donation today.

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Chanukah Section



Here Are Seven Perks to Being Jewish in December

by Rachel Minkowsky

NEW YORK, November 8, 2015 (Kveller via JTA) – Growing up, ours was the only house on the block with a menorah glowing in the window. This should have put me on the fast track to Christmas envy, but it didn't. I respected Christmas, but was never jealous of those who celebrated. In fact, watching my neighbors actually gave me a deeper appreciation for the simpler joys of Chanukah. Here's why:

Early-Bird Shopping

Celebrating Chanukah means I usually have an earlier gift-buying deadline to meet than my counterparts. I have to get myself in gear way before Christmas shopping madness descends on the rest of the world.

By Thanksgiving, I'm usually done. I spend most Black Fridays sipping spiced cider and recovering from a turkey-induced coma. Being Jewish means never having to freeze my tuchas off in a

parking lot waiting for a "Midnight Door Buster" sale.

Decorating Ease

The town where I spent my childhood could probably be seen from space. Every year, on the day after Thanksgiving, the neighborhood dads would hang Christmas decorations. They could all be found precariously perched on their roofs stringing lights across the rain gutters. Plastic Santas and their reindeer would be dragged two stories into the air and then somehow fastened to shingles.

I watched the scene, year after year, relieved we didn't have to do the same. My dad + wires + heights = certain doom. The expectations for Chanukah decor are less labor intensive.

We plug in an electric menorah and park it on the windowsill. Done.

Time for Fun

My non-Jewish friends have to find time for their kids, spouses, siblings,

parents, cousins, in-laws and their great-aunt Shirley who flies in from Nebraska once a year, all within 24 hours. I get eight days to fill with lots of family togetherness. Eight. Long. Days.

No Tall Tales

I am grateful that I don't have to remember to hide an "Elf on the Shelf" in a new spot each day. And I don't have to see **PERKS** page 20

LIGHTS

Continued from page 18

The Chanukah of the rabbis relies on the personal and embodied light that my 5-year-old sings about. There is a beautiful idea from the Book of Proverbs that we each contain within ourselves a light, "The life breath (the soul) of a human is the lamp of God. With it, God searches all the hidden chambers." (Proverbs

20:27) Our internal light is God's light within us, searching out every part of us, revealing in the hidden places our abilities to manifest that light outward.

This Chanukah, how can we return to the pure idea of our own personal lights, or "*ner li*," as my daughter would croon. Not only the one I hold in my hand to light the Chanukah menorah, but the one that I have within me to shine light into dark, seemingly unmovable or unchangeable places around us?

(Dasee Berkowitz is a Jewish educational consultant and writer living in Jerusalem. She is a frequent contributor to JTA, the Forward and Kveller.com.)

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Geraldine Brooks' *The Secret Chord* Looks Closely at the Life of King David

by Dr. Ranen Omer-Sherman
Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence
Chair of Judaic Studies
University of Louisville

In *The Secret Chord*, her latest novel, Geraldine Brooks (author of the Pulitzer Prize winning book, *March*, among other international bestsellers), has set herself the daunting challenge of portraying one of the most heroic and yet morally troubling figures in the entire corpus of Jewish literature and indeed world literature as a whole.

The entire arc of King David's career, from boy shepherd to raging decrepitude, is told through the prophet Nathan (mentioned in just a few enticing places in scripture, his shadowy presence leaves a great deal for Brooks to fill in).

Brooks adds further layers to his sometimes melancholy perspective through employing the ingenious (slyly anachronistic) device of the interviews he conducts with others, presumably at the behest of the king himself who wishes a full and unsparing chronicle of his life and kingship to be a legacy.

The result is a shifting, multifaceted tapestry that captures both the enormity of David's crimes as well as his generosity and largeness of heart. And here and there Brooks cunningly sneaks in a potent line or two from scripture to great effect.

Above all, *The Secret Chord* succeeds as a richly accomplished character study of all the people who love, hate and fear David. The most haunting of these are the women's voices (Batsheva, Mikhal, Avigail, among others).

Yet it must be said that with lots and lots of palace intrigue, shifting alliances, reconciliations, and betrayals that are somehow suspenseful no matter how well one knows the original, this novel is also a genuine page-turner.

It is hard to single out just one example of how Brooks' electrifying prose enlivens the original text, but an ebullient moment in David's career demonstrates her flair. Here is her supple rendering of 2 Samuel 6: 14-15, the king's lascivious rejoicing at bringing the Ark to Jerusalem:

"David leaped ahead, whirling in the air. The light linen of his tunic flew aside, revealing the long line of muscle that ran from hip to thigh. He had recently turned forty, but his limbs remained lean and strong, traced over with the fine white puckers of scar tissue from old wounds. He did not care that he exposed himself. He was far away, lost in the dance. There was no regard for kingly dignity, for manly self-mastery. This was naked joy, uncontained, abandoned. He had let go of self. He was a bright flare, a blur of stamping, springing, whirling animal energy."

One of the most memorable choices Brooks makes is to portray the relationship between David and Saul's son, Yonatan, as unabashedly erotic as it is soulful, a decision that will likely resonate with many readers and even

hints at an underlying cause for David's ephemeral relations with the women of the story.

There are also a few delightfully inventive bits such as Nathan's gentle, Merlin-like tutelage of the young Shlomo (Solomon). If Brooks adheres closely to the contours of scripture in most other instances (unlike the midrashic reaches of Anita Diamant's *The Red Tent* for example), she always finds delightful ways to deepen and enliven the old story as her prophet transcribes it: "as sour as the gall ink in which I wrote."

Nor does she shy from the story's most terrible episodes, such as the horrifying rape of Tamar by her half-brother. And as one who often teaches 1 and 2 Samuel, the primary source of the David story, and who generally approaches historical novels set in ancient Israel with significant trepidation (there are so many opportunities to err when it comes to rendering the natural and human landscapes), I was gratified by how masterfully the author seems to grasp the social, economic and military realities of the Second Iron Age.

Brooks has said that she immersed

herself in the antiquities of the Davidian period in Jerusalem as well as the Judean desert landscape – and that effort shines forth with brilliant results on every page. She renders the horrific brutality of biblical battles as viscerally as those in the Iliad and that unsparing realism seems apt.

Yet perhaps her greatest achievement is the intricate approach she takes to the lives of the women in David's life. I asked her about this in a recent email exchange and her profound reflection on gender and the roles of women in Middle Eastern society, past and present, is nearly as compelling as her fictional world. Drawing from her years as a veteran reporter, she observes:

"I thought about women I'd reported on, women such as Queen Noor in Jordan, Ayatollah Khomeini's wife in Iran. As I thought about Batsheva at David's deathbed, maneuvering to get her young son Solomon on the throne, I thought of Queen Noor at the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota, as King Hussein lay ill with cancer. Somehow, it was Noor's young son who was named crown prince, second in line to King Abdullah, ahead of

many older brothers by Hussein's former wives.

"And then there was Mikhal, who became David's first wife. Her father, King Shaul, was ambivalent about the marriage. That reminded me of a strange afternoon when I was invited to tea by Ayatollah Khomeini's widow. She told me that day how she'd managed to marry a guy who was then an impoverished religious scholar with no prospects.

"Khadijeh was just a girl, fully veiled in her chador, when she took in the tea tray and managed to catch a glimpse of her would-be suitor, the young Ruhollah Khomeini. She liked that glimpse, but her father said no, he wasn't good enough. So, that night, she had a dream. In the morning, she told her father that she'd seen Ruhollah meeting with all the great prophets of Islam.

"It's probable that 99.9 percent of Iranians don't know Khomeini's wife's first name, and yet she was immensely powerful in shaping the Iranian revolution. So, there were plenty of lessons about how you wield private power in a society that publicly barely acknowledges you."

JCC Marks Kristallnacht with Program and Anne Frank Play

by Tamara Ikenberg
Public Relations Specialist

"Everybody's got a story," said Holocaust survivor and Louisville resident Fred Gross during an address marking Kristallnacht before the public performance of CenterStage Acting Out's production of *And Then They Came for Me: Remembering the World of Anne Frank* in the JCC's Linker Auditorium on Tuesday, November 10.

The tale we know best is that of Anne Frank, the world's icon of innocence lost in the Holocaust. But there are thousands of other lesser known Jewish teenagers who faced the terror.

At the show, which has been touring area schools, an audience of all ages got acquainted with Auschwitz survivor Eva Geiringer Schloss and Ed Silverberg – formerly known as Helmut Silberberg – two German teens who knew Anne, also went into hiding and have their own stories to tell.

Unlike Anne, Ed and Eva got out alive. Silverberg was Anne's boyfriend for a brief time, and Eva was friends with her. Eva's mother married Anne's father Otto after the war.

The play, written by Pulitzer-winning writer James Still and based on a memoir about Geiringer, uses a very unique and effective storytelling technique.

The teenage Geiringer and Silverberg are played by Cathy Wethersby and James Thompson, and as adults by Carol Dines and Larry Singer. Each actor in the ensemble, which also includes Dathan Hoop, plays multiple roles.

The adult Eva and Helmut tell their

tales in the actual words of the real Eva and Helmut, as the teen versions act out the stories. Anne Frank, played by Maggie Patten, is also a character. Anne is portrayed as vivacious and a bit boy crazy. Her chaste courtship with Helmut is the most delightful part of the show. In one sweet scene, Helmut recalls how Anne would lean forward with her hands under chin when talking to him, and we see her doing it.

The play is also filled with frightening moments that are difficult, but important to watch.

For instance, it was harrowing to observe a teenage Eva cringing and crying as she's fiercely interrogated by a shrill Nazi and told how her brother, Heinz, will be tortured if she doesn't spill secrets that don't even exist.

"They had enough horror in their voices. It was very emotional. They portrayed it very well," Louisville resident and Holocaust survivor Ann Dorzback said of the performance. Dorzback escaped from Germany in 1939. Survivor Gila Glattstein also attended the play.

Perhaps the saddest moment of the show comes at the end, when a wall of photos of a lovely, exuberant Anne Frank is revealed, and Patten stands next to it.

"It's a tough show to do," Patten said. "You really have to take yourself out of it and just act or else you'll fall apart."

The Tuesday performance was held on the 77th anniversary of Kristallnacht, or "The Night of Broken Glass," and the play was preceded by a few presentations commemorating the anniversary.

On Kristallnacht, Nazis murdered

and arrested Jews on the streets all over Germany, shattered windows of Jewish businesses and burned synagogues to the ground. It was the worst public demonstration against the Jews up to that point, and a harbinger of the horrors to come.

Fred Gross shared pieces of his family's journey across Europe escaping the Nazis, and expressed his gratitude for surviving.

"What can I say? I'm lucky to be alive," Gross said. He documented his full story in *One Step Ahead of Hitler*, which was published several years ago.

Gross said the synagogue where his parents were married and his father had his bar mitzvah ceremony was set on fire on Kristallnacht, and that the massacre affected every Jew in Europe.

Following Gross' address, Adath Jeshurun's Cantor David Lipp performed two verses of the haunting *Dachau Lied*, or *Dachau Song*, a composition by Dachau prisoners and fierce arts advocates Herbert Zipper and Jura Soyfer.

Lipp explained that Zipper played with the idea of turning the twisted Nazi mantra Arbeit Macht Frei, which means, work makes you free, into an unlikely source of empowerment.

As he strummed his guitar, Lipp's soaring voice sang:

*But we have learned the solution of
Dachau
And became as hard as steel
Be a man, comrade
Stay a human being, comrade
Do a good job, get to it, comrade
For work, work makes you free.*

PERKS

Continued from page 19

to make up stories to tell my daughters about how a jolly fellow actually gets around the world in one night, or explain how reindeer's nose can glow in the dark.

Instead I get to teach them the dreidel game while we snack on latkes. Bonus: We don't have to share our treats with anyone's flying pets.

The Music

Only kidding. This is a category where I can't honestly come up with a "perk" for the Jews ... there just isn't as much Chanukah music. Let's see, we've got "I Have A Little Dreidel" and, um, what else? Seriously, what did suburban Jewish kids listen to before Adam Sandler's "Hanukkah Song"?

The Food

Chanukah is the holiday of deep-fried everything. And chocolate gelt. 'Nuf said.

Holiday Spirit

Whether families are making Christmas cookies or sufganiyot, the whole month of December is dusted with powdered sugar and scented with vanilla. Everyone's mood seems to lift. People are kinder and more forgiving. It's easier to believe that miracles can – and do – happen. This holiday season, I wish everyone peace, joy and magic.

Chag Sameach!

• • •

Rachel Minkowsky is a wife to an amazing man, mother to two energetic girls and works as a school counselor in New York City. Writing has been part of her life for as long as she can remember. Parenthood provides ample material. Rachel also loves to cook, read and spend time with friends and family.




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Louisville Chosen as Pilot City for PJ Our Way

by Shiela Steinman Wallace
Editor

The popular PJ Library program was conceived by Harold Grinspoon and is funded by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation in partnership with participating communities. It is a key program in Grinspoon's effort to build strong Jewish identities.

It is so important that Grinspoon Foundation representatives visit communities that have PJ Library programs on a regular basis. Cynthia Mann came to Louisville on October 26 to meet with PJ Library Director Jennifer Tuvlin. While she was here, she also met with the Jewish Community of Louisville Board of Directors and briefed them on the program and announced that Louisville had been selected as a pilot community for a new program, PJ Our Way.

Mann, who was a reporter for the Jewish news service said it was a privilege to cover significant Jewish stories for JTA (the Jewish Telegraphic Agency), and now "I'm helping write one of the most significant Jewish stories, PJ Library."

She said, "PJ Library is more than a program. It's a strategy." When free, high quality Jewish books and CDs arrive in people's homes from the time their children are six month old through age 8, there are lots of opportunities for family learning.

The books arrive at the time when parents are deciding what values and identity to teach their children. While reading the books together, she said, "children share questions and responses, and something magical happens. The family's Jewish identity develops and their family practices start to change." They might add challah to their Friday

night dinner or mount a mezuzah on their doorpost.

Since the books arrive in the mail, there is no barrier to participation. The books arrive in envelopes that identify them as gifts from the JCL. As trust grows with each gift, the door opens to invite families to participate in events.

Mann had high praise for the programs Tuvlin does. Within the last few months, Louisville's PJ Library has had a fashion show and tea party, apple picking and a Sukkot party.

Since everyone likes receiving free books, PJ Library also serves as an outreach tool. Forty percent of the families participating in the program were previously unknown to the Jewish community, she said.

Almost 10 years ago, Mann explained, Harold Grinspoon, then 86, heard about Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

Books, which gave books to impoverished children. First he partnered with Parton, then he developed the same kind of program for Jewish families.

Today, the program has grown so much that it has delivered close to 15 million books around the world.

Mann said the Louisville program is strong with a current enrollment of 291 at the time of her visit (enrollment reached 300 this month), and more than 25,325 books have been distributed.

The Grinspoon Foundation is now developing a program for children ages 9-11, and Mann announced that Louisville has been selected as a pilot community for PJ Our Way. Initially, this program will be free to the community, and it is launching this month. Participating children will get to choose one of four books each month. They will also be part of an online community where they can communicate with other PJ kids.

Louisville's selection, Mann said, "is a tribute to you and to Jennifer Tuvlin."

She concluded by thanking the Board for partnering with the Grinspoon Foundation on PJ Library.

Bronfman Youth Fellowships Applications Available

Albany, NY - The Bronfman Youth Fellowships in Israel (BYFI) has announced that applications are now being accepted for the 30th year of this prestigious program.

The Bronfman Fellowships selects 26 outstanding North American teenagers for a rigorous academic year of seminars including a free, five-week trip to Israel between the summer of Fellows' junior and senior years of high school.

The program educates and inspires exceptional young Jews from diverse backgrounds to grow into leaders grounded in their Jewish identity and committed to social change. The program was founded and is funded by Edgar M. Bronfman, z"l, formerly CEO of the Seagram Company Ltd. and a visionary Jewish philanthropist.

Last year, Jacob Finke was chosen for this honor, only the third Louisvillian to make the cut. The two prior fellows were Abraham Levitan and Jacob Emont. The story about Finke's experience can be found at jewishlouisville.org/bronfman-fellowship-proves-life-changing-experience-for-finke.

During the program's seminars, Fellows meet with leading intellectuals, religious and political leaders, and educators, such as Etgar Keret, A.B. Yehoshua, Sayed Kashua and Rabbah Tamar Applebaum. The Fellows then participate in study and dialogue with a diverse faculty, which is made up of Rabbis and educators associated with different movements and perspectives within Judaism.

Fellows also spend two weeks with a group of Israeli peers who have been chosen through a parallel selection process as part of the Israeli Youth Fellowship: *Amitei Bronfman*. Upon returning home from the summer in Israel, Bronfman Fellows are asked to devise and lead local Jewish or social action projects.

"The Fellowship is an opportunity for dynamic personal and intellectual growth in a group of carefully chosen peers," said Becky Voorwinde, Co-Director and Director of Strategy and Community Engagement. "The conversations Fellows begin during their Fellowship year continue for a lifetime."

There are now over 1,000 Bronfman Fellowships alumni across North America and Israel, among them seven Rhodes Scholars, four former Supreme Court clerks, 17 Fulbright Scholars, 28 Wexner Fellows and 22 Dorot Fellows.

Young leaders of note among Fellowship alumni include Daniel Handler, a.k.a. Lemony Snicket, author of the best-selling "Series of Unfortunate Events" children's books; Jonathan Sa-

fran Foer, author of *Everything is Illuminated* and *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close* and editor of the *New American Haggadah*; and Angela Warnick Buchdahl, the first woman to be named Senior Rabbi at New York's Central Synagogue and the first Asian-American person to be ordained as a rabbi and cantor.

Fellows have found that participation in BYFI has helped them in their college application process. In the guide, *What It Really Takes to Get Into Ivy League and Other Highly Selective Colleges*, Chuck Hughes lists the Bronfman Youth Fellowships in Israel first in discussing, "the top scholarship programs particu-

larly noted for producing winners who year after year are among the strongest candidates for admissions to highly selective institutions."

Applications for the 2016 Fellowship are due January 6 and are available online along with a recruitment video at www.bronfman.org. High school students in the United States and Canada who self-identify as Jewish and who will be in the 12th grade in the fall of 2016 are eligible to apply. BYFI is a pluralistic program for Jews of all backgrounds; prior Jewish education is not required. Students are chosen not on the basis of financial need but on merit alone.

CHAVURAT SHALOM



Chavurat Shalom meets at the Klein Center at The Temple, 5101 U.S. Highway 42, unless otherwise designated in the listing. It is a community-wide program and all synagogue members and Jewish residents are welcome.

December 3

Remembering pearl Harbor with Rabbi Joe Rooks Rapport

December 10

Chanukah luncheon with white elephant gift exchange

December 17

Dan Lane, guitar music composer

December 24 and 31

Winter break - no meetings.

A healthy and nutritious lunch is available at noon for \$5, followed by the

program at 1 p.m. Kosher meals are available for \$5 upon request in advance. Walk-ins welcome, but to ensure that a lunch is available for you, RSVP by Monday of the week you plan to attend to Charlene Reynolds at 281-804-5374 or email charlene.reynolds@gmail.com.

Transportation to Jewish events, such as Chavurat Shalom, can be scheduled by calling Jewish Family & Career Services at 502-452-6341. Transportation to Chavurat Shalom is \$5 round-trip.

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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Apply Now for Scholarships, Grants for Summer Camp, Israel Programs

For children and young adults, overnight Jewish summer camp experiences, Israel trips and other intensive Jewish experiences are among the strongest positive influences on Jewish identity. At overnight camp, everyone is Jewish and often camp friendships last a lifetime. Living Jewishly is the norm and learning is part of the fun. Shabbat is the highlight of the week.

While these experiences are critically important, they are also expensive and often put a strain on family resources, which might prevent children from attending.

To enable as many children as possible to take advantage of these opportunities, the Jewish Foundation of Louisville has a program and several scholarships available that can help with summer 2014 programs.

One Happy Camper Grants

Once again, Louisville Jewish campers can participate in the One Happy Camper program. In conjunction with Foundation for Jewish Camp, your children may be eligible for an incentive grant of up to \$1,000 if your child has never before attended Jewish overnight camp program of 19 days or more or up to \$700 for a program of 12 days or more. To qualify, your child must be registered for a Jewish overnight camp program that lasts 19 days or more at an approved camp. Approved camps are listed on www.onehappycamper.org. Children currently enrolled in a daily immersive Jewish experience like a Jewish Day School are not eligible for this program.

Please visit www.onehappycamper.org for more information and to confirm eligibility. Incentive grants are limited to available funds so don't wait! These scholarships will be awarded on a rolling basis while funding lasts, with priority given to those who apply by January 15.

For more information, contact Mike Steklhof, 502-238-2774 or msteklof@jewishlouisville.org.

Ellen and Milton Cantor Israel Scholarship Fund

The Ellen and Milton Cantor Israel Scholarship Fund provides an annual scholarship to a high school junior or senior from the greater Louisville area to help defray the cost of an Israel trip and enable that individual to participate in an approved month-long educational opportunity in Israel.

The Cantor Scholarship was originally established by Milton Cantor in 1997 in memory of his wife, Ellen. When he passed away in 2002, the fund was renamed in memory of them both. Their son, Howard, who lives in both Florida and Chicago, receives letters from each of the fund recipients when they return home from Israel.

"The letters mean a lot to me," he told us. "The fund was important to my parents and its value is evident in the reactions I hear from the students. They describe the impact the trip has had on them and how it has changed their lives. It has been wonderful for our family to be a part of it."

His sister, Elece Kovel, agrees. The letters she received made her realize how much the Israel trip means to the Cantor Scholarship recipients. She knows the additional funding makes it easier for students to take advantage of the opportunity to study in Israel.

Written applications must be submitted to the Ellen and Milton Cantor Israel Scholarship Fund by January 15. Each candidate must also include the recommendation of his/her rabbi or an appropriate Jewish communal professional. Scholarship recipients must commit to participate in voluntary community activities upon their return from Israel. Applications can be downloaded from www.jewishlouisville.org/federation/foundation/jewish-foundation-louisville-scholarships/. For more information, contact Mike Steklhof, 502-238-2774 or msteklof@jewishlouisville.org.

Summer Camp Scholarships

The Laura K. Cohen Camp Scholarship, the Miriam and Dennis Fine Beber Camp Memorial Scholarship and the Frankenthal Family Camp Ramah Scholarship are need-based grants that provide assistance for families to send their children to summer overnight camp. The deadline for application for these scholarships is January 15.

Written applications must be submitted to the Laura K. Cohen Camp Scholarship Fund, the Miriam and Dennis Fine Beber Camp Memorial Scholarship Fund or the Frankenthal Family Camp Ramah Scholarship at the Jewish Foundation of Louisville. Each candidate must also include the recommendation of a Jewish communal professional (rabbi, youth group leader, religious school principal, etc.). Applicants demonstrating financial need will be given preference, but other criteria will be considered as well.

Receipt of the scholarships is contingent upon enrollment/acceptance at an eligible Jewish camp. By accepting the scholarship, the applicant agrees to participate in appropriate publicity before and/or after camp in the *Community* paper.

Specific information about each scholarship is available below. Additional scholarships for Israel trips and Jewish summer camp may be available from different sources through the Jewish Foundation of Louisville. Applications can be downloaded from www.jewishlouisville.org/federation/foundation/jewish-foundation-louisville-scholarships/, or contact Mike Steklhof, 502-238-2774 or msteklof@jewishlouisville.org for more information.

Laura K. Cohen Camp Scholarship

The late Laura K. Cohen thought summer camp was the best. She so treasured her time spent at a Zionist youth camp as a child that when she passed away, her friends and family chose to remember her by creating the Laura K. Cohen Camp Scholarship.

Applications for the partial-tuition camp scholarships will be accepted from youngsters interested in attending Jewish overnight summer camps that observe kosher dietary laws, are Zionist in approach (provide an Israeli element in orientation and/or programming), and observe Shabbat.

Miriam and Dennis Fine Beber Camp Memorial Scholarship

Besides her family and friends, one of Miriam Fine's favorite things was summer camp. From being a camper at the JCC's Ben F. Washer Camp to being a counselor at Camp Livingston and a camp in Atlanta, it simply was her thing. She thought camp was important for all kids and was adamant that her children would go as well.

When Miriam passed away in 2004,

her husband, Dennis, and their children, Molly, Max and Meredith, chose to memorialize her by ensuring others the opportunity to enjoy the Jewish camping experience that had been so much a part of her life and theirs. And when Dennis passed away in 2011, the fund was renamed to honor his memory as well.

Since the Fine children had attended the camp in Wisconsin over the years, the endowment was created to provide scholarships to Beber Camp.

Frankenthal Family Camp Ramah Scholarship

Citing their family's desire to make a Jewish camping experience accessible for all youngsters in our community, Kim and Stuart Frankenthal endowed the Frankenthal Fund with the Jewish Foundation of Louisville. The Frankenthals had been Ramah campers and found it an "eye-opening experience" for themselves and their children. "Jewish camping opportunities have always been important to our entire family," said Kim.

The Frankenthal Fund provides need-based scholarships for youngsters from the Louisville area at Camp Ramah in Wisconsin. "We hope kids in the area will take advantage of the scholarship and the opportunity to be a part of Camp Ramah," says Kim. "If they have a love for Judaism and want to have some fun at the same time, there's nothing like it."

March of the Living Scholarship

The March of the Living is a program

that takes teens to Auschwitz/Birkenau, Dachau, Majdanek and other Holocaust sites in Poland, accompanied by a Holocaust survivor, and then to Israel. Participants visit Auschwitz on Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Memorial Day, and are in Israel to celebrate Yom HaAtzmaut, Israel Independence Day.

When Natania Lipp participated in the March of the Living last spring, she realized how fortunate she was to be able to have this experience and wanted to find a way to help other teens have the same remarkable experience. Working with the Jewish Foundation of Louisville, she established the March of the Living Fund, and, starting this year, the fund will provide some scholarship assistance for a teen who wants to go on the March of the Living.

Lipp hopes generous donors in the community will help her continue to grow the fund to make more scholarships available in the future.

The next March of the Living will be May 1-16, 2016. Written applications must be submitted to the March of the Living Fund by January 15. Applications can be downloaded from www.jewishlouisville.org/federation/foundation/jewish-foundation-louisville-scholarships/ or you may contact Mike Steklhof, 502-238-2774 or msteklof@jewishlouisville.org for more information. Additional information about the March of the Living can also be found at <http://motl.org/>.

TEEN TOPICS



Holocaust survivor Fred Gross with BBYOers.

BBYO Shabbat to Remember

Louisville BBYO hosted 40 members of the local Jewish community at BBYO's Global Shabbat, themed A Shabbat to Remember, this November 6-7. Among the participants was Fred Gross, who shared his story of struggle and perseverance, just days before the 77th anniversary of Kristallnacht as the teens in attendance embraced the great responsibility of passing down these personal accounts.

This event not only happened on the local level in Louisville, but also on the global level across 15 countries: Argentina, Bosnia, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Denmark, Israel, Latvia, Macedonia, Serbia, Slovakia, Switzerland, Turkey, Uruguay and the United States.

Gross was inducted into BBYO as an honorary member of the Aleph Zadik Aleph (AZA) symbolically giving him the opportunity to relive his childhood stolen by the Nazis.

In statement issued in advance of Global Shabbat, Colin Silverman, 91st Grand Aleph Godol (International President) of AZA, and Lauren Keats, 71st International N'siah (International President) of BBG, shared, "With A Shabbat to Remember, we aim to create celebratory and open spaces so that survivors can share their stories. As the last generation to have the opportunity to hear from these survivors firsthand, it is up to us to make the most of this gift so that we will never forget the atrocities of the Holocaust or the lessons of strength and perseverance of the Jewish people."

A Shabbat to Remember was first introduced in July at BBYO's International Kallah where eight Holocaust survivors joined an international community of hundreds of teens in learning, singing and dancing.

Teen Connection House of Boom

On Sunday November 8, 15 middle school teens had fun jumping at House of Boom.



Teen Connection at House of Boom

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NEWSMAKERS

CenterStage Artistic Director John Leffert is the subject of an in-depth profile piece in the current issue of *Modern Louisville* magazine.

The story traces Leffert's career from his days as an influential drama teacher at two Indiana public schools to his triumphs as the fearless leader of CenterStage, which he has headed since 2000.

In the piece, Leffert also discusses CenterStage's next production, *Big Fish*, a musical based on the 1998 Daniel Wallace novel *Big Fish: A Novel of Mythic Proportions* and the 2003 movie *Big Fish*, directed by Tim Burton.

The story centers on a son learning what bits of truth are behind the tall tales his dying father has told throughout his life.

Leffert was wowed by the show on a recent New York trip.

"I've always loved the film *Big Fish* and I've always loved the book, but the musical is just so beautiful," he said. "The root of my directing is always that you have to tell the story, and that's what this piece is about!"

Leffert also shared his passion for timeless classic musicals.

"I like to keep the classics alive. They're important to me: they are the reason I'm doing what I'm doing because I grew up on them. *The Sound of Music* is why I love theater."

Snapsheet, a mobile app that quickly gives auto repair estimates after an accident, was one of ten companies honored at the 2015 Chicago Innovation Awards on October 27, at the Chicago Harris Theater.

Brad Weisberg, a Louisville native and the son of Frank and Barbara Weisberg, is Snapsheet's CEO and co-founder. He accepted the award with co-founder CJ Przybyl and members of their executive team.



Brad Weisberg

This year, there were 100 finalists and more than 500 nominees for the Chicago Innovation Awards.

Kentucky Opera Development and Administrative Director Frances Skolnick was quoted in a *Business First* piece titled "The Show Must Go On," about the state of the opera following the July death of General Director David Roth.

Kentucky Opera has dedicated the current season to Roth.

"In the immediate wake of David's death, nothing was easy," Skolnick said. "David was a huge personality, a huge leader, and a huge asset to the organization."

Skolnick added that Roth had already planned and secured funds for the 2015-2016 season, so Kentucky Opera's immediate needs were already taken care of when he passed away.

Skolnick also said *Macbeth*, the Opera's first production of the season, was a great box office success. The company is combining the positive momentum of that accomplishment, and Roth's spirit of dedication and creativity to move forward.

"David would be the last person to want us to stop and flounder because we lost him," Skolnick said. He'd be the first person to say, "Use it to create a new beginning."

In a *Business First* chart ranking the 2014-2015 budgets of 24 of the area's performing arts organizations from highest to lowest, the **JCC's CenterStage** theater company came in at #12 with a

\$426,000 budget. CenterStage was between Clifton Center, which had a \$583,143 budget and Louisville Youth Orchestra, which had a \$389,000 budget.

On another *Business First* chart ranking the 2014 local gross income of the area's 42 largest nonprofit organizations, **The Jewish Community of Louisville, Inc.**, came in at #25 with a gross local income of \$9.12 million. It was between Actors Theatre of Louisville Inc., with a \$9.68 million local gross income, and WHAS Crusade for Children Inc., with an \$8.87 million local gross income.

According to *Business First*, Louisville-based novelty candy firm **Candyrific LLC** is getting a new headquarters at 108 MacArthur Drive in St. Matthews.

Candyrific CEO/COO B.J. Ruckriegel said the company should be in the new space by early 2016.

Business First's "First Honors" special publication recognizing the accomplishments of local young people poised to become tomorrow's leaders included a handful of standout students involved in the Jewish community.

Here they are:

Sarah Schwartz, a 17-year-old Dupont Manual High School senior who has worked at The Temple. Schwartz, who aspires to become a physician, participates in extracurricular activities including Future Physicians of America and Future Business Leaders of America. Schwartz also volunteers at Baptist Hospital and the Kentucky Science Center and has won accolades including the Manual Field Hockey 110 Percent Award and Science Fair Awards.

Chad Kamen, a 17-year-old Kentucky Country Day School senior. Kamen, who will pursue a career in social entrepreneurship, participates in extracurricular activities including golf, cross country and spring musical productions. He also founded and is president of Team Food Chain, is a National Merit Semi-Finalist and has worked at Camp Timberlane for Boys and New Roots, a local nonprofit that provides nutritious locally grown food for neighborhoods located in food deserts.

Sonia Gadre, an 18-year-old Kentucky Country Day School senior. Gadre's extracurricular activities include piano, track and Math Team. She also volunteered with the Heuser Hearing Institute and is Captain of KCD's Speech and Debate Team and Co-Chairwoman of Louisville Girls Leadership.

Gadre is also a Kentucky Governors Scholar. Other honors and accolades include the Commonwealth Ambassador Award and the Cross Country Coaches Award.

Dr. Mark Perelmutter of Perelmutter & Goldberg Orthodontics recently attended the Invisalign Clinical Advisory Board meeting, which is a group of eight American orthodontists who do research and development for the Invisalign clear, removable orthodontic appliances. Dr. Perelmutter was the first to use Invisalign in Kentucky and has served on the Clinical Advisory Board for Align Technology since 2005.

Shuckman's Fish Company in Louisville and Ale 8-One Bottling Company in Winchester have combined forces to create Kentucky Ale 8-1 Sweet Heat Cheese Spread. The Kentucky Proud cheese spread is now available at area ValuMarket stores.

"We have had a wonderful response from our sampling groups about the Ale 8-One Sweet Heat Cheese Spread," said **Lewis Shuckman** owner of Shuckman's Fish Company.

Lisa Resnik has been named director of external relations – a newly created position – at the Kentucky Science

Center. Prior to this, Resnik was chief operating officer at the Speed Art Museum.

At the Kentucky Science Center, Resnik will be part of the senior management team and oversee the communications, marketing and PR, development and membership departments in addition to working closely with board members.

"I am thrilled to be joining this dynamic team led by Jo Haas and see great opportunities ahead for advancing the Science Center throughout Kentucky and Indiana," she said. "I have been truly impressed with the educational programming that they accomplish inside the museum and throughout the greater Kentuckiana area."

Business First reports that Louisville-based eyeglass manufacturer and retailer **Korrek Optical** is close to completing a \$3 million expansion that has enabled the company to add about 50 new employees.

The expansion funds are being used to enlarge and renovate the Bishop Lane facility Korrek Optical has occupied since 2009. Once the job is finished, Baker said the company, which currently manufactures about 3500 lenses a day, could produce up to 5,500 per day.

The increase in jobs is due to the addition of a third shift.

Republic Bancorp CEO Steve Trager recently told the *Tampa Bay Business Journal* that the company's plan to purchase Cornerstone Bancorp in St. Petersburg, FL. For \$32.3 million is part of a strategy to grow into a \$1 billion bank in the Tampa Bay area.

Trager said the bank's desired growth could result from increasing the current book of business or buying another bank.

"We are very open to both of those options," Trager said.

St. Francis High School graduate **Brice Rosenbloom** was named winner of the Bruce Lundvall Visionary Award, presented by the Jazz Connect Conference. Rosenbloom will receive the award on January 14, 2016 at the Jazz Connect Conference at Saint Peter's Church in New York City.

Rosenbloom is the founder of the BOOM Collective and organizer of Winter Jazzfest, the Undead Music Festival, the BRIC Jazz Festival and other innovative live events, as well as music director of Le Poisson Rouge.

The Bruce Lundvall Visionary Award was created in 2014 in honor of the jazz record executive who was a champion and advocate for so many jazz artists over the last four decades. The annual award recognizes an individual who has demonstrated extraordinary leadership and vision in expanding the audience for jazz and who has made a real difference for the artists, the music and the audience.

Diane Tobin, special assistant to the president at the Kentucky Center for the Performing Arts and **Lisa Brosky**, vice president of college advancement

at Jefferson Community and Technical College, co-wrote a Guest Comment column about Kentucky's "urban-rural divide" in *Business First*.

Tobin and Brosky were both part of this year's Bingham Fellows Class, a program of the Leadership Louisville Center that brings community leaders together to come up with plans to deal with critical issues in the community.

The 2015 class tackled the problem of the disconnect between Kentucky's urban and rural communities, and Tobin and Brosky revealed some of the class's plans to improve the situation in the *Business First* piece.

Among their proposed projects are Unite Kentucky, a broad statewide project to research the urban-rural divide, Louisvillians: Organized, United, Informed and Engaged, or LOUIE, a targeted project to improve outcomes in Frankfort on issues important to Louisville voters, and Grow Kentucky, a grassroots project to connect young people in rural and urban areas through credit-earning classroom farming projects.

A Rosh Hashanah story by **Bob Sachs** was selected for the latest issue of online literary journal jewishfiction.net.

The story, "The Casket in Coogan's Cellar," was also highlighted on jewishfiction.net's Facebook page.

In the story, family secrets are exposed after a man discovers a casket in his cellar on erev Rosh Hashanah and confronts his mother about it.



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JFCS CALENDAR

Sign up for the JFCS monthly e-newsletters! Send your email address to bbromley@jfcslouisville.org and stay in the know with upcoming JFCS events and news.



For Every Season Of Your Life

Louis & Lee Roth Family Center
2821 Klemmner Way
Louisville, KY 40205
phone (502) 452-6341
fax (502) 452-6718
website www.jfcslouisville.org

FOOD PANTRY

Donations: ktoebbe@jfcslouisville.org
 Suggestions for December:

- Pancake mix
- Snack size juices and candy
- Assorted jellies and jams
- Mashed potato mix
- Gravy mix
- Stuffing mix

Food must be donated in it's original packaging before it's expiration date. Monetary donations may also be made to the Sonny & Janet Meyer Family Food Pantry Fund.

Work Program Recognized



JFCS invited job seeking clients to a speed networking event on Thursday, November 5. Participants met with representatives from local businesses and nonprofits for 3 minute increments to discuss ways to utilize services and potential employment options. Featured networkers included HR and community resource representatives.

The unemployment rate in Jefferson County steadily declines, but one population in the community still struggles to find work. They are the long-term unemployed, or folks who have been out of work for six months or more and whose unemployment insurance is nearing expiration or has expired.

To help this group, JFCS in partnership with the Kentucky Career Center Get Opportunity! (KCCGO!), developed the *Job Search Turnaround*. This 18-hour workshop pairs traditional technical job search training with non traditional behavior health assistance.

These clients often require more than just skill building strategies.

Distinctive psychological challenges like diminished self-confidence, skill erosion and loss of social networks make finding new work more difficult. The workshop teaches stress management techniques and offers networking opportunities.

A recent networking event at JFCS connected job seeking clients with area recruiters. "A lot of these participants have been working careers for 10 years or more," says Kendall Thirlwell, career and employment specialist at JFCS. "We have people with engineering, marketing and human resource backgrounds. It's a wide variety of professionals who are great candidates for their fields."

Job Search Turnaround started as a small-scale demonstration project in 2011, and expanded into a large-scale grant funded program when JFCS began a multi-year partnership with KCCGO! Since the collaboration began in 2013, 60 percent of long-term unemployed participants have secured acceptable employment.

This year, 66 percent of the long-term unemployed secured employment within three months of completing the program. As a result of this success, JFCS was recognized with a 2015 Program Award for Collaborative Agency Programming Excellence from the International Association of Jewish Vocational Services (IAJVS). IAJVS is an association of health and human services agencies in the United States, Canada and Israel, of which JFCS is a member.

LINKEDIN WORKSHOP December 2 & December 3 6-8 p.m. at JFCS

If you're not using LinkedIn, you could miss out on employment opportunities. JFCS helps take your profile to the next level. A workshop fee for both sessions is \$20. Register with Janet Poole at JFCS.

EVENTS

LOOKING FOR CHANUKAH CANDLE LIGHTERS

JFCS is looking for families who want to help light menorah candles at long-term care facilities in the area. If you and your family are on the lookout for mitzvah opportunities during the celebration of Chanukah, this is a perfect opportunity.

There are many care facilities in the Louisville area. You can find out which ones are looking for Chanukah candle lighters by contacting Kim Toebbe at JFCS or by email at ktoebbe@jfcslouisville.org. Happy Chanukah!

SAVE THE DATE JAZZ AND JEWELRY EVENT Thursday, February 26, 2016 6-8 p.m. at JFCS

We are asking for donations now! Be on the lookout for any new, gently used or antique jewelry you might be interested in giving to the fundraiser.

We just ask that they be clean and in excellent condition. Jewelry displays and gift boxes are also being accepted. All proceeds will be given to the JFCS Food Pantry.

You can donate up until January 30, 2016. Stay up-to-date on this event by contacting Kim Toebbe at JFCS or by email at ktoebbe@jfcslouisville.org.

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COUNSELING & SUPPORT

RELATIONSHIP SOLUTIONS

**Every Tuesday Evening
 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. at JFCS**

JFCS conducts a weekly clinic for couples and families who have a need for counseling with a reduced fee schedule.

Hourly sessions are available by appointment only. The cost per session is \$20. Please call Kathryn Fetter at JFCS or by email at kfetter@jfcslouisville.org to schedule an appointment.

Support Groups

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

Adult Children of Aging Parents
 Third 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 Toebbe, ext. 103

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

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Support Groups
 Third Monday of the month, 12:30p.m.
 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.



FREE EVENT

ANNUAL

Caregiver Survival

CONFERENCE 2015


with

Kari Berit

author of *The Unexpected Caregiver*

Monday, December 7 at 12 noon

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AROUND TOWN

Talk Torah over Coffee and Bagels at The Temple

Rabbi David Ariel-Joel leads discussions of the weekly Torah portion every Saturday, 9-10 a.m., in The Temple's Fishman Library prior to the Shabbat service. Coffee and bagels are provided. The next discussion is Saturday, November 21.

Weave Your Way into Anshei Sfard's Knitting Circle

Congregation Anshei Sfard's Knit & Qvell Circle will meet Thursday, December 3, at 1 p.m. in the shul library. All knitters and want-to-be knitters are invited to attend. For more information contact Toby Horvitz, 502-458-7108. All knitted items are donated to the Jefferson County Public Schools Clothes Closet.

Attend Alef Service at The Temple

On Friday, December 4, at 7 p.m. in the Klein Center, The Temple will present Alef – A Service of Holiness and Renewal, led by Rabbi Gaylia R. Rooks. Alef is a creative Shabbat service in which the congregation sings along with guitarist Steven Stuhlbarg, Ukrainian mandolinist Irina Bernadsky, and percussion instruments. Alef Services are the first Shabbat of each month. December's theme is: Lights of Dedication and Rededication. Please bring your own menorah.

Refresh Yourself at Alef-Bet Café

Relax, refresh, rejoice and reconnect with friends at The Temple on Saturday, December 5, at 7 p.m. at an Alef-Bet Café hosted by Rabbi Gaylia R. Rooks in The Klein Center. There will be a brief Havdalah service with entertainment by Steven Stuhlbarg and Irina Bernadsky. Café-goers can enjoy international coffees, desserts, and drinks including beer and wine. Alef-Bet Café is free and open to the public.

Make Winter Warmer for Louisvillians in Need

The Jewish Community Relation Council and the Louisville Islamic Center are partnering for an Interfaith Project Warm Blitz on Sunday, December 6. You're invited to lend a hand.

Volunteers will meet at the JCC at noon for orientation, and then disperse to weatherize homes. Each team will weatherize 1-2 homes, with the average time commitment of about 4 hours.

Project Warm provides free home weatherization services for Louisvillians in need, including installing plastic window coverings and sealing windows and doors with foam rope or rope caulk.

For more information, contact Matt Goldberg at mgoldberg@jewishlouisville.org. For more about Project Warm, visit <http://www.projectwarm.org>.

Do the Dreidel Dash

Folks of all faiths and fitness levels are invited to usher in the first evening of Chanukah at the JCC's inaugural Dreidel Dash 5K, on Sunday, December 6, at 1:15 p.m.

The Dash, for runners and walkers ages 10 and over, will be followed by a one-mile Family Fun Run for everyone, and an awesome after party with games, music, Chanukah snacks and a menorah-lighting at sundown.

Come cheer on the racers, enjoy the after party and bring canned goods for the JFCS Pantry.

Registration fee is \$25 prior to Friday, November 27, and \$35 thereafter. Register at <https://jewishlouisville.org/jcc/health-wellness/sports/2015-dreidel-dash-5k/> or by calling Tara Stone, 502-238-2726.

Celebrate Jewish Unity and Chanukah with Chabad

On the first night of Chanukah, Sunday, December 6, Mayor Greg Fischer will kick off Chabad's seven-day Chanu-

kah Unity Celebration by lighting the 16' menorah at Fourth Street Live! The program will begin at 4 p.m. and culminate with the lighting at 5:45 p.m.

All Unity Celebration events are free and the whole community is welcome.

Here are the dates, times and locations for each night's Chanukah celebration:

Monday, December 7, 6 p.m.: The Pad-dock Shops, 4055 Summit Plaza Dr.

Tuesday, December 8, 8 p.m.: 7312 Wesboro Rd. Chanukah will be celebrated with a Ladies Only Chanukah Celebration and Unity Program exclusively for ladies 12 and older. A pop-up upscale Chanukah clothing boutique will be set up at the site.

Wednesday, December 9, 7 p.m., Joseph Beth Booksellers, The Mall at Lexington Green, 161 Lexington Green Cir., Lexington.

Thursday, December 10, 6 p.m.: Outlet Shoppes of the Bluegrass, 155 Buck Creek Rd., Simpsonville. There will also be a menorah lighting on the University of Kentucky Campus at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, December 11, 5:15 p.m.: Chabad House, 1654 Almara Cir. The menorah lighting will be followed by Shabbat services and dinner.

Saturday, December 12, 7:30 p.m.: Chabad House. The menorah lighting will be followed by a havdalah bonfire and barbeque.

On the final night of Chanukah, Chabad invites the community to create their own unity celebrations with family and friends.

For more information, call Rabbi Chaim Litvin at 502-442-2208 or email RabbiChaim@Chabadky.com.

Escape with The Temple Young Adult Group

The Temple Young Adult Group will host an event on Sunday, December 6, at 5:30 p.m. at escape game venue Breakout Louisville. The event is for young adults ages 22-33. A light dinner will follow the game. RSVP at www.thetemplelouky.org. For more about Breakout Louisville, visit <https://breakoutlouisville.com>.

Explore Feminism and Judaism at Temple Shalom

Rabbi Helen Bar-Yaacov will be the speaker at Temple Shalom's First Monday Adult Education program on December 7, at 7 p.m.

In her presentation, titled "Is Judaism Conducive to Feminism?" Bar-Yaacov will explore the issue from ancient Biblical times to the present. The program is free but RSVPs are requested by calling Temple Shalom at 502-458-4739.

Celebrate with Chanukah Dinner at Anshei Sfard

The community is invited to join Congregation Anshei Sfard on Tuesday, December 8, at 6 p.m., for a Chanukah dinner celebration. Dinner is \$8 for adults, \$5 for children ages 3-12, and free for children 2 and under. Make reservations by Thursday, December 3 by calling 502-451-3122 ext. 0.

The Temple Hosts Chanukah Dinner

The Temple will host a Chanukah chicken dinner sponsored by The Temple Brotherhood on Sunday, December 13, from 5-7 p.m. There will also be latkes, arts and crafts for kids, Chanukah Bingo, a performance from Temple choir Shir Chadash, and a group menorah lighting. Attendees must bring their own menorahs. Candles will be provided. Dinner is \$6 for adults, and kids 13 and under eat free. RSVP by December 9, to The Temple, 502-423-1818.

Temple Shalom Men's Club Presents WAVE's Brian Winner

On Sunday, December 13, at 10 a.m.,

WAVE sports anchor and reporter Brian Winner will come to Temple Shalom to talk about University of Louisville and University of Kentucky sports, and field questions. Brunch will also be served, and costs \$5 per person. Make reservations by December 10, by calling Temple Shalom at 502-458-4739.

Meditate and Caffeinate at Chabad House

Experienced meditation teacher Rabbi Avrohom Litvin of Chabad of Kentucky is leading a guided meditation series on the signs of the Zodiac as they relate to Jewish lore and mysticism. Classes are held at the beginning of each lunar month at 7 p.m. at Chabad House, 1654 Almara Cir. The next class is Monday, December 14. A \$5 donation is suggested but not required, and refreshments will be served.

Rabbi Litvin also leads guided meditations based on the work of the late Rabbi Sholom Dovber Schneerson, known as the Rebbe RaShab at 8:15 a.m. on the last Wednesday of every month at Chabad. The next class is on December 30. These sessions include relaxation exercises. Coffee and refreshments are served.

For more information call Chabad at 502-459-1770. All are welcome.

The JCC Book Club Highlights Harper Lee

The JCC Book Club will meet Monday, December 21, at 10 a.m. in the JCC Board Room to watch the movie *To Kill a Mockingbird*. On Monday, January 18, at 11 a.m., the book club will meet in the JCC library to discuss Harper Lee's *Mockingbird* sequel *Go Set a Watchman*. Both meetings are free and open to the public.

Catch Chinese Dinner and a Movie at The Temple

The Temple will present a free screening of the 2014 documentary film *The Green Prince* on Thursday, December 24. A free Chinese dinner will be served at 6 p.m., and the film will begin at 7 p.m. *The Green Prince* follows the experiences of Mosab Hassan Yousef, a Palestinian who became a spy for Israel. RSVP to 502-423-1818 by December 21.

The Temple Has Adult Ed Classes Monday Classes

The Temple offers a range of adult education classes on Monday nights.

Text Study with Rabbi David at The Temple meets at 7 p.m. The class is called From the Beginning. This class will read and discuss the Bible from Chapter 1 of the book of Genesis and examine the 70 ways to understand every verse and every chapter.

Advanced Hebrew with Rabbi Rapport meets at 8 p.m. This class, called Bring Your Hebrew To Life!, is a comprehension based course on Hebrew reading and grammatical structures which will guide learners to know what they say when they pray and understand the words of Torah as they were written in their own day.

Wednesday Classes

Justice and Righteousness: Personal Ethics and National Aspirations with Rabbi David is 9:30-10:35 a.m.

Using texts from Bible, Talmud, Jewish philosophy and theology, Jewish history and Jewish mysticism the class will journey in exploring the Jewish values of Justice and Righteousness and their application in the modern world.

Jewish Life in the Golden Land with Rabbi Rapport is 10:50 a.m.-12 p.m.

A many-layered look at the joys and challenges of American Jewish Life: past, present and future. Who were the first Jews to come to this land? Why did they come? What were they seeking? And, how did their experiences shape our own still today? The course includes a field trip to Cincinnati to visit Hebrew Union College, the American Jewish Archives, and Historic Plum Street Synagogue.

Visit Israel in Spring

This is the 20th anniversary of The Jewish Agency for Israel's Partnership-2Gether program, and the milestone is being marked with a trip to Israel from March 28 through April 4, 2016. Travelers will spend a few days in the Western Galilee, Golan Heights, Upper Galilee, and other beautiful parts of the land. Louisville has always been an active participant in partnership and this trip is an opportunity to experience Israel with a personal and familial encounter that is uniquely enjoyable. For more information contact Matt Goldberg at mgoldberg@jewishlouisville.org.



Sunday, December 6, 1:15 p.m.
Start and finish at the JCC
 (3600 Dutchmans Lane)

Followed by a 1-mile Family Fun Run
at approximately 2:15 p.m.

An after-race party at the JCC with music,
vendors, snacks, etc.

Registration is \$25
prior to November 27,
\$35 late registration



REGISTER ONLINE TODAY!
jewishlouisville.org/dreieldash



JCC Louisville
 3600 Dutchmans Lane • Louisville, KY 40205
 502.459.0660 • www.jewishlouisville.org

For more information, contact Tara Stone at 502-238-2726 or tstone@jewishlouisville.org

LIFECYCLE

B'nai Mitzvah



Eli Harris Schramko

Eli Harris Schramko, son of Mona and Frank Schramko and brother of Bennett and Carly, will be called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah on Saturday, December 12, at 9:30

a.m., at Adath Jeshurun.

Eli is the grandson of Shellie and the late Melvin Benovitz and Dianne and Frank Schramko of Ligonier, PA.

Eli is a seventh grader at Meyzeek Middle School where he plays on the tennis and soccer teams. He is also a member of the Kentucky United Nations Assembly and Beta Club. He enjoys playing all sports (especially tennis) and hanging out with his friends. Eli loves spending his summers at Beber Camp.

In addition to the volunteer hours that Eli contributes to Beta Club, he is participating in the JFCS Pledge 13 program. For his mitzvah project, Eli collected and hosted a used sports equipment yard sale. The money raised was donated to Meyzeek's athletic department, to help students who can't afford to be on school teams.

Eli and his family invite the community to join them as they celebrate this joyful simcha.

Obituaries



Nathaniel Fine

Nathaniel "Sonny" Fine, 95, died Friday, October 23, at his residence.

Fine was a graduate of the University Of Louisville Speed School. He also received his master's degree in

chemical engineering from the University of Cincinnati. He was a Chemical Engineer with Reynolds Metals and later went to work for M. Fine and Sons.

He became a realtor and formed Nat Fine Realtor and later on worked for Rainey Jones. He also owned several laundromats around Louisville. He was a specialist in FHA and VA loans and a business broker.

He was a loyal and devoted University of Louisville football and basketball fan and attended all the basketball games since the 1960's. Nathaniel loved to watch University of Louisville football and basketball and golf tournaments on TV. One of his favorite pastimes was playing bridge.

He was a member of Congregation Adath Jeshurun and the American Contract Bridge Association.

He is predeceased by Marion, his beloved wife for over 60 years.

He is survived by his three sons, Dr. Mark (Karen) Fine of Toledo, OH, James (Phyllis) Fine and Brent Fine of Chandler, AZ; his brother Dr. Malcolm (Janice) Fine; and five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Interment was at Adath Jeshurun Cemetery. Herman Meyer & Son handled arrangements.

Expressions of sympathy may be made to Congregation Adath Jeshurun, 2401 Woodbourne Ave., or the Donor's favorite charity.



Roger Eppinger

Roger Henry Eppinger, 67, died Monday, October 26, at Norton Audubon Hospital.

Eppinger was born on November 25, 1947, in Cincinnati, OH

and graduated from Seneca High School where he was the student manager of the state basketball championship teams in 1963 and 1964. He earned a bachelor's degree from Western Kentucky University and a master's degree from University of Louisville.

He spent his professional career as an English teacher, first with the Jefferson County Public Schools at Shawnee High School and later at DeSales High School for 19 years. He was a wrestling and baseball coach at DeSales, where he was known as "Coach Epp". Most recently he was employed by Mills Detective Agency at University of Louisville Hospital. He was a member of The Temple, Kiwanis International-Dixie Louisville and Derby City Brown Backers. He was a lifelong Cleveland Browns fan and an all-around sports enthusiast.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Minnie R. and Melvin L. Eppinger. He is survived by his sister, Elaine Steinberg (Sonny); his brother, Lee Eppinger; his nieces Mindy Steinberg, Holly Reines (Craig), Tracy Steinberg Goodman and Kathryn Chaplow (Chris) and nephews Andrew Steinberg (Wendy Sue) and Micah Eppinger.

Burial was at The Temple Cemetery. Herman Meyer & Son handled arrangements. The family requests donations be made to the Steinberg Family Scholarship Endowment at Jefferson Community and Technical College, 109 East Broadway, Louisville, KY 40202.

M. Joel Ungerleider

M. Joel Ungerleider, 87, formerly of Toledo, OH, died peacefully on Thursday, October 29, at the Episcopal Church Home.

Ungerleider was a native of Brooklyn, NY. He graduated from Stuyvesant High School in New York and attended the University of Kentucky. He was a pharmaceutical sales representative and worked for Roche Pharmaceuticals. He was member of The Temple, Mensa, Louisville Magic Club, and The Romeo's and was a Mason and proud Kentucky Colonel.

He is preceded in death by his loving wife, Paula Ungerleider.

He is survived by his daughters, Cheryl Ungerleider (John Russ), Suzy Aukerman (Paul) of Urbana, OH, and Robin McKelvy (James Pence) of Toledo, OH; his sister-in-law, Raema Green; three grandchildren, Eric Russ, Greg Aukerman and Althea McKelvy; and three great-grandchildren.

Herman Meyer & Son handled arrangements. Expressions of sympathy may be made to The Temple or Peace Education Program, 318 West Kentucky Street, Louisville, KY 40203.

Jerry Geller

Jerry Geller, a World War II veteran and longtime Windsor Heights, IA resident, died peacefully on his 98th birthday on Tuesday, November 3, at the Iowa Jewish Senior Life Center. He leaves this world with dignity, respect, and the love of his family and many friends.

Born in Fargo, ND to Louis and Ida Rose Geller, the fifth of nine children, Jerry enlisted in the army in 1942 and honorably served his country as a Staff Sergeant in the European Theater of World War II.

Jerry moved to Des Moines in 1948, and soon met his beloved Barbara. They married in September 1950, and together raised two sons. In 1961 he founded Geller's Glass and Upholstery, a family business that he sold to his son, Leslie, in 1989. He transitioned to proprietor of Jerry's Upholstery Supply until his retirement in 2009 at age 91.

He was a member of Beth El Jacob Synagogue, Tifereth Israel Synagogue, B'nai Brith, and the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America, for which he served as Treasurer.

Jerry is survived by Barbara, his wife of 65 years; sons Leslie and David (Debbie) Geller; granddaughters Devora Geller and Riva (Joe) Andersen; sister, Esther Oleisky; brothers, Harry (Annette) Geller and Aaron Geller; and many loving nieces and nephews. He is predeceased by his parents, brothers Sam and Max Geller; and sisters, Mary Ann Popowsky, Dora Snider, and Leah Fursetzer.

In lieu of flowers, please direct memorial contributions to Beth El Jacob Synagogue, 954 Cummins Pkwy, Des Moines, IA 50312, or Tifereth Israel Synagogue, 924 Polk Blvd, Des Moines, IA 50312.

Dr. Jerome Erman

Dr. Jerome Erman, 71, died Wednesday, November 4. He was a retired podiatrist and a member of The Temple.

He is survived by his loving wife, Linda Erman; his sons, Stephen (Emily) of Kansas City, MO and Darren Erman of New Orleans, LA; his brothers, Jeffrey Erman (Kathy) and Michael Erman (Jean) both of Detroit, MI; and two grandchildren, Ethan Williams and Asher Erman.

Expressions of sympathy may be made to the Joseph Fink BBYO Community Service Fund at the JCC or the Rabbi David Ariel-Joel Discretionary Fund at The Temple.

Kimberly Adams Klein,

Kimberly Adams Klein, 58, passed away peacefully on Monday, November 16. She is survived by her husband Zell, son Adison, and her parents, Thomas A. Adams, Sr. and Doris Adams. She is also survived by her siblings, Thomas Adams, Jr. (Tammy), Leslye Adams (Brad) and Jay Adams; and her in laws, William and Myra Klein.

Kim had two loves in her life, her family and her job. She was devoted to her son and her many nieces and nephews. She loved working for the Gene Glick Company for 36 years. Helping provide housing for those who needed assistance was her passion. This led her to serve on SAMA and work with HUD. She was a member of Keneseth Israel Congregation, where she was past president of the Sisterhood as well.

Burial was at Glasgow Municipal Cemetery. Expressions of sympathy may be made to the donor's favorite charity.

In Memoriam Rose Rita Wurmser

In remembrance of Rose Rita Wurmser, a loving wife, mother, daughter, sister, cousin, aunt and friend.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF ANNETTE SAGERMAN

It is with deep sorry and a heavy heart that the Jewish Community Center of Louisville mourns the loss of Annette Simon Sagerman.

For 65 years, Annette, who was known to many as "Aunt" or "Auntie," served Louisville's Jewish community by working at the JCC in almost every capacity. As our Membership Director, she ensured that the JCC was open, warm and welcoming to all.

Annette often spoke of starting her work here in 1944 at age 19 as the YMHA's Armed Services worker, organizing USO dances and ensuring that the needs of Jewish service personnel were met. When the "Y" became the JCC and moved into its new building in 1955, she became the adult activities director, and in 1986, she became the membership director.

Always ready with a big smile and a word of encouragement, Annette was beloved and will be missed.

Expressions of sympathy may be made to the "Annette Simon Sagerman Special Events Fund" established in 1994.



D'VAR TORAH

Chanukah and Jewish Unity

by Rabbi Chaim Litvin
Special to Community

Chanukah is the Festival of Lights. It recalls the miraculous victory, more than 2,000 years ago, of a militarily weak yet spiritually strong Jewish people over the large and mighty forces of a ruthless enemy that had inundated the Holy Land and threatened to mask the land of Israel and its people with darkness.



Rabbi Chaim Litvin

The miraculous military victory, culminated with the rededication of the Holy Temple and the kindling of the menorah, is celebrated by lighting the menorah as a symbol of the triumph of freedom over oppression and light over darkness. Each good deed we do, each flame of the menorah that we light, adds to the goodness and the light of the world. The lights on the menorah remind us that "a little light can dispel a lot of darkness".

We light the menorah in our homes to illuminate our everyday lives with these spiritual lights. But, even though it begins at home, it does not stop there. This

is the true nature of light, to brighten the world all around it. The Chanukah lights are specifically meant to brighten and illuminate the "outside," symbolically implying that our mission is to bring light especially to those areas of life and of the world that may still be in darkness.

This message takes on added significance this year, as it is the year traditionally known as "Hakhel," which was celebrated by every Jewish man, woman and child, coming to the Temple to share in celebration and unity. We desperately need more unity and more light in this

SAGERMAN

Continued from page 1

when she was 19 years old and went on to work there full time until her retirement 65 years later.

During her tenure at the JCC, she held many positions, including director of the USO, cultural arts, adult activities, membership and hospitality departments. She was also one of the original founders of the Jewish Community Center's Bingo program, which provided significant additional resources for the JCC for 29 years.

Affectionately known as "aunt" or "auntie" by many, Sagerman always ensured that the JCC was open, warm and welcoming to all. She was always ready with a big smile and a word of encouragement.

Sagerman was a walking encyclope-

dia of Jewish history and the Louisville Jewish community. Until the end she could regale listeners with accounts of events long past and provide information about friends and acquaintances she made over the year.

She was an avid grammarian and edited the speeches of the many past presidents and staff members of her beloved JCC. Sixty-hour work weeks were nothing to her and when she retired, she had accrued six years of unused sick days and 13 years of unused vacation. She said they would have to carry her out and they did at the young age of 84.

She was preceded in death by the love of her life "her David" Sagerman.

She is survived by her niece and nephew Jaye and Bob Bittner, who cared for her; her great nieces and nephews Sarah and Jarred Sparber and Jolyn Kramberg and Lane Sparber; her great, great

often dark world in which we live. Let us hope and pray that this message of Chanukah will illuminate and brighten the everyday life of every single one of us personally, and of our society in general.

In this vein, I encourage everyone to join Mayor Greg Fischer and myself on the eve of Chanukah for a grand Jewish Unity Celebration at Fourth Street Live! in Downtown Louisville on Sunday, December 6, at 4 p.m. The menorah will be lit by the Mayor at 5:45 p.m.

A public menorah lighting will also be sponsored at The Paddock Shops on Monday, December 7, at 6 p.m.; The Outlets of the Bluegrass in Simpsonville

on Thursday, December 10, at 6 p.m., and there will be a bonfire Havdalah menorah lighting party at Chabad House on Saturday, December 12, at 7 p.m.

Happy Chanukah

Shabbat candles should be lit on Fridays, November 20 at 5:09 p.m., November 27 at 5:06 p.m., December 4 at 5:05 p.m., December 11 at 5:05 p.m., December 18 at 5:07 p.m. and December 25 at 5:10 p.m.

Editor's note: Rabbi Chaim Litvin, a local emissary of the Lubavitcher Rebbe, has volunteered to provide Torah commentaries for Community.

niece Jordana and great, great nephews Doran, Jacob and Nathan Sparber, who shared hours of pleasure and unconditional love with their aunt.

The family sends special thank yous to her best friend, Eloise Stemmler, her former caregiver and dear friend Geraldine Kelly, the fabulous staff of Forrest Springs Health Care Center, and Drs. Gary Fuchs and Lowell Katz, who cared for her with unconditional love.

Sagerman's funeral procession stopped in front of the JCC to enable the staff to stand on the front steps in front of wide open doors as a tribute to her service and their love and respect for her leadership.

The family asks that donations go to the Annette and David Sagerman Special Events Fund at the Jewish Community Center, Congregation Adath Jeshurun or the WHAS Crusade for Children.

COMMUNITY CLASSIFIEDS

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CALL OUR SALES REPRESENTATIVE AT 502-418-5845

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AD:

_____ \$5.16
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Make checks payable to Community and mail this coupon to:
COMMUNITY CLASSIFIEDS
3600 Dutchmans Lane, Louisville, KY 40205

You can charge
your classified ads on



JOB OPENING AT THE JCC TEEN/BBYO DIRECTOR

JOB SUMMARY:

This position is part of the Camping and Youth Services Team and will work collaboratively with the other members of the team on programming. Develop relationships with teens to inspire and support them by serving as a Jewish role model/informal educator by creating meaningful social, service, sports, Judaic and educational programming.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Bachelor's degree in social services or related field (Master's preferred), previous experience supervising part-time staff, prior camp experience (Jewish camping preferred), experience engaging youth and teens (in a Jewish setting preferred), prior Jewish youth group experience (BBYO preferred) knowledge of Judaism and Jewish holidays, excellent written, verbal, interpersonal, communication skills, enthusiastic, creative, organized, and hard working.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO APPLY

Please email resume, cover letter and professional reference list to the JCL's Human Resources Director, Lisa Moorman, at lmoorman@jewishlouisville.org.

FOR A FULL LIST OF JOB QUALIFICATIONS VISIT

<https://jewishlouisville.org/community/our-people/job-opportunities/>



JOB OPENING WITH JFCS FT ENGAGEMENT SPECIALIST

JOB SUMMARY:

JFCS has a new full time position for an Engagement Specialist. This person will develop and direct an engagement strategy designed to connect young adults and other unconnected groups of individuals with the mission of JFCS. The person will research best practices, develop relationships with individuals and groups within the Jewish community, create engagement events and develop a written report on suggested strategies and tactics.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Bachelor's degree (at minimum), superior communication skills, presentation and facilitation skills, experience in utilizing social media, critical thinking skills, good interpersonal skills, ability to work as part of a team, understanding of and comfort with the values, trends and culture of the Jewish community. Experience with outreach or engagement preferred.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO APPLY

To apply, please send your resume and cover letter to Kathryn Fetter at kfetter@jfcsloisville.org.

Happy Hanukkah!

Let love and light fill
your home this Season.



מי ייתן שאור ואהבה ימלאו את ביתך בחגים

Items and prices available at
3039 Breckenridge Lane, 2219
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Gala,
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Select Varieties,
1.9-4.3 oz

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Kedem
Grape Juice
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Manischewitz
Potato
Pancake Mix
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Potatoes
8 lb Bag

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