

## 2017 Annual Awards Meeting, Pages 12-13

## COMMUNITY

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## INSIDE

Goldberg, Tobin in  
'Battle for Israel's Soul'  
**STORY ON PG. 2**JH impact still felt here  
**STORY ON PG. 4**

## Humanitarian honored



Dr. Muhammad Babar Cheema, flanked by his 10-year-old twin sons Adam and Harris, addresses the March 12 #WeStandTogether rally on the front steps of The J. Babar is the 2017 recipient of the Blanche B. Ottenheimer Award, which recognizes the service of a community leader, Jew or non-Jew. Babar, a Muslim, will accept the honor at the June 8 JCL Awards Meeting. (photo by Ted Wirth)

## Babar, 2017 Ottenheimer honoree, headlines Awards Meeting

By Lee Chottiner  
Interim Editor

When two synagogues in Jewish Louisville were targeted this past January by threatening callers, Dr. Muhammad Babar Cheema knew something had to be done about it.

So he did something.

The devout Muslim brought dozens of members of his faith community to Temple Shalom at the start of the following Shabbat. They joined hands, forming a ring around the sanctuary – and

the congregants in the pews – in what Dr. Babar called a “circle of love.”

Later, he addressed the congregation from the bima. “Your lives are as sacred, and your security and wellbeing as important, as the lives, security and well-being of our own families,” he said. “We are one human family.”

These may seem like extraordinary gestures, but not for Dr. Babar, as he is coomon referred to, this year’s recipient of the Blanche B. Ottenheimer Award. This is the kind of thing he does all the time.

Dr. Babar will headline the 2017 Jewish Community of Louisville Awards

Meeting, which will be held Thursday, June 8, 6:30 p.m., at The J.

“You would be hard-pressed to find a greater champion of compassion, service, and humility than Dr. Babar,” said Jewish Community Relations Council President Matt Goldberg. “Having worked with him on many issues over several years, it is an honor to call him a colleague and friend. He is well deserving of any honor he receives and it does our community a great service to have him join the list of other distinguished winners of the Ottenheimer Award.”

Nominated by JCL President and CEO  
See **BABAR** on page 23

History-making  
Rabbi Gaylia Rooks  
to retire in 2018

By Lee Chottiner  
Interim Editor

Rabbi Gaylia R. Rooks, a spiritual leader at The Temple for 29 years and the first female rabbi in Kentucky history, is retiring.

Though Rooks’ last day is officially June 30, 2018, she will be serving as a senior rabbi of the congregation until December 31. She will then spend the final six months of her contract on sabbatical.

“She, along with her partner rabbi, has been our spiritual leader and staunch community advocate for nearly three decades; beloved, respected and admired,” The Temple President Angelina Golden wrote in a letter to the congregation.

In a statement to Community, Rooks said, “It has been a tremendous honor and blessing to serve my congregation for the past 29 years, and I will always be committed to The Temple. Obviously, I will still be involved in my role as rabbi emerita and I will continue to cherish the privilege of sharing in the lives of our members for many years to come.”

The Temple will not fill Rooks’ position, Golden said in response to questions emailed by *Community*.

“We are most grateful and honored that Rabbi David Ariel-Joel and Rabbi Joe Rooks Rapport (Rooks’ husband) will continue to lead The Temple as our two full-time rabbis,” she said. “They, along with The Temple leadership, have begun the deliberative process of ensuring a seamless transition in preparation for Rabbi Rooks’ retirement.”

See **ROOKS** on page 23



Rabbi Gaylia R. Rooks

## 2017 Awards Meeting slated for June 8; Berg Mosaic to be rededicated

The 2017 JCL Annual Meeting will recognize leaders and volunteers, Jew and non-Jew alike, who make an impact in Jewish Louisville. It will also contain a few surprises.

This year’s event, to be held Thursday, June 8, at The J

(cocktail reception at 6:30 p.m., program and awards at 7)

will include a new honor – the Corporate Friend Award – which is being given to Kindred Healthcare.

And the program will include the rededication of the Harold Berg Mosaic, which tells the story of the Holocaust and birth of the state of Israel.

As always, the Jewish Federation and The J will formally elect its 2017-18 officers and new board members and pay special tribute to its award winners:

• Dr. Muhammad Babar Cheema –

Blanche B. Ottenheimer Award

• Dara Woods – Lewis W. Cole Memorial Young Leadership Award

• Devon Oser – Joseph J. Kaplan Young Leadership Award

• Corey Shapiro – Julie E. Linker Community Relations Young Leadership Award

• Dolores Levy – Elsie P. Judah Memorial Award

• Alan Glaubinger -- Ronald & Marie Abrams Volunteer of the Year Award

• Tom Wissinger – Arthur S. Kling Award

• Andrew Tuvlin and Carly Schwartz – Ellen Faye Garmon Awards

• Hunter Borowick – Joseph Fink Community Service Scholarship

• Jacob Ioffe – Stacy Marks Nisenbaum Award

• Laina Meyerowitz, Charles Bessen,

Abigail Geller and Max Strull – Stuart Pressma Student Leadership Development Awards

• Gabe Sherman and Marnina Goldberg – Tony Levitan Awards

Kindred Care is receiving the new Corporate Friend Award for its support of The J’s Active Adults program. The program includes several fitness activities – Yoga, Boomer Wall, Tai Chi, Better Body Boxing, Muscle Blast – an outdoor walking group and a volunteer effort to tend the Community Garden at the back of The J campus.

The meeting is open to the community and is free of charge. RSVP to Mary Jean Timmel at 502-238-2722 or mtimmel@jewishlouisville.org, or register online at jewishlouisville.org.

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# SHOWCASE

## Battle for Israel's Soul

Goldberg, Tobin — left and right — tout civility during May 1 Israel debate at AJ

By Lee Chottiner  
Interim Editor

If anyone who went to the Battle for Israel's Soul program Monday, May 1, at Adath Jeshurun was expecting to see a heated debate bordering on fisticuffs, they probably left a little disappointed.

The "battle" was more like a tete-a-tete between friends — which, in fact, it was.

J.J. Goldberg a liberal columnist for *Forward* and Jonathan Tobin, a conservative opinion writer for *JNS.org*, have met like this many times. During the program they went out of their way to refer to each other as "friends" — even when they categorically disagreed with each other.

Which was probably their overarching point in the two-hour program: American Jews are as split over Israel as the rest of the country is on other issues. They read and watch only what affirms their own positions and they disregard what the other side thinks.

For the sake of Israel and American Jewry, the men said, that must stop.

"We live in a bifurcated nation," Tobin told the audience of 175. "Social media makes it worse."

Thanks to social media, he said, people can unfriend anyone just for disagreeing with them, or block any story, column or comment that doesn't jibe with their own sense of reality.

"You can completely isolate yourself from anything that doesn't affirm your beliefs," said Tobin, who urged the crowd to read his own work as well as



J.J. Goldberg (left) and Jonathan Tobin (right) discussed critical issues facing Israel during the Battle for Israel's Soul political forum, Monday, May 1 at Adath Jeshurun. JCRC Director Matt Goldberg was the moderator. (photo by William Beasley; see gallery, page 19)

Goldberg's.

Goldberg assured the crowd that the differences the two men articulated during the program did not get in the way of their friendship, which he assured everyone was genuine.

"Don't walk away thinking we're faking this," he said.

All friendship aside, the two journalists did duke it out — softly — on politics, the peace process and, to a lesser extent, Trump.

Those statements, Tobin said, reflect a galvanizing of Israeli public opinion against a two-state solution any time soon.

"What they (Israelis) want to do is trade land for peace," Tobin said, "not land for more terror."

On politics, Goldberg and Tobin dived into how Republicans and Democrats treat Israel. Tobin, speaking directly to liberals in the crowd, told them to stand up against what he sees as an apparent split in the Democratic Party over support for Israel.

"This is your battle to fight," he said. "You should stand up to your party because that's where the action is."

Goldberg, on the other hand, took aim at American Jewish organizations, which he said are narrowly focused on foreign affairs and not enough on the domestic issues that unite most American Jews.

"The issues that unite us are the issues we face at home," he said, adding, "that doesn't mean we shouldn't be concerned about Israel."

The two journalists did find common ground on some issues. They both warned of the threat posed by the BDS movement to young Jews on college campuses.

And they both agreed that President Donald Trump is unpredictable, though Goldberg suggested Trump, by virtue of some of his appointments and the softening of his positions since his inauguration, might not be as strident a supporter of the Jewish state as Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu had hoped.

Interestingly, neither man mentioned a breaking story by Reuters that Hamas would remove the goal of destroying Israel from its latest policy document and end its association with the Muslim Brotherhood.

Since the program was held on Yom HaZikaron, Israel's memorial day, Cantor David Lipp of Adath Jeshurun and Rabbi Gaylia R. Rooks of The Temple opened the program with two long blasts on their shofars. The blasts simulated the siren drones in the Jewish state that call citizens to stand in silence for the country's fallen.

"Whether you're right or left or center," Lipp said afterwards, "I think you can agree that we all yearn for peace."

Tobin dismissed Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas as a peace partner for Israel, saying he subsidizes families of terrorists and names public squares in the West Bank for so-called "martyrs." Goldberg, on the other hand, said P.A. authorities, under Abbas, have worked with Israeli officials to curb terrorist attacks, noting there has been no return to the wave of suicide bombings of 2005.

"Few people have noticed that it ended years ago," Goldberg said. "Abbas has been fighting terror."

But Goldberg also said it's too much to expect Palestinian sentiments toward Israel to change as long as they're under occupation, which is why, he said, there must be a "divorce" — a two-state solution.

While Tobin called a two-state solution "the most rational and sane way to resolve the conflict — in theory," he said Israelis were souring on the idea.

He noted how the two leading opposition leaders to the current government, Isaac Herzog of the Zionist Union, and Yair Lapid of Yesh Atid, have issued manifestos saying it would take 10 or 20 years to make a peace arrangement while trust is restored.

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# Jewish Hospital's impact felt in Louisville for more than a century, and still is

By Lee Chottiner  
Interim Editor

Julian “Pinky” Shapero knows a thing or two about Jewish Hospital.

He should. He served on its board of trustees for 40 years, with a couple stints as its chairman.

“I loved it,” he said. “I believed in the cause and the services we could offer to the community. To be a part of that, and keep it as excellent as it was, was fulfilling to me.”

With the recent news that KentuckyOne Health Inc., part of Catholic Health initiatives, is planning to sell Jewish, and other local healthcare facilities, many in Jewish Louisville have been reflecting on the hospital – what it has meant to Jews here, and what it still means.

The hospital's impact has been felt in many ways.

Opened in 1905 as a hospital where Jewish physicians denied privileges elsewhere could practice, and where Eastern European Jews could receive care sensitive to their cultural and religious needs, Jewish developed a reputation as a world-class care center that overshadowed its origins as a hospital for an ethnic group.

“When Jewish was thriving, it was a leading edge medical facility with its heart and hand facilities,” Shapero said. “We were really cutting edge, and we supported the university research.”

He was referring to the groundbreaking work done at the hospital's Rudd Heart and Lung Center and Hand Care Center.

The nation's first four hand transplants were performed at Jewish. The world's first and second successful AbioCor™ Implantable Replacement Heart transplant were done there. The hospital became federally designated to perform



Jewish Hospital has built a world-class reputation since its opening in 1905. (photo provided by Jewish Hospital).

all five solid organ transplants – heart, lung, liver, kidney and pancreas.

“We developed the patient base and the leading cardiac surgical services in this region,” said Dr. Morris Weiss, a leading cardiologist, whose great-uncle, Dr. Leon Solomon, was involved in establishing the hospital. “If you had a [heart] problem, you came to Jewish.”

In addition, the world's first successful human hand transplant, including Kentucky's first double hand transplant, were performed this past year at Jewish.

“We always gave good patient care,” said Shapero, who was voted Trustee of the Year one year by *Modern Healthcare Magazine*. “It was considered a good hospital.”

But Jewish also made a mark beyond its operating rooms and emergency

wards. It opened its doors to all of Louisville – black and white.

“Jewish had a truly open-arms approach to the community. This was a place that welcomed everybody, all races, religions, all socio-economic levels,” internist Dr. James L. Bersot, Jr. was quoted as saying in Barbara G. Zingman's book, *A Legendary Vision: The History of Jewish Hospital*.

According to the book, the first African-American physicians to practice at Jewish were Drs. Jesse Bell (1958) and Williams M. Moses (1959).

“Bell, an enthusiastic supporter of the Hospital, says, ‘The courtesies of the Jewish staff were a real asset. You don't get that in a lot of hospitals. My patients appreciated the reception and the kindness of the Hospital,’” Zingman wrote.

Zingman continued, “Dr. Moses also recalls those early days and the welcome he received from his fellow physicians. He had contact with [a] Jewish pathologist consulting at the old, mostly black Red Cross Hospital. ‘They were extremely caring and helpful,’ he says.”

Zingman added that Moses became the first African-American physician to become president of the Jewish Hospital medical staff in 1980.

The hospital's connection to the Jewish community remains strong, even today. As part of KentuckyOne Health, the hospital belongs to a system that was formed in 2012 by a partnership between Catholic Health Initiatives – a nonprofit, faith-based healthcare system – and the legacy Jewish Hospital Healthcare Services (JHHS).

JHHS would then change its name to the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence (JHFE), a grant-making organization that uses more than \$100 million in financial resources to support the community grants for medical research/education, community health and wellness and the Louisville Jewish community.

Shapero lauded JHFE, which has invested \$15 million in Louisville since 2012, as a lasting legacy of Jewish.

“Whatever happens [to the hospital], the community came out with the Heritage Fund, which really gives the community a tremendous amount of support,” Shapero said. “We as a hospital always supported the community, but never with the dollars that are now available to it.”

But even at the hospital itself, the connection to Jewish living and Jewish values remains strong, according to Rabbi Nadia Siritsky, vice president of mission at Jewish.

“This is the first time a rabbi has been a part of the senior leadership team,”

See **JEWISH** on page 22



## THE STRENGTH OF A PEOPLE. THE POWER OF A COMMUNITY.

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**2017 Annual Meeting**  
**Thursday, June 8 at The J**  
**6:30 p.m. Cocktail Reception, 7 p.m. Program & Awards**

*Rededication of the Harold Berg Mosaic which tells the story of the Holocaust and birth of the state of Israel.*

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# James Todd, 9-11 hero, retires from Coast Guard; family to remain in Louisville

By Lee Chottiner  
Interim Editor

Like everyone on the morning of Sept. 11, 2001, BOSN James A. Todd was taken by surprise by the news of planes hitting the Twin Towers in New York City.

Unlike everyone, the veteran Coast Guard officer, who was on duty at the time on Staten Island, did something about it – fast.

“BOSN Todd was the first on-scene commander,” said one of his superior officers, Commander Molly Wike of the Coast Guard Sector Ohio Valley. “When Jim heard about the first plane hitting the Trade Center, he quickly called his crew back to the boat (USCGC Hawswar) and without orders went straight for the buildings, started rescuing people off the shoreline and established a security zone.

“BOSN and his crew selflessly aided the rescue of hundreds of people from Manhattan that day,” she added. (BOSN refers to the rank of chief warrant officer.)

While Wike recounted the story at Todd’s retirement ceremony, Friday, May 5, at the Fernwood Community



Rabbi Beth Jacowitz Chottiner blesses BOSN James A. Todd as he retires from the Coast Guard. (photo by Lee Chottiner).

Center, Todd, who was wrapping up a 30-year career in the service, didn’t even mention it when he spoke.

“It’s very hard for me to talk about,” he told *Community*.

Instead, Todd, who is Jewish, stood at the lectern in his dress white uniform and a kippa on his head, and emotionally recounting his favorite memories from a long Coast Guard career.

His eyesight failing, Todd made light of his condition, telling the 40-plus fellow servicemen, friends and family in attendance that he didn’t write a speech.

“If I wrote one, I couldn’t see it,” he said, “so I guess you’re in luck.”

Instead, Todd spoke largely off the cuff, talking about how he, a kid from North Carolina, joined the Coast Guard in 1987, how he met his future wife Theresa, also a Coast Guard veteran, whom he calls his “Little Tsarina,” his graduation from college, the birth of his son, Joseph, and his promotion to chief warrant officer.

During his time in the Coast Guard, Todd has served on seven vessels; he was tasked with protecting the largest biomass of marine fisheries on the East Coast — the Elephant Trunk Ac-

cess Area — and he served on the staff of Officer Candidate School at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London, CT. There, Todd actually redesigned the curriculum for the Officer Candidate Indoctrination program.

But Wike also offered some examples of Todd’s personal side, like the time he gave a member of his crew a chocolate cigarette so he wouldn’t miss out on time with the crew during smoking breaks.

“These subtle, but not small, acts of guidance by BOSN over the last 30 years are the backbone of his service to the Coast Guard,” Wike said. “He has enriched the experience of those with whom he has served.”

Rabbi Beth Jacowitz Chottiner of Temple Shalom, where the Todds are members, delivered the invocation and benediction and offered Todd the priestly blessing. Several members of Temple Shalom, plus students of Louisville Jewish Day School, where Joseph attends, were on hand for the ceremony.

Todd has been assigned to Sector Ohio Valley since 2015. He and his family plan to remain in Louisville now that he is retired.

## Brill joins JCL as senior marketing director; will oversee, develop communications

By Lee Chottiner  
Interim Editor

The Jewish Community of Louisville has hired Shayne Brill to be senior director of marketing, communication and engagement – a new position on the JCL staff. She will develop the JCC’s and Federation’s marketing and communications and oversee operations of *Community*.

“We are so fortunate to have Shayne join our JCL family in this new role,” said JCL President and CEO Sara Klein Wagner. “In her few weeks with us, she has already demonstrated her passion for communications and leadership. This newly created position is critical to our success. Shayne’s energy and talent are absolutely going to make a difference in everything we do.”

Brill has worked in advertising and marketing for 20 years, most recently with Scoppechio, formerly Creative Alliance, in Louisville where she oversaw the Kentucky Department of Travel and Tourism and LG&E accounts.

Over her career, Brill has also worked with several advertising and marketing agencies, Fortune 500 companies and



Shayne Brill

business entrepreneurs in Louisville.

Among her other clients were Vera Wang, Timex, Hush Puppies, Galen College of Nursing, KFC, and the Kentucky Convention & Visitors Bureau.

“I wanted to apply my skills and experiences to helping the JCL improve its communications and marketing efforts,” Brill said. “The JCL does such important work for both the Jewish community and the greater Louisville community. It feels great to be part of the organization and to help achieve the JCL’s goals.”

Brill looks forward to building the new position from scratch.

“To me, it’s not a challenge but a great opportunity,” she said. “There is so much that the marketing department does for both The J and the Jewish Federation, it’s great to review and evaluate all the different touch points and messaging to see where we can become more efficient

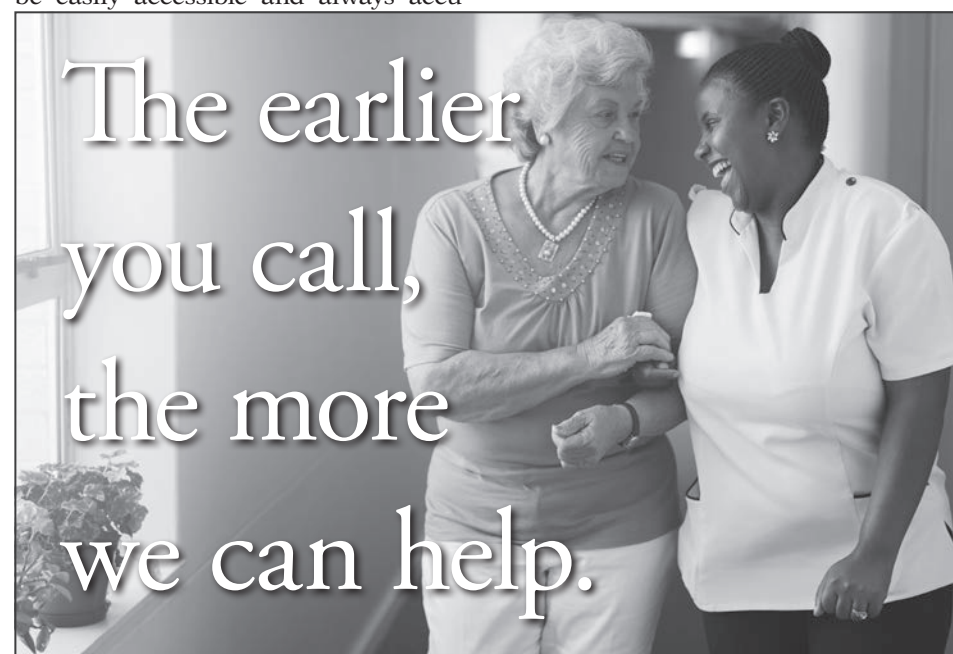
and where we can improve our communications and marketing efforts.”

Brill’s top priority in her new position is to “evaluate and improve” the quality of *Community* and its webpage.

“We need to make sure we are giving our members and the Jewish community the information they need and want,” she said, “and that information should be easily accessible and always accu-

rate.”

A Kentucky native and University of Kentucky graduate, Brill enjoys spending time camping and hiking with her family and friends. She is an avid yoga enthusiast, loves to travel, especially to the Pacific Northwest, and enjoys dining out.



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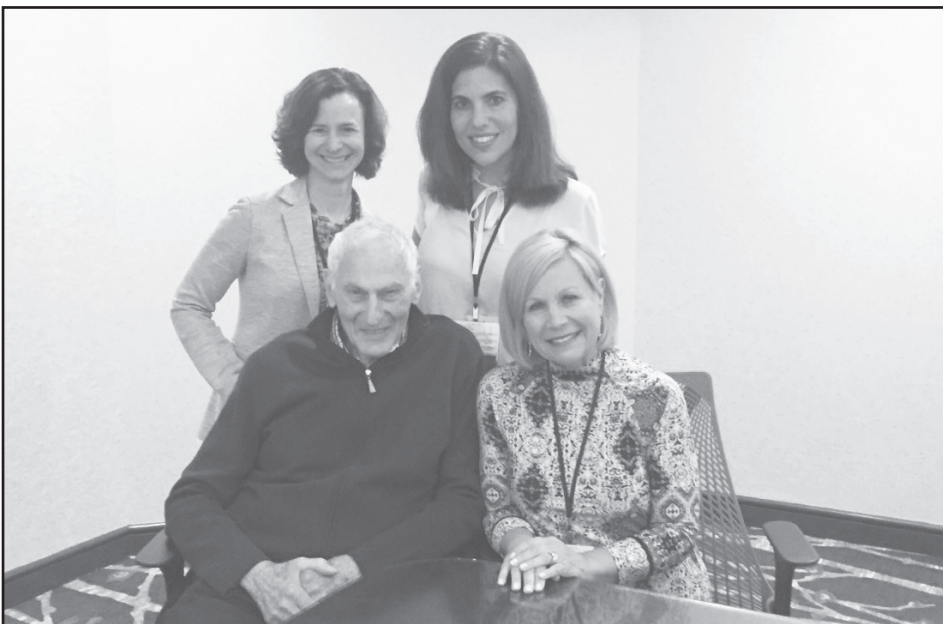


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## Grinspoons, Federation leaders meet

Harold Grinspoon and his daughter-in-law, Winnie Sandle Grinspoon (left) of the Grinspoon Foundation met recently with Jewish Federation of Louisville Vice President of Philanthropy Stacy Gordon-Funk (lower right) and Life and Legacy Coordinator Jennifer Tuvlin. See Funk’s column, page 6.



# COMMUNITY

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Deadlines for the next two issues of **Community** for copy and ads are: June 14 for publication on June 23 and July 19 for publication on July 28.

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

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**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 Interim Editor, [Ichottiner@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:Ichottiner@jewishlouisville.org).

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

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# FORUM

## Campaign concludes on hopeful note, but work remains

*For as the days of a tree shall be the days of my people.*

– Isaiah 65:22

There are many trees being planted in our community with the assistance of the Philanthropy Department and JCL leadership. With nurturing, these trees will bloom, digging roots of permanence and deepening our community's commitment to a vibrant Jewish life today and tomorrow.

Much of this commitment starts when you make your pledge to the Federation's Annual Campaign. Thanks to the dedicated leadership of Campaign Chairs, Jane Goldstein and Jon Fleischaker, the Annual 2017 Federation Campaign is coming to a close, translating into over \$2 million in financial distributions to organizations here and around the world that need our help.

The campaign held its own this year, thanks, in part, to a generous matching grant from the Jewish Heritage Fund of Excellence, but it has not seen the growth needed to allow us to meet the ever-increasing needs of our organizations. *If you have not made your 2017 pledge, please do so soon by contacting Kristy Benefield at (502) 238-2739 or [kbenefield@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:kbenefield@jewishlouisville.org).*



Stacy Gordon-Funk

In the spirit of tikkun olam, the Jewish people are defined by acts of kindness performed to mend the world. This is what we stand for and it's what I love best about us. Our community-wide initiative, LIFE & LEGACY, is in full swing, ensuring a sustainable Jewish future (see story, page 7). I just returned from a LIFE & LEGACY conference with our coordinator, Jennifer Tuvlin. We were fortunate to learn and network with over 150 Jewish professionals. The highlight of our visit was a private meeting with Harold Grinspoon and his daughter-in-law, Winnie Sandler Grinspoon. What an honor it was to meet with Harold and to hear his wisdom. He insisted on making us feel like the heroes. Harold is a true mensch, a man of humility and grace. We are grateful for his support. Thanks go to Shelly Gilman and Chris Brice for leading this endeavor locally. We are fortunate that JHFE matched the funds

granted by the Grinspoon Foundation.

Funding for a new J is being identified and plans are underway for the campus. If you were not able to attend one of the three recent charrettes, please reach out to me or JCL President & CEO Sara Wagner to share your thoughts.

We have much to be proud of as our community knows the value of what we can accomplish when we unite. We've done it before, and today is no different. Now is a time for rebuilding and renewal for us, a time for the strongest of commitments and a deepening of our own roots. We must consider where our Jewish values and financial support will intersect.

Melinda Gates said, "Our friend and co-trustee Warren Buffett once gave us some great advice about philanthropy: 'Don't just go for safe projects,' he said, 'take on the really tough problems.'"

Thank you for giving your time, treasure and talent. In partnership with you, I look forward to wonderful things ahead for our Jewish community.

*(Stacy Gordon-Funk is vice president of philanthropy for the Jewish Federation of Louisville.)*

## Fifty years later, Six-Day War's impact still being felt

The Six-Day War was a miraculous victory that completely transformed Israel and the Middle East, but it has a mixed legacy, one in which we are still coping with today.

Imagine the thoughts going through the minds of your average Israeli 50 years ago: Arab leaders were calling for your extermination, just 22 years after the Holocaust, and 19 years after the War of Independence. All the countries around you were hostile to you, and their armies were significantly larger.

You understood that these same Arab armies would not hesitate to wage war against civilians as their intention was made very clear. Those armies were well equipped and backed by the Soviet Union. Your country, at its narrowest point, was nine miles wide and the thought of your country being easily split was very real. Israel, meanwhile, was preparing for mass casualties.

However, through determination, skill and faith, Israel scored a resounding military victory. The armies of Syria,



Matt Goldberg

Egypt, and Jordan were on their heels and licking their wounds, while Israel managed to capture land equivalent to three times its size. Jews were once again in charge of their holy sites in Jerusalem, which had been desecrated under 19 years of Jordanian rule.

Israel controlled what they thought was a strategic buffer of land in the Sinai and Golan Heights. Jews the world over were filled with pride because of Israel's great military victory.

In addition to Sinai and the Golan Heights, Israel also took control of Gaza and the West Bank, and that legacy is much more complicated. These areas had a large and generally hostile population of Arabs that Israel was now in

control of.

Israel has made many efforts at ending this occupation and granting the Palestinians self-determination, but the occupation continues.

As Zionists, we are confident in Israel's righteousness and best intentions regarding this occupation, yet we also know that it is unsustainable and a peaceful two-state solution is in the best interests of all parties involved.

So many unresolved issues that occupy the minds of so many in the world today, started in those first few days of June 1967.

Please join us on June 6 at 7 p.m. at the JCC, as we welcome Martin Raffel, former vice president of the Jewish Council for Public Affairs and an expert on the Six-Day War. He will talk about the miracle of the victory, and the complicated legacy with which Israel must still deal. This will be a very special evening.

*(Matt Goldberg is director of the Jewish Community Relations Council.)*

## My Jerusalem: Rabbi recounts Six-Day War memories

By Rabbi David Ariel-Joel  
*Guest Columnist*

Jerusalem is the city I love, where I feel at home, the city I know better than the palm of my hand. For her streets, open markets, smells and tastes of her dishes, I yearn daily.

Born and raised in the holiest city in the world, the prettiest place on earth, I grew up in a neighborhood where my parents let me play in the streets, knowing that I was safe.

However, I always knew there were places you could not go, places that were dangerous.

My neighborhood was on the border with Jordan. One of our neighbors lost

a leg stepping on a mine when he accidentally crossed into the "no man's land." Another was killed by a sniper in one of many cross-border shootings.

I knew from the moment I could walk outside where our army posts were, and which were theirs.

There were houses close to the border with bullets holes in their walls, a reminder of the danger of living so close to the enemy.

Every guest was shown the border; it was the attraction of our area.

When I was 4, we visited my mother's family in New York. I wanted them to show me the border, and was upset to hear there wasn't one. I could not fathom that there were places with no bor-

ders, where enemy soldiers were not pointing their guns at you.

Then, when I was 6, the Six-Day War began, which would wipe out the borders.

I remember the war clearly. When Jordanian shelling of our neighborhood began, I was at preschool. We hid in the bomb shelter for hours. When the shelling stopped, my older brother, who was 11, came running to take me home. We ran as fast as we could, but the shelling started again and we ended up running under Jordanian bombardment. My dad had been recruited to the army reserves before the fighting, so I cannot imagine what my mom was going through

See **ARIEL-JOEL** on next page



## ARIEL-JOEL

*continued from previous page*

waiting for us to rush home under attack.

My parents' house was 150 yards from the border. For three days, my brothers, my mom and I sat in the corridor of the house, the only room with no windows. Bullets and shells fell on the building. On the third day of the war, we were finally able to go to the toilets without risking our lives.

The danger and the knowledge of clear borders in my beloved city are still there. Jewish kids still grow up in Jerusalem knowing they better not go to its Palestinian neighborhoods (Palestinians make up 37 percent of city's residents) and Palestinian kids know well that they will be in danger if they end up in a Jewish neighborhood.

The mutual hate, racism and violence that both populations show one another



A view of the Old City of Jerusalem from Abu Tor. (photo provided)

make the borders clear to every Jerusalemite.

At age 6, I understood for the first time, that the city I love is not only mine. More than the war itself, I have clear memories of the days that followed. The first time we went to the Old City – my first visit to the Kotel (Western Wall) – I tried so hard to feel its sacredness, kissing its ancient stones.

More than anything, though, I re-

member the surprise guests that came to our house – its original owners.

My parents live in a beautiful stone house in a South Jerusalem neighborhood called Abu Tor. In Israel, their kind of house is called an "Arab house" – houses built by Arabs in what used to be Arab neighborhoods before their capture in 1948. At that time, the Arab residents ran away and became refugees.

A few days after the war's end, we heard a knock on our door; we opened it to a very old lady (that is how she looked to my 6-year-old eyes) and her son. The house was theirs before 1948; they left it, running from the Israeli soldiers who captured their neighborhood. My parents who were Israeli army veterans bought the house from the government for close to nothing.

The young man and his mother were from the Nashashibi family, a well-known family in Jerusalem. The lady shared many memories from living in our house. To her, it was her house; she

never sold it or gave it a way.

The hardest moment was when she asked about the jewelry she left behind when they fled; she wanted to look for it and was sure we were hiding the jewels from her. The look of shame, defeat, weakness and embracement on her son's face is still clear in my memory.

At that moment, it dawned on me that our house was not only ours, and our neighborhood was not only mine.

I did not realize it then, but if we do not learn how to share the land – the land we view as ours and whose Palestinian residents are invisible to our eyes – if we do not learn how to divide it with the Palestinians, some of whom had fled or were chased away, then our children and Palestinian children will be forever condemned to live in a dangerous city.

In that case, they had better learn quickly where it's safe to play.

## JCL makes case to community for LIFE & LEGACY commitments

By Jennifer Tuvlin  
Guest Columnist

The JCL is supporting LIFE & LEGACY, a program of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation that promotes after-lifetime giving to Jewish agencies and synagogues in Louisville.

Through training, support and monetary incentives, LIFE & LEGACY motivates Jewish organizations to integrate legacy giving into their fundraising in order to assure the future of Jewish Louisville. Nine organizations are participating: Adath Jeshurun, Keneseth Israel, Temple Shalom and The Temple, the Federation, The J, Jewish Family and Career Services, Jewish Learning Center-Chabad and LBSY.

Here are five reasons to consider making a LIFE & LEGACY commitment:

- Support the future: Committing to a legacy gift to any of the participating organizations shows support for building endowment funds that generate annual funding to benefit the organizations.
- Support the present: Each organization participating in LIFE & LEGACY receives an incentive bonus of up to \$6,000 for securing enough new commitments to meet its goals. These incentives can be used in any way each organization sees fit, to help current operations, to build their endowment, etc.
- Create a legacy: Establishing a legacy gift – whether through a bequest in a will, or a portion of an IRA, or another giving vehicle – leaves a last lesson to the donor's children, grandchildren, and even the community. A legacy gift states that being generous, caring about

others, and thinking about the future are important moral values.

- Lead by example: Signing a legacy commitment is an act of community leadership as donors step up and show dedication to their organizations. Donors need not make a monetary gift now, just a commitment, and leadership.

- Save on taxes: While the participating organizations do not provide tax, legal or financial advice, donors are encouraged to contact their advisors to talk about how a prospective legacy gift can save on capital gains taxes, estate taxes, and/or income taxes.

To learn more about LIFE & LEGACY or leaving a legacy in general, please contact any participating organization,

or contact Jennifer Tuvlin at the JCL, [jtuvlin@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:jtuvlin@jewishlouisville.org) or (502) 238-2735.

### Corrections

Janet Lynch is the granddaughter of Sara Greenstein. Rabbi Nadia Siritisky's April column, "Jewish Hospital chapel upgrade in keeping with its family values," misidentified the relationship.

...

The annual Naamani Lecture Series is not affiliated with the JCC. A story in the May Community, "Leshem to Louisville: I connect to the world one story at a time," incorrectly reported that it was.



Stacy Gordon-Funk and Jennifer Tuvlin tout growing the community through LIFE & LEGACY. (photo provided)

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# 12th Annual MOSAIC Awards spotlights local talent from other lands

By Lee Chottiner  
Interim Editor

The 2017 MOSAIC Award honorees – all representing how newcomers to America can make good and give back to their adopted country – were recognized for their achievements Thursday, May 18, during a celebration at the Hyatt Downtown.

In what was billed as the largest MOSAIC Awards event to date (about 500 people were on hand), TARC Director Barry Barker, high-tech entrepreneur Vik Chadha, U of L gerontology specialist Dr. Annatjie Faul, Grammy-nominated composer John LaBarbera, and restaurant mogul CoCo Tran were each profiled, presented with original artwork, then given their chance at the microphone to thank those who helped them and add their own thoughts to the occasion.

“Jewish law commands us to welcome the stranger in our midst,” said Judy Freundlich Tiell, executive director of the Jewish Family & Career Services, in describing the motivation for presenting the awards. JFCS is the chief sponsor of the event.

Since 2006, The MOSAIC Awards have annually recognized a class of “international Americans” whose drive, creativity and entrepreneurial spirit have contributed to Louisville. Louisvillians from 32 countries, including two from Israel, have been honored.

Since JFCS’s founding 119 years ago, it has been its mission to provide services to newcomers to America, and to Louisville, establish themselves, and to succeed.

“This is the story of all people,” said Rabbi Joe Rooks Rapport, who led the invocation. “We are all travelers searching for a home.”

Among this year’s honorees:

- Barry Barker, from Great Britain, a



Barry Barker, Vik Chadha, Annatjie Faul, John La Barbera, and CoCo Tran were this year’s honorees at the 12th Annual MOSAIC Awards. (photo by William Beasley, see photo gallery, page 18)

leading public transit expert and director of TARC has contributed with the systems service innovations and “customer-centric services.” Under his leadership, Louisville’s transit authority has added hybrid and electric buses and increased its level of outside funding.

In accepting the award, Barker thanked Mayor Greg Fischer for declaring Louisville a compassionate city, saying such gestures “give folks like myself license to pursue the aspects of my business.”

- Vik Chadha, from India, has co-founded two successful technology companies – Backupify and GlowTouch – which collectively employ more than 1,300 people. He also played a role in creating the high-tech, co-working space, iHub, at U of L’s J.D. Nichols Campus.

Chadha, who is married to 2013 MO-

SAIC honoree Vidya Ravichandran, credited his parents for instilling in him the core values he needed to succeed, including finding the good in people.

“At the end of the day,” he said, “we are all the same.”

He also credited persistence, saying he and his wife sent out 125 proposals for a business plan when starting out – and got 125 rejections – before someone took a chance on them.

- Annatjie Faul, from South Africa, left the country she loved in 2000 to seek more opportunities for her family. Today, she is the associate dean for academic affairs at the Kent School of Social Work, and executive director of the Institute for Sustainable Health & Optimal Aging of the U of L Health Sciences Center. She was recently awarded more than \$2 million in grants to help primary physicians here better serve geriatric populations.

“We are blooming where we are planted,” Faul said of her family (her husband also teaches at U of L). “We are blooming because of the wonderful people we encountered upon our journey.”

## LOUISVILLE VAAD HAKASHRUTH

Venues currently supervised and certified by the Vaad:

- ◆ The Jewish Community Center (Kitchen)
- ◆ The J Outdoor Café (Dine -n- Dive)
- ◆ KentuckyOne Health Jewish Hospital (kosher kitchen only)
- ◆ The Arctic Scoop: 841 S. Hurstbourne Pkwy. (They have pareve options and are available for any occasion at any off-site venue)

### Services provided by the Vaad:

- ◆ Consultation on kashruth and of kosher products at local businesses and companies

List of local businesses providing kosher catering (must request to have Vaad supervision when ordering):

- ◆ Bristol Catering (kosher catering available at off-site venues such as The J, synagogues, etc.)
- ◆ Hyatt Regency Louisville (kosher catering only)
- ◆ Masterson’s (kosher catering available at off-site venues such as The J, synagogues, etc.)
- ◆ Other venues may be approved only upon request for kosher supervision

Please visit our website for more info:  
[www.louisvillevaad.org](http://www.louisvillevaad.org)

- John La Barbera, of Sicilian descent, is a professor emeritus of music at U of L. Before that, though, he played jazz with some of the greatest performers of the genre – Buddy Rich, Woody Herman, Count Basie, Dizzy Gillespie and Mel Torme. He has composed jazz works that are considered standards, conducted symphony and chamber orchestras, and received two National Endowment for the Arts awards for jazz composition.

In his brief remarks, La Barbera said he was grateful to his father for immigrating before the U.S. government imposed quotas in 1924. Otherwise, he never would have had the opportunities of which he has taken advantage.

“My father is the one who deserves the award,” he said.

- CoCo Tran, from Vietnam, started her first restaurant in Saigon in 1968 (she was just 22). After fleeing her country in 1975 – one of the thousands of “Boat People” risking everything to reach America – she came to Louisville and was introduced to fast food dining when she was taken to lunch at McDonalds. She went on to open the first Chinese fast food restaurant in the city, The Egg Roll Machine. Since then, she has opened nine bistros, employed many Vietnamese refugees and has mentored other Asian entrepreneurs.

She said she only opens vegetarian eateries because “I want people to be healthy.”



Event Chair Rachel Greenberg welcomes the 500 guests to the MOSAIC Awards reception. (photo by William Beasley)

Like every year, this year’s MOSAIC awards were pieces of art uniquely designed for the occasion. Kentucky artist David Caudill created this year’s awards – a set of prints. He wrote the prints “offer opportunities to invent stories and to explore an unlimited field of imagination.”

Also during the ceremony, the 2017 Jeff & Phyllis Osborn Scholarship recipient was announced. She is Edna Gyamfi of Ghana. A doctoral student in psychology at Spalding University, Gyamfi’s award is worth \$1,000.

Before the program, young entrepreneurs showcased their businesses. JFCS is supporting them through its Navigate Enterprise Center, which provides information, training, one-on-one consulting and access to financing for low- and moderate-income entrepreneurs to launch and expand their own small businesses.

Rachel Greenberg, a JFCS board member, chaired this year’s event committee.

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# Hazon seal, Louisville Grows grant to be parts of J's enhanced sustainability

By Lee Chottiner  
Interim Editor

The Louisville J has taken two significant steps to improve its level of environmental sustainability.

It will work with Hazon, a Jewish environmental organization working to build healthier, greener Jewish communities, to earn the Hazon Seal of Sustainability.

And it has secured a \$1,000 grant from Louisville Grows to enhance and expand its community garden at the back of the Dutchmans Lane campus.

JOFEE Fellow Michael Fraade plans to complete three audits required by Hazon by the end of the month. The audits will look at the The J's energy use and



facilities, its food and animal practices, and its health and ecosystem.

The JOFEE Fellowship is through Hazon. It stands for Jewish Outdoor, Food and Environmental Education.

Once those audits are complete, The J will commit to three projects designed to improve its sustainability practices. The projects, which must be completed by the end of the year, will be selected after the audits are submitted.

Hazon Sustainability Seal program recently concluded its pilot year. The Louisville J is part of a second "cohort" of Jewish institutions attempting to earn the designation.

A group of staff and lay volunteers, led by Fraade, will form a "Green Team" to spearhead the project. Anyone interest-

ed in joining the team or suggesting a sustainable project for the community may contact Fraade at [mfraade@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:mfraade@jewishlouisville.org) or 502-238-2769.

The Louisville Grows grant will be used to purchase raised beds for the community garden, compost, topsoil and more fruit trees for the orchard.

Fraade plans to purchase four paw paw trees for the orchard. Paw Paws are a native American fruit that has become increasingly difficult to find in the stores.

"I love to eat paw paws, but you can't find them in stores," he said. "So we have an opportunity to engage in a native American fruit and it tastes really good."

## Michael Twitty to use 'Kosher/Soul' cooking to open Fresh Stop in June

By Lee Chottiner  
Interim Editor

Michael Twitty isn't your average chef or your average Jew.

Average chefs don't make it their business to research the ways slaves in Antebellum America cooked and to reenact that cooking for live audiences, something that's garnered him national attention.

And since Twitty is black and Jewish, he likes to show how both cultures express their identities through their diets – what he calls "Kosher/Soul."

Jewish Louisville will get an ... umm ... taste of what Twitty does on Wednesday, June 7, 4:30-7:30 p.m., when the culinary historian opens the 2017 Fresh Market season at The J as the featured chef. Fourteen Fresh Stop markets will open citywide in June.

While in town, Twitty also will appear at the Frazier History Museum on Monday, June 5 for a program called Farm to Frazier: Culinary Roots. The program is scheduled for 6:30-7:30 p.m. with an antebellum-inspired dinner to follow. The cost is \$12, free for members.

Twitty also will give a talk on JOFEE's monthly restaurant night at The Table in Portland on Tuesday, June 6, from 6-8 p.m. JOFEE – a project of the Jewish sustainability group Hazan – stands for Jewish, Outdoor, Food, and Environmental Education.

A Washington, DC, native, Twitty defines himself as an "African-American-Jewish culinary historian. He is the author of the forthcoming book *The Cooking Gene*, which describes his cu-



Michael Twitty will make three appearances in Louisville to demonstrate his brand of Kosher/Soul cooking. (photo by Johnathan M. Lewis)

linary journey through the Old South. He also writes a food blog, *Afroculinar-ia*, and cooks in the style of Antebellum America and "Kosher/Soul."

Though some might describe what Twitty does as an "infusion" of two cooking traditions, the 40-year-old chef/historian bristles at that word.

"Kosher/Soul is a conversation between two diasporas," Twitty told Community. "It's a call and response to dialogue."

It's that dialogue, he said, that leads

to understanding the black and Jewish experiences.

And while some of his dishes do seem like fusion cooking – his black eyed pea hummus, for instance – as Twitty would tell you, it isn't so.

"Black eyed peas belong to both Sephardic Jewish and African American foods; nothing is being added," he said. Black eye peas, he explained, originated in West Africa, spread through North Africa and the Middle East and were eventually brought to America "commensurate with slavery."

Such is how foods can tell a people's story, Twitty said. "Our food history carries with it the history of our migration. It tells us about who we are."

Since he began studying kosher and soul cooking over decade ago, Twitty has been impressed by the "simplicity" of both food traditions.

"Simplicity carries a lot of meaning; you have to be simple when you're landless," he said. "When you are a people constantly in motion and every couple of generations pulls up stakes and moves somewhere else, that affects you."

At his Fresh Stop appearance, Twitty will demonstrate ways to prepare the produce available at the market.

Fresh Stop is a needs-based, pay-what-you-can produce market in which customers purchase shares of the produce available. Each share equals 10-12 varieties.

The vegetables and fruits are provided by some 50 farms within a 100-mile radius of Louisville.

Customers can purchase a full share for \$25, a limited resources share for \$12

or a WIC share for \$6. But each share is worth the same amount of varieties.

The Fresh Stop markets were started by New Roots, a Louisville-based food justice nonprofit. New Roots Founder Karyn Moskowitz, in a prepared statement, called Twitty's appearances "a unique opportunity for everyone interested in food, culture, and justice to connect with one another and with community members in one physical space."

Michael Fraade, Louisville's JOFEE fellow who oversees the Fresh Stop market here, said no one knows who pays how much for their share. The monthly market is merely a place where people find affordable produce, socialize, and watch as a featured chef prepares tasty dishes using what's available.

"You're hanging out," Fraade said. "No one is looking at you, thinking, 'Oh, this person paid for a half share. Everyone gets the same thing. What you pay is anonymous.'"

Though the grand opening is June 7, two Fresh Stop markets were held in May at The J, utilizing the limited amount of food farmers had available.

The Fresh Stop at The J opened for the first time last October. Though it managed to hold just five markets before the end of the season, Fraade said 325 shares were sold.

With 2017 being the first full season for The J's Fresh Stop, Fraade hopes to sell 60-65 shares per market, if not more.

He said he is selling shares now and needs volunteers to help out. Fraade can be reached at [mfraade@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:mfraade@jewishlouisville.org) or 502-238-2769.



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# Hollander joins Federation, connecting women with movement

By Lee Chottiner  
Interim Editor

If you think Julie Hollander looks familiar, you're right.

The Jewish Federation's new director of women's philanthropy & outreach, who started in April, is on her second stint with the Jewish Community of Louisville. She served as the JCC's camp & youth director here from 2009-2013.

Hollander is a career administrator in the Jewish nonprofit sector. She also served as teen director and camp di-



Julie Hollander

rector at the Sid Jacobson JCC on Long Island, NY, and as senior associate for teen programming at Jewish Volunteer Connection at The Associated in Baltimore.

In her second stint in Louisville, Hollander is focused on connecting more women to the

Federation movement, increasing their involvement and leadership.

"Changing culture is not easy," Funk said in a statement. "Within philanthropy, we have are committed to strengthening our relationships with supporters. It takes an outgoing and committed staff to do this. Bringing Julie back fully aligns with commitment as she is engaging, personable and well respected. We are thrilled to have her on the team."

A graduate of the University of Delaware and the C.W. Post Campus of Long Island University, where she earned a

master's of public administration in nonprofit management, Hollander, a Columbia, MD, native, says her immediate priority is to reacquaint herself with Jewish Louisville.

She said she is excited about enhancing her skills as a fundraiser. "That's how nonprofits survive, by fundraising."

Hollander envisions programming with the Women's Division, finding new ways for women to interact together and to learn more about the local and global needs the Federation system serves.

## JWRP alum erects Western Wall replica at St. Matthews school cultural fair

By Lee Chottiner  
Interim Editor

A Louisville mom who decided to erect a replica of the Western Wall for her son's grade school multicultural festival got some sobering responses to the display.

Julie Kling, who went on the Jewish Women Renaissance Project's MOMentum Israel trip for young mothers last November, said the experience "really inspired me to be an advocate for Israel."

So after she returned home, she joined the committee at St. Matthews Elementary that was planning the second annual multicultural festival at the school, her intent being to include an Israel exhibit.

"Lucas (her son) was starting school and had no kids [in his class] who were Jewish," Kling said. "It made the Chanukah/Christmas season just a little challenging for him."

She hoped an exhibit for Israel, one of eight countries represented at the festi-



Above, children at St. Matthews Elementary School prepare messages to insert in the replica Western Wall made by Julie Kling. Below, the replica wall. (photos provided by Julie Kling)

val, would serve as a toolkit for teachers, parents and students alike.

"We realized his school did not have many venues to communicate diversity, with exception of this multicultural fair," she said.

At the suggestion of YAD Director Benji Berlow, Kling built a foam board replica of the wall and had the kids write notes and wishes that were attached the makeshift kotel, following the custom of worshippers at the real wall in Jerusalem.

She was surprised by the messages children wrote. Some wished for fun things – ponies, dogs, iPhones.

Others, though, went much deeper.

"A lot of them were about their wishes for themselves or their families to have a happy life, peace in the world, to stop guns and shooting and dying," Kling said.

"Another groups of kids shared some heartbreaking wishes – 'I wish I could see my dad every day,' 'I wish I was someone people could love,'" she contin-

ued. "I was sharing one [wish] with the

special ed. teacher, and she was bawling; she could not stop crying about it."

The kids' messages will be taken to Israel this November by the next group of MOMentum women for placement in the real Western Wall.

"Some messages showed the struggles of children – sharing their wounds, in a way – we also had the parents do it," Kling said. "It was very sweet.... It's really a gift to the JWRP women that they will have the opportunity to bring these wishes to the wall."

The Israel exhibit wasn't all about the Western Wall. Kling conducted an experiment to show children why things float in the Dead Sea. She filled one container with tap water, another with salt water, then dropped an egg in both. Of course, the egg sank to the bottom of the tap water container, but floated in the salt water.

Kling also brought in matzah since the April 12 fair fell around Passover.

Generally, though, "it's really about the culture [of a country]," she said. "I



didn't want to make it too religious, it IS a public school."

The other countries represented at the festival were Japan, Tanzania, Georgia, China, Bosnia, Cambodia and Canada.

Kling hopes the exhibit could be picked up on by other area schools.

"One thing we want to do is go to the Diversity Council of the Jefferson County Public Schools and see if this is a tool that might be applied to other schools to tell the story of Israel," she said.



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# Equality Shabbat – celebration of diversity – needed now as much as ever, rabbi says

By Lee Chottiner  
Interim Editor

At a time when LGBTQ rights are under fire in many states, Rabbi David Ariel-Joel believes the most vocal supporters of those rights – in Kentucky or anywhere – ought to be religious leaders.

“Actually, religious leaders have a special duty to be helping and supporting the LGBTQ community, because historically we’ve been part of the problem, and not part of the solution,” he said.

“Historically, it was religious leaders, including in our tradition, that were the ones putting stigmas on people because of their sexual orientation,” he continued. “We have passages in our sacred scriptures that I’m not proud of. We have statements from rabbis all through history, and even today, that I’m not proud of, that ostracize and say horrible things about people because of their sexual orientation.”

But Ariel-Joel, a senior rabbi at The Temple, isn’t just saying religious leaders should be at the forefront of the LGBTQ struggle; he, his colleagues and congregants are doing something.

The Temple will host its Third Annual Equality Shabbat Saturday, June 10, 2017 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. This year’s theme is “Creating a Welcoming Com-



Lori McConnell Fox delivers a reading at the 2016 Equality Shabbat at The Temple. A rainbow flag, the symbol of the LGBTQ movement, draped the lectern. (photo provided by Rabbi David Ariel-Joel)

munity.” The program is free to the public.

The Equality Shabbat, which falls

during LGBTQ Pride Month, celebrates those who are Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Questioning (LGBTQ). The Temple is the only Jewish congregation in Kentucky that commemorates LGBTQ Pride Month with a special Shabbat service.

The LGBTQ community continues to face discrimination, according to Ariel-Joel.

“Definitely, there’s a need for anything that we can do in Kentucky for the LGBTQ community,” he said, “especially now that there are new laws that might make it legal to discriminate against people because of their sexual orientation. It’s a big issue.”

He was referring to the raft of religious freedom bills that have worked their way through state legislatures, which critics say threaten the civil rights of the LGBTQ community in the name of religious freedom.

Ariel-Joel got the idea for Equality Shabbat from Israel, particularly from one Reform congregation in Jerusalem, Kol Haneshama, which has the same program.

“Every year, I’m in Jerusalem at the time when they do that, and every year I participate in the Equality Shabbat there — it’s called Pride Shabbat there,” Ariel-Joel said. And every year I say to

myself, we should do it here.”

So three years ago, when the rabbi told his then-adult education chair, Aaron Guldenschuh, about Pride Shabbat, he replied “so why don’t we do it here?”

They have been doing it ever since.

Equality Shabbat includes Torah Study at 9 a.m., services at 10:30 a.m., Kiddush and lunch at noon followed by a screening of the film *Hineini* (Here I am) a documentary about coming out at a Jewish day school in Massachusetts. A discussion will follow.

For Ariel-Joel, the highlight of the Shabbat is always the hakafah (Torah procession) during services.

“We ask anyone who is either LGBTQ themselves or a parent, or a sibling or a child, to join that hakafa,” he said, “so that is like our own small Pride Parade with the Torahs.”

The community response to Equality Shabbat has been generally positive, he said. Some 80-100 people attended last year’s program, including leaders from other faith groups.

Only a few negative responses have been received, Ariel-Joel said. “At one time or another, we considered having extra security, but it didn’t turn out to be a problem.”

## ‘Sondheim on Sondheim’ musical wraps up 2016-17 CenterStage season at The J

By David Wallace  
For Community

What does a legend of the theatre do near the end of a groundbreaking career? Generally, he writes a memoir or films a sentimental journey of origins and greatest hits and basks in the limelight of whatever is left of his life.

But, what if all you have left is one big musical hit (*Send in the Clowns*), your name is Stephen Sondheim and your nickname is “God”?

Answer: You make a musical with 38 or so of your songs, mix in bits of whimsical film and call it *Sondheim on Sondheim*.

It’s the production CenterStage selected as the finale of its 2016-17 season.

Stephen Joshua Sondheim cannot be summarized in two plus hours of songs and film, but one can get a sense as to why his contributions to theatre are unique and how his family life – or lack



thereof – shaped his life.

CenterStage’s talented cast of Russ Dunlap, Josh Gilliam, Andrew Hughes, Erin Jump, Lauren McCombs, Andrew Newton, Jennifer Poliskie and Debbie King Raque brought Sondheim’s vision to life – not an easy task to accomplish since they had to sing his complex creations and interact with the great man’s filmed presence.

Each performer had his or her moments in the sun – alone or together.

Newton was forthrightly effective in “Franklin Shepard, Inc.” from *Merrily We Roll Along*; Dunlap was scary as hell with “Epiphany” from *Sweeney Todd*. All were menacing in “The Gun Song” from *Assassins*; and Raque stopped the show with “Send in the Clowns” from *A Little Night Music*.

The point is that all these people were extremely effective in making the difficult seem effortless.

The interaction between drama, song and film was effective, particularly while

Dunlap was singing “Finishing the Hat” from *Sunday in the Park with George*.

Sondheim may indeed be God but, if so, God has a wry sense of humor, a twinkle in his eye with one eyebrow raised to a world full of surprises.

*Sondheim on Sondheim* is not for everybody; most of the people in my row left at intermission. Still, it gives a perfect sense of why Sondheim’s contributions to theatre are complex and staggering. Those folks who left should have stuck around.

...

The 2017-18 season will be here in no time featuring, and the lineup has already been announced: *Kiss Me Kate*; *Smokey Joe’s Café*; *Jekyll and Hyde*; *Driving Miss Daisy*; *Andrew Lippa’s Wild Party*; *The Little Mermaid* and, in a late addition, *Rocky Horror Picture Show*.

## Republic Bank Players Challenge to tee off soon on June 26

The 13th annual Republic Bank Players Challenge will be held on Monday, June 26 at the Standard Club. As many as 110 participants are expected to register this year.

The tournament supports services that are vital to families in Jewish Louisville.

“Many families who utilize counseling services for themselves and their children cannot afford the full cost of the service,” said Judy Freundlich Tiell, executive director of the Jewish Family & Career Services, a co-sponsor of the tournament, “so funds raised help provide scholarships for family counseling, ensuring that families learn skills that help them strengthen their family life.”

The event is also co-sponsored by the Jewish Community Center. Proceeds will support camp and membership scholarship funds for those families and individuals in need, helping The J continue to build a vibrant, caring, inclusive community.

Playing in foursomes for top prizes, golfers will also compete in contests

such as closest to the pin, and longest drive.

In addition to Republic Bank, JFCS and JCC, the title sponsor of the tournament,

sponsorships are available at several levels ranging from \$1,000-\$10,000.

Contact Lenae Price, JCC philanthropy & outreach director, at 502-238-2768

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# 2017 Annual Awards Meeting

## Awards Dinners honorees comprise an eclectic group of community talent

By Lee Chottiner  
Interim Editor

This year's slate of honorees by the Jewish Community of Louisville include young and old, longtime residents of the city and relative newcomers.

Here is a rundown of this year's winners:



### Dara Woods

When Dara Woods moved to Louisville from Rockland County, NY, in 2008, she wasn't prepared for the effort it would take to live a Jewish life here.

"When you're in New York ... you

don't have to work too hard to be Jewish because [so many] are," she said. "But moving some place like here, you have to seek out other Jewish families; you have put yourself in a position to be surrounded by other people with the same values and as you."

That she has done.

Woods, a Louisville realtor and this year's recipient of the Lewis W. Cole Memorial Young Leadership Award, co-chaired the family cluster for YAD and is chairing the Yom HaAtzmaut Festival planning committee.

Her proudest accomplishment, though, was in bringing the Jewish Women Renaissance Project to Louisville, through which she organized last November's MOMentum mission. That trip sent 18 Louisville moms with kids under 18 to Israel.

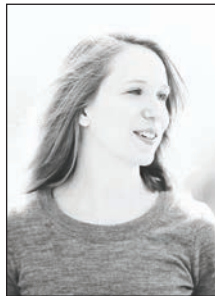
"When I discovered this program existed, I knew we had to bring it here," Woods said, "to get mothers together, to create a network of Jewish moms who learn, play interact together and are a source of sparking new leaders and engagement in Jewish life."

The participants also spent a year together studying parenting, Shabbat, holidays and Israeli history. They used a JWRP curriculum that Woods and JCC Philanthropy & Outreach Director Lenae Price modified for Louisville.

The idea behind MOMentum is to

inspire young mothers to become advocates for Israel and live Jewishly.

"We want to bring the love of the country and all the special things we experienced back to the community in a fun and educational event," said Woods, who will be returning to Israel this November as a madricha for the second group of Louisville MOMentum women.



### Devon Oser

Since the Joseph J. Kaplan Young Leadership Award is named for a past leader in Jewish education, Devon Oser, this year's recipient, holds the same value.

"I am a proponent of education

in all forms," Oser said. "I believe that the better educated a person is, the better equipped she will be to make decisions that inform not only her own life but to make decisions that impact the community and world as a whole."

In particular, Oser, 30, said a Jewish education "teaches young people to think critically about their surroundings, question fundamental truths to make decisions for themselves, and learn the joys of community service is invaluable."

Originally, from Columbus, OH, Oser, an attorney, came to Louisville in 2012 to work in the Public Defender's Office. She is currently with the firm of Kircher, Suetholz & Associates.

Soon after her arrival, Oser got involved in young Jewish adult activities – YAD, since 2012, director of Louisville Hillel from 2014-15, co-chair of the YAD Gala and YAD chair since 2016.

"I was not very active in any Jewish community before moving to Louisville," Oser said. "I took a chance by reaching out to the Louisville YAD group as a way to expand my social surroundings. Without taking that risk, I probably would not have met my husband and would not have met some of my closest friends."

"I want to make sure that every newcomer to Louisville, especially those who are currently unaffiliated, experi-

ence the openness and generosity that I felt from the Jewish community," she added.



### Corey Shapiro

Corey Shapiro has two careers: the law and community action. Where community action is concerned, he's taken action in the Jewish community and beyond.

After graduating from Washington University of St. Louis, he went to work for People for the American Way, an advocacy group defending constitutional values.

Since coming to Louisville in 2015, Shapiro has joined the board of the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC). More broadly, he serves on the Committee on Litigation and Legal Priorities at the ACLU of Kentucky.

"Having an active and vocal Jewish voice is important, especially in these political times," Shapiro said. "I think it's very important to understand Jewish values; we as a Jewish community are outspoken on those values. They unite us; they're our core."

Shapiro is the 2017 recipient of the Julie Linker Ward, which recognizes a adult taking on leadership responsibilities with the JCRC.

"It's important that we have a next generation of Jewish leadership, Shapiro said. "I want to be part of that, especially in areas where the Jewish population is not growing."

Shapiro, 43, and his wife moved to Louisville from Chicago so she could take a job as an OBGYN at the University of Louisville. He works at the law firm of Fultz Maddox Dickens, where he practices in the areas of business, healthcare, employment litigation and electronic discovery.

But his Jewish involvement goes back this teens.

"In high school and college I was active in the Jewish community. After college I was not as involved, and Chicago was not involved," he said. "When we moved here, [getting involved] was a great introduction to Louisville. I also knew I wanted my daughter to be part of the Jewish community, and I wanted to start being involved."

Since then, the family has gotten involved in YAD, Shalom Baby and swimming at The J.

"Our daughter takes swim lessons at the JCC," he said. "The JCC has become a true community center for our family."



### Delores Levy

Delores Levy knows what it's like to be different. Growing up in Greensburg, KY, population 1,500, gave her that appreciation.

"We were the only Jewish family, but there were eight of us – six children," Levy recalled. "They (the neighbors) knew we were different, but they came to my father for matzah for communion."

These days, as a volunteer at The J's Senior Adult Department, Levy is working with others who must feel just as different: newcomers to America seeking to become naturalized citizens.

Levy talks to them, helps them with

their English. She even gives them a few civics lessons, especially about voting.

"My thinking on it is, they have to know the language, but it's almost more important to instill in them and make more American," she said.

Above all, Levy wants to make them feel welcome, and a little less lonely.

"If they can come here and get an hour or two of laughter," she said, "that's what's important."

For these efforts, Levy will be presented the Elsie P. Judah Memorial Award for volunteer service to senior adults.

Levy has been coming to the JCC for 61 years. Her three sons grew there playing sports, with their mother watching from the bleachers.

She has also been active in Hadassah, and belongs to Adath Jeshurun.

The outgoing Levy said volunteering just comes naturally to her.

"The volunteering just happens when I'm down there," she said. "I just sort of talk."



### Alan Glaubinger

When Alan Glaubinger moved to Louisville from Fredericksburg, VA, he got involved Keneseth Israel and joined its board.

Eventually, the family moved to The Temple, and Glaubinger joined its board.

His kids went to the Louisville Hebrew School, so he joined its board, too.

See a pattern here?

Glaubinger, 76, a Louisville resident for 35 years, loves to volunteer, but not for its own sake. The retired stock broker has a philosophy about volunteering.

"The only way the Jewish community is going to survive is to give of themselves – not just their money but their time – to make sure the organizations function, and you don't need to be a *gantzer macher* to do it.... Be alive to stay alive."

Glaubinger is this year's winner of the Ronald and Marie Abrams Volunteer of the Year Award. Though his volunteerism is seen in many sectors of Jewish Louisville, the JCL specifically cited his service on the Federation's Investment Advisory Committee and his work as one of its brokers for many years.

Glaubinger liquidates securities gifts from donors and remits the money back to the Federation. Though many brokers have done this work for the Federation, for the past couple of years, Glaubinger has not accepted a commission.

"It a way of adding to your gifting," he said of his service.

Glaubinger is well motivated to work for Jewish Louisville. He recalled 35 years ago when he and his wife, Janice, closed on their first house here.

"We were met at the door by Sandra Berman and her two girls, who said, 'I've been told you were moving in; I'd like to introduce you to the neighborhood,'" Glaubinger recalled. "She and Harris (her husband) were our entre into the Jewish community."

He appreciated what Berman did so much that he started the Sandra K. Berman Shalom Louisville Fund to assist newcomers.

"We'd go to their [house] every year for break the fast and she had new people there all the time," he said of Berman. "She was always on the lookout for newcomers."

See **AWARDS** on next page

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# 2017 Annual Awards Meeting



Andrew Tuvlin Carly Schwartz Hunter Borowick Max Strull Abigail Geller Laina Meyerowitz Charles Bessen Gabe Sherman Marnina Goldberg Jacob Ioffe

## Ten Louisville teens recognized with leadership awards scholarships

By Lisa Dupree  
For Community

The 2017 Teen Leadership Awards go to 10 outstanding young people for their dedication to volunteering in the community, sportsmanship, and BBYO participation.

"The awards are really important because they show all the hard work [the teens] do for the Jewish community," said Teen Director Kari Semel.

**The Ellen Faye Garmon Award** recognizes teens whose work in BBYO strengthens and grows the organization. **Andrew Tuvlin**, a DuPont Manual High School junior, works with BBYO, the Beta Club, Peer Mentoring, and as Drew Corson AZA's Chapter President; and volunteers to better Louisville's Jewish community.

**Carly Schwartz**, Ballard High School sophomore, is the soprano section leader of the Madrigal Choir. She plays soccer, and works with BBYO, Beta Club, Math Honors Society, Backside Learning Center's Tutoring Program, and is Jay Levine BBG's morah.

**The Joseph Fink BBYO Community Service Scholarship** recognizes a dedicated high school senior for commitment to community service through-

out Louisville, while being deeply invested in BBYO for all four years of high school. **Hunter Borowick**, a Walden School senior, has done extensive work with BBYO, ECHO (Exploited Children's Help Organization), Shirley's Way, Rock for Kosair, U of L Musical Therapy, National Honor Society, Key Club, Environmental Club, KUNA, and Bowling Team.

**The Stuart Pressma Student Leadership Development Award** recognizes incoming and outgoing seniors for their devotion to BBYO. **Max Strull**, a Kentucky Country Day junior, has been gizbor and moreh in BBYO, a KCD Reach Out Days participant, and is mazkir and gizbor for the Kentucky-Indiana-Ohio region (KIO). **Abigail Geller**, a North Oldham High School junior, has had several BBYO chapter board roles. She served two terms as Jay Levine BBG's gizborit. She plays field hockey and participates in Beta Club and the National Art Honor Society. **Laina Meyerowitz**, a Ballard High School senior, works with Beta Club, Ballard Spanish Club, and has had several regional and local BBYO positions, including a recent year-long term as KIO n'siah. **Charles Bessen**, a Louisville Collegiate senior, works with his student government, volunteers at the VA Hospital and Beber

Summer Camp, and just completed a year-long term as KIO regional shaliach.

**The Tony Levitan Awards** recognize remarkable senior athletes' demonstration of character and leadership. **Gabe Sherman**, a Kentucky Country Day senior and avid baseball and basketball player, works with KCD's Community Service Club. He volunteers at Gilda's Club and Atria Senior Living. **Marnina Goldberg**, a Ballard High School senior, football manager, swimmer and field hockey player, is a member of Hebrew Club, Beta Club, and does peer-tutoring for special needs students.

**The Stacy Marks Nisenbaum Award** recognizes a teen BBYO

leader whose work to strengthen and grow BBYO is unprecedented, but is also engaged in his or her school and community. **Jacob Ioffe**, a DuPont Manual High School sophomore, is a golfer, and football and tennis player. He serves as the Drew Corson's AZA's moreh, is in the National Honors Society, Technology Student Association, and volunteers at the Kentucky Lions Eye Clinic, Shalom Towers, and Jewish Family & Career Services.

"It was very hard to pick the candidates for the awards," Semel said. "There are so many teens in our community whose activities are both extraordinary and varied."

## The Jewish Community of Louisville gratefully acknowledges donations to the following JCC SECOND CENTURY FUNDS AND OTHER ENDOWMENTS

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## AWARDS

continued from previous page

He also started the Samuel A. Glaubinger Youth Fund, named for his father who coached kids in the Synagogue Basketball League in Hartford, CT.

His wife, Janice, also has the volunteer spirit, working for JFCS, NCJW and Metro United Way.

Aside from Jewish Louisville, Glaubinger has given his time to the Army Reserve, Family and Childrens Place and the Cubs Scouts ("I was a den mother").

"I believe in joining," he said.



### Tom Wissinger

While Jewish Louisville gets involved with JTomorrow!, considering what a future J would look like and how it might function, Tom Wissinger is quietly working on the project.

Wissinger, JCC program and operations director, is a liaison to the project manager. Together, they analyze the current and proposed facilities and work with the architects.

"All the stuff people aren't seeing, but move us from A to B and C to D, that's me," said Wissinger, this year's recipient of the Arthur S. Kling Award.

The Kling Award typically goes to a JCL staffer.

A Johnstown, PA, native and graduate of Slippery Rock University, Wissinger, 37, has been at The J since 2013, first

as a contractor at WTS International, running the center's Health and Wellness Department. He officially joined The J staff in 2014 and eventually took over operations and oversight of Center-Stage, Arts & Ideas, Seniors, and Youth and Families.

"I was a magnet," Wissinger said. "I just kept getting more and more responsibilities."

Interestingly, he may be the only staffer to work extensively in an Arab country. He spent 2006 in the Persian Gulf emirate of Qatar, managing facilities and operations for the Asia Games. Four years later, he was back to work on the 2010 Asia Cup soccer championship and the Arab Games.

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## ‘Step back, stop, breathe’

### Sale of Jewish Hospital, Frazier Rehab, will work out well, rabbi trusts

By Rabbi Nadia Siritsky  
For Community

Every week, I write an email to all of Jewish Hospital, Frazier Rehab, along with all of the Jewish Medical Centers and Jewish Hospital Shelbyville, and several other members of the Catholic Health Initiatives family, reflecting on the Torah Portion of the week, and using this as an opportunity to help bring Judaism to life for all of the Jewish community's extended family.

Given the many changes that were announced recently, I am very grateful to Sara Wagner for being willing to share today's email with all of you. Jewish Hospital is part of the Jewish community, and as such, each of you is equally invested in its future, just as each of you is central to its roots and founding. As such, I thought my reflection might be meaningful:

Parshat Emor (Leviticus 21:1-24:23) contains this biblical commandment: "Six days shall work be done. But the seventh day is a Sabbath of solemn rest, a calling of holiness; you shall do no work. It is a Sabbath to the Holy One in all your dwellings (Lev. 23:15)".

Rabbinic tradition explains that this commandment is actually two commandments: the obligation to work and the obligation to rest. In essence, it is a commandment to observe balance. In our rushed world, we rarely stop and take a deep breath. Often, we react too quickly and make assumptions, responding from fear or projection, rather than allowing reality to simply be. If we try to fight what is meant to be, we



Rabbi Nadia Siritsky

may wind up creating problems that were not even there. The idea of letting go of control, if only for one day, can be terrifying for many. And yet, by letting go, we learn the deeper lesson of trust and faith. We may think that we know how things are supposed to be, but if we can take a step back, and breathe, we may find out that what is meant to be is entirely different than what we think ought to be.

Recently, a chaplain at Our Lady of Peace shared with me an insight that she often shares with the teens with whom she works, and which seems especially powerful today: "When it seems like everything is going to pieces, perhaps all that is really happening is that everything is falling into place." Our vantage point and perspective is biased by what we know, and even further shaped by what we do not know. The unknown can seem scary, but it may be filled with more blessings than we can imagine.

The restructuring of KentuckyOne Health has been announced, and while the commitment to maintain the healing mission of Jewish Hospital and Frazier Rehab remains unwavering, the details of our future are not yet clear. What is certain is that, contrary to some misinformed media communications, there are no plans to close Jewish Hospital and Frazier Rehab. What is also certain

is that each one of us is likely to respond to this message of change, shaped by our own personal and previous experiences of change.

Therefore, some of us may be hopeful for the future, while others are terrified, and still others are angry that we have no control. Possibly, they are even angry that we did not anticipate this change. These reactions reflect our own unique personalities and dynamics.

One of the messages that I personally draw from Parshat Emor is that, rather than react immediately, it is important to take a step back, stop, breathe and allow ourselves to trust. I trust in the One whose power is greater than all human power. I trust in the amazing caregivers and leaders who are part of our team.

I trust in the miracles that I witness every day here at Jewish Hospital and Frazier Rehab. I trust in the ways in which my life experience has repeatedly reminded me of the wise words of Chaplain Jan: "When it seems like everything is going to pieces, perhaps all that is really happening is that everything is falling into place."

May we allow ourselves time to stop and breathe. When we find ourselves reacting or responding with fear rather than faith, let us take a step back and remind ourselves that we cannot know the future. May it yield blessings beyond what we can imagine.

I would like to conclude this week's reflection with the following parable:

Long ago, in a village in northern China, there lived a man who owned a magnificent horse. So beautiful was this horse that people came from miles

around just to admire it. They told him he was blessed to own such a horse.

"Perhaps," he said. "But what seems like a blessing may be a curse."

One day, the horse ran off. It was gone. People came to say how sorry they were for his bad luck.

"Perhaps," he said. "But what seems like a curse may be a blessing."

A few weeks later, the horse returned. It was not alone. It was followed by 21 wild horses. By the law of the land, they became his property. He was rich with horses. His neighbors came to congratulate him on his good fortune.

"Truly," they said, "you have been blessed."

"Perhaps. But what seems like a blessing may be a curse."

Shortly after that, his son – his only son – tried to ride one of the wild horses. He was thrown from it and broke his leg. The man's neighbors came to say how sorry they were. Surely, he had been cursed.

"Perhaps," he said. "But what seems like a curse may be a blessing."

A week later, the king came through that village, drafting every able-bodied young man for a war against the people of the north. It was a horrible war. Everyone who went from that village was killed. Only that man's son survived, because of his broken leg.

To this day, in that village, they say, "What seems like a blessing may be a curse. What seems like a curse, may be a blessing."

*(Rabbi Nadia Siritsky is vice president of mission at KentuckyOne Health.)*



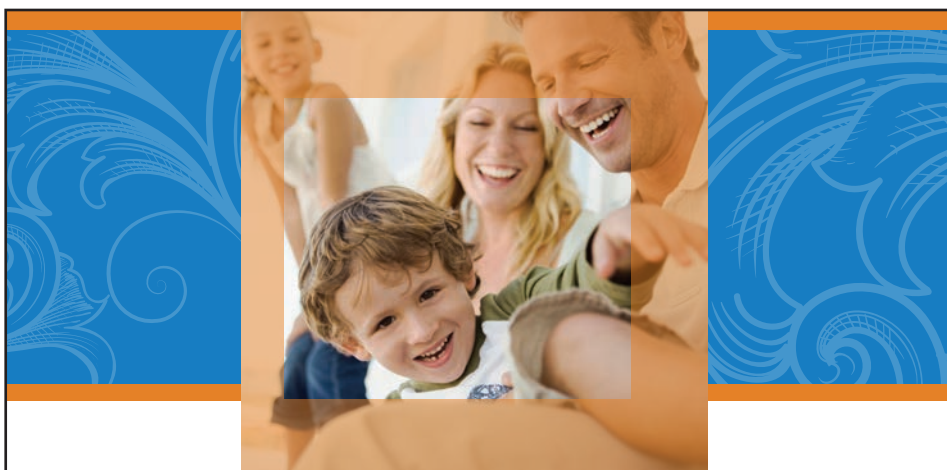
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# D'VAR TORAH

## Shavuot a time to renew selves, relationship with God, rabbi says

By Rabbi David Feder  
For Community

We are still journeying from Egypt toward Sinai as we make our way through the period of the Omer from Pesach to Shavuot. While it felt like we turned our lives inside out as we prepared for Pesach with cleaning, changing pots and pans and dishes, and transforming the way we eat for a week, Shavuot barely seems to evince a yawn.

Perhaps it's because Shavuot arrives right after school ends and summer vacation begins. Perhaps it's due to fewer concrete acts associated with Shavuot. We construct a sukkah for Sukkot, wave a lulav and etrog inside it, and make

innumerable changes for Pesach, but other than blintzes, cheesecake and some greenery in the sanctuary, we don't do much for Shavuot.

Shavuot is much more about the abstract: the meaning of revelation, the nature of Torah and our relationship with God.

Our sages imagined a number of different analogies for explaining the significant themes of Shavuot. Among the most useful is that of a wedding. Mount Sinai is imagined to be the chuppah raised over the Israelites as they enter into a covenantal relationship with God. The Torah serves as the ketubah, spelling out the obligations and responsibilities each owes the other. That moment at Sinai marked the formal beginning of the relationship between God and the Jewish people. Courtship began during the times of the patriarchs and matriarchs and continued through the years of slavery and miraculous redemption

from Egypt. Those seven weeks in the wilderness following the splitting of the Sea of Reeds can be seen as a period of engagement, ending with marriage at the time of revelation.

In the centuries that have followed, our relationship with God, like most marriages and relationships, has not been a static relationship, but can be seen as an ever-changing dynamic relationship. At Sinai, God revealed something to us of the divine nature, as our hearts and souls were on display for God. As the relationship matured, we no longer needed miracles as signs of God's nearness or actions on our behalf. We could rely on what we had experienced and what we knew without constantly seeing visible signs.

As part of the relationship, we have experienced times of nearness and times when we have felt more distant. We have questioned God's existence and care and have flirted with other relationships, whether those are modernity, secularism or other faiths. But something always seems to draw us back together, restoring us to our eternal partner.

In these quiet days of early summer, after a busy spring, an active school year, and a rush of summer preparations, it is good to have the time for quiet contemplation. We can reflect upon that moment beneath Sinai when we began our partnership with God and consider the path we have followed as individuals and a people.

By marveling over memorable moments, quietly reflecting upon difficult times and thinking about all the detours we have taken in our own lives and the life of our people, we renew ourselves and our relationship with God on Shavuot.

*Shabbat candles should be lit on the following nights and times: May 26 at 8:38 p.m.; June 2 at 8:43 p.m.; June 9 at 8:47 p.m.; June 16 at 8:50 p.m.; June 23 at 8:51 p.m.; and June 30 at 8:52 p.m.*

# CHAVURAT SHALOM



By Sarah Harlan  
For Community

Just because it's summer, doesn't mean we take a vacation from engaging, entertaining and programming. Call your friends and join us for these great programs:

- Thursday, June 1 – Rabbi Joe Rapoport will expand our horizons while we enjoy a cookout with hamburgers, hot dogs, baked beans, coleslaw, fresh fruit, and strawberry trifle.

- Thursday, June 8 – Alan Zukof and Steve Bradley will delight us with their guitar and piano skills. Lunch will include grilled chicken, black beans and rice, veggie medley, couscous salad, fresh fruit, and flourless chocolate cake. Lunch will be in the Heideman and the concert will be in the Waller Chapel.

- Thursday, June 15 – Two of Diamonds, a crowd favorite, will take us on a sea cruise around the world in music. Lunch will include grilled salmon, marinated green bean and potato salad, farro with grilled veggies, fresh fruit and bread pudding.

- Thursday, June 22 – Calling all Sherlock! Actors from WhoDunnit Murder Mystery Theater will intrigue and entertain us with four short "radio" mysteries. Lunch will include grilled chicken caesar salad, black bean soup, and fresh fruit. We'll also celebrate June birthdays and anniversaries.

- Thursday, June 29 – Leon Wahba and Mercedes Nibur will talk about being born Jewish in an Arab country. Lunch will include barbecue chicken, pasta salad with grilled veggies, corn on the cob, mixed green salad, fresh fruit, and bread pudding.



Jewish Community of Louisville

## Report of the Governance Committee of the Jewish Community of Louisville, Inc. 2017-18 JCL Board Slate Announced

Lance Gilbert, chair of the Governance Committee of the Jewish Community of Louisville, Inc., announces the following slates for election at the Annual Meeting of the Jewish Community of Louisville to be held:

**Thursday, June 8 at The J**  
**6:30 p.m. Cocktail Reception**  
**7 p.m. Program & Awards**

### Nominated for a first three-year term are:

Madeline Abramson  
Shari "George" Polur

### Nominated for a second consecutive three-year term are:

Seth Gladstein  
Laurence Nibur  
Jake Wishnia

### Nominated to serve as officers of the Board for the fiscal year 2017:

Jon Fleischaker - Chair  
Ralph Green - Vice Chair  
Jeff Tuvlin - Vice Chair  
Laurence Nibur - Interim Treasurer  
Becky Swansburg - Secretary  
Jay Klempner - Immediate Past Chair

### Appointed to serve on the Board in accordance with the bylaws due to the positions they hold:

Amy Ryan - Program Cabinet Chair  
Rabbi Nadia Siritsky - President of the Louisville Board of Rabbis and Cantors

Additional nominations may be submitted by petition to the JCL secretary with a minimum of 36 signatures by JCL members in good standing at least 10 days prior to the Annual Meeting.

### The Jewish Community of Louisville would like to acknowledge the following board members for continuing to serve on the 2017-18 JCL Board:

Mark Behr  
Keren Benabou  
Sarah Harlan  
Jon Klein  
Ariel Kronenberg  
Robin Miller  
Benjamin Vaughan  
Amy Wisotsky

### We are grateful to the following outgoing directors for their Board service:

Karen Abrams  
Bruce Blue  
Lance Gilbert  
Bob Sachs

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# For unity's sake, it's time to let Jews the world over vote in Israeli elections

By Rabbi Joshua Hammerman  
Guest Columnist

As Israel turns 69, world Jewry is in a state of crisis. Israel and American Jewry are drifting apart, and within each of those groups we're seeing increased polarization on fundamental issues like the two-state solution, Israel's democratic vs. Jewish nature and the definition of who is a Jew.

Rather than wallowing in malaise, I'd like to propose a solution that could resolve many of our challenges, a grand bargain fit for these chaotic times.

I propose that we create a class of Jewish "citizenship" that will reinvent the relationship between Diaspora Jewry and Israel, revitalize all streams of Judaism, minimize differences on conversion, strengthen Israeli democracy, boost pro-Israel pride on college campuses and possibly even put the Jewish state on the path to reconciliation with its neighbors.

I sense your eyes rolling, but hear me out.

The beauty of this idea is that it relies on a definition of "Who is a Jew" that is already in place. It's found in Israel's Law of Return, which establishes the right of almost any Jew in the world to automatically become a citizen of Israel.

Established in the aftermath of the Holocaust in 1950 and revised in 1970, the law states that those eligible for automatic Israeli citizenship would include "those born of a Jewish mother or converted to Judaism, plus their non-Jewish children, grandchildren, and spouses, and to the non-Jewish spouses of their children and grandchildren."

Step one of my grand bargain would be to extend this "Jewish citizenship" to anyone, anywhere, covered by the Law of Return, along with all current Israeli Jews. A Jewish citizen might not be rec-



Joshua Hammerman

ognized universally as a Jew, according to halachah (rabbinic law), but he or she will be eligible for something potentially of much greater value than an ark opening at the local synagogue.

Step two: Give these "Jewish citizens" the right to vote in Israeli elections – in exchange for a real demonstration of commitment, but one that does not have to include aliyah.

Think how this idea would galvanize Diaspora Jewry and transform the relationship with Israel into what it most needs to be right now: a partnership of equals. Jewish citizens would be able to participate in forging a future for the Jewish people, taking them from the sidelines and thrusting them right into the middle of the action.

If Jewish citizenship is to have real meaning, there is no substitute for the right to vote for representatives of the Jewish state. Other bodies claiming to represent the Jewish people, such as the World Zionist Organization, are democratic and representative, but they have all the clout of the Mickey Mouse Club.

Dual citizenship is the norm in dozens of free countries. Fully belonging to the Jewish people should mean more than the right to lobby, rally, retweet and donate. Jewish citizenship would entitle us to directly impact the future of the only Jewish state the world has seen for 2,000 years, a place that we love and wish to cultivate.

What, short of actual aliyah, would qualify Jews for this citizenship? I would suggest a period of national service on behalf of the Jewish people. Each ap-

plicant would need to spend a certain amount of time in Israel, beginning, for many, with a Birthright trip, which would now have a more weighty function. Some basic Jewish literacy requirement might also be considered.

A number of questions naturally arise:

Is it fair to offer benefits of citizenship to those not living in the "home base" and paying taxes there? Children of American immigrants to Israel can attain American citizenship (and vote in American elections), even if they never actually lived in America. American expats are generally allowed to use foreign taxes paid as a credit against their U.S. tax obligation. Something similar could be considered for Jewish citizens living in the Diaspora. Perhaps annual federation pledges and synagogue dues could become part of the mix, on a sliding scale that is fair and affordable.

What about army service? About 35 percent of Israeli Jewish women avoid conscription, as do 27 percent of eligible men, primarily on religious grounds. Yet they get to vote, and some replace military service with the kind of national service that I am proposing. In addition, a number of Diaspora Jews already serve in the Israeli army without making aliyah. And of course Israel's Arab citizens do not serve in the army or do national service but vote in elections.

But whether or not they serve in the Israel Defense Forces, aren't all Israelis on the "front lines"? Increasingly, Diaspora Jewry is being called upon to fight existential battles for Israel's physical survival (as many on the right call the fights over the Iran deal and the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement) and its soul (as many on the left consider the fights for pluralism, minority and women's rights, and the two-state solution). Increasingly, terrorism and anti-Semitism threaten Jewish com-

munities everywhere. No one can be a spectator anymore and the need to draw the two communities closer together has never been more essential.

What about accusations of dual loyalty? Haters are gonna hate. Why should Jews face questions of dual loyalty when dual-citizen French, Irish and Italian Americans do not? American Jews need to get over this.

But isn't Judaism a religion and not a political entity? Jews have always been both a people and adherents of a faith, but the idea of religion divorced from peoplehood is relatively recent, pushed by Napoleon, 19th-century German reformers and mid-20th-century American suburbanites. For the vast majority of Jews today, it is peoplehood that matters most. That includes the 62 percent of American Jews who told Pew that being Jewish is mainly a matter of ancestry and culture (only 15 percent said "religion"). When 94 percent of all American Jews say they are proud to be Jewish, most are thinking about being part of a people – a people with an idea.

What would David Ben-Gurion say? Back in 1950, Israel's prime minister and American Jewish leaders came to an agreement that the State of Israel would not claim to speak on behalf of all the Jewish people. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has often ignored that memo, but under this proposal, the prime minister would truly represent world Jewry (just as the American president still represents American expats living in Kfar Saba).

Ben-Gurion would say this is an abandonment of the Zionist dream of universal aliyah. But after calming down with a glass of tea and turning his visionary gaze ahead seven decades, he would see that the Jewish people today are hopelessly split and mass aliyah is a pipe

See **HAMMERMAN** on page 23



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## JFCS CALENDAR

Stay up to date on all things JFCS when you sign up for our monthly e-newsletter! Contact [marketing@jfcsloouisville.org](mailto:marketing@jfcsloouisville.org).



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### JFCS FOOD PANTRY

#### SUGGESTIONS FOR JUNE

- Juice boxes
- Snack-size raisins
- Snack-size crackers
- Shampoo

Food must be donated in original packaging before the expiration date. Monetary donations may also be made to the Sonny & Janet Meyer Family Food Pantry Fund. Contact Kim Toebe at 502-452-6341, ext. 103.

## ANNUAL MEETING

The Board of Directors of Jewish Family & Career Services  
 Invites you to Attend its 109<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

### *Serving the Community Through a Jewish Lens*

Election of New Board Members  
 Recognition of Awards & Volunteers

**Tuesday, June 13, 2017**

**7:30 pm**

**Louis & Lee Roth Family Center**  
**2821 Klempner Way**

*RSVP 452-6341 Desserts & Coffee*

## Attention: All golfers, bridge, canasta, & Mahjong players

Join us for a fun-filled day of play while supporting JFCS and JCC. Seeking treasures for the silent auction. Contact: Beverly Bromley [bbromley@jfcsloouisville.org](mailto:bbromley@jfcsloouisville.org)



**REPUBLIC BANK**  
*Players Challenge*  
 June 26, 2017

## SUPPORT GROUPS

### **JUNE 6** **Caregiver Support Group 4 pm**

Meets on the first Tuesday of the month at Thomas Jefferson Unitarian Church, 4936 Brownsboro Road. Contact Naomi Malka at 502-452-6341, ext. 249.

### **JUNE 8** **Parkinson's Caregiver Support Group 1 pm**

Meets on the 2nd Thursday of the month at Jewish Family & Career Services. Contact Connie Austin at 502-452-6341, ext. 305.

### **JUNE 9** **Alzheimer's Caregiver Support SSP Group 2 pm**

Meets on the second Friday of the month at Jewish Family & Career Services. Contact Kim Toebe at 502-452-6341 ext. 103.

### **JUNE 15, 7 pm** **Adult Children of Aging Parents**

Meets on the third Thursday of the month at Jewish Family & Career Services. Contact Mauri Malka at 502-452-6341, ext. 250.

### **JUNE 21, 10 am** **Grandparents Raising Grandchildren**

Meets on the third Wednesday of every month at Kenwood Elementary, 7420 Justan Avenue Contact Jo Ann Kalb at 502-452-6341, ext. 335.

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.

## ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

### Officers & Executive Committee Members

Peter Resnik, *President*  
 Sean Wachsmann, *Vice President*  
 Robin Stratton, *Vice President*  
 Marc Charnas, *Treasurer*  
 Stephanie Mutchnick, *Past President*  
 Martin Margulis, *At-Large Member*  
 Ed Cohen, *At-Large Member*

### Nominated for New 3-Year Terms:

Salli Coleman  
 Betsy Prussian  
 Cheryl Small  
 Matt Doctrow  
 Jim Ensign  
 Aya Golding

### Re-nominated for Second, 3-Year Term

Doug Sharps  
 Carole Snyder

### We thank these dedicated members who will be leaving the Board

Bruce Belman  
 Mark Ament  
 Debbie Friedman  
 Jay Klempner

## CAREER SERVICES

### 10 TIPS TO PREPARE FOR COLLEGE

#### 10. Create Professional Email Account

#### 9. Make Summers Count

#### 8. Choose Your Classes Wisely

#### 7. Visit Colleges

#### 6. Attend College Events

#### 5. Develop a Testing Plan

#### 4. Find Your Passion(s)

#### 3. Strive to be Well Rounded

#### 2. Make a Plan for Your Major

#### 1. Keep Up the Good Work and Keep Getting Better

For more than 70 years, Jewish Family & Career Services (JFCS) has provided career and educational advisement for thousands of students. Our career specialists can help the transition from high school to college and ultimately into the world of work.



## JUMPSTART YOUR JOB SEARCH

A four session workshop to help individuals develop their own strategic job search plan.

Mornings: June 21, 22, 28, 29; 10am-12pm  
 Evenings: June 19, 20, 26, 27; 6-8pm

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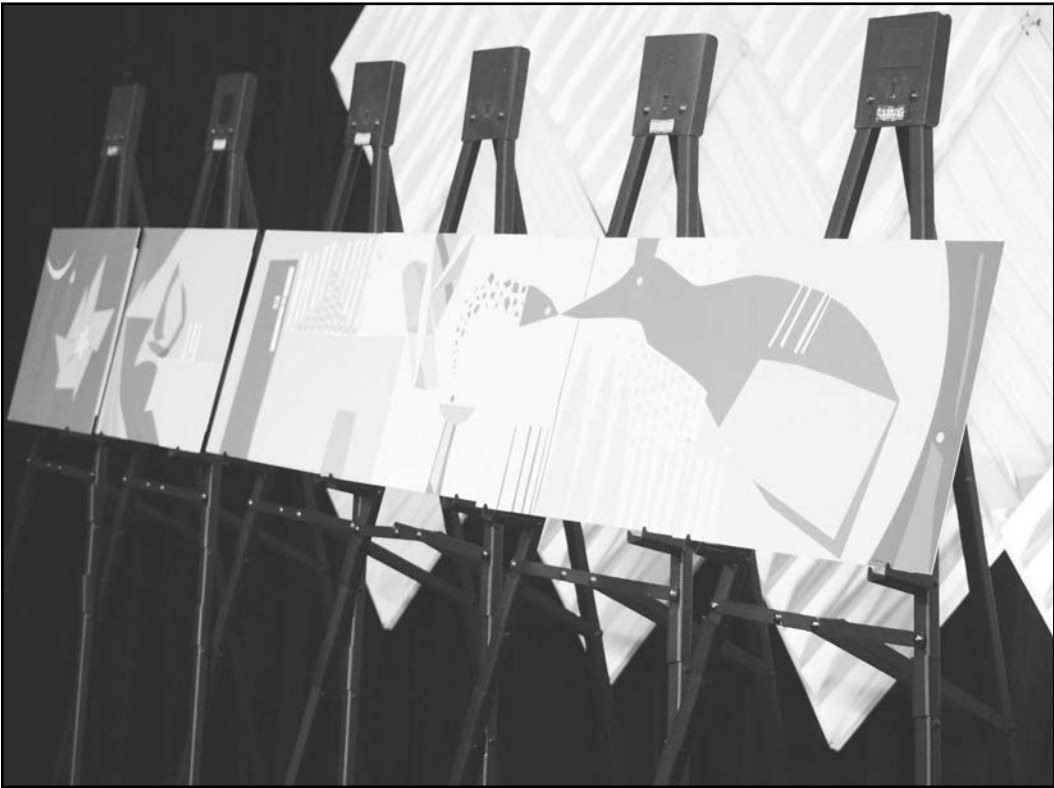
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# PICTURE THIS: MOSAIC AWARDS

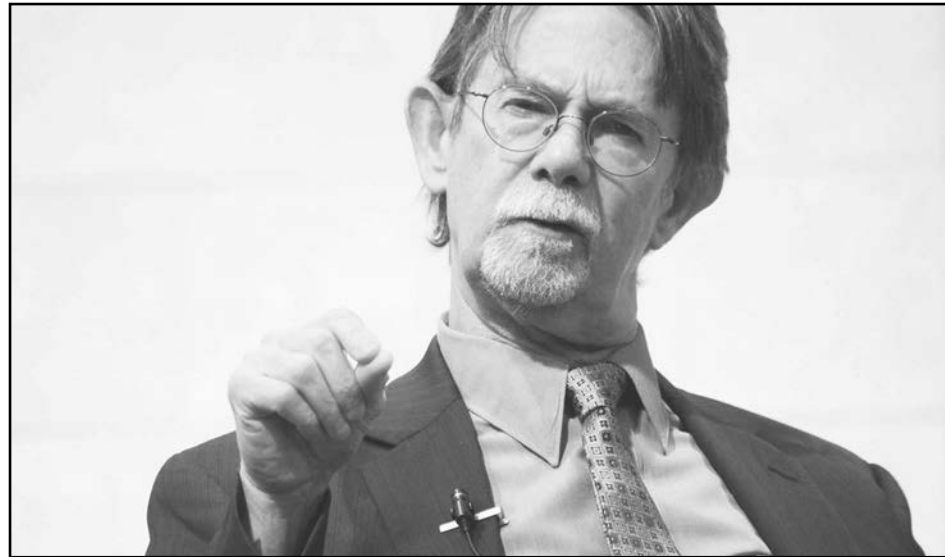
The 12th Annual MOSAIC Awards, which support the Jewish Family & Career Services, was held Thursday, May 18, at the Hyatt Regency Downtown. In addition to this year's honorees, several young entrepreneurs tabled outside the hall, introducing the 500-some people in attendance to their fledgling businesses. (photos by William Beasley)





# PICTURE THIS: BATTLE FOR ISRAEL'S SOUL

J.J. Goldberg a left-leaning columnist for Forward, and Jonathan Tobin, who writes from the right for JNS.org, squared off in a friendly debate Monday, May 1, at Adath Jeshurun. Billed as a "Battle for Israel's Soul," the program corresponded roughly with Yom HaZikaron, Israel's Memorial Day, so Cantor David Lipp and Rabbi Gaylia R. Rooks marked the occasion with shofar blasts, and a choir sang before the journalists got down to business. (photos by William Beasley)



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# NEWSMAKERS



Rachel Klein of Louisville and her husband, David Chaimovitz of Chicago, kiss under the chupa during their recent wedding Yew Dell Gardens. (Whitney Neal Photography)

**Rachel Klein**, a Louisville native and the daughter of Drs. Laura and Jon Klein, who recently married David Chaimovitz of Chicago, had her wedding featured in *StyleBlueprint*, a style e-zine for the women of the Derby City.

In addition to a story detailing how Klein and Chaimovitz met and became engaged (not to mention the wedding arrangements right down to the gown), the piece showcased several photos from the

wedding day at Yew Dell Gardens, including shots of the happy couple under the chupa with Rabbi Robert Slosberg and Cantor David Lipp, who officiated.

**Halle Elizabeth Schulman** recently completed her Masters of Science degree in performing arts management and leadership at Shenandoah University, Winchester, VA.

Schulman, who already has a Bach-



elor of Fine Arts in dance performance from the Shenandoah University Conservatory, will attend the International Arts Management Conference in Athens, Greece in June. She dances professionally for Motion X Dance in Washington, DC.

This summer, Schulman will work on a management contract at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington. She also has accepted a position on the faculty of the Metropolitan School for the Arts in Alexandria, VA, where she will teach and choreograph dance this fall.

Schulman is the daughter of Butch and Robin Schulman and sister to Benjamin, Matthew, and Emily Schulman.



**Ethan Evans** earned the rank of Eagle Scout on January 25, and was recognized at his Eagle Court of Honor on March 30.

Ethan has been an active member of Boy Scout Troop 30 since joining in 2010. For his Eagle project, he built benches for the Vivian and Ches-

ter Slosberg Sukkah at his synagogue, Adath Jeshurun.

The son of Howie and Barbie Evans and the grandson of Steve and Gerry Evans and the late Myles and Elaine Davidson, Evans graduated from DuPont Manual's Math, Science, and Technology (MST) program on May 24. He will attend Purdue University in the fall in the College of Engineering.



**John R. Proffitt** of Herman Meyer & Son has been awarded the Master Coroner Award, the highest level of achievement presented by the Kentucky State Coroners Association.

The Master Coroner Award is given to morticians who have completed certification training from the Department of Criminal Justice, have participated in at least 300 postmortem examinations, have completed 12 years of service, have been members of the association for at least eight years, and have attended two coroner's conferences for credit in 12 years.

Proffitt has been a deputy coroner for 18 years (three years in Lincoln County and 15 in Bullitt County). He has worked for Herman Meyer & Son, Inc. for six years.w

## The Heart Doc for Kids

**Lisa R. Klein, MD, FAAP, FACC**  
**Pediatric Cardiologist**

Dr. Klein's many accolades include being named a Louisville "Top Doc" by Louisville Magazine in 2007 and 2008, and receiving the "Key to the City" of Louisville from Mayor Jerry Abramson in 1998. She received her medical degree from SUNY Upstate Medical University, Syracuse, NY in 1986. However, the best accolades she receives is from those nearest and dearest to her heart, her patients.



"Dr. Klein is an amazing woman. I met her as a very frightened 21 year-old mother of a beautiful baby girl with a complete Atrioventricular Canal Defect. She nurtured me, supported me, and helped me believe I could be the mother of a child with a complex congenital heart defect. Because of Dr. Klein, I have been able to mother not one, but three children with complex congenital heart defects. Her skill, compassion, and most of all friendship, has given me the strength to care for my very special children. Dr. Klein, I love you and wish you the very best."

— Lee Margaret J.

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## AROUND TOWN

### Initiative to develop future leaders

The Jewish Federation of Louisville is launching a new initiative aimed at developing the next generation of Jewish Community leaders.

This 18-month program will expose its first class of participants to the roots of Louisville's Jewish community by meeting with Jewish leaders to gain a greater understanding of Jewish institutions, both here and around the world. The program, which begins this fall, will include mentoring by long-time volunteers in the community. More details will be reported when they are available.

### AJ plans Israel trip next year

Adath Jeshurun is taking reservations for an Israel Adventure from June 10-21, 2018. The tour of the Jewish state will be led by Rabbi Robert Slosberg and will include travel all over the country in Wi-Fi-enabled motor coaches.

The package includes 5-star hotels, fine dining and visits to ancient sites and modern museums. Visit israeltour.com/rslosberg for more information or contact Slosberg at rabbi@adathjeshurun.com or 458-5359.

### Courses available for auditing

The Jewish Studies program at the University of Louisville is making a course available for auditing this fall: HUM 362-01 "Literature of the Holocaust."

Taught by Professor Ranen Omer-Sherman on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1-2:15 p.m., the course explores the representation of trauma and memory in a range of short fiction, novels, graphic memoirs, poetry and film by survivors and their children.

The course's mission is to witness the event through the texts and ponder what it means to think of literature as witnessing.

In addition, Professor Natalie Polzer's

course, HUM 340-01 "Women & Religion," will be taught Mondays, 4-6:45 p.m.

Other courses on the Diaspora in Latin America, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and the Hebrew Bible will be offered the following spring. Details will be published when available.

### Reel Theology looks at Muslim humor

The Temple will hold its next Reel Theology dinner and movie night with Rabbi Gaylia Rooks on Sunday, May 28, at 6:30 p.m., in the Waller Chapel.

This month's film is, *Looking for Comedy in the Muslim World*, a documentary depicting the journey of a man in his discovery of what makes followers of Islam laugh. Pizza, salad and desserts will be served. The event is free to the community. RSVP to 423-1818 by Friday, May 26.

### Bernheim Classical Shabbat Service

The Temple will host its annual Bernheim Classical Shabbat service Friday, June 2, at 6:30 p.m., in the Waller Chapel. The service, led by Rabbi Joe Rooks Rapport, will feature Classical Reform Jewish music and is open to the community.

### Temple stays up to study on Shavuot

The Temple will celebrate Tikkun Leil Shavuot Tuesday, May 30, at 9 p.m. in the Fishman Library.

Shavuot is traditionally considered to be the anniversary of the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai, and Tikkun Leil Shavuot is the custom of staying up the entire night of Shavuot studying with the participation of the congregation in the community in order to re-experience standing at Sinai.

This year's class, which Rabbi David Ariel-Joel will teach, is "How Shavuot was

See **AROUND TOWN** on next page



## Around Town

*continued from previous page*

celebrated in the temple? The ceremony of Shavuot as shaping our identity from the Bible to today."

### AJ Shavuot services slated

The community is invited to observe Shavuot at Adath Jeshurun. Service times are Tuesday, May 30, 7:30 p.m.; Wednesday, May 31, 9:30 a.m. and 5:45 p.m.; and Thursday, June 1, at 9:30 a.m. and 5:45 p.m. Yizkor will be recited during the morning worship service on Thursday, June 1.

### TS hosts history program

Murray Toborowsky will speak on the topic, "Things Your History Teacher Never Told You," at Temple Shalom's adult education program on Monday, June 5, at 7 p.m. Toborowsky's presentation will deal with the influence and importance of Hebrew scripture on early American institutions. He will discuss topics such as the effect the Hebrew Bible had on the Puritans, the Founding Fathers and others.

Toborowsky is a former high school history teacher and a lecturer at Rollins College in Florida.

RSVP by June 5 by calling 502-458-4739. The event is free and refreshments will be served.

### Holocaust survivor to speak at TS

Temple Shalom Men's Club will feature Holocaust survivor Fred Gross at its Sunday, June 11, breakfast meeting. Gross, author of One Step Ahead of Hit-

ler: A Jewish Child's Journey Through France, will speak about his odyssey from concentration camp to America. The 10 a.m. breakfast costs \$5 and is open to the community. RSVP by June 8 by calling 458-4739.

### AJ hosts Father's Day Shabbat

Adath Jeshurun will fulfill the mitzvah of kibud av (honoring your father) on Saturday, June 17.

### AJ to host Deli with Dads

Adath Jeshurun will host a Father's Day program on Sunday, June 18, at 6:30 p.m. Deli food from an authentic New York deli will be served and The Sturgeon Queens, a 2015 documentary about New York City's Lower East Side Russ & Daughters Deli, will be screened.

Mark Federman, former owner of the Russ & Daughters and friend of former Louisville Mayor Jerry Abramson, will be in attendance. The event is open to the community. RSVP online by June 7 at [adathjeshurun.com/deli](http://adathjeshurun.com/deli).

### KI holds Shabbat and Sundaes event

Keneseth Israel and the community are invited to Graeter's on Bardstown Road on Saturday, June 17, at 7 p.m. KI members receive a free \$5 treat. RSVP to [gkahn@kenesethisrael.com](mailto:gkahn@kenesethisrael.com) or call 502-459-2780.

### KI to hold Kabbalat Shabbat BBQ

Keneseth Israel invites the community to an outdoor BBQ and Kabbalat Shabbat service on Friday, June 23, at KI. The BBQ starts at 6 p.m. Services will follow. The cost is \$5 per person. RSVP to [gkahn@kenesethisrael.com](mailto:gkahn@kenesethisrael.com) or

502-459-2780.

### AJ hosts Trivia Night

Trivia Night at Adath Jeshurun will be Sunday, June 25, at 7 p.m. Each table will be a team. The cost is \$10 per person plus a donation of an item to AJ's upcoming Upscale Treasure Sale. RSVP by June 19 at [adathjeshurun.com/trivia](http://adathjeshurun.com/trivia) or call the AJ office at 458-5359. The event is open to the community.

### Havurah hosts Shabbat dinner

A new havurah is planning a potluck Shabbat dinner, Friday, June 30. It is open to the public. Contact Julie Segal at 502-454-3579 to RSVP.

### AJ taking items for Upscale Treasure Sale

The following items are being accepted for Adath Jeshurun's Upscale Treasure Sale: antiques, art, coins, crystal, décor, furniture, jewelry, lamps, pictures, serving pieces, toys and watches. Items may be dropped off at AJ on weekdays between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Donations are tax-deductible and benefit the synagogue. The sale will be held in early August.

### AJ hosts Celebration Shabbat

Adath Jeshurun invites those celebrating a birthday or anniversary to Shabbat on Saturday, June 3. All who are celebrating in June may participate in a group aliyah during morning worship services at 9:30 a.m.

### Jews and Brews with Rabbi Wolk

Rabbi Michael Wolk holds "Jews and Brews", a one-hour Torah study class

over coffee, Wednesdays at 11 a.m. at the JCC Coffee Shop. Contact Yonatan Yussman at [yyussman@kenesethisrael.com](mailto:yyussman@kenesethisrael.com) or 502-459-2780 for details.

KI Children's Shabbat summer schedule released

Keneseth Israel's Children's Shabbat services will be on a special summer schedule from May through August. The kids will meet from 10:30 a.m. to noon on May 13, June 24, July 22, and August 26.

The Children's Service includes stories, singing, prayers, Torah, and learning. It concludes by joining the whole congregation in the main sanctuary prayers to lead Ein Keloheinu and Adon Olam. Contact Yonatan Yussman at [yyussman@kenesethisrael.com](mailto:yyussman@kenesethisrael.com) or 502-459-2780 for details.

### Junior Congregation meets at KI

Keneseth Israel's Junior Congregation, open to third graders through pre-bnai mitzvah, meets on fist Shabbat of the month from 10:30-11:45 a.m. They pray together, learn the words and meanings of the prayers, and explore the Torah portion of the week. Contact Yonatan Yussman at [yyussman@kenesethisrael.com](mailto:yyussman@kenesethisrael.com) or 502-459-2780 for details.

### Torah Yoga held at KI

Torah Yoga class, which is co-sponsored by Temple Shalom and Hadasah, will next meet on Thursday, June 22, 6:30 p.m., at Keneseth Israel. Cantor Sharon Hordes and Lisa Flannery are the instructors. Contact Yonatan Yussman at [yyussman@kenesethisrael.com](mailto:yyussman@kenesethisrael.com) or 502-459-2780 for details.

## LIFECYCLE

### Births



#### Arlo Weisberg

Michael and Molly Weisberg of Louisville announce the birth of their son, Arlo Drew, on Wednesday, April 26, 2017. Arlo is the grandson of Ron and Elaine Weisberg

of Adath Jeshurun and Randy and Connie Moser of Temple Shalom.

### B'nai Mitzvah



#### Kathryn (Katy) Anne Roemer

Kathryn (Katy) Anne Roemer, daughter of Alison and Doug Roemer and sister of Kyle, will be called to the Torah as a bat mitzvah, Saturday, May 27, 6 p.m., at The Temple.

Katy is the granddaughter of Betty and Gail Pohn, and Amy and Albert Roemer.

Katy is a proud Wyvern, in the seventh grade at St. Francis School in Goshen. At St. Francis, Katy participates in musical theater, ski club and the diversity committee. Katy is a member of the Louisville Leopard Percussionists Steel Ensemble. Katy loves spending time with her friends and her younger cousins. She enjoys cooking and baking, riding her bike, listening to Hamilton and doing craft projects.

Katy is participating in the Jewish

Family & Career Services Pledge 13 program by collecting items to donate to The Kentucky Humane society. She also plays percussion at many family services.

### Obituaries

#### Emmy Kate Heyman David

Emmy Kate Heyman David, 91, of Bern, Switzerland, died Wednesday, April 26, 2017. She was born October 27, 1925 in Lexington to Laurence and Virginia Heyman.

Emmy Kate graduated from Atherton High School in 1943 and went on to graduate from the University of Louisville where she taught chemistry. After her marriage, she worked with her husband in business at the David's Style Shop in Jeffersonville, IN.

Upon retirement, she was a volunteer literacy tutor for 15 years with the Jefferson County School System. On the death of her husband, Simon David, she moved to Switzerland to join family there. She was a member of The Temple.

Emmy Kate leaves her children, Edwin H. David, Stanley J. David (Kimberlee) and Peggy J. David von Werdt (Nicolas); and four grandsons, Graham and Benjamin David and Alexander and Benjamin von Werdt to cherish her memory.

Her graveside funeral was held Thursday, May 4, at The Temple Cemetery, 2716 Preston Highway. Expressions of sympathy may be made to The Temple or to the donor's favorite charity.

#### Fred Goldberg

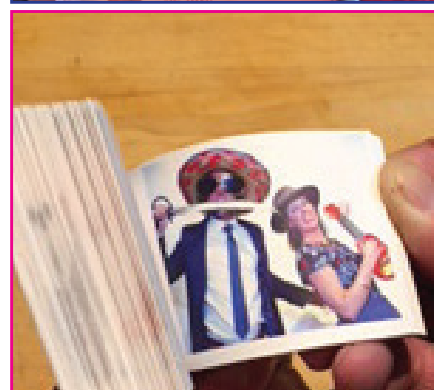
Fred Goldberg, 90, died Monday, April 24, 2017.

Born in Frankfort, August 13,

See OBITUARIES on page 22

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# LIFECYCLE

## Obituaries

continued from page 21



1926, Fred was the oldest of eight children. His parents were Bessie (nee) Rosenstein and Max Goldberg.

In his senior year at Frankfort High School, Fred was recruited by the V-12 Navy College Training Program, which was a highly honored World War II ROTC program. That curriculum afforded him the opportunity to complete his undergraduate work at Emory and Henry College and the University of Virginia.

Fred graduated with his Juris Doctor from the Brandeis School of Law at the University of Louisville and became a member of the Kentucky Bar Association. He still maintains the highest bar examination score in the commonwealth.

For many years, Fred served on the board of the then-Jewish Hospital and was president of the Jewish Hospital Foundation board. He acquired extensive experience with public health issues by serving as counsel for the Louisville & Jefferson County Board of Health.

Fred was a member of the American, Kentucky and Louisville Bar Associations, and was a lecturer in creditors' transactions at the University of Louisville Law School. He was admitted to practice in U.S. District Court and various Courts of Appeals in addition to being admitted

to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court. He was granted the University of Louisville's Louis D. Brandeis School of Law Lawrence Grauman Award in 2003. In later years, he was appointed to the board of the Waterfront Development Corporation.

Fred was a member of Congregation Adath Jeshurun and the Louisville Boat Club.

He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Eleanor Anne; his children: Jim (Barbara), Jon (Jan), Pam Schwartz (Jim) and Bill (Suzy); his sisters, Toni Ernst (Joe), Kitty Meit (Jerry); and his grandchildren: Allison Goldberg, Andrew Goldberg (Kristin), Lilly and Lauren Goldberg, Jaime Beth, Jason and Stephanie Schwartz, and Jacquelyn and Jillian Goldberg and sisters-in-law, Debbie Goldberg and Dee Shuck. He is predeceased by his sisters, Elaine Davidson and Shirley Jean Perchik and his brothers, Alvin, Jack and Bobby Goldberg.

Fred leaves behind a legacy in the practice of law and will be missed by his friends and family and will be remembered by many.

Funeral services were held Thursday, April 27, at Congregation Adath Jeshurun. Burial followed in Cave Hill Cemetery.

Memorial gifts in Fred's honor may be made to the Kentucky Humane Society, 2445 Crittenden Drive, Louisville, KY 40217 or Congregation Adath Jeshurun, 2401 Woodbourne Avenue, Louisville, KY 40205.

### Liya Berezovsky

Liya Berezovsky, 69, died Wednesday, April 26, 2017, at Baptist Health. Born in Ukraine, she is survived

by her son, Vladimir Berezovskiy (Vivian), of Louisville; her three grandchildren; and her brother, Oleg Berezovskiy of Chicago.

Funeral services were held Friday, April 28, at Herman Meyer & Son, Inc., 1338 Ellison Ave. Burial followed in Adath Jeshurun Cemetery.



### Martin Glazer

Martin Glazer, 93, passed away Thursday, April 27, 2017, at Westport Place Health Campus.

Martin had a long and distinguished career in Frankfort as assistant attorney general for the Commonwealth of Kentucky. He also worked as a hearing officer for a number of local agencies, including the Board of Medical Licensure, the Board of Nursing, and the Board of Realtors.

He was a veteran of World War II, having served in the Army Air Corps. Martin was a member of Congregation Adath Jeshurun, the Kentucky Bar Association, and the Louisville and Jefferson County Bar Associations. He also was a graduate of the Brandeis School of Law at the University of Louisville.

He was preceded in death by his wives, Phyllis Levy Glazer and DeLores Gold Glazer. Survivors include his daughter, Ann Glazer Niren and her husband, Howell Niren; stepsons, Dr. Andy Gold and his wife, Lauren Schuver, and Rob Gold and his wife Debby Gold. In addition, he leaves behind grandchildren, Pamela

and Amy Niren, and step-grandchildren, Ally and Jenna Gold, and Hannah, Ellie, and Jacob Gold.

Funeral services were held Sunday, April 30, at Herman Meyer and Son, Inc., 1338 Ellison Ave. Burial followed at Adath Jeshurun Cemetery.

The family would like to thank the staff at Westport Place for the care that Martin received during his stay there. Expressions of sympathy can be made to Congregation Adath Jeshurun or Temple Shalom in Louisville.

### Sylvia Taustine

Sylvia Taustine passed away peacefully in her sleep, Saturday, April 29. She was preceded in death by her first husband Donald Taustine and her second husband Harold Fine.

She is survived by her son, Dr. Lloyd Taustine, daughter-in-law, Katherine Taustine and grandchildren, David Taustine, Maria Taustine and Rebecca Taustine. She was happiest following their lives and successes.

Funeral services were held Monday, May 1, at Herman Meyer & Son, Inc., 1338 Ellison Ave. Burial followed in The Temple Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made through the University of Louisville to the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences for the Donald Taustine Research and Education Fund. Address to the Kentucky Lions Eye Research Center, 301 E. Muhammad Ali Blvd, Louisville, KY 40222-1511.

# Celebration of Learning

Honoring the 2017 class of the Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning Louisville Melton

**Sunday, June 4, 2017**

**10 Sivan 5777**

**11:00 a.m.**

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Louisville, KY 40205**

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Please RSVP by Friday, May 26th at

[adathjeshurun.com/meltongraduation](http://adathjeshurun.com/meltongraduation)



**the florence melton school  
of adult jewish learning**

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## Jewish

continued from page 4

Siritsky said of her position. "I was hired in 2014 as part of KentuckyOne Health's commitment to assure the Jewishness of Jewish Hospital, and much of my job has been to renew, restore and strengthen the Jewish identity of Jewish Hospital. That's been the large part of my role."

Today, Siritsky said, Jewish Hospital now has kosher food in its cafeteria, which is available to all; and a new menorah in the center in the Abraham Flexner Way Circle, which religious school students have decorated during Chanukah.

"We have celebrated Jewish holidays by applying the themes to our current projects. Such as launching our recycling on Tu B'Shevat," Siritsky said. "We had a fundraiser that raised money for patients and families that have no money, so we were able to celebrate Purim and do tzedak. And for Tu B'Av (an Israeli holiday celebrating love), we launched a commitment to the Heart Walk."

Also, every week, the Jewish Hospi-

tal staff learns about the holidays and the appropriate Torah Portion. Siritsky said many staffers are grateful to get a stronger appreciation for the heritage of Jewish Hospital.

Siritsky collaborates with Jewish Family & Career Services to support immigrants in the community and of other projects, such as their joint SummerWorks Grant application, and has cohosted a Passover seder at the JCC to raise awareness for victims of human trafficking, an issue where Kentucky One Health has taken a leadership role, thanks to Siritsky's initiatives in this area. Combatting human trafficking, she said, is in keeping with the Jewish value tzedakah.

"No one knows what the future holds, but I believe the leadership and staff have a strong commitment to maintaining the Jewishness of Jewish Hospital," Siritsky said.

"I believe the core values of Judaism, of tikkun olam, should be kept in consideration as the question of how to move forward evolves."



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## Babar

*continued from page 1*

Sara Klein Wagner, the Blanche B. Ottenheimer Award is given annually to a leader who has improved the quality of life in Louisville, in Kentucky and beyond.

Dr. Babar, a long-time advocate for interfaith cooperation, called for closer ties between Jews and Muslims.

"Due to the times we're facing in our own country, it is imperative for the Jewish and Muslim communities to work together," he told Community, "not only for the problems they are facing but for the other minorities whose problems make them more vulnerable than us."

A Pakistani by birth and an internist and geriatric physician by training, Dr. Babar, has a long track record of community and interfaith service.

He raised more than \$5,000 for disas-

ter relief following the devastating 2010 Haiti earthquake. When floods struck Pakistan that same year, he raised approximately \$20,000 for flood relief. His work provided locally made water purification systems to and housing construction for the widowed, injured and disabled victims.

Both drives were done in conjunction with Jewish leaders or drives in Louisville, he said.

Dr. Babar has organized community building efforts with Habitat for Humanity. He helped to plan the annual Hunger Walk through the Dare to Care Food Bank, and the annual Interfaith Iftar Dinner and Dialogue. He has also organized his community's participation in the Jewish community's annual Interfaith Chanukah party.

The dinner, which is in its seventh year, is held each year during the month of Ramadan, attracts as many as 500

people, including several Jews. The next dinner is set for June 7, 8 p.m., at the Second Presbyterian Church. Rabbi Gaylia R. Rooks is slated to speak.

Dr. Babar's passion for interfaith work stems from his earliest days in his native land.

"When I was growing up in Pakistan, the media was state controlled... and it had a lot of stereotyping about the Jewish community as seen through the actions of Israel," he said. "They were forgetting this basic fact that Judaism is a faith like Islam, and we need to look at it like the faith of Moses, David and Solomon."

So when he came to America, and to Louisville in particular, he made Jewish friends and tried to better understand the religion.

"That's when I realized that Judaism was as compassionate a faith as Islam and we shouldn't look at it through pol-

itics."

Most recently, Dr. Babar, who is president of Muslim Americans for Compassion, played a role in the Love from Louisville drive, which sent thousands of pounds of clothing, shoes and other necessities to Syrian refugees in Greece. He is slated to visit the refugee camp where the supplies were sent when he travels abroad this month.

He is a past president of medical staff at Jewish Hospital and St. Mary's Healthcare and a board member of Interfaith Paths to Peace and a current board member of the Center for Interfaith Relations and the Fund for the Arts, and he is a past president of the Association of Pakistani Physicians of Kentucky and Indiana.

He said he hopes his work helps to break down "man-made barriers between the faiths."

## Rooks

*continued from page 1*

Being the first female rabbi in Kentucky was not an "unfamiliar" experience, Rooks told Community.

"I guess I was used to being the first," she said. "I was the only woman in my rabbinical class on the L.A. campus of the Hebrew Union College, and was one of the first 50 women to be ordained. My husband and I were the fifth rabbi-rabbi couple to be married and the first to go through all five years of seminary together.

"Regarding people's reaction to me," she continued. "I still stand by my comments of almost 30 years ago: While some people were concerned about having a woman rabbi, I think once I was here, they found the reality easier to deal with than they may have feared.

"I believe that for the most part, people respected me as a rabbi, a woman, and a partner with whom to work on the sacred task of tikkun olam," Rooks added. "That goes for my Temple, the broad-

er Jewish community, and the general interfaith community at large."

The Temple is in the process of planning internal celebrations and a community-wide event to honor Rooks for her years of service to the congregation, Golden said.

Rooks' retirement wasn't the only news involving The Temple's rabbis. Golden also announced that Rapport has signed a retirement contract that will carry him through to June 30, 2022 when he, too, will join Rooks as rabbi emeritus.

And Ariel-Joel has signed a contract as senior administrative rabbi that extends through June 30, 2028.

"He, along with Rabbi Rapport, will be taking over Rabbi Rooks' duties as we move into this new phase for our congregation," Golden said in her letter to the congregation.

She said the leadership will speak more about the changes at The Temple's annual meeting, which is slated for Thursday, June 2.

A graduate of Brandeis University and

the Hebrew Union College, where she was ordained in 1984, Rooks came to The Temple in 1988, becoming the first female rabbi in Kentucky.

Since then, Rabbis Laura Metzger, Nadia Siritsky and Beth Jacowitz Chotiner, and Cantor Sharon Hordes, have followed Rooks to the commonwealth. Also, The Temple and Temple Shalom have each employed several female student rabbis who were training for their careers after ordination.

During her time at The Temple, Rooks has taught adult education classes, religious school, trained b'nai mitzvot, taken an active role in social action and women's programming, and engaged in outreach to people in the process of conversion and to interfaith families.

She also directs worship and ritual and oversees all the music performed at The Temple. Along with Music Director Louie Bailey, she directs Shir Chadash, The Temple's volunteer choir.

In 2012, Rooks released her second collection of original Jewish music on CD, titled *Sukkat Shalom: Shelter of*

*Peace*. All the money from the sale of CDs goes to the WHAS Crusade for Children, a fundraising drive for children with special needs.

Rooks has appeared several times on "The Moral Side of the News," the WHAS-TV interfaith panel that is broadcast on local television and to 38 states on radio. She also serves on the clergy allocations committee of the Crusade for Children.

Rooks has been an adjunct professor at the Spalding University Graduate School Department of Religion, the Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, and Indiana University Southeast.

Her rabbinic thesis, *Halachic Guidance for the Terminally Ill*, provides insights from Jewish tradition for the modern day dilemmas of biomedical ethics. Along those lines, Rooks has served on the ethics committee of the Norton-Kosair Children's-Alliant Hospital in-vitro fertilization board, and is currently on the Hosparus ethics committee.

Rooks and Rabbi Rapport have two adult children, Yael and Lev.

## Hammerman

*continued from page 16*

dream. Bipartisan support for Israel in American politics is waning dramatically, and Israel's democracy is in jeopardy. Desperate times require desperate measures, and it's not hard to imagine that the most visionary individual in modern Jewish history might give this idea serious consideration.

OK, wouldn't Judaism become corrupted by politics? Have you seen the Knesset? Have you seen some of our American Jewish organizations at work? Judaism can never be completely divorced from politics, but Jewish citizenship would go a long way toward fostering the exchange of ideas and empowering the development of creative Jewish visions. If you are asking whether American Jewish life would become more Israel-focused, the answer is yes, and I believe that's a good thing. With some actual skin in the game, American Jews would all be encouraged to engage with Israel constructively rather than throwing their hands up and dissociating from it.

How would this impact pluralism and conversion? This plan places world Jewry on a trajectory toward unity rather than further disengagement. With Diaspora Jewry now part of the electoral equation, thereby marginalizing rejectionist groups that have held veto power for too long, we could begin to collaborate on thorny issues like conversion, patrilineal descent, and non-Orthodox and women's prayer groups at the Western Wall. Old compromises could be dusted off, including conversion-relat-

ed proposals of the Neeman Commission of the late '90s and the more recent Western Wall compromise. At the very least, Diaspora and Israeli leaders would be talking about solutions rather than ignoring the problem.

Would the Israeli right ever agree to this?

While this plan could cost current parties some power, there's a solid chance that those Diaspora Jews who take on the responsibilities of Jewish citizenship will skew right, both politically and religiously, because they would be more motivated and better organized than the progressives. But all Israelis should understand that the more Diaspora Jews sign on to this, the more the burdens of the Jewish future will be shared and the less isolated Israel will be.

As for progressive American Jews, at last they would have a chance to feel that their concerns are being heard, and that they have the opportunity to help construct an Israel consistent with the visions of its founders, not as spectators but as builders. Nearly 22,000 American Jews voted for the Reform movement representatives in the 2015 World Zionist Congress elections. Imagine how many would be drawn to vote for an election of far greater consequence.

What about Israeli minorities? Israeli Arabs might reasonably be concerned at this demographic bump of voting Jews, just as the Palestinians were petrified by the mass immigration of Russian Jewry in the 1990s. I would hope that the opportunity would be seized to imagine new ways to create two states for two peoples with two thriving Diasporas.

This is a lot to swallow, so let's simply

chew on these questions for a while:

What would it mean for Diaspora Jewry to have more than a vicarious involvement in the Jewish people's boldest collective venture since the Talmud?

What would it mean for American and Israeli Jews to view themselves as full partners, and for the varieties of Judaism emerging from each community to be embraced and shared?

What would it mean for Diaspora Jews who now shun Israel to suddenly realize that they can be part of the solution?

What would it mean for Jews to speak of unity – and actually mean it?

Israel is 69. Time to think big. (Rabbi Joshua Hammerman is the spiritual leader at Temple Beth El in Stamford, Connecticut.)

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