

# COMMUNITY

FRIDAY VOL. 42, NO. 14 ■ 6 KISLEV 5778 ■ NOVEMBER 24, 2017

## INSIDE

Budapest women tout Hungarian Jewish life  
**STORY ON PG. 2**  
Campaign kicks off  
**STORY ON PG. 9**

## New Roots receives \$145K in grants

### Food justice NPO to use fresh funds for Fresh Stop expansion

By Lee Chottiner  
Community Editor

Flush with cash from two major grants within the past 30 days, New Roots, the Louisville-based nonprofit dedicated to food justice for all neighborhoods, is eyeing an expansion of its Fresh Stop Markets and training leaders to run and promote them.

New Roots has received a \$100,000 grant from the Humana Foundation and a \$45,000 grant from the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence (JHFE).

"We really believe in what New Roots is trying to accomplish," JHFE Executive Director Jeff Polson said. "It goes so well with promoting Jewish values and, quite frankly, we were impressed with the results they were able to obtain in one year."

The Humana Foundation could not be reached for comment.

Karyn Moskowitz, New Roots founder

See **NEW ROOTS** on page 27



Organic onions on sale at one of the first Fresh Stop Markets at The J in 2016. The Fresh Stop Market network, which is a project of the NPO New Roots, continues to grow. It has just received two large grants from the Humana Foundation and Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence to support its expansion. (Community photo)

## Litvin, rabbis, senators mark return of historic Talmud text

By Lee Chottiner  
Community Editor

When a man falls into an ocean, The Mishna teaches, it is forbidden to lose hope of seeing him alive again – even if there's no sign of land.

Rabbi Avrohom Litvin taught that mi-drash to Sen. Mitch McConnell on November 8 in Washington, reading the passage from a 155-year-old volume of Talmud Yevamot that had once belonged to the fourth Chabad-Lubavitch Rebbe, Shmuel Schneerson.

"Even if there's no shore, you don't give up that he's alive," Litvin said, "and we didn't give up on this book."

Litvin joined a group of Chabad rabbis in Washington to mark the return of the historic text, long held by the Russian government along with the rest of the late rebbe's 12,000-volume library, called the Schneerson Collection.

Chabad-Lubavitch Chasidism started



Rabbi Avrohom Litvin shows a volume of Talmud that once belonged to the fourth Chabad-Lubavitch rebbe to Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell. (photo provided by Chabad)

in Russia.

The book mysteriously found its way to an Israeli auction house where it was about to be sold two weeks ago. But a series of interventions, including a U.S. court order, prevented the sale and instead succeeded in sending the text to the states.

How the book got to Israel is still under investigation, but it is valuable, containing hand-written corrections by the rebbe himself and his official stamp. The auction house planned to start the bidding at \$10,000.

David Friedman, the U.S. ambassador to Israel, formally received the book in Israel. It was presented to Chabad-Lubavitch Headquarters in Brooklyn, New York, on Sunday, November 19. Litvin was present for the ceremony.

McConnell, along with Senators Chuck Schumer (D-New York), Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) all received visits from the

See **LITVIN** on page 27

## Chanukah Section

See pg. 18-19



# Showcase

## Jew-dapest

### Young Budapest leaders describe 'Jewish renaissance' in their city

By Lee Chottiner  
Community Editor

Sara Ozorai and Hedi Pusztai stood before the capacity crowd in The J's Patio Gallery, going on about the happening nightlife in the Budapest Jewish Quarter and the programs, camps and schools that engage young Hungarian Jews with their faith.

It was hard to believe at times that these two young – and Jewishly committed – women were talking about the same Hungary that lost more than 400,000 Jews in the Holocaust and saw the remnant of its community driven underground by four decades of communist rule.

But that was precisely their point. Pusztai, 31, a project coordinator for Partnership2Gether in Budapest, and Ozorai, 28, one of the community's active lay leaders, wanted to project a new face for Hungarian Jewry – young, vigorous and looking to the future.

"The Holocaust happened; of course, we have to remember that," Ozorai said. "but for the young generation, we have to make sure this is not the first thing they have in mind."

Ozorai and Pusztai's program Sunday, November 5, "Jew-dapest: Then and Now," was part of their five-city speaking tour to Partnership2Gether communities in Kentucky, Indiana and Ohio.

Partnership2Gether is a program that connects Jewish communities in the Diaspora with areas in Israel, primarily in the Negev and Galilee, building community and leadership. Louisville is partnered with Akko.

Megan Maurer, co-chair of Partnership2Gether's Budapest Task Force, who introduced the women, said the purpose of the visit here was to raise awareness about the work Partnership2Gether is doing, which includes cultivating Jewish life in Budapest.

"Budapest today is exciting and engaging," Maurer said, "bringing Judaism to the old generation and for the future."

Budapest is indeed a success story. Home to approximately 100,000 Jews, it is the largest Jewish community in Europe, with 22 active synagogues, schools, a JCC, kosher bistros and butchers. It also sends about 250 Jews to Israel each year on Birthright/Taglit trips.

Many of its young Jews are just now discovering their identity.

Pusztai has worked for the Budapest Jewish community for nine years. Be-



Sara Ozorai (right), a Jewish activist from Budapest, Hungary, listens to guests following her November 5 presentation on Hungarian Jewish life at The J. Ozorai and her colleague, Hedi Pusztai, were on a five-city tour, sponsored by Partnership2Gether, to talk about the revitalization of Jewish life in Eastern Europe. (photos by Lee Chottiner)

fore then, she had virtually no contact with it.

"I always knew we were Jewish," she said, "but I couldn't talk about it when we were not at home."

That changed when, at age 23, she learned about Birthright. Nervous that she wasn't Jewish enough to participate, she nevertheless took her first trip to Israel.

"I came back a different person," she said. "I went there as a young Hungarian girl looking for her identity. I came back as a Jew."

She eventually made aliyah and spent a couple of years in the country. Back in Budapest, she is now an education coordinator, working to transmit her experience to others.

She described what is happening in Budapest today as a "Jewish Renaissance," but she's mindful of the ashes from which this renaissance is rising.

In a slide show of Jewish Budapest, she directed the crowd's attention to a slide of the city's Holocaust Memorial, "Shoes on the Danube Bank," which

commemorates those killed by an execution squad of the Arrow Cross, Hungary's fascist party. The victims were ordered to take off their shoes on the edge of the Danube River, then they were shot at the water's edge. Their bodies fell into the river and were carried away. The memorial depicts their shoes left behind on the bank.

"[They] were killed by Hungarians," Pusztai said, "not even Nazis."

After the war, the surviving Jews in Budapest – communities elsewhere in the country were virtually wiped out – buried their Jewish pasts. Many told their kids they were Jews only after communism fell in 1989.

"People from our generation didn't know anything about their Jewish roots," Pusztai said. "That's what we're trying to change now."

For Ozorai, who was born the same year communism ended, Birthright also became her gateway to Judaism.

She described how Jewish festivals have sprung up in her country. Jewish schools have opened. A Jewish camp

attracts hundreds of kids, and an organization, the Chaver Foundation, sends Jewish speakers into schools to dispel false notions about Jews.

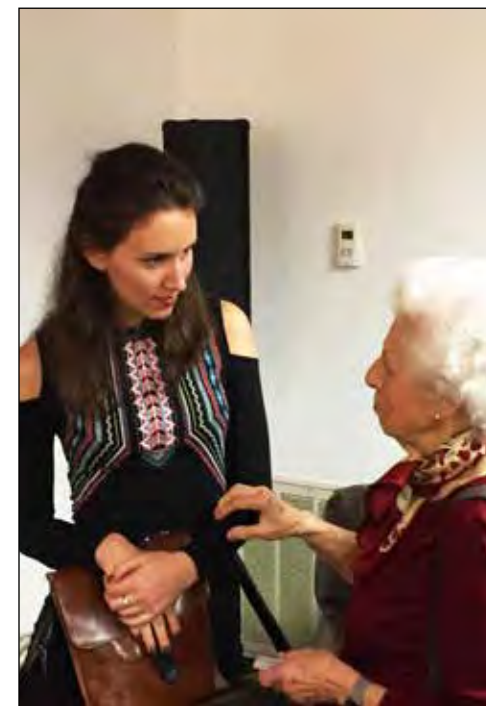
She has caught the Jewish fever, too. In fact, she's returning to Israel next summer to spend five months on Kibbutz Harduf near Haifa and to work as a *madricha* (counselor or guide).

"It's our generation that has the chance to start something new," Ozorai said.

One thing neither woman discussed was the changing political climate in Hungary, which observers say has become increasingly xenophobic and anti-Semitic. When asked, Pusztai used the word "scary" to describe some of the things she has seen or heard, but both women made it clear that they didn't feel threatened living there.

Sitting in the audience were some Jews who had their own Hungarian connections.

Frank Schwartz fled Hungary in 1956, following the 10-day revolution. He listened to the women, taking notes as they spoke. Afterwards, he said he found what they said "very interesting," but he wondered if the Jewish community has made any effort to reach out to anti-Semitic elements in the country, perhaps debunking their notions about Jews.



Hedi Pusztai (left) and Gila Glattstein share a moment following the presentation.

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# Transparent rabbi: Staying in the wilderness can lead to wisdom

By Lee Chottiner  
Community Editor

In the Torah, the *midbar* (wilderness) was a place where the Israelites wandered for 40 years before reaching the Promised Land, but Rabbi Susan Goldberg has a different take.

To Goldberg, a spiritual leader at the Wilshire Boulevard Temple in Los Angeles and a consultant on the hit Amazon TV series *Transparent*, the wilderness is a spiritual place, one where Jews never leave.

After Egypt, she noted, the rest of the Torah is spent in the wilderness. Even as Moses gives his final directions to the people before they cross the Jordan River, the Torah ends, and we start reading it over again.

"We never get there," Goldberg said. "We are always in the wilderness. That, to me, is a tremendous theme."

It's a theme that the writers of *Transparent* picked up on in the first season of the award-winning series starring Jeffrey Tambor as Mort (Maura) Pfefferman, a retired Jewish college professor who comes out to her family as a transgender woman.

Goldberg spoke about the groundbreaking show Sunday at the University of Louisville, the second of two to address the program, its distinct Jewish favor and its impact on the transgender experience. Zackary Drucker, a transgender artist and one of the show's producers, spoke here in October.

"I think it's the most Jewish show that's ever been on television," Goldberg said of *Transparent*.

That's because Jewish themes in the show are front and center – like Yom



**Rabbi Susan Goldberg discusses the making of *Transparent* at the University of Louisville. (photo by Lee Chottiner)**

Kippur, Israel, candle lighting on Shabbat.

And the wilderness.

Quoting a midrash, Goldberg said the Torah was given with three particular things: fire, water and wilderness.

"Because they're all free," she said. "Wisdom comes when you are in a free state.... We have to be ownerless to acquire wisdom."

In the show, she said, Maura finds herself in the wilderness acquiring wisdom. To do so, the rest of her family must also

take her journey.

Two of Maura's grown children, son Josh and daughter Ali, struggle with her new gender identity, but Sarah, the oldest child who has left her husband for a woman she fell in love with in college, is more accepting.

"All are thrown open to the wilderness, all the characters," Goldberg said. "It's Maura's journey, but they have to struggle, too."

In introducing Goldberg, Ranen Omer-Sherman, professor of Jewish studies and comparative humanities at UofL said the world's monotheistic religions are surprisingly tuned in to the idea that a soul doesn't always mesh with its assigned gender.

He quoted an Islamic scholar who said her religion's literature "grapples with what happens when a soul doesn't match a person's body."

Omer-Sherman also said kabbalistic and Jewish legal masters, including Rabbis Joseph Karo and Vital, "talked of transmigration of souls and of souls having genders that do not match with the gender of their physical bodies."

A former dancer and choreographer, Goldberg was ordained by the Academy for Jewish Religion in Los Angeles and has been at the Wilshire Boulevard Temple since 2013.

One of her congregants is writer and comedian Jill Solway, the creator of *Transparent*, whose own parent came out as transgender. Solway's personal experiences inspired the show.

"She made art out of her life," Goldberg said.

The series has won a Golden Globe Award for Best Television Series, and Tambor, who is Jewish, has collected a

Golden Globe and two Primetime Emmys for his portrayal of Maura.

As a consultant for the show, Goldberg typically reads scripts, and makes comments about their authenticity. She is often on the set during the filming of episodes, but she hinted that her job may change as the series enters its fifth season.

She also modeled the role of Raquel Fein, a female rabbi with a loudly ticking biological clock, played by actress Kathryn Hahn. Hahn shadowed Goldberg to learn how to play the part.

According to Goldberg, many single female rabbis relate to "Rabbi Raquel" and the pressure she feels to have her own family.

Not every aspect of the show has been so positive. Tambor, 73, just announced he is leaving *Transparent* following accusations of sexual harassment by a former assistant, Van Barnes, who is transgender, and a cast member, Trace Lysette. Tambor has denied the allegations and Goldberg, who was in Louisville after Barnes came forward, had no comment on the news.

More important to the rabbi is how *Transparent* had changed her.

She said she is learning to be an advocate for transgender people among Jews, encouraging more appreciation and support for them.

She despaired, though, that many Jews reflexively wonder why a TV show about a Jewish family must have a transgender parent.

"I get where that's coming from," Goldberg said. "It's an old place – let's not show the goyim everything."

"But," she added, "it's a place of shame."

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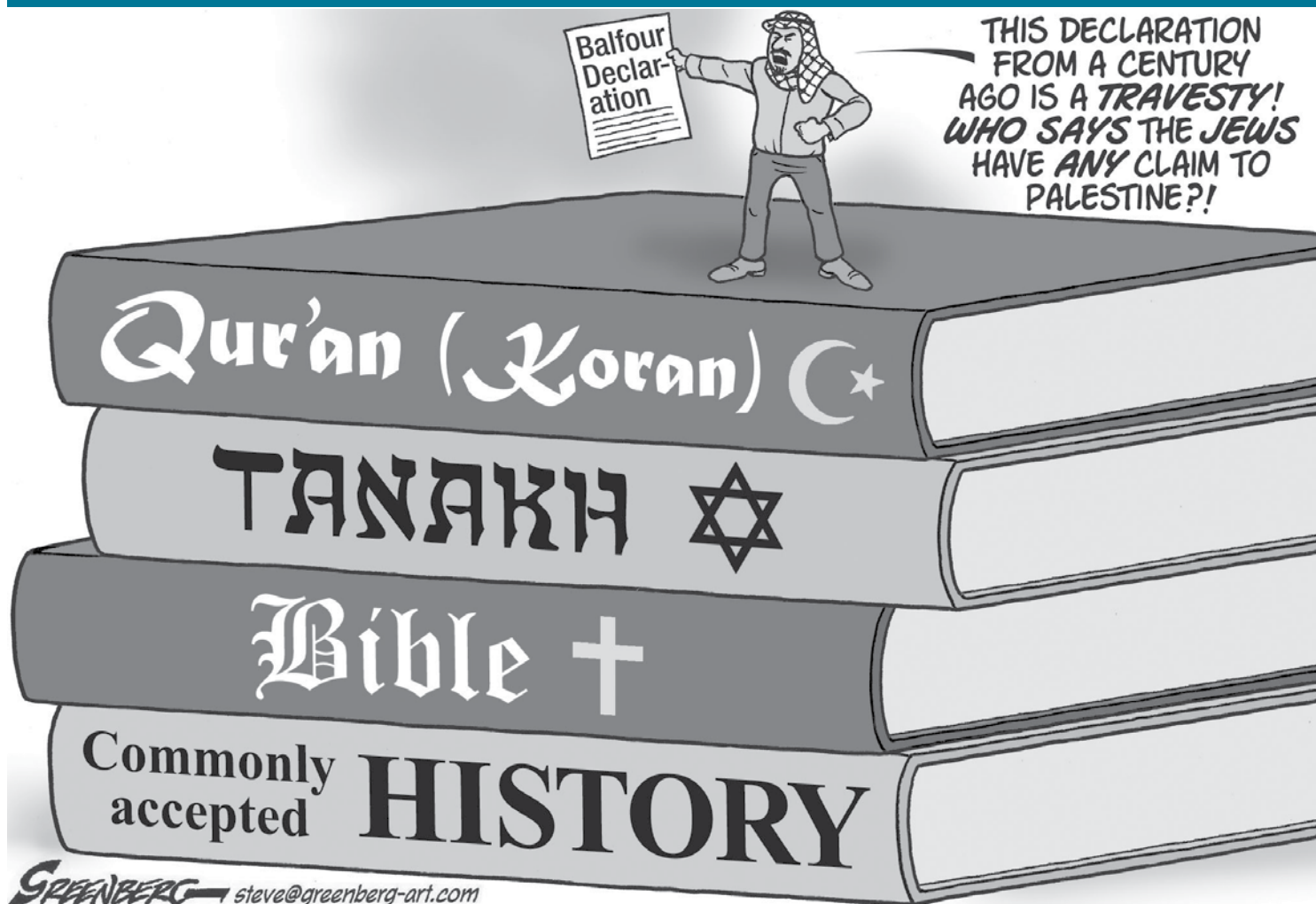
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## Forum



## Religious pluralism in Israel was the hot topic at G.A.

The recent Jewish Federations of North America General Assembly (G.A.), the annual meeting of federation professionals and lay leaders from across North America and Israel, proved a fascinating forum for the federations to showcase what they're doing. Experts touted ways to promote Jewish life and leaders outlined their plans for the future.

But the G.A. also became ground zero for one of the hottest issues in Israel – religious pluralism. In fact, it became the featured theme of the conference.

It's no wonder why. After formally agreeing in January 2016 to build an egalitarian prayer space for non-Orthodox Jews at the Western Wall in Jerusalem, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, to placate religious political parties that could bring down his government and force new elections, backtracked on the deal this past summer, postponing the project indefinitely.

JFNA has moved quickly to fight this outrage, formally demanding that the original agreement be implemented immediately. It also is funding and working with Israeli organizations to promote civil marriage, working with the Reform and Conservative movements in Israel to achieve this.

At the G.A., several breakout sessions



Matt Goldberg

were dedicated to religious pluralism. One speaker, a Russian immigrant to Israel, who discovered she was not halachically Jewish as she was about to enter the army, decided to convert under the auspices of the Chief Rabbinate. When she wanted to get married, though, that same authority refused to sanction the union because her husband was a *kohen*, a member of the priestly class that is not allowed to marry converts. The couple searched in vain for an officially approved rabbi to marry them. Fed up, they finally decided not to get married by law. (They found an Orthodox rabbi who performed the ceremony, just not one approved by Chief Rabbinate.)

The highlighted speaker of the G.A., Israeli President Reuven Rivlin, also addressed religious pluralism. He expressed dismay that a rift between Israel and Diaspora Jews has opened and said the state needs to be the home of all Jews, their religious affiliation and

prayer choices notwithstanding.

Finally, Natan Sharansky, head of the Jewish Agency for Israel and one of the principal negotiators of the original Western Wall agreement, expressed his anger about the government's retreat from the deal. He further recognized the importance of the Jewish communities in North America and the entire Jewish world to Israel.

That JFNA spent so much effort and time on this critical issue was comforting. The relationship with Israel is a fundamental backbone of all that we do at the federations; we take that relationship seriously.

The Jewish Community of Louisville will always do what it can to advocate for a religiously tolerant Israel that respects the rights of all Jews, regardless of the way they choose to express their Jewishness. We have allies all across America in this fight. Our task is to stay informed, support all efforts to change the Israeli government actions on this issue and persuade Israelis that the actions of their leaders with regard to the status of non-Orthodox Jewish practice is harming our warm relationship.

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

## Welcoming the stranger a Jewish – and Thanksgiving – ritual

It is a time for turkey, pumpkin pie, football and parades, not to mention gathering with family and friends. Thanksgiving has become part of what some refer to as the American civil religion.

This term refers to a sociological theory that nonsectarian traditions exist in the United States with their own symbols and values. Since our Jewish holidays always include rituals, it seems appropriate that Thanksgiving should include the ritual or practice of giving thanks.

There are many ways to give thanks:



Sara Wagner

with words, deeds, actions and prayer.

Imagine choosing two to three topics to be grateful for, making each Thanksgiving a unique moment in time for the nation and the American Jewish community.

This year, I would choose honoring our immigrant roots

by welcoming the stranger in our midst. Our tradition implores us to “not wrong a stranger, neither shall you oppress them; for you were strangers in the land of Egypt.”

Our grandparents and great-grandparents were once the newcomers in America. They passed their experiences down to their children, resulting in rich family stories and traditions.

Apart from the family unit, novelists, historians and memoirists have written

See **WAGNER** on next page



# Rare Jewish documents discovery holds valuable lesson for Louisville

Months ago, the national library in Vilnius, Lithuania announced that a trove of rare Jewish documents – more than 170,000 pages that were thought to have been lost in the Holocaust – had been rediscovered.

Some of those papers are currently on exhibit at the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research in New York. YIVO, which was founded in Vilnius (then known as Vilna), hid the documents in 1940 in the national library.

The organization moved to New York after the war, its staff believing the Nazis destroyed the papers. Actually, they were saved by a gentile librarian, Antanas Ulpis, who, at risk to his own life, squirreled them away in the basement of a church in Vilnius.

If you think these are just fragments of Torah and Talmud, boy! Are you wrong.

The trove includes:

- An 18th century manuscript on astronomy with drawings and descriptions of the solar system and calendrical charts.
- Lost and unpublished manuscripts from poets Chaim Grade and Avrom Sutzkever, and novelist Leyzer Volf.
- Letters penned by famed Yiddish writer Sholem Aleichem, including one from a German spa in 1910.
- A postcard from modern artist Marc Chagall.
- The Autobiography of Bebe Epstein, a fifth-grade girl, written between 1933-34, when she submitted it to YIVO's youth autobiography contest.

All of which shows that Jews led much fuller lives than what you see in *Fiddler on the Roof*.

Abigail Glogower, curator of Jewish collections and the fledgling Jewish Community Archive at the Filson



Lee Chottiner

Historical Society in Louisville, especially loves that young Bebe's book survived the *Shoa*.

"She was just a normal kid having a normal life from way back when," Glogower mused. "It's fascinating, just the texture of everyday life."

The whole trove will shed new light on how Jews lived in Eastern Europe before the war. As David E. Fishman, a professor of Jewish history at the Jewish Theological Seminary, who traveled to Vilnius to see the papers, told *The New York Times*, "These are gold."

There's a lesson in the discovery of these papers: A community's past can be easily wiped away if it's not careful. It's a lesson we would do well to learn here.

And we are.

Glogower is currently working on a project to archive and digitize 75 years' worth of Jewish Hospital documents,

And my predecessor, Shiela Wallace, in partnership with the Filson, is working with the archive governance committee at the Jewish Community of Louisville to identify and preserve historically significant JCL papers. That project could eventually involve digitizing back copies of *Community*.

Both projects are being supported by a two-year \$275,000 grant from the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence.

The Filson already has smaller collections of Jewish documents, including early records of two local B'nai B'rith lodges, the papers of whiskey magnate

and philanthropist Isaac W. Bernheim, and Rabbis Joseph Rauch (Adath Israel) and Martin Perley (Temple Brith Sholom and later, the Human Rights Commission).

So far, the Filson collection is small – just five cubic feet of papers, according to Glogower. But it has dedicated 400 feet of shelving in its facilities as the archive grows.

There are other sources of Jewish history in Louisville. The Temple also has materials related to Temples Adath Israel, Brith Sholom and the Reform movement. The Ekstrom Library at the University of Louisville has collections related to Bernheim, the Young Men's Hebrew Association, journalist Herman Landau and Professor Lee Shai Weisbach.

"I am thrilled to be helping build bridges between them," Glogower said, "to increase awareness of and access to the rich and varied history of Jewish Louisville."

Even though preserving Jewish history here is in its early stages, it's never too soon to get started. Louisville is not Eastern Europe, but documents can still be lost.

Glogower noted that many Jewish Hospital records were destroyed in the flood of 1937. In addition, a significant source of Jewish Louisville history – oral history – is vanishing as the community ages and shrinks.

People who forget their past risk losing their identity. Without that anchor, the word "Jew" becomes hollow, devoid of any meaning.

History adds flesh to the metaphorical bones we use to describe ourselves.

"Sometimes, it's easy to believe something happened in a certain way,"

Glogower said of the past. "New material can complicate what we think we know about Jewish history."

That's a good thing; new material invites us to rediscover who we are.

That's what the Vilnius discovery promises to do. Who knows what these Louisville projects will do?

(Lee Chottiner is editor of *Community*.)



Bebe Epstein, a fifth-grader in Lithuania from 1933-1934, wrote her autobiography, which she submitted to a YIVO youth writing contest. (photo courtesy of YIVO)

## Wagner

continued from previous page

walls of books about the Jewish immigrant experience.

As Jews, we have been enriched by the immigrant experience, but it wasn't always easy, and it still isn't.

Since last Thanksgiving we have witnessed an increase of aggressive, vile rhetoric and actions between different groups.

I am thankful that our Jewish community offers a safe place for civil discourse and dialogue. The Jewish Community Relations Council has modeled this practice by coalition building work and its support for the AlSaid Musafa family – refugees from Syria.

I am also thankful for everyone at The J, where we foster an open and welcoming home for the entire community.

In the days of the first and second

temples, farmers would bring bikkurim, or first fruits, as an offering to the high priests. The giving of the first fruits was the mitzvah of action.

Likewise, we are blessed in our community today to have so many individuals and families who also share from their most precious harvest and taking action. Every Federation annual campaign donor and volunteer helps to change and improve lives in Louisville and beyond.

Judaism, like Thanksgiving, is filled with opportunities to say thank you. When we wake up in the morning, when we eat, when we travel or even when we watch football or the Macy's Thanksgiving Day with our loved ones, we feel fortunate to be Americans and to have a vibrant Jewish community.

Start a new tradition or share your ritual for Thanksgiving with others.

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

## Happy Chanukah!

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# Why you should invest in cancer research in Israel: The breakthroughs

By Benjamin Brafman  
Guest Columnist

NEW YORK – As a busy criminal defense attorney with a roster of high-profile clients, I am not known to shy away from a fight. It doesn't hurt that I grew up in Brooklyn, the scrappy son of immigrants and Holocaust survivors.

But nothing could have prepared me for the fight of my life, when my wife, Lynda, was diagnosed with breast cancer early on in our marriage. We had two young kids at home, and Lynda had to undergo a radical mastectomy and a year of chemotherapy before she was declared cancer-free and cleared for reconstructive surgery.

I credit her oncologist, Dr. Yashar Hirshaut, with saving Lynda's life.

What I did not realize at the time was that Lynda's lifesaving treatment was made possible by the yeoman's work of scientists working long hours in unglamorous labs trying to understand the biological forces that drive cancer – and how to stop them.

So when God blessed me with professional success, I resolved to join the fight against this disease. I turned to Dr. Hirshaut for advice on where to direct my support. His answer surprised me: Israel.

Though a tiny state with a population of just over 8 million, Israel has made disproportionately large contributions to the fight against cancer. A breakthrough in the 1980s by an Israeli scientist, Eli Canaani, was critical to the development of Gleevec, a drug that has saved the lives of millions diagnosed with leukemia. Velcade, a drug used to treat bone marrow cancer, was based on the research of two Israeli professors,

Avram Hershko and Aaron Ciechanover, and their collaborator Irwin Rose, who went on to win the Nobel Prize for chemistry in 2004.

Israeli scientists discovered the role that mutations in the p53 gene play in causing cancerous tumors, and how a minor mutation in the RAD51 gene increases the risk of breast cancer in women with the BRCA2 gene mutation. It was ICRF-supported scientists at Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Hadassah Medical Center who contributed to the platform science that resulted in the development of Doxil, the first drug encapsulated in a microscopic fat bubble for direct delivery to a tumor site.

In case after case, significant advances in the science of cancer began in Israel. And then there is this important fact: Because of a lower salary structure and overhead costs, research dollars go much further in Israel than in almost any other developed nation.

So if you want your support to have maximal impact, Dr. Hirshaut told me, invest in Israel.

This, too, animates my support of Israeli science. Despite a spirit-rending campaign in some quarters to isolate the Israeli academic and research community, Israelis continue to make remarkable advancements in technology, medicine, and science – advancements that accrue to the benefit of all humankind.

Want to know what goes on at Israeli institutions of higher education? Learning. Insight. Imagination. Discovery. Healing. The best way to improve Israel's image around the globe? Support its life-saving science.

For me, the question wasn't whether to invest in Israel, but where? So many Israeli institutions are doing promising



The ICRF is supporting groundbreaking cancer research in Israel.

cancer research. How could I choose? Put me in a courtroom and I know my way around. A research lab, not so much.

Dr. Hirshaut introduced me to the Israel Cancer Research Fund (ICRF), which raises funds to support the most promising scientific and medical research at institutions across Israel.

The idea for the fund came in 1975 from a group of American and Canadian researchers, oncologists and supporters looking for ways to bolster the fight against cancer while combating the problem of "brain drain" from Israeli research institutions. In the four decades since its establishment, ICRF has distributed more than \$60 million through 2,300 research grants to scientists at 24

Israeli institutions – from post-doctoral fellows to Nobel Prize winners.

To identify the most deserving recipients, several dozen esteemed scientists and doctors from throughout North America meet annually in New York for a rigorous two-day proposal review. The decision-making can be wrenching because life and death hangs in the balance. That's because dozens of promising proposals go unfunded every year for one simple reason: We don't have enough money.

Who knows whether one of those deserving, unfunded requests could have yielded clues to overcoming the early-detection problem of lung or ovarian cancer, or the stubborn lethality of pancreatic cancer?

The simple fact is this: Israel's government alone cannot meet the needs of scientific research in Israel. Without extra support from Diaspora Jews, Israel risks losing these scientists and humanity risks losing critical, lifesaving advancements in the fight against cancer.

At times of crisis, Israel is often among the first countries to step up, from the 2010 earthquake in Haiti to the recent earthquakes in Mexico. Israel even extends a helping hand to Syrians, whose country is hostile to the Jewish state. We need to step up for Israel. There's no better cause, and no better place to invest in the fight against cancer.

I rest my case.

(Benjamin Brafman is a criminal defense attorney in New York.)

(This article was sponsored by and produced in partnership with the Israel Cancer Research Fund. It was produced by JTA's native content team.)

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# JFNA leader: Campaigns are about people, and living with dignity

By Lee Chottiner  
Community Editor

*"You're either part of the solution or you're part of the problem."*

– Eldridge Cleaver

Michelle Hirsch gave three reasons why she became part of the solution: Her Uncle Kenny, a Cleveland group home resident named Howard, and a 94-year-old Holocaust survivor named Dobra.

Uncle Kenny lived in Akron, Ohio, where Hirsch is from. Socially awkward, probably on the autism spectrum, he was teased by other kids growing up. "He wasn't all there," Hirsch said.

Howard lives in a Federation-supported group home in Cleveland. She met him one day while volunteering to build Adirondack chairs for the dwelling's porch. After three hours of working with Howard "in silence," she recalled how they finally sat in those seats, and how he turned to her to say "thank you."

Dobra is homebound, confined to a four-story walkup flat in Ukraine. Hirsch met her when she joined a Ukraine-Israel mission sponsored by the Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA). Dobra handed Hirsch a thank-you card, which she made herself, and said in Russian that she was alive thanks to people like her.

All three people have lived on the fringes of society. Forgotten by many, they have been nevertheless cared for by the Federation system.

For Hirsch, who is active in the Jewish Federation of Cleveland and is the chair-designate of the JFNA's National Young Leadership Cabinet, they represent why she does what she does.



Michelle Hirsch pulled personal stories from her own past to demonstrate the importance of giving to the 2017-18 Annual Campaign. (photo by William Beasley)

"My donation is not just about funding people like me," she said Sunday, October 29, at the Jewish Federation of Louisville's 2018 Campaign Kick-Off event. "My dollars are helping people like Howard, Uncle Kenny and Dobra live like the human beings they are: with dignity and comfort."

Hirsch was the featured speaker at the Kick-Off. As she spoke, a slide show shuffled through snapshots of Uncle Kenny, Howard, Dobra and her native Akron, whose Jewish community, she said, is quite like Louisville's.

"What Inspires You?" is the theme of this year's campaign. The goal is to raise over \$2 million. Guests at the kickoff were given pledge cards they could either fill out that day or return later.

Jerry Abramson, co-chair of the 2018 campaign with his wife, Madeline, and Ariel and Faina Kronenberg, said this year's drive will differ sharply from those in the past.

For instance, the Abramsons, who have experience running campaigns, will work closely with the Kronenbergs, grooming them to take the lead on next

year's campaign and, in turn, train future chairs – "I'dor v'dor," as Jerry said.

This year's campaign will rely less on formal dinners and more on smaller, intimate events to promote support. Jerry cited the upcoming Herzlian events, women leadership activities and the Men's Day of Racing at Churchill Downs as examples.

Jerry also called on Baby Boomers who have "checked out" of Federation activities to get involved again.

According to Hirsch, Louisville Federation support has helped to provide more than 18,000 meals served through Chavurat Shalom, The J Senior Nutrition and Meals on Wheels. Additionally, 8,400 hours of homecare have been provided to senior citizens.

Sara Klein Wagner, president and CEO of the Jewish Community of Louisville, updated the audience on allocations the JCL made over the past year.

"Tough choices" had to be made, she said. Some programs, such as One Happy Camper and Birthright, were reduced while others – aid to Jews in the former Soviet Union – were increased.

"It's not just about being Jewish," Wagner said. "It's about how we do Jewish."

David Kaplan, chair of the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence, which just received \$150 million from Catholic Health Initiatives in return for giving up its interest in Jewish hospital, told the crowd the campaign nevertheless remains vital to the community's future.

Fundraising, he said, is the means donors have to "shoulder the burden" of keeping the community viable and ensuring that whatever inspires them about Jewish Louisville continues to be funded.

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## Setting up shop

# JFCS support helped African-owned grocery find a home in Buechel

By David Serchuk  
For Community

(Editor's note: This story first appeared in Louisville Distilled, Community's news partner, and is reprinted here with the permission of LD.)

A stroll through the aisles of Mor's African Market might just make you feel like you've left Louisville. At the same time, it could also help you realize how many worlds peacefully co-exist within the River City's confines.

The store's located at 3927 Bardstown Road, in Buechel, an area with a high concentration of West African immigrants. The shelves and coolers reflect this, featuring items you might not see at the local Kroger, like cow skin or varieties of dried fish. Could I interest you in a non-alcoholic malt beverage or mango nectar? You get the idea.

When I visited, Momath Sall stood behind the counter, like every day. The Senegalese immigrant works seven days a week, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. He co-owns the store with his wife, Kadiatu Jollah, who also runs and cooks the food for Maa Sha-Allah, a restaurant inside the grocery.

Sall moved to Louisville in 1999 from New York City, one year after Jollah. They married that year and have four children.

Sall follows the news and is quite aware of the anti-immigrant sentiment that's seeped into the national conversation. But he hasn't felt its sting. "Most people I meet are open to the immigrant community," he says. "Of course, I watch the news and know everything that's go-



Momath Sall opened his African grocery store in Buechel with the help of the Jewish Family & Career Services. (photos provided by Louisville Distilled)

ing on. There are people here that are not welcoming, but I personally haven't had any bad experiences that are out of the norm."

He says Louisville has welcomed him and Jollah. Jewish Family & Career Services helped them with paperwork when opening the business, and they received a loan through the microbusiness program offered by The Louisville Metro Department of Community Services. "I would say generally this city is very helpful," he says.

Jollah has her own dramatic story, the

focus of a 2011 segment on WFPL. The short version is that she left Sierra Leone during its civil war and migrated to the Gambia. From there she emigrated to New York City and eventually Louisville. Unfortunately, she had to leave her two children in the Gambia, and it would be nearly 18 years until they reunited.

To earn money, she cooked African style meals at her home and sold them to taxi drivers at Louisville International Airport. Her loyal patrons included drivers from West Africa, the Middle East, Haiti and America. The demand for her food grew, and she started to sell it at the now-closed African Millennium Market. In time, she opened the restaurant in the store.

Sall says Jollah's food brings in a diverse array of Louisville residents, not just people from that immediate area.

One fan is Jarett Duker, until recently, the director of the non-profit Navigate Enterprise Center, which connects small businesses with financing and provides business coaching and training. It is also a part of JFCS.

"I love bringing people here," Duker says. "One, because the food is amazing. And it's just a really great example of how immigrant businesses can come into a community and become staples."

Navigate worked with Sall and Jollah in a few capacities, Duker says, providing counseling and education assistance. Navigate also facilitated the connection between Sall and Community Services in 2014.

Duker didn't add specifics on Sall and Jollah's loan but says that metro-sponsored loans typically range from \$500 to \$15,000, with many around \$5,000. He also says such loans typically have interest rates between 7.5 percent to 9.9 percent, higher than the average mortgage, but cheaper than the majority of other small business financing options. For example, Kabbage.com has business loans with interest rates from 14 percent to 35 percent.



Mor's International Grocery sells items one normally doesn't see in Kentucky supermarkets.

Navigate also worked with Sall and Jollah to make the store more customer friendly. In one instance, they recommended that the shelves be set up in a way more typical of a Western convenience store. The store's goods had been along the walls, a more African style, Duker says.

"My continued goal is to make the place more attractive to regular Louisville people, who would feel comfortable coming into an African-owned business," Duker says. "And feel comfortable ordering lunch."

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# Zola reflects on Jewish role in civil rights movement at Herzlian program

By Syd Bishop  
For Community

The house on the East End was remarkably inviting, large enough to accommodate the crowd of 12 to 15 people, but close enough to allow for mingling.

The catering was immaculately laid out, with a courteous wait staff offering drinks or appetizers to guests.

The speaker at the event, Rabbi Gary Zola, charmed the guests, taking the time to introduce himself at the dinner in an inviting manner.

The November 12 dinner was the third in a series of Herzlian events, a new series bringing donors together with a guest speaker to discuss topics of interest to Jewish Louisville.

"The focus is to provide more personalized attention and to design events and build community and create connections," said Julie Hollander, director of women's philanthropy at the Jewish Community of Louisville, who organized the series. "We have had three different Herzlian events and the guests were able to engage with others that they might normally not eat a meal with and learn about different topics. The responses from the guests at the events have been very positive."

The dinner topic this night was the role Jews played in the civil rights movement. An ice breaker Q&A got things started followed by a round table discussion in which the guests shared examples of racism they had encountered and their experience working through anti-Semitism.

After the give-and-take, Zola, executive director of the Jacob Rader Marcus center of the American Jewish Archives



Rabbi Gary Zola (right) was the featured speaker at the latest Herzlian event on Monday, November 13, at the home of Julie and Jim Ensign. (photo by Stacy Gordon-Funk)

in Cincinnati, commenced his conversation on the unique experience of the American Jew.

He discussed four separate aspects of the American diaspora that account for this experience:

- Jewish Americans were part of the creation of the union helping form the

state;

- Jewish Americans were able to take up arms in the fight for freedom;
- The Constitution guarantees religious autonomy;

- The existence of an independent judiciary system.

"No other Jewish community anywhere in the world has been involved in the republic," Zola said. "I'm not talking about Israel; I'm talking about the diaspora. It's only here that we've been here in the colonial period, and we participated in the creation of this republic."

He added, "We actually bore guns and fought for this nation. That's also unique. Especially in America, where we talk a lot about guns, we forget that Jews were often not allowed to bear arms. They weren't considered citizens or worthy of that privilege."

Over dessert, Zola handed out a series of documents describing the Jewish-American experience throughout history. One paper recounted a quarrel between a Jew and non-Jew prior to the Civil War: The Jew challenged the non-Jew to a duel and was rebuffed, the non-Jew saying the Jew was beneath him.

The Jew responded with a public ad accusing his nemesis of anti-Semitism and cowardice. Zola found in the incident a kernel of truth about the nature of religious discourse in antebellum America.

"Try to put ourselves back in Poland. You're used to this kind of abuse and you just take it," Zola said. In this case, "he's not going to take it. He calls him a coward in public. One of the unique things about America that you can't say anywhere else – not talking about Israel, just the diaspora – if you do this, you are not just a bigot, an anti-Semite, but anti-democratic and un-American."

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## ARTS

## Gilbert Gottfried really isn't a cranky loudmouth, documentary shows

By Curt Schleier  
JTA

"It was very peculiar," said Gilbert Gottfried, 62, about becoming the subject of the aptly named bio-documentary, *Gilbert*.

"The filmmaker, Neil Berkeley, came to me and said he'd always dreamed about making a Gilbert Gottfried documentary," the comedian told JTA in a telephone interview. "I told him you should set your dreams higher."

When they first met in October 2014, Gottfried was not enthusiastic about the prospect of the film. He was concerned about what he called the "Wizard of Oz effect"—that pulling back the curtain might reveal someone who disappoints.

Still, he reluctantly agreed to the project. Or, perhaps more accurately, "I was too much of a wimp to say no," he said.

"He just started following me," Gottfried added. (Filming began in June 2015.) "He'd show up at my house, sometimes before I got up. He followed me on the road and after a while it just became accepted that he'd be there."

The result? A revealing, fascinating film that just may confirm Gottfried's worst fear: In real life, the comedian, actor, voice-over artist and podcaster is clearly not an insensitive, flippant jokester with a famously grating, gravelly voice. Instead, Gottfried comes off as a sensitive, happily married man with two kids who lives a relatively normal, middle-class life in Manhattan. And while his neuroses comes through on occasion—and, hey, whose doesn't?—viewers may be most surprised to hear that his "regular" voice is, well, pretty regular.

In *Gilbert*, we see the say-anything-for-a-laugh comedian sitting on a bench tenderly holding hands with his wife, Dara Kravitz. We see him taking his kids, Lilly and Max, to school and joining them on a museum trip. And possibly most poignant of all, we see him accompanying his sister, Arlene Gottfried—a celebrated New York street photographer—to her chemotherapy treatments. (She died in August at 66.)

The general consensus, as voiced by the comics interviewed in *Gilbert*—including Whoopi Goldberg and Bob Saget—is that much, if not all, of Gottfried's



**Gilbert Gottfried's neurotic, hyper humor is still a hit with audiences today. (photo by Arlene Gottfried)**

transformation into a nice guy can be attributed to Kravitz.

The couple met in the late 1990s; she created a sense of order in his life. "I actually live in an apartment where the furniture matches," the longtime bachelor said. "And I have a collection of silverware and plates that go together."

She also impacted his connection to Judaism. Growing up, Gottfried said there was no Jewish education in his home—his link to his religion was one of mostly neuroses and worry. "The only time I'd be in a synagogue would be at someone else's bar mitzvah or a funeral," he said. "I didn't reject Judaism, I was raised [in an unreligious] way. [But] I know that if we're ever rounded up again, I'll be on the train."

Yet, at Kravitz's insistence, when the couple married in 2007, they did so under a chuppah—one of the film's charms is a clip from their wedding ceremony—and their two children attend Hebrew school.

One thing she was unable to change is Gottfried's periodic proclivity to get

himself in trouble—like during the infamous Hugh Hefner roast just weeks after September 11, 2001. In Gottfried's notorious performance—also shown in the film—he dares to make a joke about the attacks.

"There were still black clouds in the sky and I just wanted to be the first to address the elephant in the room," Gottfried told JTA. "So I did a Sept. 11 joke."

"I bombed horribly," he added. "People were booing and hissing and chairs were scraping the floor. I lost the crowd as bad as I ever have. If you told me I was standing there for 200 years I would believe it."

Did Gottfried hang his head and walk offstage? Not quite. "I figured I'm already in the bottom level of hell, so I did *The Aristocrats*," he said, referring to notoriously lewd bit in which comedians, since the vaudeville era, have competed to see who could be the crassest. (The joke is so famous, in fact, that an entire film has been made about it.)

In this instance, it worked for Gottfried. "It was a complete turn-around," he said. (In *The Aristocrats* film, comics sing his praises for doing the joke—calling him a "comic's comic," "brave" and "the man who made it possible to laugh again.")

Gottfried found himself at the center of controversy again in 2011. He tweeted a series of jokes about the earthquake and tsunami in Japan, just days after the disaster. It cost him one of his most lucrative commercial deals, as the voice of the Aflac duck.

"I don't regret the joke," he said. "I regret losing the money."

"If you're a comedian, you can't regret jokes," he added. "It was interesting to me how people to me were making it more important than it really was. On television the newscasters said the story was about my 'comments' or 'remarks.' They never said it was a joke, because they couldn't do a story about jokes."

But there's a difference, I point out, between some improvised quip and a tweet, which is typed out and presumably read before it is sent out into the cosmos. "It's something that had to be done," he said. "Someone had to jump over the edge and show how dangerous Twitter is."

By "dangerous," he refers to the often expletive-laden responses he sometimes gets to his tweets. "Twitter makes me feel sentimental for old-time lynch mobs," he quipped. "The old mobs had to at least get their hands dirty. Now, all they do is sit on the couch in their underwear to form a mob."

Clearly, Gottfried has few, if any, filters, and that shows in the film. I suggest others might have been more circumscribed with a camera following them—for example, the comedian comes across as extremely parsimonious. Actually, make that cheap.

Gottfried often travels to gigs on public transit—think Megabus—and takes on the attributes of a vacuum cleaner when he gets there, inhaling every freebie in every green room and hotel room he visits. If the stock in his home is any indication, all Gottfried family members can wash their hair three times a day for the rest of their lives and there would still be hotel-size shampoo bottles left over.

Gottfried attributes his thriftiness to his modest Brooklyn upbringing. Thinking back, he said his home was a place where coupons were king and brand names were banished. His father and uncle owned a hardware store on a very quiet street. "I hardly remember any customers," he said. "So there wasn't a lot of money. The whole family lived in an apartment right above the store."

And yet, Gottfried's cheapness played a key role in meeting Kravitz, who was then in the music industry, at a Grammys party.

"I have no connection to the business, but I knew there would be free food there," he said. "We met and started talking."

Several comics in the documentary point out their amazement that Gottfried landed such an attractive, intelligent and patient wife.

And, truth be told, it surprises him as well. "It's one of the great mysteries, like who was Jack the Ripper and who was responsible for the Black Dahlia," he concedes.

*("Gilbert" opened November 3 in New York and November 10 in Los Angeles. Other cities to follow.)*

## Petty Business captures the Tel Aviv vibe before the commercial onslaught

By Ranen Omer-Sherman  
For Community

Yirmi Pinkus' lively novel, *Petty Business*, vividly translated from Hebrew, is a dazzling mosaic of hilarity and heartbreak. It immerses readers in the intricate personal and business relationships between three generations of two lower-middle-class extended families, the Zinmans and the Shlossmans/Saltzmanns, of Polish-Jewish lineage.

Pinkus captures the foibles of bakers, beauticians, clothing stall operators, hairstylists and grocers during an already forgotten Tel Aviv of the late 1980s. These were the twilight years of small-business owners, modest grocers the wheeler-dealers of the rag trade before the crushing onslaught of the vast international chain stores and supermarket goliaths that now dominate the Israeli landscape.

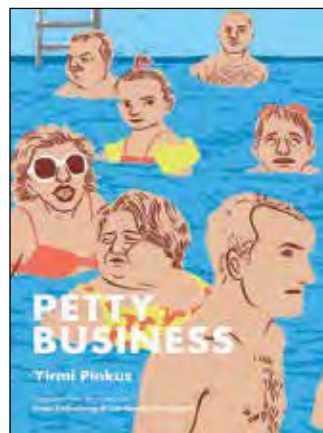
Rarely has an Israeli novelist bestowed such affection and empathic understanding on this nearly invisible sector of society, those terrified of losing their

hard-won places in the world. Even though most of Pinkus' hardscrabble, openhearted, characters recognize that life has shortchanged them, they keep at it relentlessly, with poignant hopefulness. Despite their absurdly miscalculated plots and intrigues to make ends meet, a quiet heroism permeates their struggles.

As the patriarch of one family sorrowfully observes, "How fragile is the measure of happiness available to the small-time retailer—nine loaves of challah remaining on the shelf at the end of a Friday afternoon are enough to turn a holiday into a day of mourning!"

Overall their daily trials and tribulations hovers over the pastoral dream of an idyllic vacation in Seefeld, the famous Austrian Alpine village, its lush mountains, waterfalls and wonderful drink and food so far removed from sweltering and grimy Tel Aviv.

The gifted translators ably render the wild tonal register of the original Hebrew, its tenderness as well as scatology. (These are the kinds of families whose



every digestive mishap becomes the subject of endless mirth and commentary.)

Pinkus has a wonderful ear for the speech marking Israel's ethnic and

class divisions and is especially skillful in capturing the sharp Yiddishisms permeating their environment, their uproarious insults, curses and their laughter.

*Petty Business* is swarming with life, the cacophony of Tel Aviv's neighborhoods captured in indelible, loving detail, larger-than-life personalities hustling for the crumbs of minute percentages, discounts and under-the-table payments;

and the slight but critical distinctions that make all the difference between sinking and staying afloat enough to struggle another day.

Even as we laugh at these grasping and feuding families, they burrow deep into our hearts. It is impossible not to root for them when their modest dreams threaten to slip away.

With each new scheme plotted, long buried feelings suddenly erupting, and ripples of ribald humor and tender sadness inhabiting virtually every page, *Petty Business* will surely leave its readers eager for more of Pinkus's award-winning novels to be translated.

*(Ranen Omer-Sherman is the JHFE Endowed Chair in Judaic Studies at the University of Louisville.)*

## Book Review

*Petty Business*, by Yirmi Pinkus, translated by Evan Fallenberg & Yardenne Greenspan Syracuse UP, 2017, paperback, 258 pages \$19.95



## JFCS CALENDAR

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



**2821 Klempner Way  
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fax | **502-452-6718**  
website | [jfcslouisville.org](http://jfcslouisville.org)

### JFCS FOOD PANTRY

#### SUGGESTIONS FOR DECEMBER

- Fruit
- 1-Gal. storage bags & twist ties
- Chunky soup
- Individual snacks
- Toilet paper

**Remember, donations can be made at your local synagogue.**

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 Toebbe at 502-452-6341, ext. 103.

### HANUKKAH HELPERS FAMILY MITZVAH EVENT



**Sunday, December 3, 12-2pm at JFCS**

- Load/unload the truck with gifts for low-income families
- Enjoy pizza and Hanukkah Bingo
- Make crafts and goody bags for seniors
- Please bring one box of latke mix and one small applesauce

RSVP Kim by Thursday, November 30  
502-452-6341 ext. 103

*In the spirit of Tikkun Olam the Carole & Larry Goldberg Family Mitzvah Program hosts meaningful projects which make the world a better place by helping people. Make your holidays more meaningful by joining in!*

### BEHIND THE SCENES AT JFCS



**Amy Gilbert and Betsy Prussian**

On Tuesday, December 14, JFCS Board members, Amy Gilbert and Betsy Prussian, hosted a "house party" in the evening at Amy's home that featured Mauri Malka, Director of Family Services, focusing on "talking with your parents about life's transitions." This is the first of several house parties that will be held over the next 12 months to introduce JFCS services to people on topics that are relevant to all families.

"While every situation is different, we generally see that most adult children struggle with parents' refusal to accept assistance or services from community care providers," comments Malka. "They either don't need care because 'we are doing just fine' or they only want their children to help." Mauri encourages adult children to evaluate their own needs and those of their parents and determine the level of involvement that is comfortable and necessary.

Setting clear boundaries is essential. Mauri stated that while parents have the right to make bad decisions as long as they are competent to do so, we, as their family caregivers, don't have to support those bad decisions and should avoid doing so whenever possible.

Guilt is pervasive. It stems from thinking we should be doing something in a specific way. It is important to differentiate between the "musts, shoulds and coulds." The priorities that are critical to well-being and safety become the "musts." The "coulds" involve those things that can reasonably be done. The "should" is a construct of our thinking that leads us to the feeling of guilt. Try to focus on accomplishing the "musts" and the "coulds" and eliminate the "should" from your thinking.

Future topics may be work/life balance, how to get your child college ready, and gaining traction in your career. If you would like to host a conversation or attend one on a particular topic, please contact Beverly Bromley, [bbromley@jfcslouisville.org](mailto:bbromley@jfcslouisville.org).

### CAREER SERVICES

#### PRIVATE INTERVIEW CAREER COACHING

**December 6-7, 11am - 4pm at JFCS**

An in-person, one-on-one interview coaching session with a human resources professional who will work with you on your presentation and guide you through common interview questions.

Remember to:

- Dress professionally (as you would for an interview)
- Bring a copy of your resume
- Bring a copy of a job description for which you have applied or plan to apply

**Fee \$25** Register online: [eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com)

### SAVE THE DATES

**ACT CLASSES - Starting January 16**

**JUMPSTART WORKSHOPS - Starting January 17**

### SUPPORT GROUPS

**December 5, 4pm**

#### Caregiver Support Group

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

**December 8, 2pm**

#### Alzheimer's Caregiver Support SSPGroup

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

**December 13, 10am**

#### Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

This month's meeting will be the second Wednesday of the month (rather than the usual third Wednesday) at Kenwood Elementary 7420 Justan Avenue. Contact Jo Ann Kalb at 502-452-6341, ext. 335.

**December 14, 1pm**

#### Parkinson's Caregiver Support Group

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

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# PICTURE THIS: Campaign Kick-Off

Jewish Louisville was treated to an emotional 2017-2018 Campaign Kickoff Sunday, October 29. Michelle Hirsch, a leader in the Jewish Federation of Cleveland, shared stories from her life that inspire her own giving. Campaign Co-Chairs Jerry and Madeline Abramson and Ariel and Faina Kronenberg promised a more intimate campaign this year with greater one-on-one interaction. (photos by William Beasley)



## Kentucky Homefront Chanukah Party

Celebrate the magic of Chanukah with thousands of radio listeners!  
Be part of a live recording of Kentucky Homefront, Louisville's premier public radio variety show.



Dec. 10 | 2-4 p.m. | The J Auditorium

**Advanced Tickets: \$8**  
\$5 children 10 years and younger

**Day of Show Tickets (if available): \$10**

**LIMITED SEATING SO GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY:**  
[jewishlouisville.org/HomefrontChanukah](http://jewishlouisville.org/HomefrontChanukah)

For more information contact  
**MATT GOLDBERG,**  
JCRC DIRECTOR  
at 502-238-2707

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# JCL begins pilot program intended to nurture its future Jewish leaders

By staff and releases

Planning for a strong Jewish future, the Jewish Community of Louisville (JCL) is starting a pilot program to empower young leaders in Louisville through education, engagement and philanthropy.

The Leadership Development Program, as it's called, will include a combination of educational panels and social gatherings, all of which will share insight into how Jewish values impact leadership in Jewish Louisville and the greater community.

Participants, Jew and non-Jew alike, will have the opportunity to meet and network with a diverse group of peers

and learn from experienced leaders and philanthropists in Jewish Louisville.

"One of my personal goals for this program is to demonstrate to our participants that together we are more than we are as individuals," said Tracy Geller, who is co-chairing the program with Seth Gladstein.

"So many of these young leaders bring unique talents to the table. By introducing a specific group of people, they can help each other build their businesses and hopefully collaborate on ideas to give back to the Jewish community in a way that benefits everyone."

Republic Bank and Trust Company, Kindred Healthcare and Jewish Heri-

tage Fund for Excellence will host some of the sessions, exposing the participants to Jewish leaders in a variety of settings.

Panelists include representatives from Jewish Family & Career Services, the congregations, 21c Museum Hotels, Heaven Hill Brands, Humana, Louisville Metro Council and the American Jewish Committee.

The topics they grapple with address Jewish Louisville as well as Jewish leadership in the greater Louisville community.

Unique to JCL's program is "Lunch with a Leader," a mentoring component that pairs participants with veterans of all facets of Jewish Louisville.

The JCL expects this program to engage future leaders to learn together about Jewish non-profits and greater Louisville and find a starting point from which they will embark on a lifetime of Jewish leadership.

Leadership development is already being modeled by co-chairs of the annual Federation Campaign. Faina and Ariel Kronenberg are co-chairing the drive with Jerry and Madeline Abramson, who have previous experience in this area. The Kronenbergs are expected to take the lead during the 2019 campaign.

## Day at the races



Left, Jewish men watch their horse finish in the money (hopefully) during Gentlemen & The Downs Sunday, November 19, at Churchill Downs – an event exclusively for male donors to the Jewish Federation of Louisville. All attendees at the race day were asked to donate at least \$1,000 to the Annual Campaign. Below, Richard Klein addresses attendees in the Skye Terrace overlooking the racetrack. Bottom left, gentlemen mingle between races. Jerry Abramson, Lee Benovitz, Brandon Coan, Joe Hertzman, Richard Klein, Ariel Kronenberg, Bruce Miller, Jon Salomon and Leon Wahba hosted the event. (photos by Tara Coco)



*I make house calls!*

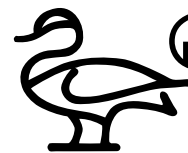


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# PICTURE THIS: The Great Challah Bake

This year's Great Challah Bake attracted 175 women from all ages. The event Challah Bake, which is part of the Shabbat Project, an international program celebrated one weekend a year to encourage the observance of Shabbat, was sponsored by the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence and the Jewish Federation of Louisville. Karen Bass and Julie Strull were the co-chairs. (photos by Tara Cocco and Shayne Brill)





# PICTURE THIS: The Great Challah Bake



## The Top Ten Things To Do If You Want To Sell Your House

1. Hire me, Lou Winkler.  
(I will take care of the other nine things.)



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# SPECIAL SECTION: Chanukah

## Happy Chanukah?

### Is it possible for kids not to enjoy the Festival of Lights? Well...

By Mosh Ben-David  
For Community

Do you know any Jewish kids who did not totally enjoy one of the most beloved holidays, Chanukah? Don't bother to answer; this is a rhetorical question.

Nevertheless, since I asked, obviously I have a reason. You see, I know a girl whose Chanukah was marred by unforgettable experiences.

My daughter Neeli was born in mid-September. For her second birthday, we invited my wife's parents. My wife, Cheri, baked Neeli's favorite cake; we lit the candles, sang "Happy Birthday" and then we instructed the toddler to blow hard and put out the candles. She did and was rewarded with applause, hugs, kisses and presents.

About three months passed and it was Chanukah eve. Again, we invited Cheri's parents. Neeli sat on a high chair in front of the chanukiah (menorah), beaming with excitement since she remembered the last candle event.

I can almost see you, dear readers, smiling to yourselves, but don't get ahead of me. I chanted the blessings and lit the shamash with which I then lit the first candle.

To our utter shock, Neeli, who remembered the routine, leaned over and with a couple of puffs, put out the candles, smiling happily.

At once, all four of us pounced on her



Chanukah can be a swell time for kids if grown-ups don't get in the way. (photo provided)

"No!"

"What are you doing!?"

"You shouldn't!"

"You don't blow out the candles!"

Even now, as I'm writing what happened quite a few years ago, I cringe as I remember how her happy face turned to shock and horror. I am trying to guess what she felt as the four closest human beings to her attacked her with the cacophony of rebuke. Where is the applause? The hugs? the kisses?

When she was 4, I taught her to chant the blessings by heart. The first two she learned pretty well, but the third one, the *Shehecheyanu*, proved to be a big challenge. Small wonder.

"She-he-che-ya-nu v'-ki-ye-ma-nu v'-hi-gi-a-nu" – long and difficult words to pronounce for a 4-year-old. Frustrated, she complained how difficult this blessing was. Trying to encourage her, I said, "but darling, you will have to do the third blessing only once – on the first night."

"What!" she screamed. "All this hard work for one night only?"

At age 6, Neeli was a second grader at the Jewish Day School. On the seventh day of Chanukah, when I picked her up from school, she entered the car visibly upset. When I asked what was the matter, she intoned, "The teacher told us that it's better to give than to receive."

She fell silent for a minute, then added with a painful apology, "But I love to receive more than I love to give."

(I have a modest request for all you well-intended teachers. Please, remember that little children look up to you admiringly and often take your words literally. Such a moral and compassionate concept can be misconstrued by them.)

I explained to Neeli, who was plainly perplexed by what the teacher meant. I told her that all of us like to receive gifts and that's OK, but there is great satisfaction also in giving, whether it is to people we love or sharing with people who have less than us.

"In fact," I concluded, "since you got so many presents for Chanukah, perhaps you should donate one to needy children."

Neeli, who by now was consoled, nodded her head in agreement and added, "but daddy, do I have to donate my favorite present?"

(Moshe Ben-David is a Louisville storyteller.)

## Jewish Bow Tie Cookies: An old world treat of fried dough

By Ronnie Fein  
The Noshers via JTA

My mother was a first-class baker, and there were always homemade goodies for dessert at our house. So when I went away to college and needed a nosh to remind me of home, I went to a nearby bakery for a little something.

It was mostly good: Chinese cookies, hamantaschen, babka. But the kichels? Not so much. Not only were my mother's kichels world class and nearly impossible to top, but what the bakery called kichel wasn't at all what I was used to.

Bakery kichels, as I learned, are thick, bow tie-shaped pastries that are sometimes sprinkled with sugar. They can be crumbly and dry, or hard and dry, depending on the bakery. They are the kind of cookie a kid, especially one who is a homesick kid, would never choose. Especially a kid whose mother made world-class kichels.

Here's why my mom's kichels were so amazing: They were soft and crispy at the same time, and they would melt in your mouth before you even had a chance to chew or even realize they were on your tongue. They were paper thin but developed air bubbles that were fun to pop with my front teeth, especially because a feathery dusting of confectioners' sugar would fall from the top of the bubble into the crevice and give a faint but definite sweet to all parts.

We didn't need milk to dunk and soften these kichels. They were as light as a helium balloon; fried (it is Chanukah, after all), but never greasy; sugar sprinkled, but never cloying.

The big trick for fabulous kichels is rolling the dough as thin as possible. It takes some time and patience, but the result – crispy, puffy, delightfully light cookies with just a sprinkle of sifted confectioners' sugar – is so worth it.

### Ingredients:

1 cup all-purpose flour  
1/8 teaspoon salt  
2 large eggs, beaten  
1/4 teaspoon white vinegar  
Vegetable oil for deep frying  
Confectioners' sugar

### Directions:

1. Place the flour and salt in a bowl.
2. Add the beaten eggs and vinegar and mix thoroughly until a smooth dough has formed. (You can use an electric mixer or food processor).
3. Let the dough rest, covered with plastic wrap, for at least 30 minutes.
4. Roll out portions of the dough on a lightly floured surface until the dough is very thin, almost like paper.
5. Cut the dough into squares, rectangles or odd shapes.
6. Heat about two inches of vegetable oil in a deep saute pan (or use a deep fryer) over medium-high heat until the oil reaches about 375 F. (A bread crumb or tiny piece of dough will sizzle quickly when you drop it into the oil).
7. Drop the cutouts, a few at a time, into the oil (they will puff up) and cook briefly on both sides until they are crispy and faintly browned.
8. Drain on paper towels. Sift confectioners' sugar on top. Makes 30.

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# SPECIAL SECTION: Chanukah

## Chanukah happenings to abound all over Louisville this year

### Hanukkah Helpers at Temple Shalom

The Hannukkah Helpers program to assist Jewish children in need is wrapping up. To participate, stop by Temple Shalom and pick up a laminated paper dreidel listing gifts that parents have suggested for their children.

The presents should be returned unwrapped to the synagogue by November 27.

The program is sponsored by Temple Shalom and Jewish Family & Career Services. Call Temple Shalom at 502-458-4739 for details.

### Kentucky Homefront Chanukah party

Thousands of radio listeners across Kentucky will share the Chanukah experience this year.

Louisvillians will gather at The J Sunday, December 10, at 2 p.m., to enjoy latkes and doughnuts, light the menorah, share holiday stories and sing.

But the most engaging part of the party will be a live recording of *Kentucky Homefront*, Louisville's premier public radio variety show. Guests include John Gage, musician, director and host of the *Homefront*; Jennifer Diamond; Brigid Kaelin; Cantors David Lipp and Sharon Hordes; Jewish Community Choir; The Temple Choir; Children's Choir; St. Francis of Assisi Holocaust Education students and many of the community rabbis.

Seating is limited. Visit [www.jewishlouisville.org/HomefrontChanukah](http://www.jewishlouisville.org/HomefrontChanukah) for tickets.

### Build-A-Menorah Workshop

Chabad Chai Center will host a kid-oriented workshop to build menorahs Sunday, December 10, 1 p.m., at Home Depot. There is no charge. RSVP to [rabbisusman@gmail.com](mailto:rabbisusman@gmail.com).

### Connecting with Chanukah for ladies

Women's Philanthropy will hold a ladies' night out to celebrate Chanukah, Monday, December 11, from 7 to 9 p.m.

The women will paint pictures, decorate desserts, get massages, create holiday care packages for Meals on Wheels and enjoy signature cocktails, appetizers and desserts with a chocolate fountain. Prizes will be awarded for the craziest Chanukah apparel.

Please bring travel size toiletries to donate for the care packages. Visit [www.jewishlouisville.org/event/womens-philanthropy-connecting-holidays/](http://www.jewishlouisville.org/event/womens-philanthropy-connecting-holidays/) to register.

### Grand Menorah lighting

Chabad will kick off Chanukah by lighting its giant outdoor menorah Sunday, December 12, 6 p.m. at the Pad-dock Shops. Warm drinks, latkes will be provided. There is no charge. Contact [chabad@chabadky.com](mailto:chabad@chabadky.com) for details.

### Young professionals to tour distillery

Young Jewish Professionals will tour the Peerless Distillery on 10th and Main streets, Thursday, December 14, at 7 p.m. The visit includes a whiskey tasting with gourmet latkes, a dreidel spinning and a menorah lighting. Space is limited. Contact [rabbishmully@jewishlearningcenter.org](mailto:rabbishmully@jewishlearningcenter.org) for details. Participants must be 21 or older.

### Chanukah party for women

The Neshi/Women of Valor Club will hold a Chanukah party Saturday, December 16, at 7:30 p.m. The party, which is for ages 12 and up, will focus on the special connection women have both to the festival and light in general. Crafts,



food and conversation are included. Contact [chabad@chabadky.com](mailto:chabad@chabadky.com) for details.

### Chanukah Palooza at Temple Shalom

Temple Shalom will celebrate Chanukah Palooza with a dinner and carnival Saturday, December 16, 5:30 p.m.

After Havdalah and the lighting of an array of menorahs, there will be a catered dinner featuring latkes made by Men's Club. The carnival will follow including games and crafts for kids. Also, there will be the chance to "slime the rabbi."

Reservations must be secured by advance payment. Contact Temple Shalom, 502-458-4739.

### Family Skate at the Alpine Ice

Chabad will hold a family skate event at Alpine Ice Arena, Sunday, December 17, from 5 to 7 p.m. Bring a warm item of clothing to be donated to Jewish Family & Career Services. There will be latkes, dreidels a menorah lighting on the ice. There is no charge. For details, contact [chabad@chabadky.com](mailto:chabad@chabadky.com).

### Menorah lighting at 4th Street Live

Chabad will light the Grand Menorah at 4th Street Live Tuesday, December 19, at 4 p.m. Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer will be on hand. There is no charge. Contact [chabad@chabadky.com](mailto:chabad@chabadky.com) for details.

### AJ Family Chanukah bash slated

Adath Jeshurun will hold its Family Chanukah Bash Tuesday, December 12, at 6 p.m.

A Chanukah dinner, including potato latkes, lasagna salad, and *sufganiyot*, will be served. Participants should bring their own menorahs for a community candle-lighting, followed by music and a create-your-own cookie dessert.

The cost is \$5 for adults; children 12 and under are admitted free. Reservations are required by December 5. Visit [www.adathjeshurun.com/chanukahdinner](http://www.adathjeshurun.com/chanukahdinner) to sign up.

### Chanukah Dinner at Anshei Sfard

Anshei Sfard will host its annual Chanukah Dinner on Sunday, December 17, at 5:30 p.m. There will be hamburgers, hot dogs, salads, desserts and drinks.

The cost is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children ages 5-12. Children under 4 eat free. There is a \$40 maximum per family.

Reservations are requested by Wednesday, December 13. Call the office 502-451-3122 x 0 to sign up.

### KI Vodka-Latke Chanukah party

Keneseth Israel will host an adults-only Chanukah party Saturday, December 16, from 7 to 10 p.m., at Vines and Canines on Bardstown Road. Havdalah and Chanukah candles will be lit. In addition to wine, there will be a gourmet latke bar, appetizers and music. Cost is \$5 per person. Participants must be 21 or over. Visit [kenesethisrael.com](http://kenesethisrael.com) to pay online.

### KI/KIP Annual Chanukah festival

Keneseth Israel and the preschool will hold its annual Chanukah Festival Sunday, December 17, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

After evening minyan, and the candle lighting, dinner with latkes and jelly donuts will follow. Dreidel games, face painting, bounce houses, cookie decorating, and arts & crafts will cap the evening. Admission is free. RSVP to **502-459-2780** or [rsvp@kenesethisrael.com](mailto:rsvp@kenesethisrael.com).

## Home for the Holidays

This holiday season visit our campus and help us celebrate our 150th anniversary.



Enjoy an array of holiday lights and decorations during a self-guided tour through our historical campus while listening to memories of the holidays from those who have called our campus home over the years.

Visit [mhky150.com/holidays](http://mhky150.com/holidays)



# D'VAR TORAH

## Chanukah heroines: Festival of Lights owes much to women

By Cantor Sharon Hordes  
For Community

*"Women are obligated to light the Chanukah menorah, for they took part in the miracle of being saved from the decree of persecution."*

– Rabbi Joshua ben Levi, Shabbat 23a

When we teach the Chanukah story, we tend to focus on the role that Judah Maccabee and his brothers played in defeating the great Syrian army. These men were brave rebels who were driven to defend Judaism against the rising forces of assimilation around them.

However, many of us did not learn in Sunday school that there were also courageous Jewish heroines who, while not directly connected to the Chanukah story, nonetheless came to be associated with the holiday for having courage and strength of character on par with the heroic Maccabees.

Take, for example, the story of Ju-



Cantor Sharon Hordes

dith. In the Babylonian period, in a city besieged by the Syrians, the Jews were about to give up hope. Judith took it upon herself to leave the city and enter a Syrian camp. Having noticed that she attracted the attention of the Syrian general, she used his weakness to her advantage. Judith prepared a great feast for him and his men, replete with salty cheeses that would make him thirsty for wine. When the general passed out from intoxication, she beheaded him. The traumatized Syrian army fled, and the Jews were victorious.

A similar story of fiery "heroine-ism" can be found in the story of an unnamed daughter of a high priest whose rebellious actions brought down a Syrian gov-

ernor who had passed a decree allowing him to defile Jewish brides on their wedding nights.

In an act of radical protest, the high priest's daughter immediately disrobed at the conclusion of her wedding ceremony. When her enraged brothers threatened to kill her for her shocking indecency, she called out, "Over my nakedness you become angry, yet over what the governor will do to me, you remain silent?" Upon hearing their sister's impassioned accusation of hypocrisy, the brothers killed the governor instead, inciting a revolt.

In this context, we also cannot forget Hannah, who, together with her seven sons, boldly stood up to King Antiochus in response to the rules he enacted to keep Jews from studying Torah. According to the king's harsh decree, anyone found observing religious laws or possessing a Torah scroll would be put to death.

When Hannah and her sons found themselves among the many arrested

for violating this law, the family chose martyrdom over a life divorced from Jewish learning and observance. Hannah's sons endured torture before being put to death. Hannah, having witnessed the horror of her sons being killed before her eyes, leapt to her own end.

While these women's actions may sound extreme to our ears, their acts of bravery and faith have been held up as most admirable and worthy of celebration.

This year, as we light the chanukiah and sing songs of the bravery of the Maccabees, let us also turn our thoughts to these brave women who risked their lives and safety for the same principles.

*(Cantor Sharon Hordes is a spiritual leader of Keneseth Israel.)*

*(Shabbat candles should be lit on the following nights: November 24, 5:06; December 1, 5:04; December 8, 5:04; December 15, 5:06; December 22, 5:09; December 29, 5:13.)*

## Rabbi gives thanks for caregivers at this season of Thanksgiving

By Rabbi Nadia Siritsky  
For Community

One of the many blessings I have in my role as vice president of mission with KentuckyOne Health is the opportunity to work with amazing people.

I am awed by the incredible staff at our hospitals: nurses, doctors, personal care assistants, transporters, volunteers,

social workers, chaplains. In Hebrew, the word for holiness is *kedushah*, which is related to the word for dedication. Indeed, from their loving dedication, I am inspired.

I am also blessed to work with incredibly brilliant and dedicated leaders, who balance the complexity of health care with the needs of the most underserved in our communities. They ensure



Rabbi Nadia Siritsky

that we provide cutting edge care to the most medically acute patients in our state.

As if these blessings were not enough, I have been moved by the gratitude of the non-Jews whom I lead as their rabbi and mission leader. Weekly, I write a reflection on the Torah portion and send it out to almost 10,000 employees. I am humbled by their responses, sharing with me the ways in which my commentaries help them to cope with challenges in their own lives.

I have also been touched by the enthusiastic support I have received from my fellow Mission colleagues who are part of Catholic Health Initiatives and the Catholic Health Association, particularly Dr. Carl Middleton. They share my reflections on the Torah portion or the Jewish holidays with Catholic Health Initiatives facilities across the country. I am so grateful for their generosity and support. Even in this time of transition and transformation for Jewish Hospital, I know that the relationships and learning that have been forged will continue.

Judaism teaches an important principle: *keruv* (bringing people closer), which speaks to the ways we can participate in *tikkun olam* (healing the world). Helping people appreciate the wisdom Judaism can bring, for people who perhaps have never studied Judaism, is a powerful way I can help to reduce anti-Semitism and intolerance.

I seek to do the same with Catholicism, which has so much to teach and whose values of compassion and justice are so closely aligned with our own. As such, I would like to share an excerpt of a reflection from my colleague, Jay Gilchrist, of Memorial Health in Texas:

"Many of us will give of ourselves this week and this season by helping with community food drives, family sponsorships, clothing and toy drives and the like. These things and the things we do all year long to serve the poor are the best ways to show thankfulness –

through service of those most in need.

Our two-step approach to healing ministry is to emphasize human dignity and social justice as we create healthier communities. The first step, reverence for the dignity of every person we serve, is the way we treat those who come to us – without harm, with healing help and with compassionate courtesy.

The second step, work for justice in our communities, is demonstrated by the many things we do to help people get and stay healthy and out of the hospital. Our list of second/social justice steps is extensive.... We host so many educational events all year long, like health fairs, classes, support groups, and the like. We devote ourselves to free screenings and exams, involvement in community partnerships, the education of future health providers, and leaders and donations of our cash, space, time and talent to groups that improve people's quality of life.

This Sunday, after Thanksgiving, is the first World Day of the Poor, in which Pope Francis is calling people of good will everywhere to look this day on all those who stretch out their hands and plead for our help and solidarity. They are our brothers and sisters, created and loved by the one Heavenly Father.

World Day of the Poor is a call to react against a culture of discard and waste, and to embrace the culture of encounter. I thank God for you, and for the myriad opportunities we have, to heal and to help people. Please pray in thanks with me:

*Loving God, we thank you for richly blessing our families and our team.*

*Open our eyes to see you in the face of the poor who come to us for healing and help.*

*Open our hearts to find ways to increase access and opportunities for health.*

*Open our hands to embrace the poor with no ifs, buts, or maybes.*

*Praise you for the privilege of doing your work with your beloved "least."*

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



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# PICTURE THIS: Lion of Judah

More than 30 women attended the November 5 Lion of Judah brunch at the home of Judy Shapira. Joan Roth, a Jewish-American photographer, told stories and showed pictures she took of Jewish women from around the world. Stacy Gordon-Funk was pinned as a new Lion of Judah. (photos by Debby Rose)



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# GLOBAL COMMUNITY

## Clash at the Kotel

### Jacobs, Reform leaders pushed and shoved by Western Wall security

By JTA

JERUSALEM – Rabbi Rick Jacobs and other Reform Jewish leaders were pushed, pulled and had clothes torn by security guards as they tried to pray at the Western Wall Plaza in Jerusalem.

The guards and haredi Orthodox worshippers tussled with the group members Thursday, November 16, as they entered the main entrance to the Western Wall plaza with Torah scrolls.

The guards said it was illegal to bring the scrolls into the main plaza. Reform leaders accused the haredi administration of the holy site, which employs the guards, of denying their right to freedom of prayer.

Jacobs said that during the clashes, a guard put his finger on the trigger of a bottle of pepper spray, and put it up to Jacobs' face. His suit jacket was also ripped on the side as guards shoved him and pressed their bodies on his.

"The guards were really pushing hard," Jacobs told JTA. "The guard who was standing right in front of me took his pepper spray and put it right in our face."

Israeli Reform chief Gilad Kariv, speaking to Israel's Hadashot news, accused the administration of acting like "thugs" and said the violence "will not



Rabbi Rick Jacobs

stop us from fulfilling our right to pray at the Western Wall."

The Reform group began their prayer in Robinson's Arch, a non-Orthodox section of the holy site to the south of the main plaza. They then tried to enter with the Torah scrolls. They ended up finish-

ing the service in the main plaza, in a large tourist area removed from the wall but adjacent to the Orthodox areas for men and women. A group of haredi protesters also shoved some of the worshippers, according to Jacobs.

The group included the entire board of the Hebrew Union College in Jerusalem, which had just ordained four new rabbis, and members of the Women of the Wall feminist prayer group.

The brief fracas caused no injuries.

Administrators accused the non-Orthodox Jews of flouting the rules of the main plaza, "with the aim of creating a provocation and using it to push public relations."

"This provocative act at the Western Wall plaza, a place of unity, was a physically and verbally violent campaign at the site," the Western Wall Heritage Foundation said in a statement. "We protest this unacceptable behavior, the violence, and strongly condemn it."

The Western Wall's main plaza, administered by the Heritage Foundation, requires men and women to pray separately and bars women from using religious items, including Torah scrolls. It prohibits visitors from bringing their own Torah scrolls in an attempt to prevent women and non-Orthodox Jewish groups from using them in services at the site.

Jacobs said the Reform worshippers "never were aggressive, we never threw any punches, we were very determined."

The non-Orthodox groups have repeatedly challenged the rules, leading to sometimes violent confrontations. They have also criticized Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government for backing out in June from a 2016 agreement to expand and upgrade the Robinson's Arch prayer section at the southern end of the Western Wall. The haredi parties in the governing coalition had demanded the move.

"We belong there, we have a right to be there, and the Jewish people and state of Israel will be strengthened when the country, the Western Wall, is truly welcoming to Jews of all beliefs and practices," Jacobs told JTA. "Things are not fine. We're not going back, we're not going to take bread crumbs and say that Robinson's Arch is good enough."

At the just-concluded Jewish Federations of North America's annual General Assembly Monday in Los Angeles, the board of trustees passed a resolution calling on Israel to reverse its "divisive and damaging" steps to freeze the Western Wall deal.

Netanyahu addressed the controversy in a speech at the closing session of the conference.

## Benjamin & Bernice Mazin VISUAL ARTS FUND

The Mazin Annual Art Exhibition is a regional, juried art exhibition conceived and created by Bernice and Benjamin Mazin in partnership with the Jewish Community Center's Visual Arts Committee. The event is funded by the endowed [Mazin Visual Arts Fund](#), Judy and Dennis Hummel and the Mazin family. Their generosity in endowing the funding for the Exhibition supports The J's Arts & Ideas which fosters an appreciation of today's visual arts for the Jewish Community and all of Louisville.



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



## Israel's detention of Palestinian children targeted by House bill

By JTA

A Minnesota congresswoman has introduced a bill that seeks to prevent the United States from funding Israel's military detention of Palestinian children.

The legislation introduced Tuesday by Rep. Betty McCollum, a Democrat, has at least nine co-sponsors. It would require the secretary of state to certify annually that U.S. assistance to Israel has not been used in the previous year to militarily detain, interrogate or abuse Palestinian children.

"The purpose of this act is to promote and protect the human rights of Palestinian children and to ensure that United States taxpayer funds shall not be used to support the military detention of Palestinian children," the bill reads.

Among the bill's backers are the co-chairs of the Congressional Progressive Caucus, Rep. Raúl Grijalva, D-Ariz., and Rep. Mark Pocan, D-Wis.

McCollum said the bill "highlights Israel's system of military detention of Palestinian children" and ensures the United States does not support human rights violations.

"Congress must not turn a blind eye to

the unjust and ongoing mistreatment of Palestinian children living under Israeli occupation," she said on her website.

A number of progressive and religious organizations have endorsed the legislation, including Churches for Middle East Peace and Jewish Voices for Peace. The latter and some of the other supporting groups back the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement against Israel.

"Jewish tradition teaches that each and every single person has inherent dignity and worth and must be treated accordingly," JVP said in a statement. "This legislation recognizes and acts upon the inherent dignity and worth of Palestinian children and sends the message that the United States is committed to a future with freedom, safety, and equality for both Palestinians and Israelis."

Israel processes Palestinians who are not Israeli citizens through a military court system. A 2017 report by the Military Court Watch nonprofit that monitored the treatment of more than 450 minors in Israeli military detention between 2013 and 2016 found that 60 percent of the minors arrested last year reported physical violence at the hands of their detainers and 43 percent reported verbal violence.

Just 5 percent were allowed to see their parents during interrogation, and 10 percent were allowed to see a lawyer. However, the children were treated more leniently than in 2013.

In response to the report, the Israeli army said it has dealt in recent years with a growing phenomenon of minors involved in West Bank offenses, including security offenses, and takes their age into consideration when enforcing the law.

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# NEWS & NEWSMAKERS

## Ioffe joined international youth conference

Jacob Ioffe, president of the Drew Carson AZA #2329, joined the North American Delegation to the AJT International Conference from November 13 to 20 in Ukraine.

An arm of the Joint Distribution Committee, AJT, which stands for Active Jewish Teens, is BBYO's partner youth group in the former Soviet Union.



Jacob Ioffe

The North American Delegation joined Jewish teens, staff and educators from Belarus, Georgia, Israel, Kazakhstan, Moldova, Russia, Ukraine and other

countries.

More than 400 Jewish teens were at the conference, the largest yet for AJT.

A junior at duPont Manual High School, Jacob was this year's winner of Jewish Community of Louisville's Stacy Marks Nisenbaum Award, which recognizes commitment to BBYO growth as well as broader school and community engagement.

The delegation visited Kiev during the conference before moving on to Kharkov with AJT members to celebrate "the largest renaissance of Jewish life worldwide."

## JOFEE director speaks at Green Heart Launch

The J's JOFEE director, Michael Fraade, spoke about sustainability work and the importance of building community partnerships Thursday, October 26, at the Green Heart Project launch event at the Kentucky Center for African American Heritage.



Michael Fraade

The Green Heart Project is a five-year study that will produce scientific data demonstrating the impact of tree coverage on neighborhood health. The project is co-sponsored by the University of Louisville, the Nature Conservancy, the Institute for Healthy Air, Water, and Soil, and other local and national partners.

Researchers will spend a year collect-

ing data on air quality and human health in four South Louisville neighborhoods, then plant approximately 8,000 trees, increasing the area's tree canopy by about 15 percent and monitoring how it changes air quality and health biometrics over the subsequent four years.

Fraade is one of the Institute for Healthy Air, Water, and Soil's health ambassadors, who work to make Louisville a healthier city through collaboration, shared strategies and outreach.

A major goal of the ambassadors is to expand the understanding of health to include the holistic well-being of individuals and communities, including notions such as spiritual, financial and psychological health in addition to physical and nutritional health.

Fraade used the talmudic statement that every city is supposed to have a vegetable garden to demonstrate the rabbis' commitment to health. He also talked about The J's partnerships with New Roots, St. Margaret Mary Church, the Urban League, and other organizations with health ambassadors to highlight the importance of collaboration.

## Lustig joins Keller-Williams real estate firm

Joanie Kohn Lustig, a licensed real



Joanie Kohn Lustig

estate agent, has

joined the Natalie in your Neighborhood team of Keller Williams Louisville Real Estate.

Before joining the agency, Lustig worked in physician recruitment for KentuckyOne Health for more

than 20 years.

Her new office is at 1401 Bardstown Road, suite 101.

## Louisiana company acquires Almost Family

Almost Family, a Louisville-based home health care provider, has been acquired by Louisiana-based LHC Group, one of its competitors, for \$836 million, *Insider Louisville* has reported.

The acquisition takes the form of an all-stock deal, according to the online news magazine.

William Yarmuth, brother of U.S. Rep. John Yarmuth, is the chairman and CEO of Almost Family.

# GLOBAL COMMUNITY

## Fake Jewish reporter's call seeks 'damaging remarks' about Roy Moore

By JTA

WASHINGTON – A made-up reporter named "Bernie Bernstein" called an Alabama pastor searching for women to provide "damaging remarks" against Roy Moore.

In what sounded like a robocall, the man left a voicemail message with Pastor Al Moore claiming to be a reporter for the Washington Post newspaper. He offered women money in exchange for allegations, which he said would not be well vetted, the local CBS affiliate WKRG-TV reported Tuesday.

The voicemail was an apparent bid to discredit allegations that the Republican Senate candidate had sexual contact with minors many years ago. Given the caller's Jewish-sounding name and strong, nasally Northeastern accent, many saw the message as anti-Semitic.

"Hi, this is Bernie Bernstein, I'm a reporter for the Washington Post calling to find out if anyone at this address is a female between the ages of 54 to 57 years old willing to make damaging remarks

about candidate Roy Moore for a reward of between \$5,000 and \$7,000," the man said.

"We will not be fully investigating these claims, however we will make a written report. I can be reached by email at albernstein@washingtonpost.com. Thank you."

Marty Baron, the Washington Post's executive editor, who is Jewish, issued a statement to WKRG-TV criticizing the call as an attempt to undermine his newspaper. It is not known who made the call. But no staffer at the Washington Post is named Bernie Bernstein or Al Bernstein.

"The call's description of our reporting methods bears no relationship to reality," Baron said. "We are shocked and appalled that anyone would stoop to this level to discredit real journalism."

The Washington Post reported allegations by four women that Roy Moore made romantic or sexual overtures to them when they were teenagers and he was in his 30s. One woman said Moore initiated a sexual encounter with her in

1979 when she was 14 years old and he was 32.

On Monday, November 13, another woman accused Moore of sexually assaulting her in the late 1970s when she was 16. She showed reporters what appeared to be a flattering message from Moore in her high school yearbook. That night, The New Yorker reported that many people in Moore's hometown, Gadsden, Alabama, recalled him being barred from the local mall for bothering young women, though no direct evidence has been found.

Moore, 70, a former prosecutor and judge, has denied the allegations. He and his supporters have sought to discredit both his accusers and the Washington Post.

Moore told the crowd at a campaign rally in Huntsville, Alabama, Sunday that the Washington Post was attacking him for political reasons and threatened to sue the newspaper. His wife has claimed on Facebook that the women were paid by her husband's critics to accuse him and posted false news reports

as purported evidence.

Many observers condemned the call by the invented Jewish reporter as playing on anti-Semitic stereotypes and canards of Jewish conspiracies and media control. Anti-Defamation League CEO Jonathan Greenblatt suggested it was an attack both on journalism and Jews.

Atlantic magazine editor Adam Serwer said a Moore supporter seemed to be pinning the blame for his political problems on a "Jewish conspiracy."

Others, including Toronto Star Washington correspondent Daniel Dale and the New Yorker television critic Emily Nussbaum, found humor in the blatant nature of the call.

The made-up name recalls two prominent Jews: Bernie Sanders was the first Jewish candidate to win major-party nominating contests last year when he ran in the Democratic presidential primaries, and Carl Bernstein was part of the Washington Post team that exposed the Watergate scandal in the 1970s.

## Jon Stewart crashes 'Daily Show' as Jewy Bernie Bernstein

By JTA

Jon Stewart made a surprise appearance on "The Daily Show" as the Jewish character of the week: Bernie Bernstein.

Does the name ring a bell? Yes, Bernie Bernstein is probably the name of that old guy from your synagogue who is always complaining that the lox at kiddush isn't fresh enough.

But the name was also given to the made-up reporter who made a robocall to discredit sexual assault allegations against Alabama Senate hopeful Roy Moore. Some, including the CEO of the Anti-Defamation League, decried the

robocall as anti-Semitic, given the fake reporter's Jewish-sounding name and strong, nasally Northeastern accent.

On Thursday night's episode of "The Daily Show," Stewart did his own Bernstein impression — Jewish stereotypes and all.

The skit starts off with host Trevor Noah poking fun at the robocaller's accent.

"I don't even know what that accent was. It sounded like a guy trying to do a New York Jewish voice based on hearing a friend describe a Woody Allen movie," Noah jokes.

Suddenly, Noah receives a call from Stewart on his cellphone.

"Hello Trevor, boychik, how can you say that Bernie Bernstein isn't real? It's me, oy vey iz mir," Stewart says, throwing in plenty of Yiddishisms.

Stewart then comes on stage saying he actually wanted to promote the Night of Too Many Stars, an autism benefit show he is hosting on HBO.

Noah tells Stewart that he is welcome to come on the show anytime.

"You don't need anti-Semitism to come on the show, Jon. You could've just asked me," Noah says.

"I don't need it, I just like it that way," Stewart quips back.

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# AROUND TOWN

## The Temple to honor Gaylia Rooks with weekend of programs in December

By staff and releases

Rabbi Gaylia R. Rooks, who is retiring from The Temple after 30 years of service to the congregation, will be honored for her work and achievements during the weekend of December 1.

The Temple is planning a special Shabbat program – “Sing Unto G!D: an Alef-Style Musical Shabbat” – to honor the music of Rooks, Friday, December 1, 7 p.m., in the Waller Chapel. The service will feature original works by Rooks and *Driven Leaf*, all sung and led by the rabbi and The Temple choir Shir Chadash.

A Havdallah service on Saturday, December 2, at 6 p.m., will precede the gala for Rooks, including cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, a dinner, video presentation, and dessert. The minimum contribution per person is Chai (\$18), and the celebration will be catered by Chef Z, with cocktails provided by Heaven Hill Brands. RSVP by November 28 to (502) 423-1818.



Rabbi Gaylia R. Rooks who is retiring from The Temple will be fated during a weekend of activities in December. (photo provided)

A graduate of Brandeis University and the Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, where she was ordained in 1984, Rabbi Rooks came to The Temple in 1988, becoming the first female rabbi in the commonwealth of Kentucky.

Since then, Rabbis Laura Metzger, Nadia Siritsky and Beth Jacowitz Chottin-

er, and Cantor Sharon Hordes, have all followed Rooks to Kentucky. Also, The Temple and Temple Shalom have each employed several female student rabbis who were training for their careers after ordination.

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 has directed 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.

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 “WHAS Crusade for Children.”

Rooks and her husband, Rabbi Joe R. Rapport have two adult children, Yael and Lev.

### KI Family Shabbat Morning Service

Keneseth Israel will have its next Family Shabbat Morning Services on November 25 and December 9, and 23, from 10:30 a.m. to noon. The service will conclude by joining the whole congregation in the main sanctuary prayers for Ein Keloheinu and Adon Olam.

### AJ Celebration Shabbat

Adath Jeshurun will honor worshipers celebrating birthdays or anniversaries Saturday, December 2. Those celebrating a birthday or anniversary in December are invited to participate in a group aliyah during Shabbat morning worship services beginning at 9:30 a.m.

### AJ Short and Sweet Family Service

Students in grades K through 7, and their families, will participate in Adath Jeshurun on Saturday, December 2, at 10:30 a.m. The community is invited

### AJ Brown Bag Blessings packing party

Adath Jeshurun is hosting a packing party for its community outreach program, Brown Bag Blessings, on Sunday,

December 3, from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Participants will pack lunches to be donated to Dare to Care. There is no cost to participate. Visit [www.adathjeshurun.com/brownbagblessings](http://www.adathjeshurun.com/brownbagblessings) to sign up.

### An Evening of Love Songs at KI

Cantor Sharon Hordes, Jennifer Diamond and Cantor David Lipp will perform love songs at Keneseth Israel Sunday, December 3, at 7 p.m.

Among the songs to be sung are “Do You Love Me?” “Fly Me To The Moon,” and “Bei Mir Bist Du Schoen.”

A dessert reception will follow the concert. Tickets are on sale now for \$18. Visit [tinyurl.com/KIconcert](http://tinyurl.com/KIconcert) or call 502-459-2780.

### The Temple's Sunday Night at the Movies

Rabbi Joe R. Rapport's Sunday Night at the Movies is slated for Sunday, December 3. The series features episodes from National Geographic's limited series *Genius*, which addresses the life and legacy of Albert Einstein.

Pizza and drinks will be provided. Call The Temple at 502-423-1818 by December 1 to RSVP.

### KI Lunch and Learn

Rabbi Michael Wolk holds a community Lunch and Learn class at The Bristol on Thursday, December 7, at noon. The next class topic is “Why do Jews cover their heads?” Contact Wolk at [mwolk@kenesethisrael.com](mailto:mwolk@kenesethisrael.com) or 502-459-2780 for details.

### Anshei Sfard Knit & Qvell Circle

The Knit & Qvell Circle will meet Thursday, December 7, at 1 p.m. in the Anshei Sfard Library. All knitters and want-to-be knitters are invited to attend.

All knitted items are donated to the Jefferson County Public Schools Clothes Closet. Contact Toby Horvitz at 502-458-7108 or the office 502-451-3122 x 0.

### Mahjong Club at KI

Keneseth holds a bi-weekly mahjong game December 7 and 21, at 1 p.m. in the small chapel. The community, including players from all levels, is welcome. RSVP to [gkahn@kenesethisrael.com](mailto:gkahn@kenesethisrael.com) or call 502-459-2780.

### KI Shabbat Unplugged

Keneseth Israel hosts its next Shabbat Unplugged dinner Friday, December

8. Catered by Chef Sasha Chack at the synagogue, the dinner immediately follows Friday night services, which begin at 6 p.m. There also is a tisch after dinner with singing of zmirot and niggunim, Torah talk and storytelling. Cost is \$5 per person (\$20 maximum per family.) RSVP to 502-459-2780 or [rsvp@kenesethisrael.com](mailto:rsvp@kenesethisrael.com) or 502-459-2780. Visit [kenesethisrael.com](http://kenesethisrael.com) to pay online.

### No Shush Shabbat at Temple Shalom

The next No Shush Shabbat at Temple Shalom will be held Friday, December 8, at 6:30 p.m. The community is invited to kid-friendly the PowerPoint service, and children are free to make noise. Rabbi Beth Jacowitz Chottiner will lead and Benji Berlow will sing and play guitar.

Call Temple Shalom at 502-458-4739 for details.

### AJ Spiritual Pragmatism group

The next Spiritual Pragmatism Discussion Group at Adath Jeshurun on Sunday, December 10, at 9:45 a.m., will address the topic “Boundaries: Honoring the Space Between Us.”

The December 17 session, also at 9:45, will address the topic “Re-envisioning the Challenging Relationships in Our Lives.”

See **AROUND TOWN** on next page



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ACTIVITIES - 4:00 PM  
LIGHTING - 5:00 PM

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For more info please call Rabbi Chaim @ 502-442-2208 or visit [chabadky.com](http://chabadky.com)



## Around Town

*continued from previous page*

Holistic psychiatrist Dr. Courtney Snyder and business & leadership advisor Marty Snyder facilitate discussions, which are open to the community. Visit [www.adathjeshurun.com/spiritual-pragmatism](http://www.adathjeshurun.com/spiritual-pragmatism) for more information.

### AJ adult Hebrew classes

Adath Jeshurun offers adult beginning and intermediate Hebrew classes Sundays at 10:30 a.m. Taught by Deborah Slosberg, the classes are free to the community. Classes this month will take place on December 10 and 17. Contact Slosberg at [dslosberg@adathjeshurun.com](mailto:dslosberg@adathjeshurun.com) or call 458-5359.

### KI Tikkun Olam with Islamic Center

Keneseth Israel will meet at the Islamic Center on River Road Sunday, December 10, from 1 to 3 p.m., for a tikkun olam project. Participants will collect gently worn coats, gloves, socks, scarves, toothbrushes, toothpaste and other toiletries. Items can be dropped off at KI by December 7. Packages will be prepared at the Islamic Center to be delivered to various homeless shelters. RSVP to 502-459-2780 or [rsvp@kenesethisrael.com](mailto:rsvp@kenesethisrael.com).

### Torah lunch at Temple Shalom

December Torah lunches will be held on Tuesdays, December 12 and 26, noon, at Temple Shalom. No prior knowledge of the material is required. Participants may bring a brown bag lunch.

Call Temple Shalom at 502-458-4739 for details.

### Movie night at The Temple

The Temple will hold its monthly movie night Tuesday, December 12, at 6:30 p.m. There will be pizza and soda. Night at the Opera will be screened. Call The Temple at 502-423-1818 by December 8 to RSVP.

### IRONMAN speaks at Temple Shalom

Sidney Abramson, a two-time veteran of the IRONMAN Triathlon, will talk about preparing for, and competing in, the contest Sunday, December 17, Temple Shalom Men's Club brunch.

The grueling event involves running 26.2 miles, cycling 100 miles and swimming two miles ... all in a single day.

The program begins at 10 a.m. at Temple Shalom. A \$5 donation is requested.

## CHAVURAT SHALOM

Compiled by Sarah Harlan  
*For Community*

On Thursday, December 7 – the anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor – Rabbi Joe R. Rapport will give a talk at Chavurat Shalom about World War II. Lunch will include Chef Z's famous chili, grilled cheese sandwiches, mixed green salad, fresh fruit, and an assorted dessert platter.

On Thursday, December 14, Two of Diamonds will return for another program. Also, Chavurat Shalom will be celebrating November and December birthdays and anniversaries. Lunch will include grilled salmon, potato latkes, veggie medley, mixed green salad, fresh fruit, and cake.

There will be no December 21 and 28, or on January 4; the group will be off for Winter Break. See everyone on January 11 for a program presented by Rabbi David-Ariel Joel.

Call Temple Shalom at 502-458-4739 to RSVP.

### AJ Super Shabbat baking day

Adath Jeshurun invites families to bake treats Sunday, December 17, at 12:30 p.m. The treats will be served at the January 20 Kiddush lunch for "Super Shabbat," a student-led Shabbat service.

### AJ Book Club

The Adath Jeshurun Book Club is reading *The Plot Against America*, a political novel by Philip Roth.

The book will be discussed at the next Book Club meeting on Sunday, December 17 at 2 p.m. To order the book, contact Deborah Slosberg at [dslosberg@adathjeshurun.com](mailto:dslosberg@adathjeshurun.com) or call 458-5359.

### Rosh Chodesh Girls Club

The Keneseth Israel Rosh Chodesh Club with Cantor Sharon Hordes and Lisa Yussman will next meet Sunday, December 17, following LBSY, in room 113 at The J. The session, for girls in grades 4-8, runs from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Lunch is provided. The girls use art, drama, games and music to learn how to impact the world in a positive way. Cost is \$54 per family. Contact Hordes at 502-459-2780 or [Shordes@kenesethisrael.com](mailto:Shordes@kenesethisrael.com) to RSVP.

### Stop and Chat with Rabbi Ariel-Joel

Rabbi David Ariel-Joel of The Temple will be at Panera Bread, 1801 Rudy Lane, on Thursday, December 14, from 2 to 3 p.m. He will discuss any topic, including personal issues and religious questions. Coffee is on the rabbi.

### Chinese Dinner and a Movie at The Temple

The Temple will have dinner and movie Sunday, December 24, at 6 p.m. Encirclements, a story about a boy who learns lessons about the complexity of family life as his bar mitzvah approaches, will be screened. Call The Temple at 502-423-1818 by December 18 to RSVP.

### Sandwich making at The Temple

Rabbi David Ariel-Joel will host a sandwich-making mitzvah event for St. Vincent de Paul homeless shelter Monday, December 25. Call Becky King at 502-212-2028 by December 20 to RSVP.

### KI Men's Club Chili Bingo

Keneseth Israel Men's Club will hold its annual chili bingo Monday, December 25, at 5:00 pm. First game begins

after services. Reservations are required by Friday, December 22. Cost is \$15 for Men's Club members, \$20 for non-members, \$5 for Children 6-12. Kids 5 and under are free.

There will be a raffle and prizes. "Chili To-Go" Pre-order costs \$4 per pint or \$8 per quart at the event.

Contact Gerry at 502-459-2780 or email [MensClub@KenesethIsrael.com](mailto:MensClub@KenesethIsrael.com).

### Classes at The Temple

The Temple holds several classes on diverse topics during the year.

Those classes include: "The Great Women of the Bible" with Rabbi David Ariel-Joel, Mondays at 7 p.m.; Hebrew language classes with Rabbi Gaylia R. Rooks, Mondays at 7 p.m.; advanced Hebrew study with Rabbi Joe R. Rapport, Mondays at 8 p.m.; and basic Judaism with all rabbis Mondays at 8 p.m.

It also offers its Scholars Program classes on Wednesdays. Ariel-Joel teaches "The Legacy of The Past & The Future of Modern Israel" from 9:30-10:35 a.m.; and Rapport teaches "A History of the Jewish People in 36 Objects" from 10:50 a.m. to noon.

### Torah study at The Temple

The Temple Torah study class meets Saturdays from 9 to 10 a.m. in the Fishman Library before the morning services.

### Jews and Brews with Rabbi Wolk

Rabbi Michael Wolk leads "Jews and Brews," a one-hour class where participants study the weekly Torah portion through the prisms of ancient and modern commentary over coffee, Wednesdays at 11 a.m. in The J library. The community is welcome.

### Torah Yoga at KI

Cantor Sharon Hordes and Lisa Flannery will host Torah Yoga the third Thursday of the month at 6:30 at Keneseth Israel. Temple Shalom and Hadassah are co-sponsors.

The class combines the flexibility and strength of yoga with teachings of the Torah. It is open to the community.

### Melton classes at AJ open for sign-up

New Melton classes begin in December at Adath Jeshurun. Three different sessions are available, with each session running for 10 lessons:

- Shemot II: Revelation and Revolution, taught by Louisville Melton Director Deborah Slosberg, Tuesdays, December 12-March 6, from 7:50 to 9 p.m.

- Bemidbar: Leadership Defied and Defended, taught by Slosberg, Thursdays, December 14-March 8, from 9:30 to 10:40 a.m.

- Dramas 2: Ten New Lessons from the Melton Core Curriculum Crossroads of Jewish History, taught by Cantor David Lipp, Thursdays, December 14-March 8, from 10:50 a.m. to noon.

Contact Slosberg at [dslosberg@adathjeshurun.com](mailto:dslosberg@adathjeshurun.com) or call 458-5359.

### Jewish meditation classes

The Jewish Learning Center will offer two new classes in Jewish Meditation. The first class, entitled "Wake Up with Gratitude," will be held Tuesday, December 5, at 8 a.m. The second class, "Lie Down with a Healthy Attitude," is set for Tuesday, December 12, at 7:30 p.m.

The classes are offered independent of each other and no previous meditation experience is required. Contact Rabbi Avrohom Litvin at [Rabbi@Chabadky.com](mailto:Rabbi@Chabadky.com) or at 502-235-5770.



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# LIFECYCLE

## Births

### Preston William Sonnheim

Barbara and Jeffrey Sonnheim and big sister, Peyton, announce the birth of Preston William Sonnheim, born October 22, 2017, in Cypress, Texas.

The proud grandparents are Joani and Joel Sonnheim of Louisville and Doug and Nancy Sweeten of Burlington.

## Obituaries

### Carol Ann Alberts

Carol Ann Alberts, 75, died Saturday, October 21, 2017, in Cincinnati. She is preceded in death by her parents, Morris and Freda Alberts.

Graveside services were held Wednesday, October 25, at Keneseth Israel Cemetery, 2800 Preston Highway.

### James J. Altman

James J. Altman, 94, of New Orleans, Louisiana, passed away from complications of acute heart failure and dementia on Saturday, November 4, 2017, at Passages Hospice in New Orleans.

Born in Louisville on February 10, 1923, James was the oldest son of Ernest and Rose (Baron) Altman. He graduated from Louisville Male High School in 1941 and earned a bachelor's degree in business management from the Louisiana State University in 1944. While attending LSU, he met his first wife, Naomi Theresa Gehr, from Alexandria, Louisiana. They married after graduation on January 20, 1945 in New Orleans.

James served in the Army as a communications officer of field artillery in Europe. He later joined the Kentucky National Guard, serving in the 100th "Century" Division for 20 years until his retirement.

He was active in the Boy Scouts with his sons as an assistant scout master of Troop 30, associated with Adath Jeshurun.

He was preceded in death by Naomi in 2000.

James is survived by his second wife, Sabina (Chapman) of New Orleans; his sons, Joel G. Altman, 71, of Houston, Texas, Ross S. Altman, 68, of Newtown, Pennsylvania, and Benjamin C. Altman, 64, of Appleton, Wisconsin; 11 grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Graveside services were held at the Adath Jeshurun Cemetery on Tuesday, November 7. Donations may be made to the American Friends of Migdal Ohr,

<http://www.migdalohrusa.org/usa>.



### Claus A. Behr

Claus A. Behr, 91, passed away Friday, November 3, 2017.

Born in Germany, Claus immigrated to the United States in 1939. He attended New York University and Queens College. Before returning to Louisville, he trained at some of the country's largest department stores, including Macy's, B. Altman and Company, and Bloomingdales. He served in the Army during World War II, fighting in the Bat-

tle of the Bulge in 1944.

Claus began work at The Behr Stores, Inc. in 1952 and succeeded his father, Alfred, as president of the company in 1960. The Behr Stores, Inc. was a nationally known chain with retail stores, in 12 states, selling ladies ready-to-wear and accessories. He was also actively involved in the President's Council of the American Institute on Management.

After his retirement in 1995, Behr devoted his time to numerous voluntary positions. For 18 years he served on the board of directors of Jewish Hospital Health Care Services. He also served on the board of the Four Courts Senior Center and the Deputy Sheriff's Merit Board.

Claus was a member of Adath Jeshurun, St. George Masonic Lodge #239, Scottish Rite, Kosair Temple, VFW, B'nai B'rith, The Standard Club, Jewish Community Center and Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE), where he was chairman, and the VFW.

As a Junior Achievement volunteer, he taught economics in the public schools. Behr is survived by his wife, Joy Yudofsky; his children, Kenneth B. Behr, Janie Behr, Dr. Kenneth Cohen of New York, New York, and Sally Kaplan (Dr. Brian) of Richmond, Virginia; his grandchildren, Shawn Lerner, Lindsey Lerner Block, Daniel Lerner, Ashley Lerner, Amy Kaplan and Leah Kaplan; and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Monday, November 6, at Herman Meyer & Son, Inc., 1338 Ellison Ave. Burial followed in Adath Jeshurun Cemetery. Expressions of sympathy may be made to the Ida and Bernhard Behr Holocaust Memorial Education Fund at the JCC or the Kentucky Opera Association.

Funeral services were held Friday, November 3, at Herman Meyer & Son, Inc., 1338 Ellison Ave. Burial followed in Cave Hill Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations to Temple Shalom would be appreciated.

Funeral services were held Friday, November 3, at Herman Meyer & Son, Inc., 1338 Ellison Ave. Burial followed in Cave Hill Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations to Temple Shalom would be appreciated.

### Leo Goldman

Leo Goldman, 92, of Louisville, died Friday, November 11, 2017 at Glen Ridge Health Campus.

A native of Cleveland, Ohio, he was born July 7, 1925, to the late Bessie Weiner and William Goldman. He was a Navy veteran of World War II and a retired writer for playwrights.

He is survived by his wife, Edith Rawraway Goldman of Louisville; and caregiver Amelia Clements of Cox' Creek.

Graveside services were held Thursday, November 16, at Zion Memorial Park, 5461 Northfield Road, Bedford Heights, OH.

### Seymour Krinsky

Seymour "Sy" Krinsky, 98, a founding member of Temple Shalom, passed away peacefully Tuesday, October 31, 2017, surrounded by his family.



Born in Chicago on May 30, 1919, Sy served in the Army Air Corp during World War II before becoming a furniture manufacturer's representative – a job he held until he was 87.

In addition to being among the founders of Temple Shalom, Sy went on to serve as president of the congregation. He also was a member of the St. George Masonic Lodge #239 F&AM, Scottish Rite and Kosair Temple.

A great story teller with a wonderful sense of humor, Sy never met a stranger and was respected and admired by all. He made the world a better place by being in it.

Sy was preceded in death by his sweetheart of 71 years, Dorothy. He left a legacy of beautiful memories to his three children, Paula Broder, Judy Kadetz (Michael) of Cincinnati, Lester Krinsky and Marilyn Nebolsky, who was like a daughter. He was also blessed with seven grandchildren, Andrew (Lisa), Todd (Dana), Jessica (Mike), Allyson, Alex, Sarah (Alex), Rachel (Ben); and three great-grandchildren (soon to be four), Taylor, Blake and Devin, in addition to his nephew and niece, Jerry and Teresa.

Funeral services were held Friday, November 3, at Herman Meyer & Son, Inc., 1338 Ellison Ave. Burial followed in Cave Hill Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations to Temple Shalom would be appreciated.



### Farrell E. Salzman

Farrell E. Salzman, 95, died Sunday, November 12, 2017 in Ft. Pierce, Florida.

Born August 24, 1922, in Louisville, he was the son of the late Birdie Cohen and Morris Salzman.

He was a retired insurance agent, a member of Congregation Adath Jeshurun and its oldest past president at the time of his death (1971-1973).

He also was a past president of the Jewish Community Federation and B'nai B'rith, and a member, officer and board member of numerous other Jewish organizations.

He received many honors and awards,

See **OBITUARIES** on next page



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## New Roots

continued from page 1

and executive director, said the grants have “inspired” her, enabling her organization to exemplify Jewish values.

“The Humana Fund and JHFE have invested in making fresh food a basic human right,” she said.

But the clock is ticking for New Roots. Moskowitz believes the days of big grants for small NPOs like hers are coming to an end, compelling New Roots to develop new sources of funding.

“They (the grants) position us to spend the year figuring out how to diversify our donor base,” she said. “We can’t continue to be dependent on these large grants; we have to look to the community, individual donors, to invest in the future, but this gives us some good time.”

Fresh Stop Markets are bimonthly “pop up” farm-fresh food markets set up at local churches and community centers, including The J, to combat food

insecurity. Families pool their money and SNAP benefits to purchase produce in bulk from local farmers on a sliding scale. Each family receives a share of the produce, enough to feed two to three people for two weeks.

The markets also are communal events where shareholders can meet with friends and neighbors to learn from chefs who are on hand to demonstrate how to cook the produce into tasty dishes.

The grants will enable New Roots to engage in what Moskowitz called “capacity building” for the organization, including expanding the market network, improving technology to track shareholders and food orders, and especially enhancing its human resources.

“That means attracting new leaders to the movement,” she said. “That, in turn, will attract more shareholders at The J and replicate that model at another space nearby.”

Among those leaders, she hopes, will be young people who will discover a pas-

sion for Jewish values by connecting to local, sustainable agriculture.”

“We want to pull the teens in for their mitzvah projects,” she said. “A lot of teens will do their project and that’s it. We want to say, ‘commit to this movement.’”

Moskowitz named Berrytown, a historic community near Anchorage founded by freed slaves, as a possible site for the next Fresh Stop Market. Descendants of the original Berrytown settlers still live there, as do more recent refugees struggling to find access to fresh produce.

Fresh Food access is a problem across the region, Moskowitz said, including places where Jews live.

“If you live in Shalom Tower and you don’t have a car, you don’t have access, and even if you live near a market, but can’t afford fresh food, you are fresh food insecure.”

New Roots supported 14 Fresh Stop Market locations this past growing season – eight in Louisville, two in southern Indiana, two in Lexington and one each

in Hazard and Brandenburg.

Moskowitz is planning trips to Atlanta and Huntington, West Virginia, to make presentations about the Fresh Stop model with Jewish community leaders. She also said she is taking calls from other communities interested in the concept.

“The Jewish community has been so important to this movement over the years,” she added.

More grants may be coming. New Roots, the University of Kentucky and the University of Tennessee are jointly applying for a three-year, \$300,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. New Roots’ share of that grant, if approved, would be \$30,000 per year, Moskowitz said.

The grant would be used to “codify” the New Roots process for setting up markets “so leaders in new communities can replicate the model instead of reinventing the wheel,” Moskowitz said, “but it’s flexible enough so every community can make it their own.”

## Litvin

continued from page 1

rabbis in Washington. They also were the lead signatories on a February 27 letter to Russian President Vladimir Putin requesting the return of the Schneerson Collection to Chabad.

All 100 members of the Senate signed the letter.

“The discovery of this sacred text in Israel is a simcha for Chabad and the entire Jewish community and I am grateful to have been a part of this joyous occasion,” Schumer said in a prepared statement. “However, we will not rest until the entire Schneerson collection is returned to Chabad and I will continue to fight for its return from Russia.”

Chabad chose Litvin to be among the rabbis in Washington to receive the book because of his close connection to McConnell.

The Nazis seized the Schneerson Collection during World War II, but Soviet authorities took it back after the war. Today, it is held in the Russian State Library and the Russian State Military Archive, both in Moscow.

The book is the ninth volume from the collection to be returned to Chabad since 1992. The other volumes were returned during the Clinton administration and are also at Chabad-Lubavitch headquarters.

As he held the book in Washington,

Litvin said he felt goosebumps, and for good reason

When he was born – on the fourth rebbe’s yahrzeit – his father decided to name him for the late sage.

However, he wrote of his plans to the last Chabad-Lubavitch rebbe, Menachem Schneerson, the rebbe said his ancestor’s memory had been sufficiently sanctified, and suggested naming the boy for his great-grandfather, as his father originally intended to do.

Litvin admitted he always found that story to be “a little twilight zone” – until he actually opened the Talmud volume.

“On the front page there was that stamp of the Rebbe Maharash (a nickname for Shmuel Schneerson),” Litvin said. “It was other worldly; I was goosebumped, as if the rebbe somehow knew.”

## Obituaries

continued from previous page

including Young Men’s Leadership Award for the Jewish Community Federation (1948) and B’nai B’rith Man of the Year (1975). Farrell was also a member of The Standard Club.

He is survived by his wife, Carolyn Cohen Salzman; his daughter, Elaine Breitman of Hallandale, Florida; his son, Martin R. Salzman of Atlanta, Georgia; and his step-sons, Randy Cohen of Crestwood, Kentucky; Michael Cohen of Dallas, Texas, and Todd Cohen of Port St. Lucie, Florida; and five grandchildren, Josh Salzman, Jeremy Salzman, Brooke Salzman, Eric Breitman and Alex Breitman.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, November 15, at Herman Meyer & Son, Inc., 1338 Ellison Ave. Burial followed in Adath Jeshurun Cemetery. Expressions of sympathy may be made to Congregation Adath Jeshurun.

### Minna Svidler

Minna Svidler, 96, died Tuesday, November 14, 2017 at Regis Woods.

She is survived by her daughter, Eugeniya Belenky (Boris); her sister, Irena Svidler; and two grandchildren, Alexandra & Elizabeth Belenky.

Funeral services were held Friday, November 17, at Herman Meyer & Son, Inc., 1338 Ellison Ave. Burial followed in The Temple Cemetery.

## In Memoriam



**Rose Rita Wurmsner**

In remembrance of Rose Rita Wurmsner, a loving wife, mother, aunt, grandmother, cousin and friend.

## Havdalah Glow Party



More than 40 people celebrated the end of Shabbat and the start of a new week at the October 28 Havdalah Glow Party at the Standard Club. The party was part of the International Shabbat Project. Children and adults made their own Havdalah candles, painted with glow paint and created glow glasses frames. (photo by Julie Hollander)



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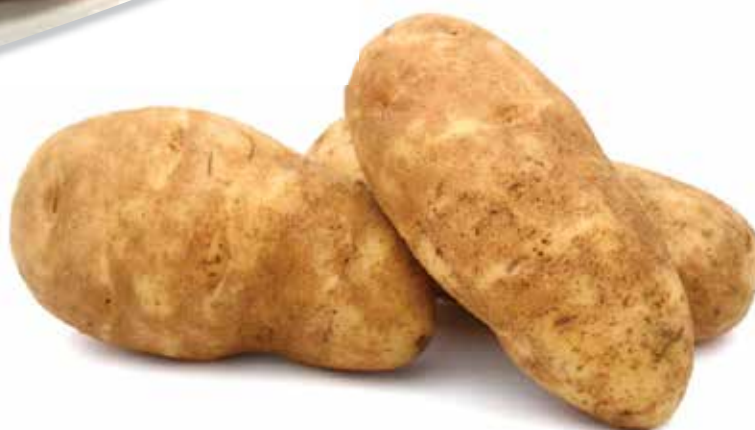
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