

# JEWISH LOUISVILLE COMMUNITY



**INSIDE**  
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Dedication held  
as Gaza erupts  
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**FRIDAY** Vol. 43, No. 5 | 11 Sivan 5778 | May 25, 2018

## Ottenheimer honoree



U.S. Rep. John Yarmuth speaks at a 2016 rally against gun violence that the congressman organized at Martin Luther King Jr. Park in Louisville. Yarmuth is this year's recipient of the Blanche B. Ottenheimer Award. (Photo by Kathryn Harrington)

## John Yarmuth to receive JCL's highest award

By Lee Chottiner  
Community Editor

When John Yarmuth first ran for the U.S. House of Representatives in 2006, he decided to do something most members of Congress never do.

If elected, he would give his paycheck to charity.

He was, and he has ... for 11 years.

"I'm fortunate that I can afford to do that," said the Louisville Democrat, who is running for a seventh term. "To me it was an opportunity to say in a different

way that this job is about public service, it has nothing to do with personal financial interest, and it allows to me to give back in a different way."

Yarmuth's generosity is emblematic of why the Jewish Community of Louisville just named him the 2018 recipient of the Blanche B. Ottenheimer Award, the highest honor the JCL can bestow.

The award will be presented at the JCL Annual Meeting on Tuesday, May 29. Yarmuth, who will be unable to attend that evening, will accept in a videotaped message.

JCL President and CEO Sara Klein Wagner called Yarmuth an "outstanding champion of justice and fairness," in announcing him as the Ottenheimer recipient.

"He exemplifies the virtues Blanche Ottenheimer engaged in civic life to help those in need," Wagner said. "She was a lifelong advocate. The committee noted John's work creating the LEO, and civic engagement in the Jewish and general communities."

See **YARMUTH** on page 27

## 2017 Awards Meeting slated for May 29 at The J

The 2018 JCL Annual Meeting will recognize leaders and volunteers, Jew and non-Jew alike, who make an impact in Jewish Louisville.

This year's event, to be held Tuesday, May 29, in The J Auditorium (cocktail reception at 6:30 p.m., program and awards at 7) will include a new honor – the Corporate Friend Award – which is being given to Heaven Hill Brands.

The Jewish Federation and The J will formally elect its 2018-19 officers and new board members and pay special tribute to its award winners:

- U.S. Rep. John Yarmouth – Blanche B. Ottenheimer Award

- Craig Greenberg – Lewis W. Cole Memorial Young Leadership Award

- Shannon Benovitz – Joseph J. Kaplan Young Leadership Award

- Dr. Ian Mutchnick – Julie E. Linker Community Relations Young Leadership Award

- Martha Bennett – Elsie P. Judah Memorial Award

- Jake Wishnia – Ronald & Marie Abrams Volunteer of the Year Award

- Norma Cahen – Arthur S. Kling Award

- Ava Schumacher and Drew Goldstein – Ellen Faye Garmon Awards

- Abigail Geller – Joseph Fink Commu-

nity Service Scholarship

- Elizabeth Hemmer and Emily Renco – Stacy Marks Nisenbaum Award

- Tovah Froctt, Jacob Ioffe, Lucy Calderon and Julia Bessen – Stuart Pressma Student Leadership Development Awards

- Alan Ocheretner and Bennett Schramko – Tony Levitan Awards

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

## Metro Council to review Anshei Sfard historic status

By Lee Chottiner  
Community Editor

The status of Anshei Sfard synagogue took a new turn Thursday, May 10, when the Louisville Metro Council voted unanimously to review a city commission's decision to designate the shul a historic landmark.

The matter is now referred to the council's planning, zoning & annexation committee, which has scheduled a review of the action for July 17 at 1:30 p.m. The meeting will not be a public hearing and no comments will be taken.

Council will have until September 18 to make its final decision.

Councilwoman Barbara Sexton Smith, D-District 4, who sponsored the resolution, said she was not asking her colleagues to take a position now. "This action simply will be to allow us to initiate a review."

The ruling temporarily shelves the March 22 decision by the city's Historic Landmarks Commission, which voted 5-4 to designate the synagogue as historic, citing it as an example of the mid-century modern architectural style.

Anshei Sfard, which will hold what could be its final service in the building this weekend, doesn't want the designation, saying it will make finding a buyer more difficult and risk the survival of Kentucky's only Orthodox Jewish congregation.

Anshei Sfard has accepted a conditional offer from the Jewish Community of Louisville to purchase the property – the condition being that the landmark decision be reversed.

Several JCL leaders were at the meeting Thursday, holding up multi-color "yes to review!" signs as council members voted. Among them was Becky Swansburg, a JCL Executive Committee member, who said she was pleased with the outcome.

"Louisville's Jewish community is at an exciting juncture right now," she said, "The council's review will have a significant impact on Jewish Louisville's future, and we encour-

See **ANSHEI SFARD** on page 27





# THE DASHBOARD

## D'var Torah

### American Jews woven into national fabric

By Rabbi Beth Jacowitz Chottiner  
For Community

*"You shall proclaim liberty throughout the land for all its inhabitants."*

**Leviticus 25:10**

When the first 23 Jews reached the shores of New Amsterdam in 1654, sailing from Recife, Brazil, to escape the long arm of the Spanish Inquisition, they were looking for religious freedom. They found conditions far from ideal, but a far cry better than what they had left behind. This group of 23 founded the first synagogue in what would later become the United States of America, Congregation Shearith Israel -- the only Jewish congregation in New York City until 1825.

The first six congregations that were established in North America were all worshipped according to the Sephardic rites. One of these six was Congregation Mikveh Israel, founded in 1740 in Philadelphia.

A few weeks ago, I visited this synagogue with my confirmation class. Not only did we have a one-on-one session with the rabbi of Mikveh Israel, we also saw the synagogue's magnificent ark and the 19 Torah scrolls it houses.

We experienced a piece of Jewish history. Haym Salomon, a Polish-born Jew, was an active member of Mikveh Israel. In fact, a historical marker stands in front of the synagogue, reminding visitors of Salomon's prominent role in the financing of the American Revolution Without Salomon's help, we most likely would be speaking with British accents today. His financial contribution, which left him impoverished at the end of his life, helped to turn the tide of the war.

Rebecca Gratz, another Mikveh Israel member, founded the first Sunday school for Jewish children in Philadelphia in 1849 -- the Hebrew Education Society. Later, her brother would establish Gratz College, which began as a Hebrew teachers college and still exists today, as a center of Jewish undergraduate and graduate study.

The roles Jews played in Philadelphia before, during and after the founding of



Rabbi Beth Jacowitz Chottiner

the nation, coupled with the influence of Jews in American society today, explain the chosen location for the National Museum of American Jewish History. Less than a mile from Independence Hall and a mere 456 feet from The Liberty Bell, the museum solidifies the presence and importance of the American Jewish community. No wonder the bell's inscription, which we read a few weeks ago in our synagogues, comes directly from Leviticus (see text above).

The values of the Torah were known to our Founding Fathers. They served as guiding principles, as they created our government. We Jews did our part to insure religious freedom would be part of our country's fabric.

In 1788, the Constitution outlawed religious tests for public office, making it possible for the election of Jews to public office, but in 1790, nine of the 13 states still required public officials to be Christian. Through persistence and perseverance, this changed, and the First Amendment of the Bill of Rights, ratified in 1791, granted freedom of religion to all citizens.

Being Jewish in America is not always easy. We are not always valued by others; neither are we always seen as equals in the eyes of some. However, we have the rule and protection of law on our side (something our ancestors did not have in other lands). We have the value of liberty inscribed in our Torah and on our Liberty Bell; we know that Jews, such as Haym Salomon were indispensable in birthing the country; and we know that our first president, George Washington, valued liberty and equality, as he wrote in 1790, "Happily the Government of the United States ...gives to bigotry no sanction, to persecution no assistance."

(Rabbi Beth Jacowitz Chottiner is the spiritual leader of Temple Shalom.)

## Snapshot



Paris Cherry, a Jr. NBA instructor, will be teaching two programs this summer: A Developmental Training Basketball League (for ages 6-10) and the Hoopmasterz Summer Skills Clinic (for ages 11-18). (Community photo by Tara Cocco)

## Candles

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

- |                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| • June 1 @ 8:42  | • June 22 @ 8:51 |
| • June 8 @ 8:46  | • June 29 @ 8:52 |
| • June 15 @ 8:50 |                  |

## Contacts

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

Send it to Community Editor Lee Chottiner at [lechottiner@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:lechottiner@jewishlouisville.org). You can also call Lee at 502-238-2783.

Not getting your paper? Want to subscribe? Put your subscription on hold?

Administrative Coordinator David Mays can handle all circulation questions. He can be reached at [dmays@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:dmays@jewishlouisville.org) or 502-238-2770.

Got an item for the Community eblast? Send it to [weeklyupdate@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:weeklyupdate@jewishlouisville.org).

## Deadlines

Deadlines matter, especially for newspapers. Got a news item for the June Community? Send it in by Wednesday, June 13 (though sooner is better). The paper should be in your mailbox by Friday, June 22.

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

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TO LET MY JUDAISM SHINE."**

– AVA SCHUMACHER, MADRICHA  
(PAST PRESIDENT) OF JAY LEVINE BBG



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## NEWS

# MOSAIC winners feted at annual dinner, honored for achievements

By Shiela Steinman Wallace  
Editor Emeritus

James O'Connor, Moshe Ohayon, Anoosh Shariat, Seema Sheth and Dr. Shiao Woo – all immigrants, refugees or first-generation Americans – were recipients of 2018 Jewish Family & Career Services MOSAIC Awards.

Their achievements were showcased at the annual MOSAIC Awards dinner, Thursday, May 17, at the Omni Hotel.

## James O'Connor

Originally from Ireland, O'Connor was named Louisville City FC's first head coach in 2014. He has built a local audience for soccer and led his team to two highly successful seasons, including the 2017 United Soccer League Championship.

He is involved with adding a soccer-only stadium to the skyline.

Off the field, O'Connor volunteers hundreds of hours with local charities and community partners and encourages his team and staff to do the same. He has provided free game tickets to underprivileged families, visited schools and dropped in on children at local hospitals.

O'Connor said he accepted the MOSAIC Award as a representative of Louisville City FC, which he described as "a special organization from top to bottom."

## Moshe Ohayon

Born in Israel, Moshe Ohayon came to the United States at age 8. He graduated from Columbia University and moved to Louisville to join his parents, using his math and science skills as a tutor.

He expected most of his clients to be kids who were struggling in school. Instead, most were students from privileged families intent on achieving perfect scores on college entrance exams to secure scholarships to elite universities.

Recognizing these students also needed meaningful community service projects, he founded, and is executive director of, Educational Justice, a non-profit organization that designs and implements programs that create opportunities for high-potential learners of limited means. Ohayon enlists his paying clients as tutors.

A recipient of the Pyramid Award of Excellence from the Center for Non-profit Excellence and the Alden Fellows Leadership Development Award from the Community Foundation of Louisville, Ohayon's program model is being copied in other cities.



This year's MOSAIC Award winners: James O'Connor (left), Anoosh Shariat, Seema Sheth, Moshe Ohayon and Dr. Shiao Woo. (photo by Ted Wirth)

Mindful that his family came to America for a better life and achieved that dream, Ohayon said many others are not so fortunate. For those people, he said, Educational Justice is opening doors.

## Anoosh Shariat

A well-known name in Louisville's culinary sector, Anoosh Shariat comes from Iran and has been an honored and respected chef and restaurateur here for many years. His current restaurants are Anoosh Bistro for fine dining and Noosh Nosh for more casual fare.

He was the first Kentucky chef to appear on the Food Network, has been named "Best Chef" by Louisville Magazine, and has been featured in numerous national publications. He has cooked at the James Beard House four times and was a featured chef at the Culinary Institute of America's World of Flavor Conference.

Shariat's excellence in the kitchen extends to his charitable activities. Norton Children's Hospital, Gilda's Club, The Healing Place, the American Cancer Society, Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), March of Dimes and many others have benefited from his efforts.

"Success is being part of the community," Shariat said.

## Seema Sheth

Seema Sheth's parents came from India and Sudan, but she was born in the

United States. A graduate of Kentucky Country Day, she earned a BA in theater and an MBA in entrepreneurship and finance.

A successful financial representative for Northwestern Mutual, she realized that many young people are financially illiterate, so she founded Adulting Academy, which teaches high school students financial skills they will need to become thriving, independent adults.

Sheth also serves on the boards of Metro United Way, Actors Theatre and KCDS and works with other nonprofits.

She quoted from a poem by Shel Silverstein: "Listen to the mustn'ts, child. Listen to the don'ts. Listen to the shouldn'ts, the impossibles, the won'ts. Listen to the never haves, then listen close to me... Anything can happen, child. Anything can be."

## Dr. Shiao Woo

Born in Malaysia, Dr. Shiao Woo was recruited by the University of Louisville James Graham Brown Cancer Center as a radiation oncologist, specializing in the treatment of brain tumors and pediatric radiation oncology.

Today, he is the medical director of Louisville CyberKnife and chairs the UofL School of Medicine Department of Radiation Oncology. Through his work, Woo has ensured that the department is fully accredited and has the most comprehensive array of technologies pos-

sible to treat cancer.

In addition, Woo is a founding member of the GFoundation, which strives to eliminate hunger in Kentucky. Focusing on homebound seniors in Louisville, GFoundation has eliminated the waiting list for the local Meals-on-Wheels program.

## Osborn Scholarship

Each year at the MOSAICs, a scholarship from the Jeff and Phyllis Osborn Educational Endowment at Jewish Hospital and St. Mary's Foundation is presented to an immigrant or refugee pursuing a career in nursing or other high-demand healthcare field. This year's scholarship went to Josip Petri, a refugee from Bosnia, who is pursuing a Master's degree at Spalding University's Auerbach School of Occupational Therapy.

## Navigate Enterprise Center

Part of JFCS' primary mission is to assist immigrants and refugees in their transition to American life. Through the Navigate Enterprise Center, the agency provides the support services entrepreneurially inclined clients need to launch, sustain or expand their own small businesses.

Those businesses showcased at this year's MOSAICs were All Is Fair in Love & Fashion, Wonderfulee Marlee, Ziba's Bistro, Reni's Hats from the Heart, Rouge Atelier/REDS Naturals, RC Studio, KS Accessories, AlFurat and JD Creative.

## Works of Art

This year's MOSAIC awards were unique wall sculptures created by Indiana potter Adam Egenolf. Through his use of crystalline glazes and multiple firings, the artist sought to emulate the characteristics of water movement.

The 2018 MOSAIC Awards title sponsor was the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence. The MOSAIC Sponsors were Kindred Healthcare, Brown-Foreman, Heaven Hill, WLKY, ParMerica and Steve and Terri Bass. The Patron Sponsors were Churchill Downs, Kosair Charities, Louisville Public Media, Kentucky Country Day, Papercone Corp. and Nathan and Ann Zimmerman.

This year's honorary chairs were Steve and Terri Bass.

# Judy Freundlich Tiell retires; JFCS begins CEO search

Jewish Family & Career Services has formed a search committee for its next CEO, following Judy Freundlich Tiell's announcement that she will retire by December 31.

"The next CEO will find a robust foundation and will be well-positioned to focus on driving the organization forward," said Peter Resnik, JFCS board president, in a prepared statement. "We believe the current landscape provides JFCS with new opportunities to build



Judy Freundlich Tiell

upon and expand its programs and services."

Tiell joined the organization nearly 40 years ago as a social worker and rose through the organization. She has been executive director for 14 years.

Stephanie Mutchnick, who will chair the search committee, touted Tiell's "energy, expertise, and passion," saying she has strengthened the lives of thousands of Louisvillians, Jew and non-Jew alike.

In a statement, Tiell reflected on "the close professional and personal relationships over the years" as the JFCS head. She included "clients, staff, volunteers, funders, collaborators, industry colleagues and the board."

The job description for the CEO position, and application instructions, can be found at [JFCSLouisville.org](http://JFCSLouisville.org).

In addition to Resnik and Mutchnick, the search committee members include Madeline Abramson, Bill Altman, Jordan Green, Jay Klempner, Beth Kuhn and Karen Sherman.



# NEWS

## JCCA biennial concludes

## Gladstein, Ryan study leadership issues at Ritz Institute

By Lee Chottiner  
Community Editor

Amy Ryan and Seth Gladstein took part in the Esther Leah Ritz Institute for Emerging JCC Leaders Institute at this month's JCC Association of North America biennial in Memphis, Tennessee.

Ryan and Gladstein were part of the broader Louisville delegation to the biennial, which also included Jeff Tuvlin, Sara Klein Wagner, Stacy Gordon Funk and Tom Wissinger.

Tuvlin co-chaired this year's Ritz institute – a leadership development program for JCCs. Executives and senior lay leaders identify emerging leaders and invite up to two to participate in the program, which takes place at the biennial every two years.

"The program this year provided the participants with a broad range of experiences, including understanding the direction of the JCC movement by the new CEO, sessions on board governance,



Amy Ryan

Jewish peoplehood, peer networking and working with foundations," Tuvlin said. "It was truly a crash course in leadership."

The institute is named for JCCA Honorary Chair Esther Leah Ritz, who died in 2003. She

was president of the JWB board of directors – the forerunner of JCCA.

An attorney, Gladstein noted two big take-aways from the experience for him:

- Jews come to JCCs not as Reform, Conservative, Orthodox or Secular – just as Jews; and
- JCCs should be gateways to the Jewish world for non-Jews.

"For many of our members, we're the first Jewish people they've ever interacted with," Gladstein said. "It raises aware-



Seth Gladstein

ness of our culture, which helps our community."

The institute also taught him that other Jewish communities face the same challenges as Louisville.

"At the same it really sounds like we're on the right track," he said.

Once the new center opens, he added, "I can see our participation going through the roof. I see it as such a great opportunity. We have the groundwork; we just have to pull the trigger."

Making her first trip to a JCCA biennial, Ryan, director of enterprise leadership development for Humana, said the institute instilled in her important lessons in leadership and governance.

"You really don't know until you go to one of these that we are doing really

good things [in Louisville]," she said. "Sometimes, you need that external validation."

She also learned that JCCs must be the "town squares" for their respective communities – places where Jews meet and connect.

"That's critical to the future," Ryan said.

Perhaps most important, Ryan said the institute experience impressed upon her the need for Jewish Louisville to focus on young leadership development, from Gen X'ers to Millennials.

She noted there are unique differences between each generation, and leadership development must reflect them. She suggested studying how other communities approach the challenge, and how they find success.

We need to connect to them (young generations) in new ways," Ryan said.

## Bob Tiell to be honored at retirement dinner on June 14

Robert "Bob" Tiell, director of career services and workforce development at the Jewish Family & Career Services, will retire on June 30.

"For fifty years, Bob has been the major career service provider at JFCS," Executive Director Judy Freundlich Tiell said. "Initially focusing on individual career paths, his visionary leadership expanded the agency's scope of services."

Tiell's legacy revolves around program development, career and psychological testing, educational and business advisement.

Tiell has received national recognition from the International Association of Jewish Vocational Services (now The Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies) for his work with the long-term unemployed, as well as receiving the Claudia Fogel Award as an outstanding career service professional, and the Benjamin Lowenstein Award for his professional lifetime achievement.

Tiell was a 2009 Leadership Louisville Bingham Fellow and a founding coordinator for the River City Chapter of Business Networking International.

As leader of the Seniors in Service program for the Community Action Agency, he was the advisory board chair, the evaluation committee chair and the ad hoc nominating committee chair.

John Rivers III, corporate engage-



Bob Tiell

ment manager at Insider Louisville described Tiell as "a fully capable, engaging career professional; very attuned to his industry and professional at all times. I'd want him on my team any time."

Sandy Gulick and John Stough, executives at Kentucky Select, hired Tiell to evaluate their attributes at a crossroad in their lives. Both concluded that real estate would be an opportunity for professional growth.

Peter Resnik, president of the JFCS Board of Directors, lauded Tiell for helping many others on their career paths.

"Bob has pioneered delivery of career, educational and work-related services for fifty years," Resnick said. "His leadership has made JFCS the longest-standing career services provider in the region."

Among the many services Tiell offered were educational and college advisement, family business consulting, initiatives to counter local brain drain, talent management and expanded career services to Louisville's international population.

Tiell will be honored at a community-

wide retirement dinner from 5:30 to 7 p.m., Thursday, June 14, at the JFCS.

RSVP to Anita Jarboe at 502, 452-6341 or [ajarboe@jfcsloouisville.org](mailto:ajarboe@jfcsloouisville.org).



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### COMMUNITY DEADLINES

Deadlines for the next two issues of **Community** for copy and ads are: May 16 for publication on May 25 and June 13 for publication on June 22.

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

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

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

Email your comments to: **Community**, Letters to the editor, Lee Chottiner, at [lchottiner@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:lchottiner@jewishlouisville.org).

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

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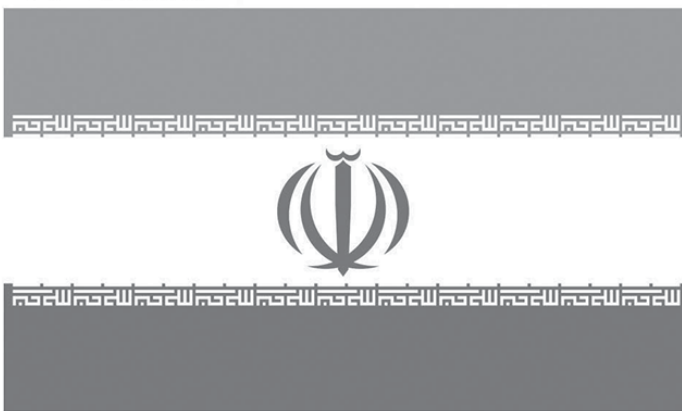
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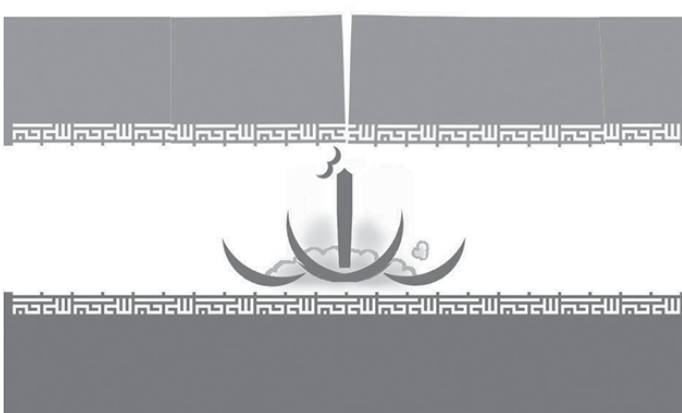
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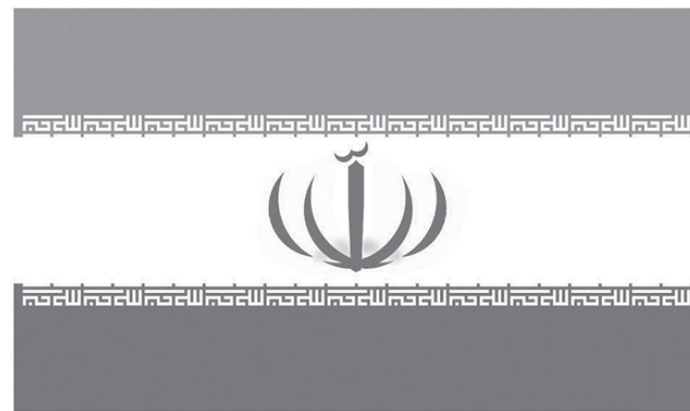
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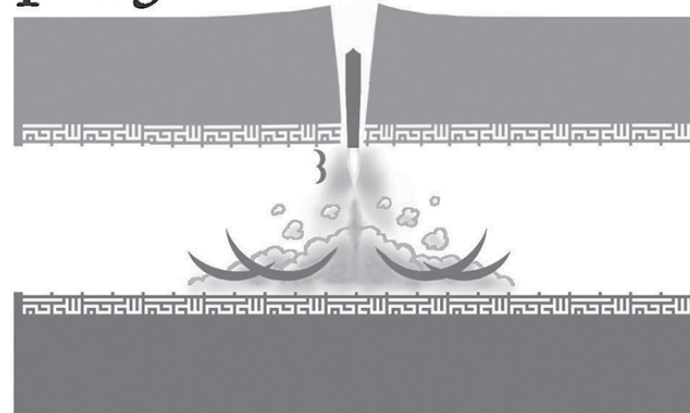
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## What Shavuot taught me about Jews, Palestinians and making peace

At Adath Jeshurun, during Tikkun Ley'l Shavuot, efforts were made to address the Israeli-Palestinian conflict that probably stretched more than a few comfort zones.

Leading a workshop titled, "Difficult Conversations: The Hard Questions Yet Unsolved After 70 Years," Rabbi Diane Tracht, Louisville's only Reconstructionist rabbi, encouraged the people sitting around the table to think about the seven-decade standoff from both sides, not just Israel's.

She shared a letter written by an anonymous Arab Christian to the famous Israeli philosopher Martin Buber in 1965, in which the author simultaneously recognized the legitimacy of the Jewish story ... and the Palestinian story as well.

"Both our people's have suffered," the author wrote, "and he who has had a taste of suffering knows how hard it can make one. But for those of us who have survived the souring poison of pain, it hurts that the Jew had been exterminated in a German concentration camp in 1945."

But he continued, "It hurts that the Palestinian [still] huddles homeless in a Middle-eastern refugee camp in 1965. The Jew in search for identity has found it as an Israeli – at the expense of the Palestinian and the annihilation of his identity."

Not all his words sat well with everyone at the workshop. One man questioned the author's use of the word "annihilation" to describe the Palestinian experience, noting there are more Palestinians today while the same cannot be said of the Jews since the Holocaust.

But Tracht said it should be possible



Human  
Resources

Lee Chottiner

to consider the other side's interpretation of the facts without giving up one's own version.

Since the workshop lasted just 25 minutes, Tracht barely had time to scratch the surface of this contentious issue. She came with excerpts from two other written works as well, but no time to discuss them.

In one of them, an excerpt from Rabbi Irving "Yitz" Greenberg's 1990 speech, "The Ethics of Jewish Power," the rabbi said, "Israel has the Right – and thus far it has the record – to act by a higher moral standard in accordance with past norms of Jewish values."

But living up to a higher standard can be dangerous, Greenberg warned.

"If Israel proves to be ten percent better ethically than the rest of the world, it will be 'a light unto the nations,'" he said. "If it proves to be twenty-five percent better, it will bring the Messiah. If it is fifty percent better, it will be dead."

Tracht also shared a New York Times op-ed by freelance journalist Ahmed Abu Artema, "I helped start the Gaza Protests. I don't regret it." In it, he defended his role in organizing Gaza's Great Return March, which countered President Trump's decision to move the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem.

"Desperation fuels this new generation," Artema wrote. "We are not going back to our subhuman existence. We will keep knocking at the doors of international organizations and our Israeli jailers until we see concrete steps to end the blockade of Gaza."

"Israeli jailers" is a toxic reference, and we don't have to agree with it. Neither should stop listening. Peace, after all, is made among enemies, not friends.

In an era where politicians, both in the United States and Israel, increasingly resist admitting to mistakes – about anything – this workshop was refreshing. Its participants engaged each other constructively. There were no attacks, just a serious exchange of thoughts and ideas.

One of those ideas was that Jews and Palestinians just might have more in common than not. Palestinians are stateless; Jews were once stateless. Palestinians have keys and deeds to the houses from British Mandate Palestine, just like Jews who tried returning to their homes in Poland and other countries after the war.

And Jews and Palestinians, for better or worse, have ancestral ties to the same corner of the world.

This month, The United States moved its embassy to Jerusalem while Palestinians were killed or wounded as they hurled themselves at the barbed wire between Gaza and Israel.

That's a tragedy, and assigning blame won't make it better. Listening – accepting that each side has a story to tell – might just be the way forward.

*(Lee Chottiner is the editor of the Jewish Louisville Community.)*



# FORUM

## Israel-Iranian hostilities are reaching dangerous levels

This month, Israel launched its largest attack against Syria in over 40 years, responding to missile launches from Iranian positions across the border.

Since the defeat of ISIS in Syria, Iran has taken advantage of the power vacuum, moving large amounts of offensive weaponry to different bases scattered around that war-weary country.

One of Iran's strategic goals is the elimination of Israel. It has acted against the Jewish state in many ways, including bankrolling Islamic Jihad, Hamas, and Hezbollah – three terrorist organizations that have attacked countless Israeli civilians for years.

(In fact, Hezbollah, which currently has 140,000 missiles aimed at Israel and is completely at Iran's command, has gained power in Lebanon's government and has entrenched itself there to the point that it commands power over all affairs of government.)

Clearly, Israel does not want missiles aimed at her from Lebanon and Syria. It has made clear that an Iranian offensive presence in Syria will not be tolerated, bombing weapons convoys from Iran to Hezbollah that pass through Syria doz-



JCRC Scene

Matt Goldberg

ens of times.

This month, Israel took an even more daring step, bombing Iranian military sites in Syria, eventually prompting Iran to retaliate against Israeli targets in the Golan Heights. That, in turn, led to a massive Israeli retaliation against Iranian infrastructure in Syria that destroyed many targets, according to the Israeli Ministry of Defense.

Israel won this latest round. Iranian missiles launched at the Golan were either shot down by the Iron Dome protection system or they landed on Syria's side of the border, and Syrian anti-aircraft batteries were ineffective.

Iran is outmatched in Syria by Israel,

and it is hard to imagine ways it can retaliate without launching an all-out war. That would mean ordering Hezbollah to attack with everything it has, which would likely unleash another massive Israeli counter-strike.

No level-headed leader in Israel, Iran or even Russia, which has a military presence in Syria, wants that kind of escalation.

What then?

If Iran seeks retribution against Israel, then it might target her soft underbelly: Israeli – and Jewish – institutions worldwide.

It wouldn't be the first time. Iran was directly responsible for the bombing of the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires in 1992 and that city's Jewish Community Center in 1994. It launched a deadly attack against Israeli tourists in Bulgaria in 2012, and its agents have been arrested around the world for planning or attempting still other attacks.

Israeli and Jewish institutions around the world will be increasing security in the possible – yet still unlikely – event of an Iranian attack.

Iran might still do nothing. In fact, she

might be moving in this direction as her propaganda machine has denied that there are any Iranian bases in Syria and that Israeli claims of an attack are fake, allowing her to save face.

Perhaps Iran was deterred enough by Israel's response to conclude that more attacks from Syria wouldn't be worth the price.

Perhaps, with the United States abandoning the nuclear deal, Iran might decide she has more pressing problems. Perhaps Russia will restrain Iran, fearful that the Syrian regime of President Bashar al-Assad could be in jeopardy if caught in the Israeli-Iranian crossfire.

Perhaps.

One thing is certain, though. Israel and Iran have reached a new level of animosity. Wars are hard to predict and harder still to contain. They can start inadvertently with either side. Keep your eye on the Golan and take nothing for granted.

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

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## FORUM

# Senator who opposed Iran nuclear deal now says withdrawing from it will endanger Israel

By Sen. Ben Cardin  
Guest Columnist

WASHINGTON – President Trump's decision to withdraw the United States from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), known as the Iran nuclear deal, is bad policy and calls into question America's international credibility.

Mr. Trump has now set the international community on a slippery slope, imperiling the national security interests of the United States and our allies, particularly Israel.

I voted against the Iran nuclear deal three years ago because I felt it left certain long-term questions about Iran's enrichment capabilities unanswered. Since it was entered into however, I have worked to ensure there is rigorous enforcement and oversight of the deal. Three years in, Iran is complying with its end of the nuclear bargain, according to international observers and American intelligence officials.

But the United States is now breaking the deal, poised to re-impose sanctions that were lifted on Iran for the promise of ceasing their nuclear weapons program.

President Trump has breathed air into Tehran's inevitable argument to the international community: We kept our end of the deal, but America is not good for its word and cannot be trusted. It is in fact America who has violated its obligations under the deal.

That is a deeply unfortunate and frankly dangerously embarrassing prospect, because Iran is one of the most nefarious actors on the world stage, playing a destabilizing role across the Middle East and proudly carrying the mantle of the greatest nation-state threat to Israel today.

The Ayatollah and the hard-liners in Tehran have propped up Bashar al-Assad's murderous rampage against the Syrian people and propelled the collapse of that country's economy and infrastructure – direct, physical threats to Israel. Tehran has fueled the civil war in Yemen and exacerbated the gross humanitarian crisis borne out of that conflict. And day by day, Iran seeks and seemingly achieves greater influence over the central government in Iraq.

I agree with President Trump's concerns about Iran's global posture and its non-nuclear actions. But we can keep the nuclear deal working while also going after Tehran for its support for terrorism, its human rights abuses against the Iranian people, its ballistic missile testing, and its violation of arms embargoes. These are not mutually exclusive actions.

Last year, Congress passed into law several sanctions and other tools President Trump could use to hold accountable three of America's principle adversaries: Russia, North Korea and Iran. I was proud to co-author and negotiate that legislation through to final passage.

President Trump has not used the



Ben Cardin

full power of his office, or the additional tools Congress granted him, to strengthen our hand and lead the international community against Iran.

It did not have to end up this way.

In 2015, as President Obama was nearing conclusion of the JCPOA negotiations, I worked with Senator Bob Corker in our capacities as the leaders of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to write the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act (INARA). That bill asserted Congress' right to review any agreements reached as part of the effort to keep Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapon. INARA passed each chamber of Congress with near unanimous support and brought greater accountability and understanding to the American people about the nuclear deal and why it was in our interests.

Donald Trump then became president and sought to make good on his campaign promise to tear up the deal. For months throughout 2017, I worked with the then-White House National Security Advisor, General H.R. McMaster, to brainstorm possible changes to INARA that would not violate two of my principles: no changes that would have the U.S. violate its JCPOA obligations, and

no changes without European concurrence.

As the international community stands at the precipice of this cliff now created by President Trump's decision to withdraw the U.S. from the Iran nuclear deal, I am mindful of two immediate realities.

First, when Israel looks north, she sees Iran staring back from its strengthened footholds in Syria and Lebanon. President Trump's decision to walk away from the deal will inevitably embolden Iran and endanger Israel.

Second, within the month, President Trump is expected to sit down with North Korean dictator Kim Jong-un as part of the international effort to denuclearize the Korean peninsula and end the Korean conflict. Our friends and partners will understandably approach this important endeavor more cautiously, now given Mr. Trump's decision to violate U.S. obligations under the Iran nuclear deal. Will the U.S. keep its word this time?

At the end of the day, the JCPOA is an executive agreement that the president can leave at any time. But just because he can leave the agreement does not mean he should. Mr. Trump has failed to make a convincing case for U.S. withdrawal from the Iran nuclear deal and in the process, may very well have strengthened Iran.

(Sen. Ben Cardin, D-Maryland, is a senior member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.)



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# NEWS

## Fort Campbell's Jewish lay leaders fighting their dismissal

By Lee Chottiner  
Community Editor

For 19 years, Jeanette, Curt and Lawrence Mize of Clarksville, Tennessee, have conducted Shabbat and holiday services for Jewish servicemen and their families across the state line at Fort Campbell, Kentucky.

All that came to an end on February 28, when the Mizes, then the designated lay Jewish leaders for the installation, learned they were being "terminated" without cause, according to the family. Their last official day was March 5.

Fort Campbell is home to the 101st Airborne Division. The base has no Jewish chaplain and the nearest synagogue is in Nashville — about 50 miles away.

For Jeanette Mize, the termination is the culmination of a stormy relationship with the division chaplain, Col. John Murphy, and the deputy chaplain, Lt. Col. Sean Wead, that involved bullying and threats.

"It's just been very difficult all year long," she told Community. "I just felt I haven't had the support. I had to go begging money for the cantor who was coming in for High Holy Days."

"I've been bullied and threatened," she added. "Communication has been cut off. Exposure to other faith groups and chaplains has been limited."

The Army is investigating. An officer appointed to conduct the probe, who has already been in touch with Mize, and JTA reported that U.S. Rep. Eliot Engel, D-New York, has urged Secretary of Defense James Mattis to ensure that the investigation is completed.



A 2016 Yom Kippur service at Fort Campbell. The Mize family, which has served as lay leaders for the Jewish community at the installation since 1999, was dismissed without cause in February, prompting the Army to investigate. (photo provided by Jeanette Mize)

Michael L. "Mikey" Weinstein, founder and president of the Military Religious Freedom Foundation (MRFF), the Mizes' civil rights advocate, said they are victims of "old school classic anti-Semitism by fundamentalist Christians."

He is calling for the reinstatement of the Mizes and for all those responsible for their dismissal to be "visibly and aggressively punished."

The MRFF is a watchdog group dedicated to separation of church and state in the military.

Mize said the chaplains had never complained about the way she, her husband and son have conducted services.

it was held on March 28 — two days before Passover — and does not fulfill the religious obligation of Jewish soldiers and their families.

The Mize family has a long history at Fort Campbell. Jeanette's grandparents, Latvian Jews, settled in Clarksville in 1896, opening a scrap business that still operates. Her husband, Curt, is a 101st Airborne veteran of the Vietnam conflict. They have worshipped on the base since 1984, and their son, Lawrence, who became a bar mitzvah in 1996, chants the Hebrew for the services.

The family has led services at Fort Campbell since 1999, their last being for Shabbat and Purim on March 2.

"We're a family and we're all working with the Jewish soldiers and their families to give them outstanding programs," she said. "They're just amazed at all that's available for them at Fort Campbell."

In addition to the investigator, Weinstein said he has been in touch with the chiefs of staff, both deployed and in the "rear" (on the base), about the case.

"Right now, we're happy with what the Army is doing," Weinstein said, "but it's our job to make sure they do their job thoroughly and expeditiously."

He called upon Jewish organizations and those of other faith groups to support the Mizes and "keep the heat" on the Army.

Jackie Jacobs, chief executive officer of The Columbus (Ohio) Jewish Foundation and Mark S. Freedman, executive director of the Jewish Federation of Nashville and Middle Tennessee, have both issued statements in support of the Mizes.

"They never talked to me about anything that was incorrect or needed to be changed," she said, "or that they were concerned about or unhappy about."

Fort Campbell's director of public affairs, Robert N. Jenkins, said the chaplains have been deployed and will not be available for comment. He said a new lay leader has volunteered but must first be certified.

In a statement to the Army Times and The Tennessean, Jenkins said a visiting Jewish chaplain from the Army Reserve held a Passover seder in March. Mize called that service a model seder, saying

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## ANNUAL AWARDS

## 2018 Annual Award Winners have amazing stories to tell



**Norma Cahen**  
Arthur S. Kling  
Award

Norma Cahen would not thank you for referring to what she does as daycare.

The J's Early Learning Center director, and this year's winner of the Arthur S. Kling Award, Cahen sees her work as far more significant than that.

"Early childhood is where we all began," Cahen said, "so how can we not build up our children?"

The Kling Award honors a member of the staff for outstanding service.

Since starting at The J in 2015, Cahen, a career early learning specialist, has worked hard to develop a program infrastructure that could outlast her: the Passover Experience Friday morning Kabbalat Shabbat in the lobby, the Snowflake Shoppe holiday bizarre, and Monday Havdalah for "Pomegranates" or pre-K children.

She has also introduced a graduation ceremony for the Pomegranates. "It's an exciting time for our children," she said. "They have been here since they were 6 weeks old."

She emphasizes Jewish values and mores in her programs.

"I don't talk about religion," Cahen said, understanding that many of the children belong to other faiths or are being raised without religion.

Raised in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, Cahen graduated from Barry University in Miami Shores with degrees in education and administration & management. She taught at a Montessori school for 13 years before going to Temple Kol Ami in Plantation, Florida, as an early childhood director – a job she held for 23 years.

During that time, she founded a congregational day school, which stayed open for 10 years until a community day school became established. She also taught early childhood education at nearby Broward College.

She is married to Howie Cahen. The couple has four sons: Bryan (Charlene); Gary (Lauren); Mark (Jessica); Michael (Ilana); and seven grandchildren.

After she and her husband, Howie, retired to Waynesville, North Carolina, a cousin told her of an opening for an early childhood director at the Louisville J and encouraged her to apply.

"I drove up for an interview with the leaders and parents committee, and the next day, Sara [Klein Wagner] hired me," Cahen recalled. "That was February 16, 2015. It was the first time I drove in the snow."



**Jake Wishnia**  
Ronald & Marie  
Abrams Volunteer of  
the Year Award

Jake Wishnia has been volunteering since he was a teenager collecting quarters for the AZA.

Back then, the 81-year-old native Louisvillian recalled, the local chapter passed out 3x5 index cards to raise money, each one filled out with information about another boy.

"I had your card, your name, what you

gave last year, and I tried to get a quarter from you for next year," Wishnia said. So began a lifetime of volunteering.

At every stage in his life, Wishnia stepped forward to help.

In college, he joined Alpha Zeta Omega, a national professional fraternity for Jewish pharmaceutical students, raising money for Israel.

A retail pharmacist after graduation, he owned his own drug store for 25 years. But he also became active in the Kentucky Pharmacists Association, serving on the ethics committee, as its second vice president and working to procure a trailer to serve as a mobile pharmacy at disaster areas.

He also belonged to the Veteran Drug-gist Club, an exclusive group open to pharmacists with 25 years of professional experience. (There were never more than 25 members). The club's dues supported scholarships for pharmacy students.

Never far from the Jewish world, Wishnia chaired the cemetery committee at Keneseth Israel, joined the board and eventually became president of the congregation.

He also joined the chevra kadisha and the Louisville Vaad HaKashruth, seeing a need for providing kosher food for visitors to the city.

"I've always tried to be as kosher as I can," Wishnia said.

But other services of the Vaad came to interest him; namely, the community mikvah. He chairs the committee that manages the ritual bath and he became actively involved in finding a new location last year when a Texas developer bought the Anshei Sfard property. The deal fell through.

He is beginning his fifth year on the JCL Board of Directors. Before that, he was on the planning and allocations committee.

He is married to Carol Wishnia. The couple has five children: Sharon Glickman, Maureen Friedman, David Wishnia, Leah Mueller, Leslie Goldmeier; 14 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

Currently, Wishnia is working to preserve the history of Jewish Louisville. He wants to donate AZO minutes in his possession to the Filson Historical Society, and he's starting a project to archive the history of Jewish-owned drug stores in the state.

"I've already started gathering pictures of old drugstores," he said.



**Martha Bennett**  
Elsie P. Judah Me-  
morial Award

When people come to lunch programs at the Senior Adult Center, one thing they can count on is a greeting from Martha Bennett, its unofficial ambassador.

"I go around and greet everyone," Bennett said. "Sometimes, people need a hug, and I do try to remember people's names."

Bennett has been coming to the center for 15 years. First for lunch, then little by little, she became actively involved.

"I just enjoy coming over here," she said.

A native of Louisville, Bennett grew up on the West End and married a Marine – Bob Bennett – at age 16. The couple was

posted to bases across the country, and they had five children together.

Today, she is the grandmother of 14 and the great-grandmother of 12. She returned to Louisville in 1964.

"No place like Kentucky," she said. "We traveled some, saw some things, but there's no place like Kentucky."

In addition to helping out at the Senior Center, she has taken senior trips to Washington and Branson, Missouri.

But the most rewarding part of volunteering, she said, is helping people.

"I like helping people; I really do," Bennett said. "I'm a good listener. For whatever reason, people tell me their worries."



**Dr. Ian Mutchnick**  
Julie E. Linker Com-  
munity Relations  
Young Leadership  
Award

Few JCRC members have as much experience on both sides of the Green Line as Dr. Ian

Mutchnick.

A son and grandson of Baghdadi and Ashkenazi Jews, he spent many summers in Israel, playing with his cousins and speaking Hebrew to everyone he met.

As an adult, though, the Norton Healthcare pediatric neurosurgeon has spent time in the clinics of Ramallah and Gaza – the Palestinian Authority – treating their children, meeting their parents and learning that the people long considered enemies by many Israelis aren't necessarily bad guys.

"I found nothing but politeness and gratitude," he said. "And Ramallah is nice; it's a place you can go have a beer with a lot of young Palestinians and they can find out you're Jewish and bad things do not happen."

A member of the JCRC, since 2015, Mutchnick brings a little-heard perspective whenever the committee takes up an issue related to the Israel-Palestinian conflict. Mostly, members are drawing their understanding of the conflict from Jewish sources alone, without taking in the other side's perspective.

But Jews need not surrender their love of Israel and Zionism to appreciate both sides of the narrative, he said. "Holding on to our truths while appreciating their truths is just good strategy."

A native of Ann Arbor, Michigan, Mutchnick is a graduate of the University of Michigan and the University of Louisville School of Medicine. A former Peace Corps volunteer, he has always been interested in working on international missions.

When he learned about the Palestine Children's Relief Fund, which brings critical health care to kids in the Palestinian Authority, he considered it a chance to learn more about the conflict his family grew up with.

"I thought, not only do I have a chance to go to the Palestinian territories, but I also get to talk to them and care for their children," he said.

He's found the people he's worked with "deferential" and grateful that he came. Even in Gaza, the current hotspot in the conflict, people he met didn't care that he was Jewish.

"They're certainly weren't distrustful of my taking care of their children," he added, "that's for sure."

Interested in becoming more active in the Jewish community, he approached JCRC Director Matt Goldberg, since the work of his community dovetailed with his own interests.

He is married to Stephanie Mutchnick. The couple has two children: Gabe, 16; and Mimi, 12.

He said he is honored to be chosen to receive the Linker Award. "I'm so touched the community would think of me in that way."



**Shannon Benovitz**  
Joseph J. Kaplan  
Young Leadership  
Award

From her earliest days, Shannon Benovitz's life was tied up in enhancing the lives of Jewish youth.

A Louisville native, she is the daughter of the late Jay Levine, a champion of youth activities who became the namesake of an AZA chapter after his death.

So, it's not surprising that Benovitz embraced Jewish youth activities when she graduated from Indiana University and returned home to work as a marketing and PR consultant.

Benovitz got involved in the Young Adult Division in 2004 and chairs the program today. She served as a volunteer BBYO Advisor for six years and later served on both the JCL Board of Directors and the Federation Board before merger.

She volunteered as a BBYO advisor for six years.

Today, she is the Director for the Louisville PJ Library, which will celebrate its 10th anniversary this fall.

"Reading is so important," said Benovitz, the mother of two young children Melanie, 2, and Jayson, 4. "It's so important to teach them early and I love the message that PJ emphasizes: You're able to connect to Judaism through story telling."

As director, Benovitz organizes activities throughout the year that connect stories to holidays and other parts of Jewish life.

She also networks with parents, mining new ideas and feedback.

"We're looking to connect families to these stories," Benovitz said. "I don't think everything has to evolve around the holidays; it's just a natural fit."

And she works closely with PJ Library's national office promoting the latest news from PJ Library and POJ Our way, a compendium program for kids ages 10 and older.

About 350 individuals in Louisville are connected to PJ Library and PJ Our Way. Benovitz has also served on the JCL Board of Directors and the Federation board before the merger.

She lives in Louisville with her kids and husband, Todd Benovitz.

Benovitz said she was honored to be named the winner of the Kaplan award, calling it "a testament," not only to her own work, but her father's.

"I've been trying to carry on his legacy since his death," she said, "so I want to dedicate this award to him."



# ANNUAL AWARDS

## The 2018 Teen Leadership Awards go to 11 outstanding young people



Elizabeth Hemmer



Emily Renco

**The Marks Nisenbaum Award** recognizes teen BBYO leaders whose work to strengthen and grow BBYO is unprecedented and who are engaged in their schools and community. **Elizabeth Hemmer** is a sophomore at Ballard High School. She is involved in Beta Club and sings in her school choir. Active in Jay Levine BBG, she is serving her second term as chapter sh'lichah (vice president of Jewish heritage, community service and social action). She recently won the Kentucky Indiana Ohio Region Sh'lichah of the Year Award. **Emily Renco** is a sophomore at Louisville Collegiate School, where she is in the entrepreneurship, Spanish, food, transcript and Happiness clubs. She is a student ambassador and secretary of the Students Against Destructive Decisions movement. She is Jay Levine BBG's chapter n'siah (president) and will attend two BBYO summer leadership programs this summer. She also volunteers with the Jewish Family & Career Services and Greater Louisville Internal Medicine.



Jacob Ioffe

**The Stuart Pressman Student Leadership Development Award** recognizes incoming and outgoing seniors for their devotion to BBYO: **Jacob Ioffe** is a junior at duPont Manual High School in the Math, Science, and Technology magnet program. He serves as regional mazkir and gizbor of BBYO's Kentucky Indiana Ohio Region. Jacob is also a part of BBYO's Global Networking Committee and leads the the Global Partnership and Development Resources Subcommittee. He



Julia Bessen



Tovah Frockt



Lucy Calderon

traveled to Ukraine last November as a BBYO ambassador and spearheaded the establishment of KIO's first global partnership with the city of Lviv. Recently, Jacob was named to the 33rd cohort of Bronfman Fellows – a network of 1,100-plus young Jews from Israel and North America – which begins with a five-week trip to Israel. **Julia Bessen** is a graduating senior at Louisville Collegiate School. She has been a member of BBYO for four years, holding leadership positions and coordinating weekend conventions. Julia was a madrichah at Louisville Beit Sefer Yachad (LBSY) and a counselor at Camp J. She spends most of her summer at Beber Camp, where she will be a first-time counselor this summer. Julia recently joined the International March of the Living. She will attend Tulane University this fall, studying business and Judaic studies. **Tovah Frockt** is a junior at Ballard High School. A tennis player, she competed in the 2016 JCC Maccabi Games in Columbus, Ohio. Tovah has been attending Camp Livingston for eight summers and, last year, joined the camp's Israel experience. A member of Jay Levine BBG, Tovah served as chapter mazkirah for two terms. Currently, she is the Quack and Speak Up Chair for the Kentucky Indiana Ohio Region. **Lucy Calderon** is a junior at duPont Manual High School. A Jay Levine BBG member, she has held multiple local and regional leadership positions. Currently, Lucy is serving as the Kentucky Indiana Ohio Region's 64th regional sh'lichah. She is a peer educator for Planned Parenthood and a lead writer and managing editor

for On The Record, Louisville's youth magazine. Lucy attends Camp Livingston and visited Israel last summer. Recently, she was named a StandWithUs intern for 2018. In that role, she will train others in Louisville and BBYO to advocate for Israel.



Bennet Schramko



Alan Ocheretner

**The Tony Levitan Awards** recognize remarkable senior athletes for their character and leadership. **Bennet Schramko** of Ballard High School has been an avid tennis player since he was 3. He played for Meyzeek Middle School and Ballard. In high school, Bennett made varsity all four years, was a team co-captain and twice attended states. Bennett has been active in Drew Corson AZA, playing basketball for the chapter in many tournaments. He helped the team win three championships titles. He will start Indiana University this fall, majoring in Sports Journalism. **Alan Ocheretner** of duPont Manual High School has been a competitive swimmer for 12 years, becoming a leader on his team. He is also played basketball for Drew Corson AZA and has helped the basketball team win multiple championship titles. Alan will attend the Kelly School of Business at Indiana University.



Abigail Geller

**The Joseph Fink BBYO Community Service Scholarship** recognizes a dedicated high school senior for commitment to community service throughout Louisville, while being deeply invested in BBYO for all four years of high school. **Abigail Geller** is a senior at North Oldham High School. She has

been an active BBYO member for four years, holding multiple positions on Jay Levine BBG's chapter leadership board. Abigail was chapter gizborit and n'siah for two terms. As n'siah, she received the honor of KIO N'siah of the Year, and Jay Levine BBG was named KIO Chapter of the Year and won the International Miriam Albert Chapter Excellence Award. An avid field hockey player, Abigail was North Oldham's varsity team captain this past year. She recently joined the International March of the Living. Abigail will attend DePaul University, majoring in international studies.



Ava Schumacher



Drew Goldstein

**The Ellen Faye Garmon Award** recognizes teens whose work in BBYO strengthens and builds the organization. **Ava Schumacher** is a junior at North Oldham High School. She plays field hockey, is part of the Oldham County Leadership Academy, a member of the National Honors Society and participates in the Kentucky YMCA Youth Government programs – KYA and Kuna. A Jay Levine BBG member since eighth grade, Ava has held multiple local and regional leadership positions. After completing a term as chapter n'siah, she was elected to the Kentucky Indiana Ohio BBYO regional board as regional mazkirah/gizborit. Ava hopes to travel the world and one day start her own business. **Drew Goldstein** is a sophomore at Ballard High School. Active in Drew Corson AZA, he is currently the chapter godol (president). Drew spends his summers at Camp Livingston, through which he will make a four-week educational trip to Israel this summer. Drew works at Noodles and Company and is involved with the Ballard Dance Marathon, the UNICEF committee and school soccer team.

## Awards

continued from previous page

### Craig Greenberg

Lewis W. Cole Memorial Young Leadership Award

When asked about his service to Jewish Louisville, Craig Greenberg came back with a profound understatement:

"Mostly what I'm doing is helping my 12-year-old son study for his bar mitzvah later this year," he said.

Greenberg has been actively involved in the community since his



days in BBYO. (He was a Pi Tau Pi chapter member). His service has continued on the JCC Board of Directors before the merger; his efforts on behalf of a proposed Adath Jeshurun-Keneseth Israel

merger, and his work with JTomorrow!, specifically in lining up an architect for the project.

An attorney by training, Greenberg has mostly worked in behind-the-

scenes jobs that are necessary to move the community forward.

Beyond the community, he has made a name for himself in the hospitality industry. He is president and CEO of 21c Museum Hotels, which runs mixed use contemporary hotel-museums in Louisville and six other cities. Two more are planned for Kansas City and Des Moines.

The Harvard Law School graduate grew up in Louisville and lives here today with his wife, Rachel, and sons, Daniel and Benjamin.

Honored by the award, Greenberg used the opportunity to tout his vision for a leaner Jewish Louisville, one that

has few, but stronger Jewish institutions.

"We have a lot of legacy Jewish organizations that do many wonderful things," he said, "but our resources are spread so thin that it's an unsustainable model."

He said the community is shrinking, its people share their time with outside interests, and these will likely continue in the future.

He said a new community model, with "fewer innovative and stronger organizations," would be better suited to survive in the decades to come.



## NEWS

# 'I wanted to keep learning from him'

## Louisville's Reform Jews remember Rabbi Aaron Panken

By Lee Chottiner  
Community Editor

To Rabbi David Ariel-Joel, Aaron Panken was more than a rabbi and scholar; he was a friend.

"I loved how he was able to make talmudic stories and arguments come to life and show how relevant they are to our modern lives and to today's world," Ariel-Joel, senior rabbi of The Temple, told *Community* in an emailed message. "The news about his death is shocking and devastating."

Panken, president of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, died in a plane crash Saturday, May 5, in Middletown, New York. He was 53.

"Our movement lost a great leader and an important scholar," Ariel-Joel said. "Personally, I lost a wonderful teacher whom I learned much from and wanted to keep learning from."

Panken's death came one day before he was to ordain this year's class from HUC-New York. The seminary ordain 28 rabbis at its three U.S. campuses this year, and six cantors.

Rabbi David Ellenson, a past HUC president whom Panken succeeded, has been named interim president.

Rabbi Beth Jacowitz Chottiner of Temple Shalom knew Panken from her days studying for her master's degree in religious education at HUC-New York.



Rabbi Aaron Panken

Panken was the dean of the rabbinic program at the time.

"I remember him having a big smile on his face, both when I saw him in person, or when his name came up in conversation," she said. "He was a true leader and a mensch."

Jacowitz Chottiner shared a story about Panken once helping her close friend, an emigrant from the former Soviet Union, write her first resume.

"He helped her understand a lot of the culture and gave her a lot of support," Jacowitz Chottiner said. "She wasn't even a rabbinic student; she also was an education student."

David Bloom of Louisville, who grew up in Temple Shalom and is a fourth-year rabbinic student at HUC-Cincinnati, recalled meeting one-on-one with Panken during his first year of study at HUC-Jerusalem in 2014. Recently installed as president, Panken came to Israel to meet individually with the students in the new class.

"He was very open and just listened," Bloom recalled. "He was interested in what we were doing, how classes were going and what we hoped to get out of

them. He also said if we had any questions we could just reach out to him."

Bloom especially recalled a moment on that visit when Panken was off campus with the class – he thinks it was at the Shalom Hartman Institute – when a siren went off, warning of a rocket attack.

The class retreated to a shelter, where some students started to pray. Panken, Bloom said, comforted the students.

Bloom, who expected to be ordained by Panken next year, said his loss fell especially hard on this year's class.

"It's going to be hard, especially this year for those who are being ordained," he said. "The people in New York had less than a day [to prepare]."

Panken, who grew up on Manhattan's Upper West Side, was ordained at HUC in 1991. He worked as an associate rabbi at Manhattan's Congregation Rodeph Shalom and earned a doctorate in Hebrew and Judaic Studies at New York University. He also had a degree in electrical engineering from Johns Hopkins University.

During his four years as president, he expanded the class sizes of the rabbinic, cantorial and education programs, introduced new areas of study and used technology and online learning to link the four campuses, *The New York Times* reported.

His success in growing the school didn't surprise Cantor Kat Hastings, a

native of Louisville, who today lives in Houston. She said Panken always wanted top candidates for the rabbinate and cantorate.

"But he didn't sugarcoat it," she said. "He wanted people to give good thought to it. He really wanted people who could help *klal yisrael* to be part of it."

Panken ordained Rabbi Jessica Wainer of the Northern Virginia Hebrew Congregation in Reston. A former rabbinic intern at Temple Shalom, in 2016, Wainer recalled the Friday before the ceremony in which he met with her class, teaching them about the ordination rite.

Panken's joy, she said, was "palpable" as he taught her class about the supporting text for ordination.

"You could see it, feel it, and it was contagious; we could all feel it," Wainer said. "You could see the pride he felt in each and every one of us, and in what we were about to do for the Jewish community."

Taking over as president of HUC in 2014, Panken told JTA at that time that he intended to recruit the "best and brightest" to careers in the rabbinate.

He is survived by his wife, Lisa Messinger; his children Eli and Samantha; his parents Beverly and Peter; and his sister, Rabbi Melinda Panken of Congregation Shaari Emeth in Manalapan, New Jersey.

(JTA contributed to this story.)

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## A photograph of four young boys working on a garden bed. One boy in the center is bent over, digging with a shovel. The other three boys stand around him, watching. They are outdoors in a sunny area with trees in the background.

INSIDE

*Camp J attracting older kids this year*  
**STORY ON PG. 14**

By Tara Cocco  
*For Community*

"It's been great working with staff and



"This is my fifth summer as aquatics director, and I'm excited for the 2018 summer season," said Johnny Kimberlin. "We're looking forward to seeing

By Elizabeth Gerber  
*For Community*

THE  
**ROCKY  
 HORROR  
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*Don't dream it.  
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This year's show has completely new choreography, set design and even some



# CENTERPIECE

## HOOPMASTERZ SUMMER SKILLS CLINIC



**FRIDAYS, JUN 8 - AUG 10**  
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**UPPER GYM**

**June 8** Shooting Clinic

**June 15** Super Triple Threat

**July 6** Advanced Point Guard Play

**July 20** Scoring in Transition

**July 27** Being a Triple Double Threat

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**August 10** Advanced Post Play

**FEE: \$25 per clinic, \$150 for a season pass**

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Intended for kids 11-18 years old.

**Have questions? Contact Susan Kwasny!**  
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## Options abound for rising fourth through eighth graders at Camp J

By Mary-Kate Smith  
*For Community*

As the end of the school year approaches, The J campers should be gearing up for a great summer.

Youth Program Manager and Camp J Assistant Director Katelyn Graves said there are many exciting options for all campers, including rising fourth through ninth grade campers, this summer at The J.

"This is going to be a great summer for our older campers," Graves says. "The new programming, new vendors, and new staff are going to make this the best summer at Camp J yet."

Rising fourth through sixth grade campers will not only have the opportunity to participate in the Traditional Trek Camp but also in such specialty camps as Chess, Theater, Cooking, Creative Crafts, Snapology, Science Olympiad, Basketball, Wild Weather, Dance, and more.

Rising seventh through ninth graders can enjoy the summer in the Traditional Young Leaders Camp or participate in specialty camps: Video Game Making, Healthy Living and Fitness, Strength and Conditioning, and more.

This summer Camp J will be offering the Traditional Camps each week along with more than 20 Specialty Camps for middle school campers throughout the summer.

"We are offering a couple one-week-only camps that are going to be out of this world," Graves said. "The first is our Video Game Making Camp with Nathan Fouts. This is a great opportunity to show off your gaming skills. Another great camp is our Wild Weather Week with Matt Milosevich, meteorologist from WLKY. This camp includes fantastic field trips around Louisville."

Graves also mentions that Bellarmine will be running the Basketball Camp, and



**There will be plenty of exciting options for rising fourth to eighth graders at this summer's Camp J. (Community photo provided)**

Turnip the Beet will be sending their best chefs to teach Cooking Camp. Spotlight campers will write, edit and perform their own original production. However, Graves and the rest of the Camp J staff are not only excited for Specialty Camps but are also getting ready for some awesome Traditional Camps.

Cameron Tabler, a staff member returning for his fourth summer at Camp J, will serve as the Young Leaders Head Counselor during summer 2018.

"Young Leaders is going to be such an amazing camp," Tabler said. "It is hard to pinpoint exactly what I'm most excited for. What I'm looking forward to the most is that no week is going to be the same, with different themes and activities taking place, going all around the city and meeting some awesome people." This summer, young leaders will be off

site two or three days a week on field trip and community service projects. Young Leaders will focus on a Value of the Week in addition to building leadership and service skills.

"Young Leaders is unique in the fact that we work to show the campers the value of community service and leadership, integrating them with Jewish values that find their ways into our daily lives," Tabler said. "We will get to learn so much about Louisville and what we can do to be involved while also having a ton of fun." Trek campers will also have a ton of fun taking field trips around Louisville two days a week, practicing archery, and participating in other specialized activities.

"Camp J is the place to be this summer," Graves said.

## GATORS SUMMER SWIM TEAM



### PRACTICE TIMES

**Tuesdays-Fridays: 4:30-5:30 p.m. & 5:30-6:30 p.m.**

### SWIM MEETS

Swim meets will be held on Monday evenings.

### INSTRUCTORS

Kiley Handley, Bryn Handley, Kendall Shook & Bryan Bianco

### FEE

\$195 The J Members, \$215 Summer Members

### New to the Gators?

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# CENTERPIECE

## J Arts & Ideas presents: Let There Be Laughter

Need a laugh? Next up for the Arts & Ideas series is an evening of comedy, featuring award-winning NPR radio host and author Michael Krasny.

Let There Be Laughter: A Treasury of Great Jewish Humor and What It All Means, is slated for 7:30 p.m., Saturday, June 23. The program is a compendium of Jewish jokes that offers a window into Jewish culture.

The evening starts with some local improv comedy and will continue with Krasny's side-splitting thoughts on Jewish humor.

Tickets are available at The J or [jewishlouisville.org/laughter](http://jewishlouisville.org/laughter). Cost is \$18 general admission and \$36 for VIP seating, including a meet & greet with the author and a copy of his book.

Krasny has been telling Jewish jokes since his bar mitzvah. With his background as a scholar and public radio host, Krasny delves into the themes, topics and form of Jewish humor: chauvinism undercut by irony and self-mockery, the fear of losing cultural identity through assimilation, the importance of vocal inflection in joke-telling. He calls upon communal memory through his use of Yiddish.

Borrowing from traditional humor and such Jewish comedy legends as Jackie Mason, Mel Brooks, Joan Rivers, Larry David, Sarah Silverman, Jerry Seinfeld and Amy Schumer, Let There Be Laughter is an absolute pleasure for the chosen and goyim alike.

## Players Challenge returns in June; supports J, JFCS

The Annual Republic Bank Players Challenge – a much-anticipated event that benefits both the Jewish Family & Career Services and The J – is coming up on June 25, offering great golf and great fun.

Both JFCS and The J provide vital services for children, families and seniors in Jewish Louisville every day.

The event will begin with a lunch sponsored by Salsarita's at 11:30 a.m. followed by a 12:30 p.m. shotgun start to the scramble-style tournament. There will be activities at many of the holes on the course. The day will conclude with

a catered dinner and awards ceremony.

Allen Hertzman and Mark Behr co-chair this year's challenge.

Last year, more than \$75,000 was granted for scholarships at The J, and more than 700 hours of subsidized counseling at JFCS was provided to families seeking services to strengthen their lives, keep them self-sufficient and provide structure and security for their children.

To be part of this year's challenge and support the agencies, register online at [jfcslouisville.org/republic-bank-players-challenge/](http://jfcslouisville.org/republic-bank-players-challenge/) or call 502-452-6341.



**SWIM SCHOOL**

REGISTER ONLINE:  
[jewishlouisville.org/swimschool](http://jewishlouisville.org/swimschool)

## SENIOR CALENDAR

(Unless otherwise noted, all programs begin Tuesdays at 12:45 p.m.)

### MAY 29

Mike O' Bryan returns with great accordion tunes.

### JUNE 5

**"Healing through Meditation and Music"**

A program presented by Rabbi Nadia Siritsky and Cantor Sharon Hordes.

### JUNE 12

Musical entertainment with John Gage, host of *The Kentucky Homefront*. Birthdays and anniversaries in June will be celebrated.

### JUNE 19

Tom Owen presents "Mirrors of Our Past-Creeks & Streams of Jefferson County."

### JUNE 26

Bingo.

### THURSDAY, JUNE 14

**10:30 a.m.**

**Day Trip to Frazier History Museum**

See the exhibit, "Magnificent Mona Bismarck: Kentucky Style Icon," the story of Louisville native Mona Bismarck, the first American to be declared the Best-Dressed Woman in the World. Spanning five decades of her life, the exhibit features more than 80 pieces from her personal collection. One of the most photographed socialites in her day, this exhibit will also include extensive images commissioned by *Vogue* magazine. Time will be allotted to see other exhibits. Lunch will follow at Buckheads on Bardstown Road. Cost is \$15 per member, \$20 per non-member.

### MONDAY, JUNE 18

**5:30 9.m.**

Gourmet Dining Club will meet for dinner at Peking City Bistro, 12410 Shelbyville Road, Middletown. Cost of transportation is \$4.

## CenterStage at the Jewish Community Center

Music, Lyrics and Book by  
Richard O'Brien

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**Thursdays & Saturdays**  
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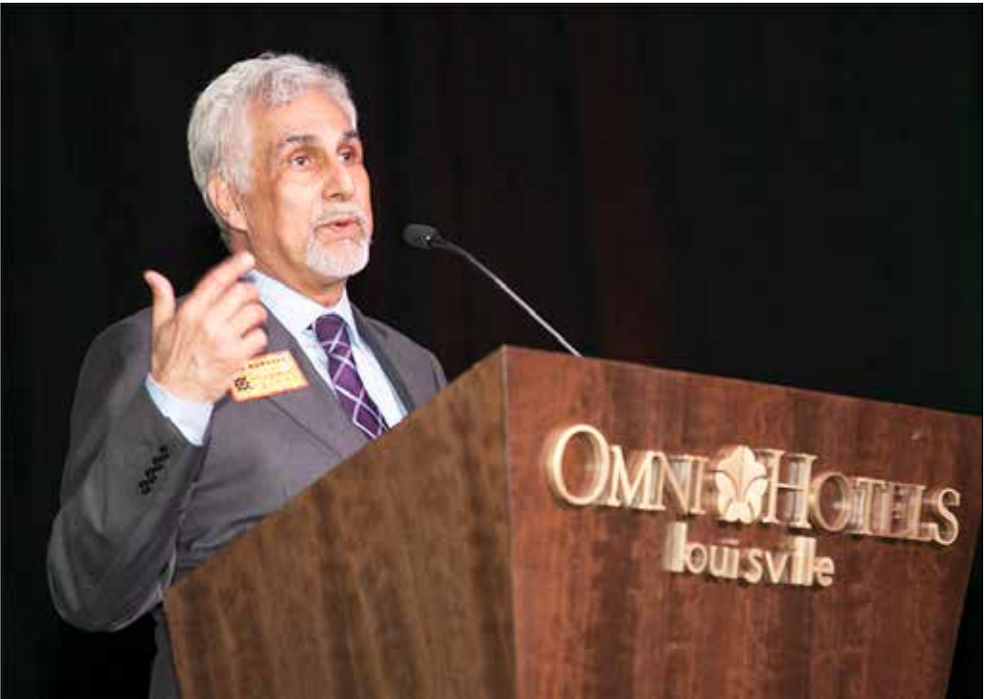


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# PICTURE THIS: MOSAIC Awards

A capacity crowd at the May 17 MOSAIC Awards dinner watched as the Jewish Family & Career Services honored five successful Louisville professionals who trace their roots to other lands. JFCS also awarded a scholarship to an individual entering the healthcare field and showcased several new businesses started by Louisville newcomers. (Photos by Ted Wirth)





## PICTURE THIS: MOSAIC Awards





# ISRAEL AT 70

## Jerusalem's old-school Jewish market transforms into a hipster hangout

By Ben Sales  
JTA

JERUSALEM – In another life, Kobi Frig would have been sitting behind vats of spices in Jerusalem's bustling, labyrinthine Mahane Yehuda market, hawking paprika, zaatar and cinnamon like his grandfather and father did before him.

Instead, Frig obeyed his father's wishes, went to college, and started a chain of events that transformed the market and led to the closure of his family's shop. He became a community activist, organizing art and music fairs in the market that opened it up to a young clientele and brought in a wave of cafes and restaurants. Last year, when Frig's father retired, he shuttered the spice shop and leased the space to a bar.

"The third generation didn't see itself selling nuts and wanted to make a change," said Frig, 42, an event producer. "There's no question something changed. Whether it's for the best is a matter of perspective. You have good relationships between the stores and the restaurants. The food businesses buy [ingredients] from their neighbors, so the market is maintaining itself."

The story of Frig's family shop has been happening across Mahane Yehuda,



The Mahane Yehuda market is becoming a trendy destination in the City of David. Bars, cafes and sit-down restaurants increasingly open for business there, giving the old shuk a new vibe.

known to locals simply as the shuk, Hebrew for market. By day, it's a traditional Middle Eastern bazaar that serves the residents of Israel's capital city. But by night, it is increasingly becoming a tourist attraction filled with cafes, bars and sit-down restaurants. The change, which began about a decade ago, is thrusting Mahane Yehuda's older merchants into a new era.

"It's changed from end to end," said

Yosi Avrahami, who has sold nuts in the market for more than 40 years. "You used to see stores with vegetables and food -- tons of vegetable stores ... I think that will be disappointing, if it will all become beer."

Covering a network of a dozen streets in central Jerusalem, the shuk is a crowded pedestrian mall with hundreds of shops. Since the market began operating in the late nineteenth century under Ottoman rule, most of those shops have sold staple foods like produce, baked goods, meat, fish, spices, dried fruit, nuts and household items. Other stores sell inexpensive clothing, Judaica, sweets or souvenirs. It has been the target of at least seven terrorist attacks since 1968. It invariably opened for business the next day, if not the same afternoon.

It has undergone a few renovations since its founding: Merchants now sell their food from physical stalls, rather than tarps spread on the ground, and many have hung signs above their shops. But it's still far less formal than a grocery store. Sellers will sit on stools at the front of their stores, hawking tomatoes, halva or chicken in loud, hoarse, competing voices. Regulars from all walks of Jewish Jerusalem life conduct business on a first-name basis -- and pay in cash. The food is kosher -- and the entire market shuts down for Shabbat before sundown on Fridays.

On a recent weekday evening, the shuk's central avenue looked like it has for decades. Shoppers lugged collapsible carts from stand to stand, doling out money and accumulating plastic bags of fresh food. Counters piled with olives, challahs, dried apricots and rice seasonings beckoned locals and tourists alike -- though a branch of Israel's largest coffee chain, Aroma, has also taken up shop there.

In the center of the street, a young girl in a pink fleece played the recorder in front of a donation basket. Off to the side, a emissary of the Chabad Hasidic outreach movement checked his phone while manning a table with a pair of unraveled tefillin.

But a side street looked like it came straight out of the city's Zagat guide. A stand near the entrance sold fresh-pressed juice and smoothies -- advertising an acai bowl in English and Hebrew. Nearby was Fishenchips, one of the shuk's first small sit-down places geared toward twenty-somethings. Farther along was a gelato shop, and there were bars around the corner. Young people sat chatting over meals and beer at elevated tables.

"It's an amazing atmosphere -- good people, always smiling, a fantastic atmosphere, bro," said Dima Kasachuck,

20, who worked behind the counter at a Mexican restaurant and sported bleached hair, ear gauges and a long-sleeve t-shirt emblazoned with a skull. "I worked in lots of other restaurants, but it was a lower-key atmosphere there. There were more serious people, less fun, less chilling, fewer jokes, just serious work, and it's not fun."

The transformation began in 2006, when Frig persuaded merchants to remain open late one night for a party on the Jewish holiday of Purim. It ended up drawing 4,000 people. In subsequent years, he put on a series of art, music and culinary festivals in the shuk that exhibited its potential as a communal space for the city's youth. Restaurateurs soon began renting out storefronts and replacing traditional sellers.

Even the merchants that have remained have contributed to the market's new feel. Many of their gates are painted with graffiti portraits of Jewish historical figures, so when the stores close, the market becomes a public art exhibit.

Baristas and waiters at the market's newer shops say they love their workplace and its fusion of old and new. At Roasters, a third-wave cafe, Esther Bromberg said she loves hearing neighboring merchants yell their cappuccino orders to her -- while she feels free to store milk in their refrigerators.

"What I like the most about the shuk is the combination of the old-school Middle Eastern vibes and the hipster up-and-coming young vibes that we have going together," said Bromberg, 24, an Australian expat. "We're best friends. We make them coffee -- obviously, it's all free -- because we're all just neighbors and friends."

But some of Bromberg's neighbors feel differently. The market's older occupants do not all appreciate the new atmosphere and clientele, who sometimes come along with loud music, drunkenness and loud conversation. Worse, they said, tourists are there to stroll, gawk and take selfies -- not to actually buy the food they're selling.

"It used to be good, now it's not," said Chai Noach, a produce merchant. "It's becoming an entertainment zone. People don't come to buy. They come to hang out, to travel."

Some new stores have tried to bridge the gap between old market and new. The front of Beer Bazaar, which opened in 2015, could almost pass as a Middle Eastern market for Israeli craft beer. It's narrow and crowded, advertising a wide range of Israeli breweries and selling varieties that can be hard to find elsewhere.

But the back looks like a comfortable pub, where patrons can order dinner along with their drink. One sandwich on the menu is named after filmmaker Quentin Tarantino, in honor of the time he ate there with his Israeli fiancée, Daniella Pick.

Yarden Rivlin, who works at Beer Bazaar, pointed out that the bars and restaurants tend to keep different hours than the food stands, so there is not too much conflict. He feels the shuk has retained its character -- even if the offerings have changed.

"In the shuk, everyone needs to be friends with everyone," said Rivlin, 25. "Everyone brings a different kind of personality. During the day, the stores are open and there are fruits and vegetables and nuts and sweets, and at night we open up the tables and the atmosphere changes. It's a shuk -- just a little different."

### The Jewish Community of Louisville gratefully acknowledges donations to the following

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## JFCS NEWS, CLASSES & EVENTS

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#### SUGGESTIONS FOR JUNE

- Salmon
- Peanut butter
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- Applesauce (snack size)
- Jam/jelly

**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: 502-452-6341, ext. 103.

### SUPPORT GROUPS

#### June 4, 4pm & June 5, 3pm Caregiver Support Group

Meets first Monday of month at Christ Church United Methodist, 4614 Brownsboro Rd.  
 Contact Connie Austin: 502-452-6341, ext. 305.

Meets first Tuesday of month at JFCS.  
 Contact Naomi Malka: 502-452-6341, ext. 249.

#### June 14, 1pm Parkinson's Caregiver Support Group

Meets second Thursday of month at JFCS.  
 Contact Connie Austin: 502-452-6341, ext. 305.

#### June 8, 2pm Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group

Meets second Friday of the month at JFCS.  
 Contact Kim Toebbe: 502-452-6341, ext. 103.

#### June 18, 12:30pm Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

Meets third Monday of month at JFCS.  
 Contact Jo Ann Kalb: 502-452-6341, ext. 335.

#### June 20, 10am Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

Meets third Wednesday of month at Epworth United Methodist Church, 919 Palatka Rd.  
 Contact Jo Ann Kalb: 502-452-6341, ext. 335.

#### June 21, 7pm Adult Children of Aging Parents

Meets third Thursday of month at JFCS.  
 Contact Mauri Malka: 502-452-6341, ext. 250.

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# EMBASSY MOVED

## Trump lauded at U.S. embassy dedication in Jerusalem

By Sam Sokol  
JTA

JERUSALEM — Israeli leaders and citizens responded with euphoria as the Trump administration moved the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem on Monday, designating a pre-existing consular building as the official U.S. diplomatic mission to the Jewish State.

Hundreds of revelers, many wearing Trump's signature red baseball caps commemorating the move, sat on bleachers outside the new embassy in Jerusalem's Arnona neighborhood on Monday afternoon as an honor guard of U.S. Marines paraded the national colors and Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin and First Daughter Ivanka Trump unveiled the building's seal carved into an outer wall.

The crowd, which included both Chief Rabbis, the IDF Chief of Staff, the mayor of Jerusalem and the head of the Jewish Agency, stood and applauded for at least half a minute after U.S. Ambassador to Israel David Friedman welcomed them, in a booming voice, "to the dedication and opening of the United States Embassy in Jerusalem, Israel."

Inevitably, perhaps, the images of pageantry vied with darker news out of Gaza, where at least 50 Palestinians died during violent clashes with the Israeli military along the border.

The West Bank and East Jerusalem were mostly quiet on Monday; outside the new embassy, dozens of demonstrators, including several Arab members of Knesset, held up signs calling Jerusalem the capital of Palestine. Fourteen protesters were arrested following skirmishes with police.

At the ceremony itself, meanwhile, local politicians vied to see who could offer the most expansive plaudits as their constituents posted memes on social media describing the president in almost messianic terms.

Addressing the dedication ceremony via video, President Donald Trump asserted that "for many years we failed to acknowledge the obvious, the plain reality that Israel's capital is Jerusalem." He bragged that "on my direction, the United States finally and officially recognized Jerusalem as the true capital of Israel."

Likely responding to Palestinian assertions that such recognition hampers efforts at a negotiated settlement to the conflict, Trump asserted that the United States was "committed to facilitating a lasting peace agreement" and to the maintenance of the status quo on the Temple Mount.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu effusively thanked his American counterpart, saying that Israel had "no better friends in the world" and that "by recognizing history," Trump had "made history."

"Thank you, President Trump, for having the courage to keep your promises," he continued. "Thank you for making the alliance between Israel and America



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu (left), seen here with President 's Trump's son-in-law, Jared Kushner, and his daughter, Ivanka, at the dedication of the U.S. Embassy in Jerusalem. (U.S. Embassy photo)

stronger than ever."

Despite the violence accompanying the embassy move, Trump adviser and son-in-law Jared Kushner told attendees at the ceremony that "previously unimaginable alliances are emerging" and that the U.S. would support a peace agreement in which "both sides can get more than they give." Last week, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain welcomed Trump's decision to pull the U.S. out of the Iran nuclear deal and reimpose sanctions on Tehran.

Kushner also laid the blame for the fighting in Gaza squarely on the Palestinians, stating that "those provoking violence are part of the problem and not part of the solution."

Likewise, Netanyahu, who juxtaposed Trump's Embassy decision with the Balfour Declaration promising British support for a Jewish homeland, called Monday a "great day for peace."

"The truth and peace are interconnected. A peace built on lies will crash on the rocks of Middle Eastern realities and the truth is that Jerusalem will always be the capital of the Jewish state," he said. "May the truth advance a lasting peace between us and our neighbors."

Both administration figures and Israeli politicians heaped praise on the president in response to the embassy move. At a reception organized by the Orthodox Union at Jerusalem's Waldorf Astoria hotel on Monday morning, former Sen. Joseph Lieberman, I-Conn., one of the architects of the 1995 Jerusalem Embassy Act, told JTA that it had been "very frustrating and disappointing every time a president of the United States suspended the implementation of that act" and that he was "thrilled" by Trump's decision. The Jerusalem Embassy Act recognized Jerusalem as the capital of

Israel and called for the relocation of the embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, but Trump's predecessors declined to implement it, citing foreign policy concerns.

Asked if he believed that Trump's involvement would turn Israel into a partisan issue, Lieberman replied that his bill had been bi-partisan and "support for Jerusalem as the capital of Israel is broadly supported by members of both parties."

Others present were unrestrained in their praise. U.S. Ambassador to Israel David Friedman extolled the president's "courage, vision, strength and moral clarity." The Orthodox Union's Mark Bane called Trump "God's messenger on this important day." Citing his decision to pull out of the Iran nuclear deal, Justice Minister Ayelet Shaked called Trump the "the [Winston] Churchill of the 21st century."

This rhetoric was off-putting to some attendees, who decried what they saw as excessive. While there was no question that the embassy move was significant, "the focus needs to be on the essence and not about Trump," opposition MK Pnina Tamano-Shata of Yesh Atid told JTA.

"To compare him to Churchill, or to Balfour is a little exaggerated," Tamano-Shata said. "The state of Israel and the people of Israel know that our capital is Jerusalem and the transfer of the Embassy is [correct] but let's take things in proportion. I am for our nation celebrating, but we also need to be careful that we don't excessively praise in an exaggerated sense of euphoria ... and not to raise up a man in an exaggerated way."

Asked about how Israeli leaders were addressing Trump, Dan Shapiro, who served as U.S. ambassador to Israel under President Barack Obama, told JTA that it was understandable that they

were engaging in "hyperbole" because "it's become accepted in international circles that the way to gain favor with President Trump is to engage in excessive flattery."

Shapiro said he supported the embassy move but harbored reservations about how it was implemented. He explained that Israel was doing "everything possible to have the best possible relation with the president of the United States" and that this was "completely legitimate."

However, he cautioned, "it would be advisable to bear in mind the significant number of Americans who are deeply alienated from this president on other issues" and to work on "maintaining the historic bi-partisan nature of this relationship."

MK Ayman Odeh, an Arab Israeli who heads the Knesset's Joint List, linked the killing of Gaza protesters — who are engaged in a six-week series of demonstrations to coincide with Israel's 70th anniversary — to the embassy dedication.

"The opening of the American embassy in Jerusalem and its grand ceremony is part of the same policy that has claimed the lives of dozens of Gazans," Odeh said in a statement. "Today, there is nothing to celebrate. The opening of the embassy is yet another provocative step that signals the destruction of the notion of peace. The Netanyahu-Trump alliance continues to deepen the conflict."

Meanwhile, in East Jerusalem, the mood was subdued. Near the Damascus Gate, tourists and Arab shoppers mingled, watched by dozens of police officers clad in body armor and carrying automatic weapons. Locals, while unhappy with the American decision, seemed apathetic in the face of a reality they couldn't change.

Inside the Old City's Arab market, a man who identified himself only as Yassir sat in his dress shop, watching news footage from Gaza.

"Trump is playing with fire," he said. "There could be war all over. The people of Gaza don't care if they die."

Asked why there wasn't any significant unrest in East Jerusalem, Yassir replied resignedly that it was "very difficult living directly with the Israelis" and that any young man who went out in the street would end up with a police record that would follow him for life.

"It's different in Gaza, the authorities support the protests," he said.

In a nearby restaurant, a man named Tawfik expressed a similarly fatalistic attitude, asserting that the Israelis had Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states in their pockets. Trump, he said, was "more Jewish than the Jews." The Palestinians "have to be smart," he continued, claiming that if Jerusalem residents took to the streets "the Jews will kill us and say we are against peace."

"I'm not ready for my son to go out and die," he said.

## Israel on Gaza crackdown: 'We are saving human life'

By Ben Sales  
JTA

NEW YORK — Despite growing condemnation for the deaths of 60 Palestinians on the Gaza border yesterday, Israel defended its military's actions as an act of self-defense in the face of a mass at-

tack.

"We didn't want it to happen, but we understood these were Hamas' intentions," Dani Dayan, Israel's consul general in New York, told reporters Tuesday, May 15. "We are not going away. We will defend our border. We will defend our population. If they invade Israeli com-

munities, we will have to take much harsher measures. By doing what we did we are saving human life."

On Monday morning, tens of thousands of Palestinians rushed Gaza's border with Israel as part of a string of protests called the March of Return. The protesters say they're opposing Israel's

blockade of the coastal strip while pushing for Palestinians' return to their ancestors' homes within Israel. Israel says the protest is an invasion by Hamas, the militant group that governs Gaza, and that it endangers Israeli lives and communal security.

See **GAZA** on next page



# EMBASSY MOVED

## Gaza

*continued from previous page*

On Monday, Palestinians charged the border fence en masse, some carrying weapons. Israel responded with tear gas, water cannons, rubber bullets and live fire. More than 60 Palestinians were killed and thousands were injured.

Israel was pilloried in the press. The optics were particularly bad on Monday: In Jerusalem, an hours' drive away, American and Israeli diplomats were all smiles as they dedicated the United States Embassy.

The front page of the New York Daily News, a leading tabloid, showed a picture of a grinning Ivanka Trump juxtaposed with a photo of the carnage in Gaza. The headline: Daddy's Little Ghouls.

The U.N. human rights office condemned Israel for Monday's "appalling deadly violence." The European Union's foreign policy chief, Federica Mogherini, called on Israel to abide by the "principle

of proportionality in the use of force" and to "respect the right to peaceful protest."

But don't expect Israel to say it's sorry. Israeli officials say their country did the right thing. And if this happens again, they'd do it again – the same way.

Dayan said the protest was anything but peaceful. The goal, he said, was to invade Israel by breaching the Gaza border fence and pouring into Israeli towns just yards from the border. Israeli soldiers, he said, never target unarmed civilians.

He pointed to evidence that some protesters carried improvised bombs and wire cutters, and to a video of a Hamas leader saying, "we will tear out their hearts from their bodies."

"It was a mass attack at innumerable points to breach the fence," Dayan said, comparing the rush at various points to a tsunami and to a soccer riot in Europe, where spectators get trampled by overzealous fans.

"To have a breach of a thousand Pal-

estinians, armed, into the kindergarten of a kibbutz is an imminent danger," he said. "Those were people who were trying to break the fence, and for that there is zero tolerance."

Israel says 24 of the 60 people killed were Hamas operatives. Dayan did not have information regarding the other 36 fatalities.

This is not the first time Israel has had to handle a rush on its borders. In May and June of 2011, protesters stormed Israel's northern borders from Syria and Lebanon. Then as well, dozens were killed when Israel responded with gunfire.

Israelis agree with their government's stance. Eighty-three percent of Israeli Jews, and 70 percent of Israelis overall, said in April that the Israeli policy of opening fire on the Gaza border was appropriate, according to a poll by the Israel Democracy Institute. Jewish Israelis have also given near-unanimous support to previous Israeli military actions in Gaza.

Dayan blames Hamas for the deaths Monday, saying that the terror group wanted to distract Gazans from their dire economy by shifting blame to Israel. Israel withdrew its army and settlers from Gaza in 2005. After Hamas won Palestinian elections in 2006, Israel and Egypt initiated a blockade of the strip, though they let in humanitarian goods.

Hamas and other Gaza terror groups have continued, on and off, to bombard Israel with missiles in the intervening years. In response, Israel has launched three military operations in Gaza, in 2008, 2012 and 2014.

"[Hamas leader Yahya] Sinwar sends his people and his children and his women to the border to get killed," Dayan said. "Because the situation in Gaza is extremely difficult, Hamas decided, as many dictatorships do, to direct the blame elsewhere."

## Do average Israelis support Gaza response to embassy move? Here's the breakdown

By Josefin Dolsten  
JTA

Palestinians have been protesting for weeks on the Gaza border, but the situation heated up on Monday, May 14, when the Israeli military shot at protesters, killing at least 60 people and wounding 2,000.

The actions drew wide criticism from world leaders, human rights organization and some within the American Jewish community, though the United States blamed the escalation and deaths on Hamas. Israel said it was acting in self-defense and showed evidence that many of those killed were Hamas operatives.

But how does the Israeli public feel about the violence and their military's response?

To start, around 80 percent of Israelis supported Israel's actions in the 2014 Gaza war, said Dahlia Scheindlin, a Tel Aviv-based public opinion expert. Scheindlin is a policy fellow at the progressive Mitvim – The Israeli Institute for Regional Foreign Policies and a founding writer of +972 magazine, a left-wing publication.

"I think the large majority of Israelis right now are probably looking at this the way they would look at a war, and the way that they look at a war is that they rally around Israeli policies and the army," Scheindlin said. Israelis, she added, were likely not "particularly moved by the deaths of dozens of Palestinians."

A poll conducted last month by the Israel Democracy Institute showed high support for the Israeli army's use of live fire against protesters in Gaza, with 83 percent of Jewish Israeli respondents saying it was appropriate. Only among supporters of the left-wing Meretz party did more than half disagree with the use of live fire, with 47 percent saying it was appropriate.

Those supportive of the Israel Defense Forces' handling of the protests include many on the right and center, who make up about 55 and 30 percent of Israeli Jews respectively, according to Tamar Hermann, the academic director of the Guttman Center for Public Opinion and Policy Research at the Israel Democracy Institute.

Those on the right support Israel's actions because they see the protesters as a real security threat backed by Hamas, Hermann said.

"People on the right think that Israel has successfully defended its border against people who tried to cross the border and actually interfere with its sovereignty," she said.

A Hamas official said that 50 of those killed belonged to the terrorist organization. That strengthens the view on the right in support of the army's response, Hermann said.

Centrist Israelis might be more critical of the kind of force used by the army and more supportive of improving conditions in Gaza than those on the right, but both groups remain supportive of the army's actions, she said.

Meanwhile many on the left, which represents about 15-20 percent of Israeli Jews, are critical of the methods used by the army and believe the protesters as motivated by difficult living conditions rather than just wanting to support Hamas, she said.

"On the left, people think even if Israel has the right to defend its border, and even if the strong reaction by the military was in a way justified, they shouldn't have used the kind of ammunition that they used against the people," she said.

Arab Israelis tend to side with the Gazans, Hermann added. Indeed, the April poll found that 90 percent of Israeli Arabs did not support the use of live fire against the protesters.

Hermann predicted that if the casualties in Gaza do not rise, Israelis will see Netanyahu's actions overall this month as positive, due to recent events such as the successful Israeli strike on an Iranian military installation in Syria, Trump's decision to exit the Iran nuclear deal and the U.S. Embassy move.

"Even on the left people are quite positive that he managed to get these achievements," Hermann said.

Scheindlin noted that a 2017 poll she designed for Gisha – Legal Center for Freedom of Movement, an Israeli human rights organization, found that two-thirds of Israelis believe the land, air and sea blockade of Gaza has undermined security. Sixty-eight percent say

improving living conditions there is in Israel's interest. However, many of these concerns go out the window in times of conflict, Scheindlin said, which might explain public support for aggressive military action.

"When it comes to a situation of military threats, nobody wants to break ranks," she said, "and not because they would be embarrassed to, but that's when people's patriotism goes up."

### LOUISVILLE VAAD HAKASHRUTH

**Venues currently supervised and certified by the Vaad:**

- ◆ The Jewish Community Center (Kitchen)
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- ◆ KentuckyOne Health Jewish Hospital (kosher kitchen only)
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- ◆ Hyatt Regency Louisville (kosher catering only)
- ◆ Louisville Marriot East (can host kosher events but does not have kosher catering service)
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## FORUM

## Bar mitzvah boy helps thousands living an ocean away

By Rabbi Nadia Siritsky  
For Community

Rabbi Hiyya once advised his wife, "When a poor man comes to the door, give him food so that the same may be done to your children."

"You are cursing them!" his wife shot back, irked by the suggestion that her kids could become beggars.

But Rabbi Hiyya replied, "There is a wheel, which revolves in this world."

This story from the Talmud contains powerful lessons, helping us understand the fears that may lead us to "other" those in need.

We should definitely help one another, recognizing that any one of us might be in need, and seeing the face of "the other" in ourselves or our children.

"There is a wheel, which revolves in this world," or, as is sometimes said: "what goes around, comes around."

Reflecting on our inherent vulnerability can be frightening. Still, any one of us is just a tragedy or diagnosis away from desperate straits.

Too often, we find that those who are poor or ill get blamed for their own misfortune. We seem to be hardwired to shift that responsibility to others, blaming them instead of owning our obligation. It's too easy to say, "It's not my problem."

When we do this, we are trying to



Rabbi Nadia Siritsky

avoid feeling – feeling helpless for others' misfortunes, feeling guilty for the privileges that others lack, feeling unworthy, feeling insecure about the scarcity of resources, feeling empathy when realizing that someone else's need could just as easily be our own.

Pope Francis recently tweeted: "If we fail to suffer with those who suffer, even those of different religions, languages or cultures, we need to question our own humanity."

Being a person of faith means looking at tragedy and discerning opportunity – opportunity to make divine love visible by sharing ourselves and working together to bring hope and healing to all who suffer. Scripture is clear: We are commanded to share our resources with those in need.

For example, hospitals can share with countries those medical supplies and equipment that would otherwise be sent to landfills. The late Dr. Norton Waterman, former president of the medical staff at Jewish Hospital, worked with other physicians of the Greater Lou-

isville Medical Society in 1993 to form Supplies Over Seas (SOS), which has delivered more than 1.5 million pounds of life-saving items to medically impoverished communities in 103 countries, including the United States.

KentuckyOne Health supports Supplies Over Seas. Just a few weeks ago, I witnessed the loading of a 40-foot ocean-going container of medical supplies and equipment bound for the Friends Eye Center in Tamale, a city in the West African country of Ghana. The container was made possible through the combined efforts of 13-year old Jordon Goldberg, of Louisville World Sight, the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth Ministry Fund and KentuckyOne Health.

So how did Jordan get involved?

As he prepared for his bar mitzvah, Jordan decided to put the doctrines and prayers he was learning into action. He heard about SOS and reached out, hoping to have a global impact and "truly make a difference."

He did.

As momentum for his project grew, so did the participation and generosity of others. SOS secured the funding needed to send the container, and its precious 15,000-pound cargo, which was valued at \$203,107. The supplies gave medical relief to poverty-stricken Ghanaian men, women and children.

Ghana is one of the countries most impacted by genetic cataracts, which affects children and adults alike. More than 700,000 people in that country are blind or have visually impaired conditions correctable with medical treatment. Dr. Seth Wanye, of Ghana, an ophthalmologist and project coordinator, lauded Friends Eye Center and other rural health clinics that work to improve or restore vision to thousands in need. He spoke powerfully of the blindness epidemic that affects people in Tamale.

Upon reflection, it does indeed appear to have been grace that called a Jewish boy to partner with the Catholic community, and others, to fulfill this vision of a Jewish doctor and this vision of a saint from Calcutta.

For KentuckyOne Health, formed through the partnership between the Jewish and Catholic community, it is especially meaningful for our hospital to have been able to contribute to this mitzvah project.

At a time when religion can seem to divide us, how encouraging it is to see ways in which it brings us closer, helping to render visible divine presence in a world that so desperately needs healing. May we all be so inspired.

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

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# NEWS

## Should S.F. park be named for anti-Chinese Jewish lawmaker? Jewish leaders are supporting the effort

By Joe Eskenazi  
J. the Jewish News of Northern California

SAN FRANCISCO – Julius Kahn III grew up in San Francisco, playing in Julius Kahn Playground, named for his grandfather. The view from this clearing in the opulent Presidio Heights neighborhood is among the best in the city, meaning it's among the best in any city. That won't change anytime soon, but the name of the park soon may.

Several Chinese American groups, working with the city's Recreation and Parks Department, and two Chinese American members of the S.F. Board of Supervisors have moved to strip Kahn's name from this playground and its adjoining ballfield and sports courts – all with the blessing of the S.F.-based Jewish Community Relations Council.

The rationale: The elder Kahn, a Republican from San Francisco who served 12 terms in Congress between 1899 and his death in 1924, championed an extension of the Chinese Exclusion Act in 1902, prohibiting immigration by Chinese laborers.

While doing so, he approvingly read to Congress excerpts from a travel writer's 1853 journey to the Far East, describing the Chinese as "morally, the most debased people on the face of the [E]arth." Kahn personally endorsed these views, stating they are "undoubtedly equally applicable to any Chinese community in our country."

A tremendously influential legislator, Kahn was successful in getting the votes for the act's extension, which made Chinese immigration illegal and legally enshrined anti-Chinese sentiment until its repeal in 1943.

On April 24, Supervisor Norman Yee introduced a resolution calling for the city's Recreation and Park Commission to change the facility's name.

"We don't want to send him, as a person, to the dustbin of history," explained Hoyt Zia, the president of the board of the S.F.-based Chinese Historical Society of America. "But we've got a park in a city with one of the largest Asian populations in the country. Do we want to have things named after people who hated Asians? We use the park every day."

At least one local Jewish organization understands Zia's perspective.

"We were contacted a few weeks ago by Recreation and Park Commission Vice President Allan Low on behalf of



**Jewish leaders endorse renaming Julius Kahn Playground because of its namesake's anti-immigrant position. (San Francisco Recreation & Parks)**

the Chinese Historical Society's coalition and asked to support this resolution to rename the park," Jessica Trubowitch, the JCRC's director of public policy and community building, said in a May 2 statement.

"When we were contacted, we had no hesitation in supporting the resolution," the statement continued. "It's time to right a wrong, and to ensure that our civic institutions and public spaces celebrate our contemporary values. We share an understanding that immigrants have and will continue to be an integral part of this city."

On April 30, Trubowitch attended, on behalf of JCRC, a press conference at which Zia called Kahn "anti-immigrant" and said he would "fit right in with this [presidential] administration," according to the San Francisco Examiner. "The names of places should reflect the city as it is now," he added, according to the paper.

Reached at his San Ramon home, 86-year-old Julius Kahn III was unaware of the developments surrounding the playground, but not surprised.

"I figured they were going to do something like that," he said. "If they want to raise that issue, there's not a hell of a lot I can do about it. It's the height of stupidity. I think it's a damn crime to hang something on him for one instance in a

career that I know he regretted doing but went along with the party at that time."

Whether Kahn felt remorse for championing the Chinese Exclusion Act, a federal law signed in 1882 by President Chester A. Arthur, is difficult to know. That's the family's claim, and Kahn III says it's true, but he never knew his grandfather, having been born seven years after his death.

What is certainly true is that the anti-Chinese immigration stand was the party line of the day. And, say Bay Area Jewish historians, virulently anti-Chinese sentiment was also par for the course among Kahn's fellow German Jewish gentry of San Francisco.

"They were a civilizing influence on a kind of boomtown of young men running wild," said Fred Rosenbaum, the founder of Berkeley-based Lehrhaus Judaica and the author of many books about San Francisco Jewry. "But they did have a giant blind spot. And that had to do with anti-Asian racism. They really were leading participants in the persecution of the Chinese in California."

Added historian and author Ava Kahn (no relation to Julius): "Julius Kahn was one of the few Congresspeople who was against a literacy test for immigrants. So he was not anti-immigrant. He was anti-Asian immigrant."

So was Jacob Voorsanger, the famed rabbi of the city's Congregation Emanu-El (and founder of the local Jewish newspaper that became J.), who described the Chinese as a "non-assimilative race" who were "unable to mix with caucasians" in the pages of J.'s predecessor, the Emanu-El.

Levi Strauss summarily dismissed 180 Chinese workers from his famous blue jeans factory after thugs targeted the Chinese in 1877 riots. Adolph Sutro, a social liberal, one of the city's greatest industrialists and philanthropists, and, in 1894, the first Jew to be elected mayor of a major U.S. city, boasted about having never hired "a chinaman." He wrote that "the very worst emigrants from Europe are a hundred times more desirable than these Asiatics."

Rosenbaum's research has revealed that Jewish communities on the East Coast and in the Midwest, where there were few Chinese, were confused and horrified at San Francisco Jews' peculiar animus, which, to be fair, they shared with much of the city's white establishment. Many worried that the fanatical

drive to limit Asian immigration would eventually boomerang on Jews – and, with the Immigration Act of 1924, it did: Jews from much of Europe were barred from entry, intensifying the magnitude of the Holocaust.

When asked if the names Sutro, Strauss and others should be stripped off San Francisco's map, Allan Low said that's a discussion for later.

"Racism and dark history surrounds us," said Low, pro bono attorney for the groups looking to change the name of the playground and one of seven commissioners appointed by the mayor to govern the S.F. Recreation and Parks Department. "But in my view, we can only take name changes one at a time."

In fact, the name of Julius Kahn Playground, which presents breathtaking views of the Golden Gate Bridge, Presidio and Marin Headlands, has already been changed. The actual playground portion of the facility was renamed for the late Jewish philanthropist Helen Diller after her foundation paid for its extensive and innovative renovation in 2003. The basketball and tennis courts, the green space and the baseball/softball diamond, however, are still named for Julius Kahn.

Whose name will be used next is not known. But both Julius Kahn III and his son, Steve, are pushing for Julius' wife, Florence Prag Kahn, who took his seat in Congress after he died and served six terms, from 1925 to 1937.

Her grandson rattles off the accomplishments of the woman he used to ride streetcars with on the way to the movies: "She got the enabling legislation for the Golden Gate Bridge; she was the first woman on the Military Affairs Committee; she got the legislation and funding for Moffett [Federal Airfield] and the Alameda Naval Station; she got the funding for Alcatraz as a federal prison," he said. "In a sense, my grandmother did more for the city than my grandfather."

In fact, when the current-day Kahns talk about their family history, they spend a lot more time on Florence than they do on Julius, said Steve, 60.

He, too, played in Julius Kahn Playground as a kid growing up in San Francisco. "It was serene," he recalled.

Unlike his father, grandfather and great-grandfather, Steve Kahn is not a lawyer. He's a mechanic in El Cerrito.

He specializes in Asian imports.



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# AROUND TOWN

## LBSY open for enrollment

Louisville Beit Sefer Yachad (LBSY), Jewish Louisville long-running supplemental religious school for grades K-8, is accepting registration for the 2018-2019 term. This year, the school is open to children of unaffiliated families as well. Visit [LBSY.org](http://LBSY.org) for more information or email [Lbsy.andi@gmail.com](mailto:Lbsy.andi@gmail.com).

## The Temple to celebrate Pride Month

The Temple is celebrating Pride Month in June with a series of events: It will host its annual community-wide Pride Interfaith Service at 7 p.m., Monday, June 11, and will, for the first time send a team to Louisville's Pride Parade on Friday, June 15. Each team member will receive a team T-shirt. Since the parade is on a Friday evening, there will be a short, lay-led service before the parade starts.

Finally, the Annual Equality Weekend will begin with Shabbat on Friday, June 22, with members of the LGBTQ community and supporters leading services. Services at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, June 23, will feature Shir Chadash joined by Voices of Kentuckiana. Services will be followed by a free lunch during which Voices of Kentuckiana will perform. Sunday will conclude our weekend with the movie "Who is Going to Love me Now" and serving free pizza.

All events are open to the community. RSVPs are required for the parade, the lunch and the movie. Call The Temple at 502-423-1818.

## Temple Shalom fundraiser

The Panera Bread store at 6221 Dutchmans Lane will hold a fund raiser for Temple Shalom from 4 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, May 29. Proceeds from take-out and dine-in meals may be designated to support the congregation. Participating diners must present a print or electronic flyer which can be obtained by calling Temple Shalom at 502-458-4739. Those who order online, may enter FUND as the promotional code.

## Founders' Garden Shabbat

Temple Shalom will present phase three of its Founders Garden project with an outdoors Shabbat, 6:30 p.m., Friday, June 1. After services, a Garden

Party oneg will be held, and those who have recently supported the garden will be honored. Benches and bricks are available for dedication by families, groups or individuals. Bricks are \$54 engraved and installed. June 8 is the designated rain date. Call Temple Shalom at 502-458-4739 for details.

## AJ Celebration Shabbat

Adath Jeshurun will invite all who are celebrating a birthday or anniversary in the month of June to a group aliyah during Shabbat morning worship services, 9:30 a.m., on Saturday, June 2.

## Shabbat and Sundaes

Keneseth Israel will meet at Graeter's on Bardstown Road, at 6 p.m., Saturday, June 2. Members will receive a free treat up to \$5 – dine-in only.

## Celebration of Learning

The Louisville Melton will hold its annual Celebration of Learning at 11 a.m., Sunday, June 3, at Adath Jeshurun. The 2017-2018 students and graduates will be honored at the program. Sherrie Weiss of the Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning will be the guest speaker. A free falafel buffet will follow. Visit [adathjeshurun.com/meltoncelebration](http://adathjeshurun.com/meltoncelebration) to RSVP.

## Melton for Millenials

A free introductory Melton session for young adults will be held at 11 a.m., Sunday, June 3, at Adath Jeshurun. The course, "Foundations of Jewish Family Living," is designed to reignite faith and focus on Judaism as the core of a family's daily lives. The course was created especially for parents of young children. Free sitter service is provided if requested in advance. The free Melton Celebration of Learning Lunch will follow. Contact Deborah Slosberg at [dslosberg@adathjeshurun.com](mailto:dslosberg@adathjeshurun.com) to RSVP.

## Are We Bound By Fate?

Chabad will delve into a fundamental question in Jewish philosophy at a June 4 program: If G-d already knows what we will do tomorrow, is our "free choice" just an illusion? And with so many powerful forces outside of our control or awareness, how free could our choices possibly be? The free program will run from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the JCC Patio Gallery. RSVP to [rabbi@chabadky.com](mailto:rabbi@chabadky.com). The Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence is underwriting the program.

## Lunch and Learn

Rabbi Michael Wolk leads a monthly lunch and learn class at The Bristol on Main Street. The next session is noon, Thursday, June 7. The class is free, but food sold separately. The next topic is

"Where do Rabbis Come From?" RSVP to [mwolk@kenesethisrael.com](mailto:mwolk@kenesethisrael.com) or 502-459-2780

## Shir Chadash Shabbat

Keneseth Israel's Shir Chadash ("A New Song") Shabbat – a new addition to KI services – is slated for 6 p.m. Friday June 8. An abridged Kabbalat Shabbat service emphasizing singing and chavurah will be held. An oneg with light food will follow.

## No Shush Shabbat

Temple Shalom will hold its next No Shush Shabbat Friday, June 8, at 6:30 p.m. The evening will include a Power-Point service, music, instruments and stories, making for an engaging time for children and families. Rabbi Beth Jacowitz Chottiner will lead and Benji Berlow will sing and play guitar. Call Temple Shalom at 502-458-4739 for details.

## Deli with Dads

Adath Jeshurun will celebrate Father's Day with a New York deli meal and a movie at 6:30 p.m., Sunday, June 17. Sallah Shabati, a 1964 Israeli comedy with Chaim Topol, will be screened. Cost is \$15 for adults, free for children 12 and younger. Advanced reservations are required by Thursday, June 7. Call Molly Evancho at 502-458-5359 or visit [adathjeshurun.com/deli](http://adathjeshurun.com/deli).

## Tribute and appreciation event

On the occasion of the yartzeit of the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Chabad of Kentucky will host an evening of tribute and appreciation, honoring each soul of the Jewish Nation, at 7 p.m., Sunday, June 17. A light dinner will be served and a themed discussion about the power of the soul and its unique energies will be moderated by Rabbi Shmully Litvin. The event is free. RSVP to [chabad@chabad-ky.com](mailto:chabad@chabad-ky.com).

## Senior Lunch Bunch

The Temple Shalom Senior Lunch Bunch will meet at 1 p.m., Wednesday, June 20. The restaurant is to be determined. Call Temple Shalom at 502-458-4739.

## Big Rock Shabbat

Keneseth Israel's annual Shabbat at Big Rock Park is set for 6 p.m., Friday, June 22. A family-friendly outdoors Kabbalat Shabbat will be followed by a vegetarian/dairy picnic. A kiddush with challah wine or grape juice will follow. Bring a blanket, dairy/veggie food and games. KI will provide dessert. RSVP to [gkahn@kenesethisrael.com](mailto:gkahn@kenesethisrael.com) or 502-459-2780.

## Independence weekend Shabbat

The Temple will celebrate Independence Day weekend with a series of activities: Independence Shabbat with musical guest Joe Buchanan, 6:30 p.m. Friday, June 30; WRJ Red, White, & Blue Oneg in honor of Rabbi Emerita Gaylia Rooks at 7:30 p.m., Sunday, July 1, preceded by a Buchanan concert at 4 p.m. and an Independence Cookout at 5:30 p.m. Buchanan performs melodies to bring people closer. His concert is sponsored by the WRJ/Sisterhood, the Institute for Southern Jewish Life, the Rabbi Gaylia R. Rooks Fund for Music, and individual donors. The Cookout, sponsored by JHFE, is \$5 for adults, and free for children under 13. RSVP for the dinner by calling 502-423-1818 by Wednesday, June 28.

## Pragmatic Spirituality Discussion

Dr. Courtney Snyder and Marty Snyder facilitate a pragmatic spirituality discussion group every other Sunday at Adath Jeshurun, addressing universal themes based on inspiration from spiritual thinkers. This small group discussion is open to the public. Sessions begin at 10 a.m. The June 10 topic is "Be here now. Be somewhere else later. Is that so hard?" The topic for June 24 will be "A Hidden Wholeness: How our bodies and biochemistry influence how we experience the world." Contact Courtney Snyder at [cbsnyder12@gmail.com](mailto:cbsnyder12@gmail.com) for details.

## Torah study at the Temple

The Temple holds year-round Torah study Saturdays at 9 a.m. in the Fishman Library before morning services. Rabbi David Ariel Joel leads. Bagels and treats are available.

## Jews and Brews

Rabbi Michael Wolk will lead a one-hour class, studying the weekly Torah portion, Wednesdays at 11 a.m., in the J library. There will be coffee.

## Torah Yoga

Lisa Flannery and Cantor Sharon Hordes lead a yoga class that includes Torah study the third Thursday of every month, 6:30 p.m., at Keneseth Israel. Temple Shalom and Hadassah co-sponsor the class.

## KI Mahjong Club

Keneseth Israel holds a weekly mahjong game Thursdays at 1 p.m. in the small chapel, except on Jewish holidays. All skill levels are invited.

## KI Bridge Club

Keneseth Israel holds a weekly bridge game at 1 p.m. Mondays in the small chapel. All skill levels are invited.

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# NEWS & NEWSMAKERS

## Louisville native assumes leadership role at AJC



Melanie Pell

Melanie Pell, a Louisville native, has been named assistant executive director and managing director of regional offices at the American Jewish Committee (AJC).

In her new position, Pell oversees AJC's 22 regional offices and supervises its programs for young professionals and those on college campuses.

Previously, Pell was AJC's associate director of regional offices and director of regional engagement. In that role, she worked to expand AJC's presence in communities across the United States and coordinated several agency-wide advocacy campaigns, including the Mayors United Against Anti-Semitism and the Governors United Against BDS initiatives.

Pell also directed AJC's Washington office, overseeing regional office activities.

She joined AJC in 2001 as assistant director of AJC Chicago.

Pell is a graduate of the Chicago-Kent College of Law and the University of Louisville.

## The Temple service shows solidarity with LGBTQ

The Temple will celebrate LGBTQ Pride Month with its annual Equality Shabbat at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, June 23. The musical service will include the Shir Chaddash choir and Inner Voices of Kentuckiana.

Inner Voices will also perform after the service with music and personal stories of its members. A buffet lunch will be served to those who RSVP.

Inner Voices is part of Voices of Kentuckiana, an inclusive chorus for the community that changes hearts and minds through song. Founded in 1994, it is the oldest LGBTQ arts organization in Kentucky.

The Temple is the only Jewish congregation in Kentucky that commemorates LGBTQ Pride Month with a special Shabbat Service.

According to Rabbi David Ariel-Joel of the Temple, Judaism teaches that the differences between humans are a Divine act: God created each human different and distinct from each other, each with

its own face, opinions, and orientation. Some have one sexual orientation and one gender identity, and some have another.

But all are created in God's image.

The Temple Rabbis are active with the Fairness Campaign and have conducted same-sex marriage rites since 1996 – including the first same-sex marriage in the State of Israel.

The Equality Shabbat is sponsored by the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence.

RSVP by Tuesday, June 19, to 502-423-1818.

## HSJS open for registration

Registration for the 2018-2019 school year at the Louisville High School of Jewish Studies is now open for all rising ninth-12th grade students.

All registration is online again this year. Visit [louisvillehsjs.org/register/](http://louisvillehsjs.org/register/) to get started. Registration may be done by paper and snail mail as well. Contact Renee Masterson at [hsjsrenee@gmail.com](mailto:hsjsrenee@gmail.com) for forms.

HSJS is open to all Jewish high schoolers, regardless of synagogue affiliation. The school graduated its first class of seniors on April 29, and its Moot Beit Din (Jewish Mock Trial) team took sec-

ond place in the national competition in March. HSJS students study everything from cartoons to Kabbalah, bioethics, yoga and feminism, all from a Jewish perspective.

This year, classes will be held Wednesdays from 6:45 to 8:45 p.m. at the Jewish Family & Career Services. The term will begin September 26.

Students interested in being madrichim (teaching assistants) at LBSY or The Temple, must attend HSJS.

Contact Sarah Harlan at [hsjsarah@gmail.com](mailto:hsjsarah@gmail.com) for more information.

## WTS names new officers

The Women of Temple Shalom have announced its officers for 2018-19:

Sandy Flaksman, president; Sheilah Abramson-Miles, president elect; Ellen Gray and Laurie Slafkes, co-vice-presidents, fundraising; Frankie Bloom and Joan Epstein, co-vice-presidents, membership; Theresa Todd, vice-president, programming; Cynthia Canada, vice-president, Tikkun Olam; Ellen Gray, recording secretary; Sheila Steinman Wallace, corresponding secretary; Kathy Karr; Caroline Rosenthal, Dorrie Zimmerman, members-at-large.

A June installation meeting is planned. Call Temple Shalom, 502-458-4739, for details.

# Ex-Chasidic woman becomes Britain's first Orthodox female rabbi

Dina Brawer has become Britain's first Orthodox female rabbi.

She received her smicha, or rabbinic ordination, on Monday in London from British-born Israeli academic and rabbi, Dr. Daniel Sperber, after he administered a two-hour exam.

Brawer, who was born in Milan to Moroccan-born parents, will take the title of "rabba."

"I will describe myself as a rabbi, that's what I've trained to do and that's what I'm qualified to serve as," she told Britain's Jewish News.

She sat for her smicha, or ordination, test after completing a four-year

program at Yeshivat Maharat in New York, according to the Jewish Chronicle. A graduation ceremony will be held in June at Kehillat Jeshurun synagogue in Manhattan's Upper East Side.

Yeshivat Maharat trains and ordains Orthodox women clergy members. Although a handful of Modern Orthodox synagogues in North America have hired its graduates, the New York school was one of the main targets of a decision issued last year by the Orthodox Union, an umbrella group for Modern Orthodoxy, barring its member synagogues from hiring female clergy.

Brawer served this year as a rabbinic

intern at Netivot Shalom, in Teaneck, New Jersey. She is also the founder of the United Kingdom branch of the Jewish Orthodox Feminist Alliance, or JOFA. She has been performing ritual and pastoral duties as a rabbinic student, and served as a scholar-in-residence at Hampstead Synagogue from 2015 to 2016.

"I wanted to be a role model to women and girls in the community, to show this is not something only possible as a man, but definitely possible as a woman and something women should aspire to," she told the Jewish News. "Young girls should become anything they want. You

can be well-educated, you can get a PhD in any topic, but when it comes to Jewish studies and religious studies, there's a limitation. Well, there's definitely no limitation."

Brawer was raised in a Chabad community. She and her husband, Rabbi Naftali Brawer, the former rabbi of Borehamwood and Elstree Synagogue outside of London, announced that they will be moving to New York permanently.

She is currently completing a Hillel Office of Innovation Fellowship for Rabbinic Entrepreneurship, and her husband will start work as executive director of Tufts University Hillel.

# CHAVURAT SHALOM

Compiled by Sarah Harlan  
For Community

On Thursday, May 31, Two of Diamonds will perform old and new Broadway favorites. Wear glitz and glitter. Lunch will include rotisserie style chicken, grilled vegetables, quinoa, mixed green salad, fresh fruit and triple chocolate cake.

There will be no Chavurat Shalom on Thursday, June 7, as The Temple hosts a week-long conference of the North American Association of Community and Congregational Hebrew High Schools.

On Thursday, June 14, Sara Robinson will lead a patriotic music sing-along. Lunch will include honey bourbon chicken, couscous, broccoli and carrots, mixed green salad, fresh fruit and strawberry trifle.

On Thursday, June 21, accordion player Mike O'Bryan will entertain. Lunch will include beef stir fry with vegetables, rice pilaf, spinach salad, fresh fruit and blackberry cobbler.

On Thursday, June 28, The Temple vo-

calist Jennifer Diamond, accompanied by Daniel Worley on guitar, will perform and May and June birthdays and anniversaries will be celebrated. Lunch in the Heideman will include grilled chicken with penne pasta, roasted cauliflower, mixed green salad, fresh fruit, and chocolate spoon cake. The program will follow in the Chapel.

*Chavurat Shalom is a community-wide program for all Jewish senior adults and their friends. We meet in the Levy Great Hall of the Klein Center at The Temple, 5101 U.S. Highway 42, unless otherwise designated in the listing. Lunch is available at noon for \$5, followed by the program at 1 p.m. Transportation can be scheduled by calling Jewish Family & Career Services at 502-452-6341. Transportation to Chavurat Shalom is \$5 round-trip. Funding for Chavurat Shalom is provided by the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence, the Jewish Community of Louisville, National Council of Jewish Women, The Temple's Men of Reform Judaism and Women of Reform Judaism, and many other generous donors. Re-*

member to RSVP or request a vegetarian meal no later than the Tuesday before each

program to [sarahharlan86@gmail.com](mailto:sarahharlan86@gmail.com) or 423-1818.

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## LIFECYCLE

## Rabbi, scholar Jacob S. Halpern 'thrived' from Holocaust

By Lee Chottiner  
Community Editor

A noted Jewish educator of the 20th century, Rabbi Jacob S. Halpern's career almost ended before it began. He was a Holocaust survivor, in and out of Auschwitz, Plaszow and Mauthausen concentration camps.

So many times, according to his son, his life "hung by the narrowest of threads."

"My father's life should have been extinguished in the 1940s," Halpern's son, Marc, said in his eulogy. "He was once saved when a machine gun jammed as a Nazi officer was mowing down a line of slaves. My father was one of the next slaves to be killed, but he ran when the gun jammed."

Halpern died Monday, April 30, 2018, in Louisville, surrounded by his family. He was 93.

Born September 11, 1924, in Krakow, Poland, a son of Rav Mayer Halpern



and Sarah Frankel, who died in 1941, Halpern survived to become a talmudic scholar of his day and a leader in the Jewish National Fund (JNF).

Marc preferred to call his father "a Holocaust

thrivor," not a survivor.

"My father was never a victim [of the Holocaust]," Marc said, "rather he proactively defined his life after liberation from concentration camp."

After the war, he studied at Yeshiva University in New York, having little knowledge of English, and went on to become founder and principal of Hollis Hills Jewish Center – five years after his liberation.

He taught at the Yeshiva of Flatbush and became the assistant director of

Camp Masad, a Hebrew-speaking camp in the Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania, for 10 years.

He also was the principal of the Jamaica Jewish Center and, along with his wife, Gilda, a co-founder of Camp Columbia and the Mid-Island Hebrew Day School.

At 45, he made Aliyah.

His first job in Israel was director of Machon Greenberg, a premiere teacher's institute for Hebrew and Judaic instructors from North and South America.

He returned to the United States for three years to become the principal and curriculum coordinator at Beit Shraga, a Hebrew day school in Albany, New York. But he returned to Israel to become the executive director of global education at the JNF.

Though headquartered in Jerusalem, Halpern traveled extensively for his job, visiting day schools in 40 countries.

Before retiring, Halpern became

principal and curriculum coordinator for the Eliahu Academy in Louisville. Within a few years, he tripled the enrollment at the school.

Over his life, Halpern is thought to have mentored some 1,000 Jewish community leaders.

Halpern is survived by his beloved wife of 69 years, Gilda; brother, Aron; sons, Marc (Zehava) and David (Ariella); grandchildren, Ronen (Jenny), Tal (Anton), Oz (Amber), Jodi (Aleksey), Jonathan (Liz), and Mia (Adam); and great-grandchildren Eliana, Eli, Julian and Axel.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, May 2, at Herman Meyer & Son, Inc., 1338 Ellison Ave. Burial followed in the Adath Jeshurun Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, expressions of sympathy may be made to Hosparus Health of Louisville.

## B'nai Mitzvah

## Nila Rose Rothman

Nila Rose Rothman, daughter of Dr. Marc and Sisi Rothman, will be called to the Torah as a bat mitzvah on Saturday,

June 9, at 10:30 am, at The Temple.

Nila is in the seventh grade at the Walden School. She has been dancing ballet for many years and is in the classical ballet program at the Louisville Ballet School. Her most recent performances were in the 2017 Brown-Forman

Nutcracker, and in the school's Spring Showcase.

Nila has attended Union for Reform Judaism's Crane Lake camp and this summer will start the Eisner Camp in Massachusetts.

She is a passionate artist, and loves spending time with her family, even brothers Max and Eli.

For her service project, Nila is refurbishing used dolls and toys and donating them to children's hospitals.

Nila and her family invite the community to celebrate her bat mitzvah at Shabbat services and at the oneg afterwards.



## Reagan Minna Rothschild

Reagan Minna Rothschild, daughter of Shannon and Edward Rothschild II and sister of Trey and Emory, will be called to the Torah as a bat mitzvah at 5 p.m. Saturday,

May 26, at The Temple.

Reagan is the granddaughter of Heather and Ronald Melrose and the late Frances and Edward Rothschild.

A seventh grader at Kammerer Middle School, Reagan is a peer partner for special needs students and a member of the field hockey and lacrosse teams and the Beta Club. She loves spending time with her friends, listening to music and traveling.

For her bat mitzvah project, Reagan held multiple book drives at her school. She collected more than 700 books for the Home of the Innocents, Family Scholar House and the West End School.

## Obituaries

## Idah Cohen Michelson

Idah Cohen Michelson, formerly of Louisville, died Tuesday, May 1, 2018, at Mt. Washington Care Center in Cincinnati, at the age of 105.

Born November 15, 1912, in Denver, Colorado, she was a daughter of the late Joseph and Frieda Reginsky Cohen. In her early 20s, Idah worked as a bookkeeper for a Jewish business in New

York City. After marrying her husband, the late Herman Michelson, she worked along beside him in their drug store in Louisville.

Idah loved square and round dancing with Herman and playing Mahjong.

She was a member of Anshei Sfarad and dedicated to her family.

In addition to her parents and her husband, Idah was preceded in death by her son, Kenneth J. Michelson; two brothers and three sisters.

She is survived by her loving children, Sandra Michelson Smith, Arlene J. Michelson Cohen and H. Alan (Jordan) Michelson; eight grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Thursday, May 3, at Herman Meyer & Son, Inc., 1338 Ellison Ave. Burial followed in Agudath Achim Cemetery. Expressions of sympathy may be made to American Diabetes Association, American Cancer Society or Congregation Anshei Sfarad.

## Dr. Gary Hoover Peterson

Dr. Gary Hoover Peterson, a noted Louisville physician passed away on April 30, 2018, at Jewish Hospital. He was 72.

Peterson was the son of the late Dr. Gerald Milton Pe-



terson and Julia Hoover Peterson. He also was preceded in death by his sister Judith Lynn Peterson Hubbard.

He was a member of The Jefferson County Medical Society, a past member of the Radiological Society of North America and The Greater Louisville Radiological Society.

A graduate of Ohio Wesleyan University and the University of Louisville School of Medicine, Peterson completed his residency at the University of Louisville Department of Radiology and a fellowship in gastrointestinal radiology at Indiana University School of Medicine in Indianapolis.

When he returned to Louisville, he

See **OBITS** on next page



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# NEWS

## Yarmuth

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Over the years, Yarmuth, 70, has donated funds from his paycheck to several Louisville charities. Among them are Metro United Way, Fund for the Arts, JCL, Scholar House, Simmons College and the Urban League.

"What I focused on were organizations that help young people or vulnerable populations," he said. "One of the great things about this job is, over time, you get exposed to some of organizations in the community that do incredible work."

A lifelong Louisville resident, Yar-

muth is a graduate of Yale University. He worked as an aide for then-U.S. Sen. Marlow Cook (R-Kentucky) from 1971 to 1975 before returning to Louisville. Here, he worked as a vice president of university relations at UofL and started his publishing career.

Yarmuth founded Louisville Today in 1976, which published until 1982. In 1990, he began his most successful news venture, *LEO Weekly* (Louisville Eccentric Observer), an alternative publication that is still in business, owned and operated by Yarmuth's son, Aaron.

Yarmuth wrote a long-running column for *LEO Weekly*, which he only suspended when he ran for Congress.

Asked if journalism has influenced his community work, Yarmuth said, "I don't think there's any question about that."

"Probably the biggest factor was my parents' civic activity, their philanthropy," he continued. "A lot always begins with the role models you see, and that informed what I did journalistically."

Yarmuth pointed to several legislative achievements during his time in Congress:

- The Affordable Care Act (he served on one of the drafting committees);
- Student loan forgiveness for borrowers who go into public service careers;
- The Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (he was the primary sponsor), pro-

viding housing, guidance and help finding school for youths fleeing troubled home environments.

Yarmuth said his staff has also worked hard to secure federal assistance for urban projects that may not otherwise receive help. He cited Louisville's Shepherd Square as one such project.

"It's a great honor," Yarmuth said of the Ottenheimer Award, rattling off a list of past recipients in whose company he was proud to be.

"When you read the criteria for the award," he added, "that's what I try to do. I try to do the things that my faith teaches and my background taught me."

## Anshei Sfard

continued from page 1

age every council member to support overturning the landmark designation."

Jon Fleischaker, chair of the JCL Board of Directors, has said the synagogue's stained-glass windows, a signature feature of the building and another reason given for the historic designation, would be preserved. Avram Kahn, who petitioned for the landmark designation, expressed optimism about the review.

"I'm looking forward to the review," he said. "They seem to be fair, and I'm sure they'll make the proper decision."

The vote comes as Anshei Sfard is



Louisville Metro Council will review the historic landmark designation of the Anshei Sfard synagogue. (Community photo)

completing its move to temporary space at Shalom Towers, where members are

already meeting for weekday services.

The 35-family congregation hopes to

sell its building, then either buy or build a smaller synagogue that fits its needs.

Anshei Sfard has worshiped at its current building at 3700 Dutchmans Lane since 1955, but spokespeople for the congregation say maintaining the facility is proving too much for its resources.

Depending on what happens with its historic designation, this Saturday's service at the synagogue could be its last.

"If the building is still here for the High Holy Days, then it's possible that we'll be there for that," Rabbi Simcha Snaid said.

The service will begin at 9 a.m. A tribute luncheon will follow around noon.

"I'll open the floor and ask people to say a few words," Snaid said. "Anyone who wants to say something will be more than welcomed."

## Obits

continued from previous page

joined the Department of Radiology at UofL and subsequently became its acting chair.

He spent four years in Bowling Green before returning to Louisville again, joining Diagnostic Medical Imaging Associates, where he practiced medical imaging for 30-plus years.

A lover of music, Peterson was a first tenor, singing with The Motet Singers in Louisville and The Ohio Wesleyan Choir, where he was the only member who wasn't a music major. He also sang in *The Stephen Foster Story* in Bardstown and in numerous weddings of his family and friends.

As a member of the American Contract Bridge League, Peterson played duplicate bridge at the Louisville Bridge Club for many years. He won a national tournament and recently became an Emerald Life Master.

Peterson is survived by his wife of 45 years, Dr. Carol Baron Peterson; two daughters and their husbands, Dr. Erin Peterson-Fleming (Dr. Matthew Fleming) and Lauren Peterson Betts (Brad Betts); three granddaughters, Quinn Baron Fleming, Eden Lee Fleming and Julia Elizabeth Betts, and his cat, Quincy; his brother, Dr. Kent Wright Peterson; sis-

ters-in-law, Patricia Meyer-Peterson, Alice Baron Smith and Janice Baron Bird; brothers-in-law Daniel Smith, Mark Bird and Sam Hubbard; and many nieces and nephews.

A memorial gathering was held Saturday, May 19, at The University Club. Expressions of sympathy may be made to the Dr. Gary H. Peterson Memorial Research Fund, attention: Telly McGaha, 132 E. Gray Street Louisville, Kentucky, 40202.

### Judith "Judy" Sharp

Judith "Judy" Sharp, 79, died Tuesday, May 8, 2018 at Norton Brownsboro Hospital.

She was born December 12, 1938, in Chicago and grew up in Winnetka, Illinois. She was a member of Temple Shalom and dedicated her time and talents to the greater Louisville Jewish community.

Judy was preceded in death by her beloved husband of 49 years, Richard Alan

Sharp, who passed away in August 2007. Richard and Judy met in college and married June 1958. They loved to travel and lived throughout the country.

She also was preceded in death by her parents, Albert J. and Della Cohn Horrell; her brother, Michael E. Horrell; and her sister, Ruth I. Horrell Maller.

She is survived by her children, Raymond M. Sharp (Wendy) and Sharon Sharp Guttman (Scott); five cherished grandchildren, Michelle Guttman Clark (Thomas), Kai Sharp (Emily), Joel D. Guttman, Isabel Sharp and Sal Sharp; one great-granddaughter, Emma Riley Clark; sister Diane Lloyd (Robert); and her dear companion, Dr. Gerald Roth.

Judy was grateful and humbled by her many friends, who have become her family in Louisville.

A memorial service was held in Judy's honor on Thursday, May 17, at Temple Shalom, 4615 Lowe Road. Expressions of sympathy may be made to Temple Shalom or the charity of your choice.

**Shalom Tower Waiting List Now Has 3 Month Wait for Vacancy**

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