

JEWISH LOUISVILLE COMMUNITY



INSIDE
TOL rabbi recounts
day of shootings
STORY ON PG. 4

TUESDAY Vol. 45, No. 05 | May 28, 2019 | 23 Iyar 5779

Acclaimed poet wins Ottenheimer Wendell Berry champions farm life through writings

By Lee Chottiner
Community Editor

Wendell Berry – poet, novelist, essayist, conservationist – sat on his porch in Henry County, the birds chirping as he described how he has lost his fights to preserve the agrarian way of life.

Appalled by strip mining and mountaintop removal, the use of toxic herbicides on farmland and the systemic destruction of rural communities, Berry has spent his adult life pushing back against these trends.

All for naught.

“My daddy had raised me in the belief that a grass sod was the greatest thing on earth, because it protected the land,” Berry said, pointing to the hillside meadow surrounding his white frame farmhouse. “What you see out there was a kind of ideal to me – the land, well covered and protected.”

So when he first saw a strip mine, a bulldozer “pushing the whole plant community over the hillside as of no worth,” it enraged him.

“I’ve had it in me ever since, and have done everything I could to stop it really ... and have lost completely.”

Did he really believe that?

“It went on and got worse in spite of all anybody could do,” Berry said. “Yeah, I believe it. The score’s 100 to nothing.”

But Berry’s ideas, which are reflected in his poetry, have been heard. President Barack Obama presented him the



Kentucky poet Wendell Berry, pictured here at his farmhouse in Henry County, is this year’s recipient of the Blanche B. Ottenheimer Award. Berry has spent a lifetime championing conservation, human rights and the agrarian way of life through his writings and activism. (Community photo by Jessica Budnick)

National Humanities Medal in 2011 during a White House ceremony.

And on June 5, he will receive the highest honor Jewish Louisville can bestow: the Blanche B. Ottenheimer Award, which recognizes outstanding work in political reform, youth education or elimination of prejudice and misunderstanding.

Turney Berry (no relation), a Louisville attorney and member of the nominating committee who put up Berry’s name for the award, said the famous poet lives the

values for which he’s worked.

“I think Wendell’s proposition is, you can march (protest), but what you really need to do is embody important values,” Turney said. “To my mind, that’s what he’s done through his writing and his speaking, and his farming, and his living.”

Berry, 84, left Kentucky as a young man. He took a fellowship at Stanford

See **WENDELL** on page 23

2019 JCL Award Winners

Blanche B. Ottenheimer Award
Wendell Berry

Lewis W. Cole Memorial Young Leadership Award
Cari Hatch

Joseph J. Kaplan Young Leadership Award
Jordan Green

Julie E. Linker Community Relations Young Leadership Award
Beth Salamon

Ronald & Marie Abrams Volunteer of Year Award
Bruce Roth

Arthur S. Kling Award
Johnny Kimberlin

Elsie. P Judah Memorial Award
Victoria Carpenter

Corporate Friend Award
Republic Bank

Joseph Fink Community Service Scholarship
Jacob Ioffe

Ellen Faye Garmon Award
Hannah Geller
Elizabeth Hemmer

See **WINNERS** on page 23

Tale of Two Torahs Lipp installed as president of the Cantors Assembly; concert caps convention

By Lee Chottiner
Community Editor

Prior to the May 22 concert at Adath Jeshurun featuring 130 cantors, Cantor David Lipp opened the ark in the main sanctuary and removed a Torah.

As the incoming president of the Cantor’s Assembly, Lipp had to make room in the ark for a symbol of his office – a small Holocaust Torah that would be presented to him during the concert. That meant another Torah had to be transferred to the chapel, making room in the ark.

Fortunately, for Lipp, he selected the right Torah.

Unbeknownst the cantor, he would not be receiving one Torah that night, but two. Desiring to honor Lipp for his 25 years of service to the congregation,

Rabbi Robert Slosberg, on behalf of AJ, had commissioned a new Torah, which was hidden under a cover presented to Lipp five years earlier during the renovation of the building.

William and Susan Yarmuth sponsored the scroll.

“He (Lipp) has been a uniter of people” said William Yarmuth, who presented the new Torah, “someone who brings everyone together.”

Slossberg recounted he went to New York 25 years ago to call in a favor from the then-chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary, Ismar Schorsch, and ask for his help in finding the right cantor to succeed Marshall Portnoy. Schorsch recommended Lipp. He was right, Slosberg said, calling his pastoral

See **CANTORS** on page 23



William Yarmuth and Rabbi Robert Slosberg present Cantor David Lipp with a newly written Torah, which was commissioned to celebrate his 25 years at Adath Jeshurun. The presentation was made at the May 22 Captivating Cantors Concert, the climax of the 72nd Cantors Assembly Convention, which was held in Louisville. Lipp was installed as its president. (Community photo by Jessica Budnick)



THE DASHBOARD

D'var Torah

Practice makes perfect ... and holy



Rabbi
Shmully Litvin

Everyone is aware of the shocking events that transpired on the last day of Passover, when a man walked into Chabad of Poway, California, intent on carrying out acts of horror and destruction. He came face to face with Rabbi Yisroel Goldstein, who stood his ground to protect others. Even after being injured, he still tended to his flock. He has since continued to be a beacon of light in the world and inspiration to many.

Over 3,000 years ago, when the fledgling Jewish nation stood in terror at the shores of the Sea of Reeds, another hero, Nachshon, was ready. He obeyed G-d's instruction to go forward, paying no heed to the water before him. As the waters closed over his head, the sea suddenly split.

I have heard amazing stories of great feats of strength – a mother pulling a car off of her child, for one – that seem beyond ability and comprehension.

What do these people have that sets them apart? How do they unleash this powerful readiness?

I have a friend in the military, stationed at Fort Campbell, who is a helicopter mechanic. When he told me his daily routine, I was amazed.

He wakes up, runs 30 miles, practices with weapons, does training runs on the helicopter, practice, practice, practice.

I asked him if it ever gets boring, and his simple answer blew me away: "When you are flying over a hostile area, you don't want to have to think, just do, and do it right."

So clearly, to be ready, we must practice. What drill then, can we do to be ready to face whatever comes our way?

Looking to the Torah for inspiration, I connected with the tone and message

of the portion of Kedoshim, which we recently read. G-d beseeches the Jewish people to be holy, because G-d is holy. And how does one become holy? Our sages teach us that not only should we stay away from what is wrong and forbidden but sanctify oneself with what is permitted.

Rabbi Israel Bal Shem Tov, the 17th century mystic and founder of the modern Hassidic method, teaches that a soul may descend to the word for 70 or 80 years just to do a single favor for another. Imagine your entire life, all your experiences, all your relationships, schooling. Your entire being is placed into this world just to be ready to do one good act, one favor for another person. Will you be ready?

At the Unite for Light event, my father said that we can live differently if we are just mindful and pay great attention to POWAY – the Power Of Words And You. To be ready to act, for whatever the mission or destiny G-d has in store for you, we must train ourselves to be mindful of our words, our actions and our ability to affect those around us. Before any action or activity, we should ask ourselves one centering question: Is this holy? Is doing this going to help me be ready to fulfill whatever my destiny may be, acting as a holy creation of G-d? Everything one does – eating, playing, working, relationships – can be G-dly, when we keep drilling ourselves every day. One does not need to change their job to rabbi or go live in a cave, we just need to apply this mindset to whatever we might do.

As we approach the special day of unity on the 33rd of the omer, and approach Shavuot, the day when all of the Jews united together to receive the Torah from G-d on Mt. Sinai, I pray that we practice being holy, and that together we make the world a peaceful place, a holy place, a fitting dwelling place for G-d's presence and the coming of the *moshiach*.

(Rabbi Shmully Litvin is education and teen director at JLC-Chabad of Kentucky.)

Tzedakah Bear



Kids from the J's Early Learning Center crashed the staff pre-Shabbat gathering on Friday, May 17, for a good cause. They wheeled around their charity can, also known as Tzedakah Bear, because it is shaped like a bruin, collecting for good causes. (Community photo by Lee Chottiner)

Candles

Here are the candle lighting times for Shabbat in June:

- June 7 @ 8:46
- June 14 @ 8:49
- June 21 @ 8:51
- June 28 @ 8:52

Contacts

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

Send it along to *Community Editor* Lee Chottiner at lechottiner@jewishlouisville.org. You can also call Lee at 502-238-2783.

Not getting your paper? Want to subscribe? Putting your subscription on hold? Development Associate

Kristy Benefield can handle all circulation questions. She can be reached at kbenefield@jewishlouisville.org or 502-238-2770.

Got an item for the Community eblast? Send it to weeklyupdate@jewishlouisville.org.

Deadlines

Deadlines matter, especially for newspapers. Got a news item for *Community*? Send it in by Wednesday, June

12 (though sooner is better). The paper should be in your mailbox by Friday, June 21.

Corrections

- Rabbi Gershom Sizomu performed an Abayudaya version of Adon Olam during his visit to Louisville. A story in the April 26 *Community*, "Future president of Uganda?" gave an incorrect tune.

- Owen Weiss was misidentified in a story in the April 26 *Community*, "JCL scholarships to 13 teens cover summer travel."

Have a correction? Send it to lechottiner@jewishlouisville.org.

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STEPPING UP TO THE PLATE

THE COMMUNITY NEEDS US ALL TO PARTICIPATE!

Our Reflections after two years of co-chairing the Jewish Federation Annual Campaign

Dear Friends,

The Jewish Federation's Annual Campaign is not about us as chairs and not about the Jewish Federation as an organization. It is about building and committing to a sustainable Jewish community which can support the programs that we all depend on. In order to accomplish this, our community needs your annual commitment today. The money you donate to the annual campaign is used to fund the programs that we all love and enjoy including Shalom Baby, PJ Library, Teen Connection, BBYO, J Senior programs and many other programs run by other organizations that the Federation funds (i.e. Hebrew school, JFCS, Birthright, Hillel, programs in Israel, Jews in the diaspora and many more).



The decision-making process to allocate funds to the requesting agencies begins by asking the Federation what is the available dollar amount raised by the annual campaign. Next, a dedicated group of community volunteers evaluates and considers all the requests after organizations present their proposals. Then, this committee deliberates and decides on the allocation each will receive - often forced to make difficult decisions of which requests might be underfunded or unfulfilled. These decisions are directly related to the success of the annual campaign. This is where your gift will make the difference.

We would like to offer a heartfelt thank you to our donors who have committed. When you give early or commit to multi-year gifts it allows the Jewish Federation's passionate staff and volunteers to focus on other areas of need. But we understand people get busy, and there is still time to help. Stepping up to the plate is more than just making a gift to our community. It enables the Federation staff to work as efficiently as possible, so that the money raised can be directed where it is needed most. If we all do our part, we can make it happen!

Please Help! As our 2019 Campaign ends, please answer the call, donate online at jewishlouisville.org/donate or return your pledge card by mail. By doing this you help ensure our Jewish Community of Louisville will continue to thrive.

Yours truly,
Faina and Ariel Kronenberg, 2019 JCL Campaign Co-Chairs



CANTORS CONVENTION

TOL hazzan: We're all victims

Jeffrey Myers accepts Cantors Assembly honor for handling of shootings

At 9:52 a.m., Saturday, Oct. 27, 2018, Rabbi Hazzan Jeffrey Myers' life changed forever.

That was the time when the spiritual leader of Tree of Life * Or L'Simcha Congregation in Pittsburgh called 911 to report his synagogue was under attack by a heavily armed gunman.

At that moment, Myers recalled, he didn't know if he would live or die.

"Who could ever think you'd be in a position where you tell the 911 officer on your cell phone that you think you hear footsteps, take a moment to pause to quietly recite the Shema and Vidui and ask God to make it quick, debating in your mind if you hang up your own lifeline to the outside world and possibly record a farewell video to your wife and children."

But he did live, and now he has a mission: do what he can to help rebuild his shattered congregation.

"Ultimately, God answered me, 'Jeffrey, it's not your time. I have things I need you to do. I am sending forth seraphim (angels) in the guise of a SWAT team to rescue you.'"

Myers recalled those harrowing moments while speaking last week before a packed room of his colleagues at the 2019 Cantors Assembly (CA) Convention in Louisville. He was there to collect an honor, the first-ever Kol HaNeshamah Award, for his efforts to protect his congregants during the shootings and minister to them in the days, weeks and months that followed.

"With what many of us believed to have been divine inspiration, every decision Jeff made under stressful conditions was the right choice," CA Executive Vice President Stephen Stein said in presenting the citation.

Eleven people were murdered and seven others were injured, including four police officers, on Oct. 27, when a gunman entered the synagogue in the Squirrel Hill neighborhood of Pittsburgh, shouting anti-Semitic statements, and opened fire with semi-automatic weapons.

The building, which housed Tree of Life and two other congregations, has been closed since that day due to extensive damage. Myers has publicly stated they will rebuild.

Since the shootings the rabbi-cantor has spoken frequently, including to President Donald Trump, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, and other



Cantors join hands and circle their colleague, Rabbi Hazzan Jeffrey Myers, chanting "ozi v'zimrat yah," following his acceptance of the Kol HaNeshamah Award at the 2019 Cantors Assembly Convention. (Community photo by Jessica Budnick)

dignitaries, including the ambassador from Saudi Arabia.

He led the Mourners Kaddish during a Shloshim concert performed by the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra at Heinz Hall – the first time Myers believes that prayer has been recited at that venue.

Speaking to the power of music, Myers said he felt a burden too heavy to bear until that concert. But the music director, Maestro Manfred Honeck, signaled his percussionist to sound the tubular bell 11 times for the 11 victims. On the 11th tone, "I felt God's presence as he personally lifted me, ended my shloshim and eased my burden."

Afterwards, he embraced Honeck and thanked him.

It's not just Tree of Life that must heal. "One of the many things I've learned is that one need not have been inside the Tree of Life to be a victim," he said. Jewish in the other synagogues across the country – the world – were victims, too.

"That includes you, my dear colleagues," he told the cantors in the room. "I've heard it in your voices, and in your hugs and in your love. You, too, are victims."

Tree of Life, he said, has received at least 30,000 pieces of mail since the

shootings. He's read many of them.

"The language is the same. Everyone who writes is a victim."

So he outlined seven steps for religious leaders to ease the pain brought on hate and victimhood:

- Have an emergency plan in your synagogue;

- Do a walk-through with police to identify security challenges;
- Have security present;
- Get to know your neighbors through interfaith programs;
- Address the fear your congregants feel.
- Reconnect with worshippers through adult education;
- Practice self-care. "I'm not embarrassed to say that I see a psychologist every week," Myers said. "I probably will for the rest of my life."

During the program, Cantor Steven Stoehr, on behalf of the CA, designed with colors and symbols of the City of Pittsburgh in mind, which will travel to synagogues around the country as a "platform" to as a way to raise money for the restoration of Tree of Life.

"While millions of dollars have been raised for Pittsburgh and victims and families and those manners of care, the building itself still needs help," Stoehr said, "and insurance isn't going to cover that."

Myers has struggled to describe how damaged the synagogue is, noting that there was previously no other comparable incident in the country.

"It's defiled," he said.



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CANTORS CONVENTION

Breaking (unleavened) bread ‘Lost Supper’ imagines Heschel-King Passover seder that never happened

By Michael Ginsberg
For Community

American history is sprinkled with “what ifs,” many of them involving famous men whose premature deaths left historians wondering how history might have changed if they had lived.

Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. comes to mind.

In the case of King, it’s a safe bet that few have asked: “What if he had lived to share a seder dinner at the home of his friend colleague in the civil rights struggle, Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel?”

And yet....

Cantor Steven Stoehr of Congregation Beth Shalom in Northbrook, Illinois, has taken a creative leap in writing a one-hour, one-act play, *The Lost Supper*, which was performed in Louisville on Tuesday, May 21.

The play was one highlight of the 72nd Cantors Assembly Convention, which took place here.

The play is constructed around the fiction that King and Heschel – and their spouses – did, in fact, celebrate Passover at Heschel’s home in New York. On stage, Heschel dreams the whole sequence.

What’s certainly not a dream is the strong bond that had grown between the two men from their initial meeting in 1963, until King’s death in 1968. Two iconic photographs symbolize that friendship and its importance: side by side, arm in arm, crossing the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama, in 1965, and standing together, outside Arlington Cemetery, in silent protest against the Vietnam War in 1968: a religious Jew from a Hasidic family in Poland and the leader of the modern American civil rights movement.

“I felt a sense of the holy in what I was doing,” Heschel said after the Selma march. He said King shared with him that “I cannot tell you how much your presence means to us.”

A sense of holy – along with music, laughter and tragedy – pervaded the *Lost Supper* performance in Louisville. Working on a makeshift stage in a

hotel meeting room, the actors used imaginary phones and pretend food as the actor chatted, read from binders and sang spiritual songs in strong, confident voices.

That was no surprise in the case of Stoehr and Cantor Arianne Brown, who played Sylvia Straus Heschel, wife of the great rabbi, but the capacity audience also was treated to the powerful, moving singing voices of Louisville actors Yehuda Husband, who played King, and Tamika McDonald, portraying Coretta Scott King.

Early in the play, the two wives express some ambivalence about breaking matzoh together. “The Jews are not on our neighborhood list,” Coretta tells Martin. “Their hands are not pure white.” She also worries aloud about his demanding schedule, asking, “When are you going to rest?”

Martin answers, “Soon, I believe,” in one of a number of moments foreshadowing what the audience knows is around the corner. (Later, she thinks out loud, “I don’t want to lose Martin.”)

Near the end, Martin receives a phone call and is directed to watch something disturbing – a riot, maybe – on the Heschels’ television (played understatedly by an empty carton). Heschel complains to Sylvia about the interruption, but she scolds him. “They’re in our home,” she says. “They’re our friends. Their tsuris is our tsuris.”

There’s also a good amount of levity among the four. Martin grimaces at his first taste of bitter herbs, and he refers to matzoh as, symbolically, the body of Jesus, to which Heschel replies, “Jesus, a good Jewish boy.” Martin also is treated to a lesson on the Hebrew “ch” sound. (He fails.)

As the play winds down, Heschel philosophizes about a rogue’s gallery of villains in the Jewish mug files – “Haman, Hitler, or Castro.” Martin adds, “or Jim Crow.”

Martin and Coretta leave, followed by the inevitable phone call to Heschel as the dream ends.

How else could it end?



Yehuda Husband, left, who portrayed Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., during a performance of “*Lost Supper*” at the Cantors Assembly Convention, addresses Cantor Steven Stoehr, the author of the play, who portrayed Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel. (Community photo by Jessica Budnick)

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COMMUNITY DEADLINES

Deadlines for the next two issues of **Community** for copy and ads are: June 12 for publication on June 21 and July 17 for publication on July 26.

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.

To submit items to Newsmakers, Around Town or Lifecycle, please email them to newspapercolumns@jewishlouisville.org.

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FORUM



A small step for a woman, a giant leap for Judaism

At the risk of sounding as though I'm crowing, something that I actually called for in print is going to happen.

(Yes, I'm human; I have flaws. Don't judge me too harshly.)

Seriously, last year around this time, I wrote a column about Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion's search for a new president, someone to succeed Rabbi Aaron Panken, a visionary leader who had recently died in a plane crash in New York's Hudson Valley.

Up to that point, the president of HUC-JIR had always been a rabbi, the chief administrator of the seminary/graduate school, but also its spiritual leader who performed *smicha* – the traditional laying on of hands and passing of tradition – at all ordinations for the movement's newest rabbis.

The president also had always been a man. Put a pin in that.

Smicha is a deeply personal moment. Although, the soon-to-be rabbi stands on the bima in a crowded synagogue, the ark open, with hundreds of eyes watching as the president rests his hands upon her shoulders, the words he whispers are meant only for her. I watched my wife go through this ceremony 13 years ago in Cincinnati. I have never asked her what the then-president of the seminary, Rabbi David Ellenson, said to her. And I never will.

That's the way it's always been ... until this year.

The HUC-JIR president had always been a man. In my column, I proposed that it was time for the oldest rabbinical school in America, and the training ground for most Reform rabbis and cantors, to hire a woman as its next president.

Well ... they didn't. But a woman will still do the ordaining this year.

Last year, HUC-JIR announced the



Human Resources

Lee Chottiner

hiring of Andrew Rehfeld, a political scientist and Jewish communal leader from St. Louis, to be its 13th president. Rehfeld, previously a tenured professor at Washington University and president and CEO of the Jewish Federation of St. Louis, is a proven administrator and fundraiser – two skill sets the school needs.

But he's not a rabbi.

So someone else must ordain the candidates, and that someone will, indeed, be a woman.

Rabbi Andrea Weiss will perform *smicha* at all four campuses this year (Cincinnati, New York, Los Angeles and Jerusalem). She has already performed the ceremony in LA and New York.

"She is the 'ordaining' authority now," said Rabbi Gary Zola, executive director of the Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives in Cincinnati.

A giant in the Reform movement, Weiss is not only a noted professor of Bible at HUC-JIR's New York campus, she was the associate editor of *The Torah: A Women's Commentary*, a chumash with comments, poetry and essays that look at the Pentateuch from a female perspective. Published in 2007, it has become a standard text in many Reform congregations.

When I wrote my column last year, I asked Louisville's women rabbis who they would like to see considered for president. Not surprisingly, one of the

names dropped was Andrea Weiss.

In a local twist, among the first rabbinic candidates she will ordain is a Louisville native, David Bloom. He will be ordained at the June 1 ceremony in Cincinnati's historic Plum Street Temple. (See story, page 20.)

While she will not be the first woman to perform *smicha* – the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College in Pennsylvania and the nondenominational Hebrew College in Massachusetts both have female presidents – what HUC-JIR has done is still historic. It is the largest of the Jewish religious movements, its rabbis working on every continent except perhaps Antarctica.

Since the movement ordained its first woman – Sally Priesand in 1972 – hundreds of women have entered the Reform rabbinate. In recent years, the numbers of women receiving *smicha* have exceeded the men in some classes.

And at a time when women's rights are under fire – witness the litany of anti-abortion laws being passed in state houses across the country and the fight for egalitarian worship at the Western Wall in Jerusalem – the Reform movement needs to elevate more women religious leaders. Their moral voices will serve as a reminder that half the world's population is still not treated equally.

So if you happen to be in Cincinnati on June 1 and make it to the Plum Street Temple, you will witness a bit of history. It may not be hottest ticket in town, but it certainly will be the most significant.

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

FORUM

Anti-BDS bill's passage sends strong message



JCRC Scene

Matt Goldberg

As many people are aware, the Kentucky Legislature, in its last regular session, passed a bill that prohibits the commonwealth from engaging in significant business with contractors who choose to boycott any nation that does business with the State of Israel.

While the law does not mention Israel specifically, there are very few calls for boycotts of any other country.

The bill does not infringe on any individual's right to free speech. For the rejection of a state contract to kick in, the company needs to have a minimum of five employees and the contract needs to be worth more than \$100,000. Other states got in trouble when individual independent contractors wanted to work for the state and were refused because of their boycott of Israel – a situation that will be avoided with Kentucky's law.

Thankfully, there is not a whole lot of boycotting of Israel by companies here

or around the world. The Jewish state's economy is quite robust; its hi-tech sector is playing host to companies such as Google, Facebook, Apple and particularly Intel, which has started a \$10 billion research and development campus there. Israeli technology and start-up companies are used every day by people around the world, and Israel's GDP continues to climb lists of Western countries.

So why was it important to pass this bill? It is a statement by Kentucky that the BDS movement will have no home here and that boycotting Israel runs counter to the values and interests of Kentuckians.

The BDS movement is anti-Semitic. In fact, a law passed by the German parliament last week affirmed this. BDS singles out Israel with misleading accusations of violations of international law and war crimes, often to the exclusion of other countries with far worse human rights records.

BDS is antithetical to a peaceful solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and endorses extreme measures – namely, the right of over five million Palestinians to return to their ancestral homes inside Israel – that are simply not realistic for any resolution to this conflict.

What we don't want this law to do is chill any fair criticism of Israel, and we are confident it does not. Israel is not

perfect and criticism, sometimes in a very harsh form, is warranted. Israelis themselves are often critical of their nation's actions. Mainstream American Jewish organizations have been fiercely critical of Israel in recent months. The Anti-Defamation League, The American Jewish Committee, AIPAC and the Jewish Community Relations Council of Louisville have all criticized statements of the prime minister or policies of the government.

But BDS is an attack on Israel's legitimacy and we welcome efforts to confront it.

This law could not have passed without the support of our friends in the community at large, particularly Kentucky's chapter of Christians United For Israel. This bill, which enjoyed broad bipartisan support, codified into law the executive order that was passed last November by Governor Matt Bevin. Jewish leaders from Louisville and Lexington turned out for the order's signing ceremony at the Capitol, as did Israel's ambassador to the United States, Ron Dermer.

The new law sends a strong message to the world: Support for Israel in Kentucky is strong and likely will stay that way.

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



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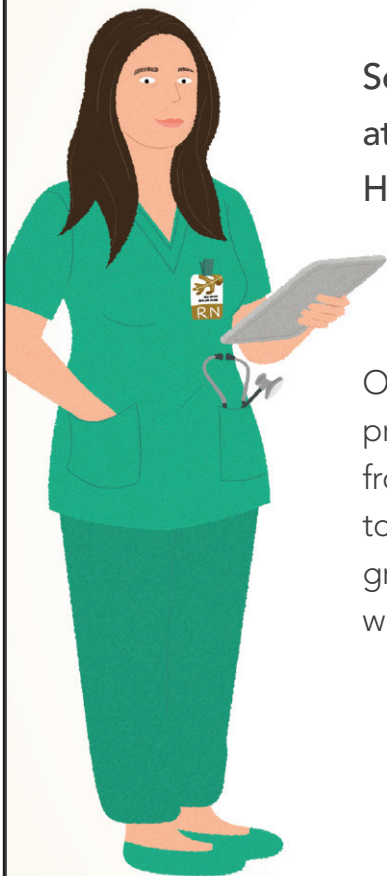
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POWAY SHOOTINGS

Answer to mass shootings? Do ‘more,’ Chabad rabbi says

By Lee Chottiner
Community Editor

Standing beneath a giant Holocaust mural in The J auditorium, Rabbi Avrohom Litvin admitted that he had been wrong about the resurgence of anti-Semitism.

Speaking to 150 people, who had gathered on April 23 in the wake of the Passover shootings at a synagogue in Poway, California, Litvin, regional director of Chabad of Kentucky, recalled a recent visit to Temple Adath Israel in Lexington. Its president, he said, asked him about anti-Semitism.

“I’m sorry to admit, I said I didn’t think anti-Semitism was as bad as people say,” Litvin recalled.

Now, two synagogue shootings – one in Pittsburgh, one in Poway – have happened within six months of each other.

“I was wrong,” the rabbi said.

Litvin’s talk capped an hour-long program called Unite for Light. The program commemorating the victims of the Poway shootings, including Lori Gilbert-Kaye, who died after she jumped between her rabbi and the gunman, offered ways to turn the darkness brought by the shooting, and many other shootings, into light.

Sara Klein Wagner, president and CEO of the Jewish Community of Louisville, which co-hosted the event with Chabad, reminded the crowd just how much darkness there has been.

The just-concluded Passover holiday, she said, was the first since the Pittsburgh shootings, the New Zealand mosques attacks and the burnings of three histori-



Louisville Metro Mayor Greg Fischer lamented the need to repeatedly hold programs such as the Unite for Light program at J, but he expressed pride in how Louisville comes together at times of crises. (Community photo by Jessica Budnick)

cally black churches in Louisiana. The Sri Lanka church bombings happened on Easter Sunday – the second day of Passover – and Pesach concluded with the Poway attack.

But the same mural Litvin and Wagner stood under, titled “Darkness to Light,” segues from the Holocaust to the birth of Israel.

So Litvin also segued, suggesting two ways people can bring more light into the world:

- Use your voices. “Be on guard for words of hate before they fester,” he said
- Fight darkness with “more” – more

mitzvot (commandments) and more deeds of kindness.

He asked everyone to take out their phones and go to **unite4light.com**, a website Chabad created, and pledge to perform a good deed or “act of light.”

“I’m not asking people to contribute a lot of time, I’m not asking you to contribute a lot of money, just a good deed,” Litvin said. “You pick the good deed, just make the world a better place.”

So far, the website has collected more than 8,000 pledges. Litvin expects that number to reach 13,000.

To help things along, Chabad set up a table at the back of the hall to give out “Shabbat Candlelighting Kits” – two small candles and matches in a matchbox.

Several other speakers added their voices to the program.

Louisville Metro Mayor Greg Fischer, visibly frustrated to be speaking at so many rallies following shootings, urged to crowd to “love more ... be more compassionate ... bring the light.”

Rabbi Shmuly Litvin, the moderator for the event, reminded everyone of the Jewish teaching that saving a life is like saving a world. Conversely, he said taking a life is like taking a world.

Chabad Rabbis Chaim and Shlomo Litvin read Psalm 20 in Hebrew while Crescent Hill Baptist Church Rev. Jason Crosby read Psalm 23 in English.

Cantor David Lipp read a portion from the Book of Isaiah, prophesying a messianic age – the same haftorah that Chabad of Poway Rabbi Yisroel Goldstein was set to read moments before the shootings – and he chanted Oseh Shalom, a prayer that asks God to bring

peace “to us and to all Israel.” The audience spontaneously joined him.

Chabad darkened the hall to play two videotaped messages from Goldstein, one coming less than 24 hours after the attack. The Poway rabbi, who lost a finger in the shooting spree, described how he “locked eyes with the terrorist,” and how his granddaughter watched him bleed.

But he also rallied the troops, shouting after the incident, “Am Yisrael Chai!” (the people of Israel live).

He urged Jews everywhere to fill the synagogues that next Shabbat.

Gov. Matt Bevin videotaped a message for the program and Deputy Attorney General J. Michael Brown spoke for Attorney General Andy Beshear.

Dr. Muhammad Babar, a representative of the local Muslim community, lamented how people, who “share the same DNA” as the rest of the human race, can still hurt people. Almost shouting, he made clear that no faith, gender or people is superior to the others.

Rabbi Michael Wolk, speaking for the Louisville Board of Rabbis and Cantors, said the type of high security used for years at European synagogues is making its way to America.

Nevertheless, he urged everyone not to give in to fear and to maintain a welcoming atmosphere at their houses of prayer.

It was their responsibility, he told the crowd, that the synagogue be a “gate to God.”

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Jewish Federation
OF LOUISVILLE

FEDERATION

How to stop a third attack

Security experts, federation improving local community security

By Michael Masters
For Community

In October it was the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh. In April it was the Chabad of Poway near San Diego.

Think a third attack won't happen? The threat facing the Jewish community is real, so we must act to protect our families and neighbors. Just as Israel has an Iron Dome missile-defense system to keep its people safe, Louisville's Jewish community needs a security shield so we can be safe.

As the official security arm of The Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA) and the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, the Secure Community Network (SCN) is working with – and supporting – the Jewish Federation of Louisville to build that shield. That's why SCN and its experts visited Louisville this month.

We would like to thank our JCL President and CEO Sara Klein Wagner, the Board of Directors and the leadership of the local synagogues and schools for their vision, leadership and efforts to prioritize safety and security for the Louisville Jewish community. SCN is a team of current and former military, law enforcement and homeland security experts. We are not volunteers. We are not private consultants. We are professionals dedicated to serving and protecting the Jewish community.

In Louisville, we will leverage SCN's expertise and the Federation's knowledge of our community to assess, improve and deploy a comprehensive security strategy. We call this "AID":

Assess: The first thing we will do when visiting any community is assess the physical structures. Many locations, especially synagogues, are designed to be welcoming and this provides a challenge: How do we balance being welcoming with being safe and secure?



The Jewish Community of Louisville is working with the Jewish Federations of North America to harden Jewish facilities here, keeping them safe from any threats.

Are there numerous doors that allow guests inside? Is parking right next to the building? Are windows shatterproof? Who oversees security – lay leaders or professionals? Is there a good security plan?

Improve: Where weaknesses exist, improvements must be made. It's not hard to lock all doors, except for one main entry or to hold active shooter drills that teach leaders and congregants what to do in case of an attack. One common weakness is that leaders think they have a security plan when they really don't. It may be weak. It may be old. It may never be practiced, or it was practiced so long ago that the people who took part don't work – or pray – in the synagogue anymore. Security is a nitty, gritty business. It constantly needs to be worked on, updated, drilled and improved.

Deploy: Our team of military, security and law enforcement experts was created to deploy into communities to support the work of federations in the training, planning and thinking necessary to help communities prevent attacks – or

to provide those resources where there is no robust security program. We recognize the sensitivities and concerns that all organizations – synagogues, day schools, etc. – have about security issues. Therefore, SCN is a partner, supporting the strong work that the federation has undertaken to implement plans and provide services that work.

As experts, we work closely with the FBI, the Department of Homeland Security, joint terrorism task forces and state and local law enforcement to coordinate and share information. Our partners in law enforcement and government are keenly aware of the unique threat the Jewish community faces. They want our input and they share information. We also coordinate with government officials closely during threats and incidents, as we did in Pittsburgh and Poway.

Over the last six months, two armed gunmen stormed into two synagogues, killing 12 and injuring many others. This is a call to action. We know threats exist. We also know preparation and preven-

tion are the keys to minimizing or eliminating future attacks.

For thousands of years, the Jewish people have been threatened, but we survive – and thrive. Our mission is to allow parents, children, congregants, seniors, rabbis, ushers and staff to worship, celebrate and be together in peace, knowing those with knowledge and expertise have worked to address security issues, build a plan and implement it – all designed to create the shield our community needs.

Security of our Jewish community is paramount, and we are confident that by working together as a community and coordinating our efforts we will be able to provide the safest environment possible for all of Jewish Louisville.

*Jon Fleischaker
JCL Board Chair*

(Michael Masters, a homeland security and law enforcement official and former captain in the Marine Corps, is the national director and CEO of the Secure Community Network. A certified police officer, he is trained in special weapons and tactics and he has served on numerous task forces for the Department of Homeland Security. He previously served on the Executive Board of the FBI's Chicago Joint Terrorism Task Force)

LIFE & LEGACY draws \$7.6M in commitments here

By Jennifer Tuvlin
For Community

Guests at the Second Annual LIFE & LEGACY Donor Appreciation Event on May 9 celebrated some multimillion dollar success and shared a love of basketball.

For the second year in a row, all nine participating organizations fulfilled their community commitments, securing at least 18 legacy commitments for future gifts.

To date, these nine Jewish institutions have legacy commitments with an estimated future value of over \$7.6 million. All the funds will be endowed, thereby generating annual distributions for future generations of Jewish Louisville.

Participants in LIFE & LEGACY represent a cross-section of Jewish Louisville.

The synagogue participants are Adath Jeshurun, Keneseth Israel, Temple Shalom and The Temple. The Jewish agency participants are Chabad (Jewish Learning Center), the Jewish Federation of Louisville, Jewish Family & Career Services, LBSY and the J.

LIFE & LEGACY is sponsored by the Federation, Jewish Heritage Fund for



Ruth Greenberg and Jake Wishnia at the Life & Legacy Thank You event. (Photo by Jessica Budnick)

Excellence and the Harold Grinspoon Foundation.

At this function, Dan Issel, Naismith Hall of Fame basketball player and coach, spoke to the legacy donors about the legacy of basketball in Kentucky and the movement to bring an NBA franchise to Louisville through the NBA2Lou movement.

Issel also shared stories about Adolf Rupp practice sessions, why the Kentucky Colonels of the old American Basketball Association (ABA) did not

join the NBA and how Louisville is the perfect home for an NBA team.

His stories engaged the donors who attended the event at 21c Museum Hotel.

Leaving a legacy gift is a true gift to Jewish Louisville. Please contact LIFE & LEGACY Coordinator Jennifer Tuvlin at 502-238-2735 if you too would like to leave a legacy gift to those Jewish institutions and synagogues that are important to you and your family.

LOUISVILLE VAAD HAKASHRUTH

Venues currently supervised and certified by the Vaad:

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

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- ◆ Bristol Catering (kosher catering available at off-site venues such as The J, synagogues, etc.)
- ◆ The Catering Company - Michaelis Events (kosher catering available at off-site venues)
- ◆ Hyatt Regency Louisville (kosher catering only)
- ◆ Louisville Marriot East (can host kosher events but does not have kosher catering service)
- ◆ Other venues may be approved only upon request for kosher supervision

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NEWS

JCL buys Anshei Sfard; property to be used for Camp J this summer

The Jewish Community of Louisville completed the purchase of the Anshei Sfard synagogue Thursday, May 25.

"This is an important milestone in developing the Jewish Community of Louisville campus and has been an organizational priority within the Jewish family," JCL President & CEO Sara Klein Wagner and Board Chair Jon Fleischaker said in a joint statement.

They reiterated that the mikvah,

which stands on Anshei Sfard property, will remain open.

And they broke some news, announcing that the property will be used for Camp J this summer.

"This gives us more space for the children and a streamlined drop-off and pick-up area," according to the statement.

Long-term plans for the property are still being made.



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THE J CENTERPIECE

Fifth of Iyar

Jewish Louisville celebrates Yom Haatzmaut

By Bruce Snyder
For Community

While millions of Americans are preparing for Memorial Day at the end of May, and Independence Day at the beginning of July, many American Jews have already celebrated those holidays, sort of.

On May 19, The J held its annual fun-filled Yom Haatzmaut Family Festival. Children and adults enjoyed games, music, crafts, stories and, of course, food – all in celebration of Israel's independence day.

Michael Fraade, of the Jewish Outdoor Food Farming & Environmental Education (JOFEE) director, helped organize the event.

"At The [J] we try to do something every year to celebrate the holiday," Fraade said. "This is one of the times of the year where I reflect on what Israel was founded on: Jewish and political independence."

Fraade and Youth Program Manager Katelyn Graves spent two months planning, preparing and putting the festival together.

"This event is community-centered," Graves said. "We want everyone to come in and have fun, see their own community, and learn a bit about Israel."

Learning more about the Jewish state is something many Israelis wish their American counterparts would embrace.

"Because I grew up in Israel, it is

an important day for me," said Rivka Admony. "If you grow up there, you are especially proud to be Jewish. You go to all these events, and everybody wears blue and white. It doesn't matter what your background is. We feel as one."

Unlike the United States, where Memorial Day and Independence Day fall about a little more than month apart, in Israel, the two holidays fall on consecutive days, with one flowing into the other. Yom Hazikaron (Day of Remembrance) commemorates fallen soldiers, comrades and family members. But with sundown, the country's somber commemoration gives way to the jubilation of Yom Haatzmaut (Day of Independence).

"We get up on our feet and are happy that we are independent Jews and an independent state," Admony said.

Israel's independence day is celebrated on the fifth day of the Hebrew month of Iyar. The original date, May 14, 1948, means Jews are celebrating Israel's 71st year of Independence this year.

That is something Jerusalem-born Ronen Danino takes pride in. "This holiday is a testament of how far we have come as a Jewish people," he said. "Seventy-one years, to see what we have accomplished, is nothing short of a miracle. So, we take this holiday very personally. We experience this holiday on a very personal level, but what I'd like to see is Jews in America embrace this holiday a little more."



Kids raced through an inflatable slide near the J Pavilion during the annual Yom Haatzmaut Family Festival.



Benji Berlow serenades children at the festival.



Children collected balloon animals – a favorite attraction of the festival.



They also had their faces painted, along with some adults.



Naked Humus was one of the vendors at this year's Israel celebration, serving up authentic Middle Eastern food.



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AWARD WINNERS

Award winners represent a cross-section of Louisville life

Johnny Kimberlin

Arthur S. Kling Award



A self-described “pool rat” since he was a kid, Johnny Kimberlin has made a career at The J, working here in some capacity since 2006.

He’s been the aquatics director – his current job – the assistant director, a lifeguard and a swim instructor. He’s even done the “honorable” job (his word) of pool maintenance.

As director, a job he’s held since 2014, Kimberlin has overseen steady growth in the aquatics program, thanks largely to J Swim school and the Gators – The J’s entry in the Louisville Swim Association, which is poised to move from Divisions 3 to 2 after this year.

Kimberlin expects 110 kids to be signed up this summer for the Gators. J Swim has 130 kids, which is up significantly from its previous incarnation as the Lenny Krayzelburg Swim Academy.

During the summer, he’s in charge of 40-some lifeguards, 25 instructors, four coaches, at least one pool maintenance worker, and a staff of 10 at the diner.

And yet there are still days when, working with shorthanded staff, he will climb into the lifeguard’s chair himself or take a swim class. Why not? He’s done it all.

“It keeps me busy,” Kimberlin said. “All my employees are good kids and young adults. It’s been fun.”

The growth in the aquatics program is driving the need for newer, up-to-date pools. That’s why Kimberlin is doing full gainers over plans for the new J, for which ground could be broken by the end of the year.

“These programs are going so well that we need more space year round,” he said, “which would allow more time to teach and coach, and more space for members to lap swim.... All that’s coming with the new pool.”

Jordan Green

Joseph J. Kaplan Young Leadership Award



A Louisville native, Jordan Green touched all bases of Jewish life while growing up.

“I went to Sunday School and Hebrew School. Many of my best friends were Jewish and I met them through those activities. I went to the JCC almost every day,” playing basketball there among other activities.

“Jewish activities formed my social life as I was growing up, I would say.”

While he didn’t stay active when he went to college at the University of Texas or law school at Indiana University, that changed when he and his wife, Abby, also a native, moved back to Louisville.

“I was more reflective of the things that shaped me as a person, all the activities that were given to me because of the Jewish community in the city,” Green said, “so I thought, why not give back?”

First he joined the board of the Jewish

Family & Career Services, a panel he’s now served on for five years.

“I like how it’s not just focused on the Jewish community; it’s focused on all the people in our community who need help, need some personal strengthening. I think that’s part of being Jewish in the first place. I like that messaging, and I think we stay true to that in our services.”

He also stepped into JCL activities, serving on its endowment and finance committees.

He said his recipe for volunteering centers around networking.

“I enjoy networking and meeting people, determining where there’s a need and where my skills can fit in with that need” Green said. “I’m happy to step in and help where I can.”

An attorney and in-house counsel for Louisville-based Charah Solutions, which does environmental construction law for utilities, Green, 32, has a background in corporate law. His wife, Abby, also is an attorney, in private practice.

In retrospect, Green credits his father, Dr. Ralph Green, vice chair of the JCL Board of Directors, for instilling his will to give back to the community.

“It’s something I didn’t recognize growing up,” he said, “but I know how important it was to him. He always talked about it and I didn’t really understand until I grew up how much work he and people like him put into it.”

Cari Hatch

Lewis W. Cole Memorial Young Leadership Award



Cari Hatch comes by her commitment to Jewish leadership in two ways: She has a strong family tradition of leadership in the community, and she took a life-changing

trip to Israel.

Hatch, this year’s recipient of the Lewis W. Cole Memorial Young Leadership Award, is the granddaughter of David Kling, the great-granddaughter of Arthur Kling and great-great niece of Morris Kling – all past presidents of the JCC.

“I have a lot to live up to,” she said.

In addition, she went to Israel in 2017 with the Jewish Women’s Renaissance Program’s Momentum mission – an experienced their deepened her bond to the community and other young women who are in it.

“The trip just inspired me to want to do more in my community, which is why have been so active over the past year and year and a half.

During that time, Hatch has co-chaired the Community Telethon. She helped organized the March 17 Challah Bake, and she is taking an increasingly with Camp J, attending a retreat with Director Mindye Mannel and assisting with recruitment. A mother of two campers – her son Cooper and her daughter Chloe – she spoke about the experience at the May 15 event with Chef Michael Solomonov.

“It’s leading by example,” Hatch said, “showing Chloe and Cooper what the community means me and my family. Hopefully, they will follow along.”

Beyond the J, Hatch has been an active member of Temple Shalom through fundraising and simply as a Jew in the pew.

“I feel like just being an active member and going to services shows it’s not just older people coming.”

Beth Salamon



Julie E. Linker Community Relations Young Leadership Award

The incoming chair of the Jewish Community Relations Council, Beth Salamon, this

year’s Linker Award recipient, hopes the prize makes a statement about the what about Jewish Louisville she values most.

“Having its own community service award shows how community service as an important Jewish value,” Salamon said. “it makes a statement.... Each award sets the tone for what we think is important, so I’m thrilled by the community service recognition.”

The Jewish Community Relations Council is Jewish Louisville’s liaison to the greater Louisville community.

Salamon is an old hand at policy work. The mother of two serves as the state policy advocate for the National Council of Jewish Women in Kentucky, monitoring bills in the state legislature that pertain to reproductive rights and other matters critical to women.

She also serves on the Collegiate Board of Trustees, and its Parents Association board. She has been on the JCRC for 10 years.

A native of Bucks County, Pennsylvania, Salamon went to college in Washington, D.C., and law school at Temple University in Philadelphia. There, she met her husband, Michael, who was in medical school at the time.

After she spent a couple of years clerking for the family court of New Castle County, Delaware, the couple moved to Sacramento, California, where Michael started a five-year residency and Salamon worked for the Legislative Council of California, writing and modifying bills for lawmakers in the areas of public safety and food & agriculture and staffing those particular legislative committees.

They spent a year in Iowa City, Iowa, where Michael held a fellowship at the University of Iowa, before moving to Louisville in 2005. Michael is an orthopedic surgeon with Ellis and Badenhause Orthopedics.

In addition to Alex, the couple has another son, Jack, 14, a freshman at Collegiate.

As JCRC chair, Salamon hopes to help the members “find avenues for them for more hands-on volunteering.”

Bruce Roth

Ronald & Marie Abrams Volunteer of Year Award



Bruce Roth comes by his passion for volunteering naturally.

It’s a family tradition,” he said, “to give both our

time and money to family-supported organizations. Whether we volunteer our time or not, we try to provide an economic benefit to those organizations we support.”

Both he and his wife, Marcia are active in the community. So are his siblings, and all their children.

“We’re very proud of them, Roth said. “They give both of their time and money as well, and they’re teaching their children to give back to the community. It’s a wonderful tradition, and we are very

grateful that our parents started it.”

Roth is this year’s winner of the Ronald & Marie Abrams Volunteer of the Year Award, an honor named for two people who Roth credits for getting them active in Jewish Louisville once they moved back here in 1970.

“Marie and Ronnie were instant friends,” Roth said. “You don’t stay friends with Marie and Ronnie without being influenced by their involvement.”

His involvement that year started when Keneseth Israel not only asked him to join the board but become its treasurer.

“Kind of a natural for me as an accountant,” Roth said.

He would soon join the board of the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence and has serving on the JCL Endowment Committee.

He also has served on the board of the Louisville Orchestra for 10 years, eight as a member of its nominating and governance committees and other panels. He credits Denise Schiller for getting him active with the orchestra.

A career accountant, Roth is partner emeritus at Lewis T. Roth and Co., the firm his father established in the 1930s and today has 65 employees.

After going to school at Northwestern, where he and Marcia met, Roth worked at Arthur Anderson, but the couple decided to move back to Roth’s home town after 10 to work for his father escape the Chicago winters.

“It was a great business opportunity, and it was not Chicago,” he quipped.

After a lifetime of volunteering watching the generations after him renew the family tradition, Roth said giving back is its own reward.

“I guess I was raised with that belief, that you have to give back to the community, and the more you give back, the more you appreciate the results.”

Victoria Carpenter

Elsie P. Judah Memorial Award



Victoria Carpenter arrived for her interview with an entourage: her 4-year-old granddaughter,

Jenny.

“She helps me with the meals,” Carpenter said as Jenny sat on her lap clutching her bunny, Strawberry, and Aurora from The Little Mermaid.

Those “meals” are the ones prepared at the J that Carpenter delivers twice a week as part of the Meals on Wheels program here. She’s been making deliveries – and friends – for 10 years now.

Carpenter began taking Jenny on her deliveries when the girl was just a baby in a carrier. “The seniors really perk up when they see children, and Jenny has a nice personality and smile.”

Carpenter’s deliveries are something of a family affair. In addition to Jenny, grandma brings her other grandkids when they’re in town.

And her husband, Walt, used to help with the deliveries. He even made friends with a man on the route. But when that man died, Walt found it too hard to continue.

Carpenter said you have to be prepared for that kind of thing when you do this kind of work.

“It was hard,” she said of her husband’s experience. “He’s a very sensitive person,

continued on page 13

AWARD WINNERS

continued from page 12

and it was hard on him."

Likewise, Carpenter finds the work much more than delivering meals.

"I talk to them, listen to them," she said of her clients said. "We don't get close to everyone, but there are some people who want to reach out to you."

And they'll tell you just about anything, about their children, grandchildren, how they met their spouses.

It's important to listen, she said.

Carpenter didn't just suddenly develop an interest in seniors. She worked at the Veterans Administration Hospital for 33 years, the last three in the geriatrics department.

When she finally retired, she looked for something to occupy her time. She saw a newspaper ad for meal deliveries, and she signed up.

Republic Bank

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Republic Bank has been a valued partner of JCL for many years. As a corporation,

they have supported our organization, providing sponsorships, annual support and volunteer leadership. CEO Steve Trager and the Trager family recently pledged their support to the J Capital Campaign with the first family lead gift, building credibility and confidence in the effort. This was a transformational gift to the organization.

The 2019 teen leadership awards spotlight young people who excel

The Stacy Marks Nisenbaum Awards are presented to incoming juniors or seniors who are leaders in their BBYO chapters and work to grow the program while staying active in their schools and communities: **Drew Goldstein** has served as BBYO's regional s'gan (programming vice president), chapter godol (president), chapter s'gan twice



and chapter mazkir (corresponding secretary). He was the 2018 winner of the Ellen Faye Garmon Award. A junior at Ballard High School, he is a member of Dance Maroon and the Spanish Club. He will be a counselor-in-training (CIT) at Camp Livingston this summer. **Elana Berger** has served as chapter mazkirah and gizborit, and regional s'ganit. A junior at Floyd Central High School, she is on the symphony orchestra, the National Honor Society and is a Multiple-Cultures Club ambassador. Elana has participated in the Global Citizenship Certificate Program through the Kentucky and Southern Indiana World Affairs Council. She will be a CIT at Beber Camp this summer.



The Stuart Pressma Awards go to incoming juniors or seniors who are involved in their BBYO chapters and work to grow the program while showing strong devotion to community service: **Emily Renco** has served as chapter morah (membership vice president) and n'siah (president). An incoming senior at Louisville Collegiate School, she has been a student ambassador, a board member/founder of the Entrepreneurship Club, a board member of Students Against Destructive Decisions, a Spanish Club member, editor of Transcript, the school yearbook and



a member of the Happiness Club. This summer, Emily will be among BBYO's Ambassadors to Bulgaria and attend an international leadership seminar in Israel. **Eli Resnik** is an AZA member. He was elected chapter godol (president) in the 2019 spring election and has also served as and sh'liach (vice president of Jewish enrichment). A student at Ballard High School, he plays varsity soccer and is a member of the Beta and Spanish clubs.

Jillian "Jilly" Lustig, the Kentucky Indiana Ohio (KIO) s'ganit of the year and coordinated a convention for BBYO. She also has served twice as s'ganit and as gizborit and mazkirah. She also is involved with J-SERVE and Shabbat Friends. A student at Kentucky Country Day School, she is on the tennis and golf teams and student council. She will be a CIT at Beber Camp this summer.



The Tony Levitan Award goes to an outstanding high school senior athlete while who demonstrated outstanding character and leadership through team sports and Jewish communal events: **Gabrielle "Gabby" Aberson**, a Louisville Collegiate School graduate, played lacrosse, field hockey. She also is a Pearl Project chair, plays viola in the orchestra, is president of the Happiness Club and the junior class and is a member of the Ambassadors Club, Discipline Court and KUNA/KYA. She also is a lifeguard at the J has volunteered with J-SERVE and New Roots and was a Sunshine Girl. She will attend Boston University this fall. **Adam Rudy**, a Walden School graduate, played basketball at the 2016 Maccabi Games and flag football at the 2017 Games. He was on the varsity basketball, soccer and tennis



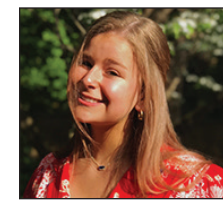
teams at Walden and was invited to participate in the East Kentucky All Star Basketball Games. He won the Outstanding Service Award for more than 100 service hours, was an outstanding student ambassador and was active in the Kentucky United Nations Assembly. He also was an Eagle Scout and won the Nir Tamid Award. Adam will attend Purdue University this fall for mechanical engineering technology, but first he will travel to Peru to see Machu Picchu.

The Joseph Fink BBYO Community Service Scholarship is a four-year scholarship presented to a senior who was an active member of their BBYO chapter during all four years of high school and also performed a significant amount of community service during high school: **Jacob Ioffe**, of duPont Manual High School, was a Bronfman Fellow. Active in BBYO, he was regional mazkir and gizbor, Aleph

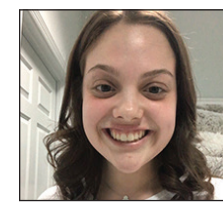


godol, international captain of the Israel Task Force and a past recipient of the Stacy Marks Nisenbaum and Ellen Faye Garmon awards. He also was a BBYO ambassador to Ukraine. At Manual, he was the varsity tennis team captain (#1 in the state), lead coordinator for the IdeaFest and research intern at Kentucky Lions Eye Clinic. This summer, he will be a counselor at Camp Sunapee, a Russian Jewish math camp in New Hampshire, before joining the Boston-Sderot Project, a three-week service trip in Israel where a cohort of counselors travel to Sderot, a constant target of rocket attacks from Gaza, and take children battling PTSD and other psychological disorders to a camp to experience safety and normalcy. He will attend Vanderbilt University this fall.

The Ellen Faye Garmon Awards go to incoming juniors or seniors who are involved in their BBYO chapters,



working to grow the program, and their communities: **Hannah Geller** has been in BBYO since the eighth grade, serving as gizborit (two-term freshman), morah (one-term sophomore), currently n'siah (two-term sophomore). She was the 2019 KIO Gizborit of the Year. An incoming junior at North Oldham High School, she is a member of the Beta, Environmental and Diversity clubs. She will go to Beber Camp for a



month this summer, then to Israel. **Liz Hemmer**, also a BBYO member since the eighth grade, served as sh'liach in her sophomore year, n'siah in her junior year, and currently serves as regional sh'liach. Currently, she was named the 2018 KIO Sh'liach of the Year and is a past recipient of the Stacy Marks Nissenbaum Award. An incoming senior at Ballard High School, she is a member of the Beta Club. This summer, she will go to Israel with Camp Livingston.

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MOSAIC AWARDS

Strangers no more

MOSAIC Awards honor five for making a difference in Louisville

By Lee Chottiner
Community Editor

Fred Gross was a young newspaper reporter working at the New Haven (Connecticut) Journal Courier in 1966 when he got a phone call from some local "back activists."

They invited Gross to a meeting at a public housing project in the middle of the night, where they would make plans for a new organization called the Progressive Democrats. Their goal was to end what they perceived as "evils in the city's political system."

Gross covered their efforts.

"They asked me to write some stories about what

they wanted to do," Gross recalled. "There were 30 members on the city council and none of them were black."

Forty-five years later, one of those activists said, "Fred Gross gave us voice, for which I remain grateful."

Gross was one of the five recipients of this year's MOSAIC Awards, an annual salute by the Jewish Family & Career Services (JFCS) to first-generation Americans who have made a contribution to their professions and to their community. The awards were presented Thursday, May 23, during a dinner at the Marriott Hotel.

In addition to his work as a journalist, Gross, a

native of Belgium, has spent the last 18-25 years traveling across Kentucky, speaking to school children about his experiences as a Holocaust survivor.

During that time, "I have never encountered any kind of anti-Semitism in all the schools I've spoken," he said, "and I have spoken in the hollers, in rural and urban areas. I was welcomed all the time."

The other recipients were Purna Veer (India) an entrepreneur and head of the



This year's recipients of the MOSAIC awards pose by the flags of their native countries. The flags of the United States and Israel were paraded with the other banners. (photo provided by the Jewish Family & Career Services)

software company V Soft Consulting Group Inc.; James Racine (Haiti), a teacher, musician, host of the Books and Barbershops series and a faculty member at Kentucky Country Day; Keisha Deonarine (Trinidad & Tobago) a single mom and executive director of the Passport Foundation, a community-based health plan administering Kentucky Medicaid benefits; and Surekha Kulkarni (India), founder and executive director of the nonprofit Beaded Treasures Project, which has trained 300 disadvantaged women to overcome barriers to success.

Defying a growing intolerance to refugees and immigrants in this country, some of the recipients used their acceptance remarks to tout their newcomer status as a badge of honor.

"We immigrants work hard for what we have," Deonarine said, "and what we leave for our children."

She said she uses her experiences as a first-generation American, and as a single mom who escaped an abusive marriage, to teach her kids that they "have the potential to do great things."

Racine said refugees and immigrants often feel pressure "to be more American than people who were born here."

A man closely identifying with his Haitian heritage, he said immigrants "strengthen and enrich American life."

Kulkarni said she and her husband, Suhas Kulkarni, a 2011 MOSAIC recipient, came to this country for their children's education. Today, their daughter, Nima Kulkarni, is the first Indian American elected to the Kentucky House of Representatives, serving District 40 in Frankfort.

Veer said when he first came to Louisville, he "fell in love" with the city and knew he wanted to establish his corporate headquarters here. My heart is in Louisville," he said.

The MOSAIC Awards are sponsored by the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence, Kindred Healthcare, Heaven Hill and WILKY.

The awards themselves, all unique wood sculptures, were made by Matt Karr, a professional woodworker and principal bassoonist for the Louisville Orchestra. Deb Frockt, CEO of the JFCS, said what this year's honorees, and other newcomers, have in common is their strength.

"Every day, I see people strong enough to ask for help," she said. Providing help to them, in all aspects of life, is what JFCS has done since its early days working with Jewish immigrants.

She said the organization work puts into deeds the Jewish philosophy of welcoming the stranger.

"Because we were strangers in a strange land," she added.

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JFCS FOOD PANTRY

SUGGESTIONS FOR JUNE

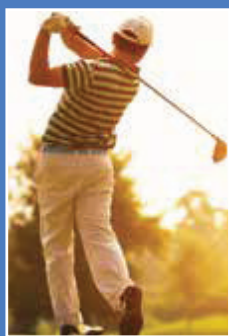
- Jelly and jam
- Tomato paste
- Canned carrots (low sodium)
- Canned tuna
- Canned salmon
- Canned chicken
- Toilet paper

Remember, donations can be made at your local synagogue.

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

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

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Helping Families Find Stability

Family Stability Program

Through a partnership with the Siemer Institute and Metro United Way, JFCS received a grant to establish a Family Stability Program. The program will provide the tools needed for low-income families to become self-sufficient and to avoid homelessness, which in turn will allow their children to remain in their original schools.

Participating clients will have access to all the services offered at JFCS — mental health counseling, food pantry and emergency assistance, career counseling, and much more. Counselors will help families move from crisis to stability by providing financial assistance, budget coaching, job training, and support for the entire family.

If you know a struggling family with school-age children, please contact Jessica Holloway at 502-452-6341 ext. 153 or jholloway@jfcsloouisville.org.

New AcceLOUrate Savings Program

With funding from Metro United Way and the Humana Foundation, JFCS will work with individuals and families to provide financial counseling and connect with employment experts in order to improve the clients' financial position.

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To see if you qualify or to learn more, contact Tobin Williamson 502-322-1919 or twilliamson@jfcsloouisville.org.

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SUPPORT GROUPS

June 4, 4pm

Caregiver Support Group

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

June 13, 1pm

Parkinson's Caregiver Support Group

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

June 17, 12:30pm

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

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

June (T.B.D.) 7pm

Navigating Interfaith Relationships

Meets at JFCS. Contact Diane Tracht: 502-452-6341, ext. 360

June 19, 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 20, 7pm

Adult Children of Aging Parents

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

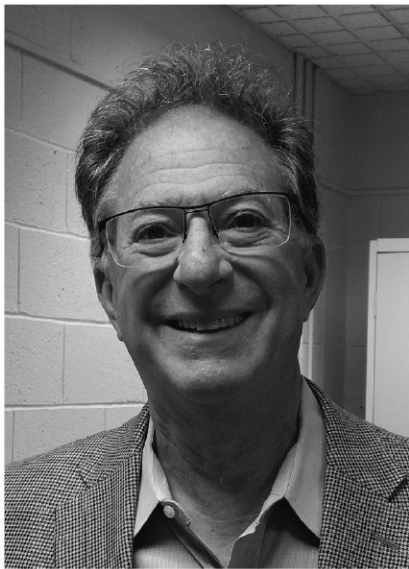
PICTURE THIS: SOLOMONOV

Chef Michael Solomonov, a multiple James Beard Award winner, cooked a four-course meal for 130 people at Kindred Healthcare on Wednesday, May 15. In addition to his signature Israeli cuisine, served family style, Solomonov shared with the crowd how he uses his chef skills to support children's initiatives in his hometown of Philadelphia. The event raised more than \$40,000 for The J Youth Programs. Linda Schuster and Linda Spielberg chaired the event and Kindred Healthcare was the title and vendor sponsor. (Community photos by Jessica Budnick.)



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YOM HASHOAH

Chiune Sugihara

Yom HaShoah program pays tribute to Japanese diplomat's heroic efforts

By Lee Chottiner
Community Editor

Sonia Milrod said she wouldn't be here – meaning alive – were it not for the courage of a wartime Japanese diplomat named Chiune Sugihara.

Likewise, she wouldn't be here – meaning America – if post-war immigration laws mirrored today's code.

In front of 300-plus people who packed Temple Shalom Wednesday, May 1, for the annual Yom HaShoah Community Holocaust Commemoration, Milrod, whose father was one of thousands of Jews saved by Sugihara, said her parents came to San Francisco in 1947 after World War II on her father's student visa. They then traveled to New York, where she was born in 1948 – a U.S. citizen. They eventually earned green cards, enabling them to stay in this country.

Had all this happened under today's laws, Milrod said, she doesn't believe her parents, Lydia (Hernball) and Jerry Milrod, would be permitted to remain.

"Under today's laws, my parents couldn't stay in the U.S.," Milrod said. "I only wonder, where would they would have been deported to?"



Japanese consul in Nashville Itsuroh Abe (center) lights a remembrance candle with Sonia Milrod (in red) and other victims, descendants and teachers of the Holocaust at this year's Yom HaShoah program at Temple Shalom. (Community photo by Jessica Budnick)

While the program, titled "Conspiracy of Kindness: How One Man's Brave Decision Saved Many Lives," paid tribute to Sugihara, Milrod offered her family's story as reminder that the United States must remain open to refugees.

"We must find a better path to asylum for today's refugees," she concluded.

Milrod's parents, Jerry and Lydia, were both refugees from Nazi persecution. They met and married in Shanghai, China, though they took very different routes to get there.

Lydia's family fled Germany following Kristallnacht, sailing first to Bangkok, then to Shanghai, thanks largely to

money her father had spirited out of the country, earned through his fashion business.

Jerry, who was from Lodz, fled Poland with his family after Germany invaded the country in 1939. They eventually made it to Kovno, Lithuania, where the Japanese consul, Sugihara, was issuing travel visas to fleeing Jews.

In fact, Sugihara handwrote more than 2,000 visas against his government's wishes, an act of defiance that would cost him his career after the war.

On the strength of Sugihara's visa, plus an exit visa Jerry managed, with some deception, to obtain from Russian authorities, he traveled to the port of Vladivostok on the Pacific coast, then on to Kobe, Japan, and finally to Shanghai.

Noting the complexities of war, Milrod said Sugihara risked everything to save desperate Jewish refugees. But she also gave a nod to Japan, the country that attacked the United States at Pearl Harbor and the Philippines in 1941, and savagely fought U.S. troops through 1945. Japan, she said, had resisted

See **Sugihara** on page 19

Nelson County eighth graders build their own Holocaust museum

By Lisa Hornung
For Community

BARDSTOWN – Eighth-graders in Nelson County are learning the lessons of the Holocaust in a first-time curriculum that culminated in creating a Holocaust museum in their school.

Teachers Suzan Sanders and Taylor Bumgardner of Old Kentucky Home Middle School (OKH) collaborate on three English language arts classes and often speak to each other on the phone in the evenings about their projects.

Last fall, while discussing how the Holocaust engages students, they came up with a plan. They picked out several books from which the kids could choose to read. By March, those students were preparing to travel to Washington, D.C., where they would visit the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM).

When they returned, the 120-member class worked on "passion projects," alone or in groups, creating exhibits to turn their middle school into a museum.

"They have just thrown themselves into this," Bumgardner said. "They have taken so much ownership over their own learning. I have seen a lot of growth and maturity."

"We have talked a lot about what it means to be reverent, and discussing difficult topics," she continued. "I have seen so much emotional growth from them, just in their ability to empathize with other people and be able to see things from others' perspectives."

Sanders said she doesn't know of any Jewish students at OKH, and many of her kids have likely never met a Jew. But they now know more about the horrors of the Holocaust than many kids their age.

Once they had their exhibit ideas in place, they pitched them "Shark Tank"-style to a group of adults from the district office. The "sharks," Bumgardner said, questioned the kids, trying to poke holes



The entrance included the "Arbeit Macht Frei" sign, "Work will make you free," that was placed at the entrance to concentration camps. A parent helped with the welding. (Photo by Lisa Hornung)

in their ideas and challenging them to find more ways to tell the story.

Sanders said the project made a difference in the students.

"I've never in my teaching career had students get so passionate about anything that we've done before," she said. "It's been emotional, but it's been amazing to see them rise to it, and rise to the reverence that's required of something like this."

During the day, students from lower grades and from another middle school visited the museum. The eighth-graders stood by their exhibits, talking about their work and explaining why they chose their particular projects. They even taught the younger children about the Holocaust.

In the evening, parents and other Nelson County residents came to see what the students had accomplished.

In all, a few hundred visitors saw the exhibit, Sanders estimated.

One student, Jakasia Durham, cooked food that was similar to what concentration camp prisoners would have eaten – "black bread" and watery soup made of potatoes and rutabagas.

"It was very unappetizing," she said. "They (the prisoners) didn't eat much, and they worked all day, so they lost pretty much all that. And they lost extra pounds. Many died from this."

Another student, Hailey Ballard, created a three-tier barrack bed similar to what prisoners would have slept in.

"I just saw a picture of it, and it really affected me that people would actually sleep in this," she said. "I wanted to see how this actually happened."

Visiting the USHMM only re-enforced for Ballard how people should – and should not – be treated.

"No one should be treated like this," she said.

Eighth graders Colby Farley and Cameron Turner created a podcast titled "Black and White," which focuses on Hitler's early life and how it affected his views and methods. But they are also addressing the way that the Holocaust is affecting the world today and what it means for modern race issues.

"It's given me a lot of insight, and it's given me a better understanding of the word 'reverence' and how that affects us and some of the things that went on during the Holocaust," Turner said. "It helps me see how lucky I am, and how we don't want to repeat that in our history."

Farley and Turner's project is one that has made Bumgardner particularly proud.

"They're two 14-year-old guys who have decided to discuss racism issues in modern day America. I'm so impressed with them," she said.

The museum project came one year after the Kentucky Legislature passed the Ann Klein and Fred Gross Holocaust Education Act, officially mandating instruction of the Holocaust and other acts of genocide in the state's public schools.

But Bumgardner said the new law was not a factor in the school's decision to do this project.

"Holocaust education is vitally important," she said. [I] hope this law will prompt other classrooms to take up similar initiatives and encourage this type of project."

Lacking dedicated space, OKH has dismantled the exhibit and is packing it away. But Bumgardner said the school plans to put it up again next year.

"Our ultimate goal is to make the museum project one that eighth graders look forward to taking part in and becomes something we build on and grow from year to year."

FORUM

British rabbi's lesson for uncertain times? Faith



Jewish Hospital

Rabbi Nadia
Siritsky

Rabbi Jonathan Sacks of Great Britain teaches that the Torah has a profound lesson for how we should face uncertainty.

Noting the contrast between two biblical characters, Noah and Abraham, Sacks teaches that Noah is said to have “walked with G-d” (Genesis 6:9), but Abraham walked on “ahead of G-d” (Genesis 17:1). He explains that to be a Jew is to face the future’s uncertainty with faith.

“Faith is the courage to take a risk,” Sacks teaches, “to begin a journey to a distant destination knowing that there will be hazards along the way, but knowing that G-d is with us, giving us strength. Faith is not certainty, but the courage to live with uncertainty.”

That’s a good lesson for those of us working in healthcare. It is precisely this faith that we can offer our patients and

their families as they journey through illness and uncertain times.

Of course, the reality of healthcare today has its own uncertainties. Changing national policies regarding insurance and reimbursement have only complicated matters.

The Filson Historical Society’s recent exhibit on the history of Jewish Hospital highlights the tremendous change in healthcare over the last 75 years. The industry has needed to adapt to preserve its charitable founding mission.

It is illuminating to see how successfully we have navigated these changes, transforming every obstacle into an opportunity.

Jewish Hospital has responded to change by creating new opportunities for healing, learning and blessing. Just like Abraham walked forward to a place he did not know, so that he could be a blessing, we always walk forward with faith into an uncertain future.

It is this focus that led Jews to come to America, to create a Jewish Hospital, to partner with the University of Louisville in the founding of the facility’s present downtown location and to pioneer new technology and surgical procedures.

That same focus provided the foundation for KentuckyOne Health and the founding of Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence, which was formed as part of the sale of Jewish Hospital to Catholic

Health Initiatives, and which continues to provide financial support and leadership to Jewish Louisville and the medical field.

For KentuckyOne Health, caring for the underserved provided a common bond between Jewish Hospital, Sts. Mary & Elizabeth Hospital and Our Lady of Peace, joining forces with the former Saint Joseph Health System in Lexington to maximize our community impact as the state’s largest healthcare provider.

In the last five years, we have improved Kentucky’s health outcomes. Once ranked as least healthy state in the country, we are now 45th. Over the next five years, I pray these health metrics will continue to improve.

This commitment to wellness, healing and hope for all, including the underserved, has been our guiding mission. In just the last year, we provided over \$121 million of community benefit, including unreimbursed patient care, education and research.

We are thankful for the opportunity to serve our community, living out our faith in tangible ways that ensure that the most vulnerable have access to excellent healthcare.

True, our Louisville facilities are for sale, but we seek a new owner who will continue to invest in us, supporting our care-giving and educational missions.

Living in uncertain times isn’t easy, but it is precisely moments like these when our faith and trust are so crucial. Ironically, remaining focused upon faith is the exact same skill our patients require. So, we are proud of how we have deepened our ability to care for our patients during moments of transition and, in the process, strengthened our own spiritual resilience.

We continue to improve, not only our healthcare, but the environment in which it is delivered. Recently, several of our Louisville facilities have been recognized by the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce and the Kentucky Society for Human Resource Management as “Best Places to Work in Kentucky.” Some were honored for the first time; others are repeat recipients.

We move forward with faith and hope, continuing to fulfill our founding mission, thankful for the lessons of Sacks and others that we are learning along the way. May this ability to focus upon what is unchanging be a skill we share with all those whom we encounter; it’s a gift our world needs now more than ever.

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

EVENTS CALENDAR

Chavurat Shalom for June

THURSDAY, JUNE 6

Jason Parroco, Hosparus health manager of community outreach and ukulele and guitar player, will sing and provide life-affirming information. Lunch will include beef hot dogs, vegetarian baked beans, potato salad, fresh fruit and cookies and brownies.

THURSDAY, JUNE 13

Two of Diamonds (Ann Waterman and Beth Olliges) will perform a sing-along. Lunch will include honey bourbon chicken, couscous, broccoli and carrots, mixed green salad, fresh fruit and strawberry trifle.

THURSDAY, JUNE 20

Trip to the Derby Dinner Playhouse to see *The Savannah Sipping Society*.

THURSDAY, JUNE 27

Jennifer Diamond will perform. Lunch in the Heideman will include a deli platter, gazpacho, mixed green salad, fresh fruit and chocolate spoon cake. The concert will follow in the Waller Chapel.

THURSDAY, JULY 4

No Chavurat Shalom due to Independence Day.

Chavurat Shalom is an opportunity for Jewish senior adults to meet socially and share ideas. Lunch is \$5 and reservations are due by the Tuesday before the program. Please RSVP to 502-423-1818 or sarahharlan86@gmail.com. A vegetarian option is available if requested in advance. All programs will be held in the

Levy Great Hall of the Klein Center at The Temple, 5101 U.S. Hwy. 42, unless otherwise noted in the listing, with lunch starting at noon, followed by our program at 1 pm. Transportation can be scheduled

by calling Jewish Family & Career Services at 502-452-6341. Transportation is \$5 round-trip. Chavurat Shalom is funded by the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence, The Temple, The Temple Brotherhood and Sisterhood, NCJW, the Jewish Federation of Louisville, and other donors.

The J Senior Center for June

TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 12:45 P.M.

Deb Frockt, CEO of Jewish Family & Career Services, will be the guest speaker.

TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 12:45 P.M.

Benji Berlow, rabbinic assistant to Rabbi Joe Rooks Rapport, will perform on the guitar.

TUESDAY, JUNE 25, 12:45 P.M.

Abigail Glogower, curator of the Jewish Archives of the Filson Historical Society, will speak.

THURSDAY, JULY 18, 10 A.M.

Day trip to the Belterra Casino. The group will leave the J at 10 a.m. Each participant will receive a \$10 voucher for use in the casino plus a \$5 voucher for the buffet or other eateries. RSVP with your name, mailing address, date of birth, driver’s license or State ID number (with expiration date) and mychoice account number from Belterra, if any. Cost is \$28 for members,

\$35 for nonmembers. Reservations are due by June 28.

Share your thoughts about *The Community*? Go to www.jewishlouisville.org/communitysurvey and let us know!

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NEWS

Lou-Grass in Louisville happens on June 2

The Lou-Grass Festival at Temple Shalom, an afternoon of Jewish and bluegrass music, food trucks and children's activities, will begin at 1 p.m., Sunday, June 2. Nefesh Mountain will be the featured performance.

Also performing on the indoor and outdoor venues will be John Gage and Brigid Kaelin of the Louisville Public Radio's *Kentucky Homefront* and Kentucky bluegrass bands Hog Operation and Ida Clare.

The bands will start their indoor performances at 3 p.m.

A five-member New York string band, Nefesh Mountain blends bluegrass and old-time musical stylings with cultural influences from their own Jewish

heritage. The band, which received a positive review in *The New York Times*, also draws on influences from Celtic, jazz and other genres to create songs of the heart.

A silent auction will feature restaurant certificates, a Churchill Downs box, vacation getaways, Jewish artwork and other items.

Lou-Grass is sponsored by the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence.

Want to go?

Tickets are \$15 at the door or \$12 in advance. Children's tickets (12 and under) are \$5 with a family maximum of \$40. For more information and tickets, call **Temple Shalom at 502-458-4739**.



Nefesh Mountain will be the featured act at this year Lou-Grass Music Festival at Temple Shalom.

Sugihara

continued from page 17

Nazi pressure to eliminate Jews under its control, instead sending them to a ghetto in Shanghai, which was crowded, impoverished and disease-riddled.

"But they were safe," she said.

For Milrod, of Mason, Ohio, the Yom HaShoah program was something of a homecoming. She lived and worked as an educator in Louisville for years, and even belonged to Temple Shalom, where her children became b'nai mitzvah.

Also present for the ceremony was Ituroh Abe, Japanese consul in Nashville. In his remarks, he said Sugihara's actions have been an inspiration to him.

"He chose humanity over career and the regulations of his government," Abe said.

This year's kindlers of the remembrance candles were Jeff Jamner, Linda Klein, Thelma and Shari Marx, and Janet Jakubowicz, all family of survivors; Dan Penner, Shannon Kederis and Fred Whittaker, area school teachers of Holocaust history; Dan Streit, a refugee from Nazi Germany; Fred Gross, a survivor; Milrod and Abe.

Rabbi Stan Miles, outgoing chair of the Jewish Community Relations Council, who opened the program, said events such as Yom HaShoah are critical, especially today, "to bring light to a frightened and darkened world."

Rabbis Joe Rooks Rapport and Bob Slosberg, plus teens from area schools, also took part in the ceremony.

Cantor Sharon Hordes sang *Bessame Mucho*; Jamner and violinist Sara Callaway performed a dramatic reading-music rendition of "Juliek's Violin,"



Chiune Sugihara

which is taken from Elie Wiesel's *Night*; Cantor David Lipp chanted *El Maleh Rachamim* and Gross led a Holocaust-specific responsive reading of the Mourner's Kaddish, in which the audience answered each line with the name of a place where the Holocaust, and more recent acts of genocide, took place.

Rabbi Michael Wolk, who introduced that reading, which is used in the Conservative *machzor*, said the Holocaust "needs its own unique liturgy" to perpetuate its memory.

In closing, Rabbi Beth Jacowitz Chottiner quantified the impact of Sugihara's action during the war. "It allowed 40,000 descendants of the visa recipients to come into the world," she said.

Years after the war, when asked in an interview why he did it, Sugihara said, "In life do what's right because it's right, and leave it alone – no ulterior motive, don't make money from it, don't write an article about, don't publicize it. Do what's right because it's right."

Jacowitz Chottiner asked everyone in the sanctuary to "live according to the values that guided the remarkable life of Chiune Sugihara."

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AROUND TOWN

(Unless otherwise noted, all events are free and open to the community.)

Crohn's support group

A new support group for people with IBD (Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis) and their families is starting at Temple Shalom. The first meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 28, at the synagogue. Dr. Jeff Tuvlin will facilitate. American Jews of European descent are four to five times more likely to develop IBD than the general population. Compared with adults without IBD, those with the disease are more likely to have certain chronic health conditions.

Contact Temple Shalom President Richard Goldwin at **president@templeshalomky.org** for more information.

Pragmatic spirituality discussion

Marty and Dr. Courtney Snyder lead a discussion group based on inspiration from a spiritual thinker, Sundays at 10 a.m. at Adath Jeshurun. The next session, June 2, will address the topic, "Come on people now, smile on your brother." The topic for the June 23 session will be, "The Wisdom of Tenderness."

Homeless Outreach

Keneseth Israel will make sandwiches and care packages for the homeless from 5:15 to 6:15 p.m., Sunday, June 2. Bring your own supplies (bread, peanut butter and jelly, blankets, underwear, socks, flashlights, etc.) The group will caravan downtown around 6:15 p.m. to give out food and supplies. RSVP to **gkahn@kenesethisrael.com** or 502-459-2780.

Bernheim Hike

The Temple Brotherhood's annual Bernheim Spring Hike is on Sunday, June 2. The carpool leaves at 9 a.m. The one-to-two-hour moderate hike will start at 10 a.m. Bring your own lunch. RSVPs are required; the group limit is 60. Call 502-423-1818 by May 31.

Rabbi Laura Metzger

Louisville Melton will honor Rabbi Laura Metzger during its annual Celebration of Learning at 11 a.m., Sunday, June 2, at Adath Jeshurun. She is being recognized for her "excellence in Melton teaching and curriculum development." A celebration lunch will follow at noon. RSVP by calling Deborah Slosberg at 502-458-5359, or visiting **adathjeshurun.com/meltoncelebration**.

Brotherhood distillery tour, dinner

The Temple Brotherhood will visit the newest downtown distillery, Kentucky Peerless Distilling Company, on 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, June 12, for a tour, taste, and dinner. Corky and Carson Taylor are fourth- and fifth-generation distillers; the company was started by Corky's Polish-Jewish, immigrant great-grandfather. The tour begins at 6:30 p.m. and is free for Brotherhood members and lecture series subscribers. The cost is \$25 for non-members and guests. The event is limited to 50 people.

Father's Day Trap Shoot

The Temple Brotherhood will hold a

Father's Day trap shoot on Sunday, June 16. The carpool will leave The Temple at 10 a.m. for Indian Creek in Georgetown, Indiana. Dr. Nathan Berger is organizing this family event. RSVP online or call 502-423-1818.

Goldberg speaks at AJ

Matt Goldberg, director of the Jewish Community Relations Council, will deliver the D'var Torah at Adath Jeshurun on Saturday, June 22. His topic will be "Why intergroup relations are more important than ever." Services begin at 9:30 a.m.

Shabbat and Sundaes

Keneseth Israel will hold Shabbat and Sundaes at 6 p.m., Saturday, June 29, at Graeter's on Bardstown Road. KI members will receive a free treat up to \$5. RSVP to **gkahn@kenesethisrael.com** or 502-459-2780.

AJ Theatre Group

Adath Jeshurun is launching a new theatre group, which will produce plays and musicals with Jewish content. All are welcome to participate regardless of faith or affiliation. Opportunities for participation are available for actors, actresses, costume designers, set builders, props, tech-related theatre capacities and ushering. The first performance will take place in July. Contact Yehudah Husband at 502-500-5167 or **jai@AJAiJoint.com** for details.

AJ cemetery information

Gravesites at the Adath Jeshurun cemetery are available for purchase for \$3,125. The price, which includes perpetual care, is valid through June 30. Prices will increase on July 1. Call the AJ office at 502-458-5359 for more information.

Bridge Club

Keneseth Israel's bridge club meets Mondays from 1 to 3 p.m. in the small chapel. RSVP to **gwishnia@gmail.com**.

Love Sings Louder

Jewish Louisville will host hundreds of people at Iroquois Amphitheatre at 5 p.m., Sunday September, 15, for a Community sing-along, Love Sings Louder. The event, which will promote citywide unity, compassion and togetherness, is co-chaired by Louisville Metro Councilwoman Barbara Sexton-Smith and Dr. Mark Perelmutter. Watch *Community* for more details.

Adult Education

Kabbalah Month by Month

Cantor Hordes teaches a kabbalah class based on each Hebrew month's holidays, Torah portions, healing areas and astrological connections. The class meets every second Thursday at 6:30 p.m. The next session is June 13. RSVP to **gkahn@kenesethisrael.com** or 502-459-2780

Class on meditation during prayer

Part 2 of a JLI course, "With All My Heart," will start on June 17 and run

for three weeks. The course will look at meditation and how to bring peace into one's life using silent and communal prayer. The Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence is partly sponsoring the class, which will meet at the JLC Chabad Center, 1110 Dupont Circle. Contact Chabad at **rabbi@chabadky.com** or call 502-459-1770 for details.

Torah Yoga

Cantor Sharon Hordes and Lisa Flannery lead a class blending Torah study and yoga at Keneseth Israel. Temple Shalom and Hadassah are co-sponsors. The next class will meet at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, June 20. RSVP to 502-459-2780 or **gkahn@kenesethisrael.com**.

Jews and Brews

Rabbi Michael Wolk leads a Torah study session over coffee Wednesday at 11 a.m. in the J library.

Torah Study

Rabbi David Ariel-Joel leads Torah study Saturdays from 9 to 10 a.m. in the Fishman Library before the morning services. Coffee, bagels and cream cheese are served.

Worship

Bernheim Shabbat, and Dinner

The Temple's Annual Bernheim Classical Shabbat Service & Dinner will be held Friday, May 31. The Rabbi's Dinner starts at 6 p.m.; the service, 7 p.m. The service, which will be done in the classical Reform style, honors Isaac Bernheim (1848-1945), a Reform Jew, Louisville distiller and philanthropist who, in 1929, bequeathed 14,000 acres of land - the Bernheim Forest and Arboretum - to the people of Kentucky. The theme of the dinner is Bubbe's Brisket with a vegetarian option available on advanced request. Cost \$10 for adults (\$5 for RSVPs before May 28), free for children 12 and under. Call 502-423-1818 or visit **thetemplelouky.org** to sign up.

Celebration Shabbat

All who are celebrating a birthday or anniversary in the month of June may participate in a group aliyah during June 1 Shabbat morning worship services at Adath Jeshurun, which start at 9:30 a.m.

Tot Shabbat

Keneseth Israel will hold a children's Shabbat service at 10:45 a.m., Saturday, June 1. The service, which will be led by Rabbi Michael Wolk and Miriam Bird, is in addition to the 9:30 a.m. regular service.

Sing-along Friday Night

Chabad will celebrate Shabbat on Friday, June 7, at the Chabad House, 1654 Almara Circle, with a sing-along Kabbalat Shabbat service at 8:30 pm. A three-course traditional Shabbat dinner will follow the service. The Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence partly sponsors the event. Call 502-459-1770 for details.

Numbers Torah Celebration

The Infamous No-Rehearsal Brotherhood

Choir will be singing during Shabbat Torah celebration for the beginning of the Book of Numbers, at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, June 8. Immediately following services, the Temple Brotherhood will sponsor the oneg featuring Gravlox, matzah, and bourbon.

No Shush Shabbat

Temple Shalom's next No Shush Shabbat will be held at 6:30 p.m., Friday, June 14. Benji Berlow and a lay leader will conduct the interactive family service.

Pride Parade with The Temple

Temple members will hold a short lay-led service downtown before the Pride Parade at 6 p.m. The parade itself will begin at 7 p.m. at the intersection of Market and Campbell at the Big Four Lawn. RSVP to The Temple at 502-423-1818 and to order a free team T-shirt.

Havdalah Service

Chabad will hold a Havdalah service, concluding Shabbat, on Saturday, June 15. This service will conclude with a renewal blessing for the moon. The Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence is partly sponsoring the program. Call 502-459-1770.

Big Rock Shabbat

Keneseth Israel's Big Rock Shabbat will be held at 6 p.m., Friday, June 21, in Big Rock Park. Kabbalat Shabbat will be followed by a vegetarian/dairy picnic. Bring your own blanket, dairy/veggie food, and games. Arctic Scoop will provide dessert. RSVP to 502-459-2780 or **gkahn@kenesethisrael.com**.

Pride Shabbat

The Temple will commemorate LGBTQ Pride Month with its Fifth Annual Pride Shabbat, at 6:30 p.m., Friday, June 21. Chris Hartman, director of Fairness Campaign, will be the guest speaker. He will talk about making Louisville, and Kentucky, "a just and fair society."

Pride Shabbat will continue Saturday, June 22, with Torah study from 9 to 10 a.m. and the

Pride Shabbat Morning Service at 10:30 a.m. Led by Shir Chadash, Student Cantor Mike Jarvis, and Jennifer Diamond. The LGBTQ choir, VOICES of Kentuckiana, also will take part. The service includes the traditional Pride Parade with the Torah. A Kiddush Luncheon will follow at noon, with VOICES of Kentuckiana performing music and personal stories. RSVP for lunch by Tuesday, June 18.

All events are free and open to the public and generously sponsored by the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence.

BLT - Bagels Lox Tefillen

Chabad will hold a 45-minute morning service and a 45-minute brunch at 8:30 a.m., Sunday, June 23. The Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence partly sponsors the event. Call 502-459-1770 for details.

Independence Day Cookout

The Temple's Rabbi's Dinner at

continued on page 21

AROUND TOWN / LIFECYCLE

continued from page 20

5:30 p.m., Friday, July 5, will include a traditional cookout with hot dogs, hamburgers, veggie burgers, and other summer favorites. The Annual Red, White, and Blue Oneg sponsored by WRJ/Sisterhood, will follow services. Cost is \$10 per person (\$5 with RSVP's before July 2), free for children 12 and under. Call 502-423-1818 or register online.

Shavuot

Shavuot, confirmation

Temple Shalom will hold its annual

Shavuot confirmation service at 6:30 p.m., Friday, June 7. Song leader Sam Thal will take part in the service.

Tikkun Ley'l Shavuot

Adath Jeshurun and Keneseth Israel will hold shared evening study on erev Shavuot, 7 p.m., Saturday, June 8, at KI. The study sessions will follow a light dairy meal and desserts. RSVP to KI at 502-459-2780 or gkahn@kenesethisrael.com.

Create Your Own Shavuot

Chabad will offer an evening of dinner and discussion followed by a chance for

participants to create their own study program at 9 p.m. Saturday, June 8. Rabbi Avrohom Litvin will lecture on "The Marriage of Mankind with G-d." Holiday prayers, dinner and classes will follow. A dairy meal will be offered with cheesecake and coffee throughout the night and study partners will be available on any topic of Jewish concern. RSVP to Chabad@Chabadky.com or call 502-235-5770.

Tikkun Leil Shavuot

The Temple's annual Tikkun Leil Shavuot will be held at 9 p.m., Saturday, June 8. This year's class, "Shavuot: The Miracle of Sinai," with Rabbi David Ariel Joel, will start after the confirmation

service.

Shavout Ice Cream Party

Chabad will read the Ten Commandments at noon, Sunday, June 9, at the Louisville Chabad House, 1654 Almara Circle. A children's program will follow the Torah reading with ice cream and other dairy treats.

Shavuot memorial service

Chabad will hold a yizkur service at noon, Monday, June 10 at the Chabad House, 1654 Almara Circle. Rabbi Avraham Litvin will lead a meditation. A Kiddush luncheon will follow. Reservations are required. RSVP to Chabad at 502-459-1770.

B'nai Mitzvah

Leah Schuhmann



Leah Schuhmann, daughter of George Schuhmann and Cantor Sharon Hordes, granddaughter of Donald and Elaine Hordes of Cincinnati, Ohio,

and Jo Ann Burke of Louisville, was called to the Torah as a bat mitzvah on Saturday, May 25, at Keneseth Israel Congregation.

A seventh grader at Noe Middle School, Leah is a member of the Junior Beta Club and competed with her school's Future Problem Solving Team. She also plays field hockey and lacrosse.

Leah will be returning to Camp Livingston for her seventh summer. She also enjoys cooking and making friendship bracelets.

Obituaries

E. Barry Goldstein

E. Barry Goldstein, 79, died Friday, May 3, 2019, in West Bloomfield Township, Michigan was well Known for his sense of humor, fun-loving attitude and a smile that brightened everyone's day, he also was a loving husband, father and grandfather.

Edwin Barry was born in Louisville on Jan. 14, 1940, a son of Max and Louise Goldstein. He set aside his college education to serve in the Army.

Known for his entrepreneurial spirit, Barry and his wife, Nancy, opened B&N Shoes in Louisville.

Barry is missed by his beloved wife Nancy; his children Leah Goldstein McMillan (Rob) and Steve Goldstein (Kimalee); his "favorite granddaughter," Jenna; and his "favorite grandson," Scott, as well as his extended family and many friends.

Funeral services were held Monday, May 6, at Herman Meyer & Son, Inc. Interment followed in Keneseth Israel Cemetery.

Memorials to Keneseth Israel Congregation, The American Heart Association or The Kidney Association are appreciated.

Lucille Raff Bederman

Lucille Raff Bederman, 94, passed away peacefully on Mother's Day, May 12, 2019, surrounded by loved ones in Baptist Hospital East.

Feisty and wise, Lucille was born in Louisville on June 30, 1924, and raised during the Great Depression and World



War II.

She graduated in 1941 from Girls High, which later became Manual High School.

She was a life member of Hadassah and always supported her synagogue, Adath Jeshurun, where she worked as a bookkeeper – a "labor of love," she said. As "Sweet Lu," "Bubby," mentor, or friend to people of all ages, Lucille was adored, and will be missed by many.

She was predeceased by her father, Benjamin Louis Raff, a Navy veteran of World War I; her mother, Selma Raff, both of Louisville; her beloved cousin, Donald Guss, a veteran of the Battle of the Bulge; and her husband of 45 years, Sidney Bederman, an Air Force veteran of World War II. Childhood sweethearts when Sidney was 6 and Lucille 5, he would hold her hand to cross the street.

Lucille is survived by two children, Eric Lamb (Helene) and Douglas Lamb (Patty) of Louisville; three grandchildren, George Lamb (Angela) of Louisville, Paul Lamb (Naomi) of Columbus, Ohio; and Julie Lamb of Louisville; and; four great-grandchildren, Sarah and William Lamb of Louisville, and Simon and Emmett Lamb of Columbus, Ohio.

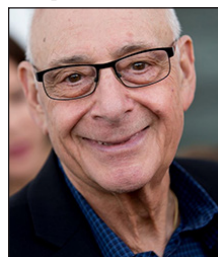
Lucille was proud of her beautiful family of four generations, one of the greatest joys of her life. She also lived to love three "last dogs ever."

Her family is thankful for all the kind people that took care of her during the last years. She lived in her own home on Tyler Lane, sharp as a tack and drinking coffee until just before her death.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday, May 14, at Herman Meyer & Son, Inc. Burial followed at Adath Jeshurun Cemetery on Preston Street.

In lieu of flowers, expressions of sympathy can be sent to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund or the Cantor's Discretionary Fund at Congregation Adath Jeshurun, 2401 Woodbourne Avenue, Louisville, KY 40205.

Stephen J. Kornreich



Stephen J. Kornreich, died on Wednesday, May 8, 2019.

Stephen was a respected lawyer in New York City and practiced for over 58 years. He loved the law so much he continued practicing until his death.

Born and raised in Brooklyn, New York, and a proud alumnus of Midwood

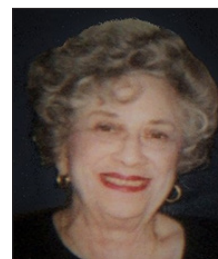
High School (1956), he went on to graduate from Cornell University and the Columbia University School of Law.

Stephen was passionate about his family and friends. His life was full of weekly get-togethers with his crew on the Upper East Side. He shared his obsession with his sons and grandsons for all New York sport teams, especially the Giants. In his downtime, he enjoyed his favorite classic movies, including Casablanca and any of John Ford's films.

Stephen is survived by what meant the most to him, his children: Peter (Helene) and Rob; and his wonderful grandsons, Matthew and Adam.

Graveside services were held Sunday, May 12, at Keneseth Israel Cemetery. The family asks that Stephen be remembered through donations to charities of the donor's choice.

Selma Kommor



Selma Kommor, 98, passed away on Friday, May 3, 2019 at Signature Health Care/Jefferson Place.

Known as Mom, Grandma, Bobby and G.G. Ma to those who

loved her, Selma was born in Portland, Oregon, on July 5, 1920, a daughter of the late William B. and Millie Hasson. She was a member of Congregation Adath Jeshurun and its Sisterhood, a life member of Hadassah and, in her younger days, she was active in the Heritage Theater in Louisville.

Selma's excellent cooking skills were enjoyed by many. Her standing rib roasts were outstanding; Sephardic dishes, delicious. Her Friday night Shabbat dinners were made with love and the perfect blend of salt, pepper and garlic. Her beans and rice topped with her famous salad were always a hit (lots of lemon juice). Her mocha chocolate coffee frosting was the icing on the cake and her chicken soup for those under the weather was just what the doctor ordered.

Selma got great pleasure knitting and sewing for her family. It wasn't unusual for her to knit while watching television, never looking at what she was knitting, yet everything she made turned out fine. She was an excellent ma jong player who absolutely loved the game.

Selma shared over 75 years of marriage – they broke the record at Adath Jeshurun – with her loving husband Alvin Kommor, who passed away on Jan 9, 2019 at the age of 100. They traveled distant places together, had a winter home in Boca Raton, Florida, played cards with their friends, lunched with their adored great-

granddaughter Sophie and continued to enjoy each other's company even as her memory started to fade.

Selma loved her family, who feel fortunate and grateful to have had her and Alvin in their lives for such a long time. The family thanks all of those who cared for Selma.

In addition to her parents and husband, Selma was preceded in death by her brothers, Bob, Elliot and Harvey Hasson; her grandson, Captain Benjamin Kommor; and her granddaughter, Pia Posadas Miller.

She is survived by her children, Sandee Miller (Lester), Dr. Martin Kommor (Kathie), Shelley Cozzens (Rick), grandchildren, Loren Miller, Brian Miller and Dr. Robert Cozzens (Alyssa), great grandchildren, Sophie Miller and Cora Hoffman and many nieces, nephews and great nieces and nephews.

Expressions of sympathy may be made to Adath Jeshurun, 2401 Woodbourne Avenue, Louisville, KY 40205; The Pia Posadas Miller Memorial Fund, c/o The Junior League of Louisville, 982 Eastern Parkway, Suite 7, Louisville, KY 40217; Hosparus Health, 3532 Ephraim McDowell Drive, Louisville, KY 40205 or a charity of the donor's choice. There will be a private funeral service.

Irvin J. "Sonny" Steinberg



Irvin J. "Sonny" Steinberg, died on May 20, 2019.

Born in Louisville on Aug. 11, 1938, a son of the late Hannah Yanoff and Oscar Herman Steinberg, Sonny graduated from Male High School and the University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy.

He served in the Coast Guard and was a member of the Jefferson County Academy of Pharmacy, the Optimist Club and B'nai B'rith International.

He also served on the Board of Trustees for The Temple and was one of the first co-chairs of the Louisville Jewish Heritage Weekend, which was held on the Belvedere in the 1980s.

Sonny was the owner and operator of Durham and Wagner Transmissions for 29 years and served as the local president and national secretary of the Independent Garage Owners. He was a registered pharmacist in Kentucky and Indiana who worked at Walgreens, Mill Pharmacy, Winn-Dixie, Walmart and Park DuValle Community Health Center.

Sonny was a gentleman and a scholar in every sense. He was a generous and caring husband, brother, father, and

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NEWS & NEWSMAKER

New Roots awarded Capstone Grant

New Roots is one of two groups recently awarded the Gendler Grapevine Capstone grant. The other group – Hazon – is a national organization which helped to implement the J's JOFEE work.

Thirty groups applied for the grant.

New Roots will use the grant to spread "Jewish food justice" in two other cities with JCCs in the Ohio River Valley. The group will hold small food justice workshops, discussions with community leaders and develop a plan to spread food justice into the region's Jewish communities.

"Our first trip to Dayton earlier this month was great," said New Roots Founder and Director Karyn Moskowitz in a prepared statement. "I participated in a women's food justice seder at the JCC and met with leaders from the Hall Health Initiative."

She said a trip to Cincinnati is being planned.

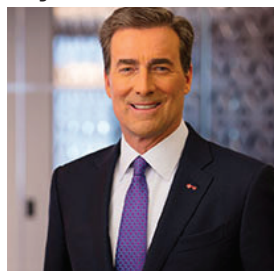
New Roots is a local advocate organization for fresh food as a basic

human right. It has helped to organize a network of Fresh Stop Markets – "pop up" farm-fresh food markets at local churches, community centers and businesses in neighborhoods facing barriers to accessing farm-fresh food.

One of those markets, the Gendler Market, operates each summer under the shelter at the J.

There will be nine Fresh Stop Market locations this growing season – six in Louisville, one in Hazard, one in Brandenburg, and one in southern Indiana. Visit newroots.org or call 502-509-6770 for more information.

KeyBank invests \$9M in Israel Bonds



Christopher Gorman

Cleveland-based KeyBank just purchased \$9 million in Israel bonds.

"KeyBank has invested in Israel bonds for 35 years and they have

always been dependable securities with strong interest rates," Christopher M. Gorman, chairman and CEO of KeyBank, said in a prepared statement. "We view our relationship as a partnership between KeyBank and Israel. I have travelled to Israel personally and was amazed by the culture and entrepreneurial spirit."

Jay Luzar, KeyBank's corporate treasurer, noted that Israel has never missed a payment of principle. "Israel bonds help diversify our portfolio while meeting our fiduciary requirements," Luzar said in his prepared statement.

Thomas Lockshin, Israel Bonds executive director for Ohio and Kentucky, coordinated KeyBank's Israel bond investment.

The sale of Israel bonds is global in scope with worldwide sales surpassing \$42 billion since 1951.

Louisville native to be ordained by HUC-JIR

David Bloom of Louisville, a rabbinical student at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, will be ordained as a Reform rabbi during a June 1 ceremony at the Plum Street Temple.



David Bloom

The son of Drs. Steven and Karen Bloom, David, who grew up at Temple Shalom, plans to continue his studies this fall, starting a post-baccalaureate program at Bryn Mawr College. There, he hopes to get the basic sciences he needs to go on to medical school.

"I'm interested in medical ethics – Jewish medical ethics and what they teach at medical school," Bloom said. "I'm interested in both those areas."

He tripled-majored in Jewish studies, religious studies and French while at Indiana University at Bloomington.

Bloom said he's wanted to be a rabbi since his sophomore year in high school. He attended Camp Kutz and had a transformative experience with Torah teacher there.

"I think it was his teaching that made me interested in Judaism in a way I hadn't been before," Bloom said. "He just brought it to life and opened it for discussion."

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grandfather, who always put family first. He was a kind and gentle person who was loved by all. He loved animals, he never met a stranger, and he made the world a better place. He was a mentor, sage, and advocate who always offered advice and was willing to help. He loved the arts, the performing arts, and

the Kentucky Wildcats. He had a love and passion for travel, having visited more than 100 countries on all seven continents.

In addition to his parents, Sonny was preceded in death by his brother-in-law, Roger Eppinger.

He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Elaine; his children, Mindy and Scott Scharf, Andrew Steinberg, Holly

and Craig Reines and Tracy Steinberg Goodman; his grandchildren, Harrison Reines, Jayne Reines, Max Steinberg, Chaim Steinberg, Noam Steinberg and Sayde Goodman; his brother, Allan Steinberg; his sister, LeeAnn Steinberg; his brother-in-law, Lee Eppinger and many cousins.

Funeral services were held Thursday, May 23 at Herman Meyer & Son, Inc.

Interment followed in The Temple Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Sonny's memory may be made to the Steinberg Family Scholarship Endowment at Jefferson Community and Technical College, 109 East Broadway, Louisville, KY 40202 or to the charity of the donor's choice.

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LIFECYCLE

WENDELL

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University, then moved with his wife, Tanya, to New York, where he taught at the Bronx campus of New York University.

"I had swallowed completely the idea that to amount to anything, a boy would have to leave a place like this," he said.

But he returned home when the University of Kentucky, his alma mater, offered him a teaching position in 1965. The couple bought a farm in Henry County, the same county where Berry's family has lived and farmed for at least five generations.

They're still there.

"I think I prepared myself to come home by my writing. I think I felt it as a vocation."

In the half century since his return, Berry has become an outspoken defender of human rights and conservation, and

a critic of harmful government policies. He spoke out against the war in Vietnam; protested construction of a nuclear power plant in Indiana; joined a human blockade of a coal-fired power plant in Washington, D.C.; and spoke out against capital punishment and the resurgence of racism since Obama's election.

But no issue is closer to Berry than what he sees as the destruction of farm life and the mistreatment of the land.

"We're dependent on toxic chemicals," he said. "How we would relieve ourselves of that dependence would be a very complex matter ... we're dependent on tons of it scattered over the countryside."

The Kentucky River, which flows by his farm, once had many black willow trees along its banks, Berry said. Now, they're gone. Likewise, muskrats have disappeared from the woods.

"All this has to do with the health of nature," he said. "These are very bad symptoms."

But the land can't be sustained without

a stable population living on it, Berry said, and farm communities have been depleted for decades by industrialization and what he sees as a government-pushed idea that there are too many farmers.

"The Census Bureau quit counting farmers years ago," he said. "They're demographically insignificant."

All of which has led to the breakup of the "intact rural community" with its own self-sustaining economy.

Years ago, "unless you needed a suit, you could buy everything you needed in Port Royal," Berry recalled. Then, after World War II, industrialization drained the countryside of its people.

"It hasn't stopped," he said.

Berry has proffered ideas to deal with these issues.

Together with Wes Jackson, co-founder of the Land Institute, he proposed in a 2009 New York Times column that Congress pass a "50-year farm bill," addressing soil erosion,

overuse of toxic chemicals, dependency on fossil fuels and the destruction of farm communities.

"Civilizations have destroyed themselves by destroying their farmland," he wrote.

But his biggest contribution to this cause is through his poetry, which is about the land, its people and the rhythms of nature.

A religious man, Berry's has written pastoral poems, encompassing thoughts that have come to him over the years while walking in the woods on the Sabbath.

In fact, "Sabbaths" is the title of a major body of his work. He explores the idea of Sabbath in his poetry and takes comfort from knowing the world continues even when he stops for a day.

"That's a rich idea, that the world continues," Berry said, "then you devote some time to watching it continue."

WINNERS

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Stacy Marks Nisenbaum Award

Drew Goldstein
Elana Berger

Stuart Pressma Student Leadership Development Awards

Emily Renco
Eli Resnik
Jillian Lustig

Tony Levitan Awards

Gabrielle Aberson
Adam Rudy

CANTORS

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colleague, "a cantor's cantor."

Understandably, Lipp was surprised by the presentation. "I can't think of a higher honor," he said. "I'm overwhelmed, and I'm blabbering because I'm speechless."

Later in the program, the second Torah – the one Lipp did expect – arrived when the outgoing CA president, Cantor Alisa Pomerantz-Boro, marched it down the aisle to the bima. It will reside in the AJ ark for the next two years – then length of Lipp's term as president.

By the way, there was really music at this concert. In fact, it was a rare, if not unprecedented, display for Jewish Louisville of the virtuosity of the American cantorate.

Some of the performers commanded standing ovations, such as when Cantor Jack Mendelson and his son, Daniel, performed together a traditional cantorial chant of *Acheinu Kol Beis Yisroel*.

Cantor Sharon Hordes of Keneseth Israel, and her predecessor, Cantor Paula Pepperstone, opened the show by chanting Psalm 100:2.

Cantor Randy Herman, the star of this year's AJ Music Festival, riffed on the

piano as he sang an upbeat tune he composed, *Yofi Tofi Mucho Beseder*.

Cantor Alberto Mizrahi performed a Sephardic version *L'cha Dodi* as he banged away on a drum.

And all the cantors stood and ringed the sanctuary for a Kululam-inspired performance of Naomi Shemer's *Lu Y'hi* (Let it Be).

The concert ended with an Abayudaya rendition of the *Shema*. The CA had sent a delegation to Uganda in February to show solidarity with the Jews there, who have struggled for recognition from religious leaders in Israel.



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