



INSIDE

Blind J counselor teaches kids that anything is possible

STORY ON PG. 11

FRIDAY Vol. 45, No. 07 | July 26, 2019 | 23 Tammuz 5779

Gators win!



Eloise Renfrow (left) and Ellen Kuhl (right), members of The J Gators swim team, embrace at the conclusion of the 2019 Louisville Swim Association Division Championship at the Oldham County Aquatic Center. The Gators won the championship for the third year in a row, which also marked Kuhl's final meet with the team. See story, page 12. (photo provided)

Louisville to make joyful noise at ‘Love Sings Louder’

By Lee Chottiner
Community Editor

Racism is on the rise. Anti-Semitism is accelerating. Islamophobia is increasing. Mass shootings are multiplying. The world needs some love ... so let's sing.

That's exactly what Louisville is about to do.

A coalition of faith-based and civic partners, led by the Jewish Federation of Louisville, is organizing a Sept. 15 program at the Iroquois Amphitheater, called Love Sings Louder, where a cross-section of Louisvillians – perhaps thousands – will come together and sing as a powerful gesture of unity.

This past year, Louisville has rallied or held vigils following several acts of violence: The Tree of Life shootings in Pittsburgh; the mosque attacks in Christchurch, New Zealand; the Hindu temple defacing in West Buechel, the Kroger shootings in Jeffersontown and the Poway Chabad attack in California, to name a few.

Just once, said Matt Goldberg, director of the Jewish Community Relations

See **LOVE** on page 19

LCJC releases findings from yearlong synagogue study

By Lee Chottiner
Community Editor

The Louisville Council of Jewish Congregations (LCJC) has released its findings from a yearlong study on synagogue sustainability, which contains some ideas and goals for Jewish religious life in the Derby City.

Among those ideas were for three synagogues to share space under one common governing board, hiring a professional with experience in engaging millennial Jews, and a variety of ways to revamp K-8 religious education and increase engagement across the community.

LCJC Facilitator Matt Schwartz believes the biggest takeaway is not the report, but the relationships built between community leaders. Synagogue administrators have told the LCJC that they are talking to each other more.

That could lead to something positive,



The findings of the Rosov study identified ideas and goals for the sustainability of synagogue life in Louisville.

he predicted.

The results of the study, which was done by Rosov Consulting, with offices in Berkeley and Jerusalem, were released

in three parts: a brief summary, drafted by Schwartz, and two extensive memos from the Feb. 25 and June 11 breakout meetings with LCJC members and other

“stakeholders” – community professionals and volunteer leaders.

The study also identified a few “red flags” facing the synagogues. It cited “much frustration and mistrust of each other” and “the magical belief that money will solve everything.”

The red flags outlined must be addressed, the report concluded. “The ability of the LCJC ... to focus and direct everyone's efforts in this regard will be critical.”

Rosov also spent last November and December meeting individually with stakeholders and getting to know the community.

The memos addressed three priorities for the synagogues: space sharing, re-envisioning K-8 Jewish education and increasing engagement across the community.

See **LCJC** on page 19

Farm to Table

DINNER

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THE DASHBOARD

D'var Torah

Prayer soften struggles of night



Rabbi
Diane Tracht

When I'm doing pastoral counseling, people often tell me that the night is their hardest time.

They manage through the day, but when they prepare for sleep, everything gets harder. Their fears and grief feel more consuming. Their pain is most acute.

Many of us struggle most at night.

There's an evolutionary explanation for our increased fear and anxiety when the sun goes down. Our brains don't always distinguish well between the ancient fears of predators and our contemporary intense emotions. From this confusion, our brains keep us on high alert, helping us avoid danger, but being on high alert also flags us to whatever suffering is in our soul.

For others, the business of the day serves to numb us. We might have the distractions of a long to-do list, but as we slow down for sleep, the stillness of night allows buried feelings to come forward.

The rabbis of old wrote our Hashkiveinu prayer to address this human need for a sense of safety and calm each night. Here is the Reconstructionist translation of the prayer:

Help us to lie down, DEAR ONE, our God, in peace, and let us rise again, our sovereign, to life. Spread over us the shelter of your peace. Decree for us a worthy daily lot and redeem us for the sake of your great name. Protect us and keep from us enemies, illness, sword, famine, and sorrow. Engulf us in the wings of your protection, for you are our

redeeming guardian. Truly, a sovereign, gracious and compassionate God are you. Guard our going forth each day for life and peace, now and always. Spread over us the shelter of your peace. Blessed are you, COMPASSIONATE ONE, whoever guards the people Israel, and all who dwell on Earth.

Here, we ask for protection from physical dangers and emotional pain. We seek the ability to trust that everything will be alright. We hope to rise again the next day, to live full and good lives. When we name our hopes, we remind ourselves that there is goodness still in our world, and we bring some light into the dark of night. By praying, we connect ourselves to that which is greater than ourselves, and by praying our traditional prayers, we connect with hundreds of generations who, having felt our same core feelings, called out in the same language.

There's another way to understand night and its associated troubles: Night also offers the possibility of redemption and transformation.

There's a midrash (Pesikta d'Rav Kahana 7:4) that King David would put his harp and lyre by his bed each night and would awaken to play them at midnight. During this time, David would play and write his psalms, which often express heartbreak and fear.

Psalms 6:7 perfectly captures painful nights: "I am weary with groaning/ every night I drench my bed/ I melt my couch in tears."

David, our tradition teaches, wrote these psalms of pain, and they became part of our holy text. Suffering is part of our honest human experience. It's part of our honest human relationships with each other and with God. This honesty and vulnerable humanity bring us closer to holiness.

As a chaplain, I help people honor their humanity by putting their pain and hopes into words that other people can hear, and into the prayers that God hears. This process brings us closer to holiness, enabling us to transform the suffering, if only bit by bit.

David knew this possibility for transformation when he wrote, "Weeping may stay for the night, but joy comes in the morning" (Psalm 30:6).

Night will always yield to morning, just as day will always yield to night. May these cycles sensitize us to our own humanity and expand our compassion for ourselves and others. May we know the holiness of our full, raw, beautiful, humanness.

(Rabbi Diane Tracht is the volunteer manager at the Jewish Family & Career Services and a PRN chaplain at Jewish Hospital.)

Tzofim concert



The Tzofim Caravan, a team of singing and dancing Israeli scouts, rolled into Louisville on July 16 to perform for Camp J. While here, they stayed in private homes and got to see the city. Israel sends teams of tzofim to the United States every year, building relationships between American Jews and the Jewish state. (Community photos by Jessica Budnick)

Candles

Here are the candle lighting times for Shabbat in August:

- Aug 2 @ 8:33
- Aug 16 @ 8:17
- Aug 30 @ 7:57
- Aug 9 @ 8:25
- Aug 23 @ 8:07

Contacts

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

Send it along to *Community Editor* Lee Chottiner at lchottiner@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 circula-

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

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, Aug. 14 (though sooner is better). The paper should be in your mailbox by Fri-

day, Aug. 23.

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

Corrections

Due to an editing error, JCL Board Chair Jon Fleischaker, who co-authored President and CEO Sara Klein Wagner's column in the June 21 *Community*, was not identified in the piece.

The online version of the column has been corrected to include Fleischaker's name. Have a correction? Send it to lchottiner@jewishlouisville.org.

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Dear Reader,

We at the *Jewish Louisville Community*, Louisville's award-winning Jewish news service, wish to thank you for your valuable support over the years. Because of you, we are the **only** reliable source of Jewish news in the Derby City.

This past year, *Community* brought you news affecting our agencies, synagogues and people that you likely didn't find anywhere else. We have profiled our leaders and trumpeted new programs and activities that make Jewish Louisville a special community.

We also led the coverage of the Kentucky Legislature's historic vote to mandate Holocaust education in the public schools, the complicated facial surgery performed by a Jewish Louisville physician on a Palestinian child and the future of the state's only Orthodox congregation.

Community reports what you must know and want to know. We brief you on national and international happenings, offer analyses of Jewish news from around the world that you just can't find in the secular press. We are always happy to hear feedback regarding what we report.

We hope you'll continue your support *Community's* mission. A gift at the \$36, \$54 or \$72 levels – double, triple, quadruple chai -- will help us cover our printing and distribution expenses, payment for writers and enhancements to our digital platform. Your support will create a stronger *Community*, ready to cover the challenges facing Jewish Louisville, and its successes. Please return your check today in the enclosed envelope. Keep *Community* coming to your mailbox and computer inbox this coming year. Your generosity makes us possible.

B'shalom,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Lee Chottiner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

Lee Chottiner, editor
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COMMUNITY

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Deadlines for the next two issues of **Community** for copy and ads are: Aug. 14 for publication on Aug. 23 and Sep. 18 for publication on Sep. 27.

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



Message from Facebook: Remember Walter

I was sitting at my workstation, typing away on my PC when a Facebook message flashed on the lower righthand corner of my screen: “Walter Boninger has a birthday today.”

He would have, if he had lived.

Walter, who was my friend and “rabbi,” died in Pittsburgh on March 25, 2018, a month short of his 90th birthday. I didn’t even know about it until another friend dropped me a line to let me know.

At first, I was reflexively ticked off at Facebook for keeping people’s accounts active long after they pass away.

Then, after thinking about it, I became somewhat grateful for the oversight. Walter was an amazing man who helped shape my youth.

A refugee from Nazi Germany, he lived through Kristallnacht, a pogrom carried out against the Jews, Walter and his parents were fleeing the country in 1939, when their ship hit a German mine and sank. Walter became an orphan at age 11.

He nevertheless made it to the states, was raised by relatives in New York and became a social worker.

Walter took a job at the Cleveland Society for the Blind and acted as cantor for a synagogue in Mayfield Heights.

Later, he moved to Butler, Pennsylvania, to take a job as the spiritual leader for the synagogue there. That’s where I, a young reporter in my first job, met him.

Walter was not really a rabbi; he did not have *smicha* (ordination), at least not at that time. But we called him rabbi anyway, and in every way you can imagine, other than official, he was.

A short man with gray, wavy hair, soft voice, who walked with a limp, Walter was approachable.

One of my most vivid memories of



Human Resources

Lee Chottiner

Walter was the day I rode with him to Polk State Hospital in northwest Pennsylvania, a gothic-looking home for the mentally ill located deep in a forest. (It seemed like the set for an Alfred Hitchcock movie.) Walter served as the rabbi for the Jews living there.

It was Passover, so he brought a little Torah from the synagogue, which was called “The Baby.” His “congregants clamored to touch it as he walked it around the room, chanting “Torah, Torah, Torah, Torah.” For those people, Walter was their only lifeline to their faith.

Another time, I inherited a painting from my grandmother, a copy of Marc Chagall’s *Rabbi with Torah*, which my Aunt Audrey had painted. I was young and dumb, so I thought I would just give it to the synagogue. Walter made me keep it. I was a little offended at first, but today that painting hangs in our house in Louisville and is one of our prized family heirlooms. Like me, my daughter will inherit it.

Walter understood its value before I did.

I lost touch with Walter after I left Butler. Then, years later, after returning to Pittsburgh, I walked into Temple Sinai one night. There he was, retired, white hair now, sporting a goatee, but he was

singing enthusiastically in the choir – doing what he really loved.

He was never comfortable being called rabbi, for obvious reasons, but the title suited him. He was a teacher, not so much through his sermons, classes and written drashes (though he did all those things), but simply by the way he behaved. He survived so much pain in his life, yet he became someone who offered so much comfort.

A refugee from a hostile country (at least to Jews), Walter and his parents sought refuge in America, much like many people from Central America who are seeking asylum today.

Walter made it. As a result, my life, and the lives of so many others, were enriched. One wonders how many lives could be enriched by the refugees at our southern border, if only our country gave them the same chance that it gave Walter.

But that’s a discussion for another column.

Sometimes, I freak out thinking about all the people I once looked up to who are now gone. It’s up to my wife and me to provide for our daughter sans the traditional family safety net.

Then a Facebook message flashes on my screen, reminding me that those people are still providing comfort from across the ether of time. It feels good.

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

FORUM

Racism at 'highest levels' must be opposed



JCRC Scene

Matt Goldberg

President's Trump recently took to Twitter and called for four American congresswomen of color to go back to the countries from which they came.

The president's tweets are not something that can easily be dismissed as just another example of hard-nosed politics. These tweets were clearly racist and xenophobic; they cannot be viewed any other way.

Far from just questionable love-it-or-leave-it statements, these tweets send the message to immigrants and people of color that they less than full Americans.

To be clear, three of these women were born in the United States, the fourth has been a naturalized citizen for many years.

Very few of us are native to America, we are mostly descended from immigrants and refugees, and whether someone's ancestry in America goes back 10 years or 400, American citizens are as American as anyone else.

While the president was rightly condemned, his follow up tweets defending his statements, which directly involved the Jewish community and Israel, complicated matters.

Accusing these women of anti-Semitism

and anti-Zionism to defend his past statements should not provide us any comfort. The president's words served only to distract from the racist nature of his original tweets.

Ordinarily, a president so vociferously attacking anti-Semitism and anti-Zionism would be a good thing, and some statements by Rep. Ilhan Omar made earlier this year were anti-Semitic in nature (though the freshman from Minnesota quickly apologized for them). But the accusations of anti-Semitism levied by our president are hollowed out when used the way he did.

In other words, the president has turned loyalty to Israel into a litmus test for loyalty to America. That means anyone exercising their free speech rights to level criticism against the Israeli government risks being accused of being un-American.

That offends not only national sensibilities, but Jewish ones as well.

Anti-Semitism is a real thing, and it is getting much worse, both here and abroad. Hate crimes against Jews have increased at a staggering rate. The ADL has tracked almost a 100-percent increase in incidents and Jews are now the most targeted group in the country. The horrific attacks at the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh and Poway Chabad are only symptoms of this new reality.

But racism of all sorts is on the rise in this country. The FBI reported 7,175 incidents of hate crimes in 2017 (the most recent data available) – a 17-percent increase from 2016 and the third consecutive year of an uptick.

Black churches have been burned down, a LGBTQ night club was scene of a mass shooting, Hispanics legally seeking asylum are being detained like criminals,

their children taken from them.

And strong women who choose to speak out instead of staying silent have been targeted with lies and death threats.

None of this is in accordance with Jewish teachings. Perhaps that is why Jews in such large numbers have spoken out against the president's remarks.

And it's not just progressive Jews who are speaking

The Rabbinical Council of America, an Orthodox body that has embraced Trump, recently issued a strongly worded statement that "condemns the most recent outburst of racist rhetoric in the highest levels of government," an apparent reference to the president's remarks.

"Whether statements that question the loyalty of American Jews when the safety and security of Israel is at stake or rallies that call upon descendants of immigrants to return to countries they never knew," the RCA statement continued, "we see these pronouncements as dangerous to the core values of our faith and the foundations of American society."

With all the problems facing Jewish communities around the world, strong moral leadership condemning hateful remarks at home is vital. President Trump can and should be that leader. But using a charge of anti-Semitism to justify racism does everyone a disservice.

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



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LETTERS

'Lasting impact'

Thank you for the superb write-up you did on our museum ("Nelson County eighth graders build their own Holocaust museum," by Lisa Hornung, May 28). You probably didn't realize it, but the students you chose to feature were kids who are sometimes overlooked. In fact, I would daresay [none] of the students in the article have ... seen their names in the news before.

I can't thank you enough for taking time to visit our museum, nor can I overstate the impact your attention to the project made on my kids. Though I

told them over and over that the public would be interested in their work, they could not believe a real reporter came to cover their museum. I know your job is to cover the news first and foremost, but you truly made a lasting impact on my kids, and for that, I am incredibly grateful.

Taylor Bumgardner
Bardstown

(The author is a teacher at Old Kentucky Home Middle School in Bardstown.)

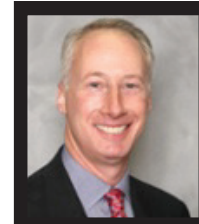
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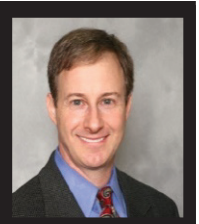
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FORUM

No, Mr. Peretz! Intermarried Jews are not a second Holocaust

By Rabbi Shmuly Yanklowitz
Guest Columnist

PHOENIX – Israeli Education Minister Rafi Peretz's recent tone-deaf declaration that intermarriage is akin to a "second Holocaust" was shocking and shameful, and desecrates the memories of those who perished in the Holocaust. While Peretz leads the Jewish Home party as well as the United Right coalition, and is known for a Kahanist ideology, we should not merely write off his comments as typical far-right ideology and be silently complicit.

Peretz's horrible rhetoric is utterly distasteful to Jews who found love with a non-Jewish partner or who express their Judaism in ways that differ from Orthodoxy. Those Jews do not make their love commitments in an effort to hurt Judaism. It's true that rising intermarriage has led to a significant loss of Jewish affiliation. However, to compare this to the murder of 6 million Jews is nothing short of outrageous.

This political demagoguery has a sinister aspect: It is an attempt to demonstrate that liberal Jews are to blame for assimilation and thus provide a justification for keeping Orthodox control over religious matters in Israel.

As a Modern Orthodox rabbi committed to halacha (Jewish law), I do not officiate at interfaith wedding ceremonies. I do, however, respect people's choices, even when they differ from mine. I write this not only as someone who intentionally engages countless interfaith families in Jewish programming but as someone born and raised within an interfaith



An Orthodox rabbi takes strong exception to the controversial remarks of Israel's education minister about interfaith marriage. (photo provided)

family.

Recently I stood at the Western Wall with a lovely family whom I'd gotten to know well. This family journeyed from the suburbs of America to celebrate their son's bar mitzvah.

Jewish families the world over flock to Jerusalem for such celebrations. This family was an interfaith one, and the bar mitzvah's father – a non-Jew – was so invested with the idea of Jewish continuity that he traveled halfway across the globe so his son could participate in a ritual that countless other Jews have celebrated through the millennia. I was moved to tears.

There are countless families in which

one parent has not converted to Judaism but is still committed to raising a child in a loving Jewish home. More and more I see interfaith families who are passionate about finding a place in the broader Jewish community. Our communal markers of identity need not cast people into the simple binary of "Jew" or "non-Jew" when the reality is more of a spectrum.

Consider, for example, the kabbalistic notion of *zera Yisrael*, where one has a Jewish dimension to the soul even if the person is not deemed Jewish by halacha. Or consider the spiritual paradigm that a convert always had a Jewish soul within them yearning for its unique expression.

Gentile family members who join their Jewish family in Jewish celebrations are not simply "non-Jews," as if being a gentile is somehow inferior to being Jewish, but rather are part of the broader Jewish family.

These families must be embraced by our communities. Otherwise we will have disregarded our spiritual mandate from Sinai to bring love and tolerance to those who feel spiritually outcast and socially vulnerable in their quest to find God and community.

Gentile partners frequently become passionately engaged in the Jewish community, bringing new energy and novel ideas. Many children of interfaith families have entered into Jewish leadership. Sometimes the gentile parent supports a child's Jewish journey even more than the Jewish parent.

Still, too many of my Orthodox compatriots believe that there is a "war" against intermarriage and that rejecting interfaith families from participation in Jewish life will deter further intermarriage. With deepest respect, I believe this strategy is misguided. Interfaith families are prevalent in American Jewish life and we would be neglecting a massive population seeking meaningful Jewish experiences if we excluded them.

Reform rabbis will perform interfaith weddings and strive to be fully inclusive to interfaith families. Traditional rabbis will have a different task of honoring the halacha they feel bound to while maximizing inclusion for individuals and families in every other possible way.

See **MARRIAGE** on page 18



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NEWS

Future shuls Rabbis, lay leaders are exploring new ways to reinvent the synagogue

By Lee Chottiner
Community Editor

Avery Markel knows something about building Jewish communities; she did it for three years.

Even better, she attracted young adults – the Holy Grail for synagogues everywhere.

Until recently, Markel was the deputy to Rabbi Dan Hurwitz, founder of The Well – a Detroit-based education, spirituality and community-building initiative for young Jews. She just moved to Louisville with her husband, Dr. Jacob Markel, who is starting an orthopedic residency at UofL.

“We [were] striving to connect with young adult Jews [in Detroit] who aren’t currently affiliated with any institutions,” Markel said of The Well. “Maybe [they] haven’t had the best experience affiliating with institutions in the past.”

The Well plugs like-minded couples together for coffee, highlights “awesome” individuals who have moved to Motown, and takes weekend getaways, like a recent Shabbat experience at Michigan’s Pictured Rock National Lakeshore.

And yes, there is worship.

The Well holds quarterly-to-monthly Friday night Shabbat services in Detroit, at converted churches, tech startups, event venues, even yoga studios. The services range from meditative, to kabbalistic to Carlebach to “wordless Shabbats.”

“We try to make services an hour – hour and 20 minutes tops,” Markel said.

To be clear, The Well, is not looking to expand to Louisville, but it is an example of the many efforts nationwide, led by rabbis and lay leaders, to reimagine the synagogue or worship experience.

Here are some others:

- In New York, Lab/Shul, a self-described “experimental Jewish community,” is offering an “everybody-friendly, artist-driven God-optional” experience, exploring new approaches to contemplation, life cycle rituals, the arts, lifelong learning and social justice.

- In Washington, D.C., Temple Micah, a congregation of 600, has begun the Storefront Project, holding programs at storefronts and homes in so-called “Jewish deserts” across the District, where young adults are moving in.

- In Northern Virginia, Temple Rodef Shalom of Falls Church is working on a subscription-based commons space with other Jewish entities and individuals where they can network and have Jewish experience they might otherwise miss out on.

Some architects of these experiments eagerly describe them as synagogues.

“One hundred percent,” said Rabbi Amichai Lau-Lavie of Lab/Shul. He said his entity fits the basic definition for synagogue, or beit kneset in Hebrew – that of a gathering home, a place where people can come together.

Others distance themselves from the term.

“We’re much more like a JCC without walls,” said The Well’s Hurwitz, describing a project “that brings an intense commitment to innovation, network weaving and grassroots community building.”

All these experiments are aimed at engage young adults, who are rejecting the traditional dues-supported congregations.

The Falls Church project, called “Project Kibbutz,” will bring together six



Avery Markel, a newcomer to Louisville, was involved in an effort in Detroit to engage millennial Jews. (photos provided by Avery Markel)



A meditation service for millennial Jews in Detroit

partner organizations, to create a non-traditional collaborative working space by day and a “launchpad” for innovative next-gen Jewish engagement and Ted Talk-esque events

“If you are Jewish in your 20s and 30s in northern Virginia, Kibbutz will be the place to hang out,” said Cantor Rachel Rhodes of Temple Rodef Shalom.

“We wanted to create a working space with a Jewish vibe,” Rhodes said. “The idea is forming a Jewish community outside the traditional synagogue or institutional walls.”

The problem facing synagogues, and other places of worship, is global in scope.

According to the Pew Research Center, adults under the age of 40 worldwide are less likely to be religiously affiliated.

Pew surveyed 106 countries in 2018 and found that young adults were significantly less likely to be affiliated in 41 of them, more likely to be affiliated in just two (both in Africa) with no significant difference in 63.

“Looked at another way, young adults are more likely to be religiously unaffiliated,” according to the Pew Report. “This is especially true in North America, where in both the U.S. and Canada younger people are less likely to claim a religious identity.”

Why they’re not affiliating is complicated. Michael Hout, professor of sociology at New York University, who has studied generational and religious trends, told the Pew in a 2016 interview that millennials are products of their up-bringsings.

“Many Millennials have parents who

See **SHULS** on page 13

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PICTURE THIS: KIDS AT CAMP

Jewish kids from Louisville are away at camp or spending the summer in Israel, taking part in programs that are proven to connect Jewish youth to Judaism. This year, many of the campers are at Camp Livingston and Goldman Union Camp Institute, both in Indiana, and at Beber Camp in Wisconsin. At camp, they build lifelong relationships, do activities that grow talent and build confidence and make life-long connections. Teenage campers have the option of a summer in Israel, where they immerse themselves in the culture of the Jewish state. (Photos provided)



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PICTURE THIS: REPUBLIC BANK CHALLENGE

The 2019 Republic Bank Players Challenge brought together 90 golfers and 51 card players for a day on June 24 at Standard Club. While the tournament had to be cut short because of rain, everyone involved reported having had a terrific day. Lunch was sponsored by Salsarita's and the mid-day eggrolls were from the Peace, Love and Eggrolls food truck. The event brought in almost \$90,000 to support The J and Jewish Family & Career Services. (Community photos by Jessica Budnick)



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PICTURE THIS: JULY 4TH AT THE J

Independence Day was a chance to party at The J's Community Pool. When swimmers weren't beating the heat in the water, they were joining sack races in the yard, hanging out with friends and family at poolside, snacking at the Dive-In Diner and generally having a good time. (Community photos by Jessica Budnick)



J

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YAD

THE J CENTERPIECE

Never 'miss out' Blind Camp J counselor loves smashing barriers

By Lisa Hornung
For Community

Ben Wright was born blind, but that doesn't mean he was born beaten.

Wright, who can see nothing more than light and dark, refuses to let his challenges keep him from the life he wants.

His single-minded determination is on display every weekday at Camp J, where Wright is a counselor, showing the kids how disabilities need not slow them down.

"I love seeing the kids get excited," he said.

Born in the Philippines and adopted by an American family, Wright, who grew up in Illinois, has a degree in family services from Eastern Illinois University and has lived in Louisville for several years.

He worked for eight years as a house parent for the Kentucky School for the Blind, until they eliminated his position. Then he applied to Camp J through a job-posting website. He didn't hear back, so he came to The J to talk to Camp Director Mindye Goldberg Mannel, who interviewed him "on the spot."

Needless to say, he got the job.

"I started out working with the Young Leaders, which is our oldest campers," Wright said, "but then Mindye decided that since I'm sort of a rarity – I'm the only blind person that's ever come to work here – to share me with everybody."

He works closely with Guni Saar, the camp's music specialist and one of the two Israeli shlichim. He also works in Science and Nature, creating a program



Ben Wright, seen here with his fiancée, McKinnley Hayes, is believed to be the first blind counselor at Camp J. (Community photo by Jessica Budnick)

based on the senses. (They taught the kids what it's like to be deaf and to try reading lips.)

"We're going to take the kids on a blindfolded nature walk so they can describe what's around them and have them listen with their ears to what they hear," Wright said.

Having Wright on staff gives kids and counselors alike a fresh perspective on the camping experience, according to Mannel.

"They get to learn from him every day," she said. "They learn about camp from his perspective using their other senses, just like Ben does."

For example, Wright shows them how his iPhone 8 voiceover feature works, and the Braille machine, by which he

can type a sentence into his phone and pins pop up to make a Braille sentence. This way, he can create texts, e-mail, whatever he wants.

He also does question-and-answer sessions with the campers about what it's like to be blind.

"I'm not shy," Wright said. "I've been asked any kind of question you could ever imagine."

He works at Camp J with his fiancée, McKinnley Hayes, a Yachad advocate.

The Yachad campers, all of whom have disabilities, seem to have a special connection to him, Wright said.

"All the Yachad campers seem to [be] drawn to me," he said. "I mean, all the kids are, but the Yachad campers seem to be more so."

Wright met Hayes, whom he plans to marry in 11 months, when they were both working at Kentucky Lions Youth Camp in Lebanon Junction, a camp for visually impaired children.

He also is interested in theater and is a VIP season subscriber to CenterStage. He has performed on stage, too, doing voice acting in the Kentucky Printing House for the Blind's Braille Theater.

"All the actors sit on stage and we do a dramatic reading of a play," Wright said. "Sometimes we use gestures and the voice to make our characters come to life. So, it's not just us reading it. We've spent two months of rehearsals getting ready."

He also sang with Voices of Kentucky, an all-inclusive, mixed chorus.

Asked if Wright ever slows down, Hayes, his fiancée, vigorously shook her head.

"I tell him when he has to rest," she said as Wright laughed.

When Camp J ends in August, Wright will be looking for another job. The couple plans to move to Henderson, Hayes' hometown, after they marry.

For now, though, he's enjoying Camp J.

"It's been one of the best experiences I've had in a while," he said. "I really, really enjoy getting to work with the kids and seeing the kids grow and have fun here at camp."

"There's so much to do," he said of life in general. "I just don't like to miss out. I don't let my blindness stop me. Most people would sit at home and watch Jerry Springer all day and not go out and work."

Farm to Table is more than just Dinner for JOFEE

By Bruce Snyder
For Community

It was a fantastic feast, fit for a hundred.

The J's annual **Farm to Table Dinner**, which was held Tuesday, July 23 in The J Pavilion, saw diners enjoying farm fresh food, prepared by some of the top chefs in Louisville.

"I've been planning for this event for the past four weeks," said Eneitra Beattie of The Table Café. "You want to select exactly what you want to display and how you want to prepare it."

Beattie was especially proud of her Moroccan beet salad, which seemed to be a big hit. The appetizers and main courses were not only tasty but healthy. The menu included treats like za'atar spiced salmon with basil tzatziki, watermelon, feta and tomato salad with jalapeno vinaigrette and charred corn with lime and cotija cheese.

"The chefs certainly take it to another level," said Tamar Schwartz, who along with her husband, Rick, attended this event for the second straight year. "The pavilion is decorated so nicely. The band is awesome. The food is beyond fantastic. I think anybody who is not here is missing out."

The man in the middle of this fund-



Amy Green, Alayna Altman and Michael Fraade address the diners during the Farm to Table event. (See photo gallery pg. 14. Community photo by Jessica Budnick)

raiser is JOFEE (Jewish Outdoor Food and Environmental Education) Director Michael Fraade, who hoped to create an experience that would raise money for JOFEE and bring people together.

"We conceived of this event as a party, a chance to meet new people, meet the chefs and have some good food and drinks," Fraade said. "We wanted people to enjoy the outdoor atmosphere. This is

also a meaningful way to bring people together with local chefs, local farms and the local community."

Last year's inaugural event raised more than \$5,000. The money helps fund many of JOFEE's programs. But Fraade is equally proud of calling attention to those who help grow the food. Eleven regional farms, including The J's Community Garden, contributed produce to the event.

"We would be nowhere in this movement without the people who put in the extraordinary hours and intense labor of our local farms."

Fraade added, "We want to support them and highlight the work they do. We have a garden here at The J. We provide produce for this event from the garden. I think it is important to highlight the work these people are doing."

The Farm to Table event is interactive. People are having a good time eating, listening to the live band and meeting the chefs, discussing how it is prepared. The chefs are happy to share their recipes.

"It's a special event," said Mat Shalenko of June Health and Wellness. "It's something I am invested in. I'm happy to see how well received the event is."

See **JOFEE** on page 13

SPORTS

Clean sweep!

Gators win third straight LSA Championship, to advance to Division II in 2019

By Lee Chottiner
Community Editor

It wasn't even close at this year's Louisville Swim Association Championship.

The J Gators won the July 11 meet at Oldham County Aquatic Center by more than 400 points, easily outpacing second place Oldham County Parks by a score of 2,543.5 to 2110.

The rest of the teams were Tom Sawyer, 1,992 points; Locust Creek, 881.5; Bridgepoint, 775; Wildwood, 549; and Shelbyville Country Club, 530.

For the Gators, who competed in age groups from 7-8 to 13 and up (boys and girls), it marked their third-straight LSA championship and the right to move up next year from Division III to Division II.

Aquatics Director Johnny Kimberlin said the move means stiffer competition for the Gators, who will compete in 2020 against swim teams of comparable size and depth, but they are ready for the challenge.

"I still think we'll compete at a high level in Division II and possibly win," he said, "but I don't want to sound too overly confident."

This year's championship marked the last meet as Gators for three senior swimmers. Ellen Kuhl, Abby Brodsky



A Gator swimmer prepares to dive in during a relay event at this year's LSA Championship in Oldham County. The Gators won their third straight Division title and will step up to Division II next year. (photo provided)

and Eli Partin have been with the team since they were 9 or 10.

"This is like their second home, said Kiley Handley, head coach of the Gators. "They really are strong leaders and did really well. All three were in the top 8 in their events."

Yet it was some of the youngest Gators who made the biggest splashes.

For instance, girls in the 9-10 age group won all five events between them. Delaney Sullivan, 10, won the 25-meter freestyle, the 100-meter individual medley and the 25-meter butterfly.

And Lilly Chaney, also 10, won the 25 meter backstroke, the 25-meter breaststroke, and she took second in the 100-meter individual medley.

"They were so dominating," Handley said. "Both of them won by a landslide. No one was even close to them."

Ella Reis, 13, won the 100-meter freestyle in the 13 and up age group, beating several older, possibly more experienced girls.

But the most exciting race of the day probably came in the 7-8 boys age group where the relay team, anchored by Grayson Lassere, won the freestyle in a thrilling competition that came down to the final second.

"Bridgepoint was ahead in the last five meters," Handley said, "when Grayson came from behind, touched time out and won a by a tenth of a second."

Many parents celebrated the Gators; victory. One of them, Tracy Hirsch Geller, took to Facebook to express her joy.

"Seven years ago, I signed the girls up for JCC swim team because I needed one more hour of "coverage" after camp," the mother of two wrote. "I had no idea that would be one of the best decisions I ever made for our family. We just finished summer 2019 as Division 3 champions but there's no trophy that means as much as the friendships we have gained along the way. Love our Gator family!"

Six teen athletes to attend Atlanta Maccabi Games

By Lee Chottiner
Community Editor

Six Jewish Louisville teens, ranging in age from 12-14, will take part in the Atlanta Maccabi Games

from July 28 to Aug 2 in Atlanta.

The teens – five boys and one girl – will compete in basketball, swimming, soccer and tennis.

This year's Louisville Maccabi team includes, Ethan Aarvig, 12, basketball; Jack Kaplin, 14, swimming; Ethan Schwartz, 13, soccer; Carly Schramko, 14, tennis; Jonathan Bornstein, 12, basketball; and Ryan Marks, 13, basketball.

J Fitness Director Matt Vamvas will accompany the team.

Thirty-six delegations, including the host team from Atlanta, are expected to compete.

In addition to sports, the young athletes will take part in mitzvah projects and community service under the JCC Cares program, which build Jewish spirit and teach Jewish values. This year, mitzvah and community service projects will benefit the Israel Sports Center for the Disabled and the Shepherd Center in Atlanta, a not-for-profit hospital specializing in medical treatment, research and rehabilitation for people with spinal cord injuries, brain injuries, multiple sclerosis, spine and chronic pain, and other neuromuscular conditions.

This year, the opening ceremonies for the games, which will take place at the Ameris Bank Amphitheatre in the suburb of Alpharetta, will include a tribute Munich 11 – the Israeli athletes who were murdered taken hostage then killed

during the 1972 Summer Olympics in Munich, West Germany. A similar tribute is being held at all Maccabi Games.

Want to follow them?

To stay up to date on games and scores at the Maccabi Games, download the app at <https://atlmaccabi2019.org/>

app/. You can also follow them on social media: for **Facebook**, **ATLMaccabi2019**; **Instagram** and **Twitter**, @**ATLMaccabi2019**.



Maccabi Competitors (from left to right) TOP: Ethan Aarvig, Ethan Schwartz, Jonathan Bornstein BOTTOM: Jack Kaplin, Carly Schramko, Ryan Marks.

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NEWS

SHULS

continued from page 7

are Baby Boomers and Boomers expressed to their children that it's important to think for themselves – that they find their own moral compass," Hout said.

In the Jewish world, at least, synagogues and other institutions must contend with Jews who are looking for a new paradigm through which to engage their Judaism.

"Religious settings have to contend with Jews who wish to connect only episodically and only on their own terms," said Jack Wertheimer, professor of religion at Princeton University and author of the book, *The New American Judaism*, in a recent interview with the Princeton University Press. "This has led both to religious participation as a 'sometime thing' for many Jews, and simultaneously has spurred a great deal of experimen-

tation to create enticing religious environments in the hope of drawing more participants."

So a new generation of Jews is looking for a new worship experience, but that doesn't mean the synagogue is obsolete.

While Lau-Lavie said Lab/Shul "isn't necessarily religious," it does contain other components of the synagogue experience.

"It is cultural, social," said Lau-Lavie, who was ordained by the Jewish Theological Seminary (Conservative), but is influenced by the teachings of Rabbi Mordechai Kaplan, (Reconstructionist). "It's a place for humans to gather with others and for people to form tribes and communities – small groups – which is essential for our survival on every level you want."

Lab/Shul is trying to address the problem of financial sustainability in a new synagogue model. "We are in the process of a strategic plan to offer a new form of 'partnership,'" Lau-Lavie said, "to

engage the community, provide income and keep it on voluntary sliding scale basis, including a co-op time donation model."

He warned that synagogues must be more than places of rote prayer. "A lot of synagogues are empty now, or are emptying, because they were only focusing on the religious, which, in some cases is outdated or on autopilot."

He said theological practices must be repackaged "in an engaging way," meaning synagogues must respond to the greater community around them – showing up for the environment, for refugees, for LGBTQ and other minority groups.

"We have to show up for each other; we need to move from me to we," Lau-Lavie said.

Despite affiliation trends, he is optimistic that synagogues can survive.

"In an age where 70 percent of Jews are marrying someone who's not Jewish," he said, "many are still coming."

local restaurants. The more local businesses you have, the better it is for the community," Schwartz said.

A community that seems to be growing and learning, meal by meal.

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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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www.louisvillevaad.org

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JOFEE

continued from page 7

Beattie agreed, "I hope people understand Kentucky has some of the best food in this country. There is so much more to this state than Horse Racing

and Bourbon. It all goes hand in hand."

Overall, most agree this was more than just a dinner. Rick Schwartz who was enjoying the event with his wife, called it a win-win for diners, chefs and farmers.

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PICTURE THIS: FARM TO TABLE

The Annual Farm to Table Dinner, which supports the J's Jewish Outdoor Food, Farming & Environmental Education program (JOFEE), was held Tuesday, July 23, under the J Pavilion. In addition to meals prepared by local chefs using fresh produce, the event also included a silent auction, music, a bar and tasting station and farm-to-table cocktails. The annual dinner was the last for outgoing JOFEE Director Michael Fraade, who is moving to New York to pursue new opportunities. (Community photos by Jessica Budnick.)



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**Grandparents Raising
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NEWS & NEWSMAKERS

New faces at The J



Joanie Lustig

Joanie Lustig has been hired as The J's engagement and overseas manager.

In her position, she will work on The Federation's philanthropy team and lead the Jewish Women Renaissance Project's next Louisville mission to Israel from Dec. 7-18.

"I hope to get enhanced engagement and participation from all aspects of the Jewish community," Lustig said. A Louisville native, Lustig is a graduate of Tulane and Northwestern universities, having studied political science at the former and earning her MBA at the latter.

She worked in physician recruitment at KentuckyOne Health for 20 years before transitioning into the real estate business.

She is married to Craig Lustig. The couple, who belong to Adath Jeshurun, have four children and a son-in-law: Julia (Mike), Jonathan, Rebecca and Jillian. In another personnel addition, The J has hired Amy Stephen as its new member services director.

Stephen moved to Louisville less than a year ago. Prior to that, she was the director of operations and group fitness at the Desoto Athletic Club in Mississippi.

Hanks to teach in Mongolia



Siera Hanks

Siera Hanks, of Louisville, a 2018 Brown Fellow graduate of Centre College, has been awarded a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant Grant to teach in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, for 10 months. She begins in August.

An international relations major at Centre, Hanks will teach college level English at Ulaanbaatar, the capital and largest city in Mongolia.

Hanks, 23, has long been interested in Mongolian culture and the history of the Mongol Empire.

Though there is little, if any, Jewish presence in the country today, Hanks said the empire influenced Jewish life in Asia.

"There are a lot of interesting stories about Jewish migration east during the Pax Mongolica (a period of stability made possible by the empire in the 13th and 14th centuries)," Hanks said, "and so that's where you get the Jews that live in Kaifeng [China] today and some of the Jewish trade along the Silk Road."

This won't be Hanks' first time in Asia. She has also traveled in Japan, Thailand, Myanmar, Singapore and Bhutan.

Bolstered by new skills, appreciations and personal connections, she hopes to begin graduate study when she returns home next year.

Hanks is the daughter of Leslie and Eric Hanks, sister of Kaden Hanks and granddaughter of Brenda and the late Karmen Bush.

AARP honors couple at event



A.W. and Caroline Rosenthal

on Thursday, June 27.

The honor is presented to senior citizens who make a difference through their volunteer work at their churches, synagogues or other institutions.

The Rosentals, who are members of Temple Shalom, were nominated for their volunteer work at the synagogue.

The awards were presented during a ceremony at the Kentucky Heritage Center for African American Heritage. AARP also used the event to generate a petition to cut prescription drug prices – a major issue for senior citizens.

Hand-carved yad takes prize at fair

A hand-carved yad, which is used to read Torah, won a blue ribbon at the recent Bullitt County Fair.

Mike Phelps, a member of Temple Sha-



lom, made the yad from a cedar tree that was cut down next to the synagogue.

Greenberg starts grandparenting website

Ruth Greenberg, a retired University of Louisville medical school administrator, recently launched **grandparenting-today.com**, a website devoted to grandparenting in the 21st century.

Grandparents can learn from experts, review recent research, ask for advice and post their own stories about the joys and challenges they face as grandparents. Previously, Greenberg blogged for *Community* on the same subject.

Mikveh Fund renamed for Jack Czerkiewicz

The Louisville Vaad has decided to rename the fund that supports the Community Mikveh for its past president, Jack Czerkiewicz.

The name change was announced following the Vaad's July 14 BBQ Picnic at The J Pavillion, which drew more than 100 people and raised at least \$1,000 for the Jack Czerkiewicz Mikveh Fund.

Jake Wishnia thanked Harriet Frankel Firkins and Sheila Lynch, for their work on the picnic, and the community for supporting the event.

"We had good vibes back from those attending," he said. "They even made the comments that it would be great to have this every year."



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FORUM

Faith – and breathing – take us beyond the seemingly possible



Jewish Hospital

Rabbi Nadia
Siritsky

In his book, *Celebrating Life*, Rabbi Jonathan Sacks taught: "Faith is not about optimism but about courage, the courage to face an unknown future, knowing that we are not alone, that God is with us, lifting us when we fall, signaling the way. Faith is not certainty. It is the courage to live with uncertainty. It is not knowing all the answers."

Whenever we are faced with the unknown, we always have a choice, whether to respond with fear or faith.

The truth is, the future is never known. Even when we plan and think we know what the future holds, we are reminded that we can never know the future.

Working in a hospital, though, we are also reminded that uncertainty can lead to miracles, which can surprise us when

we least expect them.

It remains a common habit, when faced with the unknown, to fear the worst. It is too easy to fill in the empty spaces of the unknown with fearful stories of "what if." But it is difficult to live with the soul-crushing consequences of this seemingly easier decision.

Choosing to live with faith and hope, in the face of the inherent uncertainty of life, is a courageous act that can make all the difference in the world.

A story is told about a child who was in the Intensive Care Unit, doing poorly. A teacher was asked to meet with the student to help him review his multiplication tables. She tried, but looking at the boy, feeling bad for his poor prognosis, made her hurry through the lesson, worrying that she was causing him more stress than necessary.

Eventually, the teacher left, feeling helpless, like a failure. A week later, she was asked to return, which she did, though reluctantly and fearfully.

But when she arrived, the nurses greeted her like a hero. The patient had miraculously improved! The nurses said it was almost like his will to live had returned. The boy later explained that he figured he couldn't be doing so badly if they sent someone to teach him math.

What we believe can shape our outcomes, and we don't know what we don't know, so we should not assume that what we don't know is bad. We should only react to what we know to be true, not to fears and stories we tell ourselves about what has not happened (and may never happen).

Whenever our illusions of certainty are shattered, we are reminded that none of us know the future, and none of us can control what happens to us. We can only control how we respond, and the stories that we tell ourselves about what is going to happen. But this can make all the difference in the world; the stories that we tell ourselves are colored by our faith and ability to discern grace in our lives.

The religious response to unexpected events in our lives is to turn to faith. It might feel countercultural to assert faith and hope when others are immersed in fear and doubt, but this is a powerful act of spiritual resistance that can bring us profound healing and redemption.

Because fear may become a harbinger of blessing, the unknown can lead us to become even better acquainted with fear and worrying, or it can become our teacher.

When life forces us into its necessary

moments of uncertainty, we can deepen our ability to trust and have faith, preparing us to face whatever is around the corner of our personal journeys. If we have difficulty feeling fully rooted in faith when life's storms assail us, just take a deep breath.

Because ultimately, our breath can teach us all that we need to know.

If we take a deep breath in, we might be tempted to hold onto it, because we know it, but eventually, we need to let it out, even though that means we momentarily have no breath inside of us. We can allow ourselves to be afraid, or we can recognize that this moment, right before we inhale again, is a necessary part of allowing new breath to form inside of us, to enliven us.

In Hebrew, the word for breath is the same word as for the one who breathes life into us: *ruach*. May our breath teach us; may we use this breath to teach others and may this time of uncertainty yield healing and blessings beyond what we currently see is possible.

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

EVENTS CALENDAR

Chavurat Shalom for August

THURSDAY, AUG. 1

Jazz vocalist and Shir Chadash member Avery Curtis will perform. Lunch in the Heideman will include cheese quesadillas, Mexican-style rice, black bean and corn salad, fresh fruit and Mexican chocolate mousse. The concert will be in the chapel.

THURSDAY, AUG. 8

The Diamond-Worley-Clark Trio will perform a jazz concert in the chapel. Lunch in the Heideman will include salmon cakes, mashed potatoes, green peas and carrots, Cole slaw, fresh fruit and chocolate trifle.

THURSDAY, AUG. 15

The Yestertunes, featuring Carol Savkovich, Fran Weinstock and Patty Fitzgerald, will make their debut at Chavurat Shalom. Lunch will include pasta and meatballs, Caesar salad, fresh fruit and cookies and brownies.

THURSDAY, AUG. 22

Mike O'Bryan will perform. Lunch will include barbecue chicken, roasted potatoes, green beans, mixed green salad, fresh fruit and apple cobbler.

THURSDAY, AUG. 29

Jeff Springer will perform in the chapel. Lunch

in the Heideman will include bowtie pasta with smoked salmon, steamed broccoli, mixed green salad, fresh fruit and caramel spoon cake.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 5

A trip to the Derby Dinner Playhouse to see the musical *Million Dollar Quartet*. Seats are limited. Contact Sarah at 502-423-1818 or sarahharlan86@gmail.com.

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. RSVP to sarahharlan86@gmail.com or 502-423-1818. A vegetar-

ian 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. Lunch starts at noon, followed by the program at 1 pm. Transportation can be scheduled by calling Jewish Family & Career Services at 502-452-6341. Cost 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 many other donors.

The J Senior Center for August

TUESDAY, AUG. 6, 12:45 P.M.

Classical Pianist, Nada will perform. Refreshments will be served after program.

TUESDAY, AUG. 13, 12:45 P.M.

Bingo sponsored by The Springs at Stony Brook.

MONDAY, AUG. 19, 5:30 P.M.

The Gourmet Dining Club will have dinner at Lemongrass Café, 2956 Richland Ave. off Taylorsville Road. Cost of transportation is \$4.

SUNDAY, AUG. 18, 12:00 - 2:30 P.M.

The Adult Social Club Paid-Up Membership Luncheon will be held, an annual free event for all current members of the club. All senior adult volunteers will be honored. Transportation will be provided upon request.

TUESDAY, AUG. 20, 12:45 P.M.

Singer, songwriter and guitarist Tyrone Cotton will perform blues, folk and rock music. Refreshments will be served after the program.

THURSDAY, AUG. 22, 12:45 P.M.

Lunch at The J followed by a visit to The Filson Historical Society to tour the Jewish Hospital Exhibit. Space is limited. Fee for transportation is \$10 for members, \$15 for nonmembers.

TUESDAY, AUG. 27, 12:45 P.M.

Frank Goodloe, CenterStage performance & visual arts director, will talk about the upcoming season and plans being made for theater productions in new building. Refreshments will be served.

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AROUND TOWN

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

WOTS Yard Sale

Women of Temple Shalom (WOTS) will hold their annual yard sale from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Friday, July 26, and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, July 28. Jewelry, model cars and planes in their boxes, toys, kitchen, wicker baskets and artwork, purses, wallets and shoes, books and PlayStation games, tools and home décor items are among the merchandise.

Chailands Chavurah

Temple Shalom has started a lay-led informal discussion and social group, Chailands Chavurah, which will meet on the 18th of every month somewhere in the Highlands (hence the name). The group is designed to appeal to Jews and interfaith couples living in the city, especially millennials. Contact the group at chailands@templeshalomky.org for details about its events.

Shabbat and Sundaes

Keneseth Israel will hold Shabbat and Sundaes at 6 p.m., Saturday, July 27, at the Graeter's on Bardstown Road. (KI members receive a free treat up to \$5 – dine-in only). RSVP to 502-459-2780 or gkahn@kenesethisrael.com.

Homeless outreach

Keneseth Israel will make sandwiches and care packages for the homeless at 5:15 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 4. 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 to the homeless. RSVP at 502-459-2780 or gkahn@kenesethisrael.com.

'Jest A Second!'

Adath Jeshurun's new Shema Theatre Group will present "Jest A Second!" at 3 and 7 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 4, and 7 p.m., Monday, Aug. 5. The production is a comedy about a Jewish family gathering to celebrate the birthday of its matriarch while other members of the family have additional news and expectations to share. Admission is \$3 per person and reservations can be made at adathjeshurun.com/play.

Scotty Davenport

Temple Shalom Men's Club will host Scotty Davenport, head men's basketball coach at Bellarmine University, at



Scotty Davenport

10 a.m., Sunday, Aug. 18. He will be the first in the Men's Club's 2019-20 Breakfast Speakers Series. Davenport, a four-time GLVC Coach of the Year, will enter his 15th season at Bellarmine. Contact Temple Shalom at information@templeshalomky.org or 502-458-4739 to RSVP. A \$5 donation is requested.

AJ Book Club

The AJ Book Club is currently reading *Eternal Life: A Novel* by Dara Horn and will discuss it at the next meeting, 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 18, at Adath Jeshurun. Contact Deborah Slosberg at dslosberg@adathjeshurun.com or 502-458-5359.

WOTS Book Club

The Women of Temple Shalom Book Club will meet at 2 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 8, at Barnes & Noble on South Hurstbourne. The club is reading *The Weight of Ink* by Rachel Kadish and *The Japanese Lover* by Isabel Allende.

Jewish Heritage Night

The Young Adult Division (YAD) of the Jewish Community of Louisville will host its annual Jewish Heritage Night at Slugger Field at 2 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 18. The Louisville Bats will play the Rochester Red Wings. Kosher food will be available. Visit bit.ly/2LANYNL for tickets

Bridge Club

The Keneseth Israel Bridge Club meets Mondays from 1 to 3 p.m. in the small chapel. RSVP to gwishnia@gmail.com.

Worship

No Shush Shabbat

Temple Shalom's next No Shush Shabbat will be held at 6:30 p.m., Friday, Aug. 2. Benji Berlow and Rabbi Beth Jacowitz Chottiner will lead the interactive family service. A pot luck dinner will follow.

Community Service Shabbat

Denise Sears, CEO of Supplies Over Seas, will deliver the sermon at The Temple Brotherhood's Community Service Shabbat at 6:30 p.m., Friday, Aug. 2. Supplies Over Seas (SOS) sends unused medical supplies and equipment to Africa and South America that would ordinarily be thrown out. The Brotherhood oneg including Gravlax, home-made matzo and Brotherhood Bourbon, will follow.

Community Service Shabbat will continue with End of Numbers at Saturday morning services, starting at 10:30 a.m., with the Brotherhood No Rehearsal Choir. At noon, tour the SOS warehouse and volunteer to sort medical supplies. Pizza will be served. The event is limited to 35 volunteers.

Celebration Shabbat

All who are celebrating a birthday or anniversary in the month of August may participate in a group aliyah at Adath Jeshurun during Shabbat morning worship services beginning at 9:30 a.m., Saturday, Saturday, Aug. 3

Shabbat celebration

Chabad will celebrate Shabbat with an interactive prayer service followed by a kiddush luncheon at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, Aug. 3. The program is sponsored in part by the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence. Call 502-459-1770 for details.

Song and dance Shabbat

Chabad celebrate Shabbat with song and dance at 8:15 a.m. Friday, Aug. 9, at the Chabad House, 1654 Almara Circle. A three-course traditional Shabbat dinner will follow the service. The program is sponsored in part by the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence. Call 502-459-1770 for details.

Tisha B'av at AJ, KI

A shared-synagogue Tisha B'av observance with Adath Jeshurun and Keneseth Israel will be held at 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 10, at Keneseth Israel. Services also will be held on Sunday, Aug. 11, at 8:45 a.m. at AJ and at 5:45 p.m. at KI.

Rabbis' Shabbat Dinner

The Temple's next Rabbis' Shabbat Dinner, at 5:30 p.m., Friday, Aug. 16, will feature a traditional chicken recipe. Cost is \$10 for adults, free for children 12 and under, \$5 for reservations made before Aug. 13. RSVP at thetemplelouky.org or 502-423-1818.

Shabbat in the Park

Keneseth Israel will hold its next Shabbat in the Park at 6 p.m., Friday, Aug. 16, at Hogan's Fountain Pavillion in Cherokee Park. A musical Kabbalat Shabbat will be held. Bring dairy/veggie food for a picnic dinner; complementary desserts from Arctic Scoop will be served. The park includes a playground, playing fields and hiking trails. RSVP to gkahn@kenesethisrael.com or 502-459-2780.

Connect to G-d

Chabad will celebrate the conclusion of Shabbat with a Havdalah service and audio visual presentation at 9 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 17, at Chabad House, 1654 Almara Circle. The program is sponsored in part by the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence. Call 502-459-1770 for details.

Blue Jean, Tot Shabbat

The Temple will hold its annual, end-of-summer Blue Jean and Tot Shabbat at 5:30 p.m., Friday, Aug. 23. A family-friendly dinner will be followed by Tot Shabbat at 6:15 p.m. and the Blue Jean Shabbat service at 6:30 p.m. The Tot Oneg will immediately follow the service in the library. Cost for dinner is \$10 per person, free for children 12 and under and no charge for RSVPs made before Aug. 20. Call 502-423-1818 or register online.

Power Brunch

Chabad will hold a "Power Brunch for Body and Soul" at 8:30 a.m., Sunday, Aug. 25. The program is sponsored in part by the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence. Call 502-459-1770 for details.

Adult Education

Lunch and Learn

Rabbi Michael Wolk's next Lunch and Learn will be at noon, Thursday, Aug. 1 at The Bristol on Main Street. Food is sold separately. RSVP to mwolk@kenesethisrael.com.

Kabbalah Month by Month

Cantor Sharon Hordes' kabbalah class, which is based on each Hebrew month's holidays, Torah portions, healing areas and astrological connections, meets every second Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. The next class is Aug. 8. RSVP to gkahn@kenesethisrael.com or 502-459-2780

Pragmatic Spirituality

Marty and Dr. Courtney Snyder lead a discussion group Sundays at 10 a.m. at Adath Jeshurun that addresses universal themes from spiritual thinkers. The topic for the Aug. 11 session will be "When we are no longer able to change a situation, we are challenged to change ourselves;" for Aug. 25 session, "It's Not Your Money."

Torah Yoga

Cantor Sharon Hordes and Lisa Flannery's next Torah yoga class, co-sponsored by Temple Shalom and Hadassah, will meet at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 15, at Keneseth Israel. RSVP to gkahn@kenesethisrael.com or 502-459-2780.

New Melton Course

A new Louisville Melton course, "Modern Living: Maintaining Balance," will start in September at Adath Jeshurun. The four-part course looks at classic and modern Jewish texts that relate to contemporary challenges. The course is offered on Tuesday evenings, at 6:30 p.m., beginning on Sept. 3, or on Thursday mornings, at 9:30 a.m., beginning Sept. 5. The fee is \$50. Contact Deborah Slosberg at dslosberg@adathjeshurun.com for details.

Shabbat Scholars Program

Frank Schwartz will serve as Adath Jeshurun's Shabbat Scholar at 12:15 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 14, following the kiddush lunch. His topic will be "How can I love Israel if I disagree with her policies?"



Frank Schwartz

Torah study

The Temple holds Torah study with Rabbi David Ariel-Joel Saturdays from 9 to 10 a.m. in the Fishman Library before the morning service. Coffee, bagels and cream cheese will be served.

Jews and Brews

Rabbi Michael Wolk leads a Torah-study session over coffee Wednesdays at 11 a.m. in The J library.

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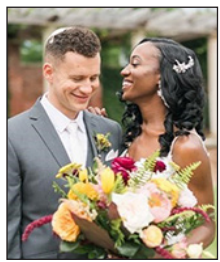
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LIFECYCLE

Marriages

Gross-Williams



Carolyn Humphrey and Fred Gross of Louisville announce the recent marriage of their son, Jonathan Gross, to Lakiesha Williams, daughter of Lynanne and

Marvin Williams of Brooklyn, New York. The couple were married Saturday evening, June 22, 2019, at Gardencourt, a historic wedding venue at the Louisville Seminary.

Lakiesha is a native of Brooklyn and a graduate of Medgar Evers College – City University of New York (CUNY). She is currently studying nursing at Spalding University. Jonathan is a graduate of Ballard High School and works in TV and film production.

The couple are making their home in St. Matthews.

B'nai Mitzvah

Abigail Samantha Berger



Abigail Samantha Berger, daughter of Michelle Elisburg and Nathan Berger and sister of Elana, will be called to the Torah as a bat mitzvah on Saturday, Aug. 31, at 10:30 a.m. at The

Temple.

Abigail is the granddaughter of Donald and Nancy Elisburg and Alan and Deborah Berger.

A seventh grader at Highland Hills Middle School in Georgetown, Indiana, Abigail is a founding member of the Journalism Club, and a cellist in the school orchestra. She has spent several summers at B'nai Brith Beber Camp.

Abigail is participating in the Jewish Family & Career Services Pledge 13 program and is volunteering with an equine therapy program and with the New Albany-Floyd County Animal Shelter.

Outside of school, Abigail enjoys fishing (including filleting and frying them up), scuba diving, horseback riding, reading, art projects and cooking with the MESA Cooking School.

Abigail and her family invite the community to celebrate her bat mitzvah and to join them at the kiddush luncheon following the service.

Ariel Alexis Hatzell



Ariel Alexis Hatzell, daughter of Tim and Jodi Hatzell, sister of Bailey and Dori and granddaughter of Carole and Shelly Rifkin, Michael and Karen Hatzell and Bonnie Dollinger,

will be called to the Torah as a bat mitzvah on Saturday, Aug. 10, at 6 p.m. at The Temple during a Havdalah service.

Ari will begin the eighth grade this fall at Barrett Traditional, where she participates in musical theatre and is a percussionist in the school band.

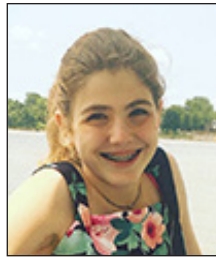
She will also participate as a percussionist in the Louisville Male High

School's marching band this season.

Ari's passion is the stage, whether singing, acting, or drumming. She was born to perform.

She also has an interest in community service. For her mitzvah project, Ari organized a clothing drive and prepared food that she personally delivered to individuals living on the streets this past winter.

Audrey Jane Weinberg



Audrey Jane Weinberg, daughter of Diane and Reed Weinberg and sister of Eliza, will be called to the Torah as a bat mitzvah on Saturday, Aug. 24, at 10:30am at The Temple.

Audrey is the granddaughter of Sharon and Bob Allen and Elaine and Ed Weinberg.

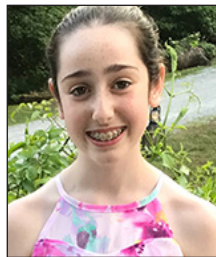
A rising eighth grader at Louisville Collegiate School, Audrey is a member of the swim team. She also swims for the Lakeside Seahawks, enjoying training and competing.

She loves spending time with her swimming teammates, school friends and family.

Audrey volunteers her time at the Kosair Charities Pediatric Convalescent Center at the Home of Innocents, which provides short-term, long-term and respite care for medically fragile children.

Audrey and her family invite the community to celebrate her bat mitzvah and the kiddish luncheon following the service.

Jenna Kate Figa



Jenna Kate Figa, daughter of Julia Brown and Jeffrey Figa and sister to Jacob and Joanna, will be called to the Torah as a bat mitzvah on Saturday, Aug. 3, at The Temple.

Jenna is the granddaughter of Lorna and Leon Figa and Kathleen and William Brown.

A seventh grader at Kentucky Country Day School, Jenna is a member of the volleyball and cross country teams.

In her spare time, she enjoys ballet, jazz and tap dancing, playing the piano, watching movies and spending time with her family and friends.

Jenna is with the Animal Service Club, where funds are raised to care for service animals. She also volunteers at the Kentucky Humane Society and the Louisville Daylily Society.

Kendall Meredith Geller



Kendall Meredith Geller, daughter of Tracy and Mark Geller, will be called to the Torah as a bat mitzvah on Saturday, Aug. 31, at Adath Jeshurun. Services start at 9:30 a.m.

Kendall is the granddaughter of Annette and Harry Geller and Patricia Hirsch.

Kendall is an eighth grader at Noe Middle School.

Obituaries

Viktor Itskovich

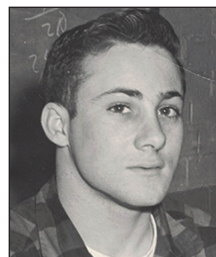
Viktor Itskovich, 70, of Louisville, died Friday, July 19, 2019 at Norton Brownsville Hospital.

He was born Dec. 20, 1948 in Shabo, Ukraine, to the late Israel and Eva Itskovich. He was a welder by trade.

He is survived by his loving wife, Riva Gokhberg Itskovich; his daughter and son-in-law, Jean and Alex Gerber; his granddaughter, Ella Gerber; and his sister, Ada Kuzina of Israel.

Funeral services were held Sunday, July 21, at Herman Meyer & Son, Inc. Burial followed in Anshei Sfard Cemetery.

Richard Branson



Richard Branson, 84, passed away peacefully in his sleep on Saturday, June 22, 2019, at Westminster Terrace.

A graduate of Manual High School (class of 1953) and University of Louisville Speed School College of Engineering, Dick was a member of the Triangle fraternity in college and catcher on the baseball team.

He was an avid volleyball and softball player at The J.

Dick was passionate about many things. He loved folk music, playing the guitar, making others laugh, and watching the Cubs.

At 70, he attended the Cubs baseball camp --

a real highlight for him.

A member of the Adath Jeshurun choir for 50 years, he cherished his time with Cantor David Lipp.

He spent his retirement traveling in his RV with his wife to 46 different states. They loved meeting people along the way, and he never turned down a chance to sing. Dick also spent winters working at Disney World, which thrilled his kid-at-heart nature.

He enjoyed teaching engineering and the guitar. At Louisville Tech he was named Teacher of the Year. He worked the crossword puzzle daily and enjoyed cutting out articles for his family. Dick was a proud member of MENSA International.

As a songwriter, he wrote comical parodies for every family milestone. He loved his family with all his heart.

He was preceded in death by his parents Hyman and Bernice Branson of Louisville.

Dick is survived by his wife of 63 years, Beth; children, Shellie Branson (Ralph Green); Dennis Branson (Cherie) and Jerry Branson; grandchildren: Jordan Green (Abby), Alex Green, Eric Green, Zachary Branson, Christopher Burke, David Branson and Sammy Branson; and his brother, Bob Branson (Fran Rush).

Funeral Services were held Tuesday, June 25, at Herman Meyer & Son, Inc. Interment followed at Keneseth Israel Cemetery. Memorial gifts to The Cantor Discretionary fund at Congregation Adath Jeshurun in Louisville are appreciated.



Beverly Shuckman

Beverly Berk Shuckman, who passed away Monday, July 1, 2019, at Jefferson Manor, had a life filled with love, family, friends, and a zest for experiences.

Born in Brooklyn, New York, on Oct. 9, 1927, she attended the Franklin Professional School of Art in New York and married (the late) Alvin Jerome Shuckman. Together, they raised three children in Louisville, spent time at "The Camp" on the river, and traveled.

Beverly was passionate about the arts, painting, photography, theater and the orchestra. She was a docent at Speed Art Museum for over 20 years, an active member of The Temple for more than 50 years. She also served as president of The Temple Sisterhood. She was an avid animal lover.

Beverly loved to travel the world with her close friends Shirley Baron, Mildred Smith, Betty Abramson and her cousin Roy Miller.

Beverly was a beloved Mom, Grandmommy, and Great-Grandmommy. She was one of the most stylish ladies of her time with a big smile on her face when she walked into a room.

Beverly's family includes two daughters, Cherie Shuckman Monen (Jeff Monen) and Robin Shuckman Schosser (Jim Schosser); a son Lewis Berk Shuckman (Vicki Shuckman); grandchildren, Lindsey Monen, Ivy Farrell, Hillery Harlow, Andrew Schosser, Lauren Shuckman, Whitney Wright and Shannon Shuckman; nine great-grandchildren and her beloved grand-dog Yogi.

Her family is thankful to the nurses and staff at Jefferson Manor, with special gratitude to Erica, Jamie, Kim, Kathy, and Deana.

Beverly will be laid to rest at The Temple Cemetery during a private family service.

Bernard "Benny" Katz



Bernard "Benny" Katz, 91, passed away Wednesday, July 10, 2019, at home.

He was born June 22, 1928, in the Bronx, New York, a son of the late Philip and Jenny Katz.

While stationed at Ft. Knox, he met his future wife, Roselee, and they began their life together. The Jewish Community Center was his home away from home, where he enjoyed racquetball and camaraderie with good friends.

After retiring from Standard Gravure (Courier-Journal), he volunteered for 15 years at Baptist East hospital.

Bernard was a member of Congregation Anshei Sfard.

He is survived by a loving family: his daughter, Bobbi Andriakos (Andy); his son, Jeff Katz (Sharon) of West Lafayette, Indiana; his sister, Marilyn Katz of Sarasota, Florida; two grandsons, Mike Andriakos (Ashley) and Derek Andriakos; and six great-grandchildren: Jake, Halle, Willie, Nick, Bennett and Zella.

Benny cared deeply for his children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and extended family and was loved by all. The family would like to thank Linda Stebbins, Jennifer Armstrong and Hospas for the wonderful care they provided.

A graveside service was held Friday, July 12, in Anshei Sfard Cemetery. Expressions of sympathy may be made to the donor's favorite charity.

Viktor Kosharnyy

Viktor Kosharnyy, 78, died on June 15, 2019. He was born in Chernigov, Ukraine.

A graveside funeral service was held

continued on next page

LIFECYCLE

continued from previous page

Friday, June 28, at Agudath Achim Cemetery.

Dr. Martin Steiner



Dr. Martin Steiner, 93, died Friday, June 14, 2019 at his residence, with family by his side.

Born in Brooklyn, New York, on Aug. 7, 1925, a son of the late Charles and Esther Braunstein Steiner, Steiner was a dentist who had long careers in the military and academia.

He attended the University of Louisville and New York University, he did his residency with Harlem Hospital and Columbia University.

Steiner served 28 years in uniform during World War II, the Korean Conflict and the Vietnam War. He joined the Navy in 1943 and retired from active service from the Army in 1975 as a colonel in the Army Dental Corps.

Serving in an Army Research Unit at Letterman General Hospital, Steiner worked on improved treatment of wounds to the facial area. He also treated these types of wounds in Vietnam, at the 24th Evacuation Hospital.

He received the Bronze Star for his service there and was also awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, the Legion of Merit Medal and the Commendation Medal.

Steiner began teaching at the UofL School of Dentistry in 1975, becoming a professor in 1982 and serving on several committees there. He was a member of the university's institutional review board for over 25 years, pharmacy, therapeutics, research and library committees and served as chairman of the ULSD Faculty Senate for two terms. He retired from the full-time faculty in 1992 but continued working with residents until recently. He received a Gold Standard Award for his Optimal Aging in 2016.

After 27 years as part-time faculty and 17 years full-time, he received the award of Emeritus Professor of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery in 2019.

Steiner was appointed to UofL Hospital (1975-2019), Kosair Children's Hospital (1975-1992), Jewish Hospital (1975-2019) and VA Medical Center - Louisville (1975-1992).

He was a member of the American Association Of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeons, the American Dental Association, the American Board of Oral Maxillofacial Surgery, the Southeastern Society of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeons, the Kentucky Society of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeons (president 1985), the Louisville Dental Society, the Louisville Society of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeons,

the Alpha Omega Dental Fraternity and The Temple.

He was knowledgeable lover of all types of music, from hard rock to classical. A sports buff, he loved to fish, play tennis and was a duplicate Bridge and Poker player.

He often said, "You can call me Colonel, Professor, Doctor, or Marty, but don't call me Mister."

Steiner is survived by his loving wife of 63 years, Joan Stracks Steiner; his son, Dr. David Steiner and his wife, Vanessa of Aiken, SC; his grandchildren, Chad Steiner, Jeremy Steiner, Alex Steiner and his fiancé, Erica, and Rachel Shealy and her husband, Ryan; two great-grandchildren, Leo and Kaleia Shealy; his sister-in-law, Marianne "Mickey" Spiegel of New York; his brother- and sister-in-law, Robert and Julie Stracks of Winnetka, Illinois; his sister-in-law, Miriam Steiner of Phoenix, Arizona; and many nieces and nephews.

A celebration of life was held Sunday, July 28, at The Temple. Memorial contributions may be made to The Temple, 5101 US Hwy 42, Louisville, KY 40241; Friends For Life Cancer Support Network, 4003 Kresge Way #100, Louisville, KY 40207; or the Louisville Public (Media) Radio, 619 S. 4th Street, Louisville, KY 40202.

Eleanor Rose Morris



Eleanor Rose Morris passed away on Saturday, July 6, 2019, at the Kline Galland Home in Seattle, Washington.

She was born on September 27, 1932, in Louisville, the daughter of Sam and Lillian Shifman.

Nothing was more important to Eleanor than her family. She raised her children through multiple moves across the country while her husband of 65 years, Julian, was in the military and later reassigned by his employers.

In retirement, she and Julian traveled between Washington and Arizona every year to be with grandchildren. No matter the location, she made home a special place for her family.

In addition to a devoted mother and wife, Eleanor was an active member of the Temple De Hirsch Sinai Sisterhood and sang with the temple choir for many years. A talent for singer, she even made a recording as a student. She also was a lifelong learner, taking particular interest in history, civics, and politics.

Eleanor was proud of her family's history and accomplishments, lovingly passing down stories to her children and grandchildren, and their contributions to their communities. She researched her family's genealogy, taking joy in find-

ing new pieces of the family story to share.

Eleanor will be remembered for her compassion and empathy for people. She cherished many friendships as close as family. She also loved to meet and learn from people of different backgrounds, seeking to connections and welcoming them into her family's life.

Eleanor will be most remembered for the impact her love and sacrifices made, and her spirit lives on in the community she left behind.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death and brother, Jerome.

Eleanor is survived by her son, Michael (Barbara); her daughter Nancy (Glenn); grandchildren, Steven (Emily), Loryn (Trevor), Rebecca (Todd), Jeff; and a great-grandson, Leo.

Joy Hammer Haskell

Joy Hammer Haskell, 72, of Louisville, died Saturday, July 20, 2019.

Born in Pittsburgh, the eldest child of Milton and Ruth Hammer, Joy graduated from Carnegie Technical Schools as one of four women in her class, and went on to obtain her master's degree in arts and teaching from the University of Pittsburgh.

Her passion for mathematics led to her teaching high school before managing the office of Haskell Orthodontics, with her husband.

She was a member of Congregation Adath Jeshurun, having served for many years on their board, and was an associate member of Congregation Keneseth Israel.

Joy enjoyed traveling, camping with her family and could be heard playing the cello, much like her own mother had done.

Joy is survived by her husband of 50 years, Bruce. her daughters, Ellen Haskell (John Gibbs), Jessica Haskell and Jennifer Haskell (to whom she was "Amazing Mom"); her grandson, the apple of her eye, Ezra Haskell-Gibbs; and her siblings, Margie Lieber (James), Ronna Hammer (Roman Soto) and Daniel Hammer.

Funeral services were held Monday, July 22, at Herman Meyer & Son, Inc. Interment followed in Adath Jeshurun Cemetery.

Memorial gifts to Congregation Adath Jeshurun or The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, P.O. Box 98018, Washington D.C. 20090-8018 are appreciated.

Dee Chandler

Dee Chandler, 54, passed away Tuesday, June 18, 2019.

Dee was born in Louisville to John and Mildred Williams. She was an avid sports enthusiast, softball player, and cornhole participant.

She loved the Kentucky Wildcats and Green Bay Packers.

She will be remembered as a loving

and devoted wife, daughter, sister, and aunt. She was Catholic by faith and a parishioner of St. Martha Catholic Church.

She was preceded in death by her father, John.

Dee is survived by her husband of 30 years, Billy Chandler; mother, Millie Williams; siblings, Scott (Sharon), Tracy (Chuck), Lou (Miles); and several nieces, nephews, extended family members, and friends. She will be dearly missed by her canine companions, Buster and Shooky.

A memorial mass will be held 10 a.m. Wednesday, June 26, 2019 at St. Martha Catholic Church.

Shirley Diamond Bailen



Shirley Diamond Bailen, 97, passed away peacefully on Saturday, June 29, at Magnolia Springs.

Born May 7, 1922, in Louisville, a daughter of Birdie and Wolf Diamond,

Shirley was married to Dave Bailen for 66 years, and she spent many years working by his side at their store on Bardstown Road and Speed Avenue.

She moved into Magnolia Springs 10 years ago where she enjoyed making friends, playing bridge and participating in all activities.

Shirley is survived by her sons, Dr. James Bailen (Sandy) and Barry Bailen. She was so proud of her grandchildren Michael Bailen (Caren), Neal Bailen (Lisa), Dr. Erica Bailen (Dr. Sean Griffin) and Molly Bailen (Gregory Maloof). Five great-grandchildren will miss their "Bubba."

The family would like to thank the staff of Magnolia Springs for their kindness.

The funeral was held Tuesday, July 2, at Herman Meyer & Son, Inc. Burial followed at Adath Jeshurun Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in memory of Shirley to the Jewish Community Center Building Fund at 3600 Dutchmans Lane, Louisville, Ky 40205.

Daughter of prominent Reform rabbis killed in truck crash in Brooklyn

By Josefin Dolsten
JTA

NEW YORK — The daughter of two prominent Reform rabbis was killed while biking when she was hit by a cement truck in Brooklyn.

Devra Frelander, 28, was struck on Monday, July 1, at an intersection in the East Williamsburg neighborhood. The driver has not been charged so far, according to the New York Daily News. Police are investigating the incident.

At the time, she was the 15th cyclist killed on city streets this year.

Frelander was an award-winning video and sculpture artist whose work was on display recently in Times Square. She was a graduate of Oberlin College in Ohio and the Rhode Island School of Design.

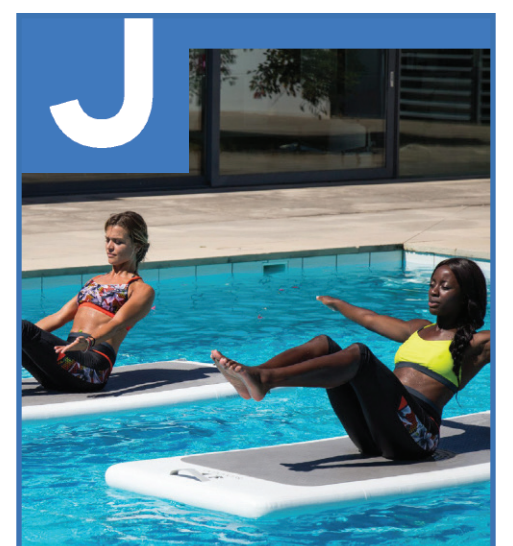
Her parents are Rabbis Daniel Frelander and Elyse Frishman. Frelander, who is retiring as president of the World Union for Progressive Judaism, visited Louisville earlier this year as a scholar-in-residence for The Temple and Temple Shalom.

Frishman has created liturgy for the Reform movement and edited the widely

used Mishkan T'filah prayer book.

A number of Jewish organizations, including the Union for Reform Judaism, the World Union for Progressive Judaism, the Zamir Choral Foundation and Romemu, where Frelander's parents are members, mourned her loss in statements.

"Devra's passion, creativity, warmth and insight were hallmarks of her art and her life — both of which ended far too soon," said URJ President Rabbi Rick Jacobs in a statement.



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LIFECYCLE

Eva Mozes Kor, survivor of Mengele twin experiments who preached forgiveness, dies at 85

By Marcy Oster
JTA

Holocaust survivor Eva Mozes Kor, who underwent experiments in Auschwitz together with her twin sister, has died at the age of 85.

Kor, of Terra Haute, Indiana died on Thursday morning in Krakow, Poland, the CANDLES Holocaust Museum and Education Center she founded said in a statement. She was in Poland with the museum's annual trip to visit Nazi camps.

Kor and her sister were one of some 1,500 sets of twins who were experimented on by Josef Mengele. CANDLES stands for Children of Auschwitz Nazi Deadly Lab Experiments Survivors. She founded the museum in 1985.

Kor and her twin sister Miriam, who were born in Romania, were the only members of her family to survive the Holocaust, after being sent to Auschwitz in 1944. They were liberated 18 months later by the Soviet army.

Kor moved to Israel, with her sister, in 1950 where she served in the Israeli army as a Sergeant Major in the Engi-

neering Corps. In 1960 she married fellow survivor, an American, Michael Kor and they moved to the United States.

Her experiences during the Holocaust became public due to the 1978 miniseries "The Holocaust."

She returned to Auschwitz to share her experience with groups during tours of the site, including annually with groups from CANDLES.

Kor frequently spoke about the power of forgiveness and publicly forgave Mengele and the Nazis. Her embrace in 2015 of 94-year-old Auschwitz guard Oskar Groening, during his trial in Germany, made headlines.

The CANDLES museum wrote in its announcement of Kor's death: "The themes of Eva's life are apparent. We can overcome hardship and tragedy. Forgiveness can help us to heal. And everyone has the power and responsibility to make this world a better place. We hope Eva's story continues to change the lives of those who hear it for many years to come."

The museum will remain closed until Tuesday to honor her.



Eva Mozes Kor, a survivor of the brutal experiments Dr. Josef Mengele performed on twins, went on to found CANDLES, a museum dedicated to the survivors of those experiments, in Terra Haute, Indiana. (photo provided by CANDLES)

MARRIAGE

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As clergy members, my colleagues and I should make conversion welcoming and accessible for the gentile partner should they choose this approach. At the same time, we have a responsibility to engage respectfully and meaningfully even if they do not convert. This includes welcoming them into our synagogues and learning spaces and at our Shabbat tables, protecting them from communal alienation and fervently supporting their navigation of their family journey on a pastoral level.

To be sure, I also am deeply concerned about Jewish assimilation and feel that the soul of American Jewry is at risk now: rampant materialism eclipsing spiritual values, nationalism prevailing over religion, tribalism over critical thinking, individualism over empathic community, virtual "I-it" relationships over "I-thou" relationships and an overemphasis on out-of-touch establishments over supporting new innovative approaches, to name just a few dangers.

For my parents, like so many Americans, their faith was only one factor involved in deciding whom to marry. I was all the richer for being exposed as a young child to different approaches until I deliberately solidified my Jewish

identity as a young boy. Had it not been for Jewish leaders and communities who embraced me so warmly, I would not have cultivated such a passionate Jewish identity, nor would I have entered a lifelong commitment to Jewish communal service.

While our home is strictly observant and fervently Jewish, my children continue to be enriched through diverse exposure to my family's quilt of different faiths. Rather than shun interfaith families, let's celebrate the unique contributions they bring to Jewish life, lest we lose those parents or their children from the Jewish community. These holy souls are not only desired but needed for our community to flourish.

With all the tension that already exists between Israel and Jews in the Diaspora, Peretz's reactionary statement of arrogance only stokes the fires of this precarious relationship. At the end of the day, we need to prioritize "values Judaism" over "ethnic Judaism." Ethnic Judaism typically operates under a fear mentality of survival, whereas values Judaism prioritizes actualizing our moral mission, trusting that surviving followings thrive. Those of us committed to halacha must not impose that upon others or use this holy instrument to shame.

Being as inclusive and welcoming as possible ensures that Jewish wisdom has its best chance of being a transformative

moral and spiritual vehicle in a family's life. If we can't fully agree to religious inclusion then we must, at the very least, collectively affirm our ethical opposition to shaming and ostracizing.

Rabbi Shmuly Yanklowitz is the president & dean of the Valley Beit Midrash (Jewish pluralistic adult learning & leadership), the Founder & President of Uri

L'Tzedek (Orthodox Social Justice), the Founder and CEO of Shamayim (Jewish animal advocacy), the Founder and President of YATOM, (Jewish foster and adoption network), and the author of 17 books on Jewish ethics. The opinions expressed here represent the author's and do not represent any organizations he is affiliated with.

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NEWS

LCJC

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The findings, which are based on the work of the breakout groups at the sessions, include few recommendations from Rosov itself. Instead, they consist mostly of bulleted goals, obstacles and ideas that the participants identified.

That was the purpose all along, said Rosov Director Pearl Mattenson.

"From the start, this was designed as a consultancy in which Rosov would guide and advise but not 'tell' the community what they needed to do," Mattenson said. "In our experience, that approach does not lead to lasting communal change."

Here are some of the findings for each priority:

Shared space and millennials

Stakeholders at the February meeting, discussed the idea – not a formal proposal or recommendation – of Keneseth Israel, Temple Shalom and Anshei Sfard "cohabiting" (not merging) in a shared space, possibly on the new J campus. That space could also hold one or both religious schools and be governed by one board consisting of two members from each synagogue.

Since then, events have overtaken the

report.

The Temple has proposed a space-sharing arrangement to Temple Shalom, which would create a Reform Judaism campus on Lime Kiln Lane. The Temple members have signed off on the proposal; Temple Shalom congregants are expected to vote in August.

Meanwhile, Anshei Sfard has completed the sale of its Dutchmans Lane building to The J and has moved into a suite at Shalom Towers. Anshei Sfard members have expressed a desire to purchase or build a new synagogue that better fits its needs.

Keneseth Israel continues shared programming with Adath Jeshurun, including a joint Tisha B'av observance in August.

The stakeholders also discussed space sharing for the two religious schools, intergenerational space that could include a youth engagement center, a future community-wide Hebrew school and "tikkun olam/chesed component."

And they addressed the need to engage millennials, many of whom reject traditional synagogue affiliation.

"It will be critical to hire a professional who has experience with and knowledge of this generation – likely from outside the Louisville community – who would sit outside existing institutions but would work closely alongside lay leaders," the report said.

The stakeholders also suggested cultivating "ambassadors" to promote and convene communication with individual millennials, and seek a partnership with Hillel.

Re-envision K-8 Jewish education

Citing education models from around the country, the stakeholders proposed:

- Whole-family, intergenerational learning to integrate parents who "drop their kids and run;"
- Education in the homes and public spaces (bookstores, cafes);
- Creative use of technology to offer flexibility and accommodate busy schedules;
- Help for children and parents to understand that being Jewish is not something that happens only in the synagogue or the home but "in all spaces in the world."

The stakeholders also weighed advantages of institutions creating their own education programs versus a single K-8 effort.

Separate schools could be based on each synagogue's ideologies, traditions and cultures. They could use existing staff and volunteers, be more flexible to change, become feeders for youth groups of the movements each congregation, and be more intimate.

But a combined school could unify the

community by fostering relationships across the movements. There would be more opportunities to attract professional Jewish educators. It would be easier to offer specialized programs. It would be easier to attract unaffiliated families. The community could spend less on education in the long run.

Increasing community engagement

This priority goes beyond synagogue sustainability, according to the report. Among the goals that were put forward:

- Proactive collaboration among organizations;
- Encourage volunteering among 25 - 45 year-olds;
- Connect more teens to Jewish youth movements;
- Lower the average age of participants in communal events from 60 to 40;
- Increase financial viability for all Jewish organizations;
- Double the number of kids going to Jewish camps or traveling Israel.

LCJC Facilitator Matt Schwartz said the members are studying the findings and continue to hold meetings.

The Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence, which paid for the study and participated in the process as a stakeholder, has been approached about keeping Rosov involved in the process.

LOVE

continued from page 1

Council, the community should come together not to share grief, but love.

Love Sings Louder is inspired by *Koolulam*, an Israeli mass singing initiative meant to strengthen the fabric of society. Thousands of people gather at Koolulam events around the Jewish state, just to sing.

Asked how many people are expected to take part, Goldberg, who is involved in the planning, replied that the amphitheater seats 3,000.

"That's our target," he said. However many people show up will be divided into three groups. Song leaders will take an hour teaching each group songs previously selected by the planning committee. After an hour, the groups will rejoin.

And then ... music.

Organizers hope that the singing audience will reflect all faiths, ethnicities, races and sexual orientations that make up Louisville.

"We want to get as many people from diverse communities in Louisville as possible," Goldberg said. "We just want to come together and have a powerful moment in time. Everybody is singing; that's the idea."

Louisville Metro Councilwoman Barbara Sexton-Smith, a co-chair of the planning committee, said she hopes Love Sings Louder will become more than a one-time event.

"My vision is this grows bigger and better," Sexton-Smith said. "It's a beautiful way to bring our diverse community together, using the international language, which is music."

One highlight of the evening, according to Dr. Mark Perelmuter, co-chair of the planning committee and clarinetist for the klezmer band Lost Tribe, will be a video, which he hopes will go viral, inspiring similar performances in other cities.

But the best part of the experience, he said, will be behind the scenes.

"It's not just a bunch of strangers coming together, making a video, then so

long," Perelmuter said. "Different religious groups are coming together, and in the planning, too. It's like a vacation or a lifecycle event; the fun and anticipation of planning for it ... is as fulfilling or more so, than the actual event."

Sexton-Smith, who has a long record of working for interfaith relations, said Love Sings Louder "will instill hope in the hearts of people who see and feel and experience the event together."

She added, "Where there is no vision, the people perish."

Want to sing?

For more information on Love Sings Louder, contact Lenae Price at lpriee@jewishlouisville.org or 502-238-2763. This is a free event.

Who is helping?

In addition to the Federation, the partners in the planning process are the Americana Center; Americana World Community Center; Arts and Ideas, Association of Pakistani Physicians of Kentucky and Indiana; Fairness Campaign; Film Society; Fund for the Arts; India Community Foundation of Louisville; Interfaith Paths for Peace; Kentucky Refugee Ministries; Latin X & Indigenous Community; Louisville Urban League; Louisville Youth Choir; Mayor's Office; Louisville Metro; Office for Globalization; Okolona Baptist Church; Pandora Productions; St. Stevens Church; Steam Exchange; The Temple Choir; University of Louisville and VOICES of Kentucky (LGBTQ).

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