

JEWISH LOUISVILLE COMMUNITY



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STORY ON PG. 4

FRIDAY Vol. 46, No. 10 | October 30, 2020 | 12 Cheshvan 5781

JCC breaks ground for future center; meets JHFE matching grant challenge

By Lee Chottiner
Community Editor

Ralph Green's sons used to spend countless hours at the Jewish Community Center playing sports, learning to swim, studying Hebrew and going to camp.

Perhaps their most memorable moment, though, was "a Jewish star made of people."

Celebrating Israel's 60th anniversary, Green recalled, dozens of people, his sons included, gathered on the lawn of the JCC to form the massive Star of David, an ancient symbol of the Jews, while cameras recorded the moment.

"That photograph still stands in our home," Green said.

Green was one of six speakers at Thursday's historic groundbreaking ceremony for the future JCC and campus, all of whom shared their own multi-generational memories of growing up at, or sending their own kids to, the center and how the place affected their lives.

"This place shaped the person I am

See **GROUNDBREAKING** on page 8



An Early Learning Center student holds up a sign saying "I dig it" at the historic Oct. 8 ground-breaking for the new JCC. (Community photo by Robbyn McClain)

Kaplan to chair a Federation Annual Campaign unlike any other

By Lee Chottiner
Community Editor

David Kaplan knows well that the Jewish Federation of Louisville's 2020-21 Annual Campaign will be unlike any other.

In an interview with *Community*, he recognized some of the challenges and opportunities facing the fundraising drive: the coronavirus pandemic that precludes in-person events and the need for out-of-the box thinking by staff and volunteers alike.



David Kaplan

But for Kaplan, a Louisville attorney and the newly minted chairman of the campaign, those very challenges are why he took the job.

"It is a challenge to try to build a campaign
See **KAPLAN** on page 15

Voices for Change

Louisville cantor joins global music project to unite Blacks and Jews

By Lee Chottiner
Community Editor

I lift my eyes to the mountains; from where will my help come? My help comes from the Lord, maker of heaven and earth.

— Psalm 121

One day in July, Cantor David Lipp walked into the Adath Jeshurun synagogue to be part of a choral performance.

Standing in the sanctuary, dressed as he normally does during the work week, he set his phone on a tripod. Then, listening through his earphones to a recording of Richard Smallwood's religious anthem, *Total Praise*, he proceeded to sing his contribution to the composition.

"I think I had to record it two or three times to get it right," Lipp said.

He wasn't alone. Some 100 other cantors and Black "music ministers" did the same in their synagogues, churches and homes across the United States, Canada, Uruguay and Israel, coming together on a single musical composition that they hope will promote peace through harmo-

ny at a time when the world surely needs it.

It might be the first time that Black and Jewish religious vocalists have come together on such a project, but it probably won't be the last.

The video, called *Voices for Change*, was released shortly

after Yom Kippur. A project of the Cantors Assembly (CA), it consists of the four-minute video recording of *Total Praise* and a 21-minute dialogue between Rabbi-Cantor Jeffrey Myers of the Tree of Life * Or L'Simcha synagogue in Pittsburgh and Pastor Eric Manning of the Emanuel AME "Mother Emanuel" Church, in Charleston, South Carolina – two houses of worship that were infa-



A screenshot from the *Voices for Change* video

mously and violently attacked by right-wing gunmen.

The four-month project, which included fundraising, obtaining recording rights to the music, production and engineering, was a direct response to the murder of George Floyd by a Minneapolis police officer earlier this year, touching off months of angry protests around

See **VOICES** on page 15

JCC presents Safran Foer for Kristallnacht program

Esther Safran Foer, author of *I Want You to Know We're Still Here: A Post-Holocaust Memoir*, will be a guest at the 2020 Virtual Book Festival, 8 p.m., Monday, Nov. 9 – the anniversary of Kristallnacht.

Kristallnacht was the 1938 Nazi pogrom in Germany and Austria that killed 91 people, destroyed 267 synagogues and damaged and destroyed more than 7,000 Jewish businesses. Historians consider the travesty to be a prelude to Hitler's Final Solution.

A writer and the former executive director of the Sixth & I Synagogue in Washington, D.C., Safran Foer was born in Poland and spent her early days in a displaced persons camp. The Holocaust loomed large for her growing up, so when her mother finally shared a family secret – that her father had a first wife and daughter who perished – it touched off a journey of discovery that led to this book.

The program will begin with a Kristallnacht Memorial Prayer by Rabbi Brian Glusman, director of outreach and engagement at the Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta, which is collaborating with Louisville on the festival.

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THE DASHBOARD

Word of the Month

Use your words; redundancy in Lech Lecha



D'var Torah

Cantor David
Lipp

Rabbis are uncomfortable with biblical redundancy, and the opening of *Lech Lecha* offers an opportunity for such discomfort.

A short Hebrew lesson: Hebrew has four tenses – past, present, future and command! *Lech Lecha* is in command mode. Literally, *You go*. Or, in Hebrew order, *Go you!*

But in Hebrew, the command *Lech* implies and includes “you.” The *lecha* is grammatically redundant, unnecessary.

Rashi begs to differ with me. He says the “you” is there to emphasize that Avram needs to complete the trip to the place God will show him so he will merit having children, as the Talmud relates.

I don’t disagree with Rashi, but I would like to make his point by suggesting that God is on a learning curve. Let me explain.

In the previous portion, before checking closely, I had assumed that Noah never speaks. God says, *Build an ark*; Noah builds. *Get the animals*; he gets the animals. *Load the family*; loaded. *Leave the ark*; left.

Then Noah discovers viticulture – wine. He gets drunk and somehow Ham or Canaan sees or does something disrespectful to dear old dad while finding him naked in his tent. For the first time before Noah’s story is over, he speaks. He curses Canaan and Ham, blesses Shem and notes Japheth. In other words, he waits until he has a hangover to say something, and, lo and behold, his first words are to curse one of his kids.

Let’s compare and contrast this case with Avram, whose first time speaking is immediately after entering the land, being faced with a famine, having to escape to Egypt and begging his wife to dissemble who she is so he won’t be killed on her behalf. Avram gets into

some hot water with later commentators for treating his wife so cavalierly and not trusting in God’s salvation.

But perhaps, as Rashi noted earlier, this is the point of the extra *lecha* – that extra “you” – for your benefit. God has promised Avram a blessing, a future, a partnership. But God has a learning curve when it comes to creating relationships, with this being made in the divine image. Adam and Eve are given one command they cannot keep. Noah is righteous and obedient, but he has a hard time handling his survival. God needs one of those images to communicate with, not just to disregard or blindly obey. God brings Avram to the land of promise, only to seemingly break that promise to get him to *use his words* on his own behalf to literally save his life.

Hasidic commentators read the extra *lecha* differently than Rashi. They say that God wants Avram to “look inside himself,” spiritually.

After half a year of isolating ourselves from friends and often family, we’ve had to find ways to look inside ourselves, to experience ourselves far more intensely than we are accustomed to. Some of us have indulged in Noah’s discovery more than we used to.

How much more important for us to use our words carefully and thoughtfully with one another. It’s hard enough to get communication right when we are in 3-D living color. How much more difficult and delicate when we must depend on reading our fellow divine images on screens, negotiating muting, micro-delays and constant distractions – visual and aural.

We are all now navigating a reality – places – that God is showing us, places we, like Avram, never anticipated reaching.

Let’s reinforce our inner resources to come out more resilient and capable of handling the challenges that will confront us in the days, months and years to come, in whatever that new normal will be.

Using our words is more important than ever.

(Cantor David Lipp is a spiritual leader at Adath Jeshurun.)

Snapshots: In the Kitchen



Local Chef Noam Bilitzer demonstrated how to prepare a lamb shank Shabbat dinner during an Oct. 25 virtual program sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Louisville. Bilitzer also prepared side dishes, including a roasted cauliflower salad and roasted squash with baharat spice and pomegranate molasses. (Community photo by Robbyn McClain)

Candles

Here are the candle lighting times for Shabbat in November:

- Nov 6 @ 5:20 p.m.
- Nov 13 @ 5:14 p.m.
- Nov 20 @ 5:09 p.m.
- Nov 27 @ 5:06 p.m.

Contacts

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

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

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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, November 18 (though sooner is better). The paper should be in your mailbox

by Friday, November 27.

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

Corrections/Clarifications

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NEWS

Dwelling on the go

KI made Sukkot safer with drive-through sukkah

By Lee Chottiner
Community Editor

First, you turned onto the Keneseth Israel driveway from Taylorsville Road, motoring slowly past the synagogue into the parking lot.

Then you saw it, erected on the far end of the pavement, looking a little like a rustic drive-through bank.

Actually, it was an innovative way to observe a commandment of Sukkot, that of dwelling in booths, during the coronavirus pandemic.

It was a drive-through sukkah, enabling people during the recently observed Sukkot festival to shake their lulavs, sniff their etrogs and eat a little something underneath the holy tabernacle – all without ever leaving their cars.

Assembled by the Men's Club, the Edith and Alex Berman Sukkah, named for the benefactors of KI's first sukkah after moving to the Upper Highlands, was a modification of KI's prefabricated booth. It was wide enough to accommodate most vehicles (orange cones were set up to guide motorists underneath the roof), with a six-foot clearance from thatch (*skach* in Hebrew) to asphalt.

That meant most vehicles could use it, said Cantor Sharon Hordes. "[But] don't come in your Hummer or truck with the big tires."

KI Executive Director Yonatan Yussman said the idea for the drive-through sukkah was discovered while he and other members were searching online for ways to safely observe the festival.

"There are various listservs and Face-

book groups that are dedicated to thinking up ideas for services during COVID," Yussman said. "The ideas were tossed around on those groups."

When he pitched this idea to Hordes, "it was like, 'Wow! How do we do this,'" she recalled.

The 10-by-30-foot sukkah, which took a couple of afternoons to assemble, complied with *Halachah* – Jewish law – as it relates to putting one up. It has three walls, each at least 28 inches long and more than 40 inches high. The walls were suspended no more than nine inches from the ground and the roof is made with organic material, enabling its users to see the sky or stars – through their sunroofs.

"We're just trying to keep to the letter, and also the spirit, of the law by enabling people to do what they need to do," Hordes said.

Motorists were expected to remain in their vehicles while under the sukkah, and to bring their own lulav-etrog set if they chose to observe that commandment.

"Due to COVID, we [did] not provide a shared lulav and etrog," Yussman said, "although we did offer all of our members a free lulav and etrog if they wanted one this year."

For those members who wanted to use the sukkah, KI set up an online registration through SignUpGenius to avoid lines and comply with social distancing. At least 25 families had reserved times.

In addition, Hordes led virtual Sukkot

services from the booth using Zoom.

The Berman-Kohn family donated KI's new sukkah last year, "in loving memory" of Edith and Alex, according to the sign on the side of the booth.

Reaction to the drive-through sukkah was generally receptive.

"It wasn't awkward at all," said Robin Elise Weiss, a KI member who drove through the tabernacle. "I was so excited to get to be at shul with my family and to observe this mitzvah. We had a good laugh and it prompted a lot of great discussion on how we have to adapt and yet we still are Jewish."

Beth Haines had lunch with her daughter, Whitney, in the sukkah. They also brought their own lulav and etrog.

"It was a beautiful day, so we had the windows and sunroof open," Haines said. "We ate and talked about various things, including how cool it was we could do this."

Novel as the idea was, Yussman expects the drive-through sukkah to be just a one-time thing, not a new tradition.

"Next year, hopefully, we will use our sukkah for in-person events with people under it," he said, "not just cars."



Worshippers could observe the commandments of Sukkot this year in KI's Edith and Alex Berman Sukkah without ever leaving their cars. (Community photo by Lee Chottiner)

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NEWS

HSJS course to look at historical and contemporary LGBTQ Jews

By Lee Chottiner
Community Editor

Jews of different sexual orientations and gender identities have existed, many say, since the days of the Bible. Now, a high school-level course is teaching Jewish teens who those people were – and who they are today.

The High School for Jewish Studies (HSJS) is offering a course titled “LGBTQ Judaism.” First offered last year, it will be taught again in January.

“I myself am bi,” said its instructor, Bonnie McCullagh, “and I think one of the easiest ways to combat homophobia and transphobia is to make information available to people.”

The course, offered as an elective, couldn’t be taught at a more important time, she said.

“Given the current political climate, a lot of laws are happening all the time, and Jewish movements are doing different things in the last few years that are related to the LGBTQ community. We’ll be talking about that.”

When it was first taught last year, McCullagh focused on relationships in the Tanakh (Bible) that have been interpreted through the years as possibly LGBTQ. For examples: David and Jonathan, and Ruth and Naomi.

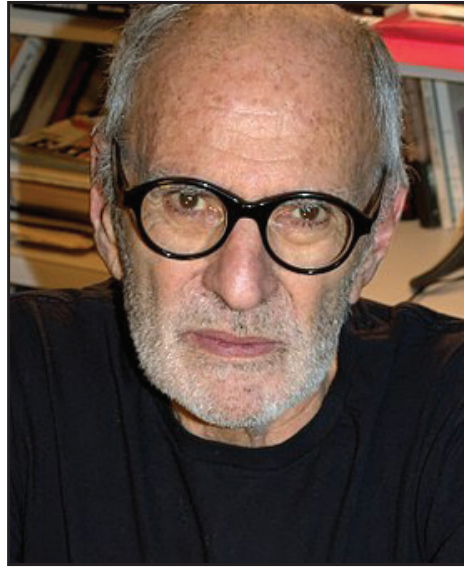
Even the story of Joseph can be interpreted that way, McCullagh said. Joseph struggles to be accepted by his older



Rabbi Abby Stein (left) and the late Larry Kramer are two modern day LGBTQ Jews whose lives are studied in the HSJS course “LGBTQ Judaism.”

brothers and is described in the text as “beautiful” – a possible metaphor that the LGBTQ community would recognize.

This year, though, McCullagh will also address contemporary Jews who identify as LGBTQ: Harvey Milk, a San Francisco city supervisor who was assassinated by a colleague; Larry Kramer, a gay playwright and AIDS activist who passed away earlier this year; Abby



Stein, a transgender woman and activist – a descendant of the Baal Shem Tov – who had been ordained as an Orthodox rabbi before coming out; and Sandra Lawson, the first black openly lesbian rabbi.

“This is something that a lot of kids aren’t necessarily going to hear about,” McCullagh said. “My ultimate goal is that some of these kids will take this class, learn something, and it will help

them be a better friend to someone who’s struggling with their sexual orientation or gender identity.”

Having role models like the ones taught in her course would have helped her when she was a teenager discovering who she was, McCullagh added.

HSJS Principal Sarah Harlan said she felt confident that the course would be successful when McCullagh first proposed it.

“Bonnie pitched the idea to me and I thought it would be an important course,” she said. “My philosophy has always been to ask my teachers what they’d be most excited to teach. In my experience, that’s what makes for the most engaging and highly-ranked courses.”

HSJS is a post-b’nai mitzvah supplemental school where Jewish teens can continue to study Jewish history, ethics, religion and Israel.

McCullagh said she sees her course as a way to give something back.

“Though society has progressed since I was in high school, it’s still not as secure as I would hope.”

The material she teaches the teens “is not something they’re going to hear about in secular school,” she added. “The High School for Jewish Studies is really inviting in that they have the opportunity to do these different electives.”

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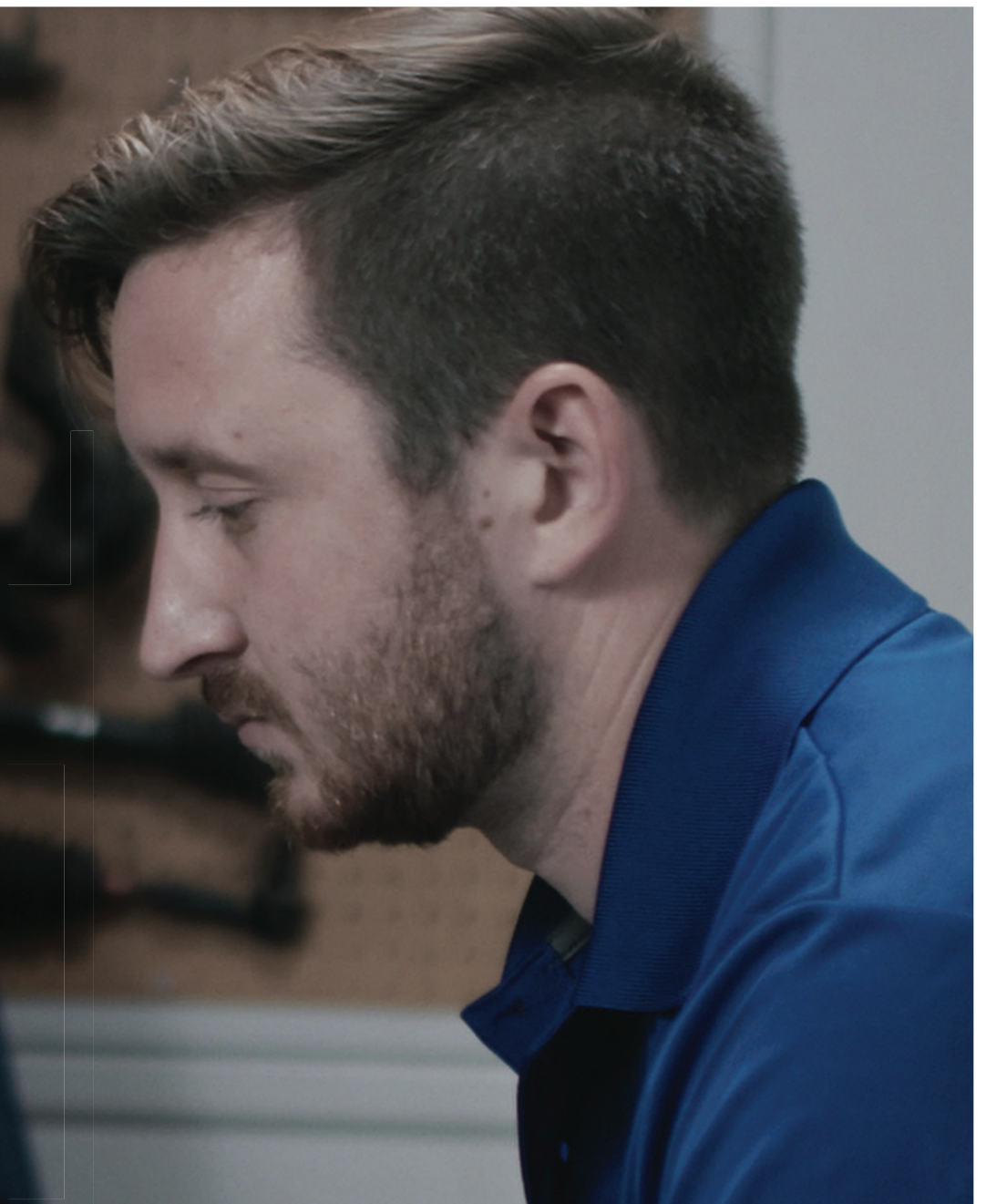
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Community reserves the right to refuse to publish any letter, to edit for brevity while preserving the meaning, and to limit the number of letters published in any edition.

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FORUM



Virtual fatigue, like COVID, can be a problem



Human Resources

Lee Chottiner

I'm going out on a limb here: I'm thinking that many of you are suffering from what I call "virtual fatigue."

You're getting tired of all the virtual aspects of life brought on by the coronavirus pandemic: virtual religious services, virtual meetings, virtual classrooms, virtual celebrations, even virtual shivas.

Virtual everything.

I get it. We can live *with* masks and *without* handshakes, but we *need* human contact.

Which explains why so many of us have dipped our collective toe into the waters of normalcy in recent months.

Throughout Louisville, restaurants have reopened, as have private and public schools (though not all). Barber shops, salons, nail parlors, retail stores have all reopened – in safe, socially distant ways.

Even Jewish Louisville has tried to throw off the deadweight of virtual fatigue, and we're getting creative about how we do it.

This past month, the Jewish Community of Louisville held a live groundbreaking for its future JCC. About 40 people actually attended, turning ceremonial shovels full of dirt, but more

than 150 others watched online.

Temple Shalom held its first in-person service since March – a Simchat Torah celebration on its back lawn. Some twenty-five worshippers brought their own lawn chairs and sat far apart. Thirty others Zoomed in, including a song-leading student rabbi from California whose music was piped in through a Bose speaker. The Torahs were paraded across the grass without anyone touching or kissing the scrolls.

At Keneseth Israel, members reconfigured their sukkah from "walk-in" to "drive through," setting up the enlarged booth in their parking lot, where they could drive in, park and perform the mitzvot from the comfort of their own vehicles, their sunroofs (if they had them) open so they could see the sky.

KI also is planning a drive-in service on Sunday, Nov. 1, taking a play out of the mega-churches' playbook.

For a couple months now, The Temple has been holding socially distant b'nai mitzvah services in their main sanctuary. Anshei Sfard and Chabad have returned to regular in-person services. They got together for the High Holy Days, too, though with some tweaking. (AS pitched a tent in the parking lot outside its Shalom Towers suite, while Chabad offered a hybrid arrangement of indoor and outdoor seating.)

And of course, the JCC's fitness center, Camp J and Early Learning Center have all reopened for business.

Add to that, the odd social event here and there (outdoors) and the dedicated volunteers who continue to deliver

meals and reach out to seniors, and it all paints a picture of a community that is stirring from its isolation, trying hard to get back to normal.

Like I said, I get it, only let's be careful about moving *too* fast.

This virus is still with us, and it's getting worse. Infection and death tolls continue to rise. A premature shirking of vigilance could lead to more deaths and push off a true return to normalcy.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, more than 8.6 million cases of COVID-19 have been reported since in the United States alone Jan. 21 and more than 225,000 deaths. From state to state, infection rates are spiking nationwide.

And the numbers are expected to get worse as the weather gets colder.

This past weekend alone, Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear announced the highest one-day total of new cases of to date: 1,738. The governor called the figure "frightening."

We're not alone. Countries across Europe are recording their own spikes. Spain just imposed a national curfew to control the spread. Italy, which was ground zero for COVID early this year, also has imposed new restrictions, shutting down cinemas, pools and gyms.

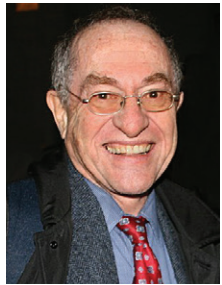
Virtual fatigue is real, but it's not a good enough reason to hit the gas on reopening before the pandemic is under control.

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



FORUM

Jews must choose life, apply same COVID standards for all



Guest
Columnist

Alan
Dershowitz

I grew up in the Williamsburg and Borough Park neighborhoods of Brooklyn. At my Orthodox Jewish day school, I studied the Torah and Jewish law. Our rabbis, many of whom were trained in the great talmudic academies of Eastern Europe, always focused on the primary role of choosing life. In Hebrew this is called *Pikuach Nefesh*.

The biblical commandment is derived from Deuteronomy 3:19-20: "I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day: I have put before you life and death, blessing and curse. Choose life so that you and your children may live...."

The Torah and the Talmud are filled with rules placing the value of life over nearly every Jewish value, including prayer and communal gatherings such as weddings and funerals. I understand how important these gatherings are to

the vibrancy of religious life, but preventing the spread of a highly contagious virus with uncertain long-term health implications should be more important.

It is shocking to me, therefore, to see so many of my fellow Jews in my old neighborhoods choosing illness and death over life – not only their own but their family members and neighbors – by not taking adequate precautions against the spread of the coronavirus, and by rejecting the advice of public health doctors.

The rate of illness in Williamsburg and Borough Park is significantly higher than in the city and state of New York in general. This is not God's fault. Respectfully, it is the responsibility of those Jewish leaders who have not done as much as they could do to advise their followers and congregants to choose life over communal gatherings.

I am sympathetic to the argument that Orthodox Jewish communities are being discriminated against by rules that allow restaurants, protests and other secular public gatherings to go forward, while severely restricting the number of people who can attend synagogues, weddings and funerals, and other communal religious events. There has been far too much finger pointing at Orthodox Jews.

But the appropriate response is to

tighten the rules regarding dangerous secular events, not to loosen them regarding large Jewish gatherings that can become dangerous super spreaders. A single standard that does not discriminate against Orthodox Jewish events and that is based on objective factors is required, but that single standard must prioritize the health of the community.

During times of crisis – and tragically Jews have a long history of dealing with crises ranging from pogroms to plagues – Jewish law and customs have always adapted to the overriding need to choose life.

Why is COVID-19 different? Why are so many Jewish leaders refusing to recognize the reality of contagion and of the need for masks, social distancing and limitations on the number of those attending large gatherings? Why am I getting so many emails and phone calls from Williamsburgers and Borough Parkers falsely stating that more people die of the flu than of COVID?

I was embarrassed by the burning of masks and spitting at journalists on the very avenue on which I attended yeshiva and shopped for Shabbos and Yom Tov food. The bad acts of a few Borough Parkers should not be attributed to an entire neighborhood, but these acts

should have been widely condemned by all good people.

I know that this is not my Borough Park or that of my very religious parents and grandparents. But I am sad to say that it is not the Borough Park of Jewish *halachah*, which demands compliance with the valid rules of the state in which Jews are citizens, as well as proper behavior towards outsiders.

I urge those Jewish communal leaders who are not satisfying their responsibility to protect life, to prioritize those religious sources commanding us to "choose life" over customs that are not mandated by *halachah*. These life affirming sources have served us well over millennia of crises.

Please emphasize those parts of the Torah that deal with mandatory isolation of contagiously ill Jews. Please recall the talmudic wisdom that he who saves even a single human life, it is as if he saved the entire world.

Please do not politicize the worst health crisis in the last 100 years. Instead, choose life. That is the Jewish way.

(Alan Dershowitz is a former professor at Harvard Law School. He has a new podcast called *The Dershow*.)

Poll watchers are strictly governed in Kentucky; here's how



Guest
Columnist

Beth Salamon

(Editor's note: This is the last in a three-part series by NCJW, Louisville Section, about voting in the November election.)

Here we are, just days away from Election Day, and Kentuckians are benefitting from what the Courier-Journal describes as the most expansive early voting period in Kentucky's history. So, if you haven't yet voted, what are you waiting for? Go Vote!

This year, more than in years past, there has been fear of voter intimidation at the polls. In the first presidential de-

bate, President Trump stated, "I'm urging my supporters to go into the polls and watch very carefully, because that's what has to happen." Later that night, the president took to Twitter, asking supporters to volunteer to be a "Trump election poll watcher."

Fortunately, what President Trump tweeted is illegal in Kentucky. Under state law, each political party may select up to two representatives per precinct to act as "challengers" (or poll watchers). However, strict rules dictate how these citizen challengers are selected. The head of each local party must submit the names of the two challengers to the county clerk at least 20 days before the election. Also, challengers must be registered voters in the county where they will serve and must carry written documentation of their status as challengers, signed by their local party chair.

Kentuckians should also know that

the law here allows these challengers to question the eligibility of voters only if they have reason to believe: a) the voters are not registered in that precinct; b) they do not live in that district; c) they are felons who haven't had their voting rights restored; or d) people are not who they say they are. Furthermore, challengers cannot intimidate or harass a voter or challenge one directly; instead, they must report any challenge to an election officer.

Challengers are also prohibited from electioneering or campaigning on behalf of any candidate, issue or political party. They may not disrupt activities at the polling place, nor may they attempt to interfere with the proper conduct of the election.

In fact, Kentucky law prohibits electioneering by anyone, including the general public, within 100 feet of a polling place and for presence in the voting



room, except to vote.

NCJW, Louisville Section, supports the right of every eligible voter to a hassle-free, nondiscriminatory voting process. Time is running out. Now that you know your rights as a voter, grab your photo ID and get to the nearest polling place. If you need more information about polling place hours, visit GoVoteKY.com.

(Beth Salamon is the state policy advocate of NCJW-Louisville and the chair of the Jewish Community Relations Council.)

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NEWS

GROUNDBREAKING

Continued from page 1

today," said Glenn Levine, chairman of Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence (JHFE). "It allowed me to be the leader I am today and it instilled the Jewish values that I live by today."

They all want future generations to make their own memories at the new J, which is why they, and many others, have supported the project.

More than 150 people livestreamed Thursday's groundbreaking for the \$42.5 million project on Zoom while 40 others attended in person, sitting far apart and wearing facemasks stamped with the J's "Our Community Our Future" slogan.

The groundbreaking follows the Jewish Community of Louisville's announcement that it met the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence's matching grant challenge, which made the project possible.

The new 107,000-square-foot center, which will be built to the rear of the Dutchmans Lane campus and should be completed in 18 months, will include an indoor family aquatics center, health and wellness center and an expanded early learning childhood center.

"It is my fervent hope," said Green, the co-chair of the Jewish Community of Louisville, "that many in the Jewish community who have drifted away from the J for various reasons will rejoin us now and participate in all that the new J will have to offer."

While construction is just now start-

ing, several phases of the project are already completed over the past two years: "charettes" (planning sessions) to garner community ideas for the project, the design phase and the capital campaign, which surpassed its \$40-million goal during the leadership phase of giving.

A second phase of the campaign, this one for the general public, is happening now, the goal being to raise the remaining \$2.5 million needed to complete construction.

To that end, Sara Klein Wagner, president and CEO of the Jewish Community of Louisville, announced during the ceremony that the Louise and Clarence Judah Family Fund has made a \$450,000 matching grant to encourage donations from the greater Louisville community.

"Louise and Clarence were pillars of the community," Wagner said, "and through their generosity, we have a \$450,000 match grant that we're going to take forward to the community."

Jon Fleischaker, also a JCL co-chair, who will step down this year after 3½ years in the position, said the board members had to answer several questions about the project before the groundbreaking could happen, including where to build it, when, and how big to make it.

They decided to "go big," he said, and to keep the center on Dutchmans Lane.

He also said the purchase of the neighboring Anshei Sfard building will play a major role in the scope of the project, which includes not only construction of the center, but development of the entire

campus.

"We thought it was very important – *very important* – to maintain that property within our Jewish community," Fleischaker said. "As a result of that, we now have 31 contiguous acres that are here in a terrific location to serve not just the Jewish community, but the entire community."

Levine, who represented the JHFE at the ceremony, said his organization's financial support for the project – a \$10 million lead grant and a \$15 million matching grant – constituted the "the largest gift we ever made in our history."

Steve Trager, chairman and CEO of Republic Bancorp, whose family's \$1 million donation kicked off the project, said they have many opportunities to support the community – few as important as this one.

"This one was an easy one to jump on board immediately," he said, adding, "we are very proud to be part of this."

Highlights of the ceremony included children from the Pomegranate and Sunflower classes of the Early Learning Center, decked out in workmen's vests and hardhats, waving handmade signs saying "Thank you," "I dig it" and "Build this!"

The speakers and other dignitaries also took turns turning soil in two wood boxes with gold shovels. Behind them, from the construction site, clanging sounds of earth movers and dump truck gates slamming shut reminded the crowd that work on the center is well underway.

The speakers paid tribute to the staff

and donors for getting the JCC project to this day, specifically Wagner, Vice President of Philanthropy Stacy Gordon-Funk and Vice President of Operations Tom Wissinger.

Rabbi Beth Jacowitz Chottiner, who represents Board of Rabbis and Cantors on the JCL board, called the groundbreaking a moment of "continuity of serving the community."

"We stand on the ground that will become our new 'place,'" she said. "In Hebrew, the word for place is *makom*. It is one of our many names for G-d."

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THANK YOU to all of our supporters in the 2020 Virtual Feeding Families Food Drive! Because of you, more than 15,000 pounds of food and essential items will be distributed through the JFCS Sonny & Janet Meyer Food Pantry to individuals and families in the Greater Louisville community!

In an abundance of caution due to the global pandemic, we hosted our annual food drive virtually this year. It is our sincere hope that, soon, we will be able to accept non-expired food and personal care items from our loyal supporters who work to keep our pantry full. For now, you can continue to give in support of the Sonny & Janet Meyer Food Pantry with a secure online donation at jfcsloouisville.org/donate!

	FEBRUARY	SEPTEMBER	INCREASE
Number of Visits	50	202	4x
Pounds of Food	1,492	7,643	5x
Total Households	43	115	2x
Total Individuals	132	429	3x

Learn more about the JFCS Sonny & Janet Meyer Food Pantry at <https://jfcsloouisville.org/food-pantry/>

WE'RE HIRING!

SENIOR THERAPIST

Jewish Family & Career Services is seeking a Senior Therapist with 3-5 years' experience as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker. This position will provide individual, group and family therapy services for agency clients and will facilitate weekly supervision with the clinical team. Candidates approved for LCSW supervision are preferred. Activities are currently provided via telehealth and will move to our office location sometime in the future.

FOOD PANTRY COORDINATOR

Jewish Family & Career Services is seeking a part-time Food Pantry Coordinator for the Sonny & Janet Meyer Food Pantry. This position is responsible for the management and oversight of food pantry operations including goods procurement and inventory control, coordination of staff and volunteers for weekly goods distribution to clients, client assessment and case management and data collection and reporting.

Please send resume to jobs@jfcsloouisville.org.

Jewish Family & Career Services is an equal opportunity employer. JFCS welcomes people with a growth mindset to our team and in return offers a generous and comprehensive compensation and benefits package including paid annual leave and sick time, medical and dental insurance, 403B, life, short-term and long-term disability insurance and generous paid holidays.

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PICTURE THIS: GROUNDBREAKING

A new era for Jewish Louisville began on Thursday, Oct. 8, when leaders, dignitaries and donors broke ground for the future Jewish Community Center of Louisville. It was a groundbreaking unlike any other, as it took place during the coronavirus pandemic. The new JCC is under construction at the back of the Dutchmans Lane campus. This state-of-the-art facility, which is part of a larger \$42.5 million project, including development of the campus and razing of the old JCC, should be completed in approximately 18 months.

Speaking at the groundbreaking, Rabbi Beth Jacowitz Chottiner of Temple Shalom compared the project to Simchat Torah, the holiday that marks the completion of one Torah-reading cycle followed immediately by the start of another.

“We don’t even wait one day before we begin reading anew from the scroll,” she said. “Similarly, we mark our continuity of serving the community.”

Scenes from the the groundbreaking, and artist renderings of the interior and exterior of the future center, are pictured below. (photos by Jolea Brown)



Above:
JCL President and CEO Sara Klein Wagner speaks during the groundbreaking ceremony.

Left:
An artist's rendering of the future JCC





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“As native Louisvillians, who have lived most of our lives in this Jewish community, we want to ensure that we have done our part to give back and to help guarantee its future. The Federation, synagogues and the other Jewish organizations are the glue that holds our Louisville Jewish community together, also serving as a collective bridge from each generation to the next, which has always meant so much to us.”


— Sidney and Barbara Isaacs Hymson




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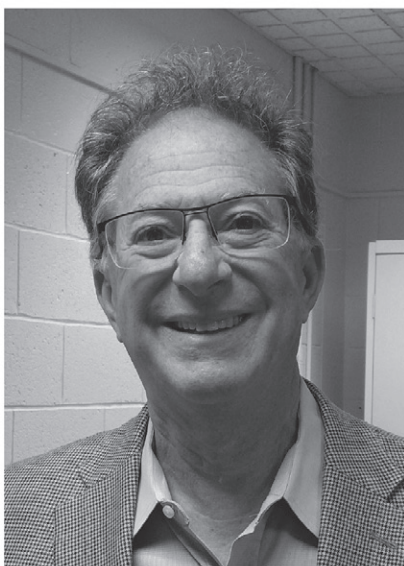
PICTURE THIS: GROUNDBREAKING



Clockwise from left to right: JHFE Members Jennifer Tuvlin, Glenn Levine, Linda Schuster, Jon Goldberg and Jeff Polson. JCC Staff welcome event attendees. Jean Trager and Steve Trager. Jerry and Madeline Abramson with grandson Grayson. The new JCC will boast a state-of-the-art aquatics center.

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Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence

NEWS & NEWSMAKERS

Greenwald named Law Alumni Fellow



Bart L. Greenwald, a local attorney and graduate of the University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law, has been named the school's 2020 Law Alumni Fellow.

"I was speechless when UofL called and told me the news," Greenwald said. "To receive this kind of recognition from your alma mater, your law school, is such an honor. Since graduating more than 25 years ago, I have always strived to help my school, my city and my community. I am deeply touched that Dean Crawford and the Brandeis School of Law saw fit to bestow me with such a prestigious award."

A 1994 cum laude graduate of the law school, Greenwald also is a 1987 graduate from the school of journalism at the University of Maryland.

He is a founding partner at Duncan Galloway Egan Greenwald, PLLC, in Louisville, where he chairs the firm's litigation group. Previously, he practiced with Frost Brown Todd LLC for 21 years, specializing in complex business litigation.

Before entering law school, Greenwald

was a newspaper reporter with the *Bradenton Herald* and the *Sarasota Herald-Tribune*.

During law school, he worked as a court appointed special advocates (CASA) volunteer, receiving the 1994 Humanitarian Award from the Women's Lawyers Association of Jefferson County. After law school, he served on the CASA Board of Directors for 10 years (eventually serving as president) and joined the boards of Louisville Collegiate School, Legal Aid Society of Louisville, Leadership Louisville, Louisville Theatrical Association, the Kentucky Derby Festival, Jewish Hospital Healthcare and the Jewish Hospital Heritage Fund for Excellence. He currently serves as chair of the Legal Aid Society's 2020 Justice for All Campaign.

Greenwald has served as civil litigation chair of the Kentucky Bar Association and is only one of two current Kentucky lawyers to serve in a leadership position in the ABA Section of Litigation.

His proudest professional accomplishment was founding H.E.L.P. (Homeless Experience Legal Protection), a project at Louisville's Legal Aid Society that trains and mobilizes attorneys to help homeless men and woman with their legal issues. With his brother, Greenwald also established the Greenwald Family

Internship Endowment at the Louisville Bar Association, which provides funds for University of Louisville law students to work at the Legal Aid Society.

Greenwald was named the 2015 Volunteer of the Year by the Legal Aid Society, listed in The Best Lawyers in America, is rated as an AV Preeminent Lawyer by Martindale-Hubbell, and is annually recognized as a Kentucky Super Lawyer.

Greenwald and his wife, Deborah, also a Brandeis School of Law alum, live in Louisville with their son, Walker.

IU offers Jewish studies scholarships

High school seniors and gap year students planning to major in Jewish studies can apply for up to \$60,000 in scholarships (\$15,000 per year) at Indiana University.

The Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Scholarship program offers four-year scholarships for Jewish studies majors in the College of Arts & Sciences or vocal performance majors in the Jacobs School of Music.

Additional one-year scholarships for Jewish studies majors and certificate students (eight courses), also are available.

After their first year, all Jewish studies major, certificate, minor, and Hebrew

minor students, may apply annually for additional Jewish Studies scholarships.

Visit go.iu.edu/js_scholarships for more information. The deadline for applications is Jan. 21, 2021.

Bronfman taking 2021 fellowship applications

Applications are being accepted for the 2021 Bronfman Fellowship. Twenty-six North American teenagers will be selected. The Fellowship begins with a free summer in Israel (assuming the safety of travel), followed by monthly virtual meetings and a winter and spring seminar in the United States.

Fellows will learn to see the world through a lens broader than their own. Inspired by a diverse faculty of rabbis and educators, they will explore Jewish texts and ideas, addressing existential questions and achieving a deeper understanding of themselves and one another. After the fellowship year, fellows join an active 1,300-plus member alumni community.

To qualify, applicants must be in 11th grade, self-identify as Jewish and live in the United States or Canada.

Dec. 3 is the deadline to apply. Visit bronfman.org for details.

AROUND TOWN

Adath Jeshurun

Virtual Shabbat worship services are held via Facebook Live, YouTube and Zoom. Additionally, AJ offers twice-daily minyan services via Zoom only. A schedule and links to join all services may be found in AJ's weekly electronic newsletter. Email info@adathjeshurun.com to subscribe.

Chavurat Shalom

Classical pianist Nada will perform at 1 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 5, via [TempleYouTube](https://www.templeyou-tube.com).

AARP volunteer Deborah Turner will discuss maintaining brain health while aging, at 1 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 12, via [ChavuratShalomZoom](https://www.chavuratshalomzoom.com).

Accordian player Mike O'Bryan will entertain at 1 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 19 via [ChavuratShalomZoom](https://www.chavuratshalomzoom.com).

Due to Thanksgiving, there will be no

Chavurat Shalom on Thursday, Nov. 26.

Chavurat Shalom is supported by the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence, The Temple, The Temple Brotherhood and Sisterhood, NCJW, the Jewish Federation of Louisville and other donors. Contact Sarah at 502-212-2038 or sarah-harlan86@gmail.com with questions.

Keneseth Israel

Mindful Meditation with Cantor Sharon Hordes is held Mondays at 6:30 p.m. Go to tinyurl.com/KICzoom.

Cantor Sharon Hordes leads Jews & Brews Torah study Wednesdays at 11 a.m. Go to tinyurl.com/KICzoom.

Cantor Sharon Hordes teaches her Kabbalah Month by Month class the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Go to tinyurl.com/KICzoom.

The Baking Club meets Tuesdays at 6:30

p.m. and Thursdays at 11 a.m.

Check facebook.com/kilouisville for exact dates and recipes. Go tinyurl.com/KICzoom to stream.

Temple Shalom

Women of Temple Shalom (WOTS), partnering with the Jewish Family & Career Services (JFCS), will again offer Hannukah Helpers. Due to the pandemic, WOTS asks that this year's donations be sent in checks instead of purchased items. WOTS will then purchase Walmart gift cards that parents with which can buy gifts for their children. Each child will receive the same amount. All families will still stay anonymous. This year, young adults through the age 21 will be included. Families in need of help can contact Mauri Malka at mmalka@jfcslouisville.org. Donations payable to Women of Temple Shalom should be made by Nov. 1 to Hanukkah Helpers, c/o Sandy Flaksman, 3111 Vogue Ave., Louisville, KY 40220. She also can be reached at sflaks37@att.net with questions. All gift cards will be given to the JFCS by Nov. 16 for distribution with Thanksgiving foods.

Membership Appreciation Shabbat will be held at 6:30 p.m., Friday, Nov. 6. New members will be welcomed and awards will be presented. The klezmer band Lost Tribe will provide music. Watch your email for the Zoom link.

Maha Kolko of the Kentucky Refugees Ministry will discuss how refugees in Louisville are coping with the coronavirus pandemic at the next Chailands Chavurah, 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 21. Havdalah will be held followed by the program. Email chailands@

[templeshalomky.org](https://www.templeshalomky.org) for details.

The Temple

Grades 7 and 8 will lead the Family Shabbat service at 7 p.m., Friday, Nov. 6, on YouTube. A Torah scroll will be unrolled so our students can read from their own portions. A take-home family dinner will be offered. RSVP information will be in The Temple weekly email.

Veteran's Day Shabbat will be held at 7 p.m., Friday, Nov. 13 on YouTube.

Interfaith Dialogue will be held at 2:30 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 15, on Zoom. Rabbi Joe Rooks Rapport and Father Joe Graffis will address common issues shared by Catholics and Jews. RSVP to benji@thetemplelouky.org.

The WRJ Book Club will next meet at 10 a.m., Friday, Nov. 20, on Zoom. The members will discuss *The Giver of Stars*, by JoJo Moyes, an historical fiction book about packhorse librarians in remote areas of Kentucky during the Depression. After that, the club will meet at 10 a.m., Friday Dec. 18, to discuss *Fallout: The Hiroshima Cover-up and the Reporter Who Revealed It to the World*, by Leslye M.M. Blume. For questions and the Zoom login information, contact Susan Waterman at susan.waterman1@gmail.com.

Movie Night, with Rabbi Joe Rooks Rapport, will be held 7 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 22, on Zoom. Six films highlighting the evolving image of Jewish identity through the movies are being screened. RSVP for Zoom link at thetemplelouky.org/Jewish-Identity-in-Jewish-Films/.



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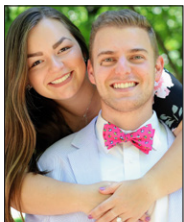
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B'nai Mitzvahs

Charley Ava Ignatow, daughter of Ali and Andrew Ignatow and sister of Blake and Camden, will be called to the Torah as a bat mitzvah at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, Nov. 14, at The Temple. Charley is the granddaughter of Nancy and the late Bruce Kranz, and Evelyn and Stanley Ignatow of Cincinnati. An eighth grader at St. Francis School in Goshen, Charley performs on the stage. She loves to sing, read and hang out with her friends and family. She also adores her puppies, Arabell and Talullah, and is passionate that everyone can own their own books. For her bat mitzvah project, she is working with Book Works to collect new and gently used books for the community and hopes to help them catalogue books in their library. Her service will be streamed via The Temple.

Ezra Abraham Fouts will be called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, Nov. 21, at The Temple. Ezra is the son of Amy and Nathan Fouts, brother of Aaron and grandson of Alice and Stuart Gandell of Plantation, Florida, and Jackie and Steve Fouts of New Washington, Indiana. An eighth grader at Community Montessori, he enjoys math, science, soccer, piano and video games. He has an entrepreneurial spirit. For his Pledge 13 project, he assisted elderly neighbors with yard work and participated in multiple food justice volunteer opportunities.

Engagements



Schulman-Geltzer

Robin and Butch Schulman proudly announce the engagement of their daughter, Emily Blair, to Noah Salditch Geltzer, son of Renee and Scott Geltzer of Nashville, Tennessee.

Emily is the granddaughter of the late Dorothy and Howard Schulman, and Dolly and Rudell Franck, Jr. Noah is the grandson of Edith Doktorczyk and the late Norman Geltzer and Max Doktorczyk, all of Miami, and Myra Lou and Judge Leon Ruben of Nashville.

Emily recently graduated magna cum laude from the University of Tennessee with a bachelor's degree in biomedical engineering and is planning to attend medical school.

Noah graduated summa cum laude from the University of Tennessee with a bachelor's degree in business. He is currently completing his MBA at the Uni-

versity of Louisville.

A winter wedding is planned at Adath Jeshurun for 2022.

Obituaries

Valeri Sobel Bornstein



Valeri Sobel Bornstein passed away on Wednesday, Sept. 16, 2020, at Baptist East Medical Center in Louisville following a four-day illness. She was 69.

Born in Muncie, Indiana, a daughter of the late Arthur and Alta Sobel, she graduated from Muncie Central High School with honors then attend Syracuse University, where she majored in journalism, had a 4.0-grade point average and was named to Phi Beta Kappa.

After her graduation, Valeri moved to Louisville in 1973, where General Electric had recruited her, for a career in the National Advertising Department. She was an instant hit.

Valeri and her husband, Bill, fell in love at first sight and married four months later.

A perfect mother and wife, Valeri also loved her grandchildren, attending their activities and constantly taking them on outings around town.

She was fortunate enough to have hundreds of friends and thousands of acquaintances, all of whom adored her for her wonderful, giving personality, kindness, warm, and compassionate friendship.

She was beautiful both physically and spiritually. There was no one who had a larger heart and a more generous loving soul than Valeri.

She was an accomplished piano player and loved golf, tennis and family vacations. She had great style and a feel for fashion.

Valeri was a member of Hadassah, the National Council of Jewish Women and The Temple.

She loved art, music, dancing, decorating, her family, home, arranging flowers and dressing up for functions and events.

She also loved giving parties, traveling to Arizona and Florida, family cruises, island vacations and Disneyland.

She was an astute investor and stock picker.

In addition to her loving husband of 46 years, Bill, she is survived by her two loving daughters, Hilary Pohn (Jordan Pohn) and Candace Bornstein; her two adoring grandchildren, Skye Pohn and Cameron Byrne; her sister- and brother-in-law, Bert and Dr. Richard Wolf; and

her sister, Shari Sobel of Philadelphia.

Graveside services were private. Donations to The Temple are appreciated. Bill, Hilary and Candace appreciate all the prayers and support on Valeri's behalf.

Dr. Richard H. DuBou



Dr. Richard H. DuBou, a successful plastic surgeon, passed away unexpectedly on Thursday Oct. 15. He was 76.

Originally from New York, the son of Gloria and Lewis DuBou, Richard completed several residencies in California before moving to Kentucky to work closely with Kleinert & Kutz Hand Care. He later opened his own practice in plastics and reconstruction.

Although highly skilled in all areas of plastic surgery, Richard's passion was cosmetic reconstruction, melding medicine with art to improve the lives of countless patients affected by cancer, trauma and congenital deformity.

In his early 30s, Richard married Maggie DuBou. Together, they had a daughter, Nicole. He also had a stepson, David from Maggie's previous marriage. When not spending time with family or practicing medicine, Richard enjoyed playing squash, reading, and recreational shooting. He adored traveling and often took his family on long holidays, including Caribbean cruises, trips to the Middle East and safaris in South Africa.

He loved adventure and new experiences no matter the risk. During his lifetime, Richard went skydiving, base jumping in Dubai, cage-diving with great white sharks, scuba diving in the Red Sea and white water rafting down the Zambezi River through Class IV and V rapids. He also flew helicopters and airplanes. His zest for life was palpable to those around him, and he never stopped dreaming of his next wild adventure.

Equally important as travel in Richard's life was religion. He held strong ties to the Jewish community that grew stronger as he became more spiritual. An active member of Anshei Sfard, he developed a close friendship with the rabbi who guided him to become more religious.

Richard served as president of the synagogue and believed deeply in the principles of Jewish faith, ritually keeping the Sabbath every Friday night and adhering to the commandment of tzedakah (charity). He always stepped in to offer his home to a Jewish traveler and would go out of his way to help anyone in need. Judaism provided Richard with a sense of fulfillment, belonging and gratitude.

He never stopped giving back to the community that enabled him to find so much joy in life.

In addition to his daughter, Nicole DuBou, and his stepson, David Goewey DuBou; Richard is survived by his sister, Michelle Herbert; and his nephew, Loren Herbert.

A devoted father, brilliant surgeon and respected member of the community, he will be deeply missed by his family, friends and all who knew him. May his memory forever be a blessing.

Funeral services were held Sunday, Oct. 18, at Herman Meyer & Son, Inc. Burial followed in Anshei Sfard Cemetery.

Joseph Ernst



Joseph Ernst, 88, of Louisville, passed away Wednesday, Oct. 14, 2020.

Born in Chicago, a son of the late Sender and Eva Ernst, Joe's family moved to Louisville at age 5. He was a graduate of Louisville Male High School and the University of Kentucky and University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy.

He served in the Army as a medic and was stationed at Camp Hanford in Washington and at Fort Ord in California.

He and his wife, Sonia "Toni," owned Oak Drug Co. at the corner of Preston and Oak in Louisville, where he dedicated himself to his customers. His children were thankful to often be at his side at the drugstore, learning about understanding, compassion and diversity, while having fun growing up with "Preston and Oak" as a second home.

Joe treasured his relationships with his co-workers and employees, particularly Steve Ellingsworth, who worked at the drugstore for over 30 years, becoming an extended member of the family.

An athlete for most of his life, Joe was a skilled and passionate basketball player. His children vividly recall tagging along to his Sunday morning men's softball leagues at the Jewish Community Center. He was also a strong tennis player well into his 80s.

Though a UK graduate, Joseph also was passionate about University of Louisville basketball and football.

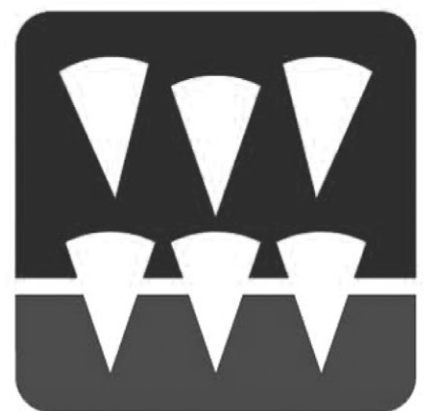
He loved his grandson, Gregory, and being his Zadie Joe. It also brought him great joy being Uncle Joe to his many nieces and nephews and later to their children. He also loved his faithful dog and companion Mazel (his second son) as well as his "grand-dogs."

He was a member of AZO pharmacy organization, Keneseth Israel Men's



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Club and was a Kentucky Colonel.

In addition to his parents, Joe was preceded in death by his sister, Evelyn Drootman, and his granddaughter, Alys-sa Rose Welenken.

He is survived by his wife Sonia "Toni" Ernst (Goldberg); and his children, Rhonda Welenken (Eric) of Prospect and Michael (Lynette Gillis) of Brentwood, Tennessee.

The family acknowledges Dr. Vijay Raghavan of Cancer and Blood Specialists of Louisville for providing stellar, compassionate care for Joe, with whom he developed a great rapport.

Contributions may be made in Joe's memory to Keneseth Israel Congregation, The Sonny & Janet Meyer Family Food Pantry, James Graham Brown Cancer Center Research or donate blood and platelets to The Red Cross.

Funeral services were private with burial at Keneseth Israel Cemetery.

Anne Fuller Gernstein

Anne Fuller Gernstein, wife of the late Gerald A. Gernstein, died the evening of Sept. 26, 2020 in Louisville. She was 79 years old.

Born December 26, 1940, in Dale, Indiana, a daughter of the late Charles and Hazel (nee Dunaway) Fuller, Anne followed in her family's footsteps, becoming active in local and state politics for the GOP, and as an administrative assistant for various elected officials.

She is remembered for her signature bright pink lipstick, contagious smile and her positive nature. Her fondness for color surrounded her everywhere.

Anne is survived by her brother Paul Fuller of Dale, Indiana; a niece, Emily Carr (Travis); and a grandniece, Madeline Carr of Louisville.

A private funeral service was held on Sept. 30, 2020 followed by interment in The Temple Cemetery. Memorial contributions to The Temple are appreciated.

Dr. Martin P. Kaplan



Dr. Martin Paul Kaplan, 91, of Lexington, passed away peacefully at home on Thursday, Oct. 15, 2020.

Born on October 28, 1928, in the Bronx, New York, to the late Samuel and Clara Kaplan, he was the valedictorian at DeWitt Clinton High School and he went on to get his bachelor's degree from Syracuse University.

After graduating from medical school at the State University of New York Downstate Medical Center in Brooklyn, Martin did his pediatric residencies at

the Jewish Hospital of Brooklyn and the State University of New York Medical Center Hospitals at Syracuse. With the military in need of doctors, he was drafted into the Air Force, providing medical care to soldiers stationed at Donaldson Air Force Base from 1955 to 1957. Martin later did an allergy fellowship at the Children's Hospital of the District of Columbia, Washington, D.C.

After marrying his first wife, Hazel "Nicki" Kaplan, a nurse whom he met while in the Air Force, Martin moved his family to Lexington in 1959. He became board certified in pediatrics and allergy and went into private practice as an allergist in Lexington until his retirement at age 78.

He served on the medical staffs of three Lexington hospitals: Good Samaritan, Central Baptist and Saint Joseph. He also served as a clinical associate professor of pediatrics at the University of Kentucky College of Medicine until 1992.

Martin volunteered his time at the Allergy Clinic for 30 years. He was also the Kentucky State Allergy president for several years as well as president of the state and local allergy societies.

When caring for his patients, Martin was active in the Jewish community of Lexington, serving as president of Temple Adath Israel and on the board of the Central Kentucky Jewish Federation.

An avid and skilled tennis player into his late 80s, he belonged to the Lexington Tennis Club.

After the passing of his first wife, Martin fell in love with and married Odette Kaplan. They had a wonderful 24-year marriage. Together, they enjoyed retirement, traveled often and were actively involved in their temple and Hadassah, where Odette held many leadership roles. In 2017, he earned a lifetime achievement award from Hadassah, an honor that he greatly valued.

Martin is survived by his loving wife, Odette; his brother, Raphael Kaplan (Rhoda) of Philadelphia; his children, David Kaplan (Elizabeth), Lisa Ward (Tony) and Janet Kaplan of Louisville; his grandchildren, Nicole Lay, Bryan Mathews, Jacob Ward (Amber), Sarah Ward, Nicki Kaplan, Nathan Kaplan; a great-grandchild, Shelbi Lay; and stepchildren, Patricia Queen (Bill), David Dutton (Pene), Nicole Disken (Tony), and step-grandchildren Billy Queen, Alex Queen, Katrina Dutton, Tyler Disken and Samantha Disken.

Martin was a kind and special person who was beloved by all who knew him and will be missed dearly.

Funeral services and burial were held Monday, Oct. 19, at the Lexington Cemetery. Expressions of sympathy can be

made to Temple Adath Israel, 124 North Ashland Ave., Lexington, KY 40502; or Hadassah, 649 Durning Rd., Lexington, KY 40509.

Claire Seligman



Claire Seligman, 98, of Louisville, died Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2020.

Born in Dayton, Ohio, on July 17, 1922, Claire and her husband, the late Samuel Seligman, were owners of Parkway Place Supermarket. She was a member of Keneseth Israel.

Claire is survived by her sons, Aron (Melanie Phillips) and Steve Seligman (Marsha); her daughters, Gayle Figa (Robert) and Sandra Nissenberg (Andrew), all of Chicago; seven grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

Funeral services were private, with burial held in Keneseth Israel Cemetery. Memorial gifts may be given to Keneseth Israel Congregation or the donor's favorite charity.

Dr. Nathan "Doc" Zimmerman



Dr. Nathan "Doc" Zimmerman, 93, passed peacefully at home in the early morning hours of Oct. 1, 2020 of complications arising from COVID-19.

Born in Brooklyn, New York, on May 25, 1927, a son of the late Sol and Pauline Zimmerman. The family soon relocated to New Brunswick, New Jersey, where Doc grew up.

A Navy veteran of World War II, he served with distinction in the Philippines. He went on the University of Louisville Medical School, graduating in 1952 at age 25.

Doc began his practice at Valley Medical Associates, in Louisville's South End, practicing family medicine in the area for the next 57 years. During his career, he became a beloved staple of the community, treating generations of patients whom came to know him as a physician, a friend and family. Doc cherished these relationships; he regularly spoke of his patients and their families in his retirement.

Doc married his firsts love, Bobette (née Abroms) in Louisville in 1949. Together, they raised four sons: Michael, Lee, Howard, and Eddie.

Following the loss of Bobette in 1989, lighting struck again for Doc in 1990 upon his introduction to the second love, Ann Benjamin Levine, whom he called "Annie B". They met upon the insistence of multiple friends, believing that Ann and Doc would prove to be a perfect match. They were. After one date, Doc declared himself struck by a thunderbolt. They were married in 1991. Together with Ann's four children: Vycki, David, Benji, and Larry, the family ballooned in size to 20 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren, keeping Doc simultaneously smiling and on his toes.

Doc was the classic "family doctor" — known for his gentle, yet frank, bedside manner, his commitment to his patients and colleagues, his reliability, and his diligence. Over 57 years in practice, he grew with his patients through their every stage of life, delivering babies, performing procedures today reserved for specialists, becoming a part of families

through sickness and health, graduations, weddings, and funerals.

An innovative physician, he grew Valley Medical Associates into the largest family practice in Kentucky. It became the first medical facility in Louisville to house an IBM computer and eventually include on-site laboratory testing for rapid diagnoses.

In addition to innovative care, Doc's was committed to every patient under his care. He personally made hospital rounds every morning, even on holidays. His children remember hearing late night phone calls from their beds, and Doc racing out of the door in the middle of the night to deliver a baby or provide emergency care. The next morning at the breakfast table he would still be in his scrubs, spending time with his family before heading back to work.

Doc was an avid UofL supporter, both of its academic and athletic missions. In college, he was a catcher for the baseball team and played for the New York Yankees farm team before committing himself to medicine. He loved UofL basketball and became close friends with the coaching staff and players, many of whom eventually became patients.

Doc was a fixture on the Standard Country Club golf course, where many recall his adeptness at making up for any lack of skill with his imagination and, when necessary, a sharp pencil.

Congenial with a giant personality, Doc's trademark mix of quick wit, lived wisdom, wry sarcasm, sharp intellect and authentic, non-judgmental appreciation for others filled any room with charm and charisma. He welcomed all into his circle of friends and family.

In addition to his parents and first love, Bobette Abroms Zimmerman, he was preceded in death by his youngest son, Edward A. Zimmerman (Dorrie), and granddaughter Minna Eva Goldenberg.

He is survived by his wife and second love, Ann Benjamin Zimmerman; his sons, Dr. Michael Zimmerman (Evie Oman), Lee Zimmerman (Sherrill), and Howard Zimmerman (Pat); his daughter-in-law, Dorrie Zimmerman (Justin Horn); Ann's children, Vycki Goldenberg-Minstein (Anthony Minstein), David Levine (Danatta), Benji Levine (Deborah Cohen), and Larry Levine (Heather Hunt); his twenty grandchildren, Michelle Armour (Stuart), Jason, Joel (Allison), Rye (Allison), Cory, Wren, and Nathan Zimmerman, Blake (Amy), Austin (Kara), Simon, Hazel, Anna, Harris, Bella, and Greta Levine, Marc (Hailey), and Jon Goldenberg, Solange and Harris Minstein; four great-grandchildren, Lily Armour, Edward G. Zimmerman, and Tenley and Zachary Levine; his dedicated caregivers, countless friends, numerous colleagues and a community consisting of generations of patients who entrusted Doc with medical care for them and their families.

Doc leaves behind a monumental legacy as a healer, friend, husband, father, grandfather, patriarch and community pillar. He will be dearly missed, but remembered in much warmth, happiness and humor.

Expressions of sympathy can be made to the The Eddie Zimmerman Family Summer Fun Fund (C/o Temple Shalom, 4615 Lowe Rd, Louisville, KY 40220) or The Temple Trager Early Childhood Education Center (5101 US Hwy 42, Louisville, KY 40241).

A celebration of life will be announced all can safely gather.

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NEWS

VOICES

Continued from page 1

the world.

"In this really toxic time, we wanted to put out something that was, at least from our perspective, just a real positive statement, a real positive kind of gesture of love and partnership," said Lipp, the current president of the CA. "We wanted to create the possibility for deeper relationships and partnerships."

The video, which was made by Stormport Productions in Israel, is a deceptively complex piece. Each singer sang *Total Praise* individually – in the same key, at the same tempo – then sent their video recording to Stormport for syncing. Meanwhile, working from a story board, engineers and graphic designers created a fluid video in which each singer appears to be floating three-dimensionally across the screen until they all come together as an actual choir, symbolizing unity.

The architect of the project was Cantor Alisa Pomerantz-Boro, immediate past president of the CA and hazzan of Congregation Beth El in Voorhees, New

Jersey, who was deeply affected by the George Floyd murder.

"I thought, 'Boy! Jews and Blacks, we're getting a bad rap,'" Pomerantz-Boro said. "Our world is a mess and we need to come together and show a message of unity and solidarity and equality, and that we love each and respect other, because I just can't sit idly by anymore."

Originally scheduled for release on Aug. 20, the date on which the first slaves arrived in America in 1619, the release date had to be pushed back due to production delays. Instead, the video came out after Yom Kippur.

Pomerantz-Boro called its reception "phenomenal."

"I have had people reaching out to me saying, 'This is the first thing in seven months of quarantine that has made me feel hopeful,'" she said.

Myers, of Tree of Life*Or L'Simcha, said the effort and presentation behind the project "stands alone as an important message at a time when we need positive messaging."

He said he holds the media responsible for too much negativity, saying it is out of balance with positive actions like

the *Voices for Change* project.

"Our music unites us," Myers said.

Already a popular hymn in Black churches, the CA selected *Total Praise*, which is based on Psalm 121, because of its message and its meaning to both communities, Pomerantz-Boro said.

"I think that's really powerful. I think we need something to hold on to during this traumatic time in our world. I lift my eyes up the mountains; where am I going to get help? Oh yeah! You got that inside you, you got God inside you."

Smallwood is a Grammy Award-winning gospel artist. In addition to *Total Praise*, he has written other well-known pieces, including *I Love the Lord*, which Whitney Houston sang in the movie *The Preacher's Wife*.

Voices for Change was funded through a \$7,500 grant from the Cantors Assembly Foundation.

According to the CA press release, the video is believed to be the first time that Jewish and Black "music ministers" have come together for a collaborative video production, though neither Myers nor Pomerantz-Boro could confirm that.

Myers did say that the video is the lat-

est in a long history of cooperation and collaboration between Blacks and Jews

"It's a continuum of the relationship that the Jewish community and the Black community have had going back a very long time, and this is just another piece of that relationship that continues to grow."

Pomerantz-Boro expects the video to inspire sequels. She said a PR firm is already planning a possible *male* (memorial) production for the victims of COVID-19, and collaborative projects could take place with the Pittsburgh-based Afro-American Music Institute, a school for young Black people to study music and its Black cultural influence.

"This is not a one-and-done," she said.

Want to help?

The Cantors Assembly and Black prayer leaders have designated a scholarship program, the Afro-American Music Institute, as the official charity of *Voices for Change*. For more information, visit afroamericanmusic.org/scholarships. Also, visit cantors.org/voicesforchange to watch *Voices for Change*.

KAPLAN

Continued from page 1

paign in this environment," he said, "but I decided that I have a strong personal motivation right now because of the times that we're living in. It's in times like this that our community comes together – we've done it before and we will do it again."

With Kaplan's appointment, the Annual Campaign is underway. This year's goal is to raise \$2 million, an increase from the \$1.8 million garnered by the 2019-20 drive.

Ironically, the same coronavirus that poses hurdles the campaign must clear, also offers advantages, according to Kaplan.

He touted the Early Learning Center and the fitness center, but he especially singled out the work for seniors, noting that the JCC and JFCA have continued providing outreach, meals and person-to-person connections despite the social

distancing.

He called the JCC the "front porch of the Jewish community," saying all of Louisville is welcome at its pools, playing fields, gyms, fitness center and social programs.

"It's no exaggeration to say the JCC has really been a ray of light in a time where there's been a lot of darkness," Kaplan said. "I think the light is going to shine even brighter when we've got the new JCC."

The Federation campaign supports camping and Israel trips, social programs, children and adults, beneficiary agencies, even Jews in other countries.

The campaign will look different from previous years.

"The events for now are not going to be in person," Kaplan said. "All will be done virtually, but we know we can offer programs that will attract people to attend. Together with staff, we are going to be working to make these events as appealing as they can possibly be."

One feature that won't change, he said,

will be the one-on-one talks between solicitors and donors, albeit virtually. In fact, Kaplan considers these talks to be the most important component of the campaign.

"Every single conversation that we have with a donor or potential donor or past donor is a valuable conversation," Kaplan said. Connecting in a time where people feel disconnected is more important than ever."

Kaplan compared each talk to "planting seeds." Even if someone doesn't give this year, the talks establish a relationship for when that same person, responding to a birth of a grandson, or a recent bat mitzvah, decides the time has come to give.

Stacy Gordon-Funk, senior vice president of philanthropy and chief development officer at the Jewish Federation and JCC says of Kaplan, "David brings incredible leadership to this year's Federation campaign. Not only is he a visionary, but he understands the direct needs for our

community and those globally."

Kaplan will chair a cabinet consisting of representatives of the men's and women's divisions, young adults and senior citizens – all working closely with Federation staff.

A Kentucky native, Kaplan grew up in Lexington and graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government and Harvard Law School.

He currently serves on the JCL Board of Directors and previously chaired the board of the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence.

He is a partner at Kaplan Johnson Abate & Bird.

"There's tremendous value to the Jewish community as a whole coming together behind an annual campaign and saying as a community, 'these are our priorities and these are the programs that we believe should go on forever and we're part of something larger.'"



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