

JEWISH LOUISVILLE COMMUNITY



INSIDE:
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STORY ON PG. 10

FRIDAY Vol. 46, No. 12 | December 25, 2020 | 10 Tevet 5781

JCRC joins with ADL to bring diversity training to state law enforcement

By Lee Chottiner
Community Editor

The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) will begin offering training on the Holocaust to the highest levels of Kentucky law enforcement early next year, state officials and Jewish leaders say.

"They (the state) recognize that since this has come up twice means there is a problem," said Beth Salamon, chair of the Jewish Community Relations Council, "which is why they are looking

to us and the ADL to do a lot more intentional education."

ADL Regional Director James Pasch met Wednesday with officials from the governor's office, the Kentucky State Police (KSP), the Department of Criminal Justice Training (DOCJT) and the Jewish Federation of Louisville to lay out a plan for raising awareness of the *Shoah* in a government sector jolted by recent revelations that anti-Semitic symbols and statements have been found in training programs.

Manual RedEye, the student newspaper

of duPont Manual High School, recently reported that a six-minute training video made earlier this year by the DOCJT contained an image of the *sonnenrad*, a Nazi-appropriated symbol.

And on Oct. 1, the *RedEye* made national headlines when it reported that a training slideshow used by the KSP Academy contained quotes from Adolf Hitler and Robert E. Lee, and urged cadets to become "ruthless killers."

Normally, ADL training, which has been offered to police departments around the country and to the FBI, has

included in-person sessions and visits to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM) in Washington, D.C. But the COVID pandemic means modifications will have to be made.

Michael Brown, secretary of the Executive Cabinet of Gov. Andy Beshear, has tasked the KSP and DOCJT commissioners to work out the logistics of the training with Pasch, allowing the program to begin in early 2021. "I can't wait for COVID to calm down to

See **ADL** on page 19

'Time for Transformation' Jamner builds program to energize community during COVID crisis

By Lee Chottiner
Community Editor

With the country entering what will likely be the darkest months of the coronavirus pandemic, a local Jewish educator and musician has been contracted to develop programming to help the community through this time.

Jeff Jamner has signed a six-month contract with the Jewish Community Center of Louisville (JCC) to be its "creative consultant for arts and ideas." A grant from the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence (JHFE) is supporting the position.

Among his tasks, Jamner will chair the planning committee for the next Yom Hashoah program and assist with the work of the Jewish Community Relations Council.

But his marching orders go much



Jeff Jamner

further than that. As infection and death rates from the coronavirus and COVID-19 continue to surge, Jamner is charged with finding ways to keep Jewish Louisville emotionally and spiritually connected.

"It's going to get worse before it gets better," he said. "As we enter this winter, it could be a winter of despair. How can we do something to help our community?"

One approach Jamner has crafted is a program called "Time for Transformation: Thriving in the Winter of COVID," which kicks off on Jan. 7.

Guest presenters – artists, teachers and therapists – will facilitate sessions designed to give participants ways to express what they are experiencing and prepare them to emerge from the pandemic when it finally beaks. Jamner said the program is based on the Jewish teaching of *tikkun olam* (mending the world). In this case, it focuses on the idea of first mending one's self to find the energy for more worldly work.

Jamner said he approached Cantor David Lipp of Adath Jeshurun, asking him if Jewish teachings support such an idea.

"He immediately went to the three famous questions of Hillel: If I am not for myself, who will be for me? If I am only for myself, what am I? And if not now, when?" Jamner said.

Time for Transformation will be

See **TRANSFORMATION** on page 19

Bernheim's Israeli artist



Gabiella Boros, the 2020 Bernheim artist-in-residence, points to a fabric print of ACLU-KY leader Suzy Post. The print is part of the FEMMEnominal Bluegrass Botanicals project at the forest, which honors Kentucky women of note and also pairs each with a plant that best suits them. (Community photo by Lisa Hornung)

Daughter of survivors makes banners celebrating noted Kentucky women

By Lisa Hornung
For Community

An outdoor art installation at Bernheim Arboretum and Research Forest celebrates Kentucky women and native plants – the work of an Israeli American woman, a daughter of Hungarian Holocaust survivors.

Gabiella Boros, the 2020 artist-in-

residence at Bernheim, created the pieces: 10 banners printed from hand-carved woodcuts, which became the FEMMEnominal Bluegrass Botanicals project.

Each banner shows an image of a Kentucky woman of note, paired with a native Kentucky plant that Boros felt

See **BERNHEIM** on page 19

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THE DASHBOARD

Word of the Month COVID-coping calls on kabbalists' lessons



D'var Torah
Cantor
Sharon Hordes

I distinctly remember sitting down to write my annual D'var Torah for *Community* last March. I had just found out that school would be cancelled for both of my girls, due to something called the coronavirus, and I was rushing to finish the piece because I felt I might be too focused on my kids to write a decent article.

My main concern in that moment was getting my work done without distraction. How little did I know what was really in store.

Over these past nine months, we have learned a great deal about the health effects of this virus, how it spreads, but even more about how to adapt to this new reality.

Many of us had to Zoom our Passover seders with friends and family and the High Holy Days as well. Even if we have been attending worship services in person, with mandatory mask wearing and social distancing, the experiences have been a far cry from what we were used to.

Throughout this unintentional human experiment of quarantining and managing the fear and stress related to the virus, what has amazed me is how well, for the most part, we as a community have managed.

Our children are still learning via remote school or in socially distanced in-person classes. We have gotten used to putting on a mask and grabbing our hand sanitizer before leaving the house.

Over these past nine months, I have noticed parallels between the challenges we faced as Jews throughout the millennia and how we have successfully faced these challenges today, surviving and even thriving. Resilience seems to be baked into Judaism, enabling us to evolve and change to meet whatever is

thrown our way.

There are many examples of this, but the one that most stands out to me is the optimistic poetry of Kabbalat Shabbat, specifically *L'cha Dodi*. The Kabbalat Shabbat service was created by 16th century mystics, a group of exiles and descendants of exiles, from Spain, who had settled in the Galilean town of Tzfat. They were crushed in the wake of the rejection they faced in Spain, a land in which their families had been living and thriving for generations. How did they cope with this existential pain? They focused on the intense and intimate love that God had for them.

"Rise up from destruction and fear no more," wrote Shlomo HaLevi Alkabetz, the poet of *L'cha Dodi*, encouraging the exiled Jews. "End your dwelling in the tear-filled valley, for with God's compassion you will be upraised."

Alkabetz used such encouraging imperatives as "Awake! Arise from the dust" and "Dress yourself in this people's pride." These are the people from whom we have descended. Resiliency and hope in the future are our birthrights.

Jews have faced adversity again and again throughout our existence, and despite all the odds, we're still here.

Once again, I have no idea what things will look like by the time you read my D'var Torah. Will an effective vaccine have been approved and administered to the groups most in danger of catching the virus? Will we have succeeded in flattening the curve again through social distancing and mask wearing?

Just as the kabbalists of Tzfat didn't know how things would turn out for the Jewish people of the future, we don't know how our battle with COVID-19 will end. But we can take a page from their book and move forward with confidence, trust in God, and adopt an attitude of optimism. If we are guided by both our heads and our hearts, we can make the world a better place.

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

JCC construction progress



The walls of the future Jewish Community Center of Louisville are now being erected. The pre-cast concrete panels, which will form the exterior walls of the JCC, will allow placement for windows and doors without further modification. Most of the walls already up encompass what will be the exercise area. Work on this aspect of construction is expected to be complete by mid-February. (Community photo by Lee Chottiner)

Candles

Here are the candle lighting times for Shabbat in January:

- Jan 4 @ 5:16 p.m.
- Jan 11 @ 5:22 p.m.
- Jan 18 @ 5:29 p.m.
- Jan 25 @ 5:37 p.m.
- Jan 29 @ 5:45 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.

Not getting your paper? Want to subscribe? Putting your subscrip-

tion on hold? Development Associate Kristy Benefield can handle all circulation questions. She can be reached at kbenefield@jewishlouisville.org or 502-238-2770.

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

Deadlines

Deadlines matter, especially for newspapers. Got a news item for Community? Send it in by Wednesday, January 20 (though sooner is better). The paper should be in your mailbox

by Friday, January 29.

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

Highlands Eruv erected, envelops future home of Orthodox community

By Lee Chottiner
Community Editor

Snaking more than six miles through the Upper Highlands and other neighborhoods hugging the Watterson Expressway, a series of 238 PVC pipes attached to utility poles, plus a highway wall, are making it easier for Louisville's only Orthodox Jewish congregation to attract new members.

It's the city's new Highlands Eruv, a symbolic extension of kosher households that enables Orthodox families to walk to and from synagogue, and each other's homes, carrying books or pushing strollers or wheelchairs, without violating the work prohibition on Shabbat.

The eruv, which was completed three weeks ago, is an essential piece of infrastructure if Congregation Anshei Sfard is to grow, according to its rabbi, Simcha Snaid.

In fact, one of the first questions he gets from younger families interested in relocating to Louisville is whether there is an eruv surrounding the neighborhoods where they would likely buy or rent a house.

"We wanted to make sure that it was built, not just for the families that are already here, but to recruit and build a bigger community," Snaid said. "This amenity was needed to make sure that's an option."

Another eruv already exists along Dutchmans Lane and is still enforced and is connected to the new one.

But that's not where Anshei Sfard, which sold its old building to the Jewish Community Center in 2019 for the new JCC campus, plans to locate its next synagogue.

The 38-family congregation expects the future building to be somewhere within the confines of the new eruv, which includes Hayfield-Dundee, Gardiner

Lane, Strathmoor Manor and Village, Wellington, Hawthorne, Kingsley and

rabbi, needed to fit it into his schedule. Enter Rabbi Mordechai Paretzky of

country.

"It is specialized work. You need to have lot of knowledge of Jewish law and practical creativity to put something like this together."

This particular eruv is less than average in size, Paretzky said. Still, it proved "extremely difficult" to put up because most of route, except the Watterson portion, did not include walls or fences that could be incorporated.

That left Paretzky and Snaid with no option but to attach 10-foot-long PVC pipes on LG&E utility poles, making symbolic doorposts called *lechis*.

Fortunately, Paretzky, being a mayven of eruv assembly, has an essential piece of equipment for the job – a bucket truck.

Getting the materials for the eruv caused a delay. Not surprisingly, one can't just walk into a hardware store and expect to find 238 PVC pipes, one inch in diameter and 10 feet long.

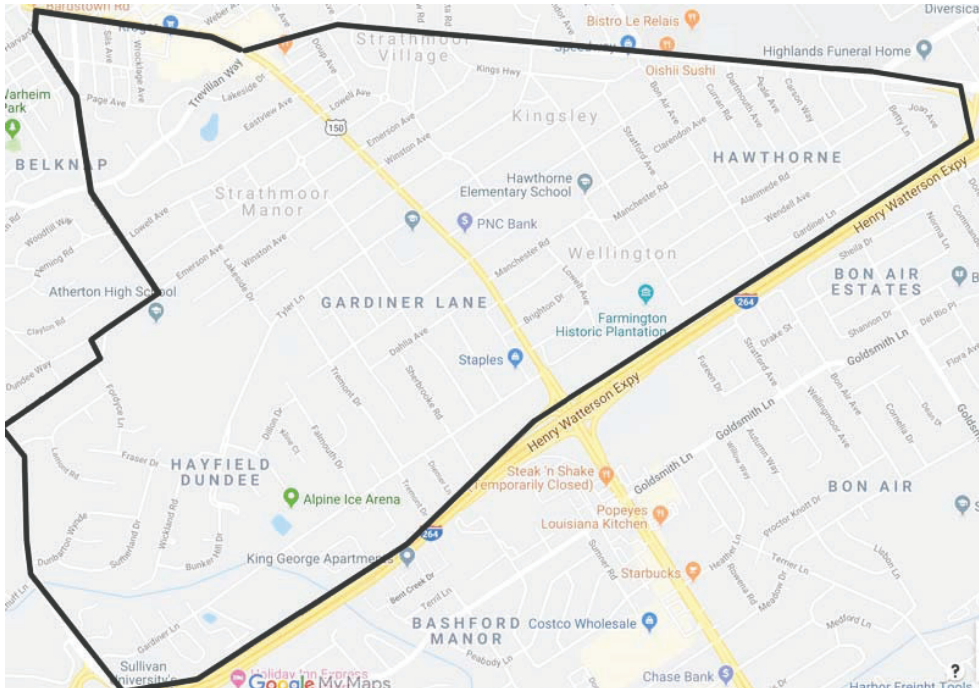
"We ordered a huge shipment because in the store itself they didn't have that amount," Snaid said. "So, they had to order it, and they put it in my backyard with a forklift – pipes, brackets, everything."

Anshei Sfard is renting space on the utility poles from LG&E.

The work won't now that the eruv is built. Snaid inspects it once a week, taking 30-to-60-minute drive along the entire perimeter to make sure it is intact. He said an errant tree branch or a LG&E crew doing maintenance work could jar a line or pipe out of place, rendering the eruv unkosher.

He didn't disclose the cost of materials and Paretzky's service, but he said the whole process was worth it.

"It is a costly endeavor, but it is needed to build an Orthodox Jewish community."



The Highlands Eruv stretches from the Watterson Expressway to Douglass Loop – a perimeter of six miles – and connects with the Anshei Sfard Dutchmans Lane Eruv. (Map provided by Rabbi Simcha Snaid)

part of Belknap. It stretches to Douglass Loop even touches Newburg Road.

Six to seven AS families, including Snaid's, already live in the area where the synagogue will be.

"We're trying to find a location for it," Snaid said. "We're always looking for something to rent, something to buy, an open area where we could build something. All options are on the table."

The eruv took four to five weeks to construct scattered over a much longer time period because Snaid's partner in constructing the barrier, a Chicago

the National Eruv Initiative, a specialist in eruv construction worked with Snaid to put up the eruv.

"It's actually unusual for the rabbi to get his hands dirty and do the physical work," Paretzky said of the project. "But it also happens to be of tremendous benefit. He (Snaid) knows every component in the eruv. He knows how the eruv was constructed literally, so when issues arise, he's much better equipped to handle it."

Paretzky has helped construct approximately 15 eruvs around the

UofL professor describes clinical trial for anti-COVID vaccine

By Lee Chottiner
Community Editor

As the United Kingdom on December 15 became the first Western nation to administer a clinically-approved vaccine, one man in Jewish Louisville was intimately familiar with the experience –

and the vaccine.

Dr. Jon Klein, professor of medicine at the University of Louisville and vice dean for research, recently took part in a clinical trial for the BioNTech-Pfizer vaccine – the same one being administered in the U.K. His wife, Laura, also participated in the trial, as have other Jews in the community.

(The Food and Drug Administration has since approved the BioNTech-Pfizer vaccine for use in the United States and vaccinations here have begun.)

Klein, who spoke at a Dec. 6 program sponsored by Adath Jeshurun, largely touted the vaccine, saying the side effects – for those in the group who had them – were "really very tolerable," limited to sore arms, fatigue, headaches and muscle aches.

Klein added that "most people in our group were very, very happy to trade those side effects for having received the vaccine."

Klein and his wife were inoculated mid-August at a pediatrics practice in Bardstown, among a group of 12 taking part in the trials. Half the group got the vaccine; the other half, a saltwater placebo. (Klein knows he received the

actual vaccine because of his sore arm, which he described as a "dead giveaway.")

All the participants were taking part in a medically groundbreaking procedure. They knew it was the Pfizer trial, an RNA vaccine never before administered to humans.

RNA vaccines, unlike normal vaccines, work by introducing an mRNA sequence (the molecule that tells cells what to build), coded for a disease-specific antigen, according to material provided by the University of Cambridge, England. Once produced within the body, the antigen is recognized by the immune system, preparing it to fight the disease.

RNA vaccines are faster and cheaper to produce than traditional vaccines. Because they do not use infectious elements, they are generally considered safer for the patient.

Klein received the two doses of the vaccine three weeks apart, experiencing only minimal side effects: a sore arm and some muscle and joint aches 24 hours after the second injection, close to bedtime. But he took pain relievers, slept, and they were gone when he woke up.

"The sore arm lasted maybe two days,"

he said, "but it didn't keep me from jumping on my bicycle and going out for a nice long ride."

Klein cautioned against presuming that people will have protection built up after the first dose alone.

"I would not assume ever that I had protection after just one injection. You really have to get that booster shot three weeks afterwards."

Klein has been a familiar face in Louisville since the onset of the coronavirus pandemic. Since March, he has appeared weekly with Mayor Greg Fischer on his Facebook and live video broadcasts.

As a physician and scientist, Klein said he considered himself obligated to take part in the trial.

"It's important for physicians and scientists and also politicians to roll up their sleeves and set the example, to try and persuade people that this is something they really need to do."



Dr. Jon Klein

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NEWS

Lexington Chabad has long, sad history of attacks

By Lee Chottiner
Community Editor

LEXINGTON – Dec. 12's violent incident during the Chabad menorah-lighting event serving the University of Kentucky is the worst sustained by that Jewish organization, but hardly the first.

In an interview with *Community*, Rabbi Shlomo Litvin, director of Chabad of the Bluegrass and rabbi of Chabad at the UK Jewish Student Center (JSC), said the incident, in which a participant was dragged by an SUV, represents an escalation in attacks, from words to vandalism to outright violence.

Litvin described several disturbing incidents at the organization's original location and at its current site, the JSC.

The night of the incident, a group of five Chabad supporters, so few due to the COVID-19 pandemic, was about to light the menorah outside the center when a man drove by, cursing about a car blocking the road, according to one witness. Litvin then heard the driver use an anti-Semitic slur.

One participant, whom Litvin described as a "leading member of our community and a veteran," placed himself between the group and the driver. "The guy just grabbed his arm, stepped on the gas and took off, dragged him about 30 yards up the street," before getting away. The victim, whom Chabad is not identifying, sustained muscle damage and pain, according to Litvin, but he insisted that the menorah be lit before he would go to the hospital. His injuries are not considered life-threatening.

The police are investigating.

One woman at the event, Kayla Woodson, director of inclusion and equity for the UK Student Government Association, said the driver was cursing, though she did not hear anything overtly anti-Semitic.

Woodson was attending the event



as a supporter of Chabad. "There have been incidents in the past involving the Chabad house and I have reached out to the rabbi," she said. "He invited me to come."

The incident could represent a new level of attack against Chabad.

Litvin said the organization endured at least two incidents at its original location on Kentucky Court: Vandals destroyed their sign and drunken students shouted slurs.

Since the move to the new location on Columbia Avenue in 2016, Chabad's sign has been knocked down – three times – its menorah has been damaged, and someone tore a mezuzah from the front doorpost.

"The FBI thinks that [the mezuzah incident] showed planning and intent because a mezuzah is not easily spotted," Litvin said.

He also described anti-Semitic incidents elsewhere on campus, including protestors shouting anti-Semitic lines during a lecture by Israeli Defense Force veterans speaking about Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, and a Jewish student who had pennies thrown at her – an apparent reference to the canard that Jews are cheap.

UK President Eli Capilouto, who is Jewish, said in a statement that he

was "deeply saddened" to learn of the incident.

"The person who was injured is in our thoughts and prayers for a full recovery," Capilouto said. "As the latest lights of Chanukah shine forth, let us be reminded of our mutual responsibility to seek, each day, to let the light of religious freedom and liberty shine brightly for everyone. Hate will have no harbor in our community."

Gov. Andy Beshear also issued a

statement condemning the incident, as did Attorney General Daniel Cameron and Lexington Mayor Linda Gorton.

Mindy Haas, executive director of the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass, said she is working the with Secure Community Network (the official security organization of the North American Jewish community), the FBI and local police to keep Jewish Lexington safe.

Haas also said she is reaching out to the Anti-Defamation League and local PTAs to promote more education directed against hatred.

"Hate starts at home," she said. "If we can work with the families in our community, [showing] that love is stronger than hate, maybe we can get somewhere."

Litvin said the best way to thwart the escalation from hatred to actual violence is to first counter it when it is spoken, written or tweeted.

"Words have to be countered – every time," he said. "I shouldn't have to explain to my children why there are 12 cop cars at the menorah-lighting; that shouldn't be my responsibility as a parent in 2020."

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Deadlines for the next two issues of **Community** for copy and ads are: Jan. 20 for publication on Jan. 29 and Feb. 17 for publication on Feb. 26.

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

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Community 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.

EDITORIAL STAFF

Lee Chottiner

Editor

502-238-2783, lchottiner@jewishlouisville.org

Larry Singer

Advertising Sales

502-418-5845, lsinger@jewishlouisville.org

Robbyn S McClain

Senior Design & Content Manager

502-238-2764, rsmcclain@jewishlouisville.org

Shiela Steinman Wallace

Editor Emeritus

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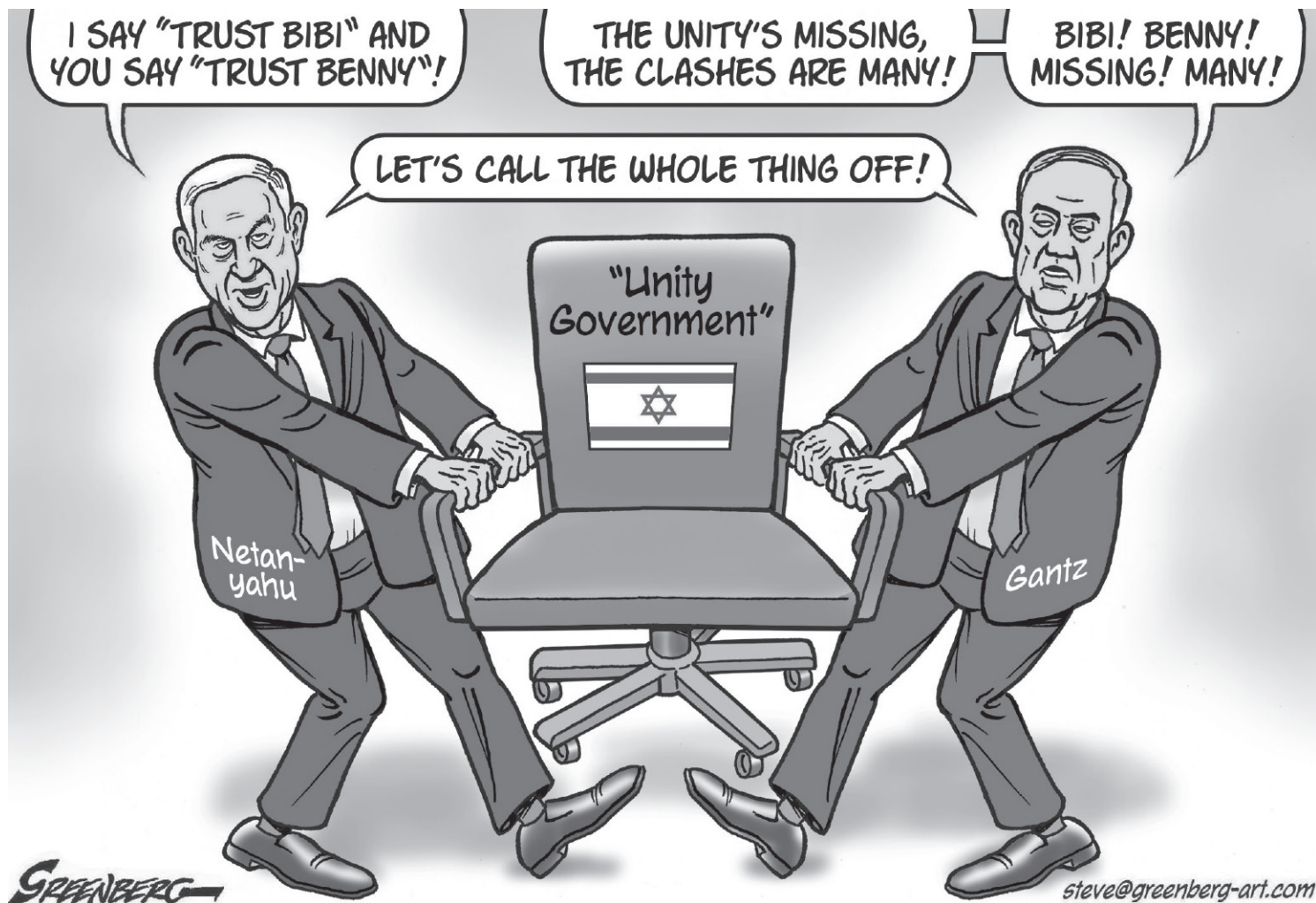
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FORUM



Jews know the Uighurs' plight too well



Human
Resources

Lee Chottiner

Here is a disturbing story about hundreds of thousands of people who are forced to pick cotton – back-breaking labor, long hours.

Sounds like a story straight out of antebellum America. It is not. This story is playing out in modern-day China. And its victims are not Black slaves but Uighurs, an ethnic Turkic, predominantly Muslim minority group that has been feeling the boot heel of Chinese oppression for years.

According to a report from the Center for Global Policy (CGP), evidence from 2018 shows that 570,000 Uighurs and other Muslim ethnic groups in the Xinjiang autonomous region of western China have been made to pick cotton by hand.

The news has “potentially drastic consequences for global supply chains,” according to the CGP, whose findings were reported in the London-based newspaper *Independent*. Xinjiang produces 20 percent of the world’s cotton.

But this is not a business story. This is a story about human rights (or the lack thereof). It’s a story about a people, long suffering and forgotten by much of the world.

In short, it’s a story that Jews know only too well.

The Uighurs are among the 21st century’s most repressed people. At the hands of the Chinese, they have endured

mass internment (yes, concentration camps), forced sterilization of women (shades of Nazi medical experiments) beatings, religious suppression and other human rights abuses.

The Chinese government long denied even the existence of these detention centers, which hold more than one million people, but as PBS’ *News Hour* has reported, aerial images of the facilities finally forced them acknowledge the so-called “re-education centers.”

They claim the Uighurs hold extremist views that threaten their security.

China also has cracked down on Uighur religious practices. Men may not grow long beards. Women may not wear veils. Mosques have been destroyed.

Unlike the Jews of Europe during the Holocaust, many of whom lived in developed countries, in cosmopolitan areas, the Uighurs live in remote regions, making them all the easier to forget. How many of us could even find Xinjiang on a map?

Not that Uighurs have been totally forgotten. In 2019, the Midwest Region of Peace Catalyst International, a nonprofit organization, brought Uighur advocate Rushan Abbas to the University of Louisville to speak about the incarceration of her people.

A July letter from the United Nations Human Rights Council condemned Chinese leadership for the detentions. At first, the United States did not sign on, though it soon joined other nations in calling the camps a “horrific campaign of repression,” PBS reported.

And recently, Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis, chief rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations of the Commonwealth (United Kingdom), wrote an extensive op-ed in support of the Uighurs in *The Guardian* that attracted international

attention.

Mirvis told the heartbreaking story of his conversation with an Uighur activist whose family, still in China, is in desperate straits.

“Over time they became terrified of even answering her telephone calls for fear of what it might mean for them,” Mirvis wrote. “They stopped using traditional Islamic greetings, which are forbidden, and eventually stopped answering her calls altogether. She persisted until one day, her brother answered the phone and with a tremble in his voice, he implored her: ‘Leave us in God’s hands and we will leave you in God’s hands, too.’”

The rabbi reminded his readers of something Elie Wiesel once said: “Whoever listens to a witness becomes a witness.”

Well, today, at this moment, we are all witnesses to the suffering of the Uighurs. There is no turning back.

We know what it means when people pretend not to hear the cries of the desperate. We know what it means to close borders, to refuse to let ships’ passengers disembark, to not bomb the railroad tracks.

We know what it means to be forgotten.

There are ways to help the Uighurs: Call your congressmen, write to the Chinese embassy. Speak at your synagogue, pressure companies implicated in forced Uighur labor to back down. More information is available at saveuighur.org.

Above all, don’t be silent. Remember, 500,000-plus Uighurs, scared, defenseless, being forced to pick cotton by hand – in the 21st century.

Jews know that is not OK.

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



FORUM

Rebuilding Jewish unity starts with a small step; here's mine



JCRC Scene

Matt Goldberg

There is no getting around the fact that national elections are a breeding ground for animosity and grudge-holding. This year was no exception.

It felt like we were in election mode for well over a year. (In fact, we were!) During that time, we have seen divisions in this country the likes of which we have not known during our lives. Statistics bear that out.

Politically, we are more tribal. We consume news sources that corroborate our views of the world. We are less likely to have friends of different political persuasions.

There are many reasons for these

divisions. No matter what they are, though, we are in a bad place, and it is unsustainable.

It's not just politics either. The pandemic has exacerbated these divisions in the Jewish community. When I see a massive Jewish wedding in Brooklyn, where thousands of unmasked people celebrate as though they have never heard of the coronavirus, I get angrier, more embarrassed and more resentful than seeing others outside our community flouting these rules. It consumes me, and I am sure I am not the only one who feels this way.

In many ways, Israel has become a mirror image of us. Its political divisions have gotten more acute with each passing election (and there have been three in the last 18 months, with another likely to take place this spring).

Every day, thousands protest in front of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's residence, demanding that he resign. Members of the Knesset align and realign their political parties,

attempting to deny the PM job security, blasting his tenure and insisting that he not be allowed to continue in his position.

And yet, his Likud is the most popular political party in the country, and he is projected to most likely be PM again when new elections are held. As fed up as so many Israelis are at the thought of another term for Netanyahu, it is the most likely scenario, one that would widen the gulf between Israelis of different political persuasions.

The same COVID-related divisions we have here are occurring there. Some, though not all, ultra-Orthodox leaders have flouted tough restrictions by keeping their schools open and conducting large mass gatherings at weddings and funerals.

It is a cliché, of course, to say that what unites us is stronger than what divides us. Even if we inherently know we must look past our divisions, doing so while holding such intractable feelings (political or otherwise) is challenging. Year after year, as

division gets worse, it becomes harder to see how things can change in any meaningful way.

However, paraphrasing the Talmud, we are not required to complete the task of repairing the world, but neither are we allowed to desist.

We can start with our own behavior, making conscious efforts to be more understanding and accepting of those with differing views.

As we approach the new year, I will make a pledge to take stock and work at remembering what unites us as Americans, as Jews, and as citizens of the world. Join me in taking this small step.

Have a happy, safe and healthy new year. May we see each other, in person – in a new light – very soon.

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

Letters to the editor

'Black Lives Matters' means something

All lives certainly *should* matter, so, what's wrong with declaring that "All Lives Matter" instead of "Black Lives Matter?"

A call that anything "matters" represents a signal to pay attention to something that may need repair. "All Lives Matter" obviously includes white lives, and by any measurement – wealth, health, income, housing, education, safety – white Americans are getting along just fine, thank you.

No so for people of color, for whom systemic racism leads to a grim reality: Black lives often do not seem to matter at all.

Black Americans make up 12 percent of the U.S. population, but 20 percent of COVID-19 cases.

The net wealth of an average white family is nearly 10 times that of Black families. That's not a typo: *10 times*.

The white infant mortality rate is 4.6 percent; the Black rate, it's 10.8 percent.

Median Black male income is \$41,500; median white non-Hispanic male

income, \$66,000.

Life expectancy for whites is 78.6; for Blacks, 75.

Finally, there are Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Tamir Rice, Freddie Gray, Tanisha Anderson, Gabriella Nevarez, Alton Sterling, Botham Jean, Atatiana Jefferson, Rayshard Brooks, Daniel Prude, Philando Castile, Stephon Clark, George Floyd and, of course, Breonna Taylor.

Taylor lived and died in Louisville. After she was shot to death by police, Mayor Greg Fischer declared racism a public health crisis and signed an executive order to attack racial injustice in all aspects of life. Fischer is white and no political firebrand. Yet he announced his initiative with the reminder that "We've got 400 years of history to make up for."

That 400 years includes slavery: unpaid, forced labor that helped build the economy of the country, the benefits of which accrue to all of us. Slavery was followed by more than 150 years of systemic racism: unspeakable cruelty and shameful discrimination against millions of people who didn't ask to

come here, and their descendants, who stayed and paid a heavy price. Think lynchings, think Medgar Evers, think Jim Crow, Emmett Till, segregated schools, separate water fountains, Selma, the 1963 Birmingham church bombing, the 2015 Charleston church shootings. And think, again, Breonna Taylor.

Only when Black people must no longer think about being shot in their homes, on the streets or in their cars, and no longer suffer other trials of systemic racism, can we honestly say "All Lives Matter." Until then, it's "Black Lives Matter."

Michael Ginsberg
Louisville

(Editor's note: Michael Ginsberg is a freelance writer and editor who does work for Community.)

Our suffering, and others'

Thank you for your column on the importance of Holocaust comparisons for increasing knowledge, understanding and compassion. ("Don't be afraid of

Holocaust comparisons," Nov. 27)

One of the best things I have read on this issue of Holocaust analogies was published in Slate last year by acclaimed author, historian and Holocaust scholar Timothy Snyder. Perhaps you have seen it already; it is marvelously written.

I, too, would like to see the kinds of *Shoah* programming you describe at the end of your column. A great challenge for American Jewry is to manage to hold our own collective suffering and trauma in one hand, while reserving another equal measure for the suffering of others. Based on some conversations I've been having and hearing, I really think this kind of programming could be coming.

Thanks for helping prime and encourage the community with words like these.

Abby Glogower
Louisville

(The author is curator of Jewish collections and the Jewish Community Archive at The Filson Historical Society. Glogower has written an op-ed on the challenges of curating during a pandemic, which can be found on page 8.)



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FORUM

Pandemic poses challenges, opportunities for archivists



Guest
Columnist

Abby
Glogower

Everyone is familiar with the curse “May you live in interesting times,” and 2020 has certainly been the most interesting year in recent memory.

There can be no question that we are living through historic events: a global pandemic, a wave of social justice protests, a perilous economy and an unprecedented election cycle.

In addition to the questions that keep all of us up at night, there are some that haunt historians and archivists in particular: How will this year be remembered in the future? What challenges do we face in documenting our experiences of the present?

COVID-19 has brought complications to the mission, methods and daily logistics of every field, and archives are no exception.

I have encountered three general challenges in my field brought on by this pandemic, but I believe that each one

also comes with an opportunity:

The first is COVID-19’s impact on our regular, ongoing work of archiving and preserving history. One of the best parts of my job is getting to meet with people in their homes to discuss their history; I look through their records, objects and photographs. Visiting people at home has been difficult and often impossible this year, but there is a silver lining. As the pandemic forces people to stay at home, it also inspires some to tackle major organizational projects, leading many to reach out for phone and Zoom consultations. This inspired me to lead a two-part Zoom workshop in October on archiving your personal and family history, which is still viewable for free on the Filson Historical Society’s YouTube channel.

Similarly, archival institutions are using this time to catch up on our own cataloging backlogs. In June, we safely transferred over 50 linear feet of Jewish Community of Louisville records to the Filson for processing and preservation, a project we have already dug into and focused on.

The second challenge concerns documenting the continuing experience of the pandemic itself. History is more than raw information about dates and events. It involves interpretations, experiences and narratives. There is no singular experience of the pandemic; it

Want to see?

The Filson has developed the COVID-19 Poster Project – lectures and events, and the history of our region. To see it, visit FilsonHistorical.org to explore. If you are interested in helping us document COVID-19 in the Louisville area, email abbyglogower@filsonhistorical.org for more details.

has affected people in many ways. For some, this has been a time of loneliness and isolation at home. Others are dealing with the economic catastrophe of losing their homes. Some are mourning lost opportunities; still others, lost lives.

The COVID-19 experiences vary dramatically, but all are part of this moment. Therefore, our efforts to document and remember them must be expansive and varied. This challenge also presents opportunities to remember that our own experiences are not universal and to expand and deepen how we think about history. We are primed to think of history as singular events (the assassination of President Kennedy, the fall of the Twin Towers, etc.). But COVID-19 has not been a singular catastrophic moment. It is a complex, protracted event that has unfolded over months, affecting health, economics, politics and culture. The total nature of COVID-19 shows us

just how vulnerable and interconnected we are, in predictable ways and ways we might not have understood. This increased awareness of context and contingency presents a powerful and humbling learning experience.

Finally – and this is difficult to admit – living through a historic present is also forcing archivists to confront how woefully unprepared we are to preserve our digital existence. While a small number of exceptionally well-resourced repositories have been able to invest in the professional and technological infrastructure needed to capture and preserve digital information for the long term, the rest of us are running to catch up and make do. As a culture, we have become so conditioned to the ease and omnipresence of online information that we forget how fragile and fleeting it truly is. Most of it is owned by for-profit companies and is destined to disappear as market forces dictate.

Will our renewed collective appreciation for what it means to experience history inspire us to invest in new frontiers of historic preservation? I hope so because what we have gone through this year will surely be of great interest to those in the future.

(Abby Glogower is the curator of Jewish collections at The Filson Historical Society.)

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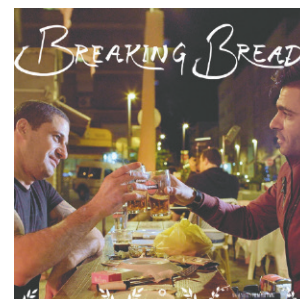
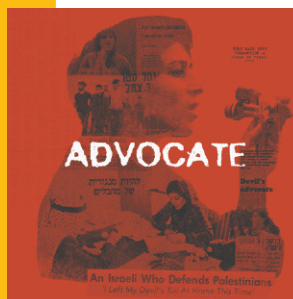
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New JCC ‘celebrated’

JCCA president to express ‘gratitude’ to supporters of Louisville J during virtual visit

Doron Krakow knows the world will never be the same after the coronavirus.

“Any expectation that the world is going to revert to what it was on March 1, 2020, is a misplaced expectation,” he said, “because people’s patterns of behavior are going to change.”

Still, Krakow, president and CEO of the JCC Association of North America (JCCA), sees a new future taking shape for JCCs, particularly for the Jewish Community Center of Louisville.

In an interview with Community, Krakow said JCCs like Louisville have positioned themselves well to serve a changed world with tools they have developed during the pandemic.

“We have evolved skills, and not only have we evolved them, we’re beginning to work on them collaboratively.”

He also called Louisville’s new \$42.5 million JCC campus that is currently under construction – in the throes of pandemic – a cause for “celebration.”

“These capital projects don’t get initiated, undertaken and implemented overnight,” Krakow said. “I think every time a community does what Louisville is doing, it’s a celebration. not only for Louisville, but for the entire community.”

Krakow, whose umbrella organization represents 172 JCCs across the continent, will make a virtual visit to Louisville on Jan. 14, 2021 – the 131st anniversary of the JCC.

He will meet with JCC officials and staff. Most importantly, he will speak to donors at an appreciation event.

“I’m coming to extend my gratitude to the people of the community, who have made possible not just what the JCC has been, but what the JCC aspires to be: the central address of the Jewish community of Louisville.”

He gave a shout-out to the JCC’s board of directors and capital campaign committee for the work they have done.

“Leaders roll up their sleeves and lean into the work the community needs in good times and challenging times,” Krakow said. “Louisville’s leadership should feel very proud of the work that they have done and the work they continue to do.”

Since the onset of the pandemic, Krakow said JCCs have developed protocols needed to keep their doors open – temperature-taking, questionnaires – even when other institutions could not.

That enabled some 60 JCCs, including Louisville, to host congregations for the High Holy Days, either in those centers or under tents on their campuses, while



Doron Krakow

their own synagogues were closed.

Virtually, JCCs have created a network of services, attracting massive audiences and making each center an essential portal for anyone seeking to reach the Jewish world.

Krakow “aspires” for that network to live on after COVID-19 is brought under control.

“Nobody but us has the ability to create an exposure that can draw a million members of our own community, because nobody has contact with a million members of our community.”

The network operates by JCCs partnering with each other, drawing upon each other’s strengths to bring programming to their individual memberships, creating audiences that speakers and events didn’t previously have.

For example, the Atlanta JCC recently partnered with 90 other sister JCCs, including Louisville, to bring their annual book festival to their community and share resources.

“Every JCC had the opportunity to bring A-list authors and speakers to every community,” Krakow said, “and for every ticket you sold in Louisville, half the proceeds stayed in Louisville.”

The JCCA has also enhanced its “Virtual JCC,” (virtualjcc.com) started this year as a service coop but is now transforming into what will become a na-

tional platform for the entire JCC movement, providing audiences in the tens of thousands with programs addressing social justice, health & wellness, culture, sports, arts & culture and early childhood education.

“We can create channels that will be able to provide content 24 hours a day, seven days a week on the virtual JCC to be used or tapped into by any JCC or member of the community whenever it suits them.”

In many cases, he said, the people accessing JCC, physically or virtually, are not Jewish.

Aside from providing “a greater and stronger Jewish community,” Krakow said JCCs, including Louisville, increasingly have a parallel purpose as friends and neighbors from other faiths become members.

Krakow sees this trend as a “responsibility.”

“We need to make sure they understand that that’s the Jewish community providing for them and that our JCC is an embassy of the Jewish community to those around us. It informs the way they see us; it informs the way we see them.”

“There is no place that sees more of neighbors and friends from outside the Jewish setting than the JCC,” he continued. “Nobody does it more, so that’s a tremendous responsibility.”

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FILM FESTIVAL

Virtual cinema LJFF returns in February despite COVID

By Lee Chottiner
Community Editor

Pandemic or no pandemic, the 23rd Louisville Jewish Film Festival (LJFF) will happen in February as scheduled.

But it won't take place in a theater.

Blame COVID-19. Because of the disease that has killed more than 300,000 people nationwide, this film festival will not look like past events: No in-theatre screenings, no post-screening receptions, a totally virtual experience.

"Everything is different," said LJFF Director Marsha Bornstein.

In addition to the venue change, many of the 11 films slated for pay-per-view screening this year will reflect the theme of diversity, Bornstein said, "because of what is happening in America."

Several films will touch on Black-Jewish relations:

Shared Legacies, a documentary about Jewish-Black alliances from the founding of the NAACP through the civil rights era; *Aulcie*, a film about Aulcie Perry, a Black professional basketball player, recruited by Maccabi Tel Aviv, who decided to convert to Judaism; and *They Ain't Ready for Me*, a contemporary look at Tamar Manasseh, a Black rabbi whose synagogue is the streets of Chicago.

Other films in the festival also deal with diversity in Israel:

Advocate is the story of an attorney who is Israeli and defends Palestinians in Israeli court; *Breaking Bread* is a documentary about an Arab food festival in which Jewish and Arab chefs must work together on the dishes, putting aside religious and political differences.

The most controversial film of the festival will surely be *Incitement*, a "psychological thriller," according to its liner notes, about Yigal Amir's evolution from student activist to assassin of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Bornstein shot down any suggestion that the film glorifies Amir. To the contrary, American viewers may see parallels in the film between their experiences and Israelis' in the 1990s.

"It shows the sickness of the assassin and how he got to this point," Bornstein said of the film, "and the societal influence that brought him to where he was. Some of this we see in America today."

Since the festival is virtual this year, an outside contractor, New York-based Elevent, has been signed up to be the platform for the ticketing, streaming and other related activities.

Elevent has stretched itself to offer new services since the onset of the pandemic, serving more than 100 film festivals nationwide.

Its co-founder, Jeremy Wine, said the company shouldn't even be noticed if it does its job well.

"We're designed to be forgotten," he said.

Though it's the first time – and, Bornstein hopes, the last time – LJFF ever puts on an all-virtual film festival, she left open the possibility that elements of this event are here to stay, even after the festival returns to the cinemas.

Bornstein said she will miss the "buzz" of opening night, the chatter of

after-screening receptions as friends share their thoughts on the picture.

"I want to return to the theaters; that would be my hope," she said. "There is so much to be said for just sitting together in an audience, hearing other people chuckle, staying after with a group to discuss the film. It's my hope we don't lose that."

But Virtual has its advantages.

"It's wonderful to stay home in your jammies and watch it at your own convenience," Bornstein said. "You have the advantage of a 72-hour window (with pay-per-view), and we have no conflicts; we're not dealing with UofL's schedule – all of that."



Want to participate?

The 23rd Louisville Jewish Film Festival will be held during February on a virtual, pay-per view basis. Eleven feature pictures and documentaries will be screened.

For more information, visit jclouisville.org/FilmFestival.

What you'll see at 23rd LJFF

Here are brief descriptions of this year's films at the Louisville Jewish Film Festival:

Advocate – Israel, Canada, 108 minutes: Winner of the 2020 Ophir Award (Israel's Academy Award) for best documentary, Advocate looks at Lea Tsemel, an Israeli human rights attorney who has defended Palestinians in Israeli courts since the 1970s. The documentary follows the trial of a 13-year-old boy charged with murder, and revisits Tsemel's other landmark cases, reflecting on her significant work.

Asia – Israel, 85 minutes: Winner of eight 2020 Ophir Awards, including best picture, best actress and best supporting actress, this movie is about a single mother (Asia) and her ailing teenage daughter (Vika), who forge a connection of trust and love. More like a sister, the young, lonely Asia hides nothing about her work-hard, play-hard lifestyle, and expects the same from her daughter. Still, Vika rebels against her mother, who stumbles to achieve a balance between parenting and respecting her daughter's point of view. (Contains sexual scenes and drug use.)

Incitement – Israel, 123 minutes: Winner of three 2019 Ophir Awards for best film, best actor and best supporting actor, Incitement is a true psychological thriller that follows Yigal Amir's evolution from political activist to dangerous extremist and his 1995 assassination of Yitzhak Rabin. The movie cautions what can happen when leaders resort to the politics of hate and violence.

Love in Suspenders – Israel, 79 minutes: In this rom/com, Tami accidentally hits 70-year-old widower Beno with her car. Trying to ensure Beno won't sue her, she invites him to her apartment. Differences in their lifestyles and personalities, plus Tami's reluctance to move on after her husband's death, lead to funny, emotional struggles as Tami and Beno fall for each other.

Aulcie – Israel, USA, 72 minutes: The story of basketball legend Aulcie Perry is explored in this biopic. Perry joined Maccabi Tel Aviv in 1976 and led the team to an upset win over the Soviets, giving Israel its first European Championship. One year later, Perry started dating supermodel Tami Ben Ami and converted to Judaism. But tragedy follows triumph.

Shiva Baby – USA, 77 minutes: Danielle supplements her parental allowance by dabbling in paid sex work. But when she attends a shiva with her parents, she discovers among the guests her ex-high school sweetheart and her current client. (Contains sexual scenes.)

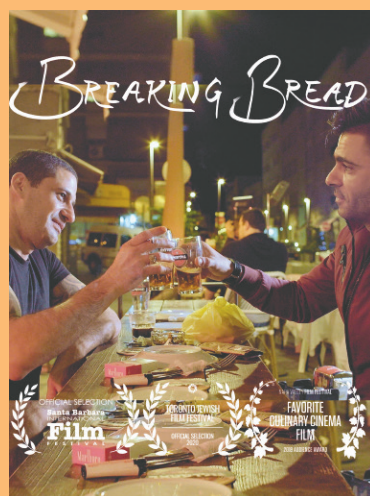
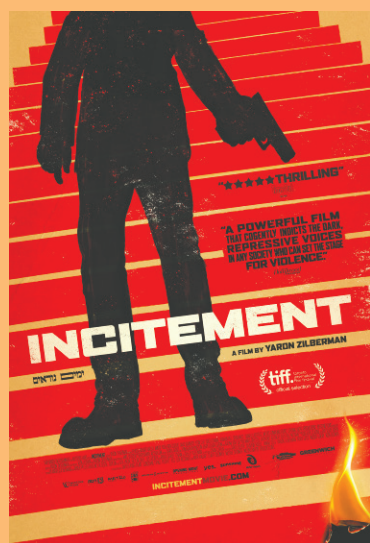
They Ain't Ready for Me – USA, 89 minutes: Every day, Tamar Manasseh, a 41-year-old Black rabbinical student and mother of two, sits on a corner in the south side of Chicago, where poverty, unemployment, addiction, and violence have relentlessly plagued the neighborhood and its residents.

Shared Legacies – USA, 95 minutes: This film about the historic alliance between the Black and Jewish communities begins with the founding of the NAACP in 1909 and showcases the bigotry and segregation that both groups have faced.

When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit – Germany, 119 minutes: In this adaptation of Judith Kerr's semiautobiographical, bestselling children's novel, nine-year-old Anna is too busy to notice Hitler's face glaring from posters plastered all over 1933 Berlin. However, when her father suddenly vanishes and the family is secretly hurried out of Germany, she understands life will never be the same.

Breaking Bread – Israel, USA, 83 minutes: What happens when people focus on the person, not the religion; on the public, not the politicians? Dr. Nof Atamna-Ismaeel was the first Muslim Arab to win Israel's MasterChef television competition. Now, through her new food festival, she triggers social change, chef by chef, pairing Arab and Jewish chefs to collaborate on traditional dishes such as kishek (a Syrian yogurt soup) and qatayef (a dessert typically served during Ramadan).

Here We Are – Israel, Italy, 94 minutes: Winner of four Ophir Awards for best director, best actor, best supporting actor, best screenplay, and nominated for best film, this drama touches on family ties as Aharon, a stubborn, proud, aging divorcé and Uri, his autistic son, live a harmonious life together. But time is catching up. Uri, now an adult, and his mother, push for the young man to enter an institution and shift to more independent living. Both men are reluctant to separate.



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NEWS

Karen Edwards-Hunter was a bridge between Jewish and Black audiences

By David Y. Chack
For Community

Karen Edwards-Hunter, who died on Nov. 22, had that unique ability to build bridges between cultures, bringing people together from all backgrounds and all beliefs.

That is her real legacy.

The JAACKY Royale Theatre (Jewish, African American, Christian, Kentucky Youth), which Karen founded at the Jewish Community Center, had been in existence for about a year when I came to Louisville. Karen and I worked together to solidify it. In particular, she used her bridge-building ability to reach out to teens, their families and audiences throughout Kentucky. For this, she received the 1999 Arthur S. Kling Award from the Jewish Community of Louisville and the Jewish Community Centers of North America's Innovative Programming and Education Award.

Karen regularly joined me on teen trips to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. When I started the ShPIeL Theatre in Chicago, we stayed in touch. I was so glad to hear that she married Phill Cherry, who had worked with me at Kentucky Shakespeare and had performed at the JCC as the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King

for MLK Day.

There was only one choice to join me as co-director of the 2019 production of *The Green Book* at Bunbury Theatre in Louisville. Karen's quiet yet determined eye brought compassionate realism – without sentimentality – to the play. Once again, she was a bridge for our cast to the script and for our audiences of all backgrounds and ethnicities.

An important moment in rehearsals came when Karen and I spoke with the cast about "Jacob," a Jewish Holocaust survivor. Everyone was held in rapt attention. She went on to say that anti-Semitism and the Holocaust should not be compared with slavery and racism. Each is distinct in the atrocities they cause and the suffering they bring.

But we also talked about how, in the same week in 1938, a white supremacist massacred Jews at the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh and in Louisville, Maurice Stallard and Vickie Jones were gunned down in a Kroger parking lot by another white supremacist merely because they were Black. Clearly, our stories are intertwined. Working with Karen generated sparks of joy and delight; the performances we directed blazed with wonder and light.

Memory in Judaism has special



Karen Edwards-Hunter, pictured here with David Chack, the author of this piece, served as a bridge between Black and Jewish theatre in Louisville. (photo provided by David Chack)

meaning. It is in memory that we continue to live and be inspired.

In this spirit, the talkback discussions for *Imagining Heschel: Selections from a Play*, which were held this month by Bunbury-ShPIeL Identity Theatre, were dedicated to Karen's memory.

Rebbe Nachman of Bratslav said, "All the world is just a narrow bridge and the main thing is not to fear at

all." May Karen's memory be for a blessing and continue to be that bridge leading to understanding, where fear no longer exists.

(David Chack is the artistic director of ShPIeL Performing Identity and the Bunbury-ShPIeL Theatre Project.)



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ARTS

'The Interview' blurs lines between fiction, nonfiction in deeply compelling read

By Ranen Omer-Sherman
For Community

Eshkol Nevo's previous novels, all bestsellers in his native Israel, affectionately and acerbically captured universal aspects of the intricacies of family life: the love that binds husbands and wives, and parents and children; and the things that sometimes drive them all apart.

Though never drifting too far from those enduring themes, the richly detailed *The Last Interview* is at once both his most artistically audacious and perhaps personal book to date.

A genre-busting narrative in the best sense, the novel is structured as a wide-ranging interview that initially reads as a parody of the entire convention of boilerplate author interviews but rapidly evolves into a disquieting examination of the writer's soul, as one disturbing revelation leads to the next. For the record, Nevo has proved a generous and engaging interviewee throughout his career (including for this reviewer) but building an entire novel on the questions posed by readers and journalists over the years is a conceptually risky conceit. Fortunately, the result is intellectually exhilarating and often terrifically moving.

Nevo seems to have had a great deal of fun with this conceit, playing with the performative nature of the writer's public persona and his readers' assumptions about his private and professional lives.

Along the way, we encounter unsparing portraits of an atrophying marriage and other relationships as well as amusing and sometimes harrowing portrayals of the writer's appearances at Israeli and international book events. Throughout this mosaic of colorful, sometimes jaw-dropping vignettes, one often wonders just where the line between fiction and reality is crossed.

Besides offering provocative allusions to the author's own life



circumstances and illustrious family lineage (his grandfather was Israel's third prime minister and he also illuminates the historic accomplishments of unjustly marginalized women in his family), *The Last Interview* offers sobering reflections of an Israel that over time has grown more repressive and impatient with critical interrogations of its policies by its artists. On the other hand, when asked how he can endure life in Israel, the writer retorts: "How can you live and write in a place that summons up no memories? That you don't care about? That doesn't infuriate you so much sometimes that you want to bang your head against the wall and your fingers on the keyboard?"

Though long appreciated for his empathic and complex portrayals of the lives of women (the writer in this novel claims that his women characters are closest to his own psyche), especially their richly

imagined inner worlds, Nevo's most abiding concern in many works often seems to be the sustaining nature of male friendships.

For instance, in the novel, the character's relationship with a childhood friend dying of cancer is particularly moving and ultimately provides the most satisfying thread in this wide-ranging and restless tapestry of interconnected fragments. Throughout, there is a pervasive sense of a writer at the height of his powers taking stock of both himself and his country's soul (fittingly, the cover art depicts dual labyrinths).

The idea for this unconventional approach to a novel reportedly came to Nevo during a frustrating hiatus. Struggling to overcome a severe writer's block, he came up with a game in which he formulated startlingly uninhibited responses to many of the ordinary queries he'd received over the years, an experiment for which we should feel grateful.

At one point, a passing description

of one of the novel's myriad cast of international characters seems suggestive of Nevo's own achievement here: "As if the words were already fixed in her heart, and she had been waiting a long time for the chance to bring them into the light."

Those encountering him for the first time will surely find *The Last Interview* an irresistible introduction that will lure them to Nevo's earlier works. Those familiar with his oeuvre will find it a profoundly fulfilling examination of his lifelong obsessions and preoccupations in life and art.

(Ranen Omer-Sherman is JHFE-endowed chair of Judaic studies at the University of Louisville.)

Book Review

The Last Interview, by Eshkol Nevo, translated by Sondra Silverston, Other Press, 2020, hardcover, 480 pages \$18.99

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GLOBE

Get ready to apply, again

Jewish nonprofits to get advice about securing slices of \$284B pandemic relief bill

By Ron Kampeas
JTA

Nearly a third of the \$900 billion Congress has just approved for pandemic relief will go to a new round of payroll protection, and the Jewish Federations of North America is set to reprise the role it played earlier this year and explain how nonprofits can get their share.

"We are pulling back together again the team of experts both from within the JFNA and lay leaders who train themselves on the program to offer volunteer support to help fill out forms and connect banks and such," Eric Fingerhut, the group's CEO, said in an interview Monday after news broke of an agreement between Republicans and Democrats on the stimulus plan. Congress approved the plan, part of a larger \$2.3 trillion spending package, Tuesday.

Some \$284 billion will be set aside for forgivable payroll protection loans for small businesses, including nonprofits, administered through the Small Business Administration. The

"We are pulling back together again the team of experts both from within the JFNA and lay leaders who train themselves on the program to offer volunteer support to help fill out forms and connect banks and such."

**Eric Fingerhut, CEO
Jewish Federations
of North America**

money will go to small businesses and nonprofits that missed out during the first round of \$349 billion in loans, and to those that did get loans but can show sufficient losses to qualify for additional funds.

In the first round, running from April 3 through Aug. 8, more than 1,000 Jewish organizations received federal coronavirus relief loans totaling approximately \$540 million to \$1.3 billion, according to an analysis published by the Jewish Telegraphic

Agency. The analysis was done before the Aug. 8 deadline, so the amount could be larger.

The JFNA helped lead lobbying for the relief and offered webinars and one-on-one advice for Jewish and non-Jewish profits for the first round of loans. The group is planning an initial training for this round on Wednesday, even as the full terms of the new loans are not yet known. The loans will be available through March 31.

What is known, said Elana Broitman, JFNA's senior vice president for public affairs, is that businesses and nonprofits employing 300 people or less qualify, as opposed to 500 or less in the previous round. Entities applying for a second loan must show a 25-percent loss in gross receipts against the same quarter in 2019.

Also featuring in the \$2.3-trillion spending bill that President Donald Trump is expected to sign:

Private schools, including religious schools, will be eligible for \$2.7 billion in relief out of the \$900 billion

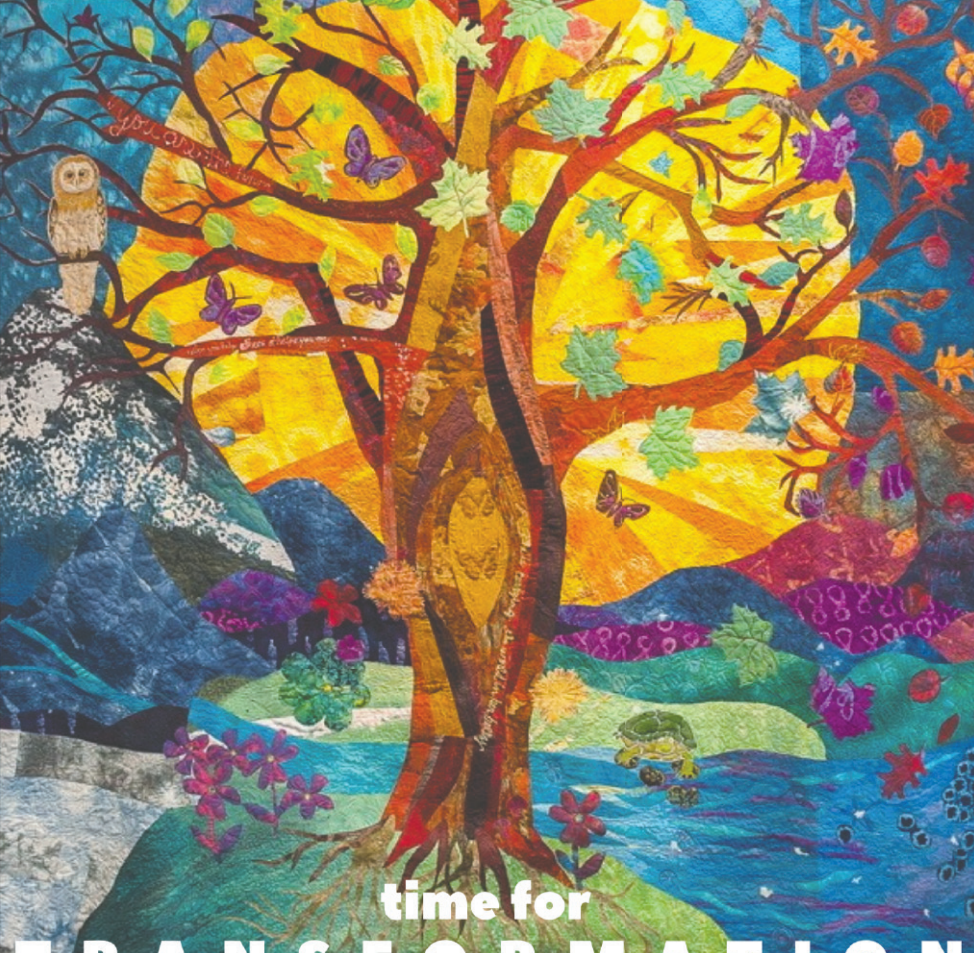
coronavirus stimulus package.

Funding for nonprofit security grants, a program initiated in 2005 at the behest of Jewish organizations, has doubled from \$90 million in 2020 to \$180 million in 2021.

The Emergency Food and Shelter Program will receive \$130 million, up from \$120 million two years ago. Jewish welfare agencies are among those who tap into the program.

A program to assist Holocaust survivors – launched by president-elect Joe Biden when he was vice president – will get \$5 million.

The spending package will include the \$3.3 billion in defense assistance and \$500 million Israel is guaranteed under a 2016 agreement with the Obama administration. Also included: \$250 million over five years for peace building in the region, championed by Rep. Nita Lowey, the Jewish New York Democrat and chairwoman of the House Appropriations Committee, who is retiring.



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NEWS & NEWSMAKERS/AROUND TOWN

JCC, Temple honored by Voice's Bestie Awards

Jewish Louisville has won two honors from The Voice of Louisville's 2020 Bestie Awards:

The Jewish Community Center was first runner up in the Best Summer Camp for Kids category, while Temple Trager ECEC won overall for Best Preschool.

"It's so exciting to be recognized for this accomplishment," Camp J Director Mindy Mannel said. "We are happy to know that the community, as well as our camp families, know how hard we work to make Camp J an experience where children can grow, have fun and make friends, all while developing new skills and memories."

Andrea Melendez, Trager preschool director, said she was "honored" by the award, "especially at this time when we have had to make adjustments due to COVID."

"Our goal, when we reopened in August, was to make sure that the health and safety of everyone is our top priority while maintaining the same quality program that Temple Trager ECEC is known for," Melendez added.

Currently, 173 children – ages 3 months to kindergartners – are enrolled at Trager.

Now in its second year, The Bestie Awards are chosen by the readers of The Voice of Louisville.

Applications accepted for NCJW scholarship

The Community Foundation of Louisville is accepting applications for the National Council of Jewish Women's (NCJW) Scholarship Fund through March 12, 2021.

As one of its core values, the NCJW strives for social justice by improving the quality of life for students and using progressive ideals to promote education, leadership and opportunities in both school and community life.

Eligible students for scholarships must be of Jewish faith, reside in Kentucky, have completed at least one semester of college or university, have a cumulative college GPA of at least 2.5 and demonstrate financial need.

The application will be available online at cflouisville.org/apply-today/apply-online/.

Adath Jeshurun

The upcoming programs of Sunday Night Live, a virtual series of speakers and entertainers, are held at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted: Dec. 27, Mosab Hassan Yousef, son of a Hamas founder; Jan. 3, Author Howard Reich; Jan. 10, Robyn Helzner Concert (7:30 p.m.); Jan. 17, cast members from *Fauda*; Jan. 24, Journalist Ethan Bronner; Jan. 31, Infectious disease specialist Dr. Michael Saag. Links to the programs may be found in AJ's weekly e-letter. To subscribe, send email to info@adathjeshurun.com.

Virtual Shabbat worship services are held on Facebook Live, YouTube and Zoom. Additionally, twice-daily minyan services are on Zoom only. A schedule and links to join all services may be found in AJ's weekly e-letter. To subscribe, send email to info@adathjeshurun.com.

Anshei Sfard

Parent-Child Learning is offered Saturdays from 7 to 7:45 p.m. at the synagogue. Pizza is served and Rabbi Yitzi Mandel tells a story. Social distancing and face masks are required.

Rabbi Simcha Snaid teaches classes on Zoom and Facebook: Spice of Life, Wednesdays at 7 p.m.; Make a Prophet, Thursdays at noon; Talmud Trek, Sundays at 9:30 a.m. For Zoom link, contact Rabbi Snaid at 912-704-2769 or rabbisnaid@ansheisfard.com.

Chavurat Shalom

There will be no program on Thursday, Jan. 7.

Rabbi David Ariel-Joel will discuss the recent election and its impact on Israeli politics at 1 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 14, on **ChavuratShalomZoom**.

AARP volunteer Deborah Turner will discuss fraud and identity theft at 1 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 21, on **ChavuratShalomZoom**.

Rabbi Joe Rooks Rapport will speak at 1 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 28 on **ChavuratShalomZoom**.

Keneseth Israel

Cantor Sharon Hordes teaches an Introduction class to reading Hebrew, Sundays at 6:30 p.m. at tinyurl.com/KICzoom.

Coffee Shmooze is held Mondays at 11 a.m. at tinyurl.com/KICzoom. There is

no agenda. Come with coffee and hang out.

Jews and Brews, a study of the weekly Torah portion with Hordes, is held Wednesdays at 11 a.m. at tinyurl.com/KICzoom.

Mindful Meditation is held with Hordes Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. at tinyurl.com/KICzoom.

Torah Yoga with Hordes and Lisa Flannery is held the first Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. on tinyurl.com/KICzoom.

The Kabbalah Month by Month class with Hordes is held the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. on tinyurl.com/KICzoom.

Baking Club is held Thursdays at 11 a.m. on tinyurl.com/KICzoom. Dishes prepared will include babka, avocado blueberry cheesecake, crepes and challah. Check facebook.com/kilouisville for dates and recipes.

Zoom Gali Gali: Kabbalat Shabbat for Kids, is held Fridays at 5:15 p.m. on tinyurl.com/KICzoom. The program includes Shabbat songs, stories, candle lighting and Kiddish.

Kentucky Institute for Torah Education KITE is offering weekly Torah classes, including Torah portion/Bible, Pirkei Avot (Ethics of our Fathers), Mishna, and Jewish philosophy. Visit the KITE website, kentuckytorah.org for more information.

NCJW

NCJW and the JCC will co-sponsor a Red Cross blood drive from noon to 5 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 30., in the Anshei Sfard auditorium. To sign up, call 1-800-RED-CROS or visit redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code jcclouky.

Temple Shalom

Rabbi Beth Jacowitz Chottiner and song leaders will conduct Shabbat services Fridays at 6:30 p.m. Havdalah is held Saturdays at 6:30 p.m. For the Zoom links, email information@templeshalomky.org.

Michael Jackman, a poet and senior lecturer in writing at Indiana University Southeast, will give a reading of his work at the next Chailands Chavurah, 6:30 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 23. He also will talk about the evolution of Jewish poetry. An open mic session will follow. Email chailands@templeshalomky.org for the Zoom link.

The Temple Shalom Book Club will next meet at 2 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 4. The club is reading *One More Year*, by Sana Krasikov, short stories about the hope and despair of Russian émigrés; and *Don't Stop the Carnival*, by Herman Wouk, a novel about a New York City press agent, facing middle age, who runs away to a Caribbean island to reinvent himself. Contact Carol Savkovich at savkofam@bellsouth.net.

The Temple

The Women of Reform Judaism/Sisterhood Gift Shop is open by appointment. Customers must wear masks upon en-

tering and observe social distancing. Additionally, the shop now has a Facebook page – facebook.com/wrjgiftshop and will soon have an online shop. Contact Sheila Lynch, 502-896-9736, Marlene Ornstein, 502-329-2276 or Karen Waldman, 502-425-4360 for appointments.

The Temple's Mitzvah Makers have created an Amazon Wish List of winter items to safely donate for the homeless, who desperately need them. The list includes Sterno, sleeping bags, tents, gloves, hats, blankets, foot/hand warmers, coats, and socks. The items from the Wish List will be shipped directly to The Temple (choose The Temple as your recipient). Visit thetemplelouky.org/amazon-wish-list/ to donate or contact Chavvah Johnson at 803-446-7691 or chavvah.johnson@yahoo.com with questions.

Adult education courses for Mondays at 6 p.m. on Zoom include Advanced Hebrew with Rabbi Joe Rooks Rapport, Text Study with Rabbi David Ariel-Joel and Beginning Hebrew Part 2 with Mark Goldstein. Wednesday Temple Scholars classes, also on Zoom, include Crisis and Dealing with Crisis in Jewish Tradition at 9:30 a.m. with Ariel-Joel and The Roots of Justice at 10:45 a.m. with Rapport. Call 502-423-1818 for details.

Torah study with Ariel-Joel meets Saturdays at 9 a.m. on Zoom.

Founder's Day Shabbat will be held at 7 p.m., Friday, Jan. 8 at youtube.com/thetemplelouky.

A historic Reform service, celebrating the 1843 charter, will feature music from the classical age of Reform Judaism and will be led from the Sinai Edition of the Union Prayer Book.

The Conversation will be held at 2 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 10 at 2 pm on Zoom. Farrah Alexander, a writer and Jeremiah Fellow of Bend the Arc, whose work focuses on feminism, parenting, social justice and politics, will be the guest. RSVP at thetemplelouky.org/the-conversation.

Martin Luther King Jr. Shabbat will be held at 7 p.m., Friday, Jan. 15, at youtube.com/thetemplelouky. Kevin Fields, Sr., president and CEO of Louisville Central Community Centers will be the guest speaker. His goal is to facilitate community solutions on critical policy issues.

Mitzvah Makers will make sandwiches for the homeless at 12:30 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 17. Due to COVID, the event is limited to 10 tables with two people from one home. Masks will be required and doors to the Heideman will be open, so dress appropriately. RSVP at thetemplelouky.org/sandwich-making/.

Movie Night with Rapport will be held at 7 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 24, on Zoom. "Hester Street" will be screened. RSVP at thetemplelouky.org/Jewish-Identity-in-Jewish-Films/.

Grade 5 Family Shabbat will be held at 7 p.m., Friday, Jan. 29 at youtube.com/thetemplelouky. The fifth graders will lead the service.

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LIFECYCLE

Philanthropy, community, family defined life of Lewis 'Sonny' Bass

Lewis "Sonny" Bass passed away Friday, Dec. 11, 2020, from COVID-19 at Baptist Health Hospital. He was 99.

A Louisville original and community treasure, Sonny was an entrepreneur, philanthropist, community leader, UofL supporter, Kentucky Colonel, amateur magician, competitive athlete, softball coach for over 30 years at the Jewish Community Center, mentor and friend to many and always ready to lend his opinion on making you a better person.

A loving husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, family was the most important part of his life. He loved to travel with Gladys, his wife and best friend of 74 years, and family.

Born on June 5, 1921, Sonny lived in the West End at 10th and Walnut before moving to the Highlands. He loved helping his parents run Joe Bass Men's Clothing.

He graduated from Male High School in 1938 then spent one year at Western Military Academy in Alton, Illinois, where he played football and basketball. He was an alumnus of Miami University of Oxford, Ohio, and the University of Louisville where he was a three-year football letterman from 1940 to 1942, and a two-year letterman in basketball in 1940 and 1941.

Sonny served in the Air Force for three years during World War II, seeing overseas duty at the Air Transport Command in Kunming, China.

In 1946, while visiting Cincinnati, Sonny saw an old friend, Herschel Lowenthal, and his very pretty sister, Gladys. Sonny and Gladys were married shortly thereafter; they celebrated their 74th anniversary on Oct. 20.

Sonny partnered with his first cousin,

Charles Weisberg, to co-found Bass & Weisberg Realtors in 1952, which he managed for 30 years. Originally, he showed homes by taking the bus.

Sonny also co-founded Heritage House of America in 1961 with David Jones, Wendell Cherry and Charles Weisberg. Originally a nursing home business, Heritage House became the country's largest with 41 homes and changed its name to Extendicare. Sold in 1972, it eventually changed its name – to Humana.

Sonny served on Humana's board for decades as the company grew to a health-care industry leader and a Fortune 500 company.

He was a partner in Associated Theatres, which grew to 60 screens in the region. An astute investor and businessman, he helped mentor many Louisvillians with their careers.

Sonny was a gifted tennis player who competed into his golden years. He was ranked #1 in senior tennis in Kentucky for 10 years in singles and doubles; won a gold medal at the Maccabi Games in Israel in 1986; and played on Louisville's Volvo Tennis Team that won a national championship in 1989.

As an accomplished amateur magician, Sonny loved teaching children magic at Maryhurst, Brooklawn, Boys and Girls Haven and Junior Achievement – all organizations he supported financially. He belonged to magic clubs in Louisville, Ft. Lauderdale and Boca Raton, and to the International Brotherhood of Magicians and the Society of American Magicians.

Sonny always loved making people smile. He was known for making little dogs out of Mardi Gras beads for restaurant hostesses, servers and any person he ran into, or showing them a quick card

trick – just to have them smile. He always said, "It only takes a minute to give a little joy and see a smile."

He was a donor to, and served on the boards of, The JCC, University of Louisville, Bellarmine University, Louisville Rotary Club, the Arthritis Foundation and the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation.

A huge supporter of University of Louisville, along with Mason Rudd, Sonny and Gladys donated the seed money for UofL's Bass-Rudd Tennis Center, the first sports facility built in Cardinal Park on campus.

The couple supported UofL over the years through generous gifts such as the UofL chimes in the clock tower on campus, the six-foot bronze Cardinal bird, UofL's mascot, welcoming students to the Student Activity Center and a major gift in 2008 towards the Gladys and Lewis "Sonny" Bass Family Scholar House on Hill Street near the UofL campus.

Sonny and Gladys loved hosting UofL basketball and football players at their home and continued to mentor many athletes until his final days.

Sonny was a member of the Male High School, UofL and JCC sports halls of fame. He earned UofL's Hickman-Camp Award and Male High's Distinguished Alumni in 1994 and was named Kentucky Crohn's & Colitis Foundation Humanitarian of the Year.

He was a member of Standard Country Club, Cardinal Golf Club and Boca Tecca



Lewis "Sonny" Bass

Country Club in Boca Raton, Florida, and the JCC. Sonny also belonged to The Temple and Adath Jeshurun.

Foremost, Sonny proudly loved his family. He was a blessed man and the family was blessed to have him as its patriarch.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Joe and Anna Bass, and his grandson, Elliott Joseph Bass.

Sonny is survived by his loving wife, Gladys; his sons, Mitchel (Delores) of Parkland, Florida; Ned and Steve (Terri) of Louisville; his grandchildren, Richard (Stacy) of Miami, Nikki (David Walker) of Raleigh, North Carolina; Dr. Heather Bass Zamanian (Kaveh), Anna-Bass-Wilson (Cara), Joel Richardson (Sherry), Jodie and Ben, all of Louisville; Elle Woodruff (Suzy) of San Diego, California; and Jason Gunoe (Dawn) of Canel Winchester, Ohio; and his beloved great-grandchildren, Henri, Lily and Bella Zamanian of Louisville.

Special thanks to Michelle and Larry Smith who were wonderful caregivers; to his amazing personal physician, Dr. Carmel Person. Likewise, Drs. Gary Fuchs and Britt Brockman, and the wonderful nurses and doctors at Baptist Health dealing with COVID-19.

Sonny requested that donations be made to the Gladys and Lewis Bass Family Scholar House (familyscholarhouse.org), CASA (casariverregion.org), Maryhurst (maryhurst.org), Gilda's Club of Louisville (gck.org) or the donor's favorite charity.

Due to the pandemic, the burial was private. Funeral arrangements were by Herman Meyer & Son, Inc.

B'nai Mitzvahs

David Alexander Laber, son of Lia Rodriguez Bonny and Damian Laber, brother of Eric and Natalie will be called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 9, 2021, at The Temple. David is the grandson of Ana Maria and Raul Rodriguez and the late Felisa and Manuel Laber. He's a beloved stepson of William Bonny and stepbrother to Cole and Peyton. David is a great dad to the family cat, Serena. A seventh grader at Louisville Collegiate School, David is a member of the soccer and squash teams. He plays chess and video games and loves spending time with friends and family. David is in the Pledge 13 Mitzvah Program. He has volunteered to prepare meals for homeless people with The Temple Mitzvah Makers. He also helped prepare and assemble the Passover care bags for Temple members and has visited elder members. David is gathering items for the Grannies Respond and La Casita projects, which serve underprivileged migrant families in Louisville.

Elijah Aung Rothman, son of Sisi and Marc Rothman and brother of Nila and Maxwell, will be called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 23, at The Temple. A seventh grader at Anchorage Public School, Elijah has been on the chess team and academic team and a participant in the MATH-COUNTS club. He has attended URJ's Crane Lake Summer Camp in Massachusetts since 2015 and enjoys making Shabbat every week at home with his family.

Benham Ashbury Levitch, son of Carol Jones and Paul Levitch, will be called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 30, at The Temple. Benham is the grandson of Sue and Gil Levitch and the late Betty and David Jones. A seventh grader at Kentucky Country Day School, Benham enjoys playing sports, including basketball and soccer. He also enjoys fishing, teaching himself flips on the trampoline, drawing and caring for his many pets. Benham attends Camp Livingston and is considering his bar mitzvah project.



Anne Weinberg, daughter of Hunter and Scott Weinberg, sister of Eloise and Beatrice, will be called to the Torah as a bat mitzvah virtually, 10 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 16, at Keneseth Israel. Anne

Miriam is the great-granddaughter of Ella Goodman and the granddaughter of Beverly and David Weinberg. She also is the great-granddaughter of Jane Hope Fields and the granddaughter of Jeana and Robin Oldham. A seventh grader at Louisville Classical Academy, Anne Miriam loves her summers at Beber Camp. She also enjoys riding horses, watching Broadway shows, and playing Minecraft and Among Us with friends. For her bat mitzvah project, Anne Miriam will help with the Backside Learning Center at Churchill Downs, which provides educational opportunities to the families of equine workers.

Weddings



Bachmann-Goldenberg

Hailey Bachmann of Houston, Texas, and Marc Goldenberg of Louisville were married on Sunday, Nov. 15, at the Denver Botanical Gardens, in the presence of their parents, Dr. Michelle Stern and Brad Bachmann, Vycki Goldenberg-Minstein and Anthony Minstein, and Mr. and Mrs. Glen Goldenberg.

Hailey's sister, Lindsay Levy, was matron of honor. Marc's brother, Jon Goldenberg, was best man.

The couple met on a Birthright trip in 2017. After a lengthy engagement, they planned a large June 2020 wedding in Beaver Creek, Colorado. With the outbreak of COVID-19, though, they postponed the ceremony, but determined to marry this year.

The 12-person wedding was livestreamed to family members and friends. Rabbi Emily Hyatt of Temple Emanuel in Denver presided over an intimate and meaningful service.

Hailey and Marc reside in Denver, where they work for their own company, Aspen Insurance Agency.

Marc is the grandson of Ann Zimmerman and the late Nathan Zimmerman of Louisville, Bonnie and the late Herbert Levine of Sun Lakes, Arizona, and the late Jack and Frankie Goldenberg.

Obituaries



Henry M. "Sonny" Altman, Jr.

Henry M. "Sonny" Altman, Jr. 84, passed away Monday, Dec. 21, 2020.

He was preceded in death by his daughter, Laurie Altman

Kupferman; his sister, Ann Altman Stein; his brother-in-law, Ed Stein; and his parents, Henry M., Sr. and Anne W. Altman.

Sonny was a graduate of Male High School and the University of Louisville. He was a practicing CPA for over 44 years, the last 15 years he served as managing partner of Deming, Malone, Livesay & Ostroff. He also was president and CEO of Computer Research, Inc., Pittsburgh, from 1973 through 1975.

He was a member of the Army Reserve 100th Division, serving twice on active duty.

He served as chair of Jewish Hospital HealthCare Services (now part of UofL), University Medical Center, Passport Health Plan, Community Foundation of Louisville, Trustee Advisory Council of the Kentucky Hospital Association, American Hospital Association's Committee on Governance, and the AHA Leadership Development Committee, Standard Country Club and The Temple Men's Club.

In addition all organizations that he chaired, he was a member of the boards of Louisville Medical Center Development Corporation (now

Continued on page 17

LIFECYCLE

Nucleus), Cardiovascular Innovation Institute, American Cancer Biorepository, Louisville Collegiate School, Volunteers of America, Institute for Bioethics, Health Policy and Law, American Hospital Association's Trustee Alumni Leadership Network Advisory Committee, Louisville Orchestra Foundation, Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence, Republic Bank & Trust Company, Hilliard Lyons Trust Company, and Almost Family, Inc.

He was a founder of Actors Theatre of Louisville and has served on the boards of Jefferson County Riverport Authority, Kentucky Society of CPAs, The Temple, Jewish Family and Career Services, Spalding University (Board of Overseers), Jewish Community Federation, American Jewish Committee and Greater Louisville Health Enterprises Network.

Sonny earned numerous honors and awards during his lifetime, including membership in Phi Kappa Phi National Honorary Fraternity, University of Louisville Chapter of Beta Alpha Psi National Accounting Fraternity Outstanding Alumnus, Male High School Hall of Fame, the inaugural Health Care Governance Award from the Kentucky Hospital Association, Jefferson County Millennium Award, City of Louisville Distinguished Citizen Award, Volunteers of America Tribute Dinner Honoree and the Metro United Way Community Solutions Health Leadership Award. He was a long-time member of the Standard Club.

At the time of his death, he was a member of The Temple, where he chaired the Cemetery Committee. Sonny is survived by his wonderful wife of 59 years, Barbara Cassell Altman; his son, William "Billy" (Jan); his daughter, Kerri Altman Dixon (Dennis); his grandchildren, Jacob Kupferman, Linkon (Courtney) and Austin Altman, all in Chicago, and Andrew and Allison Dixon, both of Louisville; and his great-granddaughter, Avery Altman.

Also surviving are sister-in-law Joan Miller (Nathan) of Indianapolis and numerous nieces, nephews and their children.

Due to the pandemic, graveside services were private. Memorial Gifts may be made to the Barbara and Henry Altman Fund at the Community Foundation of Louisville, 325 W. Main Street, Suite 1110, Louisville KY 40202; or The Temple Cemetery Beautification Fund, 5101 U. S. Highway 42, Louisville KY 40241.



Alma Jean Brooks

Alma Jean Brooks, 84, died Thursday, Dec. 17, 2020, in Louisville.

Born Sept. 25, 1936, she was welcomed into the world by her parents, Boyd and Alice Morris, of Morgantown.

Alma was ready to take on any challenge. Her faith was important to her and was a member of The Temple.

She was predeceased by her husband, Guy Brooks Jr., her parents and her four siblings.

Alma is missed by her children, Timothy Brooks (Lora), Sherry Naseri and Angelita Goff; and her grandchildren, Zander, Taylr, Brando, Veronica Lynn, Bradley, Jace and Joshua.

Due to the pandemic, services were private. Interment was in the family lot in Mt. Vernon Cemetery, Dexterville.

Lana Davis Fields

Lana Davis Fields of Chicago passed away peacefully on Thursday, Dec. 17, 2020 at the SelfHelp Home in Chicago. She was 76.

Born in Louisville in January 1944, a daughter of the late Anakrana and Pacy Davis, Lana graduated from Seneca High School and attended Ohio State University. She transferred after her first year to the Art Institute of Chicago, from where she graduated in 1966.

Lana taught design at Harrington Institute of Design.

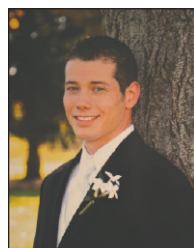
But her real passion was interior design, so she became the head of the interior design departments at a number of large commercial architectural firms in Chicago, most notably Fujikawa, Conterato Lohan & Associates (FCL), the former firm of Mies van der Rohe; and Loeb, Schlossman & Hackl (LSH). Lana designed the interiors of hospitals, office buildings, hotels and other large-scale properties.

Later in life, Lana worked in real estate at Coldwell Banker, but she also worked with clients throughout the city to complete interior design projects through her own firm, Lana Davis Fields Interior Design.

Lana was a loving and devoted mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, cousin and friend. She was kind, caring, loving, beautiful, and had a beautiful smile. She was an intelligent, creative and classy woman.

Lana is survived by her daughter, Alissa Fields; her granddaughters, Zara and Beatrice Versten, of Chicago; and her sister, Sheila Tasman (David) of Louisville.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that expressions of sympathy be made to The American Federation for Aging Research (AFAR) www.afar.org. Graveside services and burial were held at Greenwood Cemetery in Milwaukee.



Aaron Robert Klempner

Aaron Robert Klempner, 39, suddenly passed away Saturday, Nov. 21, 2020, at Norton Brownsboro Hospital.

He was comforted in preparation for his next journey by his wife of 11 years, Emily Hummel Klempner; his mother, Bonnie Klempner; and his brother, Charles.

Born in Louisville on Oct. 10, 1981, a son of Bonnie and the late Steven Ross Klempner, Aaron attended Louisville Jewish Day School and Atherton High School. Upon graduation, he attended Jefferson Community College, where he pursued an associate degree in computer architecture design.

Aaron loved life and lived it to the limit. He enjoyed traveling and recently took up golf, which he pursued with passion. He eagled a hole the last week of his life.

A car enthusiast, Aaron restored a 1965 classic Ford Mustang, a "black beauty," which caught the eye of motorists and pedestrians alike.

Aaron loved movies and his dog, a big Rhodesian Ridgeback named Baby.

Though not formally observant, Aaron was proud of his Jewish religion. At 18, under the tutelage of Rabbi Robert Slosberg, and of his own volition, Aaron became a bar mitzvah, marking his entry to religious maturity.

In addition to his father, Aaron was preceded in death by his grandparents, Jack and Janice Klempner, who he dearly loved.

In addition to his wife, mother and brother, he is survived by his sister, Essye Klempner; one niece and one nephew, Roslynn and Isiah Klempner; his in-laws, Judith and Dennis Hummel; a sister-in-law, Lauren Hummel; and his paternal aunt and uncle, Susan and Richard Klempner.

Due to Covid-19, a private graveside service was held at Adath Jeshurun cemetery. Donations may be made in memory of Aaron to Congregation Adath Jeshurun or the Kentucky Humane Society



Zera Cohen Goldberg Lipetz

Zera Cohen Goldberg Lipetz, "99½ years young," passed away peacefully Friday, Dec. 18, 2020, in Scottsdale, Arizona.

She was a woman of valor, a beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, aunt and great-aunt, and a devoted daughter and wife.

For a tiny woman, she had a big presence. She relished the highs and met the lows with grace, resilience and a tendency to deny what she did not wish to acknowledge. A loving niece called her "a firecracker," which she was. She knew what she wanted and let you know it.

Born in New Orleans on June 3, 1921, Zera was a gracious, warm, kind soul who was admired and treasured by all who knew her.

Zera grew up during the depression-era, part of an uncommon extended Jewish family in the south, which supported and stabilized those years.

While in her 20s, Zera married Samuel J. Goldberg, the son of an Orthodox rabbi. They raised three children while she worked as a bookkeeper. The family moved often, searching for a better life. Devastated by the loss of Sam in his early 50s, she moved to be near her mother and sister. In a few years, friends introduced her to Irving Lipetz, a widower with whom she quickly fell in love, and remarried. During these years, she was an active volunteer, serving in Hadassah, as a docent at the Louisville Speed Museum, and a committee chair at the JCC.

As the couple's health began to fail, the need to use a walker didn't make Zera any less dynamic. While heartbroken to lose Irv, also at 99½, she relocated to Scottsdale, where the family had four generations together. She continued to be a voracious reader and kept up with current events until her final days. Zera's spirit will shine within us forever.

In addition to her two great loves, Sam and Irv, Zera was preceded in death by her parents, Louis and Belle Cohen, her son Daniel Barry Goldberg and her stepdaughter Marcia Lipetz, among other family and friends.

Surviving are her two inspiring sisters, Deborah Cohen, and Sandra Schimmel; her adoring children, Ruth Silon, Mark (Leslie) Goldberg; her daughter-in-law, Margaret Tribe Bania; adoring

stepdaughters: Judy Graham (Scott) and Marcia's partner (Lynda Crawford); her grandchildren: Marla Chisholm (Paul), Howard Gale, David Rosen (Kathy Olson), Sam Rosen, Rachel Goldberg Flanagan (Matt), Noah Goldberg (Cora Schmidt), and Will Goldberg (Jill); her great-grandchildren, Blair and Faith Chisholm, Rimon, Piper, Kinneret, and Meitiv Rosen and Ellie Goldberg; and many nieces and nephews.

Memorial donations may be made to Congregation Adath Jeshurun, 2401 Woodbourne Avenue, Louisville, Kentucky 40205 (adathjeshurun.com/Donate) or The Irving Lipetz Scholarship, c/o Office of Advancement at UofL, 2323 S. Brook Street, Louisville, KY 40292. A private funeral services was held virtually via Zoom, on Wednesday, Dec. 23.



Daisy Baker Goldstein

Daisy Baker Goldstein, 87, peacefully left her family and friends on Tuesday, Nov. 24, 2020.

A native of Cannelton, Indiana, she met her husband of 64 years, the late Irvin

Lee Goldstein, at Camp Tall Trees in Otter Creek Park, and graduated from Indiana University with a degree in marketing.

Daisy was passionate about her family and traveling, was active in the local Jewish community for many years, including Hadassah and Sisterhood, and played bridge regularly with friends and family for seven decades.

As an empty nester, she returned to school and earned an associate degree. She then worked in business administration, including 10 years at the University of Louisville School of Medicine, ENT Department.

In addition to her husband, Daisy was preceded in death by parents, Louise and Lacer Baker; her in-laws, Dorothy and Henry Goldstein; a daughter-in-law, Beth K. Goldstein; and a sister-in-law, Riva Drutz.

She is survived by her children, Steve (Sheila) Goldstein, Alan (Debbie) Goldstein, Sara (David) Weinstein, Lynne (Stephen) Yudewitz; eight grandchildren: Amy (Ronen) Danino, Max Goldstein, Rachel and Emily Goldstein, Andrew and Ben Weinstein, Dalia and Noah Yudewitz; two great-grandchildren, Sivan and Oshri Danino; a sister, Carol Wishnia (Jacob) of Louisville; a brother, Sam Baker (Candi) of Naperville, Illinois; and a sister-in-law, Miriam Godhelff.

Expressions of sympathy may be made to the Dorothy and Henry Goldstein Gemilut Hasadim Fund at Adath Jeshurun Synagogue, 2401 Woodbourne Avenue, Louisville, 40205; or The Temple Fund at 5101 U.S. Highway 42, Louisville, 40241.

Funeral services were by Herman Meyer and Sons Funeral Home with a private interment at Adath Jeshurun Cemetery.

The family thanks Drs. Marianne Cowley and Jane Cornett, Melanie Drury (an advanced practice registered nurse), Hosparus Health and the Magnolia Springs Louisville Community.

Beverly Greenberg Gordon Rubin Lowenthal

Beverly Greenberg Gordon Rubin Lowenthal died Wednesday, Nov. 18,

Continued on page 17

LIFECYCLE



2020, in Copley, Ohio. She was 95.

A beautiful Southern Belle "Bebbe," Beverly lit up every room she entered with her elegance, stunning white hair, bright red lipstick, and her radiant smile.

Born on March 20, 1925, in Louisville, a daughter of the late Rose and David Greenberg, Beverly graduated from Atherton High School and attended the University of Louisville. She worked briefly at *The Courier-Journal* before beginning a beautiful journey through life as a wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

Beverly was proud of all of her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, and wanted all of them listed here, especially since she inherited many additional family members and put her life and soul into them all:

She was preceded in death by the love of her life, Albert A. Gordon, of Crofton; her parents, Rose and David Greenberg; her in-laws, Lela and Frank Gordon; and her dearest first child, Carole Gordon Lutnick; Carole's husband, Carl Lutnick, and Beverly's beloved brother, J. Norton Greenberg.

She is survived by her children, Dr. Terry Gordon (Angela) of Akron, Ohio, Ronna Gordon Siegel (Dr. Barry) of Miami, and Dr. Andrew Gordon (Stacey) of Columbia, Tennessee; her grandchildren, Jack Lutnick (Liz), Dr. Alexandra Lutnick (Joe Carouba), Mattie Gordon, Laila Gordon, Britt Gordon Blasdel (Ryan), Tyler Gordon, Adam Siegel (Rachel), Brandi Siegel Tito (Ilan), Carley Gordon Westfall (Brandon) and Aubrey Gordon (Francie); her great-grandchildren, Gio Gordon, Asher Blasdel, Clara Siegel, Evie Siegel, Leo Tito, Devi Tito, Amelia Westfall, Beau Gordon, Seth Lutnick, Jesse Falkler, and Izzie Flammia, sister-in-law Judith Greenberg and family.

She was preceded in death by her second love, Ralph Rubin, Memphis, Tennessee, her step-sons, Robert Rubin and Russ Elliot.; and survived by her step-daughter, Hallie Rubin Elliot of Memphis; her step-son, William Rubin (Mary); her grandchildren, Dr. Tod Singer (Amy), Ralph Singer (Michelle), Becky Singer Starr (Marlon), great-grandchildren, Megan Singer, Carly Singer, Lana Singer, Jack Singer, Michael Starr, and Shelby

Starr.

She was preceded in death by her third love, Joseph Lowenthal of Lake Charles, Louisiana and Lexington; and survived by her step-sons, Michael Lowenthal and Marc Lowenthal (Wally); her granddaughter, Holly Lowenthal; her sister-in-law, Gladys Lowenthal Bass (Sonny).

Beverly was buried at Adath Jeshurun Cemetery in a private service.

To her many friends and caregivers in Lake Charles, Louisville and Copley, the family thanks each with all their hearts. "Bebbe" will be greatly missed by all.

In Beverly's memory, donations may be made to Congregation Adath Jeshurun, 2401 Woodbourne Avenue, Louisville, KY 40205-1799 or adathjeshurun.com



Beryl Elise Medinger

Beryl Elise Medinger died at home on Thursday, Dec. 3, 2020, from metastatic bladder cancer. She was 77.

Born in Baltimore, Maryland, on June 16, 1943, she was an Army brat, living in Virginia, New Jersey, Kansas, Germany and Thailand, where she graduated high school from the International School of Bangkok.

After receiving her undergraduate degree from the College of William & Mary, and her Master of Social Work degree from Virginia Commonwealth University, she spent a long career as a clinical social worker, primarily in her private psychotherapy practice.

In her early years, she was a therapist at the Bingham Child Guidance Clinic, the Bellewood Home for Children, and in several Catholic schools. She also served several terms on the state Board of Social Work.

After retiring, Elise volunteered for Habitat for Humanity, and Raptor Rehabilitation of Kentucky. Failing at retirement, as she said, Elise spent her last 10 working years at the VAMC Pain Clinic, providing therapy for veterans coping with the mental health aspects of chronic pain.

She retired again at the end of January 2020, and, between the pandemic and bladder cancer, failed at it once more.

Raised Lutheran, she was attracted to pacifism and attended Quaker Meeting for years, but never was comfortable

with notions of a savior. She felt drawn to liberal Judaism because of its focus on ethics and study, and completed the Melton course for a adult Jewish education and converted in 2003. She was a member of The Temple, Women of Reform Judaism, and the National Conference of Jewish Women. She loved Jewish music in the minor key, which she at first found strange.

A voracious reader, Elise nurtured her quick mind, keen intellect and innate curiosity with many genres and subjects.

She loved to travel, yoga, cycling, walking and strength training. She took pride in completing several sprint-length triathlons in her mid-40s. She also loved Leonard Cohen's music, and was thrilled to attend his Louisville concert several years ago.

A feminist before she knew the term, she thought something was wrong with her because she couldn't lead her mother's life. That strength kept her from marrying badly when young and proved instrumental in making her marriage – she finally married at 42 – long and happy.

As the first-born of four children, Elise could be bossy, and worked to constrain her impulse to help friends and family do and think the things that she knew to be right. But doing that work, and succeeding in that effort, characterized Elise's core: she set high standards, strove to meet them herself, and honored and respected others for being the best versions of themselves. It allowed her to become close friends in her adulthood with her three siblings, whom she adored; it was at the root of her close and loyal friendships, happy marriage and rich family ties.

She was preceded in death by parents, Eloise Whittington Medinger and Col. John N. Medinger, and her father-in-law, Arnold S. Friedman.

She is survived by the family she loved so dearly: her husband, David A. Friedman; her daughter, Rachel Harris; her grandchildren, Brielle Dowlat and Sean Dowlat; her siblings John L. Medinger, Patricia Gipson, and Kristina Medinger; their respective spouses, Bonnie Medinger, Thomas Gipson and Ann Maloney; her mother-in-law, Bette Harris Friedman; and her nieces and nephews.

Elise received stellar care for her bladder cancer for a decade from Dr. M. Brooks Jackson. As she chose, she lived

her last months at home, swaddled in the love of family and friends, and died there peacefully, thanks to the care and comfort from staff at Hosparus and Home Instead.

A short graveside service was held at The Temple Cemetery on Sunday, Dec. 6. Herman Meyer & Son, Inc. handled arrangements. Contributions in Elise's memory may be made to Habitat for Humanity, Amnesty International, the Heifer Fund, World Bicycle Relief or Louisville Central Community Center.



Grant Tucker

Grant Tucker of Goshen passed away peacefully on Saturday, Nov. 21, 2020 surrounded by his family. Born on Nov. 17, 2008, Grant is survived by his parents, Keith and

Carre Tucker, his big brother and role model, Tanner Tucker; his grandparents, Ron and Donna Tucker and Bob and Betty Gordon; aunts and uncles, Ilyse Gordon McCormick, Lori Gordon, Bruce Hidaka-Gordon (Sugano), Mark Gordon (Tracy Morrison), Beth and Chris McBride; and his adored cousins Max and Jordan McCormick, Saylor and CJ McBride, Taiki and Akira Hidaka-Gordon, Sasha Gordon and his extended family.

Also surviving are so many best friends, big brothers, basketball, baseball and cross-country teammates, schoolmates, a neighborhood where he roamed daily and a community where he brought joy and light to everyone he met. Grant, we miss you and love you.

He was a fierce competitor with a big heart and a driven spirit. Grant was "that boy" who was always smiling and easy to spot with his blonde (sometimes blue) curls. Anyone who encountered him once would remember him forever, as he never met a stranger.

He loved so many, but he is loved by so many more. The world is a good deal dimmer now that Grant's bright and beautiful light is gone. May his memory be a blessing.

In lieu of flowers, and in honor of Grant's love, and compassion, please donate to your favorite children's charity. Grant was laid to rest in Cave Hill Cemetery.

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NEWS

ADL

Continued from page 1

get this initiative going,” Brown said.

At first, the training will focus on supervisors, trainers, instructors and field commanders, Brown said. “It’s going to be the whole hierarchy of these agencies to start with.”

Brown is overseeing a review of training materials used at academies and programs overseen by the state. He said supervisors and educators must learn to recognize anti-Semitic or racist material. He noted that some symbols, like the *sonnenrad*, are not as “immediately

recognizable” as the swastika.

“Any review of any material we’re going to do would be woefully lacking if we don’t know what we’re looking for,” he said. “To determine what we’re looking for, we have to turn to outside expertise.”

Local Jewish leaders, including JCL President and CEO Sara Klein Wagner, Jewish Community Relations Council Director Matt Goldberg and JCRC Chair Beth Salamon, all of whom were at Wednesday’s meeting, have been invited to sit in on the training sessions as observers when they begin. “Secretary Brown asked the three of us

if we would participate,” Wagner said. “We have confidence after these initial meetings with government leaders, and now Secretary Brown, that obviously they are taking this seriously and we are grateful for their proactive response.”

The JCL will continue to play an active role in the process. “It’s not a one and done conversation,” she added.

Pasch could not be reached for comment Thursday, but the *Community* has obtained overview of ADL training, entitled *Law Enforcement and Society: Lessons of the Holocaust*, which the ADL developed with the Holocaust museum. The training addresses the “core values”

of the law enforcement profession, community engagement and public trust, according to the overview.

Training has been offered in Dallas, Houston, Los Angeles, Nassau County, New York; St. Petersburg, Florida;

Goldberg said the training would be offered on Zoom in smaller groups (approximately 25 per training block) and would revert to in-person training once the pandemic passes.

In addition to JCL leaders Brown and Pasch, Acting KSP Commissioner Phillip “PJ” Burnett, Jr. and DOJT Commissioner Nicolai Jilek took part in Wednesday’s meeting.

TRANSFORMATION

Continued from page 1

divided into eight sessions:

- Jan. 7 – “Self-compassion,” with jazz pianist/motivational speaker Harry Pickens;
- Jan. 21 – “Design and Assemble Your New Journal,” with fabric artist/art therapist Pat Sturtzel;
- Feb. 4 – “Creative Journaling,” with Pickens;
- Feb. 11 – “Making Art while Reaching Out,” with Sturtzel;
- Feb. 18 – “The Art of Listening with Compassion,” with Holocaust studies teacher Fred Whittaker;
- March 4 – One-to-one sessions with other participants;
- March 11 – “Envisioning What’s Next in the Post-Pandemic World,” with Pickens, Sturtzel, Whittaker and Jamner.

During the eighth session, which is

set for sometime in April, the “New Beginnings Quilt,” a group project designed as a sunrise and made with Sturtzel’s supervision, will be unveiled. Pickens will perform themed music for the event and participants will share their reflections on the four-month experience.

All sessions will run from 7 to 8:15 p.m. on Thursdays.

It’s no accident that written and spoken words figure heavily into the project.

“The idea is we’re starting something new, and there’s a through line in all this, which is that one of the first parts of transformation is giving words to it,” Jamner said.

Each presenter has an expertise that is essential to expression. Sturtzel, for instance, is a fabric artist and art therapist who works with “sensory” materials, as Jamner describes them. Her role is wrapped up in helping participants with their journal covers

and the New Beginnings Quilt.

Pickens, an award-winning performing artist, composer, educator, workshop facilitator and life coach, received the 2009 Governor’s Award for arts in education.

Whittaker, a teacher at St. Francis of Assisi school with connections in the Jewish community through the Holocaust class, teaches his students to listen with empathy and presence, a critical skill in times like these, Jamner said.

For himself, Jamner has been directing education programs at Kentucky Performing Arts (formerly The Kentucky Center for the Arts) for 22 years. He previously worked in educational outreach at the Manhattan School of Music and was the founding artistic director and executive director of Concorde: The Chamber Music Society of Westport in Connecticut.

In addition to JHFE, the Goldstein-Leibson Cultural Arts Fund helped

support Time for Transformation.

Jamner sees the project as a portal through which participants can be empowered by their own expression.

“If you look at the opening of Genesis – *Bereshit* – there was chaos and there wasn’t the separation between light and dark until God said the words,” Jamner said. “Putting your feelings into words is very powerful.”

Want to participate?

“A Time for Transformation: Thriving in the Winter of COVID,” runs from Jan. 7 to April. Sessions will be held on Thursdays from 7 to 8:15 p.m. Participants will receive two fabric kits: one for their new journal, one for the New Beginnings Quilt. All sessions will be recorded. The course fee is \$36. To register, visit jccloouisville.org/transformation. Contact Jeff Jamner at jjamner@jewishlouisville.org with questions.

BERNHEIM

Continued from page 1

best represented the woman and her accomplishments.

Boros first applied to the artist-in-residence program for 2019, but when Arts in Nature Curator Jenny Zeller saw her application, she felt it would fit better in 2020 – the 40th anniversary of the program and the centennial of the 19th Amendment, which guaranteed women the right to vote.

“I felt like it would be an opportunity to elevate the project far beyond what we would normally be able to do in a regular residency year,” Zeller said.

Jewish women featured include Florence Brandeis, one of the first women gynecologists and pediatricians in Kentucky; Suzy Post, ACLU activist; and Amanda Uri Bernheim, wife of Bernheim benefactor Isaac Bernheim. The rest come from different races – an important factor in Boros’ selections.

Judaism was another important theme in the choice of artists and in honoring the legacy of Isaac Wolfe Bernheim.

“He has one of those rags-to-riches stories, which is the American dream,” said Bernheim Executive Director Mark Wourms.

Boros has not lived at the Bernheim during her residency because of the COVID-19 pandemic, but she has made trips to the area.

Her work required extensive research into the women’s lives – how they dressed, the tools they used – most of which she did from her home in Skokie, Illinois.

Boros made three to six drawings of each piece on tracing paper, choosing the one she liked best. Because the images would be transferred onto wood surfaces, she had to draw them in reverse. Using transfer paper to set the images onto an expensive plywood she ordered from Japan, she then carved the images, rolled black ink over the surfaces, then printed on the fabric.

“It was something really different,” Zeller said. “It was very forward-thinking. I just love how the work draws on the parallels of historical women and the beauty and resilience of nature.”

Boros and Bernheim officials all had different women in mind for the project, so they came together to choose the subjects. For Boros, she had to be impressed by a subject she was honoring to include her.

By the time the project was finished, though, she felt a special connection to some of them.

“I definitely have my favorites,” she said. “There’s some that I really admire and feel like, ‘Wow! You know, that’s a life well lived.’”

The daughter of Hungarian immigrants, Boros was born in Israel but moved to Cleveland as a child when her father, an immunologist, couldn’t find work back home. After another move to Detroit, Boros attended college at the University of Rochester, planning to become a doctor.

“But I came home, and I had a D- in physics, and a C- in calculus,” she recalled. “My dad was like, ‘Honey, no way are you going to get into medical school. I’m sorry.’”



Gabriella Boros, the 2020 Bernheim artist-in-residence. (Community photo by Lisa Hornung)

But after seeing her A+ in art and art history, he told her that was the field where she belonged. She eventually graduated from the University of Michigan School of Art.

She focused on painting until nine years ago, when she discovered printmaking in Florence, Italy.

“It was just one of those brain-rattling experiences,” she said. Being intimate with wood is just my thing. I love it out here [in nature], and I love it in the studio.”

In 2016, she was chosen to participate in the year-long Midwest Jewish Artists Lab at the Spertus Institute in Chicago. Her culminating 10 prints, based on the prophecies of Isaiah, were shown at the Spertus Museum.

Two of her prints also have hung at the International Court in Luxembourg, and a feminist piece called “Little Red” was shown in Croatia. Her work also has been shown in Jerusalem, Evanston, Illinois; Brooklyn and Ann Arbor, Michigan.

During her Bernheim residency,

Boros has made several connections, most notably with Tom Block, the great-grandson of Isaac Bernheim, who broadened the artist’s knowledge about his family.

The banners are expected to be displayed for as long as they hold up outdoors.

Zeller said she experimented with several types of fabric before settling on a polyester ripstop fabric. Meant for outdoor use, the material is used in making tents and flags.

Bernheim volunteers hung the banners on trees along the lake. So far, they have weathered the elements.

Wourms is pleased with the reception to the prints. Lake Nevin Trail attracts many regular walkers, several of whom tell him how much they enjoy the images and appreciate the women they depict.

“[They] come up to me and say, ‘What a beautiful addition! I have been reading one of these a day, and it makes me think about them every day.’” Wourms said. “I mean, that’s pretty strong.”

Want to go?

The Bernheim remains open during the pandemic, with masks and social distancing observed. Visit bernheim.org for details. Boros made four copies of each banner, and the Filson has bought an entire set. Others will travel around Kentucky, funded by an Art in Activism grant from the Kentucky Foundation for Women. Individual prints are available for purchase for \$1,500 each. A portion of each sale will support the Arts in Nature program when purchased through Bernheim.

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