

JEWISH LOUISVILLE COMMUNITY



INSIDE:

'Recipes for Disasters'

Louisville artist's 'cookbook' project takes satirical swipe at anti-Semitism
STORY ON PG. 13

FRIDAY Vol. 47, No. 5 | May 28, 2021 | 17 Sivan 5781

'I don't want any more people to die' Louisvillians in Israel share experiences

By Lee Chottiner
Community Editor

As Tessa Culbertson sat on the balcony of her Tel Aviv apartment, taking advantage of a relative calm in the clash between Israel, Hamas and Arab Israelis, the Louisville native reflected on her first experience under fire.

She had learned what it sounds like when the Iron Dome defense system destroys an incoming rocket from the Gaza Strip.

She got used to scoping out the nearest possible shelter whenever she was out riding her bicycle.

And she lamented not being able to lie on the beach at Yafo because it was simply too dangerous for Jews.

But Culbertson, who made aliya in 2018, had also learned, even before the fighting started, that there were tensions in the country between Jews and Arabs, something she had told her mother on a call home.

"Everything that's happening now is no surprise to me," she said.

Culbertson was one of four Jewish Louisvillians to share with *Community* their experiences during the 11-day conflict. The others were Orli and Ari Feder, who are completing high school there, and Josh Ellis, who is taking a gap year in the country.

The fighting came to an end last week when Israel and Hamas agreed to a cease-fire, or de-escalation of hostilities, which took effect on Friday.

Culbertson, 28, who grew up going to The Temple, the JCC and Camp Livingston, said hunkering in a shelter while rockets explode overhead is an experience

See **ISRAEL** on page 19



Louisville native Tessa Culbertson, seen here at her favorite spot in Israel, Yafo Beach, with her boyfriend, Eitan Egdes, said she had to avoid this spot during the recent fighting because of the danger to Jews. (photo provided by Tessa Culbertson)

Affinity group at St. Francis gives Jewish pupils a place to share

By Lee Chottiner
Community Editor



Zak Cohen

The day after hundreds of insurrectionists stormed the U.S. Capitol in Washington, Zak Cohen met one-on-one with the Jewish middle school students at St. Francis School.

He said he just wanted to check in with them, see how they were dealing with those disturbing scenes.

Their responses ran the gamut.

"Students shared: 'This was scary.' 'I feel frightened,'" Cohen recalled. "Students expressed that full range of emotions.... We're taking about 11-year-olds, 12-year-olds, 13-year-olds, 14-year-olds. We're talking about students who are only just beginning to form their own impressions and understanding of the world."

The meetings weren't just a one-off deal for Cohen, 33, who is in his first year as middle school director at St. Francis. It was yet another meeting of the school's new Jewish Affinity Group.

Cofounded by Cohen and Director of Counseling Services Julie Marks, the affinity group is a setting where Jewish middle schoolers at St. Francis can meet regularly during school hours, talking about common issues they face, feelings they experience as Jews, or simply come together once a week for a few minutes to just be Jews.

And it doesn't hurt that Marks, an excellent baker, also brings treats to the meetings – rugelach, cinnamon raisin challah, etc.

"I feel like it's really important to be able create spaces here, especially at really young, formative ages," Cohen said, "to say to my Jewish students, 'It's OK to not only be Jewish, but it's OK for you to care about Jewish issues and it's OK to care about yourself and your own well-being.'"

The Jan. 6 attack merely drove home the need for such a group.

"You see the insurrection at the Capitol and we see swastikas; we see literal Nazis marching in our Capitol," Cohen said. "I don't know how many people really thought about how those images

See **AFFINITY** on page 19

125 years NCJW-Louisville to celebrate anniversary in June

By staff and releases

National Council of Jewish Women, Louisville Section, will bring together 650 members and community partners on June 15 to virtually celebrate its 125th anniversary.

The event, "Celebrating our Past," will include a luncheon and an in-person "Celebrating our Future" gathering at the Big Four Bridge. Louisville Section Pres-

ident Joyce Bridge will deliver remarks. NCJW members and their families will then walk across the bridge as the span is lit up in NCJW's blue and green colors.

The event will constitute a major fundraising campaign for the Louisville Section, supporting its mission and general operations.

NCJW is a national nonprofit organization of volunteers and advocates who

See **NCJW** on page 19



Rebecca Rosenthal Judah, founder of the NCJW, Louisville Section (photo provided by Nancy Chazen)

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THE DASHBOARD

Word of the Month

Louisville Talmud learners take a bow



D'var Torah

Rabbi
Simcha Snaid

On April 18, a momentous day for Jewish Louisville, members of the community celebrated the completion of study, or *siyum*, by eight learners of a single tractate of Talmud.

A rare event here, the undertaking took them 1½ years to complete.

Why else was this so remarkable?

Joseph Friedenson, a noted historian and Holocaust survivor, had an experience during his youth that became etched in his mind for life:

"It was November 1939, at the beginning of the war, and just after the Nazis had occupied Poland," he recalled. "Two Nazi officers burst into our home to loot it. I was home with my mother at the time, and she gave them money, hoping that they would leave and let us be.

"As they were about to make their arrogant exit, one of the Nazis noticed my father's tall bookcase full of Jewish holy books. His eye fell on the beautiful bound Vilna Talmud, prominently displayed on our bookcase. Apparently, he had never seen such large volumes, so he asked me what books they were. Innocently, I replied, 'It is the Talmud.'

"I will never forget the Nazi's reaction. As if a cauldron of boiling water had fallen on his bare skin, he jumped up, his face contorted in rage.

"The Talmud!' he bellowed, as he bounded over to the bookcase and ripped one of the beautiful volumes of that Talmud from the shelf. Then, with a diabolical hatred and brutality that I had never before witnessed, both Nazis threw the volumes on the floor and began grinding them with their heavy boots. Those books, however, were well bound and not easily destroyed. So they began ripping the pages and trashing the beautiful set, volume by volume, eventually throwing them out of the window of our apartment into the street below.

"They proclaimed, 'The learners and teachers of the Talmud have the power to rebuild the Judaism that we seek to

destroy.'"

How correct they were.

Look at the renaissance of Torah and Talmud study across America, Israel, South Africa, Australia. Who would have thought in just 75 years, from the ashes of the greatest tragedy in modern history, we would witness the greatest rejuvenation in modern history.

Talmud learners are not limited to large cities – New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, etc. Right here in Louisville, we have our own Talmud learners, or *misaymim*, and that is historic.

That proud label, *misaymim*, which those who completed the tractate and everyone who joined for even one class are now known by, identifies these Talmud learners as rebuilders of Judaism, which the Nazis sought to destroy. This is what we celebrated.

The eight honorees – I call them Talmud trekkies, after the name of the class, Talmud Trek – were Aaron Fox, Ayala Golding, Louis Waterman, Jon White, Vlad Seder, Brian Fox, Rabbi Josh Golding and Jake Wishnia. Each received a diploma and a gift and then shared what the Talmud and this learning experience has meant to them.

White shared how, for the first 40 years of his life, he did not know he was Jewish. "Anyone can learn, even if you start from nothing. What we are doing here is very important."

Waterman shared how he never would have thought he would be a weekly Talmud learner.

Wishnia made the siyum in front of his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

These were some of the highlights of this wonderful evening. Space limitations have constrained a worthy quote from each graduate.

The reward for completing a tractate? Starting another one. No prior experience necessary.

You Talmud learners are the rebuilders. Wear that title with pride.

May we continue to study and learn Torah together for many more years, as we continue to carry the exalted title of Talmud learners.

(Rabbi Simcha Snaid is the spiritual leader of Congregation Anshei Sfard.)

Snapshots



Aaron Fox, Ayala Golding, Louis Waterman, Jon White, Vlad Seder, Brian Fox, Rabbi Josh Golding and Jake Wishnia were feted at a siyum celebration on April 18. A siyum, which refers to the completion of study of a tractate of Talmud, is a rare achievement in Jewish Louisville. The class is pictured with Rabbi Simcha Snaid of Congregation Anshei Sfard, their teacher. See the D'var Torah on this page. (photo provided by Rabbi Simcha Snaid)

Candles

Here are the candle lighting times for Shabbat in June:

- June 4 @ 8:45 p.m.
- June 11 @ 8:49 p.m.
- June 18 @ 8:51 p.m.
- June 25 @ 8:52 p.m.

Contacts

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

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

Not getting your paper? Want to subscribe? Putting your 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, June 16 (though sooner is better). The paper should be in your mailbox by Fri-

day, June 25.

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

Online

We have you covered, Louisville – online. *Community* stories are posted regularly at jewishlouisville.org/community. That also is where you can find breaking news ahead of our print deadline.

Maybe you like the look of a real paper without the, er ... paper. Then check out Digital *Community* at jewishlouisville.org/community/community-newspaper/print-version.

If you read on the run, *Community's* social media is just the thing. Follow us on Facebook at [facebook.com/JewishLouisville](https://www.facebook.com/JewishLouisville) or on Twitter, @

CommunityLou, for the latest Jewish news from Kentucky and around the world.

Corrections/Clarifications

In a May Newsmaker item about Martha Greenwald's web project to remember victims of COVID, some references to Greenwald were given

incorrectly.

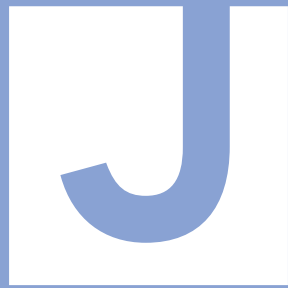
Have a correction? Send it to lchottiner@jewishlouisville.org



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NEWS

Virtual MOSAIC Awards to recognize 5 Louisville immigrants making a difference in community

By Lisa Hornung
For Community

While the pandemic may be slowing down with the help of vaccines, and the world is beginning to reopen, Jewish Family & Career Services has decided to keep this year's MOSAIC awards virtual. But the digital nature of the awards doesn't mean these recipients deserve any less recognition.

MOSAIC Awards is an annual salute by JFCS to first-generation Americans who have made a contribution to their professions and their community. It has recognized almost 70 refugees, immigrants and first-generation Americans who make the community stronger.

This year's honorees are: Neeli Bendapudi, Di Tran, Berta Weyenberg, Kaveh Zamanian and Bapion Ziba.

"This year, MOSAIC will transition to a virtual format where you will have an opportunity to learn more about how JFCS is meeting the increasing demand of services for those most vulnerable during the pandemic," said Robin Stratton, president of the JFCS Board of Directors. "Last year, we were so pleased to have Bob and Margie Kohn serve as our honorary co-chairs despite the in-person event being canceled, and greatly appreciate their ongoing support as agency leaders."



Kaveh Zamanian



Neeli Bendapudi



Berta Weyenberg



Bapion Ziba



Di Tran

ciate their ongoing support as agency leaders."

The 16th-annual celebration is sponsored by Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence and Kindred Healthcare. Gifts made online between May 25 and 27 directly support the work JFCS does with clients and their families.

MOSAIC 2021 will be broadcast over social media and its website beginning Tuesday, May 25, concluding with an awards presentation at noon, Thursday, May 27.

Here are the bios of this year's honorees:

Kaveh Zamanian, a native of Iran, came to Louisville when he fell in love with his wife, Heather, who is from here.

He stepped away from his career as a clinical psychologist and psychoanalyst to start Rabbit Hole distillery, a now-thriving local business.

Neeli Bendapudi, a native of India, is the president of the University of Louisville. Through her work as the school's chief executive, she celebrates diversity, fosters equity and strives to achieve inclusion.

Berta Weyenberg came to Louisville in 1996 from Cuba. She has worked for Jefferson County Public Schools for 24 years as the English as a Second Language Intake Center coordinator and is a leading advocate in bringing international communities together. She ensures every ESL child and family is aware of

the many options available to them.

Bapion Ziba came to Louisville from Burkina Faso in West Africa. He learned about cooking from his grandmother and aunts, who encouraged him to pursue his love for it. JFCS helped him launch

Ziba's Bistro at Logan Street Market, a now-thriving local restaurant. Bapion continues to pay it forward by volunteering with the Burkinabe and African communities.

Di Tran fled Vietnam with his family at age 12. After arriving in Louisville, his parents worked factory jobs for five years, saving enough money to build USA Nails on Broadway. He earned a master's degree in computer engineering and sciences from the University of Louisville while helping his mother expand their nail salon business. He started the Louisville Beauty Academy in 2016, and now runs Di Tran Enterprises, which owns and operates several small local businesses.

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NEWS

'Incredibly exciting' Digital Community Newspaper Archive launched at virtual event

By Lee Chottiner
Community Editor

The new Digital Community Newspaper Archive, an online project that will make Kentucky's only Jewish newspaper completely and easily searchable for the first time, was rolled out at a virtual program on May 10.

"The Digital Community Newspaper Archive will span half a century and provide an incredible tool for access, discovery, learning and memory," Richard H.C. Clay, president and CEO of the Filson Historical Society, told an online audience. "We hope you will use it and enjoy it and tell you friends about it, too."

The Filson and Jewish Community of Louisville (JCL), bolstered by seed money from the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence, have partnered for four years to move the project forward. The JCL Archive Committee, co-chaired by Frank Weisberg and Fred Joseph, have also been a major part of the effort.

"We would not be on this journey and we would not be here tonight to see *Community* on all our screens and have the ability to touch and feel it and explore to our heart's content if it wasn't for the partnership that was created at the Filson four years ago," said Sara Klein Wagner, president and CEO of the JCL.

The archive project is still not finished; issues from 2000 to 2012 must still be digitized. But issues from the 1970s to 1990s are ready to be accessed. PDFs of the papers from 2013 to the present, posted by *Community* itself, also have

been added to the project.

To put the size and scope of the project into context, Abby Glogower, curator of the Jewish collections at the Filson, said digitization projects of this size are not normally done by historical societies like hers.

"This was new for the Filson," Glogower said. "Usually, newspaper digitization is something that happens at big research universities and major archives, and that's because it's very costly and it takes a lot of work, but we decided to dive into this challenge."

Much of the May 10 program was devoted to showing participants how the archive, which is free to access, can be navigated.

Users can visit filsonhistorical.org. From the menu bar, click on collections and scroll down to Jewish collections. From there, click Jewish Community Newspaper Digital Archives, which takes viewers to the site where the archive is hosted.

Danielle Spalenka, associate curator of digital projects, demonstrated the archives' functions and tools used to navigate it. She also demonstrated its versatility by searching Wagner's name and that of Lewis Cole, each yielding hundreds of hits.

The archive is "fully text searchable," meaning the papers can be read on the scanned pages or as individual stories.

Further, optical character recognition, the technology that scans printed text, making it readable online, is a "powerful" research tool, Spalenka said.



The first known front page of *Community*, dated September 26, 1973, can be found in the new Community Newspaper Digital Archives, which was formally launched at a virtual program on May 10. Back issues of the paper through the 1990s have already been digitized, and the work continues. (Photo provided by the Filson Historical Society)

he retired at the end of 2018," Clay said, "and it is incredibly exciting for all of us at the Filson to see it come to fruition."

Other people instrumental in the project were Shiela Steinman Wallace, editor emeritus of *Community*; Jane Goldstein, Stuart Goldberg and Dr. Morris Weiss, Jennifer Tuvlin, Angie Fleitz and Jennie Cole.

The archive is being hosted by Viridian, the same outfit that hosts the digitized Jewish newspaper repository of the National Library of Israel. Glogower has reached out to the library about adding *Community* to the repository, which includes Jewish publications from around the world.

While *Community* is the only newspaper in the archive, Glogower expects back issues of the *Kentucky Post & Opinion* (P&O) and *YMHA Chronicler* to eventually be digitized and added.

However, there are two hurdles, she said: Money, and permission from the owners of the P&O.

Glogower said she is optimistic that money will be found, "so let's set ourselves a goal and see if we can make it happen."

'New Beginnings' Time for Transformation concludes with reveal of New Beginnings quilt

A four-month Jewish Community Center program meant to help people through the darkest days of the COVID-19 pandemic has culminated with a work of art that exudes light.

At the final session of the virtual program, Time for Transformation, on Monday, May 3, participants were treated to a "reveal" of the program's crowning achievement: a quilt they worked on with fiber artist Pat Sturtzel, which celebrates their faith in the future.

"New Beginnings," as the quilt is called, is a multicolor 53-by-67-inch work of art depicting a dawning over a lake; several symbols of hope are stitched into the design.

As many as 40 participants contributed embroidered pieces to the project, said Sturtzel, who facilitated the project with artist Lori Sargent.

"We did count 60 embroidered motifs in the quilt," Sturtzel said. "Lori and I used all the embroidery that was returned to us."

The quilt was just one project Time for Transformation offered to keep people emotionally and spiritually connected during the winter. Participants also studied journaling (and created their own journal covers), self-compassion and "listening with compassion." They also shared their visions for post-COVID times.

Besides Sturtzel, jazz pianist Harry



Members of the Time for Transformation project pose outside the JCC with the New Beginnings Quilt to which they contributed. (Community photo by Robbyn McClain)

Pickens, Holocaust studies instructor Fred Whittaker and JCC Creative Consultant Jeffrey Jamner also served as project facilitators.

The program followed the idea that to do *tikkun olam* (repairing the world), people must first take of themselves, Jamner said.

"This was looked at through a Jewish lens," he said.

Jamner credited Jewish Community

of Louisville President & CEO Sara Klein Wagner with the idea for the project.

"Back in November she asked me, 'What can the JCC offer at this difficult time when we are all exhausted, feeling beat up inside, isolated, scared dealing with the pandemic and social and political upheaval?'" he said. "This [project] grew out of that conversation."

"New Beginnings," which gets its name from *Bereshit* (Genesis), is not your average quilt.

Its backing is an explosion of blues, purples and reds, all created with a process called snow dying. Literally, snow was used to create the colors.

"We happened to have a good snow during our COVID winter, giving me the perfect opportunity to include this process into the quilt backing," Sturtzel said. "I wetted the fabric with the fixative, scrunched it and set it on top of a wire rack. I covered it with snow and used a combination of dye powder and diluted dye on top of the snow. As the snow melts, the dye penetrates the fabric in interesting patterns."

But the front of the quilt is where most of the meaning is found: a sunrise over a pond and trail in the woods, with several fabric symbols of hope stitched in to the tapestry: a dove with an olive branch, a *hamza*, outstretched hands and the Hebrew word *chesed* (deeds).

"I wanted to be sure there was a path

to represent the journey and we wanted the water for the reflection," Sturtzel said.

While it took one day to quilt the final composition, the rest of the work to reach that step required four weeks of full-time labor.

"The biggest job was creating the design and constructing the composition from the pieces contributed," Sturtzel said. "Lori and I both drew out design ideas to get us started. We divided up the fabrics returned to us and decided which parts would be used for the sun, the sky, the water. I contributed additional fabrics from my stash to create the trees and the land."

Ideas for the design came from conversations with group, Sturtzel added.

The Time for Transformation group met for seven sessions over four months, the first being on Jan. 7 – one day after the attack on the U.S. Capitol.

So as a before-and-after exercise, Jamner invited participants at the final session to create two "word clouds" – software-generated designs created with words selected by the participants. The first cloud included words that describe how they felt at the start of the process. Among them: fear, disbelief, sadness, horror, shock, anger and disgust.

"This was not a happy place or a happy

COMMUNITY

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COMMUNITY DEADLINES

Deadlines for the next two issues of **Community** for copy and ads are: June 16 for publication on June 25 and July 21 for publication on July 30.

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

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

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

Email your comments to: **Community**,

Letters to the editor, Lee Chottiner, at lchottiner@jewishlouisville.org.

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

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FORUM

Rep. Marjorie Taylor Green (R-QAnon) likens being told to wear a mask on the floor of the House to the Holocaust — *News item*



GREENBERG — steve@greenberg-art.com

‘Can’t we grieve together?’ Let’s try



Human
Resources

Lee Chottiner

While sitting in my car the other day, waiting to pick up my daughter from school, I got a call on my phone. I haven’t stopped thinking about it since.

The caller was a Jewish Louisvillian, a fairly prominent member of the community. He was troubled by the violence in Israel, and he wanted to talk.

Understanding that there wasn’t much we could do to influence events there, he nevertheless wanted to do something to lessen the pain and anger that millions of people were feeling.

He talked about some way to stay connected with Muslims in Louisville during the spasm of violence, which paused last week with the cease-fire. After all, blood is the least common denominator in this conflict.

“Can’t we at least grieve together?” He asked.

Those words have stuck with me.

I thought about them while reading an opinion piece in the *London Jewish Chronicle* about Mufti Abu Layth, a U.K. Muslim cleric living in Birmingham – pro-Palestinian, to be sure – who nevertheless proposed publicly a nonviolent solution to the plight of his

co-religionists.

According to the author of the piece, Fiyaz Mughal, the mufti recently made a 30-minute video in which he said that Palestinians, if they believe they have no future in the region, should protect their lives by leaving.

He based his position on a historical Islamic concept called *Hijra* – migration due to external societal issues. Arguably, Jews have done the same thing, fleeing tsarist Russia or Nazi Germany when things got hot. For the record, this column does not endorse his proposal.

The mufti paid for his opinion.

The day after an edited video of his remarks was posted on YouTube, “a mob of some half a dozen men, with their faces covered and one holding a baseball bat, broke the windows of his home and entered while his family were relaxing in the evening,” Mughal wrote. “One can be heard shouting the name of the mufti while others shout abuse at him and threatened him for “daring to give away Al-Aqsa” – the mosque in Jerusalem’s Al-Haram Es-Sharif, known to Jews as the Temple Mount.

All for daring to support a nonviolent approach.

By the way, the author of the piece, Mughal, is the founder and trustee of Muslims Against Antisemitism in the United Kingdom, a “charity made up of British Muslims who believe it is the duty of everyone to challenge antisemitism in all its guises,” according to its website.”

While critical of what he called “Is-

raeli injustice,” the mufti contended it wasn’t worth spilling blood. Now he’s in fear for his life and those of his family.

Can we not grieve with him, as my friend on the phone wished? Could grieving be the common ground we need?

Common ground isn’t a new idea. Jewish-Muslim outreach has been going on for years, including here, where a Louisville chapter of the Muslim-Jewish Advisory Council was established in December 2019. One of its founders, Dr. Muhammad Babar, reached out to Jewish leaders during the fighting, reaffirming relations. He also spoke to Temple Shalom during Shabbat.

More must be done.

Putting aside long-hardened opinions on who’s right or wrong long enough to recognize that everyone is grieving (or should) is a practice that needs buy-in by us all.

This cease-fire or de-escalation (whatever you prefer to call it) is an opportunity. Estranged families – and Jews and Arabs are family – sometimes heal wounds when they come together to bury a loved one.

During this lull in hostilities, we should not miss a single chance to reach out and grieve with the Arabs and Muslims of our city. Maybe we’ll be rebuffed; maybe we won’t. For the sake of the future, though, we should try.

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

FORUM

A pathway to non-belligerency: make life in Gaza better



JCRC Scene

Matt Goldberg

Whenever there is a war between Israel and the Palestinians, there are no winners or losers, only victims. This latest round was no different.

Prior to this last round of fighting, there had been an understanding between Hamas, the terrorist group that controls Gaza, and Israel: Hamas, or another terror organization, fires a rocket at a Jewish community near Gaza, causing no damage, and Israel responds by attacking a Hamas outpost, which usually has already been abandoned.

But during this last round, Hamas fired a rocket at Jerusalem, upsetting this balance.

Why Hamas escalated the violence (evictions in Sheikh Jarrah, provocations at the Al Aksa Mosque, internal Palestinian politics) is irrelevant.

Hamas knew, or should have known, that this was a major escalation, and that Israel would respond in kind.

After two weeks of vicious fighting, nothing has really changed. Israel has (rightly, in my opinion) decided against a full-scale invasion of Gaza that would completely defeat Hamas. Hamas remains in power, although they sustained significant damage. Perhaps, as some analysts say, Hamas has been deterred enough to defer any escalation for a while, but this just means that the countdown to the next inconclusive battle is extended a bit. Make no mistake, that countdown began when the cease-fire took effect.

Meanwhile, Palestinian and Israeli civilians are left to recover.

Hamas is guilty of many awful things. They launch these deadly rockets indiscriminately at innocent civilians. They cynically store their military hardware in civilian areas, including schools, hospitals and mosques. They are obviously commandeering humanitarian aid they receive to repurpose for military purposes.

I find arguments to lift the current blockade of Gaza unconvincing, though the people there are suffering,



The violence in Israel has dimmed prospects for peace talks.

and Israel should permit humanitarian relief to reach them and make real improvements in their everyday lives.

Israel should implement plans that have been talked about for years, like assisting with water management and electricity. They should work with other countries for a supervised port.

They should significantly increase the number of Gazans allowed to work in Israel and allow many more Gazans treatment there for complicated medical situations. And they should certainly be assisting all Palestinians in managing COVID.

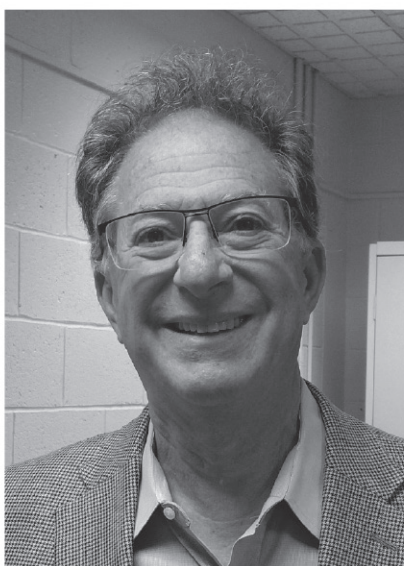
Don't expect Gazans to become Zionists if these ideas are realized, but there might be some pause created the next time Hamas thinks about firing rockets at civilians.

These gestures will not lead to peace; they won't substitute for negotiations. Israel and the Palestinians must address outstanding issues together – settlements, Jerusalem, borders, etc. What transpired these last two weeks in Israel should be a stark reminder that the status quo is unsustainable. However, for many reasons, real negotiations do not look like they will happen soon. But if Israel can work with international partners to make real improvements in the lives of Gazans, perhaps the next Hamas-Israel war will not happen.

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

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FORUM

That #nosejob trend on TikTok poses dangers for young Jewish girls



Guest
Columnist

Joanna Mann

Don't get me wrong, I love my "Jewish nose."

But when more and more #nosejob and #nosejobcheck videos started popping up on my TikTok For You Page, it brought back those old unwanted feelings of hating my appearance I worked so hard to overcome. I wasn't even interacting with the videos, yet for some reason I couldn't get them off my feed.

On TikTok, the #nosejob hashtag has nearly 2.5 billion views, and #nosejob-check has over a billion as well.

The videos are all pretty much the same: the first half consists of people showing their side profile in several pictures (truly a nightmare for those of us with nose insecurities!), a horrifying photo of their post-op bloody and bruised face, and then – finally – the new and improved nose, which is usually tiny, upturned and bump-free.

Watching them makes me think about all of the young teenage girls on the app who are no doubt seeing

the same videos I am. If I had seen these "transformations" at 15, it would have destroyed my already fragile self-esteem. I can't help but wonder how many young teenagers today – including Jewish girls – are taking in these videos in harmful ways.

First, let's just take a minute to talk about the anti-Semitic history of the stereotypical "Jewish nose." There is no proof that Jews tend to have larger noses, or any physical characteristics that group us together, for that matter. There are Jews of every size, shape and color, and the diversity of the Jewish experience is something to be celebrated. But ...

The large, hooked nose stereotype dates back to the 1930s, when it was used in Nazi propaganda to stir disgust and hatred of Jewish communities. I remember learning in Hebrew school about Nazi propagandist Julius Streicher and what he wrote in a children's book during World War II:

"One can most easily tell a Jew by his nose. The Jewish nose is bent at its point. It looks like the number six. We call it the 'Jewish six.' Many Gentiles also have bent noses. But their noses bend upwards, not downwards. Such a nose is a hook nose or an eagle nose. It is not at all like a Jewish nose."

While there is no proof that Jews inherently have big noses, this feature does in fact run in many Jewish families, including mine. Whenever people see a photo of my family, the first thing they do is laugh and point out that my older sister and I most definitely inherited my dad's "Jew nose."

And while we wear this feature as a badge of honor today, for me it hasn't always been that way. As a teenager, I would straighten my frizzy, wavy hair before school, shave my forearms and, God knows, avoid showing my side profile at all costs. I told myself I would get a nose job before college. Maybe then I would finally be pretty enough to escape the teasing comments and wear a ponytail with pride.

But when graduation rolled around, I thought more about it and realized that being Jewish was my favorite part of being me. And that meant I was finally ready to embrace any physical attribute that came along with it.

This didn't happen right away, of course, and I still catch myself overthinking it at times. But at 22, I no longer entertain the possibility of a nose job, and I found that learning to love my nose came with learning to love the other parts of myself I thought I needed to "work" on.

Which brings me back to TikTok. How many girls must be out there

watching these videos and questioning if they should join in on the "trend"? I was shocked and horrified to find out that "teenage rhinoplasty" exists for kids 15 and older if they want it. Had I known this at 15, combined with the influx of viral TikTok videos, I would have found a way to make it happen. And I would have missed out on the self-love and acceptance that came with time as I got older.

I don't think that there's anything wrong with getting plastic surgery. If changing a part of your body will make you more comfortable in your own skin, you should absolutely go for it. But I don't think being bombarded with cute videos of a life-changing procedure as a child is the right way to go about making that kind of decision.

TikTok can be an incredibly fun outlet for Gen Z kids to express themselves, but it can also foster extreme insecurity and self-doubt. I hope teenage Jewish girls will scroll past these videos without a second thought, loving their amazing culture and the beautiful features that come with it.

Joanna Mann (she/her) is a senior at the University of Oregon studying journalism and music.

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FEDERATION

There's courageous work to be done between Israelis, Palestinians



Sara's View

Sara Klein
Wagner

Many of us have seen and experienced the beauty and vibrant spirit of Israel. Like you, I have felt the pride of this young nation and have celebrated her numerous accomplishments. From the hustle and bustle of Tel Aviv, the first city built on a hill, to the calm and charm of the Western Galilee, Louisville shares a partnership with Israel that has built countless relationships.

How can one not be fascinated and enamored with this complicated, noisy, special place – a place with so much diversity, history and raucous democracy? Of all of Israel's many wonders, Jerusalem is always among the most memorable.

Just a few weeks ago, I noticed Yom Yerushalayim (Jerusalem day) approaching on the calendar. This day marks the Israeli reunification of Jerusalem in 1967. We have celebrated even here in Louisville. We even marked the 25th anniversary by welcoming retired General Uzi Narkiss who led the IDF into Jerusalem.

As Yom Yerushalayim 2021 approached, we watched tensions rise in Jerusalem. The city that has brought

comfort and dreams to reality for so many has still not yet unified all. As the world watched, the real-life strains and tensions erupted into thousands of rockets launched at Israeli citizens. The IDF responded, as it must, with precise retaliation targeting Hamas.

Over the past two weeks, we have watched the news and social media share compelling, moving and incomplete stories about the conflict. The layers of complexity are profound and simply cannot be conveyed in memes and tweets or fully in articles like the one I am writing.

Here is what should not be complex: As Jews, we yearn for peace for both Israelis and Palestinians. A two-state solution is the answer for the Palestinian people, and yet the road there feels so far away.

Sadly, these complexities are some of the least covered aspects of this conflict. Hamas is a terrorist organization committed to ridding the world of the Jewish people and the State of Israel. While Hamas does not equal all Palestinian people, how might Israel make peace with a neighbor committed to its destruction?

Will the cycle change this time? Michael Aaronson, a former co-chair of our partnership with the Western Galilee, joined our JCL board meeting by zoom to share what is different this time. Michael shared that, for decades, so much work has taken place in mixed cities like Akko to foster genuine coexistence between Jews and Israeli Arabs. The painful change this

time is the fighting within Israel between Arab Israelis and Israeli Jews, a new battlefield for which no one was prepared.

In the old city of Akko, most Jewish-owned businesses were burned and destroyed. Thankfully, there were also heartening examples of Arab leaders in the partnership region calling for rioters to stop, and examples of Jewish and Arab women standing together for peace within their community.

As American Jews, we each have unique and individual experiences that form our personal relationship with Israel and Jewish life. Israel has filled our cups with wonder and awe. It is during difficult times that we are reminded just how fragile and complicated it sometimes feels. Israeli lives were saved each time the Iron Dome intercepted a rocket from Gaza and this safeguard cannot be taken for granted.

Far away from Jerusalem and Gaza, in the United States and around the globe, anti-Semitism is on the rise. The conflict in Israel has led to anti-Semitic hate attacks in everyday life. As a Jew-

ish community, we need to be able to share with our friends and neighbors what it feels like in this moment. We need to listen to opinions that we may not share and be comfortable sharing our individual voices while always rejecting hate in any form.

There is clearly courageous work to be done between Israelis and Palestinians, and tough conversations for us to have here in the U.S. Even with all of the opinions, complex feelings and serious questions, we must also proudly continue to express our wonder, awe and love for Israel and all of her people.

Listening and sharing with each other is essential. While emotional and very personal for many of us, including me. I welcome you to contact me to reach out with your thoughts, comments and questions. I can be reached at swagner@jewishlouisville.org or 502-238-2779.

(Sara Klein Wagner is the president and CEO of the Jewish Community of Louisville.)

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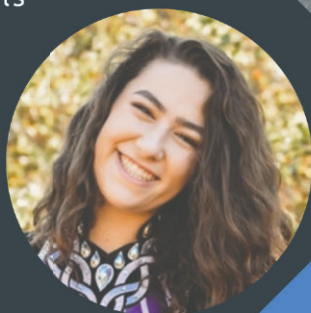
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PICTURE THIS: ARCHIVE SHOTS



This is the fifth in a series of photo galleries made possible by the Louisville Jewish Archives Committee. The panel is seeking help from Community readers to identify photos from its collection, which depicts 100 years of Jewish life in Louisville. Many of the photos will be retained by the JCC, but some will be given to The Filson Historical Society. Email pictureID@jewishlouisville.org with any IDs you can make. To see these photos online visit jewishlouisville.org/community-online

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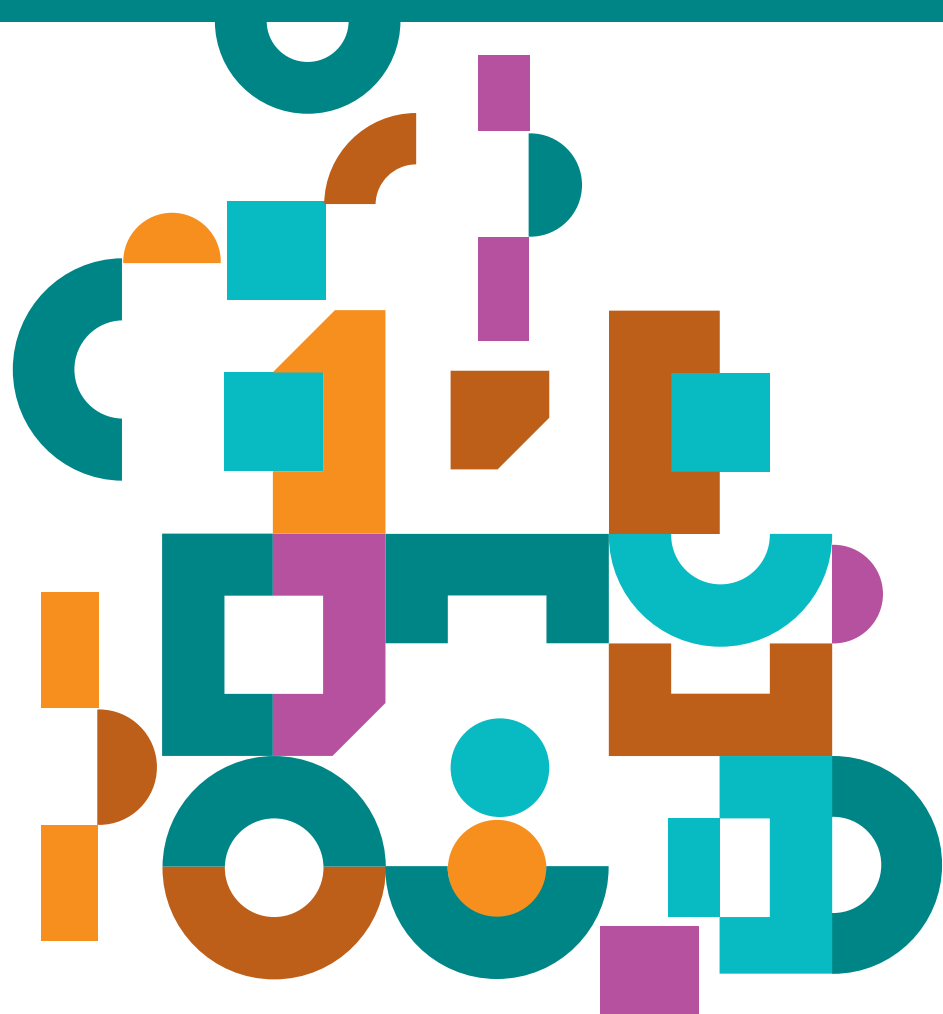
Members of CenterStage Academy wrapped up this year's season with performances of the musical-comedy "Seussical," based on the children's stories of Dr. Seuss. Wearing colorful facemasks despite the relaxing CDC standards, the young cast members portraying the author's more famous characters, but centers on Horton the Elephant from "Horton Hears a Who!" and "Horton Hatches the Egg!" (Community photos by Robbyn McClain)



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ARTS

'RECIPES FOR DISASTERS'

Louisville artist's 'cookbook' project takes satirical swipe at anti-Semitism

By Lee Chottiner
Community Editor

Ally Doctrow has been making art with Jewish themes for two years, but nothing as intense as this.

For her senior project, the 21-year-old recent graduate from the Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design (MIAD) created a digital "cookbook" for anti-Semitism, illustrated by unsettling prints, most of which were digitally designed, sometimes funny, always dark and consistently provocative.

The result: a web product called "Recipes For Disasters," hosted at allydoctrow.com, which includes five recipes: "How To Create False Confidence"; "How To Lower Someone's Self Esteem"; "How To Make People Blindly Follow You"; "How To Hide Your Judaism"; and "How To Fuel A Genocide."

Each recipe comes complete with its own step-by-step instructions and ghoulishly funny – and faux – reviews replete with five-star ratings.

Though the project was done with anti-Semitism in mind, Doctrow said it could just as easily apply to Blacks, Hispanics, Asians, Pacific Islanders, LGBTQ and any other group that feels threatened.

This isn't just art. Doctrow, a Louisville native who completed the four-month project at home when her school went remote for the pandemic, did extensive research on anti-Semitism, annotating her sources on the conclusion page of the project.

"I think Ally's project is kind of unique in that it is so deeply researched," said Judith Harway, professor of writing and humanities at MIAD, who served on Doctrow's thesis panel. "It has such a boldness ... and she's not afraid of causing discomfort in the service of making a serious point."

Compared to other projects, Harway added, "the combination of text and image was unique, because she gave equal focus to the text."

In one her findings, Doctrow reports that 82 percent of American Jews said anti-Semitism had increased over the past five years, compared to 43 percent of the general public, according to the AJC.

"There's such a discrepancy between people who are Jewish who feel they have been victims of anti-Semitism," Doctrow said, "and the general public who doesn't see the anti-Semitism because they are not experiencing it."

A daughter of Matt and Amy Doctrow, Ally, who grew up at Temple Shalom, had a Jewishly active youth – religious school, a bat mitzvah with her twin sister, Bailey. Normal stuff.

Yet, though she had previously done Jewish-themed artwork, she had never experienced anti-Semitism beyond what she saw on TV or read about in books.

The Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol changed all that.

"The insurrection really skyrocketed my wanting to do this project," she said. "Before, I was making work about medical experiments in the Holocaust and I was doing research about historical anti-Semitism,



Above left, Ally Doctrow of Louisville, a recent graduate from the Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design, pictured here while demonstrating how she made some of the prints for her senior project, "Recipes for Disasters," hopes the work will generate serious discussion about anti-Semitism. Above right, the title print from the project. (Community photos by Robbyn McClain)

but it wasn't as connected to me."

Doctrow described her project as "a collection of comics that are also working as poems," the purpose being to "confront people with their own biases."

The recipes make for disturbing reading.

For instance, the ingredients for making people blindly follow you include: a lukewarm glass of Charisma, an ice-cold glass of manipulation, a good eye, a few million blindfolds and a dash of fear. Approximate cooking time is four years.

She then goes through a step-by-step cooking process of easily targeting manipulatable people, spreading fear of minorities among followers, adding the manipulation by "comforting your panicked followers about the fear you mongered," then lying to the followers to see if they believe what they are told.

Most of the recipes could apply to any

minority. Only one is overtly Jewish: How to Hide Your Judaism. Its steps include erasing from your planner anything that includes Jewish affiliations, tucking necklaces with Jewish symbols under your shirt, and deleting from your phone any obvious keywords or messages alluding to your religion.

"Pour a large portion of Acceptance into your life," the recipe concludes. "That will help you come to terms with hiding your Judaism on a regular basis."

The idea for the project came when Harway, a poet and professor of English, gave her class a "prompt" to write a recipe that was not about food.

"I really loved the idea of an instructional poem," Doctrow said.

Visually, the project's prints are brutally truthful. Some depict Skinheads and Alt Right supporters brandishing swastikas



... Ally's project is kind of unique in that it is so deeply researched. It has such a boldness ... and she's not afraid of causing discomfort in the service of making a serious point.

Judith Harway, professor of writing and humanities, Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design

and confederate flags. Another shows a crowd of Donald Trump supporters holding posters saying, "Stop the Steal." Another shows a bowl of narcissism being poured into a body that resembles Trump.

"I have a really weird sense of humor," Doctrow said. "All my work and my art and my poems, they're very, like, dark, so I guess naturally it just kind of happened where I started adding this satirical tone to it."

Kim Miller, chair of new studio practice and fine art at MIAD, sees Doctrow's humor as a vehicle for bringing the worst of anti-Semitism – the Holocaust – into sharp view.

"Ally positions the humorous and the everyday against unimaginable destruction," Miller said. "She plots the steps towards *HaShoah* in the mundane language of a recipe someone could follow. This brings the horror to the forefront, as well as reminding an audience that the potential for it to happen again is always present."

Reaction to the project has been limited, though Doctrow did exhibit a poster at her school's exhibition, advertising how to access it, and decorated it with graphic images of a skinhead, a swastika and the confederate flag.

"They almost didn't let me put it in the show because of possible backlash in using symbols [that] might be misinterpreted as hate," she said, "but it's obviously not meant to be pro-Nazi or anything. The satirical nature of it is just making fun of those types of people."

She does not intend to offend people with her art, she added.

"I want to start a conversation; that's the goal of the project," Doctrow said. "I hope people know that my intention is not negative, and it's not to offend anybody. It's just meant to highlight the truth."

NATION

Anti-Semitic acts in U.S. soared 80 percent in a month

By Ron Kampeas
JTA

The organization that advises U.S. Jewish communities on security matters said it recorded an 80-percent spike in anti-Semitic acts in the last month amid Israel's 11-day war with Hamas.

One of the causes, according to the Secure Community Network, was disinformation spread on social media during and since the exchange of rocket fire.

"There may be foreign actors spreading information and disinformation, often tied to anti-Semitic tropes," Michael Masters, its CEO, said Tuesday in an interview. "We're seeing a clear rise in the calls for violence against the Jewish community and an uptick of attacks of violence."

Masters ticked off some of the anti-semitic incidents: "Acts of vandalism from Oregon to Virginia, synagogue desecrations from Illinois to Arizona, reports of people having bottles thrown at them, children's playgrounds being



The Secure Community Network says the recent 11-day conflict in Israel has stoked new anti-Semitic activity, including vandalism and attacks on social media. Some online attacks equate Israel with a virus and use the hashtag #COVID1948. Sources say those attacks appear to originate in Iran.

daubed with swastikas in New York and Tennessee."

He said there has been a commensurate intensification of anti-Semitism on social media during the hostilities between Israel and Hamas that ended with a cease-fire early Friday. A feature of the attacks was to link Jews and Is-

rael to the coronavirus pandemic, in some cases by blaming Jews for the virus, in others by likening Israel to the virus.

A hashtag, #COVID1948, using Israel's founding to identify Israel as a deadly virus, seems to have had its origins in Iran, Masters said. Many of its

initial uses were in Farsi, he said.

The Network Contagion Research Institute, which tracks disinformation on social media, traced a sudden massive spike in #COVID1948 usage on May 12, the third day of the war. It also tracked spikes in uses of phrases like "Hitler was right," "Zionazi" and "Kill all Jews."

Masters said other foreign actors, including states, also may have spurred incitement.

"We've seen misinformation and disinformation from a number of actors overseas over the last years and it will not be surprising if some of those actors are related to the current conflict," Masters said.

Other than Iran, Masters did not want to name any specific country, but U.S. intelligence agencies have said that the Russian government and nongovernment actors in Russia have peddled conspiracy theories in recent years as a means of destabilizing the United States.

Jewish Press editor who joined Capitol attack to be replaced

By Shira Hanau
JTA

Elliot Resnick, the editor of a politically conservative Jewish newspaper who was identified among the crowd that breached the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, is out of the job.

Shlomo Greenwald, a grandson of the founders of The Jewish Press who has worked at the weekly paper since 2004, announced in a Facebook post that he would be assuming the role of senior editor at the paper, replacing Resnick.

Greenwald did not respond immediately to questions about the future political direction The Jewish Press would take under his leadership. But he takes over at a time when the politi-

cal identity of the newspaper – and its editor – has been the subject of widespread attention.

Resnick was identified in YouTube videos of the Capitol breach by a researcher and first reported on by Politico in April.

One video shows Resnick stumbling as he enters the Capitol building through a doorway while a Capitol police officer tries to keep out the intruders. His face is clearly visible when he reappears a few minutes later, standing nearby as another person shouts at a Capitol police officer.

At the time Naomi Mauer, the publisher of The Jewish Press, appeared to stand behind Resnick.

Mauer did not respond immediately

to a JTA request for comment.

Resnick has long had a history of using incendiary language and has called the gay rights movement "evil." Under his editorship, The Jewish Press was criticized by the Anti-Defamation League in 2019 after publishing an op-ed titled "The Pride Parade: What Are They Proud Of" comparing gay marchers in the New York event to animals, adulterers and thieves.

Resnick was not the only editor in Jewish Press history to espouse racist views. The paper was edited in the 1960s by Rabbi Meir Kahane, a Jewish nationalist who advocated violence against Arabs and was banned from the Knesset, Israel's parliament.

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NEWS & NEWSMAKERS

Chabad rededicates sanctuary 'after Corona'

Chabad of Kentucky will rededicate its synagogue "after Corona" at 3 p.m., Sunday, June 20, at the Chabad House, 1654 Almara Circle.

According to Chabad, Jewish law calls for a blessing, or show of thanks to G-d after coming through a dangerous time, such as the 15-month-old pandemic.

"In keeping with this sacred task, four families have chosen to use this occasion to honor loved ones and name various parts of the Chabad House in their memory," said Rabbi Avrohom Litvin of Chabad of Kentucky.

The sanctuary will be named the Aaron and Thelma Chase Sanctuary; the ark curtain and matching synagogue furnishings will be donated in loving memory of Shlomo Leib Litvin by his wife and family; and a new Torah and crown will be given in memory of Dr. Richard DuBou by his family.

Finally, a new eternal light, in the shape of a flame, will be given in honor of Rabbi Avrohom Litvin by Metalite Corporation, Marvin Friedman, president, who passed away on Oct. 13, 2016.

The eternal light was made by local artist Brook Forrest White, Jr. of Flame Run.

The rededication is open to the community. Refreshments will be served outdoors at the conclusion.

Goldberg wins 2020-21 ARC Liturgy Award

Lisa Rothstein Goldberg of Louisville, a rabbinical student at the Academy for Jewish Religion (AJR), has won a 2020-21 Association of Rabbis and Cantors Liturgy Award.

Goldberg won for her written work on the transition ritual for those whose Jewish identity was lost, but are still considered Jewish without a traditional conversion.

"I was honored to win this award," Goldberg said.

The Liturgy Awards recognize creative and original writing in liturgy. Two prizes are given out: the Rabbi Hershel J. Matt Creative Liturgy Award for programming and the Rabbi Chana Timoner Creative Liturgy Award. Goldberg won the Timoner award.

Each winner receives \$250. An applicant can only receive one award per year.

Goldberg is a second-year rabbinical student. She expects to be ordained in 2025.



Lisa Rothstein Goldberg

New shlichim bound for Louisville

This year's Israeli shlichim to Camp J have been announced. They are Nikol Kozlov and Romi Dan.

Shlichim are teachers and cultural emissaries at Jewish summer camps, bringing the Israel experience to the campers.

Originally from Holon, Kozlov, 20, was a *mashakithod* (teaching and command NCO) during her recent military service, commanding a course that prepared lone soldiers and combat soldiers for life as "citizens." She also taught Hebrew to Druze in a premilitary college.

She speaks Hebrew, Russian and English, loves animals and majored in music.

"I hope that I'll be able to bring the Israel culture with me and have an amazing summer at the Louisville JCC," Kozlov said.



Nikol Kozlov



Romi Dan

Dan, 20, who is from Kfar Yona, led soldiers as a search and rescue guide during her military service.

She has played piano since age 6, sings in a professional choir, studied at an arts high school near Tel Aviv and likes working with children.

Kozlov and Dan will be in Louisville from May 27 through Aug. 7, living with families during their stay here. Families interested in housing the shlichim should contact Alison Roemer at 502-238-2730.

Mazel tov to ...

Amy Niren, a sophomore at the University of Cincinnati, for winning the David Green Memorial Prize, which is given annually to an outstanding Judaic Studies major or minor. Niren, who is majoring in film and media with a minor in Judaic studies, has made the Dean's List every semester of college. She is also active in Hillel, where she is currently serving as the First Year Student at Hillel (FYSH) Intern, creating programming for freshmen.

Miranda Polzer Crowdus, for being appointed assistant professor of Jewish Studies at Concordia University in Montreal, Canada, and endowed chair in Jewish studies and director of the Canadian Centre for Jewish Studies starting in 2022. Crowdus is moving to Montreal from Hannover, Germany, this summer. She is the daughter of University of Louisville Humanities Professor Natlie Polzer.

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AROUND TOWN

Adath Jeshurun

Here are the presenters for the *Sunday Night Live* series in June: May 30, music and conversation with Teddy Abrams and Amit Peled; June 6, journalist Bari Weiss (pre-registration is required); June 13, journalist Bret Stephens; June 20, actress Michelle Azar; June 27, a comedy trifecta with Eddie Bornstein, Mark Klein and Raanan Hersherberg. Links can be found in AJ's weekly emailed newsletter. Subscribe on the homepage at adathjeshurun.com.

Adath Jeshurun holds virtual Shabbat worship services via Facebook Live, YouTube and Zoom. Additionally, AJ offers twice-daily minyan services via Zoom only. Links to join all services may be found in AJ's weekly emailed newsletter. Subscribe on the homepage at adathjeshurun.com.

Anshei Sfard

With the new CDC guidelines, Anshei Sfard has updated its COVID policy, which will be implemented Shabbat Sachrit at 9 a.m.:

- Anyone who is fully vaccinated need not wear a mask.
- Anyone who has not received their vaccinations must still wear a mask.
- Social distancing will continue during prayers and classes.
- A mask will be available for anyone who chooses to wear one.

Rabbi Simcha Snaid's weekly classes are held in person and via Zoom: Talmud Trek Tractate II, Sundays at 9:30 a.m.; Spice of Life, Wednesdays at 7 p.m.; Make a Prophet, Thursdays at noon. Contact Snaid at 912-704-2769 for details.

Chabad of Kentucky

Daily services will resume after the June 20 rededication of the synagogue. A service, approximately 20-30 minutes long, will be held each day at 5:30 p.m. On Shabbat, Kabbalat Shabbat services will be held Fridays at sunset; morning services, Saturdays at 10 a.m. Kiddush will resume approximately 30 days later, subject to continued success in the battle against COVID-19. In addition to zoom, in-person classes also will resume at that time.

Chavurat Shalom

June 3 – Hosparus Hospital Specialist Jason Parroco will share insights and perform on his ukulele and guitar.

June 10 – Vocalist Beth Olliges will lead an early summer sing-along.

June 17 – Singer, guitarist and songwriter Tyrone Cotton will perform.

June 24 – Rabbi Joe Rooks Rapport will present part 3 of his series, *American Presidents and American Jews*.

All programs are held Thursdays at 1 p.m. on **ChavuratShalomZoom** unless otherwise noted. Contact Sarah Harlan at 502-212-2038 or sarahharlan86@gmail.com with questions.

Keneseth Israel

"Learn to read Hebrew with Cantor Hordes" is held Sundays at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom.

Coffee Shmooze is held Mondays at 11 a.m. on Zoom. There is no agenda or topic; bring your own coffee.

Jews and Brews, a Torah study class with Cantor Sharon Hordes, is held Wednesdays at 11 a.m. on zoom and in person. RSVP required for in-person – rsvp@kenesethisrael.com.

Kabbalah Month by Month, a class on kabbalistic teachings and meditations with Cantor Hordes, is the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom and in person. RSVP required for in person – rsvp@kenesethisrael.com.

The Baking Club meets Thursdays at 11 a.m. on Zoom. Check [facebook.com/kilouisville](https://www.facebook.com/kilouisville) for dates and recipes.

Temple Shalom

Friday night services with Rabbi Beth Jacowitz Chottiner and a song leader begin at 6:30 p.m. Havdalah is held Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. Email information@templeshalomky.org for the Zoom links.

Chailands Chavurah will address the Jewish take on capital punishment at

its next program, at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, June 26. The Chailands can be reached at chailands@templeshalomky.org.

Temple Shalom will celebrate June-teenth by taking part in state Rep. Attica Scott's Voter Registration Drive from 5 to 7 p.m., Saturday, June 19. Visit bit.ly/34fAH4q, to register.

Rabbi Beth Jacowitz Chottiner leads Torah study Tuesdays at 1 p.m. Email information@templeshalomky.org for details.

Rabbi Beth Jacowitz Chottiner leads an Intro to Judaism class for those interested in conversion Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. Email information@templeshalomky.org for details.

The Temple

The Temple WRJ/Sisterhood's closing program is at 7 p.m., Wednesday, June 2. Rabbi Joe Rooks Rapport will speak on the topic, "Unsung Jewish Women Who Persevered Against All Odds, Part II." For the link, contact Sarah Harlan at sarahharlan86@gmail.com.

The Temple has an opening for a front desk coordinator. We are looking for someone who is organized, detailed and amicable. The position would include, but is not limited to, clerical duties, community outreach, correspondence and event support. To apply, contact Avery Curtis at avery@thetemplelouky.org or 502-423-1818. Visit thetemplelouky.org/careers for details.

The Women of Reform Judaism/Sisterhood Gift Shop is open by appointment. CDC guidelines are observed. Visit its Facebook page at [facebook.com/wrjgiftshop](https://www.facebook.com/wrjgiftshop). Also, an online shop is coming. For appointments, call Sheila Lynch, 502-896-9736, Marlene Ornstein, 502-329-2276, or Karen Waldman, 502-425-436.

Adult education courses continue Mondays at 6 p.m. with Advanced Hebrew, and Wednesdays at 10:45 a.m. with Temple Scholars' *The Roots of Justice*, both with Rabbi Joe Rooks Rapport. All classes are on Zoom. Call

502-423-1818 for details.

Torah study is held Saturdays at 9 a.m. on Zoom.

The Temple invites 40 fully vaccinated congregants to attend indoor Shabbat services on Friday nights and Saturday mornings. RSVPs are required. Visit thetemplelouky.org for details.

The Temple WRJ/Sisterhood's closing program will be held at 7 p.m., Wednesday, June 2. Rabbi Joe Rooks Rapport will speak on the topic, "Unsung Jewish Women Who Persevered Against All Odds, Part II." For the link and more details, email Sarah Harlan at sarahharlan86@gmail.com.

Sandwich Making for the Homeless will start at 12:30 p.m., Sunday, June 6. Due to COVID, seating is limited to 10 tables, each 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.

The Adult Education Committee will continue its monthly Zoom series, *The Conversation*, at 2 p.m., Sunday, June 6 on Zoom. The series examines race, justice, and community, focusing on ways to practice repair of our world. For details on this month's program, visit thetemplelouky.org/the-conversation.

The Temple will mark Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and Questioning (LGBTQ) Pride month with the Seventh Annual Pride Shabbat on Saturday, June 12. Torah study will begin at 9 a.m.; service, 10:30 a.m.

An outdoor Father's Day Shabbat will be held at 7 p.m., Friday, June 18 and live-streamed at thetemplelouky.org/streaming.

Goodnight Tots, Goodnight Shabbat, a Havdalah service with arts, crafts, and treats, will be held at 6:30 p.m., Saturday, June 19. RSVPs are required to reserve treat bags. For details, visit thetemplelouky.org/goodnight-shabbat.



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LIFECYCLE

Births

Talia Blake Benson

Leiah and Cooper Benson announce the birth of their daughter, Talia Blake Benson, on March 2, 2021. The proud grandparents are Maxine and David Rouben and Julie and David Benson.

Weddings

Margie and Michael Kommor announce the marriage of their daughter Michelle Kommor to Anze Tavcar on May 8 and on the marriage of their son Max Kommor to Macy Begley on May 22.

Obituaries

Bernice Weiss Rosenberg Leech



Bernice Weiss Rosenberg Leech passed away Wednesday, April 28, 2021. She was 86.

Born April 13, 1935, in Chicago, to Julius and Eva Weiss, immigrants from Russia and Latvia, Bernice and her brothers, Barney and Ralph, grew up in the Skokie area. She attended

and excelled at the University of Illinois.

She married David Rosenberg and quickly started a family with three sons in Lincolnwood, Illinois. They lived near her brother-in-law, Bernie, and his wife Elaine, and her in-laws, Louis and Augusta Rosenberg.

The family moved to Columbus, Ohio, in 1964, then to Louisville in 1971, where Dave ran the Value City department store in Clarksville until he died in 1983.

While in Louisville, Bernice created a warm, welcoming home. She made many friends, participated in mahjong games, theater, arts and became an active and familiar person here. Her hearty laugh and presence were well known and loved.

With friends Fran and Sheila, Bernice started Paperworks, a stationery store. She met and married Leonard "Duke" Leech and moved to Scottsdale, where she made many wonderful friends and enjoyed the mountains and sunshine.

Following Leonard's death, Bernice returned to Louisville to be closer to family. She quickly resumed her friendships, card games and social occasions. According to her dear friend Madilyn, she kept everyone "in the know" on community news.

She was loved by many and lived a life of honesty, integrity, and friendship.

Never one to sit still except to read a good book or watch a good show, Bernice loved her activities. She remained a lady of style, grace and culture until her final days.

She was preceded in death by her first husband, David Rosenberg; her second husband, Leonard Leech; and her brothers, Barney and Ralph Weiss.

Bernice is survived by her three sons, Alan M. (Beatrice) of Louisville, Robert C. (Jodi) of Northbrook, Illinois, and Martin S. (Rose) of Indianapolis; her grandchildren, Emily (Taylor) Whatley, Chelsea, Dylan, Jordan (Jamie), Jason (Lauren), and Brent (Ali) Rosenberg, and Lindsey (Michael) Case; her great-grandchildren, Greyson, Addison, Gianna, Jaxon, Lucy, Luke and Will. "Babe" is also missed by her sisters-in-law, Elaine and Cecile and many nieces and nephews.

A graveside service was held on Sunday, May 2.

In memory of Bernice, her family requests donations to Gilda's Club of Kentuckiana, 2440 Grinstead Drive, Louisville, KY 40204 or <https://bit.ly/3xOkSPN>.

Norman Bennett Lubeach

Norman B. Lubeach passed away peacefully on March 16, 2021, at home in Sun Lakes, Arizona. He was 80.

Born in Lima, Ohio, on May 2, 1940,

the second of four sons of the late Joseph A. and Edythe Bloom Lubeach, Norman graduated from Lima Senior High School and the University of Louisville.

Early in his career, he was in store management with Schiff and Gallencamp Shoes. He then worked for 50 years in human resources administration and was published in HR trade magazines. Besides Louisville, he worked in Miami and Tampa, Florida; Greensboro and Gastonia, North Carolina; Huntsville, Alabama; Rockford, Illinois; Cheshire, Connecticut; and Peach Tree, Georgia, before retiring to Sun Lakes.

Soft-spoken and easy going, Norm made many friends in many places. As a grandfather, Norm adored his granddaughters.

In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by several first cousins.

Norm is survived by his wife of 59 years, Martha Strull Lubeach; two daughters, Beke Rene Lubeach and Charyl Lubeach Leister (Roger); two granddaughters, Destinee "DJ" and Desiree "Desi" Leister; and three brothers, Morton (Barbara), Ronald (Patricia) and Michael (Roseann).

Arrangements were by the Valley of the Sun Mortuary and Cemetery, Chandler, Arizona.

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We are proud to announce that legacy donors to the Jewish Federation of Louisville will match EVERY new and increased gift made to the 2021 Annual Campaign after May 1!

The Jewish Federation supports the programs and agencies that make our community vibrant and heartfelt. Your donations help combat the growing anti-Semitism here at home and provide humanitarian support to our friends in Israel, and around the world. As needs grow, our annual campaign must keep pace to maintain the vibrancy and vitality we expect, and appreciate, from our community partners.



"The Jewish Federation of Louisville has impacted me and my family in so many wonderful ways. I hope that this opportunity to enhance our impact will inspire people to show their support of the Jewish community."

David Kaplan, Chair, 2021 Jewish Federation of Louisville Annual Campaign

Please donate now so that your gift will be matched and you can assist with the growing needs at home, as well as provide needed support to Jews around the world.

Please contact Kristy Benefield, kbenefield@jewishlouisville.org or go to jewishlouisville.org/donate to take advantage of this campaign match.



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NATION

Top Republicans slam Marjorie Taylor Greene for comparing coronavirus measures to Holocaust

By Ron Kampeas
JTA

WASHINGTON – Republican leaders are chastising Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene for the Georgia GOP lawmaker's latest bid to liken measures to combat the coronavirus to the Holocaust.

On Tuesday, Greene compared a supermarket's decision to add a logo to the badges of vaccinated workers to the yellow stars that Jews were forced to wear in Nazi-occupied Europe.

"Vaccinated employees get a vaccination logo just like the Nazi's [sic] forced Jewish people to wear a gold star," she said on Twitter, attaching a news story.

Jeff Miller, a major Republican donor who is close to the U.S. House of Representatives minority leader, Kevin McCarthy of California, offered to give Greene a tour of the U.S. Holocaust

Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C., where he is a member of the commission.

"WTF is wrong with you?" Miller, who is also a board member of the Republican Jewish Coalition, asked in a tweet. "I think you need to pay a visit to the US Holocaust Museum. I'd be happy to arrange. Then maybe going forward you wouldn't make anymore disgusting, ignorant and offensive tweets. If I'm wrong and you're not ignorant about Holocaust ... then you are disgusting."

McCarthy weighed in a bit later, referring to Greene's comparisons over the weekend likening mask-wearing mandates to the Holocaust.

"Marjorie is wrong, and her intentional decision to compare the horrors of the Holocaust with wearing masks is appalling," he said. "Let me be clear: the House Republican



Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene

Conference condemns this language."

McCarthy attached a statement that also called on Democrats to forcefully condemn anti-Israel members in their ranks.

Also weighing in was Matt Brooks,

the Republican Jewish Coalition's director, whose group joined a rare primary challenge to Greene last summer.

"Please educate yourself so that you can realize how absolutely wrong and inappropriate it is to compare proof of vaccination with the 6 million Jews who were exterminated by the Nazis," Brooks said on Twitter. "You're an embarrassment to yourself and the GOP."

A number of Republicans were among those who criticized Greene's equating mask mandates to the Holocaust, but these were mostly figures who are vocal in opposition to former President Donald Trump, who effectively leads the party and to whom Greene is close.

White House meets with Jewish leaders after letter from groups urging action

By Ron Kampeas
JTA

WASHINGTON – The letter went out at midday Friday, from five major Jewish organizations, asking President Joe Biden to "use your bully pulpit to call out antisemitism" in the wake of a spike in attacks on Jews since the launch of the latest Israel-Hamas conflict.

By 8 a.m. Monday, Biden was at his Twitter bully pulpit, saying "the recent attacks on the Jewish community are despicable, and they must stop."

At 4 p.m. the same day, representatives of all five organizations were on a video conference call with top staffers at the White House and the Department of Homeland Security.

The participants were knocked back by the immediacy of the response.

"You know, the next business day after the letter was sent, they brought

a good group of key officials together who are really substantive," said Elana Broitman, the director of the Jewish Federations of North America's Washington office, who attended the meeting.

The White House would not comment and the three Jewish officials who returned the Jewish Telegraphic Agency's calls did not feel comfortable describing what the White House officials said, or naming on the record who was present. The White House did not return a request for comment.

The groups that sent the letter and which were represented at the meeting in addition to the JFNA are the Orthodox Union, the American Jewish Committee, the Anti-Defamation League and Hadassah.

The participants said that each of the five requests they made was addressed during the meeting. These included

nominating an anti-Semitism monitor at the State Department, naming a Jewish liaison, convening a summit on anti-Semitism, adding funds to secure nonprofits and keeping in place an executive order by President Donald Trump that combats anti-Semitism on campuses.

The last request, having to do with Trump's executive order, could stir controversy. Some liberal groups, including a number of Jewish ones, have expressed concern that it targets legitimate Israel criticism, and Biden has shown a tendency to purge Trump's more controversial executive orders.

"We went through the specifics that we did raise in our letter, and they were certainly open to all of those things and indicated that they were all good suggestions and they're working on the things that we raised," said Nathan Diamant, the Washington direc-

tor for the Orthodox Union.

"We should not take for granted the importance of the president recognizing that America has a problem with anti-Semitic violence and President Biden recognizes that action is required to protect Jewish communities and rollback the rise in hate against religious and ethnic minorities, over the short and long term," said Karen Paikin Barall, the Washington director for Hadassah.

The groups are convening a virtual rally on Thursday to combat anti-Semitism, which they say will include top lawmakers from both parties in Congress and from the Biden administration.

Broitman said the meeting was likely the first of many.

"I was left with the impression that more meetings and more steps are to come," she said.



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NEWS

ISRAEL

Continued from page 1

ence that defies description.

"It sounded like it was hitting the ground," she said, "but then my neighbor had to explain to me that this is the sound of the Iron Dome intercepting them, but we have to be inside in case debris falls."

Though her neighborhood wasn't damaged, a rocket did get through one mile away at Ramat Gan, and she has learned that she has 90 seconds to reach the shelter under her building whenever the siren sounds.

"For most of these rockets, I have been fortunate enough to be at home," Culbertson said. "I have a dog, so my priority now is to make sure he's never in the house alone."

She's not the only Louisvillian who

now knows what it's like to take cover.

Orli Feder, 18, a soon-to-be graduate of Mosenson Elite Academy in Hod Ha-Sharon, central Israel, described how she and her classmates were rousted from their dorms after midnight as rockets from Gaza flew overhead.

"At one or two in the morning, we heard sirens," she said. "We went outside and we saw rockets in the air and we heard explosions."

One of the rockets struck an apartment building in nearby Petach Tikvah, she said.

Orli and her twin brother, Ari, daughter and son of Rabbi David and Karen Feder, both plan to come home for one month following graduation. After that, they will return to Israel to start their military service.

Ari is graduating from WIZO Nahalal Youth Village in the upper Galilee, which was out of range of the rockets, but he

saw signs of rioting in nearby Arab villages.

"You could see smoke from the protests," he said. "In the surrounding area, there are a lot Arab villages nearby that [were] lighting fires and throwing rocks."

Josh, a son of Drs. Leslie Rice Ellis Jr. and Julie Temes Ellis, a JCL Board of Directors member, said he began his gap year in Israel this past April, staying at a dorm at Ben Gurion University, but they were moved to Hod HaSharon after the rocket attacks began, then again further north.

"I have seen many rockets being intercepted by the Iron Dome and an Israeli right-wing nationalist protest outside BGU, aggravating the Arab student body," Josh said. "Luckily, I haven't seen any head-on-head violence."

He said the student reactions to the violence appear mixed.

"There's empathy for the Arabs from

the international students, but the Israelis have been more or less hostile due to the conservative/nationalist nature of Be'er Sheva."

The daughter of Mark and Leann, Culbertson said the violence has marred life in Israel for both Jews and Arabs, neither side feeling as safe as they may have before its start.

"I used to spend my weekends on Yafo Beach," she said. "I can't go there right now, and that's hard for me.... I don't feel safe there anymore. I'm sure many Arabs don't feel safe in super Jewish areas. It's so upsetting."

Which is why she feels empathy for both sides.

"I feel for these people who are hurting, but I'm also feeling for my country that's been under attack now for 11 days."

"I want peace for everyone," she added. "I don't want any more people to die."

NCJW

Continued from page 1

turn progressive Jewish ideals into action.

Founded by Rebecca Rosenthal Judah in 1895, the Louisville Section supports community service and advocacy efforts for women, children and families, regardless of religious affiliation.

Among those areas of impact are children's issues, juvenile court and juvenile delinquency, domestic violence, substance abuse, women's rights, reproductive rights, seniors, civil rights and racial equity, legislative issues, voting rights, cancer support and Jewish awareness.

Historically, the Louisville Section maintained a summer kindergarten in the city and Louisville's first free public baths.

Perhaps the Louisville Section's best-

known achievement came in 2019 with the launch of the Jefferson County Family Recovery Court, which supervises substance abuse treatment and family support programs for parents seeking to reunite with their children or maintain custody.

Director Nancy Chazen called the court the Louisville Section's "proudest achievement."

Diane Graeter, NCJW Family Recovery Court co-chair, said she found it "amazing" that two court watch projects have been undertaken by Louisville Section volunteers, forming the beginnings "of significant judicial reform for women, children and families in our community."

Its first Court Watch Project in 1995, which focused on domestic violence cases, led to 10 years of volunteer monitoring, assessment and advocacy, becoming a nationally recognized model for social justice advocacy.

Want to come?

To attend the Celebrating Our Past Luncheon on June 15, contact the NCJW's office at 502-458-5566, office@ncjwlou.org, register online at ncjwlou.org, or mail a check payable to NCJW, Louisville Section, 1250 Bardstown Road, Suite 26, Louisville, KY 40204. The Big Four Bridge event will begin at 7 p.m. at 1001 River Road, Louisville.

Based on this success, Family Court Chief Judge Patricia Walker FitzGerald asked NCJW in 2013 to undertake a second court watch project to monitor the Family Court's dependency, neglect and abuse dockets.

After monitoring these courts for three months, the Louisville Section recommended the creation of a family drug court to handle the large number of cases involving drug and substance

abuse. When budget cuts eliminated government funding for family drug courts, the Louisville Section secured funding from private donors to the Community Foundation of Louisville to underwrite court costs for three years.

"In our organization's 125-year history here in Louisville, the Family Recovery Court program is another wonderful example of the dedication our members have to make a meaningful difference in Kentucky," said Louisville Section President Bridge.

To fund NCJW's advocacy programs and projects, the Louisville Section opened the Nearly New Shop in 1956. Since then, the resale store has become its main source of fundraising, with supporters donating clothing, accessories, home furnishings and furniture to the shop to be sold.

AFFINITY

Continued from page 1

might be impacting, not just our students of color ... but how is that affecting our Jewish students?"

A trend across the country, affinity groups are exclusive gatherings where young people from different backgrounds come together to share their experiences.

Affinity groups exist for students who are Black, Latinx, Asian and & Pacific Islander, LGBTQ, and Jewish – pretty much any group that feels marginalized or threatened.

Marks believes the St Francis group enhances Jewish identity among the students.

"I have been the director of counseling on the Goshen Campus [of St. Francis] for 16 years; I have never felt that Jewish students suffered as a result of not having an affinity group," Marks said. "However, I loved the idea of giving our students who identify as Jewish a space to connect and share any concerns that arise."

"In retrospect," Marks continued, "I wish it was something we had started earlier. Our Jewish students really enjoy having a dedicated time to discuss how it feels to be a Jewish student at St. Francis and to bond over holidays and shared traditions."

The group isn't always exclusive. Jewish students sometimes bring their non-Jewish friends to the gatherings.

"Other students started to hear about the rugelach," Cohen quipped.

The mixed gathering turn out to be a good thing as non-Jews learn that there is more to the Jewish experience than what Cohen calls "the two Hs" – Hanukah and the Holocaust.

This month, about 20 Jewish and non-Jewish students gathered to talk about the murder of Sarah Halimi, a retired Jewish physician, in her Paris apartment by someone shouting "God is great" in Arabic and the rise in anti-Semitism.

"We have a very passionate, very progressively minded student body here, which is great," Cohen said. "But often times, Jewish causes, Jewish needs, get left out of progressive conversations."

He is concerned that American Jews, while socially active on behalf of others, do too little to help themselves.

"You can't light yourself on fire to keep

somebody else warm."

Twelve Jewish students go to St. Francis Middle School – about 10 percent of the population – not all of whom make every meeting every week.

"It's an opt-in program," Cohen said. "Jews have the choice to come if they want. There can be some sessions where we have seven or eight kids; some sessions where we have fewer."

"A lot of times it can just be easier to push our identities to the side, and I think that's an OK thing for students to be able to wrestle with, but I like then idea that they're able to wrestle that in a place that's supportive of that and that actually hears them out, and that welcomes it, but also maybe challenges it or at least encourages them to push their thinking a little bit."

QUILT

Continued from page 5

time," Jamner said. "This is where we were on Jan. 6 and Jan 7 when we started."

One participant, Deborah Denenfeld, felt a sense of "powerlessness" at that time. "By joining this community," she said she hoped, "I wouldn't feel so overwhelmed."

Jamner then asked participants to create a second word cloud, describing their feelings at the end of the Time for

Transformation journey. The words they selected included hopeful, community, grateful, inspiring, beauty, light, shemesh (sun) and peaceful.

"It provided an escape, sort of, from the terrible things that were happening in the gloom and the cold of winter," Susan Glazer said. "I think it gave me something else to do and something to else to focus on."

Anna Hayden said she appreciated the safe environment for expression. "It's OK to disagree," she said. "People are going to listen and not judge."

Whittaker, who led the compassion-

ate listening part of the project, used the word clouds to summarize what Time for Transformation had achieved.

"We came together with so many different stories, with so many different points of view," he said, "and we did what we set out to do, which was to gather and create community ... with each stitch being our own story, with each stitch being our own words."

Pickens said the music he played to reveal the quote was meant to elicit different emotions or mental images from each participant.

"What's one person's snowfall may be

another person's summer," he said.

Jamner's consultancy at the JCC was made possible with a grant from the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence.

The exhibiting of the quilt, which was commissioned by the JCC, is still being discussed.

"I hope that it will hang where the community can continue to enjoy it," Sturtzel said.



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