

JEWISH LOUISVILLE COMMUNITY



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To open or close?

Synagogues revise holiday plans as Delta spread continues

By Lee Chottiner
Community Editor

(Editor's note: While this story contains the most up-to-date information available regarding in-person and virtual services, the situation remains very much in flux. Synagogues continue to monitor the Delta transmission rates and could make changes to their High Holy Day schedules and policies. We recommend you contact the synagogue of your choice for further updates.)

Earlier this summer, Louisville synagogues were throwing off the shackles imposed by a year-old COVID pandemic, opening their buildings for worship, loosening rules requiring masks and permitting more social interaction.

Then came Delta, a highly transmissible variant of COVID.

Now, with less than two weeks to go before the High Holy Days, and with case rates rising nationwide, including Jefferson County, some synagogue leaders are making the difficult decision to retrench.

Two synagogues – Adath Jeshurun and Temple Shalom – have already announced that their services will again be virtual this year, though Temple Shalom will hold an in-person Tashlich service at Brown Park.



Adath Jeshurun will again hold virtual services this year due to the Delta variant.

Keneseth Israel and The Temple are still planning in-person High Holy Day services, though The Temple will offer limited seating under COVID restrictions while KI will have an outdoor option for those not comfortable being in the sanctuary. Both synagogues will also stream their services.

"In a global pandemic, the situation can rapidly change," said an open letter to KI members from its COVID task force. "While we hope that this will be

our final adjustment, we will continue to monitor the situation closely and we will adjust our plans as needed...."

Jefferson County is at red status, which indicates a "high" incidence rate of confirmed cases. As of Aug. 24, 3,226 confirmed cases from the previous week – an average of 60.1 cases per 100,000 people – and 14 deaths were reported.

Nationally, hospitalizations and deaths are increasing, according to the Centers

See **DELTA** on page 23

Federation, JHFE commission Brandeis to study Jewish Louisville

By Lee Chottiner
Community Editor

In a move that should produce a valuable tool for planning the community's future, the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence (JHFE) and the Jewish Federation of Louisville have commissioned a comprehensive population study.

Preliminary work on the study, which is being done by the Maurice & Marilyn Cohen Center for Modern Jewish Studies at Brandeis University, is already underway, but the actual data collection won't start until October. It should wrap up around February.

"The numbers and ideas that emerge will empower local organizations to make decisions, determine strategic priorities and allocate resources over the next decade," said JHFE President & CEO Jeff Polson. "As the community's makeup continues to evolve, this research will help organizations confidently and effectively respond to the needs of individuals and families ... and to be even more inclusive, welcoming and engaging."

The study will be the third community assessment to be done of Jewish Louisville over the past two decades. Demographic assessments were carried out in 2006 and in 2009 – both of which are now considered out of date.

The findings should be presented to the community by June 2022.

"We're trying to estimate the size and characteristics of the Louisville Jewish community, however that is defined," said Matt Boxer, assistant research professor at Brandeis. "We're looking at six or seven counties in Kentucky or southern Indiana, where your organizations have people who are participating in their activities."

The study also will estimate the number of unaffiliated Jews.

"We are trying to find the Jews in the woodwork as well," Boxer said. "You can't come up with an accurate population estimate unless you also go out and find those completely unaffiliated Jews."

An accurate assessment of affiliated and unaffiliated Jews is necessary to get a true picture of the degree of interaction with the community, he said. "You don't want to end up estimating that 80 percent of the households in a community are synagogue members. I'm not

See **STUDY** on page 23

'The next level'

JFCS names next CEO, clinical psychologist David L. Finke

By Lee Chottiner
Community Editor

The Jewish Family & Career Services (JFCS) has hired a Louisville clinical psychologist to be its next chief executive officer.

Dr. David L. Finke was chosen following what the agency described as an "exhaustive" eight-week national search. He will start on Sept. 13.

Finke succeeds Deb Frockt, who resigned earlier this year after two years of service.

A community professional with 26 years of experience in clinical psychology and administrative management, Finke comes to the JFCS from Bellewood & Brooklawn (formerly Uspiritus), a residential treatment facility,

where he served as vice president of residential programming.

"I am excited and appreciate this opportunity to join the dynamic team at JFCS," Finke said in a prepared statement. "JFCS was founded to meet the needs of refugees resettling in Louisville in 1908 and today serves the broader Louisville community with a trauma-informed approach as well."

A trauma-informed approach in human services recognizes the impact of traumatic symptoms in the client's life, whether they are refugees from war-torn countries, single parents supporting families or someone caring for a loved one with a catastrophic condition.

As the CEO, Finke will provide stra-

See **FINKE** on page 23



Dr. David L. Finke will take over as CEO of the Jewish Family & Career Services on Sept. 13. (photo provided by the JFCS)

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THE DASHBOARD

Word of the Month

Being kosher is about more than just food



D'var Torah

Rabbi David Ariel-Joel

Shana Tova, y'all!

We are in the month of *Elul*, the last and most important month of the Jewish year.

This is the month when we prepare ourselves for the new year. It is a month of soul searching; we stop to reflect, review and rethink who we are and what we have achieved this year. We consider how this time has impacted us and how we impacted it.

How have we done on the journey of becoming who we ought to be?

In Hebrew, the word *Elul* is an acronym for "I am for my beloved (friend, fellow human being) and my beloved is for me."

Elul teaches that first and foremost is "I." I must care for myself, protect myself, be safe and be sure I am taking good care of me.

But I also need to be there for my fellow human beings.

This year, we learned how caring for one's self is related to caring for others: When we protect ourselves from the COVID pandemic, we care not only for

ourselves, but for the good and welfare of everyone. Taking care of our souls, our bodies – our health – is considered the most important mitzvah. In doing so, we also protect others.

The acronym *ELUL* also means, "and my beloved is for me." The other is obligated to take care of their needs, their health and mental wellbeing first and foremost, and then of mine; the other also is responsible for me and my wellness.

The great Israeli poet Yehuda Amichai, reflecting on his own life; wrote "I am a kosher person." This modern poet extended the meaning of kosher beyond the world of ritual to an ethical dimension in which kosher represents the attempt to be human.

Amichai asked a big question: How do we continue to define kosher? In what ways can we see if we are kosher? Basically, are we trying to be decent human beings?

Living through the COVID-19 pandemic gives a new meaning to being "kosher." For me, it is not about what we put in our mouths; it is about how we protect our own wellbeing and the wellbeing of everyone else in our midst.

May we all enjoy a *shana tova* (a good year), a year of good health, happiness and *shalom* (wellbeing, peace and wholeness). A year where we all will act as kosher people.

(David Ariel-Joel is a senior rabbi of *The Temple*.)

Snapshots



Club J, the JCC after-school program for children in grades kindergarten through 5, offers a fun and enriching environment. Kids have time to do homework, have a snack and play with friends.



Candles

Here are the candle lighting times for Shabbat and the High Holy Days in September:

- Sep 3 @ 7:51 p.m.
- Sep 6 @ 7:46 p.m. (Erev Rosh Hashanah)
- Sep 7 @ 8:43 p.m. (second night)
- Sep 10 @ 7:40 p.m.
- Sep 15 @ 7:32 p.m. (Yom Kippur)
- Sep 17 @ 7:29 p.m.
- Sep 24 @ 7:18 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

Got a news item for *Community*? Deadlines matter, especially for newspapers. Send in your news by Wednesday, Sept. 17 (though sooner is better). The paper should be in your mailbox

by Friday, Sept. 24.

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/.

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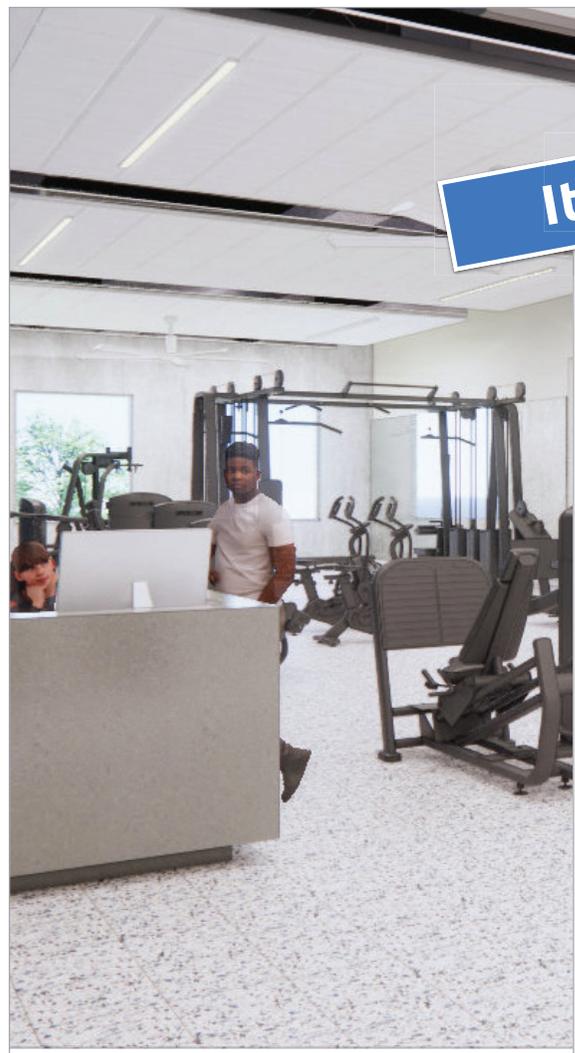
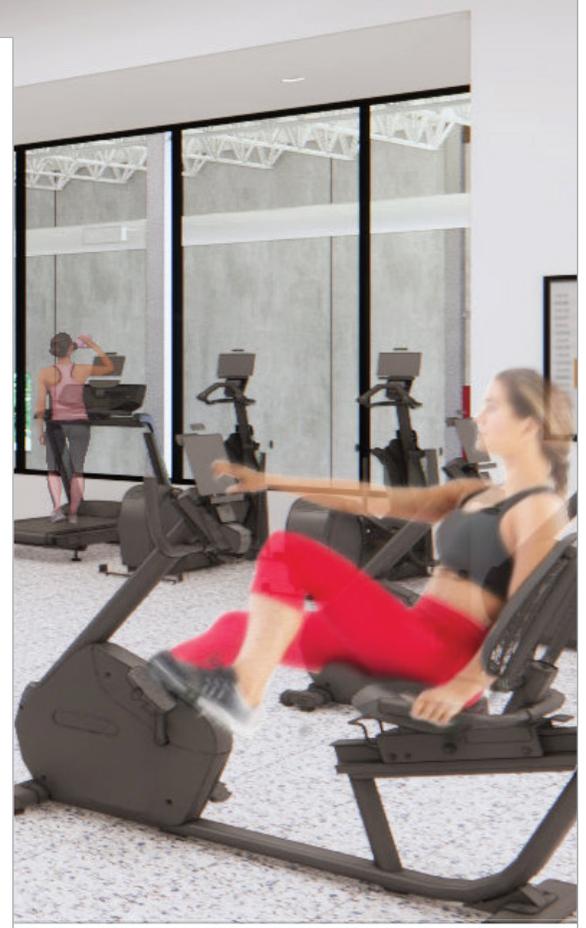
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NEWS

‘I couldn’t believe it’

Israelis eschew masks as Delta variant surges, rabbi finds

By Lee Chottiner
Community Editor

When Rabbi David Ariel-Joel walked into an Israeli café this summer – or a restaurant, or a museum, or a train, or a bus – one thing he saw plenty of were faces.

Many of the people – “the vast majority,” in his opinion – were not wearing masks, the highly transmissible Delta variant of COVID notwithstanding.

To complicate matters, wherever he went, the place was packed.

“I went to coffee shops to meet with friends; they’re filled,” Ariel-Joel said. “The open market in Jerusalem is filled.... There are pods that are open in the streets – all kinds of pop-up food places and things like that. I couldn’t believe it; it was even more crowded at night than day and people were not wearing masks, even though it was extremely crowded. Mainly, [they were] young people.”

Fresh from his 19-day trip to the Jewish state, Ariel-Joel, a senior rabbi at The Temple and a Jerusalem native, recounted for *Community* how Israelis are responding to the latest surge.

Earlier this year, Israel became an international sensation for its high vaccination rates while getting infection rates to enviable lows.

But now, despite the Delta variant, many Israelis are eschewing safety mea-



Rabbi David Ariel-Joel, seen here at a rooftop restaurant in Ein Karem, Jerusalem, said “the vast majority” of Israelis were not wearing masks during his recent 19-day visit. (photo provided by Rabbi David Ariel-Joel)

sures.

“Most of my friends said, ‘We really felt that it’s over,’ Ariel-Joel said. “When Bibi (Benjamin Netanyahu) was still the prime minister, he said it’s over; now that we’re vaccinated, it’s over. People don’t have the stamina for another wave. I really hope there’s not going to be a shut-down again.”

There could be.

Israel is now logging one of the world’s highest infection rates, according to an Aug. 16 story in *Science* magazine, with

nearly 650 new cases daily per million people, more than half of whom are fully vaccinated.

“More than half are in fully vaccinated people, underscoring the extraordinary transmissibility of the Delta variant and stoking concerns that the benefits of vaccination ebb over time,” the magazine reported.

At 78 percent of those 12 and over, Israel does indeed have one of the highest vaccination rates in the world, according to *Science*, yet studies done in the country are showing that vaccinations blunt the Delta variant, but do not eradicate it.

Israel recently became the first country to offer a third dose of vaccine – a booster shot – to people 50 and over. The

country’s new president, Isaac Herzog, got his jab in front of a battery of photographers.

But scientists warn that boosters alone will not tame the virus.

The government is making other efforts to control the spread, Ariel-Joel said. Police are now empowered to fine people for not wearing masks indoors in public places. But it’s not well enforced.

“Still most people don’t wear masks or wear them on their chins,” he said, “like they’re breathing from their chins and not their mouths.”

Some measures are working. Ariel-Joel said many Reform and Conservative synagogues (he did not attend any Orthodox services), took advantage of the weather by moving their services outdoors. Some even erected netted shade areas to protect their worshippers from the sun.

And though they were slow to do so at first, synagogues have begun to enforce mask-wearing.

In all, Ariel-Joel took five COVID tests around this visit: before flying, when he arrived, three days after arrival, just before leaving, and after his return. He passed them all.

Still, with infection rates on the rise, the rabbi is concerned for his homeland.

“I don’t know, with COVID numbers, where we’re going,” Ariel-Joel said. “It’s the same as the United States; people are tired of all the regulations. I was surprised; I thought just like the Jewish community here is very careful, it would be the same thing in Israel, but I didn’t find it that way.”



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NEWS

Pledge 13

Mitzvah project program at JFCS returns after yearlong COVID hiatus

By Lee Chottiner
Community Editor

Two siblings are helping to run a Fresh Stop Market at New Roots, the regional network of food co-ops.

A young man visits residents of an assisted living community on Shabbat, bringing challah, grape juice and electric Shabbat candles.

Another young man just finished volunteering at the Jewish Family & Career Services (JFCS), getting its food pantry ready for the return of in-person clients.

They all have two things in common: They are about to become b'nai mitzvah, and they are volunteering their services through the Marjorie and Robert Kohn Pledge 13 Project, the JFCS effort to help b'nai mitzvah students perform acts of *tikkun olam* (repair the world) in ways they find personally meaningful.

After a yearlong hiatus due to the COVID pandemic, Pledge 13 is back, and b'nai mitzvah students are signing up.

"We started communicating with families and local synagogues at the beginning of the summer, and we are coming into full swing now," said Avery Markel, JFCS volunteer and events manager.

Pledge 13 requires students to commit 13 hours of their time working on a project of their choice. The hours can be done all at once or spread out. One student is doing one hour per month over the course of a year.

Since Project 13's return, Markel has placed five b'nai mitzvah students in volunteer settings of their choosing, and she is talking to 10 other families – students and parents.

Her job is something like Make-A-Wish, listening to what the students want to do, then making it happen.

"I meet with families and help brainstorm some possibilities based on the student's interests," Markel said. "Then I start to reach out to volunteer [programs] at other organizations."

Those organizations need not be Jewish, she said, noting that one student is helping out at the Louisville Nature Center.

"The goal is to connect students to meaningful service," she said. "There are plenty of places to do that within the Jewish community, but we're not limited to that in any way."

For this latest group of students, volunteering is a satisfying experience.

"It is important to me," said David Bussell, who has completed his hours at the Sonny & Janet Meyer Food Pantry. "I know I am helping people in the community and making a change for the better."

Ari and Kate Cohen, siblings volunteering at the Fresh Stop Markets, said it was their favorite place to help.

"There's a lack of fresh food, and New Roots helps people get it," Ari said. "I volunteer to help people who don't have the time to volunteer."

Added Kate, "I wanted to help people get good food because I have seen some people that did not have food.... Some



Nora Siegel is volunteering at the Louisville Nature Center through the Pledge 13 program of the Jewish Family & Career Services. (photo provided by the JFCS)

people are struggling. When you see them struggling, it is a good time to volunteer."

Though started in the 1990s, Pledge 13 was renamed for Robert and Marjorie Kohn in 2008, when the couple undertook the undertaking. They have been contributors ever since.

"Being natives of Louisville, we wanted to see the children of the next generations be involved in charitable work," Robert said. "We just thought by giving incentives to them, working through JFCS, this would allow them to initiate their work in the charitable organization area."

At first, participants volunteered exclusively for Jewish entities. Now, they work throughout Louisville.

"As long as they're doing some type of project, working with charities and non-profit organizations, that would certainly be fine with us," Robert said.

The Kohns have been heartened by the way teens respond to the chance to give back.

"Teenagers really do want help; they

really do want to be part of something," Marjorie said. "We find they're very excited when they do that kind of thing. Hopefully, it's a win-win for everybody."

Tikkun olam projects, also known as

mitzvah projects, are activities designed to teach young people the value of giving back to their community, a lesson not lost on Markel, who performed a *tikkun olam* project herself when she became a bat mitzvah in Detroit, collecting supplies for a school in Israel.

Normally, participants perform their volunteer work in the year leading up to their b'nai mitzvah, but students who missed the experience last year because of COVID may still participate.

And this year, there also will be group projects.

Markel said a kick-off event will be held on Sept. 26, during which students will help sort High Holy Day grocery donations to the food bank. And another group event, for students and their families, is being planned for Chanukah.

"The goal is to get them volunteering," she said. "I will work with anybody who is excited."

Want to go?

The Sept. 26 Pledge 13 kick-off event will run from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Jewish Family & Career Services. RSVP to volunteer@jfcsloouisville.org. Masking and social distancing will be maintained. Space is limited.

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COMMUNITY DEADLINES

Deadlines for the next two issues of **Community** for copy and ads are: September 15 for publication on September 24 and October 20 for publication on October 29.

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

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I am an American, a Jew and a stranger



Human Resources

Lee Chottiner

The exterminator walked from room to room of my house, spraying the corners and baseboards as he does during every quarterly inspection, strains of *David's Harp* lilting from his phone as he worked.

Moving about, he explained that he was also a minister, called by G-d at a very young age, and a believer in prophecy (as he understood it). Clearly, a softspoken and gentle man.

As he was about to leave the house, he noticed a print of Jerusalem hanging on the wall of our foyer. He already knew we were Jewish from a previous conversation we had. Still, it came as a surprise to me, when, as he looked at the print, he asked me why we hadn't moved to Israel yet.

I tried to explain that Jews live all over the world, that our religion doesn't require us to move to Israel.

He said he understood all that, but he still wanted to know why we had not moved to Israel.

"Because I'm an American," I finally said.

He accepted that and left the house.

Feeling a little shaken, I walked about the house, collecting my thoughts. If I

had asked something similar of anyone Black, Hispanic, Arab or Asian, I could have been accused of racism.

Now, I had a taste of how it felt to be on the receiving end of that implied question: *Why don't you go back where you came from?*

In fairness to the exterminator, he came back minutes later. He said that the Lord had spoken to him, told him that his question had been misinterpreted by me and that he should explain himself.

Since he was a student of prophecy, he said, he understood that the Jews have a special connection to Israel in a way that others don't feel for the countries of their own origins. He said that he did not mean any offense.

I took him at his word, and I considered that he was interpreting Jewish texts through a Christian prism.

But that question, intended or not, still stung: *Why don't you go back where you came from?*

Jews have been made to feel like aliens for a thousand years, often with catastrophic results: Spanish and Portuguese Jews fleeing the Inquisition, Russian Jews fleeing the pogroms, German Jews fleeing the Nazis, Jews of Arab lands fleeing the rise of anti-Israel nationalism.

Many Jews, including many American Jews, have chosen to make their lives in Israel, including the parents of Naftali Bennett, the new prime minister. That should be respected.

But what of Jews who choose to stay in the lands where they were born? Are we somehow letting down the team by

not making Aliyah?

It's a difficult question, whether to choose Israel or the land of our birth.

See if this sounds familiar: You're in high school. Your class – social studies, most likely – is studying world conflicts. Some kid sitting next you asks which side you will be on if the United States and Israel go to war.

It happened to me, more than once.

Asian-Americans understand how that feels. So do Arab-Americans, Iranian-Americans; more historically, Japanese-Americans, German-Americans and Italian-Americans. All have been accused of dual or conflicting loyalties.

Why don't you go back where you came from?

America and other western democracies are filled with peoples who fled tyranny and hatred in their own lands. We will soon see a new wave as Afghan refugees fleeing the Taliban come here. I hope we will welcome them as we remember our own experiences, and the lesson of Torah: to welcome the stranger.

Because, when you think of it, aren't we all strangers? Blacks and whites, Democrats and Republicans, Jews and Muslims are so far apart these days in an increasingly divided country.

I now have a taste of what it feels like to be on the outside – just a taste. It lacked malice or hatred, unlike the bitterness others are forced to swallow. But I have it.

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

FORUM

COVID, climate weigh heavily as New Year approaches



Sara's View

Sara Klein
Wagner

We have become accustomed to tragedies.

Too often, we read and see news stories about hurricanes, earthquakes, wildfires and other tragedies that tear apart communities in the blink of an eye.

Whenever these tragedies occur, such as this past weekend when Tropical Storm Henri struck the New England coast, first responders rush to the stricken areas to help.

But the COVID pandemic and climate crisis are very different.

Unlike a fast-moving storm that strikes a community and breaks up as it moves inland, COVID and climate change continue to hang over us and our planet.

We can't clean up after these tragedies the way we can after a storm or wildfire. Instead, we must find ways to help each other and navigate a course for future generations along the way.

COVID and climate change are just two of the enormous topics that require a time for reflection and action. Elul, the Hebrew month leading up to Rosh Hashanah 5782, is just such a time.

Eighteen months ago, we took so

many things for granted. Then the pandemic made us slow down and think about every aspect of our lives: How will I shop for groceries? Can I see my elderly parents? How do I get my work done while helping my kids go to school online?

We found creative ways to navigate the new reality, and we continue to experience heartbreak along the way.

As we approach the New Year, I am reflecting on *areyvut* – the Jewish value for caring unconditionally for one another. *Areyvut* is one of the four core values our Jewish Community of Louisville (JCL) board of directors and staff chose several years ago to keep us centered on our purpose and mission.

Since that day back in March 2020 when we closed the Jewish Community Center (JCC), the effort and commitment of our JCL family of staff has been remarkable. I already knew how fortunate we were to work with a talented and passionate group of people, but in these past 18 months, every team member has shown me to what incredible lengths they will go to ensure that the individuals we serve have what they need to live more meaningful lives.

I ask you to take a few minutes to join me in acknowledging our JCL staff the next time you are at the JCC or interacting with a JCC or Federation team member.

This year, as I reflect on gratitude, my prayer is that we will all do our part in the coming year to keep others safe. Thank you to everyone who has been vaccinated to help care for each other unconditionally. It is not too late

to make an appointment.

And let's not forget that Rosh Hashanah celebrates the birthday of the world. In our struggle with climate change, we can each celebrate that birthday by doing a little more to improve our world: use the compost at the JCC garden or turn out the lights when you leave the room. For a list of ideas from Jewish Outdoor Food,

Farming and Environmental Education (JOFEE), visit jofee.org/act/.

As we prepare for a sweet and healthy new year, we must accept that the two biggest issues facing our planet are not someone else's problem to solve.

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

“To save one life is to save the world entire.”
— *The Talmud*



This High Holiday season, as we seek spiritual and physical renewal for ourselves and our loved ones, let us also remember those in Israel who nurture and renew life every day. Whether it's treating civilians wounded in terror and rocket attacks or vaccinating them against Covid-19, no organization in Israel saves more lives than Magen David Adom.

Magen David Adom is not government-funded. Its 27,000 volunteer EMTs and paramedics and 4,000 full-time professionals rely on support from people like you for the vehicles, supplies, and equipment they need to perform their lifesaving work.

No gift will help Israel more this coming year. Support Magen David Adom by donating today at afmda.org/rosh or call 888.674.4871. *Shanah tovah.*



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Letter to the Editor

Parents Circle holds key to peace in Israel

A huge shout out to you for your article on Parents Circle in the July 30 edition of *Community*, (“Jews, Arabs share pain of loss, work for peace in common effort”).

As far as I'm concerned, groups like Parents Circle and its sister organization, American Friends of Combatants for Peace, hold the key to peace between Israel and the Palestinians.

I was born and grew up in the Louisville Jewish community, but I have lived in Los Angeles for the past 40 years.

As a practicing mediator, I became acquainted with these organizations when I attended a meeting several years ago sponsored by Mediators Beyond Borders. It was, without a doubt, one of the most inspiring nights of my life.

There were two speakers. The first was a former female soldier in the Israeli army; the other was a Palestinian Hamas-supporting male who was imprisoned in Israel for many years. While in prison, he began to read books by Mandela, Martin Luther King, Gandhi and others of peace. Little by little, he, too, became a peacemaker. These two in-

dividuals, along with other like-minded Israelis and Palestinians, met in secret and started to make plans to envision a future built on humanity, not politics.

On the day *Community* arrived in my mailbox, I had attended a Zoom meeting from Israel from the Parents Circle Youth Peace Camp, where Israeli and Palestinian youth live together for five days. We heard directly from the teenage participants who ask each other questions, creating an atmosphere to listen to each other, who eat every meal together and who have fun together.

They share their feelings, and, in the words of a participant, it's “like opening a window.” They see each other as human beings, not the enemy.

I'm sorry for going on like this, but I never expected to see this article in my hometown Jewish community newspaper.

Thank you again for sharing this article and the one written by Elisha Wiesel.

Gayle Glazer
Los Angeles

FORUM

A gift for Mark

Rosh Hashanah lessons still felt years after their teaching



Guest
Columnist

Michael
Ginsberg

Sixty years ago, on Rosh Hashanah, my father taught me a lesson about giving.

Thirty years later, I learned another valuable lesson about giving. Both apply to Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur – the Days of Awe – when we examine what we have given and taken in our own lives.

My father imparted his lesson in 1961 as we sat on the men's side of the sanctuary at Judea Center, our ortho-conservative synagogue in Brooklyn. I was 13. Back then, we had to buy tickets to services and were assigned seats, with men on one side of the aisle, women on the other. My mother and sister stayed home.

As the rabbi's sermon ended, the doors in the back of the sanctuary were closed and the president of our congregation (a position my father had held more than once) greeted us from the bima, holding a sheet of paper that turned out to be a seating chart. The president talked about giving, then proceeded to call out names from his chart, one at a time, asking con-

gregants for donations.

It was a first for Judea Center, and it caused quite a buzz. It also caused some obvious competition, as one member's shouted "chai" was frequently followed by "twice chai," occasionally accompanied by good-natured bantering. Everyone was giving.

The president eventually called out, "Percy Ginsberg." My father stood up and shouted, "Nothing."

The congregation erupted in chatter, and the president – clearly rattled – stammered, "Sorry, Percy, I didn't hear that." My father repeated, "Nothing," a little louder, and the buzz increased in volume.

After some awkward silence, the president called the next name and the procedure continued.

As we walked home, I asked my father why he refused to contribute. He said giving is important for its own sake, not for drawing attention to the donor. When we arrived home for lunch, he told my mother what he had done, and why.

My mother wouldn't buy it. "Percy," she said, "you do so much for the synagogue and give so much; is it so terrible for people to know how generous you are? Instead, they now think we're cheapskates."

My father said nothing, but I could tell how pleased he was to have stirred up the synagogue. My mother just shook

her head. This is the same woman who insisted on leaving price tags on gifts.

I gradually came to understand and admire my father's sense of honesty, compassion and humility, all of which he had demonstrated many times, including that Rosh Hashanah day, 60 years ago.

I didn't learn until later that Dad, something of a scholar of Judaism, may have been influenced by Maimonides, the 12th century Jewish physician/philosopher who developed a scale for giving. The higher levels are reserved for giving anonymously, without being asked, which fit my father. The lowest level is giving unwillingly.

My turn at gift giving came a few years later, but I didn't appreciate its significance until 2005, when I received a surprise phone call at home in Louisville.

"You probably don't remember me," the caller said. "I'm Mark, and we were classmates in high school and in Hebrew school."

I recognized the name. Mark (whose name has been changed for this story) had lived in a brownstone house one block from our apartment building. We knew each other but were not close friends, nor had I seen him since high school graduation, in 1965.

"My father died when we were in high school, and you paid a shiva call to our house," Mark continued. "Pastry and all. You were the only one I knew from

school or the neighborhood to show up.

"Every year, on the anniversary of my father's death, I stop to think about him, and I remember you, too," Mark continued. "This year, I finally decided to find you and thank you."

Mark and I continued to talk, catching up on each other's lives. We swapped contact information, and I invited him to visit Louisville on Derby weekend.

For several years after that call, Mark and I sent each other New Year's cards, but that was all. That is, until my daughter, Perry, was choosing a college. One of the finalists was Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey, near where Mark and his wife lived. I called him and set up a dinner date to coincide with our campus visit.

Perry and I had a delightful time, swapping stories of school and teachers. Mark insisted on paying. We left with more promises to get together again, but Perry didn't attend Rutgers, and Mark and I have not seen each other. I continue to hope we will work out a visit.

I'm still overwhelmed by the impact that my shiva call had on Mark. I think my father would be proud of me. He would also ask why I continue to tell the story.

I don't have an answer.

(Michael Ginsberg, a retired journalist and writing instructor, is a copy editor for Community.)

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(closed for major Jewish holidays)

Quarter 2: October 18-December 17

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JCCLOUISVILLE.ORG/CLUBJ

COVID Safety: We will follow relevant CDC and Kentucky guidelines.

Questions?

Email Katelyn Graves kgraves@jewishlouisville.org for more information.

The JCC is able to assist with transportation options. Contact Katelyn for more information.



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FEDERATION

Who were the namesakes for the annual awards? This is who

The Jewish Community of Louisville held its Annual Awards in July, presenting awards to adult and teen leaders alike.

Though the awards are a tradition at the annual ceremony, the namesakes for the honors – who they were (are) and why they have awards named for them – can be lost in the pomp. What follows is brief description of the awards given at this year's meeting:

Blanche B. Ottenheimer (Blanche B. Ottenheimer Award) was a community activist. In addition to serving as president of the National Council of Jewish Women, Louisville Section, she worked for passage of the city's Model Registration Law, which curbed corruption and led to cleaner elections in the city. The award named for her is the highest honor the Jewish Community of Louisville can bestow and recognizes individuals who have devoted their lives to *tikkun olam* (the repair of the world), making a real difference in

Louisville.

Arthur S. Kling (Arthur S. Kling Award) was a prominent leader in the Jewish community. He served as president of the Young Men's Hebrew Association – the forerunner of the JCC – and on many of its committees. He was instrumental in establishing the JCC on Dutchmans Lane and in establishing the Bureau of Jewish Education and the Conference of Jewish Organizations, which ran the United Jewish Campaign. The award named for Kling honors an outstanding JCC staff member.

Ronald and Marie Abrams (Ronald and Marie Abrams Volunteer of the Year Award) are longtime leaders in Jewish and greater Louisville. Ronald Abrams serves on the board of the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence and was a past board chair of Jewish Hospital and St. Mary's Healthcare. He currently serves on the board of the University of Louisville Founda-

tion. Marie Abrams served as a trustee of United Jewish Communities and the University of Louisville. She co-chaired the Louisville Israel Community Relations Initiative, was a board member of the Jewish Hospital, the Louisville Jewish Community Federation, the Southern Regional Council, the Jewish Social Service Agency, the JCC, the National Council of Jewish Women, and the Governor's Task Force on Juvenile Delinquency. The Abramses are longtime members of The Temple.

Tony Levitan (Tony Levitan Awards) gives his name to an award that honors a high school senior who demonstrates outstanding character and leadership in team sports and Jewish events.

Stuart Pressma (Stuart Pressma Awards) was a Louisville businessman and Jewish Louisville leader. He served on the boards of the JCC and the Jewish Community Federation and was a Louisville delegate to the nation-

al Federation's Board of Governors. He also was a member of the United Jewish Appeal Young Leadership Cabinet. The award named for him honors outstanding BBYO teen leaders.

Stacey Marks Nisenbaum (Stacey Marks Nisenbaum Award) loved BBYO and was an active member of her BBG chapter while growing up in Louisville. When she passed away several years ago, three of her close friends – Stacy Gordon-Funk, Wendy Snow and Sally Weinberg – established a scholarship program to honor her BBYO legacy.

Ellen Faye Garmon (Ellen Faye Garmon Award) was involved in Jewish life through BBYO, the JCC and the community at large. When she died in a tragic accident in 1968, the Gamma Kappa Social Club, of which she was a member, established an annual award in her memory to help further the work of high school students who shared her spirit.

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PICTURE THIS: COMMUNITY GARDEN



Harvest time just came to the Community Garden at the JCC. This year, JOFEE – The J’s environmental arm – had help in gathering in the crops: children from the Early Learning Center, who also got the chance to taste the bounty they helped to gather.



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JFCS accepts regular-sized (not travel or bulk-sized) items in support of the Sonny & Janet Meyer Food Pantry. While all types of food, personal care and cleaning products are appreciated, to see which items are most needed at this time, visit our blog at jfclsouville.org today!

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HIGH HOLY DAYS

Services safe for kids?

Your COVID-19 High Holy Days questions answered

By Philissa Cramer
JTA

For the second year, COVID-19 has made it so Jews who want to attend High Holy Days services must undergo a complicated risk calculation.

Is it safe to go to synagogue for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur? Should I bring my children? Is the shofar – the horn whose blasts punctuate the holy days – a potential vector of disease?

Last year, five months into the global pandemic that has killed more than 4.5 million people, the answers were straightforward, if dispiriting: Stay home, or at least stay masked and very far apart. Anyone could be carrying the disease, and anyone could catch it.

This year, the situation is more complex. Most American adults have been vaccinated, with the uptake of vaccination among Jews among the highest of any religious group, but children under 12 aren't eligible for vaccination. For a small but vociferous segment of Americans, grudging acceptance of masking last year has morphed into antipathy this year.

Meanwhile, the highly transmissible Delta variant, alongside evidence of potentially waning protection from vaccines and emerging data showing that even vaccinated people can catch and

transmit COVID-19, further complicate the picture.

"This is going to be a personal decision that will be dependent upon many factors," said Dr. Aaron Glatt, a rabbi and epidemiologist who has spent the pandemic making medical information accessible to others in his Orthodox community in suburban New York.

"What type of shul you will be going into, the incidence of vaccination in that shul, the incidence of risk factors in your personal family – is everybody vaccinated? If they are, are they high risk? There are a tremendous number of variables," said Glatt, who is the chief of infectious diseases and hospital epidemiologist at Mount Sinai South Nassau on Long Island and an assistant rabbi at the Young Israel of Woodmere.

It also depends on the level of risk that people are willing to take with all those variables taken into account," he added.

So, what is a Jew supposed to do?

We've answered a few of the most frequently asked questions about how to observe High Holy Days during the coronavirus pandemic, round two:

Is it safe to travel for Rosh Hashanah, or to have someone travel to me?

The appeal of getting far-flung family members together to share the holiday is undeniable. And we've learned a lot

about how to manage risk during pandemic travel. Jumping on a plane may feel like a better idea this year than last year.

But there are some caveats: Someone who is vaccinated and heads to visit people who are vaccinated in an area with a high vaccination rate is at less risk than if one party isn't vaccinated or even if both are, but there is a high level of community transmission.

Glatt advises people considering traveling to consider "where you're traveling to [and] the incidence of COVID in that area." In some parts of the country, especially in the South, hospitals are near or over capacity amid the Delta-fueled surge. They may not be safe destinations when it comes to COVID-19 or any other health issue that can arise while traveling.

The Centers for Disease Control is advising Americans to delay travel until fully vaccinated, and even then to wear a mask while in shared transportation. Unvaccinated travelers, including children, are urged to test before and after traveling and stay away from especially vulnerable people upon their return.

Is it safe to attend synagogue for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur?

Here, again, context matters, and so

does one's own risk tolerance. In a community where transmission is high and vaccination rates are relatively low, the risk from praying together in person is going to be higher than in a community where most people are vaccinated and there are relatively few cases.

People who are unvaccinated are always at more risk than people who have been fully vaccinated: They are much more likely to require hospitalization or to die after catching COVID-19.

The synagogues you're considering attending almost certainly have policies in place that you can assess. You can also ask them for more information before deciding whether to attend:

- What is their policy on masking? A mask requirement offers a low-cost, low-effort safeguard against transmission. It is also a good signifier of a conservative approach to safety.

- Are vaccinations required for eligible people?

Some synagogues are strongly urging vaccinations, while others are requiring them for everyone over 12. Some are even requiring attendees to prove their vaccination by sharing their vaccine card ahead of time or at the door.

- Is any prayer taking place outdoors? Some synagogues are moving as much of their services as possible out-



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HIGH HOLY DAYS

side, to open-sided tents where transmission is less likely.

- How well does air circulate? Since last year, it's become clearer that good ventilation is an important factor in preventing the spread of disease. Synagogues that have good airflow will offer safer experiences than synagogues with poor air circulation.

Many Jewish communities, especially Orthodox ones, are home to a wide range of perspectives on whether masking and distancing should be required at this stage of the pandemic. Glatt says synagogues should be advocating vaccination, calling that "the correct medical and halachic recommendation." But he also says he believes that synagogues can safely accommodate people with a wide range of approaches to COVID-19.

"There should be areas where people who are vaccinated and are concerned should be able to daven [pray] with a mask on, and everybody in that area should have a mask on," he said.

Should children under 12 go to High Holy Day services this year?

Children under 12 are not yet eligible for vaccination in the United States; government approval for a vaccine for kids is expected sometime before the end of the year. That means the children's services that most synagogues hold on the High Holy Days are effectively for unvaccinated people only, at a time when the Delta variant has elevated pediatric hospital admissions to pandemic-high levels. It also means that including children in adult services reduces the proportion



Worshippers face complex questions as they plan for their second pandemic High Holy Days.

of vaccinated people in the room.

Glatt described the question of whether and how to include children as one that is concerning, with no one-size-fits-all answer.

"That's a decision that every shul has to make, how they wish to handle that. If you're dealing with an elderly popula-

tion, to have them sitting next to younger children that aren't vaccinated and their mask wearing is of some concern.... I think that needs to be addressed," he said.

Many synagogues are holding their children's services outside to mitigate

risk.

While Glatt says parents should take appropriate precautions, many children are in communal settings already, he noted, attending school, which conveys an equivalent level of risk. (Tens of thousands of children nationwide have already quarantined this school year because of exposures to COVID-19.)

Is it safe to blow the shofar in an indoor space?

Images of people blowing shofars with surgical masks over their openings became a visual trademark of last year's High Holy Days. This year, vaccines and widely available COVID-19 testing mean it's relatively straightforward to ensure that the shofar does not spread disease.

"If the person blowing the shofar is vaccinated and asymptomatic, that should be fine. Let it blow, possibly not right next to everybody else," Glatt said.

Some synagogues are bringing their congregations outside to hear the shofar at the end of the service, rather than during it.

What should I do if I find out someone at my services had COVID-19?

That's a realistic concern. The CDC has clear guidelines about what to do if you're exposed to COVID-19 – which it says happens if you've spent more than 15 minutes total over a 24-hour period near someone with the virus: Get tested 3-5 days after the exposure and wear a mask when you are around other people until you get a negative result. If you get a positive result, you should isolate for 10 days, even if you don't develop symp-

See **SAFE** on page 16

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HIGH HOLY DAYS

Editor's note: With the surge of the Delta variant, some synagogues have again moved their services online. Others are holding in-person services with COVID safety guidelines or a combination of the two. This listing states what each synagogue was planning as of our Wednesday deadline. For the most up-to-date information, though, contact the synagogue of your choice.

Adath Jeshurun

2401 Woodbourne Ave.,
502-458-5359
adathjeshurun.com
Services virtual only

Monday, Sept. 6, Erev Rosh Hashanah

7 p.m., service

Tuesday, Sept. 7, Rosh Hashanah, first day

9 a.m., Shacharit
10 a.m., family service
11 a.m., Torah service, sermon, Musaf

Wednesday, Sept. 8, Rosh Hashanah, second day

9 a.m., Shacharit
10 a.m., children's service
11 a.m., Torah service, sermon, Musaf
Wednesday, Sept. 15, Kol Nidre
7 p.m., Mincha, Kol Nidre service, sermon

Thursday, Sept. 16, Yom Kippur

9 a.m., Shacharit
10 a.m., family service
11 a.m., Torah service, Yizkor service, Musaf
1 p.m. Rap & Reflect
6:30 p.m. Mincha, Neilah, Ma'ariv

Anshei Sfarad

3630 Dutchmans Lane, 2nd Floor,
502-451-3122

ansheisfarad.com
Services in person

Monday, Sept. 6, Erev Rosh Hashanah

7:45 p.m., services
7:46 p.m., candle lighting

Tuesday, Sept. 7, Rosh Hashanah, first day

9 a.m., Shacharit
11:15 (approximately), shofar
7:30 p.m., Mincha, followed by Maariv
Light candles any time after 9:02 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 8, Rosh Hashanah, second day

9 a.m., Shacharit
11:15 a.m. (approximately), shofar
7:30, Mincha, followed by Maariv
Sunday, 11, - Shabbat Shuvah
9 a.m., Shacharit
11 a.m. (approximately), rabbi's speech
7:25, Mincha, followed by Maariv

Wednesday, Sept. 15, Kol Nidre

3 p.m. Mincha,
7:32 p.m. Candle Lighting
7:35 p.m., Kol Nidrei

Thursday, Sept. 16, Yom Kippur

9 a.m., Shacharit
11:30 a.m., Yizkor
8:28, Yom Kippur ends

Monday, Sept. 20, Erev Sukkot

7:24 p.m., candle lighting
7:25 p.m., Mincha, followed by Maariv

Tuesday, Sept. 21, Sukkot, first day

9 a.m., Shacharit
7:15 p.m., Mincha
After 8:40 p.m., candle lighting

Wednesday, Sept. 22, Sukkot, second day

9 a.m., Shacharit
7:15 p.m., Mincha
8:39 p.m., Yom Tov ends

Monday, Sept. 27, Hoshana Rabah

7:13 p.m., candle lighting
7:15 p.m., Mincha, followed by Maariv

Tuesday, Sept. 28, Shemini Atzeret

9 a.m., Shacharit
7 p.m., Mincha
8:28 p.m., candle lighting
8:45 p.m. (approximately), dancing with Torahs

Wednesday, Sept. 29, Simchat Torah

9 a.m., Shacharit
11 a.m. (approximately), dancing
7 p.m., Mincha
8:28 p.m., Yom Tov ends

Chabad

1654 Almara Circle
502-459-1770
chabadky@gmail.com
Services in person

Monday, Sept. 6, Erev Rosh Hashanah

7:45 p.m., greetings and candle lighting
7:55 p.m., Mincha
8:05 p.m., Maariv

Tuesday, Sept. 7, Rosh Hashanah, first day

9:30 a.m., Shacharit
10:30 a.m., Torah reading
11:45 a.m., shofar

7 p.m., Mincha

7:30 p.m. Tashlich

8:40 p.m., Maariv

Wednesday, Sept. 8, Rosh Hashanah, second day

9:30 a.m., Shacharit
10:30 a.m., Torah Reading
11:45 a.m., shofar
7:45 p.m., Mincha
8:40 p.m., Maariv

Wednesday Sept. 15, Kol Nidrei

7:30 p.m., greetings and candle lighting
7:40 p.m. Kol Nidrei service

Thursday Sept. 16, Yom Kippur

10 a.m., Shacharit
11 a.m., Torah reading
Noon Yizkor
6 p.m., Mincha
7:15 p.m., Neilah

8:30 p.m. Maariv and Havdalah

Monday, Sept. 20, Erev Sukkot

7:30 p.m., Maariv

Tuesday, Sept. 21, Sukkot, first day

10 a.m., Shacharit



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HIGH HOLY DAYS

7:30 p.m., Maariv

Wednesday, Sept. 22, Sukkot

10 a.m., Shacharit

7:30 p.m., Maariv

Monday, Sept. 27, Hoshana Rabba

7:45 a.m., Shacharit

7:15 p.m., Maariv

8 p.m., dancing with Torahs

Tuesday, Sept. 28, Shemini Atzeret

10 a.m., Shacharit

11:45 a.m., Yizkor

7:15 p.m. Maariv

8 p.m., dancing with Torah

Wednesday, Sept. 29 Simchat Torah

10 a.m., Shacharit

11 a.m., dancing with Torahs

Keneseth Israel

2531 Taylorsville Road

502-459-2780

info@kenesethisrael.com

kenesethisrael.com

Services in person

Monday, Sept 6, Erev Rosh

Hashanah

8:30 a.m., Morning Minyan

6 p.m., Indoor Service

Tuesday, Sept. 7, Rosh Hashanah, first day

8:30 a.m., indoor morning service

11 a.m., outdoor morning service

6 p.m., Tashlich at Big Rock Park

Wednesday, Sept. 8, Rosh

Hashanah, second day

8 a.m., indoor Keshet service

9 a.m., indoor traditional morning

service

6 p.m., afternoon service

Wednesday, Sept. 15, Kol Nidre

7 p.m., indoor Mincha/Kol Nidre

Thursday, Sept. 16, Yom Kippur

8:30 a.m., indoor morning service

11 a.m., outdoor morning service

Monday, Sept. 20, Erev Sukkot

7:30 a.m., morning minyan

6 p.m., erev Sukkot service

Tuesday, Sept. 21, Sukkot, first day

9:30 a.m., morning service

6 p.m., afternoon service

Wednesday, Sept. 22, Sukkot, second day

9:30 a.m., morning service

6 p.m., afternoon service

Saturday, Sept. 25, Shabbat Chol

HaMoed

9:30 a.m., morning service

Monday, Sept. 27, Hoshana Rabba

8:30 a.m., morning minyan

6:00 p.m., erev Shemini Atzeret

Tuesday, Sept. 28, Shemini Atzeret

9:30 a.m., morning service & Yizkor

6 p.m., Mincha/Simchat Torah

Wednesday, Sept. 29, Simchat

Torah

9:30 a.m., morning service

6 p.m., afternoon service

8:07 p.m., Havdalah

Temple Shalom

4615 Lowe Road

502-458-4739,

information@templeshalomky.org

templeshalomky.org

Services virtual except for Tashlich

Monday, Sept. 6 Erev Rosh

Hashanah

8 p.m. evening service

Tuesday, Sept. 7, Rosh Hashanah, first day

10 a.m., Shacharit

3 p.m., Tashlich at Brown Park

4 p.m., family service

Wednesday, Sept. 8, Rosh

Hashanah, second day

10 a.m., Shacharit

Wednesday, Sept. 15, Kol Nidrei

8 p.m., service

Thursday, Sept. 16, Yom Kippur

10 a.m., Shacharit

2 p.m. healing service

2:45 p.m., classical piano music

3:30 p.m., family service

4:45 p.m. Yizkor

Immediately following Yizkor, Neilah

Monday, Sept. 20, Erev Sukkot

6:30 p.m., service

Tuesday, Sept. 28, Shmini Atzeret/

Simchat Torah

10:30 a.m., Yizkor

6 p.m., service

The Temple

5101 US 42

502-423-1818

thetemplelouky.org/hhd

Services virtual and

in-person with limited seating

Monday, Sept. 6, Erev Rosh

Hashanah,

5 p.m., children's service (Zoom)

7 p.m., evening service (YouTube)

Tuesday, Sept. 7, Rosh Hashanah

9 a.m., children's service (Zoom)

10 a.m., morning service (YouTube)

1 p.m., Tashlich at Captain's Quarters

(YouTube)

Friday, Sept. 10, Shabbat Shuvah

7 p.m., Shabbat Shuvah (YouTube)

Saturday, Sept. 11, Shabbat Shuvah

9 a.m., Torah study (Zoom)

10:30 a.m., Shabbat Shuvah service

(YouTube)

Wednesday, Sept. 15, Erev Yom

Kippur

5 p.m., children's service (Zoom)

7 p.m., Kol Nidrei service (YouTube)

Thursday, Sept. 16, Yom Kippur

10 a.m., morning service (YouTube)

12 p.m., educational session with Rabbi

David (Zoom)

1 p.m., educational session with Rabbi

Rapport (Zoom)

2:30 p.m., afternoon service (YouTube)

3:45 p.m., Yizkor service (YouTube)

4:45 p.m., concluding service (YouTube)

7 p.m., Youth Led Havdallah (Zoom)

Tuesday, Sept. 21, Sukkot

10:30 a.m., Sukkot morning service

(YouTube)

Sunday, Sept. 26, Sukkot

12 p.m., Sukkot Picnic

Tuesday, Sept. 28, Sukkot/Simchat

Torah

10:30 a.m., Sukkot Yizkor service

(YouTube)

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GLOBE

Compromise might be coming together to avoid evictions of Palestinians in Sheikh Jarrah

By Ben Sales
JTA

Israel's Supreme Court has proposed a compromise that could avert the contentious eviction of dozens of Palestinians from the Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood in eastern Jerusalem.

The neighborhood, also known in Hebrew as Shimon HaTzaddik, was home to Jewish families before Jordan captured the area in the 1948 war for Israel's independence. Jordan then gave the Jewish families' homes to Palestinians who were displaced from Israel and prohibited from returning. Now an Israeli group that obtained the original Jewish families' ownership rights is trying to evict the Palestinian families from the homes.

The neighborhood has been the site of legal battles and protests rooted in the competing broader Israeli and Palestinian claims to eastern Jerusalem. Protests over the pending evictions helped spark the conflict in May between Israel and Hamas in Gaza.

At a hearing Monday, Justice Isaac

Amit suggested that the Palestinian families stay in the homes as "protected tenants" who are legally protected from eviction for life, according to *The Jerusalem Post*. In exchange they would have to pay a small amount of rent to the Israeli owners.

"What we are saying is, let's move from the level of principles to the levels of practicality," said Amit, according to *Haaretz*. "People must continue to live there, and that's the idea, to try to reach a practical arrangement without making various declarations."

But the Israeli owners are demanding that the Palestinian residents formally recognize the Jewish residency rights. The Palestinian families worry that accepting the deal would constitute relinquishing their claims to the property in future potential court battles.

The hearing ended inconclusively, and the judges asked the Palestinians' attorneys to submit a list of people who are eligible for protected tenancy.

SAFE

Continued from page 13

toms.

In the early days of the pandemic, worship services were identified as key vectors of disease in both the United States and Israel, partly because some people continued to attend them after reducing other contacts and in part because of the kinds of activities – including singing – that typically happens at them. Following post-exposure recommendations

could be key to making sure that High Holy Day services don't become spreading events.

What if the person who had COVID-19 was all the way on the other sanctuary? Does that count as an exposure? Glatt's answer points to the uncertainty that's swirling as the Jewish world prepares to enter 5782.

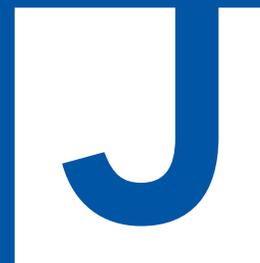
"I don't think so," he said. "But it's really unknown."

(Shira Hanau contributed reporting.)




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Rosh Hashanah
Tuesday, September 7
Wednesday, September 8
Morning Services & Shofar Sounding

Yom Kippur Eve
Wednesday, September 15
Evening Service

Yom Kippur Day
Thursday, September 16
Morning Services
Yizkor Memorial Service
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NEWS & NEWSMAKERS

AJC program helps young people 'disrupt' anti-Semitism

The American Jewish Committee has launched Disrupt Antisemitism, an incubator designed to empower young American Jews to combat anti-Semitism locally, nationally or virtually.

"Jews are threatened in America, around the world, and facing a growing vehemence online," Meggie Wyschogrod Fredman, director of AJC's Alexander Young Leadership Department, said in a statement. "Addressing Jew-hatred calls for bold change and big ideas driven by us, the rising generation of Jews. It's time to Disrupt Antisemitism."

A committee of young professionals from the business and tech industries will review proposals and select several innovative ideas. Winning proposals will receive up to \$10,000 in seed funding from AJC and access to AJC expertise and mentorship from leaders in the fields of advocacy, finance and tech, helping them bring their ideas to reality.

Applications will open on Monday, Aug. 16, and close on Friday, Sept. 27. More information, including details on how to apply, are available at ajc.org/disruptantisemitism.

Mazel Tov to...

Pat Sturtzel, who won a blue ribbon for her "New Beginnings" quilt at the Kentucky State Fair, story quilt category. Sturtzel made the quilt with the help of participants in the JCC's Time for Transformation program.

Tom David for his promotion to chief of the Northfield Police Department.

Warren Van Nort

for receiving the Dr. Stanley Frager Scholarship Award. Van Nort is a graduate of DuPont Manual High School and will pursue a degree in biomedical technology at the University of Kentucky. The Frager Scholarships are awarded to college and high school students who exemplify the standards and ethics of Dr. Stanley Frager, Eagle Scout and staff member of the nationally ranked University of Louisville men's basketball team under Coach Denny Crum. Frager became a well-known hypnotist, radio personality and president of The Temple Brotherhood.



Warren Van Nort

2021-22 B'nai Mitzvah List

Oct. 2

Noah Cartwright, Adath Jeshurun
Joanna Figa, The Temple

Oct. 16

Emory Rothschild, The Temple

Oct. 23

Richard Davidoff, Adath Jeshurun

Oct. 30

Levi Tasman, Adath Jeshurun

Nov. 6

Brody Bailen, Adath Jeshurun
Maximus Springer, The Temple

Nov. 13

Katerine and Aryeh Cohen, Adath Jeshurun
Lila Shapira, The Temple

Dec. 2

Chana Litvin, Chabad of Kentucky

Dec. 4

Nora Siegel, Temple Shalom

Jan. 8

Israel Davis, Adath Jeshurun
Skye Pohn, The Temple

Feb. 19

Lucy Adams, The Temple

Feb. 26

Noa Weiss, Keneseth Israel

March 5

Hayden Breier, The Temple

March 12

Molly Hales, Keneseth Israel
David Bussell, Temple Shalom

March 26

Lincoln Schwartz, The Temple

April 30

Leo Hasselbacher, The Temple

May 14

Jonah and Rachel Feller, The Temple

May 28

Noa Chottiner, Temple Shalom
Will and Sam McKiernan, The Temple

First week of June

Sadie Hyman, Keneseth Israel

June 4

Seth Posnansky, Adath Jeshurun

June 11

Araya Trowell, The Temple

June 25

Eliza Weinberg, The Temple

THIS ROSH HASHANAH, HOW WILL YOU ANSWER THE SHOFAR'S CALL?

This Rosh Hashanah, the shofar is calling on us to not only awaken and reflect but also to stand together, take action, and employ every available resource to stop the flood of hatred and bigotry.

The call is urgent. And, how we answer is critical. Help us to safeguard our community members, synagogues, JCCs, and other communal institutions that are at the heart of Jewish life, here in Louisville, as well as throughout the country and the world.

At the same time, your help today will also support those in our extended Jewish family who are still struggling in the wake of the pandemic - those in need of food, shelter, comfort, or connection to Jewish community. If each of us does our part, we'll be on our way to creating a better year and a better world for us all.



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AROUND TOWN

Adath Jeshurun

Due to the accelerating pandemic, all in-person Minyan, Shabbat and High Holy Day worship services will be substituted by live-streamed services. Links to Minyan and Shabbat services are provided in AJ's weekly emailed newsletter. Subscribe at adathjeshurun.com.

A virtual Selichot program will take place at 8:30 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 28. Rev. Della Porter, senior pastor of the First Congregational Methodist Church, will speak on "A Budding Relationship Between a Church and a Synagogue." Following Havdalah, the Selichot service will begin. The link to the service will be found in AJ's weekly emailed newsletter. Subscribe at adathjeshurun.com.

The Annual Cemetery Service will be held in person at 11 a.m., Sunday, Aug. 29, at 2926 Preston Highway. Those attending must wear a mask and practice social distancing.

Rabbi Robert and Deborah Slosberg will lead a Melton seminar to Prague and Berlin from July 13 through 22, 2022. Five spots remain. Participants need not be Melton students. For details, visit meltonschool.org/travel-seminars/prague-berlin.

Chavurat Shalom

Unless otherwise noted, lunch is held on Thursdays at noon in the Klein Center, followed by the program at 1 p.m. All

programs also will be streamed via **ChavuratShalomZoom**.

Effective immediately, masks are required for everyone inside The Temple except while eating or drinking:

Sept. 2: Harpist Jessica Hyden will perform.

Sept. 9: Bob Mueller will discuss the topic, "12 Steps to Peace and Telling Your Life Story."

Sept. 16: No Chavurat Shalom due to Yom Kippur.

Sept. 23: Accordion player Mike O'Bryan will lead a sing-along.

Sept. 30: In coordination with the JCC and NCJW, Paul Troy from ElderServe will speak from the J via Zoom about how to avoid elder scams.

High School of Jewish Studies

Sign-ups for the 2021-22 term are still being accepted. Classes start on Sept. 19 and will meet two Sundays per month from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Among the subjects addressed will be Jews and Science Fiction, American Jewish History, LGBTQ Judaism, Kabbalah and Torah Yoga. Safety guidelines will be in place. Visit louisvillehsjs.org/register/ to register today. For more details, contact Principal Sarah Harlan at hsjssarah@gmail.com.

Keneseth Israel

The Introduction to Reading Hebrew Class with Cantor Sharon Hordes is held Sundays at 5 p.m., followed by a learn-

ers' minyan at 6 p.m.

Jews and Brews, a weekly Torah study class with Cantor Hordes, is held Wednesdays at 11 a.m.

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

Temple Shalom

The Shabbat Experience with Rabbi Beth Jacowitz Chottiner and a song leader is held Fridays at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom until further notice. Email information@templeshalomky.org for the link.

Chailands Chavurah will hold its next program at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 23, at the sukkah behind the synagogue. Avery Markel of the Jewish Family & Career Services, formerly of Detroit, will discuss her experiences there with The Well, a wall-less synagogue model for young adults. The venue is subject to change, depending on the Delta variant. Email chailands@templeshalomky.org for more details.

The sukkah will be decorated at 1 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 19. Lunch for LBSY families is planned for 12:40 p.m. The details are subject to change, depending on the Delta variant. Email information@templeshalomky.org.

The next Book Club meeting will be held at 2 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 7, the location TBD. The club is reading *All Who Go Do Not Return: A Memoir*, by Shulem Deen; and Davita's Harp, by Chaim Potok. For details, contact Carol Savkovich at savkofam@bellsouth.net.

The Temple

The Temple Trager ECEC has an opening for an afternoon preschool assistant – a part-time position. Applicants should be comfortable and experienced with children ages 6 weeks to kindergarten, interacting in a caring, positive manner while communicating and responding professionally to children, parents and co-workers. Tasks include assisting with implementing daily plans and activities

and tending to children's basic needs, which include feeding and changing clothes and diapers. Hours are 2:30/3-5:30 p.m., Mondays-Fridays. High school and college students 16 years of age and older are encouraged to apply. Send resumes and questions to andrea@thetemplelouky.org or call 502-423-1444.

The Women of Reform Judaism/Sisterhood Gift Shop is open by appointment. Visit its Facebook page at [facebook.com/wrjgiftshop](https://www.facebook.com/wrjgiftshop). Also, an online shop is coming. Contact Sheila Lynch, 502-896-9736, Marlene Ornstein, 502-329-2276, or Karen Waldman, 502-425-4360 for appointments.

Registration is open for the fall adult education. Call 502-423-1818 for details or go online to thetemplelouky.org/adult-education.

Saturday Torah Study starts at 9 a.m. on Zoom.

The Temple invites congregants to attend indoor Shabbat services on Friday nights and Saturday mornings. More information at thetemplelouky.org.

For up-to-date information on High Holy Day services, visit thetemplelouky.org/hhd or download the new mobile app. (Search for The Temple- Louisville, KY in the Apple or Google Play Store.)

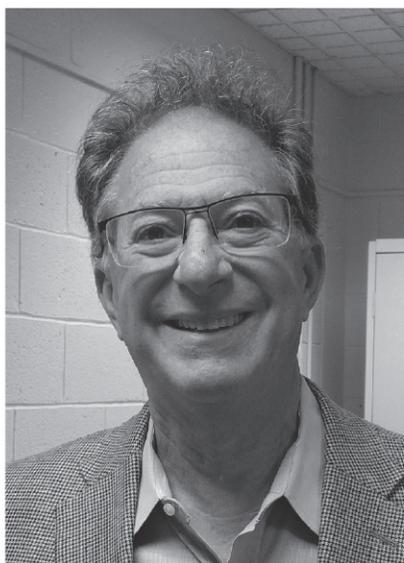
A kindergarten and first grade consecration will on Friday, Sept. 24. The family-friendly dinner will start at 6 p.m., followed by services at 7 p.m. Dinner is \$10 per person, free for children 12 and under. Dinner is \$5 for RSVPs made before Aug 24. Visit thetemplelouky.org/family-shabbat for more details.

Goodnight Tots, Goodnight Shabbat, a Havdalah service with arts, crafts, and treats, will be held at 6:30 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 25. RSVPs are required to reserve treat bags. Visit thetemplelouky.org/goodnight-shabbat. This month's theme is Sukkot.

Sukkot will be celebrated at a picnic with the religious school at noon, Sunday, Sept. 26. A catered lunch will be served. Visit thetemplelouky.org/sukkot-picnic for more details.

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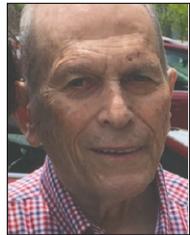
Births

Kieran Ellis McLuckie

Perry Swinton-Ginsberg and Aiden McLuckie announce the birth of their son, Kieran Ellis McLuckie, on Wednesday, May 5, 2021, in Merriam, Kansas, a suburb of Kansas City. Kieran weighed 5 pounds 8 ounces and was 19 inches long.

Perry, the daughter of Michael Ginsberg and Jeri Swinton, grew up in Louisville and was a member of Temple Shalom. Aiden is the son of Jeff and Kathy McLuckie of Kansas City, MO. Kieran's living great grandparents are Gladys Hasty and Joyce Engel. His deceased great grandparents include Theodore Engel and Robert McLuckie, Bill and Helen Swinton, and Percy and Ethel Ginsberg.

Obituaries



David Myer Carney

David Myer Carney, 93, of Louisville, formerly of Nashville, Tennessee, died Monday, Aug. 16, 2021, at Baptist Health, with his family by his side.

David graduated from Cohn High School in Nashville in 1946. It would be 17 years later before he graduated from Vanderbilt University with an engineering degree.

In the interim, he served in the Army where his nickname was "Bulldog Dave." He later took over his family's auto parts store after the death of his father and met and married his wife, Betty. They started their lives together in Nashville, then moved to Lexington and finally made Louisville their home in 1965, where they raised their six children.

A people person, David never met a stranger with his strong, charismatic southern drawl. He was a private person when it came to his accomplishments.

A keen entrepreneur, David was a builder, developer and restaurant owner, and instrumental in developing a large portion of St. Matthews.

He was a member and president of Congregation Adath Jeshurun, a member of B'nai B'rith International and a 10th Degree Mason. He was president of the Louisville Jewish Day School and of the Louisville Apartment Association.

He was lovingly known as the "Rabbi" at Shalom Towers. He will miss being with his close friends especially Sylvia Kozlove.

David was preceded in death by his devoted wife, Betty Frances Hanover Carney; his parents, Will and Celia (Epstein) Carney; and his brother, Robert Carney.

He is survived by his six children, Marc Carney (Sandra) of Newton, Massachusetts; Michael Carney (Abby) of Highland Park, Illinois; Martin Carney (Ellen) of Prospect; Marla Grossman (Jeffrey) of Atlanta, Georgia; Marilyn Carney of Louisville; and Caren Bailen (Michael) of Prospect; 13 grandchildren whom he adored and traveled with, Joshua, Daniel, Rachel, Adam, Anna, Isabel, Brandon and Rebecca Carney, and Noah, Alanna and Jonah Grossman, and Brody and Zoe Bailen; and many nieces and nephews.

The family gives thanks to Dr. Dale Haller and Wendi Haller for their care.

A graveside funeral service was held

on Wednesday, Aug. 18. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials to the Betty Hanover Carney Mahzor Fund, Congregation Adath Jeshurun, 2401 Woodbourne Avenue, Louisville, KY 40205 or the charity of the donor's choice.

James Edwin Cohen

James Edwin Cohen of Henry County, died suddenly on Monday, July 26, 2021.

Born in Louisville on Jan. 1, 1961, the son of the late Edwin and Lois Cohen, Jim graduated from the University of Louisville and the Brandeis School of Law.

He is survived by his wife, Nancy; his sister, Martha Katz; his stepson Ty; and his daughters, Melissa and Amanda Cohen.

Expressions of sympathy may go to the charity of the donor's choice.



Tatyana Donenberg

Tatyana Donenberg, 75, died on Wednesday, Aug. 4, 2021, in Louisville.

Born in St. Petersburg, Russia, on Aug. 18, 1945. Tatyana graduated with a bachelor's degree and later operated her own seamstress business. Her family was her joy.

She was a member of The Temple.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Alexandra Kononova.

Tatyana is survived by her husband, Alex Donenberg; and her daughter, Yekaterina "Kat."

Funeral services were held Sunday, Aug. 8, at Herman Meyer & Son. Burial followed by burial at The Temple Cemetery.



Elise Essig

Elise Essig died on Thursday, Aug. 5, 2021, after a beautiful 94 years of a life filled with love.

A professional volunteer, Elsie gave her time to various organizations, including the Jewish Hospital Guild and the Quarter Century Club. She was awarded the WLKY Bell Award as an honored volunteer.

She was a member of The Temple, Brandeis University Women's Organization, Jewish Community Center, NCJW-Louisville, Hadassah, B'nai B'rith Woman and Lion of Judah.

Above everything, though, was her family.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Armand.

Elise is survived by her daughters, Jill Simon (Alan) and Patti Goldstein (Ronald); her grandchildren, Dan Goldstein (Carey), Diane Shearer (Shad), Julie Marks (Rodney), and Mark Simon (Julie); and her great-grandchildren, Elise and Sally Goldstein, Sydney and Ryan Marks, Drew and Lola Simon.

The family is grateful to the caregivers that attended to our mother's needs.

A graveside service was held on Sunday, Aug. 8, in The Temple Cemetery.

Donations in Elise's honor may be made to Bridgehaven Mental Health Services, 950 S. 1st Street, Louisville, KY 40203; Crohn's & Colitis Foundation, 733 Third Avenue, Ste. 510, New York, NY 10017; or the donor's choice.



Shirley (Ruby) Geer

Shirley (Ruby) Geer died on Monday, Aug. 16, 2021 in Louisville.

Born Jan. 12, 1933, in Central City, Kentucky, a daughter of the late Sylvia and Jacob Ruby, Shirley's family meant

everything to her. She also loved UK basketball, Coca-Cola, her prized chocolate cake and a good deck of cards.

She was an active member of Congregation Adath Jeshurun and was involved in many of their committees as well as the Jewish Community Center.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her son, Steven; and her sister, Selma Kaplin.

Shirley is survived by her devoted husband of 63 years, Bert Geer; her sons Jonathon (Cindy) and Ronald (Stacey); her daughter-in-law, Claire; her grandchildren, Carly Mason (Daniel), Brandon Geer (Alisa); Jason Geer (Julie), Jonah Geer and Lindsey Geer; Madelyn Geer, Spencer Geer, and Julia Geer; her great-grandchildren, Ruby and Lyla Geer, and Poppy Mason; and her sister, Ann Leah Blieden.

The family is forever grateful to Cheryl Henson for the loving care, devotion and friendship provided to Shirley and them.

Graveside services were held Thursday, Aug. 19, at Adath Jeshurun Cemetery. Memorial Donations to Congregation Adath Jeshurun, or The JCC are appreciated.



Amy Green

Amy Green blessed this world with her presence on Aug. 29, 1973, in Louisville. Her peaceful transition occurred on Aug. 10, 2021.

An entrepreneur with a passion for food, cooking, health, nature and healing, Amy explored and fully experienced all the places she lived: Israel, China, Illinois, San Francisco and Kentucky.

More important, though, is who Amy was and how she lived: unapologetically, embracing adventure, taking risks, sharing love and spreading joy. She lived each day with a palpable radiance and contagious laughter.

Amy had a lasting impact, touching all who met her with the wisdom she shared or the brightness and light she brought to a room.

She is survived by her mother, Phyllis Green; her father Howard Green (Marcia); her brother, Jay Green (Kim); her niece, Ava Green; her nephew, Cole Green; and her loving aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

Amy requested that donations to be made to New Roots, an organization she volunteered with and cherished, at 1800 Portland Ave. Louisville, KY 40203, 502-509-6770 or [newroots.org/donate/](https://www.newroots.org/donate/).

Graveside services were held Wednesday, Aug. 11, at Adath Jeshurun Cemetery



Stephen Jay Goldstein

Stephen Jay (Steve Jay, Pop, Pop-Pop, Steve-o) Goldstein of Louisville died peacefully in his home on Sunday, Aug. 15, 2021.

Born and raised in Louisville, a son of the late Loretta and Irvin Goldstein, Steve attended Waggoner and Seneca high schools.

He was a student of life, but also almost every higher education institute in the state of Kentucky, and had retired as the owner of Goldstein and Associates in 2017. He was well known in the legal community, both locally and nationally.

He was a member of the Jewish Community Center, where he spent every afternoon swimming laps and playing racquetball.

Steve's affinity for live music, food and bourbon made him well known in the bar and restaurant scene. He also loved to travel to California; Portland, Oregon; Florida; and Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. He was a fan of Kentucky basketball, but he did not like the one and done. He enjoyed horse racing, classical, jazz and blues music, and had a roster of loyal and devoted friends.

He leaves behind his daughters, Kathryn Goldstein, Melissa Goldstein, and Allison Goldstein – all born to his ex-wife and friend, Jenny Nall (Goldstein) – four grandchildren, Kevyn Heckler, Faye Houck, Scarlett Brown and Atticus Brown; his younger brother, Ronald (Patti) Goldstein; and the many friends whole loved him so.

A memorial visitation was held on Wednesday, Aug. 18, at Herman Meyer & Son, Inc.



Selma Ruby Kaplin

Selma Ruby Kaplin, 80, died Saturday, August 7, 2021, at her home in Louisville.

A daughter of the late Jacob and Sylvia Ruby, Selma was born on July 4, 1941, in Central City.

She enjoyed playing bridge, baking with her sisters and spending time with family and friends. Her home was always open to others, and she treated her children's friends as if they were her own. Celebrating her extended family, she loved visiting and traveling to be with her eight grandkids and two great-grandkids.

She and her husband Lawrence, who survives, recently celebrated their 58th anniversary.

Selma was a member of Congregation Adath Jeshurun, The Sisterhood and Hadassah.

In addition to Lawrence, Selma is survived by her children Jeffrey (Lynn), Susan Kunitz (Jonathan) and Howard (Lisa); grandchildren Tamara, Justin, Ryan, Jack, and Benjamin Kaplin, Sarah and Samuel Kunitz and Rebekah (Lucas) Palmer; her great-grandsons, Virgil and Ulysses and her sisters, Ann Leah Blieden. She was survived by her sister, Shirley Geer (Bert), but she died nine days later.

Graveside services were held August 9 at Adath Jeshurun Cemetery. A recording of the service is available on Facebook at HermanMeyerSon. Memorial Donations to Adath Jeshurun, Hosparus of Louisville, or the Alzheimer's Association KY Chapter are appreciated.

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LIFECYCLE

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Elias Klein

Elias Klein, 96, died Monday, Aug. 9, 2021, in Louisville. An internationally recognized scientist, his mentorship profoundly shaped the work of many, who remained devoted to their former teacher over the years.

A loving and beloved husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, Elias kept family at the center of his life. Behind his quiet and gentle demeanor stood a brilliant intelligence and a generous heart. Judaism was always deeply important to him.

Born in Leipzig, Germany, on Oct 26, 1924, to Jentla and Josef Broniatowski – his brother, Alexander (Sascha Dov) arrived in 1930 – Elias' life was upended at age 7 when his mother died of influenza. As was customary, his father re-married a year later and brought his wife, Sarah, and her son, Isidore, into the family.

With the rise of Nazism it became increasingly difficult for the boys to go to school. Josef heard about a program to bring Jewish children to the United States sponsored by the German Jewish Children's Aid. Elias and Isidore qualified (Sascha Dov was too young). The two boys sailed to New York in November 1934, were placed on a southbound train with a chaperone, and arrived the next day in Atlanta, Georgia.

Elias began school immediately and learned English quickly. His foster mother thought "Elias Broniatowski" too difficult to pronounce and suggested that he take his stepmother's maiden name of Klein. He agreed to change his last name, but not his first.

Elias and Isidore passed through three foster families in Atlanta before moving to New Orleans, Louisiana, but the boys continued to receive letters from their parents in Plauen. After the family was deported in November 1938, the letters came from Czestochowa, Poland – the Broniatowski family home. The letters became increasingly desperate over the next three years then finally stopped. Only after the war did they learn that their parents and Sascha had died in the Warsaw Ghetto.

As the war approached, Elias realized that he could be deported as an undesirable alien. Fortunately, enlistment in the

Army gave him a fast path to citizenship.

Elias served in the 87th Chemical Mortar Battalion, Company D, which saw combat in the D-Day invasion, Operation Cobra, the Battle of the Hürtgen Forest and the Battle of the Bulge. Ironically, his final combat service was the liberation of Leipzig, the city of his birth.

Upon his return to the states, Elias asked a beautiful young woman he had known before the war, Beverly Aronowitz, for a date, beginning a close, loving partnership of 70 years. After they married in 1948, Beverly persuaded Elias to use the GI bill to attend Tulane University, where he completed his bachelor's, master's and doctorate degrees in four years with the highest honors, including Phi Beta Kappa – an astonishing feat. He became a research scientist and began a successful career studying textiles.

After leaving textile research in 1967, Elias became director of the Gulf South Research Institute in New Orleans. With his remarkable powers of self-re-invention, he his attention to the study of artificial membranes for use in hemodialysis (the artificial kidney). He achieved international scientific prominence when his team invented the artificial kidney membranes used in all dialysis treatment facilities today.

In 1981, Elias and Beverly moved to Louisville, where he joined the University of Louisville faculty in medicine and chemistry until his retirement in 2005. He took pleasure in travelling the world with Beverly, reading scientific journals and in the progress of his granddaughters and news about his great-grandson.

He is survived by his daughter, Meryl Klein (Barbara Loevy); his sons, Jon Klein (Laura) and Jerrold Klein (Eva); two grandchildren, Rachel Chaimovitz (David) and Sarah Klein; and his great-grandson Leavitt Chaimovitz.

His memory is a blessing for them and for all who knew him.

The family extends its deep gratitude to all the caregivers with Carmelita's Quality Care for the loving care they provided and particularly to Carmelita Clay for her compassion and love of Dad.

Graveside services were held on August 12 in Adath Jeshurun Cemetery.

Expressions of sympathy may be made to:

- Congregation Adath Jeshurun of Louisville, adathjeshurun.com/Donate;
- Birthright Israel Foundation, P.O. Box

21615, New York, NY 10087 birthright-israel.foundation/donate

- The National Council of Jewish Women, ncjwlou.org/donate/;
- The Montessori Torah Academy of Louisville, montessoritorah.org/donate/.



Ronald W. Kletter

Ronald W. Kletter, 62, a lifelong Louisvillian, died Thursday, July 22, 2021.

A 1976 graduate of Waggener High School, Ron went on to earn his bachelor's degree from Vanderbilt University.

Ron became a continuous entrepreneur, succeeding at many businesses. In addition, with his huge heart and compassion, he helped many people during the difficult times they encountered.

He was active in the Jewish Community Center, Pi and Alcoholics Anonymous.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Harry and Roberta, and his aunt, Eleanor Fell.

Ronnie is missed by his sisters, Debbie Montz (Art), Alisa Pipkin (E.J.), and Tina List (Ed); his life companion, Rhonda Perkins; and her children, Kristen and Jared Korfhage; his nieces and nephews, Eric and Adam Montz, Carter, Meredith and Tyler Pipkin, and Alexis List; his aunt and uncle, Art and Terri Fell; his cousins, Matt Kletter, Scott Caulfield and Nadine Fell; his dogs, Benny and Champ; as well as other family members and friends.

A Celebration of Life will be scheduled at a later date.

Ron wished donations, in his memory, be made to The Arrow Fund, P.O. Box 1127, Prospect, KY 40059.



Ruthie Mae (Fine) Smelson

Ruthie Mae (Fine) Smelson, 94, passed away peacefully at Baptist Health on Monday, Aug. 9, 2021.

Born Oct. 11, 1926, a daughter of the late Sam and Celia Fine, Ruthie was proud to be named the first female manager during a long-time career at Allied Sporting Goods.

She loved taking cruises, and her favorite hobbies were sewing, pottery and

painting. Her storytelling was legendary, always being the life of the party.

She was a life-long member of Keneseth Israel Congregation and the JCC Senior Club.

Ruthie was preceded in death by her loving husband George; her son, Steve; her brothers, Gilbert, Bobby and Norman Fine; and her sister, Reva Frank.

She is survived by her son, Randy Smelson; and her nephew, Glenn (Kathi) Fine.

A private service was held on Wednesday, Aug. 11.

Memorial donations, in honor of Ruthie, can be made to the charity of your choice.



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NEWS

DELTA

Continued from page 1

for Disease Control and Prevention. The CDC says the current seven-day moving average of daily new cases stands at 133,056, a 14-percent increase over the previous period.

Rabbi Ben Freed, who will be marking his first Days of Awe period as spiritual leader of KI, said he is committed to providing in-person experiences of some kind for the High Holy Days.

"There will have to be virtual options because not everyone will feel comfortable coming in person," Freed said. "But we're committed to bringing people together in as meaningful a way as possible, given all the constraints we have."

The Temple's Reopening Task Force

has decided that only a limited number of members will be in the sanctuary for the High Holy Days, said Temple President Dr. Michael Salamon. The exact number of members and how they will be grouped, is still to be determined. The Task Force met again this week shortly after deadline. (Watch the Community social media for updates.)

The option of in-person seating, however limited, has therapeutic value, Temple Rabbi David Ariel-Joel said. "Knowing that you have the option to be there brings some comfort, even if you choose not to [attend in person]."

Anshei Sfard and Chabad are both planning in-person services this year. But Anshei Sfard announced Tuesday that it will rent the sanctuary in its old building from the Jewish Community Center,

enabling the synagogue to accommodate more socially distant worshippers. Last year, Anshei Sfard met under a tent outside Shalom Towers.

"We continue to monitor the Delta variant and adapt when necessary," Anshei Sfard Rabbi Simcha Snaid said.

Chabad will offer indoor and outdoor seating.

"Last year, when the medical authorities mandated closures, we immediately closed as that is what is biblically ordained," said Rabbi Avrohom Litvin of Chabad. "We will close again if, and when, they determine closures to be necessary once more."

Rabbi Robert Slosberg said AJ's decision to close was done in consultation with a panel of seven physicians, local and national, representing various spe-

cialties and religions.

"Our position has been that we will do whatever our doctors tell us...and that is what we have done."

AJ had planned to complete its reopening on Aug. 9, when morning minyan were to resume in person. All that is now on hold.

Slosberg said he was "heartbroken" over the decision, especially since this will be his final High Holy Days before the next senior rabbi is engaged.

"This thing is so infectious and easy to get," Slosberg said. "There's a growing number of break-through COVID cases [among vaccinated people], which alarmed all the doctors, and the pediatricians were showing a dramatic uptick in children."

"This is a tragedy," he said.

FINKE

Continued from page 1

tegric leadership to JFCS as it provides its core services: career support, counseling, family strengthening, Jewish life, older adult services and microenterprise development.

"He brings it to the next level," said Lucy Love, JFCS director of mission advancement.

Karen Sherman, who co-chaired the search committee, said Finke's background as a clinical psychologist, though attractive, was not the only

reason he was chosen.

She said Finke has experience leading an organization through times of change. He has interacted with people from many backgrounds, been a key listener and collaborated with partners.

"It's an absolute bonus that he has that skillset [in psychology]," Sherman said, "but he brings so much more. He was the whole package for us."

Sherman said the search committee received approximately 80 resumes from candidates with many different backgrounds.

"We had rabbis; we had people in

healthcare; people in the not-for-profit space," she said. "We had a wide variety of applicants, and many of them were significantly qualified."

Originally from Dayton, Ohio, Finke graduated from Washington University in St. Louis and Michigan State University, where he earned his Ph.D. in clinical psychology. He has been in private practice since 1995.

In addition to his work at Bellewood & Brooklawn, he co-chairs the Bounce Coalition, multi-agency community collaborative that implements trauma-informed practices in schools, courts, health care systems and other

public and private sector agencies.

He and his wife, Helene, live in Louisville and are members of The Temple. They have three sons: Cole, Jacob and Max.

In a prepared statement, Mike Fine, president of the JFCS board, thanked Sherman and the other co-chair, Linda Shapiro, plus all the members of the search committee, for "shepherding us through a diligent, professional and efficient search which led us to David – an excellent CEO candidate who is already familiar with and respected in the communities JFCS serves."

STUDY

Continued from page 1

even sure that's true in Monsey."

To help with the count, community agencies, synagogues and schools have been asked to share data with Brandeis: membership lists, school enrollment numbers and mailing lists of donors. Other techniques will be used to gauge the unaffiliated population.

Though the data collection begins in October, the Brandeis team already is working on the project, including designing the survey, Boxer said. "The advisory council [in Louisville] is actually reviewing a draft of it at the moment."

The members of the advisory committee are Alan Engel, Jasmine Farrier-Frocht, Abby Glogower, Craig Goldstein, Dr. Jon Klein, Amy Landon and Mauri Malka.

Brandeis will compile two samplings for the study: a representative sampling, whose participants will be randomly selected by a computer, and a secondary sampling – not representative – that is meant to supplement the results, particularly for young adults, intermarried couples and people living in outlying counties.

Those selected for the random sampling should expect to receive letters in the mail, emails and phone calls asking them to do the survey. The second group should receive an email reminder every seven to 10 days.

Both groups will be given contact information for Brandeis' call center at the University of New Hampshire and/or for a local representative.

"We want to provide information so people can confirm that this is legitimate," Boxer said.

Besides data collection, the study pro-

cess also involves "weighting," a mathematical set of procedures the team uses to account for people who are more or less likely to respond to surveys.

"People who are deeply engaged in the Jewish community are more willing to respond than people who are Jewish but aren't so involved," Boxer said, "So, to avoid biasing your results, there are complex things that you have to do to make sure that you are not giving too much weight to those who are very involved in the Jewish community and too little to those who aren't."

According to Brandeis, the results of the study can be used in communal planning, allocation of resources, needs assessment, following population shifts, planning for construction and hiring.

Even with an up-to-date study, though, outside factors that the Jewish community can't control, like economic conditions, can affect the results.

Boxer mentioned a 2017 study he did for the Pittsburgh Jewish community, which at the time was in the running for Amazon's second headquarters – a prize that could have meant a massive population influx.

"I remember telling them that if you get Amazon's headquarters, you're going to go from a community of around 50,000 Jews to a community of around 70,000 Jews almost overnight," Boxer said. Pittsburgh did not get the headquarters.

The Maurice & Marilyn Cohen Center conducts population studies for Jewish communities across the country. Currently, it is working on seven to eight other projects.

"We only want to report numbers that are accurate," Boxer said. "We take great pains to make sure that our estimates are as accurate as we can possibly make them."



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