

JEWISH LOUISVILLE COMMUNITY



INSIDE:

Record-breaking chef
Helen Impellizzeri sets new mark
for meals made in a year

STORY ON PG. 5

FRIDAY Vol. 47, No. 7 | July 30, 2021 | 21 Av 5781

Honorees celebrated at Annual Meeting

Houstons accept Ottenheimer prize; other honors given; Green looks ahead

By Lisa Hornung
For Community

Alice and Wade Houston, longtime volunteers, entrepreneurs and philanthropists, accepted the Blanche B. Ottenheimer Award, the highest honor given by the Jewish Community of Louisville, during its Annual Meeting on July 8 in the Patio Gallery.

The meeting included a look back at the past year at the JCC, the celebration of successes and the election of new Board of Directors members.

But the presentation of awards was the main event of the evening.

The Houstons were introduced by their son, former New York Knicks star Allan Houston, via video. "They have impacted so many," he said of his parents. "I can't even paint the picture well enough adequately to clearly articulate the impact that they have made on our family, as well as others."

Allan's introduction touched his

See **HOUSTONS** on page 19



Marsha Roth (left), this year's winner of the Ronald and Marie Abrams Volunteer of the Year Award, Kathleen Horn, winner of the Arthur S. Kling Award, and Wade and Alice Houston, winners of the Blanche B. Ottenheimer Award, are seen here with their awards following the July 8 JCL Annual Meeting. (Community photo by Robbyn McClain)

BBYO, teen leaders honored for achievements and giving back

By Lisa Hornung
For Community

The annual BBYO awards were handed out at the JCL's Annual Meeting, held in person on Thursday, July 8.

Alison Roemer, senior director of Jewish Journeys, presented the awards, which recognize young people for their achievements in the Jewish community, at school and in the community at large:

Eli Schramko and **Yael Wagner** won the **Tony Levitan Awards**, given to outstanding high school senior athletes who demonstrate outstanding character and leadership in team sports and Jewish communal events.

Eli, an Adath Jeshurun member and recent Ballard High School graduate, began playing varsity tennis in the eighth grade. As a senior, he worked with younger players, helping them improve their play and making sure they were having fun. This summer,

See **BBYO** on page 19

'A huge problem' Gun violence vexes younger children here, activist says

By Lee Chottiner
Community Editor

On a December day in 2018, Christopher 2X got a phone call that would change his life.

His daughter, Heaven, a child development specialist, had been home with six children, ages 1-7, watching an educational video, when gunfire from an AK-47 suddenly riddled the dwelling.

"She literally pulled the kids off the bed, out of harm's way," 2X said, "pushed them under the bed until the firing stopped."

They were saved, he said; no wounds.

But they were still scarred.

From this incident, 2X, a Louisville community activist, became increasing-

ly aware of the harm that the "secondary trauma" of gun violence can inflict on children – very young children – even if they have never been hit by a bullet.

His nonprofit organization, Christopher 2X Game Changers, conducted a nine-month study of the issue that confirmed what he feared: Very young children, even pre-K kids, are damaged by gun violence, impeding their development.

"It's a huge problem, gunfire going off in their neighborhoods or these stray bullet issues," 2x said. "And then just hearing about these conversations sometimes makes it harder to segue back into the classroom and learn."

2X was one of two speakers describing his first-hand experiences with gun violence and its tragic consequences dur-



Christopher 2X



Billy Moore

ing a June 28 program, "Actions Speak Louder Than Guns," sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Council.

The other speaker, Billy Moore, a Chicago activist, served 20 years in prison for the shooting death of one of the nation's top high school basketball pros-

pects during an altercation. Moore, 16 at the time, later lost his own son to gun violence and has since become a mentor and coach to young men coming out of prison and trying to rebuild their lives.

Alice Houston, this year's co-winner of the Blanche B. Ottenheimer Award for Community Service and the program's moderator, said gun violence in America is getting worse.

At the time of the program, Houston said nearly 10,000 gun-related homicides and 299 mass shootings had been reported across the country.

She also said 140 children under the age of 12 had been shot to death so far this year.

See **GUN VIOLENCE** on page 13

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THE DASHBOARD

Word of the Month

Elul a necessary tune-up for the High Holy Days



D'var Torah

Rabbi
Ben Freed

No athlete would show up to a big game without practicing. Actors, dancers and musicians spend countless hours rehearsing before they perform for a crowd.

And yet, as Jews we often think that we are able to walk into synagogue on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur and do all of the work necessary for *t'shuvah* in just those two or three days.

At the beginning of August, we will enter the month of Elul, the last month of the Jewish calendar before we arrive at the High Holy Days. During the month of Elul the shofar is sounded every single morning as a call for us to "wake up" and focus on the process of *t'shuvah*. This Hebrew word we hear a lot in the early autumn is commonly translated as "repentance" but more literally means "turning" or "re-turning."

The process of *t'shuvah*, of re-turning, involves cultivating the introspection necessary to recognize our shortcomings, the vulnerability to admit our faults, and the bravery to ask forgiveness from those – both human and divine – whom we have wronged. It is a guide not only to self-improvement, but also a way to mend relationships that may have been frayed by lapses in our judgement or our actions. That is a lot to ask of a few hours in a sanctuary.

To heighten the stakes, when this month of Elul ends and Tishrei begins, tradition teaches we will come before God, who will act as the final judge of our progress.

Rabbi Alan Lew's book, *This Is Real and You Are Completely Unprepared*, begs us to confront head on the enormity of this experience. Whether your belief in God includes a divine being sitting in judgement, our need for self-reflection and repentance is incredibly serious. If we believe this task is real, then we are certainly unprepared. The good news is,

we have this time to get ready.

We have this whole month of Elul to practice, to rehearse, to do the legwork, so by the time we find ourselves in synagogue on Rosh Hashanah contemplating our place in the Book of Life we are not thinking for the first time about the year we have just concluded.

We will read on the high holidays the *Unetaneh Tokef* prayer which tells us *t'shuvah*, *t'fillah* (prayer), and *tzedakah* (works of justice) help to avert the severity of the divine decree. During Elul this year, I invite you to join me in the following three activities, one for each of those three actions:

- *T'Shuvah*: Take one hour and make three lists – a list of things you are proud of accomplishing this past year, a list of things you wish you had accomplished, and goals for the coming year. Then, think of one person who you wronged in some way and do the hard work of reaching out to them and apologizing.
- *T'fillah*: Go to a prayer service at the synagogue of your choice sometime during Elul. As a rabbi, this may sound a bit self-serving, but having a prayer experience *before* the High Holy Days can prepare you for prayer *on* the High Holy Days. Think of it as a practice or rehearsal, a tune-up to remind yourself what it can mean to use prayer to connect with something greater than yourself.
- *Tzedakah*: Either by yourself or with your family, decide on one charitable or justice-focused organization you would like to offer more support to this year – either monetarily or by volunteering your time.

May we use this month of Elul to continue our endless process of personal growth as we take stock of our past year and prepare for the next. May we all have the strength and courage to give ourselves an honest appraisal, take time to rehearse and reach out to those we have hurt and ask forgiveness. Then we can approach God on the High Holy Days with an open and honest heart.

(Rabbi Ben Freed is the new spiritual leader of Keneseth Israel Congregation.)

Snapshots



As Camp J wraps up another season – this one, under COVID safety restrictions – here's a look at some of the campers who spent the summer at the JCC enjoying themselves and learning new skills. (Community photos)

Candles

Here are the candle lighting times for Shabbat in August:

- Aug 6 @ 8:29 p.m.
- Aug 13 @ 8:21 p.m.
- Aug 20 @ 8:12 p.m.
- Aug 27 @ 8:02 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, Aug. 18 (though sooner is better). The paper should be in your mailbox

by Friday, Aug. 27.

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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NEWS

Parents Circle

Jews, Arabs share pain of loss, work for peace in common effort

By Lee Chottiner
Community Editor

Gili Meisler and Bassam Aramin have reason to hate each other.

Meisler, an Israeli, lost his older brother in the 1973 Yom Kippur War. The experience radicalized the then-teenager, who joined the anti-Arab Kach party, formed an extremist youth group and refused to study Arabic in school.

Aramin, a Palestinian “fighter” at age 13, was jailed for his activities. A Holocaust skeptic, he saw a film about it behind bars, which affected him, studied it in college after his release, got married and had children. Still, he lost his 10-year-old daughter in 2007, shot by an Israeli soldier.

The two men could have become enemies. Instead, they became friends. (They say “brothers.”)

They also became partners in a common cause: to overcome their grief and become role models for peace in Israel and Palestine.

Meisler and Aramin are members of The Parents Circle-Families Forum (PCFF), a joint Israeli-Palestinian organization made up of more than 600 bereaved families from both sides of the Green Line whose bond is the loss of a close family member to the conflict.

They shared their experiences during a virtual program on July 18 co-sponsored

by The Temple and the Jewish Community Relations Council.

The main focus of PCFF members is to present themselves as role models of sorts. “If we can be together and talk with each other,” Meisler said, “so everybody can.”

PCFF started in 1995 in the head of Yitzhak Frankenthal, an Orthodox Jew whose son died while hitchhiking home from his army base. His murderers, members of Hamas, posed as religious Jews.

During the shiva, Frankenthal decided to channel his pain into reconciliation.

Today, PCFF members hold “dialogue encounters,” like the July 18 program, where they share their backgrounds and personal experiences before audiences.

They also have a “Narrative Project,” through which Israelis and Palestinians of similar backgrounds or disciplines (doctors, artists, etc.) are grouped together, meeting regularly to forge an understanding.

They have summer camps, radio broadcasts, and they hold demonstrations. At one such event, they set up coffins draped with Israeli and Palestinian flags outside the United Nations in New York.

PCFF members have visited Yad Vashem to learn about the Holocaust and toured destroyed Arab villages to understand the *Nakhsa* (catastrophe).

Reconciliation doesn't mean the two



Gili Meisler



Bassam Aramin

sides must love each other, but it could lead to understanding.

While imprisoned, Aramin, who thought the Holocaust was a big lie, saw a film about it.

“After a few minutes I found myself crying ... I'm not built to see such atrocities,” he said. After his release, he studied the Holocaust at a university in the United Kingdom.

Meisler, who had started an extremist youth group in high school, began to change when the gardener at his apartment building in Jerusalem – an Arab from East Jerusalem – befriended him. They smoked cigarettes together and talked.

“It became like a habit,” he recalled. “Every morning, we would have our cigarette, our quality time, talking about life. I went out of these meetings every time telling myself, ‘What's going on here? He's an Arab. How come I'm talking to

an Arab?’ I think this was a huge change in my life because it made me think.”

He said it made him ask questions, too, like why the Jews have a state, but not the Palestinians. Eventually, he stopped going to meetings of the very youth group he had started.

Both men believe that coexistence between Jews and Palestinians is possible, citing the same reason for their optimism: Germany.

“After World War II, we couldn't imagine a German embassy in Tel Aviv,” Meisler said. Conversely, Aramin added, there's an Israeli embassy in Berlin.

“We don't need to love each other, but through our relationships, through our personal relationships, we prove we can be partners, we can be friends, we can be brothers and we can be family,” Aramin said.

When that happens, he added, human life will become even more important than who controls Jerusalem.

One can fight and die for Jerusalem, Aramin noted, although, “I'm not sure if Jerusalem knows who we are.”

Want to help?

To support Parents Circle-Families Forum, visit theparentscircle.org. Also, follow PCFF on Facebook and Instagram. The organization maintains offices in Beit Jala, Palestine and Ramat Ef'al, Israel.

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NEWS

A lot of meals JCC chef makes over 21,000 dishes during pandemic year

By Lee Chottiner
Community Editor

This past year, Chef Helen Impellizzeri has prepared a lot of meals. A lot of meals.

To be precise, Impellizzeri, the Jewish Community Center chef, has prepared 21,201 meals for Meals on Wheels (MOW) alone since July 2020, beating her previous record of approximately 14,000, which she and a two-member staff set in 2019.

A lot of meals.

And she shattered that record alone – with no kitchen help.

"This is an amazing accomplishment," said her supervisor, Dara Cohen, active adult and senior programming director at the JCC.

But for Impellizzeri, a career chef whose parents and grandparents were also in the food business, it is simply what she does.

"I come from a strong catering background, and I just took it on as my mission to help my community [and] make sure they had healthy meals and were taken care of."

Still, it wasn't easy.

Working without kitchen staff since

July 2020, Impellizzeri has ordered all the food, made all the menus, prepared all the dishes, cleaned up the kitchen and packed the deliveries.

Often, at the height of the pandemic, she did it all in an eerily quiet JCC.

"I spent a lot of time in this building – maybe just me and the security guard – making meals," she said. "It was a little bit of a hurdle to get over."

But she feels a lot of "pride" in what she accomplished.

Impellizzeri comes by her love of cooking honestly.

Her grandfather was a grocer, her grandmother a culinary arts teacher, and she is a culinary science graduate from Sullivan University. She also is related to the founders of Impellizzeri's Pizza.

But it was from her father, John Impellizzeri, a



JCC Chef Helen Impellizzeri kept a growing number of seniors well fed during the pandemic, whipping up a record number of dishes for more than 21,000 seniors. (Community photo)

butcher, and her mother, Evelyn "Lari," who ran the family deli, that she inherited her love for cooking.

She can still smell her mother's matzah ball soup, simmering for the customers and her father's New York-style cheesecake. (He also baked).

"Everything in the store was awesome," Impellizzeri recalled.

After graduating from Sullivan, she became a chef manager at Kingsley Meats and Catering, and chef at Ciao Italian Ristorante in Irish Hill. She later worked at Stage Dining Services, which handles the food service at Louisville Collegiate.

She has appeared in *Food and Dining* magazine and *Business Insider*.

Looking back on the past year, when the number of MOW clients she served jumped from 35 to 95 daily, Impellizzeri said she never expected to make so many meals for as long as she did.

"Initially, we thought it would be few weeks," she said. "Then it was a month and six months and it ended up being a year."

And a lot of meals.

"I feel pride that I was able to do it," she said.



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Deadlines for the next two issues of **Community** for copy and ads are: August 18 for publication on August 27 and September 15 for publication on September 24.

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

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

Email your comments to: **Community**,

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lchottiner@jewishlouisville.org.

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

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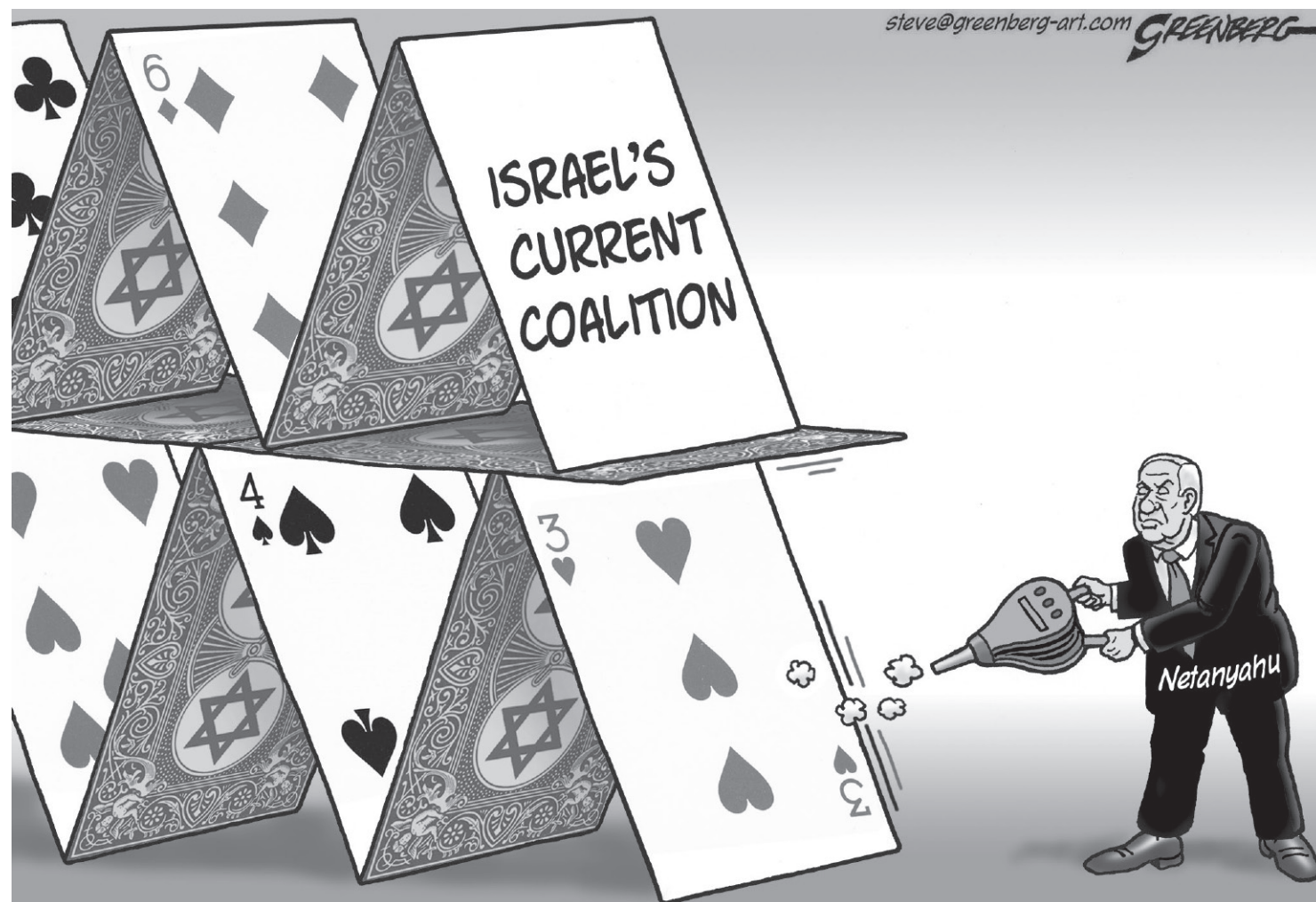
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FORUM



Tale of two stories: Ben & Jerry's, Pegasus



Human Resources

Lee Chottiner

As a pro-Israel Jew, it was gobsmacking to watch the ... hmmm ... *melt-down* in the Jewish world over news that Ben & Jerry's will no longer sell its ice cream in Israeli settlements.

Ben & Jerry's was founded by Jewish entrepreneurs Ben Cohen and Jerry Greenfield, who sold the company to Britain-based Unilever in 2000.

Unilever announced on July 19 that it will stop selling its products in the occupied territories, though it will still do business inside the Green Line.

The story is still unfolding. Ben & Jerry's board chair, Anuradha Mittal, tweeted Tuesday that she was "proud" of the company's stance and denied being anti-Semitic, according to JTA. Likewise, Unilever issued a statement disavowing the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement (BDS).

Nevertheless, Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett has called the boycott "a moral mistake." Kosher supermarkets pulled pints of Ben & Jerry's from their freezers (which is understandable) and Jewish organizations rushed out statements condemning the makers of Cherry Garcia.

The rabbinical authority that provides the *hechsher* to Ben & Jerry's felt

the heat to decertify the frozen treat and Israeli Foreign Minister Yair Lapid called on U.S. states to use their anti-BDS laws to divest from Unilever.

Finally, Jews took to social media to trash their once-favorite dessert. Many have criticized Mittal, who said she won't be intimidated by "vile hate."

Some progressive pro-Israel groups – J Street, New Israel Fund and Americans for Peace Now – have supported Ben & Jerry's and what they describe as a principled stand. Far and away, though, the response in the Jewish world pushed back – hard – against the ice cream maker, even equating its actions with anti-Semitism.

This dash to melt Ben & Jerry's support (and profits) is certainly justifiable, but there is a down-side: It could hand BDS proponents a psychological victory by framing the company as a corporate martyr. It could even generate public sympathy for a brand that has a history of social action.

It might have been more effective to simply voice our objections, stop buying the ice cream and move on – giving BDS as little oxygen as possible.

Now, compare that reaction to the news that Israeli cyber firm NSO Group Technologies has sold spyware, called Pegasus, which is being abused worldwide. Heads of state, opposition leaders, among other notables, are allegedly being spied on with Israeli technology.

The Israeli government is looking into the allegations, but according to Reuters, a source close to the probe said it was "doubtful" that it would result in any curbs on Pegasus exports.

NSO denies any wrongdoing.

Yet news of this scandal isn't registering with Jews nearly as much as the revelation than an ice cream maker won't sell its pints in the settlements.

BDS poses a real threat to Israel; this is painfully true. But the reaction from the Jewish world to this news may have made the problem worse, emboldening BDS forces.

To borrow a phrase from Las Vegas: poker faces. Never let your enemy know what you are thinking or feeling.

Meanwhile, this NSO story, which has the potential to harm Israel's global standing, is barely moving the needle. There shouldn't be an overreaction to this story either, but there should be concern.

So, what comes next?

First, stop talking about Ben & Jerry's. It won't halt the media coverage, but at least the Jewish world won't be throwing more fresh meat to the BDS beast.

Second, insist upon transparency during the Pegasus probe. The sunlight will reflect well on Israel, demonstrating that her public institutions can handle scrutiny.

Finally, be smart consumers of news. Walter Cronkite, quoting another source, once said, "What you don't know can kill you," which is metaphorically true in both these cases. The Ben & Jerry's story did merit coverage, just not this much. NSO merited more.

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

FORUM

What Jewish Louisville learned this past year should change us



JCRC Scene

Matt Goldberg

This past year has been remarkable for many reasons.

The pandemic has dominated our hearts and minds. We have reconnected with loved ones, mourned lost friends and family and adjusted to a new normal of living with the COVID reality.

We also elected a new president, saw our government under siege by violent insurrectionists, and dealt with an unhealthy partisan divide that makes

civil discourse in this country – agreement on basic facts – a rarity.

For Louisvillians, though, a look back at the last 12 months must include the fight for racial justice that was sparked by the killing of Breonna Taylor.

We worked with the Urban League to craft *A Path Forward*, a comprehensive document that addressed structural inequities in criminal justice reform, housing, jobs, health care and business development. We believe it is important to lend our support and allyship to these issues.

We also had some powerful moments in the Zoom programs we hosted. Our first featured Judge Derwin Webb, moderating a discussion among Louisville professional athletes Jamon Brown, Reggie Bonafon and Larry O'Bannon about racial inequality.

Something from that program that will always stay with me was the athletes' description of "the talk," the coming-of-age conversation Black parents have with their sons about how to behave around the police to ensure their safety. It is a foreign concept to most Jews, but it happens in most Black homes with young men. That the talk is even necessary speaks volumes about life for people of color.

In our program on women in the Black community, we heard from Alice Houston, Keshia Swan and Jackie McGranahan as they discussed something seemingly mundane as hair and the role it plays in their identity. This month, the City of Louisville passed the CROWN Act, which ensures protection against discrimination based on race-based hairstyles (something we would like to see at the state and

federal level as well). This issue should resonate with the Jewish community; we have a long history of being discriminated against due to our outward appearance.

This past year, our goal was to educate our community on these important issues. As we move forward, let us turn these lessons into action.

Our commitment to *tikkun olam* (repair the world) is the root of our quest for justice; the events of last year should command us to act in addressing race-based inequality. May the future be brighter for all of us as we continue seek justice.

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

Letter to the Editor Celebration of Learning

Louisville Melton had its most diverse age range of learners this year – from those in their 80's to college students. Here are excerpts from speakers at our virtual Celebration of Learning in May:

Yahlamed Israel, an African American Jew-by-choice was skeptical about Melton, having taken courses on Judaism for 15 years, but she happily discovered, "Melton stands alone when it comes to the experience as a whole; I was in class with people who would come to feel like family."

Bridget Bard spoke about the feeling of community: "My classmates supported me when I was afraid to speak. My teachers guided me when I did not understand. Through Melton, I not only learned how to hold my own as a young woman but to hold my own as a young, Jewish woman."

We recently welcomed to our faculty two Catholic educators with solid backgrounds in Jewish studies. Melanie-Prejean Sullivan, an historian and retired director of campus ministry at

Bellarmino University, and currently a research associate and lecturer at the Margaret Beaufort Institute of Theology in Cambridge, England, will teach "Crossroads of Jewish History" this fall.

Walter L. Olson, Jr, a neurologist/medical school instructor, will teach "Jewish Medical Ethics" in March of 2022.

Melton just released a series of six-week courses: "Living Wisdom – Engaging, Soulful Jewish Learning," which offers Melton excellence in an accessible format. This fall and winter "OMG, Can You Believe?!" and "Love, Loss and Wisdom" are scheduled.

Visit adathjeshurun.com/melton or contact me at dslosberg@adathjeshurun.com for more details.

Deborah Slosberg
Louisville

(The author is the director of Louisville Melton.)

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FORUM

Washington rally against anti-Semitism was imperfect though necessary



Guest
Columnist

Elisha Wiesel

When Nazi tanks surrounded Warsaw, my father related in a rare moment of frustration, the Jews were in shul arguing over who should get “shlishi” (the honor of being called up third to the Torah).

It was a story I thought about often on *Tisha b’Av*, the day that marks the destruction of our Temple in Jerusalem and the beginning of exile. Our sages teach that *Tisha b’Av* was brought about by our anger at each other.

It’s a story I couldn’t shake from my head this past month as our small team of organizers worked nonstop to inspire Jews and our allies to join us in Washington, D.C., for a rally against anti-Semitism.

Critics and doubters awaited us at every turn.

We were criticized for asserting that anti-Zionism was a form of anti-Semitism, for including groups that praised Donald Trump, for excluding groups that call for an end to the Jewish state.

Cynical left-leaning Jewish publications ran articles labeling the rally a right-wing gathering and warning their readers to stay away.

We were criticized for our diversity and inclusion statement. Some right-leaning Jewish leaders circulated concerns by email and social media, arguing that the rally had been compromised by the left. How dare we include groups who use terms like “occupation,” they asked. How dare we exclude groups that call for hatred or violence?

And those were just the ideological battles.

Every day we were criticized for giving not enough *kavod* (honor) to one group or too much to another. We were warned turnout would be low – perhaps a few hundred or fewer – in the intense summer heat.

I understood that some would stay away. But we were determined to take that first step – even if it was imperfect – and on July 11, under the banner of the American Jewish Committee, the Anti-Defamation League and dozens of other organizations, some 3,000 Jews and allies came together in front of the U.S. Capitol to demonstrate Jewish solidarity.

I never wanted to organize a rally. I just wanted to attend one.

When Hamas rockets started falling in Israel, and Jews found themselves

being attacked on New York and Los Angeles city streets, I agitated for someone to scale the local rallies run by the Israeli-American Council, like one I attended in New York, into an in-person national rally in Washington. I made many calls. How many Jews would have to die or be threatened, in Israel or here at home, before our anger overflowed into the streets?

At first, nobody raised their hand. I vowed to help whoever did.

That group was the relatively unknown Alliance for Israel. Within a couple of weeks, we had partnered with the ADL and AJC, and brought together the vast majority of the Jewish world from right to left, Orthodox to Reform, to stand with us as sponsors. Together we created a platform for powerful testimony that needed to be put on the record for the thousands who attended and the many more who watched at home.

Rabbi Jeffrey Myers described reciting the *Viddui* (the deathbed confession) while a murderer stalked his congregants at the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh. Just out of the hospital, Rabbi Shlomo Noginsky of Boston drove eight hours with his arm in a sling to tell us how his attacker sought to slash the many children behind him. Matthew Haverim described how his parents fled Iran, and how he was beaten for declaring his Jewish identity to a group of anti-Israel protesters in an L.A. restaurant. Talia Raab from Illinois described how an anti-Israel

mob screamed “kill the Jews” as they attacked her family’s car. These testimonies could not wait another day.

Rabbi David Saperstein, a light within the Reform movement who believes that Israel must withdraw militarily from Judea and Samaria, spoke moments after Dan Raab quoted Menachem Begin and announced his upcoming enlistment in the Israeli army. Both received respect and applause from the audience.

Ron Klein of the Jewish Democratic Council of America and Norm Coleman of the Republican Jewish Coalition – former members of the House of Representatives and Senate respectively – jointly declared that anti-Semitism was a bipartisan problem and that both parties must work together to stop it wherever it emerges. Their on-stage embrace is a refutation of everything partisan we have heard for the past eight years.

In a profound demonstration of allyship, Joshua Washington, the director of the Institute for Black Solidarity with Israel, sang *Gesher Tzar Meod* (“The World is a Narrow Bridge”) with Rabbi Menachem Creditor of UJA-Federation of New York and reminded us that we do not stand alone.

On *Tisha b’Av*, I reflected on all the anger sent my way. We had tried to build a broad coalition among those who agree that the Jewish people have a right to exist in peace and security here, in the Jewish state of Israel and around the world. The cynics insisted that this unifying belief was not enough, given how much disagreement there is among American Jews on Israeli policy and the best way to combat anti-Semitism.

I believe the cynics are wrong. There is another way.

Imagine the possibility that your ideological opponent is not an enemy but a champion of something rooted in Judaism.

If you believe in land for peace, can you see someone who is committed to holding on to territory for Israel’s security as a champion of saving Jewish lives? And if you believe a continued Israeli military presence beyond the Green Line will be needed for the foreseeable future, can you see someone who is committed to Palestinian self-determination as a champion of Jewish values?

July 17 was *Tisha b’Av*. We mourned 2,000 years of exile brought about by our hatred for one another.

Many of us mourned what is happening now.

I felt the sense of loss for our divided community. I am done being angry at Jews with whom I disagree. I am saving my anger for the anti-Semites who threaten our safety in the Diaspora and in Israel, who lie about us in the halls of Congress and in American universities, who work within social, published and broadcast media to spread bias against us.

Tisha b’Av has passed. It is time to rebuild.

(Elisha Wiesel, chairman of the board of *The Floor*, an Israel-based fintech company, is the son of Marion and Elie Wiesel.)

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CLUB J 365 AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM DATES

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Quarter 2: October 18-December 17

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JCCLOUISVILLE.ORG/CLUBJ

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FEDERATION

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Federation News

Stacy
Gordon-Funk

"Our strong Louisville Jewish community would not exist without the Jewish Federation. I am proud of our Louisville Jewish community for contributing so much during this incredibly challenging year to the many community campaigns to help the Federation fund so many desperately needed services and programs."

— **David Kaplan,**
2021 Federation Annual
Campaign Chair

This quote sums it up; our entire Jewish community depends upon the strength of the Federation – the core fundraising pillar for Louisville's Jewish institutions for the past 98 years.

Our federated fundraising campaign

raises money for all Jewish Louisville. Our community allocations committee then distributes these funds to support our local and international Jewish institutions and programs.

During COVID-19, our communities' support was put to the test. Our donors didn't hesitate to step up. With a grant of \$450,000 from the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence (JHFE), the Federation initiated the United Jewish Louisville Rapid Response Fund. Gracious donors came forward and donated above and beyond their annual Federation gift.

The Jewish Community of Louisville also formed an emergency task force, which met weekly for several months to assess and provide for the needs of synagogues, agencies and Jewish families and individuals who needed help.

When the Jewish Community Center re-opened after a six-week shutdown, the Federation launched the Reopen, Renew, Recenter campaign to help bring the JCC back to life in a safe and healthy manner. Again, the Jewish community showed its strength and resilience. The Federation's generous

donors provided funds to help with the additional cost of personal protective equipment, security and other COVID protocols needed to keep our preschoolers safe, get our campers back to camp, feed seniors and protect our staff and members.

The Federation also serves as the backbone of Jewish programming, providing unique opportunities for donors to hear from the country and world's most influential Jewish leaders. From chefs to authors to business leaders, the Federation continuously provides an important connection to Jewish culture.

The Federation consistently provides a voice for Jewish Louisville. Its Jewish Community Relations Council raises awareness, ensuring that anti-Semitic incidents are not condoned. It also works with civic and elected leaders to bring about true change when hate exists against any minority group.

Working with Jewish youth in Louisville, the Federation nurtures the growth of the next generation of Jewish leaders. Through Shalom Baby, PJ Library, Jewish camps, BBYO and

trips to Israel, opportunities and funds are made available for Jewish youth to share a connection with Israel and with each other.

Joining with the Partnership of Western Galilee, the Federation monitors and stays in touch with our friends and family in Israel, providing help and support for global Jewish needs.

Since 1934, the Federation has brought our entire Jewish community together to share in our collective goals to take care of our Jewish community, locally, nationally and abroad. Because of our donors and tremendous supporters who continually step up and join us in celebrating Jewish life and learning, we have a strong, vibrant Federation today.

We are grateful and thankful for the opportunity to do the work that we do, and we are inspired every day by the strength of our Jewish community.

(Stacy Gordon-Funk is the senior vice president of philanthropy & chief development officer of the Jewish Federation of Louisville.)

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PICTURE THIS: ANNUAL MEETING



The Jewish Community of Louisville Annual Meeting was held July 8 in the Patio Gallery of the JCC. Wade and Alice Houston received this year's Blanche B. Ottenheimer Award – the community's highest honor. Other recipients were Kathleen Horn (the Arthur S. Kling Award); and Marsha Roth (the Ronald and Marie Abrams Volunteer of the Year Award). BBYO leaders were recognized for their achievements; a new board of directors was elected; and Dr. Ralph Green, the chair of the board, gave a synopsis of the past year's highlights and a look ahead for the JCL. (Community photos by Robbyn McClain)



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JOIN US

**for one more no-contact food drive
on August 11
from 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.**

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ARTS

CenterStage is back!

JCC theatrical company releases fall season details

By Lee Chottiner
Community Editor

After a 16-month absence, CenterStage is about to raise the curtain again on a new season.

The JCC-based theatrical company, which includes arts education and theater for children, announced its return to the stage last week, releasing details of its fall schedule.

CenterStage will feature two main-stage performances this fall: *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *In Concert* from Sept. 30 to Oct. 10 and *Falsettos*, from Nov. 11 to 21.

In addition, The Academy arts education program will stage a youth production of *Aladdin, Jr.* on Dec. 9, 11 and 12. And Acting Out will again bring live theater to area schools and community centers.

For CenterStage Education Programing Director Erin Jump, the shows can't go on soon enough.

"Everyone is hungry to perform, to create," Jump said. "We have a dedicated company of actors, musicians, crew members and patrons. Our company is a rich group of people, and I think everyone is hungry to get back."

Center Stage went dark on March 13, 2020, as the COVID pandemic sent much

of the nation into lockdown. Its Academy performance of *Peter Pan Jr.* was its last stage production for the duration; *Hair*, its last main-stage production.

Since then, the consuming task of CenterStage has been to get ready to go on again when it became safe to do so.

"It's been a constant process of writing and rewriting, planning and replanning," Jump said.

She noted that the JCC is monitoring the COVID situation and will be ready to adjust the CenterStage season if necessary.

"I think we are all prepared for that, but we're praying hard against it," Jump said. "I think a lot of us have learned the fine art of flexibility in the past year."

For now, though, here's a look at the upcoming fall season:

- Auditions will be held on the following dates in person at the JCC. To sign-up for an audition time, visit jcclouisville.org/arts and click on the "Arts and Ideas" tab: Thursday, Aug. 5, 6:30-9:30 p.m.; Saturday, Aug. 7, 1-4 p.m.; Sunday, Aug. 8, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.




- Tickets will go sale on Sept. 1. CenterStage tickets will be \$22; Academy tickets, \$18. Online purchase options will be available. Performances will be in the Linker Auditorium at the JCC, 3600 Dutchmans Lane.
- *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, In Concert*: The original Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice collaboration, which celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2019, reimagines the biblical story of Joseph, his father, Jacob, 11 brothers and the coat of many colors.
- *Falsettos*: Nominated for five 2017 Tony Awards, including Best Revival of a Musical, *Falsettos* is a hilarious look

at a modern family revolving around the life of a gay man, Marvin, his wife, his lover, his soon-to-be-bar-mitzvah son, their psychiatrist and the lesbians next door, all reminders that love can tell a million stories.

- CenterStage Academy, a youth musical theatre training program that gives students the opportunity to discover and develop their talents as performers, will kick off its Fall session with *Aladdin, Jr.*, based on the 1992 Academy Award-winning film and the 2014 hit Broadway show. Visit jcclouisville.org or email Jump at ejump@jewishlouisville.org for details.
- Acting Out, a professional touring children's theatre troupe, will again visit schools this Fall, performing shows based on two PJ Library books: *Beautiful Yetta* and *Maddi's Fridge*. Tours will begin in October. Email Erin Jump for details.

Jump hopes to announce the rest of the season's schedule when the new Trager Family JCC, along with its theater space, is ready for use.

"We are simply waiting to see, when we get in there, what we have to work with right away," she said. "Hopefully, in the summer 2022, we will announce a full-season lineup."




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GLOBE

GUN VIOLENCE

Continued from page 1

2X called the situation “a public health crisis,” one that is not being properly addressed.

Intervention with young people on gun violence used to take place during the high school years, 2X said. Today, “That’s a dinosaur model.”

He said conversations and programs must be addressed at children in grades K-8, even pre-K kids.

“If a kid can pick up a cell phone and navigate it at 2 and 3 years old, they can absorb like a sponge this negativity,” he said. “I’ve been told by elementary school principals that we’re starting to lose kids before they start K through 12, meaning in their early childhood development years this problem is starting to evolve.”

Game Changers, along with UofL Hospital’s Trauma Institute and University of Louisville med school students, started a program called Future Healers to help local children affected by gun violence. The program takes children through the halls of a hospital, exposing them at an early age to the importance of the human body and how reckless gunplay can irreparably damage it.

“It’s not a stop-the-bleed program, but at the end of the day, I wish we were selling this 15 years ago,” 2X said. “We’ve got to tackle this problem early on.”

Moore, the other speaker, told a stark story about what can happen if gun violence isn’t addressed in time.

He was 16 and carrying a gun in Chicago when he shot high school basketball star Ben “Benji” Wilson. The case made national headlines and Moore – vilified – was sentenced to prison.

Since his release, Moore has tried to use his experience to help other offenders, but he has suffered setbacks.

He returned to prison at one point for firearm possession. (He obtained the weapon for self-defense after he was carjacked and the perpetrator put a gun to his head).

Even worse, his own son was shot to death, making Moore painfully familiar with the fallout from gun violence on both sides of the trigger.

The author of *Until the Lion Speaks*, his memoir of the Wilson shooting and its aftermath, Moore said stories swirling around his encounter with Benji cast him in an evil light, so he felt the need to put what happened into perspective.

“I needed to just humanize myself,” Moore said. “I needed to humanize Benji as well, because he was a kid.”

From that point, he explained, his life has been about teaching others to avoid his bad decisions.

“I know we can be better than our worst mistake.”

Want to know more?

The study by the Christopher 2X Game Changers, *Violence: Impact on Children Learning*, can be read at the organization’s website, 2xgamechangers.org/educate.html.

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NEWS & NEWSMAKERS

New Beginnings quilt exhibited

The New Beginnings quilt, stitched together by fabric artist Pat Sturtzel and participants in the Jewish Community Center's Time for Transformation program earlier this year, is on display.

The quilt is part of an exhibit – Quilts by Pat Sturtzel; Sculptures by Bill Ronay – to be open until Aug 30 at the All Peoples Unitarian Church, 4936 Brownsboro Road, Louisville, from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Sundays.

Sturtzel has 20 quilts on display in the Roberta Marx gallery, representing a variety of processes.



The New Beginnings quilt, which brought several Jewish Louisvillians together to work on the tapestry at the height of the pandemic, is on display at the All Peoples Unitarian Church on Brownsboro Road.

TS adopts volunteer pledge model

Temple Shalom is changing its membership structure.

The Reform congregation is giving up its dues-based system in favor of a new voluntary pledge model, freeing each household to determine its own contribution. Any household pledge will come with full membership and complete member privileges in the congregation.

The new model, capping months of study by Temple Shalom, reflects the experiences of other congregations

that have found it enhances sustainability, is popular with members and creates a "positive and engaged atmosphere overall," according to a Temple Shalom statement.

"In adopting the Voluntary Pledge Program, Temple Shalom is moving into the future and honoring Jewish values," Shiela Steinman Wallace, Temple Shalom's president-elect, said

in a prepared statement. "Each member considers what Temple Shalom needs and what they are able to afford. The amount of each pledge is confidential, and there is no need to petition for financial aid. Each member's pledge is valued and gratefully accepted."

Contact Temple Shalom at 502-458-4739 or information@templeshalomky.org for more details.

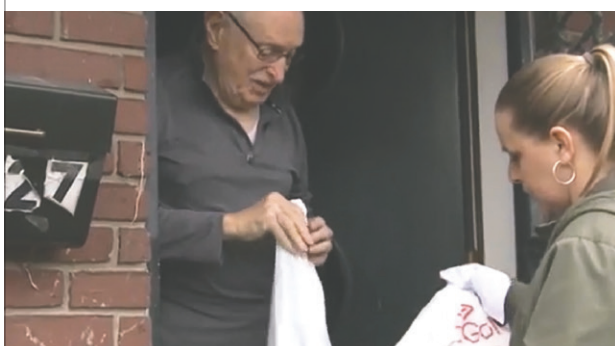
KI Kiddush luncheon postponed

Keneseth Israel postponed its enhanced Kiddush luncheon to welcome Rabbi Ben Freed and Ariane, as Jefferson County prepares to enter an Orange status COVID alert.

Mazel tov to ...

Marc Charnas, chief financial officer of GE Appliances, on earning the Best in Finance award from *Louisville Business First* for keeping the business strong during the COVID-19 pandemic and for being committed to community service.

Mike and Cindy Phelps, Temple Shalom members, for their winning craftwork at the Bullitt County Fair in June. Mike entered 18 items in four different categories, taking home eight first-place ribbons, four for second place and one for third. Among his first- and second-place winners were his hand-carved yads. Cindy entered her maternal grandparents' cartouche in the antique division/documents, receiving a first-place ribbon. A cartouche is a carved tablet or drawing representing a scroll with rolled-up ends.



Thank you.

You are the reason we have a thriving JCC, active summer camps, engaging programming, flourishing Jewish Family & Career Services, enthusiastic BBYO teenagers, interactive Hillel students, crucial assistance with community security/safety and trusted relationships with our Partnership cities in Israel – some of the many valuable causes supported by the Federation's annual campaign.



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AROUND TOWN

Adath Jeshurun

Friday evening Kabbalat Shabbat, Shabbat morning and evening minyan services have all resumed. Morning minyan services will resume on Aug. 9. Virtual worship will continue via Facebook Live, YouTube and Zoom. Links to all services can be found in the weekly emailed newsletter. Subscribe at adathjeshurun.com.

A virtual Selichot service will be held at 8:30 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 28. Reverend Della Porter, senior pastor of First Congregational Church, will address "A Budding Relationship between a Church and a Synagogue." Following Havdalah, the service will begin at 8:45 p.m. For the link, subscribe to the weekly newsletter at adathjeshurun.com.

The Annual Cemetery Service will start in person at 11 a.m., Sunday, Aug. 29, at 2926 Preston Highway. Attendees must wear masks and social distance.

Rabbi Robert and Deborah Slosberg will lead a Melton Seminar to Prague and Berlin from July 13 to 22, 2022. Participants need not be Melton students. Details of the tour are being worked out. Visit meltonschool.org/travel-seminars/prague-berlin.

Anshei Sfarad

Rabbi Simcha Snaid is now offering four weekly classes: Talmud Trek II, Sunday at 9:30 a.m.; Spice of Life, Wednesdays at 7 p.m.; To Make a Prophet, Thursdays at noon; and Hebrew Reading Crash Course – a new offering – starting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 3. Zoom options are available. To register, email rabbisnaid@ansheisfarad.com.

Chabad of Kentucky

The new service schedule has been released: morning minyan, Monday and Thursday, 7:45 a.m.; evening minyan, Tuesday and Friday, 8:45 p.m. (15 minutes before sunset); Shabbat, 10 a.m.

Chavurat Shalom

The group meets Thursdays in the Heide-man Auditorium at The Temple. Lunch starts at noon followed by the program at 1 p.m., which is streamed via ChavuratShalomZoom.

Aug. 5: Jennifer Diamond and the Dia-

mond Worley Clark Jazz Trio will perform.

Aug. 12: No Chavurat Shalom while Sarah Harlan is away.

Aug. 19: Beth Olliges will entertain with a late summer sing along.

Aug. 26: Classical pianist Nada will perform.

For more details, contact Harlan at 502-212-2038 or sarahharlan86@gmail.com.

High School of Jewish Studies

Registration for the 2021-22 term is open. Classes will meet two Sundays a month from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., beginning Sept. 19. Among the topics for study are Jews and Science Fiction, American Jewish History, LGBTQ Judaism and Torah Yoga. Classes will meet in person though appropriate safety guidelines will be in place. Visit louisvillehsjs.org/register/ to sign up or contact Principal Sarah Harlan at hsjssarah@gmail.com for more details.

Keneseth Israel

In-person services have resumed. Visit kenesethisrael.com for details, service times and COVID policies.

The Introduction to Reading Hebrew Class with Cantor Sharon Hordes is held Sundays at 5 p.m., followed by a learner's minyan at 6 p.m.

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

Kabbalah Month by Month with Cantor Hordes, a class on kabbalistic teachings and meditations based on the Hebrew calendar, is held the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

High Holy Days preparations: Rabbi Ben Freed's High Holy Day class will begin at 6:30 p.m., Monday, Aug. 16; Cantor Hordes' class, 6:30 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 22; Selichot services, 10 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 28; cemetery beautification project, 10 a.m., Sunday, Aug. 29; individual memorial prayers with clergy – 11 a.m., Sunday, Aug. 29. For details and the schedule, visit kenesethisrael.com.

Kentucky Institute for Torah Education

The 2021 Rosh Hashanah Challah Club will be held from 5:30 to 8 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 22, at the Standard Club. The cost is \$18 per person. Visit rhcc21.event-brite.com for details and to register.

Temple Shalom

In-person Friday services with Rabbi Beth Jacowitz Chottiner and a song leader, start at 6 p.m. are streamed on Zoom. Saturday services start at 10:30 a.m.

The next Chailands Chavurah will mark Selichot with a program at 6:30 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 28, at Temple Shalom, 4615 Lowe Road. David Y. Chack, artistic director of the ShPIeL Performing Identity, will speak about the theme of forgiveness in the Jewish theater. Havdalah will be held first followed by the program and a Selichot service. Email chailands@templeshalomky.org for details.

Rabbi Jacowitz Chottiner leads Torah study Tuesdays at 1 p.m. For details, email information@templeshalomky.org.

The next Book Club meeting will be held at 2 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 12, at Barnes & Noble on South Hurstbourne. Members will discuss *To the End of the Land*, by David Grossman, and *The Yellow Bird Sings*, by Jennifer Rosner.

The Temple

The Women of Reform Judaism/Sisterhood Gift Shop is open by appointment. Visit 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.

Adult education courses continue on Mondays at 6 p.m. with Advanced Hebrew with Rabbi Joe Rooks Rapport. On Wednesday, Temple Scholars' The Roots of Justice with Rabbi Rapport at 10:45 a.m. All classes are on Zoom. Registration is also available for the new year starting Fall 2021. Call 502-423-1818 or visit thetemplelouky.org/adult-education.

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

Indoor Shabbat services are held on Friday nights and Saturday mornings. Visit thetemplelouky.org for details.

Sandwich Making for the Homeless will start at 12:30 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 15. RSVP at thetemplelouky.org/sandwich-making.

Goodnight Tots, Goodnight Shabbat, a havdalah service with arts, crafts and treats, will be held at 6:30 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 21. RSVPs are required for treat bags. Visit thetemplelouky.org/goodnight-shabbat for details. This month's theme is Beginnings.

Blue Jean Shabbat will be held outdoors on Friday, Aug. 27. Dinner will start at 6 p.m.; Tot Shabbat at 6:45 p.m.; services at 7 p.m.; and an ice cream one at 8 p.m. Dinner is \$10 per person, free for children 12 and under. Dinner is \$5 for RSVPs before Aug. 24. Visit thetemplelouky.org/blue-jean for details.

Selichot will be held at 7 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 28. Services start at 7 p.m.; Tikkun Leil Selichot, 8 p.m.

The High Holy Days are almost here. Visit thetemplelouky.org/hhd to RSVP for services, sign up for a member bag, and more.

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LIFECYCLE

Margot Kling was a Temple Shalom founder and JCC, community leader

Margot Preis Kling, a Jewish Louisville community leader for more than half a century and part of its living memory, passed away Wednesday, June 30, 2021. She was 95.

Kling will be remembered by many as a kind, caring woman. Diane Sadle, retired director of the JCC Senior Center who worked closely with Margot, recalled how frequently Margot called her when she learned her husband was ill, even though Margot was not feeling well herself.

"I know she wasn't feeling well, because she told me, but she said she had to check and make sure he was doing OK," Sadle said. "That was Margot. I'll definitely miss her; she was a true, true friend and a true supporter of our senior program."

Margot grew up in Louisville, closely connected to the pulse of Jewish life here, even as a child.

In a 1991 taped interview she gave to the University of Louisville for the JCC

Family History Project, Margot said she "practically lived" at the old YMHA.

"My mother used to say, 'I will put a cot in the lobby, and you can stay.'" Margot recalled.

Born in Frankfort, Germany, before World War II, the daughter of Hilda and Adolph Preis, Margot was fortunate that her father decided the time had come to leave the country after the rise of Hitler.

Margot, who was 10 at the time, had already noticed that things were changing for Jews. Among other changes, her mother started walking her to school.

"I could not walk to school with the same children I walked with," she re-



Margot Kling

called in her interview. "One day, their parents said they could not walk to school with me anymore."

The family crossed the Atlantic on the ocean liner Queen Mary, landing in New York, but soon moving on to Louisville, where they had relatives.

As a girl, Margot took gym classes at the Y, co-founded the Modern Femmes social club, joined a Zionist organization and became a summer day camp counselor.

Since the Y didn't have its own pool, being a counselor involved taking the kids to the Shelby Park Pool on the streetcars.

Margot met her future husband, David Kling, at Tall Trees Camp. She was a camper; he a counselor. They were married for 70 years.

When the community outgrew the Y, Margot got involved at the street level – literally – with the fundraising campaign for the new JCC at Dutchman's Lane.

"We went from door to door, up and down Chestnut Street and Jackson Street" asking for donations she recalled. "We also went to some of the merchants on East and West Market Street."

As well as being a co-founder of the JCC, Margot became an active member of the Louisville Hadassah and National Council of Jewish Women, Louisville Section.

Even into her 90s, Margot continued her activities, serving as chair of the JCC's Senior Adult Committee since 2012 and active on the board for many years prior, and as a 2020 Federation Annual Campaign Ambassador.

One of Margot's proudest achievements was Temple Shalom, of which she and David were founding members. "She was a big organizer of the whole thing from the very beginning," Wolf said. "She was a mainwheel; she just loved her temple and everything about it."

Births

Raya Drew Fine

Lindsey and Max Fine of Chicago announce the birth of their daughter, Raya Drew, on Thursday, June 10. Raya weighed 8 pounds, 10 ounces, and measured 21 inches long.

Max, who grew up in Louisville, is the son of the late Miriam and Dennis Fine. Lindsey is the daughter of Marci and Greg Diamond of Chicago.

The great-grandparents are Barbara and David Gordon of Louisville, Eunice and the late Raymond Goldfarb of Chicago, and Judy and Mel Diamond of West Palm Beach, Florida.

North Oldham Middle School. She is a member of the tennis team, loves to travel – visiting family in San Francisco, Chicago, Uruguay, and Israel – and baking for special occasions. She enjoys playing board and strategy games and hanging out with friends.



Nathan Ziegler

son of Jessica Knapp-Ziegler and Michael Ziegler, and brother to Aaron, will be called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah at 10:30 a.m., Saturday

Aug. 21, at The Temple. Nathan's grandparents are Suzy Ziegler, Kay Knapp, Gary Knapp, Denis Hauptly, and Emily Knapp. An eighth grader at Kentucky Country Day School, Nathan is a member of the football and lacrosse teams. He loves skateboarding, skiing and hanging out with friends and his dog, Disco. For his mitzvah project Nathan will collect back-to-school supplies for local kids in need.

Obituaries



David L. Bloom

David L. Bloom, 65, died unexpectedly on Tuesday, July 13, 2021.

David was a part owner of Lannis Fence Company before starting his own business, Pacific Supply. He

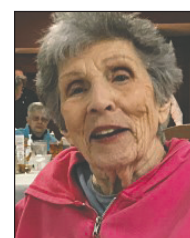
more recently worked for G4S Secure Solutions.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Hannah and Jerome; and his brothers, Harry and Michael.

David is survived by his children, Seth (Diane) and Grace; and his sister, Frances.

Graveside services were held Tuesday, July 20, at The Temple Cemetery.

Memorial donations are requested to Temple Shalom, 4615 Lowe Road, Louisville, KY 40220 or templeshalom-ky.org/donate/, or The Sonny & Janet Meyer Family Food Pantry at JFCS, P.O. Box 32578, Louisville, KY 40232.



Gita Comer

Gita Comer, 96, died Friday, July 16, 2021, at her Louisville home.

Gita fulfilled her life through study, unwavering support of the arts, and a strong identity with Judaism.

She cherished her family and loved her children, six grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

A woman of strength, Gita valued righteousness in politics and fairness for everyone. Most important, Gita always loved Gene and kept him alive in her heart for an entire lifetime.

A graveside service was held, Sunday, July 18, at Adath Jeshurun Cemetery. Donations may be made to Congregation Adath Jeshurun.



Susan Gayle Diamond

Susan Gayle Diamond died unexpectedly on Sunday, July 11, 2021.

Susan grew up in the Highlands and graduated from Atherton High School. During a summer trip to Colorado, she decided to attend the University of Colorado at Boulder. Much to her mother's chagrin, she enrolled and eventually graduated with a degree in psychology.

She returned to Louisville, earned her master's degree at University of Louisville and worked in the Jefferson County Child Protective Services Division.

Susan had many passions: travel,

tennis, fine dining and painting. She traveled extensively with her daughter, Brittany, and with her other dear friends. The day before her illness, she was working on her next adventure – a trip to France.

She took up tennis later in life. As with everything she did, she excelled. Her tennis skills became well known as she won club championships for several years and was recognized for her "craftiness" on the court.

She also was a skillful player of gin rummy and billiards. Losing at either game was a major insult, resulting in a challenge to a rematch.

She loved good food as long as a Cosmopolitan accompanied it. Even during the pandemic, she carried stacks of Clorox wipes, bottles of Purell and a tasteful mask.

Susan is survived by her daughter, Brittany Thompson (Ben); her beloved grandson, Lucas; and her brother, James Cohn of West Palm Beach, Florida. Also left to cherish her memory is her close friend, Jan D. Brown.

In memory of Susan, memorial gifts may be made to the Home of the Innocents.



Dr. Gerard Gold

Dr. Gerard Gold, 95, passed peacefully in his sleep on July 14, 2021, at his home in Louisville, surrounded by his family.

Born in Brooklyn, New York, a son of the late Samuel and Ella Gold, Dr. Gold's family moved to Louisville when he was 3.

A Marine during World War II, he served in the Asian-Pacific Theater of Operations. After his return, he enrolled at the University of Louisville in 1959, going on to graduate from the

Continued on page 18

B'nai Mitzvah

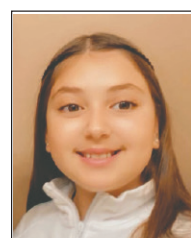


Malka Vaiselberg

celebrated her bat mitzvah on Monday, June 21, in Kiryat Ata, Israel. Her parents are Jessica and Moshe Vaiselberg. Her Grand-

Leeba "Mali"

parents are Wayne and Maureen Friedman and Chaim and Iris Vaiselberg. Her great-grandparents are Jacob and Carol Wishnia and Rose Friedman and the late Marvin Friedman. Her siblings are Talya, Abie and Elinor.



Natalie Scaiewicz, daughter of Valeria and Ricardo Scaiewicz and sister of Nicole and Melanie, will be called to the Torah as a bat mitzvah on Saturday, Aug. 7, with a havdalah service at 6

p.m. at The Temple. The granddaughter of Graciela and Alfredo Scaiewicz, Saúl Roisner, and Ivette and Alan Gottlieb, Natalie is an eighth grader at

LIFECYCLE

Continued from page 17

School of Dentistry.

He established his practice on Preston Highway for 33 years.

Dr. Gold was a member of the Kentucky Dental Association, Keneseth Israel Congregation and its Men's Club, and served as a committee member for the congregation's cemetery.

In his free time, he enjoyed boating, fishing, bowling and playing card games. He also enjoyed the senior group at the Jewish Community Center.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, V. Edward Gold.

Surviving Dr. Gold are his wife, Zmira; his daughter, Rena Sue Gold; his son, David Joseph Gold (Faith); and his grandchildren, Courtney and Ellis.

Funeral services were held Friday, July 16, at Herman Meyer & Son. Interment followed in Keneseth Israel Cemetery.

Memorial donations can be made to JFCS Food Pantry, St. Jude Children's Hospital, or your favorite charity.



Robert Goldberg

Robert Goldberg, 87 died Wednesday, July 21, 2021 in Louisville.

Born and raised in Cincinnati, Ohio, Robert later joined Navy and became a medic embedded with the

Marines.

He was a Doctor of Chiropractic before his retirement.

He loved his family and enjoyed spending time with them boating and watching University of Louisville basketball and football games as well as golfing.

He is missed by his wife, Verna; his daughters, Ronni DeLay (Mike), Donna Diachenko (Nick) and Cindy Viers; his grandchildren, Jay Metzger, Joseph DeVore, Tyler Viers, Evan Viers, Heather Daugherty, Stacey Keuber and Courtney Walz; and his 14 great-grandchildren.

The funeral service was held on Thursday, July 22, at Kentucky Veter-

ans Cemetery-Central in Radcliff. Arrangements were by Herman Meyer & Son, Inc.

Donations in memory of Robert may be made to The Healing Place, Development Office, 1020 W. Market, Louisville, KY 40202 The Healing Place Online or

The Jewish National Fund, Jewish National Fund, 78 Randall Avenue, Rockville Centre, NY 11570 jnf.org/donate-today.



Arthur David Grossman

Arthur David Grossman of Louisville passed away on Thursday, June 3, 2021, in Sarasota, Florida. He was 96.

Born Dec. 22, 1924, a son of the late Sidney and Ada Sara Grossman, Arthur attended Male High School and received academic honors at Indiana University and Harvard School of Business.

He fought in World War II, serving as a second lieutenant for four years and receiving The Purple Heart and Bronze Star.

A successful businessman for Linker Cigar Company, Arthur also served as treasurer of the Jewish Federation of Louisville, was a member of Adath Jeshurun and joined the board of The American Cancer Society.

In retirement, Arthur enjoyed traveling with his wife, Barbara. Together, they toured North America, Europe, South America and the Far East.

He played tennis and golf, hiked, enjoyed theater and entertaining, and was a master Bridge player.

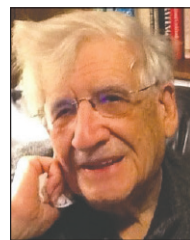
Arthur was sociable and generous to many charitable organizations. He and Barbara merged two families with eight grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his first wife, May Robbins Grossman and his second wife, Barbara Ross Grossman.

Arthur is survived by his children, Tami (Dan), Tim (Erin), Tod and Martin.

A private service will be held at a

later date. The family asks that donations be made in Arthur's name to the American Cancer Society at cancer.org or 1-800-227-2345.



Sy (Seymour) Slavin

Sy (Seymour) Slavin, who died on Sunday, June 27, at age 99, was a great father, husband and friend to many, as well as a professor emeritus of the Kent School of Social

Work at the University of Louisville. Born Sept. 11, 1921, Sy grew up in the Brownville section of Brooklyn, New York, which in his heart he never left. As a young man, he participated in labor organization and was a member of the Shipyard Workers' Union and the International Furriers' Union.

After serving in the Army during World War II, Sy earned bachelor's and master's degrees from Case Western Reserve University, in Cleveland. Under then Mayor Carl Stokes, he worked at the Cleveland Foundation, which subsequently served as a model for addressing social issues in many other large American cities.

Sy went on to earn his Ph.D. from Syracuse University's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs.

For more than 30 years, Sy taught sociology at the UofL. He was also a visiting professor at the universities of Stockholm, Gothenburg and Umea in Sweden and the Hochschule University in East Germany.

He was a consultant to the New Towns Program in Harlow, England, and he served as special advisor to Vice President Hubert Humphrey on the 1960s Great Society Program of President Lyndon Johnson. Even in retirement, Sy continued as a lecturer and advocate for social justice. Most recently, he served as the founding director of the Kentucky Labor Institute.

Sy lived for travel, dancing, books of all kinds, and – above all – people and conversation. He loved to learn from other people whenever he could. Sy found the best in everyone he met and he made good friends even better. He

will be missed deeply by many as he brought so many people together.

Sy is survived by his loving wife and soulmate, Claire Drucker; two daughters, whom he shared with his late wife of 47 years, Edith, Jill Stiber (Alex Stiber) in Minneapolis and Robin Slavin (Ken Reker) in Boston; two grandchildren, Dr. Adam Stiber and Ella Slavin-Reker; and friends spread far and wide who will always remember how Sy made the world a better place.

Rayma Berman Shuster

Rayma Berman Shuster, 93, a lifelong Louisvillian with an irresistible smile, died at home on Thursday, June 24, 2021.

A University of Louisville graduate, Rayma was Miss Thoroughbred 1948. As both a prolific reader and GED Ready teacher, she introduced adult learners to the joys of reading. A genuinely kind and happy person, what she enjoyed most was the company of her large extended family.

Rayma was a member of Congregation Adath Jeshurun, Hadassah and the National Council of Jewish Women, Louisville Section.

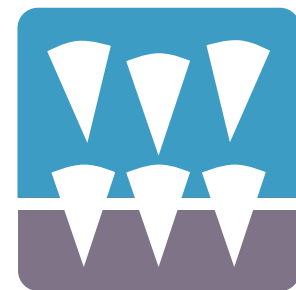
She was preceded in death by her husband of 60 years, Larry, parents Dennis and Jeanette Berman, sisters-in-law Eleanor Shuster and Sandra Berman, and brother-in-law Stanley Kreinik.

Rayma is survived by her sons, Dr. Myron and Rick Shuster; her grandchildren Justin (Margaret) and Stef; her great-granddaughters, Lily and Zoey Shuster. Also, her sisters, Jane Kreinik and Margie Kohn (Robert), her brother Harris Berman and her nieces, nephews, cousins, and wonderful caregivers who enriched her life.

A graveside service was held Sunday, June 27, in Adath Jeshurun Cemetery. In honor of Rayma, memorial contributions may be made to Congregation Adath Jeshurun at adathjeshurun.com/Donate or The JCC at jewishlouisville.org/federation/donate/.



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NEWS

HOUSTONS

Continued from page 1

mother.

"That was pretty special, wasn't it?" Alice Houston said, accepting the award. "I mean, you all really did that!"

She acknowledged how special the Ottenheimer is to Jewish Louisville, noting how many other people could have been selected.

"So to have you select us, I wear this really with honor," she said. "I also know that we share so many experiences, in terms of social justice and injustice and advocacy and commitment. I've been in rooms where you have been in fights with us."

Wade Houston called the evening a "homecoming" for him and his wife.

"I am truly humbled to receive this award," he said.

Assistant Membership Director Kathleen Horn, this year's recipient of The Arthur S. Kling Award, thanked her parents for getting a JCC membership when she was a girl, ultimately leading to her job there.

She also paid tribute to Margot Kling, Arthur Kling's daughter-in-law, who died on June 30.

"Just stories of what she was able to do, spearheading campaigns, keeping our community vibrant; it's nothing

short of inspiring," Horn said.

Marsha Roth, a longtime volunteer, and staff member at the JCC, won the Ronald and Marie Abrams Volunteer of the Year Award.

Describing how she ended up working for the JCC and everything she has loved about the community, Roth pointed out her role in the effort to establish PJ Library to Louisville.

"I was privileged to give the gift of books to all of our Jewish children and to introduce so many new families to our Jewish community," she said.

Jewish Community of Louisville Board of Directors Chair Dr. Ralph Green highlighted the organization's challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We were concerned about how to keep the organization afloat and keep it solvent," he said, "but through a lot of hard work, tenacity and dedication, your JCL staff and your JCL board has not only persevered, but it has met the challenge."

Now, he said, the future is bright.

"I am here to tell you that we are strong, and we were determined to move forward."

Green outlined three items of focus for the board in the coming year:

- **The fight for racial and social justice:** In particular, the community has responded to the recent in-

crease in anti-Semitism locally and nationally with SAFE Louisville, a program meant to help ensure the security and safety of all the Jewish institutions here.

- **Serving the community during the pandemic and after the pandemic:** Green cited the Meals on Wheels program, for which Chef Helen Impellizzeri has cooked 21,201 meals during the past year – a 50-percent increase over the previous year (see story, page 5). He also cited adaptations made to serve families during the pandemic; specifically, Camp J 365, which gave support to children engaged in non-traditional instruction (NTI).

- **Aquatics and fitness:** Both centers created a healthy and safe outlet for health and fitness during the pandemic, Green said.

Fundraising did not stop during the pandemic. Green said the JCC acquired \$1.5 million in crisis relief and COVID programming grants, and the J On the Way capital campaign passed the \$42.5 million milestone. LIFE & LEGACY gained 500 commitments valued at more than \$11 million.

"We are extremely grateful," Green said. "We are who we are because you are who you are."

The JCL also elected its new

Board of Directors

Outgoing Co-chair Jon Fleischaker thanked the outgoing board members, Keren Benabou, Julie Ellis, Dr. Jon Klein, Amy Ryan, Dr. Jeff Tuvlin and Rabbi Beth Jacowitz Chottiner, all of whom have completed their terms. He also welcomed Ross Cohen, Jasmine Farrier and Amy Joseph Landon, who were nominated or re-nominated for three-year terms.

Ariel Kronenberg was renominated as program chair, and Cantor Sharon Hordes will join the board as president of the Louisville Board of Rabbis and Cantors.

The governance committee nominated or re-nominated officers for one-year terms: Green, chair; David Kaplan, vice chair-elect; Becky Ruby Swansburg, vice chair; Dr. Jeff Goldberg, treasurer; Beth Salamon, secretary; and Fleischaker, immediate past-chair.

Fleischaker presided over the board during the campaign to raise funds for the future JCC, which will be completed next year, as well as its groundbreaking and initial construction.

"The last five years have been extraordinary in their efforts," Fleischaker said, "and important in being able to at least be on the road to achieving what I think we're going to achieve."

BBYO

Continued from page 1

he is a tennis specialist at Camp Beber and will attend the University of Wisconsin next year.

While playing on the tennis team at duPont Manual High School, Yael, an AJ member, noticed that teammates did not watch each other's matches or welcome freshmen. She changed this by organizing dinners and making sure everyone had tennis outfits with the team name. She provided a positive example to her teammates. Yael is taking a gap year in Israel.

Jenna Shaps and **Katy Roemer** won the **Stacey Marks Nisenbaum Awards**, presented to incoming high school juniors or seniors who are leaders in BBYO, strengthening and growing the program, while staying active at school and in the community at large.

Jenna, a senior at Kentucky Country Day, has served as her chapter's *morah* (vice president of recruitment), *s'ganit* (vice president of programming) and interim *n'siah* (president). She has been Kentucky Indiana Ohio's (KIO) regional *mazkirah* and *gizborit* (secretary and treasurer) and is now regional *n'siah*. She is a member of AJ.

Katy, a senior at St. Francis High School, served as *n'siah* and helped her chapter recruit new members, improved programming to make events more engaging. During the pandemic, she helped children with NTI work. She helped the chapter come back from the pandemic and served as *sh'lichah* (vice president of Jewish heri-



Yael Wagner



Eli Schramko



Jenna Shaps



Katy Roemer



Nila Rothman



Reagan Rothschild



Alex Schwartz

tage, community service and social action). She is a member of The Temple.

Nila Rothman won the **Ellen Faye Garmon Award**, presented to an incoming high school junior or senior who worked to strengthen and grow both BBYO and community. A junior at duPont Manual, Nila helped Jay Levine BBG raise more than \$1,400 with a Kizito cookie dough fundraiser and created spirit wear for everyone in the chapter. She has been the chapter's *n'siah* and has been on convention leadership for KIO and an ambassador for Giving BBYO Day. She is a Torah-chanting teacher at The Temple and works with kids preparing for their *b'nai mitzvah*.

Reagan Rothschild and **Alex Schwartz** won the **Stuart Pressman Student Leadership Development Award**, given to incoming high school juniors or seniors who are involved in their BBYO chapter while keeping up strong devotion to community service.

A junior at duPont Manual High, Reagan started a book drive for her *bat mitzvah* and is still working on the project. She has collected 5,000 books that have been donated to the Home

of the Innocents and the West End School. She makes sandwiches for the homeless with The Temple and on her own. She works with special needs kids as a peer partner and volunteers with the Louisville Children's Film Festival, teaching Girl Scouts how to make videos. She is a member of The Temple.

A junior at Ballard High School, Alex is president of the AZA. He has volunteered with J-Serve for two years and with Shabbos Friends at Jewish Family & Career Services, celebrat-

ing Shabbat with seniors at Magnolia Springs. He teaches tennis with Rising Stars of Kentucky Tennis, a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting youth tennis in underserved communities. Alex won a gold medal for recreational tennis at the Maccabi Games in Los Angeles. He is a member of The Temple.

(Editor's note: A story in next month's Community will look at the origins of the teen awards and why each was established.)

THANK YOU

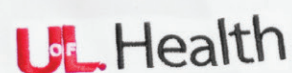
to all of our 400+ donors to the Capital Campaign for a new JCC.

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Rebecca Redman, MD
Deputy Director of Clinical Research
& Medical Oncologist

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