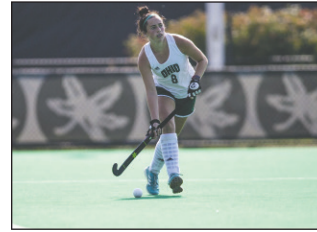


JEWISH LOUISVILLE COMMUNITY



INSIDE:
Maccabia bound
Local athlete to play
for U.S.A. at Games
STORY ON PG. 4

FRIDAY Vol. 47, No. 11 | November 26, 2021 | 22 Kislev 5782

Abigail Goldberg heads up youth programs from teens to adults



Abigail Goldberg (far left) pictured here at a recent Young Adult program at the Monnik Beer Company, is responsible for programming for BBYO, Teen Connect, Hillel and the Young Adult Division. Also pictured are Lauren Lazarus (left), Gillian Windell, Shelby Davis, David Raffman, Jay Wells and Yuvi Friedman. (photo provided by Abigail Goldberg)

By Community Staff

Fresh out of college, Louisville native Abigail Goldberg has joined the Jewish Federation and Jewish Community Center as Teen Director and Philanthropy Outreach.

Goldberg will oversee BBYO and Teen Connection as well as serve as the new Hillel director, working with students on four area college campuses, including the University of Louisville (UofL) and Bellarmine University.

Goldberg will also serve as young adult engagement coordinator under the Federation, developing programming and a sense of community for young adult Jews living in Louisville.

In other words, Goldberg is responsible for programming for all Jewish young people save those who are still pre-b'nai mitzvah.

Goldberg, who was active in BBYO

See **GOLDBERG** on page 19

Annual Campaign to reach more people with hybrid approach

By Community Staff

The Jewish Federation of Louisville's 2021-22 Annual Campaign will be donor-centric and data-driven as it aims to reach new donors and reconnect with old ones.

The campaign will also place great emphasis on sharing with donors the excitement surrounding the soon-to-open Trager Family Jewish Community Center and inviting everyone to be a part of an historic time in Louisville's Jewish community.

The Federation has announced that David Kaplan, an attorney with Kaplan Johnson Abate & Bird, LLP and vice chair of the Jewish Community of Louisville Board of Directors, will head the campaign for a second straight year. He is coming off a 2020-21 appeal – a virtual one because of the COVID pandemic – which still yielded significant results.

"The community really stepped up last year, and I was moved by that," Kaplan said. "This was happening all over the country. I really felt like we rose to the occasion during the pandemic, and we got a positive response."

In some ways, donors pushed themselves to give more.

"I was surprised to see that last year donors increased their gifts more than we've seen in prior years," Kaplan said. "It was a very healthy percentage increase."

On the downside, the virtual campaign precluded efforts to reach as many people as in previous years.

"The outreach was tough because we couldn't connect with people in person," Kaplan said. "I do think we may have missed some people that in the past we would have connected with at events."

That may not be a problem this year if the campaign reintroduces in-person events to compliment virtual events, which it will do with the Major Gift event in December.

"It will be great to see so many donors in-person, but for those who are unable to join, we will offer a virtual option," said Stacy Gordon-Funk, senior vice president of philanthropy at the Federation.

Likewise, it's not yet clear if Super Sunday will be live this year.

"We did very well virtually last year," Gordon-Funk said. "I personally miss

See **CAMPAIGN** on page 19

Afghan husband sponsored by local synagogue recounts life up to exodus

By Lee Chottiner
Community Editor

Jalaludin and Razia Shirzad were mere children, growing up in the remote Afghan province of Nuristan when U.S. troops were deployed to the country in 2001.

It was a simple life. Most people in the hilly region were shepherds; some were farmers. It's the kind of place where marriages are still arranged between families.

Twenty years later, Jalaludin, 28, and Razia, 26 – who wedded through one of those arranged marriages – just became parents. Their 5-week-old son, Hewad, was born on Oct. 20.

Unlike his parents, though, Hewad will not grow up in Nuristan. In fact, he may never see Afghanistan at all.

Hewad was born in a Washington, D.C., hospital – a U.S. citizen by birth – yet still part of the wave of thousands of Afghans who fled their homeland after its fall to the Taliban. By comparison, Jalaludin and Razia will have to wait one year just to apply for asylum.



Jalaludin and Razia Shirzad, and their infant son, Hewad, pictured here being greeted at Louisville Muhammad Ali International Airport on Thursday, Nov. 4, by members of Temple Shalom and officials from Kentucky Refugee Ministries, are the first synagogue-sponsored Afghan family to be settled here. A second family, sponsored by Keneseth Israel and its preschool, arrived Wednesday, Nov. 24. (Community photo)

See **AFGHAN** on page 18

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THE DASHBOARD

Word of the Month

Genesis questions offer meaning to life's journey



D'var Torah

Rabbi David
Ariel-Joel

This month, we continue reading the Torah portions from the book of Genesis and the questions it poses.

How the world was created and who created it are two of those questions that all curious people ask themselves. Many and varied answers are given. The answers in the book of Genesis also define the meaning of life and its purpose.

Genesis, which opens the Bible, suggests two answers: One is detailed in chapter 1; the other, in chapters 2 and 3. The two stories can be read as complementing – not necessarily contradicting – each other. Both address how the world was created, who created it and what our role as human beings is in its context.

Chapter 1 of Genesis suggests an organized creation process, built from consecutive, logical steps. The Creator is good, the creation is a good action, and its words are good. One can draw the suggestion that what is not good in this world does not stem from the Creator – the darkness, the threatening water, the abyss. All these were there before the creation, and do not submit to the authority of God.

Thus, if we believe in the never-ending goodness of God, we must cede the concept of God's never-ending potency. On the other hand, if God is omnipotent, having endless abilities, then one should cede the theological concept of its everlasting goodness.

This alternative concept of God is the

background to the story told in chapters 2 and 3, the second Creation story. In chapter 2, it is told how God created the tree of knowledge, good and evil. God creates Adam, and we are told, "It is not good that the man should be alone." Seemingly, this story does not present God as omnipotent – the snake describes God as fearful of human beings, and God agrees to this description. God looks at its own creation and acknowledges its weakness ("It is not good that the man should be alone").

However, it does appear that in all this, the true force of God is revealed – the power of learning. God fixes its wrongdoings when their meaning becomes apparent ("I will make a fitting helper for him"); God reorganizes the creation when it fails (through the punishment that is given to Adam, Eve and the snake). God's ability to learn and correct its ways is the source of its absolute power.

The different appearances of God in both creation stories ascribes to us a different image of the human being. They also supply different answers to the questions about the meaning and purpose of our existence: Are we created in God's image (chapter 1)? Are we made only of goodness, or can we recognize and contain the good and bad (chapter 3)? Is our role predefined, or should we define and shape it ourselves, while making mistakes and pondering over them?

Since the beginning of humanity, men and women have tried to answer these questions. Sometimes it can be said that the journey itself is what gives our lives meaning and purpose, maybe even the power of life itself.

(Rabbi David Ariel-Joel is a senior rabbi at The Temple.)

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Snapshots



BBYO teens had a great time at their Nov. 20 roller skating party at Champs RollerDrome. Pictured here are Hannah Ciriano, Nila Rothman, Nicole Scaiewicz, and Maraya Goldstein. (Community photo provided by Abigail Goldberg)

Candles

Here are the candle-lighting times for Shabbat in December:

- Dec 3 @ 5:05 p.m.
- Dec 10 @ 5:05 p.m.
- Dec 17 @ 5:06 p.m.
- Dec 24 @ 5:10 p.m.
- Dec 31 @ 5:15 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, Dec. 22 (though sooner is better). The paper should be in your mailbox

by Friday, Dec. 31.

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

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NEWS

Bound for Israel Louisville field hockey athlete makes Maccabi USA

By Lee Chottiner
Community Editor

A Louisville woman will compete in the 21st Maccabiah Games next July in Israel.

Bentlea Schwartz, 18, a freshman at Ohio University, has been named to Maccabi USA's 18-athlete roster for the open women's field hockey team. She earned a place on the squad following tryouts this past summer in Stevenson, Maryland.

Schwartz, who will be making her first trip to Israel while competing in her first international event, is looking forward to the experience.

"It's a chance to deepen my faith and connect with my roots and play field hockey at the same time," she said.

Schwartz has been playing field hockey since the fifth grade. At Assumption High School, where she played defense, her team won the 2019 state championship. She also competed in the National Futures Championship – a feeder program to potential Olympic teams and an opportunity to be recruited by college athletic programs. She currently plays for Ohio U.

Schwartz said she was not aware of the Maccabiah Games until her mother saw a posting and brought it to her attention.



Bentlea Schwartz dribbles the ball from the backfield in an October field hockey game against Ohio State. (photo provided by Kim Schwartz)

The daughter of Kim and Scott Schwartz, Bentlea, who grew up attending The Temple, joins a high-power team of athletes from the University of

Pennsylvania, Georgetown University, Amherst College, MIT and Wellesley College, to name a few schools – all competing for gold.

"It would be pretty cool to come away with a medal," she said.

First held at Ramat Gan in 1932 with 390 athletes from 18 countries, the Maccabiah is considered the Olympics for Jewish athletes. Traditionally held every four years, it has been interrupted only by World War II.

The last Maccabiah in 2017 attracted nearly 10,000 Jewish athletes from more than 75 countries, making the

games the third largest international multi-sport event in the world, after the Olympics and the FIFA World Cup.

The Maccabi USA delegation sent 1,131 members to the 2017 Games, the largest traveling delegation in the history of Jewish sporting events.

The last Jewish Louisvillians to compete in the Maccabiah were Peyton Greenberg, a swimmer from Northwestern University, who won two silver medals, and Andrea Glazer, an equestrian from Auburn University, who also won a silver. Both women competed in the 2017 Games.

Renewal congregation starting in Louisville

Jewish Louisville has a new congregation. Kol Israel, which claims 40 members and is affiliated with Jewish Renewal, held its first service in November.

"It's a new way to Jew in the Lou," said Avram Kahn, one of its founders.

The congregation is meeting in private homes for the time being.

Jewish Renewal is a "transdenominational approach to revitalizing Judaism," according to the Aleph Alliance for Jewish Renewal, the national organization for Jewish Renewal. It employs egalitarianism, "the joy of Hasidism" and havurah.

"Renewal takes the joyous, the simcha aspect of Judaism, and makes it egalitarian," said Melanie Hughes, a former member of the board of directors.

According to its mission statement, Kol Israel's primary goal is to reach out to individuals who feel that current or traditional Jewish institutions do not meet their needs.

Kol Israel joins Louisville's established religious communities, which represent the three major branches of Judaism. Only the Reconstructionist and Humanist movements have yet to establish congregations here.



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NEWS

Goldberg takes up new position at Federation; JCRC job open

By Community Staff

Matt Goldberg is leaving the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC), but he won't be going far.

Goldberg, who has served as JCRC director for 11 years is moving into a new position at the Federation: director of individual giving – a position that will keep him busy with the Annual Campaign full-time.

"I'll be doing a lot more in-depth work with the donors, more stewardship, really getting to know our constituents," Goldberg said, "a lot more meetings, a lot more discussions with our donors, and solicitations, of course."

In his previous role, Goldberg split his time with the Annual Campaign and JCRC.

There is no timetable for hiring a new JCRC director, but the Federation has begun advertising the position and Goldberg, who will stay on until the position is filled, said he will help with the transition. He is excited about his new challenge.

"Matt's new role will help us deepen and continue to connect with donors in new ways," said Stacy Gordon-Funk, Senior Vice President of Philanthropy & Chief Development Officer of the Jewish Federation of Louisville.

The two jobs are not dissimilar, Goldberg said. "I'll still continue to advocate for all things in our community, it will just be furthering the conversation and relationships with our donors."



Matt Goldberg

The transition affords the Federation a chance to redefine the JCRC position, a healthy process since the job and the world are constantly changing.

For instance, when Goldberg started the job 11 years ago, there was heavy emphasis on Israel advocacy. There still is, but more attention is now given to domestic issues and working with partner organizations.

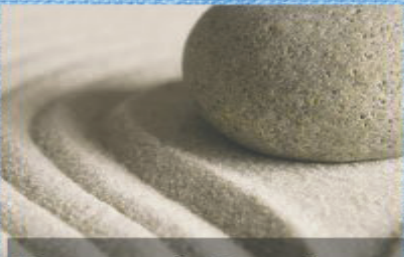
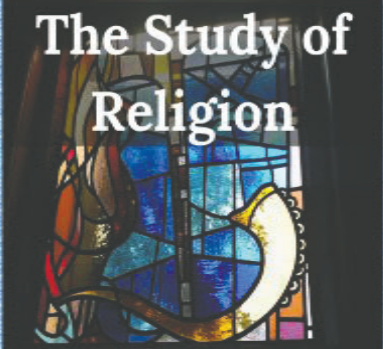
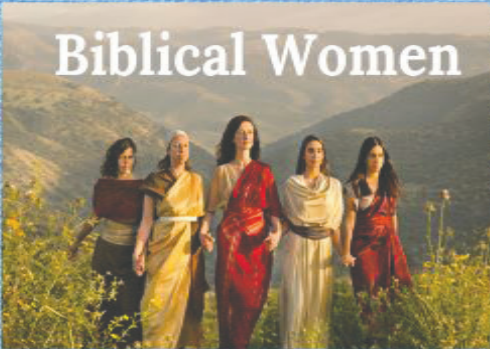
"This job needs to be renewed and refreshed every few years," he said. "The issues change, the tactics change. So, the person who takes over JCRC will do some of what I was doing but will do some things differently and work on different topics. It has been a pleasure for me to have worked in partnership with hundreds of volunteers over the years and I'm excited to see the great work continue."

"The work of the JCRC is a cornerstone of our Federation and we look forward to building upon the committee's work in a new and ever-changing environment with JCRC chair, Beth Salomon, and the committee," Gordon-Funk shared.

Want to apply?

Those interested in the JCRC position can read the ad at jewishjobs.com or contact Sara Klein Wagner at swagner@jewishlouisville.org.

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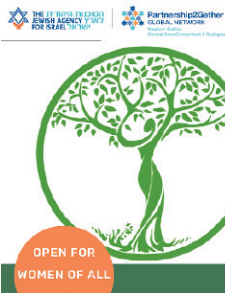
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COMMUNITY DEADLINES

Deadlines for the next two issues of **Community** for copy and ads are: December 22 for publication on December 31 and January 19 for publication on January 28.

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.

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FORUM



COP26 and the Jews: It's not too late



Human Resources

Lee Chottiner

COP26, the just-concluded United Nations Climate Conference in Glasgow, Scotland, was hardly everything environmentalists – Jewish environmentalists in particular – had hoped for.

Leading developed nations did agree to reduce methane emissions. There were commitments to stem deforestation, pledges to reach net-zero CO2 emissions by mid-century and to double support from \$20 billion to \$40 billion for the mitigating efforts of smaller, less developed countries.

By the end of the conference, though, the participants did not achieve enough change to limit global temperature growth to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels between 2030 and 2052 and avoid, the most catastrophic impact of climate change.

“We’ve seen progress, we’ve seen headway, we’re not stuck, we are making some movement forward,” said David Waskow, director of the World Resources Institute, an international climate initiative. “But we also know that we’re not where we need to be, and the problems are getting increasingly severe.”

Still, according to two “Elders” of Jewish sustainability – Rabbi Arthur Waskow (David’s father) and Ruth

Messinger – the conference highlighted gems of wisdom that climate activists would do well to remember: Don’t despair and embrace the faith.

In a Nov. 21 virtual townhall on the fallout from COP26, hosted by Hazon, an international Jewish organization dedicated to global sustainability, Rabbi Waskow, 88, a well-known author, activist and founding director of the Shalom Center, dedicated to ecology and human rights; and Messinger, past president and CEO of the American Jewish World Service, gave voice to those gems.

Even with the earth at a red-alert crisis – out-of-control wildfires, catastrophic storms, longer-lasting droughts, rising sea levels – now is not the time to give up.

“Despair is not a strategy,” said Messinger, 81.

Indeed, converging on Glasgow were young Jewish activists from Hazon, Dayenu: A Call to Climate Action; Adama, a fellowship for young Jews integrating organic agriculture, farm-to-table living, social justice and spiritual practice; and the Jewish Youth Climate Movement, a Gen Z-led movement combatting climate change.

Messinger, herself a former politician, also tempered hopes for legislative solutions to the crisis unless more climate-conscious leaders were elected to turn their promises into accomplishments.

“Change happens slowly,” she said, “and you can’t make the kind of radical change our youth leaders want if you only have a bare majority in Congress.”

As for the other gem, faith-based groups, including Jews at the syna-

gogue level, must step up, taking an active role in the climate struggle, which cuts to the core of the Jewish concept tikkun olam (heal the world).

To that end, Waskow hinted at the possibility of faith-based action on climate change next spring, a spiritual time for many of the world’s religions.

“I think there is a broad willingness to act, to prepare for this spring renewal of life,” Waskow said. “That’s what spring is in the northern hemisphere, the renewal of life on a planet that can’t breathe.”

Waskow didn’t go into specifics for the action, but he named its catalyst: GreenFaith, an international coalition of the great religions, including Judaism, working for climate justice, to “generate a moral awakening to the sacredness of Earth and the dignity of all people,” according to its web site, greenfaith.org.

There was no report of a major Green Faith-supported demonstration this coming spring on its website, and the organization has not yet returned a request for comment. I will report GreenFaith’s response when it replies.

Waskow said any spring religious response must include “a major commitment by GreenFaith.”

“I think there is a real chance that we can shift from despair and apathy to a real commitment at the grassroots of all the religious communities here and in many other countries,” Waskow said. “That’s what I’m ready to spend energy on.”

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

FORUM

JCRC serves as a bulwark against rising tide of antisemitism



JCRC Scene

Beth Salamon

On a recent walk I was listening to a Freakonomics Radio podcast entitled "How Much Does Discrimination Hurt the Economy?" The guest on the podcast, an economist from the University of Chicago, had studied the effects of firing top-level Jewish executives in Nazi Germany on those businesses and, more broadly, on the German economy.

Not surprising, the economic effects of the firings weren't good for either. The companies did significantly worse for at least 10 years after the executives were dismissed, the author of the study found, and the country did not recover as quickly as it could have following World War II.

What particularly struck me about this podcast, though, were the statistics the author cited about Jewish citizens in Germany in the early 1930s. At that time, Jews made up about 0.8 percent of the German population, yet they held 15 percent of senior management positions. Those companies that were managed by Jews included names that survive to this day: BMW, Alliance and Deutsche Bank,

to name a few.

Additionally, while Jews made up about five percent of the population of Berlin, they paid over 30 percent of the taxes in the city.

As I listened to these statistics, I wasn't only thinking about the economic impact of the firings. I realized that if Jews were this successful and assimilated into Germany society, only to become victims of the Holocaust in a few years, then no amount of success would ever fully guarantee our safety here.

As Jews, we always know this is part of our unfortunate legacy, but hearing the podcast reminded me again that life for Jewish people is always somewhat precarious. And to make matters worse, it seems that our success tends to lead to scapegoating and more antisemitism.

We know that antisemitism is on the rise again. There has always been hate coming from the extreme political right. Now, there also is a rise of antisemitism on the extreme left, taking the form of anti-Zionism. Israel, with its relative economic and military strength, engenders irrational hatred because it is not seen as the historical underdog anymore.

For me, this sobering reality has a bright spot, and that is being the chair of the Jewish Community Relations Council. I truly believe that the JCRC's work in our community and around the country can combat this hatred. When antisemitism occurs in schools around Louisville, principals call on us to educate students and help change the school culture.

We have relationships with the Black

community, the Asian community and the Muslim community through our Muslim-Jewish alliance.

When Hitler quotes in the Kentucky State Police training materials were exposed last year by the duPont Manual High School newspaper, we helped facilitate new training and cultural awareness for our law enforcement.

Through community relations and

working together with coalition partners, the Jewish people of America will continue to have a safe and prosperous place in this country.

(Beth Salamon is the chair of the Jewish Community Relations Council.)

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Letter to the Editor

Chanukah and Thanksgiving: thankful, thankful holidays

This year, Chanukah begins on Nov. 28. That night, we will light our first Chanukah candle.

Chanukah is a joyful holiday, but the reason so much emphasis is placed on it is its commemoration of the first successful revolt in history on behalf of religious liberty (the Maccabees over the Syrian Greeks).

On Chanukah, the candles are kindled by the "shamash" (the lead service candle). Its sole purpose is to provide the spark for others.

Likewise, unless we are fired with the conviction of what we do, our endeavors will be meaningless. The Maccabees proved that people who possess a spark of desire will leave their mark on history.

Josephus writes, "And they called it the festival of lights because, I believe, the opportunity of living according to our faith was given to us so unexpectedly like a sudden flash of lightning."

Also, the Torah compared to light.

Chanukah, like all Jewish holidays is family-oriented. Each night the family lights the menorah, adding another candle.

Thanksgiving is also a time to be thankful and thankful. When recalling the first Thanksgiving, we should pon-

der the sad circumstances in which the Pilgrims found themselves. Their meager crops failed to produce an adequate supply of flour; the enemy was positioned everywhere to attack. It was then that Governor William Bradford consented to issue five grains of corn to each person for one month.

I believe the main grain of corn paid tribute to the ideal of gratitude and thanksgiving for one's good fortune to have a land of freedom and liberty. The name "American" was an all-embracing declaration that one's race, religion and social status were yours to enjoy in the land of the free.

Honor Thanksgiving with a garden of fresh ideas and ideals for Americans everywhere. This is one day a year when we should be thankful and thankful for the good fortune that is ours because our ancestors were convinced that we are born free and meant to enjoy the blessing of life every day.

Thanksgiving, like Chanukah, is a joyous holiday for families to get together and it is also a time to remember our ancestors.

Rabbi Hillel Smulowitz
Louisville

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FORUM

On Beyond Moses: Jewish Comic Superheroes can be funny, but the real kind have impact



Guest
Columnist

Michael
Ginsberg

Two Jewish artists created Superman, and some believe the Man of Steel was Jewish – a mensch of steel.

Those two artists – writer Jerry Siegal and illustrator Joe Shuster – later created “Funnyman,” a superhero with characteristics even more “Jewish” than Superman.

And then there is Israeli army vet and actress Gal Gadot, aka Wonder Woman.

The Jewish roots of superheroes run deep.

However, writer Siegel and illustrator Shuster sold Superman for only \$130; Superman himself has been missing in inaction for years; and Wonder Woman’s rotten movie ratings suggest her label be changed to Under (Achieving) Woman.

Sure, Jews can (and do) boast many historic figures – from Moses to David to Mordecai to the Maccabees – but we find ourselves in a calendar drought every year between Passover and Chanu-

kah.

How about Sukkot? C’mon now; imagine Lulav and Etrog in Spandex.

No, we need new Jewish fictional heroes: members of the tribe with powers beyond those of mortal men and women, heroes who can change the course of midterm elections, bend the Stock Market with their bear hands (pun definitely intended), and look good in tights.

So, as a community service (you’re welcome), here are a few ideas for your consideration:

Bagel Boy

Injured in a suspicious Lower East Side bakery fire, Benjamin Bialy emerges as Bagel Boy, a human inner tube who throws himself into swimming pools, raging rivers, avalanches, mud slides and political mud-slinging to save the day.

Bagel Boy’s nemesis: **Lox Luther**, The Big Blintz (an official title – look it up) of the Kosher Nose crime and deli syndicate.

Billie the Kidder

A New York subway mugging transformed Billie Borschtenstein, a shy, soft-spoken accountant, to a mighty mouth that roars. Her slashing one-liners cut down TV hucksters, white nationalists, and ethically challenged politicians who

suddenly retire, “to spend more time with my family.”

Here are a few of Billie’s zingers:

- “A recent fire burned down Senator Gastro Graham’s library. Both books were lost, and he hadn’t even finished coloring one of them.”
- “If ignorance goes for \$40 a barrel, I want drilling rights to Gov. M. T. Sute’s head.”
- “Mayor Malvina Malevalencio thinks Sinai is the plural of sinus and Latin Americans speak Latin. When an earthquake struck Northern California, she bravely rushed to the Epcot Center.”

Billie’s role models: Don Rickles and Joan Rivers.

Billie’s nemesis: Don Rickles and Joan Rivers.

Matzo Momma

After an evil baker flattened Martha Markowitz’s matzo-ball shaped body into an unleavened magic carpet, Momma emerges to rescue kids and pets from burning buildings, shuttle families from collapsing tenements and deliver gangsters to Umberto’s Clam House, where the pasta is to die for.

Bart Mitzvah

Not all superhero stories end well. Super Nebbish Bart Mitzvah was the dar-

ling of little old ladies and gentlemen, opening doors, helping them cross the street and carrying their groceries (often against their will). Then a vicious cycle of bicycle accidents left him utterly *farsh tinkener*; he delivers Meals on Wheels during Yom Kippur, hawks “Free Haman” T-shirts at Purim parties, and siphons oil from Chanukah menorahs. Once the darling of every Mah Jongg group, Bart Mitzvah has turned into **Meshuggah Man**.

“IQ”

Nickname: “The Jew Who Knew”

Isaac Quizowitz could (and often did) speak five languages at birth and recite the names of every member of Congress who has been or soon will be indicted. Turning his verbal incontinence into a diplomatic skill, “I.Q.” has taken part in 16 international peace conferences and taken credit for all ending successfully. (Izzy can say “Sign the treaty” in 215 languages, including Esperanto.)

...

As a bonus, here’s a true story about a true Jewish super hero: my Uncle Moe.

Growing up in in Brooklyn’s tough Depression-era Bushwick neighborhood, Moe Grosfeld became a legend,

See **GINSBERG** on page 18



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Chanukah candles remind us to fight burnout



Sara's View

Sara Klein
Wagner

*Don't let the light go out!
It's lasted for so many years!
Don't let the light go out!
Let it shine through our hope and our tears!*

Chanukah – and these lyrics from Peter, Paul and Mary's ("Light One Candle") – always make me feel connected to generations of the Jewish people.

The story of the miracle of the oil burning longer than expected resonates with our responsibility today to keep the light burning, keeping traditions alive.

Chanukah is a time of year spent with family and friends, remembering the

miracle of oil required in the Temple, which should have lasted one night, but burned for eight full days.

Chanukah teaches many lessons. Here's one that I just learned that truly resonates this year.

On a recent call with colleagues from around the country to discuss the stress and toll of burnout, I was mesmerized by the metaphor between mental health and the Chanukah candles.

Every Friday morning, for the past 18 months, I have been fortunate to spend an hour with nine other Jewish Community Center CEOs. The Jewish Community Center Association (JCCA) initiated this Awareness in Action Jewish Mindfulness course to help professionals become more mindful leaders during a once-in-our-lifetime pandemic. Throughout the program, we focused on *tikkun middot* (cultivating positive character traits) for our discussions. *Middot* have included *binah* (understanding), *gevurah* (setting boundaries and *zerizut* (energy). The experience was meaningful for me; learning in a Jewish context for an hour every Friday provided a safe

space to share challenges.

Our group continues to meet. Over the past few months, we have used other material, most recently from *The Blue Dove Foundation*, to advance meaningful conversations about mental health and mental illness. With Chanukah as a backdrop, we shared the stress experienced during this busy time of year, and the way life in general leaves little room for rest. The need to always be on and caring for others creates burnout.

Burnout and Chanukah? Can you visualize burnout as a candle literally burning out? What does human burnout look like? Can we see the flicker when someone is struggling? Does burnout feel like melting away?

Most important, how do we prevent burnout and encourage time for rest?

The Chanukah menorah is so beautiful when lit. The *samesh* (leader) candle has the responsibility to light the others. As a leader in our community, I recognize the responsibility to look out for others – most important, our hard-working staff. Our lives are packed and filled with activities and expectations.

The JCL has been short-staffed because

of COVID, but the workload has continued to grow. We have open positions, but burnout must be taken seriously.

This Chanukah, I will watch the candles on the menorah, but I will also commit to taking more time to watch for, and spend time with, those around me with curiosity and understanding. I will look for the flicker or signs of stress and offer support for respite or assistance as needed.

Zerizut (energy) was one of my favorite *middot* to study. This Chanukah, let's share our own sparks of energy when we see others burning out. Openly addressing emotional and mental health is more critical than ever.

If we fail to achieve that balance, we run the risk of our own candles going out.

As we enjoy adding a candle each night during Chanukah, we will surely see how much brighter and vibrant the menorah is when every candle is lit.

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

Noa Tishby – actress, author – speaks at Women's Philanthropy event

By Shannon Rothschild
For Community

Israeli actress Noa Tishby had a powerful lesson for the Lion of Judah women as she wrapped up her recent speech: "If we don't do it, who's going to do it?"

Those words closed the Jewish Federation of Louisville's 2021 Lion of Judah and Pomegranate appreciation event. And they resonated.

Held virtually with Lions and Pomegranates from Indianapolis, Indiana, and Birmingham, Alabama, the evening was an opportunity to hear from Tishby and ask questions of the woman who has become a leading voice in the pro-Israel movement in the United States.

Tishby thanked all the women on the call for everything they do for their own Jewish communities, encouraging them to continue their work.

Specifically, Tishby shared her stories of moving to the United States, encountering severe misinformation about Israel, and reconnecting to her Jewish roots and who she is as a Jewish woman.

She said all of her future projects, which include acting in and producing movies and television shows, authoring books, and speaking at a variety of events, including college campuses, will address the misinformation about Israel, the country's history and its importance in the world. "Nothing is more important than what I am doing right now to combat antisemitism and the de-legitimization of Israel," she said.

"A world without Israel is a dangerous place for Jews," she added.

Tishby discussed her new book, *Israel: A Simple Guide to the Most Misunderstood Country on Earth*, which has been praised by Hollywood producers and U.S. politicians.

She also spoke about her work with Act for Israel, an organization she founded as a catalyst for Israel-focused



Noa Tishby

online advocacy and rapid response.

The Louisville Lion of Judah and Pomegranate hosts for the event were Karen Abrams, Shellie Benovitz, Susan Callen and Kate Latts.

All women from Louisville on the call received a special appreciation gift from the Louisville Federation: cocktails pro-

vided by Heaven Hill, Israeli Bamba, rugelach from the JCC kosher kitchen and a signed book by Noa Tishby.

For more information on Lion of Ju-

dah and Pomegranate societies, email Shannon Rothschild at srothschild@jewishlouisville.org.



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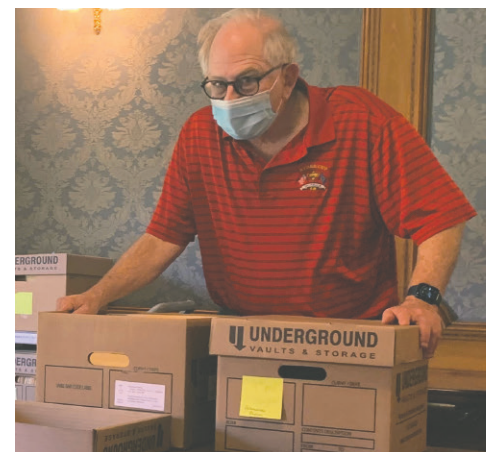
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PICTURE THIS: ARCHIVE COMMITTEE MEETS



More than 20 community members gathered at the Glenview to help the Jewish Archives Committee identify subjects of photos from the 1930s, 40s and 50s. Hosted by Frankye Gordon, hundreds of individuals and places were identified, aiding the committee with its preparation of artifacts for the Jewish Archives at the Filson Historical Society. Abby Glogower, curator of Jewish collections at Filson, said there are many required steps before Jewish treasures, like photo, can be added to the formal archival collection. To access the archives online, visit <https://fhs-archives.org/>.



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Bring your donation of gift cards to the front desk of JFCS during regular business hours or schedule a specific drop off time by emailing us at volunteer@jfcsloouisville.org. Currently, we are not accepting clothing or toys through the program.

To ensure families receive gift cards in time, all donations must be made by Friday, November 12 at 1:00 p.m.

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GLOBE

This catchy 'West Side Story' Chanukah parody was filmed on location in New York

By Lisa Keys
New York Jewish Week via JTA

The opening shot is a panorama of the George Washington Bridge, its tower and the surrounding buildings transformed into a flickering menorah with all nine of its candles lit. "A West Side Chanukah Story," the opening text announces – and immediately, the very New York sounds of traffic and car horns give way to a familiar sequence of snaps and the wordless singing of a well-known tune.

So begins the latest Chanukah parody video from the New York-based Jewish a cappella group Six13. The video is a voices-only compilation of and riff off some of the greatest hits from Leonard Bernstein and Stephen Sondheim's iconic 1957 Broadway musical, West Side Story, including "Maria" (reimagined here as "Menorah") and "Tonight" (which becomes "Eight Nights").

While Chanukah a cappella parody videos have become something of an annual tradition in recent years, a major inspiration for this particular video is the forthcoming reboot of the 1961 film version of West Side Story. Directed and co-produced by Steven Spielberg, with an updated screenplay by Tony Kushner, the new film is set to hit theaters on Dec. 10.

"When I heard that was coming out, I was like, when?" original Six13 member and chief arranger Mike Boxer told the New York Jewish Week. "We are doing this, for sure."

"West Side Story," Boxer added, "is one of the greatest pieces of art ever crafted."

Six13's Chanukah-inspired musical medley, filmed on location in Manhat-

tan, is chockablock with clever Festival of Lights puns and imagery. For example, in "On Chanukah" – a version of the West Side Story showstopper "America" – the lyrics include: "Chocolate money on Hanukkah/Latkes are crunchy on Hanukkah/Presents from Bubbe on Hanukkah/I want a puppy for Hanukkah!"

(That last lyric is notably a reference to David Digg's 2020 instant classic, "Puppy for Hanukkah.")

It's truly a delightful watch from this well-seasoned group, which first formed 18 years ago as an outgrowth of a co-ed Jewish a cappella group at Binghamton University. After college, Boxer and a few buddies missed the camaraderie of the group, he said. So, they formed Six13; essentially "just guys who like to sing," as he described it.

"Over the years, the guys would get a promotion at work, or would do things like get into med school, or have a third or fourth kid, and their time [with the group] would expire," Boxer said. "The silver lining was, every time we lost someone, we gained someone who was even better."

These days, Six13 consists of eight members, most of whom range in age from 26 to 32, according to Boxer, who, at 41, is the elder of the group.

"I'm the guy who just won't leave," he quipped.

Its members live across the city, in Long Island and in New Jersey, which made Manhattan the ideal location for a video. Not only is it essential to the spirit of West Side Story, but it was convenient for everyone, too.

The video's intro, for example, features six members of the group snapping their fingers and leaning against a chain-link fence. Boxer stumbled

across the location, which is a fence that surrounds the playground at P.S. 452 on West 61st Street, as he was dropping off his kids at Abraham Joshua Heschel School. "Perfect!" Boxer recalled thinking. "We're just going to stand right there."

Other locations include Morningside Park, the social hall at the Stephen Wise Free Synagogue, the SAR Academy in Riverdale, and the offices of the Manhattan Jewish Experience, an organization that encourages young Jewish professionals to explore Jewish life and meet one another, which spon-

sored the video.

Six13 has consistently put out a stream of high-quality Jewish holiday parody videos, including a super-catchy sea shanty from Passover 2021, as well as "Bohemian Chanukah," a version of the Queen epic "Bohemian Rhapsody."

Singing a cappella, Boxer points out, is something Jews, regardless of their musical abilities, do all the time.

"That's something everyone around the world is going to be doing on Sunday night," he said, "singing a cappella around their menorahs."

**It's not too late to
save a life in Israel this year.**



Photo by Kobi Gideon / FLASH90

Apple sues NSO Group, the Israeli spyware firm sanctioned by U.S.

Apple filed a lawsuit in federal court Tuesday, Nov. 23, against NSO Group, the Israeli firm that was sanctioned by the United States last month for selling its cell phone hacking spyware to governments that used it to spy on activists and journalists.

Apple is seeking a permanent injunction that would prevent NSO Group from using Apple software. The company is also seeking damages of over \$75,000.

NSO Group is the creator of Pegasus, a spyware that can take over a target's cellphone and collect data from it. The company was blacklisted by the U.S. government earlier this month after it was discovered to have sold its spyware to governments that used it for spying purposes.

The spyware was at the center of reporting by a consortium of news organizations, called the Pegasus Project, which detailed the ways in which foreign governments and actors have used the technology to target jour-

nalists, activists and others. In 2019, WhatsApp sued NSO Group for allegedly using the app to access the phones of 1,400 of its users, including journalists and activists. The

sanctions imposed last month mean the companies can no longer use American technologies, though American customers can still purchase their products.

In its announcement of the lawsuit, Apple said it had fixed the security flaws that allowed Pegasus to access iPhones and that it would inform iPhone users who were impacted by the breach.

Ivan Krstic, head of Apple Security Engineering and Architecture, said in a statement that the lawsuit was a warning to other spyware companies.

"The steps we're taking today will send a clear message: In a free society, it is unacceptable to weaponize powerful state-sponsored spyware against those who seek to make the world a better place," Krstic said.

For more than 90 years, American donors have provided vehicles, training, and supplies to Israel's national paramedic and Red Cross service, equipping them to treat the sick and injured under the most difficult circumstances and to save lives.

In fact, this past year Magen David Adom's 30,000 EMTs and paramedics have been on the front lines in the fight against coronavirus while also contending with terrorist and rocket attacks, riots, car accidents, and other threats to Israeli lives.

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AROUND TOWN

(Unless otherwise noted, all events and services are free and open to the community.)

Adath Jeshurun

In-person Kabbalat Shabbat services have resumed on Fridays at 5:45 p.m., and Saturdays at 10 a.m., Nov. 20. Proof of vaccination is required, and masks must be worn. The Zoom option is still available. The link can be found in AJ's weekly emailed newsletter. Subscribe at adathjeshurun.com.

The *Sunday Night Live* at 7 p.m., Dec. 5, will feature a musical end-of-Chanukah celebration. Cantor David Lipp and musicians John Gage and Brigid Kaelin will be featured, along with a candle-lighting ceremony and Chanukah songs. A link to join this program is provided in AJ's weekly emailed newsletter. Subscribe by adathjeshurun.com.

The *Sunday Night Live* program at 7 p.m., Dec. 19, will feature speechwriter Sarah Hurwitz discussing her best-selling book *All Along: Finding Meaning, Spirituality, and a Deeper Connection to Life – in Judaism (After Finally Choosing to Look There)*. Pre-registration is required. A link is provided in AJ's weekly emailed newsletter. Subscribe at adathjeshurun.com.

Anshei Sfard

In-person Shabbat services begin at 9 a.m., Saturdays. Attendees not vaccinated are asked to wear a face mask and practice social distancing.

Talmud Trek II continues Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m.

A Chanukah party will be held at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 30, at the Standard Country Club, 8208 Brownsboro Rd. Magician David Gabbay will perform. There will be food, music and a menorah lighting. Cost is \$18 for adults, \$8 for kids ages 6-10 and free for kids 5 and under. There is a \$50 maximum charge per family. RSVP to 502-451-3122 or carla@ansheisfard.com.

Chabad of Kentucky

An outdoor grand menorah lighting will be held at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 30, at the Paddock Shops. Mayor Greg Fischer will light the menorah at 7:15 p.m. Warm drinks and latkes will be served. For more details, contact Rabbi Chaim Litvin at Rabbichaim@chabadky.com.

A community menorah lighting will be held just prior to Shabbat, at 5 p.m., Friday, Dec. 3, outside the Chabad House, 1654 Almara Circle. A Chanukah Oneg Shabbat service will follow. For more details, contact Rabbi Chaim Litvin at Rabbichaim@chabadky.com.

U.S. Rep. John Yarmuth and Lt. Gov. Jacqueline Coleman will be at the Kentucky Chanukah Extravaganza, 5 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 5, at Fourth Street Live. There will be latkes, donuts, hot chocolate, a bounce house, bowling and music. The giant menorah will be lit at 5:30 p.m. Project Friendship, the social service arm of Chabad, will give away gifts to families in need who register by Nov. 25. Contact Rabbi Chaim Litvin at Rabbichaim@chabadky.com.

Chavurat Shalom

Lunch is held Thursdays at noon in the Heideman Auditorium, followed by the program at 1 p.m., which also can be streamed at ChavuratShalomZoom. In-person participants must be fully vaccinated and wear a mask while inside, except while eating or drinking.

Dec. 2: The Louisville Klezmer Orchestra with Anthony Minstein and Mike O'Bryan will perform (lunch: baked salmon, potato pancakes, broccoli with roasted red peppers, mixed green salad, fresh fruit and chocolate bread pudding).

Dec. 9: Harpist Jessica Hyden will perform (lunch: beef brisket, roasted root vegetables, green beans, pasta salad, fresh fruit and assorted desserts).

Dec. 16: Jewish Community Relations Council Director Matt Goldberg will speak (lunch: beef stew, mixed green salad, fresh fruit and cheesecake).

Dec 23 and 30: No Chavurat Shalom

Keneseth Israel

All Shabbat and minyan services are held in the main sanctuary. Services also are streamed on Zoom, as are classes, unless otherwise noted. Visit kenesethisrael.com for details.

Intermediate Reading Hebrew meets at 5 p.m., Sundays on Zoom, followed by a Learner's Minyan at 6 p.m.

Text Me Back with Rabbi Ben Freed: Encountering Judaism from Torah to today, meets at 6:30 p.m., Mondays on Zoom. The class explores the foundations of Judaism, and other topics, through its texts.

Jews and Brews with Rabbi Freed is held Wednesdays at 11 a.m. on Zoom. Jews & Brews will hold special Chanukah classes on Wednesday, Dec. 1, 11 a.m., on Zoom, and 7 p.m. at West Sixth, Nulu.

A Chanukah Game Night will be held at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 2, on Zoom.

A Chanukah Party with beer and latkes will be held at 6:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 4 at Ten20. The party is for ages 21 and up. Cost is \$10 per person. RSVP at RSVP@kenesethisrael.com.

Mid what? Midrash! Exploring Torah Between the Lines with Artist-In-Residence Ariane Barrie-Stern will hold its class presentation to the community at 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 7, in person at KI.

Torah Yoga will be held in person at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 9 Yoga at KI.

Kentucky Institute for Torah Education

Light of Torah is held Mondays at 7:30 p.m. The class meets in person at the KITE Place, 2310 Dorothy Ave.; there also will be a Zoom option. Contact Rabbi Blaustein at rabbizb@kentuckytorah.org or go to our website kentuckytorah.org to RSVP. Light refreshments will



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Questions?

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for more information.



COVID Safety: We follow relevant CDC and Kentucky guidelines.

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

AROUND TOWN

be served.

The Shabbos Program, a new activity, is held at 11 a.m., Shabbat, at the Blaustein house, 2108 Tyler Lane. The program is for children ages 5 to 9 with accompanying adults. Kiddush will be served after the program. Contact Rabbi Blaustein with questions at rabbizb@kentuckytorah.org or go to kentuckytorah.org to RSVP.

Temple Shalom

Friday night services with Rabbi Beth Jacowitz Chottiner and a song leader are held in person and on Zoom at 6:30 p.m. on Fridays. In-person Saturday services will resume at 10:30 a.m., Dec. 4.

The Book Club, which will next meet at 2 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 2, on Zoom, is reading *The History of Love* by Nicole Krauss and *Nightwork* by Irwin Shaw. Contact Carol Savkovich at savkofam@bellsouth.net for details.

A Chanukah celebration will be held from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Friday, Dec. 3. WOTS and Men's Club members are making latkes from their own individual recipes. Contact information@temple-shalomky.org for details.

Jewish guitarist and performer Dan Nichols will present a Chanukah concert at 8 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 2 on Zoom. The program is being presented in conjunction with the Institute for Southern Jewish Life. Email information@temple-shalomky.org for details.

Chailands Chavurah is bringing back Jewish Poetry Night at 6 p.m., Monday, Dec. 13, at Vines Wine Bar & Spirit Shop, 1985 Douglass Boulevard. Readers may recite three works from established Jewish poets or their own work. Email chailands@Templeshalomky.org, to read.

The klezmer band Lost Tribe will perform at a holiday program on Friday, Dec. 24, following a Chinese dinner and an abbreviated service at the synagogue. Email information@templeshalom.org for details.

The Temple

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.

Monday night adult education classes are Advanced Hebrew at 6 p.m. with Rabbi Joe Rooks Rapport addressing the growing vocabulary of the most common Hebrew words; Basic Judaism at 7 p.m. with Rabbi Rapport teaching "Holy Days and Festivals," and Text Study at 7 p.m. with Rabbi David Ariel-Joel teaching "When God was Young." Temple Scholars meets Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. with Rabbi Ariel-Joel teaching "Torah of Optimism for an Uncertain Future" and with Rabbi Rapport at 10:45 a.m. teaching "Jewish Art and Artists."

Saturday Torah Study starts at 9 a.m. on Zoom and in person. Go to thetemplelouky.org/adult-education for details.

Congregants may attend indoor Shabbat services on Friday nights and Saturday mornings. More information at thetemplelouky.org.

An outdoor Chanukah menorah lighting will be held at 5:15 p.m., Monday, Nov. 29 and Sunday, Dec. 5, in the *mishkan t'filah* behind the Klein Center. Hot chocolate and jelly donuts provided by WRJ/Sisterhood will follow the brief service. RSVPs are requested, with the number of each household attending. Masks are optional. More information about Chanukah activities is at thetemplelouky.org/hanukkah.

The Temple Young Adults will hold its Young Adult Hanukkah Crafts & Cocktails at 6 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 4, in the Heideman Auditorium. It's a night of themed decorating of hanukkiah, dreidels, and other fun crafts over cocktails. Bagels, pastries, cocoa, wine, beer and hard seltzers will be served. Ages 21+ only; vaccinations are required. RSVP by Friday, Dec. 3 at thetemplelouky.org/YA-Hanukkah. Space is limited.

Goodnight Tots, Goodnight Shabbat will be held at 6:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 4. Rabbi Rapport will lead a tot havdalah with arts, crafts, treats, stories and songs. The program is held on Zoom. RSVPs

will be required for special bags. Visit thetemplelouky.org/goodnight-shabbat for details.

Mitzvah Makers will meet at 12:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5 and 2 p.m., Friday, Dec. 24, making sandwiches for Louisville's homeless. RSVP at thetemplelouky.org/sandwich-making.

Volunteer Shabbat, honoring The Temple's volunteers, will be held at 7 p.m., Friday, Dec. 10.

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B'nai Mitzvah



Nora Lovie Siegel, daughter of Julia Richerson and Erik Siegel, will be called to the Torah as a bat mitzvah at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 4, at Temple Shalom. Nora is the granddaughter of Dr. Carolyn Siegel (z"l) and Dr. Malcolm Siegel of Lexington and Ruth Richerson of Paducah and the late Joe Richerson. A seventh grader at Meredith Dunn School, Nora loves playing piano, tennis, Animal Crossing and with her cats. She has been active in Girl Scouts for seven years and has received her Bronze Award. Nora has attended Camp Ben Frankel in Makanda, Illinois, for the past two years and will return next summer. For her Pledge 13 project, Nora volunteered at the Louisville Nature Center and helping to plant trees in her neighborhood.

Obituaries



Barbara Cassell Altman, 83, passed away on Monday, Oct. 26, 2021, in Louisville.

She was preceded in death by her first husband, Fred Linkon; her husband of 60 plus years, Henry M. "Sonny" Altman Jr.; her parents, Arthur and Lea Cassell; her daughter, Laurie Altman Kupferman; her sister- and brother-in-law, Ann Altman Stein and Ed Stein.

Born in Indianapolis, Barbara graduated from Shortridge High School and later attended the University of Illinois. She moved to Louisville in 1961 after her marriage to Henry.

For more than 25 years, until her retirement, she owned Stationery by B. Altman.

She was a devoted mother to her three children and a loving grandmother of her five grandchildren. In addition, Barbara was an avid golfer and loved mah-jong and canasta.

She served as treasurer of Ladies Louisville District Golf and chair of the Standard Country Club Ladies Golf Committee. At the time of her death, she was a member of the Temple and its Sisterhood, National Council of Jewish Women, and was a member of the Standard Country Club.

Barbara is survived by her son, William "Billy" (Jan); her daughter, Kerri Altman Dixon (Dennis); her grandchildren, Jacob (Erin) Kupferman, Linkon (Courtney), and Austin Altman, all residents of Chicago, Andrew and Allison Dixon in Louisville; and her great-granddaughter, Avery Altman.

Also surviving are her sister, Joan Miller (Nathan) of Indianapolis; her brothers-in-law, Larry Linkon (Elizabeth) of St. Louis and Leonard Linkon (Jeannette) of Bonita Springs, Florida; and many nieces, nephews, and their children.

Graveside services were held privately at The Temple Cemetery. Donations are appreciated to Barbara and Henry Altman Fund @ The Community Foundation of Louisville, 325 W. Main Street, Suite 1110, Louisville, KY 40202.



Bert A. Geer

Bert A. Geer died Friday, Nov. 12, 2021, in Louisville. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Shirley, and a son, Steven.

A native of Cleveland, Ohio, Bert was born on March 30, 1930, to Rose and Michael "Max" Geer. He served in the Army during the Korean War and was stationed in Japan.

Remembered as a jovial man with a zest for life, Bert never met a stranger. As a traveling salesman of ladies clothing, he always made his customers feel at ease.

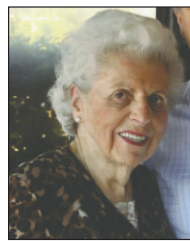
After retirement, Bert was the greeter at The Glenview with a wonderful smile. He took the time to know the residents and visitors.

He was a member of Adath Jeshurun and The Jewish Community Center.

Bert is survived by two sons, Jonathon (Cindy) and Ronald (Stacey); a daughter-in-law, Claire Geer; his grandchildren, Carly Mason (Daniel), Brandon (Alisa); Jason (Julie), Jonah, Lindsey, Madelyn, Spencer and Julia Geer; his great-grandchildren, Ruby and Lyla Geer and Poppy Mason; and his sister, Anita Lindner.

The family is grateful to Cheryl Henson for the loving care, devotion and friendship she provided their father and them.

Graveside services were held Sunday, Nov. 14, at Adath Jeshurun Cemetery. Memorial donations to Adath Jeshurun, The JCC or the Geer Family Special Needs Education Fund at Temple Sinai, 5645 Dupree Dr. NW, Sandy Springs, GA 30327 are appreciated.



Gila Glattstein

Gila Glattstein, 93, passed away on Tuesday Nov. 2, 2021. She was a member of Adath Jeshurun and the Jewish Community Center.

A Holocaust survivor and an immigrant to Israel and then to Louisville, Gila became a surgical tech at Kleiner and Kutz, a job she cherished for all her years.

Though she lost her family in the war, and later her son and husband, Gila always reached for and found joy in her life. As a result, her life has been generously blessed with countless steadfast friends and colleagues and a rewarding career.

She is preceded in death by her son, Roni, and her husband, Dan "Dino."

Gila is survived by her son, Uri (Marilyn); her grandchildren, David and Emily Gilman (Eli); and her great-grandchildren, Milo and Olive Gilman.

A graveside service was held on Nov. 4 in Adath Jeshurun Cemetery. Expressions of sympathy may be given to United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, 100 Raoul Wallenberg Place, SW, Washington, DC 20024-2126; The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, P.O. Box 22324, New York, NY 10087, or a charity of the donor's choice.



Barbara B. Goldberg

Barbara B. Goldberg died Tuesday, Nov. 16, 2021, at her home in Louisville, surrounded by her family. She was 80.

Born in Louisville on Feb. 28, 1941, the only child of Helen and Norman Blieden, Barbara became known as "Mimi" and was the most wonderful grandmother to her grandchildren Caroline, Joseph, Marnina, Abigail, Ethan, Noah, and Blaze.

Barbara dedicated her life to her family and volunteer work. As a member of Adath Jeshurun, Barbara gave 43 years to the gift shop there. She also was a member of The Jewish Community Center, National Council of Jewish Women-Louisville Section, Hadassah and the Federation's Lion of Judah.

She also loved playing Canasta with her lifelong friends.

In addition to her grandchildren, Barbara is survived by her high school sweetheart and husband of 61 years, Edwin; her children Craig, Brian (Deborah), Marla Ambrose (Jonathan Smith);

and her sister and brother-in-law Benita and Alan Simon.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, Nov. 17 at Herman Meyer & Son, Inc. Burial followed in Adath Jeshurun Cemetery. Expressions of sympathy may go to Wounded Warriors or the Jewish Community Center.



Fraeda Greenburg (Feldman)

Fraeda (Feldman) Greenburg, 87, died Wednesday, Oct. 27, 2021, in Kentuckiana. She was preceded in death by her parents, Irving and Gertrude

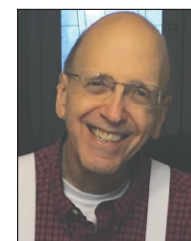
Feldman, and sister, Myra Goldstein.

Although born in Chicago, Fraeda and her husband, Robert, moved to Louisville and established their home. With a teaching degree in hand, she was instrumental in the establishment of Keneseth Israel Day School.

An avid reader and calligrapher, Fraeda also spent time on card games, bowling, and mahjong. In addition, she enjoyed traveling, especially to Siesta Key and Sarasota, Florida. Her memberships included lifetime member of Hadassah and Keneseth Israel Congregation.

Fraeda is survived by her husband of 65 years, Robert; son, Morrie, and daughter Laura Schindler (Stephen); grandchildren, Drew and Jason (Jessica) Schindler and Nicole Prostko (Bobby); and four great-grandchildren.

Services were held privately in Keneseth Israel Cemetery. Memorial donations to the local chapters of the American Heart Association or the Alzheimer's Association are welcomed.



Frederick "Fred" Paul Jacobs

Frederick "Fred" Paul Jacobs, 79, of Louisville, died Thursday, Oct. 21, 2021.

Fred entered the world on April 3, 1942, the youngest son of the late Max D. and Beatrice (Gazan) and instantly became the best friend to his older brother, Philip.

He graduated from Louisville Country Day School in 1960 and the University of Louisville in 1965. He also attended Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Fred's career as a furniture salesman began at Craftmaster Furniture in 1969. Upon his retirement in 2017, he held the

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distinguished honor of the longest sales career in the industry.

He continued as a part-time salesman for Schmitt Furniture, until the pandemic hit in 2020.

Fred's commitment and love for his family were deep. He considered them each as his most outstanding achievement.

Fred enjoyed travel, especially to his favorite destination, New York City, where he enjoyed Broadway shows and visiting his nieces.

A philosopher and history buff, Fred was always ready for a robust debate. He was a long-time ticket holder for UofL basketball and was a man of numbers and details, as was his idol, Albert Einstein.

A member of The Temple, Fred taught Sunday school and served on the board of trustees. He became the self-appointed "mayor" while living at Dominion Senior Living in Frankfort.

Besides his parents, Fred was preceded in death by his brother, Philip; his sister-in-law, Susie; and his niece, Julie Jacobs-Conrad.

Left to cherish his memory are his daughters, Ellen, Karen (Brian) and Lauren (Chris); his grandchildren, Kyle, Lacey (Jace), Jenna (Zach) and Dylan (Stacey); his ex-wife and forever best friend, Julie Ades Jacobs; his great-grandchildren, Eli, Maggie and Hayden; his niece, Marcie Klein, and his nephew-in-law, Eric Conrad.

Burial was held Monday, Oct. 25, in The Temple Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to The Temple Donate Temple Click or Derby City Dragons Donate Dragons Click. or 291 Hubbards Lane, Suite 172-238, Louisville, KY 40207-8203.



Marjorie Estelle Linker

Marjorie Estelle Linker, passed away Wednesday, Nov. 3, in Louisville.

Born in Decatur, Alabama, in 1926, the daughter of Jacob and Freda Lang, Marjorie grew up in Chattanooga, Tennessee, graduating from secretarial school, then going to work for Felix Diamond Jewelry in Chattanooga.

As a young adult, living life on her terms, Marjorie was ahead of her time. She traveled solo to New York City in her

stylish clothes and haircut, connected with friends, saw shows and enjoyed the glamour. Her style continued well into her 90s, with her wrinkle-free face and short salt and pepper hair, always looking 15 years younger.

Thanks to an arranged date, Marjorie met Allan Linker of Louisville. They dated long distance, exchanging courtship letters and phone calls. They married and she moved to Louisville to make her mark on the scene.

Marjorie played golf until age 90, making most of her lifelong friends on the course. She stayed in touch with them through constant phone calls and dinners. She was a lifelong member of Adath Jeshurun.

To her children, Marjorie was the strongest person they knew. Her unique phrases, southern belle accent and oft-handed stories are repeated beyond the family, bringing levity to any conversation. Her undeniable deep love for her family was always felt regardless of how far away they were from each other, and she became an inspiration for optimism. Marjorie lived her life, up until the end, in her home of over 60 years, thanks to the companionship, care and love of her daughter, Lori, for which the family is forever grateful.

Marjorie is survived by her daughters Lori, Jan Youtie (Bill) from Atlanta, Shari Commando; (Rob) and her grandchildren, Alana (26), Jamie (23) and Kyle (21) from Sea Cliff, New York.

The family expresses deep gratitude to Buddy Mattingly for the introduction to Sarah Wallace, whose generous care and support these past years were unparalleled, and to Norton Hospice for keeping her comfortable and warm during her final days. Donations in honor of Marjorie to Adath Jeshurun are welcome.



George Matlow

George Matlow died in Louisville, on Sunday, Nov. 7, 2021, about six weeks after celebrating his 103rd birthday.

His is survived by his sons Austin (Pamela), Kenneth, Stuart (Denise), Robert; his grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren. George was predeceased by his wife Ethel (nee Barnett); a brother, Philip (Marilyn), and a sister, Edith Drazin.

Born during the Spanish flu pandemic

of 1918 in Cleveland, Ohio, to Russian Jewish immigrants Milton and Rae Matlow, George graduated from Shaker Heights High School, where he met Ethel, and went on to earn a mechanical engineering degree from Case Institute of Technology.

George designed equipment for refineries, co-founded an automotive component manufacturing company, designed cryogenic gas systems for healthcare and industry, and piping for nuclear power plants, to name some of his endeavors. During World War II, he performed strategic work supporting the Manhattan Project that hastened the war's end.

George and Ethel raised their family in Beachwood, Ohio, from the late 1950s through the late 1960s, when he and his wife moved to Louisville, a city they both loved.

Services were held privately, with burial in The Temple Cemetery. Memorial Donations to The Home of the Innocents, 1100 East Market Street, Louis-

ville, KY 40206 or homeoftheinnocents.org/donate-now/

Sylvia (Kaplan) Plasner

Sylvia (Kaplan) Plasner, 83, passed away in Louisville Monday, Nov. 1, 2021. The Brooklyn-born Sylvia was preceded in death by her parents, Julius and Bessie Kaplan; her husband, Herbert; and her brother, David Kaplan.

A member of Congregation Anshei Sfard, Sylvia is missed by her daughter, Lisa Plasner; her sister, Mildred Stern; her nieces, Susan Martin and Beverly Romm (Gary); and her nephews, Zigmund Stern (Mindy) and Larry Kaplan.

Graveside services were held Tuesday, Nov. 2, in Keneseth Israel Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, her family appreciates donations to Congregation Anshei Sfard, 3630 Dutchmans Lane, Louisville, KY 40205.

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NEWS

AFGHAN

Continued from page 1

Jalaludin, who served with U.S. forces during the 20-year Afghan war, doesn't know what he will tell his son about his ancestral country when he is old enough to understand. Maybe he will say nothing at all.

"As you know, the situation is bad," Jalaludin said through an interpreter during an interview with *Community* in new South Louisville apartment. "It wasn't even good to begin with. The system, when it was the republic, was messed up,

and now that the Taliban have taken over, it's messed up again.

"So, I don't what I should tell Hewab about Afghanistan," he continued, "and up to a point, I don't want him to know anything about Afghanistan because I don't want him to have that pain."

The Shirzads are one of 79 Afghans to be resettled in Louisville so far through Kentucky Refugee Ministries, and the first to be sponsored by a Jewish congregation here.

Temple Shalom, the sponsoring synagogue, has purchased bedding, kitchen supplies, groceries (including halal meat) and other necessities for the family. One member of the congregation, a pediatrician, gave young Hewad a checkup one day after his arrival. Others have visited the family, providing, among other necessities, a large bowl to make nan bread.

Other synagogues, including the Keneseth Israel, The Temple and Adath Jesurun, have agreed to sponsor families. KI's family, also a family of three with a baby (who was born in Afghanistan), was expected to arrive on Wednesday, Nov. 24.

The Jewish Community Center ran a collection drive; the Jewish Family & Career Services opened the Meyer Food Pantry and NCJW-Louisville Section provided help from the Nearly New Shop.

Now comes the process of actually resettling the families.

...

Growing up, Jalaludin's and Razia's lives took different paths.

Razia went to university, her husband said, and went on to teach at a government school in Nuristan.

Jalaludin attended high school and had hoped to continue his studies. But there were few opportunities, so he went to war instead.

The couple has been married for one year.

"I was a soldier. It was in the Kandahar province; I was a U.S. soldier," he said through his interpreter. "We only went on two or three operations for fighting. Other than that, I was mostly guarding other people."

He made it clear that he fought for the Americans, not for the Afghans.

"I had nothing to do with the Afghan army," he said. "It was all the U.S. soldiers. I was paid by U.S. soldiers; I was doing everything with U.S. soldiers."

He said he served for about five years.

But as the Taliban advanced and the country collapsed, he and Razia fled to the capital, Kabul. He took off his uniform, and the two made their way to Hamid Karzai Airport, where they waited for two to three days before getting on a flight out.

First, they were flown to Dubai, where they waited for 15 days. After that, they were moved to Quantico, Virginia, just before Hewad's birth.

"That was the happiest day," Jalaludin recalled.

Though Afghanistan was once home to an ancient Jewish community, Jalaludin said he knows little about it.

"It was a long time ago," he said, "and people don't even talk with each other about Jewish."

Now, though, he said his family would be pleased to visit a synagogue, especially during Chanukah, "if you will allow us."

GINSBERG

Continued from page 8

the topic of discussion at every Passover seder on the Lower East Side.

Once, a teen bully was beating up Moe's younger brother, Sam, when Moe (who bore an eerie resemblance to Groucho Marx) thrashed the bully and chased him all the way to The Bronx.

My Uncle Moe, oldest of my mother's four brothers, grew up to become Dr. Morris Grosfeld, Grand Street physician and genuine hero to the poor. That neighborhood bully never again laid a finger on Sam, but he left plenty of corpses behind while building Las Vegas into a gambler's – and gangster's – paradise. (You can look him up in *The Koshers Capones* or *But He Was Good to His Mother*. Real books.)

The bully's name: Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel: aka "The Bug." You might remember him fictionalized as the character Moe Greene in *The Godfather*. Bushwick Bugsy was bumped off at age 41 in a bloody Beverly Hills shootout, but he'd already been Moed down in Brooklyn.

Comic book heroes are fun; that's true. But for true inspiration, nothing beats the real deal. You probably have a few in your own families. Take a look.

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

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NEWS

GOLDBERG

Continued from page 1

growing up, went to Jewish summer camp and helped run the Jewish Culture Club at her alma mater, Longwood University in Friendsville, Virginia, said she's excited about the challenge.

"It is a lot, but I'm very optimistic about the opportunities within this community and the people that I have connected with. I know it's a big task with all of these jobs, but I have a good support system to make these kinds of events happen."

Her job has been made more difficult by the toll taken on local youth groups by the 18-month COVID pandemic, which forced all programming online and hobbled member retention.

"I think it was hard when the pandemic hit and students in high school and in college had to go virtual," Goldberg said. "It hurt a lot in retention. They want face-to-face connection. Now," she continued, "were having a lot more in-

person events. We're growing again."

In Hillel's case, there are 10 currently active participants at UofL, which has been a largely student-led organization for the past years. Bellarmine University, JCTC and IUS have fewer but are on a mission to expand.

"The Hillel community is very small," Goldberg said, "but they have a want to be involved and a want to grow and find new members."

Same for BBYO. While Jay Levine BBG is "flourishing" with its own officers and calendar of events, Goldberg said Drew Corson AZA struggled during the pandemic and must be reestablished.

She is finding interest among the boys, she added, and expects the upcoming Drew Corson Basketball Tournament, which will be held in Louisville, to generate enthusiasm.

"It definitely takes a lot of time re-establishing something that has not been there recently," she said.

Finally, the Young Adult Division has its own growth opportunities, which

also come with challenges.

Many of the participants who have expressed interest are newcomers to Louisville with few connections here. So, Goldberg, who has been away from the city herself for much of the past four years, is working to establish a relationship with them.

"Most of my job right now is finding the right people to connect with to grow each division group," said Goldberg, who credited her JCC colleagues Kate-lynn Graves and Alayna Altman, for helping her to connect with young adults.

Daughter of Brian and Deborah Goldberg, Abigail Goldberg grew up in Louisville, belongs to Adath Jeshurun, was active in BBYO and Teen Connection, and attended Camp Ramah in Wisconsin for seven summers – an experience that was made possible with Federation assistance.

"I could only go to camp because of my synagogue, the Jewish Federation and the scholarships I received," she said.

At Longwood, where she majored in

psychology with a minor in business administration, Goldberg learned leadership skills when she shared the programming responsibilities for the Jewish Culture Club.

The results included a fundraiser on Yom Haatzmaut and a Chanukah program where she and others fried some 100 doughnuts in one evening.

"(We) almost started a fire," she quipped, "but we were fine."

She believes the experience of growing a Jewish organization on a campus with few Jews will serve her well as she works with young people to reenergize youth groups locally.

Though she is splitting her time between several responsibilities, she is getting assistance from Hillel International, meeting with the regional advisor and taking seminars with directors in similar situations.

"I'm not alone in any aspect of the job," Goldberg said. "There are multiple resources for every age group to help me be successful."

CAMPAIGN

Continued from page 1

that coming-together kind of interaction, but we'll see. It's kind of a hurry and wait situation."

This year's "hybrid" campaign of in-person and virtual events will employ new strategies based on data from previous campaigns that has been analyzed with the help of the Jigsaw Analytics Group, a campaign strategy firm that specializes in working with Jewish federations.

According to Kaplan, Jigsaw has identified "patterns and opportunities" that

the Federation couldn't as easily see without digging more deeply into the data.

"I think it's going to allow us to target opportunities a little bit better and be more efficient with our time," he said.

The new resources are meant to build upon the success of the 2020-21 campaign, which raised over \$1.8 million despite the lack of live events.

New media channels will also play a more high-profile role in this campaign. Videos and text could be used to engage donors or simply to thank them for increasing their gifts.

"We are trying to look at ways to

reach people where they are," Kaplan said. "Some people don't want to have an in-person solicitation anymore or get a phone call at an inconvenient time. For some donors, a text message with a personalized video might be a welcome change."

But the biggest point of pride for this year's campaign will be the new Trager Family Jewish Community Center and the excitement surrounding the winter 2022 opening.

"We feel like it's going to be the new front porch for the Jewish community," Kaplan said, "so that's something we're going to be able to take advantage of

very soon."

Gordon-Funk hopes the appeal of the new building will inspire donors to support with their dollars what happens inside of it.

"We have this building, and we want to engage as many in the Jewish community as we can with the great programming taking place," she said. "I hope it will be an inspiration or motivation for people to give, because the success is there for all to see."

THE JEWISH COMMUNITY OF LOUISVILLE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES DONATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING:

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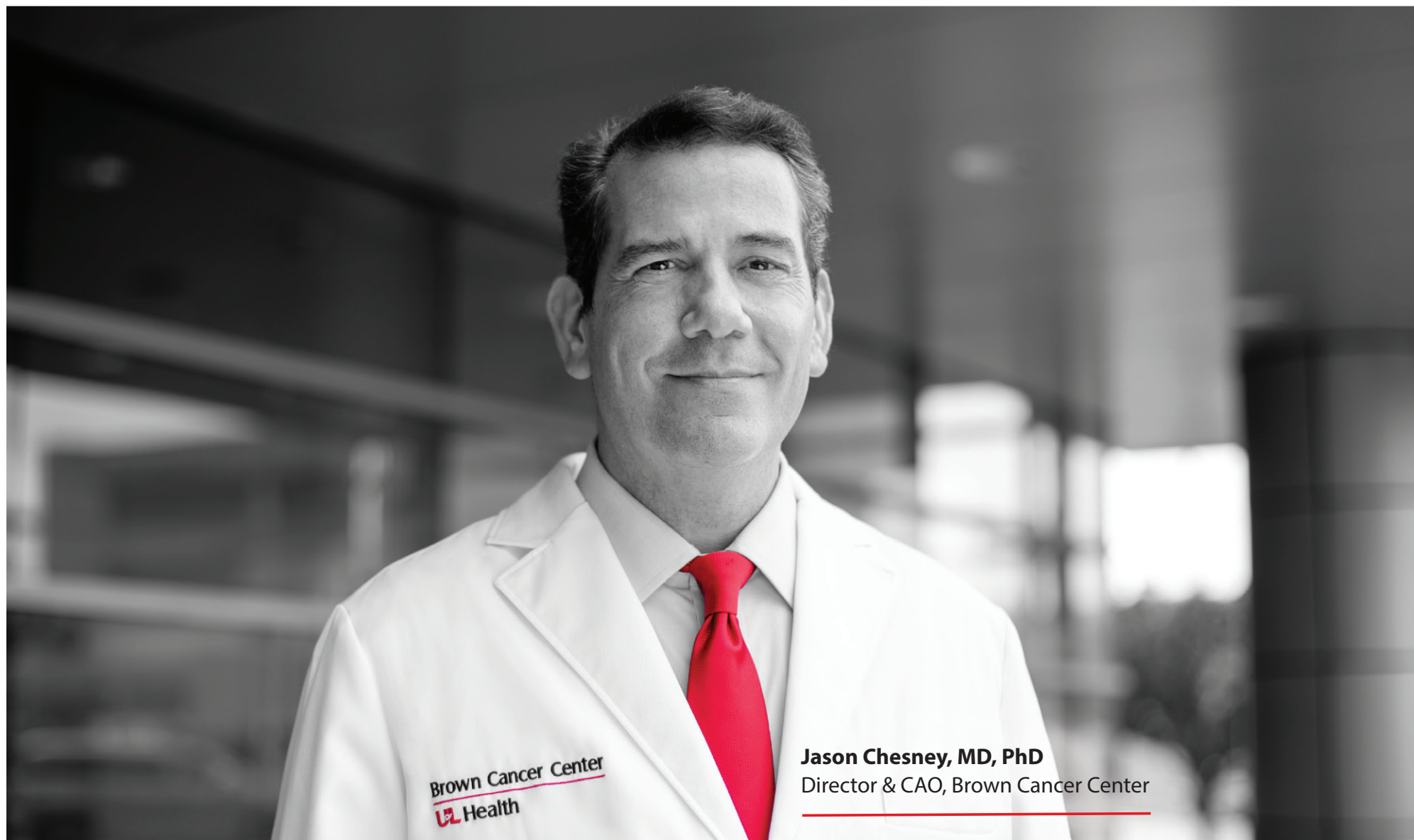
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