

JEWISH LOUISVILLE

COMMUNITY



INSIDE:

Beyond Grateful

A special section honoring the many donors who made our Trager Family JCC a reality

SEE PG. 13

FRIDAY Vol. 48, No. 9 | September 30, 2022 | 5 Tishrei 5783

Louisville’s Jewish Community

Study “Electrifying!”



By Community Staff

“It’s electrifying!” That’s how Dr. Jon Klein described the recently released results of the 2021-22 Community Study of Jewish Louisville. In his lifetime, of the many studies that he has read, he said that this one is in the top three. From Dr. Klein’s perspective, “the data presented convinced me that the future could be very bright for the Louisville Jewish community.”

One of the most enlightening findings of the study, conducted by Brandeis University, is that Louisville’s Jewish commu-

nity is larger than expected, over 60% larger. Previous studies, which only included Jewish Louisvillians who belonged to religious congregations and organizations, estimated the city’s Jewish population at about 8,500. It has been over 15 years since the last study. For the first time, the Louisville Jewish community reportedly includes 7,100 households comprised of 18,300 adults and children, of whom 14,200

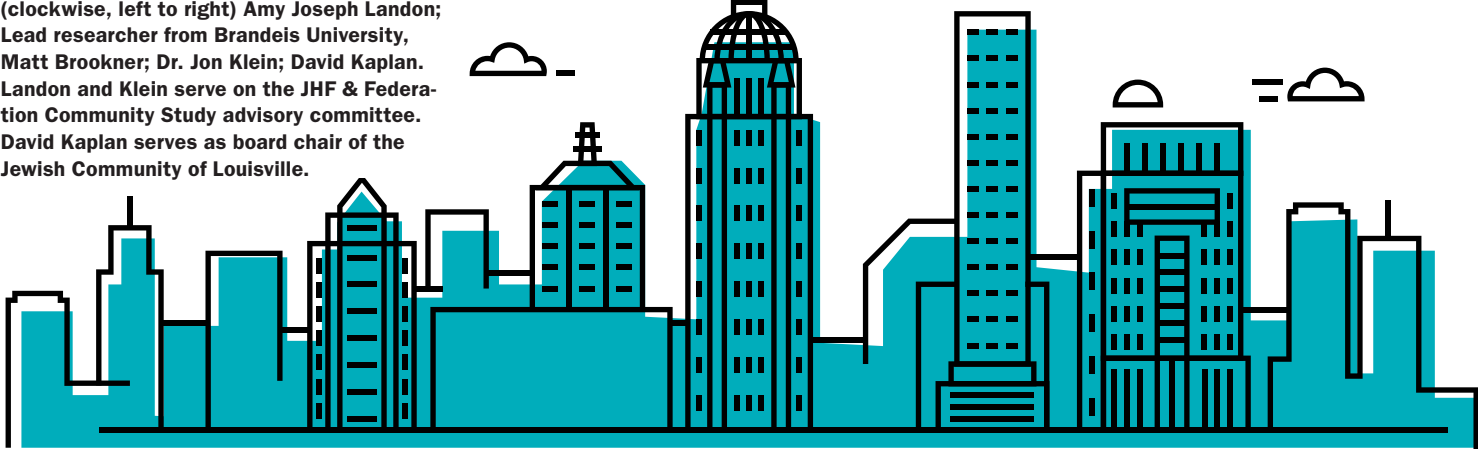
See **JEWISH STUDY** on page 19



(clockwise, left to right) Amy Joseph Landon; Lead researcher from Brandeis University, Matt Brookner; Dr. Jon Klein; David Kaplan. Landon and Klein serve on the JHF & Federation Community Study advisory committee. David Kaplan serves as board chair of the Jewish Community of Louisville.

2021-22 STUDY OF

JEWISH LOUISVILLE



Matt Golden

envisions building

local bridges as

JCRC director

By Community Staff

Matt Golden knows what makes Louisville tick. He has spent much of his career winding the watch.

The Louisville lawyer spent 25 years in the Jefferson County attorney’s office, doing everything from vice to DUI prosecutions, to manag-



Matt Golden

ing the tax department and the civil division before retiring as first assistant – the highest appointed position in the elected office.

He did a yearlong stint as general counsel to TARC, helping the transit service keep the buses running during the COVID pandemic and “falling in love” (his words) with its mission of getting students to school and parents to work – what he calls “economic development at its smallest scale.”

He currently serves as chief of public services in the mayor’s office, overseeing the fire department, EMS, MetroSafe, corrections, youth transportation services and, most recently, the Office of Safe and Healthy Neighborhoods.

See **GOLDEN** on page 27

Resnick AZA class of 1960 reunion celebrates deep and enduring bonds

By Amy Higgs
For Community

When Frank Weisberg and 19 other teen boys joined the Resnick AZA chapter of BBYO in the late 1950s, little did they know the foundation of love, trust and camaraderie they were building — a deep and abiding connection that still endures more than 65 years later.

Class of 1960 members traveled from all over the country to attend a special reunion in September. The event marked their 80th birthday year, and

See **RESNICK AZA** on page 12



“We had a lot of

laughs, and we had a

lot of tears.”

Frank Weisberg



Chag

Sameach



THE DASHBOARD

Word of the Month

Hakhel – The Once in Seven Year Jewish Experience



D'var Torah
Rabbi Chaim
Litvin

I hope everyone had a happy and meaningful High Holiday Season.

Most everyone knows about Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Today I would like to tell you about a unique Jewish ceremony and observance called Hakhel. And guess what, it is observed during the upcoming year, beginning on October 11.

Hakhel was a gathering that took place on Sukkot following the Sabbatical year in the Holy Temple in Jerusalem. The Torah teaches that every seventh year, known as the year of Shemittah, the Land of Israel must be allowed to lay fallow. The following year, on the holiday of Sukkot, every Jew—man, woman and child—was obligated to ascend to the Holy Temple for an event called Hakhel. The king would read selected portions of the book of Deuteronomy in the presence of the entire congregation. This served to inspire the nation to remain committed to G-d.

These days, there is no Jewish king, and we have no Holy Temple. But the essence of this observance, gathering together with fellow Jews for fellowship, Torah study and inspiration, is something each and every one of us can do.

Anytime during the year is a great time to host a Hakhel gathering, but the best time is on the holiday of Sukkot, when the king would host the original Hakhel. This type of event can be celebrated anywhere from a Synagogue to your living room, backyard, classroom or boardroom—all ideal spots. In fact, you can even hold a virtual Hakhel via telephone, Zoom, Facetime or whatever medium will bring Jewish people together.

A fascinating teaching from the *Tosefta* (an early Talmudic text) relates that on the day of Hakhel, the priests would station themselves in all the public areas of Jerusalem and blow golden trumpets to announce the commencement of Hakhel. It was of utmost importance that every kohen participate in this public declaration of Hakhel, to the point that if one failed to do so, his priestly lineage was cast into question.

It seems odd to suggest that failure to be part of this campaign would be cause for such backlash. After all, the message of Hakhel would be heard throughout the city even if there was one less kohen blasting his trumpet. However, each individual kohen was a necessary component in spreading the word.

The national Hakhel gathering in its glorious format took place only during the Temple era. However, as with each detail in the Torah, it is relevant to our day and age. The Hakhel year is an auspicious time to gather fellow Jews for the purpose of learning Torah and encouraging each other to observe more mitzvahs. Additionally, in the age of modern technology and Internet connectivity, we all have a “trumpet”—a means to spread a message. It may be a social media account, or simply a cell phone that can send out a text message.

I suggest we use our “trumpets” throughout the year to broadcast Jewish messages. Update your Facebook status with a Jewish thought, tweet a Jewish quote that inspires you, post a photo on Instagram of yourself doing a mitzvah, and encourage your friends to do the same. We are all needed in the grand marketing campaign of Judaism.

I plan on making a bourbon and bar-b-que themed Hakhel event in my Sukkah on October 15 at 8 p.m. Like in ancient Israel, everyone is invited. But, the main point is to encourage all people to host and attend these types of unity gatherings throughout the year.

All it takes to turn a family gathering into a “hakhel” event is to talk about and explain the concept of Hakhel as described above and PRESTO, your family bar-b-que is a mitzvah and the fulfillment of a Divine commandment.

Ultimately, the purpose of Hakhel was not to be “the world’s largest Torah class.” The purpose of Hakhel was to have a Torah experience. In the words of Maimonides: “to listen with awe, reverence, and joyful trepidation as on the day that Torah was given at Sinai.” In other words, the purpose of Hakhel was that once in seven years, the people should relive the Sinai experience of revelation, not just to be Jewish but to feel Jewish.

Rabbi Chaim Litvin is program director of Chabad of Kentucky.

Snapshots



Visitors to the Trager Family JCC were treated a variety of activities in the Weisberg Family Lobby during September. Israeli artists Moshe and Goldie Monzon exhibited their beautiful Israeli art. Louisville’s adopted rescue dog, Ethan, visited to meet members. Craig Lustig blew the shofar during a pre-Rosh Hashanah celebration.

Candles

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

- Oct 4 @ 7:03 p.m. (Yom Kippur)
- Oct 7 @ 6:58 p.m.
- Oct 9 @ 6:55 p.m. (Sukkot)
- Oct 14 @ 6:48 p.m.
- Oct 16 @ 6:45 p.m. (Shemini Atzeret)
- Oct 21 @ 6:38 p.m.
- Oct 28 @ 6:30 p.m.

Contacts

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

Send it along to *Community* at **community@jewishlouisville.org**.

Not getting your paper? Want to subscribe? Putting your subscription on hold? Development Associate Kristy

Benfield can handle all circulation questions. She can be reached at **kbenfield@jewishlouisville.org** or 502-238-2770.

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

Deadlines

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

by **Friday, October 28**.

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

Read Community Everywhere...

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**.

org/community/community-newspaper/print-version/.

If you read on the run, *Community*’s social media is just the thing. Follow us on Facebook at **facebook.com/JewishLouisville/** or on Twitter, **Twitter.com/CommunityLou**, for the latest Jewish news from Kentucky and around the world.

Corrections/Clarifications

Have a correction? Send it to **community@jewishlouisville.org**.

FEDERATION

Federation Launches Three Pillars Series to 'Inspire and Transform'

By Community Staff

The Jewish Federation of Louisville will launch its new Three Pillars Series this Fall with three speakers who will "absolutely inspire and transform all in attendance," according to Stacy Gordon-Funk, Senior Vice President of Philanthropy & Chief Development Officer of the Jewish Federation of Louisville.

The mission-focused series brings thoughtful, engaging and high-profile speakers to Louisville audiences that will challenge the Louisville Jewish community while also bringing all closer together.

Gordon-Funk says of the Three Pillars Series, "We are so excited to share these speakers with our community. As family and Jewish tradition and culture become so much more important post-pandemic, these speakers will help us define what this looks like in our new world."

The series begins with Rabbi Steve Leder talking about ethical wills, a concept that has been discussed among many faith communities.

Leder's presentation includes topics of sharing the spiritual over material aspects of passing one's legacy and how leaving words to loved ones are more important than anything physical.

Leder is critically and nationally lauded. *Newsweek* twice named him one of the ten most influential rabbis and Hoda Kotb, host of NBC morning news *Today* show, has shared, "Rabbi Leder has a way of making us all feel better...even when tackling the difficult subject of death. I was underlining and dog earring from the start. Life lessons on each page."

Leder will present at the Trager Family JCC on Thursday, Nov. 10 at 7 p.m.

The second speaker is Tim Lorsch, who will be at the Trager Family JCC on Thursday, Dec. 8 at 7 p.m. Lorsch was the recipient of a "suitcase" that miraculously made its way to him in 2016 from an antique store in the Czech Republic. The suitcase had his Great Uncle's name on it with a transport number.

Since receiving the suitcase and learning more, Lorsch has sought to



Rabbi Steve Leder

tell his family's story through music; reflecting on the hopes, dreams, resilience and vulnerability of the immigrant experience. Lorsch has traveled around the world to share the "Suitcase" story.

Others who have attended Lorsch's presentations have said, "It was the most unique, most respectful experience I had ever seen regarding



Tim Lorsch

the Holocaust." This quote was from Barbara Schulman who spent WWII hidden in a Catholic orphanage in Belgium.

The Three Pillars Series will continue in January, 2023 with a speaker from the Shalom Hartman Institute.

The Jewish Community of Louisville Congratulates Steve Trager!



Jewish Federation
OF LOUISVILLE



Bellarmine University hosts the

KNIGHT OF KNIGHTS CELEBRATION SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2022,

honoring Executive Chair, Republic Bancorp

TRUSTEE STEVEN E. TRAGER

**and thanking our generous President's Society donors
in Louisville and around the world.**

Steve Trager is a change-maker at Bellarmine University and in the wider Louisville community. Republic Bank, where he has worked since 1987, is one of the largest in the area, with assets of over \$6 billion and 42 full-service banking centers throughout five states: Kentucky, Indiana, Florida, Ohio and Tennessee.

In October 2021, he transitioned from his role as bank chair and CEO to the position of executive chair of Republic Bank and its parent company, Republic Bancorp Inc., retaining the position of CEO for Republic Bancorp. He is currently executive chair of Republic Bankcorp.

For 11 years, he has been a member of Bellarmine's Board of Trustees, currently serving on the Audit, Finance, Athletics and Executive Committees. He has provided sound financial guidance to the university and played a key role in Bellarmine's rise to NCAA Division I. In addition, his Trager Family Foundation has provided scholarships for School of Education undergraduate majors, women of color and student-athletes.

Mr. Trager is involved in several local community nonprofit organizations. The Louisville Jewish Community Center's new \$43 million facility, which opened in March 2022, is named after his family. He also persuaded eight other community banks in the Louisville area to lend the Louisville Urban League \$10 million to finish its \$53 million Norton Healthcare Sports & Learning Center, which opened last year.

Mr. Trager was named Louisvillian of the Year in 2017 by the American Advertising Federation-Louisville and awarded the Lincoln Foundation's Spirit of Excellence Award in 2018. In 2021, he was a member of Business First's Power 50 List.

"We are thrilled to honor Steve Trager, one of our most dedicated Trustees," said Bellarmine President Susan M. Donovan. "We look forward to celebrating with Steve, his family and friends, and our President's Society members on October 22 at Knight of Knights."

ABOUT KNIGHT OF KNIGHTS

Knights of Knights is an invitation-only, annual event for Bellarmine University's President's Society members. This year's event will be held at the Omni Louisville Hotel.

For more information on how to become a President's Society member or purchase a table for the event, contact Tami Fitzgerald at 502.272.8331 or tfitzgerald@bellarmine.edu. All proceeds benefit student aid.

TRADITION & TRANSFORMATION

Thanks to generous supporters like Steve Trager, Bellarmine is rising to the challenges of its strategic plan, *Tradition & Transformation*—to deliver a transformative student experience; to become a model for academic innovation; to diversify enrollment, expand geographic reach and reaffirm a commitment to equity and inclusion; to build upon partnerships in Louisville and the region; and to expand access and affordability.



www.bellarmine.edu/kofk

NEWS

A celebration of (local) food Farm to Table event benefiting JOFEE returns Oct. 13

By Amy Higgs
For Community

If you haven't yet visited the beautiful new Trager Family JCC building, you've got a unique opportunity to do so on Thursday, Oct. 13, when the Jewish Outdoor, Food & Environmental Education (JOFEE)'s Farm to Table fundraising event returns for the first time since 2019.

Held from 6:30 to 9 p.m., JOFEE will transform the Shapira Foundation Auditorium, Weisberg Family Lobby and Kohn Family Town Square into a farmers' market, complete with barn-style lighting and bales of hay, and live music from The Song Sparrows Bluegrass band.

Guests will enjoy farm fresh appetizers, dinner, dessert and cocktails, all created from locally grown ingredients. You can also shop local vendors selling handmade wares, from olive oil to candles to crafts. A silent auction will feature some exciting items

up for bid, including signed works from Kentucky author Wendell Berry, cooking classes, gardening advice from an expert consultant, and JCC membership and personal training packages.

Farm to Table Featured Chefs

Chef Eneitra Beattie, Shipping Port
Brewing Company

Chef Sasha Chack, Cold Smoke Bagels

Chef Aaron Diaz, Noche Mexican BBQ

Chef Francisco Garcia, FOKO & La Pana
Bakery of Logan Street Market

Chef Helen Impellizzeri, Trager Family JCC
Executive Chef

Chef Jessica Taylor, Private Chef

Chef Bruce Ucan, Mayan Cafe

"This event is made possible by the local farmers and chefs who believe in our mission and donate



Guest attending the 2019 Farm to Table event that took place outdoors in the pavilion.

their time," said Alayna Altman, JOFEE Director. "The JOFEE department's purpose is to ... create a sense of environmental stewardship within our campus. But I also think it's important and within our values to expand the mission into our community, celebrate local farmers, make the connections between farmers and chefs in town, and also to promote the restaurants."

"I'm passionate about the way that

food can bring people together," Altman added. "Creating an event like this is a wonderful way to do that."

Special thanks to:

Barr Farms
Berry Best Farm
Blue Dog Bakery & Cafe
Rootbound Farm
Trager Family JCC Garden
White Creek Farms



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Support the ELC!

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For more information,
Scan the QR code
or visit
jclouisville.org/snowflakeshoppe

Want to go?

Tickets are \$75, and all proceeds go to JOFEE programs. So, put on your "farm fancy" attire, get your tickets at jewishlouisville.org/farmtotable and take a seat at the table!

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NEWS

Mayor attends United We Stand Summit to fight hate

By Lisa Hornung
For Community

Louisville Mayor Greg Fisher was invited to Washington, D.C., to attend the United We Stand Summit hosted by President Joe Biden. The Summit, which took place on September 15, was created by Biden to “counter the corrosive effects of hate-fueled violence on our democracy and public safety.”

Fisher said he was honored to be invited to the Summit. “The reason they invited me, representing the city of Louisville, was because they’ve followed for 12 years our focus on compassion as a city value, leaning into acts of hate and discrimination,” Fisher shared. He further explained the that he is proud of how the city and community responded using “compassion as the antidote to hate” when attacks and threats have been made toward religious and cultural institutions.

The Summit put forward a “shared vision for a more united America, demonstrating that the vast majority of Americans agree that there is no place for hate-fueled violence in our country, and that when Americans stand united to renew civic bonds and heal divides, we can help prevent acts of hate and violence,” the White House said in its description of the event.

Fisher said that one of the issues discussed at the Summit was that most of the U.S. anti-terrorism funding is going to fight foreign terrorism, but that the biggest threat right now is domestic terrorism.

The Mayor shared three issues on which the Jewish community should focus.

Safety: “Make sure you’ve got the adequate training in place to identify any potential threats that could come your way, and if a threat does arrive at your doorstep, how do you respond to that?”

Service: “The Jewish community has a historical role to play, an active and current role to play, in acts of charity, philanthropy service, reaching out to organizations or



Mayor Fischer with former News Orleans mayors Marc Morial (now National Urban League President) and Mitch Landrieu (now Senior Advisor to President Biden overseeing implementation of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act); Mayor Fischer will with fellow mayors (photos provided by Louisville Mayor’s Office)



groups that are different than they are. Ultimately at the end of the day, we’ve just all got to learn how to love one another and follow the Golden Rule that’s in all of our holy books, and hopefully we can overcome hatred with love and compassion.”

Reach out: “Amplify our service work that we can do. When you do service work, I encourage people to do it with people that are not from their typical community. That’s where we build new bonds. ... When people do service work, 90 percent of the volunteers reported they were much more confident working with others not like them after that experience. So, anybody that you feel is the ‘other,’ work with them, embrace them, make them part of us. And that’s how we’ve got to build that unity. And we’ve got a tradition of that in our city. So, let’s just continue

to build on that.”



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MARY JUDE

WOLFORD

FOR DISTRICT COURT JUDGE



COMMUNITY

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For more information, call 502-459-0660, fax 502-238-2724, e-mail jcl@jewishlouisville.org or check out the website www.jewishlouisville.org.

POSTMASTER – Send address changes to **Community**, 3600 Dutchmans Lane, Louisville, KY 40205-3216.

COMMUNITY DEADLINES

Deadlines for the next two issues of **Community** for copy and ads are: October 19 for publication on October 28 and November 14 for publication on November 25.

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.

ADVERTISING INFORMATION

To advertise, please contact our sales representative at 502-418-5845 or e-mail communityadvertising@jewishlouisville.org.

The appearance of advertising in **Community** does not represent a kashruth endorsement.

EDITORIAL POLICY

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

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

Email your comments to: **Community**,

Letters to the editor,
community@jewishlouisville.org.

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

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Community, 3600 Dutchmans Lane, Louisville, KY 40205



FORUM



AJ's Rabbi Corber shares insight on first High Holy Day service in Louisville

By Community Staff



Rabbi Joshua Corber

As only the fourth rabbi in Adath Jeshurun's 160 year-plus history, AJ's newest rabbi, Joshua Corber, certainly does not take his role lightly in leading his first High Holy Day services in Louisville. Especially considering that this year's services follow two years of virtual and at-home Zoom viewing following the COVID-19 pandemic.

Corber explained in an interview before Rosh Hashanah that he is looking forward to making the services "interactive and engaging." He looks forward to providing points

throughout the service that will allow congregants to tune in personally to their own spirituality.

He further defines this 'tuning in' as actively engaging the congregation in a time for all to offer an intention as they reflect on what they are feeling and hearing.

In a March 2022 Community article, Corber spoke candidly about his offbeat and laid-back personality and his desire to make meditation a part of AJ life. At the time, he said, "I'm an out-of-the-box individual; there is almost nothing normal about me." Since becoming the spiritual leader at AJ, Corber has led regular meditation sessions in person and on Zoom.

Going into the High Holy Days services, Corber is looking forward to some things that may be a little different.

He certainly understands that this year's services may be 'new' for some

because many may not have been back to in-person services since the start of the pandemic. And he knows that some congregants may be nervous.

He says that he hopes to help all feel excited and comfortable to come back in person.

From a personal standpoint, Corber says that the High Holy Days are such a unique time for him, especially Rosh Hashanah. He shared that personally he will "have a space for reflection" on the second day, following the services. At that time, he will "take spiritual illumination as it comes."

Corber also shares that he and his family who have been living in Louisville permanently since July 2022, have felt very embraced by the community and are loving the charm of the city and the acceptance of the AJ congregation.



FORUM

A Time to Reflect on Our Growing Jewish Community



Sara's View

Sara Klein Wagner
with
David Kaplan

As we approach the most important holidays in the Jewish calendar, and we turn our thoughts toward the sweetness we desire in the year ahead, we are energized by the results of our recent Community Study of Jewish Louisville.

Brandeis University's Cohen Center for Modern Jewish study found that we have over 14,000 Jews living in our community and over 18,000 living in a Jewish household – a much larger number than many expected. This has created a palpable sense of excitement as we embrace change and seek to learn and hear from those who can become an integral part of our Jewish community in Louisville.

With a larger Jewish community

comes a larger threat to our inherent right to safety and security. As we know, antisemitism is on the rise. As excited as we are about our growing Jewish community, this means we must redouble our efforts to protect all as we live, work, pray and play together.

SAFE Louisville is our Jewish community's initiative to provide both a safe and welcoming environment for all. As we move forward with fully implementing SAFE Louisville, we are also conducting a necessary dialogue to ensure all voices are heard. We are personally committed to listening and growing as we move enter a new year. We invite all to join us as we continue to move forward with these important efforts, including the hiring of a new regional security advisor.

Reflecting on the past year, there is much to be grateful for as we learn and grow from each other.

Our Jewish Federation is continuing its critical work to support our entire community and ensure Jewish experiences and cultural connections locally and



David Kaplan and Sara Klein Wagner

joy we see every day in our new Trager Family JCC. Our new home was built as a continuation of the love and life-changing experiences within our previous homes over 132 years of celebrating Jewish life in Louisville. We look forward to serving our expanding and diverse Jewish community, as well as serving and welcoming the larger Louisville community and as many Louisvillians as possible.

Shana Tova U'Metuka! A good and sweet new year!

David Kaplan
Sara Klein Wagner

(David Kaplan is a partner at Kaplan Johnson Abate & Bird LLP and board chair of the Jewish Community of Louisville.)

Sara Klein Wagner is the president & CEO of the Jewish Federation of Louisville and the Trager Family JCC.)

abroad. Our Federation is strong, and it's with your support that we will grow even stronger.

Now that we are gathering again, we are filled with gratitude for the

46th Annual FASHION ENCORE October 22nd-24th 10am-5pm



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The Nearly New Shop is a resale store that funds National Council of Jewish Women, Louisville Section's advocacy programs and projects for women, children, and families in the community.

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Please Join Us!

Monday, Oct. 24 at 12 p.m.

Federation Board Room

at the Trager Family JCC

Come hear about the **P2G Summit in Budapest, Hungary**. Members of the Louisville delegation to the Summit will share their experiences, insights and takeaways from their journey. RSVP by Oct. 20.



Sunday, Nov. 20 at 1 p.m.
Zoom



Book Club – The Lover, by AB Yehoshua

We are honored to have Ranen Omer-Sherman, PhD, from University of Louisville, leading the conversation about Yehoshua and his book. Contact Amy if you want to attend the Zoom in-person with others.

Save the Date: November 2023

Travel to Israel to celebrate landmark anniversaries:
Israel at 75 years and Partnership at 25 years.
More information coming soon.

For more information, or to RSVP, contact Amy Fouts
P2G@jewishlouisville.org

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PICTURE THIS: REPUBLIC BANK CHALLENGE

THE REPUBLIC BANK PLAYERS CHALLENGE

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Top row, from left: Steve Trager; First Place team: Lawrence Nibur, Kristoffer Carr, Mark Rothman, David Siskin; Mitch Greenfield, 2022 Committee Chair.

Middle row, from left: Republic Bank team: R. Joe Stennis, Rita Holman, Nita Jackson, Pedro Bryan; Second Place team: Fred Garon, David Glick, Billy Sternberg, Bob Glick; Brett Oppel and Nick Novak.

Bottom row, from left: Steve Linker; Third Place team: Loren Prizant, Drew Weinberg, Brandon Largen, Lee Benovitz; Rabbi Simcha Snaid.

Other Winners Include: Most Accurate, Jimmy Bornstein; Longest Drive, Lee Benovitz; Closest to the Hole, Bill Reed; Putting Contest, Jeff Weiss.

(Photos by Kathryn Harrington)



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PICTURE THIS: DOGGIE DIP



Doggie Dip returned to the outdoor pool at the Trager Family JCC after a hiatus during the pandemic. (Photos by Danny Morton)





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PICTURE THIS: CENTERSTAGE



A CENTURY OF
Entertainment

CenterStage presented its first performance in the Shapira Foundation Auditorium. The production titled “CenterStage: A Century of Entertainment” was a look back and a reprise of many favorite CenterStage memories and performances. (Photos by Robyn Kaufman)



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District Court Judge

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PICTURE THIS: WEST END SCHOOL & BEST BUDDIES



The Trager Family JCC hosted Best Buddies Kentucky and students from the West End School for a variety of events and activities over the past couple of months. Best Buddies hosted their first ever local Leadership Conference. Susan Hovekamp, a Trager Family JCC instructor, hosted an inclusive yoga class for the group to take a break from the day full of learning and collaboration.

JCL Board Member Chris Brice brought the West End School pickleball team, that he and his wife Sara coach, to the Trager Family JCC to enjoy an afternoon of pickleball on the new outdoor courts.



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NEWS

RESNICK AZA

Continued from page 1

continued a ritual that Weisberg said is unique among BBYO chapters.

“I think it’s unheard of that no one has dropped out,” he said. “Everybody is still so invested in this group after all these years. It’s really wonderful, and we all appreciate how special it is.”

In addition to traditional activities like dinner and drinks, a walk across the Big Four Bridge, an outing to the Speed Museum and, of course, a tour to show off the beautiful new Trager Family JCC, the weekend also included sincere and honest conversations during “circle” time, a tradition that began at the group’s first reunion in 1965.

While the men became close during their time in BBYO — they all knew everyone’s parents and grandparents, and spent a lot of time at each other’s houses — Weisberg said those friendships revolved mostly around school, sports and girls. The 1965 reunion is what opened the door to the profound connections they all have today. And that’s thanks to the very first “circle.”

This particular Resnick AZA class is a successful group of high-ranking executives, physicians, lawyers and more. At their first reunion, two members who were psychologists suggested that they change the layout of the room where they were meeting at the JCC from a classroom of desks to a circle of chairs, group-therapy style. They

also advised that “what’s said in the room, stays in the room,” giving each man permission to share their deepest thoughts and feelings without judgment, Weisberg said.

And share, they did — about their families, their careers, their joys, hopes, pain and fears.

“We had a lot of laughs, and we had a lot of tears,” Weisberg said. The first session was scheduled for only a few

hours, but it ended up taking the whole day. “Everyone wanted to participate. It really created a bond between us.”

The same has been true at every reunion since then.

As you might expect, the class has faced some losses over the years. Though seven of the original 20 members have passed away, Weisberg is quick to point out that they are still with the group in spirit. Eight-by-10-inch photos of those who died take space in the chairs where the men once sat. The other 13 wouldn’t miss the circle gatherings for anything the world.

Because of the pandemic, it has

been about three years since the class of 1960 met in person, though they initiated monthly Zoom calls to keep in touch. But nothing can replace the magic that happens when they are all in the same room. This year’s event was a highly anticipated homecoming.

“Everybody that I’ve talked to about this over the years who were in other clubs, or other Resnick AZA years, they say, ‘I wish we had had gotten together like that,’” said Weisberg. “And my answer to them is this: You can do it. All it takes is one person to coordinate it and get it started.”

“Everybody is still so invested in this group after all these years. It’s really wonderful, and we all appreciate how special it is.”

Frank Weisberg

Resnick AZA Class of 1960			
Allan Ament	Ken Krebs		
Wayne Bizer	Ron Krupp		
Jay Brodsky	Burt Levy*		
Alan Cooper*	Fred Morguelan		
Roger Davis	Ed Mueller		
Phillip Feitelson*	Arnold Pernick*		
Arnie Friedman	Ron Snyder*		
David Friedman	Frank Weisberg		
Joe Goldberg	Stuart Yoffee		
Max E. Goldberg*			
Harry Gradman*	*passed away		



Members of the class of 1960 Resnick AZA chapter of BBYO traveled from all over the country to attend a special reunion in September. The event marked their 80th birthday year.



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IN APPRECIATION OF THE MANY
DONORS WHO MADE OUR TRAGER
FAMILY JEWISH COMMUNITY
CENTER A REALITY

Jewish Community Louisville Capital Campaign donors weave tapestry of giving

The opening of the new Trager Jewish Family Community Center in April marked the culmination of years of research, tireless work, meticulous planning, fundraising, expert architecture, craftsmanship and the commitment of an entire community. It really has happened one brick at a time, one donor at a time, says Phil Rowland associate/designer, GBBN, the architectural firm entrusted with this once in a lifetime project.

Sadie Shoemaker knows all about it.

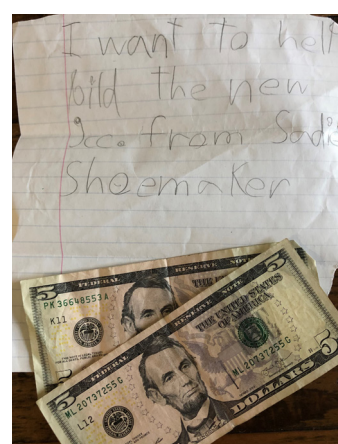
Some 18 months ago, Sadie, then a seven-year-old first grade JCPS student, donated \$10 to the Jewish Federation of Louisville's Capital Campaign. A note she wrote herself in pencil on ruled paper said, "I want to help bild the new Jcc." This young philanthropist pulled from her "tooth-ferry" money to make this donation.

Recently, Sadie took a moment out of her busy day to share her thoughts about giving, "I'm proud that I made a donation and I love the new JCC. I especially love the water slide and swimming."

Stacy Gordon-Funk, Senior Vice President of Philanthropy & Chief Development Officer at the Trager Family JCC/Jewish Federation, received the note and two crisp \$5 bills and was touched by this gift, "I have been overwhelmed by the generosity of our community, but to receive this note and contribution from Sadie was amazing."

Sadie started at the Early Learning Center (ELC) at age three months and stayed through her Pomegranates year. She made friends there and just feels safe. "The JCC is like her happy place," said her mother, Gayle Shoemaker, database coordinator at the Trager Family JCC/Jewish Federation. Sadie still goes there with her mother every day to drop off her younger sister, Annie, at the ELC. The busy cross-country runner also attends Hebrew School at the JCC.

Jon Fleischaker, Trager Family JCC/Jewish Federation board chair during the capital campaign, added, "Every gift matters. Every gift counts. In the true essence of *tzedakah*, charitable giving begins in the heart and soul of the donor translating into making the world a better place.



The two five-dollar bills and note that 7-year-old Sadie Shoemaker sent to the Capital Campaign

More than 500 donors have shared their gifts with us to make the new Trager Family Jewish Community Center a reality. Thanks to all our donors, we've raised more than \$44 million, surpassing our original \$40 million goal. We're still going. There's more to be done to complete our vision."

Trager Family Jewish Community Center reveals Wall of Honor at donor event

More than 200 donors and their families and friends turned out for the Trager Family Jewish Community Center Wall of Honor Event on Sunday, September 18. To kick off the program, Camp and Club J children entertained the crowd with a dance performance to "Golden Boy." Thanks to generosity of donors, more than 650 children attended Camp this year compared with 437 last year.

Amid the program led by those who made the vision of the new JCC a reality, a champagne toast and the Wall of Honor reveal, attendees toured the new 106,000 square foot facility and saw first-hand their donations at work. They spent this time of celebration in a new home for Jewish children, parents, grandparents, brothers and sisters that extends its front porch and open arms and a heartfelt welcome to all who walk through its doors.

After opening remarks from Jerry Abramson, co-chair, Capital Campaign, and the dance performance, he turned the program over to Jeff Goldberg, treasurer, JCL board of directors



and chair of the Capital Campaign Steering Committee.

Goldberg led the remarks by reminding everyone that the new facility has attracted more new members for the summer season than ever in the 10-year history of recording

membership growth, "The Jewish community is coming together – friends are reuniting in this new incredible facility that makes way for more services that our community wants and needs."

He added, "Thanks to your gifts, we exceeded our \$40 million fundraising goal – we are almost at \$44.5 million. We know these dollars translate into more services for seniors, children, families, and individuals."

This special day marked the culmination of years of research, tireless work, meticulous planning, fundraising, expert architecture and craftsmanship and the commitment of an entire community.

GBBN architects will tell you that it's about far more than "bricks and mortar." Their vision included the JCC's unique place within the region's cultural heritage.

Jason Groneck, principal/market leader, GBBN, said in his remarks, "It is a beacon of assimilation for successive waves of Jewish

Continued on back

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Wall of Honor continued from front

immigrants to Louisville, home to countless Jewish families over the past one-hundred and twenty years, a place of unity and cohesion for Louisville Jewry and a hub of inclusivity and understanding within the broader community. Inherent in the organization's mission, vision and core beliefs is a holistic commitment to the fundamental wellness of individuals and their communities, body, mind and soul."

He added, "It has been an honor and a privilege for me and our team at GBBN to work on such a meaningful project that will serve as the foundation for the JCC of the future."

Phil Rowland, associate/designer, GBBN, spoke to the design of the wall and the intricacies of such a project, "When you look at the Western Wall ... you can tell exactly where the work started and stopped for the next generation; you see between the size and color of the stones that are used; you can see this distinct leveling."

He added, "When we designed this donor wall, we mirrored that idea to where the first seven rows of these tiles have a different color

and a different feeling, and the next four have a different color and a different feeling. But it's subtle, just like the wall. Each of 417 tiles on the wall is different, using four different thicknesses in eight different shades of blue and two different colors for text."

Despite the challenges that came with completing this massive project with the onset of COVID-19 and the restrictions surrounding it, the team soldiered on as evidenced by Jon Fleischaker's quote, "We're going to get this done." Fleischaker, former JCL board chair and co-chair of the Capital Campaign with Jerry and Madeline Abramson, Frank and Barbara Weisberg and Jeffrey Tuvlin, remained steadfast in his commitment throughout the entire process as did the entire community.

In his remarks, Frank Weisberg, in the lobby named for his family, shared the memory of his parents spearheading efforts to build the JCC's previous home in 1955 and connected that memory with the JCC of today – a source of pride for all.

At the conclusion of the remarks, Jerry and Madeline Abramson led the group in a

celebratory toast and invited Steve Trager, executive chair/chief executive officer, Republic Bancorp Inc. and Jeff Polson, president/chief executive officer, Jewish Heritage Foundation, to join them on stage as a sign of appreciation for their generous campaign donations.

Sara Wagner, chief executive officer, Jewish Community Louisville, thanked everyone for their donations, thanked staff and all who made the Wall of Honor event happen. She then invited Stacy Gordon-Funk, senior vice president/chief development officer and Kristy Benefield, philanthropy senior database manager, Jewish Federation of Louisville, to pull those curtains down for the big reveal.

After the reveal and a rousing round of applause from guests, the beautifully decorated Shapira Foundation Auditorium opened its doors for cake, appetizers and champagne.

As they were leaving, guests stopped to visit with one another, tell one more story and set the tone of welcome inclusivity for generations to come at the new Trager Family Jewish Community Center.

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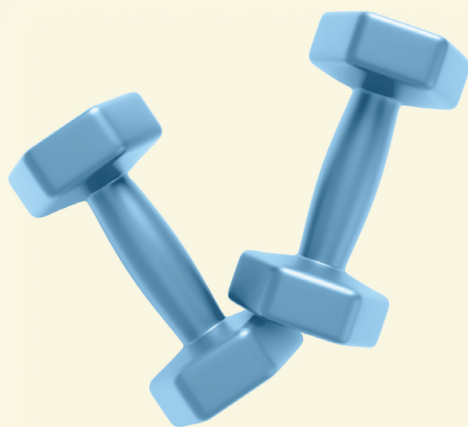
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2. Bring items to JFCS on October 9th from 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
3. Order online at bit.ly/JFCSPantryWishList and ship items directly to JFCS.

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A NIGHT OF HUMOR

THE LILLIAN O. SELIGMAN
CONTEMPORARY THOUGHT FORUM

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14



Join us to celebrate A Night of Humor, featuring comedian & Louisville native Raanan Hersberg! This free event will be held at the Trager Family JCC.

A Cocktail Party to benefit JFCS & the Lillian O. Seligman Contemporary Thought Forum will be held on **Sunday, November 13.**

Register for both events at jfcslouisville.org.

Powered in part by the Jewish Federation of Louisville

NEWS

2021-22 STUDY OF
JEWISH
LOUISVILLE

The full 140-page report is available for download, and the town hall recording is playable at jewishlouisvillestudy.org.

- Primary Goal of Community Study – a first step in identifying communal trends; generating questions to explore; and determining strategies, programs, and policies to support and enhance Jewish life in Louisville
- Received 817 responses to questionnaires from Louisville’s Jewish households (33 percent of those sent completed the study)
- Survey conducted between October 2021 and January 2022
- Community Study was conducted by the Maurice and Marilyn Cohen Center for Modern Jewish Studies (CMJS) and the Steinhardt Social Research Institute (SSRI) at Brandeis University
- Community Study was sponsored by the Jewish Heritage Fund and Jewish Federation of Louisville

Well-Being & Health

Health, including mental health, concerns are an issue: 28% of Jewish adults in Louisville said they felt lonely sometimes, often, or all the time during the past week and 17% percent of Jewish adults felt that emotional or mental health difficulties hurt their ability to live their day-to-day lives. It should be noted that this study was conducted 18 months after the global COVID-19 pandemic began.

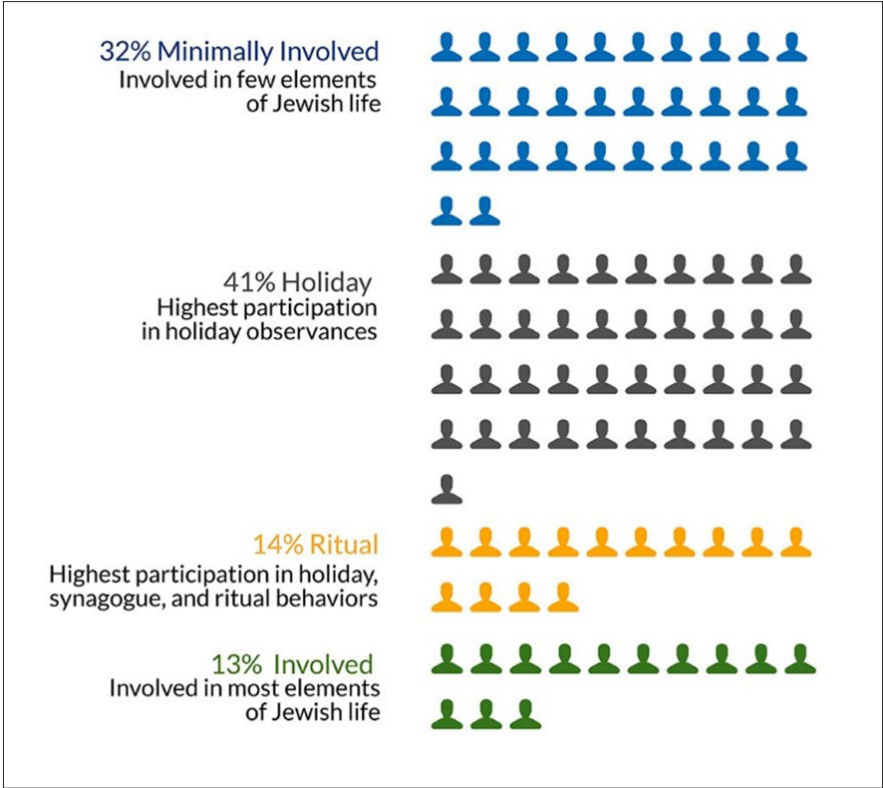
	Of households with a health issue	All Jewish households
Any health issue	100	31
Mental or emotional health problem	61	19
Chronic illness	46	14
Physical disability	39	12
Substance abuse/addiction	4	1
Developmental or intellectual disability	2	1
Dementia, including Alzheimer’s disease	< 1	< 1
Complications related to COVID-19	< 1	< 1
Other	< 1	< 1

Demographic Snapshot



The study found that the total number of Jewish adults and children living in Louisville was significantly higher than what past studies have shown. Also significant is the number of Jewish children, 2,200. Of the Jewish children, 42% have had a Bar or Bat Mitzvah ceremony, 18% received books from PJ Library, 14% attended part-time Jewish K-12 (Hebrew) School and 7% attended Jewish summer camp.

Jewish Engagement



Additional statistics about belonging and participation include: 97% of adults feel at least some sense of belonging to the Jewish people with 83% feeling at least some connection to the local Jewish community. 20% of adults are very satisfied with their current level of participation in the local Jewish community and 40% are not too or at all satisfied. Brookner noted, “About three-quarters of the community are not particularly involved, if at all, in institutional settings. So, finding other ways for them to be involved in Jewish life is deeply important.”

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For questions about PJ Library contact
Katelyn Graves at kgraves@jewishlouisville.org

NEWS

Participation in Holidays and Rituals



JEWISH STUDY

Continued from page 1

are Jewish. The current study included the unaffiliated Jewish population in the entire Louisville and Southern Indiana area, boosting the numbers significantly.

The Jewish Heritage Fund (JHF), together with the Jewish Federation of Louisville, commissioned the Community Study. "We're eager to see the

community dive into the results and consider how to use the data to make Jewish Louisville one of the most inclusive and welcoming communities in the country," Jeff Polson, President & CEO of the Jewish Heritage Fund, said. "The findings point to a number of exciting opportunities to engage a wide and diverse cross-section of the Jewish community in Greater Louisville."

Lead researcher Matt A. Brookner came to Louisville in early September

to explain the results of the survey in a series of meetings with community leaders and two public town halls. Participants were given a chance to digest the information and then ask questions.

"My impression is that the methodology and the techniques used by Brandeis, which are the foremost experts in the study of contemporary Jewish life, paints a highly credible and extremely accurate portrait of our community," Dr. Klein said. "It's very important to understand that the research extends beyond individuals in the community who are connected with our formal Jewish institutions and takes into account all local people who identify as Jews regardless of their participation in organized Jewish life. The people who are unaffiliated with Louisville Jewish institutions play an incredibly important role in the story that the Brandeis study tells us about our community."

Another highlight of the study showed that among those who feel they have some sense of belonging to the Jewish people (93% of those surveyed), many are not satisfied with their current level of participation in the local Jewish community.

"What the study tells me is that the Jews of Louisville want to be Jewish," said David Kaplan, Board Chair of the Jewish Community of Louisville. "The only question is how. Our job is to provide pathways, whether cultural or

spiritual; whether through education, *tikkun olam*, or worship." Kaplan further explained that the "JCL will work alongside all of our community partners, including our five synagogues, religious schools, JFCS, NCJW, Hadassah, KITE, Chabad, Kol Israel, and more. "It will take leadership from all of us to develop transformative initiatives."

The Community Study looked at a variety of needs, desires and elements of Louisville's Jewish Community including age, inter-marriage, racial diversity and sexual orientation, geography, financial well-being, health needs and levels of engagement – including desired levels of engagement. JHF and the Jewish Federation will continue the conversation about the study in coming months, inviting all members of the community to join in additional conversations and discussions to use the data in planning for the future of Jewish Louisville.

"We have learned from other communities and will use the months ahead to explore the details and what we might learn from a deeper dive," shared Sara Klein Wagner, President & CEO of the Jewish Community of Louisville. "There will many more opportunities for community members to participate after initial reflection."

Community will explore many of the most important topics a series of longer, in-depth stories.

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NEWS & NEWSMAKERS

Project Friendship awarded Governor's Award

Rabbi Avrohom Litvin and Rabbi Chaim Litvin accepted the William Cooper Faith and Community in Action Award at the 54th annual Governor's Prayer Breakfast earlier this year. Project Friendship, of which Rabbi Chaim Litvin is program director, was presented the award in 2020, however because of the pandemic, the award ceremony was not held in-person until April 2022.

The program from the awards ceremony shared Project Friendship's

important work as "applying the principles and values of caring and compassion through a variety of programs, thus fulfilling the Jewish mandate to improve the society in which they live. The amount of goods that Project Friendship has been able to distribute has grown exponentially and in 2020, prior to the arrival of the pandemic, Project Friendship was set to distribute more than five million dollars' worth of goods to those in need throughout the state of Kentucky."



Governor Andy Beshear presented the William Cooper Faith and Community in Action Award to Rabbi Chaim Litvin and Rabbi Avrohom Litvin.

John Yarmuth inducted into Kentucky Bourbon Hall of Fame®

The Kentucky Bourbon Hall of Fame® recently inducted retiring U.S. Representative John Yarmuth. Co-Founder of the Congressional Bourbon Caucus and Chair of the House Budget Committee, Rep. Yarmuth helped lead a permanent reduction on the federal excise tax on distillers among other key measures.

The Kentucky Bourbon Hall of Fame® inducts individuals and organizations that have made a significant and transformational impact on Bourbon's stature, growth and awareness. It is the highest honor given by Kentucky's signature industry.

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U.S. Representative John Yarmuth, center, was recently inducted into the Kentucky Bourbon Hall of Fame. He is pictured with Eric Gregory, president of the Kentucky Distillers' Association, and Max Shapira, Executive Chairman of Heaven Hill Brands.

president of the Kentucky Distillers' Association. "We are thrilled to welcome them to the Hall of Fame and, on behalf of our industry, offer a humble and heartfelt thank you."

Max Shapira, Executive Chairman of Heaven Hill Brands, was part of the selection committee that included all living recipients of the Parker Beam Lifetime Achievement Award.

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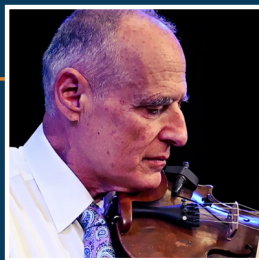
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GLOBE

No. 1 on Adam Sandler’s bucket list? Going to Israel for the first time

By JTA

In 2008, Adam Sandler gave Hollywood one of its most memorable Israeli characters ever: the Zohan, an Israeli Defense Forces operative with superhuman abilities who leaves the anti-terrorism grind to become a hairdresser in New York. “You Don’t Mess with the Zohan” was a blockbuster hit.

But Sandler has never actually been to Israel.

In an interview with AARP published on Wednesday — at 56, Sandler recently entered the group for older Americans’ historic membership demographic, and he has been using a cane for an ailing hip — the Sandman was asked what’s on his bucket list after so

much success.

“Well, I haven’t been to Israel and I’m the Zohan, for God’s sake. I’m excited to get there,” he said. He also said he’d like to get better at playing guitar and to learn to “speak another language, like fluent Hebrew.”

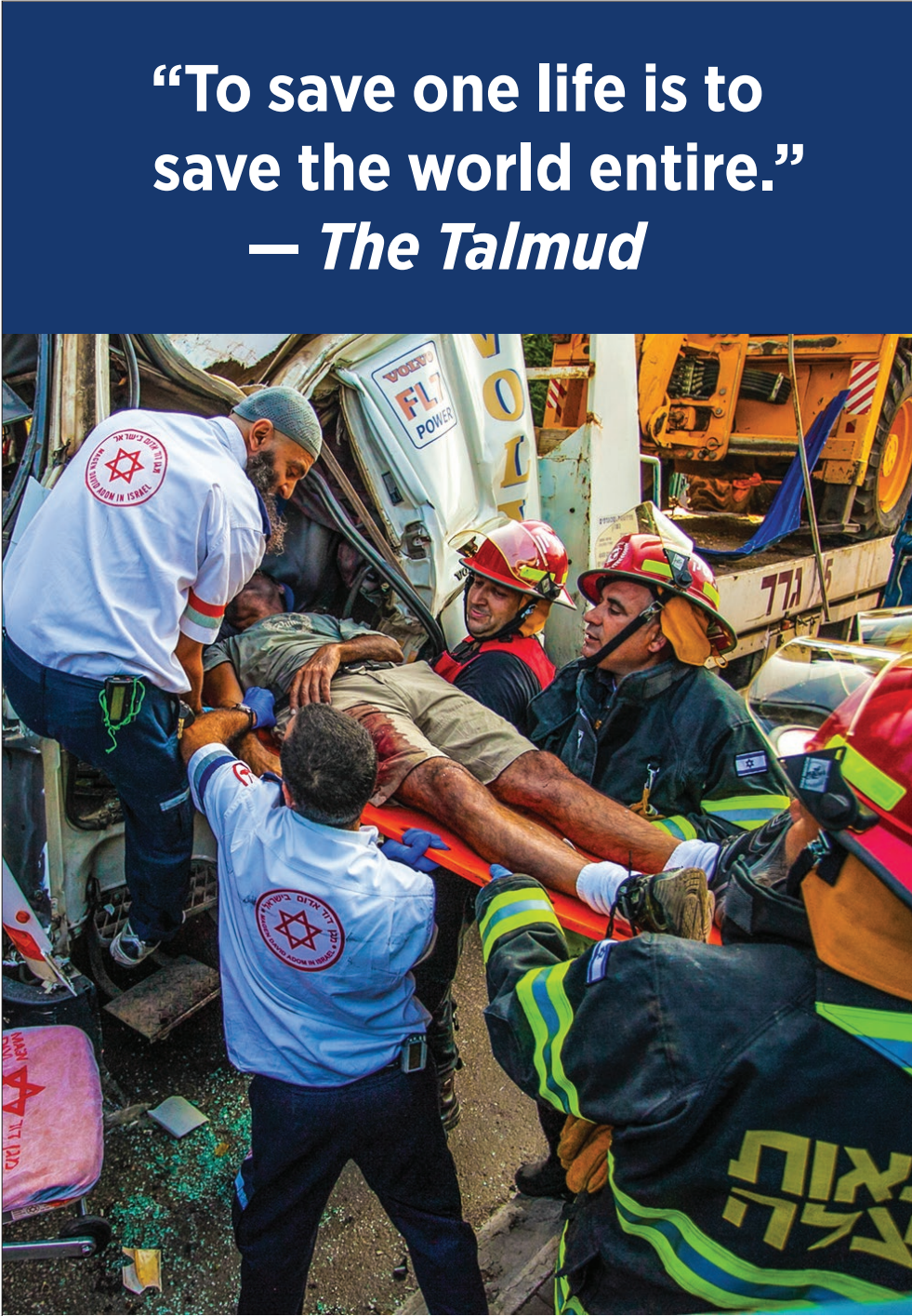
Sandler is currently in Canada filming his next Jewish-themed flick, “You Are SO Not Invited to My Bat Mitzvah!” — which is based on a young adult coming-of-age novel of the same name. He’s there with his entire family, and some of them will reportedly show up in the film, including his 84-year-old mother Judy.

The AARP interview also touches on Sandler’s foray into more serious roles over the past

several years, including his lauded performance as a Jewish Diamond District salesman in “Uncut Gems.” Sandler says in the interview that comedy will always be his favorite mode, but “Uncut Gems” fans need not worry — Sandler’s set to star in a science fiction drama called “Spaceman” next year, and he’s previously confirmed that he’s working on another film with Jewish “Uncut Gems” directors Josh and Benny Safdie (who don’t really do comedies).



Comedian and actor Adam Sandler.



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— The Talmud

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GLOBE

In London, a special needs school is rare meeting point for haredi Orthodox and secular Jews

By Cnaan Liphshiz
JTA

When her son was diagnosed with autism, Ali Sultman was faced with a difficult choice.

To give him the Jewish education her family believed in, she could either enroll him at a regular day school that wasn't set up to accommodate his needs, or she could put him in what was then London's only Jewish school for children with special needs. But the latter, Kisharon, catered mostly to children with more severe disabilities than her son faced.

"Like many others, we needed a middle option that just didn't exist at the time," said Sultman, a 45-year-old mother of three and former insurance executive.

So she and another Modern Orthodox mom whom she had met on a playground in 2013 set about opening a new Jewish school called Gesher, Hebrew for "bridge." Since its opening in 2017, the school has filled a gap in London's otherwise robust array of Jewish education options — and in doing so, it has emerged as a rare hub of interaction among Jewish families of vastly different religious observance.

Gesher has students from insular haredi Orthodox communities who normally never consider non-haredi yeshivas, and it also enrolls children from secular homes. The school aims to make everyone comfortable by committing to a Modern Orthodox approach.

"Haredi communities are very protective of outside influences. You wouldn't find haredi Jews with other Jews," said Josh Aronson, a Manchester-based Jewish journalist and activist for people with disabilities who comes from a haredi home and has an autism spectrum disorder. "Maybe at restaurants they'll be sitting at separate tables but the children especially don't mix. So a place

like Gesher is very, very rare."

A boutique school of about 50 students ages 4-12 in northwest London, Gesher is in some ways a testament to the shortcomings of London's Jewish day schools. Many of them cannot adequately serve students with autism, attention disorders and other learning disabilities.

But the school also adds to an increasing number of programs that suggest the Jewish education sector is taking special education more seriously. Like Shefa, a Jewish school founded in 2014 in New York City that serves children with language disorders, Gesher aims to ensure that children don't have to give up Jewish education to have their disabilities addressed.

Housed on the grounds of the recently closed Moriah Jewish Day School, Gesher has inherited a spacious location complete with play rooms and a large auditorium, as well as a formidable security arrangement that is characteristic of Jewish schools in much of the world amid rising reports of antisemitic crimes.

The new building to which the school moved in 2020 is a major upgrade to the small, one-story building where the school first opened.

"It's roomy but it looks like a normal school, which helps create a feeling of normalcy that many of our students need," said Tamaryn Yartu, the school's South Africa-born principal who, like many of the educators on staff, is not Jewish. One of her students, she recalled, recently said proudly that Gesher "looks just like my brother's school" after the move into the new building.

But there are some special adaptations at Gesher's classrooms. Wobble cushions, for example, are never too far away, and chairs have rubber bands on their legs — a setup developed at the school to accommodate fidgeting and to help children with ADHD and similar issues sit through



Students at the Gesher School in London watch a theater show, March 7, 2022. (Cnaan Liphshiz)

classes. There is also often some animal at Gesher — usually a dog — that volunteers and staff bring for the children to interact with as a form of therapy. The school's website lists one canine staffer: a trainee therapy cockapoo named Puplinda Gurney.

During a recent show, "The Emperor's New Clothes," a production that's part of the Spoek Ivrit theater festival for British Jewish school organized the the United Kingdom branch of the Jewish National Fund, or JNF, children who found it difficult to sit through a play were allowed to "chill out," as one teacher termed it, in a seating area until they were ready to return.

When a child was being too disruptive, a teacher escorted the student out to one of the school's multiple play corners. One girl was wearing "ear defenders," or muting headphones meant to alleviate her sensitivity to noises.

The Israeli actors in the show were made aware that Gesher is a special needs school and adapted the show so that children in the audience would be engaged — they were encouraged to shout out answers to the question raised by the actors — but

not put on the spot.

Shows and other special class events are an opportunity to find middle ground "between children of different backgrounds, like the ones at Gesher," Samuel Hayek, the chairman of JNF-UK, told JTA. "These events are inclusive, empowering and having Gesher take part was a must for us," Hayek said.

The school has made a difference in the life of many of its students and their parents, including Ali Durban, the cofounder whose chance encounter with Sultman on a London playground resulted in Gesher's creation.

Durban's son was "miserable" at the Jewish school that he had attended before Gesher's creation in 2017, she said. "He was isolated socially" in his class, where there was only one other child with special needs.

"He was bullied because he was different and the experience left a mark on him," Durban added. She calls her son's time in school before Gesher "the dark years."

Gesher is a private school and charges about \$45,000 a year in tuition. But many of the parents have arranged for the tuition to be reimbursed or to be paid directly by their

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local council, which in the United Kingdom provides subsidies for special education to those eligible.

The school's program combines a curriculum required by the English education ministry, known as Ofsted; Jewish and Hebrew-language studies; and therapy sessions designed to help the children develop their own techniques for overcoming learning and other disabilities, Yartu said.

"Many of the parents are very interested in preparing the children to be able to come to synagogue without being disruptive," she said. "But being spoken at for an hour is asking a lot from a child with attention issues. It takes a lot of work and preparation."

Gesher's approach, small classes and abundance of staff — there are almost as many staff as there are students — are appealing to parents beyond the Modern Orthodox community. One such couple is the Feldmans, haredi parents from northern London whose 8-year-old son enrolled at Gesher last January. The child was unhappy at his haredi school, said the mother, who agreed to be identified only by her last name, citing privacy concerns. The couple was paying thousands of dollars for therapy sessions that seemed to only slightly help, she added. But the couple were still reluctant about sending the boy to Gesher, which they felt fell short of meeting their community's religious standards.

"It's less strictly Orthodox. It wasn't like how I was brought up, and it was overwhelming for us," she said. The haredi school where the Feldmans initially enrolled their son recommended moving him to Gesher and the couple's rabbi approved the switch, she said. But leaving the haredi education system took some getting used to, she added.

"Once we got over that, we realized, like it's not for us, it's for our child," the mother said. "This is what we need to do for the school to be right for him to be happy and confident and you know, be a member of society."

They experienced almost instant relief.

"From the first week at Gesher, he's suddenly become happy. He's blossomed like I've never seen before. He's so confident, he's in the classroom, he's got friends for the first time. Finally he's in an environment that understands him," Feldman said.

Now, for the first time in their lives, the Feldmans have made friends who are not haredi — a Modern Orthodox couple whose child also goes to Gesher who live near them. "It's kind of inevitable because it's a small school and there's a community of parents around it that we belong to

now," she said.

On the other end of the observance spectrum, Pamela Sneader, a Glasgow-born Jewish mother of two, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that her daughter, Daisy, is going to Gesher "because it's an excellent special needs school, not because it's Jewish. That's just a bonus." Sneader arrived at Gesher after multiple schools told her they were not equipped to teach her daughter, who is autistic.

"I came to Gesher and it was like 'no problem, we can totally handle it,' which was a huge relief. My daughter has blossomed there, mostly in terms of confidence and having friends and playdates for the first time in her life," Sneader said.

After visiting Gesher for the first time this year, Aronson, 36, came away wishing such a school had existed when he was growing up.

"I was bullied by teachers and students at the regular haredi school I went to," said Aronson, who has 13 siblings and whose father is a rabbi. "Nobody knew what I had and I desperately needed the kind of support you see at Gesher."

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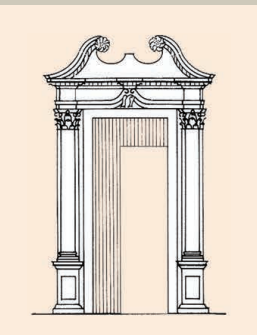

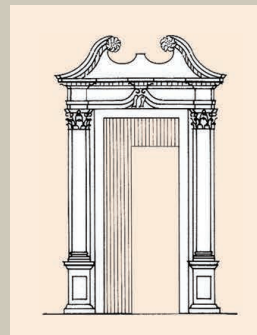
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AROUND TOWN

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

Adath Jeshurun

Rabbi Joshua Corber holds an informal meditation and prayer session every Shabbat from 9-9:40 a.m. in-person in the Yarmuth Family Chapel.

Rabbi Corber will also lead meditation sessions on alternating Thursdays, 7:30-8:30 p.m., on Zoom. The session dates are Oct. 20; Nov. 3; Dec. 1 and 15. A link to the Zoom sessions is included in AJ's weekly newsletter. Contact Rabbi Corber at rabbicorber@adathjeshurun.com for details. A link to the Zoom sessions is included in AJ's weekly newsletter.

Sukkot will be celebrated with a dinner in the Chester & Vivian Slosberg Memorial Sukkah at 5 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 9. Storytime with Rabbi Corber, Sukkot activities and a Ma'ariv service will begin at 6 p.m. Reservations are required. For details, go to adathjeshurun.com/reservations.

Simchat Torah will be celebrated Monday, Oct. 17. Dinner will start at 6 p.m. followed by a balloon artist and Ma'ariv at 6:30 p.m. Dancing with the Torahs to Klezmer music will follow at 6:45 p.m. Reservations are required. For details, go to adathjeshurun.com/reservations.

Anshei Sfard

Shabbat services start at 9 a.m. at 2904 Bardstown Road; Talmud Trek III, 9:30 a.m. Sundays; and Spice of Life, 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays.

The annual cemetery memorial service will be at 11 a.m., Sunday, Oct. 2, at 721 Locust Lane.

Chabad of Kentucky

Services are now being held in the Anshei Sfard building on the Trager Family JCC campus. Services, classes and programs during the upcoming High Holy Days will be held there. Contact Chabad at Rabbi@Chabadky.com or 502-235-5770 for details.

Chavurat Shalom

Chavurat Shalom is meeting in person for fully vaccinated participants with lunch starting at noon in The Temple's Heideman Auditorium, with the program starting at 1 p.m.

Upcoming lunches and events include:

Oct. 6 - Dr. Abby Glogower of the Filson Historical Society will join us. Lunch will include grilled salmon, mashed potatoes, green peas and carrots, cole slaw, fresh fruit, and chocolate trifle.

Oct. 13 - Everything you wanted to know about Medicare but were afraid to ask, via Zoom with the Trager Family JCC Seniors. Lunch will include vegetable lasagna, caesar salad, fresh fruit, and chocolate spoon cake.

Oct. 20 - Our favorite piano-playing doc, Jeff Springer, will return to entertain us. Lunch will include barbecue chicken, roasted potatoes, green beans, mixed green salad, fresh fruit, and apple cobbler.

Oct. 27 - We're delighted to welcome back the Silver Notes for a spooky Halloween musical program. Lunch will include bowtie pasta with smoked salmon, steamed broccoli, mixed green salad, fresh fruit, and caramel spoon cake.

RSVP by 5 p.m. Tuesday if you'll be attending in person by calling or emailing Sarah at 502-212-2038 or sarahharlan86@gmail.com. All programs will also be available starting at 1 p.m. via Zoom for those who need to join remotely.

Trager Family Jewish Community Center

In observance of the High Holy Days, the Trager Family JCC will be closed on the following dates: Tuesday, Oct. 4 (closing at 6 p.m.) and Wednesday, Oct. 5 for Yom Kippur, Monday, Oct. 10 for Sukkot and Monday, Oct. 17 for Shemini Atzeret. Visit jewishlouisville.org for more information.

Jewish Federation of Louisville

Jewish Federation of Louisville, Women's Philanthropy is sponsoring Dream Circle: Sacred Dreaming for *Tikkun Atzmi* and *Tikkun Olam*, Healing Ourselves, Healing Our World. The Dream Circle meets Thursday, Oct. 20 (every third Thursday of the month) from 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. Joyce Lynn, Jewish Association of Spirituality and Dreams co-founder and author of two books on dreams, facilitates. The meetings are in-person at the Trager Family JCC or on Zoom. For information and to register, email dreaming@JASD28.org.

Keneseth Israel

Daily Minyan services are offered in person and on Zoom at tinyurl.com/kiczoom. Shabbat services and Holiday services are offered in person and on YoutubeLive at tinyurl.com/KICyoutubelive. Please visit kenesethisrael.com for times and Covid policies.

Keneseth Israel holds Shabbat services on Friday at 6 p.m. and Saturday at 9:30 p.m. All Shabbat services are in-person and on YouTube live at tinyurl.com/kicyoutubelive.

Kentucky Institute for Torah Education

The next Light of Torah class will be Monday, Oct. 3rd at the Trager Family JCC in the Barbara Brick Reading Room from 7:30 to 8 p.m. Light refreshments will be served. There is also a Zoom option. Contact Rabbi Zack Blaustein at rabbizb@kentuckytorah.org to RSVP or for the Zoom link.

KITE will be having Saturday Night Learning in the Sukkah on October 15 at 9 p.m. in Rabbi Blaustein's sukkah. The program is free for everyone; food for the body and the soul will be served. Email rabbizb@kentuckytorah.org to RSVP.

Kol Israel Community of Kentucky

KICK will hold "Shakin Sukkah Shabbat" in the Sukkah at the Trager Family JCC on Friday, Oct. 14 from 6-7:30 p.m. The "Ruach Revival" of Meditation, Music and Movement marks the continuation of KICK's break out in mission as a Community Congregation. Led by Nashville's Rabbi Jessica Shimbarg, music will also be provided by Flamenco Guitarist Paul Carney and Clarinetist Dr. Mark Perelmuter. Chicken Soup and a vegan dinner will be provided. The event is free, but advance reservations must be made by calling 502-341-1595 or emailing KollIsraelKy@gmail.com.

Louisville Hadassah

The 100th Hadassah Convention will be held this November in Israel. Tracks for first-time goers and returnees, and pre- and post-convention tours are available. Subventions are available for potential leaders. Email louisvillehadassahchapter@gmail.com with questions.

Louisville Vaad HaKashruth

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AROUND TOWN

Jewish Community Center (kitchen), Trager Family JCC's Dive-in-Diner (an outdoor café) from Memorial Day to Labor Day, UofL Jewish Hospital (kosher kitchens only), Krispy Kreme, 3000 Bardstown Road.

The Temple

Saturday Torah Study with Rabbi David Ariel-Joel starts at 9 a.m. on Zoom and in person. The 2022-23 adult education classes begin after the High Holy Days. For a full schedule, go to thetemplelouky.org/adult-education.

Shabbat services are held Friday nights and Saturday mornings. More information at thetemplelouky.org.

Temple Shalom

Shabbat services with Rabbi Beth Jacowitz Chottiner are held at 6:30 a.m. Fridays in person and on Zoom, and 10:30 a.m. Saturdays in person only.

Temple Shalom Sukkot Celebrations include: Lunch & Decorating the Sukkah on Sunday, Oct. 9 at 12:30 p.m.; Erev Sukkot Services on Sunday, Oct. 9 at 6:30 p.m.; No Shush Shabbat on Friday, Oct. 14 at

6:30 p.m.; Schmoozing in the Sukkah, "A Taste of Simchat Torah" & New Member Appreciation on Saturday, Oct. 15 at 5 p.m. Food, a campfire and s'mores will be part of the event followed by the reading of Deuteronomy and Genesis; Sukkot Yizkor services on Monday, Oct. 17 at 10:30 a.m.

Tickets and reservations are required for admission to all Temple Shalom fall holiday events. Tickets are free, with donations welcome. To get your tickets and reserve your spot, contact Elizabeth at information@templeshalomky.org or call 502-458-4739.

Torah study with Rabbi Jacowitz Chottiner is held at 1 p.m. Tuesdays on Zoom. Email information@templeshalomky.org for details.

Lunch Bunch, a study session with a feature speaker, is held on the third Wednesday of each month. Email information@templeshalomky.org for details.

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

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LIFECYCLE

B'nai Mitzvah

Benjamin Gitchel, son of Joshua and Nicole Gitchel and brother of Samuel, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on October 22 at 10:30 a.m. at The Temple. Ben is the grandson of the late Sandra Gitchel of Pittsburgh, PA, Betty Little of Louisville, KY and Jim & Melissa Powers of Dowling, MI.

Ben is in Grade 8 at North Oldham County Middle School, where he is a member of the GATES program (Gifted And Talented Education Services) and Travel Club. Ben plays ice hockey with the Louisville Ice Cards and is in Boy Scouts. He enjoys biking, rock climbing, rollercoasters, chess, board games, fishing, and playing with his 3 dogs, William, Zoey, and Tommy. Ben has volunteered at Adopt Me! Bluegrass Pet Rescue taking care of puppies and also with various scouting projects.



Hailey Woods, daughter of Dara and Charley Woods, will become a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday October 8 at Glen Oaks Country Club with a Havdalah service led by Chabad of

Prospect. Hailey is a seventh grader at North Oldham Middle School. For her Pledge 13 Project she has been making food deliveries through JFCS as well as sorting clothes with Project Friendship for the last several months. She plans to continue volunteering in the future. Hailey spends joyful summers at Camp Livingston, which she has deemed to be her happy place and is counting the months until she returns there.

Obituaries

Harriet Kraus Levin

Harriet Kraus Levin, 86, of Marietta, GA, formerly of Louisville, died Saturday, September 10, 2022 at her residence in Marietta. She was born

January 28, 1936 in Cincinnati, OH to the late Ben and Ethel Kelman Kraus.

Harriet was a former, longtime member of Keneseth Israel Congregation, where she was very active with her Jewish family, friends and community. After her husband, Alvin had died and as her health began to decline, she moved to the Atlanta, GA area. Harriet was a homemaker but as one of her daughters described, she was a "wonderful stay at home mother." Along with being a member of Keneseth Israel, she was a Kentucky Colonel.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Ben & Ethel; her husband, Alvin F. Levin, DMD; and her daughter, Shira Michele.

She is survived by her two loving daughters, Marla Glenn (Ray) of Englewood, NJ and Wendy Cohen (Bruce) of Atlanta, GA; five grandchildren, Erica, Nikki, Aaron, Sammy and Allen; and one great-grandchild.

Graveside services were at 1 p.m. Tuesday, September 13 at Anshei Sfard Cemetery, 721 Locust Lane. Expressions of sympathy may be made to Keneseth Israel Congregation or the Susan G. Komen Cancer Foundation.



Belle Tevis Atlas Levy

Belle Tevis Atlas Levy passed away on Thursday, September 15, 2022 at the age of 89. She was born in Louisville on July 27, 1933, to the late Louis and Deanie Atlas. Belle Tevis graduated from Atherton High School in 1951 as a member of the last all-female class. At that time, she was already dating Philip who she would marry in 1952. They were fortunate to have 68 wonderful years of marriage before Phil's passing in 2020.

She loved and supported the arts including Actors Theater of Louisville, The Louisville Orchestra, and the Speed Art Museum where she also volunteered. She and Phil enjoyed trips to New York, Europe, and

spending countless summer vacations in Wyoming. They wintered in Florida for the past 25 plus years. Belle remained active throughout her life. She enjoyed playing tennis, exercise classes, and reading. Always a UofL fan, she and Phil were season ticket holders for over 60 years. One of her greatest passions was playing Bridge and she thoroughly enjoyed playing in several regular games. She loved the game and especially the lifelong friends she made because of it. Belle was a member of The Temple, The Temple Sisterhood, and a lifetime member of The National Council of Jewish Women. More than anything, Belle loved her family.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Philip. She leaves to cherish her memory her daughter Sally Levy, son Steven Levy (Shelley), and granddaughters Katie Levy and Stephanie Levy. She also leaves behind her brother and sister-in-law Stanley and June Atlas, and many cousins, nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews.

The family expresses their gratitude to Dr. Alexis Karageorge for years of wonderful care; Brandie, Janice, and the entire staff at Sunrise of Louisville, and Renee and Courtney of Hosparus Health. Belle's smile and her upbeat welcoming nature will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved her.

A private graveside service will be held at The Temple Cemetery. There will be no visitation. In Belle's memory, donations may be made to The Temple or the charity of the donors' choice.

Rose C. Sosowsky

Rose C. Sosowsky, 92, died Saturday, August 13, 2022, at Maimonides Medical Center in Brooklyn, NY. She was a Louisville native, born April 25, 1930, to the late Maurice and Minnie Star Cornfield.

Throughout her life, Rose was very active in the Jewish Community, having lived in Louisville and later in Miami and Brooklyn. Although a homemaker, she was very supportive of her husband, Stanley, and his endeavors with H&S Hardware.

She is preceded in death by her parents and husband, Stanley.

She is survived by her son, Jay Sosowsky of Brooklyn, NY and her daughter, Wendy Snow of Louisville; grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and extended family and friends.

A graveside service was held on Monday, August 15 at Agudath Achim Cemetery, 2737 Preston Hwy. Memorial gifts may be made to Congregation Anshei Sfard, 2904 Bardstown Road, Louisville, KY 40205.



Dr. Daniel I. Whitney

Dr. Daniel I. Whitney, age 70, died unexpectedly on August 18, 2022. Danny was born in Newark, New Jersey to Harold and Frances Whitney on

April 24, 1952.

Danny enjoyed spending time with his family, loved the game of tennis and will be remembered for his love of his work and many patients.

Danny completed his undergraduate degree from the University of Maryland and was graduated from the New York College of Podiatric Medicine.

He was a member of Congregation Adath Jeshurun, American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons, Kentucky Board of Podiatry, and the American Medical Association.

Danny was preceded in death by his parents, and his brother Ronald Whitney.

He is survived by his wife, Gail; daughter Jamie Whitney (Ben Wallschlaeger); sons Ryan and Andrew Whitney; brothers Scott (Ev) and Glenn (Sharon); and his grandson Harrison.

Funeral services were held at 1 p.m., Sunday, August 21 at Adath Jeshurun Cemetery, 2926 Preston Highway in Louisville, KY.

In lieu of flowers, contributions to the Cari Kleinman Memorial Fund, c/o Congregation Adath Jeshurun, 2401 Woodbourne Avenue, Louisville, KY 40205.

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NEWS

GOLDEN

Continued from page 1

With that kind of resume, what happens on the streets and in the homes of this city is clearly a passion for the Louisville native, and he plans to bring that passion to his new role.

Golden, 51, will become the next director of the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC). He starts October 6, succeeding Matt Goldberg, who left to become director of caring and community relations for the Jewish Federation of San Diego County, California.

He will be Louisville's first full-time JCRC director.

"I cannot think of anyone more qualified to assume this position," said Sara Klein Wagner, president and CEO of the Trager Family JCC and Jewish Federation of Louisville, who lauded Golden's "genuine curiosity and natural ability to bring people together, even when they disagree."

JCRC Committee Chair, Beth Solomon, says, "I am really looking forward to working with Matt. I believe that he will continue the good work the committee started and bring his own fresh ideas."

For Jewish Louisville to connect with the world, it must first connect with its neighborhoods, Golden said in a recent interview.

"It has to start locally," he said. "You have to be able to think about the community bridges that you

build here; it's where we live."

But he is not an isolationist.

"We're interconnected with every Jew across the planet," Golden said, "so I don't think we can just be local either."

The local issues that drive Jewish relations differ from city to city. In San Diego, it may be refugees seeking asylum from across the border. Here, something more historical, like the 2016 fight over the Confederate monument on the University of Louisville campus, a case Golden worked on as an assistant county attorney.

"That was my introduction to public art," he said of the high-profile case that split the community, but he still believes it was settled correctly.

"That [statue] was not done concurrently with the Civil War obviously; it was done decades after the Civil War, and it was designed by people who wanted to revive that sort of southern gentility and cover up a lot of terrible, terrible things."

While he says it's too soon to lay out an agenda for JCRC because he wants to work with the members of the JCRC to develop it, Golden said there are issues he cares deeply about. Justice and bail reform are at the top of the list.

Golden described the plight of the incarcerated as a "bellwether" for a community.

"It is what you do with those who you want to turn your eye away from the most and how you treat these people is a reflection on you."

He will encourage JCRC members to focus their time and resources, noting that no council can tackle everything without diminishing its impact.

"I want to make sure that they are telling me where they want to go," he said. Although, "I want to do two or three big things, and I want to make sure that we're grabbing two or three great issues."

Anti-Semitism, which will occupy much of Golden's time, has changed since his boyhood when neo-Nazism and Klan rallies were fringe activities that sometimes made the evening news.

"Now it seems to be everywhere," he said. "It becomes more and more normalized when so many polarizing things are going on."

But the best way to combat anti-Semitism is to build "community bridges."

"It's hard to dislike the people you're working with," he said. "I do not think the first thing we should talk about is anti-Semitism. The first thing we should talk about is what is going on in my community and how can we engage and help."

A Louisville native, Golden grew up at The Temple, where he had his bar mitzvah and confirmation. He went on to graduate from the University of Kentucky and the Brandeis School of Law at the University of Louisville.

He is married to Micah Daniels, also a Louisville attorney. The couple has three children: two identical twin daughters, 9, and a son, 6.

"I have long admired Matt's commitment to public service and his love for our community," Louisville Metro Mayor Greg Fischer said of his departing administrator. "I'm thrilled that he will continue to use his expertise and skills to serve Louisville's Jewish community in his new role."

While he has done several "neat things" in his career, Golden noted two experiences that have changed him.

One was an immersive trip he took to Mexico to study its legal system. The experience sensitized him to the plight of defendants in an unfamiliar legal system when he learned that judges there can decide cases based on folios from both sides without ever seeing the defendant or litigant.

But the second experience hit closer to home. In 2004, then-JCRC director Wagner called Golden, inviting him to join a small-group mission to Israel.

"It was a fascinating trip, a really interesting trip for me," Golden said, "and I made her a promise, that I would be more engaged."

That engagement influenced his work as an attorney and soon, as a JCRC director. He did not become a regular service-goer, but he did find himself drawn to Torah study.

"I find that more fascinating," Golden said. "For me, at least, the Torah is not really about my relationship between me and G-d; it's about my relationship between me and you."

"Fight for the things that you care about, but do it in a way that will lead others to join you."

Ruth Bader Ginsburg

- ✓ Experience you can Trust! ✓ Graduate of JCPS and Kentucky Universities
- ✓ Louisville Native ✓ 14 year Prosecutor with County Attorneys Office
- ✓ Champion for fairness, inclusion and diversity

My name is **LISA L. LANGFORD**, and I was born and raised in Louisville. My father Harvey, Air Force Veteran, retired from a 33 year career with the federal government here in Louisville. My mother, Ann S. Langford, retired from Jefferson County Public Schools where she taught and served as a counselor to thousands of children throughout the county. I am blessed to have parents who have always valued God, family and quality education and community service.

After completing my Bachelors degree in Accounting at Kentucky State University, I attended the Brandeis School of Law at the University of Louisville. I started my legal career with the City of Louisville Law Department and, subsequently, with the JEFFERSON COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, where I have faithfully served our community since 2003. I decided to run for District Court Judge in 2019 and was elected

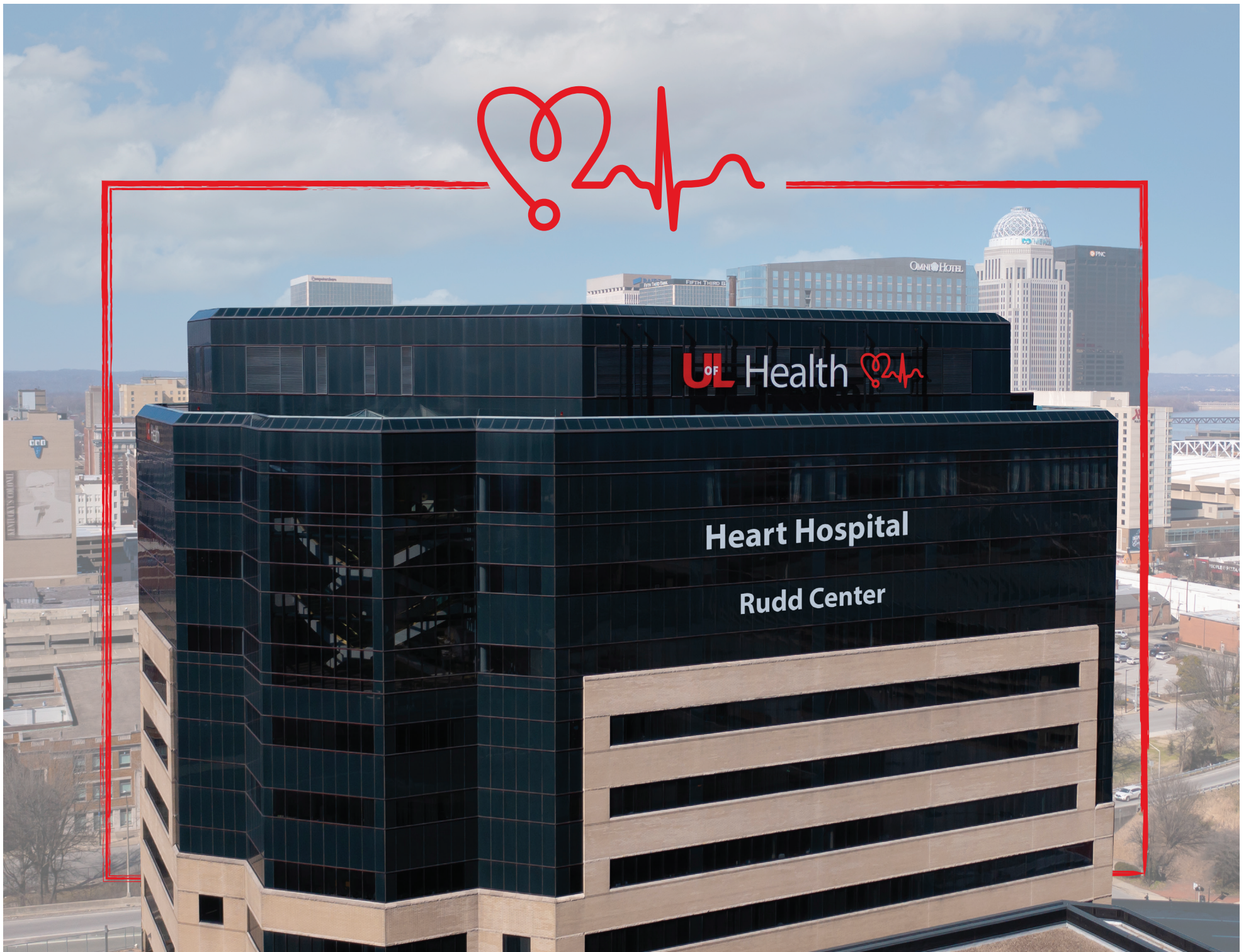
Throughout my career as an Assistant County Attorney and District Court Judge, I have made fair and balanced judgements, while serving the community and its residents with honor. I am now well-equipped and prepared to assume the next position in my legal career serving the people of Jefferson County in yet a higher calling - that is of **District Court Judge**.

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