

# JEWISH LOUISVILLE COMMUNITY

## INSIDE:

**Louisville teams triumph in 27th Annual Tournament**  
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FRIDAY Vol. 49, No. 2 | February 24, 2023 | 3 Adar 5783

## Journeys of Faith Partnership affirms bonds between Black and Jewish Communities

By Andrew Adler  
Community Editor

Ben Freed had barely settled into his role as Keneseth Israel Congregation's new rabbi last spring when the email landed in his inbox. It had what seemed a routine request: Would he mention to his congregants that the Louisville Orchestra was about to perform a program comprising works by Black and Jewish composers?

Great idea, but there was a snag: the concert would take place on a Saturday evening before the end of Shabbat.

So "I sent an email back and said, 'I think it's wonderful,'" Rabbi Freed recalls. "You're doing this exploration of Black and Jewish music, but frankly, I'm disappointed that I'm not able to go as an observant Jew and therefore I can't, you know, promote it to my congregation. And to the orchestra's great credit, when they heard that they sent me an email back and said, 'You know, we messed up, and we're sorry. Let's connect you with our executive director, and you can talk about how to do better moving forward.'"

That casual suggestion grew into a major collaboration: Journeys of Faith, embracing an imperative to build, nurture and broaden relationships between Jewish and Black constituencies.

With the help of the Jewish Community Relations Council, four area synagogues paired with four historically Black churches, with participants getting to know one another as they study sacred and secular texts. The project culminates

on March 11, when those participants listen as Music Director Teddy Abrams leads the orchestra in a program built around Atlanta-based composer Joel Thompson's "To Awaken the Sleeper" (with narrated words by James Baldwin), and Leonard Bernstein's Symphony No. 2, which carries the provocative title, "The Age of Anxiety."

"It seemed like such a tremendously rich area of exploration," Abrams says, "and an adventurous way to put a lens on our programming, especially in response to everything that's happened about Breonna Taylor, policing and equity."

With Freed as the impetus, it fell to JCRC director Matt Golden to turn the suggestion into pragmatic reality. He paired Keneseth with Pastor Corrie Shull of Burnette Avenue Baptist Church, Cantor David Lipp of Adath Jeshurun with Pastor Wanda Mitchell-Smith from First Gethsemane Church, Cantor Lauren Adesnik of The Temple with Pastor Vincent E. James Sr. from Elam Baptist Church, and Rabbi Beth Jacowitz Chottiner of Temple Shalom with Bishop Steven Kelsey from Spirit Filled New Life Ministries.

See **JOURNEY** on page 15



Jewish Community Relations Council Director, Matt Golden, chats with Pastor Vincent E. James Sr. of Elam Baptist Church. (Photo by Andrew Adler)

## For Mayor Craig Greenberg, living Jewishly means seeking paths toward justice

By Andrew Adler  
Community Editor

On Jan. 2, 2023, 49-year-old Craig Greenberg began his tenure as Louisville's newest mayor. A product of Ballard High School, the University of Michigan and Harvard Law School, more recently he was the CEO of 21c Museum Hotels, which he co-founded with Laura Lee Brown and Steve Wilson in 2006. While campaigning on Feb. 14, 2022, Greenberg survived an assassination attempt when local activist

Quintez Brown fired three shots at him. A bullet pierced Greenberg's sweater, but he was physically unharmed.

A year and a day after that incident, Greenberg sat down with Community Managing Editor Andrew Adler to chat about how his Jewish values have helped shape his perspectives on life and politics. Below are excerpts from that conversation, lightly edited for length and clarity.

During a news conference last month,

you showed participants a Nazi-issued passport that had belonged to your Jewish grandfather, who escaped from Germany before the start of WW II. Do you remember when you first saw it?

It was just a few years ago – I guess it was after my grandmother had passed. My mom had a lot of stuff that was from her mother. She and my dad went with her brother to her parents' hometowns in Germany, and I guess it was before or af-

See **GREENBERG** on page 4

## Israel@75: Sara Labaton closes Three Pillars Series

By Andrew Adler  
Community Editor



Sara Labaton

But wherever she goes and whomever she talks to, she strives to push aside noise in favor of getting at what may be hidden underneath.

That mandate may well emerge on Thursday, March 9, when Labaton closes out the Three Pillars lecture series at the Trager Family JCC. She'll be speaking about the relationship between American Jews and Israelis, anticipating the 75th anniversary of Israel's founding in May of 1948.

"What I'm going to suggest is that there were certain models that worked in the past," Labaton, 43, said during a recent Zoom interview, "but that each one of those models of relationship are encountering challenges in the 21st century. And we need to think -- creatively, synergistically, dynamically -- about what kind of model would work for North American Jews and Israel, given the social, political and communal realities today."

Having said all that, Labaton acknowledges that it's a mistake to regard "North American Jews" as some kind of monolithic, unchangeable entity. "Even within Canada there's diversity," she emphasized. "And I think the conversations that are happening in New York are very different than the conversations that are happening in Detroit. So yes, there's a lot of nuance."

Indeed, those dialogues are functions not merely of geography, but of time. "The North American Jewish conversation has changed over the decades," Labaton says.

Nowhere is this more apparent than in the spasms that define Israeli politics, which are of great concern to many Jews in the U.S. With Israel's governments rising and falling with conspicuous velocity – manifest now in Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's hard-right coalition – there's a constant risk of being overtaken by current events.

See **LABATON** on page 15



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# THE DASHBOARD

## Word of the Month

### Amid Black History Month, much hope and much still to be done



D'var Torah

Rabbi Beth  
Jacowitz  
Chottiner

Black History Month this year has resonated more than usual for me – for right and wrong reasons.

First, the right reasons:

There are real efforts underway in Louisville to build bridges between its Black and Jewish communities. This joint initiative – organized by the Jewish Community Relations Council, the Louisville Orchestra, the Reform and Conservative synagogues, and four historically-Black churches – is connected with the Orchestra's "Journeys of Faith" March 11 concert. That program highlights Leonard Bernstein's Symphony No. 2 ("The Age of Anxiety"), as well as a piece by Joel Thompson based on the writings of African-American writer James Baldwin.

When I was first asked if I would be interested in being part of this initiative, my immediate reaction was a resounding, "Yes." Then, when I met my clergy partner, Dr. Steven Kelsey of Spirit Filled New Life Church Ministries, I knew we were onto something significant and meaningful.

This past Feb. 5, 17 members of Temple Shalom visited Spirit Filled New Life Church and were greeted with open arms and hugs from 20 members of that congregation. After eating a delicious home-made meal – during which connections had already begun to develop – we formed a circle, did some ice breakers, and then split into two groups. Dr. Kelsey shared excerpts from a speech made by Martin Luther King, Jr. during a visit to Cornell College, Iowa, in 1962. I played a recording of the speech Rabbi Joachim Prinz delivered at the 1963 March on Washington, immediately preceding King's famous "I Have a Dream" speech.

The comments made by both Black and Jewish participants were powerful. Many church members were deeply moved by Rabbi Prinz's address, even while admitting they never knew it existed. Some wondered why his speech had not been taught in school. Dr. Kelsey shared some sobering memories about what it was like living as a Black person in a segregated Derby City.

One of my goals for these dialogue groups is to remind us about the strong Black-Jewish alliance that existed between our peoples during the Civil Rights movement of the 1960s, and to take steps – in our corner of the world – to rekindle and strengthen those bonds. While no doubt there are differences between us, there also exists the truth that there is much that binds us together. The more we join as allies in the fight against racism, prejudice, bigotry and antisemitism, the stronger we

will be, collectively. Let us not forget the all-too-true quote by Dr. King: "The segregationist makes no clear distinction between the Negro and the Jew."

On March 5, Temple Shalom will have the honor of hosting our new friends at our congregation. We will begin with dinner; then we will have the privilege of hearing music played by two members of the Louisville Orchestra. From there we will continue our dialogue sessions, as we deepen our relationships and build bridges.

Then, on March 11, joined by congregants from the other synagogues and churches, we will be guests of the orchestra for the "Journeys of Faith" performances, followed by a reception.

While this collective initiative comprises three in-person pairings, members of Temple Shalom and our partner church have already agreed to continue our mutual journey together. Not only were phone numbers exchanged during our first encounter, but one member of Temple Shalom invited two of her new friends to her son's upcoming bar mitzvah. We have also extended an invitation for church members to join us for Shabbat services when the Aseye Ensemble – a drumming circle group led by a director from Ghana -- will help us mark Black History Month.

OK, now for the wrong reasons Black History Month is resonating: No matter how much has been achieved since the years of the Civil Rights movement, recent assaults on the Black community are chilling, reminding us all how far we still have to go.

I don't believe anyone who watched videos of the brutal police beating of Tyre Nichols in Memphis will ever forget those images. Regardless of the color of the offending officers, Nichols' beating, and his subsequent death, are stark reminders that "driving while Black" is not only a risk, but an unwritten offense in too many parts of this country.

No less offensive is the decision taken in Florida to block the teaching of Advanced Placement African-American courses in high schools -- and the subsequent banning of books by several Black authors, including Kentucky's native daughter, bell hooks.

As Jews, we believe in the value and sanctity of all human life. We know, and teach our children, that we are all created b'tzelem Elohim, in the image of G-d. As Rabbi Prinz, who was a rabbi in Berlin during the early years of the Hitler regime declared in 1963: "The time, I believe, has come to work together — for it is not enough to hope together, and it is not enough to pray together — to work together that this children's oath [Pledge of Allegiance], pronounced every morning from Maine to California, from North to South, that this oath will become a glorious, unshakeable reality in a morally renewed and united America."

Rabbi Beth Jacowitz Chottiner is the Rabbi at Congregation Temple Shalom

## Snapshots



The Temple hosted a Tu B'Shevat Seder on February 6.



JOFEE volunteers help with mulching at Newburg Middle School for Tu B'Shevat. (Photos by Benji Barlow and Waylon Riley)



## Candles

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

- |          |             |          |             |
|----------|-------------|----------|-------------|
| • Mar 3  | @ 6:20 p.m. | • Mar 17 | @ 7:33 p.m. |
| • Mar 10 | @ 6:27 p.m. | • Mar 24 | @ 7:40 p.m. |

## Contacts

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Got an item for the *Community* eblast? Send it to [community@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:community@jewishlouisville.org).

## Deadlines

**Got a news item for *Community*?** Deadlines matter, especially for newspapers. Send in your news by **Monday, March 20** (though sooner is better).

The paper will be published on **Friday, March 31**.

Submitting an item for *Community's* weekly eblast? Please submit it by Friday to [community@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:community@jewishlouisville.org). The eblast is sent out every Monday afternoon.

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## Corrections/Clarifications

Have a correction? Send it to [community@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:community@jewishlouisville.org).



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\*As of February 8, 2023



# NEWS

## MAYOR

Continued from page 1

ter that trip that they went through a lot of their parents' possessions, and found that.

*When you held it in your hand, was there a kind of resonance in that moment?*

What gave me chills was when I was flipping through and I saw the stamp with the swastika, the symbol of the Third Reich. That's when it really hit me – you're a lucky person, that my grandfather and grandmother made it out.

*What did you tell your children about your grandfather, about that experience?*

We talked a lot about it. We actually went on a family trip to Germany, and we went together to Dachau. Going was a very powerful trip for our family and for my kids.

*You moved to Louisville when you were seven years old, to a very different dynamic compared to living on Long Island. Was there a sense that you were part of a very small community within a much larger, surrounding set of people?*

I'm not sure I thought about it that way because as a kid, your life is what's normal and regardless of what circumstances you're in, that's what's normal to you. Being Jewish, I took off different days of school for the holidays than my Christian or Muslim friends. We had different traditions – I went to Hebrew school on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons back then, and I was in BBYO, things like that.

*How active was your family in terms of imparting a sense of that faith to you? Was there a lot of observance – did you attend shul – that sort of thing? Was it more secular, more religious, spiritual cultural?*

I mean it was all of the above. Certainly I went to synagogue – more leading up to my bar mitzvah, and in the years shortly thereafter, than I do today. But I was active with Jewish studies all the way through to what was then the High School for Jewish Studies, or whatever they called it. Growing up I attended Keneseth (Israel); we now attend Adath Jeshurun. My sister attends The Temple. So we've got friends and family everywhere.

*We tend to assume that politically, Jewish families are liberal, progressive – however you define that. Was there a liberal set of values, politically, or was that not something that was in the foreground of discussion?*

You know, I think it was more about values than it was about politics. As I've reflected on this over the past few years – thinking about running for mayor and now being mayor – the thing that keeps coming back to me is the concept of Tikkun Olam: repairing the world. I think that's one of the biggest set of values I take away from my Jewish upbringing and heritage. I know that with my wife, Rachel, it guides her, and we try to instill those same values in our two boys.

*How does that seep into governance? There's a pragmatic aspect, obviously, to being the CEO of the city – politics is a rough and tumble business. Can you rec-*

*oncile that with the spirit of Tikkun Olam, wanting to do the right thing, be morally just, and so forth? Is there ever a collision?*

I don't think so. In my campaign, I was focused on the challenges the city faces, and on the future. That's every day since I was elected mayor -- basically every waking hour, other than when spending some time with my family or running...I think back to my Bar Mitzvah and the Torah portion that I still remember to this day: "Tzedek, Tzedek, Tirdof," which is, "Justice, Justice, Shall You Pursue." It's thinking about taking action and making improvements through the lens of justice."

*When you look at your own moral compass, is it tied together in terms of faith? What separates the spiritual from the secular?*

I am firmly convinced that regardless of religion, regardless of political party, people in our city share far more in common than we do apart. It's just that for whatever reason, people end up talking a lot more about the things they differ on than things they agree on. I'm trying to change that.

*In 2011, then-Mayor Greg Fischer signed a resolution declaring Louisville to be a "Compassionate" city. What does "compassion" mean to you, personally?*

I think it's about being empathetic to others. Doing a lot of listening and learning from others who have had different experiences from you, particularly others who were born into life with not as much hope and opportunity as I may have had, and then taking action.

*Antisemitism: Is there a feeling that it's endemic, maybe epidemic, and that one has to be vigilant to make sure antisemitic incidents are countered?*

We need to speak out against hate every time we are aware of it. And yes, it's appalling – the amount of antisemitism that is plaguing the city, the state, but also this country and the world. There's a lot of other hate, and those who propagate hate need to be called out. And we need to support educating our kids, so that people don't grow up hating others. Kids aren't born with hate. They learn it somehow, or they see it and decide to embrace it.

*You were confronted in the most personal way, with someone coming at trying to take your life. Have you, since that incident, thought about how life is ephemeral, and how these things can happen in an instant?*

I think about it every day. That's part of the reason why I think I'm one of the most fortunate people on earth, to have survived that shooting. I want to do everything I can so that no family has to suffer losing a loved one, losing a friend, or losing a neighbor to gun violence.

*The allotted interview time was up. But Greenberg wasn't quite done.*

Let me end with one fun story from my Jewish upbringing. One of the big reasons why I got interested in a life of public service was as a result of an eighth-grade field trip in Hebrew school. Rabbi (Stanley) Miles took us down to see his brother in law (Jerry Abramson), who was then a relatively newly-elected mayor. I was really inspired by Mayor Abramson then,

and I've been impressed by everything that he did. His excitement, energy and creativity and love of the city was contagious. I guess I caught the bug, and I have I think that's what first got me interested in public service. So had I not been on that Hebrew school field trip, who knows where I would be in life?

*You can watch a more complete version of this interview by visiting our Community website: <https://jewishlouisville.org/community-news/mayor-greenberg>*



Louisville Mayor Craig Greenberg (right) talks with Community Editor Andrew Adler (Photo by Robyn Kaufman)

## THREE PILLARS

AN INSPIRATIONAL SERIES  
AT THE TRAGER FAMILY JCC

### The Conversation Between American and Israeli Jews After 75 years



March 9, 2023 • 7:30 p.m.

Sara Labaton  
Director of Teaching  
and Learning at the  
Shalom Hartman Institute

Tickets: \$20, available at [JewishLouisville.org/3-pillars](https://JewishLouisville.org/3-pillars)

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# NEWS

## Going for the goal

### Trager Family JCC 'ideal place' to train for world-class sport

By Amy Higgs  
For Community

Luke Powell is always pushing himself to be a better athlete. He's constantly striving to get stronger, to run faster -- to stretch himself further than ever before. So he follows a holistic approach to training that requires focus, discipline and consistency.

A crucial element of that approach is the Trager Family JCC.

An accomplished triathlete and Ironman competitor, Powell's quest for new challenges led him in 2018 to the Spartan, a race that combines distance running and obstacle courses that's been known to put even the strongest men and women to the test. (Organizers describe the final race, aptly nicknamed "the Beast," as "a soul crushing half marathon with 30 obstacles" in which "your legs will burn with brutal ascents and descents.")

This past November, Powell competed against athletes from around the world at the 2022 Spartan Trifecta World Championship in Sparta, Greece. In three intense races over a single weekend, he finished 44th overall in his age group (men 40-44) and was the fifth-place American finisher, with a combined time of 6 hours, 15 minutes and 33 seconds.

To get in top condition for a race like the Spartan, Powell trains six days a



week, alternating between running outdoors and strength-training days at the JCC, where he has been a member since 2017. If you're at the facility when it opens at 5:30 a.m., you're likely to see him in the indoor turf area pulling a sled, climbing ropes, or in the personal training area crossing the monkey bars in a weighted vest.

Powell emphasizes that "the J" has that other gyms don't is "variety and flexibility" when it comes to equipment options — like those monkey bars. "That's a real functional piece of equipment that translates directly to what I do in the races," he says.



Left: Luke Powell pictured at the finish line with his children there to cheer him on.

Top: Luke Powell pictured with his family at JCC Fall Festival. (Photos from [www.holisticathlete.net](http://www.holisticathlete.net))

"With the typical ellipticals, treadmills and weight machines you see at other gyms, you can do only a single exercise that's isolated to a certain muscle group," he adds. "I like to do workouts where I'm incorporating as many muscle groups as possible. That's why the J is the ideal place for me to prepare for these kinds of races. There are so many unique options that you can't find at other gyms."

It's also an ideal place for family fun. Powell and his wife have four children, ages 6 to 13, who love to spend time at the both the indoor and outdoor pools as often as they can. (Speaking of that, there's a point of pride for Powell as a mechanical engineer and co-owner of Air Equipment Co.: His company designed the sophisticated air filtration system at the new building, including a specialty unit that's designed to dehumidify the indoor pool area.)

When asked if there any (figurative) mountains left for him to climb after the Spartan, Powell laughs.

"I've been asked that question a few times, like, 'OK, you raced at a world-championship level, where do you go from there?' I can always improve on

my times and where I finish in my division or overall in these races. I still have that desire, that urge to get better at this sport."

He took a break from training between Thanksgiving and the New Year, but he plans to compete in regional Spartans during 2023, along with some gravel and mountain bike races.

Powell has written several training manuals and a book, and you can follow his journey on his blog and social media. But he's quick to point out that despite his accomplishments, he's just a guy who has goals and works hard to achieve them. "A lot of people might assume that I'm some super athlete, and I really don't feel like that's the case," he says, adding that anyone can do what he does with the right attitude and tools.

Tools like, say, a membership at the Trager Family JCC.

"You might be really surprised what you're capable of," Powell says, "if you set goals and put your mind to it."

To follow Powell's journey, visit his blog at [www.holisticathlete.net](http://www.holisticathlete.net)

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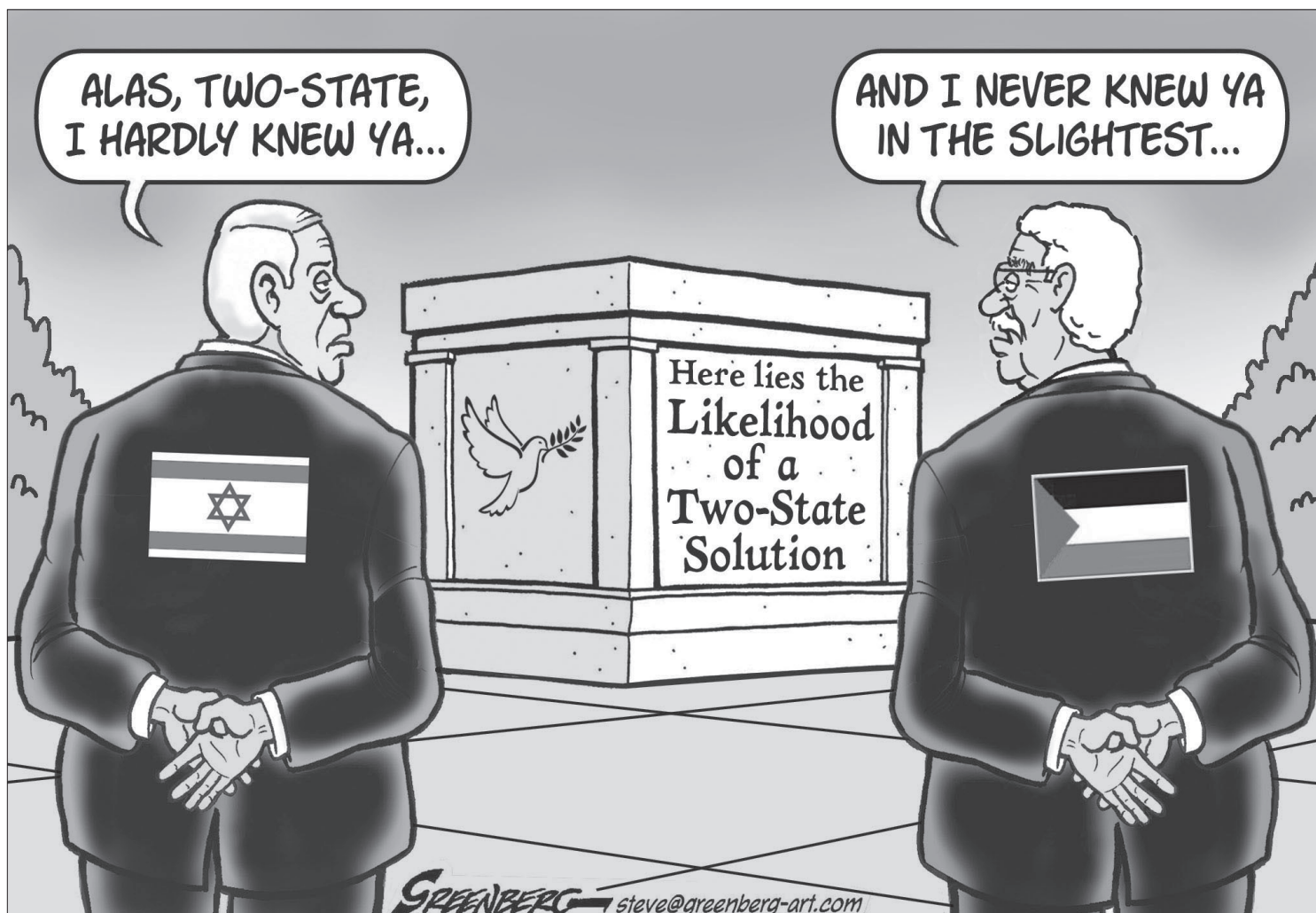
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## FORUM



## “Compromise” is not a dirty word



Mindful  
Ramblings

Andrew  
Adler

In early January I attended a Shabbat morning service at Keneseth Israel, where Rabbi Ben Freed offered a d’var Torah that’s been percolating inside me ever since.

The U.S. House of Representatives had been trying to elect a new Speaker, and front-runner Kevin McCarthy was failing – ballot after ballot after ballot – to garner enough Republican votes to put him over the top. It was a circumstance without modern precedent.

Rabbi Freed referenced this odd bit of congressional malaise by quoting House Chaplain Margaret Grun Kibben, whose most public function is to deliver a prayer before each day’s proceedings. Typically such prayers – whatever their spiritual content – tend to be are politically innocuous.

Not this time.

“Give us reason...to cling to faith and to trust Your guiding hand in this liminal period of our Chamber’s leadership,” Kibben, a Presbyterian minister, exhorted from her podium on Jan. 4. Then, after invoking the resolute spirit of the Ukrainian people, she referenced the gridlock surrounding the election for Speaker.

“How can we possibly succumb to our own disquiet and frustration when we reflect on the challenges governments around the world struggle to resolve in the name of democracy,” Kibben said.

“Even as we seek to establish this new Congress, remind us that we have a building not constructed by human hands. In our momentary distress, may we never lose sight of Your divine hand that guides our own Nation.”

Kibben’s optimistic mindset had an exceedingly brief shelf life. “Quiet the cacophony of counsel and still the storms of dissent,” she urged two days later. “Protect us, that in this imbroglio of indecision we do not expose ourselves to the incursion of our adversary. Watch over the seeming discontinuity of our governance and the perceived vulnerability of our national security.”

Finally, at 10 p.m. on Jan. 6, came this exhaling of spiritual and temporal relief: “Dear God, it seems this evening we may be at last standing at the threshold of a new Congress,” Kibben said. But “I am not done yet,” she continued.

“Should we, with Your blessing, find our way through the doorway this night, cause us to consider carefully what we have learned on the way. Turning to You each day, we asked for Your help in our deliberations, and You answered us. But Your answer was to allow us to suffer the anxiety, uncertainty, and aggravation that follows when we choose to allow healthy debate to devolve into contentious and unproductive argument. And yet, in Your mercy, You transformed this foray into discord into an opportunity to learn to find common ground with unlikely partners. Would that this be a habit we continue.”

Contentious and unproductive argument is rampant in the public arena. Identity politics, where positions too often are staked out in extreme positions, have reduced what should be intelligent, emotionally restrained discussion into simplistic talking points. It’s an all-or-nothing, zero-sum environment.

Woe to anyone who favors compromise over cacophony. Moderation has become synonymous with weakness. Congress, a body founded on small-d democracy and small-r republicanism instead is Democrats versus Republicans, voting in hyper-partisan, party-line political lockstep.

It’s as much a matter of tone as it of substance. Often our instinct is to argue simply for the sake of argument, as if mere contentiousness is a desirable outcome. True debate has been shoved aside, because facts are superfluous. Protagonists in this sorry farce exhibit considerable heat but precious little light.

At its worst, rancor crosses all boundaries and turns ugly. The most egregious aspects of human behavior are on full, potentially terrifying display. Whether here in the U.S., in Israel, wherever – the dynamics of marginalization rule the day. Minority interests are trampled in the name of hurtling into the abyss of raw ambition.

Which brings me back to Chaplain Kibben’s Jan. 6 closing missive:

“Remind us that while the spirit of dispute can be traced to our government’s earliest days, we have served this country best when we sought to reconcile our differences with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience,” she said. “May we be more willing to wield these fruits of Your spirit in our future discourse with one another. We pray Your continued mercy on us. May Your anger with us last but a moment and Your favor a lifetime. And for all that we endure this night, allow joy to come in the morning. In the hope found in Your name, we pray. Amen.”

Is anybody listening?

*Andrew Adler is Managing Editor of Community.*



# GLOBE

## I am a single rabbi without children. I shouldn't be made to feel I am not 'doing my part.'

By Jessica Fisher  
JTA



Jessica Fisher

I recently attended a bris in my community where the mohel announced to the new parents and the whole room, "Raising this child is the most important and impactful thing you will ever do."

These words were offered to anchor the already exhausted and overwhelmed couple in the sanctity of the job they are embarking upon; the holiness of shaping a person into adulthood; the pride in doing something meaningful and lasting.

At the same time, these are the sentiments that form the foundation of parents' guilt when they have to work or when they choose to be with friends and not their children. They create the basis of self-recrimination when a child struggles and the parent is made to feel they are to blame. They foment anxiety over not enjoying aspects of parenthood or feeling lonely or isolated in the endless exhaustion of rearing children.

These are also the words that shame those of us who have no children.

The year I turned 30, I was not on any identifiable path to parenthood. I was, however, in rabbinical school and deeply committed to the ways I could and would serve the Jewish people as a rabbi. Until rabbinical school, I experienced my own private grief about not having a partner or kids, but no one had ever imposed those feelings on me or pressured me on my timeline.

As part of a counseling course in rabbinical school, I was assigned a reading where I learned that 13.9% of married women ages 30-34 experience infertility (a percentage that only increases after 35). Thirty years later, the author who shared this data did so again at an all-school gathering, reminding us that women pursuing education were largely responsible for the decline in Jewish population, since the ideal age for a woman to get pregnant is 22. He added, in essence, "Don't come crying to me when

you finish your education and realize you missed your window."

I was shocked by his callousness and also by the overt implication that delaying parenthood for the sake of education was damaging to the Jewish people — an assertion, overt and implied, reached by many Jewish social scientists, as others have pointed out. Apparently, nothing I could do as a rabbi would ever have the same impact on Jewish peoplehood and the Jewish future as producing babies above "replacement level."

While the presentation surprised me, the idea that the ideal role of anyone with a uterus is to bear children is embedded in our scripture and liturgy. Even the way many of us have chosen to add women into the daily amidah prayer to make it more egalitarian attests to this role: Three times a day we chant, "magen Avraham u'foked Sarah," that God is the one who shields Abraham and remembers Sarah. This line about remembering Sarah refers to the moment when God undid Sarah's barrenness, giving her a child (Genesis 21:1). Every time we recite these prayers we are reifying the idea that a woman's relationship with God is directly linked to her fertility.

According to the medieval sage Maimonides, "Whoever adds even one Jewish soul it is considered as creating an entire world." How many times do I have to sit on a beit din, or rabbinical court, before the number of conversions I witness adds up to a child? How many weddings and b'nei mitzvah and tot Shabbats and hospital visits and adult education classes? This is math I should not have to do as a rabbi or as a woman. It is not math we should ask of anyone.

I know I am not alone among my peers in expressing frustration around such rhetoric. If we truly believe that a person's value is derived from being created b'tzelem elohim, in the image of the Divine, then we need to demonstrate this in the ways we speak and teach about parenthood and fertility, celebrating the role and value of an individual within a community with no correlation to the number of children they raise, how they parent, or how those children connect to Judaism.

While there are plenty of sources in Jewish literature and a range of socio-

logical data that offer all kinds of reasons that Jews should "be fruitful and multiply" — often expressed with urgency after the devastation of the Holocaust — the Torah, our most ancient and sacred text, also presents a model for what it means to be a person without a child who makes a tremendous impact on the Jewish future.

According to the most straightforward reading of the Torah, Miriam, the daughter of Yocheved, sister of Aaron and Moses, does not marry and does not bear children. And yet, Miriam played a crucial role in ensuring the possibility of a Jewish future. She was the sister who watched over Moses as he floated in a basket, the girl who connected Moses' adoptive mother with his birth mother, and the prophet who led the women in joyous dancing when the Israelites finally attained freedom.

In a recent conversation, Rabbi Rachel Zerlin of Beth El Temple in West Hartford, Connecticut, pointed out that what is powerful about Miriam is that she appears content with her life. Unlike most of the women we encounter in the Hebrew Bible who do not have children, we never see Miriam praying for a child; she is never described as barren or unfulfilled and yet she is instrumental in securing

the Israelites' — our — freedom.

Through this lens, we can understand that the Torah offers us many models of a relationship to parenthood: Some of us may yearn for it and ultimately find joy in it, some of us may experience ambivalence around bringing children into the world, some of us may encounter endless obstacles to conceive or adopt, some of us may struggle with parenting the children we have, some of us many not want to be parents at all, and some of us may experience all of these at different times.

Like Miriam who fearlessly added her voice to the public conversation, we, too, can add more voices to the conversation about Jewish continuity that counteract the relentless messaging that raising children into Jewish adulthood is the most consequential thing we might do.

Yes, parenting can be miraculous and beautiful, something we should continue to celebrate. But we each have so many gifts to offer the Jewish people — our communities just need to create space for all of us to contribute in a broad variety of ways, by making fewer assumptions and speaking about parenthood with more nuance, expansiveness and compassion.

Jessica Fisher is a rabbi at Beth El Synagogue Center in New Rochelle, NY.

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# PICTURE THIS: FILM FESTIVAL



The 2023 Louisville Jewish Film Festival Committee poses for a photo-op; Marcia Gordon and Nancy Blodgett enjoying champagne and hors d'oeuvres before the viewing of *Hallelujah: A Journey, A Song*; Cantor David Lipp and Brigid Kaelin serenade attendees with the music of Leonard Cohen before the viewing of *Hallelujah: A Journey, A Song* at the Trager Family JCC; Filmgoers sat in on a panel discussion with Tree of Life Rabbi and Hazzan Jeffrey Myers and Film Director Patrice O'Neill after viewing the documentary *Repairing the World: Stories from the Tree of Life*; Adam Rowe and his father Lewis Rowe at the opening night of the 25th Anniversary of the Louisville Jewish Film Festival. (Photos by Robyn Kaufman)



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NEWS

Drew Corson Tournament brings regional BBYO teens to Louisville

By Andrew Adler  
*Community Editor*

Abigail Goldberg isn't surprised that the 27th annual Drew Corson Basketball Tournament – hosted Jan. 20-22 at the Trager Family JCC – was a resounding success.

"I think in a post-pandemic world teens just want to get together and have fun," said Goldberg, the Trager Family JCC's teen director and point person for organizing the event. "BBYO is all about equality, and we love that the girls and the guys both

get so into the games."

The tournament was named for Corson after he collapsed and died during a basketball game in 1994 at the age of 15. This year the event drew 100 teens in grades 8 through 12, hailing from Louisville, Cincinnati, Dayton, Columbus and Indianapolis – divided almost exactly between boys and girls. Visiting teens lived with 16 host families and had ample time off-court for activities, recreational and spiritual.

"This year we made it a true convention-style weekend," Goldberg

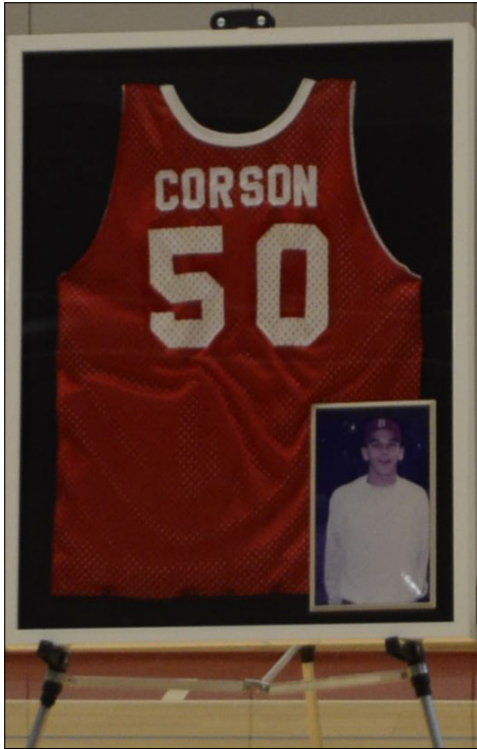
says. "We had Friday night Shabbat programming, and on Saturday evening we had a big block party here at the JCC, with neon lights and a DJ in the pool area, putt-putt, air hockey – so much fun stuff."

When it was all over, the Louisville teams had emerged victorious – pretty impressive considering there were only three Sunday practice sessions. But the emotional climax was still to come.

"We found in storage an old jersey that belonged to Drew," Goldberg says. "It was framed already and

there was a photo of him." The jersey and photo were subsequently put in a refurbished frame, and at the close of the tournament it was presented to his family.

"It was funny because when I showed the jersey to his mom, she didn't recognize it at first," Goldberg recalled. "We think it was one of his JCC Maccabi jerseys. We had (the frame) refinished and we'll get a plaque made, and it'll have a special home here at the Trager Family JCC."



From left to right: (Top Row) All of Louisville BBYO gather around Drew Corson's<sup>21</sup> Jersey after receiving the AZA and BBG Champions trophies; The jersey that belonged to Drew Corson<sup>21</sup>. Louisville BBYO's AZA Chapter is name in memory of Drew; (Middle Row) Jay Levine BBG gather together with all smiles as they have just won their semi finals game to make it to Sunday's Championship game; (Bottom Row) Drew Corson AZA's Ryan Marks takes a free throw shot during the semi finals game, and ultimately defeating Mishpo AZA and advancing to Sunday's championship game; Coach Leonard gives Jay Levine BBG an incredible hype speech at the start of Sunday's championship game; (from left to right) Noa Weiss, Violeta Higuera, Emma Hales, Olivia Dentinger, Hannah Ciriano, and Nicole Scaiewicz smile in from of the bracket after Jay Levine BBG wins the championship game; Micah Mintz from Indy Brae Sheath AZA and Maraya Goldstein from Jay Levine BBG receive the AZA and BBG the outstanding sportsmanship awards. (Photos by Emma Cohen)





# FEDERATION

## Retired banker balances fitness and routine with investment in the Trager Family JCC's Capital Campaign

By Stephanie Smith  
For Community

*This is the fifth in a series of articles highlighting the stories behind the generous Capital Campaign donors who make up the Wall of Honor Tapestry of Giving at the Trager Family Jewish Community Center.*

About 10 years ago, Chester Misbach retired, leaving his 39-year career with PNC Bank behind. Used to a daily routine, Misbach quickly figured out that he needed that structure even in retirement.

He recalls that soon after retiring he started attending a cycling class at the old JCC. "The music in the room filled with other people, and a class directed by an excellent instructor, gave me a lift," he says. "I liked that the class was at a certain time each week."

Misbach adds, "For years now, I've been coming five days a week or more and participating in several classes. I love the exercise and the socialization. I'm also very impressed with the staff at the Trager Family JCC."

When he was approached by Bud Schardein (a member of the Trager Family JCC Capital Campaign Cabinet) to help raise funds for a facility to replace the 1955 original JCC, Mis-

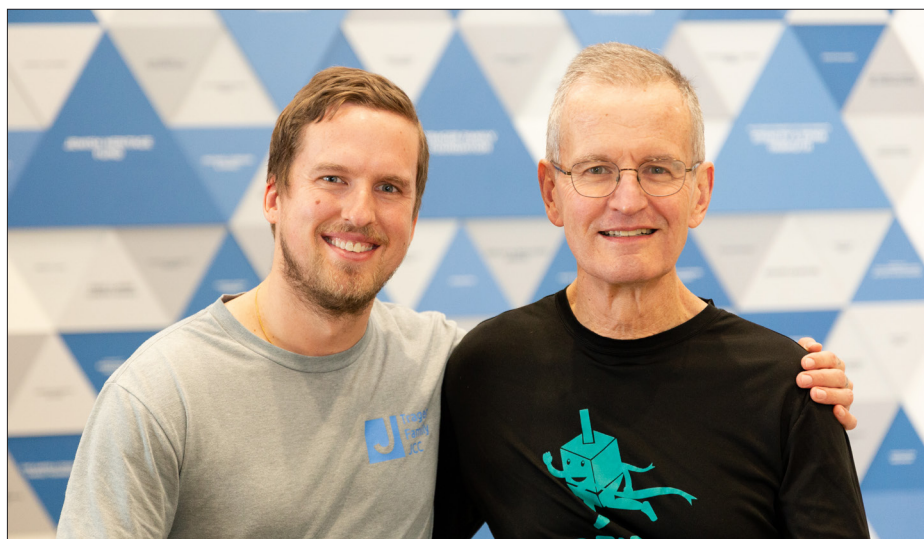
bach thought it over for a bit. Then he started doing the math, calculating how much time he spent enjoying its exercise classes and making new friends. So he decided to make his own donation, while asking others to do the same.

"I enjoyed sharing my personal experience and encouraging others to give," Misbach says. "I'm so happy to walk into the new Trager Family JCC and see such a beautiful facility that is part of the fabric of our city."

"It's way more than a gym – it's a true community center that welcomes everyone in such a positive and uplifting way. There's no other place like it in town."

It's a family affair for Misbach as his son, Jack, works in the Trager Family JCC's JPlay Program. "Jack loves working with the children, and they sure love 'Mr. Jack,'" the elder Misbach remarked. "My wife, daughter, grandsons, nephew and niece also are members."

He never tires of observing the collective energy around him. "I love to watch the little ones go from the indoor swimming pool through the building," Misbach says. "On that same day I may also see seniors eating lunch together, teenagers in the hangout room,



Chester Misbach (right) with his son, Jack Misbach (left).

or performers rehearsing for the next CenterStage musical. Plus, I've made a lot of new Jewish friends and learned so much about Jewish culture, religion and traditions."

Misbach notes, "During the campaign, I heard a young mother talk about how she and her husband moved to Louisville with no family here. Their second child has differing needs, and she shared how much they depend on the ELC (Early Learning

Center). The expanded space for that program allows all children to learn and grow together, which is such an important part of their development."

Looking to the future, Misbach is excited about the next phase of the campaign, which includes plans for green space, a playground, and much more. "There are so many wonderful opportunities here," he says, "that only continue to grow."

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## FORUM

# Helping our kids confront antisemitism



JCRC

Matt  
Golden

I should not have to write an article about what to do if your middle schooler is the subject of hate. Yet in the four short months that I have been in this job, five different parents have reached out to the Federation and the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) because their kids experienced direct antisemitism in school. When I say direct antisemitism, I mean to say that a kid in school was the “direct” recipient of antisemitic hate from another kid in school. In four of these five incidents, the kids were only in middle school. These are only the incidents we know about. We do not know how many children or parents are victims of antisemitism who did not reach out for help.

It is not a surprise that we are seeing more antisemitic incidents in schools, because antisemitism is on the rise nationally. According to a new report by the American Jewish Committee, 82% of Jews noticed an increase in antisemitism over the past five years, with 26% of American Jews saying they were the target of an antisemitic incident last year. Interestingly, it's not just Jews thinking this. Some 64% of all American adults believe that antisemitism is a problem. (<https://www.ajc.org/AntisemitismReport2022/AmericanJews>) When a substantial majority of Americans—Jews and non-Jews alike—can agree on something, we should take notice.

However, this article is not about the big picture way of stamping out antisemitism. Instead, it's simply about what to do now when one of our kids or grandkids is a target of antisemitism. This is a process article about not having to stand alone.

First, we must understand that our children are not born with the tools necessary to comprehend antisemitism. This past December I spoke to a class of Jewish middle schoolers, and at least two of them reported that they

did not talk to their parents about antisemitism because their parents did not talk to them about it. Fortunately, there are resources to help us communicate and expand our own knowledge. We have posted some material on the Louisville JCRC website that may prove helpful to you. I especially like the link to PJ Library's article on “How to talk about antisemitism” because it addresses this in an age-appropriate way. This is obviously a difficult subject and there is no “one” or “right” way to communicate to our children about antisemitism, but we must take the first step in helping



Screenshot of reporting portal on JCPS website.

communicate in a constructive way.

Second, if we become aware of an antisemitic incident that impacts our children, we should report it. Jefferson County Public Schools treats antisemitism as a form of bullying, and rightly so. Under the “Bullying Law,” KRS 158.156, schools are required to have measures to address hateful conduct in schools. In compliance with that law, JCPS has a systematic procedure for reporting and dealing with bullying that starts with initiating a report. Reporting mechanisms can be accessed simply by clicking on the “incident reporting hotline” on JCPS's website (see inset above). In turn, there is a clear process that follows the reporting so that a parent can expect follow up from the school. We should also report the matter to the school administrators. Many of the schools I have dealt with so far have been very responsive. Remember, the purpose of reporting is to correct the bullying behavior so that it does not happen again. It is as important for the perpetrator as it is for the victim, and is the principal method to determine if a school needs resources.

Third and finally, the Louisville JCRC, the Federation, Jewish congre-

gations and other Jewish institutions in our city are your resources. And at least for my organizations and likely for all Jewish institutions in town, this goes whether you are a member or not. We are here to advocate for you, to stand with you, and support you with the tools necessary as we confront antisemitism in our schools. For example, after one such incident in December, Rabbi Beth Jacowitz Chottiner of Temple Shalom and I went to the involved school to speak directly to school administrators, and offer resources and guidance. This led to participating in a cohort to “teach the teachers” about antisemitism that will convene in the 2023-2024 school year at JCPS. We partner regularly not only with our local institutions but also with the Anti-Defamation League and the American Jewish Council, who provide free and readily available educational resources to schools. Moreover, thanks to Jewish Family & Career Services under the direction of David Finke, counseling is available to victims of antisemitism. In short, you are not alone; the Jewish community stands with you.

I devote a good deal of my opportunities in *Community* to speaking positively about the importance of belonging and leveraging our institutions to help not only ourselves, but also others amid our broader community. We should not lose sight of our Jewish positivity and resiliency in the face of adversity simply because of the ebbs and flows of hatred in our midst. Yet when hatred does rear its ugliness to threaten our kids, we also must know how to reach out to each other. I shouldn't have to say this, but I'm glad I can.

Matt Golden is a lawyer and the Director of the Jewish Community Relations Council. In his opinion, the JCRC is the most august body in the Jewish Community, seeking justice and doing *tikkun olam*. He is admittedly very partial and biased in this regard. He invites comments, suggestions or good stories at [mgolden@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:mgolden@jewishlouisville.org).

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# NEWS & NEWSMAKERS

## Overnight Camp Counselor Fellowship



The Louisville Counselor Fellowship is available again this year. The program, which provides a stipend of \$1,000 in addition to regular camp pay, aims to encourage Jewish young adults, ages 18-25, to work at Jewish overnight camps. For additional information, visit [jewishlouisville.org/grants](http://jewishlouisville.org/grants).

## Kim Greene to be inducted in Kentucky Journalism Hall of Fame



Lawyer Kim Greene, a stalwart defender of First Amendment and reproductive rights, is among the latest class of inductees to the Kentucky Journalism Hall of Fame.

Greene has been in the foreground of legal battles to

protect media outlets' rights to report on and publish controversial material. Fittingly, she was a founder of the Kentucky Press Association's Freedom of Information hotline.

More recently, Greene has focused on advocating for Kentucky women's access to reproductive health services. She's a longtime board member of Planned Parenthood Great Northwest, Hawaii, Alaska, Indiana, Kentucky.

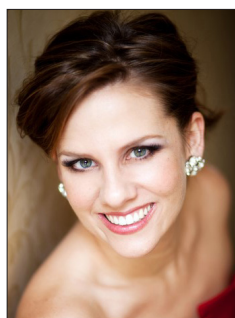
"We know that when given access to abortion, women's health outcomes and economic security improve," Greene wrote in an Opinion piece published last March in The Courier Journal – before the U.S. Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade, signaling an end to legal abortion in Kentucky.

"Women living in states with policies that support access to reproductive health care have higher earnings and are more integrated into the workforce than women in other states. Access to reproductive health care has also been linked to reduced unemployment gaps between jobs. All of that, of course, benefits the entire family and the community."

Greene is married to First Amendment attorney Jon Fleischaker and both have been generous supporters, contributors and leaders in the Jewish community.

## Mazel Tov to..

Mazel Tov to Emily Albrink Katz, soprano, on the upcoming release of her debut album, *Force of Nature*, with Kathleen Kelly, piano, on the Lexicon Classics



Label on April 28. The album will feature four world premiere song cycles written by Nailah Nombeko, Jake Heggie, Rene Orth, and Steve Rouse. A concert featuring the world premieres will be held on

March 24 at 6 p.m. in Comstock Hall at the University of Louisville. This event is free and open to the public.

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# GLOBE

## This Orthodox Jewish model made history at New York Fashion Week

By Julia Gergely  
JTA

When disability activist Lily Brasch was asked if she would walk the runway as a model for New York Fashion Week, she didn't know if she would be able to do it.

That's not because she has a rare form of muscular dystrophy, which weakens muscles and limits her ability to walk. Rather, it was unfortunate timing: The show was set for Friday evening, when the weekly Jewish holiday of Shabbat begins.

But Brasch, who is Orthodox and goes by the stage name Lily B., quickly devised a workaround: She took her turn on the catwalk in Midtown at 5 p.m. and, instead of schlepping back uptown to her Morningside Heights apartment, quickly headed to a nearby hotel to welcome Shabbat with her sisters.

And so on Friday, Brasch became the first model with muscular dystrophy to walk the runway unassisted at New York Fashion Week, and the second person with the condition ever to appear. (The first was actress and model Jillian Mercado in 2020, who used a wheelchair.)

"It felt really good — it felt freeing," said Brasch, 22, who modeled a gold lehnga from the brand Randhawa, which specializes in modern South Asian style. "I definitely never thought I would do something like this."

"I prioritize representing disability,

and pride, and just bringing joy to that community, but I also prioritize remaining truthful to my faith," Brasch said. "It was great teamwork to get me on the stage and represent disability, and then come right off to go celebrate Shabbat."

When Brasch was 16, she was told she would not be able to walk or lift heavy objects unassisted ever again due to her centronuclear myopathy, a rare form of non-progressive muscular dystrophy. At the time she was disheartened — but she said she used the diagnosis as motivation to "prove barriers are meant to be broken."

Walking in New York Fashion Week — which runs through Wednesday — is the latest in a series of triumphs for Brasch, who moved to New York last August to attend Columbia University. Last March, Brasch climbed Camelback Mountain in Scottsdale, Arizona — a feat that she calls "My Everest." She's also competed in body-building competitions and loves going to the gym.

She also founded the Born to Prove foundation, which promotes disability awareness and breaking barriers.

Though the Chicago native has not always been outward about her Judaism in her activism — in fact, at first she was advised by friends and family not to bring attention to it — Brasch has come to realize how much her religion guides her.

"My Jewish identity has inspired me in that we're all put on this earth for a rea-

son. Every single one of us has a purpose and that's what my religion has helped me find," she said. Her purpose, Brasch added, is to represent strength and beauty for people with disabilities in the next generation.

She hopes to be an inspiration within the Jewish community. "There is a lack of representation in the Jewish community, at least in my Orthodox community, of people with disabilities actually achieving things," she said. "It's not really talked about and it's looked down upon." Groups like RespectAbility and the Rudin Family Foundation have been working to change that.

She was worried about posting on social media from Fashion Week, knowing her observant friends might question the timing around Shabbat. But Brasch said she was pleasantly surprised when so many congratulated her on representing disability and Judaism and staying true to herself on the runway. "That was one of the best things for me to see because that was my initial goal: to show that there are people with disabilities in the Jewish community and things are changing," she said.

Brasch is also partnering with Movinglife, an Israeli manufacturer of folding mobility scooters — a deal she inked just before she found out she would walk in Fashion Week. The company partnered with rabbis as well as researchers from the Zomet Institute in Israel to ensure that their scooters could be used

on Shabbat even though they are electric, said Brasch, who currently uses the scooters to get around.

With her modeling debut behind her, Brasch said she would walk in Fashion Week again — but she'd rather see other models with disabilities on the runways. "I hope that next time it's not me — it's the next girl," she said.

"The feeling of overcoming something and the feeling of being put out there and being cheered on is something everyone should feel," Brasch added. "Often, with a disability, I hear 'poor you.' It can't be like that anymore."



Lily Brasch, who has muscular dystrophy, walked the runway at New York Fashion Week for the South Asian brand Randhawa. (Hilary Phelps)



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\*\*PLEASE NOTE: TICKETS ARE NON-REFUNDABLE, UNLESS EVENT IS CANCELLED.\*\*



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**Sunday, March 12, 2023**



**1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. | JFCS**

To participate, drop off the following items at JFCS on Sunday, March 12 from 1-3 p.m. We will also accept food contributions during business hours the week of March 13. You can also make financial donations to the Passover Food Drive and send these to 2821 Klempner Way.

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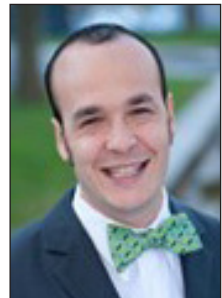
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# FORUM

## JOURNEY

Continued from page 1



Rabbi Ben Freed

tutions that have the vision, gravitas and space to talk about the issues the community faces.”

Golden knew several of the faith leaders from his time in city government. “For example, Beth Chottiner is very interested in social justice issues surrounding violence in the community, and so is Bishop Kelsey, who leads faith-based initiatives for the city to prevent gun violence.”

“We were in the trenches together,” Pastor James recalled. “I was working in the city as chief of community building; Matt was chief of public services. We used to have a bet on who would leave first on Friday.”

“Some of them were interested from the beginning,” Golden says. “Some were more trepidatious – they had to understand what this was about. But there’s familiar territory: People in all these groups study the Bible in their own homes, synagogues and churches. So it became very natural to say, ‘We just want you to study these texts together.’”

Which is why on a recent Sunday evening, 17 congregants from Temple Shalom made their way to the Spirit Filled New Life Ministries’ church on Hazelwood Avenue. Hospitality was in full force – church members had prepared dinner – and after everyone had taken turns introducing themselves, half the participants remained with Chottiner, with Kelsey and the other half strolling a short distance to an adjacent meeting space.

“We’re here today to bridge some gaps,” Kelsey, a gregarious bear of a man, told his group. “So we’re going to see that Jewish and Black cultures ‘have always been the same.’”

His audience, Jewish and Christian alike, listened intently as they sat on a circle of folding chairs. Kelsey continued:

“The reason why people discriminate against” Jews and Blacks “is the fact that we are humble,” he said. “So they have learned how to put systems in place to keep us from moving forward. But they don’t teach us about our history,” how Jews and Black Americans “joined together to bring about the civil rights movement.”



Bishop Steven Kelsey and Rabbi Beth Chottiner

From there it was on to a discussion of Martin Luther King Jr.’s celebrated 1962 speech given at Cornell College in Mount Vernon, Iowa. “I am convinced that men hate each other because they fear each other. They fear each other because they don’t know each other, and they don’t know each other because they don’t communicate with each other, and they don’t communicate with each other because they are separated from each other.”

The historic ties between Blacks and Jews in the 1960s – Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel marched in the company of King – testified to shared moral and spiritual values. It was Jews, Kelsey reminded his listeners, “that saw white water fountains and colored water fountains was not good for anybody.” While white store owners often didn’t allow Black customers from trying on clothes, Jewish proprietors welcomed those same customers with no such prohibitions.

At this juncture Kelsey asked one of Temple Shalom’s attendees – David Kaplan, Mayor Craig Greenberg’s chief of staff -- what King was getting at when he spoke about the dynamic of hate.

“What that means to me,” Kaplan replied, “is that you see it all the time – the hostility between law enforcement and the people they’re trying to police. There’s fear that’s just unwarranted, because of lack of understanding about communication.”

Soon it was time for Chottiner to lead the discussion. As her launching point, she played a recording of the address given by Rabbi Joachim Prinz during the 1963 March on Washington – words largely forgotten because King’s they were followed immediately by King’s “I Have a Dream” speech.

In one highly personal moment, Chottiner told of a time in her life “when I lived in Atlanta, and I had to go to a place outside of Atlanta, Smyrna. I happened to be wearing a Jewish star that day, and I tucked it in because I did not feel safe. And now, with what’s happening with the rise in antisemitism, I think twice – like, will I wear a Jewish star or not, because it makes me afraid?”

The Journeys of Faith format has each pairing exchange visits, so a New Life contingent will travel to Temple Shalom on March 5. Meanwhile, the orchestra has been sending small ensembles to give brief pre-discussion concerts at various faith venues.

A week after the New Life/Temple Shalom event, Congregation Adath Jeshurun hosted the Louisville Orchestra Brass Quintet and guests from First Gethsemane. The principal facilitator was AJ Cantor David Lipp. “I’ve immersed myself in two of Bernstein’s three symphonies (the orchestra will perform his Symphony No. 3, Kaddish,” on its March 4 program),” Lipp says, “and it’s been fascinating. I’m kind of shocked at how little I knew. I had no idea he wrote a symphony called ‘The Age of Anxiety’ (written in 1946-7 and based on W.H. Auden’s book-length poem of the same name).”

Later that afternoon, Lipp guided attendees through a series of Jewish biblical and related texts.

“If there is anxiety in a man’s mind let him quash it,” Proverbs 12:25 exhorted, “And turn it into a good word.” Then the Babylonian Talmud weighed in, with one

rabbi declaring that “he should forcefully push it out of his mind,” with another rabbi arguing the passage “means he should tell others his concerns, which will lower his anxiety.”

To be sure, anxiousness was not a defining dynamic of this gathering. Cooperation and generosity of spirit were.



Pastor Wanda Mitchell-Smith

“I was sharing with Cantor Lipp the other day about AFSCME – the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees – I’m a retiree,” said First Gethsemane’s Mitchell-Smith, “and that it was the Jewish and Catholic faiths that were able to get a contract negotiated for the sanitation workers of Memphis, Tenn.,” where King marched alongside striking workers, shortly before being assassinated at the nearby Lorraine Motel on April 4, 1968.

Much progress has been made since that day, as has much tragedy. The names George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and most recently, Tyre Nichols, loom large in the collective consciousness of American life. Antisemitic incidents are on the rise, and horrific events such as the 2018 Tree of Life Synagogue massacre in Pittsburgh are stark reminders that hate remains a potent adversary.

Amid all this, initiatives like Journey of Faith offer at least a respite, and at most a path toward gaining real, enduring traction between communities bound up by history and common purpose.

“This is what I hope will be transformative experience for our synagogues and our churches,” Freed says, adding a caveat “that a transformative experience doesn’t happen just because we get together twice and go see a concert. The real work will begin afterward. But I think this is fertile ground on which to plant the seeds of a new relationship.”

## LABATON

Continued from page 1

“We have to be nimble,” Labaton says. “Because if the message and ideas are going to be relevant, then they have to adapt themselves to current realities.” She recalls being in Israel this past summer with her husband and two young children, “when within a week it became apparent that the previous government was going to fall apart. And all of a sudden the topic – even the title of a lecture – would have to change. That’s one of the big challenges, but it’s also what makes the work inspiring and exciting.”

Labaton comes by her intellectual curiosity naturally. Her late father, Ezra Labaton, was a rabbi who studied under the renowned rabbinic scholar Joseph Ber Soloveitchik at Yeshiva University in New York. The elder Labaton was steeped in modern Orthodox Judaism, a belief system his daughter continues to embrace.

She did her undergraduate work at Columbia University, earning a B.A. in Religious Studies before going on to New York University, winding up with a Ph.D. in Medieval Jewish Thought. For a time she taught at various Jewish day schools before landing at the Israel-based Hart-

man Institute’s North American headquarters on the Upper West Side of Manhattan, occupying offices in a multi-faith office building popularly known as “The God Box.”

Labaton has spent much of her Hartman tenure as a kind of facilitator, often collaborating with senior executives at Jewish organizations nationwide. Like most of her colleagues, she was Covid-bound to Zoom for more than two years. Now she’s back on the road (in March, she’ll speak to groups in St. Louis and here in Louisville).

“The main audience that Hartman addresses are Jewish leaders, but it could be anybody,” ranging from rabbis to Jewish educators to lay” professionals, Labaton says. “And now we’re starting to teach what we call emerging Jewish thought-leaders, so we have a high school program for teenagers. We try to be responsive to challenges that specific demographics are encountering...the unique and idiosyncratic sets of concerns leaders are facing.”

It’s here that the small voice asserts itself: inquisitive, restrained, never rigid. “Hartman is really a lane of ideas – so when I teach, I’m not proscribing anything,” Labaton says. “I’m offering a con-

ceptual framework rooted in Jewish traditional classical theory,” an antidote to the distracting noise of modern life.

“I think people appreciate intellectual, conceptual exercises,” she believes. “Typically our world is one where we’re not thinking, we’re not ruminating, we’re not trying to analyze. So I think people appreciate the opportunity to do that, the focus emphasis on ideas rather than on prescription.”

To put it in a biblical/rabbinic perspective, “we shouldn’t be so prophetic -- we should rather be Talmudic,” Labaton says. “The prophets kind of get up on their soapboxes and they’re trying to corral people, and they’re message is a good one. But they’re sort of single minded and passionate and zealous, whereas the rabbis of the Talmud are a bit more realistic and more sensitive to the morality of legitimate ideas. There’s a certain degree of consensus, and within that consensus they allow for a pretty remarkable degree of pluralism and diversity.”

Indeed, “whenever somebody says, you know, the Jewish idea is X, it gives me some anxiety because I don’t think there is any one single Jewish idea of anything.”

Labaton doesn’t shy away from potentially uncomfortable topics. “There’s a

fear of creating discord,” she says, “that the ties that bind the Jewish community are tenuous, and we don’t want to do anything that that threatens those ties. And because of that, we don’t talk about certain things. And if we talk about Israel, if we talk about American politics, that will create a rupture and then the whole thing will come apart.”

It’s ripe territory for frustration,” Labaton says. “The challenge is how to talk about these issues without the risk of rupture – to have a frank, honest, open conversation, a conversation that has moral integrity without avoiding those topics, doing so in a way that’s civil and respectful and that acknowledges. We can have differing opinions and differing approaches, while still remaining part of the same people.”

**Want to go?** Tickets to Sara Labaton’s Three Pillars talk on March 9 are \$20, available at [JewishLouisville.org/3-pillars](https://JewishLouisville.org/3-pillars). More information: [lalsup@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:lalsup@jewishlouisville.org). The event is funded in part by the Goldstein Leibson Cultural Arts Fund, and Life & Legacy.



# AROUND TOWN

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

## Adath Jeshurun

Rabbi Corber offers Informal Meditation & Prayer every Shabbat morning from 9:00 - 9:40 a.m. in AJ's Yarmuth Family Chapel. Rabbi Corber's next evening meditation session will be held on Thursday, Dec. 1 from 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. on Zoom. The meditation sessions are open to the community.

Rabbi Corber is also leading a new series of monthly Tot Shabbat services, Saturdays from 10:30 - 11:15 a.m. These are family-friendly Shabbat morning services geared to children ages 0 - 6 and their parents. Older siblings and grandparents are also welcome. The Kid-dush lunches on those days will include special kid-friendly food. So that AJ may prepare enough food, please make a reservation using the link on the homepage of the AJ website at [www.adathjeshurun.com](http://www.adathjeshurun.com).

The AJ Annual Music Festival will be held on Sunday, Mar. 26 at 7 p.m., and will feature the cantorial vocal trio, Shul Sisters. A shared desire to use music to lift women's voices brought together acclaimed

vocalists Cantor Laurie Akers of Illinois, Cantor Rachel Brook of Illinois, and Cantor Rachel Goldman of Texas. Admissions are \$15 per person. Sponsorships are also available. More information is available at [www.adathjeshurun.com/musicfestival](http://www.adathjeshurun.com/musicfestival).

## Chabad of Kentucky

Services are now being held in the Anshe 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](mailto:Rabbi@Chabadky.com) or 502-235-5770 for details.

## Chavurat Shalom

Chavurat Shalom is meeting in person for fully vaccinated participants Lunch will be served at noon in The Temple's Heideman Auditorium with programs starting at 1 p.m. All programs will also be available starting at 1 p.m. via ChavuratShalomZoom for those who want to participate remotely.

## Jewish Federation of Louisville

The Jewish Community of Louisville has grants available to help send children to Jewish overnight camp and on a teen trip to Israel. For more information or to

RSVP, contact Alison Roemer at [aroemer@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:aroemer@jewishlouisville.org). Also, the Louisville Counselor Fellowship is available again this year. The program, which provides a stipend of \$1,000 in addition to regular camp pay, aims to encourage Jewish young adults, ages 18-25, to work at Jewish overnight camps. Click here for additional information.

## Keneseth Israel

Keneseth Israel Congregation offers Daily Minyan services at 6 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. Sunday, and 7:30 a.m. Monday and Thursday. Minyan services are offered in person and on Zoom at [tinyurl.com/kiczoom](http://tinyurl.com/kiczoom). Shabbat and Holiday services are offered in person and on YouTubeLive at [tinyurl.com/KICyoutubelive](http://tinyurl.com/KICyoutubelive). Visit [kenesethisrael.com](http://kenesethisrael.com) for times and Covid policies.

Jews and Brews with Rabbi Ben Freed is held Wednesdays at 11 a.m. on Zoom and in person at the Trager Family JCC - the weekly Torah portion is studied. Beginner level Hebrew class meets Sundays at 5 p.m. in person and on Zoom. The class addresses learning the aleph bet and root words. A learner's minyan - which has an abbreviated service - follows at 6 p.m.

Join Cantor Hordes as she takes you on a journey through the sun salutations, and meditations of Torah - every first Thursday at 6:30 p.m., this month on March 2. Some yoga mats are available, but please bring your own if you have one. Suggested donation is \$10.

Have a toddler in your life? Come to KI for our new Tot Shabbat, held the very last Saturday of the month (this month on March 25) at 11 a.m., where they will enjoy a toddler-friendly shortened service and a sweet treat, followed by coming into the main sanctuary to sing closing Shabbat service songs.

Torah Study! Games! Songs! Snacks! Join KI Saturday mornings at 10:30 a.m. for our Shabbat Shalom club - a space for kids grades K through 5 to experience Shabbat as they learn Torah, play board games, and discover beautiful Shabbat songs.

## Kentucky Institute for Torah Education

KITE has a weekly Light of Torah class Monday nights at the Trager Family JCC, in the Barbara Brick Reading Room from 7:30-8 p.m. Light refreshments are served. There is also a Zoom option. Contact Rabbi Zack Blaustein at [rabbizb@kentuckytorah.org](mailto:rabbizb@kentuckytorah.org) to RSVP or for the zoom link.

KITE is having learning classes on

The Path of the Just at 8 p.m. Saturday nights. Study a classical, ethical work in a fun and relaxed environment. Contact Rabbi Zack Blaustein at [rabbizb@kentuckytorah.org](mailto:rabbizb@kentuckytorah.org) for the location or with any questions.

## Louisville Vaad HaKashruth

The following venues are supervised and certified by the Vaad: Trager Family 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.

## NCJW, Louisville Section

Purchase the 2023 NCJW Shopping Spree Card to receive a 20% discount at local retail stores from Feb. 20-March 6. Some of these stores also offer year-round discounts too! Place your order online at <https://ncjwlou.org/home/ourwork/shopping-spree/> or contact the NCJW office at 502-458-5566 or [office@ncjwlou.org](mailto:office@ncjwlou.org).

## Montessori Torah Academy

The entire community is invited to a Purim Carnival, hosted by Montessori Torah Academy on Sunday, March 5 from 2-4 p.m. at 4615 Lowe Rd. Louisville, KY 40205. The event will feature family-friendly activities, food, and joyous Purim spirit.

## Temple Shalom

Temple Shalom will hold a silent disco Purim party on Saturday, March 4, from 7-9 p.m. Each child and adult will dance to the music of their choice piped through their individual headphones. Admission is free for TS youth and \$10 for TS adults; for nonmembers, \$7 for youth, \$15 for adults. The cost includes headphones, refreshments, glow sticks and tons of fun! Your check, payable to Temple Shalom with "Silent Disco" in memo line reserves your place. For more info, text Slava Nelson at 502-830-4968 or email [engagement@templeshalomky.org](mailto:engagement@templeshalomky.org).

A reunion dinner for JCC Teens Club alumni, sweethearts and advisors will be held Saturday, March 11, 6 p.m., at Temple Shalom. Loren Miller and Ken Gould will be among the evening's emcees. If you wish to join these two co-emcees from Resnick, we can use volunteers from Mu Sigma and Pi to help in recalling those precious teenage days. For more information or to RSVP, contact Slava Nelson at 502-830-4968 or [engagement@templeshalomky.org](mailto:engagement@templeshalomky.org).

Temple Shalom will take a group to the Louisville Orchestra's concert featuring '80s music, Saturday, March 18, 7:30 p.m., at the Kentucky Center for the Arts. The cost

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# AROUND TOWN

is \$40. For reservations, text Slava Nelson at 502-830-4968 or email [engagement@templeshalom.org](mailto:engagement@templeshalom.org) by Tuesday, Feb 28. There will be a dinner at a nearby restaurant after the show.

Shalom Charles Malka, Robert Tiell and S. Charles Malka will discuss their latest book, *Back to a New Normal: In Search of Stability in an Era of Pandemic Disruption—Insight from Practitioners and Academics*, at the next Temple Shalom Men's Club Breakfast, Sunday, March 19, 10 a.m. A career counselor, Tiell is retired from the Jewish Family & Career Services, where he was director of career and workforce development. Malka is a professor of management at Sullivan University's Graduate School.

Temple Shalom will hold its annual Community Passover Seder, catered by Bristol, Thursday, April 6 at 6 p.m. Cost is \$36 for members, \$50 for nonmembers. More details to come.

## The Temple

The WRJ/Sisterhood Gift Shop is now open Tuesday from 2:00 - 5:00 p.m., Thursday from 11:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., or by appointment. Visit its Facebook page at [facebook.com/wrjtemplegiftshop](https://www.facebook.com/wrjtemplegiftshop). If these times are not convenient, please call Sheila Lynch at 502-896-9736, Marlene Ornstein at 502-291-5699, or Karen Waldman at 502-425-4360 to make an appointment to shop.

Adult Education continues at The Temple! Text Study with Rabbi David, Beginning Hebrew with Mark Goldstein, and Intro to Judaism with Cantor Lauren are on Monday nights; Temple Scholars with Rabbi David and Cantor Lauren are on Wednesday mornings; and Saturday Torah Study with Rabbi David starts at 9 a.m. on Zoom and in person will be every Saturday. For a full schedule and descriptions, please go to [thetemplelouky.org/adult-education](https://thetemplelouky.org/adult-education) for more information.

The Temple invites congregants to attend Shabbat services on Friday nights and Saturday mornings. More information at [thetemplelouky.org](https://thetemplelouky.org).

Pickleball courts are open at The Temple! Join us for this free and exciting way to stay active. Registration opens every Friday for slots the next week. Tuesdays from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. & Thursdays from 2:45 p.m. - 4:45 p.m. At least two of the four players need to be members of The Temple. Be sure to sign the waiver and bring your own ball and paddles. Register online at [thetemplelouky.org/pickleball](https://thetemplelouky.org/pickleball).

On Friday, March 3 at 7 p.m., join our Grade 2 and Grade 3 students,

who will be presenting their annual Purim Shpiel, *It Happened in Shushan*, written by Harriet Feder and adapted by our own Carol Heideman (with later adaptations by Sarah Harlan, Jackie Glass, and Ben Tobin). Celebrate Shabbat and Purim with The Temple community and kvell over our budding thespians.

Please join us as we kick off our Storytime Series with The Temple Librarians in the Esther & Sam Fishman Library on Sunday, March 5 at 10:45 a.m. The first book will be *Sammy Spider's First Purim* by Sylvia A. Ross. This series is for preschoolers of all ages, but the book itself is geared toward 3 - 5 year olds. Please RSVP at [thetemplelouky.org/storytime](https://thetemplelouky.org/storytime).

Religious School Families are invited to join us on Sunday, March 5, from 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, for a Purim Carnival with delicious, family-friendly lunch, prizes, fun and games, prizes, bouncy houses, prizes, ice cream, prizes, arts and crafts, and did we mention there would be prizes? Embrace the spirit of Purim, and have a blast with your Temple friends.

Join The Temple for WRJ/Sisterhood Shabbat on Friday, March 10 at 7 p.m. as we honor WRJ's dedication to The Temple.

Join internationally acclaimed Israeli challah artist, Idan Chabasov, and learn how to braid both fancy and traditional challah on Sunday, March 12 at 2 p.m. More info at [challahprincelouisville.com](https://challahprincelouisville.com). Co-sponsored by Keneseth Israel Congregation, Temple Shalom, The Temple, and Trager Family JCC and Jewish Federation of Louisville.

Everyone is welcome to join us for Family Shabbat on March 17. A family-friendly dinner is at 6 p.m. and Erev Shabbat Services at 7 p.m. led by our Grade 4 students. Dinner is

\$10 per person and free for children 12 and under. Dinner is \$5 when you RSVP before Tuesday, March 14. Please make your reservation by calling 502-423-1818 or registering online at [thetemplelouky.org/family-shabbat-dinner](https://thetemplelouky.org/family-shabbat-dinner).

Please join the Mitzvah Makers on Sunday, March 19 at 11:30 am as we make sandwiches for the Louisville homeless community. RSVP at [thetemplelouky.org/sandwich-making](https://thetemplelouky.org/sandwich-making). Before the event, please bring donations to The Temple to help us with this tikkun olam project including: bottles of water, individual bags of chips, loaves of bread, and sandwich bags. Additionally, if you have some small hotel/sample size toiletries (shampoo, bars of soap, lotion, mouthwash, toothbrushes, and toothpaste), we will be making bags to hand out.

Sing Shabbat with Cantor Lauren is for anyone who would like to feel more comfortable with Shabbat prayers and music, anyone who loves to sing, and for music lovers and community-minded folks alike. You do not need to have any singing or sight-reading experience. This class is open to everyone, and please RSVP so that we know how many materials to make at [thetemplelouky.org/sing-shabbat](https://thetemplelouky.org/sing-shabbat). Spring classes are on March 20, April 24, May 15, and June 5.

All rising Kindergarteners or not previously enrolled rising Grade 1 students are invited to join us for our annual Open House on Sunday, March 26 at 9:30 a.m. You'll discover that our Sundays are full of music, fun and engaging Jewish learning, and creating wonderful memories with your Temple friends. To join us, RSVP to Sarah Harlan at [sarah@thetemplelouky.org](mailto:sarah@thetemplelouky.org).

This year for Passover, The Temple is excited to gather in person again! We will host three different Seders to attend AND the option to pick

up a Passover meal by Chef Z, with Haggadot featuring artwork from our members. There are three Seder options:

Annual Traditional First Night Seder - Wednesday, April 5 at 6:00 pm  
Rabbi David and Cantor Lauren

Creative Musical Second Night Seder led with our Confirmation Class - Thursday, April 6 at 6:00 pm  
Rabbi David, Cantor Lauren, Jennifer Diamond, and The Temple Tunes

Annual Gaylia R. Rooks Women's Seder sponsored by the WRJ/Sisterhood- Tuesday, April 11 at 6:00 pm  
Cantor Lauren  
To RSVP visit [thetemplelouky.org/Passover](https://thetemplelouky.org/Passover)

Whether celebrating at home or at The Temple, you can order a Passover meal made by the amazing Chef Z. This year's Passover menu offers the following options:

Tender beef brisket topped with a savory gravy

Grilled salmon with raspberry onion jam

Chef Z's famous vegetable frittata

All meals include vegetarian matzo ball soup, a mixed green salad, rosemary and garlic roasted potatoes, and flourless chocolate cake for dessert. Children's meals will be available for in-person seder with grilled chicken at no charge.

Member in-person Seder: \$15 per meal

Member pickup meals: \$25 per meal (first 50 orders at \$15 per meal)

Non-member meals (pickup and in-person Seder): \$30 per meal

Seder plates with ritual food: \$10 per plate (available for pickup meal orders)

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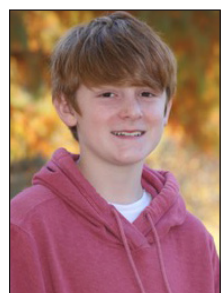
# LIFECYCLE

## Births

Mazel Tov to **Alicia and Jeffrey Lancaster** on the birth of their son, Jules, born on January 27, 2023. His paternal grandparents, Susan A. and Joe Lancaster, are "over the moon."

Mazel Tov to Andrea and Ben Lancaster on the birth of their son, Asher, born on February 2, 2023. His very happy and excited grandparents are Susan A. and Joe Lancaster, LaDonna Claywell and Larry Toth, Harvey and Mary Graves. Asher is also joyfully welcomed

## B'nai Mitzvah

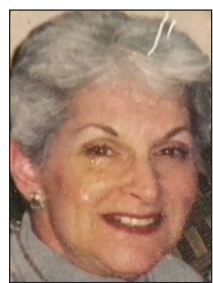


**Atticus Milenthal** is currently in Grade 7 at Meyzeek Middle School in the Math, Science, and Technology magnet. In this line of study, Atticus is getting to explore real-life scientific inquiries. He enjoys science immensely

and is looking forward to continuing this journey into high school. Outside of school, Atticus plays as a center back on his club soccer team and a midfielder on the Meyzeek soccer team. He also swims for both Meyzeek and the JCC Gators swim teams. The butterfly is his favorite stroke. In the fall, he runs cross country for Meyzeek to stay in shape and because he likes to run.

Outside of school and sports, Atticus loves to go camping, fishing, and kayaking with his family. He enjoys playing video games with his friends and his little brother as well.

## Obituaries



### Janice Bailen

Janice Bailen, 91, passed away Sunday, Feb. 19, 2023.

She graduated from Atherton High School in 1949. Janice was a dedicated volunteer at Jewish Hospital for 30-plus years.

Janice was preceded in death by her parents, Til and Herb Marks, her hus-

band, Nat Bailen, and her son, Martin Bailen.

She is survived by her son Richard Bailen, and sister Terry Marks Belker (Arnold Belker, M.D.).

Funeral services were held Tuesday, Feb. 21, at Herman Meyer & Son, Inc., with burial in The Temple Cemetery.

### Michael Harry Brody

Michael Harry Brody (68), of Louisville, Kentucky, passed away at his home on Thursday, Jan. 26, 2023.

Mike was born Aug. 29, 1954, to his loving parents - Larry and LuAnn Brody. He graduated from Seneca High School in Louisville in 1972 and went on to earn a degree from the University of Louisville. He continued and built upon his family's legacy in business by furthering the success of Brody Floorcovering. He often served as a substitute teacher at various institutions and enjoyed several positions as head coach of youth soccer teams.

Mike was a jack of all trades, and master of almost all of them. An expert and soulful musician, a keen and insightful businessman, a brilliant academic, a skilled and enlightened outdoorsman and lover of nature. With his knowledge, passion, and perseverance, there were few problems he could not solve; nothing he could not restore or build; and no mind he could not sway. He was always eager to learn, and never afraid to fail.

He is survived by his two sons - Parker (Gina) Brody and Sam Brody; parents - Larry and LuAnn Brody; sister - Sharon Brody (Jon) Seigel; and two grandchildren - Julio and Annemarie. Mike was predeceased by his sister Susan Brody (Lester) Dunn.

Funeral services were private, with burial in The Temple Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to the Camp Nebagamon Scholarship Fund-Camperships <https://cncharities.org/cfn/>

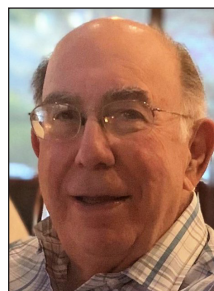
### Edward C. Garber

Edward C. Garber, 91, formerly of Louisville, died Feb. 2 in Chicago. He was born Feb. 4, 1931 to the late Samuel and Jeanette Garber.

Ed was an Army veteran of the Korean War and was a Registered Pharmacist. He was a member of Keneseth

Israel Congregation.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his loving wife, Bertha Bass Garber, and his brother, Philip Garber. He is survived by his children, Jeanette (Alan) Zemsky and Samuel (Andrea) Garber; grandsons, Ryan and Evan Garber; and brother, Malcolm Garber. Funeral services were held on Monday, Feb. 6 at Herman Meyer & Son, Inc., followed by burial in Keneseth Israel Cemetery. Memorial gifts may be made to Keneseth Israel Congregation.



### Bernerd H. Shaikun

Bernerd H. Shaikun, 82, passed away suddenly at his home Monday, Jan. 23, 2023. He was predeceased by his parents Molly (Kamenester) & Irvin Shaikun and sister Goldjean S. Turow. He was a graduate of J.M. Atherton High School and the University of Louisville. He owned and operated Kiddie Kastle for over 30 years. Bernerd was a devoted family man who took great pride in spending time with his wife, four children, and ten grandchildren.

Bernerd is survived by his loving wife of 43 years, Bonnie (Marx) Shaikun; children Jeff Wasserman (Shelly), Gary Wasserman, Warren Shaikun (Debbie), and Sally Davis (Jeff); and grandchildren, Ashton, Zachary, Justin, Abigail, David, Elizabeth, Jesse, Paul, Andrew, and Molly.

Funeral services took place January 26 at Herman Meyer & Son, Inc., followed by burial at Adath Jeshurun Cemetery.



### Alvin Kahn Rouben

Alvin Kahn Rouben 97, passed away peacefully in his sleep Dec. 30, 2022, at his home in San Diego, Calif.

Alvin was born in Louisville in 1925, the first of three children by the union of Benjamin and Rebecca

Rouben, Russian immigrants.

Alvin attended Louisville Male High school, graduating in 1943.

He immediately enlisted in the Navy, and served honorably in the South Pacific theater of operations during WWII on an aircraft carrier as a Quartermaster third class.

Attaining an honorable discharge in May of 1946, he enrolled in the Speed Scientific School of the University of Louisville.

He graduated Valedictorian from his class in 1950 as a civil engineer.

He married Dorothy Sales from Louisville in 1948.

Alvin was employed by the Ale Bornstein Construction company and worked there until his retirement in 1990.

He was instrumental in directing the construction of The Temple Congregation building, Louisville, Ky., the home of his religious commitment.

Alvin and Dorothy retired to San Diego, California in 1990.

Alvin was a devoted family man, an intensely competitive golf enthusiast, excelled in wood working, was profoundly supportive of the Lions Club and spent endless hours expounding on the attributes of his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He was truly a "Bigger than Life" man of his times. He believed in honesty and respected those who gave 110% to their efforts.

He led by example and was a patient teacher to those who tried.

His animated and jubilant personality would fill up any room he entered.

Alvin was a fun guy to be around and always made you feel well received.

Alvin was forever accessible to his family and friends.

Alvin always had time to help those who needed his help.

Alvin was preceded in death by his wife, Dorothy Sales.

He is survived by his sister, Leba Frank, Louisville, Ky; his son and daughter-in-law, Dr. David and Maxine Rouben, Louisville, Ky; his daughter and son-in-law, Ann and Dr. Ian Pumpian, San Diego, Ca.; his five grandchildren, Eli Pumpian (wife-Gabi) San Diego, Ca.; Rebecca Pete' Pumpian, Seattle, Washington; Jared Rouben (Alexis-wife), Chicago, Il.; Leah

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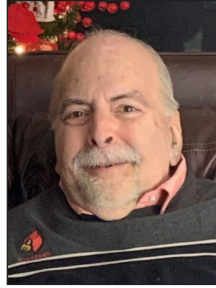




# LIFECYCLE

Benson(Dr. Cooper Benson-husband), Houston, Tx.; Dr. Camden Rouben(Dr. Amelia-wife), Charlotte, N.C.; and four great-grandchildren: Adi Pumpian, Talia Benson, Isabel Rouben, and Eloise Rouben.

A graveside memorial service will be held for family and close friends at The Temple Cemetery, Brith Shalom section, the weekend of June 23-25. Expressions of sympathy may be made to the San Diego Miramar Lions Club, 7675 Bagwell Cove, San Diego, CA 92126 or to The Temple Building Fund, 5101 US Hwy 42, Louisville, Ky 40241.



## Alan Zukof

Alan Zukof, a Louisville native, died on February 10, 2023. He was born on February 16, 1955, the only child of Dr. Walter and Helene (Loeb) Zukof, and both preceded him in death.

As a student at Seneca High School, Alan was known for his love of math and music and played in the band. After his high school graduation, he continued

his studies in music and math at the University of Louisville. Alan shared his musical gifts with the community, usually singing and playing one of the four musical instruments he mastered.

Alan was an active member and volunteer at The Temple and the Temple Brotherhood. He was also a member of the Holy Name Band and Alpha Phi Omega Fraternity. He was an avid U of L sports fan, with football being his favorite to cheer on at every game.

Alan is survived by his partner, Debby Kennedy, as well as his Aunt Sharon Stone (Howard), Phil Loeb (Donna),

Aunt Denise Zukof (Marty), and numerous cousins and extended brothers and sisters.

A special thank you to Drs. Michael Needleman and Dr. Gerald Temes for their support, friendship, and attentiveness.

Funeral services were held on Feb. 15, 2023, at Herman Meyer & Son, Inc. Burial followed in The Temple Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorials to honor Alan may be made to The Temple.

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Some of these stores also offer year round discounts through August 7th too!

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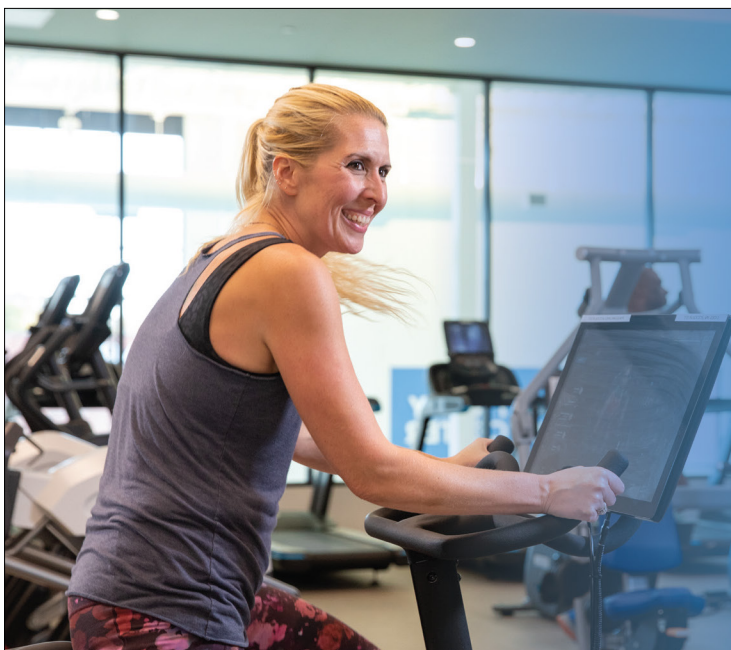
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