

FRIDAY Vol. 49, No. 9 | September 29, 2023 | 14 Tishrei 5784

# In Louisville and beyond, gun violence is an epidemic

By Andrew Adler  
Community Editor

The statistics speak volumes, and what they say is horrific: Nine months into 2023, more than 110 people have been murdered and upward of 300 wounded within the city of Louisville by acts of gun violence. Others have taken their own lives, some implicitly aided by unsecured firearms in homes.

“These are not just numbers,” Mayor Craig Greenberg told listeners gathered for a Sept. 19 meeting of the Floyds Fork Democratic Club. “These are loved ones – sons, daughters, moms, fathers, aunts, uncles, friends, neighbors.

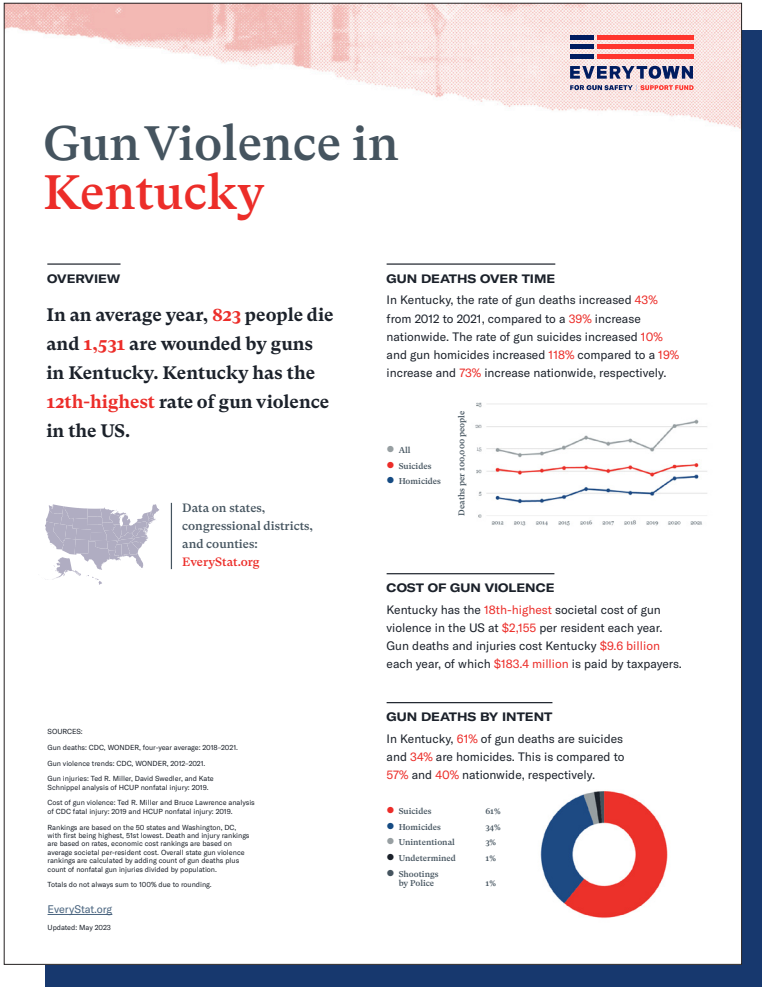
“A good friend of mine was killed this year in the (April 10) Old National Bank shooting,” Greenberg said, referring to Senior Vice President Tommy Elliott. “You all probably know people who have been directly impacted by gun violence. It’s not just those 400-plus people that this year alone have already been impacted. It’s the thousands and thousands of people, friends and families of these victims, that are impacted by gun violence. It’s in our entire city.

“And so it is my absolute top priority to make sure that everyone in Louisville is safe and feels safe,” Greenberg said, “because everything else we’re talking about tonight, everything else that our administration is working on, is only possible if people are safe and feel safe. So we’re doing a lot of work on this.

Greenberg faces immense challenges. “Kentucky has some of the absolute worst gun laws in the country,” he told his Floyds Fork audience.

“Number one, we are prohibited here in our city from taking action to do things that we think will make our city safer when it comes to guns or ammunition or anything in

See **GUN VIOLENCE** on page 27



## Never mind about JDate – matchmaking embraces old-school

By Andrew Adler  
Community Editor

If Netflix is to be believed, matchmaking is a conspicuously thriving industry. 2020 brought us “Indian Matchmaking,” in which Sima Taparia – a Mumbai-based “marriage consultant” – applied her human-relations expertise to clients from as nearby as her home city and as distant as the selectively lovelorn town of Morris Plains, N.J. So far, this series has provided sufficient romantic entanglements, on at least two continents, to occupy three eight-episode seasons.

That reality-TV show’s popularity birthed a parallel universe spin-off: “Jewish Matchmaking,” centering on Aleeza Ben Shalom, a *shadchan* (marriage broker) from Tel Aviv who, in contemporary parlance, is referred to as a “dating coach.”

So, what makes for a successful matchmaker? Is there some secret sauce that makes a woman (this is an overwhelmingly female enterprise) know who’s right for whom? And what if you’re a Jewish Louisvillian seeking a partner, you’ve swiped left too many times on JDate and similar OLD (online dating) sites, and now you’re sitting at home – alone – wondering if you’ll ever crack the elusive Compatibility Code.

Fortunately, there are experienced local intermediaries who can help. But

See **MATCHMAKING** on page 26

# For more and more newcomers to America, Louisville is a gateway to opportunity

By Andrew Adler  
Community Editor

U.S. Representative Morgan McGarvey could hardly have put it more bluntly: “The reality is that our immigration system is a failure of Congress. It’s not a failure of Democrats. It’s not a failure of Republicans. It’s a failure of Congress – and it’s been a failure of Congress for decades.”

McGarvey, who represents Louisville as the sole Democratic member of Kentucky’s congressional delegation, delivered that sobering assessment during a Sept. 5 forum hosted by Jewish Family & Career Services.

Titled “Refugees & Immigrants in the Workforce,” the 90-minute session sought to bring light to issues all too often shrouded in mistrust and misinformation.

With that elusive goal in mind, JFCS convened a panel comprising four experts in this thorny subject. They were: Kristina Mielke of JFCS, Mandela Gapala of Kentucky Refugee Ministries, Amos Izerimana from Louisville’s Office of Immigrant Affairs, and Gabriela Salazar from G.E. Appliance Park. The forum, another in a series of JFCS “Community Chats,” was sponsored by

See **REFUGEES** on page 11



Panel (L-R): Gabriela Salazar, Amos Izerimana, Mandela Gapala and Kristina Mielke. (Photo by Andrew Adler)





# THE DASHBOARD

## Word of the Month

### Like Jacob, we are ready to change the world



D'var Torah

Rabbi Shmully Litvin

Wow, what an amazing month of Tishrei!

We began with the coronation of the King, Almighty G-d, on Rosh Hashana.

On Yom Kippur, our Neshamot, our souls, all connected with the essence of G-d, who then wiped our slate clean, inscribing us for a sweet and happy new year. Score!

Then Sukkot elevated us to new heights! We paraded with the Four Kinds to celebrate our victory on the day of judgment, sheltered by G-d in the sukkah for an entire week!

On Simchat Torah, we returned the love of the Torah by dancing with love all night long!

Each week led to another progression, another elevation, and it even fell out on the weekends, making it that much more easy to attend.

Well, that's done. Now, it's back to our regularly scheduled programming. What a letdown.

Or is it?

Does it not seem odd that we worked for almost two months, preparing in Elul for Tishrei, for it all to end with such an anticlimactic sendoff?

What was it meant to accomplish?

Hashem created the world for us mortals to live in a materialistic world with a specific purpose. He did NOT create us to be angels (even if my Bubby disagrees). G-d wants humans, with their worldly inclinations and mundane needs and desires, the type that on the surface do not reflect G-d and spirituality, to be the ones who will transform this world into a better, more G-dly world, a fitting abode for the Almighty Hashem.

So, how do we accomplish this?

After Simchat Torah, some have the custom of declaring: "V'Yaakov halach

l'darko"— "And Jacob went on his way" (or the modern version, "Hit the road, Jack"). There are two beautiful meanings for this custom:

First, Jacob symbolizes the Jewish people. Thus, "Jacob went on his way" means that after the excitement of the holidays, the Jewish people return to their regular path, to their normal lives, albeit uplifted by the preceding holiday season.

The deeper meaning is as follows: We do not need to leave the holiness behind when the holidays are over; Jacob (the Jewish people) goes on "His way"—the way of G-d - studying Torah and performing mitzvahs.

We can follow "His way" in our day-to-day lives. We do not need to leave the holiness of Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, and Simchat Torah behind; we take them with us, just like Jacob did!

We now have all that we need to stand tall and proud as G-d's children, who are out to make G-d comfortable in this mundane world.

We received G-d's blessings to succeed in this holy mission, and all these inspiring holy moments during Tishrei enabled us to do our job all year round.

As we "hit the road"- we are beginning the high point of our year! Our bags are packed, and we are off to better the world!

This is what we worked so hard during all the holidays for; it's all about the now and the rest of the year. We have powered up, filled our spiritual batteries, and are ready to change the world!

Just as we (hope to) wake up each morning refreshed and full of zest, ready for a successful and productive day, we are now emerging from the holidays, ready to wake up and seize the year, and use all that accrued power to make this your most successful and most productive year.

I wish you a safe trip! I hope to encounter you all as we travel through the year, making our world a better and more G-dly place.

May y'all power to new heights in 5784, a year of productivity full of blessings and happiness. Amen.

*Rabbi Shmully Litvin is Educational Director of Chabad of Kentucky*

## Snapshots



Israeli-born visual artist Nir Hod (pictured at left) spoke about his recent project, "100 Years is Not Enough," during an Art, Cocktails and Cuisine event Aug. 30 at the Trager Family JCC. Hod, who now lives in New York City, narrated a wide-ranging slideshow for guests gathered in the Shapira Foundation Auditorium.



Pictured Above L-R: Bob Kohn, Margie Kohn and Jerry Abramson; Elizabeth McRary, Greg Moore, Eska Koester (right) and guests. (Photos by Robyn Kaufman)

## Candles

Here are the candle-lighting times for Shabbat and Holidays in September and October:

- |  |                      |
|--|----------------------|
| • Sep 29 @ 7:11 p.m. ( <i>Sukkot</i> )         | • Oct 13 @ 6:50 p.m. |
| • Sep 30 @ 8:07 p.m. ( <i>Sukkot</i> )         | • Oct 20 @ 6:40 p.m. |
| • Oct 6 @ 7:00 p.m. ( <i>Shemini Atzeret</i> ) | • Oct 27 @ 6:31 p.m. |
| • Oct 7 @ 7:56 p.m. ( <i>Shemini Atzeret</i> ) |                      |

## Contacts

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

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

Not getting your paper? Want to subscribe? Putting your subscription on hold? Gayle Shoemaker can handle all

circulation questions. She can be reached at **gshoemaker@jewishlouisville.org** or 502-238-2770.

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

## Deadlines

**Got a news item for *Community*?** Deadlines matter, especially for newspapers. Send in your news by **Monday, October 16** (though sooner is better).

The paper will be published on **Friday, October 27**.

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

## Read Community Everywhere...

We have you covered, Louisville – online. *Community* stories are posted regularly at **jewishlouisville.org/community/** or scan the QR code below.



That also is where you can find breaking news ahead of our print deadline.

Maybe you like the look of a real paper without the, er ... pa-

per. Then check out *Digital Community* at **jewishlouisville.org/community/community-newspaper/print-version/**.

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

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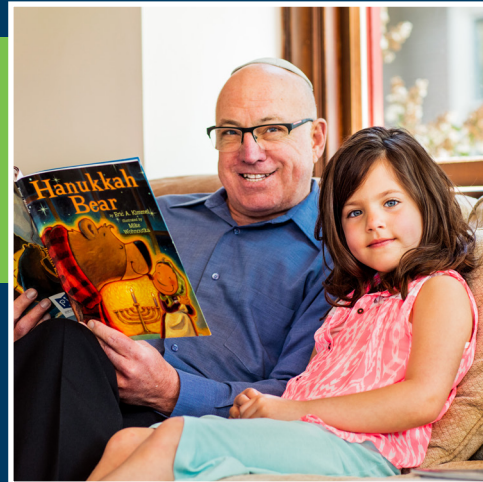
#### Strengthening Our Ties with Israel & Our Global Jewish Community

Fostering a love for Israel in young and old and extending our support to communities around the globe



#### Providing Ongoing Jewish Connection

Enabling families and communities to develop their love of Judaism and of our culture



**Jewish Federation of Louisville is Here For Good.**  
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**Jewish Federation**  
OF LOUISVILLE



# NEWS

## Summer camps with a side of latkes

### The Trager Family JCC's Fall Family Festival is coming Oct. 15

By Lisa Hornung  
For Community

October is the perfect time for families to come together in a recreational mindset. It's also a chance for those families to be thinking about their kids' plans for next summer's camp season.

The Trager Family JCC is combining those two opportunities into its first Fall Family Festival and Jewish Overnight Camp Fair. The event takes place 12:30 - 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 15, in the Weisberg Family Lobby, as well as outdoors in the playground area.

In recent years the Trager Family JCC has hosted this event online, centering on information about summer camps. This year, the happening includes not only the Fall Family Festival, but also information about teen trips to Israel.

Along with representatives from the seven summer camps listed below, BBYO, RootOne, Passport To Israel and One Happy Camper will have representatives at the festival to discuss trips and funding options (such as grants) with interested families.

The camps represented at the festival will be:

- Beber Camp (Wisconsin)
- Camp Livingston (Indiana)
- GUCI (Indiana)
- Camp Interlaken (Wisconsin)

- Camp Ben Frankel (Illinois)
- URJ Six Points (Sports, Sci-Tech and Arts Camps)
- Camp Judaea (North Carolina)

Additional festival attractions include a bounce house, face painting, plus a crafts table. The first 200 children to arrive will get a Swag Bag as part of the Trager Family JCC's Member Appreciation Week kickoff. Children are encouraged to wear their favorite camp T-shirts.

Aficionados of crispy potato pancakes can observe the preliminary round of a Latke Bake-Off in preparation for the Festival of Trees and Lights in November. During that event, celebrity judges will decide which finalist has the most luscious latkes. *If you'd like to participate in the Bake-Off, contact Sarah Provancher at the Trager Family JCC. Sour cream and applesauce will be provided.*

"We feel like it's a really great opportunity to bring families to speak to different camps and get an opportunity to learn more about individual camps, so that, it's a little more personal," says Alison Roemer, senior director of Jewish journeys and experiences at the Trager Family JCC. "They get a feel for which camp would be a good fit for their child. We've been wanting to do that for several years, and now, finally, we feel it's the right time."

Jewish summer camp is vital to a child's Jewish education, Roemer emphasizes. "The Jewish Federation of Louisville, along with the Jewish Heritage Fund recognizes the importance of Jewish overnight camp and the impact it has on Jewish children," she says. "Participation in Jewish overnight camp helps children develop stronger Jewish connections and greater Jewish engagement with their local community."

Roemer added that financial aid for camp and Israel trips is available. The Federation provides One Happy Camper

grants of up to \$2,500 for first-year campers, and \$4,000 for first-year teen travel. "Cost should not be a barrier to giving your child an unforgettable summer," she says.

For more information about the Fall Family Festival, One Happy Camper or Passport programs, contact Alison Roemer at 502-238-2730 or via email at [aroemer@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:aroemer@jewishlouisville.org). If you have questions about the Latke Bake-Off, contact Alison Roemer at [aroemer@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:aroemer@jewishlouisville.org).

## Jewish Overnight Camp Fair

### Save the Date!

**When:** Sunday, October 15, 12:30 - 2:30 p.m.  
**Where:** Trager Family JCC

#### Questions?

Contact Alison Roemer, [aroemer@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:aroemer@jewishlouisville.org).



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# NEWS

## Regional athletes score big at 2023 Maccabi Games

By Abigail Goldberg  
For Community

Congratulations to the four Jewish teen athletes who participated with Team Louisville in the 41st year of the JCC Maccabi Games that took place this past Aug. 6-11 in Ft. Lauderdale. The JCC Maccabi Games welcomed back to our calendar one of the great programs of the JCC Movement.

Team Louisville from the Trager Family JCC was one of 64 delegations representing 67 JCCs totaling 2000+ Jewish teen athletes from across the U.S. and Canada. Groups from Israel, Mexico, Argentina and Ukraine also participated. They were joined by more than 500 coaches and chaperones, 600 host families, plus thousands of volunteers and spectators who gathered for a week of Jewish sport, community, and peoplehood.

This year's events were made especially sweet by the second year of JCC Maccabi Access, which embraced Jewish teens with cognitive and developmental disabilities. Indeed, the 37 Access athletes -- representing eight communities -- laid the foundation for many more to experience Access going forward.

Athletes representing the Trager Family JCC Louisville included Levi Gladstein (Lacrosse), Arly Weinstein

of Lexington, Ky. (Girl's Soccer); Noah Rossow of South Bend, Ind. (Swimming); and Jesse Minkove of New Rochelle, N.Y. (Flag Football). The Louisville contingent was led to Ft. Lauderdale by Abigail Goldberg (Delegation Head) and David Siskin (Chaperone/Coach).

Gladstein, whose lacrosse team won silver in Ft. Lauderdale, was encouraged to participate after being an enthusiastic member of BBYO.

"I'd met a lot of kids from Louisville and a lot of kids from outside of Louisville and in our region that were also going to attend this, and I love BBYO," he said. "This was a lot of BBYO kids going to an athletic event (with) sports in Florida -- and I was like, 'I'm going to go do that. Let's see what see what it's about.'"

"I had no expectations," recalled Gladstein, a sophomore at Louisville Collegiate School. "When I got there, it was amazing. We had everything from people at the airport ready for us, to the JCC already filled with a thousand kids, and so much going on. It was amazing -- one of the coolest things."

Gladstein and another teen stayed with a Ft. Lauderdale host family, whose son was also a Maccabi athlete. "I was always skeptical of being with a host family -- you know, what happens



Levi Gladstein (#40) and his lacrosse team after they won Silver in their pool.

if you don't like them?

But they were some of the nicest people I met during the entire Maccabi Games experience. They came to our events. They took us to where we needed to be on time. They were right there for us when we needed them."

His five-member lacrosse team -- representing teens from five respective cities -- had never met one another before their first practice in Ft. Lauderdale. "That's when we learned names and where you're from and what position you play."

Not surprisingly, the Ft. Lauderdale host team -- which had played together for months -- ended up winning gold. "They were better than most of the kids I played against in Kentucky," Gladstein said. Still, snaring silver was a considerable accomplishment, especially amid the summertime South Florida heat.

He's already told Goldberg and Siskin that he's aiming to be part of next year's Maccabi Games. "I want to play lacrosse again, which is in Houston. So they said, if I can get one or two other kids to come join me, we can do it."

Elsewhere, South Bend's Noah Rossow won 12 medals at the games, including four gold medals in individual swimming events. Team Louisville had an incredible experience in Ft. Lauderdale. Noah and Arly were the first athletes from

their respective Jewish communities to ever participate in the JCC Maccabi Games, thanks largely to the Trager Family JCC recruiting and supporting them. Both athletes plan to attend the Maccabi Games in Detroit next summer.

It is with immense gratitude that our movement recognizes our remarkable host community of Ft. Lauderdale, particularly the David Posnack JCC, and their outstanding lay and professional teams. Together, as the Jewish Community of Louisville, we enabled the gift of JCC Maccabi for local Jewish athletes this summer, and whose experiences have fostered Jewish connections and memories that will last a lifetime.

We're already looking forward to 2024. Next year the JCC Maccabi Games will be held in Detroit July 28-Aug. 2, as well as in Houston Aug. 4-9. If you have a child who'll be between the ages of 12-16 during the summer of 2024 and who's interested in participating in the JCC Maccabi Games in Detroit or Houston, please reach out to Abigail Goldberg via email at [agoldberg@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:agoldberg@jewishlouisville.org), for more information. Registration for summer 2024 will begin this fall.

Abigail Goldberg coordinates teen activities at the Jewish Federation of Louisville

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USPS #020-068 at Louisville, KY.

The Jewish Community of Louisville is a nonprofit organization. \$26 of your pledge is for a subscription for **Community**.

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### COMMUNITY DEADLINES

Deadlines for the next two issues of **Community** for copy and ads are October 16 for publication on October 27 and November 13 for publication on November 24.

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

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

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

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

To submit items to Newsmakers, Around Town or Lifecycle, please email them to [community@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:community@jewishlouisville.org).

Email your comments to: **Community**, Letters to the editor, [community@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:community@jewishlouisville.org).

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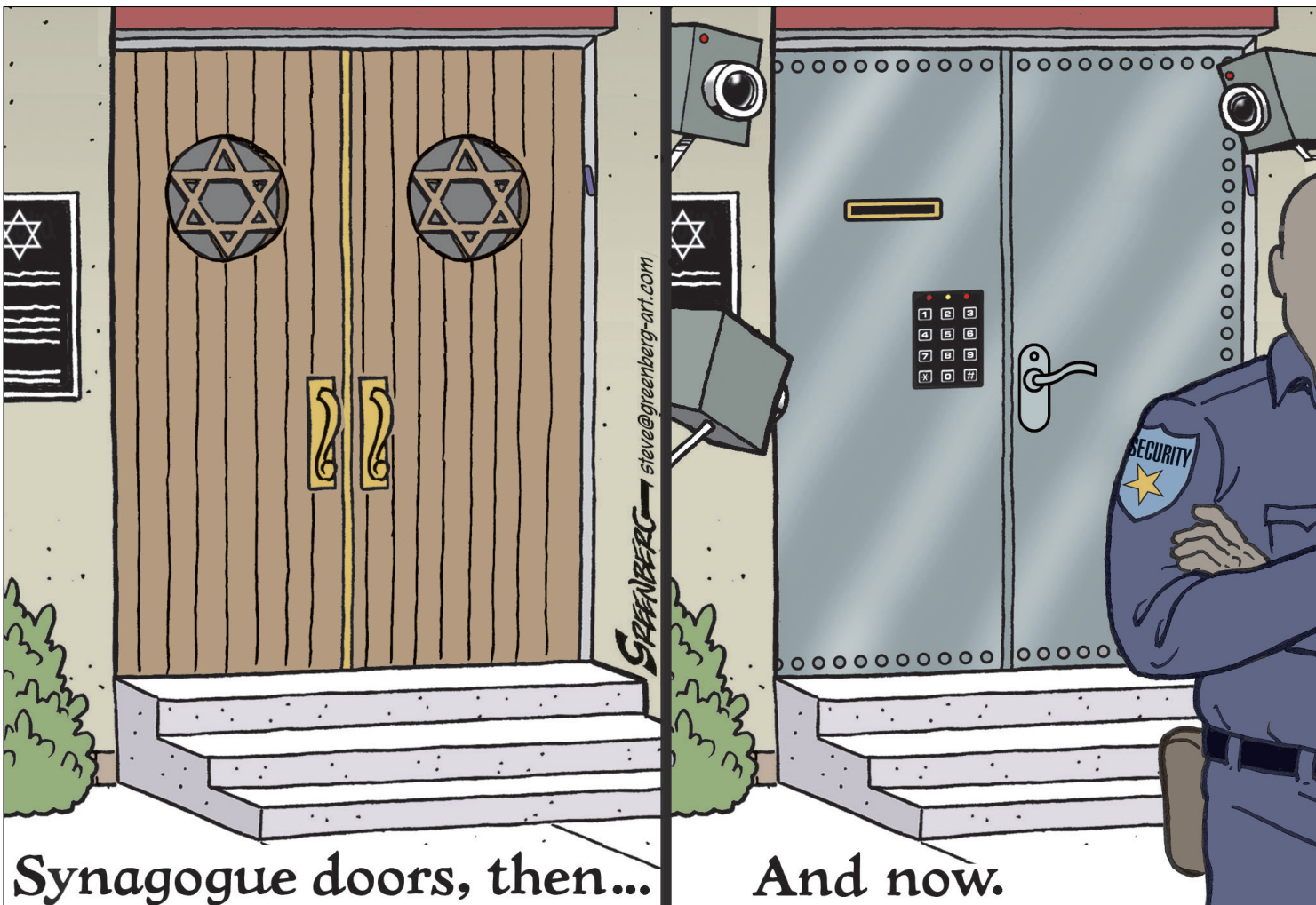
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## FORUM



## Enjoy the after-party, but always remember what a B'nai Mitzvah is truly about



### Mindful Ramblings

Andrew Adler

Early on in “You Are So Not Invited to My Bat Mitzvah” – Adam Sandler’s coming-of-age comedy about a young woman grappling with angst, adolescence and outsized expectations – daughter Stacy goes quasi-ballistic at the prospect of having a less than spectacular party theme.

“You’re always saying how my Bat Mitzvah determines the rest of my life,” Stacy tells her parents (Sandler and Ida Menzel – both terrific), “and I think that Dua Lipa would make my life perfect.”

“No,” Mom shoots back. “No famous pop stars, no yachts, no sailboats even.”

“Listen,” Dad says, “when I got bar mitzvahed, we had a party in Grandma’s basement, and we split like, this giant matzo ball. That was the fun. You know what the theme was? Being Jewish.”

Easy for him to say. Become an adult in Judaism, which happens officially when the 13-year-old you goes up to the bimah for your first aliyah, is part mystery and possibility. God’s presence manifests through that day’s Torah reading, while the parents (hopefully both are present) look on, wondering where all the time went.

It’s typically more challenging for the

son or daughter to match that mindset. When you’re 13, pretty much everything lies in front of you, barely contemplated, even less made sense of. Indeed, once he/she/they has successfully negotiated the Torah portion and Haftarah (not a “half Torah,” more than one Rabbi has quipped to synagogue visitors), nervousness gives way to giddiness – *I did it!* Teenage stomach thus settled, kiddush lunch can be eagerly consumer. And then, O Happy Night, it’s on to the party.

This is where some parents, in the guise of honoring their child, succumb to “Nothing Succeeds like Excess syndrome.” Of course, there are limits. Nobody is likely to approach the dizzying elevations of Long Island’s David H. Brooks, who in 2005 spent a reported \$10 million on his daughter Elizabeth’s bat mitzvah reception, a fête the New York Daily News famously dubbed “Mitzvahpalooza.”

Still, brand-new Jewish grown-ups want to have fun, and lots of it. I can recall any number of lavish bar mitzvah parties I attended, when it seemed like half my class was turning 13 during the school year: one week at the Plaza, the next at the Regency, and so on. No famous pop stars, no yachts and no sailboats – though my best friend Barry Glickman, a pubescent golf nut, had a golf-themed party at the Plaza titled “Barry’s 19th Hole” that featured (if my 50-plus-year-old memory is to be trusted) a generous array of putting greens.

My own children, now 24 and 22, had their bar and bat mitzvahs at Shir

Chadash in Metairie, Louisiana, just outside New Orleans, the area’s sole remaining Conservative congregation after Hurricane Katrina. My son Jack’s ceremony in late August 2012 almost never happened – Hurricane Isaac had rolled through New Orleans, knocking out power and prompting a flurry of evacuations (we’d decamped to a friend’s home in Birmingham). We were on the verge of driving to Louisville for an impromptu bar mitzvah at Adath Jeshurun when the lights came back on in NOLA, allowing us to – barely – make the scheduled Shabbat morning service.

Uncertain weather meant we’d had to scrap the intended party, which ended up being rescheduled a month or so later, in considerably stripped-down form. My daughter Naomi’s bat mitzvah 2015 went off as planned, and instead of a party, she opted for a family trip to Paris.

I like to think their respective ceremonies, regardless of the circumstances, resonated with each of them. It probably did with my son, who – steeped as he was in Camp Ramah culture – had already embraced his personal brand of Judaism. His mom and I were hugely admiring of both kidlets, who’d transitioned into grown-up-hood without benefit of pop stars or yachts, but with a theme that would make Papa Sandler proud: Being Jewish.

*Andrew Adler is Managing Editor of Community.*



## FORUM

# The people that went before you



JCRC

Matt Golden

A week or so ago, JCRC member Ben Vaughan and I attended the West Louisville Forum. One of the two panelists was J. Michael Brown, Director of Constitutional Studies at Simmons College, Louisville's only HBCU (if you do not know Professor Brown's contributions to Kentucky, I suggest a visit to Google). We were there to hear about the impact of the Supreme Court's decision in *Students for Fair Admissions v. Harvard*, which upended nearly 50 years of racial remediation efforts in colleges and universities.

During the Simmons talk, a student asked what the future held for minorities in America. Prof. Brown responded by saying, "The future is in your hands, but if you fail to vote, you are discarding all the efforts of the people that went before you." I've been thinking a lot about what he said – especially about those "people that went before" us and how we are treating the sacrifices they made.

Sixty years ago on Sept. 15, 1963, four little girls were killed in a Birmingham church bombing. Their church was targeted as a center for minority voting rights by the KKK; the Klan was willing to kill to prevent voting. Those murdered little girls—11-year-old Denise Nair and 14-year-olds Cynthia Wesley, Carole Robertson and Addie Mae Collins—were child victims in the battle over whether all Americans could vote.

A few months later in Mississippi, Black people and their allies started a voter registry drive in Hattiesburg. There was not a *single* Black voter registered to vote despite a local

population of over 15,000 Black people. On January 21, 1964, when more than 200 people lined up to register, the registrar in the county seat allowed only 20 people to go through. Day after day, week after week, those wanting to register to vote returned in rain and in shine in what is known today as the perpetual picket. They stood in line for months for the right to vote.

In Philadelphia Mississippi, three voter registration workers went missing in May of 1964. James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, and Michael Schwerner – a Black man and two Jewish men – had been working with the Congress for Racial Equity (CORE) to register new voters. They were found months later, buried in an earthen dam – with evidence that one, Goodman, was buried alive. During the search, the bodies of eight others, all Black, were found nearby, including a man with a CORE button still on his clothes. The Klan and the local police were convicted of their torture and murder.

**"If you fail to vote, you are discarding all the efforts of the people that went before you."**

– J. Michael Brown

When J. Michael Brown talked about "the people who went before," surely he thought of these people and the countless others who invested in *our* rights with *their* lives.

Our nation has always been a work in progress. Our founders set up a democracy in a world peopled with kings, one of the most impressive feats in world history. Yet, we also started with a compromise in our Constitution guaranteeing representation only for *some*. That "compromise" counted enslaved Americans as 3/5 of a

citizen for representation purposes but denied them everything else. In 1857, the Supreme Court's Dredd Scott decision reaffirmed that African Americans, free or enslaved, were not citizens at all. It wasn't until the 13th and 14th Amendments in 1865 that these injustices began to be addressed. Similarly, it wasn't until 1920 that every gender had the right to vote in our country. And it wasn't until the Voting Rights Act of 1965 that racial discrimination in voting was outlawed.

It was the "people who went before" us who did that for us.

What are we doing with that legacy gift? Kentucky has a high percentage of registered voters – more than 3.4 million. Yet, in the last general election there was less than 42% voter turnout. Nearly two million registered Kentuckians failed to vote. Even more troubling are the statistics about our belief in democracy in general. According to a recent study reported by the Jewish Partnership for Democracy, "Americans – especially young Americans – are less convinced they can effectively influence public policy and are more open to exploring authoritarian alternatives than at any other time in the last 100 years." In short, many would choose to go backwards, returning to "the fleshpots of Egypt."

As a Jew, I am well aware that our people have been a subject people for almost all of the last two millennia. Autocrats and tyrants kept or expelled us at whim; "new pharaohs arose" who did not know us. It is only within the last couple of hundred years that allowing a Jewish person a say in a representative government has even been conceivable. That started here in America. But many of our fellow citizens didn't gain those same rights until recently, if at all.

Think again about what J. Michael Brown said: "If you fail to vote, you are discarding all the efforts of the people that went before you." "Discarding" was used deliberately. If we fail to

vote, we are throwing away the work of those that went before us here in this country and in the thousands of years of our diaspora. Their sacrifices should not fall so lightly from our hands.

Election day is Nov. 7, 2023. Additionally, ten "no excuse" voting locations will be open across Louisville on Nov. 2, 3 and 4. Absentee ballots are available as well, and the JCRC has provided voting information on our website at [www.jewishlouisville.org/federation/jcrc](http://www.jewishlouisville.org/federation/jcrc). Free public transportation to the polls will also be available. So please vote – and help someone else to remember to vote, too.

*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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# Lillian O. Seligman's Legacy: Impacting The Lives of Those She Never Met

By Courtney Evans, JFCS

*"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." ~ Maya Angelou*

The legacy we leave behind is a powerful reflection of our values and the kind of life we lived while on earth. People who have the ability to help others feel seen, heard, and valued have the power to impact generations to come. One of the most powerful examples of a legacy is Lillian O. Seligman. I never met Lillian, but she has had a profound impact on me in my brief time in Louisville, on how I view Judaism, and how I have seen the idea of "community" lived out. When I began as Director of Advancement at JFCS in early 2022, I had the pleasure of meeting Dr. Jerry Seligman and the committee members of the Lillian O. Seligman Speaker Series. I have never been in a committee meeting

where individuals share so much love, laughter, and a strong sense of community. It is evident given how they speak about Lillian and the clear impact she still has on their lives that Lillian's legacy and her values are alive and well.

Lillian Seligman was president of the Jewish Family & Career Services Board of Directors from 1994-1997, and throughout her years, she continued to have an active interest in the growth and services of JFCS. Her dedication to JFCS is still felt today and, as with many others who have invested in JFCS, we stand on her shoulders as we continue this legacy that all in Louisville live with dignity and purpose. Lillian is remembered as someone who loved to laugh and spread joy. She was dedicated to serving the community in a variety of ways both through her professional work and in her free time. She respected the dignity of every human being and was known for lighting up any room.

She always pursued new interests and had a passion for learning that should always be remembered and replicated.

After her passing in 2015, the Seligman family and committee created an endowment, the Lillian O. Seligman Contemporary Thought Forum, in her memory to host an annual speaker series that is open to the community. This annual event reflects her wide variety of interests, passions, and hobbies, and is open and free to the Louisville Community.

This year we will continue the "Night of Humor" on October 23, 2023, hosted at The Temple featuring emerging comedian Ariel Elias. Ariel is described by the New York Times as a "sly young comedian from Kentucky" whose comedy is a fun mesh of unique, personal stories mixed with witty and wry observations. We invite you to this incredible event to honor Lillian, to celebrate the power of leaving a lasting legacy,

and to enjoy an evening filled with laughs. You can RSVP at [www.jfcsloouisville.org](http://www.jfcsloouisville.org), by emailing Avery Markel at [amarkel@jfcsloouisville.org](mailto:amarkel@jfcsloouisville.org), or by calling at (502)709-9198.

We hope this event will inspire you, as it did me, to think about the impact you have on individuals daily, to consider the legacy you will leave behind, and to continue to build on the work of JFCS that so many have invested in over our 115-year history.

*Join us for a  
night of humor*

**The Lillian O. Seligman  
Contemporary Thought Forum**

Featured Comedian

**Oct. 23  
7 p.m.  
The Temple**



Ariel Elias

RSVP  
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[amarkel@jfcsloouisville.org](mailto:amarkel@jfcsloouisville.org)

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FEEDING  FAMILIES

# FOOD DRIVE

To Benefit the Sonny & Janet Meyer Food Pantry  
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Donations can be  
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drop off items at JFCS  
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**Oct. 8  
1-3 p.m.  
JFCS**  
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Your support provides food security to hundreds of families and seniors in  
our community by giving them a variety of nutritious and healthy items (both  
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## Family Mitzvah EVENT

Families are invited to join us to weigh, sort and stock  
all the food donated during the Feeding Families Food  
Drive. Snacks provided.

For questions contact Avery Markel JFCS  
Volunteer & Events Manager at 502-709-9198.





# FORUM

## What do we mean when we think about “Jewish Pride”?

By Andrew Adler  
Community Editor

Sara Klein Wagner, president and CEO of the Jewish Federation of Louisville and the Trager Family JCC and responsible for Camp J, this Community Paper, and a membership of more than 10,000 people, sat down recently with me to talk about what “Jewish pride” means to her. Below are excerpts from that conversation, edited for length and clarity.

Andrew: Sara, what does Jewish Pride mean to you?

Sara: I think most people, Jews and non-Jews alike, feel proud of where they came from and their family story and history. That history becomes innate in you -- it is your story and becomes part of what you do, and how you choose to live your life. For me, Jewish pride is wrapped up in Jewish memories: individual and collective stories and history, and how we embrace those memories to move forward through action. Jewish pride is also how energetic we feel about our shared future.

Andrew: It's truly an expression of L'Dor V'dor -- from one generation to the next.

Sara: Let me give you a tiny part of my history. I remember how I felt being with my grandmother, Bessie, and her unique pronunciations of Jewish words, including challie and sukkie. I remember her teaching me to say the Shema before going to sleep, and I can feel the warmth

of being in my childhood home sharing Friday night dinners with my mom and dad. It's sitting with three generations of my family, in the same row we always sat in shul every Shabbat, and my grandmother getting looks from the rabbi when she was talking too loudly to her sister. I carry those experiences with me in everything I do.

Andrew: There's also a communal to Jewish pride, right? And that pride can be an engine for real purpose.

Sara: When you consider our deeper Jewish pride, I try to remember that we, as Jewish people, don't have to do this. We don't have to maintain our connections with our past either individually or collectively. But after thousands of years of communal purpose building together as a people, we know it makes our lives better and makes other people's lives better. There's something special in realizing how you're connected to something bigger than yourself, and that it's important for us to take care of one another and continue building together.

Andrew: Indeed, at this very moment we're in a building where those connections are made every day -- where everyone is welcome.

Sara: It's not complicated. We want to help all children thrive, so we offer camps and preschools and support community education programs, and we reach a lot of people in our Jewish community. You know, we absolutely have to understand there are barriers to community and why it's difficult for those who don't see

themselves as belonging. Perhaps they don't perceive that the doors are truly open for them. Maybe they don't know what they're looking for. We try to open those doors and erase those barriers every day. That's where the real challenges are, and the real reward, too.

Andrew: Do you think that your foundational Jewish pride made it almost inevitable you'd rise to a place like the Federation and the Trager Family JCC?

Sara: A hundred percent, yes. I like to think of myself as someone who connects things from one point to the other and has a genuine curiosity about how communities thrive. At the University of Wisconsin, I earned a bachelor's degree in sociology after sampling several other majors, because I became fascinated when I observed communities coming together. I wanted to understand how they supported each other, who determined what's right or wrong. That fascinated me, and still does. So, I was intrigued by the dynamics of group organization before I even knew I'd be heading in that direction. And it's what I feel I'm still doing now.

Most importantly, growing up in Jewish Louisville is why I work in this field. Like so many others, I was given the gift of being part of something special which included life-long friendships, mentors and a sense of belonging to a community that also had immense pride. That is what makes every day that much more special as I see professionals, volunteers and

supporters working their hardest to serve an ever-changing demographic. I want to say that again: Every day I have the privilege of helping make our community better, whether it's brick by brick, or more importantly, person to person. Those connections really make all of us thrive.

Andrew: If you had to identify a personal, defining Jewish experience, what would it be?

Sara: It's impossible to pick one, we all refine our Jewish identity every day. But one of my proudest moments working in Jewish Louisville was taking a group of teens on the March of the Living in 1992 and being present for 17 and 18-year-olds experiencing the pain of the Holocaust in Poland and then the beauty of the Jewish experience in Israel, and watching these teens accept the responsibility of being witnesses to the horror and most importantly returning home to become teachers. Every teen I traveled with in '92 and worked with in subsequent years came back changed, with an irrevocable commitment to telling the stories and teaching the lessons of the past to prevent more tragedy in the future.

And at a higher level, every teen had the opportunity to go on the March of the Living because another Jewish person and our community decided to invest in them and invest in that teen's future. For me, it was participating in “generation to generation” in real time and in technicolor.



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Trager Family JCC



**Sukkot with KI!** KENESETH ISRAEL CONGREGATION

**Jews&Brews: After Hours**  
Come have a beer with Rabbi Freed at Jews&Brews: After Hours on **Monday, October 2nd at 7:30 p.m.** in the KI Sukkah. Free.

**Torah Yoga**  
Come join Cantor Hordes in the KI Sukkah on **Thursday, October 5th at 6:30 p.m.** as she takes you through the Sun Salutations and meditations on Torah. Free.

**Sukkah Extravaganza**  
Come to our Sukkah Extravaganza on **Wednesday, October 4th, at 6:30 p.m.** This will include a massive salad bar and open bar! \$10 per person, kids under 7 eat free.

**Shabbat Dinner in the Sukkah**  
Celebrate Shabbat on **October 6th at 6:00 p.m.** with a musical Kabbalat Shabbat service followed by a Shabbat dinner in the KI Sukkah! \$10 per person, kids under 7 eat free.

**Simchat Torah Celebration**  
Come kick off Simchat Torah at this dinner party on **Saturday, October 7th at 6:30p.m.** Following dinner enjoy klezmer band Lost Tribe as we dance with the Torahs! Co-hosted with Adath Jeshurun. Free but reservations required.

Please RSVP for any event to [info@kenesethisrael.com](mailto:info@kenesethisrael.com) or (502) 459-2780.

Full details of all Sukkot events and services at [KenesethIsrael.com](http://KenesethIsrael.com)



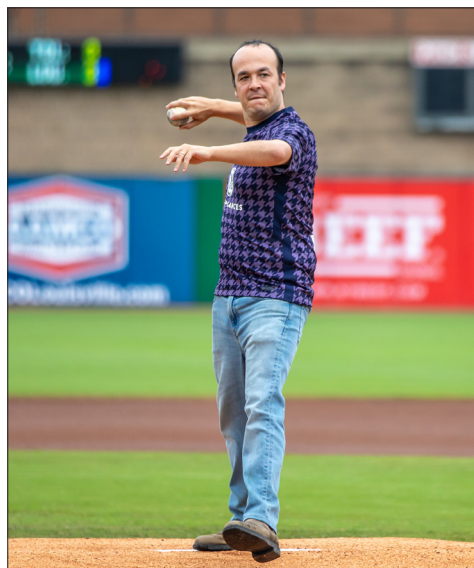
# PICTURE THIS: JEWISH HERITAGE DAY



**Top Row (L-R):** Cantor David Lipp, Beth Salamon, Buddy Bat, Rabbi Ben Freed; Rabbi Ben Freed throwing the first pitch; Cantors David Lipp, Lauren Adesnik and Sharon Hordes singing the national anthem; Cantor Lauren Adesnik with daughter Lavender and husband Moshe.

**Bottom Row (L-R):** Doug and Alison Roemer with Tricia, Josh and Stan Siegwald; David Noles, Judith Danovitch and Nicholaus Noles; Myles and Michele Marcovitch with Beth and Michael Salamon; Anita Frankel, Beth Haines and Sharon Czerkiewicz.

(Photos by Kathryn Harrington)



## Trager Family JCC Fall Family Festival & Jewish Overnight Camp Fair

Sunday, Oct. 15, 12:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Join us for a fun-filled afternoon  
with food, face painting, a bounce house,  
arts & crafts and a latke bake-off!

Show your camp spirit by wearing  
your favorite camp t-shirt!

*The first 200 kids will get a Trager Family JCC swag bag!*

- ★ Visit with Camp directors and staff from Jewish Overnight Camps.

Beber Camp	Camp Young Judea
Camp Ben Frankel	GUCI
Camp Interlaken	URJ Six Points
Camp Livingston	

- ★ Find out about summer teen trips to Israel.

BBYO Summer Trips to Israel  
Root One (vouchers for Israel)

- ★ Learn about grants and financial assistance that are available from the Jewish Federation of Louisville.

Questions?

Contact Alison Roemer, [aroemer@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:aroemer@jewishlouisville.org).

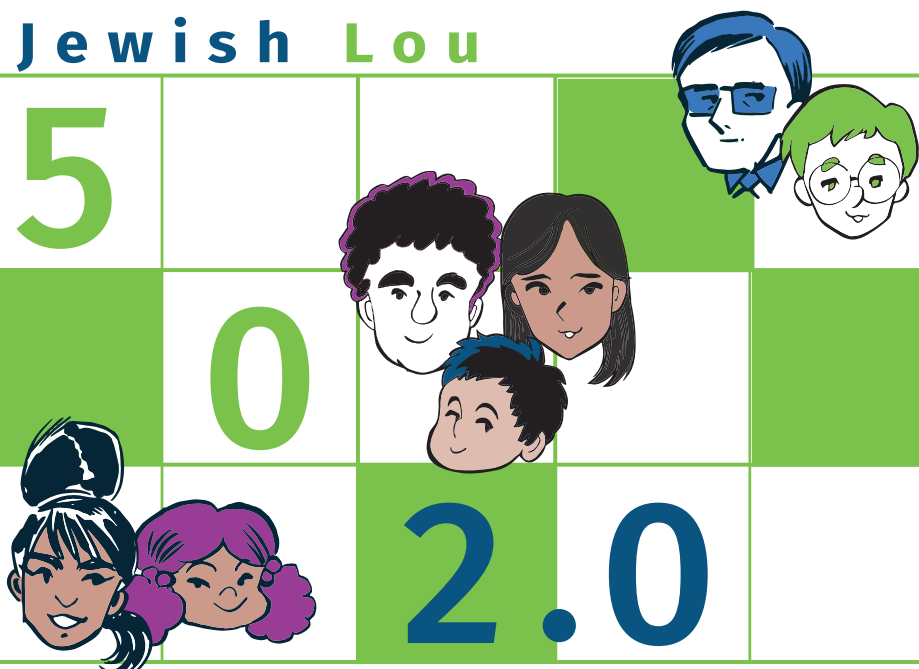


### Jewish Lou

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## Are you part of an interfaith family? We want to hear from you.

Our recent Community study of Jewish Louisville underscored the characteristics, attitudes, and behaviors reflected by the wide spectrum of Jewish-identifying individuals in the Louisville region.

The results are illuminating – charting a path toward creating the most inclusive, vibrant, and welcoming Jewish Louisville possible. **We are currently gathering a group of interfaith families for a think tank** to share ideas and help shape where we are going.



**Interested in participating?**

Scan the QR code and let us know a little about yourself.  
[JewishLouisville.org/502.0](https://JewishLouisville.org/502.0)

Questions? Contact Bridget Bard, [bbard@JewishLouisville.org](mailto:bbard@JewishLouisville.org)



# PICTURE THIS: JEWISH HOLIDAYS IN LOUISVILLE



On Sept. 12, the Trager Family JCC held a family-friendly Rosh Hashanah event in the Weisberg Family Lobby with arts & crafts, music, PJ Library storytime, shofar blowing by Rabbi Shmully Litvin and challah, apples and honey tasting.

Pictured above: Ezra Siskin making an apple shaped suncatcher.  
Pictured below (L-R): Rabbi Shmully Litvin sounding the shofar for children in attendance; Alison Roemer reading a PJ Library story to a class from the Early Learning Center.  
(Photos by Robyn Kaufman)

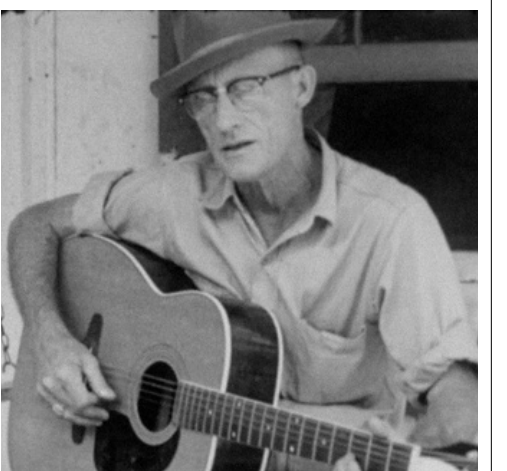


On Sept. 10, Chabad of Kentucky Rabbi Avrohom Litvin, accompanied by family and friends, hosted an afternoon session to affix new mezuzahs to various doorposts of the old Anshei Sfard synagogue on Dutchmans Lane, where High Holiday services were to be held. The previous mezuzahs had been removed in the belief that the building would soon be torn down.

Pictured above: Top row: Rabbi Avrohom Litvin and Yoran Halevi. Bottom row (L-R): Hy Stein; Larry Singer. (Photos by Andrew Adler)



Community  
Screening  
and  
Discussion



## Sunday October 8th, 12:30-2:00 pm

Join Filson Historical Society Community History Fellow Nathan Viner for a special Speed Cinema screening of filmmaker John Cohen's 1963 short documentary, *The High Lonesome Sound*, followed by a discussion with musician and archivist Nathan Salsburg and eastern Kentucky musician and educator Randy Wilson about the film and the many ties linking Jewish and Appalachian cultural traditions.



Scan for more  
information and tickets  
or visit:

[speedmuseum.org  
/cinema/](https://speedmuseum.org/cinema/)

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# PICTURE THIS: INTERFAITH NETWORK



Governor Andy Beshear was the featured speaker at the Kentucky Interfaith Network's launch summit Aug. 30 at the Trager Family JCC. "We have been through a lot together," Beshear told listeners in the Shapira Foundation Auditorium, commenting on how faith communities are "serving the lost, the lonely, the left behind, picking up all of our fellow human beings...regardless of religion or denomination." Afterward, Beshear shook hands and posed for photos as he mingled with Trager Family JCC staff and seniors gathered at the Kohn Family Town Square. (Photos by Robyn Kaufman)

# JEWISH COMMUNITY SOCIAL

The Louisville Council of Jewish Congregations is hosting the first-ever Jewish Community Social! Anyone is welcome, whether a member of a synagogue, or unaffiliated. Enjoy kosher food, cocktails, a trivia contest, community service opportunities, and plenty of time to socialize and make new connections.

**NOVEMBER 12, 2023**  
5 pm - 8 pm

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[www.jewishcommunitysocial.com](http://www.jewishcommunitysocial.com)

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# NEWS

## REFUGEES

*Continued from page 1*

District 8 Metro Councilman Ben Reno-Weber.

"This is an important event," JFCS CEO David Finke told his audience, emphasizing the vital nature of close cooperation. "Because collaboration, as Representative McGarvey pointed out, is a key factor in solving problems in our community..." "I'd like to remind everyone that building a better community is a team sport."

As Finke acknowledged, during the latter part of the 19th century and the early years of the 20th, the wave of Jews immigrating from Eastern Europe to America provided both the promise of better lives and the need for a prototypical social safety net. "This is where the Jewish Home for Children came about – they needed a place for orphan children to be taken care of. So, serving refugees and immigrants will always be at the core of JFCS, because we were all strangers in a strange land."

Indeed, "tonight's event – the reason you're here – is to engage in a conversation about what our community is doing," Finke said. "It is our responsibility to ensure that individuals are treated with dignity and provided with opportunities."

The first order of business was to establish some fundamentals. "Over the course of years of immigration policy, there have been changes in how refugees are defined," Finke said. "We, as employers, would like to understand the differences between immigration statuses – the notion of an asylum-seeker versus a refugee."

Panelist Kristina Mielke, JFCS's career counsellor for refugees and immigrants, offered a baseline definition: "A refugee is someone who has been designated by the United Nations High Commission for Refugees as someone who is unable to return to their country of origin due to a well-founded fear based on discrimination (on the basis of) race, ethnicity, religion, political affiliation, sexual orientation, sexual identity and certain social groups."

Vocabulary here is crucially specific. "It's arbitrary to throw out the word 'refugee' for every person who's coming to the United States," she said. "There's a very large difference between a refugee and an immigrant. All refugees are immigrants; not all immigrants are refugees."

The nomenclature grows denser and denser: asylum-seekers, parolees, special statuses for Cuban, Haitian, Venezuelan and Nicaraguan individuals who want to enter the U.S. All too often, the wheels of bureaucracy rotate ever so slowly, relegating applicants to a kind of immigration purgatory.

Employers have a special incentive to make sense of the immigration morass. The U.S. is replete with examples of companies eager to add workers to their payrolls, but who are stymied by regulatory roadblocks.

"Think about if you're an employer, and you go through months, you go through a ton of work trying to get people through – and then all of a sudden one mistake is made," McGarvey said. "It just throws all your work of hiring somebody into chaos."

It's even more vexing to be on the other end. Say "you're the immigrant and you've navigated the complexities of our system," McGarvey posited. "You've

tried so hard, you're getting a job – you're doing all those things. And the fear of one mistake could throw out all your paperwork and reset the clock."

Louisville has become one of the nation's most diverse immigrant communities. By one estimate, the city boasts some 70 different categories of immigrants, including what is now America's fastest-growing Cuban population. The phenomenon was the subject of an Aug. 26 New York Times article, headlined "The New Little Havana: Why Cuban Migrants Are Moving to Kentucky."

"According to independent estimates, at least 30,000 Cubans call Louisville's Jefferson County home, with much of the influx having arrived in the last two years as conditions deteriorated in their country," reporter Miriam Jordan wrote.

"They now represent the largest single immigrant group in Louisville, and their numbers, which continue to swell, have helped offset population decline in the county of 770,000, according to the (2020) Census, as young Americans decamp to bigger cities. Many work at GE Appliances, Amazon and United Parcel Service, which have large operations in the area. The entrepreneurs among them have revitalized strip malls with new small businesses."

Elsewhere in Louisville, however, immigrant status is more tenuous. Talent in certain segments, unable to solidify their status as legal employees, may decide to move out of the area.

"I think one of the key points we need to be thinking about is how to leverage the coverage that's already here," Izerimana said, "in order for employers to be aware of the workforce we are losing."

Gapala came to the U.S. in 2017 as a refugee from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, which for decades had been wracked by murderous civil war. "In my case, going home was not an option," he told his JFCS audience. Eventually he found his way to Louisville, working first for Amazon, later as housekeeping coordinator for Omni Hotels, and currently as Kentucky Refugee Ministries' employment coordinator.

He faced numerous challenges along the way. At Amazon he typically worked from 5 p.m. to 4 a.m., catching a few hours of sleep, then going off to school. "That took a lot of time to adjust to," Gapala acknowledged, "but it also introduced me to the American workforce and helped me integrate into society, starting to learn about this country."

Barriers are everywhere. Amid a nationwide shortage of healthcare workers, what Mielke described as Kentucky's "archaic licensing requirements" prompt many immigrants to pack up and move to a more accommodating state – Ohio, for example. "So instead of focusing on trying to get their licensure here, it's way easier to just drive two hours north," Mielke said. The situation is even worse for refugees who may have been professionals in their home countries, but whose credentialing documents have been lost.

"If you were a female nurse in Afghanistan, they don't exist" because the Taliban has probably "burned all your records. So you will never get those," Mielke said. "That person – even though they have eight years of nursing school and they've worked for 18 years – will never become a nurse in the state



**U.S. Representative Morgan McGarvey speaks to listeners gathered at Jewish Family & Career Services Sept. 5, 2023 for a forum on "Refugees & Immigrants in the Workforce." JFCS CEO David L. Finke looks on at right. (Photo by Andrew Adler)**

of Kentucky, because (licensing officials) can't evaluate their documents to the standards Kentucky requires."

Simply learning to speak English can be a confounding process. "Anybody who works with refugees can tell you it takes five years to learn English," Mielke pointed out. But programs like those offered by JFCS are open only to refugees who've been in the U.S. for less than five years. "So basically, by the time they're ready to start working in a career," she said, "we can't do anything with them anymore."

Alternative perspectives, however, demonstrate the advantages of a diverse workforce. "At GE Appliances, we have a lot of people that are from a lot of different countries who speak a lot of different languages," said Salazar, a native of Ecuador whose family moved to the U.S. when she was a child. So, the company has partnered with JCPS and other groups to provide English-language instruction for new hires. "We want to invest in our employees," she said. "Let's talk about this and see how we can work together. That's how our company started (saying), let's consider refugees, not just immigrants. And not just Spanish speakers, but other cultures, other people from other places."

Kentucky Representative Nima Kulkarni provided a closing political reality-check.

"It's very important to remember that when we say the word 'immigration'

or when we think about the word 'immigrant,' we have a lot of different things that immediately spring to mind," she said. "Whether you're supportive, whether you're sympathetic; whether you think there's too many, whether you think they're the wrong kind. Many of us in this country think first of the southern border. And that is because it's what dominates the news. It's what dominates our political soundbites. It is the impetus for a lot of political stunts that we see happening. That's because immigration – with its time tested and proven ability to raise anxiety levels -- has been used as a wedge issue in this country since the 1790s."

Far more productive, Kulkarni argued, is regarding immigrants and refugees not as a burden, but as a potential engine for economic growth.

"We're competing with Canada; we're competing with Australia, Singapore, India," she emphasized. "And we're competing for talent that, increasingly, can be mobile and remote. So, the only question that we here can ask ourselves is: What are we doing to keep their families and their communities here?"

"Study after study tells us that any growth that we're experiencing as a nation is due to immigration," Kulkarni said. "The Congressional Budget Office projects that beginning in 2042, all population growth will be due to immigration to the U.S. Just let that sink in for a second."





## NEWS

# In emotional ceremony, heirs to 'Cabaret' inspiration Fritz Grünbaum take back 7 Egon Schiele works stolen by the Nazis

By Jackie Hajdenberg  
JTA

They had seen the pictures before, in the collections of the museums that owned them until earlier this year. But the heirs of Fritz Grünbaum, a Viennese cabaret performer killed in the Holocaust, said the works had conveyed a powerful effect now that they had been restored to Grünbaum's estate.

"When viewing these artworks, imagine Fritz and Elisabeth in their lively Vienna apartment, singing, dancing, cracking jokes," Timothy Reif, a distant relative, said in his remarks during a somber ceremony in downtown Manhattan Wednesday afternoon. He was referring to Grünbaum's wife, who is presumed to have been killed by the Nazis in 1942. "Remembering their lives defeats Hitler's plan to erase this brave Jewish man's name from the book of history."

Reif and other heirs and co-executors had been called to the ceremony to receive seven pieces by the 20th-century Austrian expressionist Egon Schiele that were part of Grünbaum's vast art collection. They were seized earlier this year from a number of prestigious museums and collections by the office of Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg, as part of an effort to repatriate

art stolen by the Nazis.

"On behalf of my entire family, I offer our deep gratitude to each of you here today, for all you are doing and have done for the cause of justice," Reif said.

Grünbaum was killed in the Dachau concentration camp in 1941, and the significance of the ceremony's timing, during the Days of Repentance between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, was apparent to the attendees.

"It's not lost on me where we are on the calendar that our ceremony coincides with the Jewish High Holidays, the time of reflection," Bragg said to a room of about 100 attendees Wednesday afternoon. "This ceremony has reminded me that despite the horrors of the tragic destruction caused by the Nazis, it is never too late to teach the world about incredible people like Mr. Grünbaum."

David Frankel, one of the co-executors of Grünbaum's estate, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the timing "heightens the sense of awe surrounding all of this and the emotional investment that the DA's office and assistant DA [Matthew] Bogdanos has put into this."

On Thursday, Grünbaum's heirs will give the works to Christie's, which will auction them for charity later this year. The profits are set to go to artists in underserved communities, similar to a

previous auction of restituted artworks that Grünbaum's estate organized in the fall of 2022.

Grünbaum was said to be the inspiration for the master of ceremonies character in the Broadway musical and subsequent film "Cabaret." In addition to his work as a comedian, librettist, film and radio star, Grünbaum was also known for his political activity and outspoken opposition to antisemitism. In 1910, he famously slapped an Austrian

officer after the officer made antisemitic remarks, and then was challenged to a duel in which he was injured. He later became a vocal critic of the Nazis in a Viennese daily newspaper.

"They should remember him as not only as a great artist, but also an anti-Nazi," Frankel said. "Someone who stands up for human rights and was courageous enough to risk his life to do it."



Manhattan district attorney Alvin Bragg, center, delivers remarks during a Sep. 20, 2023 ceremony to return stolen artworks to the heirs of Fritz Grünbaum's estate: Timothy Reif, David Frankel, and Sarah Reif, left, pictured left to right. (Jackie Hajdenberg)

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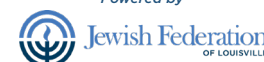
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# NEWS

## Texas teacher reportedly fired after reading from Anne Frank's diary to students

By Andrew Lapin  
JTA

A middle school teacher in a district outside Houston, Texas, has been fired reportedly for reading a sexual passage from Anne Frank's diary out loud to eighth-grade students, the district told local news.

The passage came from a 2018 graphic version of the diary by the world-famous Jewish Holocaust victim that restored some portions of the initial book that had been cut from the most well-known editions.

"Anne Frank's Diary: The Graphic Adaptation" has also been at the center of several other recent book-related controversies in public schools: It

was briefly pulled from another Texas district, permanently removed from a Florida district and has spent several months under review at another Florida district; a Republican Jewish lawmaker in Florida has called it "Anne Frank pornography."

"A version of 'The Diary of Anne Frank' book that was not approved by the district was read in class," Mike Canizales, a spokesperson for Hamshire-Fannett Independent School District, told a local news channel. The teacher was sent home last week and replaced by a substitute, and "there is an active investigation," Canizales continued.

The graphic version of Frank's diary was reportedly on a reading list the school sent out to parents at the start of

the school year, though district officials claimed it had never been approved for classroom use. The fired teacher had read portions of the diary aloud in class, in addition to assigning it for students to read.

In the book, adapted by Ari Folman and David Polonsky, a passage dated March 24, 1944, depicts Anne describing male and female genitalia, including descriptions of "the clitoris" and pubic hair. The words are really Anne's own, and appear in her initial handwritten draft of the diary. The passage comes immediately after a passage describing "the sound of gunfire" as Nazi soldiers attacked Allied forces parachuting out of a crashing plane.

"It's bad enough she's having them read this for an assignment, but then she also is making them read it aloud and making a little girl talk about feeling each other's breasts and when she sees a female she goes into ecstasy, that's not OK," a parent of twin boys in the class told local news. The parent was referring to another passage from the book, in which Anne briefly describes her latent feelings toward another girl, that some conservative parents and activists say they find objectionable.

The day before the district fired the teacher, it alerted parents that "inappropriate" content had been read aloud in class. "The reading of that content will cease immediately. Your student's teacher will communicate her apologies to you and your students soon, as she has expressed those apologies to us," the district wrote in an email.

The Anne Frank Fonds, the Switzerland-based foundation that

oversees the copyright to Frank's diary and authorized the new graphic adaptation, has defended the work in the past. "We consider the book of a 12-year-old girl to be appropriate reading for her peers," board member Yves Kugelmann has told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

Jewish books including "Anne Frank's Diary," "Maus" and "The Fixer" have become frequently ensnared in a broader, conservative-led effort to purge schools of material that activists deem inappropriate, largely for content involving sexuality, gender identity and race. Teachers are increasingly facing censures and firings for including controversial books, including by race writer Ta-Nahisi Coates, in class.



A man holds a copy of the graphic novel version of "The Diary of Anne Frank", by Israeli writer-director Ari Folman and illustrator David Polonsky, in Paris Sept. 18, 2017. (Stringer/AFP via Getty Images, via JTA)

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## Teacher's Pet

A few months ago, my son asked for a turtle for his birthday. Surely, we could get a turtle, not too big of a deal, we just need to buy the turtle, the cage, food and maybe a couple other things right? Wrong! When we entered the pet store - the shopping trip I was expecting did not happen! Instead the associate explained that we would need to purchase a bigger (more expensive) tank than I ever imagined, we would need calcium to sprinkle on the food, a food dish, some fake plants, a reptile hide, a soaking pool, floor chips, a day time and a night time heat lamp (bulbs sold separately), a UV light and a humidifier. And this didn't even include the cost of the turtle! Needless to say, I learned a big lesson about expectations when purchasing a new pet!

When the Upper Elementary students at MTA told me that they wanted a classroom pet this year, I was a little hesitant to say the least, given my prior experience. Getting a classroom pet is a big deal and often a lot of work and commitment on the teacher's part, plus I didn't want another situation like my son's birthday turtle. But there are also so many benefits to having an animal in the classroom, so what should a teacher (and an experienced turtle mom) do?

I made the decision to flip the script and put the work and responsibility on the students. I wanted them to learn everything they needed to know before even setting foot into the pet store! First I asked them to complete some preliminary research on potential class pets. Once they narrowed this initial research down to a specific animal of interest, they then needed to become experts on that animal. I wanted them to know everything there was to know about that particular animal, including information about the natural habitat, the food the animal eats, the animals' known predators, the required conditions for the animal to remain healthy, and the defense mechanisms the animal has to defend itself if threatened. I also wanted my students to determine if the animal they chose is a common pet, and details regarding the degree of difficulty of caring for the animal. After finalizing all of their required research, the MTA Upper Elementary students decided on gerbils!

Now that the students were experts, I asked them to familiarize

themselves with the required materials needed in order to care for gerbils. This included both set-up materials and the materials needed to maintain the animal monthly. They generated a list of all the materials they would need, and we took a quick class trip to Petco for the students to price out these required materials. The students then "did the math" and determined an estimated set-up cost and monthly maintenance cost. (This also included the cost of the animal.) During this time, I found a Classroom Pet Grant through Petco. I decided now that they had a pretty good idea about how much these gerbils would cost, that it would be a great experience for them to help me write the grant. Together, we completed all the grant expectations and submitted the grant in the hopes of being provided funding!

Even though the students were now experts and had priced out the required materials, and even helped me write a grant, they were not finished yet! They needed to create a plan for how they would care for the animals daily, when the animal's cage would be cleaned and by whom, and what would happen to the gerbils over the weekends and extended breaks. Their next task was to synthesize all that they have learned and decided upon, and write a formal proposal to Rabbi Meyers, our head school, to showcase their knowledge and expertise, and to convince him to allow us to bring gerbils into our classroom. In addition to the written proposal, they also drafted a slide deck and an oral presentation in preparation for their official meeting with Rabbi Meyers. Their meeting was serious business, and Rabbi Meyers asked them to consider some of his concerns, many of which the students hadn't thought of. After some intense negotiations, Rabbi Meyers asked the students to create a terms and conditions document citing what each party agreed to with regards the expectations of allowing gerbils into our classroom. As they finalized the terms and conditions and both the students and Rabbi Meyers signed the document, I received an email that we received the grant from Petco! Yay!

One of the largest focuses within the Montessori Upper Elementary and Middle School classrooms is providing students opportunities to work through 'real world' situations. As their teacher, and really just their facilitator, throughout this process, I had the pleasure of watching our students work through each of the steps required to become a serious and responsible pet owner!

*I wanted them to learn everything they needed to know before even setting foot into the pet store!*

*This week's article is written by Amy Danino, our Upper Elementary general studies teacher*

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# Snapshots



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# NEWS & NEWSMAKERS

## Sarah Harlan named executive director of National Council of Jewish Women, Louisville Section



Sarah Harlan

National Council of Jewish Women, Louisville Section has a new executive director: Sarah Harlan, currently head of The Temple's religious school and the Louisville High School of Jewish Studies.

Harlan will begin her new job on Oct. 2. She succeeds Nancy Chazen, who left NCJW in late July to become The Temple's executive director.

"I'm excited and honored to have the opportunity to lead NCJW, Louisville Section, as we continue our impactful, meaningful work and advocacy activities in the community," Harlan said in a statement released earlier today (Sept. 11). "Our mission to be a leading voice and engage our members in this work is more critical than ever."

Harlan has deep roots in Louisville's Jewish community. Apart from her posts at The Temple, for seven years she's administered (and will continue to do so) the weekly Chavurat Shalom programs and lunches for area seniors, and serves as board chair of CenterStage at the Trager Family JCC.

"My mom, of blessed memory, gifted me a lifetime membership to NCJW when I graduated from college," Harlan told Community. "She was also a lifetime member and volunteered for NCJW through her 80's. I served on the board here for several years and on the board of the Kansas City section when we lived there, so I've been connected for a long time. When the job was posted I thought, maybe I'll just find out what the position entails."

"We are looking forward to working with Sarah," NCJW board president Joyce Bridge said today. "We know she'll have a very positive impact on our organization as we move into the next generation of making a difference in the community and beyond."

## The Bluegrass Schmooze podcast makes its debut with Louisville Public Media

When Ben Freed and Shani Abramowitz were rabbinical students at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York City, neither had any idea they'd end up occupying synagogue pulpits a mere 75 miles apart – he in Louisville's Keneseth Israel Congregation, and she in Lexington's Ohavay Zion Synagogue.

But that's exactly what happened, and amid a continuing friendship the two young rabbis decided to collaborate on a Jewish-themed podcast, breezily named *The Bluegrass Schmooze*.



Produced and distributed by Louisville Public Media with support from the Jewish Heritage Fund, the podcast made its debut last month with a joint appearance by Louisville Mayor Craig Greenberg, and his generational predecessor, Jerry Abramson.

"She and I started and finished rabbinical school together, and we lived in Israel (during) the same year," Freed said. "So we were good friends even before we got to Kentucky, and since then we've been very close colleagues. We're going through a lot of the same things being new rabbis who arrived in Kentucky the same year, and navigating what it means to be a new rabbi at a synagogue that's not on a coast."

"We both applied to the jobs in Louisville and Lexington, and we each

interviewed with both synagogues," Freed recalled. "But at the end of the day, I ended up in Louisville and she ended up in Lexington. We'd talked about, 'wouldn't that be crazy if...' and then it happened – and we were really thrilled."

The two rabbis share quasi-Midwest sensibilities – Freed grew up in Ann Arbor, Mich; Abramowitz in Chicago. With so much in common, it was almost inevitable they'd collaborate, somehow. Often "we'd talk about Judaism and the things we care about," Freed said. Now, via *The Bluegrass Schmooze*, "we get to talk to interesting people in this wonderful Commonwealth that we live in about their Judaism and things they care about."

Originally the podcast was to be called *Bluegrass Torah*, which led some people to think it'd be some kind of monthly Torah study. "I want to give Rabbi Abramowitz full credit for coming up with the name *The Bluegrass Schmooze*, which I think is so perfect."

The Greenberg-Abramson episode will be followed by interviews with University of Kentucky President Eli Capilouto, Louisville Orchestra Music Director Teddy Abrams, and one featuring Jewish personnel who are serving or have served at the Fort Knox army post. Each podcast will include two segments: This Month in Judaism and Kibbitz with Kentuckians – "and

## The Lee Shai Weissbach Memorial Lecture in American Jewish History

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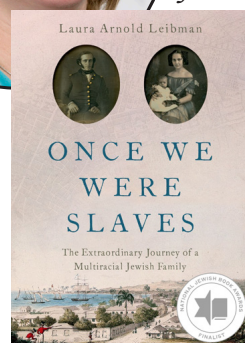
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An obsessive genealogist and descendent of one of the most prominent Jewish families since the American Revolution, Blanche Moses firmly believed her maternal ancestors were Sephardic



grandees. In fact, Moses' grandmother and great-uncle, Sarah and Isaac Brandon, began their lives as poor, Christian, and enslaved in Barbados. Tracing the siblings' journey around the Atlantic world through artifacts they left behind in Barbados, Suriname, London, Philadelphia, and finally, New York, Dr. Laura Arnold Leibman's book and lecture illuminate forgotten stories of the many people with mixed African and Jewish ancestry in early American history.

Laura Arnold Leibman is Professor of English and Humanities at Reed College in Portland, OR.



Honoring the memory of University of Louisville History Professor Lee Shai Weissbach (1947–2022), the scholar who put Kentucky Jewry on the map.

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# NEWS & NEWSMAKERS

we knew we wanted to finish every episode with a 'LChaim of the Month,' where we give a shout-out to a person or organization we wanted to honor on that month's episode."

Speaking of months, the podcasts will be released according to the Hebrew calendar. "We're a Jewish podcast that's following Jewish time," Freed said, "which I think is really cool."

## Kentucky activist Suzy Post's life and legacy celebrated at the Trager Family JCC



Amy Shir spoke about the late activist Suzy Post Sept. 14 at the Trager Family JCC. (Photo by Andrew Adler)

The singular life and accomplishments of the late Kentucky activist Suzy Post were celebrated Sept. 7 at the Trager Family JCC. Amy Shir – a Filson Historical Society Community History Fellow – led a 90-minute session aimed

principally at young Jewish adults, many of whom were learning about Post for the first time.

"Community is an antidote to injustice," Shir declared during her introductory remarks. "No one person can fight oppression alone. No one

person can bring about systems change. But when we're together and we have these values of creating a more just society, then things can happen, and things can change. Suzy is a great example of a person that did help get a lot of things done."

Post, who died in early January 2019 at the age of 85, is best known for her tenure as president of the Kentucky Civil Liberties Union from 1969-1990, and later as head of Louisville's Metropolitan Housing Coalition. She was a passionate advocate for the Equal Rights Amendment, Title IX, racially integrated public schools, and an equally passionate opponent of the Vietnam War.

After viewing a short film about Post's life and work, participants were divided into two sections, each tasked with coming up with their own take on Post's richly diverse career.

"Here are a few prompts for you to be thinking about," Shir said. "What touched you about Suzy's work? Was anything relatable to you? What topics are you interested or engaged in?"

And since the evening was part of JewishLou 502.0 – the Jewish Federation of Louisville's ongoing effort to jumpstart young-adult Jewish involvement – Shir posed another key question: "How does your Judaism inform your interests and your engagement?"

"So, we're going to take about 10 or 15 minutes to do this exercise,

and then we're going to come back together and share and then we're going to complete our evaluations. And on these evaluations, we're going to also ask you about your interest in more events like this, or other venues that you'd like to recommend."

Soon it was time to hear some thoughts.

"I was interested in learning about the desegregation of JCPS (Jefferson County Public Schools) and how instrumental she was in making that happen," one attendee said. "But I also appreciate that she admitted that there were some flaws to the program. Because it did make it harder somewhat on Black kids, since they were being bussed very far outside of their home neighborhoods. So yeah, it was tough for some kids."

Other participants remarked at how Post defended the Ku Klux Klan's right to free speech, and how the totality of her social-justice commitments exacted a heavy toll on her family.

Toward the end of the evening a facilitator observed: "As Jews we know it's part of our identity, part of our obligation to pay attention and to do the work to seek out justice. So does your Jewish identity play a role in any of the work that you do in the community, or toward working toward justice?"

"I think the values of Judaism have encouraged me to look outside myself," Shir's daughter said, "and to look at how to help other people ask questions." In other words, "don't be complacent."

## Palestinian-rights advocate Bassem Eid speaks at The Temple

"This evening we are going to talk about internal Palestinian politics and conflicts," Bassem Eid – a veteran Palestinian commentator who often writes on Palestinian-Israeli affairs – told his audience Sept. 13 at The Temple.

"This year, unfortunately, is considered one of the most bloody here between the Israelis and the Palestinians," Eid said.

"A very high number of Palestinians and Israelis have been killed, and no doubt the Iranians are trying to move faster and faster toward the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Right now, the Iranians have become neighbors. They are sitting on the Israeli-Syrian border, and it looks like it's much easier for them to operate via their agents, which is Hamas and the Islamic Jihad. This is one of the major problems right now – that Hamas has almost succeeded to reoccupy different places inside the West Bank itself -- mainly, the refugee camps.

"You know, in the refugee camps, people all the time are suffering from poverty," Eid continued. "And that's exactly what Hamas is looking for," with funding from one of Israel's foundational enemies: Iran.

"The Palestinian Authority in the West Bank became like a handicapped body – they couldn't function," Eid



Bassem Eid speaking Sept. 13, 2023 at The Temple. (Photo by Andrew Adler)

observed, "And when the Israelis asked them, 'why you are not functioning,' they said, 'We are suffering from a lack of violence.' When the Americans are asking them 'why are you not functioning,' the answer is, 'we are suffering from a lack of military equipment.' But if the Palestinian Authority will receive the finances that they want, will they be able to operate? I don't think so."

It is, to say the least, a bleak political landscape. "We are moving from one catastrophe to another catastrophe, from one conflict to another conflict," Eid said. "And God knows what the coming conflict is going to be about. The Palestinians in my opinion, have no strategy toward any kind of a future peace with Israel. I don't believe that (Palestinian Authority president) Mahmoud Abbas wants to reach any kind of peace with Israel. We are talking about a leader who is almost 87 years old. He is so tired; he couldn't think about tomorrow. He preferred to think about the 1948 war and the other wars which took place between Israel and the Arabs and the Palestinians. But to think about the future of the children of the Palestinians? I think that he is completely unable."

"Now the question is what will happen if Abbas passes away? That's the biggest question that everyone asks. I used to say, 'With Abbas, it's a problem -- but without Abbas, it might be a tragedy.' Because as you might know, each member of Fatah wants to be president. And I believe that a huge catastrophe will take place after Abbas die(s). Some assassinations probably will take place in the West Bank. And probably Israel (will) have to interfere to keep the Palestinian streets under order. But "no one knows who is going to replace Abbas."

Meanwhile, social media has all but replaced legacy sources for keeping up with swiftly changing events, Eid said. "Nobody is watching Fox News. No one is watching CNN. No one is reading the New York Times. Everyone has his own smartphone, and, without any limitations, they can go from morning until night to search and to see what is really going on,"

# Happy Sukkot

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\*As of September 18, 2023



# NEWS

## Meeting between Jewish leaders and Benjamin Netanyahu broaches judicial overhaul — and gets personal

By Ron Kampeas  
JTA

As they prepared to meet with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Friday, leaders of U.S. Jewish organizations expected to ask him about his contentious effort to weaken the Israeli judiciary.

They didn't expect to get an answer from Netanyahu's wife, Sara.

But that's what happened when Rabbi Rick Jacobs, the president of the Union for Reform Judaism and an outspoken critic of the overhaul, asked about Netanyahu's condemnation of the protest movement, which the prime minister recently accused of cooperating with Israel's adversaries. Jacobs said he tied his question to Yom Kippur, which begins Sunday evening.

"I said it was almost Erev Yom Kippur, and I'm asking you about the way your government has demonized not only the protesters but so many of the people who are at risk," Jacobs told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. "And he gave an answer and Sara Netanyahu asked if she could follow up with asking me a question."

Sara Netanyahu asked if Jacobs would condemn the death threats against her family.

"I heard the emotion," Jacobs said. "She's not wrong."

He said he told her, "Absolutely, but the majority of people have been peaceful, but I would not condone that behavior."

At the meeting, attendees said Netanyahu raised the topics he preferred to discuss, such as the threat from Iran and prospects for a treaty with Saudi Arabia. And the American Jewish leaders brought up topics on their mind as well — among them the judicial overhaul; relations with the Palestinian Authority; Netanyahu's far-right coalition partners; and women's rights in Israel.

The meeting at the Israeli consulate in New York City took place hours after Netanyahu's address to the U.N. General Assembly, which focused on the potential Israeli-Saudi deal as well as the Iranian threat. Netanyahu met with President Joe Biden earlier in the week.

The meeting included 24 representatives of groups across the

Jewish political and denominational spectrum. Most of the groups in attendance have voiced criticism of the judicial overhaul, which aims to sap power and independence from Israel's Supreme Court, in addition to other Israeli government policies. The judicial overhaul has also sparked a mass protest movement in Israel that has offshoots abroad: In New York, a crowd of protesters demonstrated outside of the consulate on Friday.

"There were probably half a dozen questions that were asked and to be honest, everyone was answered whether or not people felt satisfied," Jacobs said. "And I have to say that to me, it was more than I had expected."

One Jewish leader brought up Netanyahu's convivial meeting earlier in the week with Elon Musk, the tech mogul who has relentlessly attacked the Anti-Defamation League on his social media platform, X, formerly known as Twitter. Musk has also interacted with white supremacists on the platform.

Netanyahu and ADL CEO Jonathan Greenblatt joked about how Musk seems to like Netanyahu better than Greenblatt, one participant said.

Sheila Katz, CEO of the National Council of Jewish Women, called the meeting "warm, actually." Katz said she brought up concerns of increasing gender segregation in public spaces in Israel.

"I asked about the perception of things going backwards and what's at risk, and toxic segregation," she said. She said Netanyahu responded that he did not recognize that as happening.

Katz said she valued the opportunity to discuss their different perceptions.

"When we're doing organizing, when we want to change hearts and minds, when we want to collaborate with other people — whatever it might be — you have to understand where people are," she said.

The CEO of the American Jewish Committee, Ted Deutch, said in a statement that the meeting was productive. His statement mentioned the two-state solution, which would entail the establishment of an independent Palestinian state alongside Israel. Large American Jewish groups have

historically supported that outcome, though Netanyahu has said he is against it and partners with far-right politicians who vehemently oppose it.

"While the vision of a two-state solution too often seems out of reach, AJC stands firm in our dedication to pursuing a path toward peace and prosperity for all in the region," Deutch said.

"The Abraham Accords once felt impossible — and look where we

are today," he said, referring to the normalization agreements with four Middle Eastern countries signed under a previous Netanyahu government. "We remain committed to expanding normalization and supporting programs that promote Israeli-Palestinian cooperation, knowing that these efforts will bring us closer to enduring peace."



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**Additional Information:**

- Ingredients must be kosher-style and at least 50% homemade
- Must be available to bring latkes in person on both dates
- A minimum of 10 latkes should be provided and ready to sample
- Apple sauce and sour cream will be provided
- Latkes should be pre-cooked, but can be heated in warming elements on-site
- Everyone is invited to enter; there are no entry fees
- Sign-up to enter by Oct. 10

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# AROUND TOWN

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

## Adath Jeshurun

Adath Jeshurun is joining Keneseth Israel to celebrate Simchat Torah Oct. 7-8. Festivities begin at KI on Saturday, Oct. 7 at 6:30 p.m. with an adult dinner party followed by Hakafot and dancing with the Torahs. RSVP at **www.adathjeshurun.com/reservations** for the dinner portion of the evening. Sunday, Oct. 8 at 9:30 a.m. join KI, AJ, and LBSY for our Simchat Torah party. Services will begin at 9:30 a.m. at KI followed by Hakafot – including stuffed Torahs for kids to march with and the tradition of completely unwinding a Torah beneath the Fischer Windows. All are welcome.

Rabbi David Bloom is bringing another Tot Shabbat to Adath Jeshurun Saturday, Oct. 21 at 10:30 a.m. in the Yarmuth Family Chapel. This service is geared toward parents and little ones, ages 0-6. Grandparents and older siblings are also welcome. Participants will pray, learn, and hear stories, and then enjoy some kid-friendly food at the Shabbat Kiddush lunch. Kindly RSVP at **www.adathjeshurun.com/reservations** so that AJ may prepare enough food for everyone. Rabbi David Bloom is a Louisville native and a graduate of Indiana University and Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati who has a passion for tikkun olam, interfaith cooperation, and teaching various Jewish subjects.

## Anshei Sfard

Classes are held weekly by Rabbi Simcha Snaid: A Night Kollel Ahron V'Leah – open learning from 8pm-9:30 p.m. Monday – Thursday for anyone to come & learn; Spice of Life, Wednesday 7 p.m.; Discussion on the timeless lessons from Mishlei – the Book of Proverbs, Sunday mornings 7:45 – 8:30 a.m.; Talmud Trek II, Sunday 9:30 a.m. Women's learning Sunday evenings 7:30-8:30 p.m.

## Chabad of Kentucky

Chabad of Kentucky is pleased to announce that all services are now being held at the Camp J building at 3700 Dutchmans Lane (formerly Congregation Anshei Sfard). We extend our thanks to Jewish Family & Career Services for allowing us to use their building to hold services during the summer. We also extend our thanks to Jewish Community of Louisville for allowing us to use the Camp J building and we invite the community to share in all the services, classes and programs during the upcoming Holiday season.

A new class designed to introduce you to “The World of Kabbalah” will be taught at the Trager Family JCC on six Wednesday evenings starting on Nov. 1.

Chabad of Kentucky invites the community to join us for a transformative journey of knowledge with our new course from the Rohr Jewish Learning Institute: The World of Kabbalah. We'll get a comprehensive look at Kabbalah's core teachings and unearth deep insights into the human condition to inspire real-life growth and self-understanding. Cost for the course is \$89, including a student textbook. For more information contact Instructor Rabbi Avrohom Litvin at **Chabadky@gmail.com**

## Chabad of Prospect

Chabad of Prospect invites you to Shvarma in the Shack & Sukkot Family Festival On Tuesday October 3rd from 5-9pm on their campus at 6900 Transylvania Avenue in Prospect. The event will include Sukkot Crafts, Face Painting and a Bounce House. There is a suggested donation of \$15 per person or \$50 for a family. No one will be turned away. For reservations please call Chaya @ 502-386-9029.

## Chavurat Shalom

We're showcasing a delightful array of musical talent this month. Lunch will start at Noon in The Temple's Heideman Auditorium and our program will start at 1:00 pm. All programs will also be available via ChavuratShalomZoom for those who need to join us remotely.

Thursday, October 5 - Pianist Nada will return with an inspiring concert. Lunch will include baked tilapia, roasted cauliflower, barley with sautéed veggies, asian-style slaw, fresh fruit, and cupcakes.

Thursday, October 12 - Chavurat Shalom friend, Denine LeBlanc, will play a variety of music on piano. Lunch will include roast beef, mashed potatoes, green beans with almonds, mixed green salad, fresh fruit, and rice pudding.

Thursday, October 19 - Our favorite piano-playing doc, Jeff Springer, will play for us. Lunch will include roasted chicken with an orange apricot glaze, wild rice pilaf, mixed vegetables, kale salad, fresh fruit, and apple cobbler.

Thursday, October 26 - The Silver Notes will perform some spooky melodies. Lunch will include grilled chicken piccata, couscous, broccoli with roasted red peppers, mixed green salad, fresh fruit, and assorted pick-up sweets.

If you're not “a regular,” please RSVP by 5 p.m. Tuesday if you'll be attending that week in person by calling or emailing Sarah at 212-2038 or **sarahharlan86@gmail.com**.

Chavurat Shalom is a unique opportunity for Jewish senior adults to meet socially and share ideas. Chavurat Shalom is funded through the generosity of the Jewish Heritage Fund, The Temple, The Temple WRJ/Sisterhood, The Temple Brotherhood, NCJW, and many other generous donors.

## Crescent Hill Community Council

Crescent Hill Community Council (CHCC) is sponsoring a Curbing Gun Violence in Jefferson County competition. Entries will be analyzed by a panel of 15 impartial judges. A prize (\$7,000 and climbing as of Aug. 16) will be awarded to the winner of this contest on January 4, 2024. Deadline for entries is Oct. 4. For more information and to enter, visit **https://tinyurl.com/ydjxn945**.

## Filson Historical Society

Join the Filson Historical Society for these upcoming events! For more information, registration, and membership visit **www.FilsonHistorical.org**.

*Once We Were Slaves: The Extraordinary Journey of a Multiracial Jewish Family in Early America*

Date: Oct. 24

Time: 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Location: The Filson Historical Society (In Person and Zoom options available)

Tickets: **https://tinyurl.com/ustctpxy**

The Lee Shai Weissbach Memorial Lecture in American Jewish History, co-sponsored by the University of Louisville Program in Jewish Studies, the University of Louisville Department of History, The Filson Historical Society, and the Jewish Heritage Fund.

An obsessive genealogist and descendent of one of the most prominent Jewish families since the American Revolution, Blanche Moses firmly believed her maternal ancestors were Sephardic grandees. Yet she found herself at a dead end when it came to her grandmother's maternal line. In this talk, Professor Leibman overturns the reclusive heiress's assumptions about her family history to reveal that her grandmother and great-uncle, Sarah and Isaac Brandon, actually began their lives as poor, Christian, and enslaved in Barbados.

Laura Leibman is a Professor of English and Humanities at Reed College in Portland, OR. *Honoring the memory of University of Louisville History Professor Lee Shai Weissbach (1947-2022), the scholar who put Kentucky Jewry on the map.*

## Jewish Family & Career Services

Nominations for the 2024 JFCS MOSAIC Awards are now open. If you know a Leader, Changemaker, or Humanitarian from the refugee or immigrant community in Louisville, nominate them for a JFCS MOSAIC Award. Over the past 18 years, we have honored 80 immigrants, refugees and first-generation Americans who now call Louisville home and have made a difference in the community. Help us celebrate the diversity and accomplishments of these individuals as they help build the City of Louisville and Commonwealth of Kentucky into a brighter, more inclusive place. We will be accepting nominations until October, so don't wait. Go to: **www.jfcslouisville.org/give/mosaic-awards/**

Does your child struggle with anxiety or fears that prevent them from participating in and/or enjoying typical childhood activities? Do they seem to struggle with more fears or worries than other children? Are YOU consumed by your child's fear and anxiety to the point you're struggling with living your own life? Are you at a loss on how to support them? SPACE (Supportive Parenting for Anxious Childhood Emotions) is an 8-session program developed by Yale University for parents and caregivers to learn practical strategies to help their child manage fears and worries independently, without constant reassurance or intervention from parents. Sessions are facilitated by highly trained and compassionate licensed social workers using evidenced-based model. For more information, or to register for SPACE call (502) 452-6341, or email: **services@jfcslouisville.org**.

Extending a helping hand to refugees in their pursuit of establishing new businesses or finding meaningful employment has become increasingly vital in fostering their successful

integration into our community. JFCS's Navigate Program has been awarded grant funding by the Office of Refugee Resettlement to offer microloans to aspiring entrepreneurs and small business owners who have immigrated here and have been in the U.S. for less than three years. These microloans are earmarked to help refugees start, grow or expand businesses in their local communities, recognizing that such resources are vital to populations that may otherwise struggle with accessing capital for business startup, growth or expansion needs to thrive. If you, or someone you know, is a refugee and would like more information about this or other small business resources for underserved populations, contact JFCS Navigate program at **www.jfcslouisville.org/our-services/career-economic-opportunity** or call 502-452-6341.

## Jewish Federation of Louisville

The Trager Family JCC will host Sukkot Schmooze and Booze Wednesday, Oct. 4 from 5:30-7 p.m. in the Community Sukkah. Enjoy wine & beer, snacks while mingling with old and new friends. RSVP to Carly at **cmason@jewishlouisville.org**.

We had such a great response to our recent food drive that we're making it an ongoing project. Please join the Jewish Federation of Louisville in supporting the Sonny & Janet Meyer Food Pantry with donations of non-perishable foods, personal care items and cleaning supplies. All items can be dropped off at any time at the Trager Family JCC in the Food Drive bin near the Kohn Family Town Square.

Organizers are continuing to use data and information gathered in the recent Brandeis University-led Study of Jewish Louisville to better serve the community. Throughout the next several months, the Jewish Community of Louisville will convene several cohorts of community members, based on age and life-stage, to share their thoughts and ideas for the future of Jewish life across Louisville. If you are interested in participating, you can fill out a short survey to tell a little about yourself. As the various cohorts are defined and the groups are scheduled, organizers will reach out to invite appropriate community members to participate. You can find the survey at **tinyurl.com/4sph5m8n**.

## Keneseth Israel

Keneseth Israel Congregation offers Daily Minyan services at 6:00 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**. Join us for Shabbat services Friday at 6:00 p.m. and Saturday at 9:30 a.m. Shabbat services and Holiday services are offered in person and on YouTubeLive at **tinyurl.com/KICyoutubelive**. Please visit **kenesethisrael.com** for information.

Have a toddler in your life? Come share in our Tot Shabbat! Join us Oct. 16 at 11 a.m., to enjoy a toddler friendly shortened service and a sweet treat followed by coming into the main sanctuary to dazzle everyone with their rendition of a closing Shabbat service song.



# AROUND TOWN

## Kentucky Institute for Torah Education

KITE is having learning classes on The Path of the Just Saturday nights at 8 p.m. 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.

## Kol Israel Community of Kentucky

An Inner Peace for Challenging Times Jewish Meditation Gathering will be presented Monday, Oct. 9 at 9 p.m. (and on the second Monday of each month). The 40-minute sessions include transformational teachings, Hebrew chanting, and deep silence, led by Reb Brian Yosef Schachter-Brooks from Torah of Awakening. Register online at: <https://tinyurl.com/4camnn6r> Presented in partnership with ALEPH Alliance Jewish Renewal (National) Interfaith Paths to Paths to Peace

Join Stephanie Liss and ALEPH for a reading of Liss's rousing script Radio Berlin with original music by Rebbesoul. The event will take place Sunday, Oct. 15 at 5 p.m., hosted on Zoom. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/yc5nabfp>. For more information, email [tikshoret@aleph.org](mailto:tikshoret@aleph.org).

## Louisville Vaad HaKashruth

The following venues are supervised and certified by the Vaad: Trager Family Jewish Community Center (Nancy Abrams Kitchen) and Krispy Kreme, 3000 Bardstown Road.

## Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning

How often do we stop and acknowledge the time-honored highs and the lows of our lives as Jews? Highs and Lows: Communal Days of Joy and Sorrow, a brand new 6-week course, will be offered in two formats: Tuesday evenings 6:30-8 p.m. via Zoom taught by Cantor David Lipp, and Thursdays, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in-person at Adath Jeshurun, taught by Rabbi Laura Metzger. The cost is \$179, which includes textbooks. Register and find out more here. Scholarships are available; email [sisham@adathjeshurun.com](mailto:sisham@adathjeshurun.com) to apply.

## Moishe Pod: Louisville

The Moishe Pod: Louisville is a part of the international non-profit organization Moishe House, which aims to bring

together young adult Jewish communities from around the world. Moishe Pod: Louisville is open to all young adult Jews regardless of observance level. It will be hosting three free events a month to bring the young adult Jewish community together in a welcoming environment. For more information or to pass along suggestions for an event Moishe Pod might host, email [moishepod.louisville@gmail.com](mailto:moishepod.louisville@gmail.com).

## Temple Shalom

Dinner Theater Murder Mystery: The Haunting at Blackwood Hall, Oct. 22. Doors Open at 5:30 p.m. Join us for a spooky evening. We begin with a chili dinner at 6 p.m. and a theatrical presentation at 7 p.m. The murder mystery includes a skeletal hand in a sofa, a mysterious veiled woman, and a mystic who hears the voices of the dead, presented by WhoDunnit Murder Mystery Theater. Audience members can help solve the mystery. Cost is \$36/ members, \$45/non-members (Note: NOT recommended for under age 13) Send reservations with check payable to Temple Shalom by Oct. 9 to: Temple Shalom/4615 Lowe Rd./Louisville, KY 40220. Please write "Murder Mystery" on the check's memo line.

The community is welcome at Temple Shalom's Shabbat services: Fridays at 6:30 p.m. and Saturdays at 10:30 a.m. Services are led by Rabbi Beth Jacowitz Chottiner and members of the congregation.

## The Temple

The Fall semester for adult education at The Temple begins! Text Study with Rabbi David, Beginning Hebrew with Mark Goldstein, and Intro to Judaism are on Monday nights starting on Oct. 9; Temple Scholars on Wednesday mornings with Rabbi David starting on Oct. 11 and with Cantor Lauren starting on Oct. 25; Song Circle with Cantor Lauren on the Second Thursday each month; 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).

We have expanded our Pickleball times at The Temple! Join us for this FREE and exciting way to stay active. Registration opens every Friday for slots the next week. Mondays from 5 - 7 p.m., Tuesdays from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. and Tuesdays from 5 - 7 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).

Calling all young adults! Get ready to feast and celebrate Sukkot like never before! Indulge in delicious FREE pizza and soak in the festive atmosphere at The Temple's Pizza in The Hut event on October 1 at 6 p.m. Discover the joy of Sukkot, the harvest festival, while enjoying scrumptious pizza with fellow young adults. To secure your spot at this delectable gathering, simply RSVP to Bailey and Dan at [baileyanddan@thetemplelouky.org](mailto:baileyanddan@thetemplelouky.org). Hurry, spaces are limited!

Bring the family and join Cantor Lauren for Shabbat Bop on Friday, October 6 at 5:45 p.m. in the Sukkah. The Temple's Shabbat Bop is a special program designed specifically for families with young children. We invite you and your loved ones to join us for an evening filled with joy, connection, and Shabbat ruach (spirit). We will meet the first Friday of each month, start with nosh, have an engaging Shabbat service with Cantor Lauren, and then end with a delicious family dinner. More information and RSVP at [thetemplelouky.org/Shabbat-Bop](https://thetemplelouky.org/Shabbat-Bop).

Come to the library on Oct. 8 at 10:30 a.m. for Children's Storytime featuring Engineer Ari and the Sukkah Express. This delightful picture book features Engineer Ari driving his train to Jerusalem, stopping along the way as his friends help him gather branches and fruit for his backyard Sukkah. We will also have a build-your-own edible Sukkah snack and activity. Kids of all ages are welcome, though the book is ideal for preschoolers and young children.

Everyone is welcome to celebrate Simchat Torah at our Kindergarten and Grade 1 Consecration on Sunday, Oct. 8 at 5 p.m. Family dinner followed by the Consecration service. Klezmer band Lost Tribe will perform. The famous WRJ/ Sisterhood Cake Walk will follow the service. Dinner is \$10 per person and free for children 12 and under. Dinner is \$5 when you RSVP before Tuesday, Oct. 3. Please make your reservation by calling 502-423-1818 or registering online at [thetemplelouky.org/consecration](https://thetemplelouky.org/consecration).

The Temple Brotherhood will hold its Opening Meeting and Dinner on Thursday, Oct. 12. Botanist Richard J. Spalding from The Garden Artisan and Master Gardener Johanna Bos will give a presentation on planning, growing and maintaining bulbs in the garden, yard, and flower box. Cost included with Brotherhood Dues of \$36, \$50, or \$100; non-members cost is \$18 per person. Contact Michael Friedman at [mfriedman@sustainablemgt.com](mailto:mfriedman@sustainablemgt.com) for RSVP. The meeting is at 6 p.m., the dinner is at 6:30 p.m., and the presentation is at 7 p.m.

Please join the Mitzvah Makers on Sunday, Oct. 15 at 11:30 a.m. 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.

Join us on Sunday, Oct. 22 at 9:30 am for a truly inspirational event featuring Holocaust survivor Ruth Klein and her granddaughter, Kelsey Klein, as they share their remarkable journey of resilience and hope. Ruth's life story is one of survival against all odds. Escaping as a child with her family to Shanghai during World War II, they endured the challenges of living in a Ghetto. Ruth's unwavering optimism shines as she recounts her experiences, reminding us of the indomitable human spirit. Don't miss this unique opportunity to hear Ruth's firsthand account and watch Kelsey's beautiful documentary. Afterward, there will be a Q&A session where you can engage with both Ruth and Kelsey.

Join Temple Families for Grade 7 and 8 Family Shabbat on Friday, Oct. 27 for dinner at 6 p.m. and Erev Shabbat Services at 7 p.m. led by our Grade 7/8 students. Dinner: \$10 per person and free for children 12 and under. \$5 when you RSVP before Tuesday, Oct. 4. Please make your reservation by calling 502-423-1818 or registering online at [thetemplelouky.org/family-shabbat-dinner](https://thetemplelouky.org/family-shabbat-dinner).

## Trager Family JCC

As the leaves begin to change color, the Trager Family JCC is rolling out 'Baby & Me' and 'Parent-Tot' swim sessions. The next session begins Oct. 1 and runs through Nov. 11. Registration is open, but spaces are limited. Learn more and reserve your spot at [jccloouisville.org/swimschool](https://jccloouisville.org/swimschool).

CenterStage Tickets are now on sale for the 2023-24 season. CenterStage's MainStage productions for the 2023-24 season are First Date (in November), The Prom (in February) and She Loves Me (in May). For more information and to purchase tickets, go online at [jccloouisville.org/centerstage](https://jccloouisville.org/centerstage).

The Mazin Art Exhibition will be on display at the Trager Family JCC from Oct. 22 until Dec. 3. The exhibit is designed to foster an appreciation of today's visual art and to reflect the breadth of artists' creative visions.

All Trager Family JCC members are invited to join one of its many fitness classes, sign-up for personal training, join a basketball, futsal or pickleball game, or the new running club. Visit [jewishlouisville.org/the-j/health-wellness](https://jewishlouisville.org/the-j/health-wellness) more information or email Member Services Director, Amy Stephen, at [astephen@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:astephen@jewishlouisville.org). For those interested in memberships, visit [jccloouisville.org/youbelong](https://jccloouisville.org/youbelong) or email [membership@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:membership@jewishlouisville.org).

## KRAV MAGA & WOMEN'S SELF DEFENSE

### Krav Maga

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Oct. 17 - Dec. 7

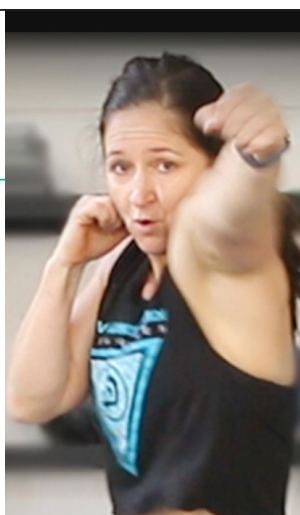
Cost: \$225/members, \$275/non-member

### Women's Self Defense

Sundays, 2-3 p.m.

Oct. 22 - Dec. 3

Cost: \$125/members, \$150/non-member



For info or to register:  
[jccloouisville.org/krav-maga](https://jccloouisville.org/krav-maga)





# LIFECYCLE

## Births

### Emmett Stanley Glass

It is with great pleasure that we announce the birth of our newest grandson, Hugo Harrison Frank. He was born Aug. 11, 2023, and weighed 7 pounds, 10 ounces. He is welcomed by his parents, Lisa Strauss and Jonathan Frank of Washington, D.C., and by his big brother, Benjamin. His grandparents are Paula and Armand Frank of Louisville, Ky.; and Suanne Strauss and the late Harvey Strauss of Maple Glen, Penn.

Mazel Tov to Jackie and Kenton Glass on the birth of Emmett Stanley Glass.

## B'nai Mitzvah



### Eleanor Naomi Blake

Eleanor Naomi Blake, daughter of Jacqueline and Kevin, and sister of Elijah and Colette, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on **Saturday,**

**October 28 at 10:30 a.m.** at The Temple. Eleanor is the granddaughter of Monique and Joseph Hersh and Debby Long and the late James Blake. Eleanor and her family invite the community to celebrate her becoming a Bat Mitzvah and join them for a Kiddush luncheon following the service. Eleanor is currently an Advanced Placement seventh-grade student at Kammerer Middle School in the Healthcare Science Pathways program. She aspires to eventually be a physician. She plays flute in the Kammerer Middle School Band and is a member of the Ballard High School Color Guard, which performs with the Ballard High School Marching Band. A member of the Kammerer Book Club, she can often be found immersed in a long novel. She loves riding horses, photography, creating artwork, and watching scary movies (despite her best interests). For her mitzvah project, Ellie is purchasing in-kind donations for Norton Children's (Kosair) Hospital, a place that is near and dear to her heart. Ellie would like to thank her family, friends, and Temple community for supporting her all the way through the important endeavor of becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

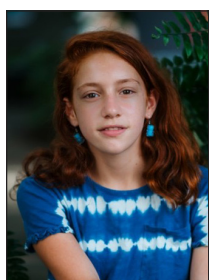


### Elijah Anthony Blake

Elijah Anthony Blake, son of Jacqueline and Kevin, and brother of Eleanor and Colette, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah

on **Saturday, October 28, 2023 at 10:30 a.m.** at The Temple. Elijah is the grandson of Monique and Joseph Hersh and Debby Long and the late James Blake. Elijah and his family invite the community to celebrate him becoming a Bar Mitzvah and join them for a Kiddush luncheon following the service. Elijah is currently an Advanced Placement seventh-grade

student at Kammerer Middle School in the Engineering and Design Pathways program. Along with playing trumpet for the Kammerer Middle School Band, he plays soccer for the Northeast YMCA United and JV Kammerer Boys teams. Eli likes hanging out with his friends, Minecraft, and playing chess. He loves to practice coding and has designed some of his own video games. An avid nature enthusiast and explorer, Eli can be found going barefoot except in the coldest winter months. For his mitzvah project, Eli is collecting wish list items for the Louisville Zoo. He would like to thank his family, his dog Maisie, Rabbi David, and Cantor Lauren for helping him to become a Bar Mitzvah and become the enterprising young man that he is today.



### Lily Malowitz

Lily Malowitz, daughter of Rebecca Siegel and Jonathan Malowitz, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on **October 21 at 10:30 a.m.,** at

The Temple. Lily is a seventh grader at Louisville Collegiate School. She is an avid crafter, particularly embroidery and sewing, and loves to read. Her favorite subjects in school are math and science. Lily is finishing up her first season of field hockey and plans to join the swim team this winter. She also enjoys acting and will be in her school's production of Newsies, Jr. in November. During her free time, Lily can be found with her friends, her younger sister Maya, and her dogs, Zoey and Freddy.



### Aspen Skylar Paz Winner

Aspen Skylar Paz Winner, daughter of Millie and Louis Winner, and sister of Dylan, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on **October 14 at**

**10:30 a.m.,** at The Temple. Aspen is the granddaughter of Selma and Jim Potash, Judy and Edward Winner, and Linda and Michael Gornek of Houston, Texas. Aspen is a seventh grader at Walden School. She is an avid lover of theater and has performed in many theatrical productions at Walden School and the Commonwealth Theater. She has also recently become an archery competitor at her school. Aspen loves to read, play video games, and spend time with her friends, family, and her two dogs, Achilles and Snack. Aspen has attended Goldman Union Camp Institute (GUCI) in Zionsville, Indiana, since the fifth grade and looks forward to going back next summer.



### Emily Jane Weiss

Emily Jane Weiss, daughter of John Weiss and Jessica Scheick will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on **Saturday, October 7 at 10:30 a.m.** at The Temple. Emily Jane is the seventh

generation of this family to belong to The Temple, starting with her great, great, great, great grandfather, Isaac Bach. Emily Jane is the granddaughter of Allan and Anna Weiss and Marion Scheick, William Scheick, and Catherine Rainwater of Austin, TX. Emily Jane is a seventh grader at Walden School. She loves to spend time with her dog, Cupcake. In her spare time, Emily Jane likes to craft, cook, read, play clarinet, and play Animal Crossing. For her Pledge 13 project, Emily Jane is crafting toys for the Humane Society. ily to belong to The Temple, starting with her great, great, great, great grandfather, Isaac Bach. Emily Jane is the granddaughter of Allan and Anna Weiss and Marion Scheick, William Scheick, and Catherine Rainwater of Austin, TX. Emily Jane is a seventh grader at Walden School. She loves to spend time with her dog, Cupcake. In her spare time, Emily Jane likes to craft, cook, read, play clarinet, and play Animal Crossing. For her Pledge 13 project, Emily Jane is crafting toys for the Humane Society.

## Obituaries



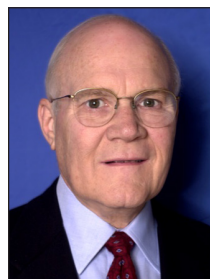
### Patricia Baron

Patricia Baron of Longboat Key, FL died on August 21, 2023 at the age of 88. Patricia was born in Export, PA on May 2, 1935. She was a graduate of the Export High School, University of Pittsburgh (B.S.) and The University of New Mexico (M.S., Biology). Patricia performed medical research at the U. of Pittsburg, Case-Western Reserve University, V.A. Hospital at Long Beach CA, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Uniform Services University of the Health Sciences, and National Institutes of Health.

Throughout her career, Patricia looked forward to any opportunity to encourage young students to pursue education in their preferred fields. She was a voracious reader and well-informed on many subjects, enjoyed theater, and was an accomplished piano player and artist. She often used her artistic talent to create sets for community theater productions.

Patricia is survived by her beloved husband Norton of 58 years; her brother Nick Orlic (Patti) of Palmetto FL, brother-in-law Gerald Baron (Mickey) of Louisville KY; sister-in-law Roxanne Fischer (wife of late husband Donald Orlic) and many nieces and nephews, all of whom she loved so very much.

Funeral services were August 25, 2023 at Herman Meyer & Son with burial in Adath Jeshurun Cemetery in Louisville, KY. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Louisville's Home of the Innocents.



### Arnold M. Belker, M.D.

Arnold M. Belker, M.D., 89, passed away on August 26, 2023. He was born in 1934 to I. Joseph Belker and Margery Weinberg Belker.

He was a member of Adath Jeshurun Synagogue, 17 regional, national and international medical societies, and served for over 20 years on the Board of Directors of Jewish Hospital HealthCare Services. As president of the Greater Louisville Medical Society, he initiated the society's Centralized Application Processing Service (CAPS).

His main interests were his family, travel, sports, bridge in his later years and his professional activities. He enjoyed teaching two of his grandchildren to perfect their ping pong serves and slam shots and to play gin rummy. He also was thrilled by the deft skills displayed by his other grandchild in performing magic card tricks as well as listening to his musical talents. He liked playing pinball and pool at home.

He was one of the first urologists in the country to perform microsurgical procedures and served as organizer or faculty member for numerous microsurgical laboratory courses sponsored by the American Urological Association (AUA) and other organizations. He had been a member of the editorial board of four different medical journals and an editorial reviewer for seven journals. He served as president of three national organizations: the Society of Reproductive Surgeons (recipient of its Distinguished Reproductive Surgeon Award "in recognition of his many contributions as a reproductive surgeon, and for his role as the 'ongoing conscience' of science in the field of male reproductive surgery"), the Society for the Study of Male Reproduction (Distinguished Reproductive Urologist Award "for significant contributions to the field of reproductive urology and for service to the organization"), and the American Society of Andrology (Distinguished Service Award).

Arnold authored over 90 professional articles and/or chapters and was a member of three different AUA Guideline Committees. He published what has been considered a landmark article concerning the results of 1,469 microsurgical vasectomy reversals in a collaborative study that he organized with urologists at the Universities of California at San Francisco, Michigan, Oregon and the Cleveland Clinic. He was an invited speaker on numerous occasions in this country and lectured in Europe, Asia and South America. He was listed in the AUA's prestigious Didusch Museum of Urologic History for his accomplishments in microsurgery and male infertility and received a 2016 AUA Presidential Citation Award in recognition of these accomplishments.

He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Terry Marks Belker, who gave him the necessary support to maintain his busy professional schedule and with whom he enjoyed travel throughout the world. He also is survived by a son, Paul Belker (Paula Petrie) of Chicago, IL; a daughter, Jill Belker Weinberger of Buffalo Grove, IL; and three grandchildren (Mark and Jason Weinberger and Adam Belker).

He was a mentor to many, and a friend to all.

Funeral services were held Aug. 29 at Congregation Adath Jeshurun. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Adath Jeshurun, The West End School, The Healing Place, or the



# LIFECYCLE

donor's charity of choice.



## Elaine Benovitz Bornstein

Our Classic Lady Elaine Benovitz Bornstein left this good earth, leaving behind loving friends and family. Our matriarch helped keep this

family close; we will always be thankful for her wisdom and legacy.

Being 94 years old gave all who knew her an insight into aging gracefully with kindness and the feeling that to know her was to love her. In short, Elaine was a little bigger than life. We hope that she will live in eternity with her loving husband, Donald, and her heavenly family and friends; may her memory be a blessing to all.

Elaine's family includes her children Lynn and David Callif and Jimmy and Lisa Bornstein. Grandchildren Dustin and Lisa Callif, Rachel and Rob Callif, Josh Bornstein and Christopher Jones, Jessica Bornstein and Andrew Daigle; great-grandchildren Dylan and Liam Callif, Sasha and Josephine Callif, CJ Bornstein, Layla, and Naomi Daigle; sister Judy Greenberg, and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends whom she considered family.

Funeral services were held at Heman Meyer & Son on Sept. 12, 2023 with interment at Keneseth Israel Cemetery.

Donations in memory of Elaine

may be made to Congregation Adath Jeshurun, Trager Family Jewish Community Center, or an organization of the donor's choice.

## Perlya Khait

Perlya Khait, 98, died Sunday, Sept. 17, 2023 at her home. She was born Oct. 2, 1924 in Ukraine. She was a homemaker, the best strudel maker and a member of The Temple.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Usher and Yenta; and her husband, Boris. She is survived by her daughter, Olga; her son, Yura (Zinaida); two grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Graveside services were held Sept. 20 at The Temple Cemetery,

## Edward "Ed" Charles List

Edward "Ed" Charles List passed away on Friday September 8, 2023 at the age of 77, after a brief illness. Ed was a huge sports fan. Over the years Ed was a season ticket holder for the Chicago Bulls and the Dallas Mavericks. In addition to basketball Ed was an avid Cubs Fan. During the season even if Ed was traveling (which he loved to do), you could catch him in any city or country watching a game on his iPad if he couldn't catch it on TV. He had a love for all Chicago sports and in more recent years Dallas sports teams. In addition to traveling Ed enjoyed concerts with his wife Tina. From The Rolling Stones to Earth, Wind and Fire, they would travel all over to catch these shows.

Having grown up in Chicago, Ed spent many summers from his adolescent years until his early 20s running the waterfront at Camp Pinewood. His love for being out in the sun reading a book, or in the water is where you could find him up until his recent decline in health.

Ed is survived by his wife Tina; his daughters Mandi Dyner (Stephen Dyner), and Alexis List; Grandchildren Cori Dyner and Daniel Dyner; Sisters and brothers in law Debbie and Art Montz and Alisa and EJ Pipkin.



## Barbara Gale Pass

Barbara Gale Pass, 81, passed away on Friday, September 8, 2023. She was born in 1941 to Joseph Gale and Annette Vine Gale. She was a proud member of

Adath Jeshurun Synagogue.

Barbara was preceded in death by her parents, Joseph and Annette Gale, and her mother and father-in-law, David and Lillian Pass.

She is survived by her husband of 61 years, Myron Pass, who was constantly by her side. She is also survived by her sister, Terrie Gale (Robert Adler), brother Bruce Gale, children, David Pass (Shane Rankin), Melanie Benitez (Mark) of Louisville, and Steven Pass (Amy) of Dallas, Texas, as well as her five grandchildren, Jackson and Ben Benitez, Andrew, Lori, and Nathan

Pass.

She taught math and science throughout her career at Louisville schools, including Collegiate, Kentucky Country Day, Fern Creek, Waggener, and Manual.

Barbara had a passion for giving back to her community with volunteer work. She was a mentor with the Kentucky Teacher Internship Program (KTIP), sponsored the National Honor Society, volunteered at the Ronald McDonald House, worked with the Teenage Pregnancy and Parenting (TAPP) Program, and was a member and volunteer with the National Council of Jewish Women-Louisville Section.

She received the Outstanding Educator Award from the Governor's Scholars Program in 1993 and the Youth Service Worker Award from the City of Louisville Office of Youth Development in 2000.

Funeral services will be at 12:00 p.m. at Herman Meyer & Son, Inc., 1338 Ellison Avenue, on Monday, September 11, 2023. Visitation will be from 11:00 a.m. until the time of the service, followed by burial in Adath Jeshurun Cemetery.

Memorial donations, in lieu of flowers, may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Educational Justice, Congregation Adath Jeshurun or a charity of your choice.

Barbara's family extends their gratitude to her caregivers, Deborah McAtee and Vanessa Reyes, her many friends, and the entire Hospice Family.

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[jcclouisville.org/eventspace](http://jcclouisville.org/eventspace) | 3600 Dutchmans Lane, Louisville, KY 40205

**Trager Family JCC**



# NEWS

## MATCHMAKING

Continued from page 1

don't expect instant gratification. Patience is necessary – except when it isn't. All it may require is an observant third party able to recognize a potential spark. Because sometimes, Fate/Karma/The Universe speaks in a spontaneous and unrehearsed utterance.

"Whenever it happens, it happens," says Deborah Goldberg, a lifelong Louisvillian steeped in the methodology of romantic introduction. "You see two people on the same wavelength, and you go for it – you put them together. If it works, it works. If it doesn't, it doesn't."

A skilled matchmaker keeps her romantic antennae properly tuned. "It's always in the back of your mind," says Goldie Litvin, who's been married to Chabad of Louisville Rabbi Avrohom Litvin for more than 40 years. "You want people to be as happy as you are. So if you think something will work, you're always going to mention it."

The oddest circumstances can bring the happiest results. Dara Cohen – who directs senior adult activities at the Trager Family JCC – recalls how her future mother-in-law employed the power of electronic media to boost her thirtysomething son Michael's odds of finding a suitable partner.

"She wanted to get him married off," Cohen says. "One of the TV stations had a contest: 'Please write in and tell us why your son is so great, and we'll match him with a woman.' She was so excited that she wrote a poem about Michael, sent it in to the station – and they picked him! They got his hair cut, got him new clothes, had him styled and ready to go on the date. He went out with the girl, and it was a disaster – they had nothing in common."

Cohen ended up meeting spouse-to-be a few years later after moving from Boston to Louisville, where her mother was living. "Michael and I met at Keneseth Israel, where I was taking a class to be a *masgiach* (a kosher kitchen supervisor), and his best friend, Jack, was in the class. I got my courage up one day and said to Jack, 'I'd like to meet somebody nice. Do you know anybody?' And he said, 'I know just the guy.' We met in January, got engaged in July and got married in November" – 20 years ago.

Maternal energy is not to be denied. "My daughter in Denver told me a funny story recently," Goldberg recalled, relating how a business acquaintance asked her if she was dating anyone. "She said, 'no, not really,' -- and without missing a beat, the acquaintance added, 'because I have a grandson, and he's going here for Rosh Hashanah, so what are you doing for *yontif*?' And I said to my daughter: 'You know all Jewish moms have an underground intercom system to tell everybody what's going on.'"

Living's reality is at once comfortably familiar and radically different. "Dating is not for like it is in the secular world, where dating is just like, 'Let's go to a movie.' It's usually for a purpose. Which is not to say



Michael and Dara Cohen

that there that you only discuss very important, deep philosophical things. You're allowed to have fun.

"In the Orthodox world there are certain denominations where the parents do all the research and do most of the going out. Then it's just a formality that the boy and the girl meet. We don't work that way. We actually go out and get to know each other before we have any Yea or Nay type of things" from the parents. "I was very lucky: I went out with one guy, and it was all over. And it's been downhill ever since."

The Litvins met after the young Avrohom – who ate Shabbat meals regularly at a friend of Goldie's father – was introduced to the woman who'd soon become his wife.

Arriving in Louisville in 1983, they established a Chabad House on Landor Ave that would grow into one of Louisville's principal Jewish communities. Along the way they had nine children, six of whom eventually returned to Kentucky as adults. Mom was a matrimonial sounding board – vetting prospective sons and daughters-in-law with her husband whenever a candidate visited their home.

As her children were growing up, the question of who they'd one day marry was seldom forgotten.

"I think it's always in the back of your mind," Goldie Litvin says. You want people to be as happy as you were. So, if you feel something is good – if you think something will work – you're going to mention it."

Because Louisville's Orthodox Jewish community is small, and the lack of a suitable Jewish high school means children typically go away for yeshiva studies, prospective husbands and wives tend to come from distant cities. But in the matchmaking realm, this can become an advantage in making connections.

"My sister does this," Goldie Litvin says. "She lives in Crown Heights in Brooklyn, and she has tons of people that come to her house to stay over. She's an empty nester, so she has bedrooms that are available. And bedrooms are at a premium in Brooklyn. People come from all over the world, and she meets people her children would bring home. She's made a couple of matches just from people who've come to her house."

Go-betweens are also valuable as neutral diplomats.

"Say I've gone out maybe twice or three times with somebody," Goldie Litvin says. "The first one was good. The second one was good." But by the third one, they're like, 'he or she



Goldie Litvin (in the red dress) and the extended Litvin family

is really nice, but I just don't see it going further.' We do this through an intermediary, so they don't have to say that to each other. There's no 'Dear John' letter."

There's an additional hallmark of Orthodox pre-matrimonial practice: Almost everyone gets genetic testing, screened anonymously for diseases like Tay-Sachs that disproportionately affect Jews of Eastern European extraction. "You get both the boy's number and the girl's number," Goldie Litvin explains, "then you call (the testing service) and you say, 'Are they compatible?'"

Meanwhile, what does she think

of how Netflix's Aleeza Ben Shalom navigates the matchmaking waters?

"I thought she was a very good ambassador for Judaism," Goldie Litvin says. "I don't think she said anything negative. I do find it very interesting that in eight episodes she did not make one (successful) match. I thought, 'Hello, not even one from any of them? Not from the tattooed lady on the motorcycle to the really religious girl in Flatbush? What's going on?' That sounds a little weird."

"I've never had to do that," she says in a tone suggesting both triumph and relief. "I have, thank God, seven married children."



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# NEWS

## GUN VIOLENCE

*Continued from page 1*

between. Not only is it illegal, but I would be a criminal – Metro Council members would be criminals – for taking action to do things that are going to make our city safer as it relates to guns.”

Similarly, Greenberg said, “it’s crazy to think that the gun that was used to kill five people in the Old National Bank shooting and the gun that was used to kill two people a couple of weeks ago at two in the morning on the corner of Market and Third Street – that those weapons are required under state law to be turned over to the State Police, and they will in turn be auctioned off and back on the street.”

On these fronts, Frankfort’s political calculus is unlikely to change anytime soon. Even if Gov. Andy Beshear is reelected in November, he will again face a General Assembly with veto-proof supermajorities in both the House and Senate. Indeed, the trend is more toward expanding rather than restricting access to firearms. One example: The recent legislative session passed House Bill 153, which designated Kentucky as a so-called “Second Amendment Sanctuary,” prohibiting local and Kentucky State Police from enforcing federal firearms bans.

There is somewhat more hope for legislation requiring firearms in residences to be stored securely. In Louisville, the city’s Office of Safe and Healthy Neighborhoods is applying a range of strategies – particularly those directed toward at-risk youth – to help stem gun violence before it starts. And it’s important to remember that in an average year in Kentucky, guns account for 61 percent of deaths by suicide.

Meanwhile, it’s falling to additional voices outside Frankfort to advocate for gun reform, and to remind people everywhere that gun violence – if not confronted head-on – is likely to become even deadlier in this place we call America.

Below are some of those voices, offering perspectives on the issue of gun violence: Kentucky State Senator **Karen Berg**; **Farrah Alexander**, co-chair of the Jewish Community Relations Council’s subcommittee on gun violence; and **Chris Ashman**, a member of the Louisville chapter of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America.

An expanded version of this print story with more of these personal perspectives can be found on our website: <https://jewishlouisville.org/community-news>. **Shawn Morrow**, Special Agent in Charge of the Louisville Field Division for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, will speak from the vantage point of firearms law enforcement. **David Finke**, CEO of Jewish Family and Vocational Services, will discuss the issue from the perspective of mental health. And **Rose Smith**, whose teenage son, Cory Rowe, was shot to death in 2014 in a murder that nine years later remains unsolved – will talk about how she’s translated despair and loss into action and hope.

**State Senator Karen Berg, who represents Louisville’s 26th District, and a physician on the front lines of treating gunshot victims at University of Louisville Hospital**

When it comes to possible measures to counter gun violence, the Republican-

dominated Kentucky legislature has been conspicuously silent.

“I’ve been there for three years now, and there has not been a single committee meeting or presentation on the impact of gun violence,” says Louisville’s Democratic state senator.

Instead, “the most pressing issue in this state at this point, is to dismantle Jefferson County Public Schools for the safety of our children. “But not one discussion about their access to guns, about how guns are now the number one killer of our children in this country. It’s horrible.”

An emergency room diagnostic radiologist, Berg sees the issue of gun violence as both a legislator seeking to improve lives, and as a physician trying to save lives. Her imperative is simple, succinct, and stark.

“We have got to do something about the guns that are killing people in this state,” she says. “We need a more robust Pediatric Trauma network in the state because children are getting shot and we don’t have pediatric surgeons out in the state to respond to them. So the only way we can have any effort to keep these children alive, is to try to figure out how can we get them to a major medical center where somebody can actually operate on them.”

Even when a child makes it to the hospital, their gunshot wounds can be so grievous that even the most skilled surgeon is stymied.

“Bullets now do so much more damage to the body,” she says, “that destroy tissue and bone to such a degree that we have no hope of putting it back together. It’s not like you can oppose them (broken bones) and pray they’re going to heal. They’re in thousands of pieces – there’s nothing to reconstruct.”

For three years running Berg has sponsored or co-sponsored SB 168, which would “require the destruction of confiscated firearms.” And for three years running, that bill has failed to get even a single committee hearing.”

She believes that a so-called “red flag” law – which authorizes courts to temporarily remove firearms from an individual deemed to pose a danger to themselves or others – would be a valuable counterforce, as would requiring guns at home to be stored securely, out of reach of children. So would a mandatory 72-hour wait between purchasing and taking possession of a gun, where a cooling-off period would help deter impulsive suicides – in which guns are overwhelmingly the tool of deadly choice.

“States that have stronger gun control legislation,” Berg says, “have fewer gun deaths per capita.”

Her favored solution would be to require any gun owner to carry liability insurance. “You would have to be financially responsible for whatever harm your gun possibly does to somebody else.” But she acknowledges that – given current Republican supermajorities in both the Kentucky House and Senate – passing such a law is politically untenable.

Meanwhile, in a little more than a month there will be an election, pitting incumbent Democratic governor Andy Beshear against Republican attorney general David Cameron. It’s a contest, Berg emphasizes, in which the stakes are enormous.

“I have one message: Your vote matters,” she says. “If Cameron

manages to get in, Kentucky will go dark for the next 20 years. We’ve got to keep Andy in office. Anybody in our community who doesn’t get out and vote is doing a tremendous disservice to our community.”

**Farrah Alexander, co-chair of the Jewish Community Relations Council’s subcommittee on gun violence.**

“What Matt (Golden, JCRC’s director) is wanting from this subcommittee is to allow members of the JCRC to be more proactive on certain issues,” Alexander explains, “and to give us an opportunity to engage in topics we’re passionate about. Gun violence is an issue that has been a priority for me, because I’m very concerned about the lives that we needlessly lose.”

Alexander, who’s in her third year of law school at the University of Louisville, is no neophyte regarding this issue. She’s a former communications director for Whitney/Strong, the gun violence organization named after founder Whitney Austin, a Louisvillian who was shot 12 times on Sept. 8, 2018, during a Cincinnati mass shooting.

Choose your battles wisely, Alexander advises.

“My personal philosophy on things like activism and social justice, is that there are many things that we all tend to care about, but we cannot effectively engage in at the same time,” she says. Advocating on behalf of Whitney/Strong became one of those foundational priorities.

The organization has argued fiercely in support of “Red Flag” legislation, distributing gun locks – and in a sober testament to the gun violence epidemic, establishing an initiative called “Stop the Bleed” – which trains people how to stem blood loss in shooting victims.

JCRC has made collaboration a key component of its mission.

“I was speaking to Matt about the state of gun violence in our community and what we as Jews have to offer, and how we can engage in this topic,” Alexander recalled. She added: “It seemed like the strongest thing we had was our safety network, and resources we have to keep not only our community safe, but other communities. And so, I spoke with Matt quite a bit about utilizing these resources, and connecting with other communities that are, frankly, under the threat of possible gun violence.”

Many of those threats manifest as antisemitism, anti-Black anti-LGBTQ+ – fodder for extremist individuals and groups that may begin with overheated rhetoric, which potentially can escalate to violence. JCRC has been proactive in building relationships with faith-based, LGBTQ+, and other collectives that could be targets of weapon-stoked hate.

Change agents have tough roads to navigate, particularly in a Kentucky General assembly where a modest contingent of liberal Democrats is vastly outnumbered by conservative Republicans, for whom the Second Amendment is sacrosanct.

“There are some wonderful lawmakers like Karen Berg that we have, and I think that incremental changes are absolutely valuable, (because) that is ultimately how change is made,” Alexander says. “But when it comes to gun violence, people are dying – now.”

**Chris Ashman of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America**

Immediately recognizable in their bright red T-shirts, Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America has become one of the nation’s most fervent groups pressing for changes in existing gun laws. A maternal-driven adjunct to Everytown for Gun Safety – billionaire and former New York City mayor Michael Bloomberg’s gun-control advocacy group – Moms Demand Action is unabashedly emotional in its anti-gun messaging.

Its members make their arguments from the vantage point of terrible loss. “I had a sister-in-law who committed suicide by gun,” says Louisville’s Chris Ashman, “and as a retired speech pathologist, I’ve worked with survivors of attempts at suicide.”

Alexander recalls the time when her then-young son went to the home of a friend whose father was a state trooper. Somehow the two boys found the trooper’s service weapon, “and as they were playing with it, it went off and shot a hole in his bedroom wall.” She didn’t learn of the incident until years later, when her now college-age son confessed.

“People come to Moms for a lot of different reasons,” Ashman says, “but many come as survivors, people who’ve had family members who have died because of gun violence.”

Moms Demand Action’s Louisville chapter has been regaining momentum that waned during the pandemic. Its members – 1,100 newsletters go out every month – leverage their collective impact by invoking motherhood fortified by a healthy dose of defiance. They march; they shout; they insist – politely but firmly – that you pay attention.

The organization was founded by Shannon Watts, a corporate communications executive turned stay-at-home mom, shortly after a gunman murdered 26 children and educators at Connecticut’s Sandy Hook Elementary on Dec. 14, 2012.

While not entirely female (male members wear T-shirts declaring “You Have to Be a Real Man to Be a Mom”), the group appreciates how mothers can persuade otherwise stubborn opponents to – if not agree with them – at least listen to their arguments. Attend a relevant state house or senate committee hearing in Frankfort, and you’ll almost certainly spot a smattering of Moms.

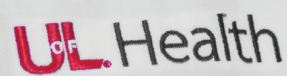
“There was a legislator who called somebody over and said, ‘What is this with the red T-shirts I keep seeing?’ So it makes a difference showing up and monitoring what’s going on when the legislature us in session. A lot of our work is trying to stop some of the bills that go in the other direction – for instance, a bill that would allow open-carry on college campuses (that bill, introduced by Northern Kentucky Republican Rep. Savannah Maddox, failed to advance in the 2023 legislative session).

Large segments of the public are vocal allies.

Walking in Louisville’s recent Pride Parade, “I was absolutely amazed at the responses people gave,” Alexander said. “I mean, there were cheers; there were hurrahs; there were thank-yous specifically for our group, which made me think, ‘Why aren’t you guys in the voting booth?’”

*This story continues at Community Online – <https://jewishlouisville.org/community-news>*





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