

# JEWISH LOUISVILLE COMMUNITY

## INSIDE:

Partnership2Gether is about personal relationships for Louisville family

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FRIDAY Vol. 50, No. 3 | March 29, 2024 | 19 Adar II 5784

## Israel Solidarity Mission to the Western Galilee

In early March, 28 representatives of the U.S. Central Area Consortium of the Western Galilee Partnership traveled to the Matte Asher region and the city of Akko to show solidarity and bear witness. They heard and saw the challenges the challenges facing their communities and their fears of the unknown. The Louisville Jewish Community was represented by Sara Wagner, President/CEO of Jewish Community of Louisville, Matt Golden, JCRC Director, and Ben Vaughan, JCRC member. Throughout the visit, they showed solidarity with these partners from all of you, in Louisville.

This issue shares the thoughts and lessons of each of our three leaders from the trip.

### A Trip Like No Other

By Sara Klein Wagner  
President and CEO of the Jewish Federation of Louisville and the Trager Family JCC

This visit to Israel was unlike any I've experienced before. I traveled to Israel simply to be present, to listen and to share. From the plane ride to the walk-through Ben Gurion airport, to our train ride to Nahariya, I traveled with a heavy heart on my way to visit a community I have come to love and admire over the past 26 years. Throughout this visit, I felt an overwhelming sadness and fragility but also a deep determination and strength to support this community that is part of who I am. While there, I both experienced and heard a mixture of emotions ranging from warmth, friendship, love and support to constant nervousness, anxiety, uncertainty, and fear blended with an incredible resilience to live securely.

Those feelings were echoed in the streets. The streets are filled with messages of solidarity wrapped in grief; the faces and names of hostages were everywhere. There is no forgetting - everyone is literally wearing their pain, from cab drivers, to flight attendants, to 5th grade students, who all wore

bracelets and necklaces with Am Yisrael Chai or Bring Them Home as vivid daily reminders that hostages not so far away remain captive to terrorists.

Matt Golden, Ben Vaughan, and I joined a group from other Federations to represent you during this critical moment. We are taught that it is a mitzvah to visit and help those who are suffering or grieving, to be present and to listen. What we bring back to each of you is their gratitude, their stories of hopes and fears and their concern for us as American Jews.

If one measure of gratitude can be measured by an embrace, our presence made a difference. The welcome hugs were both tighter and longer reflecting the magnitude of what has occurred since we were last together. Along with gratitude for our long journey, our hosts were most concerned for our safety. The first message we heard as a group was repeated many times, "if you hear a siren, you have just 15 seconds to get to a shelter. If you are in a car or bus, lay on the side of the road and cover your head." We were told to let security know if we planned to leave the hotel. The reality of travelling to an area that is partially evacuated was not lost on us.

While a significant portion of



Ben Vaughan, Sara Wagner, and Matt Golden in Kibbutz Mutzubah in Israel.

the Western Galilee population has evacuated, many remain. As Israelis go about their daily lives, farmers, hospital staff, and teachers never let their guard down. It was an emotional rollercoaster to feel the presence and the absence of our friends.

That emotional rollercoaster is not going away. We attended a dinner with volunteers from the region who have traveled to our U.S. communities in the past. I sat with a group from Women Leading Dialogue, which includes Israeli Jewish, Christian, Druze and Arab women. Many had been evacuated from their homes and this was the first time back together. Their stories included

caring for aging parents, trying to maintain their businesses, and living for months 2-3 hours away with their children in hotels. I listened to mothers describe not sleeping as they wait to hear from children currently in the IDF and wondering out loud when and how they might return to their homes with the threat of Hezbollah on the border. Their desire to live peacefully is not diminished by the fear they carry. The threat for these women is not if, but when another front will break out. As I write this, we learned that Idan HaPri from Moshav Betzet, who attended our

See **ISRAEL** on page 4

## A Stronger Community Requires Discourse and Dialogue

By David Finke  
Guest Columnist

Our community had the opportunity to engage with Dr. Joshua Ladon from the Shalom-Hartman Institute on Leap Day (Feb. 29, 2024). I am grateful to the Jewish Federation of Louisville for bringing him here and, personally, allowing me to meet with him in small gatherings. While there were many critical issues discussed, one of my takeaways was the importance of dialogue and even discourse in the Jewish tradition.

For those who know me, it is probably not surprising that I would focus on the importance of dialogue following Dr. Ladon's facilitated conversations. The second half of my professional career has been training, consulting, and building agencies that prioritize trauma-informed, inclusive work environments. In these settings, the ability to listen and hear different perspectives, and not give up on each other, is critical. Even more, I was struck by how the Federation-hosted meetings with Dr. Ladon confirmed that this stance goes beyond my professional identity as a psychologist or the leader of

a social services agency. It extends to my very identity as a Jew.

A theme of Dr. Ladon's discussions was that our most ancient Jewish traditions are embedded in dialogue and discourse. This phenomenon is inherent in the way we look at the Halacha, the laws of Judaism, as evidenced by the Talmud. The Talmud is replete with numerous rabbinical interpretations of Judaism's traditions. I have always thought of the Talmud, which allows for differing opinions on our traditions, as an early phase of governing democracy, a place where differences of opinion are to be

openly discussed and even embraced. As we move from Purim, a holiday in which we honor a woman who was willing to reveal her Jewish identity, risking her life, to Passover, a holiday that recalls the enslavement of our people during which many use the Seder as an opportunity to reflect on social justice issues, it is important for us to remember that the ability to engage in meaningful, difficult dialogue about our differing opinions is inherent in the Jewish tradition.

Dr. Ladon pointed out that, from a See **LADON** on page 7



# THE DASHBOARD

## Word of the Month

### Finding Strength in Unity



D'var Torah

Rabbi Chaim Litvin

Passover is more than just a holiday; it's a reminder of our journey from slavery to freedom and a call to stand in solidarity with those who are still seeking liberation. It is even referred to as "The Holiday of our Freedom." As we gather around the Seder table, we not only retell the story of our ancestors' Exodus from Egypt but also reflect on the struggles of our fellow Jews who are facing adversity today.

Six months ago, tragedy struck our community with the massacre of October 7th, leaving over 1200 of our brethren murdered and over 200 taken hostage into Gaza. This horrific event shook us to our core, but it also united us like never before. In the face of hatred and adversity, we have found strength in our unity.

Being united doesn't mean we all agree on everything. Instead, it means listening to one another, caring for one another, and working together for the greater

good. When Jews are united, we tap into a spiritual energy that empowers us to overcome even the greatest challenges.

But our unity isn't just about us; it's about our mission to bring God's oneness into the world. When we embrace our purpose and stand together as one, we rise above the natural limitations and become a beacon of hope for all humanity.

As we celebrate Passover this year, let us remember the lessons of unity and solidarity. Let us dedicate a mitzvah in the merit of those still in captivity, whether it's attending a Seder, eating matza, or lighting Shabbat candles. And let us heed the call of Brigadier General Dan Goldfus to be together, united, and to push away extremism.

In the midst of darkness, let us be the light. Let us transform pain into joy and hatred into love. And let us pray that this Passover marks the beginning of a new era of peace, unity and freedom for all humanity.

May this Passover be a time of reflection, renewal, and redemption for all of us. Chag Pesach Sameach!

*Rabbi Chaim Litvin is a rabbi at Chabad of Kentucky.*

## Snapshots



The Trager Family JCC's new inclusive community playground is well underway. When it opens, it will allow children of all abilities and developmental stages to play together. The playground will be open to all in our community, not just JCC members.



## Candles

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

- April 5 @ 7:52 p.m.
- April 12 @ 7:59 p.m.
- April 19 @ 8:05 p.m.
- April 22 @ 8:08 p.m. (Passover)
- April 26 @ 8:12 p.m.
- April 28 @ 8:14 p.m. (Passover)

## Contacts

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

Send it along to *Community* at [community@jewishlouisville.org](mailto: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](mailto:gshoemaker@jewishlouisville.org) or 502-238-2770.

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

## Deadlines

**Got a news item for *Community*?** Deadlines matter, especially for newspapers. Send in your news by **Friday, April 12** (though sooner is better).

The paper will be published on

**Friday, April 26.**

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

## Read *Community* Everywhere...

We have you covered, Louisville – online. *Community* stories are posted regularly at [jewishlouisville.org/community/](http://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 ... paper. Then check out *Digital Community* at [jewishlouisville.org/community/community-newspaper/print-version/](http://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/](https://www.facebook.com/JewishLouisville/) or on Twitter, [twitter.com/JewishLouNews](https://twitter.com/JewishLouNews), for the latest Jewish news from Kentucky and around the world.

## Corrections/Clarifications

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

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Jewish Federation of Louisville | Trager Family JCC

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Jewish Federation of Louisville

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Offer programming that brings our community together and provides ongoing Jewish connections

**Jewish Federation of Louisville is here for you and our community.**  
But the needs of our community are ever-expanding, and to reach the heights that we have only imagined were possible, we need your support. Thank you to everyone who has answered the call and made your 2024 Annual Campaign contribution.  
If you haven't, today is your day.



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Visit [JewishLouisville.org/HereForGood](https://www.jewishlouisville.org/HereForGood)



Jewish Federation<sup>®</sup>  
OF LOUISVILLE

# NEWS

## ISRAEL

*Continued from page 1*

dinner, suffered a rocket attack to her Moshav leaving great devastation to the farm but also left a resolve to rebuild.

For over a generation we have worked together to strengthen the Western Galilee Hospital, schools, projects and build lifelong friendships. One of those projects, Kivvunim, provides care to children and young adults with disabilities so that they can live normally and independently. Louisville has visited there many times, welcomed guests, and raised funds to help this life-changing endeavor. We met with two young men, who have found independence with jobs, living independently and friendships. October 7 forced many to return home to live with their parents, losing the independence they created. Names shared how important the Kivvunim community is and how important it is that their community comes back to new apartments with safe rooms secured. So much of life has been disrupted, and they wanted us to know how much our love and support means. I am in awe of the hope that these young adults maintain.

I also met Rotem and an older kibbutznik who has cooked with all her heart and soul over the past five months preparing meals for soldiers protecting the northern border. Rotem saw my necklace, a star of David and the words Am Ysrael Chai. She begged me not to wear it at home, convinced that it would

make me unsafe. She lives just three kilometers from the border in a half-evacuated part of the country, yet she was petrified for the safety of American Jews.

Lastly, we were able to meet at a school with one of our old friends, Shaked Moredechay.

Shaked participated in our partnership's Bikes and Bourbon tour several years ago. We met with Shaked at his daughter's new kindergarten, a mixed Jewish and Arab kindergarten that he helped create. His vision is to ensure these children grow up together understanding both traditions with respect. We also saw the workmen building a shelter to protect the kindergarten children and we are asking you as the Louisville community to help us fulfil the dream of a shared Jewish-Arab kindergarten with a shelter to protect these precious children.

I do not know what the days, months or years ahead will bring, but I do know that being there, being supportive, connecting with our friends both old and new, felt indelibly and intrinsically Jewish. It was clear that our being there meant something. As I said at the beginning, this trip was special and to visit a people, our people, in this time of war, was as meaningful a trip as I have ever experienced.

To help us support the Jewish-Arab kindergarten, visit [jewishlouisville.org/donate](http://jewishlouisville.org/donate).



**Ben Vaughan joined Matt Golden and Sara Wagner to represent the Louisville community on the solidarity mission.**



## In Times of Turmoil, an Eternal Strength Lights the Way

By Ben Vaughan  
*JCRC Member*

Israel's place in history is acutely evident in its peoples. Born out of the catastrophe of the Shoah and a dispersed people's longing for a homeland, Israel is a land built and populated by a broad swath of cultures. Jews (Ashkenazi, Sephardim, Mizrahi), Arabs (Christian and Muslim), Druze, Bahai, and Bedouins all contribute to an Israeli society that is unique for its diversity and breath of culture. This country of competing cultures, ideas, theologies, and paths has been a vibrant mix of new and old, time and time again.

During the first week of March, I joined more than 20 lay leaders and professionals from our Western Galilee consortium on a visit to the Western Galilee. Following the devastation of the 2021 riots in Akko, October 7th shattered this community and drove a wedge into its very fabric. The changes are acutely seen in people's eyes and felt in the inflections of their voices. There isn't a segment or community that has been left unscathed. And yet, those same eyes and voices exude signs of strength and purpose. What I experienced over the week was a society on edge waiting for the next shock, but determined to face it head on.

I visited a family whose father had recently returned home from four months in Gaza and knew he would be called back in August, if not sooner. Sitting at their kitchen table listening, I was amazed at how they worked to put forth a sense of normalcy for their children. In Nahariya, bars were no longer open on the weekends, partly because of the collapse in tourism, but as a recognition within the community that it represents a target and unnecessary risk. Still, young people gather on evenings of the typical work week to relax and enjoy each other's company. I met evacuees from a northern kibbutz that had returned home because living in hotels was destroying their sense of self.

Ten miles south in Akko, a different and similar scene plays out within the Arab population. Walking thorough the streets, shops and restaurants are closed. Very few people are milling around and those that do are not entirely friendly.

The Gett driver that drove us from the Templar Knight's Hall back to the hotel did so in a tense silence with a clenched jaw. Communication between the Arab and Jewish communities in northern Israel has completely collapsed. Once engaged neighbors from different communities now side-eye each other as a general sense of distrust hangs heavy in the air. Palestinian Israelis have lost jobs as a result of the fear and distrust over who might betray whom next.

Amongst all this anxiety and distrust, moments and sparks of strength, resilience, and perseverance appeared. I listened to mothers talk about opening kitchens and bathrooms to entire companies of soldiers. I worked with a group of women who turned their kibbutz kindergarten building into a kitchen putting out up to 200 meals three times a day. I listened as medical professionals from the regional hospital talk about increases in sick and injured patients from everywhere, because doctors have been called to the frontlines and developed new technology to improve and facilitate care.

In a society where the school system is segmented based on your ethnic or religious community, cross cultural interactions are virtually non-existent. Yet, I watched a kindergarten staffed by Muslim and Jewish teachers instruct an equally mixed class of children while building a security room to accommodate all of them. We visited a multitiered soccer program that focuses on engaging youth through counseling, coaching, and tutoring to ensure they do not fall through the cracks. The program engages boys and girls (with additional programming for all female teams) through a multi-cultural staff of Christian, Arab, and Jewish personnel and students.

In Tel Aviv, the atmosphere is different. Everywhere you look there are reminders of Oct 7th, but I walked past beaches full of volleyball players, runners, walkers, swimmers, surfers and boaters making the most of a beautiful sunny day before the beginning of Shabbat. The shops and restaurants are busy, and streets are buzzing with the vibrancy proceeding Purim. Everyone seems intent on taking full advantage of the day while, consciously or unconsciously, knowing the location of the nearest bomb shelter.



**Federation representatives from across the country met residents of the Western Galilee. (Top) Photo credit: Gil Hoffman  
Construction underway at the Jewish-Arab kindergarten. (Bottom)**

# NEWS

## Pruning of Vines

By Matt Golden  
JCRC Director

A couple weeks ago, on one of my better days of recent memory, I learned how to prune a tomato plant on a farm in Israel. My teacher was a tiny Jewish farmer of Yemeni descent who knew very little English, about the same as my working knowledge of Hebrew. Nonetheless, he was an able teacher for me and a group of folks that had traveled from the United States to the Western Galilee.

His lesson was simple: he held up his hand, thumb and first two fingers extended and said, "Echad, Shti'em, Shalosh... Tov." He pointed to a tomato vine that split into three ladder-like rungs while nodding his head positively. Even with my limited Hebrew, I understood, "one, two, three... good." He then pointed out to me all the "tov" places where there were three shoots. A good "tov" vine has three splits at each level.

He then began pointing at other places on the plants. "Arbah, lo" he said, shaking his head. Four is no. Sure enough, he started showing me places where there was a fourth shoot coming off in strange angles. He grabbed the strange shoot and broke it off, while making a "phfft" sound which translated quite nicely. He then grabbed another "Lo" shoot, and another, and another, until I got it and started working myself.

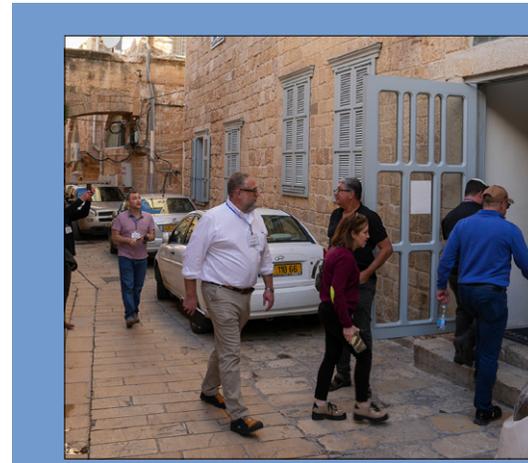
He watched me work for a while until he reached up and patted me on the back and said, "Tov, tov!" And then he gestured to the row-after-row of tomato plants stretching out before me and set me loose to tend to the vines.

For hours, I joined with others as we worked up and down the rows trimming the "arbah" shoot, making sure that the vine stood tall. People I knew like Sara Wagner and Ben Vaughan were

nearby. Others I had just met a few days before worked next to me. I worked my rows with a guy named Ben from Ohio. He and I worked together, talking occasionally about our families or what was going on in the world, but mostly we worked in the quiet heat of the hothouse surrounded by the murmurs of people nearby. All of us were volunteers and all of us were members of a Federation mission that took lay leaders and professionals to our partnership region to show solidarity, to understand the distribution of humanitarian funds, and to give back.

Much of our partnership region was evacuated. The rocket barrages from Southern Lebanon were a daily constant there and the sophisticated anti-tank weaponry being used by Hezbollah to avoid the Iron Dome defense system had made the region unsafe enough for residents to be ordered to go. In one evacuated kibbutz that we were able to visit for just a few minutes, the only residents were several outdoor cats lounging in the sun and a caretaker. Proof positive, that kibbutz, Matzuva, was hit by a missile that evening. Just like Matzuva, towns, Kibbutzim and Moshavim from around the Western Galilee tried to stay together in makeshift villages and hotels throughout Israel. City workers kept communities together in remote places, far from home.

Many of the farmworkers in the region, some foreign some domestic, had either gone home or been called up for duty. This left the farm where we were working that day untenable for a man alone. But in the months after October 7 and in the wake of Hezbollah's attacks, office workers, visitors, neighbors and friends began to show up to help him and farms like his across Israel. Schedules were arranged so that whole companies would donate one day per week to bring



**Louisville Federation Leaders participated in activities and learning opportunities throughout our Partnership region. Photo credit: Gil Hoffman**



in the crops, to keep the farms alive. Office workers, lawyers, accountants and others worked in the fields. Other groups were formed to protect the crops and farms at night. While working, we met a young woman who introduced herself as a night shomer. She described sitting around campfires until morning to keep the farms safe; the laughter of her and her comrades a defense against theft and vandalism that plagued the region.

For most of those hours working in the hothouse, I didn't think about anything but tending the plants in front of me. I didn't have to think about the war, humanitarian crises, who was to blame, politicalized resolutions, American antisemitism or anything else. Instead, I was able to think about pruning plants that would feed someone, work that would relieve a farmer in need, shared service that would build a community with some fellow travelers.

One of our primary reasons for being in Israel was to do our part in researching the local allocation of nearly a billion dollars that Jewish communities like ours had raised to support humanitarian causes in the wake of October 7. Louisville, San Antonio, Indianapolis, Omaha and Toledo and other cities joined together to look at humanitarian non-profits and NGOs in our partnership region to localize our aid. We have supported that region, the Western Galilee—in war and in peace—for 26 years. Our prior support was evident; the word "Louisville" is on the wall in community centers, schools, and hospitals in all the places we travelled. Yet, the need was even more evident. From a Muslim-Jewish preschool that needed a bomb-shelter to keep operating, to a center supporting young adults with disabilities who had to rethink what "independent living" was during war time. Everywhere we went there was work to be done. I was glad to be part of a community that was there to support that humanitarian need. That support would translate into direct aid for those farms, schools and

community centers.

But with the perspective of a few weeks and a few thousand miles, I can say that the most personally meaningful time I spent in Israel was the time spent on that farm. I grew up working and being on farms. That hothouse northeast of Nahariya isn't much different than the Hardin and Owen County, Kentucky, or Clark County, Indiana farms where I learned "work." They are all places that require constant attention, day-in and day-out, and they do not care what happens outside the fields.

In a lot of ways, I grew up with that "ideal" of Israel—collective farms, people helping each other, working for the common good. It felt like that this was still the backbone of the Israeli identity in the Galilee. People were living at the ground level and pulling together in moments of crisis to do things selflessly. That day on the farm reminded me of that idealism that shaped my Zionism.

It is clear that we have much to do to restore that dream. The war is displacing innocent folks in Israel and in Gaza and people are dying. There are offshoots of Israeli society that do not share in the concept of a home for Jewish people living democratically with their neighbors in security. There are people here who want to scrap the entire "Zionist experiment" as if the folks born and living there—like the Yemenite Jewish farmer I connected with—were simply animals in a lab. There are people who have sacrificed doing for talking. I am not ready to do that. We need to get our hands back into the act of doing and investing in what is good.

At the end of our time with him, the farmer and his wife brought out pita, olives, harissa sauce and tomatoes. We ate together and he pronounced it "tov." Before we left, I snuck back into the hothouse to take a picture of one of the rows I worked to remember the act of putting hands on something to make it better.



**Matt Golden and Sara Wagner help prune tomato plants on a kibbutz. Photo credit: Gil Hoffman**

## COMMUNITY

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For more information, call 502-459-0660, fax 502-238-2724, e-mail [community@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:community@jewishlouisville.org) or check out the website [www.jewishlouisville.org](http://www.jewishlouisville.org).

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

### COMMUNITY DEADLINES

Deadlines for the next two issues of **Community** for copy and ads are April 12 for publication on April 26 and May 20 for publication on May 31.

**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.

### ADVERTISING INFORMATION

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

### EDITORIAL POLICY

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

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

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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## FORUM

# Israelis share their stories and bravery with the Louisville Community

In February, the Louisville community was honored to welcome four Israeli survivors of the October 7 Hamas attacks.

Through several events in the community, Sharon Anna Yacobi, David Bar, Zohar Lahav-Shefer, and Galit Mutzarfi shared their direct testimony and personal survival stories from that horrific day. The community gathered to honor their shared courage and bravery.

Over 500 people in Louisville heard their harrowing stories of living in the kibbutzim under attack and of being at the music festival through events for the staff of the Jewish Community of Louisville, The Temple, Keneseth Israel, and the federation Momentum group. The survivors received a warm welcome and many hugs from Louisvillians, and even had some time to get out and experience Louisville's culture.

These powerful stories shed light on their resilience and strength in

the face of adversity. In the days and weeks that followed, these heroes did not break, and now share their trauma in order to help inspire hope and unity throughout the world. Their stories told of the shock they experienced when discovering that their homes and safe spaces were no longer safe. How their communities will never be the same, because so many community members are not coming back. They reminded us that there are still hostages whose families are anxiously awaiting their return. They reminded us that Hamas is a terrorist organization and fighting them is a fight for humanity. These firsthand accounts of the horrors many Israelis experienced that day reminded us that in the face of the unthinkable, community is most important. We are stronger when we stand together.



Israeli survivors shared their stories with hundreds in the Jewish community.

## Tikkun Halev



Mindful  
Ramblings

Matt Golden  
Guest writing  
for Andrew  
Adler

Andrew Adler is one of my favorite co-workers here at the Jewish Federation. He has decades of experience in journalism—from the Courier-Journal here in Louisville to the Times Picayune in New Orleans—and through it all, Andrew has always written wonderful stories. He is an expert. He joined our team just over a year ago and enhanced our Community Paper immediately. I consider Andrew as much a friend as a colleague. So, I am both honored and saddened to have to guest here, at least temporarily, under his byline, Mindful Ramblings.

I am honored because even with decades in journalism, Andrew still finds a child-like exuberance in the stories he covers and writes. From the piece about a high school kid developing a virtual reality platform to teach kids about antisemitism, to the piece he was working on for this edition about a box of papers from a deceased Jewish professor discovered in a Louisville attic, he finds joy in the discovery of Jewish Louisville that he simply cannot contain.

He shares that joy with you every month. His joy in finding stories is something to emulate.

Andrew is also hilarious and the sort of person you want to keep breaking bread with. He and my coworkers over the last year, Amy Landon, Robyn Kaufman and Sarah Provancher, are together so brilliantly funny that I wish we could record our editorial sessions and share them with you. Those meetings are one of my favorite sessions of the month.

Andrew is also unbelievably resilient. As many of you know, just weeks ago, he lost everything he owned in an apartment fire in NULU. Even his beloved Volvo wagon—that took his kids to school when they were little—was lost when his burning building collapsed on the garage below. He escaped only with his cat, the clothes on his back, and, as a testament to his love of travel, his passport. Despite that, he did not falter. He was back writing within days.

Then, last weekend, our friend Andrew drove himself to the hospital in a borrowed car with what he thought was severe indigestion. During the diagnosis, the doctors found that he was having a heart attack on the examination table, one in a likely series. He had surgery to repair his giant heart two days later. He will be back writing as soon as he is able.

During his time of recovery, several guest writers have stepped up for this edition to fill the giant gap he leaves during his temporary absence. They are doing so not only for Andrew, but also for that love they share with Andrew: the love of the width and breadth of the stories of Jewish people here in Louisville and the Jewish connections and perspectives from around the world. This month you will hear from Bill and Carlyn Altman, David Finke, Ben Vaughan, and others, as we do Andrew the honor of writing in his stead.

On behalf of Sara Wagner, Tom Wissinger, Amy Landon, and the rest of the team at the Community Paper and the Federation, we write this community card to our friend Andrew, to wish him a speedy recovery, to ask for a Mi Sheberach, and to utter a community demand that he gets back to writing as soon as he is able. If you want to send him a well wish, you may do so at [community@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:community@jewishlouisville.org) and we will make sure he gets your message. Thank you, Andrew, my friend. We've got your back.

# NEWS

## LADON

Continued from page 1

secular viewpoint, there is a saying in Israel, “gam vegam.” Literally translated this means “also and also.” This adage means that more than one thing can be true, even when they appear to be opposites. This common Israeli refrain means that an individual can hold opposite viewpoints in their mind at any given time. If this is true of the individual, it must also be true of the community.

I sometimes hear concerns from our community that the expression of differing opinions will leave Jews divided. This call for uniformity has felt stronger in recent months. I see it differently. In our current social justice climate, as we become aware of increasing acts of antisemitism throughout our country, maintaining our tradition of dialogue and discourse is more important than ever. Implicit bias, stereotyping, and “othering,” which serve as the foundation for antisemitism and other similar hate speech, require the belief in a monochrome world. “All Jews are...”. We don’t want to be looked at monolithically. Our community is not all the same nor do we all behave in the same way. At the same time, we should not feel



Rabbi Joshua Ladon speaking at The Temple

the need to BE unvarying. Part of what enriches our culture is our willingness to look at issues from multiple perspectives. We, as Jews, are a small people in number with a large vision of tikkun olam: Creating a better community, a better Jewish Louisville and a better greater Louisville. Achieving this vision requires that we build a large tent and allow room in it for many opinions. We do not all have to agree. But we are called upon to listen and hear each other. That is where combating hate from within and without begins.



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Questions? Contact Alison Roemer at [aroemer@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:aroemer@jewishlouisville.org)



**May 9 - 19, 2024**

# Tickets On Sale!

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
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12 2 P.M.				16 7:30 P.M.		18 7:30 P.M.
19 2 P.M.						

**To Purchase**

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or visit, [jclouisville.org/centerstage](https://jclouisville.org/centerstage)

Questions? Contact us at [JArtsIdeas@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:JArtsIdeas@jewishlouisville.org) or call (502) 238-2797.

## Young Adult Seminar Budapest, Hungary

September 17-22, 2024

Explore beautiful Budapest, participate in inspirational workshops, make life-long connections!

A highly subsidized trip of a lifetime for Jewish 25-45 year olds. Travel and learn with peers from Israel, Hungary and the U.S. International Zoom discussions begin in April.

For more information about this trip, contact Amy Fouts at [p2g@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:p2g@jewishlouisville.org).

### P2G Book Club

A captivating book club discussion centered around *People of the Book* by Geraldine Brooks. This novel was inspired by the true story of the Sarajevo Haggadah.

May 5, 2024, 1 p.m., Zoom  
RSVP: [tinyurl.com/P2GBookMay2024](https://tinyurl.com/P2GBookMay2024)

To gather in person for the Zoom, with refreshments, contact Amy Fouts.

For more information about Partnership2Gether, contact Amy Fouts, [p2g@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:p2g@jewishlouisville.org)

## Connecting PERSON 2 PERSON PEOPLE 2 PEOPLE

Partnership2Gether is an extraordinary global platform promoting people-to-people relationships through cultural, social, medical, educational, and economic programs.

Follow Partnership2Gether events on Facebook: <https://tinyurl.com/P2GLou>  
Visit our website at [jewishlouisville.org/p2g](https://jewishlouisville.org/p2g).

# PICTURE THIS: TRIVIA NIGHT



Pictured L-R: The winning trivia team: Joey Fischel, Scott Weinberg, Hunter Weinberg, Justin Shuster, Margaret Shuster, Todd Benovitz and Shannon Benovitz.



Pictured L-R: Mark Bowling, Lora Bowling, Irvin Jaffe, Mindy Jaffe, Paula Kommor and Gene Zipperle Jr.



Pictured Above: Back row: Leanne Diakov, Bryan Trautwein, Dac Austin, Peter Diakov, Aimee McFerren and Brad Cristiana; Front row: Elizabeth Austin and Ruth Trautwein.



Pictured at Right: Jeffrey Gumer



Pictured L-R: Leigh Bird, Russell Bird, George Polur, Michael Gold, Richard Hill and Suzanne Gus.



Pictured L-R: Back row: Melanie Brunengraber, Myrle Davis, Rebecca Davis, Jennifer Davis; Front row: Max Davis, Debbie Horvitz, Larry Kaplan and Toby Horvitz



Pictured L-R: Nick Didio, Emma Cohen, Ava Greenberg, Abigail Goldberg, Sarah Hyman and Anthony Kyser.



Pictured L-R: Lewis Rowe, Ilean Rowe, Jeffrey Gumer and Kimble Pendley.

IN THIS PLACE EVERY CHILD IS DESTINED TO BE A SOLDIER

# KNOCK KNOCK

by Niv Petel

*A one-man show that describes what it's like to be a parent in the shadow of armed conflict.*

**MAY 15 | 7 PM**  
 Tickets: \$18  
[JewishLouisville.org/knock](http://JewishLouisville.org/knock)

Ticket proceeds will benefit trauma and relief efforts in the Western Galilee, Israel.

This program is proudly supported by:

# SAVE THE DATE

## International Lion of Judah Conference

# Jan. 12-14, 2025

Don't miss out. Registration opens summer 2024. Open to philanthropists recognized as Lion of Judah in their local communities.

Visit [lionconference.org](http://lionconference.org) for updates.

Contact Daniele Hurwitz, Senior Director Women's Philanthropy, at [dhurwitz@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:dhurwitz@jewishlouisville.org) or 502-238-2780 for more information.

# NEWS

## Partnership2Gether is About Personal Relationships for Louisville Family

By Carlyn and Bill Altman  
Guest Columnists

In 2005, we were asked to host an Israeli teenager who was coming to work at the JCC summer camp. We learned this was part of something called “The Partnership,” a program which creates connections between cities like Louisville and towns in the Northern Galilee region of Israel. We agreed to host, even though we were a little worried about the age difference. Our children were 12 and 10 at the time, several years younger than a teen. It was only for a couple weeks, and he would then move to another family. It seemed worth a try. We never imagined this one summer experience would be our gateway into friendships with many Israelis, a connection to Israel through the people we met, and a lifelong relationship with Mor Perets, now a 34-year-old father of two.

Mor came to us a gentle and soft-spoken 15-year-old. He was so excited to be in the United States for the first time and was eager to share with us and the JCC campers details of his life in Israel. His parents’ family came to Israel from Morocco and Tunisia, our first exposure to the culture and customs of Sephardic Israelis. He assumed the role of big brother to our children, as he shared with us his love for his country.

Mor’s passion and love for Israel had a profound impact on our family and was transformative in developing our own relationship with the country and its people. He also taught us the custom of sprinkling salt on challah, a practice we continue to this day.

By the time Mor left we all felt he had become part of our family. We did not want to let him go. Over the years, we’ve stayed in touch. A few years later, in 2008, our family visited Israel on a Federation Family Mission. We were welcomed to dinner with Mor and his family in their apartment in Akko. In 2015, when our son studied abroad in Israel near Eilat, we met Mor at Beersheva University where he was studying computer science. In 2018, during our last family trip to Israel, Mor introduced us to his then fiancé, Jason Hochman. We shared a meal together in Jaffa, with a view of the Mediterranean Sea. In 2019, when they married in Providence, Rhode Island, we were thrilled to attend, and Bill had the honor of being one of the chuppah bearers.

Our children have continued to visit and stay with Mor and Jason during visits to Israel, and we have stayed in touch with through FaceTime calls, especially during the pandemic lockdowns. Several years ago, Mor and Jason decided to embark upon the lengthy, expensive, and

uncertain process of starting a family through IVF and surrogacy. It hasn’t been easy, but just four weeks ago Mor went straight from reserve duty to Texas where he and Jason were present for the birth of their twin babies, Aviv and Avital. While awaiting their return to Israel, they are spending several weeks with Jason’s parents in Florida. We were thrilled to visit them there two weeks ago and hold these two precious babies.

Inspired by our experience with Mor, we have participated in many Partnership2Gether programs over the years: Biking across Israel on a trip organized by Louisville’s Jon Klein and Israel’s Yehuda Peled (the “Saba” of Northern Israel biking!); hosting a Bourbon and Biking event in Louisville where we met Shaked Moredechay and others who founded a non-profit biking group for at risk Jewish, Muslim, and Christian youth; hosting Israeli chefs; attending the Partnership summit in Budapest; and maintaining contact with Partnership’s current leader, Heidi Benesch who as a young staffer was the one to interview and select Mor for the JCC camp program.

The Partnership programs are great, but it’s the people we’ve met and relationships we’ve formed that we value most. Like many, in the wake of October 7th our family has struggled

to make sense of what is happening in Israel, the United States and the world. What grounds us during these trying times is to deepen our ties with our friends in Israel, friends that have come to us through our participation in the Partnership. Our relationship with Israel is a product of our own experiences, but it’s also formed through our relationship with Mor, Jason, and now their twins, Aviv and Avital.



Alayna, Mor and Daneil in Louisville, KY in 2005



Bill, Mor, Jason, Carlyn and Alayna in Israel in 2018.

**Perform the Mitzvah of Hospitality:  
Be a Host Family**

**Louisville will have two ShinShinim as members of our community from August 2024 - July 2025.**

*ShinShinim* are a select group of promising Israeli high school graduates who choose to defer their enlistments in the Israel Defense Forces so that they can spend a year as Israeli ambassadors in communities around the world.

Our *ShinShinim* need a place to call home and are relying on the warmth and southern hospitality of Louisville families.

Hosting a young Israeli in your home is an exciting and enriching opportunity for the entire family. Host families everywhere regard this as a deeply meaningful experience. Hosting a *Shinshin* may only last a few months, but the relationships last a lifetime.

To learn more, visit  
[jewishlouisville.org/shinshinim](http://jewishlouisville.org/shinshinim)



**Jewish Lou**

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**Be part of something remarkable!**

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 gathering small groups for think tanks. Participants in will share ideas and be the creative spark that shapes where we are going.**

**Interested in participating?**  
Scan the QR code or go to [JewishLouisville.org/502.0](http://JewishLouisville.org/502.0) and let us know a little about yourself.

**Questions?** Contact Alison Roemer, [aroemer@JewishLouisville.org](mailto:aroemer@JewishLouisville.org)

# PICTURE THIS: WHIFFENPOOFS

On March 13, The Trager Family JCC was thrilled to host a free community live performance by the Yale Whiffenpoofs, the world's oldest and best-known collegiate a cappella group. Featuring Louisville native Jake Latts, they performed a mixture of jazz standards and other hits from across the decades. Jake's mother and Jewish Community of Louisville board member, Kate Latts welcomed the group to Louisville.



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[swimschool@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:swimschool@jewishlouisville.org)

**J** Trager Family JCC

20 YEARS

THE REPUBLIC BANK PLAYERS CHALLENGE

TO BENEFIT JFCS & TRAGER FAMILY JCC

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 MONDAY, AUGUST 12  
 STANDARD CLUB

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**JFCS** | **J** Trager Family Jewish Community Center

FOR INFORMATION:  
 ANGIE FLEITZ, [AFLEITZ@JEWISHLouisville.org](mailto:AFLEITZ@JEWISHLouisville.org)

# PICTURE THIS: PURIM



Jewish organizations throughout the city hosted a Purim celebration that was open to all at The Temple.



LBSY Purim Megillah Reading  
Students dressed up and performed the Purim story.



The Early Learning Center at the Trager Family JCC held a Purim celebration around the JCC that included reading their Purim stories and a costume parade.

Chabad Stands with Israel at Purim Community Celebration

Over 100 people gathered at the Standard Club to celebrate Purim and Stand with Israel. Participants wrote letters to soldiers as well as letters of prayer to be inserted in the Kotel (Western Wall) in Jerusalem. An Israeli themed meal with falafel and shawarma rounded out the evening along with magic and comic entertainment.



## Build Community with a Gather Grant

Gather Grants are a path to creating the most inclusive, vibrant and welcoming Jewish Louisville possible. The Jewish Federation is offering young adults (25-45) the opportunity to create their own Jewish experiences, through Gather Grants.

**WHO?** Young adults between 25-45 years old

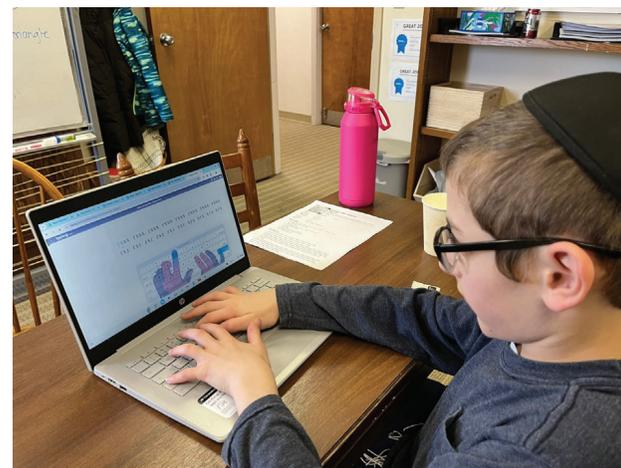
**WHAT?** Subsidized programs, events and experiences that are Jewish in nature; think Shabbat dinners, holiday celebrations, or events bringing Jews together.

**HOW?** Submit an application today!  
Find the application at [JewishLouisville.org/nextgen](https://JewishLouisville.org/nextgen) or contact Daniele Hurwitz at [dhurwitz@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:dhurwitz@jewishlouisville.org) for more information.



# MTA Moments

ISSUE 9



Montessori Torah Academy  
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# NEWS/NEWSMAKERS

## Family of Legendary Louisville Musician to Return LFPL Books Overdue Over 100 Years

Better late than never! On Monday, third generation Louisvillian, Mark Perelmutter returned two books to the Louisville Free Public Library that have been overdue for more than a century.

The books, checked out by the late Morris Perelmutter King (born Morris Perelmutter) have a storied place in Louisville history. The son of Russian Jewish immigrants, Morris checked out one of the books in about 1924 at the age of 14, giving him early exposure to the music that would lead him to legendary status. His immigrant mother, Miriam "Mary" Perelmutter checked out another book on the Russian language in 1927.

Morris, the violin wunderkind, played with the Louisville orchestra

before forming his own local band and then heading west, where he became a mainstay and close friend of the Rat Pack (especially fellow Jew, Sammy Davis Jr.). Morris recorded records and became a staple headliner in the early days of the Las Vegas strip often returning to Louisville throughout his life to regale families with tales of the limelight.

"These books are part of the origin story of a Louisville legend most people know nothing about," Perelmutter said of King who died in 1993 at the age of 83.

The books were found by Morris's son Michael Perelmutter King last year in his Los Angeles home, where he and his brother Barry are both lawyers. Michael, who grew up in Las Vegas but spent his junior year attending Atherton High School thinks this may be what his father would have wanted.

"I'd like to think my dad would want these books returned to their

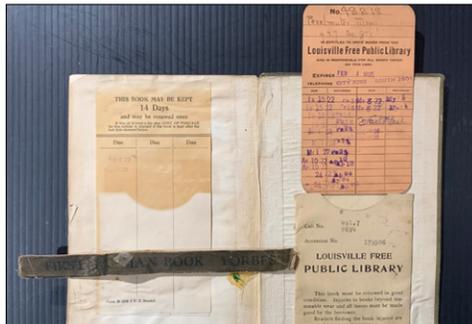
rightful home," said King, who will join Perelmutter for the delinquent return. "But who knows. I know he got his use out of them."

Perelmutter and King lost touch as young adults but reconnected in the early 2000's and became close thanks to their shared, inherited love of music. They frequently collaborate on duets of Mozart and Gershwin from afar, getting together for performances every few months.

The family's rich musical history can be traced back at least as far as a pair of forgotten library books checked out in the 1920s, which will at long last, return to their rightful home. "I just hope they don't try to charge a late fee!" Perelmutter said.



Sammy and Morris



First Russian Book

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For more information, scan the QR code or contact:



Abigail Goldberg  
agoldberg@jewishlouisville.org  
jccloouisville.org/maccabi

# JFCS Continues Passover Food Drive In A Different Way

This year, we are continuing the impactful Passover Food Drive. Each year during Passover, local synagogues and community members begin to gather food to donate to the JFCS Sonny & Janet Meyer Food Pantry so that JFCS can help members of the Jewish community celebrate Passover with a Seder feast regardless of their life situation. It's a wonderful gesture of kindness and humanity and JFCS is proud to be a conduit between the generosity of others and our friends and neighbors who need a little extra assistance to make ends meet.

Giving financial gifts to the food pantry allows JFCS to partner with Dare to Care and purchase food at a lower cost than we would be able to at a store. Dare to Care is an excellent partner in supporting food pantries across Louisville and allows the opportunity to help keep our shelves full.

Giving donations of food to the food pantry also helps keep shelves full and allows individuals to connect to JFCS' mission in a powerful way. When individuals go to the grocery store, select items, and deliver them to JFCS, it makes food insecurity resonate in a real way. When families do these activities together, children learn about community needs and the importance of supporting those in need. Food drives are a great activity for civic groups and places of employment. It not only builds teamwork and comradery, but it lets members or employees know they're involved with an organization that cares about the community in which they live.

Both ways of giving are powerful and needed.

Jewish Family and Career Services has many people who are deeply passionate about our mission, have seen JFCS grow for decades, and continue to invest in our growth. Janet Meyer is one of these people. When Janet talks about JFCS and the Sonny & Janet Meyer Food Pantry, her passion is tangible, and she recruits others to the cause of fighting food insecurity in Louisville. This year, on her 80th birthday, we want to honor her powerful gift of connecting community members to feeding their neighbors and supporting individuals who don't have the most basic human need. Because of their conviction to serve the community directly and their action, the Sonny and Janet Meyer Food Pantry gave out over 73,000 pounds of food in 2023 and increased services to older adults by 54% with the expansion of the satellite pantry in Shalom Towers. We want to honor Janet and the impact she has had on our community during this milestone birthday!

If you, your family, civic group or place of employment would like to help the JFCS Sonny & Janet Meyer Food Pantry, we are accepting bags of regular sized, non-bulk, non-expired food items at JFCS between April 1-April 14, during business hours. You can also drop off at the Trager Family JCC or your synagogue.

You can also make a financial donation directly to the food bank by calling Courtney Evans at 502-322-1928. Chag Pesach Sameach.

## JFCS Passover Food Drive 2024

to benefit the Sonny & Janet Meyer Food Pantry at JFCS

<p><b>Passover:</b> Macaroons 8 oz bottles of Grape Juice Kosher for Passover Chocolate Kosher for Passover Fruit Jellies</p>	<p>Tomato and Chilis Tomato Paste Stewed Tomatoes</p>	<p><b>Canned Fruit:</b> Pineapple Mandarin Oranges</p>
<p><b>Beverages:</b> Coffee Juice Shelf Stable Milk Tea Bags Bottled Water</p>	<p><b>Condiments:</b> Ketchup Mustard Mayonnaise Salad Dressing Pancake Syrup BBQ Sauce</p>	<p><b>Soups:</b> Broth – Beef, Chicken or Vegetable Vegetable Soup Cream Soups</p>
<p><b>Pasta:</b> Anything but Spaghetti</p>	<p><b>Miscellaneous:</b> Crunchy Peanut Butter Brown Rice Mashed Potatoes (Instant) Knorr Packages (Pasta and Rice) Spaghetti O's</p>	<p><b>Canned Vegetables:</b> Spinach Collards Mixed Veggies Carrots</p>
<p><b>Baking:</b> Cake/Brownie Mixes 3 or 5 lbs Flour 3 or 5 lbs Sugar Spices Pancake Mix Any Oils Cooking Spray</p>	<p><b>Beans:</b> Kidney BBQ Garbanzo Great Northern Lima</p>	<p><b>Personal Care and Cleaning:</b> Toothbrushes Toothpaste Deodorant Bar Soap Feminine Care Mouthwash Shampoo Shaving Cream Razors All Purpose Cleaner Dish Soap Laundry Soap</p>
<p><b>Tomatoes and Tomato Sauce:</b> Marinara Sauce Pasta Sauce Diced Tomatoes Crushed Tomatoes Whole Tomatoes</p>	<p><b>Snacks:</b> Granola Bars Pretzels Graham Crackers Cheese Crackers Crackers</p>	

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\*Source: Republic Bank Q3 2023 NPS® (Net Promoter Score) compared to Qualtrics XM Institute 2023 U.S. Consumer Benchmark Study banking industry average NPS®. NPS® is a common metric utilized by organizations to measure how they are perceived by their customers.

## Tickets On Sale NOW!

### Leaders, & Changemakers, & Humanitarians

# THE JFCS MOSAIC AWARDS

Ahmed Farah, University of Louisville  
Amos Izerimana, Mayor's Office for Immigrant Affairs  
Juanita Perez, La Casita Center  
Dr. Patrick Pössel, College of Education and Human Development, UofL  
Dr. Waqar Saleem, UofL Health

New for 2024 Corporate Changemaker Award

Scan the QR Code

**MAY 14**  
Mellwood Arts Center

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## JFCS Community Chats 2024 Topics

**April 17**  
Shining a Light on the Dark Web: Safeguarding Youth in Hidden Online Spaces

**June 4**  
Together for a Safer Louisville: A Community Panel Discussion

**September 10**  
Making your dreams a reality: Starting your own business

**November 19**  
Building Resilient Families: Solutions for Housing, Employment, and Nourishment

Free quarterly events that bring together experts and activists who discuss pressing topics affecting the Greater Louisville community. All events are free but we request that you RSVP for each event.

Scan the QR code to RSVP for April 17 event.

## Senior Homecare Services

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# AROUND TOWN

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

## Adath Jeshurun

Adath Jeshurun invites you to join us in observance of Passover, the festival of freedom. Start the holiday with the Service for the Firstborn and Breakfast on Monday, April 22 at 7:15 a.m. We are offering Passover-To-Go on Monday, April 22 with pickup from 2-5 p.m. This delicious takeout meal from Chef Maureen Hartmann will keep you out of the kitchen for your first night Seder. On Tuesday, April 23 at 6:30 p.m., AJ is hosting a beautiful kosher seder also catered by Chef Maureen. Seating is limited and the deadline is April 10, so don't delay. Information about all events and worship services can be found at [www.adathjeshurun.com/passover](http://www.adathjeshurun.com/passover).

## Anshei Sfarad

The community is invited to attend Rabbi Snaid's classes: Laws of Shabbos Crash Course, Wednesday, 7:30p.m.; Talmud Trek II, Sunday morning 9:30-10:30 a.m. Mishlei, Sunday morning 7:45 - 8:30 a.m. A Night Kollel Ahron V'Leah, open learning, Monday - Thursday 8:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Pesach Schedule: Erev Pesach April 22, Shachris 7:30 a.m., Latest to eat Chametz 11:26am, Latest burning Chametz 12:33 p.m., Light candles 8:08 p.m., Mincha 8:10 p.m. followed by Maariv. Day 1, Shachris 9 a.m., Mincha 7:50 p.m. followed by Maariv, Candles any time after 9:27 p.m., Day 2, Shachris

9 a.m., Mincha 7:50 p.m., Maariv 9:12 p.m. Tom Tov ends 9:27 p.m. Friday 26th, Mincha 8:15 p.m. Candles 8:11 p.m.; Shabbos, Shachris 9 a.m., Mincha 8 p.m., Maariv 9:15 p.m., Shabbos ends 9:30 p.m.; Sunday, Mincha 8:15p.m., Light candles 8:13p.m.; 7th Day, Shachris 9 a.m., Mincha 8 p.m. followed by Maariv, Candles after 9:32 p.m.; 8th day, Shachris 9 a.m., Yizkor approximately 11 a.m., Mincha 8 p.m., Maariv 9:18 p.m., Yom Tov ends 9:33 p.m.

## Chabad of Kentucky

Understanding the Passover Seder Chabad of Kentucky is offering a Passover Seder fueled by the new Jewish Learning Institute hagaddah on Monday night April 22nd. The evening will include a study of the haggadah while enjoy a fish and soup course followed by prayers, the traditional Seder and a delicious kosher chicken Seder dinner.

For more information, please contact Rabbi Avrohom Litvin at [chabadky@gmail.com](mailto:chabadky@gmail.com).

## Chavurat Shalom

April will feature beautiful music and interesting discussions. Lunch will start at Noon in The Temple's Heideman Auditorium, unless noted below, and our program will start at 1:00 p.m. All programs will also be available via Zoom for those who need to join us remotely.

Thursday, April 4 - The supremely

talented pianist Nada will return to entertain and enthrall us. Lunch will include chicken pot pie, quinoa salad, mixed green salad, fresh fruit, and caramel spoon cake.

Thursday, April 11 - Matt Golden will talk about his work with the JCRC. Lunch will include grilled salmon, roasted potatoes, green peas and carrots, Caesar salad, fresh fruit, and triple chocolate cake.

Thursday, April 18 - Guitarist/pianist Misha Feigin will perform. Lunch will include grilled chicken, stuffing, green beans, mixed green salad, fresh fruit, and peach cobbler. Note: Misha will perform in the Waller Chapel and lunch will be served in the adjacent Atrium.

Thursday, April 25 - No Chavurat Shalom. Chag Pesach Sameach!

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 423-1818 or [sarahharlan86@gmail.com](mailto: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.

## Filson Historical Society

Join the Filson Historical Society

for exciting upcoming events! For more information, registration, and membership visit [www.FilsonHistorical.org](http://www.FilsonHistorical.org).

## Hadassah, Louisville Chapter

#EndtheSilence, Hear Our Voice Hadassah Louisville Chapter invites you to join us for a meaningful conversation about Gender Based Violence (GBV) as a Tactic of War on Sunday, April 28. "#EndtheSilence, Hear Our Voice" is a community workshop on Education,

*Continued on page 16*

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PJ Library sends curated, award-winning storybooks and activities to Jewish children from birth through age 12. The program sparks meaningful conversation and provides opportunities to explore and celebrate Jewish life together.



Sign Up today by scanning the QR code using your camera app!

For questions about PJ Library contact Gab Melendez at [gmelendez@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:gmelendez@jewishlouisville.org)

## Finding Hope Underground

A Yom HaShoah Program with David Lee Preston



Monday, May 6, 2024

7 p.m.

Keneseth Israel  
Congregation






Learn more at [jewishlouisville.org/yomhashoah2024](http://jewishlouisville.org/yomhashoah2024)

# AROUND TOWN

Continued from page 15

Advocacy and Healing from the sexual violence against Israeli women on October 7. This trauma informed, non-political discussion, a part of the Hadassah #EndtheSilence campaign, will focus on expanding understanding of the impact of GBV and war trauma around the world as well as the effect on our community. The discussion will include reflection on global and local opportunities that support healing and peacemaking. Our facilitator is Dr. Susan Rhema, LCSW, PhD from the University of Louisville Kent School of Social Work and Family Science. Dr. Rhema has extensive experience working with clients who have experienced war violence. The workshop will take place from 1:30-3:30 p.m. in the community education room of the JCC. Monetary donations to the Hadassah Bat Ami Crisis Center for Victims of Sexual Abuse located in Jerusalem, Israel will be gratefully accepted. This center is serving many of the people who experienced sexual violence on October 7. RSVP required. For more information contact **LouisvilleHadassahChapter@gmail.com**, or Chapter President, Michelle Elisburg, 502-645-4739

## Discover Hadassah

Come be involved in Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, with a legacy spanning over a century and a mission dedicated to healing the world. Join our vibrant community of women committed to advancing healthcare, championing women's rights, and instilling Jewish values in future generations through youth villages in Israel.

Hadassah offers a myriad of programs tailored to diverse interests, ensuring there's something for everyone. Whether you're passionate about Medicine and Healthcare, Education, Law, Women's Equity in Health and Research, or Fighting Antisemitism, our organization provides opportunities for you to take action and make an impact both locally and globally while enjoying the camaraderie of sisterhood.

Come be a part of a movement that empowers women to create positive change in the world. For more information, reach out to **LouisvilleHadassahChapter@gmail.com**.

## Jewish Family and Career Services

Shining a Light on the Dark Web: Safeguarding Youth in Hidden Online Spaces - JFCS Community Chat - April 17.

JFCS' popular Community Chat series returns April 17, with: "Shining a Light on the Dark Web: Safeguarding Youth in Hidden Online Spaces". This community discussion coincides with Child Abuse Prevention Month and features a panel of experts including Dr. Sarah Roos, Psychologist-Jewish Family & Career Services; Sonja Grey, Executive Director, Exploited Children Help Organization; Annisha Dunaway, LCSW, Victims Assistance Program Specialist-Homeland Security Investigations; who will discuss how to keep our youth safe from dangers that can be lurking online and the resources available to parents. Wednesday, April

17th, at 6 p.m., at the Trager Family JCC Shapira Foundation Auditorium. This event is FREE and open to the public. RSVP is requested for planning purposes at: **tinyurl.com/mr2kr85s**

**\*TICKETS ON SALE NOW\*** The 2024 JFCS MOSAIC Awards is May 14, at the Mellwood Art Center. Join us for a night of inspiration as we honor five outstanding individuals who came to this country as immigrants, refugees, or is a first-generation American and have become leaders, changemakers and humanitarians in the Louisville community. Along with these outstanding individuals, we are honored to name GE Appliances as the first recipient of the new Corporate Changemaker Award. Individual and table reservations available at: **https://one.bidpal.net/2024jfcsmosaic/ticketing**.

Corporate sponsorships still available at: **cevans@jfcsloouisville.org**.

## Passover Food Drive For Sonny & Janet Meyer Food Pantry

Each year at this time, local synagogues and community members begin to gather food to donate to the JFCS Sonny & Janet Meyer Food Pantry for Passover. Thanks to a generous donation, we have enough Matzo to fulfill the many requests we receive for Passover baskets; however, our food pantry is NEVER fully stocked and we are always in need of help from the community. If you, your family, or community organization would like to help the Sonny & Janet Meyer Food Pantry, "Regular sized, non-bulk, non-expired" food items can be brought to JFCS or the Trager Family JCC between April 1-April 14, during business hours. For questions, contact Michelle Klecner at: **mklecner@jfcsloouisville.org**. You can also make a financial donation directly to the food pantry by calling Courtney Evans at (502) 452-6341.

## Jewish Federation of Louisville

Save the date for this year's annual Yom HaShoah memorial. This year, the memorial will be held at the Keneseth Israel for our year to year gathering on May 6 at 7 p.m. This year, author David Preston will speak about Phyllis Sterling Jacobs, a Holocaust Survivor who spent nearly two years under ground in the Lodz ghetto. Mr. Preston will share her diary he recently uncovered. In addition, members of the Jewish clergy and community will come together and commemorate those that lived and died during the Shoah.

Join your PJ library friends at Bernheim forest for some outdoor fun! Playground, Giants and short hikes...whatever your family would enjoy! Meet at the Visitor Center, and then explore the area. Snacks will be provided. Sunday, April 14, 2- 4 p.m. Please RSVP to Carly Mason, **cmason@jewishlouisville.org**.

BBYO Connect at the Louisville Bats Game! Sunday, April 14th at 1 p.m., open to ANY Jewish teen 6th-12th grade, cost is \$15 (Includes ticket, transportation, and \$10 food voucher). Bus to Slugger Field will depart the Trager Family JCC at 12:40 p.m. Join friends for an afternoon at the Louisville Bats game! Sit in CLUB-level seats for a spectacular view! Register

at **tinyurl.com/yhvt36k7** or reach out to **agoldberg@jewishlouisville.org** with any questions.

## Keneseh Israel

Keneseh Israel Congregation offers Daily Minyan services at 6:00 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, 8:45 a.m. on Sunday at Adath Jeshurun, and 7:30 a.m. Monday and Thursday at Keneseh Israel. 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.

Join Rabbi Freed for Jews & Brews every Wednesday at the JCC at 11:00 a.m. Join him for a beer on him at another installment of Jews & Brews: After Hours on April 11th at 7:30 p.m. at a PG&J Dog Bar.

Have a toddler in your life? Come join us for our Tot Shabbat! Join us April 13th and 27th at 11:00 a.m., to enjoy a toddler friendly shortened service and a sweet treat.

Join us for Shabbat Shalom club - a space for kids K through 5 to experience Shabbat! From Torah to games - there is something for every kid. Every Saturday morning at 10:30 a.m.

Kids and families of all kinds, come join us for our Family Shabbat on April 5th! Starting at 6:00 p.m. there will be a musical Kabbalat Shabbat service followed by a delicious meal. This event is free but please RSVP to **tinyurl.com/KICShabbat** or call (502)459-2780.

Join Cantor Hordes as she takes you on a journey through the sun salutations, and meditations of Torah April 4th at 6:30 p.m. Some yoga mats are available, please bring your own if you have one.

Are you wicked? Wise? Too afraid to talk in class? Join Rabbi Freed starting March 30th at 6:30 p.m. for this four-week class between Purim and Passover where we will study the four children in the Passover Seder! We'll study texts from the Torah, Talmud, and Hagaddah along with other more contemporary Jewish thinkers to shed light on these mysterious and mischievous kiddos.

## Kol Israel Community of Kentucky

Kol Israel Partnership Renewal Service with Adat Ha'Araphel Saturday Mornings April 13 and April 27. We gather in groups from across the country for this innovating, musical meditative renewal service.

## Louisville Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning

Ready to flex your spiritual muscles? A new six-week course Soul's Cycles: A Ride Through the Chapters of Life will lead you through a focused, high-intensity journey through the Jewish perspective on some of life's milestones: birth, Bar/Bat mitzvah, marriage, divorce, mikvah, conversion — a fascinating ride that will deepen your understanding for when these moments happen to you, your family, or your friends. Crossing the finish line will leave you energized and inspired

by the depth and complexity of Jewish values, concerns, expectations, and hopes. The course is taught by Cantor David Lipp (Tuesdays from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m., beginning February 27, via Zoom) and Rabbi Laura Metzger (Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., beginning February 29, in person at AJ). AJ members in good standing are eligible to receive a \$36 discount; please email **sisham@adathjeshurun** for the coupon code. To register or find out more, go online at **tinyurl.com/2p83vjra**.

Israeli music owes a lot to the artist Naomi Shemer. In many ways, Shemer helped define the tone and trajectory of Israeli popular music. For example, the genre "Shirei Eretz Yisrael" (Songs of the Land of Israel) would be far poorer without this sui generis/singer/song-writer. Join Cantor David Lipp for Naomi Shemer: Beyond Jerusalem of Gold to get an overview of her lasting influence and legacy on the corpus of Israeli artistic expression. One session only, April 1 from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., on Zoom. To register, go online at **tinyurl.com/49bpfh95**.

## Louisville Vaad HaKashruth

Kosher for Passover on-line food ordering and delivery to Louisville from Kansas City Kosher is being facilitated by the Louisville Vaad HaKashruth. To place an order, go to **kckoshercoop.com** and if you don't have an account, create an account, and start ordering/requesting split orders (to create an account, Do not select Join a Co-op; instead, select Account in upper right corner of Homepage, then Create an account, and select Louisville, KY as your Co-op). Order deadline is March 13. Delivery is anticipated to take place on April 7. For additional details/questions not answered on the co-op's website, contact Myrle Davis at **mdavis5748@aol.com**.

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

## 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**.

Charoset, marror, karpas, oh my! Come learn and sample different recipes and obscure items used on the Passover seder plate on April 2nd at 6:30 p.m. After, make your own seder plate after with our new glass etcher! RSVP at **tinyurl.com/MPLearning**.

Celebrate Rosh Chodesh Nisan, the true first month of the Hebrew year, by becoming a calendarian and making your own calendar! Set your own goals, intentions, and more with as much glitter and glam as you can fit! April

# AROUND TOWN

9th at 6:00 p.m. RSVP at [tinyurl.com/MPArtsKrafts](https://tinyurl.com/MPArtsKrafts).

No matzah? No problem! Come make "kosher" for Passover matzah with us! After, come help us clean out the rest of our chametz with a fun Bedikat Chametz scavenger hunt! April 21st at 6:00 p.m. RSVP at [tinyurl.com/MPChagim](https://tinyurl.com/MPChagim).

## National Council of Jewish Women – Louisville Section

Jewish Voice for Choice Award Breakfast Save the date: NCJW's 2nd Annual Jewish Voice for Choice Award Breakfast will be held on Wednesday, May 22, at the Trager Family JCC, featuring Kentucky Senator Dr. Karen Berg as our keynote speaker. We'll be honoring this year's recipients of the Sonia and Dr. Ronald Levine Jewish Voice for Choice Award, Dr. Ernest Marshall and Carol Savkovich. Stay tuned for more details coming your way soon!

Government Outreach and Voter Engagement Committee WANTS You! Are you concerned about the big election coming up this fall? Join our Government Outreach & Voter Engagement Committee and help us engage voters and advocate for reproductive freedom, improving the quality of life for women, children, and families, and promoting the Jewish ideals of social justice. For more information, contact Executive Director Sarah Harlan at [executivedirector@ncjwlou.org](mailto:executivedirector@ncjwlou.org) or 502-458-5566 and let us know how you want to make a difference in this year's critical election.

## Nearly New Shop

Our Derby Sale is coming up April 6-8. Find the perfect outfit and stunning hat so you can celebrate Derby 150 in style! Access our Derby Sale before the event at our VIP Night private shopping experience on Thursday, April 4, from 4-8 p.m.. Limited to 50 guests, tickets are only \$25 and can be purchased at [shopnearlynew.org](https://shopnearlynew.org) under "Derby Sale" or by calling our office at 502-458-5566.

## Temple Shalom

Paint and Sip, Sunday, April 14, 2 p.m. Join us for a fun afternoon as our own Bob Teitel leads us as we each create a beautiful painting to take home with us. The event includes canvas and painting supplies, snacks, and wine for adults. Paint and Sip is open to all ages. Cost is \$18 for Temple Shalom members, and \$25 for non-members. RSVP by April 8 to engagement coordinator Slava Nelson at 502-830-4968 or [engagement@templeshalomky.org](mailto:engagement@templeshalomky.org).

2nd Night Passover Seder, Tuesday, April 23, 6 p.m.

Temple Shalom invites the community to join us for the 2nd night Passover Seder, including a meal catered by Good Belly (vegetarian option available). Cost is \$36 for Temple Shalom Members age 13 and older, \$10 for member youth 6-12. Non-member cost is \$45 for ages 13 and up; \$15 for non-member youth. Children under 6 are free. Reservations must be prepaid by April 15; RSVP at [engagement@templeshalom.ky](mailto:engagement@templeshalom.ky).

## Shabbat Services

The community is invited to join us for services Friday nights at 6:30 p.m.

and Saturday mornings at 10:30. Watch the weekly eblasts from Community for updates as we are planning some services to be held at the Trager Family JCC in April.

## The Temple

Adult education continues at The Temple! Text Study with Rabbi David Beginning Hebrew with Mark Goldstein, and Intro to Judaism with Rabbi David are on Monday nights; Temple Scholars on Wednesday mornings with Rabbi David; 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).

Starting in April, Rabbi David will host a monthly hike. Sunday hiking adventures are for all ages; however, strollers are not recommended. The Temple will provide hikers with an awesome water bottle to not only ensure hydration but also as a keepsake for your own hikes. On April 7 at 9 a.m. (arrive by 8:45 a.m.) Rabbi David will lead a morning hike at Coppiced Woods Trail, William F. Miles Lake in The Parklands. RSVP at [thetemplelouky.org/hiking](https://thetemplelouky.org/hiking).

The Temple Brotherhood will travel to Columbus, Indiana, on Monday, April 8 to see the last total eclipse of the sun in our area for the next 118 years. We will carpool from The Temple at 10 a.m. and return at approximately 6 p.m. Columbus will be in the line of totality so the viewing, weather permitting, will be excellent. Participants should bring lawn chairs and special eclipse glasses. There will be a limited number of glasses to share. For more information, please contact Michael Friedman at [mfriedman@sustainablemgt.com](mailto:mfriedman@sustainablemgt.com).

Embark on a culinary adventure with our Jew-shi Adult Cooking Class. On Sunday, April 14 at 10 a.m. learn to craft Jew-shi, a delicious fusion of Jewish and Japanese flavors. Join us and discover the art of blending traditions into delectable bites. Please RSVP at [thetemplelouky.org/jew-shi](https://thetemplelouky.org/jew-shi).

Please join the Mitzvah Makers on Sunday, April 14 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.

The Jewish Studies Program of University of Louisville and The Temple are proud to present the 2024 Naamani Memorial Lecture with Susannah Heschel: "Moral Grandeur: The Life and Legacy of Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel" on Sunday, April 14 at 1 p.m. at The Temple. The Naamani Memorial Lecture Series was established in 1979 to honor the memory of Professor Israel T. Naamani, admired scholar and teacher at the University of Louisville, and beloved Jewish community member.

Join The Temple Brotherhood this Thursday, April 18 for their Brotherhood Dinner featuring the "State of The Temple" presentation with Temple President, Shannon Rothschild. The Business Meeting begins at 6:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 7:00 p.m., and the presentation at 7:30 p.m.. For more information, please contact Michael Friedman at [mfriedman@sustainablemgt.com](mailto:mfriedman@sustainablemgt.com).

This year for Passover, The Temple is excited to host four different Seders to attend AND offer the option to pick up a Passover meal by Chef Z, with Haggadot featuring artwork from our members. We will have a Traditional First Night Seder on Monday, April 22 at 6 p.m., Creative Musical Second Night Seder led with our Confirmation Class on Tuesday, April 23 at 6 p.m., Gaylia R. Rooks Women's Seder sponsored by the WRJ/Sisterhood on Thursday, April 25 at 6 p.m., and a Young Adult Seder on Saturday, April 27 at 6 p.m. For more information and to RSVP, go to [thetemplelouky.org/Passover](https://thetemplelouky.org/Passover).

Join Rabbi David on Friday, April 26 at 7 p.m. as we celebrate our Confirmation Class of 2024/5784 as they lead our Shabbat Service.

The Louisville Orchestra will be performing Mahler's 6th Symphony on April 27. Gustav Mahler was not only a talented composer for the Vienna Orchestra, but his life was filled with drama, death, antisemitism, marriage difficulties, and torment. Immediately after the concert, the Brotherhood and Temple members are invited to a private audience with Concert Master Gabe Lefkowitz. Although this event will be open to everyone, Brotherhood members will receive a discounted ticket price. If you have never experienced a Louisville Orchestra performance, now is the time, and this is the one. For more information, go to [thetemplelouky.org/mahler](https://thetemplelouky.org/mahler).

## Trager Family JCC

Israel Arts and Culture Festival From mid-May through June, the Trager Family JCC will be hosting events that celebrate the rich culture of Israel. The festival will include events such as a theater performance of Knock Knock featuring Israeli Niv Petel, A Taste of Israel, an Israel Family Festival, a photo exhibit, a live concert, and more. Stay tuned for details at [jewishlouisville.org](https://jewishlouisville.org).

Be a Star Reporter at the JCC Maccabi Games

What is Star Reporter? Star Reporters will document the Maccabi Games in real-time through photography, videography, interview, blogging, and other modes of social media. Reporters will generate their own assignments each day based on their interests and will spend time daily on reporting activities both in Communications Central and "in the field." Reporters will participate in JCC Cares and all other activities throughout the week.

As Star Reporters develop new skills through hands-on reporting and exposure to technologies and tools, they also will receive mentoring in photography, videography, the art of the interview, and more. This will include content creation (photos, videos, reels, etc.) as well as written copy (posts to go along with media). Teens will need access to smartphones throughout the duration of the week. Star Reporter coaches, provided by the Host Community, will be experienced professionals in the fields of journalism, photography, videography, social media, and marketing. Teens will always have access to the star reporter chaperones for questions as they move through the week. For more information, contact Abigail Goldberg at [agoldberg@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:agoldberg@jewishlouisville.org).

## Summer Jobs at the JCC

There's no better way to spend your summer than working at the Trager Family JCC, you'll join a great team and have fun getting to know our members and campers. We are currently hiring lifeguards, swim instructors, pool gate attendants, Dive-in Diner staff, and Camp J counselors. We are seeking camp counselors to lead our groups, inclusion advocates to work with our campers with special needs, and specialists to lead activities. To apply, visit [jewishlouisville.org/hiring](https://jewishlouisville.org/hiring).

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, Kathleen Horn, at [khorn@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:khorn@jewishlouisville.org). For those interested in memberships, visit [jclouisville.org/youbelong](https://jclouisville.org/youbelong) or email [membership@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:membership@jewishlouisville.org).

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# LIFECYCLE

## B'nai Mitzvah



### Amari Cohen

Amari Cohen, daughter of Jonathan and Rebecca Cohen, sibling of Joseph, Leah, Anna, Dia, Kate, Aryeh, Nicol, and Asher, will be called to the Torah as Bat Mitzvah at

10 AM, Saturday, April 13th, at Adath Jeshurun.

The grandparents are Stuart and Bonnie Cohen and the late Richard and Nancy Lasky. Amari is in the 6th grade at the Waldorf School of Louisville and loves to play soccer and learn songs on the piano. She participated in the JFCS Pledge 13 program, focusing her volunteer efforts on animal welfare and hand-made blankets for foster dogs and cats. Amari and her family invite the community to celebrate her Bat Mitzvah and to the kiddush luncheon following the service.



### Benjamin Eli Corson

Benjamin Eli Corson, son of Dana and Scot Corson is called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, April 13 at The Temple. Benjamin is in

Grade 6 at North Oldham Middle School in Goshen. He loves to play sports, especially baseball, build Legos, watch Michigan football, and hang out with his friends. For his Pledge 13 Mitzvah Project, he has volunteered at The Franciscan Kitchen.



### Norah Drew Corson

Norah Drew Corson, daughter of Dana and Scot Corson is called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, April 13 at The Temple. Norah is in Grade

8 at North Oldham Middle School in Goshen. She loves to play soccer, paint,

listen to music and hang out with her friends. For her Pledge 13 Mitzvah Project, she has volunteered at The Franciscan Kitchen.



### Eloise Weinberg

Eloise Weinberg, daughter of Hunter and Scott Weinberg and sister of Anne Miriam and Beatrice, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on

Saturday, April 13th, at Keneseth Israel. Eloise is the great-granddaughter of Ella Goodman and the granddaughter of Beverly and David Weinberg. She is also the granddaughter of Robin Oldham and the late Jeana Oldham. A seventh grader at Collegiate, Eloise enjoys playing field hockey and basketball. She is also a talented artist and enjoys spending her summers at Beber. For her Bat Mitzvah project, Anne Miriam made and sold bracelets supporting Israel after October 7th, and has raised over \$1,000, which will benefit the Jewish Federation Israel Emergency Fund.

## Obituaries



### Elece Cohen

Elece Cohen, a devoted mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, passed away on March 5th, 2024, in Louisville, KY, at the age of 94. Elece was born on

July 19th, 1929, to William and Maureen Greenberg in Kansas City, KS. She was the only child of her parents, and they raised her with love and care.

Throughout her life, Elece pursued her passion for art and became a gifted artist. She worked with various mediums, including needlepoint, sculpting, pastels, and her favorite, oil paintings. Elece enjoyed participating in art shows at the Jewish Community Center and sharing her talents with friends.

She also served as a leader in several Jewish organizations. She was a

member of the National Council of Jewish Women, Hadassah – Women's Zionist Organization of America, Brandeis National Women's Committee, and chairman of the women's division of the Louisville United Jewish Campaign. Elece's greatest source of joy was her family. She was a devoted mother to her three children: Glenn Cohen (Kelly), Laurie Fleck (Stanley), and Betsy Ceder (Carl). Elece was also a doting grandmother to her six grandchildren: William, Frances, Annabeth, Riley, Gordon, and Graham, as well as two great-grandchildren, Elijah and Carter.

Elece was a beautiful, vibrant, and stylish woman with a commanding presence; she could light up a room. She was smart, spirited, fiercely independent, and had a wonderful sense of humor. Elece was a voracious reader with an inquisitive mind, and she never lost her desire to learn.

After raising her family in Louisville, Elece returned to Kansas City where she enjoyed her many friends and cousins there. Later, Elece moved back to Louisville to be closer to her family here. Those who knew her found her vivaciousness and zest for life unforgettable, and they will miss her greatly.

Elece's family would like to extend a special thank you to her caregivers: Cierra, Michele, and Morilyn. Their love, devotion, and friendship are greatly appreciated.

Visitation and funeral service was held on Friday, March 8, at The Temple, 5101 US Hwy 42, Louisville. The burial followed at The Temple Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to The Temple or the KY Humane Society.

### Robert (Bob) A. Friedman

Robert (Bob) A. Friedman passed away on February 23, 2024 in Atlanta, Georgia. Bob was born to the late Arthur Friedman and Ruth Levitt Friedman in Toledo, Ohio on April 15, 1934. He attended Miami University of Ohio, where he majored in Business and Naval Science and joined the NROTC. After graduation, Bob married Ann Phillips Friedman. He went on to serve in the Supply Corp of the Navy, spending 2 years living in both Japan and San Diego.

After his naval service, Bob and his family moved to Toledo, Ohio where Bob worked in his family's jewelry business.

After nearly 6 years in Ohio, Bob and his family relocated to Louisville, Kentucky in 1964, where they raised their three children. Bob was a Vice President for Kenway Janitorial Services for over 40 years.

In addition to their vibrant life in Louisville, Bob and Ann spent winters in Longboat Key, Florida, a place that he loved dearly. Bob was known for his dedication to family, generosity, outgoing spirit, love of good food, and joy of life. He enjoyed tennis and golf, cheering on the University of Louisville Cardinals, traveling, taking on home repair projects, and a cup of black coffee with the morning paper.

Bob was preceded in death by his parents, Arthur and Ruth Friedman, his wife of 52 years, Ann Phillips Friedman, and his brother, Tom Friedman. Bob is survived by his three children, Robert Friedman Jr. of Phoenix, AZ, Richard Friedman (Meredith) of Northbrook, IL, and Beth Seidel (Jonathan) of Atlanta, GA, and granddaughters, Carly and Josie Friedman, Abby and Sarah Seidel, and Ashlee Friedman.

A memorial service will be held at a later date in Florida. Donations in celebration of Bob's life may be made to The Temple Archives Fund at The Temple, 5101 US Hwy 42, Louisville, KY 40241, where Bob and his wife were active members, or the charity of your choice.



### Bernard Hyman

Bernard Hyman, 93, passed away peacefully on March 6, 2024. He was preceded in death by his parents, Sam and Bertha Hyman, and his loving wife, Joyce (Williams).

His great joy was his family. He is survived by children Sherrie Hyman, Michael Hyman, and Julie Hyman, as well as his grandchildren Emma Hyman and Evan Magee.

Bernard graduated from the University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy and went on to own independent pharmacies in both Southern Indiana and Louisville. He loved to sing! A crooner at heart, he recorded his own album but was also

*Continued on page 19*

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# LIFECYCLE

Continued from page 18

a member of the Congregation Adath Jeshurun Choir. He enjoyed all types of music, especially listening to his son play jazz.

The family is grateful for Betty Hyman's continued love and support and the comforting care Bernard received from the Masonic Home Sam Swope Center, Hosparus Health, and Premier Caregiver Services.

The funeral service for Bernard was held on Tuesday, March 12th, and interment followed in Adath Jeshurun Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, expressions of sympathy may be made to Congregation Adath Jeshurun or the donor's favorite charity.

### Philip Stuart Isacoff

Philip Stuart Isacoff, 79, died Saturday, March 23, 2024 at Norton Brownsboro Hospital. He was a native of Brooklyn, NY, born March 31, 1944 to the late Cecille Nessenblatt and Harry Isacoff.

Philip was a US Army veteran at the beginning of the Vietnam War and was a retired manager, with middle management with Bank of America.

He is preceded in death by his parents; and a brother, Norman Isacoff.

Philip is survived by his wife, Melody Isacoff; his children, Howard Taule (Marc) of Florida, Jennifer Bell (Mark) of Florida, Samantha Mendoza (Robert) of Indianapolis, IN and Conor Isacoff of Louisville; his sister, Alena Braun (Leon) of Brooklyn, NY; his sister-in-law, Nancy Isacoff of Brooklyn, NY; his two grandchildren, Nino and Nisha; and his nieces, Hannah and Nicole and his nephew, Harry.

Graveside services were held on Monday, March 25th at 11:00 a.m. Expressions of sympathy may be made to the donor's favorite charity.



### Sidney W. Katz

Our beloved mother Sidney W. Katz departed peacefully on March 2, 2024. Born Sept 14, 1929, to Frederick and Molly Wright in Providence, Rhode Island, she moved

with her family to Terre Haute, Indiana

in the 40's. After a brief stint exploring life in Portland, Oregon, she returned to the mid-west, where she met her future husband of 43 years, Bill, and proceeded to charm him relentlessly before making his dream come true, and together, they started their family in Louisville.

Sidney was on the leading edge of women balancing a work career with the demands of raising sons and maintaining order at home. Her long work career included positions at the Jewish Day School and The Temple. Sidney worked far past normal retirement age, and then succumbed to chronic volunteerism and teaching (YouthBuild Louisville, Jefferson County Public School literacy program and the Jewish Family Career Services), card playing, being a friend (Temple Sisterhood, JCC Seniors Club), and being a grandmother and great-grandmother.

Sidney was preceded in death by her loving husband, William S. (Bill) Katz, her sister Joan (Keith) Fox and brother Michael (Kay) Wright. Sidney is survived by her sons Glen (Susan), Alan (Joan), and Philip (Dawn) Katz, her wonderful grandchildren Rebecca (Michael Poindexter) Katz, Sarah (YY) Yiljep, Sydney (Michael) McCool, Faye, Austin (Emily), and Aaron (Annalise Winters) Katz, and her precious great-grandchildren Rory McCool and Wale Yiljep.

Sidney's was a life of adventure, curiosity, and independence, made whole with the love of her family and so many dear friends.

A service in celebration of her long and well-lived life was held on Thursday, March 7, 2024.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the KY Humane Society..



### Richard Whitney Lewis

Richard Whitney Lewis passed away in Louisville, Kentucky, on March 13, 2024, with family by his side.

Born as Richard Mark Lewis on April 24, 1947, in Louisville, Ky. to Genevieve (Ginger) Kline Lewis and Martin Melvin Lewis, he changed his

name in 1973 to Richard Whitney Lewis and from then on was known as Whitney. Depending on when you knew him, he might have been Richard, Richie, Rick or Whitney.

Whitney grew up alongside his older sister Lynn and his younger brother Ken. His mother said he was fun to raise, but one never knew what he would get into next. Whitney's childhood was filled with hi-jinks, including the time he and a friend blew up a construction bulldozer at age 5. He was a constant challenge for his summer camp counselors, Cub Scout leaders and schoolteachers.

Whitney graduated from Atherton High School in 1965. While there, he originated The Old Rebel, the first school mascot.

Highly intelligent with a great sense of humor, Whitney was proud to be unconventional. Nieces and nephews all wanted to have his breakfast of brownies and coke.

He spent several summers as a water ski instructor at a girls' camp in Maine and fell in love with the state. Whitney's big adventure was an around-the-world trip to Europe, Africa and Asia that included an attempt to mine rubies in Africa, a story that entertained many.

He received an MS in Accounting from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania in 1972. He was a member of ZBT fraternity. After a year in law school at the University of Michigan, he transferred to the University of Phoenix to escape Michigan winters before deciding that law was not for him.

A natural with numbers, Whitney loved his spell as a young man teaching accounting at the University of North Carolina Greensboro. When he returned to Louisville, he started an antique store, which morphed into the ceiling fan store Bentley Brothers. He later became an importer/wholesaler of Anaglypta wallpaper from England. After retirement, Whitney enjoyed running a pool league at The Back Door in Mid City Mall.

In a successful bit of matchmaking, Whitney met his wife, Lynda Pedersen courtesy of an introduction from his sister Lynn. They married in 1982 and enjoyed nearly 41 years of marriage. Much of that time they worked in business together and relished time off at their river house at Old Dam 43 and later at Doe Valley Lake. He was loyal, kind and generous in marriage and with friends.

Whitney loved playing the ponies,

particularly with his nephew Robby, with whom he compiled an excellent Derby record. He always had at least one cat, played a mean game of Scrabble, loved pinball, was a strong sailor, and enjoyed watching basketball, golf and stand-up comedy.

He showed great grit and perseverance as he dealt with multiple health issues over his last 25 years. He joked about his collection of hospital socks and reinvented his life to accommodate each new limitation.

Whitney is survived by his wife, Lynda Lewis, his sister, Lynn Rhodes, his brother, Ken Lewis, and his cat, George. A private celebration of Whitney will be held later. Memorial donations may be made to the Kentucky Humane Association, Dare to Care Food Bank or the Louisville Free Public Library.

### Lucy Schneider

Lucy Schneider died peacefully at home in the Greenwich Village apartment where she had lived since 1958. She was 103. Called "Big Lucy" by her family and friends to differentiate her from her daughter, Little Lucy, she was known and loved for her warmth, intelligence, playful sense of mischief, storytelling, and steady stream of quotable one-liners. She is mourned by her daughter Lucy McDiarmid (Frank Miata), her granddaughters Emily and Katie Savin, many loving friends, and a large extended family.

A charming blend of convention and eccentricity, Lucy moved through life with impeccable manners, conservatively attired, her hair neatly curled, uttering outrageous and hilarious commentary to anyone lucky enough to be within earshot. Out of respect for her sense of propriety, we refrain from printing our favorite Big Lucy stories here. Readers will have to imagine for themselves the dubiously patriotic limerick she wrote, her joyful commentary on rightwing political scandals, and the notorious dress code of the party she hosted in college.

Lucy was born in Louisville, Kentucky, to a politically engaged family. She was the third child of Joseph Selligman, a prominent attorney and chair of the Kentucky Republican Party (the liberal party of the time) and Esther Rosenberg Selligman, a kindergarten teacher who voted socialist. Her older brother, Joseph, Jr., was the first American volunteer in the Spanish Civil War. He

Continued on page 21

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\*As of March 19, 2024

# LIFECYCLES

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was a committed anti-fascist and left his studies at Swarthmore College to join the International Brigade. He was killed at the Battle of Madrid at age 20. Lucy's sister, Augusta, was a psychiatric social worker and taught at the Columbia University and Hunter College Schools of Social Work.

Lucy moved to New York City in 1949 and lived there for the rest of her life, but she always carried Louisville with her. Her southern accent never faded, and at age 103, she could still recite the poetry she memorized as a child at the Longfellow School and giggle over her memories of home economics class at Highland Junior High (readers are invited to Google "candle salad"). She told funny stories about her friends, relatives, and every Jewish family in Louisville. Every year she reminded her grandchildren to watch the Kentucky Derby. Some of her recollections of her early life are archived at the Jewish Kentucky Oral History Project at the University of Kentucky Libraries.

Lucy attended Swarthmore College, where she received a B.A. in political science. She was married briefly; her daughter, (Little) Lucy, was born in Louisville and raised in New York. Big Lucy had a long career as an editor of children's books, starting under the celebrated Margaret McElderry at Harcourt Brace, where she met such authors as Eleanor Estes, Elizabeth Enright, and Lucy Boston.

Her New York apartment was home to thousands of books, family photographs

dating back to the 1800s, and a show-stopping collection of American political memorabilia. Right next to a "Votes for Women" ribbon her mother carried in a suffragist parade are campaign buttons promoting a range of issues and policies, and even a Spiro Agnew wall clock (as she explained to visitors taking in the eclectic display, "These aren't all people I like"). A late addition to her collection was the "Centenarian for Choice" sign she carried at a demonstration in Washington Square Park after Roe v. Wade was overturned in 2022.

When the COVID-19 pandemic arrived in New York, Lucy's granddaughter Emily moved in with her and stayed, caring for Lucy for the rest of her life. In her final years, Lucy continued to immerse herself in reading fiction, history, and the New York Times (which she copy-edited as she read).

Lucy will be buried with her parents at the Temple Cemetery in Louisville under the care of Herman Meyer & Son, Inc., the funeral home originally founded by her grandfather, Gustav Rosenberg. A memorial service in New York City is being planned for the spring.

Lucy was a devoted supporter of Berea College in Berea, KY, where she served on the President's Advisory Council. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Berea's Joseph Selligman, Jr. Scholarship Fund.



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# GLOBE

## The Museum of Jewish Heritage seeks to educate more college-age visitors about the Holocaust, starting with a private tour for CUNY students

By Luke Tress  
JTA/New York Jewish Week

Last week, a group of students from the City University of New York, accompanied by CUNY Chancellor Félix Matos Rodríguez, listened in attentive silence to the story of Denmark's Jews during the Holocaust and the citizen efforts to evacuate them to Sweden to escape the Nazis.

The private tour of the Museum of Jewish Heritage, part of a partnership with CUNY that started last year, is an early step in the museum's push to expand its reach to a college-age audience as reports have piled up of antisemitism on campuses around the country. The effort comes several years after officials in New York City made the museum a central part of efforts to inoculate high school students against antisemitism.

"You're giving them history, you're giving them the right information, you give them context," Rodríguez told the New York Jewish Week. "Those are all great, important skills that they need to combat antisemitism, to combat any form of hate, so for us this kind of program is really, really important,

always, but I think particularly during these days."

The museum plans to increase the number of campus visitors, train more college-age educators and expand its outreach to campuses, both physically and virtually. The goal is to educate young people about historical and contemporary antisemitism and combat misinformation.

The museum is in talks with three or four universities in the New York area that are interested in cooperating on Holocaust and antisemitism education, said the museum's president and CEO, Jack Kliger, who declined to name the specific colleges because the agreements have not been finalized. The museum will hear feedback and conduct research over the summer, and plans to start rolling out the new programs on campuses in the fall.

"There's just a tremendous amount of misinformation, disinformation and bad information out there, so we see our mission as providing good information to fight bad information," Kliger said.

The initiative aims to combat antisemitism by addressing historical misconceptions, including by dispelling generalizations about Jews and other

groups, and by opening up dialogue "in a positive, mutual and respectful atmosphere," Kliger said.

The CUNY program serves as a model for the expansion. Close to 100 students who volunteered for the visit toured the museum throughout the day on March 15. Rodríguez joined a group of around a dozen students for an exhibit called "Courage to Act: Rescue in Denmark," focused on the Gerda III, a small fishing vessel that rescued around 300 Jews from the Nazis.

CUNY, the nation's largest public urban university system with 226,000 students, has grappled with allegations of campus antisemitism for years that have only mounted following the outbreak of the Israel-Hamas war. Visits to the museum in Lower Manhattan are part of CUNY's efforts to combat discrimination against Jews with education. Rodríguez first visited the museum with a group of students last spring.

The museum previously focused its youth education efforts mainly on high school students, with 50,000 to 60,000 high schoolers visiting in the past year. Part of that effort is the museum's Holocaust Educator School Partnership, a program that trains college interns

to teach about the Holocaust in New York high schools. The program started three semesters ago with three trainees and now has 10, most of whom are not Jewish.

By the summer, the museum plans to have trained 25 interns. Kliger estimated that each educator reaches 750 to 1,000 high school students per semester. After the CUNY tour, the students had a luncheon with staffers from the museum to learn about the opportunities.

In addition to the educators, the museum aims to have 25,000 college students visit by the end of 2025, and reach 100,000 students in total on 100 campuses nationally through visits, on-campus activities and virtual programs.

The plans predated Oct. 7, but the Hamas attack and ensuing antisemitism had "accelerated" the need to reach people aged 18-24, Kliger said. The museum believes it is important to get young adults information about the Holocaust because they are at the stage in life when they are "forming themselves and they're starting out in the world." Both traditional and social media were spreading inaccurate information that the museum hopes to counter, he said.

*Continued on page 23*

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# GLOBE

Continued from page 22

The museum has not yet determined how it will approach Israel in its curricula, but “there’s no question we’ll talk about the subject of Zionism and anti-Zionism, where that bridges over into antisemitism,” Klinger said.

To that end, earlier this month, the museum released a resource guide for educators that answers common questions they might receive about antisemitism, part of an effort to focus more on contemporary antisemitism as the museum’s mission evolves.

“When we opened the museum in 1997 we thought antisemitism was on the wane and we were talking about lessons of history from the Holocaust, and clearly antisemitism is not on the wane,” Klinger said. Since Oct. 7, educators are getting more questions about “fluidity between what is considered antisemitism and anti-Zionism or what Zionism is,” Klinger said.

During the CUNY tour, Klinger and the chairman of the museum, Bruce Ratner, greeted an enthusiastic Rodríguez and a group of CUNY students as they arrived at the museum. Rodríguez wore a blue square on his lapel, part of a partnership between CUNY and Robert Kraft’s Foundation to Combat Antisemitism. The students all told Klinger it was their first time visiting the museum.

The Courage to Act exhibit focused on Danish civilians rescuing 95% of the country’s Jews during the Holocaust. In addition to expanding to young adults, the museum is looking to have younger students visit, and the exhibit was the

museum’s first for visitors as young as 9. The students and Rodríguez were quiet, attentive, and asked a few questions.

“There’s a ton of information, a lot of history that I didn’t even think is out there regarding the Holocaust. I only know what I know from school, the textbooks,” said Aishat Balogun, a senior studying economics at Hunter College. Balogun is in CUNY’s Cultural Corps program that connects students with job opportunities in the city’s arts and culture sectors and learned about the trip through an email.

Balogun, who is not Jewish, said the lessons were important in the current climate because “there has been a lot of hate.”

“It just seems like there’s so much going on, it’s really important to educate yourself and know how to have your own opinions and not just follow society,” she said.

Daniela Urbano, a third-year accounting major at Hunter, said there had been a gap in her education about the Holocaust. She learned about it in elementary school but didn’t recall any lessons in middle or high school. She and her sister had been interested in the subject and watched films on their own, which kept up her curiosity and motivated her to visit the museum. It was her first time visiting any Holocaust museum.

Urbano, who is also not Jewish, said she had been inspired by the Danish resistance.

“So many people stood silent and did not speak or advocate. You really saw

how that helped oppress the Jewish people and a lot of other people, minority groups that were targeted by the Nazis,” she said.

“A lot of times, when it’s events like this, you really lose that personal connection when you learn it in a textbook. It feels different from seeing actual survivors talk about it and seeing children that were alive,” she said. “Many of them didn’t come out alive and I think it brings you a sense of how much of a travesty it really was.”

Klinger said he was inspired to work in education by his mother, a survivor from Budapest who had wanted to be a teacher but was blocked from the field

due to discrimination. He acknowledged that Holocaust education was not going to eradicate antisemitism but believed the effort has an impact.

“Is there an ideal world where there’s going to be an elimination of antisemitism? I don’t think there will be, but the worst thing in the world would be to stop doing what we’re doing,” he said. “Is this sailing into the wind? Yeah. Should we pull down our sails? No.”



## 2024 JCC Gators Summer Swim Team

The JCC Gators swim team is for children ages 5-18.

Practices will begin the week of May 20 and the season will run until around July 15. There will be an abbreviated practice schedule the first week, May 20-May 24.

Check our website for more information and updates.

### Have questions or new to the team?

Contact Johnny Kimberlin with questions, 502-238-2742 or [jkimberlin@jewishlouisville.org](mailto:jkimberlin@jewishlouisville.org). If new to the team, please contact Johnny prior to registration.

### Join our Facebook group!

Search “JCC Gators” and request to join.

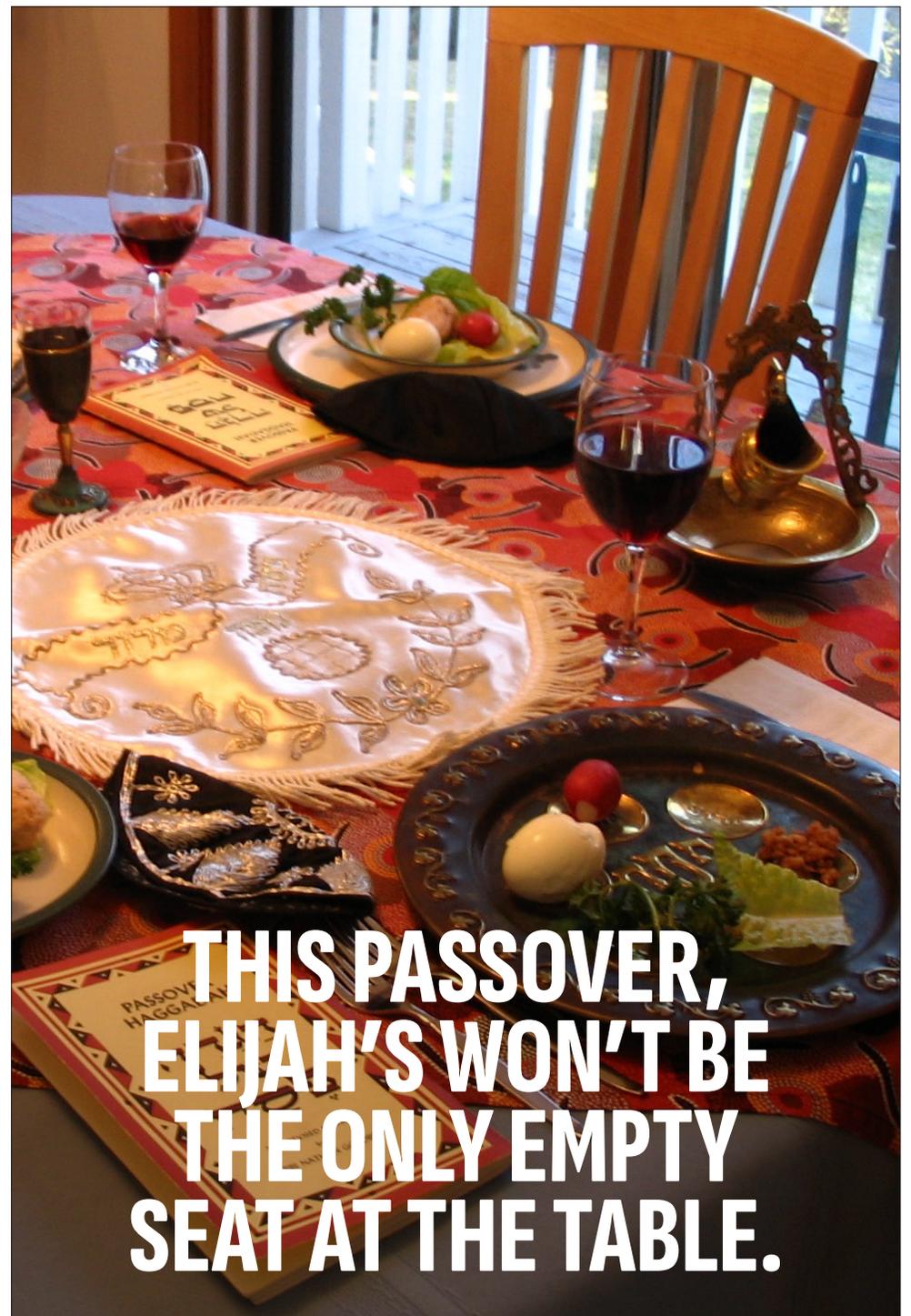
### Cost

**JCC Annual Member**  
First Child: \$225  
Second Child: \$175  
Additional Children: \$150

**JCC Summer Member**  
First Child: \$275  
Second Child: \$225  
Additional Children: \$200



To register, scan the QR code or visit [jclouisville.org/gators](http://jclouisville.org/gators)



**THIS PASSOVER, ELIJAH’S WON’T BE THE ONLY EMPTY SEAT AT THE TABLE.**

As we celebrate the seder, we remember those who should still be with us. Some of those seats belong to Magen David Adom medics, who gave their lives trying to save others. Your donation provides the equipment MDA needs so that next year only Elijah’s seat may be empty.

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