

JEWISH LOUISVILLE COMMUNITY

INSIDE:

Louisville's Vaad HaKashruth
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FRIDAY Vol. 50, No. 10 | November 1, 2024 | 30 Tishrei 5785

Louisville's October 7 Remembrance comes with a promise: 'We will dance again'

By Andrew Adler
Community Editor

Under brilliant blue skies and early autumn warmth, it was time to recall a day of bleak, sunless despair: October 7, 2023.

"We gather today to mark one year since the attack that has changed the course of Jewish history," Beth Salamon, chair of the Jewish Federation of Louisville's Jewish Community Relations Council, acknowledged on Sunday, Oct. 6 to an audience seated near the newly opened Blieden Family Playground next to the Trager Family JCC

"One year since 1,185 Israelis were murdered," she continued. "One year since 251 hostages were dragged away from their homes and their families and taken into Gaza" by Hamas terrorists. "One year since our sense of safety was shattered – our world broken."

What could anyone say on such an occasion? What would make any kind of sense? Answering, Salamon offered a measure of spiritual, timeless context grounded in the resonance of shared faith.

"Our gathering today takes place during the Yamim Noraim – the Ten Days of Awe between the Jewish New Year of Rosh Hashanah and our holiest day, Yom Kippur. These are the days when we are instructed to take account of the past year of our world, our communities

and our own souls. The Hebrew word for 'awe,' 'nora,' means 'terrible'— and this year's accounting is so much terrible than any our community has faced in many years."

The Oct. 6 event, billed as a "A Gathering for Remembrance and Prayers for Peace," recalled an event at the same place just days after the Oct. 7 attacks last year. Like that ceremony, this one was presented jointly by the Federation in partnership with various area synagogues, service organizations and the City of Louisville.

"We join today together, b'yakhd, in unity at the beginning of our Jewish New Year – Jews and non-Jews alike -- to mourn the loss of life suffered from the horrific acts of terrorism on October 7," Louisville Mayor Craig Greenberg told his listeners. And I know all of us also mourn the loss of those civilians who have died all across the Middle East since then, including those who have died in Gaza and Lebanon."

Moreover, "we...strongly condemn the rising antisemitism we are seeing right here in Louisville, across America and around the world," Greenberg said. "We cannot quietly ignore the obvious dog whistles or veiled metaphors that we are seeing more and more online. We cannot accept the growing antisemitism that our kids are experiencing on college campuses – and we cannot let Israel's war against terrorism be used as



Cantor Sharon Hordes at Oct. 7 Remembrance (Photo by Robyn Kaufman)

a cover for accepted antisemitism here at home."

The 4 p.m. commemoration included representatives from several area faith communities. Rabbi David Ariel-Joel of The Temple read from Rabbi Rivkah Lubitch's 2024 poem, "Sleeps and Slumbers, the Guardians of Israel:

I raised my eyes to the mountains, and my help did not come. I have no help from God, maker of heaven and earth. God, let my foot slip. God, let my guardians slumber here. God slept and slumbered.

The guardian of Israel, God did not guard me...How will God guard my going and coming from now and forever

There were testimonies from shishinim Eden and Kyla, two young Israeli women spending the year between high school and IDF service in Louisville, doing service for our local community.

"October 7 was not just any day for me," Eden recalled. "It wasn't just a day of headlines or political statements. It was a day of unimaginable fear, loss and

See **REMEMBRANCE** on page 4

The Nova Festival massacre brings an astonishing story of survival

By Andrew Adler
Community Editor

Huddled in a thicket of cactus plants amid the sounds of screams and gunfire, Din Tesler was convinced he was about to die.

It was the morning of October 7, 2023, when waves of Hamas terrorists stormed across the Gaza border and invaded the Nova Music Festival being held in nearby Re'im. In the ensuing horrific tumult, 364 people were murdered, 40 were abducted into Gaza as hostages – chaos and calamity, shock, disbelief and agony.

At age 21, recently discharged after his

mandatory IDF service, Tesler was working as Nova Festival security. His morning had begun unremarkably enough: zipping around the festival grounds in an ATV, making sure everything and everyone was where they were supposed to be. Many of his friends were attending, and he hoped after his shift to join them.

Suddenly there were rockets, and bullets, and once the threat was identified, a mass of young people running toward the exits. But terrorists had surrounded the festival grounds, and AK-47s ablaze, the slaughter commenced.

"We got a call from the police on the

See **NOVA** on page 5

Out of profound loss, Jerry Steinberg has built a legacy of hope

By Andrew Adler
Community Editor

This is a story about life and loss, challenge and resilience. About channeling anguish into hope, exchanging the despair of illness and death into a declaration of enduring joy.

It is a story about Jerry and Sarah "Meghan" Steinberg, father and daughter, a parent with a child grappling with a cancer that would take her life at age 33. As the website megansmountain.com tells it:

On January 29, 2005, Meghan, at the age of twenty-two, was diagnosed with

leukemia (AML). At the time she was a student at the University of Louisville School of Justice Administration. Because of her illness, Meghan had to withdraw from school, give up her part time job, and begin the fight of her life - to climb a mountain against a disease that was known to kill.

In the early stages of her fight, Meghan realized that she nor her family truly understood what a cancer patient had to endure to beat this terrible disease. No one realized the emotional and financial toll cancer can take on a family. If they didn't understand, then others must also

See **STEINBERG** on page 13



THE DASHBOARD

Word of the Month

A Call to Unity



D'var Torah

Rabbi
Chaim Litvin

I recently heard a story about good friends and unity.

Three friends were strolling along the beach, kicking a bottle back and forth as they walked. All of a sudden, the cap popped off and a genie appeared and offered each of the friends one wish.

The first friend said: "I wish I were in Sydney, Australia enjoying the history and the unique culture of that country." Poof, in an instant she was transported to Australia.

The second friend said, "I would like to be in South Africa on a safari surrounded by beautiful animals and beautiful countryside." Poof, an instant later she too was transported to South Africa.

The genie asked the third friend for their wish. The person thought for a while and then said, "I miss my friends and wish I could be with them." Poof, both friends were transported right back to where they started from.

We have just celebrated the Jewish month of Tishrei. This is the month that begins with Rosh Hashanah, then just a few days later Yom Kippur and finally the holiday of Sukkot. Each of these holy days share a message of unity and togetherness.

Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, is when the entire nation comes together to coronate G-d as our King. It is the head of the year that starts us off on the path of Jewish unity.

Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, is the day when most people come to pray to G-d. Many pray to be forgiven for their sins and for a good year for themselves and their families. The Sages ask: "Why should G-d forgive a sinner? Would it not be more just to punish the wicked and reward the righteous?"

The Sages answer: "When judged individually, we are indeed punished or rewarded based on our deeds. Yet when we stand together with all other Jews, each one covers the lack of another. Together we are a beautiful, strong people, and when G-d sees us standing together with our fellow in peace and harmony, He blesses us all with His most bountiful blessings.

Sukkot shares an even clearer message of unity and inclusiveness. On Sukkot we are commanded to take four species of vegetation and bind them together. Together they indicate that we are not complete

until we are joined by every other individual. Some may have a good taste and a beautiful smell like the Esrog (citron) and some might be as simple as the willow, but together we complement one another and bring about God's greatest blessings. As we say in the last paragraph of the daily Amidah prayer: "Bless us O Father as we are all joined as one".

Finally, Simchat Torah is the time when we keep the Torah closed and dance with it in a circle that has no beginning or end. It isn't about who has studied the Torah more or who has fulfilled more of the commandments. It is simply all of us celebrating together in unity with joy.

Israel is in need of blessings. America is in need of blessings. Our community is in need of blessings. And many of our friends and even family members are in need of G-d's blessings. Sure, it would be great if we were all righteous and we could sit back and wait for G-d to reward us with all of our desires. But until that day comes, we can still elicit G-d's blessings by simply being inclusive and unified.

Today Israel is being attacked from all sides. This is the time for all Israelis to pull together and recognize that we have much more in common that unites us than the minutiae that divide us.

So, too, Americans need to look past who someone votes for and discuss the issues that are facing our country and how we want our country to look for the next generation.

How would our community look if we were all united? Would people invite others for a meal or for a Shabbat dinner? Might people reach out to the elderly or to the infirm on a more regular basis? Or might it be a smile to lift someone's spirits or to ask how they are feeling and actually wait to hear the response?

I do not know who will be elected president on Nov. 5, but I do feel confident that less rhetoric and more unity will bring more blessings and more success to our country. I do not know what changes the next few years will bring to our Jewish community, but I do feel confident that more less divisiveness and more collaboration and unity will bring more blessing and growth.

God bless Israel, God bless America and God bless our lovely Louisville Jewish community. Amen!

Rabbi Chaim Litvin – better known as the Bourbon Rabbi – is affiliated with Chabad of Kentucky

Snapshots



Trager Family JCC members now enjoy even more fun for the whole family. Every Sunday, members are invited to Sunday Funday programming, where they can drop in for a rotating selection of fun activities, including art, chess, Bricks4Kids (Legos), and Ga-Ga.

Candles

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

- November 1 @ 6:24 p.m.
- November 8 @ 5:17 p.m.
- November 15 @ 5:12 p.m.
- November 22 @ 5:08 p.m.
- November 29 @ 5:05 p.m.

Contacts

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

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

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

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

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

Deadlines

Got a news item for *Community*? Deadlines matter, especially for newspapers. Send in your news by **Friday, November 15** (though sooner is better).

The paper will be published on **Friday, November 29**.

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

Read Community Everywhere...

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



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

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

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

If you read on the run, *Community's* social media is just the thing. Follow us on Facebook at [facebook.com/JewishLouisville/](https://www.facebook.com/JewishLouisville/) or on Twitter, 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

TOGETHER WE GROW

Just as my ancestors planted for me,
so I will plant for my children.

-Babylonian Talmud Taanit 23a



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Shlichim to bring Israel and Jewish
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NEWS

REMEMBRANCE

Continued from page 1

heartbreak for countless families, a day when life was torn apart in an instant, living wounds that would take a lifetime to heal.”

She described images that were, in a word, horrific.

“I saw videos from the Nova festival, people running with rockets above them, people fighting with terrorists, people in shelters, fires and dead bodies everywhere. School was canceled for three weeks, and life came to a halt. For many months I’ve struggled to return to some sense of normalcy. I cannot bear the reality that people were taken away from their homes and have not returned since.”

“The harsh reality is that people who went to a party in a place where they were supposed to dance and celebrate have experienced an unimaginable trauma...I’m from Akko, the Partnership city (in northern Israel) where citizens face constant sirens. I find myself in a situation where no day passes without receiving at least three or four alerts on my phone about rockets being launched.”

“As much as I would like to express hope,” Eden said, “it is incredibly difficult when everything we have known over the past year has been the reality of foreign disaster. I feel like even if the war ends and all the hostages return, the next mission will be to rebuild the country from the loss and emotional turmoil we’ve all had to endure.”

Cantors David Lipp of Adath Jeshurun, Sharon Hordes of Keneseth Israel and AJ High Holiday Rabbi Susan Leider offered music. Rabbis Beth Jacobowitz Chottiner of Temple Shalom, Ben Freed of KI and Matt Derrenbacher of The Temple read selected texts, with Chabad of Kentucky Rabbi Avrohom Litvin leading a collective Kaddish.

The names of the 101 hostages remaining in Gaza were read aloud, with an empty chair symbolizing their continuing captivity, alive or deceased.

October 7 was a day in which the foundations of Israel’s security collapsed. “Mom said that when I grow up there will be no army,” Rabbi Chottiner read, quoting from Itay Lev’s “Mom is Always Right.”

Mom was right. I haven’t yet grown up, and already there was no army. It wasn’t there when I heard the screaming outside. It wasn’t there when I saw Dad so scared and stressed. It wasn’t there when the door was kicked in. It wasn’t there when I hid under the bed. It wasn’t there when we pushed back on the door of the safe room. It wasn’t there when time just stood still.

There were words and there was silence in memory of those who perished or were taken captive on that singular, terrible October day.

“And now out of that silence,” JCL President and CEO Sara Klein Wagner told her listeners, “I want to bring your thoughts back to the new Nova Tree Grove that will be planted here on our campus as a permanent reminder that as a people, we will always plant and nurture the future, and we will not forget the past. Out of this tragedy we will commit to the future of the Jewish people.”

Indeed, just as the Nova Festival survivors refused to give in to soul-crushing despair – declaring that “we will dance again” -- so, too, did those who’d gathered for this Sunday afternoon remembrance.

For some who were there, it was a profoundly emotional experience.

“You want me to start crying?” Deborah Richter, whose nephew served in the IDF, responded when asked why it was important for her to attend. “Being born and raised Jewish, it’s so important to me to support our community.”



The community came together on October 6 at the Trager Family JCC to mark the one-year anniversary of the horrific attacks of October 7, 2023. The commemoration included remarks from community leaders, including Mayor Craig Greenberg and prayers and poems led by clergy from across the community. Louisville’s ShinShinim shared their personal experiences of living in Israel during and following the attacks, and other Israeli Louisvillians joined them on stage to read the names of the hostages who are still captive in Gaza.

NEWS

NOVA

Continued from page 1

radio and they told us, “Tell the people to leave right now,” Tesler recalled during a presentation at The Temple this past Oct. 20.

Authorities were ordering Tesler and other security personnel to open the emergency exits at the rear of the grounds. What ensued was a mass of confused, close-to-panicking festival attendees – some 4,000 of them – trying to squeeze through a relatively small set of gates.

The festival was taking place in an open field situated between two kibbutzim. Police, Tesler said, were telling people to “go left” – which ended being where many of the Hamas gunmen were situated. Meanwhile, both kibbutzim had been overrun with terrorists pursuing a spree of murder, rape, arson and kidnapping.

Tesler and several others were driving straight ahead on their ATV, still on the festival grounds. “After a few minutes we saw a lady who was bleeding from the head. I asked her what had happened – but she was just crying, catching my arm and telling me, ‘Please save me.’”

Seemingly out of nowhere an ambulance had appeared, and as the woman was being placed inside, “she just looked at me and told me that terrorists had attacked,” Tesler said, adding that “less than a mile

away, terrorists were waiting on the roads.”

Driving a bit further on, Tesler and his companions came upon 30 or 40 wounded people, many of whom were severely hurt. Drawing on their IDF training, Tesler’s contingent fashioned tourniquets out of clothing and tree branches to stem the most serious bleeding.

They drove on, encountering more gunshot victims along what was later dubbed the “Death Road.” Within minutes Hamas executioners were in full view.

“We saw terrorists jumping from cars and shooting at us,” Tesler said. One of his friends grabbed a weapon from a dead police officer, “and fought as much as he could.” Meanwhile, terrorists were firing RPGs – rocket-propelled grenades – and taking hostages.

With the situation deteriorating rapidly, Tesler found himself in a world of uncertainty. “I didn’t know what to do with myself, honestly,” he said. “After thinking, I tell myself I cannot wait anymore – I need to do something; I need to run away. So, I take with me a small group of 10 people, and we start running into the woods. I was the only security guard, so the kind of feeling of mine was that I need them to leave with me.”

But was anywhere safe? His group could see terrorists in the near distance on the open field. Tesler de-



Din Tesler, a survivor of the Oct. 7, 2023 Nova Festival massacre, spoke at The Temple on Oct. 20, 2024. (Zoom screenshot)

ecided it was safer to head in the opposite direction, taking refuge in the adjacent forest.

“We were running from bush to bush,” he said. “We’d see a big bush, jump into it, wait a few minutes, and then jump into the next bush, and the next.”

For an hour or more they hid – until several terrorists spotted them and began shooting – “and I saw how most of my group died in one second.”

“I realized that most of them – they’re dead right now. So I need to keep running by myself, with shooting all around me. After a few minutes of running, I saw a cactus bush, a really big one, and I jumped into it and hid – from around 10:30 in the morning until 7 p.m. – almost nine hours. And I can tell you, every second felt like 20 years.”

Tesler could make out voices, and they were not friendly ones. “What I heard was the screaming of ‘Allahu Akbar’ (‘God is Great’), and Arabic music from the terrorists’ cars. And the screaming of Israeli civilians, people just begging, ‘Don’t kill me.’”

He felt helpless, and as the sound of approaching footsteps grew ever closer, hopeless. Clutching his smartphone, he tried to send a farewell message to his mother and father.

“I realize that I’m going to die,” he told his Temple listeners, “and I wondered if my parents will see my last video.” At this point during his Temple talk, Tesler played a few seconds of that video – no words, just his eyes crunched shut, crying.

A flurry of goodbye texts followed from that cactus hiding place. To friends: “I love you guys. Thank you for everything you did for me. I’m going to die – the terrorists are really close to me.” Another farewell text went to his older brother, who lived in Canada. And at least one voice message, to his mother.

“I told her, ‘Mom, I love you. Thank you for everything. You gave me life, but I’m going to die, Mama.’”

His entire message didn’t go through – the mobile connection was

spotty, and midway his phone battery gave out. All Tesler could do was sit, and steel himself for the inevitable. “I just closed my eyes, waiting for the moment when they’re going to kill me.”

“You know how people say you see your life in front of you? In my case, I feel childhood memories (with) my parents – it was maybe two or three seconds of complete quiet. I felt like I’d died and have disappeared from the world. But after two or three seconds I open my eyes, and the first thing I tell myself is: ‘Din, you’re still alive.’”

Seconds later he smelled smoke, and for a moment “I started thinking to myself, ‘Maybe the terrorists found me, and now they want to burn me alive. What am I going to do? I’m going to fight them with my bare hands.’”

But there were no terrorists – somehow, they’d failed to discover Tesler’s hiding place. “I started to run again,” and though he at the time he was an unabashedly secular Jew, at that instant Tesler found himself crying out, ‘Adonai! Adonai!’

“I’d never prayed like that,” he said. “I was begging for help from God at that moment – ‘God, please be with me right now. I need you like I’ve never needed you.’”

Whether through divine providence, sheer luck or both, not long afterward Tesler encountered a squad of IDF soldiers. “I screamed like I’d never screamed: ‘Help me! Help me! I’m a security guard from Nova!’ They gave me water, and the first thing after I charged my phone was to call my mother.

Soon they returned to his cactus grove to look for possible survivors, but there were none – only flaming cactus bushes right next to his own. Then it was on to a gas station secured by a contingent of IDF Special Forces soldiers.

“That was the first moment,” Tesler recalls, “when I could tell myself: ‘Din, you survived October 7.’”



Women Leading a Dialogue

Rescheduled

November 22-23, 2024

Come hear from Israeli women, Jewish and Arab, who have created friendships and better understanding with their neighbors of other faiths.

For more information please visit jewishlouisville.org/leadingdialogue

Dates & Times:

Temple Shalom | Friday Nov. 22, during Shabbat services at 7 p.m., with Maor Levy-Ratz and Safinaz Beromi

The Temple | Friday Nov. 22, during an Inclusion Shabbat Service at 7 p.m., with Karin Nathans Gefin and Shahrazad Bargout Swidan

Keneseth Israel | Saturday, Nov. 23 after Shabbat services, with all four guests



Galilee Medical Center Doctors' Mission

January 12-16, 2025

Bring your medical skills, your passion, and your love of eretz Israel.

Physicians are invited to collaborate with their Galilee Medical Center counterparts to receive medical credentials and obtain a temporary Israeli medical license, while spending a week working closely with your Israeli colleagues.

27th Anniversary/Solidarity Mission

February 25-28, 2025

Join us in the Western Galilee for meaningful experiences: volunteer with local Israelis, learn about new initiatives in the Western Galilee, and meet heroes of resilience. Highly subsidized. Add-on travel opportunities available.

For more information, contact Amy Fouts, afouts@jewishlouisville.org.

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COMMUNITY

Community is published monthly by the Jewish Community of Louisville, Inc., 3600 Dutchmans Lane, Louisville, KY 40205-3216.

USPS #020-068 at Louisville, KY.

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

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

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COMMUNITY DEADLINES

Deadlines for the next two issues of **Community** for copy and ads are November 15 for publication on November 29 and December 13 for publication on December 27.

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

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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.

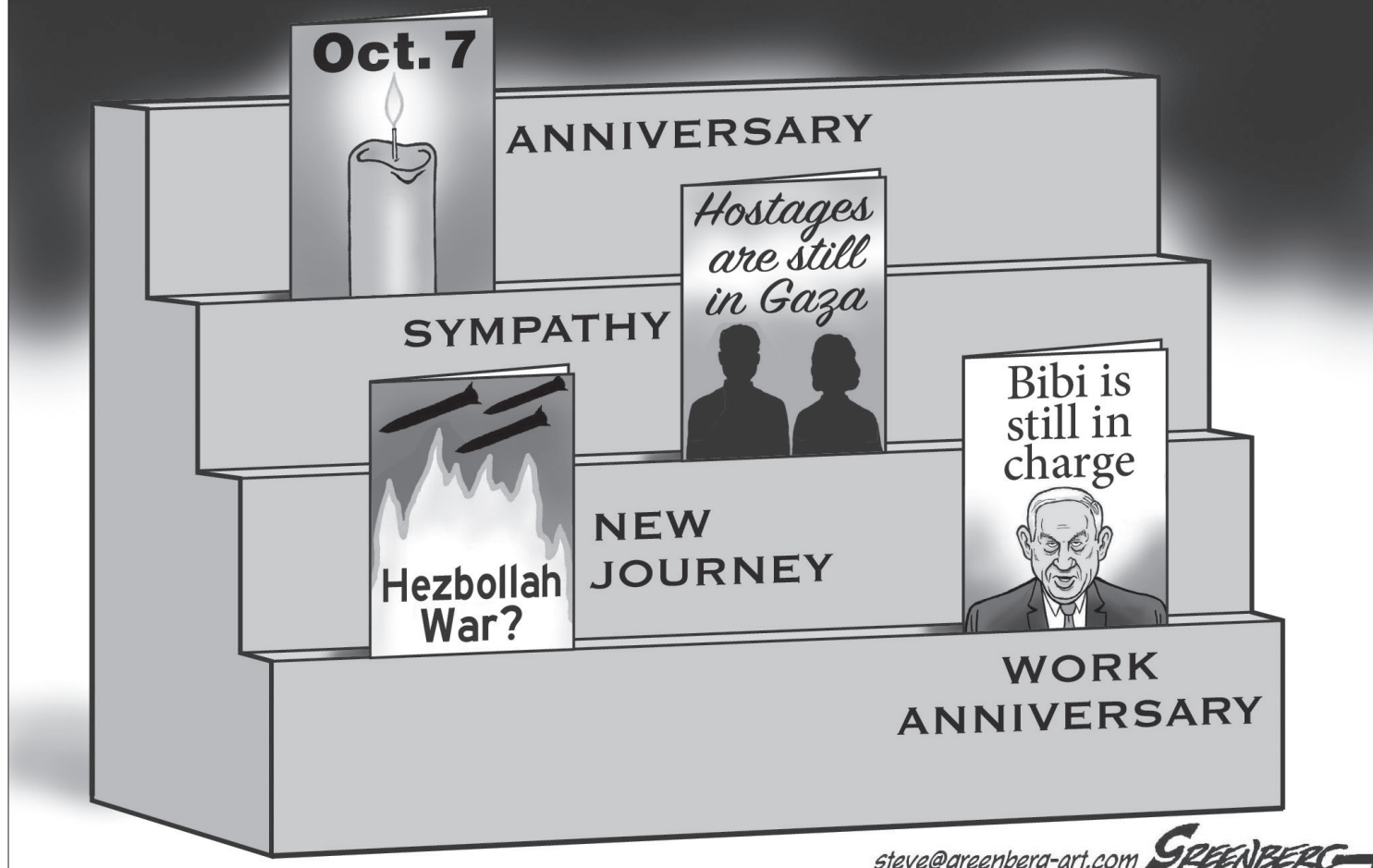
Community reserves the right to refuse to publish any letter, to edit for brevity while preserving the meaning, and to limit the number of letters published in any edition.

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

Email your comments to: **Community**, Letters to the editor, community@jewishlouisville.org.

FORUM

“Paper Anniversary” cards



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On the verge of Election Day, ‘Who’s best for the Jews’?



Mindful Ramblings

Andrew Adler

So at long last here we are, just days out from the peculiar organism called the 2024 Presidential Election, and I’m recalling a question my late father typically would ask at such a juncture: “Who’s best for the Jews?”

Less than a week before Nov. 5, it’s a query not easily resolved. Should we care that Kamala Harris is married to Jewish Doug Emhoff, or that Trump’s daughter Ivanka became a Jew by choice to marry Jared Kushner – raised Orthodox, yet – and Trump now has Jewish grandchildren? Does it matter that Trump moved the U.S. embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, and set his son-in-law on a course that yielded the 2020 Abraham Accords, normalizing relations between Israel and the United Arab Emirates, and between Israel and Bahrain?

Both sides have dipped deeply into their satchels of partisan rhetoric. Emhoff, who’s been the point person on many Jewish issues during the Biden administration, delivered an impassioned speech this past Monday (Oct. 28) in Pittsburgh – marking the sixth anniversary of the shootings at the city’s Tree of Life synagogue. Eleven people died, making it – reminded Emhoff -- “the deadliest antisemitic attack in American history.”

The Second Gentlemen went to acknowledge what many American Jews are feeling:

It is an uncomfortable and unsettling time to be Jewish. These are hard days. There is pride in our people, but also a deep sense of insecurity. Like you, I know people who think twice about wearing a kippah or a Star of David.

Parents who are worried sick about their kids’ safety on college campuses. Young people who aren’t just afraid that they’re going to grow up with fewer rights than their grandparents, but who are being targeted for being Jewish in ways we thought only happened in our grandparents’ time.

Everywhere I go, people tell me they also feel something else: loneliness. In the rooms where you used to feel safe, you no longer feel welcome. It didn’t always feel this lonely to be Jewish in America.

Both candidates have been making their respective cases to the American public.

Not surprisingly, Emhoff is unmistakably clear on who’d be best for American Jews: the current vice-president.

“It’s not because she married a nice Jewish boy,” Emhoff quipped. “To be honest, she’s been working on this longer than I have.”

He continued with a familiar touting of Harris’s pro-Jewish credentials, while being careful to occupy the narrow middle ground in the present debate over post-October 7 dynamics. The vice president, he said:

“...has worked every day for a deal to bring the hostages home and for a ceasefire – to protect innocent civilians in Gaza and make sure aid gets to those in need – and for a reality in which Israel is secure

and Palestinians know the dignity, freedom, and self-determination they deserve.

Juxtapose that against Trump’s his acceptance speech capping July’s Republican National Convention, when Trump offered the following:

To the entire world, I tell you this: We want our hostages back, and they better be back before I assume office, or you will be paying a very big price.

Barely two months later, on Sept. 19, Trump shared his own brand of political pragmatism:

If I don’t win this election, and the Jewish people would really have a lot to do with that if that happens because if 40 percent, I mean, 60 percent of the people are voting for the enemy – Israel, in my opinion, will cease to exist within two years.

And during his Oct. 27 mega-MAGA rally at New York’s Madison Square Garden:

If you don’t have a president that gets it, if you don’t have a president that is respected by the other side — and they did respect us four years ago, they really respected us, Iran was broke, they had no money. Israel, Oct. 7, would never ever have happened, would never have happened, all those people would be alive right now, those people who were killed on that horrible day.

I’ll leave it up to you to decide which of these candidates would be best for the Jews. And speaking of meaningful decisions, you can make one that reflects a compelling national imperative: Go out and vote.

Andrew Adler is the Managing Editor of Community.

FORUM

A narrative of numbers helps define the Trager Family JCC



State of
The J

Thomas
Wissinger

“Every number tells a story.” If you happened to be walking through the Trager Family JCC and heard someone mention this phrase, you’d probably notice any staff member within earshot letting out an audible sigh, while rolling their eyes so hard they might give themselves a headache. Why? Well, “every number tells a story” is one of my most often-used phrases -- typically brought up when talking about fiscal performance and budgeting in general. And as we all know, budgeting is not everyone’s most favored activity.

However, when you think about it, the phrase, “every number tells a story” can be applied far more widely than an adjunct to accounting. Professionally, here at the Trager Family JCC we look at numbers to tell us everything from evaluating the success or failure of a program, understanding our volunteer engagement, and

assessing solicitation efforts and corresponding returns. Personally, think about how this phrase applies to your everyday life. How old are you? How many cities/countries have you traveled to? How many kids do you have? Each of those answers is a number, but a number that is only the start of one’s own personal story. All our life journeys are made up of numbers, big and small. So, if you will indulge me, I would like to tell you a little bit more about the Trager Family JCC through my passion for numbers and the stories they tell.

170 and 1. There are approximately 170 Jewish Community Centers and Jewish Camps that make up the Jewish Community Center Association of North America (JCCA), of which the Trager Family JCC is one of its members. However, ours is the only JCC (1) in the state of Kentucky. I have come to view these two figures, 170 and 1, as two of the most important numbers when telling our own JCC story. As the number 170 represents, the Trager Family JCC is one component of a much larger mission of Jewish communal agencies across the continent. It is sometimes easy to forget that our mission in Louisville, Ky. is part of a broader mandate that extends not only across North America, but around the world. However, because the Trager Family JCC is the

only JCC in our city and state, we must never hesitate in our responsibility to serve our Louisville Jewish community -- while being a resource for Jewish families and individuals from across Kentucky. For example, this past summer we were proud to bring a contingent of young Jewish athletes from across the commonwealth to the Maccabi Games held in Detroit, Mich., where young athletes could feel a sense of community with other young Jewish people in the U.S. and beyond.

14 and 2. As I mentioned, being the only JCC in an entire state can sometimes lead our staff to feel disconnected from the national JCC movement. If you think about it, our closest JCC “neighbor” is over 90 minutes away in Cincinnati. Therefore, identifying opportunities to connect with other JCC’s nationally is vital to invigorating our staff locally. This fall, we had the opportunity to send 14 staff members to two (2) regional JCC conferences in Youngstown, Ohio and Charlotte, N.C. Our Louisville staff members who attended these conferences were able to connect with their JCC peers from Orlando to Detroit, Kansas City to Atlanta. These regional JCC conferences encourage participants to share best practices, mutual struggles, and common program initiatives. Yet I’ve always felt that the biggest takeaway from these conferences was feeling linked to a larger movement -- a movement boasting international scope -- while acknowledging the responsibility that comes with such membership.

8,500 and 14,000. So why I am telling you about these conferences? Coming to Louisville more than a decade ago, I was told that we have approximately 8,500 Jewish individuals in our community. But the 2022 Brandeis University-led Study of Jewish Louisville revealed that we have approximately 14,000 Jewish individuals in Louisville. With this new and exciting information, our Trager Family JCC’s goal is to not only continue serving the community that we know, but to find ways to engage community members that we don’t know... yet. Attending JCCA conferences and con-

necting with peers in other communities helps us to continue evolving and elevating our current programming to the high standard that the Louisville Jewish community expects and deserves, while enabling us to bring back strategies and tactics from other communities who have had success in finding and connecting with “new” individuals in their own communities. Why reinvent the wheel when our neighbor down the street, or across the continent, has one that we can bring back and utilize in Louisville

12,500, 250, 165 and 1. Thank you for indulging me telling the Trager Family JCC’s story through numbers, but please bear with me as I give you just a few more. Since the opening of the Trager Family JCC in April 2022, our JCC membership has doubled, now comprising more than 12,500 members. Our Camp J hosted, on average, 250 kids per week this past summer, while our Early Learning Center, in the Roth Family Education Center, welcomes 165 kids through its doors every day of the year. All of the aforementioned numbers are historic marks for each program, respectively. However, even when considering these large numbers and the fantastic growth shown in many of our programs, the most important number to all of our staff is one (1). Each and every day, we want to make the Trager Family JCC your home away from home. The place where you can get away to escape the pressures of the day, if only for an hour, or the Center where you find out more about yourself, engage with your community or explore your own culture. Every individual who walks through our doors, one person at a time, is our priority. Whether you have been here before or have never seen the inside of the Trager Family JCC, come on over and let us show you how important you are.

Thomas Wissinger is Vice President of the Jewish Community of Louisville and Executive Director of the Trager Family JCC.

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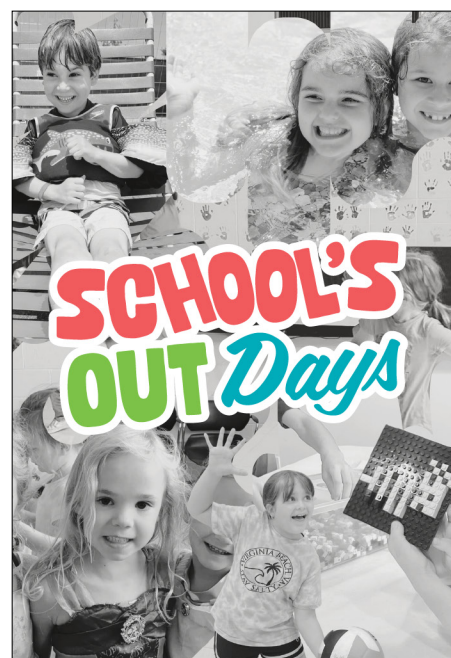
at the

Trager Family JCC

Located in the Kohn Family Town Square

Hours of Operation:

Monday	10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday	10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday	10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Thursday	10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Friday	10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Saturday	Closed
Sunday	10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.



NOVEMBER 4 & 5
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

at the Camp J Building
After care until 5 p.m. available as an add-on during registration for an additional fee.

When schools are closed, bring your child to play and learn with our fantastic Camp J staff at the Trager Family JCC! All days include Special Areas like Sports, Games, Visual Arts, Drama, or Music and all campers swim in the indoor Yarmuth Family Aquatic Center and play on the Blieden Family playground, weather permitting. School's Out Days are for children in Kindergarten through 5th grade.

JCC Members: \$75
Non-members: \$90

Questions? Contact Jesse at jbarfield@jewishlouisville.org or jccloouisville.org/schools-out

PICTURE THIS: MAJOR GIFTS



Elaine & Ron Weisberg, Frank Weisberg, Mollie & Michael Weisberg, Murray Rose and Judy Shapira



Phil & Simone McCauley, Graham & Sarah Hall and Amanda Blieden (standing)



Jonathan Hodes and Nancy & Shelly Gilman



Seated: Robin Miller and Karen Gordon
Standing: Ed Cohen



Left Top: Event Chairs: Jon Klein, Laura Klein, Shellie Branson and Ralph Green



Left Bottom: Amy Lapinski, Kristin Shapira, Kate Latts, Jennifer Tuvlin

Above: Guest Speaker Julie Platt, Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Jewish Federations, shaking hands with Steve Trager.

TOGETHER WE GROW

Together, We Grow. The 2024 Jewish Federation of Louisville Major Gifts Dinner kicked off the annual campaign on Sunday, September 29 at the Waterfront Botanical Gardens. The evening featured special guest speaker, Julie Platt, Chair of the Board of Jewish Federations of North America. Louisville's ShinShinim and other members of our Jewish Community also shared their stories of Jewish community connections.

(Photos by Shelby Bruick)

MATT GOLDEN

METRO COUNCIL 16

Voting is a Mitzvah!

Early Voting Oct. 31 - Nov. 2

✓ Election Day Tue. Nov. 5

Get Out and Vote!

mattformetro.com

Contact: matt@mattformetro.com

PAID FOR BY CAMPAIGN TO ELECT MATT GOLDEN



PICTURE THIS: PJ LIBRARY AT THE PUMPKIN PATCH



PJ Library families had a fun time meeting up at Gallrein Farms for a Sukkot craft and pumpkin picking on October 14th!

Join us for our next event, a special Grandparents' Musikgarten class on November 29th! RSVP to cmason@jewishlouisville.org

Learn more about PJ Library at jewishlouisville.org/pjlibrary

(Photos provided by PJ Library Staff)



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at the Trager Family JCC

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- 30 minutes in the party room
- Complimentary party coordinator and gift bags

To learn more, scan the QR code or visit jcclouisville.org/poolparties



Be remembered forever with a gift to the Jewish Federation of Louisville in your will, trust, retirement account, or life insurance policy.

To learn more about leaving a legacy, contact Frances Skolnick at fskolnick@jewishlouisville.org.

PICTURE THIS: SUKKOT



In honor of Sukkot, young adults gathered in the Sukkah at the Trager Family JCC for a night of sushi-making and celebration.





YOU'RE A GOOD MAN,
CHARLIE BROWN



NOVEMBER 7 - 17, 2024

Tickets On Sale!

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				7 7:30 P.M.		9 7:30 P.M.
10 2 P.M.				14 7:30 P.M.		16 7:30 P.M.
17 2 P.M.						

To Purchase

Scan the QR code



or visit,
jccloouisville.org/centerstage

\$38

includes their ticket
to the show!

PICNIC *with*
THE PEANUTS GANG

Sunday, November 10 at 12:30 p.m.
before the 2 p.m. performance

*Purchase for young participants only.
Parent(s) can accompany and need only buy regular priced ticket(s).

Families are invited to enjoy a special pre/show experience that includes a fun craft inspired by the Peanuts universe, savoring themed snacks that will bring a taste of Charlie Brown's world to life, from "Snoopy's Snacks" to "Lucy's Lemonade", to culminate with a chance to meet the cast of our show and snap some photos with the beloved characters!

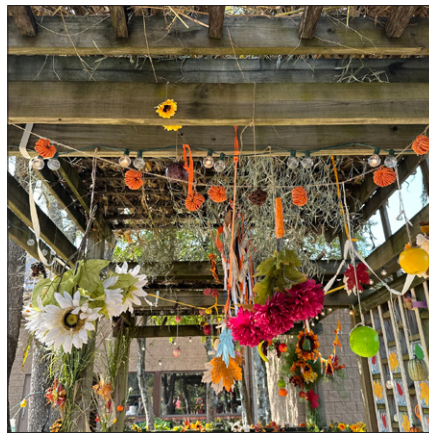
Questions? Contact us at JAartsIdeas@jewishlouisville.org, or call (502) 238-2797.




PICTURE THIS: SUKKOT



It was a multi-generational, gourd-giddy Sukkot collaboration, as Temple Shalom members decorated the congregation's sukkah in splashes of vivid autumn colors (photos courtesy of Temple Shalom).







Workshops


Youth Drama Workshops

Unleash your creativity and imagination with our engaging Educational Drama Workshop Series designed for kids in grades 3-8! This dynamic program offers a series of short, jam-packed experiences tailored to inspire budding performers of all skill levels. Through a mix of interactive games, improvisation, storytelling, and character development, participants will build confidence, enhance communication skills, and foster teamwork – all while having a blast! This workshop is perfect for kids in grades 3-8 who are looking to explore the world of drama, whether they are seasoned performers or completely new to the stage.





with *Mary Kate Vavreks* and *Erin Sittman*


Grades 6 – 8
1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.



Dreams & Nightmares
Saturday, November 9




The Great Debate
Saturday, January 18




Time Travelers
Saturday, April 26


Grades 3 – 5
9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.



Fantasy Worlds
Saturday, November 9



Mystery Adventure
Saturday, January 18



Survival Stories
Saturday, April 26

To learn more and reserve a spot, please visit
jewishlouisville.org/youth-workshops

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- Group Swim Lessons**
- 6-week sessions
- 30-minute lessons, once a week
- Small groups of 4 or fewer

- Accelerated Private Swim Lessons**
- 5 Private Lessons in 5 Days!

- Pool Parties**
- 90 minutes of play time in the water
- 30 minutes in the party room
- Complimentary party coordinator and gift bags



To learn more, scan the QR code or visit jccloouisville.org/youthaquatics





SWIM SCHOOL

WHERE YOUR SWIMMING JOURNEY BEGINS!

NEWS

Not always visible, Louisville's Vaad HaKashruth is nonetheless vital

By Andrew Adler
Community Editor

The next time you want to eat a kosher meal, ritually cleanse yourself in the local mikvah, or simply learn more about the sometimes-arcane laws of kashrut, you're involving yourself in a trusted, expert foundational organization: the Louisville Vaad HaKashruth.

Most people outside the formally observant Jewish community know little or nothing about the Vaad – not even what the word “Vaad” itself means (answer: “committee”). Yet it's an intrinsic component of area Jewish life – maintaining standards for kosher retailers, catering companies and – in parallel with the culinary side – the community mikvah, used by women and men for ritual cleansing, and as the capstone of a conversion process.

As the Louisville Vaad's website puts it: The Vaad is dedicated to promoting Kosher (Kashrut) in Louisville. We are connecting with local businesses to develop more availability of kosher foods within our community. Kashrut is the body of Jewish law dealing with how foods must be prepared and which foods may or may not be eaten.”

Sounds simple enough. Yet behind these parameters lie a cadre of volunteers: three apiece from Conservative congregations Adath Jeshurun and Keneseth Israel and Orthodox Anshei Sfard (the Reform movement by and large does not adhere to the laws of Kashrut), with official oversight in the hands (and eyes) of Anshei Sfard's new spiritual leader: Rabbi Yaakov Lederman.

There is also a board headed by President Steve Goldstein, a longtime AJ member who for years has been an especially stalwart advocate for the Vaad's unique mission.

Louisville is not exactly awash with drop-in Kosher dining options. For years the sole choices have been the Krispy Kreme donut outpost at 3000 Bardstown Road (temporarily closed since a May 21 arson fire), plus the Trager Family JCC's Nancy Abrams kitchen and the Dive-in-Diner snack bar adjacent to the outdoor pool – which is open only during the summer months.

Recently a new food service vendor – Cincinnati-based Muscle Monkey Grill – has begun operating in the Trager Family JCC's first-floor Kohn Family Town Square. Though it will be entirely meatless, it will also be subject to Vaad supervision. Such inspections are handled by a mashgiach, a person trained in Kashrut who's present to ensure that proper Kosher standards are being observed. Individual synagogues typically have one or more people to fill those on-site roles, and a mashgiach is similarly on hand in designated Kosher catering kitchens.

The Vaad doesn't certify Kosher products sold in supermarkets and other retail establishments – those certifications are granted by such organizations as the Orthodox Union (familiar to legions of American shoppers by

its circled OU symbol).

But if the Vaad is less visible, it is no less vital to its constituency – regardless of its constituents' level of observance. Indeed, appealing to multiple end-users was intrinsic to its modern founding 40 years ago.

“In 1985, Rabbi Simcha Kling (then at Adath Jeshurun) told me that we need to have a Kosher standard high enough for everyone to be comfortable,” recalls Rabbi Avrohom Litvin, who'd arrived in Louisville two years earlier to establish what's now Chabad of Kentucky.

Kling reasoned that “someone who has a lower standard or doesn't keep kosher can always have a kosher meal,” Litvin says, but a person who observes kashrut more rigorously might feel excluded. So in the interests of inclusiveness, the determining Kashrut standard has leaned toward a nominally Orthodox perspective.

“We basically have to have policies in place and enforce those policies to make sure food service and establishments are serving the kosher food they are advertising,” explains Rabbi Lederman, who took over Vaad supervision from his Anshei Sfard predecessor, Rabbi Simcha Snaid. “That entails supervising; that entails educating – sometimes places need to understand the way they have to operate,” particular pertaining to ingredient lists.

Some circumstances are less potentially problematic than others. “Krispy Kreme is very easy,” Lederman says. “They are an established franchise, and they get their ingredients from known suppliers. And they've been doing the same thing for decades. A restaurant is a little more challenging, because if they need to scramble at the last minute for something they'll do whatever they need to serve their customers – and you never know when an owner is going to grab something from the store next store because he's in a pinch.”

Why are there so few local kosher establishments? One reason simply is cost: maintaining kosher standards, especially when meat is involved, can be more expensive than non-kosher standards – difficult to justify amid thin restaurant margins.

Equally telling, however, are the shifting demographics and practices of Louisville's Jewish population.

A generation or two ago, enough families observed dietary laws to support multiple kosher establishments. “As a child, I remember we had two butcher shops, one of which was a delicatessen,” Goldstein says. “I'm talking about the 1960s – but by the '80s, I don't think there was anything. I know that it was Abe's for a while when I was growing up, and then Stan Goldberg bought it. Then he gave it up, and it was transferred to Max Kreitman. When he wanted to retire, they worked something out with the Kroger at McMahan (Plaza), where they actually had a room that was designated for kosher meat – a mashgiach would come in and watch the butcher cut the

meat.”

Nowadays Kroger and various other retailers (Whole Foods and Costco, to name two) carry a selection of kosher meat, though often pre-packaged instead of fresh. People wanting fresh kosher beef, chicken, lamb, etc. typically have to order from sources in larger cities like Cincinnati or Kansas City, Mo., and have it trucked in packed in dry ice.

Certain specific requirements make it difficult to attract new kosher-food stores. Jewish-owned establishments under most circumstances are forbidden to be open on Shabbat, often the busiest sales day of the week. A kosher shop must be in walking distance of a mashgiach, so that a potential surprise inspection will deter owners/managers from the temptation to cut corners on Saturdays.

And apart from food is another nagging issue: the condition of the Community Mikvah behind the old Anshei Sfard synagogue on Dutchmans Lane – the only such facility in all of Kentucky. Built more than 50 years ago, it has since undergone only minimal upkeep and virtually no refurbishment. Its changing rooms are cramped; the entrances and interiors are not accessible to all, and amenities are virtually non-existent.

The mikvah is utilized primarily by Orthodox women fulfilling the Biblical mandate to ritually purify themselves after menstruating. But some observant men also use it, and formal conversions to Judaism are capped by the individuals immersing themselves completely, then rising from the water and reciting the Shema.

“There are a lot of women for whom it's challenging,” Lederman says, “so they might not be going, which is a very serious thing.” So “we want to invest as much as we can to make it a pleasurable experience. I have the greatest respect for the women who make the sacrifice to go, and my job is to make it as easy as possible for them.”

Regardless of where the Vaad's mission takes it, the imperative is to remove barriers to access, understanding and ultimately, participation.

“Everyone should be welcome,” Litvin says, emphasizing that “we should foresee the needs of people in advance. If someone (visits) who is kosher, we should be able to supply kosher. It's the cost of doing business, the same as paying your electric bill.”

The imperative can be distilled to this, he says: “There are certain things we do as Jews.”

J ENRICHMENT

<p>Mondays <i>Ukelele Class</i> <small>Talent World, LLC</small></p> <p>Tuesdays <i>Chess Club</i> <small>Urban Chess League</small></p> <p>Wednesdays <i>Dance/Creative Movement</i> <small>Jane Biek</small></p> <p>Thursdays <i>Lego Club</i> <small>Bricks4Kidz</small></p>	<p>4:30 - 5:15 p.m. For children grades K-5 Currently Running thru November 18</p> <p>5 - 6 p.m. For children grades 1-5 Currently Running thru November 19</p> <p>4 - 4:30 p.m. For pre-k children (ages 3-5) Currently Running thru December 11</p> <p>4:30 - 5:30 p.m. For children grades K-5 Currently Running thru November 21</p> <p style="font-size: small;">*Holiday closures may effect these dates.</p>
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SCAN TO REGISTER

Questions? Contact Jesse at
jbarfield@jewishlouisville.org
jcclouisville.org/fallenrichment



NEWS

STEINBERG

Continued from page 1

not understand. For that reason, Meghan decided to open her world so that others could climb her mountain with her. She called her climb Meghan's Mountain.

The Community newspaper wrote about Meghan in March of 2016, not long after her death on Jan. 23 of that year. Since then, Jerry Steinberg has continued to advocate for Meghan's Mountain, the charitable foundation his daughter established to raise money and awareness on behalf of those affected by leukemia and related cancers. In 2023 he was among 13 recipients of a WLKY Spirit of Louisville Bell Award, given to area volunteers who "seek to inspire all residents to engage in community service."

We caught up with Jerry Steinberg recently at his home in East Louisville. A retired attorney, he spoke about his daughter, their shared imperative, and the distinctive flavors of his current life.

"I've been blessed in a lot of ways," Steinberg acknowledges, mentioning as an example his service on the board of the Louisville branch of Louisville's Gilda's Club. And for four years now, Meghan's Mountain has sponsored a fundraising cruise on the Belle of Louisville, in which Gilda's Club members are able to

ride free of charge.

Initiatives like these help cancer patients gain more control over their lives, and a better sense of what brought them to their respective junctures. "Sometimes when you go through cancer, you forget a lot of the past," Steinberg says.

Recalling his daughter's journey after being initially diagnosed, Steinberg spoke of the immense challenges she had to confront. There was a four-month stay at Seattle's Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center, where she underwent a bone marrow stem cell transplant (the first of two) with her brother Justin as donor. There were remissions and recurrences, encouraging successes and sobering failures.

Along the way she asked a foundational question.

"Meghan walked in one day and said, 'You know, Dad, none of us really understand cancer. We know that you can lose your hair, and we know that you can die, but do we know anything more about it?' And I said, 'You know, we don't.' And she said, 'That's because everyone is so damn scared of it that nobody's interested in learning about it.' So she decided she wanted to open up her world."

Steinberg remembers the moment her leukemia diagnosis – made tentatively when she visited an urgent care facility for what she thought was

a minor concern – was confirmed a few days later at Jewish Hospital.

"We were there and she just said to the doctor, 'Well, whatever I need to have, let's get it going, because I'm going to beat it.' And she never wavered."

His daughter may have been stoic about her cancer, but the reality of her disease shook Steinberg.

"I would stay at the hospital, and then go home to take a shower," he recalls, "and I remember going down River Road and pulling over because it was raining so hard. But it wasn't raining – I was crying. I was totally lost. I didn't know what day it was."

Back home, "I'd get on the computer and start looking up 'leukemia,'" he said, "and I didn't know what the hell I was reading. I didn't know what I was doing, and all the while she's putting it all together."

It was then that Jerry Steinberg realized, anew, how much he needed the support of someone particularly close. "I remember – without making a phone call to him – at nighttime standing in front of Rabbi (Chester) Diamond's house and ringing the doorbell.

"He had done her bat mitzvah, and he and I were very close," Steinberg said. Diamond "opened the door, and I just started crying," Steinberg said. "I could not stop. So, he took me in -- and I will never forget this -- he said, 'Jerry, you're not a doctor, and you'll never be a doctor. You'll never have the knowledge of a doctor. So instead of trying to read and understand things, ask questions -- be an advocate for your daughter.'"

And there were certain profound limitations. "You're not God," Diamond said, so you can't say, 'My daughter is going to live, or not.' But there's something you can do that no doctor and no one in the whole world can do, except you.' I said, 'What's that?' He said, 'You can define for her the word "Father.'" I will tell you -- I walked out of there and that changed everything."

Meghan's life became a whirlwind of physicians, hospitals, remissions, setbacks, determination, and the potential exhaustion. She forged an enduring connection to former U of L men's basketball coach Denny Crum, spearheaded numerous fundraising events, and became a mentor to patients facing their own cancers.

"She tried to live a normal life," her father said -- she had hopes of becoming a nurse -- but the ravages of her leukemia proved too debilitating.

By 2015, facing yet another round of treatments, Meghan decided enough was enough. "She said, 'I'm not doing this anymore,' Jerry Steinberg said. "She passed in January of 2016."

Shortly before she died, Meghan -- with characteristic calm determination -- had planned much of her own memorial. "She said: 'I know it's going to be hard, but I need to talk to you about some things,'" her father recalled. "The first thing is about



Jerry Steinberg holds a photograph of his daughter, Meghan (photo [of Steinberg, that is] by Andrew Adler)

my funeral.' She said, 'I want to be buried next to my grandfather,' who was my dad. 'And I don't want anybody wearing a coat and tie, because if they want to come, I want them to come with their heart, not with how they dress.' And then she said, 'I want you to continue the foundation.'"

That final request threw her father for a bit. "I looked at her and said, 'Meghan, why would I want to keep it up? You're not here; you're gone.' But that didn't work. The foundation was never about me -- it was always about other people."

"Meghan was a girl who was way more mature than her age," recalls Jerry Steinberg's wife, Leslye Dickson. "Having passed at age 32, those many years battling cancer were handled with so much grace. She always cared about her 'brothers and sisters' fighting cancer more than herself, even on her worst days. Meghan never met a stranger, making other people feel like family from the moment they met. Meghan inspired me to be a better person through her example."

In the eight years since her death, Meghan's Mountain has raised significant funds for Gilda's Club, and made gifts to the Brown Cancer Center and similar recipients.

Jerry Steinberg had been a Jefferson County prosecutor before going into private law practice. At one point, tired and somewhat frustrated with how his profession was evolving, he took an extended break. "It's a different world now, so it wasn't as much fun," he says. Indeed, once his daughter became sick, he never returned.

Steinberg remains close to Gilda's Club -- he sits on its board, and the facility has a special room named in honor of his daughter. He's modest about being a Bell Award winner ("I was nominated by Gilda's Club, which I thought they were crazy to do," he says).

On the evening last year when he accepted his award, Steinberg acknowledged the defining, ever-present personality.

"I said, 'You know, I probably wouldn't have been here if it weren't for Meghan. I think Meghan's in this room, and I thank Meghan in front of everybody.'"



Club J is a before & after-school program set in our fun Camp J environment run by our Camp J Staff. Children enrolled in Club J will play games, participate in a variety of activities each week including swim, receive homework help, and spend time with their friends.

Transportation available. We will still accept kids even if we cannot transport them.*

Optional Add-on Enrichment Classes:

Lego, Chess, Dance/Creative Movement, Ukulele

CLUB J BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM MONTHLY RATES

Schools & Times	Times	Member	Non-Member
Club J Before Care			
Field, Alex R Kennedy	7:30 – 9:30 a.m.	\$346.00	\$432.50
Club J After School 2:30			
St Matthews, Bloom	2:30 – 6:00 p.m.	\$519.00	\$605.50
Club J After School 3:30			
Holy Trinity, Hawthorne	3:30 – 6:00 p.m.	\$449.80	\$536.30
Club J After School 4:30			
Field	4:30 – 6:00 p.m.	\$346.00	\$432.50

* PRICING WILL BE PRORATED BASED ON THE DATE OF REGISTRATION.

Questions?

Contact Jesse Barfield
Youth Program Director
jbarfield@jewishlouisville.org



Learn more and register with the QR code or at JCCLOUISVILLE.ORG/CLUBJ

*The JCC is able to transport to the schools listed above. Visit our website or contact Jesse for more information.

GLOBE

Family recovers Monet pastel generations after Nazi looting

By Asaf Elia-Shalev
JTA

When Adalbert and Hilda Parlagi fled Vienna in 1938, a month after the Nazi annexation of Austria, they left behind a collection of artwork, which they and their heirs spent decades trying to retrieve.

On Wednesday in New Orleans, FBI agents presented the couple's grandchildren with one of the looted works: a pastel drawing by French impressionist Claude Monet.

"Our grandfather would have been so happy to find out this Monet was being restituted after all his attempts over the years," the heirs said in a joint statement. "This is a very moving and exceptional day for us, a day neither of us ever thought would happen."

The 1865 Monet measures 7 by 11 inches and is titled "Bord de Mer," which means "Seaside." It depicts a rocky section of the Normandy coast, where Allied forces landed on D-Day in 1944, beginning their liberation of Nazi-occupied France.

The pastel is one of about 600,000 works of art, along with millions of books and religious items, that were looted by the Nazis during World War II. The FBI's Art Crime Team, which worked on this case, has helped recover some 20,000 artworks over the years.

Adalbert "Bela" Parlagi was a successful businessman and art collector born in Budapest who moved to Vienna

as a young man. He married his wife, Hilda, who was from Prague, and they had two children, Hedwig and Franz. According to the Associated Press, the couple had abandoned their Jewish identity and raised their children as Protestants. However, under Nazi race laws, they were still considered Jewish, and the family fled to the United Kingdom in March 1938, shortly after the Anschluss.

The Parlagis tried to have their belongings, including the Monet and seven other artworks, shipped to them in London, but in 1940, the Gestapo confiscated their property. The artwork was sold at auction, with the proceeds going into the coffers of the Third Reich.

As soon as the war ended, Adalbert Parlagi began a lifelong quest to recover his beloved paintings, a cause bolstered by a series of international declarations against the market in Nazi-looted art. However, he was thwarted by the Viennese auctioneer who had sold off his looted artworks, as the auctioneer claimed to Parlagi that he had no record or recollection of the sale.

Parlagi died in 1981, and his son, Franz, took up the effort until his own death in 2012.

Two years later, the next generation enlisted the help of the Commission for Looted Art in Europe, a London-based NGO, whose team scoured museum archives and online listings for years before making a breakthrough in



Claude Monet's pastel on paper, "Bord de Mer," dated about 1865 and which was stolen from the Parlagi family in 1940 by the Nazis in Austria, is seen after its recovery by the FBI's Art Crime Team. (FBI).

2021. The researchers discovered that a New Orleans art dealer had sold the Monet to a local physician and his wife in 2019.

The FBI got involved and soon contacted the unsuspecting couple, Kevin Schlamp and his wife, Bridget Vita, to notify them of the pastel's history. The couple voluntarily relinquished their ownership rights, according to an FBI press release.

"The Schlamp family's cooperation was key to the successful resolution of this case, and their integrity in ensur-

ing the pastel's return is highly commendable," the release said.

Vita, whose husband died earlier this year, told a New Orleans newspaper, "We lost a painting, but the Jewish community had lost so much more."

The Parlagi heirs recovered another drawing in March from the collection of an Austrian museum, but they are still searching for six remaining artworks, including a charcoal drawing by Camille Pissarro and a watercolor by Paul Signac.



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Nov 2

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*Subject to hiring approval. Must pay for the course up front. If hired, the course fee will be reimbursed after 30 days of employment.

JCC Member Price: \$250 • Non-Member Price: \$300



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NEWS

Young adults from Louisville travel to Budapest to connect with people and culture

By Amy Joseph Landon
Senior Director of Marketing and
Communications at the Jewish
Community of Louisville

So, why Budapest? Partnership2Gether's mission is to connect Jewish communities around the world, which include not only our partners in Israel but also Budapest, Hungary and 17 cities in the United States. Budapest has a long and rich Jewish history that reflects the resilience of Jews throughout history. In September, I had the incredible opportunity to travel with nearly 20 other young adults from these communities to participate in the P2G Horizon Young Adult Seminar, where we were not only immersed in Hungarian Jewish history, but our goal was also to strengthen connections among our partner communities and learn about our Jewish roots. I was joined by four other Louisville community members: Sandra Chack, Chaya Hirsch, Daniele Hurwitz and Becca Lusignolo.

The Hungarian Jewish community that constructed the highest concentration of synagogues in Europe also endured terrible years of persecution. Budapest remains home to Europe's largest synagogue, the 2,964-seat Dohány Street Synagogue, which was completed in 1859.

Our Hungarian volunteers proudly showed our group around their city, sharing their Jewish experiences as Eastern Europeans in an authoritarian country. The Israelis were able to escape the challenges of war for a few days and have conversations, whether deep or light, with new friends. These relationships connect us to one another in a way that news coverage of world events can never do. In good times and in bad, they allow us to show – and even more important -- to feel -- the resonance of our mutual support.

During the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Jews built a thriving community following Hungary gaining independence from the Habsburg Empire in 1849. Jews in rural and urban areas of Hungary practiced their religion openly -- establishing a seminary, building gathering spaces, and fostering a rich Jewish culture. But much of that changed in 1920 when a new Regent of Hungary was elected, prompting the first specifically antisemitic law, excluding Jews from the nation's out of universities. That laid the groundwork for the ensuing years marked by widespread persecution of the country's Jews. Yet despite these restrictions and an eventual alliance with Nazi Germany, Budapest was considered relatively safe for Jews, even becoming a haven for Holocaust refugees. But once the Nazis took over, they quickly ghettoized and eventually deported Jews to concentration camps - only 30% of the Hungarian Jewish population survived. Still, even as the Holocaust began to terrorize Hungary, Jews organized to protect as many Jews as possible, forging identity papers and smuggling refugees across borders.

Hungary adopted a Communist government after World War II. Absent of open religious practice, cherished rituals began to disappear as the Jewish community became increasingly secular. It wasn't until late 1989, when Communism collapsed, that Hungarian Judaism was allowed again to flourish. National Jewish orga-



Pictured (L-R): Becca Lusignolo, Chaya Hirsch, Amy Joseph Landon, Daniele Hurwitz and Sandra Chack.

nizations were founded, and the Jewish community seized the opportunity to regain ownership and restore synagogues and other pillars of Jewish life.

During our five-day P2G seminar, we learned from representatives of Jewish agencies, from historians, and from community members whose common goal is to create a thriving Jewish culture in Hungary.

A recurring theme that emerged in these conversations was, "What does it mean to be Jewish?" Hungarian Jews have a proud heritage. We saw ornate graves in a Jewish cemetery that prominently displayed historical symbols of Judaism alongside traditional Hungarian motifs, reflecting the pride early 20th-century Jews took in their collective roots.

During post-war Communist rule, Jews continued their traditions amid smaller neighborhood settings. We toured Teleki Flat synagogue, a modest Orthodox congregational space tucked away in a modern apartment building, where services have been held since 1910. It took the 2020 pandemic to interrupt those ongoing services for the first time in its history. Such congregations helped keep Jewish identity alive when society prohibited it.

Today Hungary's Jewish population is a fraction of the size it had been before the -war, but there are continuing efforts to preserve Jewish history and highlight Jewish pride. Markers have been installed at the former ghettos to commemorate



Participants in the Horizon Seminar hear from local agencies.

the devastation of the Holocaust. A living Holocaust memorial sits in a public square in downtown Pest, where the Jewish neighborhood is home to restaurants and shops that don't hesitate to embrace Jewish culture. The Haver Institute works with schools across Budapest to teach

students ages eight and up about Jewish identity. The Jewish hospital continues to prioritize providing critical medical services to Holocaust survivors from across Europe, while providing Kosher meals and regularly hosting Shabbat services.

Many of the Hungarians we met acknowledged that there was much more work to be done in protecting Jewish history, from maintaining the dilapidated cemetery to acknowledging Hungary's role in the Holocaust. But all agreed that the Jewish community is proud of their Judaism and feels safe under Hungary's current government. Hearing about their history, our group reflected on our own Jewish identities – how do we show our pride and how do we remain resilient in challenging times?

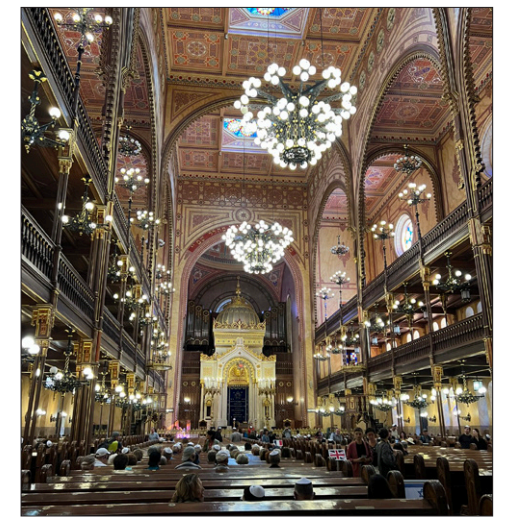
Despite the thousands of miles between the United States and Hungary, it's clear we share some challenges and opportunities. Hungary currently has the largest Jewish population in East Central Europe at around 120,000, though only about 5,000 – 10,000 are active. Just like in the U.S., the population of active participants is aging, and the number of affiliated Jews is declining. Jewish community professionals such as the Joint Distribution Committee are working to engage younger people, whether through expansion of existing programs like summer camps or new programs suggested in recent surveys. Indeed, the Jewish Agency of Eastern Europe has seen an opportunity to grow the younger population – demonstrating how numerous young adults are just discovering their Jewish roots after years when their families did not discuss their Judaism.

One of the most powerful aspects of our trip was connecting with people from the global Jewish community and hearing about the impact of the various P2G relationships. The Jewish Agency For Israel's European office acknowledged that their ability to help Ukrainian refugees "could not have been done without Federations, because we were able to move quickly." Dr. Assaf Shemesh from Budapest Jewish Hospital volunteered in the ER at the Nahariya hospital for a month in the aftermath of October 7 and has worked since to support medical efforts in the region. Even today, he trains doctors to be ready to respond in Israel immediately if needed.

During a roundtable discussion, Is-

raeli group members shared about what life has been like since the Hamas attacks. Some evacuated families have not returned to their homes in more than a year. We heard stories of frequent stays in home bomb shelters as familiar sirens warned of increasingly common rocket barrages. Parents spoke about the challenges of talking to their young children about war, and the mental toll of Israel's ongoing war footing. Just after we returned from Budapest, Shlomi, an Israeli member of our group, was called up from the IDF reserves --requiring him to leave his wife and young children for the second time in a year.

Chaya described her experience, "I was first interested in the trip from historical Jewish culture perspective, and it did not disappoint in that regard at all. I learned so much about the history of Budapest and saw so many amazing sites. I did not expect how much I would enjoy the social aspects of the trip. I met some great people and had some amazing conversations. What was especially impactful to me was to hear many of the Israelis express some of the same concerns and frustrations I have regarding their current government, because sometimes that can be a controversial opinion here in America. I am grateful to the Partnership for subsidizing this experience and for allowing me to meet so many wonderful people."



The Grand Synagogue in Budapest.

It was a true privilege to be together with our Jewish communal family, to make new friends, learn from one another, and to stand in the same places generations before us stood -- whether in celebration of a thriving business, in struggle as they were herded into ghettos, or in devastation as Jews were murdered in the Holocaust. We showed solidarity as we sang "Hatikvah" alongside our Israeli friends, prayed for peace and the release of hostages, and proudly joined together in Jewish traditions like attending Shabbat services at the Budapest JCC and participating in Havdalah. Experiences like this are invaluable in fostering connections to Jewish heritage, to Israel and our global Jewish community, and to help ensure our Jewish future.

The financial support from the Federation's annual campaign and support for Partnership2Gether is what makes programs like this possible and accessible to our community, especially our younger members. It was a privilege to be part of it.

JFCS Annual Campaign Celebrates 'Legacy & Growth'

Each fall, as the holiday season approaches, Jewish Family & Career Services (JFCS) launches its yearly "Annual Campaign", inviting community partners and supporters who believe in our mission to make a financial gift that allows JFCS to continue providing essential services to our community. These investments allow JFCS to continue fostering growth and securing a legacy of care for future generations. This year, our theme is "Legacy & Growth," reflecting on the strong foundation we have built since 1908 and continuing to expand our services to meet the most immediate needs of our Community.

Why is the Annual Campaign so important for JFCS?

For organizations like JFCS, our Annual Campaign is the lifeblood of our operations. Our Annual Campaign is a reflection of who we are as an organization – an organization that believes that every investment makes an impact, and every supporter helps further JFCS' mission and vision. These gifts support our critical day-to-day operations, ensuring that our services remain accessible to anyone in need.

Every dollar given to the Annual Campaign is a step toward fulfilling our mission to help individuals and families in Greater Louisville live with dignity and purpose. From mental health services to career coaching, from senior care to food assistance, the breadth of JFCS' impact would not be possible without the generosity of our community.

Over the past three years, JFCS has seen tremendous growth, both in terms of the services we provide and the number of people we serve. We've increased our full-time staff

by 50%, allowing us to meet the growing demand for our services. Our annual budget has increased by 65%, reflecting the broader scope of our work. And last year, we distributed over 74,000 pounds of food through the Sonny & Janet Meyer Food Pantry – making JFCS a critical resource for many families in our community.

This growth is not limited to any one program. In three years, our Clinical Services have expanded by 196%, helping more individuals navigate mental health challenges. Our Klein Older Adult programs have grown by nearly 100%, ensuring that seniors in our community receive the support they need to age with dignity. Our Career Services have grown by 174%, significantly increasing programming available for refugees and immigrants.

These numbers reflect the increasing need for the services JFCS provides, and underscore why our Annual Campaign is so crucial for meeting the needs in our community. Without the consistent support of our donors, we would not be able to continue this upward trajectory.

While growth is essential to continue to be flexible to meet Louisville's needs, ensuring the legacy of JFCS for future generations is equally important. We know that we stand on the shoulders of giants and are reminded of this daily as we work in the Louis and Lee Roth Family Center that was built by so many in our community. The vision of those individuals is one we are experiencing today and we want to continue that legacy for generations to come.


Every gift allows us to continue this legacy through lasting growth. Whatever amount

JEWISH FAMILY & CAREER SERVICES

GROWTH

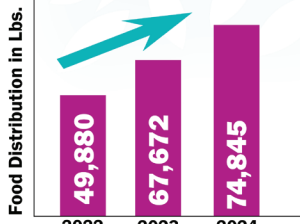
SNAPSHOT

EMPLOYEE GROWTH



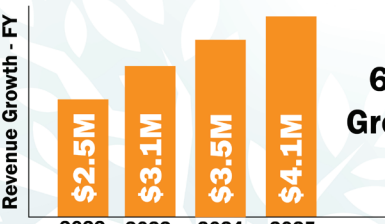
50% Growth in Full-Time Staff

FOOD PANTRY



Year	Distribution
2022	49,880
2023	67,672
2024	74,845

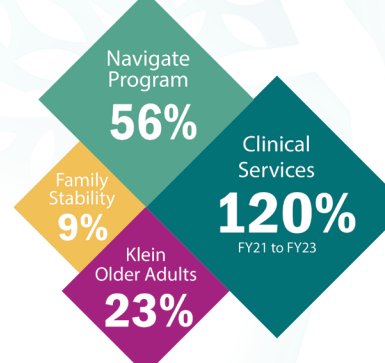
ANNUAL BUDGET



Year	Revenue
2022	\$2.5M
2023	\$3.1M
2024	\$3.5M
2025	\$4.1M

65% Growth

PROGRAMS & SERVICES



Navigate Program	56%
Clinical Services	120% (FY21 to FY23)
Klein Older Adults	23%
Family Stability	9%

you are able to give, your support helps us provide services that are life-changing for individuals and families. Every gift matters and will impact our mission. We invite you to join us on our mission and make a gift to the JFCS Annual Campaign today.

As we reflect on our legacy and look to the future, we are deeply grateful to everyone who has supported us through the years. To-

gether, we can continue building a stronger, more vibrant, and inclusive community.

Thank you for your continued support of JFCS. Your investment ensures that our legacy of service will continue to grow, touching lives and making a difference in ways big and small.

To make your donation, visit: jfclouisville.org/donate.

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Name	Address	Cash contributions	In-\$
Website	Phone	Fiscal year 2023	
1 Humana Foundation/Humana Inc.	100 W. Main St. Louisville, KY 40202 502-580-1000	\$20 million	
2 Brown-Forman Corp./Brown-Forman Foundation	600 Olive Hwy. Louisville, KY 40203 502-585-1300	\$15.1 million	
3 Caesars Southern Indiana	13999 Casino Center Dr. S.E. Ellettsville, IN 47127 812-769-0000	\$9.88 million	
4 LOGE and KU Energy LLC	220 W. Main St. Louisville, KY 40202 502-580-1888	\$8.85 million	
5 ISCO Industries Inc.	100 Wilkinson St. SW Louisville, KY 40203 502-263-4726	\$5.33 million	
6 The Kroger Co.	3000 Granddaddy Station Ct. Louisville, KY 40223 502-423-8000	\$5 million	
7 Churchill Downs Inc.	400 N. Main Street Plaza #400 Louisville, KY 40202	\$4.24 million	
8 Republic Bank & Trust Co./Republic Bank Foundation	601 W. Market St. Louisville, KY 40202 502-584-3000	\$2.79 million	
9 Trilogy Health Services LLC/Trilogy Foundation Services Foundation	1111 N. Main Street #100 Louisville, KY 40202 502-423-1000	\$2.62 million	
10 Delta Dental of Kentucky Inc.	10000 Live Station Rd. Louisville, KY 40223 800-855-3000	\$2.32 million	

*Source: Louisville Business First, Corporate Philanthropists, Large Companies with Revenue of More than \$50 Million, Aug. 16, 2024 - Aug. 22, 2024

Jewish Family & Career Services

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NEWS & NEWSMAKERS

Women Leading a Dialogue



Women from multiple religions come together for this Partnership2Gether program.

In our contemporary world where the Middle East is too often a cauldron of extremism and despair, Women Leading a Dialogue seeks to lower the temperature as it encourages genuine insight and tolerance.

Comprising Jewish, Christian and Muslim women who live in Israel's Western Galilee – our Partnership-2Gether region – the group spent a year building shared connections and imperatives. Their collective mission is “to find mutual ground and strengthen bonds of understanding and friendship.”

In recent months, its 20 members have been visiting cities across the U.S. Four of these remarkable women will be in Louisville Nov. 22-23, sharing their stories with Shabbat congregants and guests at three area synagogues: The Temple, Temple Shalom and Keneseth Israel. Temple Shalom's presentation will

take place Friday Nov. 22 during Shabbat services, which begin at 7 p.m. The Temple's program is slated for the same evening, with a family dinner at 6 p.m. and an Inclusion Service immediately following at 7 p.m. KI's event is tentatively slated for Saturday, Nov. 23 after Shabbat services.

Congregation Anshei Sfarad Brings in Five New Families



Rabbi Yaakov Lederman

Rabbi Yaakov Lederman submitted the following:

Big changes are taking place at Congregation Anshei Sfarad. Over the past couple of months, five young families have moved in from all across the country. There is a palpable feeling of excitement, as the Shul is infused with the youthful energy these families have brought.

Among the new families are the Ledermans, who moved here from Queens, N.Y. Rabbi Yaakov Lederman is the new Rabbi at Anshei Sfarad. Rebbetzin Rivka Lederman has taken a position teaching Judaics at Montessori Torah Academy. The Ledermans are blessed with four children: Shoshana, Rachael, Yehuda, and Levi. Rabbi and Rebbetzin Lederman share a passion for teaching Torah. They hope to use their respective positions to teach and

inspire Louisville's Jewish community.

The Kaufman family also comes from Queens, NY. Rabbi Yosef Kaufman is Director of Outreach at the Louisville Torah Center. The Kaufmans have three children.

The Percal family comes to Louisville from Lakewood, N.J. The Percals have one child.

The Rudansky family recently moved in from Queens, N.Y. Rabbi Yoni Rudansky grew upon the South Shore of Long Island, N.Y., where he witnessed firsthand the impact a Jewish Day School education can have on a family. He studied in the Rabbinical Seminary of America for 11 years, where he received his Rabbinic Ordination. During that time, he also gained a wealth of experience as a fundraiser in many different capacities. It is with this passion to teach and educate the next generation that he accepted a position in the Montessori Torah Academy as Director of Development. He is joined by his wife, P'nina, who originally hails from North Miami Beach, Fla. Together with their two children, Yehuda Leib and Leah, they are excited to become a part of the greater Louisville Jewish community.

The Eisenberger family, originally from Israel, comes most recently from Phoenix, AZ. The Eisenbergers have three children.

These families' impact at the shul was felt immediately. Shabbos morning services are full and engaging. Each service is infused with passionate prayer and harmonious singing. The children are eager to come to shul. And

who could blame them? Each child is greeted with a special Shabbos treat before heading off to play with friends. After services, the shul has a Kiddush, which gives community members a chance to meet and connect -- and enjoy delicious cholent.

Programming during the rest of the week is also taking off. Every Sunday morning, Rabbi Lederman leads Talmud Trek, an engaging and educational journey through the main source of Jewish law and philosophy. Thursday night is “Mish-Nosh” night at the Shul. “Mish” is short for “Mishmar,” the Hebrew word ascribed to a late-night learning event.

“Nosh” is, well.... Nosh! Mish-Nosh is a chance for men to come together and enjoy a relaxing yet thoughtful evening of Torah study and refreshments. Learning at Mish-Nosh centers on source-based guided discussion about a particular Torah concept.

Anshei Sfarad invites everyone to join these programs, along with others that will be added soon. Come and check out the Shul's new look. Programming at Anshei Sfarad is open to all Jews regardless of background or affiliation. With new families, new programming, and new energy, Congregation Anshei Sfarad is excited about its bright future.

Muscle Monkey Comes to the Trager Family JCC



Workout leave you hungry? Good news – the Trager Family JCC has a new café: Muscle Monkey Grill, a small chain with locations in Louisville and Cincinnati specializing in wraps, smoothies, sandwiches, salads and açai bowls, all vegetarian-based.

Fancy a Raspberry-Colada smoothie, Straw-Mana açai bowl or a Jerk Chicken wrap (made with plant-based protein)? They've got you covered.

Located in the Kohn Family Town Square adjacent to the Yarmuth Family Aquatics Center, Muscle Monkey's hours of operation are Sundays 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Mon-Thurs 10 a.m.-7 p.m., and Fridays 10 a.m.-6 p.m. They're closed on Saturdays.

Happy noshing!

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AROUND TOWN

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

Adath Jeshurun

Sunday, Nov. 3 at 2 p.m., Adath Jeshurun will host the 2024 Israel Naamani Memorial Event featuring Nancy E. Berg, co-editor of *Exile and the Jews: Literature, History, and Identity*, the first comprehensive anthology examining Jewish responses to exile from the biblical period to our modern day. Dr. Berg is professor of Hebrew and comparative literature at Washington University in St. Louis. Admission is free but reservations are encouraged. 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. Co-sponsored by the Jewish Studies program and the Department of Comparative Humanities at U of L.

Adath Jeshurun invites the community to our next Shabbat-Luck Dinner Friday, Nov. 15 at 7 p.m. Chef Sean will prepare a vegetarian entree. Participants are asked to bring vegetarian appetizers, sides, salads, bread, desserts, or drinks. For complete information and to RSVP, visit www.adathjeshurun.com/shabbat-luck.

Chabad of Kentucky

Chabad invites the community to attend a new class entitled: *Nurturing Relationships: Jewish Wisdom for Building Deeper, Richer Connections in All Your Relationships*. This course will explore the timeless Jewish guidance on building, nurturing, and growing enduring relationships with family, friends, and the people around us. It's not about marriage, it's not about dealing with family drama and it's not about how to talk to your co-workers or neighbor. Instead, it is about building the specific core skills that can enhance all those relationships. This class will teach practical ways in which each of us can be that person who truly listens, who knows how to diffuse tension, and who brings out the best in everyone they meet.

The class will meet on six Wednesday evenings beginning Nov. 13 at 7 p.m. at the Trager Family JCC. The instructor will be Rabbi Avrohom Litvin. The cost for this series will be \$89, including the handbook. Email Chabadky@gmail.com to reserve your place or to find out more information.

Chavurat Shalom

We've got an amazingly talented lineup of pianists this month, with a bonus guitarist thrown in for good measure. Lunch will start at Noon in The Temple's Heideman Auditorium, unless noted below, and our program will start at 1 p.m. All programs will also be available via Zoom for those who need to join us remotely.

Thursday, Nov. 7 - Pianist Nada will enthrall us with a classical music program. Lunch will include grilled cheese sandwiches, chili, couscous salad, mixed green salad, fresh fruit, and cupcakes.

Thursday, Nov. 14 - David Shapero will play a little bit of everything on the pi-

ano. Lunch will include baked chicken with an orange apricot glaze, roasted red potatoes, mixed vegetables, mixed green salad, fresh fruit, and bread pudding.

Thursday, Nov. 21 - Misha Feigin will return and entertain us on the piano and guitar. Lunch will include roasted turkey, mashed potatoes, green beans, salad, fresh fruit, and assorted desserts.

Thursday, Nov. 28 - No Chavurat Shalom—wishing everyone a very happy, delicious Thanksgiving!

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 sarah-harlan86@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.

Jewish Family & Career Services

2025 JFCS MOSAIC Awards Nominations Open Until Oct. 15

Do you know an immigrant, refugee, or first-generation American who has come to Louisville and made a difference to the community? Help us share their story! We're looking for today's leaders, changemakers and humanitarians from Louisville's diverse community for the 2025 JFCS MOSAIC Awards. Along with individual MOSAIC Awards, we are also looking for a business or company that has made a tangible impact in supporting immigrants and refugees and is creating positive change within our community. Now in its 20th year, the JFCS MOSAIC Awards is one of our most cherished traditions and brings over 400 guests together for a night of celebration of Louisville's diversity. To nominate an individual or business, go to our website before October 15: www.jfcsloouisville.org.

Jewish Federation of Louisville

One Happy Camper grants and camp financial assistance are open to Kentucky residents under the age of 18 identifying as Jewish and attending an approved camp.

First-year campers: Youth attending camp for the first time are eligible to receive up to \$2,500 for a session of 19 days or more, and up to \$1,500 for an 11-18-day session.

Second-year campers: Kentucky campers who received a One Happy Camper grant in Summer 2024 may be eligible to receive up to \$2,000 for a session of 19 days or more, and up to \$1,250 for an 11-18-day session.

Third-year campers: Campers attending camp for third year may be eligible for a \$1,500 grant.

If additional financial assistance is needed beyond the One Happy Camper grants, or for children past year 3 of camp, we want to help. Please note, all applications and inquiries are confidential. No financial documentation will be requested. Funding is provided through

the generosity of individual donors, the Jewish Heritage Fund and the Federation's Annual Campaign.

For more information, reach out to Alison Roemer, aroemer@jewishlouisville.org or Avery Curtis, acurtis@jewishlouisville.org.

In our contemporary world where the Middle East is too often a cauldron of extremism and despair, Women Leading a Dialogue seeks to lower the temperature as it encourages genuine insight and tolerance. Comprising 20 Jewish, Christian and Muslim women who live in Israel's Western Galilee – our Partnership2Gether region – the group spent a year building shared connections and imperatives. Their collective mission is "to find mutual ground and strengthen bonds of understanding and friendship."

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Keneseth Israel

Immediately following Saturday morning services on Nov. 23, Keneseth Israel Congregation is excited to host delegates from Partnership2Gether's Women Leading Dialogue program. Embracing conversations as the ultimate bridge-builder, these Jewish and Arab Israeli women have built friendships and better understanding with their neighbors.

Keneseth Israel Congregation offers Daily Minyan services at 6 p.m. Sunday through Thursday; 8:45 a.m. on Sundays at Adath Jeshurun, and 7:30 a.m. Monday and Thursday at Keneseth Israel. Minyan services are offered in person and on Zoom at tinyurl.com/kiczoom. Join us for Shabbat services Friday at 6 p.m. and Saturdays at 9:30 a.m. Shabbat 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 11 a.m. at the Trager Family JCC.

Kol Israel Community of Kentucky ALEPH -- the Alliance for Jewish Renewal -- has a full slate of virtual events scheduled over the coming months. You can get information and registration links by going online at aleph.org/virtualprograms.

Louisville High School of Jewish Studies

HSJS 2024-25 has had a terrific start to the school year, and the good news is that any and all Jewish high school students who want to be part of our ruach-filled community can still register!

We held our "elective speed dating" session on our first day and have now custom-crafted a schedule full of engaging and meaningful electives. Students will be able to explore everything from Jews and Video Games to Jewish Cooking to LGBTQ Judaism to Jews, Technology, and Pop Culture to Jewish Jewelry/Craft-Making and more!

Don't miss out on this opportunity to stay connected with your Jewish friends, explore a wide variety of subjects taught by an amazing faculty, prepare for Confirmation, and fulfill the mitzvah of Jewish learning and engaging! TA at JLAB at The Temple or one of LBSY's madrichim? Don't forget to register for HSJS!

Go online at louisvillehsjs.org/register to register today. We have generous financial aid available; go online at louisvillehsjs.org/scholarships to register with scholarship assistance.

Questions? Contact Principal Sarah Harlan at hsjssarah@gmail.com.

Louisville Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning

Dive into the big questions around God and God's relationship to Humankind in the six-week Melton Course "OMG, Can You Believe?!" taught by Cantor David Lipp. We'll examine the many different understandings of God, free will, and mitzvot expressed by Jewish philosophers, rabbis, leaders past and present – and you. We'll explore the divine, the prophetic, and even the supernatural, as we amplify and dissect your deepest God-questions. Just do not expect to leave with any final answers. Zoom Session: Tuesdays from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. continuing through December 10. In-Person Session: Thursdays from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. from October 31 to December 12. Learners may attend one or both sessions. To register or for more information, please visit events.meltonschool.org/ec/9b57e0c5-96b0-45b2-9dd5-00a8c123d172?e=QHJ45BFY or email sisham@adathjeshurun.com.

Louisville Vaad HaKashruth

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

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AROUND TOWN

(this location is closed indefinitely after a fire earlier this year).

National Council of Jewish Women -- Louisville Section

We hope everyone has either already voted or is planning to vote on Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 5. One of the key issues we've been following is the proposed KY Amendment 2, which would allow public funds to go to private schools. We urge you to go to protectourschools.com to learn how you can still help spread the word to Vote No on 2!

Mark your calendars for upcoming events and trainings we have planned:

Sunday, Jan. 12, 2025: Interfaith Repro Rights Training— learn how to promote the message that reproductive rights and freedoms are Jewish and interfaith values.

Sunday, Feb. 2, 2025: NCJW's Annual Mahjong Mania Event!

Nearly New Shop

One way you can support NCJW's important advocacy work is by visiting our Nearly New Shop in the Mid City Mall, 1250 Bardstown Rd. We have everything from gently used designer outfits to great gifts for kids to housewares and furniture and everything in between. We're open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. All proceeds help to serve women, children, and families in the Louisville community.

Get a head start on your holiday shopping and take advantage of these great deals:

Nov. 1-9: "Sweater Weather Sale" 30% off sweaters, jackets, and coats.

Nov. 11-16: Double Stamp Week – Two stamps on Frequent Shopper Cards for each \$20 spent.

Nov. 18-23: Vintage sale – 50% off all vintage items.

Nov. 25-30: All home décor and collectibles are 40% off and Fabulous Finds are 30% off on the 30th.

Black Friday, Nov. 29: 70% off storewide.

Temple Shalom

Shabbat Services, Fridays at 7 p.m. and Saturdays at 10:30 a.m.

The community is invited to participate in Shabbat services at Temple Shalom. Services are led by Rabbi Beth Jacowitz Chottiner and members of the congregation.

Let's Play Majong, Sunday, Nov. 2, 2-4 p.m. at Temple Shalom

All are welcome at any level, including beginner, novice, to join us for an afternoon of fun. If you have never played before, this is a great opportunity to learn. Drinks and snacks will be provided. RSVP to Slava Nelson at 502-803-4968 or engagement@templeshalomky.org.

Representatives from Partnership2Gether's Women Leading Dialogue delegation will speak during Temple Shalom's Shabbat services, Friday,

Nov. 22. These Israeli women -- Jewish and Arab -- participated in a year-long program to break down barriers and strengthen the bonds between people of various cultures and religions in the Western Galilee. Shabbat services start at 7 p.m. with an Oneg immediately following.

Save the Date! Israeli comedian Joel Chasnoff will be in residence at Temple Shalom Dec. 13-14. During Shabbat evening services, which start at 7 p.m., he will speak on Life in Israel Post-October 7. On Saturday, following services, at noon we will have a lunch and learn, and he will speak about The Israeli Army's Code of Ethics. That night, Dec. 14 at 7:30 p.m., Chasnoff will perform his stand-up comedy at 7:30. The event includes a wine and cheese reception. Tickets are \$36 for members and \$54 for non-members. For more information, contact the synagogue office at 502-458-4739.

The Temple

Adult education at The Temple continues weekly: Monday night classes including Beginning Hebrew with Rabbi Matt, Advanced Hebrew with Mark Goldstein, Text Study with Rabbi David, and Intro to Judaism with Rabbi David; Temple Scholars is on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. with Rabbi David and 10:45 a.m. with Rabbi Matt; and Torah Study with Rabbi David is on Saturdays at 9 a.m. For a full schedule and descriptions, please go to thetemplelouky.org/adult-education.

The Temple invites congregants to attend Shabbat services on Friday nights and Saturday mornings. More information at thetemplelouky.org.

Friday, Nov. 1 at 5 p.m., The Temple is excited to welcome you for a memorable evening of History Close to Home. Join us as we embark on a journey through local Jewish history with cocktails and tours of the synagogue archives. Tours will begin at 5 p.m. Following the tours, we will come together for a Shabbat dinner (5:45 p.m.) and a keynote address by Dr. Emily Bingham, sharing this experience with members of The Temple and the broader Louisville Jewish community in our newly renovated sanctuary. Shabbat services (7 p.m.) will include a special sermon on local Jewish history, followed by a dessert reception. Dr. Bingham's books will also be available for purchase before Shabbat services. We are thrilled to offer this exceptional evening at no cost for Temple members (\$50 for non-Temple members), but space is extremely limited. RSVP today to ensure your spot for this unique and enriching evening at thetemplelouky.org/sjhs.

Join The Temple for a special Veterans Day Shabbat service Friday, Nov. 8 at 7 p.m. as we honor our veterans and the founding of our Temple. Then on Saturday, Nov. 9, join us for Shabbat morning services at 10:30 a.m. featuring the No-Rehearsal Choir.

Join The Temple Brotherhood for A Special Brotherhood Dinner with DeVone Holt on Thursday, Nov. 14. DeVone Holt is a multi-talented executive who combines nearly 30 years as an institutional brand manager, culture creator, strategic communicator and people conve-

ner. In 2024, Holt was named president and CEO of the Muhammad Ali Center. RSVP at thetemplelouky.org/brotherhood-dinner.

Come join Rabbi Matt for a special kickoff for our new Tot Shabbat programming Friday, Nov. 15 at 6 p.m. Our new Tot Shabbat will be a monthly, 15-minute service with our youngest members in mind, but will also be a chance to meet other families. This event is open to all. After Tot Shabbat ends at 6:15 pm, we will have a family dinner and will welcome all the families to stay for dinner. This month's Thanks for Giving Dinner will honor all our amazing volunteers. Tot Shabbat and dinner are free to attend, but if you plan to stay for dinner, an RSVP is required at thetemplelouky.org/thanksforgiving, to make sure we have enough food.

Join The Temple for Inclusion Shabbat Friday, Nov. 22 at 7 p.m. as we welcome the Partnership2Gether Women Leading Dialogue delegation, a group of Israeli women -- Jewish and Arab -- who are seeking to move beyond coexistence to create long-term ties of friendship and understanding.

Join us for a delicious journey during Israeli Food Extravaganza Nov. 24 at 10 a.m. Led by Rabbi David, this free class will teach you how to make classic Israeli dishes: Shakshuka, morning Hummus (Masbacha), Tahini, and Israeli salad. Roll up your sleeves, cook, taste, and enjoy the flavors of Israel with friends. No experience is needed— just bring your appetite. RSVP: thetemplelouky.org/IsraeliFood.

Trager Family JCC

CenterStage's Production of *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* opens Nov. 7. It was 57 years ago that *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* opened off-Broadway at Theatre 80 in New York's East Village (Gary Burghoff, who'd later become famous as M*A*S*H's Radar O'Reilly, played the title role). Clark Gesner's Peanuts-inspired musical has enjoyed a healthy life over the ensuing decades, proving that modest creations can be more than modestly rewarding.

The show has Charlie Brown and the entire Peanuts gang explore life's great questions as they play baseball, struggle with homework, sing songs, swoon over their crushes, and celebrate the joy of friendship.

It comes to the Trager Family JCC's Shapira Foundation Auditorium in early November, with performances slated for Nov. 7, 9, 10, 14, 16 and 17. For tickets, go online at jclouisville.org/centerstage. And always remember, happiness is a warm puppy.

Join us for a delightful afternoon at our "Picnic with the Peanuts Gang" on Sunday, November 10 at 12:30 p.m.! Families are invited to enjoy a special pre/show experience that includes a fun craft inspired by the Peanuts universe, savoring themed snacks that will bring a taste of Charlie Brown's world to life, from "Snoopy's Snacks" to "Lucy's Lemonade", to culminate with a chance to meet the cast of our show and snap some photos with the beloved characters. Tickets are only \$38 and include a

ticket to the 2 p.m. show! Purchase for young participants only- parents can accompany and need only buy regular priced ticket. For tickets, go online at jclouisville.org/centerstage.

Registration is Still Open for Club J at the Trager Family JCC. Club J is a before & after-school program set in our fun Camp J environment run by our Camp J Staff. Children enrolled in Club J will play games, participate in a variety of activities each week, receive homework help as needed, and get to spend time with their friends. Transportation is available to and from select schools.

For information on Club J sessions and how to register, go online at jclouisville.org/clubj.

The Trager Family JCC Youth Enrichment program provides regularly scheduled, structured, and supervised activities for children outside of the regular school day. Our enrichment classes promote positive youth development and offer a variety of learning opportunities, including STEM programs, gross motor skill development, cooking, recreation, and social development.

MONDAYS: UKULELE CLASS

4:30-5:30 p.m.
For children grades K-5
Sept. 9-Nov. 18
Cost: \$200 Members, \$250 Non-members

TUESDAYS: CHESS CLUB

4:30-5:30 p.m.
For children grades 1-5
September 10-November 19
Cost: \$200 Members, \$250 Non-members

WEDNESDAYS: DANCE/CREATIVE MOVEMENT

3:30-4:00 p.m.
For pre-K children ages 3 & 4
October 9 -December 11
Cost: \$200 Members, \$250 Non-members

THURSDAYS: BRICKS4KIDZ

4:30-5:30 p.m.
For children grades K-5
September 12-November 21
Cost: \$275 Members, \$325 Non-members

FRIDAYS: COOKING CLASS

4:30-5:30 p.m.
For children grades K-5
Dates TBA
Cost: \$275 Members, \$325 Non-members

LOCATED IN THE CAMP J BUILDING: 3700 DUTCHMANS LANE.

To register, go online at jclouisville.org/fallenrichment. Questions? Contact Jesse Barfield, Youth Program Director, at jbarfield@jewishlouisville.org

This programming is registration based. Different classes may have different costs due to variables such as course materials, canceled class dates due to holidays, etc.

LIFECYCLE

Births



Emerson Marilyn Markovitz

Paige and Eric Markovitz are thrilled to announce the birth of their daughter Emerson Marilyn Markovitz on Oct. 1, 2024.

Emerson was born at Norton Women's and Children's Hospital weighing 7 pounds and measuring 19 inches. Grandparents are Roy and Andrea Massey and Michael and Leslye Markovitz.

B'nai Mitzvah



Zoë Lila Bailen

Zoë Lila Bailen, daughter of Caren and Michael Bailen, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah at 10 a.m. Saturday, November 16th at Congregation Adath

Jeshurun. Zoë is the granddaughter of Sandy and Jim Bailen and the late Betty and David Carney, and the great-granddaughter of the late Shirley Bailen. Zoë is a seventh grader at Kentucky Country Day School where she plays on the field hockey, basketball, and lacrosse teams. She also plays club field hockey with Louisville Magic. Zoë attends Beber Camp in Wisconsin and will be back for her fifth year this coming summer.



Jude Irvine Tasman

Jude Irvine Tasman, son of Abby and Barrett Tasman and brother of Blake and Levi, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, November 23,

at 10:00 am at Adath Jeshurun.

Jude is the grandson of Marda and Ronnie Tasman and Gretchen (deceased) and James Bickle of Suffolk, Virginia and great-grandson of Martha

Froct.

At Noe Middle School, Jude enjoys being a member of the tennis and indoor/outdoor track teams and is actively involved in the Future Problem Solvers Club, KUNA and KYA. Outside of school, Jude spends his time playing piano, hanging out with friends, cheering on his fantasy football team and honing his visual arts and puzzle skills. Jude enjoys volunteering with his grandmother at Gilda's Club Kentuckiana by providing regular musical entertainment during their community-wide events.

Obituaries



Jonathan Colby Auslander-Price

Jonathan "Jon" Colby Auslander-Price, 50, passed away in his home in Louisville, Ky. on October 19, 2024. He was the oldest son of Larry and Jacquie (Phil-

pott) Price and brother to Nickolas "Nick."

Jonathan was born on December 28, 1973, in Bowling Green, Ky., and grew up in Cumberland County, Ky. During his school years, he developed a passion for bands as a percussionist, which continued into his college years.

After graduating high school, Jon attended Western Kentucky University, where he met and married Alana Auslander (now deceased).

Jon earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Austin Peay University and his Master of Business Administration from the University of the Cumberland.

His current position was supervisor of Records and Reports of Nutrition for Jefferson County Public Schools.

Jonathan is survived by his daughter, Jada; his parents, Jacquie and Larry Price; brother Nickolas and sister-in-law Jessie; niece Berkley; his father and mother-in-law Michael and Lee Auslander; sister-in-law Marissa; and many extended family and friends.

A memorial service was held October 27 at Herman Meyer & Son.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to Twisted Pink (<https://www.twistedpink.org/>) or The Producers-YPAS Booster Club (<https://www.ypas-producers.org/>) are appreciated.

twistedpink.org/) or The Producers-YPAS Booster Club (<https://www.ypas-producers.org/>) are appreciated.



Kenneth Stuart Jacobson

After a long illness, Kenneth Stuart "Kenny" Jacobson passed through the portal into the unknown. Kenny was born in Louisville, Ky. on August 28, 1938, the son of Abe and Rose (Zeiden) Jacobson.

Growing up in Louisville, Kenny attended Manual High School but graduated from Fern Creek High School. He was in the Army Reserves during the late 1960s. He owned and operated B&W #2, a liquor and sundry store in Old Louisville, from the mid-1960s until 1977 when he moved to New York with his wife Betsy (Ress), whom he married in 1972. He and Betsy were active in the Jewish community in Larchmont, N.Y., and Kenny served as president of Beth-Emeth synagogue.

Kenny graduated from the University of Kentucky. In later years, he matriculated at Iona University and received a master's degree in accounting. He then worked as a tax preparer for H&R Block for many years. Kenny was an amazing big brother to his younger brother, Harry. Kenny and their older brother, Jay, helped put Harry through college.

Kenny was predeceased by his wife of 52 years, Betsy, his parents, and his older brother Jay.

Kenny is survived by his brother Harry Jacobson-Beyer (Sherry), his son Michael (Kim Clem), his granddaughters Abby, Emma, and Haley, his nephew Keith Jacobson (Jennifer), his sister-in-law, Lorita Jacobson, his nieces Peggy Kasdan Mandel (Joel) and Ilene Kasden Stoess (Scott), and several cousins, great nieces, and nephews.

His wonderful, caring friend Cookie Steinberg Kabakoff (formerly of Lexington, Ky.) is also left behind to cherish his memory.

The family appreciates and gives thanks to his amazing nephrologist and friend Dr. Krishna Sury who lovingly referred to Kenny as her "pain in the ass patient," one with an incredible

sense of humor – who made her laugh. Kenny and his family are so grateful for the care and love she gave him.

A memorial service for Betsy and Kenny will be held in New York at a later date.



Dr. Melvyn M. Koby

Dr. Melvyn M. Koby passed away October 22nd, 2024, at the age of 86. Mel was born on October 12, 1938 in Louisville, Ky. to Benjamin

and Mina (Debrovy) Koby. Mel grew up in Louisville, where he attended Atherton High School and worked as a clerk in his father's drug store, Koby Drug Company. He earned a B.A. in Chemistry from Vanderbilt University and attended the University of Louisville School of Medicine. After training for two years in internal medicine at Barnes Hospital in St. Louis, he served as a Captain in the U.S. Air Force during the Vietnam War. Mel returned to Barnes Hospital to complete his ophthalmology residency in 1971 and founded the Doctors Eye Institute and The Right to Sight program in Louisville that same year.

Mel, a visionary in his field, was one of the first ophthalmologists in the U.S. to perform refractive surgery, including LASIK, and was the first ophthalmologist in Kentucky to insert an intraocular lens during cataract surgery. Following his retirement in 2013, Mel volunteered his time at U of L's Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, teaching and mentoring the residents training to become tomorrow's ophthalmologists.

Mel was a member of The Temple-Congregation Adath Israel Brith Shalom, Congregation Adath Jeshurun, Kosair Temple, St. George Masonic Lodge #239 F&AM, Scottish Rite, and was a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons and the American Academy of Ophthalmology. Mel was inducted into the Atherton High School Hall of Fame in 2013, and in 2017 he established an endowment to support the Dr. Melvyn Koby Educational Ex-

Continued on page 21

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LIFECYCLE

Continued from page 20

cellence Award, which is bestowed annually to a U of L resident physician in the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences who displays not only clinical and surgical excellence but shows the most compassion toward patients and families.

While his professional accomplishments were significant, Mel cherished time with his friends and family above all else. His humor and joie de vivre was adored by all, and he was always quick with a joke or a prank, along with his signature mischievous smile. He loved good food, wine, and travel, mostly because he could enjoy these things with his lifelong friends and extended family. His greatest pride and joy were his two sons, and more than anything, he absolutely relished his role as “Daddy Mel” to his two beloved grandsons.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his brother Jay Koby, and sister Elaine Stern. Mel is survived by his sons, Benjamin and Michael (Leslie); his honorary daughter Maya Narula; his cherished grandsons, Noah and Owen; and numerous family and friends. Mel was a great physician and greater man who will be sorely missed, and his memory will be a blessing to all of us.

The Koby Family express their profound gratitude to all the caregivers who brought joy and kindness to Mel's final days. Your unwavering support was a source of comfort.

Funeral services were held October

25th at Herman Meyer & Son, with burial at Adath Jeshurun Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be sent to the National Parkinsons Institute, which will support free classes, groups, and programs for individuals and families in Louisville affected by Parkinson's Disease.

Marilyn G. Weiss

Marilyn G. Weiss (nee Garon), 80, born July 12, 1944, died Sept. 21, 2024.

She was the beloved wife of the late Earl L. Weiss; loving mother of Laura (Steven) Simon and Brian (Iga) Weiss; devoted grandmother of Noah Simon, Teilah Simon, Gabriella Weiss and Julian Weiss; dear sister of Mona (Jay) Brodsky of Louisville, Ky.; and cherished daughter of the late Sylvia and Milton Garon.

Graveside services were held Sept. 22 at the Mt. Sinai Cemetery at S.O.M. Center and White Roads in Mayfield Village (in the Cleveland, Ohio area).

Friends who were unable to attend the service may view it by going to YouTube, and search, “Marilyn G. Weiss Funeral Service.”

Friends who wish may contribute to the Beachwood Kehilla (beachwoodkehilla.org), Jewish Family Experience (jewishfamilyexperience.org) or the Mandel Jewish Day School (mandeljds.org)

Arrangements were under the direction of Berkowitz-Kumin-Bookatz Memorial Chapel.



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Trager Family JCC

Learn more about how our personal trainers can help you!
jclouisville.org/personaltraining

The promotion for this month is "Bring a Friend". Current training clients will be able to bring ONE friend to ONE training session. This offer can be used multiple times; however, it must be a different friend each time. The current client will continue to be charged per session as usual. This offer can only be used with "Individual" packages and cannot be used with "Partner" or "Group" packages. Each friend will be required to fill out a Personal Training Waiver before exercising. This offer is active beginning on 11/01/24 and expires as of 11/30/24. The promotion for the month can only be used with the trainer of the month.*



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Jewish Overnight Camp Grants

- **First-year grants**
\$2,500 for 4 weeks or \$1,500 for 2 weeks
- **Second-year grants**
\$2,000 for 4 weeks or \$1,250 for 2 weeks
- **Third-year grants**
\$1,500 for 4 weeks or \$1,000 for 2 weeks
- Additional financial needs-based assistance available

Application Process

- Visit JewishLouisville.org/Grants to learn more or complete a grant request form.
- Rolling applications. Awards will be sent directly to camp.

For more info, scan the QR code or visit JewishLouisville.org/Grants
Email questions to Alison Roemer at aroemer@jewishlouisville.org.

Jewish Family JCC | **Jewish Federation of Louisville** | **Jewish Heritage Fund**

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GLOBE

Paul Mendes-Flohr, authority on Martin Buber, dies at 83

By Andrew Silow-Carroll
JTA

Paul Mendes-Flohr was introduced to the writings of the German-Jewish scholar and philosopher Martin Buber when he was 18 and volunteering on a kibbutz in Israel.

“Of course, I didn’t understand a word,” Mendes-Flohr told an interviewer in 2012.

Later, however, at Brandeis University, he had an opportunity to study Buber in a more rigorous fashion under the tutelage of Nahum Glatzer, an Austrian Jewish scholar and one of the founding figures of the Jewish studies department at the Massachusetts university.

“He took an interest in me and my work and introduced me not only to the writings of Buber, but the whole aura of German-Jewish through — the earnestness, the urgency of modern Jewish thought as it took shape in Germany,” Mendes-Flohr recalled.

Mendes-Flohr not only came to understand Buber but became what a colleague, Brandeis historian Jonathan Sarna, called “the leading Martin Buber scholar of our time and a central figure in Modern Jewish thought and history.”

Mendes-Flohr, who died Thursday

at 83, served as editor in chief, along with Bernd Witte, of a 22-volume German edition of Buber’s collected works. Fellow scholar Robert Alter, in a New York Times review, called his 2019 book “Martin Buber: A Life of Faith and Dissent” a “scrupulously researched, perceptive biography of Buber that evinces an authoritative command of all the contexts through which Buber moved.”

Mendes-Flohr’s expertise extended well beyond Buber to include modern Jewish intellectual history, philosophy and religious thought. The 62 books he edited, wrote and co-wrote include studies of the Jewish anarchist Gustav Landauer; “The Jew in the Modern World,” a standard text written with Jehuda Reinharz; and “Contemporary Jewish Religious Thought: Original Essays on Critical Concepts, Movements and Beliefs,” edited with Arthur A. Cohen.

When “Contemporary Jewish Religious Thought” appeared in 1987, it was hailed as a landmark survey of how Jewish thought had been shaped by modernity, the Holocaust and the creation of the state of Israel.

Mendes-Flohr, whose titles included professor emeritus of Jewish Thought at the Hebrew University

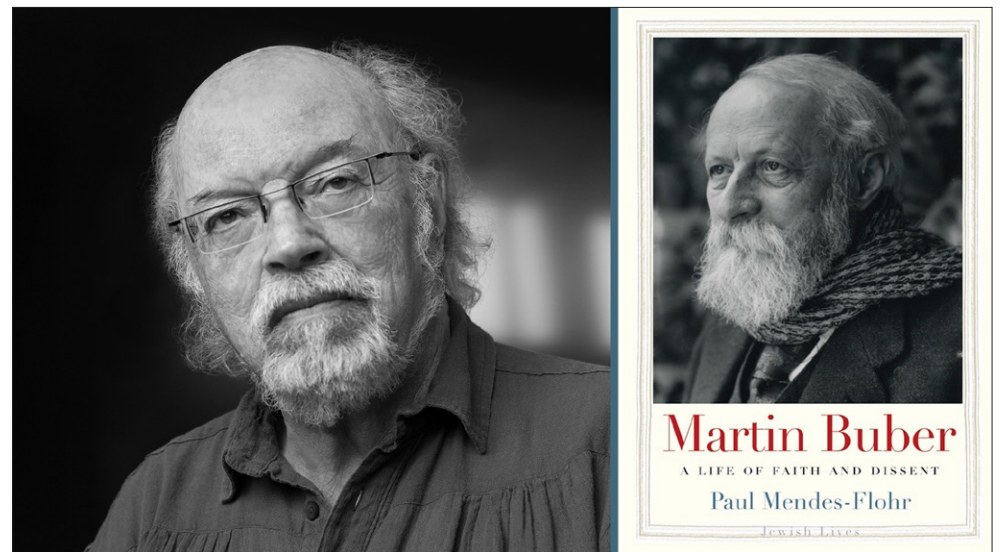
and Dorothy Grant Maclear professor emeritus of modern Jewish history and thought at the University of Chicago Divinity School, was also highly regarded as a friend and mentor.

“I count among the great privileges and pleasures of my life the contact that I had with Paul over the past two decades,” Alan Flashman, a psychiatrist and friend of the scholar, wrote in an appreciation in the Times of Israel. Flashman recalled

how Mendes-Flohr supported Flashman’s 2013 Modern Hebrew translation of Buber’s best-known work, “I and Thou.”

Rabbi Shmuly Yanklowitz of Valley Beit Midrash, an adult learning center in Scottsdale, Arizona, recalled that Mendes-Flohr was a frequent and popular scholar-in-residence. “His teaching style was as rigorous as it was warmly inviting,” Yanklowitz

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A New York Times reviewer called Paul Mendes-Flohr’s 2019 book “Martin Buber: A Life of Faith and Dissent” a “scrupulously researched, perceptive biography” of the German Jewish philosopher. (Wikipedia; Yale University Press)

All New!
SUNDAY FUNDAYS

FREE
PROGRAMMING
FOR JCC
MEMBERS

Sundays from 1-3 p.m.

First Sunday: Art
Weisberg Family Lobby

Second Sunday: Chess
Weisberg Family Lobby

Third Sunday: Bricks4Kidz
Weisberg Family Lobby

Fourth Sunday: Ga-Ga
Isaacs Gym

This programming is “drop-in” style and classes will rotate weekly, but be the same monthly.

Children 12 and under are not permitted to be unsupervised.

Questions? Contact Jesse at jbarfield@jewishlouisville.org
jccloouisville.org/sunday-fundays

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GLOBE

Continued from page 22

itz recalled in a Facebook post. “His fascination with history and great literature of the past was balanced by his dreaming of a peaceful future.”

Paul Flohr was born in Brooklyn in 1941. He added his wife’s surname to his own when he and Rita Mendes, a photographer, were married after meeting at Brandeis. The couple moved to Israel in 1970 after he received his Ph.D. from Brandeis. There they raised two children, who, like his wife, survive him.

Mendes-Flohr joined the University of Chicago faculty in 2000, after teaching for 30 years at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

His books include “German Jews: A Dual Identity,” “Progress and its Discontents” (in Hebrew) and “Divided Passions: Jewish Intellectuals and the Experience of Modernity.”

Mendes-Flohr was also the editor of “A Land of Two Peoples: Martin Buber on Jews and Arabs.” Mendes-Flohr took to heart Buber’s notion of “I and Thou,” which describes the basis for genuine dialogue between individuals and between peoples and which Mendes-Flohr sought to apply to the Israeli-Arab conflict.

In a 2022 essay for Sources Journal, “Why Is America Different?”, Mendes-Flohr also remained hopeful for Jewish life in the United States — famously described as the

“city on the hill” — despite the country’s growing polarization and intolerance:

Today, at a time when many harbor growing doubts about the promises of America, some historical perspective is in order: in view of the anguished and tragically ill-fated struggle for Jewish emancipation in Europe, American Jews, spared that ordeal, can both avoid complacency and express a healthy mistrust of the city even as they join in a robust song of thanksgiving for their uniquely pluralistic and prosperous home and the unprecedented opportunities it still affords.

Despite his academic accomplishments, what Mendes-Flohr’s students remember most “is his soft voice, warm smile, and earnest effort to personify the dialogical thought he studied,” Samuel Brody, a student and collaborator of Mendes-Flohr, wrote in the Forward.

“The most common word used to describe him, after ‘scholar,’ is mensch,” wrote Brody, associate professor in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of Kansas, using the Yiddish term for a kind, decent person. “At office hours, he would ask about his students’ families with such sincerity and persistence that they would sometimes forget what they had come to talk to him about.”



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