

JEWISH LOUISVILLE COMMUNITY

INSIDE:

High Holy Days Schedules

SEE PAGE 26

FRIDAY Vol. 51, No. 8 | August 29, 2025 | 5 Elul 5785

Celebrating the resonance of connection: Louisville hosts P2G's Council of Communities

By Amy Fouts
*Partnership2Gether Outreach Manager at
the Jewish Federation of Louisville*

Especially since October 7, conversations about Israel are often viewed through the lens of politics, protests, war, hostages, and uncertainty. And yet, for four days in July when Louisville hosted the Partnership2Gether Western Galilee's (P2G) Council of Communities, the conversations were filled with connection, resilience, and hope.

P2G, a program of the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI), is a network that connects Louisville community members with people in Israel's Western Galilee — in the Mediterranean coastal city of Akko and via the Matte Asher Regional Council — as well as with Budapest, Hungary, and 16 other U.S. cities. The Western Galilee is characterized by rich diversity and multiculturalism with its Christian, Druze, Jewish, and Muslim populations living side by side. Louisville has been part of P2G since 1997, building meaningful friendships and shared projects across these communities. Each year, the Council of Commu-



Becky Admony, Sara Klein Wagner, Mayor Moshe Davidovitch (Mayor of Matte Asher, Israel), and Beth Salamon

nities (COC) brings everyone together for the annual meeting — part business, part celebration — offering a chance to learn, discuss programming, vote on the budget, and, most importantly, honor the connections and accomplishments

that make the network so special.

As this year's host city, we had the added privilege of welcoming Israeli and Hungarian visitors prior to the start of the COC. In partnership with The Tem-

See **COC** on page 4

Out of October 7th's despair, 'Kites of Hope' soars high

By Andrew Adler
Community Editor

Nearly two years after the horrific events of October 7, 2023, it would be easy -- instinctive, even -- for any observance of that anniversary to emphasize themes of abject pessimism. But that's not what will define Louisville's principal commemoration, slated for Sunday, Oct. 12 on the grounds of the Trager Family JCC.

Instead, the sky above the Jewish Heritage Fund Campus will be filled with kites, dozens of them -- a soaring metaphor for a refusal to give in to the forces of anguish and despair. Louisville's commemoration was inspired by the event being planned by Columbus, Ohio's Federation -- JewishColumbus.

"Kites of Hope" was inspired by Kibbutz Kfar Aza's 15-year tradition of the annual Sukkot kite festival, which was

See **KITES OF HOPE** on page 8

With SAFE Louisville firmly in place, Regional Security Advisor Stuart Lowrey up- dates the current landscape

By Stuart Lowrey
Regional Security Advisor



Stuart Lowrey

As the 2025 High Holidays approach, our shared goal is for every member of the Louisville Jewish community to engage fully, safely, and with confidence. As your Regional Security Advisor, I work jointly for our Federation and the Chicago-based Secure Community Network, whose mission is "to ensure the safety, security, and resiliency of the Jewish community in North America."

I have had the privilege of collaborat-

ing side by side with our institutions, professional and lay leadership, and families over the past year. It's been a real pleasure getting to know many of you -- whether at synagogue and community events, or here at the Trager Family JCC. Please don't ever hesitate to share any questions or concerns with me. I'm always here to listen.

I want to share a snapshot of the current threat environment, the preparedness work we have done together, and steps you can take to strengthen your own peace of mind this season. In recent months, SAFE Louisville, working closely with partners across the Jewish community and with law enforcement, has expanded training, hardened our facilities, and implemented best practices.

See **LOWREY** on page 7

The 2025 Mazin Art Exhibition is a legacy of vision and visuals

By Andrew Adler
Community Editor

It was long ago, inside a second-grade classroom somewhere in 1920s Chicago, when a girl named Bernice Spitz caught the art bug.

"Her teachers gave her crayons and paper, and she just never stopped after that," her daughter Marilyn Mazin Miller recalled, speaking about the woman who'd become a celebrated Louisville painter and eventually endow a fund, the Benjamin and Bernice Mazin Visual Arts Fund, to support a bi-annual, juried show: the Mazin Art Exhibition.

Bernice and her husband, attorney Benjamin Mazin, organized the first exhibition in 1994 at the former Jewish Community Center. In 2023, the exhibition moved to the new Trager Family



Sky Stream, Bernice Mazin, American
(Mixed Media, 36"x24")

JCC, where the 2025 edition opens Oct. 12 at the rear of the Weisberg Family Lobby, near the Kohn Family Town Square.

Benjamin Mazin died in 1997; Bernice passed away five years later in 2012.

See **MAZIN** on page 9



THE DASHBOARD

Word of the Month

As Rosh Hashanah beckons, we stand before G-d as One



D'var Torah

Rabbi
Chaim Litvin

As we prepare to close the year and enter the new one, the Torah reading offers us a timeless message. In Parshat Nitzavim we read:

Atem nitzavim hayom kulchem lifnei Hashem Elokeichem ("You are all standing today before G-d your G-d") (Devarim 29:9).

Midrash teaches that *hayom* -- "today" -- refers to Rosh Hashanah, the day we all stand before G-d in judgment. The Torah emphasizes *kulchem*, ("all of you," from the leaders down to the water carriers), because on Rosh Hashanah there are no divisions. Before the King of Kings, each of us stands with equal value, equally essential to the Jewish people's collective destiny.

The Lubavitcher Rebbe explained that unity is not only a condition of judgment but is a source of blessing. When we all come together in true solidarity, our combined strength brings G-d's blessing for a good and sweet year. That is why Rosh Hashanah is celebrated with the sounding of the shofar, a simple blast that comes from the essence of the heart. Unlike words, which can divide by language or perspective, the shofar is a sound that unites, and awakens the inner bond between every Jew and G-d.

A second powerful lesson comes from the Rambam in Hilchot Teshuvah (3:4). He writes that every person should see the world as if it is perfectly balanced. With one mitzvah, one act of kindness, one moment of prayer or one mitzvah, we can tip the scale and bring salvation to our community, and the entire world. The Rambam concludes: "Therefore, every person must see themselves all year long as if their next deed could bring the redemption for the entire world."

Taken together, these two teachings give us the keys for the closing out the year:

Atem nitzavim, "You are all standing," reminds us that we stand together, united as one people before G-d.

Rambam reminds us that every individual has infinite power to affect the world with even one deed.

This balance between the unity of the collective and the power of the individual is the beauty of Jewish life, and the essence of Rosh Hashanah.

Today, these messages strike us with particular urgency. We cannot ignore the pain of our brothers and sisters in Israel, especially the families of those still held hostage in the dungeons of Gaza. The Torah's vision of *nitzavim*

kulchem, all of us standing together, means that their suffering is our suffering, their prayers are our prayers. We are one body; when one limb feels pain, the whole body feels pain.

The Rebbe, throughout the years, often emphasized that spirituality is directly connected to physicality. When we increase in study, mitzvot, and acts of goodness, it brings protection, safety, and blessing to the world, especially in Israel. That is why the Rebbe would encourage very practical things: putting on tefillin, lighting Shabbat candles, and studying Torah. These simple actions are not symbolic – they are real sources of blessing that affect the safety and peace of the Jewish people.

As we close the year, the Rebbe taught us not to only look backward with regret, but to look forward with commitment. Every year begins with crowning G-d as our King, and that is done through our unity, through our prayers, and through our dedication to unity in the coming year.

And so, in these days, each of us has the opportunity to add one more mitzvah, one more act of kindness, one more moment of prayer and to know with confidence that it may be our action that tips the scales, that brings protection to Israel, releases for the hostages, comfort to the bereaved, and peace for our people.

This year especially, we can take the sound of the shofar as our model. The shofar is raw, simple, unadorned but it reaches the deepest places. It reminds us that beyond all divisions, politics, or differences, at our core we are one nation with one heart. When we call out with the shofar, we are crying together, not alone.

And just as the shofar is a call, it is also a promise. As we read in Prophet Isaiah: "And on that day, a great shofar will be sounded, and the lost ones will return" (Yeshayahu 27:13). The shofar of Rosh Hashanah is a preview of the *shofar gadol* -- the final redemption, when every exile will return home, every tear will be dried, and peace will reign not only in Israel but throughout the world.

May we merit, in this new year, to see that promise fulfilled. May it be a year of unity, a year of revealed blessings, a year when the hostages are freed and every Jew can live in safety and peace in the Land of Israel and around the world. And above all, may this be the year of the great shofar of Moshiach, when "nation shall not lift sword against nation, nor shall they learn war anymore."

Shanah tovah umetukah, may you and your loved ones be written and sealed for a good and sweet new year.

Rabbi Chaim Litvin -- known to many as "The Bourbon Rabbi" -- is CEO of BourbonRabbi, Rabbinic Coordinator of KLAS and Kentucky kosher, and for 25 years affiliated with Chabad of Kentucky.

Snapshots



On Sunday, Aug. 10, Jewish families were invited to celebrate Jewish Heritage Day at a Louisville Bats Game. Cantor Sharon Hordes, Cantor David Lipp, and Jennifer Diamond performed the National Anthem, with Rabbi Ben Freed throwing out the first pitch. Friends, family, and community members enjoyed a beautiful day at Slugger Field.

(Photos by Tricia Kling Siegwald)



Candles

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

- September 5 @ 7:48 p.m.
- September 12 @ 7:37 p.m.
- September 19 @ 7:26 p.m.
- September 22 @ 7:22 p.m. (RH Day 1)
- September 23 @ 8:17 p.m. (RH Day 2)
- September 26 @ 7:15 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, September 12** (though sooner is better).

The paper will be published on **Friday, September 26**.

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

Read *Community* Everywhere...

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



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

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

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

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

Corrections/Clarifications

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

YOUTH PROGRAMS

AT THE  Trager Family JCC

J ENRICHMENT

Mondays
Amazing Athletes
Coach Hayley
3:55-4:40 p.m.
For pre-k children (ages 3-5)
10 Sessions, Sept-Nov

Tuesdays
Monk'y Warrior
Angelica Ortega
3:55-4:25 p.m.
For pre-k children (ages 3-5)
5-6 p.m.
For school aged children
9 Sessions, Sept-Nov

Wednesdays
Dance/Creative Movement
Rylee Leis
3:25-3:55 & 3:55-4:25 p.m.
For pre-k children (ages 3-5)
10 Sessions, Sept-Nov

Thursdays
Chess Club
Carbin Seavers
5 - 6 p.m.
For school aged children
10 Sessions, Sept-Nov

*Holiday closures may effect these dates.

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

 Trager Family JCC

SCAN TO REGISTER 

CLUB J Before & After School Program

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 to the following schools, \$110 fee/semester

Register Now for the 2025/26 School Year!

CLUB J BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM MONTHLY RATES

Schools & Times	Times	Member	Non-Member
Club J Before Care Field, Alex R Kennedy	7:30 - 8:50 a.m.	\$357.00	\$442.00
Club J After School Care St Matthews, Bloom	2:20 - 6:00 p.m.	\$527.00	\$612.00
Holy Trinity	3:00 - 6:00 p.m.	\$489.00	\$570.50
Hawthorne	3:20 - 6:00 p.m.	\$442.00	\$527.00
Field	4:20 - 6:00 p.m.	\$357.00	\$442.00

WE ARE LICENSED BY THE STATE AND ACCEPT CCAP.

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, but childcare is available to any child K-5.

Kid's Night Out

Join us for swim, pizza and a movie!

Saturday, Sept. 20

Drop off: 5:30 - 6 p.m.
Pick up: 9 - 9:30 p.m.

Cost: \$40 Members, \$50 Non-Members
For kids in Kindergarten through 5th grade.

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

 Trager Family JCC

Swim at the Trager Family JCC

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 jcclouisville.org/youthaquatics

 Trager Family JCC | **SWIM SCHOOL**
WHERE YOUR SWIMMING JOURNEY BEGINS!

NEWS

COC

Continued from page 1

ple, we hosted a post-Shabbat forum to hear from a panel on Shared Stories, Shared Futures. Participants included JAFI's Director of Global Partnerships Network, the P2G Western Galilee Director, the Director of Matte Asher Community Center, and the Chief Executive of the Jewish Charity Hospital in Budapest. Members of the panel shared their personal stories, the powerful work they do, what brings them hope, and their vision for the future.

The COC kicked off Sunday, July 20 with a reception, opening remarks, and dinner at the Trager Family JCC. From the moment guests arrived, the Weisberg Family Lobby hummed with energy — laughter, greetings, and the warm buzz of friends reconnecting alongside introductions of first-time participants. Groups gathered in corners and around tables, sharing stories and ideas, all contributing to a palpable sense of community. In total, 65 participants from the U.S., Israel, and Hungary joined the gathering, representing the depth and diversity of our P2G network. Watching it all unfold, Moti Yeager, the P2G Western Galilee Israeli chair, leaned over and said, *"This! This is what Partnership is about. Sure, the meetings are important, but this — this connection... this is Partnership."*

From Monday, July 21, through Wednesday, July 23, the COC was alive with panel discussions, presentations, and breakout sessions embracing a wide range of topics. The meetings began with

a panel featuring Trent Spoolstra (Louisville's JCRC Director), Melanie Pell (American Jewish Committee's Chief Field Operations Officer & Director), and Ruthie Rosenberg (an incoming Indiana University Bloomington freshman from Indianapolis), who led discussions on the "State of Anti-Semitism and Community Relations in the U.S." Our Israeli guests were particularly engaged in this session, eager to gain a deeper appreciation of the challenges facing American Jewish communities. Additional presentations highlighted programs across five principal areas: Education, Medical, Academic, Young Adults, and Community Engagement. These initiatives open doors for participation in countless ways — from multi-directional delegations linking the U.S., Israel, and Hungary, to book clubs, school partnerships, community development projects, and hands-on volunteer opportunities. During interactive sessions, discussions about programs, and even conversations about the budget, representatives worked closely together and had the chance to truly connect. Over the course of these discussions, special programs were imagined, new initiatives born.

This was truly a VIP COC. Executives and leaders didn't just present — they were present. They engaged in conversations, answered questions, and made themselves accessible to everyone.

On Sunday night, Pnina AGENCYAHU, Director of the Global Partnerships Network, shared the intentional and thoughtful work of JAFI, highlighting how each program aims to foster meaningful connections and create lasting



George Polur, Dana Bachar-Grossman, and Michael Gold



Amy Fouts, Ory Rosin, Tamara Lawson-Schuster, and Sara Klein Wagner

impact among their respective communities. She emphasized the care and planning behind every initiative, demonstrating how JAFI's efforts go beyond logistics to nurture people-to-people relationships across borders.

Monday night, JCL board member Kevin Trager interviewed Matte Asher Mayor Moshe Davidovitch, who recounted his immediate response to protect citizens in the north on October 8th, when he swiftly decided that eight villages—home to 70,000 residents along the northern border—needed to be evacuated, ten days in advance of the Israeli government's evacuation orders. He also shared plans to help the north recover, focusing on education, the economy, healthcare, agriculture, and tourism, with the goal of

repairing damage and promoting growth in the region. When asked, "What can we, here in the U.S., do to help?" Mayor Davidovitch distilled his reply into two words: "Come visit."

It was also a privilege to hear remarks from Dr. Khetam Hussein, deputy director of the Galilee Medical Center (GMC) in Nahariyya, Israel. Dr. Hussein, a respected infectious disease specialist, is the first female physician from Israel's Druze community. The Galilee Medical Center reflects the diversity of Israel itself — Jews, Arabs, and Druze collaborating side by side at every level, all working toward a shared mission. In recognition of her pioneering contributions to medicine and Israeli society, she had the honor in

Continued on page 5

WELLNESS WALKERS

AgeWell

SEPTEMBER 15 AND 29

9 A.M.

Active adult walking club meeting every other Monday. Meet friends, stay active, and explore Louisville!

This Month's Location: Seneca Park
Registration is Free

← Scan to Register

OR VISIT JCCLOUISVILLE.ORG/WALK

Pass On Values Instead of Taxes

With careful planning, a legacy gift from retirement assets can perpetuate values and traditions meaningful to you and reduce the estate tax burden for loved ones.*

Trager Family JCC

Be remembered forever with a gift to 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.

*Seek advice from a financial advisor, attorney, or tax professional to discuss your personal situation.

NEWS

Continued from page 4

2023 of lighting one of the 12 torches at Israel's official 75th Independence Day ceremony in Jerusalem.

COC guests were treated to an unforgettable night at the Evan Williams Bourbon Experience. Max Shapira and Kate Latts – respectively, executive chairman and co-president of Heaven Hill Brands – shared their family's history in retail, bourbon, and Jewish life in Louisville.

Throughout the COC conference, good vibes and connections continued into the night via informal discussions, karaoke, comedy and even a roast of Mayor Davidovitch.

Hosting this year's COC was the perfect opportunity to publicly thank Robert and Lisa Klein for their eight years of dedicated leadership as Louisville's P2G chairs. During their tenure, Louisville welcomed countless delegations — distillers, chefs, artists, participants in *Women Leading a Dialogue*, singers, and *Bikes and Bourbon* — all made richer by their passion for P2G programs. Lisa commented, "We were thrilled to be involved in P2G for as long as and with the intensity for which we participated. We feel fortunate for the relationships and friendships we cultivated and continue to have." Robert and Lisa recently shared their wish to pass the torch to new leadership, so we're delighted to announce that Becky Admony is stepping into the role of Louisville P2G chair. Becky received JCL's Joseph J. Kaplan Young Leadership Award in 2024 and has served as co-chair and chair of the Israeli Street Fair for six years. She has a deep commitment to Israel and brings energy, experience, and heart to this new role. "I want to strengthen our

community's connection with Israel, and being the Chair of the Partnership is a perfect way of doing so," she said. "We offer many different activities and reach out to a wide scope of age groups, locally and from Israel. I believe that living in Israel for the majority of my life will enhance this ambitious goal."

None of this would have been possible without the extraordinary efforts of our COC Planning Committee: co-chairs Hila Schurr and Angela Katz, and members Julia Wall, Lisa Klein, Elayne Karrel, Lindsey Palgy and Vicki Sherman Shuster.

Meanwhile, there are multiple paths for you to become involved with P2G. Examples include a Sept. 7 book club discussion of Jonathan Safran Foer's novel *Everything is Illuminated*, and most significantly, the P2G Hatikva (Hope) Summit in Israel this coming Oct 26-30, 2025. The Summit will offer ample opportunities to get to know our partners and the communities in the region. Its cost is highly subsidized: \$100 for room and board (airfare not included), with options to extend your stay. Space is limited, so if you're interested in learning more, please contact me at afouts@jewishlouisville.org.



Sara Klein Wagner

*17 U.S. communities (Austin, Fort Worth, and San Antonio, Texas; Akron, Canton, Dayton, Toledo, and Youngstown, Ohio; Des Moines, Iowa; Fort Wayne, Northwest Indiana, Indianapolis, and South Bend, Indiana; Louisville, Kentucky; Omaha, Nebraska; and Peoria and Springfield, Illinois)



Moshe Davidovitch, Alan Engel, and Linda Engel



Megan Maurer and Lauren Suriel



Megan Maurer and Moti Yegar



Amanda Bleiden, Alan Latts, Alexander Bleiden, and Kate Latts

We stand with the people of Israel

Hope Peace
 התקווה שלום
 يأمل سلام

Jewish Federation of Louisville Trager Family JCC

IT'S YOUR JOURNEY, WE'LL HELP YOU GET THERE.

welenkenCPAs

Our purpose is simple, to guide and empower our clients to take control of their financial journey.

SMALL BUSINESS SOLUTIONS • BUSINESS GROWTH + TRANSITION • AUDIT AND ASSURANCE

HOW CAN WE SERVE YOU?

www.welenken.com 502.585.3251

SCHWARTZ
 INSURANCE GROUP

KEEP INSURANCE SIMPLE & SAVE!

Matt Schwartz, REBC, RHU Scott Schwartz, RPLU

THE RIGHT COVERAGE, COST & CARING SUPPORT!

- PROACTIVE ANNUAL COVERAGE REVIEWS
- COMPETITIVE BIDS FROM 12+ COMPANIES
- LOCAL PERSONAL ADVICE AND ADVOCACY

Schwartz Insurance Group puts YOU in control!

CALL (502) 451-1111
www.schwartzinsgrp.com/KISS

Cultivating trusted relationships with individuals, businesses and professionals since 1956.

encova
 INSURANCE

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.

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

COMMUNITY DEADLINES

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

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

ADVERTISING INFORMATION

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

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

EDITORIAL POLICY

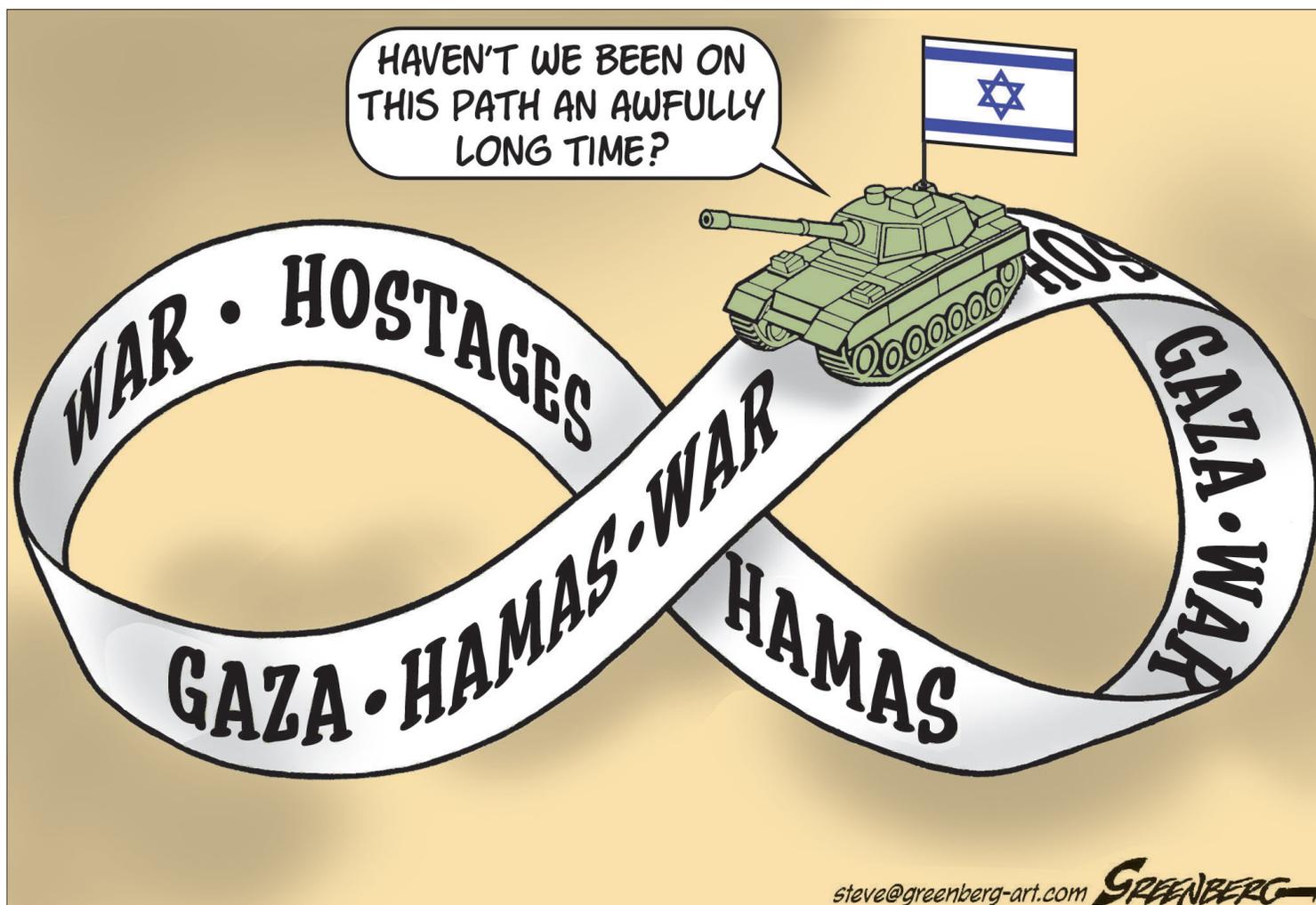
Community accepts letters to the editor for publication. All letters must be of interest to the Jewish community or in response to an item published in the paper. They must be no longer than 300 words in length and signed. Name, address and daytime phone number must be included for verification purposes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

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

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

Email your comments and letters to the editor to: community@jewishlouisville.org.

FORUM



COMMUNITY STAFF

Sara Klein Wagner

Publisher

Andrew Adler

Community Editor

Larry Singer

Advertising Sales

Robyn Kaufman

Graphic Designer & Digital Marketing Manager

Mackenzie Lynch

Digital Marketing Specialist

Shiela Steinman Wallace

Editor Emeritus

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Beth Salamon

Board Chair

JCL SENIOR STAFF

Sara Klein Wagner

President & Chief Executive Officer

Thomas Wissinger

Vice President & Executive Director Trager Family JCC

Lenae Price

Vice President & Chief Philanthropy Officer

Paul Norman

Chief Financial Officer

Amy Joseph Landon

Senior Director of Marketing & Communications

Tricia Kling Siegwald

Senior Director of Adult Programming & Special Projects

Susan Kwasny

Senior Director of JCC Programs & Operations

Alison Roemer

Senior Director of Jewish Journeys

Trent Spoolstra

JCRC Director

Tax deductible contributions may be sent to Community, 3600 Dutchmans Lane, Louisville, KY 40205



A literary discovery for the ages is finally revealed



Mindful Ramblings

Andrew Adler

Spoiler Alert: The following is intended both in the spirit of parody (the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge certainly exist, but -- as far as I can tell -- there's no such institution as the University of East Oxbridge) and a further demonstration of artificial intelligence at work.

In short, fed the prompt, "Write about 700 words in iambic pentameter about asserting Jewish identity" -- the AI bot ChatGTP generated the above verses. Time spent: approximately three seconds.

A consortium of scholars from the University of East Oxbridge recently announced it had uncovered a hitherto unknown poem by Shakespeare, tucked away in a forgotten corner of the Bodleian Library, ruminating on the subject of Jewish identity. Made public for the first time, it is reproduced below:

My Own Name

I speak my name, though sometimes soft with fear,
For names like mine have burned in books and streets.
Yet still I say it, whisper, hold it near—
A syllable that carries ancient beats.

I learned as child to notice when to hide,
To tuck the star inside a winter coat.
The world could turn with fury, quick and wide,
And silence was the safest song to note.
But silence never fit the way I prayed.

The words would rise, they pressed against my lips.

In secret I would hum the tunes they made,
Each melody a ship on storm-tossed ships.
My grandmother would light her Friday flame,
Her hands a trembling shelter round the glow.
She never missed a week, she never claimed
That fear could make her let tradition go.
I watched the shadows gather in her face,
The stories folded deep behind her eyes.
She knew the weight of exile and disgrace,
Yet lit the fire beneath the watching skies.

I think of her when others tell me now:
"Be quiet, do not mark yourself apart."
Their counsel sounds like safety, I allow,
But costs the deepest chamber of my heart.

For I am not a secret, not a shade,
Not something better hidden, locked, concealed.
My very breath was sanctified, was made
To speak the covenant my soul revealed.

Sometimes I walk with caution through the square,
My shoulders tense, my ears alert for threat.

But even then I feel the need to bear
The signs of who I am and won't forget.

To wear a kippah even for one day,
To hum a Hebrew blessing on the street,
To answer "yes" when asked if I still pray,
These things make every heartbeat feel complete.

I will not say that courage comes with ease.
At times I shrink, pretend I do not care.
At times my hands grow restless, knees grow weak,

And doubt unthreads the tallit that I wear:

Yet then I hear the chanting of the psalm,
The words my father taught me line by line.
They wash me over, fill me up with calm,
And anchor me in something still divine.

To be a Jew is not to shout alone;
It is to hold the quiet of a flame,
To know each stone in exile still is home,
To carve identity from loss and name.
My friends may never grasp the weight I hold,
The way my calendar turns strange and new,
The laws that shape my meals, my grief, my gold,
The thread that binds my many selves into.

And yet I do not ask them to believe.
I only ask to stand in open sight.
For faith that hides will wither as it grieves,
But faith declared can blossom into light.

So here I am: a Jew in word and deed.
I do not claim perfection in my ways.
I stumble, doubt, grow weary, yet I need
To lift my soul in honest, steady praise.

The world is wide; it tells me to belong
By shaving down the edges of my skin.
But all I've learned is strength in keeping strong,
In saying "Yes, this faith is where I've been."

My grandmother is gone. Her flame is mine.
It burns within my living, trembling hand.
I guard it not in silence, but in time,
And let its glow declare: I choose to stand.

Andrew Adler is Managing Editor of Community.

FORUM

LOWREY

Continued from page 1

These efforts are about more than prevention; they ensure that every person in our community feels secure walking into services, programs, and events.

The threat environment

The Jewish community remains the most targeted religious group in the United States. The FBI's 2024 hate crime report documented 1,938 anti-Jewish incidents, which account for 69 percent of all religiously motivated crimes. These ranged from vandalism, harassment, and assaults to false bomb threats and swatting. While these national numbers are troubling, they underscore why preparedness matters.

Here in our community, SAFE Louisville and the Secure Community Network (SCN) actively monitor and address security concerns. SCN's 24/7 Jewish Security Operations Command Center (JSOCC) provides real-time intelligence and taps a national network of security professionals. Since the October 7, 2023 attacks, this network has responded to incidents and assisted law enforcement in Boulder, Colo. and Washington, D.C., while supporting proactive investigations with authorities to keep our community safe.

We cannot predict when or where the next incident may occur, but we can prepare. In doing so, we are creating a culture of security, one that protects our sacred spaces, supports our leaders, staff, and volunteers, and helps our community remain resilient, committed, and

engaged with Jewish life.

Local preparedness efforts

Since 2019, under the leadership of co-chairs Bill Altman and Ben Vaughan, SAFE Louisville has brought together representatives from our major Jewish institutions to develop and implement security plans tailored to our community's needs. With outstanding support from the Louisville Metro Police Department, the FBI, and other law enforcement partners, we have been able to strengthen safety while preserving the openness and warmth of Jewish life.

As your security advisor, I work directly with Jewish institutions, staff, and volunteers across Louisville to conduct facility assessments, develop event security plans, provide training, coordinate with law enforcement, and respond to suspicious activity or concerns. In addition, I engage with the Governor's Antisemitism Task Force, which includes representatives from Louisville's and Lexington's Jewish communities.

In recent years, and especially since October 7, our community has focused on strengthening event planning, coordination, and training. Other investments have strengthened access controls, alarms, security cameras, notification systems, glass protection, vehicle barriers, fencing, and lighting.

Thanks to the generosity of the Jewish Heritage Fund, Jewish Federations of North America, and the Department of Homeland Security, our facilities are stronger and better prepared. Since October 2023, all Jewish facilities, including preschools, have also incorporated

armed security officers.

What you can do this High Holiday season

To help keep our community safe while maintaining the warmth of Jewish life, we encourage you to:

- Rely only on verified security information.
- Maintain strict access control and visitor management.
- Test alarms, cameras, and panic buttons.
- Report suspicious activity promptly to law enforcement and security professionals.
- Avoid counter-protests or engaging with hostile agitators.
- Remain vigilant in both physical and digital spaces.
- Review and reinforce protocols, coordinating closely with law enforcement.

Personal security awareness

While we cannot choose the timing of potential incidents, we can prepare ourselves, our families, and our community. Personal security awareness helps us reduce risks, recognize potential dangers, and respond effectively.

SCN offers a wide range of training for community members, including BeAware, Countering Active Threat, Stop the Bleed, Guardian, De-escalation, The Power of Hello, and Personal Security Awareness. Training is available in person locally, and online via webinars. In the past year, more than 500 members of our Louisville community have participated in SCN training sessions, with

many others joining national webinars (SCN's High Holidays webinar series is already underway).

To request training, contact your organization or me directly at SLOWREY@SecureCommunityNetwork.org. Additional resources are available at jewishlouisville.org/safe-louisville and SecureCommunityNetwork.org.

Through local planning, situational awareness, and personal preparedness, we can ensure that every member of Louisville's Jewish community participates in the High Holidays safely and with confidence.

Thank you for your continued commitment to keeping our community safe, strong, and welcoming. Wishing you and your families a safe, meaningful, and peaceful High Holiday season.

Be Aware, Be Prepared, Train, and Commit to Action!

Stuart Lowrey is the Regional Security Advisor for the Jewish Federations in Louisville and Lexington, Ky. He has 32 years of federal law enforcement experience as a Special Agent in the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives (ATF), where he supervised criminal investigations related to firearms, explosives, bombings, and arsons involving violent offenders and criminal groups, led special event security teams, and coordinated public safety and search/rescue operations following natural disasters. Stuart joined the Secure Community Network in 2023.

To reach Stuart, email him at slowrey@jewishlouisville.org

HIGH HOLY DAYS 5786-2025

ISRAEL BONDS

INVEST IN A LAND That Endures

The High Holy Days remind us what sustains the Jewish people: our traditions, our unity, our homeland.

This year turn your connection with Israel into commitment with an investment in Israel bonds.

Get to Know Israel Bonds

Exemplary Reliability

Israel bonds are sovereign debt issued by the State of Israel, backed by its full faith and credit. Proceeds are used when and where they're needed most.

A Smart Investment

Israel bonds offer strong rates. They can diversify your portfolio, be purchased in IRAs, gifted, or donated to a not-for-profit of your choice.

Global Reach

Over \$54 billion in worldwide sales since 1951.
Over \$5 billion raised since October 7, 2023.

SCAN TO INVEST IN
Israel bonds today



Investments
start at \$36!

For assistance purchasing your bond:

columbus@israelbonds.com (614) 231.3232 israelbonds.com

Development Corporation for Israel. Issues subject to availability. This is a representative sampling of the securities offered. This is not an offering, which can be made only by prospectus. Read the prospectus carefully before investing to fully evaluate the risks associated with investing in Israel bonds. Member FINRA.

EL CHAIM 135

CELEBRATE. CONNECT. CONTINUE.

December 6, 2025

Call For Sponsors!

Be a key part of this powerful event as we honor
135 years of Louisville's Jewish Community Center –
a legacy of resilience, joy, and belonging.

A unique opportunity to reach thousands of members
in our community and invest in the future, all at once.

STAY
IN THE
LOOP!



NEWS

KITES OF HOPE

Continued from page 1

cancelled after organizer Aviv Kutz and his family were among 62 residents murdered by Hamas terrorists (who took another 19 civilians hostage) on that fateful October morning.

"We're taking this idea and adapting it for Louisville," explained Trent Spoolstra, director of the Jewish Community Relations Council at the Jewish Federation of Louisville. "It's a different take on what we've traditionally done to commemorate October 7, one focused on peace and resilience."

The upcoming Oct. 12 event has a two-fold imperative: "honoring the Kutz family, but also acknowledging that the war is still going on," Spoolstra said. "Hopefully, peace will prevail -- ideally, sooner rather than later."

Hamas' attack claimed some 1,200 lives and almost 250 hostages -- 49 of whom remain in captivity (at latest count, 21 are alive and 28 dead). There is one additional deceased hostage, Hador Goldin, an IDF lieutenant who was killed in action in 2014. Hamas has held his body ever since.

The Gaza war has raged, with several pauses for cease-fires and prisoner exchanges, for almost two straight years. Tens of thousands of civilians have perished, debilitating hunger is rampant, and the prospects for ending the conflict are - at best -- tenuous.

Yet while pragmatists might argue that Gaza's reality is inevitably bleak, Spoolstra is among those who take a less abso-

lutist stance.

"Yes, we could easily wallow in how horrible the political situation is right now," he said. "But there are a lot of people -- both in the United States and in Israel, who want the war to end. So, I'd argue that an event like this is needed now more than ever -- to promote peace and hopefully see an end to the fighting. The focus is not so much on the present, but what do we want the future to be?"

With that spirit in mind, Spoolstra is organizing the purchase of kite kits. Participants -- principally young children and teens -- will decorate the kites and Oct. 12, launch them into the skies above the Jewish Heritage Fund Campus. The plan is for kite decorating to begin at 12:30 p.m., a brief program starting at 1 p.m., followed by kite flying. If there's inclement weather the event will move indoors.

"We'd like to get Jewish students and families involved," Spoolstra said, "all from Camp J and Sunday schools. The idea is for families to fly the kites on that day. It's a multi-step process -- supplying kites, having the kids decorate them -- making them as colorful as possible."

Kites have long been a powerful vehicle for promoting peace. The Israel Forever Foundation's "Kites for Hope" initiative "was crafted as a response to the wave of terror happening in Israel in the form of explosives attached to kites flying in from Gaza," its website explains. "But now we are expanding the meaning of this activity to respond to Jew-hatred all over the world."

"We're seeking to both honor and commemorate that which has been lost,

while also being able to turn to the future with a more hopeful posture," said Rabbi Ben Freed of Keneseth Israel Congregation, the event's chair, "just as kites can rise up and be symbols of hope and freedom. So we're encouraging ourselves and our children to really take this message to heart."

In July 2011, children in Gaza sent 12,350 kites aloft, setting a Guinness Book of Records mark for the most kites ever flown simultaneously. Seven years later, Washington, D.C.'s DC Kite Festival also referenced the irony of a child's toy being employed as a conduit for terrorism. Tzachi Levi, in a July 12, 2018 post on the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington's website, recalled participating in the festival alongside his 10-year-old son, Oz:

There is a very intimate relationship between a person and his kite. You let go of the kite, but still hold on to the string. You release the string as the kite catches the wind and rises to the sky. Sometimes, you're not sure if the kite is driving you, or if you are driving the kite. One is holding the ground, the other holding the sky. The string which connects the person and his kite is extremely important. If you disconnect the string, you've lost the purpose of the kite altogether.

The people living in the south of Israel have been holding those strings for many years. They are holding the ground, while keeping their heads in the sky. They refuse to give up and remain optimistic: building their communities and continuing to pursue their dreams.



Trent Spoolstra and Tricia Kling Siegwald test out their kite flying skills (Photo by Andrew Adler)

For more information about participating in Louisville's Oct. 12 "Kites of Hope" event, see the ad below. If you have questions, or want to decorate a kite ahead of time, reach out to JCRC Director Trent Spoolstra at tspoolstra@jewishlouisville.org.

Support for Kites of Hope comes from the Father Stanley Schmidt Fund, the American Jewish Committee Fund, the Jill E. Simon President's Fund and the Annette & Joseph Gale Fund

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

Louisville will have two new *ShinShinim* as members of our community from August 2025 - July 2026.

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

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

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

To learn more, visit
jewishlouisville.org/shinshinim



Kites of Hope

Sunday, October 12
1-2:30 p.m. at the Trager Family JCC

Kite decorating begins at 12:30 p.m.
Brief program will begin at 1 p.m., followed by kite flying.

Join us for Kites of Hope, as we come together to fly kites in remembrance and unity. We gather to continue the spirit of a tradition started by the Kutz family who each year led members of Kibbutz Kfar Aza to fly kites with messages of freedom and peace along the Gaza border.

Let's come together on October 12 in honor and memory of the lives lost, taken, and changed forever on October 7.

In case of inclement weather, the event will be moved indoors.

Please scan the QR code to register or visit jewishlouisville.org/kites

NEWS

MAZIN

Continued from page 1

Their mutual legacy is bound up in the exhibition that bears their names – a demonstration of how aesthetics and identity, secular art and personal Judaism have become an intrinsic component of a building and its membership.

There are tangible benefits, too: \$1,000 to the first-place winner; \$750 and \$500, respectively, for second and third place. The exhibition is open to artists ages 16 or older, working in any 2D or 3D medium. Artwork can be no larger than three feet in any dimension, with sculpture not weighing more than 50 pounds. Reproductions and jewelry are not eligible.

The call for entries went out in July – the deadline for submissions is Sept. 12. Louisville's Claudia Hammer is this year's judge.

Hammer brings "local influence as an artist, as a mentor to the art community, and experience working with galleries and with artists of all mediums," said Erin Silliman, director of arts and ideas at the Trager Family JCC. "We're very excited to have her come aboard."

The 2023 exhibition drew 175 entries from 72 artists; judge Bette Levy chose 23 to be hung for public display. First place went to Debra Lott for her painting "Divided Light," a portrait of a young Black woman.

Winning carries with it validation, and validation invariably feels good.

But there are lots more practical reasons why a win is something to savor.

"I've been a professional artist for many years," Lott said, "and I enter a lot of competitions, because artists aren't always selling their work. So, when you win it's a great financial addition to the support. It's not cheap being an artist – you're buying supplies and putting a lot of time in. But exposure is also great...I got a lot of emails saying, 'Oh, I saw your work.' I was surprised at how many people saw it, who I didn't even know went to the (Trager Family Jewish) Community Center there."

Bernice Mazin likely would have appreciated that kind of recognition.



Marilyn Mazin Miller

"She had strong ideas," her daughter Marilyn said. "Her work was about serenity, about passion. She wanted you to get involved in her work. It wasn't realism; it was representational, although she could paint you exactly as I look at you. She was very well trained in the technical world of art."

The Mazin household had a consistent, deliberate hierarchy: Bernice made art; Benjamin made money to make Bernice's art possible. "She could buy all the supplies she needed, which she did," Marilyn said. "I inherited her

brushes – cases and cases. She (painted) the gamut – pastels, oils – she did all the different media."

Her mother was always in a state of acute perception. "She talked about art all the time," Marilyn recalled. "She was drawing with her eyes all the time. And I have to say, I'm somewhat like her: I may never remember your name or what you do – but if I see you again, I'll remember that I saw you. It's a kind of inherited visual memory."

Louisville is a relatively small city, and its network of artists is, by definition, closely intertwined. Consequently, "in an effort to put distance and eliminate some biases, when artists submit their work they're giving their names, but when I give their entry to the juror, they're anonymous," Silliman said.

Organizers have considered tapping jurors from elsewhere. Still, there are tangible advantages to staying local. "Louisville has such a rich community of artists, that it's neat to honor an artist from within with the title of juror," she said. "Having a local juror also encourages local artists to come. It's important to see one another lifted up – 'I want to participate because my friend is participating, too.'"

"If you know someone's a professional artist – that they didn't just start doing this yesterday and they've juried a lot of shows, then I think they're trustworthy to have that job," Lott said. "There are other organizations in town that have competitions, like

the Louisville Visual Art [Association], and a lot of times they'll bring in outside people to judge – but sometimes it's just (someone from) their own organization. If you choose the right person, I think you're okay."

Another factor is the inevitability of change. Indeed, the transition from the old JCC to the new Trager Family JCC in the Spring of 2022 meant re-considering how the Mazin Art Exhibition would be presented in 2023.

"What was so great and so encouraging is that our 2023 show was so successful," Silliman said. "And what I loved most about it was that the art was in the main lobby and people had to walk past it, as opposed to having to make the choice to walk into a gallery room. We touched a lot more people that way and maybe started more conversations. We were able to define this new building not necessarily by wall space, but as an art space."

Reminder: The deadline for submitting works to be considered for the 2025 Mazin Art Exhibition is Sept. 12. You can get more information about entry requirements by going online at jewishlouisville.org/mazinart.

Support for the Mazin Art Exhibition comes from the Benjamin and Bernice Mazin Visual Arts Fund, the Annette Simon Sagerman Special Events Fund and the Irving Klempner Jewish Cultural Arts Fund.



JUNIOR FIT SQUAD

EVERY TUESDAY AND
THURSDAY AT 4:30 P.M.
IN THE GROUP EX STUDIO

Junior Fit Squad is here! A fun, high-energy fitness class designed JUST for ages 11-14. Led by certified fitness instructor, with experience training athletes from the Dayton Flyers and Cincinnati Bengals, Debbie Hannan.

BUILD STRENGTH
IMPROVE ENDURANCE
BOOST CONFIDENCE



←

SCAN THE QR CODE
TO SIGN UP!

Advertise your business in Community!

For more information,
call 502-418-5845, or email
lsinger@jewishlouisville.org

Trager Family JCC members
receive a 25% discount on
ad placements!



Mazin art exhibition 2025

deadline for entry September 12
opening reception October 12

Call for Art

The Mazin is a regional juried Art Exhibition of 2-D and 3-D art, open to any artist in the United States 16 years or older. The exhibit is designed to foster an appreciation of today's visual art and to reflect the breadth of creative vision of artists.



for information please visit
jewishlouisville.org/mazinart



PICTURE THIS: THE SOUND OF MUSIC

CenterStage's 2025-26 season kicked off with the Sound of Music on Aug. 14 with a bang, selling out its entire six-performance run. A review by Regina Harris celebrated the entire cast, exclaiming, "Erin Silliman captivated as Maria with her luminous voice, genuine warmth, and commanding stage presence bringing fresh life to a role that audiences have cherished for decades . . . [and] each actor from the eldest to the youngest, held their own with strength and heart."

The season ahead features exciting productions of *Company*, *Footloose*, and *Fiddler on the Roof*. Now is the time to buy tickets for upcoming CenterStage shows before they, too, sell out. Tickets are on sale now for all productions this season. Get yours today at jcclouisville.org/centerstage or by calling the box office at 502-238-2797.

(Photos by Robyn Kaufman)

The *Sound of Music* was sponsored by Zack & Yael Melzer.

CenterStage is supported by the Arnold J. Levin & Don A. Powell Fund for Ecumenical Outreach, the Kohn-Berman Endowment for the Arts Fund, the Irving Klempner Jewish Cultural Arts Fund, the Claire and Lee Lenkoff Orchestra/Conductor's Fund, Dr. Louis & Bea Brownstein Ringol Performing Artists Fund, Arthur David Kreitman Jewish Performing Arts Fund, Robert & Betty Levy Bronner Youth, Arts & Jewish Experience Fund, and the Marian Weisberg Youth Theatre Fund.



J CenterStage
at the Trager Family JCC
presents



NOVEMBER 6-16, 2025

Tickets On Sale Now!

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				6 7:30 P.M.		8 7:30 P.M.
9 2 P.M.				13 7:30 P.M.		15 7:30 P.M.
16 2 P.M.						

To Purchase



Scan the QR code or visit jcclouisville.org/centerstage

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

SNOWFLAKE SHOPPE
at the Trager Family JCC

Call for Vendors!
November 23, 2025

The Snowflake Shoppe kicks off the holiday shopping season with a wide range of artisans, crafters and more.



All proceeds will assist in purchasing much needed educational toys and equipment to supplement our program.



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

Interested in being a sponsor?

Learn more at jcclouisville.org/snowflakesponsors!

PICTURE THIS: GOLF SCRAMBLE



1st Place Team (L-R) Adam Willis, Trent Spoolstra, and Mitch Greenfield



David Kohn, JFCS Board President

THE REPUBLIC BANK PLAYERS CHALLENGE

TO BENEFIT JFCS & TRAGER FAMILY JCC

With community support, the 21st Annual Republic Bank Players Challenge raised more than \$60,000 to support the missions of JFCS and the Trager Family JCC.

Huge thanks to our generous donors and players.

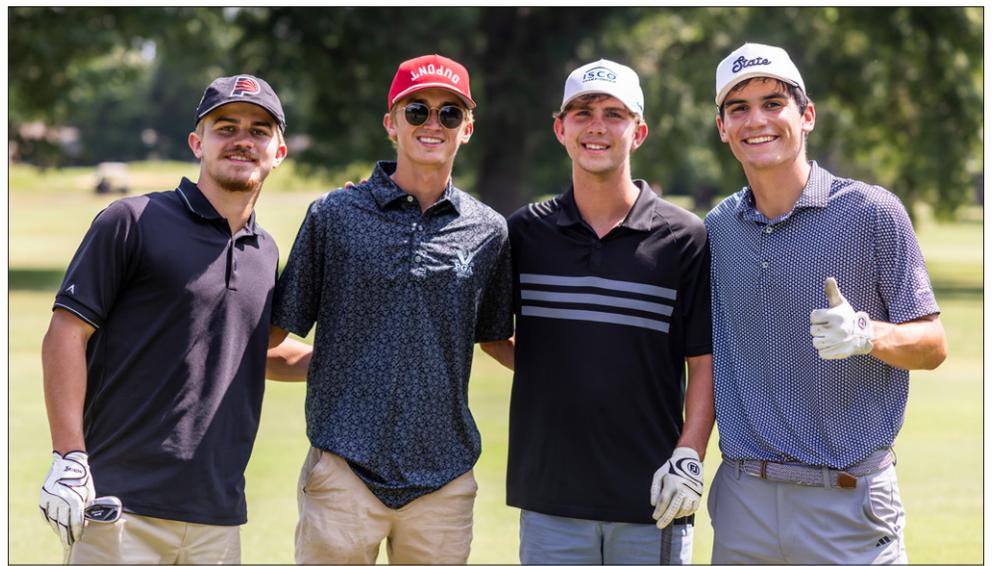
Photos by Kathryn Harrington & Amy Joseph Landon



Shari Cohen



Jim Morguelan and Alex Campbell



(L-R) Isaac Chandler, Sam Chandler, Ethan Arrving, and Jonathan Bornstein



Republic Bank Teams



Leo Hasselbacher



Doug Roemer (front) and David Siskin (back)

THANK YOU

to all of our sponsors and players who are helping make our world a better place, especially...

Mutual of America Financial Group
Welenken CPAs
City Wide Facility Solutions
Northern Trust
Heaven Hill Brands

Special thanks to Mike Riley and Standard Club for their sponsorship.

REPUBLIC BANK

Time to thrive.™

Member FDIC

SHADY RAYS®



Bass Family Foundation



Jewish Heritage Fund



Sidney Abramson

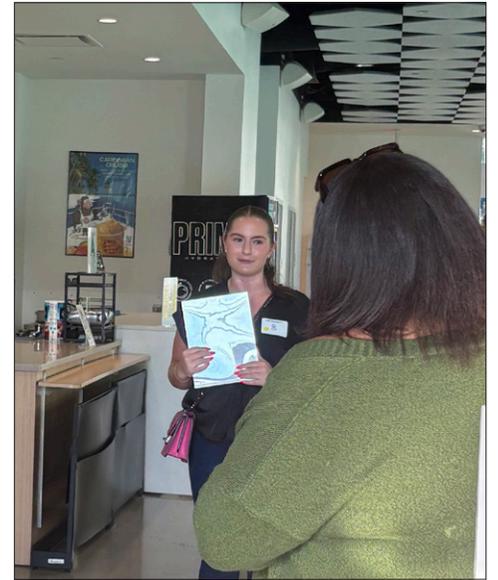
PICTURE THIS: NEXTGEN HAPPY HOUR



**NEXTGen
Louisville**

NextGen hosted happy hour Aug. 20 at the Trager Family JCC, with young Jewish professionals gathering for an evening of networking and community.

(Photos by Mackenzie Lynch)



Derby Dinner
PLAYHOUSE

**COME
FROM
AWAY**

AUG 13 THRU SEP 28

**A TRUE STORY OF THE SMALL TOWN
THAT WELCOMED THE WORLD.**

derbydinner.com

Accounting for ALL

- Tax Preparation- All Individual Returns
- Tax Preparation- All Business Returns
- Non-profit Returns
- Payroll Services - W2s & 1099s
- LLC & Corporation Formation
- Projections/Budgeting/Forecasting
- Monthly Bookkeeping
- Tax Planning
- Financial Planning

**INITIAL CONSULTATION IS
COMPLIMENTARY!**



Bourke Accounting
Your Louisville Tax & Accounting Firm

(502) 451-8773

www.bourkeaccounting.com

PICTURE THIS: LA CASITA CENTER CAMP VISIT

On July 25, the Trager Family JCC was thrilled to welcome campers from La Casita Center of Louisville to enjoy the Yarmuth Family Aquatics Center. La Casita Center is an organization dedicated to enhancing the lives of the Latinx community “through education, empowerment, advocacy, and wellness.” Tricia Kling Siegwald, Trager Family JCC’s Senior Director of Adult Programming said, “Their values align with that of the Jewish community’s, and we look forward to building relationships with other organizations that aim to connect people in our community.”

(Photos by Tricia Kling Siegwald)



Barry Bagels Louisville Catering Perfect for Every Occasion!



- Life Cycle Events
 - Bar & Bat Mitzvah
 - Consecration
 - Confirmation
 - Shiva
- Holiday Gatherings
 - Rosh Hashanah
 - Break Fast



Freshly baked bagels, spreads,
and catering trays



502.290.0440 | barrybagels.com

PICTURE THIS: KYLA & EDEN'S GOING AWAY PARTY

On Wednesday, Aug. 6, the Louisville Jewish community said farewell to our first ever ShinShinim, Kyla and Eden. They were gifted custom blankets to remember their home away from home and scrapbooks of memories and letters from the friends they've made in Louisville. Throughout the year, they dedicated their time to sharing their personal stories and planning events and programs that invited the whole community to celebrate Israeli culture. Thank you to the Phil Levitch Fund and the Sidney Winchell Family Fund for their support of the ShinShinim program.

(Photos by Robyn Kaufman and Amy Joseph Landon)





THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR ISRAEL



Partnership2Gether
GLOBAL NETWORK
Western Galilee
Central Area Consortium & Budapest



The Jewish Federations
OF NORTH AMERICA



Young Adults Seminar In Israel

Leadership in Challenging Times
Oct. 31 - Nov. 2, 2025

Join us for a powerful 3-day journey connecting young adults from our partner communities for an unforgettable experience in Israel.

In moments of crisis, true leadership is defined - and communities are shaped for generations. This immersive seminar brings together young adults from our partnered communities in Hungary, Israel, and the US to explore what it means to lead with courage, empathy, and vision in the face of complexity.

Together, participants will explore the diversity of Israeli society, reflect and share about their own communities, and create a shared language of Jewish peoplehood and leadership and build strong connections between their peers.

What's on the itinerary?

- Meaningful encounters in the Western Galilee.
- Visit the Gaza Envelope region and hear firsthand stories.
- Spend a soulful Shabbat in Tel Aviv - great food, beach vibes, and inspiring conversations.
- Wrap up with a meaningful day in Jerusalem — culture, history, and connection

Scan here to learn more!
or visit bit.ly/P2G-YA-Israel

Questions? Contact Amy Fouts, afouts@jewishlouisville.org



Saying Farewell to HSJS (High School of Jewish Studies) and Welcome to the NEW Jewish High School Experience

KESHER SUNDAYS

First Meeting: September 7, 2025
1:40 p.m. at the Trager Family JCC

Registration is now open, and due by August 15!
Financial assistance is available.

Join us for this inquiry-based, facilitated 8-month experience. Keshersundays will meet twice per month, generally on Sunday at 1:40 p.m.

Sessions include field trips to meet local Jewish leaders in government, arts, business, and more and to engage in discussions that focus on a sense of purpose and social justice rooted in Jewish heritage.

Each student will complete the program with a certificate acknowledging enhanced abilities in leadership and service.

Scan Here to Register!



Interested in learning more? Visit jewishlouisville.org/keshersundays

Keshersundays is a program of the newly launched JLE- Jewish Learning Experience and is designed to be a reimagining of the former High School of Jewish Studies.

Interim Director, Noah Klein
JLE Co-chairs, Carol Jones and Corey Shapiro
To contact Noah Klein email keshersundays@jewishlouisville.org

NEWS

In Israel, the challenge of reconciling heartbreak and hope

By Rabbi Matt Derrenbacher
Guest Columnist



Rabbi Matt Derrenbacher

At the beginning of August, I had the privilege of traveling to Israel for a rabbinic seminar hosted by Hebrew Union College and the Daniel Centers for Progressive Judaism in Tel Aviv. Over several days, we engaged with Israeli rabbis, scholars, journalists, and politicians, each offering perspectives on the seismic changes of the past two years – both before and after October 7th, and their hope and ideas for a new way forward in Israeli society. As I prepared for the trip, my heart was a tangle of emotions: awe at returning, dread at the heaviness I imagined permeating Israeli society, and joy at setting foot once more in a land I love deeply, despite its complexities. Yet one essential element seemed absent at the outset: optimism. In the face of such painful realities, tangible hope for the future felt out of reach.

My first Shabbat there fell on the eve of Tisha B'Av, a day of mourning on our calendar. That night, I stood for the first time in Hostage Square. Fami-

lies of hostages spoke with heartbreaking urgency – pleading for their loved ones' release and crying out against a war that has already inflicted so much devastation on both the people of Israel and the people of Gaza. Their anguish was followed by the chanting of Megillat Eichah, the Book of Lamentations, merging a ritual of ancient grief with the lamentations of our own time. A week later, my trip ended with another protest – this time on Tu B'Av, the holiday of love. Even on that day, voices of anguish rose. Spouses and partners of hostages pleaded to be reunited with their loved ones and for the war to end. Their powerful words were a stark reminder that love and suffering, yearning and despair, so often walk hand in hand.

And yet, the moment that lingers most for me didn't come from the incredible insights from the seminar or the protests, but in a quiet conversation with a friend who lives outside Tel Aviv. As we talked, she told me, "For such a long time, I felt profoundly alone. I have no government to represent me. I have no country to represent me. So really, what am I?" The heaviness of her words permeated the air. After a pause, she continued: "But over time, I discovered that I am not alone. So many Israelis feel the same way I do. I may not have a government that represents me, but I know I

am not alone. My people are hurting, just as I am." What began in despair turned, unexpectedly, to solidarity and resilience. And in that solidarity, I felt a welling up of hope and optimism – fragile, but palpable. It was a reminder that hope is not born in isolation; it emerges in the presence of others who share the burden of our pain and the real possibility of our future.

That lesson is not only for Israel. It speaks directly to us here in the Diaspora, too. When the Jewish people are in pain, whether in Tel Aviv or Louisville, none of us is truly alone. We are bound together across oceans, borders, and time by memory, responsibility, and hope. Just as my friend found strength in realizing her struggle was shared, so too can we find strength in knowing that our prayers, our actions, and our solidarity ripple outward, helping to carry one another through.

Holding those layers of awe, dread, joy, and hope, I found myself thinking of the High Holy Days. That moment in Tel Aviv felt like what I have always longed for these Days of Awe to embody: challenging, raw, and yet infused with the promise of renewal. This year, I will carry that moment with me as the foundation of my High Holy Day journey.

As the season approaches, the shofar will soon sound – its piercing cry both ancient and urgently current.

At Sinai, it accompanied the giving of the Torah (Exodus 19). For Isaiah and Hosea, it was a call to return to God. For Ezekiel, it was a warning of danger (Ezekiel 33). And in the Writings, the shofar proclaimed triumph and coronation, celebration and song (I Kings 1; Psalm 98). The voice of the shofar contains the fullness of the Jewish experience: awe and revelation, dread and warning, the call to return, and the joy of celebration. Each note invites us to confront the complexity of our lives and the world, and to discover what role we might play in shaping both.

This year, when I hear the voice of the shofar, I will be carrying with me the awe and hope of Israel. And I invite you to do the same: to hold close one moment, or a constellation of moments, that acknowledges life's complexity but also anchors us in hope. Not a naïve hope, but one rooted in solidarity and connection. Not a passive hope, but one embodied in action. A hope that pursues peace. A hope that is grounded, deeply, in love.

May this New Year grant us the courage to face complexity, the strength to pursue peace, and the blessing of hope in connection with one another.

Matt Derrenbacher is Assistant Rabbi at The Temple.

Pool Parties
at the  Trager Family JCC

The Best Way to Spend a Special Day!

- 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/poolparties

#CHARLOTTESVILLE
Written and Performed by Priyanka Shetty
Directed by Yury Urnov

★★★★★
'Stunning, unflinching, poignant'
(DCTheaterArts.org)

In August 2017, white supremacists stormed Charlottesville. #CHARLOTTESVILLE captures the voices of a city forever changed.

September 14 | 2pm & 7PM
Actors Theatre of Louisville | 316 W Main Street
TICKETS: www.actorstheatre.org/events/hashtag-charlottesville
Produced by Richard Jordan Productions & Yellow Raincoat, Associate Produced by The Pleasance

SCAN QR CODE FOR TICKETS or call (502) 584-1205

 Jewish Heritage Fund
Made possible, in part, by grants from the Jewish Heritage Fund and the Benjamin Fund of Central Kentucky Foundation.

 ShPleL Theatre in partnership with Actors Theatre of Louisville

 ACTORS THEATRE OF LOUISVILLE

NEWS

Gold, Silver, and Lifelong Connections: Team Kentucky's 2025 JCC Maccabi Games Experience

By Abigail Goldberg
Teen Director

The 2025 JCC Maccabi Games in Tucson, and the 2025 JCC Maccabi Campus Games in Pittsburgh showcased the incredible talent, sportsmanship, and camaraderie of Jewish youth from across North America and around the world. This year, Team Kentucky -- fueled by the Trager Family JCC -- was proud to send a strong contingent of eight athletes from Louisville and Lexington, many of whom returned home with medals and unforgettable experiences.

The JCC Maccabi Games in Tucson brought together 850 young Jewish athletes, ages 13-17, for a week-long celebration of sports, culture, and Jewish identity. Participants competed in a wide variety of sports, including tennis, soccer, basketball, golf, swimming, and flag football, all while forming friendships that will follow them after the Games. Team Kentucky athletes made an impressive mark, demonstrating skill, perseverance, and commitment to teamwork.

One of the standout moments of the Games came on the golf course, where 13-year-old Clay Fennel displayed remarkable composure and skill. Competing in the Thursday Golf Tournament Shamble, Clay navigated the challenging Tucson course with precision, ultimately

earning the gold medal alongside his teammate from Toronto.

On the tennis courts, Natalie Scaiewicz continued Team Kentucky's strong showing. Competing in singles, and mixed doubles, Natalie showcased both athletic strength and strategic teamwork, leading (with her partner, Ben from Indianapolis, to the gold medal in mixed doubles. Her performance exemplified the spirit of the JCC Maccabi Games: a blend of competitive excellence, mutual respect, and joy in the game. Natalie shared that she had the opportunity to "meet a bunch of other Jewish athletes and it allowed me to grow as a tennis player with players from across the country with the same interests as me."

Team sports also highlighted Team Kentucky's presence at the Games. In flag football, Owen Yoffe and his teammates faced fierce competition from across North America. Representing a mixed roster of athletes from Dallas, Kansas City, San Jose, and Vancouver, Owen's team fought hard throughout the tournament. Their determination led them to the championship game, ultimately succumbing to the powerhouse of Montreal's Flag team, leaving Owen and his team to take home the silver medal. It was testament to the strength of collaboration and teamwork that define the JCC Maccabi experience -- not just about individual success, but about



Team KY at the JCC Maccabi Games in Tucson, AZ. (L-R) Coach Mackenzie Lynch, Clay Fennel, Coach Ryan Marks, Wes Fennel, Arly Weinstein, Owen Yoffe, Jamie Shrensker, Natalie Scaiewicz, Ethan Grabush, and Delegation Head Abigail Goldberg.

building connections across communities and celebrating shared Jewish identity.

Louisville families also experienced the personal connections that make the JCC Maccabi Games so special. Joann Grabush, whose son, Ethan competed on a mixed baseball team, shared that one of the most meaningful parts of the

Games this year was reconnecting with distant cousins she hadn't seen in years. Being on a mixed team brought together family from different cities and seeing them connect on the field and off was truly special.

Lexington's Arly Weinstein, participating in her third consecutive Maccabi

Continued on page 17

SUMMER SEND-OFF

September 7 | 1-4 p.m.
at the Outdoor Family Pool

Come celebrate our last weekend at the Outdoor Family Pool with:

- Food Trucks
- Inflatables
- Corn Hole
- Splash Contest

FREE FOR MEMBERS!

TILES AND TASTY BITES

Join us for a fun evening of Mahjong, Rummikub, and Canasta!

Adults Only, & Open to all levels but you must already know how to play.

Wednesday, Sept. 10
6 - 8 p.m.

Kohn Family Town Square at the Trager Family JCC

Enjoy a selection of light appetizers and refreshing drinks. Sign up as a team, or if you're coming solo, no worries, we'll assign you to a group.

We can't wait to see you there!

Cost: \$6 per person; \$24 for a 4-person team

Register at jccloisville.org/tiles-and-tasty-bites

*Space is limited

NEWS

Continued from page 16

Games, returned home from Tucson with a bronze medal in soccer. Building on friendships from last year, she felt a deeper connection to her teammates and a stronger sense of camaraderie on and off the field. Her experience demonstrates how returning athletes benefit from both skill development and long-lasting relationships that extend beyond the Games. Arly shared “JCC Maccabi is my favorite part of the summer, the Jewish community, the new and old friends, and much more make JCC Maccabi something I wish I could do for the rest of my life”

In Pittsburgh, nearly 2,000 Jewish athletes came together to participate in a week of intensive sport competitions and Jewish cultural activities. The Campus Games offer a unique experience for high school athletes, blending competition with a unique experience in dorm & college life, service opportunities, and social programming.

Team Kentucky was proud to support Louisville athlete Oliver Wells in the Games. He emerged as a phenomenal standout. Over the course of the week-long track meet, Oliver earned an astonishing 14 gold medals, competing against athletes from Great Britain, Delaware, Dallas, and many other cities across the continent. Track commissioners encouraged participants to try new events, prompting Oliver to compete in the high jump for the first time. Literally rising to the challenge, he clinched a gold medal for his age bracket, outperforming eight other athletes in the event. Oliver’s achievements highlighted both his versatility and the JCC Maccabi Games’ emphasis on encouraging young athletes to push beyond their comfort zones. Both the Tucson and Pittsburgh Games serve as reminders of the unique role that JCC Maccabi Games play in shaping the next generation of Jewish leaders. Athletes return home not just with medals, but with friendships, confi-

dence, and a strengthened sense of Jewish identity. Coaches, families, and community members celebrate alongside the athletes, recognizing the dedication, hard work, and sportsmanship that define every participant’s experience.

Beyond medals, the Games offer an opportunity for young Jewish athletes to build lifelong connections. Whether cheering on teammates, sharing meals with friends from across the continent, or participating in a JCC Cares service project, athletes experience the richness of Jewish culture in ways that are both fun and meaningful. The friendships and networks formed during these events often extend far beyond the fields, courts, and courses, creating bonds that strengthen Jewish communities in cities like Louisville, Lexington, and beyond.

The 2025 JCC Maccabi Games and Campus Games highlight the vital role of community support in nurturing young athletes, with local JCCs, parents, coaches, and volunteers contributing to their preparation and success. Team Kentucky is thankful to the host communities of Tucson and Pittsburgh for welcoming our athletes and athletes from across the world, for competition and Jewish community.

Team Kentucky is already looking forward to 2026, when the JCC Maccabi Games will be held in Toronto. If you are

interested in participating, please reach out to Abigail Goldberg, agoldberg@jewishlouisville.org, for more information.

Support for the 2025 JCC Maccabi Games comes from the Joe Bliss Youth Services Fund; the Robert & Betty Levy Bronner Youth, Arts & Jewish Experience Fund; the Mary Lee & Stanley Fischer Youth Activities Fund; the Charles & Sarah O’Koon Youth Fund; the Samuel A. Glaubinger Youth Fund; the Gail Cassen Schwartz Youth Sports & Wellness Fund; the Edith Shirley & Albert Spivak Sports Scholarship Fund; and the Morris Morguelan Youth Maccabi Games Fund.



Arly Weinstein and Hannah Sherman from San Jose, CA



Natalie Sciewicz in a tennis match



Owen Yoffe (front left) playing flag football



Ryan Marks coaching 3v3 basketball



Jamie Shrensker playing 3v3 basketball

LOUISVILLE BBYO
YACHT PARTY!

ALL ABOARD THE PRINCESS AT CAPTAINS QUARTERS
ALL JEWISH TEENS 8TH-12TH GRADE!
DINNER, MUSIC, GAMES, RIVER VIEWS, AND BBYO VIBES!

SEPT 6 ⚓ **7:00PM**

RSVP JCCLOUISVILLE.ORG/BBYO-YACHTPARTY



ACCIDENTS HAPPEN. WHEN THEY DO,
CALL OUR AWARD WINNING TEAM FOR LEGAL HELP.



- Personal Injury
- Nursing Home Abuse & Neglect
- Car & Truck Accidents • Wrongful Death
- Spinal Cord & Traumatic Brain Injuries
- Defective Products & Medical Devices

Schedule a FREE consultation!

Call: (502) 657-7100 | www.grossmangreen.com
6008 Brownsboro Park Blvd #D • Louisville, KY 40207



NEWS

What a year it's been!

By Ann Glazer Niren
Guest Columnist



Ann Glazer Niren

Believe it or not, this month I am celebrating my one-year anniversary at the Filson Historical Society. It certainly feels like home to me now, and I am so grateful to serve as its Curator of Jewish Collections. During the last 12 months, I have had the honor and pleasure of meeting with many of you as donors and as community members. I am also gratified that several of you have told me that you enjoy these columns in the Community paper, so I appreciate the opportunity to share with you upcoming events and programs, new donations, and general news about the Filson. And as promised in my previous column, this month I will explain what my job entails.

Simply put, I collect, organize, and oversee items relating to Jewish Louisville, and by extension, other towns in Kentucky and the Ohio Valley. Yet this description is somewhat overly simplistic, and indeed my job title of "curator" is a bit misleading, because I do much more than curate. One of my favorite work activities is meeting with donors who have materials they'd like to offer to the Jewish Collections at the Filson. I am privileged to talk with people for a living, a process

that encourages me to learn about their family members. Many of them were immigrants who came to these shores under difficult circumstances, bringing heirloom treasures, that included letters, scrapbooks, photos, family histories, museum items, and books. Cultivating these relationships is crucial to me.

Another vital aspect of my job is community outreach. Giving presentations, working on projects, or even writing articles for this newspaper all fall under the rubric of "outreach." I have had the pleasure of speaking to many of you when I am attending community events. Working with scholars and students of all ages, both locally and beyond Louisville, is also a form of outreach.

Unlike most of the curators at the Filson, I am responsible for planning at least four programs per year; in my case, obviously, they have some Jewish content. As I hope you are aware from reading this column and from the Monday email blasts, I have already presented five events this calendar year. Three of them have focused on the Holocaust, including the evenings with the Louisville Orchestra and Kentucky Opera. My June program highlighted the Jewish sleepaway camps at Otter Creek Park, Tall Trees and Ben F. Washer, as well as the JCC day camp, Ricaree. The turnout at the Trager Family JCC was excellent, and the attendees enjoyed themselves immensely by schmoozing and noshing, singing songs, participating in trivia, watching digitized camp "home movies," and examining archival

material and photos from the Filson. This event would not have been possible without ample assistance from Joanie Lustig, Marsha Beck Roth, and Jaye Sparber Bittner, who helped me with planning, *schlepping*, setting up and cleaning up. Most recently, the Filson presented a fascinating program about the relationship between Teddy Roosevelt and American Jews, which I hope you attended.

Not one to wait until the last minute, I am already hard at work on the plans for next year. I don't want to give away too much information, but let's just say they will feature some Louisville favorites in an updated package. Are you confused now? Intrigued? Continue to read this column for more information! And if you have not yet been to a Filson program, what are you waiting for? You do not need to be a member to attend, but it is certainly less expensive, and it is a bargain in the long run.

In addition to programming, I create exhibits. Currently, I am working with colleagues to create a History Wall at the Trager Family JCC, which will feature photos from our JCC Collection. Not only has it been fascinating to take a sneak peek at past activities at the YMHA and the JCC, but seeing photographs of so many friends and family members has been a joyful, nostalgic indulgence. I am also in the embryonic stages of creating a Jewish exhibit at the Filson (which is likely several years down the road), as well as organizing a digital exhibit for our website, so stay tuned!

I must give a shout-out to three volunteers who provide ongoing, wonderful assistance to me: Rabbi Stan Miles, Tami Penner, and Susan Glazer. They have aided me with various projects, and without them, I'd be hard pressed to perform my job nearly as well. Once a week, I help patrons by working at the Reference Desk and by pulling materials for visiting researchers. Mostly, their questions are of general interest, but occasionally there are Jewish-related inquiries, including those about former Louisville Mayor Jerry Abramson and the Trager Family JCC's annual Jewish Film Festival. It is heartwarming to know that I have (hopefully) helped someone with their research, often involving genealogy.

Of course, there are the requisite meetings, emails, phone calls, and occasional tours, which I love to give. I write articles, large and small, and create social media posts. Besides working with fantastic colleagues and community partners, the best part of my job is that no two days are alike, so work never gets boring. I am proud to represent both the Filson and Louisville's broader Jewish community, and I am honored to be a steward of your treasured family collections. If you would like to talk to me about a donation, please call me at 502-635-5083, or email me at aniren@filsonhistorical.org. I hope to hear from you soon or see you at one of our upcoming programs.

Ann Glazer Niren is Curator of Jewish Collections at the Filson Historical Society

Adult Swim Clinic

A swim program for beginner and intermediate lap swimmers. Centered on refining and improving strokes or learning all four strokes from the beginning!

- Beginner and Intermediate Options
- Once a week
- Ages 18-75
- Improve your lap swimming with a coach
- Member: \$110 + tax
- Non-member: \$150 + tax

Requirement: You must be able to swim on your own at least one lap.



To learn more, scan the QR code or visit jccloouisville.org/adult-swim-clinics

Trager Family JCC | SWIM SCHOOL
WHERE YOUR SWIMMING JOURNEY BEGINS!

Limited Spots Available!



Other Adult Programs

Accelerated Swim

- 5 lessons in 5 days, Mon - Fri
- All ages and skill levels
- Multiple dates and times available

Private Coaching

- Available as single lessons or packages of 4, 8, and 12
- 30 minute lessons, once a week
- All ages and skill levels
- Scheduled based on mutual availability between the swimmer and instructor

Interested in updates on our Adult Swim Programs? Email us at swimschool@jewishlouisville.org for more information!



MUSIK GARTEN

Bring the joy of music to your child's life!

Join us for a wonderful interactive and educational music class with Ms. Cathy Dreszer.

10-week Session
September 7 - November 19
at the Trager Family JCC

0-18 months: Sundays, 10:15-10:45 a.m.

19 months-4 years: Sundays, 9:30-10:10 a.m.

0-2 years: Wednesdays, 10-10:30 a.m.

JCC Members: \$100 | Non-members: \$125



To register, scan the QR code and select the session you would like to attend.

Questions? Contact Carly Mason, cmason@jewishlouisville.org.

Learn more at jewishlouisville.org/pjlibrary



NEWS

AJ and KI decide against merger; will continue collaborating in programming and shared worship

By Andrew Adler
Community Editor

The latest in a series of periodic explorations looking at whether Louisville's two Conservative synagogues should merge resulted – as have previous looks – in what amounts to a single word: No.

"We regret to inform you that, after a thoughtful, thorough and heartfelt discussion, the Steering Committee [comprising members of Congregation Adath Jeshurun and Keneseth Israel Congregation] does not see a way forward at this time for the potential integration into a single Conservative congregation in Louisville, despite the potential long-term benefits to both congregations and the community at large by doing so," said a statement emailed on July 23, addressed "Dear Keneseth Israel Family." (AJ emailed a similar communication to its congregants.)

"The Steering Committee, therefore, recommended to the Boards of Directors of Adath Jeshurun & Keneseth Israel on the basis of our consultant's professional opinion and expertise that the integration exploration process cease at this time and **that our congregations put our efforts into continuing and deepening our congregations' partnership across worship, educational, and social events while remaining independent congregations** [emphasis theirs]. The Steering Committee additionally recommends that each board's president nominate three of their congregants to serve with both congregations' clergy on an ad hoc committee to serve these continued partnership efforts."

That same day, KI board president Alane Goldstein emailed a further statement providing additional context to the year-long joint exploration:

"Throughout the process, we held firmly to values of transparency, collaboration, and mutual respect," Goldstein wrote. "From the outset, both synagogues agreed upon certain shared principles—guardrails meant to ensure that the process would be fair, balanced, and inclusive of all voices. As the journey unfolded, it became clear to us that some of those foundational understandings had shifted in ways that ultimately proved too challenging to overcome."

She added: "Keneseth Israel and Adath

Jeshurun will continue to seek opportunities for joint programming, shared services, and partnership where beneficial. We believe that our collective strength as a Jewish community in Louisville depends on these kinds of cooperative relationships, and we look forward to building on them in the future. We remain committed to a strong, diverse Jewish community in Louisville, and believe that our collective future will be strengthened by working together in ways that honor the uniqueness of each congregation"

In a subsequent statement dated July 28 and addressed "Dear Congregants," Adath Jeshurun board president Felissa Goldstein elaborated on the decision to maintain mutually independent status:

"I appreciate your feedback over the past few days, as we have mutually agreed to cease merger discussions with Keneseth Israel," she wrote. "There have been some additional questions about the process, including the redlines [tinyurl.com/y2uc5av3] that ultimately led to the decision not to move forward. I felt it was important to provide some clarity around these issues.

From the beginning, our leadership approached this process with the goal of exploring whether a merger would strengthen Adath Jeshurun and the future of Conservative Judaism in Louisville. However, as conversations deepened, several clear redlines emerged on both sides.

We also want to address an important question that many are asking: **Why was the congregation not invited to vote on this decision?** [emphasis hers]

"The committees never reached a point where final recommendations were presented to the steering committee. Due to the nature of the redlines—which raised questions about future building renovations and funding, cemetery plots and burials, and governance post-merger—the steering committee simply did not see a path forward.

We understand that not being part of a final vote is disappointing to many of you. This was a very difficult decision for all members of the steering committee and not one we made lightly. Moving forward, we will continue to seek opportunities to collaborate with Keneseth Israel, while also focusing on strengthening Adath Jeshurun as we know it."



NO ONE SAVES MORE LIVES IN ISRAEL IN TIMES OF CRISIS.

We can't ensure this Rosh HaShanah will usher in a peaceful year. But with your support, Magen David Adom can continue to be a source of light, hope, and lifesaving care to all Israelis – no matter what 5786 brings.

Support Israel's lifesavers at afmda.org/give or 866.632.2763.



Israel's Emergency Services System



(502) 546-7765

Experienced Caregivers

Affordable Rates

What Families are Saying about Hallmark:

"Very caring and professional staff, reliable. I felt comfortable leaving my 98-year-old mother in the care of the Hallmark Caregivers. Mom would look forward to their arrival. **I am a health care provider and am very picky about whom I would allow to care for my mother, Hallmark staff met all my expectations**"

- Theress Coomer



Shane Sparks
Owner



Tammy Kaninberg
VP of Business Development

HallmarkHomecare.com

Louisville's Jewish History Comes to Life at JFCS

Oral History Project Provides Tapestry of Tradition, Resilience

Jewish Family & Career Services recently unveiled a new display that is helping preserve the personal stories of Jewish life and identity in Louisville for future generations.

Attendees at JFCS's Annual Meeting were the first to view the new "Frank and Barbara Weisberg Family Fund for Jewish Oral History" display, which is open to visitors at the JFCS offices. The project, is years in the making. It features 22 participants who recently sat for video interviews where they reflected on their Jewish identity. Each story offers a unique and intimate perspective, and put together, they form a tapestry of tradition, resilience, and evolving identity of what it means to be Jewish in Louisville.

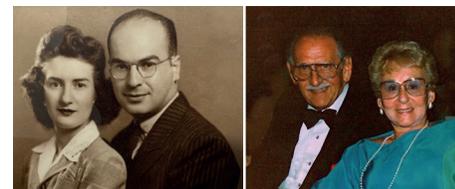
The Oral History project began years ago, in 2001, through the initiative from Ann Friedman. From 2001 to 2017 over 200 interviews were collected and digitized at the Filson Historic Society with the help of former JFCS CEO, Judy Tiell. Thanks to the recent generous gift from Frank and Barbara Weisberg, the



Frank and Barbara Weisberg stand in front of the Frank & Barbara Weisberg Family Fund for Jewish Oral History display which was recently unveiled at JFCS.

project gained a permanent home at JFCS and a new name. Their gift ensures its continued growth in the future. "The Frank and Barbara Weisberg Family Fund for Jewish Oral History" honors their deep commitment to preserving and uplifting Jewish voices in our community. Frank and Barbara

dedicated this fund in honor of their parents, Charles & Marian Weisberg and Arthur & Esther Frank. The display itself currently features 22 individual plaques arranged across a dedicated wall. Each plaque includes a photo of the interviewee, a memorable quote from their oral history, and a QR code linking to their full video interview on YouTube. The result is an exhibit that invites reflection, curiosity, and



Esther & Arthur Frank

Marian & Charles Weisberg

that shape Louisville's vibrant Jewish community — and ensuring their stories are never lost," said Courtney Evans, JFCS Director of Advancement.

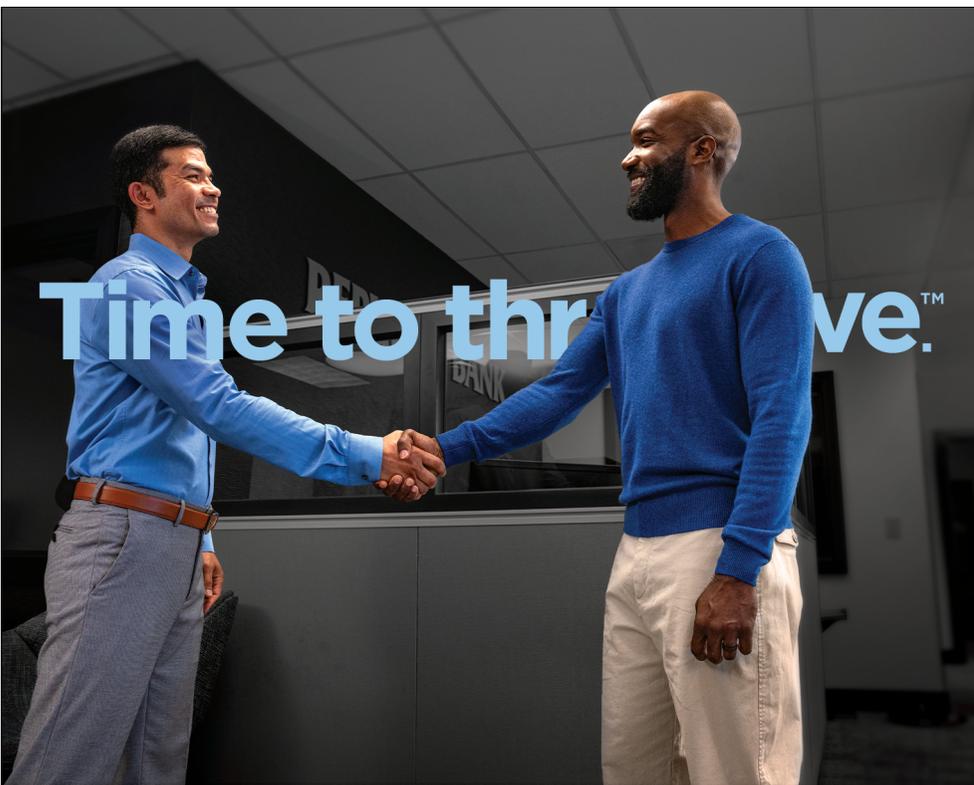
There was an article in the Community Newspaper which talked about Jewish Family & Career Services restarting their Jewish Oral History project. I called immediately. I am passionate about learning about the Jewish Community's individual stories and how their Jewish Identity affected every area of their life. Barbara and I are so happy that it has now turned into a reality and that these video oral histories will continue from generation to generation!"

~ Frank Weisberg

connection. The project is far from finished. JFCS is actively seeking volunteers to help conduct future interviews. The first volunteer training will be held on Thursday, September 18th at JFCS from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. As the collection grows, so too will the physical display, expanding to include new faces and voices from across the generations. "Through this project, we hope to honor the stories and the experiences

"We're so proud of what we've started, and with thanks to Frank and Barbara Weisberg, we're excited about where it can go in the future."

Those interested in volunteering, can contact JFCS by calling (502) 452-6341 or by emailing Courtney Evans at cevans@jfcsloouisville.org.



Your growth is our business.

Whatever you're building—a business, a future, or a little breathing room—Republic Bank is here to help you move forward. With personalized service, local decision-making, and people who truly care, we're more than a bank. We're your partner in progress.

Start your relationship at RepublicBank.com/business-solutions.

REPUBLIC BANK
Member FDIC



#GIVEFORGOODLOU RETURNS THIS SEPTEMBER!



Scan the QR Code to go directly to JFCS' Give for Good Page



BE A PART OF SOMETHING GOOD!

SEPT. 18, 2025

The Addiction Crisis in Louisville:

Trends, Challenges, and Local Responses



Sept. 16
6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
at JFCS
Louis & Lee Roth Family Center
2821 Klempner Way

R.S.V.P. Requested Here

NEWS & NEWSMAKERS

Louisville welcomes its newest ShinShinim, Rona and Yael



Yael and Rona

Louisville has two new ShinShinim – Israeli teens who spend a year abroad in between graduating from high school and beginning their mandatory service in the Israel Defense Forces.

This year's pair of young women are Rona and Yael (for security reasons, we identify them by their first names only). Rona lives in Lehavot Haviva, a kibbutz located in northern Israel. She has two sisters and enjoys riding horses. Yael hails from Karina-Tran, is the oldest of three siblings and likes to sing.

Rona and Yael are the second pair of ShinShinim to come to Louisville. They follow Kyla and Eden, who recently returned to Israel after a wonderfully successful year leading programs, telling their respective stories throughout the community and working with kids at the Early Learning Center, Camp J, and other Jewish preschools and Sunday Schools.

We'll have a much more comprehensive story about Rona and Yael in an upcoming issue of *Community*. Meanwhile, welcome to town!

Support for the ShinShinim program comes from the Phil Levitch Fund and the Sidney Winchell Family Fund.

Susan Kwasny takes on an expanded role at the Trager Family JCC



Susan Kwasny

Susan Kwasny -- Senior Director, Health & Wellness at the Trager Family JCC -- is upping her professional game.

"As I'm sure most of you know, Susan Kwasny has been unofficially serving as my right hand in leading the Trager Family JCC for many

years," Thomas Wissinger, Vice President, Jewish Community of Louisville and Executive Director of the Trager Family JCC, said in a July 25 staff-wide email.

"Today, I am proud to announce that we are removing the word 'unofficially,' and are now formally recognizing Susan's dedication and passion for all things Trager Family JCC. Please join me in congratulating our new *Senior Director, JCC Programs and Operations*, Susan Kwasny. Susan will oversee the daily programming and operations of the Trager Family JCC, not only Health and Wellness, with the exception of the youth and early childhood programs."

Her expanded portfolio "feels very natural for me," said Kwasny, who began her local career 19 years ago at the old JCC as a group exercise instructor; becoming a full-time staffer in 2017 when she moved into her role leading the Health & Wellness team.

"I've loved the JCC from the moment I set foot as a member," Kwasny said, "so much so that I wanted to work here, and I've never left."

Larry Skolnick hired as CEO of Houston's Evelyn Rubenstein JCC



Larry Skolnick

Larry Skolnick will take over in December as CEO of the Evelyn Rubenstein Jewish Community Center in Houston. The facility, with an annual operating budget in excess of \$20 million, is among the largest JCCs in North America.

Skolnick comes to Houston after a 12-year stint as president and CEO of the Memphis Jewish Community Center. He'll take over from Joel Dinkin, who is retiring after 45-plus years as a JCC professional.

"I am so honored and humbled to be selected as the next CEO of the Evelyn Rubenstein Jewish Community Center," Skolnick told the Houston Jewish Herald-Voice.

"The J has a rich history of engaging, strengthening and serving the Houston Jewish community, as well as the broader community, while also being a respected pillar of the JCC movement throughout North America.

"I am eager to begin my tenure in December and look forward to becoming part of the vibrant Jewish community and a proud new Houstonian."

Earlier in his career, Skolnick was executive vice president and CEO of the Jewish Federation of Greater Dayton in Ohio, and associate executive director of the JCC of the Greater Palm Beaches in West Palm Beach, Fla. His sister, Frances Skolnick, is our Federation's Senior Director of Planned Giving and Endowments.

The JHV article continued: "Larry brings a deep commitment to Jewish values, a collaborative leadership style and an innate passion for community," Evelyn Rubenstein JCC Houston president Elizabeth Cohen said.

"We are confident that Larry will guide our J with clarity and purpose as we continue to build a vibrant, inclusive and thriving center for Jewish life in Houston for generations to come."

Endowment established to honor Mauri Malka's 34 years of service at JFCS



Mauri Malka

Mauri Malka, Senior Director of Programs at Jewish Family & Career Services, has retired after a 34-year run at JFCS.

"Mauri's dedication to the Jewish Community, Older Adult Services, and living out JFCS' mission is an inspiration for us all," JFCS said in a statement lauding her achievements. "In collaboration with Mauri's family, we are establishing an endowment, the Mauri Malka Fund for Independent Aging, to ensure older adults can age with dignity, independence, and support. We ask that you contribute to this endowment in Mauri's honor that will leave a legacy at JFCS, as Mauri has done."

Trained as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Malka earned a master's degree from the University of Louisville's Kent

School of Social Work.

According to her JFCS bio, "In her thirty-plus years at JFCS, Mauri has worked in a variety of roles, including serving as the clinical resettlement coordinator, therapist, older adult director, family services director and more recently in an executive leadership position. Her early years with JFCS involved coordination and implementation of resettlement services for refugees. Her clinical practice has focused on cross-cultural issues, geriatric issues, grief and loss, couples counseling and family caregiver concerns. Mauri has facilitated support groups and delivered training to family caregivers for over two decades. Her work with individuals utilizes a strength-based approach that builds on competencies.

"Mauri was instrumental in developing a one-stop senior program at JFCS that offers a full menu of services to seniors and their families, including transportation and non-medical homecare. Recent initiatives include the establishment of psychiatric services for individuals from youth to older adults and family strengthening programs that promote school stability and stable housing for families with children."

Malka "is a consummate professional – a wonderful leader, supportive of her co-workers and her volunteer staff," Mike Fine, the immediate past president of the JFCS board, said during Malka's July 31 retirement party.

"Working with her has been tremendous – going through strategic planning and attending national conferences. She was deeply involved," Fine added. Malka, he said, would answer "a call from anyone in the community who needed a resource or a connection, often serving as the front door for the Jewish community here in Louisville."

Louisville's Heaven Hill Brands honored as Distillery of the Year at the 2025 New Orleans Spirits Competition



The Heaven Hill Brands team shows off their "Distillery of the Year" award

Heaven Hill Brands was named Distillery of the Year at the 2025 New Orleans Spirits Competition, held last month as part of the city's annual Tales of the Cocktail event.

"This recognition from the New Orleans Spirits Competition is a testament to the dedication of our entire team," Kate Latts, Co-President of Heaven Hill Brands and third-generation family member, said in a July 25 statement. "Being named Distillery of the Year and securing these Best of Category wins reflect the passion and precision that go into every bottle we produce."

Heaven Hill won in seven categories:

- Bottled-in-Bond Bourbon – Heaven Hill Bottled-In-Bond
- Bourbon, Non-Age Stated – Evan Williams 1783
- Whiskey, Bourbon 5-10 years – Heaven Hill Grain to Glass Traditional

- Barrel Series – Kentucky Straight Wheated Bourbon
- Corn Whiskey – Mellow Corn Bottled-In-Bond
- Finished Bourbon – Elijah Craig Toasted Barrel
- Añejo Tequila – Tequila Ocho Anejo

"This latest accolade comes during a momentous year for Heaven Hill, as the company recently celebrated being named the Best U.S. Distillery from the San Francisco World Spirits Competition, prepares to unveil its new Heaven Hill Springs Distillery in September and celebrates its 90th anniversary on Dec. 13, 2025," Heaven Hill's statement added.

"The New Orleans Spirits Competition, founded in 2022, is an international spirits judging bringing wider recognition to fine beverages and spirits from top-flight producers across the globe. Presented by the esteemed Tales of the Cocktail Foundation, each spirit is tasted blind by a panel of industry experts, without identification, to ensure integrity and secrecy. The judging panels include pre-eminent industry professionals, including award-winning bartenders and distillers, decorated beverage writers, and industry luminaries. For more information, visit nolaspiritscomp.com."

After almost 70 years, NCJW's Nearly New Shop is shutting its doors for good



The Nearly New Shop, a fixture in the lower level of Mid City Mall since 1988, has announced that it would close permanently effective Sept. 30.

Established in 1956 as the resale arm of the National Council of Jewish Women, Louisville Section, the shop (originally located on Market Street) has long been celebrated for its selection of gently-used women's and men's clothing, alongside an eclectic, evolving array of merchandise. The shop recently concluded its 50th annual Fashion Encore Sale; a final, closing sale is now underway.

"For the last 69 years, community members have donated clothing, accessories, home furnishings and furniture to the Shop," a news release recounted today, "the proceeds of which were used to pay for advocacy projects and programs run by NCJW."

"NCJW will also be working with partner agencies to ensure that any unsold merchandise can be repurposed to benefit members of the community," the release said.

The Nearly New Shop's status has been tenuous ever since the Metts family, which owns Mid City Mall (bordered by Bardstown Road, Beechwood Avenue, Baxter Avenue, and Rosewood Avenue) put the 11.5-acre property up for sale this past November.

"This was not a decision made lightly," Sarah Harlan, NCJW, Louisville Section's executive director, emphasized today.

But "given the challenges of today's resale market, together with the upcoming sale and repurposing of the Mid City Mall, the board recognized that we needed to focus our resources in new ways that will sustain NCJW'S mission into the future. There are no plans to reopen at this time."

AROUND TOWN

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

Adath Jeshurun

Adath Jeshurun will host a Shabbat Social Dinner on Friday, Sept. 5 after Kabbalat Shabbat Services. Come at 5:15 p.m. for Happy Hour before services which begin at 5:45 p.m. Beginning at about 6:45 p.m., join us for dinner catered by Chef Maureen Hartmann. The cost is \$15 per person, children under 12 are free. RSVP by Aug. 31 at adathjeshurun.com/reservations.

Adath Jeshurun will host its traditional pre-Selichot program to spotlight a local nonprofit with a very special tie to AJ. Re:Center Ministries strives to meet the spiritual and physical needs of homeless people in our community from their home base in the former AJ building on Brook Street. From 8-9:30 pm, we'll hear music from the First Congregational Methodist Church choir and success stories from the Re:Center program followed by desserts and coffee. The Selichot service will begin at 10 pm. All are welcome.

The Adath Jeshurun Cemetery Service will take place Sunday, Sept. 14 at 11 a.m. at the AJ Cemetery, 2926 Preston Highway. If your loved ones rest in the AJ Cemetery, please join us for a service of remembrance led by Rabbi Hoffman and Cantor Lipp.

Anshei Sfarad

Congregation Anshei Sfarad has open study time every weeknight (Sun-Thu) from 7:45-8:30 p.m. All are invited to come and study with the Rabbi, with a friend or by yourself. You are welcome to study whatever topic you choose and have your personal questions about Judaism answered. Refreshments served.

Shabbos Davening at 9 a.m. including Rabbi's Parsha outline and sermon, followed by a delicious hot Kiddush. Every Wednesday night at 7:45 p.m., Judaism in Action. Current series: Laws of Shabbos. Talmud Trek Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. led by Rabbi Lederman. For more information, email rabbilederman@ansheisfarad.com.

Lessons to Learn Together Mondays at 8 p.m. on the weekly Parsha.

Chavurat Shalom

This month we'll enjoy some beautiful music and engage in some meaningful discussions. Lunch will start at Noon in The Temple's Heideman Auditorium, unless noted below, and our program will start at 1:00 pm. All programs will also be available starting at 1 p.m. via ChavuratShalomZoom for those who need to join us remotely.

Thursday, Sept. 4 - Harpist Jessica Hyden returns with a wonderful collection of new pieces and old favorites. Lunch will include cheese quesadillas, Mexican-style rice, black bean and corn salad, fresh fruit, and Mexican-style chocolate mousse. NOTE: We'll be meeting in the Klein Center this week.

Thursday, Sept. 11 - Our friend Bob Mueller will lead an engaging discussion on The Six Mistakes People Make. Lunch will include beef brisket, mashed potatoes, green peas and carrots, coleslaw, fresh fruit, and caramel spoon cake.

Thursday, Sept. 18 - Senior support counselor Emry Schneeweis will join us to talk about the important services for senior adults available through JFCS. Lunch will include pasta and meatballs, mixed vegetables, Caesar salad, fresh fruit, and cookies and brownies.

Thursday, Sept. 25 - David Shapero will play a little bit of everything on the piano. Lunch will include barbecue chicken, roasted potatoes, green beans, mixed green salad, fresh fruit, and chocolate bread pudding. NOTE: We'll be meeting in the Klein Center this week.

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 502-423-1818 or sarahharlan86@gmail.com.

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

Jewish Family & Career Services

Mark your calendars for the 2025 High Holiday Food Drive Family Mitzvah Event Oct. 5 at JFCS. This will be a time where you can come together with your family and volunteer at the Sonny and Janet Meyer Food Pantry. Children of all ages are welcome. Please reach out to Courtney Evans (cevans@jfcsloouisville.org) to RSVP.

Did you know JFCS provides individual, couples, and family therapy? JFCS' trained clinical experts use a variety of treatment modalities that include supportive counseling, motivational interviewing, cognitive behavioral therapy, and sand tray therapy. Treatment is solution focused and centers around the belief that clients are the best experts on themselves. You can schedule your appointment by reaching out to 502-452-6341 or services@jfcsloouisville.org.

Keneseth Israel

Torah Yoga is back and just in time for Yom Kippur. Join Cantor Hordes on Thursday, Sept. 25 at 6:30 p.m. for some sun salutations, some Torah, and some reflections on the upcoming Day of Atonement.

Join us on Sunday, Sept. 14 at the KI cemetery (719 Locust Ln) at 10 a.m. for Selichot services followed by cemetery beautification projects (planting, cleaning, and repairing gravestones), and clergy will be available for individual gravesite memorial prayers

This year KI is proud to bring to everyone a traditional Rosh Hashanah Seder with services starting at 6 p.m. on September 22nd followed by dinner at approximately 7 p.m. Adults: \$25 / Children: \$15. Reserve and pay at kenesethisrael.com and click on "high holidays."

This year, in partnership with Adath Jeshurun, we will be going to Big Rock Park on Sept. 23 at 5 p.m. for Tashlich, a ceremony where we cast off our sins (and duck feed) into Beargrass Creek. We will be walking over from KI at 4:30 p.m. but if you can't make the walk, we will just see you there. Tashlich will be followed by Rosh Hashanah afternoon services. The entrance to the park is at the north

end of Valletta Rd.

Keneseth Israel and Keneseth Israel Preschool invite you to our End of Summer Festival! Join us Sunday, Sept. 7, from 2-4 p.m. for a fun-filled day of bounce castles, games, and kosher carnival food. Bring a friend to come experience a taste of what KI has to offer the community, and if they're a new attendee of Keneseth Israel they'll get their High Holiday ticket for free this year.

Join Rabbi Freed and Cantor Hordes Sunday, Sept. 14 starting at 3 p.m. as they travel across Louisville to blow the shofar. Cantor Hordes will be blowing the shofar at the Trager Family JCC at 3 p.m.; Rabbi Freed will be blowing the shofar at Central Park at 3 p.m. and at the Glenview at 4 p.m.

Come enjoy a Kabbalat Shabbat service as we mark the end of summer with a Shabbat dinner BBQ Sept. 12 at 6 p.m. RSVP by Sept. 10 at tinyurl.com/kishabbat.

Join Rabbi Freed every Wednesday at 11 a.m. at the Trager Family JCC for Jews & Brews to discuss the weekly Torah portion over coffee and cookies.

Our New and Prospective Member Shabbat and Kiddush Luncheon is being held on Saturday, Sept. 6. Our services begin at 9:30 am. This is an opportunity to meet our congregants and clergy. If you are interested in attending, please let us know at 502-459-2780, or you can RSVP at tinyurl.com/KICKiddush. Any questions about membership, please contact Ellen Jacobs at ellensjacobs8@gmail.com. For those of you who have not previously attended high holiday services at our synagogue, we are happy to provide complimentary tickets. You can contact Yonatan Yussman at yyussman@kenesethisrael.com.

Keneseth Israel proudly presents its 2025 Scholar-in-Residence, Dan Elbaum, from Sept. 5-7. Dan is the former Head of North America for The Jewish Agency for Israel and President and CEO of Jewish Agency International Development, and previously served as Chief Advocacy Officer at the American Jewish Committee and, earlier in his career, worked as a civil rights attorney and development director at the Anti-Defamation League.

Friday, Sept. 5, at 6 p.m., join us for Kabbalat Shabbat services & dinner; and Dan's topic will be "12 Lessons from the 12-Day War." Cost: \$10/adult; \$5/child

Saturday, Sept. 6, at 9:30 a.m., join us for Shabbat morning services & luncheon, and Dan's topic will be "Jewish Memory and Moral Clarity." Free.

Sunday, Sept. 7, at 10 a.m., join us for brunch, and Dan's topic will be "Understanding Israeli Politics." Free.

RSVP by Aug. 22 to tinyurl.com/DanElbaum or call 502-459-2780

Keneseth Israel Congregation offers Daily Minyan services at 6 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, 8:45 a.m. on Sunday 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 Saturday at 9:30 a.m. Shabbat

services and Holiday services are offered in person and on YoutubeLive at tinyurl.com/KICyoutubelive. Please visit kenesethisrael.com for information.

Kol Israel Jewish Renewal Community of Kentucky

Monday September 8

8 PM

Community wide Jewish Meditation "Inner Peace for Challenging Times" Gather with Jewish Communities around the country to experience inner spaciousness and healing Free and open to all To register for the Zoom link, call or text Blu @502-277-0555 or KollIsraelKy@gmail.com.

Saturday, Sept. 13

Please join us as we celebrate Shabbat as Adat Ha' Araphel- Congregation of the Cloud on Zoom or Facebook Join many of our Jewish Renewal leaders for our innovative, musical and inspirational service. We gather at 10:15 a.m. for greeting and schmoozing on Zoom The service will begin at 10:30 a.m. sharp Call or Text Blu at 502-277-0555 or by emailing KollIsraelKy@gmail.com.

Sunday, Sept. 14

"The Big Table"

Join KICK as we support and participate in the nation's largest Pot Luck. Magical things happen when we see a meal. When we share conversation, we build community. 5-7 p.m. Iroquois Park Contact Blu for more details as a group

Tuesday, Sept. 23

Rosh Hashanah's

"Tashlich on The River"

Traditional casting of our sins, and new resolutions for the Days of Awe. No animals will be harmed Our four-legged friends are welcome The Water Tower Contact Blu in advance please for dinner reservations

Friday, Oct. 10

4th Annual "Shakn' Sukkah Shabbat"

a Jewish Revival, Renewal style Music Mediation Movement Dinner. Come experience one of our signature events Contact Blu..

Louisville Vaad HaKashrut

The following venues are supervised and certified by the Vaad: Trager Family JCC (Nancy Abrams Kitchen); Trager Family JCC Outdoor Café (Dive -n- Diner) Memorial Day-Labor Day; and Krispy Kreme, 3000 Bardstown Rd.

National Council of Jewish Women -- Louisville Section

NCJW & Trager Family JCC Blood Drive Give the Gift of Life at the next NCJW & Trager Family JCC Blood Drive, Wednesday, Sept. 3, from Noon - 5 pm, in the Camp J Building Auditorium, 3700 Dutchmans Lane. To schedule an appointment, please visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter sponsor code: jclouky or call 1-800-RED-CROSS.

Give for Good Louisville

Our community's most impactful fundraising event, Give for Good Louisville, is set for Thursday, Sept. 18, the day when you can show your love, appreciation, and support for all non-profit organizations that are most meaningful to you.

AROUND TOWN

Thank you in advance for supporting NCJW, Louisville Section during Give for Good; by doing so you'll help us continue to strive for social justice by improving the quality of life for women, children, and families and by safeguarding individual rights and freedoms.

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 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. All proceeds help to serve women, children, and families in the Louisville community.

ShPIeL Performing Identity

ShPIeL Theatre in partnership with Actors Theatre of Louisville proudly present: #CHARLOTTESVILLE
Written and Performed by Priyanka Shetty
Directed by Yury Urnov
Produced by Richard Jordan Productions and Yellow Raincoat; Associate Produced by The Pleasance

Sept. 14 at 2 and 7 p.m.
Actors Theatre of Louisville
316 W Main Street
Direct from its sell-out premieres in Washington DC, New York City and the 2025 Edinburgh Festival of Theatre.

Tickets on sale now for this limited run. actorstheatre.org/events/hashtag-charlottesville tel. 502-584-1205
Press and Special Group Sales Rates: Holly Kissel hollykissel24@gmail.com.

Temple Shalom

Let's Play Mahjongg! Sunday, Sept. 7, 1-3 p.m., Temple Shalom
All levels of players (including beginners) are welcome at our monthly mahjongg gathering. Light snacks are provided, and reservations are required. Please text Janet at 502-553-2332 to let us know you are attending.

BLT: Bagels, Lox, and Torah, Saturday, September 13, 10:30 at the Trager Family JCC
Torah study comes to the Trager Family JCC! We will have bagels, lox, and juice along with study and lively discussion. Everyone from the community is invited. We will be meeting in the J's board room. Please note: There will not be Shabbat morning services at Temple Shalom that day.

High Holiday Kick Off with Havdalah and Selichot Services, Saturday, Sept. 13, 5 p.m., Temple Shalom
Welcome the start of the Holidays with a special Havdalah and Selichot Service. We will also change our Torah covers. Refreshments will be served. Please RSVP to the synagogue office at 502-458-4739. Additional information on the High Holidays at Temple Shalom can be found elsewhere in this issue of Community.

Shabbat Services, Fridays at 6:30 p.m. and Saturdays at 10:30 a.m.
All are welcome at our weekly Shabbat services. Friday nights are streamed on YouTube. Call the office at 502-458-4739 for more information.

The Temple

Adult education at The Temple continues weekly with Torah Study with Rabbi David 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.

Join The Temple Brotherhood Thursday, Sept. 4 at 7 p.m. for our monthly Poker Night in the Klein Center, where we will serve our traditional pizza, pretzels, chips, dip, and peanut butter. RSVP to Michael at mfriedman@sustainablemgt.com for more details.

Join us Saturday, Sept. 6 at 10:30 a.m. to celebrate the New Year for the Animals with a special pet-centered Shabbark service. This short Shabbat morning service will be held outside (weather permitting) and will include a special blessing for our pets. After the service, we will have a pawsome doggie-bag oneg for the pets and a free barbeque for the humans. We will also have some booths featuring games for the pets, information on local shelters, and more. Shabbat services are open to all, but if you would like to attend the pawsome oneg and barbeque, please RSVP at thetemplelouky.org/shabbark with your name and your pet's name so we can make sure to have enough food. See you there and Shabbark Shalom!

Join Ann Zimmerman and her daughter, Vycki Goldenberg Minstein, Sunday, Sept. 7 at 1 p.m. as they teach a class on making delicious rugelach. All participants should bring their own rolling pin; all other supplies will be provided. This class is limited to 18 participants and member registration will take priority over that of non-members. No children, please, and no walk-ins, so that supplies can be purchased in accurate numbers. \$10/person for Temple members; \$18/person for non-members. Please note: The last day to register is August 31.

Join us for Selichot, Saturday, Sept. 13. Services will begin at 7 p.m., followed by Oneg Selichot at 8 p.m.

We're looking forward to seeing everyone at WRJ/Sisterhood's fun, creative, and delicious opening program at 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 14, when we'll gather together and become expert cookie decorators under Kim Norton's guidance. Please RSVP either online at thetemplelouky.org/wrj-opening or by emailing Sarah Harlan at sarahharlan86@gmail.com.

Get ready to enter the High Holy Day season with intention and meaning. In this two-part learning series (Monday, Sept. 15 and Wednesday, Sept. 17 at 7 p.m.), Rabbi Matt will guide us through the core themes, rituals, and texts of Elul, Rosh Hashanah, Shabbat Shuvah, and Yom Kippur. Whether you're seeking a spiritual reset, a deeper understanding of the holidays, or just a refresher before services begin, this class is for you. Come to one session or both—each will offer meaningful insights and accessible learning. All are welcome, and classes will be offered in person and on Zoom. RSVP at thetemplelouky.org/preparing.

Join us on Friday, Sept. 19 at 7 p.m. for the dedication of our newly renovated

Carolyn and Norman Friedberg and Family Sanctuary, including the unveiling of installations by artists Dr. Rex Langerstrom and Brook White of Flame Run Gallery. Guests are invited to stay afterward for a celebratory oneg to toast the new space and its legacy.

Trager Family JCC

Tiles and Tasty Bites
Wednesday, Sept. 10
6 - 8 p.m.
Kohn Family Town Square at the Trager Family JCC
Join us for a fun evening of Mahjong, Rummikub, and Canasta!

Enjoy a selection of light appetizers and refreshing drinks. Sign up as a team, or if you're coming solo, no worries, we'll assign you to a group. This is an adults-only event, and you must already know how to play the games.

Cost: \$6 per person; \$24 for a 4-person team
Registration: jclouisville.org/tiles-and-tasty-bites
*Space is limited

Mazin Art Exhibition 2025

Enter by Sept. 12; opening reception in the Kohn Family Town Square Oct. 12

The Mazin is a regional juried annual Art Exhibition of 2-D and 3-D art, open to any artist in the United States 16 years or older. The exhibit is designed to foster an appreciation of today's visual art and to reflect the breadth of creative vision of artists.

Each artist may submit up to five works completed within the last three years. Guidelines, dates, and further information can be found at jewishlouisville.org/mazinart or by contacting Erin Siliman at jartsideas@jewishlouisville.org.

Red Cross Blood Drive Sept. 3, 12 - 5 p.m. Please join us for a blood drive in the Camp J Building Auditorium (Located at 3700 Dutchmans Lane) Wednesday, Sept. 3 from 12 to 5 p.m. Co-Sponsored by National Council of Jewish Women. To schedule an appointment, please visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter sponsor code: jclouky or call 1-800-RED CROSS.

Musikgarten returns to the Trager Family JCC for a 10-week Session: Sept. 7 - Nov. 19

Bring the joy of music to your child's life. Join us for a wonderful, interactive and educational music class with Ms. Cathy Dreszer.

0-18 months: Sundays, 10:15-10:45 a.m.
19 months-4 years: Sundays, 9:30-10:10 a.m.
0-2 years: Wednesdays, 10-10:30 a.m.
Cost: JCC Members: \$100 | Non-members: \$125

To register or learn more, go online at jewishlouisville.org/pjlibrary. Questions? Contact Carly Mason at cmason@jewishlouisville.org.

New Tzedakah Box at the Trager Family JCC
As you're walking through the Weisberg Family Lobby, be sure to visit our new Tzedakah Box, located next to J-Play.

Tzedakah is the Hebrew word for charity or justice, and new Tzedakah Box brings the mitzvah (good deed) of giving to life for our members of all ages. We hope our youngest members will enjoy the tradition of giving Tzedakah, so coin slots are located at various heights so that all members can participate. All funds collected through the end of the year will support the 2026 Federation Annual Campaign.

We are grateful to Sandee and Stephen Linker for their gift and for bringing the joyfulness of giving to our space.

I make house calls!



MARSHA SEGAL

Presidents Club

Top Producer with the Largest
Real Estate Company in Louisville



13906 Promenade Green Way, Suite 100
Louisville, Ky. 40245
Office: (502) 420-5000
Cell: (502) 552-4685
e-mail: msegal@semonin.com

Louisville Hebrew School

Unaffiliated Families Welcome

We offer:

- Hebrew Education
- Jewish Studies
- Family Holiday Celebrations
- Experiential Learning
- Social Action Projects
- Experienced Teachers

For more info call
Bev Weinberg 502-802-3855 or
email: lbsy.bev@gmail.com



LIFECYCLE

B'nai Mitzvah



Dr. Lisa Rachelle Klein

Dr. Lisa Rachelle Klein will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah Saturday, Sept. 20 at 10:30 a.m. at The Temple. Lisa grew up on Long Island and graduated from

Valley Stream North High School in 1978. She is a 1982 graduate of Brown University and a 1986 graduate of SUNY Upstate Medical University in Syracuse, New York. Following her residency in pediatrics and fellowship in pediatric cardiology at The New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center, she relocated to Louisville in 1992. After 31 years in pediatric cardiology practice, Lisa retired to focus on other interests including but not limited to yoga, pilates, harp, mosaic art, vegetable gardening, pickleball, reading, and international travel. Lisa is the middle daughter of Gerald Kirsch and Gloria Kirsch^{z"l}. She is married to Robert M. Klein, Temple President 1998-2000 and life-member of The Temple Board of Directors. Lisa and Robert are the parents of Adam Klein, Samantha Westervelt, Ian Westervelt, Annika Klein (Hristo Atanasov) and Sydney Westervelt, all of whom attended The Temple Religious School. Special thanks to Rabbi Matt, Rabbi David, Rabbi Rooks, Rabbi Rapport, and Rabbi Diamond^{z"l}, for the support and inspiration they have provided over the many years of our membership at The Temple. Lisa and her family invite the community to her Bat Mitzvah service and Kiddush luncheon following the service.



Chloe and Jordan Rosenthal

Chloe and Jordan Rosenthal will be celebrate their B'nai Mitzvah Saturday, Sept. 6 at 10 a.m. at Congregation Adath Jeshurun, 2401 Woodbourne Ave. The community is invited to attend and celebrate this milestone event with them and their family.

Chloe Rosenthal, an 8th grade student

at Meyzeek Middle School, participates in the school's Student Technology Leadership Program (TLP) and the Kentucky United Nations Assembly (KUNA). Chloe also plays the saxophone in Meyzeek's band. She loves being with her friends in Louisville and spending a month each summer at Beber Camp in Mukwonago, Wisconsin.

Jordan Rosenthal is an 8th grade student at Kammerer Middle School. When he is not involved in school-related activities, he enjoys spending time with his dog, Frankie, and playing with friends on virtual reality. He looks forward to spending a month each summer at Camp Livingston in Bennington, Indiana.

As different as they are, Chloe and her twin brother, Jordan, share many friends in common and a favorite food as well: their Ima Phyllis' brisket.

Chloe and Jordan are the children of Stephanie Shaikun and Mark Rosenthal. Their grandparents are Lynn Rosenthal, Donna and Stanley Rosenthal, and Phyllis and Michael Shaikun.



Susan Gutfreund Waterman

Susan Gutfreund Waterman will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah Saturday, Sept. 20 at 10:30 a.m. at The Temple. Susan is the wife of Robert and the proud mother

of Jessica (Michael) Israel and Jordan (Caitlin) Waterman. She is an exceptionally proud Grammy to Noah, Haley, and Lyla Rae. A retired speech therapist and special education teacher, Susan serves as editor of The Temple Bulletin, chair of Blankets & Blessings, chair of the WRJ/Sisterhood Book Club and fills many other community volunteer roles. Much gratitude goes to Rabbi Matt, Rabbi David, Rabbi Rooks, Rabbi Rapport, and Rabbi Diamond, z"l, and The Temple staff for their many years of support. Susan and her family invite the community to her Bat Mitzvah service and Kiddush luncheon immediately following.

Obituaries

Bonne Betz Loeb

Bonne Betz Loeb, 79, peacefully passed away on July 14, 2025, surrounded by her



loved ones. She was born on January 2, 1946, to Elizabeth and Fred Betz, Sr., both of whom preceded Bonne in death. A lifelong Louisville resident, Bonne graduated from Sacred Heart Academy and

attended the University of Louisville. She co-founded and served as executive director of Scenic Kentucky, partnering with the Kentucky Conservation Committee to promote the protection, preservation, restoration, and sustainable management of natural resources. Her profound respect for our earthly home led her to frequently and lovingly remind all of us: "If you can breathe, thank a tree."

She is survived by her loving partner Steve Zeitman; her children Rebecca Darche (Paul), Josh Loeb (Julie), and Seth Loeb; grandchildren Caila and Jacob Darche, Zoe and Gavin Loeb as well as sister and brothers: Betty McCaa (David deceased), Fred Betz (Linda), Bruce Betz; nieces and nephew: Aimee McCaa (Chuck Schupp), Kellianne Wilson (Bill), Cynthia Hatfield (Bo), Blair Betz (Nikki), Amanda Spaulding (Ian), Sophie Betz (Melissa), and many great nieces and nephews, all of whom stood by her every moment of her journey.

In lieu of a memorial service, Bonne's wishes were to have a celebration of her life at a future date. Donations in her honor may be made to: Kentucky Conservation Committee, 316 Wapping St., Frankfort, Ky 40601, The de Paul School, 1925 Duker Ave., Louisville, Ky 40205, or The Temple, 5101 US 42, Louisville, Ky 40241. Arrangements were entrusted to Herman Meyer & Son, Inc.



Estella Martha Katzman Rosenberg

Estella Martha Katzman Rosenberg, 99, passed away peacefully on Saturday, August 16, 2025, at River Terrace in Madison, Indiana. Born

in 1925 to Mary and David Katzman in Newport, KY, she graduated from Newport High, did coursework at the Univer-

sity of Cincinnati, and worked at Cincinnati Jewish Hospital before her marriage to Charles F. Rosenberg and move to Louisville, KY. There she assisted him at Shelby Street Pharmacy from 1953-1991.

She lent her talents to other positions as assistant to The Courier-Journal's food editor, Adath Jeshurun Nursery School/Kindergarten coordinator, Sportsweat Mart retail sales and Greathouse Elementary library volunteer.

Estella was preceded in death by her husband of 69 years, her parents, and her brother, Irwin Katzman. She is survived by her sons, Army LTC (ret.) Lee R. (Ashley) and Paul S. Rosenberg, M.D. (Kathy); her daughter, Susan L. Rosenberg (Brad Adams); grandchildren, Dana Willis (Gary), Leah Matthews (Grant), Michael Rosenberg, Amanda Rosenberg, Sarah Rosenberg, M.D. (Max Glass) and David Rosenberg (Emmi); and great-grandchildren Avery Willis, Jackson Matthews and Judah Rosenglass. Other loving family members include daughter-in-law Ann Vitari and nieces Amy Katzman and Jane E. Simon.

Always active, Estella played tennis and Mahjong for many years and was a member of the trophy-winning chair volleyball team at Magnolia Springs Louisville. Her love of family was matched by affection for all animals, especially Amos, Lambo, Wishbone, Twinkie, and Scooter.

Funeral services were held August 19 at Herman Meyer and Son, Inc., followed by burial at Adath Jeshurun Cemetery. Expressions of sympathy may be made to Our Hospice of South Central Indiana, 2626 17th Street, Columbus, IN 47201, Congregation Adath Jeshurun, or to the donor's favorite charity. The family appreciates the support from caregivers at River Terrace and Magnolia Springs.



Clara Benjamin Small

Clara Benjamin Small was born in Beuthen, Germany, in 1937 and came to the US with her parents in 1939 to escape the Nazis. They were reunited in Louisville with

her brothers Freddie and Jack, who had

Continued on page 25

CARING EXCELLENCE
PERSONALIZED HOME CARE SERVICES

PERSONALIZED HOME CARE

Senior Care | Alzheimer's Care | After Hospital Care

"The caregivers are very professional. They really show love and concern for my wife and I."

Alan Leibson | Louisville

"I would highly recommend Caring Excellence to those who need care or assistance in their home or long-term care facility."

Mark Wolf | Louisville

"'Caring' and 'Excellence' are two words that aptly describe the assistance and companionship our father received from this wonderful company."

Karen Davis | Louisville

Locally Owned and Operated
Kayla Cook, R.N. and Elisabeth Knight, M.S.S.W.

Call (502) 208-9424 today to learn more
caringexcellenceathome.com

LIFECYCLE

Continued from page 24

fled Germany on a Kindertransport the previous year.

Clara graduated from Atherton High School and attended the University of Louisville. Her date for her Sweet 16 Party was Irving Small. Several years later, they reconnected and they married soon after.

Family was the most important thing to Clara, and her children and grandchildren were the joy of her life. After Irv's passing, she continued to enjoy managing their real estate business. She was an avid gardener, antique collector, and had a flair for interior design. She was a lifelong member of the Congregation Adath Jeshurun.

She is predeceased by her parents, Max and Julia Benjamin, her brothers, and her beloved husband, Irving.

Clara is survived by her son Michael Small (Beth), children Nicole Small and Sarah Small (Joey Adelman) of Scottsdale, AZ; Karen Small and daughters Noa Rabin and Yael Rabin of Highland Park, NJ; Julie Small of Louisville; Susan Futrell (Robert) and sons Benjamin, Jacob and Mason Futrell of Las Vegas; and her very dear friends, Abe and Harriet Rolnick.

Funeral services were held at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 24, 2025, at Herman Meyer & Son, Inc., located at 1338 Ellison Avenue, followed by burial in Adath Jeshurun Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made to the Alzheimer's Association or the Kentucky Humane Society.



Shelly Zegart

Shelly Zegart, 84, of Louisville, KY, passed away peacefully at home, surrounded by her loving family, on July 22, 2025. Born in Pittsburgh, PA, on March 11th, 1941, she grew up with

her brother and sister in the small steel town of Monessen, PA. She earned her B.A. in Education from the University of Michigan, setting the stage for a lifetime of curiosity, civic engagement, and leadership. Shelly was a singular force in art, advocacy, and storytelling. A powerhouse of intellect, creativity, and conviction, Shelly left an indelible mark not only on Kentucky's cultural identity but on the global understanding of how stories, especially those stitched into fabric, can reflect, preserve, and transform our shared history.

Shelly caught the collecting bug early in life while growing up in Pennsylvania. She fondly recalled antiquing with her mother as the spark that ignited her lifelong passion for collecting, preserving, and storytelling. But she didn't just collect objects; she collected narratives, context, and meaning. From her mother, Shelly learned that a woman's place is wherever she chooses to be. From her father, she learned that the work of an advocate is never finished.

In the 1970s, Shelly began her career as a quilt dealer and collector, uncovering and preserving pieces long forgotten and long undervalued. With a sharp eye and deep reverence for the artistry of textile work, she helped build private and institutional collections, including her own, a stunning and historically rich assembly of quilts later acquired by the

Art Institute of Chicago.

Driven by purpose, Shelly founded the Kentucky Quilt Project in the early 1980s, the first statewide quilt documentation initiative in the U.S. It quickly became a national model, eventually leading to her co-founding the Alliance for American Quilts in 1993. Shelly was instrumental in laying the groundwork for the nationally recognized Quilt Index in the early 1990s. As a founding leader, she helped guide collaborative planning and ultimately established the consortium that launched the Quilt Index online in 2003, creating a centralized digital archive that preserves quilt scholarship for generations to come. Her mission was never just about preservation; it was about elevation. She helped bring quilting into the broader cultural conversation as a serious art form and as a means of storytelling, identity, and historical record.

Shelly curated exhibitions across the U.S. and abroad, including in Australia, Japan, New York, and Tokyo. She also created and hosted the PBS-broadcast documentary series *Why Quilts Matter: History, Art & Politics*, which continues to stream on KET. Through these efforts, she showed the world how deeply Americana runs through the stitches of our past.

In 2020, she was honored with the Governor's Award in the Arts – Folk Heritage Award, Kentucky's most prestigious arts recognition, presented to individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the state's artistic traditions.

Shelly spent the final chapter of her remarkable career as the founder and CEO of Kentucky to the World (KTW), the nonprofit she launched in 2012 to spotlight Kentucky's cultural richness, intellectual leadership, and artistic excellence on a global stage. What began as an idea rooted in storytelling grew, through her boundless energy and belief, into a dynamic, multimedia platform that champions the voices shaping Kentucky's future. Shelly saw storytelling as a form of economic development, and narrative as a tool for transformation.

KTW became Shelly's love letter to the Commonwealth. Under her guidance, it evolved from a passion project into a respected institution, highlighting the changemakers, entrepreneurs, artists, scholars, and thought leaders whose stories defy stereotypes and elevate the state's national and international reputation. Shelly had a rare and extraordinary ability to make people believe in something bigger than themselves. Kentucky to the World is, and always will be, a living legacy and reflection of Shelly's values: creativity with purpose, storytelling with soul, leadership with heart.

Shelly wore many hats—mother, grandmother, sister, producer, lecturer, curator, and leader—but perhaps none meant more to her than her role as partner to the late Dr. Kenneth Zegart.

Shelly is survived by her daughters Terri Zegart and Dr. Amy Zegart (Craig Mallery); grandchildren Alex, Kate, Jack Mallery, and Tim Seltz; her sister Janis Baron Harrison and brother Jay Weiss (Ellen); brother-in-law Arnold Zegart (Carol); her beloved nieces, nephews, and her extended family; and her beloved, loyal dog, Spike.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Dr. Kenneth Zegart; her parents, Judge David Weiss and Thelma Brody Weiss; and her brother-in-law, Harvey Harrison.

Shelly's legacy lives on in the countless lives she touched and the purpose, passion, and generosity she poured into her work and her relationships. While we mourn her passing, we celebrate the extraordinary woman she was: friend, wife, mother, grandmother, colleague, mentor, and enduring source of inspiration. Her voice lives on in every Kentucky story told, every quilt preserved, and every young person inspired to see their home through new eyes. Her leadership at KTW continues, sustained by a team she mentored and empowered. As Shelly always said, "Onward."

Shelly's memorial service was held on Tuesday, July 29th, 2025, at The Temple,

located at 5101 US Hwy. 42, Louisville, KY 40241.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations in Shelly's memory be made to The Temple (5101 US Highway 42, Louisville, KY 40241), Kentucky to the World (PO Box 6251, Louisville, KY 40206), or a charity of your choice.

2025-26 B'nai Mitzvot

Adath Jeshurun

2401 Woodbourne Ave
502-458-5359

Sept. 6, 2025

Chloe & Jordan Rosenthal

Aug. 15, 2026

Jayson Benovitz

Sept. 26, 2026

Liam Kronenberg

Oct. 10, 2026

Samuel Serchuk

Keneseth Israel

2531 Taylorsville Rd
502-459-2780

Aug. 30, 2025

Judah Goldman

Oct. 18, 2025

Bea Weinberg

Jan. 3, 2026

Melody Schuhmann

April 11, 2026

Elijah Pedowitz

The Temple

5101 US-42
502-423-1818

Sept. 20, 2025

Lisa Klein

Susan Waterman

Nov. 8, 2025

Eleanor Kessler

Nov. 15, 2025

Harper Blackford

Dec. 6, 2025

Rebecca Golden

Sadie Golden

Dec. 13, 2025

Noah Hill

March 21, 2026

Helena Shapiro

April 11, 2026

Kyler Meeron

May 9, 2026

Rachel Ohayon

Aug. 8, 2026

Daniel "Eli" Johnson

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

TRAGER FAMILY JCC

In honor of Jessica Bush

Anonymous

Calene & Sean Baldwin

Keren & Yariv Benabou

John & Tina Bennett

Daniel & Meredith Blatt

Ed & Anne Blayney

Elizabeth Moore & Anthony Curtis

Eric B. & Katherine Devins

Ashley & Matthew Janicki

Abigail & Neil Riley

Gayle & Chris Shoemaker

Kenneth & Kristyn Smither

Cate & Greg Ward

ROBIN & BRUCE MILLER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

In honor of Ralph Green

Robin & Bruce Miller



3600 Dutchmans Lane • Louisville, KY 40205
502.459.0660 • jewishlouisville.org

YOUR COMMUNITY REALTOR®

LET'S CATCH UP
LIFE GETS BUSY, BUT GOOD CONVERSATIONS MATTER.

Let's grab a coffee and chat - my treat!
Call me to schedule!

DOUG ROEMER
REALTOR®
(502) 386-4163
droemer@semonin.com
DougRoemer.semonin.com

SEMENIN REALTORS®
A Berkshire Hathaway Affiliate

HIGH HOLY DAYS

Adath Jeshurun

2401 Woodbourne Ave.
502-458-5359
adathjeshurun.com

In-Person services at AJ unless otherwise indicated. Virtual Services are also available – call the office for more information.

Saturday, Sept. 13

8 p.m. Selichot Program and Service

Monday, Sept. 22 Ley'l Rosh Hashanah

5 p.m. New Year's Eve Party
5:45 p.m. Ley'l Rosh Hashanah Service

Tuesday, Sept. 23 Rosh Hashanah, First Day

9 a.m. Morning Service
10 a.m. Family Service
1 p.m. Tashlich – Lower Millvale Rd.
5 p.m. Shared Tashlich & Mincha with Keneseth Israel - Big Rock Pavilion

Wednesday, Sept. 24 Rosh Hashanah, Second Day

9 a.m. Morning Service
10 a.m. Family Service

Wednesday, Oct. 1 Kol Nidre

6:45 p.m. Kol Nidre Service

Thursday, Oct. 2 Yom Kippur

9 a.m. Morning Service
10 a.m. Family Service
2 p.m. Rap & Reflect led by Dr. Bruce Tasch
5 p.m. Ask the Rabbis
5:30 p.m. Mincha
7 p.m. Neilah
7:50 p.m. Ma'ariv
8 p.m. Final Shofar Blowing & Havdalah, followed by Break the Fast

Monday, Oct. 6 Erev Sukkot

5:45 p.m. Afternoon Service

Tuesday, Oct. 7 Sukkot, First Day

10 a.m. Sukkot Service

Wednesday, Oct. 8 Sukkot, Second Day

10 a.m. Shared Sukkot Service with Keneseth Israel at AJ

Tuesday, Oct. 14 Shemini Atzeret

10 a.m. Shemini Atzeret Service & Yizkor
5:45 p.m. Shared Minyan and Dinner with Ice Cream Bar at Keneseth Israel (*Reservations Required*) followed by Hakafot and dancing with the Torahs

Wednesday, Oct. 15 Simchat Torah

9:30 a.m. Shared Simchat Torah Service at Keneseth Israel and Kiddush Lunch

Anshei Sfard

2904 Bardstown Road
502-451-3122
ansheisfard.com

Saturday Sept. 13 Shabbos

11:45 p.m. Selichot Services

Monday, Sept. 22 Erev Rosh Hashanah

7:21 p.m. Candle lighting
7:20 p.m. Mincha

Tuesday, Sept. 23

Rosh Hashanah, Day 1

9 a.m. Shachris
11:30 a.m. Rabbi's speech/Shofar
7:10 p.m. Mincha
8:20 p.m. Maariv
Candle lighting after 8:38 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 24

Rosh Hashanah, Day 2

9 a.m. Shachris
11:30 a.m. Rabbi's speech/Shofar
7:10 p.m. Mincha
8:20 p.m. Maariv
8:20 p.m. Yom Tov Ends

Wednesday, Oct. 1

Kol Nidrei

4:30 p.m. Mincha
7:15 p.m. Kol Nidrei
7:24 p.m. Fast begins

Thursday, Oct. 2

Yom Kippur

9 a.m. Shachris
Yizkor – not before 10:30 a.m.
5:45 p.m. Mincha
8:24 p.m. Maariv/Shofar/Fast ends

Monday, Oct. 6

Erev Sukkos

6:59 p.m. Mincha
6:59 p.m. Candle lighting

Tuesday, Oct. 7 Sukkos, First Day

9 a.m. Shachris
6:45 p.m. Mincha
8 p.m. Maariv
Candle lighting after 8:16 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 8 Sukkos, Second Day

9 a.m. Shachris
6:45 p.m. Mincha
8 p.m. Maariv

Tuesday, Oct. 14 Shemini Atzeret

9 a.m. Shachris
11:00 a.m., Rabbi's speech/Yizkor
6:45 p.m. Mincha
7:50 p.m. Maariv
Candle lighting after 8:05 p.m.
8:15 p.m. Simchas Torah Dancing

Wednesday, Oct. 15 Simchas Torah

9 a.m. Shachris
10:30 a.m. Simchas Torah Dancing
6:45 p.m. Mincha
7:50 p.m. Maariv
8:04 p.m. Yom Tov Ends

Chabad of Kentucky

Chabad House
502-459-1770
chabadky.com

Services will be held at the Trager Family JCC's Camp J Building, 3700 Dutchmans Lane. All services in person and free of charge.

Monday, Sept. 22

Erev Rosh Hashanah

7:15 p.m. Greetings and candle lighting
7:25 p.m. Mincha
7:45 p.m. Maariv

Tuesday, Sept. 23

Rosh Hashanah, First Day

9:45 a.m. Shachrit
10:45 a.m. Torah Reading
11:30 a.m. Blow Shofar
6:45 p.m. Mincha

7 p.m. Tashlich

8 p.m. Maariv

Tuesday, Sept. 24 Rosh Hashanah, Second Day

9:45 a.m. Shachrit
10:45 a.m. Torah Reading
11:30 a.m. Shofar
7:15 p.m. Mincha
8 p.m. Maariv

Wednesday, Oct. 1 Kol Nidrei

3:15 p.m. Mincha
6:45 p.m. Greetings and Candle Lighting
7 p.m. Kol Nidrei Service

Thursday, Oct. 2 Yom Kippur

10 a.m. Shacharit
11 a.m. Torah Reading
12 p.m. Yizkor
6 p.m. Mincha
7 p.m. Neilah
8 p.m. Maariv and Havdalah

Monday, Oct. 6 Erev Sukkot

7 p.m. Mincha
7:15 p.m. Maariv

Tuesday, Oct. 7 Sukkot, First Day

10 a.m. Shachrit
7 p.m. Mincha
7:30 p.m. Maariv

Wednesday, Oct. 8 Sukkot, Second Day

10 a.m. Shachrit
7 p.m. Mincha
7:50 p.m. Maariv

Monday, Oct. 13 Hoshana Rabba

8:30 a.m. Shachrit
6:45 p.m. Mincha
7:30 p.m. Maariv
7:45 p.m. Dancing with Torahs

Tuesday, Oct. 14 Shemini Atzeret

10 a.m. Shacharit
11 a.m. Torah Reading
11:45 a.m. Yizkor
6:45 p.m. Mincha
7:30 p.m. Maariv
7:45 p.m. Dancing with Torahs

Wednesday, Oct. 15 Simchat Torah

10 a.m. Shacharit
11 a.m. Dancing with Torahs

Chabad of Prospect

6900 Transylvania Ave
502-882-0770
chabadchai.org

Monday, Sept. 22

Erev Rosh Hashanah

7:30 p.m. Rosh Hashana services followed by dinner (*suggested donation \$ 36/pp*)

Keneseth Israel

2531 Taylorville Road
502-459-2780
kenesethisrael.com

Sunday, Sept. 14

Erev Rosh Hashanah

10 a.m. Cemetery Beautification and Selichot Service At the Keneseth Israel Cemetery (719 Locust Lane)

3 p.m. Shofar across Louisville
Join Rabbi Freed and Cantor Hordes as they travel across Louisville to blow the shofar. Cantor Hordes will be blowing the shofar at the Trager Family JCC at 3 p.m.; Rabbi Freed will be blowing the shofar at Central Park at 3 p.m. and at the Glenview at 4 p.m.

Monday, Sept. 22 Erev Rosh Hashanah

7:30 a.m. Morning Service
6 p.m. Erev Rosh Hashanah Service
7 p.m. Rosh Hashanah Seder and Dinner

Tuesday, Sept. 23 Rosh Hashanah, First Day

9 a.m. Morning Service
10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Kids Service (K-Gr. 6)
11:30 a.m. Totshashanah (ages 0-4)
5 p.m. Tashlich in Big Rock Park with AJ

Wednesday, Sept. 24 Rosh Hashanah, Second Day

9 a.m. Morning Service
10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Kids Service (K-Gr. 6)

Wednesday, Oct. 1 Erev Yom Kippur

6:45 p.m. Mincha
7 p.m. Kol Nidre
7 p.m. Kids Service (K-Gr. 6)

Thursday, Oct. 2 Yom Kippur

9 a.m. Morning Service
11:15 a.m. Yizkor
10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Kids Service (K-Gr. 6)
4 p.m. Class with Rabbi and Ariane
5 p.m. Mincha and Ne'ilah
Break the Fast after services

Sunday, Oct. 5

10 a.m. Sukkah Building
1 p.m. Sukkah Decorating Party

Monday, Oct. 6 Erev Sukkot

7:30 a.m. Morning Service
6 p.m. Erev Sukkot Service

Tuesday, Oct. 7 Sukkot, First Day

10 a.m. Morning Service at AJ

Wednesday, Oct. 8 Sukkot, Second Day

10 a.m. Morning Service at AJ
7:45 p.m. Jews & Brews in the Sukkah
Come enjoy a beer and Torah on tap with Rabbi Freed

Thursday, Oct. 9 Chol Hamoed

7:30 a.m. Morning Service
6 p.m. Afternoon Service
6:30 p.m. Sangria, Soup and Salad
Come enjoy an adult night out this Sukkot with the KI Sisterhood with their Sangria, Soup and Salad in the Sukkah

Friday, Oct. 10 Shabbat Chol Hamoed

6 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat
7 p.m. Pizza in the Hut

Saturday, Oct. 11 Shabbat Chol Hamoed

9:30 a.m. Morning Service
3-8 p.m. Open Sukkah at Rabbi Freed's House

HIGH HOLY DAYS

Monday, Oct. 13

Hoshana Raba

7:30 a.m. Morning Service at KI
6 p.m. Erev Shemini Atzeret

Tuesday, Oct. 14

Shemini Atzeret

9:30 a.m. Morning Service
11 a.m. Yizkor
5:45 p.m. Afternoon Service at KI
6 p.m. Dinner at KI
7 p.m. Simchat Torah Service at KI

Wednesday, Oct. 15

Simchat Torah

9:30 a.m. Morning Service at KI

Temple Shalom

4615 Lowe Road
502-458-4739
templeshalomky.org

Saturday, Sept. 13

5:30 p.m. High Holiday Kickoff Cookout and Selichot Service

Monday, Sept. 22

Erev Rosh Hashanah

7 p.m. Services (oneg will follow)

Tuesday, Sept. 23

Rosh Hashanah, First Day

10:30 a.m. Morning Service
1:30 p.m. Tashlich at Brown Park
2 p.m. Family Service at Brown Park Pavilion (at the synagogue in case of inclement weather)

Wednesday, Sept. 24,

Rosh Hashanah, Second Day

10:30 a.m. Second Day Services

Wednesday, Oct. 1

Kol Nidrei

7 p.m. Services

Thursday, Oct. 2

Yom Kippur

10:30 a.m. Morning Service,
1 p.m. Family Service,
3:15-3:45 p.m. Classical Piano Music
4-4:30 p.m. Meditation with Singing Bowls
4:45 p.m. Yizkor (Memorial Service)
Neilah (Concluding Service), immediately following Yizkor

Sunday, Oct. 5

Decorating the Sukkah, light snacks provided, time TBD

Monday, Oct. 6

Erev Sukkot

6:30 p.m. Services in the Sukkah

Saturday, Oct. 11

5 p.m. Schmoozing in the Sukkah

Friday, Oct. 17

Simchat Torah

6:30 p.m. Featuring music from Lost Tribe

Saturday, Oct. 18

10:30 a.m. Yizkor Service

Reservations are required for on-line and in-person attendance on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur for security reasons, both for in-person and on-line services; in-person attendees will receive a ticket, and on-line participants will be emailed links. A donation to underwrite the cost of services is requested. Suggested Amount: \$72 per ticket. No minimum donation required. Tickets can be purchased via check to Temple Shalom or on-line at www.templeshalomky.org, in the donation section.

RSVPs are requested for Selichot Cook-out, Decorating the Sukkah, and Schmoozing in the Sukkah so that we have enough food for everyone. RVSPs can be sent to Slava Nelson at 502-830-4968 or engagement@templeshalomky.org.

The Temple

5101 US-42
502-423-1818
thetemplelouky.org

Saturday, Sept. 12

Selichot

7 p.m. Selichot Service (Hyman Chapel)
8 p.m. Oneg Selichot (Jack's Place)

Monday, Sept. 22

Erev Rosh Hashanah

6 p.m. Classical Service (Friedberg Sanctuary)
6:30 p.m. Children's Service (Hyman Chapel) followed by Oneg in the Temple Trager ECEC

8 p.m. Erev Rosh Hashanah Service (Friedberg Sanctuary)

Tuesday, Sept. 23

Rosh Hashanah

10 a.m. Rosh Hashanah service (Friedberg Sanctuary)
10 a.m. Hugim & babysitting (ECEC) for infants to grade 3, please pre-register on The Temple website.
10 a.m. High Holy Day Your Way (Fishman Library) for grades 4-6, please pre-register on The Temple website (Tashlich at Captain's Quarters Dock immediately following services)

Friday, Sept. 26

Shabbat Shuvah

7 p.m. Shabbat Shuvah (Hyman Chapel) followed by Oneg

Saturday, Sept. 27

Shabbat Shuvah

9 a.m. Torah Study (Fishman Library)
10:30 a.m. Shabbat Shuvah Service (Hyman Chapel)

Sunday, Sept. 28

10:30 a.m. Service of Remembrance (Fleischaker-Frocht Chapel in Temple Cemetery)

Wednesday, Oct. 1

Erev Yom Kippur

6 p.m. Classical Kol Nidrei service (Friedberg Sanctuary)
6:30 p.m. Children's service (Hyman Chapel)
8 p.m. Kol Nidrei service (Friedberg Sanctuary)

Thursday, Oct. 2

Yom Kippur

10 a.m. Yom Kippur service (Friedberg Sanctuary)
10 a.m. Hugim & babysitting (ECEC) for infants to Grade 3; please pre-register on The Temple website.
10 a.m. High Holy Day Your Way (Fishman Library) for Grades 4-6, please pre-register on The Temple website
12 p.m. Educational session: with Rabbi David (Fishman Library)
1 p.m., Educational session: with Rabbi Matt (Fishman Library)
2:30 p.m. Afternoon service (Friedberg Sanctuary)
3:45 p.m. Yizkor service (Friedberg Sanctuary)
4:45 p.m. Concluding service (Friedberg Sanctuary)
Break the Fast immediately following services

Tuesday, Oct. 7

Sukkot

10:30 a.m. Sukkot Morning Service (Hyman Chapel)

Friday, Oct. 10

6 p.m. Family Dinner (Heideman Auditorium)
7 p.m. Kindergarten and Grade 1 Consecration with WRJ Cake Walk (Hyman Chapel)

Tuesday, Oct. 14

Sukkot/Simchat Torah

10:30 a.m. Festival Yizkor service (Hyman Chapel)



Host Your Event with Us

Our beautiful, modern community center offers an ideal place for organizations, corporations and families to host events, receptions or meetings.

- Auditorium that can be set for banquets, receptions, general sessions or a performance with risers
- Board room and conference rooms
- Unique fitness team-building opportunities such as yoga and boot camp
- Aquatics center & gymnasiums
- State-of-the-art AV
- Open catering policy



FOR RENTAL INFORMATION OR TO SCHEDULE A TOUR:

Liz Hemmer | 502-238-2714 | lhemmer@jewishlouisville.org
jclouisville.org/eventspace | 3600 Dutchmans Lane, Louisville, KY 40205

NEWISH JEWISH Music

WITH CANTOR LIPP

Join Cantor Lipp in the Weisberg Family Lobby of the Trager Family JCC, once a month for Newish Jewish Music!

UPCOMING DATES:

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 AT 12:45 P.M.
MONDAY, OCTOBER 20 AT 12:45 P.M.

To learn more, contact Dara Cohen at dcohen@jewishlouisville.org



Free for Members



TOGETHER
WE GROW



Jewish Federation[®]
OF LOUISVILLE

The Jewish Federation Annual Campaign Supports Jewish Life in Louisville.

Make an Impact Today by Visiting jewishlouisville.org/federation

PJ Library

APPLE PICKING

Grab your sunglasses, and your best fall vibes—let's enjoy the sunshine together!

SEPTEMBER 21
2 - 4 p.m.

Eckert's Orchard
1396 Pinckard Pike, Versailles, KY 40383

There'll be a Rosh Hashanah themed craft led by our PJ Library team!

RSVP jewishlouisville.org/pjapplepicking
Questions? Contact Jordan at jleanhart@jewishlouisville.org

CELEBRATE SUKHOT WITH NEXTGEN AT

PIZZA IN THE HUT

October 9 | 6:30 p.m.
Trager Family JCC
Hosted on the Patio Sukkah

Open to Any Jewish Young Adult in Louisville, KY
Build Your Own Pizza & Enjoy a Variety of Beer and Non-Alcoholic Options
Ticket Price: \$10

Scan Here to RSVP

Questions? Email agoldberg@jewishlouisville.org

Build Community with a Gather Grant

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

WHO? Young adults between 25-45 years old

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

HOW? Submit an application today! Find the application at JewishLouisville.org/nextgen or contact Daniele Hurwitz at dhurwitz@jewishlouisville.org for more information.

Shalom LOUISVILLE

Are You New to Lou?

Join us!

Welcome to Jewish Louisville! Whether you're new to town or just ready to connect, Shalom Louisville is here for you. Our team is excited to help you find community, resources, and Jewish experiences that make Louisville feel like home.

Scan the QR code to register!

or visit jewishlouisville.org/shalomlouisville

Keep programs like this thriving—make your gift to the Annual Campaign today.