

FRIDAY Vol. 52, No. 8 | August 28, 2026 | 15 Elul 5786

At the Year of Civil Discourse’s first public event, author Dara Horn spoke about the perils, pitfalls and unexpected pathways of antisemitism

By Andrew Adler
Community Editor

Editor’s note: While Dara Horn’s talk touched on a broad range of topics and issues, this article focuses on the subject of YOCD’s first public presentation: antisemitism. For more background about the Year of Civil Discourse, reaction to the event and information on upcoming presentations, see the companion “Letter to the Community” printed on page 19 of this issue, or visit yocdlouisville.org.

Dara Horn likes to tell of the time, eight or so years ago, when Smithsonian Magazine asked her to write a commemorative essay on Anne Frank. The request didn’t exactly send the celebrated Jewish author and scholar into paroxysms of unbridled joy. “I was overwhelmed with dread,” Horn told a large audience at Congregation Adath Jeshurun, where on Aug. 10 she was the featured speaker for the

Year of Civil Discourse’s first public event. The evening’s topic was fraught and familiar: antisemitism, which YOCD had been exploring the previous week via three Dialogue Circles, small group discussions comprising more than 70 community participants of varying backgrounds and perspectives.

“Our goal is to promote civil discourse on the important Jewish issues of our time,” Bill Altman, chair of Louisville’s Jewish Community Relations Council and one of several community YOCD organizers, explained during his introductory remarks. As Altman explains: “YOCD’s goal is to promote civil discourse on the important issues of our time, give voice to the range of views on these issues and to remain connected as a community, even and especially in the face of disagreement.” Referring to the teaching of Pirkei Avot (typically translated as “Ethics of the Fathers”), he stressed the need to

“remain connected as a community, even when we disagree. Do not enter into argument with anger, because anger inhibits the ability to listen, and that clouds understanding and judgment.”

Tellingly, “I avoided writing about antisemitism for 20 years of my career as a Jewish writer,” said Horn, a New Jersey native, Harvard Ph.D and five-time novelist best known for her 2021 collection of essays titled *People Love Dead Jews: Reports from a Haunted Present*.

Such deflection “is a hard thing to avoid for a Jewish writer,” she acknowledged to the AJ audience and to her interviewer for the evening, Melanie Pell. Yet by year 2018, “I started noticing that there was a certain pattern of what my non-Jewish or my editors at non-Jewish publications wanted me to write about.”

Enter the resonant ghost of Anne Frank, and the aforementioned dread



Bill Altman and Dara Horn (Photo by Amy Joseph Landon)

of conventional expectations. “I just thought, ‘I really don’t want to write this long, pious essay about Anne Frank that’s going to be in doctors’ offices across America – which is what happens to Smithsonian Magazine.

See **HORN** on page 4

Nonprofit to acquire Herman Meyer & Son, preserving Jewish funeral traditions

By Erik Siegel
Louisville Jewish Community Chapel

For generations, Louisville’s Jewish community has relied on a trusted funeral home, Herman Meyer & Son, to provide funeral services rooted in dignity, compassion, and respect for Jewish law and burial practices. Longtime owners Sonny and Janet Meyer are working toward a well-earned retirement. At this important moment of transition, our community risks losing its only Jewish funeral home to acquisition, closure, or transition into a

See **MEYER & SON** on page 17

At CenterStage, ‘Guys and Dolls’ is enjoying a well-deserved close-up

By Andrew Adler
Community Editor

*When you see a guy reach for stars in the sky
You can bet that he’s doing it for some doll.*

For the last week or so, the sounds of one of Broadway’s most storied musicals have been echoing inside the Trager Family JCC’s Shapira Family Auditorium. Nathan Detroit and Miss Adelaide, Sky Masterson and Sister Sarah Brown, Nicely-Nicely Johnson, Harry the Horse – and bevy of likewise Damon Runyonesque stablemates traipsing through *Guys and Dolls*, which CenterStage is offering as its 2026-27 season opener.

It’s fitting that the show is being presented as a Classics-in-Concert piece – where a full, 16-piece orchestra sits squarely up on stage – because few works belong more firmly to the so-called Golden Age of Broadway musical theater. First produced in 1950 – with music and



lyrics by Frank Loesser, a book by Abe Burrows and choreography by Michael Kidd – the original cast featured Sam Levene, Vivian Blane, Robert Alda, Isabel Bigley, and the incomparable Stubby Kaye.

Blane’s Miss Adelaide and Kaye’s Nicely-Nicely made it to the uneven 1955 screen version that starred Frank Sinatra, Marlon Brando and Jean Simmons, and it’s this iteration that most people

associate with the musical (not including anyone fortunate enough to catch the blockbuster 1992 Broadway revival starring Nathan Lane and Faith Prince). But whether on stage or on screen, from the biggest Broadway production to the most modest high school presentation, *Guys and Dolls* is a show to sing, shout, and altogether savor.

Recently we caught up with three

See **CENTERSTAGE** on page 11



THE DASHBOARD

Word of the Month

Amid this season of spiritual returning, let us strive for a true sense of community



D'var Torah

Rabbi
Matt
Derrenbacher

On the Shabbat before Rosh HaShanah, we read:

You are standing here today, all of you, before your G-d, the Holy One of Blessing: you communal leaders, you elders, you officials; every Israelite. You children, you women, and the stranger within your community, from woodchopper to water drawer... (Deuteronomy 29:9-10).

During the Hebrew month of Elul, we are invited to engage in the process and rituals of *teshuvah*, of returning to who we are and who we want to become in the coming year. So, on the last Shabbat before the New Year, when we gather, we are reminded that *teshuvah* is both an individual and communal act and aspiration. The more honest and true to ourselves we can become, the more fully we can show up when we build relationships in community.

Unfortunately, in our modern secular society, communities have become increasingly fragmented, and as a result, more insular. Like secular society, Jewish community and Peoplehood are not immune to fragmentation. The Torah recognizes the potential for communal fragmentation, so it reminds us, time and again, to build community: a place where we can recognize and celebrate difference. Community is a place to call home, to feel a sense of belonging, and to be invited to grow alongside one another. Martin Buber, in his work, *Between Man and Man*, suggests that when we commit to building intentional community, we are committing to building a life lived toward one another. This living toward one another, then, serves as an act of rebellion against our societal tendency to live against one another. *Kehilah* is our Jewish rebellion against fragmentation.

One of the things I love most about Judaism is that we don't have a single, centralized power or set of dogmas. We have Torah, *halachah*, rabbinic and scholarly authority, but we don't have one rabbi who is akin to the position of a Pope. It is up to each individual Jew and each Jewish community to wrestle with the texts and traditions entrusted to us. The Talmud and other rabbinic literature show us that there has never been just one way to express ourselves Jewishly in the world. For example, the *machloket* between the schools of Shammai and Hillel preserves Shammai's teachings, even when the *halachah* generally sides with Hillel. Rabbinic literature doesn't simply erase the voices that do not become normative; it preserves

them, allowing generations of Jews to continue wrestling with competing interpretations and practices. Our tradition reminds us that Jewish communities have different *minhagim*, traditions, and ways of living into their Torah.

Difference becomes most apparent in relationship, and Buber asserts that there are two different ways of experiencing relationality: 'I-It' and 'I-Thou.' The 'I-It' mode describes a relationship that is essentially instrumental and transactional, where we approach the other as an object to be used, measured, or managed. We stand apart from it, cataloging its qualities and weighing its usefulness to us. The 'I-Thou' mode, in stark contrast, encounters the other not as an object, but as a whole person, directly and without agenda. It is the difference between knowing *about* someone and encountering *them*.

Our secular world is increasingly pushing us toward the 'I-It' model of relationality: cashiers are being replaced by kiosk screens, face-to-face conversations are replaced by online posting and commenting, and the list goes on. Innovation and efficiency are important parts of how we continue to grow and develop our modern world, but the danger comes when our increasingly frequent encounters with 'It' teach us to turn 'Thou' into 'It.' Social media encapsulates that transition perfectly. People write inflammatory and hateful things online to an 'It,' things that they would never imagine saying to a 'Thou' standing directly in front of them. Living in intentional community is a direct rebellion against casting the other as 'It,' allowing us to reclaim our humanity.

The Talmud teaches us that all Israel is responsible for one another (Shavuot 39a). To live in intentional Jewish community, then, is to choose to stand with one another even when we don't practice in the same ways, believe the same things, or understand Torah through the same lens. It is to choose to struggle with Torah and engage with mitzvot, however each of us understands and lives out the idea of mitzvah, while recognizing that the person beside us in our community is engaged in that sacred struggle, too.

As we prepare to enter the holiest time of the year, it is my prayer that we can stand together, physically, spiritually, or both, in a way that helps us accept, celebrate, and love one another. In doing so, we can continue building the kind of Jewish community where everyone, regardless of style of religious practice or cultural expression, can feel at home. May 5787 be a year of renewed hope, health, and the joyful expression of Jewish life as we choose to live toward one another. *Shanah Tovah!*

Matt Derrenbacher is Assistant Rabbi at The Temple.

Snapshots



Pictured Left: Earlier this month, Jewish Federations of North America's National Young Leadership Cabinet welcomed more than 350 Federation lay leaders from across North America, including 115 new Cabinet members to Minneapolis for its Annual Retreat. Centering on the idea of ometz (courage), participants strengthened their ability to guide our communities as Jewish leaders and to hold complex and difficult conversations among their peers. Five Louisvillians participated in this year's Retreat including first-years, Kevin Trager and Simone McCauley.

(Pictured L-R): Kevin Trager, Alexander Blieden, Amanda Blieden, Simone McCauley, Joanna Blieden.

Pictured Right: The Trager Family JCC AgeWell program has long offered enrichment programs for older adults to continue learning and being creative. This year, Erin Silliman, Arts & Ideas Director, began the AgeWell Choir. Members of the choir rehearsed weekly, preparing six choral selections of varying styles and genres, including "Sabbath Prayer" from Fiddler on the Roof, crowd-pleaser "Sixteen Tons", and the favorite tune of "Simple Gifts". The group performed in the Trager Family JCC Weisberg Family Lobby on July 29 and then again for the entire AgeWell lunch program on August 5. While music was the initial goal of this program, community and connection were the most prized products of this experience for all involved!



Candles

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

- September 4 @ 7:50 p.m.
- September 11 @ 7:39 p.m. (RH Day 1)
- September 12 @ 8:35 p.m. (RH Day 2)
- September 18 @ 7:28 p.m.
- September 20 @ 7:25 p.m. (Yom Kippur)
- September 25 @ 7:17 p.m. (Sukkot)

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? Ryan Benningfield can handle all

circulation questions. He can be reached at rbenningfield@jewishlouisville.org or 502-238-2739.

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

Deadlines

Got a news item for Community? Deadlines matter, especially for newspapers. Send in your news by **Monday, September 14** (though sooner is better).

The paper will be published on

Friday, September 25.

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.

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

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Corrections/Clarifications

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

PICTURE THIS: DARA HORN RECEPTION



Bill Altman, Dara Horn, and Melanie Pell



Dara Horn and Melanie Pell



Megan Hoffman, Kathy Karr, Sarah Harlan, Joseph Sinski, and Jennifer Sinski

On Monday, August 10, around 250 members of the community gathered for the first public event for the Year of Civil Discourse initiative. Prior to the event, facilitators, advisory committee members and clergy gathered at Congregation Adath Jeshurun to celebrate their progress. For months, these groups provided input to plan the Dialogue Circles and the first community-wide program with author Dara Horn.

(Photos by Amy Joseph Landon)



Rachel Greenberg, Mayor Craig Greenberg, Dara Horn, Sara Wagner, and David Finke



Sandra Lerner Chack and Sasha Chack



Michelle Elisburg, Matt Schwartz, and Cantor Sharon Hordes



Charlie and Samantha Schaffer, and Judge Joan Byer



Beth Salamon, Cantor Sharon Hordes, and Melanie Pell



Lisa Shapiro, Kathy Karr, and Margie Kommor



Rabbi Scott Hoffman



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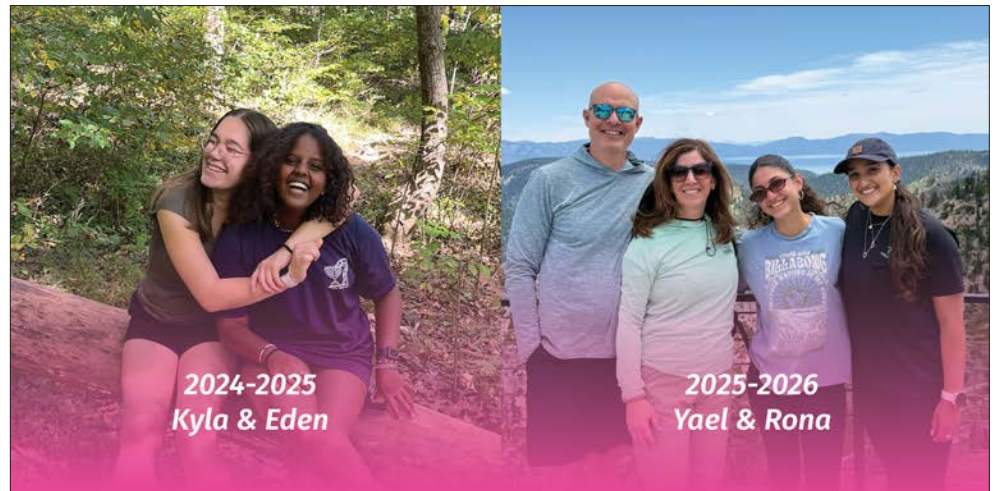
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NEWS

HORN

Continued from page 1

The normal thing would be to turn this assignment down. But I'm a writer, so I'm not a normal person."

The tipping point arrived when Horn came across a news story about a 2018 incident at Amsterdam's Anne Frank Museum, where administrators had forbidden an observant Jewish male staffer to wear his kippah to work. The museum's board spent about six months hashing out the matter before deciding that, yes, the man could indeed wear his kippah while on the job.

"I remember thinking, six months is a very long time for the Anne Frank Museum to wonder whether or not it was a good idea to force a Jew into hiding." It proved sufficient incentive for Horn to accept Smithsonian Magazine's proposed assignment – though what she turned in, titled *Becoming Anne Frank*, "was not the piece they expected" – not with an opening that began: "People love dead Jews. Living Jews, not so much."

Days later came the horrific mass shooting at Pittsburgh's Tree of Life Synagogue. "Within 24 hours of that attack, The New York Times called me and said, 'Would you like to write about dead Jews?' They didn't say it like that, but that's what they meant." Her initial reaction: "Short answer – no."

But then Horn reconsidered, thinking if not her, then who? "Somebody has to say 'Yes' to this in the next 24

hours. What if the next person they ask is Bozo?' Then it happens six months later – a shooting in San Diego (a Chabad synagogue in the suburb of Poway), and The New York Times calls me again. And I'm like, 'Wow, this has become my job.' Something's been going on here," making her realize "I've been avoiding this topic for 20 years. I'm going to dive into this and see where it takes me." The result was her book.

"You've also described yourself as being 'the Lorax of antisemitism,' Pell remarked, invoking the Dr. Seuss character who famously declares, I speak for the trees, for the trees have no tongues.

Pell is a JCL Board Member and JCRC member who serves as Chief Field Operations Officer at the American Jewish Committee. "I want to share a few of the questions that we received in advance that came out of our dialogue circles related to antisemitism," she told Horn, "so you can have a sense of the ways some of our community members are thinking.

"One person asked about the idea that two separate approaches to antisemitism seem to be discussed. There's the traditional approach of not addressing it directly and building coalitions in an effort to counter it; and then there's the approach that calls for outward shaming and condemning of antisemitic speech and acts. Are these diametrically opposed to each other, or is one more beneficial than the other?"

Pell continued: "Another questioner



One of several Year of Civil Discourse Dialogue Circles

asked, 'Is arguing with antisemites or calling out antisemitism online worthwhile?' So, my question to you: There was substance in those questions, but are we framing the questions in the right way? Are we asking the right questions?"

Horn – reminding the audience that *People Love Dead Jews* was published in 2021, well before the post-October 7, 2023 surge in antisemitism – said that "the conclusion I came to in that book was that Jews are only acceptable in most non-Jewish societies if they have no power – whether that means they're politically impotent, or dead."

The post-publication response, Horn recalled, was staggering in its swiftness and amplitude.

"I was inundated with Jewish readers coming to me with their own horror

stories. It didn't stop. It was like every person...was asking me if I could help. And I was like, 'I'm not a therapist and I'm not a politician.' I was so at a loss."

Horn began to appreciate a vital, if frustrating truth.

"The questions you just raised from your community – 'How do you address this?' – are like what everyone's asking me," she told Pell.

"It was my first non-fiction book, and I did not realize that when you write a non-fiction book about a problem, people expect you to solve the problem at the end of the book," Horn said.

"At that point, every person who'd read the book was like, 'So what's your solution to this problem?' And my totally tasteless response was, 'Do you want me to give you the final solution to the

Continued on page 5

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NEWS

Continued from page 4

Jewish question?’ That’s the title of my next book, coming out Sept. 1.”

“Should we be building coalitions? Should we be calling out, naming, and shaming? I don’t see how those things are against each other,” Horn emphasized.

Meanwhile, “I think we have let a lot of things slide,” she said. “Unless somebody comes after you with a gun, you’re like, ‘It’s no big deal,’ the idea that anything that happens that isn’t the Holocaust is fine, right? I think there’s this reluctance for people to raise their voices, and that’s a misunderstanding of our role in the United States.”

Then there’s the issue of vocabulary, of semantics.

“I imagine that in this room it would be true that the Jewish community has never actually agreed on what antisemitism is,” Pell said. “So, do you define ‘antisemitism’ in any certain way? Do you think it’s just in our nature that we do not have a consensus on a definition?”

“I actually have created a new way of understanding this problem,” Horn answered. “We have often tried to understand antisemitism by thinking about it as a problem of a lack of empathy. There’s this idea – and you see this often in Holocaust education, where the idea is we’re trying to convince people that they shouldn’t hate Jews, because Jews are just like everyone else, right?”

“That’s always the message: ‘Oh, look

at Anne Frank, she’s a girl just like you and me; she has piano lessons or whatever – she’s so relatable.’ We’re trying to build that commonality and empathy.”

Not so fast, Horn countered. “Here’s the problem with this model: Jews spent 3,000 years not being like everyone else. Uncoolness is Judaism’s brand. Why should someone have to be just like you and me to gain public respect? That is the fatal flaw in this understanding.”

Instead, “I have a different way of understanding antisemitism,” one that “is intimately related to the foundational ideas of Jewish civilization. ‘I see Jewish civilization as a 3,000-year-old anti-tyrannical movement, going back to its beginnings as the world’s first monotheism.’

In other words, “when Jews say they don’t bow to other gods, what they actually mean is that they don’t bow to tyrants. This is a non-conformist movement for thousands of years that does not assimilate into dominant societies and empires.”

So, “ultimately, to me, these ideas are the root of antisemitism, and that brings me to the way I define antisemitism. I don’t see it primarily as a bigotry. I don’t see it primarily as a bias, although it has all those elements. I define antisemitism as a lie that is used by people who want to gain or maintain power, and the lie is always the same: ‘Jews are destroying what you value the most.’ That’s it. The only thing that varies in different eras, different settings,

different social settings, is what you value the most.”

Indeed, “the reason that’s so successful is that it makes antisemitism feel righteous. You don’t feel like you’re hating people for no reason, that you’re standing up for your ideals. The question I think we need to be asking in these situations is, who is benefitting from that?”

Which brought the discussion back to a critical juncture. “You made the observation as well that many people can name concentration camps more easily than they can name Jewish writers, or thinkers, or artists,” Pell said to Horn. “What does that reveal about how Jews are understood in broader society?”

“We have accepted, and I think internalized, this idea that Jews need to be erased from public life,” Horn replied. “The example I’m going to give is Holocaust education. If you think about the example you gave, that many people can name three concentration camps – how many of those same people can name three Yiddish writers? Eighty-five percent of the people murdered in the Holocaust were Yiddish speakers. This was a famously literary culture.”

Or as Horn puts it: “Why do we care how these people died if we completely don’t care how these people lived?”

“I remember being in the Dallas Holocaust Museum and talking to the docents there,” she told her AJ listeners. “They said one of the questions students ask when they come through that museum is, ‘Are there still Jews alive

today?’ Because you went to this museum, how would you know? To me, that is like the erasure we are, in a sense, participating in, trying to win empathy or something like this.

“I read this as incredibly misguided – this erasure of Jewish civilization, of Jewish life, because we have an amazing story to tell.” That story, Horn says, is bound up in Jewish history, tradition, and sheer tenacity. It summons up “the commitments that Jewish communities made in ancient times through to today, that contributed to this community still thriving. To me, that is a story that has a lot to inspire our neighbors as well.”

And if nothing else: “Be a leader,” Horn urged.

“When you look around at a situation – this is honestly what happened to me – and you’re like, ‘No one is doing what someone really should be doing’ – that’s the universe telling you that the person who should be doing it is you.”

As Jews, perhaps the most enduring imperative is our collective refusal to be erased – literally and figuratively, through infinite time and space.

“So much of what we talk about is yes, we have suffered, yes, we have endured so much, but we are resilient, and we have, we continue to exist,” Pell said. “I love the way you frame that, she told Horn. Ultimately, Pell added, “our story is a story of resilience, of survival, of thriving in spite of all of the efforts to eliminate us.”

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COMMUNITY

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Deadlines for the next two issues of **Community** for copy and ads are September 14 for publication on September 25 and October 19 for publication on October 30.

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

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Community 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.

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FORUM



In Barcelona's Jewish Quarter, a tiny synagogue reveals itself



Mindful Ramblings

Andrew Adler

Welcome to the oldest synagogue in Europe reads a sign posted below a modest flight of stone stairs situated along the narrow, twisting Carrer Marlet in what was the old Jewish Quarter in the Catalan city of Barcelona. With an entrance that can charitably be called nondescript, easily missed if you're not paying sufficiently close attention to the peculiar curvature of your pathway, it seems more hovel than a onetime locus of worship.

Perhaps because it's been centuries since anyone actually prayed there, at least on a regular basis. About 30 years ago one intrepid couple got married there, apparently the first such ceremony in six centuries (and as far as we know, the last), but in recent times the former synagogue has functioned as a gift shop and ad hoc museum. For the grand sum of five euros, a visitor can peruse a few corners of Jewish memory, summoning the step by tiny step.

A few weeks ago I was one of those visitors. I'd spent two weeks in Europe, stopping first in London to attend my 24-year-old daughter Naomi's wedding (she moved there from New Orleans six years ago to attend college, earned a degree in theatrical costume design, and now works as a freelance designer/crafter). Three days later I flew to Barcelona for five nights, finishing up with the better part of a week

in the Mediterranean town of Palafrugell.

Barcelona is a wonderfully vibrant city, though frankly overrun with tourists and not all that much fun amid mid-summer heat. In previous years I'd deliberately avoided doing Europe in July or August (not counting two cycling trips as a teenager), but my daughter's and her spousal unit's decision to hold their nuptials in late July forced my hand. In any case, this was my first visit to Spain, so there was the added incentive of geographical novelty.

Bygone Jewish neighborhoods abound in Europe. When her mother and I took Naomi to Paris as a Bat Mitzvah present, we rented an apartment in the Marais district, which during the 13th century encompassed what had been the city's vibrant Jewish quarter. A century afterward, France expelled its Jews, who exchanged homeland for diaspora.

Spain, of course, was a Catholic country that itself harbored scant kindness toward its Jewish citizens. On March 31, 1492 – less than five months before Columbus set sail for the New World – the so-called Alhambra Decree mandated that all Jews either convert to Catholicism or depart the country a mere two months later. It wasn't until 1968 that the decree was officially nullified.

Barcelona remains resolutely Catholic in spiritual temperament – its Cathedral of the Holy Cross and Saint Eulalia, built from the 13th to 15th centuries – is an unabashedly magnificent example of Gothic and Catalan Gothic architecture. If nothing else, the cathedral's immense quietude is a welcome antidote to La Rambla, the city's vaunted thoroughfare that these days is a morass of frenetic commerce and construction.

The city's most celebrated attraction, of course, is La Sagrada Familia, architect

Antoni Gaudí's weird, wild, incomparably astonishing church – at 566 feet the world's tallest. As an audacious expression of faith it has few equals, a manifestation of one man's melding of nature and Godliness, wrapped up in immense physicality.

Nothing could stand in starker contrast than the tiny synagogue on the Carrer Market. Descending into what remains of its interior, a visitor must conjure up images of what might have looked like nearly two millennia ago. Like much of Barcelona, the synagogue was built atop ruins from the city's Roman origins – some of those original stones have been uncovered, so visitors – stepping across a transparent mid-floor – can peer into that distant past.

Here and there is more tangible evidence of its specifically Jewish character. On one side lies a modest ark fronted by a few benches, where prayer services might have sounded. Various objects are on display, including a large, ornate menorah, long unlit.

The attendant on duty offered snippets of background information to a mother and daughter from California who, like us, had stumbled upon the little sanctuary purely by accident. We visitors were happy to linger some minutes more, glad of a temporary refuge from Barcelona's summertime heat.

Remerging onto the narrow street, we squinted against the late afternoon sun, continuing our leisurely walk with no precise destination at hand. I couldn't help wondering, as the Catalan evening beckoned, what chants of a Maariv service might have soon sounded there centuries ago. On this occasion, though, all I could hear was the bustle of humanity scurrying past those ancient stones.

Andrew Adler is Managing Editor of Community.

FORUM

In this month of Elul, a time for reflection, anticipation and renewed vision



Sara's
View

Sara
Klein Wagner

Like many of you, every year during Elul (the Jewish month leading us to Rosh Hashanah) I honor the tradition of reflecting and taking account of the previous year while looking toward the future.

In my experience as a Jewish communal professional, my first instinct is to somehow measure what I've accomplished (or at least tried to accomplish) during the past 12 months – in other words, to count. After all, counting is an intrinsic Jewish approach to experiencing the world around us: We must count ten people to ensure we have a minyan to read Torah or say Kaddish for a loved one, and we watch for three stars in the sky to know Shabbat is over. Yet while we often measure the success of a gathering simply "by the numbers," Elul seems like the right time of year to consider the non-quantitative part of the equation.

Back in 2016, Rabbi Irwin Kula spent several days in Louisville, culminating with a community-wide event titled "Embracing Change." That evening was a great success; it was well attended, providing Rabbi Kula an opportunity to encourage the entire Jewish community, including leaders, that it was past time to challenge the status quo and open the door for new thinking. I have thought a lot about his visit over the last ten years, including a semi-private conversation we shared about "flourishing." Rabbi Kula suggested that our ultimate purpose is to help every Jewish Louisvillian flourish. That brings up an important question: If flourishing is the most important imperative, how might we know if it's successful? How can we measure it?

Measuring individual flourishing means acknowledging that each of us is unique – none of us starts or ends up in the exact same place. We need and learn from robust surveys and follow-ups. And at the end of the day, for me the most important component is what affects a person, a family, a group of friends – the respect, love, support, relationships and experiences that make us who we are. I think about our communal story, along with all the pride, joy, and challenges we face. Through it all, flourishing is happening and has clearly happened for many years. I can connect

the dots through generations – when two young parents meet each other at a community event, and when their babies eventually become lifelong friends. The cumulative impact of relationships is everywhere – from a recently relocated young family introduced to Jewish Louisville at our recent Shalom Y'all Block Party, to our current 22-member board, including 13 members who did not grow up Louisville, to BBYO alumni who continue getting together for decades after graduation. We are in the "people business" for one's lifetime. The impact does not blossom with one program or one interaction, but through ongoing relationships.

When I accepted this position 11 years ago, no one said it would be easy or boring. That's true. During these 11 years, we have experienced bomb threats, COVID, October 7th, and confronted an alarming rise in antisemitism. On a positive note, my glass is always more than half-full. Opening the new front doors at the Trager Family JCC has allowed us to expand our reach, welcoming thousands each week. We created SAFE Louisville, and over the past year, proudly worked side by side with other community leaders to launch the Year of Civil Discourse.

I'm the first to admit that I measure life in numbers all the time. I have been a runner (ok, a jogger) for 40 years, and

I keep track of my miles and pace. I have a list of books I've read and audio books I've completed this year (the audio version of Barbra Streisand's memoir *My Name is Barbra* is 48 hours long – but I will finish it).

I truly believe that when you're trying to measure success, participation is as vital an indicator as how the experiences themselves and your interactions make you feel. Our new vision statement, created by our board this past year, is genuine and direct: Louisville is one of the most welcoming and desirable communities for Jewish people to call home. In that spirit, I know I've found my way home, and that some milestone numbers are more meaningful than others as I proudly mark my 36th year as a Louisville Jewish professional where I started as JCRC director. And I am grateful to be part of something so special seeing the lives impacted and yes – flourishing.

This High Holiday season, I will continue to reflect on the lifelong impact of the work we support and the lives we change and enhance. In that spirit, with abundant gratitude, I wish you a sweet and healthy New Year – *Shana Tova!*

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



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NEWS

Long live the chickpea – the provocative life, times and byways of hummus

By Andrew Adler
Community Editor

You wouldn't think that a humble mixture of chickpeas, tahini, olive oil and a few associated ingredients would become a touchstone of cultural, political geographical (not to mention culinary) intrigue. Yet that's the fascinating narrative of what is may be Israel's most ubiquitous foodstuff: hummus.

"Israelis are crazy about hummus," Dafna Hirsch acknowledges in the preface to her book, *The Israeli Career of Hummus: Colonial Appropriation, Authenticity, and Distinction*, published this past March by Indiana University Press.

"In one of the funniest parodies on Israeli masculinity I have seen on screen—Dennis Dugan's *You Don't Mess with the Zohan* (2008)—the Israeli macho protagonist dips a chicken leg in hummus, uses hummus as a hair dye, and even puts out a fire with a hummus jet," Hirsch writes. "Although Israelis do not yet put out fires with hummus, the film's depiction of the Israeli obsession with hummus is accurate."

A sociology professor at the Open University of Israel in the tech-heavy city of Ra'anana, Hirsch learned early about the resonance of cross-cultural dining.

She writes of how, while she was growing up, her family frequented a particular restaurant in Jaffa called Younes, which "became fashionable among Jewish diners from Tel Aviv and the vicinity in the mid-1960s as an affordable option for out-of-the-ordinary and 'authentic' Arab food."

At the same time, "in the opposite direction from where we lived...was a line of simple restaurants serving similar food as Younes but owned by Jews descended from Arab countries. In contrast to Younes, we considered these restaurants unrefined and unsophisticated and looked down on them and the people who ate in them as anything but authentic."

Her book, then, became an inquiry into "the ways in which appetites and culinary desires are historically and politically produced and reproduced." She looks at several dynamics ("settler-colonial cultural dynamics...the expansion of Israeli capitalism, and ethno-class relations" – all the while acknowledging the "Arab/Palestinian source of hummus.")

Crossover appeal, too, is a hallmark of American tastes and sensibilities. Just ask Jacob Carr, the fellow behind Yalla Y'all, a Lexington, Ky. pop-up that's gained a reputation for excellence in all things chickpea. "I've been making hummus for 20-years-plus," said Carr, who was a featured food vendor at

the Trager Family JCC's Shalom Y'all Block Party on Sunday, Aug. 23.

"My dad worked for an Israeli company," Carr said during a recent Zoom interview, "and we briefly lived in California with his Israeli boss. That was my first experience eating having hummus or falafel," hummus's deep-fried close cousin.

For the young Carr growing up in Little Rock, Arkansas, the issue of cultural appropriation – Arab-to-Israel-to-the World hummus progression – never occupied the foreground of his culinary consciousness.

"I didn't see it as a Jewish food or an Israeli food, or Arabic for that matter," he recalled. "I've always associated it like pizza – you'd never go to a pizza restaurant and accuse the person making it that they're not making authentic pizza because they're not Italian or Roman."

Simply put, "I've grown up mostly vegetarian, and these were just protein sources that my family utilized," Carr said. "That's how foods work – they present themselves in similar ways to people of similar regions."

"However," he continued, "I will say that it's not lost on me the culture surrounding Palestinian and Arab erasure in this food. I don't think a lot of people do a great job of claiming or understanding where this food comes from, and I can admit that that whenever I started making hummus professionally, I didn't understand the nuances of everything."

As in much of life, timing proved critical when it came to Carr's food-driven journey.

"I started selling hummus in July of 2023, right before the (October 7) war broke out," he said, launching his business while he was living in Israel.

Returning to America to continue his venture, "I always expected it to be a way to bridge a divide that I could clearly see," Carr said. "But in the last three years since I've started this company, the divide has only gotten larger. When the war broke out, I organized an event and raised money for Palestinian and Israeli suffering. But it's been an uphill battle, and I've had to defend myself along the way."

Carr isn't alone in pondering issues related to what and how we eat.

"Cultural foodways are always interpenetrating and widely shared," said Ranen Omer-Sherman, who directs the Jewish Studies program at the University of Louisville.

"I think that when we call a Middle Eastern food or cuisine 'Israeli,'" he added, "we should always respectfully invoke its wider Middle Eastern origins and perhaps just refer to it as one of many variants across the Levant."



Hummus from Yalla Y'all at the Shalom Y'all Block Party on Sunday, August 23

Origin is a tricky word in this particular context.

"It is difficult to determine when chickpeas and tahini united for the first time," Hirsch writes. "The earliest known recipe for a mash of cooked chickpeas, tahini, wine vinegar, pickled lemons, nuts, herbs, and spices appears in a Syrian cookbook from the mid-thirteenth century: Kitāb al-wusla ilā l-habīb fi wasf al-tayyibāt wa-l-tīb (Winning the Beloved's Heart with Delectable Dishes and Perfumes). Yet we do not know what the historical relationship between this dish and contemporary hummus bi-tahine looks like, or when mashed chickpeas with tahini became typical of the Levant (present-day Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, and Palestine/Israel)."

Thornier still is the issue of cultural possession.

"Questions regarding origins, identity/difference, and authenticity may become significant in the context of debates over ownership, especially where a politically charged dish such as hummus is concerned," she observes, "yet historical evidence is unlikely to conclude them."

It's as much a social dynamic as a culinary one.

"Food is an important way for people to nourish and connect," Ranen-Sherman emphasized, mentioning a recent conversation on the topic with his wife, Professor Michali Kofman.

"Historically, foods have been shaped by migration, exchange, and cultural interpenetration," he said. "Food moves across borders, changes as people encounter one another, and carries traces of the communities and histories from which it emerges. But those same processes can also become ways of upholding barriers to connection rather than breaking them down, and of erasing the people and histories from which foods emerge rather than recognizing and celebrating them. Hummus is just one example of this."

Or as Hirsch puts it: "The integration of hummus, falafel, tahini, and other Arab staples into a repertoire of 'Israeli food' was part of a much broader effort to shape a symbolic 'Israeli culture' and 'Israeli style' that permeated many fields of cultural production, including music, dance, fashion, interior design, even beauty—each with its distinct dynamics, discourses, and timelines."

Hummus's popularity exploded once large food companies embraced it. In her book, Hirsch details how, during the 1950s, the Israeli company Telma pioneered the industrialization of hummus, transforming what had been a staple of home and restaurant

kitchens into a commodity you could pick up from any number of retail establishments.

Today, hummus is as ubiquitous as the bagel, found everywhere from convenience stores to Costco (there is even – gasp – chocolate hummus available from such brands as Sabra, Boars Head, Cedars, and Target Stores' Good & Gather label).

Regardless of where it originated and how it's prepared, hummus remains an essential component of Israeli life – and no small amount of discussion.

"The real question is, 'What is the best hummus in Israel?'" says Israeli-born Rabbi David Ariel-Joel of The Temple, answering his own rhetorical query by declaring "all surveys and hummus professionals agree that the best hummus is found among Palestinian restaurants."

Ariel-Joel goes on to posit that, "based on years of searching, surveying and checking carefully, real hummus – *really* good hummus – is found in the Old City of Jerusalem. My favorite place is little Ziad on Via Delorosa. It's a small hole-in-the-wall, with four tables. I went there seven times during my 2 ½ weeks in Jerusalem this July."

And if Jerusalem is a bit too distant, there's plenty of flavorful hummus to be had here in the Commonwealth. Louisville chef Noam Biltzer serves up an exceptionally satisfying smoked lamb hummus at his wildly successful NuLu restaurant MeeshMeesh, and of course there's always Carr and his Lexington Yalla Y'all pop-up.

"My particular hummus is an Israeli style," he said, adding that there are any number of worthy regional variations on the basic chickpea theme.

"Egyptian hummus sometimes has warmer spices, Syrian hummus may have different components, and some use butter instead of olive oil," Carr said. "Mine is a tahini-forward mix, about 65 percent tahini to volume – which is a lot different than most other types of hummuses. When you think of store-bought hummus it's so thick and intensely flavored. Mine is more delicate."

Progress, however, means moving ever-forward.

"I feel like I'm constantly learning things, so the recipe is always in development," Carr said. "I'd never bothered to write down a recipe to standardize it, but I worked feverishly and feverishly for weeks and weeks. My wife had just given birth, and at that point she could hardly stand the smell of cooking chickpeas. I was making massive batches every week."



PICTURE THIS: SHALOM Y'ALL BLOCK PARTY



The whole community was invited to join the Trager Family JCC for the first-ever Shalom Y'all Block Party on Sunday, Aug. 23. The celebration of Jewish heritage and our community was a fun-filled day for people of all ages. Israeli-born country music artist Omer Netzer played live music, Little Shalom Village was filled with activities for kids with everything from inflatables to arts and crafts and games. Local artists, farmers, and non-profit organizations lined the Mazel Market with their creations, activities, and information. And what would a festival be without delicious food? Nashville highlighted food from around the world, from Thai to a pop-up of Yalla Y'all from renowned Lexington-based chef, Jacob Carr. A good time was had by all y'all.

Thanks to sponsors: Jewish Heritage Fund, Jewish Federation of Louisville, Jewish Community Relations Council, Life & Legacy, Louisville Public Media, and Jeb Advertising. Additional support was provided by Kohn-Berman Endowment for the Arts Fund, Irving Klempner Jewish Cultural Arts Fund, Murrel D. and Tobie Marks Klein Jewish Holidays Fund, Annette Simon Sagerman Special Events Fund, Allan Kling Children's Fund, and Hannah Marks Fund. (Photos by Robyn Kaufman)



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PICTURE THIS: 'GUYS AND DOLLS' AT CENTERSTAGE

The 2026-27 CenterStage season kicked off with a sold-out run of the crowd-pleasing show, *Guys and Dolls*. Part of the Classics in Concert Series, *Guys and Dolls* tells the story of gambler Nathan Detroit, who tries to find the cash to set up the biggest craps game in town while the authorities breathe down his neck; meanwhile, his girlfriend and nightclub performer, Adelaide, laments that they've been engaged for fourteen years. Nathan turns to fellow gambler, Sky Masterson, for the dough, and Sky ends up chasing the straight-laced missionary, Sarah Brown, as a result. *Guys and Dolls* takes us from the heart of Times Square to the cafes of Havana, Cuba, and even into the sewers of New York City, but eventually everyone ends up right where they belong. Made possible by season sponsors Zack and Yael Melzer, CenterStage is thrilled to start their season with a strong story of community and "found family." (Photos by Robyn Kaufman)



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Sunday, Oct. 18, 2026 | 2 p.m.

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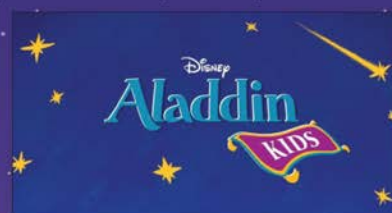
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NEWS

CENTERSTAGE

Continued from page 1

mainstays of the current CenterStage production: Director Erin Silliman, Music Director and Conductor Adam Thomas, and Julie McGuffey, who sings the role of Miss Adelaide, ("Good Old Reliable" Nathan's increasingly impatient fiancée). What follows are some of their takes on this extraordinary work of American musical theater.



Erin Silliman, director

What's the draw of the Classics in Concert format?

To showcase those beautiful scores from the Golden Age of musicals, which have the broad, sweeping sounds of a full orchestra (here, a 16-piece ensemble)—one that has all four families of the orchestra represented (strings, brass, woodwinds and percussion). So having a large orchestra was key. And doing that takes up more space on our stage, so it impacts choreography. But we haven't had to sacrifice any production quality for this, and because our audiences love it, we love it as a team of creatives.

It's been wonderful because everyone is so dedicated to telling the story so thoroughly. Normally our orchestra is tucked behind a wall, and in other theaters they might be in an orchestra pit. So this is a neat way to see it all happen together.

Does it make a significant difference having orchestra members closer than usual to the singers?

They do have that direct line of sight, but they're watching the conductor. But it certainly does help them understand the nuances of what's (happening) on stage, and maybe the feel of it since they're right there with the actors, just feet from the action.

Do you cast these kinds of shows with a special eye and ear?

We cast it the same as part of our whole audition process over the summertime. With showcasing primarily Golden Age musicals, sometimes there is a different skill set. The dancing is different than in more contemporary musicals generally. The style is different, so you're looking for vocalists who can take on that more classical or traditional sound when it comes to the musical theater canon. Sometimes there are people who specialize in this style, and that's really cool to see and showcase.

There are people who look forward to this time slot every year, just because they have an affinity for the older musicals. And there certainly are actors that have worked with us before who I always hope will come back and audition. We were pleased that many people came back this year to be involved.

What's your personal history with Guys and Dolls?

Some context first: I've been involved with CenterStage for about 12 years now, and it's not been done in that time period. I think the last time it was done was in the early 2000s, so it's been a little while since we've seen it on our stage.

From a personal standpoint, this musical is very special for me. It was the first musical I did in high school, when I was getting started on my performance journey and my love for musicals. So it was time to celebrate this incredible touchstone work in the musical canon, and was a neat way for me to come almost full circle in my professional career.



Adam Thomas, music director and conductor

In this production you conduct from a seated position in full view of the audience, facing the musicians and to a degree, the singers. How does that feel?

It's so much easier to communicate and be able to connect with the singers, because I'm not below or behind them as I would be in any other theater. And for the musicians, it allows them to somewhat be the audience and see what the performers are doing. When you're under a stage, you have no idea what's going on above you. You might be able to hear it, but you don't get to connect with the characters and how the actors are portraying them.

That's a sizable contrast from the relative anonymity of a pit musician.

This allows them the opportunity to be part of the show in a way they can't when they're in a pit below the stage. They get to be seen when they have a saxophone or trumpet solo — there are moments in this show where they get to stand up and get a little more recognition for what they're doing. We've even identified certain scenes where we, as musicians, truly believe an orchestra would be present in that scene (as in a sequence set in Havana, Cuba), so they'll react and respond.

You have a pretty eclectic group of players up there.

Yes, it's a very diverse group of folks. Most of them have music degrees — maybe some are teachers or administrators, or perhaps professional musicians who are doing gigs and things like that. But for this exact group of 17 people (16 instrumentalists plus him), this is the one and only time they've ever been together. I'm so proud of how they've connected so quickly, musically and as people.

Julie McGuffey, Miss Adelaide

Is this your first Adelaide, or are you a veteran of this role?

This is my first time actually perform-



ing it, but it's actually been a dream role of mine probably since I was in middle school. There was a big revival that came out in 1992 (the Faith Prince/Nathan Lane production). I didn't see it, but

I had a CD of the cast recording, and I listened to it religiously. I used to sing *Adelaide's Lament*, the main song of my character, in competitions, talent shows and things like that. So I've been singing and dreaming about this role basically my whole life.

How do you prepare for a role like this one?

The first thing I do is read the script backwards and forwards, because there are always little clues the book writer will leave in there about motivation and personality. I found a lot of things that made me think about what makes her tick.

Are you a stalwart presence at CenterStage?

I do about one show a year. I work full time (as an attorney) and have a family, so one show a year is about all I can commit to. But I also serve as the co-chair of the CenterStage Committee, so I'm very involved, even if I don't do as many shows as some others.

Your last show was Stephen Sondheim's Company, which stands in almost complete contrast to Loesser's musical idiom in Guys and Dolls. Do you enjoy shifting among markedly different styles?

It's always great to know your useable theater history and to do the classics, and then a lot of times it's fun to do new things. I've done *The Prom* here, which is a very recent, contemporary show, but my love has always been the classics. I'm actually not as much of a Sondheim fan as many of my fellow musical theater performers are, but it was a fun show and I'm glad I did it. It gave me a great character to chew on, for sure.

And of course, before you're cast you have to audition — putting yourself on the line basically every time.

It's never any easier no matter how many shows you've done, no matter how much you love the show, no matter how much you love the people you're auditioning for. You're always making yourself vulnerable.

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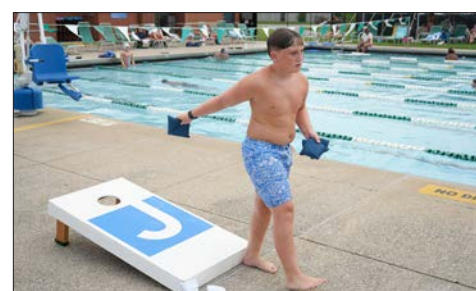
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PICTURE THIS: BACK TO SCHOOL BASH

The Trager Family JCC sent students back to school with a splash on Wednesday, August 5. Families gathered at the pool with games, music, and giveaways at the Back to School Bash.

(Photos by Mackenzie Lynch)



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9:30-11 a.m.

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September 27	JLAB @ The Temple
October 18	JLE @ 3700 Dutchmans Lane (Camp J Building)
November 8	JLAB @ The Temple
December 6	JLE @ 3700 Dutchmans Lane (Camp J Building)
January 10	JLAB @ The Temple
February 7	JLE @ 3700 Dutchmans Lane (Camp J Building)
March 7	JLAB @ The Temple
April 18	JLE @ 3700 Dutchmans Lane (Camp J Building)

Scan the QR code or visit jewishlouisville.org/pj-preschool to register!

PICTURE THIS: CAMP J ROUNDUP



2026 was another fantastic summer at Camp J. For nine weeks, campers gathered at Morning Circle, then spent their days playing gaga and other games, making crafts, singing, dancing, making friends, and connecting to Jewish culture. It was a record-breaking summer as more than 310 children per week participated in Camp J from Keff and Trek to specialty camps like Cupcake Wars, Amazing Athletes, Horseback Riding and more. We are already counting down the days until summer 2027.

Camp J thanks sponsors: Perelmutter and Glatt Orthodontics, Schwartz Insurance, Jewish Heritage Fund, Kosair for Kids, WHAS Crusade for Children, Graphic Packaging International, Korrekt Optical, Surepoint Equity, Minuteman Press, and Kaplan Barron Pediatrics.

(Photos by Kathryn Harrington)



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NEWS

A Sonny Meyer encore as September beckons at The Filson

By Ann Glazer Niren
Guest Columnist



Ann Glazer Niren

As we schvitz through the “Dog Days of August,” my mind turns to thoughts of cooler autumn days and even cooler nights. While these upcoming months might evoke images of Halloween and hayrides in the secular world, and the familiar and soul-searching string of back-to-back Jewish holidays in our world, I’d like to offer an additional local Jewish activity in the Filson world that I am sure you will want to attend. In addition, in this issue, I will share some fascinating recent donations that I hope will entice you to pay a visit to us in Old Louisville. We’re easily accessible from anywhere in the city, and, when there isn’t ongoing construction (when is there NOT construction in Louisville?), it is a twenty(ish)-minute drive from most locations. Finally, I will tell you about an exciting new update.

Many of you have commented to me how much you enjoyed Sonny Meyer’s talk at the Trager Family Jewish Community Center this past March. For those who were unable to attend we have good news: On Tuesday, Sept. 8 at 6 p.m., Sonny will reprise his talk on the History of Jewish Louisville – this time at the Filson. I’ll be interviewing him to provide additional context to his presentation, fol-

lowed by a brief Q & A. This free talk will be open to anyone, but you *must* RSVP to reserve your seats at filsonhistorical.org/events/upcoming-events/ or by calling us at 502-635-5083. I’m certain this event will fill up quickly, so don’t delay.

When I am not planning events, including looking ahead to next year, I am busy visiting with potential donors and beginning the formal process of transferring and cataloguing their collections. One of the most striking new additions at the Filson is a donation from Cantor Marshal Portnoy, formerly of Congregation Adath Jeshurun, who gave the Filson memorabilia from his two decades of AJ Music Festivals, which he established (and which became the province of Cantor David Lipp).

I imagine many of you reading this column will remember Cantor Portnoy for these musical extravaganzas, Bar or Bat Mitzvah preparation, or Junior Congregation and those trips to see baseball’s Cincinnati Reds, which were a real treat! Cantor’s collection includes posters, programs, photographs, and music anthologies of his compositions. In addition, almost every audio-visual means of sound and video recording of the late 20th century is represented in this collection, including cassette tapes, compact discs, VHS tapes, and USB thumb drives. Although this AV material is currently in its original format, if you would like to listen to it/watch it, it can be digitized to be accessed at home, though it will not be available until the collection has been completely catalogued. In addition, Cantor Portnoy graciously gave us the

interview that he and his wife, Dr. Jane Portnoy of blessed memory, did with artist Bill Fischer, who created the beautiful stained-glass windows at Keneseth Israel.

Dr. Richard Goldwin, a former president of Temple Shalom, donated material that has been added to our existing collection from this congregation. Rich’s contribution focuses on extensive correspondence and material from the Ritual Committee (especially relating to the High Holidays), information about the building on Lowe Road, and various press releases. This supplement to the Temple Shalom collection extends back to 1975 when Temple Shalom was merely a pipe dream, up until the 1990s.

Finally, Dr. Cassandra Good, a history professor from Virginia, is donating material about her Louisville family, the Ringols and Brownsteins. It includes information about her grandfather, Louis Ringol and her grandmother, Beatrice (known as Bea) Lee Brownstein Ringol. The family extends back to Abraham Brownstein in the 19th century. The collection contains a painting of Bea, letters, photos, theater programs, and a scrapbook, among other items. As Dr. Good observed, “Their entire social life centered around Jewish organizations.”

There are several more donations in the pipeline; would you like to add yours to the list? As always, please call me at 502-635-5083 or email me at aniren@filsonhistorical.org if you would like to discuss a potential donation. Since I began in this position two years ago, I have overseen more than two dozen dona-

tions. Of course, if you would ever like to come to the Filson to research any of these collections, you are more than welcome to do so. It is free if you are a member, and only \$10 if you are not. It may be hot and steamy outside, but it is pleasant and cool inside our library and Special Collections Reading Room, so stop by Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., except the third Friday of the month when we are closed. We’ll save a space for you!

Finally, I have an exciting update to share: I’ve been in talks with Hadassah, which began when we received a tablecloth from the now-defunct Frankfort chapter, donated by Bianca and Joe Wall. Fortunately, Louisville’s Hadassah chapter is alive and growing, thanks to the efforts of co-presidents (Michelle Elisburg and Debbie Rose). As a result of these discussions, the Hadassah Writers Circle has asked me to pen a recurring column on my activities at the Filson, much like I do in this space, focusing on some of the Jewish objects in our collection. In addition, I will be talking about Jewish music writ large. I may even attempt to tackle the age-old question of “What is Jewish music?” Look for these columns on the Times of Israel blog and Hadassah’s social media. In the meantime, stay cool, and we hope to see you soon at the Filson.

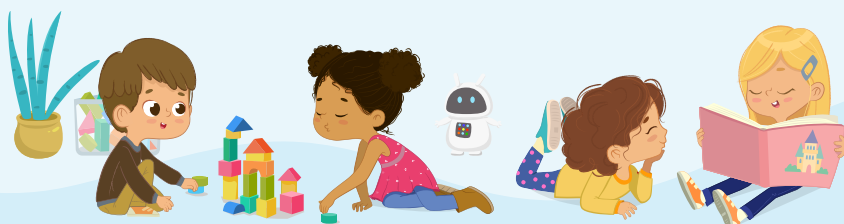
Ann Glazer Niren is Curator of Jewish Collections at the Filson Historical Society.



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Book/Film Club- Special October Event
‘From October 6 to October 7’
Sunday, Oct. 18 | 12 p.m. CT | 1 p.m. ET

From October 6 to October 7 tells the story of Israel Prize laureate Major General Almog through Israel’s defining moments, from the Yom Kippur War to October 7. Shaped by profound loss and tragedy, his journey becomes a powerful story of resilience, hope, and purpose.

The event will open with a brief October 7 commemoration, followed by a discussion with Major General Almog, Chairman of the Jewish Agency for Israel.

Registered participants will receive a link to view the film. Watch trailer and RSVP at jewishlouisville.org/p2g-october

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September 15-18, 2027

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For questions, more info or to watch Zoom presentations with other local community members, contact Amy Fouts, P2G Community Liaison at afouts@jewishlouisville.org

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NEWS

How to give your most important asset to your children

By Shelly Gilman
Guest Columnist

Editor's Note: Wills are not only for the wealthy or well known. A last will and testament can make life-and end-of-life decisions-easier for everyone, regardless of financial circumstances.

Creating a will helps protect your loved ones and allows you to make meaningful gifts to the people, organizations, and causes you value.

Some things to keep in mind:

1. A will is an essential legal document everyone should have.
2. A will gives you and your family peace of mind.
3. A will helps you create a legacy that lasts beyond your lifetime.
4. If you include the Jewish Community of Louisville in your will, you help carry forward the values, traditions, and wisdom that support a vibrant Jewish future.

As you think about what you want to pass on to your family, you may also want to consider creating what we call an ethical will. An ethical will:

- Helps you share your hopes, dreams, and life lessons with loved ones.
- Offers guidance while strengthening family identity, heritage, and understanding.
- Preserves your wisdom, values, and personal story as a lasting legacy for future generations.

What do you really want to leave your children and grandchildren? As you consider your life's story, and the good and bad

decisions you have made - what is most important to you? Have you thought about how you can make a gift of your most precious asset - your ethical values? Your values and memories are the most important gifts that you could leave behind, and your heirs have earned the right to inherit the essence of your spirit.

Consider - each of us had eight great-grandparents, but how many of us know the names of more than one or two? Each of us needs to leave a statement of our family's historical story, family values and then do what's necessary to perpetuate them.

Also ask yourself, where have you and your family earned its wealth? Are all of your children and grandchildren living in this community? If you give everything to your children and grandchildren, would it bother you to know that some of your hard-earned savings, all of which were earned here, may now be used to benefit the citizens of your heirs' new communities? Large communities like Chicago, Atlanta, and Austin certainly present wonderful opportunities but consider a phrase, somewhat revised, from Las Vegas - "a portion of what happens here, has been achieved here and should stay here."

Involve your family in your plans for sharing your ethical values and charitable giving. Say to your family - "I have done my best to help each of you, now let us, as a family work together to do good for our community and for others."

Consider - We know that the best things in life - are not things - they are the substance of our souls - our spirit - this is the point of this discussion - how will you arrange to leave a message that the best

things in life are acts of loving kindness and our actions that help others? Consider the following statement of personal values to give to your children.

"My dear children and grandchildren:

Somewhere among my papers is a will made out by my lawyer. Its purpose is to dispose of my material things that I owned at the time of my departure from this world to the unknown adventure beyond. I hope its terms will cause no ill-will as it seemed sensible when I made it. I am more concerned about leaving you something that is vastly more important... I want to leave a legacy of our family and a statement of my personal values - this is the greatest gift of what I possessed during my life.

"Also, my children stand at one another's side in an hour of need.... Support a needy brother with good advice as well as practical aid. The main thing-live together in peace, help one another in bad times, think on occasion of other members of the family, pity the poor.... and help those less fortunate."

Some of the most beautiful provisions of ethical wills involve statements of gratitude. A favorite of mine is the "Ethical Will" of a noted humorist, Sam Levinson - who said: "I leave you my unpaid debts. They are my greatest assets because everything I own - I owe:

- To America I owe a debt for the opportunity it gave me to be free and to be me.
- To my parents, I owe America. They gave it to me and I leave it to you. Take good care of it.
- To our Biblical tradition, I owe the belief that man does not live by bread alone, nor does he live alone at all. This is also the

democratic tradition. Preserve it.

• To the six million of our people and to the thirty million other humans who died because of man's inhumanity to man, we owe a vow that it must never happen again.

• I leave you not everything I never had but everything I had in my life: you my family, respect for learning, compassion for my fellow man and some four-letter words for all occasions; words like 'help,' 'give,' 'care,' 'feel,' and 'love.' Make gifts of these words.

Now - ACT - Do Something Good.

Work with the folks at the Jewish Community of Louisville's planned giving office and develop a Living Legacy Perpetual Fund to support forever the charitable causes that were important to you.

Be sure to sign & date your written statement, your family needs to know when you wrote it. Good luck and note - it may be best to type your statement and not write it in cursive - your grandchildren won't be able to read it.



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NEWS

2026 JCC Maccabi Games: Building Jewish pride through sport

By Abigail Goldberg
Guest Columnist



Abigail Goldberg

If JCC Maccabi is already familiar to you, you know the excitement. If not, think Olympic-style competition, Jewish connections, and whole lot of fun – all wrapped into one unforgettable experience for Jewish

teens.

This week-long event brings together Jewish teens from communities around the world through sports, friendships, and Jewish identity. The Games are about more than athletic achievements... sports are the vehicle for building confidence and Jewish pride. This summer, 13 athletes represented Team Kentucky, Fueled by the Trager Family JCC, across a variety of individual and team sports. The 2026 Toronto Games brought together 2,000 teen athletes from 73 communities from around the world. If you read Tom Wissinger's column in last month's *Community*, you already know about the excitement surrounding the Games and the lifelong impact this experience can have. Now, we are excited to share a few highlights from Team Kentucky's summer in Toronto.

Sports are obviously at the heart of JCC Maccabi. Teens train, compete, cheer each other on, and represent their communities with pride. On the golf course, Ella Sizemore delivered a standout performance for Team Kentucky, earning gold in the Girls' Golf competition on the first day in Toronto. By the end of the week, she had added two more medals, bringing home two golds and one silver. In the pool, Milana Shulman and Ruby Jane Kessler also had strong showings across multiple races. Milana earned three relay medals, while Ruby Jane brought

home seven medals in individual and team events, including gold in the 100-meter backstroke and 50-meter freestyle. Team Kentucky gave us no shortage of athletic highlights to celebrate, but the medal count is only the beginning of the story.

Ethan Grabush is a perfect example of what keeps teens coming back to JCC Maccabi year after year. A third-year participant, he has spent the past three summers playing on a mixed baseball team and building friendships with Jewish teens from across North America. His favorite part of Maccabi is meeting new people and playing alongside Jewish athletes from different communities. For him along with many others, JCC Maccabi is more than a week of sports; it's a community that grows stronger every summer. Still, for our athletes, some of the most memorable moments happened away from the playing field.

One of the most powerful moments of the week came during the Opening Ceremony. Wearing "Team Kentucky" across their chests, our athletes walked into an arena filled with thousands of Jewish teens from communities worldwide proving that they are part of something much larger than themselves. For Norah Corson, who attended the Games as Team Kentucky's Star Reporter, the Opening Ceremony was the highlight of the week. "Seeing thousands of Jewish teens all together in one place while proudly representing our community was my favorite moment of the entire week," she shared. The ceremony featured inspiring messages from former hostage Omer Wenkert, plus performances by Yuval Raphael and Nissim Black, setting the tone for a week centered on Jewish pride, connection, and community.

Beyond competition, athletes participated in HangTime sessions with Israeli *shlichim*, building relationships with young Israelis and learn-



ing about life in Israel firsthand. Special programming with Jewish fitness coach Yoel Levy and basketball star Tamir Goodman, known as the "Jewish Jordan," demonstrated the many ways Jewish identity and athletics can intersect. Combined with opportunities for community service and social action, these experiences reinforced how JCC Maccabi is about more than sports. It is about building connections, strengthening Jewish identity, and contributing to something bigger than yourself.

In just one week, JCC Maccabi provided far more than athletic competition. It was a week filled with new friendships, Jewish learning, Israeli connections, leadership opportunities, community, pride, and shared experiences that will stay with these teens long after they return home. The 13 athletes of Team Kentucky did not simply travel to Toronto to compete in their individual sports; they traveled as representatives of Jewish Louisville and became part of a global Jewish

community.

While Team Kentucky has much to celebrate, the medal count tells only part of the story. The true success of JCC Maccabi is measured in each teenager who returns home feeling more connected to Judaism, more confident in their Jewish identity, and surrounded by friendships that may extend for years to come. We are incredibly proud of Team Kentucky and look forward to the next generation of athletes who will have the opportunity to experience the magic of Maccabi for themselves.

Interested in joining the JCC Maccabi Games? Or know a Jewish teen ages 13–17 who would love the chance to compete, connect, and be part of Team Kentucky? Email Gabe Shir, Teen Director, at gshir@jewishlouisville.org to learn more.

Abigail Goldberg is NextGen Engagement & Outreach Director at the Trager Family JCC and the Jewish Federation of Louisville.



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NEWS

MEYER & SON

Continued from page 1

corporate model that may not reflect the values, customs, or spiritual sensitivity Jewish families deserve. With this in mind, the Louisville Council of Jewish Congregations convened a task force to examine alternatives. The task force ultimately recommended creating a nonprofit organization, the Louisville Jewish Community Chapel (LJCC), that could acquire and operate the funeral home while maintaining its connection to the Jewish community.

Using the Plaza Jewish Community Chapel in New York as a model, the Louisville Jewish Community Chapel has been established to preserve and strengthen Jewish funeral care for the Commonwealth of Kentucky and Southern Indiana for generations to come. Organized as a charitable, community-supported nonprofit, LJCC aims to acquire and operate Herman Meyer & Son funeral home ensuring that Jewish funeral services remain guided by faith, tradition, and communal responsibility.

Reaching this point has taken time. LJCC has secured 501(c)(3) recognition from the IRS and the necessary approval from the state licensure board to operate a funeral home under nonprofit ownership. Both extensive processes are now complete. The effort also carries the support of clergy and boards from every local syna-

gogue, a meaningful show of unity behind a single communal priority.

Preserving Jewish traditions

Jewish funeral practices emphasize dignity, simplicity and equality. Traditional Jewish practice holds that every person should be treated with profound respect in death, regardless of social or economic standing. Our community has a dedicated Chevra Kadisha, or “holy society,” to assist with preparing the deceased for burial, overseeing funeral and burial arrangements, and supporting grieving families. The Chevra will continue to operate just as it has for many, many years.

The Louisville Jewish Community Chapel represents far more than the preservation of funeral services— it strives to preserve Jewish continuity, identity, and communal responsibility in Louisville for generations to come. At a time when many longstanding Jewish institutions across the country are disappearing or being absorbed into large corporate systems, the LJCC will stand as a visible and enduring expression of Jewish life, values, and presence in our community. It will ensure that Jewish families continue to have access to traditions and rituals that honor both the deceased and the living with dignity, compassion, and authenticity.

The nonprofit model is intended to keep Jewish values at the center of

funeral services while strengthening connections among families, synagogues and community organizations.

Services beyond the funeral

LJCC’s planned activities extend beyond arranging and conducting funerals. The organization aims to educate both Jewish and non-Jewish communities about traditional Jewish funeral and mourning practices. Additionally, it will ensure every Jewish family can receive a proper burial, regardless of their financial situation.

Herman Meyer & Son’s current professional staff, led by Marci Joergens, will manage funeral-related activities. LJCC’s volunteer Board of Directors, led by President Matt Schwartz, will oversee the nonprofit organization. The current board represents a cross-section of Louisville’s Jewish community.

Community-supported effort

LJCC’s first round of fundraising, focusing on major gifts from individual philanthropists, is off to an impressive start. Fundraising will be expanded to the entire Jewish community allowing all to make this essential effort a reality. The Jewish Heritage Fund and the Jewish Federation of Louisville are being asked for their support. The goal is straightforward: to preserve a local funeral home where Jewish families and their loved ones can receive

services that respect their religious traditions and cultural needs while ensuring that the funeral home remains connected to the community it serves.

The Louisville Jewish Community Chapel says the effort is ultimately about more than maintaining a funeral home. It is about ensuring that, at a particularly difficult moment in life, Louisville-area Jewish families will continue to have access to people and services familiar with their traditions and committed to treating the deceased and their families with dignity and respect.

For more information, contact the Louisville Jewish Community Chapel at ljccjky@gmail.com.

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NEWS

As its new school year unfolds, Montessori Torah Academy is poised for growth

By Rabbi Yoni Rudansky
Guest Columnist



Rabbi Yoni Rudansky

It was the end of yet another hot, sticky, sunny Kentucky summer's day.

One last chance to catch our breath before we were back on the hamster wheel at full speed.

It had been a day filled with the usual; playdates, errands, housework, and appointments.

A long day at the end of a long summer.

But now we could relax.

The sound of children's laughter mixed with music.

The familiar aroma of hot dogs wafted through the air.

The families of Montessori Torah Academy had come together for an end-of-summer BBQ to connect, reflect, and prepare for the school year ahead.

There was a sense of friendship, camaraderie, and community.

Slowly, one at a time, parents started to pull up chairs until a circle of mothers had formed.

Affiliation and congregations had

been transcended. Reform, Conservative, Orthodox, Unaffiliated all sitting together in the parking lot of Montessori Torah Academy enjoying each other's company. These were friendships and relationships that had developed over the years. From after-school playdates, birthday parties, and connecting daily at the carpool line. We've been there for each other when we needed it, sent over chicken soup when a friend was sick, and celebrated our children's milestones together.

Rabbi Yosef Kaufman, Dean of MTA, invoked Pirkei Avot's emphasis on the importance of community. Our friends and who we associate with have a strong impact on who we are, the lives we lead, and how our children will grow up. As parents and educators, we value that connection deeply. We understand that a Jewish Day School does more than educate children. It creates connections that last a lifetime. It instills a love for Judaism. And it strengthens a community.

This coming school year, Montessori Torah Academy will be welcoming five new families from very different backgrounds and communities. From New York; Hollywood, Florida; Washington D.C.; and closer to home, Prospect and the Highlands. They may have different homes and upbringings, but they

share one thing in common: They all want a Jewish Day School for their children.

One mother was relocating from a career as a lobbyist in D.C. An exciting new opportunity had presented itself. She was ready to accept the job. We put her in touch with Fred Levein, then-president of Temple Shalom and close friend and realtor of most MTA families.

Before signing on a house, there was something more important to her: her son's education. She wouldn't speak to Fred until she had a chance to see the school for herself. She wouldn't move to a community without a proper Jewish day school.

That is what a day school does for a Jewish Community. It gives families a reason to come, and the ability to stay.

A Jewish Day School doesn't work in a vacuum; it strengthens, supports, and energizes existing institutions. MTA families tend to become JCC members. Students enroll in Club J and Camp J.

They pack the stands at the Federation's Louisville Bats Jewish Heritage game. Have a blast at various events throughout the community, including the Shalom Y'all Block Party.

Louisville has understood this for a long time. Countless members of

the community have fond memories of Eliahu Academy. They saw the impact it had on the community and the families that laid down their roots and raised their children here because Louisville had a Jewish Day School.

As we begin this next phase of growth, we are looking towards and preparing for the future.

We are expanding our classrooms and programs. Come check out our newly renovated upper elementary classroom (9-12), and the redesigned space for our upcoming infant room. And we are working towards purchasing our building from Temple Shalom. Having a campus to call our own will ensure MTA has the home for our future as we expand up to 8th grade and, G-d willing, straight through High School.

But a Jewish Day School is not built simply with bricks and mortar, but also with advertising, fundraising, and recruiting. It is built in the parking lot. It is built when mothers form a circle – when bonds are created, and a sense of community and belonging starts to take root.

Rabbi Yoni Rudansky is Head of School at Montessori Torah Academy.

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NEWS

A letter from the Year of Civil Discourse

By Bill Altman
Guest Columnist

Dear Louisville Jewish Community:

Last week, members of our Jewish community gathered at Adath Jeshurun for the first public event of A Year of Civil Discourse (YOCD). YOCD was created to bring our community together to discuss important Jewish issues, give voice to a range of perspectives, and remain connected—even and especially when we disagree.

We are grateful for the community's strong engagement and want your input as we plan what comes next.

What we've accomplished:

- 110 Jewish Louisvillians received civil discourse training from Resetting the Table.
- 26 community members received advanced training as facilitators.
- Three advisory groups—Clergy, Community, and Facilitators—were formed.
- More than 100 people participated in Dialogue Circles on anti-semitism.
- More than 250 people attended our first public event, an interview

with scholar and author Dara Horn. Attendees represented a broad cross-section of our community, and more than 15% were attending a Jewish community event for the first time.

The Dialogue Circles received overwhelmingly positive feedback, with participants reporting that they gained understanding of differing perspectives and felt more connected to the community.

Feedback on the Dara Horn event was more mixed. While 78% of survey respondents rated the program highly, others felt that the format and content did not sufficiently reflect YOCD's goal of giving voice to a range of opinions. We are listening carefully to all of this feedback and will use it in selecting speakers, developing programs, and shaping YOCD's direction.

What's next:

First, please complete the attached survey and tell us what topics, speakers, formats, and other elements would make YOCD meaningful to you.

Second, our next public events will be November 17–19, featuring Dr. Yehuda Kurtzer, Co-President of the Shalom Hartman Institute, for a two-and-a-half-day program fo-

cused on emerging Jewish identity issues. Your survey responses will help shape the program.

Third, please consider joining a Dialogue Circle. Circles will take place during the High Holy Days at several synagogues and again in October and November. Watch for dates and registration information, or contact YOCD at yocdlouisville@gmail.com.

Thank you for your engagement. We are undertaking important and challenging work together. We will learn what works, what doesn't, and how we can build a more connected Jewish community during these extraordinary times—even and especially when we disagree.

The YOCD Team

SCAN ME



This Wednesday!

Congregation Anshei Sfard Presents:

New Years? Judgement? Atonement?

WHAT ARE THE HIGH HOLIDAYS ABOUT?

By Rabbi Yaakov Lederman
Wednesday Sep 2, 7:00 pm
Trager Family JCC
Please RSVP to carla@ansheisfard.com
Refreshments will be served

Why do we pray so much?

Are we being judged?

Is it a celebration?

Why do we blow the shofar?

How do I make the most of these days?

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Trager Family JCC

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jcclouisville.org/eventspace | 3600 Dutchmans Lane, Louisville, KY 40205

JFCS High Holiday Food Drive Calls Community to Respond to Growing Need

By: Dr. David Finke, CEO, Jewish Family & Career Services

What better way to honor the spirit of the High Holidays than by helping put food on the table for families in our community?

The High Holidays call us to reflection and to action. They ask us to consider not only the kind of people we want to be, but the kind of community we want to build together. At Jewish Family & Career Services (JFCS), one important way our community has put those values into action is through the annual High Holiday Food Drive Family Mitzvah Day that will take place on September 27th.



This year, that support is more important than ever.

New data released by Dare to Care Food Bank shows that 203,770 people across Kentuckiana are now experiencing food insecurity, the highest number ever recorded in Dare to Care's history. That means approximately one in six people and one in five children in our region do not always have reliable access to the food they need.

The number of people facing food insecurity has increased by 62% since 2021. Dare to Care also cautions that the data does not yet reflect the impact of recent and upcoming changes to federal nutrition assistance. The need facing local food banks and pantries is expected to continue growing.

JFCS sees that need firsthand through the Sonny & Janet Meyer Food Pantry, a Dare to Care partner pantry serving people throughout our community. Last year alone, JFCS distributed more than 92,000 pounds of food through the pantry.

Our community helped make that possible.

Last year, our community members donated more than 30,000 pounds of food, more than double what had been collected in previous years.

“Over the holiday, there was an attempted fraud attack. The first thing I thought was, ‘I have to text my banker, Mary Rose.’

It was within the next few minutes there was an entire team that came together collectively.”

– Cathi B. | Republic Bank Client

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People across the Jewish community came together in an extraordinary way during the High Holiday Food Drive and the SNAP crisis in late October and early November to help make sure our neighbors had food on their tables.

This year, we need that spirit of generosity again.

Community members can participate by picking up a High Holiday Food Drive bag from their local synagogue, filling it with needed items and returning it to the synagogue. JFCS will pick up the donated food directly from participating synagogues. A list of the pantry's most-needed items will also be available on the JFCS website to help guide donations.

To add a little fun to the effort, JFCS will also hold a friendly competition among participating synagogues and community organizations to see who can collect the most food. Most importantly, every bag collected will help stock the pantry at a time when demand remains high.

JFCS also invites the community to participate in the High Holiday Food Drive and Family Mitzvah Day on Sunday, September 27, from 1 to 3 p.m. at JFCS. Family Mitzvah Day offers an opportunity for people of all ages to come together and put Jewish values into action. It is a tangible way to practice tzedakah and care for our neighbors during a season when we are called to think deeply about our responsibility to one another.

I'm excited to experience the High Holiday Food Drive for the first time and help create an opportunity for families to come together during this season of reflection and renewal. By participating in this mitzvah, we are putting the values of tikkun olam into action, strengthening our community and helping ensure our neighbors have access to the food they need. – Sophia Fayne, JFCS Volunteer Coordinator

Food insecurity can affect anyone. It may be a working family struggling with rising costs or an older adult living on a fixed income. Right now, more of our neighbors are facing these challenges than ever before.

The need has not gone away. It has grown.

This High Holiday season, we hope our community will once again show up for our neighbors and help ensure that everyone has access to something as fundamental as food on the table. Thank you for supporting Jewish Family & Career Services and providing these most basic needs to our neighbors across Louisville. We can't do this without our community!

Tune In To The Give For Good Livestream!

We're excited to share that JFCS was selected to be featured on the Give for Good Louisville livestream on September 10, 2026!

Stay connected by following us on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn, and sign up for our newsletter at jfcsloouisville.org.



UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPT 10	JFCS on Give for Good Livestream
SEPT 27	High Holiday Food Drive Family Mitzvah
OCT 29	Building the Mosaic Voices of Kentucky's Immigrant Community in Elizabethtown, Kentucky
NOV 10	Night of Music Beethoven to Beatles 10th Anniversary Seligman Series

Register online at jfcsloouisville.org/upcoming-events

NEWS & NEWSMAKERS

CLOUT will hold community 'house meetings' through Oct. 5



This in from Honi Goldman:
CLOUT (Citizens of Louisville Organized and United Together) will begin their unique grassroots process to identify, then research the

various issues that impact this community. Around 50 people from various CLOUT's member congregations will be trained on how to facilitate their individual house meetings. These house meetings will run from Tuesday, Aug. 18 through Monday, Oct. 5. Ever since 1991, this cycle has begun with community-wide listening sessions of direct conversations with about 400 everyday people from across Jefferson County, culminating in the spring with the "Nehemiah Action Assembly." For seven weeks, about 50 house meetings will take place across Jefferson County in places of worship, community rooms and homes. Each house meeting will have a small number of ordinary Louisville citizens from all walks of life talking freely about their concerns and experiences. This unique procedure reveals "the pulse of the city" with the actual issues and problems this city faces. NOTE: If anyone in the community would like to participate in a house meeting, the public can contact the CLOUT office at 502-536-4124.

Darryl Isaacs partners in charitable backpack giveaway



Attorney Darryl Isaacs – a.k.a. The Hammer – knows that a small bag can make a big difference in a child's school experience. Witness the fourth annual Hammer's Great Backpack Giveaway that unfolded this past Aug. 1 at Lynn Family Stadium. For two hours, volunteers from the Issacs & Issacs Personal Injury Lawyers firm and Stock Yards Bank & Trust distributed upwards of 1,000 backpacks – each filled with school supplies – to children gathered for the occasion. "No student should start the school year at a disadvantage," Isaac's firm said in a statement posted on Facebook. "This event is all about helping families, supporting students, and making sure kids in our community feel ready and excited for the school year ahead." Though less-than-perfect weather led organizers to pivot from a conventional hand-off to a drive-through format, success was still the order of the day. "It means a lot because of the problem in Louisville," Isaacs told WDRB-TV. "There is a great need and so there are a lot of kids that would go to school without

a backpack. So that is why we started getting involved. We reached out to Stock Yards and they are great – you never want a kid to go to school and never have adequate supplies."

Daniel Melzer coordinates drive that raises \$37,000 to fund an 'ambucycle' to serve our Partnership region in Israel



To help celebrate Keneseth Israel Congregation's centennial this past May 31, Daniel Melzer spearheaded a campaign to raise funds on behalf of United Hatzalah, which he describes as "a non-profit, free emergency medical response service that works to augment government resources to better serve all communities in Israel and communities abroad." The goal was to raise enough money to fund the purchase of at least one "ambucycle," a kind of mobile blending of ambulance and motorcycle uniquely designed to navigate "complicated and narrow paths that standard ambulances and cars cannot traverse," Melzer explained. The ambucycle will serve our Partnership region, comprising communities in Israel's Western Galilee, which "is in acute need of emergency vehicles," he said. Now the initial results are in, totaling \$37,000 – \$36,000 of which will pay for the first of these invaluable ambucycles (the remainder will go principally for needed supplies). "We contacted folks we knew were aligned with these kinds of goals and ideas," Melzer said, adding that about 70 percent of funds raised came from relatively large contributions, with the balance made up of smaller donations. Founded 22 years ago, United Hatzalah "is the primary emergency service in Israel," said Zack Melzer, Daniel's father. "They respond to every kind of emergency. In addition to ambucycles that have full-size ambulances, airplanes and boats. And all the first responders are volunteers," who provide their services free of charge. United Hatzalah, Zack Melzer said, has developed a sophisticated system to reach patients as quickly as possible. "The first seven minutes of response

time is critical if you have, say, a stroke or heart attack, not to mention a terrorist attack," he emphasized. United Hatzalah ambulances are parked at the responders' homes, once an alert comes through, "they are able to jump into their vehicle and respond a whole lot quicker." "Where a conventional ambulance might take as long as eight minutes to reach a patient," Daniel Melzer said, United Hatzalah can often do that in half the time."

Louisville Ballet Holocaust documentary film will be screened Sept. 23 at the Trager Family JCC



In February of 2025, the Louisville Ballet presented a landmark work: Light/The Holocaust & Humanity Project, full-length dance piece choreographed by Ballet Austin Artistic Director Stephen Mills. The work was based on experiences of Holocaust survivor Naomi Warren, and which resulted in a film documenting how the Louisville Ballet nurtured the piece from anticipation, preparation and its ultimate presentation. Titled Illumination: Art, Education, & Truth, the film will be screened Wednesday, Sept. 23 at the Trager Family JCC's Shapira Family Auditorium. The 6 p.m. screening will be preceded by a 5:30 p.m. reception and will be followed by a 6:30 p.m. panel discussion on "how modern educators are utilizing art to confront antisemitism and reshape Holocaust education in today's classrooms." Participants include David Kaplan, a member of the Kentucky Antisemitism Task Force; Lauren Hill, associate director of the UK-JHF Holocaust Education Initiative; Kimberly Thompson, the Initiative's Regional Network Lead; and Stacey Blakeman, the Louisville Ballet's Director of Community Engagement. Melanie Pell, Chief Engagement Officer at the American Jewish Committee, will moderate. The event has limited seating and reservations are required. To register, go online at tinyurl.com/ycyu6t2e

JENRICHMENT

Supervised, structured activities fostering motor, musical, social, and recreational skill development beyond school hours.

Monday:

Amazing Athletes (ELC), 3:50-4:20 p.m.
Cooking Club (School Age), 5-6 p.m.
Dates: 10/5 – 12/14

Tuesday:

Monk'y Warrior (ELC), 4-4:30 p.m.
PKMN Trading Card Game Club (School-Age), 5-6 p.m.
Dates: 9/22 – 12/15

Wednesday:

Dance (ELC), 3:50-4:20 p.m.
Fiber Arts Club (School-Age), 5-6 p.m.
Dates: 9/16 – 12/16

Thursday:

Chess Club (School-Age), 5-6 p.m.
Tabletop Games Club (School-Age), 5-6 p.m.
Arts & Crafts (ELC), 3:50-4:20p.m.
Dates: 9/24 – 12/17

Friday:

Science (ELC), 3:50-4:20 p.m.
Dates: 9/25 – 12/18

If you are in need of transportation to the enrichment class, please email Waylon at wrlay@jewishlouisville.org.

For Class Descriptions, Pricing, and Registration Please Visit: jcclouisville.org/enrichment

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AROUND TOWN

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

Adath Jeshurun

It's an AJ tradition to spotlight a local nonprofit before Selichot. This year, we're featuring WaterStep, a Louisville-based nonprofit providing safe water solutions to communities around the world. Founder & CEO Mark Hogg will share more about WaterStep's work and impact. Join us Saturday, Sept. 5 at 8 p.m. for the program, followed by desserts and coffee at 9:30 p.m. and Selichot services at 10 p.m. in the Yarmuth Family Chapel. Our Selichot event is free and open to all, but reservations are requested. Please RSVP HERE for this event.

All are invited to join Rabbi Scott and Cantor Lipp for AJ's Annual Cemetery Service Sunday, Sept. 6 at 11 a.m. at the Adath Jeshurun Cemetery at 2926 Preston Highway for a short service followed by prayers at the resting places of your loved ones. The service will be in-person only, and no reservations are required.

AJ presents "Sukkot Under the Stars" Sunday, Sept. 27 at 5:30 p.m. The evening will begin with kiddush and appetizers in the Chester & Vivian Slosberg Memorial Sukkah, to be followed by a catered dairy/fish meal. Dinner will be held in both the Sukkah and the Charles & Jean K. Erskine (Large) Auditorium. Seating in the Sukkah is limited and will be allotted on a first come, first reserved basis. The only way to reserve an entire table is to make and pay for all eight reservations on a single form and pay together. The cost is \$18 per person and the deadline for reservations is Sept. 18. Visit adathjeshurun.com/reservations to reserve your place.

Join Adath Jeshurun, Keneseth Israel, and the Jewish Learning Experience for an unforgettable Simchat Torah Weekend at AJ Saturday, Oct. 3 and Sunday, Oct. 4 as we celebrate the completion of the Torah and immediately begin again—a beautiful reminder that Jewish learning is a lifelong journey. This year's celebration offers two unique experiences designed for every generation: Torah & Toasts on Saturday evening and Roll with the Torah on Sunday morning. Both events will feature the Klezmer band, Lost Tribe. On Saturday evening, beginning at 7:30 p.m., will include happy hour, music, and conviviality followed by a celebration of the completion of the Torah-reading cycle with joyful worship, singing, dancing, and the beginning of the Torah anew. On Sunday morning, starting at 9:30 a.m., enjoy a family-friendly celebration featuring worship, dancing, a Torah parade, pancakes, playground fun, and community. Following a joyful holiday service, enjoy a festive pancake brunch featuring a build-your-own pancake bar, delicious breakfast favorites, and plenty of time to connect with friends and community. Keep the celebration rolling as families head outside for an afternoon of fun on the AJ Preschool playground. Both events are open to all and free, however RSVPs are required. Please visit adathjeshurun.com/simchat-torah for more information and to make reservations.

Anshei Sfard

Congregation Anshei Sfard has open study time every weeknight (Sunday-Thursday) 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 are served.

Shabbos Davening at 9 a.m. including Rabbi's Parsha outline and sermon, followed by a delicious Kiddush. Every Wednesday night at 7:45 p.m., Judaism in Action. Current series: Laws of Shabbos, every Saturday night at 7:15 p.m. Talmud Trek Sunday mornings

at 9:30 a.m. led by Rabbi Lederman. For more information, email rabbilederman@ansheisfard.com.

Chavurat Shalom

September brings delightful music and an engaging presentation with Rabbi Matt. Lunch will start at Noon in The Temple's Heideman Auditorium, unless noted below, and our program will start at 1 p.m. All programs will also be available starting at 1 p.m. via ChavuratShalomZoom for those who need to join us remotely.

Thursday, Sept. 3 - Pianist Bernie Schweickart will delight us with a wonderful range of old and new tunes. Lunch will include chili, grilled cheese, couscous salad, mixed green salad, fresh fruit, and cupcakes. NOTE: We will be meeting in the Klein Center this week.

Thursday, Sept. 10 - Klezmer band Lost Tribe will perform for us. Lunch will include orange-apricot glazed chicken, barley pilaf, mixed vegetables, mixed green salad, fresh fruit, and bread pudding. NOTE: We will be meeting in the Klein Center this week.

Thursday, Sept. 17 - Singer, songwriter, guitarist Tyrone Cotton will play for us. Lunch will include roasted turkey, green beans, mashed potatoes, salad, fresh fruit, and cheesecake. NOTE: We will be meeting in the Klein Center this week.

Thursday, Sept. 24 - Rabbi Matt will join us and share about the conference he attended last month at the Daniels Center for Progressive Judaism in Tel Aviv. Lunch will include beef stew, broccoli, mixed green salad, fresh fruit, and chocolate cake.

If you're not "a regular," please RSVP by 5 p.m. Tuesday if you'll be attending that week in person by calling or emailing Sarah at 423-1818 or sarahharlan86@gmail.com.

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, and many other generous donors.

Filson Historical Society

On Tuesday, Sept. 8 at 6 p.m., Sonny Meyer will reprise his talk on the History of Jewish Louisville – this time at the Filson. Ann Niren, the Filson's Curator of Jewish Collections, will interview Meyer to provide additional context to his presentation, followed by a brief Q & A. This free talk is open to anyone, but you must RSVP to reserve your seats at filsonhistorical.org/events/upcoming-events or by calling 502-635-5083.

Jewish Family & Career Services

Sept. 5 & 6 – JFCS at World Fest - Join JFCS at World Fest and celebrate the cultures, traditions, and stories that make our community stronger. Stop by our booth to learn how we support people of all walks of life across Louisville. Volunteer opportunities are available. Contact Sophia Fayne | sfayne@jfcs-louisville.org

Sept. 10 – JFCS on Give for Good livestream - Tune in to the Give for Good Louisville livestream and see the impact your support makes possible. Hear inspiring stories, learn about the people we serve, and discover how your gift helps strengthen our community every day. Watch the livestream at giveforgoodlouisville.org

Sept. 27 – High Holiday Food Drive | Family Mitzvah - Make a difference as a family this High Holiday season. Join us for our High Holiday Food Drive and Family Mitzvah Day as we collect food, sort donations, and help stock our pantry for neighbors facing food

insecurity. RSVP

Jewish Federation of Louisville

Save the Date – Celebrate Sukkot with NEXTGen at Sushi in the Sukkah – Tuesday, Sept. 29, 6:30 p.m.

Open to any Louisville Jewish Young Adult – Join us for a fun night of delicious sushi, sake, beer, good conversation, and new connections. Come hungry, stay awhile, and celebrate the season with us! RSVP to Abigail Goldberg at agoldberg@jewishlouisville.org or by visiting shalom.jewishlouisville.org/sushi. Presented by the Federation and NEXTGen Louisville.

Keneseh Israel

Join Rabbi Freed as he blows the shofar at the Glenview (5100 US Highway 42) and talks about the High Holidays.

Jews & Brews – Wednesday, Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 at 11 a.m.

Every Wednesday, Cantor Hordes and a dedicated group of students study their way through the entire Torah. All levels and backgrounds are welcome. No cost.

Shabbat Shalom Club – Saturday, Sept. 5, 12, 19 and 26 at 10:30 a.m.

Come join us at 10:30 a.m. for our Shabbat Shalom club - a space for kids grades 2 through 7 to experience Shabbat every week - as they learn Torah, play board games, and learn the beautiful melodies of Shabbat songs.

Elul Class: Discourse with the Divine – Sunday, Sept. 6 at 6:15 p.m.

As we prepare for 5787, join the clergy of KI and AJ to think about the intersection of machloket (civil discourse) and cheshbon hanefesh (introspection). How do we utilize our tradition to deepen our understanding of ourselves and bring us closer to one another and God in preparation for the High Holidays? For more details and to RSVP visit tinyurl.com/elul-class

Rosh Hashanah Seder and Dinner – Friday, Sept. 11 at 6:45 p.m.

KI is proud to host a traditional Rosh Hashanah Seder after services. Reservations for this event can be made at the purchase of High Holiday tickets. Adults: \$25 / Children: \$15

Kids Service (K-Gr. 6) – Sept. 12, 13, 20 and 21

Children in grades K-6 will participate in High Holiday activities, led by Shabbat Shalom Club leaders, including board games, prayers, and age-appropriate Torah study before joining everyone in the main sanctuary for their rendition of the closing songs. Kids Club will be both days of Rosh Hashanah at

10:30 a.m., 7:30 p.m. for Kol Nidre, and 10:30 a.m. on Yom Kippur. And don't miss out on Totshashanah. For both days of Rosh Hashanah, at 11:30 a.m., join us in the small auditorium for a toddler-friendly Rosh Hashanah service, with a sweet treat at the end.

Tashlich in Big Rock Park with AJ – Sunday, Sept. 13 at 5 p.m.

In partnership with Adath Jeshurun, we will be going to Big Rock Park for Tashlich, a ceremony where we cast off our sins (and feed the ducks) 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.

Sukkah Building – Sunday, Sept. 20 at 9:30 a.m.

Calling all architects and architect wannabes—come help the Men's Club build KI's Sukkah

Year of Civil Discourse Class – Monday, Sept. 21 at 4:30 p.m.

Join us on Yom Kippur for structured conversations designed to help us better express and understand each other even (and especially) on topics where we have disagreements and differences. We hope you will join us as we practice Machloket L'shem Shamayim, disagreement for the sake of heaven, on this holy day.

Sukkah Decorating Party – Tuesday, Sept. 22 at 5 p.m.

Come enjoy this family-friendly event that includes all you need for a fun day of arts and crafts, an edible Sukkah building contest, and pizza bagels! Free of charge.

Tot Shabbat – Saturday, Sept. 26 at 11 a.m. Have a toddler in your life? Come join us for Tot Shabbat. Starting at 11 a.m., they will enjoy a toddler-friendly shortened service and a sweet treat followed by coming into the main sanctuary to dazzle everyone with their rendition of closing Shabbat service songs.

Open Sukkah at Rabbi's – Sunday, Sept. 27 from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Join Rabbi and Ariane in their Sukkah for Open Sukkah, featuring games, snacks, and lulav shaking.

Sukkah Dinner – Monday, Sept. 28 at 6:15 p.m.

Join us for a kid-friendly dinner this Sukkot with the KI Sisterhood at their Sukkah party following minyan. We'll bring the drinks - you bring a dairy/vegetarian picnic dinner. Please RSVP when purchasing your High Holiday ticket.



PJ Library

Jewish Storybooks Delivered Each Month!

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

Sign Up today!
Scan the QR code using your camera app!

For questions about PJ Library contact
Jordan Leanhart at jleanhart@jewishlouisville.org.

AROUND TOWN

Jews & Brews: After Hours – Wednesday, Sept. 30 at 6:15 p.m.

Come enjoy a beer and Torah on tap with Rabbi Freed at Jews & Brews: After Hours in the Sukkah, following 6:00 p.m. services. This event is free, but we do ask that you RSVP when purchasing your High Holiday ticket. Bring a dairy/vegetarian picnic dinner.

High Holidays - RSVP at [Kenesethisrael.com/high-holidays](https://kenesethisrael.com/high-holidays)

Please visit the link to RSVP for seats and events during the High Holidays.

Kol Israel Jewish Renewal Community of Kentucky

Tashlich on the River

Monday, Sept. 14 at 6:30 p.m.

Location: Cox's Park

Please join us as we examine, share and perform this sacred ritual on the banks of the Ohio with our Jewish Renewal and Interfaith community. More information about reservations and participation can be answered by Blu at 502-277-0555 or by emailing KolIsraelKentucky@Outlook.com

Saturday Mornings, Sept. 12 and 26

Please join us as we celebrate Shabbat as Adat Ha'Araphel- Congregation of the Cloud on Zoom or Facebook. Join many of our regional Jewish Renewal leaders for our innovative, musical and inspirational service. We gather at 10 a.m. for greeting and schmoozing on Zoom, with the service beginning at 10:15 a.m. sharp. For the links, call 502-277-0555.

Louisville Vaad Hakashruth

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

Momentum – Journey of Growth

Seven Days in Israel: Nov. 2-8, 2026

Join women from around the world for an immersive journey to Israel during this pivotal moment in Jewish history full of self-discovery, meaningful connections and inspiring moments of Jewish learning. More information is available online at MomentumUnlimited.org/Journey, by calling Alison Roemer at 502-238-2730, or emailing her at aroemer@jewishlouisville.org.

National Council of Jewish Women – Louisville Section

NCJW Louisville's Office is Moving

With the upcoming demolition of Mid-City Mall, we'll be moving our offices. You can still reach us via our usual email addresses and by phone at 502-458-5566. If you need to send us anything by mail, please note our new mailing address: NCJW Louisville, PO Box 6771, Louisville, KY 40206.

Support the Improving Reporting to Prevent Hate Act

We know we're living in an environment where antisemitism is rampant – just a few weeks ago, we witnessed an attack at Central Synagogue in New York, and earlier this year, someone drove their car into Temple Israel in West Bloomfield, Michigan, and started shooting. But we also know that we are not alone: across the country, minority and marginalized communities continue to be targeted every day. We have to look at what is missing – what the numbers do not reflect – in order to protect communities from hate. Every year, thousands of law enforcement agencies across the country fail to report, or accurately report, hate crimes to the FBI. The Improving Reporting to Prevent Hate Act offers a bipartisan answer: it would require law enforcement agencies to accurately report hate crimes to the FBI every year. You can take the next step right now and call on Congress to pass the Improving Reporting to Prevent Hate Act.

NCJW Takes the Lead in Mifepristone Case

On May 1 we were reminded just how quickly the landscape of reproductive health care can shift. A ruling from the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals in Louisiana v. FDA threatened to significantly restrict access to mifepristone, a medication that has been safely used for more than two decades and is critical to abortion and miscarriage care. While the US Supreme Court has issued a temporary stay, preserving access for now, these actions underscore the uncertainty and fragility of the right to the full suite of reproductive health care.

If affirmed, the ruling would have far-reaching consequences – especially for those who rely on telehealth as a primary pathway to care. At a time when abortion access is already severely restricted in many states, limiting medication abortion would deepen existing inequities and put care even further out of reach for millions of people.

NCJW continues to meet this moment with urgency, affirming that reproductive freedom is a fundamental and religious right. Through ongoing advocacy and mobilization, NCJW is committed to protecting access and ensuring our communities stay informed and engaged as this case unfolds. NCJW recently filed an amicus brief, joined by over 50 diverse faith organizations, with the Supreme Court defending broad access to mifepristone and asserting that attacking access to this medication is an attack on religious freedom.

Protect Religious Freedom and Reproductive Justice in Indiana and Nationwide

A court granted religious freedom exceptions to Indiana's near-total abortion ban. The state appealed in an attempt to bring the full ban back. NCJW went straight to court. NCJW led an urgent amicus brief to the Indiana Supreme Court – joined by 39 faith partners who answered our call. This is our third time weighing in on this case, and we are not done. The plaintiffs – Jews and other people of faith – argued that Indiana's abortion ban violated their religious freedom. They won, and a court issued a permanent injunction protecting people who seek care in accordance with their beliefs.

Now the state wants that protection overturned and NCJW filed to make sure it doesn't. We will keep filing, keep leading, and keep demanding until every person in Indiana – and across this country – can make their own health care decisions in accordance with their own faith and conscience. Reproductive freedom is religious freedom. We have said it before, and we will say it again – in every court and in every legislative body across the country.

Temple Shalom

High Holiday Kickoff, Saturday, Sept. 5, 5 p.m. at Temple Shalom

We kick off the High Holidays with a Qdoba buffet and desserts, followed by a Selichot service. Cost is \$10 for Temple Shalom members, \$18 for all others; children 12 and under are free. Payment is your reservation; call the office at 502-458-4739.

High Holiday Services: Friday Sept. 11 at 7 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday Sept. 12 and 13, 10:30 a.m. Rosh Hashanah Services at Temple Shalom; Sunday, Sept. 20 at 7 p.m. with Kol Nidrei Services Monday, Sept. 21 at 10:30 a.m. Tickets are required for services and reservations can be made by contacting the synagogue office at 502-458-4739. The synagogue appreciates a voluntary donation of \$72/person, but cost is not a barrier. Services are also offered online and a link will be sent to you if you make a reservation. Tashlich is at Brown Park at 1:30 p.m. following services on Sept. 12; family Rosh Hashanah service is at 1 p.m. Sept. 13 at the synagogue. Family service for Yom Kippur is Sept. 21 at 1 p.m.

Sukkah and a Slice, Friday, Sept. 25, 5 p.m. at Temple Shalom

We begin the evening with pizza and Sukkah decorating. Services will follow at 6:30 p.m., to be held outside as we enjoy the Sukkah (weather permitting). Call the office at 502-458-4739.

Schmoozing in the Sukkah, Saturday, Sept. 26, 5 p.m.

We will enjoy a cookout with hamburgers, hot dogs, and veggie burgers as we socialize in the Sukkah. call the office at 502-458-4739.

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 for more information.

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

The Temple is accepting donations for JFCS, supporting the JFCS Sonny & Janet Meyer Food Pantry. Purchases made from our Amazon Wish List (thetemplelouky.org/food-drive) will be delivered directly to The Temple. You also can drop off items directly at the Main Office. The Temple will deliver all donations to JFCS at the end of the High Holy Days season.

For up-to-date High Holy Day information including schedule, guest tickets, and more, go to thetemplelouky.org/HHD. You can watch services live or at your convenience on YouTube, Facebook, Roku Channel, Apple TV Channel, or The Temple's new Mobile app in the Google Play or Apple Store.

WRJ/Sisterhood invites everyone for our opening program, and heavy appetizer dinner on Wednesday, September 2, starting at 7:00 pm. We'll be guided by our Archive intern, Hannah Hall, as she leads us on an exploration of The Temple Archives. RSVP at thetemplelouky.org/WRJ-opening.

Get ready for the High Holy Day season with intentional and meaningful learning. In this learning series, Rabbi Matt will guide us through the core themes, rituals, texts, and history of the Hebrew month 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 on the liturgy and rituals before services begin, this class is for you. Classes will meet on Thursday, Sept. 3, 10, and 17 at 7 p.m., and you can join us for one or all three sessions. Also, as part of this class, participants are welcome to attend our Temple Service of Remembrance on Sunday, Sept. 13 at 10:30 a.m. at the Temple Cemetery. Before the Service of Remembrance, we will discuss Jewish responses to death and ways to honor memory in our class on the 10. All are welcome - please RSVP at thetemplelouky.org/elul.

Everyone is welcome at our Kindergarten and Grade 1 Consecration on Friday, October 2 at 6:00 pm for a family dinner followed by the Consecration service. The famous WRJ/Sisterhood Cake Walk will follow the service. Dinner is \$5 for Members who register by September 29 and \$10 at the door. Non-Members are \$18 per person and children 12 and under are free. Please make your reservation by calling 502-423-1818 or registering online at thetemplelouky.org/consecration.

Trager Family Jewish Community Center

Dopamine Café is now open in Kohn Family Town Square
Offering a variety of specialty coffee drinks,

smoothies, salads, sandwiches and more.

Red Cross Blood Drive

Sept. 2, 2026, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Stop by the Camp J Building on Wednesday, Sept. 2 to help save lives.

This drive is co-sponsored by National Council of Jewish Women. To schedule an appointment, please visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter sponsor code: jclclouky, or call 1-800-RED CROSS.

Club J Before & After School Program

Registration is now open for the 2026-27 school year

Club J is a before & after – school program set in our fun Camp J environment run by our Camp J Staff. Children enrolled in Club J will play games, participate in a variety of activities each week, receive homework help as needed, and get to spend time with their friends. Transportation is available. *

* Transportation available from the Trager Family JCC to this school: Field.

Transportation available from these schools to the Trager Family JCC:

Bloom, St. Matthews, Holy Trinity, Field and Hawthorne.

Learn more at jclclouisville.org/club-j.

Kid's Night Out

Saturday, Sept. 19, 5:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Have a night out (or in, we won't tell) and let the kids have a night out. Participants swim in the Yarmuth Family Aquatics Center; eat a pizza dinner (provided by the Trager Family JCC), and watch a movie with our amazing Camp J staff. For more info, go online at jclclouisville.org/kids-night-out.

Kid's Night Out is for children in Kindergarten through 8th grade.

Enrichment Classes

Monday-Thursday Every Week

JCC Members as well as non-members can now register for new enrichment classes this spring! Each week kids can explore their creativity with sports, chess club, dance, Monk-y Warrior, and more.

Get additional information at jclclouisville.org/enrichment.

Sunday Fundays

Every Sunday from 12 – 2 p.m.

Each Sunday, join us for fun new programs with your kids at the Trager Family JCC. This programming is “drop-in” style and classes will rotate weekly, but will be the same monthly. Children 12 and under are not permitted to be unsupervised.

Sunday Fundays are free for Trager Family JCC members only. More information: jclclouisville.org/sunday-fundays

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B'nai Mitzvahs



Liam Kronenberg

Liam Kronenberg, son of Faina and Ariel Kronenberg, brother of Emma and Gabi, grandson of Larissa Migdal, Mark Migdal, Clara Kronenberg, and the late Mario Kronenberg, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, Sept. 26, at 10 a.m. at Adath Jeshurun.

Liam is an 8th grader at Noe Middle School. In his spare time he loves to play piano, tennis, and especially, Minecraft. He also loves traveling, hanging out with his sisters, and family game nights.

Liam and his family invite the community to celebrate his Bar Mitzvah and to join them for a Kid-dush luncheon following the service.

on the faculty of the University of Minnesota, specializing in melanoma and cancer genetics and continuing this work as a caring physician at the Hubert H. Humphrey Cancer Center and Minnesota Oncology.

Tom was widely recognized for his astuteness as a clinician, his wide range of knowledge of general medicine, oncology and molecular biology, and above all for his warm, empathic and sincere dedication to his patients. He took the time to get to know each of his patients as an individual person, always keeping their needs and wishes at the forefront of medical decision-making.

Tom fell in love with his first wife, Lynne Morishita, eventually landing in Minnesota and raising their son, Jake. Tom was a caring husband, especially during Lynne's fight with ALS. He devoted himself fully to Jake and they shared a remarkable bond.

A second chance at love blossomed in his later adult years when he and Judy Axelrod found such happiness with each other. Tom entered Judy's family with open arms and an arm wrapped closely around her. He was a wonderful mentor, teacher, explorer and Papa Tom. The enrichment he gave will last generations.

Tom was a joyful and exuberant man. He loved photography, meeting people, sailing on Lake Harriet in his boat, the Niña Bonita, hiking with family members and traveling with his son Jake and his wife Judy and their grandchildren. Passionately concerned about creating a better world for future generations, he founded a billboard project to spread a message of hope and truth across the country.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Lynne Morishita; by his parents, brother-in-law Charles Howell, and sister Katie Amatruda. He is survived by many heartbroken friends and family members including his wife Judy Axelrod, his son Jake Morishita Amatruda, siblings Chris Amatruda

(Eb Luckel), Liz Howell and James Amatruda (Lisa Pon), stepchildren Mollie Lewis (Steven Tartaglia), Greg Lewis (Fumie Tabei Lewis), grandchildren (Nico, Ezra, Luca, Jack, Kanoko and Asher), nieces, nephews and his sweet dog, Tsuki.

We would like to thank Dr. Kelley McIntyre and the wonderful nurses at the Baptist Health Louisville CCU for their kindness and care.

A celebration of his life will be held on Sunday, August 30 at The Temple, 5101 US-42, Louisville, KY 40241, with visitation at 1 p.m. followed by the service at 2 p.m. The service will also be streamed online at The Temple's Youtube page. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Tom's memory to the Facing Hereditary Cancer Empowered – FORCE, Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation, Planned Parenthood, or the Lake Harriet Environmental Council.

And in Tom's spirit: Get out the vote.



William Haliday

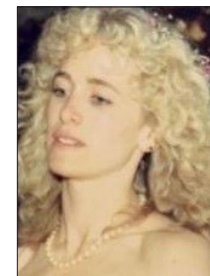
William 'Bill' Haliday, 93 of Prospect passed away on July 22, 2026.

He is survived by his wife, Judy; his children Michael Haliday (Lisa), Aimee Downs (Rik), Janet Haliday, and Steve Haliday; his grandchildren, Levi, Jessi (Chase), Max, Marcel, Maddox, Andrew (Leah), Alix, Jacob and Owen, and his great-granddaughter, Lila.

Bill spent his career promoting equality and fairness, including a long stint at the Kentucky Commission for Human Rights in the 60's and 70's, and as an attorney he helped bring a successful resolution to the DuPont racial discrimination class action lawsuit in 1993. In his spare time he was an avid boater and inland water enthusiast.

A celebration of Bill's life was held on Monday, July 27, in the Bistro at The Grand, 9300 Civic Way, Pros-

pect, KY. Memorial contributions may be made to the Sonny & Janet Meyer Family Food Pantry at JFCS, 2821 Klempler Way, Louisville, KY 40205, the Ronald McDonald House, 550 S. First St. Louisville, KY 40202, or your favorite charity.



Amanda Parry Miller

Amanda Parry Miller, 68, peacefully passed on July 11, 2026. Her family including her sister Elizabeth Miller were with her during

her hospital stay. Amanda grew up in suburban Philadelphia. She studied industrial design, was an art consultant and worked at Swanson-Cralle gallery. She was a member of Adath Jeshurun since the late 1980's, a graduate of the Melton program and a Board member at the Jewish Day School.

Amanda is survived by her husband Scott Miller whom she met in the mountains of Southwest Colorado. They were together well over 40 years, raising 4 children. She is survived by her husband, sons Tiev, Davya, Asa (Chandler) and daughter Sophie (Justin). The accomplishments of her children are a testament to her nurturing them.

Amanda was outwardly beautiful which was readily apparent, but it was her gentle and loving soul that made her truly special. She will be missed. Services held in her honor were private.



Edward Steven Zeitman

Edward Steven "Steve" Zeitman passed away on August 3, 2026, at the age of 82.

Born and raised in Louisville, Kentucky, Steve

was known for his warm heart, infectious smile, and remarkable

Continued on page 25

Obituaries



Thomas Amatruda III

Thomas T. Amatruda III, 74, died peacefully on August 14, 2026, in Louisville, KY, surrounded by his loved ones following a heroic battle with interstitial lung disease. He was born on May 6, 1952, in New Haven, CT to Thomas Tarcisio Amatruda Jr. and Barbara Colety Amatruda. Tom was a giant of a man filled with song, kindness and an amazing zest for life. He adored his family, and he shared his love easily and fully.

Tom was an oncologist who practiced in Minneapolis for more than 30 years. A graduate of Harvard College and Yale School of Medicine, he provided medical care to Cambodian refugees in Thailand and later trained at UCLA and researched at Caltech. He was

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Continued from page 24

ability to make everyone feel like a friend. He was one of the kindest and friendliest people you could ever meet—a loyal friend, devoted father, and proud grandfather whose greatest joy came from the people he loved.

Steve is survived by his son, Rob Zeitman of Michigan, and his daughter, Andrea Adamson of Northern Virginia; his daughter-in-law, Lori Zeitman, and son-in-law, Bob Adamson; and his five beloved grandchildren: Rebecca Zeitman, Hannah Zeitman, Elijah Zeitman, Max Adamson, and Webre Adamson; and his two brothers Larry Zeitman of California and Michael Zeitman of Texas.

His family was the center of his life, and he treasured every opportunity to cheer them on in their sports, celebrate their accomplishments, and simply spend time together.

A passionate basketball coach, Steve dedicated many years to coaching at the Jewish Community Center, where he positively impacted countless young athletes. Through his coaching, he built lifelong friendships and left a lasting impression on generations of players and their families. Whether on the sidelines or in the stands sup-

porting his children and grandchildren, Steve's enthusiasm, encouragement, and love of sports were constants throughout his life.

Steve's entrepreneurial spirit led him to own End of the Roll and Floor Doktors before transitioning into a successful career in sales. Blessed with the gift of gab, he had an extraordinary ability to connect with people. His genuine interest in others, quick wit, and easy conversation turned customers into friends and colleagues into lifelong companions.

Steve will be remembered not only for what he did, but for who he was: compassionate, generous, optimistic, and always ready with a kind word or a friendly conversation. His legacy lives on in the family he adored, the friends he cherished, the young people he mentored, and the many lives he touched through his warmth and kindness. He will be deeply missed and forever remembered by all who had the privilege of knowing and loving him.

A funeral service was held Aug. 6 at Herman Meyer & Son, followed by burial in Adath Jeshurun Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to Rabbi Robert B. Slosberg Minyan Fund at Congregation Adath Jeshurun.

2026-27
B'nai Mitzvot

Adath Jeshurun
2401 Woodbourne Ave
502-458-5359

October 10, 2026
Samuel Serchuk

January 23, 2027
Brennan Phillips

February 20, 2027
Juliette Sigman

April 17, 2027
Ari & Noa Bornstein

Keneseth Israel
2531 Taylorsville Rd
502-459-2780

Oct. 10, 2026
Abigail Mather

Feb. 27, 2027
Sadie Shoemaker

March 23, 2027
Izzy Chack

April 10, 2027
Lydia Stockton

May 15, 2027
Charlie Gindea

June 5, 2027
Jacqueline Compton

Aug. 14, 2027
Alex Wells

Temple Shalom
4615 Lowe Rd #1531
502-458-4739

Oct. 1, 2026
Nora Taylor

May 8, 2027
Harper Klein

May 15, 2027
Riley Hurt

The Temple
5101 US-42
502-423-1818

Oct. 10, 2026
Spencer Meeron

Oct. 24, 2026
Alex Roth

Nov. 14, 2026
Emily Robinson

Nov. 21, 2026
Roark Milenthal

Nov. 28, 2026
Megan Hoffman
Gwen Ruth

Dec. 12, 2026
Hayden Weinstein

Feb. 13, 2027
Emmett Pell

March 6, 2027
Liana Yampolskiy

May 8, 2027
Joshua Isacoff

May 15, 2027
Leah Brady
Paige Brady

May 22, 2027
Haleigh Wissinger

Sept. 11, 2027
Talon Rosenstein



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Angela Murray
Lewis and Ilean Rowe
Shiela Wallace

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Phyllis Shaikun
Michael Shaikun



3600 Dutchmans Lane • Louisville, KY 40205
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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. Contact 502-458-5359.

Saturday, Sept. 5
8 p.m. Selichot Program
10 p.m. Service

Sunday, Sept. 6
11 a.m. AJ Annual Cemetery Service (2926 Preston Highway)

Friday, Sept. 11
Ley’l Rosh Hashanah
5 p.m. New Year’s Eve Party
5:45 p.m. Ley’l Rosh Hashanah Service

Saturday, Sept. 12
Rosh Hashanah First Day
9 a.m. Morning Service
10:30 a.m. Family Service with Jessie Gindea

Sunday, Sept. 13
Rosh Hashanah Second Day
9 a.m. Morning Service
10:30 a.m. Family Service with Rabbi Emeritus Robert Slosberg
1 p.m. Tashlich – Lower Millvale Rd.
5 p.m. Shared Tashlich & Mincha with Keneseth Israel - Big Rock Pavilion

Sunday, Sept. 20
Kol Nidre
6:45 p.m. Kol Nidre Service

Monday, Sept. 21
Yom Kippur
9 a.m. Morning Service
10:30 a.m. Family Service with Jessie Gindea
2 p.m. Rap & Reflect led by Dr. Bruce Tasch
4 p.m. Year of Civil Discourse Dialogue
5:40 p.m. Ask the Rabbis
6 p.m. Mincha
7:25 p.m. Neilah
8:10 p.m. Ma’ariv
8:20 p.m. Final Shofar Blowing & Havdalah, followed by Break the Fast

Friday, Sept. 25
Erev Sukkot
5:45 p.m. Afternoon Service

Saturday, Sept. 26
Sukkot, First Day and Bar Mitzvah of Liam Kronenberg
10 a.m. Sukkot Service

Sunday, Sept. 27
Sukkot, Second Day
9:30 a.m. Shared Sukkot Service with Keneseth Israel at KI

Saturday, Oct. 3
Shemini Atzeret & Simchat Torah
10 a.m. Shemini Atzeret Service & Yizkor
7:30 p.m. Torah & Toasts (*Reservations requested.*) Gather with friends before the service and enjoy heavy hors d’oeuvres, bourbon, wine & non-alcoholic beverages, music and conversation.
8:30 p.m. Simchat Torah Celebration & Service with KI featuring Lost Tribe

Sunday, Oct. 4
Simchat Torah
Roll with the Torah! A joyful, family-friendly celebration featuring worship, dancing, pancakes, playground fun, and community.
9:30 a.m. Shared Simchat Torah Service

with KI at Adath Jeshurun
10 a.m. Dancing with the Torah with live music from Lost Tribe
11:00 a.m. Roll with the Torah Community Brunch (*Reservation requested*) Enjoy a festive pancake brunch featuring a build-your-own pancake bar, delicious breakfast favorites, and plenty of time to connect with friends and community.
Noon-1:30 p.m. Playground Time – Simchat Torah Style! Keep the celebration rolling as families head outside for an afternoon of fun on the newly renovated AJ Preschool playground.

Anshei Sfard
2904 Bardstown Rd
502-451-3122
ansheisfard.com
In-Person Services at Anshei Sfard.

Saturday, Sept. 5
11:45 p.m. Selichot service

Friday, Sept. 11
Erev Rosh Hashana
7:38 p.m. Candle Lighting
7:40 p.m. Mincha

Saturday, Sept. 12
Rosh Hashana
9 a.m. Shacharis
11:30 a.m. Rabbi’s Speech
7:30 p.m. Mincha
8:30 p.m. Maariv
Candles AFTER 8:55 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 13

Sunday, Sept. 13
Rosh Hashana
9 a.m. Shacharis
11:30 a.m. Rabbi’s Speech/Shofar
7:30 p.m. Mincha
8:38 p.m. Maariv
8:53 p.m. Yom Tov Ends

Sunday, Sept. 20
Erev Yom Kippur
4:30 p.m. Mincha
7:35 p.m. Kol Nidrei
7:40 p.m. Fast Begins

Monday, Sept. 21
Yom Kippur
9 a.m. Shacharis
Yizkor not before 10:30 a.m.
6:00 p.m. Mincha
8:4 p.m. Maariv/Shofar/Fast Ends

Friday, Sept. 25
Erev Sukkos
7:16 p.m. Mincha
7:16 p.m. Candles
7:35 p.m. Maariv

Saturday, Sept. 26
Sukkos 1
9 a.m. Shacharis
7 p.m. Mincha
8 p.m. Maariv
Candles After 8:33 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 27
Sukkos 2
9 a.m. Shacharis
6:40 p.m. Mincha
8:16 p.m. Maariv
8:31p.m. Havdala

Saturday, Oct. 3
Shemini Atzeres
9 a.m. Shacharis
11 a.m. Rabbi’s Speech/Yizkor
6:50 p.m. Mincha
8:10 p.m. Maariv
Candles AFTER 8:22 p.m.
8:30 p.m. Simchas Torah Dancing

Sunday, Oct. 4
Simchas Torah
9 a.m. Shacharis
10:15 a.m. Simchas Torah Dancing
6:45 p.m. Mincha
8:05 p.m. Maariv
8:20 p.m. Yom Tov Ends

Chabad of Kentucky
Services will be held at the JCC Camp Building
3700 Dutchmans Lane
502-459-1770; info at chabadky.com
All services are in person and FREE of charge.

Friday, Sept. 11
Rosh Hashanah Eve
7:30 p.m. Greetings and Candle Lighting
7:40 p.m. Mincha
7:50 p.m. Maariv

Saturday, Sept. 12
Rosh Hashanah First Day
9:45 a.m. Shacharit
10:45 a.m. Torah reading
11:30 a.m. Shofar
7:10 p.m. Mincha
7:30 p.m. Tashlich
8:30 p.m. Maariv

Sunday, Sept. 13,
Rosh Hashanah Second Day
9:45 a.m. Shacharit
10:45 a.m. Torah Reading
11:30 a.m. Shofar
7:45 p.m. Mincha
8:30 p.m. Maariv

Sunday, Sept. 20
Yom Kippur Eve – Kol Nidrei
3:15 p.m. Mincha
6:15 p.m. Greetings and Candle Lighting
7:25 p.m. Kol Nidre Service

Monday, Sept. 21
Yom Kippur
10 a.m. Shacharit
11 a.m. Torah reading
12 p.m. Yizkor
6:20 p.m. Mincha
7:20 p.m. Neilah
8:20 p.m. Maariv and Havdalah

Friday, Sept. 25
Sukkot Eve
7:30 p.m. Mincha
7:45 p.m. Maariv

Saturday, Sept. 26
Sukkot First Day
10 a.m. Shacharit
7:15 p.m. Mincha
8:05 p.m. Maariv

Sunday, Sept. 27
Sukkot Second Day
10 a.m. Shacharit
7:15 p.m. Mincha
8:10 p.m. Maariv

Friday, Oct. 2
Hoshana Rabba
8:30 a.m. Shacharit
7:05 p.m. Mincha
7:50 p.m. Maariv
8 pm Dancing with Torahs

Saturday, Oct. 3
Shemini Atzeret
10 am Shacharit
11 a.m. Torah Reading
11:45 a.m. Yizkor
7:05 p.m. Mincha
7:45 p.m. Maariv
8 p.m. Dancing with Torahs

Sunday Oct. 4

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

Keneseth Israel
2531 Taylorsville Rd.
502-459-2780
For all High Holiday info and to RSVP, visit: kenesethisrael.com/high-holidays

Sunday, Aug. 23
Elul Class: “Talk Therapy” - 6:15 p.m.

Sunday, Aug. 30
Selichot & Cemetery Beautification - 10 a.m.
Shofar blowing at Glenview - 3 p.m.
Elul Class: “Words That Hurt & Words That Heal” - 6:15 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 6
Elul Class: “Discourse with the Divine” - 6:15 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 11
Erev Shabbat / Erev Rosh Hashanah Shabbat / Erev Rosh Hashanah Service - 6 p.m.
Rosh Hashanah Seder and Dinner - 6:45 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 12
Shabbat / 1st Day Rosh Hashanah
Morning Service - 9 a.m.
Kids Service (K-Gr. 6): 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Totshashanah (ages 0-4) - 11:30 a.m.

Sunday, Sept. 13
2nd Day Rosh Hashanah
Morning Services - 9 a.m.
Kids Services (K-Gr. 6): 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Totshashanah (ages 0-4) - 11:30 a.m.
Tashlich in Big Rock Park with AJ - 5 p.m.
Havdalah - 8:33 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 19
Shabbat Shuva
Morning Service - 9:30 a.m.
Havdalah - 8:23 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 20
Erev Yom Kippur
Sukkah Building - 9:30 a.m.
Mincha - 7 p.m.
Kol Nidre - 7:15 p.m.
Kids Service (K-Gr. 6) - 7:30 p.m.
Candles and Fast begins - 7:24 p.m.

Monday, Sept. 21
Yom Kippur
Morning Service - 9 a.m.
Yizkor - approximately 11:15 a.m.
Kids Service (K-Gr. 6): 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Year of Civil Discourse Class - 4:30 p.m.
Mincha and Ne’ilah - 6 p.m.
Havdalah/Fast Ends - 8:20 p.m.
Break the Fast - after services

Tuesday, Sept. 22
Sukkah Decorating Party - 5 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 25
Erev Shabbat / Erev Sukkot
Shabbat / Erev Sukkot Service - 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 26
Shabbat / 1st Day Sukkot
Morning Service - 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, Sept. 27
2nd Day Sukkot
Morning Service with AJ at KI - 9:30 a.m.

HIGH HOLY DAYS

Open Sukkah at Rabbi's - 2 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Havdalah - 8:11 p.m.

Monday, Sept. 28
Chol Hamoed
Morning Service - 7:30 a.m.
Afternoon Service - 6 p.m.
Sukkah Dinner - 6:15 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 29
Chol Hamoed
Afternoon Service - 6 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 30
Chol Hamoed
Afternoon Service - 6 p.m.
Jews & Brews: After Hours - 6:15 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 1
Morning Service - 7:30 a.m.
Afternoon Service at KI - 6 p.m.
Torah Yoga - 6:30 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 2
Erev Shabbat / Hoshana Raba
Morning Service at AJ - 7:15 a.m.
Shabbat / Shemini Atzeret - 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 3
Shabbat / Shmini Atzeret
Morning Service - 9:30 a.m.
Yizkor - approximately 11:15 a.m.
Simchat Torah Celebration at AJ - 7:30 p.m.
Simchat Torah Service at AJ - 8:30 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 4
Simchat Torah
Morning Service at AJ - 9:30 a.m.
Dancing with Torahs - 10 a.m.
Community Lunch at AJ - 11 a.m.
Havdalah - 8 p.m.

Temple Shalom
4615 Lowe Rd
502-458-4739

Saturday, Sept. 5
5 p.m. High Holiday Kick-off, Selichot, and Havdalah

Friday, Sept. 11
Erev Rosh Hashanah
7 p.m. Erev Rosh Hashanah service and oneg

Saturday, Sept. 12
Rosh Hashanah First Day
10:30 a.m. Morning Service
1:30 p.m. Tashlich at Brown Park

Sunday, Sept. 13
Rosh Hashanah Second Day
10:30 a.m. Morning Service
1 p.m. Family Service

Friday, Sept. 18
Shabbat Shuvah
6:30 p.m. Shabbat Shuvah Service

Saturday, Sept. 19
10:30 a.m. Shabbat Shuvah Service

Sunday, Sept. 20
Kol Nidrei
7 p.m. Kol Nidrei Service

Monday, Sept. 21
Yom Kippur
10:30 a.m. Yom Kippur Morning Service
1 p.m. Family Service
4:15 p.m. Classical Piano Music/Reflection
5 p.m. Yizkor followed by Neilah

Friday, Sept. 25
Erev Sukkot
5 p.m. Sukkah and a Slice

(Decorating and pizza)
6:30 p.m. Erev Sukkot Service

Saturday, Sept. 26
5 p.m. Schmoozing in the Sukkah

Friday, Oct. 2
Simchat Torah
6:30 p.m. Service with Lost Tribe, oneg following

Saturday, Oct. 3
Yizkor Service
10:30 a.m. Yizkor Service

The Temple
5101 U.S. Hwy. 42, 502-423-1818
thetemplelouky.org/HHD

We have expanded to provide multiple options to participate virtually: If you have a smart TV, you can watch services on our YouTube channel, Roku Channel, or Apple TV Channel. On your computer, go to our YouTube page or Facebook page. On your phone, download our mobile app – Search for The Temple – Louisville, KY in the Google Play or Apple Store.

Saturday, Sept. 5
Selichot
7 p.m. Selichot Service (Hyman Chapel)
8 p.m. Oneg Selichot (Jack's Place)

Friday, Sept. 11
Erev Rosh Hashanah
6 p.m. Classical Service (Friedberg Sanctuary)
6 p.m. Children's Service (Hyman Chapel)
8 p.m. Erev Rosh Hashanah Service (Friedberg Sanctuary)

Saturday, Sept. 12
Rosh Hashanah
10 a.m. Rosh Hashanah Service (Friedberg Sanctuary)
10 a.m. Hugim & Babysitting (Trager 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

Sunday, Sept. 13
10:30 a.m. Service of Remembrance (Fleischaker-Frocht Chapel in Temple Cemetery)

Friday, Sept. 18
Shabbat Shuvah
7 p.m. Shabbat Shuvah (Hyman Chapel) followed by Oneg

Saturday, Sept. 19
Shabbat Shuvah
9 a.m. Torah Study (Fishman Library)
10:30 a.m. Shabbat Shuvah service (Hyman Chapel)

Sunday, Sept. 20
Erev Yom Kippur
6 p.m. Classical Kol Nidrei Service (Friedberg Sanctuary)
6 p.m. Children's Service (Hyman Chapel)
8 p.m. Kol Nidrei Service (Friedberg Sanctuary)

Monday, Sept. 21
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. Year of Civil Discourse: Let's Talk Sessions 1 & 2, please pre-register on The Temple website
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

Saturday, Sept. 26
Sukkot

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

Friday, Oct. 2
6 p.m. Family Dinner (Heideman Auditorium)
7 p.m. Kindergarten and Grade 1 Consecration with WRJ Cake Walk (Hyman Chapel)

Saturday, Oct. 3
Sukkot/Simchat Torah
10:30 a.m. Festival Yizkor Service (Hyman Chapel)



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Shana Tova U'metuka

שנה טובה ומתוקה



As we begin a new year, we are reminded
that every meaningful journey starts somewhere.

A child finding joy in Jewish traditions.
A family feeling at home in the community.
A senior surrounded by care and connection.
A community inspired by hope and possibility.

These moments may begin with a single experience, a helping hand,
or a welcoming community, but their impact lasts for generations.
Thank you for helping make those beginnings possible.

May the year ahead bring health, happiness, and peace
to you and those you love.

Shana Tova



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