

ב"ה
LOUISVILLE VAAD HAKASHRUTH
ועד הכשרות - לואיסוויל
PO Box 5362 Louisville, KY 40255-0362



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29th of Elul 5785

Dear Friends of the Vaad,

Shana Tova! I hope that all of you have a healthy and happy High Holiday season, and that your future is filled with good health and blessings. Thank you for your continued support of the Louisville Vaad HaKashruth (the Vaad). With your support we at the Vaad have continued to succeed in our mission of promoting and sustaining a vibrant Jewish life within the Louisville community through the supervision and making available kosher food options, and the supervision and maintenance of the Louisville Mikvah, the only Mikvah in the entire State of Kentucky.

Our Kashruth Administrator, Rabbi Yaacov Lederman, continues to supervise the kosher kitchen at the Trager Family Jewish Community Center, where the Vaad provides daily supervision of all foods prepared in the kosher dairy kitchen, including daily meals for the Early Childhood Learning Center, and the Senior meals. The Vaad also supervised the JCC's outdoor café this past summer. In addition, Rabbi Lederman continues to provide supervision and kosher consultation for Krispy Kreme on Bardstown Road.

We continue to partner with Kansas City Kosher Co-op to bring kosher groceries to town. The Co-op delivered Kosher meat and groceries this past Passover. As an additional act of Chesed the Vaad took part in providing Maos Chitim, or money for Passover needs, by funding the Kosher for Passover order for Jewish Family and Career Services of Louisville's food pantry (JFCS), providing JFCS with \$2,000 worth of purchasing power for Kosher for Passover meats and groceries from Kansas City. JFCS distributed the Kosher for Passover foods to eligible members of the Louisville Jewish Community. Over forty families were able to take part in having a kosher Seder because of this partnership. We also facilitated a delivery from Kansas City Kosher Co-op in advance of the Jewish New Year for those wanting kosher meats for Rosh Hashanah.

In addition, we are continuing our efforts to locate local eateries, including bakeries, cafes or any other direct to consumer food venues that would be interested in kosher certification as a means of increasing sales. Certainly, if you are aware of a business you think may be interested in becoming Vaad Kosher certified please let us know.

The Vaad recently had a pop-up kosher dinner at Keneseth Israel. Schnitzel Night was a wild success, attended by almost 100 people. This event gave everyone an opportunity to socialize and

SUPERVISING & PROMOTING KASHRUTH OBSERVANCE

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enjoy a kosher meal out. We plan to have another pop-up dinner as well as a more formal kosher dinner in the near future.

This year, I am going to close our letter discussing the mikvah. The mikvah was built in the early 1960s and while the mikvah is halachically acceptable, the finishes are old and worn and could use extensive refurbishment and beautification to make it more attractive for its users. We were advised by the Mikvah's landlord, the JCC, the owners of the property where the current Mikvah is located, that any relocation of the Mikvah is still several years away. With that in mind, over the last year we have been working towards the goal of renovating the mikvah. One project completed this year was the replacement of a railing that had fallen off. This item was expedited due to safety concerns.

Drawings have been completed, and we have taken bids from contractors. This past week, the Vaad board has authorized we proceed with the project, which will cost approximately \$40,000. In addition to the cosmetic and aesthetic updates, there are some structural and mechanical improvements that must be made as well. These include installing a dehumidifier and fixing some leaks. This work is in addition to the regular maintenance that is required to keep the mikvah operational.

With this in mind, we hope that you will not only continue to support the Louisville Vaad Hakashruth with your financial support, but that you will make a special contribution this year with an earmark for the mikvah renovation.

You can submit your tax-deductible contribution in the enclosed pre-addressed envelope to the Louisville Vaad HaKashruth, P.O. Box 5362, Louisville, KY 40255-0362. In addition, this year we are again offering an online donation option. For more information about the Vaad of Louisville and/or to make an online donation, please go to our website at: <https://www.louisvillevaad.org>.

We would like to thank everyone for their continued support all year long. Your financial help now will certainly benefit our continued effort to maintain our mission of promoting and supervising a vibrant Jewish life in our community.

May you be written and sealed in the Book of Merit, Good Life, and Success!

Steven Goldstein, President
Louisville Vaad HaKashruth