

Oral History and Jewish Kentucky

What is Oral History?

- Oral History is history told and stored through voice recordings. It is often firsthand, being interviews with people directly involved with the topic of the recording.

Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History

- The Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History is a collection of oral histories housed by the University of Kentucky.
- <https://kentuckyoralhistory.org/>
- Part of the Louie B. Nunn Center's collection includes many interviews from members of Kentucky's Jewish community.

Jewish Kentucky

- Throughout Kentucky's history, Jews have played a major role in helping develop the state into what it is today. Trade, commerce, politics, academia, the city of Louisville, and the bourbon industry have been improved throughout history by the input from immigrants, scholars, and entrepreneurs in the Jewish community.
- Many Jewish Kentuckians have also played important roles nationally in the United States.



Louis Brandeis, born of Jewish immigrants in Louisville Kentucky. Served on the United States Supreme Court from 1916-1939.

Keeping it Local

- These folk are all members of Kentucky's Jewish community and have made positive impacts on Kentucky's communities and economy.



Alan Stein, co-founder
of the Lexington Legends



Max Shapira, Director of Heaven
Hills Distilleries



Jeff Kaplan, current
owner of Parkette

Jeff Kaplan Oral History

- Jeff Kaplan is a local businessman who owns the Parkette. There is an interview with him featured in the Louie B. Nunn Center's oral history catalog where he talks about various topics including his business life, personal life, and faith.
- https://kentuckyoralhistory.org/oh/render.php?cachefile=2017oh174_jk045_ohm.xml#segment3848
- https://kentuckyoralhistory.org/oh/render.php?cachefile=2017oh174_jk045_ohm.xml#segment4489