

Guide to the Levy Family Papers

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Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Biographical Note	3
Scope and Contents Note	4
Arrangement	5
Administrative Information	5
Related Materials	5
Names and Subjects	6
Collection Inventory	6

Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Levy family
Contributor:	Levy, Harry C.
Contributor:	Levy, Al
Contributor:	Levy, Andrew
Title:	Levy Family Papers
ID:	MS-00814
Date [inclusive]:	1928-1989
Date [bulk]:	1950s-1975
Physical Description:	9.3 Linear Feet (6 boxes, 2 flat files)
Physical Description:	3.8 Cubic Feet (6 boxes, 2 flat files)
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	Collection is comprised of scrapbooks, photographs, awards and certificates, and ephemera mainly dating from approximately the 1950s to 1970s gathered by the Levy family of Las Vegas, Nevada. This collection documents the personal and professional lives of three generations in the Levy family: Harry C. Levy, Al Levy, and Andrew "Drew" Levy. Materials in this collection also include photographs and clippings about the Levy Realty Company and about the various public positions held by Harry C. Levy, such as Las Vegas city commissioner.

Preferred Citation

Levy Family Papers, 1950s-1989. MS-00814. Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical Note

Harry C. Levy and his family moved to Las Vegas from Southern California in 1947. Levy opened a market, called Market Spot, on the corner of Second Street and Carson Avenue. Levy went on to also open a second store, Panorama Market, at 1401 W. Charleston Boulevard and a bar, called the Duck Inn at Sahara Avenue and Arville Street. Levy also served in several public positions including chairman of the Clark County

Juvenile Board from 1951 to 1967, Nevada state tax commissioner from 1959 to 1961, Las Vegas city commissioner from 1961 to 1965, and the board of directors for the National Housing Commission from 1959 to approximately 1970. Levy served on the Las Vegas Housing Authority from 1952 to 1989; he served as chairman of the authority from 1966 until his resignation in 1989. In addition, Levy was affiliated with the Elks, the Masons, Scottish Rite, the Shriners, the Kiwanis of Las Vegas, B'nai B'rith, the Polish American Club, Sons of Italy, Jewish War Veterans, the National Conference of Christians and Jews, state treasurer of the Nevada Democratic Central Committee, and past president of Temple Beth Shalom.

Harry C. Levy's son, Alvin "Al" Merrill Levy was a Las Vegas, Nevada city councilman and real estate developer. Al Levy was born on August 29, 1933 in Los Angeles, California and moved to Las Vegas in 1943 with his family. He earned a degree in business from the University of Southern California and moved back to Las Vegas to help manage grocery stores owned by his father before starting the Levy Realty Company. In 1978, he was elected to the Ward 1 seat of the city commission, which was later renamed the Las Vegas City Council. He served three terms on the City Council until 1987. Al Levy also served as president of the Las Vegas Board of Realtors and president of the United States Junior Chamber (Jaycees). He was active in the Masonic Lodge, Scottish Rite, the Zelzah Shrine Temple, the Rotary Club, the YMCA, and the Boy Scouts. Levy passed away on June 14, 1997 from cardiac failure.

Andrew Levy, son of Al Levy, was born in Las Vegas, Nevada. He continues to run the Levy Realty Company which has developed retail centers, apartment projects, and a mobile home park in Southern Nevada.

Sources: F. ANDREW TAYLOR View Staff Writer. "Harry C. Levy Spent Decades Working in Public Service." Las Vegas Review-Journal. October 02, 2013. Accessed August 29, 2016. <http://www.reviewjournal.com/view/downtown/harry-c-levy-spent-decades-working-public-service>. "Longtime Councilman Al Levy Dies." LasVegasSun.com. June 16, 1997. Accessed August 29, 2016. <http://lasvegassun.com/news/1997/jun/16/longtime-councilman-al-levy-dies/>.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Contents Note

The Levy Family papers span from approximately 1950 to 1989 and include photographs, scrapbooks, awards and certificates, and ephemera that belonged to the Levy family. This collection represents the activities of three generations in the Levy family: Harry C. Levy, Al Levy, and Andrew "Drew" Levy. This collection includes scrapbooks and photo albums of the Levy family. Materials in this collection also include clippings, certificates, and photographs showing Harry C. Levy in the different public positions he held, including Las Vegas city commissioner. This collection also includes photographs, advertisements, and scrapbooks of Al Levy and his involvement with the Levy Realty Company. Materials in this collection also include childhood photo albums and scrapbooks of Drew Levy growing up in Las Vegas, Nevada during the 1960s and 1970s; scrapbooks showing Drew Levy's involvement with Aleph Zadik Aleph (AZA), the Mountain Region chapter of the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization (BBYO). The collection contents represent the social, personal, and professional lives of a Jewish family living in Las Vegas, Nevada during the 1960s and 1970s.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Arrangement

Materials are loosely arranged by format and then chronologically.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research. Portions of this collection are digital and available online at <http://d.library.unlv.edu/cdm/search/searchterm/MS-00814>

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Acquisition Note

Materials were donated in 2016 by Debbie Levy; accession number 2016-043.

Processing Note

The collection was minimally processed by Tammi Kim in 2016 at the time of accessioning. The materials were quickly reviewed to provide a general description of the contents of each box and an estimate of dates represented in the material. Loose papers were foldered. No further work was performed on the materials.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Related Materials

Related Collections

Levy, Al. Interview, 1979 February 23. OH-01108. Oral History Research Center, Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Levy, Al. Interview, 1981 March 8. OH-01109. Oral History Research Center, Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Las Vegas, Nevada Elected Officials Photographs, 1911-1995. PH-00298. Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Names and Subjects

- Jewish politicians -- Nevada -- Twentieth century
- Jews -- Nevada -- Las Vegas -- History
- Family histories

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
Photographs of Levy family; certificates awarded to Harry C. Levy and Al Levy; Drew Levy's school photos, Mountain Region AZA yearbook and scrapbooks; In Memoriam Yahrezeit booklets, miscellaneous Nevada and Las Vegas related publications and event programs, 1928-1983	box 01
Levy family photo album, 1970s	box 02
Mountain Region AZA scrapbook, Levy family photo album, photo album with proofs for Drew Levy's bar mitzvah, National Women's Division United Jewish Appeal plaque awarded to Jean Levy, 1960s-1970s	box 03
Drew Levy childhood scrapbook, Al Levy real estate scrapbook, 1966-1971	box 04
Drew Levy childhood scrapbook, Levy family scrapbook, 1960s	box 05
Harry Levy political scrapbook, 1960s	box 06
Clippings about Al Levy, family scrapbook pages, 1975, 1989	flat file 07
Certificates and proclamations for Harry C. Levy and Al Levy; Las Vegas Review Journal advertisement with Harry C. Levy, 1950s-1960s	flat file 08