

Emergency response grows to embrace fires

BY DEBORAH MOON

The smoke and ash enveloping Portland and much of the West Coast has confined many of us to our homes. We are the lucky ones. As of Sept. 11, 500,000 Oregonians were under some level of evacuation notice with more than 40,000 evacuated from their homes. In southern Oregon, at least 27 Jewish families have lost their homes and dozens more have evacuated.

A wildfire relief fund launched by The Jewish Federation of Greater Portland had raised \$47,000 by Sept. 15, with an additional \$49,000 available from a national grant to meet immediate needs. Already \$18,000 has been sent to Temple Emek Shalom/Chabad of Ashland/Havurah Shir Hadash to assist Jewish and non-Jewish families who lost their homes in Phoenix and Talent, near Ashland. Donate at: Jewishportland.org/2020-wildfires; 100% of funds raised will be used to support the Jewish and secular community partnering with a variety of social relief organizations.

Letters accompanying the donations will emphasize the funds are for wildfire relief. The letters will also explain the Jewish community's drive to support others in need. As Rabbi Hillel famously said centuries ago, "If I am not for myself, who will be? If I am only for myself, who am I?"

JFGP President and CEO Marc Blattner said that in talking with nonprofits over the weekend they were surprised by the Jewish



Fires have burned about a million acres and many homes across Oregon this month.

community's desire to aid others. "This is part of what we do," said Marc, noting such outreach has a positive impact on expanding understanding. "It helps us with our relationships."

In addition to aiding Jewish families, funds will go to support minority communities that the federation's JCRC has been working with. The Native American community will receive \$5,000 through the Since Time Immemorial Fund, which is supporting NW Tribes with immediate wildfire relief efforts. Latinx, immigrant and farmworker communities will receive funds through CAUSA and Unete Center for Farm Worker Advocacy, each agency receiving \$2,500. Those charities are active around Phoenix and Talent and were recommended by the Ashland rabbis.

To aid firefighters injured fighting the

wildfires, \$1,800 goes to the Wildland Fire-fighter Foundation.

Other partner agencies receiving funds are the Red Cross, \$15,000; the United Ways of Jackson County, Lane County and Columbia-Willamette, \$10,000; Oregon Food Bank, \$5,000; and Oregon Humane Society, \$1,000. The aid to the Red Cross and Columbia-Willamette United Way will provide aid to those impacted by the Clackamas County fires.

The Federation also will explore potential need for mental health funds, especially for children displaced by the fires.

Having ramped up its Emergency Aid Program to assist families impacted by COVID-19, Jewish Family & Child Service is well positioned to expand that assistance to those fleeing the wildfires. Once the relief effort is complete, the balance of the fund will go to JFCS to provide Emergency Aid to those impacted by the wildfires and COVID-19, as well as other emergency needs.

Similarly, the Jewish Free Loan of Greater Portland is extending the emergency \$1,000 interest-free loans created for COVID to those impacted by the fires.

JFGP's Blattner has been in touch with Jewish communities across the state to assess needs. He urges everyone to let federation know about people who have been evacuated or lost their homes. You can contact him at marc@jewishportland.org.

Shofar: Share the sound of connection Sept. 20

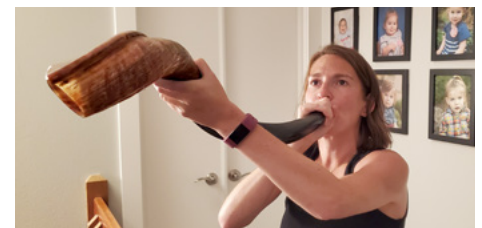
"Throughout time, the shofar has been a way for Jews to connect with others near them," says Rabbi Eve Posen, chair of the Oregon Board of Rabbis.

This year, when staying physically distant is vitally important, finding ways to bridge those chasms and connect is especially significant. To that end, the Oregon Board of Rabbis and the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland invite you to use our ancient traditions to connect anew with Shofar Across Oregon and Southwest Washington.

Use the sound of the shofar to feel a sense of unity and community. Step outside at 4 pm, Sunday, Sept. 20, the second day of Rosh Hashanah. Blow your shofar outside your home or stand on your porch or in your yard and listen for others heralding the arrival of a new year.

Share your experience. Send a photo or comments about what you did, heard or felt to editor@jewishportland.org.

Read more High Holiday stories on pages 6-7.



Oregon Board of Rabbis Chair Rabbi Eve Posen practices blowing her shofar as she prepares to participate in Shofar Across Oregon and SW Washington.

As school begins online, some offer childcare

BY DEBORAH MOON

Most students in Oregon have begun the school year in online or distance-learning settings. Under Gov. Kate Brown's guidelines, Oregon counties must have fewer than 10 cases per 100,000 people for three weeks straight before in-person classes can resume. Multnomah County, home to Portland Jewish Academy and Maimonides Jewish Day School, needs to hit roughly 80 known cases per week for schools to open in person. The case rate for the week of Aug. 30 was 311 or 31 cases per 100,000. That same week Clackamas County, home to Maayan Torah Day School, had 125 cases or 31 per 100,000 population.

The three Portland-area Jewish day schools each received funds from the Greater Portland Jewish Community COVID Emergency Fund to support distance learning.

Maayan Torah Day School

2 SW Touchstone Dr., Lake Oswego

Maayanpdx.org | info@maayanpdx.org

Maayan Torah Day School began the school year Sept. 14 with students in kindergarten through eighth grade enrolled in an online platform. On the same day, the campus opened its doors to elementary-age children as a licensed childcare facility. Preschool childcare resumed Aug. 30, two weeks after preschool summer camp ended.

All school assignments and video lessons will be posted on the online platform. Elementary students in childcare will be able to access the online platform while on campus and will have experiences that will assist them with the online learning process.

"During childcare, elementary students will be able to have age-appropriate learning experiences consistent with an educationally rich childcare program," says Rabbi Yerachmiel Kalter, Maayan Torah Judaics principal and director of development.

For instance, if the students are studying trees in science, the childcare teacher might take the children on a nature walk to identify different trees. Rabbi Kalter says that students not in childcare would be encouraged to describe and photograph trees in their own yard or neighborhood.

Most of the elementary teachers in the online program are spending part of their day assisting with the childcare program. So a third-grade math teacher might demonstrate a couple of long-division problems to the kids in childcare with students at home able to participate via Zoom.

"Since we are a small school, we can cater our online learning to specific needs," he says. "We are hearing from online-only families they would like some one-on-one (online) sessions."



Portland Jewish Academy students each received a kit containing all the supplies they will need to help them be successful learners in their home classrooms.

The state mandates 35 square feet per child within the classrooms. Most classrooms are near capacity, but "we have room for a couple more children if we had late enrollees."

Rabbi Kalter says the school anticipates being able to return to in-person learning sometime during the school year.

"We are giving them the online education they need for solid learning for their grade," he says. "But we want them to feel part of the larger class unit. We are building a bridge for when the time comes."

In the meantime, he says, "We felt it was extremely important to have a childcare setting that focuses on Jewish values and brings Jewish holidays to life."

Portland Jewish Academy

6651 SW Capitol Hwy., Portland

pjaproud.org | office@pjaproud.org

Portland Jewish Academy began online classes Sept. 1. During the first week, all kindergarten to eighth-grade students received a kit of supplies and materials to enhance PJA's distance learning program.

PJA has an Emergency Child Care license to serve children through age 5 in the licensed early childhood program. However, for a combination of health and safety, logistical and financial reasons, PJA did not apply for an Emergency Child Care License for children between the ages of 5 and 12.

PJA's school day runs from 9 am to 3:30 pm. Each grade has its own schedule that includes synchronous learning with general studies teachers, Hebrew/Jewish studies teachers and specialists (art, PE, music, library, cooking, gardening, etc.). The schedule includes time for class meetings, advisory sessions, individual help sessions, breaks, individual or group study, and larger online gatherings to celebrate Shabbat and Jewish holidays.

"Jewish life is at the core of our mission," says Principal Merrill Hendin. "To this end, we will continue to provide online Jewish

life programming to celebrate holidays (chagim), Shabbat and to ensure that our Kehillah (community) continues to benefit from engaging in the Jewish life of our school. Jewish studies and Hebrew remain a strong and essential component of a PJA education."

Since current guidelines allow for limited, in-person instruction, PJA will offer small, optional, in-person sessions to build community and support students' social and emotional needs.

PJA is not currently accepting any additional students for this school year.

"We hope to return to a hybrid or in-person model at some point during the year," says Executive Director Steve Albert. "Because we anticipate returning to in-person and/or hybrid learning at some point in the year, we must strictly limit the size of our classes to ensure that we have adequate space to accommodate all students when we reopen the day school campus."

In the meantime, the school is well positioned to meet student needs online.

"Throughout the summer, our teachers and administrators have been engaged in planning and training to ensure that we are using the technological tools, software and platforms that will best enable us to offer online instruction that incorporates the core components of a PJA education – project-based learning, collaboration among students, strong classroom communities and active engagement," says Albert. "We have adopted software, designed schedules and equipped our supply kits to ensure that our distance learning program provides a rich, engaging learning experience that is appropriate for each age and grade."

Maimonides Jewish Day School

6612 SW Capitol Hwy., Portland

PortlandJewishSchool.com

office@portlandjewishschool.com

Maimonides Jewish Day School began online learning Sept. 2 for elementary and middle school students.

"Maimonides will be running as a school virtually, as the legal requirement, though offering emergency childcare for families who need it," says Principal Rabbi Shneur Wilhelm.

Emergency care is available for elementary ages 8:30 am-3:30 pm Monday-Friday. No space is currently available.

"Bringing students together and offering a place for children to interact and grow socially and emotionally is of extreme importance," say Rabbi Wilhelm. "We are happy to be able to offer this opportunity to the community."

The Gan-Portland Jewish Preschool, on the same campus, resumed childcare Sept. 1.

MAKE PLANS WITH FEDERATION

September 16 Panel discussion with filmmaker
7pm

Shared Legacies African American-Jewish Civil Rights Alliance
Co-sponsored by JCRC, OJMCHE, NAACP and Project Dialogue

September 24 Rabbi Joseph Telushkin
7pm

Thoughtful Thursday Presentation

October 6
7pm

Uncovering The Hidden History

Uncovering the Hidden History of Anti-Black Racism in Oregon
Co-sponsored by JCRC and NAACP

www.jewishportland.org/5781



Jewish Federation
OF GREATER PORTLAND



News in brief

MJCC Enrichment Camps begin

This week, the MJCC began to offer afternoon enrichment camps for children in kindergarten through fifth grade. Camps run 4-6 pm, Monday-Thursday.

Four camps are slated for next week, Sept. 21-24:

Crafts and Creation: Draw, paint, invent and create arts and crafts. Possibilities are endless when you use your imagination!

Jr. Journalists and Storytelling: Let your imagination run wild as you build your own collection of short stories through creative writing and also learn journalism basics.

Sports and Games Jumble: Calling all sports enthusiasts! Improve kicking, running, jumping and throwing skills while focusing on teamwork. Sports include soccer, relay races, fun field games and more.

Lights, Camera, Action: Write, direct and create short skits and commercials in this fun-filled week of drama and singing.

More camps are planned through fall. Registration is required by noon on the Friday before the camp week. Cost is \$72/week for members and \$82 for nonmembers. Register at: oregonjcc.org/camps-childcare/daycamp

For more information, email Afternoon Camp Supervisor Josh Harrington at jharr@oregonjcc.org.

MJCC to reopen pools, courts, sportsplex

Over Labor Day weekend, Governor Brown amended the guidelines for Phase 1 of the Reopening Oregon plan to allow for the reopening of licensed swimming pools and sport courts.

Mittleman Jewish Community Center pools and racquetball courts will be available for members by reservation. Soccer leagues in the sportsplex are open to all.

The MJCC will reopen its swimming pools over the next couple of weeks. The facility is ready to go with new showers on the pool deck and the annual maintenance already completed. However, the guidelines that have been in place since mid-March have not permitted the mandatory, ongoing training of aquatics staff. The pools will reopen when the center has



ensured staff members are in compliance with both general and COVID-19-specific training requirements.

Pools will be open for members only by reservation – the same reservation system used for the Fitness Center. Members will be permitted to sign up to use a lane in the main pool, or a section of the warm pool, for a specific time and duration. There will be a maximum of six swimmers in the main pool and three in the warm pool. Aquatic exercise classes will not be available, but private swim lessons may be available. Locker rooms will remain closed, and no towel service is available. Showers will be available on the main pool deck, and the changing stalls in the warm pool area will be available.

The revised guidance allows for the resumption of recreational sports programs (other than full-contact sports such as basketball). Members may sign up to play racquetball in groups of two. Call the Welcome Desk at 503-244-0111 during the hours of 7-11 am and 3-7 pm to reserve the court.

Soccer leagues are open to all. If you are interested in information about soccer, contact Ashley Scacco, the MJCC's Sports and Recreation Manager at ascacco@oregonjcc.org.



Chabad House welcomes Reed freshmen

Chabad House at Reed College welcomed new freshmen during orientation week Aug. 24-28. Reed classes began Aug. 31 with a mix of in-person and online education. Above, Rivkah Bialo, left, and Sara and Fraidel Bialo, right, welcome two Reed College freshmen who stopped by Reed Chabad House. Due to COVID Protocol, instead of its usual Orientation Shabbat, Chabad House had tabling hours each day to welcome students in small groups. All programs – except the social distanced, mask-wearing Shabbat Dinner Under the Stars with individually packaged meals – also have a Zoom option. For more information, email Rabbi Dov and Chani Bialo at RabbiDov@jewishreed.com.

PSU classes begin on Yom Kippur

This year, the first day of classes at Portland State University falls on Yom Kippur, the Jewish Day of Atonement (Sept. 28). The university administration has planned to ensure that no students, faculty or staff members are penalized for observing the holiday or feel any pressure to attend class or work if doing so would contravene their observance.

“Through our Jewish Student Union and Cultural and Historical Association for Israel social media channels and email lists, we are sharing the religious accommodation policy and encouraging students to be fully aware of the options available to them,” says PDX Hillel Executive Director Hannah Sherman. “Additionally, we are working with our student groups to prepare virtual programming related to the High Holidays in addition to sharing links to Portland-area services as well as Hillel International’s High Holiday offerings. We are updating our website this week with our holiday programming, and we are looking forward to connecting with our PSU students virtually in the coming weeks.”

The Harold Schnitzer Family Program in Judaic Studies at PSU “is working with our students to ensure that they successfully navigate the first day of classes,” says the department’s academic director Natan M. Meir.

Judaic Studies and Hebrew courses will begin on Wednesday, Sept. 30, except for a weekly public history seminar, which begins the following Monday, Oct. 5.

Students can contact Judaic Studies at judaicst@pdx.edu or Global Diversity and Inclusion at diversity@pdx.edu.

New Wise Aging session offered

A new series of Wise Aging facilitated by Dinah Gilburd and Barb Schwartz will meet on Zoom 4:30-6 pm Tuesdays, Oct. 13, 20, 27 and Nov. 3.

Based on the national program developed by the Institute of Jewish Spirituality, Wise Aging offers a guided path designed to help those 50 and older who want to discover new resources to enhance their later years with learning, growth, spirit, resilience and wisdom. The program has been brought to Portland by Jewish Family

Continued on next page

& Child Service and the Holzman Foundation.

The Wise Aging group will have a maximum of eight participants. In this time of COVID-19 when interactions with those we are close to are limited, Wise Aging offers a chance to meet new people in a meaningful setting. The curriculum includes text study, contemplative and active listening, self-reflection and meditation. Journaling is encouraged. Past participants have called the experience transformative as the fear of aging turns into an embrace of possibilities for the years ahead.

Students are asked to purchase a copy of *Wise Aging* by Rabbi Rachel Cowan and Dr. Linda Thal. Suggested donation for the series is \$75-100. Limited scholarships are available.

For information and registration details, contact Dinah Gilburd at dgilburd@jfccs-portland.org or Barb Schwartz at barbschw@gmail.com. Please use "Wise Aging Inquiry" for the subject line.

JFCS hires Lori Martin as finance manager

Lori Martin, CPA, MBA, became the finance manager for Jewish Family & Child Service in late August.

Lori has spent the last 17 years working for not-for-profit organizations in the Portland Metro area. The work allows her to use her finance and accounting expertise to help others. In addition to serving as finance manager for JFCS, she is an accounting instructor for Portland Community College. She is a Certified Public Accountant and received her master's degree from Marylhurst University.

"We are thrilled have Lori Martin join our team as the finance manager," says JFCS Executive Director Ruth Scott. "She comes with years of expertise and will be responsible for the financial wellbeing of the organization. Along with her keen eye for details, Lori will enhance JFCS by overseeing financial transactions, budget development and analysis and supervise our payroll process. In her short time on board she has proven herself an expert in her field and to always have a song or joke on hand."

Lori has been a resident of Oregon since moving here from Colorado in 1994. She is very active with bicycling, walking, quilting, preserving memories through scrapbooking, and her newest sport, Enduro motorcycling, which she does with her husband, Michael. She is very excited to join the team at JFCS to continue her passion for helping others.



Families parade through Big Truck Day

This year families enjoyed the annual Labor Day Big Truck Day from their cars as they drove past the assortment of vehicles in the Mittleman Jewish Community Center parking lot.

Chaplain's Corner

This New Year, answer the call of the shofar

BY RABBI BARRY COHEN

I would wager that most of us associate the sounding of the shofar with High Holiday worship, whether to greet the New Year or to conclude Yom Kippur.

An ancient people, we have used the shofar for other purposes. During warfare, we sounded the shofar to communicate with troops. During crises, we sounded the shofar to express alarm and to call everyone together to share instructions of how to respond.

As wildfires have consumed forests, towns and neighborhoods, now is our time of crisis. I live in the Cedar Hills neighborhood. During these past days, when I have gazed outside or smelled the smoke I cannot prevent from entering my home, I have felt frustrated, tense and helpless.

I have dreaded the times I have to go outside. I never know when I will have sneezing fits. Several times a day, I have checked online to see where the wildfires have moved. I have put together a checklist of what to pack if we receive evacuation orders.

But this pales in comparison to what others have felt. I can try to imagine what I would feel when I saw the flames closing in and then had to scramble with my family to reach safety. I can try to imagine what I would feel when I later returned, only to see the charred remains of my home.

The range of emotions and the grief – or the numbness – would be overwhelming.

In response to this wildfire crisis, the Jewish community is sounding the shofar. We have a sacred responsibility to assist those who have had to evacuate and those who have lost their homes. The Talmud

In response to this wildfire crisis, the Jewish community is sounding the shofar.

teaches, "kol Yisrael arevim zeh ba'zeh," every Jew is responsible for one another. The implication is that we must respond when those in our community have been deprived of food, clothing or shelter.

How would we feel if the wildfires consumed what we too often take for granted: food on our table, clothes on our back and a roof over our head? Knowing that our community will come to our aid would foster a connection that could never be broken.

Please donate what you can at [jewishportland.org/2020-wildfires](https://www.jewishportland.org/2020-wildfires).

After all, in a future crisis, our safety and security may depend in part upon assistance from those in our community who have stepped forward in the spirit of sacred interconnectedness.



Rabbi Barry Cohen is Jewish Community Chaplain of the Greater Portland Area. Contact him at 971-361-6124 or chaplain@jewishportland.org.

HIGH HOLIDAYS 5781

Rosh Hashanah/Jewish New Year: sunset Sept. 18-Sept. 20

Sukkot: sunset Oct. 2-Oct. 9

Yom Kippur/Day of Atonement: sunset Sept. 27-Sept. 28

Shemini Atzeret & Simchat Torah: sunset Oct. 9-Oct. 11

High Holidays in the Age of COVID

BY DEBORAH MOON

The Jewish New Year of 5781 will be greeted in dramatically different fashion than the way we welcomed the years Before COVID.

When Rosh Hashanah begins the eve of Sept. 18, COVID-19 will keep many who normally attend High Holiday services at home. Congregations are planning a variety of streamed services, Zoom programs and smaller group gatherings. Many have shared resources for how to enhance celebrations at home.

"Despite the challenges, there are so many incredible things happening prior to and during the holidays," says JFGP President and CEO Marc Blattner. To that end, the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland has curated High Holy Day activities and resources at jewishportland.org/hhd2020. For a calendar of local services and events, see jewishportland.org/high-holy-days. Link to local and national virtual events and resources at herefor.com.

Following are how three Portland congregations plan to make this year's holidays meaningful for their congregants and the community at large: Congregation Kesser Israel, Orthodox; Congregation Neveh Shalom, Conservative; and Congregation Beth Israel, Reform.

Congregation Kesser Israel

"I'm excited that we are going to offer live services for the High Holidays this year," says Rabbi Kenneth Brodtkin. "We are planning two services for up to 50 people each at the MJCC. One minyan will be inside the ballroom and a second one will be in an open-air tent outside at the MJCC site. We anticipate beautiful davening in all of our services and are thankful to our Chazan: Dov Brodtkin, Rabbi Tzvi Fischer, Rabbi Sholom Skolnik and Gabi Weinberg."

Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur service attendance requires social distancing and face masks at all times. The live services are for ages 9 and older with preference to bar/bat mitzvah age and older.

Preregistration is required for the live services. Due to the significant expenses of running the Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services, Kesser Israel is charging a fee to help defray the costs (see registration form for details). The sale of tickets is not

"How Will I Do This At Home?"

"This year is going to be different," said Kesser Israel Rabbi Kenneth Brodtkin in the introduction to a Zoom conversation he and his wife, Aviel, led about celebrating the holidays during a pandemic.

He said it has made him wonder: "Are we a shul-centered people? Yes and No."

"The Jewish people have always worshipped as a people – the community of Israel," he said. Noting Judaism is centered in the home, the office, the kitchen, the bed we sleep in, he added, "We are a community-centered people; we are also a people in service of Hashem wherever we are."

Aviel added, "Our people have experienced the High Holidays in all different experiences – in the beit midrash, in concentration camps, with an individual in the hospital... We are able to celebrate yontif in whatever situation we are in."

She shared her own experiences of celebrating the holidays at home with an infant or toddlers and called it a powerful experience – "It's just you and Hashem in your home."

The rabbi has created a "High Holiday Davening Guide" for those praying at home: images.shulcloud.com/13543/uploads/documents/High-Holidays-2020/Davening-Guide2020.pdf. It lists appropriate



Rabbi Kenneth and Aviel Brodtkin lead a Zoom discussion on home observance.

page numbers in several machzors.

Rabbi Brodtkin offered some practical tips for celebrating at home. He said advance preparation is paramount:

- Create a seder – an order – for the day. Plan out the day in advance.
- Set time to daven (preferably at the same time as the community; schedule: jewishportland.org/high-holy-days).
- Set a place, a sanctuary in your home, which could be a room, a corner or even a chair. And have a machzor (prayerbook).
- Have reading set aside for the day. The rabbi recommends The Book of Our Heritage: The Jewish Year and Its Days of Significance.
- Have a multiple course meal planned to make it more significant.
- On the eve of the holiday, take a shower and set out nice clothing.
- Plan time for a walk, time to think.

a fundraiser. No one will be turned away due to a lack of funds. Register here. If you have questions, contact Tuvia Berzow at tberzow@oregonkosher.org.

"In addition, we will be there to support everyone in the congregation, whether or not you are attending live services," says Rabbi Brodtkin. The rabbi and his wife, Aviel, hosted an enlightening Zoom conversation Sept. 10 titled "How Will I Do This At Home?" (see sidebar).

Congregation Neveh Shalom

Congregation Neveh Shalom will offer an array of streamed services, Zoom services and small in-person gatherings/experiences.

Staff and clergy had planned to focus on livestreaming the major holiday services,

says Neveh Shalom Associate Rabbi Eve Posen. "Our lay leadership was passionate about Zoom services in addition. Our congregants ... want to see each other's faces."

So just as in past years, when the shul has offered a downstairs minyan, a second service (on Zoom) has been added for first day Musaf.

Rabbi Eve also suggests people hold Zoom watch parties to view the streamed services. "Livestream the service and watch with friends on Zoom." She jokingly adds, "You can talk to each other over the rabbi just like in services."

For the second day of Rosh Hashanah, Neveh Shalom has offered congregants the

Continued on next page

HIGH HOLIDAYS (continued from previous page)

chance to sign up for 10 minutes to stand in front of one of the arks in the congregation's three sanctuaries. About 70 families signed up. After a health check, people will be allowed into the courtyard (standing in big marked areas). Everyone will get fresh-pressed cider from the congregation's own cider press, which was purchased by the young family group. During the visits, families not visiting the ark are welcome to drive through the parking lot, enjoy fresh cider and listen to the shofar.

Small-group tashlich services have also been planned in various neighborhoods around town. Participation is capped at 15 people per location.

Online services will be open to all, but a password is required. For the password and schedule, email bhd@nevehshalom.org.

Congregation Beth Israel

Congregation Beth Israel welcomes you to join us for the High Holidays. All are welcome to participate in the Erev Rosh Hashanah, Rosh Hashanah, Kol Nidre or Yom Kippur services filmed in our historic main sanctuary, and/or connect live with us via Zoom for conversations with our clergy, teen and tot experiences, music and meditation, or even a "behind the scenes" look at how we prepared for the High Holidays in this unusual year. Links to all High Holidays services and experiences can be found at bethisrael-pdx.org/cbi5781. A detailed description and links to Zoom opportunities for inspiration and connection may be found there as well. The site



Congregation Beth Israel clergy are ready to welcome all to streamed services for the holidays. Above from left are Cantor Ida Rae Cahana, Cantor Rayna Green, Rabbi Rachel Joseph and Rabbi Michael Cahana. Below, Michael Allen Harrison records his segment of the streamed services.



also contains links to the Reform movement site on how to celebrate at home.

"We have all had to make major adjustments in our lives during this historic era," reads a message from the Beth Israel clergy on the site. "As Jews have done throughout the ages when faced with challenges, we have adapted. Thank you for being our partner in this unique time. We miss you and send

you blessings for a sacred and hopeful New Year."

In past issues, The Jewish Review has shared congregations' visions for the holidays this year. Read some previous articles at jewishportland.org/jewishreview/jr-stories/congregations-visualize-high-holidays and jewishportland.org/jewishreview/jr-stories/Havurah-virtual-tent.

Aid hungry and homeless on Mitzvah Morning Sept. 27

Add meaning to your Yom Kippur by helping the hungry and the houseless. Portland Jewish Academy, Eastside Jewish Commons and the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland are sponsoring a Mitzvah Morning on erev Yom Kippur, Sunday, Sept. 27, from 10 am to noon. Make meal sacks for low-income children and their families or donate unused, travel-sized toiletries and/or new underwear (any gender and size).

You will assemble and collect these items in your home and do a socially distant, drive-

through drop-off in either Southwest or Southeast Portland.

You must complete the sign up form to select drop-off location and what you are bringing by Sept. 23. Learn more and register at: jewishportland.org/mitzvahmorning.

For more information, contact JFGP Director of Community Planning Caron Blau Rothstein, caron@jewishportland.org or 503-245-6449; or PJA Service Learning Coordinator Elana Cohn-Rozansky, ecohn-rozansky@pjaproud.org.



BB Camp hosts Rosh Hashanah fall family kickoff

B'nai B'rith Camp will host four sessions of its Rosh Hashanah Fall Family Kickoff on Sept. 20. Bring in a sweet New Year and kick off a year full of BB Camp fun with an hour of crafts, games, and apples and honey. Celebrate Rosh Hashanah and reunite with BB Camp friends and counselors, get involved with the BB Camp community, and enjoy the beginning of a year full of meaningful BB Camp programming.

Due to COVID-19, every participant will be screened on arrival with a temperature check and verbal questions regarding symptoms relating to COVID-19. Everyone over the age of 4 is required to wear a face mask/covering, and social distancing is required.

Multiple program time slots with a limit of 50 people per event will enable adherence to state gathering capacity guidelines.

For the convenience of families, a westside and eastside location will each offer two time slots.

Portland Westside events will be at Custer Park, SW 21st Avenue and Capitol Hill Road, 11 am-noon and 1-2 pm.

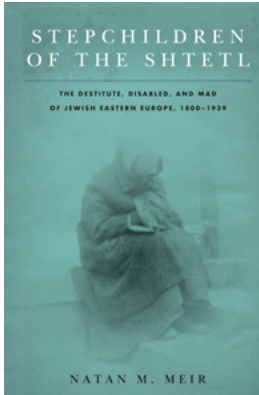
Portland Eastside events will be at Grant Park, NE 33rd Avenue and US Grant Place, at 3:30-4:30 pm and 5:30-6:30 pm.

Cost is \$18 per family. Register at:

bbcamp.org/fall2020

New books

PSU professor explores shtetl's destitute, disabled, mad



Portland State University Professor Natan M. Meir's *Stepchildren of the Shtetl: The Destitute, Disabled and Mad of Jewish Eastern Europe, 1800-1939* was published in July by Stanford University Press. Combining archival research with analysis of literary, cultural and religious texts, Professor Meir recovers the lived experience of Jewish society's outcasts and reveals the central role that they came to play in the drama of modernization.

Professor Meir is the Lorry I. Lokey Professor of Judaic Studies in PSU's Harold Schnitzer Family Program in Judaic Studies, where he also serves as academic director.

"Research for this book took me to Jerusalem, Kiev and New York," says Professor Meir. "I spent about a decade reading newspapers in Hebrew, Yiddish and Russian, analyzing novels and short stories by great Yiddish and Hebrew writers, and examining archival documents that included petitions from ordinary Jews to a wonderworking Polish rabbi and mental hospital admission records in Odessa. I also had the privilege of being a fellow at the New York Public Library's Cullman Center for Scholars and Writers during my sabbatical year (2016-17), which enabled me to take advantage of that institution's rich holdings in Judaica, Slavic Studies and many other fields."

Memoirs of Jewish life in the east European shtetl often recall the hekdesch (town poorhouse) and its residents: beggars, madmen and madwomen, disabled people and poor orphans. *Stepchildren of the Shtetl* tells the story of these long overlooked

members of east European Jewish society from the dawn of modernity to the eve of the Holocaust.

Jewish marginal folk were often made to bear the burden of the nation as a whole, whether as scapegoats in moments of crisis or as symbols of degeneration, ripe for transformation by reformers, philanthropists and nationalists. Shining a light into the darkest corners of Jewish society in eastern Europe, *Stepchildren of the Shtetl* reconsiders the place of the lowliest members of an already stigmatized minority.

Oregon Book winner's fifth story collection due out Oct. 6



Former Jewish Review calendar editor and Oregon Book Award winner Scott Nadelson has a new book coming out Oct. 6. His latest story collection, *One of Us*, will be published by BkMk Press. Contest judge and PEN/Malamud Award-winning author Amina Gautier chose Scott's collection as winner of the G.S. Sharat Chandra Prize for Short Fiction.

Scott worked part time for The Jewish Review from 1999 to 2001 after finishing his master's at Oregon State University. He taught composition classes at Clark College in Vancouver during the same time. He now teaches at Willamette University and in the Rainier Writing Workshop of the MFDA Program at Pacific Lutheran University.

Nadelson's first collection of short stories, *The Cantor's Daughter*, won the Samuel and Sons Fiction Prize for Emerging Jewish Writers and the Reform Judaism Fiction Prize. His second collection, *Saving Stanley: The Brickman Stories*, won the Oregon Book Award for Short Fiction and the Great Lakes Colleges Association New Writers Award. He departed from short stories for his memoir, *The Next Scott Nadelson: A Life in Progress*, and his novel, *Between You and Me*.

One of Us is his fifth short story collection. The story that shares the book's title is a sadly human story of a woman discovering that her synagogue community's treatment of "one of your own" is far from kind. These timely stories explore tensions between groups and individuals, the allure of tribalism and the alienation that comes with separation.

MJCC author series goes virtual

BY LENNY STEINBERG

Even with what sometimes feel like seismic shifts in pivoting programming to a virtual platform, as they say, "the show must go on." The world of programming is evolving around us, and most, if not all, are embracing this new digital world of virtual film festivals, author meet and greets, cooking demos, the list goes on. The Mittleman Jewish Community Center has embraced the realization that even when our programs begin to take place back on campus, most of our programs will be a hybrid model of in-person and virtual. In 2020 we foresee most of our arts and cultures events taking place online.

Each year we bring in authors writing about topics ranging from humor to fiction, Holocaust to Jewish identity. To decide who to invite, I attended the annual National Jewish Book Council Conference, which also went virtual this year.

The JBC refines a wide range of authors to just around 250 people for members to consider bringing to their communities. Some authors are critically acclaimed, some from around the world and some are releasing their first book. Some things changed with the virtual format, such as the typical opportunities to meet and chat with the authors at the end of each day, but they were still able to provide each author with a two-minute window to pitch themselves and their book to Jewish community programmers across the country. And now, after listening to almost 250 authors, I'm pleased to announce our fall lineup. The series began Sept. 15 with Talia Carner, author of *The Third Daughter*. It continues tonight, with one program each month through December.

Sept. 16, 1:30-2:30 pm: Janna Lopez – *Me, My Selfie & Eye: A Midlife Conversation About Lost Identity, Grief, and Seeing Who You Are*. "Who am I?" is perhaps the most asked question in midlife. This timely book that was written to connect, console and encourage anyone in the throes of midlife identity confusion. Janna Lopez, a Jewish author, explores through a practical, updated conversation the process of midlife upheaval. She cites grief as the main culprit, especially when everything we believed as true about ourselves becomes uncertain. A resident of Beaverton, her current passion is presenting to groups about the confusion of midlife identity. She was recently diagnosed with multiple sclerosis and serves to create awareness.

Continued on next page

AUTHORS

(cont. from previous page)

Oct. 13, 6-7 pm: Rachel Barenbaum – *A Bend in the Stars*. Grounded in history – and inspired by the solar eclipse of 1914 – *A Bend in the Stars* offers a heart-stopping account of modern science’s greatest race amidst the chaos of World War I, and a love story as epic as the railways crossing Russia. Rachel’s debut novel has been named a *New York Times* Summer Reading Selection and a Barnes & Noble Discover Great New Writers selection.

Nov. 16, 6-7 pm: Myla Goldberg – *Feast Your Eyes*. The first novel in nearly a decade from Myla Goldberg, the award-winning, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Bee Season*, is a compelling story about a female photographer grappling with ambition and motherhood, a balancing act familiar to women of every generation.

Dec. 7, 5:30-6:30 pm: Jonathan D. Sarna, editor – *Cosella Wayne: Or, Will and Destiny*. Published serially in the spiritualist journal *Banner of Light* in 1860, *Cosella Wayne: Or, Will and Destiny*, by Cora Wilburn, was the first coming-of-age novel, written and published in English by an American Jewish woman, to depict Jews in the United States. It transforms what we know about the history of early American Jewish literature. Jonathan Sarna, who introduces the volume, discovered *Cosella Wayne* while pursuing research at the Israel Institute for Advanced Studies in Jerusalem. This edition is supplemented with selections from Wilburn’s recently rediscovered diary. Together, these materials help to situate *Cosella Wayne* within the life and times of one of 19th-century American Jewry’s least known and yet most prolific female authors.

Cost is \$5 per event. Register at oregonjcc.org/authorseries.

Lenny Steinberg is Arts and Culture Manager for the Mittleman Jewish Community Center.

Scott and Holstein to lead JFCS

BY DEBORAH MOON

Jewish Family & Child Service board of directors voted unanimously to appoint Ruth Scott as executive director. Ruth has been serving as acting executive director since the resignation of David Block Aug. 14. She previously served as JFCS interim executive director from Nov. 1, 2017, until David Block took the reins of the organization on Feb. 17, 2020.

Ruth recruited Hannah Holstein as the new development director effective Sept. 8. Before joining JFCS, Hannah was an associate director at the Portland State University Foundation, overseeing the university-wide annual giving program and major gift fundraising for the School of Social Work, Honors College and Library.

“Hannah is an essential piece of my excitement to lead JFCS,” says Ruth. “I needed a strong partner who really knows and cares about the Jewish community. ... The cultural competency of the agency needs to be reflected in the leadership.”

JFCS Board President Larry Holzman says it was important for Ruth to be able to assemble her team “now that she has the permanent ED moniker.”

“When we were looking at what to do after David, it was only natural to offer the position to Ruth,” says Larry. “She has always been the right person for the job, but initially she wasn’t looking for a permanent position.”

He says she provides continuity and certainty for the agency.

“Over the last nearly three years, she has demonstrated skill, leadership and expertise, and the staff likes her,” he continues. “She has been dedicated to the agency. She’s battle-tested and has shown us what she can do.”

Larry says Ruth had identified Hannah as a good fit for JFCS development a year ago, but the time wasn’t right.

Now the advent of remote work has made JFCS a good fit for Hannah professionally and



Ruth Scott
Executive Director



Hannah Holstein
Development Director

personally.

“During the last six months of remote working, I realized I wanted a job I really feel passionate about,” says Hannah. “There is not an aspect of this organization that is not personal for me.” Additionally, the job gives her “options to keep ourselves and family safe during” the pandemic. She says her 1½-year-old son, Hudson, “makes my work experience exciting, but I always get my projects done.”

Hannah’s husband, David Holstein, serves as JFCS board treasurer. With unanimous support from the board, he will continue in that role and follow the JFCS conflict of interest policy regarding decisions pertaining to his wife.

Ruth says that community connections and communications are the key areas of focus for the agency, especially during the pandemic. “Helping people communicate and connect is something I want to amplify.” She says she is inspired by a quote she read in the *New York Times* – “We are all in the same weather but all in different boats – some are in a yacht and some with only one paddle.” She says that reminds her that it is especially important to make JFCS and its services accessible in these times.

Ruth says the top goal on her list is to “put the Child back in JFCS.” She says, “We started working on this with Dina Gilbert’s trainings for parents about a year ago. We want to

expand and have a therapist to work with children and families.”

The agency recently launched a twice-monthly Zoom discussion group for LGBTQ youth. Ruth says that youth have had discussions about life transitions, how to cope with who you are and how to look at college.

While all JFCS therapists can serve seniors on Medicare, Missy Fry, LCSW, recently was certified as a Medicaid provider, enabling her to help children on the Oregon Health Plan.

A focus during the pandemic is also the agency’s emergency aid program to help those impacted by COVID. Ruth says JFCS has a wonderful partnership with the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland and the Oregon Jewish Community Foundation, which jointly launched the crisis fund that has funded emergency aid to individuals. She says a recent “transformational gift” from Nathan Cogan has enabled the agency to further expand emergency assistance and case management to those in need.

For Hannah, a priority in the immediate future is to re-imagine the agency’s annual Thanksgiving food box program and see “how we can make it work in a safe way.” She also plans to “tackle the COVID version of the Annual Report.”

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Nov. 11	Nov. 5

Submit news, photos and obituar-
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by the issue deadline. To request
a larger story, please email the
editor a week before the deadline.

Rabbi's Corner

Be strong in 5781 – Let us strengthen one another

BY RABBI EVE POSEN

A few months ago, I stumbled across an online concert of one of my favorite Jewish musicians, Dan Nichols. His music lifted me up out of the darkness I experienced one particular summer, and has always been a go-to for me when I needed my soul to be filled. One of the songs he sang on this virtual performance was “Chazak.” The lyrics of the refrain are “Be strong, let us strengthen one another, be strong, let us celebrate our lives. Be strong, let us strengthen one another. *Chazak, chazak v’nitchazek.*”

This song is adapted from the words we say when we finish a book of the Torah. It’s in these moments of transition when we wish one another the strength to move through the transition in the presence and power of community.

This spoke volumes to me in my current situation, one that hasn’t been easy. Working from home with two kids who still want me to be fully present with them, coupled with looking at the state of affairs in our country and across the globe, has often led me into a place of darkness and, if I’m not careful, despair. Vacations and trips were cancelled, camps and family visits weren’t able to come to fruition. This has been a major transition in so many ways, leaving me feeling weary and without strength.

Nearly six months into our COVID-19 experience, I am also struck by the ways in which I have seen community strengthen each other. I look to signs from the “quar-an-baking” and sharing of those delicious treats on the doorsteps of neighbors and friends, to the mutual offers of grocery pickups for one another, to finding beautifully painted rocks around town. Each of

these actions and so many countless others have shown me the strength and the power of our community when we’re working together.

The High Holy Day season is one in which we’re asked to reflect back on our own individual years and how we might have missed the mark or might want to change moving into a new year. We’re also given prayers to recite that are written in the plural, for communal missteps and transgressions. How odd it feels to be praying in the plural when I haven’t been a “we” with the world in quite some time.

You’ve likely heard the phrase “together apart” used as the description of what community looks like right now, and for most of this year. We’re keeping our distance from one another, but still together on the journey. I imagine that might be what the Israelites at the back of the caravan felt about the front of the caravan: distanced, but united.

For me, that’s also what the phrase *chazak chazak v’nitchazek* means. We are strongest when we’re together. And when we can’t be physically together, we must find other ways to strengthen one another. As we enter into 5781, a year that holds so many unknowns (which itself isn’t so unusual), may we be aware of the ways in which we can lend our strength to each other.



Rabbi Eve Posen
is president of the
Oregon Board
of Rabbis and
associate rabbi at
Congregation Neveh
Shalom.

Monthly Mitzvah: Mezuzah

To celebrate 36 (double chai) years in Oregon, Chabad of Oregon is promoting a different mitzvah for each month of this year. The celebration is based on the Mitzvah Campaign created by Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson, z”l, in 1967.

In September the focus is on the mezuzah, a message on a doorpost. Every Jewish home should have a mezuzah on its doorposts. The mezuzah contains the Shema and is a sign that the home is sanctified for G-d and enjoys His protection.

“We’ll be glad to help,” says Rabbi Moshe Wilhelm. “For assistance or more information, call me at 503-957-7842.”



Guest Columns

COVID team offers timely tips for High Holidays

BY ESTEE EMLÉN

With Rosh Hashanah coming up, many of us are ready to say good riddance to the Hebrew calendar year 5780. We start the new year amid historic wildfires, nationwide reckoning with racial injustice and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. COVID-19 has changed how we live our lives, and now how we celebrate our High Holy Days.

COVID-19 continues to spread in the Pacific Northwest, and we must continue to protect ourselves and others from potential exposure. Oregon has reached 28,661 total cases, and 501 people have died as of Sept. 11, 2020. However, we are making progress on reducing the spread, and the state has just marked five consecutive weeks of declining case counts. During the week beginning on Aug. 31, the Oregon Health Authority recorded 1,477 new cases of COVID-19 infection, down from the previous week's total of 1,558 cases.

For holidays usually marked by seeing friends and reconnecting with Jewish communities in synagogues, Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur will look and feel quite different this year. While we may not sing together in sanctuaries or schmooze between services as usual, we can still welcome in the new year and take time to reflect.

The lowest-risk option regarding COVID-19 is to stay home. Depending on your religious observance, consider checking out online synagogue services, either locally or around the world. Many synagogues offer free streaming for the High Holy Days, even to nonmembers.

If you choose to gather in person with friends or family for the holidays, please take precautions to reduce risk of exposure. Keep groups small and limit travel. Outdoor gatherings generally pose lower risk than indoor, but with wildfire smoke across the region, be sure to check local air quality at www.airnow.gov or other sites before going outside. Official guidelines require that everyone above the age of 5 wear a mask indoors in places other than



Estee Emlén is an Outreach and Education Coordinator for Congregation Neveh Shalom COVID-19 Outreach and Services. CNSCOS is a new team appointed by Congregation Neveh Shalom with funding from the Oregon Health Authority tasked with helping limit the spread of COVID-19 by providing services and timely information to the Jewish communities of Multnomah, Washington and Clackamas counties.

your household and outdoors when 6 feet of physical distance is not possible.

While there is no evidence that COVID-19 spreads through food, the CDC warns that gathering around food can pose a risk. It is safest to avoid potlucks, buffets, drinks stations and sharing of utensils. Instead, have guests bring their own food, utensils and beverages to facilitate physical distance. The apples and honey will taste even sweeter when you know you're keeping people safe.

Granted, it is difficult to plan for holidays during so much chaos. As we move into the new year, remember that although you can't fix every disaster, each person can make the year a little sweeter for someone else. Consider picking out one new way you will care for the world or your community this year. This is an uncertain time for many people, so reach out and take care of each other.

The Congregation Neveh Shalom COVID-19 Outreach and Services team is funded to serve the entire Jewish community in the tri-county area, so please contact us for assistance and connection at: covid19@nevehshalom.org.

JCRC shares holiday info with schools, families

BY RACHEL NELSON

Every year the Jewish Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland sends a packet of information about the Jewish holidays to superintendents in the greater Portland area including SW Washington. This year is no exception, and in fact, we have expanded this list to include all superintendents and principals in Multnomah, Clackamas, Washington and Clark counties as well as several private schools in the area.

Typically a hard copy of this letter is sent out twice per year, once in early spring as districts begin their planning and again in the summer for individual schools to use in scheduling events such as dances, back-to-school nights and other community programming.

This letter also introduces educators to resources available to them in the community. In the past several years, we have anecdotally seen a rise in incidents where Jewish students experience discomfort or anti-Semitism. These resources include bringing in speakers from Federation, StandWithUS and the Oregon Jewish Museum & Center for Holocaust Education, information on how to contact the ADL and contact for the Oregon Hate Crimes and Bias Incident Response Hotline.

Additionally, there is a description of the Jewish holidays and the days that some students may miss classes in observance. There is an explanation on how Jewish holidays start on the evening prior to the date written and go from sunset to sunset.

We hope that families will use the following resources to advocate for themselves and will reach out to the Jewish Community Relations Council and Federation as incidents arise in their schools. For assistance, families can contact me at 503-892-7415 or rachel@jewishportland.org.

To read the letter sent to educators, visit: cdn.fedweb.org/fed-29/2/20-21%2520Schools%2520Letter.pdf.

For the Jewish Holy Day descriptions: cdn.fedweb.org/fed-29/2/Jewish%2520Holy%2520Day%2520Descriptions.pdf

For a list of resources and speakers: cdn.fedweb.org/fed-29/2/Jewish%2520Resources.pdf

Rachel Nelson is the Director of Educational Initiatives & Intergroup Outreach at the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland. She has worked at Federation since 2013.



Solomon's Legacy explores COVID, race, prisoners

BY DEBORAH MOON

The focus on racial justice, fairness, privilege, humanity and empathy arising in our reality of COVID-19 and protests may be "a chance to ... transform the way we think about prisoners and build a less expensive system about genuine justice," said Professor Aliza Kaplan.

Professor Kaplan, director of Lewis & Clark Law School's Criminal Justice Reform Clinic, and Rabbi Tzvi Fischer, head of the Portland Kollel, presented "Self-Evident & Sacred Truths: COVID-19, Race & Prisoners," the first program of the revitalized Solomon's Legacy. Attorney Marshal Spector chairs the renewed Jewish Federation of Greater Portland affinity group for lawyers, judges and law students. It provides legal and Jewish education and networking.

The name of the program arose from the change from "sacred" in Thomas Jefferson's draft to "self-evident" in the final Declaration of Independence, explained Rabbi Fischer.

Professor Kaplan began the Sept. 9 Zoom session with a "Snapshot" of Oregon's prison system and population. Oregon's first prison was built in 1850, the second opened in 1985. Now 14 state prisons hold about 14,000 prisoners, 9.1% of whom are Black even though Blacks are only 1.9% of Oregon's population. Other minorities are also disproportionately represented in the prison population. Since the 1994 passage of Measure 11 that created mandatory sentences, the number of those incarcerated has more than doubled. The state spends \$39,000 simply to house each prisoner per year;

that doesn't even cover mental health or addiction treatment.

"These numbers will stay the same unless we change or policies," she said.

She considers the current dual crises that have inspired empathy and compassion as an opportunity for us to begin to humanize prisoners. "They are part of us. ... not us and them."

Rabbi Fischer noted that as Jews, "We look at every human being as sacred." Since the Divine has not form, "What does it mean to be created in an image of God?" he asked. "We mirror the Divine in the potential for good, the ability to create, to do more."

In the month of Elul when Jews are focused on being written

into the book of life, he spoke of being written into the book of history. "Each and every one of us is making a difference in the world, maybe a good difference and sometimes the other way around. ... We have all made mistakes, every one of us."

"Let's see the potential in every human being and cultivate those," Rabbi Fischer concluded.

Professor Kaplan said she was especially struck by the idea of people being able to live to their potential. "We need to stop punishing people for the rest of their lives," she said. "We are not setting them up inside or outside to succeed."

For information on Solomon's Legacy visit jewishportland.org/solomonslegacy.

Life-cycle

Send news of births, b'nai mitzvah, engagements, weddings and anniversaries to: editor@jewishportland.org

WEDDING

Jonathan & Tosha Esterman

Mazal Tov to Yonasan Aryeh (Jonathan Esterman) and Tirzah Miriam (Tosha Esterman) on finishing their conversion with the Milwaukee Beis Din and on their wedding that took place on 4 Elul 5780, August 24, 2020, in Portland.

Tosha works as an educator at Maayan Torah Day School and Yoni writes about Judaism and Semiotics at YidBrik, podcasts about Kabbalah on Kabbalah Pod and makes Kabbalistic jewelry for sale on Etsy. Both of them also have their own coaching practice, Aytz Chaim Life Coaching.

The chuppah ceremony was officiated by Rabbi Ken Brodtkin of Congregation Kesser Israel. While the Estermans would have loved to have a larger wedding for the community, the current COVID-19 restrictions required a more creative approach. They invited up to 25 for attendance in per-



son with face masks and social distancing for a backyard ceremony with picnic-style meal. Everyone else, including attendees in New York and Israel, dialed in via Zoom.

The Estermans moved into the community more than three years ago and have made the Jewish Portland community their home. This ceremony symbolized a completion of settling in for them, and they are excited to continue to connect in this community and continue to grow.

For those that were unable to attend the wedding in person or online, the ceremony was recorded and can be viewed at <https://yidbrik.com/wedding>.

Obituaries Submit to: editor@jewishportland.org

SVETLANA ASTRAKHAN

Svetlana (Lana) Astrakhan, z'l, passed away Sept. 14, 2020. She is survived by her husband, Alex Astrakhan; mother and stepfather, Sofia Zalmanova and Efim Bresler; and her children, Nadine (Alex) Menashe and Natasha Astrakhan.

A private interment is scheduled. A Zoom Shiva Minyan will be 7 pm, Sept. 16; contact Congregation Neveh Shalom.

ELAINE TANZER

Elaine Tanzer, z'l, passed away Sept. 8 after a fall. She was 77. Survivors include Tanzer's children, Joshua Tanzer, Jessica Tanzer Conroy, Rachel Tanzer and Elan Tanzer, as well as one grandson.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Jacob, in 2018. Elaine Rhine, a Portland schoolteacher, and Jacob Tanzer, attorney and later judge, married in 1974.

In 1979, Elaine founded one of Portland's first specialty food stores, Elephants Delicatessen.

JULIA USERO

Julia Usero, z'l, passed away Sept. 4 in Port Richey, Florida, at the age of 104. Julia was the mother of Congregation Kol Ami member Ju-

lie Burger. Julie's sister was with their mother when she passed peacefully. Julia is remembered well as an incredible mother and grandmother. Julia was born June 12, 1916.

HUNTER "REUVEN" JACKSON JAFFE

Hunter "Reuven" Jackson Jaffe, z'l, was born May 14, 1999, and passed away on Aug. 28, 2020.

He is survived by his mothers, Toni "Rivka" Jaffe and Luna "Shivra" Jaffe; brother, Michael Ari Peck; honor mother, Amy Braun; grandmother, Oralee Hamilton; aunts, Linda Grabler and Jackie Beerman; and uncles, Steve Braun, Tim Braun and Larry Grabler.

Hunter attended Neveh Shalom Foundation School, Portland Jewish Academy, Wilson High School and Oregon State University. He was involved in NCSY and OSU Hillel.

He was a gentle young man who had a smile and heart that lit up the world. His light was bright. He gave the best hugs. He loved children and had a generous, kind, sensitive and open nature.

Contributions and donations on his behalf and honor can be made to Outside In.