

The JEWISH REVIEW

Oregon and SW Washington's Online Jewish Newspaper

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Coronavirus spreads; community reacts

BY DEBORAH MOON

The COVID-19 pandemic is altering our reality on an almost hourly basis. Closures and bans will get more extensive in coming days as our world gears up to battle this new virus.

Oregon Gov. Kate Brown on March 13 ordered schools across the state to close for the month to slow the spread of COVID-19. March 16 she banned all gatherings of more than 25 people and ordered restaurants and bars to close to all but carryout as of March 17. Sports leagues have suspended their seasons, and Disneyland and Disney World are closed. Colleges are closing campuses. The world is moving to an online, virtual existence.

COMMUNAL RESPONSE

The Jewish Federation of Greater Portland, Oregon Jewish Community Foundation, and generous donations from Jordan Schnitzer and Arlene Schnitzer, and Diane and Jay Zidell have contributed to an initial pool of funds totaling \$450,000 to help meet emergency needs.

The funds from JFGP, OJCF and community donations make up The COVID-19 Emergency Fund will provide urgently needed assistance to vulnerable people throughout Greater Portland and Southwest Washington with a focus on older adults, isolated community members, and those impacted financially due to office

WANT TO HELP?

If you want to volunteer your time or donate funds to emergency needs, call or email Marc Blattner at the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland. Resources are being created in the community. Marc will connect you with the appropriate person or resource:

503-245-6219 | marc@jewishportland.org

You may also contact Marc for information on the emergency fund.

closures and work stoppages. Specifically, the fund will help support:

- Emergency financial assistance and mental health support for Jewish community members

- Support for Jewish organizations impacted by reduced program and service fees.

The Federation will convene a (Zoom) discussion with agencies and synagogues this morning (March 18) to discuss a communal response to COVID-19.

"This is a test for our system," said JFGP President and CEO Marc Blattner. "I hope we pull together and figure it out as a community."

"We don't know what the issues will be, but it is important that we be there for people."

Following the March 18 meeting, task forces will be created to address various topics, with members who have expertise in each area working together to

develop plans to meet individual and communal needs.

SPIRITUAL

Religious communities are not immune to the health, social and economic shockwaves from this global pandemic. Like other religions, especially those with major spring holidays, the Jewish community will have to adapt. Purim celebrations went on, but many people reportedly stayed home.

Passover, which begins the evening of April 8, 2020, is the most widely celebrated Jewish holiday. The first seder is often a family seder, with community seders often planned on the second night of Passover. Community Passover seders are being canceled. Perhaps virtual seders will spring into existence to fill the gap. The Jewish Federation of Greater Portland has canceled the intergroup seder that had been planned to precede Pesach on April 6. In

fact, the Federation has canceled all events at least through the end of Passover. The Jewish Review will feature Passover updates in our April 1 issue.

The need for a minyan (10 Jewish adults – men in traditional congregations) means Shabbat services are by definition communal. In an email from Orthodox Congregation Kesser Israel, Rabbi Kenneth Brodtkin wrote, "Just as we have sacrificed to establish and maintain our regular Minyanim every day until now, so too we sacrifice today by foregoing community gatherings for the well-being of our community and of our greater society."

Congregations that offer online streaming of services expect demand to expand. Beth Israel offers live streaming at bethisrael-pdx.org/worship/watch-services-live/. Neveh Shalom streams Shabbat services at nevehshalom.org/live-streaming. Other congregations offer Zoom services.

OneTable, which coordinates Shabbat dinners for young adults, is considering offering cook-along videos, weekly playlists, Facebook Live ritual, starting a Shabbat Hang text thread, or #FaceTimeFriday, all of which would be open to everyone. Visit onetable.org for updated information.

ECONOMIC

Spiritual life is not the only issue; the economic fallout

See PANDEMIC, page 12

Free online subscription: jewishportland.org/subscribe

PJ Library plans virtual storytimes

Local story hours, playtimes and other gatherings co-sponsored by PJ Library have been canceled (for updates check jewishportland.org/community-calendar).

But Facebook Live PJ Library stories and PJ Library LISTEN are stepping in to fill the void. And the local PJ Library is hosting a virtual Yad b'Yad at 11:00 am Fridays on Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/582393922>.

Each weekday the national PJ Library is hosting virtual storytimes at 8 and 10 am. Visit facebook.com/PJLibrary.

In January, even before the pandemic, pjlibrary.org/listen launched as a fee-free curated streaming hub for family friendly audio and video entertainment. Families may access hours of audio stories, themed musical playlists, animated videos and the 24/7 PJ Library Radio channel.

The children's literature and music experts at PJ Library se-



lect the content for PJ Library LISTEN. Picture books come to life in animated videos. All content is free and available at all times.

A program of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation, PJ Library sends more than 200,000 free books a month to families across North America. PJ Library also offers a wealth of activities, recipes and parenting articles, and a new podcast for kids: "Have I Got a Story for You."

pjlibrary.org



PDX-Israel trip postponed

On March 6, the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland notified the 400 participants on the Federation's Centennial Trip to Israel (departing on March 18) that the trip was postponed. "At that time, we felt we could not take people," said JFGP CEO and President Marc Blattner. "And then, a few days later, Israel announced that all arrivals in Israel from any country would be required to be quarantined for 14 days. This made the trip impossible. We knew we had made the right decision." Just a week earlier, before the world knew the full impact of the coronavirus on all aspects of life, PDX-Israel trip chairs headed three briefings about the trip. From left, chairs Tony and Priscilla Kostiner and Kathy Davis Weiner and Michael Weiner, listen to Blattner address a March 1 briefing.

Cedar Sinai Park shares response to pandemic

NOTE: Most of the Jewish organizations in town have shared information about their response to the coronavirus. However, we felt it was appropriate to share the message from Cedar Sinai Park since it is home to those most vulnerable to COVID-19.

BY KIM FUSON, CSP CEO

As of the morning of March 16, there are no cases of COVID-19 in any CSP community. Please note, however, that this can change in a moment's notice.

Per the Centers for Disease Control and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid and in the spirit of safety and quality of life for our beloved residents, patients, participants and staff, the following protocols are in place at Robison Jewish Health Center, Harold Schnitzer Center for Living and Rose Schnitzer Manor:

- Only Medically necessary visits by healthcare providers;
- Adult Day Services are closed through April 30, 2020;
- Communal dining is suspended; and
- Communal activities are suspended (we are working on an alternate plan for Pesach seders).

We have dedicated all Day Service staff to work with our Life Enrichment and Spir-

itual Life Departments to support residents social, emotional and spiritual health. We will be assisting residents with technology to keep them connected and engaged.

How you can help: Reach out to your friends at CSP: Call, FaceTime, WhatsApp; offer to pick up and drop off groceries, special treats; send a special card or letter; include them in your online gaming.

Our focus is on infection prevention, control and well-being: We have emergency preparedness and infection prevention and control plans in place. These provide detailed instructions for staff on how we address and manage infectious disease outbreaks.

Our staff is trained in infection control practices and follows established protocols based on that training. We have experience managing illness outbreaks, such as flu, and have a heightened awareness of the possible risk to our residents posed by viral illnesses, such as flu, norovirus and COVID-19.

We have implemented additional cleaning processes at our community that are part of the emergency plan.

We are informed: Because the coronavirus is spreading quickly, our staff is in communication with public health officials

in our region to stay abreast of the latest developments about coronavirus. In addition, we are closely monitoring information from the Oregon Health Authority and LeadingAge as well as those from federal agencies, such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid and the World Health Organization.

We are educating: As we learn more about coronavirus and COVID-19, the disease caused by the virus, we are educating staff, residents and families. Current protocols we've implemented include:

- For staff: teaching them about the symptoms of COVID-19 and monitoring residents for these symptoms; teaching staff about how the virus spreads and recommended containment actions, including staying home from work if they are symptomatic.
- For residents and families: how to recognize symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if they suspect that they or a loved one may be infected.

We are available: A fast-changing, potential crisis such as this calls for consistent communication. We are committed to providing you with accurate information, updated regularly. For updates please refer to our website: www.cedarsinainpark.org

Jewish Free Loan can ease economic stress of pandemic

The Jewish Free Loan of Greater Portland encourages families and individuals impacted economically by the coronavirus pandemic to apply for an interest-free loan. Loans of up to \$4,000 are available to Jewish residents of Oregon and SW Washington. The loans are interest free and can be paid back over loan periods as long as three years.

In addition, Free Loan is seeking donations to enlarge the pool of funds available at this critical time.

Since Portland launched the free loan program in 2016, \$94,000 in loans has been made to 32 individuals. In 2019, 10 individuals borrowed a total of \$40,000.

Jewish or “Hebrew” Free Loan Associations have been in the business of providing interest-free loans to individuals across North America for more than a century. There is the recognition that sometimes life throws a wrench in one’s plans, and that the support of one’s community can make the difference in how that challenge is met.

Free Loan Chair Les Gutfreund is delighted the program has come to Portland. “Growing up in Detroit, my parents borrowed from Hebrew Free Loan when the furnace went out during a cold Michigan winter. They used loans for our simchas, too.”

“When times are good, we can help with loans for school or simchas; when times

are bad, we are there for medical expenses when people become ill or to help when people miss paychecks if their workplace closes during the outbreak,” said Les. “That is the whole basis of Hebrew Free Loan ... to help people when they are in need.”

To apply for a loan or to donate, visit jewishportland.org/freeloan. For details, email FreeLoan@jewishportland.org or call Ben Winkleblack at 503-245-6219 or Les at 503-932-7783.



How to talk to kids to reduce coronavirus anxiety

BY LEAH KATZ, PH.D.

Anxiety over the coronavirus (Covid-19) has been building steadily. Many of you have likely lived through other global health scares before. Swine Flu, West Nile Virus, SARS and Ebola come to my mind. Having experienced other large-scale health concerns may serve as reassurance that these alarms pass.

Generally, past experiences counterbalance anxieties in new situations. However, your children don’t have this same history and frame of reference. That makes it a different, scarier experience for them. Add in a child with preexisting anxiety, and you have a recipe for one extremely anxious child. You may notice your anxious child suffering from sleep disturbances, diminished school attendance and preoccupations with getting sick.

Therefore, it is important for us to parent our children mindfully and help guide them through this health scare. The following is a list for parents on the Do’s and Don’ts of parenting your child through the coronavirus:

Do:

- Check your own anxiety. If you are feeling overwhelmingly anxious about the virus and not working through your own feelings, it will certainly rub off on your child. Talk to someone

if you feel anxious. Check your facts. Take deep breaths. But whatever you do, don’t allow your anxiety to fester and ooze. Your child will pick up on it and may not turn to you for support if they feel anxious.

- Talk with your school-age children (but don’t go overboard). Children, even younger ones, know when something is off. Not talking about what is happening often backfires and makes them more worried. Be reassuring. Ask them how they are feeling emotionally and listen. Don’t brush off what is happening.

- Remind them of where their power lies. Often in times of stress, we feel powerless, helpless and unable to help ourselves. We give up on finding solutions and give in to our anxiety. Remind your children (and yourself) that they have plenty of power. Their power lies in things like hand washing, not touching their face, not sharing snacks and using a tissue. It is empowering and comforting to find where we can take responsibility in a situation where much is out of our control.

- Use this as an opportunity to discuss gratitude. For their health, for living in a country where medical help is readily available, for the invention of medicine that can control and treat symptoms.

- Lead by example. If you are asking your children to wash

their hands more often or not to touch their faces, practice what you preach. It will give you more empathy, and modeling these behaviors will be your children’s best teacher.

Don’t:

- Have adult conversations about the coronavirus in front of them. Even when you think their attention is otherwise engaged, they are listening. Children are sponges; if they are in the vicinity, they pick up and hear almost anything. Save your worried conversations for when your children are not present.

- Go overboard with cleaning. I’ll never forget how the mother of a good childhood friend of mine would go overboard each time one of her children got sick – even with the common cold. She would follow them around with disinfectant spray, carry paper towels around with her, and make everyone feel tense and worried. Don’t do this to your children. Prepare according to CDC guidelines, but make it feel natural. Remind your children that it is important to keep our hands and surfaces clean regardless of a health outbreak.

- Brush your children’s fears away. There is a difference between offering reassurance and being dismissive. An example of a dismissive response would be: What are you afraid of? Things are going to be fine.

Reassurance includes both emotional attunement and coaching. It sounds like, I understand you are worried. Can you tell me more about how you are feeling/ what you are worried about? After that emotional attunement, offer some reassurance such as, I know you’re worried. I’ve been alive longer and have seen many other health scares. I have always been fine, and I’m confident we will be fine through this. Know I am here to talk if you are worried.



Get your facts straight and do your own research from reputable sites. Be careful what you read in the news, and how much exposure you’re getting to the scary stuff. Scientifically, this has been shown to affect you. Get the facts, educate yourself and allow that to guide you.

Leah Katz, Ph.D., is a clinical psychologist practicing in Portland. She specializes in working with teenagers and adults with anxiety and depression. Leah is a member of Congregation Kesser Israel and is in the Wexner 2020 Portland cohort. She is also a contributing blogger for PsychologyToday.com.



News in brief

Neveh Shalom extends Rabbi Posen's contract

Congregation Neveh Shalom has agreed to a five-year contract extension beginning July 1 and running through June 30, 2025, for Rabbi Eve Posen. The new contract includes a change in title from assistant rabbi to associate rabbi.

"We are appreciative of the dedication and innovation that Rabbi Posen has brought to CNS, especially to our young families," said CNS President Jason H. Kaufman. "While Rabbi Posen did not begin her career as a pulpit rabbi, she has embraced this role, which has allowed her to work with our b'nai mitzvah families among other duties such as leading services, handling funerals, visiting our sick and celebrating births. She has developed a robust, year-round young family program, which has been vital to our membership outreach by serving an important demographic in our community."

Rabbi Posen and her husband, Duncan, have two children, Shiri and Matan.

"I'm excited to continue the work that started almost 6 years ago," said Rabbi Posen. "CNS and Portland have become a home for our family. We appreciate the contract extension along with the support we receive from so many of our congregants, staff and clergy. I look forward to continue working with everyone on our programming and religious services for our entire congregation. As the current president of the Oregon Board of Rabbis, I am committed to ensuring that we have a Conservative voice in our larger Portland metro community and beyond. That voice comes from my own experiences along with yours."



Weingrad contributes to award-winning book

Local Judaic Studies Professor Michael Weingrad has been recognized for his contribution to the award-winning book, *What We Talk About When We Talk About Hebrew (And What It Means to Americans)*, edited by Naomi Sokoloff and Nancy Berg.

The book won the [2019 National Jewish Book Award](#) for best collection/anthology. The award was announced on Jan. 15, 2020. The book includes a chapter by [Professor](#)



[Weingrad](#) on Hebrew writing in the United States.

Weingrad is a professor of Judaic Studies in Portland State University's Harold Schnitzer Family Program in Judaic Studies. He teaches courses listed under Portland State University departments of Judaic studies, English and film.

He is the author of *American Hebrew Literature: Writing Jewish National Identity in the United States* and the editor and translator of *Letters to America: Selected Poems of Reuven Ben-Yosef*. His essays and reviews, on topics ranging from Israeli fantasy and science fiction to the Jews of Baghdad, have appeared in the *Jewish Review of Books*, *Mosaic*, and a range of other magazines

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and scholarly journals. He has been a Fulbright Fellow at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, the Montague Burton Fellow in Jewish Studies at the University of Leeds, and a Harry Starr Fellow at the Center for Jewish Studies at Harvard. A selection of his recent writing is on www.investigationsandfantasies.com.



Chabad opens young professionals chapter

Chabad of Oregon announced the opening of a full-time Chabad Young Professionals Chapter in Portland's Northwest District under the leadership of Rabbi Meir and Sheina Posner. The Posners along with their two children will be serving the local-area Jewish community.

"In honor of the 36th – double chai – year of Chabad in Oregon, we are doubling our efforts to share the joy, meaning and relevance of Judaism in our community," said Rabbi Moshe Wilhelm, the executive director of Chabad of Oregon. "The rebbe taught us that we must go out and meet Jews where they are, and a full-time Chabad Young Professionals will do just that."

Rabbi Chayim and Simi Mishulovin directed Chabad's young professional programming in Portland for the past 15 years. According to the couple, "Portland's young professional scene is ever growing, and our programs must grow in tandem."

Jodi Berris, whose work in developing Portland's Jewish young adult scene is well known, said, "Portland has a ton of Jewish young adults – some connected and many not yet – and I'm so happy a full-time Chabad Young Professionals is coming to our city to focus on and help cultivate Jewish connections for this population."

Rabbi Posner spent many years on the famed Chabad of Boston University, and Sheina worked at the New York headquarters of Chabad Young Professionals international. They plan to spend their first few months getting to know the young Jewish professionals of Portland and exploring how they can best serve them.

To get involved in this new venture, email Rabbi@PDXCYP.org or Sheina@PDXCYP.org or call 503-583-2025.

NEWS IN BRIEF SUBMISSIONS:

Send news items to editor@jewishportland.org by the Thursday before publication. Please send photos as attached jpgs. Deadline for the April 1 issue is noon, March 26.

Cedar Sinai Park names Kim Fuson CEO

BY DEBORAH MOON

Portland native and Cedar Sinai Park veteran Kimberly Fuson was named chief executive officer of CSP on March 1.

She had served as interim CEO since Aug. 6, 2019. Previously she worked at CSP beginning in 2001 as Robison Administrator and rising to chief operating officer before her departure in 2013 to take the same position in San Diego at Seacrest Village Retirement Community.

"I had the opportunity to deepen and broaden my experience with another Jewish agency," says Fuson, noting Seacrest was part of the San Diego Hebrew Homes.

From there she moved to Hawaii to serve as senior director, long term care and critical access at Maui Health System, Kaiser's first not-for-profit critical access hospital.

When her grandmother's husband died, Fuson moved to Las Vegas, Nev., to take care of her 99-year-old grandmother. She cared for and "played with" her grandma until she died shortly before her 101st birthday.

"She was my 'why' for what I have done for the past 30



Kim Fuson

years," says Fuson. "For me, it was incredible to be able to be with her for the last one and a half years of her life."

When Fuson arrived in Las Vegas, her grandmother's life involved going from one doctor's appointment to another. "We stopped a lot of unnecessary stuff and replaced it with parks, shopping ... fun. She got better because she got a little bit of joy."

"That is who I am as a human being, and that is what we are doing here (CSP)," says Fuson.

"I intended to take a year off following the death of my grandmother, but the opportunity to serve as interim CEO deeply touched my spirit," she adds.

CSP, which was founded in 1920 as Jewish Old People's Home, now provides assisted living, post-acute rehab, in-

Cedar Sinai Park includes:

Rose Schnitzer Manor: independent & assisted living

Robison Health and Rehabilitation Center: short-term, post-acute care

Harold Schnitzer Center for Living: long-term care in households

Sinai In-Home Care

Adult Day services

Kehillah House: affordable housing for adults with developmental disabilities

Affordable Housing (downtown):

Rose Schnitzer Tower

Park Tower Apartments

Lexington Apartments

1200 Building Apartments

home care, adult day services, small-group households for long-term care, and affordable housing with services for people with low incomes or special needs.

Since her August arrival, Fuson has spent much of her time listening to the community's love for the institution she returned to lead. She has filled key openings including building service director, Rose Schnitzer Manor administrator and development director. She returned Robison to self-management, after that facility's management was contracted out last year. Over the next two years, with

the help of staff, volunteers and trustees, she expects things to continue to improve.

"As we launch into the next hundred years, we are going to bring back the heart and soul, the care and services, the community has come to know and love," says Fuson. "Through the lens of honor and respect and the Fifth Commandment, our staff will provide gemilut hasadim (giving of loving-kindness). It is about benevolence, like what I did with my grandma."

Fuson wants to continue to listen to the community's input and invites people to call her at 503-535-4413.

Celebrate studying Talmud – a page a day

BY DEBORAH MOON

A couple dozen students gathered at the Portland Kollel March 7 to celebrate completing the first of 63 tractates that they will study, a page a day, until they complete the 2,711 pages that make up the Talmud.

In the previous 7½ year cycle, which ended Jan. 4, 2020, the New York Times estimated some 350,000 people participated in the Daf Yomi (page a day) movement. Each day, participants around the world study the same two-sided page of the Talmud, which serves as the primary source of Jewish religious law and Jewish theology.

"I've heard that the last cycle was 350,000, and that this cycle has grown exponentially," says Portland Kollel Director Rabbi Tzvi Fischer, who teaches a Daf Yomi class every morning. "However, the numbers are not in yet as to how many globally. I believe over 50 locals are doing it."

The New Year's Day Siyum HaShas at New York's MetLife Stadium drew some 90,000 people to celebrate the completion of the last cycle. The new cycle began Jan. 5, 2020.

See DAF YOMI continued on page 9



About 30 people gathered at the Portland Kollel to celebrate completing the first of 63 tractates as part of the new 7½-year cycle of Talmud study before the coronavirus was declared a pandemic. The first tractate covers the Shema, Tefila, Blessings and many other topics.

FOCUS: Day Camps

Six Jewish day camps serve Portland-area families

NOTE: If current restrictions on gatherings continue into summer, camp start dates and other details may change.

MJCC SUMMER DAY CAMP

Presented by and located at Mittleman Jewish Community Center
6651 SW Capitol Hwy., Portland
Carli Rosenthal: daycamp@oregonjcc.org / 503-244-0111
www.oregonjcc.org/daycamp



Best summer ever! MJCC Day Camp offers full-day fun with flexible scheduling from 7:30 am-6 pm and swimming is included. Enjoy sports, arts, rock climbing and more. Open to everyone ages 3-15. MJCC Day Camp is imbued with a sense of joy, community, spirit and fun. Programs are age-appropriate and safe. MJCC Day Camp inspires confidence and provides the framework for lasting memories and friendships. Camps are one-week sessions with full- or half-day options.

Ages Served

3-15 years

Session Dates

Offered weekly June 22-Aug. 21 with vacation camps June 15-19 and Aug. 24-28

Camp & Extended Care Hours

Flexible scheduling from 7:30 am-6:00 pm

Cost Per Session

Cost varies by age and camp from \$101-\$389 per week



PJA SUMMER DISCOVERY

Presented by and located at Portland Jewish Academy
6651 SW Capitol Hwy, Portland
Celinda Llanez: cllanez@pjaproud.org / 503-244-0126
www.pjaproud.org/summer

Open to everyone! Explore your creativity, discover your talents, and nurture your curiosity at PJA this summer. Experience enriching classes from professional teachers who are excited to teach topics with passion. PJA teachers incorporate STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, math) to enhance learning. Explore the outdoor classroom, create imaginative stories with puppet theater, make balloon animals, discover different styles of music, construct Lego sculptures and more. Exercise your brain in a fun and nurturing way.

Ages Served

4-15 years

Session Dates

Weekly July 6-31, 2020

Camp & Extended Care Hours

9 am-1 pm with early care starting at 7:30 am

Aftercare through MJCC Summer Day Camp until 6 pm

Cost Per Session

Varies by camp: \$195-\$225

BB DAY CAMP PORTLAND

Presented by B'nai B'rith Camp
Located at Congregation Beth Israel, 1972
NW Flanders St, Portland
Chanel Bourdeau, Cay Camp Director:
pdx@bbcamp.org / 503-496-7447
bbcamp.org/Portland

BB Day Camp Portland provides a welcoming and fun summer camp environment for children entering pre-kindergarten through middle school. Days at BB Day Camp are filled with classic camp activities including art, athletics, crafts, music, dance, drama, and of course, gaga! Each week offers age-appropriate themes, dress-up days and field trips. Our programs inspire confidence, encourage self-expression, and build an inclusive and welcoming

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community. Experience BB Camp in the city, discover new interests and explore Portland in a new way.

Grades Served

Pre-k through 6th grade and two sessions for 7-8th grade leadership program

Session Dates

Weekly sessions Monday-Friday, June 29-Aug. 21

Shabbaton weekend trip for 1st-6th grades at B'nai B'rith Camp, Aug 14-16

Camp & Extended Care Hours

Times 9 am-3:30 pm

Extended care 8 am-5:30 pm



Cost Per Session

\$290 per week by March 31, 2020

\$340 per week after March 31, 2020

Added fees for hot lunch, extended care options



CAMP SEED

Presented by Portland Kollel
 Located at Maayan Torah, 2 SW Touchstone Dr., Lake Oswego
 Chaviva Skolnik:
info@campseedpdx.com
campseedpdx.com

At Camp SEED we know that it's not about the what – it's about the why. Camp SEED is #FunToBeJewish! It's where you send your kids for an awesome fun summer experience in a Jewish environment. It's is where our children learn that Judaism is fun, vibrant and something they want in their lives.

Ages Served

2 to 12 years

Session Dates

Weekly sessions Monday-Friday, July 6-Aug 13
 (Please note the last week does not include Friday Aug 14)

Camp Hours

Monday-Thursday, 9:15 am-3:30 pm;
 Friday 9:15 am-2:30 pm

Cost Per Session

Prices until June 1st
 1 Week - \$225 (\$135/half-day)
 3 weeks - \$600 (\$360/half-day)
 6 weeks - \$1100 (\$660/half-day)



GAN ISRAEL DAY CAMP

Presented by Chabad of Oregon
 Located at 6612 SW Capitol Hwy., Portland
 Simi Mishulovin: office@GanIsraelPortland.com / 503-309-4185
GanIsraelPortland.com

Gan Israel Day Camp of Portland is part of the largest network of Jewish camps in the world. Gan Israel is dedicated to enriching the lives of children from diverse Jewish backgrounds and affiliations through a stimulating Jewish camping experience by a warm and loving staff. Weekly Judaic themes are taught through exciting activities, stories, songs, games and contests. Combined with group discussions and educational programs, these events bring to life the beauty and values of our tradition.

Grades Served

Rising kindergarten to 3rd grade; Rising 4th grade to 7th grade

Session Dates

Weekly: June 29-Aug. 7

Camp & Extended Care Hours

8:45 am-3:30 pm; Extra care from 7 am-6 pm

Cost Per Session

\$300. 25% off by April 1. Pay for 5 weeks and get week 6 free.

CLARK COUNTY GAN ISRAEL DAY CAMP

Presented by Clark County Chabad
 Located at 9604 NE 126th Ave, Vancouver, WA
tzivie@jewishclarkcounty.com / 360-993-5222
jewishvancouverwa.com/camp-gan-israel

Camp Gan Israel is a comprehensive summer camp designed to strengthen the body and soul. It provides children with a rich and wholesome summer vacation of fun and excitement along with friendship and meaningful experiences. It is enhanced with games, science projects, swimming, cooking, Shabbos parties and exciting field trips.

Ages Served

6 to 12 years

Session Dates

By the week Aug 3-14

Camp & Extended Care Hours

9 am-3 pm; Extended care is available

Cost Per Session

Two weeks \$425; One week \$225



NEXT UP: Information on Jewish Day Schools will be in the April 1 issue of The Jewish Review

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Email your reply to:
editor@jewishportland.org

Replies (edited to 150 words
or fewer) will be included in
the next issue of the Jewish
Review. All replies may not be
published.

GUEST COLUMN: Homelessness

BY STEVE ALBERT

Everyone knows that Portland has a large population of homeless individuals. The problem is not new, and there are numerous current efforts – both public and private – to address the issues of homelessness. These issues go far beyond the shortage of affordable housing, although that is certainly a part of the problem. The issues include food insecurity, substance abuse, and insufficient services for mental illness. In addition, homelessness is tied to workplace issues, as working individuals and families can find themselves evicted following a change or interruption in their income.

The Jewish community is involved in addressing Portland's homeless crisis in a variety of ways. It's appropriate for us to do so, and not simply because there are members of the Jewish community among the homeless. For some, the responsibility to address homelessness is seen as a religious duty, and there are Jewish texts that specifically identify the provision of housing as an act of tzedakah ("justice" or "charity"). For many, the urgency to address the problem is combined with a commitment to social action and tied to a responsibility for tikkun olam, or "repairing the world."

A number of local Jewish organizations have partnered, over time, with Cascadia Clus-



Steve Albert is the executive director of Portland Jewish Academy and the Mittleman Jewish Community Center.

ters, which builds tiny homes on wheels. These units are sited in clusters and offer very affordable housing. Moreover, Cascadia Clusters trains homeless individuals in skills such as framing, roofing, and carpentry, empowering them to enter the workforce as skilled laborers. Currently, Cascadia Clusters is leasing property from the Mittleman Jewish Community Center for a work site. The organization works regularly with Tivnu and with Portland Jewish Academy, and welcomes volunteers from other Jewish agencies as well as the community at large. In prior years, Cascadia Clusters has partnered with Congregation Neveh Shalom and Congregation Beth Israel, among others.

While Cascadia Clusters is focused on the construction

of affordable housing and the training of houseless individuals, other efforts are focused on related issues. For several years, Portland Jewish Academy managed an effort to create "plarn" sleeping mats for individuals on the streets. "Plarn" stands for "plastic yarn," and this project uses plastic shopping bags as the raw material for weather resistant, insulated crocheted mats. This project has recently been passed on to Positive Charge PDX.

PJA, like other local Jewish organizations, is also seeking to address food insecurity. The school partners with Transition Projects to offer shelter feeds and provides groups of volunteers on a regular basis to Blanchet House. PJA and the MJCC hold monthly donation drives, as do other Jewish agencies, many of which benefit organizations that serve homeless individuals.

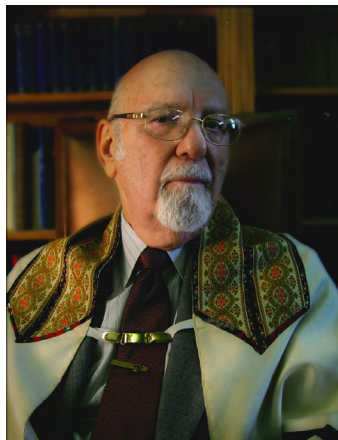
The range of related projects is impressive. For example, two years ago, Congregation Beth Israel partnered with Portland Homeless Family Solutions to offer a winter shelter on their campus.

The MJCC plans to offer a Business Breakfast program on homelessness, previously scheduled March 17, in the near future. Whether it's time, money, food or supplies, all of us can help Portland overcome this serious challenge.

Upcoming Jewish Review Issues

SEND DATE (Wednesdays)	Submission Deadline
April 1, 2020	Noon, Thurs., March 26
April 14, 2020 (Tuesday)	Noon, Mon., April 6
April 29, 2020	Noon, Thurs., April 23
May 13, 2020	Noon, Thurs., May 7
May 27, 2020	Noon, Thurs., May 21
June 10, 2020	Noon, Thurs., June 4

OPB recalls impact of "The Three Rabbis"



These portraits, from left, Rabbi Joshua Stampfer, z"l, Rabbi Yonah Geller, z"l, and Rabbi Emanuel Rose, z"l, were made by Frank Barnett Photography.

"The Three Rabbis," a film documenting the contributions of Rabbis Joshua Stampfer, Emanuel Rose and Yonah Geller,

premiered Oct. 23, 2005, at Whitsell Auditorium at the Portland Art Museum before airing on Oregon Public Broadcasting later that month.

For more than 50 years, these three rabbis played a pivotal role in the growth and emergence of Portland's Jewish community.

The original 60-minute film, created by OPB, documents their contributions to Oregon through education and leadership, weaving in their outreach to other faiths and their numerous civic endeavors. It also confronts the tremendous change and conflict within both the religious and secular worlds. Through interviews and historical

accounts, "The Three Rabbis" tackles the important issues of the era: discrimination, civil rights, the Vietnam War and Israel, along with the rabbis' views on women's rights, intermarriage and more.

Now, after almost half a century at the helm of Portland's largest synagogue, Congregation Beth Israel, Rabbi Emanuel Rose died Feb. 7, 2020. Shortly before that, Rabbi Joshua Stampfer, rabbi of Congregation Neveh Shalom for 40 years, died Dec. 26, 2019. Rabbi Yonah Geller, who led Congregation Shaarie Torah for 40 years, died Nov. 15, 2007. All three served as rabbi emeritus at their respective congregations until their deaths.

With the passing of all three, OPB looks back on the making of the film, with an eye to the rabbis' enormous impact in Oregon, and how our world has changed in the last 15 years. The film with new commentary will air next month.

Oregon native and Portland educator

Gloria Feves Hammer, who conceived of the original film and served as consulting producer, guided its creation and conducted interviews of the rabbis and community leaders.

Reflecting on the original documentary, Hammer says, "As life progressed, I just always felt that the rabbis were unique. There was no other place in the United States where three men came from across the country as clergy to the largest populations of Jews in the Reform, Conservative and, at that time, Orthodox synagogues. And these men were still on their pulpits almost a half century later. This was a story that I felt needed to be documented."

She adds, "Rabbi Geller was quick to answer when I asked him questions concerning how the gay community was not accepted years ago; and he was quick to say, 'Times have changed.' I think that we all can agree that a lot has changed in the last quarter of a century."

"THE THREE RABBIS"

OPB TV:

Monday, April 6 at 9 pm
Wednesday, April 8 at 2 am
(overnight rebroadcast)

OPB PLUS (OPB's second digital channel – Comcast channel 310):

Friday, April 10 at 8:30 pm
Sunday, April 12 at 1 pm
Monday, April 13 at 12:30 am (overnight rebroadcast)

The program will also be available online April 6 at www.watch.opb.org



Rabbi Ken Brodtkin, left, of Congregation Kesser Israel, and Rabbi Tzvi Fischer, of the Portland Kollel, at the Daf Yomi Siyum for Masechet Brachot.

DAF YOMI (continued from page 5)

"I think the publicity that the Siyum at MetLife Stadium received created the awareness," says Rabbi Fischer. "However, I think the online resources, the smartphone apps, social media group encouragement and the availability of the Artscroll Schottenstien English edition have all been a game changer for access to this monumental work of our people."

During the last cycle, about 10 people participated in the Kollel's daily class. This year, about 30 people (pre-pandemic) were studying in either Rabbi Fischer's morning class at Kesser Israel or Rabbi Shalom Skolnik's evening class at the Kollel. Others receive the page on their cell phones or via email and study alone or with a partner.

Jodi Garber-Simon, who is participating in this Daf Yomi cycle with her husband, Neil Simon, says she was interested in starting Daf Yomi several years ago, but it was the middle of the cycle and she dismissed the idea. "This year, when I learned the cycle was beginning again, I decided to sign up for a daily email," says Jodi. "I'm only reading a summary of each day's page, but it's been very interesting. Some days, I find a bigger lesson that I can apply to life, and other days I laugh at the attention paid to minutiae of life. We will see if I make it all seven years, but so far, I've enjoyed this daily habit of learning."

For information on virtual classes, call the Portland Kollel at 503-245-5420.

TEEN CORNER: NCSY

The NCSY Experience: Fun, learning, friends

BY NISHAMA PARIS

I was crawling inside of a brilliant yellow bounce house with a dire mission at hand: save my fellow Jews! It had been about 10 minutes into the start of a carnival at NCSY's Fall Summit Shabbaton, and somehow two girls had already managed to eat four pretzels, run five laps and half deflate our bounce castle. The air hummed with that NCSY excitement as friends new and old embraced. I let out a joyful laugh and leapt into the sinking structure. Someone had to rescue those goofy girls!

"Hello? Hello?" I scavenged the rubber's deflating crevices for any sign of life, and suddenly, a tan hand shot out from beyond the mass of falling pillars. "Here! Oh, thank G-d," the voice responded, "We're over here!" Shimming up the inflatable slide my mouth dropped as I saw the mess of tangled hair and limbs that lay below.

There were two girls whose smiles were as outspread as eagles wings and whose eyes twinkled as bright as the sun.

We all burst into laughter and helped one another break out of that crumbling world.

Mission: success, but little did I know that the real mission had only just begun.

You see, this was one moment of friendship, one moment of joyful play, one weekend that soon became filled with memories of endless love, but the experience has launched me into a high school career of walking as a joyful Jew.

What is NCSY? A wash of memories. An NCSY experience is not comparable. For me, each trip begins with the buzz of friendships new and old igniting into life. I feel like I am a firework sizzling and taking flight besides my fellow Jews of brilliant light. I look to

NCSY goes virtual

As coronavirus counter-measures go into effect, NCSY is joining the move to virtual programming. Visit westcoast.ncsy.org/virtual-programming/ to explore classes and ruach building online.



Nishama and her friend Sara.

my left and to my right. There may be an ice rink flowing with laughter, pizzas steaming with warmth, Hebrew music washing through our lips and souls and ears, but that NCSY buzz is always there.

From the Torah discussions served with a cup of fro-yo each Thursday night (Latte and Learn), to the magical weekend getaways filled with rollercoasters, trampolines, relay races or more – all accompanied by our ever burning Shabbos light (Shabbatons), to the eye opening and mind expanding summers in the holy land of Israel (NCSY Summer), the joys of my life are intensified by NCSY's Jewish flame of life. The endless resources that NCSY has provided has helped me soar higher as a Jew. I thank NCSY, my parents, and G-d with abundant joy and gratitude.



Purim Top Chef had two winning teams, above. Caribbean Blue won the popular vote and Ruby Red won the chefs' choice award.

Teens and tweens compete to become Purim Top Chef

On March 8, 30 local Jewish teens and tweens got together to compete in NCSY's annual Top Chef cooking competition. This year's theme was Purim! Teams submitted recipes in advance and spent many hours preparing food, before coming together at the MJCC for the dinner presentations. The ballroom was decorated and full of Purim spirit. Parents and guests had a wonderful time tasting their children's food and voting on their favourite dishes. Caribbean Blue was the winning team of the popular vote.

Additionally, three local Jewish chefs selected the Ruby Red team as the winner of the chefs' choice award. The chefs were Lisa Schroeder of Mothers Bistro, Natalie Gullish of Mediterranean Exploration Company and Alex Hess, a native Oregonian and recent graduate of The Culinary Institute of America. The chefs also described some of the tasty food and why they liked it throughout the event.

Deadline reminders: Scholar Athlete nominations and Art & Writing entries due

Nominations for the Harry Glickman Scholar Athlete Award are due by March 20. Any Jewish scholar athlete who has lived in Oregon for the past three years and is a junior or senior in high school is eligible. Applicants will be judged on academic and athletic achievements as well as their commitment to community service. Winners will receive a \$500 scholarship for college.

Apply at oregonjcc.org/hsathlete

March 20 is the deadline for the annual Sala Kryszek Art & Writing Competition for middle and high school students.

See details, prompt and rules, at ojmche.org/educate/education/sala-kryszek-art-writing

PRE-CLOSURE EVENTS

IJS finishes run with Weekend in Quest

The Institute for Judaic Studies of the Pacific Northwest presented Weekend in Quest, a study weekend in Astoria, March 6-8. The study weekend in Astoria drew 70 people. The program was the final program under the auspices of IJS. IJS is transitioning its programs to the Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education.

Professor Evlyn Gould was the scholar for the weekend. She spoke on "Friends, Foes, Fanatics and Proto-Fascists: The Dreyfus Affair in fin-de-siècle France (1894-1906)." Gould is College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Professor in the Humanities and Professor Emerita of French at the University of Oregon.

"It was a great weekend with stimulating lectures by Evlyn Gould," said IJS Executive Director Sylvia Frankel, who is moving to Israel later this spring.



Liz Schwartz and Beth Hamon, who served as clergy for the weekend, providing musical entertainment Saturday after Shabbat. Photo by Carol Tova Newman

Bubbes write to support imprisoned children



At the end of January 2020, 13 "Bubbes" joined Dale Oller, M.D., to participate in the Amnesty International project called "Bubbes Write 4 Rights." Across the world 10 children under 18 are imprisoned for expressing human rights issues in 10 different countries. The photo of the young Sudanese boy, held by Oller, shows a child slated to be killed by his government.

"We wrote 60 letters to their governments and parents to say we have not forgotten them,"

says Oller, who is a member of Amnesty International Chapter 48 of Portland. She is also active in Portland's grassroots group the Never Again Coalition.

Anyone interested in joining either group is welcome to call Oller's office at 503-203-1777.

Purim Shpeil at Cedar Sinai Park

Shyrlee Goodman as Haman and Arthur Ginsburg as the King perform in Cedar Sinai Park's Purim Shpiel.

The shpiel was performed twice: Erev Purim, March 8, in Rose Schnitzer Manor, and March 10 in the Harold Schnitzer Center for Living.



SHARE YOUR STORIES

As the world shifts to a virtual existence for the foreseeable future, the Jewish Review won't be featuring pictures of community events. But we do want to share news about how the community is coping with, and even thriving in, these trying times.

If you have stories or ideas, please contact Editor Deborah Moon:

editor@jewishportland.org | 503-892-7404

Maggid Cassandra Sagan wrote and directed an excellent cast, which also included Olive Eng as Esther 1; Marion Gans as Esther 2; Maggie Portrait as Mordechai; Jane Schindler as a servant and Haman's wife; and Marie Godfrey as Vashti. Sonia Liberman was the narrator.



PJA student art showcased at MJCC

The PJA Showcase, which followed Jewish Arts Month at the Mittleman Jewish Community Center, featured current works by Portland Jewish Academy students at the MJCC March 2-6. It included works from grades 1-8 and all art media from drawing and painting to sculpture and fiber arts.

PJA's art program, which begins in the Early Childhood years, continues in the Lower and Middle School with a focus on Teaching for Artistic Behavior. Lower School classes spend one period a week in the art studio. Middle Schoolers can elect an art exploratory each trimester.

Art teacher Alisa Scudamore begins her classes with a brief demonstration or discussion to inspire new ideas from the students. She might demonstrate an artistic technique, a new tool or discuss an artist's work. Students are then free to explore their personal interests – such as drawing rainbows, building 3-D sculptures or weaving – in the art studio.

Different areas of the art studio are opened throughout the year as students demonstrate readiness.

PANDEMIC (from page 1)

is expected to be significant. Agencies and congregations are considering ways to help. The Jewish Free Loan (see story page 3) encourages individuals or families impacted by the crisis to apply for an interest-free loan of up to \$4,000.

At the March 11 meeting of Jewish agency and synagogue executives, attendees discussed the potential snowball effect of closed preschools, day schools and Hebrew schools. Closures mean teachers are out of work and parents will need alternate child care; perhaps those out of work teachers could take on child care roles. Portland's three day schools and several Hebrew schools have moved to online or virtual learning.

SOCIAL

Cedar Sinai Park has instituted steps to reduce exposure

Obituaries

Jeffrey Babener

Jeffrey Babener, z"l, passed away March 17, 2020. He was the beloved husband of Roz, father of Rebecca Babener, Rachel (Casey) Bage and Jeremy Babener, and dear grandfather of Sammy and Ani.

In keeping with our, and the family's commitment to keep our community safe and healthy, and in compliance with our governor's directive, a private interment is scheduled for Wednesday, March 18, 2020.

Congregation Neveh Shalom extends our deepest condolences to the Babener family.

Bruce Nathan Director

Bruce Nathan Director, z"l, passed away suddenly March 5 in New York City. He was husband to Minnie Johnson, father to Justin and Nick Director, brother to Stuart (Nikki) Director, and Delores Kimmel of Newton, Mass., and uncle of Jenn (David) Director Knudsen of Portland.

(see page 2). PJ Library has canceled Yad b'Yad, a weekly gathering that normally brings seniors and preschoolers together each week (see related story page 2). And Jewish Family and Child Service is exploring ways to provide emergency financial assistance and mental health support.

"This could be a galvanizing opportunity for the community to do volunteer activities," suggests Blattner.

Volunteers could call seniors regularly to check on them, which would provide social connections and help create a sense of community. Volunteering to deliver meals and groceries is another option.

Kindness and adaptability are important traits that we will need as things continue to evolve in the coming weeks.

Marc Tobin

Marc Tobin, z"l, died March 14, 2020. He was the beloved son of Phil and Patou Tobin, brother to Rachel Tobin Anderson, and grandson to Frieda Tobin.

Services were held March 17 at Neveh Zedek Mausoleum. Contributions in Marc's memory may be made to Mark Ail Campership through Congregation Neveh Shalom.

Dorothy Silver Nudelman

Dorothy Silver Nudelman (z"l), Devora bas Kalmon Moshe, passed away in her sleep on Tuesday, March 10, 2020, at the age of 97.

Dorothy was the wife of Stanford Nudelman (z"l); mother of Roberta (Richard) Cohon, Marvin Nudelman, and Marilyn Lakefish (z"l); grandmother of Cara Cohon, Jason Cohon, Andy and Brian Lakefish, and Geoffrey Nudelman; and sister of Norman (Norma) Silver and Sarah Hornstein (z"l).

The funeral was March 15 at Shaarie Torah Cemetery.

Chaplain's Corner

Look for the rainbow at the end of upheaval

BY RABBI BARRY COHEN

Who would ever have imagined how much our world would be turned upside down? In the midst of the stress, pressure and fear that surround us, I recently learned a valuable lesson from a fellow chaplain when he referenced the story of Noah.

God told Noah that God "... will pour rain upon the earth for forty days and nights." (Genesis 7:4) I wonder what Noah felt about the timeline. Did he think that after 40 days, he would be able to create a new sense of normalcy?

Forty days and nights was just the beginning. Add another 150 days when the waters towered over the earth; 54 days until Noah sent out a raven and two

doves; two months for the earth to dry up.

Forty became nearly 400 until Noah and his family could leave the ark.

To navigate these trying days, we must remember to look to the horizon. Why? Because at the end of the story of Noah, God placed a rainbow in the clouds as a sign of hope and peace.

Now is our time to prioritize and strategize for the sake of hope and peace. That rainbow is sure to arrive.

As the Community Chaplain for the Greater Portland Jewish community, Rabbi Barry Cohen serves as a resource for all Jews across our community. He can be reached at chaplain@jewishportland.org.

CLOSURES & ONLINE OPTIONS:

Jewishportland.org/jewishreview

Virtually all synagogues and organizations are closed for at least the rest of March. Many are offering online or virtual programs. Check congregation and synagogue websites for their offerings. We have also asked organizations to post virtual events at jewishportland.org/community-calendar.

We will update our website with information as we receive it.

Following are closures and resources we received for this issue:

Mittleman Jewish Community Center is closed through Tuesday, March 31, 2020. oregonjcc.org

Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education is closed. ojmche.org

Congregation Neveh Shalom has cancelled all on site events through March 31; Friday evening and Saturday morning virtual services: nevehshalom.org/virtual-services/

Congregation Beth Israel encourages virtual services attendance. bethisrael-pdx.org

Congregation Shaarie Torah has ceased all gatherings for at least two weeks. shaarietorah.org

Congregation Kol Ami will offer many Zoom programs for adults and kids. jewishvancouverusa.org

PDX Hillel has canceled all in-person activities immediately. Online program details posted on facebook.com/PDXHillel/ and instagram.com/pdxhillel/

Hillel International has launched Hillel@Home: welcome.hillel.org/hillelathome/

Portland Jewish Academy, Ma'ayan Torah Day School and Maimonides Jewish Day School have moved to online learning.