

# The JEWISH REVIEW

Oregon and SW Washington's Online Jewish Newspaper

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May 12, 2021 / Sivan 1, 5781

Volume 56, Issue 11



The Oregon Holocaust Memorial was marred by Nazi graffiti May 1 or early May 2. The graffiti has been removed, but it was a reminder hate continues.

## Oregon Holocaust Memorial defaced

BY DEBORAH MOON

The Oregon Holocaust Memorial in Washington Park was defaced with Nazi graffiti on May 1.

"To use Nazi symbols to deface a Memorial dedicated to the millions who were murdered during the Holocaust recapitulates the hatred that drove the original genocide," says Judy Margles, director of the Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education, which is the steward for the Memorial.

"Portland police are vigorously investigating the crime incident and are currently reviewing all the evidence," says Regional Security Director Gene Moss, who is based at the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland.

Just a month earlier, community leaders and elected officials, including Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler, gathered at the memorial for the annual Reading of the Names on Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day. This year, participants read the names of local survivors' family members who were murdered in the Holocaust and are etched on the Memorial.

"The defacement of the Memorial affected all of us deeply and viscerally," says Judy.

"Unfortunately, with anti-Semitism on the rise in our country, are we surprised?" asks JFGP President and CEO Marc Blattner.

Community support has been swift. On May 4, Mayor Wheeler called Blattner to express support for the Jewish community. And many have reached out to OJMCH.

"We have been considerably heartened by the out-

See MEMORIAL, page 8

## Confront Hate May 26

BY DEBORAH MOON

A dozen diverse partner organizations have come together to present "A Community Call to Confront Hate." The virtual summit will be 9 am-1 pm, May 26.

"An attack against anyone because of their ethnicity, race, religion or sexual orientation is an attack against all of us," says organizer Bob Horenstein, community relations director of the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland. The JCRC is a key organizer of the Confront Hate summit.

The summit evolved out of United in Spirit, a Portland-based coalition reinvigorating the historically positive relationship between the African-American and Jewish communities. That collaboration was joined by an array of other communities to present a series of webinars on the history of hate in Oregon. Webinar recordings on the history of discrimination against Blacks, Native Americans, immigrants, LGBTQ+, Asians and Jews can be seen at [jewishportland.org/uncovers](http://jewishportland.org/uncovers).

At the May summit, those groups will present ways to move forward to confront hate. The day will begin at 9 am with a virtual welcome and a conversation around implicit bias with speaker Bill de la Cruz. Participants will be able to choose from eight breakout sessions held each hour at 10 and again at 11 am.

At noon, keynote speaker Eric K. Ward will speak on "Combating Hate: The intersection of Racism and Anti-Semitism in the Fight for an Inclusive Democracy." The executive director of Western States Center and longtime civil rights strategist, Ward will reflect on the recent threats to our democracy and what we can do to work toward a more inclusive democracy.

Nearly 700 people have registered for the summit as of May 6. Organizers are hoping for 1,000 participants. The list of registrants ranges from individuals from the partner communities to representatives from Oregon cities, school districts, universities, nonprofits, neighborhood associations, Rotary clubs, religious organizations and Portland-area Jewish congregations.

The webpage for the summit notes: In this time of national and local reckoning with our country and state's grim legacy of discrimination and hate, we have come together as a broad coalition of partner organizations and allies to create a virtual summit.

"The summit is not a one off," says Horenstein. "It is about building and strengthening relationships with each other."

The summit is designed to build bridges between communities, bridges that will lead to a united front against hate.

See CONFRONT HATE, page 9



These 12 diverse organizations have come together to educate the community on how to confront hate against all. Funding has been provided by the Emily Georges Gottfried Fund and Oregon Jewish Community Foundation.

# Julie Diamond retiring from OJCF June 30

Oregon Jewish Community Foundation President and CEO Julie Diamond has announced her retirement effective June 30, 2021. She will continue to support the philanthropic foundation as a consultant.

Effective May 1, Chief Financial Officer Chris Vitron serves as Interim CEO until a new CEO can be hired. The position of president and CEO has been posted (see page 16), with applications and interviews managed by Melissa Ulum, MS&S Executive Search, and the OJCF board search committee.

"Although I will continue to work until June 30, this provides clear leadership for the



community and our team," says Julie.

Julie joined OJCF in 2007 as development director and took

the reins of the organization in 2010.

"It's now time for me to pass the torch to new leadership for the strength of the foundation and for me to put my health first and foremost," wrote Julie in a letter announcing her retirement. She added she is continuing treatment for a rare cancer she has been fighting since 2018.

"It's been a privilege and an honor to do this work," says Julie. "I look forward to continuing to be part of the community, just in a new way. As a consultant, I hope to do some interesting and important projects."

The board plans to honor Julie

for her leadership at the OJCF Annual Meeting on June 8.

"During her tenure as CEO, Julie has led the organization through unprecedented growth," says Board Chair Josh Frankel. "When she took over the reins in 2010, the Foundation had \$39 million in assets under management. As of the end of April 2021, OJCF proudly manages \$110 million on behalf of individual donors and endowments. Julie's retirement marks the end of an era that will be remembered for several transformational programs including, but not limited to,

See OJCF, page 4

## Levys leaving Portland

BY DEBORAH MOON

Rabbi Gadi and Eve Levy arrived in Portland in 2014 intending to stay two years. With connections they have forged and the indelible mark they have made over the past seven years, their departure in June is "not really goodbye."

The couple moved from Denver to Portland to join the Portland Kollel and serve as director of education and director of women's programs, respectively. Rabbi Gadi also has served as a rabbinic supervisor for Oregon Kosher, a mohel performing ritual circumcisions, leader of two men's trips to Israel and, since 2018, the rabbi of Congregation Ahavath Achim. Eve has led six women's Momentum trips to Israel, two Poland/Israel trips, multiple women's retreats and founded [Inspired Jewish Women](#). In 2019, Eve received the Laurie Rogoway Outstanding Jewish Professional Award in recognition of her contributions and leadership in the greater Portland Jewish community.

Now they are leaving their roles as rabbi and rabissa of Congregation Ahavath Achim to lead the L'Chaim Center in Deerfield, Ill., which will draw on all the skills they have honed here. The center offers a



wide array of classes, events, Shabbat and holiday services, retreats and trips designed to provide authentic Jewish experiences.

"Eve and Gadi have been an incredible asset to our community and of course, we will miss them," wrote Ahavath Achim President Mark Berkovitch, announcing the couple's departure.

The couple was "a real shot in the arm," adds past president Renee Ferrera. "They brought in more new members to the congregation than we have had in probably 20 years. Each has their own special attributes, which we desperately needed."

Eve says the congregation was invaluable to the couple, as well. She says her favorite part

See LEVYS, page 3

## Portland Kollel's Fischers to move east this summer

On May 5, Rabbi Tzvi and Esther Fischer announced they will be leaving our community to move to Detroit this summer. An article in a future issue of Jewish Review will explore their many contributions to Portland's Jewish community.

"Over the past 15 years, our family has had the great opportunity to be engaged in building our Portland community through the Portland Kollel," wrote Rabbi Fischer in a letter. "Watching the Kollel community grow from its infancy into a vibrant part of Jewish Portland has been truly rewarding." He added that the Kollel will continue to grow with the community under the able leadership of Rabbi Chanan Spivak, Rabbi Boruch Dov Diskind and the rest of the Kollel team.

"Their incredible work over the past 15 years with the Portland Kollel, Maayan Torah Day School, Oregon Kosher, Rachel's Well Community Mikvah and so much more cannot be overstated," says Jewish Federation of Greater Portland President and CEO Marc Blattner. "I am close to Rabbi Fischer and can only say his warm demeanor, community openness and brilliant mind made my work at the Jewish



Federation easier."

The Portland Kollel provides vibrant non-synagogue-based Jewish learning. With classes, programs and informal settings throughout the city, the Portland Kollel brings a new perspective of meaning to everyday Jewish life. Rabbi Fischer's letter went on to say, "This decision did not come easily. We have been privileged to be a part of the Portland Kollel and its extended community, giving us the opportunity to connect with hundreds of Jewish families, whether in our home or through the various relationships, classes and programs we have been involved with. We have been inspired by the lives we have touched, and the many special people we have come to know during our time here."



# LEVYS (continued from previous page)

of being Ahavath Achim rabissa has been watching her husband in his role as a congregational rabbi (a role he will continue at the L'Chaim Center).

"It energized him," she says. "I have never seen my husband so on fire as when he is in his rabbinic role serving people."

Eve treasured the opportunity to explore Sephardic culture and learn Sephardic cooking.

"I married a Sephardic man but never lived near my mother-in-law," says Eve. "The last three years have given me such pride in our Sephardic heritage."

Learning to cook Sephardic recipes from Renee has been a highlight.

"I told her, 'I will make your recipes, and my children will make your recipes – your legacy will live on,'" says Eve.

Renee says that Eve has been "a sponge ... and wants to share what she is learning with the rest of the community." So Ahavath Achim offered a weekly Sephardic cooking class for about six weeks before the COVID shutdown last March.

For Rabbi Gadi, getting to know Oregon and its people has been a gift.

"Oregon is one of the most beautiful states that I've been to, and I will miss the long drives that I'd take working for Oregon Kosher ... I got paid to see this beautiful state," he says. But he adds he is most proud of "the relationships we built with community members of the greater Jewish community. ... Especially precious to us are those relationships with people who don't see eye to eye with me on many matters. I see being able to come close to others as a great achievement."

He says that while many consider the greatest moment in sports to be when an underdog wins, he feels the best moments are when the losing team congratulates the winners or when the winning player comforts the player who lost.

"If in sports ... we can respect the efforts of others, surely in life we can, too," Rabbi Gadi says. Pointing to the current



Eve Levy, third from left, has led many women's trips to Israel.

rift in the political spectrum, he would love to see similar respect to those who see differently than we do. "I recognize that on both ends of the spectrum there is a small percentage sitting toward the extremes. Most people in politics sit between the 30- and 50-yard line."

Eve says she has come to recognize "greatness" is a much broader spectrum than she had understood before. As an Orthodox woman, she used to believe keeping kosher and observing Shabbat were key elements. But at Ahavath Achim, where many do not keep kosher, she says "I have never met such good Jews with hearts of gold. They have taught me a lot."

Eve is encouraging other women to step up and continue to lead programs. Post pandemic restrictions, she thinks people will need to "recharge our batteries."

"My passion is to build up women ... I want women to see themselves as leaders," says Eve.

The retreats and trips she has led have inspired many women to do just that. Sarah Rosenberg Brown is among the many women who launched businesses and stepped into leadership roles after attending retreats. Sarah serves on the board of the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland and has launched a new business, Sarah Rosenberg Brown Coaching & Consulting.

"After traveling with Eve and attending her women's retreats, I have taken a lifelong dream and turned it into reality,

starting my own coaching and consulting business geared toward women and I soon will be offering nature-based retreats for Jewish women," says Sarah. "Without Eve's encouragement and belief, I am not sure if I would have ever made this happen."

"When I first heard that the Levy family was moving to Chicago my heart ached, but I knew that the gifts, the energy, and the love that the Levy's shared with the Portland community would endure," she adds. "Rabbi and Eve Levy brought people together in a warm and open way that forged new bonds and provided a place to learn and grow. The seeds that Rabbi Gadi and Eve have planted within everyone who knew them will continue to grow even when they are in Chicago."

Another woman inspired by an Israel trip with Eve was Naomi Leavitt. "She helped me see who I was and had the potential to be as a Jewish woman and a mother and wife," says Naomi, who was instrumental in bringing the Levys to Portland.

Naomi was working with Meira Spivak at the Portland Kollel to plan a moms' trip to Israel when they learned of the work Eve was doing in Denver leading Momentum trips to Israel, which were sponsored by the Jewish Women's Renaissance Project. After the Portland Kollel hired the Levys, Eve led the Portland group on a Momentum trip, sharing a bus with the Denver contingent.

## Ahavath Achim hires Rabbi Skolnik

Congregation Ahavath Achim has hired Rabbi Sholom Skolnik who presently teaches at Mayan Torah to take the reins of the Sephardic congregation.

"Being local, we plan to begin integrating him into the Ahavath Achim community immediately," writes Ahavath Achim President Mark Berkovitch. "Please welcome him, his wife Chaviva and their family to our congregation."

"Eve had such a reputation, because it was like her 'old sisters' and her 'new sisters,' together," says Naomi. "Her influence is so incredible."

"After our trip, she and I went to a leadership conference for JWRP participants in Maryland, and we started Portland's Shine for women after that," says Naomi.

While Eve will leave Shine for Portland to carry on, she has launched a nonprofit organization called Inspired Jewish Women ([inspiredJewishwomen.com](http://inspiredJewishwomen.com)) that incorporates the goals of Shine.

Eve plans to lead a trip to Morocco for 80 women in May 2022 – perhaps recreating the feel of her first trip in Portland uniting her old and new communities.

It is just one of the ways the Levys plan to remain connected with their Portland friends. They plan to host Portland visitors in their new home near the large airline hub of Chicago, with many friends already saying they will plan stops in Chicago when on trips elsewhere.

For now, they will receive a fond sendoff at events organized by Renee and Naomi. Renee is preparing a private Sephardic brunch for Ahavath Achim members, and Naomi is organizing a socially distanced (masks required) gathering at Cook Park in Tigard for the broader community. Both events will be June 6. RSVPs are requested for the community gathering: [ahavathachimpdx.weebly.com/calendar](http://ahavathachimpdx.weebly.com/calendar)

## OJCF ANNUAL MEETING

**Your Invited: 4-5 pm, June 8 on Zoom**

Join our board of trustees, family of fund holders and professional team as we reflect on the fiscal year that ends June 30, 2021, and the new year beginning July 1. We'll thank our concluding board trustees, Elizabeth Menashe, Rob Shlachter and Jeff Wolfstone. We are grateful for their leadership and service.

Those being nominated for a three-year term beginning July 1 are Sharon Morell, a past chair of the foundation, Glen Levy and Lindsay Krivosha. Current board chair Josh Frankel will serve another year, and upon election by the executive committee, Jonathan Singer will transition to the role of chair-elect, effective July 1, 2021, and chair a year later.

The meeting will include a celebration of retiring President and CEO Julie Diamond's outstanding and passionate leadership at the foundation and throughout the community.

We welcome the entire community. RSVP: [nates@ojcf.org](mailto:nates@ojcf.org).

## OJCF (continued from page 2)

Life & Legacy, Endowment Book of Life, Giving Council and the Professional Advisors Group.

OJCF partnered with the Harold Grinspoon Foundation in 2013 to bring its Life & Legacy program to Oregon.

"To me, Life and Legacy will be her defining legacy as CEO," says Josh. "Julie's dedication and commitment to the future of Jewish life in Oregon and southwest Washington helped bring Life & Legacy to our community. ... Under Julie's leadership, 19 organizations have participated in Life & Legacy receiving training, mentoring, marketing and incentive grants to support legacy gift development. Life & Legacy will help us sustain a vibrant Jewish community for generations to come, and Julie is to thank for this gift."

Other staff members have been promoted or taken on additional responsibilities effective May 1 "to move the organization forward with strength to provide uninterrupted philanthropic service," says Julie.

Tara Siegman has been promoted to vice president of philanthropy. Her work will include ongoing development of new relationships and funds, along with legacy giving including Life & Legacy. This expansion of Tara's responsibilities builds perfectly on her seven years of service at OJCF and many more years in philanthropy.

Sonia Marie Leikam has been promoted to director of donor relations. In this capacity, she will take care of OJCF fund holders' and donors' needs and contribute to donor education and marketing.

"This promotion will allow her to bring her unique skills and passion to serve our community in a new way," says Julie. "Sonia Marie has been committed to our teens and young adults; she has led them from the heart during her five years with OJCF. We want to create a solid plan to support the OJCYP and Giving Council."

Sonia Marie will continue as the point of contact for the youth foundation and young adult Giving Council through this fiscal year.

Nate Smith will continue as operations manager while also serving as interim finance manager, supporting Chris Vitron with his CFO responsibilities during the transition. Nate is finishing his master's in finance at Portland State University next month and is ready for new responsibilities and to contribute during this transition.

Laurie Kays will continue as accountant and grants manager, a role that includes managing fund statements for fund holders and partner organizations and working on all aspects of grants management, from receiving grant recommendations to sending grant awards into the community.

## PJA hires Sean Bartlett as director of afterschool programs

Portland Jewish Academy has hired Sean Bartlett as director of afterschool programs.

"Sean has a big job ahead of him as he works towards re-establishing PJA's onsite and off-site afterschool programs for the 2021-22 school year," says PJA Principal Merrill Hendin.

The afterschool programs, which have been closed all year due to the pandemic, will reopen in August. The onsite afterschool program Kids corner serves children from PJA and from several Portland Public School elementary schools in Southwest Portland. PJA anticipates reopening its afterschool programs at Forest Park Elementary (NW Portland) and Glencoe Elementary (SE Portland) this fall.

Sean grew up in the San Francisco Bay Area before attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa, where he received a degree in American studies. After moving back to San Francisco, Sean got his credential to teach history and language arts, which he did for seven years. In addition to running a summer



Sean Bartlett

camp in the Bay Area, Sean has worked at various afterschool and child-care centers.

Sean moved to Portland with his husband in 2015, where they have an old house with a one-acre hobby farm. They love spending time playing with their dogs and chickens, planting in their garden and planning for new additions to the farm.

Sean is excited to be joining the PJA team and learning more about the wonderful community here.

## Rosenberg Brown starts coaching business

Sarah Rosenberg Brown has launched a new positive-impact business called Sarah Rosenberg Brown Coaching & Consulting.



In fall of 2019, Sarah left a 10-year run at a non-profit "to set out on a self-discovery path and to create balance and harmony in my life."

"I wanted to stay true to myself and my core values, while also having a successful career," says Sarah. "As a Whole Person Certified Coach and Consultant, this new venture is aligned with my values, draws on my varied skills, fulfills my passion for supporting people and truly makes my heart sing."

Sarah bases her work as a coach in the Whole Person Coaching philosophy, which is a holistic coaching method based on the premise that when you come to know, embrace and express all aspects of your whole self, you are positioned to thrive in any aspect of life.

She has more than 20 years of experience working in nonprofits, as a small business owner; master trainer; and inclusion, diversity, equity and access (IDEA) champion. She brings a solution-based strategic approach to professional development and consulting.

Sarah serves on the board of the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland. She and her family are involved with the Jewish community in Portland through Chabad of NE Portland, the Portland Kollel and Inspired Jewish Women.

To learn more about Sarah's dynamic, creative and holistic approach visit [sarahrosenbergbrown.com](http://sarahrosenbergbrown.com)



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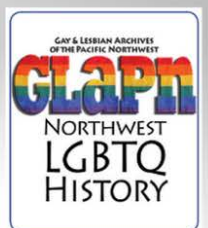
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# Israel experience is back for teens, young adults

BY DEBORAH MOON

Portlander Emily Anderson, 20, is one of about 1,300 Masa Fellows who arrived in Israel in April 2021 after Israel's Ministry of Interior approved entry for travelers with Masa visas. She was originally scheduled to go in January, but COVID restrictions delayed her arrival until April 5.

Masa Israel Journey, founded by The Jewish Agency and the government of Israel, announced in mid-April that Israeli skies have reopened for Masa Fellows arriving in Israel from abroad. Masa is adapting its programs to improve participant safety and provide support for participants. It has continued operating throughout the pandemic, supporting thousands of Fellows who stayed in Israel for long-term experiences.

Emily is participating in a five-month internship through Masa's Sachlav – Top Israel Interns. A rising junior at Scripps College, she is interning with Targo Consulting in Tel Aviv, Israel, which helps develop start-up companies through research and strategic planning.

"As an economics/organizational studies dual major, I wanted to intern with a consulting organization that would expose me to a variety of business types and industries," says Emily. "The Masa internship provides me with practical work experience and a glimpse into what I may want to do in my post-college career."

Participants in Sachlav get a solid introduction to Hebrew, learn practical skills to develop professionally through Masa's Career Advancement Program, and take part in tours and social activities around the country.



Portlander Emily Anderson enjoys a Tel Aviv beach while in Israel for a five-month internship through Masa Israel Journey.

Emily's family visited Israel in 2012 before she became a bat mitzvah. She returned to Israel in 2017 for a month on an Israel program through NFTY, the Reform Jewish youth movement. She and her parents, Lee Anderson and Dena Gutterman, belong to the small Reform congregation Beit Haverim. In high school, she joined the NFTY group at Congregation Beth Israel, PARTY (Portland Area Reform Temple Youth), serving as co-president her senior year.

"I loved my month in Israel, and I really wanted a longer, more immersive experience in

the country, says Emily.

Emily planned to study abroad for a semester during college, with Israel high on her list of destinations. In fall 2019, she started college at Scripps College in Claremont, Calif., and immediately began exploring study-abroad options.

"When COVID hit in spring 2020 and study-abroad programs were being cancelled, I started investigating alternative options for an immersive experience in Israel," says Emily. "With the help of the Claremont Hillel Rabbi Danny Shapiro, I came across the many internship programs through Masa."

A majority of Fellows arriving in Israel are participating in Masa Gap and Masa Career programs as part of the highest number ever recorded, with a steep rise in registration for gap year (40%) and internship (33%) programs.

Israel is vaccinating its population faster than any other country. Masa ensures safe and comfortable 10-day quarantine conditions for all incoming Fellows. Those who bring official documentation of vaccination from their home countries and receive a negative PCR test on landing in Israel are exempt from quarantine.

"During this challenging time for many young people around the world, we are proud to offer immersive opportunities for personal and professional development in Israel," says Ofer Gutman, Masa Israel Journey's Acting CEO. "While career and travel options may continue to be limited internationally, Israel remains an accessible bridge for youth seeking growth, experience and knowledge. Our ability to reopen Israel's skies to Masa Fellows is the culmination of hard work and coordination with Israel's government and The Jewish Agency, our program providers and communities abroad."

Masa Israel Journey is the largest immersive, long-term educational experience for young adults ages 18-30. Programs range from two months to a year. Since its 2004 founding by the Israeli Prime Minister's Office and The Jewish Agency, Masa has served over 160,000 young people from more than 62 countries.

For information on Masa programs, visit [masaisrael.org](https://masaisrael.org).

## Prospective foster/adoptive families invited to apply for fellowship, microgrants

YATOM: The Jewish Foster & Adoption Network is accepting applications for its sixth Family Fellowship Cohort for Jewish families (or individuals) looking to foster or adopt a vulnerable child.

Fellows will have the opportunity to receive a micro-community to journey with through the fostering/adoptive experience; education on the process through a Jewish

lens and from experts in fostering, adoption, and child welfare; and a stipend for those who successfully complete the program.

For more information, visit [yatom.org/family-fellowship](https://yatom.org/family-fellowship)

Apply at [yatom.org/become-a-fellow](https://yatom.org/become-a-fellow).

In addition, Yatom offers microgrants for Jewish foster or adoptive parents who

could use some financial support to offset the expenses related to caring for a vulnerable child. Grants are between \$500-3,000 with \$1,000 being the average grant.

For eligibility guidelines and application directions, visit: [yatom.org/micro-grant-program](https://yatom.org/micro-grant-program)

For questions on the fellowship or grants, email [yatom613@gmail.com](mailto:yatom613@gmail.com)



# Dignity Grows for all who menstruate

BY JENN DIRECTOR KNUDSEN

When one of a woman's most basic human needs goes unanswered, her self-esteem and dignity suffer. The simple answer is this: provide hygiene products to all who menstruate and can't afford the cost of those products.

"Period poverty" is the lack of financial means to purchase products – such as pads, tampons, a menstrual cup and other hygiene items – required to handle the monthly flow of menstrual blood discreetly and hygienically. It is a problem around the world, in our nation and in our own backyard.

Dignity Grows is providing a solution to tackle period poverty in the United States. The program recognizes there are people – for example, non-binary or gender nonconforming – who were born female, do not identify female and also menstruate. They are included in the distribution.

Today a nonprofit, Dignity Grows began in 2019 as a project of the Hartford, Conn.-based Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford's Women's Philanthropy. In March, it launched as the first national initiative in a quarter century from the federation system's National Women's Philanthropy. Portland became the 15th city nationwide to launch its own chapter. As of May 3, 22 have launched with another 12 in formation.

Dignity Grows provides personal and menstrual hygiene products every month to people who menstruate and cannot afford them. That's roughly 20 percent – or one in five – of those who have a period, according to the Dignity Grows' website.

"Period poverty isn't something I'd been aware of" either here in Portland or nationwide, says Nicole Sacks, Portland's Dignity Grows' chapter lead.

As in Hartford and more than a dozen American urban centers, Portland's Dignity Grows chapter is an initiative of the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland's Women's Philan-

thropy, explains Wendy Kahn. Kahn is Campaign and Women's Philanthropy Director and works alongside Sacks on this project.

"I was completely blown away by the numbers, and launching this program here was a no-brainer; we knew we had to get involved and do something," says Sacks.

Jewish women in Hartford were inspired to act after viewing the 2018 Oscar-winning documentary, *Period. End of Sentence.*, about the lack of access to menstrual products for women in India. The film reports the negative impact this dearth has on the lives of poor girls and women; without proper products, shame keeps many home from school and work, leading to ever greater poverty and low self-worth.

Not exclusive to India, this issue also is huge but largely unknown in the United States, where government benefits like SNAP do not cover necessities like menstrual hygiene products, and they are rarely donated. Yet the reality is that people who menstruate spend an average of \$7 a month on products such as tampons and pads, representing an average state tax of 6.25 percent, according to Her Campus.

The pandemic has exacerbated the need for those with few resources to access hygiene products, says Rachel Cain of Outside-In, the first partner organization of Portland's chapter of Dignity Grows.

"The need is always in flux," she says of those who rely on Outside-In, a nonprofit located in downtown Portland. Outside-In offers a health clinic, resources for the houseless, hygiene products and more for struggling people ages 13 to 24, many who identify as LGBTQ+. Cain is Outside-In's Youth Department administrative assistant.

Women's Philanthropy of Greater Portland became keenly aware of the need, and in March of this year conducted its inaugural Dignity Grows meeting via Zoom. The 14 women



Members of Portland's Dignity Grows chapter packed 140 totes for Outside-In clients at the group's first packing party May 2.

## DIGNITY GROWS IN PORTLAND

In March 2021, Women's Philanthropy of Greater Portland became the 15th chapter of Dignity Grows, which provides monthly personal and menstrual hygiene products to women, girls and individuals assigned female at birth who cannot afford them. If you want to help:

- Volunteer to work with distribution partners as the local Dignity Grows chapter expands. Volunteers can help plan and participate in packing parties (Packs), each of which includes education about the issue or the recipient organization.

- Sponsor Dignity Totes for \$10 each; each tote holds a month's supply of sanitary pads and tampons, toothpaste and a toothbrush, a bar of soap, deodorant and shampoo.

To learn more or volunteer – men and volunteers of all ages welcome – visit [jewishportland.org/dignitygrows](https://jewishportland.org/dignitygrows) or email Wendy Kahn at [wendy@jewishportland.org](mailto:wendy@jewishportland.org).

online immediately signed up to turn the Dignity Grows initiative into action, Sacks says.

Between mid-March and early May, Dignity Grows' participants raised the seed money needed to fill hundreds of discreet Dignity Grows zippered tote bags with one month's worth of general hygiene products – such as deodorant, a toothbrush and toothpaste – and those for menstruation.

"This way, people can grab a tote and go, whereas before they could take only a single pad," Kahn says. "Now they can take a bag with dignity. This is huge."

On May 2, the group gathered at the Mittleman Jewish Community Center – outside and socially distanced – for its first

Pack. Fourteen women packed 140 totes and enjoyed a uniquely Portland chapter spin during their time together.

One of its five teams is education. Its goal is to teach those at the Packs about period poverty, partner organizations and underlying, related Jewish text-based teachings, explains Debbie Plawner, a member of this team along with Priscilla Kostiner and Dara Wilk.

Kahn says Dignity Grows' debut Pack went smoothly, and all participants were inspired to learn and do more.

"Doing just a little can reduce barriers, help eliminate stigmas and create a resource for individuals who lack supplies that so many of us take for granted," she says.

# Grant helps create holy space

BY KERRY POLITZER

Ten years ago, a vision for a portable holy space came to Portland sculptor and painter Diane Fredgant.

This spring, Diane was awarded a 2021 Working Artist Grant by [The American Guild of Judaic Art](#) in recognition of her work on her Modern Mishkan. The portable sanctuary is based on the Mishkan or Tabernacle the Jews carried as they wandered in the wilderness for 40 years after leaving Egypt. Founded in 1991 in New York City, the AGJA's mission is to support Jewish artists by promoting awareness of fine art and ritual objects created in the Jewish spirit. The not-for-profit organization advocates for and promotes contemporary Jewish art, Judaica and Jewish culture.

"I got this huge idea for a Mishkan," Diane says. "And I didn't know how to create it. So I started doing a whole bunch of research from the Torah."

Soon details started to populate Diane's inspiring vision. She decided that her version would have the 613 mitzvot written on its walls, and she drew the first and second rooms.

The first room, which is now complete, consists of an 8-foot-high, fabric Torah scroll. One of her goals is to ensure that the work is totally portable. Diane is using her \$1,000 grant to cover some of the cost of fabrication of an aluminum frame.

"The frame right now is made of steel, and it's very heavy and cumbersome," she says. "So I talked to (Wright Manufacturing), this place that manufactures custom aluminum framings."

Diane envisions a traveling holy place that will enlighten and inspire congregations of different faiths. In October, the installation will take up temporary residence in Eastside Jewish Commons/Congregation Shir Tivkah's new home on Sandy Boulevard.

The current iteration of the project has already visited



Portland artist Diane Fredgant has received a grant to help make her Modern Miskhan (holy space) truly portable.

Neveh Shalom, Reed College and the NewCAJE conference.

"People ... would go in and meditate and feel the space," she says. "We ran a Havdalah service inside of it; it was such an amazing feeling to be inside. There's something magical about it. I know that I'm supposed to keep going with this, and I'm supposed to create this space."

She plans to add beautiful silk panels to her project, as one of her primary mediums is silk.

"I was introduced to this woman who painted on silk, and I went in to make a piece for my studio," she says. "It was amazing the way the silk felt like it came alive."

The difficulty of the medium is one of the things that appeals to her: "You only get one chance when you paint on silk; if you do something wrong, you can't paint over it ... you have to start over. So there was something fascinating about that. I fell in love with silk, and then I started thinking about its applications."

Diane soon began crafting silk Torah covers, chuppahs

and custom tallit, which have become very popular with bar and bat mitzvahs. With the pandemic affecting the ability to celebrate in person, parents have been looking for ways to add meaning to their children's special day. The artist consults with them about themes they find especially meaningful. For one client, she incorporated a tallit that had belonged to a child's grandfather.

"I painted a silk for the front, and then I used the old tallit with the stripes on it for the back," says Diane. "That's her Pop Pop's, and then she has it combining with her vision on the other side."

While the pandemic did not affect Diane's business, it compelled her to use her talents to help the community.

"I shifted to making masks for people, gowns for hospital workers," she says. "I have so much fabric. I got a vision to offer masks to all the rabbis in town. That's part of my Jewishness, helping in any way I can."

To learn more about Diane's artistic visions and custom silk artwork, visit [silksbydiane.org](#).



## MEMORIAL (cont. from page 1)

pouring of support from museum friends, colleagues and concerned community members," says Margles. "Shocking, disheartening and sickening are a few of the anguished words that we have received. But we've also been buoyed by the messages of hope, and it is, of course, the Memorial itself that offers us the most hope."

The vandalism occurred during Jewish American Heritage Month. A proclamation from the White House the same weekend as the vandalism articulated the incredible contributions Jews have made to our country, but it also noted: "Alongside this narrative of achievement and opportunity, there is also a history – far older than the Nation itself – of racism, bigotry and other forms of injustice. This includes the scourge of anti-Semitism. In recent years, Jewish Americans have increasingly been the target of white nationalism and the anti-Semitic violence it fuels."

OJMCHE continues to teach the lessons of the Holocaust, to host difficult conversations and to shed light on the roots of hate. The graffiti is gone, and the Oregon Holocaust Memorial continues to honor the memory of those murdered in the Holocaust. While the pandemic has eliminated in-person group tours of the memorial, OJMCHE has created a virtual tour to share the Memorial's message. Take the virtual tour at [ojmche.org/teach-learn/oregon-holocaust-virtual-memorial-tour](https://ojmche.org/teach-learn/oregon-holocaust-virtual-memorial-tour).

"The Memorial stands as a reminder to visitors why this can never happen again," concludes Margles.



# Solomon's Legacy looks at bystanders and enablers

BY DEBORAH MOON

Throughout human history, some of the world's worst atrocities have been possible because of the complicity of bystanders and enablers – both individual and institutional. Yet a bystander can also enable justice – as teenager Darnella Frazier did when she videoed the murder of George Floyd.

On May 27, the legal affinity group Solomon's Legacy will look at the Jewish and legal imperatives for bystanders to take action.

"As Jews and as lawyers, we are surrounded by cultural, legal and societal injustice," says Marshal Spector, chair of Solomon's Legacy. He adds that education, which can lead to action, is one way to change the tide toward justice. "From a Jewish and legal perspective, we can create a ripple effect."

"We are commanded to not stand idly by ... it is incumbent on us to act," says Marshal.

Congregation Beth Israel Associate Rabbi Rachel Joseph will delve into the Jewish texts and wisdom. Author and University of Utah Law Professor Amos Guiora will focus on complicity and accountability of bystanders and what can be done through the justice system.

"It's not just individuals, but it's a history of institutional enablers," says Marshal. "We've had horrible examples in our society the last few years – among them are the (sexual abuse scandals at) USA Gymnastics and the Penn State football program."

Guiora's research contributed



Amos N. Guiora



Rabbi Rachel Joseph

## THE ENABLER & THE BYSTANDER

*Presented by Solomon's Legacy Society, an affinity group of local Jewish attorneys, judges and law students.*

**11:45 am-1:15 pm,  
May 27, 2021, on Zoom**

**Free**

**RSVP: [jewishportland.org/solomons-legacy-may-27-2021](https://jewishportland.org/solomons-legacy-may-27-2021)**

***"Do not stand idly by while your neighbor's blood is shed."***

**Leviticus 19:16**

to the Utah legislation signed into law in March that criminalizes bystanders who do not intervene on behalf of children and vulnerable adults. Guiora is the author of five books including *Armies of Enablers: Survivor Stories of Complicity and Betrayal in Sexual Assaults* (2020) and *The Crime of Complicity: The Bystander in the Holocaust* (2017).

In addition to education, Solomon's Legacy focuses on connections – connecting law students and young lawyers with established attorneys and connecting all to the Jewish community.

Solomon's Legacy is named for the late, longtime Oregon U.S. District Court Judge Gus Solomon, the first Jewish federal judge for Oregon, and for the biblical King Solomon, who was renowned as a wise judge. Judge Solomon was well known for welcoming new Jewish law-

yers to the community.

"Part of our mission with Solomon's Legacy is just to build community and to establish connections among the attorneys in the community who have diverse practices and younger lawyers and law students," says Marshal. "We want to help and connect with younger lawyers and with law students as much as possible to help welcome them into the community ... to help them further their careers. Also to give them the connection to the Jewish community ... especially those who come to Oregon after law school or for law school and may not otherwise be connected to the agency community, to the Federation community, to the synagogue community – to just open the Jewish community to them."

Until groups can again gather in person, Solomon's Legacy will use virtual resources to

forge connections and educate members. The first 10 to 15 minutes of the May 27 Zoom program will give participants the opportunity to gather in small breakout rooms.

"We'll have five to seven people within a room who can say hello to each other and introduce themselves ... to begin forming some connections," says Marshal. Established lawyers familiar with the community will facilitate the breakout rooms with a mix of newcomers and veterans.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Portland's legal affinity group was active for about a dozen years after it was founded by Owen Blank in about 2002. It was reactivated last fall to bring (for now virtual) programs to the legal community. For more information, contact Wendy Kahn at [wendy@jewishportland.org](mailto:wendy@jewishportland.org) or call 503-892-3015.

## CONFRONT HATE (continued from page 1)

"Given the past several years and the rise we've seen in bigotry and hatred, our communities find it important to come together in learning and advocating for each other," says Rachel Nelson, JFGP director of intergroup outreach. She looks forward to a time when it will be safe to share "cultural gatherings, community connections and breaking bread together."

Robin Will, president of the Gay and Lesbian Archive of the Pacific Northwest, says his organization and community have ap-

preciated the supportive atmosphere of the planning sessions for the summit.

"When there is cross-fertilizing and some cross-pollinating, we can take up each other's struggles," Robin says. "There is always crossover in terms of hate."

The Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education was part of the original United in Spirit coalition and is one of the partner organizations for the summit.

"The summit is a testament to the many individuals and organizations who came

together with the ambition to create an educational experience for all communities," says OJMCHE Director Judy Margles. "Kudos to Bob Horenstein and Rachel Nelson for steering us in the right direction. May 26 will have something for anyone who is keen to know about Oregon's legacy of discrimination and who is interested in making our community safe, equitable and inclusive for everyone."

For more information and to register, visit [jewishportland.org/summit](https://jewishportland.org/summit).

# Take it slow navigating post-pandemic re-entry

BY JENN DIRECTOR KNUDSEN

Summer is around the corner and for many kids the season spells relief from school and anticipation of less-structured days, bike riding, park playdates, swimming and even attending day and overnight camps.

Not so fast.

The ongoing pandemic has turned a more-traditional summer on its head as families select from a menu with two main entrées: Loosening up on social restrictions or keeping them clamped down.

Underpinning the selection process is the collective trauma that everyone has faced, including parents and young children.

"Parents and kids have had to adapt to COVID-19," said Dinah Gilburd, LCSW, a child and family therapist, who collaborates with Jewish Family & Child Service. "And now, how do we shake off some of the anxiety we've all had to deal with during the pandemic?"

This topic will be on the table during an upcoming panel to support young families during Mental Health Awareness Month. "Parenting Unvaccinated Kids in a Post-Vaccine World" (see box) is sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland and JFCS and moderated by JFGP's Rachel Nelson. It includes ample time for Q&A.

Participating on the panel will be Gilburd, as well as Dr. Erika Meyer, a JFCS board

## Parenting Unvaccinated Kids in a Post-Vaccine World

8 pm, May 27 on Zoom, Free

Speakers will break down what life looks like when parents are vaccinated and children are not able to be.

Register: [jewishportland.org/parenting-unvaccinated-kids-in-a-post-vaccine-world](https://jewishportland.org/parenting-unvaccinated-kids-in-a-post-vaccine-world).

member and pediatrician with Metropolitan Pediatrics, and Associate Rabbi Eve Posen of Congregation Neveh Shalom. The free event will be May 27 (see box). Gilburd explains that families now are facing questions such as: Can we go to the park? Hug and kiss Grandma? Pick up items at the grocery store? Attend camp?

After more than a year of remote school, isolation from friends and family members and curbside pickup instead of in-store shopping, stress levels are high. Gilburd notes that a child demonstrating regressive behaviors (such as bedwetting, nightmares or separation anxiety) may be expressing stress and also reflecting back that of their parents.

"As parents are a barometer of how the kids are doing, kids are a barometer of how parents are doing," Gilburd said.

Parents tend to be so focused on their kids' well-being that they may neglect their own. Yet the better their own self-care, the better their children handle mental-health challenges like anxiety and depression. And the better still when parents and children navi-

gate collective stress together; doing so can be "powerful," Gilburd said.

Douglass Ruth, director of JFCS' Counseling services, says while people have felt lonely, we're not alone in our novel, collective experience of contemplating taking activities off pause. "We will all be figuring this out together," said Ruth of parents, caregivers and children alike.

Gilburd recommends taking re-entry slow. Instead of heading into a crowded grocery store, take your child to a pick-up window for small items, such as an ice cream cone.

"Children will have different responses to re-entry after a year of social distancing, and it is important to be aware of and to support your child as he or she navigates the new normal," she said.

Ruth adds: "Another important behavior is to just listen to what the fear is without over-reassurance or 'explaining away'" their fears. "As a caregiver who wants the kids to be OK, we can sometimes dismiss something because we don't want it to be scary, not because it isn't scary."

## Glass family creates PJA service-learning fund

In the fall of 2020, Jonathan Glass approached Portland Jewish Academy Principal Merrill Hendin with an idea. He and his wife, Sarah, wanted to do something to honor the memory of his beloved mother, Lucy Glass, z"l, in a manner that would be ongoing. PJA was important to Jonathan and Sarah, as their three children, Lucy's grandchildren, were all graduates. They wanted to fund an initiative that would be useful to the school.

Jonathan particularly liked PJA's *B'Yachad* program, which connects PJA middle school students with elderly residents of Rose Schnitzer Manor. The ongoing shared learning and celebration throughout the year recognizes the importance of connecting two generations together. After further discussions with PJA Service-Learning Coordinator Elana Cohn-Rozansky and PJA Executive Director Steve Albert, Jonathan and Sarah created an endowed fund to broadly support PJA's Service-Learning program in perpetuity.

The Lucy Glass Memorial Service-Learning Fund will support the service-learning programs and projects that PJA undertakes with the school community, independently and/or in partnership with other organizations.

"As a parent, my mother valued and encouraged Jewish day school education, and as a registered nurse, she was dedicated to helping and caring for others," says Jonathan. "Throughout her life, she practiced the Jewish value of *hachnasat orchim*, welcoming of guests. The PJA Service-Learning Fund melds together important values that she held dear and provides a meaningful way for our family to honor her memory."

To create the fund, Jonathan and Sarah turned to the Oregon Jewish Community Foundation. Jonathan worked with Steve Albert

and OJCF President & CEO Julie Diamond to establish a Partner Organization Fund. These funds allow charitable organizations (the "partner," or PJA in this case) to establish a fund to provide financial support for specific programs or projects of the organization. It is a very straightforward process, and OJCF's Partner Organization New Fund Agreement lays out the guidelines for the purpose, type, contributions, distribution and investment allocation of the fund.

Partner Funds can be endowed, quasi-endowed or non-endowed. In this case, the fund was established as a quasi-endowed fund, meaning that all of the income and principal of the fund are available for distribution. The distribution provisions, however, were determined to ensure that the fund lasts in perpetuity. The investment allocation mirrors that of PJA's endowment, which is held at OJCF. The fund was established with an initial contribution from the Jonathan Glass and Sarah Kahn Glass Family Fund, a donor-advised fund at OJCF. In addition, Jonathan's sister, Rebecca Glass, who lives in Minneapolis, contributed to the fund.

"PJA is tremendously grateful to the Glass Family for this gift," says Steve Albert. "Our Service-Learning program is central to the mission of our school, and this fund will ensure adequate support for the program, now and in the future. It's a tremendously meaningful way to honor the memory of Lucy Glass, z"l."

"Jonathan and Sarah's gift is a wonderful example of how donors, organizations and OJCF can work together to honor loved ones and secure the future of meaningful and impactful programs," says Tara Siegman, Vice President of Philanthropy at OJCF.

For more information about OJCF and Partner Organization Funds, contact Tara Siegman at [taras@ojcf.org](mailto:taras@ojcf.org) or 503-248-9328.



# Business Zoom explores Oregon beer business

The Business of Beer in Oregon will be the topic of the Mittleman Jewish Community Center's upcoming PDX Business Zoom to be held Thursday, May 20, 2021, at noon. Started as a quarterly Business Breakfast, the MJCC has moved to a monthly Zoom format to increase opportunities for connection in the community.

Sonia Marie Leikam of Leikam Brewing will moderate. The panel will feature Breakside Brewery Founder Ben Edmunds, Oregon Brewers Guild Executive Director Christina La Rue and Brian Yaeger, author of Oregon Breweries and Red, White and Brew.

Sonia Marie Leikam is a versatile professional who brings a deep understanding of non-profit operations, systems, programs and fundraising to the table. She works at the Oregon Jewish Community Foundation, where she directs the Oregon Jewish Community Youth Foundation, facilitates philanthropic opportunities for young Jewish professionals, and manages the scholarship and grant programs. She and her husband also own Leikam Brewing, a Kosher craft brewery. In that capacity, she serves on the board of the Oregon Brewers Guild and the Pink Boots Society, an organization empowering women in the beer industry.



Business of Beer in Oregon panelists, from left, are Ben Edmunds, Christina LaRue and Brian Yaeger.

Ben Edmunds is the brew master at Breakside Brewery in Portland, where he oversees the company's production brewery and two pub breweries. As founding brewer of Breakside, he helped grow the company from a small brewpub into a successful 30,000-barrel regional brewery. Under Ben's leadership, Breakside has won many medals at national and international competitions, including eight World Beer Cup awards and 17 Great American Beer Festival medals since 2011. Educated at the Siebel Institute and Yale University, he is a former president and current board member of the Oregon Brewers Guild, a judge at the Great American Beer Festival and World Beer Cup, and a founder of the Oregon Beer Awards. He often speaks on the topics of American hoppy beers, sour beers, brewery

leadership and management, and barrel-aging.

Christina LaRue, executive director of the Oregon Brewers Guild since 2019, has long been a fixture in the state's craft beer scene. She started her career in 2005 as the production assistant for Deschutes Brewery. Over the past 15 years, she has worked in high-level positions at Worthy Brewing and Crux Fermentation Project, as well as serving as the event coordinator for the Master Brewers Association of the Americas District NW chapter. She is a sensory-trained beer judge, evaluating submissions to prestigious competitions such as the Great American Beer Festival and the Oregon Beer Awards.

Brian Yaeger earned a master's of professional writing with a thesis on beer. He visited breweries around America, leading to his first book, Red, White,

and Brew: An American Beer Odyssey. The author's second book, Oregon Breweries, saw Yaeger visit every brewery in our state, an accomplishment known as Beervana. On his way to visiting a thousand breweries worldwide, he also contributed to The Oxford Companion to Beer. As a certified cicerone and certified cider professional, his beer and cider writings have appeared in scores of local and national publications.

This event is free with a suggested donation of \$18. Sponsorships are available. To register for this business Zoom or for more information, visit: [www.oregonjcc.org/pdxbiz](http://www.oregonjcc.org/pdxbiz). For more information on the MJCC or its PDX Business Zoom series, contact Saul Korin, MJCC director of donor engagement and philanthropy, at [skorin@pjaproud.org](mailto:skorin@pjaproud.org) or call 503-244-0111.

## Naomi Derner to share grandmother's story of survival

The community is invited to join a 4 pm, May 16, Zoom gathering as Next Generations Group member Naomi Derner, granddaughter of four Holocaust survivors, shares the personal story of her maternal grandmother, Sara. Using family records, internet research and an audio interview of her grandmother recorded in the 1990s, Naomi uncovered Sara's inspiring and courageous escape from Nazi-occupied Poland to Russia. Naomi will share the harrowing and sometimes tragic details of what her grandmother and other relatives endured, and how Sara survived.

The Next Generations Group, formed in 2011 in Portland, consists of Holocaust survivors and their descendants, refugees, heroes and supporters impacted by the Holocaust who want to keep the personal histories and lessons alive and relevant.

Naomi serves on the NGG executive committee and is the group's liaison to the 3gs, the last generation to really know a living Holocaust survivor.

Naomi speaks to students and community groups as a member of the OJMCHE Speaker's Bureau. She shares stories of her grandparents, who were teenagers themselves during the Holocaust, with students who may have never met a Holocaust survivor. She hopes that the stories of her grandparents will inspire students to confront hatred, prevent genocide and promote human dignity today.

Naomi is a business executive in Portland and mom of two teenagers. She is a member of Congregation Beth Israel.

For more information on the group, visit [nextgenerationsgroup.wordpress.com](http://nextgenerationsgroup.wordpress.com). For the Zoom link, email [suemwendel@gmail.com](mailto:suemwendel@gmail.com).



Naomi Derner

# Hope, healing and looking ahead at JFCS

STORY AND PHOTO BY  
JENN DIRECTOR KNUDSEN

Jewish Family & Child Service is our caring community's go-to agency. Join JFCS on May 23 for its inspiring "unLuncheon" event to celebrate its vital services and 2021 honoree Renée Holzman.

Hope, Healing & Looking Ahead is the theme of JFCS' free virtual event that emphasizes all that JFCS accomplishes and its innovative plans and programs for the future.

"JFCS is the go-to agency for those in need of help in our community," Renée says.

"We are our brother's keeper; we must always be there with open arms" for the most vulnerable among us, including our children, perhaps now more than ever.

The pandemic shuttered schools, forcing isolation for those whose oxygen is social interaction. And now children and their families are anticipating re-entry to summer camp, synagogue life and school.

The unLuncheon's inspiring lineup showcases JFCS' pandemic pivot to continue its affirming counseling program that provides mental health support services for all through a lens of community.

In a prerecorded video, Carol Danish introduces honoree Renée Holzman. Carolyn Weinstein, JFCS President Larry Holzman and Renée share their passion for tzedakah, specifically for JFCS, in the video.

Larry Holzman will serve as



Carolyn Weinstein, Larry Holzman and Renée Holzman share a conversation about Jewish Family & Child Service for the agency's virtual "unLuncheon" event.

the event's master of ceremonies in real time. He will oversee an invocation about tikvah, hope, by Congregation Beth Israel's Associate Rabbi Rachel Joseph; a musical interlude by Congregation Neveh Shalom's Cantor Eyal Bitton and singer and actor Michèle Tredger; and a keynote by Oregon State Senator Elizabeth Steiner Hayward, M.D.

"Giving someone \$500 doesn't necessarily fix their problems, but getting them into services, providing them resources, allows them to have a path forward toward being self-sustaining," Larry says.

"Oregon is 41st in the nation in the availability of mental health services. This is unacceptable. JFCS has anticipated the mental health and financial repercussions of this virus and is ready with rapidly increasing capacity to meet clients' needs."

JFCS provides assistance

through its four programs: Emergency Aid, Counseling, Disabilities Support and Holocaust Survivor services. JFCS quickly pivoted in the pandemic to provide for those it serves in the Jewish and greater Portland communities, says Caitlin DeBoer, manager of Emergency Aid.

For example, from March 2020 to March of this year, JFCS' counselors conducted more than 4,200 remote therapy sessions. With support from The Holzman Foundation and in partnership with the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland, JFCS youth and family counselor Dinah Gilburd provided online school re-entry workshops for parents and training sessions to Maimonides Jewish Day School, Portland Jewish Academy and Maayan Torah Day School.

In partnership with Positive Charge! PDX, JFCS se-

## JFCS UNLUNCHEON

2021 virtual event to support our caring community  
Sunday, May 23, 5 to 6 pm  
FREE

RSVP: [jfcs-portland.org/2021-unluncheon/](https://jfcs-portland.org/2021-unluncheon/)

cured vaccinations against COVID-19 for more than 1,400 Portlanders. Holocaust Survivors received more than 10,000 hot meals delivered to their doors. Hundreds of Emergency Aid clients received nearly \$220,000 in assistance for food, rent, and repair services for medical equipment and appliances.

JFCS' Disabilities Support Services program launched an online community for parents whose children are challenged with disabilities such as Autism Spectrum Disorder, AD/HD, and hearing and sight impairments.

"As a legislator focused on helping Oregonians thrive, I rely on nonprofit organizations like JFCS to provide vital services for community members in need, in particular right now, for our children," says Senator Steiner Hayward.

"Hope leads to healing; looking ahead means looking to give hope. Our greater community needs to be part of a hopeful and healed community that is looking ahead," says Renée. "My message and JFCS' message to the community is to make life better for all, for everyone. It's up to all of us."



## Good Deeds Month

Positive Charge! PDX hosted a Pots and Pans Collection for the Community Warehouse on April 20 as part of Good Deeds Month. The group collected 100-150 items including cookware, silverware, linens and towels. Good Deeds Day is an annual tradition of doing good deeds. This year, with pandemic restrictions on gatherings and organizational modifications of volunteer offerings still in place, the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland has spotlighted individuals and organizations doing good to create a monthlong celebration of good deeds that began on Good Deeds Day April 11.



# Events

## May 16: A Shavuot Event

This year, join the Alberta Shul and TischPDX for an exciting night of Tikkun Leil in Zoom land! We will have several amazing presenters sharing their expertise, passions and voice, including Rabbi Ariel Stone providing her unique brand of d'var Torah. We will begin at 6 pm, May 16, for an optional bathtub mikveh facilitated by the co-founder of the Queer Mikveh Project Rebekah Erev. The Tikkun Leil night of learning starts at 7 pm.

This night is known as Tikkun Leil where you stay up late into the evening studying and learning in preparation for receiving the Torah! Jews enjoy festive dairy meals like blintzes and cheesecake to symbolize the promise of the "land flowing with milk and honey."

Register: [tinyurl.com/ShavuotPDX](https://tinyurl.com/ShavuotPDX), sliding scale of \$0-\$18.



Lawrence Halprin at the Lovejoy Fountain, Courtesy Lawrence Halprin Collection, Architectural Archives, University of Pennsylvania

## May 25: Zoom talk on Lawrence Halprin: Touchstones and Innovation

Innovative landscape architect Lawrence Halprin will be the focus of a noon, May 25, Zoom talk; his career and creations will be featured in a summer exhibit at Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education.

Halprin stands as one of the great landscape architects of the modern era. In a distinguished career spanning 60 years, he created iconic and trailblazing projects. They include the FDR Memorial, Sea Ranch, Ghirardelli Square, Nicollet Mall, Freeway Park, Levi Strauss Plaza, Jerusalem's Haas Promenade and Sigmund Stern Recreation Grove, as well as designs for campuses, shopping centers, communities and more.

His innovative design for Portland's Lovejoy and Forecourt (Ira's) Fountains is the focus of the exhibit "Lawrence Halprin" opening at OJMCH in June. Halperin will be the subject of a talk by guest curator Kenneth Helphand, Philip H. Knight Professor of Landscape Architecture Emeritus, University of Oregon.

Halprin's work helped to spark a renaissance in landscape architecture in the United States and evolved into a model for creative and innovative work that addresses the urban condition. OJMCH hopes to reopen the museum in late June with CDC guidelines in place.

To register for the Zoom talk: [ojmche.org/events/lawrence-halprin-touchstones-and-innovation/](https://ojmche.org/events/lawrence-halprin-touchstones-and-innovation/)

Exhibit information: [ojmche.org/events/lawrence-halprin/](https://ojmche.org/events/lawrence-halprin/)

**Find more virtual & socially distanced events:**  
[jewishportland.org/community-calendar](https://jewishportland.org/community-calendar)



This Star of David on an apartment balcony is near a message "Welcome to Treblinka."

## Hate speech painted on balcony

A green-and-yellow Star of David and the phrase "Welcome to Treblinka" — graffitied on a second-floor balcony of The Yards apartment building has one resident searching for help.

Portland resident Lauren Kafka has sought help from her landlord, Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler, SE Chabad Rabbi Dov Bialo and Regional Security Director Gene Moss, who is based at the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland. She has asked them all for "help in having this hate speech removed at 945 NW Naito Parkway."

Replying to Kafka, Moss wrote, "I have been in contact with city officials, including law enforcement, in an effort to try and gain assistance for you with the landlord. As you know this is a civil law, landlord/tenant challenge that may take time to resolve. I will continue to work on this issue to the extent I am able to assist you."

An article in the Portland Tribune says Kafka, who identifies as Jewish, lost family at the Nazi-run Treblinka extermination camp and says the phrase was "really hard for her to read" and left her frightened. You can read the article at [pamplinmedia.com/pt/9-news/507689-406216-holocaust-hate-speech-seen-on-portland-apartment-for-days](https://pamplinmedia.com/pt/9-news/507689-406216-holocaust-hate-speech-seen-on-portland-apartment-for-days)

## White supremacist propaganda, including graffiti, surges in PNW

White supremacist propaganda distribution surged across the Pacific Northwest and the United States in 2020, with a cumulative total 926 cases of racist, anti-Semitic and other hateful messages reported by the Anti-Defamation League in Oregon, Washington, Alaska, Idaho and Montana.

In Oregon, ADL tracked 85 incidents, a 553 percent increase over 2019. In Washington, ADL tracked 345 incidents, a 245 percent increase over 2019 and the second highest number of incidents nationwide. 2020 marked the highest level of incidents reported since ADL began tracking such data — an average of about 14 incidents per day nationwide, and nearly double the 2,724 cases reported in 2019.

ADL's Center on Extremism (COE) tracked the distribution of racist, anti-Semitic and anti-LGBTQ fliers, stickers,

posters and banners by various members of far right and white supremacist groups. The annual report found that at least 30 known white supremacist groups were behind hate propaganda efforts, affecting 49 states in 2020.

"Hate propaganda is a tried-and-true tactic for white supremacists," said ADL Pacific Northwest Regional Director Miri Cypers. "White supremacists appear to be more emboldened than ever, with a divisive political climate, the pandemic and other factors which may have provided these extremists with additional encouragement."

In 2020, hate propaganda appeared in every state except Hawaii, with the highest level of activity in Texas (574).

For more information, see the full report at [adl.org/white-supremacist-propaganda-spikes-2020](https://adl.org/white-supremacist-propaganda-spikes-2020).

# Chaplain's Corner

## Helping sexual trauma survivors

BY RABBI BARRY COHEN

**Wise Warriors also  
offers a 24-hour  
crisis line:  
800-273-8255  
(then press "1")**



*Rabbi Barry Cohen is the Jewish community chaplain of the Greater Portland area.*

Published biweekly by  
Jewish Federation of  
Greater Portland  
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Suite 220  
Tigard, OR 97223  
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### Circulation

To receive the Jewish  
Review in your email inbox,  
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address to  
[editor@jewishportland.org](mailto:editor@jewishportland.org)

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Portland, its governing  
board or the staffs of either  
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Federation.

## Upcoming issues

Issue date	Deadline
May 26	May 20
June 9	June 3
June 23	June 17
July 7	June 30

Submit news, photos  
and obituaries by the  
issue deadline to  
[editor@jewishportland.org](mailto:editor@jewishportland.org)

Can we imagine how we would feel if we decided to enlist in the military to serve our country, and during our service we became victims of sexual trauma?

I recently took part in "Community and Clergy Training: Military Sexual Trauma, Suicide Prevention and Moral Injury." The participants included therapists, veterans, clergy and victims of sexual trauma.

Two of the veterans shared the emotional, spiritual, psychological and physical effects of being sexually traumatized during their service. Though the program was virtual and one of the two who offered personal testimony kept the video off, the emotion behind their words was staggering and sobering.

The effects of MST (military sexual trauma) are physiological, emotional, spiritual and cognitive. Those who experience it feel betrayed and lose trust in the systems they once depended on. This trauma leads to depression, anxiety, PTSD, suicidal ideations and, all-too-often, suicide attempts.

The numbers are staggering. One in four women who serve will experience MST. Almost half of MST victims are men. There are about 4,000 victims of MST in Oregon alone. And all of these numbers are believed to be vastly under reported.

Let's remember the significance of statistics. Behind every number is a son, daughter, father or mother. The MST they experienced will affect them

and those who love them for lifetimes.

During the session, I learned about the one-two punch of MST. Many survivors also experienced childhood mental, physical and sexual abuse. They looked to the military to find a functional, healthy, supportive family. And then they were traumatized again.

A truism is that any trend in general society will be reflected in Jewish society. Clergy, chaplains and social workers know that Jewish veterans are among the survivors of MST. The question is how can we connect with them and offer the help they need? The current reality is that we do not know how Jewish survivors of MST are responding.

The Community and Clergy Training program highlighted some available resources. There are the Wise Warriors therapy groups for veterans who have a suicide prevention safety plan in place.

Portland contact: Joe Bertagnolli, 503-402-2857

Vancouver contact: Kenneth Vickery, 360-696-4061, x34375

Fairview contact: Dimitri Ntatsor, 503-402-2857; or Matt Schmidt, 503-660-0600, x0726  
Salem contact: Evelyn "Evie"

Unkefer or Lynn Marzoni, 503-402-2857

Hillsboro contact: Dimitri Ntatsor, 503-402-2857

Wise Warriors also offers a 24-hour crisis line, 800-273-8255 (then press "1").

These contacts are some of the many therapists available to address survivors' needs: their self-blame, guilt, shame and helplessness.

If you are a Jewish survivor of MST or a family member or friend of a Jewish survivor, please use these resources. If you are clergy, an educator, social worker or simply connected in the community, please share these resources.

May we all embrace the powerful teaching, "kol Yisrael arevim zeh bazeh," each and every Jew is responsible for one another. The survivors of MST are out there. Their needs are especially daunting and challenging. May we rise to the occasion to help them heal.

## Rabbi's Corner

In addition to the Chaplain's Corner, the Jewish Review offers space for a Rabbi's Corner each issue. Our community's rabbis are invited to share their thoughts on the week's parsha or current events. The Oregon Board of Rabbis organized the project.

Rabbis are invited to schedule a date to submit a 500- to 600-word piece. For more information, email [editor@jewishportland.org](mailto:editor@jewishportland.org).



# Can't we agree on definition for anti-Semitism?

BY BOB HORENSTEIN

There are many political issues on which American Jews are divided. Views within the community differ greatly, for example, on whether the U.S. should re-enter the Iran nuclear agreement or whether it should openly pressure Israel to halt settlement activity.

You would think, however, that if there were one issue on which the Jewish community could reach an overwhelming consensus, it would be what constitutes anti-Semitism. So much for wishful thinking.

In 2016, the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance, an organization that brings together governments, academics, historians and museum heads to promote Holocaust education and research, adopted a working definition of anti-Semitism. The definition not only includes the classic form of Jew hatred, but also the newer strain that makes anti-Semitism seem respectable by whitewashing it as criticism of Israel.

The IHRA definition lists several contemporary examples of anti-Semitism, among them: drawing comparisons of Israeli policy to that of the Nazis; holding Israel to a double standard by requiring of it “a behavior not expected or demanded of any other democratic nation;” denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination by claiming Israel’s very existence is a “racist endeavor.” On the other hand, legitimate criticism of Israeli policies, the definition affirms, is not anti-Semitism.

Over 30 countries – including the U.S., Canada, Israel, United Kingdom, France, Germany, Italy, Spain and Sweden – as well as the European Parliament have endorsed this definition, making it the most widely accepted one in the world. The Biden administration has “enthusiastically embraced” it; UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres has recommended it.

And yet, none of this was sufficient to sway the Jewish groups J Street and IfNotNow, which have sharply criticized



*Bob Horenstein is the Director of Community Relations and Public Affairs for the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland.*

the definition, nor the dozens of liberal Jewish academics who felt compelled to draft an alternative definition. Their version was unveiled in March by the Nexus Task Force, a project associated with the University of South California’s Annenberg School of Communication and Journalism.

While it’s clear that the Nexus authors are concerned with anti-Semitism from the far right – i.e., white nationalists – they seem much less troubled by bigotry against Jews having to do with Israel or Zionism. Contrary to the IHRA definition, the Nexus definition states that “paying disproportionate attention to Israel and treating Israel differently than other countries is not *prima facie* proof of anti-Semitism.” In other words, there’s nothing unfair about holding Israel – and Israel alone – to a double standard.

But what does double standard mean? In effect, it’s a “higher” standard, which may sound like praise. In fact, it’s a weapon. To hold Israel to a higher moral and behavioral standard – because Jews have a long history of oppression that some argue imposes a higher standard in dealing with others – makes it justifiable to condemn the world’s only Jewish state for actions other countries take, but for which

they’re seldom criticized.

If I were to demand that Black people be paid “disproportionate attention” and meet a higher standard in their interactions with others, who among the Nexus authors wouldn’t consider me a bigot? Our criminal justice system suffers from just such a double standard. Black Americans, for example, are much more likely to be arrested for drug use even though whites use drugs at comparable rates. Black people typically serve longer sentences than white Americans for the same offenses. There’s a name for these disparities – it’s called systemic racism.

Around the same time the Nexus definition was published, another group of scholars, mostly Jewish, published the Jerusalem Declaration on Anti-Semitism, which they believe should replace the IHRA definition. Curiously, the JDA acknowledges that Jews must be allowed to “exist and flourish” in Israel but insists that it’s not anti-Semitic to call for the sovereign homeland of the Jewish people to be replaced by an Arab-majority state.

The JDA also defends the an-

ti-Israel Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement as a form of “non-violent political protest.” Its signatories agree that requiring Jews to publicly condemn Israel or Zionism is anti-Semitic, yet they seem oblivious to the fact that a core BDS tactic, particularly on college campuses, is to vilify and marginalize Jews who refuse to disavow Zionism as an integral part of their Jewish identity.

By contrast, a 2019 UN report by the Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief declared that “the objectives, activities and effects of the BDS movement are *fundamentally anti-Semitic* [emphasis added]” and recommended the adoption of the IHRA definition by all UN member states.

Those who oppose the IHRA definition claim that it seeks to silence all criticism of and campaigns against Israel. It doesn’t, and it won’t. The IHRA definition isn’t a panacea, but let’s hope it will help prevent Israel-related anti-Semitism from seeping into the mainstream.

*This article was first published in the May 3 issue of the Jerusalem Report Magazine.*

## Public Service Announcement



Have you  
or a loved  
one been  
affected by  
Covid-19?  
CNSCOS is  
here to  
help!

### Services we can assist with:

- Housing such as hotels or motels
- Food / Meals
- Health care and self-monitoring supplies that are not covered by insurance
- Transportation related to individuals in isolation or quarantine (ambulance, taxi, etc.)
- Communications such as cell phones
- Cleaning services
- Grocery shopping
- Childcare

covid19@nevehshalom.org  
971-990-5652  
nevehshalom.org/covid19/

# Life-cycle events

## BIRTH

### Lielle Shoshana Mazor

Lielle Shoshana was born to Hadas Horenstein and David Mazor on April 23, 2021, in Philadelphia, PA. A Simchat Habad (the rejoicing of a daughter) naming ceremony was held May 2.

Grandparents are Bob and Dorice Horenstein of Portland.

*The Jewish Review publishes life-cycle announcements such as births, b'nai mitzvah, engagements, weddings, anniversaries and landmark birthdays. Submit to [editor@jewishportland.org](mailto:editor@jewishportland.org)*

# Jobs board

*The Jewish Review publishes job openings from local Jewish agencies and congregations. Job information will be shortened to fit available space.*

Submit to: [editor@jewishportland.org](mailto:editor@jewishportland.org)

## Oregon Jewish Community Foundation: President and CEO

The Oregon Jewish Community Foundation helps individuals and families achieve their heartfelt philanthropic goals through the most tax-advantaged approaches to charitable giving. Its mission is to build and promote a culture of giving in Oregon and Southwest Washington that supports a thriving Jewish community now and for generations to come.

The President and CEO is responsible to the Board of Trustees and will work collaboratively with trustees, staff, donors and community partners' organizational leaders to realize long-term goals for the OJCF. The President and CEO oversees all aspects of foundation, which includes implementation of the board-approved strategic plan, leading an experienced staff, managing a small but sophisticated operation, overseeing programs and fund development-related activities, and serving as OJCF's chief spokesperson in the region. With the support of a talented staff, the President and CEO will specifically strategize and execute on the continuous improvement of OJCF's internal operations and fund development and stewardship work, which includes consideration of donor advised funds, investments, impact investing and grantmaking, all of which have grown markedly in recent years. Continuing to raise the Foundation's profile, this leader assumes the outward-facing duties which include serving as a liaison to partner organizations, representing and presenting as the Foundation's ambassador, and working closely with stakeholders. Enabling OJCF to continue its impressive growth trajectory and ability to fulfill the vision and goals expressed in its mission, OJCF's President and CEO will work in partnership with the trustees at the strategic level and direct a

motivated staff while promoting philanthropy across the Jewish community.

OJCF seeks a proven leader who easily engages with a wide variety of people – from donors to nonprofit and community leaders to staff members – and everyone in between. The successful candidate will truly enjoy getting to know a wide variety of Jewish community members and will take great pleasure in advocating on their behalf – in short, being a visible, approachable, relatable leader and active member of the community. The President and CEO will have strong people and process management, organizational, analytical, communication, and fundraising skills. The successful candidate could come from a variety of leadership backgrounds; though they will have experience in the non-profit sector (either as staff or a board member), they may also come from other fields, such as work in the private, public, or faith-based sectors.

### Compensation

This position offers a competitive salary, and excellent benefits that include the Jewish holidays. We actively welcome all candidates from a wide range of backgrounds who have the skills to lead this dynamic philanthropic effort – regardless of compensation history. We seek to have someone in place by Summer 2021.

### Applications

All applications are held in strict confidence. Please submit your resume and a letter of interest to the attention of Melissa Ulum, Managing Partner of MS&S Search at [melissa@msssearch.com](mailto:melissa@msssearch.com).

To see the full job description, email Melissa or visit [ojcf.org/who-we-are/job-opportunities](http://ojcf.org/who-we-are/job-opportunities).

# Obituaries

## SHARON JEAN TARLOW

Sharon Jean Tarlow, z"l, passed away May 2, 2021, after a battle with cancer. She was the mother of Stefan Tarlow (Shelley), David Tarlow (Lori) and Mary Tarlow (Rob Ochs);

grandmother of Branden Tarlow (Kathleen), Danny Tarlow (Vastala),

Doug Tarlow, Mollie Tarlow and Stephanie Tarlow; and great-grandmother of Ramona, Benjamin and Oscar Tarlow.

She was born in Spokane, Wash., on Sept. 18, 1933, to Herman R. Rosenblum and Mollie Kors Rosenblum. She married Larry Tarlow in 1954. He preceded her in death in 2011.

She was very active in the Portland section of the National Council of Jewish Women. She was an active volunteer for the NCJW, the Portland Art Museum, and the Temple Beth Israel Sisterhood. In the 1990s, she joined the board of the Oregon Jewish Museum and then became an active volunteer in the docenting program and in the archives.

A private family service was held at Beth Israel Cemetery May 9.

Congregation Beth Israel sends condolences to Stefan, Shelley, David, Lori, Mary, Rob, Branden, Kathleen, Danny, Vastala, Doug, Mollie, Stephanie, Ramona, Benjamin, Oscar and the extended Tarlow family.

Donations may be made to the Oregon Jewish Museum or to the Oregon Food Bank.

## SUBMISSIONS

Submit obituaries to: [editor@jewishportland.org](mailto:editor@jewishportland.org).

Obituaries are posted online as they are received at [jewishportland.org/obituaries](http://jewishportland.org/obituaries).

Pay tribute to family or friends in memory of their dearly departed by making a donation in their honor. 503-245-6219 or [jewishportland.org/kavodtribute](http://jewishportland.org/kavodtribute).