

The JEWISH REVIEW

Oregon and SW Washington's Online Jewish Newspaper

Feb. 2, 2022 / Adar 1, 5782 Volume 57, Issue 3

The abuse of Holocaust memory

On the eve of International Holocaust Remembrance Day, the Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education, took on the disturbing topic of the abuse and politicization of Holocaust memory.

Professors Omer Bartov, Brown University, and Steve Wasserstrom, Reed College, explored the topic in a Jan. 26 virtual talk. It was the museum's Inaugural Herbert and Ella Ostroff Program.

The program took place at noon. Later in the afternoon, someone tweeted a photograph of the front doors of the museum, with the "Vaccination Required for Entry" sign, along-



side a photograph of a sign in German that translates, "Jews Are Unwanted Here."

"I have to remark that this abuse is precisely the subject of yesterday's program," said OJMCHE Director Judy Margles. You can see the virtual pro-

gram at ojmche.org/calendar/recorded-events-2022/.

In an email sent on International Holocaust Remembrance Day, Margles wrote:

I am feeling many things right now, but mostly I'm exhausted.

See **MEMORY**, page 10

Lucy & Ethel lend a hand at the Manor



Lucy and Ethel help servers at Cedar Sinai Park.

BY SYDNEY CLEVENGER

When the Newmark Dining Room is busy, there's nothing like having extra hands. To the amusement of Rose Schnitzer Manor residents and the gratitude of servers, two new robots in the dining room – dubbed Lucy and Ethel – are now carting food to tables, leaving servers to manage other essentials.

"They are very helpful, especially during breakfast and dinner when it's busier," says server Adam. Adam notes that when the team was down a team member on one shift, the addition of the robots enabled just two servers to help everyone.

Finding staff to fill server positions was difficult before the pandemic, and Covid has made the labor shortage even more challenging, says Cedar Sinai Park CEO Kimberly Fuson. RSM is the assisted-living facility on the senior campus in Southwest Portland.

"The idea of using robots as extra hands originated from team members in Life Enrichment and Culinary Services," says Fuson. "Then, with support from Rose Schnitzer Manor Administrator Vivian Villegas, the team made it happen. We are actively seeking creative ways to face the challenges of Covid."

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Federation starts Career Hub

The Jewish Federation of Greater Portland has launched a career hub on its website – essentially a job board for the ongoing listing of job opportunities across the greater Portland Jewish community.

This job board will function similarly to the community calendar in that agencies with an open position will submit their proposed listing to be reviewed and approved by a JFGP career hub administrator.

Submitters are encouraged to include a salary range for transparency/equity. A Feb. 28 program will focus on the importance of *Salary Range Transparency: What's Equity Got to Do with It?* To learn more, email rachel@jewishportland.org.

“The pandemic has led to many job vacancies in the organized Jewish community,” says JFGP Director of Community Planning & Allocations Caron Blau Rothstein, who staffs the

HELP WANTED

career hub. “Helping our Jewish organizations and community members find those opportunities easily in one location will be accomplished through this new resource.”

The Jewish Review includes a Jobs Board in each issue that lists job openings from Jewish agencies and congregations (see below). The Review will continue to run short job openings as well as list the latest openings posted on the career hub.

Email caron@jewishportland.org for more information.

To see job listings or to submit job openings, visit jewishportland.org/ourcommunity/jewish-jobs.

Project EM offers online job search resources

“Project EM: Empowering and Employing our Community” provides job seekers with the assistance, resources and tools to find work – all for free and available virtually.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Portland is partnering with the nationwide project created by The Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies and Jewish Federations of North America. The goal of Project EM is to ensure that no matter where someone is on their career path or where they are located geographically, they can get the support they require to get a job – or a better job.

Through Project EM, job seekers can access interactive workshops, technical skills training, financial literacy sessions, resume writing assistance and personalized career coaching. All Project EM programs and services are free of charge.

“At a time when people are dealing with the pandemic, inflation and extra child-care needs, every bit of support can be a lifeline,” says JFGP President and CEO Marc Blattner.

For details and to access the resources, visit jewishtogether.org/project-em.

Jobs board

CEDAR SINAI PARK

Transition/Resident Experience Director

Full time with benefits

This is a professional role for individuals with previous experience in person-centered case management and/or social work specializing in senior living or long-term care. Prior work on a senior living campus is integral to this position. The primary purpose of this position is to facilitate a positive experience for families and residents as they transition into and out of our CSP community.

For the full job description and to apply, visit cedarsinainpark.org/careers/.

KINDNESS FARM

Lead Farmer

¾ time; \$22-\$25 per hour

Kindness Farm is a nonprofit farm and permaculture and regenerative agriculture education center that grows fresh fruits and vegetables to feed houseless and low-income neighbors while em-

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Local free loans inspired by week's Torah portion

Once a year (Jan. 29 in 2022), *Parashat Mishpatim* (the Torah portion of the week) reminds us: “If you lend money to My people, to the poor among you, do not act toward them as a creditor; exact no interest from them” (Exodus 22:24). The concept ties in with Maimonides’ teaching that the highest form of *tzedakah* is to help people help themselves.

Jewish Free Loan of Greater Portland and SW Washington was started five years ago by the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland. Throughout the world, Jewish and Hebrew Free Loan societies have operated successfully for over 100 years.

In honor of the week’s Parasha, JFLGP wrote to local rabbis asking them to share this important resource with the community.

JFLGP Committee Chair Les Gutfreund wrote, “Our goal is to give a ‘hand up’ instead of a ‘hand out’ to those Jewish people in need.”

The letter continues: *JFLGP makes interest-free loans repayable over three years. As people repay there are always funds available to make new loans!*

Our loans have helped people address an array of needs and minimize or prevent their incurring interest-bearing debt. Our loans include support for medical and utility bills, home and car repairs, debt consolidation, IVF support, school loans, small business startup capital, rent assistance... just to name a few.

To date we have approved 65 loans totaling over \$130,000! Thirty-five loans have already been repaid in full, and none of the standard loans are in a default status.

At Jewish Free Loan of Greater Portland, every person is met with understanding, respect, dignity, confidentiality and the agency’s sincere desire to help fellow Jews in times of need. In the spirit of Mishpatim, if you or any Jewish person in Oregon or SW Washington whom you know may need a Jewish free loan, visit jewishportland.org/ourcommunity/jewish-free-loan.

powering community members to grow their own food. The lead farmer will oversee the day-to-day work of farming – managing a crop plan, prop house, sowing, planting, weeding, harvesting, construction and other projects – as well leading groups of volunteers through volunteer parties.

For full job description and to apply, visit thekindnessmodel.org/lead-farmer/.

Other openings recently listed on the local

Jewish Career Hub include:

Hebrew Substitute Teacher, Portland Jewish Academy, part time, \$100 half day, \$200 full day.

Assisted Living Community Coordinator, Cedar Sinai Park, full time, \$19.65-\$27.50/hour plus benefits.

Early Childhood Educator, Neveh Shalom Foundation School, full time, \$35,000-38,000/year plus benefits.

For more on these and other job openings, visit jewishportland.org/ourcommunity/jewish-jobs.

NOMINATIONS OPEN



The 2022 Laurie Rogoway Outstanding Jewish Professional Award

Sponsored by *Jewish Federation of Greater Portland* in recognition of Laurie Rogoway, a pillar of Jewish leadership for over 30 years in Portland

The purpose of this award is to recognize an individual currently working in a professional capacity at a Jewish communal organization in Greater Portland.

The nominee must demonstrate outstanding professional work and a commitment to the field of Jewish professional leadership.

Nominations accepted until March 4

For eligibility guidelines and to nominate:
www.jewishportland.org/rogoway

Questions: Contact Caron Blau Rothstein,
caron@jewishportland.org or 503-245-6449



Congregation Ahavath Achim doubles space

BY DEBORAH MOON

A construction project that started the last week of January will nearly double the space of Congregation Ahavath Achim – adding a social hall with a handicap-accessible restroom, a second kosher kitchen, an office and more storage.

The Sephardic congregation currently has its sanctuary, kitchen and restrooms in 1,430 square feet at 6686 SW Capitol Hwy. The additional 1,400 square feet will be a remodel of space in the same building. The social hall and larger kitchen will be in the space occupied by the Portland Kollel before it moved into some of the former offices of the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland at the other end of the building. Ahavath Achim's new office will take up part of the former Federation space.

While most of the work will be an interior remodel, exterior work will include bringing gas lines and upgraded electric and water lines from the street to the building. The congregation also hopes to have enough money left from a security grant from the federal Nonprofit Security Grant Program to build an emergency exit.

Founded in 1910 by Jews arriving from Turkey and the Isle of Rhodes, Ahavath Achim moved to its Byzantine-inspired synagogue on Barbur Boulevard in 1965. A 2018 sale of that building to TriMet allowed the congregation to use the Barbur building until the Hillsdale location is expanded.

With the remodel, parts of that historic building are being integrated in the Hillsdale building.

February Sephardic film canceled

The 15th Annual Sephardic Winter Film Series at Congregation Ahavath Achim has canceled its Feb. 9 films due to the ongoing Covid spike.

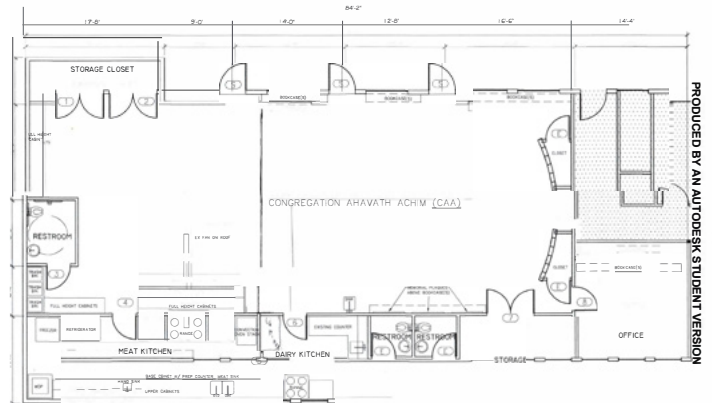
If the pandemic eases, the final two programs in the series will screen at 7 pm, March 10 and April 7. Films are followed by a guest speaker and Sephardic desserts. Admission is free (proof of vaccination and masks required). Registration is required; email info@ahavathachim.org.

The beautiful *ner tamid* (eternal light) that hung over the ark for decades at Barbur has been modified and now hangs in front of the ark in Hillsdale. Memorial boards will be hung on the sanctuary walls. The carved wooden sanctuary entry doors from Barbur will be installed in the wall between the sanctuary and the new social hall.

"We will be bringing many of the beautiful elements from our Barbur building over to Hillsdale to remind us of what we had and to be able to enjoy it in our new building," says CAA Vice President Renee Ferrera, who is managing the project for the synagogue. "I think that is an important element of what we are trying to do here."

CAA will move out of the Barbur building completely when construction is completed, which is scheduled for early April.

"We will be looking for vol-



Ahavath Achim's floorplan after remodel expansion. The congregation has used the sanctuary (center of drawing) for Shabbat services for several years. Now, the *ner tamid* from Ahavath Achim's large Barbur sanctuary hangs over the ark (also from Barbur) in the Hillsdale sanctuary (below). The *ner tamid* was remade by metal artist Stuart Luxenberg so it could fit into the smaller sanctuary.



unteers to help us go through all of our 'stuff' at Barbur to help make decisions on what to move, what to throw away, what to sell and what to leave behind," says Ferrera.

One aspect Ferrera is especially looking forward to is converting the current kitchen to a dairy kitchen once the larger, commercial meat kitchen is finished. Both kitchens will be certified by Oregon Kosher.

"So many Sephardic recipes are dairy oriented," she says. "I look forward to being able to prepare and enjoy all of the

wonderful Sephardic dishes that are a part of our culture."

In the past, Ahavath Achim has rented the sanctuary to families for b'nai mitzvahs or other celebrations. Ferrera says that the congregation also hopes to make the new kitchens and social hall available to the Jewish community at large to rent.

"We want to provide a place the Orthodox community can go and prepare food and have space for events," she says.

For more information on the Sephardic congregation, visit ahavathachim.com.



Rabbi Eve Posen

Rabbi Eve Posen tapped for national fellowship

Portland Rabbi Eve Posen is one of 15 U.S. rabbis who will convene virtually in March to start the two-year Rukin Rabbinic Fellowship with 18Doors, a national nonprofit that provides assistance to interfaith families.

"This fellowship is an opportunity for me to grow in my own understanding of the complexities of dual heritage relationships and how I, as a rabbi, can best support people on their own journeys," says Rabbi Posen, who serves as associate rabbi of Congregation Neveh Shalom. "In addition, the Rukin Rabbinic Fellowship comes with access, support and resources to run programs for

our entire Portland Jewish community for families of dual heritage, couples exploring what that might mean and everywhere in between. I am honored to have been accepted and excited to start learning in March."

In addition to an annual retreat, which 18Doors hopes to offer in person next year, Rukin Rabbinic Fellows participate in small group coaching sessions and professional development programs.

Fellows receive an \$1,800 yearly stipend, as well as payment for each session of a program or workshop that they offer.

Thank a Jewish professional with award nomination

BY DEBORAH MOON

If a Jewish communal professional has helped you or enriched your life, there is a great way to thank them.

Nominations for the Laurie Rogoway Outstanding Jewish Professional are now open and due by noon, March 4. Created by the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland, the annual award recognizes a current Jewish communal professional in Greater Portland. It is named in honor of Laurie Rogoway and her stellar 30+ year career in the local Jewish community.

"We wouldn't have such a robust and strong community if not for our Jewish communal professionals," says Jodi Fried, vice chair of the award committee, JFGP board member and past nominee. "These communal professionals care so much about you, and nominating them is one way to show you see them and you care."

"A lot of work, a lot of time, a lot of energy and a lot of care goes into working in the Jewish community," says Fried. "It is taxing but amazing work and not always easy. We, as the Jewish Federation, can show we recognize and appreciate the beautiful work of our Jewish professionals."

"In light of the trauma from the recent hostage event in Texas, the nearly two-year pandemic and the extraordinary conditions our Jewish pros have had to work under while managing their own

pandemic lives, we really, really need to celebrate them," says JFGP Director of Community Planning and Allocations Caron Blau Rothstein, who staffs the Rogoway committee.

Beyond the recognition, Committee Chair Eliana Temkin says the award also rewards the winning professional with up to \$1,800 to subsidize professional development.

"Watching these professionals these last two years, it is critical we acknowledge all the work they have done and reward one with the opportunity for more professional development," she says. "Organizations are stretched thin, so this funding can give someone a great opportunity."

"We have so many excellent and high-caliber professionals in our community," says Temkin, adding the fact that her vice chair did not win the year she was nominated is a reflection of the depth of talent in the local community.

For her part, Fried says she felt honored just to be nominated the same year Sonia Marie Leikam was selected.

Past honorees are Andy Gitelson, Jemi Kostiner Mansfield, Ben Winkleblack, Ben Charlton, Eve Levy, Sonia Marie Leikam and Rachel Nelson.

For eligibility guidelines and to nominate a Jewish professional, visit jewishportland.org/rogoway.



CSP ROBOTS (cont. from page 1)

Villegas agrees: "Lucy and Ethel have improved morale during a time when our staff was stretched thin. It is important for our staff to know we are willing to try anything to support them!"

Each robot has three tiers that can hold up to six plates, according to Executive Chef/Director of Culinary Services Andy Staggs. Lucy and Ethel can also potentially be used for bussing tables.

"We are an early adopter of the robot technology in the senior living industry," says Staggs. "I can only think of one other senior living facility in Oregon that uses them."

At left, Lucy the robot helps Shinda serve lunch to Olive and Arthur in Rose Schnitzer Manor's Newmark Dining Room.

Lucy and Ethel have their own name badges on the front and photos on the back to tell the robots apart. The photos depict television actresses Lucille Ball and Vivian Vance in uniform at a chocolate factory, where they went to work in one of the funniest episodes of "I Love Lucy."

Lucy and Ethel the robots were named by an anonymous resident during a contest at Rose Schnitzer.

"I love it when they get to the doorway of the kitchen and then it looks like they might hit the door, and then they just barely miss," says resident Gloria. "I enjoy watching them."

Sydney Clevenger is the communications and events manager at Cedar Sinai Park.

Feb. 10: Explore impact of fashion on social justice

Experience a "Virtual Tour: Impact through Art and Fashion on Sustainability & Social Justice" at 8 pm, Feb. 10 on Zoom.

The program is presented by Neveh Shalom's Israel360, PDX Hillel and CHAI PSU (Cultural & Historical Association for Israel at Portland State University).

Can art, fashion and design make a change in the world? How can we use creativity as a tool to empower subgroups in Israel, and can these groups change and inspire the "Israeli mainstream?"

In this engaging program, virtually meet Israeli artists and designers who are dedicated to galvanizing minori-

ties in Israel and to strengthening Israeli society as a whole with their art and heart. This is a unique opportunity to dive deeper into Israeli culture and to learn about the different identities within Israel.

The tour will be led by Liraz Cohen Mordechai, creator of Fashioning by Liri Inc. The company's mission is to empower Israeli fashion designers, brands and companies and to present Israel's story through a new and unique perspective on fashion. Liri has presented her lectures in more than 30 universities.

For more information and to register for the program, visit nevehshalom.org/israel360.



Liraz Cohen Mordechai

Jacob & Sons: A Passion for the Jewish deli

BY KERRY POLITZER

While living in New York, Portland-born chef Noah Jacob spent a lot of time eating at restaurants. But it wasn't until he moved back to the West Coast that he decided to make food (and especially Jewish food) a full-time pursuit.

"I met my wife, Dori, in New York," he says. "We moved to the Bay Area, and I had this job that I didn't like."

Noah was envious of the passion that Dori had for her work in the theater business. She advised him to figure out what it is he wanted to do, to pursue what makes him happy. Noah realized that he yearned to go back to cooking. He wanted to make Jewish food.

Thus began his tenure with Wise Sons, the famous San Francisco-based delicatessen. Eventually, Noah opened his own catering business, Comestible, that he ran for the next seven years until Covid.

When the pandemic hit, the Jacob family decided to move to Portland, where they have been operating a popular subscription-based supper club ever since. One thing that makes the Jacobs' project special is their emphasis on *tzedakah*. They offer free meals to those in need. Since they began operating their supper club, about 20% of the meals they've made have gone to institutions such as Randall Children's Hospital as well as to the elderly and to anyone in need.

But the Jacobs always hoped to have a



Jerusalem Bageleh

physical home in which they might fully realize the vision of their business. And folks really seem to want those traditional Jewish deli foods!

Noah set about looking for a brick-and-mortar location. In April, he plans to open the new Jacob & Sons – a deli, marketplace, small catering operation and, of course, the supper club. Their commitment to philanthropy will continue to be a core value within the expanded business.

Jacob & Sons will feature local, house-smoked and cured fish "like you would find in New York" from Barney Greengrass to Zabar's to Russ & Daughters. The fish will be sourced from the Native community, who have caught and smoked the bounty of the Columbia River for millennia.

"I reached out to the Inter-Tribal Fish



Grilled fresh asparagus, ricotta, green almond, mint, mandarin, pine nut and brown butter vinaigrette

Commission, which is in charge of all the native fish that are caught on the Columbia, and I asked them for advice," says Noah. "We have tons of fish, so (I wondered), why is there not a restaurant that is already doing this?"

In addition to local smoked fish delicacies, Jacob & Sons' menus will feature all the deli mainstays including house-made bialys, matzah ball soup, pastrami sliced to order and more!

"We're trying to use what's available here, seasonally, so there will be some changes in the menu, but familiar comfort is key so the favorites will always be available," he says.

For updates on the opening of Jacob & Sons, visit their website (jacobandsonspdx.com) and Instagram page ([instagram.com/jacobandsonspdx/](https://www.instagram.com/jacobandsonspdx/)).

Roons closes, another victim of pandemic

In a Jan. 26 email, Jenn Topliff announced she has closed Roons, the company she founded in 2010 to bake and sell handmade macaroons.

In 2018, Topliff won a contract to make Roons for Alaska Airlines' First Class Passengers. At its height, Roons was making 50,000 Roons per month with the help of nine full-time employees.

"It will come as no surprise that the pandemic has been hard on businesses big and small, and the humans behind them," wrote Topliff in the announcement. "I'll spare you the details, but let's just say that the last two years have left some indelible scars on Roons. We fought as hard as we could ... with every fiber of our being, with every ounce of energy, with every single cent of our life savings, but we didn't win."

On Dec. 21, 2021, Topliff scooped the last 450 Roons, dipped them in chocolate, packaged them and sent them into the world.

"I'm so sad about how things ended, but I am intensely prideful about what I built and the fact that I elevated the lowly macaroon, of 'in-a-can-infamy,' to the Best Macaroon Ever over the course of a few short years," says Topliff.

Topliff plans to return to her previous career as a graphic designer. She had her own studio for 20 years and plans to launch theprettygood.com later this month.

"I already have a host of clients lined up and will be focusing on branding, food packaging, strategy and very out-of-the-box, exclusive wedding invitations," she says.

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Holy Smokes to close after Feb. 11

Holy Smokes, a kosher food cart in Hillsdale, will close after more than four years. In a Facebook post Jan. 30, owner and chef Steven Goldsmith wrote, "It is unfortunate that I must announce our final two weeks. Please come and say goodbye and have the best BBQ in Portland. Our last Friday will be Feb. 11."

Located at 3975 SW Beaverton-Hillsdale Highway in Hillsdale, the [Holy Smokes Righteous Eats](https://www.facebook.com/HolySmokesRighteousEats) cart serves up a delicious array of Glatt Kosher Smoked BBQ foods.

The food cart has been unsuccessful in its search for a full-time *mashgiach*, who supervises the kashrut status of a kosher establishment.

"Bris, bar mitzvah, weddings and shiva – we served the community for 4+ years and are sad to go," says Goldsmith. He adds the lack of a *mashgiach* is the cause.

"Not even a pandemic could stop us," he says.

In fact, in a Jan. 6, 2021, Jewish Review article on restaurants adapting to the pandemic, Goldsmith told food writer Kerry Politzer he was seeing his clientele grow. "(People are) driving around, and they're like, let's just go walk over there – there's no reason why we shouldn't try it, it's here!"

For more information on the foodcarts final weeks, visit [facebook.com/HolySmokesRighteousEats/](https://www.facebook.com/HolySmokesRighteousEats/).

BB Camp completes historic campaign

B'nai B'rith Camp recently announced that the Second Century Capital Campaign has achieved the campaign's \$14-million goal.

Founded in 1921, BB Camp is located on a lakeside campus on the scenic Oregon coast. The successful campaign has historic implications for BB Camp's infrastructure and programming capacity.

"Many of us who have supported the Second Century Campaign feel this is one of the most important contributions we have ever made," says Second Century Campaign Chair Irv Potter. "From previous generations going back 100 years, we inherited a beautiful camp with a rich history of service to the Northwest Jewish community. Now we are part of that history, launching the camp into a new century with improvements that reflect our community values."

The Second Century Campaign's success story involves hundreds of donors. The list of supporters (bbcamp.org/campaign-donors/) includes more than 30 Century Circle donors, who each contributed more than \$100,000 to the campaign. Donations from the Zidell Family and the E & SS Foundation each exceeded \$1 million. Other leading Century Circle donors include Jeff and Judy Greenstein, Stan (z"l) and Harriet Litt, The Loeb Family, The Foundation for Jewish Camp, The MJ Murdock Charitable Trust, The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, and the Bob and Rita Philip Family Fund of OJCF. Bob and Rita's additional commitment in the final week of December officially put the Second Century Campaign over the goal of \$14 million.

"We reached the \$14-million goal, but the door is still open for new Second Century donations," says Potter. "From 2022 forward, every additional dollar raised will launch the Second Century Fund, which will provide ongoing support for capital investments that reflect the community's aspirations for our children."

All contributions to the Second Century Fund through July 2022 will be recognized permanently at the Second Century Pavilion, alongside all other Second Century Campaign contributors.

"We are overjoyed and appreciative of the hundreds of people who gave significant gifts to make this campaign a success," says BB Camp CEO Michelle Koplan. "Children's lives are transformed by their camp experience, and the generosity of our Sec-

BB CAMP SECOND CENTURY CAMPAIGN OVERVIEW

Major Components of the BB Camp Investment	Amount Allocated	Year Completed
Campus Endowment	\$ 400,000	
Purchase of the Camp from Mittleman JCC	\$ 1,000,000	2009
Shower Houses	\$ 380,000	2010
Dining Hall	\$ 900,000	2012
Mendelson Health Center	\$ 310,000	2014
Lakefront Lodge	\$ 360,000	2015
Mercer Community Center	\$ 1,600,000	2016
New Cabins - South Side	\$ 2,000,000	2019
New Cabins - North Side	\$ 2,000,000	2020
Outdoor Features: lakefront, climbing tower, etc.	\$ 430,000	2020
Site Development and Expansion	\$ 1,170,000	2021
New Amphitheater	\$ 250,000	2021
Field House / Gym - in progress	\$ 2,400,000	2022
Other events, materials, contractors, planning, fees	\$ 800,000	2022
Total Second Century Campaign Allocation	\$ 14,000,000	

Additional contributions to the capital campaign will support future capital improvements to BB Camp through the Second Century Fund

ond Century donors will profoundly impact thousands of children for decades to come."

Having met the campaign goal, BB Camp is forging ahead to finalize campus renovations. The capstone project, a new Field House, is currently under construction. This project is representative of the campaign's overarching vision for enhancing camp accessibility, capacity and functionality for the next generation.

When complete, the new Field House will create an attractive and fully accessible multi-purpose space, including a full-sized gymnasium that will support camp and community events and recreational and cultural activities. The building was designed to ensure accessibility for campers, staff and volunteers, providing equal access to all areas of the building. Construction of the Field House is scheduled to be completed by spring 2022, in time to serve campers during the 2022 summer session.

For more information about the Second Century Fund, contact Aaron Pearlman at apearlman@bbcamp.org or 503-345-9476 or visit bbcamp.org/scc-giving/.

Eastside Jewish Commons has new co-chairs

The Eastside Jewish Commons has appointed Karen Blauer and Lesley Sacks as co-chairs of its board of directors. Blauer and Sacks, who joined the board in 2019 and 2017, respectively, succeed Mia Birk, who had served as board chair since 2017.

EJC's mission is to create and sustain a lively and inclusive gathering place on Portland's east side, with educational, cultural, spiritual, religious and social programming offered by multiple Jewish community organizations. EJC opened in July 2021 at Northeast 24th and Sandy.

Karen and Lesley were both born and raised in Portland. They serve as co-chairs of EJC's nominating committee.

Karen also serves on the board of the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland. She has served on the boards of Mittleman Jewish Community Center, Jewish Family & Child Service, B'nai B'rith Camp and Cedar Sinai Park. Her professional career focused on community outreach and engagement, fund-raising and grant administration in the nonprofit and public sectors. She and her spouse, Dvora, live in Southeast Portland. She grew up at Congregation Beth Israel and is a member of Congregation Shir Tikvah.

Lesley is a hospice social worker and Social Services Manager. She specializes in working with older adults - providing comfort, support and end-of-life counseling to patients and their families.



Incoming co-chairs Leslie Sacks, left, and Karen Blauer, right, flank outgoing chair Mia Birk.

Previously, she worked for a decade at Cedar Sinai Park. Lesley served on the board of B'nai B'rith Camp. She, her husband, Dave, and their two young children live in Northeast Portland and are members of Congregation Beth Israel.

EJC's board extends its deep thanks to founding Board Chair Mia Birk for her work toward creating EJC over the past seven years. Mia will serve for six months as a business consultant focused on solidifying the operational foundation of the organization alongside EJC Executive Director Cara Abrams.

A statement from Karen and Lesley reads, "We are looking forward to our service as co-chairs, and we know that we have big shoes to fill. We owe a tremendous debt to Mia's extraordinary passion, dedication and vision, which have already made a major impact on Portland's Jewish

community. We are so grateful that Mia has chosen to remain integrally involved in fostering EJC's success."

Mia responds, "It has been an incredible honor to serve as EJC board chair during our formative years, and I am thrilled to hand the reins over to these two powerhouse community leaders. Both have dedicated countless amounts of time, treasure and talent to our Jewish community."

For more information, visit ejcpdx.org.

Published biweekly by
Jewish Federation of
Greater Portland
9900 SW Greenburg Road,
Suite 220

Tigard, OR 97223
503-245-6219

JewishPortland.org

facebook.com/JewishPDX

[instagram.com/](https://instagram.com/jewishfederationpdx/)

jewishfederationpdx/

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Circulation

To receive the Jewish
Review in your email inbox,
email your name and email
address to

editor@jewishportland.org

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Jewish Review do not
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Federation of Greater
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Federation.

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Issue date Deadline

Feb. 16 Feb. 10

March 2 Feb. 24

March 16 March 10

March 30 March 24

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Chaplain's Corner

Remain aware and prepared

BY RABBI BARRY COHEN

We are still coming to terms with what happened at Congregation Beth Israel in Colleyville, Texas, when for 10 hours Malik Faisal Akram held congregants and their rabbi, Charlie Cytron-Walker, hostage.

Though we are 2,000 miles away, we too experienced trauma. It takes time to process any trauma – to feel, to reacclimate and to adjust. Our respective religious organizations now must formulate a plan of how to respond or how not to respond.

The Colleyville trauma forced me to recall many memories.

During my first year of rabbinical school in Jerusalem in 1992-1993, my parents visited in late December. Not only did we tour Israel, we flew to Italy to celebrate New Year's.

After touring the Vatican, we visited the Great Synagogue of Rome. We did **not** receive a warm reception. There was an armored troop carrier parked on the street. Two heavily armed guards checked the IDs of all who entered. As we neared the entrance, one of them stepped forward and asked who we were.

We described ourselves as Jewish American tourists who were exploring the Roman Ghetto and that we hoped to attend evening worship.

"I can't let you in," he said.

We showed our passports with the last name "Cohen."

"Sorry," he responded.

I explained that I was studying to become a rabbi and was currently living in Jerusalem.

He paused and looked at us again. "Fine. You can enter."

I thought to myself, that would **never** happen in the United States. After all, we describe a synagogue as a "Beit Knesset," a house of gathering; a "Beit Tefilah," a house of prayer. We gravitate to the sanctuary, a safe place, a sanctified place.

What happened in Colleyville challenges these assumptions. A newcomer, a stranger welcomed with hospitality, vio-

lated that sacred space. Their experience could easily become our experience.

Other memories: When I served as rabbi of Temple B'nai Israel in Oklahoma City for eight years, who knows how many "strangers" we hospitably welcomed. Any one of them could have been armed. Any one of them could have violated that synagogue's sacred space and threatened its congregants.

I recall weekly Torah study classes. I fondly remember many Tot Shabbat services with my toddler children and a handful of other families. Such soft targets.

What a relief that the hostages were able to escape safely. Rabbi Charlie Cytron-Walker relied on his crisis training to remain calm and controlled. I have appreciation beyond words for the role that Secure Community Network played. Rabbi Charlie remained aware of his surroundings, took his time, and when the right moment arrived, he acted boldly and escaped with the remaining hostages.

I offer a big thank you to our Regional Security Director Gene Moss for all of his hard work to educate and prepare local Jewish organizations.

Now the news cycle has refreshed. It would be easy to move on from what happened at Congregation Beth Israel and the trauma in its wake. We would make a mistake if we accepted this latest tragedy as part of the "new normal."

What happened there has affected us. How do we respond? What are the implications of the latest attack on Congregation Beth Israel?

We could easily harden our hearts. Our many Jewish organizations and institutions could create multiple roadblocks for any newcomer or any stranger. In addition, when we gather, we could always be looking over our shoulders.

I would rather we embrace multiple Jewish values in response to Colleyville. Let's

refuse to give in to fear. Let's seek out the training we need to respond to crisis, and equally as important, ensure we keep our skills fresh. Let's trust each other, especially those who choose to be *shomrim*, our guardians and protectors. Let's foster a healthy relationship with local law enforcement.

We need not harden our hearts. We need not remain stuck in the status quo, passively bracing ourselves for the next tragedy.

French theologian Philippe Vernier taught: "Do not wait for great strength before setting out, for immobility will weaken you further. Do not wait to see very clearly before starting: one has to walk toward the light. Have you strength enough to take this first step? ... You will be astonished to feel that the effort accomplished, instead of having exhausted your strength, has doubled it – and that you already see more clearly what you have to do next." (*Saying No and Letting Go*, by Rabbi Edwin Goldberg.)

If we harden our hearts or passively remain numb, we sacrifice part of our humanity.

I return to the wisdom of *Pirke Avot*: "In a place where there is no humanity, strive to be humane."

In response to the tragedy in Colleyville, where an armed man revealed the worst of humanity, we can respond by being our best. The stranger and the newcomer are not to be feared. Let us refuse to harden our hearts against "the other" and against ourselves. But at the same time, let us remain aware and prepared, to ensure the safety of everyone we hospitably welcome into our home.



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

In Search of Light

A ride-along with a Jewish police captain

Jathan Janove is an author, columnist, executive coach and organizational consultant. During this challenging time, Jathan has been interviewing people about their lives, values and priorities. He says finding a path for police to follow in today's times seems like a Search for Light.

BY JATHAN JANOVE

I had the eye-opening experience of doing a “ride-along” with Jewish Portland Police Captain David “Abe” Abrahamson on Christmas Eve.

The shift began with roll call, which gave me an opportunity to understand some of the challenges and risk police face. A police sergeant reviewed situations to watch out for including a man desirous of committing suicide by cop, a serious repeat felon who had beaten his girlfriend to a pulp and made it clear he would not be taken into custody without a fight, and a pimp who punished his prostitutes in unspeakable ways. Some of these prostitutes were immigrants brought to this country on false promises of employment opportunity; instead, they were forced into sexual slavery.

“How can you not become jaded with such relentless stories of cruelty, oppression and suffering?” I asked Captain Abrahamson.

“It can be difficult,” he said. “But I continue to believe I can make a positive difference. It’s like the saying from the Talmud: ‘Whoever saves a single life is considered to have saved the whole world.’ That’s enough for my colleagues and me to keep trying.”

We responded to a call where a woman had removed her clothing and was knocking on doors and stopping cars in a residential neighborhood. Captain Abrahamson explained that this behavior is not unusual – certain drugs produce a sensation of being unbearably hot, even in freezing temperatures.

By the time we arrived, the woman no longer felt overheated. The winter chill had begun to set in. Although her coordination was off, she’d managed to partially clothe herself by reaching into a large black garbage bag she carried that held her belongings. The responding officers attempted to persuade her to consent to a medical evaluation and offered to send for an ambulance that would take her to a hospital.

She resisted and got belligerent, walking away from the officers and at one point attempting to open a police car door.



Officers intervened without force or violence. They spent a half hour or more attempting to persuade her to accept medical help. It was clear that in her partially clad condition, she likely would not survive the night with temperatures forecast in the 20s.

Although they could have let her go, they decided to hold her until an ambulance arrived. She was sedated and placed on a gurney to be taken to the hospital. She was not handcuffed. Although she protested loudly and struggled physically, there was no violence. Two strong men simply held her by the arms while continuing to converse with her.

I even got to participate. After hearing her say she had not eaten in two days while rejecting the officers’ offer of power bars, I suggested she might be dehydrated. I had most of my horchata left from lunch at a local Mexican restaurant. I offered it to her. She ignored me until I said, “Do you know what a horchata is?” She gave me a cross look and said sarcastically, “Of course I know what a horchata is!” She then took the cup and drank the horchata. Later, I overheard her remarking to one of the paramedics about the sugar content in horchatas.

Throughout this encounter, the officers treated the woman with dignity, respect and compassion.

Jewish Community Security

Captain Abrahamson takes Jewish community security very seriously. He has spent time in Israel; his sister lives there and was a member of a professional Israeli soccer team. One of his most prized possessions is a revolver he purchased from an Israeli officer, who used it in the Six Day War. He regrets that while in Israel, he didn’t make a stronger effort at learning Hebrew. “I learned,” he says, “just enough to find the bathroom and offend a merchant while negotiating price.”

Kesser Israel member Aki Fleshler recalls an incident a few years ago where Captain Abrahamson got personally involved. “He was very concerned and very responsive,” Fleshler says.

“I am committed to doing everything I can to ensure the safety and security of our Jewish community,” says Captain Abrahamson. To this end, he invited me to share with readers his email address (David.Abrahamson@portlandoregon.gov) saying, “If anyone has questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to me directly.”

If you’d like to hear more of his thoughts, listen to Captain Abrahamson’s Talkcast with Dave Dahl of Dave’s Killer Bread at talkcastpdx.com/episode8.

Jewish Genetic Screening Awareness Week Feb. 1-7

Jewish Genetic Screening Awareness Week is Feb. 1-7, 2022.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Portland is partnering with JSscreen, a not-for-profit, at-home education and carrier screening program for Jewish genetic diseases, to promote the week.

Genetic testing is an incredible tool that can help ensure a healthy Jewish community today and for generations to come. The Jewish community is at higher risk for certain genetic diseases and hereditary cancers. Knowing your genetic risk factors allows you to take

action and be proactive about your family’s health.

On Jan. 27, the Federation sponsored a discussion on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes for Jews in relation to cancer. Watch the session with Senator Dr. Elizabeth Steiner Hayward, Dr. Brett Sheppard and Dr. Jonathan Brody at youtube.com/watch?v=HqMjZYyL_is

In honor of Jewish Genetic Screening Awareness Week, JSscreen is offering a coupon for \$72 off genetic screening; visit JSscreen.org/SpecialOffer.

Obituaries

VICTOR GUTNIK

Victor Gutnik, z"l, passed away Jan. 28, 2022, at the age of 81. Victor was predeceased by his wife, Zinaida, and is loved and remembered by nephew, Vitaliy Zamakhover, and sister, Fenya Zamakhover.

Victor was a Neveh Shalom congregant. His funeral was Jan. 31 at Ahavai Shalom Cemetery.

ANNABELLE (DOLLY) GOLDBERG

Annabelle (Dolly) Goldberg, z"l, *Hannah Basa bat Yitzchak v'Melucha D'rira*, passed away Jan. 25, 2022, in Seattle. She was the beloved mother of Michelle, Ken (Jeri) and Jerry; and grandmother of Hunter, Sophie and Jake. She was predeceased by her husband, Leonard, z"l, in 2019.

Dolly was born Aug. 23, 1933, in Salinas, Calif., to Charles and Minnie Finkelstein, along with sisters Beverly and Helaine.

Her life's achievements were many, but nothing was more important to her than her family and friends – and serving them their favorite foods as one of her many forms of caring. In their seventh decade of marriage, her adoring husband, Leonard, died in 2019, leaving a hole in her heart that was irreparable. They are united once again, for eternity.

Dolly met Len while she was a nurse at Mt. Zion Hospital in San Francisco, where he was interning to become a cardiologist. After raising three amazing children, she enrolled at Portland State University, where she graduated with honors with a degree in political science and urban planning.

Her passion was knowing about and providing for others, including formal holiday meals for 30 family members, friends and soon-to-be friends a dozen times a year for the past 40 years. Her pride and joy was her certified-Kosher second kitchen, from which she could prepare food to be taken into the synagogue.

Len called her his queen, and we were all blessed to be within her regal sphere.

The funeral was Jan. 30, 2022, at Shaarie Torah Cemetery. The family suggests donations to Kline Galland Hospice in Seattle or Hadassah.

DAVID ARTHUR MARKEWITZ

David Arthur Markewitz, z"l, passed away on Jan. 23, 2022, in Ashland, Ore., at age 75. He is mourned by his brother, Milton Markewitz; and by his children, Mia Markewitz Davis, John Markewitz, Grant Markewitz and Erin Markewitz Salehrabi.

He was born in Worchester, Mass., June 29, 1946, but grew up in Portland. He graduated from Lincoln High School in 1964.

Burial was at Shaarie Torah Cemetery on Jan. 26.

YOSEF DAVID HASSON

Yosef David Hasson, z"l, *Yosef David ben Avrohom v'Miriam*, passed away peacefully in his sleep on Jan. 13, 2022, in Tzfat, Israel. He is survived by his beloved wife, Esther Sara; his children, Miriam, Emily, Molly and Alena; and his grandchildren, Tony, Zahra, Ben and Sophia.

He was an active congregant at Shaarie Torah for nearly two decades and enjoyed being part of the Men's Club in the years prior to moving to Israel.

His funeral was held in Tzfat last week.

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JFCS wins grant for innovative care

Jewish Family & Child Service has won a significant grant from The Jewish Federations of North America's Center for Holocaust Survivor Care and Institute on Aging and Trauma to provide groundbreaking care for older adult clients and their caregivers.

When combined with matching funds, this award will provide roughly \$90,000 over two years for new programming that engages in person-centered, trauma-informed (PCTI) care for all of its clients in its four programs: Counseling, Emergency Aid, Disability Support Services and Holocaust Survivor Services. Missy Fry, LCSW, CAGCS, is overseeing the JFNA grant.

This is JFCS' third award from JFNA. The focus of this award, which spans through 2024, is twofold.

JFCS will engage its Holocaust Survivor clients, Next Generation caregivers, older adults with a history of trauma and caregivers through psychoeducation around issues related to end of life. This crucial service is often delayed but of great importance to explore and put plans in place.

JFCS also will provide JFNA grant clients support around grief and loss with a focus around reducing increased trauma due to isolation. Isolation is common for older adults and especially now during the ongoing pandemic.

"The support of JFNA gives JFCS the support to best implement a PCTI approach when working with all of our clients," says Clinical Director Douglass Ruth, LCSW, CCTP. "We are able to develop programming that is designed to address the unique needs of Holocaust survivors and older adults who have experienced trauma."

"Additionally, we are able to continue building knowledge and expertise particularly in PCTI practices that assists

in our ability to support the greater community," he adds.

PCTI care is an innovative approach spearheaded by JFNA that promotes trust, dignity, strength and empowerment of all individuals by incorporating knowledge about trauma into agency programs, policies and procedures. Some estimates suggest that up to 90% of older adults in the United States have experienced a traumatic event during their lifetimes, which can affect them as they age.

"The pandemic has shown what a difference we can make when we come together, especially for those older adults at highest risk of Covid-19," says Mark Wilf, chair of the JFNA Board of Trustees. "Holocaust survivors are our teachers and our heroes, and we are committed to empowering them to live with comfort in their communities."

JFNA launched this program in 2015 following an award from the Administration for Community Living. Acknowledging Jewish Federations' profound impact, the federal government has increased the funding through the years, highlighted Jewish Federations' approach as a model for serving all older adults, and empowered JFNA to be the national resource center on aging and trauma.

Since its inception, the program has supported approximately 30,000 Holocaust survivors, 15,000 professional caregivers, 5,000 family caregivers and 2,000 other older adults with a history of trauma. Local organizations have provided specialized care across 21 states and 54 cities.

JFNA aims to catalyze a nationwide culture shift toward PCTI care across older adult populations. JFNA is proud to do this work with strong bipartisan Congressional support.

MEMORY (continued from page 1)

I'm exhausted by the enmity, cruelty, stupidity, and thoughtlessness that abound today. My oldest daughter is named for a survivor of the Holocaust. I am the director of a museum dedicated to Holocaust education. I am blessed to know survivors in our community. Did the person who sent that tweet ever stop to consider what the image means to anyone who has lost loved ones because of genocide?

For years at OJMCHE, we have been saying that our work matters now more than ever. Our work matters now more than ever. I do despair. We all despair.

But for anyone who knows me, you also know despair is not my usual instinct. Professor Bartov reminded us of the importance of community alliances to fight hate. Hope also abounds and I remain buoyed at the privilege of being part of a community that values openness, enlightenment and justice.

Today we hold the memory of six million Jewish victims and millions of other victims of the Holocaust in our hearts. Today we honor survivors locally and everywhere. I'm here to fight another day and I invite you to join me. ojmche.org