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# The JEWISH REVIEW

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A Maayan Torah Day School class holds a discussion session in the hallway outside the main sanctuary at Congregation Kesser Israel Friday, Feb. 2. The school has relocated classes to Kesser Israel, Congregation Ahavath Achim and The Portland Kollel while damage from a burst pipe at the school's Lake Oswego campus is repaired. (Courtesy Maayan Torah Day School)



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## 'Every nook and cranny'

### Synagogues, Kollel share space while Maayan repairs damage caused by January's winter weather

By **ROCKNE ROLL**  
*The Jewish Review*

Through the recent ice storm, there were numerous stories of members of Portland's Jewish community supporting one another. Many of these were on an individual level – friends and family staying over to cope with a loss of power or a damaged home. But few were as big an effort as hosting an entire school for weeks.

Following a pair of burst pipes flooding parts of the school's Lake Oswego campus., Maayan Torah Day School has been, to put it glibly, staying over at friends' houses as the Portland Kollel and Congregations Ahavath Achim and Kesser Israel have hosted classes for the school's students while repairs are undertaken.

It all started with icicles – where they  
See **MAAYAN**, page 9

# Hand in Hand schools present at EJC Feb. 18

By ROCKNE ROLL  
*The Jewish Review*

It feels challenging to find success stories of cooperation between Israel’s Jewish and Palestinian populations – but one of them is being highlighted in Portland on Sunday.

Hand in Hand: Center for Jewish-Arab Education in Israel Co-Founder Lee Gordon will be presenting at the Eastside Jewish Commons Sunday, Feb. 18 at 2 pm. He’ll be joined by Emmanuel Auerbach, a student from Israel who attended Hand in Hand from kindergarten all the way through 12th Grade.

Gordon knows that while many organizations with similar goals are struggling, Hand in Hand is forging ahead in building bridges amongst Israel’s diverse population through education.

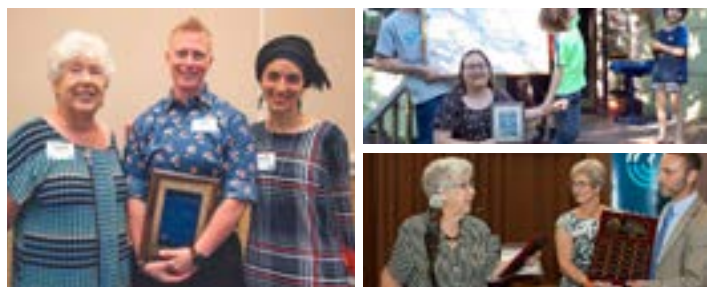
“I like to say that if Hand in Hand was founded this year in September, we wouldn’t have survived,” he explained. “There wouldn’t have been this foundation of trust and partnership and coexistence that we’ve built. We’re in our 26th year, and there’s, you know, this culture in our schools of listening and learning how to listen to each other.”

Gordon grew up in Portland before making *aliyah* and co-founding the school with an Arab colleague. They had 50 students in one school then; now there are over 2,000 students in schools all over the country.

“We were a little afraid to think big because this was sort of a new thing and so many people told us it would never work, that parents wouldn’t send their kids to a school that was integrated,” Gordon recalled. “But when we presented this model, we said, ‘We want this to be a model of what Israel can and should look like as a society.’”

The presentation, hosted by Kol Shalom, is also co-spon-

See **SCHOOL**, page 13



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# Stampfer Award gala returns in September

By ROCKNE ROLL  
*The Jewish Review*

Three years after its last ceremony, the Rabbi Joshua Stampfer, z”l, Community Enrichment Award is returning this fall.

“We’re very hopeful that we get this moving forward,” Co-Chair Alan Montrose explained.

Founded in 1999, the Stampfer Award was created by the organizations that Rabbi Stampfer was most deeply connected to: the Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education, (which today incorporates the Institute for Judaic Studies and the Oregon Holocaust Resource Center as well as the museum; all three were founded by Rabbi Stampfer) Camp Solomon Schechter, the Harold Schnitzer Family Program in Judaic Studies at Portland State University and Congregation Neveh Shalom, where Rabbi Stampfer served as senior Rabbi for over four decades and was instrumental in creating the Foundation School early childhood education program.

Montrose took over as co-chair in 2011. It was as simple as being asked.

“Basically, what happens when Rabbi Stampfer asks you to do something is, you just do it,” he recalled. “And apparently you do it forever.”

Steve Reinisch can identify with that sentiment. His father was a Lutheran pastor and professor of classics and theology at Concordia University and active in interfaith groups in Portland, which brought

him into Rabbi Stampfer’s orbit. Reinisch recalls the Rabbi’s conversations with his father over dinners and formed his own friendship with the Rabbi over the years.

“Anyone who’s met Rabbi Stampfer can’t help but be drawn to the quality of the man he was,” Reinisch said.

Reinisch’s adult friendships brought him into the work of the Oregon Jewish Museum as it was just getting underway. Following his father’s passing, Reinisch agreed to serve on the museum’s board for a three-year term.

“I can do three years,” he recalled saying.

That was 13 years ago. Reinisch is still on OJM-CHE’s board, and co-chaired the capital campaign that financed the purchase of the museum’s current space in Downtown Portland – a post he recalls being elected to while he was in the restroom. This work led, in part, to Reinisch receiving the Stampfer Award himself.

“I have found my service on the board to be probably the most meaningful nonprofit board service opportunity that I’ve had the privilege to enjoy,” he said. “I think there’s so much we can learn, and we need to preserve, not as a relic of the past, but as an important part of understanding our present and helping to influence the future.”

Carolyn Weinstein is another past recipient of the award – she, too, has continued to volunteer in

See **STAMPFER**, page 14

# SUPER SUNDAY MARCH MADNESS

20

24



## WHEN

Sunday, March 17, 2024 / 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

## LOCATION

MJCC / 6651 SW Capitol Hwy

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Jewish Federation  
of Greater Portland



# Super Sunday returns March 17 at MJCC

By ROCKNE ROLL  
*The Jewish Review*

Super Sunday is back, and it's getting into the madness of March!

The Jewish Federation of Greater Portland will host a special March Madness-themed Super Sunday call-a-thon Sunday, March 17, at the Mittleman Jewish Community Center. This marks the first in-person Super Sunday since the Covid pandemic.

Getting into the spirit of the NCAA Division I National Championship Basketball tournament, callers will be split into teams.

"They will move through the bracket based on the amount of phone calls that they make during our day," explained Federation Associate Campaign and Engagement Director, Laura Jeser. "We're going encourage everyone to wear jerseys of their teams, the staff might be wearing referee shirts. It's going to be a lot of fun."

Beyond the basketball-themed fun, Super Sunday is a huge part of the Federation's annual Campaign for Community Needs because it connects donors and callers with each other and with the work the campaign supports.

"It's a good way for members of our community to connect," Jeser said. "People can hear from us as a staff, but to hear what we're doing for the campaign from a volunteer means a lot to people."

Jeser is hoping to get at least 50 volunteers to participate in this year's event – it will be fun, yes, and a source of connection, but Jeser emphasized that it's also immensely important to the Jewish community – both that the calls are made and that they're answered.

"You are doing a *mitzvah* when you ask for money for a nonprofit," she said. Furthermore, "You're giving someone the opportunity to do their own *mitzvah*."

Those Super Sunday *mitzvot* have some extra impact this year – an anonymous donor is matching any increases in annual contributions made to the campaign on Super Sunday dollar-for-dollar. Each of those dollars is important this time of year as the annual allocations process gets underway.

"The allocations committee is about to start budgeting funds for the organizations we support in the community, and the allocable dollars available are totally dependent upon our campaign," Jeser said. "There's the adage, 'we can't do tomorrow's work with yesterday's dollars.' We need the community's support to fund our local organizations."

No experience is required to participate– only a cell phone and a laptop or tablet. Refreshments will be provided for those attending at the MJCC, while remote options are also available.

Jeser knows that calling and asking for money can be an intimidating experience – detailed instructions and a script are provided for each caller – but beyond the ask itself, each call is a conversation about something important to everyone, regardless of which end of the call they're on.

"You're providing an opportunity for people to do good for the community," she said. "Our local Jewish community and our global Jewish community."

Those interested in helping out on Super Sunday can register at [jewishportland.org/supersundaymarch17](http://jewishportland.org/supersundaymarch17). Those looking to make calls remotely should please indicate such in the comments. It's also never too early to get a jump on the big day by making a donation at [jewishportland.org/give](http://jewishportland.org/give).



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## CNS hosts Pink Shabbat Feb. 16

*The Jewish Review staff*

Join Congregation Neveh Shalom for a Pink Shabbat to raise awareness of breast cancer and support those support those battling breast cancer and their families Friday, Feb. 16 at Neveh Shalom. A Pink Shabbat soiree begins at 5:15 with light refreshments, including a glass of rose wine for all, followed by a Kabbalat Shabbat service with Rabbi Eve Posen and Cantor Eyal Bitton at 6:15 pm. For more information or to RSVP, visit [nevehshalom.org/pinkshabbat2024](http://nevehshalom.org/pinkshabbat2024).

## JEA moves to stop methane leaks

*The Jewish Review staff*

Jewish law teaches that those who damage the public domain are responsible for reparations. Reducing the release of wasted methane gas is one of the most effective ways to repair our atmosphere and reverse climate change. Jewish Earth Alliance's action alert, available online at [jewishearthalliance.org/alerts/halt-methane-leaks-february-2024](http://jewishearthalliance.org/alerts/halt-methane-leaks-february-2024), explains how to submit a comment to the Environmental Protection Agency in support of a Waste Emissions Charge for Petroleum and Natural Gas Systems. Jewish Earth Alliance is a partner of the Portland Jewish Community Relations Council's Climate Action Committee.

# Frieda Cohen, 'a force of nature,' passes at 103

By **ROCKNE ROLL**  
*The Jewish Review*

Frieda Cohen, z"l, "was a force of nature," her son, Richard Cohen said.

Frieda Cohen, who passed away Wednesday, Jan. 24 at the age of 103, certainly had an immense impact—in her lifetime-- in business, with her family and at Congregation Shaarie Torah, where she was an indelible part of the fabric of the synagogue.

Cohen was born in 1920, the youngest of six children, to a Portland family that had been part of Shaarie Torah since 1909. She graduated from Lincoln High School and Reed College, the latter thanks to the support of her brother who had attended Reed and earned a Rhodes Scholarship. After graduating from Reed, she met Benjamin Cohen, z"l, who served in the US Army Air Corps during World War II. They were married in 1942. Following the war, they briefly lived in Aberdeen, Wash. before returning to Portland to found General Automotive Supply Company, where Cohen was a bookkeeper. Richard Cohen, one of Frieda's two children, worked for GASC until he retired at age 70 – his mom stayed on until age 98.

Her work and family were of the utmost importance to her, but so was synagogue life – even when she bucked some of its traditions. Richard recalls one Shabbat morning at Sharrie Torah's previous home on Southwest First Avenue.

"All the women used to be upstairs separate because it was an Orthodox synagogue and she looked down and my father was sitting alone," Richard recalled. "She went down, and she sat with him. She thought at any time she



Frieda Cohen, z"l, operates the dough rolling machine she helped donate to the Congregation Shaarie Torah Sisterhood for their annual hamentaschen sale in this undated photograph in the synagogue's kitchen. Cohen was an integral part of Shaarie Torah for decades. (Courtesy Ilana Cloud/Congregation Shaarie Torah)

was going to be kicked out of there."

She wasn't, and mixed seating thus began at Shaarie Torah.

Frieda was remembered in many other ways at the shul, including for her ability to give a speech for each b'nai mitzvah celebrant, off the cuff, without any notes or prep.

"She was probably one of the best extemporaneous speakers that I knew," Richard recalled. "I thought that was quite an unusual quality she had there."

Frieda would also hand out candy to the children who came to services each Shabbat; she saw the children as the future of the synagogue and wanted to make sure their experience there was a good one.

"She got the most joy of seeing those kids running

around the synagogue," Richard said. "She reveled in their creativity."

There was a time and place for everything, though – a point Richard recalled being reinforced as he prepared for his Hebrew School graduation.

"All of us adolescents were kind of unruly," he recalled, "and I remember my mother coming into the room from the back of the room and she was slapping her hands, bam, bam, bam; 'You guys, just listen!' Everybody straightened up and we went through the routine in a couple of minutes because they were afraid of her."

She also contributed to their education by supporting the work of Shaarie Torah's sisterhood, particularly their hamentaschen sale each year before Purim.

"She was always impec-

cably dressed,' Charlotte Tevet of CST's Sisterhood of Cohen when she came in to help make hamentaschen. "She would roll [dough] for hours and, you know, it didn't bother her to stand there and do that for hours and hours."

Eventually, Cohen and a friend, Sylvia Perkel, purchased a rolling machine for the Sisterhood's work – which has not only made the process faster, but made the product more uniform.

"Every individual is different, and so [the hamentaschen] wouldn't come out as even," Tevet said. "It's been a tremendous help to have that dough machine."

Cohen wasn't just a sharp dresser on special occasions, either.

"She always dressed up, no matter where she went, she got up and she got dressed and she wore heels for the longest time," Richard Cohen said of his mother. "She was well put together. Anybody who came into the house always admired that, she looked so put together."

Sue Perkel, Sylvia's daughter, remembers her mother's friendship with Frieda Cohen fondly. After her own mother passed, Cohen became a second mother to Perkel – she refers to her as "Mama Frieda" to this day.

"Rabbi Zucky [Arthur Zuckerman] was there at the time, and he used to call my mom and Mama Frieda 'The Golden Girls,'" Perkel explained. "They just had so much energy."

Perkel recalled that Cohen would strike up a friendship with almost anyone she met and was legendary for the ribs she'd cook for the High Holy Days, sourced from

See **COHEN**, page 16

# ' That's my approach' - Vilan stands for hostages

By **ROCKNE ROLL**

*The Jewish Review*

Every weekend, Noga Vilan is standing outside, holding a sign.

In rain, sunshine or even – as happened late in January - ice. Sometimes there are many people around her, sometimes only a few. The signs she holds each weekend bear the faces and the names of hostages held by Hamas in Gaza.

She started on Oct. 28, and she will keep going until all the hostages are released.

“At least two hours every week,” she said, “I let those families know that they are not alone in this horrifying situation.”

Vilan is from a kibbutz in southern Israel. After Oct. 7, she looked for a way to raise awareness about the hostages. Seeing images from New York City of hostage posters in subway stations and elsewhere, she decided to replicate the effort in Portland. On the evening of Oct. 21, she, her husband and their two sons went to Tom McCall Waterfront Park in Portland and began hanging posters.

“I literally printed all of them,” she said of the posters, one for each hostage. “And it took us forever and we were not even halfway through.”

While they were hanging the posters, people would come up to them and ask questions or scan the QR codes on the posters.

“I realized it’s better to be out there in the light and actually interact with people,” Vilan said.

Vilan put out a call on Facebook that she would be at Portland Saturday Market the next Saturday – Oct. 28 – and in-



Noga Vilan, bottom left, stands with a poster for a hostage held by Hamas in Gaza during a demonstration at Pioneer Courthouse Square in Portland. (Gloria Hammer for The Jewish Review)

vited people to join her. Around 40 did, and the momentum hasn’t ceased from there.

The demonstrations have changed locations each weekend, which ensures a wider audience but also deters counter-demonstrations. On Nov. 10, she and others held the empty Shabbat table demonstration in Beaverton; the next week, she and a group were in front of the offices of the American Red Cross on Friday afternoon.

“I said, OK, the Red Cross is not doing anything,” she recalled. “So, let’s say that there.”

While some will wave Israeli flags, Vilan sticks to her posters. She’s found that symbols of the State of Israel tend to provoke more hostile responses, while the pictures and names of the hostages start meaningful conversations.

“People start crying in front of us,” she recalled. “One of them went and they brought us some cookies and stuff, just because we were standing there in the rain with the pictures.”

Through the end of the year, she hoped each weekend would be the last.

“I was so sure that, ‘OK, they will be released,’” she recalled thinking before Thanksgiving. “Then I was sure there would be a Chanukah miracle. ‘No way we will get to the end of December and there are still 130 people.’”

As February rolls toward March, negotiations between the Israeli government and Hamas wax and wane and news trickles out about hostages dying in Hamas custody, Vilan is still out there. She’s settled on Sundays each week and is still trying to find new locations. Sometimes as many as 80 people have joined her, even amid heavy rains. Sometimes, that num-



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See **HOSTAGES**, page 14

# Schneiderman a 'Jewish rock star'

By GLORIA HAMMER  
*For The Jewish Review*

Kim Schneiderman's newly appointed position at B'nai B'rith Camp combines all her talents-musician, storyteller, educator, cantorial soloist and service leader.

Schneiderman's ties to our community go back generations from when her great grandparents established roots in Portland, both in the Jewish and local music communities. She's truly a third-generation local Jewish rock star. On her father's side, the Schneidermans owned and operated the Portland Music Hall on Southwest 10th Avenue, while her great grandparents on her mother's side, the Shermans, were founding members of Tifereth Israel Synagogue in Northeast Portland. Growing up, music was always part of her childhood. Music was always playing in their house; the family had talent shows and many road trips with lots of singing. She has sweet memories of Shabbats learning how to waltz and play the organ in her grandparents' living room.

Twenty years ago, Schneiderman and her sisters were approached to be the musicians of "Oy Baby!" a series of musical videos for Jewish babies created by BB Camp friends Bob and Lisa Wolf. Schneiderman's sister, Stephanie, produced the albums, and all three sisters sang in harmony. From there it has been non-stop for Schneiderman and her work with children. The past fourteen years Schneiderman has been the music specialist at Portland Jewish Academy. Currently, at Congregation Beth Israel she holds the title of Artist in Residence where Schneiderman writes songs with religious school stu-



Kim Schneiderman performs on stage in this undated photograph (Courtesy Kim Schneiderman, via Gloria Hammer)

dents, leads Tot Shabbats for the Mini Mensches program and has created original music settings for Shabbat Services. Due to generous donations in the Beth Israel community, these Shabbat settings have been recorded and are scheduled for a release March 1 at Congregation Beth Israel during Kabbalat Shabbat services.

Over the years, Schneiderman has written and directed numerous Purim Shpiels and curriculum-based musicals. She recorded an album of her original children's songs titled, "Walk Around

the Block," which received a distinguished 2017 Parents' Choice Award. One of Schneiderman's most beloved projects, Yad b'Yad, a weekly music class held on the campus of Cedar Sinai Park, which brings together young families and residents to sing, dance, and celebrate Jewish life, will return under Schneiderman's leadership, bringing intergenerational programming to the BB Camp Agency.

Just where do her ideas for music and teaching come from? Schneiderman believes "that ideas are recy-

clad over and over again. When they present themselves to us, it's up to us to pluck them from the universe and either use them or stick them in your back pocket for later." If she hears something that stirs some curiosity, she will pull out her phone and record a quick memo. Previously she related that she would pull out her phone and text herself a memo. After receiving a note from a baffled stranger saying, "I don't know who this is, but you have the wrong number!" She had been texting her ideas to someone else for quite some time.

She credits her inspiration to raising her daughters who are her greatest joy. Schneiderman, who always knew she wanted to work with children, draws inspiration from children's strength, resolve and flexibility. Kids are open to love and acceptance of each other and how they view the world.

Schneiderman shares how she met her husband and relates that he first saw her at Congregation Beth Israel leading services four years before he asked her out. Two years later, they were married at B'nai B'rith Camp, officiated by close friend Rabbi Rachel Joseph, under the Chuppah, surrounded by family and friends with the lake as their backdrop.

Among the activities that Schneiderman loves when not working include being by the ocean, being in nature, cooking, traveling with her daughters, songwriting, taking walks with her husband and their puppy Sadie Blue.

Schneiderman was at BB Camp on Oct. 7 for ReJew-venation, the yearly wom-

See **ROCK STAR**, page 14

# Shaarie Torah Sisterhood set to bake 24,000 hamantaschen for annual fundraiser

By ROCKNE ROLL  
*The Jewish Review*

Around Purim each year, many families bake the three-pointed cookies known as hamantaschen.

In the case of the Congregation Shaarie Torah Sisterhood, it's the time of year to bake many, many, many hamantaschen.

"Our goal is 2,000 dozen," explains Charlotte Tevet, who helps lead the Sisterhood's baking program. That's 24,000 three-pointed delicacies, each handmade in the congregation's kosher pareve kitchen.

Since the mid-1940s, the sisterhood has sold hamantaschen as a fundraiser for the *shul's* Sunday school program. Tevet has been part of that process for 40 years now, beginning when her children were attending CST's Sunday School, and the sisterhood was baking in the kitchen. She's now mainly in charge of organizing the yearly effort, a journey that starts the November before each Purim.

In the weeks leading up to Purim, the sisterhood bakes four days a week. On Sundays, they make 20 batches of dough, each batch producing 32 dozen hamantaschen, to cover the entire week. Each day of a baking week, Sunday through Wednesday, the volunteers start the day by preparing the fillings; *mohn*, a traditional poppyseed mixture, apricots, mixed dried fruit, and a peanut butter chocolate chip mixture.

The sisterhood will go through approximately 700 pounds of flour and 150 pounds of dried fruit, which is ground to the correct con-



Above: A team of knippers work to shape hamantaschen for the Congregation Shaarie Torah Sisterhood's annual Purim fundraiser at the synagogue's kitchen in this undated photograph. Below: A completed hamantaschen; the Sisterhood is planning to make 2,000 dozen of these treats for Purim this year. (Ilana Cloud/Congregation Shaarie Torah)

sistency for the filling. The exact fruits and ratios are kept secret – it's one of the keys to the recipe. Getting that much dried fruit can be a challenge.

"We want to keep everything kosher, so sometimes it's hard to get the dried fruit," Tevet says.

With all the ingredients ready, the dough is rolled out. Nowadays, thanks to a donation from Frieda Cohen, z"l, a machine rolls the dough to the correct thickness. (See story, page XX)

Before that, Tevet said, "people would take the balls and cut them in pieces and then we would all have to hand roll the dough."

The flattened dough is cut into circles, filled with their designated filling, and *knipped*, or folded into the distinctive three-cornered shape. They spend 18 min-



utes in the oven before heading to a cooling rack and finally being boxed up by the dozen.

"We try and average at least 250 dozen a day," Tevet said. "We have good days, and we have bad days."

Other than rolling out the dough, each step of the process is completed by hand, by a volunteer. It takes over 100 volunteers to get ev-

erything made. Previously, everyone crammed into the congregation's kitchen to undertake all the work. Thanks to Covid-mandated social distancing, much of the work has moved to the congregation's social hall, which makes for a less cramped, quieter experience. "It's much more peaceful,

See **BAKING**, page 16

# MAAYAN

(continued from page 1)

shouldn't have been. Rabbi Daniel Borsuk, Maayan Torah's development director, said a parent driving by the campus on the Monday of the ice storm saw icicles on the front of the building that led back to the discovery of a burst pipe in the staff kitchen. That was repaired by Wednesday; by then, though, another section of plumbing has ruptured in a restroom, soaking the floors and lower walls in three classrooms.

"When we hit the second leak on Wednesday, we realized that this was going to take not just a day or two, but a week or two," Rabbi Borsuk said. "That's when we started discussing if we had a serious alternative."

The Portland Kollel was a natural choice – set up for adult education with numerous rooms, tables, and chairs, the Kollel easily converted to serve younger learners. It's also within easy walking distance for many of Maayan's families – including Rabbi Chanan Spivak, the Rosh Kollel, and Meira Spivak, who manages NCSY's programs from an office at the Kollel.

Another natural location was Congregation Kesser Israel. Rabbi Sholom Skolnik serves as Rabbinical Dean of the school.

"We have a packed house," he said. "Every nook and cranny is being used."

A classroom is set up in the main sanctuary, another in the hallway, with kindergarten operating out of the congregation's modular building and their large tent functioning as a lunchroom. Of course, the playground is seeing a significant uptick in usage. Even Rabbi Skolnik's office is taking on extra duties, hosting counseling



Maayan Torah Day School students play soccer on the indoor "bubble" field at the Mittleman Jewish Community Center. (Courtesy Maayan Torah Day School)

sessions.

Rabbi Skolnik doesn't mind sharing; he explained that sharing space with Maayan has brought a lively energy to the shul.

"It's so nice to just have the kids running around and playing," he said. "It's great."

The last piece of the puzzle turned out to be right next door to the first. The building that houses the Kollel also hosts Congregation Ahavath Achim, and the building's owner, Richard Matza, is an active member of the Sephardic synagogue.

"One of the tenants of Sephardic Judaism is that we have a big tent. We welcome everyone," Matza explained. "So whenever there's an opportunity to help the community, we do so without question."

Matza made the connection with Mark Berkovich, the congregation's president, and Ahavath Achim's social hall was added to the list of temporary classrooms.

"Between those three campuses, we have enough space to have classes for each of our groups," Rabbi Borsuk said.

To complete the puzzle, the 'bubble' field across the street at the Mittleman Jewish Community Center is serving as a physical education space twice a week.

Maayan Torah's early

childhood programs are still working out of the Lake Oswego campus, as their space was not impacted by the leaks. But Rabbi Borsuk knew that if part of the day school program was going to need to move, the whole show would need to relocate.

"It gets very difficult," he said of the hypothetical split campus for the day school. "We'd have parents doing a variety of drop offs, we'd have teachers and staff back and forth and where would the principals go?"

And while the adaptation is a challenge, students and staff

alike are taking it in stride.

"The students are like, 'Okay. It's kind of fun being able to walk to school,'" Rabbi Borsuk said.

Meanwhile, repairs to the Lake Oswego campus are making good progress. Rabbi Borsuk is optimistic that Maayan Torah will be able to return home in a couple of weeks.

Until then, the adventure of a temporary campus continues.

"We've been very impressed with the way our staff has rolled with the punches and adapted this situation," Rabbi Borsuk said.

# Leikam rejoins OJCF as outreach director

*Oregon Jewish Community Foundation*

The Oregon Jewish Community Foundation is thrilled to announce the appointment of Sonia Marie Leikam as its new Director of Outreach. In this pivotal role, Leikam will play a crucial part in advancing OJCF's mission by fostering connections with prospective fundholders.

Leikam brings a wealth of experience to her new position, having previously dedicated six years of service to OJCF from 2015 to 2021. During her initial tenure, she served in key roles such as Director of Donor Relations and Collaborative Giving Coordinator. Leikam facilitated various programs, including the Oregon Jewish Community Youth Foundation, Giving Circle, and B'nai Tzedek, as well as managed OJCF's scholarship program.

Most recently, Leikam served as the inaugural Director of Development at KairosPDX, where she successfully managed and directed all fundraising activities while actively participating

in the Senior Leadership Team.

OJCF President & CEO David Forman expressed his enthusiasm for Leikam's return, stating, "We are excited to welcome Leikam back to OJCF. Her deep commitment and strong understanding of our community will help her connect with future OJCF fundholders and through philanthropy explore innovative ways for them to engage with the Foundation and build community."

Recipient of the 2021 Laurie Rogoway Outstanding Jewish Professional Award given by JFGP, Leikam brings a multifaceted background as an educator, social justice advocate, and community organizer to her role. Known for her natural ability to connect with people, she can often be found working out at the MJCC, exploring local farmers markets, and preparing elaborate meals for friends.

Leikam's connection to the community extends beyond her professional endeavors. Her family attends Congrega-



Leikam (Courtesy OJCF)

tion Shir Tikvah, and they own Leikam Brewing, a kosher craft brewery located in the Tabor neighborhood.

Residing in SE Portland with her partner and three proud BB Camp campers, Leikam is thrilled to return to OJCF and support OJCF's outreach initiatives. For those looking to connect with Leikam, she can be reached at [sonia-mariel@ojcf.org](mailto:sonia-mariel@ojcf.org) or 503-248-9328.

## Israel360 to host Jimmy Taber, PSU student panel at Neveh Shalom

Join Israel360 for a conversation with Jimmy Taber, the Abraham Initiative's International Development Director, Thursday, Feb. 22, at 7 pm at Congregation Neveh Shalom.

In the wake of the devastating October 7 attacks, Israeli society is stratified and fearful. A sense of being stuck, siloed, and afraid of the other pervades. Coming together across difference is more difficult AND more important than ever, as Palestinian and Jewish citizens return to work, school, and other points of contact together.

These workplaces and universities, the mixed cities where Palestinian and Jewish citizens live side-by-side, and the Negev, where Bedouins lack adequate access to bomb shelters and missile defense, all face unique challenges. However, in this uncertain moment, they also provide models for building a truly shared society between all Israeli citizens. The Abraham Initiative has been working to harness this potential for over 30 years, building shared society via advocacy, education, municipal politics, and more,

and envisioning a future for Israel that is fully equal and shared.

Jimmy Taber serves as the International Development Director of The Abraham Initiative, an Israeli organization working to build a shared society with full and equal access to citizenship for all Israelis – Jewish and Palestinian. Born and raised in Portland, Oregon, he earned his BA in Critical Theory and Social Justice from Occidental College and his MA and MBA from Brandeis University's Hornstein Jewish Professional Leadership Program and The Heller School for Social Policy and Management. Prior to joining The Abraham Initiative, Jimmy worked with organizations including the New Israel Fund and Center for International Migration and Integration at JDC-Israel. To register, go to [members.nevehshalom.org/event/I360Abrh](https://members.nevehshalom.org/event/I360Abrh).

[org/event/I360Abrh](https://members.nevehshalom.org/event/I360Abrh)

Israel360 will also host a panel discussion with Portland State University students from 2023's Hillel Perspectives trip Monday, Mar. 4, at Neveh Shalom. Hear reactions from students, Jewish and non-Jewish, from their unforgettable visit to Israel and the West Bank this summer, and how it affected them on campus this academic year at Portland State University. They will talk about the power of student leadership in promoting healing and understanding on campus. Panel members include Adam Allina, Tiffany Augilera, Macie Harreld, Hayley Holton, Michael Jones and Roman Pompeii. To register, visit [members.nevehshalom.org/event/I360Oct23](https://members.nevehshalom.org/event/I360Oct23).

For more information, email Cheryl Livneh at [livnehc@pdx.edu](mailto:livnehc@pdx.edu).



Click the logo for the latest episode of The Jewish Review Podcast

# Henry helps Jewish elders look and feel good

*Cedar Sinai Park*

When you add up the strands, Peggy Henry has thousands of heads of hair for Jewish elders in the Portland community since she began working at Rose Schnitzer Manor Active Assisted Living in 1998.

“The first few residents of the May Apartments had moved in during January of that year,” said Henry, who answered an ad in the *Oregonian* for a part-time hair stylist. “Flo [McWillis] hired me [Flo’s husband, Stan, was an accountant at Robison], and we were just waiting for the salon to be ready.”

“The place filled up quickly, so it didn’t take long before we were both busy every day.”

When McWillis retired in 2016, Henry became sole proprietor of the state-licensed salon that she named All About Me, offering hair and nail services to Manor residents, about 40 per week. She recently began offering hair care at Robison on occasional Saturdays, too. She would love a hair styling partner in the salon so she could take on the hair of residents’ families. “If you hear of anyone, let me know!” she said.

Resident Freda loves sitting under the dryer, and receiving hair care weekly, as it’s relaxing, but wrinkles her nose at the hair spray that will hold her set for the next seven days.

“You look great, Freda!” she is told upon departure.

“I always look like that when she does my hair!” says Freda, with a smile.

“I love seniors,” said Henry. “The residents have all become family. I consider myself half Jewish, even though I’m not any religion.



Peggy Henry has worked as a hairdresser for Rose Schnitzer Manor’s residents for more than 25 years. (Courtesy Cedar Sinai Park)

“Getting to know the residents is my favorite part, and now that I’ve been here so long, I’m meeting children of parents whose hair I did 20 years ago. There have been residents whose parents’ hair I styled when they lived here.”

“My job takes a bit of caregiving and a bit of hair-dressing.”

Henry walks down the corridor to pick up Resident Gerry for her weekly appointment and knocks on Gerry’s door.

“Do you want to bring your sweater, or leave it here?” Henry asks. Gerry elects to wear her sweater.

I’m always excited to get my hair done,” said Gerry. “It’s so nice.”

Henry guides Gerry back

to the salon, chatting as she goes.

“Gerry, we’re rounding the corner here to the salon. Don’t forget there’s a little lip there. I call that the speed bump when I’m pushing people in wheelchairs because it looks little, but it feels big when you’re going in a chair.”

Many of the residents, like Freda and Gerry, receive shampoo sets, which is a wash and comb out, back to front. The technique is a fading art, notes Henry, “but it’s not easy to do; shampoo sets take a lot of back combing with rollers.”

Because Rose Schnitzer Manor has a large number of residents, Henry believes she is likely one of the busiest hair stylists in an assisted

living community in Oregon.

“How’re you doing, Gerry? Does the water feel good?” asks Henry.

Gerry concurs. A former antiques dealer who owned a business with her husband, John, she shares that her hair was very dark as a child; her classmates even asked the teacher if Gerry was a gypsy.

“I thought you might have been a brunette,” said Henry. “Typically, people whose hair has more white than gray had very dark hair as children.”

Henry can’t see over the evergreens out the windows now. But she remembers the campus’s 10-acre woods being low enough that she could look over the trees out to the streets and adjoining neighborhoods. She said goats roamed the woods to chew down the excess foliage; one day a goat ran right into the Rose Schnitzer Manor lobby. There was a soda fountain in the Manor, where the Stop N’ Shop now resides, where residents could order a “pop.” A shampoo set from Peggy and Flo was \$10, and a tube of color was \$3; prices have risen to \$30 and \$20, respectively.

Henry was born in St. Helens, Oregon, and grew up in Milwaukie. She has two children, and three grandchildren, and watches her four-year-old granddaughter every Monday. She also attends as many of her grandson’s sporting events as possible.

Residents often give her advice: to save money, and travel as much as she can, and she is listening, though she intends to work for years to come.

“I’m not going anywhere,” said Henry. “I am comfortable, have a routine, and love my job.”

## Chaplain's Corner

# The Power of Holding Hands

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## NEXT ISSUES

**Issue date Deadline**

**FEB 14 FEB 8**

**FEB 28 FEB 22**

**MAR 13 MAR 7**

By **RABBI BARRY COHEN**

*"I was sitting on a beach one summer day, watching two children, a boy and a girl, playing in the sand. They were hard at work building an elaborate sandcastle by the water's edge, with gates and towers and moats and internal passages. Just when they had nearly finished their project, a big wave came along and knocked it down, reducing it to a heap of wet sand. I expected the children to burst into tears, devastated by what had happened to all their hard work. But they surprised me. Instead, they ran up the shore away from the water, laughing and holding hands, and sat down to build another castle. I realized that they had taught me an important lesson. All the things in our lives, all the complicated structures we spend so much time and energy creating, are built on sand. Only our relationships to other people endure. Sooner or later, the wave will come along and knock down what we have worked so hard to build up. When that happens, only the person who has somebody's hand to hold will be able to laugh."*

- Rabbi Harold Kushner, *"Chicken Soup for the Jewish Soul"*

For many years, even before Covid, I have felt like the ground beneath my feet has been unstable and shifting. I have felt this in my personal life, my professional life, as well as through my interactions with various Jewish organizations. I have also witnessed how local, state and national politics have radically changed.

Through the end of the Cold War, I grew up with much more stability and predictability ... or at least it felt that way. So much has changed in the past years.

I often think of the death of the American Dream. From my youth, I was taught that through hard work, dedication and discipline, success was inevitable (almost a birthright). The cold, hard reality of the 21st century is that many of us will not be as economically successful as our parents. We have had to devote great time and energy to accept this and grieve. Personally, I have had to reassess the dreams, hopes and expectations I had for myself and for my children.

Jewish organizations on all levels, across the country, are facing their own challenges as their foundations continue to shift. There are shrinking levels of participation and economic pressures. Even though we describe



Rabbi Barry Cohen is the Jewish community chaplain of the Greater Portland area. [chaplain@jewishportland.org](mailto:chaplain@jewishportland.org)

ourselves as "post-Covid," we still are navigating the best ways to gather communally; and there is always the possibility of the arrival of another version of Covid or a new pandemic.

At the same time, we are learning about the vast number and variety of unmet needs in our Jewish community. The recent demographic study has been a treasure-trove. How will our various Jewish organizations collaborate to address the needs of the entire Jewish community, whether people are affiliated or formally connected?

When we discuss the ground shifting beneath our feet, we must acknowledge the political world. Many of us are losing faith in the ideas upon which a functional democracy is based: we can trust election results; we believe that the judicial system is dependable (though in constant need of improvement); our leaders represent the people (not corporations, special interests, or powerful individuals).

And then there is education. That too is under scrutiny. What ideas are to be taught and how? Are we teaching our true history or some propagandistic vision? How do we respond to our fellow citizens who fervently believe that certain books should be banned to protect their children?

We can liken all these realities to structures constructed on foundations of sand. How do we respond when these structures are damaged or even destroyed? We must learn how to repair and rebuild ... but we cannot do this alone. There is unique power in relationships. All we need is one friend, family member or confidant to hold our hand.

Together, we can look at these unpredictable, ever-changing times as an opportunity. What vital repairs can we make? What can we create? Together, we can address the needs, hopes and dreams in every aspect of

See **CHAPLAIN**, page 16

# Security Corner

## 'Seatbelts and sunscreen' - security through small habits

By JESSICA ANDERSON

Welcome to the new Security Corner! If we haven't met yet, I'm Jessica Anderson, your Community Security Director. In that role, I work with Jewish organizations and individuals across the state who have security or safety issues, concerns, questions, want training, or to collaborate.

My goal for this regular column is to share with you a variety of security best practices and keep you apprised of security happenings around the community. I admit, I want you to keep security top-of-mind and I hope by seeing small reminders regularly, I'll help you incorporate good security practices into your daily life. This is not about being overly preoccupied with safety or thinking there's a boogie man in every dark alley. If you've been to my trainings, I've probably talked about my "seatbelts and sunscreen" approach to safety. We all have lots of small habits related to safety that we've adopted effortlessly into our lives. When you put on a seatbelt, you don't think you're going to get into a car accident, but you're prepared, in case that happens. You put on sunscreen so that 20 years from now you won't develop skin cancer. I challenge you to think about your physical safety and security in a similar way – small habits to adopt, not out of fear, but as practical ways to potentially improve negative outcomes.

One way to develop those skills is to attend one of my security training classes. I'm always available to conduct in-person (or Zoom) training for specific organizations geared toward staff or community member needs. A few organizations have taken me up on that offer and regularly provide training opportunities for their community. We know this saves lives



*Jessica Anderson is the Portland-area Director of Community Security. She was previously an FBI agent for 24 years. This position is funded by SCN (the official safety and security organization of the Jewish community in North America) and a local three-way partnership of the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland, Oregon Jewish Community Foundation Endowment Fund and multiple Jewish organizations in the region.*

and I encourage organizations to offer this to their users. For individuals interested in training but unable to get training via an organization, I offer four different classes a month via Zoom, and descriptions and registration can be found on the JFGP website: [jewishportland.org/security](http://jewishportland.org/security).

We know incident reporting is vastly undercounted. Please report incidents of antisemitism, even if they seem small, via the incident reporting form at [jewishportland.org/security](http://jewishportland.org/security). I'll discuss more about incident reporting in my next column.

Additionally, each of you should think of me as your personal security consultant, and I'm always available to speak or meet with anyone who has a safety concern or issue. I can be reached at [janderson@securecommunitynetwork.org](mailto:janderson@securecommunitynetwork.org), by cell: 872-273-9214, or by office phone: 503-892-7406 and I look forward to working with you on your concern.

## OJCYF, Community Endowment Fund deadlines approaching

*Oregon Jewish Community Foundation*  
The Oregon Jewish Community Youth Foundation is a teen-led organization that empowers high school students to take action that aligns with their Jewish values through fundraising and granting money to Jewish and secular nonprofit organizations.

During the 2024 grant cycle, OJCYF members will focus on nonprofits that resonate with enduring Jewish values, including Responsibility (*Areyvut*), Human Dignity (*Kavod*), Preservation (*Shmirah*), and Justice (*Tzedek*) and will prioritize the following issues: 1)

Antisemitism and Hate, 2) Gun Violence and Prevention, 3) Human Health Education, Care, and/or Advocacy—focusing on mental health and suicide prevention. Qualified applicants include Jewish and general nonprofit organizations in Oregon or Southwest Washington. OJCYF's request for proposals closes Feb. 20, 2024. For more information or questions please contact Susan Berniker, Collaborative Giving Director at [susanb@ojcf.org](mailto:susanb@ojcf.org) or 503-248-9328.

The Oregon Jewish Community Foundation's Community Endowment Fund has extended the deadline for requests

for proposals through Mar. 1, 2024. With CEF grants, OJCF intends to seed innovative and collaborative organizations and programs in Oregon and Southwest Washington that remove or lower one or more of the four main barriers to Jewish participation identified in the community study commissioned by the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland: programming, geography, cost, and "feeling Jewish enough". For more information or questions please contact Noah Rosenberg, Director of Community Relations and Operations, at [noahr@ojcf.org](mailto:noahr@ojcf.org) or 503-248-9328.

## SCHOOL (continued from page 2)

sored by Havurah Shalom and Congregations Beth Israel, P'nai Or and Shir Tikvah. "We have a graduate who's

doing a master's degree in New York, and his mother, she's a Yemenite Jew," Gordon recounts. "Her parents

came from Yemen and she says, 'When peace comes, and it will come one day, we will already know how to

how to deal with it because we have it in our schools.'" Registration is free and available online at [kolshalom.org](http://kolshalom.org).

## ROCK STAR (continued from page 7)

en's retreat. She was walking down to the lake to begin the service when she had learned what had happened in Israel. Her plan was to have a joyous Shabbat celebration with dancing in circles around the Torah. She was at a loss. Schneiderman said, "I looked across the landscape of beautiful women and felt sadness and felt the sacredness of us being together. So, we danced. And we sang, and we celebrated Torah. This is what our tradition teaches us to do; that amid our brokenness, we can still share in joy."

Since that day she has joined other musicians in programs locally and has traveled to lend her voice to various concerts throughout the Pacific Northwest. She is quick to remark that it is not easy

to sing during these painful times. Schneiderman shares, "We are all hurting for those who are suffering and if I can help by offering music, then of course, I will."

Schneiderman looks forward to building upon BB Camp's Jewish Life Programming. Among the many new offerings, Schneiderman is bringing her B'nai Mitzvah program, which she has been developing over the last nine years, creating an afternoon Shabbat service with each student as they take part in this ancient tradition of recognizing their journey into Jewish adulthood.

A former Bat Mitzvah student, Sadie Levenick who is now fifteen, who attended PJA from preschool through seventh grade, said, "I have known Kim almost

my whole life. When I was asked who I wanted as my Bat Mitzvah tutor I immediately thought of Kim. She helped me so much throughout my preparations process. Kim helped me figure out what my dream Bat Mitzvah would look like and made it come true." Levenick held her Bat Mitzvah on a beautiful summer day at B'nai B'rith Camp where she spent her summers as a camper, down at the lake surrounded by family and friends.

Schneiderman has known Michelle Koplun, Chief Executive Officer of BB Camp since childhood. Michelle invited Schneiderman to BB Camp as a song leader and Shabbat service leader in 2011 and she has returned every summer since. Schneiderman calls BB Camp

Shabbats magical. "It feels as if time is standing still. On Erev Shabbat, before we sing V'shamru, Michelle comes up to talk about L'dor V'dor. She shares how BB Camp instills the values and traditions that help shape each of us into who we are becoming.

She explains that these traditions are passed down from generation to generation and that today as we are in the season of receiving them, tomorrow it will be our turn to pass them down. Schneiderman says, "this is what I believe in, and this is why I am here."

*Gloria Hammer, a Portland educator and Pilates instructor, has written for The Jewish Review for over 20 years and produced OPB's Emmy-nominated documentary "The Three Rabbis."*

## STAMPFER (continued from page 2)

Portland's Jewish community, inspired by Rabbi Stampfer's example.

"I'm 86 years old. I'm still volunteering. I'm still very active," she said. "There's a number of us that, there's something very special about what we learned and what we gained from this display of community from Rabbi."

This year's award dinner will be held Sunday, Sept. 22, at 5 pm at Congregation Neveh Shalom, a departure from its usual spring date. What separates the Stampfer Award celebration from many of the

other spring events in Jewish Portland is the absence of a fundraising ask.

"It has never been a fundraiser," Weinstein explained. "That was not the purpose of this."

"This is simply a pure award given to someone for wonderful things that they do," Montrose said.

"There's no honorarium with it," Weinstein added. "It is strictly an honorary designation to whoever the recipients are for their work in their community."

In the nearly quarter-centu-

ry since it was first awarded to honor the 50th anniversary of Rabbi Stampfer's rabbinical ordination, the cadre of honorees has been universally illustrious – a fact not lost on Priscilla Kostiner when she received the award in 2011 for her work at Portland Jewish Academy.

"I was so honored even by the time I was awarded" she said. "They were honoring people from all walks of life and from all congregations, it wasn't just from Neveh Shalom. It just was such an honor to be included with

these people for whom I had a great deal of respect."

The recipient is voted on by a committee drawing from the organizations that sponsor the award as well as past recipients. There's plenty of both.

"He would start things, and then pick the right people to carry the torch," Montrose said of Rabbi Stampfer, "and these things have just remained forever."

For more information, email CNS Assistant Executive Director Michelle Caplan at [mcaplan@nevehshalom.org](mailto:mcaplan@nevehshalom.org).

## HOSTAGES (continued from page 6)

ber is closer to 30. But Vilan is there. Even as an ice storm gripped Portland last month, she wanted to be out there.

To leave her home that day, Vilan said, "We had to drive

under a tree. We had no electricity when we left and still no electricity when we came back, but we stood there."

Vilan insists she will keep on standing, as long as it takes.

"No one should continue with their life like it's just another storm or something that you just need to accept," she said. "That's my approach at least."

To sign up to receive notifications about when and where demonstrations for the hostages will be held, visit [tinyurl.com/hostages-demonstration-PDX](http://tinyurl.com/hostages-demonstration-PDX).

## Feb. 14: For the Love of Israel

Jewish National Fund event to support ADI Negev Wednesday, Feb. 14 at 7 pm. Register at [events.jnf.org/e/loveilor](http://events.jnf.org/e/loveilor).

## Feb. 15: Will Zion Be Redeemed by Justice?

Annual Solomon Memorial Lecture at University Place Hotel Thursday, Feb. 15 at 7:30 pm. Register at [pdx.edu/judaic-studies/annual-gus-and-libby-solomon-memorial-lecture-2024](http://pdx.edu/judaic-studies/annual-gus-and-libby-solomon-memorial-lecture-2024).

## Feb. 15: Breaking The News

Documentary film screening and panel discussion at 7 pm Thursday, Feb. 15 at Eastside Jewish Commons. Register at [events.humanitix.com/breaking-the-news](http://events.humanitix.com/breaking-the-news).

## Feb. 15: Cafe Shalom Israeli Folk Dancing

Weekly open Israeli dance session Thursdays, 8-10 pm at CHCC, 8936 SW 17th Ave in Portland. All experience levels and ages welcome. \$7. For more information, contact Allison Victor at [al-lisuev@gmail.com](mailto:al-lisuev@gmail.com).

## Feb. 16: EJC Presents Noontime Concert with Sunny South

Free monthly concert Friday, Feb. 16 at noon. Free. BYO lunch (no pork or shellfish). More info online at [ejcpdx.org/events](http://ejcpdx.org/events).

## Feb. 16: Pink Shabbat at Neveh Shalom

Breast cancer awareness soiree and service Friday, Feb. 16 at 5:15 pm at Congregation Neveh Shalom. See story, page 4.

## Feb. 17: CBI Mini Mensches Tot Shabbat

Children's Shabbat program at Congregation Beth Israel for children age 0-5 and families Saturday, Feb. 17 at 9 am. For more information, visit [bethisrael-pdx.org/community/mini-mensches](http://bethisrael-pdx.org/community/mini-mensches).

## Feb. 4: Israeli Folk Dance at SWCC

Beginner's class and open dancing at the Southwest Community Center each Sunday. Class from 1:30-2:30 pm, open dancing from 2:30 to 4 pm. \$6, \$5 seniors. For more details visit [sites.google.com/site/pifdnews](https://sites.google.com/site/pifdnews).

## Feb. 18: Hand in Hand Unified Jewish-Arab Israeli School Presentation

Presentation by Hand In Hand co-founder Lee Gordon and alumnae Emmanuel Auerbach Sunday, Feb. 18, at 2 pm at the Eastside Jewish Commons. See story, page 2.

## Feb. 19: BB Camp Presidents' Day Camp

Day camp program for grades K-6 Monday, Feb. 19, from 9 am-4pm. Pick up and drop off at Congregation Neveh Shalom. Register at [bbcamp.org/presidents-day](http://bbcamp.org/presidents-day).

## Feb. 21: Wondering Jews Cinema Presents "Golda"

Screening of 2023 film "Golda" for ages 60+ and empty-nesters at Congregation Neveh Shalom Wednesday, Feb. 21 at 2 pm. RSVP at [members.nevehshalom.org/event/WJGolda24](http://members.nevehshalom.org/event/WJGolda24).

## Feb. 21: Cedar Sinai

## Park "Chopped"

Kosher culinary competition amongst Cedar Sinai culinary staff at Rose Schnitzer Manor Wednesday, Feb. 21 at 3 pm. For more information, email [sydney.clevenger@cedarsinainpark.org](mailto:sydney.clevenger@cedarsinainpark.org).

## Feb. 21: PDX Nigun Circle

Monthly group for singing and sharing nigunim (wordless Hassidic melodies) Wednesday, Feb. 21 at 6 pm at a private location. TO attend, email [aidenkent13@gmail.com](mailto:aidenkent13@gmail.com).

## Feb. 21: Co/Lab presents The Abraham Initiatives: A Shared Society for Jews & Palestinians in Israel

Presentation by Jimmy Taber of The Abraham Initiatives on Israeli-Palestinian relations Wednesday, Feb. 21 at the Eastside Jewish Commons. For more information, visit [colabpdx.org](http://colabpdx.org).

## Feb. 22: Tuning in to Nature's Conversation

Last of a three-part class with Rabbi Devin Villareal hosted by Co/Lab at the Eastside Jewish Commons Thursday, Feb. 22 at 6:30 pm. For more information or to register, visit [colabpdx.org](http://colabpdx.org).

## Feb. 22: Across Difference: Building Shared Society in the Shadow of War

Presentation by Jimmy Taber hosted by Israel360 at Congregation Neveh Shalom Thursday, Feb. 22 at 7 pm. See story, page 10.

## Feb. 23: Shabbat of Love at MJCC

Rescheduled Shabbat of

Love dinner at the Mittleman Jewish Community Center Friday, Feb. 23. \$22 adults, \$18 MJCC members/PJA families, \$8 ages 3-17, free for ages 3 and under. Register at [oregonjcc.org/shabbat](http://oregonjcc.org/shabbat).

## Feb. 25: One-Step Webpages, a Potpourri of Genealogical Search Tools

Presentation by Steve Morris, hosted by Jewish Genealogical Society of Oregon Sunday, Feb. 25 at 10:30 am on Zoom. For more info, visit [jgsoregon.wixsite.com/home](http://jgsoregon.wixsite.com/home).

## Feb. 28: Music From The Sole

Body percussion workshop for ages 9 and up and families Wednesday, Feb. 28 at 5 pm at the Mittleman Jewish Community Center. For more information, email [bbutterworth@oregonjcc.org](mailto:bbutterworth@oregonjcc.org).

## Feb. 28: Flamenco, Sephardic, and Arab-Andalusian Music at EJC

Lecture by Elena Villa on musical forms of the Iberian Peninsula Wednesday, Feb. 28 at 7 pm at the Eastside Jewish Commons. To learn more and RSVP, visit [ejcpdx.org/events](http://ejcpdx.org/events).

## Mar. 1: Monthly Sephardic Community Shabbat Dinner

Kabbalat Shabbat service and Sephardic dinner on the First Friday of each month at 6:30 pm at Congregation Ahavath Achim. \$20 per person, family rates and financial assistance available. For more information, email [info@ahavathachim.com](mailto:info@ahavathachim.com).

## HELENE COGEN

Helene Cogen, z"l, age 85, died Feb. 1 from complications involving kidney disease.

Helene was born in New York, New York, on April 3, 1938 to George and Mildred Josephs. She went to P.S. 5 in Cedarhurst for Elementary school and Junior High school and Lawrence High School. She attended Boston University and she later attended Barry University where she got her master's degree in social work.

She was a loving and caring individual. She met Stephen Cogen, z"l, at the Fontainebleau Hotel in Miami Beach in 1959 and they were married in 1960. He was in the ROTC, and he got called into duty soon after they married. They were assigned to Germany, where their first son, Jeff, was born. They spent four years in Germany, which she described as among the hardest and best years of her life.

After Germany they went to New York, where Steve completed his residency and their second son, Mitch, was born. After Steve completed his residency, they moved to Miami Beach Florida, where Helene spent the next 55 years.

She first became an actress at the Miami Beach Community Theater, where she flourished. Next, she studied social work and became a social worker first as part of the Jewish Family Services in Miami then with the American Red Cross. Final-

## BAKING (continued from page 8)

and people have appreciated that ambience because it gets to be a long day of repetitive work," Tevet said.

Naturally, with the work happening in the social hall, there's plenty of opportunity for socializing – a valuable part of the experience for Tevet.

"We have time to talk and learn new things about recipes," she said. "[We] talk about books, talk about family, whatever comes up."

With such a massive undertaking, more volunteers are always appreciated, Tevet said. To sign up for a volunteer shift, or to order hamantaschen, visit [cst-hamentashen.square.site](http://cst-hamentashen.square.site). Hamantaschen are \$18 a dozen and can be ordered through Mar. 8.

## CHAPLAIN (continued from page 12)

our lives: personal, familial, professional, communal, economic and political.

This requires a time of grieving, but by grieving-in-relationship we can get to a different place, a healthier place. We can reassess our priorities, values, hopes and expectations.

Joyfully, we can move into the future. This may not be the future we expected, but it can be a future filled with meaning and purpose ... and a future created, shared and celebrated with others.

ly, she set up her own practice, caring for seniors in Miami.

She retired at 65, and was living and traveling with her husband Steve until his passing 11 years ago. She moved to Portland 6 years ago. She is survived by her two sons, Jeff and Mitch and her grandchildren, Johanna, Alana, Alex and Abrielle

A memorial service was held Thursday, Feb. 8, at Congregation Neveh Shalom.

## SUZANNE LIBERMAN

Congregation Neveh Shalom is sorry to announce the passing of Suzanne Liberman, z"l, at the age of 94.

She is predeceased by Eric Llewelyn Liberman, z"l, and is lovingly remembered by her children, Adam (Gemma Whelan) Liberman and Lev (Joan) Liberman, and her four grandchildren.

The funeral will take place today, Wednesday, Feb. 14, at 2 pm at Ahavai Shalom Cemetery.

## NAOMI CROSBY

With great sadness we inform you of the passing of Naomi Crosby, z"l, mother of Susanna (Jon) Perrin. She passed on Monday, Feb. 12, 2024 at the age of 94.

The funeral was held Tuesday, Feb. 13 at Shaarie Torah Cemetery Chapel followed by burial in the Kesser Israel Cemetery.

## COHEN (continued from page 5)

kosher butchers in Seattle. There was a long list to get some of Cohen's ribs.

"She was somebody you wanted to be around," Perkel said. "She'd never let anything get her down."

Just because she was friendly doesn't mean she wasn't opinionated, though – she had distinct thoughts on the Torah and some of its characters. These made for lively discussion topics in her weekly conversations with Rabbi Zuckerman.

"She and Rabbi Zuckerman used to wrangle about that, but they both appreciated their talks together," Richard Cohen explained.

Frieda stayed sharp in her later years, playing card games with those 30 years her junior.

"She had a clear mind all the way through," Richard said.

But more than a clear mind; a loving heart, as well. After her parents' passing, Perkel would often sit with Frieda during Shabbat services at Shaarie Torah.

"You know that feeling you get when you know you're really loved?" Perkel said. "That's what it was like sitting next to her."

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