

March 1, 2023/Adar 8, 5783 Volume 58, Issue 5

## Family relives Ukraine invasion

BY DEBORAH MOON

A year after Russia's invasion of Ukraine, millions of refugees have fled from Ukraine across borders into neighboring countries, the largest refugee exodus in Europe since World War II.

More than 115,000 Ukrainians have arrived in the United States under a sponsorship program launched by the Biden administration two months after the invasion began Feb. 24, 2022.

In a Feb. 20 interview, a family of four Ukrainians now in Portland shared stories and photos of their life and home in Kharkiv, Ukraine, and how it abruptly changed with the invasion. Bombs began falling on Kharkiv on the first day of the war, and Russian troops entered the country's second-largest city, Kharkiv, on Feb. 27, 2022.

Eduard and his wife, Daria, and his parents, Mila and Alex, arrived in Portland Jan. 28, 2023, as part of the HIAS Sponsor Circle program that has brought 211 Ukrainians to the U.S.; another 59 are "in the pipeline." The family is sponsored by a Welcome Circle at Congregation Neveh Shalom. The Congregation Shir Tikvah Welcome

See UKRAINE INVASION, page 10



Alex holds photos of his grandmother, father and grandfather, who all survived the Holocaust, though many members of his grandfather's family perished. Now another war has uprooted his family. They arrived in Portland early this year.

## Portland kvells over Jeopardy wins



Jeopardy Host Ken Jennings with Portlander Mira Hayward, 27, who won \$37,000 on Jeopardy Feb. 9 and 10. Mira says Jennings is so sharp, quick and witty. "You know he knew all the answers." He had the audience laughing as he talked with them during commercial breaks, she adds.

BY DEBORAH MOON

Two-day Jeopardy winner Mira Hayward says she was "very nervous" preparing to compete on Jeopardy but "weirdly," once she started to play, she grew calmer.

"I didn't expect how fun it would be to play – that helped distract from the nervousness a bit," she says, adding that before the game she met her first-day opponents Scott and Dan, who were both so nice and fun. "So it felt like doing trivia with your friends."

It also helped that "the show's producers are so friendly and kind," she says. "They do such a good job preparing you."

Her boyfriend, Thomas, also helped her get ready. He encouraged her to take the anytime test. After she took a second test on Zoom and competed in a mock game online, he read Jeopardy questions to her while she stood in the living room clicking a spring-loaded toilet paper holder, which she had read was the closest thing to the actual Jeopardy clicker.

She also watched games and spent a lot of time

See JEOPARDY, page 9

## INSIDE

**Spotlight on NCSY**  
– page 2

**Youth briefs** – page 2

**Day School Roundup**  
– page 3

**Antisemitism and the Law** – page 4

**ARTS & LETTERS:**  
**Ari Shapiro book event, books on suicide, "First Cow," Visionary illustrations and a host of Israel at 75 events** – pages 6-9

**Aiding Israel's Ethiopian families**  
– page 9

**Neglected survivors**  
– page 10

**Kehillah is 10** – page 11

**Jobs board: BB Camp, Canadian synagogue** – page 11

**Purim Events** – page 12

**Purim & Beyond for young adults** – page 13

**Chaplain: Power of Humor** – page 14

**Climate: Eco-friendly kitchens** – page 15

**Obituaries: Berwin, Nemer Davidson, Wilson; Yahrzeit; Burial societies**  
– page 16

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# Agency Spotlight

*Profiles of the 18 local beneficiary agencies of the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland's 2022 Annual Campaign.*



Youth enjoy Camp Keshet, NCSY's newest sleepaway camp.

## NCSY

[oregon.ncsy.org](https://oregon.ncsy.org) | 503-201-7748

**Area of service:** Informal Jewish Education

**2022 Allocation:** \$9,000

**Mission:** NCSY and the Jewish Student Union are dedicated to connecting, inspiring and empowering Jewish teens and to encouraging passionate Judaism.

In addition to teen programs offered during the school year, NCSY offers second- to ninth-graders the opportunity to spend almost three weeks connecting with nature, their peers and their Jewish heritage at Camp Keshet.

"We are constantly expanding Camp Keshet, our newest sleepaway camp," says Oregon NCSY Director Meira Spivak. "Camp Keshet's niche is to create a fun and relevant Jewish experience for kids in a low-pressure environment."

Camp Keshet has also expanded its teen program to give teens more trips, more adventure and more fun. Teens completing 10th to 12th grades are eligible to attend one of NCSY's many summer programs in Israel, or they can apply to work in the camp for a stipend and community service hours.

Teens are also invited to Latte & Learning at the Teen Lounge Thursday evenings; Shabbat Shabang – a Friday night dinner with friends; and Shabbaton weekends, which give students the chance to experience a traditional Shabbat environment while interacting with other teens in the region.

In Portland, NCSY offers Jewish Student Unions at nine high schools and one middle school. The clubs meet weekly in public and private high schools around Oregon, either during lunch or immediately after school for food and an activity.

NCSY doesn't turn anyone away due to lack of funds.

"Whether it is to attend a Shabbaton, Camp Keshet or a local event, we firmly believe that Jewish kids should all be entitled to Jewish experiences," says Meira.

Meira says that support from the Jewish Federation is meaningful on two levels. "On the one hand, the money provides us with valuable funding so we can continue to run topnotch programming and offer scholarships. On the other, the feeling of being appreciated, supported and valued goes a long way in our books."

2 Jewish Review March 1, 2023

# Youth briefs

## Join Team Oregon for Maccabi Games

Young Jewish athletes ages 12 and up are invited to join Team Oregon for the 2023 JCC Maccabi Games in Israel July 5-25 or in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., Aug. 6-11.

The deadline to apply for the Israel team is March 1.

Applications for Ft. Lauderdale are due March 15.

In Israel, athletes aged 14 to 17 can compete in baseball, basketball, ice hockey, girls volleyball, flag football, soccer, tennis, swimming and dance. Expected price is \$4,500 after the available \$3,000 Root One Scholarship is applied. Additional scholarship assistance is available from the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland, the Oregon Jewish Community Foundation and the Oregon Board of Rabbis (visit [jewishportland.org/travelisrael](https://jewishportland.org/travelisrael)).

The games in Florida are for athletes 12-16 years old competing in baseball, basketball, ice hockey, girls volleyball, flag football, soccer, table tennis, tennis, swimming and dance. The price is expected to be \$1,600 with scholarships available.

For more information, contact Saul Korin at 503-452-3427 or [skorin@oregonjcc.org](mailto:skorin@oregonjcc.org) or go to [oregonjcc.org/sports/maccabi-games](https://oregonjcc.org/sports/maccabi-games).

## Scholar athlete award applications due

March 24 is the deadline for high school athletes to apply for the Harry Glickman Scholar Athlete Award.

Each year, the Mittleman Jewish Community Center selects two winners for the Harry Glickman Award. Any Jewish student athlete who has lived in Oregon for the past three years and is a junior or senior in high school is eligible. Two winners are selected and recognized at the MJCC Community Celebration, this year on May 10, 2023.

This award was established in 2012, in honor of Harry Glickman, z"l, the "father" of professional sports in Oregon. He was the founder of the Portland Trail Blazers, the Trail Blazers' President from '87-'94 and the founder of the Portland Buckaroos. He is also a member of the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.

Visit [oregonjcc.org/glickman](https://oregonjcc.org/glickman) for more information and to apply.

## OJCYP annual benefit set for April 20

"Givin' in the Rain" is the theme of this year's benefit dinner for the Oregon Jewish Community Youth Foundation. After two years of virtual programming, this year's benefit will be held April 20 in the MJCC Stern Ballroom.

OJCYP's mission is to secure the future of Jewish philanthropy and to develop a strong generation of future Jewish leaders. All proceeds benefit the community through grantmaking by teen participants of the OJCYP, a program of the Oregon Jewish Community Foundation.

## Last call for B'nai Tzedek Youth Program

The B'nai Tzedek Youth Program begins this month with a teen and family gathering kickoff event. Jewish youth ages 12-18 still have time to open a B'nai Tzedek Youth Fund at the Oregon Jewish Community Foundation and enroll in the program. Youth can open their charitable fund with an initial \$250 contribution, matched by \$250 from OJCF's Community Endowment Fund.

Teens who enroll in the B'nai Tzedek Youth Program gather four times a year to learn about the needs of our community, *tikkun olam*, and how their philanthropy can help others and better our community and the world. Teens use this knowledge to make grants to eligible Jewish charities. Rabbi Eve Posen and OJCF staff will facilitate the first gathering in March. For more information, email [susanb@ojcf.org](mailto:susanb@ojcf.org).

For more information on the Foundation, visit [ojcf.org](https://ojcf.org).



# Day School Roundup

Portland is fortunate to have three Jewish day schools – two on the west side and one on the east side. This roundup focuses on elementary and middle school programs.

Maayan Torah Day School, Portland Jewish Academy and Maimonides Jewish Day School offer excellent general and Jewish studies programs that incorporate Jewish values to create well-rounded graduates.

In addition to the basic information below, each of the schools was spotlighted in a previous issue of the Jewish Review. Read more about Maayan at [jewishportland.org/jewishreview/jr-stories/spotlight-on-maayan-torah](http://jewishportland.org/jewishreview/jr-stories/spotlight-on-maayan-torah), Maimonides at [jewishportland.org/jewishreview/jr-stories/spotlight-on-maimonides-jds](http://jewishportland.org/jewishreview/jr-stories/spotlight-on-maimonides-jds) and PJA at [jewishportland.org/jewishreview/jr-stories/spotlight-PJA](http://jewishportland.org/jewishreview/jr-stories/spotlight-PJA).

[jewishportland.org/jewishreview/jr-stories/spotlight-PJA](http://jewishportland.org/jewishreview/jr-stories/spotlight-PJA).

A report commissioned by the Jewish Federations of North America ([tinyurl.com/3xf4tr9x](http://tinyurl.com/3xf4tr9x)) includes a section about the importance of Jewish day schools based on “their promise of deep and ongoing learning that integrates multiple dimensions of the child’s identity; their nurture of thick relationships between children, and between children and adults; and – above all – their embeddedness in the local community.”

All three Portland schools offer generous tuition assistance. The Jewish Federation of Greater Portland and the Arthur P. Krichevsky Memorial Scholarship at Oregon Jewish Community Foundation provide scholarship funding directly to the schools.



**ABOVE:** Maayan Torah students enjoy hands-on learning experiences.

**RIGHT:** Portland Jewish Academy's buddy program gives older students the chance to be friends and mentors for younger students.



## MAAYAN TORAH DAY SCHOOL

**Principal:** Rabbi Yerachmiel Kalter  
[ykalter@maayanpdx.org](mailto:ykalter@maayanpdx.org)  
**503-245-5568** | [maayanpdx.org](http://maayanpdx.org)  
**2 Touchstone Dr., Lake Oswego**

**ACCREDITATION:** AdvancEd, Cognia  
**COST:** \$12,950

**FINANCIAL AID:** Maayan offers an abundance of scholarships and financial aid.

**BEFORE & AFTER CARE:** Yes  
**KINDERGARTEN-8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE:** 60 students

**LEARNING ACCOMMODATIONS:** Yes

**OVERVIEW:** Maayan is committed to offering a stellar secular and Judaic education, made affordable to all income levels. Students enjoy a rigorous academic experience that pushes them to grow yet nurtures their love of learning. In recent national standardized testing, the majority of Maayan students far exceeded national grade standards in Math and ELA, outscoring local public schools. Students gain an in-depth understanding of the holidays, Middot, Jewish customs and Torah. Most of all, they develop a love for their rich Jewish heritage and for Israel.

## MAIMONIDES JEWISH DAY SCHOOL

**Director:** Devora Wilhelm; **General Studies Principal:** Karen DeNardo  
[office@portlandjewishschool.com](mailto:office@portlandjewishschool.com)  
**503-288-8919**  
[portlandjewishschool.com](http://portlandjewishschool.com)  
**4635 NE 9<sup>th</sup> Ave., Portland**

**ACCREDITATION:** Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools; National Council for Private School Accreditation; National Accreditation Board of Merkos L'inyonei Chinuch  
**COST:** \$12,700 (2022-23)

**FINANCIAL AID:** At Maimonides, we believe it is the right of every Jewish child to have the highest quality Judaic and secular education. To that end, we offer financial assistance as we feel no child should be turned away due to financial concerns.

**BEFORE & AFTER CARE:** Yes  
**KINDERGARTEN-8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE**

**ACCOMMODATIONS:** We have one staff member for every five students. This allows us to accommodate for learning differences, whether it is for a student who is struggling with a concept or for a student that is beyond the given lesson and needs enrichment.

**OVERVIEW:** We believe individuals

progress and thrive most successfully at their own pace, so we maintain an excellent ratio of staff to students. We also believe that Judaism is applicable, relevant, and supports meaningful and successful daily living. It is taught using a project-based approach that helps children love and personally connect to Jewish tradition and values. We believe that as active members of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, students must be curious, critical thinkers and lifelong learners.

## PORTLAND JEWISH ACADEMY

**Director of Admission:** Sarah Glass  
[sglass@pjaproud.org](mailto:sglass@pjaproud.org)  
**503-535-3599** | [pjaproud.org](http://pjaproud.org)  
**6651 SW Capitol Highway, Portland**

**ACCREDITATION:** Northwest Association of Independent Schools (NWAIS)  
**TUITION:** K-5<sup>th</sup> Grade, \$23,200; Middle School, \$24,200 (2023-24)

**FINANCIAL AID:** We offer tuition assistance. More than 50% of PJA families receive tuition assistance. We also offer a 30% tuition discount for Jewish Communal Professionals.

**AFTER CARE:** K-5<sup>th</sup> graders.

**KINDERGARTEN-8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE:** 173 students

**STUDENT SUPPORT:** We have a team of learning specialists who provide support in both academic and social/emotional learning. Support is given both in the classroom and in individual or small group sessions. In addition, we have support for students new to Hebrew language learning.

**OVERVIEW:** Founded in 1961, Portland Jewish Academy is an independent, inclusive Jewish community school that welcomes families of all backgrounds. PJA provides an academically rich environment that supports each student's personal growth and development, from infants through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Our hands-on interdisciplinary curriculum emphasizes collaborative learning, critical thinking and community engagement. At PJA, students are empowered to think for themselves and work for the world.

# Solomon's Legacy wisely explores antisemitism

BY DEBORAH MOON

A Feb. 15 lunch program on Antisemitism and the Law was both educational and a preview of a national conference on the same topic at Lewis & Clark College later this month (see box).

"First Amendment rights and antidiscrimination laws are hard to resolve," featured speaker David Schraub told the 29 in-person and online attendees.

The program was hosted by Solomon's Legacy, the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland affinity group for Jewish lawyers, judges and law students. It is named for Judge Gus Solomon, z"l, the first Jewish federal judge for Oregon, and for the biblical King Solomon, who was renowned as a wise judge.

Solomon's Legacy Chair Marshal Spector provided a historical background on antisemitism beginning in ancient Egypt when a pharaoh "who knew not Joseph" enslaved the Israelites. He continued with a text study from the Book of Esther about Haman's plot to murder all the Jews in Persia.

"If you don't know the story of Purim, go to your synagogue (March 6) and hear 'the whole Megillah' as we say," urged Spector. (Find events at [jewishportland.org/purim](http://jewishportland.org/purim).)

A more recent exploration of antisemitism was presented by Schraub, who is one of the conveners of the upcoming Law vs. Antisemitism Conference. He is an assistant professor at Lewis & Clark Law School, where he teaches classes on constitutional law and antidiscrimination law.

Schraub says there has been a resurgence of interest in the topic with the national rise of antisemitic incidents, a push for the adoption of the International Holocaust

## March 26-27: Law vs. Antisemitism Conference

The Second Annual Law vs. Antisemitism Conference will be held March 26-27, 2023, at Lewis & Clark Law School in Portland.

"This conference is to our knowledge the only conference dedicated to the intersection of antisemitism and the law," says Lewis & Clark Professor David Schraub, one of the three conference conveners.

Keynote speakers are Eric K. Ward, executive director of the Western States Center and one of the nation's foremost experts on the connection between antisemitism and white supremacy, and Steven M. Freeman, vice president of civil rights and director of legal affairs for the Anti-Defamation League.

It is presented in association with the Lewis & Clark Law Review and the Law vs. Antisemitism Project. The

conference is part of a larger project to develop a law school course in law and antisemitism and the creation of a first-of-its-kind casebook to support the course. A Law vs. Antisemitism Project Workshop for Legal Educators will take place Sunday morning, March 26, before the main conference convenes that afternoon.

In addition to Schraub, conveners are Robert Katz (Indiana University) and Diane Kemker (Southern University). Sponsors include Solomon's Legacy of the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland and Greater Portland Hillel.

Find the full schedule and registration link on the conference website: [go.lclark.edu/law-and-antisemitism](http://go.lclark.edu/law-and-antisemitism). For questions, email [dschraub@lclark.edu](mailto:dschraub@lclark.edu) or [lawvsantisemitism2023@gmail.com](mailto:lawvsantisemitism2023@gmail.com).

Remembrance Alliance definition of antisemitism, and laws related to the Boycott, Divest and Sanctions (BDS) movement.

In recent years, the federal judiciary "has used the First Amendment to drive holes through antidiscrimination law," said Schraub.

"We are all in this together," he added, encouraging the Jewish community to stand with other minorities against all oppression. "The contraction of one domain is a contraction for all."

Rules that just address antisemitism "alienate useful allies," he said, adding that antisemitism, anti-Black hate and homophobia are all forms of oppression. Restrictions on hate speech "should be uni-

form across the cases."

He noted that proponents of hate crimes legislation "don't usually pay attention to First Amendment concerns" and that opponents don't consider antidiscrimination law.

Seeking a balance, Schraub said, "I won't say where we should land. I'd lean toward antidiscrimination law, but the First Amendment is important. The U.S. is much more fundamentalist on the free speech issue than any other country."

But he noted, we "cannot accept the First Amendment to the absolute limit."

While a statement is protected, actions are not. Speech paired with action or that causes harassment should be able to be limited.



## Jewish Federation aids KGW quest to learn about minority issues

As part of KGW's efforts to diversify their news coverage of the different minority communities in the local area, Bob Horenstein, Marc Blattner and Caron Rothstein met with longtime anchor Brenda Braxton and about 20 reporters, editors and producers on Feb. 15. The discussion centered on the work and mission of the Jewish Federation, upcoming events in the community and issues such as antisemitism, homelessness and climate change. The station is reaching out to various community groups to learn more about who they are, what they do and ways to incorporate this knowledge in their news coverage.





# HAPPY *Purim*

FROM JEWISH FEDERATION  
OF GREATER PORTLAND

FIND MEGILLAH READINGS, PURIM SPIELS,  
PARTIES AND MORE AT:

[JewishPortland.org/Purim](https://JewishPortland.org/Purim)



Jewish Federation  
OF GREATER PORTLAND





# Ari Shapiro brings poignant stories to Portland

Ari Shapiro, cohost of NPR's *All Things Considered*, will be back in Portland next month for an event celebrating the launch of his first book, *The Best Strangers in the World: Stories from a Life Spent Listening*.

"More than anywhere else, Portland is the place that made me who I am," says Shapiro. "From Beaverton High School to Rimsky Korsakoff House, from Neveh Shalom to Pioneer Courthouse Square, this city is full of the memories and formative events that shaped my identity."

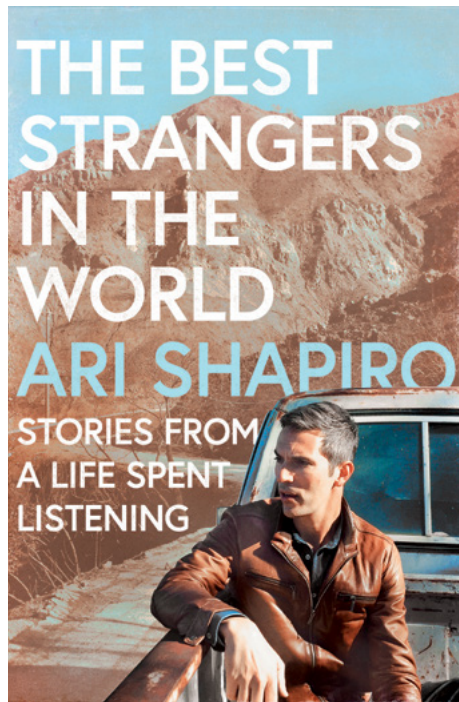
Shapiro's stirring memoir-in-essays, *The Best Strangers in the World*, is a testament to one journalist's passion for *Considering All Things* – and sharing what he finds with the rest of us.

Powell's Books will present Ari Shapiro in Conversation with Thomas Lauderdale at Revolution Hall at 7:30 pm, April 2.

"The fact that I will be discussing the book with my dear friend, Thomas Lauderdale of Pink Martini, makes this stop on the tour a very special kind of homecoming," says Shapiro, who has been a frequent guest singer with the internationally best-selling band.

*The Best Strangers in the World* will be released March 21, 2023, by HarperOne (hardcover, \$27.99).

A press release about his book tour says that it is easy to see how Shapiro chose



journalism. "As one of the few Jewish kids in his elementary school in Fargo, N.D., and one of the few openly gay teens in his Beaverton high school, Shapiro experienced early on what it was like to cross boundaries, learn about others and be a liaison between different groups. Combine

that with a deep sense of curiosity about the wonders of nature all around him, and parents who raised him and his siblings to believe the more you learn about the world, the more interesting life becomes, and it's easy to understand Shapiro's dedication to the endless possibilities of people and the importance of sharing their stories with others."

In this book, Shapiro takes us around the globe to reveal the stories behind the sometimes heartwarming, sometimes heart-breaking, always poignant narratives he reports to his listeners – narratives that often illuminate the entire world by zooming in on a tiny sliver of life. Shapiro details his time traveling on Air Force One with President Obama, following the path of Syrian refugees fleeing war, and learning from those fighting for social justice both at home and abroad. As the self-reinforcing bubbles we live in become more impenetrable, Shapiro keeps seeking ways to help people listen to one another – to find connection and commonality.

Tickets (\$38.99 plus service charges) include admission and one hardcover copy of *The Best Strangers in the World*. Books distributed at event. Tickets are on sale now at [etix.com/ticket/p/4509074/ari-shapiro-in-conversation-with-thomas-lauderdale-portland-revolution-hall](https://etix.com/ticket/p/4509074/ari-shapiro-in-conversation-with-thomas-lauderdale-portland-revolution-hall).

## Local woman's books offer comfort in wake of suicide



After her husband's suicide turned her fairytale into a nightmare, Michelle Collins found Jewish traditions and mindfulness helped her cope. Now she has written two books – one for spouses/partners of suicide victims and one for the friends of those survivors.

BY DEBORAH MOON

Michelle Collins, a longtime member of Portland's Jewish community, has written two books to help the spouses/partners of suicide victims cope and to help the friends of those survivors support their friends.

*Surviving Spouse or Partner Suicide Loss: A Mindful Guide for Your Journey through Grief and Supporting a Survivor of Spouse or Partner Suicide Loss: A Mindful Guide for Co-journeying through Grief* were published by Saved By Story Publishing on Jan. 26, 2023. Both are available at Amazon and Barnes & Noble in e-book (\$7.99) and paperback (\$16.99).

Both books draw on Jewish mourning traditions and Collins' work as a yoga therapist and well-being coach, both of which she relied on when her second husband, Glen, committed suicide in 2016.

"Being Jewish, you get taught that "trying to cheer up a griever diminishes their grief," says Collins of her book for friends of survivors. "Holding space for their grief and feeding them" is far more helpful.

She herself experienced the need to have space to grieve when Glen died. He was not Jewish, so she had to balance her traditions

and his family's needs.

"Rabbi and Cantor Cahana made space for me to grieve in a nontraditional space," says Collins of the senior clergy at Congregation Beth Israel, where she is a member. "They helped me and held space to support me however I could manage grieving of two cultures."

"We had a secular memorial service, and after that the Cahanas did a *shiva minyan* at my home."

Collins also found comfort in the custom of mourners standing for the Mourners *Kaddish* in synagogue for the first year. "Everyone in the congregation remembers you are grieving. I talk about that in the supporting the survivor book. ... witnessing their grief is the biggest gift you can give someone."

In addition to Beth Israel, Collins has been involved for many years with the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland and Portland Jewish Academy, where her three children from her first marriage to Jay Rosenbloom went to school. Her father, Bob Mendelson, donated the money to dedicate the PJA science room in memory of her mother, Lotti Mendelson, z"l.

# OHSU shares Fred Harwin's visionary illustrations

BY DEBORAH MOON

"Illustrating Medicine: The Visionary Work of Fred Harwin" is on exhibit at OHSU's Marquam Hill campus until May. A sample of the exhibit can be viewed online at [ohsu.edu/historical-collections-archives/illustrating-medicine-visionary-work-fred-harwin](https://ohsu.edu/historical-collections-archives/illustrating-medicine-visionary-work-fred-harwin).

The exhibit on the third floor of the BICC building examines the evolution of Harwin's work from his early career to present. Curated by OHSU Director of Special Collections Maria Cunningham, it includes some of the 450 original illustrations by Harwin housed in the archive.

Harwin has been a medical illustrator, co-author of the visual medical text *Manual of Cardiac Surgery*, Director of Medical Illustration at both Wayne County General Hospital and Oregon Health Sciences University, Illustration Editor for a major medical publisher, an ophthalmologist and the founder of the Center for Ocular Prosthetics. He also has taught at Portland State University, the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry, the University of California's San Francisco Medical Center and Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, where he is an adjunct professor. Now 80, he enjoys oil painting in his studio.

Though his careers often overlapped and kept him remarkably busy, he still found time to be active in Portland's



Medical illustrator and artist Fred Harwin stands in front of one of the cases exhibiting his work at OHSU. In the late 1970s, he stood on a stool to sketch heart surgery.

Jewish community. He served as president of the Mittleman Jewish Community Center and Campaign Co-Chair for the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland. He served on many Jewish Federation committees including allocations and community relations.

"I am so blessed to be involved in so much I feel good about," he says.

In the medical community, Harwin is best known for illustrating the breakthrough medical text *Manual of Cardiac Surgery* with Drs. Brad Harlan and Albert Starr published in 1980. Harwin spent 3½ years attending Dr. Starr's cardiac surgeries standing on a stool and sketching the heart under retraction.

"Everything I did was from direct observation," says Harwin. "It is a visual language. The writing supports the illustrations rather than the other way around. Several spreads are just drawings – no text."

To create a step-by-step guide for cardiac residents and surgeons, Harwin developed a technique he calls "scientific realism" to show what the surgeon experienced and how parts of the body looked when they were added to, removed or modified. The technique involves layering media on both sides of frosted mylar using transparent and opaque watercolor, color pencil and pastel, which enabled him to show four layers of anatomy in one illustration.



Harwin is also known as "the eye guy" for his work creating ocular prosthetics.

He studied the process during his sabbatical year from OHSU while traveling the country with his wife, Sara, and visiting 14 medical centers that worked on ocular prosthetics. He already knew the anatomy from studying anatomy in the same class as medical students while he earned his Master of Science degree in Medical and Biological Illustration from the University of Michigan in 1967. His 30-year career as a medical illustrator overlapped his 40 years as an ophthalmologist.

To reflect that side of his art, the exhibit includes some prosthetics and drawings of eyes.

## EJC screens "First Cow" from local screenwriter

Portland Jewish screenwriter Jon Raymond will be on hand for the screening of "First Cow," 7-9 pm, March 9, at the East-side Jewish Commons.

"First Cow" was hailed as a masterpiece by the New York Times. The movie won best film at the 2020 New York Film Critics Circle Awards.

Directed by Kelly Reichardt, the film features John Magaro as Cookie Figowitz, a skilled cook who has traveled west and joined a group of fur trappers in 1820s Oregon, though he only finds true connection with a Chinese immigrant also seeking his fortune. Soon the two collaborate on a successful business venture, but at a price.

"I always thought of him (Cookie) as Jew-

ish, but his background isn't defined in the movie nor in the book," says Raymond, who adapted his novel *The Half Life* for the film. "Unless you consider the character traits of extreme sensitivity, culinary genius and deep loyalty to friends as inherently Jewish."

He said he is looking forward to the screening and talk at EJC.

"The movie hit theaters about two weeks before everything closed down," he says of Covid interrupting the film's debut. "It got reviewed and then went out of circulation, basically. It remained rentable online, but never appeared for free on any of the big platforms to my knowledge. It's a really beautiful movie and definitely best viewed on a large screen. Sadly, that won't be hap-

pening anytime soon, barring occasional festivals or special events."

Raymond's family moved from California to Lake Grove when he was 8, and his dad landed a job with a solar energy company in Portland. He graduated from Lake Oswego High School and later moved to New York City for five years. He's glad to be back in Oregon.

This is the fifth of six collaborations by Raymond and Reichardt.

"They've all been based on my fiction or on original screenplays, and all of them have taken place in Oregon," he says. "For me, this movie sits with those other films as part of a larger tapestry of stories about the region."



# Exhibit shows diversity of “Humans of Israel”



"Seen at Rothschild Boulevard." Photo by Erez Kaganovitz

## Opening Reception: "Humans of Israel"

5:30-7 pm, Thursday, March 2

Mittleman Jewish Community Center, 6651 SW Capitol Hwy.

RSVP: [oregonjcc.org/arts-culture/upcoming-events/humans-of-israel](https://oregonjcc.org/arts-culture/upcoming-events/humans-of-israel)



## Tickets limited for Israeli Superstar Noa's concert

Limited tickets are still available for the April 30 concert featuring Israeli Superstar Noa, who will perform here as part of our community's Israel at 75 Celebration.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Portland and Congregation Beth Israel present "Celebrating Israel at 75" at 7 pm, April 30, at the new Patricia Reser Center for the Arts in Beaverton. The concert features Noa performing with Grammy-winning pianist Rustan Sirota.

Tickets are \$18-\$36 plus a \$4 service fee. Tickets are available through the Reser Center: [thereser.org/event/celebrating-israel-at-75-with-israeli-superstar-noa/](https://thereser.org/event/celebrating-israel-at-75-with-israeli-superstar-noa/).

8 Jewish Review March 1, 2023

Coinciding with Israel's celebration of 75 years of statehood, the Mittleman Jewish Community Center presents the "Humans of Israel" photography exhibition March 2 through May 9.

The traveling exhibit combines photojournalism with digital storytelling offering a fresh look at the rich and remarkably diverse lives of Israelis and showcasing Israel's diverse, multicultural and vibrant civil society.

The May 9 MJCC Community Celebration will feature the exhibit's creator, Israeli photographer Erez Kaganovitz, as the keynote speaker.

Kaganovitz' traveling show includes 36 works showcasing the multitude of residents who call Tel Aviv and Israel their home. The photographer aims to dispel myths about Israel and capture the vibrant nature, tolerance and unique individuals who live in the country. The show will travel through Portland for about six months, beginning at the MJCC on the Schnitzer Family Campus.

The exhibit is co-sponsored by Israel360 of Neveh Shalom, JCCA Israel Engagement Fund, Jewish National Fund USA, Multnomah County Cultural Coalition, Nefesh B'Nefesh, Oregon Cultural Trust and PDX Hillel, with support from Fred and Sara Harwin, the Kostiner Cultural Education Fund and Jeff Reingold, Income Property Management.

For more information, email [skorin@oregonjcc.org](mailto:skorin@oregonjcc.org).

## Israel360 hosts *Sharim* (Singing) Together March 9

Israel360 presents "The Memory Heals" – a full acoustic concert of original music by Linoy Yechieli – at 7 pm, March 9, at Congregation Neveh Shalom.

Linoy is a singer, songwriter and music therapist. She grew up in Kiryat Shmona, a small city in the north of Israel. In August 2022, she came to Portland to serve as the Israeli Fellow for the Greater Portland Hillel.

"Music is a way to happiness, to G-d and to myself," says Linoy. "My music is a collection of true moments, completely vulnerable and open-hearted to whoever's willing to listen."

The concert will be a fun way to connect with Israeli culture. Come sing and learn Israeli cornerstone songs through a group sing-along. Learn some Hebrew and history through the songs.

Register at [members.nevehshalom.org/event/I360Sharim](https://members.nevehshalom.org/event/I360Sharim).



## Kol Shalom Yiddish Club explores songs and poem

The Kol Shalom Yiddish Club will meet on Zoom March 12 at 11 am PDT (remember clocks "spring forward" one hour for daylight-saving time).

The club will listen to two or three songs on YouTube. "*Bayt Zhe Mir Oys a Finefuntsvantsiker*," Make Me Change of a 25 Ruble Bill, is a song about genuineness and weddings. "*Tum Balalaika, Strum Balalaika*," is a love-song riddle. "*S'Iz Nito Keyn Nekhtn*," There Isn't Any Yesterday

(Yesterday Is Gone) is a song about living and drinking in the moment. Then read Anna Margolin's poem Years, about the meaning of the passage of time.

"And finally, as is our wont, we'll look over some vocabulary words – this meeting on the theme of romance," says group leader Benson Schaeffer.

For details, email Benson at [bookie@hevanet.com](mailto:bookie@hevanet.com). Join the Zoom meeting at [tinyurl.com/2p9ezvcn](https://tinyurl.com/2p9ezvcn).



# JEOPARDY (from page 1)

exploring the Jeopardy archives in the two weeks between her invitation and the taping.

Thomas and her two siblings joined her for the tapings in California.

Mira and her mother, Oregon State Senator Elizabeth Steiner, are members of Congregation Neveh Shalom. Mira was a junior in high school when her mom was first elected.

While she doesn't think the exposure to politics gave her an edge on any Jeopardy questions, she says her mom pushed civic involvement and awareness of current events and that was helpful.

At Harvard, she earned a degree in history taking classes in everything from the Byzantine empire to Japanese history. She wrote her thesis on Reconstruction in post-Civil War Mississippi.

Now she works as a writer for Noble Blood, a history podcast about the royals. That helped her in Final Jeopardy in her second game. The answer "Until 1806, some German nobles included among their honors the title of Elector for their role in selecting this Personage." She correctly responded, "Who was the Holy Roman Emperor." Only weeks before, she had written an episode about Charlemagne who was elected Holy Roman Emperor.

Mira worked for a Chicago nonprofit until everything closed down when the pandemic began. "I thought it would be nice to be close to my family," she says. "Once I got here, I remembered how much I loved Portland and ended up staying permanently."

In a Zoom interview the day after fellow Catlin Gabel graduate Avi Gupta won his game on the High School Reunion tournament, she commented on the success of Portlanders on Jeopardy in February. Portlander Matthew Marcus won four games, losing the day before Mira made her first appearance.

## Celebrate Israel with folk dancing

Portland Israeli Folk Dancing invites the community to celebrate Israel at 75 and more than 50 years of Israeli folk dancing in Portland.

In addition to ongoing weekly dances, PIFD has received an Israel at 75 grant from the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland to present a special dance party in May, with a second party possible in June.

"What a natural combination to celebrate both through folk dancing," says Sue Wendel, PIFD News coordinator and a dance session leader. "Because Israeli folk dance is foundational to the culture of Israel and is enjoyed around the world, combining Israel's 75th with Portland's over 50 years of dancing is a wonderful opportunity for the whole community to dance together, celebrate and experience the joy of dance."

PIFD invites families, beginners, intermediate and seasoned dancers, to join events around the Portland metro area. Long-running weekly open dance sessions are offered Monday, Thursday and Sunday nights, and Sunday afternoons. Visit PIFD News at [sites.google.com/site/pifdnews](https://sites.google.com/site/pifdnews).

To include dancing at an Israel at 75 event, request an outreach class taught by local seasoned dancers. Email Sue Wendel at [pifdnews@gmail.com](mailto:pifdnews@gmail.com).

# Portland Federation supports social programs in Israel

*For the 2022-23 fiscal year, the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland granted \$115,000 to 11 smaller organizations that provide social services in Israel. The grants are designed to strengthen civil society in Israel.*

*In upcoming issues, The Jewish Review will share stories from some of these organizations' mid-year reports.*

*No funding goes to the Israeli government or projects "over the Green Line."*



## BEIT YOSSI: Therapy intervention for Ethiopian Jewish community families and children at risk

Beit Yossi serves distressed families from socio-economically severely underprivileged backgrounds in Ashdod, a peripheral city in southern Israel. Most families are headed by single-parent mothers from the Ethiopian Jewish community. They struggle with extreme poverty, domestic violence, sexual abuse and various multidisciplinary problems that cause severe distress for the entire family unit, parents and children alike. Most parents have not completed primary schooling and became parents at a young age, thus maintaining a vicious cycle of poverty and domestic violence. They live in underserved neighborhoods in the city.

The program was launched on Sept. 1, 2022, with about 30 at-risk children and parents from the Ethiopian Jewish community, among them 18 children, 10 mothers and three fathers. All participants are at risk and distressed.

This is the first time since Beit Yossi was established 22 years ago that fathers from the Ethiopian community have joined the program. Although this is a tiny number of fathers from among the Ethiopian families participating in the program, it is essential to understand that this is a very challeng-

ing step for them emotionally and culturally. There is a great shame in sharing, "taking out" secrets from home, and saying that there are bad things and that there is violence. It requires Beit Yossi's staff's sensitivity, confidence and strong professional skills to advance them.

We are currently in the stage of in-depth and continuous diagnosis of each participant to identify their needs. We are focused on getting everyone into a routine of activities and therapies. Every year, it's difficult for the children to get into a routine after the summer vacation and the holidays. We work to establish a foundation of trust between them and the therapy team. We can already provide children and families with a safe space and protection by preventing continuing harm.

This year's group of mothers is exceptional in their cooperation and motivation to face the challenges. Most of these mothers are continuing from last year's program. They share what they are going through in the weekly mothers' group and the individual meetings with the social worker – the parent group facilitator. They have a deep desire to deal with domestic and out-of-home situations.

# JFCS shares history of "neglected survivors"



Professor Natan M. Meir emphasizes a point during his lecture, "The Neglected Survivors: Soviet Jews Under Nazi Rule," in the Pollin Chapel of Congregation Beth Israel. Jewish Family & Child Service provided the community educational event. American Sign Language interpreter Judi Webb was one of two ASL interpreters at the event. Photo by Robyn Taylor.

BY DEBORAH MOON

Jews in the Soviet Union had vastly different experiences from other European Jews during and after the Holocaust. Rather than being sent to extermination camps such as Auschwitz, Soviet Jews experienced a "Holocaust of Bullets" – they were rounded up and shot near their towns. After the war, survivors were not allowed to emigrate the way many Jews in western and central Europe did.

Many of the 40 Holocaust survivors from the former Soviet Union receiving assistance from Jewish Family & Child Service's Holocaust Survivors Program have told the agency Americans don't understand those differences.

To share that history, JFCS presented a Feb. 19 lecture by Professor Natan Meir that drew 150 people, in person and via livestream. A scholar of the region, Meir is the Lorry I. Lokey Professor of Judaic Studies and Academic Director of The Harold Schnitzer Family Program in Judaic Studies, Portland State University. American Sign Language interpreters and closed-captioning in English and Russian online helped make the program accessible. You can see the full presentation at [jfcs-portland.org/hss-lecture/](https://jfcs-portland.org/hss-lecture/).

Before 1939, most of the 3 million Jews in the USSR lived in cities and worked in the professions. In a country where 50% of the population was engaged in agriculture, only 6% of Jews were in agriculture. When the Nazis invaded Poland from the west, the Soviets occupied the eastern half of Poland and the Baltic states under a nonaggression pact with Germany. That put another 2 million Jews under Soviet rule.

When the Soviets occupied the eastern European areas, the "bourgeois" shopkeepers and merchants were sent east to the Soviet

Continued on next page

**80% of Jewish Family & Child Service's Holocaust survivor clients are from Ukraine or another country of the former Soviet Union.**

## UKRAINE INVASION (Continued from page 1)

Circle expects to resettle another new arrival soon. Funding for the local Welcome Circles is provided by the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland's Ukraine campaign ([jewishportland.org/ukraine-crisis](https://jewishportland.org/ukraine-crisis)), which has raised \$150,000 to assist those who come to Portland with rent, utilities, food and other expenses.

Daria has written the family's story (in English), illustrated by photos of their homes and city before and after the invasion. Sharing the presentation, she tearfully compares photos of the school she attended as a child and pictures of it days after the invasion. Pictures of the beautiful park near their homes contrast with images in the same area days later. You can see her story and photos at [cdn.fedweb.org/fed-29/2/we-dont-have-a-home.pdf](https://cdn.fedweb.org/fed-29/2/we-dont-have-a-home.pdf).

Next to a photo of bombs exploding just a few blocks away, Daria writes: "How they did not want to believe that at 4:50 in the morning on February 24 an explosion would wake us up and the first thought was that no, this could not be. But after a few seconds, you will understand that you no longer just hear these explosions, but you see how the battle is going on with your own eyes."

Alex pulled up one of the images on his phone and pointed to his home. The photo

shows his bombed apartment building, and he anxiously pointed out his home with holes in the walls of the apartments one floor above and one floor below from shells that hit the building.

Daria goes on to describe the fighting and explosions they could see over the next few days. The family fled and moved into the small house of Daria's grandparents – "we gathered 12 people and nine cats."

Eduard speaks about the family's harrowing drive to western Ukraine, a normally short drive that took three days. They fled over the western border into Poland, where they stayed in a Warsaw JCC for several months. Thanks to HIAS and the generous sponsorship by Neveh Shalom, they were able to come to Portland.

The story of how the Welcome Circle is helping them start a new life here will be in the March 15 issue of the Jewish Review.

For more information about the role and impact Jewish Federations across North America, including Portland, have made on the lives of so many in Ukraine and those who fled, visit [cdn.fedweb.org/fed-29/2/2023\\_Ukraine\\_OnePager.pdf](https://cdn.fedweb.org/fed-29/2/2023_Ukraine_OnePager.pdf). The Greater Portland community has raised more than \$600,000 to support those in Ukraine and refugees who have come/are coming to Portland.



Alex shared this photo that shows where bombs hit just above and below his home in the apartment building. It is one of many pictures of Ukraine before and after the invasion that are included in "[We Don't Have a Home](https://cdn.fedweb.org/fed-29/2/we-dont-have-a-home.pdf)," by his daughter-in-law, Daria.



# SURVIVORS

(cont. from previous page)

interior, where shortages and harsh weather made life difficult. At the time seen as a tragedy, most of those sent east survived the war.

When the Nazis invaded in June 1941, the Jews who had remained in the shtetls and cities were slaughtered.

"It was a localized Holocaust in each city and town," said Meir. "They were murdered near their home – often with the assistance of their neighbors."

Mobile killing units that traveled quickly behind the advancing lines would round up the Jews in a town, take them to a nearby ravine and mow them down with machine guns. That made it difficult to determine how many were killed – estimates range from 1.1 to 2 million. At Babi Yar alone, 30,000 Jews were murdered in just three days, with mass killings continuing throughout the Nazi occupation of the region.

The heavily wooded region did make it possible for some to escape into the forest and hide or join partisan bands.

As the Nazis advanced rapidly, Stalin ordered factories and personnel (including Jews) to be evacuated to the east, where they also largely survived.

After the war, Soviet Jews were forbidden to emigrate until the era of Glasnost under Gorbachev in the late 1980s.

Given the tremendous civilian losses and destruction of towns, Jews who tried to talk about their tragedy were dismissed by the people and the government. Any memorials were to "peaceful Soviet citizens." It wasn't until Ukraine gained its independence in 1991 that the Babyn Yar (Ukrainian for Babi Yar) Holocaust Memorial commemorated the Jews murdered at the ravine near Kyiv.

During a Q&A moderated by former Oregonian columnist David Sarasohn, Meir also touched on the current situation in Ukraine and Putin's ludicrous claim he is "denazifying" a nation led by a Jewish president.

At the program's conclusion, JFCS Executive Director Ruth Scott thanked its partners for helping to bring the history of these forgotten survivors to light.

Beth Israel Senior Rabbi Michael Cahana said the congregation was honored to host the program and partner with JFCS and other organizations.

"Connections between different organizations bind us as a community," he said.

Organizations partnering with JFCS and CBI for the program were the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland, Jewish Federations of North America and the Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education. The Federation's Women's Giving Circle provided a grant for the live transcription (in English and in Russian for those on the livestream) and ASL interpreters.

# 10 years of Kehillah (community)

BY SYDNEY CLEVEGER

Nathan Burgess was a care provider at Jewish Family & Child Service in 2014 when he was asked to apply for the role of in-house manager at Kehillah Housing by a parent there.

"I used to come here to take folks out in the community to do fun things," says Nathan. "I met a parent here, and she said they were looking for an on-site manager."

That was eight years ago, and Nathan has been managing the apartments and tending to the needs of Kehillah's 14 residents ever since.

"I love it here," he

says. "The residents are like your family. Some need a little more help than others, but we love all of them."

Kehillah Housing – a project of Cedar Sinai Park in collaboration with Jewish Family & Child Service – is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year. Its mission is to care for adults with developmental disabilities who need affordable housing and access to social services that support their ability to live independently in the community.

Kehillah, Hebrew for community, perfectly describes what has evolved at the facility.

In 2012, ground broke on the facility on the Cedar Sinai campus. It opened Sept. 1, 2013, with management through the Department of Housing and Urban Development. There is little resident turnover at Kehillah, says Nathan. Of the orig-

inal residents, 11 remain and the waitlist is long, an indication of the lack of housing for adults with special needs.

Current residents range in age from 30 to 50; 10 are male and four are female. Most

work at least one day a week at a job off-site.

Nathan also works outside of Kehillah, full time at the Coffee Creek Correctional Facility in Wilsonville, where he supervises and trains GED tutors and helps inmates with their training, often in the facility's computer lab. Friday night through Sunday, he is fully concentrated at Kehillah, coordinating cooking classes, movie nights, crafts, games, parties and more.

"I try to get the residents out of their rooms to try new things," says Nathan. "People love to eat, and their favorite foods are pizza and tacos."

Nathan grew up in southeast Portland near Mt. Tabor. His office is lined with Space Legos, and he confesses his Kehillah apartment has many more completed Lego sets, décor that is OK, he says, for his new fiancée, Brandy.

The self-described "solid cleaner who is good with a plunger," Nathan is supported by Cedar Sinai Park's Facilities team on bigger fix-it projects.

"Everyone is really friendly here, and it's a good community," says Nathan. "We all get along, and I'm a big fan of the activities where people are enjoying themselves."



In-house manager Nathan Burgess loves to cook and care for Kehillah residents.

## Jobs board

The Jewish Federation of Greater Portland's job board includes ongoing listings of job opportunities in the Jewish community. For all openings and to see full description of two openings below or submit job openings go to [jewishportland.org/ourcommunity/jewish-jobs](http://jewishportland.org/ourcommunity/jewish-jobs).

### CONGREGATION SCHARA TZEDECK

#### Executive Director

##### Full time

Congregation Shara Tzedek in Vancouver, BC, Canada, seeks an Executive Director to serve our membership base of 500 families from all over the world. Our

synagogue is the largest and most established Orthodox Synagogue in Western Canada. Submit CV and cover letter to [careers@scharatzedeck.com](mailto:careers@scharatzedeck.com).

### B'NAI B'RITH CAMP

#### Grants & Communications Writer

Salary: \$45,000-55,000, full time

This position is responsible for writing grant and marketing content in print and digital mediums. Research, develop, write, edit and report grant proposals and various communications to support agency programs and capital needs. Submit a cover letter and resume to Laura Jeser at [lj eser@bbcamp.org](mailto:lj eser@bbcamp.org).

# Purim Events

Find more details on these and other Purim events at  
[jewishportland.org/purim](http://jewishportland.org/purim)

## March 4: Purim Tot Shabbat

Mini Mensches celebrate Purim with stories, songs, crafts and a snack at 9 am, March 4 in Congregation Beth Israel's Pollin Chapel. [bethisrael-pdx.org/community/mini-mensches/](http://bethisrael-pdx.org/community/mini-mensches/)

## March 5: CST Purim Family Experience

Join Congregation Shaarie Torah Education Director Cara and friends for a fun, family Purim experience 10 am-noon, March 5 at Shaarie Torah. Costumes encouraged. Designed for kids ages 0-5. Free, but RSVP: [cara@shaarietorah.org](mailto:cara@shaarietorah.org).

## March 5: Texas Hold'em Pre-Purim Tourney

Enjoy a night of cards, fun and celebration at Portland Kollel's Pre-Purim Texas Hold'em tournament 4-8 pm, March 5. \$50 buy in. Contact [info@portlandkollel.org](mailto:info@portlandkollel.org)

## March 6: Young Family Purim Carnival

All families with children ages 0-5 (and their siblings!) are invited for a super fun carnival 3-5:30 pm, March 6, to help spread joy and raise funds for the CNS educational programming. Enjoy carnival games, bouncy house, face painting, photo booth and Purim crafts. [members.nevehshalom.org/form/purim5783](http://members.nevehshalom.org/form/purim5783)

## March 6: CNS Dinner, Shpiel, Megillah

Join the community for a delicious, family-friendly, kosher buffet provided by Century Catering with costume contests for all ages, 5:15 pm, March 6. After dinner, a Purim Shpiel performed by Neveh Shalom K-12th graders, with original music by Cantor Bitton. Then Megillah. [members.nevehshalom.org/form/purim5783](http://members.nevehshalom.org/form/purim5783)

## March 6: Magical Purim 23

Chabad Jewish Center of Hillsboro presents a Magical Purim at 6-8 pm, March 6. A community celebration martini bar, Purim buffet, Megillah reading and magic show. [Rabbi@ChabadH.com](mailto:Rabbi@ChabadH.com) or [ChabadH.com](http://ChabadH.com).

## March 6: CBI Shpielin' In the Rain

The Purim story meets the musical theater classic... and Congregation Beth Israel clergy meet tap shoes at 6 pm, March 6. The Purim story with inspiration from Gene Kelly's 1952 film "Singing in the Rain." In-Person and online (link at [bethisrael-pdx.org/joinus](http://bethisrael-pdx.org/joinus))

## March 6: Purim – More than meets the eyes!

Let's come together to read and hear the Megillah to celebrate Purim at Congregation Ahavath Achim at 6-8 pm, March 6. Together we will see and discover the hidden gems this incredible story has to offer. Dinner to follow. \$15. [ahavathachim.com](http://ahavathachim.com)

## March 6: Purim at Kesser Israel

Join Kesser Israel for Megillah reading (and Kid's Megillah too), light dinner and Purim Shpiel from 6:45 to 10 pm, March 6. [kesserisrael.org](http://kesserisrael.org)

## March 6: Megillah Reading in SW Portland

Join Chabad of SW Portland for a Purim Eve Megillah reading followed by music, hamantashen and fun. 6:30-8 pm, March 6. [JPortland.com](http://JPortland.com)

## March 6: P'nai Or Purim Party

P'nai Or presents a musical Purim spiel and chanting from the Megillah along with costumes, hamantashen, finger-food snacks and merriment 6:30-8:30 pm, March 6 at Hilldale Community Church. Also on Zoom: contact [admin@pnaiorpdx.org](mailto:admin@pnaiorpdx.org) for link.

## March 6 & 7: Purim in Gresham

Gresham Chabad Jewish Center presents reading of the Megillah and refreshments at 6:30 pm, March 6. On March 7, at 4:30 pm: Megillah reading, lively music, *Mishloach Manot* and hot buffet dinner. Free. RSVP: [jewishgresham.com/purimingresham](http://jewishgresham.com/purimingresham)

## March 7: UO Purim Party

Oregon Hillel and U Chabad House will co-host a Purim party for University of Oregon students. The Purim celebration will be at 7 pm, March 7, at the Chabad House. Contact UO Hillel Senior Jewish Educator Rabbi Meir Goldstein at [rabbi@oregonhillel.org](mailto:rabbi@oregonhillel.org).

## March 7: What's so Funny About Purim?

Online Lunch and Laugh at noon, March 7. Purim is the most unusual holiday on the Jewish calendar. Everything is turned around and the joke is on us. What is behind this Jewish "Tospy Turvy day" and what does it have to do with Groucho Marx, Jon Stewart and Sarah Silverman? Link at [bethisrael-pdx.org/joinus](http://bethisrael-pdx.org/joinus)

## March 7: Rocking Oasis Purim Celebration

Fun, food and festivities at the Jewish Oasis at 5 pm, March 7. Food being flown in from New York's Mendy's Deli. At 5:15 the rabbi is going to read the whole Megillah. Tickets \$40 by March 1; \$50 at [JewishOasis.com/purim](http://JewishOasis.com/purim)

## March 7: Megillah reading SW Portland

Come and hear the whole Megillah at 9:15 am and again at 1 pm, March 7 at Chabad of SW Portland. [JPortland.com](http://JPortland.com)

## March 7: Purim Around the World

Join Chabad SW Portland for a family Purim celebration, the whole Megillah and an international dinner 4-5:30 pm, March 7. [JPortland.com](http://JPortland.com)

## March 7: Purim Seudah 2023

Purim Seudah 2023, the Seudah Strikes Back will be a potluck BYOB gathering at the Eastside Jewish Commons (Kosher style) at 4-6 pm, March 7. Words of Torah and celebration from folks keeping Portland Jewish and weird. RSVP: [saulomite@gmail.com](mailto:saulomite@gmail.com)

## March 7: Purim Seudah at Kesser Israel

Please join the Kollel and Kesser Israel for an awesome Purim seudah – delicious food and wonderful community dancing 5:15-7:15 pm, March 7. Adults \$20, kids \$13; \$80 family max. [kesserisrael@gmail.com](mailto:kesserisrael@gmail.com)

## March 7: Purim celebration and Soulful Music

Jewish Lake Oswego hosts a Purim Celebration with kids crafts and megillah reading, and a Soulful Musical Experience featuring the Blue Wave Band! 5:30-7:30 pm at Lake Theater and Café. [jewishlo.com/purimcelebration](http://jewishlo.com/purimcelebration)

## March 11: Completely OutRighteous Purim

Portland's biggest, baddest, funnest, craziest and righteous-est city-wide Purim celebration at 6-11:55 pm, March 11. A night of music, drinks of all kinds and a drag variety show featuring pros and amateurs – and all this at a funky restored warehouse space in Portland. Sponsor: Co/Lab: Reimagine Jewish. This year a share of event proceeds will go to [Taking Ownership PDX](http://TakingOwnershipPDX), a collective that works to renovate and revive Black-owned homes and businesses in Portland. Registration and information at [colabpdx.org/purim/](http://colabpdx.org/purim/)



# Young Adult Events

Following are events for Purim and Beyond from four groups catering to Jewish young adults.

## JEWS NEXT DOR

Congregation Beth Israel hosts this group for Jews in their 20s and 30s.

### MARCH 6: Purim Shpiel and social hour

On March 6 at 6 pm come sit together at Shpielin' in the Rain (CBI's Purim Shpiel.) Following the Shpiel, the JND community will walk to a nearby bar to continue our evening with a social hour. Free; no affiliation required. RSVP: [bethisraelpdx.shulcloud.com/form/jndrsvp](https://bethisraelpdx.shulcloud.com/form/jndrsvp)

## CHABAD YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

Chabad NW offers space for young professionals to connect with their Judaism and with each other.

### March 6: Young Professionals Mega Purim

An interactive comedy murder mystery dinner professionally produced by The Murder Mystery Co. begins at 6:30 pm, March 6. Megillah reading, dinner, open bar. \$25. Email [sheina@pdxccyp.org](mailto:sheina@pdxccyp.org).

## PORTLAND MOISHE HOUSE

Moishe House is a global nonprofit that builds peer-led Jewish communities for young adults around the world. Portland has had a Moishe House since 2008.

Text 503-908-3394 to RSVP for events.

### March 7: Karaoke Purim Party

Moishe House hosts "Now That's What I Call Purim! A Karaoke Purim Party" 7-9 pm, March 7. Come dressed up in your Purim best and ready to sing your heart out.

### March 20: Gay Skate Night

The third Monday of every month, LGBTQ skaters young and old take over the Oaks Park rink. We're bringing our own gaggle of queer Jews and allies, 7-9:30 pm, March 20. \$12 includes skate rental.

### March 24: Welcome Shabbat

We are so excited to introduce you to Erez, our newest Moishe member, with a welcome Shabbat at Moishe House, 7-9 pm, March 24.

### March 25: Kindness Farm Volunteering

Join us in cultivating food and community at The Kindness Farm, noon-2 pm, March 25.

### March 30: Spring Clothing Swap

Swing around to the Moishe House to swap, exchange and re-envision your closet, 6:30-8 pm, March 30. Text how much you plan to bring to 503-908-3394.

## MOISHE POD

Moishe Pod-WestPDX is a two-person Moishe House on Portland's west side. RSVP for any of these events at [moishepodwestpdx.com/events](https://moishepodwestpdx.com/events).

### March 3: Shabbat Potluck Dinner with MOTs

Join the Pod and Members of the Tribe at 6-8 pm, March 3, for Shabbat dinner and community connections. We'll provide a delicious main; bring your favorite side dish, salad or dessert to share.

### March 15: Drinks at Leikam

We're taking this show on the road to visit Leikam Brewing, a Jewish owned brewery and the only kosher brewery in Portland at 7:30-9:30 pm, March 15.

### March 23: Game Night at the Pod!

Back by popular demand! Game Night at the Pod, 6:30-8:30 pm, March 23. We'll have a few board games and card games and make use of the pool table life-size Jenga in our community space.



The spacious, bright, airy atrium at the Eastside Jewish Commons is perfect for many different kinds of events, such as this pop-up Chanukah Food Fair that offered treats from multiple vendors, including Henry Higgins Boiled Bagels, Jacob and Sons, Sindyanna of Galilee Fair Trade and Leikam Brewery.

## Space for simchas and more at Eastside Jewish Commons

BY MIA BIRK & BONNIE NEWMAN

Daniel Ostrov knew he'd found the perfect place for his son Elijah's bar mitzvah party when he attended a Havdalah Cafe at Eastside Jewish Commons. The spaciousness and brightness of the atrium were the big draws.

"The space is really a gift to the community, and we are so happy to have had the resource available," Ostrov wrote in a follow-up email.

Centrally located on Northeast Sandy Boulevard, EJC is a flexible, multi-use venue that can accommodate b'nai mitzvahs, weddings, award ceremonies, parties, business conferences, dinners, fundraisers, memorials and seminars.

Recently, community members have hosted art exhibits, concerts, dance classes, meetings, lectures, holiday meals and a shiva minyan for more than 100 people.

Rabbi Joshua Rose of Co/LabPDX: Reimagine Jewish has used the facility for several events, including an exhibit from his Art/Lab inaugural cohort and an exploration of psychedelics and Jewish consciousness and culture. In addition, his organization offered a seder to houseless individuals.

"We were delighted by the experience," Rabbi Rose said.

EJC features a 5,000-square-foot, ground-floor space that can seat about 110 people. The contemporary venue features a large glass-ceiling atrium with tile flooring. The catering kitchen is equipped with commercial appliances, including a professional convection oven, refrigerator, freezer, sinks, dishwasher and stainless-steel tables. Food

and drinks can be prepared, warmed, stored and served in the dairy kitchen, which can be *kashered*.

Additional rooms are available for pre-ceremony preparations, equipment storage, band warm-up or other needs. The smaller rooms are also available for meetings, conferences, religious ceremonies, and social and creative activities. Available supplies include chairs, a mobile stage, video monitors, microphones, livestream broadcasting, Zoom conferencing and a sound system with tech support.

EJC supports unaffiliated religious events with *tallit*, *kippot*, prayer books, candles, a Torah and an ark.

"It was exactly the event I wanted – meaningful and our own," said Rebecca Shine, who officiated a b'nai mitzvah. "I hope it is the beginning of many more similar celebrations at EJC."

EJC Executive Director Howie Bierbaum invites community members wanting to host an event to visit.

"EJC is committed to providing a low-stress and low-cost event rental experience. Our onsite coordinator and professional staff work to ensure a successful event," Bierbaum said. "We also offer an open vendor policy, so renters are welcome to bring in their preferred caterers at no additional cost."

For information, contact the EJC at 503-208-5425 or [info@ejcpdx.org](mailto:info@ejcpdx.org).

Mia Birk is a co-founder of EJC and currently serves as the EJC Board's Treasurer. Bonnie Newman is a volunteer at EJC and the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland.

Published biweekly by

Jewish Federation of Greater Portland  
9900 SW Greenburg Road, Suite 220  
Tigard, OR 97223  
503-245-6219  
[JewishPortland.org](http://JewishPortland.org)

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### Circulation

To receive the Jewish Review in your email inbox, fill out the form at  
[jewishportland.org/subscribe](http://jewishportland.org/subscribe)

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## NEXT ISSUES

Issue date	Deadline
<b>MARCH 15</b>	<b>MARCH 9</b>
<b>MARCH 29</b> (pre-Pesach)	<b>MARCH 14</b> (note very early deadline)
<b>APRIL 11</b>	<b>MARCH 31</b> (early)
(office closed April 6-7, 12-13)	
<b>APRIL 26</b>	<b>APRIL 20</b>

Submit photos, news and obituaries to

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

# Chaplain's Corner

## The Power of Humor

BY RABBI BARRY COHEN

Purim is right around the corner. (It starts the evening of March 6.)

With Purim, we read the Book of Esther and celebrate how Esther put her life on the line to rescue the Jewish people from genocide in ancient Persia. The story involves heroes (Esther and Mordecai) and villains (Haman and his collaborators) and a bumbling king (Ahasuerus).

Overall, this is our holiday devoted to having fun, pulling pranks and refusing to take life too seriously. According to tradition, anyone and everyone can be made fun of ... and everyone needs to be willing to be made fun of.

Let me share a memory of a time I was criticized for pranking an organization in the Jewish community. This occurred when I was the editor of the Jewish News of Greater Phoenix. My staff and I were inspired by the satirical newspaper/website, The Onion.

For our Purim issue, we made it clear on page one that this was a prank issue in honor of Purim. (We let our readership know NOT to take this news as objective, authentic reporting.)

One of the articles on page one "reported" that donations to the local federation were so numerous and so generous that federation asked the community to stop giving.

As "a hook," we cited the Torah portion, Vayak'heil. In this portion, Moses asked the people to give raw materials with which to construct the Tabernacle, the traveling sanctuary. In response, the people kept giving and giving and giving. The article then quoted Exodus 36:5-6: "The artisans said to Moses: 'The people are bringing more than is needed for the tasks entailed in the work that the Eternal has commanded to be done.' Moses thereupon had this proclamation made throughout the camp: 'Let no man or woman make further effort toward gifts for the sanctuary!'"

After this issue went to press, the blowback was quick and intense. We received a handful of angry and passionate letters to the editor. They condemned us for re-



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

porting inaccurately and irresponsibly and demanded corrections, retractions and apologies.

My staff and I were shocked to have been taken seriously. We thought we clearly expressed on page one that the content of that page in honor of Purim was purely satirical. Clearly, some people in the community were not in on the joke.

Looking back, do I wish we had not printed that satirical issue of the Jewish News? Not at all. I thought it was funny, entertaining, an homage to The Onion and a clever way to express a Purim tradition.

As we get ready to celebrate Purim, let us all remember the power of comedy, laughter and satire. Jewish humor is one of our survival mechanisms. By being able to laugh at others, and especially laugh at ourselves, we have been able to navigate tragedies that would have relegated other peoples to museums and history books.

We should not be surprised that some of the greatest comics of all time have been Jewish. To cope, we laugh at authority, we laugh at our enemies and we laugh at ourselves.

Life is serious enough as it is. We all face stresses, strains, pressure, anxieties and fears. Sometimes humor is exactly what we need. Sometimes it needs to be light ... sometimes it must be dark.

But the health of a people can best be judged by its sense of humor. In the spirit of Purim, let's lower our defenses and celebrate our individual and collective sense of humor ... even if sometimes we are the brunt of the joke.

## Rabbis' Corner

In addition to the Chaplain's Corner, the Jewish Review offers space for the community's rabbis to share their thoughts on the week's parsha or current events. Rabbis are invited to schedule a date to submit a 500- to 600-word piece.

Email: [editor@jewishportland.org](mailto:editor@jewishportland.org).



# Climate Corner

## Ingredients for an eco-friendly kitchen

*The Climate Action Committee of the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland is sharing tips and resources for healing the Earth in a periodic Climate Corner in the Jewish Review. The group is committed to the important work of tikkun olam, repairing the world. If you would like to join the Climate Action Committee, please contact Rachel Nelson at [rachel@jewishportland.org](mailto:rachel@jewishportland.org).*

**BY BONNIE NEWMAN AND STEVE KATZ**

Here are a handful of suggestions for saving energy (and money) in your kitchen:

### Stovetop cooking:

- Choose correctly sized pots for each of the stove burners and for the cooking job.
- Make sure all of your pots and pans have well-fitting lids and use them whenever possible – including when boiling water – to reduce cooking time and retain heat.
- Keep stovetop burners clean so they cook more efficiently.

### Oven cooking:

- Roast or bake several things at once. This takes a bit of planning, but it is worth the effort.
- Choose cast iron, ceramic or glass cookware to retain more heat and speed cooking time.
- If you have a new or relatively new oven, eliminate or minimize preheating. Most newer ovens heat quickly enough to make this step unnecessary.
- Resist the urge to open the door to peek into the oven. The temperature drops 25 degrees when you open the door.

### Smaller appliances:

- Use a toaster oven or toaster instead of the oven to heat small items such as waffles.
- Choose a microwave to heat up frozen foods and leftovers.
- Pressure cookers like Instant Pots cut energy use in two ways – they can slash cooking time by up to 70 percent compared to a stove, and they retain heat due to insulation. As a bonus, pressure cooking helps retain vitamins and minerals and doesn't heat up the kitchen.
- Slow cooking with crockpots is energy efficient – especially in the summer when you don't want to heat your kitchen with the oven. And because slow cooking tenderizes less expensive cuts of meat, you can save money on food, as well.
- Cleaning dishes with a newer dishwasher can use less water than washing by hand if you follow a few rules: run the dishwasher only when it's full, choose energy-efficient settings, scrape off leftover bits of food and prewash (if you must) quickly without running the tap constantly.

### Organize and use your refrigerator efficiently:

- The warmest zones of the fridge are the top shelf and door. Use the door for condiments and the top shelf for leftovers and other items you need to eat quickly.
- Use the middle shelf for dairy products and eggs.
- Use the bottom shelf for meat, fish and milk. It's the coolest spot in your fridge so there is less risk of spoilage, and any leakage won't drip down onto other foods.
- Fruits and veggies go in the crispers.
- Avoid putting hot leftovers into the fridge. Instead, allow them to cool a bit at room temperature to avoid raising the temperature of the fridge.



Silicone bags and beeswax wraps are reusable replacements for plastic wrap and baggies. Single-use plastics are particularly bad for the environment. Not only do throwaway items like produce bags and packaging crowd landfills and litter our cities and waterways, but producing them also incurs major environmental costs.

### Paper and plastic waste:

- Switch from plastic, single-serve coffee pods and paper filters to reusable mesh filters. Or consider using a French press instead. It needs no filter.
- For cleanup jobs, replace paper towels with natural cellulose sponge cloths, dishtowels or reusable not-paper towels made of cellulose and cotton. Most of these can be machine washed and dried.
- Pack lunches-on-the-go in reusable beeswax wraps and resealable silicone bags instead of using plastic baggies or buying single-serving bags of snacks.

*Bonnie Newman is a former journalist and retired physical therapist. Currently, she volunteers with the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland's Climate Action Committee and Dignity Grows as well as the Eastside Jewish Commons.*

*Steve Katz also is a member of Jewish Federation's Climate Action Committee. He also volunteers with the Oregon Interfaith Solar Campaign ([oregoncleanpower.coop/interfaith/](http://oregoncleanpower.coop/interfaith/)), which encourages people of faith everywhere to really live their values by taking steps collectively to mitigate the effects of climate change.*

# Obituaries

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## ROBERTA (BOBBY) BERWIN

Roberta (Bobby) Berwin, ז"ל, passed away on Feb. 24, 2023, at the age of 79 in Overland Park, Kan. She is loved and remembered by her husband, Harvey Berwin; her children, Portlander Mel Berwin, Katie (Chaim) White and Brent (Kasia Bloch) Berwin; and 10 grandchildren including Lev, Nava and Ami Weingrad (of Portland).

Services are being held in Overland Park, Portland and St. Paul, Minn. A *shiva minyan* service was held Feb. 27 in the Stampfer Chapel at Congregation Neveh Shalom, where Mel Berwin serves as Director of Congregational Learning.

## SYLVIA NEMER DAVIDSON

Sylvia Nemer Davidson, ז"ל, civic leader and hostess extraordinaire, died Feb. 22, 2023, in Portland at the age of 100. She is survived by her two sons, Jerry Nemer and Philip Nemer (David Brannon), of Portland; and by six stepchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 30 years, C. Girard Davidson, who died in 1996. Her first husband, Norman Nemer, died in 1964.

She was born in Portland April 14, 1922, to Marie (Murph) and Joe Schnitzer.

Davidson attended Stanford University and graduated from Reed College in 1947. She served as a WAVE in the U.S. Navy during World War II. Her commitment to, and leadership of, numerous causes have been recognized by the community and by her associates. She was honored by the Oregon Jewish Welfare Fund and received the Harry S. Truman Freedom Bell Award, the Forrest E. Rieke Achievement Award in Community Health Planning and the March of Dimes Community Service Award.

Davidson served on the Multnomah County Planning Commission, the Multnomah County Home Rule Charter Commission, the City of Portland-Multnomah County Consolidation Commission, the Metropolitan Arts Commission and the Portland State University Goals Commission.

For more than 20 years, she committed herself to the critical issues of health care. She served as an active member and as chairwoman of two Oregon State Health Commissions. She was President of the Northwest Oregon Health System Agency from 1980 to 1987. She was active in the National Health Planning and Development Commission, American Health Planning Association, Oregon Legislative Committee on Health Cost Containment, Oregon Legislative Committee on the Medically Needy, Oregon Health Council and Oregon Health Decisions. In 1976, she authored the publication "Alternatives in Nursing Home Care."

She also served on the Board of Directors and as Chairwoman of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, the Oregon Symphony and the Oregon World Affairs Council.

Long active in Democratic Party politics, Davidson served as Chairwoman of the Oregon Adlai Stevenson for President Campaign, Co-Chairwoman of the Oregon Frank Church for President Campaign and as Alternate Delegate to the Democratic National Conventions of 1946, 1960 and 1968. She was the Coordinator of the John F. Kennedy Presidential Campaign Primary.

A graveside service was held Feb. 27, 2023, at Beth Israel Cemetery. Remembrances may be sent to Planned Parenthood or to your favorite charity.

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

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

## MARCIA WILSON

Marcia Wilson, ז"ל, passed away on Feb. 21, 2023, at the age of 94. She is loved and remembered by her sons, Matthew (Lesley Fisher) Glasser, Larry (Jane) O'Glasser and Martin Glasser, and her daughter, Nancy Doyle; her grandchildren, Benjamin (Avital) O'Glasser, Molly (Charles Koransky) O'Glasser, Elliot O'Glasser, Adam Glasser, Mira Glasser, Aaron (Sheri Lawal) Doyle, Austin (Rachel Rhoten) Doyle, Eva Glasser, Abraham Glasser, (Honorary) Evan Fisher and (Honorary) Ava Fisher; and her great-grandchildren, Noam O'Glasser, Ronan O'Glasser, Chase Koransky, Maya Koransky, Theresa Doyle and Alasdair Doyle.

A memorial service was Feb. 26 in Zidell Chapel at Congregation Neveh Shalom, followed by a meal of condolence with the family.

## Burial Societies

Portland has two holy societies of volunteers who prepare the deceased for burial according to Jewish tradition: Chevra Kavod haMet and the Portland Hevra Kaddisha.

For questions about end of life, death and mourning, email [chevrakavodhamet@gmail.com](mailto:chevrakavodhamet@gmail.com), visit [ChevraKavodHaMet.org](http://ChevraKavodHaMet.org), or contact Michael Rosenberg at the Portland Hevra Kaddisha at [michael@cashcolan.com](mailto:michael@cashcolan.com) or 503-519-2454.

## Yahrzeit

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## Bible scholar: Many translations execrable

BY BILL TAMMEUS

The recent appearance by renowned biblical scholar Robert Alter at the Kansas City Public Library gave a large in-person and Zoom audience dozens of delightful moments from a serious man nearing the end of a consequential career.

Martin Rosenberg sponsored the Feb. 16 event in memory of his wife, former Portland resident Matilda Rosenberg, ז"ל, on her first *yahrzeit*. Matilda was born April 13, 1952, in Portland to Holocaust survivors Albert and Alegre Tevet. The talk is available on [YouTube.com \(@kclibrary\)](https://www.youtube.com/@kclibrary).

As Alter acknowledged at the beginning of his remarks, a logical question is why anyone would do what he has done, which is to do a new translation of the entire Hebrew Bible.

Alter, an emeritus professor at the University of California-Berkeley, said the old King James Version from 1611 is archaic and flawed but still "better than all these translations-by-committee done in the second half of the 20th century."

"I have discovered as a translator of the Bible that it's a marvelous opportunity to conduct two simultaneous love affairs – with the Hebrew of the Bible and with the English language," said Alter. "And what I find in the modern translations is no love for either of those languages. I don't mean there's ignorance of those languages ... but the Hebrew language (in academic settings) remains an object of study and analysis but not something that gets you excited, not something that enthralls you. And you can see that in the translations."

The result, Alter concluded, is that "I view the modern translations as execrable."

Bill Tammus is a former Kansas City Star reporter who blogs regularly at [billtammus.typepad.com](http://billtammus.typepad.com).