

# THE JEWISH REVIEW

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OREGON & SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON'S JEWISH NEWSPAPER

March 11, 2026 | 22 Adar, 5786 | Volume 61, Issue 5

## Purim's plentiful parties



Attendees douse one another in colored powder at the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland's third annual Purim/Holi celebration Sunday, Mar. 8 at the Elsie Stuhr Center in Beaverton. A product of the Federation's ongoing Hindu/Jewish Dialogue and co-sponsored by the Tualatin Hills Parks and Recreation District and Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh, this year's celebration drew the largest crowd in the event's history. See more of our coverage of Purim events throughout the community on pages 4 and 5, and find more photos from this year's Purim/Holi celebration on page 8 (Rockne Roll/The Jewish Review)

## PDX Hillel celebrates 18 years

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

In the days leading up to the founding of Greater Portland Hillel eighteen years ago, a study examined the number and needs of Jewish students at Portland State University, Lewis & Clark College and Reed College.

"Students felt isolated on campus with few opportunities for connecting or support when antisemitism surfaces. The desire for Jewish life was strong," PDX Hillel President Barry Benson recalled.

Today, PDX Hillel is on hand to meet those needs at eight campuses in the Portland area – an achievement celebrated at the organization's annual fundraiser Thursday, Mar. 5 at Portland State University's Smith Memorial Student Union. The needs PDX Hillel addresses today are similar but amplified.

"Antisemitism now is more organized than ever before,"

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The  
Jewish  
Review  
Podcast



New episode Mar. 18

## BB360's Lev el Lev to create music spanning generations

*The Jewish Review staff*

Music brings people together – and BB360's latest program is using music to bring generations together.

Lev el Lev ("Heart to heart" in English) is a series of 45-minute intergenerational music programs for grandparents and grandbabies (ages 0-5) led by Kim Schneiderman, BB360's Chief Jewish Life Officer. Schneiderman explained that it's also open to "grandfriends" as well; if your grandchildren are out of town, you're still welcome.

Through music, movement and imagination, Schneiderman hopes to connect little ones with their senior family members and connect everyone to their Jewish heritage.

"We do Hebrew rhymes, we do old Yiddish tunes, so we're bringing in the music of that age and introducing it to kids and continuing it on," she said. "Depending on the time of year, we'll step into Jewish holidays and sing some of those holiday favorites."

Schneiderman previously hosted a similar program at Rose Schnitzer Manor about a decade ago. This time, with the help of a grant from the Robison Foundation for Jewish Elders, the program is going on the road to destinations around the metro area.

BB360 will host four seasonal sessions, each running for three consecutive weeks at 9:30 am. April's session, set for Fridays, Apr. 10, 17 and 24, will be hosted at Congregation Kol Ami in Vancouver. Summer programs will be held at Green Bean Books in Northeast Portland on Thursdays, July 9, 16 and 23. The fall session

will be held Thursdays, Sept. 10, 17 and 24 at Hillsboro's Hidden Creek Community Center and the year wraps up with a winter session at the Eastside Jewish Commons Thursdays, Dec. 3, 10 and 17.

Schneiderman explained that one of BB360's goals has been to offer programming for people of all ages, life stages and locations. In that spirit, BB360 is also planning an elder retreat at camp outside Lincoln City this fall to provide programming around Jewish ritual specifically geared to aging populations. Lev el Lev is geared for a broader connection.

"It's the idea of *l'dor v'dor*, from generation to generation, that this community has so much to offer," Schneiderman said. "To be able to share their musical childhood experiences with their grandchildren, I think is just so highly beneficial and just something that's so exciting to be able to offer."

It's not just beneficial for the elders, either.

"This is specifically designed for Jewish content, for learning and to create a space for families to be able to then go home and continue that learning at home because they know some new Hebrew words or Hebrew melodies," she continued. "You know, that's their way of experiencing Judaism."

Registration for adult participants is \$18 per program or \$36 for a full three-program session – children are free – and is available at [bb360.org/events/](http://bb360.org/events/). For more information, email Schneiderman at [kschneiderman@bbcamp.org](mailto:kschneiderman@bbcamp.org).

## JFCS Job search workshop is Mar. 24

By ROCKNE ROLL

*The Jewish Review*

Finding a job is hard, and it seems to keep getting harder. "We're hearing from a lot of people who are just feeling really overwhelmed, a lot who are stuck in this job market," Robyn Taylor, the Marketing and Events Manager for Jewish Family & Child Service in Portland, said. "Looking for jobs is exhausting, it can be discouraging."

To help out, JFCS is hosting a Job Search Workshop in collaboration with Jack Birnbach Tuesday, Mar. 24 at 2 pm at the Eastside Jewish Commons in Portland.

"Jack has been a longtime supporter of JFCS, and we've really admired his work that he does with Dress for Success," Taylor said, mentioning the nonprofit that supports economic advancement for women by, among other things, helping provide professional clothing for job interviews. "This just seemed like a perfect fit because Jack is so enthusiastic and so knowledgeable. We thought this was one more way we could help people who are struggling right now."

"There is always demand for help in finding a job because companies are always changing. Competition is always changing. Customer demands are always changing," Birnbach explained.

A key part of Birnbach's presentation will focus on interviewing, which is a crucial skill in any job search but one that is not often taught in any formal environment.

"It's unfortunate. Sometimes you don't get the job that you're qualified for, and somebody who gets the job isn't as qualified, but they know how to interview," Birnbach said. "I consider this like being an actor and knowing your role. Actors don't just show up at the movie set and say, 'start the cameras,' they have practiced so that the best version of their character comes out. That's what we're trying to do. We're trying to help people have the best version of themselves come out."

There is more to finding a job than interviewing well – much of the challenge comes from getting the interview in the first place. Birnbach will devote much of his time to addressing specific questions about the job search process.

"We've asked people to sign up, and in their sign up, we said, 'Write down your questions that you have,'" he explained, "because I don't want to give merely a presentation that isn't relevant to the questions. If people are interested in resumes or cover letters or networking or thank you letters or whatever it is, I want to be able to answer their questions first."

The workshop is open to all ages because all ages are affected by the changes in job searching – from younger folks seeking a first job to seniors who have been thrust back into the job market.

"We've got people who are applying for hundreds of jobs," Taylor said. "The way the job market is and how

See **JOBS**, page 13

# PASSOVER HAPPENINGS

Resources for your  
family's Passover  
celebration gathered  
by Jewish Federation

[jewishportland.org/passoverhappenings](http://jewishportland.org/passoverhappenings)



PASSOVER HAPPENINGS

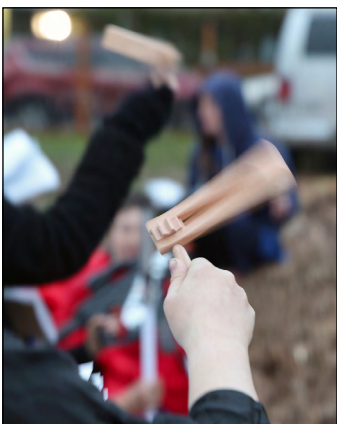




# Portland's Plentiful Purim Parties

Photographs by ROCKNE ROLL  
*The Jewish Review*

Portlanders retold, remembered and celebrated the story of the ancient Jewish victory over the genocidal schemes of Haman at Purim celebrations throughout the area Monday and Tuesday, Mar. 2-3. From comedy to cowboys, from Disney to dancing, this year's celebration were as varied and unexpected as the city itself.







## Federation bids farewell to fundraising head

Jewish Federation of Greater Portland Chief Development Officer Wendy Kahn, pictured, celebrated her pending retirement with colleagues at Breakside Brewery's Beaverton location Thursday, Mar. 5. Kahn, who began her involvement with the Federation as a volunteer, has served on the organization's professional staff since 2017. (Rockne Roll/The Jewish Review)

# Slater's latest is three stories in one

By ROCKNE ROLL  
*The Jewish Review*

David Michael Slater has written 40 books, but he describes his newest as “my first big book.”

The book, “Ugly,” released last October by Library Tales Publishing, derives its length, in part, from the three distinct stories that weave together across its pages.

“It’s three generations of women from the same family experiencing horrible maltreatment from various men in their lives,” Slater said. “It’s about their resilience.”

In the first generation, the protagonist escapes a World War II-era London orphanage to wed a rich aristocrat whose lavish lifestyle hides danger. Her daughter, the second generation, travels to the United States, taking refuge in a finishing school where disaster strikes. Her own daughter, generation three, ends up as a famous model in Los Angeles before an event from her past comes back to haunt her.

“Ugly” is an homage to John Irving, particularly “The Cider House Rules,” “A Prayer for Owen Meanie” and “The World According to Garp, as well as being inspired more generally from Irving’s gift for tragicomedy.

“[Irving] said, ‘The books are funny right up until they’re just not funny,’” Slater said. “That’s how you get someone laughing and then shock them and then they’re like, ‘Oh my God, I didn’t see that. That’s horrible. What’s coming?’”

Often, when he starts on a book, Slater has no idea what’s coming himself. He explained that there are “planners” and



“pants-ers” in writing; the former having a carefully-laid path prepared before drafting starts, while the latter fly by the seat of their aforementioned trousers. Slater classifies himself in the second category.

“I’ve written enough to know now that I’ll figure it out,” he said. “I’ll get to some unexpected place at the end, which is probably the most exciting part of writing the way I do, having no idea that I would’ve gotten to such a great place.”

It’s been a successful methodology for him; enough so that his first novel, “Fun and Games,” will be re-released for its 10th anniversary in the coming weeks.

“[‘Fun and Games’ is] about a dys-

functionally hilarious Jewish family in 1980s Pittsburgh, where I grew up. Jonathan, the main character, lives in my house, went to my high school,” Slater said, noting that’s where the similarities end. “Locationally, it’s autobiographical, but what happens? No way.”

Jonathan is an observer of his famous father and two sisters, one of whom is an “evil genius,” in Slater’s words, and the other of whom is “so beautiful people can barely look at her.”

Slater is also set to release a British edition of his novel, “The Vanishing,” which is a fantasy novel about an 11-year-old girl in Germany who literally becomes invisible after witnessing a horrific event in the beginning days of the Holocaust. It will bear a different title there, Slater said, “something less literary and more on the nose, but that’s what they say sells those kind of books there.”

His next work, “Animal Campus,” which is set to release this fall, is a sequel to George Orwell’s “Animal Farm” that serves as an allegorical examination of college campus life post-Oct. 7. The animals journey begins, Slater said, when “they find painted on the barn wall, under many layers of paint, the speech that Old Major gives at the start of ‘Animal Farm’ where he recruits everybody. It’s just that they do something very different with that call to arms.”

Until then, “Ugly” is available at Powell’s Books and other major booksellers. Learn more online at [davidmichaelslater.com](http://davidmichaelslater.com).

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SCAN FOR DETAILS

# Purim/Holi marks third year of joint joy

Photographs by ROCKNE ROLL

*The Jewish Review*

The Jewish Federation of Greater Portland, in conjunction with Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh and the Tualatin Hills Parks and Recreation District, hosted their third annual Purim/Holi Celebration Sunday, Mar. 8 at the Elsie Stuhr Center in Beaverton. The cross-cultural celebration merges Purim with the Hindu festival of colors, love and spring - in addition to their close alignment in the calendar, both holidays colorfully celebrate the triumph of good over evil.





## Families wrap Reset and Refresh

Participants in the first-ever Young Families Reset and Refresh cohort celebrate a program-closing *havdalah* Saturday, Feb. 21 in Lake Oswego. The program, originally developed in Seattle for mixed-heritage couples without children, was adapted for families with children ages 0-5 by Jewish Federation of Greater Portland Director of Educational Initiatives and Associate Director of Community Relations Rachel Nelson along with Director of Jewish Life and Learning Dr. Yosef Rosen. (Rockne Roll/The Jewish Review)

## Jewlandia offers community with "Portland flavor"

By ROCKNE ROLL  
*The Jewish Review*

Rabbi Zalmy Berkowitz is building a synagogue. Sort of.

A photographer by trade, Rabbi Berkowitz doesn't use his title in everyday conversation and perhaps saying he's building a synagogue conjures the wrong impression.

"It's hard to define because I'm not sure exactly what it's going to turn into," he said. "We started by just having lots of people over for *Shabbos*."

What his project, which he shares with his wife, Estee, and Eva and Ben Fried, does have is a name: Jewlandia. It's a project born of what drew Rabbi Berkowitz's family here and what they found when they arrived.

Rabbi Berkowitz grew up the son of a Chabad rabbi in Huntington Beach, Calif., where he met and married his wife. They lived in Berkeley for a while, which they enjoyed, then around Lake Tahoe during the early years of the COVID-19 pandemic. Neither ended up being permanent.

"Both my wife and I had friends telling us for years that, 'You guys need to go to Portland,'" Rabbi Berkowitz explained.

In 2025, they did just that, landing in Southeast Portland. While they love their neighborhood, and they quickly met plenty of Jewish neighbors who also loved their part of town, what they didn't find in their neighborhood were



Rabbi Zalmy Berkowitz pauses during his reading of the *megillah* at Jewlandia's Purim celebration Tuesday, Mar. 3 in Southeast Portland. Rabbi Berkowitz, part of the group which launched Jewlandia last year, is aiming to bring what he describes as "Portland flavor" to traditional observance. (Rockne Roll/The Jewish Review)

Jewish institutions of any sort, particularly not those catering to the Berkowitzs' Orthodox observance.

"We've just started meeting a lot of Jews quite quickly," he said. "Just having people over, talking about the community and we thought, 'you know what, I think we really want to start something.'"

They connected with the Frieds, who they knew from homeschooling circles, and things have taken off. The name, which harkens to Fred Armisen and Carrie Brownstein's satirical television series centered on the Rose City, evokes what Rabbi Berkowitz is trying to cultivate.

"We want to have a very Portland flavor," he said. "I want our community to reflect that quiriness, weirdness, a need to be more intentional about things."

That spirit was on display on Purim, with Rabbi Berkowitz reading the *megillah* surrounded by costumed families as children played in the inflatable bounce-house nearby and snacks were laid out inside the house at the Frieds' homestead. It's also on display on Shabbat mornings, as neighbors gather to pray, sing, study Torah and be part of a Jewish community – all the things you do at a synagogue.

"There is so much demand for just honest Judaism and just something Jewish period in Southeast [Portland]," Rabbi Berkowitz explained. "But it has to be interesting and fun and spiritual and meaningful because, like, people here aren't like, 'oh, I'm just looking for a *halachic shul*.' Then they wouldn't live here."

If what Rabbi Berkowitz is describing sounds like what you're looking for, learn more, including the details on weekly Friday night and Saturday morning *davening* (prayer) online at Jewlandia.org.

# Review: "Holding Liat" humanizes with its light touch

By LEAH ABRAHAMSSON  
*For The Jewish Review*

"Holding Liat" carves out a unique place in the documentary world through its unflinching, intimate direction. The film follows the family of Liat Beinon Atzili as they wait for news after she is taken hostage from Kibbutz Nir Oz during the Oct. 7 attacks in Israel. Rather than focusing on dramatic developments, the camera lingers on the everyday moments: sweeping the floor, playing solitaire, and doing needlepoint. The news is constantly on, sometimes as background noise and sometimes as a focal point. In these quiet scenes, the film captures the exhausting limbo of waiting for answers, the painstaking patience of being at the mercy of someone else. Even through international travel, gala speaking engagements, or congressional speeches, the scenes focus on the in-between. The family hugs, the anxiety-ridden car rides, the tense debriefs. The camera becomes a secondary character, closely observing Yehuda, Chaya, Tal, Netta, and eventually Liat as they navigate the emotional turmoil of not knowing whether their loved one is alive or coming home. The documentary mode, colloquially known as "Fly on the Wall", makes the audience a quiet observer to all the happenings of the family. They do not interfere with or manufacture any moments on screen; they unfold naturally.

The audience learns about Liat by first seeing Chaya, her mother, and Yehuda, her father, examining the damage to her house in Kibbutz Nir Oz. The parents are in darkness and illuminated by the light of their phones,



"Holding Liat" (Courtesy Meridian Hill Pictures)

inspecting the soot-stained walls and tracing over the structure that used to be a warm home. Tenderly, the parents take a pair of glasses for Liat to have when she comes home. The simplicity is what makes the moment striking. This documentary mode is meant to increase the filmmaker's objectivity, and "Holding Liat" shows us how being objective does not mean neglecting emotion. The film's superpower is the emotional closeness it provides the audience. The camera's omniscient presence allows the emotional weight to rest over the film organically. The emotional stake we have in the film deepens the narrative while aiding in building a connection to the subjects. We notice what the family is feeling and are privy to the fights, the tears, the fear, and the impatience of wanting answers that is tense in the air. Even with the camera being a watchful observer, it is not at a physical distance. The audience is physically close to the family as well, and we are not spared any heartache that physical or emotional distance would grant us.

The lack of emotional distance shows us firsthand the layered political beliefs of the family. Yehuda, Chaya, Tal and Netta's family unit are representative of the political microcosm within Jewish families and communities since Oct. 7. The slice-of-life structure of the film connects the audience with the family on an emotional level and the audience feels the family's hope, fear, and desire to get Liat back. There is a vested interest and unspoken trust in the family so the different political views within the family are nuanced, sometimes subtle and painfully complicated yet very human. Yehuda is very vocal with his disdain of being a political pawn to push a completely uncritical, pro-Israel stance, and believes the best way to advocate for the hostages is to pave a path of reconciliation with Palestinians.

One of the most striking moments was when he stated that groups chanting "Am Yisrael Chai" were spewing "propaganda". Netta, Liat's youngest son, who was in the youth quarter of the Kibbutz when the attack happened, voiced a different

internal struggle. Netta raises the point on how it is hard to discern who is innocent and who is guilty, making peace a difficult task in the midst of such anguish. Tal, Liat's sister and a resident of Portland, made it clear to her father that they had to play the political game in order to get Liat back home, even if she didn't want to align herself with the politicians they were meeting. Every thought, opposition, and political critique from the family is shown in a way that fully paints the picture of a family grappling with grief and an uncertain future.

By being immersed in the family's daily life, "Holding Liat" gives viewers access to the raw emotions that accompany uncertainty- fear, anger, exhaustion and hope. The audience bears witness to this full range of emotions and the strain it puts on the family. The tension rarely explodes; instead, it poignantly lingers in the air. The differing political thoughts and critiques give a rare sense of nuance to issues usually oversimplified by slogans. Shedding light

See LIAT, page 11

# Fuks' "Alma de Luna" to premiere at HART

*The Jewish Review staff*

Portland playwright David Fuks will debut his latest work, "Alma de Luna," at the Hillsboro Artists' Regional Theatre in a series of shows Mar. 14-29.

"I'm incredibly proud to bring 'Alma de Luna' to Hillsboro Artists' Regional Theatre," said David. "This story has lived with me for years, and to share it here, while actively engaging Hillsboro's Latino community, means everything. Many families have experienced real hardships recently. This production, directed by Humberto Mungia, is an invitation to witness, to reflect, and to stand together. We wish to invite members of the greater metropolitan community to come to HART and enjoy this important play."

In Fuks' tale of grief and familial connection, Luna Gomez has grown up in the shadow of her older sister Alma, who was nine years old when she died protecting three-year-old Luna from an oncoming truck. Alma's spirit has been haunting and protecting Luna since that day more than twenty years ago. Luna must confront her parents and help them face their loss to set her sister's spirit, and herself, free.

HART Artistic Director Harrison Butler shared, "'Alma de Luna' is a solidarity-forward passion project that reflects commitment to celebrating the rich diversity that our community has to offer and reminding us that we often share far more in common than we realize."

Support for HART's production of "Alma de Luna" comes from the Hillsboro Arts and Culture Council, Ronni La-Croute of the Oregon Community Foundation, Michael Feves, David Gold and Sharon Pollin of the Oregon Jewish Community Foundation, Dr. Leon Owens, Liz Lippoff and Caroline Miller. The Regional Arts & Culture Council supported the preparatory workshop process that spawned "Alma de Luna"

Tickets range from \$20-\$24. For more information, visit <https://www.hart-theatre.org/> or call 503-693-7851.

## LIAT (continued from page 10)

on these varying perspectives within the Jewish community creates a sense of understanding rather than adding to the undercurrent of animosity and division within the political landscape.

That understanding resonated and engaged the audience at the film's sold-out screening at Cinema 21. Producer Lance Kramer described the screening as something of a "homecoming," given the family's ties to the city. The beauty of this film is that it can make anywhere feel like home. The familial warmth of parents, siblings, and children uniting, arguing, hoping, and holding onto one another makes sure humanity is at the forefront of any political discussion that is intertwined within the film.

*A recent summa cum laude graduate from the University of Colorado, Boulder Film School, Leah Abrahamsson is passionate about all things Jewish, film and animals. Her first published piece, "Punching Nazis" is available on the CU honors website. Find her on Instagram.*



Film aficionados line up for the opening night screening of the 2026 Portland Jewish Film Festival Tuesday, Feb. 24 at the Portland Art Museum. (Isaac Babus for The Jewish Review)

## Jewish joy at the theater

By LEAH ABRAHAMSSON

*For The Jewish Review*

The 33rd annual Portland Jewish Film Festival began Feb. 24 at the Portland Art Museum with a community-focused atmosphere and an engaging film lineup. The evening marked the start of a week-long festival celebrating Jewish creativity, history, and storytelling through documentary, fiction, and animated cinema. The lobby was lined with booths celebrating different parts of the Jewish and Portland arts scene that were sponsoring the festival before the first movie of the festival week began. Representatives from the Mittleman Jewish Community Center, Oregon Public Broadcasting, The Jewish Federation of Greater Portland, and Havurah Shalom provided a warm and buzzing welcome on the first night to ensure conversation and connection were flowing. The informational booths provided a chance for the attendees to explore a community-driven and learning focused event.

The characteristics of the evening highlighted the importance of film festivals: a dual mission of celebrating the arts and creating dialogue. The festival's lineup promised diverse thoughts and topical discussions while also being entertaining. The opening night film, "The Stamp Thief," checked all these boxes. The audience was rife with laughter watching the antics of a thief pretending to film a movie while on the hunt for an old box of stamps stolen by the Nazis. The film was adventurous, funny, and deeply heartfelt. "The Stamp Thief" addressed generations-old antisemitism still being felt today, fighting for justice for Holocaust survivors, and a childlike desire for a good old-fashioned treasure hunt.

As opening night concluded with genuine laughter, excited faces, and hearty applause, the community energy was palpable. With a full roster of engaging films in the days ahead, The Portland Jewish Film Festival promised another year of Jewish joy, culture, and community throughout Portland.

*A recent summa cum laude graduate from the University of Colorado, Boulder Film School, Leah Abrahamsson is passionate about all things Jewish, film and animals. Her first published piece, "Punching Nazis" is available on the CU honors website. Find her on Instagram.*

# HILLEL (continued from page 1)

Benson explained. “Students carry the imprint of a disrupted adolescence from the pandemic and also from Oct. 7, and many now face hostility and danger on campus.”

To emphasize the point, a collage of images depicting antisemitic graffiti and social media posts appeared on the screen behind Benson. Despite these ongoing challenges, progress has been made.

“Administrators are now enforcing codes of conduct and implementing effective policies that keep campuses safer and more focused on learning. At this point, we are grateful to PSU President Dr. Ann Cudd,” Benson said, “for founding the PSU Jewish Advisory Council, and to Dr Robin Holmes Sullivan at Lewis and Clark for set for establishing a similar group. Our goal is to create councils at every school we serve, ensuring that Jewish student support is proactive and not reactive.”

Cudd took to the stage to address the past, present and future of those issues at Portland State.

“Two years ago, Portland State faced a painful moment. The occupation of our library was deeply disruptive, and for many in our Jewish community it was also deeply frightening. Antisemitic imagery and rhetoric surfaced on our campus in ways that were absolutely unacceptable. I will not minimize what that felt like for students, faculty and community members who already carry the weight of a long history of persecution. You deserve better from us, and we knew it,” she said of the wave of



Above: Greater Portland Hillel Interim Executive Director Andy Friedland speaks in front of a collage of pictures from Hillel events at the organization's 18th annual fundraiser Thursday, Mar. 5 at Portland State University. Other speakers at the event included Isaac Babus, below left, who received PDX Hillel's Future Leaders Award, and PSU President Dr. Ann Cudd, below right. (Rockne Roll/The Jewish Review)

anti-Israel and antisemitic activism that culminated in the occupation of PSU's Branford Price Millar Library. (See [“Special Report: The state of Portland State.”](#) Aug. 27, 2025, pg. 1)

Now, PSU is hosting the Pacific Northwest Leadership Institute on Antisemitism in Higher Education, in conjunction with Brandeis University.

“None of this erases the harms of the past, but all of it reflects our commitment to doing better, not just because it's required of us, but because it's right,” Cudd said. “To the PDX Hillel community, in your *chai* year, thank you for your patience, your courage and your partnership. You've helped make Portland State a stronger, more just institution, and we're better because of you.”

Cudd referenced the Hebrew word for “life,” which has a numerical value of 18. Despite the ongoing efforts to combat antisemitism, the cultivation, promotion and celebration of life – Jewish life – is at the core of Hillel's work in Portland.

“Here we are celebrating our Jewish identities on a campus that, only two years ago, felt profoundly unsafe for our Jewish students,” PDX Hillel In-

terim Executive Director Andy Friedland said. “All that anger and all that fear that gets the headlines, but the joy is what keeps us, as an organization, growing and thriving.”

The primacy of that joy was echoed by PDX Hillel's staff.

“To know these students is a privilege, whether it's a coffee chat, a tabling, Shabbat holiday celebration, retreat, matzo ball soup drop off and anything in between. The students I interact with

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are so bright and passionate and kind,” Springboard Innovation Fellow Jesse Weiss said.

One such student, Isaac Babus, was on hand to be recognized as this year’s PDX Hillel Future Leaders Award recipient. Babus, the president of Lewis & Clark Hillel, has played a prominent role in conversations around Israel and antisemitism on campus.

“He’s working within this system to demand that it better serve its Jewish students. Isaac’s iron moral compass is tempered by his insatiable curiosity. He knows in his *kishkes* (guts) that he is right and he’s open to hearing perspectives on why he could be wrong,” Friedland said. “What is more Jewish than that?”

Babus reflected appreciation back on to the organization and staff which he said has launched him on his path in Jewish life and community.

“They go above and beyond in supporting the student vision at every school they work with, always giving opportunities for growth and learning without demanding that students participate in Jewish life in any particular way; which is why I’m going to ask you to donate to PDX Hillel, not because I told you to, but because I would not be the Jewish leader or person that I am today without PDX Hillel in my life,” he said.

The crowd responded – an email from Friedland Monday evening announced that the organization had met its

\$54,000 fundraising goal for the event, thanks in large part to an \$18,000 match from PDX Hillel Co-Founder Rob Shlacter and a \$5,000 gift from board member and PSU Professor Emeritus Cheryl Livneh, both of which were announced at the event.

“Our students feel the impact of your support through your financial gifts, volunteer committee, service, guidance and encouragement and for opening your homes up for Shabbat across Portland,” Benson said.

### **Hendricks announced as next PDX Hillel ED**

Greater Portland Hillel President Barry Benson took a moment Thursday evening to introduce Lisa Hendricks as the next Executive Director of the organization.

Hendricks, a longtime leader in advocacy spaces and community institutions, will take over on Apr. 1 as Interim Executive Director Andy Friedland returns to his role as Director of Jewish Student Life.

“As Director of Grassroots Digital Advocacy at Everytown for Gun Safety, [Hendricks] led multi-state teams, managed complex budgets, and developed leadership programs that grew participation from a few dozen to over 10,000 active leaders,” Benson said in an email announcing her appointment. “In addition, Lisa demonstrated great judgement, strength and calm in dealing with the external threats and challenges that unfortunately come in that line of work – and have become part

of the Hillel Executive Director job as well.”

Hendricks told *The Jewish Review* that the position appealed to her as an opportunity to have a positive impact regardless of where the political winds may blow.

“I really wanted to find something where I could make a difference, and it didn’t necessarily matter who was elected that cycle,” she said. “[The Hillel role is] a great nexus of education, community service, nonprofit and Judaism, so I jumped on it.”

She recalled her own formative Jewish experiences at sleepaway camp.

“When I turned 10, my mom and dad put me on an airplane and sent me to Jewish summer camp, and I think that that’s where I really formed my Jewish identity,” Hendricks explained. “It was like a mini college; you’re on your own for the first time. You’re really exploring things, and you’re exposed to things that are completely new.”

While PDX Hillel is known as a “Hillel without walls,” Hendricks sees great value in creating physical spaces for connection and authentic Jewish expression. She’s planning to start with established, regular coffee hours at each of Portland’s campuses.

“The thing I keep saying over and over, especially when I’m talking to the students, is that I really want to create safe spaces for them,” Hendricks told *The Jewish Review*. “I don’t mean just theoretical spaces where they can express themselves. I mean literal spaces where they can come hang out.”

## **JOBS** (continued from page 2)

companies are finding people, it’s a whole new world. So having some guidance I think is really helpful.”

Taylor mentioned that diffi-

culty finding a job can create all manner of cumulative effects like financial insecurity and mental health challenges – issues that JFCS was built

to tackle.

“What we’ve been really working to do is when we see a need emerging in the community, we look for practical

ways to respond,” she said.

Learn more and register for the workshop online at [jfcs-portland.org/job-workshop](http://jfcs-portland.org/job-workshop).



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Published biweekly by  
the Jewish Federation of  
Greater Portland  
9900 SW Greenburg  
Road, Suite 220  
Tigard, OR 97223  
503-245-6219

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**NEXT ISSUE**

**Issue date Deadline**

**MAR 25 MAR 19**

**Security Corner**

**Security in cyberspace**

By **JESSICA ANDERSON**

I don't know where the time goes, but it's been nearly two years since I wrote an article about cyber safety and security. It's been on my mind since my dad clicked on a link in an email from a "friend." The email was in his junk mailbox (clue #1), it was someone he hadn't spoken to in a while (clue #2), and the sender's email was a lot of gobbledygook (clue #3). I don't say this to make fun of him, as I've absolutely done the same thing, in my case moving too fast and not paying enough attention.

Secure Community Network is working to develop a cyber security training program as a new component of their security training. As we speak, they are piloting a training module which will hopefully be available soon. It's a continually changing field where new techniques and technologies are always being added.

This updated version is a revamp of my April 2024 article along with some best practices established by SCN for individuals. Organizational leaders have already been provided with best practice standards for organizations.

To start with the "new" material, you see that these items are basic recommendations you've probably heard before. And you're asking, "why are you sharing these again?"

Why is cyber security important? Studies consistently show that 85-95% of cybersecurity incidents/data breaches are attributable to "end users" or human error. As individuals and organiza-



*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.*

tions, we have a critical role to play in the security of our data, personal information, and systems. So, if we haven't adopted them yet, we need to hear them again.

Use auto-generated complex passwords and store them in a password manager. Alternatively, come up with a random, standard phrase you'll remember and add a unique element related to that particular website. Ie, #4765Billyamazon, #4765Billybloomingdales, etc. Use multi-factor authentication to log into sites.

Slow down when opening emails that seem a little weird. Check the sender's email address, look for context related to links, and always consider contacting the person directly through another format to confirm they sent the email.

Be wary of sites that sell the things you want at extra cheap prices. Good chance they are scams and you'll never see the products. In many of these instances, Visa and Mastercard are NOT going to refund your purchase price.

Don't use public Wi-Fi without a VPN. Alternatively, use a hotspot created by your phone. You're safer us-

ing data where your specific phone activity is clouded in the thousands of other phones on the same tower.

The following reposted ideas are not official SCN recommendations but are an accumulation of practices I've adopted and have found useful to me.

I subscribe to [deleteme.com](http://deleteme.com), an online service that scrubs publicly available databases and continually requests the removal of my designated information. It's the first thing I recommend people consider if they have exposure concerns.

If you want to know which of your accounts have been compromised, search for your email address on "Have I Been Pwned?" ([haveibeenpwned.com](http://haveibeenpwned.com)) This is a free service that cross-references your email address with hundreds of data breaches. Change your password on any account that shows a compromise.

Password keepers are more common now, and there are many options. These can be subscription programs like [Keeper.com](http://Keeper.com) that maintain all your passwords in one place. Apple products have strong privacy policies.

See **SECURITY**, page 17

# The View from Mount Scopus

## The divides: East and west, before and after

*Editors Note: This is the first in a series of columns by Ezra Cohen. Hear more about Cohen's experiences studying and reporting in Israel on "Reporter's Notebook with Ezra Cohen," from The Jewish Review Podcast, available on all major podcast platforms.*

By EZRA COHEN

It's 11:44am on Saturday, Feb. 28, and the weather in Jerusalem is apparently decent, but I wouldn't know because I've been sitting inside a "mamad" (safe room) in Building 4 of Hebrew University's Mount Scopus "Students' Village" since 7am.

When the first siren blared, I was in bed thinking about the previous night's lively Shabbat dinner with 20 friends from the village, complete with the boisterous singing, table-banging, drinking and Israeli and Jewish pride that characterizes Shabbats here - especially the Shabbat before Purim, during which we're commanded to remember Amalek (the ancient enemy of the Israelites, who they are commanded to "blot out").

Earlier that afternoon, at 3AM in Portland, my dad had called me to relay the ominous *Times of Israel* headline, which said that Mike Huckabee had warned all non-essential US employees in Israel to "leave today" if they wanted to get out.

"Do you want to try to fly out?" he asked.

I told him that while leaving sounded like a relief, I didn't want to look weak or scared in front of my friends who were staying.

"But," I added, "everyone here is saying this is the BIG ONE, and I REALLY don't want to die."

"Yes, that wouldn't be ideal..." he said.

Back and forth we went, until I resolved to stay.

But 15 hours later, when my phone rumbled and sirens wailed, I pulled an inside-out sweatshirt over my head and grabbed my backpack and jogged down the hall to the mamad. I ratcheted shut the door and looked down at my hands and legs shaking and heard my roommate's voice quavering. I worried and wondered if this—staying in Jerusalem for a second semester at Hebrew University in the middle of the second largest military build-up in the area in history, at a time when Israel might be the most hated country on earth—had been the right decision after all.

Mount Scopus (*Har HaTzofim* in Hebrew) is a peak of the

Judean Mountains, lying just north of the famous Mount of Olives and overlooking the Old City and downtown Jerusalem to the West. It's a divider of sorts: desert expanses to the East, and lush greenery to the West. Looking East from certain places, the Dead Sea is visible and, especially at night, when lights from settlements such as Ma'ale Adumim twinkle in the distance, Jordan itself is visible. The view to the West is less expansive but no less historic: the Dome of the Rock, Al Aqsa Mosque, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Jaffa Street, and Mt. Herzl are all prominent landmarks, until the hub of the city trickles out into the Judean Hills behind which sits the coastal metropolis of Tel Aviv.

Since I arrived in August, I've realized that Mount Scopus doesn't just divide geography. It divides cultures. On the desert side is the city of Isawiyya, a Palestinian community from which the Muslim call to prayer can be heard emanating five times each day. On the forest side, of course, is the Old City and greater Jerusalem, from which a siren can be heard welcoming Shabbat each week. And at the top of Mount Scopus sits the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Since last summer, I have been studying here, living here, walking here, meeting people of all backgrounds, bird-watching, hiking, working to understand the complexities that simultaneously scare me on a daily basis yet make me prouder than ever to be here, and to be here now. Now I'm sitting in a bomb shelter here, as dull booms from the Iron Dome and the rippling pops of fighter jets breaking the sound barrier as they stream eastward sound overhead.

I feel nervous and wonder what the next few weeks will bring. But in the fashion I've started to learn from Israelis all these months, I put on a brave face and sit quietly and watch and listen.

*Portland native Ezra Lev Cohen is currently studying at Hebrew University in Jerusalem and reports for The Press Service of Israel as an intern. He's a junior at Macalester College, in St. Paul, Minn, majoring in journalism and geography. He is thrilled to be going back to Israel this summer as an intern with the Maccabi Media Team. Find him on Instagram at @ezzy\_reports and connect with him on LinkedIn or by email at ezycohen@icloud.com.*

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# A reminder across generations

By DAVID FUKS

*“Two judges from the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit issued a ruling that, if allowed to stand, could result in the indefinite detention of millions of immigrants in inhumane, overcrowded facilities scattered across the United States.”*

– David French, *The New York Times*, Feb. 12, 2026

Forty years ago, when my oldest son was born, our family flew to Florida to introduce our new baby to my parents. Our baby, Benjamin, was a beautiful little boy. This was a sweet moment for our family. But there was also a stunning moment of darkness and grief.

My father, Henry, who was then 70 years old, shared a picture with us. It had been taken two years before World War II. Henry was on a bicycle, and a young woman was sitting on the bike. It was a sweet moment in a park. I had never seen my father look so relaxed.

I didn't recognize the young woman in the photo. Her name was Alta Rosensweig. She was my father's first wife. They had a daughter named Bluma. It means flower. I was 35 and had never known about Alta and her baby. Henry shared that a friend who witnessed their deaths in Auschwitz shared the story of their murders. An SS guard had selected the baby to die and wanted Alta to live as a slave. Alta objected and carried Bluma into the gas chamber where they died together.

The war had ended 40 years before he showed me the photo. I believe that my father was triggered to share this relationship and trauma because I had what he had lost...a wife and child. He had often shared comments about his suffering in Buchenwald where he spent five years as a slave.

Henry taught his children to be proud to be descendants of slaves. We were expected to contribute to the wellbeing of the community. We were to recognize that we were no better than anyone else. My father's tears at this moment of revelation were stunning. The trauma, grief and anger were testimony of the pain that was still alive in his heart.

Henry met my mother, Rachel, after the war. They spent

four years in a Displaced Persons' Camp in Landsberg, Germany. They were allowed to enter the United States in 1949. I was born in 1950.

My sisters and I were fortunate to grow up in an era of hope and strength in the USA. Despite the political challenges of that era, we witnessed a country that was progressing and moving towards justice. While our parents struggled with PTSD and OCD, they also provided us with safety, education and the capacity to love. We became resilient as we faced the vicarious traumatization that our parents could not help sharing.

But now, as a man of 75, I am stunned that our country, the bastion of freedom that we were taught to love and wished only to serve, is building concentration camps to detain immigrants as they seek to expel them. No, it's not yet as horrible as the behavior of the Nazis. But separating children from parents, repeating the mistakes made regarding internment of the Japanese American citizens during World War II and forcing Native American children into Indian boarding schools where they were often mistreated (and sometimes killed) does not merit repetition.

We can and should be better than this. We don't need "others" as scapegoats. We are a country where rule of law and common sense and decency are possible. We have the capacity to be humane even as we seek more secure borders.

My granddaughters are named Ivory Rose and Violet. Children who are named for flowers need fertile ground on which to grow. Our country needs to nurture our society with compassion. We need to be humane.

We need to learn from the mistakes of the past, not relive them.

*David Fuks is an actor and playwright in Portland. He is a member of the Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education Speaker's Bureau. [davidhfuks.com](http://davidhfuks.com).*

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## Robison Foundation launches follow-up survey; open through Mar. 15

*Robison Foundation for Jewish Elders*

The Robison Foundation for Jewish Elders has launched a follow-up community survey aimed at gaining deeper insight into the evolving needs of Jewish older adults and their caregivers. This survey differs from the one you may have done in the winter. The

survey explores key areas including access to services, social connection and isolation, transportation and mobility, financial security, cultural and spiritual engagement and caregiver support.

Your input will help guide funding for programs and services that support Jewish older adults in our community.

Please complete the confidential survey by Mar. 15. It takes five to eight minutes. All responses will remain confidential, and findings will be shared in a summary report later this year.

To participate, visit <https://tinyurl.com/ElderVoicesStudy>.

**Free online subscription: [jewishportland.org/subscribe](http://jewishportland.org/subscribe)**

# The future of sustainable energy

By RIPUDAMAN MALHOTRA

The climate crisis is essentially an energy crisis. Climate change is happening because of humanity's need for energy. Consumption of energy is essential for our survival, and currently about 80 percent of energy is obtained by burning fossil fuels. Use of fossil energy has lifted billions out of abject poverty, raised life expectancy, reduced infant mortality, and overall improved the standard of living, although it's the use of fossil fuels that is largely responsible for the climate crisis we are facing today. This creates a tension between two principles of the Torah: Tikkun Olam (world repair) and Tzedek Hillel (social justice). Navigating between these requires careful consideration of the scale of the challenge. The tradeoffs of proposed solutions warrant a fresh look at technologies such as nuclear power, enhanced geothermal and ocean-restoration. They all hold the po-

tential of substantially reducing the risk of the climate crisis although the latter two technologies have not yet been deployed at a significant scale.

Over three billion people worldwide still lack adequate energy access. In many low-energy countries, women and girls often cook with firewood and animal dung, which harms their health. Providing gas stoves and LPG cylinders could greatly improve their lives. There is a compelling need for doubling global energy production so everyone can lead healthy, productive lives. Of course, that would entail expanding the production of oil and gas resources. Many climate activists are urging governments to divest from oil and gas companies. I wonder if they realize that by their actions, they are inadvertently contributing to ongoing energy poverty.

Climate activists clamoring for 100

percent renewables like wind and solar point to the dramatic drop in the cost of installation. However, these intermittent energy sources have large environmental footprints, and if expanded to meet global energy needs would entail encroaching vast natural habitats. They generate electricity only when the sun shines or the wind blows and have short lifetimes, which translates into a high need for commodities like copper, steel, and concrete, on a per-unit-of-energy-produced basis. Add to it the cost of integrating them into the grid, and we can see why customers in jurisdictions with a high proportion of renewables pay more for their electricity.

Nuclear power has been a safe, reliable clean energy source for decades, but large-scale adoption takes time. Switching from coal or firewood to gas can reduce emissions quickly while nu-

See **CLIMATE**, page 18

## SECURITY (continued from page 14)

Another option is to store all your passwords on your phone or laptop "keychain", even if you don't access all the websites on your phone or computer. It becomes a single stop for password and account storage, so if you pass unexpectedly and a family member has access to your phone or computer, they can get into all your accounts, making things easier for those who will need to administer your estate.

Companies and websites track everything we do online, even more so than governments. Every ad, social network button, and website collects information about your location, browsing habits, and more. To prevent some of that collection, I've installed [ghostery.com](https://ghostery.com) on my laptop. Ghostery is a free tracker and advertisement

blocker that prevents access to my browsing habits. While I don't think this is a major safety or security issue, it's amazing to see how many trackers are working behind the scenes as I surf the web.

Lastly, our phones are with us almost everywhere we go. Most phone application default settings are set to track your location. Take some time to go through each of your app settings and turn off your location for everything that doesn't need to know where you are. Yes, Apple and Google maps need it, but Spotify, Reddit, Amazon, and a lot of others don't need to. Consider doing the same for your 'microphone' setting as well and ensure the iPhone setting "Allow Apps to Request to Track" is toggled off. I would also argue that not everyone needs

access to all your photos. Anything you let an application have access to, you can be sure they are using it for something.

None of these things I've listed above are going to dramatically change your life. What I like is that in a world where there's a lot I can't control, there are a few things I can do. It's kind of like safety and security training (see how I slid that in there?!). If you'd like to join one of my online safety and security courses, please see my security page on the JFGP website: <https://jewishportland.org/security>

### Personal Security Consultations

As challenging days creep on, I often find myself speaking with individual community members who are struggling to feel secure,

are anxious or angry about what they see in the news, concerned about family members (particularly children in school and on college campuses), struggling in work situations and various other issues. The range of concerns is quite varied and often simply talking with someone who provides a professional perspective can be immensely reassuring. Additionally, my goal would be that together we develop some concrete steps or actions you can take which help you navigate your situation. If you have safety or security concerns in your personal or professional life, I'm always available to meet with you confidentially. Please reach out at [jander-son@securecommunitynetwork.org](mailto:jander-son@securecommunitynetwork.org) or cell phone 872-273-9214.

## CLIMATE

(continued from page 17)

clear capacity expands and other promising technologies mature. High costs for nuclear power in the USA stem from a long hiatus in construction, often driven by misguided concerns over their safety. In China and South Korea rapid development has lowered the costs. I hope the recent interest by AI companies for powering their data centers with nuclear power provides the necessary impetus to revitalize this clean energy source for wider benefit.

*Ripudaman Malhotra, a member of the Jewish Community Relations Council's Climate Action Committee, is the co-author of "A Cubic Mile of Oil" and a fellow of the American Chemical Society. Read more at [cmo-ripu.blogspot.com](http://cmo-ripu.blogspot.com)*

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*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).*

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## Horenstein headlines OJCYF gala

*Oregon Jewish Community Foundation*

The Oregon Jewish Community Youth Foundation invites the community to its signature annual benefit dinner, celebrating youth led philanthropy and the leadership of Jewish teens.

The 2026 Benefit Dinner, An Evening in Tel Aviv, will take place on Thursday, April 16, from 5:30pm–8:30pm pm at the Mittleman Jewish Community Center. Planned and led by Jewish high school students, the evening will showcase how the youth board is addressing antisemitism and homelessness through thoughtful, values driven grantmaking.

The evening's keynote speaker, Dorice Horenstein—Positive Intelligence Expert,

Motivational Leadership & Resilience Keynote Speaker & Trainer, and author—will draw on Jewish wisdom and values in her talk, From Identity to Impact: The Journey of Choice, Belonging, and Leadership.

OJCYF teens are partnering with Blanchet House to collect urgently needed items including new adult underwear, sweatpants, and basic hygiene supplies. A collection bin is available at the Eastside Jewish Commons, with additional donations accepted at the benefit dinner.

Tickets are on sale now at [ojcf.org](http://ojcf.org). For more information, contact Susan Berniker, Collaborative Giving Director, at [susanb@ojcf.org](mailto:susanb@ojcf.org) or 503 248 9328.

## HCAAT film series continues Mar. 29

*Havurah Shalom*

Join Havurah Shalom's Climate Action Team, Rumble on the River and other community partners as we continue the Earth Justice Film Series-Stories to Inspire with the showing of "Stewart Udall and the Politics of Beauty" Sunday, Mar. 29 at 3 pm. Doors open at 2:30 pm for people to connect with tabling community organizations. A discussion with the filmmaker follows the showing of the film.

"Stewart Udall and the Politics of Beauty" is a documentary that examines the trajectory of Udall's life from his childhood to his years as Secretary of the Interior and beyond. The program introduces us to the birth pangs of modern environmental politics. We see the relevance of his concerns—he was the first public official to speak out about global warming, for example—to our current day crises. In our angry, polarized time, Americans are looking for positive inspiration. The story of Stewart Udall delivers inspiration

and more.

After the documentary, the film's director and writer John DeGraaf will speak and answer questions. De Graaf has been producing and directing PBS documentaries for 43 years. He spent 31 years at KCTS, the Seattle PBS affiliate. Fifteen of his programs have been broadcast nationally in primetime on PBS, including his 1997 hit special, Affluenza.

With many crises roiling our world these days, and many of us working hard in response, this series enables us to gather in community to be uplifted by stories of people making a difference, and to connect with others who share our concerns and determination to work for a better future. Our goal is for these films to give us hope and inspiration to make a difference.

For details about the film series go to: <https://linktr.ee/earthjusticefilms>

Popcorn will be served. The event is free. Register at <https://www.havurahshalom.org/event/ip-hcat-film-series-2.html>

## OJCF scholarship applications open through Mar. 31

*Oregon Jewish Community Foundation*

The Oregon Jewish Community Foundation reminds the community that applications are currently being accepted for its Higher Education Scholarships, with a deadline of March 31, 2026. These scholarships support Jewish residents pursuing formal post-secondary education.

OJCF's scholarship funds—including the Diamond, Goldschmidt Hillel, Krichevsky, Reynolds, Rosenblatt, Simon, Singer, and Tarshis Funds—offer both needs-based and merit-based assistance for students pursuing academic, vocational, or Jewish educational opportunities. Applicants complete a single application to be considered

for all eligible OJCF scholarship funds.

Eligible applicants must be Jewish residents of Oregon and, for certain funds, SW Washington. Full scholarship details and application materials are available on the OJCF [website](http://www.ojcf.org). For questions, contact Susan Berniker, Collaborative Giving Director, at [susanb@ojcf.org](mailto:susanb@ojcf.org) or 503 248 9328.

# THE SPELL

**A SPELLING BEE EVOLVED.**  
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## Obituaries

Submit obituaries to The Jewish Review's online form at [form.jotform.com/JFGP/jr-obituary](http://form.jotform.com/JFGP/jr-obituary)

### CELINA HOOGERHUIS KOENE

Our beloved matriarch, Celina Hoogerhuis Koene, z"l, passed away Thursday, Feb. 12, 2026.

She leaves her family with an incredible legacy. Her story of surviving the Holocaust and the devastation of Holland during WW 2 did not diminish her spirit or leave her bitter. With our amazing father, Adriaan, they created a life in America for their children that was far better than what they had been given. She was feisty, brave, a maker, loved nature, played a mean game of dominoes and could sniff out a Dutch person within 50 miles. She was first and foremost an Amsterdammer. She will be missed.

She is survived by children Peter (Kathleen) Hoogerhuis, Erik (Beth) Hoogerhuis and Inge Hoogerhuis (Sandra Lewis), grandchildren Mara (Sean) Glass, Katya Hoogerhuis (Ben Ginsberg), Case Hoogerhuis (Sarah Meirs), Marijke Hoogerhuis and August Lewis-Hoogerhuis (Ermanno Degli) and great grandchildren Audrey Glass, Danny Ginsberg and Adriaan Hoogerhuis.

A celebration of life was held Friday, February 20 at Cherrywood Senior Living Village in Portland. Donations can be made to the Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education.

### ED NEUWELT

Ed Neuwelt, z"l, died at age 77 on Feb. 10, 2026.

He never graduated high school, nor college, and as his father said, "finally got a degree" when he graduated magna cum laude from Medical School at age 22. He came to Portland in 1980 and joined the faculty in the department of Neurosurgery at OHSU. He later joined the Department of Neurology. Ed spent his career in patient care, teaching and research, specializing in the treatment of brain tumors and CNS lymphoma. His research resulted in FDA approval for his procedure to prevent hearing loss in children receiving chemotherapy, and for a contrast agent diagnosing tumors clearly in an MRI.

His greatest satisfaction was teaching; he enabled many medical students from Puerto Rico to receive mentorships at OHSU; they all stayed at his house. Medical school graduates came from all over the world to study with him. Some

settled in Portland, some went back to their native countries of Honduras, Hungary, Israel and Poland.

His greatest satisfaction, however, came from spending time with his family. He spent many years as camp doctor at BB Camp when his children attended; always in the company of his dog Arthur. He drove his kids to school, coming home after rounds, and then going back to work. When his middle daughter in medical school was stressed during exam time, he flew to Puerto Rico just to take her out to dinner, give her a hug, and fly back to Oregon the next day.

He loved his weekly jogs with his close friends, Jimmy and Ricky Rosenbaum.

We remember when he, with the help of Linda and Gary Singer, managed to bring the remaining stock after his father retired from his fabric store in Indiana to Portland, and organized a sale in the warehouse of Bob Ginsberg. The sale resulted in raising funds that enabled the building of the "soccer and gymnastic bubble" of our MJCC.

Ed is survived by his wife Jill, children Jennifer, Simone and Sasha, and five grandchildren.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Donations in Ed's memory can be made to BB Camp.

He was grateful for the moral and financial support that Bob and Rita Philip offered his research.

A life well lived. We miss him.

### ROBERTA WEISS

Congregation Kesser Israel is saddened to announce the passing of Roberta Weiss, z"l, beloved grandmother of Britni Weiss-Alsdorf, on Wednesday, Feb. 18, at the age of 85. The funeral and burial were private.

### VICKI FROLICH

With sadness, we regret to announce the passing of Vicki Frolich, z"l, beloved sister of Adele Epstein (Aronson), sister-in-law of Sheldon Aronson, and aunt of Elana Aronson and Rabbi Sammy Aronson. Mrs. Frolich, 75, was killed in a traffic accident on Feb. 23 while visiting New Zealand with family members. The burial took place in Jerusalem on Mar. 4. She is survived by her husband, Dr. Harold Frolich, and their children, Aaron Frolich, Levi Frolich, Talia Katchen, Devra Fantl, and their families.

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