

March 15, 2023/Adar 22, 5783 Volume 58, Issue 6



Mother's Bistro will be cooking up matzah ball soup along with other Pesach favorites throughout the holiday.

Restaurants & caterers offer seder essentials

BY KERRY POLITZER

It's hard to believe that spring is almost here. If the season of seders has caught you by surprise, don't stress about preparing the large family meal – these restaurants have got you covered. And if time doesn't permit you to set the table, you might even opt to dine out.

The acclaimed Kachka (960 SE 11th Ave., 503-235-0059, kachkapdx.com), which specializes in the cuisine of the former Soviet Union, offers both options. Not only will the restaurant be offering a special seder dinner at the end of Passover on April 12, the deli

See PASSOVER FOOD, page 8



Israel bound at last!



Above from left, Jewish Federation of Greater Portland President and CEO Marc Blattner and Lead Trip Coordinator Caron Blau Rothstein join PDX>>Israel 2023 co-chairs Priscilla and Tony Kostiner and Kathy David-Weiner and Michael Weiner in cheering for the long-delayed departure of the Jewish Federation's community trip to Israel. Originally planned for the Federation's 100th birthday in 2020, the pandemic-delayed trip will take 200 people from the Portland area on the Israel at 75 Community Trip to Israel March 20-28, 2023.

Below, trip participants pick up their swag – including a T-shirt, trip guide book, luggage tags and electrical adapters – at the March 5 orientation meeting at the Mittleman Jewish Community Center. "We want you to get to know and love Israel, but it's also an opportunity to get to know your community's story. There's 200 of us; talk to each other," Caron told the excited gathering. The intergenerational trip includes people from 5 to 85, with more than half visiting Israel for the first time.



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Agency Spotlight

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



Participants in the current (ninth) cohort of Tivnu enjoy a hike in Olympic National Park. In addition to social action internships, gap year participants get to experience the beauty of the Pacific Northwest.

TIVNU: Building Justice

tivnu.org | 503-673-3644 | leanna@tivnu.org

Area of service: Social Justice | **2022 Allocation:** \$14,400

MISSION: Tivnu's signature program is its nine-month gap year program, designed to connect participants Jewish life and social justice through individualized internships as they create a home together in Portland. Tivnu hosts shorter programs for day schools, synagogues and youth groups.

Steve Eisenbach-Budner founded Tivnu in 2014 to give participants (ages 17-20) experience with hands-on grassroots work, communal living and outdoor adventure while exploring links between Jewish life and social justice.

Participants spend four days a week at an internship tailored to their passions and the needs of partner organizations. Internships include immigrant rights advocacy at organizations such as Innovation Law Lab, mentorship for LGBTQ kids through Big Brothers Big Sisters, and construction at Portland's tiny house communities and Safe Rest Villages. New internships this year included the gardens at NAYA (Native American Youth and Family Center), post-incarceration addiction treatment at Men's Residential Center, and Gallery Go Go, featuring artists from marginalized communities. Tivnu invites other local social change organizations to connect about potential internships next year.

Almost all Tivnu participants engage in construction as part of their experience. "My favorite thing about coaching Tivnu construction is helping young people become fluent with power tools and see how useful and exhilarating it can be to deploy these sorts of tools," says Tivnu Construction Coach Erik Brakstad. "There's no substitute for the confidence you get from seeing your work rise up from the ground to the rooftop."

In addition, as Eisenbach-Budner points out, "a big piece of the program is learning tangible life skills such as budgeting, cooking and working as a group." Plus, he says, "the program takes advantage of camping, hiking, rafting and exploring the beautiful Pacific Northwest."

Funding from the Jewish Federation and private donors is important to maintain Tivnu's engagement with local organizations and commitment to never turn away qualified applicants for financial reasons.

Program Director Adinah Miller oversees a rich curriculum of learning, engaging with a variety of social justice topics examined through local, national and Jewish lenses.

"Tivnu attracts participants from all parts of the Jewish world, from traditionally committed to radically innovative," she says. "They live together, work together and play together while growing in their commitments. We're not looking for one kind of Judaism that can serve everyone; we're helping our participants create a lifestyle of passion and dedication that uplifts all kinds of Jewish expression."

Tivnu will hold a Gap Year Info Session at 5 pm, March 21, on Zoom. You can [sign up](#) on the Tivnu website.

For more information, to volunteer or to suggest potential internship partners, email Tivnu Outreach Coordinator Leanna Parsons at leanna@tivnu.org.

Working together for vibrant future

The Oregon Jewish Community Foundation hosted representatives from 15 of its 32 partner organizations on March 8 to share the ways the Foundation is a resource to help them sustain a vibrant Jewish community in Oregon and Southwest Washington.

"This is a wonderful community with a lot of dedicated people," said OJCF President and CEO David



Forman. "The Foundation is a resource to help them fulfill their missions."

Forman said the partner summit was convened because "over

the past year, the Foundation has received similar requests from all our organizations for information," said Forman. "This is the start of the conversation. We are happy to meet for one-on-one conversations."

Forman thanked the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland for being a great partner. "Our two organizations work collaboratively and innovatively together."

"None of us can predict with any certainty what this community will look like for our grandchildren. Our work is to give them the resources to take over. The work you all do paves the way for the future of our community."

"OJCF is the charitable investment trust of our community, but we can do more than that. We can be a resource for you, your donors and your members." Forman said the summit was designed to "help create institutional knowledge within organizations – to embed in your organization how we work and how we work with you."

Foundation staff and lay leaders then took turns explaining the various services and resources OJCF can provide partner organizations.

Mia Birk is both an OJCF Board member and the treasurer of Eastside Jewish Commons, a partner organization. She spoke about the ways EJC as a young organization has relied on the Foundation for many resources.

As a young emerging organization, EJC relied on the Foundation to act as a bank, process donations, provide money management resources and access to programs, and help with complex donations. In addition, she said EJC appreciates that the fees they pay to OJCF "go back into our community."

Staffers spoke about the Foundation's ability to provide donor education, technical philanthropy expertise, help with grant requests and other financial expertise. The Foundation also offers a variety of groups to build the next generation of donors including the Oregon Jewish Community Youth Foundation, the B'nai Tzedek Fund and Program for teens, a Young Adult Giving Council (which was on hiatus during Covid), and a new intergenerational pilot project Opening the Dor to bring seniors and high school students together.

ISRAEL AT 75: IDENTITY CRISIS

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19
7:00 TO 8:30 PM**

**CONGREGATION NEVEH SHALOM
2900 SW PEACEFUL LANE
PORTLAND, OR 97239**



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KLEIN HALEVI**

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Pianist Rustan Sirota



Rustan Sirota

**APRIL 30,
2023
7:00 PM**

**CELEBRATING
ISRAEL AT 75**

TICKETS GOING FAST!

**PATRICIA RESER CENTER FOR THE ARTS
12625 SW CRESCENT ST
BEAVERTON, OR 97005**

TICKETS \$18-\$36
(\$4 SERVICE CHARGE PER TICKET)



TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THERESER.ORG OR
AT THE RESER CENTER BOX OFFICE

Oregonian's musical journey continues in Mexico

Oregon native Louis Robert Shapiro Olenick will perform the Concerto for Tenor Trombone at Teatro Principal, in Guanajuato, Mexico, on March 24. The concert will be recorded and available to view on facebook.com/orquestasinfonicaUG beginning the next day.

Louis is the son of Amy Shapiro, a musician and music teacher, and Dr. Jeffrey Olenick, a family doctor, musician and composer, who composed the concerto for Louis. Louis grew up performing music and theater with his parents in Portland's Jewish community. He is now the Principal Trombone for Orquesta Sinfónica de la Universidad de Guanajuato in Mexico.

Jeff composed the concerto after he and Amy watched Louis perform the Grondahl Trombone Concerto in concert with the orchestra in 2018. At a dinner after the concert, Amy commented that there were very few trombone concertos. Jeff began writing his Concerto for Tenor Trombone immediately after returning home to Beaverton.

OSUG Music Director Roberto Beltrán Zavala scheduled the concerto for a concert that will also include pieces by Dvorak and Schumann. Amy and Jeff will again be in the audience.

Jeff has played in a number of community orchestras, including the Hillsboro Symphony Orchestra, which has performed many of his compositions and arrangements.

Since moving to Beaverton in 1982, Amy and Jeff have volunteered to lead seders



Oregon native Louis Olenick performs in Brescia, Italy, in 2017. In Mexico on March 24, he will perform a trombone concerto composed by his father, Dr. Jeffrey Olenick.

and services at Cedar Sinai Park and other locales. They were among the co-hosts of "The Yiddish Hour" on KBOO for 21 years. Jeff wrote a musical drama about native Americans and Jews called "The Egg Eaters," which Amy and Louis performed

in along with Ari Shapiro and Nili Schiffman. The family also performed in "From the Borscht Belt to Broadway" at the Mittleman Jewish Community Center, where they also did many concerts over the years. In 2021, the state adopted Amy's revised lyrics for the Oregon state song (see jewishportland.org/jewishreview/jr-stories/state-song-gets-new-lyrics.)

Amy was Louis' first music teacher at Circle of Life Preschool and later at Portland Jewish Academy. She also taught music at Congregations Shaarie Torah and Beth Israel. Even before that, she exposed Louis to music and Spanish.

"When I was pregnant with Louie and after he was born, I was working at Un Lugar Para los Niños/A Child's Place, in Hillsboro, a daycare for Mexican immigrant children," says Amy. "I spoke and sang in Spanish with the kids and teachers and parents. Louie heard Spanish in utero and in early childhood."

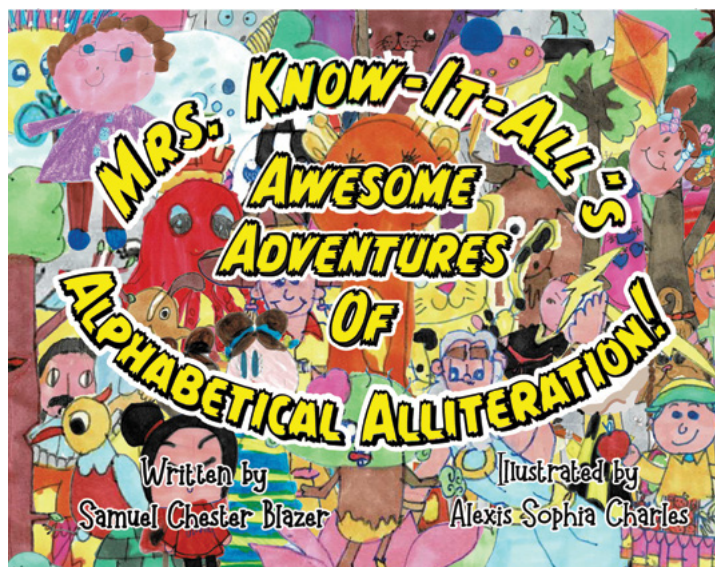
Louis started playing trombone at Whitford Middle School in Beaverton. In 2003 as a senior at Southridge High School in Beaverton, Louis won the State Solo Trombone Competition. He graduated from the University of Oregon in 2007 with a degree in music and then pursued his master's degree in Trombone Performance at Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill., with Professor Mick Mulcahy of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. He had a few other jobs before joining the professional symphony orchestra in Guanajuato, Mexico.

Portland siblings create fun book for kids, families

Mrs. Know-It-All's Awesome Adventures of Alphabetical Alliteration by two Portland Jewish Academy students was published Feb. 21, 2023, by Banana Stand Books.

The book of alliterative poems, by children for children, started out as a Covid project to occupy the time and energy of the then 10- and 7-year-old, but it grew into something much more. The author's and illustrator's creativity and imagination resulted in pure, innocent, silly fun for the whole family with no messaging or agenda.

The book's introduction notes, "Mrs. Know-It-All is an Adult Prodigy. She is an Alphabetologist, who received her degree from the Amazingly Awesome Academy of Alliteration. She can't wait to take you on an unbelievable (literally) adventure across the entire alphabetical realm, where you 4 Jewish Review March 15, 2023



will meet everyone from A to Z!"

Now 14 and 10, the siblings chose pen names for their last names.

Samuel Chester Blazer has always enjoyed writing poetry, but this is his first

book. He is an eighth-grader at PJA, where he studies hard and enjoys watching and playing basketball even harder. Alexis Sophia Charles, Samuel's sister, has illustrated numerous notebooks, pieces of paper and napkins, but this is her first professional compilation of illustrations. She is a fifth-grader at PJA, where in addition to drawing, she enjoys swimming and dancing.

Banana Stand Books in Hillsboro is a children's book publisher specializing in kid lit: for kids, by kids. The book is available online from Amazon, Barnes & Noble and other booksellers. The 72-page hardcover edition is \$28.95; it is also on Kindle for \$9.99.

You can learn more about the book on [@Mrs.KnowItAllIII](https://www.instagram.com/Mrs.KnowItAllIII) and at www.mrsknowitalll.com.

Free Sunday Zoom shows of "Out Loud"

The Braid presents the daring stories of the Jewish LGBTQIA+ Community in its latest theater show "Out Loud."

The Jewish Federation of Greater Portland is once again sponsoring complimentary tickets to Braid Zoom performances. See real life experiences brought to life by professional actors at 11 am, March 19, or 4 pm, March 26.

Earlier this year, the Jewish Federation presented The Braid production of stories from the children and grandchildren of Holocaust survivors to rave reviews.

After that show one viewer wrote: "Thank you for sponsoring this. I ... was overwhelmed by the actors, the music and the great stories they shared. This was a great way to hear so many truths about the generations after the survivors of the Shoah. The Q&A with the actors and writers was very insightful."

The new show will offer the same insights into Jews struggling to be themselves in today's world. Celebrate the Jewish queer community through stories that explore the beauty of love and the power of finding one's place in the world.

The Braid, formerly Jewish Women's Theatre, is the go-to Jewish story company and leading nonprofit creating, curating, producing and preserving stories grounded in Jewish culture and experience. The Braid is committed to giving voice to Jewish stories that haven't been heard, whether those are stories by women, Jews of color or Jews from other diverse backgrounds.



To get your complimentary ticket: Go to the-braid.org. Click on the Out Loud image (above) and click BUY under "Live on Zoom." Fill out each page of the form till you get to select delivery options page and then click on box that says: "If you have a discount code, please enter it." Enter: portlandjf2 and hit the APPLY button; the ticket price will change to \$0. Click next and fill out the remainder of the form.

You'll receive the Zoom link two days before the performance and again two hours before from susie@the-braid.org.



An opening reception on March 2 drew about 25 people to view the photographic exhibition "Humans of Israel" now on display at the Mittleman Jewish Community Center.



MJCC debuts Humans of Israel

The Humans of Israel exhibition offers a fresh look at the rich and remarkably diverse lives of Israelis and showcases Israel's diversity, multiculturalism and vibrant civil society. Photographer Erez Kaganovitz combines photojournalism with digital storytelling for the exhibit.

Humans of Israel will be on display in the Mittleman Jewish Community Center lobby from March through at least mid-May and around Portland for the next year. On May 9, Kaganovitz will be in Portland as the keynote speaker at the MJCC's Community Celebration.

The opening reception was held on Thursday, March 2, at the MJCC. The photographs will be on exhibit at the MJCC until after the Community Celebration on May 9.

"We loved seeing our very diverse family," says Priscilla Kostiner, whose family fund helped bring the exhibit to Portland.

The exhibit is made possible by a number of organizations and individuals including: 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. Additional support was provided by Fred and Sara Harwin, the Kostiner Cultural Education Fund and Jeff Reingold, Income Property Management.

"As a member of the Israel360 Committee, I am very pleased that we have been able to co-sponsor Erez Kaganovitz's photography exhibit, which is supported by human stories, and his presentation Humans of Israel," says Cheryl Livneh. "The photos and stories capture the diversity of people in Israel – Orthodox Jews, Muslims, Christians, asylum seekers – who come from all types of backgrounds – Ashkenazi, Mizrahi, American, Russian, and French Jews. I hope you will join us for a unique view of Israel and its people."

A portion of the exhibit is on display at Cedar Sinai Park, with a reception to be announced. The MJCC will also share excerpts from the exhibit at Neveh Shalom and the Eastside Jewish Commons.

The MJCC will have access to the photos until March 2024. If you have additional ideas for locations to exhibit these striking photographs, contact Saul Korin at 503-452-3427 or skorin@oregonjcc.org.

Tickets available for "Curtains Up!" gala

Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education will again welcome guests to gather in person for its "Curtains Up! Gala 2023" on Sunday, April 23, at the Mittleman Jewish Community Center.

The museum's board members and professional team invite the community to join in celebrating OJMCH's evolution. The gala is the big reveal of all the grand changes ahead for the museum.

The evening starts with a cocktail reception at 5:30 followed by dinner and the evening's program, which will include an opportunity to show your support for OJMCH. Invitations will arrive in mailboxes in mid-March. Along with the standard \$110 per person ticket, there is a special 40 and under ticket for \$55. Tickets can be purchased at ojm.tofinoauctions.com/curtainssup/register/ticket_sales

Day Camp Roundup



BB DAY CAMPS

BEND, CORVALLIS, EUGENE, LINCOLN CITY

Hosting organization: B'nai B'rith Camp, bbcamp.org

Contact: Sammie Hagen, 503-496-7450, shagen@bbcamp.org, bbcamp.org/day-camps/

Grades: K-10th grades (Special Leadership and CIT programs for grades 7-10)

Session Dates:

BB Day Camp Bend, hosted at Shalom Bayit: Aug. 21-Sept. 2, weekly

BB Day Camp Corvallis, hosted at Beit Am: Aug. 7-25, weekly

BB Day Camp Eugene, hosted at Temple Beth Israel: July 24-Aug. 4, weekly

BB Day Camp Lincoln City, hosted at BB Camp: June 26-Aug. 11, weekly

Time: 9 am-3:30 pm

Cost: Per session: \$360/week for Bend, Corvallis and Eugene; \$225/week for Lincoln City, financial aid available.

Description: At BB Day Camps, your camper will make new friends while exploring their Judaism in a fun, creative and active camp setting. Each week, campers will discover arts and crafts, hands-on science, cooking and baking, games, outdoor adventure and more.

BB DAY CAMPS PORTLAND

Locations: Congregation Neveh Shalom and Congregation Shaarie Torah

Hosting organization: B'nai B'rith Camp, bbcamp.org

Contact: Abby Evonuk, 503-496-7447, aevonuk@bbcamp.org, bbcamp.org/portland/

Grades: Incoming kindergarteners to 10th-graders

Dates: Monday through Friday, June 26-Aug. 18

Times: 9 am-3:30 pm, extended care available 8 am-5 pm

Cost: \$360 per week, financial aid available.

Description: At BB Day Camps Portland, your camper will make



new friends while exploring their Judaism in a fun, creative and inclusive camp setting! Each week, campers will discover arts and crafts, hands-on science, cooking and baking, gaga, outdoor adventure and more.



CAMP GAN ISRAEL, CLARK COUNTY

Contact: Tzivie Greenberg, 360-993-5222

info@jewishclarkcounty.com

jewishvancouverwa.com/camp-gan-israel

Location: Chabad Jewish Center, 9604 NE 126th Ave, Suite 2340, Vancouver, WA 98682

Ages: 5-12

Dates & Times: July 31-Aug 18, 9 am-3 pm

Cost: \$265 (one week)/\$530 (two weeks)/\$750 (three weeks).

Description: Choose 1, 2 or 3 weeks at Camp Gan for fun and exciting field trips, sports, science experiments, swimming, cooking and Shabbat parties. Judaic themes are taught through fun activities, stories, songs and games.

CAMP GAN ISRAEL, EASTSIDE

Contact: Mushka Wilhelm, Mushka@Jewishnortheast.com

971-302-9395 | Jewishnortheast.com/campganizzy

Ages: 5-12

Dates & Times: June 26-July 14, 9 am-3 pm

Cost: \$350 per week; 10% discount before March 31.

Description: Camp Gan Israel is dedicated to enriching the lives of children from diverse Jewish backgrounds and affiliations through a stimulating camping experience. CGI is part of a growing network of day camps, enjoying a reputation as a pioneer in Jewish camping, with innovative ideas and creative activities, to both provide enjoyment and inspire children to try new and exciting things.



DAY CAMP ROUNDUP continued on next page

Israeli basketball legend speaks at MJCC

BY ADINA MORGAN

Growing up in Trenton, N.J., Tal Brody dreamed of playing basketball for the NBA. He finally got his chance. After rising through the ranks in high school and college, Brody – then 22 – got picked 12th by the Baltimore Bullets, now the Washington Wizards, in the 1965 NBA draft.

Astoundingly, he said no and instead spent the next year playing for Maccabi Tel Aviv, then the best team in Israel but virtually unknown anywhere else.

“As a kid, I never in my wildest dreams would have imagined I’d give up the opportunity to play in the NBA,” Brody, now 79, told a bagel-munching crowd on Feb. 22 at the Mittleman Jewish Community Center. The Jewish National Fund sponsored the program, which was called “Breakfast with Mr. Basketball.”

The turning point, he said, came earlier that year while playing for the American team at the 1965 Maccabiah Games, often called the Jewish Olympics.

“There weren’t just athletes from all over the world,” Brody recalled, “there were Jewish athletes speaking all these differ-

ent languages. There were get-togethers at ‘Maccabi village’ after the sporting events. As a young person, it was very appealing.”

What sealed the deal, Brody said, was a conversation with Noah Klieger, then president of Maccabi Tel Aviv, who approached him with an offer to play.

“As he was talking to me, I noticed that (Klieger) had a tattoo on his arm from a concentration camp and, as a young Jew, I knew what that was,” Brody said. “This Holocaust survivor was asking me to take just one year out of my life to play in Israel. Right then and there, I knew how important it would be for the country.”

The crowd laughed when he described how rough things were at first.

“When I moved there, it was very isolated,” he said. “We played on a tiled outdoor court, and sometimes we had to stop playing because of rain. There were no washing machines, so the uniforms had to be washed by hand and dried in the sun! There were no paved roads, so the bus ride to away games was very bumpy, and we would start the games with a headache.”

Brody also expressed his gratitude for the

Jewish National Fund.

“JNF was my life in Israel,” he said. “We didn’t have much, and they gave us a life there.”

It turned out to be a good decision. With Brody’s expertise, Maccabi Tel Aviv got through the first, second and third rounds of the league playoffs and finished second in the [FIBA European Cup Winners Cup Finals](#). Brody and Maccabi Tel Aviv went on to win 10 [Israeli League](#) championships and six [Israel State Cups](#). They defeated teams from Spain, Czechoslovakia and, eventually, the Soviet Union.

“Tal Brody is not known by many Americans, but he’s a superstar in Israel,” said Boaz Meir, who works for the JNF and considers him a friend.

As the young basketball star once said in a famous interview during a game, “We are on the map, and we will stay on the map, not only in sports but in everything.”

Adina Morgan is a writer, editor and content developer. She loves the arts, travel and the accessibility of Jewish culture in Portland. She lives in Sellwood with her husband and daughter.

Day Camp (continued from previous page)



MJCC SUMMER DAY CAMP

Day Camp Managers: Daylee Shaw and Holden Regnier
daycamp@oregonjcc.org | 971-254-8332 or 503-244-0111
oregonjcc.org/daycamp

Location: Mittleman Jewish Community Center, 6651 SW Capitol Hwy., Portland

Ages: 3-15

Dates: June 14-Sept. 1, 2023; camps available by week

Times: 9 am-4 pm (half days available some weeks); pre-care, 8-9 am; after-care: 4-5:30 pm

Cost: \$195-\$435 per week.

Description: Have an awesome summer at MJCC Day Camp! Our camp is imbued with a sense of joy, community, spirit and fun. Health + safety is our top priority. Enjoy quality, fun, age-appropriate programs including sports, cooking, Jewish culture, drama, nature and more. Campers create crafts, play games and do activities that revolve around each week’s theme. Flexible options 8 am-5:30 pm. Open to everyone.



PJA SUMMER DISCOVERY

Contact: Celinda Llanez, 503-244-0126 | cllanez@pjaproud.org
pjaproud.org/summer

Location: Portland Jewish Academy, 6651 SW Capitol Hwy., Portland

Ages: 4-15

Dates: July 10-Aug. 4, weekly sessions

Times: 9:15 am-1:15 pm; pre-care, 7:30 - 9:15 am; after-care, 1:15-5:30 pm

Cost: \$195-\$225 per week.

Description: Open to everyone! Explore your creativity, discover your talents, nurture your curiosity and broaden your horizons at PJA’s Summer Discovery Program. PJA offers enriching classes from experienced, professional teachers who are excited to teach topics and themes that inspire, with safety and security as a top priority. Explore Alicorns and Dragons, create a drama production, learn string arts, create 3-D models using Tinkercad, construct Lego sculptures and more.



Brisket will be on the menu at Kachka for both an end of Passover seder and in their deli for takeout.

Help ensure Passover for All

“Let all who are hungry come and eat” is not just a part of the Passover Haggadah – it is a community imperative.

Each Jewish community is obligated to ensure that *everyone* has the food they need to celebrate a joyous Passover, and for 20 years Portland’s Jewish community has stepped up to do just that. The Passover4All campaign will ensure that area families can truly celebrate Passover.

The campaign needs to raise \$8,500 to provide local families who would not otherwise be able to celebrate with the food they need to make a seder.

Buying, packing and delivering the seder essentials is coordinated by Michael Rosenberg and Jon Perrin of Congregation Kesser Israel and Sammy Monk of Jewish Family & Child Service. Monk coordinates the volunteers and works with JFCS program managers to identify clients who need a Passover food box.

Donate at jewishportland.org/passover4all23.

PASSOVER FOOD (continued from page 1)

upstairs will sell items for home seders throughout the holiday. You’ll be able to purchase house-made matzah and brisket by the pound. If you want to dine in, buy your tickets in mid-March.

Mother’s Bistro (121 SW Third Ave., 503-464-1122, mothersbistro.com) will not be doing a Passover seder this year. But owner/chef Lisa Schroeder will be cooking up matzah ball soup using her mother Belle’s recipe. Chopped liver, braised beef brisket and potatoes, flourless chocolate cake and matzoh brei (breakfast only) will be available for dine-in or takeout during Passover.

New Seasons Market (various locations; catering.newseasonsmarket.com) will have quite a selection of Passover goodies this year, most of which will be available for ordering on their website. In the prepared food section, you’ll find apple-raisin or leek-ricotta kugel, brisket braised with tomatoes, beet salad, tzimmes, chopped liver, grilled salmon and, of course, matzah ball soup. If you plan for more of a do-it-yourself affair, you can purchase grain-finished brisket, roasting chickens and leg of lamb in the meat section. The fish counter will sell a gefilte fish mix. Top it all off with a flourless Passover chocolate almond torte (only available for in-store purchase). Order March 14-April 5 with pickup April 5-9.

Some of the most exciting Passover dishes in town will come out of the Jacob and Sons kitchen (337 NW Broadway, 503-226-1400, jacobandsonspdx.com/passover-menu). Items will be available for pickup on April 4-6 from 9 am to 3 pm. You’ll be able to order the traditional seder plate as well as main courses such as spring leg of lamb, zaatar-crusted steelhead and whole roasted chicken. A full family seder consists of a roast chicken, salad, matzah ball soup, crispy potatoes with whipped schmaltz aioli, charoset, maror, faux chopped liver and a box of Shira’s Passover cookies, all of which are gluten free. The cookies include coconut macaroons, blackberry brownie bars, raspberry thumbprints, lemon bars and chocolate chip meringues.

The plant-based deli Ben and Esther’s (6912 NE Sandy Blvd., 503-477-5714, benandesthers.com) will be serving a vegan seder plate, substituting the traditional shank bone and egg with alternatives that are free of animal products. The deli will also offer

GROCERY RESOURCES

The Safeway on Barbur Boulevard has long been a central grocery address for kosher food. It features expanded kosher sections for wine, meat, cheese and frozen goods.

(See main story for New Seasons and Seattle Kosher.)

Others stores with more limited selections include other Safeway locations, Albertsons, Fred Meyer, Trader Joe’s and the Costco in Tigard.

macaroons and matzah bark.

For a convenient kosher seder, the online grocery Seattlekosher.com makes deliveries in Southwest Portland. Pickups also are available at two locations: Chabad of Northeast Portland, (3310 NE Shaver St.) and Chabad of Southwest Portland (6612 SW Capitol Hwy.). Click on the Passover foods link for a selection of meats, deli items, baked goods and more.

Another local kosher option is Kashrootz Catering (Kashrootzcatering@gmail.com, [instagram.com/kashrootzcatering](https://www.instagram.com/kashrootzcatering)), which offers Sunday pickups at Kesser Israel (6698 SW Capitol Hwy.). This year, you can preorder Passover salads, soups and ready-made dinners, which may be picked up on April 2.

Whether you prefer to dine out for Passover, prepare a home-cooked meal, or serve a hybrid of home-cooked and prepared foods, you’re sure to find what you need in Portland.



Matzah ball soup is on the menu at many restaurants, including this bowl being served up by Kashrootz Catering.

Jews Next Dor is back and so is young adult seder

Three years after Covid forced the cancellation of a community-wide young adult Passover seder, Jews Next Dor is collaborating with several other groups to present PDX Young Adult Seder (see box).

In 2020, about 100 young adults had signed up for the seder before the pandemic hit. It was the beginning of a nearly three-year hiatus for Jews Next Dor, a group for Jews in their 20s and 30s hosted by Congregation Beth Israel but open to all.

For the seder, JND is partnering with young adult groups Moishe Pod-West PDX, Moishe House Portland and OneTable; Mittleman Jewish Community Center; and Congregations Neveh Shalom and Shaarie Torah.

JND relaunched with monthly events in December. No membership or affiliation is necessary to participate in JND events.

“The goal for me is for JND to create community and have people in their 20s and 30s have a Jewish community in Portland,” says Shaina Zins, who coordinates Jews Next Dor and is CBI’s administrative assistant and religious school teacher. “I want people to feel connected to the Jewish community.”

Chelsea Ferguson, CBI Program Director, says JND is part of CBI’s efforts to build bridges and inroads for people at various stages of life. She describes the time between college and having kids as a time of life where many find it really hard to find Jewish connections.

“We work a lot to loosen any pressure of feeling they have to be a member of anything,” says Chelsea. “Connection and community are our goal.”

Both women emphasize the group is in “baby stages,” and they want it to evolve with input and leadership from participants. They hope it evolves from staff led to a spider web of connections with lay leaders connecting and participating.

“We’ve opened the door and let them help us lead what they are interested in,” says Chelsea.

For more information or to share ideas for programs, email shainaz@bethisrael-pdx.org or chelsea@bethisrael-pdx.org, or visit bethisrael-pdx.org/community/jnd or facebook.com/groups/jndpdx.

PDX Young Adult Seder

WHEN: 5 pm, Saturday, April 8

WHERE: Hosted at Congregation Beth Israel

WHAT: Join us for a festive meal and raise a glass (or four) with your fellow Portland-area Jews in their 20s and 30s. We’ll be telling the Exodus story with the tunes and traditions you remember, while reinventing the seder plate and introducing new traditions and ideas for the current times.

TICKETS: \$18 before March 17; \$25 thereafter

RSVP: bethisraelpdx.shulcloud.com/form/yaseder
(form closes at noon, March 23).



Jews Next Dor gathered 35 young adults to watch Congregation Beth Israel’s Purim Shpiel, after which most of the group walked to the nearby bar Pharmacy PDX to socialize.

Pardes honors Alicia Jo Rabins as distinguished alumni

Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies (pardes.org.il), a diverse Jewish learning community based in Jerusalem, honored Portland writer and musician Alicia Jo Rabins on March 7 as one of its 50 distinguished alumni in celebration of Pardes’ 50th anniversary.

“Our distinguished alumni are incredible leaders of Jewish life and learning, influencing people and shaping the Jewish world,” says Pardes President Leon Morris. “We’re highlighting 50 standout alumni ... (who) exemplify the rich texture of the Pardes community worldwide. They lead and create organizations and businesses of all kinds, they respond to humanitarian crises, write novels, educate at all levels, create works of art and so much more.”

Following are Rabins’ reflections on Pardes and her journey:

What did you do for the first time at Pardes?

About a million things! Pardes was my first time in an observant space, so it was my first time observing Shabbat, learning to read Hebrew (then Aramaic), studying Talmud, learning to daven, eventually learning to lead tefilla as well, learning *sofrit*...

Can you share a special Pardes memory?

I remember receiving my Hebrew name during women’s tefilla one morning and dancing around with fellow students, as well as teachers, to celebrate! I felt so touched that people would celebrate this moment with me.

What are you most proud of in your work?

I’m proud of bringing Jewish texts into art, with a lens of vulnerability and sensitivity, which is challenging in daily life, and

combining these to (I hope) create pleasure, beauty and catharsis for those who are looking for this experience. I’m also proud of my teaching, especially my b’nai mitzvah work with unaffiliated families, who often have complicated or negligible relationships with Judaism. It is a deep privilege to help them find an authentic way into the b’nai mitzvah ceremony, to hold space for that ceremony and hopefully through that process to create a personal connection between them and their tradition. And I’m proud to be part of the great midrashic process, combining Jewish text, ritual and art, and weaving all three together – especially through a feminist lens.

How does Pardes continue to affect you today?

I draw on what I learned at Pardes every single day, and every day I am grateful for the generosity, wisdom and kindness of my teachers there (and my fellow students, as well.) I entered Pardes with very little Jewish knowledge – the alphabet, some basic holiday observance, and what I learned for my bat mitzvah – and left after two years with an absolute wealth of knowledge and the tools to continue that for the rest of my life. I draw on what I learned there (and what Pardes empowered me to learn as I’ve continued my education) in my poetry and prose; my music, theater and film work; and of course, in my role as an independent Jewish educator and lecturer. I arrived as a feminist and a deep believer in progressive values and individual choice, and I am so grateful that at Pardes, I never felt I had to choose between these values and learning how to learn Torah.

Ukrainian family settles in to new home



Sara Safdie, left, is treated to Ukrainian pumpkin pie during a visit with (from left) Alex Kushnarov, Mila Kushnarova, and Daria and Eduard Levit.

Jewish community very important to family

BY SARA SAFDIE

On Jan. 28, 2023, the four humans and three cats in the Levit/Kushnarov family ended their nearly yearlong flight from war torn Ukraine to safety in Portland. (See related story on how Portlanders aided that journey.)

Sadly, their 18-year-old cat Vsevolod had to be put to sleep just a month after they arrived. Though the loss of their beloved cat was one more tragedy in a year filled with them, Eduard and Daria Levit, and Eduard's parents, Alex Kushnarov and Mila Kushnarova, are now settling into a new life with hopes for a bright future.

I interviewed the family after being served an incredible Ukrainian pumpkin pie (they love to share baked goods with guests). So, how is the family adjusting to their new circumstances?

Eduard is the spokesperson for the family.

What made you decide to come to Portland?

"It's a very beautiful place, a very calm place, a very beautiful nature place," says Eduard, noting he studied Portland on the internet before deciding. Knowing they would be welcomed by a strong Welcome Circle in the Jewish community was an important factor.

"A Jewish community here – that's very important," he says. "I like being Jewish and all things in the Jewish community." He adds it was not always easy being Jewish in Ukraine, "but it's my life."

How difficult was it to get here?

"It was very difficult because I grew up and lived my whole life in Kharkiv," he says. "When we went to another city, we understood it was the same and very dangerous."

Knowing Ukraine wasn't safe for his family or future children, they moved on to Poland.

Their flight to Portland was difficult because of their three cats. Also, it was only the second time his parents had flown. But they understood they "would be in a safe place with good people."

"Marc Blattner made everything (arrangements for the flights with the cats), and we had a good trip. Marc made a lot (possible) for our family, and it was an amazing job."

What did you think when you saw your new house?

"It was like my home. I thought I could now sleep. We had everything we needed. It was comfortable."

When I brought up the prepared foods from the CNS Chesed Committee, Eduard reiterated that having a strong Jewish community was very important to them. Asked about JFCS and Susan Greenberg, he replied that it was a big surprise when Susan came to give them cash and gift cards to local supermarkets.

"My mother and father cried," says Eduard. "In Ukraine, everyone has to help themselves, but here we got help from the Jewish community. I want to

Continued on next page

It takes a community

BY SARA SAFDIE

Seeing the television images of Russia's invasion of Ukraine Feb. 24, 2022, I desperately wanted to help the refugees pouring out of Ukraine, but there seemed nothing I could do other than donate money.

Then we learned that HIAS was forming "Welcome Circles" to help Ukrainians who had fled the war.

Congregation Neveh Shalom's Rabbi David Kosak and I spoke with a HIAS rabbi about establishing a Circle. Rabbi Kosak asked Rebecca Smetana and me to cochair the Circle. Rabbi Kosak has provided important help whenever needed as well as guidance and wisdom. The Circle grew to nine members, all CNS congregants, each one having specific responsibilities for the HIAS application.

We received HIAS certification in early September. In December, we met with the Levit/Kushnarov family on Zoom, along with their three cats. We started making arrangements to bring four Ukrainians to our Portland Jewish community. I want to thank everyone in our generous community who has made this possible.

CNS provided a way to let congregants know about this family and what they needed for their new home. The outpouring of donations was astonishing: new furniture including beds; new linens; new kitchen items; and other essentials. Danit Rothstein at Community Warehouse donated her time and its truck to deliver various items.

The family's new landlords, Tom and Jenny Brady, provided furniture, bicycles, kitchen supplies, and, most importantly, permission and resources to garden freely in their new yard.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Portland and JFGP President and CEO Marc Blattner provided enormous support. The Federation's Ukraine Campaign raised \$600,000 to aid Ukrainians, including \$150,000 to assist those who come to Portland with rent, utilities, food and other expenses (another Welcome Circle at Shir Tikvah will welcome a new arrival soon). Marc spent hours making airline reservations to accommodate their cats. He also donated a great television and took them out to their first meal in an American restaurant.

Susan Greenberg at Jewish Family & Child Service has also been extremely supportive. One of her Russian-speaking caseworkers helped fill out government forms; JFCS also provided other support (see main story).

The generosity of the Portland Jewish community has been beyond amazing.



Mila cuddles Borys and Daria cuddles Vsevolod, who along with a third cat Stepan, accompanied the family from Ukraine to Portland. Sadly, just days after this photo was taken, 18-year-old Vsevolod had to be put to sleep.

Family (from previous page)

say thank you so much to the Federation and JFCS because we have everything. They bought our family new telephones and made internet service. It's very important because Daria's family still lives in Kharkiv, so we have the opportunity to communicate with them."

Do you still need anything?

"No, the Federation, Neveh Shalom, JFCS and the Circle gave us everything. The main thing I want to do is help people who helped me." He wants to "meet with the people of the Jewish community and thank them for this help."

He also thanked Rebecca (Smetana) for all her help, as well as Ellen (Dunn) and Ripu Malhotra for their English lessons.

"Corinne (Spiegel) is a beautiful woman and helps us study English." He wanted to thank Shelley Selph for all her medical help and Arleen Zucker for her help with job preparation. Finally, he wanted to thank Carol Stampfer for filling out the government sponsorship applications.

"I know it's people who gave me the opportunity to start a new life here. Thank you all so much."

What's next?

Next, they want to find jobs so they can pay for things themselves. Eduard is a highly skilled IT person but can also drive trucks. Daria is an incredible graphic designer and was a makeup artist. Eduard's parents, Alex and Tamila, are less proficient in English, but Alex is a great gardener, mechanic and truck driver. I can attest that Tamila is an excellent cook and housekeeper.

They now have the permission to work here, so if you know of job opportunities for them, please contact me, Sara Safdie (ssafdie526@gmail.com), or Congregation Neveh Shalom Program Director Lisa Richmond at richmond@nevehshalom.org or 503-246-8831.

In the meantime, they are thrilled to be here and to be safe.

JFCS needs history sleuths

This is JFCS' 75th year, the perfect excuse to celebrate the agency's past presidents and remember those who were in that role but are no longer with us. Yet, JFCS has an incomplete list of past presidents, including their years of service.

This is where you come in. If you recognize a name (or two) missing from the list below, or a blank beside an individual's name where their years of service should be, please contact JFCS Communications Manager Jenn Director Knudsen at jdirectorknudsen@jfcs-portland.org.

Thank you for channeling your inner Sherlock Holmes. You can help ensure that all of JFCS' past presidents receive the recognition they deserve for their support of the community's only Jewish social services agency.

Each one will be recognized at JFCS' 75th anniversary event, "Celebrating Generations," May 18, at Castaway, featuring special guest China Forbes of Pink Martini. For more information on the celebration, visit jfcs-portland.org/celebrating-generations/.

JFCS PAST PRESIDENTS

Marianne Buchwalter, z'l	1985: Steve Kantor, z'l
May Georges z'l	1989-1991: Mark Rosenbaum
Pearl Gevurtz, z'l	Bernard Asarnow
Alan Goldsmith, z'l	Miriam Feder
Harriet Steinberg Towne, z'l	1996-1998: Bernice Shulevitz, z'l
1962-64: Leah Durkheimer, z'l	1998-2000: Howard Feldman
1964-66: Eve Rosenfeld	2000: Naomi Kaufman-Price
1966-68: Madeline Nelson, z'l	1998-2000: Howard Feldman
1969: Alan Goldsmith	2002-2004: 2nd Beverly Bookin
Yonah Geller, z'l	Lucy Kivel
Early 1970s: Jack Schwartz	Lesley Isenstein
Merritt Yoelin, z'l	Deena Klein
1975-1976: Leonard Goldberg, z'l	Betsy Russell
1979-1981: Elaine (Weil) Savinar	2005-2006 and 2008: I. Kenneth Davis
1981-1983: Richard (Dick) Dobrow	2007: Michael Wendrow
Clifford Alterman, z'l	2010-14: Michael Millender
Frances Markewitz, z'l	2015-17: Les Soltesz, z'l
Augusta Reinhardt, z'l	2017-19: Lee Cordova
Charlotte Schwartz, z'l	2019-2023: Larry Holzman
1980s: 1st Beverly Bookin	



Women celebrate at Jewish Oasis

Fifty women shared feminine energy, joy, love, dancing and tears at the Feb. 26 "Celebrate the Jewish Woman" gathering at the Chabad Jewish Oasis. "In my life, I have not experienced the kind of energy that I experienced that night," said one participant. "Such an array of Jewish Women together in one room. It's so powerful and the way it's meant to be." Goldy Plotkin shared powerful anecdotes and real life examples about the feminine ability to uncover, kindle and nurture the spark of holiness found within every part of the world through the three mitzvot given to women (lighting Shabbat candles, separating challah and the laws of family life). The Oasis hosts weekly women's coffee gatherings and other events especially for women. For more information on future events, visit jewishoasis.com or call 503-246-5437.

Events

March 15: Confronting Hate webinar

This 4 pm (PDT) webinar for educators will identify when anti-Zionism crosses into the realm of antisemitism, explore how antisemitism shows up in conversations about Israel, and strategize about how to confront and discuss antisemitism when it emerges in classroom conversations about geopolitical conflict. facinghistory.org/learning-events/confronting-hate-when-anti-zionism-antisemitism-overlap

March 16: Café Shalom Israeli folk dancing

Israeli folk dancing: Café Shalom meets at the Water Tower Dance Hall at 7-10 pm. Allison Victor leads a 7-8 pm Intermediate Class, \$12 (includes Open Dance); 8-10 pm Open Dance, \$7. sites.google.com/site/pifdnews

March 16: Yiddish Folklore

PSU Judaic Studies Professor Natan Meir talks about Yiddish Folklore: Stories, Legends and Magic at 7-8:30 pm, March 16, at the Eastside Jewish Commons. \$5-8 sliding scale. Part of the EJC's Yiddish Month series. ejcpdx.org

March 17: Free noon Klezmer concert

As part of Yiddish Month, Eastside Jewish Commons welcomes Klezmer duo Kochleffel Syndrome with accordionist Martin Morgenbesser and violinist Andrew Ehrlich for a free noon concert. ejcpdx.org

March 18: Mini Mensches Tot Shabbat

Welcome Shabbat with singing, dancing and sweetness at Congregation Beth Israel. Families with children 0-5 are invited to gather in the Pollin Chapel to sing Shabbat songs and end with a parade with our stuffed Torahs at 9 am, March 18. bethisrael-pdx.org/community/mini-mensches/

March 18: "The Dybbuk"

Eastside Jewish Commons screens the classic film "The Dybbuk" at 8-9:30 pm, March 18, as part of Yiddish Month. \$5. ejcpdx.org

March 19: *Yonah and the Mikveh Fish*

Mikvah lovers of all ages are invited to this free, virtual storytelling hour for the book launch of *Yonah and the Mikveh Fish*, 1-2 pm, March 19. Sponsored by Rachel's Well Community Mikvah and Rising Tide Open Waters Mikveh Network. Register at risingtideopenwaters.org/event/mikveh-story-hour-yonah-and-the-mikveh-fish-book-launch/

March 19 (Every Sunday): Israeli folk dancing

Enjoy Israeli folk dancing at the Southwest Community Center with session leader Rhona Feldman. 2:30-4 pm, every Sunday. sites.google.com/site/pifdnews

March 20 (Every Monday): Israeli folk dancing

Enjoy Israeli folk dancing at Leedy Grange weekly Monday nights with session leaders Sue and Donna. Beginner to intermediate line, circle and partner dances. March 20 includes beginners class at 7:30-8:15 followed by open dancing till 10:30 pm. \$5 at the door. sites.google.com/site/pifdnews

March 20: Greek Jewish community

Midwest Center for Holocaust Education presents a 6:30-8 pm Zoom program on the destruction of the Greek Jewish community

in memory of Portland Holocaust survivor Alegre Tevet and her daughter Matilda Rosenberg. mcheke.org/programs-and-events/calendar/event/destruction-of-the-greek-jewish-community/

March 22: Haggadot and Wine Tasting

Wondering Jews (seniors and empty nesters) present Haggadot and Kosher for Passover Wine Tasting at 2 pm, March 22, at Congregation Neveh Shalom. Come explore Feldstein Library's large and eclectic collection of Haggadot – find the one that speaks to you and the wine you'd like to pair it with. RSVP: members.nevehshalom.org/event/wine-and-haggadot-an-exploration.html

March 23: Moishe Pod-West PDX Game Night

Bring your wit and strategy and maybe a little bit of competitive spirit to 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. Feel free to bring your favorite game, too! RSVP via moishepodwestpdx.com

March 24: Concert: Bob Gordon

Mittleman Jewish Community Center hosts a free lunchtime (11:30 am-1 pm) concert on March 24. Lawyer turned entertainer Bob Gordon and His All Star Review combines storytelling and music – a culmination of true and amusing incidents that he has experienced with celebrities, both clients and others, over the course of his long career as a lawyer in the entertainment industry. oregonjcc.org/bobgordon

March 25: Havdallah Cafe: Yiddish Edition

Eastside Jewish Commons Havdallah cafe 6:30-8:30 pm, March 25, is a Yiddish Month edition with live Klezmer music by Michelle Alany (violin), Andrew Alinakov (clarinet) and Eric Stern (accordion). Let the music be the background to a night of conversation, card games and backgammon. \$6. ejcpdx.org

March 26: Family Matzah Bake at EJC

Eastside Jewish Commons hosts Mushka Wilhelm and Rabbi Chaim Wilhelm from Chabad of Northeast Portland for a Model Matzah Bakery 3-4 pm, March 26. Children ages 4 to 12 will be able to watch a hands-on demonstration from Rabbi Wilhelm and then each have a turn to make their own matzah. Registration required: ejcpdx.org/events-1

March 27-30: BB Day Camp Spring Break

BB Day Camp presents Spring Break camp, 9 am-3:30 pm, March 27-31, at Multnomah Presbyterian, 7555 SW 45th Ave., Portland. Welcoming: K- to sixth-grade campers and CITS (9th-10th grades). Camp: \$288/week; CIT Program: \$100. Register: bbcamp.org/register/

March 31-April 2: Weekend at BB Camp

Discover the magic of overnight camp with a Shabbaton weekend experience March 31-April 2, at B'nai B'rith Camp. Kindergarten through sixth grade. REGISTER: bbcamp.org/SHABBATON/

April 1: Meditation Shabbat

The first Saturday of each month at Congregation Neveh Shalom is Meditation Shabbat. A series of practices will be incorporated into the regular sanctuary service, with the sermon slot dedicated to a focused meditation, 9:30 am-noon, April 1. For information, email brohr@nevehshalom.org

See more events at jewishportland.org/community-calendar

Beth Israel teens learn and help at border

BY TRACY MANASTER ALIFANZ

In mid-February, 18 eighth- and ninth-grade students from Congregation Beth Israel travelled to the U.S./Mexico border along with the synagogue's Cantor Rayna Green, Education Director Ben Sandler and Education Administrator Elisabeth Pierson for a three-day immersive and service-based trip on immigrant justice.

While this was the inaugural border trip for CBI, it fit squarely within the ethos of its Religious School program. The Arizona trip, organized by Tzedek America and underwritten by Roscoe and Debra Nelson and Jason Waxman, rounds out a robust list of justice-oriented trips for CBI high schoolers: *L'taken* social justice seminars to Washington, D.C., for sophomores, and a Civil Rights-focused journey through the American south for juniors and seniors.

The teens met with asylum seekers, former border patrol and ICE agents, and with Representatives Alma Hernandez and Conesulo Hernandez, two Mexican-Jewish Arizona state legislators, who educated them on the dynamics of working within the government body and the necessity of bipartisan conversation.

Their experience was not limited to listening; the group volunteered directly with immigration nonprofits, including Casa Alitas. The welcome center for immigrant families awaiting asylum hearings provides clients (many of whom arrive with only the paper garments provided by I.C.E.) with clothes, food and often the means to communicate with or travel to family members elsewhere in the U.S.

"We were able to see first-hand what these migrants were feeling as they were told that they were finally safe," says trip participant Talia Andreyuk. "I wondered why these families were being treated so cruelly when we are all just people."

In conjunction with The Desert Samaritans and People Helping People, the teens also hiked into the desert to cache water and other supplies for people attempting to cross into the U.S. While in the desert, they saw shoes made of carpet, which migrants use to disguise their tracks from border-area militias, who have been known to destroy or contaminate life-saving stores of water. They visited the border wall, witnessing a separated family communicating across the border, and a man attempting the crossing, setting foot on American soil, and being immediately detained by Border Patrol.

Immigration is a complicated and fraught issue, and the students had three days of intense experience to bring home to Portland.

As the trip concluded, Ben Sandler says, the leaders asked each student to pinpoint their personal *Dayenu* (it would have been



Beth Israel eighth- and ninth-graders cache water and other supplies for people crossing through the desert.

enough) Moment to "reflect on their overall experience and identify if they had just done ... one thing on the trip (of the many) to make it an important lesson, what would that be?"

The answers were immediate and varied: some cited their meetings with experts and volunteers, some their connections with families at Casa Alitas across language barriers, some the realization that the water they left could literally save a life.

For many, like participant Noah Morales, it was the very nature of the border, even without witnessing the thwarted crossing and families communicating across chain link. "If we just saw the wall by itself," Morales says, "it would have been enough."

Tracy Manaster Alifanz is the Communications Director at Congregation Beth Israel and mother of two of the trip participants.

Cedar Sinai Park has a handy unsung hero

There isn't much Aaron Farrar hasn't taught himself about fixing stuff.

"I wasn't really much of a handyman until I took an opportunity at another facility several years ago as the director of maintenance," says Aaron, who became Cedar Sinai Park's lead maintenance technician almost two years ago.

"The former director quit and walked off the job, so there wasn't anyone I could turn to for advice," says Aaron of that first maintenance job. "They just threw me in and told me to figure it out. It was just me and YouTube back then. Now, over the years, I've done all kinds of different repairs."

So when he came to Cedar Sinai, he was prepared. He joined Cedar Sinai Park in April of 2020 during the height of the pandemic.

Most days, Aaron is all over campus. Some days, his tasks are as simple as moving a bed or repairing a shelf. But he also has extinguished a dryer fire and repaired broken water lines, and he's the backup for Building Services Director Tammy Heard.

During Portland's big snowstorm in February, Aaron drove the Cedar Sinai Park van to collect dozens of employees or work.

"Cedar Sinai Park has equipped its two vans with really nice, studded tires, so we were practically the only ones on the road who were still moving," says Aaron. "There were busses in the middle of the road, completely abandoned, while other vehicles were sliding uncontrollably into each other like bumper cars."

But Aaron drove very slowly and focused on getting everyone to and from work safely.



Aaron Farrar troubleshoots an electrical issue.

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NEXT ISSUES

Issue date	Deadline
MARCH 29 (pre-Pesach)	MARCH 14 (note very early deadline)
APRIL 11 (office closed April 6-7, 12-13)	MARCH 31 (early)
APRIL 26	APRIL 20
MAY 10	MAY 4

Submit photos, news and obituaries to

editor@jewishportland.org

Chaplain's Corner

Hospice Leads to Healing

BY RABBI BARRY COHEN

In February, we learned that President Jimmy Carter, his health declining, chose to receive hospice care in his Georgia home. In the final stages of his life, Carter continues to teach us.

His choice is teaching many Americans about the nature of hospice care and the crucial role it can play. He chose to end medical treatments for the cancer that has spread throughout his body. That being said, he will still receive medications to lessen his pain and maintain his quality of life as much as possible.

With his remaining time, he can live as he wishes so that he experiences as much joy and meaning as possible. Most people experience hospice at home. They sleep in their own bed, wear their own clothing and spend time where they are the most comfortable. If they have enough strength and stamina, they can eat what they want, get outside or even travel to favorite local places.

They have peace of mind knowing that a care team is there for them for regular visits, to address their needs and to manage their pain.

This makes the timing of when one enters hospice care crucial. I have worked with too many people who began hospice with only days to live. At that point, they are often unconscious, incapacitated or cannot communicate. They spend their remaining time in bed, often disconnected from their loved ones and from the world.

A sweet spot exists with hospice care. This sweet spot begins when individuals know that obtaining a cure for their disease is highly unlikely. It begins when they have had enough of painful treatments that sap their strength, restrict them and only enable them to live additional pain-filled weeks or months. It begins when they know that if they keep chasing a cure, they will die in a hospital bed.

Individuals can enter hospice care when doctors determine they have six months left to live (though this is often an approximation).

Choosing hospice care enables people to have greater control over how they die and



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

where they die. And this choice benefits more than just the person who is dying. It benefits family and friends. During their remaining time, they can foster amazing memories. They can have beautiful conversations. They can resolve much of the past and achieve a sense of closure.

In this way, though a hospice patient will not obtain a cure, he or she can experience healing. Time spent in hospice can enable them to heal psychologically and spiritually, despite the fact that the body is dying.

I encourage you to take this time in the aftermath of President Carter's entering hospice to learn more about hospice care and how, when the time is right, you can make a similar decision to control your own health care. However, we must choose wisely. There are some hospice organizations that advise us to enter too early and encourage us to accept treatments that benefit their bottom line more than the quality of our lives.

Choosing the nature of hospice is a way to strategize our final weeks or months. The older we get, the more we learn that we slowly, steadily lose control. Hospice care gives us back control. A critical aspect of our decision is that it is not final. We have control to end hospice care if we want to make one last attempt to receive curative treatments. And then, if necessary, we can choose to go back on hospice.

Please do not wait until it is too late to have a hospice plan. We have at our fingertips a means to maximize the quality of our final weeks or months. What a precious opportunity for those who are dying and for their loved ones to heal – personally and privately.

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.

Security Corner

What's your plan?

BY JESSICA ANDERSON

Take a moment to think about the different organizations where you spend time – a workplace, a school, a synagogue, somewhere you regularly volunteer. . . .

Do you know if those organizations have an emergency plan in place? Do you know what it is or where to find it? Are you in a position of authority and a person people will look to for help in figuring out what to do? Are you a user of space and haven't given it much thought?

Emergency situations of any kind are rare, but when they happen, they reveal a lot about the organization and how much thought management has given to the topic. Nearly every organization is responsible in some way for people, and (whether management realizes it or not) those people have expectations about how organizations should be prepared. Everyone knows we can't plan for everything. However, there are some basic issues one can expect, and if you're not ready, or you don't think your organization is ready for those, it is time to make a plan.

An emergency plan can be as simple as a few pages of information all the way to a bound document hundreds of pages long. Ideally, an emergency plan is clear, concise and easy to share with relevant people.

ORGANIZATION SAFETY PLANNING

Risk Assessment: First figure out what your risks are and where your vulnerabilities lay. There are a million different things that can go wrong, but realistically it's easy to narrow down a list to the ten most likely emergencies you'll have to deal with. Once you identify those, you can start to develop plans and procedures. Medical issues, lockdowns, earthquakes, suspicious visitors, acts of violence, child/parent reunification plans, persons in crisis, mass communication needs – what are the areas where your organization has gaps? What are the emergencies where you're not sure what action your organization would take?

Draft a Plan: Every situation has a relatively linear response that can be developed. Establish an evacuation plan. Designate multiple evacuation routes and exits for your employees and decide where you're going to meet up outside. If you need to lock down, what are the safest rooms? How will you notify people that a lockdown is needed? Identify the steps and ensure your staff and volunteers know your plan. Engage with your staff and volunteers (and Community Security Director) for ideas. Make sure you consider functional needs – people with mobility, hearing or visual impairments might require special consideration.

“Antisemitism and How to Fight it” now on Eugene YouTube

The City Club of Eugene hosted a March 10 program on antisemitism featuring Rabbi Meir Goldstein, Judaic Studies Instructor and Senior Jewish Educator of the Hillel Foundation at the University of Oregon; Rabbi Yitzhak Husbands-Hankin, Rabbi Emeritus, Temple Beth Israel; and Ryan Dwyer, Supervisory Special Agent, Eugene Office of the FBI.

The program explored the long history of antisemitic incidents in Eugene over the years. On at least three occasions in the last year, antisemitic literature was distributed in Springfield. How did we get to this point? What are the historical and cultural forces leading to today's antisemitism and what can be done to prevent it?

A recording of the program is available on the City Club of Eugene YouTube Channel. You can find a link on the club's website cityclubofeugene.org/.



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.

Resources and Preparation: Who in your organization will perform key functions in an emergency? Do they know what they need to do? Do you have emergency supplies (food, water, batteries, etc.)? Who will be the point of contact for communicating instructions and information internally and externally? Who has special skills that could be called upon? Inventory your emergency equipment and supplies. Ensure people know where AEDs are located and how to use them as well as other life-saving supplies. Keep updated lists of facility emergency contact numbers and keep extra copies offsite.

Communication: Planning is just part of a complete package. Communicating the plan to staff, volunteers and users of your space is just as important. This information should be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure that staff and volunteers have the relevant training to execute your emergency plan. Consider revisiting preparation opportunities twice a year to keep safety knowledge fresh. Communicate to the users of your space that you have a plan and that your facility is prepared.

As your Director of Community Security, I can help guide you through every part of this process. SCN has several emergency preparedness templates we can work with. We can consider issues and develop protocols that will work for your facility. Some SCN resources can be found at securecommunitynetwork.org/resources/emergency-and-preparedness-planning.

SAFETY AND SECURITY TRAINING

I continue to offer free online safety and security training. Sign up for trainings at jewishportland.org/events/security-training. Please share this link with other organizations or groups, both in and out of our Jewish community.

Finally, we know that antisemitic incidents, graffiti and flyers are not always reported. Please continue to let me know when you encounter something – report incidents at jewishportland.org/security.



Rabbi Meir Goldstein



Rabbi Yitzhak Husbands-Hankin

Obituaries

JOSEPHINE ZUBROW KLEVIT

Josephine “Jody” Zubrow Klevit, z”l, passed away March 9, 2023. She is survived by her sister, Estelle Goldstein; daughters, Rachel Klevit (Jerry Sale) and Sarah Hopkins (Paul); son, Ben Klevit (Adi); and grandchildren Jonathan and Rebekka Ziegler, Sam and Max Hopkins, and Daniel Klevit.

Jody is predeceased by her lifelong love and best friend, Harvey; her beloved daughter, Lisa Klevit-Ziegler; and her sister, Valentine Chilk.

She was a member of Congregation Neveh Shalom.

TOM (CHAGAI) LOWINGER

Tom (Chagai) Lowinger, z”l, passed away March 6, 2023. Chagai is survived by his children, Sarah LeClair and Dan Lowinger, as well as their spouses and children, and his sister-in-law, Charlotte White and her extended family.

He was a member of Congregation Kol Ami in Vancouver, Wash.

The funeral was March 9 at Congregation Kol Ami’s Kehillat Olam Cemetery in Northwood Park.

NATHAN FENDRICH

Nathan Fendrich, z”l, passed away March 7, 2023 at the age of 88. He is lovingly remembered by his wife, Beatrice Fendrich; children, Jack (Pam) Fendrich, Sharon (Mark Epstein) Fendrich, David (Myciah) Fendrich, Adam (Julie) Fendrich and Risa (Jane Adam) Blythe; and grandchildren, Talia Valdez and Max Epstein, Gabby Fendrich and Sasha Fendrich, Olivia and Max Fendrich, and Milo Blythe.

Born and raised in Eugene, Nathan had traveled to Mexico and Cuba before he decided to go to Israel in 1973. He spent a couple of months studying archaeology and persuaded a friend who worked at a local TV station to get him press credentials. He had planned to take photos of an archaeological dig at Tel Qasile. But Nathan and his Leica camera were swept up in the Yom Kippur War in 1973. As the war began, he hitched a ride to military headquarters and presented his U.S. press pass and passport to a harried press officer, who gave him Israeli press credentials. An IDF unit allowed him to join them and take photos for the 19 days of the war. In 2018, Nathan donated intimate portraits of Israeli soldiers and battles to an appropriate home in the National Library of Israel. The photos are part of the Pritzker Family National Photography Collection at the National Library. You can see part of the collection at <https://blog.nli.org.il/en/unknown-soldiers/>.

The burial was in Eugene at the Eugene Masonic Cemetery on March 8 with Rabbi David Kosak of Congregation Neveh Shalom officiating.

BOB LIEBERMAN

Bob Lieberman, z”l, passed away March 2, 2023, in Vancouver, Wash. He is survived by his wife, Jan; their children, Barry and Debbie; and Debbie’s husband, David, and their children.

Bob and his wife Jan were part of the original group of founders of Congregation Kol Ami. Bob’s contributions to the Vancouver Jewish congregation have come in many ways, but primarily in his attention to detail when it came to the congregational budget and financial affairs and his willingness to always offer physical labor when it came to moving chairs, building a sukkah, maintaining the Torah and helping in the library.

Funeral services were March 5 in the Congregation Kol Ami sanctuary followed by a graveside service at Kehillat Olam, Kol Ami’s cemetery in Northwood Park.

MURIEL ADLER

Muriel Adler, z”l, passed away peacefully at home on Jan. 23, 2023, surrounded by her loving husband, Irv Adler; daughters, Joyce Adler and DeBi Strode; and son-in-law, Ran Strode. She is also survived by grandchildren, Daniel, Sarah, Zac, Bonnie and Chauncey; and seven great-grandchildren.

Muriel was one of the founding members of Kol Shalom, Community for Humanistic Judaism, in Portland.

Muriel’s amazing life’s journey was long, full and accomplished. Here are few snippets of her remarkable life.

Muriel was born in Chicago, Ill., Dec. 12, 1926, to immigrant parents. At age 19, she married the love of her life, a sailor (Irv) and remained married to him for 76½ years until her death.

A model trendsetter for many of the woman of her generation at a time when women were expected to stay home and be a housewife, Muriel had other ideas and dreams. She pursued her passions and went to junior college when her youngest daughter was 5 years old. She earned a bachelor’s degree and a full scholarship to Northwestern University, where she earned a master’s degree in Sociology. She became a professor and taught Sociology at Wright Jr. College. When teaching and sociology no longer quite fit her dreams and goals, she returned to school at Jane Adams College of Social Work (University of Illinois, Chicago Campus) earning an MSW. She then went on to have a very successful private practice – a career that she was passionate about. She also worked for Traveler’s Aid with international adoptions and travelled to Korea several times.

Muriel cared deeply for human rights and equality for all. She tried to cure the world of social injustices by fighting for civil rights, marching with Martin Luther King Jr. and trying to integrate her “white” neighborhood in the 1960s.

In 1989, grandbabies brought Muriel and Irv to Oregon, where she continued working as a therapist until she retired at age 80. Muriel and Irv were pivotal to the creation and growth of Kol Shalom, where she continued to try and cure the world of its injustices. She was proud to call herself a cultural and humanistic Jew. She embraced culture from her Jewish heritage, to her love of music, theater, opera, dance, art, books, travel and food. She enjoyed nature, beach walks and laughing.

Yes, she enjoyed life to the fullest. She and Irv were models for active aging. Age was only a number to them. At least until that wretched Alzheimer’s disease took her brilliant mind, little by little and bit by bit. Donations can be made to the Alzheimer’s Association (alz.org).

The best way to honor her memory is to continue her fight against social injustice. Volunteer, email your elected officials, and get out and just talk to folks. Hug often and pursue your own passions.

A celebration of her life is planned for May 14, 2023.

Submit obituaries to editor@jewishportland.org

Obituaries are posted online as they are received at jewishportland.org/obituaries

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, visit ChevraKavodHaMet.org, or contact Michael Rosenberg at the Portland Hevra Kaddisha at michael@cashcolan.com or 503-519-2454.