

# The JEWISH REVIEW

Oregon and SW Washington's Online Jewish Newspaper

April 13, 2022 / Nisan 12, 5782 Volume 57, Issue 8

## Portlanders generously aid refugees

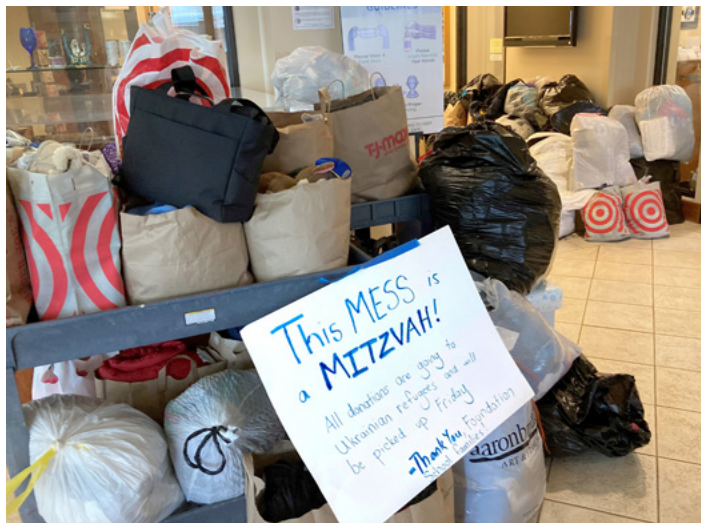
BY DEBORAH MOON

The news and images from Ukraine and bordering countries swarming with refugees have torn at the heartstrings of Portlanders, who have responded generously in many ways.

Since Russia invaded Ukraine in late February, the Greater Portland Jewish community has raised more than \$385,000 for Ukrainian relief efforts. The Jewish Federation of Greater Portland continues to raise funds for the relief effort; donate at [jewishportland.org/ukraine-crisis](http://jewishportland.org/ukraine-crisis).

This week, Rabbi Michael Cahana of Congregation Beth Israel is in Poland with more than 25 Reform Rabbis assisting refugee relief efforts at the JCC Krakow. He took with him five duffle bags full of baby formula, disinfectants and antiseptics donated by Portlanders.

For three weekends, Positive Charge, [positivechargepdx.org](http://positivechargepdx.org), gathered donated items and money to send to Ukraine



Supplies for Ukrainian children line the lobby and hallway at Congregation Neveh Shalom after the Foundation School hosted a donation drive March 29 and 30.

refugees. In addition, kosher baker Sara Levine has been raising funds via bread sales at Hillsdale Farmer's Market for relief aid.

On March 29-30, Foundation School mom Dr. Rebecca Kahn drew on a personal connection to enable other families at the

preschool to help.

Dr. Kahn, a radiologist, had worked with nurse Yulia Tkachuk at a breast clinic in Vancouver, Wash., until Yulia decided to stay home with her two young children.

See UKRAINE, page 11

## Preschools offer taste of normalcy

BY DEBORAH MOON

Following two years of meeting pandemic challenges, the six Jewish preschools in the Greater Portland area anticipate ongoing issues as they prepare for what they hope will be a return to normalcy in the coming school year.

Accommodating the need for early childhood education will be a big challenge next fall according to Erika Sifers, director of early childhood education at Portland Jewish Academy. While all of the local Jewish preschools survived the pandemic, many other programs had to close. "There currently aren't enough providers for the need, particularly at the infant/toddler level," she says.

All the preschools report enrollment going well, with some classes (especially infant/toddler) wait-listed. Staffing to meet that need is also an issue with teacher burnout reaching all-time highs during the pandemic.



Maayan Torah preschoolers enjoy the playground.

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# Life is busier than ever for Arthur Ginsburg

BY SYDNEY CLEVINGER

Rose Schnitzer Manor Resident Arthur Ginsburg epitomizes the old saying, “When you fall off a horse, you have to get back in the saddle.”

In Arthur’s case, the saddle is actually a bike saddle.

Despite a recent spill on a sharp corner, from which he is still healing, Arthur just bought a new bike helmet, gloves and an air pump, and he is “ready for a new season” of cycling!

Arthur turns 94 in May.

“I am busy,” he says. “I have a lot to do.”

That is an understatement.

“Tuesday and Thursday mornings, I go to the Mount Tabor area for tai chi,” says Arthur. “On Fridays, I usually play flute with my pianist but only for an hour or so in the late morning, and then I lead the

Food Committee in the afternoons. Some Wednesday mornings, I play (in) flute trios.” Arthur has choir on Monday afternoons. And then there’s leading the Book Club the fourth Thursday of every month and leading the monthly Resident Council as vice president.

Arthur moved into Rose Schnitzer Manor in 2014 a few months after his beloved wife of 63 years, Judith, died of complications from a hip injury.

“We had planned to come here together, and she never made it,” says Arthur. “She was 83. After my wife died, I did not want to be alone. I think it’s better to be with other people, and of course, here, you can be alone, but you don’t have to be alone.”

Arthur grew up in Philadelphia and attended Temple University right after World War II, graduating in 1950 with a Bachelor of Arts in radio and theater. There, he met 17-year-old Judith Goodman, a talented pianist.

Arthur was an on-air personality in South Carolina during college, did summer stock on Cape Cod, toured with a children’s theater and was on a soap opera. He was also assistant director at WCAU-TV after college.

“But it was sporadic,” he says. “It wasn’t enough. And one day I came home and my wife, who was 19 at the time, looked at me and said in Yiddish ‘we are not making a living.’ She was working and teaching, and times were a little tough.”

So, 22-year-old Arthur returned to school, and like his father before him, graduated from Temple’s Beasley School of Law.

After passing the bar, Arthur was drafted and assigned a research and investigations role in the United States Army’s Counterintelli-



Living at Rose Schnitzer Manor gives Arthur Ginsburg, 93, time to ride his bike and participate in a host of activities on and off the senior living campus.



gence Corps as a plainclothes agent during the Korean War. Their son, Claude, arrived in 1954. After the war, Arthur was an administrative lawyer in the United States Department of Labor in the Office of the Solicitor interpreting labor laws for five years. Then their son, Ian, was born in 1959.

Arthur joined the Federal Communications Commission in 1961 and stayed for 26 years handling complaints and communications enforcement law compliance, working his way up to become the division chief. His tenure overlapped with many quiz show scandals, false promotions and hoaxes, and equal time election laws.

In 1987, Arthur was looking for a change and began teaching journalism at the University of Texas in Austin. After two years, the Ginsburgs moved to Sedona, with Arthur teaching at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff. Arthur was also hired to write a newspaper column and develop short, on-air editorials for the local television station. During his final year in Arizona, Arthur was a visiting professor at Northeastern University in Boston.

Arthur and Judith had spent many a summer at Reed College attending its chamber music festivals. In 1995, they moved to Portland for good with Arthur teaching graduate seminars in media law at the now defunct Marylhurst College.

Arthur believes Judith would have liked Cedar Sinai Park.

“You walk in the door here, and it looks like a home,” he says. “It’s got pictures on the walls and carpets and statuary and a very friendly staff. I have a lovely apartment with a view of the forest. It feels like a home.”

“I’m a cultural Jew, and it’s nice to be surrounded by other cultural Jews, although I enjoy the fact that maybe 25 percent of the place is not Jewish,” says Arthur. “I would use the Yiddish word *haimish* to describe Cedar Sinai Park, because it is a simple, homey place.”

Besides the flute, which he’s been studying since he was 15, tai chi, reading voraciously, walking the grounds, leading the Book Club and Food Committee, and being vice president of the Resident Council, Arthur says he enjoys meeting new people.

“I go out to eat a lot and to the ballet, and I like to travel with friends,” he says.

“One of the ways to survive is to live in the present,” says Arthur. “I miss my wife every day. But this is now, and this is here, and I have things to do and things I want to do. I really like it here.”

## Yom Ha’atzmaut at the MJCC May 1

Come out and celebrate Israel’s 74th year of Independence 11:30 am-2 pm, May 1. Join in Israeli music, dance, crafts, food and more. Free. Israeli food will be available for purchase.

The event kicks off with an incredible concert with The Premier Israeli Music Cover Band, TLV. TLV was created in 2016 and is composed of professional musicians with decades of experience performing in some of the biggest venues, and with some of the biggest artists, in Israel and the world.

[oregonjcc.org/arts-culture/upcoming-events](http://oregonjcc.org/arts-culture/upcoming-events)





# PASSOVER HAPPENINGS

Resources for your family's Passover observance  
gathered by Jewish Federation at

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

## CHAG SAMEACH! - HAPPY PASSOVER!

# PRESCHOOLS (continued from page 1)

Early childhood educators also anticipate issues from children's limited social interactions during the past two years. Most early childhood programs had to limit enrollment and shorten hours to meet social distancing and other rules. In addition, many parents worked from home and juggled child care responsibilities with work.

"I think the challenge is going to be the massive influx of children who were in private/home-based situations suddenly being thrust into group care," says Stephanie Faddis, director of The Gan Jewish Preschool.

Gan Garrett Jewish Preschool lead teacher Lynn Dunn says the challenge will be especially pronounced for "younger children arriving to preschool without any social experience beyond siblings."

Maayan Torah's interim preschool director Amy Sohn says, "Some children have been battling a certain social immaturity that we attribute to not having the same amount of healthy peer interactions."

Though still forced to adapt, children who were able to attend preschool during the pandemic reaped some benefits.

"Children have become close with their

classmates and morot (teachers) as their circles have become smaller and more tight knit," says Foundation School Administrative Director Candace Rothstein.

"Opening our doors in July of 2020 allowed children to go back to being children," says PJA's Saiers. "We wanted to bring back 'normalcy' for children during a very challenging time. Children were given the right to play, to inquire, to explore and be supported in a loving, encouraging environment."

The educators hope that the feeling of normalcy will grow in the new school year.

Asked to describe their programs in one sentence, local preschools replied:

**Foundation School:** We are a Jewish Reggio Emilia-inspired preschool that believes that children are creative, capable and endlessly curious.

**Gan Garrett Jewish Preschool:** Where children blossom!

**The Gan Preschool:** We are a Reggio- and Montessori-inspired campus of joyful Jewish learning.

**Maayan Torah Day School:** Our preschool is a warm nurturing community focused on faith, family and education.

## Grant helps preschoolers get the Right Start

The Jewish Federation of Greater Portland offers Right Start Grants for families choosing Jewish preschool for the first time. The Greater Portland area has six Jewish preschools whose students are eligible for the grants. There is a wait list for the grant, but apply: [jewishportland.org/rightstart](http://jewishportland.org/rightstart).

"Early experiences are pivotal in creating Jewish identity," says Rachel Nelson, JFGP Director of Educational Initiatives & Associate Director of Community Relations. "We want to help foster those experiences."

Nelson is available to meet with any family looking into early childhood education. Contact her at 503-892-7415 or [rachel@jewishportland.org](mailto:rachel@jewishportland.org).

**Portland Jewish Academy:** We provide welcoming and inclusive settings that recognize children's diverse abilities, interests, needs and learning styles.

**Tree of Life Montessori:** A cozy in-home Jewish Montessori school in the heart of Southeast Portland.

## Preschool Roundup

### GAN GARRETT JEWISH PRESCHOOL

**Tzivie Greenberg, Executive Director:**

**360-256-0859 | [info@thegan.org](mailto:info@thegan.org)**

**[preschoolvancouver.com](http://preschoolvancouver.com)**

**9604 NE 126 Ave #2340, Vancouver, WA 98682**

**COST:** Depends on attendance: half day and full day available, 2-5 days per week. Financial aid available.

**AGES:** 2-5

**HOURS:** 9 am-3 pm, with before and aftercare available.

**PROGRAM OVERVIEW:** The Gan unites children, teachers, family and community in a positive and constructive early childhood experience. Our Jewish values drive the curriculum, environment and school culture. We model and encourage kindness, respect, compassion, confidence and responsibility. Judaism teaches that the formative years of early childhood are vitally important. A child is viewed as a seed that we nurture with the utmost care.

### THE GAN PRESCHOOL

**Stephanie Faddis, Center Director: 503-977-7850**

**[Stephanie@PortlandJewishPreschool.com](mailto:Stephanie@PortlandJewishPreschool.com)**

**[portlandjewishpreschool.com](http://portlandjewishpreschool.com)**

**6612 SW Capitol Hwy., Portland 97219**

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** Currently open; we are mostly full but accept applications year round.

**COST:** From \$435/month for two half days to \$1,310/month for five full days; financial aid available.

**AGES:** 12 months-5 years

**HOURS:** 8:30 am-3:30 pm; early care 8-8:30 am and after care 3:30-5 pm available.



Purim at The Gan Preschool in Portland includes hamentashen.

**PROGRAM OVERVIEW:** At The Gan (Hebrew for garden), we believe children can blossom in a carefully planned setting, surrounded by caring teachers and peers. Our play-based setting provides an experiential and intentional approach to learning. We foster enthusiasm, responsibility, creativity and curiosity, with children encouraged to express themselves through words, movement, art, play and other natural modes of expression. We help children develop the critical-thinking and problem-solving skills necessary for a successful and meaningful life.

**Continued on next page**





A Maayan Torah preschooler has fun with paint.

**MAAYAN TORAH DAY SCHOOL**  
**Interim Preschool Director Amy Sohn:**  
**503-245-5568 | [info@maayanpdx.org](mailto:info@maayanpdx.org)**  
[maayanpdx.org](http://maayanpdx.org)  
**2 Touchstone Dr., Lake Oswego 97035**

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Ongoing for preschool

ACCREDITATION: Cognisa; AdvancEd

COST: \$12,750 a year; financial aid available.

AGES: 18 months-4 years

HOURS: 8:30 am-3:30 pm; before and aftercare available.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW: Jewish children deserve a warm and nurturing atmosphere that fosters a love for learning and curiosity about the world around them. Maayan offers values-based education and inspires children to love Judaism and mitzvot. Our rich academic program builds inner self-worth and positive character traits/middot. Maayan features academic rigor and excellence in both secular and Judaic studies. Maayan's student-engaged learning environment is just what children need to help them reach their personal and academic potential.

**NEVEH SHALOM FOUNDATION SCHOOL**  
**Candace Rothstein (Administrative Director):**  
**503-293-7307 | [crothstein@nevehshalom.org](mailto:crothstein@nevehshalom.org)**  
[foundationschoolpdx.org](http://foundationschoolpdx.org)  
**2900 SW Peaceful Lane, Portland 97239**



Foundation School children explore the nature trails on the Neveh Shalom campus and notice the differences in textures between moss and bark.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: June 1, 2022

COST: Contact for more info; financial aid available.

AGES: 12 months-5 years

HOURS: 8 am-5 pm

PROGRAM OVERVIEW: The Foundation School, based on the ideals and traditions of the Jewish faith and open to all, is dedicated to providing exceptional early childhood education. We encourage the development of each child's creativity, curiosity and character through age-appropriate practices. By valuing play as a child's natural way of learning, our qualified and experienced teachers encourage the growth of the total child: intellectual, social, emotional, physical and spiritual.

## PORTLAND JEWISH ACADEMY

**Director Erika Saiers: 503-535-3536 |**

[esaiers@pjaproud.org](mailto:esaiers@pjaproud.org) | [pjaproud.org](http://pjaproud.org)

**6651 SW Capitol Highway, Portland 97219**

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Rolling admissions

ACCREDITATION: NWAIS

COST: \$610-\$1,990 per month; financial aid available.

AGES: 6 weeks-5 years

HOURS: 8 am-5 pm with half-day or full-day preschool options.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW: We believe children learn best through meaningful play, exploration and inquiry-based learning. Our child-centered program integrates social and emotional development, cognitive skills, language and literacy, mathematical and scientific exploration, Hebrew language and Jewish life, art and music, and fine and gross motor development. It is our conviction that children are capable and independent, and this is reflected across all developmental domains. Children are viewed as thinkers, reflecting on their world, and as empathetic individuals.



## TREE OF LIFE MONTESSORI

**Ariel Cohn, Owner and Lead Guide**

[treeoflifemontessori.org](http://treeoflifemontessori.org)

**4214 SE Stark St., Portland**

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Rolling admissions, with several spots open for fall.

ACCREDITATION: We are a licensed childcare facility. Ariel holds an AMI Montessori teaching certificate and a master's degree in education.

COST: \$700-\$1,280 per month depending on schedule; financial aid available.

AGES: 2.5-6, including kindergarten

HOURS: 8:30 am-3:30 pm with half-day and full-day options; aftercare from 3:30-5 pm.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW: At Tree of Life Montessori in Southeast Portland, we strive to connect children and their families to Jewish traditions and culture, as well as to each other. With the traditional Montessori curriculum as our structure, we celebrate holidays and honor our Jewish heritage and beliefs through weekly Shabbat rituals, thematic art projects, sensorial activities and community gatherings.



Jennifer Gwartz, at left, rehearses *Kol b'Isha/Voice Within Woman*. Above from left, Jennifer Gwartz, special guest Jessaiah Zuré and Leora Troper rehearse. Cast member Janet Goulston is not pictured. Photos by Chelsea Petrakis.

## After long gestation, dance gives women voice

BY DEBORAH MOON

*Kol b'Isha/Voice Within Woman* will have had a much longer gestation period than expected when it premieres April 28. Conceived before the pandemic, the choreographic meditation on female voice, visibility and silence was due to debut in May 2020.

In 2018, Jennifer Gwartz began the *Kol B'Isha* project with a cast of Jewish women over age 50. The company continued to explore remotely when the 2020 premiere was canceled due to the pandemic.

"I'm a deep-dive kind of person, so being able to take that time, especially with all the complications that life brings, has been good," says Gwartz. "It was a blessing, in a way, to be canceled. I spent 2020 and most of 2021 researching and experimenting. In some ways, that early pandemic period was a kind of staycation residency for me that I wouldn't have had otherwise."

*Kol Isha*, literally voice of a woman, is considered an injunction against men hearing women sing in many observant communities. While *Kol Isha* mainly affects observant groups, Gwartz realized that it has significant reverberations beyond Orthodox communities.

"This piece evolved bit by bit over the last five years as a way to process my relationship to my Jewishness as a woman," she says. "As the daughter of two vocal music teachers, the sense of being silenced when in Jewish community was something I've always noticed."

Gwartz grew up near Philadelphia, where she studied ballet and attended Jewish day school. She loved studying Hebrew, Torah and commentary.

"I had a traumatic experience at the Kotel in my early teens, after which I walked away," she says. "That was more than 30 years ago."

In 2018, her daughter asked to study to become a bat mitzvah, and Gwartz discovered Congregation Shir Tikvah. She credits

### *Kol b'Isha/Voice Within Woman*

**WHAT:** A dance about the radical Jewish female and an exploration of the voices of older women.

**WHEN:** April 28, 8 pm; April 30, 9:30 pm (preceded by *Havdalah* at 9 pm); May 1, 3 pm with post-performance panel discussion on *Kol Isha*, the prohibition against men hearing women sing.

**WHERE:** Performance Works NW, 4625 SE 67th Ave.

**TICKETS:** \$12-\$20. [tickettailor.com/events/pwnw/](https://tickettailor.com/events/pwnw/)

*This piece is made possible by Performance Works NW, Regional Arts & Culture Council, Women's Giving Circle of the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland, Ronni Lacroute and Congregation Shir Tikvah.*

Rabbi Ariel Stone for loading her up with books on women in Judaism as an inspiration for her "pandemic residency." Rabbi Stone will lead the panel discussion on *Kol Isha* that follows the May 1 performance.

Last fall, Gwartz returned to Philadelphia to take care of her parents and to be with her mother until she passed away in December.

"So I've been thinking about Jewish women as elders in the community and how, as we age, our voices become so instrumental in creating community and making change," she says. "Singing is how we are present in Jewish practice, whether that is *leyning*, *davening* or speaking."

The Saturday night performance, after *Havdalah*, will be recorded. A video will be available for streaming, though details are not yet available.

## Portland Klezmer Fest presents concerts, workshops, dancing April 29-May 1

Bubbaville presents the inaugural Portland Klezmer Festival April 29 through May 1.

Enjoy a weekend of concerts, workshops, dancing and communal music-making as we celebrate Eastern European Jewish music and culture. The festival will feature music by Midwood, Michelle Alany and the Mystics, Yankl Falk and Varda. Programs will be held in a variety of venues.

The festival opens Friday night, April 29, with a Nigun session and Kabbalat Shabbat with Yankl Falk and Aaron Vitells. The 6:30 pm event will be at NW Portland Hostel, 1810 NW Glisan Ave. Suggested donation \$5.

An 8 pm, April 30, concert, dance party and jam at Alberta Street Pub, 1036 NE Alberta St., features Michelle Alany & the Mystics and Midwood with Josh Horowitz

of Veretski Pass.

The festival concludes May 1 with an afternoon of singing, instrumental and cultural workshops at the Eastside Jewish Commons, 2420 NE Sandy.

For a full schedule and performer profiles, visit [bit.ly/pdxklezmer](https://bit.ly/pdxklezmer). Weekend passes and a la carte tickets are also available. Contact [bubbavillepdx@gmail.com](mailto:bubbavillepdx@gmail.com) for work-trade opportunities.



# Artist explores Jewish experience and light

BY KERRY POLITZER

Daniela Molnar's artistry has taken her down a circuitous path from ecology to scientific illustration to poetry. Now, it is leading her back to her Jewish roots. The artist and writer, who is the granddaughter of four Holocaust survivors, is involved in multiple projects that address the Jewish experience from a variety of perspectives.

One of her current works-in-progress is a poetic erasure of the "Protocols of the Elders of Zion," an antisemitic text. When asked about this process, Daniela explains, "You take an existing text and basically get rid of enough words on a page that you're creating a poem with the existing words. You're not adding any words, and you're not rearranging them; you're just using what's already there to try to create a 'new work.'"

Daniela was surprised to learn that while many of her peers were aware of anti-Jewish tropes, they had not heard of the Protocols. "Even if someone hadn't heard of the book, they were like, 'Oh yeah, I've heard that racist thing about Jews, you know?'" And so, it all stems back to this book – (it) has been incredibly successful as a tool of propaganda. I decided to do this erasure as a way to try to transform this incredibly hateful, poorly written text into something that was healing and poetic."

Daniela is also working on a related project, "Cyclone," which uses a unique print-making process known as cyanotype.

"The basic idea driving that project is that the primary pigment in the cyanotype has the same chemical constituency as the gas that was used in the gas chambers in the extermination camps," she says. "When I learned that, I was kind of shocked, because



Daniela Molnar. Photo by Genaro Molina.

I was making these prints and just sort of playing around with it, honestly. And then I was like, 'Oh, there is a lot here.' And I started to really think of the prints in another way – that I was communicating with my ancestors through this process of light exposure."

In June, Daniela is scheduled to visit Auschwitz as part of the Common Good Master Class, a visionary educational program sponsored by the [Western States Center](#), a Portland nonprofit that promotes democracy and antiracism. The program, which is a fellowship involving several artists, is "dedicated to looking at the ways that racism, antisemitism and antidemocracy forces coexist and unfortunately support each other."

Daniela and other artists met over Zoom for nine months, studying the ways that these forces overlap.

"It's been, for all of us, really transformative," says Daniela. "We were planning to take this trip to Auschwitz last winter, but with Covid, it just wasn't possible to travel to Poland at that time. So now, of course,



"Cyclone/there is no time, but the light remains 9," from a cyanotype series by Daniela Molnar. The primary pigment in the process is Prussian Blue, which was found in Zyklon B, the lethal gas in Nazi death camps. Cyanotypes are made via a photographic process that relies on sunlight, the light that the murdered were forever denied, but which Molnar is determined to let into her life.

there's a war going on next door to Poland, but they're planning to go ahead with it because their work is about these forces that are playing out there. It's going to be a tricky and probably somewhat dangerous trip. But I've known for my entire life that I need to go to Auschwitz. Both of my grandmothers survived it ... I need to go there."

Daniela will also visit Transylvania and Hungary, where her ancestors are from.

To learn more about Daniela, connect with her at her website [danielamolnar.com](http://danielamolnar.com) or email [hello@danielamolnar.com](mailto:hello@danielamolnar.com).



## ORA's Eastside Jam features Musical Midrash

Musicians are artists, too: Mark Sherman, founder of Musical Midrash Project, performed to a clapping, nodding-along audience during the April 10, in-person ORA event at the Eastside Jewish Commons. ORA: Northwest Jewish Artists hosted Eastside Jam, a one-day art show and concert, featuring Mark on guitar and vocals for a suite of "Finding Love in Leviticus" songs. Each song represents an original tune – in English and in Hebrew – that Mark has created from Torah portions, or *parshiyot*. "ORA is interested in promoting the Jewish arts in all its forms, and Mark's Musical Midrash Project is a superb example of a unique and modern artistic exploration of Torah," says ORA past president Eddy Shulman.



# Kahns to be honored at Schechter Spark May 1

Judith and Garry Kahn will receive the 2022 Rabbi Joshua and Goldie Stampfer (z"l) Migdal Or Award during the 11 am, May 1, Schechter Spark online benefit for Camp Solomon Schechter. A *Migdal Or* is a beacon of light. The award is given out to remarkable individuals that keep the spark of the Stampfers' legacy alive and light the way for others to follow.

Schechter Spark is a celebration of the CSS camp community and a benefit to raise vital funds to support the camp's future. Thanks to several generous matchmakers, all donations of \$180 and more or from first-time donors will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$200,000.

Garry and Judith Kahn were unable to attend Jewish summer camp when they were children. Garry was raised in a Jewish family that we would now describe as "un-affiliated." Judith, whose father was a Port-



Judith and Garry Kahn with Rabbi Joshua Stampfer, z"l.

land *hazan*, kept kosher, and there were no local kosher camps when she was young. That changed when Rabbi Joshua Stampfer created Camp Solomon Schechter. As soon as Garry and Judith's oldest son, David,

was eligible to attend, the Kahns became a Schechter family.

"Judith and Garry have prioritized the Jewish community and Camp Solomon Schechter for decades," says CSS Executive Director Zach Duitch. "They are true *dugmaot* (role models) who understand the importance of philanthropy. Judith and Garry's investments in CSS have made an immediate and long-term impact. Hundreds of first-time campers in Oregon and Southwest Washington have benefited from the Judith & Garry Kahn First-time Campership Fund (\$250 voucher), and they played an active role in naming the kitchen in CSS's most recent capital campaign. I continue to be inspired by their generosity, support and leadership. *Hazak hazak v'nithazek!* (From strength to strength.)"

For more information and to register, visit [campschechter.org/spark](https://campschechter.org/spark).

## Happenings

See more local events at [jewishportland.org/community-calendar](https://jewishportland.org/community-calendar)

### April 14: Moishe Pod-WestPDX Launch Party

Moishe Pod-WestPDX will hold its Launch Party & Pre-Passover Carbo Load in the Pearl District at 7 pm, April 14.

The new Moishe Pod – a two-person Moishe House – will provide young adults opportunities to find Jewish connections and community on Portland's west side.

Moishe Pod-WestPDX residents Shelly Zeiser and Owen Broder invite young adults to connect with each other and enjoy pizza, chocolate cake and Leikam Brewing Kosher beer. Register: [moishepodwestpdx.com](https://moishepodwestpdx.com) or [moishepodwestpdx@gmail.com](mailto:moishepodwestpdx@gmail.com).

### April 21: Gubernatorial Candidate Conversation

Gubernatorial candidate and former Oregon State Senator Betsy Johnson is running for governor as an independent leader unaffiliated with any political party. Learn where she stands on issues of importance to both the Jewish and general communities at noon, April 21, on Zoom.

The Jewish Community Relations Council hosted two Democrats, State Treasurer Tobias Read and former House Speaker Tina Kotek, running for Oregon Governor on Zoom March 29.

On May 17, 2022, Oregon's registered voters will select the candidate that they believe should be their political party's candidate to run for governor in the general election.

Register: [tinyurl.com/24zvua66](https://tinyurl.com/24zvua66)

### April 24: Walk for the MJCC (and CSP)

On Sunday, April 24, 2022, 10 am, join your friends and family and Walk for the Mittleman Jewish Community Center. The J wants 100 people to take 10,000 steps for a total of one million steps and raise \$30,000 for the MJCC.

"After years of isolation, I couldn't think of a better time to get outside for healthy activity to show support for the MJCC as a critical pillar of the community," says MJCC President-Elect Danelle Romain.

You can walk from either Cedar Sinai Park or the MJCC, as the two agencies are once again partnering for this healthy fundraiser.

"Cedar Sinai Park and Mittleman Jewish Community Center are working together to create a fun and meaningful event to support

two organizations that are important not only to our Jewish community, but to the city of Portland," says CSP Director of Community Life Jennifer Felberg.

Walkers can choose from many walking paths that start at the MJCC and CSP or walk back and forth in a socially distant bunch.

"I am very excited to participate in this year's second annual Walk for the J and build on last year's successful walk," says event co-chair Jonathan Glass. "The Walk for the J brings together our community to show our support by raising needed funds for the MJCC, while at the same time increasing our step counts. Help us reach one million steps!"

Details: [oregonjcc.org/about-us/support-our-center/walk](https://oregonjcc.org/about-us/support-our-center/walk)

Sign up or donate: [justgiving.com/campaign/WalkForTheJ2022](https://justgiving.com/campaign/WalkForTheJ2022)

Support Cedar Sinai Park's team: [justgiving.com/team/dorldor](https://justgiving.com/team/dorldor)

### April 24: Holocaust Memorial spring cleaning

Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education will host a spring cleanup of the Oregon Holocaust Memorial 9-11 am, April 24.

Volunteers will gather as a community, enjoy a spring day and show your love for the memorial in Washington Park. Light snacks, drinks and yard debris bags will be provided. Please bring garden gloves, shears and hand shovels.

To volunteer, contact Heather Brunner at [hbrunner@ojmche.org](mailto:hbrunner@ojmche.org).

### April 24: OJCYP online benefit

The Oregon Jewish Community Youth Foundation will host a virtual fundraiser called "Live Green. Give Green" at 3-4 pm, April 24. The teens are raising funds for grant-making to projects with an environmental focus.

There is no charge to attend, but a suggested donation of \$18 per individual or \$54 per household is appreciated.

To register or to donate, visit [givebutter.com/OJCYP2022](https://givebutter.com/OJCYP2022).

### April 24: Taste of Temple

Congregation Beth Israel's delicious annual fundraiser returns at 5 pm, April 24, on the Beth Israel campus. Enjoy bites and sips from leading Portland restaurants and wineries.

For details and tickets, visit [bethisrael-pdx.org/taste/](https://bethisrael-pdx.org/taste/).



# Popular grief group returns for spring series

BY JENN DIRECTOR KNUDSEN

Spring can offer a lot of promise: sunnier days, family-oriented holidays, celebrations like graduations and days dedicated to mothers and fathers.

Spring also offers many opportunities for sadness, loss, grief.

"Sometimes the longer days do help us to feel better, but when they don't, it can cause us to experience feelings of hopelessness, like we will feel awful forever," says Missy Fry, LCSW, CAGSC, Jewish Family & Child Service's behavioral health social worker.

Mindful of this reality, JFCS announces its second grief-processing group in collaboration with the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland. Offered in the fall, Walking Beside You filled very quickly, and many participants and others who had heard about the group, requested a spring-time opportunity. Co-facilitators Missy and Community Chaplain Rabbi Barry Cohen again team up for the no-cost, virtual group.

"Since our fall sessions concluded, we continued to get contacted about when our next grief group would be held," Missy says. "Unfortunately, this represents a sad truth that there is no shortage of grief in our community. Because grief can be such a lonely road to travel, there is a yearning to connect

## WALKING BESIDE YOU

WHAT: A grief-processing group

WHEN: 11 am to noon. April 28; May 5, 12, 19 and 26; and June 2, 9 and 16.

WHERE: Via Zoom

REGISTER: Free; registration required: [jfcs-portland.org/walking-beside-you](https://jfcs-portland.org/walking-beside-you)

with others with shared experiences."

Missy and Rabbi Cohen requested feedback from their fall group's participants and are incorporating some of their ideas into this spring's Walking Beside You.

For example, most of the 12 in the initial cohort wanted the group to last longer, so now it will meet for eight weeks instead of six.

And the group also will include a new session exploring how people can use their unique spirituality or personal faith to go through the grief process.

"Traditional Jewish wisdom can be a guide, but we now have so many other resources and insights at our fingertips to grieve in a mindful way," Rabbi Cohen says.

The feedback also included the participants' gratitude.

"I appreciate having another opportunity to be in a healing environment to help me

deal with my never-ending feelings of grief and loss," said one who also has registered for the spring group.

Another individual shared, "It helps me to know that each of us is grieving differently, and there is no timeframe for that. I (now) realize that I can still do things for myself and for others, too. You helped me with that."

Both Missy and Rabbi Cohen noted one unexpected and incredibly positive outcome: group members' longer-term connections to one another.

"People can find others to go through this process together; that's one of the best things we can provide," Rabbi Cohen says.

Missy adds, "There is no cure for grief. Showing up and being present with people's painful experiences can be helpful on its own, even when it doesn't feel like we have all the right things to say."

"We're walking beside each other," she concludes.

Walking Beside You is made possible in large part thanks to the Jewish Federations of North America's Center for Holocaust Survivor Care and Institute on Aging and Trauma, the Leonard & Lois Schnitzer Charitable Supporting Foundation of Oregon Jewish Community Foundation and the Zidell Family Foundation.

## PDX Hillel celebrates Israel Fellows April 28

PDX Hillel will celebrate a decade of Israel Fellows in Oregon 6-8 pm, April 28. Guest speaker Amy Albertson will share her story of how Portland's first shaliach changed her life and why having a face of Israel on campus and in the community matters.

The event, which will be held at the home of Jeff Reingold, will feature dinner catered by Shalom Y'All, a golden ticket raffle, mitzvah moment and future leader student award.

A 2013 Portland State University graduate, Albertson became a student leader and is now an activist for Jewish pride.

"Our first shaliach brought an apolitical film called 'Israel Inside' to Portland State. The movie was protested by people with mouths taped and hands tied," says Albertson, who went on to found PDX Hillel's CHAI, Cultural & Historical Association of Israel.

Living in Israel for six years, she created the brand The Asian Israeli, in which she discusses her mixed identity and experiences as a Chinese-American Jewish woman. This exploration of her own relationship with Israel led her to the work she does today. Now Albertson promotes Jewish pride through online activism, public speaking and workshops.

In 2012, the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland, through its Community Initiatives Fund, made a decision to bring to Oregon the first Israel Fellow or *shaliach* in almost 30 years. The Fellow became a lead professional at PDX Hillel.

"We are celebrating the role of the Israel Fellow because during times like now, with antisemitism and anti-Zionism rampant on college campuses, it is crucial to ensure our students have a tangible resource that can provide humanity to the often contentious dialogue around Israel on campus," says PDX Hillel Executive Director Hannah Sherman. "Our Israel Fellows have allowed our students, but also the broader Portland Jewish community, to have a meaningful, ongoing and personal connection with Israel."

You can purchase tickets for the virtual raffle to support sustaining the Fellow. Only 50 tickets per package will be sold. Buy a ticket to win The Ultimate Student Survival Kit, Calling All PDX Sports Fans, Life's a Beach Weekend and Oregon in Gorges. For package details and to buy a ticket, see [pdxhillel.org/shalom](https://pdxhillel.org/shalom).

To RSVP, visit [pdxhillel.org/shalom](https://pdxhillel.org/shalom). For more information, contact Hannah Sherman at [hannah@pdxhillel.org](mailto:hannah@pdxhillel.org).



The Jewish Federation of Greater Portland has gathered resources to help families observe Passover. Visit [jewishportland.org/passoverhappenings](https://jewishportland.org/passoverhappenings) to find organizations providing resources for different life stages, sources of Passover meals and recipes. The site is also a great place to find seders and other Pesach events.

### SEDERS

Visit [jewishportland.org/community-calendar/passover-happenings](https://jewishportland.org/community-calendar/passover-happenings) for details on the following:

**April 15, 7:30 pm: Vancouver Seder** – Chabad of Clark County.

**April 15 and 16, 7:30 pm: East County Community Seders** – Join East County Chabad Jewish Center in Gresham.

**April 15 and 16, 7:30 pm: Tigard Passover Seder** – Tigard Chabad Center.

**April 16, 4-6 pm: Kol Shalom Community Seder** – Humanistic, online.

**April 16, 5:30-6:30 pm: Temple Beth Israel-Eugene Second Night Seder** – Short seder with the community, then dinner on your own.

**April 20, 5:30 pm: Kachka Passover Seder** – Benefit for HIAS held at Kachka restaurant and led by educator Hannah Treuhaft.

**April 21, 5 pm: BB Camp's Central Coast Community Seder** – In person at BB Camp.

# Hero Fund to aid PNW businesses and investors

The Hero Fund, a product of Meriwether Group Capital, officially launched on April 1 to bring investors and borrowers together to make loans to growing businesses in the Pacific Northwest.

MWGC is owned and operated by two seasoned bankers, Jamie Shulman and Mike Ferguson, together with general partners Meriwether Group and First Northwest Bancorp.



Jamie Shulman

About seven years ago, Shulman helped launch the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland's Jewish Free Loan "to help with life's ups and downs and in between." He currently serves on Federation's Allocations Committee. The family belongs to Congregation Beth Israel,

where he helps with finances. This fall, his son, Jack, will begin middle school at Portland Jewish Academy.

Shulman has spent nearly 27 years in commercial banking.

"I have seen many small-to-medium businesses in those years that because of regulatory restrictions on commercial banks could not find financing," says Shulman. "They were good companies and making money, but they needed loans."

With the launch of Meriwether's Hero Fund, those companies will have the opportunity to borrow the funds they need to grow. Investors will be able to participate in an income fund offering above market-rate returns in a risk-adjusted scenario. The fund's target is a 10% annual return to investors.

While the Hero Fund has been in the works for some time, the pandemic and resulting cultural changes have sped up its creation.

A presentation for investors notes that as the market experiences a surge in entrepreneurship, demand for solutions is growing rapidly: 5.4 million new business applications were filed in 2021, surpassing the record-breaking 4.4 million filed in 2020 (data from NPR & HBR, 2022). The great resignation, fueled by the desire for purpose-driven work, is a primary driver of this new generation of founders.

The investor presentation also notes MWGC will have access to an insider's look at a range of growing businesses that are generally invisible to the market and are willing to pay higher rates in the interest of preserving equity. These are secured loans with a level of sophisticated underwriting that minimizes risk.

"I am beyond excited in terms of the ability to help businesses in the Pacific Northwest reach their defining moment more quickly and to provide an attractive return to those who want to invest," he says. "We've seen a lot of good quality companies ... and are raising investment dollars to make loans more quickly."

For more information, contact Shulman at [jamie@meriwethergroupcapital.com](mailto:jamie@meriwethergroupcapital.com).

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Sisters Nadine Menashe, and Natasha Astrakhan, right, were among 16 Russian-speaking young adults who shared experiences and feelings in San Francisco.

## Young adults explore with JDC

BY NADINE MENASHE

Two Portlanders were among 16 Jewish young adults from around the country who traveled to San Francisco March 24-27 for JDC Entwine's first U.S.-based Insider trip. My sister, Natasha Astrakhan, and I were the two participants from Portland.

An initiative of the JDC, the largest Jewish humanitarian organization in the world, Entwine offers global service and travel experiences, educational programs and leadership development opportunities, through which young people can explore, find meaning and take action.

The goal of the March trip was to connect Russian-speaking Jews to the immigrant cultures of San Francisco and to the work that JDC and its partner organizations do in the Bay area. The trip was funded by the Genesis Philanthropy Group and was designed for young professionals from a Russian-speaking Jewish (RSJ) background with at least one parent born in the former Soviet Union.

I participated on a JDC Entwine virtual trip to Odessa, Ukraine, in 2020 and was very excited to experience a real trip with the organization. It was an action-packed four days: we toured Little Russia, biked across the Golden Gate Bridge, made borscht in a Russian cooking class and ate our way through Chinatown. We also met with some amazing organizations including Jewish Family and Children's Services, Urban Adamah, Repair the World, the RSJ Moishe House and the new RSJ community center opening later this year. I would have loved to spend more time with each organization — especially Urban Adamah, where we helped garden while learning about their commitment to Jewish learning, sustainability and social action. Somehow, we even got some free time to just hang out with our new friends.

The trip occurred during the war in Ukraine, which provided an opportunity for RSJs to share their feelings. Some of us have family still living in the region; others held deep emotions about the atrocities happening in their homeland. We held space for these feelings and talked candidly about the crisis. However, we also knew we deserved to experience joy and belonging, and we made this a theme throughout our trip.

The program gave opportunities to set kavannah (intentions) for each day of the trip: creation, fusion and legacy. These intentions were woven throughout our activities, and we debriefed on them at the end of each day. The fusion theme was my personal favorite, as it was centered around honoring multiple parts of our identities and exploring how they come together.

Continued on next page



# UKRAINE (continued from page 1)

Tkachuk, whose mother is Ukrainian and father Russian, immigrated to the U.S. with her family in 2004. The two friends had stayed in touch, and when Russia invaded Ukraine the connection deepened.

"She has been checking in with me since war broke out," says Tkachuk.

Initially Dr. Kahn donated a few bags of children's clothes to the Slavic church in Fairview, where Tkachuk is a member. Sulamita Church has been collecting and shipping supplies for refugees. Then Dr. Kahn spoke to Foundation School Director Cory Willson about hosting a collection drive at the preschool at Neveh Shalom, which her two children attend.

"Yulia is an angel," says Dr. Kahn. "I knew she has family in Ukraine, and I reached out to see if her family was OK and if there was anything I could do to help. I'm the daughter of a Romanian refugee, and I really empathized and felt other Jewish families felt the same."

Tkachuk says, "I just shared what is in my heart with Dr. Kahn, and she shared in an email."

That email brought enough children's clothing, diapers, blankets and other supplies to fill four pickup loads.

"I just wrote a compelling email and it just took off," says Dr. Kahn, who moved to Portland in 2015 with her husband, Yoni. "It was something that seemed doable for families. I am proud of our community for mobilizing to help."

"Rebecca is amazing and our community really stepped up," says Willson.

Volunteers from the church picked up the donations and sorted supplies at a church member's warehouse. The first shipping container with medicine and first aid supplies was sent by airplane.

"It was very expensive," says Tkachuk. "The rest will go via ship. It will take about three weeks to transport them to the border of Poland and Ukraine, where teams in churches will distribute to people."

"I am very grateful to every single family (who donated)," she says. "We didn't expect such a response. We are very grateful. Thinking of families shopping with their kids for people in need is wonderful."

## JFCS plans for likely refugees

Half of Jewish Family and Child Service's Holocaust Survivor clients are from Ukraine, so the Portland agency is paying very close attention to the ongoing war and President Joe Biden's recent announcement that the United States may accept up to 100,000 Ukrainian refugees. Some may be resettled in Portland.

Anticipating the Ukrainian refugees' arrival sparks a number of questions, key among them, "What can JFCS do for Jewish Ukrainian refugees?"

JFCS actively resettled Soviet Jews in the 1970s into the 1990s. Community Warehouse grew out of that successful effort, and in the early '90s became refugees' go-to for resettlement materials and assistance. Today, JFCS is partnering with three Oregon community organizations that are contracted to provide refugee resettlement services – Catholic Charities of Oregon, Lutheran Community Services Northwest and Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon.

These agencies will refer refugees to us where their needs intersect with our expertise in our four program areas: Counseling, Disability Support Services, Holocaust Survivor Services and Emergency Aid.

To learn about possible ways to help, email JFCS Deputy Director Susan Greenberg at [sgreenberg@jfcs-portland.org](mailto:sgreenberg@jfcs-portland.org).

## Ukrainian relief drive continues as needs increase

Portlanders have donated generously to the nationwide Jewish Federation effort that has raised more than \$43.4 million to distribute to partner organizations.

Jewish Federations have allocated some \$40 million of the \$43.4 million we have raised to 35 NGOs operating on the ground in Ukraine and neighboring countries to support refugees and Jewish communities.

These partners include Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI), The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC), World ORT, United Hatzalah, Hillel International, Nefesh B' Nefesh, HIAS, the Israel Trauma Coalition, Hadassah Medical Organization, Moishe House, Chabad and Shema Yisrael.

The needs are real and continue. Donate at [jewishportland.org/ukraine-crisis](http://jewishportland.org/ukraine-crisis).



Ukrainian refugees in Romania. Photo by Max Dinshtein for the Jewish Agency for Israel.

## RUSSIAN-SPEAKERS' TRIP (continued from previous page)

I particularly cherished an activity to study different quotes about identity and discuss how we connected to them.

As RSJs, we have a much different Jewish upbringing than our peers, and it was a remarkable experience to be in a room filled with people who shared that experience. Few RSJs participate in Jewish organizational life, and we often require special programs run by and for us to ensure we feel

welcome in a Jewish space. Every person in the room had had an experience where they felt like they weren't Jewish enough, Russian enough or American enough. These four days together solidified the unspoken need we have for a community that understands us to our cores.

Now I know that I don't have to travel far to have a transformative cultural experience. I'm so immensely grateful for my

time in San Francisco with JDC Entwine. Thanks to the subsidization from Genesis Philanthropy Group, I spent almost nothing out of pocket and received a beautiful gift of new friends, deeper Jewish knowledge and memories from amazing new places.

Explore JDC Entwine at [jdcentwine.org](http://jdcentwine.org). If you are interested in creating a Portland-area RSJ young adult community, reach out to me at [nadinemenashe@gmail.com](mailto:nadinemenashe@gmail.com).

# Chaplain's Corner

## Retell the Telling of Our Story

BY RABBI BARRY COHEN

As a nation, we are struggling to tell our history. We cannot agree on the national narrative that binds us.

This relates to an array of controversies from the national to the local: Critical Race Theory, the 1619 Project and the legacy of slavery; how Texas public schools teach what happened at the Alamo; in Tennessee, the McMinn County Board of Education's decision to remove Maus from the curriculum; Florida's "Don't Say Gay" bill, dictating how gender is taught.

In a recent Throughline podcast, "The Story of Us," Mir Tamim Ansary explored the fraying of our national narrative and history. Ansary is an Afghan-American author, public speaker and philosopher of history. His latest work is *The Invention of Yesterday*.

This podcast grabbed my attention because we are about to gather around the seder table to share our story. What is the status of our narrative? Does it express who we are? Is everyone included in the telling? Do we agree with how we are sharing our story?

The beauty and the strength of the Haggadah, the telling of the tale, is its organic nature. Our Haggadah is ever-changing, depending on the needs of the day. We have incorporated into our story of redemption the story of civil rights and women's rights. We modified our story to include the struggle of Jews in the former Soviet Union. We have also incorporated into our story the necessity to address climate change.

We face complicated questions as we confront the status of our national narrative. Who is in charge of the telling? How do we determine what is included? How do we interpret the content? Ansary explains that to maintain a common national identity, we must agree on a common story. We must all feel part of being a "we ... an intertwined spaghetti of human lives."

Our national narrative is breaking down in part because we are questioning the motives of those who for centuries have controlled the content and the telling of the narrative. In addition, more and more of those victimized or omitted are objecting that the narrative does not include them, and that they are tired of not being recognized for their place in the telling of our nation's history.

Concerning our Haggadah, now is the perfect time to take a look at the foundational stories that we have incorporated into our tale of redemption. We must reflect on who "we" are and ensure that all of us are included in the narrative. We must celebrate our diversity and recognize our back stories. The Jewish people are a beautifully di-



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

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

verse collection of peoples: we have lived and continue to live in almost every nation. We are of Ashkenazic, Sephardic, Mizrahi and Italian descent. We are interfaith, POC and LGBTQ+. And so much more.

To varying degrees, we have all been enslaved. We have our personal stories of redemption. To reflect our collective identity, we must create a shared story in which everyone can see themselves.

We also must be careful of how we refer to and even co-opt other people's stories of slavery. I grew up in Memphis during a time when the city was highly segregated. One of the highlights was our singing "Let My People Go." We sang it to the melody of an African-American spiritual. We thus linked the Jewish people's experience of slavery with the African-American experience of slavery.

In 2022, I have a much more accurate understanding of our nation's history and how it is intimately connected to the enslavement and exploitation of African-Americans. I no longer feel comfortable singing "Let My People Go," which symbolically incorporated the slave experience of African-Americans into the slave experience of my ancient ancestors. I acknowledge that I am instructed at the seder table to feel as if I am currently enslaved. But that does not mean that I can feel the pain of enslaved African-Americans. And I definitely cannot truly feel what post-Civil War African-American generations have felt in a nation that has yet to come to terms with our original sin of slavery.

Thank goodness we are taught that our Haggadah must reflect our current needs. Hardwired into the telling of our tale are instructions to ask hard questions and debate constructively. This year, let us expand the telling so that it begins to reflect the diversity of our people. Let everyone who gathers with us at our seders say with pride, "I see myself in this story. This Haggadah reflects who I am."

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

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

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### Circulation

To receive the Jewish  
Review in your email inbox,  
email your name and email  
address to  
[editor@jewishportland.org](mailto:editor@jewishportland.org)

OPINIONS printed in the  
Jewish Review do not  
necessarily reflect those  
of the Jewish Review  
Committee, the Jewish  
Federation of Greater  
Portland, its governing  
board or the staffs of either  
the newspaper or the  
Federation.

## Next issues

Issue date	Deadline
April 27	April 14 (early)
May 11	May 5
May 25	May 19
June 8	June 2

Submit news, photos  
and obituaries to  
[editor@jewishportland.org](mailto:editor@jewishportland.org)

**In addition to the Chaplain's Corner, The Jewish Review offers space for a Rabbi's Corner each issue. Our community's rabbis are invited to share their thoughts on the week's parsha or current events. To schedule a column, email [editor@jewishportland.org](mailto:editor@jewishportland.org).**



## ***An Israel boycott that promotes academic freedom? (Yeah, right)***

*An open letter to Professor Eve Troutt Powell, President of the Middle East Studies Association*

**Dear President Troutt Powell,**

As I'm sure you're aware by now, the resolution adopted in March by the Middle East Studies Association (MESA) endorsing the anti-Israel Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement has sparked an outcry from several Jewish organizations. The Anti-Defamation League said it was "appalled" by the association's call for an academic boycott of Israel; the pro-Israel campus advocacy group AMCHA Initiative called the resolution "morally reprehensible."

Quite frankly, I don't understand why all the sudden outrage. After all, for anyone who's familiar with MESA's record, the BDS endorsement is hardly surprising. Your association has consistently demonstrated contempt for Israel. At your annual meeting back in 2019, for example, Temple University professor Marc Lamont Hill, who was chosen to be your keynote speaker despite having absolutely no academic expertise in Middle East studies, called on the attendees to support BDS even at the cost of losing their academic careers.

I'm sure somewhere Professor Hill must be smiling (though not at CNN, which fired him because of a history of offensive comments).

Now, I noted that in your statement about the resolution you said your board will work to "ensure that the call for an academic boycott (of Israel) is upheld..." Naturally, your critics ignore the other half of that sentence: "...without undermining our commitment to the free exchange of ideas and scholarship." Apparently, they want to mislead people into thinking that boycotting Israeli scholars and universities would somehow undermine, rather than promote, academic freedom and dialogue. I know you're too smart to fall for their deceptions.

Predictably, unfair accusations of antisemitism have been leveled at MESA. How anyone could claim with a straight face that singling out the world's only Jewish state and its universities is antisemitic is perplexing. Clearly, your detractors didn't bother visiting your website. It says it right there in your vision statement: MESA "opposes antisemitism." I mean, could you be any more unequivocal?

Of course, there's also the accusation of a double standard against Israel, by which your detractors mean MESA's deafening silence regarding atrocities committed by Arab countries. You know, why doesn't MESA ever raise concerns about how the academic freedom of Palestinian scholars is severely restricted by the intimidation, harassment and violence routinely perpetrated by the Palestinian Authority and Hamas at Palestin-

ian universities, blah, blah, blah? (Oh, and don't get them started on the utter lack of academic freedom in places like Saudi Arabia and Iran.)

You're probably expecting the Israel supporters to dredge up that same old story about the Palestinian academic who took some of his students to visit Auschwitz in 2014. Remember? While he was in Poland, other students of his denounced him as a traitor, trashed his secretary's office and threatened to kill him if he returned to the university. Then his academic union cancelled his membership, and yet, MESA said nothing.

Surely this admittedly shameful incident pales in comparison to Israeli human rights violations. MESA certainly isn't going to be duped by Israeli claims that their universities are "models of diversity and peaceful coexistence." As if Jewish, Israeli Arab and Palestinian students studying, doing research and teaching together is a reason to call off the boycott!

I was heartened to learn that Israeli scholars can still become members of your association even though they're otherwise being blacklisted. Undoubtedly, they would be honored to belong to such an inclusive academic association. That alone should compensate for the fact that they could be banned from attending Middle East studies conferences, that their lectures on American campuses could be disrupted by BDS activists or that their research papers could be rejected by virtue of their Zionist convictions.

I hope you won't be dissuaded by those who will accurately point out that your endorsement of BDS renders MESA out of step with the very region you purport to study. Ostracizing Israeli scholars at a time when there is expanding relations, including academic collaboration, between Israel and the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Morocco takes true moral courage. Good for you for following your conscience!

Finally, I applaud you for the personal sacrifice you and your fellow BDS endorsers are making. The Israeli universities you're boycotting have made important advances – for example, in the field of pathology – that benefit the entire world, including the Palestinians. To be true to the BDS movement, you'll have to forego benefitting from Israeli ingenuity. No worries. I understand that Hamas, whose terrorism doesn't warrant a single mention in your resolution, has developed a way to cure cancer permanently using C4 plastic explosives.

*Sincerely,*

*Bob Horenstein, Community Relations Director of the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland*

## **EASTSIDE JEWISH COMMONS**

### **Executive Director**

*Salary: \$80,000-120,000 annually plus benefits*

EJC is an inclusive Jewish community space on Portland's eastside. EJC seeks a nonprofit leader adept in development, operations, people management, finance, board management, stakeholder relations and building and program management. This is a job for someone who is highly detail-oriented, organized, tech savvy, proactive, energetic, communicative and thorough. They will hire and supervise staff.

## **PORTLAND JEWISH ACADEMY**

### **Early Childhood**

### **Program Registrar & Administrative Assistant**

*Salary: \$22-25/hour DOE*

This position serves as the first point of contact for families inquiring about our preschool and infant/toddler programs. Greet visitors, answer phones, create formal correspondence and respond to emails. Coordinate classroom staffing and scheduling on a daily basis and maintains a wait list to fill classroom openings as they arise.

## **JFCS**

### **Holocaust Survivor**

### **Services Case Manager**

Required: MSW/Bachelor of Social Work; Bilingual: Russian. Effectively maintain and enhance the Home Care and Emergency Aid programs sponsored by the Claims Conference grants, provide help with applying for reparations and support outreach programs for clients. [jfcs-portland.org/about-us/employment/](http://jfcs-portland.org/about-us/employment/)

## **JEWISH CAREER HUB**

The Jewish Federation of Greater Portland's job board for the ongoing listing of job opportunities in the Jewish community currently features 22 Jewish job openings, including the PJA and EJC openings above. See full posts at: [jewishportland.org/ourcommunity/jewish-jobs](http://jewishportland.org/ourcommunity/jewish-jobs).

## JACK WOLINSKY

Jack Wolinsky, z"l, passed away April 1, 2022. He is survived by his children, Carol Veatch (Lamar), Alan Wolinsky and Joan Kahn (Gary); grandchildren, Melanie Frank (Daniel), David Veatch, Benjamin Kahn and Emily Kahn (Benjamin Ficker); and seven great-grandchildren and 11 nieces and nephews. Jack was predeceased by his parents, Samuel and Anna Wolinsky, brothers Louis Wolinsky and Leo Wolinsky, and sister Edythe Davis.

Born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio, on May 19, 1924, Jack was known for his razor-sharp wit, enterprising nature and devotion to his family and the Jewish community. From his time as a young boy during the Depression, he showed remarkable entrepreneurial skills. As a youngster, he sold newspapers and ice cream on the streets of Cleveland and hawked bags of roasted peanuts at the baseball stadium. Later on, he successfully bought, built up and sold many businesses in Ohio and Florida, including gas stations, a car rental franchise, print shop and general store, which he laughingly called "a real life 'schmatta mart.'"

After graduating from high school, Jack attended The Ohio State University before enlisting in the Army Air Corps in 1943, where he served in the South Pacific as a medic. In 1948, he married Maxine Horwitz. They lived for several years in Elyria, Ohio, and moved back to Cleveland in 1960, where they remained for nearly two decades.

Following a 10-year stint in Florida, Jack moved to Portland in 1990, where he fully took part in Jewish communal life, forming strong ties with fellow congregants at Neveh Shalom. For many years, he was an avid participant of the "Morning Minyanaires" and relished his role as the synagogue's Gabbai. He also made many friends through his poker group that regularly met at Rose Schnitzer Manor.

While living in Portland, he served as executive director of the local chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) and as an employment specialist for AARP. Well into his 80s, he was the manager of his condo building, keeping the place ship shape and even changing residents' lightbulbs.

His funeral was held April 4 followed by shiva services at Congregation Neveh Sha-

lom. Congregation Neveh Shalom extends our deepest condolences to the extended Wolinsky family. Donations in Jack's memory may be made to Congregation Neveh Shalom, the Oregon Food Bank or NAMI Oregon.

## TERRY HOWARD

Terry Howard, z"l, passed away March 31, 2022, at age 94. Terry is survived by sons, Jeffrey Howard (Michele) and Kevin Howard (Deborah Walker); daughter, Robyn Howard; granddaughters, Ella Howard and Rita Howard Michaels (CJ); great-grandchildren, Oliver and Kenzi Michaels; nephews, Joel and Mark Feldman; and niece, Jodi Feldman Gubman. Terry was preceded in death by her husband, Norman (2008), brother, Robert Feldman (2010), and sister-in-law, Dottie Feldman (2022).

Terry (Tova) was born in 1928 in New York City. Her parents, Ida and Julius Feldman, immigrants from Minsk, Russia, had only grade-school educations. Ida, Julius, Terry and her brother Bob lived with the grandparents and their Aunt Sarah.

Julius, the only income earner in the family and the owner of a tavern in Patterson, N.J., committed suicide when Terry was 9 and her brother 5. After the death of Julius, Ida took over the tavern. She sold it and moved to Columbus, Ohio, in 1940 to run a liquor store with her uncle.

Terry grew up speaking Yiddish to her grandparents. She grew up in an Orthodox setting until they moved to Ohio. Terry's Jewish identity was lifelong. She became a member of the women's Zionist organization Hadassah starting in her teen years. She became the president of Hadassah chapters in Detroit, Florida and Vancouver, Wash.

Terry skipped a couple of grades and earned a degree in accounting and business from Ohio State University. She married Norman Howard in 1952. At age 45, Terry received her master's degree in education. She dedicated herself to educating inner city kids in Detroit, teaching business and office skills at Pershing High School. With bars over the windows and armed guards checking backpacks at the doors, she remained there undeterred for 25 years.

The couple moved to Vancouver, Wash., in 2005.

In his eulogy, Kevin shared stories of his parents' introduction to the Pacific Northwest: *My wife, Deb, and I moved to Portland area in 1988, and my parents, who were very city oriented, came to visit regularly. The first time we drove them through the Columbia Gorge, my Mom looked out the car window and asked "Now who'd go all the way up there and plant a tree?" On*

*another trip driving to our log cabin on 20 acres on Mt. Adams, my Dad asked, "When the hell will you have time to mow 20 acres?" I said "Dad, it's the coolest thing, it's called a forest, no mowing necessary." My Mom and Dad were a good pair in their shared misunderstanding of nature. (See more at [jewishportland.org/obituaries](http://jewishportland.org/obituaries))*

Terry was a member of Congregation Kol Ami in Vancouver, Wash., and Congregation Neveh Shalom in Portland. Burial was April 4, 2022, at Ahavai Shalom Cemetery.

The family suggests donations in her memory be made to Hadassah.

## SIVIA KAYE

Sivia Kaye, z"l, passed away on March 27, 2022. Sivia is survived by daughter, Beth Kaye of Portland, and grandchildren, Aviva Kaye-Diamond and Noah Diamond. She is also survived by son, Glenn Novarr, daughter-in-law, Alison Carper, and grandchildren, Grace and Julian Novarr, all of New York City; brother, David Karan of Long Island, and other members of their extended family. She was predeceased by her husband, Bernard Kaye, and parents, Harry and Lily Karansky of Boro Park, Brooklyn.

She was a member of Congregation Beth Israel. Sivia was buried in the Havurah Shalom Cemetery in the Jones Pioneer Cemetery on March 30, 2022. The family held a private shiva minyan and plans a memorial gathering at a later date.

Donations in Sivia's memory may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, the Harold A. Schnitzer Diabetes Institute at OHSU or your local public broadcasting station.

## DONALD MARTIN SIMON

Donald Martin Simon died Tuesday, March 22, 2022, of natural causes at the age of 92. Donald was preceded in death by his wife, Harriet Simon, and long-time companion, Delores Hovey. He is survived by his brother, Howard J. Simon (Dee) Beaverton; daughter, Roslyn Simon, Portland; son, Alan Simon (Katia Campos) Seattle, Wash.; and three grandchildren, three nephews and two nieces.

He was born April 1, 1929. He graduated from Lincoln High School in 1946 and from the University of Oregon in 1950. He retired as a colonel in the Army Reserve after 30 years. He was a member of Congregation Beth Israel. Donald was Regional Sales Manager for Graphic Arts Center and VP of Paul O. Giesey/Adcrafters.

A private service has been held. Donations in his memory may be made to the charity of donor's choice.

