

# The JEWISH REVIEW

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## A leader at the right time

BY DEBORAH MOON

Lauren Goldstein had an agenda to bring Jewish Portlanders together when she became board chair of the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland in June 2019.

With her rallying cry of “When we come together as a community, great things happen,” she hoped to unite the community with in-person gatherings throughout Federation’s centennial year. Inspired by JFGP President and CEO Marc Blattner’s vision of an inclusive and integrated Jewish community in Portland, Goldstein says, “I wanted to help lead toward that vision ... of what Portland could be in the future.”

Then Covid changed the world in March 2020, and the JFGP community trip to Israel that month was abruptly put on hold. (It has been rescheduled for March 2023. See story below.) Many other programs and ideas also fell by the wayside.

“She was able to quickly adapt and not lose momentum,” says Ed Tonkin, who was Lauren’s predecessor as board chair. “This was a major hurdle, and she was able to keep things going. To be effective under those circumstances shows exceptional leadership. ... She was the right person at the right time.”

Goldstein adopted a new motto – pivot.

See **A LEADER PIVOTS**, page 6



Lauren Goldstein. Photo by Kitta Bodmer Photography.

## It's back! Portland-Israel trip resets



Could this camel be waiting for more people to sign up for the March 2023 Portland to Israel trip? He actually took this break during a 2018 planning trip for trip co-chairs and staff. Hurry and snag one of the remaining openings for the trip and experience the wonders of Israel – including a chance to ride a camel.

BY DEBORAH MOON

Israel is a go in 2023. Join the Jewish Federation’s trip to Israel to celebrate the Jewish state’s 75th anniversary. Registration, at unbelievably low prices, opens June 15 for Portland’s largest-ever community trip to Israel.

The majority of spots for the March 2023 trip have been claimed by people who had registered for 2020 Centennial Trip to Israel, which the Covid pandemic cancelled just days before departure. But 80 slots, all with significant subsidies, are available on a first-come basis when registration opens June 15.

The trip will now celebrate 102 years of the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland and the 75th anniversary of the modern state of Israel.

See **PDX-ISRAEL**, page 8

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# PSU students create Middle East friendships

BY DEBORAH MOON

Jewish and Israeli students were able to start down the road to coexistence with their Middle Eastern counterparts at Portland State University last month.

Last summer, when violence surged between Israel and Hamas, student governments in Corvallis and Eugene circulated inflammatory, anti-Israel statements.

Concerned about what the campus climate would look like for students at PSU, PDX Hillel decided to revisit its relationship with the university administration.

PDX Hillel Executive Director Hannah Sherman met with PSU President Stephen Percy and Dr. Amy Lambert, the new vice president of diversity, equity and inclusion.

"The goal was to talk about what we were seeing on college campuses nationwide and how the university could support our Jewish and pro-Israel students on campus," says Sherman.

Sherman praised Dr. Lambert for connecting the Hillel with Ahmed El-Mansouri, the new program coordinator for MENASA (the Middle East North Africa South Asia) cultural center. In previous years, Jewish students have not felt welcome at MENASA activities, Sherman adds.

"Israel is part of the Middle East – it falls into that category of what MENASA covers," says Sherman. "She (Dr. Lambert) really wanted to make sure that we had that



Portland State University students from PDX Hillel, CHAI (the Cultural and Historical Association for Israel) and MENASA (the Middle East North Africa South Asia) cultural center came together for a night of friendship, coexistence and dialogue centered around cooking (and eating!) Middle Eastern food as a group.

relationship so we could form partnerships."

The partnership is flourishing.

"Thank you to Ahmed El-Mansouri, the new program coordinator for MENASA, for welcoming in this new era of acceptance and 'allyship,'" says Sherman.

The two groups started meeting in the fall to discuss what they wanted to achieve with the partnership. "These are all students at PSU – that's the one thing they have in common – so let's start with that very basic identity we all share," Sherman says they decided. "The goal was to do two events, one in the winter and then one in the spring. Because in the winter everything shut down again with Omicron, we

unfortunately were not able to do that first event. Spring cooking was the first event."

She also credits the PSU administration's support for "this really beautiful partnership that I think will only expand."

"It was so joyful, and it was so beautiful," says Sherman of the cooking event. "There were so many different languages that filled up the room, and it was the epitome of coexistence. ... They really built these friendships that I think will help further coexistence programs and activities next year."

PSU students who want to be involved in PDX Hillel or the partnership with MENASA can visit [pdxhillel.org](http://pdxhillel.org) or email Sherman at [hannah@pdxhillel.org](mailto:hannah@pdxhillel.org).

## Women's Giving Circle funds nine programs

The Women's Giving Circle of the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland has awarded \$26,200 to nine grant recipients. Now in its fifth grant cycle, the Women's Giving Circle has granted a total \$112,665 in 37 grants.

"We are delighted by the creativity, commitment and variety of projects we're able to help," says Sharon Pollin, who co-chairs the giving circle with Jessica Zutz Hilbert. "From theater to leadership development, intentional inclusivity and outreach to diverse members of the Jewish community, the work that is being done in Portland is inspiring."

Pollin says she thanks "my fabulous co-chair, Jess Hilbert, who is an inspiring and capable young Jewish leader, and Wendy Kahn," the JFGP Campaign Director and Director of Women's Philanthropy, who both staffs and participates in the giving circle. "I've learned so much from these women and all the fabulous women of the giving circle."

Organizations requesting grants all noted that with pandemic restrictions abating, there is a longing to again be together in person.

The largest grant, \$5,000, went to the Oregon Hillel Foundation to continue the giving circle's support of the annual statewide college student women's retreat, which Pollin says has a special place in the hearts of women in the giving circle.

"This year, for the first time, the attendees – 40 strong – were able to meet in person at the amazing B'nai B'rith Camp," says Pollin. "Young women from Portland-area universities, OSU and U of O – college freshman to Ph.D. students – gathered for several workshops. Wendy Kahn and I had the privilege of participating in one of the panels that focused on life choices, balance and wellness

through a Jewish lens. These young women are smart, thoughtful, capable and wanting to gather within the context of Judaism. We feel honored to support these young women of our Jewish future."

### Other grant recipients are:

- Hand2Mouth Theatre, \$3,600, to develop "Girls in Trouble: the Theatrical Experience." This evening-length theatrical project is based around Alicia Jo Rabins' indie-folk song cycle, *Girls in Trouble*, a series of songs about stories of women in the Torah. A preview is planned in spring 2023.
- Chabad Jewish Center-Hillsboro, \$3,600, for intergenerational Women's Weekly Club, Rosh Chodesh and cooking/baking events.
- TischPDX, \$3,600, to launch an Alumni Support Program to support the 17 alumni from the Jewish leadership incubator that trains and empowers younger Jews who feel marginalized.
- Jewish Family & Child Service, \$3,600, for Disability Support Services' Accessibility program to provide American Sign Language simultaneous translation services and Communication Access Realtime Translation to their clients and the greater community.
- Portland Kollel, \$2,500, to fund Mommy Talks, a new monthly program for Jewish mothers of young children.
- The Alberta Shul, \$1,800, for "Jewish Events" to expand beyond holiday-based events and launch a series of nature-based activities.
- Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education, \$1,500, to support "In Conversation," a July event featuring three Oregon Jewish artists discussing their reaction to the work of Judy Chicago, the subject of OJMCHE's current exhibit.
- Oregon NCSY, \$1,000, to create "The Israeli Moms' Get-Away," a two-day retreat for Israeli mothers.





Jewish Federation  
OF GREATER PORTLAND

*Israel at 75*

PDX >> ISRAEL 2023

**REGISTRATION OPENS  
ON JUNE 15**

**The Jewish Federation is excited to officially open registration for our rescheduled Centennial Trip to Israel! It's a special year for Israel...its 75th anniversary...and we'll be there to celebrate!**

We have developed a fantastic itinerary that will include experiences planned for 2020 and some new/different ones, as well.

The opportunity for participating in a group b'nai mitzvah is available. See the 2023 Trip website for the draft itinerary and registration. **(Beginning June 15)**

*Priscilla & Tony Kostiner and  
Kathy Davis-Weiner & Michael Weiner*  
Israel 2023 Co-Chairs

**[www.jewishportland.org/israel2023](http://www.jewishportland.org/israel2023)**

## Rabbis share support for gun control petitions

After the school shooting in Uvalde, Texas, that killed 19 children and two adults on May 24, several Jewish groups shared links to petitions that would put gun control on Oregon's November ballot.

"Right now, Oregon is on the precipice of being a leader in the nation on Gun Violence Prevention," says Rabbi Michael Cahana of Congregation Beth Israel. He is one of three chief petitioners for two initiative petitions – [IP 17](#) and [IP 18](#) – from Lift Every Voice Oregon, an interfaith grassroots organization.

The Jewish Community Relations Council supports both initiatives.

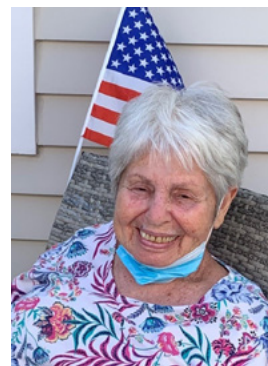
"Lift Every Voice Oregon made the strategic decision to put all our resources behind getting IP 17 onto the November ballot and to refer IP 18 to the Oregon Legislature shortly afterwards," said Rabbi Cahana after the most recent shooting. "Research has shown that laws like IP 17, requiring a permit to purchase guns and a ban on large capacity magazines, save more lives." IP 17 needs 140,000 signatures by July 8 to be on the ballot.

IP 18 signatures will show lawmakers there is a support in Oregon for a ban on military-style assault weapons, like those used in Buffalo and Uvalde.

Congregation Kesser Israel Rabbi Kenneth Brodtkin wrote: "Tragically, many children have been sacrificed upon the altar of absolute gun rights. ... From a moral, religious perspective, we must strongly advocate for common-sense measures that can help prevent gun violence."

Congregation Neveh Shalom Rabbi David Kosak and the synagogue board wrote: "We feel a moral responsibility to disseminate links to two state initiatives, IP 17 and IP 18."

For more information and signature forms, visit [lifteveryvoiceoregon.com](http://lifteveryvoiceoregon.com).



## Memorial Day Commemorated at Cedar Sinai Park

Residents of Rose Schnitzer Manor and Harold Schnitzer Center for Living recently came together at Cedar Sinai Park to celebrate their loved ones who fought and died while serving in the United States armed forces. From left are RSM residents Amelie and Betty and HSCL resident Doris. Residents honored those who fought and died for their country, sang the Star-Spangled Banner and recited the Pledge of Allegiance; "Taps" was played by Life Enrichment Coordinator Adam Roes. "Never forget," said CSP Spiritual Life Director Cathy Zheutlin. "That phrase for me is a call to action, a call to remember that I have a right to the past. That my life exists on the shoulders of people who fought and died for my right to exist, and that great suffering has taken place. And we don't want that suffering ever again. So, we go from never forget, to never again."



## Explore refugee resettlement June 22

Explore "The Current State of Refugee Resettlement and Immigration" in a virtual program at 5:30-7 pm, June 22, 2022.

Havurah Shalom invites the Jewish community to listen, learn and ask questions about the refugee situation around the globe. The program is presented in partnership with the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society and the Refugee Congress. The program will be recorded.

Senator Ron Wyden will deliver introductory remarks. Attendees will hear from experts at HIAS, refugee advocates and Havurah Shalom members about the global refugee crisis, the status of the U.S. resettlement program, the situation at the U.S. southern border, and how Jewish congregations, communities and individuals can help.

For questions, email [lauren@neveragaincoalition.org](mailto:lauren@neveragaincoalition.org). Register at [havurahshalom.org/event/zm-forum-on-the-global-refugee-crisis](http://havurahshalom.org/event/zm-forum-on-the-global-refugee-crisis)

## Safety trainings available online

SCN Regional Security Advisor Jessica Anderson will offer several online safety training programs over the summer.

Secure Community Network is the official safety and security organization of the Jewish community in North America. The local position is funded via a four-way partnership of SCN, the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland, Oregon Jewish Community Foundation Endowment Fund and contributions from 17 different Jewish organizations across the region.

Registration is now open for the following trainings:

- BeAware – Introduction to Situational Awareness – June 21 at 9 am and 7 pm
- Countering Active Threat Training (CATT) – June 28 and July 12 at 9 am and 7 pm
- Stop The Bleed – Aug. 9 and 23 at 9 am and 7 pm.

Stop the Bleed online classes will be followed up with in-person, hands-on training.

These trainings are available to anyone. Anderson also offers customized training with agency and congregation staff and lay leadership on other days or can follow up the online training with in-person sessions at your places of work and worship.

To schedule training for an organization, contact Anderson at [janderson@securecommunitynetwork.org](mailto:janderson@securecommunitynetwork.org) or 503-892-7406.

Register at [jewishportland.org/events/security-training](http://jewishportland.org/events/security-training).



# Telling the JFCS story

BY DEBORAH MOON

Jewish Family & Child Service Marketing Manager Robyn Taylor has spent the past year using her stage-managing and storytelling skills to spotlight the social service agency's incredible work.

She honed her storytelling skills as co-founder of Folklore Media, a marketing and design agency helping nonprofits, small businesses and local political campaigns tell their stories. Now she enjoys focusing on the work of JFCS.

When Taylor joined JFCS in July 2021, she focused on creating a tagline for the agency. "We're really trying to define who we are and what we do in the community moving forward," she says. She collaborated with staff in all the programs and developed the tagline "We provide stability and hope."

"We provide stability and hope to the Jewish community and beyond ... through all of our four programs," says Taylor. "Especially in these times of instability in the world, we are trying to bring a little stability, and we always want to try to bring hope to people who are in need – a little bit of hope and positive look into the future."



Robyn Taylor

Over the years, JFCS programs have shifted to respond to the needs of the community. "As needs change, we change," says Taylor.

For example, JFCS recently expanded its counseling department to support the community's mental health needs, enhanced its focus on child and family services, and beefed up its emergency aid program "where the needs, especially during the pandemic, have been so great."

"This year, we are getting ready to celebrate our 75th year of existence, so we're going to be planning activities and ways to bring the community together all year long to talk about what we've done in the past, what we're doing now and where we're headed in the future," says Taylor.

To reflect that, the tagline during the 75th year will be tweaked to "We provide stability and hope then, now, always."

Taylor also draws on her early career as a stage manager for the acclaimed Steppenwolf Theatre Company, stage-managing shows in Chicago, New York, and London. A member of Congregation Beth Israel, she has served as stage manager of the annual Purimspiels for several years.

She used those skills to help organize JFCS's Sips & Sweets event last month.

"I think it was the first time a lot of the folks in our community had been in person together," she says. "Just seeing the community together was really beautiful and heartwarming."

## PSU 's Weingrad named outstanding teacher

Portland State University Judaic Studies Professor Michael Weingrad won the John Eliot Allen Outstanding Teaching Award in May.

Each year, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences recognizes exceptional teaching and leadership with the JEA Outstanding Teaching Awards named in honor of John Eliot Allen, an outstanding professor who founded PSU's Geology Department and taught for more than 35 years.

Faculty nominees are submitted by students within each academic department of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Winners are recognized at the annual awards ceremony each spring.

Professor Weingrad loves exploring



Michael Weingrad

a wide range of Jewish literature and culture in the modern period – from the latest Israeli science fiction novels to the politics of Jews in the United States or memoirs of Jewish Baghdad.

Oregon's seniors can experience Professor Weingrad's teaching acumen this fall when he teaches an online course about David Mamet. Mamet, considered by many to be the greatest living playwright, turns 75 this year. Oregon residents age 65+ may apply to audit the course for free through PSU's Senior Adult Learning Center. Learn more at: [pdx.edu/senior-adult-learning-center](https://pdx.edu/senior-adult-learning-center).

The fall term course is FILM 384U | Topics in American Cinema and Culture: Mamet. For a course description visit [pdx.edu/judaic-studies/fall-term-2022-courses#FILM384U](https://pdx.edu/judaic-studies/fall-term-2022-courses#FILM384U).

For an introduction to Mamet, read Weingrad's May 18, 2022, article on the playwright in Mosaic Magazine. Create a free account with Mosaic to read Weingrad's articles: [mosaicmagazine.com/author/michael-weingrad/](https://mosaicmagazine.com/author/michael-weingrad/).



The MJCC Community Celebration filled the ballroom after celebrating virtually for the past two years. Photos by Paul Rich.

## MJCC Community Celebration goes live

After two years of virtual celebrations, this year the Mittleman Jewish Community Center held its annual Community Celebration in person on May 24.

Michelle Alany & The Mystics performed and wowed the crowd with their fresh interpretations of ancient melodies, hypnotic strings and wild improvisation with their energizing soulful music.

The Pillar of Excellence Award was presented to MJCC Past-President Jerry Sadis. Jerry served on the MJCC and Portland Jewish Academy boards from 2007 to 2016, and he served as president of both from 2009 to 2011.

The Center presented the Harry Glickman Scholar/Athlete Award to two outstanding Jewish teen athletes from Oregon – Everest Sibony of Seaside and Lyla Paru of Beaverton. This award was established in 2012 in honor of Harry Glickman, z"l, the "father" of professional sports in Oregon.

The J also inducted a new member into the Oregon Jewish Sports Hall of Fame, established in 2012 to honor Oregon Jewish men and women who have accomplished extraordinary achievements in sports. This year's inductee is Jake Raiton, who grew up playing many sports but focused on tennis.

Others recognized during the evening included outstanding members of the Stingrays Swim Team, members who visit most frequently and MJCC's superstar camp counselors.

The Harold & Arlene Schnitzer Family Fund of OJCF/Jordan Schnitzer was the presenting sponsor. All members of the J's "Friends of the Center Society" are sponsors of the MJCC Community Celebration. For more information on the honorees and a full list of sponsors, visit [oregonjcc.org/celebration](https://oregonjcc.org/celebration).



MJCC Executive Director Steve Albert presents the Pillar of Excellence Award to Jerry Sadis.

# A LEADER PIVOTS (continued from page 1)

"She had the opportunity to lead this community through the pandemic," says Blattner. "She helped us create the Covid Relief Fund, which raised over \$900,000 between Federation and Oregon Jewish Community Foundation."

Goldstein is proud of how the community came together during Covid. "We had no choice in this desperate moment but to say how do we come together as a community and make something great."

"A week into Covid reality, we convened a task force, spearheaded by Marc, that touched all of our agencies and synagogues to think about how to fundraise and how to deploy the funds ... to support a community in crisis," she says, getting a bit emotional. "It was a beautiful act. ... this was the most amazing effort I've ever seen our community accomplish. We put down our barriers and solved our problem together."

Goldstein is also proud of how Federation helped the community find new ways to connect on Zoom and other creative approaches. A Unity Shabbat candlelighting on Zoom April 17 drew more than 1,200 people. That warmth and community connection inspired Federation to host a series of virtual Unity Shabbats. Federation also sponsored a "Weekly Wednesday" series with Jewish leaders around the world and a series of holiday cooking classes with famed Chef Michael Solomonov on Zoom.

"We found new ways to connect," she says of the Unity Shabbat and other online programs. "We needed a little something; it gave us a sense of foundation ... seeing people in our community, their faces on our computer screen."

Goldstein's best friend, Lee Lazarus, says Goldstein's superpower is her ability to connect people. "She is able to take all the great intelligence and ideas people have and then supercharge that to the community."

Lazarus sits on the board of B'nai B'rith Camp and co-manages The Presentation Company. She says the two friends share an entrepreneurial mindset and commitment to community.

"Lauren has great storytelling skills and is able to get people to lean in," says Lazarus.

"She is a great partner with Marc (Blattner); Marc has a lot of vision," she adds. "She told me Marc tapped into a side of her she had never tapped into before."

Blattner says Goldstein has been extremely creative in finding solutions.

"Lauren is an enthusiastic, motivational, optimistic people person," he says, adding she is a great leader. "She is strong in her views, open to hearing new ideas and has the ability to be creative in how to find solutions. She does everything with a huge smile, and she is willing to make tough decisions."

Those traits have been part of Goldstein's personality since she was very small says her mother, Susan Shleifer.

"She was always an involved, motivated young woman," says Shleifer. "It was there from the very beginning."



A Unity Shabbat candlelighting less than a month after Covid restrictions began drew 1,200 people to participate on Zoom. It was the first of many virtual events to bring people together.

Goldstein credits her family for setting good examples of strength, tzedakah and giving back.

"I come from a family of strong women," Goldstein says. "There were no wallflowers in the Shleifer or May families."

Growing up in Portland with a small Jewish population, Goldstein says she focused on leadership in school. At Tufts University, which she says was nearly one-third Jewish, she became very involved in Hillel, and then spent a semester abroad at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Goldstein says she realized, "This is what a vibrant Jewish community looks like."

When she returned to Portland in 1998, she felt inspired to get involved in Jewish community building. She joined other young adults for Shabbat and Hanukkah parties.

"I saw the power of bringing Jewish community together," she says, adding a lot of young couples were formed at those gatherings including Goldstein and her husband, Mark. "A lot of joy comes from creating vibrancy in Jewish community."

She became involved in Federation because, "I like the reach Federation has across the community. Federation has an impact on so many parts of the Jewish community."

Serving on the Federation board, she was impressed by how Tonkin chaired the board.

"Ed is really good at really understanding the voice of the 'customer,'" Goldstein says. "He spent a lot of time talking to agency leaders and community members. He did a good job listening and that is where innovation comes from. We got to put that to use during Covid in a 'Zoomified' way."

During her term, Goldstein says she focused on "What's our highest best?" She adds, "The highest best of our organization is when we are convening our community."

Goldstein hopes her successor as board chair, Mindy Zeitzer, will continue that tradition of listening to the community.

"She will get a head start with the community study we are doing – that will be huge," says Goldstein. Pushing for the community study, which will begin in the fall, is another effort she is very proud of. "It will be a lot of voices heard."

Mark says his wife put in a lot of hard work to help Federation achieve "it highest best," but "she did it with passion and enthusiasm that makes it look seamless."

He adds, "People like to rally around someone who brings positive energy to the table, and Lauren is able to do that in spades."

The couple have two sons, 15-year-old Jack and 12-year-old Evan. Jack says his mom loves to help the community.

"She is very selfless when it comes to helping others," he says, adding he doesn't regret the time he has sacrificed with his mom over the past three years. "I am willing to give up (the time) because it is for the community I am also part of, it is helping my future."





Jewish Federation  
OF GREATER PORTLAND



# 102<sup>nd</sup> Jewish Federation Annual Meeting

**Monday, June 13**

**4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.**

Mittleman Jewish Community Center  
6651 SW Capitol Highway

**Also available via Zoom**

Link provided upon registration

**Light refreshments will be served**

Proof of vaccination is required for in-person attendees

**REGISTER: [jewishportland.org/102](https://jewishportland.org/102)**

**Meeting will include:**

- Highlights of the past year
- Recognize Lauren Goldstein for her outstanding leadership as Chair of the Board
- Elect and welcome JFGP's newest board members  
Craig Berne • Christie Moore • Jeffrey Weitz (as of May 6)
- Thank outgoing board members:  
Jack Birnbach • Karen Blauer • Ted Nelson • Ed Tonkin
- Celebrate our campaign successes
- Recognize our Laurie Rogoway Award and scholarship recipients
- and so much more.

# PDX-ISRAEL (continued from page 1)



Israel Trip co-chairs, from left, Tony and Priscilla Kostiner and Kathy Davis-Weiner and Michael Weiner join Jewish Federation of Greater Portland President and CEO Marc Blattner at a briefing in 2020 just days before the trip had to be postponed due to the worldwide pandemic.

“Here we are, coming out of the pandemic, and Israel is open to tourists,” says JFGP President and CEO Marc Blattner. “This is our opportunity to go as a community and celebrate Israel’s 75th year.”

“People who aren’t part of it will feel left out,” says Kathy Davis-Weiner, who is co-chairing the trip with her husband, Michael Weiner, and Priscilla and Tony Kostiner. “When we planned it in 2020, it was the talk of the town.”

Michael adds that after two years of travel-free pandemic life, “There is a hunger to go to Israel now, and we are going to satisfy that hunger.”

Fundraising from private donors is providing community subsidies to make the trip economical.

“If you are able to go, this is the trip of a lifetime, especially at this price,” says Tony.

“We love to take people to Israel,” adds Priscilla, who will be visiting Israel for the 43rd time on this trip.

While Jerusalem is Tony’s favorite place to show visitors, Priscilla says, “It’s exciting to see what’s happening in Tel Aviv. Tel Aviv shows off Israel tech and entrepreneurship.”

For Kathy, seeing the people’s emotions and sense of connection when they experience Israel for the first time is very special.

For Michael, putting Israel in context ensures every stop enhances that connection.

“Without context, Tel Aviv is just another modern city, a dot on the map, and Jerusalem is just an old city with secular and religious sites,” says

## Federation Centennial Trip to Israel Reset for 2023

**WHEN:** March 20-28, 2023

**WHO:** Ages 5 and up

**REGISTRATION:** Opens June 15, 2022, at [Jewishportland.org/israel2023](http://Jewishportland.org/israel2023)

### INFO MEETINGS ON ZOOM:

4 pm, June 16; Register: [tinyurl.com/fj237y6r](https://tinyurl.com/fj237y6r)

7 pm, June 20; Register: [tinyurl.com/2p96dsmy](https://tinyurl.com/2p96dsmy)

**COST:** Adults \$3,600 (after \$1,150 subsidy); Youth 5-17: \$2,500 (after \$2,250 subsidy)

Tony. “This is not just a tourist trip. To me, it is essential to put everything into historical context.”

Portland to Israel 2023 will include something for all ages 5 and up. Portlanders will visit the Golan in the north, cities along the coast, Masada and the Dead Sea down to the desert in southern Israel. Shabbat will be in Jerusalem.

Tony and Priscilla are looking forward to a three-generation trip including their youngest grandson, who will be 8 on the trip.

“I think the kids will have fun – there are special things for them to do,” says Tony.

There is also a group b’nai mitzvah celebration for those coming of age.

For more information, call 503-245-6219.

## Moishe House sets four June events for young adults

Portland Moishe House is hosting four events in June for young adults: an arcade game night, a Shabbat evening in the park, a dance party and Jewish learning.

Portland Moishe House currently requires everyone who attends events to be fully vaccinated, including relevant boosters. In-person programs are subject to change based on the spread of Covid. Changes will be updated on Facebook. Part of a global network, Moishe House Portland creates a vibrant Jewish community for young adults aged 22-32 in Portland.

**Thrilling Thursday** is 7:30-9 pm, June 9, at Electric Castle’s Wunderland, Avalon Theatre. Moishe House will pay for some arcade games. Registration is not required.

On June 10, come to Laurelhurst Park from 7 to 9 pm for **Shavuot Shabbat** to bid farewell to departing Moishe House resident Estee. If you have had the honor of meeting Estee at a previous event, you’ll know how bittersweet it is to be saying goodbye to such a funny, thoughtful and zesty Moishe House member. Estee is moving to New York City to pursue her dreams. Moishe House will supply challah and wine, but picnic snacks/drinks to share are appreciated.

A **Queer Dance Party** is planned for 8-10:30 pm, June 25, at Sellwood Community House. Come join Moishe House as we celebrate Pride Month and our amazing community.

**Dreams, Visions & Prophecies:** A Moishe House text study will be at 6:30-8 pm, June 28, on the Moishe House back porch. Take a deep dive into the Talmud’s Berakhot and other Jewish teachings and rituals to unpack the significance of dreams in Judaism. Tea and hors d’oeuvres provided. [Registration](https://www.Jewishportland.org/israel2023) is required.

For more information and registration for events, visit [facebook.com/MoisheHousePDX/](https://facebook.com/MoisheHousePDX/) or email [moishehousepdx@gmail.com](mailto:moishehousepdx@gmail.com).



# Sisterhood to host Zoom talk with Women of the Wall

Learn about Women of the Wall and the ongoing effort to create a pluralistic prayer space at the Western Wall in Jerusalem. Congregation Neveh Shalom's Sisterhood will host a Zoom program featuring WOW Executive Director Yochi Rappeport at 10 am, June 12.

"Everyone should know how terribly the women are being treated at the Wall," says Cantor Linda Shivers, who served Neveh Shalom as cantor from 1986-2008. "We need to be informed about it, and it is only getting worse."

Founded in 1988 to secure women's rights to pray and read Torah at the Western Wall, Women of the Wall is battling for women's status and pluralism in Israel.

"No Jewish woman should be afraid of being harmed by other Jews for praying to Hashem and expressing their devotion," says CNS Sisterhood President Michelle Iimori-Goldenberg.

The Sisterhood invites anyone in the community who is interested in learning more to join the Zoom program. Rappeport will share WOW's mission and history, as well as her personal experience.

WOW is battling to claim the rights women were promised in a 2014 agreement that became law in January 2016. After the Knesset passed the law, ultra-Orthodox parties demonstrated against it and demanded that the agreement be rescinded. Today WOW, according to its [website](#), strives to "have the government fulfill its promise and construct the agreed-upon pluralist prayer space."



Women of the Wall Executive Director Yochi Rappeport addresses a service at the Western Wall in Jerusalem. Photo by Hila Rosner Shiloni.

Rappeport was born raised in an Orthodox environment in Safed. She served as a commander in the Israel Defense Force and then studied political science and Middle Eastern studies at Bar Ilan University. She has been WOW's executive director since 2019. She identifies as both an Orthodox woman and a feminist.

To join, go to [nevehshalom.org/event/women-of-the-wall-event/](https://nevehshalom.org/event/women-of-the-wall-event/) and click on the join link at 10 am, June 12.

## June is Pride Month: Support LGBTQ+ Jews

*Nationally, President Bill Clinton declared June "Gay & Lesbian Pride Month" in 1999.*

*In the Jewish community, Keshet is a national organization that works for LGBTQ equality in all facets of Jewish life. Keshet is a Hebrew word meaning both "rainbow," a symbol of LGBTQ pride, and "bow," an instrument for action. Find Keshet's online events at [keshetonline.org/resources-and-events/event-calendar/](https://keshetonline.org/resources-and-events/event-calendar/).*

*Locally, check out the Pride offerings below from OneTable and JewishPridePDX.*

### OneTable supports Pride Shabbat hosts

In celebration of Pride month, the first 10 OneTable Portland hosts who post a Pride Shabbat in June are eligible to receive a print copy of the updated [Pride 2022 Shabbat Guide](#) along with other OneTable goodies to help elevate their Shabbat dinners.

OneTable is a national nonprofit that empowers young adults (21-39ish) to find, share and enjoy Shabbat dinners. This year, OneTable launched the Pride Shabbat initiative, [onetable.org/pride/](https://onetable.org/pride/), to celebrate Pride Month and the LGBTQ+ community. The website enables anyone to find a dinner, become a host or learn more about building community.

Hosts can post Shabbat dinners at [dinners.onetable.org/journey](https://dinners.onetable.org/journey). Post a Pride Shabbat by 11:59 pm the Tuesday before your dinner and email the dinner link to Cascadia Field Manager Abbie Barash (she/her) at [abbie@onetable.org](mailto:abbie@onetable.org) to receive the printed guide and other items. Learn more about hosting Shabbat with OneTable at [dinners.onetable.org/host/promote](https://dinners.onetable.org/host/promote).

OneTable is "nourishing" (subsidizing) Pride Shabbats and will help participants elevate their dinners with resources and up to \$10 per guest, up to \$100. To become a host, visit [onetable.org/pride](https://onetable.org/pride).

The Eastside Jewish Commons offers an 18 percent discount for any OneTable host who uses an EJC space to host a OneTable Shabbat dinner. That same discount is available for members of other EJC partners including synagogues and Jewish agencies and TischPDX graduates. Visit [ejcpdx.org/host](https://ejcpdx.org/host) or email [info@ejcpdx.org](mailto:info@ejcpdx.org) for more information.



Last year Liza and Beth Milliner, Danit Rothstein and Rachel Nelson represented the Jewish community in Pride at the 2021 PrideNW parade in a car draped with Pride banners from the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland, Portland Jewish Academy and Congregation Neveh Shalom. This year the parade returns to its usual format of groups marching together downtown.

### Jewish groups to join Pride March

Join the Jewish community to march together at Pride 2022, 11 am-1 pm, June 19.

Last year, the Portland Pride Parade was pre-recorded at a private venue to keep the community safe during the pandemic and Pride Northwest hosted a community viewing on Zoom. In past years, about a dozen Jewish organizations have marched together and organizers expect that to be the case again this year.

Pride has been celebrated in Portland since the early 1970s, with the first outdoor celebration in 1976. The Portland Pride Festival and Parade have been organized by Pride Northwest since 1994.

When the gathering location for Jewish Pride marchers is announced, it will be posted on the Jewish Federation Facebook page [facebook.com/JewishPDX](https://facebook.com/JewishPDX) or [facebook.com/jewishpridepdx](https://facebook.com/jewishpridepdx).

## Chaplain's Corner

### Time for a *Tiyul*

BY RABBI BARRY COHEN

During my first year of rabbinic studies in Jerusalem, at the very end of summer before fall classes began, a few classmates and I took a *tiyul*. This Hebrew word loosely means “a journey” or “a trip.” But that is not an adequate translation.

Basically, we put some clothes, shoes and toiletries into our backpacks and headed to the Central Bus Station. Then we walked up to the main board and asked, “Where should we go?” We chose Tiberias (on the Sea of Galilee). Where would we stay? We did not know yet. What would we do? We had not talked about it. We only knew when we were leaving and which day we were returning. We’d figure out the rest along the way.

That experience was one of the highlights of my Israel experience. All we needed was a backpack, an international hostel ID, some cash and a sense of adventure.

As summer draws close, I need to take a *tiyul*. While it won’t be the same as when I was 23, I need to recapture with my teenage children that sense of adventure, of exploring the unknown.

I need something to look forward to. I have never been a good planner. I am going to embrace that aspect of myself and run with it. I’ll sit down with my kids and say, “We are leaving on this day. We are returning on this day. We are going by car. Where do you want to go?”

This is easier said than done. Am I prepared to leave without hotel reservations? Do I truly want to depart without Googling tourist attractions? Am I ready to devote my limited vacation days to teenagers?

Why not?

I feel like I have been in a Covid rut for too long. I need to get out of my comfort zone, especially since what I thought was my comfort zone is no longer



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

that comfortable. I want to see someplace new and different. I need to give up control over what exactly will happen. I imagine my kids will have some ideas about where to go, whether our destinations are in Oregon, Washington or Northern California.

I hope this *tiyul* will put my life in a healthier context. I hope my stresses and strains will fade away when I am not on the clock, when I do not look at my checklist, when I refuse to check my e-mails.

For a handful of days, I just want “to be.” We can take tangent upon tangent upon tangent, making it up as we go. We can eat when we’re hungry, keep an eye open for historical sights, pull over to the side of the road to check out the view, go for a hike or just walk around. Better yet, we can do absolutely nothing. Maybe my kids can remind me what it was like to be a teenager. Maybe I can teach them how to look at the world through my eyes.

I am not trying to re-create the *tiyul* experience when I was 23. I just want to remember when I was more innocent, less jaded ... when I was confident and carefree and willing to head “that-a-way.” Who knows exactly what my family and I will experience. I hope to come back a little refreshed and recharged. At the very least, I’m sure we’ll return with stories to tell.

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the Federation.

## Climate Corner: *Advance your eco-knowledge*

The Climate Action Committee of the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland is sharing tips and resources for healing the Earth in a periodic Climate Corner in the Jewish Review. The 2-year-old group is committed to the important work of *tikkun olam*, healing the Earth.

Oregon State University offers an online, self-paced course exploring recycling, composting and waste reduction through its Professional and Continuing Education course offerings. In approximately 15 hours, learners explore how waste prevention choices can positively impact our planet and its natural resources. A Recycling 101 certificate is awarded on completion of the 10 Jewish Review June 8, 2022



course, and some learners may be eligible for continuing education units.

Modeled after the Master Recycler program, this on-demand course was created

in partnership with the Association of Oregon Recyclers.

The course covers:

- Actions that have the largest environmental impact in terms of waste reduction and commercial recycling
- Steps in the material stream process and product life cycles
- Composting systems to reuse and recycle organic waste
- Procedures for safe and legal toxic waste disposal methods
- Resources available for plastics, paper and other types of recycling.

Currently, the cost of the course is

\$35.

For more information, visit [workspace.oregonstate.edu/course/recycling-101](https://workspace.oregonstate.edu/course/recycling-101)



# Events

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

## June 9: Cedar Sinai Park's 102nd Annual Meeting

Cedar Sinai Park's 102nd Annual Meeting will be Thursday, June 9, at 7 pm, for members (all donors since July 1, 2021) and the board.

Contact Martha Norrie, Director of Development and Communications, 503-535-4315, or [martha.norrie@cedarsinainpark.org](mailto:martha.norrie@cedarsinainpark.org).

## June 12: Jewish Community Orchestra Season Finale

Jewish Community Orchestra will perform the season's final concert at 3 pm, June 12, at the Mittleman Jewish Community Center. Tickets are available at the door on the day of the concert: \$10 adults, \$8 seniors, \$5 students and children under 6 free. JCO provides enjoyable music to the Jewish and surrounding communities of the Portland Metro area. This program helps to further the growth of local artists by presenting concerts that attract, educate and entertain our audience.

## June 13: Jewish Federation's 102nd Annual Meeting

Jewish Federation of Greater Portland's Annual meeting 4:30, June 13, at the Mittleman Jewish Community Center. Open to all. Light refreshments. Virtual options available.

RSVP: [jewishportland.org/102](http://jewishportland.org/102)

## June 16: Staged Reading

Alicia Jo Rabins presents a staged reading of "Girls in Trouble: the Musical" at noon, June 16 in the auditorium at OJMCHC. Free.

[ojmche.org/events/alicia-jo-rabin-staged-reading-of-girls-in-trouble-the-musical/](http://ojmche.org/events/alicia-jo-rabin-staged-reading-of-girls-in-trouble-the-musical/)

## June 19: Pride March

Join the Jewish community as we march together at Pride 2022 (see story page 9).

## June 19: Brodtkin Farewell Dinner

Celebrate Rabbi and Aviel Brodtkin's 17 years of service to Congregation Kesser Israel, Maayan Torah Day School, and the greater Portland Jewish community, 5:30-8:30 at the MJCC.

Register at [kesserisrael.org/form/brodtkindinner](http://kesserisrael.org/form/brodtkindinner)

## June 21: OJMCHC annual meeting

Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education will hold its annual meeting at the Museum, 4:30 pm, June 21.

Contact Gail Mandel, [gmandel@ojmche.org](mailto:gmandel@ojmche.org).

## June 22: Wine talk and tasting

Join MJCC's #PDXBIZ Series to learn about Oregon Wine from professionals representing three different areas of the wine industry at 6 pm, June 22.

Panelists: Matt Berson, Love and Squalor Wines; Carrie Wynkoop, Cellar 503; and Jason Zidell, Cru & Domaine.

Meet at Cellar 503, 4407 S. Corbett Ave.

Registration includes a wine tasting. Register: [oregonjcc.org/arts-culture/pdxbiz/#Register](http://oregonjcc.org/arts-culture/pdxbiz/#Register)

## June 24: Moishe Pod-West PDX virtual movie night "Jewtopia"

Young adults are invited to join Moishe Pod-West PDX for a virtual movie night for Shabbat. Screen "Jewtopia" with us – a romcom centered on a gentile who pretends to be Jewish to win over his love interest. Event will feature a conversation with the writer.

RSVP for Zoom link: [moishepodwestpdx.com/events/jewtopia](https://moishepodwestpdx.com/events/jewtopia)

## June 26: JGSO hosts "Liberation from a Shoah Ghost"

Jewish Genealogical Society of Oregon will present "Liberation from a Shoah Ghost: The Girl on the Wall" by Preeva Adler Tramiel. To register in advance visit the JGSO website at [sites.rootsweb.com/~orjgs/index.html](http://sites.rootsweb.com/~orjgs/index.html).

## June 26: BB Camp Friends & Family Fun Day

Come see B'nai B'rith Camp's new campus at 11 am, June 26, at BB Camp on the Oregon Coast near Lincoln City.

Join us for a fun day of camp activities, a picnic lunch, and the dedication of our new gym – the Zidell Fieldhouse. Lunch at noon, dedication at 1:30 pm. Free.

Register at [bbcamp.org/familyday](http://bbcamp.org/familyday)

## June 29: Moishe Pod-West PDX Shiver Me Timbers!

Young adults are invited to Moishe Pod-West PDX to learn some Jewmaican pirate trivia – There are Jewish pirates, and they're awesome! Then, we'll head over to Providence Park to cheer for the Timbers.

RSVP by Friday, June 24, so we can purchase tickets seated together: [moishepodwestpdx.com/events/shiver-me-timbers](https://moishepodwestpdx.com/events/shiver-me-timbers).

# Birth



## Eitan Lev Nelson

Eitan Lev Nelson was born Saturday, May 28, 2022, at 11:14 am to Rachel and Jason Nelson. Eitan was welcomed home by big sister, Noa, and big brother, Asher. Noa and Asher attend Foundation School at Congregation Neveh Shalom.

The bris was June 4 at the home of proud grandparents, Fred and Nora Rothstein. Grandparents Daryl and Sandra Nelson live in Beaverton. Rachel works at the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland and Jason works at Cambia.

# Jobs board

## 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 24 Jewish job openings. See all of the openings at [jewishportland.org/ourcommunity/jewish-jobs](http://jewishportland.org/ourcommunity/jewish-jobs).

## Next issues

Issue date	Deadline
June 22	June 16
July 6	June 29
July 20	July 14

## Jewish Federation of Greater Portland online

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

Instagram:

[instagram.com/jewishfederationpdx/](https://www.instagram.com/jewishfederationpdx/)

Facebook: [facebook.com/JewishPDX](https://www.facebook.com/JewishPDX)

Jewish Review:

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

# Obituaries

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## KEITH KOPLAN

Keith Koplan, z”l, passed away June 2, 2022, after a battle with cancer. He is survived by his wife, Merle, and their six children.

Per his wishes, there will not be a funeral.

Keith was instrumental in the building of Congregation Kol Ami’s beautiful synagogue in Vancouver, Wash. He served as a co-chair for the building committee, and his touch and taste can be seen everywhere. His education and experience with furniture and design were integral to the style seen throughout Kol Ami’s space. He chose the fabric for the chairs in the sanctuary, the paint colors, the carpet, etc.

Donations of furniture that he and Merle made to the congregation over the years are still found in many of the rooms of the building.

“Our community was lucky and so very grateful to be the beneficiary of his many gifts of time, talent and treasure,” reads the announcement from Kol Ami.

## ROBERT EPSTEIN

Robert (Bob) Epstein, z”l, passed away May 30, 2022. He is lovingly remembered by his wife, Mimi Epstein; his sons, Neil (Elizabeth) Ashman-Epstein and Mark (Sharon Fendrich) Epstein; and his grandchildren, Talia Valdez and Max Epstein, and Deena and Sylvia Epstein.

Bob was born on April 17, 1940, in Philadelphia, where his father had a dry-cleaning store. His parents were Morton Morris and Sylvia Shirley (Ruttenberg). He was raised in a Modern Orthodox synagogue there. He met his wife at Penn State University and joined the Navy immediately out of school. After his military service, he attended the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine and then moved to Portland to become part of the Portland Clinic as an internist.

Bob was an early member of Havurah Shalom in Portland and was instrumental in hiring the first rabbi for the congregation. He served six years as president of the steering committee and also worked in many positions as a community volunteer, teaching Hebrew and history, and leading services. He also served on the national Reconstructionist Federation for six years.

He was a dedicated physician for 25 years and a prominent member of the Portland Jewish community. In addition to his roles at Havurah Shalom, he helped run the Weekend in Quest program and was a part of the Florence Melton Adult Mini School.

The funeral was on June 2.

## LEONORA GITLINA

Leonora Gitlina, z”l, passed away May 27, 2020. She is loved and remembered by her mother, Inna Gitlin; her sister, Irina (Alex Berkovich) Gitlin; and niece, Anna Berenbeym.

Leonora was a member of Congregation Neveh Shalom. The funeral was June 1 at Ahavai Shalom Cemetery.

## STAN EASTERN

Stan Eastern, z”l, passed away May 26, 2022, at the Robison Jewish Health Center. He is loved by his wife, Bev Eastern; his daughters, Michelle Gradow (Steve), Lesley Taub (Howard) and Susan Eastern; his grandchildren, Jamie, Shelby, Lily Taub and Mallory Gradow; and siblings, Sam Eastern, Joe Eastern, Shirley Sidis and Evelyn Blatt.

Stan was born in Seattle, the middle of five children. He married Bev in 1958 and then served three years active duty in the Navy. He reached the rank of lieutenant commander and was in the reserves for 18 years. A graduate of the University of Washington, he worked as a CPA in Portland, where he and Bev raised their family. The couple were recipients of the Sussman Award from the American Jewish Committee.

Stan was a pillar of the community, leading with heart, humor and keen common sense. He served and enriched our Jewish community in so many capacities. He served as treasurer, president and board chair of Cedar Sinai Park during 50 years of volunteering. The beloved patriarch of the Eastern family passed away at Robison Jewish Health Center/Harold Schnitzer Center for Living.

The funeral was May 29 at Neveh Zedek Cemetery.

Congregation Neveh Shalom and Congregation Beth Israel extend condolences to the extended Eastern family.

## ALICIA LIPPMAN

Alicia Lippman, z”l, passed away on May 24, 2022, at the age of 32. Alicia is survived by her husband, David Lippman; mother, Janice Pekema; father, James (Dianne) Pekema; mother-in-law, Mardi Schnitzer Spitzer; father-in-law, Steven Lippman; brothers, Jesse (Kristen) Pekema, Marc (Juliana) Routzong and Scott (Sharon) Routzong; and brother-in-law Marc (Kellie) Lippman.

Donations in Alicia’s memory can be made to the Houston Children’s Chorus or to the UT Southwestern Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center Hematologic Malignancies Program.

Congregation Beth Israel offers condolences to Alicia’s entire family.

## SUBMISSIONS

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

*Obituaries are posted at*  
[jewishportland.org/obituaries](http://jewishportland.org/obituaries).

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