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Portland's Wexner Heritage cohort pauses for a group picture during their class trip to Israel. Twenty emerging Jewish leaders recently completed the intensive two-year program, Portland's first Wexner Heritage class in 27 years. (Courtesy Anna Epstein)

'Now it's the start of the doing'

Latest Wexner Heritage class reflects on experience

By ROCKNE ROLL

The Wexner Heritage Program Portland Class of 2021 came from different backgrounds, with different goals and expectations. And while the impact of their experience was different for each of them, there seems to be a consensus that the experience was nothing short of transformative.

"It was very rich and very meaningful," explained new Wexner alum Jaimie Harper, "and I know it will kind of percolate throughout our lives for years to come."

Harper, along with Rochelle Abitz, Noah Barish, Emily Benoit, Marc Blattner, Anna Epstein, Josh Frankel, Nicole Frisch, Nadine Gartner, Simon Gottheiner, Jessica Hilbert, David Hirsch, Leah Katz, Ronnie Malka, Liza Milliner Christie Moore, Benjamin O'Glasser, Jonathan Singer, Mark Zeitzer and Jason Zidell, were selected to complete the two-year program for Jewish community leaders in 2020 from a pool of 106 nominees. They are the first Wexner Heritage class

from Portland since 1996.

The legacy of Portland's first Wexner class was an inspiration for Malka to apply. "The people I know who did it the first time have stayed incredibly involved in the community and have really changed our community," she said.

Frankel had a similar experience while also receiving encouragement from his aunt who participated in the program in Los Angeles.

"These were all people I have

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Marc's Remarks

Israel made me do it

By MARC BLATTNER

I feel compelled to write - even though I'm still on sabbatical - as important events are transpiring in Israel.

I am processing the Israeli Knesset (parliament) decision from earlier today. The Knesset eliminated the Israeli Supreme Court's ability to review the "reasonableness" of government decisions and appointments. What does it mean for the people of Israel? How far will this government go in their hopes for additional "judicial reform." What it will mean for US-Israel relations. And so much more.

I believe David Horovitz, editor of The Times of Israel, said it best. Netanyahu "tragically chose the unity of his hardline coalition over his manifest key responsibility as prime minister: the unity of the nation." That is exactly what happened.

Israel, like America, is a deeply divided country. Those in power feel as though they have a mandate, whether true or not. There is broad consensus that changes are needed in how the judiciary functions, but a 64-0 vote, with no one in the opposition even staying to vote is not how decisions impacting a country should be made.

The Israel Policy Forum shared, "This is not merely a policy decision that should be left to a Knesset majority on the theory that elections have consequences; it is a reordering of Israel's governing institutions and its system of checks and balances. Such moves carry grave risks when done without a meaningful consensus that runs across ideological and partisan lines."

Protests have taken place in Israel for the past 29 weeks. As you know, I was there in March and April and participated in the protests each time. And less than 10 days ago, I was in Israel with my family.

For both my children, this was their first trip. And my wife had not been to Israel since our honeymoon almost three decades ago. This was an opportunity for my family to see Israel together. What did they get out of their visit? The mood in Israel was so tense (it is always interesting to listen to taxi drivers share their views) that neither of my children even talked about the occupation when we got home, despite their concerns prior to going. All they talked about was the current government and their feelings of being less close to Israel. It is devastating to me!

As someone mentioned on a podcast about leadership in any organization - you have a choice. You can believe you are right or be effective. The current majority government in Israel may think their reforms to the judiciary are correct, but can this government effectively lead the people of Israel going forward? And can they effectively rally world support and that of Diaspora Jewry?

This story is far from over. We will (as will the world) watch closely as things unfold in Israel in the days ahead.

Marc Blattner is President and CEO of the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland. He can be reached at marc@jewishportland.org

"Can this government effectively lead the people of Israel going forward? And can they effectively rally world support and that of Diaspora Jewry?"

Marc Blattner

Hadassah to get cooking in Portland Aug. 13 at EJC

By ROCKNE ROLL

Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, is cooking up something special for Portlanders.

"Hadassah's Cooking in Portland" comes to the Eastside Jewish Commons Sunday, Aug. 13 from 10:30 am - 12:30 pm with an interactive cooking demonstration from local chef Sonya Sanford and a presentation from Tory Ross Roman, a Hadassah leader from Oakland, Calif.

Deanna Migdal, Area Engagement Director for Hadassah West, and the organizer of the event, is looking to bring like-minded women age 50 and under together for some fun and connection, in the hopes of getting a Portland chapter of the organization off the ground.

Sanford is the co-host of the podcast "Food Friends" and a regular contributor to *The Nosh*, a website dedicated to Jewish foods. She was previously owner of Beetroot Market and Deli and teaches cooking classes on Ukrainian and Jewish cuisine online and in person.

"I think we're going to be making some flat bread and pickling some fresh vegetables, making some sauerkraut and some dips," Migdal explained. "Whatever we can get done in an hour."

Roman is an actress who has appeared in Broadway productions of "Kinky Boots" and "9 to 5" along with parts in the films "Sex and The City 2" and "The Producers." She's also a producer, mother of two and is extensively involved with

Hadassah's fundraising efforts around the country.

"She is going to talk about her Hadassah journey," Migdal said, "how she finds time in her busy life as a young mom to get involved in Hadassah and create that community in Oakland."

Hadassah operates a variety of philanthropic efforts in Israel, primarily its pair of elite hospitals in Jerusalem, specializing in oncology, women's health and emergency medicine. The

organization has also set up emergency medical facilities in Poland to provide medical care for those fleeing Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Hadassah also operates a series of programs for at-risk youth in Israel and from throughout the diaspora - programs which have helped over 300,000 students integrate into Israeli society.

Hadassah's outreach efforts in Portland are supported through a donation managed by the Oregon Jewish Community Foundation, and Migdal is hopeful that events like

this one can spark an ongoing presence for the organization in the Portland area.

"[Hadassah is about] connecting its numbers," Migdal said. "To Israel, to each other and creating that sense of community, all based on women's health and women's equality and gender equality."

Tickets are \$18 and are available before Aug. 9 at events.hadassah.org/evolveportland. For more information, contact Migdal at dmigdal@hadassah.org.



Above: Sonya Sanford
Below: Tory Ross Roman, center, with her two children. (Courtesy Hadassah)





URI SHANAS

This is My Earth (TiME)

IT'S TIME TO SAVE OUR MOST VALUABLE LANDS!

"In 2015 while I was on a sabbatical at Portland State University, I was called back to Israel to teach my course on the biodiversity of the Samar sand dune, which was under threat at the time. During that visit, I came up with an idea for how to save this unique land, and this idea later that year grew into an international organization, named This is My Earth (TiME), that uses crowdfunding to save our most precious lands with transparent, democratic and equal principles. We have already saved thousands of acres and developed a unique education program. My talk will describe the background and how TiME became an innovative way to steward biodiversity hotspots around the world."

**Tuesday, August 8
07:00 PM**

**Havurah Shalom
825 NW 18th Ave
Portland, OR 97209**

OR

**Thursday, August 10
NOON**

**Eastside Jewish Commons
2420 NE Sandy Blvd
Portland, OR 97232**

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PRESENTATION PLEASE VISIT:
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**EASTSIDE JEWISH COMMONS
Preserving our community's future**

Disco Mizrahi comes to Eastside Jewish Commons

Eastside Jewish Commons presents a night of middle eastern-infused disco at Disco Mizrahi Saturday, Aug. 12 from 5-9 pm at the Commons, 2420 NE Sandy Blvd. in Portland.

fCD, aka Barak Kemeny, will take center stage as our boogie operator, exploring Israeli Disco, Saharan Rhythm & Blues, Turkish Psych-Rock, Arab Funk, Darbukkah, Ethiopian Jazz, Brazilian Boogie and more. fCD skillfully blends traditional beats with modern electronic sounds, creating deep, lush and melodic grooves that transcend boundaries and captivates your senses. From the nostalgic classics to contemporary remixes, immerse yourself in a diverse musical journey that pays homage to the rich heritage of Jewish culture. Festive 70's-themed attire encouraged; think glitter, jumpsuits, sequins and anything that catches the light. Israeli dance instructor Allison Victor will put on a special dance lesson, and food and specialty cocktails will be available.

All age 21+ are welcome. Tickets are \$5 and available at ejcdx.org/events.

OJCYF marks first post-Covid year with 29 community grants

What would you do with over \$66,000 to help improve our community? That's the question 23 Oregon Jewish Community Youth Foundation (OJCYF) youth board members grappled with during the first in-person program year since the pandemic. The civic-minded teens, representing twelve area high schools and six synagogues, put out a request for proposals to fund nonprofit organizations that aligned with the Jewish values of justice, human dignity, preservation, and responsibility for one another. After reviewing forty proposals, the teens made grants to 29 organizations including local synagogues and Jewish organizations as well as nonprofits focusing on the environment, human services, hunger, housing, health, civil and human rights, and education. The largest grant awarded, \$5,000 to Jewish Family & Child Service, supports case management for Holocaust Survivors.

To raise funds, the teens held a benefit dinner in April where they shared their insights about Jewish philanthropy and community needs. Amie Wexler of the Oregon Justice Resource Center delivered the

keynote speech, and the teens concluded the evening with a mitzvah moment.

Hannah Kornblit, a first-year participant shared, "I learned a lot about the needs in our community and about organizations that are helping to solve our community's problems. I enjoyed learning about these organizations and enjoyed getting to know other teens and working with them." Tali Greenfield, a member of the OJCYF Leadership Team added, "OJCYF is truly one-of-a-kind, and I am so happy to have it be a part of my high school experience."

The Oregon Jewish Community Foundation is accepting applications for the 2023-2024 program. Be a part of OJCF's award-winning youth philanthropy program and experience firsthand the challenges and rewards of serving on a nonprofit board and allocating funds to the community. Incoming 9th-12th graders with a connection to Judaism are welcome to apply. Applications reviewed in the order received. Limited slots are available but filling fast. For details, visit ojcf.org/programs/ojcyf or call 503-248-9328.



The new Donor Pavillion was dedicated at BB Camp's Friends and Family Day Sunday, June 25. Its dedication marks the conclusion of the Second Century fundraising campaign. (Courtesy BB Camp)

BB Camp dedicates pavillion at Friends and Family Day

On Sunday, June 25, BB Camp held its annual Friends and Family Day at its main campground, located just outside of Lincoln City. This is a day for new and returning campers (and their families) to visit BB Camp, meet counselors, and get a taste of the ensuing summer fun.

This year, several key camp supporters joined as well to celebrate the newly constructed Donor Pavilion and the formal ending of the Second Century Campaign, which ran from 2011-2022 and raised over \$16 million, allowing for a complete renovation of BB Camp. The redesign, thoughtfully created by architect Stewart Gordon Strauss, maximizes the space while maintaining the nostalgic, traditional integrity on which the new buildings were rebuilt. The new dining hall, two-story cabin lodges, Zidell Fieldhouse, multi-purpose program center, the Mercaz, and all buildings are entirely ADA-accessible. BB Camp is proud to be a nationally recognized inclusion camp with the only wholly ADA-accessible camp in Oregon. After a classic hotdog BBQ lunch, the group gathered in the Donor Pavilion for the dedication. Campaign Chair, Irv Potter, kicked off the celebration by sharing remarks on the early history of South Portland Jewry, the humble beginnings of the American Jewish camping movement, and BB Camp as we know it today. Five counselors, most of whom have spent 10+ summers at BB Camp, shared memories of how the camp buildings have shaped their experience, paying homage to the past and expressing how the changing landscape has helped enhance their BB Camp experience.

The Donor Pavilion marks the end of a decade-long campaign to rebuild the camp and will be utilized by providing a shaded outdoor area for programming. The open-air Pavilion allows for an expansive view of BB Camp; atop the hill, one can see campers from the lakeshore to the amphitheater. BB Camp supporters can still buy a brick for \$360 to contribute a lasting mark on Camp. More info on that can be located by visiting bbcamp.org.



Left: From left, Bud Sabertay, Karl Kammer, Bill Becker, Moshe Lenske and Melvin Hurwitz salute at the grave of Abraham Hirsch at the American Cemetery at Coleville-sur-Mer, France. Lenske, a resident of Cedar Sinai Park in Portland, was one of five Jews among the 43 veterans that travelled to Northern France with Best Defense Foundation in early June of this year. Right: Lenske, seated, participates in a parade to honor American servicemen who fought in the liberation of France in 1944. (Tom Hauck/Best Defense Foundation)

Lenske returns to European battlefields

By ROCKNE ROLL

Moshe Lenske's first trip to Europe was made under challenging circumstances. As a radio operator with the Ninth Armored Division, Lenske spent 90 days in combat during World War II, including participating in the Battle of the Bulge in late 1944.

The situation was more tranquil on Lenske's most recent trip, where he and 42 other veterans from around the country visited Northern France at the beginning of June on a trip organized by the Best Defense Foundation. The group spent eight days visiting Normandy and surrounding areas, coinciding with the 79th anniversary of D-Day, the initial invasion of Nazi-occupied Europe.

Instead of being greeted by a vicious enemy, the returning veterans were greeted by applause and cheers almost everywhere they went.

"We were all fortunate. We were emissaries for America, for the armed forces. And loved to death by the Europeans, especially the French," Lenske recalled.

Tom Hauck, who works with Best Defense Foundation and accompanied Lenske on the trip, remembers "the amount of energy that these people have for the soldiers because they liberated their grandparents and their parents."

Lenske joined the army in 1943 and trained as a radio operator at Fort Lewis in Washington. After additional training in England, he was sent to Luxembourg where he was assigned to the Second Armored Medical Battalion as part of the Ninth Armored Division. The division received a Presidential Unit Citation for repelling fierce German counterattacks as American forces assembled to relieve Bastogne during the Battle of the Bulge.



Moshe Lenske, pictured with a copy of his Army identification picture from 1943. (Tom Hauck/Best Defense Project)

As a radio operator, Lenske had a different perspective on the battlefield than many other soldiers. Hauck recalls that he took the opportunity to talk extensively with his fellow veterans on the trip to connect their experiences to his own.

"When [Lenske] found out certain units had come through," Hauck recalled, "[he would ask] 'Hey, we were there these days. We were in these towns. What's your experience? I think we did some medical work on your units,'".

"They know what war is like because they've seen war. And all of these guys are

battlefield veterans. They don't talk about it a lot," Lenske recalled. "It's not table talk. It's not peaches and cream."

Lenske was one of five Jewish veterans on this trip; a group that all gathered together at the American Cemetery at Colleville-sur-Mer around the headstone of Abraham Hirsch, who came to the United States alone as a teenager in 1935 and lost his parents and sister to the Holocaust. Hirsch committed himself to liberating Europe from fascism. He came ashore on D-Day and was killed in action shortly after. Lenske recalled the unique risks Jewish American soldiers took by fighting in Europe.

"A lot of American soldiers were captured, and the Germans passed a law that they wanted everybody to identify which American soldiers were Jewish," Lenske said. "The Americans didn't answer, so then the Germans picked out 300 at random by looks or by names or intuition or whatever, and they took those people and put them in a concentration camp."

Hauck recalled a story he heard of Lenske writing to headquarters asking for assistance in securing shelter and food for Jewish civilians who had been hiding from the Nazis in a wooded area in Germany before being liberated by Lenske's unit.

"He started asking people their names, where they're from, their ages and started compiling the list and wrote to the high command, which was General Patton's office, saying 'hey, these people, they need places to live,'" Hauck said, "really advocating for them and he made a difference."

This was Hauck's third trip with Best Defense Foundation, which financed the trip through sponsorships at no cost to the veterans. He mentioned his trip over a Pass-

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TiME comes to Portland for pair of presentations

By ROCKNE ROLL

No matter which side of the Willamette River you live on, TiME is on your side.

The Climate Action Committee of the Jewish Community Relations Council is welcoming Israeli biologist Uri Shanas, founder of This is My Earth (TiME) for two presentations on TiME's unique approach to preserving biodiversity. Shanas will appear at Havurah Shalom, 825 NW 18th Ave. in Portland, at 7 pm Tuesday, Aug. 8, and again at Noon on Thursday, Aug. 10, at the Eastside Jewish Commons, 2420 NE Sandy Blvd in Portland. The presentations are a partnership between the Climate Action Committee, Havurah Shalom and the EJC.

TiME works to preserve biodiversity by purchasing land plots worldwide which are home to vulnerable, unique flora and fauna using a democratic crowdfunding approach. Contributors vote online on proposals for certain areas, and funds matching the percentage of contributor votes received are used to purchase land and transfer it to local people and organizations to prevent development and resource extraction. Each contributor received the same vote, regardless of contribution, and all the contributions go to purchasing vulnerable land.

"100% of their donations, whether it's a dollar or more, will go to land purchases," Shanas said. "That means that we rely almost completely on volunteers."

Rachel Nelson, Director of Educational Initiatives and Associate Director of Community Relations for the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland, recalls hearing a presentation from Shanas about a project that secured a 99-year lease for an indigenous couple to steward a parcel of endangered habitat.

"They have the opportunity to protect it from big business, from oil," Nelson said. "It's really giving it back to the people, the indigenous communities who know the land and can steward the land."

TiME also creates educational programs centered around protecting biodiversity and infused with the same democratic spirit. Shanas said that the responsibility of making such decisions provides motivation to dig into the curriculum.

"To make an educated vote you need to study the different locations," he said. "It really inspires students."

Shanas, who teaches at the University



A blue-and-yellow macaw, pictured at a preservation area in Colombia acquired by TiME. The program, spearheaded by Professor Uri Shanas, provides funders with an opportunity to select biodiversity sites around the world for preservation. (Santiago Rosado/TiME)

of Haifa–Oranim and holds a doctorate in zoology from Tel Aviv University, started to formulate the ideas and practices that became TiME many years ago and offered them to other organizations without much success. During a sabbatical at Portland State University in 2015, he concluded that bringing the ideas of TiME to life would be his responsibility.

"I didn't want to do it myself. I wanted to stay in the lab," he said. "Eventually I understood that I have to do it myself."

Launched in 2019, the JCRC's Climate Action Committee has been focused on legislative advocacy. It played a crucial role in the passage of House Bills 3409 and 3630, which will invest nearly \$100 million to leverage nearly a billion dollars in federal grant funds to promote energy efficiency and climate resilience for Oregon communities and economies.

Brian Romer, the committee's chair, has worked in environmental publishing all his career and sees the effort to combat climate change as an essential expression of Jewish values.

"Judaism's overall mission is to heal and transform the world," he said. "I see [this

work] as perfecting a broken relationship we have with our environment, with our planet."

Nelson specifically referenced the Jewish concepts of tikkun olam – "repairing the world" – and bal tashchit – "do not destroy" – as fundamentally informing the committee's work.

"We really see it as the utmost importance to be protecting the Earth and the environment and the climate for generations to come," she said, "and we see ourselves as stewards of the Earth, as well."

The upcoming TiME presentations are free to attend and are a great way to connect with others with an interest in addressing environmental issues from a Jewish perspective.

"There are many things of things to do and a lot of people say, 'I just want to do something,'" Romer said. "I think the best way to do something is to get with others."

Registration is available at <https://www.jewishportland.org/time>.

Those interested in joining the Climate Action Committee can reach out to Nelson at rachel@jewishportland.org.

"Judaism's overall mission is to heal and transform the world. I see [combating climate change] as perfecting a broken relationship we have with our environment, with our planet." Brian Romer, Chair, JCRC Climate Action Committee



Congregation Neveh Shalom's Rabbi David Kosak waves a large pride flag from a vehicle at the heart of Jewish Pride Greater PDX's contingent at the Portland Pride Festival Parade Sunday, July 16. (Photos by Rockne Roll/The Jewish Review)

Photos: Portland Pride Parade



Above: Ella Wolf Mark, center, marches with Jewish Pride Greater PDX. Right: Rachel Nelson, Director of Educational Initiatives and Associate Director of Community Relations for the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland, dons a tutu prior to the parade with the help of its maker, Whitney Thaxton.



Above: From left, Elliott Wolfe, 5, and Eliza Wolfe, 3, get ready for the parade to set off: Below: Cedar Sinai Park's Cathy Zheutlin spreads her wings ahead of the facility's bus as it navigates the parade route.



“All of these relationships with one another, I think we’re all extremely hopeful that will be of benefit to the Jewish community for a long time.”

Christie Moore



Members of Portland's Wexner Heritage program cohort participate in a baking workshop during their class trip to Israel. (Courtesy Ronnie Malka)

WEXNER

(continued from page 1)

deep respect for,” he said, “so I pursued it based on their recommendations.”

The program was delayed a year due to covid, and began meeting online to begin, with four-hour evening sessions to dive into the program curriculum, which began with an extensive exploration of Jewish history.

“When I was in college and spending my junior year in Israel, I remember always wanting to go back and do more Jewish learning as an adult,” Harper said. “This is that Jewish learning that I always hoped I would have.”

The curriculum also explored the spiritual side of Judaism,

which led to a particularly meaningful experience for Epstein.

“In a few of our sessions about prayer we, as a group and as individuals, learned how to create our own prayers,” she said. “It kind of changes your outlook on prayer in general.”

“I think some of our cohort came to it most excited about the leadership part, and others of us came to it most excited about the Jewish learning part. I was definitely the latter,” Moore said. “They were both totally compelling and incredibly valuable.”

There was a significant amount of overlap between those areas of focus. Malka recalled a study session with a Rabbi where the cohort delved deeper into the story of the Exodus and focused on the personalities involved.

“We really got to know the characters,” Malka explained, “and then he asked us, ‘If you’re electing a new board member, which of these characters would you choose for your board and why?’”

Rabbi David Russo, director of the Heritage program for The Wexner Foundation, said that he was impressed with how Portland’s cohort took to the material.

“They really pushed each other and encouraged each other with their thinking,” he explained. “Whether reading of Jewish text or thinking about their ideas for what the Jewish future could look like, they did that so thoughtfully with each other.”

The Wexner program centers on adaptive leadership – a new concept for many in this year’s

cohort. Frankel explained it as “looking at things from a different perspective and finding solutions. But more than that, it’s identifying what are the problems and asking the questions to get there.”

“Adaptive leadership is really coming up with the why and the who,” Epstein said. “Who are the stakeholders? It’s going to be more of a conversation and ongoing, and there’s no easy fix.”

While the terminology of adaptive leadership is new, Harper saw its ideas reflected throughout rabbinical tradition.

“Our first rabbis, they were trying to make decisions that would keep our people together, that would create continuity and make our tradition relevant and meaningful,” Harper said. “Here we are today, still trying to continue that effort.”

The cohort made two trips together – to Israel in 2022 and to Utah last month to conclude the program.

“Our connection to each other was elevated, our connection to the program was elevated,” Malka said of the Israel trip. “That trip was above and beyond.”

“We celebrated an absolutely beautiful Shabbat in Jerusalem,” Moore recalled. “That was really meaningful, really special.”

Malka recalled gathering with the rest of the cohort at the rooftop pool at their lodgings in Jerusalem one day, discussing the different experiences the group had that day. “We were in the pool for five or six hours,” she said. “We just had the best time. It was so fun.”

While different parts of the program resonated differently with each person, a universal theme in discussions of the

(continued on next page)

“We really left the program energetic and excited about what is coming next,”

Anna Epstein

(continued from previous page)

Wexner Heritage experience was the sense of connection they came to feel with each other. The participants spent four hours together every other week during the regular program sessions, first on Zoom and then in person, and nearly three weeks away from home together in Israel and Utah, learning about Judaism and leadership, but also about each other and themselves.

"We really bonded," Frankel said. "I certainly have some lifelong friendships out of it, a lot of friends going into the program and even stronger friends coming out of the program."

"We just formed these really tight friendships and relationships that we would not have found each other had we not gone together through this program," Moore said. "All of these relationships with one another, I think we're all extremely hopeful that will be of benefit to the Jewish community for a long time."

It's a bond that quickly extended beyond the classroom and into the real world. Epstein's stepfather passed away during the program, and she was touched when others from the Wexner cohort came to the shiva.

"If someone from my Wexner program asked me to do something, the answer is yes, and I know it goes the other way around," Epstein said. "There's always someone in your corner."

Though this was Rabbi Russo's first cohort as head of the Heritage program, he could immediately tell that this bunch of Portlanders had a powerful connection to one another, and he's looking forward to watching what that connection can do for Jewish life in Portland.

"They feel especially connect-

ed to each other and are really looking to support each other with what lies ahead," he said.

With the official program over, the newly-minted Wexner graduates are eager to put that they've learned to use.

"Utah wasn't the end, it was just the end of the learning," Malka said. "Now it's the start of the doing."

"We really left the program energetic and excited about what is coming next," Epstein said. "Not like we have one singular big project that's going to fix Jewish Portland, but we do have a lot of really smart, beautiful, spiritual plans that we want to involve the whole community."

A number of the graduates expressed thanks to their families for supporting them through the rigorous program, and for those who made the program possible. The Wexner Heritage Program was operated in Portland without cost to the participants thanks to contributions from the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland, the Oregon Jewish Community Foundation and a number of individual donors.

"I just would definitely like to express so much gratitude to the Portland Jewish community that made it possible for Wexner to come here," Moore said. "You know, this was a huge a huge commitment from Federation and Wexner to allow the 20 of us to have this experience together, and we I know that we all are really hopeful and optimistic about our ability to kind of repay the debt of what we got to experience for the last two years together by doing good things in the community."

"I'm very grateful to our community actually for supporting this program," Harper added. "I feel a lot of gratitude to our community for investing in all of us."

"It was very rich and very meaningful, and I know it will kind of percolate throughout our lives for years to come."

Jaimie Harper



Josh Frankel rides a camel in Israel during the Wexner Heritage trip last summer. It was Frankel's first visit to Israel since his Birthright trip, and he said it was "the most enlightening part" of the program. (Courtesy Josh Frankel)



The Portland Wexner Heritage class, pictured on their program finale trip to Snowbird, Utah in June. (Courtesy Christie Moore)

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AUG 9	AUG 3
AUG 23	AUG 17
SEPT 6	AUG 31

Chaplain's Corner

Why Commemorate Pain?

By RABBI BARRY COHEN

Why do the Jewish people have holidays devoted to remembering tragedies? What is the benefit to those who are taking part in these observances?

During the summer, we observe the Fast of Tammuz and Tisha B'Av. The Fast happens on the 17th of the Hebrew month of Tammuz, which began this year at sunset of July 6th. This communal fast marks when the armies of the Babylonian King Nebuchadnezzar breached the walls of Jerusalem in 586 BCE, and when the armies of the Roman ruler Titus breached the walls of rebuilt Jerusalem in 70 CE. (Of note the Jerusalem Talmud claims both occurred on the same date; the Babylonian Talmud follows the prophet Jeremiah, who reported that the Babylonians breached the walls on the 9th of Tammuz.)

In this way, the Fast of Tammuz is closely linked with Tisha B'Av/the Ninth of Av. This year, Tisha B'Av begins at sunset on July 26th and ends at sunset on July 27th. What is the significance of Tisha B'Av? According to tradition, on this day both the first Temple and the second Temple were destroyed. (Of note, the 21 days in between the Fast of Tammuz and the 9th of Av are traditionally viewed as days of distress, *bein ha'metzarim*, "in between the straits.")

But Tisha B'Av is even more tragic. A litany of horrible events has occurred on this date: The Jews were expelled from England in 1290. The Jews were expelled from Spain in 1492. During World War II, the Nazis purposely chose to commit atrocities against the Jewish people on the Ninth of Av, simply as a cruel way of pouring salt into our people's wounds.

How have we chosen to observe this day of tragedy, the Ninth of Av? One option is to conduct a full fast, no eating or drinking from sundown to sundown. Other traditions include additional self-denial, such as refusing to bathe or shower; not wearing makeup, perfume or cologne; and abstaining from sexual relations.

Some Jews gather in synagogue to study Torah. It is common to read from Lamentations, written by Jeremiah after the destruction of the first Temple. The prophet recounts how the Jews attempted to survive the Babylonian siege and details the leveling of the city. We also read from the book of Job, which details the suffering of an innocent man and how he responded to pain, tragedy and the death of his family.

Observing these holidays are attempts to find a



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

semblance of meaning or purpose in tragedy. If we can discover meaning and purpose through joyous holidays, why not try to do the same through tragic holidays?

In this effort, the Rabbis have shared an intriguing explanation of why God "allowed" the Romans to conquer the Jewish people, destroy the 2nd Temple and ultimately exile us from the Land. A Rabbinic Midrash explains that this tragedy helped preserve the Jewish people. After all, if a people are exclusively concentrated in one geographic location, it is easy to destroy them. However, once the Jews were spread throughout the known world, no single empire would ever be able to defeat them and force them to assimilate and disappear.

I struggle with this Midrash because it teaches that God allowed thousands of men, women and children to perish in order to save the Jewish people. I ask, "couldn't God have found a less tragic way to achieve the same result?" I only share this

"Despite having lost our most precious city and most sacred communal location – not once, but twice – we still refused to turn our backs on God."

Midrash to reveal how resilient the Jewish people have been. Despite having lost our most precious city and most sacred communal location – not once, but twice – we still refused to turn our backs on God.

So how can we in the year 2023 relate to the Fast of Tammuz and the Ninth of Av? Perhaps we continue

to observe these holidays because we often learn more from failure than from success. In response to pain, tragedy and suffering, we have an opportunity to grow, mature and become more in tune with our emotions.

Perhaps more of us should observe these summertime holidays because both the Fast of Tammuz and the Ninth of Av shed light not only upon our history, but on how we responded to tragedies and became stronger as a result. We have not learned just to survive. We have learned how to thrive.

Building partnerships: An open letter

This is the first of an ongoing series of columns from The State of Israel's diplomatic representative to the region.

By **AMBASSADOR MARCO SERMONETA**

Dear community,
For almost a year now I have served as the Consul General of Israel to the Pacific Northwest. It has been a privilege getting to know the people and places in the region, and I have made it a goal to connect with communities, businesses, and entrepreneurs located here.

As Oregon and Israel work to build relationships between public and private sectors in the fields of sustainability and climate tech, I see opportunities for increased exchange as we determine the most effective methods of doing so. Recently, the consulate partnered with the Technology Association of Oregon for the Climate Curious Cleantech Symposium. We highlighted Israeli climate tech innovation and the ways in which we can strengthen ties between Oregon's and Israel's Cleantech innovators and investors.

Supporting and collaborating with the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland continues to be a priority for the consulate. In light of increasing cases of antisemitism in our region and around the United States, Israel aims to reaffirm its solidarity with and support of the Jewish diaspora, as we work together to bolster their wellbeing and security. It is also crucial that we continue to strengthen the ties between Israel and diaspora Jewish communities, which, as demonstrated in the recently published Portland Jewish Community Study, are of utmost importance. With this in mind, we can look forward to more partnerships on cultural, academic, and entrepreneurial efforts in the near future.

Reaffirming the strong bipartisan relationship between the United States and Israel, I also aim to expand ties with elected officials and political leaders. Last year, I had the pleasure of meeting Oregon Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum during my visit to Portland, and I look forward to future meetings with other representatives at the local and federal levels. Such meetings help us to identify areas in which Israel and



*Ambassador
Marco Sermoneta
is Consul General
of Israel to the
Pacific Northwest,
based in San
Francisco.*

Oregon can work together on shared goals and projects.

One of the key topics that I discussed with Attorney General Rosenblum and that I will continue to advocate for is the adoption of the IHRA working definition of antisemitism by the state of Oregon. By defining antisemitism, this practical, non-legally binding tool allows us combat antisemitism together, as it can be implemented in various fields, including education, civil society and law enforcement.

2023 is a significant year for Israel and its partners around the world. In April we

See **CONSUL**, page 12

Clergy Corner

The Jewish Review regularly invites local clergy to share their insights with the community. These opinions do not necessarily reflect the views of the Review, the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland, or its staff.

The Community Study: A slap on the back and kick in the pants

By **RABBI MOTTI WILHELM**

The recent release of Portland's Jewish Community Study by Brandeis University's Cohen Center and Jewish Federation of Greater Portland (available at jewish-portland.org/communitystudy) was both a major pat on the back and kick in the pants.

Allow to me to share some highlights and takeaways:

One: Jews love doing mitzvot, not paying dues

Seventy five percent of Portland's Jewish people light Chanukah Candles, 58 percent attended a Seder and 25 percent keep some form of Kosher. Forty eight percent have a Mezuzah and 78 percent give Tzedakah while only 20 percent belong to a congregation and 2 percent to the Mittleman Jewish Community Center. (Tables 5.9, 6.7, 6.9, 5.1 and 6.1)

Takeaway: We need to focus on Mitzvah opportunities not membership drives. Jews want access to Kosher food, Mezuzot, Chal-

lot and Shabbat Candles. Creating greater access to Mitzvot is the future of Jewish life.

Two: We don't like traffic

Location is the number one reason parents give for not enrolling their children in Jewish Preschools and the number two limitation to participation in the Jewish community. (Tables 4.4 and 7.3)

Takeaway: There should be funding allocated to support programming in Portland's various regions. Chabads in Tigard, Hillsboro, SE Portland and Gresham should not need to compete with SW Portland's institutions for funding.

Three: There is a disparity between children being raised Jewishly and given a Jewish education

While 84 percent in Jewish homes are being raised Jewish, only 12 percent attend Jewish preschool and 17 percent receive a formal Jewish education. (Tables 4.3, 4.4 and 4.5)

Takeaway: The value of Jewish education

must be shared and promoted. As the Talmud says, "If there are no kids, there are no goats." I would further call upon the Federation, OJCF and our lead philanthropists to establish a preschool capacity building grant of \$100,000 for three years for the establishment of Jewish Preschools. I think we would see new preschools in LO/Tigard, Hillsboro/Bethany and SE Portland/Clackamas were such grants made available.

Four: There is a high level of participation with Chabad:

Over 4,000 Jewish adults attended a program with Chabad this year. (Table 6.3) As the study's lead demographer Matt Boxer wrote to me in a follow up email, "In essence, a little over one out of every four Jewish adults who participated in any Jewish programs in the past year participated with Chabad. That does not mean they did

See **CLERGY**, page 12



Moshe Lenske stands beside an armored half-track during his visit to Europe this June. (Tom Hauck/Best Defense Foundation)

LENSKE (continued from page 5)

over seder to a friend's mother-in-law who lives at Rose Schnitzer Manor, and she knew Lenske had served in World War II. Arrangements were quickly made for Lenske to join, the most challenging of which was getting Lenske's expired passport renewed on very short notice. After the trip, Hauck and Lenske made a presentation on their trip and Lenske's combat experience to a capacity crowd at Cedar Sinai Park.

Hauck's wife and children are Jewish, and the significance of the sacrifices made by Lenske and other veterans to defeat the Nazis is not lost on him.

"If I had lived 80 years ago in Europe, my family would have been in jeopardy," he said. "So, it means a lot."

"We're all glad to be alive. We're all lucky," Lenske said of himself and his fellow veterans. "We've seen humanity not at its best."

CONSUL (continued from page 11)

marked 75 years since regaining our independence, coinciding with 75 years of U.S.-Israel relations. It was an honor to be able to celebrate this milestone with communities and leaders throughout the Pacific Northwest.

As I wrap up my first year representing Israel in the PNW, I am proud of the partnerships that have been fostered during previous years in the areas of innovation and technology, sustainability, academics and culture. I am looking forward to continuing these relationships and building more through open dialogue, and I invite you all to be part of this endeavor.

Sincerely, Ambassador Marco Sermoneta

Subscribe to the consulate's newsletter at tinyurl.com/mtvwtj5f.

CLERGY (continued from page 11)

not also participate with other organizations, but it means Chabad is doing an excellent job reaching the people who participate anywhere in the Jewish community."

In the study's conclusions and recommendations, the growth of Chabad is cited as a model for the community. To cite:

"The community must develop or expand programs that will allow those who wish to acquire foundational Jewish content knowledge to do so in a no-pressure, supportive environment. The emergence of the Eastside Jewish Commons and the growth of Chabad suggest there are multiple models that can successfully meet these needs in the Greater Portland Jewish community." (page 116)

So yes, we got a pat on the back, but we also got a kick in pants. As I shared with Federation President and CEO Marc Blattner "the Rebbe would say, 4,100 is great, there are still 52,000 to reach." Marc replied: We all have that same opportunity!

Rabbi Motti Wilhelm is head of Chabad SW Portland.

Chabad to base Summer Yeshiva in NE, SW Portland

By ROCKNE ROLL

Chabad of Oregon have confirmed dates and locations for their Summer Yeshiva program in collaboration with Yeshiva Tiferes Bachurim.

Students from the Morristown, N.J. yeshiva, led by Rabbi Yaakov Wagner, will be leading their Portland-based programs primarily at Chabad of Northeast Portland, 4635 NE Ninth Avenue, with programs on or around Shabbat, including Friday night dinners with the yeshiva, contingent, to be hosted at Chabad SW Portland, 6612 SW Capitol Highway.

"We're going to have a special gathering with a meal and special words, shared songs, inspiration and schmoozing," Rabbi Wagner explained.

Rabbi Wagner and his students will be in Oregon Aug. 1 -15 ("Chabad brings Summer Yeshiva program to Portland," July 12, 2023, pg 4), with activities and outreach

scheduled well beyond those two locations. The first week of their visit, the Yeshiva group is planning to visit Salem, Lincoln City, including a stop at B'nai B'rith Camp, with a special visit to Seaside on Aug. 14 (see breakout box). The next week, the visiting students will be primarily in Portland, making stops at locations around the metropolitan area to explore a variety of topics.

"I think it's important to make it very clear that people should know this not necessarily geared to people who are ultra-religious," Rabbi Moshe Wilhelm, director of Chabad of Oregon explained. "It's very open to all kinds of people, any background."

Those interested in attending any of the programs should contact Rabbi Wagner by phone or WhatsApp at 862-579-7411 or email Rabbi Wilhelm at rabbi@chabadoregon.com

Yeshiva Day in Seaside

Chabad's Summer Yeshiva will make a special visit to the Northern Oregon Coast Monday, Aug. 14.

The day begins with a Brunch and Learn from 11 am – 1 pm at Ecola Point, with a Talmud study session centered on Tisha B'Av. Exploring and community outreach in Seaside will follow with a barbecue dinner and a discussion titled, "The Mystical Power of the Month of Av" at Hug Point near Cannon Beach from at 5:30 pm. After sunset Mincha prayers and campfire signing, the group will return to Portland.

Those interested should reach out to Rabbi Yaakov Wagner by phone or WhatsApp at 862-579-7441.

**Free online
subscription:**

[jewishportland.org/
subscribe](https://jewishportland.org/subscribe)

July 27: EJC Movie Night

Filmmaker Amir Bar-Lev follows two Czech Holocaust survivors, Jan Weiner and Arnost Lustig, as they revisit Terezin in the acclaimed documentary, "Fighter," at Eastside Jewish Commons Thursday, July 27, from 7-9 pm. \$5. More information at ejcdx.org/events.

July 27: Cafe Shalom Israeli Folk Dancing

Weekly open Israeli dance session every Thursday, 8-10 pm at CHCC, 8936 SW 17th Ave in Portland. All experience levels and ages welcome. Enjoy dancing in a welcoming and friendly atmosphere of dancers at all levels. Learn new dances and practice favorites and classics from long ago. \$7. For more information, contact Allison Victor at allisuev@gmail.com.

July 28: Community Connection on Zoom

Drop-in group hosted by Jewish Family & Child Service's Counseling Services every Friday at 10 am on Zoom. It is a space for anyone in the community to connect with others and share. Find Zoom link at jfcsp-portland.org/services/counseling/.

July 30: Israeli Folk Dancing at SWCC

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

July 31: Israeli Folk Dancing at Leedy Grange

Enjoy Israeli folk dancing every Monday, 7:30 - 10:30pm with this friendly group in Cedar Mill (now in our 10th year). The session, run by Sue and Donna, starts with easier, classic dances and moves on to newer forms, couples' dances, line dances, and teaching, too. Find us on Facebook at "Israeli Folk Dancing in Portland, OR"

Aug. 1: EJC presents Gentle Yoga

Sido Surkis leads yoga in a light-hearted and trauma-informed class that allows people to experience their own yoga every Tuesday at 10 am at the Eastside Jewish Commons. Her focus is in supporting people to discover their own strengths, flexibilities and groundedness through Gentle Yoga. \$10. ejcpdx.org/events.

Aug. 3: MJCC Presents Humans of Israel Art Opening at EJC

Come join us at the Commons to celebrate as we showcase the compelling photos of Erez Kaganovitz from the Humans of Israel

Project Thursday, Aug. 3 from 6-7:30 pm. Presented by the Mittleman Jewish Community Center and on loan to EJC these photos will be on display at the Commons through the fall. The Humans of Israel project combines photojournalism with digital storytelling to give a sense of what makes Israel and its diverse inhabitants tick. The project challenges preconceptions and highlights Israel's diversity, multiculturalism, and vibrant civil society. Join us for a glass of wine or sparkles and meet the Humans of Israel! Free, registration requested at tinyurl.com/humansEJC.

Aug. 4: Monthly Sephardic Community Shabbat Dinner

Join Congregation Ahavath Achim the first Friday of each month from 6:30 -9:30 pm for a lovely Sephardic Kabbalat Service, Shabbat Dinner and class by Rabbi Villarreal titled Kaminos: A Journey into Sephardic Spirituality and Thought. Discover why Sephardic Judaism is a treasury with something for everyone. \$20, financial assistance available. RSVP required to info@ahavathachim.com.

Aug. 5: Mini Mensches Traveling Tot Shabbat

Welcome Shabbat with singing, dancing, and sweetness! We will gather outside at Washington Park Playground Saturday morning from 9-10 am to sing Shabbat songs and end with a parade with our stuffed Torahs. We'll have challah and juice following for the kids, with plenty of space on the playground for them to play while parents have time to spend together getting to know one another. Mini Mensches is geared towards kids ages 0-5 and welcomes the entire community at our events. Invite your friends! More information at bethisrael-pdx.org/community/mini-mensches/

Aug. 5: A Walking Tour of Historic Jewish Portland

Join Polina Olsen for a guided tour based on her book, "A Walking Tour of Historic Jewish Portland" from 10:30 am-noon Saturday, Aug. 5. Tickets \$10, proceeds to benefit P'nai Or of Portland. Starting location listed on tickets, available at givebutter.com/m6A38d.

Aug. 7: Christina & The Zamlers: Lost Klezmer Music of the Ansky Expeditions

Christina and The Zamlers (Christina Crowder, Jack "Yankl" Falk and Andrew Ehrlich) invite you to join our "community expedition" into an extraordinary discovery:

JDC's Camp Szarvas offers respite to Ukraine's resilient youth

When Arsenii, 14 and his sister, Miroslava, 17, arrived at Camp Szarvas, the JDC-Lauder International Youth Camp in Hungary, in early July they nearly cried tears of joy.

The past 17 months have been a waking nightmare for the teens. First, there were weeks spent huddled in a bomb shelter as their hometown of Kharkiv came under heavy fire.

"The children and I started having serious health problems because our nerves were so frayed," their mother, Inna, told us.

Then Inna lost her job. The unemployment benefits that replaced her salary could barely put food on the table. After a year, even those ended, throwing the family into desperate poverty. The family was forced to relocate, first to an IDP (internally displaced persons) camp and then to a small town in western Ukraine.

The conflict infiltrated nearly every part of the teens' lives. School was online and winter power outages after large swaths of Ukraine's energy infrastructure were damaged in bombings meant the family's apartment was often freezing.

"The stress of the conflict – the cold, the sirens, the bombing, all took a toll," Inna explains, "At the end of November, Arsenii was hospitalized with pneumonia and a soaring fever."

When he recovered, JDC sent the family to a Winter Respite at Szarvas, offering them a 12-day break from the frigid cold and ongoing conflict.

"The first thing Arsenii asked when we got back to Ukraine was, 'When can I go to Szarvas again?'" Inna recalls. "Now the dream came true – Arsenii and Miroslava are back at Szarvas – an amazing relief after a difficult year."

Arsenii and Miroslava are two of 234 campers and 23 counselors from Ukraine who are spending part of the summer at Szarvas, getting a much-needed break from the conflict. Together with over 1,500 children and teens from across the Jewish world, they are joyously celebrating their Jewish identity with song, dance, and community.

Founded in 1914, JDC is the world's leading global Jewish humanitarian organization. For more information, visit jdc.org.

See EVENTS, page 16

Obituaries



ANNA TILOW

Anna (Chana) Tilow z"l, passed away at the age of 95 on July 2. She was passionately devoted to Labor Zionism and Yiddish culture as well as her family. Her children include Aki Fleshler, former President of Congregation Kesser Israel in Portland. After living in New York, Ohio, and Connecticut, she moved to Portland in December 2022 and resided at Rose Schnitzer Manor.

She was born Oct. 19, 1927, in New York City, the only child of Pearl (Perel) and Samuel (Shulem) Weiner. Her parents were activists in the Farband, an organization of Yiddish-speaking Labor Zionists. When Mrs. Tilow was young, they moved to Akron, Ohio, where her parents became Farband leaders in the Midwest, and Shulem taught in one of the organization's schools. She spoke proudly about the time her family hosted a fundraising event for a fiery young Zionist named Golda Myerson, who eventually became Prime Minister Golda Meir.

When she was 12, her family returned to New York City, where she became active in Habonim, a Labor Zionist youth organization. She was so inspired by the idea of a Jewish state that she joined a small group of American Jews planning to start Kibbutz Geshet Haziv. After getting an Associate's Degree in Nutrition,

she planned to run the kibbutz kitchen.

Her plans changed in 1948 after she fell in love with Maurice (Moishe) Fleshler in a training camp for would-be kibbutz pioneers. They married, and after becoming pregnant, they decided it would be too difficult to give birth and raise the baby on a new kibbutz, so they stayed in New York City, where they had two sons, Aki and Dan, and Mr. Fleshler got an engineering degree. They subsequently lived in several small towns in Pennsylvania, where Mrs. Tilow began a career as a hospital dietician. In her limited spare time she also ran a small catering company with Eastern European recipes she'd learned from her mother, including pot roast, tongue with tomato sauce, kasha varnishkes and hulptzes (stuffed cabbage).

In early 1967, the Fleshlers moved back to New York City where, tragically, Mr. Fleshler died from a heart attack at age 40. In 1970, she married William Tilow, who had three sons from a previous marriage, and moved to Woodbridge Connecticut, a suburb of New Haven. After handling the daunting responsibility of managing—and cooking great meals for—a household filled with rambunctious boys, she was widowed again in 1984.

Undaunted, Mrs. Tilow rebuilt her life yet again, moving to Hamden, Connecticut and working in several hospitals in the New Haven area. She became the president of the local chapter of Na'amat, an Israel-focused organization dedicated to uplifting women and children. After retiring in her late 60s, she travelled extensively, was an active participant in the New Haven Yiddish Club and read stories to disadvantaged children at the Hamden Library. At the age of 80 as a member of Temple Beth Shalom in Hamden, she studied for and celebrated the Bat Mitzvah

she'd never had in her youth.

In addition to her sons, Aki Fleshler and Dan Fleshler and stepsons Seth Tilow, Josh Tilow and Adam Tilow, she is survived by grandchildren Eva, Shoshana, Lillie, Julia, Kaniel, Dylan and Jessica and great-grandchildren Ayla, Zoe, Yehezkel and Eliora.

Burial was July 3 in the Congregation Kesser Israel Cemetery. The family suggests memorial contributions to Na'amat USA (<https://naamat.org/waystogive/>).

ARNOLD COGAN

Arnold Cogan z"l died Friday, July 14 in Portland at the age of 90.

Cogan was born Dec. 3, 1932, in Bath, Maine, and moved to Portland in 1948. He graduated from Grant High School in Portland and studied engineering at Oregon State University, where he met Elaine Rosenberg. The couple were married in 1952.

After serving in the United States Army, Cogan returned to Portland and worked in engineering. He later joined the City of Portland's planning department, working on the design of Pioneer Courthouse Square, Tom McCall Waterfront Park, and the Swan Island Industrial Park. Cogan was named the state's first land use planning director after working to establish the Department of Land Conservation.

Cogan joined Congregation Neveh Shalom shortly after moving to Portland; he was President of the congregation from 1988-1990 and chaired multiple long-range planning projects with the congregation.

Cogan is survived by his wife, Elaine Cogan; children Leonard Cogan, Mark (JP) Cogan, and Suzanne (Bob) Van Brocklin; sisters Carol Koranda and Judy Ross; grandchildren Elizabeth, Kate, Meg, David, Annabelle, and Rodrigo; and great-grandchildren Jovie and Remy.

A private burial was followed by a July 17 memorial service at the Stampfer Chapel at Congregation Neveh Shalom.

HAZEL LUCILLE HARDEN

Congregation Kol Ami is saddened to announce the death of Hazel Lucille Harden z"l, mother of Kol Ami member Phil Harden. Hazel died on July 15. There will be a family memorial later in the summer.

JOHN CALVIN

It is with deep sadness that Congregation Shaarie Torah announces the passing of John Harold Calvin z"l, beloved stepfather of Annette Demsey (Erik Richmond). John died on Wednesday morning, July 19, 2023. He is survived by his wife, Mary; five daughters: Elizabeth (Ingrid), Melissa (Peter), Sarah (Cynthia), Karen (Jim) and Annette (Erik); and seven grandchildren: Joshua, Brennan, Anna, Noah, Grace, Owen and Gabriel.



RUTH FRIEDEL

Ruth Friedel z"l of Portland, Oregon passed peacefully away on July 22, 2023, surrounded by family. She was 78 years old.

Dr. Friedel was born in New York to Frank and Bess Friedel.

See OBITS, page 16

Submit obituaries: editor@jewishportland.org

Jobs Board

EASTSIDE JEWISH COMMONS

Event Staff

Salary: \$22/hour (part-time)

Eastside Jewish Commons seeks special events staff for arts and cultural events as well as lifecycle gatherings. This position is part-time and mostly evenings. Candidates must have current food handlers and OLCC licenses. Duties include selling/serving food and alcohol, bussing, set-up and break-down for events and occasional box office/door staffing. Those interested may send a cover letter and resume (PDF or Word format) to info@ejcpdx.org.

HAVURAH SHALOM

Jewish Cooking and Culture Teacher (Grades 7-8)

Salary: \$90-115/session DOE (part-time)

Havurah Shalom Reconstructionist synagogue seeks dynamic teachers to teach 6-12 sessions on topics of Jewish culture that expand our students' sense of Jewish identity and engagement. Experience working with youth is more important than curricular expertise (which can be developed). Teachers are supported by the Education Director in both pedagogic strategy and curriculum. Wednesday evenings, 6:30-8:30 pm (hanging out with students at dinner from 6:30-7 pm), October 18 – January 25. You can teach either 6 or 12 sessions. Please contact Deborah Eisenbach-Budner, Education Director, deborah@havurahshalom.org and describe your experience and expertise.

Beginning Hebrew Reading Teacher

Salary: \$90-115/session DOE (part-time)

Would you like to teach children and devote some time to your own Hebrew learning? Havurah Shalom is seeking a teacher for beginning Hebrew reading, using a very clearly laid out curriculum. Hours of instruction: 16 Saturdays before Shabbat School (already scheduled) between September 30 – May 4, 1:30-2:40 pm. Seven to 14 children per class. Please contact Deborah Eisenbach-Budner, Education Director, deborah@havurahshalom.org; describe your experience and expertise.

CEDAR SINAI PARK

Advancement Database Coordinator

Salary: \$21.15-31.20/hour (part-time)

Cedar Sinai Park is looking for a part-time Database Coordinator for our Advancement Department. This is a newly created part-

time, 20-25 hour a week, non-benefited position, primarily day shift, weekdays. The primary purpose of this position is to set up and maintain our fundraising database and teach the team how to use it. The database and this position are key to our ability to analyze data, benchmark goals, and appropriately and accurately build relationships with donors. This is an opportunity to lead and implement the project and clean up the existing data and then shift into maintaining your sparkling new database. As part of the initial project, you will need to set up new fields, and develop reports in collaboration with the Advancement team. Qualifications include a minimum of 2 years of experience working with fundraising databases. For more information or to apply, email Andrew Ball, HR Coordinator, at andrew.ball@cedarsinaipark.org.

Sales and Marketing Director

Salary: \$60,000-74,000/year

Cedar Sinai Park is looking for a full-time Sales & Marketing Director for Rose Schnitzer Manor Assisted Living. This is a newly created, full-time, exempt position. You will work Monday through Friday, mostly during the day, with some evenings and weekends. The primary purpose of this position is to lead the community's sales efforts for Rose Schnitzer Manor. You will develop and implement an annual strategic sales and marketing plan, and budget. You will manage the sales pipeline and tour prospective residents and families and oversee all aspects of the move-in process. You will create, manage, and engage in marketing and community activities aimed at cultivating prospects and referral sources and increasing awareness of Rose Schnitzer Manor in the wider community. This position will report to the RSM Administrator and supervise the Community Outreach Coordinator, who will also be new in their position. For more information or to apply, email Andrew Ball, HR Coordinator, at andrew.ball@cedarsinaipark.org.

Community Outreach Coordinator

Salary: \$21.15-31.20/hour (full-time)

Cedar Sinai Park is looking for a Community Outreach Coordinator. This is a full-time, benefited, non-exempt position. You will work Monday through Friday mostly during the day, with some evenings and weekends. The primary purpose of this position is to plan and engage in targeted outreach, networking, and community ac-

tivities aimed at promoting and creating a widespread awareness of Rose Schnitzer Manor. This person will work directly with the Sales & Marketing Director on a strategic plan for outreach, networking and special events. Qualifications include a business or marketing-related degree, or equivalent professional training, education and/or experience, and a minimum of 1-3 years' experience in sales and/or other related experience in senior living, health care, or hospitality industries. For more information or to apply, email Andrew Ball, HR Coordinator, at andrew.ball@cedarsinaipark.org.

Advancement Director

Salary: \$80,000-100,800/year

Cedar Sinai Park is seeking an Advancement Director with a proven track record in building development programs. This is a full-time, benefited, daytime position. The primary purpose of this position is to develop, organize and execute all of the fundraising programs at Cedar Sinai Park. The Director is responsible for the supervision, direction and facilitation of development programs, staff, consultants and volunteers in these areas. A key part of this role is being the primary relationship-builder with donors and potential donors. The Director participates with the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of Cedar Sinai Park on the Executive Management Team and serves as a close colleague with the Communications and Grants Director/Manager and the Marketing Manager. A minimum of 5 years of advancement experience is required; a bachelor's degree and/or Certified Fund-Raising Executive (CFRE) designation preferred. For more information or to apply, email Andrew Ball, HR Coordinator, at andrew.ball@cedarsinaipark.org.

OREGON JEWISH COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Bookkeeper and Office Administrator

Salary: \$25-28/hour (part-time)

This position is 28 hours per week. Hours may possibly increase up to full time after January 1, 2024. It is anticipated that this position will maintain the following hours: seven hours in the office on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, and seven hours working remotely on either a Monday or Friday. Responsibilities include

See JOBS, page 16

See more Jewish jobs at jewishportland.org/ourcommunity/jewish-jobs

Applications for ADL's Glass Leadership Institute are open

ADL's Glass Leadership Institute (GLI) empowers the next generation of leaders committed to ADL's mission with the tools to fight antisemitism and hate and build a just and inclusive society. ADL's Pacific Northwest Office offers this program virtually in Portland for young leaders of all backgrounds in their 20s and 30s.

The new GLI class will begin on a monthly basis in November 2023. Applications for the 2023-2024 cohort are due Aug. 31 with interviews taking place this summer. ADL will also conduct a background check. In addition to six monthly classes, GLI participants are invited to attend a national leadership conference and state and federal lobby days. Attendees are expected to attend all six sessions, with exceptions granted, and make a \$250 gift to ADL before the program begins.

Apply online at <https://www.adl.org/take-action/glass-leadership-institute>. For more information, contact Stephen Paolini at spaolini@adl.org.

OBITS (continued from page 14)

She earned a bachelor's in physical therapy and a master's in psychology from New York University. She worked and trained at Albert Einstein Hospital Complex in The Bronx for 10 years and studied dance in her spare time. She moved to Portland and continued graduate school at Pacific University, earning a doctorate in Psychology. She went on to teach at Pacific University and at Oregon Health Sciences University. Dr. Friedel had a successful psychology and group therapy practice in Portland for over 30 years and founded the Northwest Institute of Group Therapy and Psychodrama.

Throughout her life she gave of herself generously to family, friends, and the community. Among her accomplishments she was proud to have volunteered for the Oregon Psychological Association, Jewish Federation of Greater Portland, Jewish Family and Child Service, and the Maimonides Medical Society. She embraced life and enjoyed dancing, singing, travelling, gardening, and being out in nature. She stated, "I like to laugh, love to dance, like to play the classical guitar but am a novice and not very good at it."

Dr. Friedel is predeceased by her loving parents, Frank and Bess, and by her sister Sue Pereira. She is survived by her former husband, George Kaysen, and their daughter Debra Kaysen, grandson Evan Wickstrom, and her former husband, K.R. Satyanarayan, and their daughter Meera Satyanarayan. She is also survived by brothers William and David Friedel, her sister-in-law Judy Friedel, and nieces and nephew Liz, Rachel, Gwenn and Gabriel. The family invites you to join them for a Celebration of Life at the Ainsworth House & Gardens on August 6th, 2023, at 10 am. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to Friends of Hopewell House or to the Portland Audubon Society.

Burial Societies

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

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

EVENTS (continued from page 13)

the unlikely release of thousands of unique musical manuscripts from a Kyiv archive, where they had lain unseen for more than 100 years. This concert from 7:30-9pm Monday, Aug. 7 at the Eastside Jewish Commons, will showcase some of the music and songs that have been rescued from obscurity — from deeply moving Hasidic nigunim and classically inflected klezmer concertos, to jaunty mazurkas, lively Jewish circle dances, and more. Tickets \$12-18 sliding scale, no one turned away due to lack of funds, purchase online at tinyurl.com/Zamblers.

Aug. 8: Wondering Jews Podcast

Portland-based co-hosts Josh and Roy drop a new podcast at 6 am Tuesdays every two weeks focusing on Jews and cannabis. wonderingjewishpodcast.com

Aug. 8: TIME at Havurah Shalom

This is My Earth founder Uri Shanas presents on preserving biodiversity. See story, page 6.

Aug. 10: TIME at Eastside Jewish Commons

This is My Earth founder Uri Shanas presents on preserving biodiversity. See story, page 6.

Aug. 11: BB Camp Summer Shabbaton

Discover the magic of overnight camp with a Shabbaton weekend experience Aug. 11-13! Our day campers will have the opportunity to enjoy a full range of activities, including swimming, boating, campfires, and s'mores. Join us for a fun-filled weekend of Israeli dancing, delicious dining, and making new friends. Participate in arts and crafts, stargaze, and experience all the best that overnight camp has to offer. Transportation is available from the BB Camp Office or drop off your camper directly at the Lincoln City overnight camp. This experience is open to rising kindergarten through sixth-grade campers. Sign up now and get ready for a jam-packed weekend of fun and adventure! \$200. Register online at bbcamp.org/SHABBATON/. For questions, contact daycamp@bbcamp.org.

Aug. 12: EJC Presents Disco Mizrahi

Middle-eastern infused disco dance party. See story, page 4.

Sept. 7: Trybal PNW Young Adult Camp

Jewish summer camp for adults in their 20s and 30s at Camp Solomon Schechter this September. Over 50 activities to choose from each day. Cabins and private lodging available. Four-day weekend experience starts at \$695 per person, early-bird rates available until Aug. 1. For more information or to register, visit trybalgatherings.com/pnw.

JOBS (continued from page 15)

managing accounts payable, preparing and distributing fund statements, processing gifts and tax receipts, grant and data entry, assisting with the Foundation's annual audit, database management and other duties as assigned. Applications are due by 5 pm on August 04, 2023, and will be held in strict confidence. Please submit a cover letter and resume to Laurie Kays at Lauriek@ojcf.org.

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