

The JEWISH REVIEW

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Awaken – Rosh Hashanah is near

The High Holidays start “early” on our Gregorian calendar this year; the Hebrew month of Elul begins Aug. 9, Selichot is Aug. 28 and Rosh Hashanah begins at sundown Sept. 6.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Portland hosts the online community calendar for community members to easily access information on meaningful ways to prepare for and observe this year’s High Holidays. Congregations and other Jewish organizations are invited to share programs and services around Selichot, Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah on the community calendar. (Submit events and services for the fall hagim at www.jewishportland.org/submit.)

Community members can check out virtual, hybrid and in-person classes, programs and services at jewishportland.org/highholidays



The sound of the shofar, such as this blast by Beth Israel Education Director Ben Sandler, awakens us from our spiritual slumber so we can reflect and repent as the new year approaches. Photo courtesy of the Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education.

Read more about Elul, forgiveness and the High Holidays: Page 9

Rebooted by COVID: A new series



Israeli Folk Dancers are happy to return to in-person dancing on wood floors. Café Shalom, above, is just one of several returning options in Portland.

Options have expanded for Israeli folk dancers

BY DEBORAH MOON

As dancers rejoice over the return of indoor, in-person dancing, opinions differ on whether Zoom will continue to serve the global Israeli dance community that arose during pandemic restrictions.

Last week, Portland dancers could dance indoors at Leedy Grange on Monday, at the Mittleman Jewish Community Center on Wednesday

and with Café Shalom on Southwest 17th on Thursday. Sunday sessions are set to return to the Fulton Park Community Center on Sunday evenings sometime this month. Outdoor dancing, which began in October, at the Multnomah Arts Center on Sunday afternoons draws crowds for a beginners’ class, open dancing and partner dancing.

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HIGH HOLIDAYS

Sept. 7-8: Rosh Hashanah

Sept. 16: Yom Kippur

Sept. 21-27: Sukkot

Sept. 28-29: Shemini Atzeret & Simchat Torah



Kenneth Helphand sketches a landscape, a common practice of one of the 20th century's great landscape architects Lawrence Halprin, z"l. Kenneth is considered one of the foremost authorities on Halprin's work.



Drawing by Lawrence Halprin, z"l. View from Goldman Promenade looking toward the Haas Promenade. The Haas Promenade overlooking Jerusalem is likely one of Halprin's most visited designs in Israel, with most tour groups stopping there for the magnificent view of the Old City, the Dome of the Rock, Mount Scopus, the modern sections of Jerusalem and the desert beyond. (Courtesy Bruce Levin).

Portland fountain designer Halprin's Israel fame

BY DEBORAH MOON

Landscape architect Lawrence Halprin (1916-2009) is renowned for his iconic projects in the United States: the Portland Fountains, Freeway Park, Ghirardelli Square, Sea Ranch and the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial. Yet he also made crucial contributions to the landscape of Israel, which played a large role in forming Halprin's values and vision.

Halprin lived in pre-state Israel as a teenager, helped found a kibbutz in the 1930s and maintained a relationship with the land and people throughout his life.

Kenneth Helphand, the guest curator of the current exhibit of Halprin's Portland Fountains (**see next page**), says that Halprin credits that formative experience, especially on the kibbutz, with creating his values of community working together and people's knowledge and respect for the land.

"Halprin's ties to Israel are especially notable," says Judy Margles, director of Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education. "When I look at photos of Ein Hashofet, the kibbutz that he helped found in the 1930s and one that I lived on for a summer when I was 14, I see the influence of its landscape on his projects, especially the Haas Promenade in Jerusalem and Sea Ranch in California. I'm grateful to curator Kenny Helphand for noting this important aspect of Halprin's work and providing us with a deeper understanding of what inspired him."

During his first sabbatical from the University of Oregon in 1980-81, Kenneth taught design studio and the history of landscape architecture at the Technion in Haifa, Israel. During that year and many subsequent visits, he visited many of Halprin's designs in Israel. A dozen years later, the Israeli Association of Landscape Architects invited him to write what became *Dreaming Gardens: Landscape Architecture and the Making of Modern Israel*. He is also the author of *Lawrence Halprin* (part of the *Masters of Modern Landscape Design Series*).

But when the Landscape Journal asked him to write "Halprin in Israel" for the journal's 2012 special issue devoted to Halprin, Kenneth took a deeper dive. He perused all of Halprin's 167 notebooks in the Lawrence Halprin Collection, The Architectural Archives, University of Pennsylvania. Kenneth searched the notebooks for sketches and notes about Israel before writing the in-depth, 20-page article. The article includes Kenneth's photographs of Halprin's projects and several sketches and notes from Halprin.

"Israel and Jerusalem have affected my life ever since – my value systems and my attitudes have been deeply influenced. I have been deeply swayed by Israelis' reverence for the land," wrote Halprin in 1981 in notebook 122.

The article abstract notes: In Israel, Halprin advised on national landscape plan-

ning, national parks and was an influential member of Mayor Teddy Kollek's Jerusalem Committee. His design projects, all in Jerusalem, include: the Hadassah Medical Center, the Israel Museum and the Ben Yehuda Mall. His most significant work is the Haas Promenade (with Shlomo Aronson) and the Rhoda Goldman Promenade (with Bruce Levin).

In a phone interview, Kenneth discussed Halprin's work in Israel and Portland.

"The clear intention in virtually all his design work is how do you engage people in the landscape? A multi-sensory experience people see, feel, touch and hear," says Kenneth. "The intention in Portland is to engage people in the fountains, in the water, in the sensory experience that kind of microclimate creates. ... They are inspired by mountain landscapes – originally the Sierras and certainly the Cascades – (and trying to get a sense of that into the city.)"

While his design for Portland's "Open Space Sequence" revolves around water, in Israel Halprin uses water sparingly.

"You shouldn't have something like that in Israel, because water is so scarce," says Kenneth. "If you are going to use water, you need to ... use water in very prudent ways" – a single jet to create the sounds of water or a fountain modeled on the village fountains where villagers would get their water.

He notes in his article for the Landscape

Continued on next page

Historic Intro to Judaism class goes hybrid

BY DEBORAH MOON

This fall's 18-week Introduction to Judaism class taught by members of The Oregon Board of Rabbis will be offered as a hybrid class for the first time. The format offers the best of both worlds – in-person connections and a virtual option that eliminates geographic and transportation barriers.

Normally held at rotating Portland area synagogues, the class shifted to Zoom on March 19, 2020, to finish the spring semester when the governor issued stay-home orders in response to COVID. The class was held virtually for the fall 2020 and spring 2021 terms – and enrollment soared. Spring of 2021 had more students than had ever enrolled in the decades-old program.

This fall, the OBR plans to offer classes in person and online via Zoom 7-9 pm, Thursdays, Aug. 26-Jan. 6.

"We are planning to meet in Stampfer Chapel, so long as indoor attendance safety guidelines do not change," says OBR administrator and class facilitator JoAnn Bezodis. "I am expecting around 50 students to join in person, with up to 30 joining online. We strongly encourage in-person attendance for new students, so most of the online students are returning from a previous term, or they have other reasons keeping them from in-person attendance."

"So far, it looks like this fall will be another

record-breaking term for enrollment," she adds. "I am preparing to offer classes in person while still retaining the Zoom option for those who need it. It's going to take extra equipment to bring the Zoom option to in-person classes, as we meet at different synagogue locations each week. Of course, I'm keeping an eye on the news and feel prepared to return to virtual classes only should we return to lockdown (God forbid!)"

The collaboratively taught class has a long history in Portland. In the 1960s, Orthodox Rabbi Yonah Geller, z"l, of Congregation Shaarie Torah, Conservative Rabbi Joshua Stampfer, z"l, of Congregation Neveh Shalom and Reform Rabbi Emanuel Rose, z"l, of Congregation Beth Israel formed the Oregon Board of Rabbis and established the community "Introduction to Judaism" class for potential converts – both unusual examples of collaboration among different streams of Judaism.

The current 18-week course continues to be taught by OBR members representing a variety of Jewish affiliations. While not a conversion class, most OBR members still consider it a prerequisite for students beginning study for conversion. The carefully constructed curriculum includes Jewish history, life-cycle events, holidays, ritual and daily practice, theology, study of Torah and contemporary Jewish America.

The first two hybrid classes will be held

in the Stampfer Chapel at Congregation Neveh Shalom. Rabbi Mel Young will teach The Hebrew Calendar on Aug. 26 and The High Holy Days: History and Observance on Sept. 2. Rabbi Mel retired in 2010 after 36 years as a public-school educator in southern California and then earned his master of rabbinic studies and received ordination at the Academy for Jewish Religion, California, in 2017. He and his wife, Linda, relocated to Portland in March 2019. He taught the Hebrew Calendar session in January 2020 but did not teach while the program was all virtual.

Rabbi Mel says he looks forward to the hybrid format "so as many as possible can connect with the program."

JoAnn says the hybrid model is very popular with students.

"Even prior to COVID, I had several requests for a remote option for students, but the OBR had resisted as Judaism is a relational community," says JoAnn. "However, with COVID, we didn't get a choice. It was either virtual community or no community at all. Since having the virtual experience, it's going to be difficult, if not impossible, to remove that option as expectations have changed."

To join the class in person or virtually, register online at oregonboardofrabbis.org/introduction-to-judaism-class/ or contact JoAnn at 971-248-5465 or by email at info@oregonboardofrabbis.org.

HALPRIN (from previous page)

Journal, "Halprin designed the Ida Crown Plaza at the Israel Museum entrance and the entry promenade. His desire was 'to establish the same quality of stepping up the hillside that the buildings of the museum accomplish so successfully ... (T)he water in the plaza should have the quality of a source like a spring welling from a cave (Notebook 16, 1966).' Within the plaza, water appears and disappears as it does in the mostly arid terrain of Israel."

In honor of his mother who served two terms as president of Hadassah, Halprin also worked on the master plan, courtyards and a fountain for the Hadassah Medical Center. The fountain was an elegant square of pink limestone leading to broad steppingstones that flow into a large square pool with a single jet of water (Halprin 1963, 157). In the decades since, the institution has grown dramatically, and little remains of his original design.

Kenneth says the connection between Halprin's designs in Portland and Israel is how you respond to being in a particular place.

"The centerpiece of the Haas promenade is (that) it is a response to being in this extraordinary location," says Kenneth. It's "one of the great views of the world" that people respond to irrespective if you have any religious connection but certainly "if you're Jewish, Muslim or Christian, you're looking at the most sacred landscape for all three faiths."



LAWRENCE HALPRIN, FOUNTAINS

"Lawrence Halprin, Fountains" celebrates Portland's "Open Space Sequence," a reinvention of public space in the city's first urban renewal district. Most of the exhibit focuses on Halprin's relationship with water and his inspirations for creating the Portland fountains. Guest curator Kenneth Helphand is the Philip H. Knight Professor of Landscape Architecture Emeritus at the University of Oregon.

WHERE: Main Gallery of Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education, 724 NW Davis St., Portland

WHEN: 11 am-4 pm, Wednesday-Saturday, through Sept. 26, 2021

ADMISSION: Adults: \$8; students and seniors: \$5; members and children under 12: free

INFORMATION: ojmche.org or info@ojmche.org

Song of Miriam 2020-21 honorees, part 5



For 27 years, the Jewish Women's Round Table has recognized women volunteers in the community at its Song of Miriam Awards Brunch.

In the face of the pandemic, the brunch was cancelled last year. This year, JWRT leaders still believed it would not be safe to hold an indoor event that often draws more than 300 people.

Since the first brunch in June 1993, between 15 and 23 women have received the annual award. Honorees have been selected by more than 25 congregations and organizations. Nearly 500 women have been honored since the award was created.

JWRT and the Jewish Review have united to ensure Song of Miriam Award nominees from 2020 and 2021 get the recognition they deserve. This summer, the Review has featured pictures of honorees along with a description of their work and why they are valuable to their organizations.

Following is the fifth and final group of three women whose organizations selected them to receive the Song of Miriam.

LEORA TROPER

Honored by Congregation Shir Tikvah

Over the years, Leora Troper has lent her talents to Congregation Shir Tikvah in ways almost too numerous to count.



She has volunteered and taught in the religious school. She led a song group encouraging novice singers to learn the tunes to important prayers. She's introduced new styles of cantillation during Shabbat prayers.

Leora has also immersed herself in the business of the congregation, including a recent tenure as the co-chair of Shir Tikvah's Board of Directors.

She currently is active in maintaining a racial justice e-mail list to bring information about opportunities for anti-racist action and education to the attention of Shir Tikvah's membership.

Shir Tikvah says Leora has a generous nature and gives so much to those around her, both in terms of time and energy. She is a consensus seeker and wants to make sure those who don't have a voice are always heard. She is deeply thoughtful and looks for ways to improve life for everyone.

As one fellow congregant noted, "She is a risk taker in the service of stretching herself and the community."

TOINETTE MENASHE

Honored by Cedar Sinai Park

Toinette Menashe's passion for CSP began in 1983 when her mom came to live at the Robison Home. At first, she started reading the newspaper to a group of residents before she went to work running the MALS (Master of Arts in Liberal Studies) program at Reed College.

This generosity of nature evolved into serving two terms on the Cedar Sinai Park Board of Trustees along with her husband, Vic Menashe, who is a past president.



Toinette shared a co-chair position with Vic when they headed up CSP's 75th Anniversary celebration, which brought more than 650 attendees to the Hilton Hotel.

In 1996, Toinette co-chaired "The Nosh," which kicked off the capital campaign for Rose Schnitzer Manor.

For more than 20 years, Toinette has led the most popular Rose Schnitzer Manor program, "Put in Your Two Cents," which was originated by Elaine Shapiro. This program inspires passionate dialogue and debate around current events.

Toinette's love for CSP, whether leading fund-raising or engaging residents, has continued for over 40 years, embodying the heart of our community.

KARA ORVIETO

Honored by Congregation Shaarie Torah

Kara Orvieto is a dedicated volunteer at Congregation Shaarie Torah with a long list of accomplishments.

She served on the synagogue Board of Directors, the staff recruiting committee, and participated in the SULAM (Ladder) curriculum to bring new educational ideas and opportunities for children and adults.



Kara volunteered as representative for the PJ Library committee with the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland for three years, which sends free Jewish-themed books to children.

In addition, she has been on committees for several successful fund-raising and outreach events.

Kara has served as vice president of Sisterhood and is currently the membership chair.

She was awarded Shaarie Torah's "Livnot Kehillah Building Award" for rising stars within the synagogue.

Kara is a proud Girl Scout mom. Professionally, she is an operations analyst for PGE and is a member of its corporate Women's Business Resources Group.

Shaarie Torah says Kara is always willing to lend a hand and brings fresh ideas and perspective to everything she works on. She has great empathy for the thoughts and feelings of others, and she does everything with a kind heart and gentle spirit.

You also can read the first 12 profiles of Marni Glick, Eliana Temkin, Sam Perrin, Hannah Berkowitz, Joni Plotkin, Kathleen Doctor, Robin Ellison, Carol Ray Richmond, Shari Raider, Liza Milliner, Diana Lindemann and Sheryl Chomak at jewishportland.org/jewishreview/jr-stories/song-of-miriam-awards-part-1



Dancers have enjoyed in-person dancing outdoors at the Multnomah Arts Center since October.



Israeli Folk Dancing returned to Leedy Grange July 26. Dancers relished the return of dancing indoors on wood floors. The Monday classes continue to be streamed on Zoom, so dancers from around the world can be part of the dance community. Organizers are monitoring COVID-19 and may shift back to Zoom or add mask requirements.

ISRAELI FOLK DANCING (continued from page 1)

“Transitioning to in-person dancing has been done conscientiously with specific guidance re: hygiene, mask options and vaccination issues, says Allison Victor, who teaches at the MJCC and leads Café Shalom. “I’ve received very positive feedback from dancers, how wonderful it is to dance together in person, indoors on a wooden floor, especially after being vaccinated. A few aren’t quite comfortable to return yet, but are cheering us on from the sidelines.”

Rules vary by dance location, but all sessions have requirements in place to create a safe return to the dance floor.

At Leedy Grange, dance leaders Sue Wendel and Donna Cole allow only 15 dancers at a time with vaccinations required, social distancing and no hand holding. But the sessions are expanded using a hybrid format. Donna expects to offer the hybrid model at Fulton, as well.

“So while we are dancing in person, the dance floor includes Zoomers from across the nation and beyond,” says Donna. “Last week, one of my dancers Zoomed in from Israel.”

“We are following safety protocols on the dance floor and remaining fluid as the course of the pandemic continues to change,” says Donna. “My main goal is to provide a safe experience for the dancers.”

Sue says whether the Leedy Grange dances will be weekly, every other week or less often is in flux. “It’s just a very bizarre time, and it’s fluid you know ... we’ll revisit and see how things are going,” says Sue. “Things are just changing daily.”

Sue says if pandemic restrictions return, dancers may be asked to mask or the sessions may return to Zoom only.

Donna discovered dancing on Zoom shortly after the pandemic began last March.

“Shortly into the program, I realized that even though we were not dancing together, we were actually dancing together all over the world,” she says. “It was a powerful, spiritual and healing feeling to think that in the midst of the unknown, the Israeli dance community was moving together to the same steps and music, at once all across the planet. One of the unexpected outcomes of this new format has been that dancers have become connected to other dancers from all over the world, so this has been good for the dancers and for IFD (Israeli folk dancing).”

“I expect that even with the return to in-person dancing, we will still see online dancing continue at some level,” Donna says.

Allison agrees Zoom has offered some benefits to the dance community. “Many of us have been dancing on Zoom, which has allowed some opportunities we hadn’t realized before – including live sessions with choreographers and session leaders from Israel to Europe to South America! I’ve been able to connect with teachers who I’ve only seen as names on email lists previously!”

“There have been gifts through the challenges and lots of enthusiasm for returning (to in person) as safely as possible,” says Allison of the dichotomy.

Zoom has been nice since you can dance with people far away, but Rhona Feldman says it’s just not the same as dancing together. Rhona teaches a dozen beginners in Multnomah before hosting an average of 20 dancers for the open outdoor dance.

“I think on the one hand, it’s really nice to connect with people from other cities and countries,” says Rhona, adding that she doesn’t know if dancing is the best use of Zoom for worldwide connections. She says she definitely appreciates that Zoom will let her “attend” her nephew’s upcoming

wedding in Israel.

“I feel like the more options we have, the more people we get dancing, the more familiar people are with dancing and the more we attract more dancers,” says Rhona. “For anybody who comes regularly, it’s a real passion – it kind of gets under your skin.”

Sue says some people who started dancing with her on Zoom during the pandemic have now come to in-person dancing at Leedy Grange. “People are just so excited to dance together in person.”

Some people “just can’t handle the whole Zoom universe,” says Sue.

Rhona says she thinks time will tell if Zoom dancing sticks around.

Donna says dancers have been really excited to return to indoor dancing on an appropriate wood floor. “Their excitement to return to indoor dancing is a reflection of their connection and the significance of the dance community,” she says. “There is more than just dancing happening here – we celebrate holidays, birthdays, Israel, family events and whatever else comes our way – and there are dances that are choreographed for these events, too. All of this – along with dancing together to the same steps in a circle facing one another – is a great equalizer that unifies us in a beautiful way. It does not matter how well one can execute dance steps – all are welcome in the dance circle.”

For up-to-date information on in-person, hybrid and virtual dance sessions and the restrictions at each in-person location, visit sites.google.com/site/pifdnews. You can also email website editor Sue Wendel at pifdnews@gmail.com, or contact the leader of the dance session you are interested in – Allison, allisonvictor@comcast.net; Rhona, rhonaf@comcast.net; or Donna, donna@donnacolestudio.com.

Humanizing the work of JFCS

BY DEBORAH MOON

The new communications manager for Jewish Family & Child Service is a storyteller.

“Storytelling humanizes something intangible,” says Jenn Director Knudsen, who joined JFCS in March of this year. She uses storytelling in virtually every communication she writes, because “Our supporters want to know the human story behind what we do.”

As communication’s manager, Jenn provides original content, editing, articles and written correspondence to the public and to donors about the nonprofit agency’s four program areas: Holocaust survivor services, counseling, emergency assistance and disability support services. A fifth area of focus is volunteers, who support the four programs. She also researches and writes grant proposals to support the programs – again

incorporating storytelling.

“JFCS is so fortunate to have Jenn on our team,” says JFCS Deputy Director Susan Greenberg. “She brings her many talents to JFCS including grant writing (and) writing articles internally and externally about what’s happening at JFCS. Basically, she gets the word out. Jenn is a wonderful connector and brings so much to our organization.”

When Jenn was young, her mom told her she would be a therapist.

“Instead I get to work with therapists,” says Jenn. “I really admire what they do. I like the care they give and feel toward their clients. I like working among and for them.”

Jenn works with every staff member of the nonprofit and says it has been a great team to work with on grant proposals.

“I love how JFCS represents

the Jewish community and helps anyone in need,” she says.

Jenn has a deep foundation in journalism and Jewish communal work. She earned a master’s degree in journalism from the University of California-Berkeley in May 1999. She has been a freelance and enterprise journalist since 2000, including co-founding the 2B Writing Company in 2016, where she provided content, reporting, writing, editing, media relations and publicity expertise for individuals, nonprofits and for-profit companies through 2020.

From 2009 to 2014, she served as associate development director of the Harold Schnitzer Family Program in Judaic Studies at Portland State University. A member of Congregation Neveh Shalom, she has served on the board and executive committee as well as numerous other committees.



Jenn Director Knudsen.
Photo by Ken Klein.

She is a monthly contributor and proofreader of articles for the congregation’s newsletter “The Chronicle.”

“The Jewish community is where I feel most comfortable and most at home,” says Jenn.

For more information about JFCS, visit jfcs-portland.org.

Ahavath Achim hires administrator

Melissa Abu (Bloom) joined Congregation Ahavath Achim as the part-time synagogue administrator on July 19, 2021. Over the past seven years, Melissa has helped the congregation in numerous ways, from event planning to communications to applying for a homeland security grant.

Melissa grew up in Portland and worked at various Jewish agencies and synagogues here before attending American Jewish University, formerly University of Judaism, to receive her MBA in nonprofit management and a master’s in Jewish communal studies. She has served as the executive director of Congregation Shaarie Torah; marketing and development director of Jewish Family & Child Service in Portland; and executive director of Temple B’nai Torah in Bellevue, Wash., Congregation Beth Ami in Santa Rosa, Calif., and Westwood Kehilla in California. Until it was forced to close by COVID-19, Melissa owned and operated Yo Zone in Tanasbourne for three years.

Congregation Ahavath Achim, meaning “brotherly love,” was founded in 1916 by Jews from Turkey and the Isle of Rhodes. Today, Ahavath Achim has a broad membership with Jews of Spanish and Portuguese descent, as well as Jews with roots in Greece, Turkey, Israel, Yemen, Persia, Morocco and many countries of Ashkenazi heritage.

After being forced to relocate by urban renewal, the Sephardic congregation dedicated its Byzantine-inspired synagogue on Barbur Boulevard in 1965. In 2017, the congregation moved Shabbat services and many activities to Hillsdale (6686 SW Capitol Hwy.), expanding the space to include a sanctuary and social area.

Melissa is excited to be working with Rabbi Sholom Skolnik and the board of directors to assist in bringing Ahavath Achim into the next chapter. Reach Melissa at melissa@ahavathachim.com.



Cory Willson to lead Foundation School

Congregation Neveh Shalom has named Cory Willson as Foundation School Director. Cory has been in a leadership position at Foundation School since 2018, most recently as assistant director of the preschool. She has decades of experience working with children and families as both an educator and a family counselor, with specialization in human resiliency.

“I’m really excited to be the new director of Foundation School,” says Cory. “Foundation School is more than a preschool, it’s a thriving community, and it’s one that I am grateful and honored to lead.”

Neveh Shalom’s Foundation School is based on the ideals and traditions of the Jewish faith and is dedicated to providing exceptional early childhood education. While the curriculum is centered on the foundations of Jewish learning, the program is open to all. For over 60 years, Foundation School has embraced our youngest learners – sparking imaginations, instilling a sense of wonder, and providing the building blocks for the next generation of creative and confident problem-solvers. The preschool values play as every child’s natural way of learning and views each child as a competent and unique learner.

Cory earned a bachelor’s degree in elementary education from Western Oregon University. She has taught in middle school, first grade and preschool since 1998. She also has her master’s in counseling with a specialty in family/child work from San Francisco State University. After graduating from SF State, she studied with a national leader in the field of resiliency for three years so that she could bring healing and real change to those she serves.

Neveh Shalom’s announcement notes: “Cory brings a passion for children, families and teachers as well as a focus on empowerment and well-being to all the work she does here at Foundation School.”



Jobs board

The Jewish Review publishes job openings from Jewish agencies and congregations (shortened to fit available space). Submit to: editor@jewishportland.org.

CONGREGATION SHAAIRIE TORAH

Religious School Teachers

Small, fun, experiential religious school would love for you to join us as a teacher for 21-22! We have small classes, great kids and supportive, open-minded leadership. We believe Jewish learning should creatively and joyfully meet kids where they are as they are immersed in the treasures of our heritage. Especially if you are a Day School grad, a camp counselor, or in the Education Program and love kids, let's talk!

Congregation Shaarie Torah is an egalitarian community affiliated with the Conservative Jewish movement. The shul is located at 920 NW 25th Ave. in Portland.

Email Dr. Sharon Pollin: education@shaarietorah.org.

CEDAR SINAI PARK

Infection Control Specialist

Full-time salaried position with benefits
Monday-Friday days, plus evenings and weekends as needed.

This is a new position. This is an exciting time to join the Cedar Sinai Park team as our new Infection Control Specialist. You will oversee process improvement and support infection control for our skilled nursing, long-term care and assisted-living departments on our beautiful Raleigh Hills campus!

This role directs others toward process improvement that supports the reduction of health-care-acquired infections. It provides leadership for the development and implementation of an entity-wide, infection-prevention and control plan; educates other practitioners and clinical staff on the system-based causes for infections; consults with management and staff; and develops and implements evidence-based programs that support effective infection prevention and control strategies. This person will be responsible for integrating the infection prevention and control program into all applicable organization components/functions by way of consultation, participation at meetings, and the establishment of effective communication and reporting systems with organization leaders and associates. In addition, this role is responsible for Employee Health and Safety initiatives including the OSHA-compliance program.

Job Requirements: Bachelor's degree required. Degree in Nursing with current Oregon license or equivalent education or experience preferred. Three+ years of experience preferably in Infection Prevention standards.

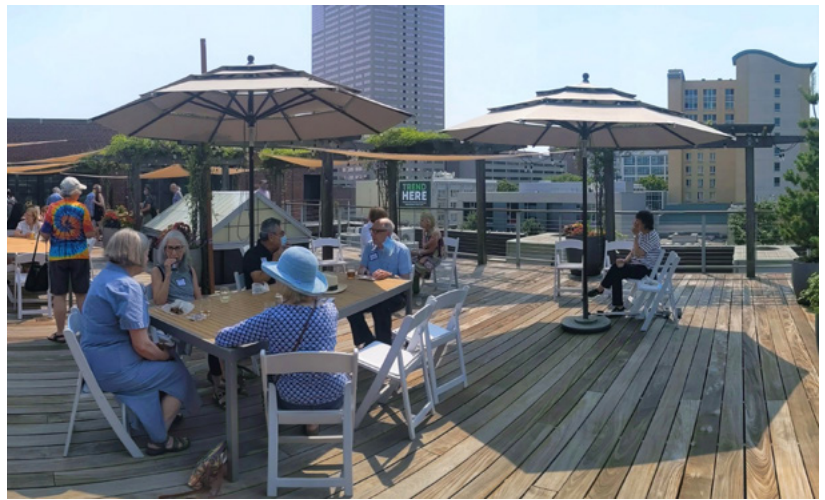
Infection Prevention education required. Prior Infection Prevention experience preferred.

Familiarity with OSHA standards in health-care settings. Must have a current, valid license to practice as a Registered Nurse in Oregon and be in good standing with the Oregon State Board of Nursing.

Current CPR and BLS certification required.

Please see [job description](#) for full list of responsibilities, requirements and related information.

Apply at cedarsinainpark.org/careers-in-healthcare/



Young adults invited to tour and reception

Those under age 45 are invited to enjoy the spectacular view from the rooftop of the Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education. Whether you are new to Portland or interested in a deeper understanding of the city's Jewish history, OJMCH, Jewish Federation of Greater Portland and Mittleman Jewish Community Center invite you to join this special summer program. On Aug. 3, those 45+ enjoyed a reception on the rooftop (see above) and a tour of the current exhibit on Portland open spaces and the Jewish community urban renewal displaced to create them (see page 3). Those 45 and under are invited to connect with each other and enjoy the same experience on Aug. 10. RSVP at ojmche.org/calendar.

Hagim Happenings

The Community Calendar, jewishportland.org/highholidays, features virtual, hybrid and in-person classes, programs and services. (Congregations may submit events and services at jewishportland.org/submit.) Following are a few holiday events already posted on the community calendar:

Aug. 28: Opening the Gates

Opening the Gates: a Selichot Experience Leading to the High Holidays will begin at 7 pm, Aug. 28, in the main sanctuary of Congregation Beth Israel, 1972 NW Flanders St., Portland.

The High Holidays begin with a teaching service and an atmospheric entry to the gates of awe as Congregation Beth Israel changes the covers of its Torah scrolls to the Holy Day Whites.

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve, details for this event and all CBI holiday services are subject to change. For updates, visit bethisrael-pdx.org/cbi5782 or contact Tracy Alifanz at 503-222-1069.

Sept. 10: God Wants Me to Tell You a Few Things

"God Wants Me to Tell You a Few Things (I think)" is Portland's most unorthodox rabbi's one-night service the Friday between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

Presented by Rabbi Brian of Religion Outside The Box, the 6:15 pm service is available on Zoom or in person at First Congregational UCC, 1126 SW Park Ave. in Portland. Register at lu.ma/hhd2021

Sept. 17: Four Species Market/Shuk

Get ready for Sukkot, order your four species today! The Arba Minim Shuk will take place on Friday, Sept. 17, from 11 am to 2 pm at the Portland Kollel, 6688 SW Capitol Hwy., Portland. Drop-ins are welcome, but only pre-ordered sets can be guaranteed.

Orders must be picked up at the Shuk. The four species are needed for fulfilling the "Four Species Mitzvah," the waving of the four species as prescribed by the Torah, symbolizing unity. To order your *lulav* (palm branch), *hadass* (myrtle), *arava* (willow) and *etrog* (citron), visit portlandkollel.org/order.

CRC Column

What's the scoop on Ben & Jerry's?

BY BOB HORENSTEIN

Like a banana split, the American Jewish community is divided down the middle on the recent decision by the U.S. company Ben & Jerry's to stop selling its ice cream in what it called "Occupied Palestinian Territory." The Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations condemned Ben & Jerry's for "allying itself with the discriminatory and anti-Semitic BDS [Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions] movement."

In stark contrast, J Street President Jeremy Ben-Ami declared, "Ben & Jerry's decision is a legitimate, peaceful protest against the systemic injustice of occupation and a reminder that the settlements are, in fact, illegal under international law." J Street, along with several other progressive Jewish groups, expressed dismay that "some have degraded the discussion around the issue by calling the move anti-Semitic."

While it's apparent that the very woke Vermont-based ice cream company melted in the face of pressure from the BDS movement, accusations of anti-Semitism are misplaced. Nevertheless, the decision to boycott the settlements – and I say this as someone who believes Israel should cease building outside the major settlement blocs – is troubling, not to mention misguided.

If the aim of Ben & Jerry's boycott is to promote a two-state solution, it is – in the name of one of their ice cream flavors – "half-baked." The most likely outcome is that it will harden positions on both sides – Palestinians, for whom the boycott will encourage continued rejection of Israel's legitimacy as a Jewish state, and Israelis, who will view it as yet another unjust double standard.

The company claims that its decision is a reflection of its deep concern for human rights. Curiously, Ben & Jerry's operates in Serbia, whose president is increasingly repressive and where there have been allegations of torture by police, restrictions on free expression and the press (including violence against journalists), and widespread government corruption.

You can also find Cherry Garcia and other popular Ben & Jerry's ice cream flavors in the UAE, which scored a 17 out of 100 in the independent watchdog Freedom House's current ratings of political and civil rights. (Israel, by comparison, scored a 76, the U.S., 83.) The company even operated in Malaysia (until forced to shut down due to COVID-19), whose then-prime minister, Mahathir Mohamad, repeatedly spewed vile anti-Semitism and openly questioned the number of Jews murdered during the Holocaust.

Aside from this rank hypocrisy, the notion that there's a clear distinction between a targeted boycott of the settlements and the larger BDS movement, whose goal is to purge the world of its only Jewish state, is unfounded. Admittedly, it's

encouraging that Unilever, Ben & Jerry's parent company, has disavowed the BDS movement. In a letter to Jewish organizations, Unilever wrote, "We look forward to investing in our business in Israel long into the future."

However, the chairwoman of Ben & Jerry's independent board of directors, Anuradha Mittal, who enthusiastically endorsed the BDS movement in 2018, has made known her displeasure with Unilever for saying the ice cream would continue to be sold in Israel. Had it been up to the board, all Israeli Ben & Jerry's patrons would have been left out in the cold.

Ben & Jerry's action, moreover, sets a precedent that differs from past boycotts that have generally focused on products manufactured in the West Bank. It isn't targeting a company located in a West Bank settlement, as was the case with SodaStream, or in a Jewish neighborhood of East Jerusalem. The Israeli ice cream factory is situated *inside Israel* between Ashkelon and Ashdod, and it relies heavily on milk products and workers from that region. The boycott will force its closure, putting hundreds of Israelis – including Arab employees – out of work once it takes effect at the end of 2022.

If the wider implications are unclear, here's the scoop: This precedent makes any Israeli company that sells its products to the Jewish settlements susceptible to boycotts. And make no mistake: Actions that target businesses inside pre-1967 Israel are, by definition, boycotts of the Jewish state.

Not surprisingly, the Palestine Solidarity Campaign portrayed Ben & Jerry's decision as a major victory for the BDS movement. "This is huge," PSC tweeted. "The tide of history is turning," it proclaimed.

Because it feeds into the larger campaign to delegitimize and demonize Israel, Ben & Jerry's boycott should therefore be taken seriously and actively opposed, including by those of us who disagree with Israeli settlement expansion in territory that may become part of a future Palestinian state. Personally speaking, I will gladly forgo their ice cream knowing now it would only leave a bad taste in my mouth.



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Upcoming issues

Issue date	Deadline
Aug. 18	Aug. 12
Sept. 1	Aug. 26
Sept. 15	Sept. 9
Sept. 30 (Thursday)	Sept. 23

Submit news, photos
and obituaries to
editor@jewishportland.org

Chaplain's Corner

Make Time to Prepare for Redemption

BY RABBI BARRY COHEN

We all know the long-standing joke: The High Holidays always run early or run late (despite that they always occur on the same dates in the lunar-based Hebrew calendar.) They only feel early or late because we gauge the holidays by how they fall relative to the solar calendar.

This year, they are even earlier (relatively speaking): Rosh Hashanah begins at sundown Sept. 6.

A tradition teaches that we are to use the days between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur to reflect on the year that was. We are supposed to do this as objectively as possible. We are to confront what we did or did not do, how we feel about our decisions and how others feel about our choices.

This practice reveals Judaism's inherent health, effectiveness and relevancy. By taking a hard, honest look at the previous year, we can recognize how we could have done better. We can be accountable. We can dedicate ourselves to heal relationships we tarnished.

This tradition runs counter to current prevailing values. Far too many of us deny responsibility for our words and actions and reject accountability. We refuse to admit we have inflicted any damage, and at the same time blame the person claiming to have been wronged.

Judaism demands us to do the opposite as a sacred responsibility. Whether or not we want to makes no difference.

Judaism instructs us to heal our relationship with others,

We have a month to get our spiritual house in order, well before the High Holidays begin.

heal our relationship with ourselves, and, if we possess a personal faith, heal our relationship with God. In particular, to say that these past months have tested familial relationships is an understatement. We have been forced to live in close quarters; to varying degrees, we slept, ate, worked, studied and did homework in the same space or one room over. At the same time, we were tested by stresses, pressures, anxieties and fears from multiple angles.

If I had documented the words with my high school-aged children that I wish I had not spoken, that list would be long. During the past year, I have had to ask forgiveness from them, and I have had to forgive myself.

A recurring point of conflict? The dishes and garbage. One of my son's and daughter's responsibilities is to empty the clean dishes from the dishwasher and move the dirty dishes from the sink to the dishwasher. They also have to take out the garbage when it is full.

I imagine many of you can relate to how this feels: It's the end of a long day. I went to the grocery store on the way home. What is waiting for me? An unemptied dishwasher, a sink full of dirty dishes and an overflowing garbage can. How do I react? I lose my temper and raise my voice. How many times did this happen during the previous

year? Ugh....

On reflection (every time), I ask myself, "Is it really that big of a deal? It's only dishes and garbage. My kids are ... well ... just being teenagers." But each time this happens, it is part of a much greater context of a pressure-filled world that feels like Groundhog Day: the stresses, strains, fears and anxieties of a pandemic world; a polarized nation, politically and culturally; reminders to wear masks, socially distance, wash our hands, etc., etc., etc.

Who pays the price of this reality? The people we live with. Too many times, I have unnecessarily inflicted my kids with guilt. Too many times, I have felt like a failing father.

Fortunately, there is a way out of this Groundhog Day mess. Judaism offers two beautiful traditions. We need not wait until the days between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur to reflect on the year that was and begin the process of making amends. Rather, we can use the entire Hebrew month of Elul, which precedes Rosh Hashanah. Elul begins on Aug. 9. We have a month to get our spiritual house in order, well before the High Holidays begin.

Another useful tradition is to sit down with our loved ones and simply say, "If there is anything I did to you during the previous year to hurt you, please accept my apology."



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

These words will not magically heal our relationships. But through heartfelt communication, we can create an opportunity for further discussion. We can begin to clear the air. We can listen to our loved ones in a nonjudgmental way, acknowledge what we have done and pledge to repair the harm we have inflicted.

This process is not easy. I have had to learn to check my ego, admit my mistakes and commit myself to making better choices. I hope that I am teaching my children the importance of self-critique as a means of accountability, communication and healing.

Another tradition teaches that we have truly atoned when we find ourselves in the same situation where we previously sinned, but this time make healthy decisions. I'll see if I am making progress when I return home this evening and find an unemptied dishwasher, a sink filled with dirty dishes and an overflowing garbage can ...

Rabbi's Corner

In addition to the Chaplain's Corner, The Jewish Review offers space for a Rabbi's Corner each issue. Our community's rabbis are invited to share their thoughts on the week's parsha or current events. The Oregon Board of Rabbis organized the project.

Rabbis are invited to schedule a date to submit a 500- to 600-word piece.

For more information or to schedule a column, email editor@jewishportland.org.

MICHAEL LIEB JESER

Michael Lieb Jeser, z”l, passed away July 24, 2021. He was born Jan. 28, 1976.

The Jeser family has lost its king, its hero.

On Shabbat Va’etchanan, Michael lost his four-year battle with esophageal cancer, which was first diagnosed when he was the campaign director for the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland.

He leaves his much loved and adored wife, his Malka, Laura; and the 4-year-old light of his life, daughter, Eleanore. He will be greatly missed by his brothers, his partners-in-crime, Marc and Dave; his sisters-in-law Elizabeth and Lisa; and his 14 nephews and nieces. His parents, Faye and Paul, will never fully recover from losing their baby, their hero and their most special mensch.

From a very young age, Michael had a special relationship with Judaism and Israel. His very first trip (of many) to Israel was when he was minus two months old (when Faye was seven months pregnant). He was a graduate of the JCC preschool in Orlando and elementary school at the Moriah School in Englewood, NJ. During high school (Dwight Englewood), he participated in the March of the Living, traveling to Poland and then to Israel.

After graduating from the University of Arizona, he spent a year in Israel on Project OTZMA, where he taught English and led afterschool programs in immigrant neighborhood schools in Shar Hanegev. In 2004, he received double master’s degrees from USC (Social Work) and HUC (Jewish Communal Service).

As a member of Jewish communal service, Michael’s professional experience included being part of the staff at the Metrowest Jewish Community Center & Camp Deeny Riback (NJ), Jewish Community Centers of Greater Boston and the Jewish Community Center at Milken (LA). He was the highly successful and greatly respected Director of the Real Estate & Construction Division and Director, Geller Leadership Project for the LA Jewish Federation. Michael was the Executive Director of USC Hillel and the Jewish World Watch. In 2015, he was appointed Director of Annual Campaign and the Life and Legacy program for the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland. For the past three years, Michael has been the CEO of the Jewish Federation of Greater San Diego.

The love for Michael has shown itself in many ways. The support given to him by the SD Federation’s leadership and staff has been beyond any expectations. When Michael decided to start a GoFundMe campaign to provide support for Laura and Eleanore, over 1,400 people responded! There have been over 1,000 personal emails and comments on the many Facebook streams that announced his passing. As one close family friend wrote, “there are more tears than words.” As his cousin from Israel wrote, “Michael, who gave you permission to leave?”

One of Michael’s “happy places” was Camp Tevya (NH), which he attended from an early age through college, when he was appointed Boy’s Head Counselor. His other happy places included rooting for the Jets and Celtics, going to Disneyland, whale and eagle watching, going to the movie theater and eating popcorn, drinking with his brothers and close friends, and, most of all, sitting on the couch with Laura and Eleanore watching his favorite

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TV shows and movies.

The family has requested that donations in Michael’s memory be given to either the Jewish Federation of San Diego (in support of the Michael Jeser Outstanding Jewish Professional Award) jewishinsandiego.org, or Camp Tevya campletevya.org/support-camp.

LEV KHODOROVSKIY

Lev Khodorovskiy, z”l, passed away on July 23, 2021, at the age of 93. Lev is survived by sons, Mikhail Khodorovskiy (Victoria) and Alexander Khodorovskiy; five grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

He was a member of Congregation Neveh Shalom.

DAVID ZALTSMAN

David (Dima) Zaltsman, z”l, died July 14, 2021, after complications from liver disease, at the age of 64. He was a caring husband, father, grandfather and friend. He is survived by his wife of 37 years, Liliya Zaltsman; children, Rimma and Tyler Richardson, Janet Zaltsman; and grandson, Ethan Richardson.

David was born in Riga, Latvia, Oct. 17, 1956, to Golda and Josef Zaltsman. He was an only child who enjoyed school and spending summers at the Baltic Sea in Jurmala. After graduating high school, David went on to Riga Technical Institute, where he got his degree in mechanical engineering and a master’s degree in computer science. In 1983, he married Liliya and a short year later, their first daughter, Rimma, was born.

In 1992, David, along with his family, made the difficult decision to immigrate to Portland for better opportunities. In 1995, his second daughter, Janet, joined the family.

David spent the last 25 years working as a Tooling Design Engineer at Oregon Tool, where his colleagues knew him to be passionate, smart and charismatic. He described his work as a “hobby” and found purpose in it.

David brought a smile and sense of humor to everyone he encountered and loved celebrating events, big and small. He had a passion for travel and went on many memorable trips with his family. David was a master handyman around the house. He also gave back to the community by helping other Russian immigrants and volunteering at his synagogue, Congregation Neveh Shalom.

Just like he dealt with all experiences in life, David managed his illness with strength – and even humor. Donations in David’s honor may be made to Portland’s Jewish Family & Child Service (jfcc-portland.org).

Public Service Announcement



WALK-IN VACCINATION CLINIC AUG. 6

CNSCOS (Congregation Neveh Shalom COVID-19 Outreach and Services Team) has received a new round of funding to help vaccinate Oregonians.

The first event with this new funding will take place from 10 am until 4-5 pm, Friday, Aug. 6, at Delta Park. We’re partnering with Straightway Services, an organization that supports the houseless community. We’re expecting about 100 people to show up for the walk-in clinic.

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nevehshalom.org/covid19/