Song of Miriam honors 14 women volunteers

The Jewish Women’s Round Table and the Jewish Review are once again collaborating to recognize outstanding women volunteers selected by their organizations to receive the Round Table’s Song of Miriam Awards.

The awards are usually presented during a brunch event in June, however it has not been held during the pandemic.

This summer, the Jewish Review has profiled each of the recipients (see the final three profiles on page 7). Go to jewishportland.org/jewishreview/jr-stories/SOM-2022 to read the profiles of all 14 SOM 2022 nominees: Myra Blatt, Lois Eaton, Judy Freeman, Lauren Goldstein, Robbie Lambert, Shoshanna Lansberg, Carol Lavender, Shirona Lurie, Niomi Morr, Danielle Romain, Alysa Rose, Francine Shetterly, Sue Wendel and Ahuva Zaslavsky.

See SONG OF MIRIAM HONOREES, page 7

Elul: Time to Prepare

BY RABBI BARRY COHEN

The countdown has almost begun. To track the clock, we can look up. When you can see a sliver of the moon on the evening of Aug. 26, we have one month until Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year. When the sun sets, the Hebrew month of Elul begins: T-minus one month to the start of year 5783.

According to tradition, we are to use this month to prepare ourselves for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. This reveals the inherent psychological and spiritual health of Judaism.

These holidays provide an opportunity for us to review the year that was. In so doing, we are to get in tune with our emotions. What are we feeling? Why do we feel this way? In addition, we can look ahead to the new year and determine what we want to recreate from the previous year and what we want to discard.

We can also make a concerted effort to review the relationships we have with others, how our words and deeds have affected loved ones, friends, acquaintances and even strangers. This process reminds us not only to be grateful, but to atone for our mistakes.

We cannot wait until erev Rosh Hashanah to accomplish all of these goals. We need more time to prepare. Elul gives us this time. We have an entire month to get ready.

See CHAPLAIN’S CORNER: ELUL, page 8

High Holiday articles, resources, events & link to services will be in September Jewish Review issues.

PRINTABLE HOLIDAY SENSITIVITY CALENDAR

~ page 5

Print and share this calendar of Jewish holidays with your employer, friends & teachers.

Inside

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On Aug. 2, Archbishop Sample of the Catholic Archdiocese of Portland met on Zoom with representatives of the local Jewish community to discuss concerns about a recent video in which he compared abortion and the Holocaust. The Jewish representatives were Oregon Board of Rabbis Chair Rabbi Jonathan Seidel; Congregation Beth Israel Senior Rabbi Michael Z. Cahana; Rabbi Abby Cohen, Palliative Care Chaplain, Providence Health; Judy Margles, Executive Director the Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education; and Bob Horenstein, Director of Community Relations and Public Affairs for the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland.

Following is a letter the Archbishop shared with the Jewish Review addressed to the Jewish community after that meeting.

My dear friends,

The Portland-area Jewish community has had a long-standing positive relationship with the Archdiocese of Portland. It is important for us to nurture this good relationship, especially when challenges arise.

I am grateful that representatives of the Jewish community reached out to me in a spirit of friendship and good will to help me understand how comparisons to the Holocaust are deeply hurtful. I listened with great openness and empathy and responded by agreeing to edit out a reference I made to the Holocaust during the filming of a video about abortion. Please know that my reference was in no way intended to cause offence, and after listening and understanding why such comparisons are hurtful to the Jewish community, I deleted it from the video.

I have gained a deeper appreciation of the singularity of the suffering undergone by the Jews during the Holocaust as a result of the dialogue, a suffering that continues even in our own times.

I extend my hand in friendship and my heart in love to the Jewish community. Thank you for your understanding and grace and for the sincerity with which leaders from your community approached me about the issue.

Following the meeting on August 2, I suggested a continued dialogue to deepen our friendship and understanding of one another. I am committed to ongoing good relations between the Jewish and Catholic communities.

Wishing you peace and every good,

Most Rev. Alexander K. Sample
Archbishop of Portland in Oregon

Climate Corner:

Recycle #1 plastics

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

New Seasons Market recently announced it now is accepting #1 plastic containers in the recycling centers of all its stores. The stores also accept plastic film, natural cork, PakTech lids and GO Box reusable containers. It also collects aluminum cans for its Cans for Kids program.

New Seasons is certified as a B (Benefit) Corporation, which means it meets high standards of accountability and transparency on factors including charitable giving, supply chain practices and input materials.

Clear plastic tubs, containers and clamshells with the #1 PET symbol should be clean and dry before being dropped off at stores.

To find other places to recycle, go to oregonmetro.gov/tools-living/garbage-and-recycling/recycling-home/plastic-recycling.
Ever since she was an infant, Cedar Sinai Park/Robison Jewish Health Center (or the Home, as it is fondly called) has been a second home for Barbie Enkelis, 71. Her mom and dad, Velma Zelda (Cissi) and Milt Carl, z”l, used to bring her to the Robison Home to visit her grandparents, Gussie and Nate Carl, z”l. Home lore has it that residents would rock little Barbie when she visited.

“She was a good girl,” says Harold Schnitzer Center for Living resident Jenn Director Knudsen, whose family were friends with Barbie’s family. “Her family were lovely people.”

Now after 28 years as an employee at Cedar Sinai Park, Barbie plans to retire Aug. 25, the anniversary of her father’s death.

“It’s going to be very hard to walk away,” says Barbie. “I know it will be a tearjerker.”

Cedar Sinai Park is definitely a family affair for Barbie. As Barbie grew up, her dad joined the Robison Home board (president in 1982 and 1983) with friends Henry Blauer and Leonard Barde. Milt was instrumental in the fundraising for the construction of Rose Schnitzer Manor for independent and assisted living. Barbie’s sister, Pam, and her brother-in-law, Stan Rotenberg, were also deeply involved. Stan was president in 1987 and 1988.

“And then my dad talked me into working here,” says Barbie, whose first day was in 1993.

As an employee, Barbie regularly walks the hallways named for her father and his friends. “Everywhere I go, I see my dad,” she says.

Her husband Mike’s aunt and uncle, Lois and Marvin Enkelis, were briefly at the Home in 2006 and 2009, respectively, and Mike’s grandmother, Rose Shnitka, was in memory care in the early 1980s. Mike and Barbie’s son, Gary, volunteered at Robison and Rose Schnitzer Manor. Cissi stayed in the Home after surgery in 2010. Milt’s sister, Eva Walleston, lived at Rose Schnitzer in 2012. Stan’s mother, Vivian, lived in memory care in the late 1990s, and his father, Lou, was at Rose Schnitzer Manor in early 2000. And current chief executive officer Kimberly Fu was briefly at the Home in 2006 and 2009, respectively.

“In the offices,” says Barbie, “I like numbers — I don’t know how I remember.”

Remembering everyone’s birthday is one of Barbie’s trademark traits. Over the years, Barbie has worked in Life Enrichment (previous activities) and as a receptionist. But her favorite activity remains Bingo, a game she only picked up in her 40s as a Cedar Sinai Park employee.

“I love Bingo,” says Barbie, who often sports a Bingo mask and had the B-I-N-G-O song as a cell phone ringtone. “I’m going to miss it, especially when I know a Bingo Day is coming.”

“Barbie is an institution,” says Community Life Director Jennifer Felberg. “She practically lives here. We love Barbie and we have to share her with her own family, so we tell her to go home.”

For more than 28 years, Barbie has commemorated the birthdays of employees as the nonprofit’s Simcha Coordinator. She also remembers the room numbers in which people have lived, stayed or worked. And she memorizes license plates, so when a car is parked illegally, Barbie is the one to find.

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Every community needs someone like Barbie,” says Kimberly. “She is our heart and soul.”

In her new free time, Barbie says Mike wants to travel, perhaps a cruise. She intends to go shopping more. But she’ll be close by. Longtime volunteer Charles Jagger has known Barbie for more than 20 years. “I would think that we will have Barbie go on outings, and she will probably be volunteering when the residents visit restaurants. I have a feeling she will be back occasionally.”

“Every community needs someone like Barbie,” says Kimberly. “She is our heart and soul.”

Did you know?

JFCS explores 75 years of memories

This marks Jewish Family & Child Service’s 75th year. In the runup to JFCS’ culminating celebratory event on May 18, 2023, the Jewish Review will offer occasional looks back at agency history our community may – or may not – remember.

Did you know that JFCS is responsible for the first Passover seder dinner conducted at the Oregon State Hospital? The now-defunct Oregon Statesman ran this headline in an early April 1961 edition: “State Hospital Jewish Rites Inaugurated.” The Protestant chaplain interviewed for the piece called the “Jewish festival” event “a complete success.”

The paper noted, too, that “seder dinners continue throughout the world during the eight days of Passover.” Whew, that would be a lot of work every night for eight nights!

Sponsored by JFCS and overseen by Asher Ettinger, z”l, then executive director of the Jewish Education Association (which ran the Portland Hebrew School), nine of the hospital’s 17 Jewish residents attended the event to commemorate Jews’ escape from slavery in Egypt and journey to the Promised Land.

Perhaps you remember when this occurred in the early 1960s. Or maybe you have another JFCS memory or agency memorabilia to share?

If you have a JFCS-related “Did you know?” story of your own, we’d love to hear it. Please contact JFCS Communications Manager Jenn Director Knudsen at jdirectorknudsen@jfcs-portland.org.
Fund helps Beth Israel youth enjoy Camp Kalsman

Earlier this year, Congregation Beth Israel announced the creation of a fund to provide scholarships to CBI students attending a Union for Reform Judaism Summer Camp Program.

The Anese and Bernard Klein URJ Camp Scholarship Fund was made possible through a legacy gift from the late Anese and Bernard Klein.

Since opening its first camp in 1952, the URJ program has grown to include 15 camps across the nation, from regional camps such as nearby URJ Camp Kalsman to the 6 Points Sports Academy in North Carolina, 6 Points Sci-Tech Academy in Boston and 6 Points Creative Arts Academy in Philadelphia.

In its inaugural year, this fund allowed CBI to provide $1,000 scholarships to each CBI student who signed up for URJ summer camp. So many excited kids did so that Camp Kalsman sent a bus so they could journey north together for weeks of a summer of climbing, swimming, arts and crafts, music, and more.

Beth Israel worked with Camp Kalsman to get word of the bus out to campers across the state as well as in southern Washington. In all, 12 campers started their experience early with the bus from Beth Israel to Camp Kalsman. Nine campers were from Congregation Beth Israel and three from the greater Portland/Vancouver Jewish community.

Next Gen picnic at memorial Aug. 28

The Next Generations Group in coordination with the Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education hosts its Annual Summer Picnic noon-3 pm, Aug. 28, near the Oregon Holocaust Memorial in Washington Park.

This year’s picnic commemorates the 18th Anniversary of the Oregon Holocaust Memorial. The picnic is informal and open to all who wish to commemorate together.

Bring your lunch and blanket/chair or simply come by any time just to schmooze together at our incredible legacy to Oregon and SW Washington survivors and their families. Share or hear thoughts/stories/photos with each other that relate to your experiences at the Memorial.

The Next Generations Group, formed in 2011, consists of descendants of/and Holocaust survivors, refugees, heroes and anyone impacted by the Holocaust who wants to help keep the personal histories and lessons learned alive and relevant. Learn more at Facebook: Next Generations Group or at nextgenerationsgroup.wordpress.com.

For more information on the picnic, contact Debbi Montrose at debbirm@aol.com.

Red Tent registration deadline Aug. 17

Aug. 17 is the final day to register for the Aug. 28 Red Tent Event, an informative evening of connection, learning, entertainment, desserts, drinks and activities to nurture body and soul.

The event will support Dignity Grows as it works to end period poverty. Dignity Grows Portland is a chapter of a national nonprofit and a Jewish Federation of Greater Portland Women’s Philanthropy project. Admission is a $10 donation, which covers the cost of one tote and its contents. All money collected goes to purchase totes, which include a month’s supply of period products and other hygiene items.

Register: jewishportland.org/red-tent.

Burned books buried

Volunteers fill a burial plot with holy books that were damaged by two fires at the Oregon Chabad House in August 2020. Holy books, papers and ritual objects dealing with sacred subjects are traditionally stored in a genizah, storage area, until they can be buried in a Jewish cemetery as a sign of reverence and respect. Chabad of Oregon arranged with Riverview Cemetery to create a burial plot in the Jewish section of the cemetery for the holy books. The plot already contained two coffins full of books, and these 10 boxes on top of the coffins have filled the plot. A marker will be placed on the book grave.
At a Glance – Jewish Calendar Sensitivity Guide

Calendar data pulled from https://www.hebcal.com/holidays/ Links will take you to HebCal's in depth pages.

For questions about holidays or any challenges with school/work conflicts, please contact the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland for support 503-245-6219

Shabbat
Shabbat begins on Friday night at sundown and ends at nightfall on Saturday (about 25 hours later) every single week.
Traditionally observant households refrain from "work" and don’t use cars, electricity, etc.

Major holidays (Biblical in Origin):
Holidays begin at sundown on the first date specified and end at nightfall on the last date specified.
Dates in bold are Yom Tov, so they have similar obligations and restrictions to Shabbat in the sense that normal "work" is forbidden.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Holiday</th>
<th>Mood:</th>
<th>Considerations:</th>
<th>5783 2022-2023</th>
<th>5784 2023-2024</th>
<th>5785 2024-2025</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rosh Hashana</td>
<td>Contemplative/Joyful</td>
<td>People likely to miss school/work</td>
<td>Sep 25-27 Su-Tu</td>
<td>Sep 15-17 F-Su</td>
<td>Oct 2-4 W-F</td>
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<td>to send Greetings ahead of Holiday. &quot;Shanah</td>
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<td>Torah&quot;</td>
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<td>Yom Kippur</td>
<td>Repentant/Awe Fast Day</td>
<td>People likely to miss school/work</td>
<td>Oct 4-5 Tu-W</td>
<td>Sep 24-25 Su-M</td>
<td>Oct 11-12 F-Sa</td>
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<td>you be inscribed and sealed for a good year&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sukkot</td>
<td>Joyful/Celebratory</td>
<td>People may miss school/work on BOLD dates.</td>
<td>Oct 9-11 Su-Tu</td>
<td>Sep 29-Oct 1 F-Su</td>
<td>Oct 16-18 W-F</td>
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<td>Oct 12-16 W-Su</td>
<td>Oct 2-6 M-F</td>
<td>Oct 19-23 Sa-W</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shmini Atzeret</td>
<td>Joyful</td>
<td>People may miss school/work on BOLD dates.</td>
<td>Oct 16-17 Su-M</td>
<td>Oct 6-7 F-Sa</td>
<td>Oct 23-24 W-Th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Simchat Torah</td>
<td>Joyful</td>
<td>People may miss school/work on BOLD dates.</td>
<td>Oct 17-18 M-Tu</td>
<td>Oct 7-8 Sa-Su</td>
<td>Oct 24-25 Th-F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pesach/Passover</td>
<td>Joyful (Stressful for</td>
<td>People may miss school/work on BOLD</td>
<td>Apr 5-7 W-F</td>
<td>Apr 22-24 M-W</td>
<td>Apr 12-14 Sa-M</td>
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<td></td>
<td>many leading up to the</td>
<td>dates. Kosher rules on Passover are</td>
<td>Apr 8-10 Sa-M</td>
<td>Apr 25-27 Th-Sa</td>
<td>Apr 15-17 Tu-Th</td>
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<td>holiday due to</td>
<td>significantly more restrictive. Food should</td>
<td>Apr 11-13 Tu-Th</td>
<td>Apr 28-30 Su-Tu</td>
<td>Apr 18-20 F-Su</td>
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<td></td>
<td>significant preparation</td>
<td>not be served unless it’s coming directly</td>
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<td>needs.)</td>
<td>from the DK’s Passover offerings.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shavuot</td>
<td>Joyful</td>
<td>People may miss school/work on BOLD dates.</td>
<td>May 25-27 Th-Sa</td>
<td>Jun 11-13 Tu-Th</td>
<td>Jun 1-3 Su-Tu</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Minor holidays ("Rabbinic" in Origin):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Holiday</th>
<th>Mood:</th>
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<th>5785 2024-2025</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tu Bishvat</td>
<td>Joyful</td>
<td>New Year of the Trees</td>
<td>Feb 5-6 Su-M</td>
<td>Jan 24-25 W-Th</td>
<td>Feb 12-13 W-Th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purim</td>
<td>Joyful</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mar 6-7 M-Tu</td>
<td>Mar 23-24 Sa-Su</td>
<td>Mar 13-14 Th-F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chanukah</td>
<td>Joyful</td>
<td>Candles lit in evening for 8 nights</td>
<td>Dec 18-26 Su-M</td>
<td>Dec 7-15 Th-F</td>
<td>Dec 25-Jan 2 W-Th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Modern Israeli holidays (observed by Jews in the US, too):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Holiday</th>
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<th>5784 2023-2024</th>
<th>5785 2024-2025</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yom HaShoah</td>
<td>Sad/Mournful</td>
<td>Holocaust Remembrance Day</td>
<td>Apr 17-18 M-Tu</td>
<td>May 5-6 Su-M</td>
<td>Apr 23-24 W-Th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yom HaZikaron</td>
<td>Sad/Mournful</td>
<td>Israeli Memorial Day</td>
<td>Apr 24-25 M-Tu</td>
<td>May 12-13 Su-M</td>
<td>Apr 29-30 Tu-W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yom HaAtzma’ut</td>
<td>Joyful/Prideful</td>
<td>Israeli Independence Day</td>
<td>Apr 25-26 Tu-W</td>
<td>May 13-14 M-Tu</td>
<td>Apr 30-May 1 W-Th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Young Adult Events**

**Aug. 20: Tabor & Tea Havdalah**
Join Moishe House Portland for a gorgeous sunset and laid-back picnic at Mt. Tabor Park, 7-9 pm, Aug. 20. Bring blankets, snacks and whatever helps you reset for your week.
Moishe House Portland is a vibrant young adult Jewish community based in Northeast Portland. We host 7+ events every month ranging from social events and holidays to learning and Mitzvah projects. Text 503-908-3394 with your name and your favorite emoji to RSVP.

**Aug. 25: Jewish Movie in the Park**
Chabad Young Professionals Portland invites everyone to enjoy a Jewish-themed movie 7-10 pm, Aug. 25, Fields Park, 1099 N. Overton St., Portland. Produced in partnership with Summer Free For All and sponsored in part by PJAZ and MJCC.
Showing: “The Frisco Kid.” Following the movie, CYP invites participants to join a discussion about the views/values in the film.
Bring your own blanket and snacks. Kona soft ices truck on site. Pre-movie bonus: Hold and pet baby goats with Portland Goat Parties at 7 pm.
For more information and to RSVP, call 503-583-2025 or visit pdxcyp.org/movie.

**Aug. 23: Dust & Ashes: Russian and Ukrainian Narratives as Jewish Text**
This series is an invitation to pause, engage with Jewish Russian/Ukrainian content and process as a community. The course will be hybrid in-person outside at Moishe House and over Zoom 7-9 pm, Aug. 23. It will be structured so that folks can drop in to watch “Russian Doll” or participate in the poetry workshop (or both)!
For more information, contact moishehousepdx@gmail.com or 503-908-3394.

**Aug. 25: Judaism in Ecology – Jewcoology**
What are Jewish perspectives on ecology and environmentalism? What role do we play in this? Join us for an evening of drinks and conversation 7-8:30 pm at Moishe House Portland.
For more information, text 503-908-3394.

**Aug. 26: Sha-barbeque with Moishe Pod**
Spend Shabbat with the Moishe Pod fam around the grill in Moishe Pod’s courtyard 5:30-7:30 pm Aug. 26. We’ll grill up the burgers (beef and veggie), all-beef hot dogs and a variety of vegetables, and you can bring your favorite BBQ side dish!
Moishe Pod – a two-person Moishe House – launched in April to provide young adults opportunities to find Jewish connections and community on Portland’s west side.
For more information, email Shelly Zeiser, moishepodwestpdx@gmail.com or 503-908-3394.

**Sept. 6: Moishe Pod-WestPDX Clothing Exchange and Donation**
Get rid of stuff you don’t want and take home free stuff you need 6:30-8:30 pm, Sept. 6, at Moishe Pod-WestPDX. Bring any lightly used clothes or small household items that are cluttering your closet or cupboard and exchange them for things that bring you joy. Anything that’s left unclaimed at the end will get donated to a local facility.
RSVP at moishepodwestpdx.com. For more information, email Shelly Zeiser moishepodwestpdx@gmail.com.

**Aug. 26-28: BB Camp young adult weekend**
Young adults ages 21 to 35 are invited to enjoy the Last Day of Camp weekend Aug. 26-28 at B’nai B’rith Camp on beautiful Devil’s Lake in Lincoln City. The kickoff happy hour begins at 5 pm on Friday.
Are you excited for classic summer camp activities like boating, campfires and capture the flag? What about sunbathing on the dock with a cocktail in hand or throwing a huge dance party after “lights-out”? Campers will have access to all the beauty and fun camp has to offer. Enjoy all of your favorite camp meals with an adult twist – including beer and wine.
Last Day of Camp weekend is $150. For registration and more information, visit bbcamp.org/lastday/

**Sept. 17: Jewish day camp for young adults**
Young adults in the Pacific Northwest can go back to Jewish camp for a fun-filled experience with classics such as tie-dye, color war and campfires – along with age-appropriate activities like Bubbe’s beer garden, dueling zip lines, latte art and a silent disco.
Hosted by Trybal Gatherings, which runs multi-night and day camps throughout the year for Jewish young adults, the “Seattle Day Camp” at Camp Kalsman is the organization’s first in the Pacific Northwest. Trybal has partnered with The Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle to bring the camp to the PNW region.
Trybal camps especially attract the “under-engaged” 26- to 36-year-olds who crave meaningful connections and community.
“More than ever, young adults want to recharge and connect with each other,” says Carine Warsawski, founder of Trybal Gatherings, which has engaged more than 10,000 young adults and Jewish leaders in camp experiences and camp-inspired events since 2017. Camp Kalsman is on 300 forested acres between the Puget Sound and Cascade Mountains.
For more information and to register, visit trybalgatherings.com/register. The cost of the day camp is between $99 and $149.

**OneTable expands Shabbat dinner subsidies**
OneTable, an organization that empowers people to envision new rituals and build community through Shabbat dinner experiences, has made it easier for young adults (21-39ish) to open up their Shabbat table.
Shabbat hosts can now get up to $300 Nourishment ($10/per person) when you host an Open or Host Approval dinner with OneTable. Want to share the Shabbat love with a friend? When you RSVP to a OneTable dinner, you can now add a +1 in just one click. Learn more, find Shabbat dinners to join and create your own at onetable.org.
For questions about these exciting updates, or to learn how you can get more involved with OneTable in Portland, reach out to Abbie Barash at abbie@onetable.org.
SONG OF MIRIAM HONOREES
(cont. from page 1)

Following is the fifth and final group of three women whose organizations selected them to receive the 2022 Song of Miriam.

SHOSHANNA LANSBERG: Honored by Women of Reform Judaism/Beth Israel Sisterhood
Shoshanna has served on the board of Women of Reform Judaism/Beth Israel Sisterhood since 2016.

In her roles as corresponding secretary, vice-president and president, she raised funds for Beth Israel’s religious school, wrote postcards to urge voters to exercise their rights, and worked for reproductive and racial justice along with various other causes.

She also produced an exhibit devoted to the 100th anniversary of WRJ at Beth Israel that received an Or Ami “Light of My People” Silver Award in 2018 from WRJ.

Her other current volunteer efforts include serving on the Public Art Committee for the Beaverton Arts Commission and as a Precinct Committee Person for the Democratic Party of Washington County.

Beth Israel Sisterhood says Shoshanna is very dedicated, welcoming, open to new ideas and encouraging to new members. As part of a younger group of women, she seeks to involve younger women and help plan new programs.

LOIS EATON:
Honored by P’nai Or
Lois and her family joined P’nai Or in 1996 after attending a High Holiday service and loving the music and davening. As her children studied for their b’nai mitzvah, she also learned more about Judaism. She felt completely welcome as a non-Jew and appreciated the rituals. Even though she was working full time as a nurse practitioner, raising her family and maintaining a large home garden, the congregation has always been able to count on Lois. She leads the congregation’s garden work and contributes amazing meals and desserts at community gatherings. Her gracious home often hosts Sukkot, Shavuot and Lag B’Omer festivals.

When leadership grew thin, Lois stepped into various roles to keep the P’nai Or community together. She has a quiet manner and great judgment, is attentive to details and a humble networker, helps those in need and is nonjudgmental of others. In short, P’nai Or says Lois reminds us of the best of Judaism.

ALYSA ROSE:
Honored by Eastside Jewish Commons
Eastside Jewish Commons describes Alysa, one of its cofounders, as working with grace, determination and integrity for many years to build the Jewish community. Having led a number of mission-driven organizations and companies, she has a wealth of knowledge and leadership savvy.

As part of EJC’s founding steering committee and board, Alysa has contributed innumerable hours and a huge amount of energy to building its mission, vision, values and more.

EJC says Alysa is calm, thoughtful, warm and thorough. She brings a depth of compassion and love to her board service, consistently looking out for those who are less fortunate or seeking community.

In her work life, she is the President and CEO of Relay Resources, a nonprofit organization that cultivates meaningful work experiences for people with disabilities.

EJC adds that Alysa has been an unsung volunteer leader for the east side community for more than a decade, and it is an honor to serve alongside her.

Tivnu hires two resident advisors for gap year program
Tivnu: Building Justice welcomes two new madrichimot (Resident Advisors) to its gap year program to help participants connect with Jewish life and social justice through individualized internships, discover the Pacific Northwest and create a home together.

Hadara Goldsmith has been a member of the Tivnu family since they were a participant in Tivnu’s second cohort, and now Hadara is Tivnu’s first alum madricha! Hadara will be working with Danielle Sklar, who brings years of summer camp and gap year experience to her new position.

Danielle comes to Tivnu from Montclair, N.J., where her parents and dogs still live. She graduated from Pitzer College with a bachelor’s in political studies and critical global studies in 2022, with a particular interest in the politics of traditional and nontraditional learning spaces. She attended Jewish summer camp and eventually a Jewish gap year program herself, so she understands the importance of Jewish educational spaces and how they can shape one’s life trajectory. Danielle comes to Tivnu to help create/share some of the experiences and feelings she experienced.

Haydara is a big fan of gap years. After “graduating” from the Tivnu gap year in 2016, Hadara went on to Warren Wilson College in Asheville, N.C., earning a bachelor’s in creative writing. While studying at Warren Wilson, Hadara worked as head of the college’s Jewish Life group, organizing and leading events for Jewish holidays. But Hadara loves gap years so much they weren’t satisfied with just one. So two years in, they took another. And then another. They returned to Warren Wilson older and wiser. This time around, they worked as a peer tutor at the Writing Studio.

Tivnu Gap Year Resident Advisors live onsite in Portland with Gap Year participants (ages 17-20) and mentor program participants in formal and informal settings.

For information on Tivnu, visit tivnu.org.
Chaplain’s Corner

ELUL (Continued from page 1)

Consider: If we are going to run a marathon, we are not just going to show up on race day and run 26.2 miles. If we are going to take the bar exam, we are not going to arrive on test day without intense preparation. If we qualify for “Jeopardy,” we are not going to walk into the studio without hours upon hours of learning miscellaneous facts.

Why should our training for the High Holidays be any different? If we just walk into the synagogue or login virtually without preparation, how can we expect to have a meaningful experience? Just because we show up does not mean we will transcend or transform.

This is not the time to be passive. This is the time to be proactive. During Elul, we can purposely set aside time and confront the previous year. We can be open to feeling a range of emotions: fear, embarrassment and shame – or satisfaction, relief and serenity.

Let me suggest four books that can help us in this sacred effort:

*Days of Awe* by Shmuel Yosef Agnon. He reviewed more than 300 texts from the Bible, Talmud, Midrash and Zohar. Every year, I review the same copy I purchased when I was in rabbinical school. I always discover another gem to get in the right mindset.

*Preparing Your Heart for the High Holidays: a Guided Journal* Paperback by Kerry Olitsky and Rachel Sabath. They teach us how to write a personal, spiritual journal to prepare our hearts and souls. We can use this as a way to express our hopes, dreams and expectations. By cultivating a journal writing discipline, we can experience gratitude for how we have developed, changed and healed, as well as look forward to what else is possible.

*The Days Between: Blessings, Poems and Directions of the Heart for the Jewish High Holiday Season* by Marcia Falk. A possible stumbling block for a meaningful High Holiday experience is that much of the liturgy can be dominated by patriarchal imagery. After all, men composed the traditional prayers, meditations and interpretations. Falk provides us with alternative blessings for meals, prayers for worship services, as well as poems and meditations. Falk beautifully guides us with her experience, perspective and creativity to ensure Jewish tradition remains vibrant and inspirational.

*Beginning Anew* by Gail Twersky Reimer and Judith Kates. They have compiled an anthology of women’s spiritual writing for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. We need as many perspectives and points of view as possible. Part of Judaism’s “secret sauce” is to remain organic, evolving and responsive to changing times.

May we be strong and resolute as we spiritually prepare for the High Holidays. The countdown clock will soon begin. I look forward symbolically to seeing everyone at our High Holiday starting line at sundown Sept. 25.
Connections and culture (take 2) is Aug. 23

The second of two summer events for those who are new to Portland or simply interested in connecting with community members is coming up. Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education and the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland will host community members 45+ at 11 am, Aug. 23, for an exhibit tour followed by a reception on the museum’s stunning rooftop patio.

Join Adjunct Curator for Special Exhibitions Bruce Guenther and OJMCHE Director Judy Margles for a tour of Turning Inward, JUDY CHICAGO, From the Collections of Jordan D. Schnitzer and His Family Foundation. Turning Inward brings into focus an artist whose lifelong artistic exploration has at its foundation art as activism. For six decades, Judy Chicago has remained steadfast in her commitment to women’s rights to engage in the highest level of art production and to the power of art as a vehicle for intellectual transformation and societal change. The exhibit closes Sept. 23.

Tickets are $10 per person. Register at ojmche.org/events.

Pacific NW has new Israel Consul General

On Aug. 1, Marco Sermoneta became the Consul General of Israel to the Pacific Northwest based in San Francisco. He will be building partnerships and coalitions of support for Israel with the people and governments of Northern California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana and Alaska.

He looks forward to working together with the active Jewish communities, businesses and Israeli entrepreneurs in San Francisco, Portland and Seattle. He plans to focus on strengthening relations in the areas of innovation and technology, trade, agriculture, tourism, sustainability and the environment, and culture. A native Italian and fluent Spanish speaker, he intends to work closely with the Italian American and Hispanic American communities, based on his diplomatic experiences.

Born in Rome, Italy, his family was active in the Roman Jewish community, who trace their origins to the Second Temple period 2,000 years ago. He immigrated to Israel as a child on the day before the Yom Kippur War started in 1973. For him, being accepted as a Cadet in the Israeli Foreign Ministry, and representing Israel, is a personal and professional dream.

He earned a bachelor’s degree in International Affairs and English Linguistics from The Hebrew University of Jerusalem. After working as an editorial assistant and reporter for The Jerusalem Post for two years, he joined the Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1993.

Most recently, 2019-22, he was a Special Envoy to the Conference of Interaction and Confidence-building in Asia and Focal Point on Afghanistan in the Department for Euro-Asia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Consul Sermoneta previously served as Israel’s Ambassador to Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Jamaica. In addition, he served as Deputy Ambassador to Japan, helping represent Israel as the Indo-Pacific region became more of a focus for Israeli foreign policy.

He was the Head of the European Multilateral Organizations desk in the European Division of the Foreign Ministry, which included NATO, OSCE and others. Previously, he served as the Political Counselor of the Israeli Mission to the United Nations focusing on social affairs, human rights, economics and sustainability. At the start of his career, he was a Deputy Chief of Mission in both Mumbai and Dublin.

Besides international diplomacy, Marco has been writing and publishing poetry for the past 20 years. He also translates Italian and English poetry into Hebrew.
Obituaries

MAXINE GUTFREUND
Maxine (Michlah Asnah bas Chay-im Leib) Gutfreund, z”l, passed away Aug. 11, 2023, surrounded by family. She is survived by her Portland son, Les Gutfreund, and daughter-in-law, Eve Stern. The funeral was Aug. 15 in Detroit. Les sat shivah at his sister’s home in Michigan.

PHYLLIS SOHN
Phyllis Sohn (Peryla Bas Moshe), z”l, passed away Aug. 11, 2022. She is survived by son, Adam (Amy) Sohn, members of Congregation Kesser Israel.

SHIRLEY HODES
Shirley Hodes, z”l, passed away July 31, 2022, at the age of 95. She is loved and remembered by her husband of nearly 75 years, Stanley Hodes; son, Greg (Chris) Hodes; daughter, Francine (Mark) Abolofia; grandchildren, Emily (Bill) Shields, Spencer (Marisa) Hodes, Beth Hodes, Rey Abolofia, Jay (Ruth) Abolofia; and eight great-grandchildren. The funeral was Aug. 2 at Ahavai Shalom Cemetery.