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SPECIAL REPORT

The state of Portland State

A look into the campus climate of Portland's public university - then and now

By **ROCKNE ROLL**

The Jewish Review

Conversations around antisemitism on college campuses have taken on national prominence since the Oct. 7 terror attacks in Israel. At Portland State University, those conversations had already been happening for some time.

"We definitely started, however many years ago, at the bottom and made some progress," Michelle Bombet Minch, co-chair of the Israel Advocacy Committee of Portland's Jewish Community Relations Council said. "Then Oct. 7 happened. It was like, 'Oh, now things are really going to be a challenge.'"

Nearly two years later, *The Jewish Review* was invited to examine the state of the university's efforts to address its campus climate for Jewish students – to see



Rockne Roll/The Jewish Review

what's been done, whether it's had an effect and what remains to be addressed.

☆

Bob Horenstein, the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland's Chief Community Relations and Public Affairs Officer, recalls dealing with issues of antisemitism on the

PSU campus in the last decade in an entirely different context.

"It wasn't the sort of antisemitism you see today," he explained, "more the far-right kind of antisemitism that we didn't think PSU was taking seriously."

There was anti-Israel ac-

tivism, to be sure. Students United for Palestinian Equal Rights, an affiliate of Students for Justice in Palestine (which has been banned or suspended at numerous schools around the country) sponsored a student government resolution in 2016 that called for the university to divest from Israel-connected businesses which passed PSU's Student Senate by a vote of 22-2. Another resolution in 2021 specifically targeted PSU's relationship with The Boeing Company; a relationship which provides scholarships and internship opportunities for PSU students and which activists object to due to Boeing's work manufacturing military equipment which is sold to Israel.

"These are nuisances more than anything else," Horen-

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The Jewish Review Podcast



HHD Episode Sept. 17

JVC, Climate Action Committee partner with Fruit Tree Project



Jewish Volunteer Corps volunteers and members of the Jewish Community Relations Council's Climate Action Committee joined Portland Fruit Tree Project to harvest fruit from their urban orchard in Portland's Parkrose Neighborhood Thursday, Aug. 14. (Rockne Roll/The Jewish Review)



Sonia Marie Leikam named Executive Director of Robison Foundation

By **ROCKNE ROLL**
The Jewish Review

The Robison Foundation for Jewish Elders has announced Sonia Marie Leikam as the foundation's first Executive Director.

Leikam comes to the foundation from the Oregon Jewish Community Foundation, where she has been serving as the Director of Outreach.

"I wasn't looking to leave OJCF," Leikam explained. "This was a role that I wanted to step into because I think it combines both an entrepreneurial spirit and my passion for being able to serve the community. So it's a perfect meld of being able to use my skills and challenge myself in new ways, but also get to do what I love, which is take care of our community."

"We wanted someone who had had the curiosity and the enthusiasm to develop expertise and then share it with the community at large," RFJE President Michael Millender said. "One of the things that we realized is that lots of organizations in the Jewish community are interested in helping elders, but there is no one in the

community whose main job it is to think comprehensively about those issues."

Leikam has previously served as Executive Director of the Oregon Holocaust Resource Center, as well as previous positions as Director of Donor Relations at OJCF, Director of Development at KairosPDX and as co-owner of Leikam Brewing in East Portland. Leikam's entrepreneurial instincts were of particular interest to Millender and the rest of the RFJE board.

"This is a major development in the Portland Jewish community and we wanted someone who could help us build this foundation correctly from the ground up, consistent with the board's vision for it," Millender said.

Leikam comes on board at an important time – RFJE has recently completed its inaugural grant cycle, but it aiming to issue an additional \$400,000 of grants before the end of the calendar year.

"To really do the a larger grant cycle properly, we needed an executive di-

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Staff changes at PDX Hillel include new Israel Fellow

By **ROCKNE ROLL**
The Jewish Review

As Greater Portland Hillel heads into a new school year at its numerous campuses across the Portland area, there's a new face and new roles for some of the familiar faces supporting Jewish life for Portland's college students.

The biggest change is the arrival of Shlomit, PDX Hillel's new Israel fellow. The fellowship is supported by the Jewish Agency for Israel, who have asked their fellows not to use their last name in media interviews and not to be photographed by news outlets.

Shlomit just finished a masters degree in Psychology and Educational Counseling, but twin forces inspired her to take on this fellowship at the outset of her career. After Oct. 7, I was looking to do volunteer work of some sort, and I always wanted to travel," she said. "This is a great opportunity for me to combine the two."

Shlomit comes from an Ethiopian Jewish family and is looking forward to sharing her culture with students.

"The community is the foundation of the culture," she said of Ethiopian Jewish life. "In every sort of an event in life, the culture is there for the person, the family. If someone passed away, in weddings, in every event we are there to help."

There are more than 65 Jewish Agency for Israel Fellowships at Hillels across the United States – Shlomit picked Portland in part for its greenery – reminiscent of her home in Yokne'am, a verdant city south of the Carmel Mountains – and for its plethora of vegan cuisine.

"I am vegan, so this was that the main thing I really like," Shlomit said of Portland. "The vegan food here and the vegan life is very vivid."

"Anybody who says, 'I like vegan food and green space,' you can certainly say, 'Good news: Portland is a great space for you,'" Andy Friedland, PDX Hillel's Interim Executive Director added. "Shlomit has so easy to get along with. She's gotten to meet some of our students and

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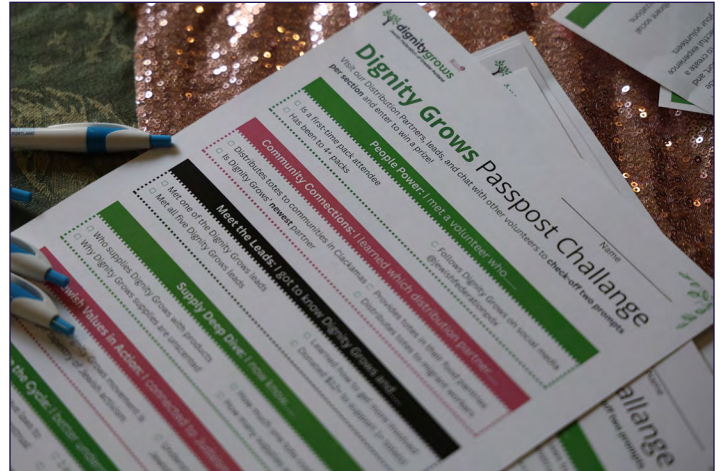
Dignity 'Grows' into Clark County to start fall

Photographs by ROCKNE ROLL

The Jewish Review

Portland's Dignity Grows chapter, a project of the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland's Women's Philanthropy, held

its first packing party of the fall at Congregation Kol Ami Sunday, Aug. 17 - the group's first event in Clark County, Wash. It was also the first event for new distribution partner Education Service District 112, which supports students across Southwest Washington.



Click the logo for the latest episode of The Jewish Review Podcast

Israeli dance provides community, expression

By ABIGAIL MINCH
For *The Jewish Review*

Israeli folk dancing can be more than the dance itself – it is often a powerful way to connect in the Jewish community.

Jewish dance has brought people together since biblical times. Exodus contains the earliest reference to women dancing as worship; Miriam leads them in dance to celebrate the crossing of the Red Sea. Dance is an ongoing form of worship in Psalm 150, and the people are told to “praise G-d with the drum and dancing.”

Like Israel itself, Israeli folk dancing is a blend of traditions and choreography from Jewish communities around the world. Early days of Zionism brought the beginning of Israeli folk dancing by sharing stories and emotions found in the Jewish Diaspora through song and dance. *Hora Agadati* (“*Hora*” meaning circle dance and “*Agadati*” being the last name of its creator) is the first known Israeli folk dance; after 100 years, it is still a common dance.

Like the *Hora Agadati*, many of these dances have often been choreographed in a circle pattern. This maintains the Jewish tradition of using circle dances for celebration or religious observance.

In the 1950s and 60s, the line dance pattern was introduced, through European and American inspiration, for songs with straightforward and steady beats. There are also partner-style dances inspired by Balkan, Eastern European and Mediterranean culture. Portland-based Israeli folk dancing instructor Rhona Feldman notes that today in the community all songs have only one dance.

“Choreographers choose a



Above: Portland dancers follow along with instructor Rhona Feldman, center, during an Israeli Folk Dancing class at Portland's Southwest Community Center Sunday, Aug. 17. Below: Feldman says that in Israeli dancing, “there are no mistakes, only solos.” (Rockne Roll/The Jewish Review)

song, and nobody else can create a dance for it,” Feldman said.

In the Israeli folk dancing circles, this is done through the choreographer’s informal, but widely respected, process of claiming a song. The first choreographer to announce their dance to a song will claim it. Announcing this claim can be as simple as posting to social media or as formal as presenting it at a live performance through festivals or work-

shops. Because of the tight knit community, it is rare for others to compete and create dances for songs that have already been claimed.

Whether you’re a longtime dancer or stepping onto the floor for the first time, Israeli folk dancing offers a space that’s welcoming and expressive. Portlanders have found this especially important when searching for a deeper connection within the Jewish community in recent years during the Isra-

el-Hamas War. Today, Israeli folk dancers in Portland have noticed a shift to a more vulnerable and sensitive community. Feldman reflects on the need for community in the context of today’s world.

“I think everybody’s searching for a community these days,” Feldman said. “Israeli dancing is a really great way to find one.”

During these stressful times, Jewish people around the world want to feel connected not just to the land of Israel but to each other. Many turn to dance to feel this connection. Another longtime instructor, Debbi Montrose, has seen the Pacific Northwest’s Israeli folk dancing community grow and evolve through the decades.

“Israeli folk dancing is alive and well in Portland. It is dynamic. It is not old-fashioned. It’s constantly being revived,” she said.

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In Portland, dancers gather together daily to learn new dances and join open dance sessions. While some may not speak Hebrew or understand the lyrics word for word, all find joy and connection in the dance. Some participants are joining for the first time and others have been practicing Israeli folk dancing in the Pacific Northwest for more than 50 years. Dance instructor Sue Wendel grew up in Portland and first discovered Israeli folk dancing at what was then Wilson High School in Southwest Portland.

"I was like a fish to water," Wendel said. "I really haven't stopped dancing since. It's just a great way to be together with people."

This philosophy of continuing to dance after making a wrong movement is one that the Israeli folk dancing community embraces. Like other folk dancing groups, they believe the joy of the dance outweighs the importance of pointing out a mistake.

During her class, Feldman tells attendees, "there are no mistakes, only solos."

Israeli folk dancing is known for its accessibility. Beginners generally find learning the new dances achievable because the choreography contains simple moves and repetitive steps. Movements often include fa-



Above and below: Dancers learn and practice the moves of Israeli Folk Dancing at a Sunday, Aug. 17 class at Portland's Southwest Community Center. "I think everybody's searching for a community these days," instructor Rhona Feldman said. "Israeli dancing is a really great way to find one." (Rockne Roll/The Jewish Review)

miliar actions such as swaying or performing a box step. Portland dance instructors teach inclusive classes with all levels of dance practice in mind.

Allison Victor has taught in what she calls this "vibrant community" for many years and enjoys creating a friendly and welcoming space in her classroom. She takes pride in noticing what her students need and adapts her teaching style to each individual.

In early September, the 23rd Annual B'YACHAD PNW Israeli folk dancing retreat

will take place in Olympia, Washington. Debbi Montrose is also the B'YACHAD administrator and says that she created the retreat for dancers in the Pacific Northwest who couldn't make it to out-of-state workshops and open dance sessions.

"Back in the day, most of us never went to those workshops that were in Los Angeles and New York and the Midwest," Montrose said. "So I said, 'Why don't we just get in our cars and we can do it Pacific Northwest-style?'"

During the first weekend, in 2001, 25 people attended the retreat. After that, dancers were hooked. The next year drew more attendees and this year about 60 to 65 people are expected to attend. Open to dancers of all levels, the weekend features open dance sessions led by local instructors from across the region. Montrose is looking forward to including beginners this year.

"We decided to incorporate something new because

not only in Portland, but in other cities, I've noticed because of the war in Israel and wanting to support Israel, that dancing was a good opportunity because it's not political. It's just culturally unifying," Montrose said. "There's been an uptick in new dancers wanting to come to dance in our towns."

As Israeli folk dancing continues to evolve, it remains a meaningful way for people to connect with tradition and music – as well as each other.

To learn more about Portland's Israeli folk dancing scene and the upcoming B'YACHAD retreat, visit their Facebook group "Israeli Folk Dancing in Portland, OR" or the Portland Israeli Folk Dancing News website, sites.google.com/site/pifd-news/welcome.

Abigail Minch graduated from The University of Oregon with a degree in Journalism and a minor in Judaic Studies. She is excited to combine these two loves into writing for The Jewish Review.



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Preschool Educators Day brings deep dives to CBI



More than 90 early childhood educators and administrators gathered at The Jennifer Barnum Luria Early Childhood Center at Congregation Beth Israel for the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland's Third Annual Preschool Educators Day of Learning Wednesday, Aug. 20. Attendees heard a keynote about building relationships and their effects on child development from Mimi Wilhelm before breaking into small "deep dive" sessions on topics including volunteerism in early childhood education, the benefits of play planning for children and a popular "I've Got That Shabbat Feeling" workshop with CBI Education Director Ben Sandler and Cantor Reyna Green. "Our preschool day of learning is always a wonderful opportunity to bring our area educators together in community and deep learning," Jewish Federation of Greater Portland Director of Educational Initiatives and Associate Director of Community Relations Rachel Nelson, who organized the event, said. (Rockne Roll/The Jewish Review)

HILLEL (continued from page 2)

some of our administration, and everyone's just been so excited to meet her, get to know her."

Friedland enters the new academic year with that new title, as well; previously hired as Hillel's Director of Jewish Student Life, he will now fill in following the departure of Hannah Sherman while the board looks for a permanent Executive Director – a role Friedland will not be pursuing.

"It's definitely a big difference in the day-to-day. I was doing a lot of student-facing work last year as Director of Jewish Student Life, and this year my job is going to be a lot more community facing; working more with ad-

ministration in schools, working more with our board, our donors, the broader Portland Jewish community."

It's work Friedland is familiar with from his time with the Anti-Defamation League in Connecticut.

Meanwhile, Jesse Weiss, in her second year as PDX Hillel's Springboard Innovation Fellow, will shift to take on much of the student-facing work.

"I'm really excited about it," Weiss said. "Coming from the background of being a student leader at a local college and the work that I did at Reed, I'm excited to help implement events and structures into some of the student boards. I'm here to help him out as

much as I possibly can."

Navigating the year one staff member short will be a major undertaking but should be buoyed by the support PDX Hillel continues to receive from the broader Jewish community in Portland.

"I've done a lot of these kinds of new directors' and new employees' events and worked with different executive directors from other Hillels, and I'm appreciating all the ways in which Hillels can look very different, depending on where you are, and also appreciating the degree to which Greater Portland Hillel is so embraced and supported by its community in a way that you don't see everywhere," Friedland said.

CYP summer festival brings families to Jamison Square Park

Photographs by **ROCKNE ROLL**
The Jewish Review

Chabad Young Professionals hosted their fourth edition for the Portland Jewish Festival Wednesday, Aug. 20 at Jamison Square Park in Northwest Portland. The evening event hosted craft booths for kids, challah-making for adults, a shaved ice truck for everyone and a chance for families to gather and celebrate Jewish identity under Portland's summer sunshine.





Orthodox baseball brothers spend season with Pickles

Portland Pickles right-handed pitcher Ari Kligman, left, and catcher Elie Kligman, right, pose with Rabbi Chaim Wilhelm outside Walker Stadium in East Portland following the Pickles' West Coast League Championship Game loss to the Bellingham Bells Thursday, Aug. 14. The Orthodox brothers were frequent guests of Chabad during their summer with the Pickles. Elie Kligman hit .228 with 14 home runs and 15 runs batted in in 19 games for the Pickles this season while Ari Kligman held a 1.96 earned run average in 32 innings over 10 games, striking out 25. The West Coast League provides college players an opportunity to hone their skills and play in front of professional scouts during the summer; Ari and Elie will return to Sacramento State University and the University of Michigan, respectively. (Courtesy Chabad of Northeast Portland)

OJMCHE's Sobel named to Leading Edge cohort

The Jewish Review staff

Rebekah Sobel, the Executive Director of the Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education, has been named to the latest cohort of the Leading Edge's Leading Executives program for Jewish nonprofit leaders.

Leading Executives brings together a diverse group of 21 executive leaders from Jewish nonprofit organizations across North America, each poised to deepen their leadership abilities in profound ways. Throughout the program, running from August to early 2026, participants will have the opportunity to sharpen their leadership skills, engage in personalized growth experiences, and collaborate with fellow cohort members.

"Developing strong leadership skills is vital for navigating the challenges and opportunities of this moment," said Abby Crawford, Vice President of Leadership Programs at Leading Edge. "In today's shifting landscape, Jewish nonprofit leaders are grappling with a range of pressing issues. Leaders need support and they need to grow and practice core competencies in strategic vision, communication, and adaptability."

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Seaside Chevra hosts Singles Shabbaton Sept. 12-14

The Seaside Chevra Congregation, in association with the Portland Kollel, Moishe House Portland, MemGlobal and Seattle Shadchan and Associates, is hosting a Shabbaton weekend for Jewish singles in their 20s and 30s Sept. 12-14 in Seaside.

Geared toward Reform, Conservative, and "Just Jewish" young adults, this week-

end will feature a spiritually uplifting Shabbat experience with kosher food, creative programing and incredible scenery.

Early registration (before Sept. 1) is \$150 and includes lodging and meals; the registration fee increases to \$200 after Sept. 1.

For more information or to register, visit seasideshabbaton.com.

ROBISON (continued from page 2)

rector," Millender said. It was really a lot to ask of a volunteer board to tackle that whole process. Another thing [Leikam] is going to be working on is that we would like to develop a financial aid policy and program for the organization."

That program would, Millender said, provide grants directly to individuals who need to make improvements to their homes in order to age in place instead of moving to a facility, among other areas.

"The other thing I think is just really important is for [Leikam] to engage with other organizations in the community that we're going to be collaborating with," Millender added, "and to reach out to people in the community to get a better sense of what they see as the needs for elders."

For her part, Leikam is eager to get started.

"To be trusted to move the Foundation forward is just wonderful," she said.

Learn more at rfje.org



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stein said.

“That was not a representative or typical moment,” Natan Meir, the head of the Judaic Studies program at PSU, said of the 2016 student government resolution.

By early 2023, Horenstein had been having regular meetings with Stephen Percy, who became president of the university in 2019.

“It wasn’t until Stephen that we really started to develop a strong relationship,” Horenstein said.

That relationship started to pay dividends. Solomon Wolfe graduated from PSU earlier this year – he got involved with Jewish community on campus through Greater Portland Hillel and became a leader in PSU’s Jewish Student Union.

“There was a lot of positive energy toward getting people involved. We did a lot of tabling events where we’d talk about upcoming celebrations we’d be having or events happening on campus and it felt good,” he said.

Sure, there were comments from passers-by and a few looks, but Wolfe and fellow JSU leader Eva Ponder spoke positively of the atmosphere on campus for Jewish students in the spring of 2023.

“People were pretty accepting,” said Ponder, who also graduated with the Class of 2025.

Outdoor gatherings for the High Holy Days and campus Sukkot celebration went smoothly, she recalled.

“It felt safe,” she said, “as safe as I think having a large number of Jewish students collecting on campus can feel.”

Ponder also took part in PDX Hillel’s Healing Perspectives trip to Israel and the West Bank in the summer of 2023—a group which included non-Jewish student leadership and tried to provide a nuanced examination of the region and its challenges.

In addition to supporting such activities, Jen Yoken, the former board chair of PDX Hillel, was party to the ongoing meetings between Jewish community leaders and university administration, including President Percy, who retired in the summer of 2023.

“Then PSU, of course, had a new president,” Yoken said.



Dr. Ann Cudd was not a stranger to higher education leadership when she took office as PSU’s President Aug. 1, 2023. After receiving a doctorate in philosophy and pioneering the field of analytical feminism, Cudd rose through increasingly prominent leadership roles, eventually being appointed Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor of the University of Pittsburgh, her graduate alma mater, in 2018. She’s also not a stranger to Jewish community tragedy; the Tree of Life Synagogue is less than two miles from Pitt’s campus.

“Many of our faculty, our deans, were members of the synagogue. One of our faculty members was murdered in the attack,” she said. “I remember we were wearing these t-shirts that said, ‘Pitt Strong’ and had a Star of David. The community really came together.”

She had already scheduled a lunch with Horenstein, Yoken, Bombet Minch, Meir and other Jewish community representatives, a sort of meet-and-greet event, for the second week of October. Also in attendance was Mark Rosenbaum. Actively involved in Portland’s Jewish community, Rosenbaum is also a former President of the Portland State University Foundation and a recipient of PSU’s Presidential Medal who joined the university’s Board of Trustees shortly before President

Cudd’s appointment in 2023.

“My impression of President Cudd was that she’s very competent, very down to earth, very transparent,” Rosenbaum said. “She’s thoughtful and interested in engaging the broader community; she wanted to bring Portland State out more to the public.”

The agenda of the meeting was dramatically altered by the events that immediately preceded it in Israel and their ramifications in Portland.

“Almost immediately after Oct. 7, the environment on campus for Israel-identifying Jews and Israelis became hostile and even toxic, with pervasive anti-Zionist sentiment and rhetoric that often crossed the border into antisemitism,” Meir wrote in an email to *The Jewish Review*. “We saw widespread use of messaging and imagery widely considered antisemitic, such as ‘From the River to the Sea’ and blood libel accusations (e.g., posters with the slogan ‘We Do Not Drink Blood’). We also heard from students that some faculty members were politicizing their classrooms, leading some Jewish students to feel excluded and unwelcome.”

“I don’t think any university was prepared for the amount of public demonstrations and the number of ways in which emotion was going to demonstrate itself,” Rosenbaum said.

Wolfe, in his role as a JSU leader, recalled fellow students telling him they quickly felt uncomfortable openly expressing Jewish identity on campus. He said that JSU events that would have previously had 20 or 30 attendees drew single-digit numbers of students after Oct. 7.

“People didn’t feel safe having Shabbat in the park or planning meetings that were more public,” Ponder added.

“Our students were afraid to go to campus. They were afraid to go to class,” Yoken said. “PSU wasn’t doing much right after Oct. 7.”

Several students came to the first meeting with President Cudd and presented their experiences upfront.

“It was helpful,” President Cudd said, “in my coming to understand the environment for our Jewish students, for our Jewish citizens in Portland and how that was beginning to look, frank-



Rockne Roll/The Jewish Review

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ly, pretty ugly.”

“Some of us were in tears in the room,” Bombet Minch said of the meeting. “The biggest thing that we heard was not just how uncomfortable they were on campus but how, in many ways [President Cudd] contributed to that because she did not put out a statement in support of the students immediately.”

“I know some other universities in the area made statements, reached out more publicly to the Jewish communities on campus,” Ponder said, “and I don’t remember Portland State really doing that.”

It wasn’t until Nov. 1 that President Cudd released “[A note about commemoration, tolerance and our community](#)” on PSU’s website.

“We do not tolerate violence or hate of any kind, and we stand up strongly against antisemitism and Islamophobia, both of which are rising nationally as a result of recent events. We believe that students, faculty and staff — with all of their diverse backgrounds and beliefs — deserve to be safe and seen in our community,” the statement said in part. “As we watch with sadness the human tragedies unfolding in the Middle East war, many in our community are in pain and passions are understandably running high. It is more important than ever that we recommit to our core values.”

“[President Cudd] definitely made an effort to engage Hillel and the greater Jewish community. She was very open to that. She was continuing the work of her predecessor, President Percy,” Yoken said. “The problem was, early on, there was a big question with President Cudd as to whether or not she truly understood the critical needs of Jewish students, what Jew-hatred looks like, what the students were experiencing and how it was affecting them.”

“When Oct. 7 happened, it was really a shock,” President Cudd said. “It surprised me that the reaction was not all sympathy for Israel and for the innocent civilians who were attacked, but rather some glorification of the resistance that you saw in Instagram posts. I would say that was in Portland generally. Portland is a certain kind of place. It has a politics I did not expect. It would not have been the same reaction in Pittsburgh.”



Rockne Roll/The Jewish Review

In December of 2023, President Cudd formed the Task Force for Building Community and Fighting Hate, which was [more fully announced in January of 2024](#) and chaired by former President Percy.

“I was on that task force,” Horenstein said. “I didn’t feel like it really did anything to address antisemitism on campus.”

“Overall, the administration’s response to the crisis on our campus was fragmented; on the whole, it seemed unable to recognize that antisemitism was a real problem at PSU,” Meir said in an email. “That’s not to say that individual administrators did not have excellent intentions and deep sympathy for the plight of Jewish students, but as an institution, PSU seemed unable to respond appropriately.”

The university’s relationship with Boeing came up once again: A demonstration organized by SUPER disrupted the Jan. 26, 2024 meeting of the Board of Trustees to the extent that trustees were escorted from the room by campus security officers. [The Vanguard, PSU’s student newspaper, reported](#) that demonstrators physically blocked several trustees’ vehicles from leaving the parking lot and that property damage and vandalism to the meeting room were found in the demonstration’s wake. On May 13, the [Student Senate once again passed a resolution](#) calling for PSU to sever its connections to Boeing — the third in less than 10 years.

The task force, which eventually became known as the Task Force on Building Community Through Dia-

logue, released a [33-page report in July of 2024](#). One of the items highlighted in the report was an interfaith and intercultural dialogue facilitated by the Middle Eastern, North African and South Asia Cultural Center and its assistant director, Ahmed El Mansouri. JSU members, students from the Muslim Student Association and PDX Hillel staff participated.

“At the outset I introduced them to a conflict resolution model that we leaned into throughout the process,” El Mansouri said in an email describing the dialogue to PSU’s Director of Strategic Communications Christina Williams, who forwarded the email to *The Jewish Review*. “The students used that framework to guide what were often difficult but ultimately very constructive conversations. Their shared goal was to move toward collaboration. The outcome was a joint tabling event on campus, where they issued a united message: ‘Ceasefire and the release of all hostages.’ Both groups intentionally chose that wording because, in the past, those terms have been framed in ways that put blame on one side or the other. They wanted to reclaim the language as a shared call to end the cycle of violence — the necessary first step for any further conversation about healing, justice, and safety.”

“I think he’s a good guy. I think he was trying to bring Jewish and Arab or Muslim students together to dialogue, and I applaud him for that,” Horenstein said of El Mansouri. “But it was such a small group that it didn’t have any sort of wider impact on the campus itself.”

The tabling event was held May 29. Linoy Yecheli, then the Israel Fellow for PDX Hillel, was at the event.

“Ahmed was very welcoming and tried to work with us as much as possible to make [MENASA] a more welcoming space,” she said. “It was inviting for [Jewish] students, but students still were afraid of encountering students that won’t necessarily share opinions with them.”

Before the tabling, the task force report and the renewed demands to cut off Boeing, however, came the climax of the growing anti-Israel protest movement and something of a turning point for the school and the community surrounding it.

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The Branford Price Millar Library, with its distinctive semicircular glass facade bowing around a 120-year-old beech tree along Portland's South Park Blocks, is a vital hub of campus life at PSU. It's the largest academic library in Portland and a prime study spot for a student body that mostly lives off-campus.

On Apr. 29, 2024, following a pro-Palestinian demonstration on campus, a small group of individuals broke into the Millar Library and barricaded themselves inside. PSU's campus was closed the next three days before Portland Police eventually cleared the building. [The Portland Mercury reported](#) that police arrested at least 30 people remaining inside, the majority of whom were not Portland State students.

Photographs of the exterior of the library, provided to *The Jewish Review* by a university employee on condition of anonymity, show graffiti including a rendition of "Intifada" that substitutes the first "a" with an anarchist symbol, "All Glory To Our Martyrs," and "F*** Your Peace," as well as large-format stickers on the exterior of the building and nearby lampposts which read "All Zionists Are B*****."

"That was a really stressful time," Ponder said. "It happened around our midterms, when the library is most in use."

[Oregon Public Broadcasting reported](#) that it took \$1.23 million dollars and more than four months to repair the building, including damage to electronics and the building's fire alarm system.

Due to the ongoing investigation by the Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights, President Cudd declined to speak on the record about the occupation of the library, providing a statement about the occupation through Liz Fuller of Gard Communications, a crisis communications firm working with the university.

"This was an extremely difficult time on campus, and my number one concern was making sure all students were safe," the statement read. "We worked closely with our government partners to address at each stage. It took us a few days to safely address the situation at the library and figure out the best way to address it. We knew that some pro-



Above and Below: Portland State University's Branford Price Millar Library, pictured during its occupation by pro-Palestinian demonstrators in late April of 2024. These photographs were provided to *The Jewish Review* by a university employee on condition of anonymity.



testors in the library were not students, and we wanted to make sure no one was harmed. We gave over operational control to law enforcement, and they safely resolved the situation. We closed the whole campus, not just the library, because we felt it created an unsafe environment in many ways. It's important to note no amnesty was granted to students related to the library protests."

"[The university] did what I thought was appropriate," Rosenbaum said, "which was, when it became clear that

this was a matter of extreme safety, they turned it over quickly to the City of Portland and the Portland Police to deal with because they didn't have the manpower nor the expertise on how to handle the situation. It was the city that took rather a long period of time to work out their plan and to figure out how to do what they wanted to do."

Rosenbaum noted that PSU has received criticism for the length of the occupation due to the response timeline of Portland Police. Ponder gave voice to those very concerns but said she felt supported as a Jewish student on campus during the process.

"[President Cudd] comes to our events. She listens to us," she said. "But I think the administration maybe wasn't prepared for this type of encampment and this type of political unrest on campus."

"Especially reflecting back on it, I do feel like we were supported by the administration," Wolfe said.

"I've been in higher education more than 35 years. I've never seen anything like this. The level of vehemence and even violence of the protests, it's unprecedented in my career," President Cudd told *The Jewish Review*.



"I think the turning point was the occupation, the destruction of the library," Horenstein said. "As we continued to meet with [President Cudd] and put forward expectations, we started to see steps that were being taken."

In the 15 months following the events in the Millar Library, the university has worked to take a more proactive approach to issues surrounding Jewish student life and pro-Palestinian activism. PSU has always had policies in place regarding how, where and when political protests can be conducted — those policies now have an easy-to-find home online (pdx.edu/free-speech) and the university has formed a Protest Expression Advisory Team to communicate those guidelines to the campus community and monitor social media and other platforms to know when things are happening and whether there's a chance of something becoming an issue.

"I think we've gotten better at talking with our student leaders to say, 'Hey, we know this event is going to happen.

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Here are our rules. Here's what we're expecting you to do. Of course, you're free to gather and to protest, but you can't disrupt our classes, you can't take over buildings," President Cudd said. "Those rules haven't changed so much as we've been clearer about them."

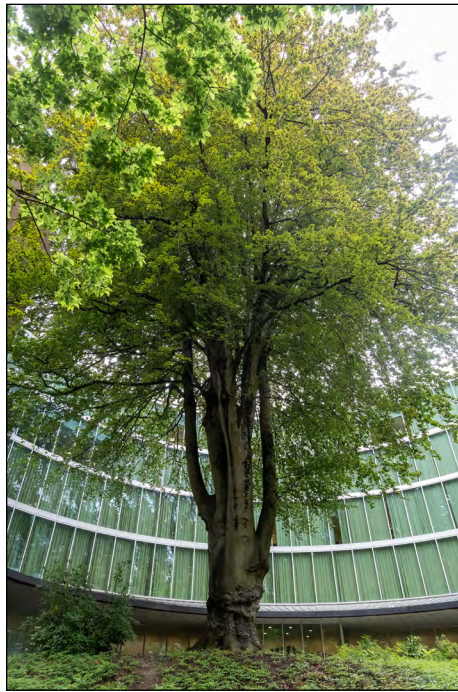
The school is also focusing on public clarity with its relationships with outside firms, both in terms of its investments and with business partnerships. President Cudd formed a committee to assemble recommendations to bring to the Board of Trustees, which sets university policy on such matters. The policy, President Cudd explained, "basically says we won't take partisan political perspectives into account, but only consider PSU's financial and educational needs when deciding on what partnerships or investments we'll engage in." That policy was approved by the board in June of 2025 and should, in theory, put to rest any notions of the university backing away from its relationship with Boeing.

"What I wanted to do was step back and look at the principles behind how we engage with investments and partnerships," she continued. "I think that our experience with these protests against Boeing, for instance, gave us good reason for adopting this stance of neutrality, because if we are changing our minds all the time about which companies we will partner with or invest with for partisan political reasons, then I think we won't be seen as a very reliable partner."

President Cudd is also working with academic departments and the university's Faculty Senate on policies surrounding political statements made by university programs and departments – those conversations are ongoing. But it's not just President Cudd and the board that are working on the issue.

"The university is taking serious steps to combat antisemitism, such as sending senior student affairs administrators to the Summer Institute on Antisemitism in Higher Education at Brandeis University," Meir said.

The Summer Institute, in its second year, brought staff from more than 25 schools together to learn about antisemitism, how it specifically affects higher education and how to address it. "The Institute also explores anti-Zion-



Rockne Roll/The Jewish Review

ism and its relationship to contemporary antisemitism, developing skills to navigate engaging with Israel in a time of crisis," its website explained.

It wasn't just administrators who had a chance to learn more about antisemitism. Meir has long offered a four-credit course on the history of antisemitism; in the spring of 2025, a no-cost, one-credit online version debuted and quickly filled to capacity.

"Several years ago, I heard about a free one-credit course on antisemitism that the University of Connecticut had decided to offer to all its students. After Oct. 7, it was clear to me that PSU needed such a course," Meir said. "In meetings with President Cudd, I encouraged her to make such a course a priority, which she eventually did. That's when my colleague Nina Spiegel (the Rabbi Joshua Stampfer Associate Professor of Israel Studies) and I began to work on developing the course."

"Making a course free requires a lot of work on the part of many people in the background," President Cudd said, "but it was really well received and we're looking for ways we can broaden the availability."

Meir said he'll be teaching the course again this spring and hopes that it will also be available to interested faculty and staff. He is already in talks with other institutions about replicating the course.

"Based on student evaluations, many students found the course to be high-

ly relevant, especially given current events. They felt it provided them with a better understanding of antisemitism and equipped them to identify and combat it. For some, the course was 'eye-opening,' providing new knowledge about the history and experiences of the Jewish community. One student who identified themselves as Jewish specifically mentioned feeling less 'othered' and 'unwelcomed' as a result of taking the course," he said. "My dream is to ultimately have the course be open to all Portlanders who are interested in educating themselves about antisemitism."

☆

"The 2024-25 academic year saw a significant drop in antisemitic rhetoric and incidents," Meir said. "It is impossible to find just one reason for this, but much credit must be given to President Cudd's newfound determination to ensure that PSU would no longer be a comfortable home for antisemitism."

Incidents continued to arise – but the decisiveness with which they were addressed, and the frequency of that action, had changed.

There was still the matter of addressing the occupation of the Millar Library. While some of the criminal charges were dropped due to errors in evidence handling, [The Vanguard reported](#) that 33 individuals were subject to proceedings under the university's code of conduct. Sanctions were handed down to 21 individuals as of November 2024. The PSU Campus Dispatch Newsletter, a blog maintained by PSU Faculty and Staff for Justice in Palestine, [published a portion of a conduct determination letter](#) received by at least one student which detailed hefty sanctions – suspension from the university for the entire academic year, 20 hours of community service, financial restitution of \$5,000 and a three-page review of the impact of the events and how "other options that were available for expression of free speech and sharing your concerns."

Additionally, SUPER, the group which had led the disruption of the January 2024 board meeting, was placed on probation through June of 2025.

While much of the university's action was in response to acute situations, they also took action to address lon-

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ger-simmering problems.

One such issue was the Women's Resource Center. Labeled as a space for "community engagement opportunities [and] feminist leadership education," the WRC had become a bastion of anti-Israel sentiment under the leadership of Director Nic Francisco-Kaho'onei.

"They were promoting anti-Israel events, teach-ins, that sort of thing," Horenstein said.

"It was supposed to be open doors for everybody," Bombet Minch said, "but it became a place of pro-Palestinian, anti-Israel propaganda and Jewish students didn't feel comfortable even going somewhere like that."

[The Vanguard reported](#) that Francisco-Kaho'onei participated in a hunger strike during a "Week of Rage" led by the PSU Disarm and Divest Coalition beginning on the first anniversary of the Oct. 7 attacks.

"A lot of their messaging tended to not seem as inclusive towards Jewish students and community members," Ponder recalled. She said that the JSU had considered reaching out to the WRC to cosponsor a film screening about sexual violence by Hamas terrorists on Oct. 7, but decided not to due to the tone of the WRC's messaging.

President Cudd declined to speak on the record about the WRC, but said in a statement through Fuller that "We have made some personnel and programmatic changes in the Women's Resource Center... It is essential that the Women's Resource Center, like every other place else on campus, is welcoming to students from all backgrounds."

The most prominent change was at the top – on Apr. 25 of this year, Francisco-Kaho'onei was dismissed by the university. They were not the last PSU employee to come under the spotlight for anti-Israel activism.

Yasmeen Hanoosh, a Professor of World Languages, attended a rally outside the June 4 school board meeting in Beaverton in support of board member Tammy Carpenter, who was facing investigation over anti-Israel materials shared on her personal social media page. A video shows Hanoosh being asked by an unidentified interviewer if she is familiar with Hamas.

"I am Hamas," Hanoosh responds. Gesturing to the crowd behind her, she added, "We are all Hamas."

By June 6, Hanoosh had been placed on administrative leave by PSU, a move announced [in a statement](#) calling the video "reprehensible."

"PSU stands unequivocally against antisemitism, terrorism, and hate of any kind, including the statements made in this video," the statement says. While the statement did not identify Hanoosh, KOIN-TV [reported her identity](#).

"The faculty member was placed on administrative leave while they're being investigated," President Cudd told *The Jewish Review* earlier this month. "The investigation is still ongoing."



While much has been addressed, students at PSU are still dealing with antisemitism on campus.

Ari Douglas began his graduate studies in PSU's School of Social Work in the fall of 2024.

"I had one professor ask me why I wasn't at Brandeis for my MSW," he said. "Brandeis doesn't have an MSW pro-



Rockne Roll/The Jewish Review

gram."

The same professor, Douglas said, flatly denied that the PSU campus sits on land that was once the hub of Portland's Jewish community before urban renewal eliminated the majority of the neighborhood.

Douglas also recalled a lunch-hour student-led workshop on antisemitism he was part of that fall.

"A student who was not Jewish said, in regards to choosing Israel, that they can just move," Douglas explained. "I felt, and a friend of mine who was there with me felt that was deeply antisemitic and not in keeping with the values of social work, either. The refusal to look at intersectional issues is appalling, because we know that there are poor and unhoused Jews in Israel, and they cannot easily move."

When asked how the university responded to the situations he mentioned, Douglas said, "not at all."

Douglas is not the first person to have these sorts of experiences.

"We've seen that the School of Social Work has an anti-Israel culture," Horenstein said. It's why he's been pursuing the viewpoint neutrality policy that the university is currently considering.

"I will say that the School of Social Work faculty feel strongly that political advocacy is part of what they teach their students, they feel that's part of the discipline of social work itself that inevitably leads to potential disagreements about what kind of advocacy they should be engaged in," President Cudd said. "Where we draw the line, of course, is with harassment and bias and hate speech. That should not be part of the academic environment."

Meanwhile, SUPER continued to make waves on campus. A January protest by the group resulted in further conduct charges against the group – charges which were rescinded in April, though the group remained on probation through June.

[The Portland Mercury noted](#) that while a statement from the university said that "student conduct decisions are, and have always been, made independently," the decision to rescind the charges came immediately after Portland City Councilor Mitch Green, whose District Four includes the PSU campus, said he would vote against city funding for PSU's arts and cultural center project intended to replace the Keller Auditorium unless the charges against SUPER were dropped.

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Yoken wants to see more done for Jewish students across campus, not just in the School of Social Work.

“I think that we, as a Jewish community, need to set the bar higher for our Jewish students on how we expect them to be treated on college campuses. The question for Portland state is: Can they make strides in a way that makes Jewish students want to attend Portland State and feel comfortable to proudly share and celebrate their Jewish identity,” she said, “and I’m not sure we’re there yet.”

For what it’s worth, neither is the U.S. Department of Education.

In February, PSU joined, along with Columbia University, Northwestern University, the University of California, Berkeley and the University of Minnesota were notified by the department’s Office of Civil Rights that they were being investigated, pursuant to President Donald Trump’s executive order, “Additional Measures to Combat Anti-Semitism,” for violations of Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

“Too many universities have tolerated widespread antisemitic harassment and the illegal encampments that paralyzed campus life last year, driving Jewish life and religious expression underground. The Biden Administration’s toothless resolution agreements did shamefully little to hold those institutions accountable,” Acting Assistant Secretary of Education for Civil Rights Craig Trainor said in [a media release](#) from the department.

In March, OCR [sent letters](#) to those five universities and 55 others threatening enforcement actions under Title VI unless the schools “fulfill their obligations to protect Jewish students on campus.”



Horenstein noted that neither the education department nor the Anti-Defamation League, which has [heavily criticized](#) Portland State in recent months, have contacted him or any other local Jewish community leaders to discuss the situation.

“I believe you make change through relationships, through collaboration,” he said. “You may not get everything you want. But I think that’s how you do it, not coming down with

a sledgehammer.”

Meetings between university leadership and Jewish community representatives are now quarterly, and Horenstein is in regular contact with President Cudd via text and email.

“I’m really grateful for my relationship with Bob. I’m always grateful for his advice,” President Cudd said. “He will ask me when he hears about some kind of incident or protest that’s coming up, whether it’s on our campus or beyond and we will dialogue about it. Sometimes he’s aware of things before I am, so I’m grateful for that.”

While President Cudd, Horenstein and many of those *The Jewish Review* spoke to said that significant improvements have been made on campus, there’s still work to be done. Bombet Minch is hopeful that PSU can move forward on policies around political positioning by academic programs.

“Not only is it, logically, the right thing to do and intellectually the right thing to do,” she said, “it shows a firm stance and not a wishy-washy sort of playing both sides. It puts a line in the sand.”

She also wants to see PSU incorporate antisemitism education into its diversity, equity and inclusion programs – an idea which may be more challenging with the closure of the Global Diversity and Inclusion Office amid a campus-wide reorganization of DEI programs, as announced earlier this month and [reported by Oregon Public Broadcasting](#).

Yoken would like to see PSU participate in Hillel International’s Campus Climate Initiative – a program that Oregon Hillel and the University of Oregon have already joined together in that helps schools build a comprehensive plan to address antisemitism. (See “Oregon Hillel seeks wellness professional, joins nationwide Campus Climate Initiative,” *The Jewish Review*, Apr. 2, 2025, page 4)

“I think the problem is that [PSU’s efforts to address antisemitism have] been reactive and not proactive,” Yoken said. “Something like the Campus Climate Initiative would have been a proactive step for the administration.”

For President Cudd, the focus is not only on continuing the progress that Portland State has made, but on making amends for that which went wrong.

“We need to repair relationships that were harmed in that 2023-24 year when there were so many protests and ugly things spray painted on walls,” she said. “The most important thing is, ‘I’m sorry’ and ‘What can we do to repair this? How can we move forward?’ Talking about the things that we are trying to do to support students and asking them what more they’re interested in seeing.”

Wolfe feels like that has already begun – even if it wasn’t always visible.

“Because I was asserting myself in those spaces, making the time to talk to administration, that gave me a perspective,” he said. “But I do know that if you were a member of [JSU] and you weren’t reaching out directly to the administration and having conversations, it might have been tougher to see.”

Bombet Minch is almost certainly not alone in expecting exactly that.

“To uplift us and get us back to where we were before Oct. 7 is going to take things that are more visible,” she said, “repairing the damage that happened on campus so that PSU is seen as a safe place for Jews.”



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NEXT ISSUE

Issue date Deadline

SEPT 10 SEPT 4

Security Corner

Bivins sentencing is Sept. 18

By JESSICA ANDERSON

A few weeks ago, I shared that Michael Bivins was finally convicted of charges stemming from his vandalism of Shir Tikvah, Beth Israel, Everybody Eats PDX, and the Muslim Community Center of Portland. On July 10, a jury took four hours to find him guilty of his bias crimes.

His sentencing is scheduled for Sept. 18 at the Multnomah County Courthouse, (1200 SW 1st Ave in Portland) at 2 pm in Judge Eric Dahlin's courtroom. The sentencing process will last approximately 90 minutes, and we'd like as many community members and allies as possible to attend this sentencing. Showing up serves several functions: It shows support for victims, which includes members of the affected houses of worship and food cart, and those who suffered from other uncharged crimes; It displays to the wider Portland community that our community suffers when bias crimes occur and that they ARE happening in this city; It allows Jewish allies the opportunity to demonstrate their support for us; and it telegraphs to the judge that these crimes affected the community and impacted how we lived, worked, and moved within the greater community during that time.

Many of you have probably forgotten how troubling it was to hear the news that an unknown person was bias-targeting multiple organizations and had yet to be identified and captured.



Jessica Anderson is the Portland-area Director of Community Security. She was previously an FBI agent for 24 years. This position is funded by SCN (the official safety and security organization of the Jewish community in North America) and a local three-way partnership of the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland, Oregon Jewish Community Foundation Endowment Fund and multiple Jewish organizations in the region.

Direct victims of his crimes will be attending, and they welcome your support. If you plan to attend and would like to share that information with victims, please consider letting them know by emailing them at rsvpemail54@gmail.com.

The sentencing portion of the prosecution is when the judge evaluates, in part, the impact of the crimes on their victims and how it will affect the final sentence. For court purposes, the view of who is a "victim" is limited to those directly affected by the crimes. Of course, we know that bias crimes impact whole communities – the court knows this too and has significant discretion in who it chooses to hear from. In this case, the court has stated they are open to a community impact statement, which will be formally read into the record on Sept. 18.

We have been sharing this community statement for several months now, and have 189 signees, and now we're in the final stretch for accepting additional signatures. We are keeping the names of individual signees anonymous. We will

only share the total number of community signatures, which the Prosecution will share with the judge when they read the statement. You can read and sign the impact statement at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1ZF-ShUFL67kpne_I2VC4V-8jhUAZUJs82gb4yRefLrcXw/edit.

Lastly, but in some ways most importantly, crimes like these do not get to trial if people don't report incidents. Sometimes vandalism is brushed off as just part of living in a city, and this approach means investigators potentially lose the ability to connect crimes, identify perpetrators, and craft prosecutions. Please, please - report incidents, thefts, vandalism, comments yelled in passing, etc. Get in touch if you're not sure if you should report something. I know many incidents aren't reported, and many folks are working hard to change this. Reporting to me can be made by email to janderson@securecommunitynetwork.org or the incident reporting form on the Jewish Federation website at jewishportland.org/security.

jewishportland.org/subscribe

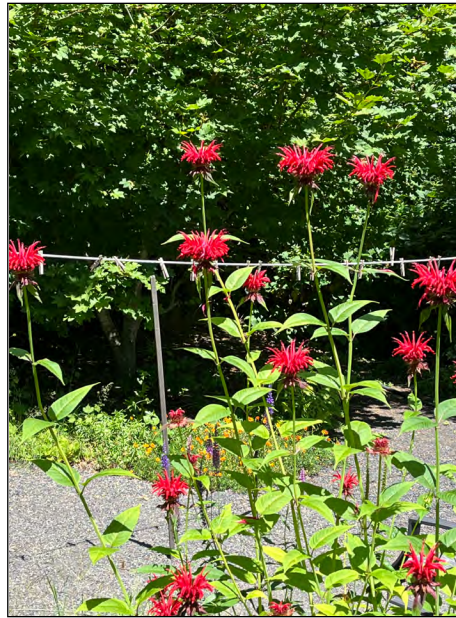
Protecting pollinators in perilous times

By SARA SAFDIE

This is the time of year many home gardeners look forward to: fresh fruit and vegetables, the abundant results of earlier hard work. Those fruits and vegetables would not be possible, or there would be fewer of them, without the help pollinators provide. Here are some suggestions to keep pollinator numbers healthy and welcome in our gardens. Many of these ideas come from the Xerces Society, an environmental-protection organization here in Portland. Its website contains a wealth of information towards creating a thriving pollinator garden.

The most important step anyone can take towards having a pollinator-happy landscape is to not reach for that oh-so-easy-to-apply bottle of pesticides, herbicides, or fungicides, *especially* ones containing neonicotinoids (read the ingredients list) or glyphosate (Round-up products). Not only can neonics kill bees on contact, but their effects persist in the environment for years. Similarly, glyphosates can “harm navigation in honeybees” and leave them open to developing Varroa mite infestations, leading to Colony Collapse Disorder, eventually killing off a hive. Some of these chemicals are banned from use in the European Union.

There *are* ways to control pests without using chemicals. Organic sprays can help control severe infestations, but they do need to be used with care and never applied when the sun is hottest. Spraying water from a hose on an infested plant works well; lady bugs are voracious eaters, wiping out aphids on broccoli-family plants quickly. Also try companion planting: placing plants that benefit each other together. Some, like marigolds, can attract pests to them, defending the plants you want to be insect-free. Another benefit I found out



Bee balm's spikey flowers are perfect for hummingbirds, making them ideal for pollinator-friendly landscaping projects. (Sara Safdie/Special to The Jewish Review)

about recently: growing green beans and strawberries together increases their production.

Weeds are a problem, especially if they're invasive, but some, native to this environment, like fireweed, attract a variety of pollinators. There *are* alternatives to herbicides! Start removing weeds early in the season; if possible, don't allow them to go to seed because that perpetuates the cycle. Use a tool like a stirrup hoe to remove weeds so you don't even have to bend down when you use it. Getting immersed in weeding is even a way to escape today's toxic political environment. Keeping autumn leaves on the ground through the winter provides many benefits for the soil and pollinators, as does leaving behind lawn clippings; the latter has the added benefit of suppressing weeds. Finally, since there will always be weeds,

don't feel the need to rid your yard of every last one; even leaving one part of your landscape wild will give all these important species more vitality.

One thing that might not immediately come to mind is the seedlings we purchase. Not everyone has a greenhouse or cold frame, so every year we buy new vegetable—or in the case of annual flowers—starts. An important element of habitat health is planting organic vegetable and flower seedlings. When buying these plants, try to shop at smaller local nurseries or farmers' markets, which tend to have a larger selection of organics and know where their products come from. Seedlings that have not been started organically can contain the residue of chemicals harmful to pollinators that can persist for months after planting. Use organic fertilizers and supplements to promote growth, ensuring that you don't eat chemical “seasoning” on your tomatoes.

These tips barely scratch the surface of how to promote a healthy, pollinator-inviting landscape. Besides seeing greater crop yields thanks to pollinators, your garden will invite more birds and other wildlife. You will have created an oasis, a space of peace, beauty, and bounty that keeps giving back to you and your community, and most importantly, environmental balance.

Sara Safdie has been a member of the Climate Action Committee since it's formation in 2019. This is the second installment in a series on pollinators.

The Climate Action Committee of the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland's Climate Corner shares tips and resources for healing the Earth. The group is committed to the important work of tikkun olam, repairing the world. If you would like to join the Climate Action Committee, please contact Rachel Nelson at rachel@jewishportland.org.



Click the logo for the latest episode of The Jewish Review Podcast

CAROL FURIE

Congregation Neveh Shalom is saddened to announce the passing of long-time congregant Carole Furie, z"l, on Thursday, Aug. 14, 2025, at age 86. She is lovingly remembered by her daughters, JoAnn Eden (Craig DeHarpport), Linda Furie and Betty (Dennis) Paulsen, and grandsons Anthony Eden and Chris Eden. She is predeceased by her husband Alfred Furie, z"l, and sister and brother-in-law, Elaine and Arnold Cogan, z"l.

The funeral was held Sunday, Aug. 17, at Neveh Zedek Cemetery.

JERRY MENASHE

Congregations Ahavath Achim, Beth Israel and Neveh Shalom are deeply saddened to share the passing of Jerome (Jerry) Menashe, z"l, on Saturday, Aug. 16. He is lovingly remembered by his daughter Erika Menashe, brother Joe (Joanne) Menashe, and sister Denise Menashe. Jerry is predeceased by his wife Janet Menashe, z"l.

The funeral was held Tuesday, Aug. 19, at Ahavai Shalom cemetery.

Donations in Jerome's memory can be made to Jewish Child and Family Service of Portland.

JACK FELDMAN

Congregations Beth Israel and Neveh Shalom mourn the

loss of Dr. Jack Feldman, z"l, who passed away Sunday, Aug. 17 at age 91.

Jack is survived by his son, Louis Feldman, and Daughter in law, Risa Colton-Feldman, his grandsons Jacob Feldman, and Noah Feldman, his nieces Judith Rosenberg (Greg Andreas), Dr. Deborah Rosenberg, his nephew David Rosenberg (Dr. Elizabeth Matthews-Rosenberg), his great niece Claire Andreas (Robert Yeagle), his great nephew Dr. Jacob Andreas (Dr. Zuri Sullivan), and many cousins. Jack is preceded in death by his wife of 56 years, Dr. Janet Feldman, z"l, his sisters Bernice Rosenberg, z"l (Dr. Sol Rosenberg) and Zelda Feldman, z"l and his parents Louis Joseph Feldman, z"l, and Anna Pollock Feldman, z"l.

A memorial will be held at a later time in Chicago, IL. Donations in Jack's memory can be made to Valley of the Kings Sanctuary and Retreat and the Robert Peltz, z"l, High Holiday Funds for Food program at Congregation Beth Israel.

LEONARD ANTICK

We are deeply saddened to share the passing of Leonard Antick, z"l, at the age of 85 on Tuesday, Aug. 19, in San Diego County, Calif. He is lovingly remembered by his daughters Pamela Antick and Jennifer (Rivi) Antick (Eric Antick-Oslund), and his grandson Micah Antick-Oslund.

The funeral was held Sunday, Aug. 24, in Sharon, Mass.

Events

More community events online at jewishportland.org/community-calendar

Aug. 27: Prayer and Purpose

Elul adult learning class at Congregation Ahavath Achim at 8 pm. Free. Registration at ahavathachimpdx.weebly.com/prayer-and-purpose.

Aug. 31: Israeli Folk Dancing at SWCC

Folk Dancing at Southwest Community Center every Sunday. Class from 2:30-3:30 pm, open dancing from 3:30-4:30 pm. More information at sites.google.com/site/pifdnews.

Sept. 3: Whole and

Holy: Welcoming LGBTQ+ Community in Sacred Spaces

Panel discussion at Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education at 6 pm. \$5, free for members. Tickets at ojmche.org/events/whole-and-holy-welcoming-lgbtq-community-in-sacred-spaces-virtual.

Sept. 3: Teshuva - Returning to Joy

Elul adult learning class at Congregation Ahavath Achim at 8 pm. Free. Registration at ahavathachimpdx.weebly.com/teshuva-re

turning-to-joy.

Sept. 5: Congregation Ahavath Achim First Friday Shabbat Dinner

Sephardic Shabbat services and dinner at Congregation Ahavath Achim at 5:30 pm. Tickets at mailchi.mp/66547305440b/first-friday-shabbat-dinner-2025-september.

Sept. 7: Critical Conversations for Elders and their Families

Presentation at the Eastside Jewish Commons at 1 pm. \$45. Registration at events.hu

manitix.com/critical-conversations-and-elders-workshop.

Sept. 7: Bad Shabbos

Film screening at Joy Cinema in Tigard at 3 pm, sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland. Tickets at jewishportland.org/badshabbos/portland.

Sept. 11: The Struggle for Democracy in Israel and the U.S.

Discussion with Nadav Tamir, Executive Director of J Street Israel, at Congregation Neveh Shalom at 7 pm. Registration at members.nevehshalom.org/event/1360S25.

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