

# The JEWISH REVIEW

Oregon and SW Washington's Online Jewish Newspaper

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## A night to celebrate community

### L'CHAIM (To Life) GALA

**WHAT:** Jewish Federation of Greater Portland's Centennial Gala

**WHEN:** 6:45-11:30 pm, Saturday, Oct. 8, 2022

**WHERE:** Portland Art Museum, Mark Building

**FOOD:** Cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, three-course dinner

**MUSIC:** Patrick Lamb's jazz quartet featuring Dan Balmer during cocktail hour  
Patrick Lamb & The Hit Factory for after-dinner dancing

**RSVP:** [jewishportland.org/GalaCelebration](http://jewishportland.org/GalaCelebration)  
Reservations required by Sept. 22. *No walk-ins.*  
*Black tie optional. Covid vaccination required if eligible.*

BY DEBORAH MOON

The Jewish Federation's Centennial Gala will be a glamorous evening of reconnecting and celebrating a century of community building in Jewish Portland – L'Chaim, To Life!

The Jewish Federation of Greater Portland's L'Chaim Gala was originally envisioned for 2020 – 100 years after Portland launched the first Jewish Federation west of the Rockies. The evening will celebrate the people who built this community and those who continue to strengthen it. The delayed celebration will have the added joy of reconnecting with each other in person.

"This will really be a celebration – a stellar evening of camaraderie, community and fun," says Gala Chair Ed Tonkin. "It is going to be unique in the history of this Federation with a different venue, an extraordinary menu, music and dancing." (See box.)

See GALA, page 6



Gala Chair Ed Tonkin invites the community to join him Oct. 8 for the party of the century!

## Portlander pitches Israel to silver

BY DEBORAH MOON

The Israel Softball Association 12U Israeli national team won the silver medal in the European Massimo Romero Youth Tournament. Portland-area pitcher Josephine "Jojo" Zober Appling led the tournament in strikeouts.

Jojo pitched the opening game against Italy, which Team Israel won 5-3. This was Italy's only loss in the tournament. She also toed the rubber giving up zero hits to the Czech Republic team and batted in three runs to help seal her team's other two wins.

"It was an amazing experience, and I will never forget the pride I felt singing the Israeli National Anthem before the start of the first game – or the joy I felt to win that first game

See ISRAEL SOFTBALL, page 10



Portland-area pitcher Jojo Zober Appling led the tournament in strikeouts. Photo from EMRYT Coollecchio

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



# Connections and *tikkun olam* under the Red Tent

About 90 people gathered under the Red Tent Aug. 28 for an evening of reflection, connection, music and dance. The event raised nearly \$6,500 to benefit Dignity Grows, a program of the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland.

"All the dollars raised tonight will go directly to purchase the menstrual and general hygiene products that we will pack and distribute to our neighbors in need," Dignity Grows Chair Nicole Sacks told attendees. "This next year, we are committed to delivering 2,400 totes to our distribution partners. We know the need surpasses that – a recent study reports that one in four people who menstruate experience period poverty."

Attendees had the opportunity to hear from representatives of four of Dignity Grows six distribution partners – Outside In, Self Enhancement Inc., A Safe Place, Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center, Transition Projects and Divine Threads.

Anne Douglas of Virginia Garcia said, "We are so grateful for our partnership with Dignity Grows and the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland; 468 totes have been distributed since October 2021. The totes fly off the shelves. The demand is so great."

Douglas shared the story of one recipient whose husband had recently died. Since he was the principal breadwinner, money was very tight and the woman was skipping meals. She came to the center with her two daughters ages 12 and 13 and all three left with totes. "They were so grateful to receive these supplies and have one less thing to worry about during a very difficult and stressful time," said Douglas, adding the clinic was also able to connect them with other resources in the community.

Event Chair Debbie Plawner said she was moved to tears by that story. Powerful spiritual moments included hearing Psalm 27 and Rabbi Eve Posen blow the shofar outside Neveh Shalom.

"I was delighted with the turnout of so many beautiful members of our community who all bring so much light to the community in so many different ways," said Plawner.

Plawner said Dignity Grows plans a series of eight Rosh Chodesh events to raise funds for more totes. The first event will be Sept. 11 (see below). The event for Kislev will be candle making and for Adar will feature "an outrageous food and wine pairing."

"Every event is about elevating the energy of the month," said Plawner. "So bringing more light in Kislev and bringing in more joy at Adar. ... Everyone is invited to [sign up](#)."

## Sign up for Dignity Grows Pack & Parties

Volunteer to pack with Portland's Dignity Grows Chapter. The totes are packed in the spirit of both *tikkun olam* (repairing the world) and *tzedakah* (righteousness).

The pack will be 5:30-7:30 pm, Sept. 12, at The Center for Self Enhancement, 3920 N. Kerry Ave. Full vaccination is required for all attendees. Registration is required: [jewishportland.org/dignity-grows-packing-event](https://jewishportland.org/dignity-grows-packing-event)

A series of eight gatherings from Sept. 11, 2022, to May 21, 2023, will bring together one-of-a-kind experiences and amazing people to support Dignity Grows. Proceeds purchase the personal and menstrual hygiene products needed to fill the Dignity Totes.

The series kicks off with Immerse & Rejoice Under the Harvest Moon at 8 pm, Sept. 11. Join Mother's Bistro & Bar Chef Lisa Schroeder for an evening of celebrating friendship, moonlight, divine treats and the glory of her stunning, crystal clear pool and garden oasis. This Full Moon experience just two weeks before Rosh Hashanah will help attendees say goodbye to summer with a "Full Moon Release" oracle card reading provided by Debbie Plawner to let go of the past year and begin a new year of dreams. Register for gatherings at [jewishportland.org/dignity-grows-event-sign-up](https://jewishportland.org/dignity-grows-event-sign-up).



Before entering the Red Tent, attendees were invited to write on flags of gratitude to hang on the floral arrangement at the entry. Inside, they enjoyed music by Lisa Schneiderman and Linoy Yechieli, who recently arrived from Israel to serve as the Israel Fellow for PDX Hillel.

Guests enjoyed the entertainment, including belly dancer Morgan Fay, and visited with Dignity Grows distribution partners. Below, Tani-sha Green of Self Improvement Inc. shared information on the program and what the totes have meant to their participants.



Since Rosh Chodesh is considered a holiday for women, three men volunteered as bartenders: from left, Jordan Plawner, Patrick Ward and Roy Carmen. David Karlin, not pictured, served as the sound engineer.



# Genetic screening can prevent heartache

BY SHARI UNGERLEIDER

When I gave birth to my first child, Evan, in August of 1994, my husband, Jeff, and I were so happy that after nine long months of anticipation, we were blessed with a beautiful and healthy baby.

We joyfully watched Evan develop normally for the next six months and had the normal hopes and dreams for his future. Over the next few months, we started to become concerned as we realized that Evan was not developing at the same pace as other children. We witnessed our friends' children begin to roll over, sit up, crawl, stand, walk, talk and interact with each other. Evan was not able to do any of this; he just watched and smiled, but soon his smile began to lessen and his observing became a distant stare.

Evan was not able to sit up by himself without falling over. He was having difficulty eating.

At 10 months, we brought Evan to the pediatrician for what we thought was a standard well visit, but this turned out to be the beginning of our nightmare. After several months, visits to numerous doctors and endless tests, Evan was diagnosed with Tay-Sachs disease.

This news not only devastated us, it shocked us, since I was tested for Tay-Sachs and told I was not a carrier. I immediately contacted my OB/GYN, who upon re-examining my records discovered that I had actually tested positive as a Tay-Sachs carrier. Having my test misread inspired me to promote appropriate genetic testing coupled with genetic counseling. All genetic tests should be read by a genetic counselor who is trained to interpret the results and coun-

## Tay-Sachs Awareness Month

In 2008, the U.S. Senate named September National Tay-Sachs Awareness Month.

One in 30 Ashkenazi Jews are carriers of Tay-Sachs, and one in 300 people of the general population are carriers. While there is no cure for Tay-Sachs, genetic testing can determine who is a carrier and whether their child will be at risk for this and other diseases. Since the 1970s, the incidence of babies born with Tay-Sachs has fallen more than 90% among Jews because of increased screening in the Jewish community. One in three Jews is a carrier for one of the many Jewish genetic diseases.

JScreen is a nonprofit, community-based public health initiative headquartered at Emory University School of Medicine and dedicated to preventing Jewish genetic diseases. The JScreen "spit kit" is easily ordered online, used at home and then mailed in so that clinical geneticists can test the DNA. The reproductive carrier screening panel tests for more than 200 genetic diseases and includes those that are commonly found in the Jewish population and other populations. If a person's or couple's risk is elevated, a certified genetic counselor will privately address their results, options and resources.

Learn more and order a spit test at [jscreen.org](http://jscreen.org).



Evan Ungerleider

mendous loss we feel every day for Evan. I constantly imagine what it would be like for us as a family if Evan were still alive.

To honor Evan, I decided to turn our tragedy into something positive so that other families would be spared the suffering that we experienced by raising awareness about the importance of carrier screening. It is essential that everyone who is planning to start or add to their family seek preconception carrier screening along with genetic counseling to determine if they are at risk of having a child with any of these horrific diseases. The purpose of carrier screening coupled with genetic counseling is to identify carrier couples, preferably before pregnancy, and help them understand the impact of the disease they carry on an affected child and to present reproductive options to the couple.

*Shari Ungerleider is an outreach coordinator for JScreen. Shari, her husband, Jeff, and father, Stanley Michelman, founded the Evan Lee Ungerleider Foundation, part of the National Tay-Sachs and Allied Diseases Association. Shari has four children, Evan (mentioned above), Justin, Leigh and Sydney. She lives in Wayne, N.J., with her family.*

sel individuals/couples.

As Evan's disease quickly progressed, he was unable to move on his own, he suffered multiple seizures daily and had respiratory difficulty, which required us to suction him regularly. He eventually became blind and deaf. We had a feeding tube surgically inserted so that Evan would be able to stay properly nourished and medicated. He had to undergo several hours a week of physical therapy so that his muscles would not atrophy.

We wanted to care for Evan at home so that we could spend as much time with him as possible and not take a moment of his life for granted. We wanted to create a lifetime of memories with Evan in the short time he had left. We spent our days taking him to the park, pool, beach

and zoo. He was constantly surrounded by people who loved him. Evan lost his battle with Tay-Sachs when he was almost 4½ years old.

We have three other healthy children. With each of my other pregnancies, I updated my carrier screening for diseases that were added to the panel. Knowing that Jeff and I were both carriers for Tay-Sachs disease, we were able to make family planning choices that enabled us to have healthy children. We chose to get pregnant naturally and have a CVS test performed at 10 weeks. From the bottom of my heart, I believe that every couple should be able to make educated decisions based on accurate genetic information. We are so blessed to have our other children; however, it does not take away or replace the tre-



## HOLIDAY RESOURCES

**Holiday Sensitivity Calendar (print and share this calendar of Jewish holidays with your employer, friends and teachers):**

[cdn.fedweb.org/fed-29/2/JFGP%2520Holiday%2520Calendar.pdf](http://cdn.fedweb.org/fed-29/2/JFGP%2520Holiday%2520Calendar.pdf)

**Resources to help you observe this year's High Holidays:**

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

**High Holiday services and events:** [jewishportland.org/highholidays/](http://jewishportland.org/highholidays/)

# Bierbaum brings wealth of experience to EJC

BY BONNIE NEWMAN

Howie Bierbaum has a new gig, and the eastside Jewish community is applauding.

After more than 30 years promoting the arts and local culture in Portland, Bierbaum has stepped into his next leading role as executive director of the Eastside Jewish Commons, the year-old community space on Sandy Boulevard long envisioned by some eastside Jews.

"The job involves all my skill sets," says the New Jersey native, whose resume reads like a directory to Portland arts and culture. "I am fearless with fundraising, fearless with publicity. That will be an asset to the EJC. Someone who is not afraid to be out there publicly is a good thing for a beginning nonprofit."

Mia Birk could not agree more. "We are very fortunate to have such a seasoned professional," says Birk, who helped create the vision and reality of the EJC. Birk served on the EJC's original steering committee and was the first chair of the board of directors, from 2018 to 2021. Birk also filled in as interim executive director during the four-month search for a permanent leader. Now she has returned to the board again and serves as treasurer.

"I'm happy to pull back from the minutiae and let Howie take the reins," she says. "I'm really thrilled to turn it over to someone who knows what they are doing and is ready to do the job."

Alysa Rose, a founding EJC board member who led the national candidate search, says she was surprised to find the right person here in Portland – particularly in a challenging job market.

"It was a difficult position to hire for because what EJC is doing is unique," she says. "We were looking for someone to execute our vision – to help us create an inclusive, collaborative space on the eastside."

Bierbaum's background spoke volumes to the board members and community partners who interviewed him. He ran the Portland Saturday Market (including during Covid), Wonder Ballroom and Oregon Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts. He managed tours for the local, multilingual musical ensemble Pink Martini. He brought outside acts to Portland through his company Circa Now Presents. He has also helped direct Do Jump Extremely Physical Theater, Portland Symphonic Choir and Portland Area Theatre Alliance.

"The very first thing that was impressive about him was the resonance of his experience with our needs," Birk says. "He has run multiple venues and knows the nuts and bolts of operations of venues and arts organizations. That's a lot of the job, as we've learned over the last year."



Howie Bierbaum is the new Executive Director of Eastside Jewish Commons.

Bierbaum agreed that his experience with fundraising, budgeting, marketing and hosting events makes him a good fit for the EJC. He said that growing the young nonprofit will take improvements to the physical space, expanded programming and money – perhaps the biggest challenge.

"Fundraising is always a challenge – but a challenge I welcome," he says, adding that he learned by running the Portland Saturday Market that "budgeting is the road map to what is possible."

Bierbaum acknowledges that a little schmoozing may help, too.

"I'm going to meet other leaders (of Jewish organizations) and see how we can fit into the ecosystem of Jewish life in Portland," he says.

Rose says she is eager to see what impact Bierbaum will have on the young organization. "I'm looking forward to what he will bring. I want to see what he observes and recommends."

Although Bierbaum isn't an Oregon native, he got here as soon as he could. He fell in love with the weather while visiting Eugene as a Rutgers University student and adopted Portland as home in 1981. Raised Conservative in a largely Jewish neighborhood, Bierbaum says his bar mitzvah was his last involvement with organized Judaism. "None of us ever went back," he says of himself and his friends. "It's a common story from my generation."

However, Bierbaum did not dissociate himself from his Jewish roots. "I consider myself a 'cultural Jew.' It's the core Jewish values that drive me," particularly the ideals of *tikkun olam*, *tzedakah* and social justice.

Bierbaum points to his volunteerism as a reflection of these values in action. Among his extensive community work is his fight against the AIDS crisis as a founding mem-

ber of Portland ACT UP (Aids Coalition to Unleash Power) and his successful efforts to preserve accessibility – especially for the elderly and disabled – to public transportation at the Skidmore MAX stop.

Professionally, he has supported Jewish performers representing gay culture. He also has collaborated in the past with Congregation Neveh Shalom Cantor Emeritus Linda Shivers, Do Jump Artistic Director Robin Lane and Third Angle New Music to bring Jewish themes to the stage.

"Jewishness has been interwoven into all the work I do," Bierbaum says.

Bierbaum also has remained tied to the Jewish community through Jewish friends. In fact, it was one of these friends who brought the executive director position to his attention and encouraged him to apply. But it was the interview with EJC board members that sealed the deal in Bierbaum's mind.

"The quality of the leadership and the vision of the board is not seen on other boards," Bierbaum says. "Once I realized I'd be working with a lot of smart, progressive Jews, I knew it was perfect."

Not only was Bierbaum impressed by the EJC board but also by the organization's collaboration with Congregation Shir Tikvah, which shares the venue with the EJC. He is also excited by the unique programming some EJC partners have offered. He cites events by TischPDX and Co/Lab's recent Judaism and Psychedelics program as examples.

"The partners and organizations who use the space regularly are progressive, out-of-the-box thinkers," he says. "Nobody else will do (the events they do)."

Bierbaum has watched the evolution of the Sandy Boulevard property over the years. He remembers when it was a car dealership and the Hatch co-working space. He admires the building's bright, open space and inclusive mission.

"I want it to be a viable space for Jews and non-Jews, a space to experience cultural, intellectual and spiritual events," Bierbaum says. "The space should be grown organically and deliberately. I want to be thoughtful about what we present and co-present."

In addition to arts and cultural activities, Bierbaum envisions a place for social justice work.

"I think Portland is going through a really rough spot right now – houselessness, inconsistent political leadership at the local level, transportation issues," he says. "I hope the EJC is a positive addition to the community. It might be a place to discuss these issues, and some positive actions can come out of it."



# Intern helps grow Eastside Jewish Commons events

BY BONNIE NEWMAN

It's often said, "Life doesn't come with a manual. It comes with a mother." And when you are Alyssa Knudsen and your mother is Jenn Director-Knudsen, you grow up with a strong role model, impactful life lessons about social engagement, respect for others' differences, unconditional love and support for family, and a love for Judaism and lifelong learning.

Alyssa has embraced these values, making her own mark locally and beyond. The Brandeis University junior currently serves on the board of the campus' pro-Israel lobby. She taught the aleph-bet to younger students as a teacher's assistant for five years at Congregation Neveh Shalom. She volunteered as a docent for an Anne Frank exhibit at Jesuit High School, from which she graduated in 2020.

"I am passionate about being Jewish and working in the Jewish community," says the Portland native, who pointed to her mother's professional and volunteer experience and her parents' interfaith marriage as particularly influential. "I grew up confident of my Jewish identity but receptive to different beliefs, different families."

Last spring, the 21-year-old followed in her mother's community-minded footsteps to the Eastside Jewish Commons. There, she approached then-interim Executive Director Mia Birk about a summer internship.

Birk greeted Alyssa's request with curiosity and enthusiasm. The EJC didn't have an established internship, but the two women brainstormed to create a position to benefit both partners.

"Alyssa's opportunity at the EJC started from relationships," Birk says. "Knowing her family and her mom's involvement in the Jewish community, I was intrigued with the idea of having her as an intern."

But it wasn't just who she knew. It also was what she knew – music. Alyssa sang in choirs for years, and she currently performs with the Brandeis University chamber chorus.

"Alyssa expressed an interest in leading programming for younger adults and in arts programming," Birk says, and the nonprofit was looking to expand programming in both of these areas.

Alyssa partnered with EJC Events Coordinator Eric Stern to develop the venue's fall and winter calendar. She also completed administrative tasks and researched other nonprofits' procedures.

"I've done a lot more than I thought I would," Alyssa says. "The best part is that I gained confidence in just going for something, seeing what I can do."

Family support has been a constant in Al-



EJC summer intern Alyssa Knudsen hangs out with one of the snakes that visited for snake day at BB Day Camp at the Commons.

lyssa's life. She is especially proud that her father, who is not Jewish, sat on the bimah with her during her bat mitzvah. She also is "incredibly grateful" for her relationship with her grandparents, all four of whom live in Portland.

Director-Knudsen says, "My parents and in-laws have been available as a support network for all the good things and all the bad things. Alyssa came to see her grandparents as an extension of her parents. They were always present and nonjudgmental."

Although Alyssa is uncertain what career she will choose after she earns degrees in political science and French, she has a passion for education and has considered teaching high school or beyond. And, like her mother, family also is a priority.

"It is important to me to balance my desire for a meaningful, long-lived career with the desire to have a family of my own," she says.

"I don't have lofty goals to change the world," she explains. "I just want to change my little pocket of the universe."

## EJC fall calendar has music, stories, food, families, more

The Eastside Jewish Commons will start the fall on a high note. Music, dance, games, stories, puppets and food will highlight a family friendly celebration Sept. 18 at the Sandy Boulevard venue. The free program is the first of several events created to draw families to the eastside space.

As EJC's cultural arts ambassador, Eric Stern has been composing the lineup, which includes monthly concerts on Fridays at noon.

"When my own son was a *boychik*, I wanted to expose him to all sorts of live music," Stern says, "but most concerts began at his bedtime. I'm hoping that our Friday concerts featuring music from the countries of our Diaspora will be attended by parents with children, elders or anyone with free time during the day."

"Our focus has been on families and cultural arts, and sometimes those lanes even intersect," he adds. "As a veteran eastsider myself, I know we've got an incredibly diverse community. ... We want to support our Jewish community and shape the next generation."

Stern now is collaborating with Howie Bierbaum, EJC's new executive director, to develop programming that fills the bill.

"I want to fill the space wisely with cultural, educational and entertainment activities," Bierbaum says. "I'm excited by the stuff he's bringing, and I'm going to try to complement it with my stuff."

The two have orchestrated some exciting events for guests of all ages.

"We've got lots of other irons in the fire – cooking classes, Yiddish storytelling," says Stern. "But the thread that binds these events is the same that binds our community – we're eastside Jews. Heck, we're close enough to the river to be the lower eastside. We're warm, we're eclectic, we revel in making food and music, and we lean on those who came before us to create community that surges forward with *simcha*."

## UPCOMING

Sept. 18: Fall Family Kick-Off Event is especially appropriate for families with children ages 2-9. The free event features writer Alicia Jo Rabins, storyteller-musician Kim Schneiderman, puppeteer Ora Fruchter and yogi Annie Rosen. Sofia Vidalis will offer free massages to parents. Details and registration: [ejcpdx.org/events-1/2022/9/18/family-programming-fun-day-kickoff-celebration](http://ejcpdx.org/events-1/2022/9/18/family-programming-fun-day-kickoff-celebration).

See more events: [ejcpdx.org/events-1](http://ejcpdx.org/events-1).



## PJ Library sends 50-millionth book

PJ Library, the flagship program of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation, delivered its 50-millionth free book to Jewish families this summer.

What started out in 2005 as a small project in Western Massachusetts has now grown to affect the lives of millions of Jewish children worldwide. Portland was one of the first communities outside Massachusetts to fund the program for local children.

PJ Library is truly a collaborative undertaking, a gift from the Jewish community. Here in North America, the program is made possible by partnering with nearly 200 communities to reach more than 240,000 children per month. The Jewish Federation of Greater Portland and B'nai B'rith Camp partner with the HGF to bring PJ Library to the Greater Portland and Oregon Jewish communities. Portland currently has a waiting list for new subscriptions.

"We look forward to welcoming new subscribers soon," says Rachel Nelson, who oversees the PJ Library program in the Portland Metro area. "We are excited to share the Jewish stories and songs of PJ Library with children and their families, along with programs and experiences to extend the program 'beyond the books' into so much more."

For more information on the Portland program, visit [jewishportland.org/pjlibrary](http://jewishportland.org/pjlibrary), [facebook.com/PJLibraryPortland](https://facebook.com/PJLibraryPortland) or contact Rachel Nelson, JFGP Director of Educational Initiatives & Associate Director of Community Relations, at [rachel@jewishportland.org](mailto:rachel@jewishportland.org).

"BB Camp is proud to be the Implementing Partner for PJ Library throughout the state of Oregon (excluding the Eugene and Portland areas)," says BB Camp CEO Michelle Koplan. "It is extraordinary to be such an integral part of a program that has just delivered its 50 millionth book. Providing Jewish values and literacy in thousands of homes worldwide, especially here in Oregon, will impact our Jewish children for generations to come. We are so delighted to be engaged in such meaningful work."

For more information on PJ Library in Oregon beyond Portland, contact Sammie  
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Hagen, BB Camp's Youth & Day Camp Services Director, at [shagen@bbcamp.org](mailto:shagen@bbcamp.org) or visit [facebook.com/PJLibraryOregon](https://facebook.com/PJLibraryOregon).

In 2007 the [Oregon Jewish Community Foundation](https://oregonjewishcommunityfoundation.org) partnered with HGF to bring PJ Library to the Portland area. This was made possible because of early support from Lila Goodman z"l, Renee Holzman, Shirley Lenske z"l, Liz Menashe, Lois Schnitzer and Eve Stern. The [Jewish Federation of Greater Portland](https://jewishfederationofgreaterportland.org) assumed leadership of the Portland area program in 2011.

Since 2011 [B'nai B'rith Camp](https://bnai-brithcamp.org) and OJCF have been funding partners in providing books to children and families in Oregon beyond Portland. BB Camp provides enriching programming in Bend, Salem-Corvallis, and Southern Oregon while the [Jewish Federation of Lane County](https://jewishfederationoflane-county.org) provides such programming in the Eugene area.

Books are translated into seven languages and then delivered to more than 680,000 kids each month across more than 35 countries. In 2009, the HGF launched Sifriyat Pijama in Israel through its sister organization Keren Grinspoon Israel. Since that time, the HGF has partnered with philanthropists around the world to open programs in Latin America, Europe, Russia and the Pacific Rim.

PJ Library is funded by the HGF and forward-thinking donors, including generous philanthropists and foundations, Jewish communal organizations and many individual donors who have found joy through PJ Library.

"We couldn't have reached this amazing milestone without the help of our philanthropic partners," says Winnie Sandler Grinspoon, president of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation. "It is through a community effort that we are sharing millions upon millions of stories with the next Jewish generation, and we look forward to doing even more together in the years to come."

PJ Library books have become everyday favorites of kids from birth through age 12, whether the stories serve as first introductions to Jewish values and culture or inspire families to create new Jewish traditions at home. To find out more, visit [pjlibrary.org](http://pjlibrary.org).

## GALA (from page 1)

"The gala gives us the ability to look back and remind ourselves of all we have accomplished in the past 100 years ... and to dream of the future with the Federation in incredible shape for the next 100 years," says Tonkin. "That leaves us with the now – celebrating today. We will be celebrating all the people in the room with gratitude and optimism. It's important to say 'L'Chaim!'"

Tonkin adds that our forebears, the people in the room and those who will follow provide not just monetary support. "They give their time, effort and love to make this community strong."

JFGP Chief Development Officer Wendy Kahn, who has worked with Tonkin to plan what they both call a party, is excited to "Celebrate successes, come out of the sadness and go forward."

"What is the value of a party?" says Kahn. "It is a symbol of the community, the people, of holding it up and honoring it in one night. It is about all of us."

Tonkin says he gained a tremendous sense of gratitude during the many hours he and Kahn spent exploring archives of photos, articles and papers, and interviewing people who have built this community. He gained an appreciation for the Federation's ability to be flexible, react and adapt. They will share the people, history, challenges and strength they discovered in a short video during dinner. "A picture is worth 1,000 words," says Tonkin.

JFGP Board Chair Mindy Zeitzer says she appreciates "Ed and Wendy for putting in so much time and energy to create and plan an amazing community celebration. ... It will be an incredibly fun and elegant celebration and gathering after far too long of a hiatus! I'm looking forward to seeing everyone's faces!"

"I cannot wait for our community to come together at the Gala," says JFGP President and CEO Marc N. Blattner. "Not only are we celebrating the Jewish Federation's 100th anniversary, we also are celebrating all the incredible accomplishments of our Jewish community. It will be a night not to be missed."

Zeitzer adds, "I invite and hope everyone in our community comes to celebrate our 100-plus years of a vibrant and engaged Jewish community and raise our glasses to 100-plus MORE. This is joyous opportunity to help sustain and support our vibrancy!"



# A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

REGISTER TODAY!



L'CHAIM TO LIFE

## A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR VERY GRACIOUS & GENEROUS SPONSORS:

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Left, Bella holds a photo of Betje in front of her former home on what would have been Betje's 91st birthday last month.



Right, The Leavitt family – Naomi, Abigail, Bella and Scot – visit a castle near the city where Naomi was born in the Netherlands.

## A bat mitzvah “twin”

When Bella Leavitt becomes a bat mitzvah Nov. 4-5 at Congregation Neveh Shalom, she will share her day with the memory of Betje, a Dutch girl who died in the Holocaust a few days before she would have turned 12.

Bella, the daughter of Naomi and Scot Leavitt, is participating in the Twinning Program with Yad Vashem. The Twinning Program pairs the bat or bar mitzvah with a child who did not have a chance to mark this important rite of passage. Choosing to participate in the program offers the opportunity to remember and learn about the life of a child who was murdered during the Holocaust.

“I don’t think enough people know about this, and it’s so very cool and special,” says Naomi. “I really want to encourage folks to do it. It brings the bar or bat mitzvah to an even more meaningful level.”

Betje was from Amsterdam.

“We are dual citizens, so a Dutch girl was a perfect match for us,” says Naomi.

Naomi was born in the Netherlands and moved here when she was in kindergarten. The family normally visits the Netherlands every other summer, but Covid caused a three-year interval. This summer, Naomi, Scot, Bella and Abigail, 10, returned to visit family.

Naomi and Bella also had an opportunity to meet with Betje’s relatives who survived the war. Reini was Betje’s first cousin; she is 83 and lives in Haarlem. They hung out with her and her daughter and loved it.

“Meeting with Betje’s family was very special,” says Bella. “This helped give me more of a background and a way to connect my bat mitzvah with her even more. Sharing my bat mitzvah with Betje means that she won’t be forgotten.”

Reini will join Bella/Betje’s twinned bat mitzvah via Zoom.

“This has been a beautiful experience for our entire family,” Naomi adds. “It has brought my daughter’s bat mitzvah preparation to a level of greater meaning and purpose. We are so thrilled to be a part of the Yad Vashem twinning program.”

To learn more about Yad Vashem’s Bar/Bat Mitzvah Twinning Program, visit [yadvashem.org/remembrance/bar-bat-mitzvah-twinning-program.html](http://yadvashem.org/remembrance/bar-bat-mitzvah-twinning-program.html).

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## Jewish Museum presents “A Century of BB Camp”

A Century of BB Camp will be on display in the Menashe Gallery of the Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education Sept. 21-Jan. 26, 2023.

B’nai B’rith Camp opened in 1921 with campers sleeping on old army cots in tents near Wallula, Wash. Now located on the shores of Devil’s Lake, near Lincoln City, Oregon, and firmly anchored in its second century, BB Camp continues to forge new opportunities to meet the needs of all campers.

“Pouring through the photos as we helped to prepare for the exhibit has reminded me that so much of our BB Camp *ruach* (spirit) and magic is rooted in the generations that have come before us,” says BB Camp CEO Michelle Koplan. “We are grateful to OJM-CHE for their tireless work to capture BB Camp’s history for those of us who lived it and for the future leaders of our community.”

After a century of growth, more than 1,000 campers a summer enjoy a camp experience. BB Camp hosts summer camp sessions, day camps and family camp, as well as ReJewvenation women’s retreat, Last Day of Camp Young Adult Weekend and Men’s Camp – sessions exclusively for adults. BB Camp also reaches out to the local community through efforts such as providing direct support for families in emergency situations, most recently those impacted by the Echo Mountain Complex Fire in 2020.

“What a joy it has been to curate this exhibition from the museum’s archives of photographs and oral histories from so many, many happy BB campers,” says Anne LeVant Pahl, OJMCHE curator of collections. “The images and memories are a testimony to the legacy of Oregon’s beloved B’nai B’rith Camp. All of us at OJMCHE are delighted to share the history and energy of the BB Camp experience with our community.”

OJMCHE is located at 724 NW Davis St., Portland. The museum is open 11 am-4 pm, Wednesday through Sunday. For more information, visit [ojmche.org/events/a-century-of-bb-camp/](http://ojmche.org/events/a-century-of-bb-camp/)



Campers and canoes at BB Camp in 1965. OJM04666

## Youth foundation applications due Sept. 23

The Oregon Jewish Community Youth Foundation has extended the application deadline for participation in this nationally celebrated program.

Applications to participate in the youth foundation will be accepted until 11:59 pm Friday, Sept. 23. High school-aged, Jewish-identifying youth entering grades 10-12 are encouraged to apply; 9th graders will be accepted as space permits.

OJCYF is a program of the Oregon Jewish Community Foundation. Now in its 20th year, the program cultivates the next generation of community leaders and engaged citizens.

This year’s program will offer both an in-person cohort as well as a virtual or hybrid option for participants living outside the metro area. Apply at [ojcf.org/programs/ojcyf](http://ojcf.org/programs/ojcyf).



# Team Oregon competes at JCC Maccabi Games

BY SAUL KORIN

Team Oregon's five athletes joined 1,600 Jewish teens in San Diego July 31-Aug. 4 for the return of the JCC Maccabi Games. Now in its 40th year, the Games drew participants from 57 delegations and 67 JCCs across North America, as well as delegations from Bulgaria, Mexico and Israel.

These athletes gathered in San Diego for a week of competition at what has been called the Olympics for North American Jewish teens. With the 2020 and 2021 Games lost to the Covid-19 pandemic, the return to action was all the sweeter. Teams arrived ready to make new friends, trade pins, compete in basketball and tennis, and have a meaningful Jewish experience.

Fred Braden accompanied Team Oregon as their coach.

Here's a snapshot of the week:

## Sunday

Our athletes' JCC Maccabi Games experience started with service projects. Sara Ellis (tennis) made care packages for students, and the Team Oregon 3-on-3 basketball team (Joshua Braden, Itai Guy, Omer Shapira and Noam Yaffe) met with Jewish soldiers and American armed forces members and then wrote thank you letters to servicemen and women for their service. Following service projects, Sara went to her host family's house while our basketball players moved into the dorms at the University of San Diego with 500 other athletes.

## Monday

On Monday morning, our athletes took buses to San Diego Jewish Academy to compete in their respective sports. Team Oregon boys lost to Miami 21 to 12 in their first basketball game but rebounded to beat Team Orange County by five in their second game. Sara played in two tough matches against competitors from Houston and San Diego.

On Monday night, we had the opening ceremonies at the Del Mar racetrack. Team Oregon marched in to the song *Tudu Bom* honoring three of our ath-



Team Oregon Coach Fred Braden leads athletes Omer Shapira, Itai Guy, Noam Yaffe, Sara Ellis and Joshua Braden, followed by Saul Korin, in the opening ceremonies of the JCC Maccabi Games.

letes with Israeli parents. It was a spectacular evening culminating with a presentation from a retired WWE (World Wrestling Entertainment) wrestler who lives in San Diego. William Scott Goldberg, better known mononymously as Goldberg, reminded the athletes they have a purpose and should be proud to be Jewish.

## Tuesday

We started bright and early again. Our boys' basketball team went two and two for the day, and Sara, our tennis player, had a couple of great matches.

Tuesday included a trip to SeaWorld. The Maccabi athletes took SeaWorld by storm. The night ended with an impressive fireworks display.

## Wednesday

With the preliminaries out of the way, Team Oregon athletes had their chance in the knockout tournament. Our basketball team fought valiantly against the combined team from Louisville, Milwaukee and Tucson but were knocked out in a close battle. Sara made her mark in tennis. Rebounding from the preliminaries, she won her first match 8 to 3 and made it to the quarterfinals by winning her second match in an 8-8 tiebreaker. There were secondary sports available for our athletes, and Joshua Braden had a great run at a spike ball tournament.

Wednesday was also most family night. Sara spent more time with her host family, and

our dorm residents went to the Padres game for the night, catching Juan Soto's first game as a Padre as well as a Padres win.

## Thursday

While Oregon athletes didn't win any sports medals, basketball player Joshua Braden and tennis player Sara Ellis were each awarded a *middot* medal. The medal is presented to athletes who demonstrate the qualities of "good-heartedness, respectfulness, efforts to repair the world (*tikkun olam*), Jewish peoplehood, joy and pride."

Closing party

Our week finished up with a huge celebration at the Lawrence Family JCC in La Jolla. Our athletes and 1,600 of their new friends and fellow competitors were treated to a BBQ dinner with personalized water bottles, snow cones, churros, a dance party with musical performances and one of the most beautiful sunsets San Diego has to offer.

## Access

This was the first year that the JCC Maccabi Games included the Access Games. Seven differently abled athletes from all over the world competed in what has been the most inclusive JCC Maccabi Games yet. Their closing ceremony featured a performance by the dancing competitors from the games as well as a presentation by Doron Krakow, the CEO of JCCA. Next year in Fort

Lauderdale, the program will be even bigger and better for our Access athletes. They had basketball, bowling, soccer and swimming competitions, and medals were awarded to each of the athletes.

## Pins

If you have never been to the JCC Maccabi Games, you likely don't know the importance of pins. Each delegation has a pin, and pins are traded and collected. Each Oregon athlete was given 40 pins to trade (and more if they wanted). It's an opportunity to connect and meet other participants. Our pins and pins from around the world are on display at the MJCC.

We are grateful to the Jerry & Helen Stern Grandchildren's Fund of the Oregon Jewish Community Foundation, Mia Birk and Glen Coblenz, and the Goodman Family for helping us keep this program affordable for those who want to attend.

Since 1982, the JCCA movement has engaged more than 3,000 Jewish teens and an additional 11,000+ family members, spectators and volunteers through the Olympic-style magic of JCC Maccabi, one of the greatest Jewish peoplehood projects of our time. For the majority of JCC Maccabi athletes, 63% of whom report being otherwise unaffiliated with any other Jewish youth organization, JCC Maccabi remains their primary connection to the Jewish community, global Jewish life and Israel – creating a remarkable and unmatched opportunity to engage them, support their efforts to build their Jewish identity, and have a significant and lasting impact on their lives.

## Next Year

Next year, for the first time, the JCC Maccabi program will offer the opportunity for athletes to compete in Israel, as well as providing a domestic option in Ft. Lauderdale. Recruitment is already under way.

If you or someone you know is interested in joining our delegation, please contact Saul Korin at [skorin@oregonjcc.org](mailto:skorin@oregonjcc.org) or 503-452-3427.

# ISRAEL SOFTBALL (continued from page 1)

against Italy,” says Jojo. “I hope I’ve made my grandparents, and my great-grandparents, proud.”

The underdog Israeli team was awarded the silver medal at the Aug. 10-13 tournament in Italy after facing teams from Croatia, Czech Republic, Great Britain, Italy and Spain.

As an event of the World Baseball Softball Confederation Europe, this tournament is the European championship for softball players 13 and under.

It was Israel’s first time being represented at the 12U level at this prominent tournament. The team played together for the first time the week of the tournament. Team Israel includes players of Israeli citizenship and U.S.-born players with Jewish or Israeli heritage. (The Jewish Review chronicled Jojo’s selection to the team at [jewishportland.org/jewishreview/jr-stories/portlanders--israeli-soccersoftball](http://jewishportland.org/jewishreview/jr-stories/portlanders--israeli-soccersoftball).)

“The 12U Israel National Softball Team had the experience of a lifetime, creating unforgettable memories and making new friends with each other and with athletes from across Europe,” says team manager Yarone Zober. “In addition to winning the silver medal, the team accomplished amazing wins and impressive individual performances. We are all very proud of them for representing Israel so well in international competition for the



Portland-area pitcher Josephine “Jojo” Zober Appling (Number 37 in center of back row) helped The 12U Israel National Softball Team win a silver medal at the European championships.

Jojo had noticed that the Israel players were using old bags that didn’t hold all their gear properly, so when she saw a baseball vendor at the tournament, she asked her Grandpa if he could buy the girls each a brand new softball bag, customized with their initials and in Team Israel colors.

“Something Tom Hope was exceptionally happy to do,” says Elle. “The players were very excited and said they can’t purchase bags like that in Israel, and they immediately filled them with their gear.”

The bags were customized with each player’s initials and in Team Israel colors.

“I love the fact that sisterhood was really something the players embraced,” says Elle.

very first time at this level.”

Jojo tested positive for Covid on the morning of the championship, and her team had to play without her, losing to Italy 17-2.

“However, she drew a lot of positive attention, even having the coach of Team Italy filming her pitching during the Czech Republic game,” says Jojo’s mom, Elle Zober, who accompanied her daughter to the tournament.

The theme for the team and the experience was Softball and Sisterhood.

“Jojo really bonded with the Israeli players – they were fast friends,” says Elle.

## Numbers paint picture of Hand in Hand in Israel

Hand in Hand, a network of integrated schools in Israel cofounded by Portlander Lee Gordon, this year received \$5,800 from the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland through generous contributions from several donors.

Hand in Hand: Center for Jewish-Arab Education in Israel recently shared some numbers from the past year to paint a picture of their work:

- We brought bilingual, shared education to 2,066 Jewish and Arab students across seven elementary schools, six preschools and one high school.

- We nurtured a shared society among 5,000+ community members and 700+ alumni through 70+ community-building activities nationwide.

- We provided multicultural training impacting 380+ Jewish and Arab children through 15 mixed preschools outside the Hand in Hand network.

- We provided hundreds of

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hours of intensive dialogue, training and learning to a cadre of 12 Jewish and Arab university students as part of our first ever Student University Community.

“I love connecting people in our local Portland Jewish community and our Jewish Federation with Hand in Hand as well as numerous Jewish Federations around the country,” says Gordon, who serves as executive director for American Friends of Hand in Hand. “The importance of building partnership between Jewish and Arab citizens of Israel cannot be overstated, and having Hand in Hand supporters and partners in Portland is tremendously encouraging for us and for the Hand in Hand community in Israel.”

Hand in Hand’s integrated multicultural schools equip a new generation to live together in cooperation and respect. In these schools, Hebrew and Ar-

***“I love connecting people in our local Portland Jewish community and our Jewish Federation with Hand in Hand...” ~ Lee Gordon***



Students connect at Gesher al haWadi (Bridge over the Wadi). Hand in Hand founded the school in 2004, at the time its third joint Arab-Jewish primary school in Israel.

abic languages have equal status, as do both cultures and national narratives. Students also learn English. Hand in Hand also offers teacher training and

resources to two communities where Jewish preschools are serving Arab students.

For more information, visit [handinhandk12.org/](http://handinhandk12.org/).





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

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

The opportunity for participating in a group b'nai mitzvah is available. See the 2023 Trip website for the draft itinerary and registration.

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

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

## Jewish Federation hires Daniel Berger as Growth Marketing Director

Berger has more than 25 years of experience in graphic design, copywriting, marketing/communications and social media management.



“My position as Director of Growth Marketing at the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland checked all the boxes I was looking for, including a dedicated and personable team coupled with the mission and values embedded within the organization,” says Berger. “I’m looking forward to using my experience to enhance, grow and optimize the Federation’s presence and awareness within the community in whatever way is needed.”

Berger says he was honored to have the privilege to design and layout the autobiography of Devon Harris, one of the original members of the 1988 Jamaican Bobsled team featured in the Disney film "Cool Runnings."

## Neveh Shalom promotes Michelle Caplan to post of Assistant Executive Director



Caplan recently earned a Master of Jewish Professional Studies from Spertus Institute in Chicago.

She originally worked at CNS from 2004 to 2010 and returned in 2019. Most recently, she served as Director of Congregational Advancement. She and her family have been members of Neveh Shalom since 1999.

## Shaarie Torah welcomes female clergy to the bimah for first time in 120-year history



“It is an incredible honor to join Rabbi Oren in leading the CST community during the upcoming holidays,” says Rav Na’ama. “I am excited to reconnect with (retired) Cantor Aaron Vitels, who I’ve had the opportunity to learn with at Th niggunim together. I look forward to the High Holiday season.”

Rav Na'ama will arrive in Portland prior to Shabbat Nitzavim and will be involved with services and learning opportunities throughout the two weeks she is with the community.

Rav Na'ama has served as an educator and mentor for the Dorot Foundation in Jerusalem, was the director of Ramah Israel Seminar and the Israel Director of Community Engagement for the Hadar Institute. She teaches at the Schechter Institute's Ashira Tehillot program, training cantors, and currently serves as a Gabbai for Hakhel, a lay-led community in Jerusalem. Na'ama received her ordination from Rabbi Daniel Landes in Jerusalem, where she lives with her husband, Ari, and their four children.

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# Alicia Jo Rabins revisits Torah through a mother's eyes

Alicia Jo Rabins is a writer, musician, composer, performer and Torah teacher in Portland. When she became a mother, she realized her reading of Torah had shifted.

"When I had my first baby ... I thought 'I'm really seeing the world completely differently now, and I'm reading Torah differently, as well,'" writes Rabins. "Suddenly I identified not only with the sons and daughters in the stories, but with the parents – including, metaphorically, the tradition of relating to God as a parental figure. ... Our tradition emphasizes the importance of interpreting and re-interpreting texts, constantly uncovering new meanings in them, and I was so curious about what I might find when reading the Torah through this very particular lens."

Now those insights are available in Rabins' latest book, *Even God Had Bad Parenting Days*, released Sept. 6 by Behrman House in hardcover and as an e-reader.

This heartfelt, funny and poignant book captures the complicated, joyous and sometimes difficult journey through early parenthood. It is a memoir in essays; each essay packs a punch with insights both parents and those considering parenthood can incorporate into daily life.

Rabins says the book considers how Jewish texts and traditions might support parents.

Her previous two books were well received. *Fruit Geode* (2018) was a finalist for the Jewish Book Award in Poetry. *Divinity School* (2015) was selected by C.D. Wright for the APR/Honickman First Book Prize and was a finalist for the Oregon Book Award.

She is also the creator and performer of "A Kaddish for Bernie Madoff," an award-winning independent feature film, and "Girls in Trouble," a song series and curriculum about the complicated lives of Biblical women.



Alyla Zonnenschein



Cyrise Beaty-Schachter

## Ashland Havurah inducts para-rabbinic leaders

Ashland's Havurah Synagogue will induct two para-rabbinic leaders on Friday, Sept. 9 at 7 pm. Rabbi David Zaslow, spiritual leader of the Havurah Synagogue will lead an Erev Shabbat Service and blessing ceremony dedicated as a sacred induction ceremony for Alyla Zonnenschein and Cyrise Beaty-Schachter as para-rabbinic leaders of the Havurah Synagogue community.

Over the past two years Maggidah Alyla has risen to the level of being one of our core spiritual leaders along with Reb David and Maggidah Cyrise. Together these two incredible women are the heartbeat of the Havurah's services. Together they will be inducted, honored and blessed in their new level of spiritual leadership.

Along with volunteers who regularly add poetry, prayers and music to Havurah Shir Hadash services, the Havurah is blessed to have a leadership team that regularly contribute their gifts to the community: Rabbi Sue Morningstar, Rachael Resch, Hazan Randall Miller, Rabbi Emanuel Ben-David, Allen Kenner, Maggidah Devorah Zaslow and Linda Zahavi.

All are welcome to join in person or via Zoom. Contact [alya@ashlandhavurah.org](mailto:alya@ashlandhavurah.org) for the Zoom link or register to attend in person at [signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4DACA2EA2FBC70-erev1](https://signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4DACA2EA2FBC70-erev1).

## Sept. 11 Kesser BBQ to welcome Skolniks

Congregation Kesser Israel welcomed Rabbi Sholom Skolnik as its new leader effective Sept. 1.

In celebration of this milestone, Kesser Israel will host a barbecue picnic on Sunday, Sept. 11, 4-6 pm, at Cook Park in Tigard. As "The Orthodox Synagogue for All Jews," Kesser Israel invites the entire community to join us for food, drinks, games, a Kona Ice truck and more.

Rabbi Skolnik moved here from the Phoenix Kollel in 2017. While in Portland, he has served on the teaching staff at Maayan Torah Day School, as the Director of Adult Education at the Portland Kollel and as the Rabbi of Congregation Ahavath Achim. Rabbi Skolnik recently completed his master's degree in teacher education through Brandeis University.

He is a skilled teacher of Torah knowledge. Rabbi Skolnik is also an avid cyclist, hiker, mountain climber and triathlete, making him a perfect fit for the Portland scene.

The new Rebbetzin, Chaviva Skolnik, has taught at Maayan Torah and on the Board of Directors at Kesser Israel. She is completing her master's degree in social work through Yeshiva University.

The Skolniks step in after the departure of Rabbi Ken and Aviel Brodtkin, who served Kesser Israel for 17 years.

"Kesser was very blessed to have the Brodtkins as our leaders for many years," says Kesser Israel President Charles Elder. "We are likewise so fortunate to have now found a great couple to step in as the new Rabbi and Rebbetzin of our community. Rabbi Skolnik has the skills, determination and vision to lead our shul forward to even greater levels of achievement."

The barbecue is free, but please register at: [kesserisrael.org/event/kesser-israel-bbq--welcome-to-rabbi-and-mrs.-skolnik.html](https://kesserisrael.org/event/kesser-israel-bbq--welcome-to-rabbi-and-mrs.-skolnik.html).

## IAJGS Outstanding Publication Editor is JGSO's Janice Sellers

The San Francisco Bay Area Jewish Genealogical Society won the Outstanding Publication Award at the 42nd Annual IAJGS (International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies) International Conference on Jewish Genealogy held virtually Aug. 21-25.



Edited by Janice M. Sellers, of Gresham, Ore., formerly of Oakland, Calif., this journal features articles based on original research and timely commentaries written by members as well as a curated calendar of upcoming genealogy events. Janice is also president of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Oregon, based in Portland, and is a professional genealogist ([ancestraldiscoveries.com](http://ancestraldiscoveries.com)).

The SFBAGS was recognized for its outstanding efforts to inspire active participation among its members and excitement about Jewish genealogy in the wider community. The award recognizes the quarterly publication, *ZichronNote*.

The IAJGS is an umbrella organization of more than 90 Jewish genealogical organizations worldwide. The IAJGS vision is of a worldwide network of Jewish genealogical research organizations and partners working together as one coherent, effective and respected community, enabling people to succeed in researching Jewish ancestry and heritage. Find the IAJGS at [iajgs.org](http://iajgs.org) or [facebook.com/iajgsjewishgenealogy](https://facebook.com/iajgsjewishgenealogy).

Kalkidan (Mimi) Ezra participated in this 2015 Momentum trip led by Eve Levy. Now Ezra is recruiting Portland Jewish moms to participate in another Momentum journey the week after Thanksgiving.



## Moms invited for Momentum Israel Journey

Jewish moms are invited to join an eight-day trip to Israel with Momentum Nov. 28-Dec. 5.

The Israel trip is part of a year-long journey with Momentum. Following the trip, the journey continues with monthly events. Momentum seeks to inspire women to transform themselves and to transform their families, their communities and the world. The journey empowers women to connect to Jewish values, engage with Israel, take action and foster unity, without uniformity.

A Portland resident for 15 years, Kalkidan (Mimi) Ezra is spearheading the effort to bring Momentum trips back for Portlanders.

Ezra went on a Momentum trip led by Eve Levy in 2015.

"It was a life-changing trip," says Ezra. "Since then, I have been involved with many events here in Portland. At some point, Eve and I hosted a pre-Purim event by providing Ethiopian Food and music. It was a fun event."

Levy led six women's Momentum trips to Israel when she lived in Portland from 2014 to 2021. But with Levy's departure and the pandemic, Portland women haven't had the opportunity to visit Israel with Momentum.

A few months ago, Ezra attended a Momentum leadership conference in Miami.

"It was so inspiring and motivating," says Ezra. "I mentioned that Portland needs a women's leader to bring back the Momentum Trips ... they suggested I should do it. I agreed and went to work recruiting women for this trip."

Portland Kollel is sponsoring participation for eight local women. The trip is free except for airfare and tips. There is a small book fee for the post-trip programming.

"I am passionate to bring women together to experience this trip," says Ezra, a member of Congregation Kesser Israel.

Contact Ezra at [kalkidan.ezra@yahoo.com](mailto:kalkidan.ezra@yahoo.com) or 503-816-4556 for details or visit [momentumunlimited.org/journey/](http://momentumunlimited.org/journey/).

## Bees & Brews to benefit JFCS's disability support

Jewish Family & Child Service invites you to its first (in a very long time) friend and fundraising event, which benefits its Disability Support Services program. Bees & Brews occurs at Leikam Brewery, from 7 to 9 pm, on Wednesday, Sept. 21.

Tickets – only \$12 apiece – and more details are at [jfcs-portland.org/beesandbrews/](http://jfcs-portland.org/beesandbrews/).

All event proceeds benefit DSS, which provides the following for people with disabilities and for parents of adult children with disabilities: mental and emotional health services; online and in-person socialization opportunities; detailed information about securing Social Security Income and Social Security Disability Insurance, guardianship and related topics; and referrals.

### Bees & Brews' festivities include:

- Honey tasting provided by [The Barreled Bee](#), just in time for Rosh Hashanah
- Live music by [Eric Stern](#)
- Silent art auction of works by local Jewish artists (and an art raffle)
- An array of kosher beers and cocktails (for purchase; a percentage of the evening's proceeds supports DSS)
- Sweet and savory nosh (free).

"DSS is like an extended family," said one parent of an adult with disabilities. Come support this family on Sept. 21.

JFCS extends a sincere thank you to its event sponsors: Gloria Bacharach Family Fund of the OJCF; Rabbi Daniel and Carol Isaak; Esther and Albert Menashe; and Corinne and Larry Spiegel.

To learn more about JFCS' Disability Support Services program, visit [jfcs-portland.org/services/disability-support-services/](http://jfcs-portland.org/services/disability-support-services/).

## Humanistic Judaism Salon and Happy Hour is Sept. 10

Congregation Kol Shalom presents a Humanistic Judaism Salon and Happy Hour at 5 pm, Sept. 10, at the Eastside Jewish Commons, 2420 NE Sandy Blvd.

Join Kol Shalom for a vibrant evening of music, literature and an exploration of Humanistic Judaism/Judaism beyond God.

Enjoy Randy Splitter reading from his new book *The Third Man*, music by Eric Stern and a lively discussion with the Kol Shalom community at this intellectually stimulating, fun get-together.

Vaccination is required; masks must be worn (except when eating/drinking and for the evening's speakers.)

Refreshments provided by Kol Shalom. RSVPs not required but appreciated to [klamort@comcast.net](mailto:klamort@comcast.net) or 503-453-4731.



## Young adults complete PDX Pathways

The sixth cohort of PDX Pathways, a leadership program for Jewish young professionals ages 21 through 35(ish), met with community leaders Aug. 30 for their final program. PDX Pathways is a project of the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland. It provides young adults with networking opportunities, exposure to meaningful Jewish experiences, and mentoring from prominent community and business leaders. This year 16 young adults completed the program.



# New core exhibit to expand reach of OJMCHE

BY DEBRA SHEIN

The Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education has acquired the Charles Hartman Gallery next door to the existing museum and is transforming the space into a new core exhibition, *Human Rights After the Holocaust*.

"This will allow OJMCHE to dramatically enhance its power to accomplish its core mission," says OJMCHE Executive Director Judy Margles. That mission includes exploring the lessons of the Holocaust and fostering intercultural conversations. The new exhibition will "include a focus on today's experience of hate, racism, discrimination and persecution."

Slated to open in June 2023, the exhibition is being developed by Scott Miller (right), former chief curator at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. Miller has also been a part of the curatorial team at the Museum of Jewish Heritage in New York for its newly opened exhibition, *What Hate Can Do*.



In a recent conversation, Miller defined human rights as "the inherent and inalienable rights of *all* human beings to freedom, dignity and justice – and protection from oppression, violence and terrorism, slavery, racism and discrimination, and genocide."

He emphasized that this is a broad topic, and it's challenging to select from all of the possible issues that might be addressed. However, in designing the new core exhibit, he has narrowed the subject matter to three of the most salient areas of concern in the post-World War II era: genocide, refugee crisis/displacement and domestic civil rights issues. The focus will be local as well as global in scope.

*Human Rights After the Holocaust* will bring historical events to life with archival

photos and film footage. In recent decades, these media remarkably have recorded the details of genocides and other human rights abuses in real time. They will be accompanied by a collection of artifacts, 3D objects including children's drawings, and diaries or everyday objects such as domestic items and toys. Miller says such objects "humanize experience" and make the abstract tangible. The trend in museum exhibits on human rights has been to incorporate personal stories and not focus solely on the big picture. Yet he notes that many museums fill their spaces predominantly with photos and film and neglect the opportunity to make an even greater impact by featuring objects that help visitors better imagine the lives of those whose stories are being documented.

Miller is conducting an international search to find representative items to include in the exhibition and hopes Portlanders will contribute, too (see sidebar).

But it's important that the exhibition will not keep its eyes strictly on the past. Its concluding portion will leave space for highlighting the constantly and rapidly evolving news on the latest human rights abuses taking place in the world. It will also look at what can be done at the local and national level to help. Interactive stations will encourage visitors, especially students visiting on group tours, to explore and learn more.

Spending 30 years at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum and immersing himself in that material has "made me sensitive to the past and also to the future," Miller says. "Genocide is still occurring, and civil rights abuses have never stopped. History is ongoing, not confined to the past."

"The title of the exhibition, *Human Rights After the Holocaust*, was chosen deliberately," he adds. "Why are we still talking about this event 75 years later? Today's happenings are connected. The term 'genocide' was coined as the result of the Holocaust; it did not exist before."

## Help OJMCHE create exhibit

Have you experienced displacement, genocide or discrimination, or are you the descendant of someone who has? Do you have any personal objects that help tell the story of that event, and would you be willing to loan or donate them to the *Human Rights After the Holocaust* exhibition? If so, email a brief description of what you might have available to OJMCHE's Curator of Collections: [curator@ojmche.org](mailto:curator@ojmche.org).

New hopes also were born in the immediate post-Holocaust era. Generous and inclusive refugee policies followed in its wake, civil rights initiatives sprang from the WWII desegregation of the Army, the UN was inspired to create the Declaration of Human Rights and the Nuremberg trials provided a model for holding perpetrators accountable in later acts of genocide.

"Even when current situations are not of the same scope or horror, there are lessons to be learned from the Holocaust," Miller says. "Racism and extreme ethnonationalism produce such hatred that it can bring this world to lining up 8,000 Muslim men and boys in the killing fields of Srebrenica, Bosnia, and shooting them. What happened there is not the same as what happened in the Holocaust, but there's a lesson to be learned about what hate can do, and things are close enough that you want to say, 'We've got to stop this now.'"

*Human Rights After the Holocaust* promises to be a profound and moving exhibition, one with widespread appeal that also will be able to play a significant role in helping to support the bill passed in 2019 by the State of Oregon mandating Holocaust and genocide education while helping OJMCHE to extend its reach.

"There's nobody who's not affected by human rights abuses," Miller concludes. "History is now."

## Summer camp was busy at the J; now sign up for vacation camp

Summer 2022 was as busy as it was fun at Mittleman Jewish Community Center Day Camp.

The nine weeks of summer together gave campers the opportunity to return back to group activities. Favorites included Jewish enrichment, playing in the Sportsplex, cooking and swimming four days a week. On average, the MJCC served 166 campers a week, offering programming for campers ranging from pre-k through 10th grade.

The older campers loved going on field trips throughout the summer such as to the Portland Art Museum and OMSI. They also hosted their own camp activities such as planning an all-camp carnival and creating a play.

MJCC's younger campers loved swimming in the warm pool, making crafts and playing in the gymnastics area. All campers ap-

preciated engaging in Jewish enrichment programs every week, especially coming together on Shabbat to sing songs, listen to stories and eat lots of challah.

MJCC staff appreciated seeing returning campers this summer and were excited to welcome new families, as well. MJCC continues to provide a home away from home for their wonderful camp family.

During the school year, the camp fun continues with Vacation Day Camps, which are in session during school holidays such as Sukkot, Thanksgiving week and winter and spring breaks. Space is extremely limited, so early registration is encouraged. Cost is \$70/day for nonmembers and \$56/day for members. For all camp dates and registration, visit [oregonjcc.org/camps-childcare/vacation-camps](https://oregonjcc.org/camps-childcare/vacation-camps).

# Chaplain's Corner

## Face What We Feel

BY RABBI BARRY COHEN

Part of being a chaplain is spending time with people who are experiencing pain. Each person's story is unique, yet they all share a range of emotions, from the subtle to the intense.

Many people try to contextualize or relativize what they are feeling. They try to downplay their circumstances. Here are some typical words people have shared with me:

*"I know others are suffering more than I am."*

*"Other people have it worse."*

*"Thank goodness one of my parents is still alive."*

*"I really shouldn't complain too much because of what other people are going through."*

*"I have it easy compared with (insert group here, whether geographically close to home or half-way around the globe)."*

*"At least I have my health."*

*"I've got a roof over my head."*

People share these words for a variety of reasons. They may not know how to express what they are feeling. They may be afraid to express what they feel. They may believe they do not have permission to express what they feel. They may feel guilty for what is positive or enjoyable in their lives.

Our society is not good at providing models or guidance con-

cerning how to feel and express emotions. Children rarely learn this skill from their parents or their teachers. I have spent decades learning how to articulate what I feel and how to express my own emotions.

A healthier approach is to strive to face our emotions directly. We can do this by having sincere conversations with someone we trust. Or we can write out our emotions. We can record what we feel. We can express what we feel through art. (We need not be "an artist" to create art.)

We need to resist the urge to compare what we are feeling with what others are feeling or experiencing. What we feel is what we feel. Full stop.

Contextualizing or relativizing our emotions is counterproductive. After all, we can almost always find others in worse circumstances than we are, but comparing our reality with theirs does not help us process our emotions and heal.

Part of this healing process requires us to take an additional step: expressing gratitude. Developing a gratitude practice is a healthy skill. We can devote the same time of day to articulate one thing we are grateful for: after lunch, during an afternoon break or before we go to bed. We can write or record just one person or experience



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

we are grateful for that day. Periodically, we can return to our journal or our recordings and reflect on all that is good in our lives.

This practice is not meant to contextualize or relativize what we feel. Rather, we can do this as a two-pronged effort. First, we can devote time and energy to expressing "I feel this." Then we can develop the daily practice to document "I am grateful for that."

Healing is not easy. We often must push beyond our comfort zones. But acquiring the skills to articulate our emotions and document sources of gratitude creates a sense of "muscle memory." In time, it will get easier and easier to express what we feel and to celebrate sources of gratitude.

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Submit photos, news and  
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## Jobs board

*The Jewish Review publishes job opening from Jewish agencies and congregations, as well as other opening of possible interest to community members. Submit job openings for this column to [editor@jewishportland.org](mailto:editor@jewishportland.org).*

### JEWISH CAREER HUB

The Jewish Federation of Greater Portland hosts a job board for the ongoing listing of job opportunities in the Jewish community. The job board currently features 11 Jewish job openings.

See full descriptions for all of the openings or submit job openings at [jewishportland.org/ourcommunity/jewish-jobs](http://jewishportland.org/ourcommunity/jewish-jobs).

## CSP seeks volunteers

Cedar Sinai Park is looking for adults and high school students to volunteer this fall.

Adult volunteers are needed:

- Sundays and Tuesdays at Rose Schnitzer Manor calling Bingo, from 1:30 to 3 pm
- Sundays and Wednesdays at Robison Jewish Health Center calling Bingo, from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm.

Other volunteer opportunities include outings such as concerts and restaurants, playing games and reading, weeding and pruning, singing with residents, Shabbat services, and other activities for residents in assisted living and long-term care.

Hours are flexible depending on the day and task in which volunteers are interested. Please call Kim Hughes at 503-535-4005.



## Condemn b'nai mitzvah assault

BY BOB HORENSTEIN

Imagine the following situation taking place in an American city: The scene is a local egalitarian Conservative synagogue where congregants are holding a weekday morning Shacharit service.

Suddenly, during the Amidah, a group of right-wing extremists storm into the chapel and begin shouting obscenities and spitting on the worshippers, who are caught off guard and are now panicked. The hooligans grab prayer books from the shelves, ripping out pages and throwing them on the floor. Before leaving, one of them wipes his nose with a torn-out page, sneering condescendingly, proud of his vulgar act.

Such a shocking antisemitic incident would, of course, spark an outcry from Jewish groups around the country. The local police and FBI would be counted on to open an immediate investigation and find and arrest the perpetrators of this hate crime. Strong statements of condemnation would be issued by, and offers of support received from, many of the local Jewish community's interfaith partners. The U.S. president would likely reach out to the leadership of the targeted synagogue in a show of solidarity.

What if, however, the assailants weren't white nationalists? What if they were – Jews? And what if the incident occurred not in America but in the Jewish state? Would we still call it antisemitism, or would we mute our outrage lest our condemnation provide fodder for the Israel bashers?

Anyone familiar with my work and my writing knows that I am a committed Zionist, readily defending Israel against unjust, false accusations such as “apartheid” and “genocide.” But there's something perverse and disturbing going on in Israel about which, as an American Jew, I cannot remain silent.

Recent months have seen a significant escalation in violence directed at women and non-Orthodox Jews praying at the Kotel (Western Wall). Even egalitarian ceremonies held in the southern section of the holy site, which is specifically designated for mixed-gender prayer, have been violently disrupted by ultra-Orthodox extremists.

The appalling actions described above actually took place in the egalitarian section during three June b'nei mitzvah ceremonies, one of them that of Seth Mann of Las Vegas. American Jews, who came to Jerusalem to celebrate a coming-of-age in the Jewish faith, were overrun by a mob of ultra-Orthodox youth and denounced as “Nazis.” Inexplicably, the police witnessed the attack yet did nothing to stop it.

Writing in the Times of Israel, Seth's father lamented, “I realized that not even in the State of Israel, the homeland for the Jewish people, am I allowed to pray freely and safely.” Another father noted, “This is what the Nazis would do – and they called us Nazis.”

Also commenting on the incident, Deborah

Lipstadt, the U.S. antisemitism envoy, tweeted, “Make no mistake. Had such a hateful incident – such incitement – happened in any other country, there'd be little hesitation in labeling it antisemitism.”

The following month, the family of a teenage Jewish girl from Seattle, who was celebrating her bat mitzvah at the Kotel alongside the Women of the Wall, was harassed by a swarm of ultra-Orthodox yeshiva students. And once again, the police, who were hired by the government-funded group that manages the holy site, refused to enforce Israel's law prohibiting the disturbance of prayers. Back home in Seattle, the girl's mother, who said she has sometimes been vilified in the U.S. for being a proud Zionist, noted ironically that in Israel her family was “attacked for being ... Jews.”

For Jewish professionals like myself who work determinedly to build support for Israel, especially among the younger generation of American Jews, what message is Israel sending when hate-filled zealots are free to unleash a torrent of antisemitic abuse at peaceful non-Orthodox worshippers?

Sadly, very few Members of Knesset condemned the disturbances. And although the Western Wall rabbi, Shmuel Rabinovitch, denounced “the verbal and occasional physical violence” at the holy site, he appeared to blame “all sides” for the problem.

Israeli Prime Minister Yair Lapid did speak out against the provocations, calling them “unacceptable.” In a phone call to Seth Mann, Lapid declared that he was “horrified” by what had occurred during Mann's bar mitzvah ceremony, and that “it doesn't represent the country or the people of Israel.”

Supportive statements are important, but they're no substitute for concrete actions. At a minimum, the prime minister needs to ensure that the non-Orthodox section remains fully open to egalitarian prayer and instruct police to intervene to prevent any disruptions while keeping worshippers safe there.

Bottom line: Israeli leaders need to decide what kind of country they want Israel to be – a Jewish state that respects all streams of Judaism or one that, for reasons of political expediency, tolerates behavior that constitutes a desecration of God's name. The choice couldn't be clearer.



*Bob Horenstein is the Director of Community Relations and Public Affairs for the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland. This article was first published in the Sept. 5 issue of the Jerusalem Report Magazine.*

SUSAN FADEM

Susan Fadem, z”l, passed away on Sept. 3, 2022. Susan is survived by her daughters, Kimmie (Ray) Fadem Donlon and Michelle (Josh) Kashinsky; three amazing granddaughters, Rosie Kashinsky, Fiona Kashinsky and Cecilia Charlotte Donlon; brother, Mark (Audrey) Sherman; sister, Wendy (Mike) Flotken; niece, Diane (Michael) Packman; nephew, Bryan Fadem; great-nieces and nephews, Amanda (Michael) Stein, Josh (Allison) Packman and Ben (Aviva) Packman, Cynthia (Sharon) Fadem and Michael Fadem.

Susan was preceded in death by her first husband, Rod Fadem (father of Kimmie and Michelle), and second husband Richard Andersen.

The funeral will be held Sept. 9 in St. Louis, Mo. Portland Shiva was Sept. 6 at Congregation Beth Israel.

Donations in Susan's memory can be made to the OLLI Scholarship Fund of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Washington University in St. Louis.

BOBBY WEINSTOCK

Bobby Weinstock, z”l, died peacefully of cancer at home Aug. 31, 2022, with his beloved wife by his side. He is survived by his wife, Ann Augustine; his sister, Sue Weinstock; his brother, Richard Weinstock (Susan); his sister-in-law, Rena Fox; his nephews, David and Danny Adler, and Mac Weinstock; his niece, Karly Weinstock; and a multitude of friends. Bobby was preceded in death by his brothers, Michael and Billy Weinstock.

Bobby was born to Milton and Anne Weinstock in Philadelphia May 5, 1954. He studied psychology as an undergraduate at Clark University and as a graduate student at Emory University. During his 68 years, he maintained close relationships with people he knew from childhood, college and graduate school.

# Obituaries (continued)

He moved to Portland in 1980 and spent the next four decades in social services creating programs to help homeless and vulnerable adults. Bobby became one of Portland's most compassionate and effective housing advocates. He believed: "The health of our city is tied to our willingness to invest in the creation of an abundant and affordable supply of housing for all of our citizens." He had a strong and abiding commitment to social justice and created a team that has helped thousands of individuals find their permanent homes.

Bobby's final community organizing project will be a Celebration of his Life that he planned, to be held at 1 pm, Sunday, Oct. 23, 2022, at the Aladdin Theater, 3017 SE Milwaukie Ave., Portland. All are welcome. Donations may be made in Bobby's name to the Northwest Pilot Project: [nwpilotproject.org/donate/](http://nwpilotproject.org/donate/), select "In Memory Of" and enter Bobby's name.

## VICTORIA RUSSELL

Victoria Russell, z"l, (Victoria bat Luna) passed away on Aug. 29, 2022, at the age of 93. She is survived by her children, Diane Russell, Susan Russell Andrews and Melinda Russell; five grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

A small family funeral was held at Shaarie Torah Cemetery.

A celebration of life will be held in late October at the Rose Schnitzer Manor.

## MARTIN FAVELUKE

Martin Faveluke, z"l, passed away Aug. 24, 2022. He is survived by his wife, Suzanne (Gibler) Faveluke; and sons, Alexander and Fred Faveluke.

Martin was born Jan. 31, 1940, to Eugene and Estelle (Shank) Faveluke in Portland. He was often truant in grade school, riding his bicycle to spend time more productively playing on the B17 bomber at Art Lacey's gas station in Milwaukie. He went to Cleveland High School and played French horn in the Portland Junior Symphony.

Martin diligently studied used car salesmanship and ski team management for three years at Reed College. After being told it would take another two years to graduate, he switched to Lewis and Clark and got a degree in economics in one year. He enlisted in the army, shoveled snow in Boston, learned to fly, and was then stationed in the Philippines where he worked as a cryptanalyst and got a grand tour of Asia. He came home, earned his J.D. from Lewis and Clark and passed the Oregon Bar.

Martin found himself employed as a bookkeeper for his parents' business before he could read and he never retired. He was a lead soldier manufacturer, survey crew assistant, steam press operator, tailor, 18 Jewish Review Sept. 7, 2022

cryptanalyst, photographer, English teacher, car salesman, airshow and charter pilot and flight instructor, attorney, judge, bicycle repairman, garbage truck driver, water system operator, lobbyist, financier, landlord, business manager, father, grandfather and friend. He put his heart into everything he did and tried to help everybody he could along the way.

Funeral services were held Aug. 29 at Congregation Kol Ami's cemetery in Northwood Park with Rabbi Elizabeth Dunsker officiating.

## STEPHEN YOKEN

Stephen Yoken, z"l, passed away on Aug. 19, 2022, in Tulsa, Okla., at the age of 79. Stephen is survived by his wife Sharli (Chamberlain) Yoken; his brother, Richard (Debbie) Yoken; five children: Jonathan (Jennifer) Yoken of Portland, Craig Yoken, Jennifer Yoken, Justin Yoken, and Jackie (Matt) Ramage; as well as six adored grandchildren: Hannah, Rachel and Elie Yoken of Portland, Brooks Ramage, and Sarah and Andrew Yoken.

The funeral took place Aug. 26 in Cambridge, Mass.

## SUSAN GERSON

Susan Gerson, z"l, passed away Aug. 25, 2022. Susan is survived by her children, Eleonore (Gregg) Reiter and Joanie (Bob) Rosenbaum; four grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Susan was preceded in death by her husband, Theodore Gerson.

The family planned a private memorial service. Condolences may be sent to Congregation Beth Israel to be forwarded to the family.

Donations in Susan's memory can be made to Rose Schnitzer Manor and the Oregon Jewish Museum & Center for Holocaust Education.

## PHILIP J. REITER

Dr. Philip J. Reiter, z"l, passed away on Aug. 17, 2022. Philip is survived by his children, Barbara (Tom) Rosenbaum, Gregg (Eleonore) Reiter and Scott (Judy) Reiter; seven grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Philip was preceded in death by his wife, Dorothy Reiter.

A private memorial service was held.

Donations in Philip's memory can be made to Rose Schnitzer Manor and the Robert Peltz (z"l) High Holidays Funds for Food at Congregation Beth Israel. Condolences may be sent to Congregation Beth Israel to be forwarded onto the family.

## HOWARD H. SUSSMAN

Dr. Howard H. Sussman, z"l, passed away surrounded by his children July 14, 2022. He is survived by children, Sarah (Nicolas), Rai Sue (Bernie), and Daniel (Patricia); grandchildren, Alec and Magali Saint-Arnaud, Avigdor and Neilda Jean

Sussace, and Ariella and Lilah Sussman; sister-in-law Ceevah Sobel and her husband, Irwin; sister, Roberta Olman; and nephew and niece, Steven Sussman and Sally Khandadash.

He was predeceased by his parents, Maurice D. Sussman, lawyer, and Sarah (Sally, née Rosenfeld), and sister, Laura. His wife, Neilda Sussman (née Freedman), passed away in 2014.

Howard was born Oct. 21, 1934, and spent his childhood in northeast Portland, part of a large extended family closely tied to the city's Jewish community. Summer jobs in Portland included selling shoes in a relative's store and helping to build the Morrison Bridge.

He graduated from Grant High School as valedictorian in 1952. He earned his BS from the University of Oregon, followed by an MS in Biochemistry and an MD from Oregon Health Sciences University. After spending much of the 1960s on the East Coast doing medical residencies at the National Institutes of Health and NY Presbyterian Hospital, he returned to the West Coast in 1970 to take a faculty position in Pathology at the Stanford School of Medicine.

Stanford's Pathology Department had just been formed and Howard took on the role of organizing the clinical pathology laboratory into a functional research and testing lab. His interest in medical research and computer systems led him to work with computer scientist graduate students to automate Stanford Hospital's clinical laboratory operations, a system used for the next 30 years.

He would expound on biblical and pre-Judaic history each year while conducting Passover seders, and he participated in a monthly salon, the Saturday Morning Club. Howard lived an aesthetic life: he had style, enjoyed art and music, and cultivated friendships with a wide range of people. He loved cars, and a special treat for his kids was to go for a ride in his 1967 Ferrari 330 GTS, which he bought new and drove across the country, or the 1950 Willys-Overland Jeepster, the first car he and Neilda bought together.

Howard met Neilda, the love of his life, on a blind date while living in Washington, D.C., in the 1960s. She followed him to San Francisco, where they married in 1970. Howard was a devoted family man. He was always there to see his kids off to school and for nightly family dinners.

After the passing of his love, Neilda, Howard turned to his battle with Parkinson's disease. In his later years, he was well-cared for at Palo Alto Commons.

Donations may be made to Peninsula Open Space Trust, HIAS, Jewish Family and Child Service, or the charity of your choice.

(The full obituary can be found at [jewishportland.org/obituaries](http://jewishportland.org/obituaries).)