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THE JEWISH REVIEW

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OREGON & SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON'S JEWISH NEWSPAPER

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Illuminate is Nov. 15

By ROCKNE ROLL
The Jewish Review

The Jewish Federation of Greater Portland has a message: It's time to celebrate.

In that spirit, the Federation is hosting Illuminate Saturday, Nov. 15 at 6:30 pm at The Loft at Eighth Avenue in Southeast Portland.

"Illuminate is a wonderful communal night out for our great whole Jewish community, to celebrate, to dance, to be together in community," Federation Associate Campaign and Engagement Officer Laura Jeser said.

When they say the whole Jewish community, they mean it.

"We serve the entire Jewish community," Federation Chief Development Officer Wendy Kahn elaborated. "There is a perception that only certain people participate in the work of the

See **ILLUMINATE**, page 2

'to tear... and to heal'



From top left, Kim Schneiderman, Cantor Eyal Bitton and Ilene Safyan perform at the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland's Al Ha'dvash Ve'al Ha'oketz service Sunday, Oct. 19, at Congregation Neveh Shalom in Portland marking the release of 20 living hostages from Gaza. Read more about the service, and the Federation's memorial for the second anniversary of the Oct. 7 attacks in Israel, beginning on page 5. (Rockne Roll/The Jewish Review)

Jewish Review journalist removed from DSA event

The Jewish Review staff

A journalist representing *The Jewish Review* was preemptively removed from a press conference hosted by four members of the Portland City Council and the Portland chapter of the Democratic Socialists of America last Friday where they announced a pledge to investigate the city's connections to Israel.

Jewish Review Editor Rockne Roll had registered to attend a virtual press conference hosted by Portland's DSA chapter featuring Portland City Council Vice President Tiffany Koyama Lane and Councilors Mitch Green, Sameer Kanal and Angelita Morillo announcing the four councilors' pledge to "investigate any complicity our city may have with Israel's illegal occupation, apartheid, or genocidal violence against

See **REMOVAL**, page 10

INSIDE

Security – page 16

Events – page 17

Obituaries – page 18



The
Jewish
Review
Podcast



Season 3 starts Oct. 29

Documentary "Nathanism" at Living Room Theater

The Jewish Review staff

Portland's Living Room Theater is bringing the documentary tale of one Jewish soldier's experience in World War II and the lifetime of art it inspired for a pair of exclusive screenings.

"Nathan-ism" will be shown Thursday, Nov. 13 at 7 pm and Sunday, Nov. 16 at 3 pm at Living Room Theaters, located on Southwest 10th Avenue in Downtown Portland. Both screenings will include a Q-and-A session with director Elan Golod via Zoom after the film.

"At the end of World War II, Nathan Hilu, the son of Syrian Jewish immigrants to New York, received a life-changing assignment from the U.S. Army: to guard the top Nazi war criminals at the Nuremberg trials," the film's promotional materials explain. "This experience fueled a lifetime of artistic inspiration for Nathan, a virtually unknown 'outsider artist,' who spent the next 70 years obsessively creating a visual narrative from his memories. But what happens when

those memories take on a life of their own?"

"Nathan-ism" is Golod's feature-length directorial debut. He's previously co-directed and edited the documentary short, "Mike Birbiglia: How to Make What This Is," following his work editing Birbiglia's "Sleepwalk with Me." He's also co-edited Birbiglia's "Don't Think Twice," the Maya Zinshtein documentary "Til Kingdom Come."

"Interestingly enough, entrance into film work was through my experience serving in the Israeli Army," Golod [told film review website FilmObsessive's J. Paul Johnson](#). "I think having the experience of being a young 18-year-old soldier, I didn't have the experience of guarding top-level Nazis, but I did have the experience of understanding duty at such a young age, and I could place myself into to Nathan's shoes to understand what he was going through."

Tickets for both Portland screenings are available online at livingroomtheaters.com/events/nathan-ism-director-qa.

ILLUMINATE (continued from page 1)

Federation, but our work is to lift up the entire community. We want you to come and be part of this community and have fun, dance and celebrate because this is for everybody."

Illuminate is a dance party – the tunes will be served up by DJ Denmark of Bridgectivity Music, and neon party ensembles are encouraged,

though not required. But Illuminate is not just a dance party – it's so much more.

Not up for dancing? Kachka, the Russian restaurant named one of Portland's top eateries by *The New York Times*, is hosting a vodka tasting, including their signature horseradish-infused vodka, with other beverages also available – the first

round is included with your ticket. Away from the dance floor, an indoor/outdoor space at The Loft will host heavy appetizers and desserts, including a s'mores station for all the warmth and community of sharing treats around a campfire without having to get your pants dirty.

"There's going to be a lot of different spaces to come together. So oftentimes when people think, 'Is this a place for me? Should I come to a big party? What if I don't know anybody?' There's going to be all these smaller spaces where you'll be able to find somebody, whether it is around a campfire, at a vodka tasting or on the dance floor," Kahn said.

What there won't be is a "mitzvah moment" or a pledge card to fill out. While there will be opportunities to learn about Federation's

various projects and how to support them (jewishportland.org/give is always available), Illuminate's focus is on celebrating Jewish life in Portland in all its many iterations.

"We're trying something new," Kahn said. "I think that's also something to say about how we work within the community."

Tickets are \$50 and available online at jewishportland.org/illuminate.

"As Federation, we have Jewish life and learning, we have our volunteer projects, we have NextGen programs for young adults, we have Women's Philanthropy, we have all these components," Jeser said. "Illuminate is a way for us to bring in all of our different communities to get together and celebrate together."



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GIL HOFFMAN
Executive Director of Honest Reporting

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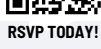
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Jewish Federation
of Greater Portland

Treiger's new book explores Portland roots

By ROCKNE ROLL
The Jewish Review

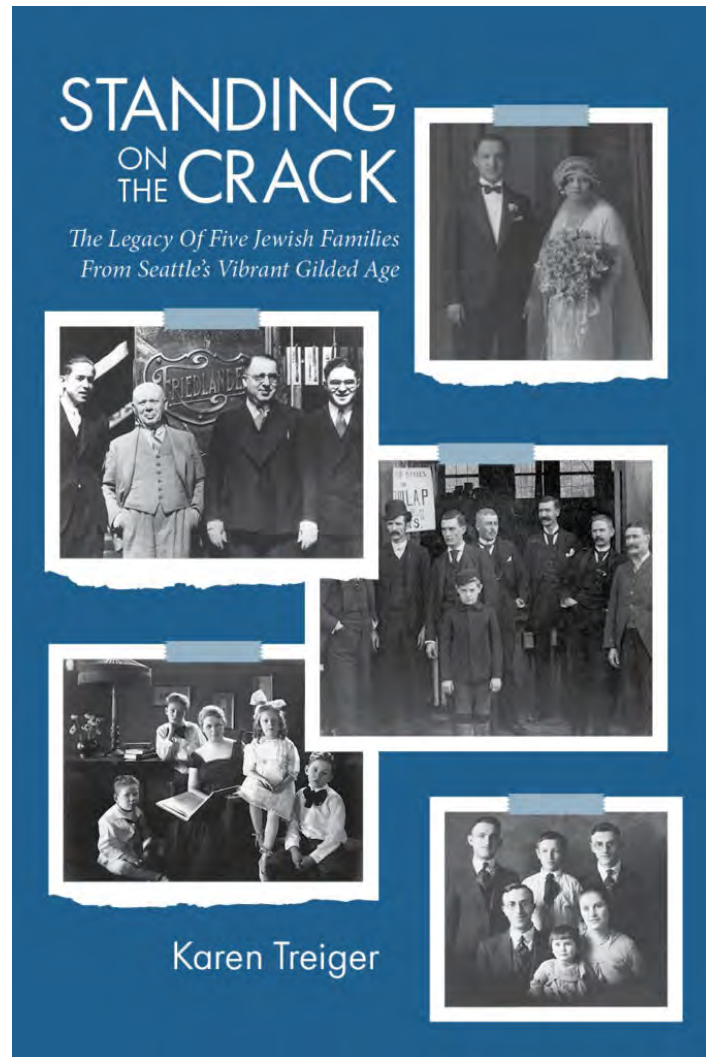
Though she's a lifelong Seattleite, Karen Treiger's family lineage has roots in some of the early days of Portland's Jewish community. She's coming to Portland to talk about them and more.

Treiger's latest book, "Standing on the Crack: The Legacy of Five Jewish Families from Seattle's Vibrant Gilded Age," is the subject of two events she's hosting here in Portland. The first is this evening, Oct. 22, at the Eastside Jewish Commons at 7 pm. On Sunday, Nov. 2, 4 pm, she'll be at Cedarwood Waldorf School in Southwest Portland – the building which was originally the Neighborhood House established by the Portland chapter of the National Council of Jewish Women.

Like so many of Portland's Jews in the early 20th century, Neighborhood House was a significant part of the lives of Treiger's paternal grandfather's family – Treiger's great-uncle was principal of Neighborhood House's Hebrew school for 15 years.

"The roots run deep there," she said, "so I'm really excited to come and do an event there."

A lawyer by training, Treiger left her legal practice to take on her first book, "My Soul is Filled with Joy: A Holocaust Story," which details the survival of both of her husband's parents during the Holocaust. The product of three years of research, it was released in 2018 and



won a Nancy Pearl Book Award for Best Memoir and a Bronze Medal in World History at the Independent Book Publishers Awards in 2019. Treiger was still doing promotional appearances for the book in 2020 when the COVID pandemic hit. The time at home the pandemic created, coupled with the death of her father, impelled her to turn her research to her own family.

"He had hoped in his retirement to write the family history, and he died before he

had the chance," Treiger said. "He had saved these old, wonderful files filled with articles and pictures and things for me to start with, so I just decided to crack those open and see where it took me."

From religiously observant families to more Reform-oriented men and women, the backgrounds of Treiger's ancestors are so varied and diverse that it's difficult to draw common threads between their experiences, except for, shockingly to Treiger, the lack of discrimi-

nation they faced when they came to the Northwest, particularly Portland, in the tail end of the 19th century. That bigotry, of course, came later in the form of quotas, exclusionary clubs and the Ku Klux Klan.

"I'm surprised, I have to admit, that that's a consensus," she said of the absence of discrimination against Jews in 19th century Portland. "The white settlers that were there were much more worried about the Japanese and Chinese that were coming in."

The stories in the book, as varied as they are, all come to a common focal point – the author.

"They all intersect at me," she said. "These are the five families that made Karen Treiger."

"Standing on the Crack: The Legacy of Five Jewish Families from Seattle's Vibrant Gilded Age" is published by Coffetown Press and is in stock at Powell's Books and other retailers. "My Soul is Filled with Joy: A Holocaust Story," published by Stare Lipki Press, is available on Amazon and other retailers. Registration for today's event at EJC is free and available online at events.humanitix.com/ejc-author-reading-karen-treiger. No registration is required for Treiger's Nov. 2 event at Cedarwood Waldorf School, and the event is free. More information about both events, as well as copies of both of Treiger's books are also available at karentreiger.com.



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

Community gatherings bookend hostage release

By ROCKNE ROLL

The Jewish Review

Because of the different organizational formulas between the Hebrew and Gregorian calendars, in 2025, more than a week separates Oct. 7 and 22 Tishrei; days that were the same two years ago when Hamas attacked Israel from Gaza.

What a difference a week makes.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Portland, joined by congregations and organizations across Portland marked the second year since the attacks with a memorial service at Congregation Neveh Shalom Sunday Oct. 5.

"We cry with one singular voice, 'Bring them home now,'" Neveh Shalom Senior Rabbi Eve Posen said that evening. "Bring them home to embrace their loved ones, to restore their lives, to remind the world that each and every soul is precious."

Five days later, a ceasefire between Israel and Hamas, orchestrated by the United States and other nations, came into effect and all 20 living hostages held by Hamas were released.

Nine days after that, on Sunday, Oct. 19, the Federation once again held a community gathering at Neveh Shalom. Once again, Rabbi Posen spoke.

"In that solemn moment," she said, referring to her remarks of two weeks prior, "I stood here with the faintest spark of hope that I would soon be here again, this time with blessings of return on my lips, and tonight, *hineni*, we are



Above: Efrat Avsker speaks about her brother, Oct. 7 attack victim Ohad Yahalomi, z"l, at the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland's memorial gathering at Congregation Neveh Shalom Sunday, Oct. 5. Below: From left, Kim Schneiderman, Cantor Eyal Bitton and Ilene Safyan lead the singing of "Am Israel Chai" at the Federation's Oct. 19 celebration of the release of hostages at Neveh Shalom. (Rockne Roll/The Jewish Review)

here."

The latest gathering wasn't of celebration alone. As Rabbi Posen explained, as Ilene Safyan sang and as the event was titled, this was a moment *al ha'dvash ve'al ha'oketz*; for the honey and the sting.

"We hold in this moment two truths, the miracle of life restored and the heartbreak that through it all, it is still not finished. There are still those who

need to be returned," Rabbi Posen said.

-

As the gears of foreign policy and international relations turned slowly a continent away, a world away, there was a sense that two years of waiting, hoping, and praying may be reaching a conclusion at the Oct. 5 gathering, held just as the details of the ceasefire and hostage release were coming together.

"It's hard to believe that we can even talk about hope, but perhaps, perhaps, perhaps we won't have to say, 'bring them home now,' Congregation Beth Israel Senior Rabbi Michael Cahana said that evening. "Perhaps they will be home this Sukkot, perhaps even in a few days, we can dare to dream. We pray, G-d, may it be so."

Most of that evening was devoted to remembering those who had fallen two years ago and those who gave selflessly of themselves that day to protect and save others.

Federation President and CEO Marc Blattner told the assembled crowd about Aner Elyakim Shapiro, z"l, a 22-year-old man who was attempting to return to his Israel Defense Forces unit as the attack unfolded.

continued on next page





Left: Rabbi Eve Posen speaks at the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland's Oct. 19 service celebrating the return of the 20 living hostages from Gaza. Right: Cantors Rayna Green and Eyal Bitton lead the singing of HaTikvah at the Oct. 5 memorial service. (Rockne Roll/The Jewish Review)

continued from previous page

"He instead found refuge in a public shelter, together with approximately two dozen civilians fleeing the assault," Blattner recounted. "As the terrorists approached and began launching grenades and gunfire, Aner positioned himself at the doorway of the shelter. Time and time again, he threw the live grenades back out, seven in total, sacrificing his safety to protect others."

The eighth exploded in his hands, killing him.

"Anir's story is one of true courage in the face of evil, he will forever be remembered as a hero who gave his life so others could live," Blattner continued.

Noga Vilan, who led weekly demonstrations on behalf of the hostages, spoke about Inbal Liberman, the security coordinator of Kibbutz Nir Am in the Gaza Envelope. After losing electricity, Lieberman ordered that it stay cut to prevent the kibbutz's electric gate from opening. She and her 11-person team held off Hamas terrorists for 18 hours.

"Inbal and her team's courage and coordinating helped prevent the terrorists from breaching the kibbutz, saving countless lives," Vilan said.

Michelle Bombet Minch, Co-Chair of the Jewish Community Relations Council's Israel Advocacy Committee, shared the story of Amit Mann, z"l. Maan, 22, was a paramedic with Magen David Adom, and though she could have fled to her mother's home on the morning of the attacks, she reported to a community clinic at Kibbutz Be'eri to aid the wounded.

"When she was shot in the leg, Amit did not give up. She tied a tourniquet on herself so she could keep helping others. Only later, when she was shot again, did her young life come to an end," Bombet Minch recounted. "She will always be remembered as someone who gave everything to save lives."

Efrat Avsker spoke of one of Oct. 7's heroes close to her heart – her brother, Ohad Yahalomi, z"l, who was murdered by Hamas in his family's home, trying to protect them from the onrushing terrorists.

"He left behind a legacy of goodness, humility and compassion, one that will guide us for years to come," Avsker said. "Before I finish, I want to say a few words about hope, because even in these painful days, there is still a small light

in the air, a sense of hope. For the return of all the hostages. For the end of this war. For the soldiers to come home safely to their family. Maybe, then maybe finally, we'll begin to heal as families, as a nation and as human beings."

-

Those hopes, of course, have begun to be fulfilled.

"There is a time to tear and a time to heal, and we need to do both right now. There is a time to be silent. And a time to speak, a time to sob, and a time to dance, and we need to do both right now," Rabbi Posen said on Oct. 19, quoting Rachel Goldberg-Polin. "Her words are weary and honest and unguarded, and they name exactly where we stand; between anguish and relief, between mourning and song. Tonight, we make room for the tearing, but more so for the healing."

There was appreciation for the moment, give communal voice in the recitation of the *Shehecheyanu*, the blessing for that which "has granted us life, sustained us and enabled us to reach this moment." Simultaneously, there was acknowledgement that the moment was not an uncomplicated one.

"This is not a simple joy," Beth Israel Senior Rabbi Designate Rabbi Rachel Joseph said. "It's a joy laced both with memory and a joy laced with mourning. It's the fulfillment of our most desperate prayers that they come home alive and reminder of all who did not return, and all that was shattered in these long two years. So, as we watch, let us feel it all. Let us feel the immense gratitude and let us feel the immense grief. We feel the exhaustion, and we feel the amazement, and we hold it all together, only as our people can."

There was also hope – the hope of 2,000 years, in the words of *HaTikvah*, the hope of two years and a week and a new hope embodied in Allison Fowler's poem, "Prayer That This Be True."

"Let us exhale, exhale in relief and inhale in renewal," the poem, recited by Blattner, reads in part. "Let Oct. 8 begin for those in Israel, when they can begin to heal. Let us reclaim Simchat Torah, back into a night of rejoicing with our precious Torah and with each other. May the coming days bring healing to the wounded, comfort to the bereaved, and peace, true and lasting peace to Israel and to all who dwell upon this earth."

Lewis & Clark responds to vandalism of Hillel display

By ROCKNE ROLL
The Jewish Review

A display at Lewis & Clark College highlighting the continued captivity of Hamas hostages taken in the Oct. 7 attacks was repeatedly vandalized earlier this month, prompting college staff to post security to protect it.

Andy Friedland, the Interim Executive Director of Greater Portland Hillel, told *The Jewish Review* that on Monday, Oct. 6, Lewis & Clark students erected posters of the 48 hostages, living and deceased, who were then still held in Gaza – placing the posters on stakes in a lawn on the campus along with a sandwich board explaining the display. At approximately 6:30 pm, an individual began pulling the poster stakes out of the ground, hurling insults at students who confronted them.

“The person called some of the Hillel students names and accused them of supporting genocide,” Friedland said. “[They were] upset with how the display framed the events [of Oct. 7.]”

Lewis & Clark Campus Safety staff promptly responded to the incident, Friedland said, to a second similar incident at 11:30 pm that evening, and to a third incident at 8:30 am the next morning, as Hillel students were coming to restore the display, where an individual taped over the posters with images of other individuals – Friedland suspected they were Palestinians who had been killed in Gaza.

Friedland continued to say that by 9 am on Tuesday morning, college administrators were meeting with students, and that Ben Meoz, the Vice President of Student Life and Dean of Students, sent an email to

the campus community condemning the vandalism at 1 pm that day. The email also revealed that Campus Safety had observed masked individuals spray-painting the side of multiple buildings on campus.

“Lewis & Clark condemns these actions in the strongest possible terms. We acknowledge that they occur in a wider context of antisemitic rhetoric and violence in this country and elsewhere,” Meoz’s email read. “Let me be clear: last night’s actions violate L&C’s code of conduct and are absolutely unacceptable.”

Throughout Tuesday, additional security staff were posted near the hostages’ display, Friedland said. He also mentioned additional conversations with Lewis & Clark administration that discussed the hiring of administrative staff to specifically address violations of

Titles VI and IX of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as well as the use of private security personnel in circumstances like this one and continuing education around bias issues for staff and student leaders. He’ll be meeting with campus administration again this week and will be accompanying Hillel International’s head of antisemitism education on visits to both Lewis & Clark and Reed Colleges next week.

“This exists both within the context of what has been a really positive year with Jewish life on our campuses, but also that we’ve seen, unfortunately, a fair number of incidents both here and on some other campuses,” Friedland said. “It’s something that we’re going to keep working on with all of our administrators and with our students to make sure they feel safe and supported.”



K-12 Parent Advocacy Night

This evening's program will feature a presentation from Jillian Stone, a Civil Rights Support Specialist in the Oregon Department of Education's Civil Rights Unit.

There will also be a brief presentation by Jenna Harris from StandWithUs to assist parents in navigating “challenging situations.”



Congregation Neveh Shalom
2900 SW Peaceful Lane, Portland



6:30 PM - 8:30 PM
Tuesday | October 28, 2025

6:30-7:00 - Social Time
Program Starts @ 7



Jillian Stone

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Swingin' scenes at Schmoozapalooza



Photographs by ROCKNE ROLL

The Jewish Review

Jewish Family & Child Service hosted their third annual Schmoozapalooza Senior Prom, in partnership with the Mittleman Jewish Community Center, Sunday, Oct. 19 at the center. The event, sponsored by a donation from Marcy Tonkin, featured refreshments, a photo booth and a dance floor complete with DJ playing everything from country to funk and more. Hundreds of attendees also received corsages and were offered a group dance lesson on The Electric Slide.



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in Oregon*

REMOVAL (continued from page 1)

Palestinians.” (see story, page 11) After logging onto the webinar and before the event got underway, Roll was removed from the webinar without explanation and was blocked from rejoining.

“I recognize that the Jewish Federation shared its thoughts about the pledge. But for *The Jewish Review*, a member of the press, to be removed from the press conference is censorship at its worst,” Jewish Federation of Greater Portland President and CEO Marc Blattner said. “Why did the four city councilors and the DSA hosts not feel comfortable having a member of the Jewish press present? Because they have totally dismissed the thoughts, feelings and sentiments of many in the Jewish community – including those who are their constituents.”

“We live in a city that could be headed towards an urban doom loop in which businesses close or move out of the city, tax revenues decline, and basic services get cut; this on top of a homelessness crisis and the imminent prospect of federal troops on our streets. Yet, for these four DSA city councilors, their hatred of Israel and the Israeli people runs so deep that it becomes their priority for Portland,” Federation Chief Community Relations and Public Affairs Officer Bob Horenstein said. “The fact that they would remove the editor of *The Jewish Review* from their press conference only underscores their total dismissal of our community’s concerns.”

Shaniqua Henry-Davis, Kanal’s Senior Communications and Policy Advisor, told *The Jewish Review* that Roll’s removal from the press conference was “concerning.”

“That is not something that we would have done if we were in charge of the meeting,” she said.

In an email to *The Jewish Review*, Sprout Chinn, an aide to Koyama Lane, said that the Council Vice President “was not running the technical side of things and did not have [Roll] removed.”

Maria Gabrielle Sipin, Green’s Chief of Staff, said in an email to *The Jewish Review* that, “we are unaware of the invite list and which media outlets successfully entered the press conference.”

Meredith Wadlington, Morillo’s Community Liaison, said that “DSA organized the event, and Councilors showed up to speak. We were not involved in the planning, outside of coordinating on our talking points and messaging,” in an email to a third party that was carbon-copied to *The Jewish Review*.

Emails to the Portland DSA from *The Jewish Review* received no response as of press time.

Roll succeeded Deborah Moon as *The Jewish Review*’s editor in May of 2023. After graduating from the University of Oregon with a master’s degree in journalism in 2012, Roll has covered a wide variety of subjects as a reporter and photographer for newspapers across Oregon and as a freelancer for clients including *The Oregonian*, *Willamette Week*, *The Columbian* and *Baseball America* magazine. His work has appeared in *The New York Times* and other newspapers. Roll has won awards from the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association, the National Newspapers Association and the National Press Photographers Association for journalistic excellence and was selected for the prestigious Missouri Photojournalism Workshop in 2020.

From The Editor

About last Friday...

By ROCKNE ROLL

No good reporter wants to be the story.

It’s baked into us as professionals that the news – the people we cover, the things that our readers care about, the issues and events that matter to them – is more important than us and our egos. Unfortunately, the spotlight sometimes finds us.

I registered for Friday’s press conference hosted by the Democratic Socialists of America because I know that Israel is important to this publication’s readers. I know this both from the results of our community study and from the conversations I’ve had with many of you on the subject. I know there are a wide range of opinions about the Jewish state; out of respect for all of them, I made plans to attend and report what I saw fairly and accurately – just as I have endeavor to do on every story.

Someone decided I shouldn’t have that chance. I was removed from the event before it even started. This was the first time in my 14 years of professional journalism that I was removed from a media event.

Being the sole journalist employed by Portland’s lone Jewish community news organization is a responsibility that I take seriously. A newspaper’s only currency is its readers’ trust; I strive to maintain that trust by upholding the highest standards of ethical practice in my work. Thus, instead of registering for Friday’s press conference under a fake name (many people assume my legal name is fake anyway) or a fake newspaper, I identified myself as the editor of *The Jewish Review* and used my usual email address – rockne@jewishportland.org.

When I joined the webinar, my camera wasn’t on, my mic wasn’t on. The only information the organizer would have had about me is what I mentioned above: My name and my employer. Someone decided that was sufficient to show me the virtual door.

While four members of Portland’s City Council assembled to discuss something of import to Portland’s Jewish community, the representative of the lone outlet that focuses on Portland’s Jewish community was unceremoniously ushered out – without explanation, without notice, without a word. All it took was a couple of mouse clicks to erect a barrier between elected officials and the press that is meant to hold them accountable.

I cannot say with certainty who did this – all four councilors present have denied involvement in my removal and I believe them – but I can say that whoever made that decision did an immense disservice to you, *The Jewish Review*’s readers, and to the values of the First Amendment.

I got the story anyway, to the extent that I could, and I will continue to report news that matters to this community with fairness and accuracy for all involved, regardless of obstacles.

Hopefully this is the last time I’ll have to be the story.
Rockne Roll is the Editor of The Jewish Review.

DSA city councilors to investigate Israel ties

By **ROCKNE ROLL**

The Jewish Review

Four Portland City Council members affiliated with the Democratic Socialists of America announced a pledge to investigate local connections to the State of Israel at a DSA-hosted virtual event Friday, Oct. 17.

Portland City Council Vice President Tiffany Koyama Lane and Councilors Mitch Green, Sameer Kanal and Angelita Morillo presented the pledge at the event and encouraged municipal elected officials elsewhere to sign on and conduct similar investigations in their communities.

In addition to the four city councilors, the event featured Dr. Travis Melin, an anesthesiologist at Oregon Health and Science University Hospital in Portland, Maxine Fookson, a Jewish Voice for Peace activist and retired pediatric nurse practitioner and Olivia Katbi, a Co-Chair of Portland's DSA chapter and North America Coordinator for the BDS (Boycott, Divest, Sanctions) Movement against Israel.

Katbi indicated that two other city councilors, in addition to the four at the event, had signed the pledge, though she did not identify who they were. The Portland DSA's Instagram page later claimed that Councilors Candace Avalos and Jamie Dunphy, both representing Council District 1 (East Portland) had signed the pledge.

Responding to inquiries from *The Jewish Review*, officials from the offices of Council President Elana Pirtle-Guiney, representing District 2 which includes North Portland and parts of Northeast Portland and Councilor Eric Zimmerman, whose District 4 covers Sellwood and all of Portland west of the Willamette River, confirmed that neither had signed on to the pledge.

Emails from *The Jewish Review* to the remaining city council members asking if they had or had not signed the pledge were not replied to as of press time.

Melin accused Israel of intentionally targeting civilians and children, citing incidents of ordnance landing in marketplaces during his time treating patients in Gaza during the war – strikes which the Israel Defense Forces have said were in error.

"No accidents are happening there," Melin said.

Fookson, who said she spoke on behalf of JVP, said that despite the ceasefire which came into effect in the days leading up to the pledge announcement, "there has been no change, and only an escalation in Israel's apartheid."

Fookson, along with Kanal, who represents District 2, accused Israel of violating the ceasefire, citing such violations as motivation for introducing the pledge now.

Morillo, whose District 3 includes much of Southeast Portland, said of the ceasefire, "The time for a ceasefire was 77 years ago, during the first Nakba," using the Arabic word for the Israeli War of Independence, which translates to "catastrophe."

Morillo, along with fellow District 3 Councilor Koyama Lane and Green, who represents District 4, likened the purpose of their pledge with the city's opposition to the recent actions of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement in Portland and President Donald Trump's efforts to deploy

military personnel to the city.

"The war in Gaza is not just some distant conflict," Green said. "It is connected to us, to our city, our economy and our own struggle for democracy."

Green additionally said, in response to a question about facing intimidation for pro-Palestinian activism, that those engaged in such activism are liable to be "smeared as an antisemite."

"That's a conflation of a state and a people, and I think that's problematic," he continued. "I think we have an obligation to speak out for the constituents that don't feel like they have a voice."

Questions were submitted via the webinar's chat function – the vast majority were submitted anonymously. Approximately 15 minutes of the 50-minute event was devoted to addressing questions, with participants selecting the questions they wanted to answer.

In response to a query about the choice of city councilors to address the Israel/Palestine conflict as opposed to local issues, Kanal cast the curtailing of city investments in companies doing business in Israel as an opportunity to invest in local firms, specifically citing the ice cream shop Salt & Straw, as well as social programs.

"We're helping revive our economy. We're helping continue the trend that we're already on as a city to move forward, in addition to all the moral implications associated with it," Kanal said.

"It's a reasonable question to ask," Green said, addressing the same topic, "and I would say that we're in this situation because we elected [officials] at all levels have been too cowardly, frankly, to stand up against this complacency and fueling a war machine."

"Listening to press conference was disheartening and angering," Blattner commented. "I wonder which of the city councilors have ever been to Israel? To Gaza? During the call, each speaker could not say the word 'genocide' enough while no one once mentioned Hamas, the use of Palestinian civilians as human shields, the horrific ordeal of the hostages, or the trauma of Oct. 7. The call was nothing more than an opportunity to demonize Israel."

According to text of the pledge provided to *The Jewish Review*, the signatories commit to specifically investigate the manufacturing and transportation of weapons for use by the IDF, investments and contracts with companies "complicit in Israeli illegal occupation, apartheid or genocidal violence" and all diplomatic ties between the City of Portland and the Israeli government, specifically mentioning sister city relationships – Portland has maintained a sister-city relationship with Ashkelon since 1987.

"These four elected officials are amplifying their hate against the Jewish state. Their goals are divisive and inflammatory," Blattner said in his "Marc's Remarks" email newsletter Friday morning. "Our city has enough challenges. It would be best if our local elected officials focus their attention on serious issues in Portland."

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jewishportland.org/subscribe

The springing up of the Sukkot



Photographs by ROCKNE ROLL

The Jewish Review

Members of Congregations Beth Israel and Neveh Shalom gathered Sunday, Oct. 5, to assemble their congregation's *sukkot* (plural of sukkah) in preparation for the holiday of same name, while community members came to Leikam Brewing that afternoon to raise and decorate the Eastside Community Sukkah. Neveh Shalom's *sukkah* was assembled by the synagogue's Men's Club and decorated by Foundation School students, while volunteers and Religious School students worked to raise Beth Israel's *sukkah*, designed by Eli Green.



Pair of new OJMCHE exhibits open Nov. 9

By AMELIA LUKAS

For the Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education

On Nov. 9, the Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education (OJMCHE) unveils two new exhibitions that stand in poignant parallel. *Without End: Recent Work on Grief* by Cara Levine is rooted in the depths of grief and remembrance, and showcases Levine's unique multimedia practice. *Psychedelicatessen: A Powerful Dose of Art* by Steve Marcus is soaring with vibrant color, satire, mischief, and rebellion.

Levine's evocative griefscape and Marcus's uplifting Koshers pop art create a layered experience in OJMCHE's galleries that mirrors the full spectrum of human emotion, from solemn remembering to spirited celebration. Visitors are invited to journey through these two exhibitions to mourn, reflect, question, dream, and ultimately, to marvel.

Oregon ArtsWatch wrote that OJMCHE's Executive Director Rebekah Sobel frames the juxtaposition of these two exhibitions as a bold conversation that reflects "a trifecta of highlighting Jewish culture, Jewish art, and managing trauma stories" in one sweeping gesture.

The two exhibits will be on display from Sunday, Nov. 9, 2025 through Sunday, May 31, 2026. Levine will host an artist talk on her exhibit on Nov. 9 at 2 pm at the museum – admission is free with museum entry. She'll host an additional free talk Monday, Nov. 10 at the Pacific Northwest College of Art in Northwest Portland at 6 pm. Marcus will host a talk at the museum Wednesday, Nov. 12 at 6 pm – tickets are \$5, free for museum members, and available at ojmche.org/events.

Without End: Recent Work on Grief by Cara Levine

Featuring OJMCHE-commissioned, site-specific installations

Celebrated multidisciplinary artist Cara Levine explores themes of absence, empathy, and equity through a practice encompassing studio-based artmaking, social engagement, and curatorial projects. Levine's art offers profound emotional resonance, inviting visitors into a contemplative space where loss, memory, and healing converge, and the sense of grief becomes tactile and visible. What does a memory look like? How do we touch what is no longer there? Can absence take form? These questions reverberate throughout the exhibition, asking us to consider the shape of a feeling, the weight of remembrance, and the possibility of connection after loss.

As part of this exhibition, she unveils *Silverlinings*, the inaugural presentation of a participatory, site-specific installation right within the museum's space: an artistic meditation on grief inspired by the Los Angeles wildfires of January 2025, during which Levine lost her childhood home as well as the homes of several other family members. Utilizing sand to represent a boundless sense of the infinite, and a sandbox to contain all types of losses, including climate loss, Levine invites visitors to trace a drawing that represents loss in the sand. The act of kneeling at or bowing towards the sand evokes humility, ritual, and devotion, and offers potential for

restoration and catharsis.

Deeply rooted in Jewish ritual, storytelling, and the act of making, Levine's work explores how the pain of loss permeates our lives, bonding us through shared experience and quiet interconnection. Central to Levine's process is a ritual of replication informed by her longstanding interest in Jewish mysticism and meditation practice, where the recreation of a form has the power to hold and transform suffering. Visitors are invited to move beyond passive observation and step into the role of collaborator: to pick up a dowel, share a story, and name the weight of loss with their own hands. In this space, grief is not resolved; it is held.

Although based in California, Levine's ties to Portland include former teaching at Lewis & Clark College, and organizing the city's first annual Self-Taught Artists Fair with Public Annex in 2017. She is an inaugural Cultural Leadership Fellow with the Mandel Institute for Nonprofit Leadership, with her recognition marking a groundbreaking moment in the fellowship's history. Learn more at caralevine.com.

Psychedelicatessen: A Powerful Dose of Art by Steve Marcus

Steve Marcus, affectionately dubbed the "Top Dog of Kosher Pop Art," brings a vibrant, "psychedelic" visual celebration to the museum. His beloved cartoon universe, created from his home in New York City's Lower East Side, has been viewed by millions, appearing on five continents in print, fashion, and broadcast media. Marcus' signature style infuses Jewish cultural motifs with playful comedy and exuberant color.

This new exhibition is "a combination of his psychedelic history, Hasidic knowledge, and essential drollness" (Up Magazine) and revels in humor, spirituality, and communal joy, offering a visual feast that invites laughter, uplift, and the subversive power of pop art. Inspired by a fusion of the psychedelic hippie culture of the 1960s, Judaism, and Jewish Culture, Marcus' hand-drawn works on paper and handmade objects are colorful and comical flashbacks. Viewers take a mystical tour on the magic bus down an irreverent, fun, and insightful road that reveals his quirky sense of humor and passion for his own roots and culture. The new project seamlessly marries Marcus' Jewish spirituality with his past involvement in the counterculture and the cannabis reform movement, putting a modern spin on Jewish subjects and life that form alternative culture classics for new generations of modern Jews. Turn on, tune in, drop in, and enjoy, laugh, and space out on Steve Marcus' kabbalistic Jewish artwork inspired by underground comics, Hasidism, and the psychedelic art of the free love era.

Born in the month of August in 1969, also known as the Summer of Love, Marcus takes the viewer out of this world with the artwork he creates in his studio on the Lower East Side, one of New York City's most important and historic Jewish neighborhoods. Marcus has developed an international reputation in the art world over the past 36 years. You can learn more about Steve Marcus and the art he creates from his Lower East Side studio in Manhattan at smarcus.com.

Oregon Jewish Voices honors six in 26th year

Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education

Oregon Jewish Voices, the annual event honoring Jewish authors from around the state, will celebrate its 26th anniversary with a reading by this year's honorees – Bonnie Comfort, Dorice Horenstein, Daniela Naomi Molnar, Brian Rohr and Willa Schneberg – Wednesday, Nov. 5 at 7 pm at the Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education in Portland.

Bonnie Comfort is a psychologist, speaker, and author. As an expert on marital therapy, she appears frequently on podcasts. She is on a mission to embolden women to advocate more clearly for themselves. Her recently released memoir, *“Staying Married Is the Hardest Part”* (Simon & Schuster), examines the question of whether a loving marriage can survive career setbacks, infidelity and mismatched sexual desire and was covered in the July 2, 2025 edition of The Jewish Review. Her first book, *“Denial,”* a psychological thriller from Simon & Schuster, was well-reviewed and published in eight countries. Learn more at BonnieComfort.com.

Dorice Horenstein was born and raised in Israel and came to the United States with \$600, one suitcase, and no coat—landing in Portland, Oregon. For

30 years, she served as a Jewish education leader. She is author of *“Moments of the Heart”* and the recently published *“Choose to Be Your Own Champion,”* which was covered in the Apr. 30, 2025 edition of The Jewish Review. Drawing from Jewish wisdom, lived experience, and successful strategies to promote mental health, Horenstein empowers individuals and organizations to transform stress into resilience, setbacks into growth, disconnection into engagement.

Daniela Naomi Molnar is a poet, artist, and writer who creates with color, water, language, and place. Her latest collection, *“Protocols: An Erasure”* (Ayin Press, 2025), transforms the world's most influential antisemitic document, *“The Protocols of the Elders of Zion,”* into a poem that explores questions of power, history and language. Her debut book, *“CHORUS,”* won the 2024 Oregon Book Award. Forthcoming books include *“Memory of a Larger Mind”* (Omnidawn, 2026), and *“Light/Remains”* (Bored Wolves Press, 2028). Molnar lives in Portland and in the high deserts of the North American West.

Brian Rohr is a poet, writer, and performative storyteller based in Beaverton. He's the founder and director of The Stafford Challenge, an international poetry project which has encouraged

over a thousand participants to write a poem every day for a year, inspired by the legendary William Stafford. His debut collection, *“Shaken to My Bones: A Poetic Midrash on the Torah,”* was published by Ben Yehuda Press in 2024 as part of their Jewish Poetry Project series and was covered in the Aug. 28, 2024 edition of The Jewish Review. His work explores mythology, mysticism, ecology, and the transformative power of story. Learn more at brianrohr.com and staffordchallenge.com.

Willa Schneberg is a poet, ceramic sculptor, and curator. *“The Naked Room,”* her latest, and sixth poetry collection, is a true synthesis of her life as a psychotherapist, and as a poet. Among her honors are the Oregon Book Award in Poetry, residencies in Kathmandu, Yaddo, MacDowell, Essere, Tuscany (2026), publication in American Poetry Review, Salmagundi, and poems on the Writer's Almanac. This is the 26th year she has curated Oregon Jewish Voices. Presently, she and Jim Lommasson are working on a Poetry/Photography project with elder poets entitled “What We Hold & Leave Behind.”

Tickets for the reading are \$10, \$5 for OJMCHE members, and can be purchased online at ojmche.org/events/oregon-jewish-voices-2025/

Portland Jewish Academy open house set for Nov. 16

Portland Jewish Academy

Portland Jewish Academy will host an open house for prospective students and their families Sunday, Nov. 16 from 10 am-noon at the school. Don't miss this open house to hear from students, parents and staff share why they love PJA!

Attendees can participate in interactive classroom activities with your child, meet some of PJA's extraordinary teachers and

learn more about PJA's comprehensive curriculum.

PJA is proud to be an inclusive Jewish community school that welcomes families of all backgrounds. PJA offers a well-rounded education infused with Jewish values that emphasizes collaboration, critical thinking, social-emotional learning, community engagement, and character development.

RSVP online at pjaproud.org/openhouse.

PJA Auction is Dec. 7

Portland Jewish Academy

Blast off to a new galaxy at this year's “Out of This World” PJA Auction Sunday, Dec. 7 at 4:30 pm at the Mittleman Jewish Community Center—an unforgettable evening filled with community, celebration, and impact.

Join PJA for a stellar night featuring cocktail hour & cosmic games, schmoozing, a delicious dinner, a costume contest and raffle prizes plus silent and live auctions that are truly out of this world! This year, your generosity goes twice as far: all Auction sponsorships and Mitzvah Moment donations will be 100% matched by the Jay & Diane Zidell Charitable Foundation. Together, we'll ensure every student at PJA can thrive—whether through financial aid (supporting over 50 percent of our students), classroom technology, field trips, library books, or other essential learning materials.

Learn more and purchase tickets online at pjaproud.org/auction. Don't miss the chance to be part of this out-of-this-world celebration!

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Rachel's Well seeks new mikvah guides

The Jewish Review staff

Have you ever immersed in a mikvah and felt the power of that transformational experience? Do you love the idea of embodied Jewish practice? Have you had life experiences—personal and/or professional—that call you to support others in moments of celebration, contemplation and vulnerability? Can you hold space and keep the confidence of others in sacred moments? If you answered yes to these questions then [Rachel's Well Community Mikvah](#) wants YOU!

The *mikvah* is recruiting new guides of all genders and Jewish backgrounds. Immersions may be halachic (mandated by Jewish law) or contemporary (transitions ranging from milestone birthdays to gender transitions to grief and more). Prior experience with *mikvah* preferred but not mandatory. If you've immersed at Rachel's Well, how wonderful that would be! What is required is a commitment to the above principles, a respect for the breadth of our Jewish community, responsiveness to time-sensitive requests and the time to attend community members seeking meaning in a mikvah immersion.

Applications accepted now through Nov. 14 online at tinyurl.com/MikvahApp.

Questions? Contact Rachel's Well Ops Manager Caron Blau Rothstein, caron@jewishportland.org or 503-245-6449.

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Bronfman teen fellowship apps now open

By STEFANIE WEISMAN

Samuel Bronfman Foundation

The Bronfman Fellowship is pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for its historic 40th cohort. Every year, the fellowship selects twenty-six outstanding North American teenagers from a wide range of Jewish backgrounds for a free, intellectually challenging year of programming, beginning with an immersive summer experience in the U.S. and Israel in between the Fellows' junior and senior years of high school. For nearly 40 years, the program has educated and inspired exceptional young Jews to have a significant impact on the world as community builders, deep thinkers, moral voices, and cultural creators. The nonprofit Fellowship was founded by Edgar M. Bronfman, z"l, formerly CEO of the Seagram Company Ltd. and a visionary Jewish philanthropist.

Applications for the 2026 Fellowship are due December 2, 2025, and are available online at bronfman.org. High school students in the U.S. and Canada who identify as Jewish and who are in 11th grade in fall of 2025 are eligible to apply. The Bronfman Fellowship is a pluralistic program for Jews of all backgrounds; prior Jewish education is not required.

"The Fellowship is an opportunity for

dynamic personal and intellectual growth in a group of carefully chosen teens," said Becky Voorwinde, CEO. "In a world that is increasingly polarized and divided, we seek to increase communication and understanding between young people from across the spectrum of Jewish life, including fostering bonds between Jews in North America and Israel. This program serves as a creative force that has inspired some of our best Jewish young adults to become leaders in their communities, and to develop their unique talents to change the world for the better."

The Fellowship year begins with extensive programming in the U.S. and a 10-day trip to Israel, where the Fellows interact with a group of exceptional Israeli peers who were chosen through a parallel selection process by the Israeli branch of the Fellowship, Amitei Bronfman. Following their immersive summer, Fellows have monthly virtual meetings and two in-person seminars in the U.S., in which they explore major themes in Jewish life, and embark on projects to bridge the ideas and questions from their Bronfman summer with their daily lives and home communities.

To learn more about The Bronfman Fellowship, and to apply, visit <https://bronfman.org>.



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NEXT ISSUE

Issue date Deadline

NOV 5 OCT 30

Security Corner

Try a training this winter

By JESSICA ANDERSON

Now that the High Holidays are over, I'm happy to share that my weekly safety and security training series is back on Zoom. Here's the link so you can head over there right now and register! <https://jewishportland.org/events/security-training>. I've spoken before about the challenges of reaching individual community members to let them know about my position, how I can be a resource for them, and to provide safety and security training. Training is a major part of my job - it's a huge focus within the Secure Community Network (SCN), and it's somewhat challenging in that I can't force community members to take training classes, and I can't compel organizations to invite me into their spaces to train their communities. I get it - there are so many things competing for our time and plenty of reasons not to take safety and security classes. Statistically, you'll never need it. However, this is where we remind ourselves of Colleyville, Texas - those men didn't expect to be in a hostage situation for 10 hours that day in 2021. But they had training and spent the day devising an escape from their situation. Two quotes that I hope inspire you: "The SCN training saved all of our lives. Period." said Jeff Cohen, a survivor of the Colleyville, TX, hostage-taking, and "We can never know when the next attack will occur, but we can control our readiness and preparation," from Michael Masters, SCN's National Director. Safety training



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.

is not about scaring you to think that bad things happen in Jewish spaces; bad things do happen everywhere, and we can't control the "when" and "where." But training provides the confidence to know you're capable of handling situations anywhere and can step in and be a leader if necessary.

I'm a big proponent of training because it readies your mind for challenging situations of all kinds. We know that training improves outcomes in an emergency. It's easy to say you'll probably never need any of it. No one ever thinks they're going to be in a critical incident, and yet people find themselves in them every day.

If you've had some of the training before, consider taking them again to refresh your skills. Most of these courses have been recently revamped and updated. You'll find registration links on the community calendar and the Federation website at the security page. They are offered at 12pm on weekdays, and every class is offered each month.

Every course offers something unique, but the De-escalation Class is my favorite

course. It provides specific skills and tools relevant to human interactions, whether you're dealing with a challenging member of the public or you're having dinner with an obnoxious family member.

Navigating Conflict: The Power of De-Escalation

The goal of this course is to provide a basic understanding of and introduction to the skills and techniques to defuse or reduce tension, hostility, and/or conflict in situations. The course covers the following topics: the definition of de-escalation, common escalation triggers, the de-escalation process, communication skills, and handling aggression. While geared towards those of us in public-facing roles, this is also a great course for anyone with a spouse, partner, siblings, drunk uncle, boss, or co-worker!

BeAware: Introduction to Situational Awareness

SCN's introduction to situational awareness course, is a basic, foundational course that seeks to build observation skills and will teach you techniques to recognize and react to various situations in your everyday life. It in-

See **SECURITY**, page 18

'Peacock,' pledges and Portland's real problems

By **BOB HORENSTEIN**

As a native Portlander whose family has lived here for nearly 120 years, I was hopeful that the new Portland City Council members who were elected in 2024 would work to build consensus and a sense of unity in addressing the city's major crises. Imagine, then, my dismay, when I learned of an effort by the group of six councilors who call themselves "Peacock" (short for progressive caucus) to hijack the council's agenda in pursuit of punitive actions against the State of Israel.

On Oct. 17, four of the councilors—Mitch Green, Tiffany Koyama Lane, Angelita Morillo and Sameer Kanal, all self-described democratic socialists—held a virtual press conference to demonize the world's only Jewish state. (Though not present during the conference, Candace Avalos and Jamie Dunphy also expressed their support for the proposed measures.)

At a time when Portland is facing an intractable homelessness and addiction crisis, a dearth of affordability housing, declining tax revenue as businesses flee the city, and the deployment of the National Guard to our streets, Green and his colleagues' anti-Israel agenda took center stage. Just to underscore the depth of their animosity, the press conference featured a speaker from Jewish Voice for Peace, a radical group whose mission includes vilifying Zionism, an integral part of the religious and cultural identity of the overwhelming majority of Jews worldwide.

Shockingly, in a move that smacks of antisemitism, the conveners even barred the editor of *The Jewish Review* from the press conference to preclude him from asking questions. And I thought these progressive leaders supported freedom of the press.

This is all part of a wider national Democratic Socialists of America campaign in opposition to the terms of the recent ceasefire deal and in support of ongoing Palestinian "resistance" (a euphemism for the terrorist group Hamas). In a statement issued on Oct. 13, DSA called for a boycott to "isolate Israel economically, culturally, and academically." Of course, there wasn't a single mention of Hamas's massacre of Israelis on Oct. 7, 2023. Nor was there any condemnation of the public executions of Palestinians in Gaza carried out by Hamas since the ceasefire.

Locally, the gang of six has called for an investigation into the city's "complicity" in Israeli "apartheid" and "genocide." The claim of apartheid is a verifiable falsehood as anyone who has visited Israel knows. The false accusation of genocide, which the Palestinians have been declaring for decades despite a fivefold increase in the Palestinian population of the West Bank and Gaza since Israel's establishment, is a blood libel that is currently fueling a surge in antisemitism against American Jews who are said to be complicit.

Peacock is demanding an investigation of companies operating in Israel from which they seek to divest. Does



Bob Horenstein is the Chief Community Relations and Public Affairs Officer for the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland.

that mean Intel, which has four development and production sites in Israel? Then again, if the councilors are serious about the wider Israel boycott called for by DSA, they should immediately stop using their personal computers and cell phones since they undoubtedly use technology produced in—yes—Israel.

Another unreasonable measure called for by Peacock is to terminate the Portland-Ashkelon sister city relationship, a form of collective punishment against Israelis living in that Mediterranean coastal city. Ironically, up until the Hamas attack, Ashkelon's Barzilai Hospital routinely treated Palestinians from Gaza who had severe medical problems.

Let's understand, however, that all this is merely a subterfuge for demonizing Israel—delegitimization under the guise of "human rights." It's an insidious and divisive campaign that will alienate most of Portland's 35,000 Jews while doing absolutely nothing to help the Palestinians.

Most significantly, it will detract from the critical work that is sorely needed to solve our city's mounting problems.

Events

See all of Portland's Jewish community events online at
jewishportland.org/community-calendar

LOUISE SILVER

It is with deep sadness that Congregation Shaarie Torah announces the passing of Louise (Liora) Silver, z"l, beloved mother of Theresa Silver. Louise passed away on Thursday, Sept. 25, 2025 in Massachusetts. She is survived by daughter Theresa Silver and granddaughter Eleanor Silver. The funeral was held on Sunday, Sept. 28th at Beit Olam

East, in Wayland, Mass.

LIDIA LEKAKH

With sadness, Chabad of Southwest Portland announces the passing of Lidia Lekakh, z"l, Friday, Oct. 17. The funeral was held Friday, Oct. 17 at the Chabad Section of Riverview Cemetery in Portland. Lidia is survived by her daughters Liza Russ and Veida Lekakh.

SECURITY (continued from page 16)

cludes going to and from shul, but also dropping off kids at school, navigating crowds, and planning ahead. The course will cover how to train yourself to pay more attention, the influences in your brain that impede observation, and options for reacting to your observations.

Guardian

Guardian seeks to empower people to be "Active Bystanders." This class is considered the next step from BeAware: Intro to Situational Awareness. The goal is to provide individuals with the skillset to identify potential threats, protect institutions, and respond to situations from a safety perspective. Elements include how to react appropriately to possible threats, the use of de-escalation techniques, and concepts from the Department of Homeland Security's The Power of Hello program. This class is geared to individuals who may be in a position of responsibility for an organization – maybe a chaperone with a student group or an usher/greeter.

Countering Active Threat

Training (CATT)

The goal of CATT is to provide participants with a better understanding of active threats and potential response options. This course subscribes to the national Run, Hide, Fight model and SCN developed CATT with a singular goal: national delivery of a strategy to teach what to do during a threatening situation, wherever it may occur.

Stop the Bleed

Through our Stop the Bleed course, you'll gain the ability to recognize life-threatening bleeding and intervene effectively. Bleeding to death is the leading cause of fatalities following an accident. Stop the Bleed is a national program, like Red Cross First Aid and CPR, designed to train people how to stop potentially fatal bleeding. This training is relevant to all aspects of our lives, outdoor recreation, household accidents, etc. You'll learn the concepts of wound pressure and packing skills, and learn how to use a tourniquet on yourself and others. The person next to a bleeding victim may be the one who

is most likely to save them.

In addition to the above classes, here are other available courses:

Traveler Safety

Traveler Safety is a course designed for anyone traveling, domestically or internationally, that provides a framework for increasing safety before and during travel. If you're an individual traveler, I'm happy to share the course contents with you at your convenience.

Personal Protection Program

The arson of the Pennsylvania Governor's home, the murder of the United Healthcare CEO, have demonstrated that Jewish executives and professionals carry a degree of risk as a result of their work. SCN's Personal Protection Program provides personalized assistance navigating safety and security at the intersection of your personal and professional worlds.

Camp Training

Camp Training has three courses, each focusing on a specific audience (Counselors, Staff, Leadership), that

provide education around awareness, planning, training, and action.

College Campus Safety

This course focuses on the unique challenges for students on college campuses. Given the surge in antisemitic incidents since October 2023, the emphasis on planning and preparedness is crucial.

Besides security training, I'm also available to work with organizations on emergency procedures, developing safety protocols, and conducting Threat and Vulnerability Risk Assessments (TVRA) of your space for safety improvements. If you are an individual who wants to speak with me about a personal safety or security concern, please feel free to contact me at janderson@securecommunitynetwork.org or 872-273-9214. As always, we know antisemitic incidents are vastly underreported! Please let me know about incidents you're aware of or submit it at the JFGP security webpage: <https://www.jewishportland.org/security>, by phone, or email.

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