

# The JEWISH REVIEW

Oregon and SW Washington's Online Jewish Newspaper

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## Explore solar solutions for all

BY DEBORAH MOON

The Oregon Interfaith Solar Campaign has a two-pronged plan to expand solar energy in the state by both houses of worship and individuals.

### CONGREGATIONS

Inspired in part by the solar installation at Temple Beth Shalom in Salem (see story page 11), the interfaith group has gathered resources to expand the use of solar power by congregations. The campaign collaborates with synagogues, churches, mosques and other houses of worship to help them find funding and other resources to add solar projects to their buildings.

"Many congregations start to move in that direction, and then they get bids and get sticker shock and put solar on the back burner," says Lou Stagnitto, Project Manager of OIS ([oregon-interfaithsolar.org](http://oregon-interfaithsolar.org)). "We can help them find funding sources people are not aware of."

In collaboration with CollectiveSuin LLC, OIS helps congregations access tax incentives. Other funding options include programs from the Energy Trust of Oregon and grants from utilities such as Portland General Electric.

Temple Beth Shalom received a PGE grant to include battery backup in their solar project, which enables the synagogue to serve as a resilience center during extended power outages.

"They're one of our inspirations, and a lot of these religious communities are looking to be centers of resilience in the face of natural disaster," says Stagnitto. "What that means is that when and if the grid goes down, they will have some reserve energy that can power some parts of the building."

## JFCS, volunteers spread Thanksgiving joy (and food!)

Jewish Family & Child Service ran its 21st Thanksgiving Food Box program Nov. 20 with the help of generous community partners, donors, 65 volunteers (including Ralph Leftwich, pictured) and agency staff. Volunteers commandeered the Mittleman Jewish Community Center to pack 150 boxes of Thanksgiving meal fixings for about 600 individuals and then hand them off to drivers who deliver them throughout Multnomah, Washington and Clackamas counties. This year's partners include five synagogues, four Jewish communal organizations, four grocery stores and four retail outlets. For some families, volunteering is an annual tradition.



### CLIMATE CHANGE SOLUTIONS

The Climate Action Committee of the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland and Oregon Interfaith Solar Campaign Present:

#### Solar Energy Information Meeting

**WHY:** To raise awareness of the issue of climate change and available solutions for both organizations and individuals.

**WHEN/WHERE:** 5 pm, Dec. 8, on Zoom

**EMAIL:** [strategicsolarguy@gmail.com](mailto:strategicsolarguy@gmail.com) for link

He says that power allows the congregation to provide resources such as refrigeration for medicine and foods, meal preparation and warm shelter after a natural disaster.

### HOMEOWNERS/RENTERS/OTHERS

In addition, OIS is raising awareness about the Community Solar project created by the Oregon Legislature, which gives homeowners, renters, nonprofits and businesses discounts for subscribing to a solar project in their area. Community Solar is solar energy that is generated from a central location and shared by multiple owners or subscribers, similar to CSAs for farm produce.

Customers of Portland General Electric, Pacific Power and Idaho Power can subscribe and save 5% (40% for low-income subscribers) on the cost of their power that is offset by a local solar project. For more information and to sign up, visit Community Solar at [oregoncsp.org](http://oregoncsp.org).

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# Agency Spotlight

*Profiles of the 18 local beneficiary agencies of the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland's 2022 Annual Campaign.*



At the end of summer, Oregon Hillel took 17 students from two campuses on a Perspectives Trip to Israel.

## OREGON HILLEL

**Service Area:** University of Oregon & Oregon State University

[oregonhillel.org](http://oregonhillel.org) | 541-343-8920

**Mission:** Oregon Hillel is the catalyst for connecting students, building community and inspiring leadership through Jewish values at the University of Oregon and Oregon State University. The student-centric organization is the only pluralistic Jewish community on the campuses and is committed to providing a caring and welcoming environment for all students.

Oregon Hillel has been able to expand services to Oregon State University and increase the services provided to students at both UO and OSU. Hillel provides a range of student support services including mentorship, wellness support, opportunities to observe Jewish holidays, both for-credit Jewish learning (at UO) and informal Jewish education, student advocacy at both universities, Israel trips and much more.

"Students are encouraged to explore and express their Jewish identity in whatever way they find comfortable," says Oregon Hillel Executive Director Andy Gitelson. "Whether you are just beginning your Jewish journey or well on your way, you'll always feel welcome at Oregon Hillel."

"The Jewish Federation of Greater Portland has been a critical partner and investor in Oregon Hillel," says Gitelson. "We would not be able to build the vibrant Jewish communities on each campus without the Federation and every community member who so generously supports both Hillel and JFGP."

This year, Oregon Hillel added a second full-time staff member at OSU – Zidell Family Ezra Jewish Education Fellow Michala Katz. Katz and Jewish Student Life Coordinator Lev Silberstein together are providing additional programs and support for the Beaver community.

Hillel Senior Jewish Educator Rabbi Meir Goldstein has developed a new course for UO's winter term. As part of the Harold Schnitzer Family Program in Jewish Studies, the course will trace the history of the Jewish community in Oregon and specifically in Eugene. Students will learn about and research the Jewish history throughout the state and build a website that can help tell that story for years to come.

Oregon Hillel runs trips to Israel for students on both campuses: Birthright, offered in winter and summer; Shalom Hartman iEngage Seminar in Jerusalem in the winter; and Perspectives at the end of summer.

## Israel's Consul General to PNW visits Portland, explores partnerships

BY DEBORAH MOON

The new Consul General of Israel to the Pacific Northwest was in Portland Nov. 14-16 for the first of what he hopes will be many visits to expand ties and partnerships with local Jewish, business, political and academic communities.

On Aug. 1, Marco Sermoneta began what is expected to be a four-year stint as the Consul General of Israel to the PNW based in San Francisco. He hopes to visit Portland three to four times a year.

"We can do a lot together," says Sermoneta. "I am excited to see how we can work together on a variety of issues."

During his tenure, he hopes to broaden understanding among Oregon political, business and Jewish leaders about Israel and why it is so important for the United States. He hopes to take state political leaders to Israel and to lead a trade delegation to Israel to increase interest in Israeli high tech, especially sports tech. Sports technology developed in Israel includes wearables to help athletes improve performance analysis and technology that enhances

the involvement of fans and spectators. He said Oregon and Israel could both benefit from sharing best practices.

"Portland and Oregon have a lot of interesting companies active on the global stage," he adds, mentioning Intel and Nike.

But on his first Portland visit, he primarily met with Jewish community leadership. His goal for the visit was "to continue our joint work in the community, to plan together for celebrating Israel's 75th anniversary next year and to get a better sense of the lay of the land."

Sermoneta says that for a nation that was re-established just 75 years ago in a very complex geopolitical region, Israel has been able to thrive and create a strong economy.

"We are able to do a lot of 'punching above our weight' when it comes to contributing for the benefit of humankind," he says. "More and more our neighbors are recognizing Israel is a force for good."

The Consul General also met with Oregon Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum to discuss ways to combat the scourge of antisemitism. He also had lunch with the President of Portland State University and Jewish leaders on campus.

Born in Rome, Italy, Sermoneta says, "I am proud to define myself as an Israeli and as a Diaspora Jew. I wear both hats. My purpose is to love my brothers and sisters – all of the Jewish people."

Sermoneta joined the Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1993. Most recently, 2019-22, he was a Special Envoy to the Conference of Interaction and Confidence-building in Asia and Focal Point on Afghanistan in the Department for Euro-Asia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Previously, he served as Israel's Ambassador to Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Jamaica, and as Deputy Ambassador to Japan.



Marco Sermoneta, Consul General of Israel to the Pacific Northwest, and, right, Marc Blattner, President and CEO of the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland.



# Dror Israel educates for peace and equality

BY DEBORAH MOON

Dror Israel believes in democracy, equality and peace created through education and community, Noam Schlanger told Portlanders during a recent visit from Israel.

Schlanger lives in one of 16 Dror Israel educator communities, or educational kibbutzim, with 1,300 educators who reach 150,000 participants a year with programming designed to build a just and equal society. During his mid-November visit, Schlanger spoke to several groups, including the board and staff of the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland, a funding partner of Dror Israel for many years.

Akko, the port city where Schlanger lives and works, is a “beautiful port city... a mixed city ... a poor city with high unemployment” that he calls a microcosm of Israel. The city is less than 60% Jewish, of which a quarter are olim (immigrants) from the former Soviet Union, India and other countries. The Arab population includes Muslims, Christians, Druze and others. Walking the streets, one can hear many languages including Hebrew, Arabic and Russian.

“Having so many different people in one city” offers the potential for either inevitable conflict or “the chance for a true shared society,” says Schlanger.

“Into this mix, Dror Israel came in 2005,” he says. “With the generous help of the people of Portland, we took over an old people’s home and made it into an urban community of educators, a kibbutz,” he says. Now 80 educators live there, manage many schools in the area and run 12



Dror Israel programs in Akko include a youth movement with Arab and Jewish chapters, a bike repair program where Arab youth learn to fix bicycles, a neighborhood committee that meets weekly to address local issues and many relief programs during Covid, including supporting vulnerable members of the community and providing a camp for the children of health-care workers.

programs in Akko reaching 20,000 people annually.

“Some of the things we thought would be wonderful weren’t, so we changed,” says Schlanger. “We change and adapt to meet actual needs of people.”

Even in a shared society, each culture and each group needs its own place to celebrate their culture and religion, he says. The challenge is to design a shared platform where all can be fruitful but meet in a friendly way.

During nationwide riots in May 2021 that premise was put to the test. Akko’s Arab community planned a peaceful protest, but the protest turned into two days of riots.

Schlanger showed a photo of an Arab man visiting a badly injured man in a hospital bed. The visitor was a graduate of an Akko Arab Dror Israel program who had put himself between the violent crowd and the battered man and saved his life, said Schlanger.

“Education sometimes pays off, sometimes it bears fruit and saves lives,” he says. “We are working day to day to build relationships.”

“No one left Akko after May 2021,” he says. “We are here for the long run. We have a social network that provides the mental and emotional support for what we do.”

For information on Dror Israel and its programs, visit [drorisrael.org](http://drorisrael.org).

## Grants available for teens dreaming of studying in Israel

To create the leaders of tomorrow, Jewish National Fund-USA is investing in today’s teens with Dream Israel grants to make it financially possible for more teens from across the United States to study abroad in Israel.

Four Oregon teens have signed up for the grant. Next year, they plan to participate in programs at the Alexander Muss High School in Israel, one of four long-term programs eligible for the grants.

Dream Israel enables teens to earn grants of up to \$7,500 to attend an approved program of their choice. Teens can reduce tuition costs at long-term programs including one that is non-denominational, two that are affiliated with Conservative Judaism

and one with the Union for Reform Judaism: Alexander Muss High School, Ramah TRY, USY High and URJ Heller High.

Dream Israel was created with a commitment of \$25 million through JNF-USA’s Boruchin Center.

“This initiative is not only getting more teens to Israel on long-term trips, but also teaching them the value of tzedakah – an important message for our future leaders of the Jewish world,” said Dream Israel Initiative Manager Zoë Carvel.

To qualify for the grant, teens must also fundraise for a JNF-USA project in Israel.

“Jewish National Fund-USA is about securing the Jewish People’s future, and the most effective way to establish lifelong

connections between our next generation and their ancestral soil is through long-term programs in Israel,” said Jewish National Fund-USA Boruchin Center Chair Mike Lederman. “Dream Israel will inspire our next generation to connect with their heritage, history and future.”

For details, visit [my.jnf.org/dreamisrael](http://my.jnf.org/dreamisrael).

Two local programs also offer aid for teen Israel programs. The Jewish Federation of Greater Portland offers Chai Israel funds ([jewishportland.org/travelisrael](http://jewishportland.org/travelisrael)). The Oregon Board of Rabbis and the Krichevsky fund at Oregon Jewish Community Foundation offer scholarships to teens engaged in synagogue-based Hebrew High programs; contact your synagogue.

# Get Ready: Chanukah begins at sunset Dec. 18!

Our Dec. 7 issue will feature more tips and events to make your Chanukah bright



## Found! Chanukah latkes, sufganiyot & meals

BY KERRY POLITZER

Every year, it seems like there are more Jewish holiday food options in Portland to choose from, and this year is no exception. The city's smorgasbord of latkes, kugel and sufganiyot is sure to make your Chanukah celebration extra delicious.

One of the most creative and appealing menus comes from a newer entry to Portland, Jacob & Sons Delicatessen. For the past few years, Noah and Dori Jacob have been cooking up an ever-changing array of weekly suppers as well as smoking their own sable, salmon and pastrami. They have opened up a storefront in Old Town, with takeout only.

The Jacobs' Chanukah menu is a mix of the inventive and the traditional; rye-crust-ed maitake mushroom schnitzel with rose harissa aioli and zaatar steelhead salmon share a space with hearty tzimmes, chopped liver, matzoh ball soup and braised brisket. This writer can attest that Jacob & Sons' baked items are excellent – don't miss the chocolate babka, apricot-almond rugelach and soul-satisfying braided challah (below).



Pre-orders are being taken now, and the deli is also open for day-of, to-go orders. The Jacobs recommend ordering early as popular items tend to sell out. Orders will be available for pickup at 337 NW Broadway Dec. 16-22. Pre-order at [jacobandsonspdx.com/hanukkah-menu](http://jacobandsonspdx.com/hanukkah-menu)



Another newer Portland food business is Sweet Lorraine's Latkes & More, which is now in its second year of operation after a very successful 2021. Inspired by New York landmarks like Yonah Schimmel's Knishery, the cart is named after the Jewish grandmother of one of its owners. (She was apparently very proud of the business.)

"Our goal is to keep the tradition of the Jewish dairy kitchen alive," says co-owner Rachel Brashear. "Many of these foods are hard to find in the Pacific Northwest, especially made from scratch! Someday, maybe we will be able to open a small breakfast/lunch counter in a brick and mortar. Until then, we are happy to serve our handmade food out of our little cart on North Albina."

Sweet Lorraine's offers kasha varnishkes, latkes (with a gluten-free option) with sour cream and applesauce, savory broccoli Parmesan kugel and sufganiyot. Visit the cart at Eats on Albina, south of 4631 N. Albina Ave., or order at [sweetlorraineslatkes.squarespace.com/hanukkahspreorders](http://sweetlorraineslatkes.squarespace.com/hanukkahspreorders)

New Seasons is a perfect place to grab some Chanukah goodies on your way home. While the stores require a 72-hour notice for special orders, they will be stocked with grab-and-go brisket, chopped liver, baked



Sweet Lorraine's offers sufganiyot, latkes and more.

salmon with herbs, latkes, savory or sweet kugel, challah and even Chanukah cookies. [newseasonsmarket.com](http://newseasonsmarket.com).

Zupan's three metro locations also offer Chanukah dinner for 4 including Sweet & Sour Braised Brisket, Sweet Noodle Kugel, Tzimmes and Broccoli 'buleh. [zupans.com/shop/hanukkah/hanukkah-dinner-for-4/](http://zupans.com/shop/hanukkah/hanukkah-dinner-for-4/). While you're there, you can pick up a half dozen raspberry-filled donuts.

Café at the J's Allen Levin says that he and his staff will be churning out 5,000-6,000 latkes in Portland's only certified kosher kitchen, "so they aren't frozen, but fresh." Customers can pick up latkes with sour cream and applesauce and donuts at the café, and there will be a Tuesday night brisket meal in addition to the Thursday meal pickup for Shabbat. More information at [oregonjcc.org/about-us/our-campus/cafe-at-the-j](http://oregonjcc.org/about-us/our-campus/cafe-at-the-j).

For a plant-based Chanukah option, try Ben & Esther's Vegan Jewish Deli. The completely animal product-free deli sells latkes, bagels, knishes and matzah balls. You can order online or by phone for pickup from two locations in Portland: 6912 NE Sandy Blvd. (503-477-5714), 1800 NE Alberta St. (503-265-8470) [benandesthers.com](http://benandesthers.com).

## Young Adults invited to connect Dec. 10 at Latke Ball 2022

Neveh Shalom hosts a Young Adult Latke Ball for ages 21-35ish at 7-10 pm, Dec. 10. Back from college and looking to reconnect with old friends from Hebrew school, camp or youth group? Or are you new to PDX and want to meet some new people? Congregation Neveh Shalom will open its doors to the young adults of

Portland's Jewish community this Chanukah season.

The gathering in Neveh Shalom's Birnback Hall features drinks, latkes, music, witty banter and fun. Early bird tickets are \$10 by Nov. 30; Regular price is \$18 by Dec. 5. Registration required at [members.nevehshalom.org/event/YoungAdultLatkeBall2022](http://members.nevehshalom.org/event/YoungAdultLatkeBall2022).



# Chanukah shopping options



## Everything Jewish reopens in time for Chanukah

Everything Jewish will reopen to the public on Nov. 28 in its new home at the Jewish Oasis in the Pearl District. "It's been a long journey with the permits and renovations, and we are thankful to be open in time for Chanukah. All are welcome to experience the signature Chabad joy and warmth at Everything Jewish," says Simi Mishulovin, who oversees the space with her husband, Rabbi Chayim Mishulovin. The store, which debuted in time for Chanukah 2005, was destroyed by fire in August 2020. Last year, Everything Jewish sold Chanukah essentials in a pop-up tent beside the burned out Chabad Center. This year, shoppers are invited to the new permanent location at 1218 NW Glisan St. Hours are Sunday, 11 am-3 pm; Monday-Thursday, 10 am-6 pm; and Friday, 10 am-1 pm.

## Bazaar Dec. 4 in Vancouver

Congregation Kol Ami hosts a Chanukah Bazaar offering gifts, cards and books, and Chanukah essentials such as candles, gift wrap, dreidels, gelt and hanukkiot.

Shop 10:30 am-2:30 pm, Dec. 4 at Kol Ami, 7800 NE 119<sup>th</sup> St., Vancouver, Wash., [admin@jewishvancouverusa.org](mailto:admin@jewishvancouverusa.org).

## Pop-Up Fair Dec. 4 at EJC

Do your Chanukah shopping 11 am-3 pm, Dec. 4, at the Eastside Jewish Commons, 2420 NE Sandy, Portland. This one-stop, pop-up shop for art, unique gifts and Chanukah supplies will feature creations by artists from ORA: NW Jewish Artists. Find calendars, jewelry, candles, gelt, cards and more. Afternoon entertainment will be provided by the Eastside Jewish Commons.

The fair is co-sponsored by Congregation Shir Tikvah, ORA: NW Jewish artists and the EJC. [fb.me/e/3KnWi1gil](https://fb.me/e/3KnWi1gil).

## ORA Fair Dec. 5-9 at MJCC

ORA artists will present a Chanukah Fair with the Mittleman Jewish Community Center, 6651 SW Capitol Hwy., Portland, Dec. 5-9. Find that special holiday treasure you are looking for Monday through Thursday, 9 am-7:30 pm; and Friday 9 am-3 pm.

*Happy  
Thanksgiving*

*Wishing You Every Blessing  
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# Events

## Nov. 29: Gresham Chabad Torah and Tea

Join other Jewish women in Gresham for inspiring Torah study, warm camaraderie, hot tea and delicious refreshments Tuesdays, 11 am, Nov. 29-Dec. 7. Study The Tanya, which compacts four millennia of Jewish wisdom to answer the great personal and existential questions of life. Meets at the Gresham Chabad Jewish Center 2091 SE Centurion Way, Gresham. For more information, visit [jewishgresham.com](http://jewishgresham.com) or email Cheina Dyce at [cheina@jewishgresham.com](mailto:cheina@jewishgresham.com).

## Nov. 30: Why Eden is No Eden: A Musical Lecture

Neveh Shalom Cantor Eyal Bitton discusses why the Garden of Eden story is not about a fall from grace but an overarching message about how we are expected to see ourselves as human beings who have been created in God's image. The Nov. 30 noon lecture will be on Zoom.

For questions, email Lisa Richmond at [richmond@nevehshalom.org](mailto:richmond@nevehshalom.org). You can find the [registration link](http://nevehshalom.org/events) at [nevehshalom.org/events](http://nevehshalom.org/events).

## Dec. 3: Mini Mensches Tot Shabbat

Welcome Shabbat with singing, dancing and sweetness at Congregation Beth Israel. Families with children 0-5 are invited to gather in the Pollin Chapel to sing Shabbat songs and end with a parade with our stuffed Torahs at 9 am, Dec. 3. [bethisrael-pdx.org/community/mini-mensches/](http://bethisrael-pdx.org/community/mini-mensches/)

## Dec. 3: Meditation Shabbat

The first Saturday of each month at Congregation Neveh Shalom is a Meditation Shabbat. An evolving series of practices are incorporated into the regular sanctuary service, with the sermon slot dedicated to a focused meditation. 9:30-noon at Neveh Shalom. For details, email Brian Rohr at [brohr@nevehshalom.org](mailto:brohr@nevehshalom.org).

## Dec. 4: Foods from the Bible and Talmud (Experiential)

The Bible speaks of Israel being the land of milk and honey and celebrates the seven species native to Israel. In this cooking demonstration with Neveh Shalom's Rabbi David Kosak and Lani Raider, gain a better understanding of legacy dishes. In addition to being Neveh Shalom's congregational assistant education director, Lani has a rich professional culinary background and was an instructor at the Culinary Institute of America. She and Rav D will cook ancient foods using olive oil acquired from an Israeli grower's collective. The olive oil will be available for purchase and helps to support Israel360 programming. Stay for a wonderful meal and conversation. \$18. Registration (required) by Nov. 28 at [nevehshalom.org/israel360/](http://nevehshalom.org/israel360/).

## Dec. 7: Moishe Pod-West PDX Wine and Paint Night

Young adults are invited to enjoy a good glass of wine and unlock your creativity as you paint and connect with other Jewish young professionals. 6:30-8:30 pm, Dec. 7. RSVP at [moishepodwestpdx.com](http://moishepodwestpdx.com).

## Dec. 11: Portland Jewish Academy Auction

For Portland Jewish Academy, 61 is a special number this year. It is the 61st anniversary of the school, which was established in 1961. So PJA's Annual Auction will be the "PJA Beach Party '61." The auction will be held in person with a virtual option. The event features a silent auction as well as a live auction. This year, everyone in person or at home can bid on everything in real time. The event includes a cocktail hour, dinner, costume contest, raffle, and a silent and live auction. All auction sponsorships and mitzvah moment donations will be matched 1.5X. Thanks to Jay and Diane Zidell for matching every Mitzvah Moment gift and sponsorship, and to Steve "Rosy" Rosenberg and Ellen Lippman for their additional 50% match of these gifts. The auction will be on Dec. 11, 2022. Doors open at 5 pm. Live auction starts at 6:30 pm. For tickets and information, visit [pjaproud.org/auction](http://pjaproud.org/auction).

See more events at

[jewishportland.org/community-calendar](http://jewishportland.org/community-calendar)

# Milt Carl Way Award Dinner returns Dec. 15

Honorees: Linda Nemer Singer,  
Irving Potter and Priscilla Kostiner

After a 2+ year delay due to Covid, the Milt Carl Way Award Dinner, presented by B'nai B'rith Camp and Congregation Shaarie Torah, will take place at 6 pm, Dec. 15, 2022, at the synagogue, 920 NW 25<sup>th</sup> Ave., Portland.

Milt Carl, z"l, was an icon in Portland's Jewish community – a leader who changed the landscape of the local Jewish community. Two organizations were especially important to him – B'nai B'rith Camp and Congregation Shaarie Torah.

To many leaders in the community, Milt was a mentor in how to conduct oneself in business, in philanthropy and in life. If you Google directions to B'nai B'rith Camp, you will see that you turn onto Milt Carl Way. The name does not just refer to a street but to a philosophy of how to conduct yourself in the world: to spend your time supporting others, volunteering your time, donating a bit extra "until it hurts just a little" and always asking others to give.

This year's honorees are Irving Potter (BB Camp), Linda Nemer Singer (CST) and Priscilla Kostiner (overall community).

An announcement of the awards notes: "Each of these individuals do it Milt's Way; they care deeply about the Jewish community and do profound work for many organizations. All three are dedicated to encouraging others to enjoy the immense pleasure of giving and to seeing the amazing results of a community coming together to make something new a reality. In addition to receiving the award, each honoree will be gifted \$1,000 to donate to the organizations of their choice."

Milt was not just a leader and *mensch*, he was also a terrific father and grandfather.

"When I was 10 years old, a song leader at BB Camp introduced the song *Ani Ve'ata Neshene Et Ha'Olam* (You and I will change this world together)," says Michelle Koplan, now the CEO of BB Camp. "I remember discussing the song's impact with my Uncle Milt Carl. We talked fervently about *tikkun olam* and serving our community with passion. Milt made an enormous impact on our community. Irv, Linda and Pricilla have epitomized the 'Milt Carl Way' by their example of giving to our community daily, for which we are all incredibly grateful."

Funds raised through this event will benefit the Milt Carl Campership Endowment at BB Camp and the Milt & Cissi Carl Youth Education Fund at Congregation Shaarie Torah.

Founded in 1921, BB Camp is a premier Jewish camp and conference center located on a lakeside campus on the scenic Oregon coast.

Shaarie Torah is a 108-year-old Jewish community nestled in the heart of Northwest Portland that balances contemporary and traditional Judaism, recognizing the past while looking to the future.

Tickets are available on the BB Camp website: [secure.qgiv.com/event/mcw22/](http://secure.qgiv.com/event/mcw22/). For more information, contact Stacey Lebenzon at 503-496-7445.



# Nefesh Mountain to perform in Portland Dec. 1 & 4

Nefesh Mountain, hailed by Rolling Stone as “one of today’s formative boundary pushing Bluegrass/Americana bands,” will perform two concerts in Portland the first week of December.

At 8 pm, Dec. 1, Nefesh Mountain will perform at The Old Church. The Mittleman Jewish Community Center is sponsoring group discount tickets at \$15 each. Buy tickets at [etix.com/ticket/p/5413006/nefesh-mountain-portland-the-old-church-concert-hall](https://etix.com/ticket/p/5413006/nefesh-mountain-portland-the-old-church-concert-hall) using the password TOC15.

Then, Nefesh Mountain will appear in concert in Congregation Beth Israel’s historic Main Sanctuary at 5 pm, Sunday, Dec. 4. Thanks to the generous support of David and Naomi Balto, this concert is free and open to the public. No RSVP is necessary, but for questions email Tracy Alifanz at [Tracy@BethIsrael-pdx.org](mailto:Tracy@BethIsrael-pdx.org).

“The Dec. 1 show will lean a little less Jewish, more bluegrass,” says the band’s co-manager, Neal Spielberg.

The New York-based band has been wowing audiences since 2015. Their latest album, “Songs for the Sparrows,” has been



Nefesh Mountain creators and husband-and-wife team Eric Lindberg and Doni Zasloff (center) are joined on stage (and in the mountains) by three musicians.

called a true testament to the unbridled imagination and grace of their musicianship and creativity. Their music continues to forge new paths combining elements of everything from Americana and Appala-

chian bluegrass to Celtic folk and Eastern European melodies with messages of inclusivity, diversity and hope.

Sample the band’s music in a short video at [vimeo.com/721169868/726ca787ed](https://vimeo.com/721169868/726ca787ed).

## Eastside Jewish Commons showcases artists

The Eastside Jewish Commons is growing into a visual and performing arts venue for the Jewish community.

“It’s still a new organization with start-up energy, so there’s lots of room to experiment,” says Eric Stern, who joined EJC in April as Arts and Events Coordinator.

December will feature several art and music programs in the Commons.

Exhibits of visual art begin with an exhibit opening 5-7 pm, Dec. 8, with painter Madison Mikel Weiss on hand to discuss her work. Influenced by illustrators and painters such as Picasso, Peter Max and Edward Gorey, Madison began refining her own visual and conceptual voice through the expression of emotions through painting in 1998. Since then, her work has intertwined concepts of psychology and dreams, whimsical epiphanies and a gentle transcendence into the exploration of the soul. Madison’s work can be found in private art collections in the United States, Paris, London and Mexico. She now lives in Portland and exhibits her paintings throughout the city. Madison will be exhibiting her work at the EJC through January.

Visual arts continue to be a staple at the EJC next year. Feb. 2 will be the opening of an exhibit by Rosalyn Kliot, an award-winning artist as well as an occasional writer, whose art, poetry and essays have been published in various journals and books. Then on June 1, the Commons will host a showing of the works created by participants in Art/Lab, a project of Co/Lab. Art/Lab brings contemporary artists with Jewish backgrounds together to study Jewish



These owls will be among the works exhibited by painter Madison Mikel Weiss at the Eastside Jewish Commons beginning with an artist reception Dec. 8.

texts and reflect on their relevance to contemporary life and artistic creativity.

EJC, Eric Stern Music and Congregation Shir Tikvah present the return of Havdalah Café at 6-9 pm, Dec. 10. Come to the Commons for Havdalah, and then celebrate life café-style with tea, coffee, games and live music. Havdalah cafe in December will be an Ottoman-themed night with live Turkish music to recall our Turkish diaspora. Come and listen to Eric Stern on ud, Chris Henke on ney, Leigh Ann Starceovich vocals and Alan Cramatte on traditional kudum drums. The music will be background to a night of conversation, card games and backgammon. Feel free to bring food (no pork or shellfish) and games such as Rummikub, backgammon and Uno. RSVP and tickets will be available on the EJC website [ejcpdx.org/events-1](https://ejcpdx.org/events-1).

This event kicks off EJC’s larger series of Jewish music in diaspora, which will

include lectures by Professor Joel Benin and Cantor Eyal Bitton, as well as a concert later this winter by the Moroccan duo Seffarine.

Noontime concerts continue one Friday a month with Michelle Alany performing on Dec. 16. This free concert series features top Portland musicians. Pack a lunch or stop by one of the many food cart pods at 24th and Glisan, bring your food in (no pork or shellfish please) and come and hear the music as you enjoy your lunch. No RSVP needed.

The EJC is located at 2420 NE Sandy Blvd., Portland. For more information on the Commons and on upcoming events, visit [ejcpdx.org](https://ejcpdx.org).

# Super Sunday boosts community resources

Volunteer callers helped raise more than \$104,000 in just two hours Nov. 13 during the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland's Super Sunday phonathon.

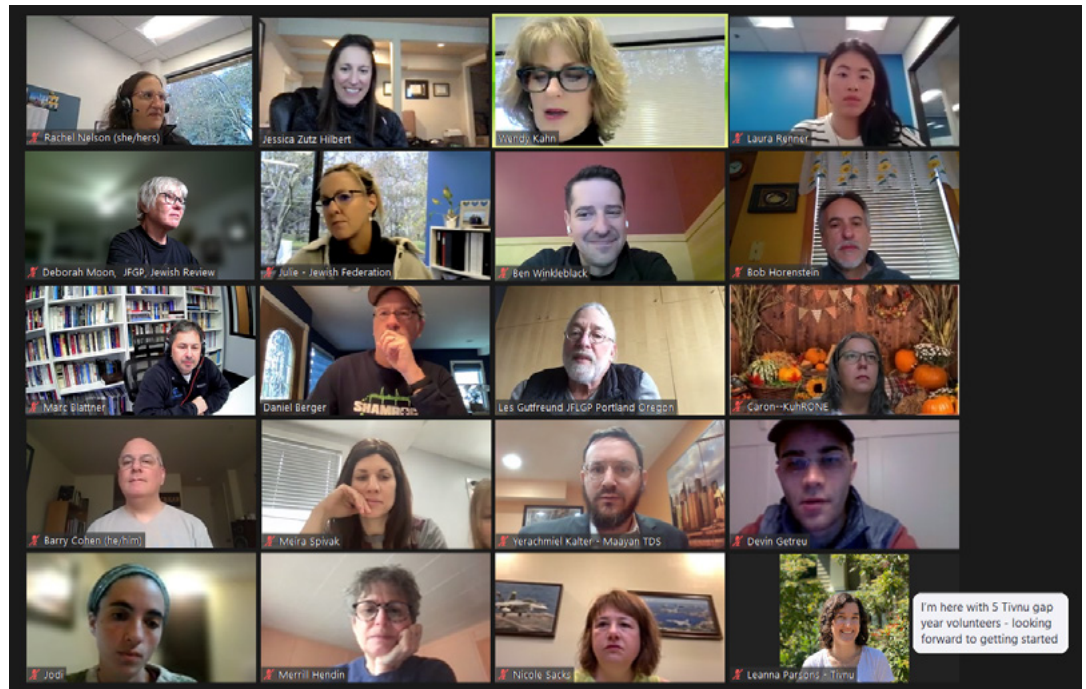
The 2023 Campaign for Community Needs will benefit more than 53 local and overseas beneficiary agencies and help the community move forward to face the challenges ahead.

JFGP Chief Development Officer Wendy Kahn told volunteers: "Your calls matter whether people pick up the phone when you call or you leave a message – your call and outreach let them know that they matter to our community and that we count on them. Thank you."

Among the volunteers making calls were the heads of two of Portland's Jewish day schools.

"PJA is so grateful for the support we get from the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland, which allows more children to attend our Jewish day school and be a part of the Jewish community," says Merrill Hendin, Principal of Portland Jewish Academy. "My participation in Super Sunday is a way to say thank you and give back to the organization that does so much for PJA and our community."

Maayan Torah Day School



At the center of the top row, JFGP Campaign Chair Jessica Tutz Hilbert and Chief Development Officer Wendy Kahn welcomed volunteers to the third Virtual Super Sunday.

Head of School Rabbi Yerachmiel Kalter says, "Seeing firsthand the incredible work that the JFGP does, how could I not step up to volunteer? It was heartwarming seeing many leaders of various agencies coming together to support the work the JFGP does for Portland."

Kalter adds that he was impressed with the enthusiasm of all the people he spoke with on Super Sunday.

"Incredibly, every person that I talked to was enthusiastic to support and increase their support for the JFGP," says Kalter. "It was clear the community understands the importance of helping the JFGP and the need for increased support at this time."

Pledges made on Super Sunday, or at other times, do not need to be paid until later next year. However, making pledges now enables Federation to plan

allocations and provide much needed funds to beneficiary agencies and programs in the Jewish community next year. Payment is due by Dec. 31, 2023.

"We continue to raise funds for the Campaign for Community Needs – we're not done yet," says Kahn.

To donate to the Federation's 2023 Campaign for Community Needs, visit [jewishportland.org/campaign-for-community-needs](https://jewishportland.org/campaign-for-community-needs).

## Young adult cohorts

### ADL's Glass Leadership Institute

Applications are due Dec. 16 for ADL's 2023 Glass Leadership Institute cohorts in Seattle and Portland.

This leadership development program is open to all emerging leaders in their 20s and 30s who are passionate about fighting hate and building better communities. GLI is a six-month interactive program that gives young professionals an inside look into the Anti-Defamation League's work on a broad range of topics including civil rights advocacy, domestic extremism and building bridges with diverse communities to fight bias and discrimination.

GLI provides the opportunity to explore ADL's mission to "stop the defamation of the Jewish people and secure justice and fair treatment to all," giving an up-close look into the work of fighting hate and creating safe communities for us all. GLI empowers the next generation of leaders committed to ADL's mission with the tools to fight antisemitism and hate and build a just and inclusive society.

Participants will attend six monthly evening sessions starting in February 2023 to delve deeper into ADL's areas of work. Participants are encouraged to attend the National Leadership Summit in

Washington, D.C., which convenes hundreds of GLI participants and ADL leaders from throughout the country.

Apply at [adl.org/gli-application](https://adl.org/gli-application).

### Masa Israel Teaching Fellows

Applications are now open for the 2023/2024 Masa Israel Teaching Fellows cohort to teach English to children in Israel. The fellowship is a partnership between Masa Israel Journey and the Ministry of Education.

The 10-month fellowship is for college graduates who want to make a difference, gain career skills while teaching and immerse themselves in Israeli society. Masa Israel Teaching Fellows contribute to the future success of Israeli children in the socio-economic periphery by giving them the essential basis of native spoken English.

Teaching fellows receive full coverage of rent and apartment bills, a monthly living stipend, Hebrew OR Arabic classes, and a \$1,000 flight reimbursement. Registration is rolling. Learn more and apply at [masaisrael.org/program\\_cat/teach-english-en](https://masaisrael.org/program_cat/teach-english-en).



# Martha Soltesz: Enriched as volunteer

BY SYDNEY CLEVENGER

Longtime volunteer and donor Martha Soltesz became familiar with Rose Schnitzer Manor when her mother, Dorothy Morgenstern, moved in a decade ago.

"I volunteered a little bit when my mom was here," says Martha. "I liked the fact that it was like no other home I had visited. Rose Schnitzer is a warm and inviting place. I know my mom felt safe and happy here."

"When you talk to the residents, you learn (about) where they come from and the amazing life they have experienced," she says, adding that each story is a gem.

Martha's life story began in Mexico City, where her father was a physician to successive presidents of Mexico. Spanish is her first language. She remembers her dad going up into the hills of Mexico to help build schools and hospitals.

"My dad gave so much of himself, and he encouraged others to experience the love of giving with your heart," she says.

When Martha saw children pretending rocks and sticks were toy cars and dolls, her father reminded her to be grateful for all she had and to share with others. "My dad and I came back with toys for the children and money and clothes the next time we were there," she says.

When Martha's dad began having heart trouble, the family moved to Los Angeles to be near Dorothy's family.

Martha wanted to become a doctor, but her father insisted she go to finishing school in Switzerland or choose another course of study since he felt studying medicine was very taxing, especially for a woman.

Martha attended Immaculate College for two years and then transferred to UCLA, where she earned a degree in teaching. She met her husband, Les, who was a USC student studying engineering. The couple had two children, Monica and Daniel.

The family moved to Oregon in 1978, where Les worked for Intel and Martha taught Spanish at Ainsworth's Immersion program and then at Chapman Elementary. Later, Martha became a Spanish medical interpreter and traveled all over Portland to serve those in need.

Les died four years ago. Missing Les, Martha's focus now is on helping others, especially the young people, the homeless and the elderly.

Martha says she is thankful for what she has in life. "I can give my time to the organizations that are in dire need of my help. I want to help because it completes me."

This year, Martha began helping at Rose Schnitzer Manor during Happy Hour at Marcy's Bar and singing with the residents.

"What's most important to me now is giving of my time," says Martha, who is also on Cedar Sinai Park's QMCCC (Quality Management and Corporate Compliance Committee), among her other volunteer work in the community. She also enjoys helping with her four grandchildren, all of whom live in Portland and are her "pride and joy."

"The more you get involved, the richer you feel knowing you have made a small difference in a person's life," says Martha. "I plan to continue getting more involved in the near future."



## Public service announcements

### Borrow Durable Medical Equipment

**Avraham's Closet provides free equipment for those with medical needs. Borrow canes, walkers, crutches, wheelchairs, commodes, shower chairs ...**

**Borrow or donate: Contact Cantor Linda Shivers at 515-954-5221 or [cantor.shivers@gmail.com](mailto:cantor.shivers@gmail.com) or Neveh Shalom at 503-246-8831.**

**Get Screened Today!**

JScreen offers two at-home genetic testing options: the ReproGEN test screens young singles and couples for over 200 conditions, like Tay-Sachs and cystic fibrosis, and the CancerGEN test screens adults for genetic predisposition to many types of cancer.

[JScreen.org](http://JScreen.org)

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Submit photos, news

and obituaries to

[editor@jewishportland.org](mailto:editor@jewishportland.org)

# Chaplain's Corner

## The Power of Giving Thanks

BY RABBI BARRY COHEN

Thanksgiving is right around the corner. In the past few years, I have experienced a convergence of themes as I have cultivated a practice of gratitude, learned more about mindfulness and navigated Covid. In the background has always been Judaism's emphasis on thanksgiving.

The 18<sup>th</sup> blessing of the weekday *Amidah* section is *Birkat Ho'dah'ah*, the Thanksgiving Blessing. With this prayer, we thank God for four things: our lives, our souls, the miracles in our lives and the gifts that happen every day. (From *Stories We Pray: Insights into the Inner-Work of Jewish Worship*, p. 141, by Joel Lurie Grishaver.) For my entire career, I have struggled with the themes of this blessing, but at the same time keep getting drawn back to it. One personal stumbling block has been the word "miracle." This word can mean different things to different people.

To clarify what I mean by miracle, I reject the definition of "an event that is not explicable by natural or scientific laws and is therefore considered to be the work of a divine agency." I believe that the laws of the physical universe are locked in place. No higher power can arbitrarily violate physics, chemistry or biology. I prefer the definition, "a highly improbable or extraordinary event, development or accomplishment that brings very welcome consequences." To me, "God" and "miracles" are mutually exclusive.

*Birkat Ho'dah'ah*, the Thanksgiving Blessing, calls us to celebrate miracles because they are so rare. When we experience something miraculous, we are often forever changed for the better. More common are the gifts that we can receive, whether in the evening, morning or afternoon. Rebbe Nachman of Breslav teaches us how to be perceptive of these gifts. He writes, "Seek the sacred within the ordinary. Seek the remarkable within the commonplace." (*The Empty Chair: Finding Hope and Joy*, p. 59.) Nachman reminds us to keep our eyes, ears and hearts open; we never know when something sacred or transformative could happen.

Whether we experience a miracle or a daily gift, we need to be prepared to express gratitude for such moments, however fleeting.

Nachman suggests the following words to offer when we experience the transformative, sacred or inspiring: "Loving, caring God, all the happiness and fulfillment in my life come only from You. Knowing how absolute is my dependence on You, I find peace of mind. Your presence suffuses my life, caressing me with hope, joy and



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**As we continue along the complicated paths of healing, we can tune our senses to be grateful for rare miracles & daily gifts.**

love. I've tasted Your love, I've known Your compassion, I've experienced Your patience, and I am filled with gratefulness." (*The Gentle Weapon: Prayers for Everyday and Not-So-Everyday Moments*, p. 63.)

I am not going to assume what your God-concept may be. Some of us believe in an external God. Some may discover God in nature, art or music. Some may hold that God is found in the expression of our unique covenant. Some believe that God is experienced in relationships.

What stands out for me in the previous Nachman quote are the words peace, love, compassion and patience. These emotions can best be experienced in relationship with something beyond ourselves. Both *Birkat Ho'dah'ah*, the Thanksgiving Blessing, and Rebbe Nachman remind us to express gratitude when those words become real in our lives.

After all of the negativity, divisiveness, pain, loss and helplessness we have experienced in the past years, we desperately need peace, love, compassion and patience.

With my words, I do not want to be perceived as Pollyannish; I will not deny what we have lost, the painful emotions we have felt and how we continue to grieve.

But as we continue along the complicated paths of healing, we can tune our senses to be grateful for both rare miracles and daily gifts. At the same time as we acknowledge what we can no longer do, we can express thanksgiving for what we can do. At the same time as we are aware of what we have lost, we can celebrate what we have gained.

As we celebrate the secular holiday of Thanksgiving, may *Birkat Ho'dah'ah* and Breslav inspire us to become passionate about recognizing the positive.



# Climate Corner

## Does money grow on trees?

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



Now is the ideal time of year to plant a tree, and the city of Portland will reward residents for doing so. Customers of City of Portland water, sewer and stormwater utilities may be eligible to receive a credit of up to \$50 per tree for purchasing and planting trees between Sept. 1 and April 30, which is the best time to plant a tree in Portland.

The city's website lists criteria that must be met to receive the credit, including:

- Only City of Portland water, sewer, stormwater utility customers are eligible, and the tree must be planted on the property where the bill is received.
- The tree must be planted in the yard of a single home or duplex owned by the customer or with the permission of the property owner.
- The tree must be at least 4 feet tall when planted and at least 15 feet tall and 10 feet wide at maturity. It must be planted with enough space to reach its full mature size.

The "Treebate" will appear as a credit on the customer's bill and must be requested. When applying for the credit – either online or by mail – you will need to provide proof of purchase with either a scan or photo of your receipt(s).

For more information, go to [portland.gov/bes/grants-incentives/about-treebate/](https://portland.gov/bes/grants-incentives/about-treebate/).

*If you would like to join the Climate Action Committee, please contact Rachel Nelson at [rachel@jewishportland.org](mailto:rachel@jewishportland.org).*



Temple Beth Shalom installed solar panels with battery storage this year.

## Solar at TBS a tribute to Millie

BY DEBORAH MOON

Temple Beth Shalom in Salem used grants, donations and creative funding to make the MillieWatts Solar Project a reality this year.

The installation of the 50.56-KW solar array paired with batteries for energy storage was completed early this year, but the discussions about the project began about five years ago. Millie Estrin, z"l, launched many environmental projects at the Temple, including installation of a bioswale and a recycling program, before she passed away in 2019.

The solar project, named in her honor, would mark her final environmental achievement at the congregation. Millie; the rabbi's wife, Kim Herb; operations manager Amber Giddings; and other congregants wrote a successful grant proposal to Portland General Electric to help fund the solar installation. Since the grant criteria required the project benefit both the environment and the community, the storage batteries were included in the proposal.

The battery storage enables Beth Shalom to act as a resilience center in times of natural disaster or extended interruptions to the power grid. But the battery system also made the project much more expensive.

The congregation received incentives from the Energy Trust of Oregon and a grant from the Jerry & Helen Stern Grandchildren Fund at Oregon Jewish Community Foundation. Then the congregation turned to another congregant to help bridge the gap. Elliot Maltz is the Emeritus Professor of Marketing at Willamette University, who focuses on creating business models that create shared value.

"We had some funding, but we needed to

figure out a funding mechanism to complete the project," says Maltz. "I proposed we make this a really community-based effort with Millie as the inspiration. In addition to donations, we asked for loans – and the loans could be pretty small. It offered the opportunity for a wide range of community members to participate in funding the project."

The Temple has an endowment devoted to infrastructure support but hoped not to tap into that.

"Between the loans and the donations and the grants, we were able to achieve enough funds that we didn't need to use the endowment," says Maltz.

Maltz also was approached by the Oregon Interfaith Solar Campaign to share the congregation's successful project. The interfaith project manager calls Temple Beth Shalom an inspiration. Maltz will speak on a December Zoom program (see page 1) organized by the interfaith campaign and the Climate Action Committee of the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland.

## SOLAR (from page 1)

"People feel hopeless or hope that business and government will solve the problem (climate change)," says Stagnitto. "Certainly, both of those entities are working toward that, though not quite as fast as we'd like them to. ... Community Solar empowers people to feel like they're doing something impactful to help solve the problem."

"Through the various religious communities that we're talking to, we're getting people to sign up and help us build that momentum," says Stagnitto.

## RUBEN J. MENASHE

Portland native Ruben J. Menashe, z"l, who enriched the Portland community through his community involvement, philanthropy and as founder of the Ruben J. Menashe, Inc. real estate development company, died peacefully at home on Nov 7, 2022. He was 89. Ruben is survived



by his wife, Elizabeth Menashe; brother, Albert L. (Bette Lynn) Menashe; son, Jack R. (Madeleine) Menashe; granddaughter, Ella Menashe; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Ruben Jack Menashe was born in Portland at the old St. Vincent's Hospital on Dec. 2, 1932, to Fortuna and Jack R. Menashe.

Ruben attended Hosford grade school in the Ladd's Addition before his family moved to the Alameda area, where he attended Beaumont grade school and Grant High School. While growing up, Ruben worked in his father's restaurant during summer vacations. While in high school, he was tapped to model the Willy Wolf Sweater by Kandel.

At Grant, Ruben was active in student government and served as student body president. He earned three varsity letters in football at Grant and played on both of Ted Ogdahl's undefeated State Championship teams (1949 and 1950) as both offensive and defensive tackle. The 1949 and 1950 Grant Generals were considered by many as the best PIL football teams ever. Ruben was honored to be voted All City in 1949, All City and All State in 1950, and he was named the outstanding lineman in the 1951 Shine All-Star Game. While he excelled at sports and student government, one of his favorite experiences was singing in Jean Vancil's school choir.

After graduating from Grant in 1951, Ruben was recruited by several large West Coast universities for football but decided to follow Coach Ogdahl to Willamette University. At Willamette, Ruben was again elected student body president and was voted "Little All American" in football. Ruben was a member of Cardinal Key, an honorary society recognizing excellence of leadership, scholarship and character. He also was a member of the Economics Honor Society and the Arnold Air Society. Ruben graduated from Willamette in 1955 with a B.A. degree in economics and an ROTC commission in the U.S. Air Force.

In the Air Force, despite his desire to become a pilot, Ruben became a Photo Radar Intelligence Officer stationed in Japan for three years. These years were described by Ruben as the "freest time of my life."

After his honorable discharge, Ruben joined his best friend, John Kent, in Gilroy, Calif., where they started a construction and building business. Ruben and John learned the business from the ground up. In 1962, after two and a half very successful years in California, Ruben was ready to return to Portland, his family and the rain. Once home, he founded his own real estate development and construction business, Ruben J. Menashe, Inc. It quickly gained a reputation for exceptional quality and customer service, and has been continuously active in single-family, multi-family, commercial, land and investment property development for 60 years.

Shortly after his return to Portland, Ruben was called by his high school and college friend, Gino Pieretti, who set Ruben up on a blind date with Elizabeth (Liz) McBride. Obviously, the couple clicked; they were married for more than 58 years.

In 1965, the couple was blessed by the birth of their son, Jack. When Jack married Madeleine Krysz in 1998, they gained a beautiful daughter. And in 2000, they were excited to welcome a granddaughter, Ella Krysz Menashe, the light of Ruben's life.

Ruben was very active in the Portland community, donating generously both his resources and time to numerous organizations and serving on the boards of the St. Mary's Home for Boys, the Portland Metropolitan Home Builders Association, the Rask Family Memorial Fund and Congregation Beth Israel. Ruben was particularly devoted to the betterment of the Robison Home in Southwest Portland. While on the Robison Board, he chaired the Building Committee for four years. He also chaired the Long-Range Planning Committee, which led to the concept of the need for an assisted-living facility. Ruben co-chaired the building of this project, The Rose Schnitzer Manor, with Jordan Schnitzer and Milt Carl.

In 2009, Ruben was inducted into the Grant High School Athletic Hall of Fame. In 2016, he was added to the Portland Inter-scholastic League (PIL) Hall of Fame, and in 2014, the Oregon Jewish Sports Hall of Fame.

Ruben is a recipient, with his wife Elizabeth, of the Rabbi Joshua Stampfer Community Enrichment Award.

He will be remembered by many for his love of family, his generosity, his friendly nature, his integrity, his honesty, his sense

of humor and especially his humility.

A memorial service will be held on Friday, Dec. 2, 2022, at 11 am at Congregation Beth Israel, 1931 NW Flanders St., Portland. Donations in Ruben's memory may be made to the charity of your choice.

## ARI R. GOLDSCHMIDT

Ari Ronel Goldschmidt, z"l, passed away Oct. 28, 2022, at the age of 37. Captain Goldschmidt, BSN, PMHNP, is survived by his parents, Robert and Michele Goldschmidt of Portland; his wife, Chrystal; his children, Micah and Ayla from his first marriage; five stepchildren, Chrissy, Daniel, Matthew, Sammy and Izack; two brothers, Ian and Lee; and many loving aunts, uncles and cousins.

A captain in the United States Army Reserves, Ari served his country for the past 18 years and shared that commitment to friendship and service with his large community of friends, colleagues and co-workers for all his life. Most of all, Ari was a family man. He deeply loved his family and enjoyed celebrating with them in many wonderful ways.

Ari was born to Robert and Michele Goldschmidt on July 7, 1985, in New York City, the second of three sons. The family moved to Portland, where they were active at Havurah Shalom with Michele leading services and training b'nai mitzvah students.

Ari joined the Reserves at age 18 and spent one year in Iraq. He graduated with a Bachelor of Nursing degree and quickly gained high-level skills in several areas of nursing. He earned a Master's degree in Psychiatric-Behavioral Health Nursing and spent his last few years as the lead nurse practitioner at a residential behavioral health facility.

Ari was happiest surrounded by and sharing life with his family. He loved gourmet cooking, fancy cake baking and mixology. He loved traveling, seeing new places and sharing active pursuits like hiking and fishing. Most of all, Ari loved celebrating life-cycle events with family, including both Jewish and Christian customs to honor his blended family. Although Ari and Chrystal shared only four years together, those years were filled with a lifetime of love and beautiful memories.

Ari leaves a legacy of committed service and caring for others with an impact that was deeply felt by all who knew him. He will be greatly and dearly missed. Michele and Robert have moved to Colorado to be closer to Ari's family. Havurah Shalom sends condolences to the family.

A memorial service was held Nov. 6, 2022, in Denver.