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### JFGP exec sees warm peace in UAE

BY DEBORAH MOON

The United Arab Emirates wants Israelis and Diaspora Jews to visit the nation that signed the Abraham Accords with Israel in September 2020.

Jewish Federation of Greater Portland President and CEO Marc Blattner spent the first week of November in the UAE with 13 other Federation professionals from across the United States. You can read his insights and observations from the visit in his Nov. 12 Marc's Remarks email on the JFGP website.

In an interview after the trip, Blattner focused on the Accords. UAE, its neighbor Bahrain and Israel signed the Accords in Washington, D.C., Sept. 15, 2020.

"There is a real drive in the country to make this work," he says. "Once signed, it was full steam ahead."

Trade agreements were quickly signed, and tourism has been promoted between the two na-



In the United Arab Emirates, this philosophy of action has meant the country's peace agreement with Israel was adopted wholeheartedly as soon at it was signed.

tions. El Al and other airlines promptly introduced flights between Tel Aviv and Dubai, UAE. All UAE hotels were immediately required to add a kosher kitchen for tourists. Since the Accords were signed, 100,000 Israelis have visited the UAE.

While Blattner was in the UAE, the Emirates Airlines announced plans to offer daily

nonstop flights between Dubai and Tel Aviv beginning in December, designed to bring thousands of people from the UAE to Israel.

Unlike the 1979 peace treaty between Israel and Egypt, Blattner says, "This is not a cold peace. This is an over-the-top warm peace."

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# Chanukah events begin Sunday

This year, Chanukah begins early on the secular calendar – the evening of Sunday, Nov. 28 – and continues through Dec. 5. The Jewish Federation of Greater Portland has curated a webpage, jewishportland.org/chanukah-resources, full of resources to help you celebrate.

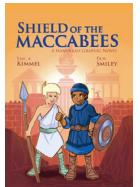
Explore local events at <u>jewishportland.org/chanukah-happenings</u>. Following is a sampling of local and online Chanukah happenings.

#### Nov. 28: Celebrate with Eric Kimmel!

Join PJ Library and Green Bean Books for their annual story time with Eric Kimmel to welcome Chanukah! Zoom in at 4 pm, Nov. 28, for story hour with the Portland author, who has written more than 150 books for children, including the 1990 Caldecott Award Honor Book *Hershel and* 

the Hanukkah Goblins.

The five-time winner of the National Jewish Book Award added two new Chanukah titles to



his writings this year. Shield of the Maccabees, Eric's first graphic novel, is about two friends, Jason and Jonathan, who live in Judea at the time of the first Chanukah. As war erupts, the two serve in opposing armies. Can their friendship endure?

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People and Arts & Culture, such as the ORA Chanukah Art Fair, are returning to the Mittleman Jewish Community Center. But the J is also drawing on lessons from pandemic life. Virtual programs

offered in concert with national partners continue. And most upcoming cultural programs will offer a virtual option for those who live far away or who ar not comfortable with in-person interactions.

# The future is in person, online and hybrid

BY DEBORAH MOON

In-person arts and culture programs are returning to the Mittleman Jewish Community Center, but the J continues to draw on the pandemic's lessons of virtual offerings and partnerships to expand access to programs.

"A lot of national and international partnerships with JCCs have helped us bring tons of programs to our community," says Arts and Culture Manager Lenny Steinberg. "It's allowed us access to programs and celebrities we could not have brought to our community even pre-pandemic."

For instance, a "Book Fest in Your Living Room" presented in partnership with the JCC of Atlanta featured authors such as Michael J. Fox. The J still plans to offer an author series on campus beginning in January, but it won't be able to bring in such high-profile celebrities.

He says virtual programs that have remained popular throughout the pandemic include the "Still Traveling" series that offers guided virtual tours around the world. A wine-tasting tour of Spain even included wine shipped to registrants before the program so they could taste as well as see the wines.

"Despite Zoom fatigue, there is still a lot of promise in this virtual world," says Lenny. "We are trying to move to a time when any program we host on campus can also be attended virtually. We've received a number of grants to create a seamless streaming model."

So, when the MJCC hosts Portland poet, musician and Torah teacher Alicia Jo Rabins for a live event at 6:30 pm, Dec. 22, the J's new technology will enable people to attend in person or virtually. The talk and performance will include a 15-minute clip from the feature-length film based on Rabins' one-woman show of the

same name, "A Kaddish for Bernie Madoff."

The pandemic has also emphasized the reality that the MJCC can serve a much wider geographic area. As the only JCC between Seattle and the Bay area, the MJCC is where people across Oregon and SW Washington look for Jewish cultural programs.

A grant of \$5,000 from the Oregon Cultural Trust will help to expand the MJCC's Israel Film Series by bringing Israeli films to audiences across the state through onsite and virtual film screenings and talkbacks with directors, actors and/or producers. The film series will launch in February or March 2022 and present six to eight films over eight months.

"We are looking to show films in Corvallis, Bend, Lincoln City, Ashland and Vancouver, Wash., as well as on the campus here," says Lenny. "Films will be showcased in one location but will be offered virtually, as well."

"All this was possible two years ago, but most organizations didn't use the technology and the ideas," he says. "I have been in the JCC world over 10 years, and this is the most collaborative time between JCCs. This is what COVID has done for the better."

As a result of the worldwide JCC partnerships, Portlanders will be able to join Ukrainian Jews virtually for blessings, candle-lighting and a short interactive program on the first night of Chanukah. The program will be Nov. 28-10:30 in the morning in Portland, but on the first night of Chanukah in Ukraine.

"This wouldn't have happened a couple years ago," says Lenny. For more information on the Chanukah program and other in-person and virtual arts and culture programs, contact Lenny at <a href="mailto:Lsteinberg@oregonjcc.org">Lsteinberg@oregonjcc.org</a> or visit <a href="mailto:oregonjcc.org/arts-culture/upcoming-events">oregonjcc.org/arts-culture/upcoming-events</a>.

### Find, create Jewish experiences with DIY Jewish Network

An ambitious new platform will curate the vast array of online Jewish engagement opportunities and provide user-friendly, customizable toolkits so that Jewish experiences are findable and accessible to anyone, anywhere. Led by <a href="Haggadot.com">Haggadot.com</a> in strategic partnership with <a href="OneTable">OneTable</a>, the DIY Jewish Network will leverage the expertise and technological know-how of both organizations on a national scale to reach audiences and communities. The platform is supported with a Reset Grant from the Jewish Community Response and Impact Fund.

"The innovations in the last 20 months affirmed the power of connections and

just how deeply people want personally meaningful Jewish experiences," says Aliza Kline, President and CEO of One Table, the national nonprofit whose tech platform helps people create and share powerful Shabbat gatherings. "Collaborating with Haggadot.com on the DIY Jewish Network unlocks vast possibilities to help more people both find what they want and customize toolkits and rituals that are right for them and their communities."

The DIY Jewish Network will support people in three key ways:

• A central database will be a wayfinder, curator, and promoter of the most exciting,

engaging partner content throughout the Network. This will include customizable DIY toolkits for Jewish rituals and other activities.

- A series of topic sites managed by organizational partners with expertise in that area of Jewish life will offer curated and developed content that best meets the needs of their audiences.
- A series of local sites will provide this technology for websites of small communities such as synagogues, camps, JCCs and Hillels, so clergy and educators can curate content for their local members in a more intimate setting.

Continued on next page

### PCO presents Klezmer Dec. 4 & 5

The Portland Chamber Orchestra and renowned klezmer clarinetist David Krakauer will present two quite different concerts in early December.

Only a select few artists have the ability to convey their message to the back row, to galvanize an audience with a visceral power that connects on a universal level. David Krakauer is such an artist. Widely considered one of the greatest clarinetists on the planet with his own unique sound and approach, he has been praised internationally as a key innovator in modern klezmer as well as a major voice in classical music. In addition, his work has been recognized by major jazz publications around the world.

Joyful Journey: A Jazz and Klezmer Extravaganza will begin at 4 pm, Dec. 5, in the main sanctuary of Congregation Beth Israel. Krakauer will perform with the PCO String Quintet and Piano. The program features Louis Gesensway's

Suite on Jewish Themes for String Quintet; Earnest Bloch's Nigun; Robert Starer's "Ri-kudim" (from "Kli Zemer"); Abraham Ellstein's "Chassidic Dance"; and a traditional arrangement of D.Krakauer - Wedding Dance, Der Gasn Nign and Der Heyser Bulgar.

All concert attendees must wear masks and show proof of vaccination.

Krakauer will perform the day before with the full orchestra at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral. The 7 pm, Dec. 4, concert features Daniel Freiberg's Northern Journey; Suite for Orchestra in Three Movements (American Premiere): Wlad Marhulets' Concerto for Klezmer Clarinet & Orchestra (Northwest Premiere).

Now in its 74th season, the Portland Chamber Orchestra is one of America's oldest chamber orchestras. PCO Music Director/Conductor Yaacov Bergman joined the orchestra in 2002. Maestro Bergman con-



Clarinetist David Krakauer

ducted a series of successful symphonic concerts in Cairo, Egypt, as the first American/Israeli conductor to appear in an Arab republic.

Ticket information for both concerts is available online at portlandchamberorchestra.org, by phone at 503-771-3250 or email at concerts@portlandchamberorchestra.org.

#### ONLINE (cont.)

The topic sites and local sites will also feature OneTable's community-building platform for users to create gatherings.

"People want Jewish experiences that they envision, that speak to their needs and interests - and we can deliver that to more people through the DIY Jewish Network," says Eileen Levinson, Founder and Executive Director of Haggadot.com.

Research shows that when Jewish offerings are accessible, relational and varied, people are more open to trying new ways of engaging. Both One-Table and Haggadot.com experienced significant increases in users during the pandemic.

"Jewish life needs to be nimble to thrive in a range of settings, from Zoom calls to living rooms, to public parks, to congregations, community centers, and elsewhere," says Kline. "Wherever people are, and however they want to experience it, we can empower them to create Jewish experiences for themselves."





Joanna Macrae is the first person that guests, clients and employees of Jewish Family & Child Service see on entering the office. "Welcoming" is but one positive adjective Executive Director Ruth Scott uses to describe "Jo."

# JFCS' bookkeeper has perfect pitch

#### BY JENN DIRECTOR KNUDSEN

By night, Joanna Macrae provides harmony for her two bands. By day, Jo, as she's known to her colleagues at Jewish Family & Child Service, provides harmony in the office.

JFCS' bookkeeper and payroll specialist, Jo, 35, took perhaps an untraditional path to the nonprofit to support staff and clients in its four programs – Counseling, Emergency Aid, Disability Support Services and Holocaust Survivor Services.

Eight years ago, a family friend and owner of Mississippi Pizza Pub & Atlantis Lounge simultaneously offered Jo and her mom a part-time job to provide some efficiencies in its revenue system.

"Because in 2013, it was still a pretty cash-heavy business," Jo says of restaurants in general.

Jo beat her mom to the punch (they still get along), and as the pizza joint's office clerk, Jo's responsibilities quickly grew beyond handling cash to include QuickBooks, payroll, depositing and other related tasks.

To subsidize the part-time, back-office portion of the job, Jo joined the pub's waitstaff and slung pizza, prepared salads, washed dishes and tapped away on its old-fashioned cash register (the kind that dings when the drawer opens).

"I liked QuickBooks and payroll enough to return to school," Jo says, and in 2015 earned her associates degree in accounting from Portland Community College. "Most people find data entry mind-numbing, but I find it satisfying, and I got really good at it."

So good that she often catches up on her reading via audiobooks while working two monitors to cross-reference data, track donations, enter bills and more. Also, like so many later bloomers, Jo had struggled with math in college, but then a college teacher emphasized her talents, and she realized she is quite numbers savvy.

And then the pandemic pounced.

For the pizza pub to remain open, it had to pivot to takeout and delivery, and the transition was painful. Jo stayed to train a colleague and tied up the books in a bow before responding to JFCS'

job opening that would be a promotion and just the professional challenge she sought.

Case in point: Nearly one year into the job, JFCS has expanded its client base, programs and pay sources (such as private insurance), so the agency's billing requirements and systems have become more complex.

"We're receiving multiple grants to cover counseling programs like our new grief-processing group, we have a newly licensed social worker on staff, we assist kids and families," she says. Smiling she adds, "I'm doing a little bit of everything and a little bit more than just being a capitalist cog in the wheel."

"Jo is energetic, positive, always ready to help as well as learn," says Ruth Scott, executive director. "She is growing in her skill set as JFCS grows and embraces new tasks, like learning medical billing, as opportunities."

Benefits and Operations Manager Janene Richards adds, "Jo is always willing to help, in any area of the organization, even volunteering on weekends for special events. She is wicked smart and keeps track of so many things around the office. She's a 'Star Wars' connoisseur, shockingly full of random fun facts, and a smile we can depend on. We're so grateful to have her here at IFCS."

"I really like working for a nonprofit because it makes me feel like I'm contributing as much as possible to it," Jo says.

Just like she does harmonizing with bandmates for The Waysiders, which specializes in country, classics, 60s pop, the blues and more, and Gerle Haggard, an all-female band and clever play on their muse's name, Merle Haggard, the famous country singer-songwriter.

Jo helps keep her bands going despite their having cancelled 17 gigs in summer 2020. Today, The Waysiders performs up to twice a month at the Laurelthirst Public House, and Gerle Haggard is picking up performances.

"I play rhythm guitar, provide some lead vocals," she says. "But mostly harmony." Both night and day.



# Cantor Vitells retires from Shaarie Torah

Cantor Aaron Vitells has retired from the Shaarie Torah pulpit after more than two decades, citing medical reasons related to his voice. In an announcement that went out to the Shaarie Torah community on Nov. 11, he shared, "Around two years ago, surgery was performed to remove a polyp from my vocal cord. Since that time, I have been having increasing issues with my voice. At this point, while my soul is willing, my voice simply will not allow me to lead our community through the Shabbat liturgy."

He will gain the title of Cantor Emeritus, beloved and honored among the kehillah.

"Cantor Vitells is an incredible mensch and asset to our synagogue, and we are strengthened knowing that he is both physically well (except for his voice) and remaining a part of our community," says Rabbi Gary Ezra Oren.

The congregation will not immediately seek a replacement but will rely on lay leaders as various vocal styles and melodies are explored.

# <u>Jobs board</u>

# FOUNDATION SCHOOL Early Childhood Educator

Salary: \$40,000-\$42,000

Neveh Shalom Foundation School is seeking a nurturing Early Childhood Educator with Special Needs Background. Knowledge of Judaism and/or the Reggio Emilia philosophy a plus but not required.

Job listing: <a href="nevehshalom.org/foundation-school-is-hiring">nevehshalom.org/foundation-school-is-hiring</a>. Send resume to Cory Willson at <a href="cwillson@nevehshalom.org">cwillson@nevehshalom.org</a>.

### Graduates bring national lessons to local educators

BY DEBORAH MOON

Two Portlanders were among the 41 graduates in the ninth cohort of the prestigious Mandel Teacher Educator Institute, a national program for Jewish educators.

Rachel Nelson and Mel Berwin are the first Portlanders to complete this two-year journey of discovery. MTEI helps educational leaders transform their educational communities into places where teachers learn together, exploring both Jewish content and how to enrich learning for students.

Even before the Nov. 10 graduation, the two began transforming the landscape for the groups of educators they work with locally. Rachel staffs the Portland Area Jewish Educators as part of her role as Director of Educational Initiatives and Associate Director of Community Relations at the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland. Mel serves as Director of Congregational Learning at Congregation Neveh Shalom, where she leads the large Conservative congregation's youth and adult education programs.

"I am focusing on more cohort-based meetings - smaller cohorts with parallel concerns," says Rachel.

Rather than having programs for the entire PAJE community, she has convened smaller gatherings for educators in similar



Rachel Nelson, left, and Mel Berwin.

positions. For instance, preschool directors began meeting weekly on Zoom at the start of COVID and now continue to meet monthly. Other cohorts - teen and youth group educators, congregational educators and day school principals - also have met on Zoom during the pandemic to discuss mutual concerns.

"We are forging closer connections," Rachel savs.

For Mel, MTEI provided the time and community to think about learning, teaching and working with teachers.

"Much of my focus through these past two years has been on how teachers relate to their students, the content of Jewish education and each other," Mel says. "One example is last year while we were primarily meeting online, the teachers worked in hevruta (learning partners) to reflect on their teaching in this new context and to challenge and support each other's thinking. This year, we've brought hevruta learning to our students in ALIYAH, using the learning partnership to focus on deep listening, respectful disagreements and getting to know Jewish texts - and each other - in new ways."

Both graduates have plans for future projects, too.

After graduation, Rachel accepted the role as co-chair of JPro PDX. She will use some of her MTEI skills to help other Jewish communal workers learn about each other, care about each other and find ways to work together.

In addition to the seven MTEI conferences, Mel is participating in a small-group research cohort with MTEI Director Miriam Raider-Roth, who serves as professor of educational studies and educational/ community-based action research at the University of Cincinnati. The cohort has met every two weeks and will complete final projects in February or March.

"Both this small group and the larger cohort of MTEI have been an essential lifeline of practical and inspirational support throughout this pandemic," says Mel.

### From preschool to camp, Leah Conley follows Stampfer's vision

BY DEBORAH MOON

When Leah Conley moves from her leadership roles at the Foundation School and Congregation Nevel Shalom to become development director at Camp Solomon Schechter, many things will stay the same.

"I'm not going anywhere," says Leah. "I still live in Portland, I'm still a member of Neveh. I'm just engaging in a different

She plans to be a very active volunteer at the congregation her family calls home. And her professional life will also be a continuation of helping build Jewish connections and identity for children.

"The mission of the organizations is very different," says Leah. "But the same values live in both places."

Leah joined Neveh Shalom as Director of Foundation School when she moved to Portland in 2013.

"She grew Foundation School - she expanded the hours and ages and enrollment," says Rachel Nelson, a Foundation School parent who has also connected with Leah professionally in her role as Director of Educational Initiatives for the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland. "What she created during the pandemic got my family through the pandemic."

Nearly two years ago, Leah began work-



Leah and Josh Conley with Amelia, 9, and

ing with Congregation Neveh Shalom's Long Range Planning Committee. When an emphasis on deep engagement emerged, she stepped back from her role at Foundation School to help start the congregation's engagement programming earlier this year.

For six years, Leah's office was next to the office of Rabbi Emeritus Joshua Stampfer, z"l, who passed away in 2019. Rabbi Stampfer created a multitude of institutions during his 65 years in Portland, including Camp Solomon Schechter and Foundation School, as well as the Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education. the Oregon Board of Rabbis and two international organizations - the Society for Crypto-Judaic Studies and the Sino Judaic Institute.

"He was a visionary," says Leah.

Leah compared the values at Neveh Shalom with those at Camp Solomon Schechter, which had also updated its mission and visions recently.

"Every value is the same," she says. "Inclusivity and innovation are the two that speak to Rabbi Stampfer's legacy. ... The core of Rabbi Stampfer's spirit is still in both."

Leah says her view of connection and belonging were inspired by Rabbi Stampfer.

With her move to her role at camp, she says, "I see room for myself and the work I want to do in those two areas that he started that live on in both organizations."

When she spoke to Solomon Schechter Executive Director Zach Duitch, she found he was also inspirational and described a role that she felt drawn to.

"I'm beyond thrilled that we can attract someone with Leah's talents," says Zach. "Leah is passionate, extremely personable, a brilliant storyteller, energetic and has a strategic, values-based approach to her work. Leah has dedicated her professional life to Jewish communal service, and she's going to be a tremendous asset to our Camp Solomon Schechter community.'

While Leah will continue to live and work from Portland, she is looking forward to spending part of the summers at Camp Solomon Schechter.

### CHANUKAH EVENTS (continued from page 1)

The Three Latkes starts with a challenge. Which latke tastes best? The children choose Doug's cat to be the judge since his cat eats everything.

PJ Library and Green Bean Books have hosted the story hour for about seven years. Last year, as it has this year, the event moved from the chil-



dren's bookstore on Northeast Alberta to Zoom. For more information and to register, visit jewishportland.org/community-calendar/chanukah-story-hour-with-eric-kimmel.

#### Nov. 28: Gresham Chanukah Celebration

The new Gresham Chabad Jewish Center will present its first Giant Menorah Lighting and Celebration at 5 pm, Nov. 28, at the Gresham Arts Plaza, 401 NE Second St.

The event will include the lighting of a 12-foot menorah, a giant inflatable dreidel, lively music, donuts and chocolate gelt. Admission is free and all are welcome. This will be the inaugural event of the Gresham Chabad Jewish Center serving the Jewish community of the East County. (See related story page 8)

For details, visit jewishgresham.com or call 503-389-0312.

#### Nov. 28: Vancouver Chanukah Celebration

Join Chabad of Clark County 5-6 pm, Nov. 28, at Esther Short Park for the Vancouver Community Chanukah Celebration.

Join us on the first night of Chanukah. The free community event will include the lighting of the grand menorah, a live ice-carving demonstration, multi-media Chanukah presentation, and donuts and hot cocoa.

For more information, visit JewishClarkCounty.com

#### Nov. 28: DIY dreidels for Russian speakers

B'nai B'rith Camp and <u>DIY Steel</u> present an opportunity for the Russian-speaking Jewish community to connect and celebrate Chanukah together from 5:30 to 7:30 pm, Nov. 28. A DIY Steel Dreidel-Making Class and Chanukah Celebration for Russian-Speaking Families will be held at The Standard Steel Companies (1745 NE Columbia Blvd, Portland, OR 97211).

Bring the family to this DIY festive holiday class! Create a beautiful piece of steel art for your family, friends or just for you this holiday season. We will put together a four-piece steel dreidel and learn the proper way to clean and paint metal – all while celebrating Chanukah BB Camp style!

Cost is \$10 per kit (one steel dreidel ready for assembly and painting per kit; no limit on how many you can order).

Maximum of 15 families. Register: bbcamp.org/dreidel/.

#### Nov. 28-Dec. 4: Online candle-lighting at CNS

Join Congregation Neveh Shalom on Zoom for a moment of reflection, connection and light during Chanukah. Join the candle-lighting on Zoom at 5:45 pm, Nov. 29-Dec. 2 and Dec. 4. To join the program, visit <a href="mailto:nevehshalom.org/chanukah2021">nevehshalom.org/chanukah2021</a> and click on the Zoom link for that day.

#### Nov. 28-Dec. 5: Chanukah Film Festival

Neveh Shalom is a participating member in the 2021 Chanukah Film Festival presented by Menemsha Films and ChaiFlicks. Celebrate the season with eight nights of award-winning new films, available to view from the comfort of home via your TV, computer or mobile devices. Your ticket purchase provides limited-time access to this series of 11 films, plus exclusive filmmaker discussions and more, with new content added each night of Chanukah.

Opening night features the world premiere of the animated Cha-

nukah short "The Broken Candle" and premieres of two diverse explorations of history: "Xueta Island" (the Inquisition) and "Un-Raveling" (Pancho Villa).

Closing night premieres the most awarded family drama and winner of four Israeli Academy Awards "Here We Are."

For tickets and a complete schedule, visit menemshafilms.com/ hanukkahff2021. Use promo code NS2900 to get a Gold Pass for \$36 for the full festival.

#### Nov. 28-Dec. 5: Pioneer Square menorah

Chabad of Oregon will light Portland's public Chanukah menorah at Pioneer Courthouse Square Nov. 28-Dec. 5.



The first night will begin at 5 pm with live music, Chanukah foods, dignitaries and festivities to kick off the eight nights of Chanukah. Menorah lighting will be at 5:30 pm.

Nov. 29-Dec. 2, the lighting will be at 5:30 pm. On Dec. 3, the menorah will be lit before Shabbat at 3 pm. Dec. 4, the lighting will be after Shabbat ends at 6:30 pm. The lighting returns to 5:30 pm for the final night of Chanukah on Dec. 5.

For more information about Chanukah and events, visit Chabad.org/Hanukkah. For more information on the Portland lightings, contact Rabbi Motti Wilhelm at 503-381-7119 or RabbiMotti@ChabadOregon.com.

#### Dec. 2: Chanukah Jewish Heritage Night

Celebrate the fifth night of Chanukah with the Trail Blazers on Dec. 2. Enjoy the giant menorah lighting and take a photo with Dreidel Man as the Trail Blazers take on the San Antonio Spurs at the Moda Center. Chabad-Lubavitch of Oregon will once again team up with the Trail Blazers for the celebration.

All guests ages 12 and up nust be fully vaccinated or provide proof of a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken within 72 hours. All guests must wear a mask. Discounted tickets prices start at just \$11 and can be purchased as long as supply lasts at <a href="Rosequarter.com/groupnights">Rosequarter.com/groupnights</a> Promo Code: CHABADOR.

#### Dec. 3: Donuts for Dinner

Congregation Beth Israel hosts Donuts for Dinner 4-6 pm, Dec. 3, on the Beth Israel Plaza at 1972 NW Flanders.

Stop by our outdoor plaza to see our Chanukah lights display! We'll have blow-ups, lights, music and so many photo ops. Come for the lights, stay for the donuts. At 5 pm, Kim Schneiderman will lead singing and candle-lighting.

The event is part of CBI's Mini Mensches: A community of families with children 0-5 creating lasting friendships, Jewish connection and memories together. For more information, visit bethisrael-pdx.org/community/mini-mensches/.

#### Dec. 4: Queer Happy Hour and Dance Party

TischPDX celebrates Chanukah on Dec. 4 with two events. Based on Portland's east side, TischPDX was co-founded by Eleyna Fugman, Rabbi Ariel Stone and Kalyn Culler-Cohen.

Join Rabbi Stone, Shir Tikvah and The Alberta Shul for the annual Chanukah happy hour on Dec. 4 from 5 to 7 pm in the Eastside

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Jewish Commons atrium. Bring a Chanukah menorah and candles to light the seventh candle together. BYOB. Safe snacks provided. We'll be masked but still able to scream loudly enough to make the point when we get to traditional reading of Lemony Snicket's "The Latke That Couldn't Stop Screaming."

Vaccination for adults required. RSVP: shirtikvahpdx.org/event/ queer-hanukkah-candle-lighting1.

Following Happy Hour stay for the annual queer PDX Chanukah dance party and the latest in Caryn's (TischPDX Cohort 3) queer Jewish holiday dance-a-thons! This event will loosely follow the Chanukah story as we dance our hearts out and eat some snacks from Jerusalem Rose from 7:30 to 10 pm. For questions and song requests, email Caryn at <a href="mailto:cshebowich@gmail.com">cshebowich@gmail.com</a>.

Masks should be worn at all times. The event will be in EJC's large open atrium. Bring your vaccination cards to show at the door. TischPDX bolsters the leadership and visions of Jews who have been historically marginalized in Jewish communal life. For more information, visit tischpdx.org.

#### Dec. 5: Donuts + Dreidels at the J

Mittleman Jewish Community Centers presents Donuts + Dreidels 1-3 pm, Dec. 5. Make decorations for your home, take part in Jewish folk dancing, spin the dreidel and eat some delicious sufganiyot (jelly donuts) at this family friendly Chanukah celebration. Story time and sing-alongs will also take place. The MJCC is at 6651 SW Capitol Hwy.

Cost: \$5 per family. Register at oregonjec.org/arts-culture/ upcoming-events/donuts.

#### Dec. 5: Celebrate Chanukah with Kesser Israel

Join Kesser Israel for latkes, hot dogs, menorah lighting and Chanukah activities 5:30-7 pm, Dec. 5 at Kesser Israel, 6698 SW Capitol Hwy. Indoor and outdoor activities for COVID health options are open to the community. Tickets are \$5/child, \$7/adult, \$25 family maximum.

For more information, email aviel@kesserisrael.org or visit kesserisrael.org.

#### Dec. 3-5: Hanukkah Homecoming Weekend

Portland's Congregation Shaarie Torah presents two programs at part of the Hanukkah Homecoming Weekend. As people emerge from the pandemic eager for community experiences, hundreds of congregations, JCCs, Federations, schools, camps, independent minyanim and Jewish organizations are mounting gatherings this Chanukah, marking a worldwide rededication of relational communities. Under the banner Hanukkah Homecoming Weekend, events around the world will be held onsite and online Dec. 3-5.

"This Chanukah is such a unique moment as Jewish communities begin returning to a sense of normalcy right at this festive, communal and family-oriented holiday," says Dr. Ron Wolfson, Fingerhut Professor of Education at American Jewish University, who is leading the initiative. "There is something for everyone. Events are an opportunity to be a part of something greater, special, an exciting opportunity to celebrate not simply the holiday, but what we have all missed so much – our relationships with each other. The message is 'reunite around the light' and 'come home."

Find Shaarie Torah's Zoom events at connect.hanukkahhomecoming.org/events/e81ed3af-d236-4075-8df5-bd40e4d69cb1 (Hanukkah Party & Havdalah Dec. 4) and connect.hanukkahhomecoming.org/events/6777392f-5d41-4ebc-bd23-9d05a398f318 (Join Shaarie Torah members and guests each night for a fun community-lighting on Zoom.)

A wide variety of gatherings around the world are posted at hanukkahhomecoming.org.



### **New Chabad Center fosters Jewish life in Gresham**

East Multnomah County, which includes the cities of Gresham, Fairview, Troutdale and Wood Village, has long been a desert when it comes to Jewish programming.

That will change with the opening of Chabad Jewish Center in Gresham.

Rabbi Avrohom and Cheina Dyce will hold their inaugural event during Chanukah with the first giant menorah lighting in historic downtown Gresham.

The event will be at the Arts Plaza and will include the lighting of a 12-foot menorah, jelly donuts, chocolate gelt, and Chanukah music and spirit. Gresham Mayor Travis Stovall plans to attend the celebration.

"I thought my cousin and I were the only Jews in Gresham," says Nadene Goldfoot, 87. "Finding out there are a lot more is so nice. I was born and raised in Portland but lived in Israel for 5½ years. Coming back from Israel, this is quite different." She moved to Gresham because it is more affordable than Portland where her son lives.

She adds the Dyces are "a very sweet couple," and she hopes the weather is nice for the Chanukah celebration.

About a year after moving to Portland in fall of 2019 to teach in Maimonides Jewish Day School, the Dyces started reaching out to Jewish people living in the East County. Being in pandemic times, they turned to the only resource at their disposal: social media. With an updated Facebook page and postings on different community groups, Rabbi Dyce found about 100 local Jewish contacts.

"We have received really great responses from the community," says Rabbi Dyce. "People have told us that it is like a dream come true to have this happening."

Jewish people have reached out from Gresham as well as from many other small



Rabbi Avrohom and Cheina Dyce and daughters, Chaya Mushka and Rochel.

cities, including Troutdale, Sandy, Boring, Damascus and even as distant a place as Hood River. Based on their success rate, the Dyces believe that the area has close to 1,000 Jewish residents.

"It has been really amazing," Cheina Dyce says. "We really started at absolutely nothing, and (by) finding and connecting with one person at a time, we were able to build up a nice database in a relatively short amount of time."

"Many people told us that they thought that they were the only Jewish people in the area" adds Rabbi Dyce. They said they "found it hard to stay engaged Jewishly having to shlep to Portland on a regular basis."

The Dyces started their activities by hosting Zoom classes and concerts for the Jewish holidays and meeting with individuals at their homes, delivering Cheina's homemade challah and affixing mezuzot on people's doors.

Seeing the great potential for the East County, Rabbi Moshe Wilhelm, director of Chabad of Oregon since moving here in 1984, appointed them as the official Chabad shluchim for the area. The couple looks forward to moving to the area this winter.

Gresham Chabad is the newest of 14

Chabad Jewish Centers in Oregon.

The Dyces look forward to starting events for the Jewish holidays, hosting Shabbat dinners for families, and holding classes about Judaism for adults and youth.

The 30-year-old rabbi was born in Jerusalem and grew up in Sydney, Australia. He lived in Brooklyn, N.Y., prior to moving to Portland. In New York, he attended rabbinical school and worked on an oral history project on the life of the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson. Though he only met the Rebbe as an infant, Rabbi Dyce says that studying the Rebbe's teachings and hearing first-person accounts about his life are what inspired him to move to Oregon to strengthen Jewish community.

Dyce met Cheina in Brooklyn, and they were married in her hometown of London and moved to Portland eight months later. They have since been blessed with two daughters, Chaya Mushka and Rochel.

"The Rebbe had a vision that there should not be a Jewish person anywhere in the world that shouldn't be able to have the opportunity to celebrate their heritage," Rabbi Dyce says. "Today, with 3,500 Chabad centers in over 100 countries and growing, this has literally become a reality."

"We look forward to meeting more Jewish people in the area and creating a beautiful community," Cheina says.

Last year, the rabbi and his wife visited Jewish families in East County to distribute holiday goodies. They delivered free menorah kits to families as they drove around the area with an electric menorah on top of the car. This year, the community will come together to celebrate the festival of lights.

For information, visit <u>jewishgresham.com</u> or email <u>jewishgresham@gmail.com</u>.

# Jewish small business networking group forms

BY KERRY POLITZER

On a chilly November day, a group of Jewish-identified small business owners and entrepreneurs gathered in the lovely new Leikam Brewing space. The family-owned kosher brewery, which is operated by the husband-and-wife team of Theo and Sonia Marie Leikam, has hosted a variety of events since it opened in July, including a monthly BIPOC and queer-centered comedy night.

On Nov. 17, the intersection of Jewish community and business was on the menu. It was the first meeting of the Jewish PDX Small Business Networking Group, a project of Co/Lab: Reimagine Jewish. Organizers Sonia Marie, Benjamin Cutler, Co/Lab director Rabbi Joshua Rose and Jonathan Strunin presided over a delicious dairy meal, circle of introductions and networking session. Participants included various artists, authors, real estate agents, yoga practitioners and Jewish educators, all of whom sat on the comfortable chairs donated by Lisa Schroeder of Mother's Bistro.

After the nosh, which was accompanied by Leikam Brewing's beer, kombucha and cider, Sonia Marie opened the presentation. She outlined the need for a business support group that prioritized Jewish values such as tikkun olam, social justice and ethics. "Judaism is the

thread that connects; there's a level of inherent trust," she explained. Jonathan emphasized the importance of creating an inclusive, diverse and respectful space — "a place to get resources and referrals but not a place for the hard sell ... a place to build relationships and support each other." He encouraged the participants to ask themselves what they could contribute.

The Jewish PDX Small Business Networking Group was conceived when Rabbi Josh reached out to Serena and Ben Cutler and Jonathan Strunin. They asked themselves, "If you could add something to the Jewish community, what would it be?" The group, which now includes Sonia Marie, started having conversations about how they could provide a collaborative, nourishing space for the Jewish business community and collectively define solutions for each other.

While the next session has not yet been scheduled, the organizers felt that the initial meeting was a success. Says Ben, "This having been the first event in this series, we were testing the waters for interest; we'll be reviewing our notes and discussing our next steps very soon."

For more information about the Jewish PDX Small Business Networking Group, visit colabpdx.org/networking/.



The UAE has created a modern city of tall, grand buildings in Dubai.

### **AE** (continued from page 1)

He adds that UAE has been preparing its people for this move. The UAE government named 2019 the "Year of Tolerance." There was a nationwide focus on both internal – tolerance for the 200 nationalities that live and work in the UAE – as well as external tolerance for others. The year included a book called Celebrating Tolerance, which featured the various religious communities of the UAE, including the Jewish community.

"The education was a way to get its people in the right frame of mind regarding tolerance," Blattner says.

One of the Jewish leaders in the Emirates shared an <u>article</u> he wrote for PJ Library. "Our Jewish community is the first new Jewish community in a Muslim and Arabic country for at least 140 years," wrote Ross Kriel, president of the Jewish Council of the Emirates.

Blattner was impressed by the people who have moved there to create Jewish spaces. His group met a Chabad rabbi who built a Jewish preschool and camp. The JDC (Jewish Distribution Committee) sent a leader from England to the UAE to create community. Rabbi Elie Abadie moved from New York to serve as Senior Rabbi of the UAE.

In his conclusion Kriel wrote, "As Jews, we are poised to embrace a future version of ourselves – a future in which Israel is deeply integrated in the region and Jewish-Muslim affairs are positive, reciprocal and conducive to peace, stability and prosperity."

Federation leaders met with representatives of a group called Sharaka (partnership). In Marc's Remarks, Blattner wrote about the group of younger Israelis and Arabs, Jews, Muslims, Christians and Druze, who are working together to make the region better.

Blattner was particularly impressed by a young man from Saudi Arabia, now living in the UAE. The young man told the visitors, "I was taught to hate Israel. Now (after the Year of Tolerance and the Accords), I embrace my Jewish brothers and sisters."

"We heard that sentiment over and over," says Marc. "It really sums up the trip."

### Learn about Jewish Federation – past, present and future

Explore the past, present and future Jewish Federation of Greater Portland in a short virtual presentation by Federation President and CEO Marc Blattner.

He created the presentation at the request of the Women's Giving Circle, where it was very well received.

"It was a very reflective experience as I prepared what I was going to say," says Blattner. "It also made me realize this may be of interest to more people in our Jewish community.

To accommodate diverse schedules, the presentation will be offered three times next month: noon, Tuesday, Dec. 7; 4 pm, Thursday, Dec. 9; and 8:30 am, Friday, Dec. 10.

The live presentations will last 25-30 minutes. Following the presentation, Blatter will answer questions about the Jewish Federation or our Jewish community. Everyone is welcome.

Register and receive the Zoom link for one of the sessions at: jewishportland.org/ourcommunity/learn-about-federation-pastpresent-and-future.

#### Israel360 presents Bedouin diplomat

Israel360 hosts Ishmael Khaldi on Zoom at 10 am, Sunday, Dec. 5. He will share his compelling life story leading to becoming

the first Bedouin diplomat in the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

His life begins living in a tent and tending flocks of sheep before serving as policy advisor to Minister of Foreign Affairs Avigdor Lieberman. He will talk about the discrimination he has faced in Israeli society including being beaten by security guards at Jerusalem's central bus station in June of 2020.

Israel360 is a series of programs that considers the many aspects of Israel modern and ancient – from diverse viewpoints and approaches.



Ishmael Khaldi

Khaldi was born in Khawaled, Israel.

He received his B.S. in political science from Haifa University and his M.S. in political science and international affairs from Tel Aviv University. He served in the Israel Ministry of Defense, the Israel Police and the IDF as a political analyst and also has worked for the Israel Foreign Ministry. He initiated a project – Hike and Learn with Bedouins in the Galilee – that has brought thousands to Khawaled to learn about Bedouin culture and history.

For more information and to register, visit <u>nevershalom.org/</u> israel360/.

#### Teens invited to apply for National Fellowship

Alexander Muss High School in Israel is seeking student leaders for the 2022 National Impact Fellowship. Students who are entering their sophomore or junior year of high school and have a strong connection to Judaism are invited to apply and spend their next fall semester in Israel.

In addition to Alexander Muss High School in Israel's signature experiential learning curriculum of 4,000+ years of Jewish and Israeli history, Impact Fellows participate in a specialized track. The fellowship include a \$15,000 grant toward tuition, leadership training and workshops on critical thinking, marketing and public speaking.

Applications are due by Jan. 31, 2022. The program will run Sept. 5-Dec. 21, 2022.

For details, visit amhsi.org/programs/impact-fellowship or contact Dana Klein at dklein@jnf.org or 617-438-8775.



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# Upcoming issues

Issue date	Deadline
Dec. 8	Dec. 2
Dec. 22	Dec. 16
Jan. 5	Dec. 29
Jan. 19	Jan. 13

Submit news, photos and obituaries to editor@jewishportland.org

# **Chaplain's Corner**

## More Control Than We Think

#### BY RABBI BARRY COHEN

In many ways, we are products of decisions other people made long before we were born. Those decisions predetermined for us what is possible and not possible, what is probable and unlikely.

One example: When I applied to rabbinical school, I was asked to write an essay answering the question, "Why are you Jewish?" In the privacy of my apartment, I laughed aloud. I am Jewish because my parents are Jewish, and they embraced Judaism as a vibrant and essential aspect of their identity and the identity of their children. In the Cohen household, I implicitly knew that for positive, affirmative reasons, choosing any other religion, faith or non-faith made no sense.

From an even wider perspective, so many people had to make just the right decisions at just the right time for me to be born. One different call at any step along the way would have affected my very existence.

In a short while, we will celebrate Thanksgiving, followed quickly by Chanukah (this year starting the Sunday evening of Thanksgiving weekend).

Think of how different our world would be if thousands of years ago, a minority of Jews had not opposed the might of the Seleucid Greeks. Judaism as we know it would arguably never have developed. Our ancestors would have completely assimilated into the Greek cultural and religious world. If Judaism had faded away in the second century BCE, what would have been the fate of Christianity and Islam? In this alternate history, the world's three monotheistic faiths would not exist.

Think of how different our nation would be if Europeans had not sailed to North America and begun the process of colonization and everything it entailed, including the forced relocation, destruction and death of much of the indigenous population.

These simple thought experiments remind us of the power we have, both individually and collectively. This is an argument against fatalism. This is an argument against weakness.

Simply take a few moments to reflect on the decisions we have made through the years. Think of how different our world would be – for ourselves, family, friends and even strangers – if we had decided differently.

Let's embrace the opportunity we have to be kinder to ourselves for the decisions we have made. During this past year, I have collaborated with a talented team at Jewish Family & Child Services. To paraphrase, they taught me that we make the best decisions we can, with the information we have, within the stresses and strains of the moment.

On reflection, we may be pleased with our decisions, despite the pressure we faced. But what if we regret our decisions? What if we are not satisfied with our choices, our words or our actions?

If so, we still have options. We can choose to be less self-critical and forgive ourselves. We can choose to reach out to the affected parties and express that we did the best we could in the heat of the moment and are sorry for any hurt we inflicted.

We continue to be reminded that life can be messy, hard, humbling and even ugly. But as we prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving and Chanukah, we can



Rabbi Barry Cohen is the Jewish community chaplain of the Greater Portland area. He can be reached at chaplain@jewishportland.org.

remember to fill our life and the lives around us with meaning and purpose. Many of us have loved ones who have died in the previous year. This is our "year of firsts," the first time he/she is not with us at the Thanksgiving table, not with us to kindle the Chanukah menorah. Simply through our calm, loving and compassionate presence, we can help our family and friends navigate this difficult year.

With Thanksgiving, we can feel gratitude to be part of the American experiment and pledge to make the difficult choices to ensure that our democracy remains steadfast. With Chanukah, we can celebrate with pride and commit ourselves to share the vibrancy and relevancy of Judaism with family, friends and coworkers.

We are the inheritors of decisions made by others, long ago, decisions over which we had no control. May we make the best decisions today as an inheritance for generations to come. Think of the number of lives we can affect for the good.

In addition to the Chaplain's Corner, The Jewish Review offers space for a Rabbi's Corner each issue. Our community's rabbis are invited to share their thoughts on the week's parsha or current events. For more information or to schedule a column, email <a href="mailto:editor@jewishportland.org">editor@jewishportland.org</a>.

# Agency Column: B'nai B'rith Camp

# Machanayim - A Tale of Connected Camps

The Jewish Review has offered the 18 organizations that receive allocations from the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland the opportunity to write a column during the coming year. B'nai B'rith Camp is the third in the series.

#### BY MICHELLE KOPLAN

Recently, inspired by a blog written by Jeremy Fingerman, CEO of the Foundation for Jewish Camp, I explored the Torah portion, Vayeitzei, where the Hebrew word "machane" (camp) is first mentioned in the Torah.

When Jacob journeyed to meet his brother, Esav, we learn that he encountered God's angels and recognized that the camp wasn't just a camp, but was truly Machane Elokhim Zeh, meaning it is God's own camp. Jacob called the place *Machanayim* (Genesis 32:2). Commentators explain that Jacob used the word *machanayim*, rather than *machanot* (plural for camp), to signify two different kinds of camps – perhaps one camp within Israel and one on the outside, or a pair of "connected camps," with one camp on earh and one in heaven.

Similarly, immersed in Jewish values, BB Overnight Camp and BB Day Camps serve our communities' children as "connected camps." This past summer of 2021 was extraordinary. Although the challenges were immense, the joy and connection to Jewish life and one another felt like our camps were both in heaven and on earth. We were in machanayim. As I reflect on the complexities of our summer of 2021, I'm reminded of our collective resilience, strength and dedication to rebuilding our community.

Late last spring, the governor of Oregon announced the reopening of overnight and day camps throughout the state. The cheers echoed in our BB camper families' homes. As the CDC and Oregon Health Authority guidance continued to evolve, our agency was agile and dedicated to serving our community. BB Camp was thrilled to open our gates and doors to our community. However, with great joy came great challenges. Sustaining the agency and opening a shuttered business after the governor mandated overnight camp closure in 2020, navigating through a tight labor market and COVID-mitigating protocols, and most importantly, caring for the well-being and mental health of our communities' children after 15+ months of isolation due to the pandemic was hard.

Although the challenges were persistent throughout the summer, I'm incredibly proud to share that Hineni – Here (BB Camp) stands. With health and safety our highest priorities, BB Camp successfully and safely served over 1,500 campers and young adult counselors in our BB Overnight Camp and four BB Day Camps. Implementing COVID-mitigating protocols and non-pharmaceutical interventions allowed for joyous Jewish experiences this summer at our camps. By using multiple prevention strategies to avert COVID-19, as evidenced by a recent CDC study, we created a safe place for our children to be kids again!

One parent shared, "After a year+ of isolation and staying indoors, (our daughter's) camp experience was critical to her pandemic recovery. We are so, so grateful she got to detox from home, the indoors, screens and got to engage with life and people and new friends and experiences. A++++ summer, thank you!!!!"

And from another parent, "Thank you for providing a safe camp in spite of the uncertainty of how things were going to go with COVID. After an incredibly tough and isolating year, camp provided just the right experience for my child, and it came at a much-needed time. Our family cannot thank you enough."

On top of the genuinely fantastic summer camp experiences, BB Camp is proud to have continued to prepare and deliver meals to food-insecure children and the Echo Mountain Complex Wildfire survivors due to the pandemic, wildfire disaster, and the unforeseen and increased need to feed families during this crisis. Thus far, we have provided more than 320,000 meals ... and counting!

Summer 2021 truly illustrated BB Camp's *machanayim* — our camps bring pure joy and community connections to Jewish life for campers and counselors. As we look toward the 2022 horizon, BB Camp machanayim are expanding programs and completing our capital campaign by building our new field house/gym. We can't wait to see you again!



Youth experience Judaism and adventure at B'nai B'rith Camp.





Michelle Koplan is CEO of B'nai B'rith Camp. For information on upcoming programs, 2022 summer camps and Second Century Centennial Celebrations visit bbcamp.org. As BB Camp continues to serve and engage the community, we thank you for your support. Contact Michelle Koplan at mkoplan@bbcamp.org.

### **Obituaries**

#### **ELIYAHU KAY**

Eliyahu Kay, z"l, was murdered Nov. 21, 2021, in Jerusalem, at the hand of a Hamas terrorist. Eliyahu Kay, 26, was the nephew of Congregation Kesser Israel congregants Allen Levin and Lydia Lipman.

Eliyahu was a passionate Jew and Zionist, who moved his life to Israel from South Africa. He served Israel in the IDF, and his driving goal was to live his life as a Jew in the holy land. He was murdered while walking in the old city to his work. Eliyahu was an example to all of us in his life. He will never be forgotten.

On behalf of the congregation, Rabbi Kenneth Brodkin extended sincere condolences to Allen and Lydia, and to the entire extended family.

#### **DAVE FRISHBERG**

Dave Frishberg, z"l, passed away in Portland Nov. 17, 2021, at age 88 following a prolonged illness. Frishberg is survived by his wife, actor April Magnusson; two sons from a prior marriage; and a host of nieces and nephews. The Grammy Award-nominated songwriter, jazz pianist and singer won critical acclaim for his witty and often nostalgic songs. Over six decades, many of Frishberg's songs, such as "Peel Me A Grape," "I'm Hip," "My Attorney Bernie," "You Are There" and "Heart's Desire," became famous in jazz and cabaret circles. The New York Times described him as "the Stephen Sondheim of jazz songwriting."

He was most popularly known, however, as the songwriter responsible for "I'm Just a Bill," performed by Jack Sheldon as part of ABC-TV's Schoolhouse Rock! series of animated shorts. Brought on to the project by his friend, musical director and fellow jazz musician Bob Dorough, Frishberg contributed a number of songs to the series, including "Seven-Fifty Once a Week" and "Walkin' On Wall Street."

He was born March 23, 1933, the youngest of four children. Frishberg grew up in a Conservative home in a Jewish neighborhood in St. Paul, where he became a bar mitzvah and learned to read Hebrew.

Frishberg briefly attended Stanford before returning home, graduating from the University of Minnesota with a degree in Journalism. He served in the Air Force and eventually moved to New York to pursue a career in music. He quickly became a sought-after sideman in the city's 1960s jazz scene, performing with such legends as Zoot Sims, Al Cohn and Gene Krupa. In 1971, Frishberg decamped for Los Angeles, working as a studio musician, con-

tributing to the NBC variety series "The Funny Side" starring Gene Kelly, and recording his own songs and performing them in clubs around the country and world. In 1986, he made Portland his home, where he continued to write and record. Until recently, he performed at familiar jazz haunts throughout the city, both in his one-man shows and as an accompanist to some of Portland's greats, including jazz singers Rebecca Kilgore and Nancy King. Four of Frishberg's albums received Grammy nominations for Best Jazz Vocal, and he appeared on NBC's The Tonight Show, CBS's Sunday Morning, and NPR's A Prairie Home Companion and Fresh Air, bringing him wider recognition, greater acclaim and more fans. Donations in Frishberg's honor may be made to MusiCares, a nonprofit organization established by the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences to provide health, financial and rehabilitation services for music people in times of need.

#### **OLIVIA HORENSTEIN**

Olivia Horenstein, z"l, passed away Nov. 15, 2021, of natural causes. She was surrounded by her children. She is survived by her children, Judy (Ross) Crosby, David (Judy) Horenstein and Toni (John) Devers; five grandchildren, Olivia (Eric) Benson, Aaron Crosby, Matthew Crosby, Christopher (Kayla) Horenstein and Andrew Horenstein; and two great-granddaughters, Chloe, and Ashley Benson. Olivia was predeceased by her husband, Max, and her three siblings, Frank, George and Margaret. Her two half-brothers, Howard Hassell and Andy Prock, also predeceased her.

Olivia was born June 10, 1923, in Plainview, Texas, to Frank and Rosa Mae Hassel. She was one of four children. She moved to Oregon in 1936.

She worked for the Corp. of Engineers. Olivia met her future husband, Max Horenstein, on the sand just off the Boardwalk in Seaside. They married six months later on Feb. 22, 1947, and remained married until Max passed away in 2002.

Olivia was fun-loving, gregarious and full of mischief. Her contagious laugh and radiant smile could, and did, light up the room. She enjoyed going to the casino, spending time with her family, sledding with her grandchildren, walking and hiking. She was deeply loved by her family and numerous friends and will be sorely missed every day.

Holman's Funeral Service handled arrangements. A graveside service was held Nov. 18 at Shaarie Torah Cemetery.

#### STEPHEN KANTOR

Steve Kantor, z"l, passed away Nov. 14, 2021. He was the husband of almost 50 years to Elaine; father of Ali (Ian) Kestel and Lindsay (Joel) Krivosha; grandfather of Eddie Krivosha, Abby Krivosha and Abel Kestel; brother of Laura (Irv), Karl and Anita (Alan) Ruderman.

Steve was a CPA and attorney specializing in trust and estate planning, charitable planning and business law. He graduated from the Northwestern School of Law in 1974 and from the University of



Oregon with a bachelor's in accounting and business statistics in 1971. He was a partner at Samuels Yoelin Kantor, where he practiced for 44 years.

He and Bob Glasgow drafted bylaws and articles of organization for the Oregon Jewish Community Foundation. He served as president of OJCF and Jewish Family & Child Service and on the board of B'nai B'rith Camp. Steve and Elaine were OJCF Legacy Society honorees in 2016. He also served as chair of Ronald McDonald House Charities and was past trustee of the Nature Conservancy.

Above all, Steve was a dedicated family man and a dear friend to many. He was known for his beautiful singing voice, his love of cooking delicious meals for everyone who crossed his path and his incredible sense of humor. He could always make you laugh.

The funeral was held Nov. 17 at Congregation Beth Israel. The funeral was followed by a private burial at the Beth Israel Cemetery.

Donations in Steve's memory can be made to B'nai B'rith Camp.

#### SUBMISSIONS

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Obituaries are posted online as
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